



Garden Hackle

Leader's Line

From the Club President

It's springtime in the great Northwest. Ah yes, spring! That glorious time of year when a young man's and young lady's thoughts turn to fly-fishing. And nothing could get your fishing season started so well as a night on the town with some of your great old friends, great new friends, and maybe some friends you haven't even met yet.

Know where I'm going here? I'm talking about our SSFF's annual banquet and auction. Headed up by banquet-maestro extraordinaire Myron Saikewicz and his Banqueteers. This is my shot at getting everyone psyched up for the banquet. Reserve Saturday night, the 13th of May, to have dinner with your fly-fishing friends. This will be our major fund-raiser of the year. The last auction in the fall of 2004 netted the club approximately \$5,000 for conservation projects – a very gratifying result. We're hoping for an even bigger turnout this year. To accommodate the additional space the Tumwater Valley Grill agreed to give us more room than previously had.

This year's banquet promises a great variety in the auction items. Myron and Company are arranging a number of highly desirable items you won't want to miss for the silent and live auctions. In addition to the customary and unusual fishing gear, apparel, trips, etc. the committee is arranging a number of non-fishing items. This dinner is designed for enjoyment by family and friends alike. Besides, where else can you tell those neat stories about your fishing trips to so many? Who knows, you might even find a club member who will support your stories about the whoppers that got away.

Membership is up this year with Chuck Pfeil introducing many new members and guests. I want both members *and* guests to know we'd like to see all of you at the banquet. 100% turn-out for this event would be just great. We join the club for the camaraderie, the education, the fun of pursuing an enjoyable pastime with good friends. But at the

meetings, we don't always have time to socialize as much as we'd like. Outings are busy with getting organized and getting our lines in the water. The banquet provides an opportunity to meet some new folks, renew long friendships, and expand our fishing networks. Discover others who share the same passions as yours. Look for the banquet committee's invitation in the mail shortly. I really hope you'll be able to join us. It promises to be a lot of laughs, a lot of relaxation, great food, great auction deals for a really great cause, and a great time had by all.

Other newsworthy items: With the time change we have more evening daylight. Jim Voss and his education committee are committed to providing one-on-one fly-casting instruction before the regular monthly meetings. Bring your own rod or use one of the club's, but by all means take advantage of this opportunity to sharpen your casting skills whatever level caster you are. And I'm directing that invitation especially toward our newer fishers.

Finally, a quick look ahead – back by popular demand will be Ladies Night. We'll announce again as we get closer. This will be a follow-up to last year's successful evening where the ladies learned new casting skills, not at the hands of their spouses or significant others. Although the ladies will be welcome to join the meeting inside, the intent is to provide an evening of hands-on casting instruction. No strings attached, and no spousal impatience. Patiently delivered, quality instruction, to help out! I'm looking forward to that!

That's it from my corner this month. I'm excited by the opportunities and programs we have planned. Now go mark your calendar for May 13, banquet night. Till we meet again – narrow loops and tight lines !





Programs

Where: Salmon Club
When: Tuesday April 18th, 2006
Time: 6:15 Doors Open
 6:30 Fly Tying
 7:00 Brief Business
 7:20 Program

April Program

Have you been thinking about fishing Alaska? Don't know where to go? Can't decide to go to one of those all-inclusive resorts, just hire a guide or maybe even doing your own thing. Well Tuesday, April 18th's program is going to be one of those special events where we have someone who can help you make that dream Alaska fishing trip a reality. Please join Derek Sater as he speaks on the fishing opportunities of Bristol Bay Alaska. Re-

mote and pristine, this area of Alaska is prized for its world class rainbow and massive runs of all five species of pacific salmon. Whether your interest is fully guided or D.I.Y. trips Derek will give you the information needed to make your trip of a lifetime a success. Derek is an Alaskan fishing guide with over a decade of experience in the fly fishing industry.

Don't forget to mark Tuesday, May 16, to join Tom Bolander, owner of Fishy Business, as he gives us the scoop on our own famous Deschutes River. This is a great fishery right in our own backyard that doesn't give up its secrets very easily. What an opportunity to hear our own expert on fishing the Deschutes River.

Other programs lined up so far:

- May - Member Tom Bolander, fishing our local Deschutes River
- June - Member Burt Saver, Coho on a dry fly (Dondas Island, BC)
- July - Members Joe Uhlman and Gene Sterbis, fishing Montana rivers
- August - Members Myron Saikewicz and Joe Uhlman, fly fishing the Olympic Peninsula for Steelhead.
- September - Member Jim Voss, fishing the Yakima River
- October - Member Denny Lewis, this summer's fishing trip. (some cool places to go)
- November - Member Joe Uhlman, totally Yakitak, Alaska.

Conservation Committee

Myron Saikewicz

With a month to go, the South Sound Fly Fishers 2006 Banquet/Auction is coming along nicely! We've received many nice donations to date ranging from a week-long stay at a condo in Bend, Oregon, to a home cooked meal for six by a local professional chef, to a two night stay at a Montana hotel with a one day guided trip on the famous Rock Creek hosted by none other than our past president Gene Sterbis, to many others.

With a larger venue and an increased, enthusiastic membership, the 2006 Banquet/Auction promises to be the best one yet. Our goals for the event are the also very challenging: to raise over \$6,000 for a culvert replacement project on a small, pristine tributary of the Nisqually River and open up critical over-wintering habitat for juvenile salmon and steelhead smolts. Lack of adequate over-wintering habitat is a major impediment to smolt survival on the middle Nisqually River.

To reach this goal several things need to happen. First, we need a large membership turnout and, secondly, we need generous auction donations

from our members. The Banquet/Auction Committee has been working and will continue to work very hard to make the event a success. We realize, however, that we cannot achieve this without your help and participation.

Each of you will shortly receive a letter inviting you, your families and friends to the festivities. Tickets for the affair will be available at \$30 for individuals and \$55 for couples beginning the week of April 10th and can be purchased from any member of the Banquet/Auction Committee and at the door the day of the banquet/auction. Committee members can also receive donations. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions please let me know. I will be at the next general meeting on April 18th. I can also be reached at (360) 866-1567.



Outings

Bill Aubrey

Outings Report—April 2006

April 22nd, the education committee has the Long Pond outing. Also April 29th mark your calendars for Price's Lake. This peninsula lake is an ideal west side lake opener. AGAIN, WE NEEDED A GHILLIE.

On May 5-6, we have the dry side outing at Dry falls, Blue Lake and Park Lake. John McKenzie will be the ghillie. John has also volunteered to be the ghillie for the Walupt Lake joint outing on July 21-22. In between, we will have the Deschutes River on May 21st, the Yakima on June 10th, and Coldwater Lake on June 24th.

As always, please give me a call or email with any suggestions for outings or to volunteer to ghillie. This is your club; make it work.

Dry side info

Hey, it is that time again! Time for SSFFer's to make their annual pilgrimage to the Dry Side. I personally have made this trip every year since about 1992 and I wouldn't miss it for anything.

The fishing opportunities are abundant. For the avid seasoned fly-fisher looking for wary, hard to catch trout, there are two world-class opportunities, Dry Falls Lake and Rocky-Ford Creek. These waters can humble even the most experienced fly-fisher. But for those of you who would like to catch fish until your arm falls off, there are several bodies of water that can (and often do) provide this kind of excitement. Vic Meyers Lake, Deep Lake, Park and Blue Lakes are all abundantly stocked every year and there are usually a fair number of carry-overs in Park and Blue Lakes. All these waters (and a few more) are within about 20 miles of each other.

Dry Falls is best fished with small midges and chironomids (16-22). You'll need a float tube or pontoon boat here. Rocky Ford Creek is full of finicky and mostly large rainbows. They can be coaxed into taking small calibaetis, scuds and chironomids. They will take flies of the larger variety also; try a size 6 white bunny leech, cast as far as you can and then

strip it in as fast as you can. And here is a good one, try-a one-quarter to one half inch ball of light pink fuzz (something like a mini-pom pom). Want to know more about this fly, ask Larry Hall. Rocky Ford is fished from the banks, do not wade or use any type of floating device.

For Vic Meyers and Deep Lake try something in a size 10-12 light olive green with a matching hackle. Blue and Park Lakes, well most of the time the challenge here is to find something they will not take. I usually start off with a black/yellow size 10 woolly-worm. These fish are feisty and love to jump. These lakes have bank access, but they are best fished from a flotation device.

Where to stay: there are several camp grounds in the vicinity of Blue, and Park Lakes. Here are the places that I know about: Blue Lake Resort-509-632-5364, Sun Lakes State Park-www.parks.wa.gov, Sun Lakes Park Resort-509-632-5291 and Laurente's (see Al Harger, he most likely has a phone number.) There are several motels in Ephrata and Soap Lake, I do not have any information on them, but hey today is the day of the internet! For those who don't mind camping dry, there are a few areas to camp by Akali Lake. The wind can be a problem so tent campers beware! And on that note, the weather is pretty much unpredictable this time of year. Be ready for wind, cool temperatures and even some moisture. But then again be ready for temps in the 70's and sun.

I would like to pair up those not familiar with the area with those of us who are so, let's all meet at my cabin (#8 at Blue Lake Resort) about 7:30 A.M. Saturday. Then later in the day starting about 4 PM let's have a "potluck dinner", same place. Club will provide the meat. Please park outside the gate at Blue Lake Resort, the resort is usually very busy this time of year and parking can be at a premium (besides it might cost you a fiver).

If you don't have a float tube or pontoon boat but want to go on this trip, I have an extra pontoon boat and float tube I'll loan out. See me at the meeting.

P.S. Be watching for my article on our July Outing to Walupt Lake.

Tight Lines

Your Dry Side and Walupt Outings Ghilly

John McKenzie

Other News

Dues are due!

2006 Calendar year dues of \$30.00 are due effective the first of the year. Our Treasurer, Jim Bush, will be collecting them at the monthly meeting. Or, if you wish, you may send your dues payment to Jim at PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507-2792. Thank you for staying current with your dues.

For Sale—Several rods & Fish Cat float tube. See Denny Lewis at meeting or call 360-791-2620.

We have a marvelous new resource for the club. Check out the club web site Dave Millard worked so hard to set up. Also, sign up for the yahoo group. Go to Yahoo groups and search for "southsoundflyfishers". These groups are amazing. I joined Puget Sound's group "PSFF" and we got together an outing for steelies on the Kalama

In a day. We had 6 fishermen!. Unfortunately, the fish did not read about the outing, but at least we got together and went fishing!!!!

There are limitless possibilities with the group—from get togethers to fly tying info to fishing reports to—well, you get the idea. The group is limited in membership—Dave is the moderator and has to approve people. In other words, we will not be bothered by spammers or solicitors.



**SOUTH SOUND FLY
FISHERS**

P.O. Box 2792
Olympia, WA 98507

Dedicated to Conservation
Through Fly Fishing



**South Sound
Fly Fishers**

South Sound Fly Fishers 2006 Officers

President: Randy Allen 866-4862
1st VP: Chuck Pfeil 481-5005
2nd VP: Gary Kellogg 754-4429
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Secretary: Joe Williams 866-9640
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Education: Jim Voss 412-8176
Newsletter: Jay Johnson 736-0320
Member at Large: Denny Lewis 491-5815
Member at Large: Jay Johnson 736-0320

2006 Committee Leads

Membership: Chuck Pfeil
Programs: Gary Kellogg
Outings: Bill Aubrey
Education: Jim Voss
Newsletter: Jay Johnson
Political: Myron Saikewicz
Conservation: Myron Saikewicz
Ghillie: Joe Uhlman

General Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month except December. The meetings are held at the American Legion Hall (Salmon Club), 3201 Boston Harbor Road NE Olympia, WA.

When --- The third Tuesday of every Month.

Where --- American Legion Hall (Salmon Club)

3201 Boston Harbor Road NE

Time ----- 6:15 P.M. Fly Tying Demonstration

7:00 P.M. Meeting and Program

Board Meetings are held the first Tuesday of every other month at Apollo's Pizza & Pasta 2010 Harrison Avenue NW Olympia (phone 754-7444) at 6:00. Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 6th. Everyone is welcome, and encouraged to attend.

Website: www.southsoundflyfishers.com

Content: Please contact Jay Johnson (360-736-0320 or e-mail at jjohnso2@localaccess.com) if you wish to put something in the newsletter.