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Officers

President: Mark Sands
549-2545

1st Vice Pres: Tom Dyer
257-4225

2nd Vice Pres: Open

Past President: Bob Maki
642-6971

Secretary: Lynette Jones
550-2264

Treasurer: Jim Gulu
549-0796

Board Members

Nando Mauldin	549-2883
Dave McPheeters	720-233-1905
Rod Jones	549-0430
Marv Orwig	484-6837
Ken Gissel	642-3944
Tom Dyer	257-4225

Committees

Budget: Jim Gulu, Lynette Jones

Conservation and Youth:
Mark Sands, Nando Mauldin,

Education: Perry Kelley,

Fund Raising: Lynette Jones,
Sarah Gulu

Historian: Suzanne Orwig

Library: Rod Jones, Ken Gissel,
Dick Garrett

Membership: Bill Betts plus
Board members

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

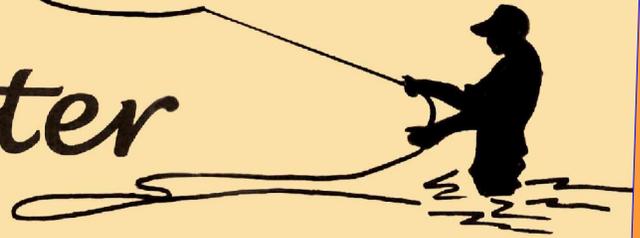
Outings: Al Sillonis plus Board
members

Programs: Tom Dyer

Publicity: Perry Kelley

Join in the Fun!

News Caster



February 2013

President's Message

by Mark Sands

Even though January was not a very warm month, I decided to make the best of it and decided to go ice fishing on Cascade Reservoir. My wife (who really doesn't like the cold) and I met some of our friends out on the ice where there was a ground fog and the temperature was hovering around 0 degrees, but after breaking out the hand auger to drill several holes through 14 inches of icew quickly warmed up.

Anyway, I'm sure you are wondering what this has to do with fly fishing. Well, it has nothing to do with "fly" but everything to do with "fishing." Once the fog burned off and the sun came out I looked around at my wife, our friends and their families all intensely watching their "little" fishing poles (yes, I said "poles" because we were fishing with "garden hackle" for perch) and I realized what a beautiful day it was and although the fishing was extremely slow (of course that's why they call it "fishing" and not "catching") it was a great day to be alive and "fishing" for me is truly an excuse to go outside and enjoy what Mother Nature has to offer with my friends and family.

Therefore, as February progresses and days get longer and warmer let's start to think about getting together for some fly fishing. However, now that 2013 is here, some of the regulations on area waters may have changed so, please check your local Fish and Game pamphlet before you go and I look forward to my friends calling out "Fish On!"

Editors' note: If you don't have the 2013 regs, or if you don't want to thumb through all those pages, you can go online at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/public/fish/rules/> and select the water that you want to fish to get the regulations.

AGENDA FOR MEMBERSHIP MEETING IHFF FEBRUARY 12, 2013

6:00 Fly Tying

6:30 Greeter, raffle ticket sales, sign-in-Nando

7:00 Call meeting to order,

- ◆ Welcome all and recognize new comers
- ◆ Remind about Library
- ◆ Reminder- year End Raffle-fly rod (choice of weight to be built by Marv)
- ◆ 50/50 Raffle-1/2 money to winner, 1/2 to club
- ◆ Hats for sale \$10.00
- ◆ Discuss
 - ⇒ Fly Fishing expo
 - ⇒ Fly rod building class 3-1-203
 - ⇒ fly tying (2-19-13) at Dyer's in Cambridge
 - ⇒ Fishing Reports
- ◆ Program-BLM Stream Restoration (speakers: Allen Tarter and Scott Hoefer (see below))
- ◆ Outing-TBA
- ◆ Adjourn (when we're through!)

About our Speakers for Tonight

Allen Tarter: *Natural Resource Specialist* for the Four Rivers Field Office. Allen has responsibility over the Aquatics Program for the FO. He has extensive on the ground experience restoring riparian, stream, and wetland habitat.

He grew up on a ranch in Mann Creek and ran the ranch until he was in his 40s when he sold it and went to Boise State, after which he started his BLM career and knows the country around Weiser, Cambridge, Council, and Cuprum like the back of his hand. He will be sharing about some of the restoration work he has done around that country and restoration work he hopes to carry out in the future.

Scott Hoefer: *Fisheries, T&E, & Challenge Cost Share lead for Idaho BLM.* Scott has been a Federal fisheries biologist for over 21 years. During his career, he has been a biologist for the Forest Service for 9 years on the Wenatchee NF in WA, a biologist for the National Marine Fisheries Service in OR & WA for 8 1/2 years, and now a biologist for the BLM for the last 31/2 years. As a Federal biologist, hi has spent a significant amount of time evaluating aquatic habitat condition, designing restoration projects, reviewing and evaluating effects of proposed projects, and providing recommendations for minimizing management impacts on aquatic habitat.

Fly Tying a Hobby to Dye For

by Perry

The other day I was asked to compile a selection of flies that are staples for many of us Indianhead Fly Fishermen . Some of the fly patterns that I used were created by our members. One that came from my list was the Malheur Minerva, a style of fly that can be made in several different colors, red being the most popular and, certainly, the most effective. The only problem was that I have exhausted my supply of grizzly red mini-marabou, the feather upon which the Minerva is built. Mini-marabou comes in about every color except red. I checked all of my online sources of fly tying and drew a blank. Further checking I found that several material suppliers no longer carry mini- marabou.

Substitution works for most patterns but the grizzly mini-marabou in red has very specific characteristics that are hard to duplicate. Grizzly gives a mottled buggy effect that just does not work with a single color. Each feather has an incredible attached aftershaft feather used for the collar of the fly. The subtle motion of this delicate feather is amazing. In other words, a Malheur Minerva just doesn't work without red mini-marabou feathers. Not all is lost; natural grizzly minis are readily available. All I have to do is to dye some to get back in business. Dyeing should be a snap—just dump natural grizzly minis into a solution of water and Rit Dye, soak, rinse, and dry and you are in business. First do a little research. Check out dyeing fly tying feathers on line.

Shouldn't be a problem; after all there is very little that you can't find out online. Do it yourself cataract surgery, nuclear bomb detonation, and Scotch distilling (for Marvin) are but a few of the bazillion do-it-yourself sites online; why not red dyeing mini-marabou feathers for Malheur Minervas for Indianhead Fly Fishers?

Search “dyeing fly tying feathers and materials”: The first article was “Microwave Dyeing” by Tom Deschaine He gave several alternatives including “Dying with unsweetened Kool Aid” and “Rit dying.” Kool Aid seems to be the most basic and inexpensive way to go. There were several similarities in the processes. 1. You must wash and clean the feathers to be dyed. Also you must remove natural oils. 2. The dye bath mixture must be exact (dye to water), the solution must be heated to the correct temperature and the length of time the feathers are in the dye is critical. 3. After the feathers are removed from the dye they must be fixed so the colors don't bleed on the rest of the materials on the fly. Main disadvantage of Unsweetened Kool Aid is the lack of colors and the difficulty of mixing colors.

Rit. dying is a very lengthy process. There are seven steps. There are many more choices of colors and shades of color. You also can alter colors by mixing different dyes. Rit dye is also more expensive and more difficult to work with. Also Rit dye is effective—it dyes what it touches.

Now I know very little about chemistry. I did not take it in high school or in college. It seemed to me that most of the chem students marched to a very different drummer. I knew that they had to deal with a lot of different equipment—scales, beakers, Bunsen burners, gasses, microscopes, and many other things. So to simplify things I decided to become a fly tyer.

Up to this point everything was OK but now what do I do about my grizzly red mini-maribou? The equipment Mr. Deschaine used for feather dyeing looked almost exactly like a high school Chemistry lab. Having dealt with the Perkins-Orwig-roadkill-guinea-microwave-caper in our kitchen I am reluctant to spill dye on our counter top cabinets and floor. Mr. Deschaine gave the reader some savory advice: “Before doing any dyeing in your house, consult with your wife and keep her in the loop for the entire process! One accident, and it will be the last dyeing you will ever do in your house, EVER!”

See Dying, page 5

The Whip-Like Physics of Fly Fishing

It's like pitching a cotton ball at major-league speeds: up to 600 feet per second.

By [Curtis Rist](#) | Thursday, September 18, 2008

Joan Wulff handles a fishing rod with grace and explosive power. In 1960 she set the women's unofficial world record for distance casting—an astonishing 161 feet. Now the grande dame of fly-fishing at age 81, Wulff has not lost her touch. Standing on the banks of the [Beaverkill River](#) near her fabled fishing school in New York's Catskill Mountains, she raises and points the tip of an 8½-foot rod just over her shoulder, gives a sudden backward snap of the wrist and sends 40 feet of line sailing straight back behind her. As the line hangs in the air, she drops her arm down toward her waist. Then she launches the line forward, depositing a feathery fly silently out on the water exactly where she wanted it. “If you do it right,” Wulff says, “the fly shoots by your head like a bullet.”

While other fishermen lazily dangle bait in the water, fly-fishers sweat over strategy and technique, struggling to imitate with rods, lines, and lures the delicate landing of a fly on the river's surface. To catch a fish, a fly-fisher sends out a wispy lure attached to [an almost invisible 7- to 15-foot-long leader](#), which is in turn attached to a thicker and much longer braided line. The trick is launching the virtually weightless fly to a distant spot with dead-eye accuracy. The thicker line must hit the water first, allowing the leader and fly to then gently alight upon the water just the way an insect might settle on a ripple, persuading the prey (trout and salmon, often, or perhaps a largemouth bass) to bite. “The point is to make it all look as natural as possible to the fish,” Wulff says.

Natural, of course, does not mean easy. In bait fishing, a sinker adds heft—and a fish-scaring splash—to a cast. In contrast, propelling an ultralight fly the way Wulff does is akin to pitching a cotton ball at major-league speeds. The only weight resides in the fishing line itself, which uncoils from a reel during the cast. The relatively small backward and forward motion of the fly rod sends the line streaking through the air as far as 236 feet, the current record.

Propelling a line and attached lure such a great distance requires deft control of the body's ability to impart momentum—the product of an object's mass and velocity—to the rod and line. During a cast, the fly-fisher achieves peak energy in the flick-of-the-wrist stage, which “gives you all the momentum you're going to get,” says Jeff Kommers, a technical staff member at MIT. While working on his Ph.D., Kommers entertained classmates with his restless efforts to parse the physics behind the process. Following the moment of peak energy, the arm's snapping force passes through the rod to the flexible tip, which then wiggles back and forth. This motion translates the force from the arm to the speed of the line and fly. Because momentum—created by the arm, absorbed by the rod, and passed into the thin fishing line—must be conserved, the tiny mass of the line achieves tremendous velocity, “especially at the end,” Kommers says.

Bullwhips operate under the same principle as the fly line: Energy travels from the arm to the thick end of



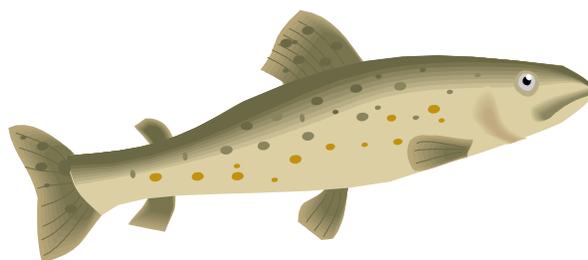
the whip all the way down to the tapered tip, which accelerates wildly as the mass decreases. The characteristic crack of the whip results not from the tip's snapping to the ground but from its literally breaking the sound barrier, producing [a small sonic boom](#). "Obviously, fly-fishermen aren't interested in making mini sonic booms when they try to catch fish," Kammers says. Fortunately, the design of the leader and the fuzzy fly at the end of the line make that very hard to do. "The highest velocities I calculated were about 600 feet per second, quite a bit less than the speed of sound," Kammers reports. And air drag typically keeps velocities mThe type of rod also affects the speed and distance a line travels. Salespeople call some rods fast and others slow in describing how far they might cast a fly. Graig Spolek, a mechanical engineering professor from Portland State University in Oregon, set up an experiment to quantify these vague terms. He hauled a bundle of rods into a darkened gymnasium, set up a strobe light, and took a sequence of photographs to examine the movement of the rod and the line during the forward cast.

Rods have to be stiff enough to handle the lunges of a caught fish but flexible enough to transfer energy effectively from the arm to the line during a cast. This allows the tip to wiggle quickly back and forth, which Spolek calls the rod's frequency. In another experiment, he counted how many times the tip of each rod moved back and forth per second, and this number, he discovered, allowed him to predict which rods would cast the farthest. High frequency gives you a faster tip speed, creating swifter line speed. "And that allows you to cast a long way," Spolek says.

Still, Spolek was not satisfied. "Who cares about finding a unified theory of the universe?" he asks. "What we need is a unified theory of fly-fishing." In 2006 he took a yearlong sabbatical to make progress toward that theory. In his research he deconstructed the mechanical limitations of the rod that cause its tip to swirl during casting, preventing the line from aiming true. To make a rod, manufacturers tightly wrap graphite-fiber fabric around a thin steel cylinder. Spolek found that if the manufacturers changed the way they roll the fabric, they could minimize the swirling problem. He also concocted a new way to measure the flexibility of fishing line leaders, the part of the line nearest the lure, using a technique he had previously developed to gauge the bending stiffness of the tiny wires in pacemakers. In this way, he discovered that newer fishing lines made of fluorocarbon were actually less flexible than standard nylon lines.

Of course, a perfect cast still depends on the skill of the person heaving the rod—but science is helping there, too. Noel Perkins, a mechanical engineering professor at the University of Michigan, has built a fly-casting robot that can imitate the casts of both experts and novices. His technology could enhance the sport of fly-fishing by permitting researchers to analyze the differences between casts. The end result could be better advice for newcomers to casting. And because the robot can cast repeatedly at the same angle and force, it can test fishing lines and rods objectively. Perkins and his team have also created a fly-casting analyzer that attaches to the reel. Using motion-sensor technology, it gives a detailed printout about the rod's speed and angle over the course of a cast—feedback critical for casters to develop control over distance and placement.

In the meantime, Joan Wulff offers her own, starkly simple explanation for how she handles a rod with such flawless grace: "It's all in the arm," she says.



Dying

I still have no red grizzly mini-marabou and the only possible solution is, when Marvin, Rod and Lynette finish with Marv's kitchen remodel, dye the feathers there. Forget that I would lose a whole lot of good friends. Readers, HELP!



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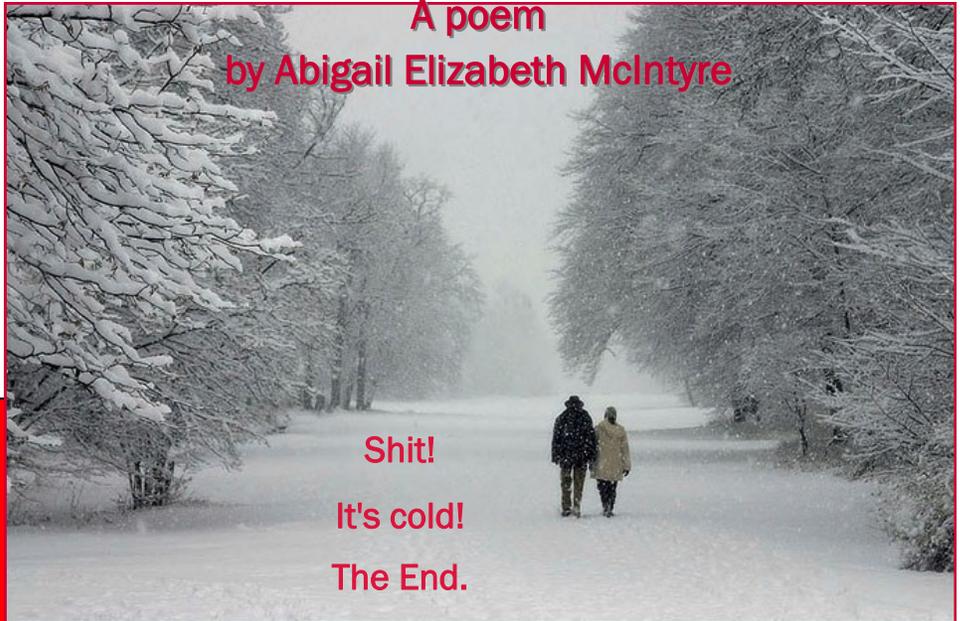
The following members have December as their due-date for renewal of membership. Please see Jim Gulu and pay ASAP so he doesn't have to get rough with you.

Cecil Benintendi

Ken Gissel

Mike & Diana Thomas

Gerry Bogue



FEBRUARY 2013

Coming Events

Feb 5 1—IFF Board,
Beehive 7 pm

Feb 12—IFF Membership
Fly Tying—6:00 pm
Meeting—7:00 pm

Feb 1- Fly Tying at Tom Dyer's
in Cambridge



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 IFF Board Meeting	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Member Meeting	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 Fly Tying at Dyer's	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		