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MEETINGS

General Meeting – 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 pm (6 pm Wet Fly hr.) Flying Pig Brewery
Board Meeting – 1st Thursday of the month, 7 pm (6 pm dinner) Petosa's Restaurant
Conservation Committee Meeting – 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 pm Village Restaurant

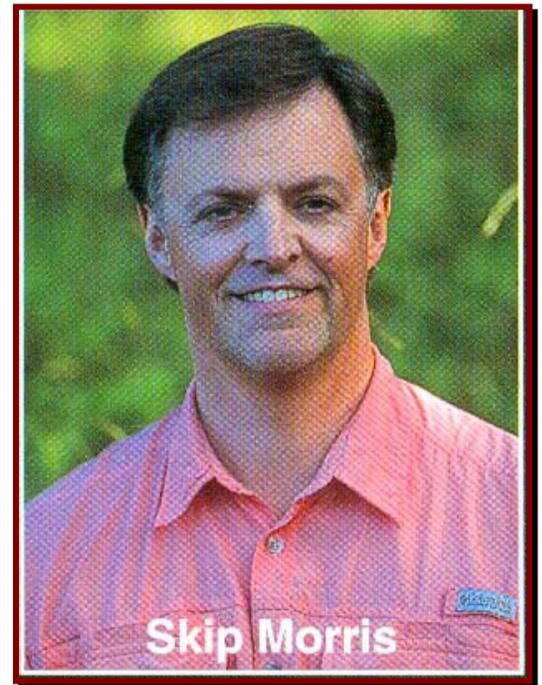
Meeting: April 24, 2007 @ Flying Pig Brewery
Wet Fly – 6:00 p.m. Meeting – 7:00 p.m.



Club Program By Mark Edson

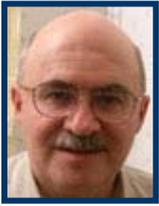
For our April club meeting, Skip Morris and his wife Carol will be coming over from the Olympic Peninsula to be at our meeting. Skip will present to us fishing the surface of a trout lake. He will also be tying flies before dinner, so get to club early this month so you can benefit from his experience. Skip is a professional fly fishing writer and the author of numerous books on the subjects of fly fishing and fly tying. He also writes regularly for numerous magazines in the industry. Skip & Carol will also bring a collection of his books and other items which will be available for sale before and after the meeting.

Our March speakers were the EFFC's own Mike Benbow and Gary Medema. Although I was unable to attend the meeting, I heard nothing but great reviews at the board meeting last week. I'd like to thank Mike and Gary, and all who stepped up in my absence to help with the PA system setup, projector, and screen.



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Fly Tying Contest By Joe Bernstein

The winner of last month's fly tying contest was Bruce Swanson. His damsel nymph edged out the competition, which was considerable. Congratulations Bruce!

The fly pattern for April is your favorite bloodworm pattern. There are countless numbers of patterns for this fly. The bloodworm is an imitation of the larval stage of the Chironomid midge. Regardless of which pattern you choose to tie, here are a couple of examples of what you are trying to imitate.



Recipe: Whatever you come up with! Here are some pictures to get you thinking.



President's Message By Eric Nordstrom

This past week I attended an association conference which had the theme "Sustainable Communities" for the panel discussions and speeches. Lots of business leaders, local, and state politicians attended including national congressional reps., the Governor, County Exec. and Everett Mayor. They graced us with their presence to talk about what they thought was going on as it relates to clean water, global warming, alternative energy, and transportation needs.

During all of this, I was reminded that our club plays an important role in a lot of the issues that were being talked about because of our educational and conservation efforts that have an impact with kids, communities, and ecosystems. I thought one speaker had a good point when he said that it definitely does matter that we make the right decisions with our professional lives, but we have the chance to make an even greater impact with our everyday choices to stay involved at the grassroots level by joining and supporting organizations that help to educate others and our future generations.

Our spring fishout is coming up next month on May 19th at Big Twin. WSDOT is working to clear SR 20 (North Cascades Hwy) by mid-May so hopefully we'll have a very scenic drive over without having to drive around the back way. Needless to say, this was a good snow year and apparently the snow is piled up as deep as 55' along some of the avalanche chute areas.

This next weekend (21st) our club will be represented at the WA State Council FFF's Fly Tying Expo. Carl and I will be attending a breakfast meeting with other club leaders to begin a dialogue that should help us learn from each other and share information.

At the last board meeting we began an effort to update the by-laws and reprint the club's operating manuals which have become out of date. We started with the membership section and will be reviewing/editing the other sections at upcoming meetings. Once a draft of the by-laws changes is complete we will publish it in the Swirl Tips and bring the proposed changes forward to you at one of the general meetings for comment and vote.

Look forward to seeing you all on the 24th ...keep those lines wet in the meantime.



Conservation By Jesse Scott

During the March club meeting there was a discussion regarding a recent decision to use Grass Carp in Lone Lake to control noxious weeds. An informal poll of members present showed that the majority opposed this action. Unfortunately, we don't have an opportunity to appeal this decision.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) twice denied the request to use Grass Carp in Lone Lake. WDFW only approved the current request with the agreement that the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) would monitor the lake for 3 years followed by an additional 2 years of monitoring by Island County. Essentially, the Lake is being used as a closely monitored test case regarding the use of Grass Carp.

We can play a very important role in this test because no one knows the impact of Grass Carp on resident fish. WDFW wants our input and intends to document the results for their future use. The Conservation committee will, with WDFW guidance, develop a form listing things to watch for and report. Your participation can add valuable data to help decision makers concerned with Grass Carp stocking in public lakes. Additional information concerning the use of Grass Carp is also available on the following website:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/plants/management/aqua024.html>

Youth Conservation Camp

Each year our club sends four children to a week long Youth Conservation Camp at Moran State Park in the San Juan Islands. Club members may nominate a child and the Conservation Committee makes the final selection. The only requirement is that the children must be between ages 12 and 16 years of age.

The girl's camp is scheduled for July 15-21, 2007 and the Boys camp is July 22-28, 2007. This year the

camp has a web site at <http://www.washingtonconservationcamp.org> which answers most questions and also has the required forms.

Just fill out the form and give it to Jesse Scott by May 15th. I'll also have the forms at the next two club meetings. Give me a call if you have questions (425) 745-6092 or "gardenfly@comcast.net"



Activities By Gary Medema

The spring outing will be held on the weekend of May 18-20th at Big Twin Lake Resort near Winthrop. Sign-up for Dinner can be done at the next general meeting or by sending a payment to me Gary Medema, at 4903 73rd Dr. N.E., Marysville WA 98270. Dinner will be \$12 per person. Dinner will be steak, salad, rolls, potatoes, baked beans & desert. The spring outing is usually one of the highlights of the year, so make every effort to try to attend. If the weather and the fish cooperate, this year should be great!!



Auction/Christmas Party By Mark Edson

In lieu of having chairmen for auction or Christmas party committees, our first planning meeting was held yesterday and chaired by our illustrious president. Although we'd love to have chairmen, we'd also love to have volunteers to help out with tasks. If you're interested in doing some of the long lead-time work that goes into these events and have a few extra hours and really like to do mailings, the committee would love to hear from you at or before the club meeting this month. We promise to keep your proclivity for stuffing envelopes a secret. Contact Mark Edson for details.

As the Elks Club is officially unavailable this year for the Auction, we are in the research phase of selecting a new venue. If you have any suggestions about a location, please contact Eric as quickly as possible so we can include it in the selection process.

If you plan on donating either a trip or other items to the auction please let Eric know at the club

meeting this month so we can start collecting that information. The club depends on your generosity to fund its conservation business and other egalitarian activities.



Fishing for Kids By Carlos Ditto

And here it is April again. Gee whiz, where does the time go? It seems just yesterday that I was fishing in my boat wishing that I had put on that extra sweater. Oh that's right, it was yesterday. Oh well.

Have you checked your calendar lately? That's right, next month is May and that means its time to help out with the **Fishing for Kid's Program** that the Everett Parks and Recreation puts on every year.

Please consider helping out again this year. Last year we were a little light in the help department and your participation would be greatly appreciated.

This year we are trying something a little different. I know that some of you would like to help but you have to work in the morning or afternoon. Others would like to help but do not think that they can last the entire day from 7:00 a.m. until about 4:30 p.m. And still others would like to be there for the entire day.

Guess what? This year the signup sheet takes that into consideration. You can sign up for half a day or the entire day. We will need help both on the fishing line as well as the fly tying bench.

Now here is something new. As you may recall, I wrote an article a couple of months ago and commented that Barry at the Everett Parks and Recreation Dept. has asked the Evergreen Fly Fishing Club to 'use' the fish on the previous Friday with some type of special event after they have been dumped into the holding pen.

As it turns out I have invited six young people who happen to be sight impaired to go fly fishing with us. Their group will supply an adult to keep them out of trouble but we need to have a fisherperson with each youth to teach them how to cast a fly and catch a fish.

Both of these events should be absolutely exciting and a special time that you will remember for years to come. I hope to see you there.

Remember that the dates are, Friday with the sight impaired, May 11th at 1:00 p.m., and Saturday with the regular Fishing for Kid's Program on May 12th starting at 7:00 a.m.

At both events I would wear some short-top rubber boots to keep your feet dry. Barry says that they are providing towels to wipe your hands on but I am bringing an extra one anyway. They come in handy.

I will also be bringing a folding chair to sit on between flights as it gets a little tiring standing all the time.

Be sure and dress for the weather just as you would if you are going fishing. You don't have to wear it all but it can be nice to have an extra layer or two along with a rain coat just in case.

I also bring along a set of forceps to help in the hook removal part of the program.

Remember, nothing feels quite as good as giving your time to someone who has a need that only you can fulfill.

See you at the lake!



Fly Tying-Then & Now By Reed Miller

The EFFC recently finished this year's fly tying classes. I really enjoy these classes, as I am with neat people and learn to tie innovative patterns and learn about some materials that do a great job. These materials are usually man-made, i.e. plastic, etc, which brings up a point; is a fly made of all synthetics a fly or a lure?

I remember back around 1950 or so, when I first got into fly fishing and fly tying. I read all the books in our little school library in Darrington and joined the Outdoor Life Book Club to buy more. In those days most fly fishing writers lived on the East Coast and fished such streams as the Neversink and the Beaverkill.

These books usually had a chapter or two about fly tying. These flies used all natural materials, and it seemed almost sacrilegious to even dye a feather. When nylon thread first came out, it met with more than a little scorn. "Real flies are tied with silk thread."

Anyway, I'm thankful we have stuff like antron, polypropylene, sparkle yarn, foam, etc.

Which brings up a question: If Al Knudson created his Yellow Spider in 2007, what would it look like?



The Grande Ronde Revisited By Jerry Larson

One evening a few years ago I was sitting at my camp on my favorite river where I had been fly fishing for summer run steelhead for a few weeks. I was fishing our greased line method with a floating line, a ten foot 8 lb. test leader, and a fly I call the Klickitat Special. This fly has a purple chenille body, a silver tinsel rib, a small black hackle, and a goat hair wing, red yarn tail tied on a size 6 hook.

I had been having good luck fishing, the weather was great, and everything was right. However, after dinner, while sitting at my camp my thoughts kept going back to the early 1970's and the Grande Ronde River. Around the first of October my fishing partner Dub Price and I drove to Lewiston, Idaho and rented a camping trailer and towed it up to the Ronde and we were all set for ten days or so of some great fly fishing using our dry lines and the greased line method for steelhead. We usually had company. In the next camp were Lou Bell, Bill Nelson, Dick Padovan, Dick Denman and others. In another nearby camp were a few guys from Sun Valley, Idaho. One of the guys was named Don Haines. When he saw me he always said "Lars, haunter of many rivers, how are you?" It didn't mean much but he knew I liked to hear that so he always said it to me. Well on with the story. My thoughts finally got the best of me so early the next morning I picked up camp and headed for the Grande Ronde.

The trip was about three hundred miles so by the time I got to the river I had less than an hour to fish. I walked to the river, waded out, and started to fish down the drift. About half way down, it must have

gotten a little deeper and all of a sudden that familiar feeling, a large leak in the crouch area. I waded to shore and headed back to my van with a wet crouch. I hung up my waders and my Dacron underwear, put on dry pants, and cooked my dinner. No harm done. I'd patch my waders after dinner.

After dinner I checked my waders out and saw the trouble. There was a hole in the crouch area. I had a tube of latex patching liquid, got it out, and went to work. I squeezed the tube and a big glob of white latex came out. I thought it would be clear. I saw another bad spot so I put some on it, then another and another. When I was done, the crouch area of my waders was dotted with a dozen or more white dots of latex. The white dots on the green waders really looked bad I thought. What the heck no one but me would see it so I went to bed.

I got up the next morning, made coffee, and having my last cup when I heard a very polite knock on my door. I looked out and standing was a very nice looking young man with a nice smile. He said, "Excuse me, but is your name Lars?"

I said, "Yes, that's me!"

Then he asked, "Are you the old guy that used to catch so many fish here a long time ago?"

I said, "I guess that could be me, but it didn't seem so long ago to me."

Then he asked, "Would you fish with me, so I can say I fished with Lars?"

I almost fainted, I was so flattered! I said, "Of course I will fish with you. Just a minute, and I will put on my waders, and we'll go after the fish." I went back inside the van and looked down at my waders, with all the white dots on the crouch, and they looked even worse than last night. I said, "I will be ready soon." I laid down on the floor on my van, and pulled on my waders. I had an idea. I took the scissors and cut my Dacron underwear off at the knees and pulled them up over my waders, to cover my speckled crouch. I stepped out of the van and got my vest, fly rod, and said, "Let's go after them!"

(Lars Continued on page -6-)

Evergreen Fly Fishing Club

PO Box 221
Everett, WA 98206

Lars (continued from page 5)

As I walked to the river my young friend asked me what rod, reel, and brand of leader I liked, and a few more questions. I showed him my flies and gave him a few. Everything was going well, but he kept looking at my cutoffs. I knew he was going to ask about them. Finally he asked, "Lars, why do you wear those cutoffs over your waders?" I was ready for that question.

I said, "Yes, I noticed you did not have cutoffs like me and that could be the reason you are not hooking any steelhead. You must remember the fish are lying below you and if they smell the rubber in your waders they won't bite. I wear these cutoffs to mask the rubber smell. This is one of my most guarded secrets."

He said, "I never thought of that. You really learn if you ask questions."

We had our fishing time together, he thanked me, we both had a great time and my cutoff idea worked out fine and all was okay. Later in the afternoon I decided to drive up river to

fish. As I drove by a drift I looked out and there was my new friend with two of his fishing buddies. I looked close and all three were wearing cutoff Dacron underwear over their waders. I honked my horn and waved. Then I took a U-turn and headed down the river and went looking for another river to haunt.

