



Covering The Drift

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Leader's Line

By Bob Shirley
President, WSCFFF

It is not often that bass casters get to rub elbows with Roland Martin, or any of the other ambassadors of that warm water fishery. It is uncommon for big game hunters to have a chance to meet Craig Bottington. I know of no basketball fan who ever got to talk at leisure with Michael Jordan. No one I know has ever had the opportunity to ask Tiger Woods or Arnold Palmer a question. Fly fishing is different in that regard. Joan Wulff, Dave Whitlock, and everyone else in fly fishing are there

for us. They answer questions while tying or casting, they are there at banquets, conclaves, and Fly Fishing Shows so you can meet with them and have a little time together.

On the evening of February 21, 2004, you will have the opportunity to meet and get to know the Legends of Fly Fishing from Washington. Both Steve Rajeff and Bruce Ferguson have been named by the Federation of Fly Fishers as Legends in the sport of fly fishing. They will be present to be honored by us at an event in the Meydenbauer Center put on by the Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers.

hard to make sure we have fish to cast to, and a variety of species to target. Come and help us celebrate the wealth of talent and out standing personalities we are blessed with in Washington Fly Fishing.

Steve Rajeff

Steve Rajeff's Casting Mastery and Fishing Experience Keep G. LOOMIS Rods on Technology's Leading Edge

Woodland, Washington, U.S.A. – When it comes to delivering long, accurate casts or dropping a fly or plug on a dime, nobody in the world does it better than G.LOOMIS' Director of Research & Development, Steve Rajeff. Rajeff has dominated the world of competitive casting for over two decades. He has no less than 24 national titles and 14 world championships on his casting resume.

The contests span the universe of casting disciplines, from plug casting for distance and accuracy, to single and double-handed flycasting for distance as well as trout fly and bass bug casting for accuracy. In one recent North American competition, the master caster won 11 of 12 events.

“The ultimate rods for tournament distance-casting are not good fishing rods,” explains Rajeff, “but competitive casting hones my ability to evaluate and design better fishing

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The event will begin at 7 PM, and you need to pre-register to attend. No tickets will be sold at the Fly Fishing Show or at the Door. A fund raising silent auction, live auction, and raffle will be part of the entertainment for the evening. Proceeds from the fund raising benefit the Washington State Council, and one item in the live auction will go to support Casting For Recovery.

A registration form and event information are included in this newsletter. Our web site also has extensive information about the show, registration form and auction details with pictures of some items see:

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

You are invited to attend and get up close and personal with our own World Class Caster and then one of the important people who works so

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Bruce Ferguson

Bruce Ferguson's Knowledge and Skill at Saltwater Fly Fishing and his Willingness to Share that Knowledge has made him a Living Legend

Bruce Ferguson has long been a life member of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) and has frequently represented FFF at regional and state regulation hearings, forums concerning conservation and meetings for allocating salmon resources. He was one of the first co-chairmen of the FFF Marine Resources Committee, Brooks Bouldin of the Southern Council was the other. He represented FFF as a member of the U.S. / Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty negotiations in 1984.

In 1996 Bruce was received The Silver King award from the FFF. "This award is aptly named after the highly prized saltwater trophy, the Tarpon. The Silver King Award shall be presented to an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the sport of saltwater angling over an extended period of time." Bruce has definitely done that! Bruce is passionate about fly fishing, especially saltwater fly fishing. He loves to talk about his adventures in

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rods. The extremes of competitive casting refine the knowledge I need to balance factors like weight, strength, action and durability when I set out to design a practical, high performance fishing rod."

Those experiences – coupled with his life-long passion for fishing – are directly responsible for breakthrough rod technologies like GLX spinning, casting and fly rods.

Steve is a frequent demonstration caster at Federation of Fly Fishers events. In September 2001 he was the main demonstration caster for the Northwest Fly Casting Exposition at Trophy Lake Golf and Casting

Course. His skills with fly rods awed everyone there.

He broke out his tournament distance rod, and literally threw the line out of sight. (It went over a small down slope and disappeared.) When he talked about accuracy casting, he was casually casting to a ring. Every time the fly stopped over the center of the ring.

Also he was very open about fly casting, fly rod differences, casting styles and what it takes to make a good cast.

You will enjoy meeting him at the "Meet the Legends Party."

