



Covering The Drift

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Editor: David Williams

Leaders Line

Board's Work

By Carl Johnson, President

On May 1st and 2nd your Council held the second Fly Fishing Fair and Annual meeting in Ellensburg at the Kittitas County Event Center. The event was the culmination of a long show season for the Council this past year and a great success. The Fly Fishing Fair would not have been a success however without the wonderful members who volunteered their time and talents. I want to thank everyone who volunteered, this includes our

fly tiers, instructors, presenters and those who did all the tasks that needed to be done during the show. I'm not going to try and name everyone who volunteered because the list would be long and I know I would miss someone.

Having said that, there are two individuals who deserve special recognition. Carla Ferguson and Linda Howe are the superwomen who prepared and served the dinner Friday night for the volunteers. That dinner set the tone for the entire event. Thank you Carla and Linda.

I also want to thank the clubs that volunteered for specific tasks; Fidalgo Fly Fishers who hosted the Danish Games, Washington Fly Fishing Club who ran the 5 Weight Casting Competition, and the Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers who gave tying lessons to kids during the day.

Finally I want to thank all of our vendors who made the trip to Ellensburg for the show. If you visit these vendors please let them know that you appreciate their support of the Council and FFF.

The Fly Fishing Fair was a success and we are in the planning stages for next year's event. Next year the event will be Friday April 30th and Saturday May 1st. If you would like to help with next year's event please contact me. Please mark your calendars. Now it's time to go fishing.

May 2, 2009 Meeting Ellensburg

President Johnson called the meeting to order, then welcomed all those in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

Carl introduced Pat Herdt of the Wenatchee Valley and Methow Valley Fly Fishers. Pat was appointed Director at Large to fulfill Walt Wittgow's term.

The next order of business was in the introduction of the officer and board of directors slate and to call for additional nominations from the floor.

Carl announce that Mike Clancy resigned as Secretary to take on the newly created position as Chair of the Government Affairs Committee. Award presentations followed, then the meeting adjourned.

The Board meets four times a year. The February meeting is in Bellevue on Saturday after The Fly Fishing Show. The May meeting coincides with the Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. We also meet in July and November in Ellensburg. The choice to meet in Ellensburg is not random. We meet at the Rodeo City Barbecue, just a few blocks south of the spot marking the geographic center of the state. Many of the board members come a day early or stay a day late to fish the Yakima or other local water. Great excuse to fish while helping the sport we all love.

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Fly Fishing Fair Awards

At the Saturday night Council business meeting , several awards were presented.

John Reid received the Jimmy Green Fly Casting Instructors Award. The WSCFFF Fly Tying Hall of Fame Award went to Steve Brocco. Jerry McBride and Kevin Ryan each received a Bill Mackay Conservation Award for their years of dedicated service.

The Council also announced our nominees for the Council Award of Excellence. Jerry McBride and Kevin Ryan well-deserve recognition. This award will be presented at the National Conclave in Loveland this summer.

Carl Johnson also presented "President's Pins" to a number of folks to thank them for their support over the past year: David Williams, Dan Ferguson, Carla Ferguson, Linda Howe, Dick Nye and Maura Johnson. Congratulations to all of our award winners.

The Council also presented Dick Nye with a check for \$500 for the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy.

Editor's Note: In presenting Maura with a President's Pin, Carl publicly thanked her for allowing him to do what he does. That was my favorite part of the whole Fair.



Council Officer and Board Member Nominations

This is your chance to get to know more about the FFF members who have been nominated to vacant officer and board member positions. Please take a few moments to read these brief biographies, then vote for the candidates of your choice.

President

Carl Johnson, Monroe WA
Carl, our current president, has accepted the nomination to run for reelection as Council President. He is past president of the Evergreen Fly Fishing Club in Everett and a member of the Northwest Fly Anglers in Seattle. Carl is a life member of the FFF. He has been a member of FFF for over twenty years and wants to give something back to the organization. He has been fly fishing for over 40 years and currently divides his fishing time between Washington and Western Montana.

Secretary

David Williams, Bellevue WA
David has served the WSC for the past several years, first as a Board Member at Large, then as Vice-President, Membership. Currently he is the editor the Covering the Drift. David has been fly fishing since Ike was president, fishes for anything that swims in Northwest waters, presents programs to fly clubs and is a freelance writer for national and regional outdoor magazines. He grew up fishing Oregon's McKenzie River and has fished alpine lakes in six western states. He lives in Bellevue with his wonderful wife, Susan Ryan. His favorite fish is the one on the end of his line.



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**Council Officer and
Board Member
Nominations,
continued**

Vice-President, Conservation

Don Bolstad, Wenatchee WA
Don has accepted the nomination for the WSCFFF Conservation position. He is presently a member of the Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers (WVFF). Don's fly fishing adventures started on Hi Hume Lake in BC. He is a member of the FFF, TU and CCA. His first organized conservation efforts (picking up trash) was on the South Platte River with the Cutthroat Chapter in Littleton, Colorado. His career took him to southeastern Louisiana. He became a member of the Pontchartrain Basin Fly Fishing Club (100% FFF). He served at various times as Club treasurer, secretary and president. Fly fishing in Louisiana with generous limits and filled coolers, highlighted the need for conservation. The PBFF started teaching children how to tie flies (yes, we tied Woolly Buggers) that lead to invitations to teach at various wildlife functions, and expose fly fishing to numerous children. Next came retirement and a move to Wenatchee to be near his mother-in-law. He joined the local FFF club (WVFF). Since joining the club four years ago, Don has served as Conservation chairman and first VP.

**Northwest Fly Fishing
Events for 2009**

July 18-19 Eighth Annual Metolius River Fly Fishing and Bamboo Rod Fair @ Black Butte School, Camp Sherman, OR
www.campshermanstore.com

July 28-August 1 FFF 44th International Fly Fishing Show and Conclave @ Loveland CO
www.fedflyfishers.org

September 19 North Umpqua Fall Fly Tying Festival @ Glide Community Center, Glide OR
www.uvff.org

November 7 Pacific Northwest Fly Tyers Rendezvous @ Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham OR
www.nwflytyers.org

April 30-May 1, 2010 Washington State Council FFF Washington State Fly Fishing Fair @ Kittitas Valley Events Center, Ellensburg WA
www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

Sprague Lake Sunset Photo by David Williams



Council Officer and Board Member Nominations, continued

Vice-President, Membership

Dan Ferguson, Spokane WA

Dan has served as President of the Spokane Fly Fishers- twice. He has also been Membership chair for three years, newsletter editor, web master, and outings committee chair. Five years as director of the fly fishing school.

Dab is active in outings, youth education and conservation projects. He Co-chaired the tying at the 2009 Fly Fishing Fair, and will serve as Chair for the 2010 event.

He has lived in Spokane for 25 years. The N. Idaho Rivers are his favorites, but can do a pretty good job on the regional lakes and Montana rivers

Director at Large

Vicki Hoagland, Bothell WA

I'm a life member of the Federation of Fly Fishers and belong to the Northwest Women Flyfishers where I served as Conservation Chair for four years and revised the NWF conservation grant application and review processes, assisted with fundraising, and organized work parties. I helped start up and volunteer with Project Healing Waters at the Seattle VA and donate goody bags filled with everything from chocolates to flies I tied to the participants attending Casting for Recovery Washington retreats.

As a Research Scientist with the University of Washington, I currently work in a lab at the Seattle VA and am not only a mouse wrangler and test tube juggler, but also responsible for budget oversight, editing papers for publication in scientific journals

and training personnel.

Having lived most my life in North Carolina, Okinawa and Oklahoma, I moved to Washington in 1980 and fell in love with the mountains, but didn't hike them much until several years after graduating from UW. I became interested in fly fishing in 1994, a year after loitering inside an air-conditioned Kaufmann's Streamborn in Seattle to escape the summer heat. While taking photos of the Stilly on the way to a trailhead that year, I observed a fly fisher casting just as the morning fog was lifting and was mesmerized when the rising sun turned his graceful loops into brilliant spun gold. Back to Kaufmann's, sign me up! Until then, the only fishing experience I had was at age 5 when I caught a goldfish using a rice paper net at an Okinawan festival before the paper disintegrated in the water. In 1995, after weeks of decorating the trees of the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie with all my flies, Mike Kinney, who worked at the Swallow's Nest, easily convinced me to take a fly tying class. I've since demo-tied and taught fly tying at numerous events.

Director at Large

Sue Morrison, Wenatchee WA

Sue Morrison is the General Manager of Design Salt, Inc., a manufacturer of Sleeping Bags, Sleeping Bag Liners and other Outdoor Products. An avid fisher for 45 years, Sue has served as a Director at Large on the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers for the last 3 years. She serves on WDFW's Inland Fishery Policy Advisory Group. She enjoys fishing in fresh or salt water and will pursue anything that swims. Sue loves to travel and seldom leaves home without a rod; her longest fishing trip to date was 5 1/2 months in New Zealand. She enjoys sharing her passion for fishing and travel with others and often gives

presentations to clubs and at events. A former Vice President of the Northwest Women's Fly Fishing club, Sue has been active in introducing new fishers to the sport as well in working to protect fish populations and habitat

Education at the Fly Fishing Fair

By Larry Hill

The Washington Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers sponsored a special workshop for 18 middle school students from the Easton and Ellensburg School Districts prior to the start of the Annual Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg Washington on May 1st 2009.

The students were treated to hands on activities that involved them in learning to cast a fly rod, identify insects, and tie flies.

Each student walked away from the fly tying table, staffed with experienced volunteers, with one or two flies they could take to their local stream and use to imitate an insect they had identified in the entomology lesson. Every student had an opportunity to practice casting with individual instruction from council volunteers.

Several students commented that these activities were great fun and they would use the lessons the next time they got to go fly fishing on the Yakima River.

Special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped plan and conduct these activities.

Don Simonson & Kip Keener – Casting classes

John Newbury & Dan Ferguson- Fly Tying classes

Aaron Culley – Entomology classes

2009 Fly Fishing Fair Demonstration Tiers

By John Newbury 2009 Fly Tying Chair

Once again, I would like to extend a very sincere THANK YOU to all the Demonstration tiers who attended our Fly Fishing Fair, and shared their time and talents with others in attendance. Going into the Fair we had 95 registered tiers, and of those, 93 tiers actually participated, with another 12 tiers demonstrating in booths, at various vendors. So all tallied, we had 105 tiers sharing their craft, and making a commitment to our Fair.

That is OUTSTANDING for a third year show, and speaks volumes about the dedication shown by our tiers, to make this a premier event. I hope each and every one of you, had an enjoyable time and will be back again. The sacrifices and commitments you make for our Fair, along with the many donations you provide, are what really make this event a very special occasion.

I would also like to give a "Special Thanks" to Pat Herdt and her fellow Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishing Club members for their dedication to the Fly Fishers of Tomorrow, by sponsoring and staffing the Fly Tying Youth Booth. You folks did an incredible job, and are admired by many for your efforts and contributions. THANK YOU !!

Welcome to Fly Fishing Fair 2010

I know it seems like we just finished the '09 fair (we did), but it's time to start thinking about next years event. I first want to thank all who helped make the event a spectacular success. I'm new to the WSCFFF and jumped in with both feet. I'll admit I had a bit of prodding from John Newbury and Carl Johnson, but I've enjoyed every minute of it.

The 103 tiers from all over North America was a sight to be seen. One of these days I might be able to spend more time observing and learning. In the mean time, I, with the help of Vicki Hoagland as co-chair will be focusing on organizing the tiers for next year. We'll be inviting all who attended this year as well as making personal invitations to the regional fly fishing clubs and beyond. Our preliminary floor plan will afford us ten or so additional tying spots so we'll be looking for 120-125 of the best demonstration fly tiers from all over the country.

We can email or snail mail you a registration form if you can't wait to sign up and we'll have more information on the Council web site soon.

Vicki and I would love to answer any questions you might have so don't hesitate to contact either of us. We look forward to seeing many returning tiers and meeting all those who sign up for the April 30, May 1, 2010 show.

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Vicki Hoagland, Fly Tying Co-chair

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Government Affairs Chair

By Mike Clancy

An important issue this past legislative session would have "neutered" our Fish and Wildlife Commission. to favor certain organizations. Fortunately it didn't pass. Some thought that the WSCFFF was not active/vocal enough on the SB5127 issue. In response, the Council created the Government Affairs Chair intended to enhance communication between the Council and all Washington fly fishing clubs. A roster of all FFF-affiliated and non-affiliated Washington clubs, listing the current President, Conservation Chair and Newsletter Editor, is being assembled so information can quickly be passed to the clubs.

Mike Clancy, former Secretary of the Council will assume the responsibility of the new Government Affairs Chair. Mike has communicated with TU, CCA and other organizations to coordinate information pertaining to the fishing community with the goal of a unified response to various issues. We might not all agree on the issues, but at least we will be aware of the information to base our decisions. Mike will also want to learn about local concerns pertaining to our fishing community in areas throughout the state. Please contact him with sufficient information detailing such concerns. mtclancy@earthlink.net.

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Fly of the Season

Get ready for summer beach fishing with the one fly that makes tricking sea-run cutthroat, resident and ocean silvers, and yes, even the occasional Chinook all the more fun. For those who've never had the pleasure fishing the Miyawaki Beach Popper (MBP for short), you are missing a thrill. Here's a suggestion. Instead of fighting the Yakima River inner tube hatch this summer, heed the words of Horace Greeley and Go West. Yes, head to the 1,800 miles of beach in Puget Sound. Head to the Olympic Peninsula. Head to Neah Bay. Just make sure you take a floating line, a long (12-14 feet) leader and a pocket full of Poppers.

The MBP was developed by Leland Miyawaki, the Bellevue Orvis Store

Fishing Manager, over years of beach fishing adventure and exploration. More a glider than a popper because the foam head is turned with the convex face towards the hook, eye, the pattern comes in to color variations. The original is olive green over white, with a bit of flash, a few strands of peacock herl topping and an upright stinger hook. The new design is pink over white. Both are effective and not surprisingly, all materials or ready-made flies are available at Orvis-Bellevue.

The pattern imitates any number of baitfish that silvers and sea-runs chomp. Fish it like a baitfish, or even better like an injured baitfish to trigger strikes. Make sure to delay the strike for a moment to allow the fish to actually close on the fly.

Your editor also likes this pattern for smallmouth bass in late summer when the water's warm (a use that Leland considers blasphemy).

Leland, not known for stretching either the size or numbers of fish caught, loves to tell about the thirteen sea-runs taken on thirteen consecutive casts from a South Sound beach. Come to think of it, that likely happened on Friday, the 13th.



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