



**GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
May 9, 2006
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jerry Cartwright

Greetings fly fishermen. Hard to believe it's May already and the lakes are starting to warm up. I know a lot of you will be doing some of the best fishing of the year in the next couple of months, and I wish you all well. Be careful out there and remember the poacher has eyes everywhere.

When I got the fly fishing bug it bit hard, like it does with a lot of guys. I couldn't read enough about fly fishing and subscribed to all umpteen fly fishing magazines, read all the Gierach, Traver, Raymond et. al. books I could get my hands on. Got up early Saturday morning to watch the T.V. shows. I fished all the time and would give it a try just about anyplace. Including Sprague Lake. I had driven by it dozens of times on the way west but never really thought of it as a place I'd like to fish. But there came a day when it was pretty nice out and not much of any place else was open, so I drove over and started in paddling around the far side of the lake in my float tube. Had a blast. Hauled out some big blue gill, a bunch of 14- to 17-inch rainbow and a couple that were 20 or more. I was a frequent visitor for the next few years, then the fishing started getting crummy. The blue gill and rainbows that had been so plentiful and so fun to catch were, well, just gone.

What happened, of course, is that Sprague became one of those managed warm water fisheries and the emphasis was on walleye and bass. Apparently, walleye are pretty voracious and aggressive and took out the other species. For a couple years Sprague became a half decent walleye fishery, or so I understand. Now, we understand, the lake is so overpopulated with walleye that most remain so small they're not worth catching. Today, the lake is

MAY PROGRAM

By Leonard Gross

LeRoy Hyatt will be the guest speaker for our May meeting. LeRoy was born in Topeka, Kansas, and later moved with his family to Wyoming, where his fly tying began. Four years of Navy life only proved to strengthen his love for tying and fishing with his own flies. In 1967, LeRoy and his wife moved to Idaho Falls, Idaho and then in 1972 settled in Lewiston, Idaho where he began selling his flies at area sporting goods stores and resorts.

In 1984, LeRoy became the fly tying columnist for the Lewiston Morning Tribune. His column is salted with tales of fishing from across the country and many fly tying facts. He has also published a regional book, and ties flies commercially which he markets both nationally and internationally. LeRoy uses available patterns, but is quick to adapt them to locally available materials. He has also been known to adapt a fly pattern by adding his own flair.

LeRoy is kept busy as a fly tying instructor for Lewis-Clark State College and the city of Lewiston's recreation program. He is the co-host of the popular PBS series "Fly Tying – The Angler's Art." His fly fishing talents are honed by fishing the Clearwater River, which runs through the city of Lewiston. Since the river is fed by many high mountain tributaries, the opportunities for fly fishing abound.

LeRoy will be sharing his experience steelhead fishing the Clearwater/Snake/Grand Ronde Rivers. He will also be demonstrating his technique for spinning hair at the tying vise. Patterns will include a Bloody Muddler, Goddard Caddis, Parachute Adams, and a Mystery Caddis.

hardly fished at all. The local economy that depended on good fishing at the lake is suffering.

Well, we (we being the Board, spurred on by a dedicated group that includes Al Cunningham, Ivan Lines, George

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Potter, Hugh Evans and others) figure that if the walleye fishermen don't want to fish Sprague anymore, maybe we can get the clock turned back and transform this lake back into the fun, productive multi-species lake it used to be. We started working on the idea that we might partner with the locals and spearhead a drive to help fund rehab of the lake, only to be told that once the lake was rehabbed (a very expensive proposition) walleye would once again be among the fish planted. With this news, our guys were ready to pull out, but I understand another meeting is in the offing and we might yet get this lake restored. Stay tuned. Much thanks to Al, Ivan, George, Hugh and those helping them who continue to spend time meeting with officials and local residents in an effort to get this done.

The summer Board of Directors Meeting will convene the evening of August 26 at Spruce Tree Campground on the St. Joe River. There's camping at Spruce Tree and the two or three other campgrounds in the immediate vicinity along the St. Joe. I'm sure looking forward to getting back up that way and welcome as many of you as have a notion to join the party. As is customary, I'll be providing dinner on the 26th. Let me know if you can make it, call 448-4918 or e-mail jpcartwright@comcast.net.

Just heard the FFF Washington State Council President elect Carl Johnson will join us at the May 9 regular meeting. Please come and say hello to Carl and hear what he has to say about the work of the FFF

BACKCAST

By Leon Buckles

The May 20, 2006, Anniversary Celebration is almost here. Details have been confirmed with the Red Lion Hotel at the Park and Tim Berhens. Our concern now is ticket sales. At this point we have not hit our target number. Consider the value for the money:

A FREE copy of *Rise Forms From the Past* will be given to each current IEFFC member attending the function, est. value \$15.00. They will be distributed after the program is completed

Tim Berhens monologue of Pat McManus humor, value per ticket \$19.00 .

A display of fishing equipment from the past and club memorabilia, value ????? (One bamboo creel on display is worth over \$500.00)

Humor from our emcee, Hugh Evans, priceless.

All this plus a prime rib dinner complete with desert and two no host bars for you to purchase drinks. Social time will be from 6 PM until 7:30 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:30 PM with the program to begin immediately following. The bar will be closed after the dinner is served.

May 20 is also the date for the Lilac Parade. The Red Lion Hotel at the Park will best be accessed via West, North River Road from Division Drive. Parking will be at the hotel parking lot with overflow parking available at adjacent private parking lots. Come early. Any one who needs assistance going to or leaving the function, please let one of the club officers or committee members know. We will see that the assistance is available. We want everyone to be there.

The number of members that signed the sheet expressing their desire to purchase a polo shirt determined the quantity that we ordered. Less than half of those members have purchased the garment. They will be on sale again at the May club meeting. Please do not leave the club holding the bag.

We have extended the deadline for the purchase of the Anniversary Celebration tickets. They will be for sale at the club meeting. See Lowell Tveit. We need to have a firm count for the hotel. Your board and anniversary committee feel strongly that every club member should support this once in a lifetime celebration.

2006 ROSTER

Assuming there are no more computer failures the 2006 Roster will be mailed to you mid to late May. As always be sure to check your entry and let Doug Brossoit or Bob Bates know if there are any corrections or changes.

Address change for **Rod Butler**
3906 E 48th,
Spokane WA 99223

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB – SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

FLY OF THE MONTH

One Hackle Nymph

May, 2006

Leon Buckles

Leon has been using this pattern for almost 50 years. It is his favorite fly when the trout are taking bugs that are preparing to emerge just under the surface film. Especially in the evening, but anytime of day when the subsurface rise begins, this pattern is great. Use a dry line and cast to the rises letting the fly remain stationary with an occasional twitch. Strikes can be subtle or vicious so concentrate on the takes. The pattern uses only one piece of material, a hackle feather of a size usually discarded. It is simple to tie and can be done in any color you wish. Black, grizzly, brown or olive are favorites.

Hook: Regular wire sizes 18-10

Thread: Fine, color to match

Weight: Fine lead wire

Tail:)

Body:) One large hackle feather

Hackle:)

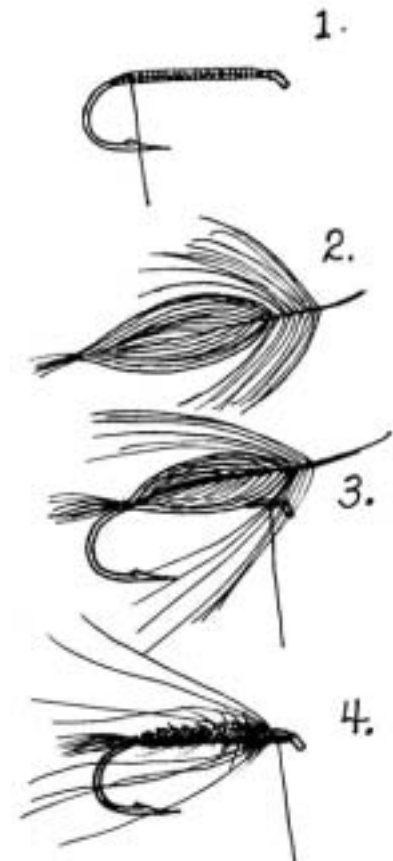
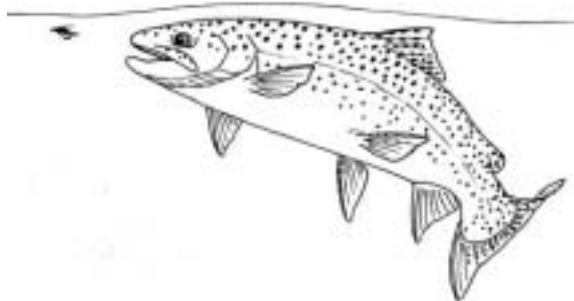


