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Officers

President-Bob Maki
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2nd Vice Pres-Mark Sands
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Past President-Mike Thomas
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Nando Mauldin 549-2883
Dave McPheeters 720-233-1905
Rod Jones 549-0430
Mike Bishop 549-1549
Ken Gissel 642-3944
Tom Dyer 257-4225

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of
each month at Idaho Pizza,
17 W. Commercial St., Weiser.
Fly tying demo at 6 pm,
program at 7 pm.

Committees

Budget: Jim Gulu, Lynette Jones

Conservation and Youth:
Mark Sands, Nando Mauldin,
Rick Walters

Education: Perry Kelley,
Garry Swindell

Fund Raising: Lynette Jones,
Sarah Gulu

Historian: Suzanne Orwig

Library: Rod Jones, Ken Gissel,
Dick Garrett

Membership: Mike Bishop,
Bill Betts

Newsletter: Perry & Sally Kelley,
Mary Thompson, Dick Garrett,
Ray Perkins

Outings: Mike Bishop, Al Sillonis

Programs: Tiffany McPheeters

Publicity: Mark Sands

News Caster

March 2012

President's Message by Bob Maki

Thanks to all who came to the February meeting and a warm welcome to **Gerry Bogue** who joined us and became a club member that evening.

Not only did **Ray Perkins** provide a nice box of flies he tied at the meeting, he gave us some insights as to proposed changes to the Owyhee River fishing regs. plus a report on fish stocking of Oregon Reservoirs. Thanks Ray! **Dave McPheeters** won those flies by the way; now that's two months in a row for the McPheeters family, nice going Dave & Tiffany!

March brings **Marv Orwig** to the fly tying bench. He's promised to tie up a few killers for the steelhead junkies so stop by, see how he puts 'em together and find out how he's been able to convince more than a few steelies to taste his offerings.

Our last meeting was one with great detail on the Manns Creek Reservoir Study that was done by Idaho Fish & Game and presented to us by Fish Biologist **Joe Kozfkay**. A few club members were involved in the study and may recall the time spent on the construction of the weir that was used. The study results were favorable and indicated the reservoir is as healthy as could be expected and does contain a few lunkers in addition to the population of hatchery trout it receives annually.

Mark Sands expressed the need for folks to keep watch at the Weiser Pond for those seen taking more than the limit in a day of fishing. **Mike Thomas** also reports the city continues its support for the pond and now has a committee which includes past mayor **John Walker**, that is dedicated to its upkeep.

Unfortunately, the Pyramid lake outing will not happen as planned. There are still a couple of guys, **Grant Baugh & Kevin Sublett**, that have plans of going sans a guide, so Good Luck guys and hope you catch 'em like we did last spring.

*Fishing may cause one to stretch the truth, especially when you're the last to tell your story at the fireside, **Bob***

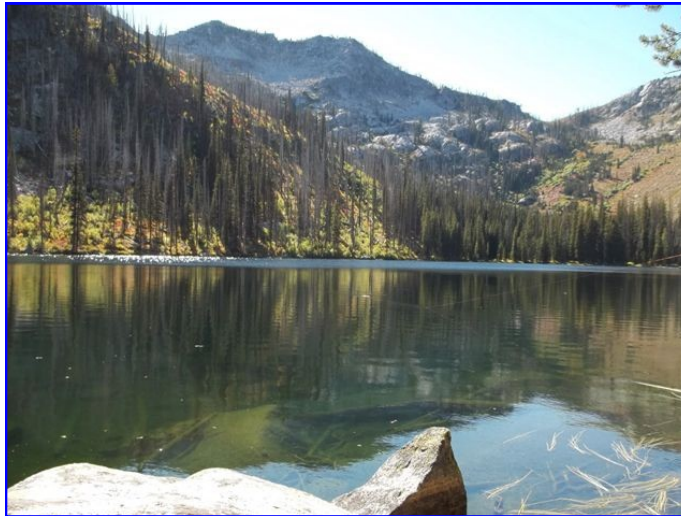
Larry Williams from Burns Oregon will be this month's speaker. See page 6.

Fishing rule #1: The least experienced fisherman always catches the biggest fish.

Hum Lake, 2011

by Tom Dyer

I ask myself, “Why do I keep doing this?” as I look up the 90 percent slope with no discernible trail and Steve saying this is a shortcut to Hum lake. All summer long a group of friends from Council, Idaho, have been inviting Cindy and me on day hikes to high mountain lakes here in west central Idaho.



