



News Caster

November 2012



Officers

President: Mark Sands
549-2545

1st Vice Pres: Tom Dyer
257-4225

2nd Vice Pres: Open

Past President: Bob Maki
642-6971

Secretary: Lynette Jones
550-2264

Treasurer: Jim Gulu
549-0796

Board Members

Nando Mauldin	549-2883
Dave McPheeters	720-233-1905
Rod Jones	549-0430
Marv Orwig	484-6837
Ken Gissel	642-3944
Tom Dyer	257-4225

Committees

Budget: Jim Gulu, Lynette Jones

Conservation and Youth:
Mark Sands, Nando Mauldin,

Education: Perry Kelley,

Fund Raising: Lynette Jones,
Sarah Gulu

Historian: Suzanne Orwig

Library: Rod Jones, Ken Gissel,
Dick Garrett

Membership: Bill Betts plus
Board members

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

Outings: Al Sillonis plus Board
members

Programs: Tom Dyer

Publicity: Perry Kelley

Join in the Fun!

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Idaho Pizza, 17 W. Commercial St., Weiser.
Fly tying demo at 6 pm,
program at 7 pm.

President's Message by Mark Sands

Thanks to those of you who made October's meeting. Other than the glitch with my computer, I think everyone enjoyed listening and watching my presentation of my Alaskan fly fishing/bear adventures. If anyone is interested in more information about Grizzly Skins Outfitters please see me at the meeting.

November is a special month in the fact that it is an election month, but even beyond that it's special to fishermen because the methods we use during the summer have to change too due to the fact that as the day time temperatures begin falling, fish become less active. Since the fish are cold blooded their metabolism slows as the water cools and they feed very little and when they do feed they expend as little energy as possible.

Therefore, here are some helpful tips I researched on the internet if you are one of those few anglers that want to wade in the icy waters in pursuit of that "one" fish: fish are most active in the warmest part of the day (between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.) which is also the best time for nymphs to be out; fish are found in slower, deeper water than in the summer; the big hatches are over and best patterns are small (size 20-24) midges, blue-winged olives (on cloudy days), nymphs (pheasant tails, hares ear etc.); it's also important to fish on warmer days and pick locations where the water is warmer for example tail-water and spring creeks because the fish are more likely to be feeding.

I also know for a few of you, November is the month when the steelhead fishing really picks up. **Tom Dyer** reports that he caught so many fish below Hells Canyon Dam recently that he had to quit because his arm was sore. He figures he landed somewhere between 40-50 fish all from 14" and up. One word of caution is that Idaho Power will be closing traffic across the dam again on the 9th so, if you go, you have to cross the dam at 8:00 a.m. and can't get back across until 8:00 p.m.

Speaking of steelhead, our outing for November 17th will be hosted by Rod and Lynette Jones and will be a steelhead fishing adventure below Oxbow Dam. There will be a Sign-up at the meeting and a list of needed equipment.

As for our program at November's meeting will be presented by Marv Orwig and he will demonstrate how to build a fly rod. He will also talk about the upcoming fly rod building class in January and the approximate cost of the rod blank and other items you will need.

Don't forget fly tying classes on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Weiser Library.

Finally, we all need to "thank" **Dick Garrett** for putting together a great Newsletter and we hope you have a great time in the warmer climates...I'm jealous and we'll see you in the spring!

Best of luck with your fishing adventures...Fish on!

Mark

November Meeting Agenda

November 13, 2012

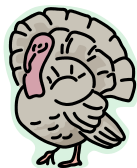
- 6:00 Fly tying-Jim Gulu—**Pheasant-tail nymph**
- 6:30 Library-video, Greeter, raffle ticket sales, sign-in, hat/visor sales, questions for Ask the Experts
- 7:00 Call meeting to order, welcome all and recognize any new comers
- New library additions—Rod Jones
 - November outing—Rod Jones, pass sign-up sheet for November Outing
- 7:15 Tom Dyer—introduce the Program/Marv Orwig
- 7:45 Questions for Ask the Experts
- 7:55 Visit about fishing trips:
- Kelly Creek trip—Jerry Bogue, Al Silonis, Mike Thomas, Jim Gulu
 - Ideas for future outings and programs.
- 8:10 Remind everyone about end of the year raffle for a fly rod built to your weight of choice by Marv Orwig
- 8:15 50/50 raffle
- 8:20 Talk about December meeting/Christmas Party
- Pizza and soda provided by the club
 - White elephant gift exchange
- 8:30 Adjourn

FYI

For the good of the Order: Some of the Indianhead FlyFishers have missed seeing some of our faithful members from the past. Even though we get some new members it is also important to ask why we have lost some of our members. **Don and Dena Roark** were very active in our club and when I saw them at Killions in Ontario I was surprised to find out that Don had kidney cancer and had a kidney removed in July and since has had other complications and is just now able to get out and about. They plan to become active again if and when things get better. JUST SO YOU KNOW!

Mike

Outing Details



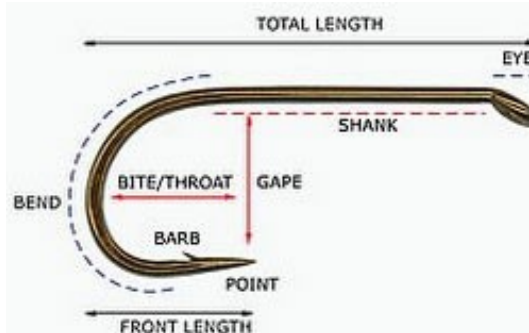
This month's outing will be below the Oxbow Dam spillway on **Saturday, November 17**. We will meet for breakfast at Bucky's Cafe in Cambridge at 7:30AM. Bring your kick boats, lunch, etc. and let's catch some Steelhead...See you then

Understanding the “X” Ratings of Hooks

by Perry

The nomenclature used to categorize fly tying hooks can, for both the novice and the experienced fly tyer, be confusing and baffling. For example, take the Daiichi 1160 Klinkhamer hook. The Feather-Kraft Fly Fishing catalogue states that this hook model is designed for caddis emergers: with curved shank, wide gape, slightly heavier wire and straight eye. What does all this mean? How do you decipher the model numbers and what hooks do you use for specific flies? What does the “X” in a hook description mean? Understanding the jargon is the key to know what you are getting when buying hooks.

Let's start with the basics. **Wire:** In the manufacturing process all styles of hooks start with wire. The diameter of the wire changes for each hook size and use. Hook manufacturers have different standards for temper and hardness. All steel is not the same. The alloy process varies with each manufacture. **Shank:** Shank is the portion of the hook extending from the eye to the start of the bend. Shanks are usually straight but some styles are curved. **Eye:** Eyes are used to connect the tippet (end of the leader) to the fly. They may be turned down (TDE), ring eye (RE) which is straight in line with the shank or turned up (TUE). **Bend:** The bend is the curved extension of the shank including the barb and the point. Sometimes the bend is part of the hook description but not normally.



Probably the most misunderstood part of the hook rating system is the “X” factor. To understand, begin with the dry-fly hook which is the most common style of fly tying hooks. All of the fly hook manufacturers use this system. For clarity of understanding, let's choose a Mustad 94840 dry fly hook size 12. Mustad has a specific wire diameter and shank length for this hook. Mustad 94840's are made in larger sizes (10,8,6,4,2) and smaller sizes (14,16,18,20,22). The shank length and wire diameter increases for each larger size and decreases for each smaller size. If you wanted a longer shank but the same size bend you might look for a 2XL (long), the shank length the same as a size 8 dry fly 94840 hook. With a 3XL the shank length is the same as a size 6 dry fly. You might go the other way and get a shorter shank. Using the same starting point, the dry fly #12 a 2XS (short) would be the same length as a size 16 dry fly. XL means one hook size larger, XS means one hook size shorter.

The X system is also used for wire diameter. Back to the 94840 Mustad number #12, you may want a hook that will sink faster. A 2XH (heavy) wire will be the same diameter as a 8 dry fly hook. For lighter hooks a #12 3XF (fine) hook will have the same wire diameter as #18 hook.

If all of this is confusing I suggest you get a good flyfishing catalogue. *Feather-Craft* (toll free 1-800-659-1707) has an excellent hook section. Call for a catalogue. It will help you to understand what you are getting when buying tying hooks. They carry most of the popular fly tying hooks including: Daiichi (18 styles), Dai-Riki (19) styles, TMC/Tiemco (30 styles), Mustad (16 styles), and Gamakatsu (16 styles). By understanding the “X” factor all of this should make sense. And most important: use the local fly shops. You will continue your “X” education.

Fish Lake

(chapter two)

by Perry



Yogi Berra Yogi-ism "It's like deja vu all over again"

6:45 a.m. October 1, 2012 Al Sillonis residency Here we are again, the four of us packing float tubes, kick boats, fly rods, waders, lunches, extra clothes, fly boxes, coolers and the propulsion and detection electronic devices that made Al famous in and on his Tundra. Our departure time was 7:00 a.m. and that is exactly when our Fish Lake Chapter Two adventure began. The four consisted of Jim Gulu, Rod Jones, Al Sillonis and Perry Kelley. The four that made the same trip October 1, 2011, and probably will continue this tradition in 2013 and beyond. It is a good tradition, for we all seem to catch fish, no matter how clumsy we cast or what fly patterns we use. Let's face it, we are four old men (I turned three quarters of a century old the next day) in need of at least one successful day of fly fishing each year to maintain our egos.

It is a good tradition

Fish Lake is a half-way destination. To get there you go half-way to New Meadows, then turn on the Brownlee road, then turn right half-way between Brownlee and half-way to Hells Canyon then turn right half-way between Ox Bow and Half-Way, Oregon, then turn left half way to the Imnaha River, then proceed to Fish Lake. The trip takes about three and a half hours. When we were about a mile from our destination, Rod asked Al if we were about there. Of course, Al's reply was, "We are about half-way!" If you are trying to make sense of the directions—don't. Just have Al take you.

There were no other fishermen on the lake

When we arrived at Fish Lake, we were somewhat disappointed for it was noticeably lower than last year. Also, there were no other fishermen on the lake—not a good sign. Al, the ever encouraging grand piscator that he is, told us not to worry, the fish just would be more concentrated. It was time to unload the Tundra. My boat was lashed to the top and was easy to unload. The float tubes were tucked into nooks and crannies and were no problem. Then it was Al's boat. The only way to describe it is "heavy!" It is the only inflatable boat that I know of that is constructed out of cement. It has two hulls, three decks, a 15-foot mast, a 20-foot lifeboat, a galley, two heads, a poop deck (whatever that means!) and all of the state-of-the-art electronic equipment currently available. When the four of us finally wrestled Al's boat to the ground, the bed of the Tundra popped up about 18 inches and gave a very audible sigh of relief. Al then provided each of us with an industrial strength walkie-talkie that was too big to fit in our pockets.

We soon got our equipment ready, tied on flies and began to launch, guardedly optimistic about our success for the day. Al was first in the water. He put his electric motor on waterski mode and began to troll across the lake. I worked my way out toward the middle to a log that was sticking up. It looked like great cover for fish. Then all of a sudden there was a bizarre sound that I had never heard before. *dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo* I looked all over the lake trying to identify the source of the sound, when from the ISWT (industrial strength walkie-talkie) came, "Al speaking, I am in 35 feet of water." That was repeated many times during the day's fishing.

Jim was still getting his ready.

About that time I hooked a fish that promptly took me to the log and broke off. Looking over to the shore I saw Rod launching his tube Jim was still getting his ready. I began to hook fish and landing them. The first three were brook trout and the next three were rainbows. They were all respectable fish. a very encouraging sign. Although we caught more rainbows than brookies, the brook trout in their fall colors are a sight to behold.

Jim finally got in the water.

dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo "Al speaking. Fish no. 1, green fly." Jim finally got in the water, but there was something about his tube that did

not look right. He wasn't fishing and looked like he was having a balance problem. He went back to the shore. "Are you ok?" "No, my tube is leaking air. Does anyone have a patch kit?" Rod replied, "I have one" "Do you need any help?" I asked.

dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo "Al speaking. Fish no. 2, minerva" I finally got it that the weird sound was from the ISWT Jim replied, "No, I just need some time."

It took Jim about an hour to patch his tube and even then he had to periodically reinflate it. When he finally started fishing, the fish were really beginning to get active and very quickly he made up for lost time. *dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo* "Al speaking. Fish no. 15, minerva"

I was fishing with my eight and a half foot Orvis 4 weight. I was using a type II full sink line with a partridge and orange soft hackle and a thin mint with a brown, olive, black and orange tail. I was happy with the results. At that time I was keeping up with Al. The fishing was like the good old days, lots of fish and lots of strikes. I usually fish still waters with a six weight, but for Fish Lake a 4 weight is really a lot of fun. Jim and Rod both were on to a lot of fish and having a grand time. *dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo* "Al speaking. Fish no. 23 & 24 double"

Jim was really in a hot spot. He cast out and barely moved his fly. He really had the hot fly rod for a time. Rod was doing equally well. Again after about 30 minutes of silence *dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo* "Al speaking. Fish no. 34, Minerva." I had to go over to see what the old master was doing. "What about fish 25 through 33?" "I was catching fish so fast I didn't have time to tell you!" We fished for about a hour more then, "*dizzahhhohmatooeaaaaoo* "Al speaking. Fish no. 49 ,minerva. I'll give you all 15 minutes to get to shore and 20 minutes to load. Anyone not ready has to find their own way back." (Note: he did not say that. I was just using poetic license.) I finally got on the ISWT and told everyone on the lake that we were going to have a christening ceremony for Jim's tube. It will now and forever more be known as **Kon-Tiki-Gone-Leaky**.

*The fishing was like
the good old days*



We took a different route going home. Because we were half-way hungry we went back through Half-Way, Oregon, because Al knew of a half-way decent restaurant that served half-way reasonable meals. From the outside it looked like a bar; but if you went half-way down the side of the building, there was a door into the café. We all ordered burgers, and when they came we totally got out of the half-way mode. They were so large that the buns spilled completely over the sides of the plates. The fries were served in gallon buckets. We ate, then ate some more, and finally when we were completely full and about half-way through our orders, we all said, "Enough is enough!" Going home we were completely satisfied: great fishing, great company,

beautiful lake (even though it was only half-way full), and a good meal.

About ten miles out of Cambridge, Jim yelled "Elk!" Al stopped the tundra, and we watched three beautiful specimens who were watching us. It was a mutual admiration society and a wonderful way to end a beautiful outdoor adventure.



Now for the good [news](#): I am now ***all-the-way*** finished with the article.

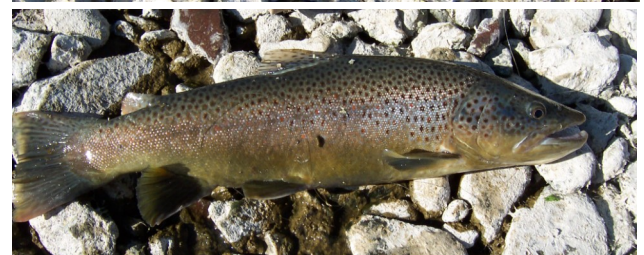




André Gide
 way of falling.
 surface. It's their
 and rise to the
 Fish die belly-up

Mike Thomas sent these pictures of Brown Trout recently caught in the Owyhee river. He points out the differences in markings that occur in Browns. So be careful not to keep a brown thinking it's a rainbow.

Mike would have sent more pictures, but the fish were so big that the pictures would have made the files to big to transmit via email!



A river is like an angry woman: riveting in her energy, treacherous in her depth.

Victoria Houston



NOVEMBER 2012


Coming Events

November 5—Board Meeting
 at the Bee Hive Restaurant,
 7 p.m.

November 13—Regular
 monthly meeting at the
 Idaho Pizza,
 Tying demo by Jim Gulu at
 6:00 meeting at 7 p.m.

November 17—Club Outing,
 below Oxbow Dam. For
 details, see page 2.

November 20—Fly Tying
 Class at the Weiser Library,
 taught by Perry Kelley at
 7 p.m

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Happy Thanksgiving				1	2	3
4	5 <i>IFF Board</i>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 <i>IFF Members</i>	14	15	16	17 <i>IFF Outing</i>
18	19	20 <i>Fly Tying</i>	21	22 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	