

# Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

**October 24**

As always, at the

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM



FFI  
Charter Club



## The Dead Drift - October 2017

### In this issue:

**Page 2 & 3**

*FFI Fly Of The Month*

**Page 4 & 5**

*Back of Beyond*

**Page 6**

*In The Past*

**Page 7**

*AFF Meetings 2017*

*AFF Meetings 2018*

*A Fly Fishing Quote*

*Photos Please!*

*Flies Needed*

*October Guest Speaker*

**Page 8**

*December Free Drawing*

*FFI & Single Hooks*

**Page 9**

*For Sale - PJ's Raft*

**Page 10**

*2017 NWYCFE Academy*

**Page 11**

*Calendar*

*Editor Information*

*Mailing Address*

*Board of Directors*



### **President's Line**

*By Larry Gibbs*

October means **FALL** is upon us. Fishing can be epic during this month. The fish know by instinct that winter is coming and with it cold water, slower eating habits so they need to bulk up for the long winter months. Especially the fish in the rivers. Life is harder for them than for the fish in the non-moving waters of lakes. The river fish are leaner and meaner and fun to catch. Being out on the river with all of the trees and bushes turning their beautiful fall colors, yes, what a grand place to be. Leaves falling on water can be a bit of a problem, but the fish are looking for a tasty morsel and will strike a fly between the clutter.

I admit, I prefer rivers to lakes. I used to fish a lot of lakes a number of years ago, but then I started doing guided trips on the rivers. Fishing from a drift boat, or on some waters from a ridged framed raft, is a style of fishing that I found to be very enjoyable. So, that is what I do. Life is too short to not do something that you really like, since all too soon circumstances may force you to change what you do.

I really enjoy fishing the Yakima River during the fall, but then I guess I really enjoy fishing it any time of the year. 😊 You really should 'feed your inner person' and take a float on the Yak this fall.

2017 is winding down and 2018 is right around the corner. There are some good fly fishing events you can attend next year. On March 9&10, the Fly Tyer Expo in Albany is being held. May 4 & 5 will be the WSC Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. August 6 - 11 will be the annual FFI Fly Fishing Fair this time being held in Boise, ID. All are great events to attend. See if you can make some time to attend one or all of these, especially the WSC Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. 😊

In the email I sent out reminding everyone about our September meeting I mentioned that we would be starting our rod raffle boards at that meeting. Peter & I purchased three very nice TFO fly rods for the raffles. We will have one board going at a time. For this first board, whoever wins it will have their choice of one of the three fly rods. We will then start the second fly rod board and when that fills the winner will pick one of the two remaining fly rods. Naturally, the last rod board will be for the remaining fly rod. All of these rods are really good. I personally own a TFO Impact fly rod (7 wt) and I use it for chucking and ducking heavy streamers with sink tip lines for Smallies. The BVK rod in the 10 foot model will be great for nymphing and fishing from pontoon boats, or anywhere for that matter. The Finesse rod is perfect for pocket water fishing in small streams. It is a true medium action rod. These are some good rods to own. Buying some squares on the rod board greatly increases your chance of winning a neat fly rod.

Good fishing.



Larry

FFI Fly of the Month  
October, 2013  
**DOC'S MAYFLY**  
Published by Bob Bates



**Opening Comments:**

Jeremy Gilbertson from Billings, MT tied this pattern at the 2011 FFF Fly Fishing Fair in West Yellowstone, Montana. He tied it to be a durable all day fly, which guides like because they do not have to keep changing a guest's fly. He fishes it on the Missouri and Bighorn rivers where there are a lot of fish to catch if you know how to do it. If you are lucky, or very skillful you might even play with some of those big browns that lurk there. Besides being an all-day fly it is also an all season fly. Jeremy uses it to imitate a female Baetis, size 18, in the spring, a PMD, sizes 16-14, in the summer and a Pseudocloeon, size 20, in the fall. The tying steps are the same for all sizes. (If the fancy names scare you just think in terms of a reasonable mayfly, 14, a smallish mayfly, 18, and a tiny mayfly, 20.) You can talk to someone who knows the river and the hatches to identify what fly to use.

