

Creel Notes from the



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



February, 2006

Omnino physicus iactus muscarius

We were saddened to learn of the passing of our member **Dean Ingram** on February 10, 2006.

On a happier note, WFFC member, **Earl George**, made the front page of the Seattle Times! The story was about Earl's trip in his '92 Caddy from Edmonds to Panama and back. He drove the ~10,000 mile round trip by himself! (and some of us can't make it to an outing in Washington State???) For his next trip he may drive to Alaska. "But I'm open to suggestions", he said. So if you have any suggestions, let Earl know, maybe he'd like to have a passenger.

A word of caution... - The College Club's Coat Room shouldn't be considered secure. Anyone can walk in the front door and have ready access to the room and whatever you may put in there.

Our new Skunk Hat was used at the January meeting. **Dyche Kinder** started our 2006 year with a conservation oriented fishing report in which he caught none of our finny friends.

My suggestions for 2006 include:

- More and Varied Outings
- Expand our Website
- Finalize the Home Waters Project
- More photographs in the Creel Notes
- Support Conservation to the Hilt. Contact legislators and attend meetings when called upon to help preserve and protect our resources.

Bill Deters was elected president of the Mountaineers. Congratulations to Bill but now we're in the process of replacing him as our Outdoors Chairman. We plan to have teams of an experienced member and a new member in charge of each outing.

Jim Morrison did a fine job tending to our 'spirits' last year so he gets our congratulations for that and also for being elected Education Chairman for the Northwest Fly Anglers. We will have our new members sharing the bartending duties this year. It will give them an opportunity to provide service to the club and meet other members.

While we're mentioning members who've been elected to positions in other clubs we'll congratulate our Ghillie **Pat Peterman** who is now the President of the Overlake Fly Fishing club. Well Done, Gents!

Dues are due. Please pay them promptly and indicate any changes to your roster listing so we can get the Roster out accurately and on time. Your dues need to go to **Mike Wearne**.

If you have any questions about your roster entry or have information about someone else's listing, please contact **John Schuitemaker**.

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission recently approved more than 80 changes to the state's sportfishing rules.

The Cedar River remains Catch and Release.

In selective gear waters you must use knotless nets and may use electric motors.

There are some changes to the steelhead rules.

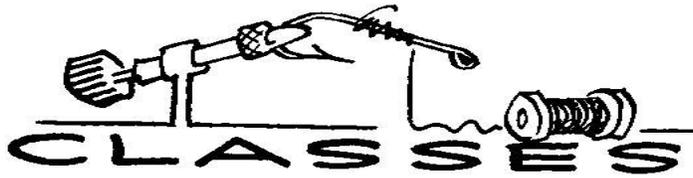
All the changes will be in the 2006-07 Fishing in Washington rules pamphlet, which will be distributed statewide in early May. Meanwhile, WDFW will post the complete list on its website (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/>). Keeping up with these changes can be challenging, but every angler has a responsibility to know the rules and follow them.

All fly-casting is physics

Bob Birkner

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Beginning fly Casting Class

Starts Thursday April 6, 2006; Time: 6:30 PM to dusk
 Duration: 6 Weeks; Place: Greenlake Casting pier; Cost: \$40.00
 Registration required: Call **Bob Birkner** 206-542-4623 or **Don Simonson** 206-932-4925

Advanced Casting Class

Starts Wednesday April 5, 2006; Time: 6:30 PM to dusk
 Duration: 4 weeks; Place: Greenlake Casting Pier; Cost: \$50.00
 Class limited to 10 students.
 Registration required: Student must have good basic casting techniques with ability to control the fly line showing nice tight narrow loops both on the back cast and forward cast along with being able to double haul. To register call **Bob Birkner** 206-542-4623 or **Don Simonson** 206-932-4925 .

WFFC Fly Tier's Round Table *By Dick Brening*

Thanks to everyone who completed our Round Table survey last month. The results indicate that the meeting night should be changed to the second Wednesday of the month. We will try the second Wednesday and see if that helps with attendance.

Since the second Wednesday falls prior to the regularly scheduled monthly dinner meeting the Creel Notes notification and the dinner meeting announcements will have to be made a month in advance. However, the dates will be listed on WFFC.com and I will also implement an e-mail reminder to be sent a few days before. Please let me know if you want to be included in that notification.

The location for the meeting on Mercer Island will remain the same.

The round table objectives will be the sharing of fly tying techniques and skill enhancement. Meeting content will focus on technique demonstration, tying to a predefined theme and new pattern introductions.

As soon as we have a stable attendance record we will investigate inviting participation by other fly clubs to further broaden our exposure to fly tying techniques and skills.

The March Round Table will be on the 2nd Wednesday, March 8th, 7 to 9PM. The theme will be damsel flies (nymphs or adults) for spring fishing. You can come to tie your favorite, share a new pattern or just observe and chat.

As in the past, the Covenant Church serves a simple but delicious meal (for a small charge) beginning at 5:30 PM to which we are invited. So make it a night out and give the wife a break.

Place: Mercer Island Covenant Church, 3200 78th S.E. (S.E. corner of 78th S.E. and SE 32nd). Just south of the Mercer Island business district. Off street parking is available off 78th S.E.

If you have any questions on directions contact **Pete Baird** or me at the club meeting or give me a call.

Creel Notes

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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 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.

2005 AWARDS RECAP

By Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman

Congratulations to the winners of Club Awards for 2005, and thanks to all members who attended our January 17, 2006, ceremonies to recognize those who have contributed so greatly to the Club and the community. This is a short recap for those who were not able to attend.

The Club's traditional Awards were presented to the following individuals:

Empty Creel Award, to a member for service to the Club—your humble reporter **Bill Neal** for services including Awards, Secretary, one-year Trustee, substitute Ghillie, and others over numerous years.

Below: Bill Neal with his empty Creel

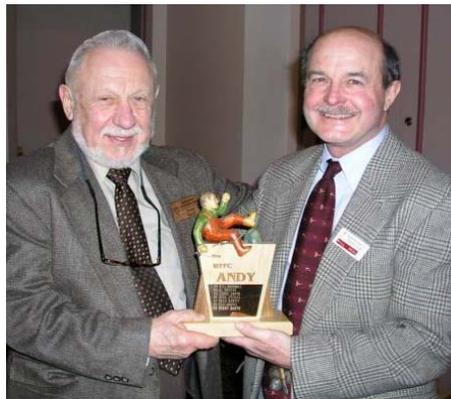


Tommy Brayshaw Award, to a member for service to the community—**Leland Miyawaki** for services in connection with steelhead and cutthroat trout, including Coalition work and speaking and testifying in support of steelhead and cutthroat, as well as freely sharing his beach-fishing methods.



Leland Miyawaki receiving his Tommy Brayshaw Award

Andy Award, to a member who has “suffered most cruelly from the vagaries of Murphy’s Law”—**Perry Barth** for his misfortunes fishing the Bitterroot and plowing up I-90 on his way home.



Survivor Perry Barth

Half-Assed Award, to a member for various and repeated acts of “half-assedness”—**Dyche Kinder**, chosen by the Awards Committee, after the prior recipient failed to do so, with a “warm”, but friendly presentation by aspiring poet laureate Kris Kristoferson.



Dyche “Didn’t catch any fish either” Kinder sharing a laugh with Kris Kristoferson

Letcher Lambeth Angling Craftsmanship Award, for significant contributions to the knowledge, art, philosophy, and techniques of fly-fishing—this Award will be presented at the February members’ meeting—please see the separate notice in these *Creel Notes*.

The Awards Committee always reserves the right to give special recognition to other Club members for their accomplishments, for better or worse. In keeping with that right, **Don Simonson**, on behalf of the Committee, presented a special *Senior Moment Award* to **Dick Robbins** for his failure to keep track of necessary gear prior to starting a hiking expedition into the Wind River Wilderness. Don also presented to the Club, through **Pete Baird**, past President from 1964, a plaque from the Federation of Fly Fishers recognizing the Club as one of its founding chapters.

Club member **Steve Raymond** was recognized for receiving the *Angul Award*, presented to him by the British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers for an indi-

(Continued from page 3)

vidual who has made outstanding contributions to the heritage of the art and science of fly fishing in British Columbia. Also, **Don Simonson** was recognized for receiving the Federation of Fly Fishers' 2005 Council Award of Excellence for Washington State, which had been presented to him at the National FFF Conclave.

The revised *Gold Button Award Program* was implemented in 2005. As part of the January ceremonies we presented Gold Button Certificates to winners in four categories:

Brown trout: **Don Schroder**, 26", Fish Lake, June 4, 2005, 10:00 a.m., black leech.

Lahonton Cutthroat: **Don Schroder**, 28", Lake Lenore, October 8, 2005, bobtail woolly bugger.

Rainbow trout: **Ted Pearson**, 27", Fish Lake, September 9, 2005, 2:30 p.m., woolly bugger #8.

Steelhead trout: **Scott Hagen**, 32", Snake River (9 miles down from Heller Bar), November 4, 2005, 11:00 a.m., Grande Ronde rat #3.

We also want to recognize again **Ron Dion** for his winning in May 2005 the *Boyd Aigner Flytying Competition*.

Special thanks for their help to the other members of the 2005 Awards Committee: **Pete Baird, Chuck Ballard, Dick Brening, Ron Dion, Kris Kristoferson, and Don Simonson.**

RAY GOULD RECEIVES LETCHER LAMBETH; WILL REVIEW CANE RODS AT FEBRUARY MEETING

By Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman

It's not much of a secret that Ray Gould of the Olympic Fly Fishing Club has been selected as the recipient for 2005 of the Letcher Lambeth Angling Craftsman Award. Among his many qualifications, Ray is widely recognized for building and restoring fine cane rods.



Ray Gould with a finished product

Ray will be at the February Members Meeting for the presentation of this Award. During the Wet Fly hour he will have on display cane rods that he has built. Ray will also examine and evaluate cane rods belonging to Club members. Please welcome Ray and congratulate him.

Found at Flyfishing Show

A blue WFFC jacket was left at our table at the Maydenbauer show. It will be at the meeting on Wednesday.

NOTICE – 2006 BOYD AIGNER COMPETITION

The 2006 Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition is underway. The Competition will again be on the basis of a "best" fly selected by each participant to imitate each of the three naturals specified for the Competition. The goal is to permit each competitor to demonstrate not only his tying skill, but also his creativity, by submitting flies that in his opinion best represent the specified naturals. Members of the Club will be the judges so everyone will have an opportunity to participate in the process.

For the 2006 Competition, participants are to submit their best flies to imitate the following: (1) stonefly nymph, (2) blue-winged olive dunn, and (3) crawfish. Each participant may submit only one set of flies. Flies are due by the March Members Meeting so that they can be displayed and judged at the April Meeting, with the Award presented at the May Meeting. Competition Guidelines and display boxes will be available at the February Meeting. Please note that all flies submitted for the Competition must be mounted in the display boxes.

The Coordinators for the Competition are **Dick Scales** and **Bill Neal**. Please contact them for Guidelines, display boxes, or questions. Bill Neal (w) (206) 667-8211; (h) (206) 232-0603; wneal@staffordfrey.com; Dick Scales (425) 898-1608; rls2arc@earthlink.net.



Arkansas Fishing Report

John Townsell

Hi Guys,

Just a little update on "Lucky John's" adventures! As most of you know, my wife and I purchased her Uncle's property in Bull Shoals, Arkansas with plans to stop off here in the Fall and in the Spring going to and coming from wintering in Mexico.

There is a small mobile home and a small cottage (and a 14' "lake boat") plus outbuildings on the property which needed a lot of cleaning-up and remodeling to be made livable! Our property is about one mile from Bull Shoals Dam and about 1/2 mile from a nice boat ramp on Bull Shoals Lake/Reservoir.

After all of the necessary work was done, I have been doing quite a bit of fishing on the tailwaters just downstream of Bull Shoals Dam. Fishing here is a little different than in the Great Northwest! The White river here is about the size of the North Fork Stilly when the water is down and the generators are not "on". The tailwaters here are crystal-clear. The "Fishing Gurus" here say to float a #18-#24 scud or sow bug fly below a very tiny "strike indicator" using light 6X to 8X tippetts. Also, for big browns, use a sculpin or minnow-imitating streamer (or woolybugger) or a crayfish pattern. I have also tried some patterns of sculpins and "Little Rainbow and Brown Trout" patterns tied by Bruce Swanson, an EFFC member, for me.

I have done all of this with mixed success. I have had my best luck using a "Nyerger Nymph-type" fly and #10 various-color woolybuggers!

I usually fish from about 8:00 or 9:00AM till about 11:30AM (when my "Kitchen Pass" expires and I have to go home and get to work)!

I brought with me some of those two-piece fly rods that you WFFC club members wanted to get rid of at the Annual Sale night in August (in favor of your getting 4 piece rods). I have used #3 to #7 rods but used mostly the lighter ones to protect the light tippetts.

Ok, now, don't call for the Ghilly to fine me!

Average day's catch (and release) is from (4) to (30) or so trout; mostly 10"-18" rainbows with a few browns up to 19"! Sometimes I am experimenting and the catch is low; other days I might experiment and the catch may be high!

The water level below the dam can rise rapidly here so a person has to listen for the horn/siren and then get out of the river fast! So far, while I was fishing, the water has not risen more than 12"-16" with one or two electric generators running but I understand that the water can rise six feet in (10) minutes if they start all of the generators!! Most of the time, wade fishing is possible but, if the generators are "really on", 20 foot long "Jon boat" fishing is the norm.

On Feb. 1st, the area immediately below Bull Shoals Dam was reopened to brown trout fishing. This area is closed to protect spawning brown trout for a couple of months. There are some "humongous" brown trout in this area (the Arkansas brown trout record is 40 lb 4 oz.)! but I have not landed any yet (had a couple of "biguns" on but lost them). Several 10-12 pound browns have been landed recently just below the closed area.

I have made friends with "White River Slim" (yep, that really is his name!), a bait-type guide who has guided here on the White River for about (20) years (he guided on Lake of the Woods in Canada for many years before that). For the price of a cup of coffee, he keeps me up-to-date on what is happening all over the river. I have joined the North Arkansas Fly fishers, a really good bunch of people.

Well, gotta quit and think about going fishing! It is a tough life but someone has to keep the economy of Arkansas going! Tight Lines.

John Townsell AKA "Lucky"

Jan. 20, 2006 Lone Lake Whidbey Island

I was ready to fish about 2 pm and interviewed 3 incomers at the boat launch ramp, who "got nothing but bass". F & H News reported some bows to 12" last week. The "bassers" two of whom had float tubes and one with a 2-pontoon contraption, said they started getting bass immediately by the launch and had no trout action.

Don Gulliford

WFFC Members,

The obituary notice below appeared in the Sunday, Feb. 12th, Seattle Times. Note the time of the memorial service below. Thank you to all of you that have provided me with recent information on Dean. Please share this time with the family in a celebration of Dean's life here on earth if your schedule will permit. Thank you all.

-- Pete Baird --

Ingram, Dean William

Dean William INGRAM D.D.S. February 14, 1939-- February 10, 2006. Today we celebrate the life of a man dearly loved by his family, friends and countless patients. A longtime Seattle resident, Dean graduated from Franklin H.S. in 1957. He attended UW and Central WA University, earning a B.S. in 1962. He then went on to graduate from Loyola School of Dentistry, Chicago with a D.D.S. in 1966. Dr. Ingram was a longtime member and past president of the College Club, a member of the Seattle Golf Club, Serra International, Seattle Rotary, Washington Fly Fishing Club, and dental study clubs. An avid race walker, many would see Dean on the Burke-Gilman Trail. He held various managerial positions in Track & Field, including TAC, AAU, Pan-American Games in Cuba, and most notably, Asst. Men's Track Manager in the '88 Olympic Games in Seoul, Korea. Dean is survived by Donna Marie (DiJulio) Ingram, wife of 40 years; daughters Elizabeth (Tony) Muiz, Gloriana Carrie Jo (Leofwin) Ingram-Bate, Deana Marie (Eric) Schuler; grandchildren, Frances, Harrison, Alejandro; brother, Todd (Cecilia) Ingram; and his "favorite" mother-in-law, Estelle DiJulio. Dean took pride in his commitment to his family and friends. He will be remembered for his generosity, wonderful and odd sense of humor, love of fly fishing, and zest for travel. He touched the lives of his many loyal patients through his love and dedication to the practice of Dentistry. Memorial service will be held Wednesday, February 15, 11:00 a.m. at St. Marks Catholic Church, 18033 15th Pl. NE, Shoreline, WA. Remembrances to Seattle Milk Fund, 1130 N Northgate Way, Seattle, WA 98133.

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Stamp
here

Feb. 2006

Meeting Announcement



Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at The College Club, 505 Madison St.

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

February Speaker, Harry Lemire

Harry will tie a couple of his beautiful hand-held multi-feather winged steelhead flies at the wet fly hour and during the break. His program will consist of telling us about his steelheading techniques and answering questions. This is a great opportunity to get inside information from one of our northwest legends who rarely makes public appearances