

# The Fly Leaf



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January, 2025

GENERAL MEETING  
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB  
Spokane Airport Ramada Inn  
January 14, 2025  
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner: 6:30 p.m. Dinner cost \$35.00

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

## JANUARY PROGRAM Leon Buckles

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Guy Gregory

It's been my pleasure to edit these messages over the past few years, but now it seems I must write one. I begin by reviewing the purpose of the club. We were founded in 1956 to engage in "social recreation, education and good fellowship from fly fishermen." We are to "encourage, promote, and support the conservation and management of fish and fishing waters, and take special interest in these matters where they directly or indirectly affect fly fishermen."

What that means to me: Fish more, make more friends, and have more fun. If you run into **Bob Johnson**, thank him for his great leadership this past year toward these goals. The club has grown with 9 new members, and we've expanded our social/fishing footprint quite a bit. Expect more of the same this year; continuing to grow our membership and make new friends, fishing more at club-sponsored events and otherwise, and sharing knowledge of flyfishing with each other. Bob's theme was simple: We're a fishing club. Let's go fishing!

So, keep an eye on the calendar and your email. We're planning fishouts like the one to Rocky Ford this month, educational and community projects like Kid's Fishing and the Big Horn Show, and other get-togethers and conservation projects centered around angling. C'mon out and pitch in...we'll fish more and have more fun and make some new friends.

Can't make it out? Okay, stay in town: Try a fly-tying night! They run from 6-8 in both the Valley and on the north side. Come and go as you please. Have a beer, tie a fly (or watch...) and catch up on the latest angling news and rumor. Want something more conservation oriented? Our Conservation Committee is all about that and could use more hands pulling an oar. Got speaker ideas? Get hold of the Programs Committee, they're looking for great speakers and you can help track them down.

All our committees are open to new or returning help. There's plenty of mighty rewarding things to do. Pitch in as you can, you'll make more friends and have more fun. And you'll likely fish more and catch more fish.

Speaking of programs, the next two are great: President Emeritus

President Emeritus **Leon Buckles** will start off 2025 with one of his signature presentations.



The presentation will feature a trip to Northern Saskatchewan to fly fish for trophy Northern Pike. Fish over 40 inches in length were caught each day. The group also spent some time fishing for lake trout and grayling. Leon has made do it yourself trips into remote locations since 1968. A few tips on items to consider when putting together a DIY trip to remote locations will also be discussed.

**DUES ARE DUE BY MARCH 1st**  
**2025 dues can now be paid. Send in to**  
**our post office box or bring to the next**  
**meeting. \$50.00 for 2025.**

**IEFFC**  
**PO Box 2926**  
**Spokane, WA 99220**

President's Message (continued)

**Leon Buckles** is presenting about north country trophy fishing experiences that are truly breathtaking. And **Rich Landers** has agreed to present our February Valentines meeting with great stories and beautiful photography from the region. Don't miss these.

Please get hold of me directly if you feel the need, I look forward to another year with this excellent club.

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

# CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

As usual, the Christmas Raffle was well attended and a very enjoyable evening. An increase in the number of raffle items gave members a great opportunity to obtain fishing gear or trips. The meal was excellent and the social interaction was exceptional. A good time was had by all.

Thanks go to our Christmas Raffle Committee, headed by **Gordy Olson**, and all of the members who donated items. We raised a good amount of funds for 2025 and look forward to another successful year.



Fly Fisherman of the Year **Phil Beck**



Outgoing President **Bob Johnson**



**Jim Gaddy and Mark Meyocks**



**Stephenie Stephens and Charlene Douglas**



**Mark Pinch and Bill Papesh**



**Bob Gersh and Jerry McBride**

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

## Club Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Contact/Time
1/7/2025	Fly Tying—North Side	Field House Pizza	Phil Beck
1/14/2025	IEFFC Monthly Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	
1/16/2025	IEFFC Board Meeting	YAYA Brewery	Guy Gregory
1/18/2025	Rocky Ford Outing	Rocky Ford Creek	Lee Funkhouser
1/21/2025	Fly Tying—Spokane Valley	YAYA Brewery	6PM
2/4/2025	Fly Tying—North Side	Field House Pizza	6PM
2/11/2025	IEFFC Monthly Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	
2/13/2025	IEFFC Board Meeting	TBD	Guy Gregory
2/18/2025	Fly Tying—Spokane Valley	YAYA Brewery	6PM
3/1/2025	Opening of Early Lakes	Amber, Medical, Coffeepot	
3/4/2025	Fly Tying—North Side	Field House Pizza	6PM
3/11/2025	IEFFC Monthly Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	
3/13/2025	IEFFC Board Meeting	YAYA Brewery	Guy Gregory
3/18/2025	Fly Tying—Spokane Valley	YAYA Brewery	6PM
4/8/2025	IEFFC Monthly Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	
4/10/2025	IEFFC Board Meeting	TBD	Guy Gregory
4/26/2025	One Fly Outing	Amber Lake	Bob Johnson
5/13/2025	IEFFC Monthly Meeting	Spokane Airport Ramada	
5/15/2025	IEFFC Board Meeting	YAYA Brewery	6PM
5/17/2025	Coffee Pot Lake Outing	Coffee Pot Lake	TBD

## Rocky Ford Outing

Our next outing will be a winter outing at Rocky Ford Creek. As always, we will be monitoring the weather to make sure we are able to fish.

