

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

Tuesday

April 27

ZOOM MEETING

6:45 PM to ??


FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club
1000 Stewards member



The Dead Drift - April 2021

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President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

Regarding my grouching from last month, I didn't have to do jury duty in King County after all, the 'special court case' was resolved in another manner. YEA!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I see they cancelled the Daffodil Parade in Tacoma/Sumner/Orting again this year. No big floats, no traffic jams. Last year was also cancelled. The big one last year was the cancellation of the Western Washington Fair in Puyallup. That cost a lot of people a whole lot of money. I guess we have to wait and see what they will do this year. This Covid (sorry, wash my mouth out with soap) thing is really getting old. Sure hope the shots help.

I was checking the December calendar the other day and had a thought. We usually have our December meeting the 3rd week of the month so we don't conflict with Christmas. Well, this year, the 4th Tuesday is 3 days after Christmas, on December 28. So let's have our Christmas meeting on the 4th Tuesday, after Christmas.

Speaking of Christmas, we usually have a power point photo show with pictures many of you have sent to me during the year. Maybe Steve can put it on again, if not I will. Pictures of you fishing or vacationing or scenic shots and naturally some fish shots, you name it. That means I am asking you to send me your pictures either via email or on a thumb drive or a CD.

We will start our **IN-PERSON** meetings in **October** so that is when you would want to get those pictures to me. The October meeting will be our meet & greet meeting where we tell all of our stories from the spring and summer months. Then in November, we will have a guest speaker and the December meeting will be our photo show and just getting together. I will be starting up the raffle table again in October and maybe I can get Lynne to cook up a goodie. I will also be starting a new raffle board. I have acquired a number of neat items for the raffle board and I thought that rather than just offer one particular item, I will offer the winner a chance to choose one of a selection of items. Kind of like a kid in a candy store, which one to pick.

Marc Williamson was our guest speaker during the March Zoom meeting. He put on a rather good presentation on how to fish spring creeks. In many ways you fish those differently than when you fish the large free flowing rivers like I do. There were 15 of us on that meeting, I do wish more of you would log in for them, we have time to do our official club business (around 30 seconds mostly) and then we get to shoot the breeze and get fishing reports from the members who have been out wetting their lines.

Our April Zoom Guest Speaker Program is Garret Lesko talking about Euro Nymphing which if I am not mistaken isn't too far off from Tenkara fishing, but then maybe I am all wet.

"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

April 2007

GLORIFIED WOOLY BUGGER

By Bob Bates



“Big Fish” was the answer to my question “What do you catch with this fly?” Dorothy Zinky from Los Altos, CA was tying this pattern at the 3rd Fly Tying Expo of the Boise Valley Fly Fishers in Boise, ID, March 2007. The red eyes are probably what attracted my attention just as it does bass and trout. It is not a complicated pattern to tie, and with the potential of catching Big Fish it is worth giving it a try.

Dorothy usually fishes it in moving waters, rivers and streams, using a floating line and a downstream quartering cast. She called it a Berry Beck style. Naturally the cast and even the line are varied a little depending on stream flow and desired depth. Strip it back after the swing. She didn't say so but I sometimes let the fly hang below me for a little while before stripping. The main thing is to try different retrieves to hook those big fish. Water temperature and other factors influence the fish and their willingness to strike. For lake fishing vary the retrieve, location and depth to get the fish to strike. Once fish start hitting keep with that technique until they stop. Also explore structures where fish might hang out.

Materials List:

Hook: Dai-Riki 730, No. 8

Thread: Black, 6/0

Eyes: Nickel dumbbell with red or yellow eyes.

