



# The Tippet

September, 2010

## Clearwater Fly Casters

[www.clearwaterflycasters.com](http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com)

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



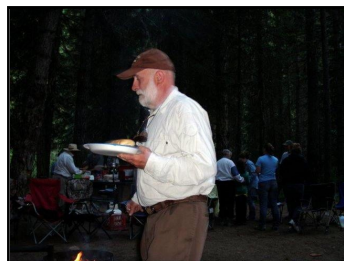
## Summer Fishouts: Amber Lake and Fly Flat on the St. Joe River

From all reports, the fishouts were a great success this summer. On May 12, a good number of members gathered at Amber Lake. It didn't sound like the fishing was all that hot, but everyone enjoyed the lunch and socializing. The weather cooperated too.



There was a big turn-out at Fly Flat campground on the Upper St. Joe. This time, the fishing was reported to be pretty decent, at least for some of the members. Here is a brief report by Don Johnstone: Can't even think of any good lies at this point. We had a great pot luck. I counted 35 people at one point and I think that a few more came later.

Dave and Marion arrived on Tues and we drove up on Wed. They saved us a great site just across from theirs. Dave Tharp cooked on Sunday. What a breakfast! He always does such great job with his BIG griddle. Cyndi and I rented the 28 foot motor home – fun. Emma loves it. She is a little adventurer. Dave and I floated two days. Very long floats.....1.4 miles first day and then an even longer float the next day of maybe 3 miles. Needless to say, we did not rush the runs. Yes, we did catch some nice fish. Oh, by the way Marion brought the gin this time – a 2 liter bottle. We did not starve nor did we run short on food or gin. The weather was great. Nights were cool of course.



## Calendar

**Sept 8: CFC Pot-Luck, Robinson Park Pavilion, Moscow, 5:30 PM (see page 3 for details)**

**Oct 13: CFC Meeting, Pat Micek, Fly Fishing Vancouver Island**

## 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**

## **Backcast to May Meeting**

**Guests:** Pat and Dan Rathmann, Stephanie Kane, Brian Shivane

### **Fishing Reports:**

Steve Bush said they had a great meal at the Amber Lake Fishout, especially the brownies and chocolate chip cookies. The Burgers and Flies was really good this year, with a great auction.

Doug Young said he used #20s at Amber, and that he broke off a couple. Bob Harwood has been on a trip to India and Bhutan. The king of Bhutan got interested in fishing and introduced Golden Trout. Bob visited an earth-filled dam on the Ganges system.

Kay and Lynn Youngblood fished the Owyhee in March for browns – also Rock Creek over in Montana, but the weather was too warm over there.

Dave Tharp said he hooked eleven and landed eight at Amber – on the weed beds using a large gray chironomid and a dry fly. He got skunked on The Joe at Huckleberry, although Sharon caught six. The next day he caught two, and Sharon again caught six. There is a report on The Joe above Avery, with the water high but clear – 2-7 p.m. seems to be the best time – there are Caddis, Stones and Mayflies hatching. Sharon reported that she hooked some big ones on the weed beds at the lake, but that by the time she reeled in there were only weeds on the line. She got into a really good fish recently at Coffee Pot.

**Announcements:** Mike Decker reminded the members that he still needs help with his company fishing day at Elk River.

Jim Palmersheim said that Shirley Engerbretson was going to move, and that she planned to have a sale for club members. There will be an e-mail notice sent out about it.

Paul Agidius reminded the members about the Fly Flat Fishout in July, as well as the FFF Conclave in August.

Stephanie Kane is doing an oral histories project at UI on the Kootenai River prior to the dam. In particular, she is looking for information on where the sturgeon spawned.

Doug Young has received communications from the Kelly Creek Fly Casters that they would like to have some programs given by our members. Reid Miller has given a couple down there, and they would like to have other members come and make presentations.

Dave Tharp spoke up about the concept of generator-free campgrounds on the St. Joe River. He is looking for support for this idea.

### **May Speakers: Bryan Irwin and Gary Loomis, Coastal Conservation Association, “Common Sense Recovery for our Salmon and Steelhead”**

Bryan Irwin is the Executive Director for the Pacific Northwest for CCA (The Coastal Conservation Association). He gave the club members a brief introduction to CCA. It started in other parts of the US, and expanded to the Pacific Northwest three years ago by establishing a regional organization with Washington and Oregon sections. CCA is a fish advocacy organization, and they would like to have local chapters throughout our region. Bryan passed around a sign-up sheet to ascertain interest in membership. Then, he introduced Gary Loomis, who has been a leading force in this region for both rod building and resource conservation. Gary brought CCA to the Pacific Northwest, and they now have over 9000 members in this region.

Gary indicated that it was a real challenge to bring CCA to the Northwest, as it is a grass-roots organization at heart. Gary was told by CCA leaders that the people in the Pacific Northwest “don’t want to save their fish”. He has made it a personal vendetta to prove this statement incorrect.

CCA is now in 17 states, with over 100,000 members. Before CCA, the Florida folks told Gary there were no Snook left to be caught. After CCA came to the rescue, you can catch one in five minutes from any bridge. What is needed to have political clout is first and foremost large numbers of members. Then, you have to be organized. Robert Hayes is the CCA General Council, and they have lobbyists in DC, as well as in the states. There are now 15 chapters in Washington, and the organization has grown at light-speed in the Northwest. There are lobbyists in both the Washington and Oregon capitals. CCA will be the organization with the greatest clout on fish matters in this region.

There are four issues related to survival of our steelhead and salmon: hatcheries, habitat, hydro and harvest. Gary says the problem is "harvest" – over-harvest and non-selective harvest. Between 45% and 85% of fish caught each year in the ocean. We have to get the wild fish back into the streams. The impact of gill nets is small fish as the brood pool, as the larger fish are killed. There are lots of ghost nets, nets left unattended in the waters. These nets kill one-third of the total resource of the Puget Sound fish. Enforcement is a real problem. These ghost nets are coming out now, but new ones are going in at the same time. Most of the Washington and Oregon fish are caught in SE Alaska, and large numbers are caught off the west coast of Vancouver Island.

A good deal of research has been done by the University of Washington. Our steelhead go out to all parts of the Pacific. The high sea drift nets got our steelhead. Are they now gone? Without changes, our oceans are un-recoverable! Gary has seen recovery work in small streams, with simple changes like small culvert replacements.

For a \$25 membership, you can join CCA and make a difference for the survival of our steelhead and salmon. You can join on-line at [www.ccapnw.org](http://www.ccapnw.org).

## CFC BBQ - Sept 8 - Robinson Park

Our annual club BBQ has been set for 5:30 p.m. at the Robinson Park Pavilion, NE of Moscow. If you plan to attend, please e-mail Paul Agidius ([pagidius@moscow.com](mailto:pagidius@moscow.com)) and give him the number of attendees for your family. From East-side Mall go 1.8 mi on ID-8 (Troy Hwy), turn L on Mill Rd for 1.4 mi, turn R on Robinson Park Rd for 2.0 mi, turn R to stay on Robinson Park Rd for 0.2 mi, turn L and destination will be on the right at 466 ft. Remember, this is a pot luck dinner, so bring a mains, salad or dessert to share - bring your own service, drinks and chairs.

## Bow River Bugger by Al Grombacher

<http://globalflyfisher.com/patterns/bowriver/>

**Tail:** Black Marabou w/ blue Krystal Flash on sides.

**Body:** Olive Chenille

**Rib:** Copper Wire

**Palmered Hackle:** Black Saddle

**Head:** Muddler style head of deer, elk, or bighorn sheep

**Collar:** Hair tips left untrimmed

**Weight:** 20 to 25 wraps of lead or lead substitute wire

**Hook:** Varies, but normally Mustad 39841 or 79580, #2-#8



Al's notes: The Bow River Bugger is heavily weighted and fishes best along the bottom of the river. I use three basic rigs to keep my BRB along the bottom of the rivers as I fish it. My most common rig is a floating line with a 9 to 10 foot leader in 1X or 2X. In fast water, I'll place some split shot 8 to 10 inches above the BRB. In deep water situations, I'll break out my Teeny 300 with a 4 foot leader. The Teeny 300 rig works well in the fast deep sections of the BOW and in several Frenchman's Creeks. The BRB is also a great night fishing fly, as it pushes a lot of water with its muddler head.

Clearwater Fly Casters  
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*September, 2010*

## Clearwater Fly Casters Officers 2010

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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.