

Clearwater Fly Casters The Tippet

March, 2004

From The President's Desk

The weather has finally changed in our part of the world. Since the last time we met I have actually wet a line. It felt good, very good. With several of the local lakes opening on March 1st, I hope to have some fodder for the fishing reports at the next meeting. I also hope that I am not the only one. I have also promised myself more time at the tying bench in the month ahead. We will see.

Speaker. The speaker for this month is Jim McLennan. Jim will speak on the fishing opportunities found in the beautiful streams of Alberta.

Jim's Bio:

Jim McLennan is a native Albertan, born in Edmonton in 1953. He was one of the first guides on Alberta's Bow River, working the river from 1976-1982. From 1982 until the fall of 2000 he was co-owner of Country Pleasures, Calgary's oldest fly-fishing store. He has written three books. *Blue Ribbon Bow* was initially published in 1987, and received the Outdoor Book of the Year Award from the Outdoor Writers of Canada. It was revised and updated in 1999. *Trout Streams of Alberta*, a Canadian best-seller, was published in 1996 and received the Andy Russell Nature

Writing Award. *Fly Fishing Western Trout Streams* was published by Stackpole in 2003.

Jim's writing and photography appears frequently in major outdoor magazines, including *Fly Fisherman*, *Northwest Fly Fishing*, *Home Waters*, and *Gray's Sporting Journal*. He hosted two seasons of the television series "Iron Blue Fly Fishing," broadcast on the Outdoor Life Network, and is a frequent speaker at events sponsored by fly fishing clubs and conservation organizations.

He lives with his wife, daughter and two bird dogs in Okotoks, Alberta, where he splits time between fishing, hunting, writing, and carrying out his responsibilities as Regional Business Manager for The Orvis Company in the Rocky Mountain northwest.

Bylaws. In an effort to get some of our practices down on paper several members of the club have been working on a proposed set of by laws for the club. 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:

"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 next meeting.

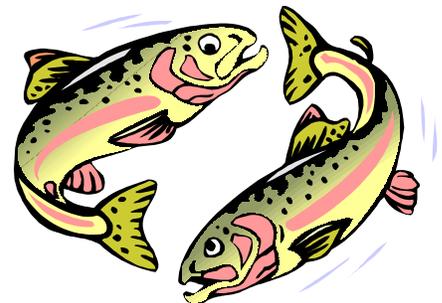
Mugs: Don't miss the opportunity to order a set of the coffee mugs that Bob Harwood is producing for the club. If you have not had a chance to see them yet a set will be available for viewing at the next meeting. The order sheet will be there also. All proceeds from the sale of the mugs goes to the club. I already have my set (being the President does have a few perks.)

My best,

Don Shearer

Upcoming Events

- March 10, 2004** Clearwater Fly Casters monthly meeting at the Best Western-University Inn in Moscow, ID. 6:00 pm
- March 17, 2004** Conservation/Executive meeting at the Old Post Office Wine Cellar and Gallery, 245 SE Paradise, Pullman, WA. 5:30 pm.
- Mar 18-21, 2004** Big Horn Show, Spokane WA.
- April 10, 2004** Kelly Creek Flycasters. Spring Banquet and Fund Raiser. Helm Restaurant , Lewiston, ID



Treasurer's Notes

We had a good crowd at our February meeting, and two more membership renewals. This takes our paid membership numbers to 53.

Now for the treasury: we have around \$1,450 in the checking account. Checks were written to our February speaker; for Valentines' corsages; for dinners for the speaker and Tippet editor; for Tippet expenses for this issue; and, for the reservation fee on the park for the fall barbeque, for a total disbursement of \$505.14. Receipts were \$111.00. There is \$5,130 in savings, \$2,000 of which is reserved for the Al-

spach Scholarship Fund.

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**2004 Angler's Calendars** are still available. I will not be able to attend the March meeting, but if you wish to purchase a calendar, contact me at sengerbr@moscow.com. The calendars are being sold for \$12 each.

*Shirley Engerbretson, Treasurer*

**Burgers and Flies:** Joe McGurkin told the Tippet editor that about \$2500 was taken in during the auction,. Many thanks to the donors of flies and fishing items and to the generous auction participants.

**Backcast**

**Guests:** Welcome Judy Crane, Martha Foster, Ryan Busch, Demetri, playing hookey from a Fisheries Conference, Bill Chetwood, Aaron Bush, Roger Wollens, Kathy, and Gorden Hanes.

