

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

SORRY THERE WILL BE

NO MEETINGS

IN 2020

We will meet in 2021


FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club
1000 Stewards member



The Dead Drift - October 2020

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

Major Changes On The Way

Yes, there will be some major changes in the near future.

ZOOM MEETINGS: Fly Fishers International has set up Zoom accounts for all of the councils. That offer then, via the WA State Council, extends to our club. So, down the road you will get an email from me inviting you to join us at a Zoom meeting. There will be a few clicks and a simple download, then you can get on a meeting. Time wise? Down the road.

NEW PRESIDENT: We have a new president, of the WA State Council FFI that is, Steven Jones. Bill Wheeler had to step down due to health issues. Steve accepted the challenge of being the president. As a side note, he has been working with the FFI on setting up the WSC Zoom system, which is working really well. He is now working with the FFI to be able to allow our club, and other clubs, their own use of the Zoom account. This is more complicated.

A NEW WEBSITE: Dr. Steve Egge has been our webmaster for a long time. He bought the software years ago and has been paying the yearly fees associated with websites. He is going to retire in early 2021 and move up north to his home on Whidbey Island. I was talking with Steve the other day and he expressed some concern about what was going to happen with our website. I had also been wondering this and I found a fantastic solution. One of the members of the WA State Council's Board of Directors is willing to help me set up a brand new website. He is going to charge a fee however. He would like some flies tied by our club members. I think we can do that and send him a whole lot of flies. I am paid up thru September for our present website. Steve is renewing the contract.

NO MEETINGS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020: It is with deep regret that I have to announce that we will not have any club meetings for the rest of this year. Doctors Robert Alston and Steve Egge and I have all agreed that the danger of this COVID 19 pandemic means we need to be extra careful about group contact. The standard late fall/winter flu and phenomena season is going to be compounded by the COVID 19 flu threat, so this winter is not a safe time to start our meetings. I will continue with the newsletter and the mini-newsletter as well as the 'Flies on the Web' drawings. I would really like to sell out the Loop rod outfit raffle board so all of the winners can get drawn. We can start having some Zoom meetings and Zoom chat sessions as well. Oh yea, maybe we can go out and do some fishing so we have some fishing reports to post in the newsletters!!!!

Buy some rod raffle board squares. Help out the club and maybe win some neat stuff. See page 10 for more info.

"Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink, I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its thin current slides away, but eternity remains." Henry David Thoreau

Good Fishing & Stay Safe



Larry

Fly Fishing International

Fly of the Month

October 2006

3P NYMPH

By Bob Bates



Dick Nelson's 3P Nymph has the three best wet fly materials -- Pheasant tail, Peacock herl and a Partridge feather. These three materials show up often in fly tying literature and separately in many patterns. Pheasant tail has a great reddish brown overall color and movement. (The individual fibers move and if you look at it closely there are fine hairs on each fiber.) Peacock has colors and an iridescence that flies made with it are irresistible to fish. Finally partridge is a standard for soft hackle flies because it moves so easily in the water.

However, they have never been combined so effectively until Dick did it. He had 2 3/4 months in the hospital to think about it after his triple coronary by-pass surgery. I guess it should not be considered unusual because Dick is a noted fly tier and teacher who has been thinking about fly patterns for many years. He received awards and honors from the FFF: The Buz Buszek Award in 1987, the Charles E. Brooks Memorial Award 1997 and the Dick Nelson Fly Tying Teaching Award was named in honor of him. He has always been around the demonstration fly tying tables at FFF Conclaves. At the 2006 Conclave in Bozeman Lillian, his wife, did the tying while Dick made sure she followed his printed instructions.

Dick let me copy his instructions, and as I studied them later what impressed me the most was that this was a great teaching pattern. The handling of materials is precise and gives a new tier all they need to tie a fish catching fly. It also teaches a classic style of tying. Before bobbins we did all of our tying this way.

