



Covering The Drift

Volume 5, Number 4

June, 2002

Election Time

A ballot with the nominees for official positions with the WSCFFF was placed inside this newsletter. Please mark your ballot and send it to our main office before June 30, 2002.

WSCFFF
PO Box 921
Gig Harbor, WA 98335-0921



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President's Message

By Jerry McBride

This is the last newsletter article I will write as President of the WSCFFF. As you will note on the ballot, I am running for the position of Vice President East and co-chair of the Conservation Committee with John Calhoun so will continue to be involved with the WSCFFF.

I have been associated with a number of organizations in my lifetime. The people who have served as officers and board members of the WSCFFF are the most intelligent and capable group of people that I have ever known.

The thing that has given me the most pleasure while serving as president was the opportunity to meet so many people that love fly fishing and care deeply about the resource. I have had the opportunity to go fishing with some of them and treasure the memory of those trips.

During my tenure as president I visited a number of fly fishing clubs that are members of the council. My regret is that it was not possible to visit them all. The clubs, like individuals are all different in how they do things and yet they are all the same in that they have come together to share a love of fly fishing and concern for the resource.

What role should the WSCFFF play in the scheme of things? This question continually comes up and for a long time I confess that the answer wasn't real clear to me. The suspension of the use of rotenone by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Department (WFWD) about a year ago certainly brought out what I feel is one of the most important

ways the WSCFFF can serve the fly fishers of this state. First of all, we got the word out to individual FFF members and council member clubs and informed them about how critical this was to good fishing in the state. Second, we suggested action that people could take to get the reinstatement of rotenone. Finally, we arranged to have at least one person testify on behalf of the use of rotenone at every single WFWD meeting on rotenone held in the state. As you probably know, the use of rotenone has been reinstated and a number of lakes will be treated this fall.

The bottom line is that the WSCFFF serving as a clearinghouse for information and a facilitator of action can multiply the effect that an individual or single club can have many times. Having individual fly fishers and clubs contact their legislators and Fish and Wildlife Commissioners is very effective. Right now, about 10 fly fishing clubs within the state have members that serve as officers and board members of WSCFFF. At our last Annual Meeting in Ellensburg in April there were 14 clubs represented. Just think of what ideas and action that could come from involvement by all 22 council clubs!

I urge everyone to get involved with the Northwest Fly Casting Exposition that will be held at Port Orchard September 21, 2002. This is the second year for this event and we have great expectations for its success. Like a lot of fly fishers, I always have felt that casting was a means to catch fish, no

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more, no less. Getting involved in accuracy and distance competition has certainly enhanced my capability as a fly fisher and probably more importantly I enjoy fishing even more.

Thank you for the support given to me while serving as President. Please give a good welcome and lots of support to our new president, Bob Shirley.

Tight lines! See you on the water.

2002-2003 Nominees

President: Bob Shirley, Tacoma, WA

Bob has served WSCFFF in several capacities, our Conservation Director for three years, Vice president West, and he represented us as a National Director in Gatlinburg, Tennessee and Livingston, Montana. Bob has accepted the nomination as WSCFFF President. He is President of the Puget Sound Fly Fishers, a member of Alpine and South Sound Fly Fishers, and board member of the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Coalition. He was very active working against the 1999 Legislative Session bills that would have adversely affected steelhead fishing.

Vice President Westside: Dick Raisler, Mt. Vernon, WA

Dick Raisler is Past-President of the Fidalgo Fly Fishers. He has been a member of FFF and Fidalgo Fly

Fishers for eight years, and a Certified Fly Casting Instructor. He was very active in the 1999 legislative activities concerning catch and release fishing and wade fishing in the Skagit. He is very active in organizing the fly casting games for the 2001 and 2002 Northwest Fly Casting Expositions. He has donated float trips to the FFF, and helped with the youth casting clinic at the Kingdome. Dick has accepted the nomination for the Vice President Westside position. He is an avid steelhead fisherman.

Vice President Eastside and Co-director of Conservation: Jerry McBride, Loon Lake, WA

Jerry has accepted the nomination for Vice President Eastside. He was WSCFFF President for three years, Membership Chair for a year or more and previously Vice President Eastside for a couple of years. He has been FFF representative for the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club (IEFFC) in Spokane for about seven years. He is an active supporter of FFF and IEFFC conservation projects, and also he has agreed to be Co-director of Conservation with John Calhoun.