**Fish Reports:** A.J. says the Clearwater is still being good to him...didn't say how good or if he meant he didn't drown. The Grande Ronde has been good for steelhead with Tony McDonald catching three, Andy and Glen catching one each, Glen's first on a flyrod, and Gary Evers an 8 lb hen on a No.4 Black conehead Woolybugger. George Johnson said the Snake has been good too.

**Raffle:** Thanks to xx and xx for providing raffle items. Congratulations to Bob Harwood, Gary and Slyvia Evers, Jim Palmersheim, James Foster, Cliff Swanson, and George Johnson for winning raffle items.

**Speaker:** Many thanks to Don Guhlke for his slide tour showing Belize fishing, agriculture, natives, and scenic beauty of that area.

**2004 Speaker Schedule (Tentative)**

|               |                                                           |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Mar. 10, 2004 | Jim McLennan, Alberta Trout Streams                       |
| Apr. 14, 2004 | Ken Gebhardt, West Fork St. Maries River Restoration      |
| Apr. 14, 2004 | Kajsa Stomberg, Palouse Environmental Institute           |
| 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.

**Cons./Executive Meeting Feb 18, 2004**

**Checking accounts.** Shirley E. found that we can get zero fees with Washington Mutual and that we can have more than one signature on file. Both people would need to initially sign the signature card at the bank and the same time. Either could then write checks on the account.

**By-laws.** Tim C. said 2.1.3 is the latest version and is available as a pdf download online at the club website. No strong adverse reactions to the document. Glen M. suggested we solicit comments via email from members and to put in the Tippet a request for comments. Denny C. mentioned that the Registered Agent for the club has to be a Washington resident. Don S. said that change had been incorporated into the document.

**Alspach - Engerbretson Scholarship.** Education guidelines discussed. Suggestions made to include undergraduates and graduate students. Discussion also included debate on whether non-degree seeking individuals could apply or whether the club should open it up to others not in degree programs, ie, extension personnel. Glen M. agreed to draft changes. Tim C. agreed to incorporate those changes into the proposed by-laws. Note that the proposed guidelines for this scholarship are on page three. Please review these guidelines and bring suggestions to the March meeting.

**March meeting.** Don S. indicated that Ken Gebhardt will speak to the club at the April meeting about the proposed St Maries conservation project. Don S. has asked Ken to be specific about what he would like the club to do.

**Trophy Waters.** Methow Valley Fly Fishing club (?) asked the CWFC to gather signatures requesting Davis Lake in WA be designated as Trophy Waters by WDFW. Discussion and action was tabled.

**Tippet.** Don S. again thanked Glen for taking over as Tippet editor and complimented him on doing an excellent job with the February issue.

## Alspach-Engerbretson Memorial Scholarship

**Alspach-Engerbretson Scholarship:** During the February meeting a motion was passed to add Dave Engerbretson's name to the Alspach Scholarship. In addition the scope of the scholarship was to be broadened to include any aspect of fishing education and to include both undergraduate and graduate students. Accordingly, The Tippet Editor and executive committee drafted the following for your consideration, suggestions, and approval.

**Background:** The Bill Alspach Memorial Scholarship fund was initially established in 1997 in honor of Clearwater Fly Caster member Bill Alspach. The fund was created to provide scholarships to students engaged in fisheries research and management studies at the UI, WSU, LCSC and EWU.

Bill passed away in 1997. Shortly after Bill's death, friend and outdoor writer Craig Lannigan wrote a tribute to Bill. In part he said, "Bill always made fly-fishing simple. He enjoyed what the river would give him and did not expect anything else. Never would he neglect greeting a newcomer to the river. He would often spend more time talking about fly-fishing than fishing, well almost. There were no secrets with Bill; he would freely share his expertise, and he was an expert. Here's to a fine man, gentleman and a lover of fly-fishing".

In 2004, Dave Engerbretson's name was added in recognition of his contributions to fly fishing in many different areas. He did research for the genetic hackle industry, had close ties to and tested fly lines for a major manufacturer of fly angling equipment. He received, field-tested and wrote about waders, reels, rods, fins, bags and various other types of equipment. He also traveled and wrote extensively on fishing locations, lodges, and his experiences from around the world. Dave inspired countless novices and more experienced fly fishers at expositions, conclaves, and through his classes at WSU, for the UI Enrichment Program, and many other educational settings.

In recognition of Dave's dedication to the advancement of fly anglers knowledge and skills everywhere, the scope of the scholarship was expanded to include any aspect of fishing education. Dave passed away in 2003.

Bill and Dave were friends and both were very active members of the Clearwater Fly Caster for many years. The membership of the club thought both men would be honored to have the others name combined with his own on this scholarship. Both men left a rich legacy to the fly fishing community.

**Application Process:** 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.

### Want to Catch More fish?



**Read on:** Here are two of George Harvey's leader formulae. If you use these designs for your dry fly fishing it will increase your catch by at least fifty percent." What else can we say? George is THE Professor! **Does this mean that Dave T. and Bill H. will have 200 fish days?**

**LEADER FORMULA FOR 9 ½ foot, 4X:** Three Stiff Butt Sections - 10 inches-

.017, 20 inches-.013, 20 inches .011, followed by Three Soft Terminal Sections- 12 inches of .009, 18 inches of .008, and 22-28 inches of .007

**LEADER FORMULA FOR 10 ½, 5X:** Five Stiff Butt Sections - 10 inches of .017, 20 inches of .015, 20 inches of .013, 20 inches of .011, 12 inches of .009, followed by Three Soft Terminal Sections - 12 inches of .008, 18 inches of .007 and 22-30 inches of .006. (From FFF Club Wire, Jim Abbs).

**How Many Fly Lines? 50, 100, 200? Try over 1000.** Scientific Angler makes over 450 lines. No wonder it's always fun to pick out a new line! (From FFF Club Wire, Jim Abbs, ).

**Fishy Things From Your Tippet Editor. Think you know your cutthroat?** Answers to questions at bottom of page—no fair peeking!



**1. Cutthroat diversity in North America** can be traced to how many ancestral lines (2, 4, 6, or 8?).

**2. Cutthroat Subspecies.** Although not always agreed upon, how many cutthroat subspecies are recognized in North America (Hint more than 4 and less than 20).

**Answers. 1.** Cutthroat trout, based on chromosome analysis and other methods, are thought to have been derived from four ancestral lines: Lahontan, Yellowstone, Westslope, and Coastal.

**2.** The Lahontan strain gave rise to five subspecies and the Yellowstone strain to seven. In all, 14 cutthroat subspecies are recognized by: *Behnke, Robert J. Trout and Salmon of North America.* The Free Press.

They are:  
Coastal, Westslope, Yellowstone, Snake River, Bonneville Basin, Colorado River, Greenback, Yellowfin, Rio Grande, Lahontan, Paiute, Alvord, Whitehorse Basin, and Humboldt. Happy fishing!

### MINI POP By Bob Bates

This fly came from the fertile mind and memory of G.L. Britton in about 1992. At the time he owned Silver Bow Fly Fishing Adventures in Spokane, WA. He doesn't claim to be the sole originator of it since most new flies are built on earlier ideas and patterns. Does it catch fish? YES! It may be fished on floating, sink tip or full sinking lines. Down stream quartering cast will deliver a Mini Pop so it can swing across current and attract attention.

This fly is tied in a wide range of colors and color combinations, depending on your preference and that of the fish. He uses chartreuse and lime for steelhead when the Grand Ronde River is clear.

#### Tying Steps:

1. Smash the barb with smooth jaw pliers so you can release any wild fish.
2. Pick four saddle hackles with fibers and marabou-like fibers (fluff) that are shank length
3. Strip fluff from stem, but leave 1/4- to 1/2-inch of fluff below the barbs.
4. Put thread right behind end of loop eye, and tie in two saddle hackles (first color).
5. Wind both hackles forward tightly while stroking fibers rearward so they aren't tied down. Continue wrapping until you have completed two turns past the fluff. Secure and clip off excess. Save the hackle tips for another fly.
6. Tie on second pair of hackles with 1/4- to 1/2-inch of fluff below the barbs, and wind thread forward to within an eye width of the eye. Wind second pair of saddles forward tightly, until you have completed three turns past the fluff. Secure and trim excess.
7. The stiffer barbs are now standing like a collar, so they need to be laid back. Stroke them rearward and wind the thread rearward about 1/16-inch over the barbs. It should put everything into a pyramidal shape.
8. Whip finish and add a drop of head cement. (Courtesy of FFF, [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org) )



#### Materials List:

Hook: Tiemco TMC 7999, 4 & 6  
Hackles: All are saddle hackles; two rear hackles are given first and two front hackles second.  
Thread: 6/0, color is listed last.

#### Color Combinations:

1. Light chartreuse - light chartreuse & hot lime - fluorescent chartreuse
2. Cerise - purple & blue - fire orange
3. Yellow - yellow & red - fire orange
4. Orange - orange & black - fire orange
5. Orange - purple & black - florescent green
6. Pink - pink & cerise - fire orange

**Clearwater Fly Casters**  
**PO Box 2149 CS**  
**Pullman, WA 99165**

Our next meeting is

**Wednesday, March 10, 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!