



# The Barbless Flyer

*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*

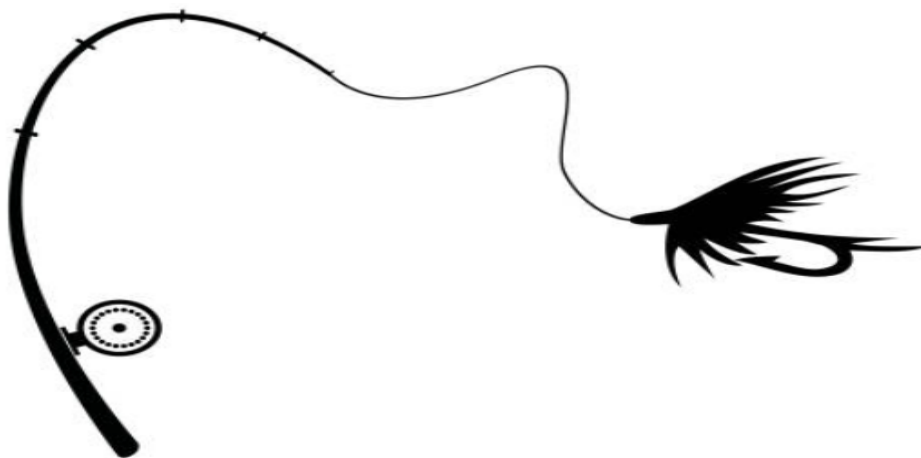


## February Speaker WAYNE JORDAN

Wayne Jordan is the newest member of the Fly Project Family and manages House of Fly in West Spokane. He grew up on the coast of Maine where he learned fly fishing and tying from his grandfather, at the age of five. Wayne has been working in the industry for 30+ years.

It all began at a tackle shop in Maine, where he worked throughout college and met a lot of great people, one of which convinced him to get his captain's license and move to Key West. He worked on a long-range charter that took up to 50 people offshore fishing on two to four-day trips. His days off were spent chasing inshore species with a fly rod. One fateful night, Wayne met his wife at a tiki bar in Key West. They later moved to the PNW and have been there ever since.

When he's not fishing, he enjoys traveling with his wife and kids, getting people outdoors (you can't catch fish from the couch), and volunteering (presentations, river cleanups, etc.) within the Spokane fly fishing community. Wayne is also a member of Spokane Fly Fishers Club!



# Two Days of Stillwater Fishing Education with Phil Rowley

Your Club is proud to announce that we, along with our partners at Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club (IEFFC), are bringing Phil Rowley back to Spokane for two full days of events centered on stillwater fly fishing – how to do it and how to tie some of the flies you will need to catch trout in our lakes. There will be four sessions, two fly tying workshops in the afternoons and two presentations on stillwater fishing tactics in the evenings on Tuesday February 18th and Wednesday February 19th. All sessions will be held at the South Side Senior Citizens Center at 3151 E. 27th Ave, Spokane, WA 99223. The entire program is free. For a complete schedule and other detailed information, scroll down to the end of this newsletter and find the two supplements attached there.

Phil, who lives near Edmonton, Alberta, has over 35 years of fly-fishing experience and has pursued trout, Atlantic and Pacific salmon, char, pike, walleye and other species across North and South America. He was a member of the team that won the gold medal at the Canadian Fly-Fishing Championships. But he is probably best known as one of our foremost experts in the art of fly fishing in stillwaters – as shown by his being chosen to author the Orvis Guide to Stillwater Trout Fishing.



He is also renowned as a skilled and inventive fly tyer, serving for 15 years as the fly-tying columnist for BC Outdoors magazine and authoring the best selling book “Fly Patterns for Stillwaters.” He has been recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award by Fly Tyer magazine and was awarded the Jean-Guy Cote award for his contributions to Canadian fly tying.

For Phil’s audiences and students, though, his greatest skill is his ability to teach what he knows. He has been providing seminars, schools and clinics, instructional videos, magazine articles and TV appearances for many years, culminating in his recent launch of the Stillwater Academy. A look at a few of his many YouTube videos makes it easy to understand why Phil’s teaching is in high demand at fly fishing trade shows and clubs across N. America.

For these programs, we have had to change the way we have been handling registrations. **First, seating will be limited! The fly-tying sessions will seat a maximum of 35 people each.** Those seats will be allocated as follows: the first 19 members of Spokane Fly Fishers and 16 members of IEFFC who register by February 14th will be seated. If all of those 35 seats are not reserved by then, we will offer seats to the remaining people who attempted to register in the order that they completed their registrations, regardless of club affiliations (including those who may not belong to either of the sponsoring organizations). The evening presentations will be handled in the same way, except the seating limit will be 100 people. Everyone will be notified by end of day on Sunday, February 16th as to whether they have obtained a seat.

The message is to take a look at the detailed course outlines attached here, choose which sessions you can and want to attend, then hustle to the Spokane Fly Fishers website and submit your registration form ASAP. We don’t believe this is hype – president Guy Gregory at IEFFC was getting blitzed with phone calls before the club had officially announced the events and we already have several registrations (apparently based on some insider information).

For more information, contact Kevin Brannon or Mike Berube at SFFC.

# Fly Fishing & Fly Tying with Phil Rowley

By Kevin Brannon

## Schedule

### Day 1

#### Fly Patterns for Stillwaters Workshop Part 1 (12:30 – 4:30)

- 12:30-12:45 Opening Remarks
- 12:45-1:30 Chironomids. (Blended Pupa, Frostbite Bloodworm)
- 1:30-3:00 Damsels and Dragons (Pearly Damsel, Strip Tease Damsel, Feather Dragon)
- 3:00-3:45 Mayflies & Caddis
- 3:45-4:30 Leeches (Balanced Leech)

#### 4:30-6:15 Dinner

#### Strategies and Tactics for Stillwaters Workshop (Part 1) 6:15-8:30

- 6:15-6:30 Opening Remarks
- 6:30-7:30 Equipment Essentials
- 7:30-8:30 Stillwater Entomology

### Day 2

#### Fly Patterns for Stillwaters Workshop Part 2 (12:30 – 4:30)

- 12:30-12:45 Opening Remarks
- 12:45-1:15 More Leeches (Vampire Mini Leech,
- 1:15-2:15 Scuds (Dubbed Scud, Mirage Soft Hackle Scud)
- 2:15-3:15 Attractors (Booby, Blob, FAB)
- 3:15-4:15 Water Boatman & Backswimmers (Tin Man, Greater Water Boatman)
- 4:15-4:30 Closing Remarks, Part 1 and 2 Summary

#### 4:30-6:15 Dinner

#### Strategies and Tactics for Stillwaters Workshop (Part 1) 6:15-8:30

- 6:15-6:30 Opening Remarks
- 6:30-7:15 Strike Indicator Techniques for Stillwaters
- 7:15-8:15 Inducing a Take-Presentation Technique for Stillwaters
- 8:15-8:30 Closing Remarks, Part 1 and 2 Summary

## Phil Rowley's Recommended Fly-Tying Materials

Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Red  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Black  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Rust or Burnt Orange  
Semperfli 1 MM Wire or Uni Wire, XS, Red  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Olive  
Semperfli Nano Silk 8/0 or Uni 140 Denier, Olive  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Pink  
Semperfli Fluro Brite, or UTC 140, White  
Holographic Mylar, Medium, Red  
Mirage Opal Mylar, Small  
Semperfli 1 MM Wire or Uni Wire, XS, Silver  
Semperfli 2 MM Wire or Uni Wire, Small, Hot Orange or Copper  
Flashabou 6904, Ice Blue Pearl  
Flashabou Black  
Permanent Markers (Sharpie), black, red and chartreuse  
Dubbing Spinner  
Brushable superglue, UV Resin or clear nail polish  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Red  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Black  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Rust or Burnt Orange  
Semperfli 1 MM Wire or Uni Wire, XS, Red  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Olive  
Semperfli Nano Silk 8/0 or Uni 140 Denier, Olive  
Semperfli Classic Waxed 8/0 or Uni 70 Denier, Pink  
Semperfli Fluro Brite, or UTC 140, White  
Holographic Mylar, Medium, Red  
Mirage Opal Mylar, Small  
Semperfli 1 MM Wire or Uni Wire, XS, Silver  
Semperfli 2 MM Wire or Uni Wire, Small, Hot Orange or Copper  
Flashabou 6904, Ice Blue Pearl  
Flashabou Black  
Permanent Markers (Sharpie), black, red and chartreuse  
Dubbing Spinner  
Brushable superglue, UV Resin or clear nail polish





# Annual Call for Nominations

By Brad Collins, Vice-President

Here is your chance to make a significant contribution to the operations, educational opportunities, and general well-being of the Club. Several board positions are opening for the next fiscal year and we would like you to consider volunteering your time and expertise to serve in one of these positions. New people and ideas keep the Club fresh and able to keep up with our changing times, allowing us to offer new and relevant events and opportunities.

There will be two ways to nominate someone or submit your own name for consideration for these positions: a nominating form will be available at the February and March monthly meeting; and an electronic form will be sent out via email. The deadline for nominating or applying for each of these jobs is **March 12th**. After candidates are in place, the members will vote on their choice on **April 9th**.

## There are four positions open this year:

The **President** position must be filled by someone who has previously held one of our board positions. This is a job for a leader. This is for someone who wants to see the club grow and improve, and desires to be part of that process.

The **Vice President** is a position that assists the President and is a voter on the Board. This is a good position for someone who wants to learn about the operation of the club and the Board, maybe for preparation for a President position later. The main responsibility of the Vice President is to coordinate the programs offered during our monthly meetings.

The **Treasurer** position requires knowledge of accounting or bookkeeping and has using software like QuickBooks for managing the club finances. Our books are relatively simple to manage. We will provide training prior to a new candidate starting.

A **Board Position** is one of the three members who serve as members at large on the Board of Director, each of which serves for a 3-year term. Board Members represent the general membership of the Club and bring input from those members. They help decide whether to make changes or improvements in the operations of the club.



## Prez Sez

By Brad Collins for Kevin Brannon



I often find that I have to live vicariously through others, since I am not yet retired and serve in leadership positions for a few community organizations. Because of these responsibilities, I don't have many free weekends to go fishing, but I always cheer on and envy those that do. I enjoy their social media photos and stories about the trips they take. Same with fly tying – I don't seem to ever have time to tie much at home, so I rely on the Facebook photos that others post to make me feel like I am still worthy of the art.

Since I first met him six months ago, I have lived vicariously through **Gary Myers**. We first met on the St. Joe River outing in July. He was contagiously optimistic and cheerful, and seemed to truly love being on the river fishing. One day, Gary, Mike Sportelli, and I fished the river together, and that day is one of my most memorable on that river. I quickly learned that Gary was a tremendously experienced and passionate fly fisher, and that he tied beautiful flies. Best of all, he never hesitated to offer help and encouragement to everyone around him. His positivity was infectious.

After that outing, Gary stepped in to host the Georgetown Lake outing without hesitation and he provided those that attended with a fantastic weekend. Again, he was knowledgeable, encouraging, and endlessly willing to help.

Recently, Gary came to my rescue on the first night of our Intermediate Fly-Tying Workshop. Chip O'Brien was scheduled to be our instructor for the night but was involved in a car accident and had to cancel. With just a few hours' notice, Gary accepted the challenge without hesitation. When we all met at the church for the workshop, we realized that the gym was too big for such a small group. We decided to head to Lumberbeard Brewing because it was smaller and they had beer. When we got there, Lumberbeard was closed. After a long day of herding teenagers around school and then what felt like a disastrous first night for the workshop, I was ready to be done with that day. Gary remained cheerful and enthusiastic though. "Well, let's go back to the church and tie flies!" he said. And we did. He led us through an articulated sculpin pattern by Kelly Galloup called the "sex dungeon," which looked intimidating. He offered up all his own materials and was an excellent instructor. I can't say my version was store-quality, but it was decent. I sacrificed a little blood thanks to that stinger hook, but I learned a lot and enjoyed Gary's instruction.

One night at Thirsty Third Thursday, as we were having a beer and tying flies, I joked with Gary that I lived vicariously through him because I was so busy. He simply said with a shrug "Just go fishing!" Gary's enthusiasm and positivity has reminded me that yes, I just need to go fishing. Paperwork, grades, agendas, and websites can wait a day or two. We should all prioritize life rather than toil.

Thanks Gary! You will be missed.



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 6:00pm Monthly Board Mtg	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 7:00pm Monthly Membership Mtg	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 6:00pm Thirsty 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs Fly-tying Lumberbeard	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	



# CASTING CALL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

By William Wagstaff

The annual Spokane Fly Fishing School is looking for Club members to volunteer their time and expertise for casting instruction, fly tying and two outings. Hopefully, you will consider volunteering for all three, but any help would be greatly appreciated. Contact Bill Wagstaff at [bwagstf@hotmail.com](mailto:bwagstf@hotmail.com) or (509) 951-6697 to volunteer or with questions.

## **Casting Instruction: 4-5 volunteers**

Casting instruction will take place on 3 Saturdays, March 15, March 22, and April 12, from 9-11 am at Balfour Park in Spokane Valley. Thatcher Beaty is the lead instructor and will be holding a "teach the teachers" class on Wednesday, February 26 at St. Francis where we hold our monthly meeting. This is a great opportunity for you to meet new members and refresh your casting technique.

## **Fly Tying: 4-5 volunteers**

This year's fly-fishing school's last class, Thursday April 10 6:30 - 8:30 pm, will be an introduction to fly tying with the goal having students tie one or two simple flies that will likely catch fish. Chris Rose will be the lead instructor and will be using club vices. If you have **any** fly-tying ability you could help.

## **Outings: 4-5 or additional volunteers**

This year we are planning on two outings for the fly-fishing school attendees. A lake outing and a moving water outing.

The lake outing is planned for Saturday, May 10, 9 am - noon at Amber Lake. Volunteers would take students out in a member's boat to demonstrate and let students practice still water techniques using chironomids, balanced leeches, sinking lines, etc. In addition, there would be instruction on shore as to rod set up for various techniques. However, this is not a guided fishing trip! It is an opportunity for students to directly observe and practice the techniques. Members would take students out for perhaps ½ hour and then rotate with additional students. Ideally, a 12-14-foot boat with an electric motor that could take 2 students at a time would be best. Overall, it should last about 3 hours or less.

The river outing is currently scheduled for Saturday, July 12, 9 - 11 am on the Spokane River. However, this would depend on river conditions. Volunteers would be at stations along the river perhaps 50 ft apart and would demonstrate one technique and allow students to try that technique, i.e., nymphing, dry fly, mending, or swinging, etc. Again, this is not a guided trip so any fish caught would be incidental. Students would move between stations to learn various techniques.



# DEVELOPING THE PERFECT MAYFLY BOX

By Ken Moore

Mayflies have been, and will continue to be, the most important order of insects to those who fly fish for trout. Trout do not necessarily eat more mayflies than midges, caddis, stoneflies, or terrestrials. However, they feed on them more often selectively in situations where you must at least approximate them with your fly and, at times, must match them accurately before you fool most fish.

The most important things to observe are the size, form, and color of any insect you find trout feeding. You base your fly pattern selection on these three aspects of an insect. They are critical in the order listed: size first, form second, and color, though still significant, usually less so than size and form. The most common mistake in matching any hatch is to glance at a specimen from a distance while it's in flight or floating and guess at the size of the fly that will match it if you capture a specimen and look at it closely, preferably right next to the fly with you, which you have chosen to imitate. You will notice that your chosen fly is one or even two sizes too large.

The form is almost as critical and should reflect your selected fly style. Fortunately, the form of the mayfly dun, the stage most often imitated, remains essentially the same. The dun will have the same large upright forewings, long slender bodies, six legs, and tails the body length or longer. The consistency of form is a significant factor in mayfly simplicity.

Color is the least critical because it is most varied within a hatch. Males and females of the same species are often slightly different in color. An example would be duns that have been on the water for a few minutes, have their colors hardened, and will be somewhat darker than those fresh out of the nymphal skin.

Observing size, form, and color lets you select the correct fly pattern. You should also notice an insect's behavior, whether a nymph in the water, a dun, or a spinner floating on top of it. Noticing behavior will tell you how to present the imitation you've chosen. Most spinners and mayflies float on the water with little to no movement. Fish your imitation with a dead drift. During emergence, a mayfly nymph might alternately swim and then pause to rest. You want to imitate these different behaviors to fish your imitation with the most enticing action, or the entire lack of it.

There are more than 3,000 species of mayfly worldwide found on every continent except Antarctica. Washington state has 109 species of mayfly. Mayfly species vary around the world. Yet they are the same wherever you find them. Each stage of each species repeats the same shapes, and most arrive in the same repeated color themes. It is possible to approach mayfly imitation in two ways; the first is to collect and imitate every stage of every species you ever discover trout eating. That fills a fly box, more likely several of them, with flies you need whenever you encounter a hatch for the first time. The second system is to tie or purchase a balanced box built on the basic themes for nymphs, emergers, duns, and spinners. Acquire a large fly box that will hold both nymphs and dry flies; fill it with a central character of the mayfly life cycle. When you fish in your local waters, this will be your "basic" mayfly box. As you travel and run into specific species of mayflies, an example might be a trip to the Seeley/Swan Lake area in Montana to fish the *Hexagenia* hatch (Hex's are generally fished in size 6); this can go into a second specialized box that is utilized on those special trips and used during those special times of year for those special hatches.

Below, you will find a somewhat dated mayfly list of flies you would expect to find in Dave Hughes's basic mayfly box (author of over 21 books, countless articles, and editor of *Flyfishing & Tying Journal* for eight years). Dave used to share this list when you attended one of his outstanding lectures. As you review the list, Dave apparently loved to dry fly fish more than nymph fish. Make of it what you will; this is a point of departure as

you begin to assemble your perfect mayfly box. Remember to put your name and phone number in the box this way; if you lose it, it may find its way back to you.

### **Nymphs**

Pheasant Tail Flashback, size 16 to 20  
Olive Swimmer Nymph, size 12 to 16  
Near Enough, size 12 to 14  
Beadhead Hares's Ear, size 12 to 16  
Beadhead Fox Squirrel, size 14 to 16

### **Emergers**

Olive Floating Nymph size 16 to 20  
Olive CDC Emerger, size 16 to 20  
PMD CDC Emerger, size 14 to 18  
Olive Sparkle Dun, size 16 to 20  
Sulfur Sparkle Dun, size 14 to 18

### **Duns**

Blue-Wing. Olive CDC Biot Comparadun, size 16 to 20  
Sulfur CDC Biot Dun, Size 14 to 18  
Pale Evening Dun, size 14 to 18  
Olive Quill Parachute Dun, size 14 to 20  
Olive Hairwing Dun, size 10 to 20  
Sulfur Hairwing Dun, size 12-18  
Gray Hairwing Dun, Size 12 to 16  
Mahogany Hairwing Dun, size 12-16  
Sulfur Thorax Dun, size 14 to 18  
Blue-wing Olive Thorax Dun, size 16-20  
Blue-Wing Olive, size 12 to 20  
Light Cahill, size 14-16  
Tan Gulper Special, size 14-16  
Parachute Adams, size 14 to 18

### **Spinners**

Red Quill Spinner, size 12 to 18  
Blue Quill Spinner, size 14 to 18  
Female Trico Polywing Spinner, size 20 to 22  
Male Polywing Trico Spinner, size 20 to 22  
Callibaetis Quill Spinner, size 12 to 16



## Beginner Fly-Tying Pattern

### Perdigon Fly – Frenchi by McFly Angler



**Hook:** Risen Barbless Jig Hook 9230 (size 14)

**Bead:** Risen Tungsten Slotted Bead (3.5mm, Gold)

**Body Thread:** Veevus 10/0 Brown

**Tail:** Whiting Tailing Pack (Natural Brown)

**Body Rib:** Magic Quill (Medium, Dark Edge)

**Hot Spot Thread:** Veevus 10/0 (Hot Red/Orange)

**Flashy Dubbing:** UV2 Diamond Brite (Pink, but I think they call it Red)

**Clear Resin:** Solarez Bone Dry (Clear)

Click [here](#) for a complete YouTube instructional video.

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## Intermediate Fly-Tying Pattern

### Dolly Llama Streamer by John Kreft



**Trailing Hook:** Owner SSW, Daiichi D2557 #4

**Front Hook:** Mustad 34007, Daiichi DX452 #2

**Connection:** 30lb fly line backing

**Weight:** 3/8" Nickel cone

**Thread:** Olive 6/0 or 140 Denier

**Tail & Body:** Rabbit Strip - Olive

**Belly:** Rabbit Strip - White

**Flash:** Saltwater Flashabou, pearl or Lateral Scale

For a complete YouTube instructional video, click [here](#).



# 2025 FISHING TIPS

## Washington Dept of Fish & Game

### Winter-only trout lakes

Winter-only rainbow trout lakes opened the day after Thanksgiving and stay open through March. In WDFW's Region 1, there are several of these lakes, including Fourth of July Lake on the Lincoln/Adams county line, Hatch Lake and Williams Lake in Stevens County, and Hog Canyon Lake in Spokane County.

“The Central District’s winter lakes, Hog Canyon and Fourth of July, fished pretty well for the opener,” said District Fish Biologist Randy Osborne. “Recent sampling at those lakes suggest fish are plentiful and of nice size. At Hog Canyon, anglers should expect fish ranging from 11 to 18 inches, with an average size of around 15 inches. As in years past, fish at Fourth of July are a little larger, ranging from 10 to 21 inches, with an average size of around 18 inches”.

Hatch Lake was also sampled recently and based on the results, area fish biologists expect it to fish well this winter. District Fish Biologist Bill Baker talked with an angler who visited Williams Lake last week and reported the fishing is good and he got limits of 15-18-inch rainbow trout both days he fished the lake!

### Seasonal lake closures

Many of the Region 1 lowland trout lakes, including Badger, Williams (in Spokane County), Fish and Fishtrap lakes, closed for the season earlier this fall. November was the last month to fish Medical Lake and South Spokane County’s Amber Lake. Osborne wants to remind anglers to always check either WDFW’s fishing regulations pamphlet, or the Fish Washington App and understand the regulations before doing any fishing.

Also, gates may be open at certain WDFW access areas this time of year. That does not necessarily mean the lake is open for fishing.

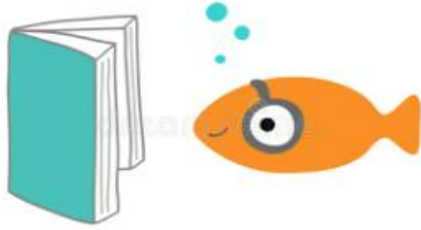
“These gates can be open for a variety of reasons, such as clean-up or repair activities,” said Osborne. “Just because a gate is open does not necessarily mean that the lake is open to fishing. Please play it safe and read the rules!”

### Year-round trout fishing

A reminder that Deer Lake in Stevens County became a year-round lake in 2024. It features both large and small mouth bass, black crappie, yellow perch, and a couple varieties of trout.

Two of the lakes on the W.T. Wooten Wildlife Area –Blue and Spring- were stocked with trout prior to deer season and should be fishing well. The other lakes on the Wooten closed at the end of November.

Trout fishing is generally decent year-round at Lake Roosevelt and Lake Spokane (aka Long Lake). Both also have winter walleye and smallmouth fishing. At Lake Spokane, two of the three state boat launches close for winter. The launch near the mouth of the Little Spokane River stays open all winter, but use it with caution during low water conditions due to rocks and other hazards. You can also fish off the bank from the turnouts off Highway 291 downstream of Tum Tum or between Nine Mile Dam and the mouth of the Little Spokane River.



## Larry's Book Nook

By Larry Ray

### Two Ghosts on the Yellowstone

(Reprinted from a previous issue of The Barbless Flyer)

Beginning each month, as a kid, I used to run to the local “five and dime” to pick up the new editions of the big three: Field and Stream, Outdoor Life, and Sports Afield. One could read the various columns and stories by the noted outdoor authors of the day, such as Corey Ford, Grits Gresham, and Ted Trueblood, and dream.

Foremost among those authors and columnists, to me, was Joe Brooks. Brook’s articles about fly fishing the Yellowstone and other fabled waters, like the Firehole and Madison, made for great bed-time reading. His style, so encouraging and easy to read, still makes Joe one of the finest fly-fishing instructors out there even now, years after his passing in 1972. I have read about instances where he would genially approach complete strangers on the riverbank and offer to rebuild a faulty leader or offer other tips.

He was also a marvelous story teller. Even his smiling photo, at the head of his Fishing Editor column in Outdoor Life, was grandfatherly and reassuring. Lefty Kreh stated nobody has done more for modern fly fishing, both fresh and salt water, than Joe. Some refer to Brooks as The Father of Modern Fly Fishing.

Our Club library has three of the nine books authored by Brooks. One, simply entitled Fly Fishing, was the first instructional manual I ever read on our art. If you ever need to reinforce your belief in fly-fishing methods, read his description in Fly Fishing of why they are simply the most effective. It is so logical, yet so calm and uncritical of other methods, that even the most ardent bait angler would read it and, I venture, not be offended. Meanwhile, in Trout Fishing, Brooks provides the most complete chronology of fly-fishing history I have ever seen, tracing from the Roman Poet Martial, through Dame Julianna Berners and Walton, to Charles Cotton (whose estate Brooks actually visited and on whose bench Brooks actually sat and wrote!), to the fishing of today.

Trout Fishing should be read for this, if nothing else, but it is also a wonderful manual with beautiful photographic illustration that was probably ahead of its day.

Stories about fishing Yellowstone waters frequently referred to Dan Bailey and his remarkable Fly Shop in Livingston. Park waters were a mecca for fly fishing in the middle of the last century and Dan Bailey’s Fly Shop was the temple within the mecca. Bailey was from the east and met Lee Wulff there, fishing the waters of New York and Pennsylvania.

Both liked to experiment in fly tying and Lee came up with a series of effective hair wing flies the floated well, making them visible in fast water. Yes, those were the Wulff patterns, not named by Lee himself, but by Bailey, in deference to his friend and the quality of those patterns.

Eventually, Bailey gravitated to Yellowstone because of its remarkable fishing and opened his shop. It soon became a legendary repository of the latest information and fishing tips for visiting anglers, tying innovation and the best flies, as well as the gathering place for people like Brooks and others.

I, myself, finally got to visit in 1976, and it was just as described. The walls were lined with silhouettes of trophy brown trout. It was an honor to have such a silhouette of one's catch placed on the wall. It should be noted that this was well before severe catch and release ethics really came into vogue and it was not considered a sin to keep a trophy catch. This was also when, for people like Brooks and Bailey, the ultimate trout trophy was the brown. Concern for the native cutthroat that were being displaced by introduced non-natives would come later.

Mist on the River, by Bailey's friend Charles Waterman, with a tribute by Wulff, is a remarkable chronicle of those days and is a must read for anyone wanting to study or reminisce over the fly-fishing history of the area.



# SFFC ANNUAL RAFFLE

## Time for Spring Cleaning in Your Garage, Attic or Closet?

Our Annual Raffle is coming right up! It will be held at 6pm on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church on Heroy in Spokane. Last year's event raised a record sum, over \$5,000, for the Club's general budget. A large part of that success was due to the outstanding collection of donations we received from members and other supporters of our Club. The raffle is our biggest fundraising event and has helped us hold off on raising membership dues.

Can we do it again? Only if we get a lot of help. We ask that you look through your fishing, tying, camping, and boating gear and consider donating gently used stuff to the Club to be raffled off. Do you know someone who might have gear he'd be willing to donate? In prior years, we have received valuable donations from members whose neighbors were moving out.

The sooner we can gather up all the donations and catalog them, the easier it will be to make the raffle run smoothly – it is very difficult to catalog and display items that arrive unannounced on the night of the event. Last year, this allowed everyone a sneak peak at the items available for bid, which seemed to help generate interest and ticket sales. So, we will be accepting donations beginning at our regular February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting and the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. If those options don't work for you, we can arrange to pick up your donations or meet you somewhere (such as the Club's storage unit in Spokane Valley).

Further details coming soon in an email you should receive shortly. Contact Kevin Brannon by phone, text or email for more information or any questions you might have.



# SFFC Information

## Officers

President: Kevin Brannon  
 Vice President: Brad Collins  
 Treasurer: Brian Soth  
 Secretary: Al Odenthal  
 Board Position 1\*: Jim Athearn  
 Board Position 2\*\*: Bill White  
 Board Position 3\*\*\*: Brian Desautels  
 Past President: Craig Adams  
 Sgt. at Arms: Bill Millspaugh  
 \*3-year term expires May 2026  
 \*\*term expires May 2027  
 \*\*\*term expires May 2025  
 President, VP, Treasurer,  
 Secretary and Sgt. at Arms  
 elected annually

## Committee Chairs

Publications Comm: Kevin Brannon  
 Conservation: Brian Desautels  
 Kevin Brannon (interim)  
 Robin Gavelin  
 Outings: Chris Bryant  
 Education: Brad Collins  
 Membership: Bill Wagstaff  
 Fly-fishing School: Larry Ray  
 Librarian: Open  
 Programs: Jacki Shear Brannon  
 Barbless Flyer Editor: Craig Adams  
 Proj. Healing Waters: Brian Soth  
 FFI Liaison: TBD  
 Beg. Fly-tying: Brad Collins  
 Int. Fly Tying: David Marshall  
 A/V Coordinator:

### SFFC Contact Info:

Change of Email Address: Log into our web page [spokaneflyfishers.com](http://spokaneflyfishers.com) and change the data on your profile form which is visible after you log in.



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### Club Mailing Address:

SFF Club, PO box 4141, Spokane, WA 99220

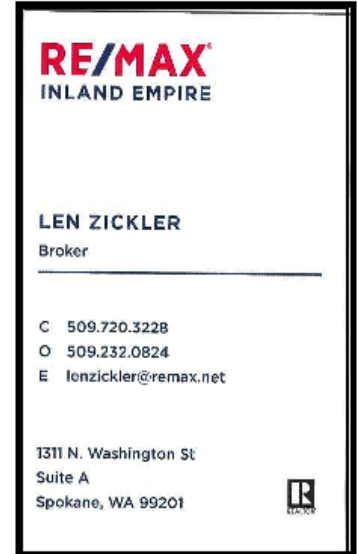


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Business Memberships are available for \$50/year or payment in kind and include an Honorary Membership if not already a member. Contact SFFC, PO Box 4141, Spokane, WA 99220.

