



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

Washington State Council

Covering the Drift

Volume 27 Issue 3 - July 2023

Washington State Council

Fly Fishers International



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FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Washington State Council

Home Water



President Steve Jones

Keep It Going, Keep It Growing

We concluded another Casting Fair in April at Ballinger Park and the response from attendees and observers was a solid “thumbs up.” We added several features to this year’s fair such as an expanded Casting Skills Development field, many more classes including spey casting and fly tying, a user-friendly online registration system and displays by rod makers. The crowd was over 300 for the day-long event, similar to the crowd for the 2022 event. That number is a foundation for growth.

Directors of the Washington Council thought up the Casting Fair in late 2021 out of a need to restart public events at a time when Covid still lurked. An outdoor event made the most sense and putting casting at the center was a logical choice. FFI members agree, signing up for more than 80 slots in ten separate classes in April. The number of classes and students in 2023 was about double the number in 2022, which on its face is a solid vote of approval for the program.

That also is a vote of confidence in the instructors. Credit for that goes to Washington Council Directors Don Simonson, Neal Hoffberg and Sam Matalone who created an attractive agenda of topics and drew together excellent casting and tying instructors to deliver on the promise of every class and demonstration. More than a dozen people literally waded into the art of spey casting with Molly Semenik at the beach on Lake Ballinger. The fly tying class at Ballinger Center was busy and engaging. Sam Matalone and Vern Jeremica moved from table to table demonstrating how to handle materials and apply tying techniques. “It was a win to have that room full of people learning to tie flies,” said Washington Council Director Judy Larson.

Another win was Judy working along with Membership Director Larry Gibbs, to sign up 16 new FFI members during the event. To all those new members, thanks for joining. We appreciate your interest in our sport and we’re committed to making your membership a worthwhile investment of your time and your money. Connect with us at WSCFFI.ORG and follow us on Instagram and Facebook. Another win was the great team of volunteers from the Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds led by Greg Sisson and Jim Black. They helped set up and take down the event smoothly.

We want to create more smooth wins in the coming months. Washington Council directors are at work on plans to expand the Casting Fair beyond Ballinger Lake north of downtown Seattle to other neighborhoods and other parts of the state. Our highest concentration of members is in Puget Sound, but we also have large numbers of members in Southwest Washington and around Spokane. We will be looking at both areas to create events in the near future. A key to making events work is a good location and interesting programs.

If you have ideas, please email me at president@wscffi.org.

I welcome suggestions.

WSC Directors Election for 2023

We are fortunate in Washington to have a big community of dedicated fly fishers and even better yet, a number of them that want to help lead our Washington Council of Fly Fishers International. **Peter Maunsell**, a member of the Northwest Fly Anglers club and Alpine Fly Fishers club and a current Washington FFI director, has chosen to run for a second three-year term on the Washington Council leadership. Thanks Peter. In addition we have three nominees for new terms as directors: **Jim Black** of the Olympic Fly Fishers, **Marion Hiller** of the 4th Corner Fly Fishers and **Ryan Smith** of The Avid Angler fly shop in Lake Forest Park. These three nominees will replace retiring directors Claude Kistler, Jay Woodbury and Dave McCoy. All three directors made important contributions to Washington FFI and we thank them for their service. The result of the changes is that there are four openings on the board and four nominees to fill the positions.

Later this month, you will receive a ballot by email from the Washington Council. Please open the email and cast your vote to help keep the Washington Council growing into the future. The director nominees are:

Jim Black

I have been fishing my whole life. Fishing started for me in the 60's in Tacoma. My dad was in love with the outdoors and fishing was a big part of what we did. I built my first rod in the 60's and have tied flies since then also. My biggest passion in fishing is casting. Lefty Kreh taught me a dynamic Roll Cast at a trade show back in 90's and when we got done told me that I would love fishing even more if I improved my casting. I took that to heart and worked on improving my casting. I got my Casting Certification from the FFI and am working on my Masters. I now provide a free casting lessons to members of my fly club, Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds, and I teach casting to individuals. For the last two years I have volunteered at the FFI Casting Fair running the Casting Challenge. I also coordinated the volunteers for the 2023 Fair. Along with fishing I have worked with TU to measure water culverts for fish passage and restore streams. Thank you for your consideration of my application.



Marion Hiller

A Washington state native and former middle school teacher, Marion grew up with a father who was an avid fly tier and fisher, sharing his knowledge exclusively with his two sons. In time, after the passing of her father, she became the caretaker of a family fishing camp in Montana, where she slowly grew a desire to become an independent and knowledgeable fly fisher. This led her to joining a local fly club. There, encouraged by a fly fishing friend, she sought out Fly Fishing International, and eventually become a certified casting instructor in 2022 where she is able to use her skills and passion for teaching. Since receiving her certification, Marion has provided instructional support to the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement, the Fourth Corner Fly Fishers, the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International, an after school fly fishing class at a local middle school, and other youth camps and friends.



Ryan Smith

Ryan has been working since 2003 at The Avid Angler fly shop in the Lake Forest Park north of Seattle, and owner since 2011. In over 20 years of helping at the shop Ryan has overseen all aspects of the business from marketing and accounting to education. Besides the retail operation, Ryan and his guides at Avid Anglers provide guide services, tools and knowledge for all levels of fly fishers. Ryan is an FFI Certified Casting Instructor and has a bachelor's degree in biology from Colorado College.



Peter Maunsell

Over the past 45 years I have become enamored with fly fishing and rafting. I will hike and float anywhere to catch any fish. I really enjoy multi day camping on the Northwest's white water rivers. The longer the trip the better. I have learned to tie flies through reading and watching others.



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"

Setting Bronzed Mallard Wings "tps"



Fly tied by Vern Jeremica



Recently a friend was talking about mounting bronze Mallard wings on a Lady Caroline. I tried to give him some pointers over the phone and realized I had not done a very good job in explaining the process. So I went my fly tying bench and decided to write down a few pointers to send him in an email. When setting bronze Mallard, the fly tier does not always win and this was not my day. I just could not get them centered down the middle of the hook!

In an effort to analyze what I was doing wrong, I started to watch some YouTube videos. Well, all these talented tiers do an excellent job in demonstrating and they do make it look easy. The problem is subconsciously they are not talking about the techniques they are using to facilitate setting the wings in a consistent manner.

Then I decided to do a little reading. Recently, I had ordered John Shewey's new book, "Spey Flies and their History and Construction". The book does an excellent job in describing the various methods of mounting bronze Mallard wings, everything from a reversed wing technique to using a single bronze Mallard feather to create a roof type wing. The book has excellent examples of step-by-step procedures accompanied with photos for illustrations. I highly recommend this book. Any attempt to recreate any part of the book for an article for this newsletter is well beyond scope of this tier/author (and probably would run afoul of copywrite).

There are many resources via the internet, books and tying friends that can explain various methods for setting bronze Mallard wings. The trick is to find one you like and stick with it. But, there are several tips which can make your tying experience a little less frustrating. This article is not about how to set Bronze Mallard wings rather some tips that may help you win against Bronze Mallard.

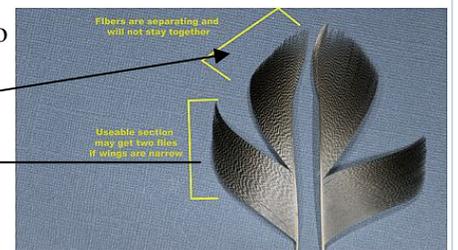
Tips for handling Bronze Mallard feathers

Getting quality material is key to limiting your frustration when tying spey type flies. Once you have good quality material the rest is understanding how the feather is to be used.

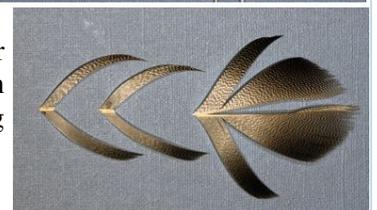
- ◆ Use a pair of matched feathers (one right and one left). They need to be very similar in size and shape.
- There is only a limited section of the bronze Mallard that will be useable, attempting to use an entire feather for several flies ensures that the bronze Mallard will win every time.

Fibers are separating and will not stay together

Useable section may get two flies if wings are narrow



- Removed the preferred section of feather with the stem (rachis) attached. Depending on whether you are going to use a single wing or a double wing, ensure all wing sections are the same size in length and number of fibers (barbules). If I am doing a double wing, I make the under wing slightly smaller.



- Whether you decide to keep stem (rachis) attached or strip it away from the stem (rachis) the bronze Mallard must be tied in the “grey” section of the feather and as close to the base of the fibers (barbules) as possible. This is key to keep your wings together. (Hint: if you keep the rachis attached and the wings do not set right, and you keep trying until the point the wing is “messed up” you can always steam them to get them back to pristine shape)
- Make sure feathers are the proper length for the style of your fly. (You want your Bronzed Mallard wings to be size such that you are tying in the grey as close to the stem (rachis) as possible) Trying to make a feather that is too big or small is setting yourself up for frustration.

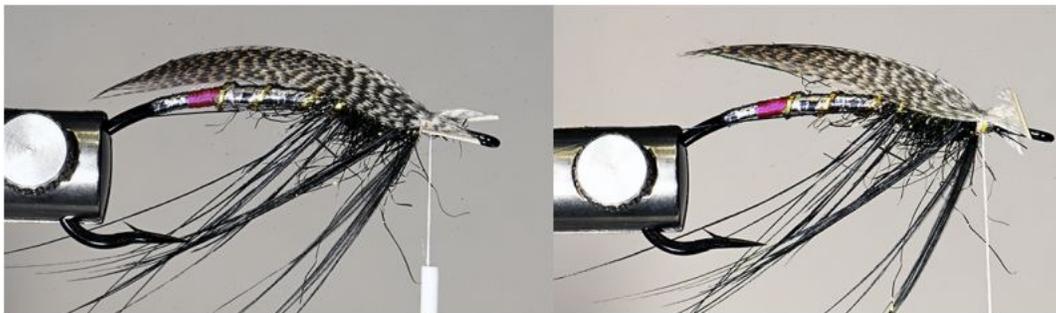
Tips for Setting Bronze Mallard Wings.

The key to learning and setting bronze Mallard wings is basically selecting a method for setting the wings. Whether it be a single wing, double wing, a single feather wing or any of the reversed wing methods. Pick one and practice, practice, and practice. For me the simplest to practice is a single wing: easier to control than 2 wing slips, and usually you can get two-three flies from one pair of match bronze Mallard.

- When setting bronze Mallard wings use a multi-strand thread size 8/0 or 6/0. I find that using anything less than 10/0 can cut into the bronze Mallard fibers (barbules) and cause them separate. After the wings are set, something I will switch back to a smaller diameter thread.
- Make sure none of the fibers (barbules) are crossed. If they are, gently stroke the fibers and they should un-cross easily.
- ◆ Make sure the area where you are going to mount the wing is flat and at the shoulder of the fly. Any bump at this point will cause the wing to “kick” up.



- Decide if you prefer an up-swept or a down-swept appearance for your wing. I prefer the upswept appearance. When using this method, the curvature of the feather aids in creating a “tent” appearance. (Please note how close to the stem (rachis) the tie in point for the wings is.) The difference between the two versions is how you tie in the wing with its natural curvature. Tying it the wing with the curvature down (like an upside-down canoe) will set the wing with a lower profile. Tying it in with the curvature up, will cause it to set just a little higher.



- Mount the wings using soft loops, two turns no more than 3 turns. When tightening the soft turns pull straight up only, it is paramount you never pull in any direction other than up. After this point never, never take your tying thread toward the bend of the hook.
- Steaming your wings prior to mounting will prevent the fibers from being pulled out of place as well as lubricating the thread. A simple alternative to this is just use a bit of saliva at the tie in point for your wings.
- When varnishing the head do not use any of the UV products, these are only surface treatments. You need a penetrating finish; it aids in holding the fibers (barbules) together. You can use the UV products after you have used a penetrating finish.

- To reduce cost and consumption of quality bronze Mallard, I have found when practicing using goose shoulders works well. Goose shoulders have very similar properties as bronze Mallard, they are soft, have a nice, curved shape, and compress very easily.
- To focus on setting bronze Mallard wings, yet still tying flies for fishing, tie up 5-10 flies and stop just before you mount the wings. Once you have the number of desire fly bodies tied, mount the wings one after another. Focus on doing everything consistently and make sure each fly is better than the last
- And don't forget to enjoy the process!



An example of one of the flies tied at a Washington State Council FFI Event

Lower-cost Fly Tying Alternatives

By Sam Matalone

This past April, at the Washington State Council FFI Casting event in Lake Ballinger, WA, several excellent fly tiers were demonstrating their skills and visiting with the attendees. It was interesting to listen to people talk about how and why they started tying flies. No one said it was to save money. (If any one believes you save money by tying your own flies, do I have a deal for you!) As the day progressed, many people said they were just starting out in fly fishing, which is expensive. Coupling that with starting to tie flies, makes it really expensive!

Tiers who were demonstrating their skills also talked about the cost of fly-tying tools, material, and hooks. They all agreed prices have skyrocketed as of late. However, most were not too concerned because they all had more than enough material to last a lifetime. Only occasionally, did they have to buy some material or hooks.

We talked a bit more about what could be done to help people who are starting out in a very exciting, rewarding, and, at times, relaxing hobby of fly tying. A suggestion was made to write a series of short articles on fly tying alternatives to reduce cost. The idea is to start with articles in the WSCFFI Newsletter. Hopefully, over the next year, this would generate enthusiasm to start a monthly article which would be posted on our website (wscffi.org) and our social media accounts. Initially, the focus would be on alternative materials.

So let begin, 90% plus of all flies tied are on hooks. There are other options.

Here are a few:

- 1) Tube flies (a fly tied on a hollow tube)
- 2) Shank (a straight piece of metal with an eye)
- 3) Waddington shank (a shank with eyes at both ends)
- 4) Tying a fly directly onto a leader.

All these methods still require a hook, but you can buy a much cheaper non-fly-tying hook. The cost of making shank is less than \$0.04 compared to about \$0.50 for a commercial shank. The real saving comes in making you own articulating shanks. To make a 5 segment articulated spine the cost is south of \$0.20; whereas, a commercially purchased spine would cost approximately \$1.50 to \$3.00 .

I really enjoy tying flies on “shanks”, especially, the latitude to make them to any length. I mainly use “shanks” to tie steelhead flies and, recently, to tie small streamers, wooly buggers, and nymphs for trout.

Let’s walk through how to make a very effective alternative “shank” and how to make articulated spines at a fraction of the cost to of a set. The entry cost for building these “shanks/articulated spines” is reasonable. You need three tools: (total cost? less than \$40)

- 1) Flat Nose Pliers
- 2) Jewelry Looping Pliers
- 3) Wire Cutter

The only material required is thin diameter stainless wire (0.015”-0.030”). This can be trolling wire, SS wire from the hardware store, etc. etc.



Right to left: Flat Nose Pliers, Jewelry Looping Pliers, Wire Cutter with copper tinted SS wire in the background.

To make a simple shank is easy. One can master the technique in a couple minutes!

Step #1

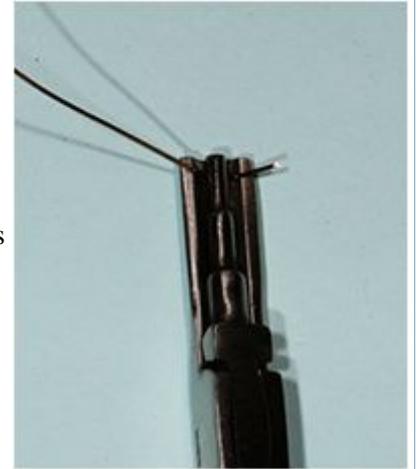
Place small diameter SS wire across the looping pliers. Adjust the overhang to about 10mm.

Please note: The wire is positioned so that as you squeeze a loop will start to form.



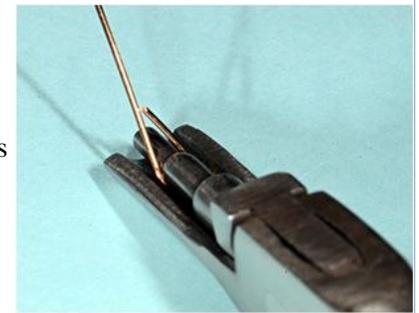
Step #2

Just squeeze the pliers. The wire will be forced down into the concave base of the pliers. This is the starting point in forming the eye of your shank.



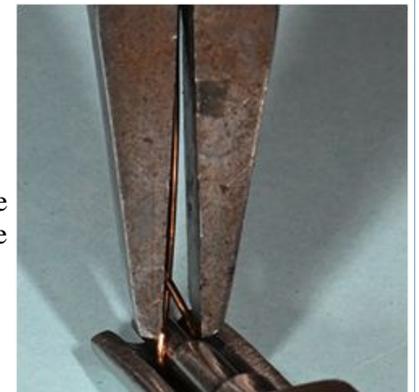
Step #3

With your hand squeeze the wire a little more to close the gap between the wire leads. This step is not necessary, but I find it helps with the next step.

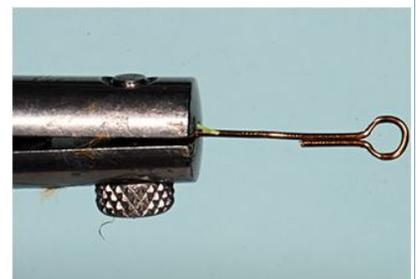


Step #4

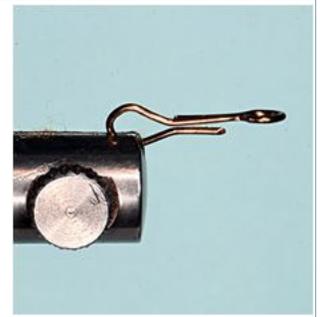
Using the Flat Nose Pliers, squeeze the wire leads together. This step completes the eye of the shank. All that remains to cut the wire to the desired length and cut any excess wire at the eye of the shank.



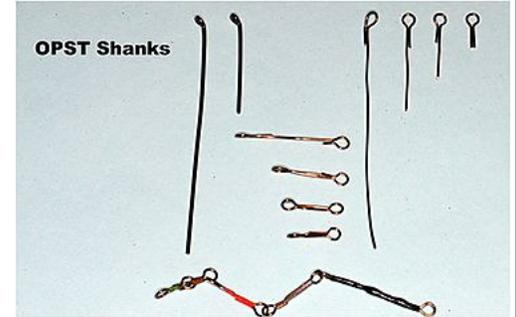
This is the shank that was created from the above sequence.



To make an articulated spine, follow the same sequence. Then, after you make the eye, rotate the wire in the looping pliers 90 degrees from the eye of the hook and repeat.



In the picture there are two commercial shanks and a series of shanks and articulated spines created using the process just described.



Since the shank was in my vise, I decided to tie a fly with whatever material was on my desk. Nothing special, just a very simple fly tied on a shank I made.



Hint: All "Stainless Steel" wire is not the same. Some are a little softer than others and tend to bend a little easier. On the other hand, getting wire which is very stiff can create other problems. You may have to see what available locally. Trolling wire is usually a good starting point.

Fly Casting Tip

Roll Cast

What is a roll cast?

Learn about the roll cast, a forward cast without a backcast. Watch the video and download our Roll Casting 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 full access.

What is a roll cast and why do you need it?

A roll cast is a forward cast without a backcast. If you knew only one cast, it should be the roll cast. You'll use it when you can't make a backcast because of trees or other obstructions behind you or because you have unwanted slack in the fly line. It's fun to learn and easy to do.

Steps to a roll cast

1. Rod tip low to the water
2. Tilt rod slightly away from body
3. Slowly drag the line back to form a D-loop behind the shoulder
4. Check hand, rod angle position, ensure rod is tilted away from body
5. Forward cast stopping just above horizontal 6. Lower the rod tip to the water e Lesson





The Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

By Carol Anderson
VP Education and Academy Co-Director



Academy 2023

The 2023 NW Youth Conservation and Fly-Fishing academy began on Sunday June 18th and ran through Saturday June 24th and was a huge success thanks to the support of many national and local organizations, clubs, fly fishing shops, and a cadre of wonderful and knowledgeable volunteers!

We held this year's NWYCFFA in a new location - Panhandle Lake 4H camp just outside of Shelton, WA. Thirteen boys and three girls ages 12-16 made up the camp attendees this year from mostly local Washington kids. Kids from Texas, Arizona and Oregon also traveled to camp to learn how to get on the river and fly fish.

Because we were able to get the kid's out on the lake in canoes and pontoon boats this year, we required all kids to take a swim test on the first day.

These young troopers braved air temperatures in the low 60's on a lake which was only about 56 degrees. They really wanted to be on the boats!

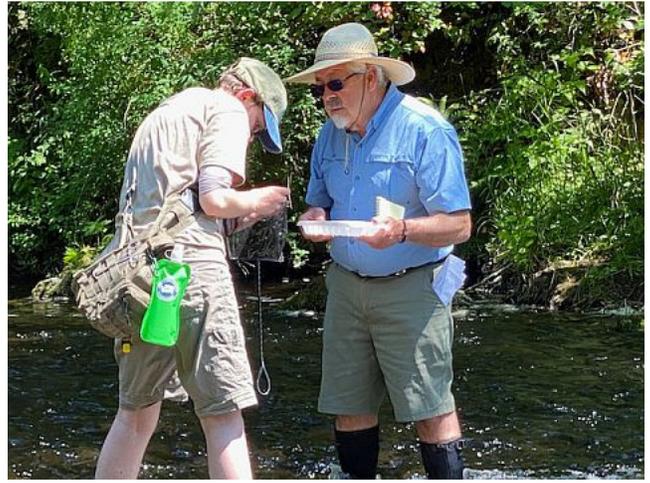
The kids learned about wearing PFD's and small boat navigation.

Knots and Fly Tying made up inside instructions early in the week.

From day one and on each day the kids moved from an inside instruction class to outside classes in Casting, Conservation, Invasive Species, on-the-lake or river instruction or practice. They had lessons in fish biology complete from a representative from US Fish and Wildlife who dissected a salmon and then let the kids dissect some trout.

Instructions also included Moving Water Tactics, Lake and Stillwater Tactics, Entomology – with on-the-water insect capture and identification plus a "Match the Hatch" instruction class.





The Fishing Trip

By Neal Hoffberg
WSC Board of Directors

Many of us have done it; fly long distances chasing a hatch that may or may not materialize, to which the trout may or may not rise. But once in a while some of those trips take an unexpected turn to become an experience of a lifetime. That was my latest trip with my brother, David.

I flew from Seattle to Newark and David flew from Los Angeles to Philadelphia, but our true destination was State College, PA. What? Sorry to say, but you must fly to New Jersey or Philly to get to State College trout rivers. That wasn't the only odd thing. By tradition, most restaurants in State College are closed on Monday! Fortunately, every college town has an abundance of pizzerias. And State College is no exception.

We are scheduled to meet our guide at 11:30 the following morning. Yes! Guided fly fishing that doesn't begin at 7:30 a.m. My circadian rhythm can catch up to my watch that is running three hours fast. How sweet it is to be able to sleep in! Our guide for the week is Paul Rebarchak. Paul is one of those guides that knows the local waters and hatches better than he knows Penn State football. And that's saying a lot!

Over a country breakfast, we discuss our fishing options. Penns Creek, Spring Creek, Bald Eagle Creek? Bald Eagle it is. I have two more cups of coffee. No need to rush. We will fish from mid-afternoon until dark, dry fly only. Gotta love it. At this point I could go into detail about the fishing, but why bother? That's like watching another fly-fishing video; park the car, walk to the water, observe, cast, miss the hook set, cast again and again and again. You get the idea. Suffice it to say that if you're a numbers angler, this isn't the place for you.

Lots of green drakes and sulphurs doesn't mean that the fish are rising to those bugs. Even the sub-surface guys found the going tough. Paul's favorite expression is "welcome to PA spring creek fly fishing." I respond with, "Paul. Have you seen my wallet? Your tip is in it." A guide with a good sense of humor makes a week of tough fishing easier to accept. Paul is that and more. Since our fishing didn't begin until early afternoon, most mornings were spent checking out the local fly shops browsing the aisles like our mother used to do at Hermes and Gucci.

Ultimately, this trip became much more than admiring beautiful country and casting size ten green drakes to finicky trout. Years ago, David took a series of classes from the great Joe Humphreys, "who was a frequent competitor in the World Fly Fishing Championships and respected instructor who spent more than 30 years teaching fishing skills along with his good friend Ed Shenk." The classes were held during The Fly Fishing Show held in Ontario, California. David didn't think that Joe would remember him, but it would be great if David could say 'hello' and spend a few minutes reminiscing with Joe. It turns out that the wife of our guide is related to Joe. That makes it easy to set up a visit.

We meet Joe at his home, a 200 year old former grist mill, on 10+ acres with a mile or more of Spring Creek running through it. Joe is as friendly and welcoming as you could imagine. He invites us in, offers us something to drink and the next two hours become the most memorable two hours of any fishing trip that we have taken.

At ninety-four years young, Joe is as sharp as a tack and witty to boot. He reminisced about his time at Penn State. Learning from fly fishing legend George Harvey and eventually taking over the fly-fishing program when George retired. As we sat in his living room, we watched orioles fly in and out of the bird feeder while Joe talked about all things fly-fishing. Joe told us how much he has received from our sport. The waters that he has fished, the tournaments he has competed in, and the people that he has fished with; Jimmy Carter, Dick Cheney, and Bobby Knight to name a few. Joe graciously showed us his "trophy room" with all the awards and photos, and the basement where Joe does his fly tying. Spring Creek runs through Joe's property. We wrapped up our visit walking the bank, tossing pellets to Rainbow trout, three feet in length, protected from predators by the overhanging trees and Joe's 'NO PUBLIC FISHING' signs.

That evening, my brother and I were back on the river fishing. The hatch was small and feeding sporadic. But our time spent with Joe Humphreys gave deeper meaning to why my brother and I take trips chasing a hatch that may or may not materialize, to which the trout may or may not rise.





FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

FFI Conservation



FLY FISHERS
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Go to the FFI website at

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>

and click on “GET INTO FFI’S CONSERVATION ACTIONS”

CONSERVATION ACTIONS

Fly Fishers International works to preserve and protect fishery habitats. Many times that protection comes in the form of biological opinion regarding policies and decisions by public agencies whose responsibility is to oversee the water body and surrounding habitat.

We base our decision about issues on a review of the existing policies or laws governing the agency's action and sound science-based facts. FFI will post a report on this page giving our members an overview of our recent actions. If you have any questions please contact the Conservation Coordinator at conservation@flyfishersinternational.org.

Please click on the subject matter below to read about the issues that FFI has taken a position. If you want to submit an issue for consideration by Fly Fishers International, please click here to review our process for doing so.

What are the issues?

Protect Bristol Bay - It's home to the largest salmon fishery in the world.

Save the Boundary Waters - BWCA is located within the Superior National Forest.

Climate Change - Working to mitigate human caused climate change.

Conservation Legislation - Monitoring environmental laws that provide regulatory...

Everglades Restoration - The Everglades have been under threat for decades.

Mining Issues - Mining is one of the biggest threats to rivers, lakes,...

Public Lands and Waters Issues - Public Lands and Waters are one of the greatest...

Saltwater and Marine Fisheries Issues - Saltwater and Marine Fisheries are some of the most...

State Specific Issues - Issues and actions relegated to a single state.

Warmwater Fisheries Issues - Warmwater Fisheries are often in danger from dewatering...

Steelhead and Salmon Issues Steelhead and Salmon are some of the most threatened...

“STINGER” HOOK OR TRAILING HOOK

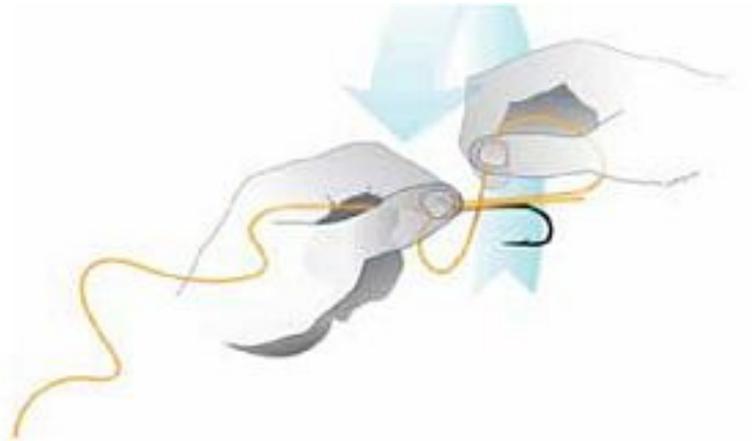
SNELL KNOT (TRADITIONAL)

“Snelling a hook” is one of the oldest methods to attach a line to a hook. The Snell Knot is actually a nail knot and provides a reliable straight-line pull when setting the hook. There are several ways to tie this knot and this version is easy. The Snell Knot is included in this manual because many fly fishers use “tube flies” which use a terminal knot to secure the “stinger” or trailing hook.

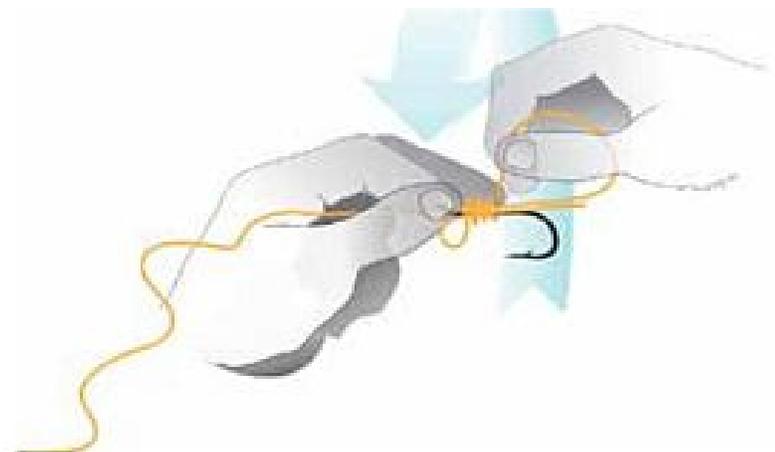
1. Pass the tag end through the hook eye then through the hook eye again in the same direction. This should form a loop below the hook.



2. Pinch the eye and both parts of the tippet.



3. Continue to wrap the loop for 5 to 7 turns. While holding turns in place, pull the standing line that is through the eye slowly and steadily.



Fly Fishers International - Women Connect

WHAT'S GOING ON IN JUNE FOR WOMEN ANGLERS?

Lots! Ask our FFiWC Liaisons ...



ANNE-MARIE
BAKKER
NORTHERN
CA COUNCIL



ANN BILL
SOUTHWEST
COUNCIL



MONTA HAYNER
UPPER MIDWEST
COUNCIL

DANI ROSE,
TEXAS
COUNCIL



FFi WOMEN
CONNECT

3RD

ANNUAL
WOMEN'S
FLY FISHING
MONTH
JUNE 2023

LEARN ABOUT OUR FLY
FISHING PHOTO
CONTEST!

Join Women
Connect and
check out all the
fun you could be
having

Virtual Meet & Greet! Join us Tuesday, June 6th
5:00 PM PT | 6:00 PM MT | 7:00 PM CT | 8:00 PM ET



Fly Fishers International Supports Intro to Fly Fishing in Bhutan

FFI Ambassador Bryant Dunn Hosts Event in Thimphu, Bhutan.

This first of its kind event presented a compilation of fly-fishing videos outlining international fishing destinations including Mongolia, Farquar Atoll, the American Rocky Mountains and, of course, Bhutan. The purpose of these selections was to demonstrate the endless varied fisheries and fishing opportunities around the world including those of the Himalayas. Recently, Bryant has worked with the Royal Government of Bhutan to develop recreational angling opportunities in the country. Bryant's production of A Vision for the Future of Angling in Bhutan is the leading vision for these opportunities, in partnership with the national government.

Fifty up and coming fly fishers gathered at the Jambayang Resort to hear from Bryant, and have the opportunity see a fly tying demonstration by Kinley Dorji of Tall Pines Bhutan, one of a small handful of Bhutanese anglers and guides capable of attaining the FFI Casting Instructor Certification in the near future.

Fly Fishers International is proud to be a part of these efforts by Bryant and the Royal Government of Bhutan, with additional thanks to the other partners including the Fisheries Conservation Foundation, Mahseer Trust, Science on the Fly, Himalayan Rivers United, and Keep Fish Wet.

Stay tuned as we hear more from FFI Ambassador Bryant Dunn and share more about the development of fly fishing in Bhutan and the Himalaya Region.



FFI International Japan

Hi Everyone,

Happy New Year! International Ambassador in Japan, Masao Sakaguchi sent his early spring fishing report. Unique fish with sea-run habitat . What is Maruta (Sea Dace / Pacific Redfin)? Maruta is a type of Japanese dace that usually live in the gentle water of the estuary, that comes up the river in the spring for spawning. Maruta is a very popular target fish in Tamagawa river that runs between Tokyo and the city of Kawasaki.

Thank you,
Kuni Masuda

Japan has four main large islands. Since it's located in the mid-latitudes, stretching east-west and north-south, the changes of the four seasons are clearly seen. For instance, cherry blossoms start blooming in late March in southwestern regions and gradually move up northward. It is called the "cherry blossom Front", and in Hokkaido, which is the last northern island, the cherry blossoms blooming is seen at the beginning of May.

The season of trout fly fishing is similar to the "cherry blossom Front", with the fishing ban on western Japan being lifted in February and other major streams including Tokyo and Tohoku starting in March. In the latest, there are also streams that start from April or May. As a prelude to the lifting of the trout fishing ban, "Maruta" fishing has become a new tradition in early spring in Tokyo and surrounding areas.

Maruta, "Tribolodon brandtii marutais" is a pacific redfin, a family of the Carp, not trout, but very rare species in the family for sea-run activities. It is running up all at once from the sea to the Tama River in capital Tokyo in early spring for spawning. Many trout streams are not open yet, or it is too cold to fish trout. Many fly fishers who can't wait for the ban to be lifted as only after about half a year of "fishing patience" gather for seeking fun before the regular trout fishing season. Moreover, it is relatively easy to catch, so it is a good practice for beginners and children to control and catch big fish with a fly rod. And fortunately, they are not tasty enough, so Maruta fishing is on fully catch-and-release basis.

"Maruta" in Japanese pronunciation usually indicates a log, wood, different from the fish, I jokingly call it "log-fish" when we talk in English.

Masao Sakaguchi, FFi Ambassador in Japan



Kuni Masuda



Masao Sakaguchi



FFI International

Slovenia

Wally wing BWO

By Gregor Novak

As any experienced fly fisherman I have tried (and tied) all sorts of flies and usually have box-fulls in my vest to prove it! For some reason I feel better if I have as much variety as possible on offer. Fishing reality is, of course, quite different! A hand full of flies tied in a few different colors and sizes will cover almost every situation. When it comes to dry flies the Wally Wing BWO is definitely one of those for me!

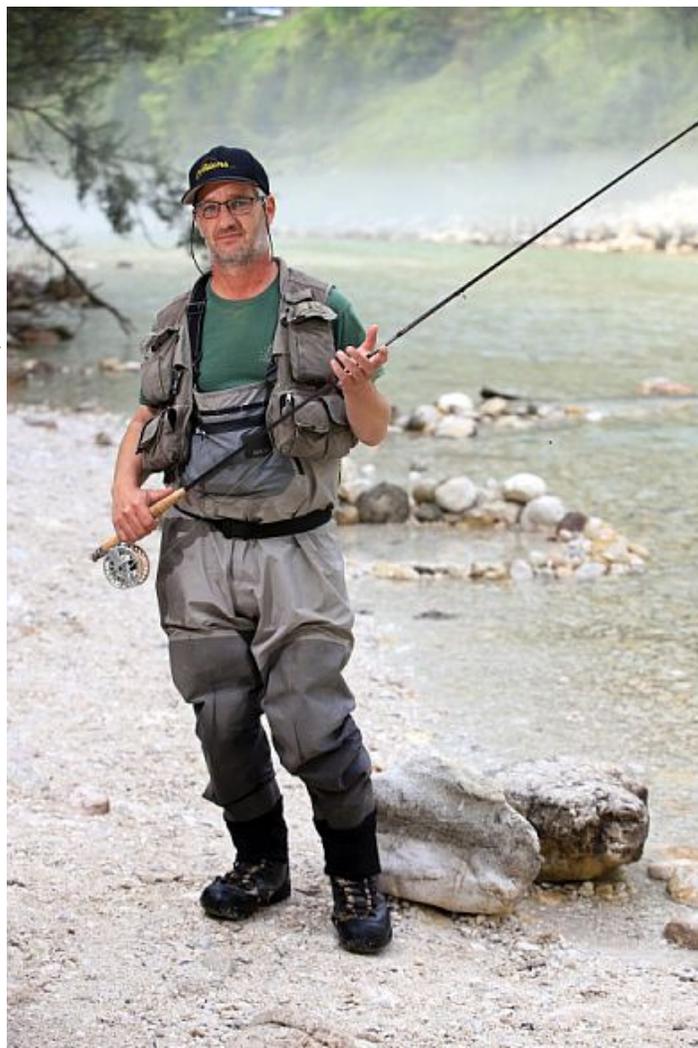
I first started tying them in 2009 as a simplified spin off of a fly I tied for the Slovenian national fly tying championship that year. The result was a reasonably good looking fly that isn't too difficult to tie. To my pleasant surprise the fish liked them, too! I've been using it ever since for my private fishing and with clients on many different types of rivers and streams in my home country Slovenia. Both trout and grayling seem to appreciate it. My fishing friends have also successfully used it elsewhere in Europe.

It should be useful where Ephemerellas and other small mayflies are present. Because of it's construction it always lands upright on the water and the wings ensure good visibility despite the small size. I use it from mid May till end of October on my home waters (Idrijca river and tributaries) and other Slovenian rivers. In early season I use size 16s and then 18s and sometimes 20s as the season progresses. Tying versions with different colored bodies, mostly various shades of olive or pale yellows, can be very useful. It is best used with fine tippets. The presentation needs to be drag free!

My original version had a stripped peacock quill body and a strip of foam for the thorax. They worked just fine, but were not very durable. Today's versions are a lot better in that respect. The trout will chew up the wings a bit after a few takes, but that should not diminish the flies effectiveness!

Short bio:

My name is Gregor Novak. I was born on 1971. I live in Cerkno in the hills of west Slovenia and am, of course, a member of the local fishing club. I started fishing at the age of 6, fly fishing at the age of 11 and tying at 25. For the last 15 years I've worked as a fly tyer and fly fishing guide. I do most of my fishing on the Idrijca and many other Slovenian rivers and streams. I like to use all fly fishing methods but fish nymphs the most! My favorite target species are marble trout and grayling though I value all native species!



Recipe and photos of flies on page 20 →

Wally Wing BWO

This is how I have been tying the Wally Wing BWO for the last couple of years:



Materials needed: -Tiemco100BL #16 hook
-8/0 tying thread dark brown (use finer thread for smaller hooks)
-pardo feather fibers for tail
-fine copper wire ribbing
-ultra fine poly dubbing for body
-swiss straw brown for thorax
-high quality cdc feather for wings
-grey dun hackle in size (you can use slightly longer hackle than in standard ties)

Step by step tying instructions

1. Wrap thread on hook shank starting about 2mm from eye.
2. Tie in 4 pardo feather fibers for tail and split them into a V-shape using the thread.
3. Tie in copper wire next to tail.
4. Make body with small amount of dubbing up 2/3 of shank toward eye and rib counterclockwise with wire.
5. Tie in strip of swiss straw on underside of shank 1/3 down from eye.
6. Tie in tip of cdc feather flat on top of shank just in front of swiss straw with 2 soft wraps (no tension!) and pull it forward. All the fibers except on tip should remain caught under thread.
7. Secure cdc feather with a few wraps of thread and cut off excess on butt end of feather.
8. Lift feather to vertical position and grab a few loose fibers on one side of feather tip. Carefully peel fibers downward off stem, repeat process on other side to form wings. Cut out remaining stem.
9. Trim wings to desired length (should be similar to body length) and remove loose cdc fibres. If you are feeling lazy just leave them-the fish won't mind!
10. Tie in hackle feather 1/3 way back from eye. Make 3 wraps of hackle behind wings and 2-3 in front. Secure feather and cut off excess. Front wraps should be tight to wings to help position them upright!
11. Pull swiss straw strip forward on the underside of the fly toward eye, so it pushes up downward pointing hackles on both sides of fly. Tie off straw and remove excess.
12. Make a thread head and complete fly with whip finish!



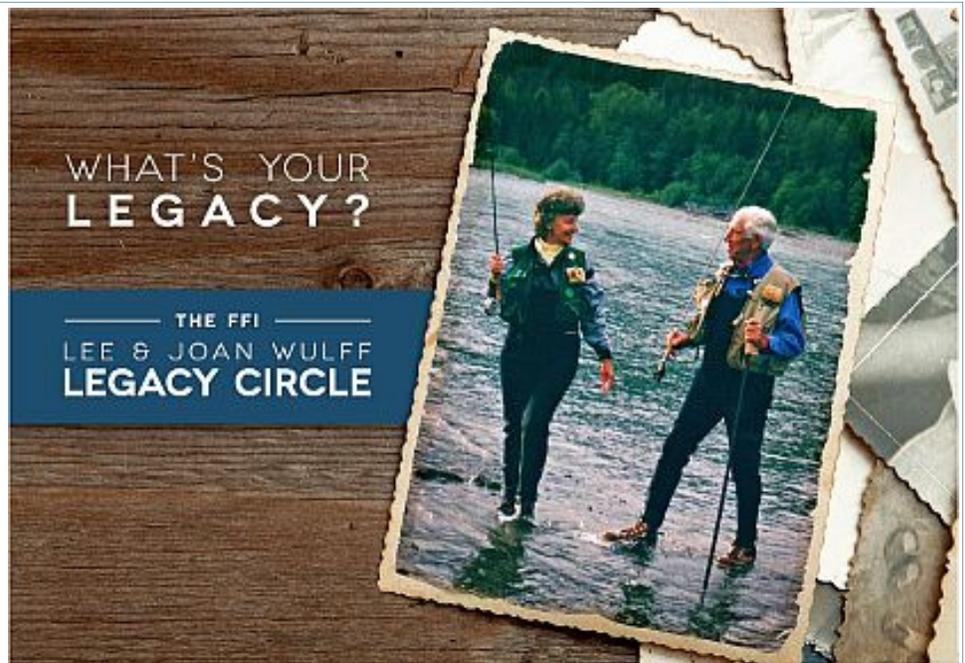


**Washington State Council
Fly Fishers International
Charter and Affiliated Clubs**



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/

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

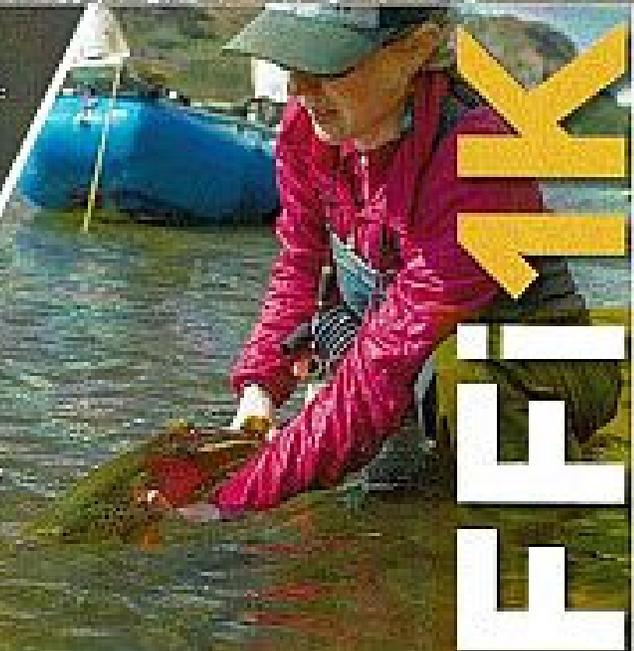
THE FUNDS RAISED BY THE FFI1K ARE VITAL to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission, and to support:

- **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 - 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

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!

Membership application on the next page



**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI



**ALL FISH,
ALL WATERS™**



FFi 406.222.9369
membership@flyfishersinternational.org
flyfishersinternational.org

Mail to: Fly Fishers International
 1201 US Hwy 10 West
 Suite E
 Livingston, MT 59047



<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org>
 406-222-9369

Please fill out this form carefully and legibly, the form will be the basis from which your FFI Membership will be built.

FFI Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Club(s) Affiliation _____

Paid by: Check Cash Card Square Total Paid: \$ _____

Card # _____ Expire Date: ____ / ____



FLY FISHERS
 INTERNATIONAL

Membership Levels

Each FFI Membership level includes full access to the FFI Learning Center, Online access to both spring and fall issues of the Flyfisher Magazine, and discounts and benefits from a huge variety of FFI partners.

*First time joining the FFI? Mark this box *Renewing your FFI Membership? Mark this box

Standard - \$35 / Yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Advocate - \$75 / Yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Steward - \$125 / Yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainer - \$250 / Yr <input type="checkbox"/>
Includes full access to FFI Learning Center, Online	*Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!*	*Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!*	*Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!*
Access to Fly Fisher Magazine Discounts and Benefits from FFI's Partners	Choice of FFI Hat, or 1 year subscription to Flyfisher Magazine Hat <input type="checkbox"/> Subscription <input type="checkbox"/>	Also Includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFI Hat • Magazine Subscription • 1-year Subscription to OnWater App 	Also Includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airflo Fly Line • FFI Hat • Magazine Subscription

I am 65 or Older I am a Veteran Youth Membership Age 22 or younger
 (\$10 Discount per year for either) (\$15 Discount per year) \$ _____

Specialty Groups: Fly Tying Group \$20/yr Guides & Outfitters Association \$30/yr Women Connect \$ _____
 (1 year Complementary)

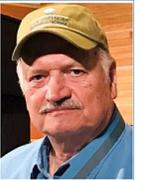
Printed Flyfisher Magazine: \$15/yr USA \$25/yr International \$ _____

Choose the number of years you wish to purchase: 1 - year 2 - year 3 - year \$ _____



Editors Notes

By Larry Gibbs



I had the pleasure of working the membership table at our April 29th Washington State Council Fly Casting Fair. That gave me the opportunity to talk to a lot of people. I really enjoy talking to people from all walks of life. Maybe I can give a little advice and more often I can pick up words of advice for myself. I may have mentioned this in the past, but I really appreciate fly fishing, aside from the actual fishing, it is the ability to talk to anyone else who enjoys fly fishing. I don't care if it is a really rich person or someone just getting by. The very act of fly fishing links all of us together, a common bond that allows us to relate to each other about our joy of fly fishing.

At the Fly Casting Fair, we had 16 people fill out the membership forms. Each one received a dozen trout flies and a chance to win an Orvis Encounter fly rod outfit. At 3:00 PM we held the drawing. Brian and Sherry Miller, two members of the Alpine Fly Fishers club that I belong to, were there so I asked Sherry to reach into the container and select a winner.

David Hirdler of Mount Vernon won the Orvis fly rod. He had also been sitting with me working the membership table most of the day. Thanks David for the help. He recently joined the Fidalgo Fly Fishers club as well. Hope he gets some good use out of that rod, it casts rather well.

We will have the Fly Casting Fair again next year and the Board of Directors of the Washington State Council FFI is now starting to contemplate where else in the state we should have this great event. More on that later.

Now it is summertime, the heat is on. Waters are warming up, which is not good for the trout. If you can, fish early in the morning or late in the evening to allow the water to cool down a bit. Use barbless hooks so you can unhook them quickly and get them back in the water really fast. It is best if you can leave them in the water while you unhook but if you can't then don't delay on getting them back in. We want those fish to continue to grow and to give another person a chance to catch and release them.

I am rather active within Fly Fishers Internationals system. I am president of a Charter fly club (Alpine Fly Fishers). I am also on the board of directors of the Washington State Council of FFI as V.P. of Membership and newsletter editor. In addition to those, I am also on the FFI Membership Committee. Another board that I recently became a member of is the Fly Fishers International Board Advisory Council. I have a lot of Zoom meetings each month and I try to be on each one. Having the ability to have some input in the future direction and goals of the FFI is important to me. I also belong to other parts of the FFI. I was the founding member of the 1000 Stewards, and a long time member of the President's Club and a recent member of the Legacy Circle. I guess you could say that the FFI runs in my veins. This is a great organization that is doing everything it can to preserve fly fishing waters for the future. Their slogan of "All Fish, All Waters" really says it all.

The FFI needs your support in order to help preserve the fish, the waters and the ability to fly fish here in the Americas and world wide. Please consider joining the Thousand Stewards or the President's Club. Also, think of the future and include the FFI in your will so you can continue to assist the FFI even after you pass. What a great legacy that would be. With either the Thousand Stewards or the President's Club you can join and have a few dollars taken out each month.

With the 1K Stewards you simply pay \$42 per month, for a total of \$500 per year for a five year period, hence a \$2,500 donation to the FFI.

Or, with the President's Club you have four levels of sponsorship. You can sign up for the Bronze level which is just \$43 per month, or the Silver level which is \$84 per month, or the Gold level which is \$125 per month or the Platinum level which is \$205 per month. The FFI is a 501.c.3 so your donations are tax deductible. You pick the level you want and you will have the satisfaction of knowing you are doing something very positive to help the FFI continue their goal of All Fish, All Waters.

Let's keep fly fishing alive and well for the future generations.

Did you read page 3 regarding the election of members for the Board of Directors of the Washington State Council?

Check out the photos of the kids that went thru the Youth Academy. The majority of them will become fly fishers that will carry on the traditions of this great sport.