



NOVEMBER MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
November 12, 2019-Toys for Tots Meeting
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

NOVEMBER 12 MEETING Steelhead expert Steve Pettit

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Phil Beck

I have been happy to hear a number of reports of successful fall fishing trips by happy members, lakes and streams both; largely for trout. Congratulations to all who have enjoyed the fishing with friends, family, or solo.

I recently learned of a successful steelhead trip; 2 days on the Grande Ronde, by two members. Keith Kuester I believe out fished Lee Funkhouser hooking and landing four steelhead to Lee's two landed and two lost over their two day trip. It makes those donations for our Grande Ronde Property purchase and donation feel even more justified!

We have been involved in quite a number of service projects this year and most will be covered with an overview by our Projects Chair Jerry McBride. But I would like to single out two members who completed a special project on their own. Ladin Langeman and Steve Ronholdt agreed to help out the club by creating a professional Runje Releaser video while they filmed various segments of 'Fishing with Ladin' this summer. They very generously did so and then edited together a one minute video which people can link to from our web site. This is an effort to increase sales of Runje Releasers and demonstrate their use to help increase survival rates of released fish and keep fish wet while being released, part of our conservation efforts. Thank you Steve and Ladin. They agreed to do this without compensation so I promised to buy them each a beer. I am asking the general membership to join me and do the same. Bob Schmitt has the video on his computer and will project the video onto the flat screens.

This is our Toys for Tots meeting - please remember to bring a new toy and/or check to Toys for Tots to help out with this fine program.

Bob Schmitt will have a tier lined up for the 'wet fly hour', but plans to surprise me with who it is.

Our ambitious project to enable the purchase of an 8 acre property with approximately 2,000 feet of frontage on the Grande Ronde River for donation to WDFW is progressing VERY WELL! Some felt it couldn't be done, but with the efforts of many in I.E.F.C. and especially with the huge effort by Jim Athearn it IS HAPPENING. Thank you to all those of you who have personally donated \$7,000 as I write this and to those who have plans to donate but have not done so yet. I know of at least three or four people in that category....we can still use some more financial help. Jim will have particulars at the meeting; and please join me



You won't want to miss the November meeting. Steve Pettit will be here to tell us of his adventures over on the Kamchatka peninsula in Russia. Steve is a retired fisheries biologist from the Idaho State Fisheries

Dept. Over the past ten years he's been working with the staff of the Fisheries dept at the University of Moscow, Russia in their efforts to restore the Steelhead runs on the eastern Kamchatka. A number of rivers meander thru a tundra-like landscape and they are again full of fat Steelhead. His program consists of a 45 minute video showing the rivers and the fish. The video and discussion will be entertaining.

President's Message-continued

in a heartfelt thank you for all of his diligent and highly effective efforts on behalf of this project.

As a heads up, Matt Andersen has had hip replacement surgery and is recovering at home - best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Sadly I was down with the flu and missed October's meeting and would like to thank Bob Schmitt for covering for me. I look forward to seeing you soon for our November meeting.

NOVEMBER IS TOYS FOR TOTS

November's meeting is a time when we think of those children less fortunate. Remember to bring your cash or toy donations to the meeting. They will be transported from the meeting to the Toys For Tots warehouse to be distributed to those families in need of assistance.

Let's help the Marines help our community this holiday season.

Scouting Merit Badge Class By Jerry McBride

The IEFFC taught fly tying and the Spokane Fly Fishers (SFF) taught fly casting to 15 scouts at the Scout Store on a recent Saturday. All of the scouts got two hour's instruction on fly tying and two hours on fly casting.

IEFFC members Jerry Harms, Jerry McBride, Bruce Morgan and Bob Schmitt taught the fly tying course. When the scouts finished they had successfully tied a wet fly (Halloween Wooly Bugger) and a dry fly (Renegade) that met their Fly Fishing Merit Badge requirement.

SFF President Paul Olsen and dual IEFFC/SFF member Jon Bowne taught the fly casting course. All 15 scouts successfully passed the Fly Fishing Merit Badge requirement to cast 30 feet with an overhead cast and a roll cast.

Scout Master Bob Beer asked the scouts if they enjoyed the courses and they gave him a resounding YES!

Pictures Courtesy of Bob Beer



More anglers equals more voices for clean water, public land, and public access.

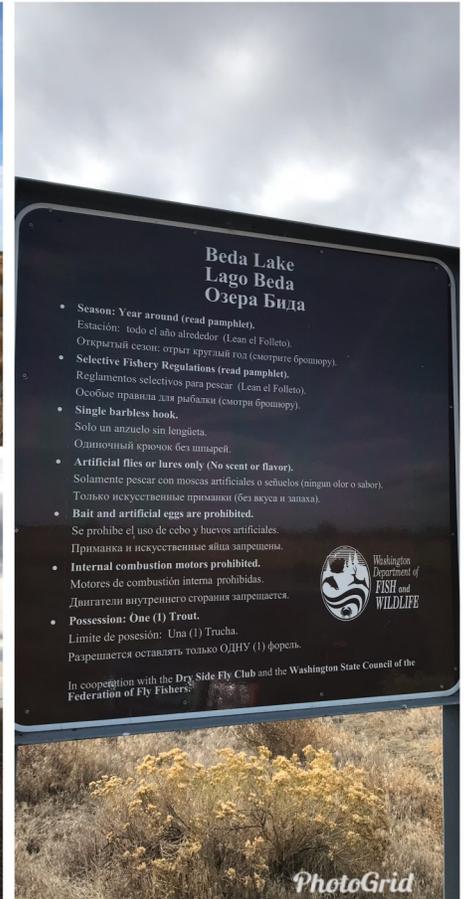
Teach a kid to protect their birthright!

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Beda Lake Rehabilitation

Many of you may remember when Beda Lake hosted a trophy fishery. Beda, located south of I-90 and west of Dodson Road, is scheduled for rehabilitation this fall. FFI, Dry Side Flyfishers, and along with a web-based group of donators (see, for example <https://www.washingtonflyfishing.com/forum/index.php?threads/151367/>) have worked with WDFW and Troutlodge to purchase fish to augment the fry to be stocked in May, 2020.

\$1650 raised will reserve about 225 1-3 pound fish, to be delivered to Beda lake in May 2020. Beda Lake photos by Stephen Cushing.



Plastics 'R' Us

There's a lot of talk about plastics in the environment, especially our waterways, today. We all know to dispose of our monofilament materials responsibly to avoid killing waterfowl and such, but how best to corral small bits of tippet? Sure, stick it in a pocket, but this is fly angling...there's got to be a gadget for it.

Here's 3: Hassle your local retailer for one. Google these and see what you like.

1: The Monomaster. A pretty slick way of storing long and short mono scraps while on the water. Looks like a little hairbrush in a container.

2: Smith Creek Spent Line Wrangler. A simple, compact, cool looking, and effective way of wrapping up junk leader material....looks like a rubber-lined money clip

3: Fishpond Piopod Microtrash Container. Just what it says, a tiny little trash can, looks like a film container. It's simple, and just large enough for line scraps.

Yeah, your pocket would work. But you need something for Christmas anyway....put one of these on your list.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Toys for Tots Bring Toys or Money to the November meeting!



Marine volunteers with our 2016 Donation

Marine volunteers with our 2018 Donation



Stan Miller has a Seagull

..and it could be yours! Just in time for the holidays: Complete and Original, ran well last time used before sitting in garage for a few years now, Turns freely , good compression. Stan believes it is the 40 plus @ 3hp. Very high original condition. Stand not included. Contact Stan at stanley-miller@comcast.net for more pics and to pick up this cool, collectible outboard!



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

March Brown

November 2019

Barry Ord Clarke

The origin of the March Brown is lost to time, having served fly anglers well since at least 1600. This simple pattern, tied in nymph, wet or soft hackle, and adult styles, imitates the early mayfly hatch in the Northwest. The species typically sheds it's larval skin underwater and comes to the top with wings exposed, so winged wets or soft hackles are what most trout feed upon. While fragile, it's easily tied using materials familiar to the inland northwest sportsman: Mallard, partridge, and hares' ear. Barry Ord Clarke has a wonderful tying video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b30FE8L60vg>

Hook – Any wet fly 1X hook, most prefer size 12 or 14 for trout
Thread – Brown, Lt. Brown, Rust, Black
Body – Dubbed fur from the ears of a hares mask, include black guard hairs
Ribbing – Oval gold tinsel
Wing – Turkey in a mottled brown
Legs – Partridge hackle
Tail – Bronze Mallard
Tip – Optional, flat gold tinsel

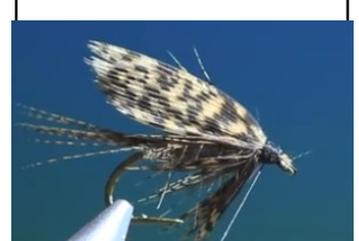
Tie in thread base to mid hook. Grab some gold tinsel, and bind down to approximately the hook bend. Tie the gold tinsel as a tip at this point if you wish. Choose about 5 mallard fibers and tie in a tail about as long as the gape of the hook.

Dub a tapered hares' ear body forward, about 3/4 of the length of the hook. Rib with remaining tinsel, about 5 or 6 even turns.

Tie in a Hungarian Partridge hackle by the tip as shown. Fold in half, and wind two or three times for "legs". A bit overlong hackle is preferred.

This will fish quite nicely as a soft hackle, But that's really not for us, now, is it?

Select two matching segments from two turkey quills. See the tip extends about to the hook bend, cinch down the turkey at the head, and trim. Whip finish. If tied in size 6, with eyes, this makes a dandy steelhead pattern.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

STEELHEAD AT 90

By Lee Funkhouser

October 9th, 2019 was a special day for IEFFC member Keith Kuester. Keith, who had recently turned 90, wanted to hit the Grande Ronde and capture a steelhead at 90 years of age. With low steelhead numbers being reported, Keith knew this was a formidable task.

The day started and the temperature was in the low 30's, but Keith was game. He started swinging a fly in 48 degree water. Most 90 year old folks would not even venture out on a day like this, but here was Keith, waist deep in the Ronde.

No takes on the swing, so he moved to the raft and our guide, Kelby Braun, pushed us through our first run a couple times. It didn't take long before Keith had a take. He hooked the steelhead and played it expertly. In less than an hour after putting in he had his steelhead in the net. Check this one off the bucket list.

The day would have been a success if that was his only fish of the day, but Keith did not stop there. Just prior to lunch, Keith hooked another fish. This one was much bigger than the first and fought hard. The fish made multiple runs and multiple jumps. Keith played him confidently and after a 20 minute fight the steelhead was in the net.

Keith wasn't through yet. The afternoon was just as busy for him as he brought two more steelhead to Kelby's net. In addition, Keith caught numerous trout and even threw in a few unmentionable species. His indicator went under so often that Kelby gave Keith a new name. He is now known as "Hoover", as he was vacuuming up every fish in the area.

Keith wanted to get a steelhead, and at 90 he showed his experience by hooking four steelhead and bringing all four to the net. A shout out also to Kelby from the Silver Bow, as he did an incredible job putting Keith on fish.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Steelhead Party and Fundraiser Grande Ronde River Parcel by Guy Gregory

Jim Athearn and others have worked on behalf of IEFFC in concert with the Washington Council of FFI, the Wild Steelhead Coalition (WSC) and individual contributors to raise funds to secure access on a part of the Lower Grande Ronde.

Jim has described this opportunity in detail at meetings, but briefly, here's the deal. By the end of 2019, IEFFC and WSCA must raise about \$16,500 more to purchase the 8 acre parcel illustrated below.

The plan is for several fishing organizations to buy the land from the owner, who is looking to sell but wants it to remain accessible to the public, and then transfer it to WDFW, securing public access of this parcel.

The parcel is located between the mouth in Hells Canyon and the county bridge a couple miles upstream. It has parking and outhouse and is known by WDFW as Ebsen 1 and 2. Map courtesy WSC.

According to Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International, the state agency has had a recreational access easement to the land since some time in the early 1980s.

But now with owner Lynn Miller wanting to sell and WDFW not having the funding to acquire it in the short term, fishing groups have been tapped.



So far, the FFI, Wild Steelhead Coalition, Inland Empire Fly Club and an anonymous donor have raised over \$15,000.

They're now spreading the word in hopes of garnering the remainder needed to make a deal. What can you do?

1: Call or email Jim or others involved for more info on how to donate through the club. Jim will have info at the November meeting.

2: Here's the link: (<http://wildsteelheadcoalition.org/2019/10/help-secure-public-fishing-access-on-the-lower-grande-ronde-river/>) Click it, read all about it, and hit the Donate Now button near the bottom of the page.

3. Attend the fundraiser with Backcountry Hunters and Anglers: November 7 at the new outdoor-themed Hunt Restaurant (225 W. Riverside) from 7-10 PM. There'll be a raffle, opportunities to donate and learn about BHA and their activities. Phil Beck and I will be there.

FLYLEAF CONTRIBUTIONS

Your input is welcome! If you have articles to contribute to the Fly Leaf, make sure you send them to the newsletter email: flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com before the last Friday of the Month! Lee and Guy will get your story, your fly of the month, whatever, into the next issue...

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington