The Fly Leaf

Volume 71 No 5 | Web Page: http://www.ieffc.org | **May, 2026**

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
Spokane Airport Ramada Inn
May 12, 2026
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m. Dinner cost $35.00

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
By Bryan Harman

Fishing is heating up along with the weather, local waters are open and kids fishing is just around the corner.

The One Fly was a fantastic event this year as mother nature showed up in prime form, not too hot, not too cold, and not too much wind, it was goldilocks weather (just right). It was great to get together and fish with friends and a little competition to make it interesting. I would like to thank Bob Johnson for pulling the One Fly together, and a hot meal when we got off the water. I don't want to spoil the surprise but it is no surprise that I was unable to repeat as the One Fly winner.

If you have not made it out to a fishout you need to put this on your "to do" list for this year even if you can't fish the lunch is great and the conversation is even better.

My personal favorite event of the year is coming up, Kids Fishing Day is May 9th and Ronald McDonald house kids is May 8th. Looking back, someone introduced all of us to fishing or at least helped you get a rod so you could ride your bike to your local pond. This is your opportunity to pass this legacy of the outdoors to the next generation. If you did not sign up on the volunteer sheet feel free to come out, we can always use help, feel free to contact me or Skip Cavanaugh and we can get you out to Clear Lake at the right time. On Friday May 8th we will be hosting the kids from the Ronald McDonald house and while these kids are struggling with medical issues for one day it is a chance to feel the sun on their skin and fish slime on their hands.

I am proud of everyone that helps to make this event so special for these kids, and help them see the enjoyment that we get from the outdoors as well. On Saturday the 9th it is open to all kids and it brings out the kid in my heart, seeing big smiles and new experiences for so many young people.

Research says that social interactions are good for your health, so lets all be healthy maybe grab a drink and socialize with (good?) group of people. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the May meeting to learn about lake fishing techniques and hear about your summer angling plans!

May Program
An IEFFC Stillwater Triumvirate

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Lake fishing is picking up this year and we are overdue for an overview. While many newer members are well versed in fishing running waters, we've asked this group of accomplished lake anglers to offer expert stillwater advice.

Hubert Langenhorst will offer an overview on lakes and how to approach them. How to choose and modify fly selection, and other guidelines including the proper way to throat sample a fish and why to do so.

Jerry McBride will cover gear and tackle and how he sets up and adjusts his outfit. He'll offer information on types of lake flies and particulars on how to fish them successfully. Chironomids and his signature balanced flies, including information on their use, will be featured.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Continued

May Program
continued

To round out the presentations, **Stephen Aspinwall** will explain how to target fish that are hanging out in seemingly unapproachable deep water, and explain the technique of 'Dangling', which allows you to target and obtain those fish.

Join us and broaden your lake fishing knowledge and pick up several helpful tips from these experts that you can use to increase your lake fishing success. Then put it to work over our "summer break". The rivers may well get low and warm--so plan on giving lakes a big play this year!

Here's a idea for a local summer trip to please everyone!

Try an Idaho Native Trout Road Trip:
https://visitidaho.org/travel-tips/try-your-own-idaho-native-trout-road-trip/

Idaho has more than 100,000 miles of rivers, most of which are flanked by major travel corridors connecting some of the most scenic places in America. Most of these rivers are home to one or more of the five native species of trout found in Idaho.

From desert Redlands in the Southwest to Westslope Cutties in North Idaho, Yellowstone or Bonneville in Eastern Idaho, and the occasional Bull Trout that can make your day virtually anywhere, there's eager native fish and great habitat all along your way.

Planning a trip to Yellowstone or elsewhere? Add a couple days, you'll love the fishing and your family will love other activities from hiking, whitewater rafting, to exploring ghost towns, small towns, or urban areas all along the way. Check out the website above for help planning that trip!

2026 One Fly Event, April 18, 2026
By
Bob Johnson

What a wonderful day!