Fishing the Missouri and Bighorn rivers will give you all kinds of water challenges. I fished both rivers with some degree of success. However, when you hook into something it is a lot of fun. Be prepared with floating and sink tip fly lines. There were times on the Bighorn when 200 very fussy fish were rising below me. If you are wondering where the name came from: "Doc" was Jeremy's nickname in his younger days.

**Materials list:**

Hook: Tiemco 2488H, size 16 size for PMD  
Thread: Light Cahill, 6/0  
Tail: Brown dry fly hackle  
Wingcase/ abdomen: Rainy's nymph stretch or scud back  
Thorax/legs: Goose CDC

**Tying steps:**

Step 1: Make a thread base from the eye to hook point.

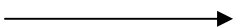


Step 2: Pull a few fibers from a brown dry fly hackle. Try to keep the tips even. Secure fibers to hook, and wind thread rearward to behind the barb. Wind thread to eye, trim excess hackle barbs, and return to point of hook.



Step 3: Tie on a piece of nymph stretch or scud back. Leave a little excess in front and back. Wind thread rearward a little. This is the first segment. Now you are going to build two more segments with the thread.



FOTM Cont. on page 3 

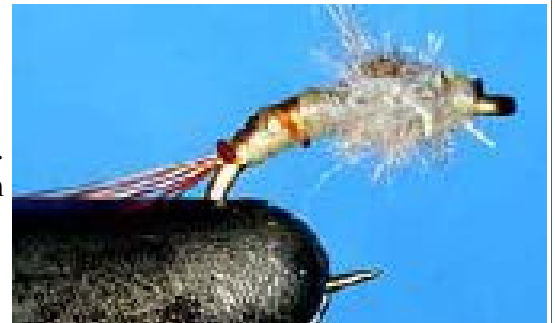
Step 4: Hold the rear tag and spiral the thread rearward about the width of the first segment. Wind rearward over the tag to produce another segment. Stop winding rearward before you cover the tail tie down. Spiral the thread forward to front of first segment. Trim rear tag now if you wish. Pick up the front tag and wind thread on shank to a little in front of point.



Step 5: Wind thread forward over the front tag to make another segment equal to or slightly bigger the first segment. Fold the front tag back. If you are a goose hunter or have friends who hunt you can complete this step with goose CDC, otherwise substitute duck CDC. Spin CDC loosely on tying thread. Wind the dubbing and thread forward to behind eye. Some say that it is the bubbles that CDC attracts that interests the fish. But CDC moves easily in the water, and that might be what attracts fish.



Step 6: Pull front tag forward and secure behind hook eye and trim. Complete the fly with a whip finish. Pick out the CDC for legs. Trim CDC under fly.



Step 7: Top view of fly shows the segmentation and nice legs.



**Closing Comments:**

This is a little different method of tying a fly. All of the segments are made with thread alternately hiding and exposing the nymph stretch material. Keep close eye on location of the thread so you can make the segments look good. Tie up a few and try them out. Start with the largest hook size and work to the smallest.

# Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

## Way Out There

Nevada bound, Terry's Mom was going to spend some time with us, and we needed to pick her up. Terry got off work at noon on Saturday, we put the pickup in drive, and headed out onto the road. We crossed the Cascades over Snoqualmie Pass surrounded by evergreens. As we left Cle Elum in the rear-view mirror we lost elevation as we neared Ellensburg, our vistas changed, from woodlands, to valleys of grazing cattle and horses, hay pastures and ridges of sagebrush and short grass. Just outside Ellensburg we headed south on the east side of the Cascades. We passed through Yakima, pointed towards Kennewick the Columbia River and Pendleton.

