



The Tippet

February, 2010

Clearwater Fly Casters
www.clearwaterflycasters.com
A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



February Speaker

At our regular February meeting of the Clearwater Fly Casters, our speaker will be Pat Devney, who will talk on the topic "Flyfishing in Central Washington's Desert Lakes and Rocky Ford Creek" This should be an outstanding opportunity to learn more about some great fly fishing not too far from the Pullman-Moscow area. It has been a good number of years since we have had an update on this region. We hope to have a great turn-out to hear Pat's talk. Bring a guest if you know of someone who might just be interested.

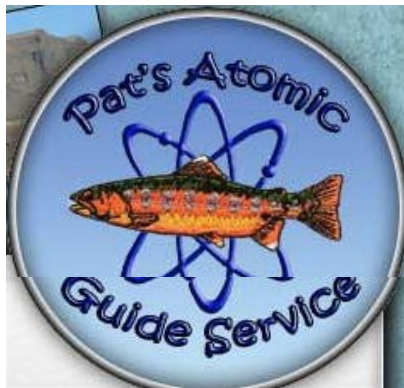
Pat Devney Bio: Born and raised in Kittitas County, I have spent my life exploring the waters of North America. I have fished and guided in the Pacific Northwest, the Mid Atlantic and the North East. When the opportunity to return to my roots in Central Washington came along, I happily grabbed it.

My philosophy about fishing and guiding is simple: Be safe and have fun, Strive to provide a fishing experience of the highest quality, Protect the natural environment and natural resources that our business is based upon, Promote ethical outdoor activities and practices, and Learn something new every day.

I caught my first fish, a brook trout of 7 inches, on Manashtash Creek when I was 5 years old. I started fishing the Yakima when I was 8 years old. I caught my first trout on a fly, a 10 inch cutthroat on Tanuam Creek, when I was 12. I have fished exclusively with a fly rod since 1986. I love all sorts of fishing: lakes, small streams, rivers and spring creeks. I have fly fished all over the United States for trout and 15 years ago got turned on to smallmouth bass.

For 22 years I was a professional pilot. I've flown everything from two-place, single-engine, piston-powered aircraft to 135-passenger, multi-engine jets. I hold an airline transport certificate along with a certified flight instructor certificate. I have instructed pilots throughout all levels of aviation, from people who have never flown before through pilots transitioning to transport aircraft of all sizes. When I wasn't flying, I was fishing and guiding. I sincerely enjoy helping people to learn.

Since 1990, I have guided fly anglers in Washington, Maryland and Pennsylvania. The waters of Central Washington have always been home, and following the failure of the airline, I moved back to Washington and opened a fly shop and guide service (Pat's Atomic Guide Service <http://www.patsatomic.com/pat.html>). (continued on p. 2)



Calendar

Feb 10: CFC Meeting, Pat Devney, "Flyfishing the Central Washington Desert Lakes and Rocky Ford Creek"

Feb 18: CFC Fly Tying Night, Moscow Fly Shop, 7-9 PM, Bead Head Soft Hackle Pheasant Tail Nymph

Feb 20: North Idaho Fly Fishing Expo, Quality Inn, Clarkston, WA, 9 AM—4 PM

Mar 10: CFC Meeting, Chuck Stranahan, "Fly Fishing Norman Mclean Country"

May 12: CFC Meeting, Bryan Irwin and Gary Loomis, Coastal Conservation Association Representatives

Information

The Tippet is available as a PDF file on our web site. Please submit information to the Newsletter Editor.

Meetings 2nd Wed:

**Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 PM
Dinner: 6:30 PM
(buffet, \$16 per person)
Program: 7:30 PM**

I have always enjoyed fishing dry flies. I have always enjoyed site fishing. There are few things that get my heart racing like a rising fish. My favorite type of fishing is finding success in difficult situations. If I were limited to one fishing location for the rest of my life, I would have to choose the Letort Spring Run in Carlisle, PA. Luckily, I am not limited to one area. Central Washington is blessed with an abundance of different water types, each with their own attractions. I love to fish lakes, and I also love to fish rivers and streams. Any fish that gives me a tug is a game fish.

For my presentation, I will talk a bit about the following:

- Lenice, Merry and Nunally Lakes.
- Quincy Wild Life Area (Quincy, Burke, Dusty and Stan Coffin Lakes.)
- Seep Lakes Area (Corral, Sage, Quail, Soda and Long Lakes.)
- Dry Falls, Lake Lenore, Parke and Blue Lakes
- Rocky Ford Creek
- Lakes that have been rehabbed this year (Beda and Brookies, Harrison and "Desert Lakes".)
- Patterns and techniques that work in The Basin.

