



ISLAND WATERS FLY FISHERS



The mystery of the Chalkboard Troutist continues. See page 8.



The Hummer Boatman. See page 10.



**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

CONTACTS

President:	Bernie Heinrichs	390-3266
Vice President :	Bob Leverman	756-1998
Secretary:	Doug Peterson	390-4109
Treasurer:	Harold Tining	753-8680
Past President :	Keith MacDonald	758-2138
Newsletter:	Bernie Heinrichs	390-3266
Directors:	Jack Toomer	756-0987
	Bruce Cumming	390-2236
	Ron Busche	758-2225
	Ron Moll	754-3978
	Gord Davis	716-2787
	Paul Inscho	758-2303
	Ralph Carlson	751-7999
Webmaster:	Steve Wawrykow	754-3650
Fly Tying:	Gerry Stevens	754-4124
Videos:	Ed Tremblay	245-8552
Library:	Matt Haapala	390-1917
Gilly :	Ray Honig	758-9930

Meetings at 7:15 pm. on the 4th Tuesday of the Month at the Ukrainian Hall at 4017 Victoria Ave. off Norwell Dr. Visitors and Guests welcome. Phone 758-2138.

**Email us at iwff@shaw.ca Ph 758-2138
Visit at www.members.shaw.ca/iwff**



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/>

President's Message

When is our slack editor going to change this photo? I haven't worn glasses since last May!



Bernie Heinrichs

Our upcoming guest speaker replaces Skip Rimmer who was one of our guest speakers over a year ago. They are both Biologists with the Ministry of Environment and they have basically swapped areas -- Nanaimo and Prince George. I think Andrew won but Skip is looking forward to some great fishing in the interior lakes.

One of Andrew's pet projects is organizing trophy lake fishing. I told him about our partiality to Panther (Healy) Lake but that it probably does not need further stocking. I think that our club is well suited to assist in this endeavour. We could provide candidate lakes and then establish a presence at them. The enforcement department with the Ministry of Environment have received complaints about illegal activities on Panther

Lake. At one of our fishouts there, a group of "fly fishers" left suspiciously early and the fishing was good. This is what I mean by more presence at these lakes and other fishing sites.

Let's hear what Andrew has for basic plans and see if we can help them out in some way to promote trophy lakes.

Bernie Heinrichs

2006 Program

The first two months have been confirmed but the rest are at the proposed stage and will quite likely be changed or switched to adapt to requests and availability of speakers. We are still looking for ideas and speakers. These programs follow the regular meeting with the exception of April 11.

February 28 - Ministry of Environment's plans for stocking trout in Central Vancouver Island Lakes and promotion of Trophy Lakes by Trevor Andrews, Provincial Biologist.

March 28 - Rods, reels, lines, knots by 2 presenters (to be determined)

April 11 - Fly Casting Clinic, Westwood Lake - not a regular meeting. More practice sessions may be organized to follow.

April 25 - Lake fishing. Either a panel discussion (need a moderator) or a guest speaker.

May 23 - Guest Speaker?

June 27 - Salmon Fly Fishing

September - Habitat Recovery and activities of the Pacific Salmon Foundation by Mel Sheng, DFO

October 24 - Fishing the Island's Rivers

November 28 - Match the Hatch and Election of Officers

Calendar of Events

Ron Moll has made up a 2006 calendar of all of our events and activities for the year. It is posted on our web site at www.members.shaw.ca/iwffnews/. Thank you, Ron, for a fine job.

Noon Socials and Luncheons

At 11:30 am every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the Wellington Pub (half price specials). This is getting so popular that there are some who lunch there every Wednesday.

Fly Tying

At 1:30 pm (approximately - whenever we remove ourselves from the pub) every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. They are hosted by Gerry and Lill Stevens, 620 Hawkins St.

Club Library

The list of books has now swelled to over 60 with Dave Connolly's donation of over 50 books. Matt will be off until April but Gerry Stevens is storing them until then. A good time to review them is during fly tying as described above.

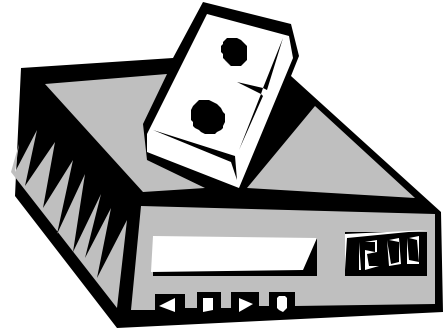
Club Crests

If you want a crest for your jacket, cap etc., Five Star Embroidery and Silk Screening at 1-4151 Mostar Rd. (www.fivestarembroidery.com) has our logo set up for you and will provide a quote.



List of Videos

See Ed Tremblay, or Call 245-8552, to Check These Out



- 12 FLY FISHING MAGAZINE – OLYMPIC TROUT & STEELHEAD
- 13 THE ESSENCE OF FLY CASTING – MEL KRIEGER
- 14 FLY FISHING STILLWATERS – ALF DAVIES
- 16 SURVIVING THE HOOK – D.F.O.
- 17 RELEASE 'EM RIGHT – D.F.O.
- 21 TROUT FISHING – STEVE WAWRYKOW, IWFF
- 23 STEELHEAD FISHING – IWFF
- 27 MAGIC OF FLY FISHING – STORIES OF MANY TRIPS
- 34 DUBBING THE LOOP WITH ROOTS
- 35 TYING BASS FLIES – IWFF
- 37 BASS – THE 99% SOLUTION – FISH'N CANADA
- 40 THE RIVER OF NO RETURN – IWFF REPORT
- 42 25 FISHING LAKES – MERRITT TO KAMLOOPS
- 43 - 1 NORTHERN LAKE TROUT – FISH'N CANADA
- 43 - 2 FLOATING FOR GATORS – FISH'N CANADA
- 43 - 3 LARGEMOUTH BASS – FISH'N CANADA

January Meeting



Doug Peterson, left, Secretary and Bob Leverman, Vice President. Bob did a great job chairing the meeting and proving his talents for next year.



Rick Banks just joined our club that night. Welcome aboard Rick



Steve Wawrykow had some good results with converting video tapes to DVD and will try a few of the clubs tapes.



Lloyd Erickson is a past President of the club - welcome back Lloyd.



Guest, Bob Kissinger, was given a warm welcome.



John Bucchieri, left, and Jim MacFie were winners of DVD's donated by Steve Wawrykow as part of the fly draw. Steve burned these from fly fishing tapes.



Ron Busche presents his line-up of the speakers and events for the coming year's program.

Winners



Ray Honig, left, Gilly Master, presents the prize of a hand drawn map done by Bruce Cummings to Ron Busche during the Gilly Draw.



Gerry Stevens receives his prize - a DVD donated by Steve Wawrykow.



“Honest” Larry Miller draws a winner for another one of Steve’s DVD’s.



And the winner is: Dave Connolly.



Dick Bowden finds a front row seat for Joie’s very informative presentation on rod building.

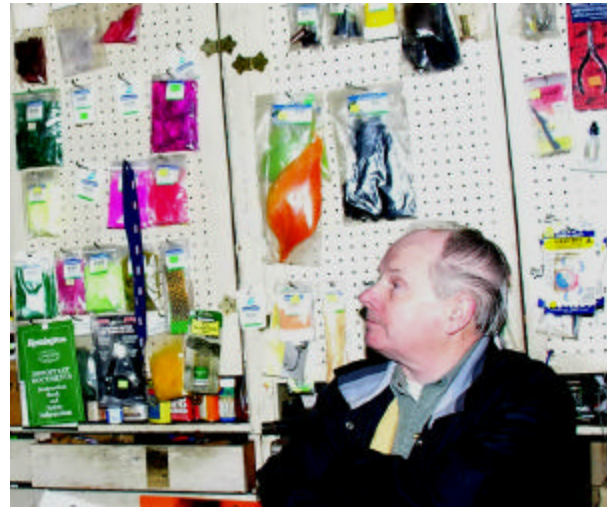


Johnson's Hardware: End of an Era

After nearly 131 years, the Johnson's Hardware store will be demolished to make way for a condo. Ernie Johnson bought the building in 1935 and started up the hardware store and added sporting goods to his line later. He sold it to his nephew, Norm Coughtry, in 1964 who had first started working in the store in 1957.

I have been told repeatedly that, "If you think that the main floor is crowded, you gotta see the upstairs - and that is nothing compared to the basement." Well, I had an opportunity to do just that and to take a few photos. These will be carried in a future edition.

Norm is hoping to have everything sold by the end of the month during his "25% off" sale.



Norm in front of his fly tying display. He still has a good supply of coloured polar bear fur -- even some long-haired fur.

Library Books

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>
13 Fisherman's guide to life	9 principles on the lessons of fishing	Criswell Freeman
14 Fishing Flies		Robert Atkinson 1991
15 Fishing for Fun		Herbert Hoover 1963
16 Fishing from the Earliest Times		William Radcliffe 1921
17 Fishing in Oregon	where, what how	Madelynne Sheehan & Dan Casali
18 Fishing Tackle Antiques & Collectables	reference & evaluation	Karl White 1995
19 Fishing with my Old Guy		Paul Quarrington
20 Flies of the Northwest		Inland Empire flyfishing club
21 Fly Casting Techniques	Fly Fisherman's Advanced	Supplement to Fly Fisherman Magazine
22 Fly Fishing in the NWT		Chris Hanks
23 Fly Tying	simplified course	George Harvey
24 Fly Tying Kit Instructions		
25 Flying Lure Fishing		Alex Langer
26 Flylife	Salt & Freshwater Australia & New Zealand	
27 Flyrod Steelhead		Bill Stinson
28 Flytyers Masterclass	guide to 20 essential patterns	Oliver Edwards'
29 Freshwater Fishing	techniques & equipment	Barrie Rickards
30 Gone Fishin'		Charles Elliott
31 Great Canadian Rishing Stories		David Scott
32 Handbook of Hatches	guide to trout foods & selecting flies	Dave Hughes
33 Heaven on a Stick	fly-fishing around the world	Chris Hole
34 I don't know why I swallowed the fly	rookie season	Jessica Maxwell
35 Lake Fishing with a Fly		Ron Cordes & Randall Kaufmann
36 Michigan Trout Streams	A Fly-Anglers Guide	Bob Linsenman & Steve Nevala

Fairview School Appreciates the Bill Brown Memorial Viewing Platform



These are the letters from the students in Joan Rogerson's class in Fairview School expressing their appreciation for the use of the Bill Brown Memorial Platform. The Island Waters Fly Fishers and the B.C. Federation of Fly Fishers donated the materials to construct this platform two years ago. It is good to see it being used for the purpose it was intended.

Charles Thirkill, Biologist, is showing the class some of the insects that the salmon feed upon. Charles and our Dave Connolly were instrumental in promoting this project. The platform was named after Bill Brown who passed away the previous year and was a founding member of our club.



Another learning activity that the school gets involved in is the removal of invasive weeds such as this daphne shown here. Broom and blackberries are also removed and replaced with native shrubs and trees. These endeavours along with a demonstration salmon hatchery in the school provide these students with an early education promoting fish habitat. We need more Joan Rogersons and Fairview Schools! Thank you Joan and students for your kind words of appreciation and your work with the salmon.

ELEMENTARY ENTOMOLOGY & O. MYKISS

WRITTEN BY THE CHALKBOARD
TROUTIST

PART TWO - MATCH THE HATCH?

When someone says “match the hatch,” many fly fishers grimace, look around at other fly fishers, and reach for their box of dry flies. Don’t get me wrong – I would rather fish dry than any other way and will do so if there is any likelihood of catching fish on the dry fly. But I am going to suggest a *slight* shift in thinking. I am going to suggest you start thinking in terms of *vulnerability*.

When you approach the water, stop; stand still for a few minutes and observe. Pick up a few boulders and look under them. Look nearer to the margins of the water, near current seams on moving water or near weed beds on still water. Don’t just look there though. What foods are “hatching?” What foods, though not hatching, are available to trout? What foods are vulnerable to trout? What ones are *most vulnerable* right now? If you focus on the stages of the most abundant food items when they are most vulnerable to trout, you *will* put more fish on the end of your line.

To understand vulnerability of the aquatic insect it is important to understand some basic entomology. Trout will eat just about anything that comes their way, but I propose to focus on the “Big Four” aquatic insects – stoneflies, mayflies, caddis, and midges. If interest warrants it then maybe we’ll treat damselfly and dragons. We’ll leave out, at least for now, the baitfish, terrestrials, crustaceans, and leeches, as well as other aquatic insects, such as boatmen and backswimmers, and some of the minor aquatic insects, such as water spiders, crane flies, alder flies, etc.



All insects have exoskeletons. This means that, unlike us, their “bones” are on the outside of their body. Because of this, growth is limited by the outside skeleton itself. To get around this problem, insects will crawl out of their skeletons and grow a new larger one. This process is called “molting.” Mayflies, for example, will go through many molts as nymphs, getting larger each time.

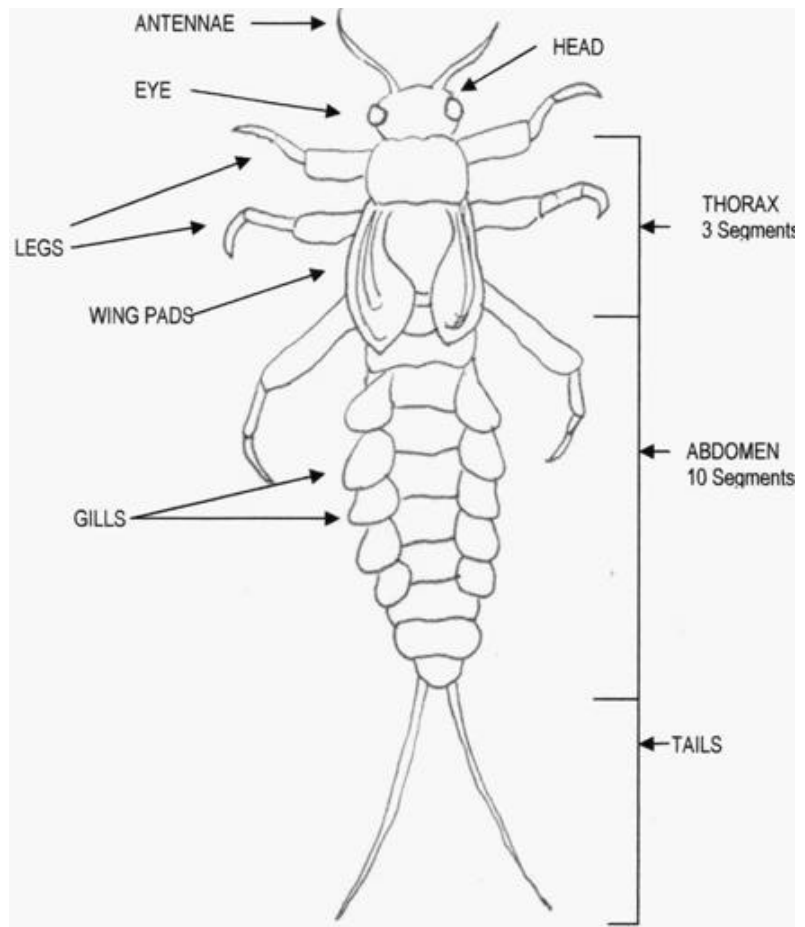
Again, unlike humans, the life stages of insects are distinct stages. Our life cycle is a continuum. There is no particular day on which we can be said to be a baby, then a toddler, then a juvenile, and finally an adult. With insects, the stages are very distinct and the succeeding stage may look nothing like the stage from which it molted. It may be a different size, color, and most certainly will behave differently. In many species the adults do not even have mouth parts – they exist solely for reproduction, and once this task is accomplished, they perish.

Before we move on to the actual life cycles of the specific aquatic insects, there are a few terms that we need to look at, just to make sure that we are all talking about the same thing when we use the term. Below is a diagram of a typical aquatic insect, in the nymphal stage. This one is of a typical mayfly, but the terminology is the same for others, although others may not have tails, or the gills may be located elsewhere, or there may not be any wingpads, etc.

The adult of each will mimic the nymph – often, but not always, having the same number of body segments, legs, antennae, and tails. Sometimes the size of the nymph will tell you how big or small the adult will be; but in some cases the adult is not as large as the nymph.

So is some elementary aquatic entomology going to make you a better fly fisher or improve your enjoyment of fly fishing? Sure it will, but then again, maybe it's just another aspect of a fabulous hobby – capable of being a hobby of its own. There are some books on aquatic entomology, and you may eventually want to know the Latin names for each species of mayfly or caddis that hatches around you! I don't particularly. Maybe, eventually, you will want to know whether a particular insect in its nymphal or larval stage swims, crawls, burrows, or just clings to the rocks and logs, which adults return to lay eggs from the air, on the surface of the water, or under the water on the rocks. Maybe you'll want to know more about how the nymphal or larval stage becomes an adult – when and where the transformation occurs.

In these articles you won't be asked to memorize what insects, or their stages, fly, cling, crawl, burrow, or swim. What you will be asked to do is to observe what is happening, think about how the insect you are watching behaves in this stage (that is; *does* it fly, cling, crawl, burrow, or swim?), how it may have gotten to this stage (to allow you to determine what may still be happening during this hatch, if ongoing), to contemplate its vulnerability, choose a pattern, and fish it in the manner of the natural. That's all. No memorization (or almost none). No Latin (again, or almost none).



Mayfly Nymph

As you continue with your observation of these insects and their characteristics, you become more aware of their more vulnerable stages and times, and knowing that, become a better fly fisher. For my part, even if I didn't become a better fly fisher, I would enjoy the pursuit of the trout more, and to me, that is what fly fishing is about – the “natural” pursuit of the trout.

In future instalments, we'll cover these various life stages of the Big Four and think about the vulnerability at each stage. Trout, remember, prefer to take the most vulnerable stage of the most abundant insect available at the time, so we should try to discover what that is on that *particular* day at that *particular* time, think about how to imitate that insect in that stage, and then focus on fishing that pattern effectively.

NEXT MONTH: THE STONEFLY

Lakeside Version of Water Boatman

These photos and description were obtained from the Fly Fisher's American magazine and features how our Joie Coe's ingenuity saved the day on a guided fly fishing trip into Ballon Lake in BC's interior. His clients were caught off guard with no water boatman fly patterns when an unusually large hatch of them had erupted. Joie scavenged up some materials from the tires, seats and their lunch packaging and tied up a few flies. They were rewarded with several dozen 3 to 5 pound rainbows!

The foam was scavenged from the Hummer's seats (camera cases, neoprene would also work). Sources of shell back could be feather segments, sandwich bag plastic, tin foil, cigarette foil or even strands of tippet. Rubber can be harvested from tire sidewalls, floor mats, door seats, leader straighteners etc. The photos of the fly were the one tied on site with the scavenged materials. Congratulations Joie!

Hummer Boatman

Hook: Dry, Mustad 94840, # 8 to 12
 Thread: Black, 6/0
 Body: Peacock herl, oval shaped foam
 Shellback: Krystal Flash or whatever
 Legs: 1/16 " rubber cut to shape

Tying Instructions

1. Start the thread at the bend and wrap it to the eye.
2. Tie in 6 strands of Krystal Flash, then 6 strands of peacock herl. Tie in the foam body. Finally, tie in 2 strands of peacock herl to wrap up for the body.
3. Move the thread halfway up the hook shank and tie in the legs, giving the fly more movement.
4. Move the thread to the head, wrap the two strands of peacock herl to the head forming the body. Pull foam down and tie in. Pull peacock herl over the foam body and tie in.

The Hummer Boatman



*Tied by Harold Coe,
assistant guide,
BC Fisherman*

*(Last Hope Lakeside
Version shown)*



5. Pull the Krystal Flash over the peacock herl to form the shellback and tie off.
6. Finish the head and whip finish.

Island Waters Fly Fishers Society

Minutes of General Meeting

Held on Tuesday January 24 at 7:20 in the Ukrainian Church Hall, 4017 Victoria Ave., Nanaimo, B.C.

Meeting Called to order at 7:20

Larry Miller moved we adopt the agenda.

November minutes approved Bill McColl (MSC)

Treasurer's Report: Harold reports we have \$7557.79 in the bank and have only one outstanding account for \$1000 (promised to the Long Lake dock project.) All other bills paid. Paul Inscho moved we accept this report. (MSC)

Committee Reports:

Health: no one ill and Steve is back on his feet. (literally).

Entertainment: Spring dinner is in planning stages.

Videos: Ed Tremblay says we have many available for sharing and several that are overdue for return
Steve reported his successful efforts to copy our videos on DVD. He has expressed a willingness to do more

Fly Tying: First and third Wednesday's at Gerry's house very popular and we will continue until mid-March. Ron reports that only three members expressed any interest in formal fly tying lessons, one beginner and two intermediate. We may not hold a class until fall for intermediate but the beginner will get some immediate assistance.

Gerry is also keeping the library at his home and any member is invited to borrow books. Phone or just arrive during fly tying.

Old Business: Today was supposed to be the last day to turn in flies but Harold gave us a one week extension as a couple of members have been unable

to finish in time. There will be another swap, possibly for hair flies.

President Introduced new guests: Bob Kissinger

New Members: Lloyd Erickson and Rick Banks

We now have 51 paid members.

New Business: none

Gilly Ray described the method of deciding how prizes are allocated. He received support to continue his present methods. He attempts to have at least one prize of \$25.00/mo but sometimes it is increased by gifts or decreased by lack of funds. This month we had a handmade map by Bruce, and two DVD's by Steve. Ron B., Gerry S. and Dave C. won the prizes

During the Gilly, only a couple of members have had the opportunity to fish. Joie reports that the rivers have good steelheading and that the Nanaimo River will be opened from the Bungee Zone to the estuary (in Feb) and perhaps not again for many more years. Fish are biting in Cowichan and other rivers due to low water

Main Speaker: Joie did an excellent demo. for rod building.

Meeting Adjourned at: sometime after 8:00 (does anyone really care?)

WANTED

Photos, stories, poems, information, "How To's" etc. for the newsletter.

Recycle your magazines to the waiting rooms in the hospital. Bring them to Larry Miller at the next meeting or noon lunch.