



*Cultivating the art of fly fishing through a spirit of fellowship and resource enhancement”*

*www.washingtoncountyyflyfishers.com*

Issue 284

March 2025

***Meeting Location***  
***Westbrook Club House***  
***14255 SW 6<sup>th</sup> Street (one block east of SW Murray)***  
***Beaverton, OR 97005***

**Next meeting Wednesday, March 5, 7:00 PM at the  
 Westbrook Club House**

**Agenda**

6:30-7:00	Welcome
7:00-7:15	Club business and Fishing Report
7:15-8:15	Entertainment – <b>Guest speaker: Jeff Morgan, European strategies for western trout</b>
8:15-8:30	Raffle, Door Prize and adjourn

## Guest Speaker: Jeff Morgan

Tying his first commercial flies for the Camp Sherman Store in 1995, Jeff Morgan has tied professionally and written about Western flyfishing for nearly three decades. Focusing on entomology and applying international approaches to Western flyfishing, his articles have appeared in *Fly Tying and Fly Fishing*, *Fly Fisherman*, *Westfly.com*, among other newspaper and magazine outlets. His first book, "An Angler's Guide to the Oregon Cascades," was described by Gary LaFontaine as "the best scientific angling guidebook ever written."

### President's Message

#### March 2025

March always seems to me to be the "between" month of the year. Winter fishing is winding down, plans for the summer are in process, and there may be some early hatches to pursue. The lakes are beginning to open. Yet, with rain still prevalent there is still a lot of time to be at the vice loading our fly boxes for coming adventures.

Our speaker for March 5th will fit right in to spring as Jeff Morgan will be speaking about small stream fishing. It should be a very good presentation



March is also the month for the Expo in Albany. This year will be even bigger than prior years with more vendors, more casting, over 170 fly tiers to learn from and a number of classes you can sign up for. Visit the website at [orcffi.org](http://orcffi.org) and look for the Expo page. You can buy tickets to the show and banquet or sign-up for classes. Note that Veterans get in free to the show but still pay for banquet and class tickets

If you have not paid yet, please pay your dues of \$30 to help fund out outings and speakers. If you have paid, thanks!

We have a special outing July 18 and/or 19 on the Deschutes. Rob Crandall will take 8 people per day in two jet boats (4 per boat) to good fishing spots below Macks Canyon for trout. There are 16 total seats over the two days for \$200 per seat per day plus tip. First come first served. You can sign up for one or two days. The guides will cook a BBQ lunch on the river so we can all get together to share reports and secret flies! You need to arrange your own place to stay (camping on the river or at the park, or motel) if you stay overnight.

We are still looking for people to volunteer to lead one outing at the location and timing of your choice. All you have to do is pick the spot, set the date and time, let us know what flies and equipment one needs to fish, and any fees required such as parking. Please step up to help your club.

We have a busy slate of speakers and events this year so monitor the newsletter for details.

Tight Lines,

Rick Pay, President



## Washington County Fly Fishers

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### Club Calendar

- March
  - 5<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting – Speaker: Jeff Morgan – Small Streams
  - 7-8<sup>th</sup> – NW Fly Fishing Expo – Albany, OR
- April
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Club Meeting – Speaker: Bob Woolf – Fishing Midges
  - ? – Outing – Lost Lake Spruce Run/Nehalem

- May
  - 7<sup>th</sup> – Club Meeting – Speaker: Colby Olson (?) – Bass in the Willamette
  - 30<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup> – DRA Troutfest – Maupin, OR
  - TBD – Canada Trip
- June
  - 4<sup>th</sup> – Club Meeting – Speaker: Garrett Lesko – Fishing Coastal Cutthroat
  - 11<sup>th</sup> - TVTU joint fly-tying demonstration
  - TBD – Molalla River drifting for Bass
- July
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Club Meeting – Speaker: Water Watch – Discussing Dams
  - 18-19 – Fishing the Deschutes by Jet Boat with Rob Crandall
- August
  - ? – Club Picnic
- September
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – Club Meeting
- October
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – Club Meeting
- November
  - 5<sup>th</sup> – Club Meeting – Jennifer La Follette – Cuba
- December
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – Christmas Dinner

**Save The Date!**

**March 7 & 8, 2025**

**Northwest Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo**

**Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany, Oregon**

The first Northwest Fly Tyer Expo was held in Eugene, Oregon, in 1989. Its purpose was to gather fly tyers together to tie flies and learn from each other. The annual event became so popular that it eventually outgrew its original venue, and had to be relocated to a larger facility. In 2007, the Expo moved to the

Linn County Expo Center in Albany, Oregon. With this move, the fly fishing education part of the Expo was added. The event has continued to grow, serving a large portion of the West, with exhibitors selling and teaching how to use their products to support fly fishing. Fly tying, fly fishing, casting, Youth programs, and Conservation education are all important parts of this event. The Expo is open to the public for a small fee. Veterans and participating fly tyers are free. The social, educational, and networking aspect of this event caters to families, youth, and individuals that are interested in the sport.

information link: [www.nwexpo.com](http://www.nwexpo.com)

## ***Fly of the Month: Rickards' UV Callibaetis***

**By Ralph Brooks**

### **Background**

This fly was developed some years ago by Oregonian Denny Rickards. Rickards has authored several fly fishing books and developed a number of useful stillwater fly patterns. He has something of a reputation for catching big trout, albeit almost exclusively from stocked pay-to-play waters. However, in my experience this Callibaetis nymph pattern fishes well in public stillwaters from the Rockies west to the Pacific Coast and catches fish from spring well into the fall. It is a fly that is *always* in my fly box if I am headed to any sort of lake.



### **How to Tie**

- 1) Attach the thread to the hook about mid shank and wrap the thread to the back of the shank.
- 2) At the back of the hook shank, tie in a small bundle of natural Mallard flank for a tail. Make the tail slightly shorter than the shank.
- 3) Select a Mallard flank feather with long barbs (2X or more the length of the shank) that will be used for the Over Back. Tear off about three-fourths of an inch of the barbs from one side of the feather shaft keeping the tips more or less even and make a bundle of the barbs. Trim the tips and the butts of the bundle just enough to

Category	Trout
<b>Hook</b>	Standard nymph (e.g., Mustad 3906 or 3906B), sizes 12-14
<b>Thread</b>	Gray, 8/0 Uni
<b>Tail</b>	Mallard flank feather, natural
<b>Over Back</b>	Mallard flank feather, natural
<b>Body</b>	50/50 mix of Hareline Callibaetis Ice Dub and natural squirrel fur (or rabbit)
<b>Body Hackle ('legs')</b>	Natural grizzly hackle

even them up. Tie the tip of the bundle in at the back of the shank, leaving the excess extending back over the tail.

- 4) Select a natural grizzly hackle with barbs that are shorter than the hook gap (saddle hackles are great for this). Tie the base of the hackle in at the back of the shank and just leave it hanging.
- 5) Dub the body from the back of the shank to a short distance behind the hook eye. Taper the body slightly at the rear and front and keep the body relatively slim.
- 6) Wrap the hackle (in Step 4) forward through the dubbing using three (no more than four!) wraps and secure the hackle and trim the excess. Trim the hackle on the top side of the shank so that it is flush with the dubbed body.
- 7) Grasp the butts of the Mallard flank extending beyond the back of the shank (in Step 3), being careful not to grab the tail. Pull them forward over the top of the shank and tie them off just behind the hook eye. Carefully trim the excess.
- 8) Wrap a small thread head, whip finish, and cement.

### Variations

I rarely tie this fly in any sizes other than 12 and 14. Generally, the larger pattern is used early in the season and the smaller pattern in late summer and fall. The original Denny Rickards' pattern was tied using Wood Duck flank feathers for the tail and back, so it was decidedly tan in color. Rickards also tied an olive (dyed) version. The version here is tied in a light gray. There are waters (such as the Laramie Plains Lakes in Wyoming) where a nearly white version is used as the natural insects are almost white.

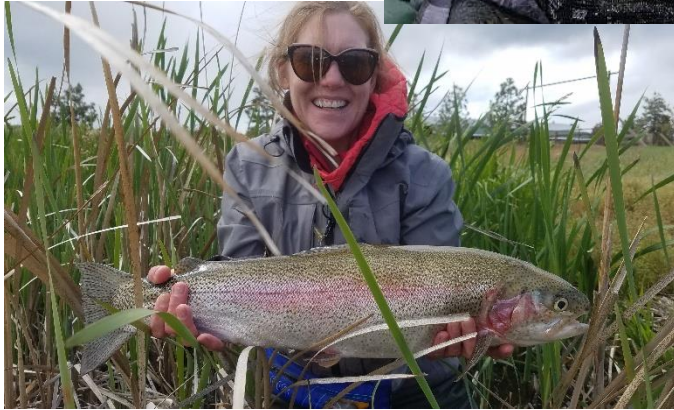
The original did not use UV dub, which adds a slight sparkle to the fly. The original also counter wrapped the body hackle with copper wire. Although this is not necessary, it does strengthen the fly and adds a small amount of weight.

### How to Fish

This Callibaetis is considered a lake fly. It can be fished using a floating, intermediate, or full sink line depending on the depth desired. If the fish are rising keep the fly near the surface. If there are no rises, try running the fly at various depths. A steady troll or stripping at various speeds works well to entice a strike.



*Photos: Friends with fish caught on a Rickards's Callibaetis. Top Left, Ralph with Brookie at Diamond Lake, WY. Top Right, Dan with Rainbow at Diamond Lake, WY. Bottom Left, Sara with Oregon rainbow. Bottom right, Craig and Doug with a rainbow double at Diamond*



*Lake, WY.*

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