



**INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
NOVEMBER MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2021
Wet Fly 5:30 Meeting 6:30 PM
RAMADA INN-AIRPORT
8909 W Airport Dr, Spokane, WA 99224**

**November Meeting
November 9-Ramada Inn
Tim Cammisa**

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE By Jon Bowne

The good news is we will be having a holiday raffle in December. Attendance will likely be lower than usual. You know what that means? Your tickets are twice as valuable and chances of winning better than ever. Hope you can make it but if you can't, more tickets in the bags will be mine.

Oh, and even if you can't come, you can donate items. Check with me, Gordy, or board members to arrange pick up.

The dedication of the Frank Faha access area went well in spite of unpassable wheat combines creeping along the highway. Everyone made it, but some just in time.

Jim Athearn, on behalf of the club, accepted a plaque commemorating the IEFFC being awarded a Conservation Award by the Washington Chapter of Fly Fishers International. A big thanks to Jim for spearheading the efforts that resulted in this award.

A big section of this Flyleaf is devoted to this, but a big part of this club helped make this happen. Our spearhead has a helluva spear.

At the suggestion of Jim Athearn, I am giving a President's award to Josh Mills of the Wild Steelhead Coalition. It is unusual to give this award to a non-member but Josh worked tirelessly with Jim and others to make the Frank Faha project come to fruition.

Brief message this month. Surgeries kept me off the waters until now. I hope to squeeze some piscatorial fun in before everything freezes up. Be safe. Be well. And don't lick anybody.

In this presentation, Tim Cammisa of "Trout and Feather" focuses on areas of fly fishing to improve your fishing success. Tim walks you through his own experiences employing new styles, fly fishing through the seasons, and discussing how water type selection is a critical part of catching more fish.

Tim also shares some of his favorite flies, including the pattern that caught his largest brown trout while in Iceland this summer. Be ready to learn lots, as the presentation is



Meeting information

Watch your email as the meeting date approaches. Again we'll:

- ◆ Requesting you confirm attendance at the meeting prior to coming so as to arrange dinner, and
- ◆ Providing a Zoom link for those who cannot attend.

Lowell Tveit

Past President and Fly Fisherman of the Year Lowell Tveit passed away October 27, 2021. Funeral services are scheduled for 2 pm November 9, 2021 at Thornhill Valley Chapel, located at S.1400 Pines Rd Spokane Valley. We'll pass along other information as it is available, please see within for remembrances.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Toys for Tots 2021

By
Jerry McBride

Our club has contributed toys and money to Toys for Tots since 2009. Every November at the general meeting our members have generously brought in toys they purchased and made cash donations for this program that is sponsored by the United States Marine Corps.

Last year due to COVID-19 we were not able to have a November general meeting so we asked members to send checks to our Treasurer. We learned two things. First, our members are exceedingly generous. We raised \$1665. Second, the logistics of going with a monetary contribution were much simpler than past years where a bunch of toys had to be delivered.

I am sure there is just as much of a need to provide toys for kids that might not get anything otherwise as there was last year.

This year we are going to do the same as last year. As a member of the IEFFC you can help out by writing a check and sending it to our treasurer Bob Johnson.

If you would like to help out here is what you need to do:

1. Make out a check payable to the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club with a notation indicating it is for Toys for Tots.
2. Mail the check no later than December 1, 2021 to:

Bob Johnson
Treasurer, IEFFC
728 S. Grady Rd.
Spokane Valley, WA 99016

Note: If you are planning on attending the November meeting you can give the check to Bob at that time.

Bob will add up the donations and get a check to Toys for Tots the first full week of December.

Just for laughs



Through mostly grunts and exaggerated gestures, two fishermen/gatherers attempt to communicate.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Lowell Tveit-The Hands-On Guy

Lowell Tveit passed away on October 27, 2021. Many of you are sharing remembrances of Lowell on an email chain, he was clearly a beloved friend and angling companion. **Don Chinn wrote the following biography in 2004.**

Lowell Tveit went through the chairs of the IEFFC and served as President in 1993. He participated in many club projects including the Morning Star Boys Ranch fish-out, Browns Lake creek spawning channel restoration and viewing platform, youth programs presented to Physical Education students in local schools, Amber Lake fish spawning, and the Christmas Raffle. In the 2003 December meeting Lowell was presented with Fly Fisherman of the Year – our most prestigious award.