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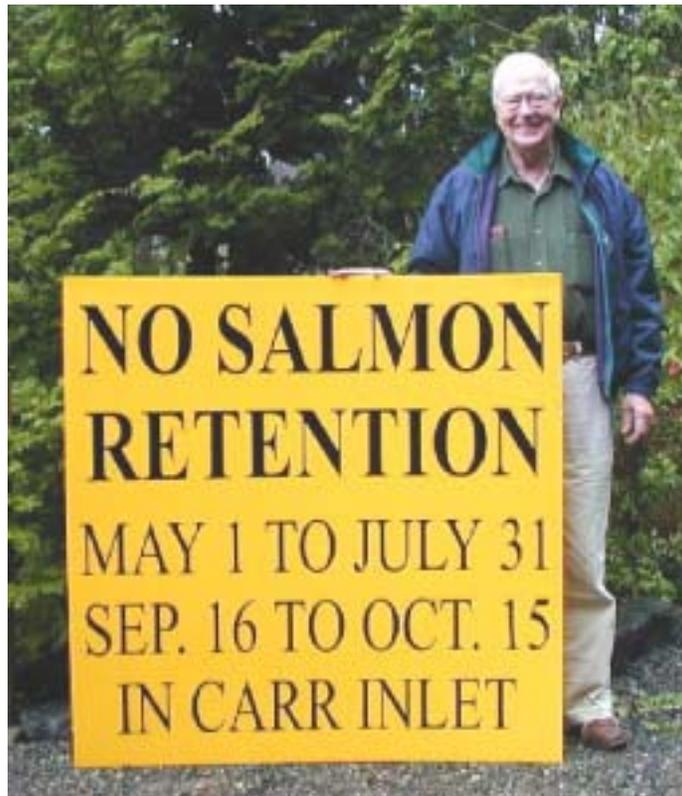
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Puget Sound stalking Cutthroat, Silvers, etc., and continually produces seminars, lectures and classes on all aspects of saltwater fly fishing. Every presentation he makes is a bit different, and people who have attended many of his presentations, say they are all exceptional. In 1995 Bruce also authored the Washington Council paper *Will There be Salmon in our Future?* A paper that was given very positive acclaim for its accuracy and content regarding the effects of commercial and sport fishing on our declining salmon runs in the Northwest. Bruce was appointed to serve on the US Salmon Commission and is a member of the Sea-run Cutthroat Coalition. Congratulations Bruce on a very well deserved award.



Bruce had enthusiastically participated in developing saltwater fly fishing for over thirty years, and co-authored the first book on the subject, *Fly Fishing for Pacific Salmon*, with Les Johnson and Dr. Pat Trotter.

In 2000 the salmon fishing regulations for Carr Inlet Salmon fishery were changed, but many people were unaware of the regulation changes. Bruce was concerned to see people keeping fish after the no keep regulation went in. When he talked to many

of them they quit fishing immediately saying they didn't know. He felt that informational signs were needed, and he offered to pay for them. Quick action was needed and accomplished through WSCFFF to keep people from getting into trouble and to protect the resource.

Bruce had no idea the FFF was going to honor him as a "Living Legend." Quoting from his letter to Gregg Pitts, Immediate Past President, FFF.

"At the August 8, 2003, banquet of the Federation of Fly Fishers International Conclave in Idaho Falls, Idaho, I was privileged to be among those selected to be honored as 'living legends' of the Federation."

"Despite correspondence from Bozeman, Montana headquarters of the coming event, it never dawned on me that I would be included with the likes of Bill Nelson, co-founder of the Federation, mentor and long time friend: Jim Green who taught

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me how to conquer the 'Double Haul' and Steve Rajeff the 'Tiger Woods' of fly casting. Also, Mel Kreiger, who showed me how cast for tarpon at one of his schools, and subsequently took my brother, Gordon, and me on a most

memorable trip to Tierra del Fuego, Argentina for the majestic sea-run brown trout."

"I've been a life member of the FFF for many years. I decided long ago that my passion for saltwater salmon fly fishing should be shared

with other fly fishers in the Northwest. At the same time, it seemed there was a responsibility to become involved in promoting sound conservation of the salmon resource through the Federation of Fly Fishers."

FFF And Other Clubs In Washington State

Alpine Fly Fishers Club was organized 30 years ago by some fly fishing enthusiasts who wanted more from the sport of fly fishing. The club is located in the Puyallup/Sumner area with 45 members. The members promote casting clinics, midnight fishing trips, fly tying clinics, environmental projects and public education. The members temporarily are meeting at Noel's Restaurant in Edgewood. The regular meeting place in Sumner (Anton's Restaurant) is currently being remodeled. Meeting starts at 6:30 PM, dinner at 7 PM. Brent Byquist is the new president for the Alpine Fly Fishers. His phone number: (253) 445-9411

Clark-Skamania Flyfishers, (CSF), PO Box 644, Vancouver, WA 98666-0644 has 127 members from Clark and Skamania counties with some members from Portland, OR. Founded in 1975, CSF is dedicated to the preservation of wild fish stocks and the natural resources that sustain them. We are committed to promoting fly fishing as a method of angling and, through it, an understanding and appreciation for the diversity of nature. The club holds an annual awards and fund raising banquet and auction each March. CSF puts on a family picnic in July.

Club outings are numerous and varied to quality lakes and streams within and out of Washington.. One trip is to the Eugene Fly Tying Expo. in Oregon.

CSF meets the third Wednesday of each month except March (Banquet), July and August at Bill's Chicken and Steak house Vancouver, Washington. The Banquet is held at the Vancouver Water Resource Center. The annual picnic is at Lewisville Park on the East Fork of the Lewis River.

The club has active educational programs that are open to the public in: Beginning Fly Fishing, Beginning Fly Tying, Intermediate Fly Tying, Net Building, Rod Building, Fall and Spring Casting Clinic and a Steelhead Fishing Clinic.

(Their community activities are too numerous to list all of them here, Ed.)

A few activities include 4-H kids fly tying classes, Snorkel surveys, Nutrient enhancement programs, Financial and labor support on several projects and an education program for Native American Youth. CSF has been honored with many awards. Contact: Denny Way (Pres.) (360) 260-3872, denbarway@aol.com or visit their website: www.clark-skamania-flyfishers.org/

The **Clearwater Fly Casters** began about 1970 in Pullman, WA and Moscow, ID. Their 50+ members come from those cities and the surrounding area. Meetings are on the second Wednesday in months September through May at the Best Western/University Inn, Moscow, ID. They begin about 6:30 PM with the main program starting at 8:00 PM. Guests are welcome.

Club activities include outings to streams like the St. Joe in Idaho and lakes like Amber in Washington, tying nights and BBQ's. In addition to the sport itself, members are involved in related environmental and conservation issues such as fish and wildlife habitat protection and restoration. These efforts generally focus on local conservation issues, particularly those related to fishing areas in central and eastern Washington and northern Idaho.

Annual dues are \$20.00 for individuals, \$30.00 for couples and \$10 for students. Don Shearer, President, don@mail.wsu.edu, is the club contact. See also their website www.clearwaterflycasters.com

The **Columbia Basin Fly Casters**, PO Box 791, Richland, WA 99352, is an organization dedicated to the sport of fly fishing and the preservation of the waters and habitat that make fishing possible. The Club was founded in 1978 and has grown to over 125 members. Our membership is comprised of fly fishers young and old, women and men, beginners and experts.

The Club annually conducts fly tying classes, fly casting instruction, and rod building workshops and sponsors our local youth at conservation camps. We regularly participate in a variety of volunteer projects that range from stream-side restoration and cleanup to hatchery facility

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support.

The Club meets the second Tuesday of each month (except July and August when everyone is too busy fishing) at 7:30 PM at the Coco Loco Tropical Grill on Columbia Center Boulevard in Richland, Washington. Each meeting includes an interesting program on fly fishing or a related topic. Come by and spend an evening with us. Contact John Pfeiffer at (509) 627-5429.

Dry Side Fly Club with 27 members is located in Moses Lake, Washington. Their meetings are 6:00 PM on Tuesday nights at Chico's Pizza. In 2003 speakers at their meetings included WDFW personnel, Rick Hedding and Leroy Hyatt. Each year they have fly casting classes and a barbeque, and scheduled outings for 2004 include some interesting places. Community outreach includes cleanups at local area lakes. For more information on the Dry Side Fly Club contact Gary Hazel (Tres.) (509) 765-6206 gchazel@nwi.net Club mail address: 110 E. Bel Air Moses Lake, WA 98837

The **Evergreen Fly Fishing Club**, PO Box 221, Everett, WA 98206, with 100 members, was founded in 1955; soon it will be 50. It was founded by a small group of avid fly fishers that included Lew Bell, one of the early presidents of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) and Al Knudson, whose Knudson spider fly pattern is a standard. The club meets the fourth Tuesday of most months at the Flying Pig Brewery. Monthly meetings begin at 6 PM with a social hour that often includes a fly tying demonstration. The business meeting begins at 7 PM, and is followed by a program that generally features a slide show on some form of fly fishing.

In July, October and December the club holds meetings in other locations. One coincides with summer steelhead time on the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River. The club supports various conservation and other activities. Conservation related activities include sending four children to summer conservation camp and donating to various non-club projects. Each winter, members conduct a series of fly tying classes.

The club holds a number of group fishing outings. Members also get together for projects like the June cleanup of the North Fork of the Stillaguamish. It is a storied summer-run steelhead river that the club considers its home waters. During 2000 and 2001 a historical monument was conceived and built on the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River. The sign tells about the local history of fly fishing on this river and the important pioneering role the North Fork Stillaguamish played as one of the first rivers in the nation to have a "Fly Fishing Only" regulation. (See www.washingtoncouncilfff.org/stilli.htm)

For more information contact Carl Johnson (425) 308-6161, e-mail: flyfishr@premier1.net or visit their website: www.geocities.com/effc2000/

Fidalgo Fly Fishers, 75 members, is in Anacortes, WA (PO Box 325, 98221). Meetings are 6 PM to 9 PM on the third Thursday of each month September through May at the Village Pizza in Anacortes.

Guest speakers at each meeting include outfitters, biologists, fishing experts and others with interesting topics for the members.

Club activities include fly tying, Pass Lake stewardship, FFF casting competition, fishing outings, casting

lessons, summer barbeque and a party at Christmas. Pass Lake, a fly fishing only lake in Skagit Co., has benefited from the activities of the Fidalgo club. Members monitor the quality of fishing, regulations and when necessary clean up around the lake.

Outings: Ruby Lake, Janice Lake BC, Skagit River Cutthroat trout and dog salmon with possible several outings on local waters.

Education programs include fly tying classes and casting lessons.

Contact: Don McLachlan e-mail: d.mclachlan@attbi.com or Mail: P.O. Box 325 Anacortes, WA 98221

Annual dues are \$20 (new members \$30 for first year)

Fourth Corner Fly Fishers - PO Box 1543 Bellingham, WA 98225-1543 Contact: Steve Moore lrsmtc@aol.com (360) 647-2356

Greywolf Fly Fishing Club - 951 Mountain Trail, Brinnon, WA 98320, Contact: Don Boll (Pres.) (360) 796-4309.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club (IEFFC), PO Box 2926, Spokane, WA, 99220-2926 has 135 members and dates informally back to 1949 and was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1967.

It has a long history of conservation and fishing improvement projects. Two current projects are: *North Silver Lake* - They secured public access to the lake from a private property owner, cleaned up and fenced the access, provided signage, provided an aerator and purchased sterile fish for the lake; *Coeur d'Alene River Cutthroat Tracking Project* - IEFFC contributed money

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and time to this project which involves implanting radio transmitters in cutthroat trout and tracking their movements.

Two Community Activities are: Teaching an evening fly fishing course at the Spokane Community College and taking 15 to 20 boys from Morning Star Boy's Ranch fly fishing for a day each year.

The club newsletter *The Fly Leaf* is published nine times per year. *Flies of the Northwest*, a fly pattern book now in its sixth edition, was written by club members. It is distributed internationally by Frank Amato Publications, Inc.

IEFFC has a monthly dinner/program meeting except for June, through August and a club fish-out at a local lake in May every year.

It is founding member of the Federation of Fly Fishers, and belongs to the Washington State Council of the FFF and Trout Unlimited.

Contact is Jerry McBride, (509) 233-2108, e-mail: jernita@aol.com. Club website: ieffc.home.att.net

The **Lower Columbia Flyfishers** PO Box 1495, Longview, WA 98632, began in 1970 as a non profit organization to advance the use of the artificial fly as a means of fishing. Goals include the preservation, conservation, and propagation of fish, the betterment of streams and lakes and the encouragement of sportsmanship through the tradition of fly fishing. It has been affiliated with the Federation of Flyfishers since its inception. Membership is open to all. Annual dues are \$25, payable on joining the club and renewable by Jan. 15th each year.

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of

each month, currently at the Hotel Monticello in Longview. Attire is casual and guests are encouraged. Meetings begin at 6 PM with dinner at 7 PM.

A program follows dinner. Topics might include slide shows on trips and outings, presentations by club members, Biologists or government representatives on projects and programs of interest to fly fishing.

One club activity is a very successful annual auction to raise funds for a variety of conservation projects supported by the club. During the winter months a series of fly tying classes is offered to members and the public.

Club outings are planned throughout the year including: Steelhead and Searun Cutthroat on the Toutle and Cowlitz rivers, Eastside locations and extended trips to Canada and Rocky Mountain states.

Contact. Roger Middendorp (Pres.) (360) 749-4765, Website: lowercolumbiaflyfishers.com

The **Methow Valley Fly Fishers**, PO Box 101, Winthrop, WA 98862 was formed in 1998 by Ben Dennis, Al Green and a few interested fly fishers. Now it has 55 members. In the early years it worked with the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) to create a select catch and release summer trout fishery. This was done while the upper Columbia River waters were closed as a result of the endangered species act.

At the same time the club undertook restoration of the Belsby Spring Creek, a project which took over 2 years to accomplish. Most of the challenges had to do with five governmental agencies. Most supportive of the project was the WDFW. The restoration of the creek

was privately funded through a consortium of contributors, including but not limited to individuals, fly fishing clubs and the Federation of Fly Fishers. Over \$12,000 was raised in support of the restoration. The project is considered very successful as within a few weeks after pouring some 250 yards of washed drain rock, a number of spring chinook salmon were seen in the channel.

Most recently we worked with WDFW to place portable incubators with steelhead eggs in the upper Beaver Creek to help build populations. The club continues to look at various conservation projects while focusing on fun and fishing.

Meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month except July and August, 7:00 PM, at Liberty Bell High School. Education programs include fly tying, use of equipment, entomology and fly casting. Contact: Ollie Flor (Pres.), e-mail: offlor@yahoo.com

The **Northwest Fly Anglers**, (NFA) PO Box 75212, Seattle, WA 98125, was formed in 1972, and grew at a rapid pace from the first meeting. The club has maintained a membership in the neighborhood of 120 to 150 people. The club was formed with the idea that this sport was for the whole family.

The founders of the NFA were teachers of the art of crafting bamboo fly rods. This historic connection is symbolized in the NFA logo, which is the cross section of a split cane rod and a mayfly.

The Northwest Fly Anglers is a club dedicated to education, service, conservation and support while pursuing the art of angling with a fly. These ideals still prevail today with fly tying, rod building and casting classes, stream surveys, tree plantings

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and river cleanups, top name guest speakers, outings to local and distant streams and lakes. The club also maintains a library of books and videos.

The club is based on a strong participation from the membership which is why the club has been such a great success. This occurs at all levels as the membership is very diverse in its experience, from beginner to expert.

Visit www.northwestflyanglers.org for meeting information and directions.

Northwest Fly Fishermen is a social club in the greater Seattle area. It was founded in 1963 and has been a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers for many years. Their 7 PM meetings are on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Meetings are rotated between the 23 members homes. Fly fishing is the main activity of club. Planned activities include two trips to Eastern Washington and a banquet in February. Contact is Don Schroder (Pres.), 17805 NE 9th, Bellevue, WA 98008-3412, donsch99@yahoo.com

Northwest Women Flyfishers was founded in 1988 with a dual-purpose charter: support and encouragement of women fly fishers and the preservation of wild fish in the Northwest. With a diverse membership of over 130, the club is noted for its organization, informative newsletter, outings, and fundraising. The club holds monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month (except July) at the REI in downtown Seattle.

NWF has donated over \$110,000 dollars to organizations with compatible conservation goals. NWF accomplishments include:

distribution of catch and release videos to clubs and organizations around the country; support of regional Casting for Recovery retreats in the Northwest; "first" in the State of Washington Adopt-a-Ramp program to maintain the Ben Howard boat launch on the Skykomish; since 1993 "Cans for Conservation" program has provided portable toilet facilities at launch sites; monetary grants to numerous national, local and grass roots efforts.

NWF hosts over 15 outings each year to help members enjoy the sport and hone skills. A members-only bulletin board, "Fishing Buddies", enables members to communicate about conservation issues and set up informal trips. For information on membership, please contact Rosemary Weiss, (206) 525-6991 or roseytrowts@msn.com.

The **Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds** is a group of fly fishing enthusiasts with a usual membership of approximately fifty. Founded thirty nine years ago so members could share in a mutual love of the sport of fly fishing, the club is now involved in many activities. These include trips throughout Washington state and British Columbia, fly tying round tables, classes in fly tying, fly fishing, and rod building, financial and labor support of watershed conservation efforts, and monthly programs featuring interesting and knowledgeable fly fishing experts. We meet on the second Tuesday of every month at the South County Senior Center, 220 Railroad Ave, Edmonds, WA. The club can be reached at PO Box 148 Edmonds, WA, 98020 or contact Mike Bunney (VP), (425) 672-3345, e-mail: m_bunney@msn.com club website: www.olympicflyfish.com

The **Overlake Fly Fishing Club**, OFFC, was founded in 1974 and serves the Greater Puget Sound Eastside as a social, educational, and recreational fly fishing club. Mail address: PO Box 52894, Bellevue, WA 98015-2894. We meet monthly for dinner, fish stories, and fishing presentations, currently at the Red Lion Bellevue Inn on the fourth Wednesday. We welcome all fly fisherpersons and have both individual and family annual memberships for \$35 and \$40, respectively.

OFFC organizes a number of fishing outings each year to Northwest destinations for trout, steelhead, and salmon. We also host a monthly fly tying roundtable, held on the second Tuesday of each month at Bellevue High School, and annually teach fly tying classes in the late winter for both members and non-members for a nominal materials fee.

OFFC has an active conservation arm and a special fund for increasing fishing opportunities and enhancing stream habitat in Washington.

