



GENERAL MEETING  
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB  
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE  
COMMONS  
March 8, 2016  
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

## MARCH PROGRAM Spokane River - Sean Visintainer



Often times the closest fisheries to our homes are the ones that are the most overlooked. As with many fly fishers, I have been guilty of driving hours upon hours believing that the further we drive, the fishing will be that much better. While the Spokane River may not be labeled as "Blue Ribbon", it certainly offers anglers an opportunity to catch quality wild trout right in their backyard... and be home in time for dinner! In this urban trout stream presentation I will be discussing tactics, locations, and bits of information that can help you find trout without having to drive hours to far away destinations.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Skip Cavanaugh

It's been a sad and tough the last couple of days. We unexpectedly lost a very close friend of the family. She was a great lady and the matriarch of her family. I empathize with anyone who at some point has experienced the big surprise or shocking passing of a healthy close friend or family member. It's always filled with such grief, sadness and heart break for all involved. I found out this morning the funeral is next Tuesday so I will not be able to attend our meeting next week. I appreciate the effort board members that will have to fill in for me.

On Thursday are speaker for this month Jerry Buron (Chironomid Professor) called to let me know his wife is in critical condition and he will not be able to present. It's another sad situation. I've sent a card with best wishes and prayers on behalf of the club. I also let him know that we will reserve February of 2017 for him to present and that we are looking forward to it.

I reached out to Sean Visintainer, the owner Silver Bow Fly Shop, and he was kind enough to fill in for Jerry. He is going to present his latest update on fishing the Spokane River. Thanks Sean!

Let's move on to a real positive topic. For those of you who have not had a chance to read Rich Landers Blog on the recent improvements to the Amber Lake Boat Ramp please check it out on the Spokeman-Review Outdoors blog page.

Here's an excellent quote from Jim Athearn our project lead: "I think the ramp is in the best shape that it has been in for many years. All of the anglers in the region will benefit from the efforts of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club and the Spokane Fly Fishers." Thank you Jim and the members of both clubs for the great effort!

I'm getting fired up about getting my boat tuned up and ready for some lake fishing in the next few weeks. Hope to see you out there!

**Dues are overdue after March 1st. Please bring to the March Meeting or send to P.O. Box 2926, Spokane, WA 99220.**  
**Annual Dues—\$30.00.**  
**Voluntary IFFF Contribution—\$3.00.**

# AMBER LAKE LAUNCH PROJECT

By Jim Athearn



On Wednesday morning, February 24<sup>th</sup>, a work crew showed up at Amber Lake to rehabilitate the launch area. There were four IEFFC volunteers (Jerry McBride, Lee Funkhouser, Tom Hoag and myself) and four from the Spokane Fly Fishers Club. The project was supervised by Daniel Dzeikan of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The project was completed on Friday with Stephen Aspinwall joining our IEFFC group for that final day.

The project included spreading gravel on both sides of the launch. A boat launch area was created on the left side of the concrete ramp and the pontoon and float tube launch area to the right was smoothed for better access. After we are done, WDFW will have someone come in with heavy equipment and put the larger rocks in place. The boulders blocking the concrete ramp will be moved in front of the concrete slabs and a fourth boulder will be added to completely block off the ramp. They will also place boulders along the right side of the concrete ramp over to where the shoreline drops off. There will be gaps for the tubers to have access but they will block boat trailers on that side. This will eliminate the past problem with trucks spinning wheels and eroding out all the new gravel trying to pull boats up the steeper slope. The ramp should be ready for the 1 March opener.

The first day consisted on spreading the first load of gravel over the areas closest to the concrete slab. Our hard working volunteers then showed up bright and early Friday morning to finish the project. With a second load of gravel, we were able to finish off the new trailer launch site on the left of the concrete ramp and fill in the area to the right of the concrete ramp that has been severely eroded over the years. The new ramp for the boat trailers has a less severe slope and should be easier for launching boats. We also cleaned up the concrete ramp so it will be good for staging by all anglers. The boulders we had hoped to be placed around the area reserved for tubers and pontoon boats will not, unfortunately, be delivered until next Thursday or Friday at the earliest (soonest the haulers were available). Daniel Dzeiken (WDFW person responsible for ramp maintenance) will post signs and put up a temporary barrier explaining that the ramp is still “under repair” and where boat trailers and tubers should launch. Hopefully everyone will respect the signs and not try to launch trailered boats on the right side where they have done so in the past. The gravel on that side is loose enough that vehicles will likely sink in and either get stuck or just damage the area by digging ruts.

