



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,

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

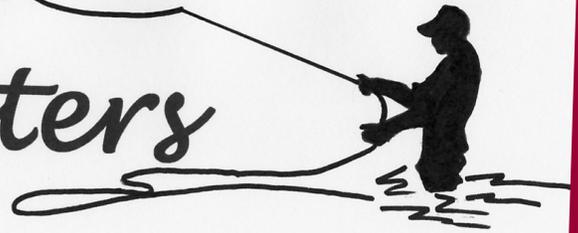
Education: Marv Orwig

Youth Activities: Mike Thomas,
Mark Sands, Ken Gissell

Greeters: Dave & Anne Steppe

Historian: Suzanne Orwig

News Casters



April 2009

President's Message by Jim Gulu

Greetings all;

At the start of my last two messages, I was glum and down in the dumps due to lack of sunshine and nothing but Christmas 2008 snow still on the ground. Well guess what? All has changed; I now feel the warmth and brightness of the missing sun and see the heads of spring flowers waking up from their winter naps, the new look of another fishing season. So it's time to clean our fly lines, inspect and lubricate our fly reels (AI), clean the kick boats and head out to pursue the sport we love. With the new flies we tied this winter.

A number of our members have been making trips to the Owyhee River. The feedback I'm receiving is the trout are still very selective on what they will react to. Sounds like last year and the year before. It can be a real challenge fishing, yet it can also be very satisfying when you figure out what is working and manage to catch a 20 plus inch brown.

Remember April 18, 0930 we will be meeting at the Wildlife viewing area for coffee and sweets to begin our annual Owyhee River cleanup. It appears we have a number of organizations, some new and some repeats, planning on participating in the cleanup this year. So, we should be done by noon, enjoy another great BBQ and still have time to fish the afternoon. Remember as you cleanup, look for the bright color papers; they are worth a door prize at the BBQ.

Thanks to **Perry Kelley** and **Mike Thomas** for tying flies at the BVFF expo held in Garden City. A number of members attended the expo and picked up some great fly-tying ideas they can incorporate into their own tying. Big thanks to **Ray Perkins**, for the class on tying a crawdad pattern held at the library. I had great feedback on the pattern

and Ray's patience in instructing the class on tying same. Our April 21, class will feature **Perry Kelly**. As you are aware, IFF has a number of special flies members have tied and named, such as the GU-GU, Malhuer Minerva, MT Zug Bug, Purple Puzzler and AI's Bugger. So, the plan as I understand it is to tie a new unnamed pattern and see who can come up with the best name for the fly. Be creative!! I'm betting on one of the ladies to have a great name for the ????

The Weiser Little Theater Dessert night fundraiser contributed \$906 to the pond fund. The 250 tickets for the basket raffle sold out in just two weeks. Thanks, to all who made these efforts such a success. Remember the drawing for the basket is Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at the City Hall.

The boundaries of the community pond were staked out on Friday, March 13, so once the request for a bid is released; bidders can inspect the layout of the pond area. Everything is in place to go for bids once we receive assurance from Idaho Fish & Game the necessary funding is in place. I hope you all received and read the special addition of the News Caster on the pond. Thanks, to **Mike** for the write-up.

Jim

"I look into...my fly box, and think about all the elements I should consider in choosing the perfect fly: water temperature, what stage of development the bugs are in, what the fish are eating right now. Then I remember what a guide told me: 'Ninety percent of what a trout eats is brown and fuzzy and about five-eighths of an inch long.'" Allison Moir

Much Ado About Nothing

by Perry Kelley

Well here I am, readers; very few thoughts in my head, no subject to expound upon, and really no place to go. It's not that everything has been said about the subject of fly fishing. It is just that I have succumbed to the classic syndrome experienced by those who jot words on paper—writer's block. I feel like "Willie" in that silly movie several years back, *Shakespeare In Love*. The inclination was there but the words have gone "bye- bye."

Now that a somewhat passing reference has been made to the Bard, I am reminded, by association, of my first two fly rods. Sorry about the awkward segue but to write about "nothing" one can't be literary and smooth. For those of you who fall into the category of "young whippersnappers" Shakespeare was not only one of the English language's greatest geniuses, it was also a company of some reputation as a manufacturer of respectable fishing tackle. My first fly rod was a bamboo 8½ foot HCH (comparable to a modern 7 weight) rod that weighed about 20 pounds (slight exaggeration). My next rod was a quality glass rod that cost \$25, a fortune in 1953. Both rods were Shakespeares and I still have them. Whoops, better get back to "nothing."

When writing about "nothing" the subject must not linger on any topic more than a couple of sentences or "nothing" will become "something" which is what I am trying to avoid. Actually I must be careful to avoid the overuse of the term "nothing" because if I am writing about "nothing" the mere mention of the word "nothing" can make "nothing" evolve into a topic. "Nothing" then becomes "something" but still reads "nothing."

At this point in time, I have very little to say about fly fishing. My energies and efforts have been channeled in Thespianistic efforts over the last couple of months. Although there was a relationship between the local theatrical production and IHFF, my fly rods lay completely dormant. Therefore, when the obligation of the *Pond* was fulfilled, my thoughts did a shift to the river.

Last week "M" (no relation to 007's "M") and I did make a trip to the tailwater across the border. It was a windy day. How windy was it? The local bird's nests will this year have red, white, and blue casts to them because every Ameri-

can flag flying ended up at least 60% shorter due to the fraying, whipping abuse of the gale force winds of March 5th. Flag fragments were well distributed all over Western Idaho and Eastern Oregon. Perhaps more from this adventure will come later in this article.

What does it take to make a successful fly-fishing trip? Everyone has a different opinion on that. Most of us try to become somewhat philosophic, realizing that not every trip will result in great fishing. Good company, wildlife, just being outdoors, or good exercise many times makes the trip worthwhile. The justification for fighting the miserable wind on March 5th was snow geese. Everywhere you looked there were flocks of snow geese. "M" and I saw more snow geese in one day than we probably had seen in the preceding 10 years. They even brought some of their ugly cousins from Who -Knows-Where. They were brownish gray with yellow beaks. Perhaps some of you ornithologists can identify them. "M" tried to honk and waddle out in the field to pluck a couple of feathers. We both thought the "cousins'" feathers would make great nymphs. The charade didn't work. "M" waddled into a healthy deposit of grease (you all know what I mean) and let out a string of expletives that no goose would ever try to copy.



How about the fishing? Was our first trip of the '09 season good? Perhaps this would be a good time to return to the subject of "nothing." The wind was not only brutal, it was fickle. The direction changed every three minutes. It dumped our backcasts into the willows on the bank, it undershot the occasional rising fish or completely overshot the target. The chill factor was total discomfort clean to the bone. My 71-year-old fingers gave up, aching, totally without dexterity. "M" and I were constantly tangled up in the willows, which, other than the backs of our clothing, was all we hooked. The final straw happened just as we decided to give up. A pod of fifteen gigantic browns stuck their heads out of the water, turned toward us and did their *Flipper* imitation, complete with a porpoise laugh.

To add insult to injury, on the way home I tuned the radio to the satellite Broadway Musical station. Guess what was on? Gershwin's "I Got Plenty of Nothin'." Why did we pick such an inclement day, and why did we rush the season? The answer is in the following poem: A bad day on the river only intensifies the awesome experience of the good days.

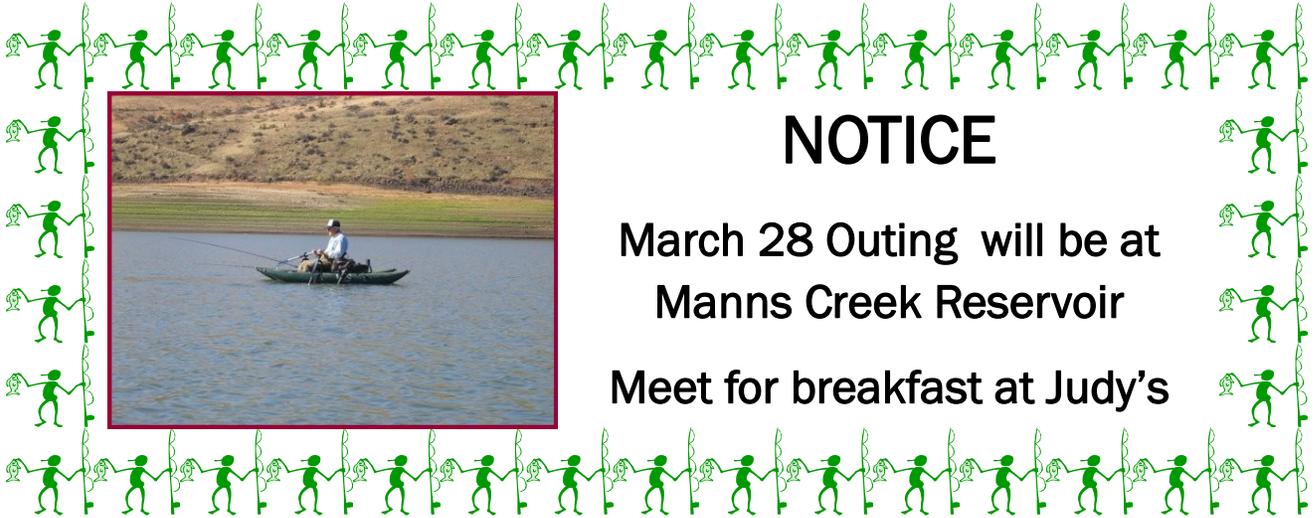


Why I Fly-Fish

by Ernie Harrison

**The fly-line traces lazy arcs against an azure sky
And close upon it follows the leader and my fly.
The water flows around my boots and mesmerizes me
Until the problems of the world, I no longer see.
An ouzel dips upon a rock and dives into the stream
It walks upon the bottom, unlikely as it seems.
The river plays a melody upon its bed of rocks
Off in the distance it sounds as though it talks.
Sweetly scented breezes whisper through the trees
It seems as though they're saying, follow me, follow me.
A deer stands upon the bank drinking in the stream
Then it looks up startled and vanishes, it would seem.
The fly descends lightly to a likely looking place
A trout ascends and sips it in with dignity and grace.
You wonder why I do this; do you really need inquire?
I'm as firmly hooked as any trout; it is my heart's desire.**





NOTICE

March 28 Outing will be at
Manns Creek Reservoir
Meet for breakfast at Judy's

Take me to your Leader

by Landon Mayer

Fluorocarbon, fluorocarbon, fluorocarbon! Oh, did I mention fluorocarbon? From my perspective, fluorocarbon is the name of the game for leader and tippet material. I have been able to successfully fool and land more giant trout with fluorocarbon than with traditional extruded-nylon leader and tippet material. The advent of this material for fishing application during the 1990s was a huge bonus for me and all anglers who stalk smart and wary big fish in clear water

Unlike regular nylon monofilament, fluorocarbon does not reflect light in the stream's surface and subsurface. Skittish fish are less likely to detect the angler's presence and presentation. Fluorocarbon is also extremely resistant to abrasion. This quality is invaluable when tussling with big fish around leader-grabbing snags. These two advantages have been the saving grace in many of my trophy trout encounters. Whether it is a huge brown dogging down trying to pull me around a rock or trying to fool a huge springtime bow into taking a size 20 midge, this material will allow you to rise to the challenge of catching the trout of your life.

An age-old "x" system is used to identify the diameter of monofilament or fluorocarbon. The larger the "x" designation, the smaller the diameter and lighter the material; the smaller the x, the heavier and larger the diameter. For example, 1x is normally 10-pound test and 5x is normally four-pound test. When hunting for trophy trout, I carry an assortment of 6x to 0x fluorocarbon leader and tippet material. In rigging up for most western freestone rivers and tailwaters, I use 6x to 4x material. These waters are typically small, clear, and full of big wary fish subjected to a parade of year-round pressure from anglers. The resident fish tend to be leader shy, so using fluorocarbon in this environment is an advantage. In contrast, many Midwestern rivers and waters in Alaska, a majority of the fish are migrating from large lakes or seas, where they have been subjected to little or no pressure from anglers, the relative lack of wariness permits the use of 4x to 2x tippets.

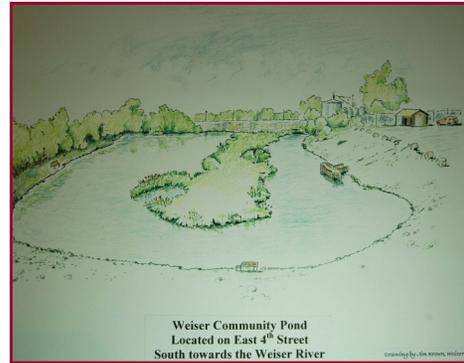
My advice is to carry leader and tippet material in a range of sizes and be sure it's new and it's fluorocarbon! With an assortment of sizes, you will be prepared for all types of fish and fishing conditions. ~ Landon Mayer

Credit: This excerpt on fluorocarbon is from the terrific book, How To Catch the Biggest Trout of Your Life by Landon Mayer. The book is packed with good, practical suggestions which really will help you catch big trout. (This article was taken from the West Fly website)

NOTICE

Mayor John Walker will draw the winning ticket for the "Pond Raffle" basket

Tuesday, March 31, 2009
1:30 pm at City Hall.



Members whose dues are due in May or Past Due

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.

Spencer Chandler

Ray Perkins

Marv & Suzanne Orwig

Wayne Chandler

Sharon Truax

Dick Garrett

Chris Burke

Each month in *Fly Fishing the Northwest* and *Fly Fishing the Southwest* they present a Gene Trump cartoon in need of a caption. In return they ask the readers to submit captions online from which three are selected. The readers are then asked to cast their vote for their favorite.

This is the most recent winner.



November/December 2008



"Guides? We don't need no stinking guides."
Bill Andren, Spotswood, New Jersey

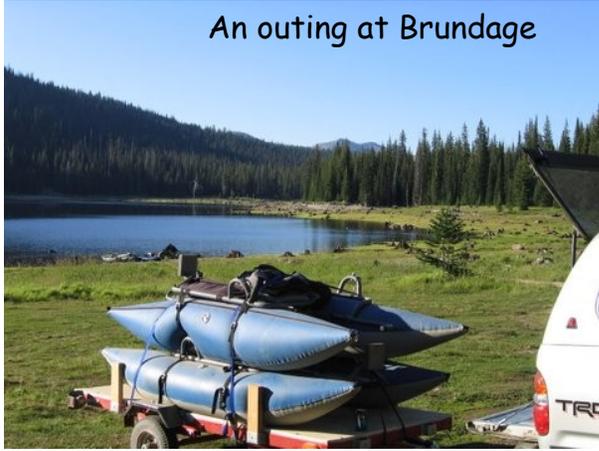
"The statistics on sanity are that one out of every four Americans are suffering from some form of mental illness. Think of your three best friends. If they're okay, then it's you."



P.O. Box 734
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Pearl Lake



An outing at Brundage



A Fly Rod is a stick with a hook at one end and a fool at the other.

Coming Events

April 7 - IFF Board
7 pm at Idaho Pizza

April 14 - IFF Membership
6 pm—Fly Tying
7 pm—Membership

**April 18- Owyhee River
Clean-up**

April 21- Fly Tying 7 pm
Weiser Library



April 2009

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

Check to see if your name is on page 5.
If it is, your dues are due.
Feel free to mail your dues To the P.O. Box

Owyhee River
Clean-up