Secretary: Len Zickler, Federal Way, WA

Len Zickler is a Director at Large and has been nominated to the Secretary position. He is an active member of the Puget Sound Fly Fishers as the chairman of the conservation and program committees. As a professional land use planner, Len has been active

in developing policies that promote fish habitat friendly development. Len was born and raised in Spokane and considers the lakes and rivers of Eastern Washington his home waters. Len is a life member of the FFF and Trout Unlimited.

Treasurer: Larry Gibbs, Sumner, WA

Presently a Director at Large, and was nominated for the Treasurer position. He has been a member of the Puget Sound Flyfishers Club (PSF) for 2-1/2 years. Within PSF he is a Board member, Education Committee Chairman, and the present Auction Committee Chairman, having taken over that job from Jim Maus last summer. He was the Fishing Hole Coordinator for the 2001 Northwest Fly Casting Expo at Trophy Lake and will be doing that job again in 2002.

Director of Communication: Bob Bates, Spokane, WA

Bob is the current Director of Communication, and has agreed to stay on in that position. Duties of this position include editing *Covering the Drift*; serving on the National FFF Communicators panel; working with the FFF website sub-committee; maintaining the WSCFFF club-contacts e-mail list and maintaining the WSCFFF web pages. Also he writes the column for the FFF National Fly of the Month. He was a National Director last year. For nearly 40 years, he has been writing and editing; it is almost as long as he has been fly tying and fly

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Director At Large
John Calhoun (425) 836-5529
email: johnscalhoun@msn.com

*Director of Education,
National Director*
Russ Brown, (509) 627-1218
e-mail: Anglerserv@aol.com

Director At Large
Dick Raisler (360) 466-5797
email: raisler@cnw.com

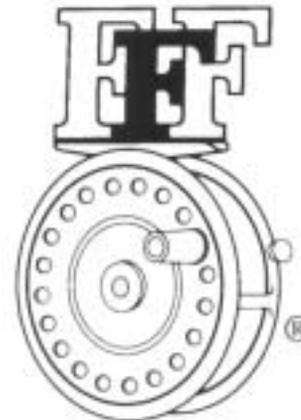
*Director of Communication,
National Director and newsletter editor*
Robert Bates (509) 328-7327
e-mail: bob-bates@worldnet.att.net

Director at Large
Donn Mills (425) 481-4316
email: Millsdonna@aol.com

Director at Large
Ben Dennis, (509) 996-2784
e-mail: flyrodbranch@mymethow.com

Director at Large
Len Zickler, (253) 942-4484
e-mail: len_zickler@msn.com

Director at Large
Larry Gibbs, (253) 863-2203
e-mail: flytier01@foxiinternet.com



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fishing. He is a member of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, an active participant in club projects and an active supporter of FFF conservation projects.

Co-director of Conservation: John Calhoun, Redmond, WA

John has agreed to be a Co-director of Conservation with Jerry McBride. He assisted Donn Mills and Jim Maus in organizing three WSCFFF Jamboree events. He was on the Board of Directors for nine years, served as Treasurer & Secretary for one year and Treasurer for an additional year. He also served as a National Director from the WSCFFF for one year.

Director of Education: Russ Brown, Richland, WA

Russ Brown is a member of the Columbia Basin Fly Casters and an FFF Certified Casting Instructor. Russ taught fly casting for a local shop for a few years, and is involved as a volunteer instructor for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Angler Education Program, the State 4H Angler Program, and the National Wild Turkey Federation's Women in the Outdoors workshop program. Russ was also a member of the state's angling instructor team sent to national workshops for teaching others how to teach angling. For three school years he has led a middle school fly fishing club for 12-15 year olds which involves the school, 4H, and Columbia Basin Fly Casters Club. He has given presentations at 4H Leader workshops

and to the 2001 Washington State Physical Education Teacher's annual meeting. There he promoted fly fishing as an expansion curriculum for physical education programs. Russ is the Director of Education and has agreed to continue in that position.

