

Alpine Fly Fishers

The next meeting will be

on

May 22, 2012 at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE, Puyallup



Charter
Club



The Dead Drift - May 2012

In this issue:

Page 2 & 3

FFF Fly Of The Month
- Chromie -

Page 4

Guest Speaker
- Larry Gibbs -
The Clark Fork
& *Missouri Rivers of*
Montana

WA Fly Fishing Fair
May 4 & 5 - Ellensburg
In the FFF Corner

Page 5 & 6

Back of Beyond
Campfire Conversations

Page 7

FFF Website

Page 8

Steve Rajeff
Casting Demo
Events in 2013

Page 9

Calendar
Editor Information
Mailing Address
Board of Directors

President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

A HUGE thanks to the staff at the Puerto Vallarta for installing that projection screen!!!! No more sheet draped over the wall which means me not having to bring my ladder and hang the sheet every meeting. They put that screen in just for us, since we were the only ones who had been asking for it, but I am sure other groups will use it as well. Thanks Again!!!

Thanks also to Duffy for volunteering her place for our annual June club picnic. As always it will be on the date we usually meet at the Puerto Vallarta, for our June meeting. Just for info, for our newer members, the picnic replaces our usual meeting and it is open to your families. We often have a tossing game using large metal washers and we play a few games of Bocci Ball. Not that we really follow the legal rules for Bocci Ball, but we have fun. We also do a little casting for those wanting to practice their skill. This will take place on June 26 and will start at our usual starting time, around 6:00 PM.

I am sending this newsletter out a few days early because I will be deep in the western center of Montana, mostly out of computer and for that matter cell phone range. I am spending a few days fishing on the Missouri River with my guide, Brooks Sanford. Speaking of Montana I will be the 'guest speaker' at our May meeting and I will give a presentation on two of Montana's great rivers, my favorite, the Clark Fork River and also the Missouri River from Holter Dam to Cascade.

Also 'For Your Info' to new members and guests, during the summer months of July and August, we do not have meetings. We will start up again after summer on September 25th, the fourth Tuesday, same time, same place.

Have a Great Summer!!!!

Good fishing.

Larry

CHROMIE

By Bob Bates

A Philip Rowley favorite

Chironomid (midge) patterns are numerous, and everybody has their own phenomenal fish catcher. (An adult chironomid looks like a mosquito, but it doesn't bite.) This pattern by Philip Rowley came after his observation of pupae hatching into adult chironomids (midges) in a Canadian lake. He saw that the body had a silvery appearance with some red left



over from the larval stage. Chironomid larvae frequently live in the oxygen poor environment of a muddy lake bottom, and they have extra hemoglobin to compensate. Philip says that this is his number one lake pattern. He has much more to say about chironomids in his book *Fly Patterns for Stillwaters*. It is also a go to pattern for many of the Washington state stillwater anglers. Fishing the Chromie is usually a straight forward application of strike indicator (bobber) techniques. Use a floating line and long leader. Usually, the fly should be near the bottom or top of the weeds. If the strike indicator does anything unexpected like go underwater or move sideways you might have hooked a fish so strike. It might also be a weed. Usually the bobber will sink when you are watching a bird or pouring a cup of coffee. The Chromie may be fished with a regular leader, greased or not greased, to keep it close to the surface.

Materials:

Hook: Tiemco 2457, Mustad C49S, # 8-14

Bead: Black metal, 1/8th inch for size 12 or 10 hooks

Thread: Black 8/0 - 14/0

Gills: White CDC puffs or sparkle yarn

Rib: Red holographic Flashabou, Dynafloss or fine red wire

Body: Silver Flashabou, Dynafloss or silver holographic Flashabou

Thorax: Peacock herl

1. Smash barb with smooth jaw pliers. Slip bead on hook with smaller hole toward eye. Put hook in vise with middle part of bend exposed. Slide bead to bend, and attach thread at eye. Use just enough turns to hold thread.



2. Tie on a CDC puff and pull it to a length over the eye equal to the diameter of the bead. Half hitch thread and trim it. Trim excess CDC puff.



3. Put a little head cement on thread, and slide bead forward over thread and CDC puff. The head cement helps the bead slide over everything to the eye. If the bead doesn't slide over; take it off and rethread it with the larger hole forward. On the next fly reduce the amount of thread, CDC or both. I made this switch to a CDC puff for the gill after fishing a Canadian lake and found the sparkle yarn too stiff when replacing a fly lost to a big fish. Reattach thread behind bead.



4. Tie on one piece of red holographic Flashabou. Hold it on your side of hook as you wrap over it almost to back of hook. Spiral thread forward to bead.



5. Double two pieces of silver Flashabou over the thread, and slide them down thread to secure them onto hook. Put a couple of thread winds over the Flashabou to make sure they stay in place. Return thread to bead.



6. Wrap Flashabou rearward to where rib tie down ended, and then forward to bead. A short hold, 1-inch, helps prevent splitting. Keep even tension on the Flashabou. All of the black thread should be covered. Secure Flashabou, pull it back, and wind thread over the fold back for added security. Trim excess Flashabou. Return thread to bead.



7. Counter wind the rib in an open spiral forward to the bead. Pull on red Flashabou enough to make it stay in place. Excessive tension will thin the Flashabou and it will lose color. Secure as in step 6, and trim excess.



8. Tie on two pieces of peacock herl, wind thread to bead, wrap peacock herl forward (no more than three turns), secure and trim excess. Put a little head cement on the thread and wind it between the peacock herl and the bead. Whip finish behind the bead; trim thread.



Philip said that the main purpose of the peacock herl is to cover the thread winds. Some tiers skip this step, but I think it looks nice and finishes the fly.

9. Three times coat the body with Sally Hansen's Hard as Nails or equivalent. Each time hang fly on a wire, paper cup, etc., until dry.

This fly is easy to tie if you don't let the Flashabou slip. A variation called the Motherboard is tied using the antistatic plastic protecting computer boards in place of the silver Flashabou.

Have fun, and release the fish carefully so you can play with them another day.



May Guest Speaker

Larry Gibbs

I will be giving a presentation on fishing the Clark Fork River and the Missouri River in the great state of Montana. Help from the audience will be greatly appreciated

Washington State
Washington



Council of the FFF
Fly Fishing Fair

Plan to attend the Washington Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg this **May 4 & 5**. It is being held at the Kittitas Valley Event Center also known as the Fair Grounds. There are lots of workshops, classes, nearly 100 tyers, many vendors and raffles and auctions for your enjoyment. Come and check us out.



In The FFF Corner

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>

Upcoming FFF Events

FFF International Fly Fishing Fair

July 12 thru July 14, 2012

Spokane, WA



**International
Fly Fishing
Fair**

July 10 - 14

Spokane

Regarding the dates in Spokane.

The main floor and vendors booths are open Thursday thru Saturday, July 12—14.

However, there are some workshops being offered that start on Tuesday, July 10.

When the registration is posted check the dates.



There are 96 workshops being offered this year at this great event plus over 100 tyers from all over the country and the world will be on hand to demonstrate their skill in tying flies.

Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

In Wildness is the Preservation of the World "Henry David Thoreau"

Campfire Conversations

The soft cherry hued alpine glow on Mt. Ansel Adams had faded. Our camp fire was allowed to die low so the wood coals were right for supper cooking. After supper new wood was added to bring the fire up to conversation light. The evening star was visible down canyon to the south west over the Clark Range; while the dark water of the Lylle Fork of the Merced River flowed downstream through the meadow behind the campfire's light. Camp fire flames pranced low as the smoke rose almost straight up into the night sky filled with Milky Way light; it was the shank of the evening, just before goodnights were said.

We sat on old log camp chairs, bearing the initials of those who had carved them. When the fire was fresh and young we had leaned our chairs back, now that the fire was waning; we leaned forward, hunched to conserve body heat, our fronts warm from the campfires radiant heat, our backs cool from the air sinking over the river. With warm cups of mountain tea cupped in our hands we retold learned stories from those who had fished here in earlier days. In the mountain night we spoke low as if not to disturb the sounds of the river and the night that surrounded us or maybe it was in the quite reverent respect of the men who had protected and fished these waters in the beginning.

