



Covering The Drift

Newsletter of the
Washington State Council
International Federation of Fly Fishers

Fly Fishing Fair, May 3rd and 4th

The State Council of the IFFF is putting on its annual Fair on Saturday May 3rd (9 to 5) and Sunday May 4th (8 to 3). Admission is free to IFFF members and kids under 16; the rest pay \$5.00.

The Awards Banquet and Auction (\$35) will be Saturday night. If you volunteer, you get to go to the Fair free and get a free spaghetti dinner Friday evening. Contact Carl or Maura Johnson to volunteer.

FLY TYING There will be over 100 fly tyers tying some of their favorite patterns throughout both days. The Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers will be offering free kids fly tying classes on Saturday.

LEADER'S LINE

On May 3rd and 4th your Council will hold the 8th Annual Fly Fishing Fair at the Kittitas Valley Event Center (Fairgrounds) in Ellensburg. The Fair runs Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm (Note: this is a change for previous years where we were open Friday and Saturday). The entry fee is \$5.00—IFFF members or youth under 16 get in free. More information about the Fair can be found on our web page at: washingtoncouncilfff.org then follow the Fly Fishing Fair pull down menu.

The Annual Meeting dinner will start at 6:00 pm on Saturday and will be at the Kittitas Valley Event Center. The cost for the dinner is \$35. Dinner reservation deadline is April 25th. The brief annual meeting will announce the slate for open Board positions and present Council awards, followed by closing the silent auction and the live auction. The purpose of this event, in addition to having a good time, is the Council's major fund raiser. With that in

mind, we will have a number of raffle and auction items also available. Live and silent auction items include some choice trips and fly rods. If you would like to donate something to the raffle or auction please contact Larry Gibbs, our Auction/raffle chairman at flytier015@q.com. The sooner we have an idea of what we will have for the auction and silent auction the better we can showcase the items.

Sunday, at noon in the Taneum Room we will have the General Membership meeting where we will hold the vote to re-name the Council the Washington State Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, to nominate candidates for the Board, and other items brought up.

We are still looking for volunteers to help during the weekend. If you are interested please visit our website and sign up under the registration link or you can contact me at 425-308- 6161. I want to thank all volunteers for their help, for without them this event could not go on. To say *thank you* to our volunteers, we will be providing a free

CASTING There will be casting games (including a nine-hole casting course), competitions, and instruction workshops in one and two-handed rods.

FREE SEMINARS Seminars will be free and offered on both days. Listen to the experts talk about how to succeed fishing familiar and exotic fly fishing waters.

MORE INFORMATION See the article on page four of this newsletter.

This year businesses will be able to buy ad space in the day of the event brochure, with a discount for early orders.

David P. Williams

dinner on Friday evening. If you're planning on attending, please register on our web page so we have an idea of how many folks to cook for.

We just finished yet another successful show season. The Council participated in the Washington Sportsman's Show in Puyallup, the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show in Pasco and the Fly Fishing Show in Lynnwood. We met many fly fishers at these shows and hope to see many of them in Ellensburg.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Fly Fishing Fair.

Carl Johnson

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NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

Applications are due April 15th.

| Article by Mike Clancy |

It all started with idea of the founder, Dick Nye, a retired Tacoma middle school music teacher. Preparations for the Academy started in 2002 with Dick attending a youth camp, the nationally acclaimed, award winning Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp in Boiling Springs, PA. After two years of preparation, Dick conducted the first Academy on Hicks Lake at the Gwinwood Christian Community Center in 2004.

The Academy is sponsored by the Washington Council of TU, the Washington State Council of the International Fly Fishing Federation, and hosted by the Puget Sound Fly Fishers of Tacoma, Olympia Chapter of TU and the South Sound Fly Fishers of Olympia.

Dick Nye retired after the 2009 Academy. Jim Brosio and I took over the responsibly of The Academy with our first challenge for the 2010 Academy. With the financial support of the Washington TU Chapters, the IFFF Fly Fishing Clubs, corporate and individual sponsors, we gave it our best and it worked. In all the years that Jim and I have been co-directors, we have been assisted by at least 50 volunteers, during the week of the Academy. Without the support of the

groups I mentioned, this Academy would not happen. Ron Smorynski, TU/SSFF, has been involved since the very first Academy in 2004.

The curriculum is structured to provide students with a background in environmental science and includes lessons in ecology, hydrology, aquatic entomology, invasive species, watersheds, fish biology and behavior. Students also learn the skill of fly fishing, including fly tying, casting by certified casting instructors, knot tying, streamside ethics and water safety. The Academy is for boys and girls, 12-16 years old. All equipment is supplied, tuition is still \$275, however, no one will be turned away because of money. Each applicant needs to write an essay explaining why they would like to attend. A letter of recommendation from their school science teacher or counselor is also required. The Academy for 2014 will be June 22-28 at The Gwinwood Center, on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA.

Applications for the 2014 Academy are due April 15th, To get an application go to; <http://www.nwycffa.com/wordpress1/northwest-youth-conservation-fly-fishing-academy/> or contact: Mike Clancy: (home) 360-753-1259, (cell) 253-278-0061 or Jim Brosio: (home) 360- 943-9947.



An Interview with Tim Rajeff

Featured Casting Demonstrator at the Ellensburg Fly Fishing Fair.

| Article by Vern Jeremica |

Tim Rajeff, an icon in the world of fly casting, will be the featured fly casting demonstrator at the 2014 Washington State Council Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg. During the show he will hold a clinic and provide continuing education to all casting instructors. If you are at all interested in improving your casting, his clinic will be a *must attend*.

Tim, three years younger than his brother Steve, grew up in the San Francisco Bay area. They lived very close to Golden Gate Park which is home to the Golden Gate Angling and Casting Club (GGACC). This club is graced with man-made ponds for fly casting, spinning, and bait casting. The GGACC, since its inception, has been the home of some of the world's best casters and fly fishing mentors. Growing up in a flourishing casting environment, with frequent summer visits to local fishing haunts like Yosemite or the Russian River, the Rajeff brothers not only gained an appreciation for casting, but for many types of fishing as well.

Tim started competing in fly casting competitions at the local level when he was 10 years of age, competed at the national level at 13, and hit the wall at an international tournament event in Czechoslovakia at the age of 25. Tim said, "Anytime you plan to compete, it is worth your time and trouble to do everything to win, even self hypnosis." Tim missed several targets at this event and shrugged it off. In reflection, he knew that the effort to stay at a high level with strong focus was no longer important to him, so he retired from tournament casting.

During Tim's career as a tournament caster he accomplished a combined 300 in the Trout Fly, Dry Fly, and Bass Bug accuracy events,



won the US Fly Casting Championship, and the World Single Hand fly casting distance championship. Getting a perfect 100 score in an individual event is a great feat. Getting a perfect 300 in the combined events is the ultimate in fly casting accuracy. When I visited the American Casting Association website and viewed fly casting statistics, Tim's name was there alone unmatched. At the U.S. national tournament, Tim reflected on the bass bug event. "I still remember how I felt when casting to the eleventh bass bug target. I was so calm. I paused for a second and knew I was going to make it. That sense of practice and the reward for that moment was a great feeling of accomplishment. I nailed it! To have practiced and sustained it was the ultimate."

Vern: What are your favorite casting events?

Tim: I like the faster events and those that most mimic fishing. I enjoyed competing in the 3/8 distance, and surf distance com-

petitions. In addition I enjoyed the Bass Bug, Dry Fly, and especially the Trout Fly accuracy competitions, which has roll cast and wet fly casting.

Vern: What about the future of tournament casting?

Tim: It is a dying sport.

Every year there are fewer and fewer people participating in tournament casting. If tournament casting is to survive, the American Casting Association needs to make some dramatic changes. The ACA is clinging to nostalgia and tradition. For example, in the double-handed salmon fly event, those that participate use a high priced blank that no one would use

on a river, nor can afford. The ACA needs to select and create events that are realistic.

The ACA should approach organizations like BASS and get them involved and let them create the spinning and bait casting events.

For the fly casting events, reinvent the games with just five-weight and nine-weight fly rods. Fly casters could show up to the events with just two rods that anyone could afford or would use when fishing.

Vern: How did you first get involved with the IFFF?

Tim: I got involved in casting instruction in 1972. In 1978, I worked with Mel Kreiger and Al Buhr to develop and start the FFF casting certification program. Two years after the FFF instructor certification program was implemented, since work and travel ate up so much of my time, I wasn't able to honor my position in the group. The FFF gave me a meritorious status.

See Rajeff, page 5

Casting Program

Classes and Lessons

From eight to five on Saturday, May 3, there are 18 **classes/workshops**, each designed by the instructor to be informative, fun, and to achieve some advancement along the path to becoming a better fly fisherman. They cost \$30 and registration is available on line at www.washingtoncouncilfff.org.

A 30-minute **private lesson** can be reserved in advance with online registration or by signing up at the event; the cost is \$15.

The casting instructors all volunteer their time at this event and proceeds go to support the Washington State Council. All instructors are certified by the IFFF Casting Instructor Certification Program (CICP).

CICP

The CICP was started in 1992 by well known casting instructors who thought that a regimen of training and examination would improve the quality of instruction in our sport. Today there are nearly 1300 Certified Instructors, CI.

The founders wanted a program to train beyond the CI level in casting and teaching skills at a level to be able to teach and

examine certified instructors as well as the public and a graduate of that program is called Master Certified Instructor, MCI. There are about 230 MCI in the program at this time. From that MCI group 30 are chosen to sit on the Casting Board of Governors (CBOG) whose tasks include the development of processes and programs to grow and maintain quality in the organization and to examine MCI candidates. In the last few years, a program has been developed to test Two Hand Certified Instructors (THCI) and there are now just over 70 with that certification. Biographies of the individual instructors

are available on the Fair website.

In addition to offering workshops to the public, these instructors come together to examine candidates. Before our fair, there will be CI, MCI, and THCI exams given on Friday. They also come together for training. Their Sunday will be spent in the classroom, learning how to be better castors and instructors.

Certified casting instructors might charge from \$50 to \$150 an hour for lessons, but at our Fair you pay a maximum of \$30 for a class that lasts from one to three hours. Yup...it's a screamin' deal.

Pat Peterman

Auction/Raffle

It looks like we will have some great auction and raffle items at the Fair this year:

- almost 2,000 flies great selection.
- a great selection of rods, including a great bamboo rod, custom built rods and some rod and reel outfits as well. We have
- reels, lines and leaders.
- fly tying materials, fly tying tools.
- we will have all kinds of baskets; sewing, fly fishing, wine, cooking, and quilting.

- a great selection of fly fishing-related books.
- three fishing trips to bid on, the Yakima River, the Spokane River, and a dawn-to-dusk, super float on the Clark Fork River.
- very rare fly plates, including one containing two of Harry Lemire's flies, an Al Knutson plate, a very special fly plate in honor of Bob Bates, plus our Legends Fly Plate.

To make a donation for our auctions and raffles, contact me at flytier015@q.com. See you there!

Larry Gibbs, Auction Coordinator

Fly Tyers Extraordinaire

We are pleased to have the well respected fly tier and tying instructor Janet Schimpf demonstrating her crowdad pattern this year. Janet has been tying for a number of years and is a wealth of information.

Our latest rising star, Paul Fournier, will be demonstrating his fantastic squid creation. Paul was recently published in the April edition of Fish Alaska magazine for this much sought after pattern.

You won't want to miss the emerger patterns tied by entomologist Lisa Brain of Yakima. You'll not only see some beautiful tying, but get a lesson on the habits of these critters.

Sit down and have a visit with John Gort, the creator of "The Purple Heart" fly, and watch him work his magic on chromomids.

From Fully Dressed Atlantic Salmon Flies by Brett Breuel and Aaron Culley to Mike Schmierer's Smelt pattern and everything in between, all of our talented volunteers are excited to share their love of fly fishing with you. There won't be a bad seat in the house!

Karen Royer, Fly Tying Co-chair

General Membership Meeting

The General Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday May 3rd at noon in the Taneum Room at the Kittitas Valley Event Center.

Carl Johnson, President of the Council will be running the meeting. The agenda will include:

- the State of the Council,
- nomination of Directors for this year's election, and
- changing the name of the Council to be consistent with the name of the national organization.

Please join us.

Washington State Council FFF

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Alpine Fly Fishers

2014 Northwest Fly Fishing Events

May 3-4, 2014

WSCFFF Fly Fishing Fair
Kittitas Valley Event Center
Ellensburg, WA
www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

May 17-18, 2014

Atlantic Salmon Fly Int'l Expo
Renton Pavilion Event Center
Renton, WA
www.asfi-expo.com

July, 2014

Metolius River Fly Fishing and
Bamboo Rod Fair
Black Butte School,
Camp Sherman, OR
www.campshermanstore.com

August 4-9, 2014

IFFF International Fly Fishing Fair
Livingston, MT
www.fedflyfishers.org

November, 2014

Pacific NW Fly Tyers Rendezvous
Jackson Armory,
Portland, OR
www.nwflytyers.org

.....Rajeff

Vern: Any suggestions on how the FFF can get more people into fly fishing?

Tim: Fly fishing does not have a superstar like we have in golf or baseball. There are no big names to draw large groups of people to fly fishing. For most people fly fishing is a mentoring sport. It takes someone who will work with a new fly fisher one-on-one. Think about how you started in fly fishing. For most, there was someone who helped you get started and encouraged you through the learning process. On the other side there are those that are fanatical about the sport and need very little encouragement. If fly fishing is to grow, we need more mentors, more givers, and more teachers who will provide one-on-one with younger people.



Washington State Council
Federation of Fly Fishers™

2531 Simon Lane NE
Olympia WA 98506

Address Service Requested



International Federation of Fly Fishers Membership Application

Full Name _____

City _____

State / Zip _____

Phone home _____

Phone work _____

Phone mobile _____

Club Affiliation _____

Birth Date _____

Referred by: _____

Please check membership category

(Canadian memberships add \$5/yr. All other countries add \$10/yr.)

- Individual Membership (\$35)
- Disabled Veterans are Free
(proof of 50% disability required)
- 3-year individual (\$85)
- Senior Membership (\$25)
(for members 65 and over)
- Individual Life (\$500)
(payment plans available)
- Family Membership (\$45)
(spouses and children under 14)
- Couple Life (\$750)
(payment plans available)
- 3-Year Family Member (\$100)
- Retail Membership (\$75)
(small fishing equipment stores)
- Youth Membership (\$15)
(for individual members under 14)
- Sustaining Membership (\$200)
(commercial/manufacturing businesses)

Apply online at
www.fedflyfishers.org

Please mail or call us at
International Federation of Fly Fishers
5237 US Hwy 89 S Suite 11
Livingston, MT 59047
406 222-9369
406 222-9369 fax

- Check Enclosed (payable to I.F.F.F.) US Funds
- Credit Card: Visa, MasterCard, or Discover
Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____