



Garden Hackle



Volume 09, Issue 2

South Sound Fly Fishers

February 2009

This month's Program

The presentation for February is Fly Fishing Western Washington Rivers for trout. Presented by me, (Tom Bolender). Over the past 20 years my main focus has been to find trout without having to cross the mountains to hit the Yakima. During the time of exploration I have found lots of place that hold trout. Sometimes they're 3 weight fish and sometime they're 6 weight fish. I'll talk about what rivers I've found to be worth the drive which is sometimes a longer trip than Eastern Washington but always worth the adventure. I'm not going to show you lots of pictures of trout. I'm going to show you maps with spots to stop and fish. If you want to know where to fish within an hour of Olympia this is a presentation not to miss. See you there.

Tom Bolender

Leader's Line

By Gary Kellogg

For me, spring cannot get here soon enough. As many of you know I'm pretty much a fair weather fisherman. The past sunny days have me anxious to get the pontoon boat out and hit the lakes.

The club had two fly tying sessions this winter to help those who tie their own. The club on Saturday, January 21, had a get together for tiers, but only three members showed up. I'm a little disappointed but understand, we all have busy schedules or different priorities. The board has decided to cancel February's club fly tying get together.

We are getting good turn out for our meetings, so I assume the programs are of interest - that's good. We had six (three from one family) come out for the Wynoochee River outing. We had over a dozen members come out for our fall saltwater Cutthroat outing. I would like to see more of our members get out for these outings. I keep hearing that outings are popular but the attendance is telling me different - am I wrong?

Patrick Rolf had good attendance for his A to Z fishing clinic and a casting clinic last year. Is this what our members want more of this year?

I know - lots of questions, but, we need to hear from you. What do you want from your local fly club?

This spring we are scheduling four different events that need your support. Two have always drawn your support: the Lacy Fish-in at Long's Pond on April 18 and the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy, June 21-27. Your continued support is appreciated,

The Next Meeting is
Tuesday February 17th 2009
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Tom Bolender

Fly Fishing Western Washington Rivers For Trout

North Olympia Fire Station

5046 Boston Harbor Road NE

especially from the youth in our community. This year we scheduled two more events.

The first is a booth at Cabela's for the Captain's Weekend event - March 7 & 8. The second is a state wide event at the Thurston County Fairground: "go play outside" May 8 & 9 - see Mike Clancy's article. We will be asking you to sign up for as many of these events as you can handle.

We have a great program on February 17th. I hope to see most of you attend. Don't forget to bring your checkbook, dues for 2009 are \$30.

Outings

by Jim McAllister

We will have a tie in at the fire Station in the kitchen:
Saturday February 21, 10:00am – 2:00pm

Conservation

by Don Freeman

This is my first column as your conservation representative, so I'll start with a few lines to let you know what you've got. I was nominated to the position mostly due to my affiliations with volunteer groups which are involved in anadromous fish conservation. My interest in steelhead, sea run cutts and salmon began back in the 70's in Oregon, so I've watched the fish runs and fish catching decline in ratio to the grouching and complaining increase by the frustrated angling community.

Convinced that some better solution than griping with my friends must exist, I easily found several groups looking for help that are more organized and motivated than I am. There are a number of very dedicated organizations with successful activities and projects in the region. I personally volunteer with DNR, WDFW, the Veteran's Conservation Corps, and Stream Team. I am president of the local CCA chapter, so spend most of my time on their issues at

present. However, I've planted trees, fed smolt with analog pellets and frozen carcasses, fenced out beavers, and caught and tagged fish. Catching SRCs for tagging, and camp hosting Merrill Lake were probably more fun than chucking chum off a bridge, but my point is that there we can find something rewarding for everyone, according to their interest and abilities.

Based on input from the conservation committee and the general membership, we hope to find increasing avenues for productive, meaningful conservation projects in the coming years. In the current economic climate, it will be more difficult to raise money to assist in projects like pulling ghost nets. But, like many of us, the state and all volunteer groups are feeling the bite, and will be increasing the scope of volunteer opportunities. Many of us get our satisfaction out of participatory experiences. Now that most of us have lost half a Monopoly box of money in the last months, "hands-on" sounds like the wave of the future.

For instance, I spent the last two days at the WDFW public hearings. From among the other thrilling tidbits of alternating hope and despair, I plucked a gem. Several of the commission members referenced the attrition of personnel during the hiring freeze, on the brink of an increasing need for eyes and bodies in the field. First, Vice Chair Miranda Wecker suggested that they are considering using recreational fishery volunteers to monitor harvest for selective fishing. Chairman Gutzwiler then added that "the department is looking for more public participation opportunities". Today, a gill netter from Longview complained about a lack of equity in the monitoring process, challenging the commission to put observers on guide boats. Hmm. That sounds better than throwing fish in a chipper.

In summary, I am looking forward to promoting the conservation mission of South Sound Fly Fishers. I've given you a glimpse of what my orientation is and how I am involved in the field, but I need to know what your priorities are, what the club is most interested in, and what direction we want to go. Please phone, email, or tug my sleeve if there's anything related to our conservation mission that you want to propose.

SSFF Membership

by Stan Foster

To date 44 of our 108 members are paid up thru 2009. Thanks to all of you who have renewed so far! Please remember that beginning in April only new/renewed members will receive a current issue of The Garden Hackle.

So far five members have paid \$12 to continue to receive a mailed hard copy of The Garden Hackle. If anyone else would like to continue to receive a mailed hard copy please give me a call or e-mail.

We have placed a new order for the SSFF patch we give to new members. These are also available to anyone in the

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Web Site <http://www.ssffoly.com>

General Meetings

When The third Tuesday of every Month except December.
Where North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station)
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE
Time 6:15 PM Doors open,
6:30 P.M. Social Time
7:00 – 9:00 P.M. Meeting and Program

Board Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00PM at Apollo's Pizza & Pasta 2010 Harrison Ave NW Olympia. Our next board meeting is **Tuesday October 7th**. Every one is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Newsletter Articles

E-Mail articles to Ron Smorynski at ronaldvs@mac.com by the Friday after the first Tuesday of the month.

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club and are only \$5 each!

We had three visitors at the January meeting. If any of you come across Don Kasmar, Rick Rosner, or Chase Nowdeshell let them know we appreciate their interest and hope they come back.

Consider taking a moment between meetings to invite a friend, colleague, or even acquaintance to come visit us.

Education

By Casper Castalot

I call this one the Black River Frog. The face has been relieved a bit to allow the popper to give a little burbble when it is given a slight tug. The bass fishermen, those who hve floated and fished Black River, know it is a bass haven, and they are staying quiet about it. Casper Castalot.



Treasurer's Report

By Chuck Pfei

No Report

In The FFF Corner

Washington Youth Outdoor Adventure Expo, May 8-9, 2009

by Mike Clancy, Secretary, WSCFFF

One of the largest outdoor youth programs is coming to The Thurston County Fairgrounds in Lacey, WA. on May 8-9, 2009. May 8th, Friday will be devoted to the surrounding schools with possibly over 5000 students attending this "hands-on" event. Saturday, May 9th will be open to the public, both days are free, no admission charge.

We anticipate over 50 various outdoor organizations will participate in the event with the focus on our youth. Archery, canoe/kayak pond, firearm safety, fly tying, geo caching, horse packing, rock climbing, golf, just to name a few activities. The Expo will provide opportunities for wildlife enthusiasts and "wannabe" enthusiasts at all levels to get involved in the outdoors. Opportunities to learn entry-level and advanced outdoor skills and

conservation concepts will be offered by experienced sportsmen and professionals. Expo activities focus on learning wildlife related outdoor skills and the responsible, safe use of those skills; wildlife conservation and stewardship; and the ways in which one can get involved in the various outdoor recreational sports and natural resource conservation.

I will be representing the Washington State Council of the FFF again this year and will be coordinating the fly fishing activities. In order for the fly fishing portion to work, I will be requesting our Washington fly fishing clubs to volunteer members for the casting and fly tying.

The event is sponsored by "The Go Pay Outside Alliance of Washington" and supported by the State of Washington.

2009 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION & FLY FISHING ACADEMY

The Washington Council Trout Unlimited and the Washington State Council - Federation of Fly Fishers jointly announce that applications are being accepted from youth, ages 12 to 16, to attend the annual Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy. The Academy will be held from June 21-27, 2009 at the Gwinwood Conference Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, Washington. It was established in 2004 to educate youth about the importance of natural resource conservation and stewardship, and to learn the basics of the sport of fly fishing. The weeklong summer event is modeled after the award winning Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp held annually in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania. The Olympia Chapter Trout Unlimited and the South Sound Fly Fishers are the hosting organizations.

The curriculum is structured to provide students with a background in fundamental science and includes lessons in ecology, hydrology, aquatic entomology, invasive species, watersheds, wildlife management, and fish behavior. Participants also learn the basic fly fishing skills that include fly casting, fly tying, fly selection, knot tying, reading water, water safety, streamside etiquette, and the "catch and release" ethic.

Twenty-four youth who show an interest in the outdoors and fly fishing will be selected to attend. The Academy is co-educational with acceptance based upon the candidate's written essay indicating his/her desire to attend and the expectations she/he hopes to learn from the camp. Tuition cost, including meals and lodging, for the event is \$275. Scholarships may be offered through local Trout Unlimited chapters and FFF fly fishing clubs. Fly fishing rods, reels, and fly tying equipment will be available. The deadline for applications is April 15, 2009.

For further information, visit www.nwycffa.org. To request brochures email Mike Clancy @ 2009academy@earthlink.net or call 360-753-1259 or 253-278-0061. You may also contact Dick Nye @ 360-491-9227.