

Clearwater Flycasters



P.O. Box 2149 c.s. Pullman WA 99165



The Clearwater Fly Casters started in 1970 with a nucleus of 15 members. Today, over 30 years later, membership has grown to nearly 100 members. The Clearwater Fly Casters is an informal open group that meets monthly during September through May. Membership is open to all. Monthly meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month and consist of a wet fly hour, dinner and a speaker of interest to club members, generally covering a topic related to fly fishing or other fly fishing related conservation issue. Monthly board meetings are open to all club members. During the summer months of June, July and August monthly club meetings are replaced with several outings to various lakes and rivers in the region and an annual BBQ. Club members enjoy fly-fishing for steelhead on the Clearwater and Snake Rivers, as well as browns, rainbows and wild cutthroat in both desert lakes of eastern Washington and mountain streams of Idaho.

The Club has been affiliated with the Federation of Fly Fishers since 1970 and has always been involved with various conservation issues regionally and on the national level. Fund raising for various club activities is achieved through a biennial auction and a nominal membership fee. The club established the Bill Alspach Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of one of its past members and awards a small scholarship on a yearly basis. The club also produces a monthly newsletter, the 'Tippet' that covers topics ranging from fly tying to hot conservation issues.

2006 Officers

President	Tim Cavileer	tcavi@uidaho.edu
Past President	Don Shearer	don@mail.wsu.edu
Vice-President	Glenn Woodhouse	gwoodhouse40@msn.com
Secretary-Treasurer	Shirley Engerbretson	sengerbr@moscow.com
Conservation Chair		
FFF Representative	Steve Bush	moscowtitle@turbonet.com
Newsletter	Glen Murray	glenmurray@moscow.com
Web Editor	Tim Cavileer	tcavi@uidaho.edu

Meetings

Monthly meetings, September through May

Clearwater Fly Casters represents fly fishers in the Pullman, WA / Moscow, ID area. From September to May, monthly meetings are held at the Best Western - University Inn in Moscow on the second Wednesday of the month. Meetings begin at 6:00 pm, with the "Wet Fly Hour" (no-host cocktails), followed by dinner at 7:00 pm. The formal program, dealing with some aspect of angling or fly tying techniques, fishing destinations, or conservation issues, begins at approximately 8:00 pm.

The Wet Fly Hour is particularly useful for anyone interested in learning more about fishing such areas as the lakes in the Columbia Basin and the Spokane area, rivers such as the St. Joe, Kelly Creek, the Lochsa, the Selway, the Clearwater, the Grand Ronde, and the Snake. However, potential guests should remember that in such situations, the actual fishing experience and what is described at the meeting may have relatively little in common. Also, anyone seeking specific advice about the best places to catch steelhead will probably discover that most anglers' memories fade at the most crucial points.

Board and Conservation Meetings

The **Board** and the **Conservation Committee** meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m., just prior to the general meeting.

Fly Tying Night

A dedicated core group of club members and friends meet once a month during the winter to tie flies. The evening is non-structured and all levels of experience are welcome. Bring your own vise, pull up a chair and pick up a few tips and patterns from fellow fly fishers. It's a great chance to brush up on those tying skills and stock up your fly boxes for the next season! Check the club web site for times and location.

The Tippet Newsletter

The club produces a monthly newsletter for distribution to members. Fly fishing, fly tying and other articles of interest are included. Current and past issues can be found on the club web site at <http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com>. Articles, book reviews and fishing trip reports from members are always welcome. Submissions of your favorite flies are encouraged along with a sample (to photograph), tying instructions and fishing techniques. While not necessary, tying a half dozen of the featured flies for the next raffle helps.

Alspach-Engerbretson Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Bill Alspach and Dave Engerbretson Memorial Scholarship Fund was initially established in 1997 in honor of Clearwater Fly Caster members Bill Alspach. In 2004, it was modified to include longtime member Dave Engerbretson. The fund was created to provide scholarships to students engaged in fisheries research and management studies at UI or WSU. The executive/conservation committee is responsible for decisions regarding allocations of funds and for continued fund raising activities and for defining application and award guidelines. The scholarship is awarded annually in December each year or at the discretion of the Executive/Conservation committee. Award amount ranges from \$300 - \$500.

Any graduate student involved with fisheries research and management or natural resource management at WSU or UI can apply for the scholarship. Preference will be given to individuals who are involved with the conservation and restoration of wild fish, fisheries management, and/or stream and habitat restoration. The awardees will be asked to present a short 15-minute presentation on their current research project at the December meeting (2nd Wednesday) of the Clearwater Fly Casters. Each recipient is allowed to receive the award only once. There are no restrictions on use of the scholarship by the recipient.

Ben Collins – Steve Allured Award

Established in 1989, the Collins-Allured is given yearly in recognition of outstanding contributions to the activities of the Clearwater Fly Casters, conservation and the sport of fly-fishing.

Steve Allured grew up around Sandpoint, Idaho. He tied flies professionally for many years but eventually became a graphic artist at WSU. He was one of only two tiers I know of who had such wonderful eyesight and steady hands that he could tie a beautiful mosquito or royal coachman on a size 32 hook. Eventually he became interested also in scrimshaw carving and made some amazing pieces, like the bolo tie, which the club now owns. Steve created the first club patch and the Royal Coachman Fanwing logo as well as the certificates, which were presented to visiting speakers.

Ben Collins farmed a beautiful ranch near Kamiak Butte. His heart was as big as the Palouse. Ben was rather retiring, but he could be counted on to do anything and he made a fine president, when he was finally persuaded to take over. He also was a very fine fly fisherman with a remarkable knowledge of all the best fishing spots.

- Sherm Lowell, 1st Clearwater Fly Casters President

Past Winners:

1989 Sherm Lowell
1990 Dave Engerbretson and Chuck Frederickson
1991 George Johnson
1992 Marv Slind
1993 Andy Kleinhofs
1994 Bill Hoge
1995 George Hinman
1996 Denny Cartwright
1997 Leroy Hyatt
1998 Gene and Natalie Clark
1999 Dave Tharp
2000 Bill Hendrix
2001 *not awarded*
2002 Joe McGurkin
2003 not given
2004 John Read
2005 Jim Palmersheim and Bob Harwood
2006 Dave Yonge

Biennial Auction

Every two years the club holds an auction during the March meeting to raise general funds for various club activities including speakers, outings and the Alspach Memorial Scholarship Fund. Included in each auction is the famed Fishing Tree with the top bid reserved for the current president.

Library

The club owns several videos and books that it lends to members. While not extensive, the current library can be viewed and contents checked out during the monthly meeting.

Website

The club website can be found online at <http://www.clearwaterflycasters.com>. Listed on the site are the current and past newsletters, a general schedule of club activities and conservation efforts by the club. The club also maintains an email list that is used to announce various club activities.

Miscellaneous

From time to time the club has available to club members hats, patches and pins with the club name and logo. Check with the club secretary for details and prices.