



**GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
March 13, 2012
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Chet Allison

To say there has been a firestorm of concern, anger, and frustration about the possible changes on the St. Joe and North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River is an understatement. I have talked to Jim Fredericks of the Idaho Fish and Game Department. He informed me that at this time he is only in the information gathering phase of the fishing conditions and concerns on these two rivers.

No proposal is in place at this time. After all the info is gathered he will need to talk to all the right people before any proposal is made and at the earliest it would be July or August for that to happen. Watch for a survey to be placed on the <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/> website. Jim would greatly appreciate each of us answering the survey when it comes out; he said I would be informed when it is placed. I will let everyone know when that happens. Gentlemen, Jim himself has told to me he is not for any changes.

On February 16th, Dave Bush, my wife JoAnn and I went to the NIFC dinner to hear Jim Fredericks of the Idaho Fish and Game Department and others about the fishing conditions in the above rivers and the possible rule changes. Well Jim didn't show up. Someone said he had a cold, maybe he did but we were all (NIFC especially) disappointed for his no show. I will try to keep everyone posted as to what is happening on the St. Joe and Coeur d'Alene Rivers.

The program was real informative as to what has happened in the Short/Riley Creek, Yellow Dog Creek and what is going to happen in the Moose Drool Creek Drainages. Four agencies along with hundreds of volunteer hours of the NIFC have taken out roads that are no longer used, remove or changed culverts that hinder the migration of fish during spawning, and changed creek bottoms so there is now some water flow changes. Rocks providing pocket water, large logs changing flow to provide back eddies and altering mile after mile of

March PROGRAM

By Mike Beasley



You will probably see more fish like this recently caught Klickitat steelhead when Jack Mitchell talks to us at the March meeting. His topic: **Overview of some of the best of Central and Eastern Washington's Trout and Steelhead rivers.**

Jack started out as bait boy on two top charters at Neah Bay. He spent 16 years at Neah Bay where he did a lot of fishing. Finally, he went to WSU for his BA in Sport and Recreation Management. He has fished from Alaska to South America. His business has grown from seasonal 50 trips a year to a year round operation with over 800 guided days.

He owns The Evening Hatch in Ellensburg, WA.

Riparian so the fish have less silt, more gravel that they like improving spawning grounds. The changes from 2008 to 2011 were vastly improved. The changes were for spawning purposes more than fishing although some larger fish will come up to the repaired upper cool regions of these creeks during the hot summer months. Down the road the fishing should improve with the spawning vastly improved. What is good for little fish is even better for big fish. Look forward to improved fishing.

By the time we all have this Fly Leaf in hand or on computer Coffee Pot should be open along with hundreds of other March 1st opening waters. I hope the weather is good enough for each of you to have gone out and bent the elbow on some nice fish. Stay safe until we meet again.

PAT WHITEHILL bio

By The late Don Chinn

Patrick (Pat) Whitehill, the Fly Fisherman of the Year in 1995, was so soft spoken you might think he was a very laid back person, but far from it. Pat was a high-energy human dynamo. After he retired, a typical day in the fall of the year would begin with early morning steel-head fishing, followed by breakfast and then nine holes of golf. By evening he would be back on the river after errands or jobs around the house. It helped that he retired near a golf course and his favorite steelhead holes near Clarkston. Pat also was a hunter and during hunting season his efforts were concentrated on filling his deer and elk tags.



- Varsity basketball and track, EWU, 1947 to 1951.
- EWU: BA in Education in 1951 and a Masters in Education in 1956.
- Taught in Chewelah from 1951 to 1957 and at EWU from 1957 to 1987.
- University of Oregon: MS in 1964 and Education Doctorate in 1965.
- President of EWU faculty in 1979 and became retired Professor Emeritus in 1987.
- Basketball and football Sports Official, 1952 to 1967.
- Inland Empire Basketball Officials Hall of Fame inductee, 1987.
- National Ski Patrol member at 49° North, 1970 to 1984.
- AARA national racquet ball tournament finalist in singles or doubles in 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989 and 1990. National Singles Champion three times and three times National Doubles Champion.
- Past Kiwanis and Elk member.
- Past scout leader.
- President of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, 1994.

During Whitehill's year as President, the club undertook the following new projects: Amber Lake fish spawning, fin clipping at the Colville and Spokane hatcheries, covering the ponds at the Spokane Hatchery to discourage predators, spreading spawning gravel in the Spokane River, setting up signs at Nunnally Lake, developing a photo album of members, organizing and participating in FFF fund raiser, and video taping senior members of the fly club.

Ed. Note: Several of us had the pleasure of fishing with Pat. They are times we will always remember.

INVITE TO DRY SIDE CLUB BANQUET

By Chet Allison

The Dryside Fly Fishers of the Columbia Basin are inviting IEFFC members to their annual fund raiser banquet – raffle at the Porterhouse Restaurant in Moses Lake on March 20th. Dinner is at 5:30 and silent auction/raffle will start at 7:00 pm. You do not need to attend the dinner to be involved in the raffle and silent auction. They will have guided trips, weekend lodgings and RV parking at various lakes, and numerous fly fishing items and more. There will be a \$10.00 raffle for a complete Courtland Fly Fishing Outfit.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Beaver Pelt

March 2012

Don Earnest

The days are getting longer and the vernal equinox is rapidly approaching. More daylight, warmer temperatures, and better fishing are in store for us winter weary fly tossers. This month's pattern is very familiar for us "old timers" and honors the man most responsible for the great lake fishing we enjoy. Don Earnest began the lake rehabilitation program in Eastern Washington and was a long-time member of our Club. His Beaver Pelt fly is best fished slow and deep. If you haven't used it, you owe it to yourself to tie and try it. You won't be disappointed.

Thread: Black medium

Hook: 10 — 6 2 or 3X long

Tail: Red hackle fibers (optional)

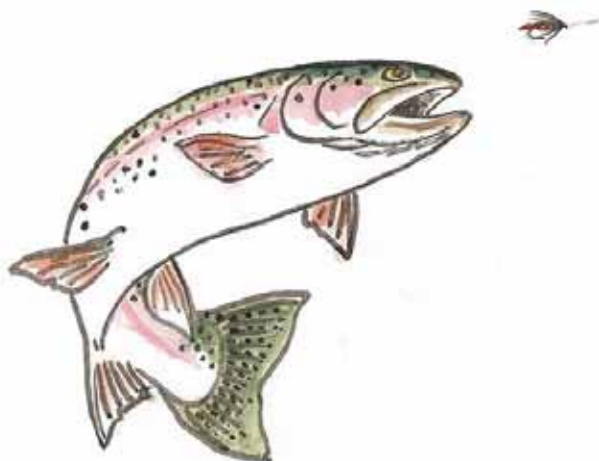
Underbody: Lead wire — wool yarn

Body: Dubbed dark beaver fur

Hackle: One short, pheasant rump hackle
(I like a black dyed one)



1. Pinch the barb, line the hook shank with tying thread, and wrap with about 10-12 turns of medium lead wire.
2. Tie in the tail fibers if you so desire and shape a tapered underbody with dark wool.
3. Using your favorite dubbing method, form the beaver fur body. Keep it shaggy.
4. Wind a short, sparse hackle of pheasant rump. Form a small head, whip finish and cement.



GEL

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB

PO Box 2926,
Spokane, WA 99220-2926

FIRST CLASS MAIL



CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

FFF YOUTH CAMP

By Chet Allison

The FFF Fair is coming to Spokane, Washington this July 10-14 and needs your help. Maura Johnson from the WSCFFF talked to the club about many volunteer options some do not include any fly fishing talents at all, those positions need filling and Len Zickler fellow club member can answer most of your questions on those volunteer options.

On average about 75 club members do not attend club meetings on a regular bases so you may not have heard me ask for your help. As club President I am asking you to consider signing up to teach the youth at the camp sponsored by the FFF. The camp July 13th & 14th is north of Coeur d' Alene, it is on private water so no Idaho fishing license is needed and you will teach the youth age 10 to16 to tie the flies you use not what the FFF or some organizer wants you to teach. There will be a head casting instructor then you teach what was taught at the demo by the instructor. You will have 2 youth at the most, if we can get 3 to 5 men to help with the camp. Call Bob Harley or Chet Allison 509-329-0118 to get more information about the camp.

Over the years the reports from the Youth Camp have been fantastic. The kids had fun and the helpers agree. You do not have to be an FFF Member to join in.