

# Creel Notes from the



P.O. Box 639, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Website: [www.wffc.com](http://www.wffc.com)



**Happy New Year**



MMXIV No. 1

January, 2014

## President's Riffle

By President Mike Moscynski



Happy New Year! It is a great time to look forward to the year ahead for ourselves and the WFFC.

First I would like to thank Mike Wearne, our Past President for his outstanding and dedicated service to the WFFC membership for the last two years. The strength of our club is in no small measure due to Mike's leadership. Thank you Mike!

Hearty thanks must also go to Dick Robbins and the many member volunteers who worked so hard to make the annual Christmas Party a stellar success in 2013. The Christmas Party of course is the major fund raiser for the club's year.

The Board and Committee Chairs have had their first meeting of 2014, the WFFC's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Time flies when you're having fun and 75 years have passed since the WFFC's birthday. You will be hearing more soon about plans to celebrate this anniversary. The committee chairs are all busy planning and working on their respective areas. Please join me in thanking them all for their efforts and skills that help make this the fine club we all enjoy.

Your ideas and concerns are welcome. Please feel free to send them to me or a board member throughout the year.

The Annual Awards Presentation Dinner is January 21<sup>st</sup>. Don't forget your coat & tie. I hope to see you all there.

May you all have many, pleasant fishing days in the coming year!

*"To my mind, hunting and fishing is the big lure that takes us into the great spaces and teaches us to forget the mean and petty things of life."* Leon Leonwood Bean, 1942

Be well,

Michael J. Moscynski  
President WFFC

## Correction

Our esteemed Ghillie 2 is Abe Lillard, not 'Dillard' which I so erroneously presented on the front cover of the last Creel Notes—Editor



Abe Lillard

## New Members

### Two New Members Inducted

**Pat Becker** and **Vicki Hoagland** are our latest inductees to the club (November, 2013).

Please give them a welcome and make them feel at home.



## Dues are Due

A friendly reminder that club dues are payable now.

Dues can be paid on-line through the WFFC website or by mail via the dues notice printed in last month's Creel Notes (December, 2013) edition.

Let's all get paid up by the end of the month.



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## January Program

### January Ceremonies; Presentation of Letcher Lambuth Award

By Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman

January is Awards Month. Please join us in recognizing Club members and others who have distinguished themselves through service to the Club and the fly fishing community in 2013.

We are pleased to announce the presentation of the Letcher Lambuth Angling Craftsman Award to Dean Childs, nominated by the Olympic Peninsula Fly Fisher. This Award is the Club's highest and is presented to a flyfisher from Washington, Oregon, or British Columbia who has made significant and lasting contributions to the sport of fly fishing.

Dean has made a number of these contributions, including the development of the Casting Partner, a device to help an individual with only the use of one hand to fight and land a fish; development and production of high-end fly tying tools through Wasatch Custom Angling Products; development of a tool for tying CDC feathers; and enhancement of the Evergreen Hand tying device developed by Jesse Scott. He has also produced custom fly-tying tool kits sold to raise money for Project Healing Waters and helped with the OPFF's Rangeley boat, built for PHW.

Dean will be present during the Wet Fly Hour to meet members of our Club and to explain his work. He will be joined by his wife Diane, as well as by Phil Shive, President of OPFF, and several other members of that Club. Please welcome them.

Here is a brief description of the Club's other primary Awards:

**Empty Creel Award**, presented to a member for exceptional dedication and contribution to the welfare of the Club;

**Tommy Brayshaw Award**, presented to a member for distinctive and meritorious contribution to the general community through furtherance of the aims and purposes of the Club;

**Andy Award**, presented to a member who has "suffered most cruelly from the vagaries of Murphy's Law"; and

**Half-Assed Award**, presented to a member for, well, you know what.

We may also be recognizing other members for their special "accomplishments" - meritorious and otherwise.

Please remember to wear a coat and tie for this meeting. Thank you.

Guys and Gals  
Dress for this event  
**Men-Coat and Tie**



JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

You're not a damn loony now. You're a fisherman!

- R.P. McMurphy, (Nicholson) One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

## Creel Notes

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Roger Rohrbeck '13 Dave Hawkinson '13  
Mark Pratt '14 Maury Skeith '14

## Club Aims and Purposes

The purpose of this club shall be:

1. To improve and increase the sport of Fly Fishing in the State of Washington.
2. To promote and work for the betterment of trout streams and lakes.
3. To encourage and advocate the conservation and increase of trout, steelhead, and salmon in state waters.
4. To promote a campaign of education against pollution in streams, lakes or Sound waters of the State of Washington.
5. To encourage and assist others — particularly young persons of high school age—to become fly fishers and true conservationists.

## Share Your Expertise!

### Upcoming August 2014 Roundtable Program

*By Bob Burdick, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP for Programs*

In August, 2014, I am arranging to again have a roundtable program whereby our members can sit or migrate to any of about 6 or 7 tables, for an hour, at the Tennis Club. At each table a speaker will be discussing or demonstrating some favorite subject. Topics such as Steve Raymond's discussion on how and how not to be a successful magazine or book author, how to tie all the knots you need to know for fly fishing, how and what to buy if you want to learn to Spey cast, how to begin fly tying, how to apply and outfit yourself for a private float trip on the Smith River, and fish photography have been quite popular in the past.

By popular request, two speakers from two of our most popular programs this last year, Gene Gudger and Preston Singletary, have agreed to chair separate tables and talk about "How to decide where and how to fish BC lakes" and "Coastal Cutthroat" respectively. I need subjects and speakers for another 4-6 tables. If you want to offer to be a speaker, or have a subject that you think should be on the program please contact me.

In addition, that night we will have our annual rummage sale where everyone can offer their unused, seldom used or surplus fly fishing gear or equipment for sale.

## Outings 2014

### Outings Ideas Solicited

*By Dave Schorsch, Outdoor Chairman*

At this time of year, I am trying to come up with a schedule of outings that work for our club and its varied interests.



Some of the considerations are changing environmental realities (Dry Falls for example), available capacities and facilities for groups, weather, hatches, evolving member interests, conflict with other clubs outings or participation of other clubs, new opportunities (Hannan Lake?) just to name a few.

I welcome input on outing locations, times, ideas. Also want to know what you liked or didn't like about last years outings. I want to have a full years schedule on the web site by Feb. 1, so get back to me soon with any thoughts in the subject. In the mean time I will be contacting other clubs for their schedules, to help avoid conflicts and crowds.

Hope to hear from you soon.

You can reach Dave at: 206-227-6134

## Club Position Open

### Youth Chairman

*By Dick Brening*

The WFFC is looking for a member to Chair the Youth Committee.



One of the key aims and purposes written in the bylaws of the Washington Fly Fishing Club (WFFC) is: **To encourage and assist others—particularly young persons to become fly fishers and true conservationists.**

There is a rich history of WFFC Youth activities: facilitating fly fishing instruction at summer youth camps, formation and tutoring of a high school level Youth Fly Fishing Club, teaching fly fishing classes at local parks and at Boys & Girls Clubs, holding special youth fly fishing outings, attending youth fitness fairs to introduce youth to fly fishing as a life-long sport, providing financial support for youth attendance at fly fishing and conservation camps, direct hands on support of school based science programs, etc. Our yearly Fly Tying and Fly rod Casting classes are often attended by youth.

The resources of the WFFC and it's knowledgeable members represent a unique opportunity for our club to get involved in a meaningful with the youth of today. We just have to be innovative and actively pursue the opportunities.

If you are interested in taking on the Chairperson role or would just like to volunteer to help on the committee, please contact WFFC President **Mike Moscynski**

## Fly Show February 2014

### Lynnwood Fly Fishing Show

**February 15 and 16**

*By Charlie Davis, 1st Vice President (Membership)*

The Club will be sharing a booth at the Lynnwood Fly Fishing Show on Saturday, February 15, and Sunday, February 16, with Project Healing Waters (PHW). On Saturday the show runs from 9:00 – 5:30; hours on Sunday are from 9:00 – 4:30. The Show will be staged at the Lynnwood Convention Center located at 3711 196<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036.

We need fly tiers on hand equipped to tie, but bright faces even without feathers, bobbin and thread will do. Attendees may also be well-advised to bring a folding chair. The idea is to have fun (this is a great event) and to promote the Club. We will have handouts and sign-up sheets for those interested in learning more about WFFC.



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A number of Club members are already slated to assist at the booth under the PHW banner.

If you are free and have a few hours to spare on February 15 or 16, please contact Charlie Davis at [cwday-is1923@hotmail.com](mailto:cwday-is1923@hotmail.com). We'll then assign tentative time slots on Saturday and Sunday, and deal with logistical matters such as the issuance of exhibitor badges and/or show passes.