It was just the two of us, father and son; I believe it was our favorite part of the day, these long talks around the dying campfire. Morning always consists of rolling out of our mummy bags, a breakfast crafted from ingredients stored in bear canisters, cooked over a backpackers camp stove as we planned the day's activities. Lunch was packed as we tidied up camp, walking staffs and day packs or fly rods and fly boxes were selected for that days agenda. Morning talks were about planning and action. Where we would explore or were we would stalk mountain trout for the day. Lunch was about what we had caught or seen, which flies were working or the shortest route to the peak or pass.

But super time was campfire time and long talks about life, family, cars, trucks, politics, world events, books and ancestors and those who came before. The days fishing had been good, we had kept two for our entree with our soup and tonight's conversation formed around fishing stories. As we sipped our tea my son listened to me tell stories about Doc Moyle and his fellow campers. I had been introduced to this camp site by my brother-in-law whose grandfather "Doc Moyle" had established this camp, he in turn had been shown the area by an old packer who used to pack for the Calvary stationed here during the Yosemite's formative years. The trooper's names can be found carved into trees near the original camp site which is downstream near the bath tub. My brother-in-law was pretty impressed with his grandfather and shared the following stories with me and I shared them with my son.

Doc Moyle was as his name suggests was a Doctor, a family physician to be more precise, but what Doc Moyle wanted to be was a cowboy. It was his dream, but like a good son he put his dream on the back burner and followed his parents' wishes. But after he established his practice he bought a ranch to cowboy on his days off; and horse packed into the Sierra's during his summer vacations. During WWII Doc Moyle was the only Doctor in Merced, California. One can only imagine the hours he must have spent taking care of all the people who lived there. At the end of WWII he retired and spent his retirement years on his ranch and packing into the Sierra Nevada Mountains. His grandsons spent their summer vacations with him, and one of the perks of these visits was a month long stay in the Yosemite backcountry via horse packing. They also got to build and maintain trails into and out of the park. They laid a lot of rock in their youth. Doc Moyle also packed in his closest friends with him, he always opened the first night of camp by saying "the bar is open, you can drink it all tonight or make it last for a month" and with that the adventure began. He had strict fishing rules for camp, there was no fishing in the kitchen area, his kitchen scraps went in the river and the kitchen fish fed well after every meal.

Continued on Page 6 

Doc Moyle and Ansel Adams were contemporaries who did not see eye to eye, both men loved and respected the Yosemite backcountry but Ansel did not like Doc Moyle's stock tearing up the meadows and his liberal use of nails in building and maintaining his camp. And Doc Moyle did not like Ansel Adams poking his nose in to Doc's peaceful valley experience. Doc was from the old school of horse packing into the wilderness and he built a strong utilitarian camp that lasted many years. In fact after one of my many trips in to Peaceful Valley he interrogated me on how camp was, I told him the valley was beautiful and which logs were now in the river and what rock falls had changed its appearance. No, no he said how is camp? He wanted to know how the kitchen, hitching racks and fire pits were doing, had they survived the earthquake and snow loads. Now Doc only stood about 5'5" but he was leather tough one year he cut his leg open when an ax bounced off a log, he sat down cleaned the cut, got out his medical bag and sewed it up, then went back to chopping firewood.

My favorite Doc Moyle story is how he taught his grandson to fly fish. He got out his rod and showed them how to line it, and then he tied on three flies. He explained to them about stealth and sneaking up on the fish so as not to spook them. He and his two grandsons then crabbed walked out to the river through the meadow grass keeping low to the earth, once they were in casting distance he made two false casts to get the right distance and then gently laid his line upon the water. The fish rose and he set the hook and landed three fat rainbow trout. They retrieved the fish, he then turned to his grandsons handing his rod the oldest proclaiming that's how it done and never fished in front of them again. A true gentleman knows not to mess with perfection.

Doc Moyle continued to pack into the mountains well into his 80's even when he was nearly blind. You can still find if you know where to look, the sticks he used as walking staffs to cross the many streams in Peaceful Valley. Those simple sticks leaning against a tree always remind me of those who went before. Doc's love of all things cowboy caused him to collect wagons and stages, he donated all of them to Yosemite National Park and many can be found on display at the wagon museum in Wawona, depending upon which wagons are on display. Doc is buried in the cemetery in downtown Merced. Doc Moyle was blunt and to the point and there was no mistaking his love for Yosemite and Peaceful Valley, he loved sharing it with family and friends. Not many years after his passing the park service contacted his grandson and asked him if he would help them tear down Doc's Moyle's old camp. Jimmy contacted me and asked if I wanted to come along so Cy and I geared up and joined him and the back country rangers at the old camp site and lovingly removed it and returned it to wilderness. Long before Doc Moyle's passing it was Park service policy to return the elaborate established back country camps to wilderness but as a testament to Doc Moyle and his support and care of Yosemite they waited until after his passing to return the site to its natural before man state and out of respect they invited his grandson to help do so. It was an honor for my son and I to help.

