



GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
November 11, 2014
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

NOVEMBER PROGRAM By Neal Beechinor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Lee Funkhouser

As we approach Veterans Day it is time to reflect on the contribution our military has made for our country. I am so thankful for the men and women who have served and am appreciative of their many sacrifices. We have a great many individuals in our club who have served. To you I extend my utmost gratitude.

Jim Athearn has kept us busy and had a great group out at Bayley Lake doing restoration early in October. We have an article in this issue. Thanks to all of you who assisted in this project. I know Jim appreciates the help when these projects come up.

I am looking forward to Walt Balek's presentation this month. I always like his programs because I love seeing fish pictures and he always has plenty. It should be a great time. Remember to bring a toy or donation to the meeting as this month is our "Toys for Tots" meeting.

We have been welcoming new members throughout the year, but we still have space in our membership. Bring someone to the meeting and let them get started on their three meetings towards membership. Let's see if we can fill up to our member limit by next summer. I am sure many of you know someone who would like to be a member.

On a personal note, I always love fishing in October. I fished on the Clark Fork until the wind blew me over to Fish Creek. Smaller fish, but fun challenges to hit small pools in between large boulders. I've been at Amber Lake and Babbitz Lake, where the fish are temperamental, but if you change up enough you can find a decent combination. Finally, I hit the Grand Ronde! Bo from the Silver Bow guided our boat through a pretty good day

Our own **Walt Balek** will be our presenter at our November meeting. His title is "Tale of 2 Rivers," and recounts his recent trip to Alaska in the pursuit of the Coho Salmon and Rainbows. Walt has been very generous to our club over the years in sharing his fishing adventures with us. He spends a lot of time in preparation and always gives a very entertaining and professional show. Let's show our appreciation by being in attendance.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

with a total of 5 fish landed out of 7 hooked. I may have to go back and give myself an additional day of Grand Ronde steelhead fishing. November should be a continuation of what we are seeing in October, and that is great fishing.

I am hearing that there have been a number of you having great days on the Snake and Ronde. It is looking like a banner year and that is always a good thing. After all, what we mainly do in this club is fish. I have also heard of a great many other trips, some to places like Montana to fish the Missouri and other trips to more exotic locations. Exotic or not, I love to hear fishing stories, so don't be afraid to share.

We are nearing that time to look at next year's officers and are in need of members interested in being on the board.

We really do need people to step up. The commitment is not great and being a part of the leadership is truly an experience that I have enjoyed. Talk to Mike Beasley, Chet Allison or me if you are interested.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting. It should be a great time.

STEELHEAD WOES

By Guy Gregory



Many anglers are puzzled by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's big program stocking lakes with thousands of steelhead smolts this year. News and rumor of river closures, lawsuits and extraordinary regulations abound from the Skeena to the McKenzie. Short answer: several actions spring from litigation begun last year by the Wild Fish Conservancy (WFC) and other wild fish and angling advocacy groups over hatchery operations and compliance with the Endangered Species Act in Washington, and elsewhere the steelhead/salmon wars continue.

In a settlement between WDFW and WFC announced April 25, 2014, WDFW agreed to suspend the release of up to 900,000 juvenile steelhead into Puget Sound streams as of 2014. WDFW retained the ability to place 180,000 fish into the Skykomish in 2014 and 2015. Release in other Puget Sound rivers is suspended pending individual hatcheries obtaining Hatchery Genetic Management Plans approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service. In turn, WFC agreed to not sue WDFW for 2 ½ years or until National Marine Fisheries Service approves those plans, whichever comes first. There are other elements to the settlement, but these are the keys.

In July, WFC joined other groups and issued notices of intent to sue to the federal operators of the Leavenworth hatchery, and to the federal and tribal operators of the Lower Elwha hatchery alleging that they, too, were in violation of the Endangered Species Act for hatchery operations.

As a consequence, smolts otherwise destined for Puget Sound have been released to lakes unconnected to Puget Sound, and limits adjusted for anglers. Sprague Lake was one of the early recipients of these fish.

As this litigation proceeds, we can expect quick changes to rules governing steelhead angling in Washington, and annual changes in policy. Similar actions are underway in Oregon, and BC rules have changed a couple of times in recent years in response to First Nations and others' concerns. Short answer: check your regs and respective agency webpages to stay current before you go.

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

TOYS FOR TOTS By Lee Funkhouser

We are again approaching that time of year where the needs of others become more apparent. Since Jon Allan started the annual Toys For Tots gift drive our club has stepped forward with donations of thousands of dollars and hundreds of toys. Unfortunately the need will always be there and there will always be children who would have nothing for Christmas if it were not for programs like the United States Marines Toys for Tots program.

We are inviting members of the Marines to be our guests at our November meeting and hope that we can again bring some joy to area children.

Bring your toys to the meeting as the Marine representatives will transport them to their warehouse directly from our meeting. If you would like to make a cash donation, that will also be accepted. We will take cash and checks made out to the IEFFC and we will then give the Marines one total check for the program based upon the total donated amount.