It is a mayfly nymph imitation so plan your fishing approach accordingly. It depends on your water and conditions. In still waters I would start with a floating line or one of the sinking lines depending on depth. In shallow water over weeds use a floating line. Deeper waters call for a sink tip or full sinking lines. The retrieve should be one that will let the materials move. A hand twist or short strip/pause would work. In moving waters varying currents will make the fly look alive. Maybe use a strike indicator (bobber) to help identify takes.

MATERIALS LIST:

Hook: Mustad 3906B (Alt: Daiichi 1560; Dai Riki 060; Targus or Tiemco 3761), Sizes 8-16

Thread: Flymaster 6/0, dark brown or black.

Tail: Ringneck pheasant tail, 2 or 3 tail barbs.

Abdomen: Ringneck pheasant tail, 3 barbs.

Rib: Non-tarnishing copper wire, 0.005- to 0.008-inch diameter, (equal to 6X to 3X tippet) about 3 inches long. Ultra Wire, small, seems right for #12 hooks

Thorax: One lush Peacock herl.

Hackle: Gray (Hungarian) partridge, one body feather, brown or gray.

TYING STEPS:

1. Attach thread at a point two eye-lengths behind the eye, spiral thread to the rear of the shank (over mid-barb, a little toward bend from point). Advance thread to mid-shank and half-hitch.

2. Align the tips of two or three pheasant tail barbs by stroking them perpendicular to stem and remove. Place on top of shank with tips projecting two eye-lengths beyond the hook bend, and tie on at hanging thread (mid-shank). Bind to rear of the shank; advance thread to mid-shank, halfhitch, and trim excess.

Continued on page 3 →



3. Put a 1/8-inch right angle bend in one end of the copper wire. (Using hackle pliers helps.) Tie in at the two eye-length point. Fold back the bend, overwrap and then bind the wire to a position over the hook point. Advance thread to mid-shank, half-hitch and lightly cement the shank.

4. Align the three pheasant tail barbs parallel to each other, make the first wrap behind the wire, then wrap them forward as a flat group to the hanging thread, tie down and trim excess. Advance thread to the two eye-length point and half-hitch.

5. Trim off about 1/2-inch of the herl butt, tie on at the hanging thread, bind to mid-shank, advance thread to the two eye-length point, half-hitch and cement thorax area.

6. Reverse-wrap the wire forward in a spiral to mid-shank (about one eye-length spacing); then in close wraps to the hanging thread, trim excess, bind tag to shank, cover thorax area with thread, half-hitch and cement.

7. Wrap herl in close wraps to the hanging thread, tie down, half-hitch, trim and cement.

8. Prepare a partridge feather for tying in by its tip by exposing the rachis (stem). Tie the rachis at the hanging thread with convex side facing forward, trim excess tip short of the eye, bind rachis to shank by winding thread forward to the 1/2 eye-length point, half-hitch and cement.

9. Stroke the barbs rearward while wrapping the hackle forward one or two complete wraps, tie down, half-hitch and trim excess. Build a small thread head, tie off with a whip-finish knot from hackle to eye and cement.

Closing comments: This is one pattern that is not difficult to tie. Tie a bunch of them in different sizes and then go fishing as soon as you can. If it's already too close to the end of the regular season look around for waters that are open late or even all year. Remember that most of the time trout are feeding under the surface where this pattern works its magic.

A CALL TO ARMS

WELL, NOT REALLY. MORE LIKE 'A CALL TO FLIES'
AS PAYMENT FOR CREATING A NEW WEBSITE, SAM
WOULD LIKE FLIES TIED BY OUR CLUB MEMBERS. I
WOULD LIKE TO SEND HIM A DECENT AMOUNT OF FLIES.
PLEASE TIE SOME UP OR DIG INTO YOUR RESERVE AND
LET ME KNOW, I WILL ARRANGE TO GET THE FLIES FROM
YOU. THANKS. LARRY

Back of Beyond

Stephen Neal

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

Smoke

Small particulates from California and Oregon's fires have moved north to join Washington's own small particulates. When it first showed up on our door step the lyrics "Smoke gets in your eyes", ran through my mind, I even hummed a few bars. Even so I am ready for it to be over like everyone else that is experiencing this event. It has been over a week of yellow tinted sky; my soul aches at the loss and pain, the fires have inflicted. As you have read or heard these western particulates, we call smoke has spread across the U.S. and is showing up in Europe, as it spreads around the world. Smoke puts more stress on the body make us more susceptible to disease, and other health issues.