Our core hiking group seems to consist of Deb, a retired school teacher; Steve, a retired Forest Service guy; and his wife Linda, a true master gardener; Larry, a teacher, carpenter, contractor—your typical Renaissance Man; and Cindy and me. Several other folks sporadically participate on these weekly endeavors. Usually we pack a small lunch, plenty of water, and, of course, fishing rod with an ample supply of flies. The only thing different about this trip: We were not going to use the well-marked Forest Service trail; instead, we were going cross country to the lake.

We did not pack our usual lunch

This high mountain lake experience started like so many do in this part of the state: a drive to McCall, then north on the Lick Creek Road until X marks the spot. In this case X was where Hum Creek and Lick Creek Road met. After finding a wide enough spot on the road to park, we all jump out of the rigs, don the day packs. . . Hold on, I’m starting to get ahead of myself; let’s back up a bit. We park the rigs, drink the last few drops of coffee left in our traveling mugs, take two aspirin, try to bend over enough to lace up our hiking boots, let the dogs out of their traveling kennels and, as you would guess, find a discreet place to get rid of the coffee we just drank. Now, throwing on our day packs, we head up the hill.

As mentioned earlier, we are taking a shortcut, so bushwhacking is the order of the day. No discernible trail and a rather precipitous slope with loose rocks marks the start of this adventure. As we line out heading up, all you hear is your heart beating, rapid

breathing and the occasional scream “Rock!” loosened by the individual ahead. As the route flattens out a bit (50% slopes) we start winding our way around dead-fall littering the ground in all directions. This zigzag approach to hiking adds quite a bit of flavor to the endeavor. According to the map, it should only be a two-mile hike, but we covered at least three times that distance. Straight lines seldom occur on adventures. Things were proceeding fairly well until I decided

to check another possible route. So while Cindy was following the main group, I wandered off to the right. Wouldn’t you know it? I was able to make it to the lake faster than the rest of the party.

We were going cross country to the lake

Now this good fortune on my part may seem like it was the right thing to do, but in reality, it wasn’t. You see, Cindy, my sweet wife of 37 years, didn’t know where I was, so imagine her surprise when she saw me at the lake fishing upon her arrival. Boy was she pissed off! She was imagining all these terrible things that must have happened to me and seeing me already at the lake did not make her happy. Note to self: If deciding to venture off from the main group, but sure to take wife!!!

Hum Lake is a fairly good size lake with a depth able to maintain a good population of cutthroat trout.



We were there after Labor Day, so there weren't a lot of other hikers in the area. Most of the fish we caught tended to be in the 10- to 15-inch range and in very good shape. The lake is a beautiful blue oval with both forested and granite outcrops along its shore. On the inlet side of the lake, there is a small meadow with campsites, and this is also the portion of the lake that is accessed by Forest Service trail (normal access to the lake).

Our party fished a couple methods. Some used fly poles and the others used spinning rods with a clear bubble and two feet of header attached to a fly. We all caught fish. On the trip we did not pack our usual lunch. Instead we opted to pack aluminum foil, seasoning, and a few sliced potatoes and onions. We planned to have a few fish for lunch. Thank God we caught some. Since Linda doesn't fish, she got a small fire going. By the time we had several fish caught, coals were ready for cooking. Each of us put a little dab of butter in the cleaned trout with liberal amounts of salt and pepper, wrapped them up in foil and placed on the coals. We did the same with the sliced potatoes and onions. Before long we had a wonderful lunch of baked trout and spuds. YUM!

After lunch we spent a couple more hours catching and releasing fish. The flies used on this trip included chernobyl ant size 8, elk hair caddis size 12, Adams size 12, and yellow stimulator size 10.



On this day I think you could use just about anything to catch fish. I was having so much fun watching the fish cruise the banks and come to the dry flies presented, it was almost like hunting. The water was so clear you could see the fish come from 15 to 20 feet away and smack the fly. I was using a nine-foot three-weight fly rod and far and away the majority of casts

were roll casts so a light tip-pet on the leader was important to reduce the splash when presenting the fly.

I need to mention that these hikes are not only enjoyable for us human folk, but also a blast for our dogs. The group we go with has as many dogs as people: one Australian Shepherd, two Griffons, one Springer Spaniel and one Golden Retriever. These canine folk have as much

fun as anybody and add much to the experience. Case in point: One of the Griffons has a liking for trout and if you're not careful on securing your lunch, he will eat it before you have a chance. Note to self: Never try to take away a trout from a hungry Griffon.

The walk back to the vehicles was uneventful. I stayed with the group all the way. It's funny when you're bushwhacking—you never go out the same way you went in. I guess that way you can get scratches and scrapes in areas of your body you missed going in. Arriving at the cars is also a real treat due to the stash of cold beer and cheese and crackers. I'm ready to go again. Where's the aspirin?



The following members have February and March as their due-date for renewal of membership. Please see **Jim Gulu** and pay ASAP so he doesn't have to get rough with you. If you have already paid, please disregard this notice—and thanks!

February

Benintendi, Cecil
Gissel, Ken
Thomas, Frank
Thomas, Mike & Diana
White, Marshall

March

Dyer, Tom
Henderson, Dave
Jones, Rod & Lynette
Kelley, Perry & Sally
Maki, Bob & Karen
Mauldin, Nando & Roberta
McPheeters, Dave and Tiffany
Orwig, Marv & Suzanne
Perkins, Ray
Sands, Mark
Thompson, Mark & Mary

Fishing rule #2:
The worse your line is tangled, the better is the fishing around you.

Fly Rod Cleaning Made Easy

By Joe Evans, (Emerger)

From an article in
flyanglersonline.com/begin/101/

Keeping a fly rod clean and nice-looking is not a difficult task, nor does it take a lot of time. Yet, it is a job that most anglers tend to avoid, if they do it at all. They clean their fly lines and reels and other items of equipment fairly regularly, but for some reason they often seem to neglect their rods. With the cost of good fly rods skyrocketing, it only makes good sense to keep them clean and in top condition.

Cleaning the Cork Grip

The cork grip on a fly rod generally needs the most attention, because it can really become dirty over time. Just the natural body oil from our hands can cause a grip to become soiled rather quickly. And add to that, fish slime, floatants, sunscreen, and numerous other items that often come in contact with our hands while fishing, which can build up layers of dirt and grime. I have tried several different types of soaps and mild chemicals to clean cork grips, including dish detergent, tooth paste, alcohol, hand soap, household bleach, spray cleaners, and several other things. Most of these work pretty well, but the one I like the best is liquid household cleanser. One such product is "Soft Scrub Cleanser with Bleach." It not only cleans a soiled grip quickly and effectively, but it helps to bleach-out any dark blemishes in the cork, as well as lighten the cork back to its original color. Having used this product for many years, I can attest to the fact that it does not harm the grip in any way when properly used. Here's how it's done:

First, assemble all the items you will be using, including the rod, the cleanser, a sponge or old wash cloth, and a clean, dry towel. Also, have something to protect your clothing from any splashes of the bleach containing cleanser. Any drops that get onto your clothing will have a permanent bleaching effect that will end up as a white spot.

Work at the kitchen sink with a small stream of warm running water. Wet the grip under the tap, apply a quarter-size blob of cleanser to your dampened sponge or wash cloth (be sure to shake the bottle of cleanser well before using), and scrub-down the cork grip. Scrub the cork thoroughly, starting at one end of the grip and working towards the other end. As you work, avoid rubbing the metal hardware and wood spacer on the reel seat, as well as the finish on the blank. Scrubbing those shiny surfaces can cause light permanent scratches, so keep the cleanser off those parts as you work.

After the grip has been thoroughly cleaned, wash it off under the stream of running water, rubbing it well with your fingers to remove all traces of the cleanser. Then dry the grip and with a soft clean terry cloth towel and set it aside to dry thoroughly before putting it back into its case. When dry, the grip will be clean and look almost new again.

Cleaning the Rod Blank

The most effective way that I have found for cleaning the rod blank is by using another common household product called "Pledge Furniture Polish" in the aerosol spray can. Other brands will likely work equally as well. This product removes dirt, grime, dried-on bits of algae, water spots, greasy smudges, etc., from the rod quickly and easily, and it leaves the rod looking clean and polished. Here's how to use it:

First, shake the can well before using, as directed on the label. Working with one rod section at a time, rotate (spin) the section between your thumb and fingers while you lightly spray a mist over the entire surface. Next, use a clean, dry terry cloth towel to wipe-down and polish the entire section until all the spray residue has been wiped off and a clean shine appears on the rod. Work a small corner of the toweling under and around the guides until you can see that every part of the surface has been cleaned. If you have difficulty getting under the guides, use a clean Q-Tip to do those parts. Repeat the procedure for each rod section until you have cleaned and polished the entire rod. This type of product not only cleans the rod quickly, but it also leaves a light, protective wax-like film on the finish that helps to repel further soiling. It works well on all types of rods, including graphite and bamboo.

Note: Most anglers tend to overlook the condition of the guides on their rods. Guides can and do wear out; particularly those on rods that are used a great deal. Because of this, it is a good practice to inspect the guides

Cleaning a Fly Rod Continues

carefully at least once a year. And a good time to do it is when you are cleaning the rod. This is easiest done under the illumination of a bright light, where you can look for signs of wear or grooving, which can cause premature line abrasion and early failure of the line.

To find worn places that are not readily visible to the eye, pass a gathered section of an old nylon stocking (women's pantyhose works very well) through each guide. If the material tends to "stick" to the guide, it is a good indication that wear has occurred. If this is the case, the guides should be replaced. Normally, if one guide is worn, the rest will be worn as well. Have them replaced as a set.

Cleaning the Reel Seat and Hardware

The same method used for cleaning the blank (described above) is also used to clean wooden or metal reel seat spacers and the associated nickel-silver hardware. When cleaning these smaller surfaces, however, it usually works best to spray a small amount of the polish onto a soft, clean cloth, then rub the surfaces to be cleaned. Finish the job by polishing with a clean portion of the cloth until the surfaces are dry and shiny.

Cleaning and Lubricating Glass and Graphite Ferrules

Take time after every two or three fishing excursions to clean and lubricate the ferrules of your rods. This will help the sections seat together more smoothly and precisely and -- more importantly -- it will prevent the sections from sticking together. Many an angler has finished his day of fishing, only to find that he can't get his rod sections apart. A regular practice of cleaning and lubricating the ferrules will prevent this annoying problem from occurring.

To clean the female portion of the ferrule (the one with the open end), use a Q-Tip saturated with plain rubbing alcohol. Rub the inside surface thoroughly, around the entire inside circumference, then use a clean swab to wipe off any dirt or old wax residue.

Clean the male portion of the ferrule with a soft cloth moistened with rubbing alcohol. Rub the male slide well to remove any dirt or old wax from the surface. Finish by drying the ferrule with a clean, soft cloth. After the alcohol has dried, apply a light coating of white candle wax to the entire surface of the male ferrule.

Cleaning and Lubricating Metal Ferrules

The basic care and maintenance of most quality metal ferrules requires simply keeping them clean. Most of the time this is easily accomplished by simply wiping off the male slide regularly with a soft clean cloth. The female portion can be cleaned with a clean, dry Q-Tip. If the ferrules occasionally seem to need a more thorough cleaning, alcohol can be used, as described above for graphite ferrules.

Metal ferrules should be joined and separated with a straight pull only. Do not "twist on" and "twist off" as you do with graphite ferrules. When joining the sections, the male portion of the ferrule should be seated completely into the female tube. Occasionally, some metal ferrules may require some light lubrication to keep them working smoothly. If you feel this is needed, apply a very scant film of silicone grease or other suitable lubricant, or wipe the male slide lightly with a good quality machine oil. Very little should be applied and it should be removed and reapplied on a regular basis to prevent dirt from accumulating in or on the ferrules.

Caution: Do not use the oil from the side of your nose to lubricate metal ferrules! Body oil is not a suitable lubricant for fine quality ferrules. It can be corrosive to some metals and it almost always contains dirt from the skin, which can cause premature wear on the ferrules.

Review

Keeping your fly rods clean and in good repair requires only a small amount of regular care and maintenance. It will not only keep them nice looking, but it will also help to protect your expensive investments should you ever decide to sell or trade them. Keep your rods inside their protective bags and cases when not in use, and take reasonable care with them to prevent accidental breakage. If you do this, your rods will last longer and give you greater service and satisfaction for many years to come. ~ *JE*

P.O. Box 734, Weiser, Idaho 83672



Guess who's been fishing in Arizona this winter!!



Larry Williams, who owns the fly shop, Steens Mountain Outfitters in Burns, Oregon, will be our speaker this month. He will be discussing numerous places to go fishing in that area—stillwater & river; also fly patterns that work and a little about his shop.

Fishing rule #3: Fishing will do a lot for a man but it won't make him truthful

March 2012

Coming Events

Mar 6 —IFF Board,
Beehive 7 pm

Mar 13 - IFF Membership
Idaho Pizza
6 pm Fly tying Demo
7 pm Program

Mar 20 —Fly Tying 7 pm
Weiser Library



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Board Meeting	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 Member Meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Fly Tying	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Speaker, Larry Williams, Burns, OR: