



April 2002

President's Message

Here it is, time for the April meeting, already. Let's hope that a number of you were able to take advantage of our recent (and I should emphasize *very recent*) good weather to get out and toss some flies at fish. (I heard that George Hinman hammered them on the Bitterroot, last month). We expect a large number of good fishing reports this meeting, Wednesday, April 10th, at Lakey's.

Our speaker this month will be Mac Huff, from Eagle Cap Guides. Bruce Frazier, our vice president was kind enough to arrange his attendance, and Bruce put together a bio and summary of what to expect from Mac, which appears in another part of this issue of the Tippet. We are also expecting Jerry McBride of Colville to come tell us about the Washington Federation's fly casting contest and conclave in Ellensburg, this spring. Please join us for this extraordinary program.

Remember that the Amber Lake Fish Out is Saturday, May 4. Yours truly has ordered up some good weather and is determined to fix some edible burgers and dogs (probably even side dishes such as potato salad and beans). We'll meet at the boat ramp at Amber early in the morning; I am bringing a tarp in the event of rain (I'd assume that would assure us of good weather). Remember to bring your own alcoholic beverages.

Bob Clark requested that I inform you Kelly Creek is having their annual picnic at Winchester on Saturday, July 13, and that we are all invited. He asked for some idea of how many he might expect, as they need to plan for enough food. Please let us know at the next meeting, or call and leave me a message at 883-0622, so I can

let him know. Also, Kelly Creek is having their annual Banquet May 11, at 6 p.m. at the Helm Restaurant. Their guest speaker is Rick Kustich, author of "Flyfishing for Great Lakes Steelhead- *An Advanced Look at an Emerging Fishery*." His presentation is entitled "Steelhead Odyssey".

Zach Funkhouser told me Jerry is a veritable walking encyclopedia of information on steelheading and he travels the world speaking on related topics. The event will also include their auction and a number of door prizes. They request that we reserve our places in advance; tickets are \$20. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Zach Funkhouser at (208) 799-4250.

At our last meeting, we voted to do away with the summer barbeque, choosing instead to have it on the evening of our first meeting of the fall. This year, the event will be held at Sunnyside Park on Sept. 11, (at the picnic area), where I have reserved tables from 6-10 p.m. The dinner will be catered by Porky's BBQ, and again, I'd appreciate some idea in advance as to how many dinners to order. We'll have the traditional fall fishing report extravaganza and our annual fly casting contest (assuming there is still water in the pond). We hope you can join us for that event, as well.

Last, but not least, the St. Joe Fish Out will again be at Fly Flat campground this July 18-21, inclusive. Please consider catching at least part of the fun. Call Dave Tharp or me for details if you have not been to one of these before and have any questions.

I'll see you April 10!

Jim Siebe

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CFC membership dues are \$20/year for individuals, \$25/year for families, \$10/year for students, \$50/sustaining and \$300/lifetime.

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



Backcast

Fishing Reports

Many area reservoirs and ponds are thawing with the recent warm weather. Spring Valley's inlet bays are partially open and some rainbows are already in the throws of a false-spawn.

Apparently Montana's Bitterroot River is fishing well. Maybe George Hinman will enlighten us at the meeting....

The carp are getting active and soaking up the sun in the levee ponds around Lewiston. They are picky about presentation and pattern of fly. Walk slowly, hide, and cast delicately.

New Business

Zac Sexton has landed a job as fly-casting instructor for Sweetwater Aquaculture, near Lapwai. Instruction takes place on their trout-filled pond, where anglers can catch a fish the first time casting a fly rod. This is a great way to introduce family and/or friends to the sport we hold in our souls.

Instruction is \$35 per hour for non-members. Clearwater Fly Casters and their families can get instruction for \$25 per hour when they present their membership card. Catch and release fishing is also available for \$20 per hour. Call Zac for more details: 208-882-1265.

Upcoming Events

April 9,16,23, 30 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Fly Tying at Tri-State in Moscow.
April 10 6 p.m., Clearwater Fly Casters meeting at Lakey's Grill in Pullman.

<i>President</i>	Jim Siebe (jsiebe@moscow.com) 883-0622
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Cooking

Cobblers are easy and fun to make, taste great everyone loves them. They taste swell with light cream on them. I could go on, and on about cobblers. Here is an easier one to make.

CHEERY CHERRY COBBLER

Ingredients:

29 oz. can of cherry pie filling
1-cup flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
3 tablespoons sugar
1-tablespoon oil
1 egg
½ cup milk

Directions:

Use a 10-inch Dutch oven for four people. Use a 12-inch Dutch for five to six people. Line the Dutch with aluminum foil. Cut the foil off at the top of the oven. Pour in pie filling. In a bowl, mix flour, baking powder, salt, sugar, oil, egg and milk. Add enough milk to make it pour like thick pancake batter. Pour the mixture over the pie filling, and spread it out. *Double ingredients for 12-inch Dutch.* Set 1-inch Dutch on six coals. Put 25 or so on top. Put eight coals under 12-inch Dutch, with about 30 on top. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes, or until brown on top.

The foil keeps the sweet filling from sticking if it gets too hot anyplace. This Cheery Cherry cobbler is fantastic with camp-made ice cream or half'n' half. Try it. You will like it.

THE D.O. CAMP COOK

Clearwater Fly Casters PO Box 2149 CS Pullman, WA 99165

Pork short ribs and dressing... What a fantastic evening meal this makes when you are camped up on the river. I have fixed this at Kelly Creek several times, and there is never any left for lunch tomorrow.

Ingredients:

4 to 5 lbs. Of the leanest, boneless pork short ribs you can find.
A couple medium-sized sweet onions
A couple boxes of Stovetop pork stuffing
½ cup water or white wine

Feeds five or six hungry fly fishers.

Directions:

Ingredients will fit in your 12-inch Dutch oven. Start 35 or so charcoal briquettes, and pre-heat your oven. While that is happening trim as much fat off the ribs as you can. Clean and chop both onions pretty small. When the oven is hot (I pre-heat my oven on my gas stove), sear the ribs on all sides. Add water or wine and sprinkle the onions on top of the seared ribs. Set your Dutch on six or eight charcoals and set the lid on. Put rest of the coals on the lid.

Go fishing for another one and a half hours to let the ribs cook. When you get back, put your 10-inch Dutch on the gas stove, and make the dressing according to the instructions on the box. Add the dressing to the ribs and stir it around a bit. This box dressing comes out too dry to suit me, but when it is mixed with the moisture on the ribs, it is perfect.

Cook some green veggies, and make a salad and let's eat! Just how good does eating have to be? Nothing draws a crowd much more than these ribs and dressing.

THE D.O. CAMP COOK

The Program

Our program for April 10 will feature Mac Huff, Orvis Endorsed fishing guide with expertise in northeastern Oregon, including the Grande Ronde. Mac and partner Frank Conley offer Guided Fishing Trips -- Natural History Tours -- Special Steelhead Trips -- Whitewater Floating -- Hiking-Birding -- Shuttle Service, as stated on their web page.

They invite us to fish one of the West's great, undiscovered fishing areas, including the Grande Ronde, Wallowa, Imnaha, Minam and Wenaha rivers, or alpine lakes in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Their company name is Eagle Cap Fishing Guides. Each guide spends 150 days a year on the river and can lead you to a great day of fishing along with informative observations about the fauna, flora and geology of the area. Mac is a wildlife biologist and Frank is a licensed naturalist. Each has years of experience locating fish,

hatches and teaching anglers casting techniques and local fishing secrets.

Mac also is a FFF certified fly-casting instructor with over 10 years guiding experience in Wallowa County. A veteran fisherman and outdoors columnist, Mac Huff also owned and operated Wallowa Outdoors sporting goods and fly shop in Enterprise, Oregon for 13 years.

But there is more than fishing in these two guides. Eagle Cap Fishing Guides also offers natural history tours. They are licensed and have U.S. Forest Service permits for Wallowa, Union, and Baker counties. Tours can be either by hiking, 6-person van, or chartered bus. Tours run Wednesday-Sunday, late May to early October (June & July best). They include short hikes, van, and tram trips to explore the geology, wildflowers, history,



Above: Emily Sexton, Zac's wonderful sister, displays her first rainbow on a fly rod.

and wildlife of the area. Alpine peaks, basalt canyons, 250 species of birds, the Nez Perce National Park, and abundant wildlife make this trip a feast for outdoor enthusiasts. Limit 6. The tours are based in Joseph and feature four nights in a beautiful bed and breakfast (or deluxe motel if senior citizens require no stairs) at the base of 9,700 ft. Chief Joseph Mountain. Visits are made to Hells Canyon, Eagle Cap Wilderness, Nez Perce National Park sites, Wallowa Lake, and take the gondola to the top of Mt. Howard for a view into four states. Depending on the particular interests of participants, their itinerary will include geology, wildflowers, bronze art foundries, birds, Nez Perce and local history, wildlife, and forest ecology. Wallowa County is home for some of the largest deer and elk herds in Oregon, nesting bald eagles and great gray owls, abundant spring wildflowers; and an incredible array of cirques, basalts, faults, and uplifts.

Furdad - by Tyler Mickelson

Hook: #8 to 3/0 streamer
Tail: Burnt orange marabou
Claws: Orangish rabbit strip
Eyes: 1/8 to 5/32-inch red beads secured to 30 lb. Mono
Body: Copper Light Brite dubbing
Over-wing: Brown and orange marabou
Weight: large lead wire

- 1) Start thread and move to hook bend. Tie in tuft of burnt orange marabou on top of hook shank. Tie-in eyes on top of hook shank.
- 2) Weight body by twisting lead around hook shank. Dub body over lead. Leave room for marabou over-wing.
- 3) Tie-in marabou by tips - brown first, then orange. Make two turns around hook with brown. Make three turns of orange. Tie-off, whip-finish and cement.

Tyler is a Wyoming angler who often dreams of warm/cool water species such as Smallmouth bass. He recently developed this pattern for his next trip to the Clearwater, Snake and Coeur d'Alene drainage. It is a simple pattern that does a great impression of a fleeing crawdad. I like to leave the claws short and use a gray variation to imitate a vulnerable, freshly molted crawdad.

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Get your Tippet online at www.clearwaterflycasters.com