



NEWSLETTER FOR OCTOBER, 2011

THE MEETING

Fall is in the air. The hay is cut and put up; the garden is winding down. The mornings are cool, even cold, although my skin still has cellular memory of the heat of summer. Can BWO's be far behind? But Chuck Stranahan waxed so beautifully poetic at our last members meeting on fall fishing on the Bitterroot, I'll end here. Ya'll had to be there.

We meet on Tuesday, October 4 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

Heather Mullee, Executive Director of the Bitterroot Water Forum, will speak about the planting of regenerative vegetation on the East Fork, particularly as it impacts fisher folk and wildlife.

THOSE WHO SPAKE

Chuck Stranahan provided our September program. It was entitled "Bitterroot in autumn, Flies and Techniques." Thank you, Chuck.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello, everyone!

I hope you are enjoying this last taste of summer before autumn arrives. I hear fishing is amazing this time of year, but alas, have been rather busy with guests, gardening, and building a new greenhouse. Soon, though, I will finish my greenhouse, procrastinate working on my to-do list, forgo watching football on a Saturday or Sunday and get some of those hungry trout for myself.

Don't forget to email your "What I did this year" pictures to Jeff Lowe at fischjager@gmail.com or Bob Pearcy at rwpearcy@gmail.com. They will need plenty of time to organize a show for us this winter.

We had a great summer promoting our club and our activities, and hope to see a great turnout from our members at our clinics, events, and helping out with activities such as the Bitterroot Buggers program.

Don't forget to buy your ultimate guide to our home river for yourself, your family and friends, *Fly Fishing the Bitterroot*, available to members for only \$16 at our general meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at BJs.

Fish on!

Cathy Lowe

President

FLY OF THE MONTH

Parachute Black Ant

Tied by Bob Pearcy

Ants seem to be a cherished part of a trout's diet. Occasionally there will be big ant hatches but more often trout will take them opportunistically after they fall into the water. A #18 or #20 black ant is almost impossible to see on the water so the post serves to increase visibility. With it you will most likely be able to see the fly even at the end of a moderately long cast. The fly sits in the film and presents a realistic ant-like profile to the fish. This basic pattern can be tied with brown or rust dubbing and brown hackle to imitate a cinnamon ant, or with hackle tip wings tied in at the thorax to imitate a flying ant. Try a two-tone ant!

Recipe

Hook: Standard dry fly, size 16 to 22

Thread: Black 8/0

Thorax and Abdomen: Black Superfine dubbing as balls fore and aft. Separate them by the hook shank covered with a single layer of thread.

Post: Floating polypropylene yarn in a color of your choice

Hackle: Two to three turns of black

Hackle: Keep it sparse

Head: Black thread



ODDS AND ENDS

Book Sales:

Help us get this fine work distributed. Remember that Christmas is coming soon. They will be available at the meeting at members' discount.

Fly tying:

It will start the first Wednesday in November at the usual time and place, that is, the Hamilton Brew Pub and at 5:30 pm.

Membership:

You should be proud to a member in our vibrant Club. We have over 100 paid memberships and a number of complimentary members. And we grow every month.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Board of Directors set a policy recently concerning classified ads in our newsletter. We want to facilitate our members selling unwanted, unneeded gear. The following rules apply: (1) the seller must be a Club member; (2) the seller must be noncommercial; (3) this editor 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 or things to be sold

must be related to fly fishing; and (6) we not will charge for the ad placement and take no responsibility for its accuracy.

BOAT FOR SALE – 14ft aluminum boat and 25hp Mariner outboard. Includes trailer with spare. Boat is set up for fly fishing and includes flat floor, hydraulic steering station, electric starting and fore and aft anchors. \$2400. Call Dennis Westover 206 605 0404 or Jay Haglund 406 961 4275.

FOR FUN

HILLBILLY VASECTOMY

After their 11th child, an Alabama couple decided that was enough, as they could not afford a larger bed. So the husband went to his veterinarian and told him that he and his cousin didn't want to have any more children. The doctor told him that there was a procedure called a vasectomy that could fix the problem but that it was expensive.

'A less costly alternative,' said the doctor, 'is to go home, get a cherry bomb, (fireworks are legal in Alabama) light it, put it in a beer can (COORS), then hold the can up to your ear and count to 10.'

The Alabamian said to the doctor, 'I may not be the smartest tool in the shed, but I don't see how putting a cherry bomb in a beer can next to my ear is going to help me.' 'Trust me,' said the doctor.

So the man went home, lit a cherry bomb and put it in a beer can. He held the can up to his ear and began to count!

'1' '2' '3' '4' '5'

At which point he paused, placed the beer can between his legs and continued counting on his other hand. This procedure also works in Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, and parts of Georgia, Missouri, West Virginia and ALL of Washington DC.

THE AUTHOR

Judy and I are catching up on fishing and snuggling down for the winter. Hope you are well and as happy as we are. You can reach me at 406-381-5611 or **richmorrisey@q.com**. I encourage newsletter ideas.