



Garden Hackle

Leader's Line

From the Club President

I cannot believe it's March already. We've had all kinds of interesting weather and I'm certain your neon orange or hot pink line looked just great against your snow-covered lawn. No, I haven't dusted off my gear either, but I will soon. Just casting a line and working on different techniques is relaxing. I'm thinking about Ed, a young fellow I met at work a few years back. Ed really loved fly-fishing, and I just loved his story about starting fly-fishing. Ed was still in school when it all started. On one otherwise fine Saturday morning he and his fraternity brothers were all sleeping in. All sleeping it off was more like it, truth be told, after a late night of refreshments, music, friends, and more refreshments. There were frat-folk all over the place, not a one of them moving except for one brother who awoke with a start. Obviously agitated, he muttered something about being late. This in itself was miraculous because not a creature was stirring, much less capable of stirring that morning. He unceremoniously stepped over the houseguests and left abruptly. The commotion woke and intrigued Ed. He was amazed his buddy found anything so important as to rush out of the house in his condition. Where did he have to go? When the bud returned later that day he was in a wonderful frame of mind - not the same guy who left early that morning. Sleeping in was costing him irreplaceable time on the water - time he couldn't afford to waste. He was a fly-fisher out of water. He needed to get back into the water. Ed was amazed, fascinated, and intrigued. If his buddy did in fact go fishing, then where were the fish? Where were the trophies? The proof? There was no proof. In fact his buddy 'fessed that he didn't catch anything. And still he carried on about what a great day he had. How incredible the fishing was. Ed was really getting hooked into this story. How good could fly-fishing stuff be that a friend, so messed up from a late night of partying, would force himself to go fishing? Fishing was the

last thing on anyone else's mind. And not catch anything? Nothing brought back to the house? Not even caught and released? Not even a story about the big one that got away? Nope. None of the above. Ed decided right then that the next time his buddy went fly-fishing he wanted to go. If fly-fishing could motivate a buddy to rise early in no shape to do anything, stay out all day and catch nothing, and come back raving about the great day, then it must be pretty darn good. Ed wanted to try it too.

His buddy did get Ed started fly-fishing. School, a new job, a new fiancée all competed for Ed's time. But whenever he could get away to wet his line, he did. And he always came back with a similar story as his frat brother. Wasn't that just great? Wasn't that incredible? Catching was secondary to the fishing experience.

We'll change our clocks in just a few weeks. Never mind getting up in the dark....we'll gain more evening light to fish and to practice casting. There are some really neat games we can play to refine techniques like stripping in and shooting line out, and changing directions of the cast. I'd guess we're all like Ed. Time on the water is an important aspect in our lives. Sometimes you catch all you want, sometimes you don't. I'll admit that catching is better than not, but the experience is always good. Time alone or with good friends in an enjoyable pastime. It deserves some practice to make a great experience even better. Like Tiger Woods still heads for the driving range, I'll dust off my gear and will head for my back lawn to get in some valuable practice time. Until next month - narrow loops, tight lines, and happy fishing - however many you do or don't catch!



Programs

Where: Salmon Club

When: Tuesday March 21st, 2006

Time: 6:15 Doors Open
6:30 Fly Tying
7:00 Brief Business
7:20 Program

March Program

This month's program will feature Doug Rose of Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing. Doug has authored two books, "Fly Fishing the Olympic Peninsula" and "The Color of Winter Steelhead Fly Fishing on

the Olympic Peninsula". Doug's articles have appeared in NorthWest Fly Fishing, American Angler, Fly Fishing and Tying Journal to mention a few.

Doug lives in Brinnon, WA on Hood Canal with his wife Eliana and their faithful Lab, Lily. Doug will be showing slides and telling us about fly fishing opportunities on the Olympic Peninsula.

Other programs lined up so far:

April - Guest guide Derek Sater, fishing Alaska

May - Member Tom Bolander, fish-

ing 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)

Conservation Committee

Myron Saikewicz

2006 Banquet/Auction

The Banquet and Auction Committee has been working hard to ensure a successful May 13th club celebration. Through the able efforts of Ron Smorynski, close to 30 letters were sent out to potential out-of-area donors. Subsequent mail outs will add to that number. The remaining donors on our list are local and many, including club members, who will be, and are being, approached in person for contributions. **If you are approached, please be generous!** Club member contributions are a major source of what our auctions raise for club conservation and education projects.

The goals of this year's banquet and auction are three-fold: 1) To raise money for a worthy local conservation/education project, 2) To have fun - the banquet and auction is one of the few opportunities all of us (including family and friends) to come together, socialize and enjoy each others company, and 3) For those of us who feel deprived, it's a great opportunity to expand our "stash" of both fishing and non-fishing paraphernalia for the coming year.

Legislative/Regulatory Issues

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission approved close to 90 changes to the current sports fishing regulations at its February 10th and 11th meeting in Olympia. These changes will go into effect May 1, 2006. Some notable decisions include:

- Requiring knotless nets in waters where selective gear rules are in effect.

- Prohibiting the removal from the water of any salmon, steelhead or Dolly Varden/Bull Trout intended for release.

- Increasing the harvest of surplus summer hatchery steelhead on the Wynoochee River by removing the selective gear requirement above the 7400 Line bridge from June 1 to October 31.

Increasing the daily limits of hatchery steelhead to 3 per day during certain time periods and stretches of the Hoh, Quillayute, Bogachiel, Calawah and Sol Duc rivers.

The Commission rejected the proposal to eliminate the annual limit of 30 steelhead per angler.

Membership

Chuck Pfeil

In the last few months you may have noticed a growing number of new faces at our monthly meeting. Well they're not all guests. We have fourteen new members so far this year. Please join me in welcoming James Brosio, Dwight Caron, Clyde Dillman, Ryan Haseman, Alan Hardcastle, Chuck Huber, Ron Kappes, Dave Larson, Michael & Cameron Maltby, Michael Maxwell, Dan O'Brien, John R. Smith and Paul Sparks.



Outings

Bill Aubrey

Outings Report—March 2006

The February outing to the Queets drew 6 people; Myron landed a dooly, but there were no steelies.

The next outing is at Lake Lenice on April 14-15. We are in need of a ghillie for this outing. Then, on April 22nd, the education committee has the Long Pond outing. And, there is still more in April. On April 29th, mark your calendars for Price's Lake. This peninsula lake is an ideal west side lake opener. AGAIN, WE NEED 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 24th & 25th, and Coldwater Lake on June 10th.

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

March 2,9,16,& 23: Flies By Design. For the intermediate and advanced fly tier. Designed to help tiers tie flies that are more effective. Consists of four 2 hour sessions. Bring your own tool. All materials will be provided. Class size limit 12 students. Fee: \$75 Hours: 6:30-8:30 PM. Location: Fishy Business.

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.

On April 1st Doug Rose and Ron Hirschi will seine saltwater beaches on Dungeness and Sequim bays to collect Cutthroat food items. After the seining the group will go to Waters West fly shop and discuss fly patterns. The cost is \$60.00 per person.

On April 15th Doug will conduct a Sea-run Cutthroat clinic that includes a slide show, hands-on fly and tackle discussion and visits to several beaches in the Pt. Townsend area. The cost is \$40.00 per person. For information call Doug Rose at 360-796-0101



**SOUTH SOUND FLY
FISHERS**

P.O. Box 2792
Olympia, WA 98507

Dedicated to Conservation
Through Fly Fishing



**South Sound
Fly Fishers**

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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, April 4th. 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.