

# The Tippet January, 2016

# Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



# January Program:-Brett Bowersox, Fishery Staff Biologist, IDFG

# **Presentation:**

'Idaho's Steelhead: What We Know and What We Are Learning'



Brett's presentation will provide background information on steelhead and also tackle some of the questions we often receive from anglers regarding Idaho steelhead. He will discuss what we know about steelhead life history in Idaho. How old are they and how big do they get in certain drainages. What is an a-run and what

is a b-run and what are some of the interesting trends we are observing in these populations.

Brett is currently working as a Fishery Staff Biologist in the Clearwater Region with IDFG. He is focused on wild salmon and steelhead monitoring and management in the Clearwater, lower Salmon, and Hell's Canyon Reach of the Snake River. Brett loves catching steelhead almost as much as studying them.

# Presidents' Message



# (Joy Lunsford)

Hard to believe it, but yep, it's 2016! A brand new Year! I'm looking forward to a year of great programs, productive meetings, and most important of all - fabulous fly fishing!

In order to make this happen, I'm asking for your help and participation such as helping the program chair (this is a HUGE job), participation in board meetings, greeting guests and more.

Looking forward to seeing all of you on January 13 at the Best Western.

#### **CFC Calendar**

<u>Jan 13</u>, CFC Club Meeting, Univ Best Western, Moscow

<u>Jan 20</u>: Fly Tying, 6:30 pm, Moscow Title, Moscow, ID

May 7: Amber Lake outing

July 16: St Joe Fish-out

Additional events at: www.clearwaterflycasters.com

#### **Information**

The Tippet is available as a PDF file on our web site: www.clearwaterflycasters.com

Please submit information to the Newsletter Editor.

Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed, University Best Western Inn, Moscow, ID

Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 pm

**Buffet Dinner \$16, Students** 

\$8: 6:30 pm

Program: 7:30 pm

# **Shooting Line:**



The 2016 Fly Fishing Film Tour is coming to Moscow, ID and the showing will benefit the Casting for Recovery Northern Idaho/Eastern Washington Chapter. All proceeds from movie ticket and raffle ticket sales will go directly to CFR and will help host their 2016 retreat for women battling or recovering from breast cancer. This is a great opportunity to support a group seeking to enrich the lives of women with breast cancer. There will be beer served by Paradise Creek Brewery of Pullman and awesome raffle prizes from Patagonia, Echo, TFO and a free 3 month subscription to Post Fly Box just to name a few. Purchasers of movie tickets need not be present to win raffle items.

As a River Helper for the CFR's 2015 retreat, Backcountry Lark owner Tonda Lark was inspired by the group's work with breast cancer survivors. After helping one of the participants catch the first fish of the day, he wanted to do more, hence backcountry Lark is sponsoring this showing. Hope to see you there!



**Location**: Kenworthy Performing Arts Center, Moscow Idaho **Date & Time**: Feb 8: Doors open @ 6pm Movie starts at 7pm.

#### **Forward Cast:**

Cross Border Chapter - A new chapter of Trout Unlimited - is forming in the greater Lewiston-Clarkston-Moscow-Pullman Region. The chapter will consist of Trout Unlimited members from Washington and Idaho. The organizational meeting will be Jan 23, 6-9 pm at the 1912 Building, Moscow. The primary business will be to organize a new chapter (name, leadership, and bylaws). The movie Wild Reverence, the Wild Steelhead's Last Stand will be shown and there will be a raffle. Food and beer and wine will be served.

Please contact Michael Wells with any questions/inquiries at 208-315-3406 or <a href="mailto:salmonblog@yahoo.com">salmonblog@yahoo.com</a>. Additional information available at <a href="http://lowersnaketroutunlimited.weebly.com/">http://lowersnaketroutunlimited.weebly.com/</a>

**CFC Bylaws require that club officers shall be elected by the general membership at a general meeting.** Members will have the opportunity to vote for officers at the January meeting. The slate of CFC officers submitted by the Executive Board is:

President: Joy Lunsford
Vice President: open
position

Past President: Joe Vaughan
Treasurer: Lynn Youngblood
Secretary: Kay Youngblood

#### **Important Dates and Events:**

**Jan 13**: Clearwater Fly Casters Meeting. Bring a friend! Bring a student! Joy Lunsford our new president will preside

Jan 23: Organizational meeting for Cross Border chapter of Trout Unlimited, 6-9 pm, 1912 Building, Moscow

**Feb 8**: Fly fishing film, Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre, Moscow, proceeds donated to Casting for Recovery

March 18-19: North Idaho Fly Fishing Expo (NIFFE), Clearwater River Casino and Event Center, Lewiston.

April 22: Annual Wild Game Feed, American Fisheries Society - Palouse Unit, 1912 Building, Moscow

April 29-30: 2016 WA Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA

May 7: Amber Lake outing

May 13-14: The Western Rocky Mountain Council of FFF Expo, Best Western, Coeur d'Alene, ID

July 16: St Joe fish-out

#### **Back Cast:**

## Clearwater Fly Casters Club Meeting December 9, 2015

**President** Joe Vaughan presided at the Clearwater Fly Casters meeting. **Guests:** Michael Wells, moved from McCall to Lewiston; speaker Jim Cox, Portland, OR; Bob Boyajin, Fresno, CA (Bob Greenburg's cousin); Mark Hegg, Palouse; Bob Barry, Palouse; Karen Evans, Moscow; Rod Brian, LaCrosse; and Amy Trujillo, Moscow.

#### **Fishing reports:**

- 1. Dave Yonge was steelheading on the Grand Ronde Sunday and caught 2 hatchery fish. Dave is learning the fine art of fishing with a wading staff while not getting impaled.
- 2. Jim Palmersheim has been fishing with good results
- 3. Bob Buvel, even with ice on, caught a wild steelhead.
- 4. Bob Greenburg caught a steelhead on the swing in the Clearwater.

# Committee Reports:

- **Membership:** Paul Agidius reminded all that memberships must be current or paid before the rod raffle drawing. Regarding the Buddy List: Friends Fishing with Friends, will be distributed via paper not digital or via email. Your initial is required to take a list.
- **Treasurer:** Lynn Youngblood reported General Fund is \$3,400 and Scholarship Fund is \$6,000 thanks in part to check of \$973 from recent Fly Fishing Film Tour sponsored by White Pine Gear Exchange, Hyperspud Sports and Rise Experience Collective. He also announced that 2016 calendars are now available for \$10 each.
- **Nominating:** Officers rotate at the new year. Holding an office is a great way to learn more about CFC, the membership and the many things CFC participates in local, regional and national events and organizations. Seeking a member for the Office of the Vice President.
- **Scholarship:** Cliff Swanson has posted the scholarships on our website. Cliff has corresponded with the professors of students that apply. February 6 is the scholarship due date. Scholarship applications will be posted on the website for members to review. Last year, 3 scholarships were presented due to outstanding applications. In previous years, generally one scholarship or perhaps 2 were given.
- **FFF:** Steve Bush said this is the time of year that fly fishing clubs pay their FFF dues. Nine CFC members are FFF members. Everyone is encouraged to become a FFF member. The WA council of FFF is sponsoring their Expo in Ellensburg, on April 29-30. The Western Rocky Mountain Council, including the states of ID, MT, UT, ND and SD, has been dormant. They are awaking and sponsoring their Expo in Coeur d'Alene on 13-14 May 2016. Peg Kingery, CFC member, is Secretary of their Board.



#### **Announcements:**

**Casting for Recovery:** Peg Kingery reported that CFR earned \$1,500 with the assistance of North 40 in Lewiston during the recent Steelhead Derby. Tonda Lark and Charlene Douglas have teamed for a Fly Fishing Film to be held on February 8th with proceeds to be given to Casting for Recovery.

**NIFFE** is March 18-19 in Lewiston. Hillary Hutchinson, fly fishing guide on television, will be in attendance. Her sister Whitney is the Executive Director for Casting for Recovery.



**Trout Unlimited** member, Michael Wells, recently moved from McCall to Lewiston. He is organizing the Cross Border Chapter for TU. January 23 is an organizational meeting at the 1912 Center.

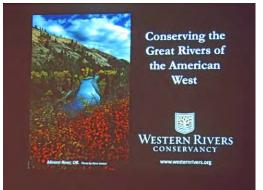
Reminder to **purchase raffle tickets**; 6 for \$5.00. The raffle ticket drawing for a fly rod will be held at this meeting. Make sure you dues are paid so you can be eligible to win the rod!

#### Raffle

The grand finale to the meeting was the drawing for a 'fly rod' or equivalent cash. Everyone who bought a raffle ticket in 2015 was eligible to win. Current membership was also required. The winner did not need to be present. The grand winner was Steve Busch (**congratulations!**).

## **Program Notes:**

## 'To Save a River You Have to Buy It'



Jim Cox, Director of Donor Relations with Western Rivers Conservancy, presented revealing information about how and why WRC saves rivers for public use such as fishing, hunting, rafting, hiking, bird watching and other activities on western rivers. Jim explained that the WRC motto of "Sometimes to Save a River, You Have to Buy It." is accurate. The mission of WRC is the protection of outstanding water systems. They do this by acquiring land from entities such as ranchers, lumber companies and water companies.

Western Rivers Conservancy temporarily "holds" the land, eventually conveying it to BLM, the Forest Service, land trusts, native tribes or as a State Park among their varied options. WRC locates the best

potential steward of the land they are restoring, protecting and conserving.

Jim showed an overview map of western states with river locations that are currently involved and slated for future involvement with WRC. He said that rivers should act as "natural" rivers. Catherine Creek, a tributary to the Grand Ronde, was rechanneled and made straight for agricultural purposes. NASA photos still show the original river location. This river will be restored to its original location.

Many of the rivers that are being restored and conserved are rivers that are vital tributaries to rivers that in many cases, are the largest undammed free flowing rivers in their particular states. The John Day River in Oregon is the second longest free flowing river in the United States. Portions of this river are under the current umbrella of WRC.

As Director of Donor Relations, Jim explained that WRC works with money from foundations, individuals and family donations such as wills. Exploring creative financial options is important too; such as keeping forests intact near rivers in exchange for corporate carbon sequestration.



Jim's presentation, both visual and verbal, was intriguing, interesting and left us wishing we had more time to see and hear more! To learn more, check www.westernrivers.org.

# Fly of the Month: Spent Wing Caddis

From the IFFF website, <a href="http://fedflyfishers.org/Tying/FlyoftheMonth.aspx">http://fedflyfishers.org/Tying/FlyoftheMonth.aspx</a>

Hook: Mustad R50, size 16 Thread: Brown, 16/0 Rib: Monothread yellow Body: Goose biot, tan Wing: CDC, brown

Thorax: Fly Right or Scintilla, brown

Oh No not another caddis pattern!!!! Yes, and there are good reasons for it. Caddisflies are among the most abundant of insects with about 7,000 species worldwide (1,200 species in North America).



They can tolerate water that is not pristine, and fish like to eat them. Sizes range from micro-caddis 1/8th-inch long to monsters 1-1/2 inches long. Fortunately the angler doesn't have to imitate all of them. There are a lot of browns, tans and olives, with a few other colors. They all have about the same shape. Depending on the species and water they will hatch from April to November and from early morning to late evening. In many waters the evening time is the most exciting. Clouds of caddis might be seen hovering over fence posts, bushes, or animals. They look like smoke over the bush or post. One evening when fishing the Missouri River in Montana the light suddenly became noticeably dimmer. I think that I became a handy place for the caddis to hover. When they drop to the water the fish get interested, and a properly drifted fly will also interest fish.

This pattern was tied by Koichi Kawai from the Hatch Finders Flyshop in Livingston, Montana. Koichi was one of over a hundred demonstration fly tiers at the 2006 FFF Conclave and Show in Bozeman, MT. It is a pattern that works great on many streams around Livingston. Spent is in the name of the pattern so it is intended to look and act like a caddis that has fallen into the water. If the fish follow the normal rules they want a drag free float. Short casts with a floating line let you control the line better. Even as the line is in the air you can mend it with a reach cast to give you a longer float. After the line is on the water give it a quick flip with the wrist to remove any belly that forms. If the fish don't hit a drag free fly, jiggle it a little.

**Clearwater Fly Casters PO Box 394** Pullman, WA 99163

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# Clearwater Fly Casters Officers & Committee Chairs 2016

President Joy Lunsford joyelunsford@gmail.com

Vice President open position

Past President Joe Vaughan josephvaughan9@gmail.com keavlvnn4341@gmail.com Treasurer Lynn Youngblood Secretary Kay Youngblood keaylynn4341@gmail.com

FFF Representative Steve Bush moscowtitle@moscow.com (208-882-4564) dougbaldwin83@gmail.com (509-334-1630) Conservation Chair Doug Baldwin

Membership Chair Paul Agidius pagidius@moscow.com fw49mever@gmail.com **Program Chairs** Fred Mever joyelunsford@gmail.com Joy Lunsford

Newsletter Editor Roger Willemsen rw.willemsen@gmail.com clswan12@gmail.com Webmaster Cliff Swanson

#### **Membership and Monthly Meeting:**

CFC membership dues are \$25/yr for individuals, \$35/yr for families, \$10/yr for students, \$50/yr sustaining, \$300/lifetime. Meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.