



The Tippet

February 2000

President's Message

Well, it seems that we are in the slower part of the season as far as fishing goes. Perhaps everyone is getting caught up with other activities such as repairing equipment, tying flies, or just enjoying some free time. So, what better way to spend some of that free time than to attend our next meeting! Remember that we celebrate Valentine's Day for our February meeting and encourage everyone to bring their Valentines along. We also have a very nice program lined up that I think will appeal to both flyfishers and non-flyfishers alike.

I am not sure that everyone knows that our most recent former "Prez" Jim Palmersheim is much more than a "regular" on the Clearwater during the fall season! He is also an accomplished professional artist whose work has been featured in numerous exhibitions, as well as the permanent collection in the Boise Art Museum. Jim is represented by two Galleries in Boise and Ketchum, Idaho, and one of his works was selected by the Nature Conservancy for its annual poster this past year. For those of you who may have attended the CONFLUENCE Art and the Trout Fly show this past summer at the Prichard Gallery, which Jim co-curated with artist and flytyer Ken Iwamasa, you may have seen some of his work in the show, as well as other examples of the fusion of Art and Flyfishing. Jim will continue this theme for our February program by showing us some examples of work from the show, as well as presenting us with some of his work and approach to art. For those of you not familiar with Jim's work, I think you will be pleasantly surprised and affected by the feelings and places that his work evokes, including many places where we spend time fishing.

Brian McNeill



Backcast (January meeting)

Guests

A big welcome to Sean Shea who was a guest and became a new member at the January meeting!

Fishing reports

Jim Palmersheim and John Toker played tag-team steelheading during December and were each temporarily credited with half a steelhead. By all accounts Jim hooked a steelhead on the Clearwater while trying out John's new steelhead rod. However, because John made the actual cast, Jim gave the rod back to John, who then played and landed the fish. A technical ruling is expected from the steelhead etiquette committee.

Tim Cavileer also reported catching his first steelhead over the Christmas holidays under Jim and Kato's excellent tutelage.

Old Business Conservation

John Read noted that the catch and release area on the St. Joe has been extended 12 miles down river to Avery and that the removal of barbless hook requirement in special regulation areas proposed by IDFG was not implemented. As a follow up to questions from the previous meeting Tim Cavileer reported on IDFG's practice of removing of Chinook redds on the St Joe when redd count exceeds 100..

New Business

A request came in from the Washington State Council of FFF for a brief one-page history of the club for the next issue of 'Covering the Drift', the WSCFFF newsletter. Brian asked Dave Tharp and Tim Cavileer to head that up. The WSC-FFF is also looking for auction items (day trips on local waters by club members, flies, etc.) to be raffled at the upcoming state jamboree.

The request from the Center for Environmental Law and Policy asking the club to consider becoming a member (\$50) was passed to the Conservation committee for action.

The Upper Snake River Cutthroats club in Idaho Falls is sponsoring a raffle of a 5 day/6 night guided fishing trip for two on the South Fork, Henry's Fork and Teton Rivers. The club agreed to participate and sell tickets (\$10/chance) with the club keeping 25%. The drawing is scheduled for April 15th at the 7th Annual East Idaho Fly Tyers Expo in Idaho Falls. For tickets see Brian McNeill.

Joe Ford invited all members to attend the Ducks Unlimited Banquet on February 5th at Shermers. For more details contact Joe Ford at joeford@wsu.edu or 334-7665.

Presentations

Past club officers were honored at the meeting with Joe Ford (*past Tippet Editor*) and Denny Cartwright (*past treasurer*) each receiving an Okuma Fly Box containing Leroy Hyatt flies. Jim Palmersheim (*past President*) was presented with a choice of a Bill Henderix custom net currently on tour with the Confluence exhibit. Your past service is well appreciated guys! Incoming Treasurer Shirley Engerbretson and Tippet editor

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Clearwater Flycasters 1999 Officers

President Brian McNeill
Vice-President John Toker
Secretary/Treasurer
Shirley Engerbretson
Conservation Chair John Read
FFF Representative George Johnson
Newsletter Editor Tim Cavileer
editor's email: tcavileer@uidaho.edu

Virtual Tippet (CFC Website)
www.wsu.edu:8080/~slind/cfc/cfc.html

CFC membership dues are now \$20/year for individuals, \$25/year for families, \$10/year for students.

Meetings on 2nd Wednesday, Sept - May, at Shermer's Restaurant, 300 S Grand, Pullman, WA

Wet Fly time at 6:00pm, dinner at 6:30pm and program at 8:00pm



(Gene Trump cartoon - used by permission)

Tim Cavileer each received a beautiful trout pen to aid in the performance of their new duties.

Raffle

A beautiful selection of steelhead flies were donated by Tom Anderson and Leroy Hyatt for the January raffle. Winners included Jim Palmersheim, John Read, Marv Slind, George Johnson, and Brain McNeill. Dennis Gemmel picked up two tickets to the Sportmans Show in Seattle.

Speaker's Notes

Joe Foster, WDFW, was January's speaker. Joe started out by sharing a few secrets for fishing in eastern Washington and then updated club members on the Rock Creek Escure Ranch situation and on the department's stocking program using sterile trout. Joe quickly surmised the tenor of the members (fish where are the fish, Joe!) and opened up his talk, fielding questions on the various lakes and streams in region 2. Did I say something about secrets? Of course, they wouldn't be secrets anymore if I printed them here.

If you missed the last meeting you can still ask Joe those burning questions by contacting him at the Ephrata Office (509) 745-4624 or through email at fostejhf@dfw.wa.gov.



Book Review - by Don Shearer

Reviewers note:

I draw no line between fly fishing and the rest of my outdoor activities. Some of the books reviewed in the opinion of some may not be strictly fly fishing related. Having never written a book myself I find it difficult to critique a book that others have worked hard on. I approach all of my reviews as if my best friend had asked what the book was about and if I would recommend my friend read it. - Don

Wild Thing

By Stacy Gebhards

Washington State University Press, Pullman, WA 1999

150 Pages, softcover, \$14.95, ISBN: 087422182X

In *Wild Thing*, Stacy Gebhards reviews his extraordinary outdoor life. A life that carried him from a young fish poacher in Illinois to a high office within the Idaho State Fish & Game Department. He shares with the reader some of the many miles of the Idaho outdoors he has covered via horseback, raft, trail, and snowshoe.

The book covers many different outdoor areas. These areas include, outdoor cooking, a history of Idaho alpine lakes fish stocking, the first game department kayak river patrol, mule skinning, conservation, winter survival and others. In the chapter titled, *Winter Secrets*, Gebhards gives a basic snow survival course. This chapter alone would make the book a value to anyone who spends much time outdoors in the winter months.

I must warn potential readers that Gebhards will have them reconsidering their career choice. Every one should have as much fun at work as Gebhards describes in his book. Written with a humorous voice, *Wild Thing*, passes my ultimate book test. The ultimate book test is rather simple, "Would I recommend a book to a friend." I not only would recommend *Wild Thing*, I have bought a copy for an old friend.

Jamboree 2000

By Donn Mills, WSCFFF, Vice President, Westside



Jamboree 2000 will be held on May 6, 2000 at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, Washington.

You can enter the Jamboree with a \$10 donation. Children, age 16 and younger, are free.

The Jamboree again will exemplify the Federation of Fly Fishers theme of presenting an educational, hands-on show for beginner and experienced fly-fisher alike. Kids will be entertained in The Kid's Corner while mom and dad learn to tie a fly, visit other displays or listen to noted speakers.

The show will featured many of the Northwest's best tiers demonstrating their skills throughout the day.

There will be opportunities to see the latest in fly fishing equipment and attend educational and conservation clinics. Presenters will cover Northwest opportunities for fly anglers and many other topics.

Of course the Jamboree would not be complete without a silent auction and raffle tables full of items any fly angler can use.

After the excitement of the day's activity is over, you can relax at the evening dinner auction. There you will enjoy a good meal and support the future of fly fishing in Washington by bidding on some outstanding items donated by friends of the FFF.

Funds raised through the Jamboree go toward conservation activities to improve and preserve fishing opportunities in Washington.

Announcements

✔ Congratulations to Don Shearer and his wife on the birth of their first baby, Laura Madison Shearer.