Director at Large: Jim Maus, Tacoma, WA

Jim was the WSCFFF Treasurer for several years. He organized two FFF Auctions and the lined up the fly-tiers at the WSCFFF Jamborees in '97, '98 and 2000. He also served as a WSCFFF National Director for two years. He was President of the Puget Sound Fly Fishers, and a member of the South Sound Fly Fishers. He has agreed to stay on the board as a Director at Large.

Director at Large: Donn Mills, Snohomish, WA

Donn is an active participant as a WSCFFF officer and has agreed to continue as a Director at Large. He was President for two years (1996 and 1997) and Vice President Westside for a year. The first Jamboree was organized and completed successfully during his tenure as President. He drove the overall organization of the '97 and '98 WSCFFF Jamborees and lead the acquisition of auction items. He also was chairman of Jamboree 2000. Donn served as a WSCFFF National Director for three years. He is a member of Northwest Fly Fisherman and Seattle Police Department Fly Fishing Club.

Director at Large: Ben Dennis, Winthrop, WA

Ben is a Director at Large and is willing to continue in that position. He is founder and president of Methow Valley Fly Fishers. He is also a long-time member of Overlake Fly Fishers, and former board member of Washington Rivers Council. Ben is involved in conservation activities on the Methow working with NMFS and WDFW. He was able to reverse closure of the Methow river system for the 2000 season, and helped secure six new catch & release lakes in Okanogan county. He has 35 years experience as a graphics artist and owner of his own advertising/marketing agency in Seattle. Ben designed the FFF catch and release logo for its 25th anniversary. He is also a guide on Methow valley lakes and rivers and a regionally recognized watercolor artist, his subject---fish and water.

Director at Large: Mike Maruyama, Auburn, WA

Mike was the WSCFFF Secretary for several years. He has been involved in several of the WSCFFF shows and activities. He directed the raffle at the 2001 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition at Trophy Lake Golf and Casting Course. He is one of the willing workers for the WSCFFF, and has agreed to be a Director at Large for WSCFFF.

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Director at Large: Aaron Culley, Redmond, WA

Aaron Culley accepted a nomination to be Director at Large. He is a current member of the Overlake Fly Fishing Club (Bellevue), FFF, Trout Unlimited and the Northwest Atlantic Salmon Fly Guild. He grew up in the Seattle area. Past president of the Overlake Club in 1995 and 1996; he has been an active member since 1992. Aaron currently coordinates Overlake's monthly fly tier's roundtable and assists with fly tying classes. Fishing the Yakima River keeps Aaron in search of cutthroat and rainbow trout, while the Puget Sound rivers find him chasing steelhead and cutthroat. Working to protect the resources we still enjoy is high on his agenda not to mention the time spent lashing feathers and fur to hooks.

An Education Note

By Russ Brown

The recent addition of the Boy Scout's Fly Fishing Merit Badge has definitely had a good impact on the education program. Interest is high as we are getting requests for information on how we can help various troops. In March, Mark Freshley of the Columbia Basin Fly Casters gave a program on the new merit badge to the Blue Mountain Council at their Annual Recognition Dinner. Jesse Scott of the Evergreen Fly Club introduced the merit badge criteria to the Tillicum Council in May. We were asked to support a June workshop with the Mt. Baker Council, and Donn Mills is helping to coordinate that effort.

We also have some exciting news in the Washington's formal education system. For the second year Walla Walla High School is providing a three week class on fly fishing as part of their physical education curriculum. The class was a big success last year thanks to the efforts of teacher Gail Sees. Additionally, I gave a presentation at the annual Washington

State Physical Education Teachers conference last fall. A variety of alternative class subjects were available, and the educators chose which ones they wanted to attend. We expected half a dozen or so, but were elated to have approximately 27 attend the fly fishing presentation. I got some good feedback on the idea, and some of the educators appeared to be quite interested. One of the attendees was an Associate Professor who subsequently developed a fly fishing presentation for the winter quarter at Eastern Washington University for students studying to become physical education teachers. The program was well received, and they are going to do it again next year.

I know there are numerous clubs and individuals that have been doing a great deal more to help educate folks on this tremendous sport. I'd like to hear from you - better yet, give me a line, and let me know what your doing so we can share it in our newsletter. I know the majority of people out there don't like to toot their own horn, but hearing about your efforts helps pump up the rest of us. More importantly it spurs other ideas.