Tveit is of Norwegian decent born and raised in Yankton, (where the hell is Yankton?) South Dakota, graduating from South Dakota State College with a major in Wildlife Conservation and a minor in Education. He and his wife Karolyn and their first-born son, moved to Rathdrum, Idaho to begin his 32-year career in teaching. A year at EWU satisfied the 5th year education requirement and additional work led to a Master's Degree in Education at Gonzaga University. Cheney Junior High School was the setting for the majority of Lowell's teaching; there he introduced Graphic Arts into the Industrial Arts program. Various forms of printing including screen-printing, letterpress, and offset as well as photography were offered.

In 1995 Lowell retired from teaching and immediately assumed a sales position with a local company and traveled parts of Washington, North Idaho, and Montana selling remanufactured auto engines. He retired permanently in 2001.

Lowell became involved very early in the organization of the Spokane Fly Fishers and served on the board and committees for several years. The challenges and frustrations associated with the struggling new club became too much, and he went inactive. Don Chinn remembers meeting Lowell on McDowell Lake as they fished from float tubes. Don asked him if he would be interested in joining the IEFFC. He came as Don's guest and became a member in 1987.

Camp Delany was the site for several Fly Fishing Schools conducted by the late Ron Severson and Don Chinn back in 1988 and 1989. Lowell helped Ron with feeding the participants and kitchen chores in making the weekend a success. Brian Chan and Irv Ross were guest speakers for our gatherings and introduced us to the ideas of chironomid fishing. Their long-line, chironomid technique, which they still use very effectively, was very new to us, and it certainly had its skeptics. These early encounters helped stir Lowell's imagination and interest in chironomid fishing.

The opportunity to join Les Johnson's group and fish the Sea of Cortez for Sailfish and Dorado proved too great to pass up and Lowell traveled each summer to Loreto, Mexico for 10 years with his partner Paul Palmer. The size, power and speed of the saltwater species are often a multiple of 10 of freshwater fish and a real test of the fisherman and his equipment.

After a hiatus, Lowell's interest in archery hunting was rekindled. He headed to the field with the same zest and vigor that he demonstrates when he heads out fishing. To date he has successfully harvested the following animals: A black bear in Saskatchewan, Canada, A Pope and Young antelope in Wyoming, A moose in Alberta, Canada, an elk in Idaho and a turkey in Washington. He is not done yet! He has his sights on getting a caribou and a Sitka Blacktail deer in the future.



Lowell Tveit-The Hands-On Guy (continued)



In 2006, Lowell and Leon Buckles traveled to Wyoming in pursuit of four species of cutthroat, the Colorado, the Bonneville, the Snake River Fine-spot and the Yellowstone. Lowell proudly displays the certificate issued to him by Wyoming Fish and Game Department upon completing the Wyoming Cutthroat Slam, aka The Cowboy Slam.

The hands-on aspect is foremost to Lowell's involvement in fly-fishing as well as other activities. He ties all of his flies, has built many of his rods, designed and built landing nets, wooden rod cases and wading staffs. An interest in boats prompted the design and construction of a Cedar Strip solo canoe. The restoration of his 1955 Larson boat that

belonged to his dad is a particular source of pride and many compliments.

Tveit is a gifted innovator when it comes to problem solving. When it comes to working on club projects – he is always there. He rolls up his sleeves, pitches in and frequently solves what might seem to be an insurmountable problem.

Lowell and Karolyn have four children and 7 grandchildren all living in Spokane. Karolyn recently retired from Spokane Community College Nursing program where she taught for 23 years. Karolyn is an avid traveler having made trips to Europe, Middle East, Far East and Africa. Both are young for their years and they continued to pursue their interests as long as possible.

Jerry Mc Bride writes, on October 27, 2021:

Just this morning I got word that Lowell Tveit had passed away.

Losing Lowell prompted me to think about him and all the days



he and I spent travelling and fishing together over the years. Lowell had many outstanding qualities and was accomplished in a number of different areas.

He was:

- An accomplished wood worker. He could just about make anything out of wood. Lowell took a dingy that had been used and abused and restored it to better than new condition. It literally was a work of art that could be hung up in a museum. Pretty much every year Lowell donated something he had crafted to the Christmas Raffle.



Lowell Tveit tributes

- A great cook. When we went on a trip Lowell would plan the menu, bring all the food and do all the cooking. I would do the cleanup. Great cooks make a hell of a mess to cleanup! A lot of the time he made everything from scratch. One of the best meals we ever had was at Hebgen Lake in Montana. Lowell invited Stephen and Patti Aspenwall for dinner. The menu included a rainbow trout caught that day cooked on the barbecue plus side dishes and of course, lots of wine. Delicious!
- An accomplished and innovative fly tier. He tied everything from tiny chironomids to huge salt water flies. On several occasions his flies saved the day for us. One day on Lenice the fish were being especially reluctant to bite until Lowell got out his bronze colored chironomid. Another time at Dragon Lake in BC his purple Bionic Worm saved the day.



