# The Fly Leaf



**Editor: Robert Bates** 

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# GENERAL MEETING INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE COMMONS

December 9, 2008 Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dwight Tipton

Despite the fact it still looks and feels like October or November, as well as the wonderful situation of still having ample soft water available in which to throw assorted flies, it is, nevertheless, indisputably December. And that means it is RRRAAAAFFFFFLLLLE TIME!!oh practitioners of the quiet sport.

Having watched and listened all year as Gordy and his electric elves have prepared for the evening of December 9, I can readily say there is no doubt this will be a raffle that you just plain cannot and must not miss. The only real question is how many of Uncle Sam's finest negotiable debt instruments you decide to bring. My suggestion is that whatever you're thinking...double it, then cavort through the assembled plunder with a sparkle in your eye, dropping tickets aplenty in buckets near and far, knowing your Christmas wishes may soon be rewarded.

Remember too, good sirs, that we have business of the loftiest kind to attend to Tuesday evening. An election to be held. An honor to bestow. Preparations for the new fishing year to make us all aglow.

I suppose I should mention that I am a few weeks away from completing 15 years of service in various capacities to the Club. Not that I don't intend to be of service in the coming years, but I do fully intend to enjoy some time as an unemployed member first. This is an organization we can all be proud of, and one that I am proud to have been of service to.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to each of you, and to your families.



## Christmas Raffle December 9

By Gordon Olson and your Raffle Committee

Our annual Raffle is fast approaching and there are lots of great items available from rods and reels to fishing trips to discount certificates for tackle. If you have already delivered a donated item to a Raffle Committee member, thank you.

We hope lots of you are tying great fly patterns because they are very popular raffle items for we who have less talent. If you have your donation available prior to Raffle Night, Gordon, Stephen, Randy, or Hugh would be happy to pick it up and will make up the description acknowledgment for the Raffle. We, of course, will be checking in items on the night of the Raffle but getting us the item ahead of time will make your evening more enjoyable.

Ok, get set and start saving for your silent auction bid if you want a chance at a new Loop fly rod. Save up your money to buy tickets for raffle chances at new fly lines and reels, fly tying materials, leader material, and of course, free or discounted fishing trips to Alaska, Canada and Montana. For the slower winter fishing months, we have new and used books on various fishing topics. Do you need some new or used waders? And there is lots more stuff including the items that will come in right up until Raffle time.

Excited? We are! If your wife won't let you out for the Raffle, tell her you are going to try to win the overnight stay with dinner and breakfast at Hill's Resort at Priest Lake. She'll let you go!! See you all there on Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup>. Remind your Club fishing buddies, too.

### NORTH UMPQUA BOOK REVIEW By Fenton Roskelley

Nearly every steelheader worth his or her weight in Green Butted Skunks has fished or has wanted to fish Oregon's famed Umpqua River during the last hundred years. Now the story of the North Umpqua is told in a remarkable collector's book, "The Creel: North Umpqua Edition," published by The Creel, a publication of the Fly Fishers' Club of Oregon. Frank Amato Publications printed the book.

It's a 9x12-inch 192-page book illustrated with hundreds of photos and priced at \$59.95. The editor, Bob Wethern, a founder of the FFC, spent six years gathering historic information and photos and assembling the book. He is now writing a book about the South Umpqua.

Names of fly fishers who fished the river include such nationally known writers and fishermen as Zane Grey, Ray Bergman, Claude Kreider, Clark Van Fleet, Ernest Schweibert, Bud Lilly, Polly Rosborough, Jack Hemmingway and even the legendary Oregon governor, Tom McCall. The list is endless.

Incidentally, Wethern, who graduated with a degree in journalism from the University of Idaho, replaced McCall as sports editor of the Daily Idahoan, a Moscow, Idaho, newspaper. I worked for the Star-Mirror, which later went out of business, and knew McCall. I remember him as a tall, hard-drinking, irreverent reporter who had a knack for colorful descriptions of athletes. Later, I was amazed that he became Oregon's governor and, even though he didn't want the state's population to increase, is remembered as a one of the state's most effective governors.

Wethern quotes excerpts of the writings of many men and women who fished the Umpqua. Some of the excerpts are long and colorful, including those by Zane Grey and Ray Bergman. The fascinating excerpts breathe life into the book.

Many veteran Northwest fly fishers fished with or knew the nationally known men and women who considered the Umpqua their home steelhead stream. When the Umpqua became crowded with fly fishers, some old timers, wanting to get away from the crowds, began fishing Idaho's Clearwater, the Snake and Grande Ronde rivers. Among them were the legendary Ted Trueblood, Walt Disney animators Milt Kahl and Ken Anderson and Eddie Ward. I fished with Trueblood, Kahl and Ward, first along the Ronde and then along the Clearwater, during the 1960s, 1970s and early1980s. Since then fly fishers throughout the country now fish the Clearwater and the Ronde from late September through November. At times, it seems, a fly fisher must take his rock to stand on now that the rivers are dotted with fishermen.

As might be expected, most of the photos in the Umpqua book taken the last few years are sharp and colorful. Some of the early-day black and white photos, however, are fuzzy. To his credit, Wethern included the fuzzy photos because they are historic.

The Umpqua still attracts fly fishers from throughout the world, but it's no longer the most popular steelhead stream in the Northwest. Fly fishers will continue to fish it because it still produces outstanding fishing. Some will fish it because they want to fish the stream waded by some of the most legendary fly fishermen in the world.

Wethern, whom I've known since the late 1930s, and his wife, Gwen, who took several of the photos in the book, live in Depoe Bay, Oregon. He told me he doesn't know when he'll finish the book on the lower Umpqua, but he hopes he won't have to spend another six years to produce the book.

Meanwhile, America's fly fishers who are interested in the history and lore of fly fishing will consider the book a must buy for their libraries.

# POTTER'S POND As told to Bob Bates

As many of you know there was no water in Potter's Pond this summer. On November 9, 2008, George Potter, Ivan Lines and Boyd Matson talked about the problem with officials of the Little Pend Orelle Game Refuge - Steve Fowler, Manager of the Refuge, and Jerry Cline, Refuge Biologist. LPO officials had no reason for the lack of water in Potter's Pond so Jerry, George, Boyd and Ivan went to check things out. The diversion out of Bear Creek was in fine shape. They followed the water toward Potter's Pond, and found that the creek had broken out of its bank and was disappearing into a meadow. The conclusion was that there was a simple fix and the Refuge people will do it in-house. Hopefully, everything will be completed so next spring and summer will be normal.

#### **ROSTER CORRECTIONS**

Thanks to everyone who looked for errors in their copy of the Roster and reported them to us.

Chet AllisonJerry McBrideFelix MartinezOccupation: PrePress TechPhone: 233-2108Work phone: 892-2700

Virgil Emery

First name: VIRGIL Occupation: Retired 2<sup>nd</sup> Phone number: 998-9470 Wife's name: Julie

## FLY OF THE MONTH

Red Nosed Rudolph December, 2008 The Jolly Old Elf

Once again the most famous of world travelers and purveyor of presents shares one of his favorite flies. Named after Santa's emergency team member, it is a pattern that can be relied on in tough situations. Sea run Browns in Patagonia and the Falkland Islands love it. Steelhead, wherever they're found, go out of their way for it. Saint Nick even uses it for large bass in Florida, Mexico, and Cuba on his late winter outings. Tie some up and use them wherever a dark bucktail streamer is in order.

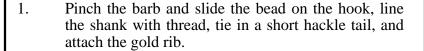
**Hook:** #8 – 4, 3X long

Thread: Black

**Bead:** Fluorescent red-orange **Tail:** Light brown hackle fibers

**Rib:** Gold oval tinsel **Body:** Peacock herl

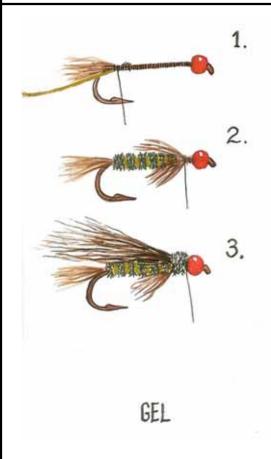
Hackle: Brown hen or neck Wing: Dark bucktail Thorax: Peacock herl



- 2. Tie in a bunch of peacock herls and wind a plump body about two-thirds of the way up the hook shank. Counter wind six turns of gold rib and secure. Wind in the hackle so it points back toward the tail.
- 3. Take some of the dark fibers from the back of a bucktail and form the wing. Tie in several peacock herls and cover the wing wrapping behind the bead. Whip finish behind the bead.







#### INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB

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# BAILEY LAKE CHANNEL By Jerry McBride

See picture below of six IEFFC members that went up to Bayley Lake and cleaned up the stream bed and put in some additional gravel. Next spring when water is flowing in the stream, the fish in Bayley will be able to utilize the spawning beds behind the five weirs installed years ago by our club under the direction of Hardy Cruse. This will allow them to get rid of their eggs so there is a good chance they will return to the lake and live another year.



Jerry McBride, John Fechner, Don Perry, Dan Lobb, Boyd Matson and George Potter

# FLYFISHERMAN'S DREAM By Dwight Tipton

12' Smokercraft Alaskan DLX, with 3 cushion seats, anchor rope hardware. 9.9 Honda motor with <15 hr., plus extra props. 30# Minn-Kota electric motor, battery hardwired into boat. E-Z Loader trailer. All like new, but I'm going to a cartopper. Bought for \$6000+. Sell for \$5000.



### **NEW MEMBERS**

New members will be officially welcomed in January.

Lee Funkhouser Mark Potter Bill Bennett, M.D.