



GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
December 8, 2015
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

DECEMBER PROGRAM CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Neal Beechinor

So it's the day after Thanksgiving and I am sitting here in front of my computer trying to compose my last message for this year. I am a bit distracted, as I keep looking into the family room where the Apple Cup is on TV. I and most of the others here say go Cougs, but my wife is mostly alone with her devotion to the Huskies.

This year will end my 6th year as a board member or officer of our club. It has been a wonderful and rewarding experience. I have gotten to know so many more of our members than I would have otherwise. Thank you to so many of you guys who have helped me along the way. It is my observation and opinion that our club is in good shape. This year we increased our membership and rolled out the new web site. Our monthly general membership meetings have been lively and entertaining, with no small fault of our poacher extraordinaire, Mark Pinch, and our Program Chairman, Skip Cavanaugh.

One of my goals this year was to encourage and initiate club outings, but because of various reasons little happened, not the least of was the terrible forest fire season. Thank you Lee Funkhouser for the Long Lake outing. I intend to be instrumental in some outings this coming year.

Our December meeting will once again be our annual Christmas Raffle, some awards, and election of board and officers for 2016. Gordy Olson tells us he has a great selection again this year, so bring money, have some fun, and maybe win a good deal. Thank you to you guys who stepped or jumped forward to complete our proposed slate of officers. We will be accepting nominations from the floor at our meeting.

December brings us our Holiday Raffle and Auction where we have a chance to raise funds for our various projects. As usual there will be a number of items of great interest.

It is also a time to get together and share what has happened in and out of the club this past year.

We will have a short business meeting where we elect officers for the upcoming year. Please think about where you could fit into the operation of the club and consider being a board member at some point in time. There is no requirement of length of time in the club and the experience is incredible. It is something you will not regret doing.

We have had another great year and you have all made that possible.
See you at the meeting and look on page three for more details.

Presidents Message (continued)

Club dues are coming due for the coming year. As has been unchanged for many years, the amount is \$30.00 annually. Our club has been affiliated with the Federation of Fly Fishers since our inception, and has paid dues to the FFF accordingly. Their dues structure, in part, is based on the number of our members who belong to the FFF, and we pay \$3.00 for each non-member. For 2015, our club paid for 97 members to the tune of \$291.00. At our February club board meeting, it was decided to recoup this amount beginning in 2016, by accessing each of our non FFF members the \$3.00 fee, so please be prepared to pay the \$3.00 in addition to your dues. Our treasurer will have a list of you who are FFF members.

Website Progress



INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB

Our update for this month involves photographs. I am receiving very few pictures for the gallery. I know you all have photos of your favorite trophy fish so send me one by email and I will add it to the wall of fame. It is just fun to look at all those fish and the smiles that go with them.

I am also urging you all to put a personal photo in the directory. It helps all of us to put a face to the name. It will especially benefit the newer members.

We have the capability of having a video on our home page. For now I am just picking videos that I find appealing, but if you have a video that you would like to see on the site, let our staff know. I would really like to post one that is taken by a member. If you have a Go-Pro, or similar camera, share your adventure with all of us.

The site will continue to grow and provide services to you. Let us know if there is something special you would like to see, and also let us know if you need assistance with any aspect of the site.

Our website email address is mail.ieffc@gmail.com.

Toys For Tots US Marines and Salvation Army

The Toys For Tots campaign was again a huge success with hundreds of dollars donated as well as two large boxes of toys.

Visiting we had representatives from the United States Marines and they spent a lot of time talking to members and expressing their appreciation for our donations.

Your help in this program will allow more children to enjoy the Christmas holiday.

Thank you all for your generous donations!!!



IEFFC President Neal Beechinor with United States Marine Sgt. Blake Bias.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington



December Meeting Annual Holiday Raffle/Auction

This is a reminder that the December 8 meeting will bring our Holiday Christmas Raffle where members only get the opportunity to obtain great, mostly fishing-related items. Your Raffle Committee is able to purchase, or receive through donation, hundreds of items that you will get a chance to win in 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 Kootenai Rivers. Also, we have a one-day trip for two on the Thompson of lower Clark Fork Rivers. How would you like to win 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 fishermen 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 8th or contact 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, Rick Ripley and Jim Athearn.

A few days ahead of the Raffle, we will email a list of the items that we have procured up to that point. This will give those (who have email) the chance to peruse the list for those special items that you want most 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 a substantial discount. Please remember to support those manufacturers, guides and retailers who contribute to our fund raising activity.

We look forward to seeing you at the Raffle. Remember to bring lots of money to buy tickets and be ready to take home great "goodies".

Your Raffle Committee



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

ROCKY FORD TO FISH OR NOT TO FISH



Left: Jerry McBride at Rocky Ford.

Right: Area now unfishable due to rising water levels.



The water level is up, but what does that really mean?

Jerry McBride and Lee Funkhouser took a quick trip to Rocky Ford on the 12th of November and didn't know what to expect. What they found was that a few spots that used to be fishable are now under water, but where you could fish the fishing was actually pretty good.

There are plenty of areas where access is certainly acceptable, but wear rubber boots. The water level is up a noticeable amount and that has also increased the flow rate in some of the slower sections. This may have actually improved the fishing in those areas.

Fishermen were certainly catching fish and there was no special fly that was of particular benefit. Fish were being caught with both dark and light (white) streamers. Egg patterns were successful as well as scuds of various colors. Some success was seen with soft hackle, and some fish were attracted to dry flies. In other words, fish like you have in the past and you should still have a good day.

Make sure you look at whether you can land a fish from where you are fishing and bringing a net that telescopes out could be of great benefit.