Lowell, Scott Fink, Tom May, Mike Garofano

opportunity to listen to Lowell and a friend who owns a printing business talk shop. I was very impressed with Lowell's knowledge.

- A determined man. Another way to put it was he was very stubborn. If something wasn't working you just had to try harder. As Lowell related to me, his family had the saying "there is the right way and the Tveit way". A little over a month after knee replacement surgery Lowell was down on the Grand Ronde wading out to fish for steelhead. Ill advised? Probably, but that was Lowell. On one of his stays on the Ronde he went almost a month before catching a steelhead. One day on Hebgen Lake I lost count of the number of fish I had caught while Lowell tried one after another of his flies without success. He finally very reluctantly accepted one of my flies and caught some fish.

Regarding his determination, **Mark Pinch recalls** "At breakfast time, No one ever got between Lowell and his Sausage Egg McMuffin. An early trip to McD's and he was ready to go for the day. There was no quit in that man. He always wanted to go on the next trip, no matter what. His latest love affair was with Pyramid Lake. Not an easy drive in your late 80s. His friend, Scott, from Denver would meet him there. With his compromised lungs, Lowell could not get up the bank from the lake. So Scott would tie a long rope to his bumper then throw the rope down to Lowell. Lowell would grab the rope and Scott would back the truck up slowly. No quit in that man.,

- A great host. Lowell's trailer served as headquarters on many of our trips, mostly to Lenice and Chopaka lakes. Many a happy hour and lots of meals were hosted by Lowell in his trailer. For many years Lowell would park his trailer on the Grand Ronde for a month in the fall. He put out the word to club members that they were welcome to stay with him and many did.

- He loved and honored his dad. Lowell had a Larson boat that was originally his father's boat just as my Larson (Queen Mary) was originally my dad's. We shared the satisfaction that in a way we had our fathers with us on a day on the water in our boats.

- A printing expert. Lowell taught printing in the Cheney school system. One time I had the



Sixteen Tons by Jerry McBride

To quote Tennessee Ernie Ford:

“You load sixteen tons and what do you get? Another day older and deeper in debt.”

On Monday, May 24, 2021 a work crew comprised of Dan Dzieken from WDFW, four members of the Spokane Fly Fishers and four IEFFC members spread and compacted 16 tons of crushed rock at the Amber Lake boat launch. In addition, a large rock that was in the water alongside the launch was moved so there will be less of a chance of hitting it while launching or taking out.

IEFFC and SFF split the cost of the crushed rock and the rental of a plate compactor. IEFFC provided donuts and coffee at break and lunch for the crew. We originally thought it would take four hours to get the job done. It actually took two hours.



Work Crew (l. to r.) : Dan Dziekan (WDFW), Brian Soth, Pat Kelley, Mike James and Mike Cook (SFF), Guy Gregory, Lee Funkhouser, John Bennett and Jerry McBride (IEFFC).



To answer Tennessee Ernie Ford’s question, we got a much improved launch that everyone can use to launch their boat.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Faha-Ebsen Access Site on the Grande Ronde Dedicated By Lee Funkhouser



A large group gathered on October 15th to dedicate the Frank Faha-Ebsen Fishing Access Site near the mouth of the Grande Ronde River. The group included numerous members of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. Among those present were the many members who generously donated to the project and IEF-FC member **Jim Athearn**, who was the project lead.

Members of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife were present as well as officers of the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International to make the dedication. A monument honoring IEF-FC member **Frank Faha** and a monument honoring the monetary commitment of numerous individuals and groups was unveiled at the ceremony.

The acquisition of this property was an example of extreme cooperation by numerous caring individuals and those involved are to be commended. The IEF-FC was joined by the Wild Steelhead Coalition in a partnership that worked closely with WSDFW and WSCFFI to make this access site a reality. Numerous individuals and groups contributed to the purchase of the land, many of the individuals being members of the IEF-FC.

Another key person who made a huge contribution to the Grande Ronde project was **Mark Pinch**. Without his technical knowledge and guidance on the real estate aspects of the project, we would have not been able to pull this off. He was always there to answer questions and look over our shoulders to make sure we were squared away with the all the intricacies of the real estate transactions.

A special thanks to the following IEF-FC members donating to the acquisition: **Jim Athearn, Leon Buckles, Bob Burton, Keith Kuester, Hubert Langenhorst, Bill Papesch, Mark Pinch, Chet Allison, Doug Arndt, John Bennett, Scott Fink, Jerry Harms, Bob Johnson, Jerry McBride, Jim McDevitt and Randy Shaber.**

Included in those present at the dedication were members of Frank Faha's family, including his wife Gayle, pictured here.



