The Fly Leaf

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Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
Tuesday, October 10th, 2023
Wet Fly Hour 5:30pm
Dinner 6:30pm
Spokane Airport Ramada Inn

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
By Doug Brossoit

Hi Everyone,

When I first joined the club back in the early 90's, I had only been fly fishing for about 6-7 years. I had heard about the IEFFC from a friend and I think **Gene Lorenson** may have invited me to a meeting, but I honestly don't remember for sure.

I was full of enthusiasm and volunteered for several projects that took place on the weekend so as not to interfere with my dental practice. I didn't really know anyone and at that time, I wasn't all that much of an extrovert. In the early 90's, I took over the membership chairman position and I found that I enjoyed welcoming new members more than I expected!

Early in my role, I was challenged with coming up with some new name badges for all our members and I recall getting permission from Gene Lorenson to use one of his Rainbow Trout watercolors to make the name badges we use today. Those experiences helped me to feel more relaxed and get to know many of our long time members.

My early friendships with Gene and **Ray Kranches**, and many others, allowed me to partake in some of the greatest fishing adventures of my life.

Soo..."the rest of the story" ...is to look for ways to help out our club, because you don't know what the future holds for you or for those you may have helped. We touch so many lives in ways we can't imagine, ways that may have had a positive influence well beyond their fly fishing.

Get out there and make some more fishing memories with your friends!!

Doug

OCTOBER PROGRAM
David Paul Williams

Columbia Basin Smallmouth and Coffeepot Lake:

Double Your Fun

First thing to understand about smallmouth bass—they are not trout. David Paul Williams, "the acknowledged northwest master of smallies of the fly," teaches the essentials of how to catch smallmouth bass on the fly. He covers how to and where to catch these superb fighting fish in the Columbia Basin and the Columbia River. But wait, there's more. Coffeepot Lake's spectacular setting, is home to hard-fighting rainbow and largemouth bass. David will give up the goods on how to catch both species.

David Paul Williams has written for *American Angler*, *Fly Fisherman*, *Northwest Fly Fishing*, *Southwest Fly Fishing, American Fly Fishing, Eastern Fly Fishing, Fly Fusion, Bassmaster*, *Fly Fishing & Tying Journal* and *Game & Fish* magazines and wrote the book on smallmouth bass, *Flyfishing for Western Smallmouth*. He writes the Good-Gear Guide at good-gear-guide.blogspot.com and is the former Editor-In-Chief of *Flyfisher* and Department Editor at *Flyfishing & Tying Journal.* He gives entertaining media presentations to clubs and organizations on carp, smallmouth bass, saltwater beach fishing, panfish and alpine trout. Also known for his simple, yet effective fly patterns, he has been fly fishing since he was ten years old.

HUCKLEBERRY CAMPGROUND OPEN
BLM Notification

Huckleberry Campground on the St. Joe River is now open again. The electrical work is finished and there is still time to make a trip down to fish the river.

Fall is an excellent time to fish the St. Joe and the reopening of Huckleberry should free up some camping space in other area campgrounds. Sites have been tough to come by this year.

Reservations can be made by going to Recreation.gov.

BAYLEY LAKE SPAWNING CHANNEL
By Jerry McBride

There is still an opportunity to join the group working on the Bayley Lake spawning channel.

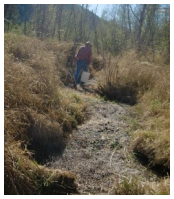
We will be cleaning up the spawning channel between Potters Pond and Bayley Lake again this year to provide spawning habitat for the resident rainbow trout next spring. It is a fun project that typically takes about two hours and then we go fishing in Bayley Lake for the rest of the day.

10 volunteers are needed, five with boats. At this point, we have all five volunteers with boats so we need volunteers to pair up with them. If you haven't ever fished Bayley this is an opportunity to fish with someone who knows the lake. Bayley Lake can fish well in the fall.

We will meet in Colville at 8 am for breakfast furnished by the IEFFC and then we will proceed to the lake. Bob Schmitt has volunteered to provide lunch for all of the volunteers.

Mark your calendar and let me know if you can make it.

Jerry McBride
Conservation Committee Chairman
509-590-6372 (call or text)
Jerry.r.mcbride@gmail.com



Website Videos

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club website contains lots of information regarding the club's activities. In addition, we have a featured video on our home page. We change it from time to time and welcome any suggestions.

Currently we have a video on the October Fly of the Month.

The website is available at ieffc.org.

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY
By Lee Funkhouser

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club was asked to help the Boy Scouts in celebrating "National Hunting and Fishing Day" in an event held at Camp Cowles at Diamond Lake on Saturday, September 30th. IEFFC Vice President **Bob Johnson** took charge of our involvement and gathered seven fly tyers to demonstrate fly tying to the kids and parents in attendance.

