

President's (?) Message-Nov. 2019

Thanksgiving month already! The best fishing season for hungry fish is soon to end. The colder weather is going to limit where we fish as ice forms on some lakes and ponds. Steelhead fishing weather is arriving— it's too bad the steelhead are not!

I would like to thank Chris Clark for his presentation last month and also for his donation to the It's club of a projector for future presentations. I grew up close to the Fort Hall reservation but have never fished there. I will certainly think about fishing there after hearing your program.

This month's program will be presented by Mike Stanton. The topic of his program is "Tenkara Fly Fishing". This will be an interesting program because I know a few of our members have purchased Tenkara rods and one member built his own version of a "10 Cara Pole"!

I'm writing this before the November board meeting so I have no idea what else will be discussed/presented at our membership meeting. We will have a raffle drawing I'm sure. I hope to also discuss our Christmas Meeting and donation to the Hospital Foundation (Festival of Trees). Search through your old Christmas "stuff" and see if you have some "clear" ornaments we can insert flies inside. Hopefully, someone will volunteer to chair this project?

The trout fishing has been outstanding the past few weeks! Mann Creek Reservoir was recently stocked and a lot of fish have been caught. Jim out fished Al, Mike, and Mike by Al's method of "being out fished"—you know- How Many Did You Catch? The Weiser Community Pond was stocked in October and people are again catching trout. Good reports from Zoto and Malhuer reservoirs also. Now is the time to visit the Owyhee River below the dam to see the brown trout spawn. Another worthwhile trip would be to contact the Oxbow hatchery and plan a trip to Hells Canyon Dam to watch them trap steelhead.

All you fly tiers start tying your pretty flies so we can display them inside a Christmas ornament to donate to the "Festival of Trees". If you don't tie flies you can be involved in this project by figuring out the best way to suspend the flies inside these clear ornaments. Hopefully we can find a place to get these clear ornaments!

See you all at the future board and membership meetings or on the water or both!

Ole Mike Thomas

Officers

President -
Vice President -
Past President - **Mike Thomas**
Secretary - **Eileen Boots**
Treasurer - **Jascha Zeitlib**

Directors

Ray Perkins
Mark Sands
Mike Green
Janet Baker

Members whose dues are due this Month:

- Bruce Parsons
- Nina Gammons
- Stanley Graves
- Al Sillionis

Dues are \$30 per year or \$45 for a family (There is a limit of 12 members per family.)

Board / Committee Members

Greeter - **Eileen Boots & Janet Baker**
Fly Tying - Bruce Parsons & **Perry Kelley**
Library - **Bob Maki & Karen Kosowan**
Membership/Dues - **Mike Stanton**
Newscaster - **Dick Garrett**
Tax Exempt - **Tom & Cindy Dyer**
Publicity - **Janet Baker**

Raffle - **Ray Perkins**
Owyhee River Cleanup - **Dave Henderson**
Christmas Party - **Marg & Mike Green**
Club Outings - **Mike Green**
Programs/Presenters - **Chris Clark & Mike Stanton**
Weiser Community Cleanup - **Mike Thomas**
Recruit/New Members - **Jim Gulu & Al Sillionis**

SMALL FLIES, A FLY TYER'S CHALLENGE

By Perry Kelley

Sooner or later you, as a fly tier, you will be confronted with a pattern that calls for a small hook size 18 or smaller. That is ridiculous, you think; it would be impossible to tie a fly with that small of a hook on the tippet. Anyway a decent-sized fish would not be interested in a fly that small. Right? Wrong! Big fish eat small insects. For example, take the brown trout of the Owyhee river. They may feed most of the day by resting near the bottom of the river and taking small insects that the current presents them. The fish do not need to move; their food is handed to the fish. You might be successful if you let your fly drift in the middle of the river, but you will be more successful if you can find the lie of the fish and allow your fly to drift right by the fish's mouth.

You finally submit to the small-fly fraternity and buy some size 18 or smaller hooks. Not so good! First, it is not the hook size that is important; it is the shank space or the amount of space you can tie on the necessary material. A curved caddis or shrimp hook size 18 is a good example. This would be a good choice for midges or small insect life. The tie-in space would be probably be a quarter inch or less. It would possibly work as an imitation of the aquatic life you are trying to replicate. One advantage of the caddis-shrimp hook style is that the gape is wide enough to land a decent-size fish. Speaking of gape, forget using regular hook sizes smaller than 18. The gape is so short that it will be difficult to hook and play a decent fish. One other possibility is that some of the latest hook designs have extra large gapes from point to shank.

Another problem when tying small flies is the diameter of the tying thread. There are several brands of small diameter thread; however, some of these continually break. The G.S.P. made by the UTC company is a good source. The only problem is that G.S.P. is usually white

and it doesn't take color very well. Another characteristic of G.S.P. is that it is difficult to cut with scissors. I use a single-edge razor blade to cut my thread. Also when cutting thread with a razor blade, just touch the edge of the blade to the thread. Buy a box of single-edge blades for thread trimming. When the blade no longer works, dispose of it and use a new one.

Now for the meat and potatoes of small fly tying. Working with small hooks. If you are like me with arthritic fingers, you will need some help in handling small hooks and beads. An absolutely necessary tool is the electric clip pushbutton hackle pliers. The small size is best. If you keep your hooks in a plastic case or other methods of storing, push the button to expose the hackle plier hook to get the small hook captured. This will make placing the hook in your tying vise or pinching down the barb a relatively easy task. If you are adding a bead (very small glass or tungsten), simply drag the hook through the box or storage holding the beads.



Editor's Note: There are three different size hooks, with the smaller being at the bottom. Take out a dime and visualize the size of the flies.

NOVEMBER 2019

Notes from the Indianhead Fly Fishers Board Meeting

November 5, 2019

You might be ingested in several things that occurred the IHFF Board meeting last night:

- The program for the next membership meeting (Nov. 12) will feature one of our own, Mike Stanton. He will tell us all we want to know about Tenkara fly fishing.
- In addition, to the talk by Mike, Bruce Parsons will be tying a Kebri fly which is a great fly to use with the Tenkara rod.
- Also, **and this is a biggie**, the Tenkara rod that was donated to the club by Dragontail Tenkara will be given to the attending member who's name is drawn from the hat (or can, or whatever.)
- The regular fly tying session (Nov. 19) will be devoted to preparing the Christmas ornaments that we will donate to the Festival of Trees.

Thank you Dragontail Tenkara

In response to Mike Stanton's request for informational brochures, Dragontail Tenkara wanted to "sponsor" this month's program instead. They sent a \$180 Tenkara rod to be give away. We will do so by giving each member that attends the meeting Tuesday a free ticket to be drawn after Mike's presentation. The winner will take home this beautiful, high quality rod.

YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!

Thanks to
Brent Auger,

Dragontail Tenkara
645 Alpine Drive
Chubbuck, ID 83203

www.dragontailtenkara.com

FESTIVAL OF TREES CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

As you may recall, at our October Board meeting it was decided that we will donate two dozen Christmas ornaments to this year's Festival of Trees. These ornaments will be similar to the ones that adorned the tree that the club donated several years ago. They will be clear, 3-inch globe with a colorful fly suspended in the middle.

The Board decided that we will use the regular fly tying Tuesday evening , November 19, to prepare these ornaments. The meeting is at the Weiser Library starting at 7:00 p.m.

Many of you already have large, colorful flies that would fit the bill. Flies that you may never use or have a duplicate or two. Bring them along. Also bring your fly tying kits so that if we need to, we can tie additional flies.

And, even if you are not a fly tier, come anyway.

HIGH MOUNTAIN LAKES WITH A FLY ROD

By

Tom Dyer

I so enjoy fishing Idaho's high mountain lakes even though my legs seem to find the hike a bit more difficult each year. That anticipation you feel when you finally arrive is incredible. The lake's surface is dimpled with feeding trout while you try to string your rod and tie on a fly. You finally finish and you approach the shoreline for your first cast. Stripping out a little line you back cast and damn you're tangled in a fir tree directly behind. This seems to happen more often than not and the sad part is that the only open area where you can cast is the only area on the lake where there are no fish.

I have tried several methods to remedy this back-casting issue. A couple years ago I settled on one technique that has served me well. Using a short shooting head and monofilament running line I was able to role-cast three to four times farther than with a more traditional fly line. What's really nice about this technique is you can use the same rod and reel you currently have. I use an 8 1/2 foot 5 weight Cabela's stowaway fly rod and old pflueger reel. This system works great and back-casting is not the issue it once was. Give it a try you'll like it.



Happenings among the Indianhead Fly Fishers



Due to unforeseen circumstances, payments to the winners of the “End of Year” raffle were delayed. Being prudent and “penny wise”, one member was dismayed that payment was so delayed. After several weeks of negotiations, an agreement was made to pay interest at the going rate paid by banks. The deal was consummated with a hand shake and payment made. You can see the interest on the table (3 cents) along with the signed contract.



This is the start of an article that appeared in the New York Times. The link of which was sent to many of the IHFF members by Grant Baugh. Below is that link to the article just in case you did not receive it or did not read it at the time. It is a long article but brings out some interesting points. WELL WORTH A READ.



Fly Fishing is the New Bird-Watching:
<https://nyti.ms/zoKk6iJ>

Step aside, goat yoga. The chic way to unwind now is fly fishing. That's right. For some of the same reasons millennials recently flocked to bird-watching, this sport—long dominated by old white men—is gaining popularity with a younger set.

For those who can afford the leisure time and some rudimentary equipment, it offers a reason to be outdoors, a closer connection to nature, an avenue for environmentalism, built-in community, opportunity for creative expression, and a lifetime's worth of niche expertise. Fly anglers who are not vegetarian or vegan, nor otherwise bound by the code of "catch and release," see it as an extension of the farm-to-table movement. Plus, it's very Instagrammable, even as it encourages people to put down their phones.

And where millennials go, hospitality brands follow. Guided fly-fishing excursions are now offered at many trendy boutique hotels, including The Little Nell in Aspen, Colo.; Tourists, the eco-friendly lodge opened by indie influencers including the bassist of Wilco, in North Adams, Mass.; and Sage Lodge, a new nature resort just north of Yellowstone National Park in Pray, Mont., which has a stand of fly tackles and nets in its lobby and daily "Fly Fishing 101" courses at its backyard casting pond overlooking the Absaroka Mountains.



Ben Roberts, a co-founder of the Linderoose Manor Fly Fishing Club, demonstrates how to fish with a rope. Photo by George Fieredge for The New York Times





Important IFF Tax Numbers

The club is a (501)3C charitable organization #C142076 so you can deduct contributions to the club (see your tax advisor for details). FYI our federal tax number is 71-0998737.

Nov. 6- Our regularly scheduled membership meeting at the Weiser Idaho Pizza.

Nov.12- We will be tying flies for and preparing the Christmas ornaments for the Festival of Trees (December 4.)

Every Wednesday morning at 8:00 we meet for an impromptu breakfast to talk about fishing for the coming week (among other stuff). This month we are not sure where we will be. We'll let you know via email each week.

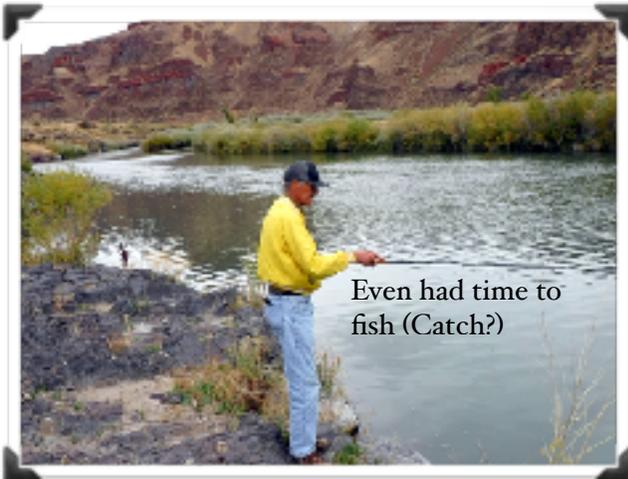
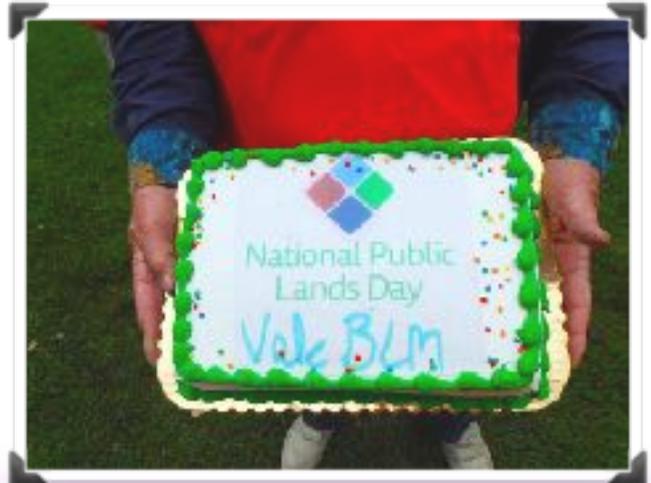
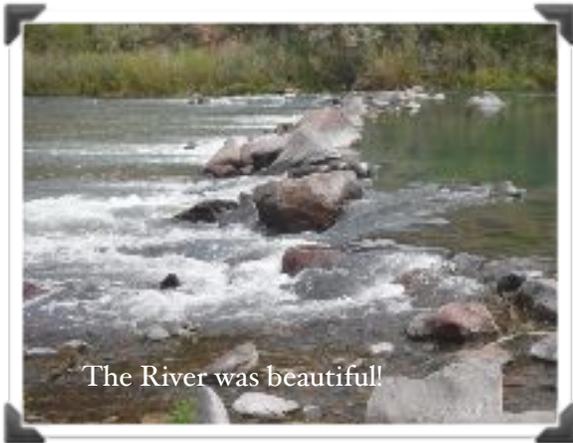
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But then I repeat myself. <i>Mark Twain</i>					1	2
3	4	5 IHFF Board meeting. 7:00 at Idaho Pizza	6 Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.	7	8	9
10	11 <i>Veterans Day</i>	12 Regular IHFF meeting. 7:00 at Idaho Pizza	13 Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19 Fly tying at the Weiser Library, 7:00	20 Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.	21	22	23
24	25	23	27 Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.	28 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	29	30

NOVEMBER 2019

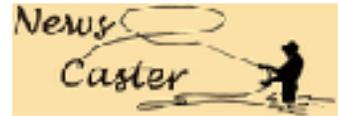
These pictures arrived too late to get into last months *Flycaster* (it was delayed at the film developing studio.)

Be that as it may, on September 28 several of our members converged at the Owyhee River to help the Vale BLM celebrate National Public Lands Day by cleaning up the river.

As you can see from the photo below, several members participated including the one who took the group picture (Jim Gulu.)



As you can see, we had lots of help, even had help from our 4-legged member who didn't have to bend over to pick up stuff.



word search

13 FAVORITE FLIES

Locate the given words in the grid. There are no spaces between words in the grid.

```

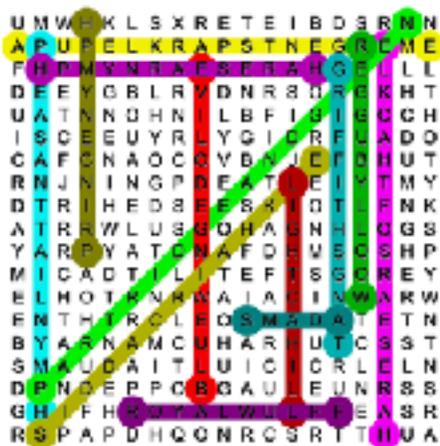
UMWHKLSXRETEIBDSRNN
APUPELKRAPSTNEGREME
FHPMYNRAESERAHGE LLL
DEEYGBLRVDNRSORGKHT
UATNNOHNILBFIGIGCCH
ISCEEUYRLYGIDRFUADO
CAFCAOAOOVBNJEFBHUT
RNJNINGPDEATLEIYTMY
DTRIHEDSEESKIOTL FNK
ATTRWLUSGOHAGNHLOGS
YARPYATDNAFDHMSOSHP
MICADTILITEFTSGOREY
ELHOTRNRWAIACINWARW
ENTHTRCLEOSMADATETN
BYARNAMCUHARHUTCSSST
SMAUDAITLUICICRLELN
DPNDEPPOBGAULEUNRSS
GHIFHROYALWULFFEASR
RSPAPDHQONRCSRTTHUA

```

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Adams | Hare's Ear Soft Hackle |
| Blue Winged Olive | Light Cahill |
| Elk Hair Caddis | Partridge and Green |
| Emergent Sparkle Pupa | Pheasant Tail Nymph |
| Griffith's Gnat | Prince Nymph |
| Hare's Ear Nymph | Royal Wolff |

Give up? Answers on the next page

NOVEMBER 2019



*If you think of a better fish pun.
Let minnow.*

Only Smart People Will Get
This: 2+2= Fish, 3+3= Eight,
7+7= Triangle, 4+4 = Arrow,
8+8 = Butterfly

A guy rings his boss and says "I can't
come to work today

The boss asks "Why?"

And the guy says "it's my eyes."

"What's wrong with your eyes?" asks
the boss.

"I just can't see myself coming to work,
so I'm going fishing instead..."

Three fishermen were fishing when they came
upon a mermaid, the mermaid offered them one
wish each so the first fisherman said: "double my
I.Q." so the mermaid did it and to his surprise he
started reciting Shakespeare.

Then the second fisherman said: "triple my I.Q."
and sure enough the mermaid did it and
amazingly he started doing math problems he
didn't know existed.

The third fisherman was so impressed he asked
the mermaid to quadruple his I.Q and the
mermaid said "Are you sure about this? It will
change your whole life!"

The fisherman said "yes" so the mermaid turned
him into a woman...

During our day at the lake, my mate asked,
"What's the biggest fish you've ever caught?"

"Have you ever seen the film Jaws?"

"Yeah."

"Well it was about the same size as the box the
DVD comes in."





P.O. BOX 734 WEISER, ID 83672

NOVEMBER 2019



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



Beautiful On-line magazine.
Check it out!!

FREE

Great Web Site for Smallmouth Bass Fly Fishing

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

Good Web Sites for Low Cost Fishing Supplies

The Fish Guy-Box 302, Florence MT. 59833

www.thefishguy.com/

Maxcatch-Qingdao, China

www.maxcatchfishing.com

Both are good places to buy fly lines, fly reels, and fly tying hooks at reasonable prices!!

Take a look at the **Mozart of Fly Casting** <https://nyti.ms/2MHY2K0>

Films and Flies sites

www.filmflies.com

www.grahamowengallery.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.

Check it Out - West-Fly-Fishing.com

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