

# Welcoming **Dave Graybill** To The **Nickel Ads**

## The Fishin' Magician

My trip to the Grande Ronde was postponed due to weather, so I didn't get any steelhead fishing in this week. My buddy Brian Neilson, of BJ's Guide Service wanted to have better weather to tape my TV show, and I know my wife Eileen will be glad that we waited. Shooting video while trying to keep rain and wind off the camera is a real chore. I did have some fun, though. We made a trip up to Fish Lake to try the fall trout fishing, and I'll tell you all about that a little later.

First I want to let everyone know about a very special event coming up at the Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center. Bill McGuire, who you may know from my "in studio" TV show and feature stories I have written about him in the past, is being featured by a special exhibition at the museum. McGuire has led a spectacular life as a sportsman, and the museum will have on display the trophies he has won for shooting and casting, along with many photographs of the famous folks he fished and hunted with from all over the world. There will also be some of the many mounts of fish and game he's taken during his 60 years of hunting and fishing.

Although I am most familiar with his fame as fly fisher and caster, he is actually better known internationally as a builder of shotgun stocks. There has been over 200 shooting magazine articles dedicated to McGuire and his skill as a craftsman. He was in great demand and built stocks for hunters, collectors and competitive shooters, including one Olympic champion.

McGuire was a champion marksman himself. He excelled in tennis and skiing, too. When his attention turned to fly and spin casting he soon rose to the

top. He is the only person ever to win all categories in national competition, which included fly casting distance and accuracy and spin casting distance and accuracy. He still holds the world record for spin casting distance at 325 feet!

Anyone with an interest in hunting and fishing will be amazed at what they will see at this special exhibition. There will be an opening reception of the exhibit from 5 to 7 p.m. on Friday, November 5th at the museum, which is located at 127 South Mission Street in Wenatchee. Bill McGuire will be on hand, and I will be there with Bill to welcome everyone. Refreshments will be served, and there will be no admission charge all day Friday. The exhibit will run through February 19th in the Gold Gallery.

Also at the museum: on Tuesday, November 9th at 7 p.m. "The History of Fish and Fishing in the Columbia Basin" will be presented by Dennis Dauble, who has researched fisheries of the Columbia Basin and the Snake River for over 30 years. He currently teaches fish ecology for Washington State University and writes on natural history of fishes for regional publications. His presentation at the Wenatchee Valley Museum will describe how fish and fishing are intertwined with the lifestyle and culture of Pacific Northwest residents, from American Indian tribes and the Lewis and Clark Expedition to current water and fish resource managers and sports anglers. The slide show and talk is supported by Humanities Washington's Inquiring Mind program. Admission is by donation. For more information on the Bill McGuire exhibition and the Dennis Dauble presentation, call the museum at 509-888-6240.

Now; about that trip to Fish Lake. I have always enjoyed going up there this time of year. The fall scenery is worth the trip alone, but the trout fishing usually is very good this time of year. I wanted to do a Fishing TV Show on Fall Tactics for Trout, and Fish Lake is a good example of trout lakes in our region. It gets regular plants of rainbow throughout the season, and like other lakes, the quality of fish is very good in the fall.

I tried several different lures, including Scott West's High Lake Special, the Macks Lure Promise Keeper, the Worden's Flatfish, and even Woolly Bugger flies. The folks at the Cove Resort loaned us one of their pontoon boats, which was an ideal platform for filming the show.

We gave all of these lures a try, and caught fish on all of them. Not knowing how good the fishing was going to be I started with the High Lake Special, tipped with a worm. This produced fish right away, and I would suggest that if you want to take home a limit of firm, Fish Lake rainbow this would do the trick. The next best lure was the F-4, Frog pattern Flatfish, which I converted to a single barbless, siwash hook. In the case of the High Lake Special and the Flatfish, I put a couple of split shot on the line to get them below the surface.



I wasn't fishing very deep, though. We kept several rainbow as we were using bait on the High Lake Specials. We released almost all the fish we hooked on the other lures and flies.

The fly fishing was excellent. We were using fly rods with sinking lines, but pulling Woolly Bugger flies with a spinning rod and a split shot would work, too. The great trout fishing will be right up to when the lake freezes, and I plan to get out with Scott West before that happens. That's when the fishing for big brown trout is the best.

Reach Dave at:  
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