OFFC currently has just over 100 members. For additional information, our website is www.offc.org or you may contact our Membership Chairman at membership@offc.org.

The **Puget Sound Fly Fishers Club** of Tacoma, Washington meets at The Tacoma Elks Club, 1965 Union Ave, on the second Thursday of each month, except August when we hold our club picnic at a member's private pond. We enjoyed various outings on both sides of the mountains in 2003 and plan even more for 2004. PSFF has around 100 members. Our meetings start at 6 PM with a social hour, dinner at 7 PM and program starting at 8 PM. We have enjoyed excellent programs from experts like

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Denny Rickards. PSFF members work with the Boy Scouts, various schools and youth organizations. We practice catch and release and fun. We encourage conservation, education and sportsmanship to make PSFF one of the most enjoyable and active clubs in Washington. Mail address: PO Box 99961, Lakewood, WA 98499. Contact: Carl Zarelli e-mail: carlz@meritcompany.com PSFF web site: www.psff.org. Come join the fun.

Founded in 1991, the **Seattle Police Department Fly Fishing Club** is a social organization, 15 to 20 members, for the greater Seattle area. Their main activity is fishing trips to Canada, Methow Valley or other hot fishing spots. They have one meeting each year at the North Seattle Community College and an annual banquet in March. Mail address: 19209 99 Ave SE, Snohomish, WA 98296. Contact is Donn Mills (206) 684-5687 or e-mail: donnmills@msn.com

South Sound Fly Fishers Club is located in the Olympia area with around 90 members. The club is involved with educational and interpretive signs along The Deschutes River Parkway. The signs illustrate the life cycle of salmon and the importance of clean water for healthy fish. To date the club has spent over \$4500 on the project. The club is active with various youth programs in the community including outings at Millersylvania State Park. The members have established a Sea-run Cutthroat database and provide the public with fly fishing education classes. They enjoy monthly outings to many of the areas finest fishing spots. The club meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Contact: Joe Uhlman, (360) 754-6255. e-mail: Joeuhlman@comcast.net

Mail address: PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507

The **Spokane Fly Fishers (SFF)** in Spokane WA was founded in 1977 to provide a fly fishing club for families. In addition to providing family oriented activities, SFF works to help people new to the area or new to fly fishing, in gaining the greatest possible appreciation and enjoyment of the sport.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month, 7 PM, at the Spokane Teachers Credit Union, W. 106 Nora, Spokane, WA except June, July and August. Our Club President is Jack Fruit, (509) 466-6178 and our membership chair is Dan Ferguson (509) 325-8885 or contact us at sffishers@comcast.net. Our website: www.spokaneflyfishers.com/

We had 19 outings in 2003 and 22 scheduled for 2004 ranging from local lakes to Montana's Blue Ribbon Streams. We have 240 members at present and average 60 - 70 per meeting. We're involved in local conservation projects in conjunction with WDFW, IF&G and The Forest Service.

We offer a comprehensive Fly Fishing School, beginning, intermediate and advanced fly tying classes and are always ready to help with community activities that want information on fly fishing or tying. Club address: PO Box 4141 Spokane, WA 99202-4141

The **Twin Harbors Fly Fishers Club**, 105 Broadway, Suite F, Hoquiam, WA 98550 is a very active club in the Aberdeen, Hoquim and Ocean Shores area. Their meetings are held at 7 PM on the second Wednesday of every month in various locations to accommodate all

the members. They hold a clean-up event with the WDFW every year and have various other activities geared towards youth in their area. The members are actively learning the costs of building a casting pond for their community. Currently there are 21 members, and the contact person is President Roland Waldo, phone: (360)-532-0951, e-mail: rmwaldo@techline.com

Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers (WVFF) was organized as an FFF affiliated club in Wenatchee, Washington in 1984. About 100 male and female fishers of all ages are presently active members. General club meetings are held monthly (excluding July and August) on the third Thursday from 6 to 10 PM at the Red Lion Hotel in Wenatchee. An annual banquet and auction, designed as a family event, is held in January. A club contact person is Gary Anderson (509) 884-6886 e-mail: slanders@nwi.net

Annual club programs/activities to promote the conservation ethic, and the choice to fish with the fly, include an eight-session fly fishing course taught in April at Wenatchee Valley College and participation in the Return Of The Salmon Festival at Leavenworth in the Fall. WVFF is also always seeking conservation projects.

Monthly outings are seen as an important part of the club's function and every effort is made to include all interested members. A significant dollar amount is budgeted annually to fund a schedule of programs for the monthly meetings. WVFF has seen this as one of its priorities and attempts to invite both locally as well as nationally known presenters.

Club mail address: PO Box 3687, Wenatchee, WA 98807-3687

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The **Yakima River Fly Fishers** (YRFF) make their home in Ellensburg, WA; the center of the Yakima River's designated "Blue Ribbon" trout section of the river. Though the club physically meets in Ellensburg, its membership is geographically split in half (roughly), with 32 members living in western Washington and 30 living in eastern WA. Meetings are quarterly, planned for March, May, September, and November of 2004. Actual dates TBA soon.

In its first year in operation (2003), the YRFF hit the ground running with a successful conservation sign project from Rosa Dam to the Easton bridge. Smaller conservation projects included providing a much needed dumpster at "The Slab" take-out and two successful river clean-ups. In addition, the YRFF provides community outreach, teaching casting and tying instruction.

Though we are committed to improving the River and its surrounding communities, we also like to have a good time. Five tentative social outings are planned for 2004 outside of the membership meetings. Sound interesting?

We'd love to hear from you! If you have questions regarding membership, contact Membership Chairman Jim Gallagher at (509) 933-2503. Club address 110 W 6th Ave 326, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Other questions can be directed to President Tyler Laurenti (206) 478-6452. or e-mail:

Tlaurenti@netscape.net



Bellevue Hotels*

The Coast Bellevue Hotel
625 116th Ave NE
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-455-9444
www.coasthotels.com

DoubleTree Hotel Bellevue
300 – 112th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-455-1300
www.bellevue.doubletree.com

Ramada Inn Bellevue Center
818 – 112th Ave. NE
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-455-1515
www.ramadabellevue.com

Embassy Suites Hotel
3225 158th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008
425-644-2500
www.wcghotels.com/bellevue

Hyatt Regency Bellevue
900 Bellevue Way NE
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-698-4250
www.bellevue.hyatt.com

Bellevue Hilton
100 – 112th Ave. NE
Bellevue, WA 98004
800-235-4458
www.hilton.com

Red Lion Bellevue Inn
11211 Main Street
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-455-5240
www.redlion.com

Silver Cloud Inn
10621 NE 12th St
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-637-7000
www.silvercloud.com

Bellevue Lodge
11011 Northeast 8th Street
Bellevue, WA 98004
425-454-4967

**WSCFFF Booths
Plus Legends
Party and Auction**

By Bob Bates,
VP Communication

The last issue of *Covering the Drift* had some information about WSCFFF activities at The Fly Fishing Show. We will have two booths at the show: one outside the exhibit hall and the other inside. The inside booth will be staffed by FFF members and fly tiers. The tiers will change shifts every 2 to 4 hours. So come by several times and talk to someone different.

All of the folks involved in planning the party and auction are getting more excited about the event every day. They are working hard to make this the best event possible. Naturally, we need you to come and enjoy the event with us. The list of auction items is growing.

Auction items that have been delivered are truly astounding. Several pieces of beautiful art: Original paintings, reproductions and sculptures are available.

Rods, flies and fly boxes, reels, fly lines, and other fly fishing equipment are listed.

Fishing trips, some with lodging included, casting and fishing instruction are among the goodies.

If you want to read about or watch fishing there is a bunch of books and instructional videos to choose from.

Fly tiers will have many items to look over.

One big ticket item is a ClackaCraft 16 ft. Low Profile Drift Boat We already have several people who have expressed interest in it. Somebody will go home with this new boat.

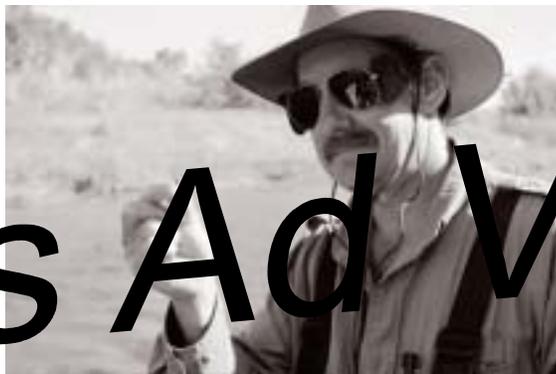
* From:

<http://www.meydenbauer.com/>

(Continued on page 10)

First Annual "Lightning Bug" Benifit

To benefit the Larry Graham Memorial Enhancement Fund



This Ad Void

May 8, 2004

Yakima River

9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Donation- \$ 50.00 per two person team

Enjoy a day of fun and remembrance of our late, great friend, Larry Graham.

Anglers will receive special recognition

Rules

- ◆ Reporting of catch will be on the honor system
- ◆ Only Rainbow and Cutthroat caught using a Larry's Lightning bug may be counted.
- ◆ Fish must have a minimum size of 9 inches
- ◆ Total inches of fish will determine the winners

For registration and questions,
 Contact Ron Romig at 425-222-7654,
 425-392-6600 or ronr@winderemere.com
 Registration cut off date --- 5/1/2004

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Our website has the list of items. Several have color pictures:

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

Just go to the "Fly Show" button and click on the menu item "Auction Items — New". We up date it as new items come in.

A National Director's Report

By Gordon McKay.
National Director

I thank the council and its members for selecting me to represent you at the National FFF Conclave held in Idaho Falls, Idaho this past August. Among the items discussed were five

core challenges that must be met for the future of the Federation. The five challenges are:

1. Develop stronger FFF brand identity.
2. Increase membership.

(Continued on page 11)

Another Successful Event

By Mike Clancy
1st VP, West

All the events that occur in our fly fishing community happen because of volunteers.

One event that just happen was the Washington Sportsman Show, 2004 at the Puyallup fair grounds. Members of The Alpine Fly Fishers, The South Sound Fly Fishers and The Puget Sound Fly Fishers Clubs worked together in a booth to promote flyfishing in our state of Washington.

Fly tiers from the 3 clubs presented their talents along with member volunteers that promoted the fly fishing clubs in Washington.

It is absolutely amazing how much talent we have in our state, from fly tying to fly fishing.

P.J. Hicks, VP of the Puget Sound Fly Fishing Club has worked very hard for the past 5 years to make this event successful. He's done a wonderful job.



Fly club members at the Puyallup Show. Photo by Mike Clancy

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- 3. Develop a larger, more stable funding base.
- 4. Improve the working relationships and synergy between clubs, councils and national.
- 5. Develop FFF organizational capacity to achieve FFF Mission Challenges.

These challenges were discussed and voted upon at the executive board meeting in Las Vegas on Jan. 24, 2004.

Also discussed and voted for the site selections for 2005 and 2006. The location of the 2005 Conclave will be

Livingston, Montana on August 1 - 7. The location of the 2006 Conclave will be Bozeman, Montana on August 14 - 19.

I look forward to supporting the council and its members and the FFF in the future.



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 _____

Auctioneer

By Mike Clancy

The auctioneer for the evening of the WSCFFF auction is Keith Robbins of Seattle with many years of auctioneering experience. Keith comes very highly recommended by various organizations in the fishing community. A member of the Washington Fly Fishing Club, a professional guide in Puget Sound with "light tackle or saltwater fly fishing - Casting No Trolling," he is well known throughout the Pacific Northwest. A quote from past customers - "He provides an entertaining evening with creativity, energy and showmanship. We are talking first class all the way." The members of the auction committee are looking forward to working with Keith at our auction on February 21st.

WDFW Director

I have been told there is a concern that an item in the following Senate bill is an attempt to take control for appointing the WDFW Director from the WDFW Commission, Ed.

Senate bill 6529 Section 24, states (requires) Fish and Wildlife Commission will appoint the Director and submit the nomination to the Senate for their advice and consent (approval).



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for the WSCFFF will be April 10, 2004 at 10 AM in Ellensburg, Washington. We are holding it at the:

Best Inn
901 Berry Road
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Call 1-888-889-9870 if you want a room for an overnight stay.

This is an important meeting at which we encourage all FFF clubs to send a representative. All FFF members are invited.

We will have reports from the clubs letting us know what great activities they have or are planning.

One important item is the nomination committee list of proposed officers and board members for next year.

Reservations are required: Call Bob Shirley: (253) 581-1271 or send an e-mail b.shirley@juno.com



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

PO Box 921
Gig Harbor WA 98335-0921

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Permit No. 91

Reservation Form For "Legends of the Northwest" Party/Auction



Celebrating our fly fishing heritage

*Discover the Northwest's rich fly fishing heritage.
Celebrate the men and women -- Legends of the past.
Rub shoulders with the legends of today, the individuals
who are dedicated to the education of our youth, the
conservation of our fishing and water resources
And -- to excellence in the art of fly tying and casting.*

Saturday, February 21, 2004, 7 pm, Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, Washington

Reservations required. RSVP no later than February 10, 2004

Yes, I (we) will be attending.

Name: _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ e-mail _____

Number of attendees _____ @ \$45 apiece Total \$ _____

Payment may be made by check payable to WSCFFF or by credit card

Check enclosed _____

Master card ____ Visa ____ Number _____ Expiration (MM/YY) _____

Please return this RSVP to: Jim Maus, 6348 School St. SW, Lakewood WA. 98499-1319
with your check or credit card information.

If you prefer, call Jim at (253) 582-9580 (h), (425)-865-4716 (w) with credit card information.

For other information, email: jimmaus@aol.com

