



Covering The Drift

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Editor: David Paul Williams

Leaders Line

By Carl Johnson, President

Generally this quarter's Leaders Line is a summary of the recent Fly Fishing Far in Ellensburg. Unfortunately shortly after this year's fair I was on a plane headed to the east coast to attend a family funeral. The long flight gave me time to reflect on life.

I did a lot of thinking about friends and it occurred to me that there is no greater group of friends than fly fishers. I thought about the many times I spent talking to friends, some of whom I had just met, about fly fishing and how it was our love of fishing and the places where fish live that made us friends. I also thought about all the friends I have made throughout Washington and the USA because I was active in the

FFF. Many of these folks were met through club visits, attendance at shows or working together on a project.

I went on to think about how fortunate I am to have met many wonderful fly fishers during my time as Council President and how this is what makes the job so rewarding. I want to encourage everyone of you to take a few minutes and think about some of the fly fishers you have met and the experiences you have had with them. If you are like me you will have a smile on your face as you remember some of those people and events. And if you are like me you would like to be able to not remember some events, but they are still there and become more enjoyable with time.

I want to thank everyone who had a hand in making this year's Fair a success. The event cannot happen without the work of a lot of folks, from the committee chairs to everyone who attended. Thank you to everyone.

Attendance was up almost 75 percent over 2010. Everyone was treated to a great fair with many expert fly tiers demonstrating their skills, much better weather for the casting events outside. I hope many of you got to try out the 9 hole casting course this year. Also there were plenty of seminars for everyone and a variety of classes. We also had a variety of vendors with a little something for everyone. The auction and raffle had a lot of good items and the tables were busy.

The Friday night highlight was the dinner to thank all who donated talent and time to make the event a success I presented Carla Ferguson with an award for putting together the dinner with all her helpers. After dinner we had a spirited auction that benefitted Casting for Recovery and Project Healing Waters.

At Saturday's banquet, the Council Board of Directors candidates were announced. This year's nominees are: Bob Bates-VP Communications; Larry Gibbs-Auction Coordinator; Robert Gerlach-Director at Large; and Jay Woodbury-Director at Large. I encourage everyone to vote.

FFF President and Chairman of the Board, Phil Greenlee, gave a presentation on the state of the Federation. The highlight was when he announced that the FFF is in the process of making arrangements to have the 2012 Conclave in Spokane next July.

In closing I would like to thank everyone who donated their time and talents to make this year's Fair a success. I am writing this as I flying west across this great county returning from the east coast. I know that if I try and list everyone to be thanked I would unfortunately miss someone so I'll ask each of the committee chairs to thank everyone for me. Please mark your calendars for the 2012 Washington Fly Fishing Fair next May 4th and 5th and save time in July for the FFF Conclave in Spokane!

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Council Officer and Board Member Nominations

This is your chance to get to know more about the FFF members who have been nominated to swerve as your officers and board members. Some of the names are familiar as they have served membership in various capacities—sometimes for years. Other names may not be so familiar to membership as a whole. New blood is good as it usually signifies new ideas, new ways of doing old tasks and new energy.

Please take a few moments to read these brief biographies, then vote for the candidates of your choice.

Vice-President, Communications

Bob Bates, Spokane, WA

Bob is the current Vice President Communications, and has agreed to stay on in that position. Duties of this position include publishing Covering The Drift (CTD); maintaining the WSCFFF CTD e-mail list and maintaining the WSCFFF web pages. He represented us as a National Director for three years. Also he writes the Fly of the Month column for the FFF website. For over 50 years, he has been writing and editing; it is almost as long as he has been fly tying and fly fishing. He is a member of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, the Spokane Fly Fishers, an active participant in club projects and an active supporter of FFF conservation and education projects.

Auction Coordinator/Director at Large

Larry Gibbs, Bonney Lake, WA

Larry served four years in the US-Navy before becoming a deputy sheriff for a local department. He retired

after 28 years as a lieutenant, having spent much of his career managing multiple departments and budgets, streamlining for efficiency, writing operational manuals and overseeing personnel. Larry started fishing very early in life and took up fly fishing and fly tying at the age of 14. Since his Retirement, fly fishing and fly tying has become his main passion. He is an active member of two local fly clubs, the Alpine Fly Fishers and the Puget Sound Flyfishers. He served on the board of the Puget Sound Flyfishers Club for many years. During much of this time he administered the education program and was active in the conservation program, coordinated the auction fund raisers, and is currently the newsletter editor for the PSF club. Larry is a past member of the board of directors for the WSCFFF. As a board member he served as treasurer and secretary for several years. Larry is active in the fund raising program and coordinates the raffles and auctions for the fly fishing and casting events. Larry is an active Life Member in the FFF. He is also a member of the FFF's Presidents Club, the FFF Fly Tying Group and the FFF Fly Fishing Forum.

Director at Large

Robert Gerlach, Gig Harbor, WA

I have accepted the nomination for the WSCFFF as a First Year Member at Large!! I am excited to share my enthusiasm for this wonderful sport that I so truly love! I am a member of Puget Sound Fly Fishers, love Spey Casting, and have just gained an appreciation for Still Waters. I also love to create flies that produce, nothing better than catching a fish on something you have created. I am looking forward to many years of service to Washington State Fish Habitat and sharing what I can to further the sport of Fly Angling!! Thank you.



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**Officer and Board
Member Nominations,**

Director at Large

Jay Woodbury,
Jay has been Life member of FFF since 2009. He is a member of Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited group. And has served as Deputy Area Coordinator for Project Healing Waters (Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA). He's been involved with PHW for last 5 years. Jay is a VA Hospital Volunteer, Life member of the Disabled American Veterans and Retired National Service Officer Supervisor for the DAV. He retired (medically) from the US Marine Corp after 13 years active service.

**2011 Washington
Council Awards**

The Council presented a record number of awards this year with the addition of the new education awards. Receiving the WSCFFF Federator of the Year was Larry Gibbs. The Fly Tying Hall of Fame Award went to Darrel Martin. In addition, Enos Bradner, Wes Drain and Ed Wolf were added posthumously. The WSCFFF Conservation Award was presented to the Spokane River Forum and the Bill Mackey Conservation Award went to Andy Dunau of the Spokane River Forum. The WSCFFF Education Award for an organization went to the Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers and the WSCFFF Education Award for an individual went to Cece Badda of the Easton School District. I presented President's Pins to Len Zickler, Don Bolstad, Pat Herdt, and Tak Shimizu. Congratulation to everyone who received an award this year. If you are wondering how or why these folks received these awards please visit our website to review the criteria and the procedure to nominate a candidate for next year.

**Northwest Fly Fishing
Events for 2011**

June 2011 Jimmy Green Memorial Fly Fishing Fair & Casting Expo@Tye Park, Monroe
www.jimmygreenflyexpo.com

July 2011 Tenth Annual Metolius River Fly Fishing and Bamboo Rod Fair@ Black Butte School, Camp Sherman, OR
www.campshermanstore.com

August 30-September 3, 2011 FFF National Fly Fishing Show (formerly known as Conclave) @ West Yellowstone, MT
www.fedflyfishers.org

November 6 Pacific Northwest Fly Tyers Rendezvous @ Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham OR
www.nwflytyers.org

February 25, 2012 Lower Umpqua Fly Casters Fly Fishing Expo@Reedsport OR
www.lufc.com

March 9-10, 2012 Oregon Council FFF Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo@ Linn County Fairground Albany OR
www.nwflytyerexpo.com

May 4-5, 2012 WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair@Kittitas Valley Event Center, Ellensburg
www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

July 2012 FFF National Fly Fishing Fair (formerly known as Conclave) @ Spokane, WA
www.fedflyfishers.org

If your club, organization or Council has an event you'd like publicized, please email all the info to the editor

Fly Tying at the 2011 Washington Fly Fishing Fair

By Vicki Hoagland, Fly Tying Chair
 This year we saw a number of returning tiers from fairs past and some new faces joining the family! Judging by the smiles and conversations, everyone, whether tier or spectator, and in many cases both rolled into one, had a great time, I know I did! Whether you were interested in cold or warm water patterns, Atlantic salmon flies, realistics, tube flies, or steelhead patterns, there were over 50 fly tying stations on three hour rotations where you could sit across and learn from some of the best and most creative fly tiers and artists in the country.

Harry Lemire (Washington Fly Tying Hall of Fame), always a favorite, tied Atlantic Salmon flies in hand with all its multitude of components without the aid of any vices, I mean a vise. Tak Shimizu from Edmonton, Alberta was back teaching other master fly tiers how to make blind eye salmon hooks from piano wire. Tak also donated two Atlantic Salmon fly plates tied on his unique white hooks.

This was a perfect opportunity to stop by and talk chickens with Buz Buszek Awardee Henry Hoffman, the man who revolutionized modern dry fly tying with Super Grizzly hackles and soft-hackle patterns using hen and



chickabou feathers. Other Buszek winners in Ellensburg were John Newbury (that's "bury" as in 6 feet under, not "berry" the fruit) with his ever-

successful Erv Emerger and Al Beatty with talented wife Gretchen at BT's Fly Fishing and Photography booth.

The past three recipients of the Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishers John Gort Trophy for excellence in fly tying were in attendance: Bill Kindler, Rick Shadforth and of course, John Gort himself! John was a friend and student of Syd Glasso and created the Purple Heart Fly and was integral to putting together the Campaign Fly Plate for PHW. Jesse Scott was on hand to demonstrate of course, the Evergreen Hand, a one-handed fly tying aid he invented. This was also the first time Project Healing Waters participants Matt Castor, Jessie Cothorn and Dan Even, soldiers from the Ft. Lewis Warrior Transition Battalion, demonstrated some of their favorite patterns.

Lisa Brain made fly earrings that were auctioned off and Walt Swanson tied the Lady Coachman to benefit Washington Casting for Recovery. Cathy Hamilton was weaving up a storm (was that "bottoms up" ?) and our youngest tier, 10-year old, self-taught, Dominic Singh were both attracting crowds at their tables.

Members of the Northwest Atlantic Salmon Fly Guild were there to show you just how easy it is to tie on a pair of intricate, married wings without breaking a sweat or divorcing a single barbule. All you had to do was stop by and talk to Glenn Wilson, Aaron Culley, James Fer-



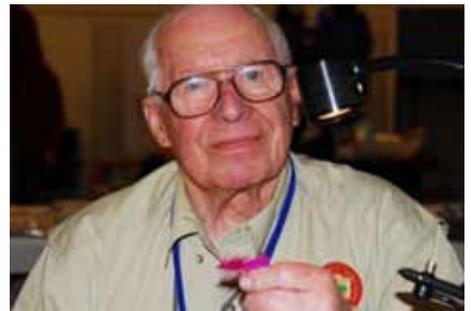
guson, Vern Jeremica, Stan Hendrickson, Jack Cook or Dareld Thompson for a demonstration! If spey flies are your passion, Steve Brocco (Washington Fly Tying Hall of Fame), Jim Fisher, Larry Nicholas and Joe Kristoff were just a

few of the tiers to seek out to satisfy your cravings.

Vickie Eagle Elk once again showed us how to spin deer hair into little, psychedelic porcupines and then with a few scissor snips and a couple passes with a razor blade, an intricate bass pattern emerged out of the flying dander! If priceless advice is



what you were after, there was no shortage if you stopped by to talk to authors Lory Watkins, Preston



Singletary, Bob Bates (Washington Fly Tying Hall of Fame) or David Williams.

If you got over your denial about bringing those magnifier glasses your eye doc suggested you get because you're "at that age" then you were better able to appreciate those tiny emergers Leonard Gross was tying or to get more up close and personal to the creepy spiders and wasps Karen Royer was creating to make sure they weren't the real thing! As a fly tier, this event was pure heaven, and if you had stopped by to see Michael T. Williams, it would have been Humpy Heaven!

All photos by Richard Lange

Project Healing Waters Northwest 2-Fly Contest

By Vicki Hoagland

It's time to mark your calendars for the 2nd Annual PHW NW 2-Fly Contest on the Yakima River to be held Saturday, August 20, 2011. Not to be eclipsed by the success of last year's inaugural event, this year's festivities promises to not only be bigger and better, but as impossible as it may sound, even more fun! Soldiers, vets and program volunteers signed on so far hail from the Ft. Lewis WTB and the Portland-Vancouver and Seattle VAs with additional teams from American Lake and other locations possibly being added later. The group tent area at the Ellensburg KOA will be reserved for camping

Friday and Saturday night so there will be plenty of opportunities to strategize, attempt to psyche out the competition and swap whopper fishing stories!

Like last year, each fishing team will be comprised of one vet or wounded warrior and one volunteer per boat outfitted with two flies each and limited to two fly patterns per team. Each team will be assigned a section of river to fish in a set time frame and the drift boat rower will also be the on-water judge and score keeper. Winning categories so far include: largest fish caught by a vet, largest fish caught by a volunteer, most fish caught by a vet and most fish caught by a team.

PHW is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation and healing of military service personnel and veterans through fly fishing and fly tying education and outings. Events like this are possible thanks to generous supporters including Red's Fly Shop, Troutwater, and the Worley-Bugger Fly Co. as well as the selfless dedication of all the drift boat guides who work hard to get folks into fish and cheer the loudest when there's a fish on! Also on hand will be Master Camp Chef Jerry Daschofsky at the



helm of an always outstanding chow line! Volunteers are also needed to make this event run smoothly whether it's providing shuttle services, performing camp duties or offering to taste test Jerry's peach cobbler filling before it gets spooned into a Dutch oven and buried under hot coals to cook.

Donations of raffle items and prizes for contestants and monetary gifts to offset direct costs of this exceptional event are greatly appreciated. For additional information, contact NW PHW Regional Coordinator Chuck Tye at: cmtye@comcast.net or ph: 360-915-9438.

2011 Fly Fishing Fair Kids 'N Fish

By Pat Herdt, Vice-President Education

Kittitas County Event Center was the setting for the 4th annual Washington Council Fly Fishing Fair. Education is a cornerstone of the event. Friday, the 29th, 45 students from Ellensburg, Easton and Thorp School Districts, accompanied by their respective teachers, got hands-on sessions with experts in fly casting, fly tying, and flies, I mean entomology. Divided into three sections, each student got a chance to cast a fly rod, tie a fly and learn about bugs that live in the water. The program, operated at full capacity, was so successful that we are looking for ways to expand next year.

In addition to the education component, each student got a chance to win a ready-to-fish fly rod, complete with reel, line and leader. WSC President Carl Johnson stepped up to draw the winners. Turns out Thorp students were the lucky ones:: Jarred Bornhorst, Cassandra Davis and Annalise Clark stepped forward to collect their winnings.

Many positive comments were heard, both during the program and later from teachers who said the bus ride home buzzed with excitement.

For information regarding the 5th Annual Washington Council Fly Fishing Fair at the Kittitas Event Center, visit the Council's web site. www.washingtoncouncilfff.org.

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Fly of the Season

Just back from an extended fishing adventure with several normal-appearing fly fishers. I say normal because we all started out as salmonid anglers back when Ike was Prez, and have expanded our fishing horizons. We spent several enjoyable hours on three different parts of the Columbia River casting for carp. We found plenty of those waterborne freight trains, hooked several and despite the odds being in their favor, even landed a couple. Call them Queen of the Water as did Izaak Walton, Golden Bones or Mississippi Steelhead, these giant minnows are a challenging, frustrating, powerful quarry that are a ton of fun. Carp have a checkered history. Imported in 1877 by the US Fish Commission to solve a perceived im-

pending food crisis, eggs and fry were shipped to 28 states. In 1880, an Oregon fish farmer lost his crop when the Sandy River flooded. The escapees found their way into the entire Columbia River system and the food shortage never materialized. All of you who own a 7 or 8-weight steelhead rod and reel with a slick drag are lucky enough to have a perfect carp rod. Just make sure that reel has at least 150 yards of backing—you'll need it when the fish you hook decides to head for a different zip code. Leave the trout-sized tippet material at home. These are big bruisers—the Washington record is over 41 pounds. Some claim 50-pounders swim in Moses Lake. I've had average-sized Banks Lake fish snap 2x when I tried to snub them down to keep them out of the weeds. Bad choice as they pretty much go where they want to go. 0x and 1x fluorocarbon at the end of a nine foot leader is standard.

Carp are omnivorous with a notable exception as they rarely eat other fish. Preferred foods include crayfish, leeches, aquatic insects, snails, floating vegetation and terrestrials. All the underwater flies share common characteristics of materials, color palette and size. Soft synthetic or natural materials like rabbit and marabou in brown, olive, and black entice the fish to "taste" the fly longer. A size 6-3xl black, or brown rabbit bugger—a fly that lurks in every trouter's box, probably accounts for more carp than any other fly. Fish On!



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