The Fly Leaf

Volume 64 No 3 | Web Page: http://www.ieffc.org | **March, 2019**

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
March 12th, 2019
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
By Phil Beck

It seems that both the members who attended and the spouses (and granddaughter) of those members who joined us had a pleasant evening and enjoyed the socializing, the food, the excellent program, and a variety of raffle prizes. Special thanks to **Bob Schmitt** for general coordination and getting corsages made; to **Jon Bowne** and his wife Dana at the check -in table; to **Gordon and Mike** for the extra work with multiple raffle items; to Denny Carson of Bitterroot Net for additional custom fly boxes given at no charge; and to Wendy Springs for extra wine and champagne service and donation. I did hear that one member did not attend because his wife couldn't. The meeting was of course open to the full membership with or without a guest. As we did following last years trial "Valentines" meeting, I encourage feedback on the meeting from any and all members. On another note it was an excellent program by Landon Mayer and I am happy that, through a shared effort with Spokane Fly Fishing Club, we were able to get this national level speaker out to Spokane.

It was rewarding to have Laura Thayer from E.W.U. as a guest and hear **Jim Turner** explain the Legacy Committee's history and function and to announce to the club members present the **Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club Legacy Committee Scholarship** to E.W.U. for $1,000 @ year for 5 years. The scholarship will be offered to a junior or senior in the biology department with an endorsement for fisheries biology. Recipient selection will be by a committee headed by Dr. Paul Spruell, the Fisheries Department Chair, with another department member and an option for a club member to fill the third spot. I have offered that spot to our immediate past president **Jim Athearn**, a retired fisheries biologist himself. The funding for the scholarship will be split between the Legacy Committee and the club.

MARCH PROGRAM
David Paul Williams

David is our speaker for March with a presentation entitled ***Cutthroat Fishing in the Wilds of Idaho*** .

David has been a frequent speaker for the club and his expertise has an unmatched range. He fishes all types of water for all types of fish. This presentation is very appropriate with so many of us fishing for cutthroat in Idaho.

You won't want to miss it.

Presidents message (continued)

Both the Legacy Committee and your board feel very good about this opportunity to support the next generation of biologists who will help preserve and enhance our fisheries and develop opportunities for future conservation efforts.

I expected as I wrote the February Presidents message that I would be looking forward to some open water starting in March on local lakes. It's not going to be March 1st, but it will get here - get that gear ready and fly boxes filled. Maybe slip in a trip somewhere warm and sunny. I'm anxious to get out on the local waters!!!

The Big Horn Show is March 21-24. We'll have our booth in the same corner location as the last couple of years thanks to **Jim Athearn and Leon Buckles** and many members who will be present to teach kids to tie flies. Stop by and say hello.

See you at the March meeting!!

DID YOU KNOW
By Jerry McBride

Bill McElroy – Mountain Climber

I recently had the opportunity to sit down with Bill and learn about his adventure climbing a mountain in Argentina which at 22,841' is the highest peak in South America. It is called Aconcagua.

Back - Bill McElroy, Dan Schnell and Dave Yadon
Front - Chris Kopczynski, Dawes Eddy, Phil Camp and Henry Crawley

Bill had gone to mountaineering school, joined the Spokane Mountaineers Club and climbed a number of local peaks including Mt. Rainier when he was invited to join a group of climbers and travel to Argentina to climb Aconcagua in January 1990.

They took a bus to a ski resort on the flanks of Aconcagua which is at 7500'. A three day hike into the base camp took them to 13,500'. Mules packed their 770 pounds of climbing gear to the base camp. They then proceeded to pack their gear up to an intermediate base at 16,000'. This took multiple trips up and back down over a two day period. After another two days of packing they had their gear at the high camp at 19,000' and were ready to do the final climb to the top.

Bill made it to 21,000' and then had to go back down the mountain to a lower altitude due to altitude sickness. Out of the group of seven, three made it to the top. One of those was Chris Kopczynski who went on to climb the seven highest peaks on seven continents.

After getting down off the mountain and back to civilization Bill and one other member of the group were left with the task of getting the 770 pounds of climbing gear out to the airport for transport back to Spokane. They hailed a cab and proceeded to stuff every nook and cranny with gear. Bill didn't say what the airline charged them for extra baggage but I bet it was a lot. Overall, the trip to Aconcagua and back took about three weeks.

Bill still gets together with Chris Kopczynski and Dan Schnell every Tuesday and Thursday for walks around Spokane.

KID'S FISHING 2019
By Floyd Holmes

Kid's fishing will be held again at the Clear Lake Fairchild Air Force Base Recreation Area. The Ronald McDonald House Kid's Fishing will be on Friday, May 3rd from 2:30PM to 5:00PM. The main Kid's Fishing will be on Saturday, May 4th from 8:00AM to 4:00PM.

Volunteers for Friday should show up at the Ronald McDonald House by 1:30PM. From there we will take the bus to Clear Lake. Volunteers for Saturday should show up by 7:30AM as WDFW's Randy Osborne will want to give us instructions for the day.

In addition to the actual fishing events, we also will need volunteers for the rod building. This will be held on Tuesday, April 9th from 6:00PM to 9:00PM. This will take place at the Inland Northwest Wildlife Council Building on north Market Street.

We will have sign up sheets for these events at the next two IEFFC meetings. Make sure you check your schedule and sign up if you can help. This is a very special program for the club.

Dick Odell with a happy group of kids at Kid's Fishing Day.

BIGHORN SHOW
By Jim Athearn

See you at the Big Horn Show – The Big Horn Show runs from Thursday, March 21st, through Sunday, March 24th this year. For those who are new to the club or those who have only recently started tying, make sure you visit our booth. This show is a great opportunity for our club to share our tying and fishing knowledge with young and older folks and we encourage those not volunteering to come by, try a little tying yourself and support those tyers signed up to teach.

We will again have a corner booth that will allow for two tyers for the whole show to help teach the kids plus a demo tyer during the higher volume attendance times.

The tyers who have volunteered are **Ray Kranches, Bruce Morgan, Bob Johnson, Lee Funkhouser, Bob Schmitt, Stephen Aspinwall, Dan Lobb, Gordon Olson, Randy Shaber, Jerry McBride, Bill Papesh, Frank Faha, Bryan Harman, Skip Cavanaugh, Jon Bowne, Phil Beck, Bill McElroy and Jim Athearn.** Assisting Jim with setup and takedown is **Leon Buckles.** Thanks are in order for these volunteers.

For additional information contact Jim Athearn (299-5582, jathearn99@aol.com)

Jon Bowne with young tyer

Happy group of tyers

Ray Kranches instructing

IEFFC ADVISORY COMMITTEE SCHOLARSHIP

At the February meeting **Jim Turner**, from the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club Legacy Committee, announced the Eastern Washington University IEFFC Legacy Committee Scholarship, which will be given out to a deserving student starting this fall.

The scholarship will be a $1,000.00 amount and will be awarded to a Junior or Senior enrolled in the Biology program with a preference to those in the Fisheries Department. The Legacy Committee was pleased to have Laura Thayer, from Eastern Washington University, present at the meeting. Laura has been instrumental in setting up the scholarship.

Jim Turner and Laura Thayer

Jim Athearn will represent the IEFFC by sitting on the selection committee, along with the faculty members designated by EWU. We will invite the 2019 recipient to a fall meeting so that IEFFC members can meet and talk with the individual.

DUES, DUES, DUES

Dues are now <u>overdue</u>. Send into our post office box or bring them to the meeting. $30.00

IEFFC
P.O.Box 2926

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE HAT

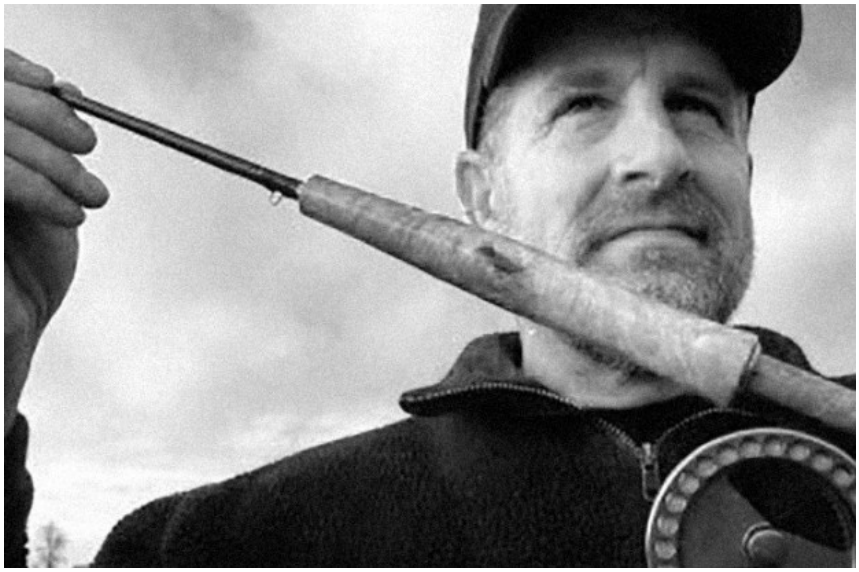
Past President **Jim Athearn** took time at the February meeting to award IEFFC artist **Stan Miller** with a Distinguished Service hat for his contribution to the new artwork on the Runje Releaser item cards and the greeting cards that were available for Christmas.

Stan has done an outstanding job of providing artwork for the club and his contributions also include paintings for awards recipients.

He is a true talent and we are lucky to have him providing this wonderful service.

Jim Athearn and Stan Miller

STEVE MORAN GO FUND ME



First, let me say that the outpouring of support for Steve has been amazing. Many of you received the email last week regarding **Steve Moran's** issue with pancreatic cancer and the response was incredible.

Steve has been an integral part of the Spokane fly fishing community for years and the IEFFC is blessed to have him as a member. Our thoughts and prayers are with Steve and his family.

The Go Fund Me page is still up and the family needs are still present. If you missed the email and are able to help, don't hesitate to use one of the links below.

https://www.silverbowflyshop.com/blog/steve-moran-gofundme/

https://www.gofundme.com/cancer-fund-for-steve-moran

ARCHIVED EDITIONS OF *The Fly Leaf*

We now have archived *The Fly Leaf* all the way back to April of 2003 on the website. The Archives can be accessed from the home page by clicking on the "View Fly Leaf Archive" button as shown below. In addition, you can use the search function by clicking on the magnifying glass and typing in a key word. Many of the articles and all of the various flies of the month are cross referenced so they can be brought up.

The Fly Leaf

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
Spokane, WA
April 8, 2003
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

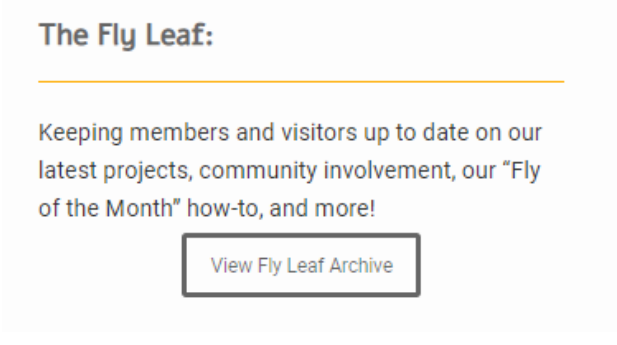
APRIL PROGRAM

NORTH SILVER

NORTH SILVER UPDATE

FISHING KIDS DAY

INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB - SPOKANE, WASHINGTON



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

ST JOE TRAIL PROJECTS
By Jerry McBride

FLY FISHING CLUBS SUPPORT TRAIL PROJECTS ON ST JOE RIVER TRAIL #48

The North Idaho Fly Casters became aware of a project on the Upper St Joe River Trail 48 in December 2016. In January 2017 the North Idaho Fly Casters and the Inland Empire Fly fishing Club provided support for the proposed renovation work in these areas.

The St. Joe River Trail 48 follows the stunningly beautiful Wild & Scenic St. Joe River above Spruce tree campground. The main interest for the North Idaho Fly Casters and the Inland Empire Fly fishing Club is the fact that it is one of the highest quality Cutthroat trout fisheries in Idaho, and this trail provides our members with access to it. It is also used by many club members interested in hiking and backpacking, and provides for back country fishing relatively close to Coeur d'Alene and Spokane.

The proposal was to find funds for replacing and installing puncheon bridges in naturally wet muddy areas on the trail. The planks were pulled and re-used as much as possible, but it was estimated the project still needed to purchase 100 planks, nails and rebar. The proposal also included funding the ID Department of Corrections Crew from Orofino for some of the work. The work helped in reducing impacts to the trail, reduce maintenance at the sites, and help protect water quality and habitat for native species that utilize this wet habitat types.

The North Idaho Fly Casters contributed five hundred dollars ($500.00) and the Inland Empire Fly fishing Club contributed two hundred and fifty dollars ($250.00) to the project that was be used for the purchase of materials. Ed Lider, conservation chair, coordinated with the U.S. Forest Service and purchased 6 boxes of 8" twisted barn nails for the project. These were delivered to the Forest service trail coordinator in the spring of 2018.

This summer the project was completed. The work replaced 5 puncheon bridges totaling about 300 feet and improved about 5 miles of connecting trails to the upper St Joe River trail (TR48).

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Skull and Bones **March 2019** **Ian Rutter**

Fishing area rivers like the North Fork of the Coeur D'Alene or the St. Joe, one is always looking for that fly that will work when the fish are surfacing, but the prey is unidentified. This small nymph can be used in combination with a small floating fly like a parachute adams, letting it break through the surface to get those feeding fish interested, or it can be used by itself when there are no rises, by fishing it two to three feet below the surface.
The fly is fairly easy to tie and will provide you with one more option on those days when the fish are tough to fool.

Hook: Any scud hook. Size 18-20

Thread: 8/0 Black

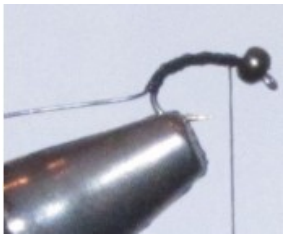
Body: Ultra Wire "Brassie", black or other colors.

Bead: Black, 2.0mm.

Wing: White Zelon or poly yarn.

Collar: Peacock Herl.

Step 1 Put the bead on the hook. Your bead should have a small hole on one side and a slightly larger hole on the other side. Be sure to thread the point of the hook through the small hole, otherwise the eye of the hook will slip inside the bead. Start you thread just behind the bead and wrap a layer of thread most of the way back to the bend of the hook, then bring the thread back up to the bead. This will help the wire tie in more securely. Tie in the wire just behind the bead and wrap thread over it all the way down to the bend of the hook. Hold the wire up as you wrap the thread to ensure it stays on top of the hook as you work your way back.



Step 2 Bring the thread almost all the way back to the bead. Wrap the wire up to the thread with tight wraps. Even though this is a basic maneuver, it can be tough when working with such a small hook and fine wire. Take your time and don't hesitate to unwrap a bit to go back and cover any large gaps. Be sure to leave about one bead's distance between the point where you stop the wire wraps and the bead. Tie in some Zelon. It doesn't take much on a fly this small so an entire hank is way too much. Use only a fraction of what is in a strand. No need to clip the wing to size just yet, but go ahead and clip any excess on the end tied down on the hook.

Step 3 Take two strands of peacock herl and clip off the weak tips. Tie the herl in from the tip end. Now as you work with the herl it will cause the fibers to flare out. Wrap the strands of peacock herl around the thread about three or four times. This will reinforce the herl and make it far more durable.

Step 4 Wrap your herl and thread around the hook twice. This should be enough to fill the gap between the wing and the bead. Unwrap any herl still twisted around your thread. It may just do it on its own. Then clip the excess herl and make a couple more wraps with the thread. Finish the fly with a series of half hitches or a whip finish. There is no reason to add any head cement since the thread will be buried under the bead and herl and glue will likely run all through your peacock and matt it down.

Fly Tying Challenge

FTG Announces Fly Tying Challenge

The Fly Tying Group is proud to announce the first Fly Fishers International Fly Tying Challenge. Open to everyone regardless of skill level. There are two Contest Age Groups; Group 1 is open to all fly tiers while Group 2 is open to Jr. Fly tiers age of 16 or under at time of entry. There are 5 categories for each group. Overall, Dry Fly, Wet Fly, Nymph/ Crustacean, Fly and Streamer. Entry deadline is June 7, 2019. Winner need not to be present. Judging will take place at Fly Fishers International Expo on July 23, 2019, University of Montana, Bozeman Montana and the winners will be announced at the President's Awards Banquet.

For information go to the following link:
https://flyfishersinternational.org/Tying/Fly-Tying-Challenge

FLY FISHING FAIR
Ellensburg

This years Fly Fishing Fair will be held in Ellensburg on May 3rd and 4th. The Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International has put together a number of activities that should make this an exciting event.

Please refer to the flyer for details.

Submissions for publication in *The Fly Leaf* can be made by contacting the IEFFC at flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter.