



# Covering The Drift

Volume 9, Number 3

[www.washingtoncouncilfff.org](http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org)

March, 2005

## Leader's Line

By Bob Shirley, President

I'm still recovering from the Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue. The WSCFFF had a membership recruiting booth inside the show and Chuck Furimsky allowed us to help promote area fly fishing clubs by donating space for them to solicit club and FFF members. I am extremely proud of the fact that every member of the WSCFFF Board of Directors, BOD, attended the show and helped promote fly fishing and the FFF at the Council

booth. Some BOD members came from as far away as Spokane, Wenatchee, or Winthrop to help out and recruit for the Federation. Even the Executive Director of the FFF, Pete Van Gytenbeek, was in the booth to answer questions and recruit. Well done - we signed up some 30 new members, sold Weigh West raffle tickets and FFF coffee - both of which will help support our programs and projects.

Many old friends attended including former BOD members Aaron Culley and Michelle Tuengel who helped in the booth. Dave Williams, Marilyn Vitale, Don Simonson, Pat Bolton, and Vern Jeremica among others stopped by to lend support or to volunteer to become more closely associated with our organization. As you know, there are always more jobs to be done than there are good people to fill them. I want to take a moment to thank a very special friend of mine, John Newbury of Chewelah, for the beautiful flies he gave me and for being one of the most generous and dedicated fly tiers in Washington. John travels all over Washington and the U.S. as do many others teaching and demonstrating fly tying or fly casting. In keeping with that thought, thank you to all of the fly tiers and fly casters who so unselfishly give of their time and

talents to teach and promote fly fishing.

April 15 and 16 we will be in Yakima to help the Washington Wildlife Coalition educate people ( especially young people ) about outdoor recreational possibilities for them. We will see 900 - yes nine hundred - kids on the 15th and an unknown number of the general public on the 16th at the Sun Dome. If you or your club think they might want to get in on the fun, contact a WSCFFF officer or Board member. RV parking is available very close to the site. This should be a fun and interesting event.

Please, remember to have your club's representatives keep April 9th open for the annual membership meeting of the WSCFFF in Ellensburg. Any FFF member is also welcome if you let us know before hand you are interested in attending. Call or send an e-mail to any Council Board member (See pages 2 and 3). We will be voting on changing Council bylaws for one thing and would really like to see representation of every club in the state at that meeting. Contact any Council Board member if you would like more information or need directions. (Directions are on page 5 and our website: [www.washingtoncouncilfff.org](http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org))

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Update on Region 2 Sign Project – March 2005

By Jerry McBride, 1st VP, East

As you probably recall, the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers (WSCFFF) committed to get 10 signs for Region 2 lakes. These signs will be like the ones you have seen at the Lenice chain and at Amber Lake (near Cheney, WA) for a number of years. Ten sponsors have agreed to co-sponsor a sign with WSCFFF.

Here is where the signs will go:

Table with 2 columns: Lake Sign and Sponsor. Lists locations like Lenice, Nunnally #1, Lenore #1, etc., and their respective sponsors like Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, Puget Sound Fly Fishers, etc.

Each sign will have a message specific to its location on fishing regulations and present the message in English, Spanish and Ukrainian. The sign will include a statement in English that says "In cooperation with sponsor's name and the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers."

The signs with mounting frame cost \$250 each. WSCFFF is splitting the cost with the sponsors.

Region 2 Fisheries Biologist Jeff Korth has completed the information that will go on the signs and ordered the signs. I am estimating that we will receive them near the end of April. The frames that will mount the signs are ready to go and are stored at WDFW in Ephrata.

Once the signs have been received in Ephrata and mounted in frames an installation schedule will be put together and people will be asked to help install the signs at their respective lakes.

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e-mail: kipkeener@hotmail.com

Salmon & Searun Cutthroat Chair  
Vernon Young (253) 265-6162  
email: vjbyoung@comcast.net



## The New Fly Fisher

By Bob Shirley, President

As you know, the FFF co-produces a television program for PBS. This program, "The New Fly Fisher," presents only fly fishing programming with conservation and education as it's theme. Our program is viewed in Spokane, New York, all over Canada, but not in Seattle or Tacoma.

I find it extremely interesting that KCTS & KBTC do not air this program or any other outdoor programming given the interest in and dedication to flyfishing and the out of doors to be found here.

At The Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue, several thousand fly fishers paid to get in to learn more about guides, products, tying, and casting. To me that demonstrates a certain level of interest in fly

fishing here. If you are interested in learning more about fly fishing or are already dedicated to it, please let KCTS & KBTC know your feelings:

KCTS, Seattle  
start@kcts.org  
206-728-6483

KBTC, Tacoma  
pjackson@kbtc.org  
253-680-7700

Thank you.

*Ed. Note: KSPS in Spokane aired the program last year, please let them know that you would like to see it this year. If you watched it last year thank them for airing it.*

KSPS, Spokane  
ksps@ksps.org  
509-354-7800

## Another Review of The Fly Fishing Show, Bellevue, February 2005

By Mike Clancy, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, West

The Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue was well attended this year with very enthusiastic sportsman. There were a lot of folks who wanted to learn about the FFF and about clubs in their home areas. As usual, the show was three days with long

hours, the booth was staffed by board members of the WSCFFF.

This year we promoted membership in the FFF, sold tickets for the raffle on the trip to Weigh West at Tofino, British Columbia, and promote our FFF labeled coffee.

We also featured a free drawing for a St. Croix AFT905 Avid travel fly rod. It was won by Michael Golob of Vancouver, Washington.

We were very successful with all our efforts. As we promoted membership in the FFF, we heard great ideas on the merits of joining our organization.

Some of the ideas – The FFF is the only organization in the U.S. that devotes 100% of its programs to the sport of fly fishing - The FFF was instrumental in creating the program - "Catch and Release," working with the Boy Scouts, and many more themes. But, the one I liked the best: **"We are the guardians of the future for the sport of fly fishing."**

The WSCFFF is a state wide, volunteer organization and I am happy to report that all board members were present in the booth to help promote our organization. We had a special member of the FFF working the booth with us Saturday afternoon, our President/CEO of the Federation, R.P. "Van" Gytenbeek, also helped to promote the FFF.

Great job folks – see you next year for this fun event.



## Understanding the Cast

By Don Simonson, FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor

### ARTICLE 7

#### PERFECTING OUR DISTANCE CASTING

I find it amazing how most of us fly fishers have this obsession about trying to throw our flies into the next county. In order to accomplish consistent accurate long distance casts (80 ft. to 100 ft.) several areas need to be discussed.

- **Grip:** Normally we want to move our casting hand as close to the reel as possible. This gives us more leverage allowing more rod bend. We either use the thumb on top grip or the three-point grip. If you elect to use the index finger on top grip you might want to consider changing as you probably will not have enough arm strength to accomplish good distance.
- **Stance:** Opening our stance by moving our right foot back (for right handed casters). Left foot for left handed casters. Then rocking the body during the cast to allow the use of our major muscles.
- **Rod tip path:** Straight-line path of the rod tip to create a narrow tight loop both on the back cast and forward cast. We keep emphasizing a straight-line rod tip path, now more than ever it becomes **REALLY** IMPORTANT.
- **Line speed:** In order to arealize more line with a tight energy efficient loop, the faster the rod tip needs to travel during part 2 of the stroke along with the abruptness of the stop.
- **Rod bend:** Remembering that the rod is nothing more than a flexible lever and can only do one thing by itself. That's un-bend. We need to load or bend this lever as far down into the butt as we possibly can. To accomplish this we must rely on the single or double haul.
- **Back cast:** If you have watched any of the great distance casters you noticed that they all watch their back cast. They are insuring they are forming a tight narrow loop. 80% of the success of any cast is determined by the result of the back cast.
- **Amount of line in the air:** In order to cast 80 ft. the caster usually needs to arealize 55 ft. to 60 ft. of line. This means the caster will shoot 20 ft. to 25 ft. Normally most of us will be able to shoot no more than 20 ft. of line, so if you strive to cast over 100 ft. you will need to be able to arealize about 80 ft.

