



The Barbless Flyer



Spokane Fly Fishers

www.spokaneflyfishers.com

December, 2009

DECEMBER MEETING December 9, 2009 - 7:00 P.M. COME TO THE PARTY!

December 9th is the date of our Christmas Party. Carla and her helpers are decorating the hall, and preparing a wonderful main course of turkey, ham, salmon, mashed potatoes, gravy and rolls. The other members get to show off their culinary skills by bringing all the side dishes and desserts.

If your last name starts with the letters:

- | | |
|-------|------------------------------|
| A – H | Please bring a Dessert |
| I – P | Please bring a Hot Side Dish |
| Q – Z | Please bring a Salad |



If someone wishes to provide the punch for the party, please contact Carla Ferguson at 325-8885.

This is always a fun meeting. You get to talk with fellow members, enjoy good food, stand a chance to win a Christmas tree ornament (this year, created by Kurt and Wendi Lee Tempel) and the gingerbread house (from Carla) with the reinmice (by Dan). You may also participate in the gift exchange by bringing a \$10 gift to be placed under the tree.

We hope to see you and your families on December 9th.

JANUARY MEETING — JANUARY 13, 2010

Our speaker for January will be Craig Mathews of Blue Ribbon Flies located in West Yellowstone. Craig has authored or co-authored numerous books and has developed many Telly Award winning DVD's. He has also developed famous fly patterns such as sparkle dun, x and iris caddis and many others.

In 1997, Craig and his wife Jackie were awarded the prestigious "Protector of Yellowstone National Park" award given by the national parks. He also cofounded the 1% for the Planet Club which has raised over \$30 million so far.

There will also be a fly tying class taught by Craig that afternoon. This is an extraordinary chance for members to learn from a master. The cost of the class is \$40. There is only room for 20 students so call Judy Kauffman at 924-9462 today to make your reservation, as these spots will go quickly.

SFF Officers and Board Members

President	Mike Melmoth
Vice President	Bob Hudson
Treasurer	Ray Baker
Secretary	Gail Bailey
Board Position 1	Mike Berube
Board Position 2	Kurt Tempel
Board Position 3	Tim Reed
Past President	Fred Howe
Sgt. At Arms	Klaus Rissmann

Contact us at:
P. O. Box 4141
Spokane, WA 99220
Or
sffishers@comcast.net

AROUND THE BEND

**December 9,
SFF Meeting
Christmas Party 7 PM**

**December 12, Egg Sucking
Spokane Hatchery**

**December 16, SFF Board
Meeting 6 PM**

**January 7, 2010, Intermedi-
ate Fly Tying Begins**

**January 9, Beginning Fly
Tying Begins**

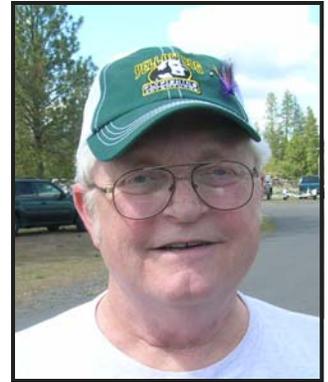
**January 13, SFF Meeting
7PM, Craig Mathews**

**January 20, SFF Board
Meeting 6 PM**

**February 10th, SFF Meeting
7PM**

PREZ SEZ

By Mike Melmoth



Merry, Christmas, Happy Hanukah, or whatever greeting you may use to celebrate this time of year. If you don't celebrate, then have a good day. As a small fishing club, we respect your beliefs and ask that you respect ours. Political correctness is not what a small group like ours should need to worry about. I know of no one in our club who would intentionally offend another member and if offence is taken, please, instead of taking offense talk to the person you feel has offended you or a board member if you're not comfortable with conflict. Now that I have blown your holiday spirit, let's see if we can get it back. We have a holiday dinner planned for you this month. As in the past, Carla is in charge and Linda, Klaus and Alli are her helper elves. I won't tell what Carla has planned for you so don't try to bribe me. Actually Linda will tell you elsewhere in the flyer. A better dinner you'll rarely ever have, so come on out, I can't wait. Talk about a kid at Christmas attitude.

There will be a gift exchange for those who choose to be in it as in the past. This year the gift limit has been increased to \$10.00 maximum. Inflation has made it next to impossible to find a \$5.00 gift and not everyone can make one. Gifts should be non-gender specific and you should bring one for each member in your family you want to pick one up from the table when your table is selected to raid the gifts.

Santa and his new "rain-dear" will be greeting members again this year. This is a full family meeting. I'm sure there are more of the younger generation out there than we have seen at meetings or on outings. Remember we are a family club. As soon as you think your kids will have the attention span needed and the desire to become a fly fisher, get them into the school and the club. Members get a discount for family members and if the youngster is under 18 there is a discounted price for him/her as well. Classes will start March 18, 2010.

Did you remember to sign up for your fly tying class? Signup sheets will be available again at this month's meeting/dinner. Beginners and intermediate tiers can't do better than these classes. Ask any of the fish caught on the flies tied in last years classes.

May you all have a happy and safe New Year celebration and year in 2010.



FLY FISHING SCHOOL 2010

By: Fred Howe

Are you at a loss as to what to buy your spouse or older children for Christmas?

How about an enrollment in the Fly Fishing School? For only \$100 (\$90 for members) the class provides 7 evening classes covering everything from equipment and entomology to knot tying and "how to read the water". Three mornings of casting classes are also included.

To order this wonderful gift, contact Fred Howe at 448-4707 or email to: frednlindah@comcast.net

CONSERVATION CORNER



. Holiday Conservation Project In Support of the Spokane Fish Hatchery Saturday, December 12th, 9 AM Spokane Fish Hatchery

It's that time of year for a holiday party and one of the best is the annual "Egg Sucking" at the Spokane Fish Hatchery. Every year in December, volunteers "suck" (remove) bad eggs from good eggs so that the Spokane Fish Hatchery can deliver large numbers of healthy fish eggs that grow into trout that are stocked throughout our state. The club will provide coffee, juice, and a continental breakfast and after about three hours of work you are invited to a no-host lunch at a place to be announced.

The "egg sucking" is done with the use of turkey basters.

Call Mike Keegan at (509) 990-4782 or 455-4433 for further information.

CONSERVATION RAFFLE MARCH, 2009

We want you to keep March's event in your minds. If you have good fishing gear, or equipment that you don't want or don't need, keep the raffle in mind. After Christmas sales? Pick up something you can donate to help our conservation efforts.

FORD FISH HATCHERY

The Board has approved expenditure for a fish pond net at the Ford hatchery. The existing nets are vulnerable to birds and critters taking fish from the ponds. The existing nets are 10 years old and the weather and sun have taken a toll. The hatchery supplies fish in eastern WA from Rock Lake on north to the Canadian border.

WEST MEDICAL LAKE AERATOR

We are still waiting for an answer on compressor reliability pending an assessment by WDFW.

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Kovatch, Membership Chair

Three new members joined the club at the Fly Auction.

Please welcome Mike & Barbara Fortney and Chuck Sims

BEGINNING FLY TYING 2010

By: Betty Smith-Lambert

Are you beginning to have fishing withdrawal? Ice in your guides is not your kind of fishing? Are you feeling yourself sliding into Winter Depression? You need something that is fishing oriented until "ice out". How about taking a fly tying class? SFF presents several levels of fly tying.



There is a Beginning Fly Tying Class that happens every Saturday for five weeks beginning on the 9th of January. It starts at 9 AM and goes until noon at 1812 West 10th Avenue. The cost of \$25 is for the entire class (all 5 weeks). Materials and tools used during the class are included from the supplies that were donated to the club. Below, you will find information about the Intermediate Fly Tying Classes. I hope that this tip helps clear your winter blues. Sign up sheets will be at the December meeting, or you can call Betty at 838-5914.

INTERMEDIATE FLY TYING 2010

(skill level – can tie without wrapping your material hand forefinger to the hook)

By: Judy Kaufman

I'm happy to report that intermediate fly tying is taking shape. I know those that have already signed up are particularly glad to hear this. We will be spinning, trimming, shaping, learning cripples, doing bullet heads, sallying forth, tackling soft hackles, always emerging and I hope at more than a snail's pace.

This year there will be more discussion on how and when to fish these critters we tie. The tying sessions will be Thursday evenings 7 – 9, January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4 and 11. We will meet at the Wildlife Council Building at 6116 Market (2 blocks South of Francis). The cost for the six evenings of fun and learning has always been \$20, that's if we have a minimum of 20 sign up and PAY. This year there may be a change. We may collectively purchase all tying materials, bundle the materials needed for each pattern and have a packet of each pattern materials for the tiers. All that tiers would need to bring would be vise, tying tools and thread. This would mean a fee of more that \$20, how much more will depend on the cost of materials and number signed up. The change is also contingent on enough volunteers to do the packaging work. Hey, we can have a put it all together party!



We need a minimum of 20 to have the sessions. There are 13 signed up and I know of another 3 that will probably join. That leaves us 4 short. If you plan to tie please contact me as soon as possible. You don't want these six evenings of fun, learning, bragging (some lying) to be cancelled because you procrastinated.

You can sign up at the December Pot Luck but for planning purposes we need to know NOW!

Call Judy Kaufman at 924-9462.

FLY AUCTION REPORT

By: Mike Berube

Another fly auction has come and gone, and this one will go down as a success. This is mainly due to the great membership turn-out we had at the auction and their willingness to dig deep into their pockets to support the club. We made \$3,410.00. That's awesome!



The flies that were donated were outstanding! We have a lot of talented and generous people in our club and it showed by the quality and quantity of the flies donated. To all who donated, thank you very much. If we had an award for the most creative presentation of flies donated, I believe we've done this in the past; my vote would go to Jeff Voigt's donations. Hopefully you had a chance to check them out. Maybe we'll get this into next year's event.



The event couldn't have been possible without the help of a lot of volunteers. First, I'd like to thank Betty Smith-Lambert who made my job as Chairman an easy one. Her "how to" auction guide was invaluable. How about Art Ross as auctioneer and Bob Mielbrecht as emcee? They kept everything moving and kept us laughing all night, thanks guys. Hopefully I don't leave anyone off of this list, thanks to the rest of the auction crew: The board for making phone calls and Gale Allen, Gail Bailey, Kurt Tempel (co-chair), Carolyn Sells, Karen Berube, Pat Mielbrecht, Fred and Linda Howe, Mike Keegan, Bob Kowal, Mike Melmoth Jr., and Dan Ferguson on the camera. Thank you to Carla and Klaus for preparing some tasty sausages and hot dogs and Clara Ross for bringing desserts.



Lastly, if you'd like to get involved in club events pick up the phone and call a board member to volunteer or just start helping out at one of our events. If you have an idea that might help improve an event please let us know what it is. The use of the camera to display the auction items at this year's auction was a suggestion by a club member and I think it contributed to the event's success.

FIVE RIVER LODGE RAFFLE TICKETS

By: Dan Ferguson

Tickets are still available for this once in a life time trip. As you may recall, this trip is for six days, five nights for two at Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon MT. In addition to the trip you'll also get a \$1000 travel fund. A pretty good profit for making a trip from Spokane!

Tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. Each FFF Council will win a trip. That's WA and AK for us. The drawing will be held in March. Give Fred or me a call if you want a few tickets and we'll have them at the next couple meetings.

2010 SPORT FISHING SHOW - MARCH 5th, 6th & 7th

By Mike Berube



I received a message the other day from the Sport Fishing Show's organizer asking me for my contact information for the 2010 show. I can't believe 2010 is right around the corner. Where did 2009 go? Luckily I can say that I was able to get a lot of fishing in this year mixed in with that other thing....work. How about you?

The club again is going to be involved in the 2010 Sport Fishing Show at the convention center in March. For those who attended last year's show, you may have noticed the "Fly Tying Theater". Our club will be responsible for manning this booth, both with notable tiers doing demonstrations and with all day kids tying clinics.

We'll need a lot of help for this event. Staffing the club's info booth and the Kid's Tying Center will require lots of smiling faces. I'm confident the membership will come through and volunteer.

I'll have a general interest sign up sheet at the next few meetings and will work on specific times as we come closer to the show. Last year the club picked up eight Fly Fishing School registrants and we hope to do better for the '10 school. We also processed 8 -10 new member applications. This is the best opportunity we have to expose the club to the general public with the goal of expanding our membership base (more members = less work!)

Don't hesitate to see me at a meeting, email (tytlynz@gmail.com) or call at 999-8235 if you have any questions or want to sign up.

FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS REPORT

By: Dan Ferguson

As many of you know, I'm now the Membership VP for the Washington Council of the FFF. I'm also the Fly Tying chair for the WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair to be held April 30 and May 1, 2010 in Ellensburg.

The very few of you who visited or partook in the show earlier this year can attest to how great a show we had. In addition to 110 notable fly tiers from across the West, we also offered classes and seminars in Fly Tying, Casting, Drift Boat Handling and much more. Next years show will be bigger and better yet!

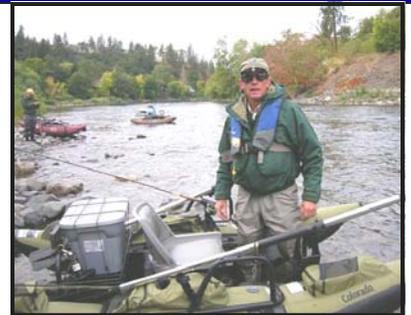
What the FFF is asking from the Spokane Fly Fishers is a commitment from a few members to help with this show. What I had in mind was having our club be in charge of Friday and Saturday morning coffee and cakes. Not only would this be appreciated by all the bleary eyed FFFers, and the first visitors of the day, but the club could put a few \$\$ in our pockets from the generous donations.

A number of clubs in the state are involved in the Fair in one way or another. The Wenatchee club does fly tying for kids from the local schools, the Evergreen Club is in charge of hospitality, casting is done by the Fidalgo Fly Fishers and auction assistance by the Alpine and Puget Sound Fly Fishing.

This is something I'll be talking about over the next couple months at our meeting. I'm looking forward to seeing many more of you at this terrific show, destined to be one of the premier fly fishing shows in the country!

PRINTING ERROR

Last months article on the Spokane River Outing was to have included this picture of Kurt Tempel. The printers superimposed a picture of a tree (I think). Sorry Kurt.



A CAUTIONARY TALE

By: Dan Ferguson

Carla and I were recently fishing the Methow River for Steelhead. As we returned to the car at a Game Department access site, we were chatting with a couple other fishermen getting ready to head down to the river. While one gentleman was stringing his rod, it suddenly snapped a quarter of the way down. Just shattered! Needless to say they were bummed.

We gave it some thought as to what might have happened, but at the time really couldn't come up with a good explanation. It wasn't until we drove off I recalled they had the rods in the back of their truck with the tips hanging over the tailgate. Having traveled a couple of miles on a rough gravel road, those rods bounced and bounced. I wouldn't be surprised if they hit the steel tailgate hundreds of times. All it took was a slight bit of pressure to snap the rod.

I don't know how many times I've seen rods being transported in this manner and I've been guilty of it myself. One thing I used to do though is string a bungee cord across the truck bed and rest the rods on it. I now try and remember to bring my magnetic rod holders for travel. I've seen MANY folks place rods under the windshield wipers. This scares me half to death. It can't be a safe way to haul a rod.

Suffice it to say, with most of us being a bit on the lazy side; break your rods down before travel if you don't have a proper way to carry one on your vehicle.

Oh, neither Carla nor I caught any fish. I was hoping to turn her into a card carrying Steelheader!

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR NAME TAGS TO THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

**DECEMBER 9TH, 2009
7 PM**

CHRISTMAS PARTY

**ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL
1104 W. HEROY**

“THE MISSION OF THE SPOKANE FLY FISHERS IS TO PROVIDE A FAMILY FRIENDLY ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTING THE SPORT OF FLY FISHING THROUGH EDUCATION, APPLICATION, AND CONSERVATION.”