



The Tippet *February, 2015*

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



February Program: Chester Allen, "Fishing the Northwest's Big Five Desert Rivers: The Crooked, Yakima, Deschutes, Owyhee -- and Columbia"



Chester Allen has happily spent his entire life -- okay, 44 of his 53 years -- flyfishing his brains out. After a childhood in Southern California -- Eastern Sierra trout, golf course bass, Santa Monica Bay bonito and Mexican jacks and roosterfish -- he moved to Oregon to attend the University of Oregon School of Journalism. It helped that two great trout streams were within minutes of campus. Since those days, he's been a full-time journalist -- one that also writes about fly fishing. Chester wrote a twice-weekly outdoors column for The Olympian newspaper for eight years, and he's the author of "Fly Fishing for Sea-Run

Cutthroat," which Stackpole published in 2012. He's working on his second fly fishing book and he publishes stories in The Drake and other publications. Chester's day job is executive editor of two car collecting magazines in Portland, Oregon. He splits this time between homes in Portland and Hood River, Oregon -- when he's not onstream, casting from a Puget Sound beach or exploring a new lake.

CFC Calendar

Feb 11: CFC Monthly Mtg

Feb 24: CFC Executive Committee Mtg, 6 pm, Hilltop Inn, Pullman, WA

Feb 25: Fly Tying, 6:30 pm, Moscow Title, Moscow, ID

Mar 11, CFC Auction, Univ Best Western, 5:30 Buffet; Auction 7:00 pm

**Additional events at:
www.clearwaterflycasters.com**

Presidents' Message (Joe Vaughan)

CFC Auction Mar 11

Behind the scenes, in executive committee meetings and in numerous interactions throughout our area, preparations are building toward the CFC Biennial Auction to be held March 11. Please put this March 11 Auction meeting on your calendar and plan to be present to participate in the auction. This event benefits our scholarship fund, generating a major portion of those funds with which CFC supports worthy students pursuing research and careers in fishery science.

At our auction you will be confronted with many tempting items to bid on, some involving travel, some making a great gift for your spouse,

Information

**The Tippet is available as a PDF file on our web site:
www.clearwaterflycasters.com**

Please submit information to the Newsletter Editor.

Meetings 2nd Wed, University Best Western Inn, Moscow, ID

Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 pm

Buffet Dinner \$16, Students \$8: 6:30 pm

Program: 7:30 pm

partner, that nephew, niece or in-law, many of the items relating directly to fly fishing (this is after all The Biennial *CFC* Auction) and others entirely unrelated! Expect fishing gear, travel opportunities for fishing as well as non-fishing adventures, artwork, artisanal foods and beverages, hardware (software seems unlikely), and décor for both indoor and outdoor.

I appeal to all you fly-casters to do three things to help make this auction our most successful ever. **First**, cast about for something that you would like to donate for the auction. If nothing comes to mind, think about it for a week or three and see if anything pops up. (Could be just the chance to re-gift that special gift you received from you-know-who!)

Second, think about all those people to whom you'll want to give unique gifts during the next year. Of course it is tough to keep in mind all those diverse people amidst the bustle of something like an auction — so how about jotting down the people to have them listed in front of you during the auction, as items come up?

Third, put it on your calendar, protect the date, plan to come with your checkbook and think of someone to bring with you, both to introduce to the club and to buy that re-gift from you-know-who that you'll be contributing!

Forward Cast:

- **Feb 7 & 8:** IDFG needs volunteers to enhance fish habitat at Mann Lake, near Lewiston. Contact William Seybold for information (208-799-5010 office; 208-790-6965 mobile)
- **Mar 20 & 21:** North Idaho Fly Fishing Expo (Kelly Creek Fly Casters), Clearwater River Casino Event Center
- **May 1 & 2:** Washington Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA

Backcast to January Meeting:

President Joe Vaughan presided at the Clearwater Fly Casters meeting.

Guests: Tim Marable, WSU student and guest of Joe Vaughan. John Turner, Spokane & Moscow, introduced by Cliff Swanson. Welcome Tim and John and hope to see you in the future!

Fishing reports: Dave Yonge reported it has been a good year for steelhead. Paul Agidius promoted the Boise Fly Fishing Expo for \$7, free classes and a net building class. Crystal Lewis and crew went steelhead fishing; of the 21 hooked, 18 were landed and 9 were keepers - over 30" and fat. Sharon Tharp shared her story from last October; she fished the Joe to and from her trip to Crosby, ND. Upon her return to the Joe, she felt she was "home."

Special Recognition: President Joe presented outgoing President Roger Willemsen with the handcrafted wooden fly box engraved with the Clearwater Fly Casters logo. Roger expressed his appreciation.

Committee Reports:

- **Conservation Chair:** Doug Baldwin announced Clearwater Fly Casters responded in favor of the bridge reconstruction over Rocky Ford Creek in sending a letter to WA Council of FFF. Also, US Forest Service and IDFG, Dan Payne, looking for volunteers to sample bull and brook trout this summer in Meadow Creek, a tributary in the upper NF of the Clearwater. It is a study of how brook trout impact the bull trout population.



Announcements:

- **The March meeting will be the Biennial Auction benefitting the CFC Scholarship fund. Bring a friend, something for the auction and your checkbook to boost our scholarship fund to help college fishery students.**
- A fly box was lost at Rocky Ford around the 18th or 19th of December. If you know of someone who lost it, contact Joe Vaughan.

Raffle was conducted. All raffle tickets will be kept for the rod raffle in December. Members are encouraged to bring "different" raffle items to supplement and support this raffle.

Program Notes:



Marc J. Divens, fisheries biologist for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife from the Spokane district presented "Fly Fishing Opportunities for Warm Water Fish in Washington." Fish species included in warm water are bass, walleye, panfish, pike, muskie, pickeral, carp, perch, trout, steelhead, salmon and sturgeon. Marc presented how the fish were introduced to the west and the evolution of fish management through the decades. Surveys and reports over the last 15 years have helped document growth rate, size and other variables. An assortment of fly patterns were illustrated for a variety of warm water fish. Marc reviewed various Washington State lakes and the species of

fish predominate in those lakes. He also recommended online information at www.wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/washington/ and www.washingtonlakes.com/forum. At these websites, you can research by lake, species, best time to catch what and where with mapping tools too.

Fly of the Month: Sandy Mite (Simple Version)

From the FFF website, <http://fedflyfishers.org/Tying/FlyoftheMonth.aspx>

Hook: #4-16 Mustad 3906

Thread: 6/0 black

Body: Light brown horse mane hair

Weave: Orange embroidery floss or size A thread

Hackle: Light brown horse mane hair (same as body)

Have you ever fished with a Pott fly. At one time they were considered among some of the best flies to use. Now you cannot find them in most fly shops. Whether you want to tie one of your old favorites or try a western classic, Chuck Collins will show you how to tie a simplified version of this classic fly at the website listed above. Franz Pott made a elaborate weave that meshed together hair and thread to make a homemade hackle. He patented this process in the 1930's. What makes this a simple version is that it does not use the homemade hair hackle.



Clearwater Fly Casters
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Clearwater Fly Casters Officers & Committee Chairs 2015

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Membership and Monthly Meeting:

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.