



Covering The Drift

Volume 6, Number 3

December, 2001

President's Message

By Jerry McBride, President

Northwest Fly Casting Exposition - The first Northwest Fly Casting Exposition put on by the Washington State Council was a resounding success. Trophy Lake Golf and Casting near Port Orchard, Washington hosted the September 29, 2001 event. The Trophy Lake facility encompasses 220 acres with an eighteen-hole golf course and four catch and release lakes stocked with trout up to 15 pounds.

There were competitive games for

professional and skilled casters. Non-competitive games were also held for those who wanted to improve their casting skills and have a good time.

Individuals and teams competed in casting games (distance and accuracy), fishing (total inches caught and released in one half-hour) and fund raising (total dollars pledged for distance casting).

Our featured fly caster was Steve Rajeff, national casting champion who demonstrated his skills and conducted several instructional seminars. Steve has dominated the world of competitive casting for over two decades. He holds more than 24 national titles and 14 world championships. Steve is Director of Research and Development for rod manufacturer G. Loomis.

Dr. Paul Quinnett, author of the classic fishing trilogy *Pavlov's Trout, Darwin's Bass and Fishing Lessons* was our featured dinner speaker. Dr. Quinnett, who is both a clinical psychologist and an outdoor writer and fishing book author, spoke on the subject of "Hope" which is the essential element of fishing and certainly life itself.

Nine teams from fly fishing clubs participated in the competitive events. The Washington Fly Fishing Club team swept the competitive events winning the 2001 Northwest Casting Exposition Overall Team Championship award.

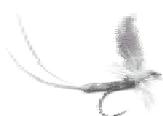
The 2002 Northwest Casting Exposition will be held at Trophy Lake Golf and Casting on September 21, 2002. We invite anyone who has an interest in fly casting to attend and participate. For information contact Vernon Young at 253-265-6162.

Follow-up on Rotenone - The use of rotenone is the cornerstone of the single species program that has given us good fishing in Washington State for many years. If you have followed this years developments, you know that the lake rehab program is on hold due to concerns about the safety of rotenone. The Washington Fish and Wildlife Department (WDFW) recently issued a Draft Supplemental Environmental Statement LAKE AND STREAM REHABILITATION: ROTENONE USE AND HEALTH RISKS. This report recommends modifications in rotenone application procedures to improve applicator and public

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safety. It is important that we support the changes WDFW is recommending so that this program can continue. The lake rehab program should be off hold once WDFW adopts and implements the new procedures.

I thank all of you who wrote to WDFW and your legislators earlier this year emphasizing the importance of the lake rehab program and the critical role that rotenone plays in it.

WSCFFF Board Meeting - Our next board meeting is on January 5, 2002 in Ellensburg at the Hal Holmes Center. You are welcome to attend.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the board and officers of the WSCFFF.

Jim Maus Given 2001 Washington Council Award Of Excellence



2001 Washington Council Award of Excellence is presented to Jim Maus (r) by WSCFFF President Jerry McBride

By Jerry McBride, WSCFFF President

Jim is a tireless supporter of the WSCFFF and FFF. He has been Secretary and currently is Treasurer of WSCFFF. Jim played a major role in each of the three jamborees the WSCFFF has put on and the Fly Casting Exposition just held in September.

He has provided the materials and led WSCFFF officers and board members in several goals setting sessions that helped give direction to the council.

Jim is Past President of the Puget Sound Fly Fishers and is an accomplished fly fisherman. Several years ago, he won the Single Fly Contest in a competition with other fly fishers on the Yakima River.

Whatever Jim has done for the WSCFFF and FFF has been first class and he has done it with great enthusiasm and dedication. The WSCFFF is very fortunate to have Jim Maus as an officer and on the board of directors.

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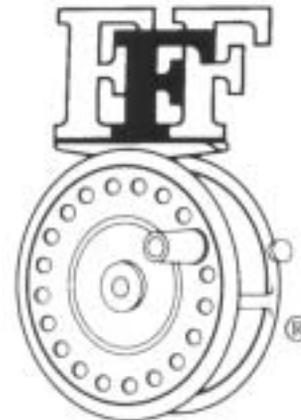
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Christmas Wishes

By Bob Shirley, West V.P.
and Conservation

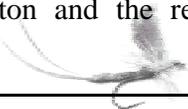
The rains have come to Western Washington and cool crisp air has invaded the East. To a fly fisher that means many things. It usually means fewer fishing trips, closed seasons, and low water in the Yakima, Methow, etc. This year it means a really low Yakima River and some conditions neither expected nor hoped for. It also means that a time of sharing and giving is at hand. This year especially will be a time of renewed closeness to friends and family, and a heightened awareness of land and country. Along with this increased awareness, I hope a sense of renewed dedication to our sport and the water which makes it possible will invade each and every fly fisher.

