



Garden Hackle



Volume 08, Issue 6

South Sound Fly Fishers

June 2008

Leader's Line

A note from Gary Kellogg, SSFF President.

I want to thank Chuck Tye for a great program on the "Healing Waters" project – good presentation! I showed up at May's meeting with my left arm in a sling nursing a sore shoulder. Feeling sorry for myself, I complained to my fishing buddies I hurt too much to go fishing. Chuck's program did more than just put me in my place – it gave me a whole new prospective on what it takes to really want something.

Anyway, I've had my steroid shot and hopefully it will be back to the tying vise and back on the water. This short time off, gave me an opportunity to explore our club's web site www.ssffoly.com and more specifically the SSFF Message Board. If you go to the web site, go down to the bottom line and click on [HERE](#). This is a link to our Yahoo SSFF group site.

On the group site you can get more information about your club – all kinds of information. You can also add information and this is what I would like to see all of you do. But first here is some information.

The SSFF group site is a monitored group. What I mean by this is we approve those who want to participate and disapprove or delete inappropriate participants. I talked to several club members who are also members of the Tacoma Puget Sound Anglers and participate in their clubs user group. They could not stop talking about how active their group site is. They are all talking about fishing and arranging car pools, etc. You can down load pictures and keep your fellow fishing buddies up to date with your fishing escapades. This is better than waiting for our once a month meeting's fishing reports.

Here is the deal when you click on [HERE](#) for the first time. You have to join the Yahoo users group (become a Yahoo user). When you click on [HERE](#) you go to the Yahoo web page. You need to click on the "Join this Group!" located on the upper right hand corner of the page. You need to answer a few questions and give them a little information about yourself (no one sees this info). It seems like a big extra step, but I think it is worth it. The most important question that is asked will be in a box asking WHY you want to join the group. Please give us your name and that you are a member of SSFF. Sometimes going by your email address or some other surreptitious name you are unidentifiable and this is why we are filtering the users of our group.

**The Next Meeting is
Tuesday June 17, 2008
6:15 PM – 9:00 PM**

**Speaker Gary Loomis
Saving our Salmon and Steelhead
North Olympia Fire Station
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE**

Our program for this month is by Gary Loomis of G Loomis Rods. Gary will talk about his efforts to save salmon and steelhead and how we can join him in his work.

Gary founded Fish First a group that has been working to recover salmon in the North Fork of the Lewis. He learned from that experience that harvest is the main problem for recovery and has joined the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) and organized the CCA Pacific Northwest to continue his work. They need all of us that care about salmon and steelhead to help make this effort successful.



After you join Yahoo, go back to the www.ssffoly.com web site and click on HERE again. You will be asked to join the SSFF users group and your request will go to the monitor of our users group – me. Give me some time as I monitor the olympiassff@yahoo.com email site about every other day. I will see your request and act on it immediately. Then you are ready to participate in the fun. Please join the SSFF users group and tell us about your fishing escapades. Give me some feedback (good or bad) if you entered this group discussion. Let the fun begin.

Upcoming Programs

by Denny Lewis

Jun Gary Loomis
 Jul Doug Rose; Cutthroat fishing
 Aug Annual Picnic
 Sep Chester Allen; Yakima River fishing
 Oct Banquet
 Nov Steve Buckner; FF the Cowlitz
 Dec No meeting

Membership

by Chuck Pfeil

At our May meeting Gary Kellogg had each of us talk about our “fishing buddies” and encouraged us to reach out to fellow club members to join us when we head out on our next fishing adventure. Well reaching out will be getting a whole lot easier this month.

At next week’s meeting I will be passing out copies of a SSFF Member Roster and will also e-mail it out to each member. It will include the names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of our members (provided I’ve been given approval to include your information on the roster).

So next time you are planning some quality time on the water you’ll be able to reach for your club roster and share the experience.

Outings

by Loren McAllister

June 21 Leech Lake

Leech Lake outing, June 21, change of plans. The original plan for the Leech Lake outing was to use the Olympia Ski Lodge at White Pass for the weekend. Gary Kellogg, the host for this weekend, cannot make it so this plan is being cancelled - sorry. The next Leech Lake outing on August 9th, Gary is trying to make the Olympia Ski Lodge

2008 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairman

President, Gary Kellogg, (360) 754-4429
gkellogg_44@yahoo.com

1st VP & Membership, Chuck Pfeil (360)481-5005
chuckpfeil@comcast.net

2nd VP & Programs, Denny Lewis (360)491-5815
rvfshr@gmail.com

Treasurer, Randy Woodson (360)446-6016
woodson.randy@gmail.com

Secretary & Education, Patrick Rofe (360)915-7027
patrick.rofe@gmail.com

Political & Conservation, Ronald Smorynski (370) -789-6054
ronaldvs@mac.com

Retirement Outreach, Dwight Caron (360) 491-6689
lobosden@comcast.net

Newsletter & Website, Ronald Smorynski (370) -789-6054
ronaldvs@mac.com

Member at Large & intercommunications, Mike Clancy (360) 753-1257
mtclancy@earthlink.net

Outings, Loren Mc Allister (360) 352-9887
DKryder4life@yahoo.com

Past President & Community Outreach Randy Allen (360) 866-4862
randyandcarol@earthlink.net

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 May 6**. 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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available and will let you all know later if this will happen. This outing on June 21 will be a one day club event.

July 12 Tilton River
July 26 Walupt Lake
Aug 9 Leech Lake
Aug 23 Tilton River

Conservation

By Ronald Smorynski

The date and location for our fund raiser banquet has changed to October 18th at the Elks Hall. Start thinking about what you can donate for the auction.

The Conservation Committee will have a meeting on June 19 at my home to work on plans for the banquet. All members are welcome to attend. Contact me if you wish to attend.

Education

By Patrick Rofe

Finding Success on Slow Days

Spring has arrived and now you are ready to fish. You've taken a lesson or two, read enough fly fishing magazines to carry you through the winter months and dreamed of all of the large fish you are going to fool with your fly. You envision the first trip of the season – warm with no wind or rain and rising fish, lots of rising fish.

The day has arrived. Now, you're on that piece of water you know must hold the monster fish that filled your daydreams. The problem is that it's early in the season so it's a bit chilly. There are no fish are rising. There's very little insect activity and even if you tried you can't see any fish.

Not to worry. By learning to read the water you will enjoy some of your most exciting and rewarding fishing by figuring out where the fish are and what they are eating. Patience and careful observation will turn what could have been a frustrating day into a day filled with discovery. When you approach the water just remember a few basic tactics that will help you find those hiding fish and improve your fishing success.

Where are the fish? Why are they there?

Trout and other fish species like a home that provides protection from predators and strong currents, a comfortable water temperature and a steady supply of food. Called holding areas, these can be found in either fresh or saltwater. Look for vegetation, current seams, behind or in front of boulders, overhanging banks and trees, changes in the contour of the ocean, lake or river bottom, an inflowing stream or river, and submerged obstructions.

What are they eating?

Figuring out what the fish are eating and how to imitate that food source lies at the heart of fly fishing. As a fly

fisherman, you are going to learn about the foods that different fish eat. Some fly fisherman become expert entomologists and biologists while some just enjoy fishing flies that are close representations of what might be available to the fish.

Depending on the type of water and time of year, fish can be feeding on mayflies, caddisflies, midges, stoneflies, crayfish, leeches, shrimp, squid, crabs and, of course, other fish. A little observation will tell you what might be on the menu.

Simply look around: pick up some rocks to see what critters are living on them, look to see what is flying around, look in spider webs, look into the slower water and see what type of aquatic life is active and look on the trees and bushes along the water. A key sign of insect activity are swallows, waxwings and kingbirds diving and swooping above the water feeding on insects. Some food items leeches, crayfish and other fish are available all year no matter what the weather is like or what the water temperature might be.

When are the fish in these areas?

Fish will hold in the protected areas more often than not. However, fish will move around to find the best areas to feed and remain safe. Some of the time, if the food source is plentiful, fish will come out of a secure area to feed and return to the secure area when finished feeding.

Areas with more food than protection are called feeding areas. To find feeding areas look for riffle areas during a hatch, fresh and saltwater flats, foam lines in the middle of the river and single or schooling fish feeding on schooling baitfish or hatching insects in open water. Because there is less protection in these areas fish tend to be more wary so be aware of your wading, casting and presentation when approaching these fish.

Fish can be found in all areas of the water at different times, but by focusing on the areas that provide a comfortable home with plenty for the fish to eat will yield much greater success. Part of the lifelong journey of fly fishing is learning a little more each year and thereby improving your entire fly fishing skill set.

Learning to read the water through patience and careful observation will reap many rewards on your fly fishing journey.

Fly Fishing School **Learn fly fishing from A-Z**

Casting

Knots, Leaders & Lines

Fly Selection & Identification

How, Where and When of Fly-Fishing

Four two hour lessons

6pm – 8pm Wednesday June 18, 25, July 2nd Pioneer Park in Tumwater

12noon – 2PM Saturday July 12th at **Trophy Lake Golf and Casting Club**

Cost: \$75 – Includes on year club membership!
All Equipment Provided

Class includes group and individual instruction for the beginning or novice fly fisher. It's a great way to learn the basics or improve your fly fishing skills. The final class will be held at **Trophy Lake Golf and Casting Club** (fishing license required).

Space is limited.

Contact Patrick Rofe at (360) 915-7027 or patrick.rofe@gmail.com

Mail payment to:
South Sound Fly Fishers
PO Box 2792
Olympia, WA 98507
Casting Club
for

FFF Certified Casting Instructor Certification

If you are interested in becoming a better caster and instructor so that you can bring more people to the sport of fly-fishing then consider becoming a **FFF Certified Casting Instructor**. The goal will be to attend a workshop and take the certification test this fall. We will cover all aspects of the certification:

- Becoming a Better Teacher
- Substance and Style of Casting
- Learning Principles and Styles
- Analyzing the Cast

This is an opportunity to become a better fly caster and instructor, make entry into the sport easier for the beginner and to help experienced casters advance to the next level. Become part of a network of the best casting instructors who are eager to share their knowledge and innovation to the sport of fly-fishing. Be sure to bring your favorite rod and line combo – the one with which you plan to test Fridays from 6pm – 8pm at Pioneer Park in Tumwater

May 23rd – August 1st
Cost \$20



Mail payment to:
South Sound Fly Fishers
PO Box 2792
Olympia, WA 98507

Contact Patrick Rofe at (360) 915-7027 or patrick.rofe@gmail.com

Note club members get credit for their dues.

From the vice of Casper Castalot
The March Brown

The Mayfly oftentimes referred to as the clinger because they hang onto the smooth rocks of a stream tenaciously until they emerge, generally, around the third week of May. They are a two tailed Mayfly with mottled brown wings, size 14 to 12 hooks, they are tied with brown hackle tails, fine copper wire, brown dubbed body - tapering fine at the tail thicker up to the thorax, brown hackle tip wings, brown hackle. The below fly was tied using dyed brown silk flower wings. They continue to emerge through June, July and August in Washington and Oregon.

Muddler Minnow

The Muddler Minnow, first tied by professional tier, Don Gapen of Anoke, Minn. This pattern has been around for better than thirty years, used in fresh and salt water alike. Made to imitate the fresh water Sculpin, it has been used fishing for Bass, Trout, and Salmon. Normally tied using Turkey wing for the tail and wing, I have replaced it using a dyed silk flower for the wing and tail.



Retired?

At the last SSFF board meeting we gave our at large board position, Dwight Caron, some new responsibilities. He will be organizing a splinter group of retired SSFF members or members who can take the week days off to go fishing. The board members noticed how many hands went up when Gary asked how many members present at the last meeting were retired or available for week day fishing trips.

As most know who can fish during the week, it is nice to avoid the crowds during the weekends. A splinter group under the SSFF charter, who can take week day time to fish, may be an opportunity to exploit. So over the next two or three meetings, Dwight and a band of compadres will meet at 6:30 pm before the meeting to see if there is interest in organizing a SSFF-“retired” fishing group. If you cannot make the meetings, please email your interest in such a group to olympiassff@yahoo.com.

Fly Fishing Events for 2008

- July 22–26 FFF 43rd International Show and Conclave, Whitefish MT
www.fedflyfishers.org

Costal Conservation Association – CCA by Mike Clancy, SSFF

Folks, there’s a new game in town and it’s an organization we need to take seriously. For years we have all been talking about the problems with our fishing sport, arguing about the regulations and how ineffective they are, complaining about the lack of fish in our rivers and ocean. Problems with dealing with our native and farm fish as to how they effect our rivers and their relation with each other. Also dealing with the lack of voice with our government regulators. Incidentally, the folks that run our State fishing departments are quality people, but they need to hear from us, and they will react to our opinions and requests.

Gary Loomis the “rod guy” from Woodland, Wa. has brought the Coastal Conservation Association to the Pacific Northwest. Gary has a passion to insure the native fish will survive in our streams, rivers and ocean. I have heard Gary speak a number of times and this guy is genuine in what he is talking about. His goal is to bring back our fishing grounds to what it was before the industry took over. There are so many problems created over the years that you must listen to his talk and you should get really angry for what has happen. Now is the time for us to become a member of the organization that could possibly correct the problems that have occurred for the past 30-50 years.

Membership is \$25 a year. The CCA has a 30 year history and has been very effective with their program in dealing with regulations and politicians. Our politicians will listen and this organization is effective with influencing their thinking.

The CCA is now in Lacey/Olympia. Don Freeman is the new President of our local “Capital City” chapter of the CCA. The organization’s next meeting is scheduled for August 4th at the Lacey Fire Station on Pacific Ave. in Lacey. The web site for the NW CCA is www.ccapnw.org. Check out the website and learn more about the organization.

There is one thought that they want us to remember, this is not a “fishing club”, it is an organization to improve the regulations and work with our government to bring back the good old days. I have not spoken about the “Ghost Nets” or the abandoned “Crab Pots.” They are out there right now killing our fish and crabs.

The CCA and Gary Loomis will be the guest speaker at our next SSFF meeting on June 17th at the Boston Harbor fire station. Bring your friends and neighbors to listen to Gary. This is serious business, everyone of us, regardless if fisherman or whatever, we should ALL be concerned about what’s happening in our waters with our fish.

The Alan Harger Award

The Board of Directors of the South Sound Fly Fishers hereby recognizes Alan Harger for his sustained, superior service to the SSFF and its Board since 1984 to 2008. For nearly a quarter of a century, Al has served as a member of the Board in numerous capacities and has been counselor, advocate, champion and a voice of reason and experience on countless issues before the Board. His steadfast and valued guidance to the Board was essential to the success the Club enjoyed over the past decades. It represents the finest tradition of service to his fellows and is an example to be emulated by our general members and by Board members who succeed him.

Therefore, in recognition and acknowledgement of the standards of devotion and service exemplified by Al Harger, this award for service to the SSFF Board of Directors shall be know as ‘The Alan Harger Award.’”



The award was presented to the membership at the May 2008 meeting with the anticipation of Alan making the meeting. Unfortunately his chemo treatment for his lung cancer that morning left him too tired to attend. Bert Sarver, Al's constant fishing companion, was able to make the presentation to him and show a movie, Ginger Sarver, made of the May meetings presentation. Al is doing well and thanks the club for their gracious thoughts.



The SSFF Board did feel it was important to recognize those special individuals that give of themselves the extra effort and time it takes to be part of South Sound Fly Fishers Board. Without the Board members active participation, the SSFF club would not work as well as it does. So the Board set out some guide lines to recognize the best of these special individuals who have made up the SSFF Board over the years.

The South Sound Fly Fishers Board of Directors award for superior and sustained service to the Club as a Board member is hereby created.

Criteria for receipt of the award:

1. Recipient must have served as a member of the SSFF Board of Directors for five or more years in at least two capacities;
2. Recipient must have contributed to the success and sustenance of the Club and its membership through his or her efforts and skills;
3. Recipient must have served as a model of community service to the Club and its members.

Therefore, in recognition and acknowledgement of the standards of devotion and service exemplified by Al Harger, this award for service to the Board hereafter shall be know as the **'The Alan Harger Award.'**