



**GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
September 12, 2006
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jerry Cartwright

I have mixed feelings about writing this column. On the one hand, the publication of the September Fly Leaf pretty much signals the end of summer. On the other hand, however, the coming of September heralds the undisputed best season of the year for fly fishers. On second thought, it was a long, hot summer during which my wife started yet another chaotic remodeling project, I blew a tire and had to change it in hundred degree heat and spring for a new set of "high performance" tires, and my wife's relatives invited themselves, once again, to spend a few days of our San Juan Island vacation with us. The usual family blow up ensued within a couple hours of their arrival. The tension, together with the antics of my wife's brother's low down, sneaking, cat loving, liquor thieving, alcoholic of a "life partner," caused me to be **without whiskey for an entire evening and night** of my vacation. So, again on second thought, bring on the fall!

There were a couple of bright spots this summer. First, our 50th Anniversary dinner was a great success. I got tons of positive feedback and suggestions that we do this kind of thing more often. Interestingly, our members seemed to really enjoy a club outing that included the fairer sex. While no one is suggesting or even mildly hinting that we change membership criteria, the fact is, the ladies livened up the 50th proceedings quite a bit. As we prepared for the celebration of our 50th year we met and talked with some of the members involved in the club back in the 50's and 60's and asked them to talk about how the club has evolved. The universal observation was that there used to be a lot more club outings. Fishing/camping weekends at various locations used to be a lot more common, and by all accounts,

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB – SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

By Leonard Gross

Our presenter for the September meeting will be former Spokane resident Bill Marts. He is supposed to bring along a bunch of pictures to wet your appetite for fishing in Kamchatka Russia. They tell me that the fish are big and dumb. Also he will treat you to some of the sights around the great saltwater fishing spots.

some really great times and experiences were had. Prominent in the comments about these "good old days" was the fact that families were usually included in the outings. As we put a cap on year 50 and begin year 51, maybe its time we consider getting back to what was good about the old days.

Another bright spot was the annual trip to the Blackfeet country with Hubert, our former member and now Washington, D.C. resident Ed Schupman and Hugh Evans, filling in for an old buddy from Cleveland who couldn't make it this year. All I can say is it's a damn good thing for Evans that "you can't poach the poacher." Otherwise, somebody might be paying a buck for dropping a reported 10 pound rainbow on his fly rod while trying to hold the leviathan in one hand while trying to snap a picture with the other. The fish survived. The rod didn't!

Then there was the get together at Leon's place on the Clark Fork just outside Thompson Falls. Leon, the guy who did so much work to make our 50th Anniversary such a success, hosted this to thank the board and officers for supporting the program. One more thing on a long list of things for which we are eternally grateful to Leon. We feasted on a huge roast pork and fresh corn. Didn't run out of whiskey that night, but it wasn't for lack of trying on the part of some of us (not Chapman who was in bed by 9:00 – the sun was still up). Thanks Leon for a wonderful evening.

The summer board meeting, originally slated for August 26 was scrapped due to lousy fishing conditions and anticipated lack of a quorum. So, the board and officers

will be taking up the business of the club once again on the third Tuesday in September at 5:30 PM at Swede's Fly Shop. Speaking of Swede, we'll be talking about his suggestion of sharing some program expenses with our friends in the Spokane Flyfishers so we might be able to afford some out of the area speakers who would otherwise be to spendy for our budget. Stop by!

KIDS FISHING DAY

By Floyd Holmes

On May 6, 2006 a lot of kids learned they could catch fish. It was the annual Kids Fishing Day at the Air Force Recreation Area on Clear Lake. Those of us who attended enjoyed helping the kids even though it meant handling wiggly worms and spin gear. Those of you who didn't show up missed a special time. These folks were there:

GARY HONEYMAN
DICK ODELL
DICK POSPAHALA
RANDY SHABER
BURT SHABER
HUBERT LANGENHORST
BOB BATES
FLOYD HOLMES
AL CUNNINGHAM
KEITH KUESTER
JERRY HARMS

There are a lot of pictures of this event on the Washington State Council FFF website.

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org/fishingkids2006.htm

FLY LINE CASTING FROM A MASTER

By Allen Peterson

On September 20th and 21st, Tim Rajeff (world champion fly line caster) and owner of Rajeff Sports in Vancouver, WA will be in town to give fly line casting instructions covering two distinct areas of competence. These will be two 1/2 day classes, one a fundamental class covering the basics and how to get the line going and another class on performance, increasing your efficiency, accuracy and distance.

This is a golden opportunity to get in on these classes which are going to be limited to 5 people per class at \$125.00 per person. Well worth your time and money!!!

You will need to sign up at Swede's Fly Shop as soon as you possibly can as this will be FCFS.

Any questions please contact Al at Swede's 323-0500.

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB – SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESSES

By Bob Bates

Merlin Heintz

Is changing his e-mail addresses so please delete the one in the Roster.

Dean Smith

New e-mail address: Smithds@comcast.net

Chet Allison

New e-mail address: jochetallison@msn.com

Del Coppock

New e-mail address: l1de01927@ieway.com

NEW DVD IN CLUB LIBRARY

By Bob Bates

No. 105 *Essential Skills* with Oliver Edwards

The two videos on this disk are Czech Nymphing and Upstream Nymphing and North Country Spiders. With those titles you might question their applicability to our waters. However, what he says can be used on many of our streams. He shows how to tie the nymphs, and then he uses them to catch fish. Most of the flies are weighted with flat sticky back lead that makes a smooth underbody for the other materials. (Swede has some in stock.)

Also, following Oliver's instructions it is not difficult to make realistic legs on caddis and other nymphs. This disk is worth viewing both for the tying methods and the fishing techniques. {The marks in the case are from my 95-pound yellow lab who took it from the kitchen table to study it himself. He didn't get to the disk.}

The club video/disk library is at Swede's Fly Shop 1611 N Ash. If he is not busy with a customer, ask Swede for the key, and then return it when you are through. Remember this library is for members only.

WANTED OLD SPORTING COLLECTIBLES

Duck Decoys, Shotshell Boxes, Bamboo Flyrods, Old Fishing Tackle, Fly Fishing Books, Duck/Goose Calls, Gun Oil Tins, Handy Oilers – Oil Cans and Gasoline/Automotive Products

Richard Odell (509) 534-7056 Spokane, WA

FLY OF THE MONTH

Hippety Hopper

September, 2006

Gene Lorenson

Do we really need another grasshopper pattern? That's like asking if we need another flavor of ice cream or another brew of beer. Of course we do! It keeps life from getting boring. Here is a hopper made from antelope hair which has great floating properties and is the same color as a good share of the natural grasshoppers. It employs prominent legs and has supporting hackle for a good float. Treat it well with floatant and splat it down on your favorite waters. If it sinks — keep fishing it. The trout will take 'em wet, too.

Hook: 12 – 6, 1x or 2x long

Thread: Fine mono grey or olive

Head and Body: Antelope body hair

Legs: Pheasant tail or rubber

Hackle: Dry fly saddle or neck, one grizzly and one brown



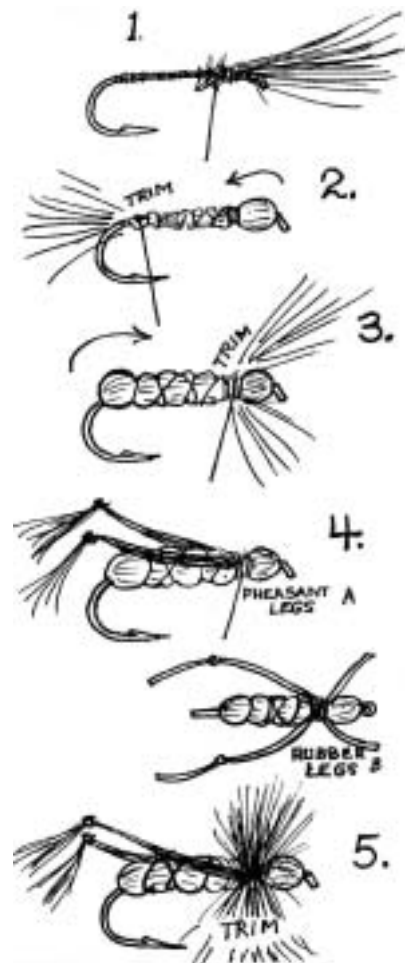
1. Pinch the barb and line the hook shank with tying thread. Tie in a bunch of antelope hair with the points facing forward.

2. Pull the hair back and secure in back of the eye of the hook to form the head of the hopper. Wind the rest of the hair tightly back to the bend of the hook. Trim the excess.

3. Take another bunch of antelope and fasten it to the hook shank in back of the head with the points facing to the rear. Tightly wrap it back to the hook bend, leaving the tying thread at the bend. A liberal coat of cement to the body at this point will help keep the hair from twisting. Bring the hair forward and loosely wrap it to form the body of the hopper. Tie off in back of the head and trim the excess.

4. Tie in pheasant tail (A) or rubber legs (B) in back of the head.

5. Add the hackle, one grizzly and one brown. Wind and secure. Trim flat under the body. Whip finish and cement.



Bristol Bay Alaska Mining Threat

By Leah Elwell, FFF Conservation Coordinator

During the 2006 Conclave, FFF members from across the country learned about the threats facing some of the world's most famed salmon and trout waterways. The Sportsman's Alliance for Alaska hosted an information booth at the Conclave and the Renewable Resources Coalition gave several presentations to spread the word regarding the proposed Pebble Mine, to be located in Southwest Alaska's Bristol Bay watershed.

A Canadian company called Northern Dynasty is proposing to build North America's largest open-pit gold and copper mine between Lake Iliamna and the Mulchatna River. The permitting process began in early July, as Northern Dynasty applied for water rights from Upper Talarik Creek and the North and South Forks of the Koktuli River.

In its water right applications the mining company laid claim to more than 73 million gallons per day, nearly three times the amount of water used by the Anchorage, Alaska (population 270,000). These waterways are critical Bristol Bay salmon and trout producers that could be gravely threatened by these proposed actions.

At the Conclave's auction dinner, FFF President & CEO R.P. VanGytenbeek spoke to the audience in no uncertain terms of the threat and the opportunity for engagement. VanGytenbeek stated that the FFF must work to stop this mine, which is only the beginning of what the mining industry believes could turn the entire Bristol Bay region into a massive mining district.

In response to the application for water rights, VanGytenbeek stated: "Upper Talarik Creek is a national treasure for us and for trout fishermen from all over the world. Each year fishermen from Europe, South America and Asia make the trip to Alaska just for an opportunity to fish Upper Talarik and the rest of the famous Bristol Bay watershed. Any person or company that takes an action which would diminish the fishery commits a crime against each of us and against the people and natural resources of Alaska. This is yet another piece of a totally un-needed and unacceptable project which must be defeated."

FFF members and clubs can learn more about this issue by visiting www.sportsmansalliance4ak.org and www.renewableresourcescoalition.org. A free 4-minute DVD on the subject is available for viewing at club meetings.

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Kraft rainbow picture provided by Alaska Sportsman's Lodge

Note: The print copy of *The Fly Leaf* had an edited version of this article