Please let me know if you would like to help the Boy Scouts, as I am assembling a list that I can use when I get a request. PLEASE let me know if you have been asked to help with the

program. I will be attending the education committee meeting at the annual FFF show in Livingston, and our committee is eager to have some feedback.

Remember the most precious gift you can give someone is your time - help make a memory - take a kid fishing!

2002 NWFC Expo Website

By Bob Bates

The 2002 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition website is up, and items are added to it from time to time. The date on the main page tells you when something was updated.

You can get to it through the main page:
<http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org>
and click on the **2002 Expo** button.

Also you can go directly to the Expo page by entering the following longwinded URL:
<http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org/2002NWFCFrame.htm>

There are lots of choices once you are there. The **Introduction** button takes you to the overview page.

Fishing From The Sixth Hole

By Larry Gibbs

Some of the Puget Sound Flyfisher Club members have been testing the waters at the sixth hole fishing area. The fish are fat and sassy and the water is staying cool for them because of the irrigation needs of Trophy Lake Golf and Casting. If you are in the area, stop by for an hour or two of casting fun and enjoyment. The big lake, Trophy Lake, is becoming covered in lily pads and will be closed very soon for fishing. The fish are taking a number of flies, from Woolly Buggers to chironomids

to dries. I will give a detailed list of flies in the next newsletter, but remember, you never know with fish. What they key on one day they will totally ignore the next day.

I need some serious volunteers for the fishing hole during the competition. You will need to devote a couple of hours to weighing the fish as they are caught by the competitors. Please let me know if you will help us out this year. You can e-mail me at flytier01@foxinternet.com or call me at 253-863-4910. Thanks, Larry

Preparing For The 2002 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition

By Dick Raisler

Washington Fly-Fishing Clubs are preparing for the fun and competition of the NWFCE. They are holding qualification trials to select team members, adding casting games to their summer outings, and planning financial support for participating members and WSCFFF.

Selecting a team can be done in several ways. Clubs with many good casters can hold distance and accuracy casting competition to select their team. Even if your club does field a team, additional individuals may enter and compete for fun and prizes. Other clubs may hold a mirror in front of the member's face, and if the mirror fogs, you are on the team. Whatever method you use, make it fun. If your club does not field a team, individuals may enter and compete for fun and prizes.

Summer outings and picnics are

suitable for having fun with casting games. The game "Tic Tac Cutthroat" is enjoyable for all ages and skill levels. A young person quickly becomes involved in the fun of the game and does not think about all the technical casting stuff. When the conversation around the picnic table turns to the difficulty of casting in the wind, set up a narrow loop coarse and practice those narrow loop casts that are so helpful when casting into the wind. If your club is planning a trip to a spring creek where different types of casts are helpful for presenting a fly, then set up the reach cast and straight-line/serpentine-line cast coarse. You get the picture.

Clubs and individuals will be seeking pledges to support conservation, preservation and education through fly-fishing. The amount of pledges made will count as one-quarter of the score for team and individual overall competition.

Last year the total contribution from pledges was \$5,000.00. WSCFFF was very pleased with this first year event commitment. Let's see if we can increase the giving this year!

A fifteen-minute casting session every other day is very helpful for improving casting skills. Backyard casting improves muscle memory and strength. The disadvantage of casting by your self is that there is no feedback. Purchasing the \$2.00 booklet "the Essentials of Fly Casting" from the Federation of Fly Fishers will give you helpful pointers for understanding casting and how to correct faults.

Most of all, mark September 21st on your calendar, talk to a friend about coming, and plan on having a fun, relaxed day of fellowship, casting, and learning. For more information about casting games or to volunteer to help, contact: Dick Raisler, 360 466 5797, raisler@cnw.com

Twin Lakes Near Winthrop, WA Shrinking

By Dick Ewing and Ben Dennis

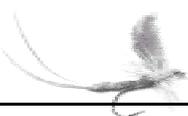
WHILE NMFS & D.O.E DENY WATER TO TWIN LAKES (A NATIONALLY REGISTERED WETLAND) WOLF CREEK, IS IN FLOOD!

History: Between 1922 and 1999, the open Wolf Creek irrigation ditch that runs along the hillside above the Twin Lakes campground in Winthrop, Washington, leaked 2-3 cubic-feet-per-second of water into the ground, recharging the Twin Lakes aquifer and improving river flows during lower water periods.

The National Marine Fisheries Service and the Washington Department of Ecology, to enforce the Environmental Species Act, piped the ditches, eliminating ground water recharge.

Current condition: **Critical**---Twin Lake, as of May 20, 2002, is 8-1/2 feet below its normal level and continuing to drop---it could lose another 3 feet before fall if there is no groundwater recharge.

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- Ecologically: Reeds and other vegetation have all but disappeared.
- Birds and insects have lost their habitat.
- Fish are stressed.
- Boat ramps are unusable.
- Mud flats surround the lake.
- Adjacent homes' wells are going dry and property values are in jeopardy.

Solution: This year's snow pack is above average. As of today, **Wolf Creek is in flood.**

Therefore---

- 1) Recharge the Twin Lake aquifer NOW by releasing water from Wolf Creek during excess high water. This will fill Twin Lakes, reduce flooding and return cool ground water to the Methow River when it's needed in the fall and winter for endangered fish survival.
- 2) The benefits of this release will:
 - a) refill Twin Lakes to "normal level",
 - b) recharge the wells of adjacent homes that are dependent on this water,
 - c) provide cool water to the Methow River during fall, winter and low water months, and
 - d) benefit Methow River water conditions for endangered fish.

What You Can Do: Voice your concern by contacting the following people whose agencies are involved in the responsibility of Twin Lakes' current condition and able to change direction---now!

Bob Lohn, Regional Administrator, National Marine Fisheries Service
Tel: 206-526-6150 fax: 206-526-6426 e-mail: bob.lohn@noaa.gov

Jeff Koenings, Director, Washington Department Fish & Wildlife
Tel: 360-902-2225 e-mail: koenijpk@dfw.wa.gov

Tom Fitzsimmons, Director, WA. State Department of Ecology
Tel: 360-407-7001 e-mail: tfit461@ecy.wa.gov

Senator Linda Evans Parlette
Tel: 360-786-7622 e-mail: parlette_li@leg.wa.gov

For Further Information:

Dick Ewing 509-996-2098 e-mail: fawn@methow.com
Ben Dennis 509-996-2784 e-mail: flyrodranch@mymethow.com
Fred Edelman 509-996-3820 e-mail: fedelman@methow.com
Or contact the Twin Lakes Aquifer Coalition, P.O. Box 92, Winthrop, WA 98862

New FFF Membership Incentive Program

To participate in this incentive program, you must be a current member of the FFF.

PROGRAM RUNS THROUGH 12/31/03

HOW YOU, YOUR CLUB OR YOUR COUNCIL CAN OBTAIN NEW MEMBER CREDITS TO USE TO ACQUIRE QUALITY PREMIUMS FROM THE FFF:

Before handing out applications to prospective NEW FFF members, fill in the following information on the "referred by" line of the application: individuals can enter their name or membership number, club membership drives should use the club's name or

the club's FFF membership number. (If you are unsure of membership number please call us)

NOTE: DO NOT USE CLUB PRESIDENT’S NAME OR OFFICER’S NAME ON THE “REFERRED BY” LINE IF THE CREDIT IS TO GO A CLUB OR COUNCIL, SINCE INDIVIDUALS CAN ALSO OBTAIN CREDITS.

Clubs and Councils can use the premiums to raise funds in raffles or auctions. Or clubs may choose to use the premium as an incentive for FFF membership sales (for instance , the club may choose to include everyone in the club who joins under this program in a drawing to win the rod, reel or vise). Either way, it's a win for you and it's a win for the FFF!

WHAT DOES NOT QUALIFY:

- Junior memberships
- Renewing or reinstatement of an FFF membership (former FFF members who haven't been members for 3 or more years qualify as "new" members)
- Any new memberships sent in with incorrect (or old) membership dues amounts

HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE NEEDED TO QUALIFY FOR A PREMIUM?

- 15 new FFF members
- The FFF office will keep track of your referrals for you

WHAT CAN I GET FOR MY EFFORTS?

ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PREMIUMS:

- St. Croix Avid Fly Travel Rod (AFT905) 9': 5 weight, 4 piece
- St. Croix Avid Fly Travel Rod (AFT9010) 9': 10 weight, 3 piece
- Sage Rod (890VPS) 9': 8 weight, two piece
- Ross Gunnison Reel (choice of one) G1 - G2 - G3 - G4 - G5
- BT's Rotary Tying Station (includes the following items): A Dan vise, Oasis oak pedestal / tool stand, Seven brass handle tools, Dan vise introduction video

[Note: St. Croix is a new participant in our incentive program this year, adding travel rods to our offering. We wish to thank St. Croix, Sage, Ross and BT's for their help with the FFF's membership incentive program.]

PRE-PAID CERTIFICATE OPTION:

Purchase 12 pre-paid individual memberships. Send in a check for \$348.00 to the National FFF Office. We will then mail you 12 numbered certificates & a letter requesting your choice of one item from the above list.

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Federation of Fly Fishers Membership Application

Full Name _____
 Address _____
 City / State / Zip _____
 Phone home / work _____
 Club Affiliation _____
 Birth Date _____

Referred by: _____

Apply online at www.fedflyfishers.org

Please mail or call us at

Federation of Fly Fishers

PO Box 1595 406 585 7592
 Bozeman MT 59771 406 585 7596 fax

Please check membership category

Canadian memberships add \$5 per year All other countries add \$10 per year

- (A) Individual Membership (\$29)
- (G) 3-year individual (\$70)
- (O) Senior Membership (\$22)
for those age 65 and over
- (B) Family Membership (\$35)
spouses and children under 14
- (H) 3-Year Family Member (\$82)
- (Y) Youth Membership (\$11)
for individual members under 14
- (C) Sponsoring Contributor (\$64)
- (D) Century Contributor (\$100)
- (L) Individual Life (\$465)
payment plans available
- (T) Couple Life (\$696)
- (E) Retail Membership (\$70)
small fishing equipment stores
- (S) Sustaining Membership (\$185)
commercial / manufacturing businesses

Check Enclosed (checks payable to F.F.F.) US Funds
 Credit Card Visa MasterCard Discover
 Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

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CAN I QUALIFY FOR MORE THAN ONE PREMIUM?

Absolutely! The FFF will keep track of everyone signed up through your efforts. Every time you or your club qualifies, you will be notified. We have some clubs that qualify for 2, 3 or more premiums each year. We would love to have you join that elite group.

WHAT WILL A NEW MEMBER RECEIVE?

- New member package will include the most recent *Flyfisher* magazine and membership card
- FFF patch and 2 FFF decals
- Subscription to the *Flyfisher* magazine (quarterly magazine)
- Discounted registration fees to enter FFF shows
- New members are added to the regional FFF Councils newsletter mailing list for more localized news & events
- Free use of our video library (the

only cost is return postage to our office) USA only

REFER QUESTIONS OR REQUESTS FOR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS TO THE FFF NATIONAL OFFICE:

Phone: 406-585-7592 (Barbara Wuebber - Membership Coordinator)
E-mail: membership@fedflyfishers.org
Mailing Address:
PO Box 1595
Bozeman, MT 59771-1595

Bamboo At Expo

By Jim Unger

In this time of plastic, glass and carbon is there a place for nostalgia? Yes! Bamboo is coming to the 2002 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition. There will be two fun games set aside for casters with bamboo rods. These

are Accuracy (or Trout Fly) and Cast to the Rise. Both are set up like the modern rod games. For details check the Competitions and Fun Games sections on the 2002 Expo website.

Bring your own bamboo rod with a floating line and leader. A yarn fly may be on your leader or attached at the game. The line may be a modern floating line or an old style silk line. Who knows, if this catches on we might specify silk lines and gut leader next year.

First, second and third place winners will be announced at the banquet.

Those wishing to signup for this section of fun games or to help out on them, please contact me at:

e-mail: UNGERJL@aol.com
phone: 360 837 3638
21 Sportsman RD
Washougal, WA 98671

I will keep you posted if there are changes.



**Federation of Fly Fishers™
Washington State Council**

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Address Service Requested

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U.S. Postage
PAID
Spokane, WA
Permit No. 91