The drive is certainly worth it and seeking out new "favorite spots" may be fun. Rocky Ford should continue as one of the better fisheries to visit for the upcoming winter.



*Left: Water approaching the bottom of the south bridge.
Right: Reason to wear rubber boots.*



DID YOU KNOW

By Jerry McBride

Over the years I have attended quite a few services for members of our club who have passed away. It struck me at many of these services what interesting things I didn't know about these members. I guess it is understandable since we are members of a fly fishing club and spend most of our time at meetings talking about fishing.

In an attempt to get ahead of the curve I will periodically write about members of our club. These little nuggets of information will specifically not be about fly fishing. And, unlike the poacher I will not be attempting to humiliate or shame, but rather to provide something unique and interesting about our members. *In order to make this work, I need to hear from members themselves or others who know about them. It need only be positive and potentially interesting but not about fly fishing. Think of me as the anti-poacher.*

To start this off here are some things about members of our club that you may find interesting.

Harry Calhoun – For a period of time during his career in the Air Force, Harry had the responsibility to climb down into the bomb-bay of a B-36 and arm the a-bomb they were carrying so it could be dropped on a target and detonate.

Bob Anderson – During his college years, Bob was on the U of W football team. While playing against USC, Bob tackled OJ Simpson.

Jerry McBride – When he was a teenager Jerry caddied for Bing Crosby at the Spokane Country Club.

Lee Funkhouser – During his college years Lee was on the U of W soccer team and received a scholarship that helped pay his way through school.

Mark Pinch – Mark was a downhill racer and attended college on a skiing scholarship. He served as the downhill racing coach at Mount Spokane for about 15 years.

Chuck Pierce – Chuck was a pit crew member that kept the Miss Spokane hydroplane running during the glory years of hydroplane racing in the Spokane area.

Scott Fink – Scott won the Washington State Duck calling championship in 1986 and 1987.

Neal Beachinor – Neal is a member of the Washington State Old Time Fiddlers and a local fiddling club called Group Therapy. He started fiddling when he was 59 years old.

Jim Athearn – After he graduated from college Jim served in the Peace Corps in Columbia.

Gary Honeyman – In his younger days Gary was a stock car driver competing in races all over the western US.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

LIARS CLUB By Lee Funkhouser

They meet every week and the talk is pretty much about the same things. Where are the fish most active? What fly is working? Anybody fished Amber lately? Is the deer problem any better? What does Browns Lake look like this week? The players are pretty much the same. Harry, Jim, Scott, George, Bob, Jerry, Leon, Tom, Al, Chet, Keith, Ivan, Dan, Gene, Boyd, Dick, Dwight, Lowell, Neal, Frank, Stephen, and on... and then Mark will show up late. He must think we start at noon or maybe he still has a job. It's at eleven. Every Tuesday at Frankie Doodle's. And, yes, you're invited. Try it and I'll bet you like it. Good food and better conversation.

My son was home on leave recently. He was coming home from Japan. He couldn't believe how many at the table were also stationed there and all he talked about on the way home was how great he was treated. Not a surprise to me because these guys are some of the best you'll ever know.



Al Cunningham and Fred Shiosaki



*Bob Anderson, Frank Faha, Harry Calhoun,
Jerry McBride and Stephen Aspinwall*

Steelhead Report

By
Ol' One-eye

Nobody's catching any, right? At least, nobody's ratting out their buddies, or bragging' on their catches. For a little ink, forward pics and stories to flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com.. Attention: Ol' One-eye. Publish your greatness....

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Christmas Tree

December, 2015

Chet Allison

Developed by Mike Runje and a few friends about 1966 this fly has proven deadly at lakes when fishing for brook trout, cutthroat and rainbow trout. This fly has also been effective on crappie in the Spokane area. An attractor fly, it often will take fish when nothing else will make them move. I have given this fly one modification. Since the peacock glitter yarn is no longer available I have switched to using peacock herl for the rear 1/3 body. Give it a try and it just may be your next go to attractor fly. Just as a thought, you might switch the peacock herl and red to protect the peacock herl. This has been a hot little fly and it worked well at Amber Lake on a recent fishing trip.

Hook: 8-10, 1X Mustad 3906 or 2X Mustad 9671

Tail: Bright red wool

Body: Rear: green glitter yarn or Peacock Herl, Center: green fluorescent chenille, Front: bright red chenille

Wing: Yellow-dyed calf tail



Step 1 Tie in red tail and peacock herl for the back portion of the body.

Step 2 Build up the back bump of the body and tie off.

Step 3 Tie in the fluorescent green chenille middle portion wrap forward and tie off, tie in red chenille wrap and tie off the front portion of the body.

Step 4 Tie in yellow calf tail wing material secure the wing and build up the head and cement. This is the final product. Go fishing.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

**FFF Report
By Chet Allison**

Washington State Council International Federation Fly Fishers

www.wsciff.org

2016 WA FLY FISHING FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

Ellensburg, WA April 29 & 30



Fly Members,

Are you a tier that has never tied at the National Fly Fishing Fair? If this sound like fun (and it is) the Fed-eration is looking to build their tyer data base and is looking for new tyers. If you are a IFFF member or would join the IFFF and send me your contact info I will send your info to the Federation office to add you to the data base and down the road you will be invited to come and tie at the national fair. The fair will be in Livingston in 2016 and 2017. You will tie your fly patterns your way.

Thankyou,
Chet Allison
WSCIFFF BOD

To Join FFF simply go to the website listed.

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/>, click Membership, click join then the blue round button Join the FFF today



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

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club
FFF Charter Member and McKenzie Plaque Winner
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.

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.