



# Clearwater *Fly Casters* The *Tippet* May, 2004

## From The President's Desk

**Amber Lake.** Well we can at least agree that the weather for the Amber Lake Fish-Out was spectacular. The club turnout seemed a bit sparse considering the beautiful weather, but I believe everyone who attended enjoyed themselves. As far as the fishing you will have to wait until the "fishing reports" portion of the May 12<sup>th</sup> meeting to hear those. I can tell you that I was the last one off the water at about 9:30 and at least nobody will be able to contradict my fishing report and hopefully my sunburn will have faded by the 12<sup>th</sup>. If you missed out on the fun at Amber Lake come join the fun at the **St. Joe fish out**, which is scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>.

**Speaker.** The speaker for the month of May is **Leland Miyawaki** from the Puget Sound area. Leland has been fly-fishing for over 30 years for trout, salmon and steelhead in most of the usual places in the West. Ten years ago, he began fishing on the surface for salmon and sea run cutthroat off our local beaches. Since then, he has been redesigning his poppers to their current sizes and colors and perfected his technique. He catches silvers, dollies, and sea run cutthroat consistently, whether they are showing or not - all on a dry line and all on the surface. He says it is "the most fun you can have on the beach with your waders on."

### Program Synopsis:

#### "Fun at the Beach"

Leland Miyawaki will show us how much fun he has fishing for salmon and sea-run cutthroat - with his innovative poppers - all on the surface with a dry line and on foot off the south Puget Sound beaches. He will show us his flies, show how to tie them, hand out tying instruction, and talk techniques. Questions are encouraged at any time during the presentation.

**West Fork St. Maries River.** As our April speaker, Ken Gebhardt, Fishery Biologist, Idaho Panhandle National Forests, St. Joe Ranger District, Avery Office, has asked us to work in conjunction with the forest service and other groups to restore a section of the St Maries. Several club members signed up last month. I will be bringing the sign up sheet to May's meeting so consult your calendar, sign up, and come help make the project a success. I have also asked Tim to put the project description, calendar, and sign up sheet on the club's web page.

**By-Laws.** I would like to thank everyone who worked on the club by-laws that were approved at the April meeting. There are too many to name, but several club members worked on drafts of the

document and provided great feedback and explained the history and the evolution of the CFC over the years. From working on the by-laws it became evident how strongly some members care about CFC.

**Summer** is coming on fast and my fishing schedule is filling up fast when combined with the fact I need to re-roof the house means something is going to have to give. There is the trip to BC for the sedge hatch, and then the long weekend with the boys on the North Fork. I want to make the St. Joe fish-out and a couple of floats on the Methow. Grouse season opens on September 1st. On second thought I think we have enough pans in the house to catch the leaks from the roof for at least one more year.

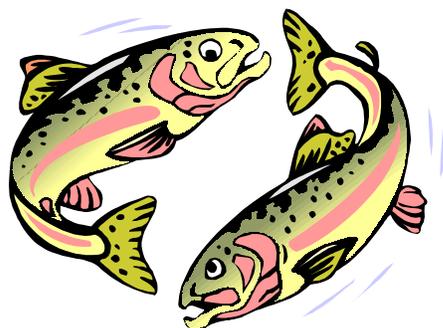
I expect everyone to have a summers worth of fishing reports and lies prepared for the September BBQ. Have a great and safe summer.

My best,

**Don Shearer**

## Upcoming Events

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>May 12, 2004</b>         | Clearwater Fly Casters monthly meeting at the Best Western-University Inn in Moscow, ID. 6:00 pm                 |
| <b>May 19, 2004</b>         | Conservation/Exec meeting at the Old Post Office Wine Cellar and Gallery, 245 SE Paradise, Pullman, WA. 5:30 pm. |
| <b>July 8-11, 2004</b>      | St Joe Fishout   |
| <b>July 16-Aug 15 2004.</b> | West Fork St Maries River Restoration. Contact Ken Gebhardt or see club website for further information.         |
| <b>Sept. 8, 2004</b>        | CWFC Annual BBQ. Sunnyside Park, Pullman, WA   |



**Treasurer's Notes**

Good grief! Is it May already? Time to go fishing! But, before you go, come to the last meeting of the Clearwater Fly Casters for the spring. We will resume again in September with the Annual Barbeque.

**Donation:** We have received a very nice donation from Natalie Clark, widow of former member, Eugene Clark. She has decided to end her membership, since she says in her note, "I am sorry I have to admit I am not a good member and a poor fisher. So I will say goodbye with this contribution." She has kept up the membership over the years, which, in my book, makes her a good member. So, with this issue, we will wish Natalie well and thank her for her many years as a

loyal member. Fare well, Natalie!

~~~~~

**2004 Angler's Calendars** are still available. Since four months have gone by in 2004, the calendars will be sold for \$8 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. OK, there are some really nice pictures in the calendar that you may want to mount for display in your fly tying area or shop or even your garage. Then you will have reminders that *you need to go fishing this summer!!! (just in case you forget).*

**Shirley Engerbretson, Treasurer**

**Backcast**

**Welcome Guest:** David Hoyt, Co-worker of Mary Read.

**Fishing Reports:** **Jerry V.** said Spring Valley was producing rainbows on wooly buggers and mayfly nymphs. Then he told the real story of fishing the Southfork of the Clearwater toward the end of March-early April with two other friends. Bottom line they hooked 61 and landed 31 steelhead using and orange egg pattern—what a day!

**Dave T.** had good fishing on the Bitterroot and Clarkfork in the Missoula area with dry flies from a drift boat. They are already worried about fire danger in the region.

**Tony M.** said he got skunked on Coffepot.

**John R and Glen M.** fished Amber. It was good action at first, then several hours between fish. John finally dredged a few more up from the depths using a sinking line and a green scud.

**Bill H.** fished Amber twice. No fish the first time, very windy, and a few on the second trip.

**A.J.** using delicate 10 foot, 8 wt rod with a 6X tippet caught several cutthroat on the Lochsa.

**2004 Speaker Schedule**

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) (Fishing Reports cont).**

**George H.** caught 18-21-inch fish on the Bitterroot, with one bruiser, a 24-inch Brown.

**Dave and Marion Y.** had a great trip to the Bahamas. They enjoyed the 70—80 mile an hour wind even more when it died down and the noseems invaded. Shell collecting and an exciting passport adventure have them planning another trip in Christmas. Dave said he even caught bonefish.

**Speaker:** Many thanks to Ken Gephardt for his presentation that highlighted the restoration work to be done on the West Fork of the St. Maries River. This work will take place between July 16 and August 15. A sign up sheet was passed around and more sign up information will be available on the CWFC website.

**Business:** The **By-Laws** were discussed and passed.

**Tim C.,** on behalf of the CWFC, wrote a Letter supporting the **SF Clearwater minimum flow** activity by the Idaho River Coalition. The letter is available on the website and was passed around at the meeting.

**Kelly Creek Flycasters** extended an invitation to their banquet and auction that was held on April 17.

**Raffle Donors:** Thanks to Bob Clark-Six Parachute Adams, Bill Hendrix-Amber Lake flies, Bob Harwood-Coffee Mug, CWFC Club- CD.

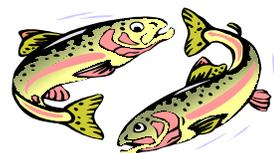
**Raffle Winners.** Congratulations to Roxana, Bush, Sharon Tharp, George Hinman, Mary Read, Dave Tharp.

**April Executive/Conservation Meeting.** **Mugs** may still be available but only by special request to Bob Harwood.

**West Fork of St Maries River** restoration information will be available on website.

**Amber Lake fishout** information will be sent via e-mail.

**Jim P.** has requested that either the meeting time be moved to later in the evening so that he can attend or perhaps find a new chair. No action taken on this request yet.



**April Executive/Conservation Meeting (cont).**

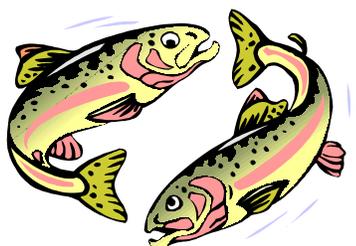
**Membership:** We have about 60 members. Executive board OK'd sending complimentary copies of the Tippet for three months to non-members requesting being added to mailing list. Perhaps this could be used to attract more members.

**Auction.** Need to set up committee in September for March auction. Discussion on having dinner earlier, moving bar into room to loosen up bidders!, recruit more donations from stores with letter explaining purpose of auction suggestions for a sponsor page to be inserted into the Tippet and on the club website was discussed.

**Name Tags:** Shirley E. will check on new, more readable name tags.

**Sept. BBQ** with Dave T. handling the catering arrangements was discussed.

Glen Murray



**Seven Basic Laws of Fishing.** From Reel Lines the newsletter of the Arizona Flycasters Club via April FFF Clubwire and (the editor).

1. Results are proportional to time spent. That doesn't mean that if you fish more than me you will catch more than me. It simply means the more you fish the more you will catch
2. The best time to go fishing is whenever you get the chance. Remember the results of rule #1.
3. The sun sets faster when fishing than at any other time. Another way to say this is as often we see on car bumpers - the worst day fishing beats the best day working.
4. Don't practice when fishing. You can practice at home. Don't waste time when

fishing. Remember rule #1.

5. The best fishing is often done in the telling. Who wants a great day fishing if you can't tell someone about it from time to time. (Also remember that the first fish story doesn't have a chance of beating the second).

6. Fish are caught when your fly is in/on the water. Don't spend time fishing "not fishing."

7. The single, most effective technique in fishing is "one more cast, just one more cast."

So go fishing often, stay late. Don't stop because the weather is bad, it will get better soon. Don't stop because you're hungry, eat while you keep on fishing. Don't stop because they're not biting, that will change soon so keep on fishing. Finally, when you can't see, your friends have left, your spouse has disappeared, your dog is gone, remember there is always time for "one more cast, just one more cast."

**Am I A Real Fisherman?** From the April FFF Clubwire. by: G.P.Thurlow (and a few editorial comments)

Returning through the office lobby with my fly rod, I am always asked for the score—"Catch anything?" The implication is that catching is what separates real fisherman from the daydreamers who flail a stick overhead while trying to avoid the passing hook. I wonder—**what is a real fisherman?** Do I fish enough and catch enough fish to qualify? Or is there some other magic measurement of a real fisherman—like, fish caught per hour spent.

**Fishing is the act of seeking an elusive quarry.** You don't have to catch fish to be fishing, since even the best efforts do not always generate bites. Sometimes the satisfaction of knowing you have chosen the right piece of water, the correct rod, the right size, color, and type of fly has to be enough. No points are awarded for color coordination of hat, shirt, vest, sunglasses strap, and the thread on a custom rod (Look out Orvis, Sage, and Winston). **Points are only awarded for seeking.**

**If fishing is the act of seeking, where**

**does prep time fall?** I am constantly tying flies, building rods, reading and scheming about fishing. Most of this activity will help me when I am on the water—but involve neither seeking nor catching. By reading about habitat, biology, travel adventures, or how to catch the quarry, I am increasing my knowledge and chances of catching fish on my next trip.

**(Magic?).** There is no magic measurement of being a fisherman—being a fisherman is not an act it's making a connection. A real fisherman has a sporting attitude and the ability to connect with fish, people, places and nature. Activities that build an understanding and knowledge of that connection build real fisherman. For me, it is the preparation time of fly tying, rod building, or reading about the quarry. However, there is **no substitute for time spent on the water** and yelling "fish-on, Capt'n" even if it is just another four inch bream on the office pond. **So get out there while you still can!**

**Opinions and Comments**

Have either an opinion or comment to pass on to our members about fishing related items, our newsletter content, etc? Send them to me at glenmurray@moscow.com and I'll try to work them into the newsletter.

**Water Issues.** The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals recently (See Spokesman Review May 4, 2004) ruled that the government can close irrigation ditches crossing U.S. Forest Service land. The Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal of that issue.

At first glance this seems good for the fish and fisherman, but **what about the fisherman access and relations with private landowners?** Backlash from these confrontations could deny fisherman access on private land, make stream-bank restoration efforts on private land even more difficult, and have carryover effects on other land access negotiations. I wonder if we and others could be more proactive in negotiation of these issues in addition to lending support for issues like minimum stream flow on the SF of Clearwater?

### **Fluttering Caddis**

**Originator:** Leonard Wright, Jr.  
**Article and Fly Submitted By:** Alberta Al Grombacher, Beaumont, Alberta Canada. Alberta Al is his nickname. His real name is Alan Grombacher.

**Leonard Wright, Jr.** was of the Great American Generation. He flew P-51 Mustangs over Europe, was shot down, and taken prisoner. After graduating from Harvard, he went onto a career in advertising and working at the New York Times. Mr. Wright's best known fame came as a fly fishing iconoclast. He wrote more than 10 books with "Fishing the Dry Fly as a Living Insect" and "Fly Fishing Heresies" as his most famous two books. He was an aficionado of bamboo fly rods, Hardy Perfect reels, of classic flies, and his own fluttering caddis patterns. His approach to fly fishing and tying was as subtle as it was elegant. When he died in September 2001, the fly fishing community lost a great mind.

**Tying the Fluttering Caddis:** The fluttering caddis is a fairly easy tie.

Start the thread behind the eye of the hook wind to the back a little past the barb. Attach the gold round wire and then the pheasant herl. Wind on herl creating the body. Counter rib with the wire. Wing is put on in three stages - first a group of spade hackle fibers or mink guard hairs to the top of the body in standard caddis wing position, second step is to apply the far side of the wing forming the off side of the tent like wing, and lastly apply the near side part of the wing completing the tent formation. Hackle is attached and wound with the dull side forward. Dull side forward gives a curvature to the hackle that enables it to give the "sudden inch" more effectively.

**Color Combinations:** Mr. Wright used spade feather hackle and mink tail guard hairs to make the downwing of his fluttering caddis patterns. Mink guard hair wings make for a good stiff down wing that aids in the "sudden inch". Other color combinations (body/wing/hackle) are: olive/brown/grizzly and brown, brown/light dun/light dun, brown/dark dun/dark dun, and all black.



**Photo taken by Jim Palmersheim and edited by Tim Cavileer**

### **Material List**

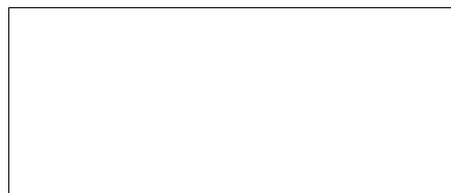
- Hook:** Standard dry fly hook #12 - 22
- Body:** Pheasant herl counter ribbed with wire
- Wing:** Brown spade hackle or shoulder feathers (stiff hackle) or mink tail guard hairs
- Hackle:** Brown hackle



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

Our next meeting is

**Wednesday, May 12, 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!