



## **Nov. 2016 Newsletter**

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**FFB Meeting  
Tuesday November 1  
Dinner at 6pm (optional)  
Meeting at 7pm  
BJ's Restaurant – Hamilton**

### **Program Speaker**

For our November program we are privileged to have Dr. Diana Six. Diana is a Professor of Forest Entomology/Pathology at the College of Forestry and Conservation at the University of Montana. Diana is an editor of numerous professional journals and frequently travels to Africa as part of her ongoing research efforts.

Diana's topic will be "What Aquatic Insects can tell you about a Stream". She will discuss why insects are an excellent indicator of stream/ river conditions and a good measure of how stream restoration is progressing.

Diana is also an avid fly fisher and tier. She is a board member of the

West Slope Chapter of Trout Unlimited and participates in the Watershed Education Network.

### **Program Report**

The **December** meeting will be the annual business meeting and election of officers for the coming year. This will be followed by a short program by Tim Joyner, a professional local wildlife artist who focuses on trout.

The **January** meeting will be the annual slide show. Please get your pictures to Bob Prince who will combine them into an interesting program.

## **The Presidents Message**

November is here and with it will come the first real blast of winter. It seems like it happens overnight, an arctic front will roll in sometime mid-to-late month and turn our once liquid waters into a solid state, or something that resembles the slushy that you or your kid/grandkid might have ordered at the county fair a few months back. Though winter won't officially start until December, November is definitely the turning point. One day you wake up and just like that it seems the cottonwoods are barren, snow is blanketing the peaks and you think "where the heck did fall go?" It's hard to accept it when that sweet season comes to an end and most of us anglers take it hard. Some of us refuse to give in and head over the hill to swing crazy looking flies for anadromous trout until we can't feel our fingers or toes, and our guides ice up so bad we finally can't take it anymore. Others will venture over the divide to play the tailwater game between snow storms. For most though, November is the end of the line, at least for a while...

It's true, most of our insects are done for the year, save for a few midges, a smattering of blue wings, and the occasional lonely October Caddis. November is usually the month that I hang up the rod for a while, taking time to chase birds and big game and wax the skis in anticipation of the white stuff falling on the mountains.

The 8 or so months of the frenzy of fishing has been replaced by a sudden stillness. The amount of sudden free time can be a little unnerving to be honest. Time to start refilling the boxes for spring and summer (only 150 brindle 'chutes to go!). Though we might agree that winter ain't our favorite season, it is a necessary and beautiful part of the rhythm and flow of life in the Rockies. Without snow there'd be no trout after-all. Winter is the time to enjoy tying flies, catching up on your reading, and generally doing everything that you neglected to do during the season. So enjoy those last pleasant days before the artic express arrives.

In club news, our board elections are coming up in December. We are always in need of good folks to serve on the board and help out. Our

club only works because of you, the members! It doesn't take much, just an interest in helping our club grow. You don't even need to live here all year! You also don't have to be a long time member to serve. We love having new members on the board. Those fresh ideas and perspectives are very welcome. If you haven't served on the board yet I sincerely hope that you would consider it. If you have any interest, please shoot me an email.

Oh, and don't forget to start sending me those fish pictures for the slideshow! Hard to believe it's almost that time already!

Tight Lines!

Bob Prince - President

## **Fly of the Month November 2016**

By  
Dennis Westover

### **The El Sculpito Dos Streamer**

The El Sculpito Dos is the creation of "Cheech" Pierce, one of the owners and operators of the "Fly Fish Food"

<http://www.flyfishfood.com> website and on line fly shop. He and his partner are very creative tyers and fly designers. Their creations are somewhat complicated to tie but the tying process is made easier and instructive by their very well done instructional videos

[www.youtube.com/user/frycdf](http://www.youtube.com/user/frycdf) The El Sculpito Dos is the second generation of the El Sculpito pattern and is my #1 sculpin pattern for low water situations.

You can find the specific YouTube tying tutorial for the El Sculpito at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ac0R1ZmzKJs>

I tie the pattern in two colors, olive and gold. I've listed below the

recipe for the olive. The gold recipe can be found on the Fly Fish Food website.



## **Recipe**

Hook: Gamakatsu B10S #1/0 or Allen B200 #6 (Allen hooks can be ordered from their website at <http://www.allenflyfishing.com>)

Eyes: Brass barbell (with red eyes) 4.8mm (also available at Allen)

Thread: UTC 70 denier Olive

Body: Arizona Mega Simi Seal – Dark Olive Brown

Pectoral Fins: Silicon streamer legs – Olive Gold

Over-Body: Olive Rabbit Strip

All of the materials are available at the Fly fish Food website

I Usually fish the pattern dead drift with an occasional twitch and if that isn't working I try four or five short strips, let the fly sink to the bottom (it rarely snags since it rides hook point UP) and repeat the twitch retrieve. If you are an experienced tyer this is a pattern you will enjoy tying. Beginners and intermediate tyers should be able to tie this by closely following the YouTube tutorial. Have Fun!!!

## **FFB Board News**

### **Board Openings:**

The board memberships expire in December. FFB is your club and needs your effort so we are looking for persons interested office.

If you are interested contact a current office holder: President: Bob Prince, Vice-President: Estelle Shuttlesworth, Secretary: Pierre Satkowiak, Treasurer: Ken Quinn, to learn more.

## **FFB Help Wanted:**

- Program assistant to help arrange FFB speakers and events.
- Raffle Coordinator to learn and take over in January
- Assistant to help maintain our web page  
( <http://www.flyfishersofthebitterroot.org/> ) and work up to be  
webpage admin

## **FFB Membership Renewals due**

The Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot Club fiscal/membership year ends August 31, 2016 so it is time to renew your membership for 2017.

<http://www.flyfishersofthebitterroot.org/contact>

or mail your renewal to:

FFB  
PO Box 692  
Victor, Mt 59875



## **Bitterroot Water Forum Work Day**

Winter is coming and days are shorter and cooler, BRWF needs your help to get things done for clean water before winter arrives!

Three years ago we implemented two revegetation projects on Cameron Creek to stabilize eroding banks and create shade needed to reduce stream temperatures and provide a healthy habitat for fish.

This year we will continue those projects by adding more willow fascines (bundles of willow cuttings placed along banks), coir wattles (bundled coconut fiber logs), and individual willow cuttings to help promote vegetation and shade the stream. These additions will help bolster the existing projects.

Help complete another round of willow cutting and restoration work by volunteering for one or both of the following dates!

**Saturday, October 29th - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
and Wednesday, November 2nd - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

We will be placing willow fascine structures, coir wattles, and additional willow cuttings into existing projects on Cameron Creek.

### *What to Bring:*

- Work Gloves
- Closed toed shoes such as hiking/work boots
- Waders if you have them
- Extra tools that you may be able to provide (hammers, shovels, cutters, etc.)
- Water and Lunch (BRWF will provide lunch on Saturday 10/29)

### *Carpooling*



- Meet at the Safeway in Hamilton, MT at 9:00 am to carpool

***Working Conditions:** Will be outside, walking over uneven terrain, long periods of standing, bending, lifting, reaching, and some digging.*

**If you would like to volunteer for one or multiple of these days please email stephanie.brwf@gmail.com with you name, email, phone number, and if you are able to use your car to carpool.**

Hope to see you there,

Katie Vennie  
Program Assistant

## **Bitterroot Trout Unlimited**

BRTU just held our 37th Annual BRTU banquet on 10/14 and what a success! Thanks to the support of many, many donors and volunteers we surpassed last years' gross! What great news for BRTU projects and education plans for 2017. This was our first to implement a paddle call, this one focused specifically on the Bugger's equipment needs and we received over \$3000! Amazing and again shows the fabulous support from our community. Thanks to all who attended and supported our only fund raising event of the year.

## **FFB Fly Tying**

Hi folks,

Make a note on your calendar; Nov. 2, Wednesday, begins the first fly tying session of the season, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Bitterroot Brewery

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We continue our yearly tying sessions for anyone who is interested in learning how to tie, or just coming to tie up your specialties for the coming season. We invite all family member to this event, and lots of folks in the past have enjoyed the fruits of their labor. On occasion, we'll have an expert demonstrate his or her skill at the bench for your enjoyment, and edification. We also get out the word regarding the Bitterroot Buggers program championed by our own TU organization. That program is for youngsters from 9 to 15 years of age and starts early next year. If you know of a child who might enjoy this program, call Greg Chester for more information.

For information on the tying sessions, call Dennis McIntyre at 363-4054, or Phil Romans at 363-0744

## **Fishing Reports**

Good days for fishing...

A couple of friends and I went out from Woodside to Tucker this Sunday. I had fished it a few days before so I was pretty confident that we would find a Mahogany Dun hatch, and hopefully an occasional October Caddis. We started off with a couple of fish at the Woodside bridge (Whitefish mostly) with nymphs. Right after lunch we started to

see a hatch of Mahoganys, and some smaller Mayflies, perhaps BWOs (Blue Winged Olives). It's been happening at just about 2:00 PM every day in that area so we had a pretty good day with a few nice fish. We essentially fished with small Cripples and other Mahogany patterns with a size ten or twelve Brindle Chute as an indicator. I usually put the Mahogany about 20" behind the "Chute" on 5X tippet. We actually caught the bigger fish on Chuck's Brindle Chute. I think they were taking it for the October Caddis.

That said, if you have a chance to get out on the river, now is a very good time to catch some nice fish and have the river to yourself. We also saw a pretty good Spinner fall at the Tucker take out, at around 5:00 PM and the bugs were starting to fall on the water shortly after. For you "Walk and Waders" it's a good opportunity to practice up on your long casts with light leader and small fly. The Spinners were about a size 14 and the fish started rising on them just as we were getting out. One of the guys had not had a great day, but was able to finish up with a couple of nice Trout and a few more takes right at Tucker at the end of our day.

We're heading out to the Salmon tomorrow (Tues. the 25th) and I'll again fish it on the 27th with Bob Percy and a guide from Ed Link's service.

I've been hearing pretty good things about the Clearwater. One of our members, Dennis Swing was over there about two weeks ago and caught two really nice fish. Bob Percy has been down to the Salmon and caught a couple of fish there. Give me a call if you want a fish report on the Salmon or just a report on the local conditions. The water is up on the Bitterroot. as you may have noticed so it's not so easy to wade all the favorite spots but there's a nice hatch going on right now.

Phil Romans

## **FFB Member Classified Ads**

The Board of Directors set a policy in 2011 concerning classified ads in our newsletter. We want to facilitate our members selling unwanted, unneeded gear. The follow rules apply: (1) the seller must be a Club member, (2) the seller must be noncommercial; (3) this editors has full right to edit submitted materials; they should be “Tweet” size (4) the ads will run a maximum of two times and then be retired; (5) the thing to be sold must be fishing related.

### **Summary:**

FFB members may submit ads to sell used fishing related equipment per this policy of 2011. (We now have 160+ members.) email ads to the newsletter editor.

Item for sale:

Price:

Contact:

Member No.:

Newsletter editor Jim Calvery at [jimmie.calvery@gmail.com](mailto:jimmie.calvery@gmail.com) phone 406 961 0187