

The Fly Leaf



Volume 59 No 6

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September, 2014

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
September 9, 2014
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

MAY PROGRAM By Neal Beechinor

Sean Gallagher will be our presenter at our club meeting in September. He has been recommended by our own Gordy Olson. Sean is said to be a Steelheader of much renown, having as one of his mentors, Harry Lemire. He resides in Enumclaw, WA, and has written a 673 page, 2 volume book entitled "Wild Steelhead – The Lure and Lore of a Pacific Northwest Icon." The book was just recently released in November 2013. Sean will have his book available for purchase at \$150.00.



Sean M. Gallagher with hotelier Howard Johnson

In October we will have Michael Williams from Oregon on Wild Willamette Waters, and in November, our own Walt Balek on his recent trip to Alaska in the pursuit of the Coho Salmon and Rainbows.

The summer has gone by fast and fall fishing is soon going to be in full swing. The cool weather is going to bring us the best fishing of the year.

It has been a tough summer with the passing of Russ Roundy. It's always rough to lose one of our members and we will miss Russ and his contribution to our youth programs.

Neal has got a good group of speakers lined up for the fall and he is starting off with an appropriate fall speaker in Steelhead expert Sean Gallagher. You won't want to miss his presentation and the opportunity to see his book on "Wild Steelhead".

Our summer retreat was a bust thanks to an untimely forest fire just south of Republic. We ended up at my house for a small barbeque and summer board meeting. The company was great, but the fishing was missed. I have been to Long Lake a couple of times this summer and plan to go up again in September. The lake is beautiful and the fishing has been pretty darned good. It would have been a good time with our group competing with the loons for those feisty trout.

Just attended the Liars Club summer activity and have to say that Frank Faha, Keith Kuester and Tom May really know how to put on a feast. Thanks, guys, for a great afternoon.

We really had a busy spring and thanks to all who helped in the many May activities. Our presence on the Inland Empire fly fishing scene was evident and we couldn't accomplish what we did without the help of all of you. It has quieted down for the fall, so take this time to enjoy what we do best and that is fish.

I look forward to seeing you at the meetings and on the lakes and rivers. I also keep that invitation out there to join me. My schedule is a mess as I am still a couple of years from retirement, but give me a call and we might line something up that works. I enjoy fishing by myself, but enjoy it even better when I can share the time with one of our members. (I always learn something too!!).

See you September 9th.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Russ Roundy
04/18/1949 to 08/27/2014



Russell “Russ” Carlyle Roundy passed away after a six year battle with leukemia. His final months were spent in his hometown of Joseph, Oregon, where friends and family surrounded him and he could enjoy the mountains that he loved. He was born April 18th, 1949 in LaGrande to Carlyle and Edna Roundy and graduated from Joseph High School in 1967. He then graduated from Oregon State University before moving on to Oregon Health and Science University for medical school. In addition he completed a family practice residency from the University of Washington in Yakima, Washington.

His professional life was spent as an Emergency Room Physician and he was instrumental in developing Heart-Flight, which was the first helicopter transport program to serve Sacred Heart Medical Center. He served as the Medical Director for Heart-Flight and later as Co-Medical Director of Med-Star prior to his retirement in 2012.

Russ was an accomplished outdoorsman from an early age and hunted with rifles as well as bow and arrow. Fishing was one of his earliest passions and Russ was an active member of our club. We will remember his many days helping with Kid’s Fishing and the Morningstar Fishout. In addition to these pursuits, Russ was an avid bird watcher

who participated annually in the Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count and had an impressive “life list” of bird species worldwide.

Russ is survived by his wife of 37 years, Deborah, and their three children, Andrew, Katherine and James. He is also survived by his mother, Edna, and his two brothers, Keith and Steve.

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club has lost a valuable member and a great friend.

CASTING FOR RECOVERY
By Chet Allison

Casting for Recovery is having a dinner and auction which will be held October 4th in Coeur D’Alene, Idaho. The event will be held at the Coeur d’Alene Inn, 506 W. Appleway Ave. This program has served the Inland Empire now for a number of years and has brought fly fishing to a number of women recovering from breast cancer surgery. It is an important program and your support is appreciated.

If you are interested in attending or donating to this cause contact Chet Allison for additional details.