Flash: Krystal Flash, peacock

Tail: Marabou, black

Body/Hackle: 3 to 5 black hen hackles and one red dyed grizzly hen hackle

Legs: Nymph Sili Leg

Head: Peacock herl

Tying steps:

1. Several hooks with the red dumbbells can be assembled ahead of time. Some tying instructions will tell you to hold the eyes across the shank and secure them with a figure eight thread wind. For me it is easier to hold the eyes parallel to the hook, put on a few thread winds, twist the eyes into position and then do the figure eight wind. Set the eyes with Crazy Glue.
2. Put thread on the hook at the bend. Take two strands of Krystal Flash and fold them in half twice. Tie the middle of the bunch of Krystal Flash onto the hook at the bend.
3. Select a bunch of marabou that is about twice as long as the hook and secure it at the bend. Pull back the strands of Krystal Flash pointing forward one at a time, distribute them around the marabou and secure. Wind thread to hold them in position. Leave thread hanging at front of marabou tail.
4. One at a time wrap hen hackles to build a thorax. The last hackle should end very close to the eyes.
5. Attach the red hen hackle between the last black hackle and the eyes. Take two wraps only, secure and trim.
6. Tie legs on in front of eyes, pull them back and secure them behind the eyes so two legs are on each side of the thorax. Attach a strand of peacock herl in front of eyes.
7. Put the herl in a thread loop, and twist them together. Wrap between the eyes, top and bottom, around behind and secure in front of eyes. Trim excess peacock herl. Whip finish between the peacock herl and the hook eye.

Closing comments: Dorothy considers this pattern just another form of Woolly Bugger. Certainly there are hundreds if not thousands of different Woolly Buggers, and they all catch fish, even sometimes big fish. However, your chances might be better if you tie a few Glorified Woolly Buggers and head for your favorite big fish waters.

Back of Beyond

Stephen Neal

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

Love in the Library

January and February embraced their winter's mantle, it was blustery cool, with rain, snow, frost, and freeze. Old man winter had a strong hold on the Pacific Northwest. March came in like a lion with old man winter still in charge, but it has been building steady towards spring, like a sloop sailing downwind, spring promised arrival is welcomed. At the end of January and the middle of March I made it over to the Olympic Peninsula. Sean, Greg, and me, for some much-needed outdoor time, we got together for three nights, in the first month of the year and three more in the third month.

The first three days and nights were on the coast, where the Pacific Ocean with its wild side in its full splendor, meets the wild glory of Olympic Mountain range. We wandered its beaches on tide time, we had a narrow window just before sunset to beachcomb, hike, take photos and watch the sunset before retreating to our campfire. Late January was cold, icy mornings were the norm, and when the sun went down a campfire and four layers of clothing were a necessity for our winter visit to this wild coast. Our campfire visits lasted late into the evening while the sounds of a high surf crashing onto the beach serenaded our days and evenings.

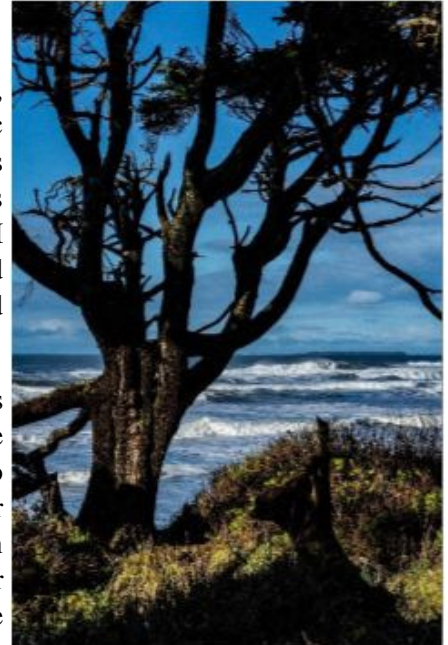
Our forest hikes on the east side of Highway 101, were in the rainforest, a land of an immense variety of ferns, moss, lichen, fungus and plants, massive spruces, Douglas firs, and big leaf maples, the earth at their bases crisscrossed with giant fallen trees that have become nursery logs rearing their own young. The fallen, young, and mature plants in this realm are all reaching for the sunlight in this moisture rich cornucopia of diversity.

