



**GENERAL MEETING  
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB  
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE  
COMMONS  
December 10, 2013  
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

**This months meeting is the Christmas Raffle. You don't want to miss it!!!  
Details are on page two.**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
By Mike Beasley**

It is the first week of December, have you contacted the Raffle Committee with your donation for next week's Christmas raffle? Rumor has it Gordy has a direct line to Santa's little helpers and anyone who doesn't donate will end up on Santa's naughty list. Yes you will end up with a lump of coal in your stocking just like Tom May. Tom, quit fretting, there is nothing you can bring to the raffle that will get you off Santa's naughty list this year. I have a feeling this is not the first lump of coal you have received in your stocking.... You'll have company; Scrooge will be there too! December is an interesting month; most of our fisheries have completed their turnover. Any brave sole that is willing to set foot in lake, stream or river whether it be the Fourth of July, Hog Canyon, the Ronde or Clearwater should find a nice fish or two without a lot of competition. That is to say if your feet stay warm enough! Fish on brave souls!! Well, my year of service as your President has truly been an honor. So many of you have reached out and offered a helping hand when asked. The list to thank individually is too long but there are a few of you I would like to especially recognize.

Merlin, thank you so much for use of your beautiful river home for the Board retreat, you certainly raised the bar for this gathering in the years to come. You are a true friend and a wonderful fishing buddy. Oh, I almost forget, yes a lot of members have tried to corner me about your secret honey holes. No I did not rat you out, so quit asking.

Hugh, thank you for acting as our Poacher during my tenure. You made every meeting memorable. Anyone can tell a joke, not everyone has your style and more importantly fewer have your delivery. Thank you for only poaching me once during my term. By the way, did April ever return your call?

Chet, most past President's tend to fade away. You on the other hand, just got more involved. Thank you so much for your efforts with the FFF and your tireless efforts on the Nominating Committee. The time you spent filling the many unexpected board vacancies cannot go unnoticed. Finally special thanks for always lending me your ear when I needed to run some club issues by you. Your counsel was sage and wise. Oh, by the way you never showed up for your spey lesson on the Ronde this year. That will be a \$1.00 pay up at the January meeting!

Tom May, what can I say... I thank you most of all. Thank you for re-affirming everything that is good in "Cougar Nation." It is said that those who try to tear you down and make mocking remarks are only masking some shallow petty jealousy. Their attempt at humor at another's expense is a clear sign of self loathing and lack of self esteem. Tom please keep up your attempts of sophomoric humor. It only confirms the obvious: You have wanted to be a WSU Cougar; instead you ended up at BYU!!! With hat in hand we might let you sit at the Cougar table someday. Oh by the way, you can stop your continued denial of the infamous "Tutu" fiasco. Your finger prints are now permanently registered on the FBI fingerprint database. Congratulations. No need to worry about contacting them, they know just how to find you now..... Ask other club members...everyone knows all about it.....



## **December Meeting Annual Holiday Raffle/Auction**

The month of December always brings us our Holiday or Christmas Raffle where members only get the opportunity to obtain great mostly fishing related items. December 10th is this special day this year. Your Raffle Committee is able to purchase or receive through donation hundreds of items that you will get a chance to own from the Raffle or bid on at the Silent Auction. We will have many of the same fishing trips available as in the past plus probably a couple new ones. Currently we have 2 for 1 priced trips on the Bitterroot River and Thompson, Clark Fork or Koonetai Rivers. Also, we have a one day trip for two on the Thompson or lower Clark Fork Rivers. How would you like winning a stay at Hill's Resort on Priest Lake, Idaho?

Besides the items that the Club purchases for the Raffle, we ask that the membership also furnish items that your fellow fly fisherman would love to own. Many of you have the talents to tie great fly patterns, donate your own guided trip to a special fishing place, and give fishing and non-fishing related items for the Raffle. You can bring these items to the meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> or make contact with one of the Raffle Committee members to arrange pickup ahead of time. Some of our Raffle Committee members include Gordon Olson, Hugh Evans, Randy Shaber and Rick Ripley.

A few days ahead of the Raffle, we will email a listing of those items that we have procured up to that point. This will give those (who have email) the chance to peruse the list for those items that you most want and make arrangements with friends to collaborate your tickets or bidding for your most desired item or fishing trip. Some of the Raffle goodies include the ability to purchase an item or fishing trip at discount. Please remember to support those manufacturers, guides and retailers who contribute to this fund raising activity.

See you at the Raffle and bring lots of extra money to buy lots of tickets and opportunities for great goodies!

Your Raffle Committee

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

## WEST MEDICAL LAKE AERATION PROJECT

By Jim Athearn



George Potter at West Medical Lake

### **West Medical Lake Aeration Project**

In 2013 the IEFFC helped WDFW purchase and install an aeration system in the northeast end of West Medical Lake. This replaced an old, obsolete system that hasn't operated for years. The main reason for needing the new system is to minimize the potential impacts of rapid lake turnover in the early fall. The lake normally turns over gradually over a period of a week or two but that can change quickly during storms, such as occurred in September, 2012, when high wind caused the lake to turn over in a matter of hours. This created an anoxic condition that resulted in a substantial fish kill. The new aerator will also be run during the winter to eliminate any potential winter kill.

Quite a few of the club members fish West Medical Lake plus it is where we take the boys from the Morningstar Ranch to fish each spring. George Potter was the club leader with assistance from Boyd Matson and Jim Athearn. Our club contribution was a little over \$5000 which was matched by the WDFW. The Spokane Flyfishers also provided some funds.

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

## **My Friend Bob Bates By Jerry McBride**

Bob and I traveled thousands of miles together on fishing trips and to many fly fishing events. He was a great travelling companion, always upbeat and open to try new things and new places.

We spent many nights in my old camper on fishing trips in Washington, Idaho and British Columbia. Bob was a good cook and did most of the cooking. One night he was cooking spaghetti and declared that the noodles were “al dente”. He told me that in Italian that means “to the tooth”, in other words just right to the bite. I thought that was pretty classy.

Bob was an intrepid wader and being a short guy that got him into trouble on occasion. On one of our club projects on the North Fork he fell in and got totally soaked. It was a cold rainy day and we had split up and gone in separate vehicles to different sites. The people he was with managed to put together some dry clothes for him most of which were way too big. When we got back together at the end of the day he looked like a pile of rags shuffling along. At least he was dry.

Both of us liked a bargain so when we went to the fly fishing shows in Bellevue we stayed at the Travel Lodge which was right next door to the Meydenbauer Center where the fly fishing show was. Our room rate was roughly half of any other place in the area. The Travel Lodge was probably built in the 50's long before the tall buildings rose up around it. Tiles were falling off the wall in the shower so you had to scoot them off to the side when you showered. If you held one of their sheets up to the light you could see through it like cheesecloth. But the price was right.

On one of our trips to the St. Joe we were going east on I-90 over Lookout Pass. For whatever reason, Bob had looked through my maps in the glove box and declared that they were ancient, not even showing I-90. When we got to the Montana truck weigh station he directed me to pull in. Into the office he goes and soon comes out with a whole new set of maps. How he knew that Montana truck weigh stations gave out free maps for the asking I'll never know.

Being an avid fly tier, Bob was always on the lookout for tying materials. If he got them free, so much the better. We were up near Fernie, BC going over a mountain pass between the Elk River and the Bull River. It was a dirt road, one step up from a logging road. As we were going along, all of a sudden Bob yelled “stop”. I stopped and asked him what was wrong. He said he had seen a dead bird alongside the road. We got out and walked back to investigate. Sure enough, there was a mangled Ruffed Grouse lying on the ground. I went back to the camper and got a sandwich bag for Bob and he plucked the feathers he wanted off of the still warm bird. We got back in the truck and headed down the road with Bob admiring his little treasure of grouse feathers.

The last fishing trip we went on was up on the St. Joe. We were wading across a wide shallow stretch of river with a nice smooth bottom. Bob was behind me and all of a sudden I heard a big splash and lots of commotion. I helped him get back up on his feet and we went back across to camp. Fortunately it was a nice warm day so he put on some dry clothes and decided to stay at the camper while I went fishing. I think we both knew that was the end of his wading.