## Aigner Competition Forthcoming

### Boyd Aigner Competition for 2014

*By Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman*

The 2014 Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition is starting. This intended to be a friendly Competition, with each participant demonstrating his or her creativity and tying skills. Each participant is to submit a "best" fly in each of the three categories and may submit only one set of flies. Members of the Club will be the judges.

Here are the 2014 patterns:

- (1) Mouse, any size;
- (2) Sofa pillow, any size; and
- (3) Chernobyl ant, any size.

We will be presenting to the winner a special WFFC pin created for this Competition. The pin is now off the drawing boards and into production. We will be presenting one to the winner of the 2013 Competition, as well as to subsequent winners.

Our schedule for the Competition is as follows:

<b>February Members' Meeting</b>	Display boxes distributed
<b>April Members' Meeting</b>	Flies due
<b>May Members' Meeting</b>	Judging
<b>June Members' Meeting</b>	Winners announced

**Bob Burdick**, 3 times Competition winner (he wanted me to mention that this was consecutively), will not be participating this year, and he and I will serve as Coordinators for the Competition. Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for your participation, and good luck to all.

**Bill Neal:** (w) 206.892.2116; (h) 206.232.0603  
E-mail: [william.neal@stokeslaw.com](mailto:william.neal@stokeslaw.com)

**Bob Burdick:** (h) 206.329.5948  
E-mail: [reburdick@comcast.net](mailto:reburdick@comcast.net)

## WFFC Fly Tiers Roundtable

The Fly Tier's Round Table meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Evergreen Covenant Church on Mercer Island (address is 3200 78th Ave SE).

Attend! Put it on your calendar!



## 2014 Fly Tying/Fly Fishing Expo Set

March 7th, 8th and 9th

2014 Northwest Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Expo will be held in Albany, Oregon on March 7th, 8th and 9th.

Lots of good fly tiers show their stuff

WFFC members are encouraged to attend this event.

A poster for the Northwest Fly Tying &amp; Fly Fishing Expo. It features a fisherman in a hat and waders fishing in a river. Text on the poster includes: "Northwest Fly Tying &amp; Fly Fishing Expo", "March 7, 8, 9, 2014", "Linn County Expo Center, Albany Oregon", "Expanded to 3 Days!", "Classes: Vendor Booths, Tying Demonstrations, Casting Demonstrations, Auctions &amp; Raffles Daily, Benefit Banquet &amp; Auction", "New Show Hours: Friday &amp; Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, Family Fun Day - Sunday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm", "Admission: FTF members, Veterans and youth under 18 - FREE, Non FTF members \$7.00", "Oregon Council", and the website "www.nwexpo.com".

## WFFC Sponsored Fly Tying

### Fly Tying Competition Yields 2 Winners

*By Greg Crumbaker*

For many years "members only" competed in the WFFC Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition. In 2013, the competition was expanded to include a second group of fly tiers who were not WFFC members, but who were taught fly tying by WFFC members.

Two of those groups were Project Healing Waters and Casting Forward. The flies were the same patterns the members had to tie and the flies were judged blind by the WFFC membership.



The two men pictured above, David Hart (red vest) Ray Ostum (beard) were the first two finishers in the competition and are receiving plaques to acknowledge their expertise. Both are vets and participants of Project Healing Waters. The 3<sup>rd</sup> finalist, not pictured, was Gary Prater of Casting Forward. Kudos to participants and their volunteer teachers.

PS: There currently is a book out titled "Baseball in the Blue and Gray" that discusses how baseball being played during the Civil War in training camps, war prisons and even on front lines helped the game evolve into the national pastime. Who knows, 100 years from now fly fishing may surpass baseball as the new national pastime and the WFFC will have played a part.

## Conservation Issues

### Elwha River Project Dam Removal and Restoration

*Synopsis of the of dam removal project and potential benefits. Thought this was a very comprehensive narrative. Probably 'old news' to some. -Ed.*

#### Dam Removal

The removal of the Elwha and Glines Canyon Dams is currently in process. The removal project is expected to take two years to complete; however, efforts to restore the Elwha River watershed to its pre dam condition will take much longer. The scale of these dam removals and the subsequent watershed restoration make it one of the largest efforts of its kind in U.S. history.



The sections below provide a brief overview of the removal strategy and a discussion of what to expect during the transition period after the dams are removed. For more detailed information, the Environmental Impact Statements thoroughly describe the plans to:

1. De-construct the dams,
2. Maintain water supplies downstream,
3. Manage the sediments of the river, and restore the ecological function of the entire watershed.

The size of these hydroelectric dams (and the amount of water and sediment trapped behind them) makes removing the Elwha River dams more complicated than some other dam removal projects. Together, the reservoirs behind the dams have the capacity to contain 48,600 acre-feet of water. There is also over 17 million cubic yards of sediment that has built up over the last 90 years. Special care must be taken in the dam removal process to minimize the negative effects that may occur with the release of that much water and sediment.

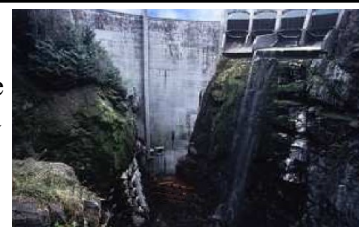
For the smaller Elwha Dam the first part of the removal project is the construction of a diversion channel, which will lower the level of Lake Aldwell by 50 feet.

Once the level of the reservoir is lowered in this manner, the construction team will be able to remove the Elwha Dam by controlled blasting.



**Elwha Dam, 108 feet tall is the smaller of the two dams**

However, the 210-foot Glines Canyon Dam, which is double the size of the 105-foot Elwha Dam, will require additional measures to account for the larger quantities of water and sediment in Lake Mills.



**Glines Canyon Dam, 210 feet**

First, the reservoir level will gradually be drawn down using an outlet pipe to move water downstream. As the water level drops, demolition crews will cut and remove 7.5-foot sections of the dam starting from the top. These concrete blocks will be transported offsite by truck and recycled. Finally, once the sediments behind the dam are reached, controlled blasting will be used to clear the remainder of the dam.

The removal strategies are designed carefully to minimize negative effects (such as flooding and decreased water quality from sediment releases), but the precautions cannot completely eliminate these effects. Most of the effects are expected to be temporary, but some infrastructure changes will need to be implemented prior to dam removal to ensure that the water supply remains safe and steady. For example, a water filtration system will be constructed down river in order to maintain the supply of water to the city of Port Angeles.

#### Transition Period

When the dams were built, some watershed impacts were immediate (such as the elimination of salmon stocks in the upper watershed) while some other effects have developed over the last 90 years (such as the sediment deprivation that has impacted the near-shore). Undoing these impacts and bringing back the health of the watershed will likewise take decades to realize once the dams are removed, although some effects will be noticeable in the near term.

Shortly after dam removal, salmon species from the Pacific Ocean will begin to re-colonize gradually over 70 miles of habitat that was not accessible to spawning salmon when the dams were in place. Much of this habitat is within the bounds of Olympic National Park and is in excellent condition. It is estimated that within 30 years, the river will produce 390,000 salmon and steelhead each year.

#### Restoration

After the dams are removed, the Elwha River will regain its natural form and vast areas of land that were covered by the reservoirs will be devoid of any vegetation. These riverbank areas will be quickly planted with native plants to begin revegetation. However, it will take decades to restore portions of that land to the forested landscape that existed prior to the dams.

Some immediate effects will be negative, although they are

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expected to be short term. For example, the sediments that were bound behind the dam will begin to migrate down river and eventually out to sea. It is expected this process will take place within 5 years.

When the sediment is released initially, it may kill fish and other species in the river and decrease water quality. Additional restoration actions downstream will help to minimize the impacts from this enormous load of sediment. However, in the long term, the return of the natural flow of sediment will have many positive effects: improving spawning habitat, building up the nearshore area, and reducing the need to build up Ediz Hook artificially.



None this month

## 'Reeling' in the Years

An 'intestinal event' from a WFFC general membership dinner meeting, January 1969..... summarized like only Steve Raymond can.— Ed



### Preface

We have received many versions of the miseries that struck down most of the member after the last meeting. We think Steve's is the most erudite and comprehensive.

### 'A Happening'

History will little note nor long remember the WFFC meeting of January 21, but what happened afterwards will be talked about for a long time.

We've heard of members catching ducks, carp and even a rattlesnake on the fly. But this is the first time we've heard of a group of fly fisherman catching Salmonella, or whatever it is. For a group that is opposed to water pollution, it must be admitted that WFFC members contributed more than their share of 'pollutants' after the January 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

One member, whose name we shall mercifully withhold, contributed more than the rest. He was wading up to his navel in the North Fork of the Stilly when stricken. He reports that it was necessary for him to drop his waders three times before reaching shore, so great was his urgency. The same member reportedly is now shopping for a new pair of waders. Some other members have suggested he be fined for chumming for steelhead.

It should be noted, however, that not all our miseries were suffered in vain. Since the meeting the Seattle – King

County Health Department has been conducting its own version of "Operation Fish Guts"\*, collecting numerous samples from WFFC members. Now, after several decades of studying trout foods, we are destined to learn what the fly fisherman feeds on. Research of this type may lead to development of moist or dry pellets for fly fishermen, calculated to speed, growth and fertility.

The Health Department is putting together quite a file on what Al Dieffenback, Medical Editor of the Seattle Times, has termed "the case of the fly fishermen's feces". Meanwhile a proposal has been made to change the name of the club to the Washington Fly Fishing and Trotting Society. That proposal will be discussed at the next meeting during the restroom break.

A Health Department report on January 28 indicated that the 'critter' that caused all this nuisance is a bug named "*Clostridium Perfringens*", which was isolated from two or three samples tested. It apparently multiplied in the creamed gravy. The Department also said 80% of those who attended were afflicted, a usually high percentage.

\* Operation Fish Guts=1967 Club Program that Dick Thompson and Tom Dark conducted that reviewed the stomach contents of fish caught in various lakes and streams in the local areas.

## Lake Hannan Fin Clip April 7, 1962

*From Hugh Jennings*

In effort to track fish size and yearly growth in Hannan Lake (Snohomish County) the Washington State Game Department went through a fin clipping exercise.

The fish were put them in a holding box and then the adipose fin would be clipped and the fish released back in the lake. They kept records of the fish size and then if the fish was caught hopefully the clipped fin fish would be reported.

*Hugh Jennings was kind enough to recall memories of this event and send pictures with captions for each —Ed*



Lake Hannan pre-season marking of fish - Game Dept - April 7, 1962



Game Dept officials clipping adipose fin, April 7, 1962



Typical Lake Hannan Fish ~12 inches, April 7, 1962

### Want Ads/Buy and Sell

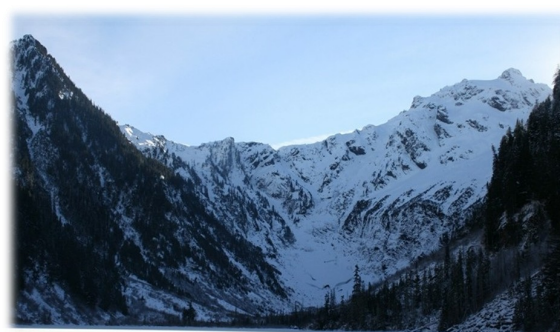


### For Sale Hardy St John Reel w/ line and extra spool



Once owned by the late Andy Gumpertz (of 'Andy Award' Fame) who was the original owner. Reel is in excellent condition.

- \$200 dollars takes it (first caller)
- Contact Perry Barth (425-774-6902)



January 5, 2014  
Goat Lake

Elliott Creek Drainage / Mountain Loop Highway  
Mt Baker National Forest

## Youth Academy Ready for 2014

### Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

*By Dick Brening, Youth Chairman*

During 2013 the WFFC Foundation made a generous donation to the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy to provide scholarships for youths to attend the 2013 Academy.

The photo below shows the youths that attended and they all send their **THANKS** to the WFFC.



The 2014 Academy dates are June 22 through June 28. The Academy is limited to 24 youths, ages 12 through 16. Applicants must be mature and serious minded, willing to learn the sport of fly fishing and conservation.

If you know of any youths that would like to attend an Application can be found at the following web site: [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com)

For additional information contact either: Mike Clancy (home) 360-753-1259, (cell) 253- 278-0061 or Jim Brosio (home) 360-943-9947. They are also on FaceBook.

The application deadline is April 15, 2014.

### An Extra Tip

#### Shake A Tail Feather *From Field and Stream*

One of the best containers for storing loose feathers is an empty Parmesan cheese canister. You want the type with the large opening for spooning that allows you to grab or shake out a single feather. They are ideal for marabou, soft hackles, and peacock herl.

Once you discover how perfect they are, your family may need to eat Italian food every night.





**Washington Fly Fishing Club**  
**P.O. Box 639**  
**Mercer Island, WA 98040**  
**[www.wffc.com](http://www.wffc.com)**

Stamp  
here

**January, 2013**

**Meeting Announcement**



**Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the  
Seattle Tennis Club, 922 McGilvra Blvd. E.**

**The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM and dinner is served at  
6:45 PM.**

**This month:**

**Awards Night**  
**Club Awards for 2013**