The following are some things that can contribute to ineffective distance casts.

- Trying to arealize too much line for the ability of the caster. Resulting in wide inefficient loops mostly on the back cast.
- Hauling too early in the casting stroke. Normally this will show up as a tailing loop.
- Pushing the stroke instead of pulling thru the stoke.
- Convex path of the rod tip instead of a straight line path
- Not casting in the same plane on the back cast and forward cast.
- Going for the gold on the final cast. The casting arm motion should be just like the prior false cast. The only thing that should change is the velocity and length of the hauling hand on the final cast.

I hope this article will help you achieve good consistent distance in your casts.

*Ed. Note: This is the last fly casting article by Don Simonson. If you study all of them and practice, you should become a better caster. In turn you will be able to put the fly where you want it to catch that special fish.*



From Dave Whitlock Collection



## Federation of Fly Fishers and Boy Scouts of America, BSA

By Mike Clancy, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, West

The FFF has worked with the Boy Scouts throughout the country in promoting fly fishing via the BSA merit badge for fly fishing. The FFF and BSA created a lesson plan for the Fly Fishing merit badge. Both organizations display the lesson plan on their respective web sites.

We do have an incredible pool of experience and talent in our member organizations. It is time to use the experience and talent of our more experienced fly fishers to help educate young people in the sport. Working with youth groups such as the Boy Scouts, local schools and various other youth organizations, is the best way to get more individuals involved in the sport.

Fly casting, fly tying, respect for the resource, catch-and-release and respect for other fishers are subjects that have to be taught.

Our generation and the Federation have an obligation to our youth to

## Directions to WSCFFF Annual Board Meeting

By Kip Keener, Director at Large

I-90 to Ellensburg Exit #109  
North on Canyon Road, which  
becomes Main, for 1.4 miles  
**Rodeo City BBQ**, 204 N. Main  
(NE Corner of Main and 2nd)  
Tel: 509-962-2727

NOTE: they did not mention it, but  
lets park on Main or 2nd, rather  
than use up their very limited  
parking stalls.

preserve and expand our sport.

R. Peter Van Gytenbeek, from the Pacific Northwest, the new CEO for the FFF, is dedicated to educating our youth and others in the sport of fly fishing. It definitely fits with the FFF motto to promote fly fishing through – Conservation, Restoration and Education.

The Washington State Council of the Federation of Flyfishers (WSCFFF) is supporting Van in his ideas, and we are prepared to assist our member clubs to work with the scout troops in their area.

The Puget Sound Fly Fishing Club of Tacoma has worked with scout troop 224 in Tacoma. Four scouts have earned their Fly Fishing merit badge. When a scout earns the merit badge, the FFF will reward the scout with a free 6-month membership in the FFF. Hopefully they will maintain their membership and support the FFF to preserve the pleasure of fly fishing throughout their fishing years.

## Columbia Country

By Bob Bates, VP, Communication

Bob Asbury, Producer of Columbia Country ( Pacific West fishing ), told us they now have the show on KSTW Seattle/Tacoma, Ch. 11, Sunday at 11 AM. About 60 percent of their shows are on fly fishing. It is also on: KVOS, Bellingham; CNW, Vancouver; KFFX, Tri-Cities; KCYU, Yakima; KAYU, Spokane.

## Yakima Outdoors Expo

By Mike Clancy, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, West

The WSCFFF has been invited to participate in the “Yakima Outdoors Expo” sponsored by the Washington Wildlife Coalition. There will be around 900 youth from the Yakima school district, grade school to middle school on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The general public is invited the next day.

Because of the age of the youth, we will conduct casting demonstrations instead of casting classes. They would also like us to demonstrate fly tying and anything pertaining to fly fishing. My past experience with young children is they have more fun at the fish tanks, we also have been asked to staff the tanks. A number of folks have already volunteered their time for this event, but everyone is welcome to participate.