Pendleton, conjures reminiscences and images of warm woolen and bright colored Indian blankets and Rodeo's. Swift footed quarter horses carrying riders whose arms throw swinging accurate hemp and poly ropes, to snare fleet calves and steers. Plunging, bucking horses striving mightily to throw tight riding cowboys, displaying the beauty and grace of passed down vaquero skills. My Buckaroo heart beat a little quicker. We were, way out there. (*"A lonely spot I know where no man will go, Where the shadows have all the room, I was ridin' free on the old S. P., humming a Southern tune, When a man came along, made me hush my song, Kicked me off away out there."* - *Way Out There, Bob Nolan*)



From Pendleton, we climbed up through the Umatilla water shed feeding the Colombia River. Central Oregon ranch land surrounded us. Long vistas of low sun lit ridges, mountains and valleys filled our eyes with beauty and awe. The beauty of the western landscape exploded in my soul. Each breath taken was a gift of contentment and glory. (*"I would rather wake up in the middle of nowhere than in any city on earth."* - *Steve McQueen.*) That sums up my view of wilderness, versus towns and cities. I freely admit that I am not a fan of man's drive to own land, based upon a ravenousness pursuit of wealth. I am very protective of this land we were born too; we are stewards not owners, we must pass this land onto our children and our children's children. To pollute it or strip it of its beauty for the pursuit of greed is a mortal sin. The old buckaroos knew this. They mourned the coming of the money men who knew not the ways of horse, spur, and saddle, who only saw the greed of making the land pay and pay, not the true value of grass, earth, and stream, in its untouched form.

We flew through the high range lands of La Grange, and the hay fields and pastures of Baker, OR. Just south of Baker we started losing elevation, as the blacktop we rode upon dropped us towards Boise, ID. The Sun lowered in the west, its refracted rays cast long shadows from the surrounding hills. The sun's low angled light, also highlighted tumbleweeds ensnared by ubiquitous western barbwire fences. (*"See them tumbling down, Pledging their love to the ground! Lonely but free, I'll be found, Drifting along with the tumblin' tumbleweeds"*- *Tumbling Tumbleweeds, Bob Nolan.*) Left over wildfire smoke gave a grayish pink glow to the land. It has been a tough wildfire season and I for one am looking forward to the rains of fall putting an end to all the fires, ash, and smoke.

Continued on Page 5 →

The gloaming was short and dark fell fast; too soon the world shrunk to what could be seen in our headlights. As the earth turned the sun left the sky before we hit Boise, ID. Central Boise was just a carpet of lights laid out in a river valley surrounded by dark hills. In Mountain Home, ID we stopped for gas and snacks, just enough fuel for truck and body for our last push to Elko. Our estimated time of arrival was 1:45 AM.

As we left Mountain Home we entered my favorite part of way out there. On Idaho Highway 51 and Nevada Highway 225 traffic fell almost to nothing in the next four and half hours we maybe, saw six cars. The two-lane blacktop here passes over the Snake River and along and over the Owyhee River. It bisects the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. The clouded night sky provided no star light, so our view was of fence posts, tufts of bunch grass, fence snared tumbleweeds, new laid chip seal, and flickering yard lights from scattered homes that punctured the darkness. In my mind's eye, I pictured what my eyes could not see, riffled water, placid lakes, spine tingling and pastel laced vistas, meadowed hay fields, fat meadow and river cattails and sweet-smelling sagebrush.

Outside the warm comfort of the truck, passing cloud bursts, wet the windshield forcing me to switch on the wipers, wayward wind gust buffeted us, as we followed the road to Elko (*"The wayward wind is a restless wind, A restless wind that yearns to wander. And he was born the next of kin, The next of kin to the wayward wind..." - The Wayward Wind, Herbert Newman & Stanley Lebowsky.*)

We pulled into Elko just before two AM, I cut the engine, turned off the I-Pod, climbed out of the pickup cab, stretched cramped muscles, and headed for the comfort of a warm bed. The truck engine's heat dissipated in the cool high desert air.