1. Pinch the barb and line the hook with thread. Place a strip of fine lead wire on top of the hook shank and secure.

2. Take a large hackle feather and stroke the front fibers forward to a point as shown.

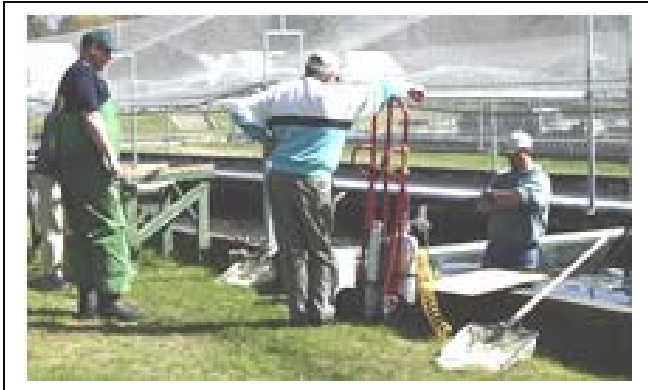
3. Tie in the point of the hackle at the bend of the hook to form a short tail. Wind the thread forward to the eye of the hook.

4. Wind the hackle feather forward to form the body of the fly. The tied-down portion of the fly should wind to just behind the eye. A couple of turns using the loose fiber section will form the hackle. The hackle should be very sparse, no more than 6 to 8 fibers. Wind the thread in front of the hackle to make it point backwards. Form a small head, whip finish and cement.



INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB, PO Box 2926, Spokane, WA 99220-2926

On April 20, 2006 three IEFFC members, Boyd Matson, Al Cunningham and Bob Bates traveled to the Ford Hatchery. They helped fin clip 5,000 rainbow trout headed for Coffeepot Lake. These pictures are only available on the electronic version of The Fly Leaf.



We wait until carbon dioxide saturates the water



We go to work when a bunch of fish arrive.



Clip the adipose fin.



Toss them back into the raceway, see splash at right.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

By Bob Bates

We need volunteer tour guides at the Spokane Hatchery. It is the oldest and largest Washington hatchery, producing between 7 and 9 million rainbow trout eggs each year (40 percent of the eggs for the state), and we need to tell people about the good work done there.

The guides take groups of kids, pre-school to collage, through the hatchery. Depending on the kid's ages, we tell them about spawning and raising fish, the environment, conservation, the Spokane Aquifer and planting fish in local lakes. About 1000 kids and adults take advantage of the guided tours each year. IEFFC members Bill Butler, Boyd Matson, Bob Bates and former member Bert Shaber have taken kids through the hatchery for years. Members of the Wildlife Council and other groups also help.

The program needs additional volunteers, preferably retired folks age 55 and older, to spread the load so we all can go fishing. Volunteers are provided training and informational supplies. They are covered by insurance through the Spokane County Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), and they are reimbursed for their travel to and from the hatchery. Most of the kids are really interested and ask a lot of questions. It is an enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Tours are offered all year, but most of the need is from April through July of each year. We work around your schedule of fishing, gardening or other domestic chores.

For more information, questions and or sign-up, please contact me at 328-7327. Also, I'll have sign up forms at the meeting.