Backcast to January Meeting

(submitted by Lavon Frazier) Attendance was up after the low numbers last month – I counted 35 in attendance. The meeting was called to order by new president, Paul Agidius. Guests were introduced: Dave Uberuaga from Moscow, Norm Whittlesey from Pullman, Ted Allegri who is learning to fly fish from Tom Weber, and two students at UI – Dan Steel, majoring in fishery resources, and A.J. McVittie, majoring in geology.

Fishing reports:

Dan Payne caught four steelhead and lost a couple. Tom Weber was trolling on the Snake in the Steptoe Canyon area, had three takes on the same pole, all about 14 pounders.

Mike Decker reported that AJ had been having good luck on the Clearwater, but no luck at all when Mike went along! Mike spent a couple of weeks in Florida and couldn't land or even set the hook, but then went out with his brothers. They used bait fish as attractants, and they caught 15-20 mahi mahi. He says they are excellent on the grill. Other fish caught were ladyfish, redbfish, and speckled trout, among others.

Jerry Vidergar has a friend who oversees the steelhead program on the Grande Ronde. He says they expect a record run up the Wallowa this year. The month of February should be exceptionally good.

Cliff Swanson said that Spring Valley has been very good this year. It was stocked last year with about 70,000 fish. It still has around a foot of ice.

Business:

The treasurer, Bruce Frazier, is accepting dues for this year. Remember that dues are on a new cycle and must be paid by the February meeting to stay on the membership roster and receive the newsletter.

The Alspach/Engerbretson Scholarship will be awarded at \$1000 again this year. Applications will be accepted starting next month.

Setting a date for the Amber Lake Fishout was delayed until the February meeting so the state regulations could be consulted. The St. Joe Fishout will be July 9–11, the weekend after July 4, as usual.

Steve Bush announced the Kelly Creek Flycasters Expo and Banquet will be held Saturday, February 20, at the Quality Inn in Clarkston. Check-in starts at 8:30, classes run from 9am to 4pm, with the banquet, auction, and presentation scheduled for 5:30 to 9:30. Steve recommends getting banquet tickets ahead of time, as they are often sold out by that day. A handout was available with more information. (continued on p. 3)

Steve asked if anyone was interested in volunteering some time and expertise to help Boy Scouts earn merit badges. It would involve working with an individual or small group of scouts, and then signing off that they had done what was required. Members could work with either or both the Whitman and Latah county troops. It had been decided at the club board meeting to go ahead with this, depending on interest of the club members. A number of members indicated their willingness to help. Steve will be the point person.

Doug Young asked if the club was interested in having a speaker from Canada on fly fishing for salmon, expenses to be shared with the Kelly Creek club. After some discussion, it was generally agreed that we could afford a couple of such speakers a year.

The business meeting resumed after the break. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the club's registered agent with Washington State be changed from Denny Cartwright to Bruce Frazier, as Bruce is responsible for filing the required paperwork. It was also noted that the state requires the club to have a secretary, and it cannot be someone who also holds the president, vice-president, or treasurer office. Tom Weber nominated Lavon Frazier to be club secretary, a second was made, and a positive vote was recorded.

January Program:

Doug Baldwin introduced the Red Gold video. One of the people involved in making the video is a person he knows from Gonzaga. The video concerns the Pebble Mine, an open pit copper (primarily) and gold mine being proposed near Bristol Bay, AK. This is the largest known copper and gold resource in N America. A 15 square-mile open pit is being proposed, with an expected pay-off of over \$400 billion for the mining company. The video explored the impact on local people and the risk to salmon fisheries in the entire Bristol Bay watershed. The main point of controversy is the plan to impound large amounts of water and waste rock behind several earthen dams at the mine site. The proposal by Northern Dynasty Mining for water rights permits is still under consideration.

The club discussed sending a letter to our Washington and Idaho senators, but decided that letters from individual members would be more effective. Anyone wanting contact information should get in touch with Doug Baldwin or Mike Decker.

Bead Head Soft Hackle Pheasant Tail Nymph

(from Loren Williams: see the web site for detailed tying instructions) <http://www.flyguysoutfitting.com/beadheadsofthacklept.html>

Loren describes this as a variation of the Frank Sawyer/Al Troth "Pheasant Tail Nymph". His tutorial provides solutions to the issues involved in tying good bead-head nymphs.

This will be the fly featured at the CFC fly tying night on February 18 at The Moscow Fly Shop. Everyone welcome! See the club web-site for further details on these sessions: <http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com/fotm.htm>

Materials:

Hook: Mustad 80200, 80250, C49S or similar shrimp/caddis hook

Bead: Copper (Loren prefers Tungsten)

Weight: Fine lead wire to hold bead in place

Tail: Cock Pheasant Center Tail Fibers

Rib: Fine Copper Wire

Abdomen: Cock Pheasant Center Tail Fibers

Thorax: Peacock Herl

Hackle: Favorite Brown Soft Hackle (Dark Mottled Hen Back Shown)



Clearwater Fly Casters
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Clearwater Fly Casters

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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 Hour 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM and Program at 7:30 PM.