We spent Sunday with family, catching up and swapping stories. On Monday, Terry, Betty, and I loaded up and headed back home, I still missed Duck Valley, we left at four AM. Just after we left Duck Valley early morning light brought the landscape into relief. The vista at sunrise looking North down through the Snake River watershed was awe inspiring.

*"Because in the end. You won't remember the time you spent working in an office or mowing your lawn. Climb that goddamn mountain." - Jack Kerouac*

I was born a wanderer, the songs that I have listed above, sparked my imagination as a child but I still carry their wonder here in my heart in the fall of my years. Thank you for coming along on a ride through this land, we were born too, cherish it, protect it, and then pass it onto the generations to follow. We are stewards not the owners of this great land. Thank you lord for Way Out There!

Hope to see you way out there, soon.

Stephen

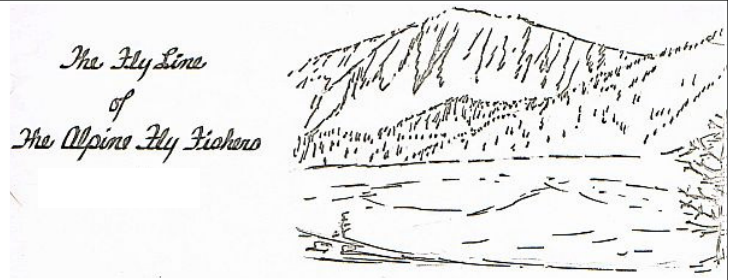
***"Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after"***

*Henry David Thoreau*

~ *In The Past* ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers  
'The Fly Line' -  
Vol. 1 No. 9

**November of 1973**



Next meeting: Date: Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1973 (Notice day change)  
Place: Noel's Restaurant  
6:00 - Wet Line  
6:45 - Dinner & Meeting

Program: An award winning film "THE WAY OF A TROUT" is the treat our program committee has for us. The photography is fantastic. I've seen it before and I'm looking forward to seeing it again.

Draw Prize: Not bought yet, but guaranteed to please.

Last Meeting: For those of you who stayed home to watch football, we changed the meeting night to Tuesday for the duration of the football season. There will be an exception in December, as the program is lined up for Monday in that month.

Fishouts: The Dry Falls fishout was what fishing is all about. The weather was warm, the trout were cooperative and the people were good. We met Maurice Travis, President of the Evergreen Fly Fishing Club of Everett, and spent an enjoyable time trading stories with him and his group. Of special interest was their fish planting program using the Vibert Box.

The Nunnally fishout will be November 10 and 11. Reports are that some big fish have been taken there this fall so plan on making it. This is a fish and feather outing — if the weather is windy and rotten we'll hunt ducks.

New Member: Let's welcome Gary Drobnack to the club. He works for Weyerhaeuser as a forester, is married and has two children. He prefers stream fishing, has just started tying flies and would like to build a rod.

Fishing Reports: Fishing continues to be very good, but watch out after October 31, a lot of water closes then. Quite a few steelhead have been taken from the Wenatchee River lately. This is one of the better streams for fall steelhead fly fishing. The Eastern Washington quality lakes are also producing ery well. One problem here is the spring plant, which is 9" - 11" now. To minimize the chance of injuring these fish you should use barbless flies.

Cal and I tried the Yakima on the way home from Dry Falls. In a word, the fishing was superb. Tehre was a good hatch of tiny gray wing olives and we took fish to 16" using midge rods and size 16 flies. Wow!

Fly Patterns: With steelhead season just around the corner, I have just the fly for those of you who have trouble making the transition from summer to winter fishing. I hereby acknowledge thanks to the Lower Columbia Fly Fishers from whence this pattern comes.

"The Oregon Osterizer": "The prime ingredient for the "Oregon Osterizer" is access to a cocktail blender placed fistful of select salmon roe, a pinch of borax and a dash of vermouth. This is blended at a number 3 setting for seven minutes. Now the fly itself, an artfully created job of red yarn, is chucked into this essence, soaked for three minutes, then individually frozen and packed in a wide-mouth thermos. The inventor of this pattern claims they will last for hours and are particularly effective in those areas wet aside for fly fishing only. Urp!"