On the west side of 101, our forest walks took us through a moisture rich environment as well, but in this forest the element of wind brings its full force to bear. It alters this forest beyond the broken and toppled trees that you also find in the rainforest. Here on this rugged shore, it sculpts them into unique shapes that lend a Zen quality, to the beauty of this wild coastline. The trees and shrubs survive by yielding before the winds force. They stand, but to do so, they lean back and twist and turn as they adapt and grow to meet the oceans wind head on.

Below our bluff camping spot, the beach holds massive logs, some in large, twisted matts, like giant piles of pickup-sticks, other logs are scattered randomly on the beach and up against the fragile bluffs. The scene changes each time a storm makes landfall, the bluffs erode and crumble, the giant pick-up-stick logs are tossed, turned, and polished before being deposited in new locations. Streams, creeks, and rivers flood carving new channels and new mouths in the constant blending of the lands fresh water with the salt waters of the Pacific.

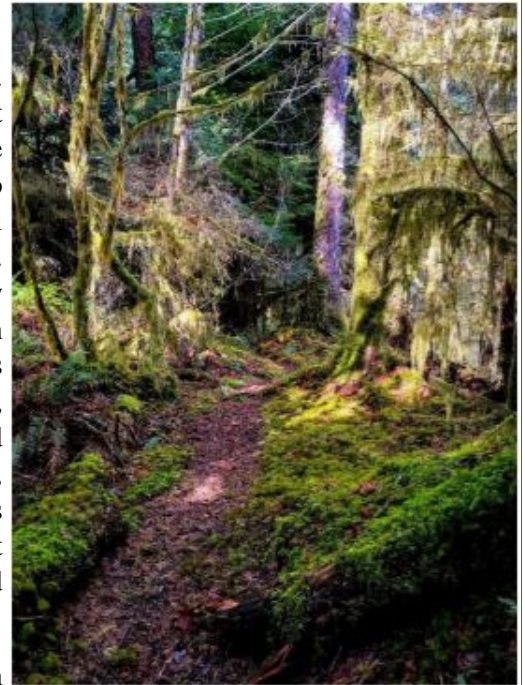
Where the sea meets the land, it is varied and an amazing juxtaposition of contributing elements that create beauty. It is a book constantly being updated, edited, and expanded. It is a book I will return to often, to gain its knowledge and wisdom.

The second three-night stay, in the third month of the year was inland, deep within the Olympic Peninsula's rainforest. Here the rain is the dominating element, wind still topples, breaks, and shatters the giants of the forest, but it is the copious falling water that promotes the variety of plant life and sculpts the land. The weather on this trip was cold nights and crisp days, multi-layers of clothing were still required with a campfire to warm around at breakfast and at night for conversations on living and scotch sipping, our crisp days were filled with sunshine as we hiked this wondrous and beautiful valley for two glorious day.



Continued on page 4 —————>

The pathways we hiked in this moisture saturated environment are elk trails. To navigate from point A to B or even Z you look for the nearest elk trail that moves in the direction you want to go. You will lose it in the dense undergrowth but with some prudent searching you will soon find another to follow. Elk like humans, look for the easiest paths, so choosing the elk trail which maybe still be a tough go, but it is still the path of least resistance. Stories are everywhere you look in the natural world and following the story threads leads to wonder and understanding. This is a forest populated with Big Leaf Maples, giant spruce (less than a quarter mile from camp, stands one of the most massive spruces on the planet earth), Douglas firs, hemlock, and red alder. This expansive river valley contains, bogs, streams, creeks, and rivers. As you hike you traverse through alder, spruce and maple bottoms, their ages vary depending upon when the rivers last changed course in its periodic flooded movement to the ocean. It is a living, breathing ancient forest that predates man's existence. It is in constant state of renewal and rebirth beneath the giants that touch the sky.



This is the land of native Americans who successively lived in harmony with what the land provided. The pioneers who homesteaded this land tried to make permanent homes here, they barely eked a living out. A hand to mouth existence, most aptly describes the hard scrabble way of life that was made here. By the time that the Olympic National Park was formed most had sold out to one remaining operation, but they too were bought out by the park service and moved on. The remnants of old homesteads are quickly disappearing. Little is left to mark their locations, cleared land is returning to the forest, old trails and roads are being swallowed. A few family cemeteries and old apple trees remain, the departed family names are retained as monikers for creeks, streams, rivers, and other geographical features. Behind each family's name is a story of clearing the land and making a home in this unforgiving rainforest of the Olympic Peninsula. These stories add additional richness to the book of the Olympics, more threads for me to follow on my path of learning.



The quest for the magnificent Steelhead is what brought Sean and Greg to this upper river valley in the late sixties, they have returned every year since to fish, hike, photograph, and camp here. They have been coming back for over five decades drawn as much by the steelhead as by the land itself. This year we did not return for the steelhead the populations are crashing and returning fish are almost non-existent. But their glory, strength and beauty were recalled each night around the campfire. Steelhead are and always will be an important part of the story of this land and its people.

Steelhead have become part of our soul and even when we are not fishing for them, we remember and hold them in esteem and celebrate the importance they hold in our lives. My history with this land of the Olympics is minute, I have been coming here for only six years but its hold on me is deeper than time, I will return here as often as I can to drink in the presence of this place with friends, I hold dear.



One of the great gifts my mother gave to me was a library card, she added to that gift by allowing me two hours by myself in Fresno's downtown library on Saturday afternoons. I learned to search out books of interest through the Dewey Decimal Classification system. It was a pathway to a much larger world. For two wonderful hours I would wander the stacks of books perusing ideas, whims and interests that led to other pathways in this larger world that I had discovered. Each sentence and paragraph in the snippets of books I sampled took me to new realms of wonder and exploration. Happy in my soul I would check out seven books to read before my return to this magical library of wonder seven days away. I fell in love with learning in that library, a love that I have held onto. That love of learning is still alive and beats oh so strongly when I am out in nature. Luckily for me on my trips to the Olympic I have to good librarians in Sean and Greg to point me in the right direction in reading and understanding all the knowledge that this land has to impart to me.

May you walk among giants, and drink in the knowledge that wild nature provides. When its you and your heart, you will hear the forest whisper to you. Enjoy.

Stephen



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

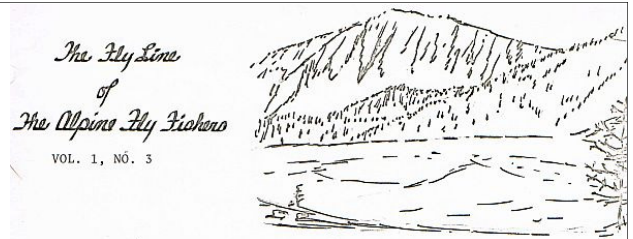
“Many go fishing all their lives, without knowing that it is not fish they are after” - Henry David Thoreau

~ *In The Past* ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -
Vol. 5, No. 7

July of 1977

Jim Higgins, Acting Editor



This ~ *In The Past* ~ article was published in 1977. The information it contains is 44 years out of date and is not accurate.

This is a historical document only.

Program: A slide show — “The Master Weaver”, George Grant’s Method of Weaving Hair Hackle.

Door Prize: Challenge of the Trout by Gary LaFontaine, Rapala filleting knife & Cortland line cleaner.

Last Meeting: Earl Younglove gave us an interesting program on the basics of fishing the Yakima River.

Fishout: The next club outing is scheduled for July 16-17 at a high lake—Come Monday night and find out which one!

Fishing Reports: Cal Cole reports that his trip to the Blitsen River in southeast Oregon as part of a fish sampling project with the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife was a success even though the river was off color due to a flash flood two weeks prior and livestock breaking down the stream banks. The fish ran from six to fifteen inches and were not selective—because Cal used a #10 Humpy all day. The 12 people fishing caught 165 fish and if the river had been clear the target of 300 fish would have been easily reached. A fun trip!

