



P.O. Box 734  
Weiser, Idaho 83672

#### Officers

President-Jim Gulu  
549-0796  
1st Vice Pres-Bill Betts  
549-0686  
2nd Vice Pres-Dave Steppe  
549-1468  
Past President-Perry Kelley  
549-0538  
Secretary-Lynette Jones  
549-0430  
Treasurer-Mary Thompson  
608-0067

#### Board Members

Roy Davis 642-2366  
John Hickey 452-6357  
Marv Orwig 642-4667  
Mark Sands 549-2545  
Nando Mauldin 549-2883  
Dick Garrett 549-1311

Meetings are held the 2nd  
Tuesday of each month at Idaho  
Pizza, 1255 State Street,  
Weiser. Fly tying at 6 pm,  
meeting at 7 pm.

**Join in the Fun!**

#### Committees

**Outings:** Jim Gulu, George Kautz,  
Rod Jones, Al Sillonis

**Library:** George Kautz, Rod Jones,  
Dick Garrett

**Fund Raising:** Lynette Jones, Mary  
Thompson

**Membership:** Bill Betts,  
Dave Steppe

**Conservation:** Mark Sands,  
Nando Mauldin

**Budget:** Mary Thompson, Lynette  
Jones

**Publicity:** Dave Steppe

**Newsletter:** Perry & Sally Kelley,  
Mary Thompson, Dick Garrett

**Education:** Marv Orwig

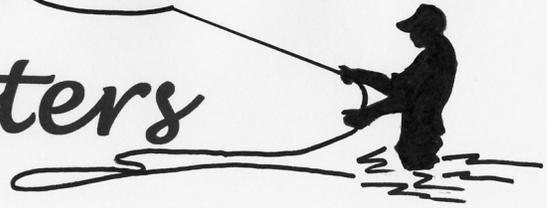
**Youth Activities:** Mike Thomas, Mark  
Sands, Ken Gissell

**Greeters:** Dave & Anne Steppe

**Historian:** Suzanne Orwig

# News Casters

March 2009



## President's Message by Jim Gulu

As I sit here working on this message and looking out the window, what do I gaze upon? Nothing but white stuff. Now, this white stuff has been here since the 2008 Christmas Eve snow. The latest storm snow has melted and gone, only leaving last year's stuff. I am beginning to question if it's ever going to melt. Anyway enough of that; it will soon be gone and the days will be longer and warmer and I will be sitting in my kick boat fishing with the new flyies tied over the winter months. I see a number of 30 – 40 fish days in my future. (In my dreams, perhaps)



Speaking of numbers and fish, can you believe the numbers and species that AI recorded this past year? I have trouble remembering my age; let alone how many and what kind of fish I've caught. Good job AI; hope 2009 is as productive as 2008.

On Wednesday, February 11, 2009, we kicked off our Pond Fundraising activities at Weiser Classic Candies with the Mayor and Idaho Fish & Game in attendance. The local newspaper was present and a picture and notice were in the paper highlighting the kick-off. The fly-fishing basket was on display at Weiser Classic Candies until Feb, 16, and then moved to the Weiser Library. It will remain at the library until the 24<sup>th</sup> of Feb., and then it's at the Weiser Little Theater for the Dessert Night fund raiser.

It appears every thing is in place for

Dessert Night at the theatre. I want to thank all who contributed dessert for the evening, and a big thanks to **Sarah, Lynette and Mary** for pulling this effort together. I understand the Dessert Night performance has been sold out, so our fund-raising effort is off to a great start.

I also want to thank **Dick Garrett** for constructing the shadow boxes to be used in the play and **Perry and Marv** for tying the flies for the boxes. Big thanks to **Bill Betts** for all his work on the set design and construction.

Remember we are only selling 250 tickets for the basket. So, let's make sure as members we have a chance to win. I would love to see a member win. So far the ticket sales are going great and we should have no problem selling them. **Remember, the one who sells the most tickets gets a special prize!**

Upcoming events: March 10, membership meeting will be at the high school for our annual fly casting class, with **Tim Mansell** from Idaho Angler in Boise.

**March 17**, at 7pm **Ray Perkins** will be tying a crawdad pattern at the library.

**March 21**, BVFF expo. Contact Bill Betts for info.

**April 18, 9am Owyhee River cleanup day.** Meet at the wildlife viewing area.



*Jim*

## Steelhead Etiquette

By Scott Richmond  
from WestFly

### What's the right behavior when you're on the river?

If angling behavior were limited to the letter of the law, everyone's enjoyment would suffer. This is especially true when steelhead runs are strong. A strong run brings out anglers who don't normally fly fish for steelhead, and this creates a situation ripe for conflict.

I think most confrontations come from ignorance. To be sure, there are people who are going to be jerks no matter what and there's nothing you can do except shrug your shoulders and move on. However, most people want to do what's right, if they only knew.

So here's my take on good steelhead fly fishing etiquette. If you have additional suggestions, click "contact us" below and e-mail them to me. I'll compile some of the responses and publish them in a follow-up article.

1. The best advice for behavior on and around the river is the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you," where "others" includes the entire ecosystem. Communicate with other river users in a positive and courteous manner. Expect people to do the right thing, and usually they will.
2. If someone is fishing near an area you want to fish, ask if you will disturb them. If they are sitting, and not fishing, they may be resting the water or waiting for the light to change. In any case, ask before you fish--and if they say "No," find another run. If someone is camped, ask permission before fishing in front of their camp; if no one is in the camp (holler around a bit before concluding this), you can regard the water as available.
3. Don't be a hole hog: don't monopolize the good water for long periods. Give someone else a chance.
4. If someone is fishing a run for with [traditional tactics](#) they are probably working their way downstream. Don't wade into the river below them or near them on the upstream side. If you are not sure how far downstream they are going, and you want to fish the water, ask first. If you enter the water downstream, you should stay at least 150 yards from an upstream angler. This rests the water for about an hour between anglers.
5. If an angler is using [indicator tactics](#), they could be progressing in either direction, so ask before wading in above or below them.
6. If you are floating the river in a boat, give bank anglers a wide berth. Notice where they are casting to, and give them lots of space. If you aren't sure what water they're

fishing, ask them. Try to stay at least 30 feet away from the water they're fishing, and pass by quietly without splashing or making other noise that will be transmitted through the water.

7. Don't pull your boat or raft into a backeddy until you are sure no one is fishing it.
8. There are basic boating right-of-way rules, such as: down-river-bound traffic has the right-of-way; and boats should bear to the right when meeting. However, once a powerboat is in the rapids it cannot back down, and drift craft need to wait to enter the rapids until the power boat is clear. At the same time, a powerboat should not enter a rapids if a drift craft is already in it or is about to enter it.
9. Anglers and boaters of all persuasions should recognize the right of anglers and boaters of differing persuasions to use the river. Manners are contagious. Which kind do you want to perpetuate on the river?
10. Don't target or harass spawning fish. Recognize spawning redds and don't wade through or anchor in them.

## Stream Etiquette

by Chuck Stranahan  
from West Fly

*Tired of rude anglers? Maybe it's time for folks to remember a few things they learned when they were six years old.*

Everything I need to know about stream etiquette I could have learned in kindergarten.

### BE NICE TO OTHERS

Smiles and friendly greetings are nice. Showing your grumpy face like you don't even want somebody on the river is not very nice. If you bring a friend or a kid or a dog make sure they are quiet and don't disturb others. Speak softly. Don't yell or shout or say bad words.

### DON'T CROWD OR PUSH

If someone else got there first, don't disturb their water. Let them have the whole run instead of fishing right above or below them. This is especially true if you are in a boat, and somebody else is wade fishing. Speak nicely, and smile as you go by.

### TAKE TURNS AND SHARE

Help the people you meet on the river to have a nice time. Offer to share a good fly. If you are both fishing the same place, talk nicely and make a plan together so you won't bother each other. Fishing is not a race.

Take turns at boat landings and don't be pushy. Ask to help others to launch or load. Don't dawdle when it's your turn.



*The MT Zug Bug tied by Mike Thomas at the Feb. membership meeting and taught by Make at the Fly Tying class. Thanks Mike!*

## Check the Equipment Before wetting the line!

An ancient Hebrew proverb states that a fool learns from his mistakes, but the wise person learns from the mistakes of others. I be the fool so that you can be the wise one. Lesson: Check the drag before hooking that dream fish.

In 2004, my twenty-seven-year-old daughter, Sarah, her husband, three other family members and I horse packed into the Seven Devils for a week of fishing, hiking, and family bonding. We camped at Shelf Lake where we had good fishing for 10 inch fish, but, of course, yearned to catch something bigger. Walking beside Basin Lake we could see 14" and larger fish cruising the shoreline. Sarah and I decided that we had to fish Basin Lake after lunch. We were using open faced spin casting reels and clear plastic bubbles with my own hand tied flies. After fishing for a couple of hours with no luck (big cruising fish in a mountain lake can be so darn frustrating!), thunder clouds began moving in, the temperature dropped and the wind picked up. Then the rain began to fall, but not really a gully washer type of rainfall so we stood our ground and continued fishing. Sarah wondered aloud if fish would bite better in the rain. I answered, "Not any worse than the past two hours."



Then slap, splash, splash. Sarah had a huge hit forty feet off shore, but the fish missed the fly. Yup, sometimes fish really do miss. In the fish world there must be Ichiros, who hardly ever miss a strike, and Richie Sexsons, who hardly ever hit a strike. Well, Sarah was fully focused on fishing now. Then I had a strike and three minutes later had a nice 14" hybrid cutthroat/rainbow on the stringer and destined to be the main course for dinner. Then Sarah let out a whoop. She was electrified when not ten feet from shore, while retrieving, a monster 17 or 18 inch fish gobbled up her fly and took off on the run. And that fish did run! Sarah, who fished when she was home but had not fished for ten years and was a little rusty on the art of bringing big mountain trout to the net (heck, she never had caught anything in her life bigger than ten inches), so wanted that fish on her stringer to show Dad who could really catch the big one. I'm here to tell you that we had a crisis in the making. Turns out she had not set the switch on the reel which would engage the drag so the fish was just stripping line off her reel. Finally, I realized what was happening and told her to turn that lever at the back of the reel over to the left. She did and then she started reeling the fish in. The fish was swimming towards us and I encouraged her to reel fast to keep tension on the line or the fish would be able to throw the barbless hook. (She had thought the barbless hook was really a cool idea so as not to hurt the fish very much, but now that she had a big fish on she was re-thinking the whole concept and muttering something that sounded like, "that old fool Perry". When she had the fish within ten feet of the shore, he dove sharply for the bottom and the leader snapped. Oh, my. Sarah was devastated. I said, "You should have reduced the drag." Just as I was dragging out the word "drag," I thought, "Ooops!"

She says, "What drag? What are you talking about? You never told me about the drag! Daaaad!!!!" Now here is the lesson from which you, the reader, can be a wiser fisher based on this old fool's mistake. I had provided the reel for Sarah so she was unfamiliar with how it operated and did not even remember about drags and their operation. I forgot to check the drag and it was set way too tight. I should have checked all of that out and given Sarah a lesson on how the reel worked—probably would have taken three minutes—less time than how long she had hold of that big fish.



With the loss of the fish, the rain stopped and so did the bites. Sarah is forgiving of her Old Man, but I will never forget her excitement when she had that fish on and her devastation when the fish broke off and swam away. I was at fault and I still hurt.

You never know when the big one will take your fly, so be prepared thinking with every cast that the dream fish will strike.

May all your trails be slightly downhill and the wind blow gently at your back,

I. B. Fool

# Member Spotlight

Jim Torell.

I recently asked Jim to tell me a little about himself. This is what he had to say, "I was raised in Parma, Idaho and am employed by Western Laboratories here in Parma doing **plant disease diagnostics**. I started fly-fishing after taking a fly tying course a few years ago, I fly fish at some of the high desert reservoirs with Malheur and Mountain View being favorites. I also frequent the Owyhee and in the summers I am fond of fishing mountain lakes in central Idaho. I look forward to associating with some other fly fishers since matching the hatch for most of my fishing partners consists of deciding what color of power bait to use. I have been tying steelhead patterns in anticipation of hitting the steelhead run this spring in the Challis-Stanley and will be making an effort to do some warm-water fishing with the fly rod during the coming fishing season." Welcome to the Club Jim

## Dave & Patricia Johnson

Dave and Patricia moved back into the area from Seattle in 2005, after Dave retired from the Boeing Corporation with 33 years of service. . They have one daughter and four grandchildren. Dave was raised in Weiser and graduated from Weiser High in 1961. He worked for the Forestry Department until going to Seattle with the Boeing Corporation. Patricia was born and raised in Kansas until the age of 12, and then the family moved to Boise. She met Dave there and they married in 1967.

Dave interest are varied from metal detection, hunting, fishing and as Patricia shared with me a *collector of stuff*. Patricia interests are crocheting, sewing, crossword puzzles and her grandchildren. I believe fly-tying will soon become her next interest.

Welcome to our club, Dave and Patricia; we look forward to getting to know you.

## Letter to the Editor

*This is a letter received in response to Perry Kelley's Article on "Klutter is Kool"*

Deer Editur:

RE: Klutter is Kool

Okay, who is this Perry Kelley guy, reelly? He not be reel. No reel fisherman can keep a work airya that neet --- and he didn't even menchunn the beer can holder and ashtray. I find tyn flies on the sun porch works reel well for getting riduv klutter. Hell sakes, I just open all the winders of the son porch on a windy day and let all the klutter and beer farts sail into the neighbors' yard. End of problem!!

I look to the next edishon of fantashya from Perry Kelley. Who is this guy, really?

Pleeze eccus the typing airs, my huny bun sent this message becuz I don't know puter stuff nor how to reed.

## “Weiser Community Pond Raffle”

8 Wt. Winston Fly Rod, 8 Wt. Ross Fly Reel, 8 Wt. Fly Line.



All this in a Wader bag filled with many, many fishing items to make your fishing experience enjoyable!  
Tickets will be available for purchase at the March Membership meeting.

Only 250 tickets will be sold at \$10.00 ea.

Drawing will be March 31 at Weiser City Office  
By Mayor John Walker



### Members whose dues are due in March

Due to the fact some members are receiving *Newscasters* by e-mail there is no reminder on the address label of when the dues are due. Therefore a reminder will be listed in *Newscaster* each month.

Chris Burke

Bob & Karen Maki

Mark Sands

Roy & Barbara Davis

Perry & Sally Kelley

Mark & Mary Thompson

Rod & Lynette Jones

Ray Perkins

Marv & Suzanne Orwig

### Book Review

by Bill Betts

Just like you the author Victoria Houston enjoys the sport of fly fishing (<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5184984>). Her characters live in the fictional Wisconsin town of Loon Lake and one way or another they murder mysteries by clues centered around the sport of fishing.

The three main characters are the middle-aged Chief of Police Lew Ferris (female), Doc Osborne, the retired dentist who volunteers his forensic knowledge to Ferris' investigation (and shares some romantic moments with the Chief) and the rascal guide, local Casanova, and occasional pot smoker Ray Pratt. Houston's books have clever plots, read quickly and leave the reader wanting to read the next book because they find themselves caring about the characters that are very down home, believable people. The reader might want to have the evening cleared because he/she will not want to put the book down until the mystery is solved. The books are excellent reads and very entertaining and you might just learn a thing or two about fly fishing in Wisconsin.

So far these are books in the series: <http://www.victoriahouston.com/books.html>

1. *Dead Boogie*
2. *Dead Jitterbug*
3. *Dead Hot Mama*
4. *Dead Frenzy*
5. *Dead Water*
6. *Dead Creek*
7. *Dead Angler*
8. *Dead Madonna*

If you are a fisherman and can't "get into" these books, you might want to have your spouse check your pulse. Happy Reading!! Look for some of the books in your Indianhead Fly Fishers' Library.

May all your trails be slightly downhill and the wind blow gently at your back,



President Gulu's first brown out of the Owyhee—Congratulations!!!

If we just tweek it a little this way, we should have plenty of water for our Community Pond



Feel free to mail your dues if you wish!  
To the P.O. Box  
Thanks!

Indianhead Fly Fishers

P.O. Box 734

Weiser, Idaho 83672

*If fishing interferes with your business, give up your business*

**Coming Events**

**March 3 - IFF Board**  
7 pm at Idaho Pizza

**March 10 - IFF Membership**  
6 pm—Fly Tying  
7 pm—Membership

**March 21 - Club Outing TBA**

**March 17- Fly Tying** 7 pm  
Weiser Library

**March 31—Pond Raffle Drawing**



**March 2009**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 IFF Board	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 IFF Membr	11	12	13	14
15	16	17 Fly tying	18	19	20	21 TBA
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



Pond Raffle Drawing!  
By Mayor Walker at City Hall