Bring a guest: Response to this has been good. Keep bringing those guests.

Elections: Elections are coming in December, but now si the time for you to start thinking about who you want to be your officers for 1974. Offices tob be voted on are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Ghillie and Trustee.

Editorials: Editorials, literary contributions, fishing reports, etc. are always welcomed by your editor. Here are a couple of editorials.

I'd like to say a few words about the meeting attendance. As you may or may not know, we must pay for a minimum number of dinners in order to get our meeting room. Whenever the attendance is below this minimum, as has been the case our last wo meetings, the difference must be made up from the club treasury. This is your club. Support it. We can't afford to continue paying for people who stay home.

Cal

## Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2017

Our club meetings are on the fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month except for December (the third Tuesday) and there are no meetings in July or August.

**October 24; November 28; December 19 (3rd Tuesday)**

## Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2017

January 23; February 27; March 27; April 24; May 22; June ??(picnic)  
September 25; October 23; November 27; December 18

## A Fly Fishing Quote:

*“ I doubt if I shall ever outgrow the excitement bordering on panic which I feel the instant I know I have a strong, unmanageable fish, be it brook trout, brown trout, cutthroat, steelhead, or salmon on my line.”*

*Edward Weeks — Fresh Waters (1968)  
The Quotable Fisherman by Nick Lyons*



## PHOTOS PLEASE !!!!!!!



Every December, at our Christmas meeting, Steve Egge puts on a great power point presentation of photos given to him by some of our club members of fishing trips they have taken over the past year.

Unfortunately, we don't get enough photos. We would all love to see shots of your exploits, scenic photos as well as fishing photos. I know our members travel all over North America during the year, so please take some pictures where ever you are fishing. Let us enjoy your trips with you, even if it is vicariously.

You can turn them in to me or Steve anytime of the year. We want them!!



## Christmas Tree Flies Needed

I am afraid that this is what our Christmas Fly Tree looks like now, mostly bare with just a few we collected at the September meeting.

We need flies to help decorate this pathetic looking tree, to brighten it up so some lucky person can win it at our December meeting and have hundreds of flies to remove and sort.

Please give this tree a helping hand and donate some flies, it is lonely without them.

Contribute to this very good cause & get your flies hooked onto our tree instead of the trees along the river.

Larry



## October Guest Speaker

Ben Paull of OPST (Olympic Peninsula Skagit Tactics) regarding fly fishing for Steelhead on the Olympic Peninsula.



## 2017 Special End Of Year Free Drawing



Remember the special **free** drawing at the end of 2017 during our Christmas meeting & fundraiser raffle.

This year, every time a club member who attends a meeting can fill out one special drawing ticket. The ticket can only be filled out at that meeting and must be turned in at the end of the meeting.

All of these tickets will be collected over the course of the year and at our Christmas club meeting next December, we will have a drawing for **at least** three (3) very nice items, most likely there will be a few more.

One item will be a brand new **St. Croix Avid** series fly rod, the 7 weight, 9 foot, 4 piece model.

Another item will be a brand new **Sage 1850 Large Arbor** reel (5/6 wt).

How about a **fly rod/reel case** for four piece, nine foot or smaller rods?

**I want to point out that the more meetings you attend, the more times your name will be in the drawing.**

Larry

### FFI Announces Conservation Partnership with Single Hooks

by Fly Fishers International

Fly Fishers International welcomes Single Hooks as a conservation partner.



FFI is pleased to announce our new conservation partner SingleHooks. A growing conservation movement with supporters in over 30 countries. Single Hooks aims to draw upon science, empirical evidence and expert knowledge to build a compelling case for:

1. Recreational angling: single (circle) hook use in place of multi-point hooks in support of successful catch & release, which also includes those fishing to eat.
2. Commercial sea fisheries: circle hook use in all commercial longline fisheries to minimize by-catch of non-target fish and other wildlife species.

Special thanks to Dave Peterson, FFI Conservation Chair for steering this through approval stage.

For more information go to [singlehooks.org](http://singlehooks.org).



## **PJ Hicks is selling his WaterMaster Raft**

hickspj467@comcast.net  
253-838-5437



Photo snipped from  
company website. LG

### Kodiak Specs:

Overall Length: 106" (8' 10")  
Inside Length: 68"  
Overall Width: 52"  
Inside Width: 22"  
Front of seat to inside front: 32"  
Rear Cargo Deck: 23" W x 27" L  
Tube Diameter (sides): 16"  
Tube Diameter (front): 20"  
Tube Diameter (back): 20"  
Raft Weight: 27 lbs.  
Package Weight: 42 lbs.  
Weight Capacity: 750 lbs  
White water rating: Class IV  
Color: Olive Green

### INCLUDES

Raft with Expedition Package - new value \$1995  
Heavy duty Breakdown Oars  
REI Stadium High Back Seat with Therm-a-Rest cushion - added extra value \$150  
Foot Pump  
K Pump - value \$100  
High capacity 12 vdc electric pump - extra value \$150  
Dry bag backpack that holds everything.  
20" Aluminum bicycle wheel carrier - added extra value \$300  
Fins – added value \$50  
Stripping Apron  
Rod Holders (2) - home made – added value \$20  
Mesh Bag  
Boat Handle - home made  
Anchor system and 'Cannonball' anchor - added extra value \$35

**EXPEDITION PACKAGE RAFT lists for \$1995 + Added value \$805**

**A \$2,800 total value**

**SELLING for \$1250**

## 2017 NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

by Mike Clancy, Co-Director, NWYCFFAcademy

We enjoyed another successful Academy this year and graduated 15 boys and girls that learned the basics of fly fishing and conservation. Snow days this year was our big challenge. Many schools were still in session during our event. Again, we were privileged with incredible instructors from both the public sector and private sector. With the support of over 50 volunteers from the South Sound Fly Fishers of Olympia and The Puget Sound Fly Fishers of Tacoma and the Olympia Chapter of TU, not necessarily in that order, this event could not have happened.

The event would also not have happened without financial support from many Washington Fly Fishing Clubs, Washington TU chapters, WCTU, WSCFFI, local corporations and private individuals. This is an all year endeavor for the staff in preparation for the one week program for the kids. We are very proud of our Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy organization and look forward to many more events.

The boys and girls have an excellent foundation for their future in fly fishing, conservation and career building. Preparation for next year's Academy has already started, with the event scheduled for June 24-30, 2018 on Hicks Lake at the Gwinwood Community Center in Lacey, WA. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Clancy at [nwycffa@comcast.net](mailto:nwycffa@comcast.net) or 360-753-1259, Jim Brosio at 360-491-9227 and Tom VanGelder at 253-261-8890. Our website is: [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com). Registration for the 2018 Academy will open January 1, 2018. Check out our Facebook page for many pictures.

*The boys and girls of today - are the guardians of the future for our sport of fly fishing.*



# October / November 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> October	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	<b>24 Club Meeting</b>	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 	"The sweet calm sunshine of October, now warms the low spot; upon its grassy mold The purple oak-leaf falls; the birchen bough drops its bright spoil like arrow-heads of gold." - William Cullen Bryant			

*"Our Father, fill our hearts, we pray, With gratitude Thanksgiving Day. For food and raiment Thou dost give, That we in comfort here may live." - Luther Cross, Thanksgiving Day*

			<b>1</b> November	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	<b>21 Club Meeting</b>	22	23 	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	"November comes And November goes, With the last red berries And the first white snows.....- Elizabeth Coatsworth 1893—1986	

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Visit our website at [www.alpineflyfishers.org](http://www.alpineflyfishers.org)

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