

Clearwater Fly Casters

Oct, 2004

The *Tippet*

From The President's Desk

Bird Season: The truck is packed and the pup is as ready as she is going to be for the opening day of quail season. I got a call last night from my partner to make sure I throw my rod in the truck because the state just opened the Methow for steelhead. Of course he told me to keep this on the down low, but I just had to share this news with my fellow CFC members.

Me Forget! Having the well deserved reputation of forgetting at least one major piece of equipment per trip I have started using packing lists. I went through my packing list twice and I had everything on it, but I still could not shake the nagging thought I was forgetting something important. Then I heard Glen's voice in my head asking where is the president's message for the Tippet. To quote Homer J. Simpson, "Doh!" So a quick dash back in to hammer this out, before I am off to play.

October Speaker: Our speaker this month is Kajsa Stromberg. Kajsa is the

Watershed Program Coordinator for the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI). The PCEI website says of Kajsa, "Currently, Kajsa is putting the finishing touches on her University of Idaho master's thesis on Northern Pike minnow management in the Columbia Basin. Kajsa completed her undergraduate work at Kansas State University in biology, natural resources and environmental science. She has extensive experience working in natural resource issues." Kajsa will give us a review of the PCEI's Watershed Program and the projects they are currently working on in our area.

Vice President and Associate Treasurer: It is that time of the year for a little gentle arm-twisting. The club has two exciting positions it needs to fill. We currently need an incoming vice president and an associate treasurer. So if you have someone you would like to nominate, draft, and/or drag to the attention of the club, please do so.

Raffle: We will once again be cranking

up the raffle at the October meeting. So if you tie flies or have something to offer, please remember to bring it for the club's raffle.

New Members: As always I encourage everyone to invite a prospective new member to the meeting. I also encourage everyone to join the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF). Brochures for the FFF are always available at the meetings and there is a link from our homepage at www.clearwaterflycasters.com.

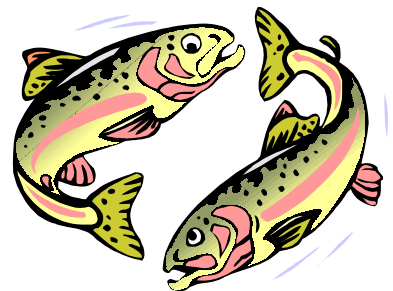
I will see you all on the 13th. I sure hope we all have something good to report.

My best,

Don Shearer

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Oct. 13, 2004 | CFC Executive/conservation meeting at the Best Western University Inn in Moscow, ID, 5:15 pm |
| Oct. 13, 2004 | Clearwater Fly Casters monthly meeting at the Best Western-University Inn in Moscow, ID. 6:00 pm |
| Oct-Dec 2004 | Nomination and Election of Vice-President and Associate Secretary/Treasurer for 2005 |
| Feb. 2005 | Burgers and Flies |
| March, 2005 | CFC Auction. We need someone to coordinate this activity. |
| May, 2005 | Amber Lake Fishout |



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Treasurer's Notes October, 2004

Thanks to all of you who came to the Barbeque. It was a smaller group this year, but we all had a good time and plenty of good food to eat. There were some really great fish stories.

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The Treasury has a combined total of \$5,456.20 in the checking and savings accounts.

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Annual Club dues cover the time period from January through December. The categories and amounts for dues are as follows:

Individual: \$20.00/yr
Family: \$30.00/yr
Sustaining: \$50.00/yr
Lifetime: \$300.00
Student: ½ yearly dues
Honorary: A member, age 65 or older, with 15 years membership in the Clearwater Fly Casters, is granted honorary membership for life.

I will begin accepting dues for 2005 in November.

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We hope to see you all at the October meeting of Clearwater Fly Casters.

*Shirley Engerbretson,*  
Secretary/Treasurer

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### September BBQ.

Clear, sunny weather greeted the 25 or so CFC members that attended the BBQ. No one brought a fly rod so the casting contest waits until next year to determine the casting prowess of CFC members.

**Fish Reports:** Don Shearer reported that he actually fished a few times this year and did quite well in BC. He also took Glen fishing and that Glen survived. He also mentioned catching a state record smallmouth on the Snake during that trip that was probably at least 7 inches long by my estimate. Must be something to do with being president (first biggest liar). On the other hand he said my 6-inch fish was a county record.

**Fishout.** John Read caught several fish at the fish out and at least one big one from a hole that Dave Tharp had fished before him. Dave said he left the fish for John so he wouldn't feel bad. (picture of John's fish was in the Sept Tippet).

**Mawdsley Lake.** Reid Miller headed up a fishing trip to Mawdsley Lake in Northern Sask. Bruce Frazier, Don Johnstone, Debbie Bell, Bob Harwood, Glen Murray, and Doug Young (on sabbatical in Lethbridge) made the 1200 mile trip (one way) to fish for Pike and Lakers. Lots of pike were caught with the biggest pike being 43+ inches (Jerry, a friend of Reid's caught this fish) and the biggest Laker 38+ inches (caught by Glen Coulter, owner-guide of lodge).

Doug Young also terrorized the fish in Alberta while on sabbatical in Lethbridge. He fished the Crow's Nest, Old Man River and several others.

John Toker said the bone fishing venture in the Bahamas was going well. He also fished in South America for a fish (??) with the attitude of a smallmouth bass but weighing several pounds more. He was off to fish for steelhead in BC.

Andy Kleinhofs and Bob Warner reported excellent steelhead fishing on the Grande Ronde, but when pressed for details, the catching was poor (zero).

### 2004 Speaker Schedule

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>October</b>  | Kajsa Stromberg. Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI). Watershed Program Coordinator. PCEI's Watershed Program                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>December</b> | Ken Gebhardt. Fish Biologist, US Forest Service. Avery, ID. West Fork St Maries River Restoration Project. ( <b>Note:</b> At the Bull Trout Redd count activity, Ken mentioned he is leaving Idaho for a new position in October. Lisa Hawdon or another colleague will give presentation on the West Fork St Maries River Project. |
| this            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

### Clearwater Fly Casters Officers 2004

|                     |                      |                       |          |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| President           | Don Shearer          | don@mail.wsu.edu      | 432-6906 |
| Vice President      | Tim Cavileer         | greencat@turbonet.com | 883-4572 |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Shirley Engerbretson | sengerbr@moscow.com   | 882-1687 |
| FFF Representative  | George Johnson       | gjohnson@pullman.com  | 334-3135 |
| Conservation Chair  | Jim Palmersheim      | jamesp@turbonet.com   | 882-4502 |
| Newsletter Editor   | Glen Murray          | glenmurray@moscow.com | 882-7020 |
| Webmaster           | Tim Cavileer         | greencat@turbonet.com | 883-4572 |

CFC membership dues are \$20/yr for individuals, \$30/yr for families, \$10/yr for students, \$50/yr sustaining, \$300/lifetime. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday, September through May at the Best Western-University Inn, 1516 Pullman Rd, Moscow, Idaho. Wet Fly Time 6:00 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm and program at 8:00 pm.

**Bull Trout Redd Counts, Sept 18, 2004.** The CFC were represented by Debbie Bell, Cliff Swanson, and Glen Murray during the Bull Trout Redd count activity.

About thirty people from the Forest Service, CFC, North Idaho Flycasters, IDFG, UI Fisheries Students, and other volunteers showed up in rainy cool weather to participate. Teams of three were assigned each tributary with each team led by an experienced fisheries person

Ten to twelve tributary streams to the upper St Joe. River were surveyed. Only six to eight redds were found, with Heller Creek having five or six of these redd sites. Heller Creek also has had restoration work to improve fish habitat.

A BBQ with food provided by the North Idaho Flycasters ended the days activities.

**Executive/Conservation Meeting.** The executive/conservation committee met at the Wine Cellar in Pullman, on September 15, 2004. Present were Don Shearer, Tim Cavileer, Shirley Engerbretson, Glen Murray, Bruce Frazier, and Debbie Bell.

**The Exec/Cons meeting date and time** was discussed. It was decided that the exec/conservation meeting for October would be moved to immediately precede the Wet Fly and Dinner of the Oct Meeting. If you would like to attend the next

meeting of the **Exec/conservation committee, we will meet at 5:15 pm on October 13 at the University Inn.**

**Membership and Funds:** The club needs to do more recruiting. Membership has dropped to around 50 full time members. A membership committee may be appointed.

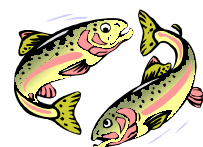
While the treasury isn't broke, funds for speakers, scholarship, and other functions could use some additional revenue. Increased annual membership dues was discussed. Ideas for fundraisers are needed.

**March Auction:** Volunteers are needed to begin planning the March Auction, soliciting donations, etc. If you have an interest in being chairperson for this auction, please contact Don or Tim.

**Vice-President and Associate Secretary/Treasurer.** Nominations are needed for a vice president before Tim takes over his reign of terror. Shirley would like to have an associate to handle some of the secretary/treasurer duties when she is out of town or participating in other activities. If you have someone to nominate, please visit with them and bring nominations to the Oct. meeting.

**Speakers.** If you have suggestions for speakers, please contact Don or Tim. One future speaker discussed at the meeting was Paul Quinett sp?).

**Tippet.** Some ideas for the tippet were discussed for future editions. If you have some thoughts for inclusion in the Tippet, please contact Glen Murray (glenmurray@moscow.com) 882-7020.



**Tippet Triva: Know your Char?**  
(Answers at bottom of column)

1. Name the five species of Char in North America.
2. What species of char make:
  - a. Splake?
  - b. Tiger Trout?
3. Char prefer colder water than other trout and salmon (T or F)
4. Char spawn in the spring or fall?

**Answers to Char Triva:**  
(Answers From Behhke, R.J. "Trout and Salmon.")

1. Brook Trout, Lake Trout, Bull Trout, Arctic Char, Dolly Varden.
2. Splake (Brook trout X Lake trout); Tiger Trout (Brook trout X non-native Brown trout). Another hybrid exists (Brook trout X Bull Trout).
3. True. Optimum range for char is 50 to 57 degrees F. compared to trout and salmon with about 57 to 65 F. Brook trout is more tolerant of warm water than the other char.
4. Fall.

*Glen Murray, Tippet Editor*

**P.T. BRASSIE**

By Bob Bates and Britt Phillips (From FFF Website)

Fish this nymph in either river eddies, riffles or lakes, either alone or under a strike indicator. Let the fly sink, use a slow hand twist retrieve and then let it sink again. This nymph gains depth quickly.

1. Tie in brass wire beginning one eye width behind the eye on your side of the hook and wind the thread back to the bend. Lay the extra wire over the top of the hook and let it hang.
2. Tie in Pheasant Tail (PT) in front of the "lay over" wire and wind thread back till the tail tips up.
3. Wind thread forward keeping the PT on top of the hook, take the thread to the eye, covering the PT. The PT is now sticking straight out the front of the hook.
4. Wind the wire in touching turns to just shy of the eye, wrap back to 1/3rd shank length back from the eye and then forward to front of the hook. Break wire by circling to give smooth break end.
5. Wingcase. Take the PT and pull it back on itself, so it will be a bit longer than the thorax when pulled back. Secure folded PT with a thread wrap, and then pull the PT butts forward and secure with another thread wrap behind the eye. This gives three layers of pheasant tail for the wingcase.
6. Dub thorax and leave thread at the rear of the thorax. .
7. Pull the tripled PT over the thorax and tie off at the rear of the thorax. Change the thread color now to Fire Orange. It is a "key-on" spot for the fish. Trim the butts of the PT close to the thread. Whip finish over the tie down point.
8. Strengthen the wingcase and thread with head cement. Coating the wire abdomen with cement gives it a translucent look if you are using un-varnished wire.



**Materials:**

- Hook:** Standard nymph, sizes 14-18
- Thread:** Fire Orange or White, Uni-thread 8/0
- Body:** About 0.012-inch brass or copper wire
- Tail , Wingcase** 5-6 Pheasant Tail Fibers
- Thorax:** Spiky dubbing to suit, like squirrel or hares ear.

**Note:** This fly has been especially effective for catching fish in heavily fished waters.

**Clearwater Fly Casters**  
**PO Box 2149 CS**  
**Pullman, WA 99165**

Our next meeting is:

**Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2004**  
**At the University Inn Best Western,**  
**1560 West Pullman Road in Moscow, ID**

**Exec/Cons Meeting: 5:15 PM**  
**Wet Fly Hour: 6:00 PM**  
**Dinner: 7:00 PM**

Please join us!

