



**GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
January 11, 2005
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

JANUARY PROGRAM

By Jerry Cartwright

The January program will feature Dwight Tipton showing slides and speaking on his recent trip to Argentina and Byron Johnson showing slides and speaking on some of his saltwater fly fishing adventures. Expect these two to be very entertaining!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Scott Mayfield

Welcome to the 49th year of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. The IEFFC is stronger than it has ever been. The reasons for the club's current strength are many and can be identified by examination of the tireless efforts put forth by our membership for the club, for our sport, for our regional waters, and for the fish that hold our interest.

The year-long efforts of Santa Steve and Santa Hugh culminated at our annual December meeting. These gentlemen put on a tremendous Christmas raffle and deserve a month of R&R in a warm local chasing bonefish, tarpon and permit. A hearty thanks goes out to all of the elves that helped execute the seemingly flawless program.

Another reason for the club's strength is the work of our editor, Robert Bates. In addition to our beautiful newsletter, Bob's mastery of technology has dramatically reduced our annual operating expenses by nearly eliminating a large postage bill. If you aren't receiving the newsletter via email consider talking to Bob about doing so. Those who receive their newsletter via email also receive timely information regarding emergency fishery regulation changes and information regarding the well being of club members.

Behind the scenes our Conservation Chairman, Jerry McBride, has been representing the IEFFC as a stakeholder in meetings for Avista's re-licensing of its seven (7) Spokane River dams. Mr. McBride reports a victory for the river's fish. Historically, a minimum flow of 300cfs has been required at the Post Falls dam.

Those of you, who have seen the upper river at this flow, know it is a warm trickle. A new minimum flow requirement of 600cfs has been established to help preserve the fishery during the long hot summer days.

In addition, Mr. McBride has penned a letter on our behalf to the Washington State Department of Ecology supporting adoption of stricter phosphate discharge legislation for the Spokane River -- aka Total Maximum Daily Load or TMDL. Point and non-point sources of phosphates and organic materials deplete oxygen levels in the river and harm fish. Common sources of phosphates include effluent from factories and cities plus failing septic systems and polluted runoff containing fertilizers and animal waste.

Looking forward to the New Year, Program Chairman, Jerry Cartwright will be introducing us to seminal spokesmen from the fly-fishing world. The board of directors will miss the leadership of Past President Pat Kendal, who masterfully served out his term and the fiery guidance of Frank Faha who faithfully completed his 3-years on the board. We look forward to the wisdom tutelage our newly appointed board members, Dwight Tipton and Hugh Evans, will bring to the table.

A small number of work projects are on the board for 2005, and we are always looking for more. If you have project ideas, please bring them to the attention of one of your board members. We will get it done! Speaking of contacting the board members.....as irony would have it -- my phone numbers in the 2004 roster are incorrect...try these 509-235-5900 (Home), 509-462-5483 ext. 308 (Work), 509-939-5328 (Cell).

BALANCED BEADHEAD FLIES DESIGNED TO FISH WITH A STRIKE INDICATOR

By Jerry McBride

A conventionally tied beadhead fly hangs in a vertical orientation when fished suspended under a strike indicator. With the exception of chironomids, most aquatic life moves in the water in a horizontal orientation. A balanced beadhead fly fished under a strike indicator gives this horizontal orientation for a more natural presentation to the fish.

I started using a strike indicator almost 20 years ago to fish chironomid patterns in lakes. Suspending a chironomid pattern under an indicator is the most effective way to simulate a real chironomid moving towards the surface very slowly in a vertical orientation.

In the early 1990's beadhead patterns became popular. Putting a beadhead on a chironomid pattern improved it by making it sink faster to the desired depth and the sparkle of the bead attracts fish.

It was a natural evolution to try fishing other fly patterns under the indicator. Beadhead patterns have been particularly successful fished in this manner, especially if the fly is attached to the tippet with a Duncan Loop. The loop gives freedom of movement to the fly.

Even though these conventionally tied patterns caught fish, there was a feeling that they would work even better suspended in a horizontal rather than vertical orientation. Efforts by fellow Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club members got me thinking about how to achieve

horizontal orientation. The break-through came when I read the "Lashed Bead Head" chapter (p. 431) of *The Fly Tier's Benchside Reference* by Ted Leeson and Jim Schollmeyer. A method for securing a bead to the shank of a hook using a straight pin is described. Using this method, I threaded a bead on to a straight pin and then lashed the straight pin to the shank of the hook so the bead was beyond the eye of the hook. The bead balances the weight of the hook and materials tied to it. Essentially, you have a teeter-totter with the eye as the pivot point. The bead on one side balances the hook and materials on the other. Hence the name, "balanced beadhead." A balanced beadhead rides upside down in the water making it semi-weedless. Another advantage of the upside-down riding hook is that it hooks the fish in the upper part of the mouth, causing less damage.

Tying a balanced beadhead is no harder than tying a regular fly. The hook is held in the vise in the normal way. Remember that the fly will be suspended upside down in the water so if a back or wing case is used it must be applied to the underside of the hook when it is held in the vise. I would suggest staying away from backs and wing cases because they will reduce hook gape. This is especially important on small flies.

Editor's Note: Jerry demonstrated one of the balanced beadhead flies in a jar of water at the December meeting and offered several of the flies as a raffle item.

*Next month Jerry will tell us some of his fishing techniques with **Balanced Beadhead Flies**.*

New e-mail addresses:

Doug Brossoit

drdoug@drbrossoit.com

Jerry McBride

jerrymcbride@omnicast.net

Say hello to our New Member who was given his badge and packet at the December meeting.

Mark Papich

1028 W 25th Ave 624-5838
Spokane, WA 99203-1235 458-6840
Civil Engineer (Kim)

Dues are due -- Dues are due -- Dues are due

FLY OF THE MONTH

Balanced Beadhead Flies

January, 2005

Jerry McBride

Happy New Year! May 2005 be prosperous in your piscatorial pursuits. This month, we feature a real break-through in strike indicator fishing. Jerry has developed a workable way to fish almost any pattern under an indicator in a horizontal orientation. It has been successful everywhere he has tried it, including catching the big "bows" on Rufus Woods Lake. The instructions on this page and in the accompanying article (Page 2) tell how it is done.

Balanced Beadhead Sparkle Leech:

This is a good searching pattern. Tie it in a variety of colors. Remember to attach it to the tippet with a Duncan loop to give freedom of movement.

Thread: Black 6/0

Hook: Mustad 3906 or equivalent, size 10

Bead: 5/32" gold plated tungsten bead on straight pin lashed to hook.

Tail: Red Marabou

Body: Black sparkle chenille



Figure 1

Figure 1 shows the basic configuration of the beadhead. All patterns are tied on this format.

1. Place hook with barb pinched down in the vise, start thread and line hook with thread. Select a straight pin and cut it to a length of approximately 1/8" less than the hook shank length. Select a bead and slip it on the straight pin, small hole first. Place the pin on top of the hook with the bead about one hook-eye diameter beyond the eye and lash it to the hook with tight wraps. If your bead/hook combination requires it, wrap lead substitute wire on pin shaft between bead and eye of hook to achieve balance. Wind thread forward and wrap between eye of hook and bead with sufficient wraps to secure bead so it will not slide back on the pin. Leave thread hanging at the bend of the hook. Apply super glue to the thread wraps leashing the pin to the hook and those holding the bead in place on the pin. Clear out any glue that wicks into the eye and the gap between bead and eye.

2. After the glue is dry, tie in the marabou tail and chenille body material. Wind the thread forward and leave it hanging just behind the bead. Wrap the chenille forward to the bead, tie off, trim, and whip finish behind bead. Clear material away between the bead and eye with a bodkin to make threading a tippet into the hook eye easier. The fly is now complete.

3. Balanced Beadhead Damsel Nymph

Hook: Mustad 3906, size 14

Thread: Olive 8/0

Eyes: Two 3/32" gold plated tungsten beads mounted on small bent straight pins and lashed to the hook.

Tail: Mixed marabou (color to suit)

Body and thorax: Seal fur or synthetic dubbing (color to suit)

Rib: Pearlescent Krystal Flash or Flashabou (one strand)

Counter Rib: Gold wire

Hackle: Partridge, natural or dyed

Pattern No. 4 on last page



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

FIRST CLASS MAIL



CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

4. **Balanced Beadhead Hare's Ear**

Hook: Mustad 3906, size 16

Thread: Tan or olive 8/0

Bead: 3/32" gold plated tungsten mounted on small straight pin lashed to hook.

Body and thorax: Natural hare's ear dubbing

Rib: Gold wire counter wrapped

Hackle: Partridge

DUES ARE DUE DUES ARE DUE
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Be prepared to give your \$30 Annual Club dues to the Treasurer.

Checks and cash are accepted, credit cards are not.

Mailed checks OK.

If all goes as planned he should be near the front door.