Your donations are greatly appreciated.

BAYLEY LAKE RESTORATION By Jim Athearn



IEFFC Work Party at Bayley Lake: On October 9th, seven members of the IEFFC continued what has been a long-standing (over 30 years) club project to maintain the inlet channel at Bayley Lake. Jerry McBride, Floyd Holmes, Bob Anderson, Stephen Aspinwall, Bill Papish, Don Perry and Jim Athearn spent several hours removing grass, weeds and tree limbs from the channel. They then placed gravel by the weirs to refresh the spawning area. While it is uncertain just how much trout production occurs from the channel, it is believed that by providing a place for mature rainbows to spawn there is an increased survival in large fish that contribute to a higher quality fishery in the lake. Jerry, Bob, Floyd and Don stayed after the work party to exercise a few of those trout.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

SPOKANE RIVER FORUM

By Guy Gregory



Many of us are interested in Spokane River angling, both from conservation and recreational perspectives. The November Spokane River Forum Conference in Coeur d'Alene, ID will feature sessions to satiate your interest. To register, go to www.spokaneriver.net/conf.

Our club members may find the Thursday, November 20th sessions of interest. The morning session features updates on the Spokane River Water Trail and the latest Restoration Projects. Among other things, at least one of these projects promotes a usable access just below Plantes Ferry. At lunch, see how scientists are modeling climate change and natural resource managers are using crowdsourcing to create high-resolution stream temperature climate scenarios for 500,000 km of streams across the Northwest.

In early afternoon hear the latest Avista study results about spawning and habitat conditions in the Spokane River. In addition, local Trout Unlimited volunteers, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and Spokane Tribe will discuss work to protect and restore them.

BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE

By Lee Funkhouser

As I have discussed Board positions with various members I have heard a great many reasons why now is not a good time to be a little more involved in the management of our club. When you really think about it, there is no perfect time to step forward and be a member of the Board or become an officer.

When Jon Allan approached me 6 years ago, I had only been a member for a brief period of time. I used that reason as my first out. Jon wasn't buying it. He told me it would be a great way to meet members and get a better understanding of the workings of the club. My second out was that I was really busy with my work and would be looking at being more involved when I retired. No go again. Jon told me that the time commitment is less than you imagine and promised I would not be overwhelmed. He also said there are always members available to assist.

Jon was right on every account. The past six years have been a time for me to learn about the club and get to know members I may have never known. The time commitment has been minimal and the return on investment has been immense. I have fished with some of the best and worked along side some incredible people. We truly have a great club and we are essential to the success of fly fishing in the Inland Empire.

With two positions available in this years elections I hope that a few of you look at this opportunity seriously and step forward. Don't hesitate to contact Mike Beasley, Chet Allison or me with any questions you have about serving. We need your help and look forward to working with you.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Western Coachman

November 2014

Traditional Favorite

This month's featured fly is an old traditional pattern that has fooled fish for a long, long time. It will probably continue to deceive our finny friends long after we've departed the scene. Gene Lorenson first used it in the Spokane River near the Green

Street bridge back in the 60's. In spring high water, the caddis would hatch in the flooded willows along the bank. Hank Leonard and Gene would wade out into the willows and make short casts of 10 to 15 feet whenever they saw a rise.

They took mostly eastern brook trout in those days. The Western Coachman's silhouette matched the shape and size of the caddis and the white wing helped them keep track of the fly in among the willows. The fly also works in more usual situa-

Hook: Size 20-8, dry fly.

Thread: Black to match fly size.

Body: Peacock Herl.

Wing: White deer hair, calf tail or other white hair. (white poly yarn works well).

Hackle: Brown dry fly quality saddle or neck.



1. Pinch the barb and line the hook shank with tying thread. Wind a body with peacock herl on about 2/3 of the hook shank.
2. Make a wing extending just past the bend of the hook. Trim the excess and use the thread to form a smooth platform for the hackle.
3. Tie in the hackle - one or two depending on the size of the hook. Wind the hackle forward and trim. Wind a small head, whip finish and cement.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

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CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

By Lee Funkhouser

It is time to start thinking about the Christmas Raffle. We have had a number of projects this past year and will undoubtedly have additional projects to help fund in the coming year. The funds raised by this event allow us to help where assistance is needed.

As many of you know, the raffle is our largest fundraiser of the year. It helps us keep our programs running smoothly. It also provides us with some fantastic trips and really special items, many of which are donated by members. Yes, your donations are an important part of the raffle. Some amazing items show up every year and seem to complete the hard work that is done by the Christmas Raffle committee headed by Gordon Olson.

Our Christmas Raffle committee works all year towards the December meeting and our thanks goes out to Gordy, Stephen Aspinwall, Randy Shaber, Rick Ripley and the rest of that group. They do a truly amazing job.

We will have additional information in the December edition of *The Fly Leaf*, but it is certainly time to start thinking about this upcoming event.

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.