



GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
Spokane Airport Ramada Inn
April 14, 2026
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m. Dinner cost \$35.00

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

APRIL PROGRAM Greg Thomas - Chasing Giants

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Bryan Harman

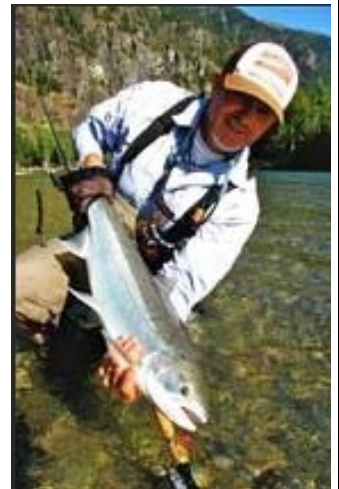
Spring is in the air at least in the afternoon, mornings are still a bit crisp as I write this. The club had another good year at the Big Horn Show. We had lots of volunteers, talked to lots of people in the Spokane community about fly fishing and our club, and don't forget we tied flies with kids. I probably tied about 70-80 on Saturday alone and planted the seed with the next generation. I remember when I was younger seeing someone tie a fly and thinking that was about the coolest thing I had ever seen for fishing (but I still went and drowned worms for a few more years).

Rivers have been running a little high, but it sounds like some members have gotten out on some local lakes with mixed results. I hope to hear from everyone at the next club meeting on the 14th about the ones that were netted and the ones that got away. If you have not attended a meeting in some time, come out to the Ramada swap some fishing stories and learn something new.

The One Fly fish out at Amber Lake is coming up soon, April 18th. I will be there trying to defend my title as One Fly winner last year. Let me assure you there is plenty of opportunity to take the trophy home. I went a few weeks ago and I will just say the catch bar is set pretty low.

Kids fishing is coming up on May 9, so that will be before the May meeting. I will need volunteers for both Kids fishing on the 9th and Ronald McDonald house kids fishing on May 8th. I can say watching those kids get hooked (pun intended) on fishing makes me remember some of those first blue gill and catfish I caught as a kid with a custom garden hackle (squirmy worm?) at the point under a bobber (strike indicator?). I guess my technique has evolved or maybe not. If you need a little mood booster this may be the best volunteer opportunity of the year.

At our April meeting we will have a presentation by Greg Thomas entitled 'Chasing Giants', a program based on his hunt for Giant Fish of various species and in a wide variety of places.



Greg is an accomplished fly fisherman, guide and author from Montana. He authors a very entertaining website know as "The Anglers Tonic - 100 Proof Distilled Fly Fishing Knowledge"

Greg will bring along some of his books for sale and is generously donating one for a club raffle. He also will have prints of paintings by his highly acclaimed Father and is also donating Two of those for IEFFC raffle use .

KID'S FISHING IS COMING UP. The dates are May 8th for the Ronald McDonald House portion and May 9th for the general Kid's Fishing.

We do most of the volunteer work for the Ronald McDonald portion, so if you're available on the 8th, contact Skip or Bryan and let them know you will be there.

The regular Kid's Fishing is Saturday, May 9th. There is always something to do, so if you're available on the 9th, WDFW can certainly use your help. Let Skip and Bryan know if you can help on Saturday.

Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Floyd Holmes Sergeant at Arms



It's hard to imagine the poacher carrying out his duties without the steady support of Floyd Holmes. To honor his memory, we've retired the old glass jar and now collect fines in a special memorial cup created in Floyd's name.



New Sergeant at Arms Stephanie Stephens with Poacher Hubert Langenhorst

At the March meeting, our new Sergeant at Arms, **Stephanie Stephens**, used the Memorial Cup for the first time. It serves as a simple but meaningful reminder that Floyd remains with us—always in our thoughts and certainly in our hearts.

CHET ALLISON Honorary Member

At the March meeting, longtime IEFFC member **Chet Allison** was made an honorary member. His service to the club and to the sport of fly fishing is exemplary.

Chet has been active in the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club for decades. He has held numerous positions in the club and was President in 2012. He received the club's highest honor as the Hugh Evans Memorial Fly Fisherman the Year in 2013.

