



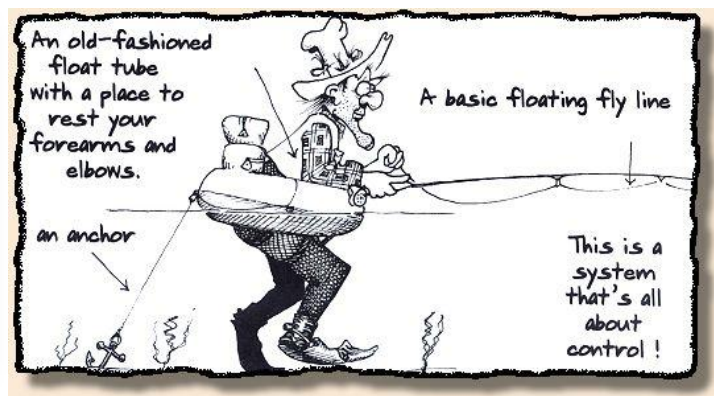
"Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot is a nonprofit club dedicated to sharing our passion for fly fishing by promoting fellowship, education and stewardship of our fishing resources."

July/August Newsletter

Next Club Meeting is Tuesday September 4th at BJ's.

Hello everyone

It is finally summer and I am sure everyone is occupied with friends, travel, fishing, gardens, etc. This is a short newsletter as I am also on the go. June was busy for the Club as we had a great presentation by Denny Westover at the last club meeting on lake fishing, The Skip Morris Workshop and Special Needs Day. Coming up In July is the Georgetown Outing starting next week- officially on the 12th- & ending on Sunday the 15th. The club's BBQ will be on the Saturday evening and there will be a breakfast on Sunday Morning. After two great presentations on how to lake fish, there should be no excuses for not going & trying! Dorreen Romans is in charge of coordinating the food for the BBQ & breakfast, so be sure & let her know if you are coming. She can be reached at home: 406-363-0744 or her cell: 406-239-7044. The club supplies the burgers, dogs and condiments, the rest of you are asked to bring something to contribute. With all the new skills we have learned there should be LOTS of fish caught & released—try & get pictures OK?



*On warm summer afternoons and evening, starting about mid to late June and lasting until about early September, a large Georgetown Lake Caddis, the **Traveling Sedge**, makes an appearance..... maybe this time?*

August 19th, a Sunday, is the annual picnic. Location is the same at Steve Lilburn's Hannon House in Darby.

Until Georgetown

-Tight Lines, Estelle

Upcoming Programs and Events

July 11-15th: Georgetown Outing

August 19th: Annual Picnic at the Hannon House

September 4th: Back Country Hunters & Anglers

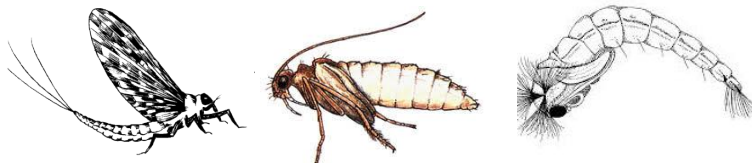
October 2nd: Doug McKnight of Yellow Dog Outfitters

November: David Ward- floating the Smith River slideshow

December: Annual meeting And Elections.

2018 Summer Fly of the Month

Oops, doesn't appear to be one—They must be in test phase on the rivers and lakes.....



JOB OPENINGS

2019 PROGRAM CHAIR-is also a Board position

2019 RAFFLE CHAIR- is also a Board position

2019 Member at large- 4-5 Board positions Open

Come on people- we need your commitment & support to keep this club at the top of the game!

Contact a Board member for more info

Goldens

You look for a stonefly riffle:

You want to see where the pure shafts of dusk light send shimmering reflections skyward in that certain pattern that will bring the goldens stoneflies there; you hope you're in the right place, or if you know the place from experience, you wait. You wait expectantly, you anticipate what you hope will happen.

And then it does: You watch as the heavily burdened insects seem to appear from nowhere and hover a few feet off the water, then begin to drop – just a few at first – their wings caught in the water, dropping their precious cargo of fertile eggs, struggling in their commotion to get off.

A few begin to drop, then a few more... they get noticed by the trout, and as a more drop out of the hovering mass above the water, the trout seem to seek them out.

You have your favorite golden stonefly pattern on – one you tied over the winter. You're ready.

And yet, you sit. You watch the spectacle before you. You watch and listen as the nighthawks appear, circling and diving in an aerobatic show that would outstrip a team of stunt flyers in Cessnas; the trout are not alone in pursuit of the golden stones.

You snap out of your reverie and pull line off your reel, slowly walk to the spot where you'll enter the stream and wade quietly, carefully, as you aerialize the line away from the fish, and then shift the cast to cover that one fish you've been watching...

The following afternoon you're in the front seat of your friend's boat. You watched him while you were at the sticks, and now it's your turn. You see a goldens in the air over in the run below; you see a few fish rising. You pick the best one: you land the fly well ahead of the rise, let it drift in, and then ever-so-gently move it, just a bit, just enough to stir the telltale wake of a living insect...

For moments like these, golden stones are my favorite hatch. The flies are big but not too big; they're visible on the water but not too bulky to cast. The naturals are there well into August after a start in late June, although they're not the dominant hatch later on. But did you ever notice how the favorite midsummer attractor patterns, flies like the Yellow Stimulator, closely resemble the golden stone? There's a reason for that.

One of my favorite flies to tie and fish is my golden stone pattern. Until she discovered the Brindle 'Chute my wife Jan called it "the killer." For me it out-fishes anything else I've tried for goldens; beyond that it brings a certain aesthetic sense to the moments when it is most effective.

While foam flies work well enough, this one floats nearly as well and catches more fish, and when I use a foam fly it leaves me feeling as if I missed something.

There is, in the end, an aesthetic component to our sport. That's something I never want to lose touch with, especially when golden stones are on the water.



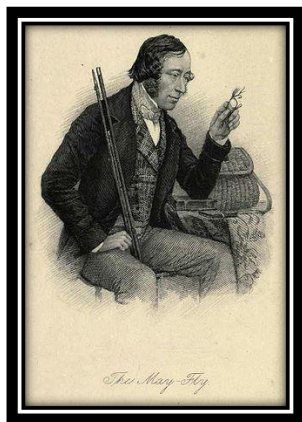
Chuck's Golden Stone dry fly

Photo by Jan Stranahan

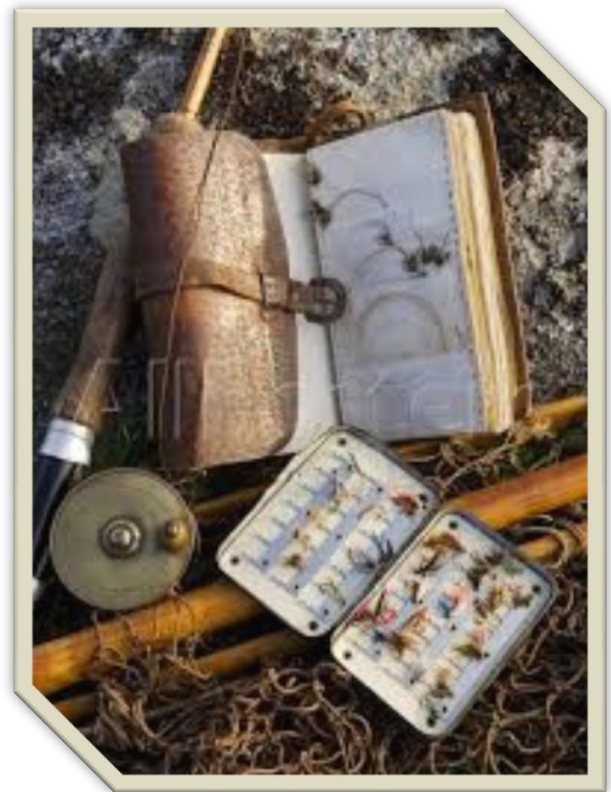
THE WAY IT WAS.....

He and I talked politics and trout-flies all one sultry day as we wandered up and down the shallows of the stream afore said. Little fish are sweet. I spent two hours whipping a ripple for a fish that I knew was there, and in the pasture-scented dusk caught a three-pounder on a ragged old brown hackle and landed him after ten minutes' excited argument. He was a beauty. If ever any man works the Western trout-streams, he would do well to bring out with him the dingiest flies he possesses. The natives laugh at the tiny English hooks, but they hold, and duns and drabs and sober grays seem to tickle the aesthetic tastes of the trout. For salmon (but don't say that I told you) use the spoon- gold on one side, silver on the other. It is as killing as is a similar article with fish of another caliber. The natives seem to use much too coarse tackle.

Rudyard Kipling



I always prefer to believe the
best of everybody,
it saves so much trouble.
Rudyard Kipling



CLUB SLIDESHOW SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 2019!

Bob Prince has again graciously agreed to do a slideshow for us in 2019. I decided to get you all thinking earlier about getting those photos to him! Start sending them to him **NOW** ! (while you still remember the who, where and when.....) Let's see if we can get a lot of different folks contributing—doesn't have to be fish pics either- maybe a great sunset/landscape etc.....

Send in JPEG format, 1-1.5MB size to: **robertwaprince@gmail.com**

NEWS AND NOTES

Casting for Recovery is looking for River Helpers for Fishing Day at the Western Montana retreat set for September 7-9, 2018 at the Lubrecht Forest Conference Center, Greenough, MT. Lubrecht is about an hour east of Missoula. Fishing day is Sunday September 9th on the Blackfoot River. You would need to be there about 8am on Sunday September 9th and would be wade fishing w/ a breast cancer participant for about 3 hours. More details below but you need to be comfortable wading with someone, tying on flies and netting fish. All equipment is provided for the participants, you would not be fishing.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact:

Katherine Lansing
Western MT River Helper Coordinator
218-310-0855
naturegirl669@gmail.com

Please also fill out an online Volunteer Application at: <https://castingforrecovery.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer/>

Note the Job Description for River Helper at the website link

DRUGS FOUND IN FISH IN PUGET SOUND

Recent studies show that diabetes drugs, blood pressure medications, antidepressants and other pharmaceuticals are showing up in fish, especially Chinook Salmon, a threatened species, in Puget Sound. New research shows that this is harming fish, causing stunted growth and disrupted metabolism so that fish appear starved. Puyallup fish had the highest levels and the greatest variety of drugs, and a total of twenty-seven drugs were identified. A 2016 study estimated that the volume of drugs from all wastewater plants on the Sound could be 97,000 pounds per year. Wastewater treatment plants lack the ability to remove drugs, so this is a national and international problem.

DROUGHT AND THE COLORADO RIVER SYSTEM

The Colorado River system, source of water for seven states and millions of people, is in serious trouble. The U.S. also has a treaty commitment to provide a specific amount of water annually to Mexico. In March 2018 the basin snowpack was at 69% of normal. The U.S. drought monitor shows that 60% of the basin is in severe drought or worse, and the 4 Corners region is in the worst shape. Rivers and creeks in eastern Utah and southwest Colorado are expected to flow at 28-60% of average spring flow, and Arizona officials have begun to investigate desalination of ocean water and piping such water to Arizona.

In April it was projected that the inflow into Lake Powell would be 43% of average. In 2017-2018 Southwest Colorado had the lowest precipitation on record. The San Juan, Piedra, Los Pinos, Animas, , Dolores and San Miguel flowed at 39% of average while further north the Gunnison was at 60% and the Yampa and White were at 89%. All are important trout fisheries. Snowpack was larger to the north. In May the Upper Green River Basin from Flaming Gorge to the headwaters above Pinedale, Wyoming had a snowpack over 80%, and the Madison, Gallatin, Yellowstone, Wind and Big Horn were in good shape.

In the Upper Basin states (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming) nine of the fifteen driest years have occurred since 2000, and 2018 was the driest year on record for southwest Colorado, reminding many of the 30 years of drought in the late 1200s in the 4 Corners region that caused the abandonment of the area by the Anasazi or pre-Puebloans as they are now called. Declining flows have been accompanied by rising demand for Colorado River water and by global warming. In the Upper Basin nine of the fifteen driest years have occurred since 2000. The region has been in drought for eighteen years, long enough, some researchers say, that it may represent a permanent climatic shift. Lake Powell is about 91 feet below full pool, which is equal to 52% of full pool while in February 2018 Lake Mead was at 38% of capacity. Thirty-four years ago Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the U.S, was at full capacity and water ran over the

spillway. As a result of these ongoing changes, the states in the basin negotiated a 2007 agreement to modify the 1922 Colorado River Compact to deal with shortages, and states and water districts now are talking about a Drought Contingency Plan to deal with current shortages. Some experts believe that the future of the West is at stake. Trout certainly agree.

Addendum: It is believed that the Colorado River peaked on May 13, 2018 which is much earlier than usual. What is even more shocking is the report in Colorado newspapers that the flow at the Utah border was about 8,500 cubic feet per second. For point of reference the *Missoulian* reported on May 15, 2018 that the flow of the Bitterroot River at Darby was 5,030 cubic feet per second, the Blackfoot at Bonner was 14,700 and the Clark Fork near Missoula was 24,200 cubic feet per second.

- *“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.”
– Pablo Picasso*

Club Patches
are \$4.00 each
or
3 for \$10.00



Club Decals are 4 for \$1.00

Hey everyone- There is a woman in town that will sew our patches on to just about anything for \$2.00/each.

Contact info: Susan at MONTANA SASSY SEWING CO. 329 Main Street, Hamilton. 406-961-9012



AS I GET OLDER I REALIZE:

1. I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice.
2. Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.
3. I don't need anger management; I need people to stop pissing me off.
4. My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.
5. The biggest lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
6. When I was a child I thought naptime was punishment. Now it is like a mini vacation.
7. The day the world runs out of wine is just too terrible to think about.
8. Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can sure muffle the sound.
9. Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for 10 minutes and come out wrinkle free and three sizes smaller?
10. "Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering why I am here.

MURPHY'S OTHER 15 LAWS

1. Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
2. A fine is a tax for doing wrong. A tax is a fine for doing well.
3. He who laughs last, thinks slowest.
4. A day without sunshine is like, well, night.
5. Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
6. Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.
7. Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.
8. The 50-50-90 rule: Anytime you have a 50-50 chance of getting something right, there's a 90% probability you'll get it wrong.
9. It is said that if you line up all the cars in the world end-to-end, someone from California would be stupid enough to try to pass them.
10. If the shoe fits, get another one just like it.
11. The things that come to those who wait, may be the things left by those who got there first.
12. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish and he will sit in a boat all day drinking beer.
13. Flashlight: A case for holding dead batteries.
14. God gave you toes as a device for finding furniture in the dark.
15. When you go into court, you are putting yourself in the hands of twelve people, who weren't smart enough to get out of jury duty.

Club Fish Reports & Grins Photos

Donna Haglund Fishing on the Beaverhead with guide Kurt Rausch.



Your Pres with a nice brown trout from the lake at the Ruby Habitat foundation Woodson Ranch.



Fish report: Reservoir Lake- Beaverhead Mountain Wilderness *by Ed Gannon*

Traveled to Reservoir Lake in the Beaverhead Mountain Wilderness today.....

Air temp -55 on arrival, 62 on departure. Water surface temp 60 degrees.

21 miles down a dirt road, from the turn just past Jackson. A beautiful, deep, clear lake, known for Brook Trout, mostly small.

I was hoping for some dry fly action when I got there, but those hopes didn't last long. Not much rising going on. The lake has very little "shallow" areas.....most of the shoreline isn't like a "bowl", but more like a "sauce pan".....straight down to 40-plus feet. Except for a big shoal in the middle...

When you only have 25 feet of anchor rope, in 30 feet of water, it makes for a tough day. Especially with a wind making whitecaps.....

Managed 2 Brookies in 3 hours, and one lost. All on a double-bead Prince.

It IS a beautiful spot however, and I believe a different day would have different results.



Fish report-Ed Gannon: Mussigbrod Lake.....

Air Temperature 49-arrival, 63-departure. Surface water temp - 55 degrees.

A crisp, cool , breezy day today, but the Grayling were cooperating somewhat. This lake is one of only 2 or 3 that still have a population of Arctic Grayling, survivors from the last Ice Age. They manage to hold on..... Boated 18 Grayling and one beautiful Brook Trout in about 4 1/2 hours of work...

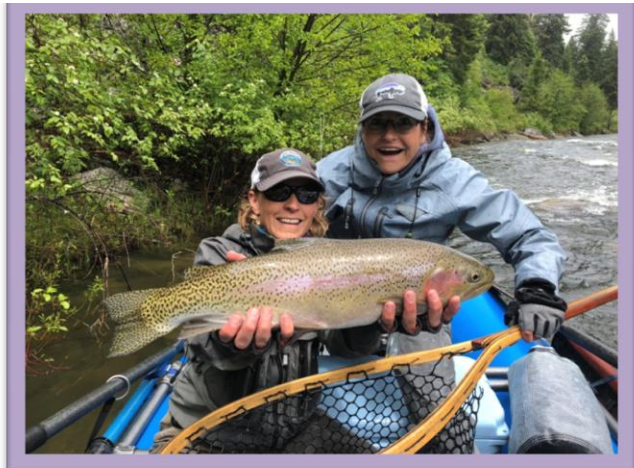
The good news.....the average size of these fish was bigger than I remember. Last time (2 years ago??) they were 8-13 inches... This time, they were all between 11-14 1/2 inches, with one midget of 8 inches. They seem to be eating well.....:)

The bad news.....I was hoping for some dry fly action, but nothing was going on. I saw no more than 3-4 rises per hour.....still too cool up there in the Pintlars.....

Caught everything underneath.....on Black Stonefly nymphs, Sheep Creek Special and Zug Bugs...

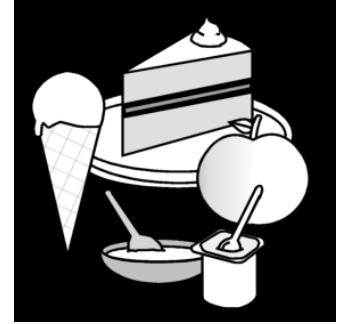


Club Member Peg Miskin fishing with friend Ceci Bennett from Idaho with Local Guide Jenny West in mid June, late salmon fly season. Upper **West Fork**.



OUTINGS AND LOCAL EVENTS

Georgetown Lake – July 12-15, 2018



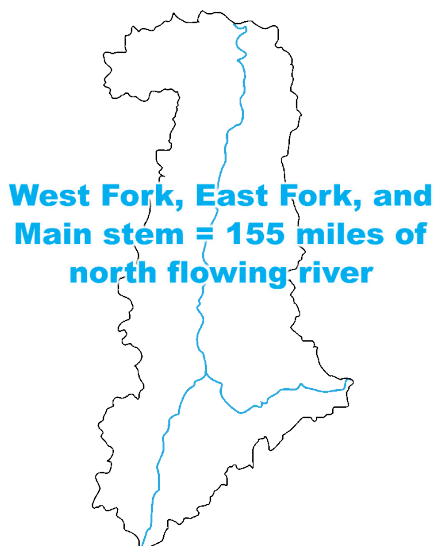
Please contact Dorreen Romans if you plan to attend-she is in charge of coordination of the food & location of campsites. Cell: 406-239-7044, call or text.

Annual River Clean Sponsored by the Bitterroot River Forum : August 11, 2018

Each year our community helps pull thousands of pounds of trash out of the river during the Bitterroot River Clean Up in August. The Clean Up is a Bitterroot tradition that plays an important role in protecting the resource we all rely on.

Spurred by this event, we're launching the Year Round River Clean Up this month - a year round effort to keep our rivers and streams clean.

There will still be the annual event on August 11th, but by encouraging people to keep a handle on their trash as they use the river, we can reduce the amount of garbage that ends up in the river. Bag stands like this will soon be at fly fishing shops and grocery stores throughout the valley. Folks can then grab free reusable trash bag before they hit the river, and keep them in their boat or rig to use again and again.

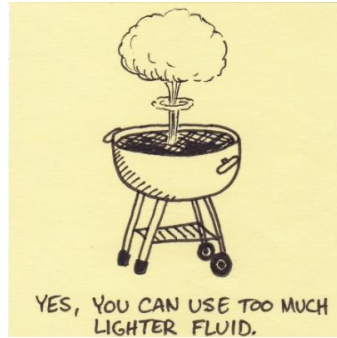


Join the Bitter Root Water Forum's "155 North" club to help hire a Restoration Coordinator for the Bitterroot watershed! Your gift will help get more on the ground restoration work done in the Bitterroot to improve fish and wildlife habitat and the health of local streams.

155 people donating \$100 each will immediately raise 1/3 of the funds needed to hire a Restoration Coordinator to enhance Bitterroot waters and the communities they sustain.

You can increase restoration impact in the Bitterroot. The Water Forum has worked on five streams and completed 12 restoration projects with support from the community. Reaching the 155 North goal this time means connecting to more people and completing more on the ground restoration. **Be part of the effort and help reach the goal by the River Clean Up on August 11th!**

Annual Picnic Sunday, August 19, 2018



Where: Steve Lilburn's place, (144 Hannon Lane, Darby 59829) Go South of Darby. If you cross the Bitterroot, you just passes Steve's place on the left.

Start Time: 5:00 PM, food is served at 6:00PM (**CHEF ALBERT**)

Cost: Free for members. \$10.00 donation requested for non-members

Please RSVP Dorreen at 406-239-7044 [phone or text] and let her know what you are bringing: appetizer, salad, side or dessert. We want to ensure that we have enough steaks and a good variety of other dishes for everyone.

Beer, soda and water supplied by the FFB. Bring your own wine, camp chairs and a dish to share

If it's Hoot Owl time,- hopefully not this year!- it's BBQ time for FFB! Our Club's annual picnic & steak burn will be held at the usual place on Sunday, August 19, 2018. Steve Lilburn's world famous "**Hannon House**" is the farm house complex on the east side of Highway 93 just before you would cross the Bitterroot at Hannon or turn up the West Fork (Must it be said?: *Do NOT cross bridge to Hannon or turn up the West Fork Road!*) The Club will have a sign on the fence next to the driveway.

We generally get started around 5PM, but you can come a bit earlier if you wish to flaunt your casting skills on Steve's casting pond, play a round on the "golf" course, a game of bocci ball, or meander down the River from the house. Steaks usually start getting burned at 6 pm.

The Club provides charred steaks (hi Chef Albert), beer, plates and cutlery, plastic cups, water and some pop. We typically have about 85 folks in attendance so please bring a dish to share with 8-10 people. So, think beans, potato salad, green salad, other salads, corn muffins, rolls, pies, cookies, dips, chips, etc. Don't forget hats, caps and sun screen.

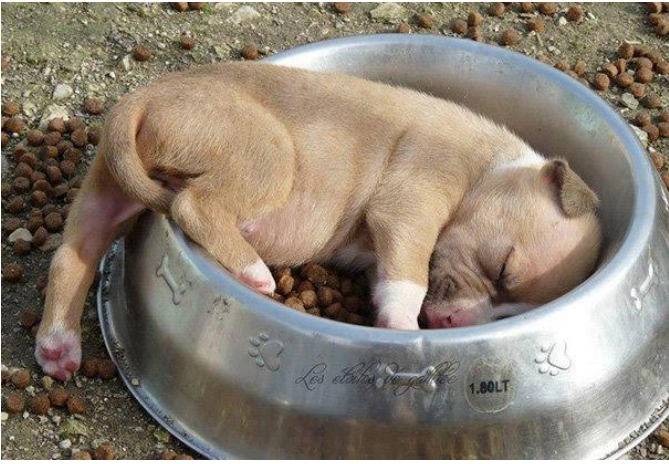
Lastly, brush up your best fishing yarns. There is usually a whole lot of exaggeration going on.

FOR SALE:

1) Spare oar for drift boat. I carried it in my 16' Clackacraft, but it has never been used. The oar breaks down into three pieces and fit nicely in the center console. Original cost \$99; will take offer.

2) 8' tri-hull fishing pram. Very stable fiberglass boat with flat floor for standing up and casting. Transom will handle electric or small gas motor. Boat has MT perm registration. Built by TPL which was later sold to Outback Boats in Sacramento. I car-topped the boat, but it will fit in the bed of a standard bed pickup. Front deck has some cosmetic damage which does not affect the use of the boat. Center bench with good flotation built into the bow and stern. Rows like a dream; oars with oarlocks included. Barely used 8' trailer, licensed for road use, with tail lights available for additional \$\$. Boat is currently at our cabin at Georgetown Lake. The Georgetown outing would be the perfect time to try her out. This boat is not a POS. Again, make offer. Leon Powell - *I will donate 10% to the club if an item is sold as a result of the newsletter.* eleonfish@gmail.com

In case you did not know what "dog tired" really means.



"As you walk down the fairway of life you must smell the roses, for you only get to play one round." Ben Hogan

○ 2018 schedule-

- No July club meeting: go fish!
- July 9th Board meeting
- July 11-15th Georgetown outing
- August- no club meeting: go fish!
- August 19th – Annual Picnic
- September 4th club meeting
- September 10th Board meeting
- October 2nd club meeting
- October 8th Board meeting
- November 6th club meeting
- November 12th Board meeting
- December 4th **ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**
- December 10th Board meeting

2019 schedule- tentative

- Jan 4th, 2019
- Feb 5th
- March 5th
- April 9th
- May 7th
- June 4th
-

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Estelle Shuttleworth-President je@shuttleworthje.com
Bill Bean- VP billbean.bean75@gmail.com
Pierre Satkowiak-Secretary psatkowiak@gmail.com
Ken Quinn-Treasurer
David Ward-Programs dward451@comcast.net
Leon Powell- Roster eleonfish@gmail.com
Gary Kosaka-WebMaster- hikemastergk@gmail.com
Dorreen Romans-PR promans@aol.com
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Greg Chester 406-363-0033
Pierre Satkowiak 406-777-2348
Estelle Shuttleworth 406-381-0474

Our Address:
Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot
PO BOX 692
Victor, MT 59875

Name tags and lanyards are ready and are at the check in table. If you need a name tag please contact Estelle at je@shuttleworthje.com

CLASSIFIEDS

The Board of Directors set a policy 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

