



The Tippet

May 2022

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club

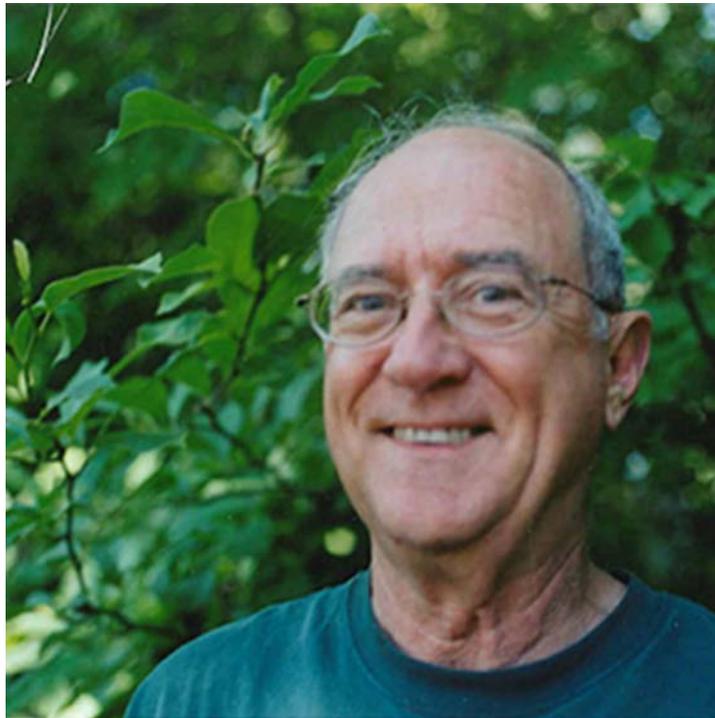


May 11th Program:

“How a dyed-in-the-wool bait angler was transformed into a generally inept, occasionally back-slipping fly thrower”

presented by

Ronald McFarland



Ron McFarland teaches literature and creative writing at the University of Idaho. Although his doctoral dissertation dealt with minor 17th-century British poet Thomas Traherne, he teaches a broad array of courses ranging from 17th-century British poets like Donne and Milton to modern writers like Ernest Hemingway and contemporaries like Cormac McCarthy. He also teaches African writers and Shakespeare, even though he regards himself as an “outsider” in both areas. Pecan Grove Press published his fourth full-length collection of poems, "Subtle Thieves," in early 2012. His biography of Lieutenant Colonel Edward J. Steptoe (1815-1865), in whose honor the regional landmark known as Steptoe Butte is named, is presently under consideration for publication.

In addition, he is an adviser for creative writing track majors in English and serves on committees or directs MA and MFA theses. He helped establish the University of Idaho’s highly regarded literary magazine, "Fugue," more than 20 years ago.

A Message from President Lynn Youngblood:

It's been a recurring theme in my head that CFC is more than a social group. We do have a good time when sharing wisdom together (sometimes lies!) but also gleaning wisdom from each other and our programs. But we also provide service to our community. Perhaps that's been no more in evidence than recently when some of us participated in providing fly-casting classes at Moscow High School, others of us supported Palouse Habitat for Humanity at their recent fund-raising extravaganza, and we're now in the process of working out a collaboration with the Aldrick Entomology Club at the University of Idaho. Each of the activities reflects the charge in our by-laws to support educational and conservation efforts in support of the sport of fly fishing. With specific reference to our recent support of Habitat for Humanity, our table sponsorship and dessert contributions allowed promotion of CFC within the larger community. I'd like to especially express appreciation to those who at the CFC table personally, as a group, donated more than \$2,000 to the Habitat for Humanity cause! This was done in large part as a tribute to the memory of a Past President of CFC, Roger Willemssen, who gave a considerable amount of his time and talent to building houses for Palouse Habitat. May he rest in peace and as he may be watching us from "on high" wishing us all tight lines as we now enter the heart of the fly-fishing season.

Back cast:

Joe Dupont and Joe Thiessen presented "Steelhead & Salmon Fisheries Management in the Clearwater Region: at our April club meeting. Joe Dupont discussed the changed regulations for steelhead whereby the period from July 1st to Sept. 9th will be catch and release, from Sept. 10th to Oct. 14th will be catch and keep, from Oct. 15th to Nov. 9th will be catch and release and from Nov. 10th to Dec. 31st will be catch and keep.

Joe also discussed "Trout and climate change" and the "Hoot Owl Regulation" which places restrictions on fishing when water temperatures are so high as to adversely affect fish survival.

The two presenters also described their "White Sturgeon Pilot Study" and growth rates in differing sections of the river system. A 10 ft. sturgeon (below left) being evaluated and tagged by Joe's crew.

President Lynn Youngblood (below right) presenting the Prevaricator Award to both speakers.



Meeting Information

Our May meeting will take place at our usual venue, University Inn Best Western, Moscow, ID.

Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 pm

Buffet Dinner: 6:30 pm; \$18.00, students \$10

Menu: BBQ Buffet with pulled pork, toasted kaiser rolls, sliced cheddar cheese, caramelized onions, baked beans or macaroni salad, mixed green salad with assorted dressings. Desert: Lentil carrot cake and coffee.

Program: 7:30 pm

Conservation Committee:

Legislative update: Voluntary Non-tribal Columbia River Buyback

Final Budget Approved by Governor Inslee

Several weeks ago, our **final legislative update** provided details on several priorities that CCA, along with our coalition partners, worked on this session. At the end of last week, Governor Inslee signed the budget into law, but did **issue section vetoes** of several fishery conservation and reform provisions that the legislature funded in the budget.

Voluntary Non-tribal Columbia River Buyback

We are pleased to announce that a voluntary buyback of non-tribal gillnet licenses has been approved by the Governor. This **\$14.4 million budget item** includes language ensuring that the buyback benefits salmon and steelhead conservation by reducing impacts of the gillnet fishery while supporting selective harvest methods that are better suited to protect wild salmonid populations and non-target species, such as B-run steelhead. This voluntary buyback program is a huge step toward getting the bi-state Columbia River fishery reforms back on track and transitioning non-tribal gillnets out of the mainstem Columbia River and into off-channel areas.

CCA's focus will now turn to closely monitoring WDFW's implementation of the buyback and ensuring their fishery policies align with this renewed direction from the Legislature and Governor.

Puget Sound Salmon Harvest Reporting and Transparency

Unfortunately, Governor Inslee vetoed two budget items designed to increase transparency in the broken North of Falcon process.

This first item he vetoed would have simply required WDFW to issue a report to the Legislature documenting the total harvest related mortalities to ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook compared to established fishery conservation objectives over the past 10 years. The Governor cited insufficient funding to prepare the report, although much of this information is already a requirement of the 1985 Puget Sound Salmon Management Plan. WDFW has not produced this information for many years.

The other item vetoed by Governor Inslee is funding to improve salmon population data analysis and WDFW staffing to effectively engage in the North of Falcon process. The Governor's veto was based on a requirement that any state-generated documents and notes from North of Falcon be made available to the public following the conclusion of the process. The Governor was concerned that a more open and transparent process will make negotiations with tribal entities more difficult.

Using Science to Establish Commercial Fishery Mortality Estimates

Governor Inslee also vetoed a third-party scientific review of WDFW's fishery mortality estimates for the lower Columbia River non-tribal commercial fishing gears. WDFW has never done a scientific study to determine the release mortality rates from gillnets and rarely subjects the fishery to monitoring. While the Governor claims to support science, it is surprising that he is unwilling to allow a scientific review of commercial mortality estimates.

It is difficult to understand why anyone would oppose transparency and science in the management of a public resource.

Article provided by Coastal Conservation Association.

General Club Information:

The Steve Allured – Benton Collins Memorial Award: The award was presented to Joe Vaughan in recognition of outstanding contributions to the activities of the Clearwater Fly Casters, conservation, and the sport of fly fishing. Pictured at the right is President Youngblood presenting the award to Joe at the April club meeting.

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

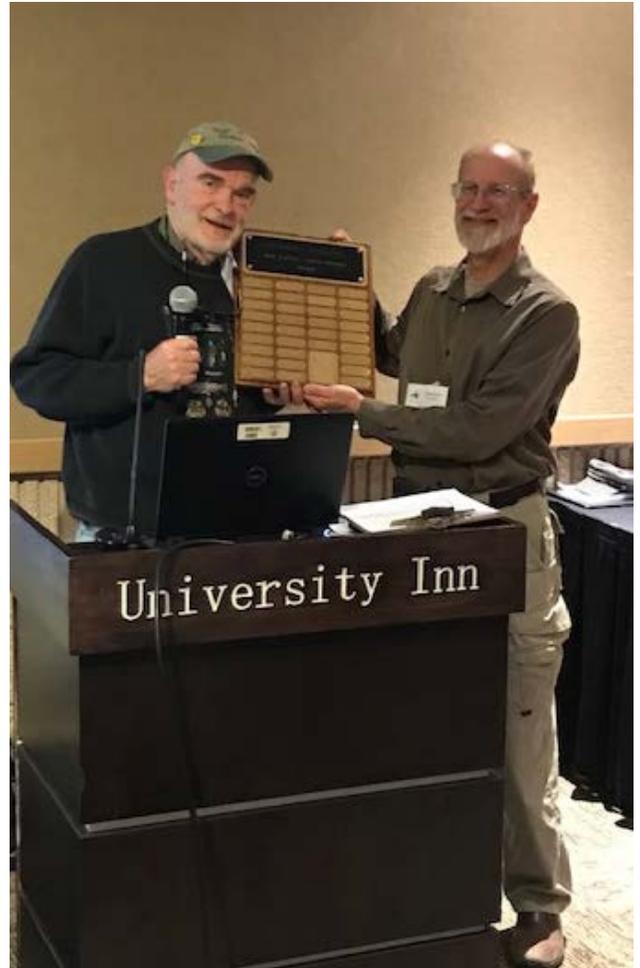
Scholarships: Cliff Swanson reported that the club will not provide a scholarship this year as we didn't receive qualified applicants.

Tree Planting: Fly Fishers International is planting trees at the Red River Campground on May 21st and they are requesting volunteers to assist with the effort. Anyone interested should contact Steve Bush to sign up for the event. Volunteers will need to bring shovels and gloves.

University of Idaho AEC Proposal: The proposal was discussed at the April meeting of the club and support for the project was approved by the general membership. Vaughan is acting as liaison between our club and the Entomology Department at the U of I.

Moscow High School Fly Casting Instruction: Assistance in fly casting instruction went extremely well this year and thanks go to Steve Bush for organizing this annual event.

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.



Important Dates and Events:

May 11, 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. Ron McFarland from the University of Idaho is slated to be our speaker for the May meeting. Bring a friend, bring a student!

May 14, 2022: Amber Lake Fish Out. Meet at Amber Lake parking lot or boat launch area.

June 16-17, 2022: North Fork Coeur d'Alene Fish Out, Meet at Devils' Elbow Campground.

July 15-17, 2022: St. Joe Fish Out, Meet and camp at Fly Flat Campground

August 13, 2022: Fly Fishers International Event: Fly Casting Fair. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Lake Ballinger Park, Mountlake Terrace, WA. Walk-in Casting Clinic, Casting Workshops, Casting Skills Development, and Fly Tying. For further information see www.wscffi.org

Membership:

Members are encouraged to renew their membership 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.**

Upon renewal, members will receive a 50th Anniversary Clearwater Fly Casters club pin.

Habitat for Humanity, Beans ‘n’ Jeans 2022!

Lynn expressed his gratitude at the recent Executive Committee meeting where the “Beans & Jeans” fund raiser was reviewed. He indicated that the Clearwater Fly Casters table donated approximately \$2000 to the effort. Kay’s pies proved to be a great hit among the participants, and we all appreciate her remarkable culinary and artistic talents. Below are several pictures taken at the event, including members of the Clearwater Fly Casters.



Dinner Buffet



Roger Willemsen's son Jeff and wife Rita



Marc Retzlaff (in the blue shirt), heads & tails finalist



Members at the CFC table

Fly of the Month: "Shakey Bealy"

(Courtesy of Fly Fishers International website April 2022.)

The fly of the month is called the "Shakey Bealy". The fly is named after a Yellowstone park ranger named Frank Beals. Because Beals was enamored with chasing wild trout, he took time off from a San Diego Furniture store that he operated to be a seasonal park ranger in Yellowstone. Frank Bealy didn't actually create the fly, but he was known to fish the fly avidly and it bears his namesake. Apparently, he received this honor because of his habit of getting up early and shaking with enthusiasm in anticipation of fishing the fly. I believe the fly was originally tied by Nick Nicklas of Blue Ribbon Flies. It is a wet fly which is a variant of an October Caddis, originally designed to be swung with a weighted leader or dead drifted. It was used primarily as a fall pattern on western rivers, but over time the fly spread and was used on eastern streams as well. As our guest fly tier for February, Phil Wheeler, will tell you, it's a pretty darn good bluegill fly as well.

Materials:

Hook: 2x long Nymph hook like a Lightning Strike NH7, TMC 2312, Daiichi 280 in sizes 10-16

Thread: Rusty Brown, 8/0 or 70-denier

Tails/collar: Amber or orange Krystal Flash

Trailing shuck: Mallard flank feather, dyed wood duck

Rib: Rusty Brown tying thread, 3/0 or 210-denier

Abdomen: Amber or Brown Australian Possum

Thorax: Orange ostrich herl or orange wool

Hackle: Natural Hungarian partridge

Head: Tying thread



Steps:

1. Start the thread behind the hook eye and take a few wraps rearward to secure the thread and the cut off the tag.
2. Snip three or four strands of orange crystal flash loose from the bundle. Double them over and snip the loop to give you 6-8 strands. Tie them in on the top of the hook where your thread stopped with about an inch and one half of flash facing forward in front of the hook eye. Take thread wraps along the hook to secure the crystal flash to the hook all the way back to the bend. Clip the flash off to yield a short tail.
3. Select 10-12 mallard flank barbs, pull them out perpendicular to the shaft (rachis) and snip them free while keeping the ends of the barbs aligned. Place the mallard flank barbs on top of the hook to form a trailing husk, about twice as long as the crystal flash tail. Secure the barbs to the hook shank with several tight, touching wraps and snip the forward-facing ends with your scissors.
4. Secure a piece of rusty brown 210 denier thread to the hook for the rib with the long piece facing backwards. Snip the front tag off.
5. Dub the body of the fly with brown or amber Australian Possum (like Wapsi Awesome Possum) Start the dubbing at the tail tie in point and extended up the body about two thirds of the hook shank length.
6. Counter wrap the 210 denier Rusty Brown thread over the dubbing to create segments and tie off at the end of the dubbing and snip off the excess.
7. Pull the front facing crystal flash backward over the fly and snip it off halfway between the ends of the crystal flastail and the back end of the abdomen.
8. For the thorax, select an orange ostrich herl or orange wool dubbing and wrap to create a tight thorax, ending one hook eye diameter behind the hook eye.
9. Sweep the Crystal Flash back from the head trying to create a collar all around the head and secure with thread wraps.
10. Choose a Hungarian Partridge hackle feather and strip the bottom fuzzy barbs. Grab the hackle by the tip and stroke the barbs backwards to allow you to snip off the tip, leaving a triangular section for tying into the hook. Attach the hackle by this triangular section with the curved section of the barbs in toward the hook and tied in front of the crystal flash collar. Palmer the hackle around the hook while sweeping and folding the fiber toward the rear to give you an evenly spaced, sparse hackle. Snip the excess stem off close to the hook.
11. Create a small thread head and whip finish, using a small dab of head cement.

Clearwater Fly Casters
PO Box 394
Pullman, WA 99163

The Tippet

Clearwater Fly Casters

May 2022

Clearwater Fly Casters Officers & Committee Chairs 2022

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

Now on Facebook! Locate us by searching Clearwater Fly Casters

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 2nd 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.