

# The Fly Leaf



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January, 2014

**GENERAL MEETING  
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB  
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE  
COMMONS  
January 14, 2014  
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

## **JANUARY PROGRAM By Neal Beechinor**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Lee Funkhouser**

Hoping everyone had a great Christmas and you are ready for a fabulous 2014. I know that I am! I talked with Neal and we have some great programs coming up this year. I am sure you will enjoy them.

This past year was a year of accomplishment for IEFFC. Many thanks to the likes of Fred Shiosaki and Floyd Holmes for our involvement in Kid's Fishing. As always, Bill McElroy did a tremendous job with the Morningstar fishout. Leon Buckles and his archives group made great progress in bringing our bios up to date. Projects were headed by Jim Athearn and George Potter keeping us involved with the Aeration project at West Medical. We certainly took the lead and received some valuable publicity regarding our involvement. Our fly tying at The BigHorn Show was so well received they have asked Jim to put together classes for this years' show. We supplied tremendous support for Toys For Tots, helping a good number of children have a better Christmas. We again saw Gordy Olson and his staff put on a Christmas Raffle that was awesome in every way. I know that I could go on and on as there were numerous additional contributions to the successful year that we just completed and I hope everyone knows how much their individual contributions are appreciated. I know I am proud of what our club does in the Inland Empire.

We have a great group of officers this year and I am confident the challenges of 2014 will be met with continued success. This year we are emphasizing two things. First, I would like to see us bring our membership back to the 135 member level. We are currently at 125 active members, so this is an opportunity to bring in a guest for membership consideration. Secondly, we will be adding some structure to our committees. We need to make sure we have a backup plan for each group as we never know when we may lose an important member of our club. This will be an excellent opportunity for those who would like to be more involved to move into a more active position within the IEFFC.

Personally, I want to fish with more members this year. I enjoy fishing with people I like and there are a lot of those people in this club. January and February I plan on spending some time at Rocky Ford. If you are interested, give me a call. I like to go during the week as it is not as crowded and, though I still have to work some, I am sure we can work out a time.

Thank you guys who have given me names of prospective presenters for this year. Keep it coming, especially any of you who would like to be a presenter. It's a tall order to match the excellent job done by Lee this past year. Who remembers Davy Wotton, Kelly Galloup, or April Vokey? For the 1st 3 months, in order, we have Kelly Laatsch, Dave Hughes, and Jeff Currier. They all have impressive websites, so if you are not already, you might want to become familiar with them. Kelly visited our club 3 years ago. He and his wife Karen own and operate St. Mary Anglers in Cranbrook, B.C. He has been fly fishing and tying flies for over 40 years. Kelly and Karen guide the famous cutthroat waters of the East Kootenays, including the Elk, St. Mary, and Bull Rivers, as well as the Upper Columbia. Kelly has fished most of the major trout streams in Western Canada and the U.S. His lake fishing experience is even more extensive. He is a sought after speaker at fishing shows and fly clubs. Each year, he hosts groups of anglers to exotic locations.

You won't want to miss Kelly Laatsch at our January 14th meeting.

For February, Dave Hughes is offering a wet fly tying workshop prior to our meeting. His fee is \$550. It's a tie along session using the screen monitors in our meeting room, lasting about 4 hours ending at 4:30. We provide our own materials. If we can get enough participants to share the cost, we can book him. So call all your "would be" tyer friends so we can get the cost reasonable for us all. A good time to invite a guest. I would think we can accommodate around 20 tyers. Please let me know ASAP those who are interested. Talk to me at the meeting or contact me at [nealjudybeech@hotmail.com](mailto:nealjudybeech@hotmail.com).

### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (continued)**

My final note is of utmost importance. Thank you, Mike Beasley for your contribution to the club these past seven years. Mike is a strong leader and has certainly upheld the high standards of our fine organization. His wisdom and active participation in the operation of the IEFFC will certainly be missed. I owe him a personal debt of gratitude as he has been my mentor. I was certainly blessed to be able to follow him through the chairs.