The outing is scheduled for Saturday, **January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. There will be hot food for lunch and plenty of advice on how to fish the creek. Put it on your calendar and we will be sending out additional information and an RSVP request following New Years.



**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

## NEW OFFICERS 2025



*Guy, Bryan, Lee, Jeff, Matt, Phil and Stephenie*

We have another great group of officers to run the club for 2025. We anticipate the success we had in 2024 to continue throughout the new year.

Moving up from Vice President to President is **Guy Gregory**. Guy is a long time member and has been heavily involved in the Publications Committee for a number of years.

Taking over as Vice President is **Bryan Harman**. Bryan is co chairman of the Big Horn Show Committee and is moving up from Secretary.

**Lee Funkhouser** is heading into his third year as Treasurer. He also is Publications Committee chair.

**Jeff Pope** is our new Secretary and is an amazing rod builder and fly fisher.

**Matt Mason** is one of our Board Members and is the 2024 One Fly Champion.

**Phil Beck** is one of our three Board Members. He is our reigning Fly Fisherman of the Year and chairs our Programs Committee.

Our newest Board Member is **Stephenie Stephens**. Stephenie is a member of the Publications Committee and a lifelong fly fisher.

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

## HUGH EVANS MEMORIAL FLY FISHERMAN OF THE YEAR PHIL BECK

The Hugh Evans Memorial Fly Fisherman of the Year award is the highest annual honor accorded a member. Candidates must be a member of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, fish with flies, be proficient in lake and stream fishing, have made contributions to or have accomplishments in the art of fly fishing, and exhibit the highest qualities of good sportsmanship. This years Fly Fisherman of the Year, **Phil Beck**, has done all of the above and more.

Phil is one of the most active members of the club and has been active for a number of years. He has held every office in the club and currently is a Board Member and chair of the Programs Committee.

A tireless worker, he is always ready to assist any committee in accomplishing their goals. He is a gifted fly tyer and an accomplished fisherman.

Congratulations to Phil. He is very deserving of this prestigious award.



*IEFFC President Bob Johnson awarding the Fly Fisherman of the Year trophy to Phil Beck.*

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD Gordon Olson

The Distinguished Service Award was established to identify and reward individuals who have shown long and continued service to IEFFC. It is not an annual award, but is presented when a member has distinguished service that is deserving of notice.

This year the award was presented to long time Christmas Raffle Chairman **Gordon Olson**. Gordy has done an excellent job managing an event which is essentially a year long endeavor.

He has worked with numerous sources to make sure the quality of product and trips is the best it can be. The event is always a high point for the club and provides the IEFFC with the funds to continue our projects and programs.

Thank you, Gordy, for your many years of distinguished service.



*IEFFC President Bob Johnson presenting Gordy Olson with the Distinguished Service Award*

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

# FFI SCHOLARSHIPS

## Three of Four FFI Scholarship Awards Go To University of Idaho Students

In October, Fly Fishers International's Conservation Program awarded four \$2000 scholarships to assist students who are concentrating their studies in conservation, including fish health and habitats. One went to Archie MacColl of the UK's Stirling University.

The other three went to University of Idaho students: Courtney Ghre, studying the influence of mitigation strategies influencing fish growth in the Kootenai River; Nick Voss studying Brook Trout effects on native salmonids in Idaho; and Ryan Vosbigian studying juvenile steelhead in the Snake River to test how flow and temperature conditions affect survival and abundance.

Congratulations to the awardees! Applications for the 2025 Scholarships are due April 1, 2025.

# FLY TYING NIGHTS 2025

Fly tying has expanded for 2025. We now have a north side location up at Fieldhouse Pizza at 4423 W. Wellesley Ave, across the street from Veterans Hospital. We will be tying the first Tuesday of each month through the winter at the north location. Show up at 6 and bring your vise.

We will continue having the Valley sessions at YAYA Brewery located at 11712 E. Montgomery Drive. Those sessions will be on the third Tuesday of each month and they also start at 6PM.



These informal sessions are a great time to learn some new patterns and fill your fly box with flies for the Spring and Summer fishing seasons.

Both locations offer food and tying is not required. If you want to observe, come on by.



**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

## VALENTINES MEETING February 11th, 2025

We recommend that you put our February meeting on your calendar. This meeting is our annual Valentine's meeting and we encourage members to bring their significant other and enjoy an evening of fun. We will have raffle prizes and a Valentine theme.

This year we will also have retired Spokesman Review Outdoor Editor **Rich Landers** with a presentation entitled "As Time Goes By". It is a presentation that will celebrate the club, the sport and our Valentines with some pretty wonderful pictures. You'll see familiar faces (including a few beautiful ones), club legends and delicious places to fish with emphasis on how we as fly fishers have got to Nirvana.



Sprague Lake



Bayley Lake



Kelly Creek

## Upcoming Shows and Such

**Steelhead Expo 2025:** January 10-12 2025: Hells Canyon Grand Hotel, Lewiston, Idaho.

**53rd Annual Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo** January 31-February 1, 2025 Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood St. Garden City, Idaho Sponsored by Boise Valley Fly Fishers.

**East Idaho Fly Tying Expo,** February 14th and 15th, 2025, Mountain America Center, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

**The Fly Fishing Show:** February 15th and 16th, 2025 Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, Washington.

**NW Fly Tye and Fly Fishing Expo:** March 7th and 8th, 2025, Linn County Fair and Expo, Albany, Oregon.

**Fly Fishing Film Tour:** March 18, 2025, Bing Crosby Theatre, Spokane, Washington.

**Big Horn Outdoor Adventure Show,** March 20-23, Spokane Fairgrounds.

**Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington**

# ***FLY OF THE MONTH***

**Partridge Buzzer**

**January 2025**

**Madison (with Fly Fish Food)**

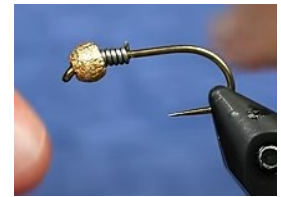
Madison comments that as an upland bird hunter and fly tyer, Hungarian Partridge are one of most fun birds to hunt for the sport and for the materials that you can find on them. The Partridge Buzzer is a twist on your standard buzzer pattern, utilizing an underrated feather from a Hungarian Partridge Cape. A marabou like feather that has a really cool gradient, paired with UV polar chenille and a soft hackle collar, makes the Partridge Buzzer a fishy pattern to keep in your box all year round!

I received this from IEFCC member Jerry Harms and thought it was worth sharing. A must for Omak Lake and likely a good choice for streamer fisherman at Rocky Ford, but I can see it working at other area lakes. *A video is available by going to Fly Fish Food, Streamer Tutorials.*

Hook - Fulling Mill 5095 Size 6.  
Bead - Gritty Tungsten Bead. Gold grit 3/16".  
Thread - Semperfli Nano Silk Ultrafine 50D 12/0 White.  
Tail - Hairline #1 Hungarian Partridge Skin Natural.  
Body - Medium UV Polar Chenille - Gold.  
Collar One - Hairline #1 Hungarian Partridge Skin Natural.  
Collar Two - Hairline #1 Hungarian Partridge Skin Natural.



Place the bead on the hook and secure the hook in your vise. Add a few wraps of non-lead weighted wire to the hook next to the bead.



Start your thread and wrap towards the bend and then back to the bead making sure you also wrap some thread on the weighted wrap to secure it.. Now secure a couple of the partridge under feathers to the hook for the tail. Add a few wraps and then trim the tips back to the non-lead wrap.



Tie in the chenille so that you can wrap towards the bead. Wrap the chenille tightly back towards the bead and then secure at the bead. Trim off the excess.



Now tie in a partridge under feather next to the bead to form the first collar. Give it a couple of good wraps and then tie it off, making sure you push the collar forward as you do it. Trim the excess.



For the second collar take a partridge hackle feather and tie it in next to the bead and over the first collar. Do a couple wraps and secure the feather, trimming off the excess.



Whip finish and you are ready to fish.





# 2025 IEFFC OFFICERS

## Your IEFFC Officers for 2025



**Bryan Harman**  
Vice President



**Lee Funkhouser**  
Treasurer



**Guy Gregory**  
President



**Jeff Pope**  
Secretary



**Phil Beck**  
Board Member



**Matt Mason**  
Board Member



**Stephanie Stephens**  
Board Member

# JOINING FFI

There is no better time to consider joining FFI than now. It's easy and you will be joining a number of IEFFC members already involved in the organization.

**To Join FFI simply go to the website listed:**  
<http://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>  
**Click Membership, Click join then the blue round button.**  
**Join the FFI today**



**Fly Fishers International**  
*Conserve, Restore and Educate Through Fly Fishing*

**The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club**  
**FFI Charter Member and McKenzie Plaque Winner**  
The WSCIFFF through your support can continue our mission to *conserve* and *restore* our resources, and *educate* fly fishers in our sport and grow advocacy for fish and fisheries.

Submissions for publication in the Fly Leaf can be made by contacting the FlyLeaf Editor at [flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com](mailto:flyleaf.ieffc@gmail.com). Articles should be submitted by the last Friday of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter.