



January 2015 Newsletter

*January meeting – Tuesday January 6th at 6pm
BJ's Restaurant – Hamilton*

“ We fished not until the light had failed but until we were sore-armed from casting and tired of catching trout. As we walked away from the river, I thought I must have crossed over into the realm of the eternal fortunate and would have such days forever, but I was mistaken. It was only our turn to be rewarded.”

***-Bill Barich
Crazy for Rivers***

Happy New Year to Members and Friends of Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot!

It's not too early to start on that list of flies you will need for Skwala (and the rest of the season, for that matter). January is a good time to spend cleaning fly lines and oiling reels or getting started on boat and trailer repairs. The list is endless, but don't put it off too long.....

The Program

Our speaker will be Joe Kipp. Joe will share his intimate knowledge of the fishing and recreational opportunities on the numerous lakes of the Blackfeet Reservation.

Joe Kipp lives with his wife Kathy on their ancestral land of the Blackfeet Nation. They have raised sustainable beef and horses, and a family on their ranch. Joe has been a tribal outfitter for over 30 years. He has been in several books and documentaries featuring fishing, hunting on the Blackfeet Reservation. If you enjoy catching BIG fish then don't miss Joe's presentation.

The Presidents Message

Normally during the December general meeting we elect directors for the ensuing year. However, as we had to put off the election until January Chris Anderson will be taking the reins in February. The Board will choose members to fill officers' positions to be announced at the February meeting.

Hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year celebration and now are looking forward to a new fishing year. Some of you may even have some new equipment thanks to Santa Claus. During the doldrums of this winter let me urge you again to join us at the Bitterroot Brewery for fly tying on Wednesday evenings throughout the winter months. Even if you don't tie you can join in fishing talk. Here is to an upcoming great year of fishing.

Doug Duff

Callibaetis Paranymph

by Bob Percy

Recipe



Hook:	Tiemco TMC100BL, size 16
Thread:	Uni-Thread 8/0, gray
Tail:	Mottled hen neck fibers
Abdomen:	Superfine dubbing, Adams gray
Rib:	Copper wire, small
Thorax:	Same as abdomen
Wing case and wing:	Natural deer hair
Hackle:	Grizzly

The Callibaetis Paranymph is another pattern developed by the famous fly tyer, Bob Quigley. It simulates a nymph that has just reached the surface and is in the early stages of shedding its nymphal shuck. Deer hair is tied on at about the 50% point of the hook shank and folded over to simulate the wing case. It is then tied down before being clipped short to simulate emerging wings. Overall it is a relatively easy fly to tie. The tail and abdomen sink below the surface, whereas the thorax, wing case and developing wings sit in the surface film. The duns spend little time on the water, particularly on bright sunny days, so trout often seem to key on the more readily captured nymphs in the surface film that this pattern imitates.

Callibaetis mayflies are common in weedy lakes and reservoirs such as Hebgen Lake, Clark Canyon Reservoir and Georgetown Lake. They typically hatch from late morning to midafternoon and from July into September. There can be as many as three generations per year in some lakes, with each successive generation being smaller than the previous one. Flies in sizes 14 to 18 are therefore necessary to imitate the full range of sizes. In Hebgen fish feed on them by slowly cruising just under the surface and then rising every few feet to pick one off. These are the famous gulpers of this lake. The strategy is to pick a fish within casting distance and then try and cast the fly 4 to 5 feet in front of it and then hope that the fish doesn't turn. With a little luck it will eat your paranymph!

Callibaetis are also found in some slow-moving spring creeks and in weedy tail waters like the Missouri below Holter dam. The Headhunters Fly Shop blog states that Callibaetis hatches are locally important in September on the Missouri.

OLD FART HUMOR

A group of golfing buddies, all in there 40's, discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Hooters because it wasn't far from the course, the waitresses were young, good looking, showed lots of cleavage and wore short-shorts.

Ten years later, at age 50, the golfing buddies once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Hooters because the food and service was good, they had many televisions to watch the games on, and the beer selection was excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the gang again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Hooters because there was plenty of parking, they could dine in peace, and it was good value for the money.

Ten years later, at age 70, they discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Hooters because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had a toilet for the disabled.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at Hooters because they had never been there before.

CLUB SHOW AND TELL

Each year, the Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot compiles photos sent in by members into a monthly program. This is variously entitled "Show and Tell" or "What We Did Last Summer." Most of these photos are of members wearing foolishly large grins while holding seriously large fish. But the photos can be of groups, landscapes, trips to exotic lands, etc., really anything consistent with our avocation of fly-fishing. This year, Bob Prince,

having so much free time on his hands, has graciously offered to do the compiling. The single condition is that the photos be sent to him electronically. So, go back through all those photos you took over the past year and send them to Bob Prince at robertwaprince@gmail.com. Do not hesitate too long. If you want to see yourself or fishing companions in this compendium, you must send them soon.

Smith River

A number of Club members have expressed interest in doing the Smith River float. Joe Sowerby, owner of Montana Fly-fishing Connection, and the outfitter we all use, has graciously provided five dates in 2015 that are available to our Club. For those who have never experienced this iconic MT float, here is how it works: You may try to get a date acceptable to you via the draw system used by FWP but most of us have not been successful in that effort. Instead, we have been offered to use Joe Sowerby's allocated outfitter dates on those dates Joe is not booking full priced sports. This system keeps Joe's guides busy all summer and utilizes his allocated dates. The cost to us is \$1200 per capita for a four-night five-day float. Joe provides camp cooks, usually three, for a group of about ten. All food, some wine and beer, tents, cots, etc. is included. Camp set ups, dishwashing and related chores are done by the guides. You provide your own sleeping bag (but Joe can provide if necessary). You provide your own raft (but Joe can provide usually if necessary). Most importantly, you row yourself. At this price, no guide is rowing for you. The rowing is easy; the Smith is not a hard river. You can pay about triple our cost and have a dedicated guide to row you each day. Your car is shuttled to the takeout for \$100. The floaters assemble the night before put in in White Sulphur Springs. Dinner that evening in a local tavern with guides. Drive to Camp Baker next day, about thirty miles distant, for a 9ish debarkation. You pack your own personals. Joe provides a recommended list at his website: smithriverflyfishing.com The guides are tipped at the end. You are off river on day five in time to drive home for supper.

It would be impolitic to ask Joe to reserve a float for us with less than eight signed up and confirmed. I would hope we would have ten to twelve for a given date. While Joe did not limit us on the number of

dates we use, I suspect we will not book enough folks for more than two put in dates. SO I am going to publish the five dates available and collect indications of interest. Please provide me with dates you can go in order of preference and dates you cannot go. Do not bother asking me about other dates; I will not respond. I will collate your input and determine which dates our Club books with Joe. The available dates are: May 14-18, May 23-27, May 31-June 4, July 14-18 and July 17-21. (If 2015 is a very high water year, there is a possibility of booking a fall trip, but this has proved elusive in the recent past.)

Email me. Please do not call. Rich Morrissey, richmorrisey@q.com.

Loss of one of our own

Club member Jim Shuttleworth passed December 29th while waiting for a heart transplant in Spokane. His own heart had failed physically but in spirit he remained big-hearted, ready to share a stream or a fast desert ride - fighting to the end. Jim is survived by his wife, Estelle, Hamilton, and son, Dale, of Southern California. For much of his life before retiring to Hamilton, Jim was a fly fishing guide splitting time between Washington and Mexico. Notes of condolence may be sent to Estelle at 143 Sleeping Child Drive, Hamilton, MT 59840.



Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside in a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming "Wow! What a Ride!"

James Barry Shuttleworth 1.22.47-12.29.14



Ron Chestna 89 years of age was stopped by the police around 2 a.m. and was asked where he was going at that time of night .

Ron replied, "I'm on my way to a lecture about alcohol abuse and the effects it has on the human body, as well as smoking and staying out late."

The officer asked, "Really? Who's giving that lecture at this time of night?"

Ron replied, "That would be my wife."

WINTER FLY TYING AT THE BREWERY

Phil Romans wants to remind members, non members and the general public that he and a motley crew of other fly tiers and beer drinkers will be getting together every WEDNESDAY NIGHT beginning the first Wednesday in November at the BITTERROOT BREWERY to tie flies and exchange lies. Tying and telling begins around 5pm and lasts till closing

time at 8pm. bring your tying equipment or just come and watch the tiers. Kids and spouses are welcome – in fact several of the young tiers at this years TU Banquet got their start at the brewery (tying, that is)

“At the outset, it should be recognized that the community of fishermen constitutes a separate class or sub-race among the inhabitants of the earth”

Grover Cleveland – 22nd President of the United States

With the Holidays almost over I would like to share a personal experience with my friends about drinking and driving. As you may know some of us have been known to have brushes with the authorities from time to time on the way home after a "social session" out with friends.

Well, two days ago I was out for an evening with friends and had several cocktails followed by some rather nice red wine.

Feeling jolly I still had the sense to know that I may be slightly over the limit. That's when I did something that I've never done before - I took a cab home.

Sure enough on the way home there was a police road block, but since it was a cab they waved it past.

I arrived home safely without incident. This was a real surprise as I had never driven a cab before; I don't know where I got it and, now that it's in my garage, I don't know what to do with it.

Hope you enjoyed the humor this issue – obviously I'm a bit short of fly-fishing content this month...Ed