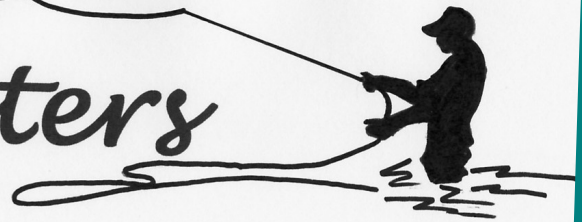




P.O. Box 734  
Weiser, Idaho 83672

# News Casters



## Officers

President-Bill Betts  
549-0686  
1st Vice Pres-Dave Stepp  
549-1468  
2nd Vice Pres-Mike Thomas  
549-2473  
Past President-Jim Gulu  
549-0796  
Secretary-Lynette Jones  
549-0430  
Treasurer-Mary Thompson  
608-0067

## Board Members

Roy Davis 642-2366  
Mark Sands 549-2545  
Nando Mauldin 549-2883  
Dick Garrett 549-1311  
Bob Maki 642-6971  
Frank Thomas 549-0237

Meetings are held the 2nd  
Tuesday of each month at Idaho  
Pizza, 1255 State Street,  
Weiser. Fly tying at 6 pm,

## Committees

**Outings:** Rod Jones, Al Sillonis,  
Bob Maki

**Library:** Rod Jones, Dick Garrett,  
Annie Steppe

**Fund Raising:** Lynette Jones, Sara  
Gulu, Annie Steppe, Mary Thomp-  
son

**Membership:** Dave Steppe,  
Bob Maki

**Conservation:** Mark Sands,  
Nando Mauldin

**Budget:** Mary Thompson, Lynette  
Jones

**Publicity:** Mike & Diana Thomas

**Newsletter:** Perry & Sally Kelley,  
Mary Thompson, Dick Garrett

**Education:** Marv Orwig, Mike  
Thomas, Frank Thomas, Bill Betts,  
Jim Gulu, Perry Kelley

**Youth Activities:** Mike & Frank  
Thomas, Mark Sands, Ken Gissell

**Historian:** Suzanne Orwig

March 2010

## President's Message by Bill Betts

These last few days of sunshine have caused me to make two trips to Mann Creek Reservoir to check on the ice. Still covered, but the upper end is showing about a hundred feet of water. If trout are most active between 50 and 60 degrees, then we have a long ways to go. I do see that the pond gets continuous action. Anyway, this is the time of the year to be thinking and preparing for those lazy days of summer. One might go so far as to clean the lines, clean the reels if you did not do this before putting them away for the winter and even toss that leader. Year old leader is a heartbreak waiting to happen. Why pay all that money for a reel, rod, and several lines; and then skimp on tippet and leader material which is the cheapest part of your setup, but the most important part! I am such a cheap-skate that it is going to kill me to do this, but common sense tells me to dump last year's leader.

The program for March 9 is Charlie Bagley, website designer for fly fishing and fly shops. His program is on the leading edge in fly fishing equipment and design.

Perry Kelley, Jim Gulu, Tony Booth-

man and I attended the two-day Jack Dennis Fly Fishing Road Show in Boise on Valentine's Day weekend. The seminars ran from 9 in the morning to 6 in the evening and were packed with great information and entertainment. We even walked out with all kinds of free DVD's. I think we all agreed it was the best \$40 we had spent. We sure walked away with a ton of information about Euro Nymphing and Stillwater fishing techniques. Perry even learned some new techniques for fly tying. Needless to say, I learned a lot of new techniques, but I marvel that there is still something that Perry could learn. We are excited about sharing some of what we learned, but would really like to field test some of these new theories—SOON!

We met Pete Erickson, a member of the U.S. Fly Fishing Team and Boise East Junior High teacher. He has mastered the Euro Nymphing technique and is willing to hold a workshop for our members—a hands-on workshop on the Weiser River. We need to assess the membership's interest and negotiate a price with Pete.

(Continued on page 3)

# Good Stuff



## Coming Events

You might wish to mark these events on your calendar:

April 2 and 3--6th Annual Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo hosted by the Boise Valley Fly Fishers (BVFF) and the Western Rocky Mountain Council (WRMC) of the Federation of Fly Fishers. See <http://www.bvff.com/>

April 16 and 17—East Idaho Fly Tying Expo hosted by the Snake River Cutthroats club of Idaho Falls. See <http://www.srcexpo.com/>

April 24—we sponsor the Owyhee River Clean-Up. Be at the Wildlife Viewing area at 9 AM for assignments and donuts and coffee.

May 1—fly casting clinic at the Weiser Community Pond. TBA

May 15—we host the Wooly Buggers of Boise at the Weiser Community Pond. TBA

## Tying Tips

To make beautiful outstanding mohair leeches, dip completed fly into a cup of boiling water from a teakettle or microwave oven for a few seconds. Remove, comb mohair toward back of fly, and place on paper towel.

For tapered body on a nymph, flatten tip of lead wire. Starting from back of shank, wrap, cut wire, taper tip to the front.

## Summary of the Sillonis 2009 Fishing Report

For those who missed the January meeting I have summarized Al's 2009 Fishing Report. Both Idaho and Oregon fish biologists were in attendance. They should be pleased that their efforts are so well appreciated by Al.

Al fished 100 days and was skunked on 13 of those days. Best day was at the Owyhee Reservoir when he caught 140 fish. Biggest fish was a 19½ pound carp caught on a fly at Oxbow Reservoir. Biggest rainbow was caught on a fly at Unity Reservoir. The most fish he caught on a fly rod in one day was 93. These were crappie caught from the bank at Brownlee Reservoir. He fished 19 locations and caught 16 species. He caught 1524 fish on jigs, 520 on flies and 461 on bait. He caught fish in every month but February, catching the most in May and June.

Ed. Note: Al is not only an avid fisherman but a record keeper *extraordinaire!*



**(President's Message continued from front page)**

The good news is that Pete, Phil Rowley (<http://www.flycraftangling.com/>) (refer to his blog) and Jeff Currier (<http://flyfishingbum.blogspot.com/>) were excited about their weekend in Boise and are making plans to return in 2011. I hope that you can all make arrangements to attend. I guarantee that you will learn some very useful information that should increase your "luck".

We welcomed two new members at our February meeting: Marshall White and Chris Hansen. Great to have you on board!

Our guests at the meeting were Dave Henderson, Tom and Cindy Dyer, Cherry Hatfield, Cliff Walker, Frank Brown and Dan Struble. Members in attendance made them feel welcome. Thanks. I hope they will join. David McPheters joined us at the fly tying session. If you know of someone interested in fly fishing, encourage them to attend a meeting or come to a fly tying class.

Speaking of tying, the last lesson on spinning hair went very well with twelve in attendance plus the teacher--Perry. The flies that Perry and Ray Perkins have tied are beautiful. The mixed colors are stunning. The next session will feature a fly that we learned at the Jack Dennis Road Show. Phil Rowley taught us to tie a "balanced" leech. Perry will teach the technique. Many different patterns can be tied using this balancing technique. This concept needs field testing (like really SOON!), but theoretically it looks like a sure fish catcher. technique. This concept needs field testing (like really SOON!), but theoretically it looks like a sure fish catcher.

I recently spoke to Mary. They had poor luck fishing for stripers at Lake Havasu. Mark caught one and the others fishing with spinning rigs were not having good luck, either. Mary worked on her sun tan. They have bypassed Alamo Lake for now after the lake raised 17 feet after a recent hard rain. They are now at Lake Martinez north of Yuma where Mark has caught a few bass, a channel catfish (5 lbs) and some blue gill. Mary is getting her nails and hair done tomorrow before hitting the lake on Thursday. The weather has been cold and rainy, but temperatures are predicted in the 80's by the end of the week. (This was written on 2/22/2010) Go, Thompsons. Make us Proud!

Hurry, Sun. Do your thing!

## Membership Dues

**Past Due:** Travis Curry, Larry Parks, Grant Baugh, Jim Mosier, Frank Puccio, Don & Deana Roark, Mike and Diana Thomas

**Due in March:** Jack Finley, Herb Haun, Rod & Lynette Jones, Perry & Sally Kelley, Bob & Karen Maki, Nando and Roberta Mauldin, Marv & Suzanne Orwig, Pay Perkins, Mark Sands

**Thanks for your continued support!**



## Dubbing: The Final Word

by Perry Kelley

Just when you thought that the dubbing horse had been run to complete exhaustion, here comes more. Well actually, this is not another column dedicated to dubbing techniques. We will not cover intricate topics such as blending Kool-aid vinegar dyed laundry and belly button lint or the microwave techniques used to remove pests and dander from pet fur from the vacuum bag (Marvin's Methods). This is more of a list of tips covering several areas of fly tying, fly fishing and the creative fabrication and preservation of the reputation of the participants in our endeavors that may or may not be useful to you. Here goes!

**Blending** You have a choice: hand blend, wet blend or coffee bean blender blends. Hand blending is simply getting a small amount of dubbing and blending two or more into one. Place both dubbings in one hand and pull small amounts of both together at the same time. Repeat until both dubbings are blended.

The wet blend method is more involved but very effective. Using a quart Mason jar, fill jar half full with warm water. Next put in a couple of drops of dishwasher detergent, then add the dubbings to be blended. Important! Keep records of dubbings used and the amounts. If you get successes with your dubbing combinations and wish to market it to make your millions, the exact formula is very helpful. To blend, vigorously shake the bottle using appropriate hip and shoulder movements. This is best done to any of the rumba recordings of Xavier Cugat. Shake for 45 minutes (the length in time of the Cugat album) or when total exhaustion sets in. When complete, pour water and dubbing into a sieve and rinse with clean water. Squeeze out excess water and blot with paper towels. Place on paper towel and let dry. This process sometimes can be more effective when you have a partner. If you really master your techniques, you may qualify as a contestant in *Danc-*

*ing with the Stars.*

The coffee bean blender method is the fastest and perhaps the best method to blend dubbings. Place small amounts of dubbing into a coffee bean blender and pulse. Do not blend for more than a few seconds without stopping. Check often to see if the mixing of the materials is complete.

**Dubbing loops** I recently was exposed to a variation of working with the dubbing loop. One problem with loops formed in the middle of the hook shank is that when you wrap it back towards the tail of the fly, you apply more dubbing than you want and it is difficult to get the right proportions for the fly body. To solve this problem, form the loop in the middle of the shank then bring it up over the shank and angle it towards the tail of the fly. Wrap the loop down to the top of the shank to the tail point (where you wish to begin the dubbing) and bring the loop in the normal position below the shank. You then will bring the tying thread to the place you wish to end the dubbing. The thread will aid you in locating the front of the dubbed body. Place dubbing in loop and slide up to top (beginning point of the dubbing). Keep pressure on loop to keep from opening the loop and losing dubbing. After placing the first piece of dubbing in loop insert the rest at the bottom of the loop maintaining tension. You will not lose dubbing and will be able to control the shape of the loop by sliding each piece up. Most applications of dubbing in a loop do not require wax. Without wax you will be able to better adjust the shape and amount of dubbing.

**Dubbing loop tools** In our dubbing fly tying session, several of you asked about the Dubbing Whirl tool. If you can not find one in any of our local fly shops, you can order one from Feather-Craft Fly Fishing out of St. Louis. They have two choices: catalogue number RF007 (\$6.95) Feather-Craft model or RD010 (\$14.95) made by DYNA-KING.

Feather-Craft has a toll free order number 1-800-659-1707. Note: Always support our local fly shops. The service and knowledge of the shops is the fly fisherman's biggest asset.