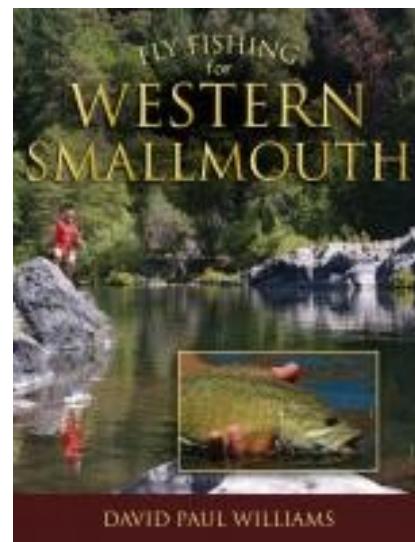
Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

DAVID PAUL WILLIAMS BOOK SIGNING September 19th

One of our past speakers has written a new book and will be in Spokane on a book signing tour. The author, David Paul Williams, gave us a wonderful presentation on the Seven Devils region in Idaho and now has a book out on Smallmouth Bass fishing.

He is coming to Spokane on Friday, September 19th to do the book signing at the 7619 N Division Street Costco location, and he would love to have members of the IEFEC come out to the store. The signing hours are noon-2:00 pm. He expects Costco will offer the book at a substantial discount over the retail price.

The book is chock full of information about smallmouth bass, has information on where to fish for smallmouth in each of the 11 western states, and is a good read even for those who already know plenty about smallmouth. As an added bonus, He will be giving away his favorite smallmouth bass flies with the purchase of each book at Costco. Buy one book and get one fly—buy two books and get three flies!



RUNJE RELEASER By Lee Funkhouser

If you have been around the local Fly Shops you have probably noticed that the Runje Releaser is still being made available to the fly fishing community. Thanks is owed to IEFEC member Jason Mulligan who is continuing to build and promote the releasers. Just in the past month, Jason has received three orders for 12, 12 and 50 releasers and it is great to know that fisherman are doing what they can to improve the survivability of our fish population.

Sean Visintainer was featured in the summer edition with a brown trout that was caught and released in the Spokane River a few years ago and was then caught again this summer. The debate goes on, but using the Runje Releaser is one way that we can continue to promote the safe handling of our trout population. It also is a great way to continue the promotion of our stated club purpose "...to support the conservation and management of fish and fishing waters..."

Jason will likely have some work parties in the future to replenish our Runje Releaser inventory. Let him know if you are interested in participating in one of the future work parties.

"The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive, but attainable . . . a perpetual series of occasions for hope." ~John Buchan~

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Fall Steelhead Forecast

By

The Swami of Swing

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

While none of us wonder whether it is worth it, many ponder: "When shall I go try to swing up a big fish?"... adding under our breath.."*with this new tackle I spent a grand on.*"

Our friends at the various wildlife agencies attempt to help us, by providing forecast after forecast, all based upon previous return counts, escapement information, linear abrodigering, and other non-linear algorithmic frammitz factoring, all in hopes of arriving at some kind of guess.

This year, the guess is down somewhat from last year. WDFW and ODFW's joint forecast for upriver fish is 241,000 A-run, and 31,000 B-run fish in 2014. These numbers are similar to actual returns for 2013, which in itself was 10-15% below that year's forecast.

Of course, the Chinook and Sockeye numbers have/were/are surprising all managers, who in turn are blaming ocean conditions for that surprise. Maybe more Steelhead? Whatever the reason, there's lots of big fish this year, well upstream of the Bonneville area centers of activity.

And angling pressure is already up in lower Washington streams. For example, there is no truth to the rumors that required Eastern Washington anglers on the Klickitat to bring their own rock to stand on. No truth at all.

Looking at the counts, the Swami notes there's over a thousand fish over Lower Granite since 8/24.

So, it may not be a total waste of time to head down and swing a fly. And there's likely to be more fish every day. To get counts on your own, go to <http://www.fpc.org/>, scroll down to "Fisherman's Links", and find some data to confirm your preconceived notion.

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR The Fly Leaf

In an effort to increase access to the publication of The Fly Leaf we have created a new email address for submissions to the publications committee. Please try to use that address for any future submissions or questions you wish to address to the editorial staff.

New email address: flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Gray Fur Nymph

September 2014

Gene Lorensen

One of my first patterns after I began fly tying. It is simple but very effective for everything from panfish to steelhead. Fish it in the surface film in the evening or deeper in the mid-day. One later October afternoon on the Grand Ronde, I used it to take three steelhead in one run when the lure and bait fishermen took nothing.

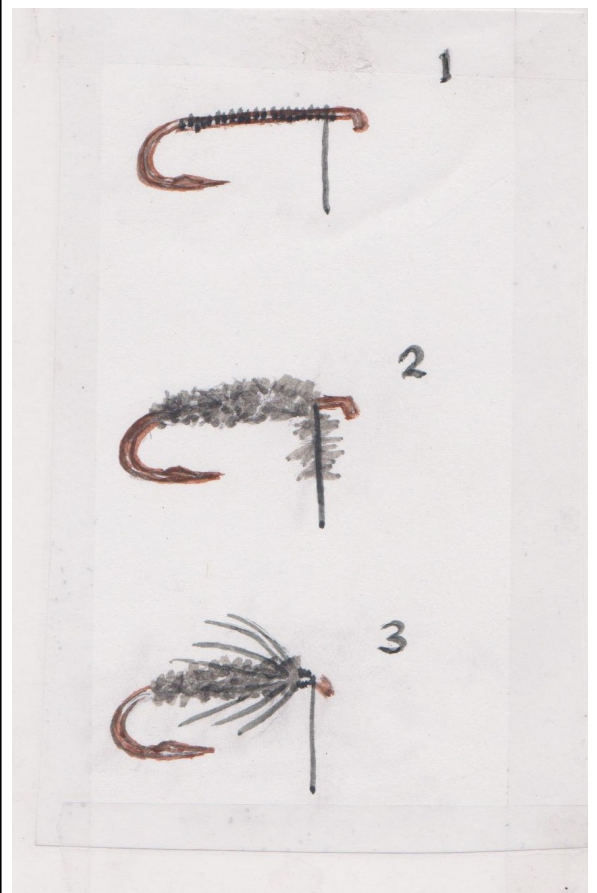
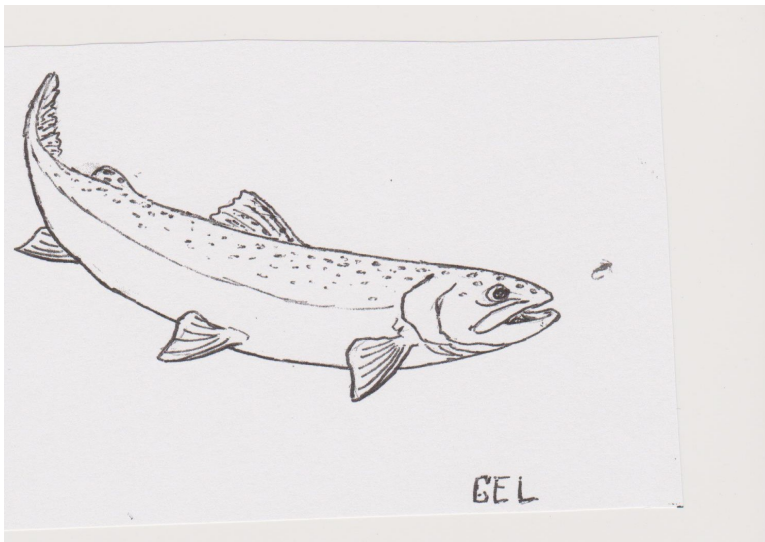
Hook: Regular #16 to #6

Tying thread: Black

Body: Dubbed grey muskrat or beaver fur

Hackle: Soft black hen or pheasant rump in larger sizes

1. Pinch the barb and line the hook shank with thread. (It can be weighted in the larger sizes).
2. Form a tapered body of dubbed fur.
3. Make a sparse hackle, form a small head. Cement and whip finish.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB

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CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

Wading Safely

By
Guy Gregory

As felt soles fall out of favor because of invasive species concern, more thought is necessary to wade safely, especially in our local rivers. The round basalt of the Ronde, Clearwater, and the low sand sediments of the Spokane are especially challenging.

A few tips that'll keep you upright:

Wading Staff– This third point of support will make all wading easier by letting you maintain two points of contact while one foot is making a stride. A wading staff may make the difference between staying dry and falling in, and lowers your anxiety level during difficult wading.

Go slow. Obviously, be careful while wading, but also take time to evaluate current conditions, particularly in unfamiliar places.

Go with the flow. It's easier and safer to move at a slight downstream angle with the current than move directly across or against the current.

Have the right stuff–Polarized lenses so you can see, felt or studded boots with good support so you can stand are essential. Take a look at your tackle system: do you need to pack all 45 boxes of flies, or will 40 do? If you leave some of it at home, you won't have to find it after you go swimming.

Submissions for publication in the Fly Leaf can be made by contacting Lee Funkhouser at flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter.