The Fly Leaf

Volume 51, No 1 January, 2006

Web Page: http://ieffc.home.att.net/ Editor: Robert Bates

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
January 10, 2006
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
By Jerry Cartwright

I was born and raised a bait fisherman. I spent (or mis-spent) my youth in Colorado fishing the lakes and rivers with Fireballs and night crawlers and having great success. I continued the past time when I moved to Spokane in 1976 but found the trout in the local lakes more partial to marshmallows and gold or pink Powerbait. The fishing around here was great! In 1979 I met Hugh Evans. He interviewed me for a job, and he and his law partners hired me in spite of my fishing habits. Almost right away, Hugh started the long process of trying to convert me to fly fishing, mostly by needling me about how ridiculous, depraved and generally unwholesome it was to stalk trout with marshmallows or yellow goop bait.

On the Friday of the last weekend of the regular fishing season of 1990, I had my truck ready to go in the office parking lot with my canoe strapped on top and my camping gear and assortment of spinning rods and tackle boxes loaded in the back. Some of my red neck bait fishing buddies and I were headed for Pierre Lake for the weekend. Early that afternoon, Evans came into my office with a five weight Orvis rod, all rigged and ready to go. He made me promise to try it. He showed me how to tie on a fly and took me out in the parking lot and gave me a short course on fly casting. I took the rod and the box of flies he gave me and promised him (halfheartedly) to give it a try.

The fishing was outstanding. Every color of Powerbait was working. I had a 14 to 16 inch rainbow on virtually every cast in my favorite hole. Bored with catching fish after fish, I eyed the fly rod, cased up in the bottom of my canoe and decided to give it whirl. I strung it up and tied on a Royal Coachman, because it was a fly I had at least heard of and knew what it looked like. I managed to get the fly onto the water a few feet from the shore where I had seen fish rising. Almost immediately a cutthroat dimpled the water under the fly and hooked himself. I must have caught 50 fish on that fly that afternoon (probably caught the same cutthroat 49 times), but I mean to tell you, I was converted for life right then and there. When I got back I eagerly asked Hugh where I should go to get a rod of my own. I raced to the White Elephant and came out with a Fenwick rod, System One reel, a floating line and about three dozen Royal Coachmen.

Over that winter I bought dozens of books on fly fishing and subscribed to a half dozen fly fishing magazines. I couldn't get enough information and was distraught over the fact that the season was closed and I that I would have to wait until spring to get out with my new Fenwick. I found out about the fly fishing class that Dave Holmes, Frank Slak and Clay Findlay were teaching and eagerly enrolled. I savored the Monday night sessions and was delighted to learn that there were places to fly fish in the winter. That particularly warm winter 4th of July didn't freeze at all, and when Slak let it slip that the fishing was excellent, I found my self using all the techniques they had so skillfully taught, and fly fishing in February, no less!

JANUARY PROGRAM
By Leonard Gross

Walt Balek will be our presenter at the January meeting. He has been a club member for many years and has collected a lot of slides from the early days. If you are new to the club this will be an enlightening program.

Things just got better and better from then on. Fished often with Hugh and had many a treasured experience. Soon I met Hubert Langenhorst through my across the street neighbor, and soon had another fishing buddy. I have never been a joiner, but Hubert finally talked me into attending an IEFFC monthly meeting. I was instantly hooked – great bar, meat and potatoes for dinner, a very engaging, friendly group of guys with great stories and a wealth of fly fishing knowledge. This was truly Heaven. I loved it and joined as fast as I could.

Now, here we are about to enter the club's 50th year and it is my very great honor to be president. I can't believe a once dyed in the wool bait fisherman has made it this far! Working on the board and "through the chairs" has been a time consuming experience but has given me chance to get to know a lot more members and I have grown from the experience. One thing is clear to me after the experience, I still love this club. My year as president will focus on helping our Historical Committee make our 50th Anniversary the kind of major event for our members that it should be. Mark your calendar for May 20, 2006 for dinner and an evening of celebration and remembrance at the Red Lion Inn at the Park.

Many are working hard on the project. Leon Buckles heads the effort and has recruited lots of help. But Leon is spending days at a time pulling together photos, stories and other memorabilia. Tom Chapman is writing a book on the club's 50 year history. The group is making progress but your help is needed. Please heed their call for some good, short (a few lines is plenty) stories/anecdotes to include in the book. Call or e-mail Leon, or call or e-mail me and I'll be sure to pass these along.

I look forward to working with our new officers and board – Thanks to Dwight Tipton for stepping up to fill the vacant treasurer position. It's the most demanding post in the club and we are grateful. Welcome new board members Gordy Olson, Steve Aspinwall and Jon Allen. This group will keep the club on track and successful.

I want to send a huge thank you to the Christmas Raffle committee, headed up by Gordy Olson with tons of help from Hugh Evans, Steve Aspinwall, Randy Shaber, Rick Ripley and a whole host of others. To each and all of you – THANKS TONS! The final numbers aren't in yet, but it looks like we'll clear somewhere between four and five thousand dollars. Thanks also to all of you who contributed and participated. Special thanks to Rajeff Sports, The Silver Bow, White's Outdoor, Sportsmen's Warehouse and all the other businesses that support us so generously. Oh, and Swede – you're one in a million, thanks for all you do buddy!

I'll wrap up this long winded first column with this: our buddy Hubert is having heart surgery on January 13 – I know he'll come through with flying colors, but Hube, everyone of us will have you in our hearts and on our minds. Have a speedy recovery!

MOTION TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS AT DECEMBER MEETING

Written by Hardy Kruse Delivered by Leon Buckles

Mr. President, The inauguration and induction of these incogitable, incorrigible and incapacious intrants to this inappeasable, innocuous and inimitable incorporation incurs the incipience of the incommutable, ineludible and infrangible insistence for their installation ---in status quo---- without instrumentation or interference from any inordinately intellectualistic interlocutors. I so move! Following a second, the Secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for the nominated slate of officers listed below:

2006 IEFFC Officers and Board Members

President: Jerry Cartwright
Vice-President: Leonard Gross
Treasurer: Dwight Tipton
Secretary: Jon Allen

Board Members
Steve Aspinwall (2006)
Hugh Evans (2007)
Gordon Olson (2008)

You are hereby notified that Dues are Due

You may mail your $30 check, made out to IEFFC, to IEFFC, P.O. box 2926, Spokane, WA 99220-2926 or give your check or cash to Dwight Tipton as you enter for the club meeting.

DALE VEACH

Long time member Dale Veach passed away December 27, 2005. He was our club President, 1976 and Fly Fisherman of the Year, 1978.

FLY OF THE MONTH

The Professor **January, 2006** **Prof. John Wilson**

Listings of favorite flies around the turn of the century (1900) invariably include The Professor. The flyfishers from Spokane Falls all claim it as a top pick. It can be tied as a dry or a wet fly. When a light colored pattern or just an attractor is needed, The Professor will often do the job. As in the past two years I issue the challenge to all Club members – tie up some Professors and use them. Take a good photo of the best fish you catch using this old-time pattern and submit it to me by December 2006. I will paint a nice watercolor of the best fish selected for the winner. May yours days on water be increased and the joys of catching be manifold in the coming year.
Gene Lorenson

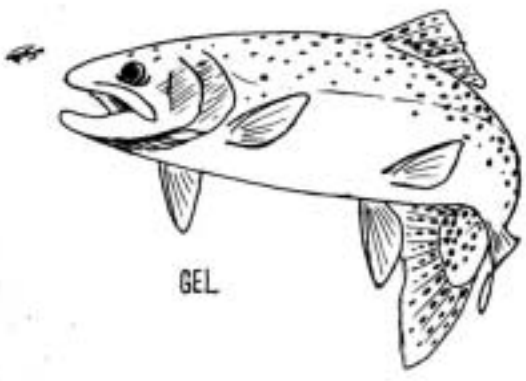
Hook: 14 - 8
Thread: Fine black
Tail: Red ibis or duck biots or red hackle fibers (some early versions omitted the tail)
Body: Yellow floss
Rib: Fine gold
Wing: Mallard flank feathers
Hackle: Brown

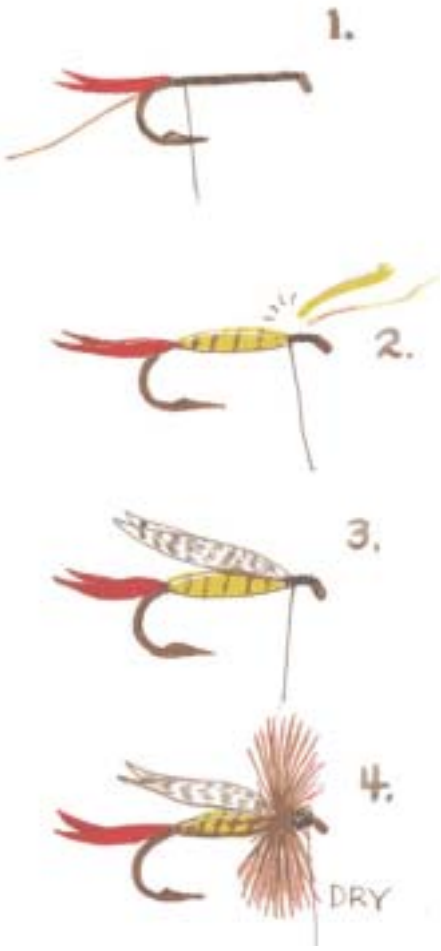
1. Pinch the barb and line the hook with thread. Tie in the tail and rib.

2. Attach the floss and wind a tapered body. Wind about four turns of ribbing.

3. Tie in the wing feathers, folding back over the body as shown.

4. Attach and wind the hackle using soft hen for the wet version or stiffer hackle for a dry fly.





INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
PO Box 2926,
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

BACKCAST
By Leon Buckles

One last ditch effort is being made to collect meaningful stories and anecdotal material from the membership. Remember that we hope to include every present member in the book. We cannot do that without inputs from each of you. Stories about you and your buddies experiences are welcome. It does not matter if it was on fishing trips or work on club projects. We still lack a lot of pictures of members. We would like to have a minimum of one photo of each club member. We return the original slides or photograph.

Frank Slak is very busy with his job. Steve Aspinwall has stepped up to collect stories. Give Steve a call or e-mail and who knows he may be calling you. Have your stories ready.

An E-mail from Tom Chapman

Tell the committee the Arizona satellite office is fully functional and pumping out words by the thousands. Some of the words are actually going into the book rather than into emails. Our status is this. (1) Chapters 1, 2 and 3 are written and just awaiting whatever additional material is out there. Have not started Chapters 4 or 5. (2) The Sterilization chapter is complete but for the snappy ending -- George is assisting in bringing it to conclusion. (3) I have drafted pages for Presidents Emeriti and Fly Fisherman of the Year Award Recipients (which you haven't seen yet). (4) We've been struggling with a title for the book. I suggested “Retrospect” but nobody has really climbed aboard. On the other hand, no one has come up with an alternative, despite your repeated urgings to do so. (5) Somebody must have put a plug in the anecdote pipeline. This could leave some readers with the impression that the club history is little more than a tribute to Roskelley, Runje, Buckles, Potter, et al. (That's an exaggeration, certainty, but you get the idea.) (6) I will meet the February deadline for completion of the manuscript (7) Irrespective of the frustrations we're facing this is going to be A VERY GOOD BOOK. Who knows – it might even be a GREAT BOOK.