Our world is rapidly changing, what were once thought of as hundred-year storms, extreme fire seasons, and drought, happen more often, those longer cycles are now compressed and more severe. Incidents that used to be contained to Regions, States and Countries are affecting continents, hemispheres', and the world. The high winds that fanned the flames in California and Oregon visited us as well here in Western Washington. It laid waste to the electrical system, causing widespread power outages and failed transformer fires. We personally were prepared, we battened down the hatches and started our backup-generator. But all the local food stores, (Walmart, Fred Meyer, Safeway, Target) lost all their frozen food, dairy and meat. The main artery into and out of town was closed for a week due to a transformer fire. Clogging alternate routes.

Our climate is heating up, and it is transforming our lives, mother nature does not care about our politics, right, center or left. When she is out of balance, she affects us all, indiscriminately. We can dither, argue, pontificate, and disagree on causes, but deep in our hearts a disquiet is growing. Our hearts know much sooner than our minds. When we look out on our world the beauty stirs us, our breathing deepens, our eyes widen to drink in the view but the background music in our minds plays the blues instead of a symphony. It is the mournful wail of a train's horn approaching a crossing, the rumble of driving wheels climbing a grade, the slap of waves on fog shrouded rocky shore. It reverberated from our head to our feet, it tightens our shoulder blades and lower waist. Our unease grows because we feel rudderless with windless sails.

While we may feel rudderless, in reality we have many roadmaps from our past to guide us in the future, genuinely great countries change and grow. They adapt, struggle through the adaption process, and move on, pulling strength from where we have been and inventing the new. Countries that do not adapt and change eventually rot from the inside and become cautionary tales for historians to dissect and analyze. In 1939 Britain's domestic agriculture was ill prepared to supply food for its own people at the beginning of WWII. Unable to compete with other food producing countries where climate and large acreage decreased the costs of production, England could not compete. Britain's farmers were supplying less than 40% of the countries food needs and that was mostly meat products. 60% of England's food was imported, and Germanies unrestricted submarine warfare was crippling England.



Continued on page 5 →

Over the next 5 years, under extremely trying, times of shortages (food, domestic goods, equipment, oil, gas etc.), bombings, fear of invasion, displaced urban refugees, Land Girls, war prisoners, government oversight, Britain's farmers transformed their craft and livelihood into producing over 60% of British peoples food. History books focus on the war and the sacrifices of soldiers and battels won and lost. But, if British farmers had not won their battle to feed the people of England, England would have been lost and there would have been no where close that and invasion force could have been launched to defeat Germany. Domestic struggles to adapt and change are as important as military actions to bring about victory.

As climate change confronts us, what we do domestically is just as important as government actions. As fishermen, we can keep our fly lines clean extending their life, therefore reducing waste, and reducing our carbon footprint. When buying new wading boots, look for ones made of natural materials that are easily repaired. First cost is a facture, but if you are replacing boots every two or three years, a good boot that last 10 or 20+ years are cheaper and less waste and are a smaller carbon footprint, that we leave on the world. Share rides whenever possible. Tie flies whenever possible with natural materials, they breakdown naturally petroleum-based products will be around long after we are gone. Know your equipment suppliers and manufactures, are they sustainable business are they protecting the environment. Pick up after yourself and others, lead by example. Always leave your fishing and camping spots cleaner than you found them. Clean spots discourage littering and that is less trucks going into the backcountry to haul garbage out. Support clean energy projects, write your representatives to protect hunting and fisheries. (The defeat of the Pebble Mine was a grass roots effort). Take young people into the wild to show them firsthand how beautiful our public lands are and how valuable they are to our sanity and human preservation. People care more about things that they have invested time in. People supporting people and finding solutions to overcome problems is when we are at our best.

Real lasting change is brought on by everyday activities. Living a more thoughtful life always pays dividends for the future. We are the change for a brighter more sustainable future.

May you be safe in this time of smoke and chaos, in closing I leave you with this quote to deepen your awareness of the possibilities, we are not a rudderless as it seems.

"Mahoney: "Thirty-seven seconds. Great, well done; now we wait."

Mr. Magorium: "No, we breathe, we pulse, we regenerate. our hearts beat, our minds create, our souls ingest. Thirty-seven seconds well used is a lifetime."

— Suzanne Weyn, *Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium*

Stephen

"When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind – Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

"Many go fishing all their lives, without knowing that it is not fish they are after" - Henry David Thoreau

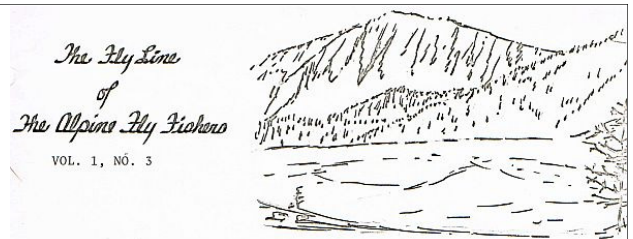


~ *In The Past* ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -
Vol. 4 No. 12

December of 1976

Reed Miller, Editor



This ~ *In The Past* ~ article was published in 1976. The information it contains is 44 years out of date and is not accurate.

This is a historical document only.

Program: The Elwha River in the Olympic National Park offers some of the best native rainbow fishing around. This summer, Jim Higgins and Phil White hiked in and spent several days fishing and taking pictures. They've put together a program that's sure to please. This program is for more than entertainment though. They are going to be recruiting for a hike-in fishout for next year. An elevation profile of the Elwha River is attached to the newsletter. I've fished this river and can verify it can be great.

Christmas Special: In keeping with the holiday season, this meeting is a "bring your mate" event. You are asked and encouraged to bring your spouse, lover, good friend, etc. to the meeting. The more the merrier.

Elections: December is elections month. So far the nominations are: President-Pat Trotter; V.P.-George Vaars; Secretary-Doug Hansen; Treas-Phil White; Ghillie-Geoff Meyer & Pam Trotter; Trustee-Bill Vernon & Stan Gregory & Geoff Meyer.

Nominations: Will be taken from the floor prior to the vote.

Program Chairman Needed: The club needs a program chairman. Lining up the program is one of the most important jobs in the club. If you'd like the job, speak up. One advantage of the job is it lets you select the kind of programs you like best.

Fishing Reports and Prospects: The winter steelhead season has officially opened and promises to be a lousy one. Actually, since Westside rivers were open until Nov. 30, anyway, the only real change that took place Dec. 1 was in the fine print. Most tributary creeks closed and some of the summer tackle restrictions gave way to winter rules. For example, the fly only restrictions on the North Fork Stillaguamish flipped over to anything goes.

Unfortunately for those of you who fish winter steelhead, the outlook is bad. Less fish have been planted. So, it looks like a long, long winter.

There's a lot of saltwater sitting around waiting for you fishermen. This vastly underutilized resource is going begging, waiting for enterprising fly casters to explore its possibilities.

Put this one on your calendar for next year. Try the Quilcene River for Cohos in early November. Cal Cole landed 15 the day after Thanksgiving, but they were a little too dark to keep. HE said the best fly was a purple thing. He's sending me one and I'll feature it in the next newsletter.

Book Time: Winter is a good time to catch up on your reading and learn a little more about fly fishing. A couple of books to consider buying are "Steelhead Fly Fishing and Flies" by Trey Combs and "Nymph Fishing for Larger Trout" by Charles Brooks.

That's it for this month. Don't forget to bring your partner to the meeting. Make this a 'realllly biggg shew'.

