

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com



Fall Fishing

Member of



International Federation of
FLY FISHERS
Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing



MMXIV No. 9

September, 2014

President's Riffle

By President Michael Mosczynski



Summer's over. Boo hoo. ☹️
No comments, please about technicalities of the Fall Equinox either, thank you. But, then it must be time for sea run cutthroats and pizza & beer and cheap wine at **Jay & Jone Deeds'** on the Hood Canal! ☺️ I must acknowledge, I am looking forward to this event even more than previous outing as this will be the first outing I've attended since

spring due to unforeseen circumstances. Oh, well, better late than never and we still have three more outings to go this year.

The Roundtable Discussions at the last meeting were great. I wish there had been enough time to be able to attend all of them. I was able to spend a pleasant evening at least doubling my knowledge of sea run cutthroats, more about the BC lakes than I knew there were lakes and how to make a twisted-pair, knotless, tapered leader from thread and hand-held drill! Who knew? I am looking forward to another next year.

Congratulations to **Kerry Oldenburg** on her membership induction in August. Not waiting a moment, Kerry volunteered for the open Publicity Chair position. Kerry has already attended her first board meeting and outlined her plans. Good luck and thanks again Kerry! Thanks to **Steve Boyer**, former Publicity Chair for his contributions. We wish Steve all the best as he moves a bit east and transitions to another life phase.

We have had a new printing of the **WFFC Information Trifold** and **Fly Fishing Ethics & Conduct Tri-fold**. Thanks to **Jim and Caroline Goedhart** for sprucing up these old favorites and getting them printed. If you know an outdoor store, fly fishing shop or other similar fly fishing venue where you can get these tri-folds placed in the new plastic holders we have, please let **Kerry Oldenburg**, Publicity Chair or me know. Be sure to ask that they will keep them displayed. Thanks.

September 13-14, Hood Canal Outing, Dave Schorsch organizer

September 27, Lake Hannan Outing, Mike Wearne organizer

October 4-5, Big Twin Lake Outing, Dave Schorsch organizer

October 21, WFFC 75th Anniversary Gala, STC, Dave Schorsch organizer

November 8-9, Penrose Point Outing, aka *Wet Buns*, Dave Schorsch organizer

There is no greater fan of fly fishing than the worm. Patrick McManus

Be well.

September Program

Jim Cox

Director of Donor Relations for Western Rivers Conservancy

By Bob Burdick, 2nd VP (Programs)

We've changed the speaker for September from Dave Fast, fisheries biologist for the Yakima Indian Nation to Jim Cox, executive director of Western Rivers Conservancy who will talk about the Conservancy's purchase of land along the John Day River in Oregon. Mr. Fast developed a work conflict on September 16th, but we hope to get him back next year to give his presentation.

Mr. Cox, who spoke to us last year about the work of the Conservancy, dropped his plans for the 16th and made himself available to talk about the steelheading on the John Day, now that the Conservancy has purchased land that will give the public access to miles and miles of the river. Come hear the

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details, and add the John Day to your list of fall steelheading rivers now that the Conservancy has provided us with a new access!

Chuck Ballard will be the featured tier

About Jim Cox, September's Speaker

Jim Cox, Director of Donor Relations for Western Rivers Conservancy will make a presentation entitled "Fishing Oregon's Wild and Scenic John Day River" to the Washington Fly Fishing Club the evening of Tuesday, September 16. Since 1988 Western Rivers Conservancy has protected lands on more than 60 rivers in seven western states. The beginning of the program will include an update on new WRC projects including Big Sheep Creek in Northeastern Washington. The majority of the program will focus on fly fishing the Wild and Scenic John Day River for its world-class smallmouth bass fishery and its excellent run of wild summer steelhead. WRC was instrumental in helping create the new Cottonwood Canyon State Park on the John Day and is in the process of purchasing another major property on the lower portion of the river.

For more information contact Jim Cox at (503)-241-0151/
jcox@westernrivers.org.



Jim Cox

Jim Cox Biography

Jim joined Western Rivers Conservancy as Director of Donor Relations in 2011. He has more than 25 years experience working professionally in the nonprofit sector. Jim is a past steering committee co-chair of the Nonprofit Association of Oregon, and is an active member of the Northwest Planned Giving Roundtable and is also a member of Trout Unlimited, Flyfishers Club of Oregon, the Native Fish Society, and The Freshwater Trust among many other conservation groups. Jim holds a Bachelor of Theatre Degree from Willamette University. In his free time, you can find him fly fishing and hiking along the outstanding rivers of the West.

In Memoriam



Earl W. George 1913-2014

Fruit and Flowers e-mail mentioned that Earl drove to Panama at 92 years old. I thought a fitting tribute to this adventurer is to reprint the article about this 2005 trip from the Seattle Times. It says a lot about him -Ed

Doing 92 from Edmonds to Panama

By **Susan Gilmore**
From the *Seattle Times*

Imagine you're driving through El Salvador, hit a pothole and blow out two tires on your 2002 Cadillac.

You don't speak Spanish, have just one working eye and, by the way, you're 92 years old.

Earl George, who found himself in just that pickle, did what he often did on his 12,000-mile drive to and from Panama. He talked to himself. After all, this was a solo trip.

"OK, George, you wanted an adventure," he said to himself. "Well, George, this is an adventure."

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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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Club officers and chairmen can be contacted by logging in the WFFC website then selecting email (upper right corner). Button selection and message box will appear on scroll down

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.

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George just got back from his five-week trip, where he visited a nephew.

"Since my wife passed away, there was no one to tell me, 'You're too stupid, you're a lousy driver and I won't go with you. You can't speak Spanish and you can't make it,' " said George, who was able to navigate through eight countries knowing just three words of Spanish: mañana, muchacha and sí.



So when he found out that his nephew in Panama was ill, he pulled out a map.

"I could drive there," the Edmonds resident told himself.

"People climb mountains for adventure," he said. "My knees hurt, so I can't climb mountains, but I needed an adventure. People kept telling me how stupid the idea was. 'What if banditos get you?' I found there's banditos in Seattle."

Raised in Kansas, George moved to Seattle with the Navy and never left. He lost one of his eyes in a kamikaze attack on his warship during World War II.

"You only need one eye," said George, adding that it's never affected his ability to renew his driver's license.

George's adventure took him through Texas to Mexico where, lost in Mexico City, he saw a sign to Acapulco, took the road and was able to find the Pan American Highway.

He drove through Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica before arriving in Panama, where he spent a week with his ill nephew before heading home.

While many of the roads were good, there were the ones in Costa Rica with potholes the size of manholes.

"If the roads in Costa Rica were improved 100 percent, they would still be lousy," said George, who lost a tire in that country.

But the worst was when he blew those two tires in El Salvador. As he was sitting by his car, unsure what to do, three people on horseback rode up.

One pulled out a cellphone and called a local tire shop, where the owner sent a taxi to get George. He piled himself and his flat tires into the cab, got new tires and went back to the car, where George changed the flats himself.



He used to own a gas station, George explained, and it was in his blood. He said he once changed the tire on a Model T Ford — when Model T's were new.

The next blowout was in Costa Rica, where George ended up spending the night in his car, eating two-day-old pizza. After being told the closest town was about 3 miles away, he drove there on his flattened tires.

The shop didn't have any tires for his Cadillac but promised to drive him to a place that did — for \$80 American. After weaving through coconut plantations, he ended up at a duty-free shop

on the Panama border where he bought the tires.

George, who said he loves to drive, clocked about 400 miles a day and figures he spent about \$6,000 on his adventure. And he says he has no regrets.

He said while his friends warned him against going, his two sons, who are in their 50s and 60s, were supportive. "They both thought it was wonderful," George said.

His next trip? Maybe he'll drive to Alaska.

"But I'm open to suggestions."

And drive to Alaska he did! At 95 years old! You can find the article about that trip in the Seattle Times Archives —Ed

Upcoming Fall Outings

Hood Canal September 13th and 14th



By Dave Schorsch

The sun is shining, it's cooling off at night, the fruit is ripe, It must be time to fish the salt! Sea runs are podding up on the beach, and the silvers should be here any day. Lets go to Hood Canal!

