

# Flies & Lies

Monthly Newsletter of the North  
Idaho Fly Casters Club, Inc.

August 2008



## *In This Issue:*

**Presidents Message**  
**Calendar**  
**Gear Bag**  
**Photos**

## *We are the NIFC*

**For over 25 years, the North Idaho Fly Casters Club has been dedicated to all facets of the sport of fly fishing. We provide a wide range of educational and conservation opportunities to the fly fishing enthusiast.**

[northidahoflycasters.org](http://northidahoflycasters.org)

## *Presidents Message*



Greetings!

We've certainly been having nice weather recently, which has helped flowing waters such as the Coeur d'Alene and the St. Joe become easier to fish and safer to wade. Today (July 30<sup>th</sup>), I fished the St. Joe for the first time of 2008 and had a great time. The volume of water is still high compared with last year, which made me pass by some favorite spots. Just the same, with a bit of searching I found some new ones which proved to be productive.

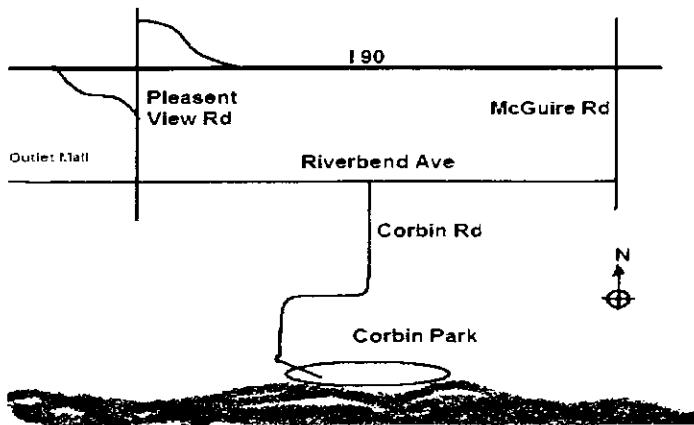
This year has been a year of firsts for me as a fly fisher. Earlier this year, I caught several species for the first time on a fly rod. These include smallmouth bass, crappie and pike, all caught either from my dock on Hayden or from a pontoon boat. The pontoon boat is new and has been a blast to take out, whether fishing or just going out for a row. Late in June, I enjoyed a visit to West Yellowstone. There, I attended my first fly fishing expo, fished with streamers for large rainbows and brown trout, and learned a new way to fish subsurface with a strike indicator, weight, San Juan worm and a second fly. I've been working on this method lately and am pleased with the results. Special thanks go out to some fellow club members for their hospitality and instructions.

I hope everyone has had a good summer and found the time to put their skills to use. Practice, practice and more practice. That's what I intend to do for the rest of the year.

Fish On!

David Heberer

Through the summer there are not regularly scheduled club meetings, but a few of us get together Thursday evenings once a month for a brown bag picnic. These are very informal gatherings to say hi to friends, find out about recent trips, and generally catch up with friends. So... grab a quick picnic lunch and come join us in Corbin Park between 5:30 and whenever. Bring your best fishing stories. Bring a rod. Sometimes the fishing can be good. Next one is August 21st. See you there.



Sometimes even I get to fish. Shosone Creek mid July.

**Aug. 16th and 17th**  
**Lochsa River Fish Out**  
**Bob Clark Stream Keeper**  
**Powell Campground**  
**208-667-6733**

**Aug. 21st**  
**Brown Bag Picnic**  
**Corbin Park 5:30PM**

**Sept. 13th and 14th**  
**St. Joe River Fish Out**  
**Skip and Gayle Wright**  
**Stream Keepers**  
**Turner Flats Campground**  
**208-665-9775**

**Sept. 18th**  
**First Regular Club Meeting**

**Oct. 4th and 5th**  
**Lake Lenore Fish Out**  
**Larry Krumpelman**  
**Stream Keeper**  
**208-773-7057**

**Oct. 16th**  
**Regular Club Meeting**  
**5:30 to 9:00**

## For the Gear Bag

Options for storing and packing gear when on the river are vests and packs. How do you choose which is best for you?

Consider the following:

- Length is a consideration when wading, and every fisherman will be wading at one time or another. If you plan wade past your hips, it's best to opt for a shorter wading-style vest or chest pack. What you lose in storage space you gain in comfort and lighter weight.
- Fold-down workstations flip down to provide a place to tie on extra tippet and flies. If you drop something, you drop it on the workstation and not in the water.
- Specialized pockets for items like tippet dispensers (pockets with holes in the bottom), reel/spool pockets and large back pockets for packable rainwear. Too many pockets will give you reason to carry too much gear and can cause problems when looking for that special item. Look for a vest or pack with about 15-20 pockets.

Rod holders are a common feature found on most fishing vests. The butt section of the rod is held in place with a loop near the bottom of the vest. The middle of the rod is secured to the top of the vest using a doubled-over piece of fabric with hook-and-loop attachment.

Built-in retractors (zingers) keep tools, like forceps and nippers, within quick reach.

D-rings are a convenient place to attach accessories or a net.

A backpack offers the storage of a regular backpack attached to the vest or pack. Some innovative designs take it a step further by making the backpack removable for wear with or without the vest.

**Convertibility.** Certain vest designs can be worn multiple ways. An example would be a vest with a removable backpack or waist pack that can be worn alone or together with the vest.

Hydration-compatible vests offer built-in compatibility with hydration bladders which is an easy way to carry water.

- **Fit.** The fit of a vest is critical to your comfort level. If you will be wearing the vest in cold weather, it is a good idea to order the next size up from what you normally wear. If you wear a large, try an extra large. This will allow you to wear extra layers of clothing underneath the vest and still be comfortable.

Choose a style that you like, is comfortable, meets all your storage needs and have fun on the water.

Renee Blythe

**St Joe River Fish Out**  
Sept. 13th and 14th  
Turner Flats Campground  
Skip and Gayle Wright, Stream Keepers

Please let the Wrights know if you will be there for the BBQ on the 14th so they can plan the right amount of food. Please bring a side dish, appetizer or dessert. Please RSVP by Sept. 7th.

208-665-9775  
skipngayle@verizon.net