



From The President's Desk

With the beautiful weather we have had over the past couple of days I hope many of you have had a chance to get out and do some fishing. I fear once again I am going to have to live vicariously through the monthly fishing reports given at the meeting.

Our April meeting will be held on Wednesday the fourteenth.

Meeting-Speaker: Our guests is Ken Gebhardt, Fishery Biologist, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, St. Joe Ranger District, Avery Office. Ken is asking the club to participate in a project involving the West Fork of the St Maries River. He would like club members to help in placing large woody debris in-stream, survey for cutthroat redds and planting trees along the stream bank. If you would like to see a draft of the plan you can access it via the web from a link on the Clearwater Flycasters conservation web page at <http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com/conservation.htm>.

Kajsa Stromberg's, Palouse Clearwater Institute, presentation scheduled for this month has been re-scheduled to October, 2004

Southfork Clearwater Conservation:

Another conservation issue we have been asked to address is the effort to establish minimum flows on the South Fork of the

Clearwater. The club has been asked by Idaho Rivers United (IRU) to write a letter in support of the effort. This is what the IRU has to say:

The Comprehensive Plan for the South Fork Clearwater addresses the conservation, development, management and use of un-appropriated water in the basin.

Idaho Department of Water Resources has recommended to the board that minimum stream flows be dedicated throughout much of the basin. In addition, over 370 miles of rivers are recommended for state protected river status.

Important habitat areas for spring and fall chinook, steelhead, bull trout, red-band trout and westslope cutthroat trout will benefit. Wilderness streams like Johns and Tenmile Creek will receive protected status and minimum flows. Most of the stream miles recommended are on the Nez Perce National Forest.

One thing that is different about this plan is that minimum stream flows are being requested based on life cycles of fish, i.e. different flows are requested for different times of year depending on the need. In other words, this acknowledges that "one flow does not fit all".

By-Laws: After receiving some feedback on the proposed by laws for the club, I have made further edits to the document.

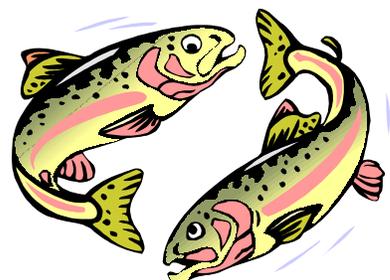
I would like to discuss this document at the next meeting. If you would like to preview the proposed by laws a copy is available on the club's web page at www.clearwaterflycasters.com under the "Good Stuff" link, or the direct link is <http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com/history/Proposedbylaws3.pdf>. If you do not have access to the web and still would like to see the proposed by laws please contact me and I will get you a printed copy. I will also have copies available at the April meeting.

Mugs: For those who have not yet ordered a set of the coffee mugs that Bob Harwood is producing for the club, time is running out. You will want to order yours soon. I believe Shirley will be in attendance this month so for those of who have already received your coffee mugs please remember to bring payment. If you have not had a chance to see them yet a set will be available for viewing at the next meeting. All proceeds from the sale of the mugs goes to the club

Don Shearer

Upcoming Events

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|-----------------|--|
| April 14, 2004 | Clearwater Fly Casters monthly meeting at the Best Western-University Inn in Moscow, ID. 6:00 pm |
| April 21, 2004 | Conservation/Exec meeting at the Old Post Office Wine Cellar and Gallery, 245 SE Paradise, Pullman, WA. 5:30 pm. |
| May 1, 2004 | Amber Lake Fishout |
| May 8, 2004 | North Idaho Fly Show and Banquet, Coeur d'Alene Inn, West 414 Appleway, Coeur d'Alene, ID. |
| July 8-10, 2004 | St Joe Fishout |



Treasurer's Notes

Checking Account. There is around \$870.00 in the checking account. Checks were written to our March speaker and for dinners for the speaker and Tippet editor, for a total disbursement of \$430. Receipts were \$106. There is \$5,130 in savings, \$2,000 of which is reserved for the Alspach Scholarship Fund. Due to some miscalculation on my part, I have found the funds to be somewhat less than reported in March. My apologies for the misinformation.