Reed Miller reported that the weather for the club outing at Leech Lake was windy both days. The fishing was moderately slow but steady at one or two fish per hour. The fish were in good condition and up to 12 inches in length. It did not make any difference as to the fly pattern. Muddlers, Nyergras Nymphs, Dark Cahills all worked equally well.

On the second day Reed dropped down to the quality section of the Nachees River. He said that the area is well posted and that few people were fishing anywhere on the river—in or out of the quality section. Reed caught a couple of fingerlings but nothing of any size.

Fly Patterns good for fishing high lakes in July

#1—Mosquito—Hook: 12-22 light wire; Thread: Black; Tail: Grizzly hackle or dark moose hair; Body: One dark and one light moose mane fiber; Wings: Grizzly hackle tips; Hackle: Stiff grizzly neck hackle

#2— Tentwing Caddis— Hook: 12-20 light wire; Thread: Same color as body; Tail: None; Body: Dubbed in any color, cream to black. Good ones are tan, olive, rust, or black; Wing: Turkey wing quill that has been sprayed with Tuffilm. Folded over back in tent fashion. The wing length should be about 1 & 1/2 times that of the body. The turkey wing quill may be replaced with deer or moose hair for a more durable fly; Hackle: Stiff neck hackle the color of the body

#3— Caenis Spinner — If you’re adventuresome with good eye sight and manual dexterity! — Hook: 20-28 very fine; Tail white hackle fibers dressed in an open V shape; Abdomen: cream dubbed polypropylene; Thorax: Brown dubbed polypropylene; Wings: White hackle fibers tied spent

IF ALL ELSE FAILS, TRY AN ADAMS

BRING A GUEST.
JOIN THE FFF

BRING A GUEST.
JOIN THE FFF

BRING A GUEST.
JOIN THE FFF

BRING A GUEST.
JOIN THE FFF

BRING A GUEST.
JOIN THE FFF

Just A Memory

While reading Stephen's 'Back of Beyond' for this month, it triggered a memory.

Back about 20 years ago I attended an FFF (now FFI) Conclave in Livingston, MT. They had advertised a special fund raiser when registering for this event, a six night, five day stay for two people at the Five Rivers Lodge outside of Dillon, MT. So, I bought a number of lottery tickets. They had advertised that the winner of this would be picked during the outdoor BBQ on the last day of the event.

I had a casting class, The Double Haul taught by Rhea Topping, so when it was over I drove to the picnic. I spotted an employee of the FFF and she had her back to me. I asked when were they going to pick a winner and as she was turning she said they already had and the winner was Larry Gibbs. That made me a very happy camper I can tell you that.

Anyway, getting back to the original thought of this story, the next year I stayed at the Five Rivers Lodge and had five days of guided fishing, not from drift boats like I prefer to do now, but walk-ins to various rivers and streams. The lodge had hired an outside guide for me, Leon Sagaloff, from the Frontier Anglers in Dillon. Leon became my favorite guide for the Dillon area after that and we had many years of fishing together. But, again I digress.

The western states were in drought conditions at that time. All the rivers were very low. Leon asked me if I wanted to fish the upper Beaverhead. I had been reading about the Beaverhead and the Madison so I said sure, let's give it a go. The upper Beaverhead is just below the Clark Canyon Reservoir, which is a huge lake that feeds the river. It usually flows fairly deep and fast since it is used to irrigate the farm lands around Dillon.

But when we walked in to the river, I was really disappointed. They had been draining the lake all summer and it was very low so they had to cut way back on the amount of water they were releasing. The river bed was fully exposed with just a few small streams running its course. The streams only had about four inches of water in them and they connected a number of large holes that the river had gouged out during its last flood.

Leon took my fishing partner upstream and I walked downstream a little ways, hoping to find more water like maybe from a tributary. There was no additional water. I did not wet a line that day. I would look at those holes, which were fairly large, but the thought of fishing for trapped fish just went against my grain. So I checked out the rocks in the riverbed, nope, no large gold nuggets could be found. I just kicked back and relaxed enjoying the sunny day and the quiet of the river.

We did catch fish on that trip and I saw a lot of the Dillon area and its surrounding rivers. In fact, I kept coming back to that area for many years. The last time was when PJ and I did a few days on the Big Hole River in October. The snow had capped the mountains and the air was crisp. But again, I digress.

I guess what I am saying is that you don't always have to actually fish when you go out on a fishing trip, sometimes it is just nice to enjoy Mother Nature in all her beauty.



ZOOM CLUB MEETING

TUESDAY, April 27, 2021 @ 6:45 PM

April Zoom Guest Speaker Program

Garret Lesko
Euro Nymphing

Washington FFI joins the Amazon Smile Program



You can donate to the state FFI council with every purchase at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/Smile)

Reward programs are everywhere these days. From the grocery to airlines everybody is rewarding a purchase by giving you credit for future purchases or contributing to a cause. Now the Washington Council of Fly Fishers International is one of the groups you can help when you purchase goods through Amazon Smile.

Amazon Smile donates 0.5% of the price of every purchase to the non-profit of your choice. It doesn't change the price you pay for goods. Amazon takes a sliver of its earnings from the transaction to donate to the non-profit you choose.

Washington FFI supports a range of education and conservation efforts every year from cash contributions. We support Casting for Recovery for women cancer survivors and Project Healing Waters serving wounded veterans. For years we've backed the annual Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy that has introduced a generation of teens to our sport. Last year we helped organize and fund a successful effort to preserve public ownership of the Ebsen Fishing Access on the Grand Ronde and we helped fund new signage for fishers on the Yakima River.

It takes cash to sustain these efforts, cash we usually raise through our annual Fly Fishing Fair and other events. That hasn't been possible lately. But everyone still shops. Many FFI members shop online at Amazon. Directors of the Washington Council have joined the Amazon Smile program to help fund our work. You can help by shopping through Amazon Smile.

To join follow these steps:

Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)

Sign in with the Amazon.com credentials you ordinarily use to shop at Amazon.

Search the list of charities and select **Fly Fishers International Inc. Seattle WA**. Make sure it says Seattle!

Bookmark [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) on your computer to make it easy to return to the charity site.

Every time you shop through Amazon Smile a portion of every purchase you make will help fund FFI education and environmental stewardship in Washington. Several FFI councils nationwide participate in the program so be sure to select Fly Fishers International Inc. Seattle WA when you sign up.

Since our founding 56 years ago, Washington FFI has worked to support the 22 FFI member clubs in Washington and Alaska and design ways to promote and conserve fly fishing for all fish in all waters. Washington FFI pursues projects and partnerships that educate the public about our sport and the habitats that sustain salt and freshwater fisheries. We have a track record of success creating innovative education programs, sound conservation efforts and a strong community of fly fishers statewide. Help Washington FFI continue that success by signing up at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and selecting Fly Fishers International Inc. Seattle WA as your non-profit of choice. Thank you.

Editors Note: I already had a link to Amazon on my computer but it did not open to Amazon Smile, so I copied the URL to the Smile site and opened up my link and pasted the new URL in it. Now I open to Amazon Smile when I click the link.
Larry

New FFI Membership Portal and Membership Plan

FFI has just rolled out a new Membership portal (and membership system called Your Membership or YM). The new membership database is a value add to all of us as members. It's a major upgrade to our old system, provides members with a more streamlined renewal experience and offers additional features that will benefit them:

- An expanded profile with fishing related questions that will help us better know and serve our community.
- Online membership cards for easy access.
- Communication forms to quickly and easily communicate directly with FFI HQ.
- More exciting features will be rolled out over the coming months.

Customize Your Membership Experience

Starting now, you can join FFI or renew your membership through our upgraded membership portal that will provide a host of new benefits. You have the option to create an enhanced profile (with a photo!) that will allow FFI to customize your membership experience and serve you better.

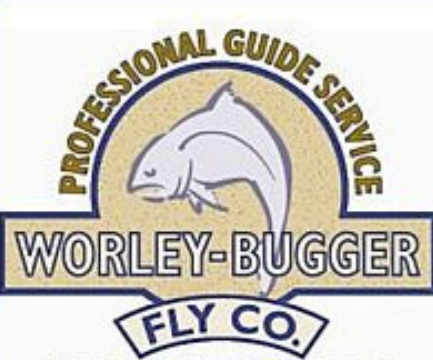
You can submit contact forms to easily communicate with FFI staff about any questions you may have. And you can finally use PayPal through a secure portal and access a printable version of your FFI membership card. Here's a link to a set of instructions on how to access the new portal and customize your profile

<https://flyfishersinternational.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d28b2db781f34121dd311fb8f&id=4cfb26c6d7&e=e23e4ddbda>


By customizing your profile, you are telling FFI more about your interests so that FFI can do a better job of tailoring our messaging, our benefits and our programs to you specifically. Please take this opportunity to go to the link above and follow the instructions on how to create your updated profile in the new membership system.

During a recent Leadership Development Workshop (in December), Kate Richardson, FFI Staff Membership Liaison and Barry Webster, FFI Membership Committee Chair, presented an overview of the new Membership plan and the Your Membership portal to the Workshop. Links to that presentations are in the Learning Center If you want to see additional details (included tactical Membership steps that Councils and Clubs can take to enhance Membership retention and recruiting). More details on new Membership Plan will be rolled out in the coming months. Watch for E-news briefs for further presentations.

Barry Webster
FFI Membership Committee Chair



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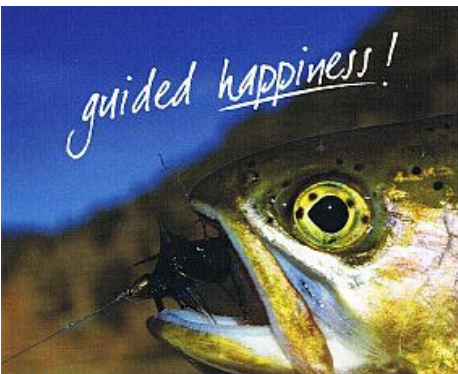



CENTRAL WASHINGTON'S PREMIER FLY FISHING OUTFITTER, PRO-SHOP
AND PROFESSIONAL GUIDE SERVICE

Worley Bugger Fly Co.

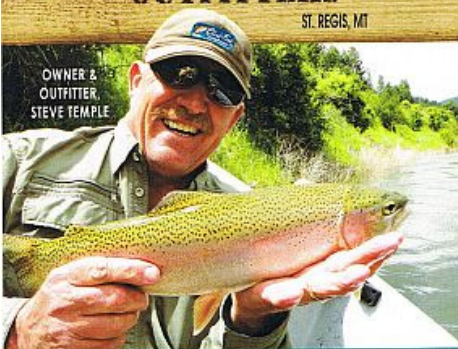
Steve Worley has some great guides and he has put together the best fly shop filled with a massive amount of fly tying materials and equipment. You really need to stop by the shop and check it out. Just take the Canyon Road exit off I-90 and turn north towards town, the Worley Bugger Fly Co. shop is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

guided happiness!





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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April / May 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
"O Day after day we can't help growing older. Year after year spring can't help seeming younger. Come let's enjoy our wine cup today, Nor pity the flowers fallen." - Wang Wei, On Parting with Spring				1 April	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 Zoom Meeting	28	29	30	"April's rare capricious loveliness." - Julia Dorr

"In somer when the shawes be sheyne, and leves be large and long, hit is full merry in feyre foreste to here the foulys song.
 To see the dere draw to the dale and leve the hilles hee, and shadow him in the leves grene under the green-wode tree.
 Hit befell on Whitsontide early in a May mornynge, the Sonne up faire can shyne, and the briddis mery can syng." -
 Anonymous, — May in the Green Wode, 15h Century

1
May

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 <small>Hawthorne Flower</small>	20	21	22
23	24	25 Zoom Meeting	26	27	28	29
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Visit our website at alpineflyfishers.org

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