The Fly Leaf



Editor: Robert Bates

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GENERAL MEETING INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE COMMONS

November 9, 2010 Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m. Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jason Mulligan

The temperature has plummeted in recent weeks. I have solicited extra help to tie flies during the bad weather days ahead. My daughter Lola ties a mean little bugger. My son Wil is a mean little bugger. Alivia as you know is an accomplished tier who sells her flies, via her father, for sweat shop prices. Kali prefers to tie things that resemble hair dressing products. They all have creative ideas about tying flies. However, I am amazed they can stay focused together long enough to call it fly tying. It is a pleasure to share moments of interests with my children. Rest assured, barring serious injury, we will learn how to tie flies together as yet another family activity.

The winter months are a bit dull for many who get cabin fever. So, your board would like to encourage all of its members to take part in some upcoming tying activities. There couldn't be a better way to pass the doldrums than to share some laughs and stock pile your favorite patterns. Unless, of course you have more birthdays and holidays than our club has bald heads. Then you are excused for complete lack of time!

On another topic, the WDFW is accepting nominations for the prestigious title of Steelhead/ Cutthroat advisory board members. This panel will provide guidance to WDFW on statewide issues related to Steelhead and Cutthroat management. Our club certainly is full of prolific Steelhead fishermen. If you or someone you

NOVEMBER PROGRAM By Bob Harley

Fellow tight liners we had rave reviews about October's Still Water program by the famous Phil Rowley. He asked me to get the email list of anyone interested in fishing with him next year. His books and DVDs are available thru his website flycraftangling.com

November's meeting will be hosted by a member of the FFF Frank Johnson who is a top fly tier. He will be tying flies at our club meeting (in the front room) for our program. And he will be putting on an fly tying clinic at the Sportsman's Warehouse in Spokane Valley Mall the next day from 1pm to 5pm. The fee \$10.00 for the clinic and limited to the first 20 to sign up. He will show us how to tie CDC flies.

Our big Christmas program is coming on fast. Gordy could use all the help he can get in obtaining raffle items. Bring in your used equipment, offers for trips, custom flies, and items that others may treasure. Remember these funds will go to a good cause for our projects in 2011.

know is interested it would be great to have someone from our group on this panel. You may contact Bob Leland with WDFW at (360) 902-2817 or mail your nomination to:

Bob Leland WDFW Steelhead MGR. 600 Capital Way. Olympia WA, 98501

I know you are all prepared for a big winter, so we can all focus on some Steelheading, some good cheer and some indoor fly tying with friends! Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!

FLY OF THE MONTH

Chernobyl Ant Revisited November, 2010 Jerry McBride

The Chernobyl Ant has become a classic dry fly pattern. It catches fish in both moving and still waters and is one of my "go-to" patterns.

The original Chernobyl Ant consisted of an ant shaped black foam body lashed to the hook with rubber legs and a yellow piece of foam on top to make it more visible to the angler. The size of the body is much larger than any real ant and it has eight legs rather than six hence the "Chernobyl" designation. The oversized body and extra two legs are what you might imagine exposing a real ant to radiation could cause.

When I started fishing the Chernobyl even though it really caught fish there were several things that I didn't like about it. Usually after catching a fish or two the body would start rotating on the shank of the hook. You would have to check for this and straighten it back up after every few casts. The yellow foam piece on top wasn't as visible as you might think it would be. This was especially a problem in moving water. Finally, the rubber legs had a tendency to slide under the thread wraps and completely disappear or end up with a long leg and a short leg.

To solve the rotation problem I now Palmer a hackle on the hook shank, trim the underside flush with the hook shank then the sides and top so it looks like a little bottle brush. I then apply superglue to the hackle and hook shank, push the foam body down onto the hook shank and lash the body down at the two narrow sections with thread. The body will not rotate if you do it this way. Also, it is a good way to use up those large hackles on your dry fly necks that you would never use otherwise.

I replaced the foam with hi-vis poly yarn which gives much better visibility.

The legs are held in place by tying a knot at the center of the rubber leg segment and then placing thread wraps on each side of the knot. Each segment makes two legs.

Originally I cut each body out of sheet foam with a pair of scissors. To get a more consistent result I now use a body cutter to stamp out the bodies. You can also buy foam bodies at the fly shop.

Hook: Tiemco 5212 Size 10

Thread: 3/0 Danville's Waxed Monocord

Legs: Spirit River Fine (size) Round Rubber, Black Body: Wapsi PF1100 Thin Fly Foam, 2 MM Black

Body cutter: River Road Creations Beavertail-Style Foam Body Cutter

Size 10-12

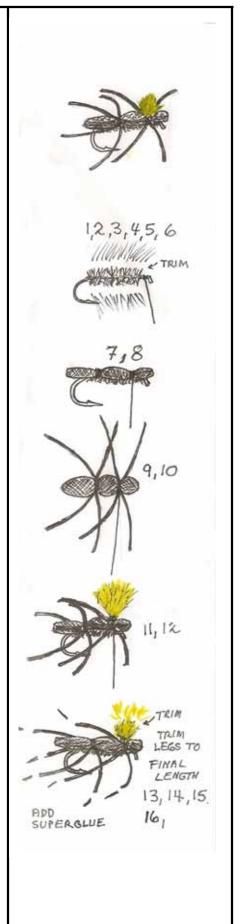
Hackle for body: Large dry fly trimmed after Palmering – Black

Indicator tag: Hareline Dubbin Para Post Wing PPW-142 Florescent Yellow

Glue: Instant Krazy Glue Brush-On

- 1. Pinch the barb down, mount hook in vise and line the hook with thread.
- 2. Tie in the hackle by the butt at the bend of the hook with the tip pointed out over the bend. Advance the thread to a point about 1/8" behind the eye.
- 3. Palmer the hackle forward, tie off and trim excess.
- 4. Using scissors, trim bottom of Palmered hackle flush with hook shank. Trim sides and top so you have a "bottle brush" approximately 1/4" in diameter.
- 5. Move thread back to approximately the two thirds point of the hook shank. You can gauge this position by superimposing the pre-cut body over the hook. The thread should be at the beginning of the large body segment of the ant.
- 6. Apply a liberal amount of superglue to the hackle and hook shank.
- 7. Press the foam body down onto the hook shank and then take multiple wraps over the body at the beginning of the large body segment. Make the first wrap with light tension and add more tension to two more wraps.
- 8. On the underside of the body advance the thread to the narrow section between the abdomen and the head segments. Make a light tension wrap and then two more with a bit more tension. Move the thread back under the body and take two more wraps around the back narrow section.
- 9. Cut four leg segments each about 2.5" long. Tie a simple overhand knot at the midpoint of each segment. Take one leg segment and holding it on both ends pull it against the inside of the hanging thread and then pull it up and over the body on around under the body and place it on the far side of the body. Take another leg segment and like the first pull it up and over the body and then leave it on the near side of the body. Take two more wraps, one on each side of the knot in the leg material and then move the thread on the underside to the front narrow section.
- 10. Do the front legs just like the back legs.
- 11. Cut a piece of poly about one inch long and about the diameter of a match stick. You may have to unravel the yarn to get the right diameter.
- 12. Like the rubber legs, hold both ends of the yarn, pull it against the inside of the hanging thread and then up on top of the front narrow section. Make several thread wraps over the yarn. Pinch the two ends of the yarn together pulling up lightly. Make four or five horizontal thread wraps at the base pulling the two halves together to make a single post like you would for a parachute post.
- 13. Make several more wraps around the narrow segment and then advance on the underside to the eye. Make a small head and whip finish.
- 14. Pull up on the post and trim it to about 5/16".
- 15. Trim the legs to final length.
- 16. Apply head cement to the head, under the post, to the underside of the fly and to the thread wraps at each narrow segment.

Caution: Do not get superglue on the legs! It will harden them and they will break off!



FLY TYING WORKSHOP WITH A MASTER TIER BIGINNING TIERS WELCOME ALSO

"Students" and "Pupils"

A tying concept about catching fish. "TRANSITIONAL FLIES"

By: Frank F. Johnson QUALIFICATIONS:

Fly Fishing Consultant--Professional Fly Tier – 50 years

Professional Fishing Guide – 37 years (retired) --Professional Fly Tying Instructor - 38 years

Member: FFF Fly Tying Group -- Advisory Director Big Horn River Alliance

Member Magic City Fly Fishers, Billings, Montana

FFF Life Member

Observer of nature, Husband, Father, Grandfather and Lover of dogs

To qualify for this fly tying workshop you must be able to tie a wooly bugger. If you are a beginning level tier you are welcome and encouraged to attend. This is as much about fly fishing for trout as it is about tying flies.

I have had the wonderful opportunity to spend nearly four thousand days standing in a trout stream over the past twenty or so years. This has given me many hours to study and understand how trout feed and what they are looking for from us as anglers. Most of these days on the rivers have been spent standing at the left shoulder of guide clients as they do the fishing. At times this is less than exciting and gives me time to be within myself and my thoughts. We are trying to answer the question: "How can we best catch these fish." I might also add that being a basically lazy person I don't care to tie flies for hours after a long day of guiding. Therefore it has been in my best interest to develop and tie very fast, simple flies – and yet, most importantly, effective flies. I need a way to have my 'not so experienced or skillful' clients catch the fish we do get behind.

I've found that most trout are not as smart or selective as most of us would like to think. (It shouldn't be difficult to be just a little smarter than a trout.) When I'm on the river I often hear the expression: "They are feeding on emergers." That could be the case. Then in the next few seconds you see a trout clearly take a mature, wings-up, adult fly. And then you look down on the water and you see numerous cripples/stillborns/adults floating by. So, here we are with trout feeding on something more related to a smorgasbord than simply emergers. I have come to truly believe that by using a 'student' pattern during a may fly hatch or a 'pupil' during times of caddis activity you will be favorably addressing the feeding behavior of the trout. From these experiences came the concept of 'student' and 'pupil' fly styles. These patterns represent insects who don't yet know what they will be when they grow up or, in fact, they are grown up but are having issues.

These flies are inexpensive, fast and easy to tie. They are very durable as well. The 'student' style can be adapted (color and size) to any May Fly from tiny Tricos to big Green Drakes. The 'pupil' style can be adapted (color and size) to nearly all Caddis hatches. I very much recommend the use of Trouthunter natural CDC feathers. I feel Trouthunter CDC feathers are simply the best, most consistent, and most affordable to be found. I avoid the use of dyed CDC whenever possible.

I've noticed a reluctance on the part to fly tiers and anglers to use CDC for tying or fishing. I hope to help set aside that reluctance and make CDC flies an important part of your tying and angling arsenal. \cdot

Things to bring:

Tools: Vise, Bobbin, Scissors, Whip Finisher (If you use one), hackle pliers. Bodkin or dubbing needle.

Thread: 8/0 or similar. Colors: Black, Brown, Olive,

6/0 or similar. Color: Olive

3/0 or 210 denier or similar. Color: Orange

Head cement

CDC feathers: Whatever you have – Just to look at.

Optional: Strung Marabou Feathers – whatever colors you have, from white to black.

Frank will furnish other necessary materials and hooks. If you don't have any of the thread listed don't worry about it Frank will have extra along for you to use.

It is my hope to have enough time to tie some quick, simple, and inexpensive STREAMER PATTERNS which you will love. (HOOKS AND MATERIALS FURNISHED)

SKILL ENHANCEMENT By Steve Dixon

One reason for participating in a fly fishing club is to have the opportunity to fish with new people and acquire new skills from interacting with the members. Many clubs accomplish this through club outings. For a variety of reasons, outings have not been well-attended when we have held them in this club.

The Board of Directors has decided to take a more targeted approach to helping club members who desire to expand their repertoire of fishing skills. We would like to see if there is interest in a mentoring program to acquire specific skills.

At our next meeting, we will put out a sign-up sheet on the piano where members can put their name and list a skill they would like to acquire or improve. This could include such things as learning to fish for steelhead, fishing chironomids, fishing chironomids straight down on a sinking line, becoming a better lake fisherman, spey casting, basic fly tying, acquiring specific fly tying skills, fishing for warmwater species, or whatever interests you. We will try to match you up with a member who has those skills and would enjoy sharing them. I personally look forward to making new and better friendships, sharing some things I have learned, and improving my own skills.

When I joined the club, I was strictly a stream fisherman. Now, thanks to fishing frequently with Bob Harley and Doug Brossoit, as well as learning from such stillwater masters as Pat Kendall, Clay Findlay, Dwight Tipton, John Fechner, and Bob Burton, I do a lot of stillwater fishing and really enjoy it. I really appreciate what this club and its members have done to enhance my enjoyment of fly fishing, and hope to see all members (and especially the new members) have these same opportunities.

p.s. Along these lines, Bob Harley and Bob Bates are going to be tying flies together on Thursday, November 18, time and place to be arranged, and welcome anyone who wants to come and tie with them. Bob Bates will be tying quill bodied flies and Bob Harley will be tying sealbuggers. Call either one of them for more information.

Editor's Note: To me "mentoring" seems too formal a term, but my books offer only "tutor" or "coach" in its place. This idea is just people passing along knowledge and skills. B. B.

(Tying sessions will probably be 2 hours.)

ROSTER CHANGES By Bob Bates

David Robbins

E-mail address: davidcleta@gmail.com

Eric Apelskog

E-mail address: Eric.apelskog@gmail.com

Mike Garofano

Erase first number in the roster

New number is 509-979-8684

NEW MEMBERS

 Daniel Kelly, (97)
 953-2826

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 953-2826

 Spokane, WA 99217,
 dnkelly200@aol.com

 Retired
 Jill

Terry Regnier, (100) 509-235-4667 509-559-4037

Cheney, WA, 99004, cherylregnier@hotmail.com Education, Cheryl



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE By Chester Allison

Fellow Long Liners,

The Christmas Raffle is fast approaching and many of you will be bidding in the silent auction. To make things easier on the treasurer and Hube L could you really consider bringing your checkbook for the silent auction items. Hube says if the monies are sent in Jan after the raffle, they account in the following year. Bid anyway and bid a bunch, it would just help if you could or would. Thank you in advance of your cooperation.

Editor note: Bring your donations to the November meeting. It will help the Raffle Committee with some of their record keeping and signage

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB PO Box 2926, Spokane, WA 99220-2926

FIRST CLASS MAIL

A SPECIAL NOTE By Bob Harley

The general Meeting in November will be in the front smaller room.

The larger one will have a function in it with 200+ people for a dinner.

The parking area may be very full too!

Come early to watch Frank Johnson tie flies and get a parking space.