Our sport is complex and demanding, yet simple and relaxing at the same time. The complexities are welcomed when we need a diversion, and are demanding when and if we need a challenge. Fly fishing has only a very few simple rules so everyone can play, and those rules can be

bent and modified and changed to adapt to conditions. Now comes that relaxing part I mentioned earlier. I don't think I know anyone who enjoys fly fishing for the tension and anxiety it generates. There is a little smack of tension when waiting for an observed fish to rise for a dry, or the slight anxiety experienced as a big one breaks off or some how unties what we thought was a perfectly good knot.

For me, fly fishing has invaded most areas of my life. People at work ask where I've been fishing, or, when I'm in a bad mood, IF I've been fishing or if I'm going soon. Meeting someone for the first time usually means fishing will come up in the first five minutes of conversation, and their response to my bringing it up will forever influence my attitude toward them. Time is spent at meetings and at the computer trying to help the sport. Get-togethers with like-minded folks who are dedicated to fishing help renew and shape my understanding of issues and events pertinent to fly fishing in Washington and the rest of the country.

However, gift giving worries are now a thing of the past. All of my friends fish. My wife fly fishes. I fly fish. Everyone knows fly fishers can not have enough equipment, gear, clothes, and just plain general stuff. Some fly shops have even thoughtfully made available files in their store so each customer can enter the names of items needed or desired. Then interested spouses or others can look up your name, see what has so eagerly been entered in the fly fishing wish book. Imagine our surprise when Santa brings us just exactly what we had put in that magic book at the shop. Wonder of wonders. Everyone wins, there are no losers, and we get to play with more gadgets and machines to satisfy our curiosity about how those things really work or if they work at all. It reminds me of some people's interest in tools for wood working or auto repair. If it shines or sparkles, we need it. A friend of mine actually has all three interests. He fly fishes, works wood and is a brilliant home machinist. You should see his work shop!



Letter From Rod McGarry, FFF Membership Vice President

Editor's note: Rod's letter will be going out to every fly fishing club that is a member of a FFF council.

Dear Club President,

I am writing to invite your Club to extend its presence in and impact on fly fishing by renewing your Club membership in our Federation of Fly Fishers for yet another year.

In extending this invitation, I Thank You for your Club's previous involvement in the issues and opportunities for our cause to build foundations of Conserving, Restoring, and Educating for fly fishing.

Because Clubs have asked us to continue to help them build growth and influence retention, in 2002 FFF will bolster its Life Member appeal, emphasize the Club growth incentive program and expand the different levels of membership categories. We want to help you tap the experience of your Club membership to encourage that growth. There is no other group who has more influential and powerful friends with fly fishing interests than a sound FFF Club like yours. Will you come and join with us again as that role model group of fly fishing folks in your area who share and care?

FFF made "thunder and lightning" type gains in education this past year with the announcement of completion of the Boy Scout Merit Badge in Fly Fishing, the initiation of a similar effort for Girl Scouts and drew kudos for the programs and projects featured in our Youth Camp Book. Everything your Club needs or wants to know about how to plan or run a youth program is in a box. We have developed an Educational Resource Folder that provides the resources and the contacts for you so that your Club can sponsor a variety of workshops or educational programs.

Please consider that your Club Membership also helps fund conservation efforts around the country. In addition to small grants given to individual Clubs, there are FFF projects that have been accomplished with cooperative efforts. Last year FFF participated in the Great Smokey Mountain National Park native fish survey. We were looking for remnant populations of Eastern Brook Trout as part of FFF's effort to save the species diversity of trout. The Saltwater Conservation Committee designed and distributed bumper stickers "Keep Off The Grass" supporting Texas Parks and Wildlife campaign to designate "Prop-Up Zones" in order to conserve grasses along the coastal flats. We are now working with a similar program in Florida. The Warm Water Committee is working with the Nature Conservancy in Arkansas and with Clubs in Wisconsin supporting their effort to conserve and protect good small mouth bass habitat. The great thing about these and all our projects is that they involve local FFF Clubs

In closing let me speak to two undertakings that dovetail with your Club focus of getting folks involved. We all know that the best place to find people who share your vision and provide support for fly fishing causes is in Clubs just like yours. Our new Leadership Newsletter can help you and your Club leadership teams operate and manage a host of Club procedures and functions. It is made up of success stories from clubs just like yours. These kinds of things will help you grow and strengthen your activities. Our Club Wire News Service, the monthly E-newsletter geared to Clubs has great news items, speaks to issues, gives good inspiration, and articles you can re-print or use in programs continues to get rave reviews from Clubs. We've

got a good thing going.

I want to acknowledge the privilege you granted us by working with us in the past. Thank you for sharing FFF with us. We look forward to spreading the cause with you again in 2002.

All the best,

Rod McGarry
FFF Vice President Membership

A Month In The Country

By Ben & Leslea Dennis
Director at Large

We have been invited to fish and have fun this coming winter for a month to six weeks in Florida and the Keys.

There's a hitch, however.

We need to find a single person or a couple who would relish the opportunity to spend time in a remote, rather large home, outside Winthrop. A great place for cross country skiers, snowshoers or whitefish fishers who would like blissful silence, sunny days, starry nights, tying bench, phone, TV and Internet.

There are duties to perform---stoke the fire, pet and feed dog and two cats, feed chickens (the eggs are wonderful), golden and lady amherst pheasants and peafowl. You will need a 4-wheel drive.

Our time is flexible, beginning late February or early March. For those who know the place, it's Fly Rod Ranch. 509-996-2784

Ed note: At night the stars are so bright and numerous they almost blind you.

Washington Fly Fishing Club Overall Winners



Washington State Council, Federation of Fly Fishers

2001 NORTHWEST FLY CASTING EXPOSITION

Distance Casting - 1st Team Washington Fly Fishing Club

Richard Embry, Jimmy LeMert, Richard Stearns, Don Simonson



September 29, 2001
Trophy Lake Golf & Casting Course
Port Orchard, Washington



All 2001 NWFCE Winners

PRIZES, AWARDS, AND WINNERS NORTHWEST FLY CASTING EXPOSITON 2001

FISHING

- 1st 89.00 inches, Richard Embry - Methow River Trip with Matt Strauss
2nd 87.75 inches, Deene Almvg - Bottle of Brightwater Solution, SA Fly line, Rio intermediate sink tip.

CASTING FOR FUNDS

- 1st \$1,235 raised, Jimmy LeMert - Float Trip on the Yakima River - Worley Bugger Fly Shop
2nd \$815 raised, Richard Embry - G-Loomis Fly Tying Travel Bag

TROUT FLY - ACCURACY

Men's Professional

- 1st Jimmy LeMert 25/1:08 - \$100.00, Yakima River Float Trip - Jack Mitchell
2nd Jeremy Kendall 25/1:22 - Royal Wulff Fly Line, SA Fly line, Sage Tee Shirt

Men's Skilled

- 1st Richard Embry 35/1:05 - Sage Fly Rod, 6 wt 2 piece XP - Sage Rods
2nd Mike Hardouin 30/1:26 - Royal Wulff Fly Line, SA Fly Line, Sage Hat

Women's Skilled

- 1st Stacy Stratton 10/1:46 - Sage Fly Rod, 6 wt 2 piece XP - Sage Rods
2nd Jeannette Eeckhoud 10/2:05 - Royal Wulff Fly Line, SA Fly Line, Sage Hat

DISTANCE CAST

Men's Professional

- 1st Blake Reimer 117.75 - \$100.00, Ranch Lake Trip with Lodging
2nd Jimmy LeMert 109.50 - SA Fly Line, Sage Tee Shirt

Men's Skilled

- 1st Steve Green 113.17 feet - G-Loomis Fly Rod 9 ft, 3 wt GLX - G-Loomis
2nd Randy Vanhoff 101.17 feet - SA Fly Line, G-Loomis Tee Shirt
Average, Kyle Kragseth 86.17 feet - Lamiglass Fly Rod - Lamiglass

Women's Skilled

- 1st Terry Sanchez 81.17 feet - G-Loomis Fly Rod 9 ft., 6 wt GLX - G-Loomis
2nd Pat Bolton 79.25 feet - SA Fly Line, Sage Hat
Average Gloria Reid 72.17 - G-Loomis Fly Reel

OVERALL WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL

Elizabeth Watson - \$100.00, Moccasin Lake One Day Trip

INDIVIDUAL WINNER

- 1st, Jimmy LeMert - Bamboo Fly Rod 8 ft. 4 inches, 6 wt - Tom Fulk
2nd, Richard Embry - Outfitters Day Pack with water storage

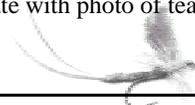
TEAM AWARDS (framed photographs and certificates)

Trout Fly, Accuracy Cast - 95 - Team Name, Washington Fly Fishing Club
Fishing - total length 255.25 inches - Team Name Washington Fly Fishing Club
Casting for Funds - total raised \$2,212.70 - Team Name Washington Fly Fishing Club
Distance Cast - total distance 399.17 feet - Team Name, Washington Fly Fishing Club

OVERALL TEAM WINNER

Washington Fly Fishing Club

A Plaque, engraved with team name and individual names to be placed in the Trophy Lake Golf and Casting Club House.
Certificate with photo of team members



The Trophy Lake Fishing Hole

By Larry Gibbs

I hope you had fun catching fish at the Hole 6 Pond. The people who were measuring your fish were from the Puget Sound Fly Fishing Club. Most of us have never been involved in a competition like the one put on by the WSCFFF at Trophy Lake Golf & Casting Club. We are soliciting your input. If you have any ideas that could help make the process go faster please let us know. For 2002, we are looking at the possibility of weighing your fish while in the net or of placing them in a fish friendly environment to measure them. Please contact me at flytier01@foxinternet.com or write me at: Larry Gibbs, P.O. Box 1456, Sumner, WA 98390

Ed note: Larry went back to Trophy Lake Golf and Casting to test an electronic fish weighing system. The scale works fine. However, about 1/4 of the time fish over 3 pounds would flop out of the big net he had. A deeper net that will keep a 10 pounder completely under the rim when the net is held up should work. He caught only one 12-inch fish (0.5 pound), a lot of 2.7- to 3.5-pound fish and one 5.3-pound fish. His arm was tired after catching some 25 fish so he quit. Somebody should thank him for his dedication. Actually, I am green with envy.

Team Pictures From The 2001 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition Available

By Vernon Young Director and Salmon and Sea-run Cutthroat Chair

People were impressed with the team pictures and certificates given to the winners at the Northwest Fly Casting Exposition. Several asked if they could purchase similar copies of certificates with pictures of their team.

Yes! By special arrangement with the photographer, we can offer these great

items at \$120.00 for a team set of four, one for each member. (Must be ordered as a set of four for a given team.) The club name, names of team members, picture and other information will be listed as on the winner's certificates. The words "Participating Team" will replace the "1st place line."

To order a set contact Vernon Young: e-mail vjyoung@attglobal.net or phone (253) 265-6162.

WSCFFF Web Site Is Moving

By Bob Bates, WSCFFF Communications Director

For years the Federation of Fly Fishers has enjoyed free web site hosting from Outdoors On Line. FFF National has to move the web site to provide its members with uninterrupted quality access. The site will be moved to a new server before the end of November. They will keep the www.fedflyfishers.org name.

However, since Washington State Council also received free hosting we will have to look for a new place. I received an e-mail on November 19,

2001 telling us that we need to have our own web site host by December 1, 2001. By the time you receive this newsletter we will have a web site name that doesn't carry the www.fedflyfishers.org/wcfff identification.

Unfortunately, I do not know what it is. When I find out I will notify everybody on the club e-mail tree. Please check to see that your club is on the e-mail tree, and if not have somebody volunteer to receive messages for your club. All WSCFFF directors, see pp 2-3, will have the information. You can always contact me at bob-bates@worldnet.att.net.

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 _____



Sea-Run Cutthroat Signs

Reminder by Vernon Young, Director and Salmon and Sea-Run Cutthroat Chair

The Washington State Council of the FFF has sea-run cutthroat regulation

signs that need posting at saltwater marine areas and along the lower Columbia River and its tributaries. Please check your favorite fishing and launching locations to see if the signs are up. If a new sign is needed, volunteer to install one. Signs can be obtained by contacting Vernon Young, 253-265-6162, vjyoung@attglobal.net, or by writing WSCFFF P.O. Box 921 Gig Harbor, WA 98335

South Sound Fly Fishers Has A New Web Site

By Bob Bates, WSCFFF Communications Director

A test web site for the South Sound Fly Fishers was put on line in November.

<http://clubs.yahoo.com/clubs/southsoundflyfishers>

As you can see they are working through Yahoo which has advantages and disadvantages. The advantage is that it is free. The disadvantage is that there is a lot of advertising.

There is a message board, but to post on it you need to become a member of Yahoo clubs. Dave Spiller, who developed the site for SSFF, said that the message board would be mostly of interest to SSFF members. Outsiders like me need to identify themselves fairly well.

Click on the link to Dave Spiller's personal page to see The Garden Hackle, their newsletter. I guess they will keep this feature. They are also putting some pictures of club activities on the site.



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Washington State Council

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