Attendees assembled at the dedication gathering



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Access Site Awards to Jim Athearn and the IEFFC

At the Faha Ebsen Access dedication ceremony, Jim Athearn received the “Regional Director’s Award” from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for his work on Faha-Ebsen project.

Jim worked closely with Josh Mills of the Wild Steelhead Coalition, Bob Dice, Chris Donley, Greg Heingartner, Jerrod Ploof and Jeremy Trump to successfully purchase the land for public access to the Grande Ronde River. Jim’s dedication to this project was key in making it a success. As stated on the plaque “For your dedication and persistence in procuring funds to purchase the Ebsen property and in your subsequent donation to WDFW. Your efforts have secured public fishing access at this popular site in perpetuity. Thank you!”

We all know how hard Jim worked on this project and this award is certainly well deserved. Congratulations.

FFI Club Conservation Award

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club of Spokane wins the Club Conservation Award for 2021 for its outstanding leadership acquiring and permanently conserving 8 acres of public fishing access on the Grand Ronde River. Known as the Ebsen Fishing Access site, the private lot had been operated by WDFW for public use for years.

When the Inland Empire club learned the owner wanted to sell but WDFW was unable to purchase the site, the Inland Empire Club moved swiftly to create a partnership with the Wild Steelhead Coalition and put down earnest money to keep the land off the market. Inland Empire then swiftly reached out to the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International for help raising the cash to finance the purchase.

Thanks to the hustle of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club of Spokane, the partnership of Seattle’s Wild Steelhead Coalition and the generosity of fly fishers statewide, eight acres of prime river access are permanently in public hands.

Special credit goes to Inland Empire member Jim Athearn (see above) who was at the center of every step in the transaction, and club President Jon Bowne who kept the club squarely behind the effort.

Credit also goes to landowners Lynn “Radar” Miller and his wife Kay. The couple has admired the rugged Grande Ronde for years and wanted future generations to enjoy it as well.

The Inland Empire club put up \$2,000 in earnest money to secure the land. The Wild Steelhead Coalition pledged another \$2,000 to launch fundraising. More than a dozen clubs and individuals –most of them affiliated with the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International and many of them members of the IEFFC— donated \$30,000 that covered the purchase price and legal fees surrounding the transfer to state control.

Donors included eight Washington fly clubs; the Spokane Fly Fishers, Evergreen Fly Fishing Club, Puget Sound Fly Fishers, Columbia Basin Fly Fishers, Northwest Fly Anglers, Clark Skamania Flyfishers, Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers, Dry Side Fly Fishing Club and the Kelly Creek Fly Casters of Lewison, Idaho. In addition, the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International donated and two national organizations pitched in, the national board of Fly Fishers International and Back Country Hunters and Anglers.

“There was regional support for this,” said Jim Athearn. “Now it will be a regional asset forever.”

Steve Jones, President of the Washington State Council of FFI was present at the Faha-Ebsen Fishing access site dedication to present the award to the club.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Images from the Faha-Ebsen Access Ceremony



Jim with the WDFW Regional Director's Award for 2020



Jim accepts the 2021 FFI Club Conservation Award from FFI President Steve Jones



Jim and President Emeritus Leon Buckles

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Bloody Butcher

November, 2021

Mr. Moon

In honor of Halloween, this month we present another historic fly, one of the Butcher series invented by a Mr. Moon in England over 150 years ago. A typical wet fly, it survives because it is easy to adapt to conditions and is effective for a lot of species in lots of different water. My wife brought me back a couple of these ties from the UK a couple years ago, and I've used them in lakes with slow hand twist retrieve deep, and in streams fishing like a typical wet fly. On the swing, trolling, or otherwise it's a nice attractor, and worth a tie or two. You'll have evidence big fish like little fish. There's a nice video with some innovative wing ideas to replace the fragile duck wing here: <https://fridaynightflies.com/friday-night-flies-bloody-butcher-fly/>

Hook: Gamakatsu SL45 Size 6 or your favorite nymph hook Size 6 – 14
Thread: 7/0 Danville Black
Tail: Red Hackle fibers
Body: Gold (or silver) Micro Flat Braid w/ Uni Oval Tinsel Small Silver Rib
Throat: Red Hackle Fibers
Wing: Blue Mallard Wing Feathers.



Tie in a thread base on your hook, and tie down some red saddle hackle for the tail, about as long as the body.

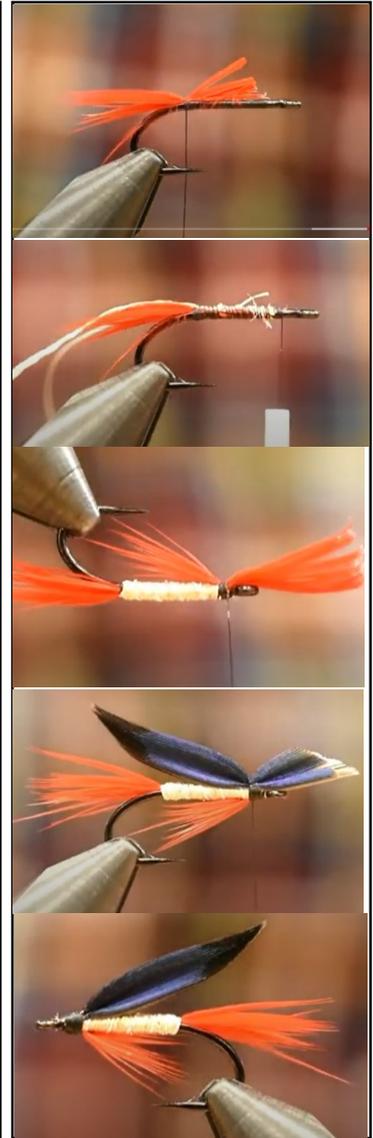
Tie in the rib material, and then the flat braid. Advance the thread forward to about 1/3 the way behind the head, tying down the excess braid and rib underneath. Make sure stuff stays flat.

Bring the flat braid forward and tie in, and then rib with about 5 wraps of the oval tinsel.

Tie in a bit of red saddle using a pinching loop technique to give a red throat to the fly. Tie up the head a bit just to smooth it out.

Select a matched left-right pair of mallard wing feathers, seeking out the blue phase. Cut out similar sections from the feathers, keep them paired together. Using a pinching loop again, set the wing section and pull straight down on the feather to set the wings.

Form a nice head, whip finish and cement.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Regional Fishing Reports

Idaho:

North Idaho streams settled into a typical fall pattern, but the lovely autumn weather has extended the usual season much to the delight of we anglers. Mahoganys, October caddis, and Blue-Winged Olive hatches proceeded through their usual succession. Some days worked nicely for dry fly action, while as usual the soft-hackle and nymph folks landed more fish. Streamers have worked nicely in the bigger holes.

The Coeur d'Alene road is open again, and the St. Joe road closure above Avery is rumored to be clear. As always this time of year, if you're going over the top, be prepared for snowy and muddy conditions on the Idaho-Montana Divide.



A number 12 trout, fooled by a number 14 parachute.

Wild fish rule!

Washington

The nice fall weather has translated to nice angling here in Washington. One correspondent noted a multi-fish day on a tribal lake using small water boatman patterns. Again, typical fall patterns are what you're looking for: terrestrials, small mayflies and their various stages, and streamers offering a big meal. I have no idea what the chironomid guys use this time of year, probably chironomids.

A nice rainbow comes to net



FFI Happenings

Don't Miss The FFI Virtual Expo!

Our first-ever Virtual Expo is coming up November 5-7. The FFI Virtual Expo brings all the workshops, experiences, knowledge, and community of our annual Expo to a digital platform.

Over the course of the three-day event you'll find casting and fly tying demonstrations, conservation presentations, fly fishing skills workshops, discussions on travel and destinations, and so much more. A \$25 registration fee grants you access to the Expo, with some workshops requiring an additional fee.

Virtual Expo attendance will be capped at 1,500, so don't delay in getting your spot reserved.

Mark your calendars, registration opened Monday, August 16th, check the schedule and register here:

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Virtual-Expo>

Wild Steelhead Coalition Fundraiser

Josh Mills is hosting an online auction to raise money for Steelhead restoration, in the model of the successful fly auctions of the recent past. **Get on Instagram, and look for #fliesforsteelhead.** Many auctions: trips by guides, flies and fly boxes/wallets, rods, reels and other equipment are up for acquisition from many sources: Patagonia, Simms, Winston, many pro and semi-pro tiers, all to benefit Wild Steelhead restoration.

IEFFC Officers and Board of Directors

President: Jon Bowne
Vice President: Rich Semler
Treasurer: Bob Johnson
Secretary: Denny Carson
Matt Anderson (2021)
Doug Brossoit (2022)
Jerry Harms (2023)

Membership Committee Chair: Steve Dixon

Contact information for all Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs are in the 2020/2021 Roster. If you've inquiries, email flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com

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