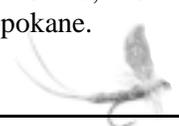
There is an RV park on the grounds of The Sun Dome with electric and water hookups for \$18 a day. No reservations needed. The folks from the Wildlife Coalition are planning a social event on Friday night for the participants. Here is a great opportunity for the FFF to help educate youth on the outdoors and especially fly fishing. More information about the event is on our website:

[www.washingtoncouncilfff.org](http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org).

If you would like to be involved, contact Mike Clancy, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, West,

253-759-3456 or

[mtclancy@earthlink.net](mailto:mtclancy@earthlink.net).



Club E-Mail Tree

By Bob Bates, VP, Communication
Several years ago the WSCFFF started an e-mail tree to provide clubs with timely information.

The intent was to send information to at least one person in a club who could forward items of interest to other members. Contacts for clubs have changed in time. Some give me a new contact, but others just say 'take me off your list.' In those cases I don't know if the club receives any of the information.

Please, club officials, let me know if you are not receiving information like:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife rule changes such as: Special opening and closing of salmon and steelhead fishing, rule changes on lakes and streams, some ocean fishing (not on shrimp, crabs, clams, etc.) and some hunting. Some on poachers caught and punished.

Conservation items affecting fishing.

Availability of reports on a variety of topics that affect fishing.

Proposed legislation that might damage or help fishing. We hope that you will oppose items that would restrict or limit our resources.

A few items dealing with WSCFFF or FFF activities.

If you want your club, or yourself, put on the list, send me an e-mail:

bob-bates@worldnet.att.net



From Dave Whitlock Collection

FYI

There is a great catch and release story making the e-mail rounds. However, You can only read it on the following web page.

http://www.mailtribune.com/archive/2005/0217/sport/stories/03sport.htm

It is about a bait fisherman and a 28-pound steelhead on the Umpqua river.

2005 Northwest Fly Casting Exposition

By Len Zickler, VP, Education

The Northwest Fly Casting Expo is back again, September 24, 2005. This time the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers has arranged to have it at the Tacoma Elks Club. This is a huge facility with many advantages. Plenty of room for the casting competitions and games. Lunch and a buffet dinner are part of the registration fee. Awards will be presented after dinner.

The event is modeled after the style used last year. The 2005 NWFCE will offer a series of casting and fly fishing clinics. In addition to beginning casting clinics, classes will be offered in advanced presentation, the two handed rod, the salt water flats, casting for greater distance and more!! All classes will be taught by FFF Certified or Master Certified instructors and a clinic will be offered for those interested in the FFF certification process.

A youth program will be incorporated in the day's activities to encourage young casters and provide a fun

introduction to fly fishing and casting.

As in past years, a competitive casting event will provide participants the opportunity to show off their casting abilities. The competitive event will include Distance Casting, Accuracy Casting, and the 'Danish Fly Casting Game.' This should be a great experience and continue the 'casting trophy' tradition!

Fly casting games are fun and challenging. They provide opportunity to improve skill, share time with other fly fishers and experience friendly competition.

You may enter as an individual and/or a team of four.

Casting Divisions are Youth (12-16), Men, Women and Seniors (65+). Awards will be given in all Divisions and a 'Grand Champion' will be determined by a 'Shootout' in the Danish Fly Casting Game. If competition does not interest you come play the self directed, nine station, Danish Fly Casting Game.

We are trying to make the day both a rich and affordable experience. The basic registration fee is \$35 for adults (entrance fee, lunch and buffet dinner). The individual casting or fishing classes will be offered at \$25 a class. The specific program details will be finalized and posted soon on the WSCFFF website:

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

Also look for information in your local fly shop in the next month or two.

We are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in the event, have suggestions for clinic topics, or want to volunteer please contact:

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(Continued from page 6)

Len Zickler  
 Phone: (253-383-2422)  
 E-mail: len\_zickler@msn.com  
 for more information.

**2005 NWFCE Casting Clinics  
 (Subject to change):**

**Beginning Fly Casting - with John Reid and Mike Purusse:** Learn how to fly fish! Basic casting, including the roll cast, pick-up and lay-down cast, false cast, shooting line, and playing fish. Equipment, basic knots and fly selection will be discussed.

