

Clearwater Fly Casters

January 11, 2017 Club Meeting

President Tonda Lark presided at the Clearwater Fly Casters meeting.

Guests: Evan Youngblood, Gordy Simon and Wade Skovgard. Tony McDonnell, a renewed member.

Fishing reports:

Roger and Joy enjoyed a Caribbean Cruise and went bone fishing in Cozumel, Mexico. Visual sighting of bone fish were difficult due to heavy and persistent winds. No catching. That is why this is called "fishing" reports, not "catching."

2017 Clearwater Fly Caster Officers:

The slate of officers were elected.

President: Tonda Lark

Vice President: Jared August

Treasurer: Lynn Youngblood

Secretary: Kay Youngblood

Announcements:

1. Women's Fly Tying: Dulce Kersting gathered names and contact information for women interested in fly tying at Backcountry Lark. Stay tuned for more information.

2. Biennial Auction: At most place settings is a Donor Request Letter, Auction Donor form and list of ideas of Auction donations. Remember, CFC members can bring a guest with their dinner being paid. The Auction supports the Scholarship Fund. The funds raised next month must last for 2 years! Remember the date of February 8 at Best Western, 5:30. See you then! If questions, contact Kay Youngblood at 509-878-1654 or kaylynn4341@gmail.com.

3. Hats: Cliff delivered the hats! One style, 2 colors! Some with Pullman, WA - Moscow, ID on the back or not. If not, you can take to have your initials, etc. embroidered on your hat at Little Moose Prints, Troy, ID for their fee. Cost of hat is a GREAT bargain at only \$15/hat. Due to popular demand, will need to re-order more hats! Many thanks to CFC member, Jim Palmersheim, for the new design!

4. FFF: Steve Bush reported:

1. Joy Lunsford's name was added to the President's plaque

2. FFF magazines, for free, are on the table

3. CFC has 10 new FFF members. We need 2 more to earn a free TFO rod. Make sure CFC is noted on your FFF application so the club can earn the rod.

Special Award: Steve Allured - Benton Collins Award for service and merit of Clearwater Fly Caster members. The following members have their names noted under 2016:

Paul Agidius
Doug Baldwin
Steve Bush
Peg Kingery
Tony McDonnell
Jim Palmersheim
Bart Quesnell
Marc Ratzlaff
John Read
Cliff Swanson

The above noted members have instructed four groups of veterans in coordination with the Moscow Elks with a grant established in 2015. The vets were instructed in fly tying, casting lessons and a weekend trip on the St. Joe putting into practice what they learned over their 8 weeks of instruction. This group of CFC members has volunteered for all 4 classes in both fly tying and casting. Congratulations to this fine group of dedicated individuals as you all exemplify what this award means.

Program:

Lynn Youngblood introduced his nephew, Evan Youngblood, our speaker. Evan, born in North Carolina, moved with his family to Missoula, MT. Evan, a graduate of Hellgate H.S. and the University of Montana with a B.S. in biology and a minor in music. Lynn jealously told the audience that Evan has a natural and the sweetest cast he has ever seen. Evan is an independent guide on waters in and around Missoula, MT.

Prior to the meeting, Evan was tying a "cupboard ant" from non-skid material used in kitchen cabinets or the bottom of tool boxes. He donated his flies to the monthly CFC raffle.

Evan presented a 7 day pack trip into the South Fork of the Flathead into the Bob Marshall Wilderness. After a brief geology review and history of the "Bob" wilderness, Evan read a short story of a mother and her teenage son's experiences on the South Fork and how the experience altered the son's relationship to nature and himself.

SF of the Flathead fun facts:

- the river flows north to Hungry Horse dam
- contains 48% of the remaining genetically unaltered west slope cutthroat
- the dam has prevented non-native species from migrating upstream; no browns or 'bows
- since 2004, the only river to intentionally fish for bull trout

Fishing the SF for Cutthroat:

- fish with 4-5 wt rod and 3X tippet
- terrestrials such as hoppers, chubby chernobyls, ant patterns, and stone fly patterns in the morning
- a "double rig" that includes a 7 1/2' leader, 3X tippet with hopper and 10" of tippet to a smaller fly, such as an ant; this total length is about 9'. Cast upstream and mend to keep the flies from getting entangled. 7 1/2' leader turns big flies better and with more accuracy.

- having 2 flies or a double rig quickly allows you to fish the riffles and tail water
- will find big, "slabby" fish

Fishing the SF for bull trout:

- fish with 9'6" 7wt rod with sink tip "topic 5"
- season is 3rd Saturday in May through July 31. Closed for fall spawning
- fish with streamers; black, olive and white
- Gallup articulated 4" streamers work
- Dolly Lama, or bunny streamer, shows up on all substrate and lighting conditions
- site fish, since population not as dense per square mile
- put in front of the fish and twitch to get attention

Fishing in general:

- fish plunge pools, tail water, riffles, boulder gardens, inside seams
- fish in front of you or the boat
- drag free drift
- "let the dog hunt; " let the fly drift with less casting

7 Day Trip overview

- 2 day pack-in via mules & horses. 15 miles in each day.
- 4 1/2 day float
- 1 day wade fish when going out
- permitted section only where fishing, includes insurance, mule team of 8-12 mules at \$100/day plus horses, 8 clients, 4 guide boats
- float 32 miles
- hike out 3 miles
- unique and native; like it was long, long ago.
- more than a fishing trip

Contact Information:

- www.mtflc.com
- www.southforkfloat.com

Evan, thank you for a presentation that shortens the winter with the thought of a trip like this!

Dates to Remember & Put on Your Calendar:

- Jan 31** Executive Committee Meeting, Smokey Mt. Pizza, Moscow, 6:30
- Feb 8** **Biennial Auction** Club meeting, Best Western Plus University Inn, Moscow, 5:30
- Feb 11** Scholarship Applications due
- Feb 28** Executive Committee Meeting, Smokey Mt. Pizza, Moscow, 6:30
- March 8** Club meeting, Best Western Plus University Inn, Moscow
- March 10** Film Festival benefiting Casting For Recovery, Kenworthy Theater, Moscow

Kay Youngblood, Secretary
 Clearwater Fly Casters
www.clearwaterflycasters.com