



# The Tippet

October 2022

## Clearwater Fly Casters

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

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



### October 12<sup>th</sup> Program:

## “Salmon Fishing on Kodiak Road System Rivers”

Presented by

### Fred Muehlbauer

*Long-time CFC member and current Tippet Editor*

The Kodiak adventure began in 2002 and has continued annually, over the past 20 years, with very few missed years. e.g., 2020 due to the Covid pandemic. The idea of Kodiak and coho fishing was the brainchild of Andy Kleinhofs and has continued to the present although participants have changed over the years, with yours truly being the only original participant still making the trip. Kodiak has a paved road system that provides access to numerous small rivers and streams, all of which have salmon including pinks, sockeye, chinook, chum and coho. We chose mid-September when the coho run was expected to be at its' peak. We wanted to experience coho fishing due to their reputation for taking flies readily and putting up spectacular fights which became readily apparent during our first trip to the island. We experienced some years where the coho were plentiful and some years where they were hard to come by. Over the years we mostly fished the Pasagshak river near the cabin we rented for our stay but had the option of driving a short distance to the Oldes river for another experience. At times we also fished the Buskin and American rivers, and Roslyn and Kalsin Creeks.

A variety of methods are used on the island to entice coho. We have mostly settled on a single fly that has proven effective over the years; however, some fishers have resorted to various spinners and spoons and some even to using bait under a bobber. Earlier runs of sockeye, chum and pinks have made fishing somewhat challenging due inevitable snagging of the spawned out and dying fish.

Accommodations on Kodiak are limited, but we were fortunate to have secured a place directly on our preferred Pasagshak river. The cabin has everything needed and includes a fish cleaning station with a good freezer to preserve our catch for the trip home.

Travel to and from Kodiak is by Alaska Air which has improved their service over the years and now has easy connections to Kodiak and back to Pullman-Moscow.



## A Message from President Kay Youngblood:

The “new” year of Clearwater Fly Casters began in September (remember, we are on the “academic year” calendar, so dues are now due) with the annual potluck, this year held at Dave and Sharon Tharps’ home. They were wonderful hosts as always! The dining table was loaded with tasty foods to accompany Sharon’s delicious beef stroganoff over noodles. A variety of desserts rounded out the meal. As we renew our friendships and mission of our organization, each attendee shared the name of the person who introduced them to Clearwater Fly Casters. As we emerge from Covid and begin a new year with in- person meals, meeting, and presentations, remember who shared Clearwater Fly Casters invitation/information with you. Share what we do, why we do it and why we are important to the mission of



Clearwater Fly Casters. Let’s include others in the treasure we call Clearwater Fly Casters.

Thank you to our officers and committee chairs for serving as our leaders for Clearwater Fly Casters. Please consider leadership of any proportion with mentoring and guidance along the way for volunteer opportunities. The saying, “the more you give the more you receive” is certainly true.

**Back cast:** The September club meeting took place at the Tharps where 18-20 members enjoyed a potluck get-together and rousing discussions of fishing experiences of the recent summer fishing season.

Photos below of the food line with Jill and Ray Dacey, John Read, and hosts Dave and Sharon Tharp.



## Information

Meetings are 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month (except June, July, and Aug) at University Best Western Inn, Moscow, ID

Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 pm

Buffet Dinner: 6:30 pm; \$21, students \$10

Menu for October meeting:

*Mediterranean Chicken: Chicken with rice with caramelized onions, mushrooms, garlic, garbanzos, topped with a balsamic reduction, served with a side of feta cheese, garlic green beans, mixed green salad & assorted dressings, fresh baked rolls,*

*dessert, coffee/tea/soda*

Program: 7:30 pm

## General Club Information:

**Program Chair:** With the imminent departure of Joe Vaughan, our club needs a new Program Chair for the coming year. Anyone interested in serving in this position, please contact someone on the Executive Committee. Several interesting potential presenters were discussed by the Committee and there will be follow up to secure participation in upcoming meetings.

**University of Idaho AEC Proposal:** Joe Vaughan reported that he has approached club members to consider contributing their pictures and stories about the remarkable hatches they may have encountered during their many stream/lake adventures. He felt that such an effort would help to “personalize” the Cornell boxes to a much greater degree. Joe reported that he does not have any idea of the layout plan for the boxes but said the group seemed very receptive.

**Auction planning:** Planning for the upcoming Club Auction scheduled for February 15, 2023, is underway. The biennial auction is our primary event focused on raising funds for the Club and for student Scholarships.

**Hats:** Cliff Swanson has placed an order for additional Club hats. Hats are still on back order but will be available soon.

## Important Dates and Events:

**October 12, 2022:** CFC Club Meeting at University Inn Best Western, Moscow, ID. Wet Fly hour at 5:30, Dinner at 6:30 and program at 7:30 pm. Fred Muehlbauer will present “Fishing for Coho on Kodiak Island”. Bring a friend, bring a student!

**November 4-6, 2022:** FFI Virtual Expo. Admission to is \$25.00 for FFI members and \$60 for Non-members. Admission includes the \$35.00 FFI membership.

There will be over a 100 workshops, presentations, and demonstrations available on-line. (This is a very reasonable cost and as Steve Bush points out, “\$25 just buys a lunch and a few flies these days.”) The Expo provides workshops throughout the three days. *See page 4 for more details.*

**November 9, 2022:** CFC Club Meeting at University Inn Best Western, Moscow, ID. Wet Fly hour at 5:30, Dinner at 6:30 and program at 7:30 pm. Bring a friend, bring a student!

**February 15, 2023:** Club Auction and Club meeting at University Inn Best Western, Moscow, ID.

## Membership:

Annual Membership is by academic year beginning in September and ending at the end of August of the following year. Members are encouraged to renew their Membership in-person at a monthly meeting by handing a check to Membership Chair Paul Agidius or by sending a check for their dues to Lynn Youngblood, P.O. Box 394, Pullman, Washington 99163. **CFC membership dues are \$25/yr. for individuals, \$35/yr. for families, \$10/yr. for students, \$50/yr. sustaining, and \$300/lifetime.**



Come Join Us for the Fly Fishing Event of the Year

November 4-6, 2022

Registration Now Open

Online Auction Opening Soon

**Conservation Committee Report:**

**1. Small Mesh Gillnets are a Dismal Failure,**

This year's spring [small mesh gillnet fishery](#) on the lower Columbia, that took place on May 23, was a dismal failure. Deceptively described as "selective" by misguided fisheries managers, this fishery proved that small mesh gillnets are anything but selective! Here are some facts about this 1-day commercial fishery:

1 out of every 100 fish captured was a hatchery Chinook, the target species.

A total of 48 salmonids were captured. Nearly two-thirds (60%) of the salmonids were discarded.

The gear caught 9 different species of fish: Spring Chinook, Summer Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead (including 2 kelts), White Sturgeon, Shad, Pikeminnow, Starry Flounder and Sucker.

Most embarrassing is that, despite the miserable failure of this gear type, fisheries managers in Washington advocated for additional fishing days. Fortunately, conservation and common sense won the day as ODFW was unwilling to agree with WDFW on additional days for this highly contentious and "risky" small mesh gillnet fishery.

**2. Fisheries Managers Fail the Recreational Fishing Community Again,**

The most popular recreational salmon fishery in the world was brought to a screeching halt this year, thanks in part to a failed management approach. Going into this season, fisheries managers knew that the limiting stock would once again be lower river Chinook, also known as Tules. During pre-season planning, approximately two-thirds of this limiting Tule stock was allocated to the commercial industry. While many of these fish were allocated to

commercial fisheries in Alaska and Canada, a whopping 23% of the impacts were allocated to the non-selective commercial troll fishery off the Washington and Oregon coasts. By comparison, the in-river recreational community, which produces a significantly higher economic value and with selective fishing, was allocated only 19% of the impacts.

Until our fisheries managers choose to prioritize conservation, selective fisheries, and economics, we will continue experiencing unnecessary closures and restrictions on recreational fisheries.

If you want to help change the status quo, [join CCA today](#).



## Fly of the Month: “Wonder Wings Made Easy”

*(Courtesy of Fly Fishers International website September 2022)*

Al and Gretchen Beatty share their "light bulb" understanding of the importance of feather-fiber shape in relation to looped Wonder Wings and how to tie them. Learn their method for tying a consistent looking Wonder Wing. Wow! it's that easy! That little trick only took them five years and you get the benefit of their trial and error.

### MATERIALS

Hook: Size 20 to 12, TMC 100, Mustad 94840 or similar

Thread: Beige or tan, 70 denier (6/0) in size

Tail: Whiting Tailing Pack fibers, ginger color

Wings: Large ginger feathers, looped Wonder Wings

Body: Tan muskrat dubbing

Hackle: Ginger

Head: Thread



[CLICK HERE](#) FOR THE INDIVIDUAL STEPS TO TIE THIS FLY  
[VIEW ON YOUTUBE VIDEO](#)

Clearwater Fly Casters  
PO Box 394  
Pullman, WA 99163

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## Clearwater Fly Casters Officers & Committee Chairs 2022

President	Kay Youngblood	<a href="mailto:kaylynn4341@gmail.com">kaylynn4341@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Steve Bush	<a href="mailto:moscowtitle@moscow.com">moscowtitle@moscow.com</a> (208-882-4564)
Past President	Karen Zacharisen	<a href="mailto:Zacharisen60@gmail.com">Zacharisen60@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Lynn Youngblood	<a href="mailto:kaylynn4341@gmail.com">kaylynn4341@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Tony McDonald	<a href="mailto:mcdonnell@frontier.com">mcdonnell@frontier.com</a> (208-883-9757)
FFF Representative	Steve Bush	<a href="mailto:moscowtitle@moscow.com">moscowtitle@moscow.com</a> (208-882-4564)
Conservation Chair	Doug Baldwin	<a href="mailto:dougbaldwin318@gmail.com">dougbaldwin318@gmail.com</a> (509-334-1630)
Membership Chair	Paul Agidius	<a href="mailto:pagidius@moscow.com">pagidius@moscow.com</a>
Program Chair	Joe Vaughan	<a href="mailto:josephvaughan9@gmail.com">josephvaughan9@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Fred Muehlbauer	<a href="mailto:f.muehlj@gmail.com">f.muehlj@gmail.com</a> (509-338-7010)
Webmaster	Cliff Swanson	<a href="mailto:clswan12@gmail.com">clswan12@gmail.com</a>
Historian	Dave Tharp	<a href="mailto:harharacre@hotmail.com">harharacre@hotmail.com</a>

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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 will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from September through May. Meetings are 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.