**Accuracy and Line Control – with Don Simonson:** This is a class for the person who has learned the basics and wants to broaden their casting expertise. The class will focus on more advanced presentation techniques. Prerequisite: the student should be able to cast tight loops in the forward and back casts.

**Casting for Distance - The Double Haul — with Jimmy Lemert:** This will be a really fun class, designed to help you cast further, more easily and accurately, using the double haul. Prerequisite: the student must be able to false cast and shoot line.

**How to Prepare for the FFF Casting Certification Test – Marilyn and Tony Vitale:** This class is designed for students who are interested in fly casting instruction and the FFF certification process. The class will teach you how to prepare, what to study, and the required casts for the test. The class will emphasize what it takes to successfully teach fly casting.

**The Salt Water Flats – with Tony Vitale:** Headed south for some bone, permit or tarpon fishing? This class will focus on the casting techniques and equipment for a successful salt water flats experience. Prerequisite: intermediate to advanced fly fishers.

**The Long Rod – Introduction to Spey Casting — with Aaron Reimer:** This class will be led by Aaron Reimer of River Run Anglers, whose home water was the site of the 2004 NWFCE. Learn the basic Spey casts and their applications for single and two handed rods.

**Youth Fly Fishing Clinic – with Aaron Culley:** A fly fishing clinic designed especially for youth ages 8-15. Participants will learn the basics of fly fishing (equipment, knots, and basic casts) and an appreciation for aquatic environments.

**So You Want To Tie Flies**

*Ed. Note: This article came out in the FFF Clubwire several years ago. It has over 3,000 words so it will be continued next quarter.*

By Mike Livingston, Editor of the Deep Creek Flyfishers of San Bernardino, CA

Every time you set out on a fly fishing excursion you stop by the local fly shop to get the latest information on conditions and flies. Some are local patterns you've not heard of before, others are replacements for those old standbys that broke off in trees or leviathans during your last outing. New or old, they are fascinating to behold. At some point, it strikes you that you'd like to learn the craft.

**SHOW ME THE MONEY**

First, if you're expecting to save money, you might — but certainly not right away, and later, only if you exercise discipline in not buying every newfangled material or technologically improved device.

(Continued on page 8)

**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](http://www.fedflyfishers.org)

Please mail or call us at

**Federation of Fly Fishers**  
**215 E Lewis** 406 222-9369  
**Livingston, MT 59047** 406 222-9369 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 \_\_\_\_\_

(Continued from page 7)

Initially, you can expect to pay about \$100 to \$300 for equipment and materials that will allow you to tie your favorite patterns in a variety of sizes. Truth is, these materials will pay for themselves after you tie 100 to 200 flies. By then, of course, if you were ever concerned with reducing your fly fishing budget, you're not anymore. You want to tie at least a dozen of each pattern in the book you've purchased. God save you if you own more than one pattern book!

TOOLS

VICE

You're going to need a vice. Yeah, yeah right. No, I mean a vice to hold the hook while applying fur and feathers. Now unless you plan to quit your job and tie flies for a living (grounds for divorce in every state except Montana) avoid the Renzetti

Presentation. I think Charlie Cole may have one of these, but he's told Jeanne, his wife, that it was a gift. It's around \$500 and has so many knobs on it you'll likely use most of them to hang spare teabags and Post-It Notes.

On the other end, don't get one of those \$10 jobs if there's any chance you might want to do this more than a few times. A decent vice will cost about \$50. My new vice cost \$125, but only because I whined so much about my \$10 job and swooned over this one thoroughly just before the holidays that my wife was willing to buy it just to shut me up.

This brings up a good point: whenever possible, get others to buy equipment and materials for you. This does two things: first, you can rationalize that you're not out of control with this hobby. Second, it crimps others' justification to lose

their tempers with you, either because of the mess you leave or because you've forgotten you have a job, family, friends, — that is, a life.

OK, so you've got a vice. Now you need a bobbin, scissors, bodkin, hair stacker, eyebrow comb, and whip finisher.

*Continued next quarter with bobbins, scissors and other must have items.*



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

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Gig Harbor WA 98335-0921

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