✔ Upper Snake River Cutthroats club raffle tickets available from Brian McNeil at \$10/chance. The prize, a 5 day/6 night guided fishing trip for two on the South Fork, Henry's Fork and Teton Rivers, will be awarded April 15, 2000 at the 7th Annual East Idaho Fly Tying Expo.



Meet the President

The Clearwater Flycaster's newly installed president, Brian McNeill, says that his first priority when he arrival here ten years ago was to learn to Flyfish. Brian started out on the Deschutes River (which he says was not easy!) but was fortunate to have a California fishing buddy, Rich Langford as mentor. It was Rich who took this picture on one of their trips to the Yellowstone River.

Brain's favorite places in the world to fish are the St. Joe River locally and Silver Creek south of Ketchum, Idaho (where he tries to get to at least a couple of times a year).

Brian lives in Moscow with his wife Elsie and two daughters, Mariko and Kimiko, and is currently a Professor of Counseling Psychology at WSU.



Saturday February 19th, 3-10 pm

- What:** 18th Annual Meeting of fly tying friends and families. There will be free food, raffles & an auction benefiting the Special Olympics.
- Who:** Anyone interested in fly tying, fly fishing or just a great time with great people.
- Why:** To meet, mingle & munch with fly fishing friends and families. Learn to tie and/or receive tips and tricks from advanced tiers.
- Where:** 3044 South Mountain View Extension
(East on Rt. 8, first right after Tidyman's)

*Donated Auction items accepted
For additional information call
Joe McGurkin 882-7798 or Craig Lewis 882-4110*

Upcoming Events

- *February 9, 2000 Clearwater Flycasters meeting, Shermer's Restuarant, Pullman, WA
- *February 9-13, 2000 International Sportsmen's Expo, Seattle, WA
- *February 10, 2000 Public Hearing on the Army Corp of Engineers 'Lower Snake River Juvenile Salmon Migration Feasibility Report/ Environmental Impact Statement', Lewiston, Jdaho. Williams Conference Center, LCSC, Two hearings are scheduled, noon to 5pm and 6pm to midnight.
- *February 19, 2000 Burgers and Flies 2K, Moscow, Jdaho
- *March 25, 2000 NW Fly Tying Expo, Eugene, OR
- *April 14-15, 2000 7th Annual East Jdaho Fly Tying Expo, Jdaho Falls, Jdaho

Fly of the Month--Articulated Leech

- Submitted by Tim Cavileer (*with apologies to John Shewey*)

This is the fly that accounted for my first steelhead on the Clearwater River last month. When Jim looked into my meager assortment of flies, he immediately pointed to this one. As you know, a 28" A-run male steelhead fell victim to its enticing movement. To that steelhead, my first ever, I dedicate this fly of the month!

While the origin of the pattern is unknown (*at least to me*), I do know of its effectiveness on the Grand Rhonde through a friend, Leslie Benscoter of Deadwood, Oregon. Leslie commented recently that his Son-in-Law Joe Garoutte and his brother Mike Garoutte fished the Grand Rhonde during two weekends in late December. The first weekend was slow but they took 8 fish in two days. The second weekend was a 3 day affair and they took 23 fish. The fly they used: a black articulated leech (BATL fly).

Full tying instructions by Joe Garoutte from La Grande, OR can be found in the Virtual Flyshop's archives at <http://www.virtualflyshop.com/Bench/>

Joe's comments on the fly:

"This is a winter steelhead pattern (water below 40 degrees). This necessitates a deep running fly with some life in slow currents. A barbell style head is used for weight. Marabou is used for a lot of life. Two hooks with the bend cut off of the first are used to ensure that the short takes are not missed (the trailing hook bend is nearly even with the ends of the marabou. This fly is affectionately referred to as the "steelhead killer" by some due to its effectiveness."



Hook: Daiichi 2441 #4
Thread: Black rod winding thread

Rear fly
Body: gold tinsel
Wing: purple maribou with several strands of purple flashabou

Forward fly (hook point clipped)
Body: thread
Wing: purple maribou
Eyes: medium hour glass brass eyes, 7/32

Clearwater Flycasters
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