

The Fly Leaf



Volume 60 No 2

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February, 2015

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
February 10, 2015
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Neal Beechinor

I heard this week that we have some still waters opening up. That's good news of course, except for the ice fisherman. It's late January and we would normally still be froze up. I heard something about global warming. Hmm, maybe something to it. Maybe a lot to it. Fished Farmer Browns Lake from the shore a few days ago & caught a few nice ones. My aluminum boat is in my garage for repair. I'm sealing up a leak in the bottom so I don't go for a swim while I'm playing one of those 10 pounders.

I fished Rocky Ford twice within the past 10 days with little success. Tried everything from buggers to scuds. The first time, my partner & I both got skunked. Last week, my partner Lee Funkhouser caught 7 nice trout, and I lost a good one as it was headed downstream stripping out line. As many of us know, that can be a tough stream. It's frustrating when you can see those big-uns in there just sit motionless while we drag our fly over its mouth. If anyone would like to teach me some secrets on how to fish Rocky Ford, I'm all ears.

We had a really stimulating 1st board meeting of the year at Honeywon's Café at Rockport Office Complex. We talked about efforts to initiatives to secure our club's future. One of the initiatives we will focus on is increasing our membership up to our 135 member limit. As of now, we are 14 short of that mark. To do that, we need programs and activities to attract new younger members and get them involved. Let's face it, most of us are getting on in years (including me), and we won't last forever. As we all know, we have lost a few of our friends this last year. Simply by being a member of this wonderful club, we each accept the responsibility to ensure our future. Bringing in new members

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

FEBRUARY PROGRAM By Skip Cavanaugh

Our speaker for February is author and fly fisherman Rick Hafele. He will be giving a presentation entitled "Five Mistakes You Don't Need to Make".

If you ever wondered why ten percent of the fishermen catch 90 percent of the fish, this is the program for you. Rick will explain why avoiding these five common mistakes will make you a better fisherman.



Rick has a masters degree in aquatic entomology and has fished western waters for over 40 years. He has authored and co-authored numerous fly-fishing books and has an extensive knowledge base that will be shared with us on February 10th. This is a program you don't want to miss.

Presidents Message (continued)
are the responsibility of each of us. I challenge each member to identify potential new members and invite them in. Look up to the right hand corner of this page. Rick Hafele is a very well known and sought after presenter. This would be a good time to bring your potential member as a guest.

Catch & Release,
Neal

2015 Membership Renewal

Dues for 2015 are payable at the February meeting. With the due date of March 1st, everyone should make plans to pay at the meeting or send in the \$30.00 dues payment to :

IEFFC
P.O.Box 2926
Spokane, WA 99220-2926

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Grand Ronde Steelhead Rule Altered As reported in Spokesman Review

Commission Alters Hatchery Steelhead Rule

A proposal that would have required Washington anglers to keep all hatchery steelhead they catch from the Snake and Grande Ronde rivers was adopted but altered by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife had floated a rule that would make anglers keep all hatchery steelhead they catch in the two rivers.

But the proposal was watered down by the commission, at the recommendation of the department, during its meeting in Tumwater last week, the Lewiston Tribune reports.

The commission adopted a suite of fishing rule changes for the Columbia River basin on the east side of the state.

But it completely dropped the mandatory steelhead retention rule for the Snake River and reduced the scope of the proposal in the Grande Ronde.

John Whalen, fish program manager for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at Spokane, said the catch-and-release only regulations for steelhead on the lower 2.5 miles of the river will remain in place during the fall and early winter.

Starting Jan. 1 each year, anglers fishing both the upper and lower portions of the Grande Ronde will have to keep all hatchery steelhead they catch.

But rules that prevent anglers from using bait and require them to use single, barbless hooks on the river's first 2.5 miles will remain in place throughout the steelhead season.

The mandatory retention rule was designed to reduce the number of hatchery fish that end up spawning in Grande Ronde tributaries, where it is feared they will dilute the genetic traits of wild steelhead.

Whalen said the prospect of opening the lower section to harvest early in the season risked leading to crowded fishing conditions.

The state also heard comments from fisheries officials in Oregon, who said making anglers keep all hatchery fish earlier than Jan. 1 would target steelhead bound for the upper reaches of the river across the Oregon-Washington state line.

Also under the rules adopted by the commission, Spring and Blue lakes along the Tucannon River will be open year round.



The Fly Fishing Movie Craze Sweeps Spokane Two film series come to town

In February, from Rich Landers:

The annual Fly Fishing Film Tour, founded in 2007, is returning to Spokane with motivating footage featuring fish, fishermen and waters from Montana to Mongolia.

The two-hour show has been shored up with edited versions of 11 films primed for a two-hour show that will start at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, at the Bing Crosby Theater in Spokane.

Tickets: \$15 at flyfilmtour.com, or \$13 in advance at Silver Bow Fly Shop and Swede's Fly Shop in Spokane and Castaway Fly Fishing and Northwest Outfitters in Coeur d'Alene.

In March, from Sean Visintainer:

The 2015 International Fly Fishing Film Festival returns to Spokane, presented by Silver Bow Fly Shop, in association with Spokane Falls Trout Unlimited, Riverkeeper, and the Spokane River Forum.

A big afternoon beginning at 5PM, Wednesday, March 25, also at the Bing. The show begins at 7. All proceeds benefit Spokane River access, so get there early to view and bid generously. Raffle and auction items include big time prizes of equipment by Simms, Winston, Airflo, Lamson, and others; and guided trips by Silver Bow Fly Shop.

Tickets: \$15 at Silver Bow Fly Shop, on the web at www.silverbowflyfishing.com or link through and check out the lineup at www.flyfilmfest.com

Day of show: \$18 at the door.

Rocky Ford Bridge

Anglers are getting the run around at Rocky Ford Creek, a fly-fishing holy water north of Moses Lake. The issue: Lack of money to fix the lower footbridge.

Since wading is prohibited at the desert spring creek, anglers have only one way to cross the stream -- the upper bridge. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has closed the lower Rocky Ford Creek footbridge for safety reasons. Chad Jackson, district fisheries biologist in Ephrata explains: During the spring of 2013, WDFW engineers inspected the lower RFC footbridge and due to public safety concerns and liability instructed Region 2 Lands Division staff to close the footbridge to public use. Bank erosion along the eastern and western shorelines has caused the footbridge approaches to fail and compromised the wooden piers the footbridge rests on.

Essentially, it's at risk of tipping or collapsing. Unfortunately, there is no quick or easy fix to the footbridge to safely re-open it for public use. WDFW will need to replace, and possibly relocate, the existing footbridge. Early cost estimates to replace the footbridge range between \$100,000 to \$160,000 and covers permitting, materials, engineering, and labor.

WDFW has requested capital funds (legislatively appropriated) and applied for grants through the Recreation and Conservation Office. To date, funding attempts have been unsuccessful. However, WDFW will continue to look for funds to replace the footbridge. In the meantime, anglers wanting to fish from the east shoreline of RFC will need to cross at the upper footbridge and hike downstream.

Note: Neal has contacted Eastern Washington's legislators urging them to support funding the construction. Sending personal communications to your legislator will help us to get this project off the ground.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

February 2015

Harley's Improved Six Pack

By Bob Harley



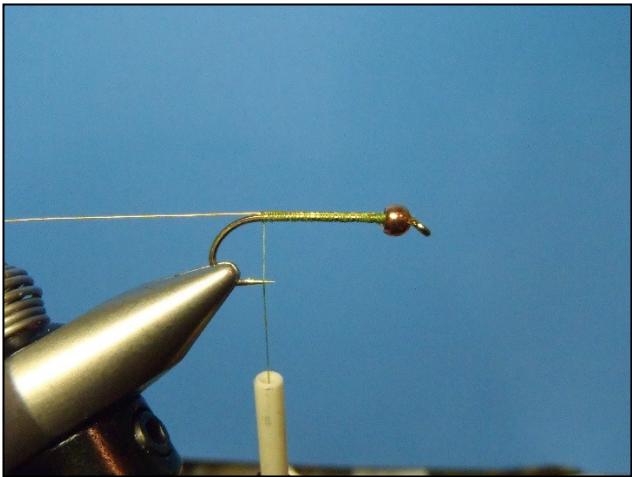
This is a damsel type of fly that has produced consistent catches in almost every lake I have ever fished in the N.W. and Canada.

Materials

Hook size:	2x long 2x strong nymph size 6, 8, 10
Thread:	Black or dark olive 6-0
Rib:	Small copper or gold wire
Tail & body:	Pheasant tail - natural or dyed olive
Wing:	dyed olive pheasant rump
Neck:	Peacock herl
Bead:	1/8 inch real copper



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington



Put on bead, tie in wire, cover shank with thread base.
inch



Tie in pheasant tail, gap width or longer. Wrap forward to within 3/16
of bead. Secure with thread.



Double back excess pheasant tail to form thorax and tie down.



Wrap wire rib forward counterclockwise, tie off. Tie in two pheasant
rump feathers by the stem in front of the thorax.



Wrap feathers one at a time, tie off with feathers laid back.

Tie 2 or 3 strands of peacock herl around the neck. Whip finish.

Now, go catch some fish!

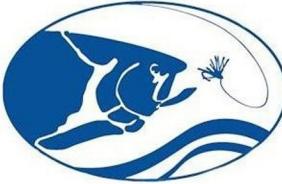
Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Fly Fishing Fair Ellensburg May 1st and 2nd

The Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers invites you to attend the 9th Annual Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg, WA on May 1st and 2nd, 2015. There will be numerous free seminars as well as workshops at various fees on casting, from beginning to expert.

2015 WA Fly Fishing Fair

Tying Casting Demos Free Seminars Workshops



Friday & Saturday May 1-2, 2015
Kittitas Valley Event Center, Ellensburg, WA
www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

Times for the fair are May 1, Friday 9AM to 5PM and May 2, Saturday 8AM to 5PM.

FFF members and youth under 16 get in for free. Non-members cost is only \$5.00.

The WSCFFF through your support can continue our mission to *conserve* and *restore* our resources, and *educate* fly fishers in our sport and grow advocacy for fish and fisheries.

Federation of Fly Fishers
Conserve, Restore and Educate Through Fly Fishing



INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
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CHARTER MEMBER and MCKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

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