The day started off with a little cloud cover and some almost chilly temperatures, but the sun was peeking thru. The wind was light and putting a little chop on the water. We had thirteen anglers waiting to go, although many were still trying to figure out what fly to use, blob, balanced leech, damsel, or chironomid.

When the starting horn sounded everyone had a fly in the water. As the time continued along, many wondered if they had chosen the proper fly. The last hour came, then the fish started biting, if you had a chironomid tied on. In fact, our winner caught all his fish within that last hour. (some people are just lucky that way).

In all, it was a great day, temperature got warmer. All the fish caught were "nice fish". There were no small fish. Fifteen inches was the smallest size, and everybody caught fish except for Shawn Denny. He had one to the pontoon and while grabbing his net, his line caught on something and broke, thus eliminating him.

Lunch was good, at least I didn't hear any complaints. We even had a visit from Bob Schmitt, who came down to see if he should have gotten up earlier and fished with us. Maybe next year Bob. After lunch it was figured out that our fisherman extraordinaire, inventor of the balanced fly, Jerry McBride, caught enough large fish to take the trophy this year with 6 fish to the net. **Congratulations Jerry.**

Great company, good fishing, and a beautiful day. It can't be better than this!

Bob's got lunch ready!

June Outings

Pat Stuart is heading up two outings this month!

The Coffee Pot Outing June 6-7

Our Coffeepot outing will again feature the "Big Fish" contest. Fish-Ing last year was excellent and some mighty fish were caught. This years contest runs from 9AM on Saturday, June 6 to 3PM on Sunday June 7.

There are camping sites at Coffee Pot, but they are limited. Pat Stuart will be there with his trailer and he will have the "Big Fish Jug" for you to enter de-tails of 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.

Bayley Lake June 20-21

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 add-ed to the Big Fish trophy.

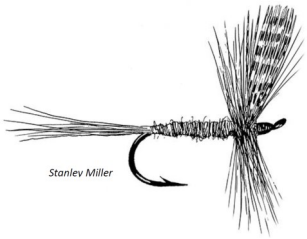
Dates for Bayley Lake are June 20 and 21. The Big Fish competition runs from 9AM on Saturday to 3PM on Sunday. Pat Stuart will be there all weekend and encourages members to bring their tent or trailer and spend the weekend, although day trip fishing on either Saturday or Sunday is entirely acceptable. 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. You'll appreciate the work the club does there each fall to enhance spawning habitat.

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.

Got a trip coming up? Want some company?

Members are headed to the four corners this summer- Canada, Montana, Overseas….Steelhead trips are being planned for fall, warmwater trips in the Columbia Basin in summer! Your **Club Roster** will be showing up in your mailbox, call that member you've met and see if they want to join you! It's a great way to make new friends and share knowledge bases with each other. Let's go fishing!



WDFW News

Recreational salmon fishing seasons tentatively set for 2026-2027

Anglers in Washington can expect similar recreational salmon fisheries in 2026-2027 compared to last season, with additional opportunities and some Puget Sound summer Chinook seasons shorter in duration, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) fishery managers announced today. https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/summaries hosts the links to the proposals which will be finalized by rule in mid-late June.

Electronic Catch Record Cards on tap for 2026

Fishing for salmon, steelhead, halibut, sturgeon, or Puget Sound Dungeness crab? There's a new way to report your catch: electronic catch record cards (eCRCs). Available through the MyWDFW and Fish Washington® mobile applications, eCRCs offer recreational anglers and crabbers a faster, easier way to record and report catch using a mobile device. eCRCs are an optional alternative to paper reporting for those who opt in as Washington mobile licensing customers.

Still want to use paper? No problem. WDFW still offers paper reporting options for anglers who prefer it, but paper licenses and catch record cards will look different this license year compared to in the past. Check https://wdfw.medium.com/new-catch-record-card-options-what-anglers-and-crabbers-need-to-know-for-2026-f6ef2bf0f0c8a for complete information

Fly Tying Nights Continuing Next Fall

Fly tying nights are suspended until fall. They are well attended, and we'll be picking them up again in September or October, so keep your eyes open for those gatherings. 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.

