



## President's Message

By Ray Perkins

I survived the holidays and now my seemingly annual winter cold, although I think cabin fever is beginning to be a concern. Last Saturday, cabin fever finally overtook me and I decided to drive up the Owyhee for a look and to let the dog run. As I drove up the river in the late afternoon several anglers were scattered along the river, but no catching was observed. Much of the river was ice free with only the largest pools still ice covered. The dog loved retrieving sticks thrown into the river, but did not dry off much on the drive back home.

I attended WIFFE (Western Idaho Fly fishing Expo) again this year. Perry and I tied on both days of the expo. On Saturday I talked with a guy that had driven up from Elko, Nevada. He was interested in fishing the Owyhee, so I discussed a little of what is new with him. I attended two talks about nymph fishing on Saturday and two talks on Sunday about Lake fishing.

A dry January has followed a wet November and December. But the snow pack for southeastern Oregon and southwestern Idaho remains well above normal. Stream flow predictions by NOAA indicate that there is 90% chance Beulah Reservoir could fill and spill this year. Predictions for Warm Springs indicate it will not fill and spill, but should receive more water

than it has in many years. NOAA predictions for Owyhee Reservoir indicate there is a 10% chance it will fill and spill this year, but should receive enough water to operate normally during the irrigation season, which means high releases next winter hopefully. There are no predictions for Malheur and Pole Creek reservoirs, although both should receive substantial amount of water. Whether this will be enough to fill Malheur or for ODFW to stock it, is unknown at this time.

The February meeting presentation will be given by the Idaho Conservation League on the Galloway Dam issues on the Weiser River. Tentatively scheduled for the March meeting is outside casting lessons.

Club officers will be an issue at the end of this year in May. I have been President for two years and will leave office after May meeting. The club will need members to step up to take over for the upcoming year.

Ray

### Officers

President - **Ray Perkins**  
541-889-4441  
1st Vice Pres. - **Mark Sands**  
549-2545  
Past President - **Tom Dyer**  
257-4225  
Secretary - **Cindy Dyer**  
257-4225  
Treasurer - **Jascha Zeitlin**  
801-831-9459

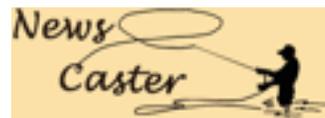
### Board Members

**Janet Baker**  
**Gerry Bogue**  
**Eileen Boots**  
**Perry Kelley**  
**Mike Thomas**  
**Jim Gulu**

### Committees

Budget - **Jim Gulu, Jasha Zeitlin**

Conservation & Youth -  
**Mark Sands**  
Education - **Perry Kelley**  
Fund Raising -  
Historian - **Perry Kelley**  
Library - **Tom Dyer**  
Membership -  
**Gerry Bogue**  
Newsletter -  
**Gerry Bogue**  
Outings - **Al Sillonis**  
Programs - **Tom Dyer**  
Publicity - **Perry Kelley**



## Warm Lake in September

By Al Sillonis

Get out that new calendar and a pencil as it is proposed the club plan a trip to Warm Lake in September 2016.

There are two Forest Service campgrounds plus the lodge with rental cabins. Because the area is very popular, the campgrounds are very busy the forest service recommends reservations at the resort and the campgrounds. They open around Memorial Day and close around mid September, but the lodge is open year round.

The lake was stocked the last two weeks in June 2015 with about 14,000 to 15,000 fish, so we can expect similar numbers in 2016.

Mike Thomas thinks we should plan for right after Labor Day Sept. 6-10. Let's talk about this at the February meeting and confirm the plan!

## Dues Reminder for This Month:

- Cecil Benintendi
- Matt Nourmohamadin
- Ed Pollard
- Steve Scrivener
- Frank Thomas
- Mike & Diana Thomas

## February Member Meeting:

Marie Kallner of the Idaho Conservation League will be the guest speaker and will be discussing the proposed Galloway Dam project.

## Trigger Fish

by Grant Baugh



Typical Trigger Fish - they attempt to take you into the rocks and expand their top and bottom spines to lock themselves and your fly there. You then can't get them out and you end up with one less fly and just a story about the one that got away.

Photo of a hook bit in half by a large Trigger Fish at Puerto Penasco, Mexico. They are very hard fighters and very good on the table as well.



## **30" Snake River Steelhead**

By Cynthia Dyer

Steelhead caught by Dave Henderson January 22nd below Hells Canyon Dam. He was swinging a black and blue Hoh Bo Spey fly. The

fish was just under 30 inches long and was hooked on Dave's third or fourth cast. Note the gloved hand with the death grip on the tail belongs to Tom Dyer. He plunged it into sub-40 degree water to tail the fish for Dave!





## What's In The Box?

By Perry Kelley

This article is about honesty, organization, entomology, experience, physical endurance and skill. We all have fly boxes, but do we all organize our fly boxes to complement our angling experiences? I would like for all of us to honestly analyze our styles of organization and for you to determine if your style is the best and most efficient way to be able to control your selection of flies. Let us consider the following questions:

### 1. How many fly boxes do you have?

Most of us have several fly boxes. Fly boxes vary in price, material, size, capacity, expense, and convenience. If you have three boxes for your collection of flies, you might organize one box for steelhead and warm water, the second box for spring creek and river fishing and the third box for still water fishing. If you have fifteen fly boxes you might have a separate box for steelhead wet flies, steelhead dry flies, bass, panfish, carp etc.

### 2. How many flies do you have?

This is a difficult question. How long have you been fly fishing? Do you tie your own flies? Do you buy your flies at a fly shop? I suggest you have a method of storing your flies and you choose flies for your boxes each time you fish. One method is to categorize your flies for general storage; then fill out individual fly boxes for each fishing trip. Whatever you do, have a method of categorizing your fly inventory.

### 3. Where and what type of water will you be fishing?

If you are to fish a small stream for your next trip, it would be inconvenient for you to take streamer flies and leech patterns. If I were to fish the Middle Fork of the Weiser River, I would fill my smaller fly box with size 14-18 Royal Wulff, elk hair caddis, renegades, and 16-18 hare's ears, pheasant tails, zug bugs and caddis pupas. Have several of each size and you will be set for the day.

You really only need one box, some tippet material, float-ant and shot. Adjust your numbers of boxes for each type of fishing you will be doing for the day. For a trip to a mountain reservoir, you will need more boxes and a greater variety of flies. You should consider the entomology of the lake, the structure of the water and whether the lake has bait fish, leeches, and terrestrial insects. For a small stream you would probably need only one box; the lake may take three to five boxes.

### 4. What considerations should be given to the entomology of the fishery?

What insects should you be prepared to imitate? The best advice is to keep a log. If you had fished the Owyhee river July 10, 2014 and enjoyed a terrific PMD hatch, you should expect the same July 16, 2016. However you should also have other options in your box. Some insects are not prevalent each year. For instance I have only run into crane flies once on the Owyhee. Each year has different weather patterns. Insects will go through different stages at different times. Example grasshoppers go through about five stages each year. Each stage is a different color and size. Make sure that you have enough of a variety in your fly boxes to cover the differences.

### 5. What considerations should be given to your physical abilities and your comfort?

Do not overload yourself. Carry only what you feel comfortable with. Too much gear could compromise your balance. Always consider safety. If you are wade fishing, make sure you have the proper soles on your boots and have a wading staff. Never get too deep in the water. If you are in water deep enough to get your fly boxes wet, you are too deep. You will have to dry out your flies by removing them from the boxes. Dry flies have a tendency to lose their shapes when they spend time in a wet box and the hooks could rust. Wade Safely Always!

*Continued on Page 7*

## How to Preserve That Special Fish - PRINT IT!

*By Grant Baugh*



That special fish on that wonderful trip is easy to preserve - print it on fabric that you can wear and keep. I prefer my favorite fishing shirt; which of course is my Indianhead Fly Fishers shirt.

Start with a smaller fish that has character and unique features. In my opinion, trout don't make good prints, but Smallmouth Crappie or Yellow Perch do, because of their body shapes, so do Trigger fish.

Lay the fish out and dry it well so that the paint will adhere to its skin. Carefully but quickly apply an adequate, but not excessive, amount of water based tempura paint with a small art brush, to one side of the fish. Both the brush and paint can be found at craft and dollar stores.

Quickly lay the fabric over the fish before the paint dries and carefully press it down all over the fish's features, taking care around fins, head, and eyes. The outlines of the features will be important in the touch up.

Carefully peel the fabric off and begin the touchup immediately while you still have the colors and brushes ready, I have found that special attention to the eyes and head really pay off, with a special highlight in the eye.



As soon as you are done with the fish, wash the tempura paint off, clean and throw him/her in the frying pan. Then wear the shirt to meetings and show off that special fish.

## Christmas Party





## **What's In The Box?**

*By Perry Kelley - continued from page 4*

Spend time organizing your fly boxes. Be prepared to fish different types of water and different species of fish. Keep a fishing journal. Date and identify hatches. Be safe. One final bit of advice. Carefully choose your flies. Don't rely on going back to the car to get other fly boxes. I have a hard time climbing up the river bank because my wading boots are so wet and I always seem to add an additional 20 pounds of mud on my feet. The floor of my pickup seems to pick up an additional 20 pounds.

Beside I never can remember which pocket I left my keys in; I unbuckle my right suspender, reach in my pocket and whoops—no key! Then I unbuckle my left suspender and in the process of reaching into my left pocket my waders fall to my feet, I lose my balance and fall flat on my face and on my fly rod. Guess what! No key in my left pocket. When I finally am able to stand up again, I look and the key is in the ignition of the pickup, only the door is locked. Now do all of you know how difficult it is to hitch-hike with 20 pounds of mud on your feet, a broken fly rod, and waders bunched on your feet. Oh by the way! Did I tell you that in the process of falling down and breaking my fly rod, I also lost control of my bladder. It was a long embarrassing walk from the Owyhee to Weiser.

**Organize, keep safe and catch fish!**



P.O. BOX 734 WEISER, ID 83672

# FEBRUARY 2016



Feb. 2 - IFF Board meets Idaho Pizza 7 PM.

Feb. 9 - IFF Membership & Guests meet at Idaho Pizza. 7 PM, Fly Tying demo. 6:30PM

Feb. 16 - IFF Fly Tying at the Weiser Library 7 PM

Proposed outing to Warm Lake - Sept. 6-10  
(see page 2)

<http://www.fg-a.com>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 IFF Board Meeting Groundhog Day	3 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead	4	5	6
7	8	9 IFF Member Meeting	10 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead	11	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Washington's Birthday	16 IFF Fly Tying	17 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 8 AM Fly Fishing Breakfast at Homestead	25	26	27
28	29					



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**FEBRUARY 2016**



## The Owyhee in Winter

*by Mike Thomas*





P.O. BOX 734 WEISER, ID 83672

**FEBRUARY 2016**



## **Useful and Interesting Fly Fishing Links - *Come and Explore***



### **Club Member Makes Custom Flies in Lewiston**

Marvin Orwig has moved to Lewiston, Idaho but he also sells his custom flies that he catches lots of fish with. Contact him at 208-484-6837 or [fishguide43@gmail.com](mailto:fishguide43@gmail.com)

### **Great Web Site for Smallmouth Bass Fly Fishing**

<http://www.flyfishingforsmallmouthbass.com/>

Montana Fly Fishing Magazine (<http://MontanaFlyFishingMagazine.com/>)

Subscribe today - it is a great magazine and it is FREE!

### **Idaho Fish & Game Southwest Region Fisheries Report**

If you want to receive it electronically send you e-mail address to: [joe.kozfkay@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:joe.kozfkay@idfg.idaho.gov).

### **Check it Out - [West-Fly-Fishing.com](http://West-Fly-Fishing.com)**

Everything to do with fly fishing in Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Montana.