Chet's involvement in fly fishing was not limited to the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. Chet was very involved with Fly Fishers International, holding various offices in the Washington Council and was the IEFFC FFI representative for a number of years. In addition, Chet has been active with the Spokane Fly Fishers.

We certainly appreciate his many years of service. He has certainly made our sport stronger with his many contributions.



IEFFC President Bryan Harman with Chet Allison

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

CAP GODFREY

By Leon Buckles

During the first half of the twentieth century, Cap Godfrey was a well-known, influential, and skilled fly fisherman. I worked for Karl Paulson (an early member of IEFFC) in the 50's. Frequently, while working the fields, the conversation would be Karl speaking of the fly fishing skills of Cap. At that time, a group of fly fishermen, known as The Cap Godfrey Gang, would meet for lunch on Tuesdays to talk fly fishing. This group was the nucleus that formed our club. This group is now known as The Liar's Club. Recently I came across this trivia I copied from an old Fishing and Hunting News publication. I will pass it on.

Cap. Milo C. Godfrey died in June 1952, but his fly patterns will live on. Possibly the best known is the Spruce Fly in all of its variations, invented by Cap, and possibly in collaboration with his brother, when they lived near Seaside, Oregon.

One of Cap's fishing buddies was Everett Caryl, the Spokane Feather Vendor. Caryl and Orville Cox were on the last fishing trip Godfrey took. It was to Twin Lakes in Idaho. "I remember Cap got sick on a Saturday. He came in off the water and broke off a Brown Derby and a Sandfly Buck and gave them to me. He said he didn't feel good, and Cox took him home. I called Alice Sperry on Monday to find out how Cap was, and she said he suffered a diabetic coma and had passed away."

Godfrey, although he was never widely recognized nationally, stood head and shoulders above all Northwest anglers. For many years, he gave fly casting exhibitions at the old Sportsman Show under the now demolished UP trestle in downtown Spokane. He could flick a cigarette out of a person's mouth at 50 feet or drop a fly in a tea cup at 90 feet.

"Cap was always somewhat of a 'tall-tale' artist," Caryl recalls. "But the funny thing was he could always back up his big stories by doing or repeating what he said he could do."

Herb recalls fishing a small lake in Stevens County with Cap. The fish were big but not really cooperative the day.

Godfrey pussy-footed along the shore making little casts. He was catching and releasing fish. Herb and a friend fished from a boat, lashed the water to a frenzied froth and wound up catching 10 fish between them. Godfrey caught and released 120 fish that day.

"I remember Cap literally filling the bottom of his aluminum boat with bass on the 'Twin lakes in Idaho,'" Caryl said. "He was the most terrific lake fly fisherman you can imagine." This was during the period even people of the stature of Ted Trueblood said they had little luck catching trout from lakes on flies and had no advice to offer on the subject.

The pattern shown is an authentic Godfrey tie. Cap called it "Godfrey's Brown Ant." Strangely, it is most effective when giant brown midges hatch in the fall.

HOOK: No. 12 to 16, Mustad 94840. It is best to tie up some in sizes 12, 14, and 16. On windy days, use a No. 12. On days with a mild riffle, use the No. 14. On flat, calm days, use the No. 16. Best size over-all, is the No. 14.

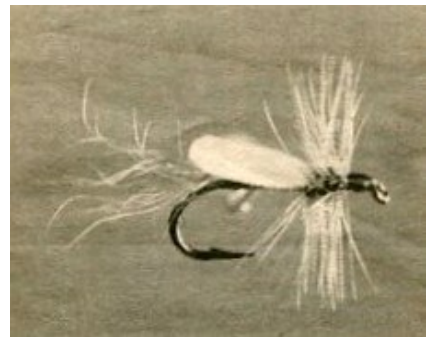
TAIL: Very small pinch of calf tail.

BODY: Brown nylon rod thread, size A. Separate it by giving it a twist, into three strands. Use two pieces about 6 inches long to come up with a total of six strands. This is an old trick of Alice Sperry. She used a lot of rod thread instead of floss. Rod thread is more durable. Mrs. Sperry is now 84 and reported in a local nursing home. Cap's fly shop was in a building adjacent to her home, located South of Lewis and Clark high school.

WING: Light gray mallard primary, one section, tied flat over the back, and trimmed to shape, round on the end, no longer than the floss body. The giant brown midge has a very short wing.

HACKLE: One high quality brown, to match hook size. Here's where Metz necks, now selling for \$48.50, come in handy. They are rare. If you see one, buy it. Feather Vender Caryl, who tied the pattern photographed, does not have any in stock now but expects a limited supply shortly after the first of year. He has Meyz necks in other colors, however.

After completing the fly, glaze wing with vinyl cement. In fishing, trim the bottom of the hackle straight across, so the fly rides upright every time. This increases the success of the fly 90 percent.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

WASHINGTON FLY CASTING FAIR April 19, 2026

The Washington Fly Casting Fair is going to be held at Pickering Barn Park in Issaquah, Washington on April 19th.

This premier casting and tying event is returning to Issaquah featuring an expanded roster of classes and instruction.

In addition to a full day of casting and tying instruction, games, and workshops, Maxine McCormick is featured! At the 2022 World Championships in Norway she took home four gold medals while winning all of the single handed fly casting events. Her perfect accuracy result was the highest score ever recorded at the World Championships for male or female participants. She set a single hand fly distance record in the Women's Sea Trout event.

Don't miss it!

In addition, there'll be casting and tying workshops for anglers of all levels, good times, and new friends.

Details, Registration and tickets:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/washingtonflyfishersinternational/1973309>



AMBER LAKE "ONE FLY" By Bob Johnson

It's that time of year again. The ice is off the lakes, like there actually was any, and the annual gathering to see who can pick the proper fly, catch fish, and not break it off has come.

Come show your fishing prowess and prove to everyone else that you can walk the walk and not just talk the talk. It is a friendly activity. We just can't let **Bryan Harman** win again. (Last year's winner). Let us put your name on the traveling trophy and immortalize your capabilities.

Of course, as with all our club activities, lunch will follow with all the smack talk etc. It will be a fun time. Come and enjoy.

Date is April 18

Time is 9:00 am until 12 noon.

An Air horn will designate start and stop time.

Location will be Amber Lake, Looking forward to seeing you there!!



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY FISHING ADDED TO THE OLYMPICS

By Lee Funkhouser



The International Olympic Committee has announced that fly fishing will officially debut as a competitive sport in the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles. For the first time in history, nations from around the globe will have the chance to battle for Olympic gold in this thrilling, highly technical pastime.

Six events are planned: men's individual, women's individual, men's team, women's team, and a brand-new biathlon format for both men and women. All events will follow the classic "one-fly" rules, and competitors will pursue the legendary La Brea Cutthroat — a rare strain said to inhabit the Los Angeles River.

Plans for the venue are already underway. A 15,000-seat stadium is being constructed, and a section of the L.A. River will be diverted directly into the arena. The river will meander through the competition zone, and a quarter-mile track will circle the venue for the fly-fishing biathlon.

The biathlon itself is a groundbreaking concept. Anglers, fully outfitted in waders and boots, will complete four laps around the track. At the midpoint of each lap, they must stop and attempt to land a La Brea Cutthroat within 30 seconds. Failure to do so results in a 15-second penalty — a harsh consequence for anyone unable to coax a fish from the "mighty" urban waters of Los Angeles.

I hope this announcement has sparked your excitement for Olympic-level fly-fishing competition. Unfortunately, today is April 1st... so you know exactly what that means. Thanks for playing along.

COFFEEPOT "BIG FISH" OUTING JUNE 6th and 7th

Our Coffeepot outing will again feature the "Big Fish" contest. Fishing last year was excellent and some mighty fish were caught. This year's contest runs from 9AM on Saturday to 3PM on Sunday.

There are camping sites, but they are limited. **Pat Stuart** will be there with his trailer and he will have the "Big Fish Jug" for you to enter your fish. Pat does provide lunch and you just need to bring what you prefer to drink. As we get closer we will ask for members to RSVP. Guests are also welcome.

There will be plenty of members willing to give advice if you are new to fishing Coffeepot. Put this one on your schedule. The fish are big and fight hard.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

BAYLEY LAKE OUTING June 20th and 21st

We're jamming up the schedule with outings, but we don't want to go too far into the summer for Bayley Lake. The fish are big and they are a challenge to catch. Try your hand and, with some success, your name may be added to the Big Fish trophy.

The dates are **June 20th and 21st**. The **Big Fish competition** runs from **9AM on Saturday to 3PM on Sunday**. **Pat Stuart** will be there all weekend and encourages members to bring their tent or trailer and spend the weekend, although fishing on either Saturday or Sunday is entirely acceptable. I would note that Pat is threatening to have his famous Moose Stew for those willing to partake.

Bayley Lake is always a fun lake to fish. The trout are big and can take you into your backing. The area is also beautiful and you will likely see deer and eagles during your stay.

We will be sending out a request for RSVP with more details as we get closer, but I would recommend that you add this one to your calendar.

IEFFC 2026 CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location	Contact
April 7	Fly Tying	Fieldhouse Pizza	Phil Beck
April 14	IEFFC Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	Bryan Harman
April 16	IEFFC Board Meeting	Spokane Valley Library	Bryan Harman
April 18	IEFFC One-Fly	Amber Lake	Bob Johnson
April 19	Washington FFI Fly Casting Fair	Issaquah, WA	
April 21	Fly Tying	YAYA Brewery	Lee Funkhouser
May 8	McDonald House Kid's Fishing	Clear Lake	Bryan Harman Skip Cavanaugh
May 9	Kid's Fishing	Clear Lake	Bryan Harman Skip Cavanaugh
May 12	IEFFC Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	Bryan Harman
May 14	IEFFC Board Meeting	Spokane Valley Library	Bryan Harman
June 6 & 7	Coffeepot Outing	Coffeepot Lake	Pat Stuart
June 20 & 21	Bayley Lake Outing	Bayley Lake	Pat Stuart

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

KOEN - FLY TYER

By Lee Funkhouser

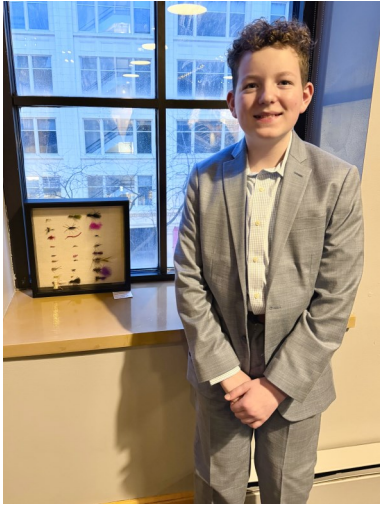
We have a very talented young fly tier in our midst.

Meet Koen, the nine year old son of our member **Andrew Benton** and mom Mary Curley.

Koen attends Libby school where he entered an art show. He chose to do a shadow box of his favorite fly patterns. It was a big hit. He was then asked to display his "art" at the Community Hall at Riverpark Square Shopping Center where these pictures were taken.



KOEN'S FLIES



KOEN

FLY TYING NIGHTS

Coming To An End

Fly tying nights continue to be well attended so we are continuing them into April. We will return to the first and third Tuesday schedule in September. Some really amazing flies are being tied and some really amazing stories are being told.

We will continue using YAYA Brewery and Fieldhouse Pizza and they are always glad to see us.

These last few sessions will give you a chance to finish those final flies to get you through the summer fishing season.

Fly tying will be the April 7th at Fieldhouse Pizza and April 21st at YAYA. Fieldhouse Pizza is located at 4423 W. Wellesley Ave, across the street from Veterans Hospital. YAYA is located at 11712 East Montgomery Drive in the Spokane Valley, and we tie from 6PM to 7:30PM. They have food service at both locations and the beer is cold. Guests are welcome and we look forward to seeing you.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

Big Horn Show 2026

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club again gathered the troops and spent four days talking fly fishing and tying flies for youngsters. As always, it was an enjoyable and rewarding venture.

We had numerous visitors asking about our sport. The kids really enjoyed watching the fly tying and getting to take home a fly of their own. We had a number of visits from members of the Ferris Fishing Club, and expect some Ferris members may attend an upcoming meeting.

We also had contact with potential new members and we have been contacting them to see if they are interested in attending the April or May meeting.

While **Denny Carson** and **Bryan Harman** did most of the heavy lifting, we couldn't possibly get through this event without the help of the club membership. Those assisting Denny and Bryan were **Jeff Pope, Bob Johnson, Larry Ray, Stephen Aspinwall, Skip Cavanaugh, Pat Stuart, Jerry McBride, Lee Funkhouser, Guy Gregory, JC Hicks, Leon Buckles, Stephanie Stephens, Rob Stephens, Phil Beck, Doug Brossoit and Shawn Denny.**

Thanks to all who participated.



