



INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB

DECEMBER MEETING

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Wet Fly 5:30 Meeting 6:30 PM

RAMADA INN-AIRPORT

8909 W Airport Dr, Spokane, WA 99224

Presidents' Message

By
Denny Carson

Hello Gentlemen, Happy holidays!

I Hope everyone has had a chance to get some fishing in before the winter weather set in this month. I snuck out for a day on the upper North Fork with Bryan H. and my son Cameron.

The river seem to be devoid of the usual mix of sizes 6-16, the only fish we caught were 16-18,,, ok well, the only fish Bryan caught that is. Cameron and I both struggled looking for cutthroats in the usual flows while Bryan was finding success in the deeper slack water slots.

The December meeting will be awesome as usual. As you all know, we are having our annual Christmas Raffle this month with the opportunity to come home with some very cool gear and maybe even a trip for the new year.

December will also be the final meeting for me as your club president. I want to say thank you for letting me be your president and have enjoyed the chance to get to know many more of my fellow club members. I have a much better feel for what it takes to run the club that we all enjoy.

I ask all of our members to ask themselves if they are doing all that they could to help this club continue to carry on the traditions and conservation goals that this club were founded on.

The duties of president for 2023 will be carried out by Doug Brossoit. I fished with Doug after the Bailey Lake clean-up and found him to be an all-around great guy and fisherman. I have no doubt that our club will be in good hands in the coming year. Tightlines, Denny

December Program The Christmas/Holiday Raffle!

Our annual Christmas/Holiday Raffle is again happening during our December 13, 2022 Club meeting. This event is members-only where we have the opportunity to obtain great fishing related items. Your Raffle Committee headed by Gordon (Santa) Olson works all year to find items to purchase or have been donated...all to give you a chance at winning in the bag raffle or bid on at the small silent auction. All profits go to fund Club activities.

However, the majority of the items that make the raffle profitable for the Club come from you, the Club member. Your donated items along with items from vendors like fly fishing



shops and guides really give us the ability to raise funds for our Club projects and other actions.....Kid's Fishing, Bayley Lake, you name it.

We already have procured the donated stay at Hill's Resort at Priest Lake again.

Some great trips are on the block this year!

- Go with Bryan Harman on another spectacular float or wade trip to a regional stream.
- Catch up with Mark Pinch and go on a hunt for lunker trout in area lakes this spring.
- Go on a float trip on the Yakima with Mark Meyocks.

All the above trips are on a to-be-arranged basis, so when you both can go, you go...

Fun Night Ahead

By
The Holiday Raffle Committee (continued)

If you've another trip, get hold of Gordy, because we are still looking for donated fishing trips from our members or discounted trips from the fishing guides that you know.



So if you have a chance, please make contact with the guides you use in Washington, Idaho, Canada, and Montana to see if they will donate a trip or a 2 for 1 to benefit our efforts in this region!

Also, many of our Club members are expert fly tiers. They have historically donated boxes of select flies to our Holiday Raffle/Auction for all to try to win. And what a win they are, whether a box of sure thing flies, or a framed fly for your tying area, you'll get a great prize for a small donation.

Most of the items that are donated are fly fishing related items, but some members stretch their imagination and give things like wine and booze. (Ed. Note: There is no question. Scotch is fly fishing related.)

And that extra rod in a weight you don't fish, that pair of wading shoes your daughter bought you in the wrong size, the sling pack you don't need or the nearly new net that just doesn't fit with your kit....get it in the auction! I'm talking to you, Mr. Line Collector. There'll be at least one Spey rod in the raffle this year. The Committee asks that you donate new or very gently used items to attract the most traffic.



If you can, please contact Chair Gordon Olson (509-467-6944) or Stephen Aspinwall (509-220-0635) ahead of the December meeting to donate your items, but of course you can also bring them to the Ramada on the night of the Holiday Raffle.

We will see you at the December 13 Club meeting! Remember to bring a lot of cash and your check book to buy your \$1 tickets or bid on silent auction items so you can have the opportunity for great goodies!

RSVP for that Holiday Raffle and Dinner

Keep your eyes open for the December request to confirm...we need an accurate count of attendees for supper and seats. Your assistance helps us keep costs down.

Just a quick reply is all that's needed, thanks!

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Toys for Tots

Our Toys for Tots drive was a great success this year, as it has been in the past. We were able to bring in several toys and we also had \$1,840.00 donated by club members. The IEFEC board voted to add \$160.00 to the collected amount so we can give the Toys for Tots program a total of \$2,000.00 to help make Christmas a brighter time for families in need.



Toys for Tots is celebrating its 75th year and it has been a huge operation in the Spokane area. Under the direction of Toys for Tots Coordinator Jim Brown, the charity last year gave out almost 40,000 toys and helped nearly 10,000 children have a Merry Christmas.

We were fortunate to have two representatives from Toys for Tots at our November meeting, including Coordinator Jim Brown. They do such a great job, and we are thankful to be a part of this valuable effort. **Thank you all for your generous donations!!**



Dave Whitlock passes

Dave Whitlock, one of the most important figures in the history of modern fly fishing passed away on Nov. 24, 2022, succumbing to a significant stroke he suffered at his home on Thanksgiving night.

“It breaks my heart to let you know that we lost Dave last night to a massive stroke,” his wife Emily wrote on the couple’s social media account. “He was working on his boat next to our casting pond when it hit, and was flown to Tulsa for care. But he broke the tippet and drifted gently back to the deep water, the wild that he loved and spent a lifetime exploring, writing and painting about.



“We shared 30 wonderful years together and I was able to see, firsthand, the huge mark he made on our sport. He was so honored when Fly Fisherman magazine recently named him as one of four greats that make up the Mt. Rushmore of fly fishing. But I think he left an even bigger mark on those who knew him and who got to share a river with him. The shimmering leap of a trout, the heavy pull of a large-mouth or the feisty dance of a bluegill were things that he dearly loved, made his heart race and brought out his big smile...every time!”

- adapted from Fly Fisherman magazine website

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

2022 Projects Committee Report By Jerry McBride, Projects Chair

Our club completed all of the projects that were planned for 2022 and managed to do some more on one project. The cost of the projects came in within budget.

Medical Lake Signs – A new sign including the frame to hold it was installed in the Medical Lake City Park on the south end of the lake. The new sign is more pictorial in nature which we hope will get more people to follow the fishing rules. We partnered with the Spokane Fly Fishers on this project. They paid half of the cost of the sign and two of their members helped install the sign. As a bonus, we were able to replace the two existing signs at the lake with the new pictorial style sign.



Fin Clipping – We had members volunteer for both days of fin clipping at the Spokane Hatchery. Our club has done this for many years and it is a huge boost for the hatchery.

Bayley Lake Spawning Channel Cleanout - This was done again this year. Our club has done this project pretty much every year for a long time. Much heavier grass growth was encountered this year than usual, but the crew persevered and the job was done. When run-off starts to flow into Bayley Lake in the spring the fish will have a place to spawn and then return to the lake. If the fish couldn't spawn they would die. This effort gives us more large fish in the lake to fish for.



Volunteer for a project when you see it come up. It's a great deal of fun, and its rewarding because our work has on-the-ground results you can see right away! You'll likely make new friends as well.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Forest Service, Trout Unlimited launch anticipated \$40M restoration initiative

On Nov. 16, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service announced it will provide up to \$40 million to Trout Unlimited as part of a five-year agreement to improve watersheds on national forests and grasslands – home to many of America's most important trout and salmon species. Projects include clean-up of abandoned mines and removing barriers to improve fish passage, as well as stream habitat improvements.

"Our agreement with Trout Unlimited continues our joint success as stewards of national forests and grasslands," said Forest Service Chief Randy Moore. "Our partnership is not just about cleaning a stream or increasing fish population. It's life sustaining work that is as vital to aquatic species as it is to people and communities. When our natural resources are healthy, we are healthy as a nation and as individuals."

TU CEO Chris Wood added "This agreement builds on a long and productive partnership between the Forest Service and Trout Unlimited. Together over the years, we have already restored more than 400 miles of important fish habitat, reconnected more than 700 miles of habitat by removing barriers to fish migration, and improved hundreds of thousands of acres of National Forest System lands. We are excited to continue and expand on this work over the coming years."



Caddisflies Use What They Have



Caddisfly larvae build protective cases using materials they find in their environment. Artist Hubert Duprat supplied his with gold leaf and precious stones. This is what they made.

—From <https://www.cabinetmagazine.org/issues/25/duprat.php>

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Phil's Oddly Hot Midge

December, 2022

Phil Beck

Phil says: I tied this initially this fall looking for a small fly to use on still or slow moving water when small may's or midges were hatching. The red wing was inspired by a comment I read indicating wing color on duns got darker as they began mating. I gave a couple of these flies to Lee during Liar's club prior to one of his late summer trips to the Joe, and his report upon returning was pretty amazing...big fish, slashing takes, and lots of 'em! Odd numbered hook, oddly hot results!

Hook: Tiemco 102Y, **Size 19**

Thread: 8/0 Black

Body: Spirit River "Fine + Dry" Dubbing, permanently waterproofed, Black

Wing: Red Antron

Hackle: Dun, tied parachute

Tie in some red antron as you would any parachute post wing. A bit of super glue keeps the material where you want it, and then wrap the post in preparation for hackling later.

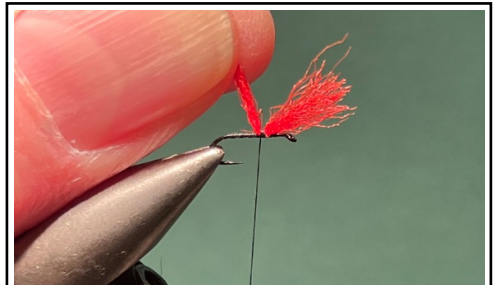
The size 19 hook is unusual, to say the least. But it's advantage over a 20 is the larger hook gape, which I think helps hookups.

A bit oversize dun colored hackle tied in prior to body dubbing. Another drop of super glue helps here with durability.

Grab that Spirit River dubbing. It's permanently waterproofed, which keeps it on top. It's also real fine, which helps with flies in these small sizes. Note: no tail on this fly, and no taper to the body....A nice chunky profile, even in this small size, represents a meal worth the effort.

Wind that hackle around the wing post. 2-3 wraps does the trick, and then tie down the end. Top off with a small whip finish

Parachutes are always tricky to trim, especially in this small size. Carefully trim the excess hackle or hackle barbs that hang too low. Apply a drop of your favorite cement to the final wraps. A little dab is plenty.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FFI Happenings

The FFI Webpage has several really cool resources for fly anglers.

For you tiers, the FFI Fly tying group has links to lots of information to learn new or enhance your current skills, a newsletter where you can share information, and a comprehensive video library of tying patterns, skills, and materials. Their Fly of the Month for November demonstrates a quick and easy parachute technique which is pretty cool. <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Get-Involved/Fly-Tying-Group>

For those interested in casting, their Fly Casting Library contains lots of videos illustrating every element of the cast, from fundamentals to specific techniques for roll casting, changing direction, wind adjustments and other things. You really good guys can seek Fly Casting Instructor status, too....<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Learn/Learning-Center-Resources/Fly-Casting>

Have you a project idea?

Our intrepid Projects Committee and leader Jerry McBride is looking for a few good things to do. Since Covid, lots of clubs and other volunteer groups have gone into hibernation. There's enhancements that were deferred, and there's got to be new stuff to fix along with some things that have needed fixing for a while. Well, we're up and running, so let's kickstart our club with some things to do.

If you've a favorite angling location that needs signage, some vegetation maintenance, a little light grading, write it down and tell us. If a team of hardworking retirees could drive there, do the work, and maybe fish a bit in a day, we're interested, and if it needs a few bucks for stuff, we can likely tackle that. If there's a group of folks that could benefit from an afternoon of instruction or companionship, bring that idea, too. We've experience with everything from regrading parking lots to helping out with Kids Fishing, and we think we can do more. Get your ideas to Jerry, and we'll get a list going for the next year and figure out how best to get it done. Then, be sure to sign up when the call for volunteers comes around...meet, work, and fish with Club Members! It's Great!

IEFFC Officers and Board of Directors

President: Denny Carson
Vice President: Lee Funkhouser
Treasurer: Bob Johnson
Secretary: Jerry Harms
Jim Athearn (2024)
Doug Brossoit (2022)
Bob Schmitt (2023)

Membership Committee Chair: Bob Schmitt

Contact information for all Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs are in the 2022 Roster. If you've inquiries please email us at: 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