I think the ramp is in the best shape that it has been in for many years. All of the anglers in the region will benefit from the efforts of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club and the Spokane Fly Fishers.



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

# DID YOU KNOW

## By Jerry McBride

Jerry is back again with more amazing things you probably didn't know about our IEFFC members.

**John Fechner** rebuilt and relicensed 1988 GMC pickup that had been rolled and totalled. The rebuild included cutting off the roof of the cab and welding on a new roof from another pickup. John drove the pickup over 100,000 miles after the rebuild.



**Leon Buckles** holds a commercial pilot's license. He is qualified to fly multi-engine planes and even sea planes.

**Clay Findlay** who has been a member of our club for many years joined the National Guard in 1939. During WWII Clay ferried aircraft from the factories to various air bases. He flew just about every airplane that was used in the war. One of the planes he flew was the P-39. The P-39 was known as an unforgiving airplane that sorted out poor pilots "permanently". Clay's career in the Air Force carried through the Vietnam War where he flew transport planes in and out of combat zones.



**Don Perry** is an avid golfer. Currently, he plays with an eight handicap and this last September shot his best-ever two under par 70 at the Deer Park Golf Course. Don has been playing for 55 years and for a few years coached the golf team at Newport High School in Bellevue. The photo of Don was taken at the famous St. Andrews golf course in Scotland two years ago.



**Guy Gregory** drag raced riding lawnmowers for a number of years. Last year he had a chance to sell his racing mower so he did and now spends more time fly fishing.



**Hugh Evans** served in the US Army 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division in Vietnam as a platoon leader and company commander. He was awarded three Purple Hearts, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Bronze Star with "V" device for heroism in action and the Silver Star. There is a cubicle describing Hugh's heroism at the Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena Hall of Fame.

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

## BigHorn Outdoor Adventure Show By James Athearn



March 17th to 20th

We started the tying theater two years ago at the request of the Big Horn staff to add another dimension to the show. They agreed to provide our booths and material support at no cost to the club. Everyone who participated these last years seemed to enjoy it and most stayed beyond their scheduled times so that the tying theater ran pretty much full time for the whole show. There are about 20 chairs for people to sit and watch the tying. We talk about what fly you are tying (materials, tying techniques, etc.) with comments, as appropriate, on how/where you fish the flies. There is no time limit but most sessions are about 45 minutes.

At the tying table our emphasis is mainly to demonstrate fly tying techniques, share information on fly fishing and answer questions about our club and the sport in general. We want to foster as much interest as possible with kids and encourage them to sit down at the booth and try tying a fly of their own. I recommend that you consider having materials and pattern ideas that are fairly simple for the beginners to try. Adults should be encouraged as well – it is never too late to take up the sport.

Make sure you talk to Jim Athearn if you are available to assist in the show. This is a big program for the IEFFC and your help is really appreciated.

## Kid's Fishing By Floyd Holmes

THIS YEARS KIDS FISHING DAY WILL BE ON MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> AT THE FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE BASE RECREATION AREA AT CLEAR LAKE. The Ronald McDonald house Kid Fishing will be on Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm until about 5:00 pm.

I will have a sign up sheet on the tables at the March and April meetings.

If you volunteer for Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, you should be at the lake by 7:30 am for the orientation meeting that Randy will give. Be sure to sign in on the fish and wildlife sheet as our time gets counted towards grants to keep this going.

If you sign up for the Ronald Mc Donald house fishing you should be at the house no later than 1:20pm for the bus ride out.

There will be Rod assembly on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. We hope to get all the rods assembled on that night. This will take place at the wildlife council bldg. at 6116 north Market St about one block south of Francis Ave on the east side of Market Street.

All volunteers are welcome and they can work whatever hours fit in their schedule.

**Please volunteer and come out to help as more people helping makes it easier for everyone.**

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

# ***FLY OF THE MONTH***

**Egg-Sucking Bionic Worm**

**March 2016**

**Jerry McBride & Ron Pantzer**

*This Fly has been featured before. We brought it back to celebrate the opening of area lakes such as Medical and Amber. Always a fly to think of when the fish seem to be ignoring you.*

Charles Darwin's theory of evolution caused quite a stir back in the 1800s and is still debated hotly in some circles. We know, however, that certain fly patterns seem to evolve steadily by means of experience and the availability of new materials. This month's highly successful pattern is a good example. Jerry and Bob McBride were among our first flyfishers to discover the effectiveness of a red chironomid/blood worm imitation fished under an indicator. This column featured Jerry's red chironomid back in October of 1991. Since then too many flies have contributed to the development of today's pattern to mention them all. (Also see the February 1993 Fly of the Month column, The Worm.) Perhaps the most important step was the bionic worm by Jerry's friend Ron Pantzar. Jerry and many other Club members are constantly experimenting with the pattern. This version was dubbed "The Egg-Sucking Bionic Worm" by the guys at the Liar's Club because of the large bright orange bead at the head. One thing is certain, it really works!