Bob and I have gone to the fly fishing fair in Ellensburg for the last four years. It was like old home week when we would show up. The “regulars” were like family to him. All of the ladies gave him a big hug. I will be going to the fair next year, but it won't be the same without Bob.

I will miss him.

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

# FLY OF THE MONTH

Santa's Snow Cone

December 2013

The Jolly Old Elf

After his December work is done, Santa loves to roam the earth in a leisurely fashion, fly fishing wherever and however he pleases. He casts to the big stuff and tosses patterns at exotic species. Occasionally, however, he just likes to relax with an eggnog, (yes, Santa imbibes), and fish a chironomid under a red and white indicator. His favorite pattern for this type of dunking is his Snow Cone. It features a white bead head, a red body with a black belt, and a rib of silver tinsel. The fish love it, and even if the strikes are slow, there's always the eggnog.

Hook: 18-12 straight or curved  
Bead: White  
Thread: Fine red mono  
Body: Bright, fluorescent red floss  
Belt: Black thread  
Rib: Silver tinsel or crystal flash  
Thorax: A few turns of peacock herl



1. Pinch that barb (Santa is into catch and release). Slip the white bead up to the eye. Line the hook shank with tying thread a bit past the hook bend.

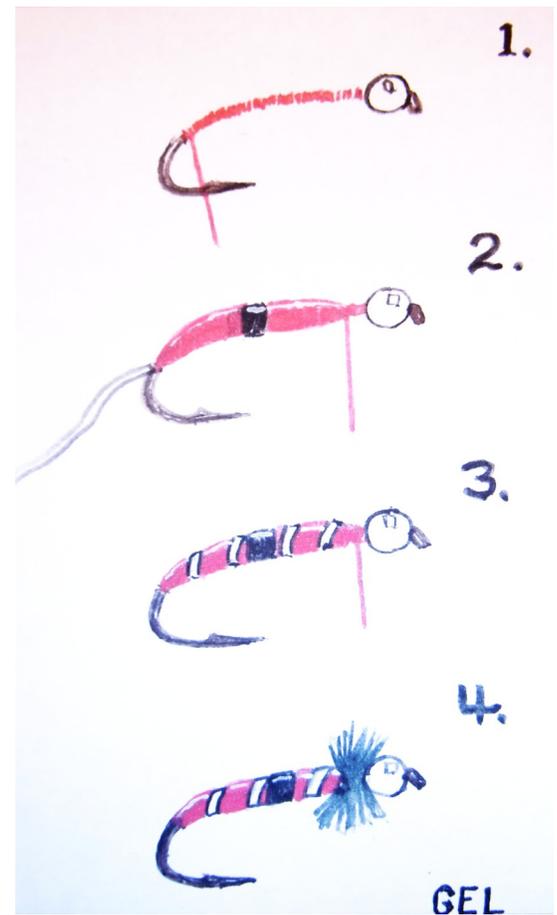
2. Tie in the rib material and let it dangle. Wrap the red floss body, tapering up to just behind the bead. Don't forget the black belt.

3. Wind the rib material forward, leaving lots of body material showing through.

4. Tie in a few turns of peacock herl behind the bead. Whip finish and cement.

*Merry  
Christmas*

*P.S. Don't mess with Santa...He wears  
a Black Belt.*



**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

**INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB**

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FIRST CLASS MAIL



CHARTER MEMBER and MCKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

**Publications Committee**

We are still in the process of obtaining the change information to access and, thus, update the website. As soon as that is done we will be adding the missing editions of *The Fly Leaf*. We have also expanded the committee and have added the following members; As consultants to the web page we now have Skip Cavanaugh and John Ralston. To *The Fly Leaf* editorial staff we have added Guy Gregory. The Roster will continue to be produced by Steve Dixon and Lee Funkhouser...and...Yes, **it takes that many people to replace Bob.**

**2014 Membership Renewal**

Dues for 2014 will be payable at the January or February meetings. With the due date of March 1st, everyone should make plans to pay at either of those meetings or send in the **\$30.00** dues payment to :

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

Submissions for publication in the Fly Leaf can be made by contacting Lee Funkhouser at [lfunkhouser@comcast.net](mailto:lfunkhouser@comcast.net). Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter.