

ISLAND WATERS FLY FISHERS



A collection of steelhead flies shown by Bill Von Brendel at the March meeting.

Don't forget ROY SORENSEN'S trout fishing trip to Taylor Arm on Sproat lake. See page two for what may be waiting to attack your fly. See Roy's stories in our last issue and on the IWFF webpage

President:	Dave Connolly	758-3192
Vice President :	Don Clarke	753-9638
Secretary:	Frank Perilli	390-4400
Treasurer:	Harold Tining	758-8685
Past President :	Steve Wawrykow	754-3650
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	Doug Winters	758-7303
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Newsletter	Steve Wawrykow	

Meetings on 4th Tuesday of the Month at the Ukrainian Hall at 4017 Victoria Ave. off Norwell Dr. Visitors and Guests welcome. Phone 754-3650 for information. Please leave message.

The Island Waters Fly Fishers
Box 323, Lantzville, BC
V0R 2H0

The Purpose of our club is as follows:

- To practice, further and promote the art of fly fishing
- To practice and promote fish conservation and enhancement
- To encourage fellowship and sportsmanship amongst anglers



The British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers (BCFFF) is a registered, non-profit society whose main objective is to promote the conservation of the fishing environment in British Columbia. By networking with similarly minded clubs, organizations, businesses and individuals, the BCFFF provides a voice that reflects its member's and the public's concern for the future of B.C.'s natural resources. Our organization believes that concern for the future of our province's environment is not just the exclusive domain of fly fishers or other recreation groups, but should be the concern of all citizens. Consequently, it is with this broader population in mind that we strive to protect and promote our natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations to respect and enjoy.

Visit the BCFFF on their webpage at
<http://www.bcfff.bc.ca/>

Email us at iwff@shaw.ca

Visit at www.members.shaw.ca/iwff

Sproat Lake Fish-out

Date: April 26-28 , 2002

Roy Sorensen has arranged this event. Members with RVs will take on members without camping gear. A sign up sheet has been circulated. Members are encouraged to make whatever arrangement they wish. Contact Steve for a copy of a handout on members intending to go.

Mar.30,2002

Hi Steve

Sorry I didn't call you about going to Sproat. I wasn't sure I could go until the last minute. Anyway, John, Eric and I went yesterday. There was a fair number of boats on the lake, but the only ones with success was us. Between us we had about 12 hits. I landed 3 fish in the 4-5 lb. range, and John landed 2. They were beautiful cutts. The road in is good. The site is busy. So, for our fishout I would suggest that campers get there as early as possible on the Friday.

Take care, Roy



John Snook with a fish from Sproat Lake

Calendar of Events

April 20th Annual Supper meeting at the Howard Johnson (Tally Ho) , at the corner of Comox and the Old Island Highway. Members, spouses and guests are all welcome. Happy hour from 6-7 PM.

April 23rd A special meeting as per the instructions from the February meeting. Fly tying and other demonstrations. Bring your fly tying along. The executive have also invited Joan Rogerson from the Fairview School to speak on the Salmon projects on the Catstream. Charles Thirkill and Dave Clough may also attend.

May 28th We welcome back **Bill Luscombe** as guest speaker. We have enjoyed Bill's presentation in the past. Topic TBA.

July 28th Annual salmon barbeque at Bob and Linda Crampton's residence beginning at 2 PM . A good turnout last year and I will try not to miss it this year

For Sale

An 8' 6" Bombard inflatable flat floor boat as new. Cost was \$1350 plus taxes, asking \$1200, Also a deep cycle battery for \$50. Call Gerry at 753-0743. Please leave a message if Gerry is unavailable to answer the phone.

Fly tying tip from Larry Miller:

Steve there is a short article on dyeing materials for fly tying in the Flyanglers on Line site. I thought you might like to read it and if it is worthwhile mention it in the newsletter. It is found in the contents under flytying - dyeing. <http://www.flyanglersonline.com/>

March Meeting



Matt Haapala was the lucky winner of a fish net built by **Harold Tinling** during the Gilly draw. Three other prizes were draw for as well. All funds collected during the Gilly portion of our meeting are used for draws to be won by attending members.

Thirty members and guests attended our meeting on March 26th . Our guest speaker was guide **Bill Von Brendel**. Bill is a professional guide for salmon and halibut during the summer and guides fly fishers for salmon and steelhead during the fall and winter. Bill gave a fine presentation on techniques, gear and flies for fishing both summer and winter steelhead. Visit Bill at his website via a link on the Iwff Website. Bill talked about the mystique surrounding Steelhead fishing and suggested that proper techniques and approaches can successfully target steelhead.

