



NEWSLETTER FOR JANUARY, 2012

THE MEETING

This newsletter almost missed the ether post. Too much Holiday frolicking, I expect. I hope the tardiness of the notice does not cause you to miss our January meeting. It's a good'n.

We start 2012 with our usual meeting on the first Tuesday of every month this January 3, 2012, at BJ's located at 900 N. 1st Street, Hamilton. General fish tails start at 6:00 pm and the program starts at 7:00 pm.

THE SPEAKER

"What we did last summer" (and spring and fall and maybe even last winter). This program is one of the most fun programs of the year. Bob Percy and Jeff Lowe have labored long and hard on putting all those photos you sent to them into a video. It will be rogue's gallery of photo shopped fish and rakish grins. You will recapture the moments of the past year, at least those you were willing to share with us.

THOSE WHO SPAKE

December was our annual pot pourri of presenters. Thanks to all those patient folks who sat and put up with us and shared their skills: Bill Bean, Jeff Gray, Chuck Stranahan, Phil Romans and Greg Chester.

THE SECRETARY ' S MESSAGE

Since we are in transition between Presidents of our Club, I am exercising editorial license and inserting my own message here. I expect our President-to-be, Jim Cline, will join this page for our February meeting.

First, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot, we wish you all a healthy, happy and very fishy New Year. And keep in mind, the skwala hatch is a matter of a few weeks away.

Second, our Club works because of the unselfish efforts of many of its members, particularly those on the Board of Directors. This year, we had a number of long term directors make room on the Board for new folks. The efforts of Cathy Lowe, Cliff Gibbons, Bob Pearcy and Bob Fickett over the past years have been substantial and instrumental in the continuing vibrancy and successes of our Club. We all owe them a great debt of gratitude. The new directors, Brent Greenwell, Nick Hopper, Jay Meltzer, Judy Morrissey and Howard Knight, are stepping into responsible roles in our Club. We all need to support them.

Third, our new President, Jim Cline, will bring fresh perspective and energy to our leadership. We all look forward to supporting him in 2012.

Fourth, we are extremely fortunate in having a large supporting cast from our members. When we ask for volunteers, whether to help in the May Clinic or on a streamside revegetation project, it is gratifying to see so many of you turn out to help. And many of you help in so many other ways, such as contributing handmade flies, rods and nets for the monthly raffles. So, thanks to all of you. We are your Club because you each make it possible.

Fifth, thanks to all who responded to our questionnaire. The Board will be analyzing the responses in the near future.

Finally, may the water's song sooth you in 2012 and gently wash away all your cares.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Brindle Rubber Legs

By Phil Romans

Hook: Dai-Riki #730 2X long shank nymph hook, size 8
Thread: 8/0 brown or green
Weight: one full wrap of 0.025 lead wire overwrapped with thread and liberally coated with cement

Tail and antenna: two strands of light brown or light burnt orange rubber legs

Legs : Same as tail and antenna

Body: Medium black/coffee variegated chenille. Wrap the chenille to hold the legs in position.

. This fly is very effective on the Bitterroot early in the season, in March and April. Later in April, when the golden stones begin to move, tie it with chenille with more gold in it. Fish it under an indicator very close to the banks and brush. If you are not losing flies you are not fishing it in the right place. However, you will be surprised at how many times you think you caught the bottom or brush, only to have your line pull back when you lift up as it is grabbed by a nice fish. It is easy to tie so you can go to the river with plenty.



ODDS AND ENDS

Fly tying:

Every Wednesday evening at the Brew Pub.

FOR FUN

***** 23 ADULT TRUTHS *****

- 1 Sometimes I'll look down at my watch 3 consecutive times and still not know what time it is.
2. Nothing sucks more than that moment during an argument when you realize you're wrong.
3. I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger.
4. There is great need for a sarcasm font.
5. How the hell are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?

6. Was learning cursive really necessary?
7. Map Quest really needs to start their directions on # 5. I'm pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.
8. Obituaries would be a lot more interesting if they told you how the person died.
9. I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind-of tired.
10. Bad decisions make good stories.
11. You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment at work when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.
12. Can we all just agree to ignore whatever comes after Blue Ray? I don't want to have to restart my collection...again.
13. I'm always slightly terrified when I exit out of Word and it asks me if I want to save any changes to my ten-page technical report that I swear I did not make any changes to.
14. I keep some people's phone numbers in my phone just so I know not to answer when they call.
15. I think the freezer deserves a light as well.
16. I disagree with Kay Jewelers. I would bet on any given Friday or Saturday night more kisses begin with Miller Light than Kay.
17. I wish Google Maps had an "Avoid Ghetto" routing option.
18. I have a hard time deciphering the fine line between boredom and hunger.
19. How many times is it appropriate to say "What?" before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?
20. I love the sense of camaraderie when an entire line of cars team up to prevent a jerk from cutting in at the front. Stay strong, brothers and sisters!
21. Shirts get dirty. Underwear gets dirty. Pants? Pants never get dirty, and you

can wear them forever.

22. Even under ideal conditions people have trouble locating their car keys in a pocket, finding their cell phone, and Pinning the Tail on the Donkey - but I'd bet everyone can find and push the snooze button from 3 feet away, in about 1.7 seconds, eyes closed, first time, every time.

23. The first testicular guard, the "Cup," was used in Hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974. That means it only took 100 years for men to realize that their brains are also important.

THE AUTHOR

Judy and I look forward to seeing each and all of you at our meetings and on the water this year. You can reach me at 406-381-5611 or **richmorrisey@q.com**. I encourage newsletter ideas.