Be ready to share your killer patterns from your summer adventures.

We're hoping to continue the schedule of the first Tuesday of the month at Fieldhouse Pizza and the third Tuesday of the month 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.

We now take Credit Cards!

You have new ways to pay to attend the meetings! We take your credit card at the door, or if more convenient, pay online prior to the meeting at this link: https://square.link/u/zXgyieGU

Next winter we'll have links available for payment of membership dues and such as well.

IEFFC CALENDAR

Date	Event	Location	Contact/Time
May 8 and 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**
TBD	**President's Retreat**	**TBD**	**Bryan Harman**
September 8	**IEFFC Meeting**	**Spokane Airport Ramada**	**Bryan Harman**

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*..

FLY OF THE MONTH

Krókurinn **May 2026** **Gylfi Kristjánsson**

Gylfi Kristjánsson tied this fly to be a realistic, durable imitation of the midge pupae in Icelandic waters. It use has spread wherever char or trout are pursued, though in Iceland it is considered a must-have pattern in lakes or streams for char. It'll be quite familiar to the chironomid angler here, and in larger sizes should provide some caddis action in later times of the year. Vary the hotspot color and the color of the ribbing to your heart's content. This one seems to work at Coffeepot. An excellent tutorial in English can be found on Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8V6hb0p3P9c&t=11s

Hook: Ahrex FW540 or equivalent, size 12-18, 12 is the most popular.
Bead: Copper colored, in appropriate size for the hook
Thread: Veevus 10/0 Black
Tail: 6-8 pheasant tail fibers, natural
Hot Spot: Red antron dubbing
Body: Vinyl rib - Nymph black

Tie in your thread behind the bead, advancing to about where the barb would be. Return to the bead, then tie in the pheasant tail fibers on top of the hook, tying them down nearly to the apex of the hook bend. Note the pheasant tail fibers are longer than you might otherwise tie.

Return the fly to about where the barb point would be. Dub about 3 wraps of dubbing for a hotspot. In the original pattern a short piece of dubbing brush is used. Red is common, so is black.

Tie in vinyl rib body material. Black is traditional, also dark green. Tie in the rib at the back next to the dubbing. Wrap thread to the bead forming a tapered body. Wrap the vinyl rib material up to the bead, oval side up.

Build a thread collar to secure the bead and smooth the transition to the head. Whip finish, and glue the collar.

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FFI News and Happenings

Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy **June 20-27, 2026**
Panhandle Lake 4H Camp, Shelton WA

The Academy is a week of Fly Casting and tying, fishing in Panhandles's private stocked lake and casting to Cut-throat in local streams and river. The Academy is full this year, but if you've a youngster who might be interested next year, check out their website for contacts (and events) at https://nwycffa.com/

FFI FlyFest 2026 **September 24-26,**
Redding Civic Auditorium, Redding CA

FlyFest is about bringing fly anglers together; to learn, to share knowledge, to spend time with people who care deeply about the sport and the waters that sustain it. The 2026 event will bring learning and community into the same space with a full schedule of educational presentations, fly tying and casting demonstrations, a consumer trade show, and time built in for fishing, food, fellowship, and fun. Everything takes place under one roof and is included with a single, accessible registration fee.

For members who want to go a step further, FlyFest will also offer small-group seminars that allow for closer learning and real conversation. A community dinner and fundraising auction will round out the weekend — an opportunity to connect, celebrate our shared passion, and support the mission of Fly Fishers International.

Registration is now open...https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/flyfest

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*.

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

IEFFC Officers and Board of Directors

Bryan Harman - President
Shawn Denny - Vice President
Larry Ray - Secretary
Charlene Douglas - Treasurer
Board Members are: Stephenie Stephens, Matt Mason, and Jeff Pope.

Membership Committee Chair: Bob Schmitt

Contact information for all Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs are in the 2025 Roster or on the website. 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, your member product review, whatever, into the next issue...