We also welcomed back Robert **Todd** from a lengthy illness and the following new members: **Ron Britton, Elizabeth Kristensen, Tom Ramshaw, and Harvey Stern.**



Bill Von Brendel

Congratulation to **Ken McLaughlin**. His story, The Trout that Climbed a Tree, made it to the FFF ClubWire. It is a publication sent to participating clubs throughout the world. We are not a direct member but the BCFFF is an International Affiliate.

ARE YOU READY?

As we start a new season, it is time to ensure your equipment is ready for another year of fishing. The first area I work on is my fly rods. I wash the fly rods using water and a mild detergent and rinse the rod of in clean warm water. I dry my fly rods thoroughly and lubricate the ferrules with paraffin wax. I simply rub the wax on the ferrules to make contact. This waxing prevents premature wear of the ferrules as well as reduces the harmful effects of dirt and sand on the ferrules. The next thing I do to my rod is to clean the cork handle. I use an old toothbrush and toothpaste to scrub it clean.

Next, I cut my lines off my backing, clean the lines by washing them in mild soapy water, and rinse them well before drying. During this process I also stretch my lines to take the curls and twist out. I apply a line dressing to only my floating lines to protect them and to help them float. I re-tie all my lines back onto my backing using a nail knot and coat the knot with a product called knot sense. I find by doing this the knot area of the line will run smoother through the ferrules. Next, I put all new leaders onto my lines and use knot sense on all the knots. This not only help the knot move smoother through the ferrules, but also seals the end of the floating line so water will not wick up the end causing it to sink.

For my reels, I regularly throughout the season take them apart and clean them thoroughly. After cleaning, I apply a coating of lithium grease to all the moving parts not associated with the drag system. When I finish the day of fishing, I back the drag off completely which will reduce the wear and pressure on the drag system.

For my flies, I go thought my boxes remove all the chewed up ones, remove the materials from these ones, and use the hooks again. Any of my flies that have the hackles mashed down I fix by boiling a pot of water and holding the flies over the steam. This seems to work for almost any of my deformed flies. Ensure the flies are completely dry before placing them back into their cases.

I inspect my vests and remove all the old chocolate bar wrappers, old leaders and tippet materials, and any other garbage I may find. I wash my vest and hang it to dry. When dry, I restock my vest with the items I regularly use. I empty all the pockets in my float tube and remove the tube from the lining. I clean the lining and inspect it for any rips or damage seams. I inspect the tube for any nicks or cuts and repair if necessary. I replace the tube and inflate my tube fully, then restock the assembled tube with the items I normally carry. I do this same process with my pontoon boat.

For my neoprene waders I wash them with unscented mild soap, using a soft bristle brush to remove mud and debris. Again, I rinse with water, hang my waders and allow them to thoroughly dry. Once the outside is dry, I turn them inside out to ensure complete drying and to help prevent odor buildup.

For my breathable waders I hand wash my waders in warm water with an unscented, mild soap. I rinse them thoroughly and hang them to dry. If I find that drops of water will not bead on the outside, I will spray my waders with a water repellent spray, like 3M Scotch Guard for fabrics. **DO NOT USE A SILICONE BASE SPRAY.**

Last items to clean are my fins, boo-ties, and wading boots. I inspect both to ensure there are no rips and to ensure the felt soles are securely fastened to the bottom of my wading boots. I hand wash both in warm water with an unscented, mild soap. I rinse them thoroughly and hang them to dry.

With all this now done, I am now ready to go fishing at a moment's notice.

(by John Jaillet of the Penticton Flyfishers of BC)

Two Best Times to Go Fishing

Submitted by Ray Brunt

1. When its raining.
2. When it is not raining is even better.

Recollections by Bill Brown

Looking back over the years as a fly fisher, I recall several experiences that leads me to believe that there is a bit of residual snobbery in the fly fisher. When I was younger and learning the craft, I often was reminded that fly fishing was a class fishery. By that I mean the anglers I knew were British expatriots that carried with them the suggestion that fly fishing was a sport for the middle-upper class who paid to fish a "beat".

When fly fishing came to America all that changed and became a sport for all. I suppose that what changed the angler was the fact that rivers and lakes were not private. Bear in mind that a form of snobbery existed during my lifetime, but were not apparent. We jokingly referred to the bait fisher as a member of the "great unwashed". Some members of the Totems, for instance, wouldn't be found dead wearing a fly vest and wore white shirts and ties while angling. Can you imagine fishing the Squamish for winter steelhead in a foot of snow dressed like that?



Another case that I ran into was while I was fishing the Cheakamus River at a campsite pool with an ultralite spinning outfit that I bought for my grandson. He was much too young to learn fly casting and I was advised by the manager of the sporting goods in a Woodward Store to obtain these small spinning outfits. He explained that with a special float and a 4-lb. Test line and leader that he could fish about anywhere that I fished. After obtaining these outfits I had to learn how to use them in order to teach my grandson. I was absolutely amazed at how fast one can learn spin casting, and I found myself dropping that Tom Thumb just about anywhere I wanted. After a session or two at the pool, I sat on a rock and rested, with the rod lying by me. At that time a young angler came along the river wearing a fly vest and carrying a fly rod and reel.

We exchanged "hellos" and asked the usual " how's Fishing?" It was at this time he looked down at my spinning outfit and said he was a fly fisher. I answered back by saying to him that I was a fly fisher too. He then said, " Yes, but I fish flies exclusively!" I felt a little snubbed at this point because it had never happed to me before.

At this point, Lenie called from the camper and asked if we wanted coffee, so we entered, sat down and had our coffee. The young angler looked up at the wall and spotted a fly plaque with ancient flies by Wm. Nation, Tommy Brayshaw, Jim Kilburn and others. Then he spotted a collection of fly fishing club badges on the other wall, and said words to the effect " yes, you are a fly fisher". Then he opened his fly box and asked me what was wrong with his ties. I said that his hackles on dries were too soft and "webby" and he said that at the time he could not afford the \$37 for a cape. I then advised him to use silicone on the flies before he fished the dries. I also said to ties the dries without heavy bodies so that they could float properly.

Then he asked me if I would help him with his casting, so we met at the pool the following morning. He had a problem getting any distance because he was casting with a "captive arm". I then got him to use free-arm movement, and to keep his rod tip parallel to the ground. Well, he caught on pretty quickly I can tell you. Remember that he had so much going for him, such as already being a caster, youth and a great deal of enthusiasm. You should have seen the look on that guy's face when he shot the line clean across the pool! He was a case of fishing without any friends and no one took time out to help him.

Some time later I sat on a log resting on the beach at Deep Cove in North Vancouver where we fished for sea-run Cutts and was approached by an angler who said to me, "I hope you are fly fishing for these fish and releasing them. It is a very fragile fishery." Ironically we had just been busy trying to get the Fish and Game Branch to introduce trout release but were told. " Too early yet, maybe in 25 years or so". They sure were close at that guess! Was I miffed at that incident? Not really, just glad someone was listening.

So go ahead and go fly fishing, just remember to watch your grammar, clean your fingernails and comb your hair.

Bill

Fly Tying with IWWF

We have continued to have excellent attendance at our fly tying sessions. On the last Thursday of the month Don Clarke did an excellent job of demonstrating an elk hair caddis pattern. Everybody seemed to have good success at tying it.



Following this Bruce Cumming did a great job on a Renegade pattern. I believe everyone went home with several good flies of each type.

I, myself, did not tie anything at this meeting as I had a cold and was rather lazy. However, I had a great time talking to Dave Degner and got some excellent advice on what type of lines I could use to get done deep both in the ocean and in the local rivers. I would recommend to members that if you don't feel up to tying it is still a very valuable evening. Sound information from experts a cup of tea or coffee home made cookies and a few laughs for \$2. Best deal in town.

We have decided to continue the tying sessions again this month on the same days. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at Ray's at 1:30 p.m.; 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Harold's at 7:30 p.m.

Yesterday the turnout was down to six but Brad Canaday demonstrated several flies and we got some practice with deer hair. First fly was a Muddler Minnow pattern and then we went to a Tom Thumb. Brad shared some secrets to their use in local waters.

Below: Elk hair Caddis



We then tied a basic black woolly bugger. Ray showed us his dumbbell eyed black leach that I tried in Fuller Lake last week and I hope to try at Taylor Arm. Sonja served tea and cookies. I must say we have the best hostesses in Sonja and Mary.

In closing Brad and I had to try out his woolly bugger so we went to Fuller Lake on Wednesday. Perfect weather conditions and the fish were very cooperative. The fly is a winner. Lots of chironomids hatching and the trout were full of them. Next time down is solely for chironomids.



Harold Tinling did a fine job of helping our newest member Elizabeth tie her first flies. Thanks Harold

Article submitted by Larry Miller, pictures by Steve Wawrykow. More on the next page.



President Art Lingren at the BCFFF AGM

President's Report

This last weekend, Steve and I attended the BCFFF Annual General Meeting in Vancouver. Most of the clubs in the province were represented. There are 18 fly fishing clubs in the province affiliated with the BCFFF with a total membership of approx. 500. Two items would be of most interest to our club; the first being that the resolution to designate additional fly-fishing only waters on the Cowichan River was supported by a majority of approx 140 to 60. The second is that the BCFFF Gilley fund has a substantial amount of money in it. If we can come up with a suitable project for approval, we should have no problem in getting matching funds to support it. I really hope we can do something to enhance fish habitat in our local area. Getting outside help with financing will be a real bonus.

Our fishout at Taylor Arm April 25th to 27th looks as if we will have approximately 20 members attending. There is no limit to how many of us that there can be. If you are interested, call ROY SORENSEN AT 390-4415. There will be members driving out for the day, perhaps you can hitch a ride or there may be space in someone's camper or trailer if

you would like to go out for the weekend.

Don't forget our social dinner at the Tally Ho on Saturday April 20th, or Tuesday April 23rd at our meeting hall for fly tying etc. and a possible program. See you there.



Handy Dandy Emerger

By Bob Bates

Chironomids (midges) will hatch anytime of the year if there is open water, and if fish are working on the surface they are probably feeding on chironomid pupa. The pupa slowly rises to the surface and then hangs in the surface film before splitting the pupal skin. I have had times when fish would hit a fly hanging in the surface film but would ignore the fly if it sunk. This pattern is useful for imitating deep, rising and floating chironomid pupa.

The original Handy Dandy was developed about 1991 by the late Barry Handy a tier at the Morning Hatch in Tacoma, WA. Morning Hatch people wanted a chironomid pattern that had the sparkle of a natural when it is getting ready to hatch; this was Barry's solution. Handy Dandy flies in different sizes and colors caught fish all over the northwest U.S. and British Columbia. Fly fishers used standard chironomid techniques: a full sinking line with a slow (SLOW) hand twist retrieve or a floating line and letting it hang under a strike indicator.

Whenever a fly works great somebody has to improve it. In this case it was Jim Shearer, a professional tier from Kennewick, Washington. He wanted something that would hang in the surface film like the natural. To fish this pattern use a floating line and cast the fly to working fish. On the windy days make shorter

casts so you can see the white gills (foam) in the waves. I try to cast slightly up wind and watch the fly as it floats by. Usually there is no question about the hit. As always match the fly to the size and color of chironomids hatching in your area.

Materials:

Hook: Daiichi 1140, Tiemco TMC 200, Tiemco TMC 2457 or similar hooks, 10-20

Thread: White or same color as body, 3/0 - 8/0

Rib: Pearlescent Krystal Flash

Body: V-Rib or Body Glass, red, black, green, tan, olive, bright green, amber

Wingcase: Pheasant tail fibers

Thorax: Peacock herl

Gills: White closed cell foam

Gary Sanstrom, owner of the Morning Hatch, cautioned: "Be sure to use white thread in tying patterns with lighter color V-Rib; black shows through and makes the fly too dark."

1. Smash barb before tying fly. Attach thread under thorax area and secure two strands of Krystal Flash on top of hook. Wrap thread smoothly rearward over the Krystal Flash to a point around the bend.

2. Trim V-Rib to a fine point and tie it in. Trimming keeps an unsightly bump from developing on the first couple of turns and also keeps the body slimmer than tying V-Rib down from front to back.

3. Wind thread forward to thorax area. Spiral V-Rib so the Krystal Flash will fit inside of the gap, secure and trim excess V-Rib.

4. Spiral the two strands of Krystal Flash forward, secure and trim.

5. Attach four or five pheasant tail fibers at front of body with most of their length pointing to rear.

6. Attach two or three peacock herls by their tips and wind thread forward to within two eye widths of eye. Wrap herl forward, secure and trim.

7. Attach white foam across hook using a figure eight wrap.

8. Bring pheasant tail fibers forward over thorax and foam, attach in front of foam, trim excess fibers and

whip finish head. Add a small drop of head cement.

9. Pull up foam and trim. Test your flies to make sure there is enough foam to float the pattern.

Picture and article are courtesy of FFF Website located at

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/> The BCFFF sends Past President John Warren to the FFF Conclave.



Frank Perilli gives New Tyer Ray Honig tips on fly tying procedures



Bruce Cumming ties a Renegade Pattern