Fishing Reports:

Kevin Gill:

We went fishing in the bay with three of my grandkids on Friday and got 4 silvers, the kids reeled in all of them and then lost a real nice fish at the side of the boat. Yep, it was absolutely nuts, two 9 year olds and a 7 year old. Took two of them Saturday and couldn't find a fish. Go figure.

Steve Temple of Clark Fork Trout:

Sept 19 and the river at a steady 2,600 CFS and temps have dropped to lows of 55 degrees. This has allowed the fish to feed all day and fight quite hard. Expect the big fish 17 and over to make multiple hard runs. Am finding the Mayflies like the PMD to be quite numerous on and off during the day. Enjoy this cycle while it lasts which should be another few weeks.

September 11th and the river has cooled down to 60 degrees. With the cool nights you just do not need to leave early. Get started at 10am is just fine and fish attractors till the hatch shows up mid day. I really like small double flies floated in the flats to raise some nice cuts.

Sept 2nd and we are in fall fishing with the Cuts willing to take top water hoppers and Mayflies in the afternoon. Not a lot of fish but some quality fish in the afternoons. Leave later in the day if you can to find the feeding fish out on the flats and riffles feeding on mayflies. Did see some really big PMDs last few days in the later afternoons.

Worley-Bugger Fly Co.

Good afternoon. The air has cleared in Central Washington and we can all now breath quite a bit cleaner. The Yakima River is now at Autumn water flows and the peak time of the year has arrived. The river is producing numerous hatches of Stoneflies, Caddisflies and Mayflies.

Fishing reports wanted. Will pay with smiles.

Alpine Fly Fishers



Alpine Fly Fisher Meeting Dates in 2021

Doctors Steve Egge and Robert Alston and I have agreed that we should not have any meetings until sometime in 2021, hopefully early in 2021. This fall and winter will set the stage for when we can start getting back together again.

There will be no meetings for the remainder of ~~2020~~

Just A Little Venting

Just a little gripe and observation, if you will allow me. We had a fairly major wildfire in the Bonney Lake/Lake Tapps/Sumner area after that big wind storm on a Sunday night. We lost power of course as well as our cable. Apparently the one cell tower we have contact with also ceased to work. So, no cell phone, no internet, no power, nada. Texting still worked part time so I was able to text my sister who had also lost power and all contact with the outside world. I was able to have some power with my generator, enough to keep the refer and freezer going and a few lights and a couple of fans. Yes there was a lot of smoke in the air but we expected that since the strong wind was from the east and it brought over all the smoke from the fires in eastern WA.

Tuesday evening I had a brief period of cell phone coverage and my other sister was able to call me and ask me how close were we to the fire? So says I, "What fire?" The one that is burning in my area and had forced a large evacuation. I got in my car and drove down the road and found a deputy blocking a road so I asked him what was going on. From there I could see the smoke from the fire, and yes, it was close.

My sister gave me the phone number of the Pierce County Emergency Management but they were so swamped that after trying for an hour to make contact I gave up. On Wednesday morning I was able to make contact and I was informed that my house was only four properties away from the mandatory evacuation zone. Four properties, that's just great, first I had knew about it.

So here it is Thursday, the fire is still only 20% contained, and while I now have power and internet, trying to get an up to date idea on what the fire is doing is literally impossible. I checked with PCEM again and their latest update was from midnight, so it was 10 hours old. Lot of good that does if the fire changes direction and is about to take your house up with it.

Somehow, the whole system is failing to handle this emergency properly or efficiently. I really hope they do a sit down and discuss their lousy performance to try to figure out how to correct things in the future. There is a chat site called Next Door and it covers areas where you live. There are a whole lot of people complaining about not being able to get any up to date information about the fire. Maybe, if we have an emergency in the future, the powers that be will have straightened out the problems and there will be an easy way to get current data. Our lives may depend upon it.

Sorry about my rant.

Puerto Vallarta Restaurant

I went down to the Puerto Vallarta Restaurant today. My main purpose was to have them remove our November and December meetings from their appointment book. I really didn't like having to cancel those dates as I enjoy our meetings and conversations. But, it was necessary.

The restaurant has rearranged the interior of the building to comply with the restrictions that are necessary to help stop the spread of Covid-19. In the main restaurant, the tables have been spaced far apart and in the booths, every other booth is marked as closed, do not use.

In our room, it is much the same way, only a few tables are set up and they are far apart. We would not be able to have a meeting anyways.

Oh yea, I bought myself a Blue Moon and ordered up some Arroz con Pollo, my favorite.

Larry

Stay safe.

Six (6) Winners on Loop Rod/Reel Raffle Board!!

I want to thank **Howard** and **Paul** and **Duffy** and **Bruce** and **Guy** and **Dean** and **Dr. Robert** and **Kevin** for buying some squares on the Loop fly rod/reel board. Between their purchases and my own purchases, we now have over **68%** of the rod board squares sold!!!

I would really like to get the whole board sold out before too long. It would be nice to pick some winners.

If you are thinking that you really don't need another fly rod (really?) then consider buying some squares to try to win and then you can re-gift the fly rod outfit to a deserving youth or a friend or a very worthy cause like Project Healing Waters so a vet can have a really nice outfit. Or how about Casting for Recovery or someone you know who may just be getting into fly fishing or who needs a second outfit. If not yourself, then make someone else happy!

So, here is what is going to happen. The first square chosen will be for the Loop outfit. Then we will draw a total of five (5) more winners. I will have five nice items for the winners.

One person can win more than once, the more squares you buy the greater your odds are at winning.

Email me and I will send you my home address so you can mail a check to me.

Don't forget, this is a fund raiser so Ron can get some great guest speakers and down the road in 2021 we will be meeting and enjoying those presentations.

Larry



TELL YOU WHAT! I will add a clear fly box with at least four (4) dozen, yep, that is at least 48 flies of various types. This will really set you up for some fishing so come on, buy some Loop fly rod outfit

1713 SOUTH CANYON ROAD
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926
509-962-2033
worleybugger@fairpoint.net



Worley Bugger Fly Co.

Steve Worley has some great guides and he has put together the best fly shop filled with a massive amount of fly tying materials and equipment. You really need to stop by the shop and check it out. Just take the Canyon Road exit off I-90 and turn north towards town, the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop is on the left or west side of the road. Open all year. Stop by and say Hi!

guided happiness!

Clark Fork Trout.com
MONTANA FLY FISHING OUTFITTERS
ST. REGIS, MT

OWNER & OUTFITTER, STEVE TEMPLE

www.ClarkForkTrout.com 406.382.0161

Clark Fork Trout

St. Regis, MT

Steve & Peggy Temple have their fly shop just on the north end of St. Regis, right across the street from the road down to the boat launch.

Check it out!!!

For a really good guided drift boat fishing trip, you should contact Clark Fork Trout.

"GUIDED FISHING ON THE CLARK FORK, BITTERROOT, MISSOURI AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS AND PROVIDING FLY FISHING CLASSES BY PEGGY TEMPLE."

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Loop 'Q' Fly Rod Outfit



This is a Loop 'Q' series fly rod/reel kit.

It includes a 5 weight, 4 piece 'Q' fly rod,
'Q' 4/5 large arbor fly reel,
'Q' weight forward floating fly line
'Q' rod/reel case

(I am also including an additional fly line, a weight forward 5 weight)

Fly Rod/Reel raffle board - \$5 per square

Email me and I will give you my address so you can mail a check to me to purchase some squares for this great fly rod/reel combo.

October / November 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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*"There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on, and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings, as now in October."
- Nathaniel Hawthorne - 1804-1864*

				1 October	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	Sorry, No October Meeting		29	30	31

1 November	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	Sorry, no November Meeting		26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30	<i>"A few days ago I walked along the edge of the lake and was treated to the crunch and rustle of leaves with each step I made. The acoustics of this season are different and all sounds, no matter how hushed, are as crisp as autumn air." - Eric Sloane (1905—1985)</i>				

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Visit our website at www.alpineflyfishers.com

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