

Creel Notes from the



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



February, 2013



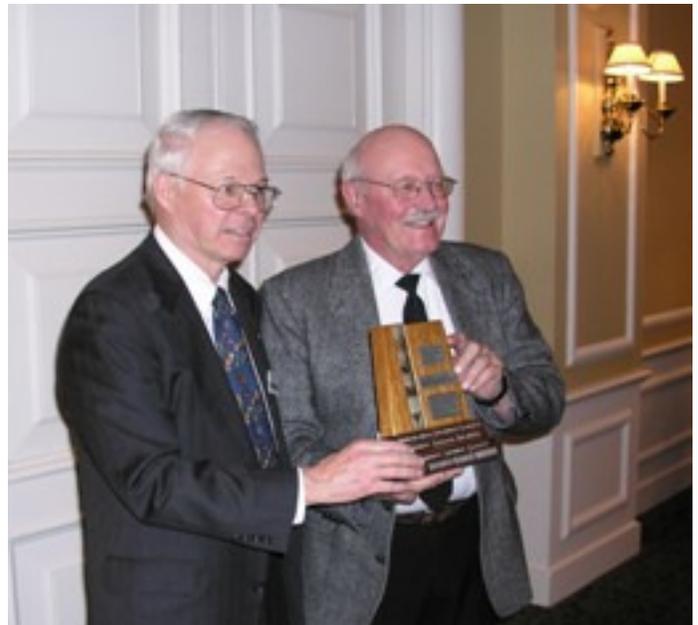
President's Riffle

The Essence of the Washington Fly Fishing Club from my point of view last year. I asked members to volunteer for an event at Rattlesnake Lake during SeaFair. The idea was to invite members of the US Navy who were in Seattle for SeaFair to go fly fishing for the day. It turned out that all of the Navy participants were locally based. The club members who attended this event had a great time, the Navy participants had a great time. We will likely do this again during 2013, not necessarily during SeaFair.

This year I invested in a booth at the Fly Fishing Show in Lynnwood. In prior years we have had a booth on the outside of the event when it was staged in Bellevue. I thought it was important to have a regular booth at the show. This costs money but the pay-off is being face to face with potential members. When I asked for volunteers, I received enough to staff the booth for the two day show.

The essence of the club is, to me, the willingness to step up and volunteer and help the club. I will give a report of the effort in Lynnwood in the next Creel Notes. Thanks,

Michael Wearne, President



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Creel Notes

...is the official publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscription is free with membership.

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Don Schroder '12 Gene Gudger '12
Roger Rohrbeck '13 Dave Hawkinson '13

Chad Jackson (WDFW) will be our guest speaker for February and will be speaking on the Central Washington lakes and rivers. More water tentatively to be taken out of Banks Lake for the new irrigation project needs to the South.



Our own **James Gudger** will be our Fly Tier and Guest Speaker for the Month of March . He will be speaking on the lakes of British Columbia.

“WANT ADDS”

Rocco Maccarrone is looking for a Pflueger 1495 1/2. in decent working condition. Contact Rocco through our roster or direct 425-785-0338.

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.

On The Fly *by David Ehrich*

After Mike made the rounds with the mike for guests and reports, Pete Baird asked members to pour the wine in anticipation of this year's Empty Creel award. Said award used to be taken literally and of late has become an award to recognize service to the club. Pete then asked living recipients in attendance to stand and be recognized and these guiding lights of the club stood proudly to receive the applause of their peers. From there Pete started by giving a few clues all leading up to our Creel Notes Editor, Jim Van de Erve! who toasted all those who have helped with the Creel Notes and wishing us 'tight lines' always as he took the next spot on the plaque. Commemorations aside, Pete moved on to recognize those who have passed: George Basset last January, Marvin Young last March, and Jack Chalendar last July. Members observed a profound moment of silence. While the chicken hit the plate, Mike invited fishing reports which ended in Rocco wearing the black and white of shame. Mike started off business with a call to arms; we need a new First VP (in charge of membership) to replace John Gravendyk who has had to step down to temporarily relocate for sake of family and a new editor of Creel Notes to replace Jim. And we need them now. He also reviewed several dates of interest, including April 6 Occupy Skagit - theoretically an opportunity to protest something vis a vis fly fishing. Don Barton, without approval of the Ghillie, spoke without revealing his name and one dollar lighter went over the budget of the Christmas Party. The figures varied here and there, but the bottom line re-

mained the same. Congratulations Bob Burdick! The Christmas Wreath fundraiser took in a cool grand. Thanks Mike Hurt and Chapin Henry! Mike Neal moved to the major business of hand. After recounting the accomplishments and accolades of each award's namesake, he recognized this year's winner. First, the Tommy Brayshaw Award for he who shows the traits, enthusiasm, wisdom and honor, most respected by anglers both in and outside the club - Roger Rohrbeck. Chuck Ballard did the honors of introducing our local whiz kid web master entomologists who serves not only our club, but insect lovers world-wide. Next, Ron Dion moved to the mike for a special award, for those who entertain us around the campfire, Paul Lingbloom and Chuckles Ballard, heretofore known as the club CMA, campfire music award. A rendition of a few cornball classics ensued. And lastly, our most prestigious award given to someone in the greater northwest who contributes significantly to the sport. Gene Lorensen found fishing and duck hunting in his youth, and began fly-fishing in 1959 and it wasn't long before he started to build rods, nets, fly-tying chests and other things while still in high school. Gene went on to teach high school and naturally, fell into good company of young men who wanted to learn the various skills of the sport and archery. Fine evidence of his skills were on display, including an arrow with a hand made arrow head, fly collections, flies, paintings of fish and various tools of the trade. In the years ensuing, besides these crafts he has traveled to rivers around

(Continued on page 4)

the world, illustrated books, and taken a great interest in mountain men. From there he learned how to build a gun from scratch, and fine evidence - a shot gun, muzzle loader and pistol - were displayed. Gene spoke touchingly on his career as a sportsman beginning with his first look at a fly angler on Priest Lake. His first rod was a telescopic metal rod. His passion is travel to find great fishing, weather it be in Mongolia, Slovenia or deep in the Bob Marshall wilderness area. He recognized the august company and thanked us deeply for including him within the fold of greatness (yours truly excluded).

But wait, there's more. Special awards. To recognize those who serve under duress, Bob Young received recognition for stepping up last minute as Third Vice President, aka the Christmas Party Chairman. Great party and a success on all levels earned him the Volunteer of the Year award. His acceptance speech was as short as the time he had to get the job done. Thanks all around!

And yet there's more. One officer has held his office so long; no one remembers when he started. Behind the scenes in all the less than sexy ways, this guy gives good advice, corrects vice and gets all the little things done, our Ghillie, Jim McDonald for sustained and outstanding service. Hold on, there's more; the Half-Assed Award, previously given last month has endured Senate investigation and sequestration. In other words, the last clown who got it found another more deserving. Go figure! Holding the half rack that acknowledges those of us who fail in flamboyant ways. David Schorsch and Ron Little who dropped the oars on Chopaka and paddled in with their rods and reels. Yet there is worse. Perry Barth and Bob Young, who twice has received this award, thus making him a full assed sort of problem told their story. Now their

"circumstance" started on the way over to Leech Lake, heading to Rainier NP on highway 12 when Bob looked in the rearview mirror and noticed the boat was gone, having felt nary a warning. Somewhere in the Park, the rangers found both trailer and boat on the side of the road and requested, in that way only the Federal Government can, that they retrieve their banged up equipment.

In anticipation of more awards, we look forward to the Boyd Aigner Award of the greatest fly tier (besides Bob Burdick) in the world. Details to contest rules to follow.

After an induction, committee reports moved like greased lightning. Adjourn! But wait, not yet. Mike opened up the mike to invite comment on our upcoming vote to alter the by-laws on membership to not exclude women. Limited debate ensued. The question of updating the constitution and by-laws, especially in regard to absentee voting came up. President Mike would like to see a full review of said. Huge Clark dispelled rumors that a co-ed club would be a social club. Evidence to the contrary, women in attendance tend to behave in the same roles with the same goals as we do here at WFFC. Dyke Kinder wondered aloud if Gil might be right continuing to the stalling tactics. Bob Burdick, guide book in hand, consulted the by-laws in relationship to voting. Roberts clearly states that voting is done by those in attendance. Consulting the rules didn't dispel everyone; Steve Raymond quoted the recommendation he found of the World Wide Web that issues of importance should be done in a way to cast as wide net of voting as possible. This is up to the club's discretion. And so for a coda to the meeting, that age old anxiety crept back in as members considered wholesale reform in anticipation of a vote. Kris Kristofferson wondered aloud if a certain disingenuousness was a work that only under these circumstances the question comes

up? John Schuitemaker simply called the constitutional debate a delay tactic. Steve rebutted that the question has been on the table. I noted that I was looking forward to bringing my daughter to the club in March. Another member recalled his positive experiences with a co-ed club in Ohio. David Hawkinson recalled his fatigue with the question along with strong reservations to how much less fun he might have in a co-ed club. The guys just want to have fun! By now some speakers started to recycle opinion and fortuitously my battery started to die and I had to put the machine down. If you want more of this debate, see you in February which will be when we vote as well.

BOYD AIGNER COMPETITION FOR 2013

By: *Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman*

The 2013 Boyd Aigner Fly Tying Competition is underway. The Competition is intended to be "friendly", with each participant demonstrating his creativity and tying skills. Each participant is to submit what he regards as the "best" flies in the respective categories and may submit only one set of flies. Members of the Club will be the judges.

Here are the 2013 patterns:

- (1) Dragon fly adult, any size;
- (2) Midge, one each of the 3 phases of life cycle—larva, pupa, and adult, all displayed in one box, any size; and

(3) Any spun hair fly, any size.

We are working on an appropriate item to present to the winner to recognize his accomplishment.

We are also organizing a parallel Competition in which individuals in the Healing Waters and Casting Forward programs, as well as those enrolled in the Club's fly-tying classes, may elect to participate. They will be tying the same patterns as the regular Competition. This Competition will also be judged by Club members at the same time as the regular Competition.

Our current schedule is as follows:

March Members' Meeting
Display boxes distributed
April Members' Meeting
Flies due
May Members' Meeting
Judging of both Competitions
June Members' Meeting
Winners announced

Bob Burdick (3 times Competition winner, who is not participating this year) 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.

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Bob: (h) 206.329.5948; reburdick@comcast.net
File: 52206-001

2012 AWARDS RECAP

By: Bill Neal, Awards Committee Chairman

Congratulations to the winners of Club Awards for the year 2012. At our January meeting we had the opportunity to recognize those who have contributed so much to further the aims and purposes of the Club, as well as those who have given us a laugh or two or otherwise entertained us. Here is a short recap.

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

Empty Creel Award, to a member for service to the Club, was presented by Pete Baird, of the Awards Committee, to Jim Van De Erve for his long time service as Editor of the *Creel Notes*. In doing so, Jim has helped to make the *Creel Notes* one of the premier fly club newsletters. Following the presentation, Jim offered the traditional toast.

Tommy Brayshaw Award, to a member for service to the community, was presented to Roger Rohrbeck for his extensive work in entomology, particularly for those insects that are a significant component of the trout diet. Roger has shared this work with the public and has gained national recognition, as detailed by Chuck Ballard of the Awards Committee in announcing the winner. President Mike Wearne made the actual presentation of the Award.

Half-Assed Award, to a member for various and repeated acts of "half-assedness", was earlier presented at the Christmas Party to Perry Barth and Bob Young by last year's recipient Mike Wearne. Mike was asked to represent it as part of the January ceremonies, which he seemed pleased to do. Perry and Bob were probable less pleased about having the members hear again the saga about losing their boat and trailer.

Letcher Lambeth Angling Craftsman Award, to an individual residing in Washington, Oregon, or British Columbia for significant contributions to the knowledge, art, philosophy, and techniques of fly-fishing, was presented to Gene Lorensen of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. Gene was recognized for his many accomplishments painting fish, writing and illustrating (particularly for the Inland Empire Club's newsletter *The Fly Leaf* and its book Flies of the Northwest), as well as rod building, fly tying, and wood working and other craftsmanship. Leon Buckles of the Inland Empire Club was present and gave a recount of Gene's accomplishments.

Andy Award, to a member who has "suffered most cruelly from the vagaries of Murphy's Law", was not presented. The Awards Committee again invites members to alert it to possible candidates for this Award, which recognizes a member for the torment he has suffered (not of his own doing), but endured as a gentleman.

The Awards Committee always reserves the right to give special recognition to other Club members for their accomplishments, and it made several presentations for 2012. For the first of these, Ron Dion, of the Awards Committee, presented to Chuck Ballard and Paul Lingbloom the *WFFC Campfire Music Award*, recognizing their many years of providing exceptional musical entertainment, humor, and camaraderie around the campfires of Club outings. Each was presented with a Certificate of the Award, and then, because they were alerted to the presentation in advance, Chuck and Paul got out their guitars and banjos

We again recognized Chuck Ballard for earlier winning the 2012 *Boyd Aigner Fly-tying Competition*. The 2013 Competition was briefly discussed, but it will include a companion, parallel competition in which for individuals in the Healing Waters and Casting Forward programs, as well as those enrolled in the Club's fly-tying classes, may wish to participate. Details will be forthcoming. Special thanks to Bob Burdick for his help with the 2012 Competition.

Finally, as always, thanks to the other members of the 2012 Awards Committee: Pete Baird, Chuck Ballard, Dick Brening, Ron Dion, and Kris Kristoferson. File: 52206-001





Washington Fly Fishing Club
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February, 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:

tbd