



The Tippet

May 2020

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



May Club Meeting and Program cancelled due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Fishouts are cancelled until further notice.

Message from the Executive Committee:

Due to the dangers of transmission of COVID 19 and recommendations to self-isolate, Club meetings are hereby cancelled for the remainder of the academic year and may resume, depending on conditions, in the fall. Also, club Fish Outs are hereby cancelled until further notice.

Most of you may be aware of the recent passing of Sylvia Evers who, along with her husband Gary, was a long-time member of Clearwater Fly Casters. Gary was club president in 1989 and Sylvia has always been very supportive of CFC's efforts. Your Executive Committee has recently voted to contribute \$50 from CFC's general fund to our scholarship fund in Sylvia's honor and memory. Several of the Exec. Committee have agreed to personally support this initiative. If you would like to do so as well, please send your donation to our treasurer, Lynn Youngblood, whose address is listed below. Checks should be made payable to CFC with a notation of Evers' Memorial.

Lynn Youngblood
PO Box 445
Palouse, WA 99161

Important Dates and Events:

May 16, 2020: **Amber Lake Fish Out**, **Cancelled**

June 12-13, 2020: **North Fork Coeur d'Alene Fish Out**, Meet at Devils' Elbow Campground. **Cancelled until further notice**

July 10-11, 2020: **St. Joe Fish Out**, Fly Flat Campground. **Cancelled until further notice**

September 25, 2020: **The 16th Annual Moscow Artwalk**, Moscow, ID

Oct. 26, 2020: **International Fly Fishing Film Festival**, Kenworthy Theater in Moscow, ID. Doors open at 6:00 pm, films start at 7:00 pm **Rescheduled**

November 6, 2020: **Coastal Conservation Association Annual Banquet**. Quality Inn Convention Center, Clarkston, WA. Doors open at 5:00 pm. **Rescheduled**

The 16th annual Moscow Artwalk:

The 16th annual Moscow Artwalk opens on Friday, September 25, 2020 with receptions and events throughout the city. Moscow Artwalk is one of the many arts and cultural activities that make Moscow a vibrant community. Since its beginning in 2004, Moscow Artwalk has become a highlight of the Palouse summer, celebrating the wealth and breadth of artistic talent in the region. Moscow Artwalk is a cultural and artistic experience open to everyone at no cost, and includes artist receptions, musical performances, and Main Street events. Whether you come for art, music, food, or a little bit of everything, Artwalk truly offers something for everyone!

Moscow businesses, regional artists, and area food vendors are invited to register for Artwalk 2020 at: <https://moscowarts.submittable.com/submit/> Artwalk 2020 registration deadline is **Friday, July 31, 2020**.

International Fly Fishing Film Festival: **Rescheduled**

Patagonia presents the International Fly Fishing Film Festival at Kenworthy Theater in Moscow on **Monday, October 26, 2020**. The festival consists of short and feature length films produced by professional filmmakers from all corners of the globe, showcasing the passion, lifestyle and culture of fly-fishing. This is a must see experience. Doors open at 6 pm with the show starting at 7 pm. The evening also includes raffle items and possibly a silent auction. Raffle items donated by club members for the event are gratefully accepted. For additional information about the event contact Steve Bush. Tickets: \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door.

Coastal Conservation Association Annual Banquet: **Rescheduled**

In the utmost of caution for members, CCA has decided to reschedule the CCA Hells Canyon fundraising banquet for **Friday, November 6th**. The mission of CCA is on marine conservation and on removing non-selective gill nets from inland waterways, increasing hatchery production, reducing pinniped predation on salmon and steelhead, and restoring fisheries across the state and region. Your support is important as we continue this vital work. We look forward to seeing you at the banquet in November at the Quality Inn in Clarkston, WA

Conservation Committee:

From CCA: “Earlier this month, funding for several important pro-salmon and pro-recreational fishing initiatives in the state supplemental operating budget were passed by the legislature. Thanks to you, other CCA members, and our great coalition partners, we were able to secure several important wins:

Funding to improve state salmon hatcheries to benefit Orca whales and fisheries (with a focus on a potential new hatchery on the Cowlitz River); ensuring WDFW has funding and direction to maintain recreational fisheries in Puget Sound and the Columbia River; funding to control sea lion predation of ESA-listed salmon and steelhead; and funding to implement the first phase of a Columbia River gillnet buyback.” However, the gillnet buyback program was subsequently vetoed by Governor Inslee, possibly due to budgetary constraints.

Pebble Mine Report

Mike Clancy, WSCFFI, Government Affairs

Steve Jones, WSCFFI, Newsletter Editor

The Washington State Council of FFI is very interested in the Pebble Mine in Alaska. For many years our members and council directors have been concerned with the mine proposal and our concern is growing. It appears that a decision could happen either this year 2020 or in early 2021. Trout Unlimited is leading opposition to the mine and is providing a wealth of information on the risks it poses to the Bristol Bay fishery and the environment of Southwest Alaska. Highlights of the mine plan and key reasons for concern include:

1. This will be the largest mine in the USA.
 2. Mine developers propose building a road over 100 miles long to haul minerals and mine waste. The road to a new deep-water port on Cook Inlet would cross Lake Illamna and cross more than 200 salmon streams including the famed Upper Talark Creek and Gibraltar River. This is a proposed heavy haul road for large industrial vehicles, not ordinary ½-ton pickup trucks. Building the road alone will have a wide ranging environmental impact on hundreds of salmon streams.
 3. The proposed mine also would require construction of a 188-mile pipeline from new natural gas facility on the Kenai Peninsula.
 4. The mine would be located at the headwaters of the Kvichak and Nushagak Rivers which empty into Bristol Bay.
 5. The risk of building this mine is not worth the possible loss of an important fishery habitat and broad damage to the environment? I suggest everyone go to www.savebristolbay.org to learn more. Click the link to “Get the Facts” and you’ll be busy for hours learning more about the mine and the threat it poses to Bristol Bay. There is also a letter with a link to President Trump for you to review and send to the President expressing your opposition to the mine. The link for the letter: <https://forms.gle/8ypiwB47j8KDa9Q67> If you have any questions after you review the website, please don’t hesitate to contact Meghan Barker, Alaska Organizer for TU’s Pebble Mine campaign at www.savebristolbay.org. Thank you.
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BRISTOL BAY: NO PLACE FOR THE PEBBLE MINE

The wild and rugged Bristol Bay region in Southwest Alaska is famous for its world-class wild sockeye salmon runs and incredible sport fishing opportunities. The plentiful salmon of the region have sustained local Alaska Native people for thousands of years, support thousands of American jobs, and feed people all over the world.



IF PERMITTED, PEBBLE MINE WOULD:

BUILD HARMFUL INFRASTRUCTURE

In order to acquire copper and gold from the deposit, Pebble would permanently destroy 105.4 miles of streams and 2,226 acres of wetlands. The proposed 1 mile wide and a quarter mile deep open pit would transform the mine site, and associated infrastructure would irreparably destroy critical salmon habitat. The proposed transportation corridor includes 90+ miles of roads with 200 stream crossings and 8 large bridges, an ice-breaking ferry system on Iliamna Lake, and a 188 mile natural gas pipeline across Cook Inlet.

DESTROY A WORLD-CLASS FISHERY

Bristol Bay's wild landscape holds six major rivers and hundreds of lakes that produce the largest run of sockeye salmon on the planet, and trophy-sized rainbow trout and other coldwater fish species. The region attracts anglers from all over the world who seek the "once in a lifetime" Alaska fishing experience. The sport fishery and fishing tourism is a \$90 million annual economy that supports over 1,000 jobs. Anglers have been a critical role in the efforts to protect this sporting paradise.



YOU CAN HELP

In 2020, Pebble is the closest it has ever been to becoming a reality in Bristol Bay. With the permitting process on track to be completed by fall of 2020, it's imperative that sportsmen and women sign on to the petition calling on President Trump to deny Pebble's key federal permit.

Add your name today at www.savebristolbay.org or [g/tellpresidenttrump](https://www.facebook.com/tellpresidenttrump)

Fly of the Month: "Kaufmann's Stimulator" - A great all-around attractor fly.

By Jim Abbs

While the Fly of the month for May is nationally heralded, it is almost worshiped in the American West. That is not to say that it is not used elsewhere for it has an international following and is reported to be very effective from New Zealand to the mountains of Sweden. However, aside from these reasons for describing Randall Kaufmann's Stimulator and how to tie it, I have personal endearing memories toward this fly. From the time I started fishing western waters in the early 1980's this fly has been a great producer, first on rolling, roaring Rock Creek in Western Montana, and following that on a couple dozen medium sized and large western rivers, including the Wenatchee, Yakima, and Methow in Washington State, the Clark Fork, Yellowstone, Gallatin, Bitterroot, and Blackfoot in Montana and even the Tongue in Wyoming. This fly is truly an attractor for all occasions and can be fished in sizes from 4 to 16, with features of both stoneflies and caddis, but also working as a hopper.

What makes the Stimulator so effective? Many fly originators have elaborate theories. Randall Kaufmann is perhaps more honest than most in stating outright that he doesn't know why the Stimulator is so effective. He even raises a possibility that is not mentioned by most fly designers who want to mimic nature with new looking patterns: "The Stimulator may be just different enough that fish do not remember having an earlier encounter with it and mistake it for real food."

Randall Kaufmann is unusually honest in another way as well. He readily admits that the Stimulator is not unique but is kind of a

composite of "parts" from other effective flies. In the 21st century, there are very few things that are truly brand new. In fact, genius is often in the ability to synthesize, rather than create.

So why does the stimulator work? Well, I think one particular insight deserves a direct quote: "By tying the fly wide (spreading out its tail and wing) and tall with the wing spread upward, the fly "creates the illusion of bulk and the blurred or fluttering image of wing movement. Palmered hackle adds to this illusion, and it should be stiff and tapered, smaller at the tail area These features, along with fishing them when they are in good condition ensures "they react to tiny individual currents, portraying a bouyant, animated natural insect." (Randall Kaufmann, Tying Dry Flies, 1992).

If you are going somewhere out west (or to New Zealand or Sweden) and are not familiar with the Stimulator, try it this year. It is very easy to tie and by varying color combinations and sizes, it offers almost a full fly box of variety.



MATERIALS

- **Hook:** 2X OR 3X Long Dry Fly, TMC 200R, Mustad 79580, Size 6-16
- **Thread:** Orange, 3/0 or 6/0
- **Tail:** Elk (Deer Body Hair is called for by some tyers)
- **Abdomen:** Yellow/orange dubbing
- **Rib:** Brown or grizzly hackle, palmer style, smaller than hook size

- **Thorax:** Orange Dubbing
- **Hackle:** Grizzly over thorax, dry fly style
- **Wing:** Elk

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Tie in clump of elk hair for the tail, with a length extending beyond the bend of the hook about 1 1/2 times the hook gape. Some tiers tie the butt ends of the elk hair on the hook shank as an underbody.
2. Tie in brown or grizzly hackle for palmer rib and dub a tapered yellow-orange body forward to about 2/3rds the length of the shank.
3. Wrap the hackle forward, palmer style over the abdomen. Tie off and tie in the wing of elk hair such that the end of the wing is even with the bend of the hook.
4. Tie in second hackle and dub the thorax forward to a few mm behind the hook eye. 5. Wrap the hackle forward, dry fly style and tie off.
6. Whip finish and go fishing.

This fly pattern is courtesy of Fly Fishers International: <http://fedflyfishers.org/Tying/FlyoftheMonth.aspx>

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Clearwater Fly Casters

May 2020

Clearwater Fly Casters Officers & Committee Chairs 2020

President	Open	
Vice President	Open	
Past President	Karen Zacharisen	Zacharisen60@gmail.com
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Webmaster	Cliff Swanson	clswan12@gmail.com

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Membership and Monthly Meeting:

CFC membership dues are \$25/yr. for individuals, \$35/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.