Calendars. We have some *2004 Angler's Calendars* available. Since three months have gone by in 2004, the calendars will be sold for \$9 each, and decreasing by \$1.00 each month. So, if you wait until our December meeting, it will only cost you \$1 for a great calendar. Don't you need one for you fly tying room or your shop? Seriously, they are really nice calendars.

Shirley Engerbretson, Treasurer

Burgers and Flies Update: Joe McGurkin told the Tippet editor that final tally was \$3200 from the auction. Many thanks to the donors of flies, fishing items, exercise equipment and clothing. Thanks also to the generous auction participants.

Backcast

Guests: Welcome Lindsay Bush, and Kevin Lamars.

Fish Reports: David Young landed one steelhead, experienced a cold bath, and lost a fly line on a monster steelhead on the Clearwater...good thing he and Marion went to warmer climes over break!. Lenore Lake produced about 15 fish over two days for Glen. Debbie said she caught 10 and of course they were bigger, but then I didn't get to see them..... Brian O. had good fishing on the Yakima using nymphs. Don Shearer and Kevin Lamars each caught one at Rock Lake.

Raffle: Thank you to raffle donors: Bob Harwood-Clearwater flycaster trout mug, Shirley Engerbretson-Magazines with articles by Dave, Don Shearer and Tim Cavileer-Flies, Worlds Greatest Fishing Band-Fishing- CD, and Joe Ford-Hat. Congratulations also to the winners: John and Mary Read, Tim (Lucky) Cavileer, George Johnson, and Mark Cleven.

Speaker: Many thanks to Jim McLennan for his slide tour showing Alberta Trout Streams. His talk, books, and knowledge provided an interesting, informative, and scenic overview of Alberta trout fishing from Southern to Northern Alberta.

2004 Speaker Schedule (Tentative)

Apr. 14, 2004 Ken Gephart, West Fork St. Maries River Restoration
 May 12, 2004 Leland Miyawaki, Fishing the Saltwater of the Puget Sound

Clearwater Fly Casters Officers 2004

President	Don Shearer	don@mail.wsu.edu	432-6906
Vice President	Tim Cavileer	greencat@turbonet.com	883-4572
Secretary/Treasurer	Shirley Engerbretson	sengerbr@moscow.com	882-1687
FFF Representative	George Johnson	gjohnson@pullman.com	334-3135
Conservation Chair	Jim Palmersheim	jamesp@turbonet.com	882-4502
Newsletter Editor	Glen Murray	glenmurray@moscow.com	882-7020
Webmaster	Tim Cavileer	greencat@turbonet.com	883-4572

CFC membership dues are \$20/yr for individuals, \$30/yr for families, \$10/yr for students, \$50/yr sustaining, \$300/lifetime. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday, September through May at the Best Western-University Inn, 1516 Pullman Rd, Moscow, Idaho. Wet Fly Time 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm and program at 8:00 pm.

(Backcast continued)

Mugs developed by Bob Harwood with either Brown, Cutthroat, Brook, or Rainbow Trout and CWFC Logo available for sale at \$12.50 per cup or \$45 per set of four. Sign up and get these unique and classy cups.

American Fisheries Society: Jeff Yankee, UI student member invited membership to Wild Game Feed on April 17 at the American Legion Cabin. Cost is \$10 without game donation and \$7 with game donation. Western art, flyrods and other items will be raffled off.

Cons./Exec Meeting: March, 2004

Club Projector: Missing since move from Pullman. Anyone know where it is? The Executive board has approved purchase of a new one for about \$130 unless the old one can be found.

Vice President. Club needs to nominate a new vice president. Several names were mentioned in the executive meeting. Any suggestions?

April Meeting. Important discussions on club by-laws, changes to the Alspach Scholarship, and much more.....be there to participate in the discussion and to cast your vote.

By-laws. The latest version and is available as a pdf download online at the club website (www.clearwaterflycasters.com/history/Proposedbylaws3.pdf)

Alspach - Engerbretson Scholarship.

At the February meeting a motion was made to add Dave Engerbretson's name to the Alspach Scholarship and to add an educational component in recognition of Dave's contribution to many educational aspects of fly fishing. An over view of Dave's contribution to fly fishing and the educational changes proposed to honor Dave Engerbretson were given in the March Tippet. Please see the March Tippet or the club website for these details.

For your consideration and discussion at our April meeting, a condensed version of the new proposed guidelines for the Alspach-Engerbretson Scholarship follow on page 3.

New Guidelines for Scholarship:

Any undergraduate or graduate student involved with fisheries research and management, natural resources management, fishing education or other work fostering the knowledge of fishing shall be eligible for this award. Preference will be given to individuals who are involved with the conservation and restoration of wild fish, fisheries management, and/or stream and habitat restoration either through research, education, or extension.

The Board of Directors is responsible for decisions regarding allocations of funds and for continued fund raising activities and for defining application and award guidelines.

The scholarship is awarded annually in December each year or at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Three Steps to Fresh Lines

By Steve Schweitzer from On the Fly, the monthly newsletter of the Acadiana Flyrodders of Lafayette (edited by Glen Murray)

It pays to clean your fly line after every 3-5 usages or when you've fished particularly muddy, dirty, weedy or mossy water. I just had to retire a fly line I purchased in 1997 and have used consistently for much of my fly fishing over the years. I estimate the line has seen over 150 outings. But I wouldn't have had such good luck with the line had I not taken care of it.

How to Tell if a Fly Line Requires Cleaning

Look for these clues:

- *You feel grit on the line as you strip it in
- *For floating line, the first 10 feet or few meters of line doesn't float any longer
- *The line retains coil memory
- *The line has small cracks
- *The line feels brittle

If the latter two observations above are noticed, the bad news is that the line is on the last legs of life. The good news is a cleaning of the line may add another season of use before you have to replace the line.

Materials

- Mild dish soap
- Clean rag
- Fly line dressing
- Line winder (optional)

STEP 1 - Soaking

Draw about a gallon or a few liters of hot water in a sink. Add just a few drops of mild dish soap. Don't overdo it! All you need is enough to make a few bubbles and help loosen debris. Too much soap will leave a film on the fly

line which may help it sink. (not good for floating lines!)

Strip out all the fly line IN LOOSE coils in the sink, ensuring each coil lies on top of the previous. This will help prevent the line from knotting up as it is cleaned in the next step.

Allow the line to soak until the water becomes luke-warm; about 15-30 minutes or so.

STEP 2 - Cleaning

Taking a clean, moistened rag in one hand, draw the fly line from the sink through the rag.

Apply mild pressure with the hand holding the rag to ensure the line is being "stripped" of all the debris and dirt. You'll know if you have enough pressure by hearing the line "squeak" through your hands.

Loosely coil the line on the floor at your feet in preparation for dressing the line with conditioner and allowing the line to dry for a few moments.

TIP: as you draw line through the rag, stretch each arm's length section as you would a leader, to straighten out the coils that have built up.

STEP 3 - Dressing

*Using a line winder, if you have one, makes applying line conditioner easier, but is not necessary.

* Taking another dedicated rag used for applying line conditioner, soak the rag with conditioner.

* As the line is wound on the winder, apply the line conditioner in the same manner as the line is cleaned in the step above.

Don't be afraid to be generous with the line conditioner, it's the stuff that will help protect the line in future uses.

Fly Line Dressings

Many different manufacturers produce and sell fly line dressings. So, don't be afraid to try any one of them. But, I have found over the years a particular product, not even designed for the fly fishing industry, works quite well in cleaning and dressing fly line.

