



TIGHTLINES



Life is good! This portable fly tying kit is Rajah's favorite place to hang out when Capt. Larry Roxby sets up camp at Lenice or Blue Lake. "It has fur, feathers, sharp things, shiny things and thread. What else could a cat want?" asks Roxby. — Capt. Larry Photos

Eli sale raises more than \$600 for worthy causes.

At our April meeting, part of Eli's gift to the club was made available for members to purchase.

"We made over \$500." said Norm Primc. "I took the rest of the items to Mike Chamberlain at Ted's and he was going to give it to the Boy Scouts for their fly tying program. Mike sold one of the reels for \$70 so we netted more than \$600."

The best items will be saved for the club's December auction.

May Calendar

5/2-4: Big Twin Outing. Host: Dan Reynolds, 425-673-7028

5/14: General Meeting. Guest Speaker, Peter Patricelli, McKenzie River Fly Fishers, Eugene OR, on dry fly fishing desert lakes.

5/18-22: Blue Lake & Conconelly-Outing. Host Mike Truax, 425-672-6963.

5/23: Depart for Corbett Outing. Host: Steve Murray, 360-422-7335.

5/24: Business Meeting at Alf's in Lynnwood.

Now through Memorial Day: Capt. Larry Roxby is setting up his tent lodge at Blue Lake for the entire month and invites OFF members to drop by and enjoy his hospitality.

Can you overdose on fly fishing? May is your month to find out.

Your odds of winning big at the club raffle this month are unusually good. Because attendance at our May 14th meeting will be unusually low.

The reason? It's May! Time to go fishing.

In addition to our scheduled outings to Big Twin, Blue, Conconelly and Corbett this month, there will be groups heading to Glimpse, Douglas Ranch, the Yakima and other favorite spots around the Northwest and points more distant.



Blue Lake

You also might add Fish Lake, Near Lake Wenatchee, to your list of possibles based on this report from **Doug Pendleton:**

"Hi, Guys. Just wanted to pass the word that Fish Lake is hotter than a pistol right now. Went out for three hours (float tube) two nights ago and landed 20+ rainbows and browns (10-16")."

"Large rubber-legged wooly bugger and/or #14 BH PT, #16 See "MAY MADNESS" Page 2



Steve Worley takes OFF members on a month by month tour of Yakima hatches at April meeting.



Steve Worley and Danny Snider, of Worley Bugger Fly Company in Ellensburg, warm up before the show.

— Dick Simmons Photo

MAY MADNESS From Page 1

prince nymph. It really didn't matter. Double hook-ups on two occasions."

Perry Barth reports that recently he took the two day guided steelhead trip on the Hoh with Troy Dettman that he won at the auction. Unfortunately, they were skunked both days (as was everyone else).

He then followed up the Hoh trip with guided trips on the Lewis, Cowlitz and Satsop. And (you guessed it) three more skunks. But, in Perry's own inimitable way, he was philosophical about it.

"I'd never fished any of those rivers and they were all in my 'bucket'." he said. **"So I was happy."**

Terry Zeitner is looking for a few good men interested in an outing to Glimpse Lake June 12 -16.

There are many 2 - 4 year fish in the 16-24 inch range in Glimpse, and last year, Terry and Dick Hedges discovered (with 9.5 lb. and 6.5 lb. rainbows respectively) there are some REALLY BIG fish there as well.

The June dates coincide with a damsel hatch. The most productive patterns are woolly buggers imitating leaches and Nyerges nymphs imitating the shrimp common to the lake. The evenings will see sedge hatches so elk hair caddis patterns and the Callibaetis mayflies are there in the evenings and early morning.

Let Terry know if you're interested by e-mailing him at tmzeitner2@msn.com

Steve Worley shared some of his experience on the Yakima with club members at our last meeting. Here are a few highlights:

HATCHES TO MATCH

February: Midges, Skwala Stoneflies, BWO Mayflies

March: Midges, Skwala, BWO

April: Midges, BWO, March Brown & Green Drake Mayflies.

May: Midges, BWO, March Brown & Green Drakes, Caddis & Salmonflies

June: March Brown & Green Drakes, Caddis, Salmonflies, Golden Stones, PMD and Yellow Sally Stoneflies

July: Caddis, Golden Stones, PMD and Yellow Sallies

August: Caddis, PMD, Yellow Sallies & October Caddis

September: Caddis, Yellow Sallies & October Caddis

October: BWO, Caddis, October Caddis, Mahogany Dun Mayflies

November: Midges, BWO, October Caddis, Mahogany Duns

December: Midges, BWO

EFFECTIVE PATTERNS

Tungsten Zebra Midge, Biot Midge Pupa, Griffith's Gnat, Chernoble Ant, BH Copper John, Angel Hair Pheasant Tail, #14 Paratrooper March Brown, CDC Parachute March Brown, BWO Cripple, BH Sparkle Dun, Elk Hair Caddis, X Caddis (dark, olive & brown for early spring, light for later spring) Rubber Leg Pheasant Tail, CDC Parachute Green Drake, Little Yellow Sally Stonefly, Copper Micro Stone, Double BH Stone, BH Lightning Bug/Red, BH Copper Nymph, High Visibility Mahogany Cripple.

EFFECTIVE STREAMER PATTERNS

Heavy Metal Sculpin, Yellow Zonker (Natural), Olive Egghead, Olive Muddy Buddy.



The Fly Fishing Life



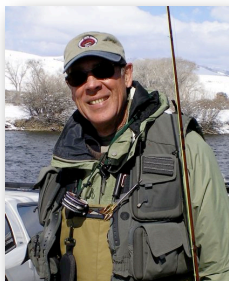
John Kenney fishes a hot riffle on a cold Madison.

Keith Stamm Photo

You Bleed. You Freeze.

By Keith Stamm

What's it like to fish Montana in April?



Keith Stamm

As Dan Wilson said, "you're not fishing until you bleed."

For Dan, Dick Simmons, me, and my brother-in-law John Kenney, from Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the blood and the cold started our first day floating the Beaverhead with guides Tom Smith and Mike Bias.

We were all fishing San Juan worms and #18 BWO nymphs under indicators. However, I chose to confound the guides by using my hand-tied rollover scuds. "If they're good enough for Rocky Ford they're good enough for the Beaverhead,"

I received my punishment later when I fell backwards out of the boat into the river, filling the right leg of my waders with ice cold water and bloodying my left hand. It also turned out that a luggage malfunction enroute to the Big Sky had left Dan with minimal warm gear to wear under his waders. But he managed the 40-degree water bravely in a pair of shorts.

Considering that we also wore out the guides netting our fish, we were off to an excellent start.

The weather on the Beaverhead was just a "warm

up" for the spring creek we fished our second day. The weather was even colder, spiked with spits of sleet and snow. But, once again, we managed to keep our guides warm as they ran back and forth among the four of us to net some nice rainbows and browns, including a couple up to six pounds.

Dan did say it felt a bit cooler but he was more uncomfortable with something inside his wader that kept poking his heel. It turned out to be a #8 sculpin streamer stuck in his sock. We all thought Dan was quite gracious when John suggested that

it might be easier, and certainly less painful, if he kept his used flies in one of those little-foam hook keepers instead of his sock.



Tom holds up Dan's spring creek rainbow taken on a #8 sculpin streamer. Dick Simmons Photo

Dick and I shed some blood of our own from the skid marks left by sharkskin fly line streaking through our fingers all day. But Dan summed it all up by remarking that, "We're not really fishing until we're bleeding."

Wednesday on the Madison was colder still with plenty of ice in the guides. Even Dan resorted to gloves. The Madison's rainbows and browns were plentiful and feisty, most of them coaxed from lazy current seams with #18 BWO nymphs fished deep under an indicator.

John and I kept warm running down the river bank trying to get ahead of 18-inch trout headed for the Missouri. No new blood was drawn but old wounds were reopened. The opportunity to

fish an almost deserted Madison River, drifting

See "MONTANA" on the next page



Dick demos another proven technique for staying warm.



The OFF Beat

IGNORANCE IS NOT BLISS WHEN IT COMES TO CONSERVATION.

The July issue of *Fly Fisherman* has an interesting article about the **Federal Aid in Sports Fishing Restoration Act**, also known as the “D-J/W-B” (for Congressmen John Dingell, Edwin Johnson, Malcolm Wallop, and John Breaux who were instrumental in its creation).

The Act places a 10% manufacturer’s excise tax on all reels, lines and lures, and a 3% tax on tackle boxes and other clearly identifiable fishing tackle items.

This tax is simply passed on to consumers by the manufacturers so essentially, we, as fishermen, are paying it. The money generated, which adds up to about \$200 million a year, is then distributed to the states.

According to Michael Lawler Smith, who wrote the article for *FF*, “this money has been the most important federal funding source to advance recreational angling in the U.S. in the second half of the 20th Century. Nearly all major sport fish restoration — or creation — owes at least part of its success to D-J/W-B.”

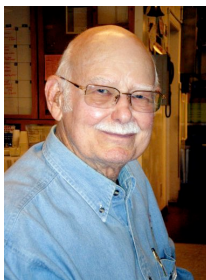
The problem today with D-J/W-B is that most of us aren’t even aware of it. Especially the fact that we’re funding it every time we buy a fishing license or ring up a tab at a fly shop or

online. And with so little awareness among us, the key beneficiaries of D-J/W-B there’s a real possibility that federal or state governments may decide to tap into that money without anyone knowing — especially with non-defense issues taking a back burner to just about everything else in this country.

From the FF article:
“...most Washington, D.C. insiders regard anglers as a relatively small, weak, and naive interest group...It’s not inconceivable that responsible and well-intentioned legislators might view the D-J/W-B funds as an excellent source of emergency discretionary money, better suited for quick bailouts and more visible, sexier projects.”

As we go to press with this issue of *Tightlines*, I could find nothing on the WDFW website related to D-J/W-B. I’ve contacted the department and am waiting for a call back. Stay tuned.. ***A big thanks to Norm Primc for alerting us to this article. DS.***

WELCOME BACK JACK!



We were happy to see Jack Byrd back and looking ship shape after a very tough year. “I’m coming back and looking forward to wetting a

line,” he reports. Jack’s also booked a 58 day cruise to Antarctica leaving in January 2009.

MONTANA from Page 3

Dan’s suitcase arrived on Wednesday, just in time for the weather to turn warmer. His floor length, fly patterned nightshirt also arrived. Being awakened by Dan in his nightshirt at 6 a.m. with a cheerful, “Coffee boys?” is an experience one does not easily forget.

Our final day of the trip was capped off with a gorgeous drift of

the Big Hole River. By lunchtime, a few nice fish had been caught before the snow melt chilled the river into the 30s. Then the fish went off the bite and we kicked back and just enjoyed the long float down the Big Hole canyon.

Our apologies to new member Rolf Mogster for misspelling his name in our April issue. DS



General Information

The General meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the South County Senior Center, 220 Railroad Ave., Edmonds, WA. Social hour: 6:00 p.m.

The Business meeting is held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Alf’s 4820 196th SW, Lynnwood, WA. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Officers:

Mike Bunney, President, 425-672-3345

Dick Hedges, Vice President, 425-337-9070

Jim Gauntt, Treasurer, 425-776-1017

Keith Stamm, Secretary, 206-368-5596

Dick Simmons, Communications. & TIGHTLINES Ed. 425-778-9804

Phil Sacks, Gillie 425-741-7311

Joe Conner, Trustee, 425-744-8085

Chairs:

Outings, Dan Reynolds, 425-673-7028

Education, Eric Sauer, 425-776-3811, Doug Pendleton 206-282-5366

Conservation, Mike Truax, 425-672-6963

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