



### *Clearwater Fly Casters*

[www.clearwaterflycasters.com](http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com)

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



## **October Meeting: Aaron Penvose, Trout Unlimited, “TU’s Washington Water Project: Innovative Ways for Improving Instream Flow”**

Name a cherished place in the West, and chances are a river runs through it—places with names like the Blackfoot, Hat Creek, Big Hole, Henry’s Fork, Little Lost River. For as long as people remember, these waters have held prized trout in their cold, clear waters and drawn generations of anglers to their banks.

But throughout the West, our rivers and streams—and the native and wild fish that depend on them—are in trouble. A host of threats, from drought and population growth to climate uncertainty, have left many Western rivers depleted, even drained dry. To make matters worse, outdated state laws actually discourage landowners from leaving water in streams to support fish and wildlife.

In response, Trout Unlimited started the Western Water Project in 1998. The mission: Restore healthy streamflows in some of the West’s best places. Today the WWP operates in seven states—California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Washington and Wyoming—and its staff of professional scientists, lawyers and policy experts have won major victories for fish in courts and state capitals. At the same time, they have partnered with ranchers and farmers on pragmatic on-the-ground restoration projects that show that working landscapes and fish can coexist.

Aaron Penvose has worked on Pacific Northwest fisheries issues for the last 10 years in the public and private sectors, with experience ranging from field work in wilderness areas to project management and consulting. For TU he works with landowners, water right holders and agencies across the Upper Columbia Region, in North Central Washington to promote water conservation and improved instream flow. Aaron has a B.S. degree in geology from the University of Montana and serves on the board of the Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group. Aaron spends his spare time fishing and hunting with his spaniel.

## **Presidents’ Message (The Youngbloods)**

Well, it has been an interesting summer—too little fishing but great fun anyway, as we have been involved with family activities. This fall, we are trying to make up for lost time on the streams. We had a great gathering at Dave and Sharon Tharp’s house in Palouse in September, with good food and much rewarding social interaction among club members. If you weren’t able to be there, you missed a fine event. We hope you will attend the upcoming October CFC Meeting, to hear about an important conservation project in our area. Trout Unlimited is one of the leading conservation groups having an impact on our fishing opportunities. This is a wonderful opportunity for the club to get more involved with this outstanding organization.

## *Calendar*

**Oct 10: CFC Meeting, Aaron Penvose, Trout Unlimited, “TU’s Washington Water Project”, University Inn, Moscow**

**Nov 14: CFC Meeting, Peg Kingery, “Casting for Recovery”, University Inn, Moscow**

## **Information**

**The Tippet is available as a PDF file on our web site. Please submit information to the Newsletter Editor.**

**Meetings 2nd Wed:**

**Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 PM  
Dinner: 6:30 PM  
(buffet, \$16 per person)  
Program: 7:30 PM**

## Backcast to September Event: Potluck at The Tharps

A good crowd of CFC regulars gathered at Har Har Acre in Palouse for a pot-luck dinner on Wednesday, September 12. The food was excellent, including smoked salmon and salsa appetizers, several scrumptious salads and main dishes, and both cherry and peach pie to die for, especially with a scoop of ice cream. There were many informal fishing tales told in small groups, and well as the more-formal fishing reports. As always, the Tharps were excellent hosts, and the club owes them a great debt of gratitude for putting up with us once again.

**Fishing Reports:** Lynn and Kay Youngblood reported that they have not been out for eight weeks, probably a record for them for the summer months. They plan to visit Yellowstone soon. The North Fork was productive earlier in the summer for them.

Cliff Swanson fished the North Fork and Black Canyon, and it was ok. On the same trip, he fished The Joe and then Marble Creek on the way home, where he caught 10 fish on his first 10 casts. He lost his fly and quit. The water temperature was in the mid-60s.

Bob Harwood headed to Upper Priest Lake, where he cast out a mess of tippet, leader and fly. In spite of this, a Cutthroat grabbed his fly, and he landed it – a 19 inch Cutt. He caught lots of Smallmouth and Largemouth on lakes near his cabin, enough to feed 26 people at his fish fry. He is headed for the Klicatat soon.

Doug Baldwin reported that the Smallmouth fishing on Lower Granite was ok. He cast to a cruising Carp, which came on his fly well, but he couldn't hook up with it – will try again sometime. He was in the Okanagan, where there is a run of over 200,000 Sockeye. People were limiting at six per day, but it slowed when he got there. A big fire broke out, and he left the area.

Dave Tharp was on The Joe three weeks ago, with the water at 61 F. The fishing was good, but it was very cold in the morning. There were few people around. Sharon reported that the fishing had been great a few weeks before that, and that Shasta had caught a flying fish. It seems that Dave was giving the fish flying lessons when this happened.

Steve Bush had a Middle Fork float permit. It was hot and there were not a lot of fish. He fished the Lochsa over Labor Day, and the fishing was good, both in terms of the size of the fish and the numbers.

Reid Miller said he stopped by Dry Fly Innovations in Boise and got some flies from Nate Bromley specifically for the South Fork of the Boise River. He didn't touch a fish with these flies there, but in mid-summer fished the Big Laramie River above Woods Landing in Wyoming. The water was low and warm, so he put on one of the small dries that Nate had sold him. He saw a fish rise at the head of a large pool and cast it up there. As luck would have it, the fly drifted about three inches and the fish grabbed it. It came straight out of the water in a wiggling jump about head high. It did this one more time before it was landed, and turned out to be an 18 inch Brown Trout, a very nice fish for this river.

Reid reported that at the Fly Flat fishout he had good luck with Bruce and his grandson on Gold Creek – lots of fish but nothing too big. Later, he was fishing The Joe above Red Ives, where nothing touched his fly, except on about the 43<sup>rd</sup> cast, so he wasn't paying much attention when a fish sipped his fly from the surface. The fish surged off, and his drag was too tight, and the fish and fly soon parted. When he reeled in, the hook had been straightened out. Of course, he kicked himself many times over this misadventure. There are some nice fish in that river after all.

David and Marion Yonge thought they would take an extended trip to Cayuse Creek before the St. Joe fishout. Being always prudent about the hazards of back-road travel, David called the Forest Service folks before heading out. They said the roads he intended taking were clear but recommended he take along a chain saw, just in case. He had always wanted a chain saw, so he ran down and bought his first, with something on the order of the 3 inch blade – think small, anyway. They tooled up US 12, taking a left near the Powell Ranger Station. All went well until about 15 miles in, where they encountered a wash-out. Yes, the FS had patched it, by piling poles in the big hole. David and Marion added some more and inched across, with much trepidation and Marion walking and directing traffic, as appropriate. A bit further down the road they ran into a big storm with black tornado-like clouds, high winds and big hail coming down in buckets. They survived and headed on down the dirt road, now a bit on the wet side. They were about four or five hours in from the highway, when they were blocked by three trees across the road. David quickly dispatched these with his handy chain saw, and they were on their way again, only to find two more a few hundred yards further on.

David got the chain saw bound-up in one of them, so he climbed up on the log to break through, which happened a bit more suddenly than he had anticipated. He fell quite a ways and landed on a stub, causing a great hematoma covering a good part of his anatomy. Also, the chain saw hit the ground, ending up in quite a few parts, but handy David was able to reassemble it. They headed on down the road, and got a mile or so, when they encountered five more down trees, including a "big one". After some discussion between David and Marion, they decided that they were out of their league here. Even though they were only about five miles from Cayuse Creek, they must turn around and retreat back to US 12. They made a nice camp that night and next day completed the 250 mile circuit on the roads normally taken to their destination. The fishing on Cayuse was great. Of course, David fell in the stream and hurt the knee he had recent surgery on, so they finally arrived at Fly Flat, with David's knee twice the size of the good one, not in condition to fish, however the gin and tonics were soothing.

Mike Decker fly fished at Deception Pass, where the Coho were running. He had lots of fun and supplied some well-received fish for some friends.

Jim Palmersheim reported that their season had been great up in Alaska this year. Where he guided, there were no closures on Chinook, although there had been on a number of other rivers.

## Some Potluck Pictures



## Fly of the Month: Loop Wing Drake Emerger

by John Scott ( <http://flyangleronline.com/bb/showthread.php?43274-Loop-Wing-Drake-Emerger&highlight=loop+wing+drake+emerger> )

Hook: curved  
Thread: brown  
Tail: pheasant tail fibers  
Rib: copper wire  
Body: pheasant tail fibers  
Wingcase: 2 CDC feathers  
Hackle: Grizzly, 3-4 turns



**From John's Notes:** This fly was tied to prepare for a drake hatch like the one that I witnessed on a certain Western Montana mountain freestone stream recently. The fly is based on my loop wing mahogany dun emerger from last year, and both flies are quite similar to Ralph Long's LTD (Long's Transitional Dun) flies.

The back half on the fly is basically a Pheasant Tail nymph tied on a Klinkhammer style hook. The front half of the fly consists of two medium size natural CDC feathers tied in by the tips with the butts to the rear. Grizzly hackle is tied in and wrapped forward three or four turns, and then the CDC is pulled forward to create the loop and tied off in front of the hackle. The CDC suggests a wingcase or developing wings and provides additional floatation. Basically, this is a cross between a floating nymph and an emerger/cripple.

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*October, 2012*

## **Clearwater Fly Casters Officers 2012**

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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 Hour 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM and Program at 7:30 PM.