

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our nMay meeting will be on

May 24, 2011

Tuesday at 6:00 PM

We will be meeting at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE, Puyallup



**Charter
Club**



The Dead Drift – May 2011

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By Larry Gibbs

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, April 26th.

I would like to welcome our newest AFF member, Dave Alberts. He has attended a couple of our meetings and decided he liked what he saw, so he decided to join our club. Dave has been a FFF member for a number of years, as well as being a long time member of PSF.

If someone could explain to me why in last months newsletter I placed the May meeting on a Monday night rather than the Tuesday night it is actually on, I would really appreciate it!.

The May meeting is on Tuesday, May 24th.

I think I will release this newsletter a week and a half ahead of time to make sure everyone knows of my blunder. It will also give me another chance to put in a plug for attending the Washington Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg on April 29 & 30.

Speaking of the WA fly Fishing Fair, my two favorite guide services have both offered trips for the live auction. Brooks Sanford of the Clark Fork Trout & Tackle shop in St. Regis, MT for a drift on the Clark Fork River and Steve Worley of the Worley Bugger Fly Co. in Ellensburg has offered a drift on the Yakima River. We also have a third trip on the table, Rod Griffin of Griff's Fly Fishing Adventures has offered a trip on the Methow River.

You know, any one of those trips is well worth the trip over to Ellensburg to try to win in the auction, and all three would make it an absolutely fantastic year of fishing.

I just got back home from a weekend in Sequim. I worked the FFF booth at the first annual Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Show. Skip Morris was there and I was able to spend a lot of time with him, plus I attended a few of his classes. Bill Aubrey and I would like to have Skip down to our club as a guest speaker sometime this fall.

Good fishing.

Larry

FFF Fly of the Month

EMERGING CALLIBAETIS

By Bob Bates

May 2004 FFF Fly Of The Month



As Harold Patterson of Foster City, California tied this fly at the 38th FFF International Fly Fishing Show and Conclave in Idaho Falls, ID he made two important comments. One was this is a style of tying rather than a pattern. So once a person is familiar with the style they may change colors etc. to match the mayflies in their waters. The other is that it was designed to be fished during the pre-emergence stage of a mayfly's life cycle.

Species of the mayfly Genus Callibaetis, also known as "The Speckled Dun" by many anglers, are multi-brooded. That is that there are up to three or four hatches each year, and hatches might happen from May to October. Callibaetis are most important in stillwaters, but they can be found in slow water stretches of many streams. In many lakes the mayflies become smaller with each succeeding hatch. The common name comes from the distinctly speckle wing markings on the spinner. Incidentally, don't worry about "Dun" in the common name: one definition of "dun" is "mayfly."

About an hour before hatching the nymphs become quite active. They gather in weed beds and swim back and forth to the surface. Eventually, they will hang in the surface film and begin their transition to a sub imago (dun). According to some authorities this transition can take seconds on warm dry days to hours on cool, cloudy, drizzly days.

Use a floating line and fish this pattern in the surface film. Depending on the situation, let it sit dead still or move it a little. Harold also suggested using a Power Bait method with a small split shot on the leader and something to hold it near the surface.

Materials

Hook: Mustad R30 #12-16

Thread: Orvis 8/0 or Unithread Brown

Tail: Wood duck

Body: Biot, Brown

Wingcase: Fibers of turkey tail, use Krylon fixative

Loop wing: CDC, brown

Thorax: Superfine dubbing, Callibaetis color

Head: A complementary color, little darker, Superfine dubbing

Tying Steps

1. For barbless flies, smash barb with smooth jaw pliers before you start tying.
2. Start thread at eye of hook. Select four or so fibers of wood duck flank feather, and position so the tail will be about a shank length long. Tie fibers in at eye, and wrap to rear over the wood duck. Stop at bend, and pass thread under the tail to raise it slightly. When happy with position of tail take one wrap in front of raised tail.

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FFF Fly of the Month Continued from Page 2

3. Select a biot and tie it in by the tip with the hard edge to the rear. Wrap biot forward using closer spacing at first and larger spacing toward front of hook. Stop wrapping biot well forward of mid-shank, secure and trim excess. Wrap thread back to a little forward of mid-shank.
4. Select three or four fibers from a turkey tail, and tie in at least one on each side of hook with tips to rear. Trim excess butts. Return thread to tie in point at back of thorax.
5. Select two CDC feathers, match tips and curve. Then tie in on top of hook, tips to the rear, with two loose wraps. Pull stem to adjust feather. Excessively long fibers can be trimmed. Tighten thread and move it back to the tie in point. Trim excess butts.
6. Dub thorax forward to about one and one-half eye widths behind the hook's eye.
7. Pull wingcase forward, secure at front of thorax and trim excess.
8. Using a bodkin to hold the loop fold the CDC forward, secure and trim excess.
9. Prepare a symmetrical wood duck feather by cutting the stem to make a "v" in the fibers. Pull on the base fibers leaving 3-4 fibers on each side of the feather. Tie on top of hook with two loose wraps. Pull on stem to adjust length of legs. If the legs are held along the body they reach to back of body. Secure and trim excess stem.
10. Put a little dubbing on the tread and cover the tie down wraps. Put on two whip finishes.

Tie a few of these in size 12 for early season like now, and use smaller sizes for later in the season. If you don't know when Callibaetis hatch in your part of the world talk to some of the FFF members around you.

Renew your FFF membership and receive a very nice aluminum fly box

By Larry Gibbs

I want to reward the faithful, so as you renew your FFF membership, and attend our meetings, I will order a personalized fly box for you. Just my way of saying thanks for attending our meetings and for helping to make the club a great organization.

May Guest Speaker

Ray Gould

“Fly Fishing For Kamloops Trout” in BC

This program will give you information gathered through Ray's 53 years experience on fishing for Kamloops trout. It includes special recommendations as to six (6) of the best lakes, planting information and details about my favorite four (4) flies, techniques that really work and explanations about Triploids. It will go along with my newly published book “Fly Fishing For Kamloops Trout” where the reader will find a great deal more information about fly fishing in BC.

Ray has been an avid fly fisherman in BC with 53 years experience. He is a bamboo fly rod maker and fly tyer. He is presently a member of the Olympic Fly Fishers Club. He has also been a member and d past President of the Northwest Fly Anglers club, and a former member Evergreen fly club. He is the author of two (2) books on bamboo fly rods: “Constructing Cane Rods” and “Cane Rods Tips and Tapers” as well as being the author of his most recent book “Fly Fishing for Kamloops Trout”.

Washington Fly Fishing Fair

When: April 29th and 30th

Where: Ellensburg, WA. Kittitas County Fair grounds

The Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers will be holding its annual Fly Fishing fair this 29th and 30th of April in Ellensburg, Washington.

If you have ever wondered what fly-fishing is all about then you don't want to miss this upcoming event. There will be something for everyone. Some of what will be available will be one hour free seminars, tying demonstrations, casting games and casting classes. A number of vendors will be on site to show you what is new in the world of fly fishing and the gear that will help you become a better angler.

If you have not been to an event such as this you are missing out on something special. You will see some of the best from the Pacific Northwest show you their skills and help you through the games and classes.

You can learn more if you access the web site listed below:

<http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org/wfff.htm>

The Washington State Council is a 501 C 3 organization and profits from the fair help with their ongoing conservation and education efforts for the fisheries of Washington State.

Washington Fly Fishing Fair

April 29— 30

Ellensburg

FLY TYING CLASSES

Tying the American House Spider with Karen Royer — Class on Saturday 8:00 am to 11:00 am

How to Tie the Erv Emerger with John M. Newbury — Class on Saturday 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

"Humpy Heaven"---Get in the Zone with Michael T. Williams — Class on Friday 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

FLY CASTING CLASS SCHEDULE

• FRIDAY PM

1:00 – 3:00 WOMENS BEGINNING CASTING CLASS by Judy Graham

2:00 – 4:00 CASTING IN WIND CONDITIONS by Don Simonson

1:00 – 3:00 BETTER CASTING BY IMPROVING THE BACK CAST by Pat Peterman

• SATURDAY AM

9:00 – 12:00 CI PREPERATION CLASS by Carl Zarelli, Don Simonson

9:00 – 11:00 CASTS FOR CLOSE QUARTERS by Chase Jablonski

9:00 – 11:00 WOMENS INTERMEDIATE CASTING CLASS by Judy Graham

10:00 – 12:00 CASTS THAT CATCH FISH by Jim Higgins

10 am to 1 pm SWITCH ROD FISHING FOR STEELHEAD NEW by Steve Worley—On the water class

• SATURDAY PM

1:00 – 3:00 DOUBLE HAUL FOR DUMMIES by Les Rosenthal

1:00 – 3:00 SINGLE HANDED SPEY by Carl Zarelli

The Authentic History of the Serendipity

Posted on FAOL (Fly Anglers On Line) by Silver Creek

The recent serendipity post reminds me that many of you probably don't know the history of the serendipity. Here is what I read and learned through the years. (Editors note: This article was first published in 1995)

The serendipity is credited to Ross Merigold but it goes back further to 1978. The history of the Serendipity was recounted by Patrick Maxon on FF@, the original fly fishing mailing list before there was a WWW and Netscape Navigator. Back then we used to email each other via a mailing list.

You fly fishing history buffs might enjoy this tale of how a group of fly fishers around a campfire on the Madison serendipitously discovered this fly and shared it with Ross Merigold. How appropriate a name.

G'Day all

The evolution of the Seredipity is an interesting story how resourceful fly fisherman can be. The original name for the Serendipity was the Brown Devil, Red Devil or Green Devil depending on the body wrap used. It all started in July 1978 around nightly campfires in the heart of the Madison River Canyon.

Back then, the most productive dry fly was the #12/14 elk hair caddis. One evening a High School teacher from New Jersey (a regular) returned to the male bonding campfire with heralds about a new pattern he discovered that day. He recounted with vivid descriptions how he clipped the elk hair wing from the dry fly pattern. He pocket fished it like a dry (short drift, pick up and re cast - no false casting) and would hook up as he lifted the rod to cast. The pattern was a red bodied caddis emerger. That night we then tied a dozen and everyone took a sample to begin a completely randomized design - no replications - a fixed experiment :)). Many accepted with great reluctance because we were "dyed in the wool" dry fly fishermen and this smacked of nymphing. That changed the next morning!

That next afternoon, after the dry fly action with the elk hair caddis went from fast and furious to a lull my partner switched patterns and started hooking fish after fish. He yelled out, "you little devil," examining the fly. I switched to the red emerging caddis pattern and on the first drift as I lifted, to load the rod, my eyes witnessed the take like a dry, the swirl, the fin and a streaking rainbow.

That night, around the fire, we all recanted similar encounters with the pattern - the clipped wing elk hair caddis. Theories ranged from a mimic crippled pattern to a involuntary feeding response to an emgering pattern, we settled on the later because we felt the trout had no choice but to take the pattern. That July night, the pattern was dubbed the Red Devil.

Since it is in our genes to improve on a good thing :) many of us started tying with different colored bodies. At the end of the season , mid August, the consensus was that the brown, red, and green patterns behaved well and they were all called the Brown, Red, and Green Devils.. We ended up gold ribbing the Devils to prolong the life and add to the attractiveness.

By 1982, The Devil evolved into the top producing pattern in the camp when the dry action was slow. One variant that was added later that the entire fly was coated with head cement to cause the pattern to sparkle also air bubbles cause by the cement coated gave the pattern a more realistic image. The Devils were The beat kept secret until about 1987.

Ross Merigold, God rest his soul, was a guide that loved the Madison and developed the ram caddis pattern while living at Slide Inn. He fished with us a lot when not guiding and the camp was happy to share the Devil pattern with him - he was such a wonderful man and a consummated fly fisherman. After his untimely passing, the folks at the Blue Ribbon Fly Shop took the Devil patterns and renamed it the Serendipity in honor of Ross Merigold.

The pattern is world wide and the fish still hit it. Now there are campfires every where discussing their latest patterns and the cycle shall be repeated. The latest pattern and placed into the bible for generation to come.

By the time the pattern became popular in 1990, the trout were "on to it" and the pattern was scaled down the size to #18-20's to pick up midges etc. Shade of grey and ivory were developed to compliment to various pupae (sic). In 1991 the bead head was added and in 1992 soft hackles. BTW the campfires are still producing novel pattern that will soon be available in the latest fly shops.

Cheers, Patrick Maxon

Getting Unstuck

If you've been fly fishing long you know that getting flies stuck in trees, grass, on rocks, on sticks and even in yourself, is just part of the deal. Here are a few tips on getting unstuck so you can get back to fishing:

1. Don't tighten the line. When your cast ends up in the brush or trees don't pull, that just ties a knot or tightens the wraps of leader making it tougher to ever free your flies. Many times you can simply stay calm, don't pull, and let the line fall in the water. The current will sometimes slowly pull the flies free from willows or other brush close to the water. When that doesn't work, proceed to the next suggestion.
2. When your flies are loosely wrapped or the hook point is lightly embedded try to gently shake the flies free. With a loose line and a fair amount of slack quickly wiggle the rod tip up and down or side to side. If the flies don't come free try this with more and more force. Remember to always leave enough slack to put big waves in the line as you shake the rod tip. The quick changes in angle from up to down that you can create by sending these waves is often enough to free the flies.
3. When you hook a rock under water you can often pull the flies free by pulling straight upstream. Bounce the rod gently at first and then give it more and more force. Don't risk breaking your rod though. Check your hook point for dulling after the fly comes free.
4. If you hook a stick under water try pointing straight at the snag and pull steadily. If you can't move the stick from the bottom try several different angles. Many times if you find the correct angle you can pull sticks out of the mud or rocks on the bottom and then remove your flies.
5. Sometimes you just won't win and your flies will need to be broken off. Do this by pointing the rod directly at the snag and steadily tighten the line until the tippet breaks. By pulling only on the line and leader and not the rod you should at least get you leader back and you won't risk breaking a fly rod worth hundreds of dollars to save a \$1 fly.
6. Make sure you fish barbless flies, not only for the fish, but also so you can get yourself unstuck when that eventuality occurs.

Don't get too frustrated when you get stuck. Remember that if you aren't getting stuck occasionally you probably aren't casting close enough to the banks or getting your flies deep enough to catch fish.

Good luck and tight lines!

Jake Ricks

Fly Fishing Professional, Guide, and Author

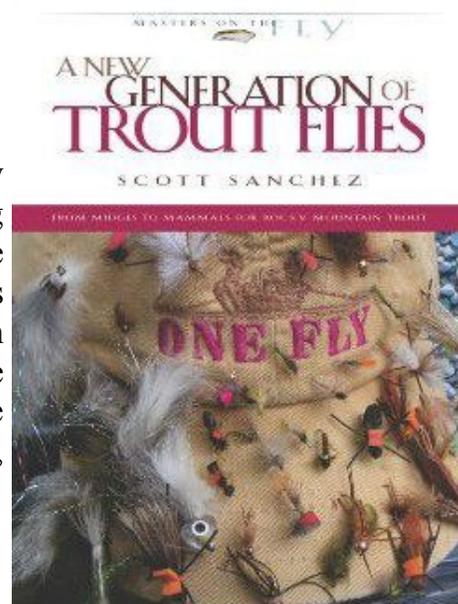
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Scott Sanchez's - An New Generation of Trout Flies

From the March issue of the FFF E-News

Scott Sanchez is the 2010 FFF Buz Buszek winner! In *A New Generation of Trout Flies*, Scott shares his patterns and fishing ideas with the reader. Detailed tying instructions and photos are shown for each of his original patterns. The book also contains specific information on fishing the flies and more general tips on fishing the West. The book covers the fly spectrum from the popular Double Bunny to a Parachute Midget Emerger. There are chapters on mayflies, caddisflies, stoneflies, midges, emergers, terrestrials, attractors and steamers.

Hardbound, 160 pages





About Our WSCFFF

Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

By Larry Gibbs



At many of the events that the Washington State Council FFF attends and has a booth, one of the key things we do is support and promote fly casting. Some of your very own Alpine Fly Fishers & Puget Sound Flyfishers FFF Certified Casting Instructors and Certified Master Instructors attend these events and are there to give casting demonstrations and often will give one-on-one casting tips. Look for them at the below shows.

Please plan on attending our Fly Fishing Fair this April in Ellensburg. The dates are April 29 & 30, 2011. There will be casting, fly tying, seminars, workshops as well as raffles and silent and live auctions.

WSCFFF Booth Show Schedule

- o WA Fly Fishing Fair — Ellensburg—April 29—30
- o Jimmy Green Memorial Fly Fishing Fair- Monroe—July 30
- o Wenatchee River Salmon Festival - October 1—2



In The FFF Corner

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>

Upcoming FFF Council Events



- **FFF Washington State Council—Fly Fishing Fair, April 29 –30**
- **FFF Fly Fishing Fair / Conclave — West Yellowstone, MT, September 1-3, 2011**

TFO Rod Board

\$5 There are 36 chances to win a very nice rod **\$5**
But Only 22 Chances remain for you to join in on this fund raiser

TFO Lefty Kreh Professional Series, 5 wt, 4 piece 8'6" graphite rod

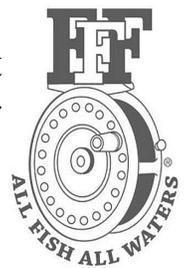
If you win it you can always sell it for a very nice profit!!!! Buy some squares!!

Tell you what!! I will even add a brand new free reel to this offer!!

Renew Your FFF Membership

We have been a FFF Charter Club for about one year. That means that those of you who joined at the end of 2009 or start of 2010 are at or near your expiration date. Please make sure you renew your FFF membership.

Thanks, Larry



May / June

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
May 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Club Meeting	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

			June 1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

*We will most likely have our annual picnic in June.
We will decide this at our April meeting. Larry*

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Larry Gibbs, Editor 253-863-4910 flytier015@msn.com

Alpine Fly Fishers
PO Box 1456
Sumner, WA 98390

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Visit our website at www.alpineflyfishers.org

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