



The Fly Line

Washington County Fly Fishers

Federation of Fly Fishers

"Cultivating the art of fly fishing through a spirit of fellowship and resource enhancement"

www.wcflyfishers-ore.com

Issue #79

April, 2007

April Chapter Meeting
Westbrook Club House
14255 S.W. 6th Street (one block east of S.W. Murray)
Beaverton, OR 97008

Wednesday, April 4, 2007

7:00 – 7:30	<p>Meeting comes to order</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign-up for McKenzie River float trip • Setting up a fly swap for future meetings • More information on the logo contest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates chosen for scholarship program • Results of last month's auction • Prelude to rod building/fly tying demos
7:30 – 8:30	Rod building workshop/fly tying demos	
8:30 – 8:45	Fly swap	
8:45 – 9:00	Raffle and adjournment	

Rod Building Workshop

Approximately 20 people have signed up and ordered materials to build their own custom rod at this month's and next month's meetings. All of the materials should be arriving at River City Fly Shop at approximately the same time you receive this newsletter. Check with the shop if you want to pick up your rod blank and component kit, but it is not necessary to do so. We will bring everything to the meeting and hand it out there if you like. At this month's meeting we will take you through the following steps in the production of your rod:

- Finding the spine and marking it
- Reaming the cork handle
- Fitting the reel seat and cork. Gluing it to the rod.
- Determining guide placement and temporarily taping guides in place.

Next month (May) we will step you through the process of wrapping your guides with thread, inscribing the rod, attaching the tip top and applying the finish over the wraps. At that point you will be able to put the finishing touches on your rod.

Fly Tying Workshop

For those of you who are not planning to make a custom rod, Hal Gordon and Marc Williamson have agreed to conduct a fly-tying tutorial during this time. They will be demonstrating different trout patterns and showing you the tricks of their trade. Please bring your vise and the basic tools if you would like to tie along with them. You will need some thread, but other materials will be provided. This is a great opportunity to learn more about fly tying, so don't miss it if you want to improve your skills, or even start to learn.

Washington County Flyfishers

www.wcflyfishers-ore.com

President

Pete Priepke
503-614-8115
ppriepke@excite.com

Vice President

Jerry Heppell
503-639-9408
ghepell5@verizon.net

Treasurer

Cary Maycumber
503-646-7743
tackle.net@gte.net

Newsletter Editor

Kathi Priepke
503-614-8115
oregonfishwife@yahoo.com

Board of Directors

David Wesley, **Outing Chair**
503-848-0812
dcwesley@comcast.net

David Eisenhauer, **Librarian**
503-649-3804
bluenoser@techsensei.com

Paul Skelton, **Awards Chair**
503-351-6182

Shane Stewart, **Conservation Chair**
503-640-8346
wetfly54@comcast.net

John McNally, **Education Chair**
503-591-1972
jackdog1948@verizon.net

Hal Gordon, **Entertainment Chair**
503-642-1135
gordonhw@yahoo.com

Rich Taylor, **Website Chair**
503-356-8731
richtaylor2@gte.net

Tom Wideman, **Membership Chair**
503-579-3129
tgwideman@comcast.net

Don Nelson
503-579-5176

John Stalcup
503-538-0565
staljohn@earthlink.net

Lora Martinez
503-804-9024
lora.martinez@tycoelectronics.com

Ralph Brooks
503-524-6217
rebrosks@bv.com

Chuck Cooney
503-642-2186
cacjcooney@aol.com

Fred Rodley
northwestrods@aol.com

April President's Message

Fly Swap: Don't forget that the Board has decided to start a new activity at our monthly meetings. We are going to institute a "fly swap" at this month's meeting. Each member is being asked to bring some of their favorite flies to the meeting with the idea of trading them for flies brought in by other members. This not only will provide you with an excellent opportunity to diversify your collection but will also give you a chance to learn about what patterns work for others. Start planning your bartering strategy. This is the first month we will be trying this. We are all learning as we go, but it will prove to be interesting. Our hope is to make this a permanent part of our monthly meetings.

Logo Contest: As mentioned last month, the Board has also decided to update our club logo. At some point we will be purchasing some new hats and/or fleece jackets, and we would like to spruce them up with a new eye-catching logo. We are asking you to participate. Throughout the rest of the year we will be accepting designs from any of you who would like to submit your ideas. The Board will pick a winner at our November board meeting and will announce the choice at our holiday banquet in December. We will also be discussing this in more detail at this month's meeting.

Nehalem Outing/McKenzie Outing: The publication deadline for our newsletter is just prior to March's outing on the Nehalem, but we are hopeful the weather will hold and all of us who are signed up will be hard into a fish by the time you receive this. In any case, I'm sure we will have some lies to tell at the next meeting.

The next outing will be on the McKenzie River. Logistics and details for this April 28th event will be covered at this month's meeting. Come and sign up for a good time. Plans will also be made for the June 2nd and 3rd outings at the Deschutes.

Upcoming Events

April 4thMonthly Meeting: Rod Building Workshop

April 18thBoard Meeting

April 28thMcKenzie River Float Trip

May 2ndMonthly Meeting: Rod Building Workshop

May 16thBoard Meeting

May 19thRock Creek Reservoir Outing

June 2nd – 3rdDeschutes River Outing

June 6thMonthly Meeting

June 20thBoard Meeting

June 30thGold Lake Outing

Fly of the Month: "Midge Emerger"



Hook	Light-Wire Scud #18-22
Thread	8/0 Black
Body	Dark Moose Mane
Wing & Thorax	Plastic Sheeting, Clear for the Wing and Dark Grey for the Shell-Back
Hackle	Grizzly
Tail	Krystal Flash
Antennae	Grey CDC Puff

Submitted by Hal Gordon. Photo by John McNally

History: Beyond the common Griffith's Gnat, there are few good midge emerger and adult fly patterns. Give this pattern a try after you have tried everything else on highly selective fish; it really works! This fly was developed for the spring-creeks in southern Idaho, where fish are selective and receive a lot of fishing pressure. This pattern is a bit more complex than most small flies, but is a very close match to the real thing.

How to Fish: Midges (technically Chironomids) live in a broad variety of habitats from lakes to small creeks. If you observe fish rising but can not see an insect, it's probably a midge (which looks like a mosquito, but does not bite). This small fly is best fished on calm water where fish often follow a fly for what may seem like an eternity. Occasionally, it will work in rough water, but needs to be dead-drifted without any hint of drag. If you have problems following this fly on the water, tie it as a dropper behind a larger "indicator" fly. Don't be intimidated by the small size of this fly, if fish are actively taking midges on the surface you'll catch fish.

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Tying Instructions: Fix the hook in the vise and wrap a layer thread over the shank to the bend. At the bend, tie in one strand each of Krystal Flash and moose mane hair. Wrap the thread up the hook to the thorax and then wrap the moose to the thorax. Tie in a thin strip of plastic shell-back and the grizzly hackle (on top of the hook). Next, cut a thin strip of plastic wing and crimp it in the center by giving it one-half twist, tie it in with "figure-eight" wraps (at the crimped area), on top of the hook. Next, take four hackle wraps around the wing and tie it off behind the hook eye. Tie in the CDC over the hook eye, leaving it long enough to grab the end with your fingers. Pull the shell-back plastic over the wing and tie it off behind the hook eye (it's not necessary to trim it close). Finally, pull the CDC up out of the way, take several wraps of thread to complete the head and trap the CDC just beyond the hook eye. Add a drop of cement to secure the thread.

Don't Forget the Spey Clave: May 5th and 6th at Oxbow Park. This is your best chance to test the latest equipment and learn about spey fishing.



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11429 S.W. Scholls Ferry Road
Beaverton, Oregon 97008

Phone (503) 579-5176

Fax (503) 579-4935

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5 pm Sunday
Monday: “Gone Fishing”

Washington County Fly Fishers
19720 N.W. Metolius Drive
Portland, OR 97229