I like to use Rain-X windshield dressing. It is safe for plastics, as it clearly says on the bottle. Rain-X does a bang-up job of repelling water on windshields for months on end, so why wouldn't it work for fly lines?

I have used Rain-X since 1996. Never had I had a fly line become brittle or "melt-away" as some fly fishers may warn you of. I'm a believer in its use.

There may be other products on the market that work just as well. Just one word of caution: be sure the product is safe for plastics. If it doesn't say that, they don't even venture in trying it on fly lines. Products that are silicon based are your best bet. Silicon is fly line friendly. Fly lines are delicate, expensive strips of plastics and polymers that won't tolerate chemicals which can break down the coating, be careful in choosing alternate line dressings not intended for fly lines.

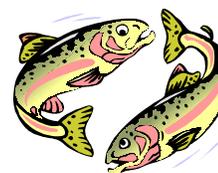


Tippet Editor Trivia: (Answers below)

1. Ever wonder what "piscivorous" means? (Root of Don's tongue-twister word).
2. Trout have simple brains (no cerbrum or neocortex). This makes fish incapable of higher thought. Then how come they can be so hard to catch at times?
3. Trout see colors. Which one best?
4. Tackle Busters.
 - a). When were Kamloops Trout introduced into lake Pend Oreille?
 - b). How big was a five-year old Kamloops that was caught 5 yr later ?

Answers: (From Benhke, Trout and Salmon of N. America)

1. Fish eating
2. Some fisherman may also be incapable of higher thought? In spite of having simple brains studies and experience on catch and release streams show that fish can learn.....maybe that helps the simple brained fisherman too....or maybe not!
3. In the blue range: Maybe we should tie blue flies? Fish also see ultraviolet, green, and red.
4. a.) 1942.
b.) 37 lb, 40.5 inches long, 28 inches girth. (Kokanee lunches!)



Glen Murray

LARVA LACE CHIRONOMID

By Bob Bates

1. Smash the barb with smooth jaw pliers. Attach thread near front of hook, and secure wire rib.
2. Cut a piece of Larva Lace long enough to extend from the front of the hook to a little around the bend. Spiral the wire around the hook shank three or four turns to the bend. Then thread the Larva Lace onto the wire and use the wire to guide the Larva Lace onto the hook. Push Larva Lace to front of hook.
3. Spiral the wire forward in about six turns and secure tightly with thread. Trim or break off excess wire. Wrap the wire so you don't unwind the spirals on the hook.
4. Select about two dozen moose hair fibers, and secure them to the hook with the longer portion facing forward. Trim any excess facing rearward, and wrap the thread forward forcing the moose hair against the eye.
5. Secure a few white Antron fibers over the moose hair with figure eight wraps. It is easier to handle if the Antron is longer than the final desired length.
6. Secure two or three peacock herls with the longer portion facing forward. Hold the thread and herl together and wrap rearward to about the one quarter point. (I am not sure if Jan did this, but it wraps the thread and herl together strengthening the herl.) Secure herls and trim excess.
7. Pull the moose hair to rear and secure. Trim excess hair. Whip finish over hair. Pull up on Antron and trim both sides simultaneously to about 1/8-inch.



Materials

Hook: Tiemco TMC 200R or any other hook, sizes 10 to 14

Thread: Black, 3/0

Rib: Fine silver or gold wire

Body: Regular Larva Lace, color of your choice

Wingcase: Moose hair, pheasant tail or whatever.

Gills: White Antron

Thorax: Peacock herl



This fly is really quite easy to tie, and it catches fish. The body colors can be changed to fit your needs. Adding a bead can make it more attractive to the fish. Remember to keep the body thin.
(Edited From FFF Website)

Clearwater Fly Casters
PO Box 2149 CS
Pullman, WA 99165

Our next meeting is

Wednesday, April 14, 2004
At the University Inn Best Western,
1560 West Pullman Road in Moscow, ID
Wet Fly Hour: 6:00 PM
Dinner: 7:00 PM



Please join us!