



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

Washington State Council

Covering the Drift

Volume 27 Issue 2 - April 2023

Washington State Council FFI
Brings you the
Fly Casting Fair
April 29, 2023



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Fly Fishers International and Mountlake Terrace Recreation

Fly Casting Fair



Invite Someone To Join The FFI

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FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI



Home Water



President Steve Jones

Join Us

According to Webster's Unabridged Dictionary fly fishing is "a method of fishing in which an artificial fly is cast by use of a fly rod...." Yes, in its simplest form, that's what it's about. But I'm sure everyone reading this will agree there's much more to it than that.

Listing every aspect of the sport has filled libraries. And beyond the tools and methods there are numerous reasons to fly fish as well. Some fly fish for the pleasure of making a perfect cast. To others it's the reward from creating the best imitation of an insect or prey with fur and feather, or synthetics that shimmer and glow. To many it's just the thrill of watching their hand-tied fly disappear from the surface in a swirl. Then there is that test of skill where the fish either outwits you or you outwit the fish.

Beyond the cast, the fly, or the catch there is the embrace of being part of the natural world. For many of us, understanding how, why and where fish thrive and using that knowledge to catch fish is most rewarding. The phrase "the worst day fishing is better than the best day working" is a statement about that reward. It's more valuable than money. Understanding something well and using that knowledge to engage with and land a fish is a reward we don't find elsewhere. Others who share an appreciation of that process we call fly fishing buddies. Groups of fly fishing buddies are called fly fishing clubs.

Fly Fishers International takes it a step further by gathering clubs into regional groups to further those shared interests like making the best cast, tying the best fly and conserving the natural environment. Those are the goals of the Fly Casting Fair scheduled for April 29 at Ballinger Park. We want to help you improve your cast, tie a fly and engage with the sport and engage with FFI. Membership in FFI is one way to help support events like the Fly Casting. Please join us at the Fair April 29 and join FFI, if you are not already a member.

Greg Sisson, President of the Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds is helping organize volunteers for the event. Greg and I were talking recently about efforts to revive club membership after Covid. He is aware FFI recruits new members at the fair and Greg asked if his club could have a membership table at the event as well.

Greg's idea makes good sense. FFI's strongest base of members come from active clubs like the Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds. Clubs with growing membership grow the opportunity for FFI to both serve the club and recruit members to our regional mission. Our 17 affiliated and charter fly clubs in Washington make us a voice for education and conservation. When clubs grow, we grow which helps us deliver on those goals. So, we're inviting FFI affiliate clubs to send a representative to the Fly Casting Fair at Ballinger Lake April 29 to talk about your clubs alongside FFI.

I've talked with several leaders of Puget Sound area clubs about the idea and the response has been warm. FFI Membership Director Larry Gibbs will have a membership table at the event. There will be space beside him where clubs can present information and have representatives talking about your club, its activities and events.

The last FFI Fly Casting Fair in August 2022 attracted a crowd of about 350 during the day-long event at Ballinger Park. This year we are hoping to host an even larger crowd. If you haven't done so yet, head to WSCFFI.ORG and look through the roster of classes and events that take the sport far beyond "a method of fishing in which an artificial fly is cast by use of a fly rod."

Washington State Council FFI is working to make these Fly Casting Fairs a success and help us grow our membership. And thanks to Greg's idea, we hope your club can grow with us.

Fly Fishers International and Mountlake Terrace Recreation

Fly Casting Fair



**CASTING CLASSES
FLY TYING DEMOS AND TYING CLASSES
SPEY CASTING CLASSES
WALK-IN CASTING CLINIC
CASTING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

**Saturday April 29, 2023 9 am to 4 pm
Ballinger Park, Mountlake Terrace WA**



**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**
Washington State Council

Starting around March 1, you can go on line at:

<https://wscffi.org/>

and sign up and pay any fees for this event.
Class sizes are limited.



Fly Casting Fair

By Steve Jones

April 29



The FFI Fly Casting Fair is back at Ballinger Park in the Mountlake Terrace neighborhood of Seattle and we hope you will join us.

The day-long event April 29 will offer a Walk-In Casting clinic, a skills development course and detailed classes in specific casting skills taught by FFI certified instructors. In addition, FFI will host some of the best fly tiers in the Pacific Northwest in a rotating series of tying sessions. New this year will be two classes on Spey Casting—both single handed and double handed spey. Also new this year will be a Youth Fly Casting Class that is free for kids 10 to 14 years of age, and an Introduction to Fly Tying Class for all ages. Registration is limited, so please head to the Washington State Council FFI Website at WSCFFI.ORG for details and online registration.

In addition to instruction, you can explore ideas about fishing with our conservation and education partners who will be at the event as well. The Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy will have representatives at the event to discuss their week-long summer camp for teenagers. The Coastal Cutthroat Coalition that works to understand and conserve Puget Sound's native trout will have representatives at the Fair to talk about their latest research and Project Healing Waters that serves disabled veterans will be there as well.

Want help solving that annoying tailing loop? Want to figure out the double-haul or develop a better roll cast? Bring your questions to the Walk-In Clinic and spend time with a Certified FFI Casting Instructor. The process will be simple. Bring your own rod. Stop at the registration desk when you arrive and describe what you want to learn, or the problem you want to address. You will be matched with an instructor either individually or in groups of 2 or 3 to work on the skill.

The Skills Development Course will be back this year as well. The course is a fun and easy way to test and develop your cast at your own pace either with the help of an instructor or in casual competition with friends. Like the name says, the course is aimed at helping casters improve aspects of their cast from a reach mend to a double haul. The course also will be set up for participants to challenge themselves to reach Bronze, Silver and Gold casting levels and receive FFI recognition for the accomplishment.

To keep us all on our toes, we will have coffee available for sale throughout the day and lunch for sale beginning at 11:30.

For the best experience, register for one of the detailed classes in specific casting skills. Those 90-minute sessions—in the morning and afternoon—will provide you with the concise instruction that FFI is known for. Classes will be delivered by Certified FFI Casting Instructors. Ryan Smith and Craig Koepler will cover Beginning Fly Casting, Molly Semenik and Todd Somsel will teach Spey Casting. Marion Hiller and Ruth Sims will lead Women's Fly Casting, Tom Cammarata will teach Intermediate Fly Casting, Don Simonson will lead Advanced Fly Casting, Pat Peterman will manage the Walk-in Casting Clinic and Jim Black will lead the Skills Development Course.

These are among the best casting instructors anywhere, right in the Northwest.

And if you are interested in fly tying, we've got you covered too. There will be a series of excellent tiers rotating through stations all day in the Lakeview Room in the lodge adjacent to the casting fields. We will have some of the most accomplished fly tiers in the Northwest and the world, including Dareld Thompson who is the featured tier in Art Lingen's Book "Syd Glassco", Atlantic Salmon fly tier Mike McCoy and accomplished still-water tier Kuni Masuda. There will be ample seating to watch these and other tiers work and time to talk with them as well. For beginning tiers, Instructors Sam Matalone and Vern Jeremica are offering classes to get you off on the right foot.

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Gather your friends and fellow club members and join us at the Fly Casting Fair.

Ballinger Park is an ideal place for an event of this kind. It's in the center of the North Sound area where hundreds of FFI members live. The site was a former golf course. It has a large club house, kitchen and meeting area, all of which will be available to us. Coffee in the morning, lunch at noon – we've got you covered. The parking lot accommodates more than 150 cars and trucks. Enter through the club house and beyond it to the south there is an expansive open lawn leading down to Lake Ballinger. Spey Casting Classes will be held on the water at the beach at the south end of the lawns.

Once you enter the clubhouse from the parking area, there will be a sign in desk. If you have registered for a class you can check your reservation and the time and place on the field where the class will be held. If you simply want to work on a casting skill at the Walk-in Clinic, head to the reception area for the clinic and inquire there about the instructors available and when. Friends can arrive at their leisure and challenge themselves and one another on the Skills Development Course. There may be a wait to begin the course, so you can duck into the building and get a cup of coffee while you wait. While there, take some time to check out the Lakeview Room where there will be fly tying throughout the day.

FFI director and membership chairman Larry Gibbs will have an FFI membership table. There will be information on all 17 Washington affiliate clubs of FFI.

Join us. If you care about recovery of salmon and steelhead in our state, Washington FFI is your partner. If you care about inviting kids and families into our sport, FFI is your partner. If you want to welcome women and veterans into our sport, FFI is your partner. If you want the opportunity to fly fish for all fish in all waters, FFI is your partner. Join Washington FFI on April 29 at Ballinger Park in Mountlake Terrace.

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Fly Tying Tips and Other Assorted Pearls of Wisdom

By Sam Matalone

“It is cheaper to tie your own flies! The easiest person to lie to is yourself”



Do you know the old saying “no good deed goes unpunished?” Well, this became a reality recently on a trip to New Zealand. I gave a friend who does not tie flies, a Christmas gift certificate for 24 trout flies of his choosing. On my last trip to New Zealand before COVID, while fishing the Matura River, I had given him a couple size 18 extended body mayflies. (I seldom use extended body flies; but I thought it made my dry selection look impressive.) You’ve probably guessed what he wanted- extended body mayflies. Now, I had to remember what I had given him. And, I did not have the correct hooks to tie the fly he wanted. So, we compromised. I would tie several different types of extended body mayfly and he would pick which style he wanted.

When it comes to tying size 10-14 extended body flies you have many options: using foam, hollow hair, or commercially made offerings. When tying small flies, your choices are limited. In this article, I will show the methods I found to be most effective. There are other options out there. The advantage to the methods I will describe is that with practice you can easily tie a half a dozen flies in less than an hour.

Let’s begin with looking at the easiest methods, getting a hook which you can utilize to tie an extended body mayfly.



The larger center hook is a TMC 900BL size 12, starting in the left upper corner is a size 20 R200 style, the upper right corner is a hook I bought from England about 30 years ago. I bought about 300 and I am down to the last 25. At the bottom right corner is a TMC 2487 size 18.

With the R200 style hook, utilizing the long curve you can tie a quick “faux” extended body mayfly which looks great and catches fish. Put on a tail, 2-3 fibers of your favorite tail material, here I am using “microfibetts”. Wrap the thread well past the bend of the hook until you are satisfied with the position of the tail. Once this is complete, reposition the hook in the vise such that the point is facing up. After this, complete the body, adding wings plus hackle, and you are done. Since I am covering several different methods, I opted not to do a “Step By Step” for each method. I am just trying to show you options that are available for tying small flies.



The next method will utilize “the hook I got from England”. This by far is the easiest and always produces great looking fly. It is up to your imagination on how simple to how complex of a mayfly to tie on these hooks. I opt for simple and easy.

The next few methods are a little tricky, but with a little practice, they are easily master. The first method utilizes just a hackle feather. You can use any hackle, but I find working with hen hackles easiest. There is a little prep work. In the picture below, I am showing how to prep a hen hackle.



These sit on the water very, very nicely!



Step 1: Select a hen hackle, the trick here is to get tail fibers to the desired length. Typically, tails are 1-to 1 ½ the body length. (Hint: You can use any type of feather. Some work better than others. Duck breast feathers are great for small flies; they have a nice curve in the stem; they have small fibers; and they can be dyed to almost any color.)



This was the style my friend wanted me to tie!

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Step 2: Strip the excess material from the stem of the hackle.

Step 3: Remove the top part of the hackle by cutting the stem such that remaining hackle fibers can be used for a tail. (Hint: Leave about 2-3 fibers on each side of the hackle, in case you break one or two when handling the hackle.)

Step 4: Not including the fibers used for the tail, adjust the hackle fibers to be perpendicular to the stem.

Step 5: With a pair of scissors, trim the hackle fibers in the shape of a tapered body on the stem of the hackle. Please notice the various sizes, I am using the last two feathers on the right side of the page to tie a couple examples.

Hint: On the last feather, I used an orange thread to make a “Wally Wing” type body, for those who want a slightly fuller body. To make this type of body, just pull the hackle fibers towards the base of the hackle and simply tie it off.



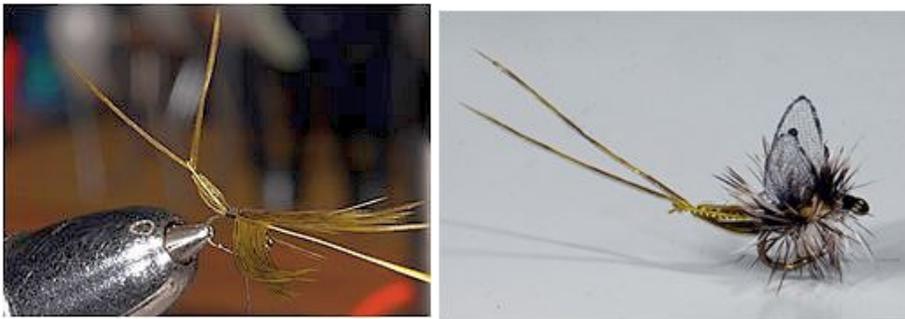
Please note, natural cure of the hackle, this will aid in getting a nice profile for your mayfly



This is the same fly, just a different angle

Basically, attached the extended body to the shank, set your wings and add either CDC for a hackle or a standard dry fly hackle. The wings I used were just a set of burnt wings I made. You can make this into a parachute type fly very easily, I have a friend that make these with two sets of Wally Wings, a large set and a much smaller set.

Below are a couple of pictures of flies using a “Wally Wing” type of body.



Notice the body is slightly fuller utilizing this method

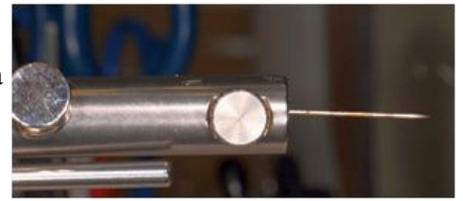
If you look carefully, in the picture above you will see 4 tail fibers. Each side has 2 married fibers. In the next photo of the completed fly, there are only 2 tail fibers. I split each side and cut out a fiber. For 3 tail fibers trim just one.

The last method is to make an extended body on a needle utilizing microfibets and Superfine Dry Fly Dubbing material. Below you will see a few pictures to get the concept across but there are two excellent YouTube videos demonstrating how to do this. Check them out:

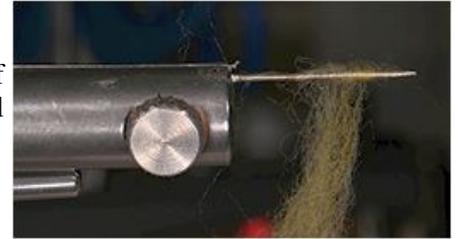
- Extended Body Mayfly Dun by Norm Norlander
- Barry Ord Fly Tying extended mayfly body tutorial

The basic premise is to make a body on a straight pin using long fiber dubbing material. Once the body is complete, coat it with a water-based cement or a silicon based fly tying sealant. Below will be an abbreviated SBS version. (Check out the YouTube videos for more information.)

A rotary vise is essential for this method of making an extended body. I have inserted a straight pin into the vise.



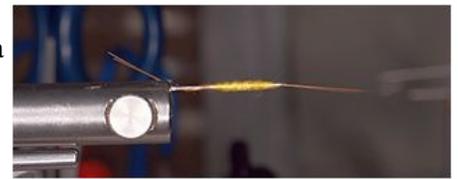
Using long fiber dry fly dubbing material, spin it onto the pin using the rotary function of the vise. It is important that the pin rotates on its axis so there is no wobble. Make a small base of dubbing material approximately twice your desired body length.



Once you have completed your base, attach your microfibetsts using your dubbing material.



Continue building the body until you get your desired shape. At this point, using a water-based head cement, coat the entire body and remove it from the pin and let it dry.



The finish product should look similar to this. While drying, I did put a little bend in the body to give the cured body shape of a Mayfly. Now all that is left is to attach it to a hook and finish the fly as you see fit.



It is an easy fly to tie with a little practice. Now I took the simple approach and did not get complicated with wings, hackle, additional dubbing, etc. It is a small fly and it is meant to be fished!



WSCFFI Awards Nominations

By Sam Matalone

Members affiliated with Washington FFI are engaged in education, conservation, and environmental stewardship statewide. Since the formation of Washington FFI in the 1960s, our members and affiliated clubs have played an invaluable role in conserving and protecting countless acres of stream and riverbank. We bring people together in the vigorous defense of ecosystems and committed efforts to share the best in fly tying, casting, and fishing skills. Each year, the Washington State Council gives up to 7 awards for excellence in education, conservation and leadership to various members and affiliated clubs. In addition, there are numerous national level awards. Each year we go through a nomination and selection process. You and your colleagues are the engine that drives that and FFI awards are a way to say thanks and invite deeper commitment.

Awards nominations are NOW open until May 1st, 2023, with the finalists to be announced in Washington State Council Newsletter Summer edition.

Please, take a minute today to review the awards and nominate your friends for their hard work. You will find on our website:

- ◆ All Council Awards and criteria
- ◆ Past Council Award recipients
- ◆ National Award Recipients (WSCFFI members)
- ◆ Nomination Forms for the following awards:
 - ◆ WSCFFI Fly Fisher of the Year
 - ◆ Washington State Council Fly Tying Hall of Fame Award
 - ◆ The Jimmy Green Memorial Fly Casting Instructors Award
 - ◆ Washington Conservation Award (club or organization)
 - ◆ Mackay Conservation Award (individual)
 - ◆ Club Education Award
 - ◆ Pat Herdt Education Award (individual)

To go to the awards page, copy and paste the following url into your browser:

<https://wscffi.org/award/>

Or

Go to the home page on our website (wscffi.org). On the menu bar at the top of the page place your cursor over "ABOUT US". A drop down menu will appear, click on "AWARDS".

After reviewing the awards, the next step is to nominate one of the unsung heroes in our organization. There is a link to the nomination page on the main page our website (www.wscffi.org) and on the awards page.

If you have any difficulties with the on-line nomination process, please send an email with your nomination to:

webmaster@wscffi.org

It is our desire to get the most qualified candidate for each award. Within all groups there are many unsung heroes who may not get the recognition they deserve. Please, help us to make sure every qualified award recipient is identified.

And, watch our Facebook and Instagram posts for more information.

Send in those nominations!
You have until May 1st, 2023

Fly Casting Tip

Pick-Up and Lay-Down Cast

How do I perform a pick-up and lay-down cast?

Learn to quietly pick up a fly from the water and then efficiently deliver it to its target. Watch the video and download our Pick-Up and Lay-Down Cast lesson to learn more. If you are a member of FFI you can download the full lesson with tips from our Master Casting Instructors. Not a member? Join now to get access to our full fly casting lesson library.



Why is a pick-up and lay down cast important?

We use the Pick-up and Lay-down cast (PULD) to learn and practice an important fly casting building block – how to quietly pick up a fly from the water and then efficiently deliver it to its target.

Preparation

- » Always use a yarn fly and wear eye protection.
- » Start with the fly line laid out straight in front of you with no slack, just on the casting side of your body, with your fly 30 feet away from your feet.
- » See the Roll Cast module to remove slack from the line on water or grass, or just back up if you can on grass.
- » Thumb on top (or “handshake”) grip. » Line pinched against rod handle with forefinger of rod hand.

Steps to a pick-up and lay-down cast

1. Rod tip low to the grass/water with no slack
2. Slowly peel the line off the grass/water to the 10:30 rod position, and without stopping
3. Cast up and back, stopping crisply with the rod vertical at the 12 o’clock position
4. Wait briefly for the line to straighten
5. Cast forward, stopping crisply around the 10:30 position
6. Lower rod tip to grass/water

Already an FFI Member? You can download the full lesson with tips from our Master Casting Instructors. If you are not already logged in, you will be asked to do so.

FFI Members Only

Not a member of FFI yet? When you join, you will have access to the FFI Learning Center Portal, which includes an outstanding library of fly fishing knowledge, skills, and in-depth expertise.

Fly Fishers International - Women Connect

By Trisha Campbell

A Trip To Remember where Women Connect



Women Connect is a not for profit branch of Fly Fishers International. Their goal is to give women the opportunity to experience, learn and participate in the sport of fly fishing.

Since women are getting into Fly Fishing more and more, a number of new opportunities have emerged for all women's fly fishing trips. One can participate in trips around the United States or travel to different parts of the world. They can even join a local fly fishing event and FFI Women Connect can help.

One of the longest established women's fly fishing companies is Reel Women Fly Fishing Adventurers. The owner, Lori-Ann Murphy started providing fly fishing adventures to women in 1992. Lori-Ann is an icon in the fly fishing world. She was the first woman Orvis Endorsed guide and a national champion caster. Lori-Ann was ahead of her time in wanting to creating fly fishing opportunities at affordable price for women.

In February of this year, I took a trip with five other women to San Pedro, Belize with Reel Women Fly Fishing. Three of the women had never experienced salt water fly fishing and three had already been hooked.

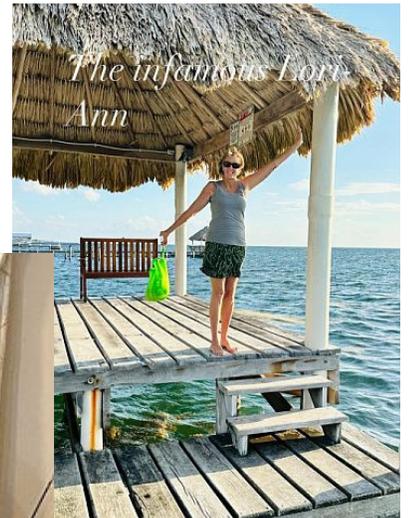
There was six days of Fly Fishing for a variety of species to include Tarpon, Permit and Bonefish. Everyone caught fish, but the best part was the connections made and the fun shared. We came as strangers on an adventure and walked away as friends.

If you are interested in starting or expanding your knowledge, experience and fun in fly fishing, Women Connect can help. Check out Women Connect by going to:

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Get-Involved/FFI-Women-Connect> or on Facebook at FFI Women Connect.

As the FFI Washington Council representative for Women Connect and an FFI Certified Fly Fishing Instructor, my goal is to give more local opportunities for women in fly fishing. Contact me at t.k.campbell.cci@gmail.com

May all your fly fishing dreams come true!



Fly Fishers International - Women Connect

FFI Women Connect Mission Statement



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To create a community of women fly fishers where learning, sharing and inspiration are offered in a safe and non-intimidating environment, to develop and improve fly fishing/ tying skills and, offer new opportunities in a creative and fun manner. To encourage female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry as a whole by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills and build confidence.

FFI Mission Statement: The Mission of FFI is to support, enhance and preserve fly fishing opportunities. Fundamental to this mission is FFI's commitment to support conservation, education and programs to support the fly fishing community.

Definitions: A goal is a description of a destination, and an objective is a measure of the progress that is needed to get to the destination. In this context goals are the long term outcomes you (or the organization) want/need to achieve.

Goal #1 - Outreach: Cultivate, facilitate and maintain connections between and with women and fly fishing related entities that support women fly fishers.

Objectives:

- a. Appoint a Women Fly Fisher Liaison for each Council that leads women only activities at the Council Annual Events.
- b. Create formal/informal partnerships with other groups with similar objectives for Promoting Women in Fly Fishing.
- c. Become a resource for other organizations.
- d. Develop a roster of women to teach skills in the industry.
- e. Have a presence (booth, etc.) at FFI educational events.

Goal #2 - Education - Skills Building: Facilitate and promote educational opportunities for women to improve their fly fishing skills, including but not limited to; fly tying, fly casting, safety, fishing, equipment, entomology, conservation, fly fishing travel, and fly fishing etiquette.

Objectives:

- a. Develop and offer educational opportunities for women who want to begin/advance their fly fishing skills. (i.e. rod building, fly tying, rigging, casting)
- b. Develop, or partner with professional entities, and offer educational opportunities for those wishing to become professionals in the Fly Fishing Industry.
- c. Develop educational resource materials to teach fly fishing skills, with specific instructions on presenting the materials to women.
- d. Educate and empower women to teach and/or become professionals in the industry.
- e. Acknowledge personal safety issues and teach ways to minimize personal, wading and watercraft fly fishing risks and ways to be safe.
- f. Work to create an inclusive environment where all are encouraged to teach others our sport.
- g. Motivate and mentor women fly fishers to achieve their Fly Casting Skills Challenge Medals and/or Fly Tying Medals.
- h. Motivate and mentor women fly fishers to achieve Casting Instruction Certifications.
- i. Teach and practice fly fishing safety and etiquette.

Goal #3 - Conservation Awareness: Promote the awareness of conservation issues, FFI conservation projects and ways to support the conservation of recreational resources.

Objective:

- a. Participate and support FFI Conservation Goals.
- b. Offer conservation events and/or educational opportunities.
- c. Develop program to educate the fishing community to preserve and protect our resources.

Goal #4 - Social: Provide and promote opportunities for women to meet like-minded women fly fishers via social and travel opportunities; thereby, creating lasting friendships.

Objectives:

- a. Establish a Women Connect Private Social Media Group – that allows all member to contribute.
- b. Create a Women Connect Web Page within the Learning Center homepage now, and within the FFI website once Women Connect becomes an independent committee.
- c. Host women specific events at the Annual Fair and beyond. (Examples include educational events that can be utilized by the Learning Center, social, and fishing events.

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FFI Women Connect Launches The Connection

New for 2023, The Connection is the official quarterly newsletter of FFI Women Connect. FFI Women Connect encourages female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills, network with other women fly fishers, and come together for fly fishing.

- c. Host women specific events at the Annual Fair and beyond. (Examples include educational events that can be utilized by the Learning Center, social, and fishing events.

Goal #5 - Leadership: Encourage and prepare women to assume leadership roles in FFI and the Fly Fishing Industry
Objectives:

- a. Train women to become leaders in FFI and beyond.
- b. Work to make Women Connect a Committee of the Board of Directors, rather than a subcommittee of the Education Committee, while continuing to have a presence on the Education Committee.
- c. Appoint women representatives to the Board of Directors
- d. Select a woman for each committee of the Board of Directors.
- e. Facilitate planning the Women Connect educational opportunities of FFI.
- f. Train and cross-train women in each leadership/educational role to assume greater responsibility in that role.

Goal #6 - Inclusiveness: Cultivate an inclusive community within FFI.

Objectives:

- a. Increase the number of classes taught by co-ed teams.
- b. Add more co-ed classes taught by women to the FFI Fair educational opportunities.
- c. Encourage (Motivate) women to take co-ed classes.



Casting for Recovery
castingforrecovery.org



Casting for Recovery Northern Idaho/Eastern Washington applications are open for our 2023 Retreat on June 9-11, 2023 in Harrison, Idaho on Lake Couer d' Alene. This retreat cover the five Eastern most counties of Washington State to include Spokane Washington.

To apply for the North Idaho/Eastern Washington CfR retreat, visit <https://castingforrecovery.org/retreats/> and apply for North Idaho. The application deadline is coming up soon.

Casting for Recovery (CfR) provides healing retreats for women with breast cancer, at no cost to the participants. CfR's retreats offer opportunities for women to find inspiration, discover renewed energy for life, and experience healing connections with other women and with nature. The retreats are open to women with breast cancer of all ages, in all stages of treatment and recovery.

For over 25 years, women from all walks of life have benefited from CfR's inspiring program. You can as well, apply today.



The Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

By Carol Anderson



This newsletter I want to focus on why we need to passionately support all kids and programs to teach fly fishing and aquatic conservation. We need to do this to not only protect our ecosystems but wholeheartedly embrace our youth growing into adulthood with positive skills and attitudes.

Here is what Deighan Cherry, the founder of Fly Girl Global wrote in a recent newsletter for FFI Women's Connect,

FLY GIRL GLOBAL by Deighan Cherry, age 12:

"The hardest part of fly fishing, for me at least, isn't the casting or the tying or even finding the fish. It's finding girls my age to fish with. I grew up fly fishing with my dad in Texas, not a state known for fly fishing, but you can fish any day of the year, and we pretty much do. I wondered why I didn't see other girls fly fishing with their dads. It is so fun. When I was seven, someone at school told me that fishing was for boys. That was scary because I had never met another girl who fly fished. Was he right?"

"When the Covid pandemic started, we had a shelter in place order. Many of our fishing holes were closed and we spent a lot of time tying flies. I also spent a lot of time on Instagram hoping I would find girls my age who fly fished. I found Elena in the Caymans, and Lydia in England and we started tying flies together online. We were tying live stream on Instagram and noticed in the comments that other girls were watching. Some of them were even tying along with us. That's how @fly_girl_global started. We added girls from Norway, New Zealand, Chile, and Argentina before Christmas. Last year we added girls in Japan and Uganda, putting our group on all 6 populated continents."

Kids that internalize a love of flyfishing whether on a stream, a river, lake, or the ocean will place a higher importance on protecting those ecosystems. Currently FFI and TU easily embrace adult volunteers for fishing skills and conservation efforts.

WSCFFI in collaboration with TU's youth education efforts encompass a range of programs and projects known as the Stream of Engagement, serving children, teenagers, and young adults. We believe young people are the next generation of environmental stewards and conservation champions.

By interacting with youth, not only do we introduce young people to conservation science, but the joy of angling for wild fish. TU consists of comprehensive resources to Coldwater conservation for young people, ranging from Stream Explorers and Trout in the Classroom as primary students all the way to our Five Rivers Program for college students.

The annual Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy shares the TU mission and works cooperatively with TU and the stream of engagement effort. This collaboration is an additional opportunity for the Washington State Council of FFI to expand our efforts to further youth flyfishing education for kids ages 12-16.

This year, our week-long camp program received a complete update of both venue and program content, and as a result, also an increase in cost. Previously TU, WSCFFI and local industry donations sponsored kids in need to this camp to everything about fly fishing and immerse themselves in the wonder of our aquatic environment. This year, the camp needs expanded financial support due to increased venue costs. Please help by offering donations to this program. Visit the new [NWYCFFA](#) academy website to learn more, donate to sponsor your favorite teenager.

We must support NWYCFFA education for not only our own, but kids in neighboring communities, to learn to identify not only insects and fish, but invasive species and pollutants as well. Let's make sure there are many generations of new fishing people growing up not only replace the older generations, but to care enough about the environment today.

When kids, as young as 8 years, know a stonefly can express the health of a body of water, they can initiate conservation steps to improve that ecosystem health. If they never learn this, our planet's ecosystems will continue to degrade until the fish and insects die out or are replaced by toxic chemicals and trash.

Again, from Deighan Cherry: *"The best part for me by far is traveling to fish with my friends. Although I haven't left the US to fish yet, I have fished with my FGG friends in twelve different states."*

BTW, two weeks ago, Deighan beat Meredith McCord, a Houston based professional caster, in a casting competition at the Fly Fishing Show in Denver, CO.

Let's continue to support kids learning fly fishing and casting! It is a small investment in the future of our sport and the mental health of our youth!

Also, please pass on this Instagram link to all the young girls you know, right now! [@fly_girl_global](#)



This one is Deighan Cherry



Fly Fishers International and Mountlake Terrace Recreation

Fly Casting Fair



**CASTING CLASSES
FLY TYING DEMOS AND TYING CLASSES
SPEY CASTING CLASSES
WALK-IN CASTING CLINIC
CASTING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

**Saturday April 29, 2023 9 am to 4 pm
Ballinger Park, Mountlake Terrace WA**



**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**
Washington State Council





A FFI grant provided funds to Wild Steelhead Coalition & Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club for the purchase of 8 acres of private land to open public access to Grande Ronde river front.

Apply for a grant

Applications are Accepted Year Round

Conservation is one of the founding principles of the Fly Fishers International. Contributing over 50 years of conservation work, FFI is proud to continue protecting our fisheries and angling opportunities for the future. While FFI focuses on providing grants to its clubs and councils, grants from outside organizations will be considered as well.

Requirements of Grant Applicants & Guidelines of the Program

- ◆ Describe and quantify the problem and need
- ◆ Describe and quantify the anticipated solutions
- ◆ Describe and quantify the anticipated benefits
- ◆ Detailed budget information
- ◆ Names of other organizations/agencies providing funding and amount they are providing.
- ◆ Maximum award will be \$3,000
- ◆ Club or organization must receive the endorsement of the Council prior to submitting an application

Forms: Grant Proposal Guidelines - Go to the FFI website / Grant Application Form - Go to the FFI website

Please note: You must DOWNLOAD the form in order to use the "fillable" form fields. The fields will not respond if you do not download it and save it to your computer. The download icon (paper with down arrow on top) is normally in the upper right corner of the page just below the URL address bar.

Conservation Projects Funded Through the Grant Program

2022

Western Rocky Mountain & Oregon / Boise Valley Fly Fishers - Gravel augmentation Sand Hollow reach on the Owyhee River

2021

Western Rocky Mountain / Greater Yellowstone Coalition - Conservation of cutthroat trout in Crandell Creek

Eastern Rocky Mountain / Pueblo Tailwater Renegades - Maintain and improve in-stream habitat in the upper portion of the Pueblo tailwater

Great Lakes / Conservation Resource Alliance - River bank stabilization along railroad track

2020

Eastern Rocky Mountain / Arizona Flycasters Club - Restoration of fishing point at the R-C Scout Ranch, a camp operated by BSA Scouting Grand Canyon Council (GCC) in Gila County, Arizona.

Oregon / Pacific Rivers - Youth-driven research program on the world famous steelhead trout population of the North Umpqua River in Douglas County, Oregon

ALL / Keep Fish Wet - Assist with educational video to instruct fishers how to keep fish wet

Washington / Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers - Monitoring Equipment for Upper Icicle and Entiat Rivers

Great Lakes / Conservation Resource Alliance-Reduce sediment transport causing habitat decline in a section of the Pine River by using fieldstone, boulders, and large wood to stabilize steep eroding bluffs while enhancing aquatic biota habitat.

Western Rocky Mountain / Boise Valley Fly Fishers - Gravel augmentation to a side-channel of the Boise River having good habitat for spawning trout.

ALL Osprey Steelhead Journal FFI funding for Osprey journal.

2019

Oregon / Friends of the Greensprings & Rogue Fly Fishers - Upper Rogue Monitoring Equipment

Washington State / Wild Steelhead Coalition & Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club -Grande Ronde Conservation Easement Purchase

Great Lakes / Pere Marquette Watershed Council - Pere Marquette Railroad Embankment Restoration

Southwest / Sespe Fly Fishers - Steelhead Habitat Restoration-Ventura River

Texas / Texas Council - Llano River Restoration

Even during the Covid pandemic grants were given and work was being done to help in our conservation effort.

The list of projects granted funds goes way back. Go to the FFI website to read about more of them.



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Positive Developments on Three Important Conservation Efforts



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

2023 has begun with protections for the Bristol Bay headwaters and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, as well as the reinstatement of roadless rules in the Tongass National Forest.

Under its Clean Water Act Section 404(c) authority, the Environmental Protection Agency has issued a Final Determination limiting the disposal of dredged and fill material associated with developing the proposed Pebble Mine. The EPA decision prohibits the South Fork Koktuli River and North Fork Koktuli River watersheds as disposal sites for the discharge of dredged or fill material for the construction and routine operation of the mine plan described in Pebble Limited Partnership's June 8, 2020, Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit application.

This development represents a major victory in the effort to protect the most productive wild salmon ecosystem in the world. Fly Fishers International has been an active collaborator alongside our many conservation partners in advocating for protections of Bristol Bay like this most recent action by the EPA.

Tom Logan, FFI Board Member and Conservation Committee Chair, on this recent EPA action:

"Fly Fishers International has worked with our many Conservation Partners for decades providing 'public' and "technical comment' illustrating the undeniable threats the proposed Pebble Mine and other mining operations would impart on the Bristol Bay system and the world-class salmon fishery it supports. The Environmental Protection Agency is to be applauded for their 'Final Determination' that is based upon 'best available science' to establish permanent protection to the Bristol Bay Watershed. Protection of Bristol Bay in this manner serves as a global example of how important it is to preserve health and function of our natural landscapes for fish, wildlife, our own qualities of life and the planet!"

While this certainly represents a major win for FFI and our Conservation Partners, the month of January also brought good news in ongoing efforts to protect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and maintain the roadless rules in the Tongass National Forest.

On January 26th, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland signed Public Land Order 7917 withdrawing approximately 225,504 acres in the Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota from disposition under the United States mineral and geothermal leasing laws for a 20-year period, subject to valid existing rights. This action will help protect the Rainy River watershed, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, from the potential adverse impacts of new mineral and geothermal exploration and development.

One day before, on January 25th, the U.S. Department of Agriculture finalized protections for the Tongass National Forest in Alaska. The USDA's final rule repeals the 2020 Alaska Roadless Rule and restores longstanding roadless protections to 9.37 million acres of roadless areas that support the ecological, economic and cultural values of Southeastern Alaska.

Tom Logan on these important steps:

On the BWCAW:

"The US Forest Service is to be applauded for their decision to protect 225,504 acres of the Rainey River Headwaters from future mining of minerals. The decision is particularly significant when we consider the watershed nourishes more than 3 million acres of natural landscapes that comprise the iconic Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Superior National Forest. This natural area is rich with fish, wildlife and recreational opportunities that include fly fishing for our members. Perhaps more importantly it's diverse plant communities will continue to do what plants do, which is to capture and store atmospheric carbons and use them in their chemical processing and respiration of oxygen and water vapor that is of critical importance to our own qualities of life."

On the Tongass National Forest:

"Many of us will never have the opportunity to visit the Tongass National Forest that was established in 1907 by Theodore Roosevelt. Still, we appreciate it's natural values and applaud the recent determination of the US Forest Service to designate more than 9 million acres of this world's largest temperate rainforest as a "roadless area". The area has been subject to decades of destructive logging and this important roadless designation will now protect this vast and biologically rich natural landscape from clear-cut logging of it's old-growth forests. The decision serves as a global model for protection of natural landscapes that support fisheries, wildlife and plant communities that do what plants do; they capture and store carbon in their essential processing of oxygen and water vapor for all animal life. Protection of fish and wildlife habitat in this manner is good for the planet!"



Fly Fishers International Awarded Funding to Step Up Recruitment and Learning



Two New Programs to Engage Youth and Novice Anglers and Extend Partnerships with Trout Unlimited and AFFTA

Fly Fishers International is excited to announce significant funding for two distinct new programs designed to engage and inspire youth and novice anglers interested in learning more about fly fishing. Both the youth and introductory fly fishing education programs will build on FFI's culture of mentorship and teaching, and be developed in partnership with other leading organizations in the sector. The programs will complement FFI's robust online and in-person resources for fly fishing education, and will focus on content and style that reflects evolving trends for learning and engagement.

"FFI's role as a the go-to resource for fly fishing education will be further strengthened by the addition of these two new programs," said Patrick Berry, President and CEO of FFI. "By working with key partners and industry representatives, we will be able to create more universal programs to grow the sport we love."

The "Next Gen" youth program funded by the YOT Full Circle Foundation is being developed in partnership with Trout Unlimited to educate and inspire the next generation of fly fishing enthusiasts through a series of videos, tutorials, and social media campaigns. The program will not only teach essential fly fishing skills and instill an enduring conservation ethic, but will empower adult volunteers and instructors to engage youth and their families through fly fishing. This collaborative endeavor will capitalize on the respective strengths of each organization and will be supported by a select working group that includes representatives from the target audience.

"Trout Unlimited is thrilled to partner with FFI and take our youth outreach and education to the next level," said Chris Wood, Trout Unlimited's President and CEO. "Educating the next generation of anglers and conservationists has long been one of TU's top priorities, and this new collaboration will further our efforts by making resources and information readily available to any young person interested in the lifetime sport of fly fishing."

A second but related fly fishing skills achievement program funded by the Howe Foundation will be designed to provide a friendly and accessible gateway for anyone who has an interest in fly fishing and allow them to approach the sport regardless of their experience in fly fishing. Starting with an easy-to-understand course of learning that participants can consume at their own pace, the program will offer an organized road map to guide their further exploration of the sport. Along with the FFI Education Committee, the program will be developed in collaboration with the American Fly Fishing Trade Association (AFFTA) and supported by a select steering committee from across the fly fishing industry.

"AFFTA knows the importance of having a well thought out, inviting and all encompassing program to get new participants into this sport and industry we all love. Partnering with FFI on this endeavor is exactly the type of strategic partnership we need in order to ensure that all are welcomed into fly fishing and those who found the sport are more likely to stay" said Executive Director of AFFTA, Lucas Bissett.

Visit flyfishersinternational.org/learn to explore the FFI Learning Center resources available for fly fishers at all levels of experience.

Become an International Affiliate Club

Why Become an International Affiliate Club of FFI?

FFI has the distinctive mission to preserve the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters, supported by our members in 44 countries across the globe. When you build and support an FFI affiliate club in your country, you help build our community of fly fishing enthusiasts who join together to share their passion for the sport we love.

Membership Incentive & Industry Partner Program

With FFI's Membership Incentive Program, for every 12 new FFI members your club recruits, your club receives \$75 towards the purchase of merchandise in our Industry Partner Program. Our leading industry partners provide products at discounts for club fundraisers, education events, member recruitment, and encouragement in local projects. Availability will be based on our partners' willingness to ship internationally.

Learning Center

The FFI Learning Center represents to premier source of fly fishing education material found anywhere online. Our quality-selected library of videos, articles, manuals, and workshops developed by FFI and sourced by some of the foremost experts in the world will inspire any level of fly fisher to improve their skills. We invite all of our clubs to use this unmatched resource to help their members enhance knowledge of casting, fly tying, conservation, and fly fishing skills. Click here to see what's available in the Learning Center.

Conservation & Education

Conservation and education are two of the primary focus areas of FFI, and we are proud to provide grants for conservation and education projects to councils, clubs, and other organizations supporting our mission Habitat restoration and education activities are a top priorities for the program. In addition, we offer scholarships for students focused on fisheries or conservation as they earn their degrees. You can find out more information here (Hyperlink the word "here.")

FFI also recognizes our members through the Awards Program for their work in conservation and education. Click here for more information about the awards program. Deadline to submit a nomination is April 1 each year.

Additional Benefits

- » FFI HQ staff support
- » Flyfisher magazine
- » Club mapped & listed on FFI website
- » FFI E-News
- » Access to Speakers Bureau portal
- » FFI ClubWire Newsletter Service
- » Regular fly fishing educational material communications on Casting, Fly Tying, Conservation, etc
- » New and existing toolkits for clubs and councils for club operations, fund raising, membership campaigns, etc.
- » Access to FFI Online content on various topics around fly fishing education
- » FFI calendar & social media postings of your events

How to become an FFI International Affiliate Club / Requirements:

A group wishing to become an International Affiliate Club will need to be an existing club formed in accordance with local country regulations dealing with non-profit organizations. Since these regulations vary by country, FFI is not in a position to give guidance on the formation of a new organization. Other requirements include:

At least three club officers (three top leadership positions) must be FFI members.

The initial and yearly information submitted by the club should include a list of officers (President, VP, Secretary, and Treasurer) and contact person, number of total club members, and other as determined by FFI HQ.

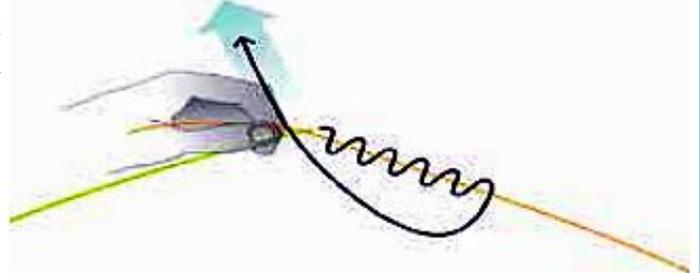
The club will provide a list of club membership, including contact information for FFI's use. FFI will use the member contact information to distribute fly fishing educational material and to send information about FFI membership benefits to the club members. FFI will only use the contact information for these purposes and will not share the contact information outside of FFI. The club members will be given the opportunity to "opt out" of these communications if they desire.

Download the International Affiliate Club from the FFI website.

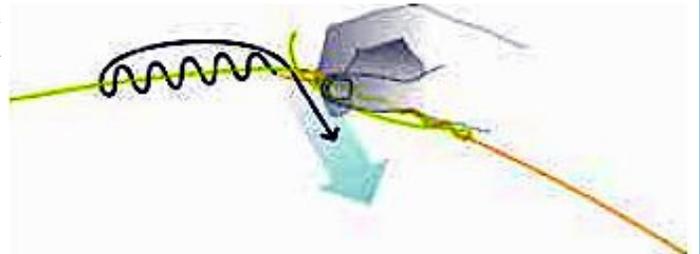
BLOOD KNOT

The Blood knot can be used to join two lines together. The Blood Knot is a tried and true fishing knot and a favorite of fly fishermen. The Blood Knot can be used to add tippet to a leader, but it is also a good knot to connect backing to fly line, or fly line to leader, in place of a loop-to-loop connection. The strength of the knot is increased by making at least 5 and up to 7 wraps on each side of the knot. It works best with lines of approximately equal diameter.

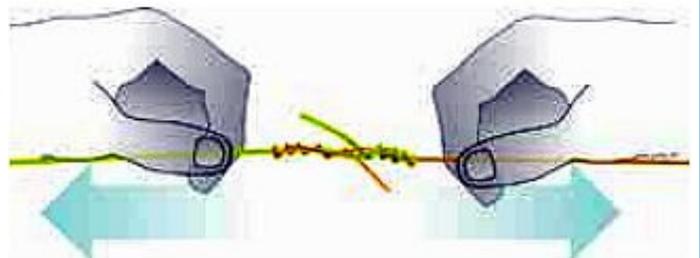
1. Overlap ends of lines to be joined. Twist one tag end around the other making five (5) turns. Bring tag end back between the two lines.



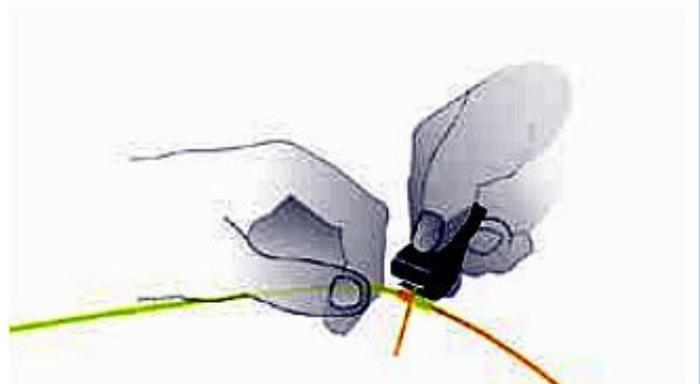
2. Repeat with the other end wrapping in opposite direction the same number of turns. Then insert the second tag end through the loop between the two lines, in the opposite direction from the first tag end.



3. Slowly pull lines in opposite directions. Turns will wrap and gather. Clip ends close to the knot.



4. Cut the tag ends.



Lending a hand in Oregon

By Steve Jones

Several members of Washington State Council FFI were lending a hand to our friends at Oregon FFI over the weekend of March 10-11 at the NW Fly Tye and Fly Fishing Expo in Albany.

The first post-covid Expo attracted more than 170 tiers from across the West and many helpers from the Washington State Council.

Washington State Council FFI directors Mike Clancy and Larry Gibbs (shown in photos) helped by manning the FFI membership table throughout the Expo. Director Jay Woodbury was there helping out at the Project Healing Waters booth.

There were more than two-dozen Washington members in the ranks of fly tiers at the event. Bill Reisbick, of the Overlake Fly Fishing Club, was a demonstration tier and regular helper at the kids tying table. In the photo Bill is helping Mena Beck of Eugene make her first fly.



Mike Clancy & Larry Gibbs



Jay Woodbury



Bill Reisbick & Mena Beck



Fly Fishing Collection at Western Washington University

By Steve Raymond



Fly fishers tend to be secretive about their favorite waters, and with good reason; nobody wants to see their favorite places overcrowded or overfished. But there's a place in Washington State that needs more exposure—the Fly Fishing Collection at Western Washington University in Bellingham, a treasure of Northwest fly-fishing history, art, books and transcripts of interviews with many celebrated Northwest anglers. Much of it is easily accessible from your home computer, and it's all free. But few people know about it, and it needs more visitors to justify its existence and future development.

The heart of the collection, and the most accessible part, is the series of oral histories. Here you can enjoy the reminiscences of many Northwest fly-fishing luminaries, including Alec Jackson, fly tyer, antiquarian and hook manufacturer; Art Lingren, British Columbia fly-fishing historian; Bill McMillan, writer and wild steelhead advocate; Bill Nelson, a founder of the Federation of Fly Fishers; Dave Hughes, Oregon's prolific angling writer; Frank Moore, owner of Steamboat Inn on the North Umpqua; George McCleod, originator of the Skykomish Sunrise steelhead fly; Gil Nyerges, originator of the Nyerges Nymph; Harry Lemire, tyer of classic Atlantic salmon flies; Henry Hoffman, breeder of genetic hackle; Jim Johnston, Washington biologist who fought for more enlightened fisheries management; Fenton Roskelly, outdoor editor of the Spokane Spokesman Review; Peter McVey, master bamboo rod builder and longtime chef at Corbett Lake County Inn in British Columbia, and many more.

All these histories are preserved as easy-to-read printed transcripts of oral history recordings (federal law prohibits access to the original recordings). To access the histories, Google the following words:

Fly fishing oral histories at Western Washington University library.

From the resulting options, select:

Fly Fishing Oral Histories-MABEL

Click on that and scroll down to a directory of all the histories (be patient; it usually takes a moment or two for the system to find its way).

The Fly Fishing Collection was founded about 20 years ago after a sizeable donation to the university libraries by Paul Ford, retired WWU vice president and provost, and his wife, Mary Ann Ford (Paul also is author of the book *Beloved Waters*). Their donations, repeated annually ever since, inspired establishment of the collection, and the university enlisted a small advisory group of fly fishers to guide the library's Special Collections and Archives staff in managing the collection. Since then, in addition to annual donations by Paul and Mary Ann Ford, the collection has acquired book collections from the late David Ishii, owner of a famous bookstore in Seattle's Pioneer Square; the late Lory Watkins, a well-known collector, and many other individuals. Some of these books are rare and valuable and may be examined only within the secure confines of Special Collections on the sixth floor of the Wilson Library on the WWU campus. However, the donations also included many duplicates, which have been placed in general circulation where they may be checked out under some circumstances by persons unaffiliated with the university (it helps if you're a resident of Whatcom County).

The Fly Fishing Collection also includes artwork and a small selection of fly-fishing artifacts, including an exceedingly rare spiral-built bamboo fly rod made by the late Letcher Lambuth. All these items are in Special Collections, but nearby on the WWU campus is the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies with another treasure of historic collections, including photographs by famous Bellingham steelhead fly fisher and fly tyer Ralph Wahl. Among them are the photos that appeared in Wahl's classic book, *Come Wade the River*, along with the inspiring words of author Roderick Haig-Brown. Members of the public may see these items by appointment at Special Collections and Archives in the Wilson Library or at the Center for Pacific Northwest Studies. You can find out how to schedule appointments and what to expect if you visit at:

<https://library.wwu.edu/access-and-use-collections>

So consider yourself invited to browse the oral-history transcripts and visit the collections; they both need your attention and support.

Western Washington University - 516 High St, Bellingham, WA 98225

My days on the River Test

(by Jorge Trucco)



Kuni Masuda FFI
International Outreach



Jorge Trucco

When I told Paula Eddy that I would be fishing the River Alta in northern Norway in June of 2022 thanks to my good friend Andy Majerus' invitation, she kindly told me to extend my trip and fly to England to fish the beat on the River Test that she managed. I had fished the Alta twice before but I had never fished Hampshire's chalk streams.

I knew Paula from many years at Estancia Quemquemtreu in the Patagonia Region of Argentina where she used to manage the fishing lodge on the Collon-Cura River.

The beat on the Test is called "Butcher's Mead", between Chilbolton and Wherwell, upstream from Wherwell Priory. The beat once belonged to Lady Brecknock who was married to Lord Camdom. Ian McMullen became the next owner and now Paula is managing it.

The thought of fishing on the River Test was like going back to the very roots of fly-fishing, where everything started. To say I was excited was an understatement.

I stayed at a cute apartment in the attractive neighborhood of Broughton, Stockbridge. The day after my arrival I went to Stockbridge to visit Alistair Robjent, owner of one of the main fly-fishing shops in the area. Alistair came across like a very pleasant and knowledgeable guy and he told me some secrets about the Test and how to fish it. He even gave me six flies he tied himself that he called "Daddy Long-Legs". The fly looked like a spider with 8 long legs tied with peacock herl for the body, brown hackle at the neck and pheasant fibers for the legs. They were beautiful; I didn't know whether to fish them or frame them.

I learned many interesting things related to the River Test. I learned about the river keepers, all the different things they did and the way they took care of it..cutting the weeds, mowing the river banks, trimming the trees, and all the rules related to fishing it. There are quite a lot of rules for fishing trout rivers in England and the Test is no exception. Mainly it is all dry-fly upstream fishing on the designated beat from the designated bank and no wading. The rules are not meant to be broken.

The River Test is surely the pre-eminent chalkstream, and it may very well be the most famous trout stream in the world. It flows for 40 miles from source to estuary and it runs through some of the most picturesque villages in Hampshire. It is spectacularly scenic and unique. The scenery, the landscape...everything is so strikingly beautiful, it is hard to describe. I was told that the Test could be difficult fishing at times; often quite technical. Anyway, all I wanted was to be there and to be able to hook, land and release at least one fish, so I could say "I've been there...I've done it!"

My first day on the river was memorable. I stood on a narrow bridge watching the river and all the things that surrounded it. It was magical. The water is gin-clear but the bottom is somewhat dark. You can see the weeds and the chalkstream bottom. You can also see the fish. I was able to spot several rising fish so I started thinking up my approach plan. There were some sporadic mayfly hatches going on, but nothing consistent. The rises were sporadic too...this is early July on the Test.

In view of all this I decided to try Alistair's "Daddy Long-Legs" and that was the ticket that afternoon. I was able to hook and land eight beautiful brown trout that went after my fly like there is no tomorrow.

That evening, after stopping for a drink at the famous pub called "The Mayfly", right by the River Test, I went back to my apartment thinking that I had it figured out. Well, fishing is fishing, and a fisherman needs to know that when he thinks he's got it figured out, well...he doesn't.

The following days the fish would pay little attention to my "magic fly". Therefore, I had to pay way more attention to hatches and what they were feeding on, and find the right fly each moment. I went through my fly box and tried different mayfly patterns in view of the brief hatches I was seeing. It wasn't as easy as the first day but the fish would take my #18 CDCs, my #16 Adams and even my #20 Compara Duns besides some other mayfly patterns.

Almost all the trout I caught were browns, a few were rainbows and I also landed a few grayling. At times they became selective and the fishing was really technical. A perfect dead drift was needed as well as a good presentation and a lot of line-mending.

I found the Test to be very challenging, but at the same time, a really rewarding river. There were times I had to work hard to hook those rising browns by the far bank. Sometimes I succeeded but often times I did not. That permanent challenge was really the exciting element in fishing the river. The Test is truly a joy to fish.

My days on the River Test were memorable to say the least. My expectations were vastly exceeded and I enjoyed every bit of it. I left England with the intimate feeling that I'll be back, hopefully sooner than later!

Continued on page 25 —>

Gear and tackle provided to me:

Rod: Loomis GLX 9' #6

Reel: Hardy "St George"

Line: Rio WF6F

Tippet: 4X and 5X

Flies: All the regular dry-fly patterns that I use in Patagonia to fish the Malleo and the Chimehuin plus the "Daddy Long-Legs" flies that Alistair Robjent kindly gave me.



Editor's Note:

For an excellent read to pass the time, get a copy of

"A Summer On The Test"

By John Waller Hills

Help jumpstart Bhutan's new recreational angling program!

NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN BHUTAN

Prior to 2022, angling in Bhutan was only open under special arrangements. Bhutan has now opened their rivers to the angling world with their new recreational fishing program, and they need help to make this new endeavor a success.

Fishing is a new sport in this small Buddhist Kingdom and there is a lot to do with initiating flyfishing schools, training guides, and establishing outfitters. One of the challenges is currently there is nowhere in country to obtain fishing equipment.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Have any flyfishing equipment that is sitting unused in your garage? Upgraded to a new rod and are ready to donate your old one? Need an excuse to buy a new reel? If so, consider donating your used equipment to the budding flyfishers in Bhutan.

Bhutan has both Mahseer fishing and Trout fishing, so a range of rods and reel sizes are needed (3 to 10 weight). Flies, fly boxes, fishing packs, nippers, leaders, tippet, and fly line are also welcome.



To make a donation, simply send your equipment to the address below and we will personally deliver it to the programs and people in need. Equipment can be mailed to:

Fisheries Conservation Foundation • 302 E. Green Street #2102 • Champaign, IL 61825



A tax letter to acknowledge your donation will be provided.

Helping Build a Nation and Create a New Fishing Destination!

Written by Bryant Dunn and Sam Matalone



Can you imagine what our fishing opportunities today might have been if 25 or 30 years our Western states had taken a proactive approach to protecting rivers, as well as salmon and steelhead? Most likely, our west coast salmon and steelhead populations would be significantly higher than they are today. We have an opportunity to help the small nation of Bhutan with their efforts to protect their waters, create a new international fishing destination and build their economy.

With it's proactive position with regards to conservation, the Bhutan government has teamed up with Fisheries Conservation Foundation. In addition, Bhutan sought tap into the knowledge base of the FFI and FFI now has an international ambassador to Bhutan, Bryant Dunn. These partnerships are working to get fly fishing equipment into the hands of fisherman, to develop the skills and love of the sport that can one day lead to knowledgeable guides.

So how can we help? Unfortunately, there is very little to non-existing infrastructure to fly fishing: as in, there is no fly shop in the nation of Burma. We need donations of unused fly fishing equipment: reels, fly lines, waders, etc. (A requested list can be found below.) As you go through your spring cleaning, if there is any equipment that hasn't been used for a while or you meant to sell or give it away, consider donating to Bhutan. Our club would like to make a serious dent in the goal to gather a couple hundred outfits to help establish a community of fishing guides.



Bhutan
Small constitutional kingdom
Land-locked
Located in the Himalayan Mountains
India is to the South, China to the North
15,000 sq. Miles (1/10th size of California)
Less than a million people
2022 income per capita: \$3,226
International airport: Paro
Capital: Thimphu

Rich in Culture and Biodiversity
ONLY country in the world with a carbon NEGATIVE print
By constitution, MUST retain 60% forest cover
49% of land protected as national reserves & parks, all linked with an environmental corridor
Contains 11 of 13 temperate climate zones
Environmental conservation is at the core of the nation's development strategy

Requested Equipment:

Rods/Reels:

3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 weights with matched reels
(On larger sizes, large arbors are a must for quick line retrieval)

Lines:

Floating lines matched to the rod weights (or overweighted by one weight)
Sinktip lines for streamer fishing and nymphing larger rivers

Continued on page 28 

Guide Equipment:

- Nippers
- Hemostats/pliers
- Nets (appropriate for trout and/or salmon or steelhead)
- Floatant
- Hook files
- Strike indicators
- Fishing vests or other similar apparel
- Leaders and tippet (0X-6X or 16lb to 40lb)
- Splitshot
- Polarized glasses with retainers (Chums)
- Lanyards
- Bufs/neck gaitors
- Sun/stripping gloves
- Neoprene wading socks/gravel guards
- Waders
- Wading boots (felt AND rubber are allowed)
- Wading belts
- Knot tying books/guides



Flies: (Standard mayfly, stonefly and caddis adult and nymph patterns work well in Bhutan as do woolly buggers and other streamers. Sculpin and minnow patterns are the most effective and commonly used.)

Send any equipment to:

Bhutan Recreational Fishing
c/o Fisheries Conservation Foundation
305 Wheaton Ave.
Champaign, IL 61820

Fisheries Conservation Foundation has a limited budget and can reimburse any shipping costs upon request.

What to Fish for in Bhutan

Though there are well over one hundred and twenty fish species in Bhutan, only four primary target fish species serve to attract international anglers:

1. Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*)
2. Snow Trout (*Schizothorax richardsonii*)
3. Chocolate Mahseer (*Neolissochilus hexagonalepsis*)
4. Golden Mahseer (*Tor putitora*)

Brown Trout, originally introduced to the kingdom by the British in the early-twentieth century, are found in many western and central Bhutanese rivers and lakes, especially above 1000 meters above sea level.

Snow Trout are not actually trout but are members of the sucker family. The Snow Trout range occupies the largest area of the four target species, overlapping Brown Trout habitat in the north and Mahseer habitat in the south. Snow Trout most commonly range in length from 12 to 28 inches and in weight from 1 to 4 pounds.

Chocolate Mahseer are members of the cyprinid family and are present in most of Bhutan's southern rivers and streams. Far more numerous than their larger cousins, the Golden Mahseer, Chocolate Mahseer are ravenous omnivores that feed on insects, fruit, leaves, worms, leeches, terrestrials and other fish. Chocolate Mahseer commonly grow to lengths upwards of 28 inches and weights of 9 pounds although larger specimens have been recorded.

Golden Mahseer are the largest and most attractive of all Bhutanese target fish species when it comes to rarity and trophy quality. The Golden Mahseer is indigenous to the Himalayas and although it is listed as Endangered by IUCN. Golden Mahseer can exceed 60 inches in length and 66 pounds, although larger specimens have been recorded, including fish weighing over 110 pounds. Though Golden Mahseer can be aggressive and true to their nature as ambush specialists, they are also famously spooky fish and do not suffer over-fishing or elevated angling pressure well.



**Washington State Council
Fly Fishers International
Charter and Affiliated Clubs**



Alaska Fly Fishers	Anchorage	(PHWFF) http://www.akflyfishers.net/
Alpine Fly Fishers	Puyallup	https://alpineflyfishers.org/
Bainbridge Island Fly Fishers	Bainbridge Island	Bainbridge Island Fly Fishers Facebook
Caring Fly Fishers of Washington	Bellevue	Project Healing Waters FF
Clark Skamania Flyfishers	Vancouver	http://www.clark-skamania-flyfishers.org/
Clearwater Flycasters	Pullman	https://www.clearwaterflycasters.com/
Cowlitz Fly Anglers	Longview	Cowlitz Fly Anglers Facebook
Evergreen Fly Fishing Club	Everett	https://evergreenflyclub.org/
Fairbanks Fly Fishers	Fairbanks	Project Healing Waters FF
Fidalgo Fly Fishers	Anacortes	https://www.fidalgoflyfishers.com/
Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club	Spokane	https://ieffc.org/
Lower Columbia Flyfishers	Longview	http://www.lowercolumbiaflyfishers.org/
Northwest Fly Anglers	Seattle	https://www.northwestflyanglers.org/
Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds	Edmonds	https://olympicflyfishers.com/
Overlake Fly Fishing Club	Bellevue	https://offc.org/
Puget Sound Fly Fishers Club	Tacoma	https://www.psff.org/
South Sound Fly Fishers	Olympia	https://southsoundflyfishers.org/
Spokane Fly Fishers LLC	Spokane	https://spokaneflyfishers.com/
Washington Fly Fishing Club	Mercer Island	https://wffc.com/
Wasilla Fly Fishing Club	Wasilla	Project Healing Waters FF
Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers	Wenatchee	https://wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com/
Washington State Council		https://wscffi.org/
Fly Fishers International		https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/

Back of Beyond

Stephen Neal

In Wildness is the Preservation of the World - "Henry David Thoreau"

Tai Chi

John Muir during his pilgrimages into the High Sierra's and study of the natural world, became aware of the interconnectedness of everything in this world. *"When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe."* - John Muir. Humanity from its beginning, has strived to make sense/understand life. Like John Muir, our early ancestors also studied nature to find answers, they followed the stars, listened to the oceans, dug into the earth, and studied animals, to learn how they survived and thrived. They too understood that interconnectedness of all things was paramount to our survival. Those wise men went even deeper than John Muir and defined that connectedness and created symbols that illustrated and teach this interrelationship. Many of those symbols are still used to this day, one that most of us are familiar with is the Tai Chi symbol  or the yin and yang as it is referred to in the western world.

The circle represents the whole, be it the world or the universe, the top of symbol represents the sky and the bottom earth. The clear section or fish as they are sometimes referred to is yang, dynamic energy, the shaded area, or dark fish is yin, passive energy. Within each fish is its opposite energy (the small circles of light and dark). Life moves in a circle, our planets orbit around the sun, the changing of the seasons, conception, birth, life and finally death. The fishes in motion represent movement, change as one always flows into the other. Rest becomes action, night becomes day, life becomes death, breath in (yin) and breath out (yang). Love and hate, joy, and sorrow, progressive and conservative. In turns they can be in opposition, or complimentary, within each they always carry the essence of the other. In all cases they are dependent on each other and together they make a whole. Each gives meaning to the other. We know love because there is hate, we know peace because of war, there would be no joy without sorrow, no action without rest.

In our day-to-day rush to get something accomplished we have over emphasized Yang and we have deemphasized Yin. An athlete pumps iron to build muscle, that exercise tears the muscle, it is sleep and rest that heals and rebuilds the muscle, making it stronger. A cup is only useful because of the empty space that holds the liquid. A house is a home because of the empty space held with-in. Earths winters allow rest and rejuvenation for rebirth and growth. Prayer and meditation allow spiritual growth. Each new project requires research and planning before construction. A fish holds in soft water to be able to feed in the fast water that delivers food. Outside time and away time, recharges us and make us more productive at work. Soft overcomes hard. Water erodes rock. Patience overcomes difficulty.

Fly-fishing teaches and employs all these truths. A fly rod enables us to cast a line further because it is yang with flexible yin properties, a fly-line is soft/yin, but its yang portion is firm enough to transfer energy, a fly is light enough to be cast and delivered but hard enough to hook a fish. All use yin and yang to work. As casters, we need to find that balance of hard and soft to cast affectively. Too much body inflexibility and power shorten our cast, too much softness and too little power causes a collapsed in delivery. Both yin (soft) and yang (hard) need to be in balance to move and effectively deliver a fly.

The catching of a fish is yang, the circle is made whole as yin is embraced and the fish is returned to the water. Mankind seeks absolutes where there is none. All that is, is necessary, each completes the whole, male and female, good and evil, love and hate, rich and poor, whole, and broken. All is in transition, from yin to yang on and on. In my lifetime (72 years) the Democratic party and the Republican party have become the other, at my birth the Republican party was the progressive party, and the Democrats were conservative. Today they identify as their opposite. As time moves and the world turns, the parties will morph again. Change is evident in the tai chi symbol itself; it has changed from its early beginnings,  it morphed again  till it reached its modern appearance . As individuals we have our own dark and light sides, many times in our lifetimes we fight and doubt ourselves. Pointing our fingers and claiming one is better than the other is unproductive. We all have good and bad, pretty, and ugly, smart, and not so smart, rich, and poor. They each play a part in making us whole.

No system of government is always right and true, each have strength and weakness, democracy, socialist, capitalism, communism, fascism, were based all upon a hope for better, a noble ideal, but all have been corrupted by human frailties.

Our forefathers were just men, who were both good and had failings. When they created the U.S. Constitution, they soon realized that to get it passed, they could not set down hard and fast rules, that ambiguity allows the constitution to work. Systems that do not allow space fail. If the fish can never fight free, it would not be a sport and we would soon lose interest. The fish that most fishermen remember the most, are the ones that got away. Those loses, make our catches that much sweeter.

Action (yang) and inaction (yin) or doing and not doing is a struggle we all face. Should we or shouldn't we intervene. Too often we feel that we need to do something, but more often, not doing is the best outcome. Most problems given time and space will resolve themselves. In fishing, inaction promotes our productivity, catching. Constant casting keeps the fly off the water resulting in less time fishing. Too much movement of a fly chases away the fish. Longer drifts provide more presentation time to the fish. Too soon of a hook set, results in pulling your fly away from the fish. Patience (yin) is essential to productive fishing. So too in life, an over aggressive salesman drives away a customer, a too clingy lover drives away a partner. Too much force spoils a cast. When we are in balance, we flow with life exerting the right amount of effort provides the best results. Space and emptiness are vital to all efforts and endeavors. There is no sound without the medium of air space, a skin stretched over a hoop or drum needs air to produce sound, a guitar uses the emptiness of its body to give depth to its notes. Planets, moons, and stars need space to move, workers need space to do their jobs well. Micro-managing impedes work. Breaks refresh and reenergize us. When yin and yang are in balance that is when we are the most productive.

No effort by man is needed by nature for it to work effectively and efficiently. We are most beneficial when we do nothing at all. Our mostly well intentions efforts, lead to more problems than solution. My discussion here on Tai Chi is a miniscule introduction to a deep and rich philosophy to help comprehend all the dynamics and interactions of life, there is wealth of information available if you wish to learn more. Your journey through life is yours and your alone, we each are responsible for our own growth. True knowledge is earned by the individual that does the hard work to learn.

The people I admire the most are those that look at the mountains with appreciation and not with the need to own them. Step outside and embrace this garden of Eden.

Stephen – Backofbeyond.neal@gmail.com

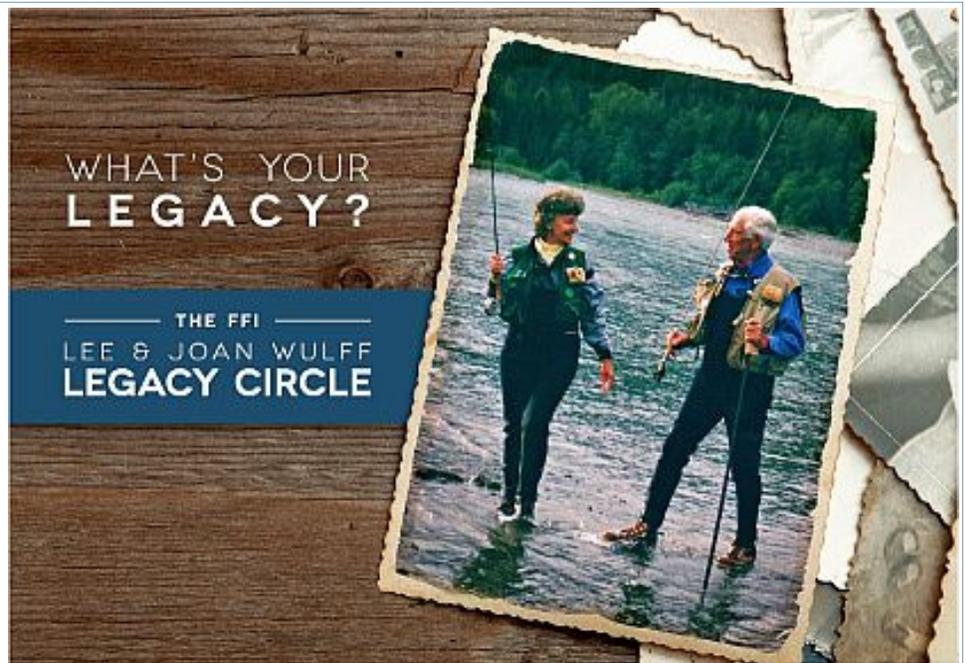
“The world is out there, the journey starts the minute you leave the door, go outside and truly live.” – S. Neal

“When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind – Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

“Many go fishing all their lives, without knowing that it is not fish they are after” - Henry David Thoreau



Join the Legacy Circle



What is the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle?

FFI established the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle in 2019 as a way to honor the tremendous imprint Lee and Joan have left on the world of fly fishing and the contributions they have made to Fly Fishers International. Planned giving through your estate can be one of the most transformative gifts to FFI.

Why Join?

There is perhaps no more profound way to establish your legacy withing the sport of fly fishing than by naming Fly Fishers International as a beneficiary in your estate plan.

How Your Bequest Will be Used

Your gift to the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle will be used to fund the Education and Conservation programs of Fly Fishers International.

What You Need to Include

Legal Name: Fly Fishers International, Inc.

Designation: Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle

Employer Identification Number (EIN): 23-7037444

Address: Fly Fishers International, 1201 US Highway 10 West, Suite E, Livingston, MT 59047

Sample Language in Estate Document

Residual Gift: "All the residue of my estate, including real and personal property, I give to the Fly Fishers International, Inc., located in Livingston, Montana."

A Percentage of the Estate: "I give _____ percent of my estate to the Fly Fishers International, Inc., located in Livingston, Montana.",

A Fixed Amount of Money or a Designated Property: "I give \$_____, (or describe the real or personal property, including legal description or exact location) to the Fly Fishers International, Inc., located in Livingston, Montana.

Please Let FFI Know

Maybe you have already included FFI in your estate plans or you are going to do that now. Please let us know. We would like to honor your legacy and acknowledge your generosity that directly impacts the future of fly fishing.

Need More Information?

Please contact Patrick Berry, the President and CEO of Fly Fishers International at pberry@flyfishersinternational.org.

Fly Fishers International

President's Club

The President's Club at Fly Fishers International represents the highest level of financial commitment to the organization and comes with exclusive benefits and opportunities as a way of thanking donors for this level of generosity. Over the course of FFI's history, the President's Club has been instrumental in our ability to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters. Members of the exclusive giving circle can support any program or project at FFI that most inspires them, and at a level that recognizes their level of giving, including Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze. The program allows for a pledge to be satisfied with yearly or monthly payment plans.

QUESTIONS? Email: operations@flyfishersinternational.org or phone: 406-222-9369 ext 4

Check out the FFI Donate page on line: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Donate/Presidents-Club>

The categories and their associated benefits are as follows:

BRONZE \$5,000 / Payable at \$500/ year or \$43/month

Benefits Include:

- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, and FFI hat

SILVER \$10,000 / Payable at \$1,000/ year or \$85/month

Benefits Include:

- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, FFI hat, an FFI T-shirt
- Exclusive individualized fly fishing instruction for President's Club members or person of their choosing

GOLD \$15,000 / Payable at \$1,500/ year or \$125/month

Benefits Include:

- FFI Life Membership
- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, FFI hat, and an FFI embroidered shirt
- Exclusive individualized fly fishing instruction for President's Club members or person of their choosing.

PLATINUM \$25,000 / Payable at \$2,500/ year or \$225/month

Benefits Include:

- FFI Life Membership
- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, FFI hat, an FFI embroidered shirt, and an FFI Yeti mug
- Exclusive individualized fly fishing instruction for President's Club members or person of their choosing.
- Unique, customized FFI Special edition fly rod when member reaches the \$100,000 level

Editors Note:

I am a proud member of Fly Fishers International and have been for over two decades. I really believe in what the FFI is doing and their goals. We are truly an "All Fish, All Waters" organization with strong beliefs in conservation and education. I belong to the President's Club, the Thousand Stewards program and the Legacy Circle. I would really like it if you, the reader, would join me in helping to support Fly Fishers International.

JOIN THE

FFI1K

**SAFEGUARDING THE LONG-TERM
HEALTH OF FLY FISHING AROUND
THE WORLD**
FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K

THE FUNDS RAISED BY THE FFI1K ARE VITAL to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission, and to support:

- **SPEARHEADING PROJECTS** that improve our fisheries and protect our fishing opportunities
- **THE FFI LEARNING CENTER's** wealth of fly fishing knowledge and resources
- **CAMARADERIE AMONG ANGLERS** built at our annual fair and other events

JOIN US IN SAFEGUARDING THE LONG-TERM HEALTH OF FLY FISHING AROUND THE WORLD BY BECOMING ONE OF THE **FFI1K**.

**VISIT FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K
OR CALL 406.222.9369 TO JOIN TODAY!**

*See enclosed card envelope for payment options.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF: Ed Gipe, David A. Thompson



FFI1K

FFI1K - BECOME A MEMBER OF 1000 STEWARDS OF FFI

You have a unique opportunity to invest in the sport you love.

Fly Fishers International (FFI) has been an organized voice for fly fishers around the world since 1964. We represent all aspects of fly fishing – from the art of fly tying and casting, to protection of the natural systems that support healthy fisheries and their habitats so essential to our sport. Today, our mission is to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters continues by focusing on CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY.

Join us in safeguarding the long-term health of fly fishing around the world by becoming one of the FFI1k, by committing to donate \$500 per year for 5 years (total of \$2500).

The funds raised by the FFI1K are vital to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission and to support:

- Spearheading projects that improve our fisheries and protect our fishing opportunities
- The FFI Learning Center's wealth of fly fishing knowledge and resources
- Camaraderie among anglers built at our annual Expo and other events

Join the FFI1K Now

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL (FFI) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with the distinctive mission to preserve the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters. Formed by some of the most influential luminaries in the world of fly fishing and conservation back in 1964, and dedicated to innovative strategies to inspire a new generation of fly fishers, providing FFI members the opportunity to leave a legacy in the sport we love.

FFI continues to focus on conservation, education, and community as the underpinning of our work. Our commitment to these principles provides the rock-solid foundation as we lean into the challenge of unprecedented times, and ascend to meet the needs of the evolving demographics of fly fishing.

JOIN FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL TODAY to help ensure that fly fishing can continue to instill the kind of passion it does today in so many of us.

WHY JOIN FFI? TOGETHER WE:

- **PROTECT THREATENED WATERS AND HABITATS** for current and future generations.
- **BRING TOGETHER EXPERTISE** in fly casting, fly tying, fly fishing skills, and conservation education and development programs.
- **ADVOCATE FOR POLICIES** and initiatives for conservation issues.
- **STRENGTHEN THE FLY FISHING COMMUNITY** by sharing knowledge and experiences.
- **PROVIDE RESOURCES** for fly fishing educators and professionals.
- **INSPIRE A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND CONSERVATION ETHICS** in people of all ages.

MEMBERS RECEIVE

- Access to an unmatched repository of knowledge through the FFI Learning Center
- Special offers and discounts • Recognition for special skills or achievements
- Access to a network of like-minded outdoor enthusiasts
- A chance to help make a positive impact on the sport

We've got momentum— Help us keep it going as a member of FFI. As participation in fly fishing has grown, FFI is providing enhanced opportunities to learn, sustained our commitment to conservation, and offers new and exciting opportunities to expand our community. JOIN US!



406.222.9369
 membership@flyfishersinternational.org
 flyfishersinternational.org



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI



**ALL FISH,
ALL WATERS™**

Membership Categories **Yes, I want to preserve the sport of fly fishing.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1-Year General \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Student (22 & under)* . . \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-Year General \$90 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business* \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65+)* \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran* \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Premium** . \$1,500 |

Note: General and Veteran memberships include spouses, cohabitating partners and children under 18 years of age. Lifetime memberships include spouses and cohabitating partners.
 *Membership eligible for up to 3-year purchase (multiply price by number of years).
 **Lifetime Premium member will receive a custom-built rod from TFO Rods.

PRINTED FLYFISHER MAGAZINE:
 \$10/yr U.S. residents \$20/yr International residents
 Lifetime and Business members will receive a free printed copy of Flyfisher. All members have free access to Flyfisher on our website.



1201 US Hwy 10 W Suite E
 Livingston, MT 59047
 P 406.222.9369 / F 406.222.5823
 flyfishersinternational.org

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Country _____
 Email _____
 Club Affiliation _____
 Referred by _____
 Check Enclosed (Payable to Fly Fishers International - U.S. funds)
 Visa Mastercard Discover Amex
 Card# _____
 Exp. Date MM/YY _____ / _____ CVV _____
 Please do not share my information with organizations outside of FFI.

Fly Fishers International and Mountlake Terrace Recreation

Fly Casting Fair



**CASTING CLASSES
FLY TYING DEMOS AND TYING CLASSES
SPEY CASTING CLASSES
WALK-IN CASTING CLINIC
CASTING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**

**Saturday April 29, 2023 9 am to 4 pm
Ballinger Park, Mountlake Terrace WA**



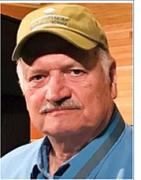
**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**
Washington State Council





Editors Notes

By Larry Gibbs



Just in case you hadn't noticed, we have a very important event on April 29th. This one is bigger and better than the 2022 Fly Casting Fair. We had an excellent event last year. It was our first one day event in a few years. We paid attention to what was happening and to opinions that the participants made and we improved on the casting fair for 2023. Many types of casting will be addressed. Don't forget about the fly tyers we have that will be demonstrating their skills. The Northwest has some great fly tyers and some of them will be there so make sure you come into the main building and check them out.

Speaking of casting, it really helps if you don't break your fly rod. Last year I managed (thru no fault of my own, yea right) to break the tip on my Thomas & Thomas Avantt fly rod. I mailed it in and got it back a little while ago. Looks like they did a fine job replacing the tip and matching up the ferrules. Can't wait to get out and do some serious fishing. Over the decades that I have been fly fishing I, or others with me, have managed to break a few of my rods. On one trip up into Canada for some trout fishing, two of my Sage fly rods managed to get their tips snapped off. Luckily I always carried a backup. Sage is also very good at repairing their rods. Most of the companies that sell fly rods now days have good warranties and for a fraction of the cost of a new rod, they will fix them. I used to ride motorcycles, dirt bikes to be more exact, and everyone knew that it wasn't a matter of IF you go down, but WHEN you go down, because you will. Same thing with fly rods. Not a matter of IF you break one but only a matter of WHEN. It is just a tool, get it fixed and get back to having some fun out on the water. Just make sure you have a back up ready and waiting.

Speaking of fly rods, at our April 29 Fly Casting Fair, I will have a complete fly rod outfit (rod, reel, line) that will be given away to one lucky person who either **Joins** the FFI or **Renews** their existing membership **at that event**. How about that! The winner can start off with a new fly rod!

You may have picked up on the fact that I am a very strong supporter of Fly Fishers International. I have been a member of their 1000 Stewards right from the start, and a member of the President's club for over two decades. I recently joined the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle. The FFI is a great organization that is dedicated to fly fishing All Fish, All Waters. We aren't just a trout group, or bass group, the FFI is concerned about the quality of fly fishing for any and all fish, from high land lakes, down the rivers and out into the deep blue oceans. They really can use your support by being a member. Often people ask me "What can the FFI do for me?". That is a very involved answer and I don't have the space here to go into it, but the one huge point I like to tell people is that their membership adds strength to the voice of the FFI when it comes to conservation issues and helps control some of those political decisions that can really have an impact, both negatively and positively on our fly fishing.

If you are already a member, thank you very much. If you are not, please join the FFI. If you can find it in your hearts to help the FFI financially, please chip in. Every dollar helps.

Recently I was at a lunch meeting with a group of us 'old timer' fly fishers and one of them mentioned that he needed to have his will updated because everyone he had listed had already passed on. I suggested to him that when he does this, how about including some portion of his estate to the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle. A great way to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy our fantastic sport. My wife and I have our will listing the FFI as the major beneficiary.

Check out the Fly Fishing Collection at Western Washington University article on page 22. We always had a booth space for the people representing this collection at our events in Ellensburg. I was contacted by Steve Raymond and he asked if he could submit an article, so naturally I said 'Yes'. If you are ever up that way in Bellingham and would like to spend part of a day checking out fly fishing history, make arrangements to go there and have a look.

Did you check out pages 3 or 15 or 35? Just a gentle reminder that we have a great event coming up on April 29, the Fly Casting Fair. Read about it and please come to this event.

Fishing season is here, well, almost, so please take care out there on the water, boating or wading, use caution and keep safe. Remember to check the fishing regulations if you are going to any waters that you don't really know.

**Remember, come to our April 29 Fly Casting Expo
Either join the FFI or renew your existing membership
only at this event and you will be in a drawing for an
Orvis Encounter fly rod outfit!!!**