Our good friends Jay and Jone Deeds have again agreed to host the club for an end of summer outing at their beach house near Seabeck. This is a great day on the water, followed by a pizza feed with beverages, all provided by Jay and the club. Sign up on the website if you plan on attending, (helps for food head-count). It's an easy day trip, just drive to Silverdale, and hop over the hill to Seabeck. Check the web site for driving directions to Jays and the boat launch nearby. There are lots of good beaches at Scenic Beach State Park just north of the boat launch, and in Seabeck bay, all the way to Big Beef creek, and south to Stavis Bay.

This is the place to bring your motor boat, if you have one, as some great areas are a ways off, and that leaves more for the shore bound folks. Bring your sinking lines, or sink tips, and streamer patterns that imitate anything skinny and olive over white with a little sparkle. Orange or yellow attractors work well too. (think orange-orange or dead chicken) Gotta watch out for the occasional coho that crashes your 5 wt.... See you there!

Hannan Lake September 27th



This will be our 2nd outing at Lake Hannan near Duvall. The lake owned by a church group, and is totally private. **Please honor their requirement that alcohol not be present or consumed on their property, which also includes out on the lake.**

Directions: It's between Monroe and Duvall off SR203. From Seattle take hwy 520 past 405 all the way to the end. 520 turns into Avondale road, which you follow for 6 miles to Woodinville- Duvall road. Turn right on W-D road to Duvall. Left at light on SR203, then 3.5 miles to right on Cherry Valley Rd.

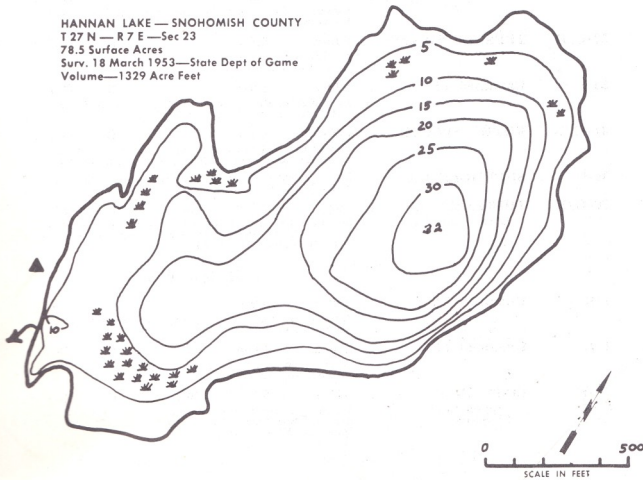
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(not the cherry valley right after you get on 203, different road) Continue up hill to soft right onto Fontal rd. Left at curve @ junction with Kayak lake rd. (stay on Fontal) Road turns to dirt, go past yellow gate and look for signs to camp Hamilton and brown gate. Boat launch is near chapel.

You need a small boat or float tube to fish here, and probably sinking or intermediate lines. We are all re-learning this lake, so bring all your flies! Don't forget the rain gear! See you there!

HANNAN LAKE — SNOHOMISH COUNTY
T 27 N — R 7 E — Sec 23
78.5 Surface Acres
Surv. 18 March 1953 — State Dept of Game
Volume — 1329 Acre Feet



Big Twin Lake and Resort October 4th and 5th



October 4 and 5 is our annual east side fall outing, and this year it's at Big Twin Lake near Winthrop. We met here last year and had a really nice time. We will be having a barbeque, with the club providing steaks for those that sign up on the website, and the usual terrific happy hour Saturday evening around 5:00. As usual bring your favorite appetizers and side dishes for the dinner, and desserts are always good! The club always provides beverages, including pop, beer, and crappy wine. Harder choices are on you, expect to share!



Big Twin Lake

The fishing is pretty easy, with sinking lines and leechy- buggy patterns out in the middle doing well on hot days, and dry lines and nymphs just killer around the edges and in the shallows in front of camp. Last year, some of us had 30 fish days in the shallows on Saturday. Tough work, but somebody's got to do it!

The campground is really nice, and easy to find, only 15 minutes from Winthrop proper. You can make reservations at bigtwinlake@comcast.net, or call 509-996-2650. The address is 210 Twin Lakes Rd. There are three boat launches on the lake, including two free ones across from the resort.

Sign up on the website for steak headcount! **Mike Moscynski** will be outing host this year, so give him a toast at fireside!

Big Twin Resort Information

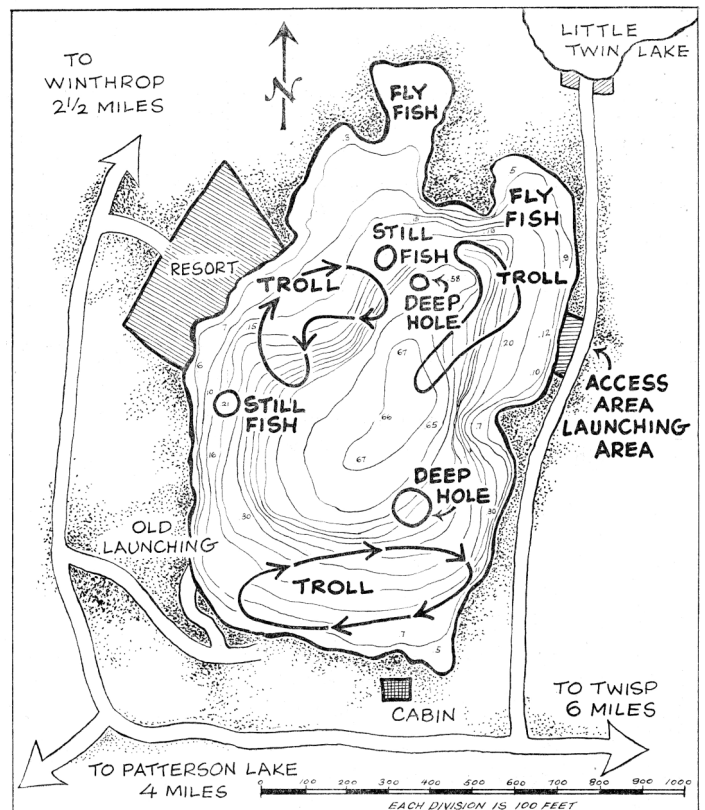
E-mail: bigtwinlake@comcast.net

Phone: (509)-996-2650

Tent sites: \$25.00/nite

Hookup sites: \$30.00/nite

Rowboats \$25.00/day



BIG TWIN LAKE ~ OKANOGAN COUNTY
Location Sec. 15 Twn. 34 N., Range 21 E. 79 ACRES

Map Credit: Fred 'Piscatorial' Peterson, era ~1968



2013 Camp Gathering, Twin Lakes



Mt Baker Area, Whatcom County

September 5, 6 and 7th

By The Editor

I asked The Firs Retreat Lodge (Mt Baker) administrator "where can a guy fish around here in some peace and quiet" Reply, "Small stream located _____". "Lot's of brook trout."

The stream was "as advertised". Used size 14 dry Adams pattern the whole weekend. Lost count after 18 fish the first morning. They were not stupid fish though. Any shadow or movement near the bank produced no takes. I had to stay well away from the stream and make accurate casts with proper mends to get fish. Luckily this steam is in an alpine environment where I didn't have to worry too much about hanging up on backcasts. There was at least one fish in every small pool, sometimes two. Fish were not world beaters (8" to 12") but larger than I would have thought.



Gorgeous weather, invigorating physical hike, solitude, crystal clear water, eager trout. A most enjoyable weekend.



It's a Brookie Paradise



"No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it's not the same river and he's not the same man."

-Heraclitus

75th Anniversary

Need Those Pictures For the 75th Anniversary Wall and PowerPoint Show *By David Schrosch*



Hey folks!

The 75th anniversary is upon us, and one of the projects we're trying to put together is a "then and now" wall.

This will consist of pictures and memorabilia of us in days gone by. I want pictures of ALL of us when we were kids, preferably fishing pictures! Your first bluegill, or a shot with you and dad with a stringer of keepers, all good. How fun to have a wall of pics to sort through to find yourself, in the good old days! Include a current "grip and grin" shot if you like, to show what evolution and aging will do for us.

Please send electronic/digital images to me:

colvosdrifter@aol.com, or mail priceless pics to me at 1425 Broadway #234, Seattle, WA, 98122.

All good stuff will be cared for and returned in similar moth eaten condition. Lets make this fun! You can also bring stuff to the Sept. meeting at the tennis club, 9-16.

PS We will also be putting together a power point slide show, so any outing and /or fishing pics are welcome!

75th Anniversary

75th Anniversary Party *By David Schrosch*



75 years? Really? I was just having a glass of wine on the deck in one of my 50th anniversary glasses. Wow. Time flies, and we need to share the memories and adventures that make this a fly club!

October 21, on our usual meeting night, we will be having a very special event celebrating 75 years of friendship, conservation, and questionable behavior. This is the night to bring your significant other, and show him or her what its all about. All of us should have a place in the displays of then and now pictures, half assed awards, and outing tales.

We will have live jazz through happy hour, with bars on both ends of the club house, displays of historical and hysterical significance, and recorded interviews with members gone to the mayfly hatch on heavens pond. An M.C. to keep things lively, group photos, and entertainment during dinner.

The Seattle Tennis Club promises a fine meal, with New York Steak, MahiMahi, or Stuffed Portabello among the choices. All with salads and wine on the tables, to be served in commemorative WFFC logo glassware. (if you like them, extra glasses can be ordered at low cost)

There are some really nice door prizes to be given out through-

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out the evening as well.

This is a MUST DO! evening, and is limited to 150 lucky individuals, so get your reservations in soon! You can reserve and pay through the website, and paypal, or mail in your reservation and a check using the form in the Creel Notes.

Happy hour starts at 5:30, Dinner at 7:00. Be there or be square!

Issaquah High School Fly Fishing

Photo's from August's Event at Rattlesnake Lake

Some additional photo's sent by **Bob Young** of the Issaquah High School instruction and fishing event



Attentive Students



Double haul!

Something New and Useful

Moving Water Strike Indicator

By David Holmes

For those of you that do a fair amount of nymph fishing, the strike indicator continues to be a very useful tool, even given the current popularity of Czech nymphing.

To explain for the uninitiated, strike indicators serve two primary purposes: (1) *floating the nymph at a pre-specified depth and* (2) *to detect a possible take by a fish, through observing a pause or dip in the indicator as the fish mouths the nymph.*

Now, strike indicators come in many different variations, each with its own pros and cons.

Using a dry fly as the indicator means that the angler now has two alternative flies to attract a strike, but moving the indicator (to adjust the nymph for varying water depths), or replacing it, is a much more involved process. Also, a fly used as an indicator can easily become soaked and "drowned," particularly in fast water.

On the other hand, an indicator like the popular Thingamabobber™ (www.westwaterproducts.com/thingamabobber.html) is outstanding for flotation, but looks nothing like a real insect, although I have heard of some fish striking at it. In addition, a Thingamabobber will not pass through your top guide and may leave you unable to reel in as much of a leader attached to a fighting fish as you might like.

So, is there a perfect strike indicator out there? Not that I've seen, but a new strike indicator, out of New Zealand but now available up here, does seem to offer a lot of advantages.

It's called, "the Strike Indicator" (creative name, huh?) and it utilizes a piece of wool as the actual indicator. What's innovative about the system is that the wool is held in place with a small plastic tube, and the wool is very easily inserted into the tube, using the tool supplied, and the indicator itself is then easily moved on the leader or tippet.



In addition, the wool itself floats well (especially if coated with some floatant) and usually slips through the top guide relatively easily.

Pictures are often better than words and the following photos show the insertion tool, the wool (available in two colors) and the process for attaching the wool to the leader or tip-pet.



While no strike indicator can do all things perfectly (in very fast water, I still prefer the Thingamabobber), this new item does seem to be a valuable addition to our vests, and will be my go-to

"The Essentials of a Good Fly-Hook: The temper of an angel and penetration of a prophet; fine enough to be invisible and strong enough to kill a bull in a ten-acre field."

-G.S. Marryat

indicator for a number of situations, at least until something better comes along.

For more information, or to order, see www.strikeindicator.com.

An Extra Tip

How To Remove a Fishhook From A Human, Painlessly and Safely

Using this hook removal method, there is one common factor - the almost complete, and surprising, lack of any pain.

One day it happens to all anglers. A hook does its job and hooks up, but not into a fish. It hooks up in you or one of your fishing partners.

Removing a hook embedded over the barb, but not back out through the skin, is relatively easy:

Step 1

Make a loop about 10cm (6") long, in strong line, 5kg (10lb) plus, and pass it over the eye of the hook, and then up to the top of the bend of the hook.

It is very important to follow this step to the letter if pain and discomfort is to be avoided. Most importantly the loop of line must be at the top of the hook bend, and the pull must be up and away.

Way too many articles and videos on this method advise having the line at the back of the bend, and pulling straight back - this will only result in the barb catching and causing pain.

Then, push firmly down on the eye of the hook so the eye of the hook touches the skin. Hold the eye down while completing

Step 2.

Finally, with a sudden, strong yank on the line loop, pull up and away from the hook-eye. The hook should come out the way it went in, and because it will curve out the same way it went in the barb should not catch.

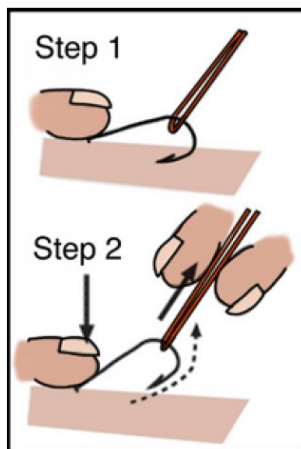
In general it is a pretty painless business; the thought is more painful than the extraction itself. In fact of the many hooks

I have removed from myself, others and dogs, in around 60 years fishing, there is one common factor - the almost complete, and surprising, lack of any pain.

Remove a hook from yourself using this method:

You can make this hook removal a one-person operation where the hook is in your arm or hand, or anywhere you cannot use your two hands.

Make the loop larger and hook the loop around something immovable, like a tree branch, then press down



on the eye of the hook as above, and jerk your hand away in the direction shown above.

Want Ads/Buy and Sell



8' Orca Pram

"An Ideal Cartop Fly Fishing Boat"



The boat is an 8' lap strake pram (mfg. by the Dinghy Co., Mt. Vernon, WA), in very good condition.

It comes with a pair of wooden oars, a removable padded swivel seat, front and rear anchor cleats, a gunnel mount for a rod, and a fully carpeted floor. It is 48" wide at the widest point. It works well as a car-top boat.

I am asking \$950 obo

Contact

John Narver
Member WFFC
206-527-2746

E-mail: jnarver@u.washington.edu



Great Grey Owl



75th ANNIVERSARY PARTY



Reservations are \$75,
but attendance is limited to (150),
and price increases to \$80 if not received by Oct. 1,
so please make your reservations early.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2014

Seattle Tennis Club
922 McGilvra Blvd E.
Seattle, WA 98112

PARTY SCHEDULE

5:30 PM: Start Of Merriment (includes dinner, wine, commemorative glassware, live jazz during happy hour, group photos, friendship, etc.)

7:00 PM: Dinner

(CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE AND MAIL FORM WITH YOUR CHECK)

MAIL IN THIS RESERVATION FORM NOW!!!
Only Checks Will Be Accepted With Mailed Reservations

Member name: _____

Please circle entrée: New York Steak Mahi Mahi Portabella Mushroom Ravioli

Guest name: _____

Please circle entrée: New York Steak Mahi Mahi Portabella Mushroom Ravioli

Total payment enclosed: _____ dinners x \$75 each = \$ _____

I choose to make an optional cash contribution (included in check) to the WFFC of \$ _____

Send this reservation form along with check to:

Dave Schorsch
1425 Broadway #234
Seattle WA 98122



Washington Fly Fishing Club
P.O. Box 639
Mercer Island, WA 98040
www.wffc.com

Stamp
here

September, 2014

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:

Jim Cox

Director of Donor Relations for Western Rivers Conservancy

“Fishing Oregon’s Wild and Scenic John Day River”