**Changing reels** One of my life changing (for the worse) nightmare-type fears in fly fishing is having things go wrong when changing reels or spools when float tubing or fishing from a pontoon boat. For years I have used the method of cutting off the fly, reeling in the line and leader and removing the reel or spool when changing lines. This method is quite simple until you have to thread the rod with the new line and leader. The stripping guide is no problem during the rethread process, but then as you work towards the tip you run out of space and have to dip the rod and reel into the water. Finally you are holding the rod by the tip (the most fragile part) and then you have to bring it back. Is that a recipe for disaster? Absolutely! Now for the new method. First have a loop connection on all of your lines and spare spools. Bring in the line to the loop connection. Give yourself some slack. Take a clothespin and secure the leader to the butt section of the rod and clip at the loop connection. Change the spool and tie leader to the new line loop connection using a clinch knot. You will only have to thread your rod once. I have to admit that I have yet to try this method, but if it works it will save a lot of time and a potential disaster by not having the rod in the water. I think that gluing foam to the clothespin would help secure the leader to the rod and not scratch the rod finish.

**Creative fabrication** Bearing false witness is something that neither I nor any of you should ever do. The guilt alone by any amount of exaggeration will cause you to hang your head in shame for the remainder of your time on earth. Now with that in mind, let me tell you of some guiltless methods.

1. For better balance and less stress on the fish, extend your arms when being photographed with the

lunker of your life. At closer distances the camera will somewhat exaggerate the proportions of the fish. The big flaw in this method is your hands will appear abnormally large. I have always been in awe of the fly fishing celebrities that can tie size 24 BWOs with baseball mitt size hands. Perhaps you could use the OJ method and wear smaller gloves. To repel the guilt using the extended arm method, simply grab from your bin of gloves a pair of your wife's or kids' gloves. Even if the gloves are pink and not what you normally wear, simply state your support in women's health issues when questioned.

2. Do not, I repeat, do not take any measuring device with you. You will thus have to estimate the length of the fish. To keep from fibbing, simply say that you estimated the fish to be 24 inches long. You would never have to allude to the accuracy of your estimation abilities. The process of playing and landing a large fish causes most of us to mass produce adrenaline and to raise your endorphin levels. In this state of euphoria it is totally natural to exaggerate.

3. Fish alone. Company seems to promote honesty.

Now to close this assortment of words, let me state that I have never had reason to doubt the honesty and integrity of any of the members of the Indianhead Fly Fishers. That said, we are, without dispute, some of the world's best fly





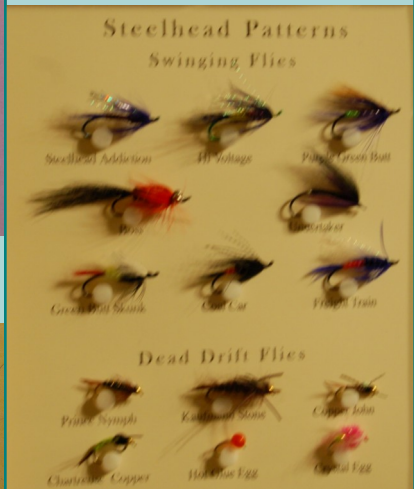
P.O. Box 734  
Weiser, Idaho 83672

Tied by Perry Kelley, 2010



Tied by Perry Kelley, 2010

### Steelhead Flies by Marv



#### Steelhead Patterns

##### Swinging Flies



##### Dead Drift Flies



Balanced Leech on a Mustad 32833BLN #8 tied by Perry Kelley



Tied by Perry Kelley, 2010



### Spun Hair Flies by Perry

Tied by Perry Kelley, 2010



Irresistible, tied by Perry Kelley, 2010



Tied by Perry Kelley, 2010



"A woman's place is in her home water. And for this woman, that means water without men. Or women. Just me and the fish."  
*Judy Muller*

## March 2010

**Mar 2 - IFF Board**  
7 pm Idaho Pizza

**Mar 9 - IFF Membership**  
6:00 Fly Tying  
7 pm Program

**Mar 16 - Fly Tying**  
7 pm Weiser Library

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 <b>IFF Board</b>	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 <b>IFF Membr</b>	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 <b>Fly Tying</b>	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			