The fire was now small embers and the dregs of the tea in our cups had gone cold, we dumped what remained on the fire and crawled into our bags. Tomorrow we would fish Boo Hoff Lake but that's another story. The sound of the Hutchings creek roaring full in downhill flight to reach the valley floor lulled us to sleep.

“Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after” Henry David Thoreau





INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS



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What's New



5 Questions with Phillip Greenlee. Montana Trout Anglers recently sat down with Phillip and talked about the FFF and of course the ...

Flyfisher Magazine



Big Bass Love Crayfish. On any given summer weekend at most stream crossings in our part of the world, you will find kids happily chasing crayfish...

Conservation News



Special E-News. FFF recently published the first Conservation News E-news edition that provides an overview of what the FFF is accomplishing in the area of conservation.

Fly of the Month



Zug Bug. This is the second fly that Milt Jenkins of Taylorsville, Utah tied for me at the 2011 East Idaho Fly Tying Expo. He has only one hand. A prosthetic device served as the other hand.

Last Week to Attend



The Art of Deception. Turtle Bay Museum and The Fly Shop have prepared the exhibition with the help of the Shasta Trinity Fly Fishers and the FFF....

E-News Palmer House



Every year for the last five years, members of the **Mid-South Fly Fishers Club** from Memphis, Tenn., have met up in Columbus, Miss., with Capt. Sid Caradine to teach fly fishing

You really should check out the new FFF website. It is full of very useful information. Sign up for the newsletter, open up the latest issue of The Flyfisher magazine, check out the Fly Of The Month.

www.fedflyfishers.org

Washington Fly Fishing Fair May 4 & 5 Ellensburg

— Steve Rajeff —

Casting Demonstration

By David Paul Williams



You won't believe your eyes when you see Steve Rajeff cast a fly Saturday, May 5, 2012 at the Fly Fishing Fair. The demonstration starts at 2:00 p.m. on the law, but you might want to stake out a spot early.

For those who don't know Steve, here's a bit of background. He started fly casting at age 10, learning on the ponds of the Golden Gate Angling & Casting Club. Within a few years he started winning local and regional casting tournaments. In 1972, Steve won the ACA All American Championship, then competed in the 1973 World Casting event which he won at age 16. He was a member of the ACA All American team 38 times and won the ACA All American Championship thirty six consecutive times. Steve has won the World Casting Championship, held every two years, thirteen times. Oh yes, he's also been inducted in the American Casting Association Hall of Fame.

Steve is the rod designer for Loomis. He has been a member of the FFF Casting Board of Governor's for many years contributing greatly to the Federation's Certified Casting Instructor program.

Events in 2013



Next year this great show, the Northwest Fly Tyers Expo will be held again in Albany, Oregon, on Friday and Saturday, March 8 & 9, 2013. Plan to attend.



Also next year, the Washington State Council will bring you the Washington Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg, on Friday and Saturday, May 3 & 4, 2013. Don't miss this one it is a great event!!!!



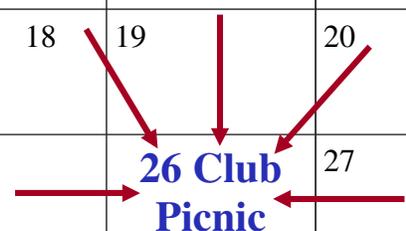
As of right now, I am not sure where or when the Federation of Fly Fishers International Fly Fishing Fair will be held, but I am sure it will be at a great location sometime during the summer months of 2013.

May / June

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

					FRI	SAT
					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 Club Picnic	27	28	29	30

Remember, NO meeting at the Puerto Vallarta, meet at Duffy's place instead. Emails will be sent out re: location



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