Over 700 people attended the event and our area was consistently busy with attendees watching flies being tied. IEFFC members tying included **Johnson, Bryan Harman, Lee Funkhouser, Jerry McBride, Bob Schmitt, Jerry Harms and Phil Beck**.

Flies that were tied by our members were given to the kids, along with an explanation of what the flies represented and how to fish with them. We received a very good response from the kids and their parents.

VALLEYFEST
By Stephen Aspinwall

Kids' Fishing Event at Valleyfest Successful

On Saturday, September 23, the annual Valleyfest event sponsored 'Kids' Fishing at the Falls'. **Stephen Aspinwall** was asked to lead this event where kids to 14 years old angled in the Mirabeau Park pond that is stocked with rainbow trout. The children were allowed to catch 1 fish with the help of volunteer adults from throughout our community. Stephen was tasked with finding enough fisherman to help the kids bait their hooks and cast safely into the pond. The fishing started at 10 AM and lasted to 3:30PM

We had 19 volunteers help the kids in two shifts. We had volunteers from the Spokane Valley Kiwanis Club, Fairchild AFB and Sportsman Warehouse. Our Club was well represented with the help of **Phil Beck and Bryan Harman** who cleaned the fish, **Bill Papesh, Denny Carson, Mike Shaunessy, Stephenie Stephens, Skip Cavanaugh and his brother John, and Stephen Aspinwall**.

We all had fun helping the kids catch about 60 fish which were then delivered to the Union Gospel Mission for their meal program.

SPOKANE HATCHERY FIN CLIPPING
By Jerry McBride

Fin Clipping September 26 and 27, 2023

By Jerry McBride, Conservation Chairman

Our club showed up and clipped fins again this year. Along with volunteers from the Spokane Fly Fishers we clipped the adipose fins of 50,000 trout destined to be planted in Lake Spokane (Long Lake). Avista pays for the fish as part of their mitigation for dams on the Spokane River.

Fin clipping is done to allow fishery biologists to determine the source of the fish as there is some natural reproduction in the lake.

Thanks to the IEFFC volunteers who clipped fins this year.

Tuesday, September, 26

Doug Brossoit
Mark Pinch
Skip Cavanaugh

Wednesday, September 27

Jerry McBride
Bob Gersh
Phil Beck
Scott Fink
Bob Schmitt

NEW MEMBERS
By Bob Schmitt

At the September meeting, we were able to introduce four new members. The new members are quickly becoming active as they have all participated in IEFFC events in the past few weeks. The new members are **Bill Faloon, Jeff Pope, Matt Mason and Stephenie Stephens**. They are all accomplished fly fishers and are outstanding additions to our membership.

We will be listing new members as a new part of the newsletter, and contact information will be sent out to the active IEFFC members.

Welcome, Bill, Jeff, Matt and Stephenie

ALERT: Quagga Mussel Larvae Detected in Idaho

Testing has confirmed the presence of quagga mussel larvae in the Snake River near Twin Falls on Monday, September 18.

Why is this serious?

- Because this invasive species can quickly spread and clog pipes that deliver water for drinking, energy, agriculture, recreation, and a variety of other uses. The mussels can also harm native fish populations and wildlife habitat.

- If we are not successful, an unchecked spread – which we are doing all we can to stop – has the potential to cost Idaho hundreds of millions of dollars in actual and indirect costs. It could potentially increase your taxes and bills.

What can you do to help?

- CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY ALL WATERCRAFT – This situation is a reminder to ANYONE who has a boat, kayak, canoe, paddleboard, or other conveyance to be vigilant in practicing the steps of CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY before putting your watercraft back in the water.

If your watercraft (including kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, boats, and others) has been on the Snake River in the Centennial Park area of Twin Falls in the past 30 days, please take it to an Idaho State Department of Agriculture hot wash station in Twin Falls for proper treatment. Conveyances (items like duck decoys, waders, fishing tackle, etc.) should also be taken to a hot wash station. DO NOT attempt to decontaminate watercraft yourself. Call (208) 332-8620 for location information or visit Idaho.gov/quagga.

- **Stay out** - All boat ramps and public access to the water in the Centennial Park area are closed until further notice as the investigation in the area continues. A temporary, water-access closure extends from Shoshone Falls to Niagara Springs. The public's cooperation in staying out of the impacted area is crucial to the success of mussel-fighting effort.

How can you stay updated?

Visit Idaho.gov/quagga for the latest information and to sign up for email updates.

We must work together to protect our water and way of life!

Thank you for your cooperation. We can't do this without your help!

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Snake River Quagga Mussel Response

Water Access Closure

For the public's safety, the safety of staff and to minimize potential movement of quagga mussels, the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) has closed off public access to the Snake River between Niagara Springs and Twin Falls.

Over the weekend there were numerous challenges with members of the public going against the water access closure. People on foot, boats, paddleboards, and kayaks entered the closed area. Entering the area creates a major safety risk to the public and to ISDA staff. ISDA is coordinating with local authorities to enforce the ISDA closure along the Snake River.

It is essential to the public's safety and to the future of the Snake River that the public stays completely out of the water. This includes any type of watercraft, pets, decoys, and anything else that could potentially be in the water. These closures are also critical to minimizing any potential movement of quagga mussels.

Other state and local agencies have closed off public access to certain water bodies in the area. This is a dynamic situation – please see the latest closure map for more information. At Thousand Springs State Park, Box Canyon, Niagara Springs, and Crystal Springs Lake have been closed as part of the containment effort.

Surveying

To better understand the extent of the physical range of the impacted area, ISDA staff are actively collecting hundreds of samples from the Snake River for quagga mussel larvae. Updates will come directly from ISDA once we have lab results to share.

Hot Wash Stations

ISDA hot wash stations are currently operating at two locations in Twin Falls: the Twin Falls Visitors Center and Twin Falls County West. The two locations were very busy last weekend, decontaminating everything including boats, rafts, kayaks, paddle boards, waders, decoys and more. Anyone who has been in the Mid-Snake River in the last 30 days must stop at one of the two locations and get a free hot wash. Thank you to all stakeholders and partners who have brought their watercraft and equipment to a hot wash station already!

Potential Control Strategies

ISDA is dedicated to executing a response plan that involves taking any necessary approach to protecting Idaho's waters from these mussels. ISDA, along with several other agencies that are stakeholders, are currently exploring treatment options. The control strategy announcement will come directly from ISDA once we have a treatment to implement.

Visit our web page Idaho.gov/quagga to stay up to date on the latest information

BUSY YEAR AHEAD FOR FFI in 2024
By Steve Jones

For members of FFI in Washington, 2024 will be a busy year. The Washington State Council will be leading or participating in three events in different parts of the state between spring and fall in an effort to reach as many FFI members as possible and recruit new members.

FFI will lead events in Seattle and Vancouver and participate in a Bellevue show in an effort to take FFI's message on the road to as many people as possible. Since the Covid pandemic fly fishing has enjoyed a surge of popularity in Washington and nationwide. Fly fishing was a logical pursuit during pandemic because social distancing is built into the sport. And it continues to appeal to people because of its simplicity and the artful in-water casting that connects the angler with fish, and nature. With its focus on teaching skills and techniques now is the time for FFI to grow with the sport.

Our 2024 outreach will kickoff in February at The Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue where the Washington State Council will host the "Learning Center" at the show where participants can learn fly tying techniques, knots, casting skills and more. The **Feb. 17-18** event at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue is one of seven Fly Fishing Shows nationwide next year. Fly Fishers International struck a deal with the show promoters to host the Learning Center at each of the shows. In return, FFI is receiving booth space and front-page billing in online promotional materials across the country. Bellevue, WA | The Fly Fishing Show That means FFI councils in Massachusetts, Colorado, New Jersey, Georgia, California and Pennsylvania are pitching in just like the Washington Council to put FFI's best foot forward at the shows.

Then on **May 4**, the Washington State Council will host its third Fly Casting Fair at Ballinger Park in the Mountlake Terrace neighborhood of Seattle. Like past year's fair, the May event will feature a rotating series of the best fly tiers in the Northwest, introductory fly tying classes and a full day of casting classes for beginners and advanced fishers.

Finally, in **September** the Washington State Council will host a Fly Casting Fair in Vancouver to reach the large fly fishing community –and many FFI members—in Southwest Washington. The one-day event will be similar to events at Ballinger Park and include both tying and casting instruction. The exact date and location of that event will be announced in our winter newsletter.

FFI is in a good position to become a friend and guide to all the new people coming to our sport. We've got the knowledge, the skilled instructors and with these events we are taking a helpful approach that can win friends. On top of that, we have the benefit of the fact that trout and salmon live in beautiful places. For newcomers seeking a bond with the outdoors fly fishing is attractive. FFI has the know how to turn that curiosity into a solid connection.

FLY ROD FOR SALE
Jeff Pope

New member **Jeff Pope** has a fly rod set available for anyone interested.
Contact him at splitcanenut@gmail.com.

Fly Project Trout Spey 11ft 4 wt 4 piece. Very light use. $275.

Scandi line and gripshooter (needs loop) OPST commando seen in picture not available). Good starter set.

Thanks for looking.

LIARS CLUB BBQ

This years Liars Club barbeque was again a huge success. The event was held on September 7th at the Bridlewood Community Center and was very well attended.

Our hosts again supplied a spectacular meal including brats, hamburgers and salmon. The hosts included **Scott Fink, Bob Burton, Jim Athearn, Keith Kuester and Stephen Aspinwall**. The salmon was caught by the hosts and Scott prepares it with his own special chef skills. The meal was capped off with a cake celebrating the group.

For those unaware of the group, Liars Club is an informal group meeting every Tuesday at Frankie Doodles Restaurant. We meet at 11 AM and discuss how the fishing was, is now and is going to be. The derivation of the group name should be obvious to anyone who fishes or has known a fisherman. The fish that got away is always the biggest fish and the more times a story is told the bigger the trophy gets.

Don't hesitate to come by some Tuesday.

FALL OUTING—NORTH FORK

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club Fall outing was held on Saturday, September 16th. A healthy group of IEFFC members attacked the river from the lower end all the way up to Teepee Creek, with varied success. The best fishing seemed to be higher up, but fish were caught throughout the system.

Following the day of fishing, the group met at Steamboat for a chili feed. **Bryan Harman and Bob Johnson** did most of the heavy lifting and the food was excellent. There were some interesting tales told at dinner and a great time was had by all.

The surprise of the day was IEFFC member, **Lee Funkhouser**, getting his deer. Unfortunately, Lee is not a hunter and he got his deer with the right front of his truck as he headed down the river road. Nobody in the truck was hurt, but the deer received severe injuries and had to be put down.

We are planning a winter outing for Rocky Ford. The weed growth has to clear out before that makes sense, but details will be sent out near the end of December and we are currently looking at January as a good time to meet.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
By Phil Beck

We have some outstanding presentations coming up. The speakers are listed below and we will include additional information on the presentations, but you really need to mark your calendar for these programs.

November 14th - Pat Dorsey

December 12th - Christmas Raffle

January 9th - Jack Mitchell

February 13th - Byron Johnson

NOT A MEMBER YET: To attend our meeting as a guest, we just need to know you are coming so we can have a place for you. Send an email to our newsletter email address letting us know you are going to be in attendance and whether you want dinner or not. Diner is $30.00. The newsletter email address is flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Bird's Nest **October 2023** **Cal Bird**

Our speaker Chip O'Brien tied his modified version of the bird's nest at the September meeting, so I thought it would be appropriate to feature the original bird's nest as our October Fly of the Month.

The fly is said to imitate mayfly and stonefly nymphs, as well as caddis pupa. The fly has been extremely successful as Chip pointed out in his excellent presentation.

I have added the fly pattern to the home page of our website or you can view it with the following link.

https://vimeo.com/30333192

Hook:	3x-long nymph hook. (Dai-Riki #285 here), size 6-16.
Bead:	Copper—size to match hook.
Weight:	Lead wire, .02".
Thread:	Olive, 6/0.
Tail:	Wood-duck fibers.
Rib:	Copper Ultra Wire, small.
Abdomen:	Natural Australian possum dubbing.
Legs:	Wood-duck fibers.
Thorax:	Natural Australian possum dubbing.

Note: Pick out the dubbing to create a "ratty" look.

Pinch the barb and put on an appropriate sized bead. Add a couple of wraps of weight to anchor the bead in place. Start the thread and wrap towards the bend of the hook.

Attach a few strands of wood-duck to form the tail and wrap the thread halfway down the shank to anchor the tail. Snip off the excess. Attach about six inches of wire starting where the tail feathers were snipped with the thread and wrap the thread towards the bend of the hook.

Make a nicely tapered dubbing noodle with the Australian possum about three inches long and wrap the noodle onto the shank forming a carrot shaped abdomen. Then wrap the wire in an open spiral to create a segmented look. Secure the wire and helicopter the excess.

Use the wood-duck to form the legs, attaching them downward and on both sides of the shank. Now use the same Australian possum to form a dubbing noodle for the thorax. Use a fair amount to form a sizeable thorax. Whip finish and snip the thread.

The final step is to take a dubbing brush and really have at the fly. Make it fit the name by looking like a "bird's nest".

IEFFC OFFICERS 2023

Your Officers for 2023 are as follows:

Doug Brossoit - President

Bob Johnson - Vice President

Guy Gregory - Secretary

Lee Funkhouser - Treasurer

Board Members are: Bob Schmitt and Bryan Harman.

Contact information is available on the website.

JOINING FFI

There is no better time to consider joining FFI than now. It's easy and you will be joining a number of IEFFC members already involved in the organization.

To Join FFI simply go to the website listed:
http://www.flyfishersinternational.org/
Click Membership, Click join, then the blue round button.
Join the FFI today

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

Fly Fishers International
Conserve, Restore and Educate Through Fly Fishing

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club
FFI Charter Member and McKenzie Plaque Winner
The WSCFFI 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 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.