I look forward to seeing you all at the January meeting. Let's make this another memorable year with the IEFFC.

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

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

### George Potter



The Distinguished Service Award was established to identify and reward individuals who have shown long and continued service to IEFFC. The award is not given annually, but is given when a member has distinguished service that is deserving of notice. This year the IEFFC has found George Potter to be deserving of that recognition.

George joined the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club in 1966 and immediately immersed himself in the Club's affairs, including uncounted projects ranging from general clean up of fish habitat to sparring with Fisheries Department personnel in ongoing efforts to get them to rehabilitate various lakes, impose selective gear regulations on lakes and streams, provide access to fishing areas and anything else necessary to enhance the sport of fly-fishing.

His ongoing work to make our sport better was recognized formally in 1977 when George was named Fly Fisherman of the Year. Not one to rest on his laurels, George has continued his involvement in Club projects right up to the present. In the past he has worked tirelessly to see McDowell Lake treated with rotenone and then restocked with trout, and was successful in getting Sprague Lake and its surrounding waters treated and restocked, thereby making it likely the lake will rebound to its former glory of the 80s. The entire Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe drainages are now designated catch-and-release and he was the guiding force in the aeration project at West Medical Lake.

He is also heavily involved in the ongoing operations at Brown's Lake, a private lake that is important to many of the IEFFC membership.

George was named President Emeritus at the December 2008 club meeting and is only the fourth person to have this title and he is presently number five in club seniority.

Meanwhile, he fishes. He fishes a lot. Locally, much of the time at Brown's Lake. In Canada, especially Whitetail, as well as some new water he's discovered up in the Cariboo region of British Columbia. He's made his share of junkets to saltwater. Steelheading in the Clearwater and the Grand Ronde have been of interest at times. But through it all George has remained true to his roots, valuing the take of cutthroats in gin clear water on small dry flies above all else.

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

## IFFF MEMBERSHIP

### By Chet Allison

As a former treasurer of the IFFC and current board member of the WSCFFF, I would like to remind you as club members to join the IFFF. If you are over 65 the cost is \$25 a year for a new membership but in the end your membership will save the club \$3. Doesn't sound like much but how about 100 members not being IFFF members. Yes, that is \$300 the club has to pay to the IFFF for your part of not being an IFFF member. The club has to pay this fee every year. Also when 12 members sign up we will get a fly rod to raffle off like we did last year.

This year the WSCFFF has moved the Fly Fishing Fair that it sponsors to Sat and Sun May 3&4. Not the old Friday and Saturday of the years past. I hope you will consider attending this year. If you are an IFFF member you get in for FREE. I will have some save the day cards at the January meeting. Ask me for one and it will be put in your hand so you will remember the dates of the Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fisherman Fly Fishing Fair. Ask any questions of me about the Fair, I will be glad to answer them as best I can.

## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

### By Leon Buckles

My how times have changed! Looking through the archives recently I ran across this from 1966. Len Miotke, a club member owner of Sportsmen's Surplus, was selling tapered flylines, floating and sinking, for \$2.99 each. You could buy a new 12 foot Mirror Craft aluminum boat with a 5 horsepower Clinton outboard for \$299 or a 14 foot Seascamp Starcraft aluminum boat for \$259 from Carstens Marine Supply.

The historical committee is looking for photos of you or your friends for the archives. Any memorabilia, news clippings or things of interest to the club are also welcome.

Contact **Leon Buckles, Chet Allison, Jason Mulligan, Rick Ripley or Ward McAuliffe** for details.

## ROD CHOICE

### By Mark Pinch

I have had requests to clarify my comments in the September presentation regarding longer rods: The longer, softer rod is of great value in handling long leaders under strike indicators especially with the added weight of balance flies and jiggies.

**Flextec Streamtec Fly Rod from £189.99 - Choose Size: Which is the 10 foot, 5 weight.**

This is a four piece rod with a great combination of good back bone and yet a soft tip for no Chironomid strike-break offs. It is about \$113 delivered to your door from England. You can order it from Ebay. Please understand that there are no warranties with this rod. Replacement sections are available at about \$40 each including shipping.

If you want a 25 year, no questions warranty, Orvis offers a 10 foot, 5 weight in their Clearwater line of rods. I have never fished this rod. At only \$200, it is worth a look.

Both rods are four piece with decent appointments

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

## FLY FISHERMAN OF THE YEAR

### Chet Allison

At our December meeting we were able to honor Chet Allison as our IEFFC Fly Fisherman of the Year. This is the highest annual honor accorded a member and this year's recipient was truly a deserving individual.

Chet had recently finished his term as IEFFC President, but continued to be active within the IEFFC in a number of capacities. He is the member who has been visiting those of us in the hospital or recovering at home from illness to drop off a box of flies and provide a bit of encouragement. He fashioned a weekly members fly tying clinic that he holds in his home. His approach has been effective and appreciated by those participating. He headed a nominating committee that faced numerous challenges this year and he met each challenge in an admirable fashion. He served as a Board consultant and his advice was essential for the operation of the IEFFC. In a word, his involvement in the IEFFC accelerated.

His involvement, though, went far beyond our IEFFC. Chet is a Board member for the Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers and is also their Chairman of Publications and Chairman of Promotions. At the Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg he helped teach kids tying and casting during the main event, which is Saturday and Sunday this coming year. In addition to teaching, he ties flies at one session each day.

Chet is also an accomplished fisherman and is seen on fisheries all over the area. Chet is a fisherman who is always helping his fellow fisherman with advice and encouragement. Those of us who have fished with him always welcome his company and look forward to those times when we can fish with him again.



## 2014 IEFFC OFFICERS

For 2014 we have a full slate of officers in place to lead the IEFFC. Our president will be Lee Funkhouser. Assisting Lee will be Neal Beechinor as Vice President, Skip Cavanaugh as Treasurer, and Richard Ripley as Secretary. Board members for this year are Paul Wham (2014), Jack Marchant (2015), and Paul Davis (2016). Floyd Holmes will be serving as Sergeant at Arms and we are honored to have Hubert Langenhorst as our esteemed Poacher.



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



## FLY OF THE MONTH

Western Bee

January 2014

????

Another year is upn us. Will the fishing be as good or, hopefully, better than in the past year? Only time and effort will tell. For the first pattern of 2014, I've chosen an old standby, the Western Bee. It can represent a number of bugs the fish relish - bees, Caterpillars, yellow jackets, stone flies and caddis. Fish it wet or dry.

Hook: 12 - 8 regular

Thread: Black

Tail: Brown deer hair (optional)

Body: Alternating sections of orange  
And black chenille (yellow is  
Good also)

Hackle: Brown, wet or dry

Wing: Grey deer hair

1. Pinch that barb and line the hook  
Shank with tying thread. Tie in the  
Tail fibers. Attach the black and orange  
Chenille, leaving them dangling back.
2. Bring the chenille forward, alternating  
The black and orange and tying off  
After each section. Trim the excess.
3. Tie in the deer hair wing as shown.
4. Tie in the hackle in front of the wing,  
Wet or dry style. Form a small head, trim  
And cement.



1.



2.



3.



4.

GEL

**INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB**

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FIRST CLASS MAIL



CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

## TOYS FOR TOTS

The Toys for Tots donation was a great success once again. The brainchild of IEFFC member Jon Allan, the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club has donated over 500 toys and thousands of dollars over the past few years. This year you contributed more than 100 toys and donated over 700 dollars in cash. **Thank you all for your contribution to this worthy endeavor.** Your generosity is much appreciated by the children who were able to have a brighter Christmas.

## 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.