FLY OF THE MONTH CONTRIBUTIONS

For over 60 years, the Fly of the Month has been a major part of our newsletter. Hundreds of patterns have been chosen to be our Fly of the Month and most of those flies were introduced by club members. We do look outside our club for patterns that members can tie and utilize in our waters, but our preference will always be member contributions.

If you have a special fly that you would like featured, we welcome your input. Here are a few things that will allow us to feature your fly.

1. Name your fly. 2. Provide a list of materials. 3. Provide a step by step description of the tying process. 4. Provide approximately five pictures taken during the tying process. 4. Provide a brief description of the fly, (how it came about, how to fish it, etc.) 5. Provide a picture of the completed fly.

We look forward to seeing your favorite pattern in an upcoming edition of *The Fly Leaf*.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

BWO Smokejumper

April 2026

Tim Flagler

The Smokejumper is one of Tim's favorite emerger patterns. He likes the versatility of the fly as it can be tied in varying sizes and colors to imitate different bugs. This fly is patterned after an emerging blue winged olive.

This pattern is easy to tie and is a very popular fly for use in the Spring. I would suggest tying in a size 20 for the blue winged olive hatches on the North Fork of the Coeur D'Alene and the St Joe.

There is a video available at the following address: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V22RIVhBGIk>

Hook: Fulling Mill 5065 Size 18.
Thread: Yellow Olive UTC 70 Denier.
Rib: Extra Small or Small Silver Ultra Wire.
Wing: Light Dun CDC Puff.
Thorax: Peacock Herl.



Place your hook in the vise and clamp down. Start your thread at the eye of the hook and wrap toward the bend. After a number of wraps snip off the excess. Continue to wrap towards the bend of the hook.

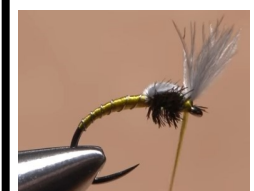
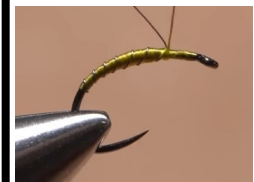
Secure in a small section of the silver wire and wrap the thread slowly making sure the wire ends up on the bottom or inside portion of the hook. Now wrap back up towards the eye, stopping about a third of the way from the eye. Wrap back to 2/3rds of the length and then return back to the one third measure. Wrap back towards the bend and then uncord the thread by letting it spin freely. Now carefully wrap towards the eye making sure you leave a flat thread surface.

Grab the wire and begin making open spiral wraps to form the ribbing. Increase the distance between wraps as you move up the fly to make a more normal looking body. Secure the wire at the 1/3 length and helicopter the wire to remove the excess.

Add in the CDC puff and tie it in with the wing being approximately the length of the hook. Secure it and cut off the remainder. Now wrap the thread over the snipped portion forming a nice taper towards the eye of the hook.

Now take a single strand of peacock herl and attach it to the hook making sure the stem side is pointing up. Wrap the herl to form the thorax and try to have the stem side up so that the fibers stand out.. Tie off the herl and either snip or break off the remaining portion.

Pull the CDC feather forward over the top of the peacock herl and take a couple of thread wraps to lightly secure it. Now use a bodkin to raise the area over the herl slightly. Take a couple wraps over the fly and then back under it to make the CDC puff stand up and slightly forward. Finally, use your whip finish tool to do a whip finish and the fly is finished.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

2026 IEFFC OFFICERS

Your IEFFC Officers for 2026

Bryan Harman	President
Shawn Denny	Vice President
Charlene Douglas	Treasurer
Larry Ray	Secretary
Matt Mason	Board Member
Stephenie Stephens	Board Member
Jeff Pope	Board Member

Member Ride Service By Bob Schmitt

If the ravages of time and age have forced you to curtail your driving, we have the answer for you.

If you need a ride to one our monthly meetings simply call Bob Schmitt at (509) 466 1934. A ride will be arranged for you. You will be picked up at your residence, taken to the Club meeting and returned home. It's as simple as making a phone call.

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
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.