



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

# The Fishin' Magician



I have been out of town more days than I have been at home lately, and I am really ready to get outside and do some fishing. It looks like the weather is going to cooperate, too, with moderate temperatures. I hope to do some fly fishing and get back out on Rufus Woods. Like many anglers I have a big wish list of places I want to try this winter. We'll see how many I get to scratch off my list.

I know I will be getting up north to Molson and Sidley lakes, and you may want to put these lakes on your list for Presidents Day Weekend. That's when the 8th Annual NW Ice Fishing Festival will be happening and I'm going to be there this year. The festival is sponsored by the Oroville Chamber of Commerce and Hosted by the Molson Grange and everyone I know that has participated in the fishing derby aspect of the event has had a great time, whether they caught fish or not.

Registration for the derby begins at 7a.m. on Saturday the 18th of February, and entry fees are still just \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for kids age 14 and under. There's a pancake breakfast at the Molson Grange in the morning. Fishing begins at 8 a.m. and there will be food and beverages available at the edge of Sidley Lake. Catches must be turned into the judges by 4 p.m., and there is a two fish limit for the contest. There will be prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in both adult and youth divisions and more prizes for Mystery Weight, Smallest Fish and Oldest Fisherman.

There will be a dog sledding demonstration in the afternoon and arts and crafts booths, music

and games at the Grange Hall throughout the day. Beginning at 4 p.m. there is an Italian dinner served at the Molson Grange Hall at a cost of just \$10.00 per person. Winners of the fishing derby and raffles will be awarded during the dinner.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the fun community event, and if you want more details you can call the event chair Robin Stice, of Eden Valley Guest Ranch at (509) 485-4002. You can also go to FishingMagician.com and click on the ad at the top right of my Home Page and then open and print all the details and the schedule. I should mention that I have received several e-mails from folks that have attended this event, and although they didn't catch any fish last year, they were planning on coming back this year because they had such a great time. The community

has done work on the aerators on the lakes and fishing should be better this year, too.

Not long after the NW Ice Fishing Festival, the Quincy Valley Tourism Association is repeating their highly successful tagged trout derby on Burke Lake the first weekend in March. On Saturday, March 3rd from sun up until 1 p.m. the QVTA Trout Derby anglers will be trying to catch one of the tagged trout released into the lake and win some big money. If you remember this one from last year it was an excellent event.

There will be prizes awarded for the tagged fish caught, the heaviest fish, and cumulative weight. There will also be a mystery fish prize and raffle ticket prizes, too. There will be both adult and youth categories for the prizes. Ticket sales begin on February 20th, and tickets and rules can be found at Gates True Valley, Quincy Ace Hardware, and the Quincy Chamber and at Hooked on Toys in Wenatchee. Click on Something Is Fishy in Quincy tile on my Home Page for more details.

It may seem odd to talk about fly fishing in February. We are blessed to have one of the best areas for fly fishing in the entire western region at Rocky Ford Creek near Ephrata, and it is good to excellent through the winter months. Rocky Ford is fed by an underground spring so the water temperature stays fairly constant year-round. Even when our area rivers freeze Rocky Ford continues to flow ice-free and the trout that inhabit its waters are big and hungry.

The spring fed stream is ideal for growing rainbow, as it is loaded with insects that thrive even in the winter. You can actually watch the big trout gobble the small "scuds" that swim among the weeds on the bottom. Trout Lodge, which is the hatchery that produces the triploids that are planted in many of our area lakes, resides at the top end of Rocky Ford Creek. The hatchery keeps the stream loaded with rainbow and allows access to anglers to both sides of the creek for a mile down stream. The regulations state that fishing here is catch and release, fly fishing only and no wading is allowed at Rocky Ford Creek.

I talked to Darc Knobel at the Desert Fly Angler in Ephrata the other day, and he said that he had been able to get out and try the fishing at Rocky Ford and it has been very good lately. He has been casting a scud pattern under an indicator with good results. The rainbow he has been catching run from 15 to 18 inches, and to get four or five fish over 20 inches in a days fishing is possible.

I have had a great time at the sports shows and boat show the past couple of weeks, but I can't wait to get back out in the field and do some fishing. I will be sure to share my experiences—whether I find the fishing good or not!

Reach Dave at: [www.FishingMagician.com](http://www.FishingMagician.com) or [Fishboy@nwi.net](mailto:Fishboy@nwi.net)



**WINTER SALES EVENT**

**ARCTIC CAT**  
SHARE OUR PASSION™

**Ride Free Till 2013**  
On All Remaining 2009 Thru 2012 Models

**NO Money Down**  
**NO Interest**  
**NO Payments**  
Until Jan 2013

**OR** **6.9%**  
for 60 Months OAC

**+**  
**2 year Limited Warranty.**

2012 Models Only  
See Dealer For Details

884-3558 [www.bobfeil.com](http://www.bobfeil.com)  
The Place To Buy A Snowmobile!

**BOATS & MOTORS, INC.**

2131 Sunset Hwy. East Wenatchee  
Monday-Saturday - 8:30-5:30



**CUSTOM DIESEL PERFORMANCE**

CUMMINS - DURAMAX - POWERSTROKE

**Better Fuel Economy!**  
**Full Service Repair!**

**BRAKES • BALL JOINTS**  
**EXHAUST • A/C SERVICE**  
**COMPLETE LIGHT TRUCK SERVICE!**

223 Park St. • Next to 7-11 • Behind Car Wash • **663-6308**

For Huntin, Hikin, or Fishin  
Radical 453



**Danner**

With Gortex 1 Year Waterproof Guarantee  
Buy 5 Pairs of Socks Get 1 FREE!

**NEAL'S**  
FAMILY SHOES & REPAIR

662-8472  
811. S. Wenatchee Ave  
Open : Sat. 8-4 • Tues.-Fri 8-6

**To Advertise Here**  
Contact:  
**Bill Hansen**



at the  
**Nickel Ads**  
*Classifieds*

**662-1405**  
For More Information