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Officers

President-Bob Maki
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2nd Vice Pres-Mark Sands
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Past President-Mike Thomas
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Secretary-Lynette Jones
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Treasurer-Jim Gulu
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Board Members

Nando Mauldin 549-2883
Dave McPheeters 720-233-1905
Rod Jones 549-0430
Mike Bishop 549-1549
Ken Gissel 642-3944
Tom Dyer 257-4225

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of
each month at Idaho Pizza,
17 W. Commercial St., Weiser.
Fly tying demo at 6 pm,
program at 7 pm.

Committees

Budget: Jim Gulu, Lynette Jones

Conservation and Youth:
Mark Sands, Nando Mauldin,
Rick Walters

Education: Perry Kelley,
Garry Swindell

Fund Raising: Lynette Jones,
Sarah Gulu

Historian: Suzanne Orwig

Library: Rod Jones, Ken Gissel,
Dick Garrett

Membership: Mike Bishop,
Bill Betts

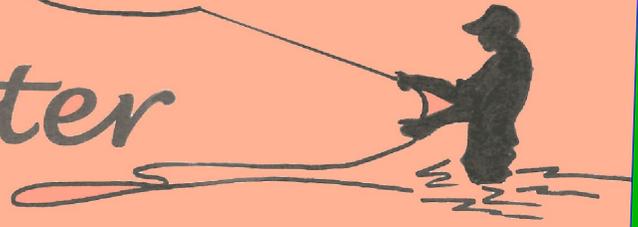
Newsletter: Perry & Sally Kelley,
Mary Thompson, Dick Garrett,
Ray Perkins

Outings: Mike Bishop, Al Sillonis

Programs: Tiffany McPheeters

Publicity: Mark Sands

News Caster



November 2011

President's Message by Bob Maki

Where did the year go, its spring didn't last long enough, and summer was upon us, and now fall is all but gone as winter will soon be here. For some it's time to start tying up flies that were used up in the months past, for others the winter steelhead fishing is underway and still for others heading south for warmer climes has already happened, and for others it soon will. Me, I welcome the steelhead fishing opportunities; time to reflect on this past year's fishing and where we will go this coming year.

By now most of you probably have your Christmas shopping done or wish you had and are thinking about getting in a little fishing. Fall weather has been pretty good so far, a bit windy at times, but for the most part fishing is possible, so hope you're able to enjoy a few days on the water before the snow flies.

Special thanks goes out to all who have had a hand in tying flies and assembling the ornaments for the festival of trees. Mary Thompson, the Chair of the project is busy bringing it to completion. Jim Gulu also said he was building a fly tying desk to put under the tree.

At our December 13th meeting the Indianhead Fly Fishers will celebrate Christmas. You are encouraged to bring your spouse and remember to bring a white elephant gift for the gift exchange. Our Club will provide the Pizza and Soft Drinks.

Thanks to Marv Orwig for the rod building demonstration at the November meeting. There won't be a fly tying demonstration this month, but there will be the 50/50 raffle and tickets on sale for the year end raffle of a 9', 6wt Sage fly rod, two nets, an outcast float tube and possibly a presentation fly box.

The December meeting is also when donations of household items for the Elks Club Christmas Basket will be collected and picked up by the Elks Club for distribution to the area's needy families.

Another outing to Pyramid is in the works and if you didn't go last year, those that did will tell you it was a fantastic trip that had our reels into backing more than once. If you haven't signed up, find the sign up sheet, see who all is going and get signed up for some incredible fishing off a ladder for some of the largest trout you've ever seen.

Just a tidbit; according to reliable sources, Fish and Game had stocked the Weiser Pond on November 12th.

From the fireside where stories are told and they never get old,

Bob

Some Reflections by Al

June 15, 2010, 7:00 A.M. Jim G., Rod J. and Al S. leave Al's house in Al's Tundra. Two kick boats, a crossbreed float tube, waders, fins, boots, oars, air pumps, life jackets, rods, reels, flies, lines (floating and sinking), lunches, nets, sun block..... Did we forget anything? Hope not. Jim and Rod said NO WORMS. Dang. Down the road we go. Past Ontario. Through Vale. One and a half hours later we are at the Harper Junction. We turn left onto the Crowley Road which is two lane gravel and dirt. If it rains, this road can be very interesting. Fifteen miles down the road we see that Butch and Sundance's Ship is "gone". It was here last year. Perry, Mike T., Jim and I saw it. There hasn't been a flood. Stolen? Got to be. The mail boxes are still here. On down the road - 32 miles - is the big barn on the right and a green gate. We turn here onto the dirt road. "Open the gate Jim." We go past the barn, ford the creek. A wire gate this time. "Open it Jim." Down the road we ford the creek again. Another wire gate. Jim knows what to do. We drive along side an old abandoned field and ditch. After we ford the creek again we climb up the rock pile road. Jim groans - another gate to open and close. We finally get to the top of the hill after leaving Weiser two and a half hours ago. WE MADE IT!

Time to unload, get our stuff together and start fishing. Jim and I pump up our kickboats. Rod has never had his tube out of the box. Could be fun! Jim and I rig up sinking lines with two flies. For me a red Munerva and a dark Gugu. We carry our boats to waters edge about 60 feet. I get my waders and boots on. Grab my fins and two rods and I'm first on the water. In less than 5 minutes, "Fish On." A nice fat 11 inch Rainbow. Jim is on the water now. About 2 minutes later "Fish On." Dang him. He got a 14 incher. A few minutes later. "Hey, Jim! Take that. I've got a double. A 10 inch and 12 inch". A little later my fish jumps not once, not twice but four times. That fish was a circus act. Jim says, "You think that's something. My last one jumped over my boat ." I can't win.

About an hour has gone by. Jim and I have each caught 10 to 15 fish. My lunch time. I have a drink of tea and a bite or two of my peanut butter and honey sandwich. Fish on again. Rod finally gets on the water. We fished for about three hours. We all catch lots of fish - 8 to 15 inches. For the record Al caught 40 fish using Woolly Buggers, Leaches, Manervas, Gugus and Cecil's fly. Jim caught some on top with drys.

About the time Rod got on the water two fishermen from Ontario arrived. One of them said he worked for Al's older brother one summer putting up hay. Half an hour later two fishermen from Nyssa and Caldwell came. One of them used to work at the sugar factory in Nyssa with Al's younger brother. Small world.

The reservoir is 5 to 10 acres and 12 to 14 feet deep. It has a concrete dam 20 to 30 feet tall but it has really silted in. I don't know the details, but Ray P. can tell you about the concrete being brought in by horse and wagon in the 1920's or 30's most likely from Vale. At the lake we saw geese, ducks, mud hens and a few cows. Along the lake and road we saw wild flowers. At the Vale BLM office you can buy a BLM Vale District Recreation Guide map. On the map the reservoir is called Littlefield. The big barn is at Skull Springs. Warm Springs Reservoir is 19 miles northwest and Owyhee Reservoir is 25 miles east. As the crow flies it is 8.5 miles west to Creston where Jeanette spent five summers as a kid on a ranch. Ten miles southwest Jeanette's family's friends have a cow camp where we camped and went deer hunting with Jeanette's family and the family friends in the 1980's.

Ray didn't stock the reservoir in 2011. Jim and Al fished it April 23, 2011. Al only caught ten. Jim had a better day. In his six fishing trips to Littlefield Al has averaged 18 fish a day. In 2012 the fish may be bigger but there won't be as many.

Any day fishing is better than sitting at home so give it a try. Happy fishing at You Can't Find It Reservoir. IF, you can find it. And remember - If you don't know where you are going, you will probably end up somewhere else.

The bag trick By Martin Joergensen

This is a small trick that will make your life with stockingfoot waders much easier

I don't know where this little trick came from, but I was shown it by my good friend Henning, who started after, and now do this every time I go fishing.

Too small

It's a very simple trick, which will make your life a lot easier. Put your foot in a plastic bag before you stuff it into the waders! Simple as that! It will make it a lot easier to get into and out of the waders.

Getting in

It will mean avoiding the strain that you put on the neoprene every time you try to get your feet in there. Stick your foot in a suitable plastic bag. Thin bags with a size that fits your feet will be fine, but even a larger bag will be no problem as long as the material is thin. Bags for small garbage bins do fine as do food storage bags with no ziploc mechanism. I have even used small bags that are usually used for scooping up what the dog leaves when he leaves a pile of you-know-what. Have a roll in your fishing kit, and you can always draw off a new set. The bags can be reused, might disappear, or be used for other purposes

Getting out

In my own case I have become increasingly inflexible due to my MS, and I had a hard time pulling the damp and sticky waders off easy as nothing thanks to the bags. The bags stay inside the waders and can be pulled out after you have gotten out, smoothly and easily out with very little pull.

Indianhead Fly Fishers **Christmas Party**

The **December 13th** meeting will be the annual **Christmas Party** for members and their spouses. The Club will provide the pizza, and pop. The Festivities start promptly at **6:30 pm**.

The cost of admission for the evening will be items to be given to the Elk's Christmas Baskets. They have requested we donate the items we have in the past: dish soap, laundry soap, hand soap, any toiletry items, also toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex, etc. These are items they usually have to purchase for the baskets.

You are also asked to bring a "White Elephant" for a fun gift exchange!

Come and join in the Christmas Frivolity!

Area Fall and Winter Flyfishing (Catching)

By
Dorsal and Head
[cousins of Finn and Gill]

Now that the cold weather is here, do you plan to put your fly rod away until next spring? Good. That'll leave more elbow room on the rivers for the rest of us. We are blessed to live in this area of Idaho because the fishing season is open all year. Our neighbors in Oregon help out by having a like season. You may have to bundle up a bit to stay warm this time of year but the fishing (and catching) can be great! As long as the days warm enough to keep the ice out of your guides you can find places to catch fish on your fly rod. We have three places we like to fish this time of year: Hells Canyon Res., Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam, and the Owyhee River. We fish for steelhead in the first two spots and trout on the third. We have caught carp, suckers, blue gill, crappie, squaw fish (pike minnow), smallmouth bass, perch, whitefish, rainbow trout and steelhead in Hell Canyon Res. and below the dam. We catch brown trout and a few rainbows (the ones the Browns haven't eaten) in the Owyhee River below the Owyhee Dam.

We fish with different rods using 4 wt. and 5wt. on the Owyhee and recommend you use heavier weight rods, 6wt.-8wt. in the Hells Canyon places. You can land a 24 inch Brown on a 4wt. in slow water but you better have a bigger rod to land that 30 inch steelhead or that 37 inch carp.¹ We use a

floating line with 7 ft.-10ft. leader on the Owyhee and sinking lines with 3 ft.-5ft. leader in Hells Canyon. The tippetts we use on the Owyhee are 6 lb. and 4 lb test and 8 lb. and 6 lb. test in Hells Canyon. [If you are an X person then 2X-4X and 1X-2X]

We have caught fish this fall in the Owyhee on size 16 and size 18 nymphs and emergers. Since we tie our own flies we haven't named these but they are tied dark brown or black and usually have some CDC for a wing case. The flies that we have caught fish on this fall in Hells Canyon have been size 4 and size 8 and are all weighted with a bead head and/or lead or both. Carp seem to like the orange and black flies but the trout and steelhead preferred flies tied with a short black or purple tail and red/blue/black chenille with or without a black hackle in front.

Dorsal and Head have also fly fished the Malheur Reservoir in Oregon this fall with minimal success. If you like ice fishing you will find companions dipping worms when it freezes solid.

So brave the weather, give us a call and let's do some fall and winter fly fishing (catching).

¹ The carp was 37" long and weighed some were close to 20-25lbs. It pulled me all over the place in my kickboat. I had to get to the bank to get the thing off my hook. Too big to net.

Stillwater Fishing

Editor's Note: In the last two issues, we presented a series of articles on fly fishing still waters by Zach Thurman. Zach has a companion article in the Montana Fly Club's website regarding a new material that he uses for both hackle and marabou.

I always knew that the next big thing in tying flies, was going to have an introduction of a new material, and with the swimming leech this was definitely the case. Recently my close friends Jay and Glenn Fair introduced some new material sold under the Jay Fair name, called **Translucent Swimming Hackle** in three sizes Long, Short, and Micro. I have never seen a single material that provides as much movement underwater, and every fly tier I have shown this to have been absolutely blown away. "It is all the Rage," as my friend

John Dietz would say. Like my other patterns I try to get as much movement as possible, from as many different parts of the fly as possible. Incorporating a long sparse marabou tail and both the short and long Translucent Swimming Hackle for the body, there is not a part that will not move (See Tying Instructions for Montana Fly Company). Most leech and buggler style flies sold on the market look great, but when put under water lack the suggestive movement that you need from a fly. With the slightest movement the Swimming Leech comes alive and is one of the most realistic



Zach's go-to leech/bugger style fly

Zach Continues

flies I have ever fished. The BIG key is that you need to fray out the material with a piece of Velcro. It breaks apart all of the fibers, which in turn creates movement in the water. I tie this fly in twelve different color schemes on #8-#12

3x long streamer hooks, and will add about 10 wraps of .020 lead wire towards the head of the fly. This will give a dipping action when paused during a retrieve. Most retrieves will work, but I prefer a medium or slow paced 1ft-2ft long pulls, with a definite pause in between while fishing this fly. This is now my go-to

The complete instructions for tying Zach's "Go-To Fly" can be found at the website of the Fly Tying Club:
<http://flytyingclub.org/fly-fishing-articles/zack-s-swimming-leech>



Fly of the Month

by Perry Kelley

This month's Fly of the Month is a continuation of last month's Fly of the Month. It is a not specific pattern designed to fish our local waters but a fly tied with techniques suggested by David Klausmeyer in the Autumn 2011 issue of *Fly Tyer* magazine. In his article, "10 Tips for Tying Better Nymphs," Klausmeyer covers concepts that should be staples in all of our tying techniques. I will showcase several of his nymph methods in the Flies of the Month. I encourage all of you fly tyers to get a copy of this magazine.

Concept one, use curved shank hooks. Most nymphs assume a curved shape when dislodged in the current. Tying on curved shanks brings an element of realism to any nymph pattern.

Concept two, use new body materials. The fly tying and craft industry has literally hundreds of options. You would be amazed at the possibilities.

Concept three, tie two-tone wire bodies. Almost all aquatic life has multi-colored bodies. It is said that single color represents death.

Concept four, flashback wing cases. Tinsel or Flashabou imitates the gases nymphs create in their bodies during emergence.

Concept five, make the abdomen flat. Adding lead or wire to the sides of the hook shank brings realism to any pattern.

Concept six, rubber legs. Easy to tie, rubber legs make tails, antennae and legs that come to life in the water and they are very easy to tie.

Concept seven Hare E Ice. Dub Brightens flies. Flash simply draws attention to any sub-surface fly.

There are many dubbings such as Ice Dub and chenilles that add flash to a fly.

Rubber legged, two-toned wire, Hare E Ice Dubbed , flash backed copper John

Hook: Dai-Rikki #135 scud hook
 Tail and legs: Centipede rubber legs
 Abdomen: Alternate amber and rust copper wire (brassie) .
 Thorax: Hare E Ice Dubbing.
 Flash: Opal mirage tinsel
 Cement: Epoxy
 Bead: color and size to match hook.





P.O. Box 734, Weiser, Idaho 83672

The following members have December as their due-date for renewal of membership. Please see Jim Gulu and pay ASAP so he doesn't have to get rough with you.

Thomas, Dave & Pam



Grant Baugh confirms the article by Dorsal and Head on page 4 that winter fishing can be good. Grant landed this beautiful 4 pounder, 21-inch rainbow at Malheur Res. On November 14. Nice!

Trout do not rise in the cemetery, so you better do your fishing while you are still able." - Sparse Grey Hacklehe

Coming Events

Dec 6—IFF Board,
Beehive 7 pm

Dec 13—IFF Membership
Idaho Pizza 6:30 pm
No Fly tying Demo

No Tuesday night fly tying at the library this month.



DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 IFF Board Meeting	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 IFF Christmas Party	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	26	27	28	29	30	31