**Hook:** Eagle Claw L143 - Gold, size 12

**Thread:** Red monochord

**Bead:** 5/32 fluorescent orange, brass

**Tail:** Small bunch of hot pink marabou

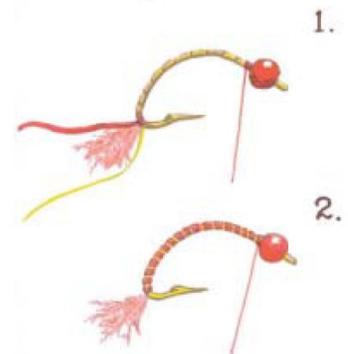
**Rib:** Fine gold wire

**Body:** Blood red Larva Lace Nymph Rib



1. Pinch the barb and slide the bead onto the hook up to the eye. Attach the tying thread at the bend of the hook. Tie in the marabou tail and the wire rib. Cut the Larva Lace at a sharp angle and tie in the point. This helps prevent bulk at the tie-in place. Wind the tying thread up to the bead, using as few wraps as possible.

2. Wrap the Larva Lace tightly up to the bead and tie off. Then wind the wire rib forward in the joints between the Larva Lace wraps. Tie off the rib. Make enough turns of the tying thread behind the bead to prevent it from slipping back down the hook shank. Whip finish and cement.



## IFFF Report By Chet Allison

### **REPLACEMENT SIGNS: Being sponsored by WSCIFFF and Local Clubs:**

A number of signs are being rworded and replaced at the lakes listed below. This should clarify some of the regulations. The cost of the new signs will be \$2329 or \$291.13 per sign. The WSCIFFF is going to ask all Washington clubs to pay \$150 towards the signs and the WSCIFFF will pay the balance of \$141.13. Many names on the sign are no longer in operation such as the Seattle Police Dept. Fly Fishing Club so the names need to be updated and the signs need replacing.

Lenice, Merry, Nunnally #1: Sponsors are FFF and **Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club**; Revised sign adds new regulation stipulating “internal combustion motors prohibited”

Lenice, Merry, Nunnally #2: Sponsors are FFF and **Puget Sound Fly Fishers**; Same revision.

Lenice, Merry, Nunnally #3: Sponsors FFF and **Wenatchee Valley FF**. Same revision.

Dusty “West”: Sponsors are FFF and **Seattle Police Department Fly Fishing Club**; Same revision.

Dusty “East”: Sponsors are FFF and **Dry Side Fly Club**; Same revision.

Lenore 2/4: Sponsors are FFF and **Overlake Fly Fishing Club**. Same revision.

Lenore 3/4: Sponsors are FFF and **Northwest Fly Fisherman**. Same revision.

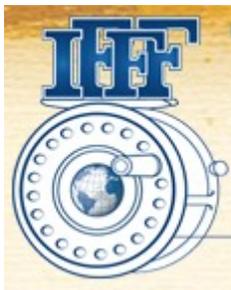
Beda: Sponsors are FFF and **Dry Side Fly Club**; Same revision.

### **YOUTH WORKSHOP 9:00am-3:PM SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2016**

You may sign up for this workshop on our registration section on our website. Go to [www.wsciff.org](http://www.wsciff.org), link onto “Fly Fishing Fair”, go to “registration” and sign up. This workshop includes lunch and a fly rod kit at the end of the event. You will be introduced to fly tying, fly casting and fly fishing techniques. The event starts at 9:00am with Mike Koslosky’s class on “March the Hatch”, at 10:00am a fly tying class with a professional fly tyer, 11:00am will be casting instruction, lunch, afternoon of casting or fly tying – your choice. I am a registered Fly Fishing Merit Badge counselor with the Pacific Harbors Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Any scouts interested in obtaining credit for requirements, please bring your own blue card for my signature for the portion you have earned. Contact informa-

**To Join IFFF simply go to the website listed.**

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



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

**The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club**  
**IFFF Charter Member and McKenzie Plaque Winner**  
The WSCIFFF 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](mailto:flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com). Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter.