

2005 OFFICERS

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Swirl Tips

EVERGREEN FLY FISHING CLUB

WWW.GEOCITIES.COM/EFFC2000

MAY, 2005

MEETINGS

General Meeting - 4th Tuesday of the month, 7pm (6pm Wet Fly) Flying Pig Brewery
Board Meeting - 1st Thursday of the month, 7pm (6pm dinner) Cookbook Restaurant
Conservation Committee Meeting - 3rd Thursday of the month, 7pm Village Restaurant



Meeting: May 24th, 2004 @ Flying Pig Brewery
Wet Fly – 6:00 p.m. Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

May Program - Lower Clark Fork River

by Carl Johnson

The May program will be a presentation on the lower Clark Fork River in Montana by Carl Johnson. The lower Clark Fork is the section below the Alberton Gorge to the Ferry Land or 14 Mile Access below St. Regis, approximately 35 miles of the river. The Clark Fork in this area is not the prettiest river in Montana, located in a fairly narrow valley that, in addition to the river, has an interstate and railroad. The lower Clark Fork is a floaters river with steep banks and lots of flat water and generally willing fish. The best hatches on the Clark Fork are Skwala stoneflies, March Brown mayflies, PMD's, Hoppers, caddis, giant golden stoneflies, tricos, mahoganies, blue wing olives.

Fly Tying Contest

by Rob Gamage

The winner of last months fly tying contest was Rob Gamage, but I must say there seems to be a lack of interest lately. Just incase some of you guys don't know, the winner of each contest receives a \$25.00 check, lets spread the wealth some more! I've seen a lot of you guys tie up some nice flies, and I don't see you enter them in the contests! C'mon, it's all good fun!

I've tried to garner more interest in the fly tying contest also by designating more "freestyle" patterns throughout the year. I think this month is one of the most popular pattern choices for contests of the past- "Your Favorite Chironomid". So, let the creativity flow and, good luck crafting your entry for this month's contest.

Recipe:

Hook: #10 - 18

All other materials: Your choice



President's Message

by Sandy Atkinson

At the April meeting, we approved a significant proposal for our club. It included sponsoring two scholarships in Fishery Sciences at UW in honor of our 50th anniversary. In the coming years, we will look back on this as a watershed event for our club. Helping two students at UW pursue course work and research in our state's fishery is certainly worthwhile use of a portion of our savings. We should all be proud of this endeavor. At the last board meeting, we appointed Jim McGauhey to take the lead on working out the scholarship details.

There are three additional club benefits included in the approved proposal. Gordon McKay will head take on the task of providing each club member with a personalized flybox having 50th anniversary recognition. Carl Johnson is getting the new 50th anniversary patch created, which will be provided free to club members. Don Mathiesen and Mark Ed-

son will ensure that \$10 is deducted from the cost of each Christmas Party meal purchased.

Well, right now I'm packing for Chopaka. I managed to get Friday off from work to get in an extra day of fishing at the Spring fishout. Not sure if you'll be reading this before or after the outing. Anyway, I hope to see lots of club members there. Should be a great outing with a different kind of scenery, but same ol' fishing stories!

Looking ahead, we have the Stilly clean-up coming up on June 25th. We'll meet at Charlie Rickett's place – be sure to get there early for breakfast. If you are fairly new to the club, the clean-up provides a good opportunity to tag along with a veteran and learn some good fishing holes on the Stilly.

See you at Chopaka!.



Trophy Fishing Awards

by Reed Miller

Hi, guys! At all the meetings I hear about all the big fish you have been catching. As you probably know, the club has a contest and awards for the longest fish caught in several categories. At the last regular meeting I had entry forms for those who wanted them. I will continue to bring them, and I also can send you one either by snail mail or e-mail.

Anyway, the contest runs from Nov. 1 of one year to Oct. 31 of the next year. The winner of each category will be awarded an engraved Wheatly fly box at the Christmas party. Since it takes time to get the boxes bought and engraved, the time frame of the contest is as outlined above. In addition, non-winners will have their names in a drawing for some other neat award.

Here are the categories and minimum qualifying lengths.

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>QUALIFYING LENGTH</u>
TROUT (IN STATE)	18 INCHES
TROUT (OUT OF STATE)	20 INCHES
CUTTHROAT – SEA-RUN	15 INCHES
BROWN TROUT	18 INCHES
CHAR – (Brook Trout, Dolly Varden/Bull Trout, Lake Trout)	15 INCHES
STEELHEAD – SUMMER (May 1 to Oct. 31)	25 INCHES
STEELHEAD – WINTER (Nov. 1 to Apr. 30)	25 INCHES
SALMON – KING	30 INCHES
SALMON – COHO AND PINKS	25 INCHES
SALMON – CHUM	28 INCHES

So, there it is. Further rules are stated on the entry form.

EFFC 2005 Schedule of Activities

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
May 21-22 Sat-Sun	Spring Fishout	Chopaka Lake
June 25 th Sat	NF Stilly River Cleanup	Charlie Rickett's place
July 24 th Sun	Summer Fishout/ Meeting	Gordy's property on NF Stilly
July 29-31 Fri-Sun	EFFC-McKenzie Fishout	Gordy's property on NF Stilly
August 20 th Sat	Unofficial Saltwater Searun Cutt. Fishout	To be announced
September 18 th Sat	Cutthroat Fishout	Haller Park, Arlington
October 8-9 Sat-Sun	Unofficial Dry Falls Fishout	Dry Falls Lake
October 25 th Tue	Auction	Everett Elks
December 10 th Sat	Christmas Party/Awards Dinner	Hawthorne Inn, Smokey Point

Spring Fishout – Lake Chopaka

by Eric Nordstrom

The fishout is coming up next weekend and someone mentioned that Phil Sacks wanted to know how to get to Lake Chopaka. It's easy, you get there by car, truck, or horseback.

There will be a contest for who can catch the two largest fish (total combined length) between daybreak on Saturday until noon on Sunday. The ghillie said he will provide a prize for the winner. Also, remember that Saturday evening is going to be a potluck dinner.

As for directions – take highway 97 north from Omak to Tonasket, turn west at the Loomis/Nighthawk recreation sign and drive 1/3-mile to a T-intersection with the Loomis-Oroville Rd. Turn right and head north for 19-miles and go through the town of Loomis to the signed turnoff for Chopaka Lake in the Sinlahekin Valley. Turn left and drive 1.4-miles to where a gravel road branches off to the right. This is where the steep and rough grade road climbs up for 5-miles (first 2-miles are very steep). Stay on the main road until a “Y” in the road and take the right branch to descend about 2-miles down to the lake's western shore where the campsites are. There's a map on the back cover that shows the smaller roads leading to the lake.

WDFW Fishing Information

For a rundown of expected fishing conditions, check out WDFW's 2005 Fishing Prospects publication, available online (www.wdfw.wa.gov/fish/prospects/index) and in printed form at WDFW regional offices.

Weekly catchable trout plant reports (www.wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants/weekly/) and trout stocking plan (www.wdfw.wa.gov/fish/plants/index) are also available on-line and at department offices.

With low water levels in many areas due to low snowpack, anglers should be even more careful about launching boats at ramps that are higher than usual.

Is It Cheaper To Tie Or Buy?

By Dave Wood (Puget Sound Fly Fishers)

I'm often asked the question, “Is it cheaper to tie or buy?” by newcomers to our passion. While I find it difficult to apply “cheaper” to fly fishing, it is unquestionably LESS EXPENSIVE to buy rather than tie.

Given that logic, the next question is often: “So why do you tie?” I tie for the pure satisfaction of crafting a work of art that will take fish. Like a quilter who could be made by an ornate quilt far less expensively than one could be made, I choose to spend countless hours reading, selecting materials, getting the “right” equipment, isolating myself in my tying room, etc. ALL because I enjoy the sense of accomplishment in doing so.

Adequate flies may be had at bargain prices. They will catch fish if that is one's main objective; a common perception of newcomers to our sport. If that approach leads them to further explore the more sophisticated aspects of fly fishing, I have no argument. WE all started from this point so it would be illogical to advocate otherwise.

However, when one's fishing skill level advances, there is usually a natural progression to new horizons. Tying one's own flies leads to a better understanding of fish habitat and behavior. Flies are tied to meet specific situations and the fisher will soon learn how to discriminate the difference between fish that feed selectively and those that feed opportunistically. Tying your own flies is a marvelous way to be prepared for either.

Evergreen Fly Fishing Club

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