The Fly Leaf

Volume 69 No 11 | Web Page: http://www.ieffc.org | **November, 2024**

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
Spokane Airport Ramada Inn
November 12th, 2024
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
By Bob Johnson

With the Ghosts and Goblins, Witches and Princesses coming down from their annual sugar highs, it's time to look forward. Steelhead in the Grande Ronde and the Clearwater. The trout in the deeper holes of the Joe and the Coeur d'Alene, now that the cold weather has arrived. The trout just laying in wait for that last big meal to come floating by. It's time to get your cold weather gear out, float that bug over them, and tighten the lines they are attached to. Also, although I frown on the use of 4 letter words, there is **SNOW** on the horizon.

I want to thank **Bryan Harman** for taking a day off work and getting me out on the North Fork. As he was giving me a fishing lesson, he took me to his special spot. He worked downstream and had me go to a spot further upstream that he had pointed out. Everything we threw (all small stuff) was not even getting a look. So, I couldn't do any worse, and I put on the Golden Chubbie he had tied. First drift through the run it was engulfed by a fish. After a nice battle, that fish had to be at least 20 inches. In fact, that fish was the largest fish I had caught on the North Fork in at least 5 years, if not ever. What a downer to throw the same fly only to catch a dink…. 15 incher. The fish are strapping on the feed bag. Go out and get some.

At the meeting in November, we will finish auctioning off the boat box with the unique artwork on it drawn by Jeff Currier. November is also **Toys 4 Tots** month. Every year we help the organization, and we will have representation at the November meeting from the Toys 4 Tots organization. Bring your donations to help those less fortunate than us.

December…. The Christmas raffle. This is a donation to help keep your club and our many projects viable. So bring your money and buy your tickets. Think about what you can donate to the raffle. Talk to **Gordon Olson**. He will gladly take your donation and garner more tickets from it.

See you all at the meeting om the 12th.
Bob J

NOVEMBER PROGRAM
Tony Reinhardt

Tony Reinhardt is the owner of **Montana Trout Outfitters** and has been guiding anglers on the waters of Western Montana since 1998. For over twenty-five years Tony has passionately been introducing and guiding people to the joy of fly fishing.

While some Montana outfitters *claim* to have experience – Tony is one who walks the talk. As Mark Twain said; ***"The secret of success is making your vocation your vacation".***

Tony's presentation will be focused on **Float Fishing Strategies**.

This program covers the key differences between float fishing and wade fishing. The basics of float fishing are explained and skills such as casting, mending, setting, and fighting fish are explored in depth from a float fishing perspective. Advanced float fishing skills are also presented, and topics like teamwork, situational awareness, and mental focus are detailed.

This is a multi-media presentation that includes high quality photos, diagrams, video clips, and even aerial drone footage. It is a comprehensive program designed to leave the audience with a much greater understanding of the dynamics of float fishing so that they can make the most out of their next float trip adventure.

Fly anglers from all over venture west each season to take float trips on the legendary rivers of the Rocky Mountains. Understanding the skills and techniques required for successful float fishing is essential to maximizing angler success on the water.

This is a must see for anyone contemplating a river float.

TOYS FOR TOTS
2024 Goal = $2,000

It's that time again. Toys for Tots has been a special program for the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club since Jon Allan proposed the idea in 2009. Since that time the IEFFC has donated hundreds of toys and thousands of dollars to help Spokane area families.

Our November meeting has been designated as a meeting honoring Veterans and for collecting donations for Toys for Tots. They are always happy to receive toys from our membership, but much of our emphasis has shifted to cash donations. The cash donations help the Toys for Tots organization fill in gaps where they have not received enough age appropriate toys.

We encourage you to bring either a toy or a cash donation to the November meeting, but if you are unable to make the meeting and would like to contribute, please send your donation to our post office box. We will be collecting those donations and adding them to the donations received at the meeting. We will have a Toys for Tots representative in attendance and will be presenting our donation to them at that time. When sending checks, make the check out to IEFFC as we will be giving Toys for Tots one check from IEFFC. Add "Toys for Tots" in the notes section on the bottom left of the check.

IEFFC
PO Box 2926
Spokane, WA 99220

Thank you for your assistance in making this program successful.

Donations to the IEFFC
By Lee Funkhouser

As Treasurer for the IEFFC, I receive questions from time to time regarding donations to the club. Unfortunately, we are not a 501 c3 organization, so donations are not tax deductible. That being said, we have created a way to contribute where you can use the donation to reduce your tax burden.

First of all, we do accept donations at the club level and appreciate any donations given. Many of us do not worry about the lack of 501 c3 status because the standard deduction is fairly generous. We are always looking at new projects and your donations are extremely important. Sending a donation with a note indicating that it is simply a donation is all that is needed and donations are greatly appreciated.

Second, the best way to donate to the clubs future is at the Holiday raffle. This is where we generate much of our income and you also have a chance to win flies and fishing gear. These donations are a way to keep us financially sound and some of the products are well worth the donation.

Finally, for sizable donations, we have an account with Fly Fishers International, where donations of $1000 or greater can be contributed to the club through them and **they do** become tax deductible donations. Those donations are only used for conservation and educational projects and the money is handled by FFI, and they do have 501 c3 status. These donations are extremely helpful in continuing our projects and scholarships programs.

If you have any additional questions regarding donations, please feel free to contact me.

BAYLEY LAKE CHANNEL RESTORATION
By Jerry McBride

What a day! We had 12 volunteers this year and met at the Maverick's restaurant in Colville for breakfast which, as usual, was very good.

Background

Many years ago the IEFFC put in weirs (low dams) and laid down gravel in the ponds formed by the weirs to create spawning beds in the short, channel-like stream that flows out of Potters Pond into Bayley Lake. The idea was to enable rainbow trout to come up in the channel in early spring and spawn with the females getting rid of their eggs enabling them to live a year or two longer than the normal three years. This of course, meant more large fish in Bayley. Normally, the water in the channel gets too warm for the fertilized eggs to hatch so there isn't much, if any, natural reproduction.

Present

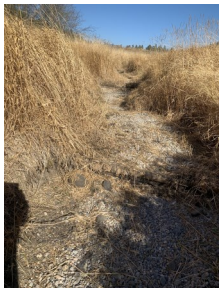
During the summer the grass grows almost chest-high in the dry channel and along the banks. The grass restricts the flow. Also, the gravel gets moved around and is sometimes covered with sand. Just about every year a group of members from the IEFFC has gone up in September or October to cut the grass and clean it out of the channel. We also renew the gravel as required. Most years the channel is dry so it is fairly easy to do the work and usually takes about two hours. In past years the Little Pend Oreille Wildlife National Refuge (LPO) has provided the gravel. We used up the last of the gravel last year and the LPO was unable to provide gravel this year so the IEFFC purchased the gravel and had it delivered to the LPO.

The following IEFFC members worked on the project:
Jerry McBride, Bill Faloon, Bob Schmitt, Eric Apelskog, Bob Johnson, Guy Gregory, Scott Fink, Jeff Pope, Phil Beck, Jake Nelson, Doug Brossoit, and Chad Hueter.

We traveled in caravan style to Bayley Lake, unloaded equipment and set about cleaning out the chest high grass that had grown up and renewed the gravel. The grass was the thickest we have ever seen. As usual, **Bill Papesh** loaned us his gas powered hedge trimmer which was wielded by **Phil Beck** and later by **Chad Hueter. Doug Brossoit** brought his hedge trimmer also. They led the way with others raking the cut grass out of the channel and spreading gravel where needed.

After we finished the work **Bob Schmitt** provided sack lunches and assorted beverages for the group. Thanks to Bob for doing this again this year. We launched our boats on Bayley Lake and fished for about four hours. With 12 people fishing only a few had bites and **Scott Fink** caught the only fish which was about six inches long. Very disappointing. As far as I know, Bayley has never had a summer or winter kill, but it looks like maybe this year there was a summer kill. Scott and I fished Bayley in late April this year and caught a fair number of really big fish so we know there were fish in the lake going into the summer. Not sure what happened this summer, but it doesn't look good. IEFFC member **Father David** fished Bayley about a week before us and caught three large fish. **Father David** is an outstanding fisherman so maybe the rest us just don't measure up. Of course, being a Catholic priest probably doesn't hurt when it comes to fishing.

In spite of the poor fishing, I would say we had a successful day with lots of camaraderie and work well done.



DID YOU KNOW?
By Jerry McBride

Did you know that **Skip Cavanaugh** is an ordained minister in Teton County, Wyoming?

Here is the rest of the story.

Skip lived in Yakima from 1983 to 1993 while he was working for IBM out of their Yakima office. He became close friends with a couple who had two daughters. Skip has known the girls since they were born and they consider Skip to be like an uncle to them.

Years later, one of Skip's "nieces", Jenna, asked Skip if he would officiate at her wedding to her fiancé, Levi. Earlier on a trip Jenna and Levi had found a place in the Rocky Mountains out of Jackson Hole, Wyoming that they fell in love with. This is where they wanted to be married. Skip said yes and filed the paperwork required to be an ordained minister in Teton County, Wyoming.

In August 2020 the wedding party parked in the parking lot and hiked up the trail to the beautiful site for the wedding where Skip presided over the marriage of Jenna and Levi Wyatt.

CLUB SURVEY
By Guy Gregory

Club Happiness Survey

The Board and the Membership Committee are continuing our effort to be responsive to members and make Club Membership more rewarding and fun for us all. Toward this, we've prepared a short survey. Since Covid, we've tried a lot of things to enhance the enjoyment of club activities. We think some have worked, some not so much, and some we're not sure. So, some feedback on what the membership thinks has been successful, or unsuccessful, would help us quite a bit.

The survey only takes a few minutes, and there is room for your written comments and input. Your responses are anonymous. Please respond only once.

It's online, so you don't even need a stamp!

Please respond by November 2. Here's the link:

https://forms.gle/p2LZfiVQPSFo3y4X9

MEDICAL LAKE OUTING
By Lee Funkhouser

The weather finally cooperated and we were able to enjoy a day at Medical Lake. Next year we hope to have the Medical Lake outing a little earlier, but the fishing was excellent and, although it was a small group, the event went very well.

Having new member **Pat Stuart** in attendance was extremely helpful. There is talk about him doing a club presentation on fishing Medical Lake sometime next year. His advice was spot on and we witnessed his expertise, as he caught 15 fish on the day, with a number of those fish exceeding 20 inches.

Those in attendance were **Pat Stuart, Jeff Pope, Guy Gregory, Jake Nelson and Lee Funkhouser**.

Everyone caught multiple fish and everyone caught big fish. The lunch was a typical fishing lunch, with hot dogs and chili. The conversation centered on where to fish and what tactics were working. The wind was a little gusty at times, but the lake was certainly fishable. I used a fly tied by Pat and all I can say is that it certainly works. You can see the fly in Pat's picture of the tench that he caught. We think the trout are keying on the fly because it does resemble the tench.

Make sure you make it next year. The fish were big and it was a fun event.

Pat with a big Rainbow. We don't like to hold them like this, but this one is dinner, so it's ok.

Jeff pulling in a big one, while Jake watches.

Pat with another big rainbow.

Guy heading out after lunch.

Pat's killer fly next to a big tench.

FALL PROGRAM SCHEDULE
By Phil Beck

November: Tony Reinhardt, Master Guide and Outfitter will do a presentation on Float Fishing Strategies.

December: Christmas Meeting, including presentation of Fly Fisherman of the Year and introduction of 2025 IEFFC Officers.

January: **Leon Buckles**, President Emeritus. "Pursuing the Ditchpickle". We fished Cree Lake in Northern Saskatchewan. It is the fourth largest lake in the province and has no access by road. The lake, with numerous islands, is ringed with a black spruce forest and sand beaches. The target species was trophy pike, but we also fished for lake trout and grayling. Each day each of us caught pike over 40 inches and up to 48 inches. It was a DIY trip with a tent camp and boats provided by Cree Lake Lodge.

February: **Rich Landers**. Program as yet untitled.

RECENT FISHING SUCCESS

***Leon** Buckles with a massive Missouri River trout*

Most of you recently read that Matt Anderson wrapped a 7 wt bamboo rod for me. On a recent trip to Montana, I decided to take it on a test run. The fist day was rather slow trying to find the fish. After finding fish in deeper water, the rod performed well landing 6 fish, 5 which were 20+ inches long. I then fished the rod the next two days, landing numerous fish 20 to 22 inches, several 24 inches and up to 26 1/2 inches. The rod is a keeper.

***Stephen Aspinwall** with a Colorado Rainbow*

Nice rainbow caught on balanced filo plume from small lake across from Purgatory Ski Resort near Durango Colorado. Stephen releasing fish from sitting position

Lee with a Grande Ronde Steelhead

Lee Funkhouser on the Grande Ronde with his granddaughter, Briar. There may be some photoshopping in this picture, as Briar currently lives in Germany, but mom wanted to show her off in her new waders.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE/AUCTION
DECEMBER 10TH

Our annual Christmas/Holiday Raffle is again happening during our December 10th Club meeting. This event is members only, where we have the opportunity to obtain great fishing related items. Your raffle committee, headed by **Gordon Olson**, works all year to find items that we purchase to give you a chance at winning in the bag raffle or bid on at the silent auction.

However, the majority of the items that make the raffle profitable for the Club come from you, the Club members. Your donated items, along with the donated items from vendors like fly fishing shops and guides, really give us the ability to raise funds for our Club projects. We already have procured the donated stay at **Hill's Resort at Priest Lake** again, but we are still looking for donated fishing trips from our members and 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 free trip or a 2 for 1 trip.

Many of our Club members are expert fly tiers and have historically donated their boxes of select flies to our Holiday Raffle/ Auction for all to try to win. 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. The Committee asks that you donate new or very gently used items, but items like magazine collections and very used items garner little interest and simply allow you to cleanup your storage.

It is best if you **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 raffle.

So, we will see you at the December 10th Club meeting and remember to bring a lot of cash and your checkbook to buy your $1 tickets or bid on silent auction items, so you can have the opportunity for great goodies!

A FUN NIGHT AHEAD

RED TIE GALA
By Rob Stephens

On Friday, October 18th, IEFFC members **Stephenie and Rob Stephens,** and **Skip Cavanaugh** and his wife, **Holly**, attended Eastern Washington University's Red Tie Gala - an event that recognizes donors that help fund student scholarships. The event was held in the ballroom of the Spokane Tribe Casino.

Rob and Stephenie

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club awards two scholarships annually to students involved in Fisheries Science. One of the $1,000 scholarships is directly from the Legacy Committee, while the other is funded from donations, by members, to our restricted FFI account. Your purchase of Legacy Committee items, and your individual donations, provide the funding for these students.

Skip and Holly

As proof of the significance of these scholarships, we witnessed several inspirational stories shared by students that would not have been able to complete their college degrees without financial assistance, and stories of how their degrees opened doors of opportunities that otherwise would not have been available.

Thank you for your support. You are making a difference.

FLY TYING NIGHTS RETURN
By Lee Funkhouser

Fly tying has returned for another season. The informal sessions will be limited to one night a month through December due to the holiday scheduling issues. YAYA Brewery is excited to have us back and this is a great time to learn some new patterns and fill your fly box with flies for next years fishing season.

Fly tying will be the third Tuesday of November and December, November 19th and December 17th. YAYA is located at 11712 East Montgomery Drive in the Spokane Valley, and we tie from 6PM to 7:30PM. They now have food service and the beers are great.

Guests are welcome and we look forward to seeing you.

STEVE MORAN COFFEE TABLE FOR SALE

Custom Inlay Art Table 'Story of the Stream'. ONE OF A KIND. Rare Inlay Table by Wood Artist and Fishing Guide Steve Moran. (Steve passed 5/14/2019.)

Anglers and even big-game hunters have commissioned Moran and his inlay talents to create custom rods, tables, and wood art. This custom table tells the story of what happens under the surface of a trout stream. He depicts the life cycle of the Mayfly showing the egg stage, larva or nymph stage, then the dun and spinner. And we can see the trout feeding at each of these stages. He also shows a fly line in the water with a fisherman's imitation.

Outstanding detail. Moran used dental bits for inlays, and scrimshaw tools in his creations. Inlay materials used in this table: Log: Redwood. Fish: Burl Myrtlewood. Rocks: California Buckeye; Burl Maple; Spaulted Maple. The tabletop is 42"L x 24" W x 17'H. Ultra smooth finish. Amazing art piece that is fun and informational. The top would also make a terrific wall piece. A genuine treasure.

Purchased from Steve Moran by the seller, who also has three of his custom rods. Downsized residence so reluctantly selling. For more information contact Steve Matsko at 509-953-6967, or by email at samcrl1@msn.com.

BAYLEY LAKE FISHING

Bob Johnson was able to capture this great picture of Jake Nelson discussing, with Phil Beck, the size of the fish that got away.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Klinkhamer Special **November 2024** **Barry Ord Clarke**

In Norway on the 27th June 1984 the first Klinkhåmer special was born from the vise of Hans van Klinken, for fishing Grayling in the river Glomma. Now regarded as an absolute standard pattern for all trout and grayling fishing all over the world, and is probably the best and most adaptable emerger ever made.
I have been trying to find a fly that works on the St Joe and Coeur D'Alene Rivers during that evening hatch where nothing seems to work. I tried a size 18 Klinkhamer BWO recently and that may be the closest I will ever get to the right fly. Barry's fly should do the job.
For on-line instructions go to **https://thefeatherbender.com/klinkhamer-fly-special/**

Hook: Daiichi 1160, Daiichi 1167 Klinkhåmer hooks size 8-20.
Thread: Uni-thread, 8/0, grey or tan for body, Spiderweb for parachute.
Body: Fly Rite Poly Dubbing any color of preference or Super Fine waterproof dry fly dubbing for smaller patterns.
Wing: One to three strand of white poly-yarn depending of the size and water to fish.
Thorax: Three strands of peacock herl.
Hackle: Blue dun, dark dun, light dun, chestnut all in good combination with the body color.

Place your hook in the vice and cover the upper half of the hook shank with regular tying thread. Cut a length of poly yarn and tie in at the post base as shown. You should leave a rather long length of poly-yarn over the hook eye, as the post, this will give you something to hold on to, when you wind on the parachute hackle later. Trim the end of the Poly-yarn diagonally, so it will be easier to taper neatly down later for a finer body result.

Tie the butt of the poly-yarn all the way down into the hook bend to form a fine taper. Run the tying thread up and down the hook shank to build a proportional tapered body with the tying thread ending at the parachute post base. This is very important to achieve a slim delicate body. Select and prepare the hackle. Tie the hackle stem in so that the stem creates a little more volume/taper on the upper body. Make sure that you have enough stripped hackle stem to tie to the parachute post later.

When dubbing the body of the klinkhåmer start dubbing your tying thread at the base of the parachute post and run the dubbing tapering down to the bend of the fly and widening in taper as you go up again towards the abdomen. Run the remaining dubbing in front of the parachute post, this will support the front of the post and also lay a foundation for the thorax. Tie in three long strands of peacock herl, points first at the rear of the abdomen., this helps the reverse taper of the finished thorax. Position your tying thread just behind the hook eye.

Wind on the peacock herl to form the abdomen. Make sure that the turns of peacock herl are tight and even. Tie off the peacock herl behind the hook eye and whip finish. Remove the tying thread and apply a little varnish to the head. Now, if you have a true rotational vise turn the jaws so the hook rotates until the parachute post and hackle are in a horizontal position. Take the bobbin with the spider thread and attach it to the parachute post base. Tie down the hackle stem into the top of the base. Make a few tight turns of tying thread to brace the base of the post ready to accept the hackle.

Make sure your tying thread is tight into the abdomen end of the parachute post. Now carefully begin winding your hackle from the TOP of the post in tight even turns. Each turn moving closer to the abdomen. Once the hackle is fully wound, while holding the hackle point in one hand make two turns with tying thread, the first to the right of the hackle point and the second to the left. This will secure the hackle correctly. Now clip away the remaining hackle point and whip finish as shown on the underside of the parachute hackle. When making your last remaining whip finish, just before you tighten the loop and remove the whip finish tool, place a tiny drop of varnish or superglue on the loop before you tighten it into the hackle base. This will secure everything. All that remains to be done is to cut the parachute post to the required length.

2024 IEFFC OFFICERS

Your Officers for 2024 are as follows:

Bob Johnson - President

Guy Gregory - Vice President

Bryan Harman - Secretary

Lee Funkhouser - Treasurer

Board Members are:

Phil Beck

Bob Schmitt

Matt Mason.

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 FFF 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 WSCIFFF 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 FlyLeaf Editor at flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com. Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter.