

Creel Notes from the



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

www.wffc.com

Founding Club of the FFF & members active in the FFF



Monthly Meeting Notice

November 19, 2002

LII No. 11

The College Club, 505 Madison St.

Seattle, Washington

Phone: 206-622-0624

Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM

Dinner 6:45 PM

Title: El Nino is back! How Does Climate Impact Ocean Conditions for Northwest Salmon?



by Richard Embry, Program's Chairman

We have good news, bad news, and then great news. First, November is typically our Heritage month, where a club person is typically the featured speaker. The good news: Ted Rogowski was scheduled to speak to us. Further good news is he married Joan Wulff in August (congrats, Ted!). The bad news: I recently discovered Ted moved to the Catskills in New York state, and won't be able to speak to us.

The great news is that Nate Mantua, a highly esteemed and recognized leader in climactic and ecosystem research, happens to be available to speak to us this month. This was an incredibly fortunate event. So, Nathan Mantua will be our speaker this month.

Yet another El Nino event is now brewing in the tropical Pacific; what might that mean for the ocean conditions thought to be important for Northwest salmon? What about the past 4 years of mostly cold and highly productive ocean conditions in our region? We are learning more and more the global effects and impacts of climactic conditions, and Nate will discuss his leading-edge research on this topic. This presentation will address these questions by first reviewing the scientific under-

standing of how climate can influence ocean habitat and food-webs, and why such changes can serve as important controls on anadromous fish populations.

Nathan Mantua is an affiliate Assistant Professor of Atmospheric Sciences and Marine Affairs at the UW, and a full time research scientist with the UW's Climate Impacts Group. Most of his current research is focused on regional impacts of climate on the water cycle and marine ecosystems in the Pacific NW, and how climate information is or is not being used in resource management decisions. Nate received his BS from UC Davis in 1988, a PhD from the UW's Department of Atmospheric Science in 1994. He has recently become involved with steelhead conservation efforts, serving on the Steelhead committee for the Federation of Fly Fishers, on the board of the Wild Steelhead Coalition, and as a member of the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife's Steelhead and Cutthroat Advisory Panel.

This is a must-see program!

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FLIES WANTED

by *Leland Miyawaki*

C'mon fellas, how's about tying some of your favorite flies, putting them in a real pretty fly box and letting me have them for our Holiday Auction and Raffle. Call me at (206) 264-0609 or email miyawaki@iswnet.com and me know so I can save space for them.

Urgent Alert

by *Don Gulliford*

WFFC members who belong to, or shop at, REI need to be alerted to a potential BAD management decision pending by REI. Consideration is being given to CLOSING REI's decade old repair service, one of only 2 left in the REI Empire. For those not entirely aware of Repair Service's capabilities, few places available in the Seattle area have been willing to do custom work on all sorts of clothing and outdoor gear, packs, straps, you name it. Repairs on Gore-Tex, nylon and other fabrics, along with custom installed fasteners or modifications of all kinds have been done in a quality fashion by Repair Service (this also includes Coleman lanterns, stoves, engraving of Swiss Army knife exteriors, etc.) up on the Second Floor. This contributing editor has had large wind flaps sewed and velcro'd on to hunting parkas, ITW push-snap buckles and straps installed for large suspenders on jeans to take the weight of hip-boots off belts, etc.

This would be elimination of a wonderful asset. If you agree, write a letter urging retention of Repair Service to: Feedback, REI, 222 Yale Avenue N., Seattle, WA 98109-5429, with your daytime phone number and REI number if you belong, and ask for a written reply.

Fly Tying Class

Starting date: Thursday January 9, 2003

Duration: 8 weeks, every Thursday evening.

Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27

Cost: \$ 50. Includes DVD for flies tied during the class.

Time: 7pm to 9pm.

Place Mercer Island Covenant Church

Registration is required: To enroll please call Don Simonson at 206-932-4925

Boyd Aigner Competition-Reminder and Added Incentive

by *Bill Neal, Awards Chairman*

This is a reminder of our Fly-Tying Competition for this year. Flies are due by the Holiday Party, but may also be delivered at the November general membership meeting or as may otherwise be arranged.

I am pleased to announce that we have an added incentive for this year's participants. Not only will the winner be recognized as part of our January Awards ceremonies, but he will also receive a beautiful **Winston BL-5 10', 8 weight, 5-piece fly rod** graciously donated by last year's winner Dick Scales. *Thank you, Dick!*

The patterns for this year are as follows:

Muddler minnow, size 8

Mayfly (parachute), any species, size 16

Mayfly (dry), any species, size 18

Humpy, any color, size 14

Please contact Dick Scales or me for further information and a confidential identifier number to be used in the Competition. Bill Neal (w) (206) 667-8211; (h) (206) 232-0603; wneal@staffordfrey.com; Dick Scales (425) 746-1723.

Photos Needed for Christmas Party Slide Show!

by *Dick Levinthal*

If you have photos of WFFC members with fish, friends, or families, in 2002, taken at club activities or otherwise [especially at that secret spot (hopefully with a good landmark or two)], consider lending them for display in December. Photos might show members socializing at outings, participating in work parties, qualifying for Dunkers Awards, or even battling trophy fish (but no strings of 12 fish or more, please). Prints, slides, or digital photos may be submitted, to Bill Kuper (billk@digitalfarm.com), or to Bill or myself at the November meeting.



Elliot Klosterman, In Memoriam

by Jim Klosterman

Elliot Klosterman, a WFFC member since 1942, quietly passed away on

October 16th, 2002. Elliot is survived by his wife of 21 years Mary Lou and his four children Lee, Keith, Jim, and Marcia. Elliot moved to Seattle in 1937 from Minneapolis to attend the University of Washington. He graduated in 1941 with a degree in Aeronautical Engineering and was immediately hired by the Boeing Company. It was during his days at the U of W that Elliot met both Enos Bradner and Don Holbrook who ran their respective shops on Broadway Avenue on Capital Hill. Elliot was taken under their wings and introduced to the nuances of fly fishing. It was after World War II that

Elliot moved to Mt Vernon to pursue his other lifelong passion of photography by opening his own portrait studio. The eight years he spent in Mt Vernon allowed him to spend considerable time pursuing his piscatorial interests at the nearby Skagit and Stillaguamish rivers as well as Pass Lake. He made numerous trips, both with WFFC members and family, to remote locations in British Columbia. His favorite trips seemed to be those he spent with fellow fly club members fishing in the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Elliot retired in 1982 after a long career with Boeing. Later years saw him making trips to Argentina, New Zealand, and Christmas Island for both fishing and sightseeing. He was also an avid upland game bird hunter and golfer. He hunted for 35 years primarily in Eastern Washington but also made several trips to Montana. Elliot was a member of Rainier Golf and Country Club since 1958. Elliot was a recipient of some of the club's more dubious awards over the years. He was quite well known among some of the club's more senior members for stealing the gavel at the monthly meetings, much to the dismay of the presiding president. A memorial service was held on Saturday, November 2nd at Boulevard Park Presbyterian Church.



Children's Hospital/Children's Miracle Network Fundraiser

by Richard Embry

Families of the Pacific NW have relied upon Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center (www.seattlechildrens.org) to provide specialty pediatric care for over 90 years. Children's Hospital is the only regional pediatric referral center devoted to the medical, surgical, and developmental needs of children ages birth to 21 in the four-state area of Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho. Children's Hospital provides health care services for the special needs of children regardless of race, sex, creed, ethnicity, or disability, and financial assistance is provided upon family need and available hospital resources.

Children's Miracle Network (www.cmn.org) is an international, non-profit organization dedicated to helping children by raising funds and awareness for 170 children's hospitals throughout North America. Each year these non-profit hospitals, which include Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, treat more than 17 million children afflicted with diseases, injuries, and birth defects of every kind.

As noted above, Children's Hospital assists kids and provides care to kids, and provides financial assistance dependent upon hospital resources. Don Johnson, a local professional fly tier, has taken it upon himself to help raise funds for CMN and Children's Hospital to help treat these kids who don't have the financial resources, and has started a program called Caddis for Kids.

Don has designed what he terms his "Miracle Caddis" fly, a variation on the venerable X-Caddis. Don will be tying the Miracle Caddis for 24 hours (!!) at the Avid Angler fly shop, 17171 Bothell Way NE, Lake Forest Park, WA, 206-362-4030. The tying will begin on Friday, December 6, 2002, at noon, and end on Saturday, December 7th at noon.

Pledges on a per fly basis, or lump sum contributions, may be made in person at the Avid Angler, or by contacting Don directly at caddisforkids@yahoo.com. All contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Contact Don either by email or by visiting him at the Avid Angler, and let Don know how much appreciate his efforts and what wonderful thing he is doing. Dig out your check book, and show your support for the Children's Hospital – it's a great cause, and may save a life some day.

Club News



It's That Time Again

We're not talking about steelhead season either. It's time for all of us to begin thinking about our Annual Holiday Party. This year's event should be the highlight of the year! We usually have our largest turnout with members and their guests swapping stories (some even true), enjoying the food and jockeying for position at their favorite raffle item.

The highlight of our evening's entertainment will be our annual raffle and auction which is also our Club's primary fundraising event. It generates funds vital to the continuation and improvement of WFFC conservation efforts, education programs and restoration projects.

Every year, more organizations than ever are competing for corporate and commercial donations and the Club has been forced to purchase more and more of the items. *It is your donations, however, that will insure the success of our fundraising.*

We hope that you will donate to the raffle and/or auction and share in the fun and success of a great Club tradition. Things to consider donating include: any flyfishing related items (not necessarily equipment); works of art or books – always highly prized; your time in the form of casting instruction, one-on-one fly tying, or flyfishing; fine wines, cigars, etc.; a dinner at your favorite restaurant; or some personal or business expertise that would be appreciated and valued by a fellow flyfisher. Whatever you give, your donation becomes an important part of the Club's efforts to promote healthy fisheries both now and for the future generations of flyfishers. It also adds to the fun and excitement of this great Club event.

Please phone Leland Miyawaki at (206) 264-0609 to confirm what goods or services you will be donating. Please send or drop items off by November 30, 2002 to: Earl Harper Studios, 312 So. Lucile St., Seattle, WA 98108; (206) 764-1775. If you need to have someone pick up your item, please don't hesitate to call me.

Fly Tying Round Table

by Dick Brening

November Meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 2002 7 to 9 PM

(Fourth Tuesday this month, only because of Thanksgiving)

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.

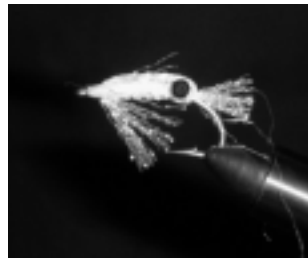
The theme for the October Round Table was flies for the South Sound. Chuck Ballard showed us a Baitfish pattern he got from Blair Alexander and one of Swede's Shrimp patterns. Chuck is convinced that flies with eyes are more successful for saltwater fishing.

Don Simonson brought several reverse spider flies he had tied in multiple colors. He ties them by putting the hackle on first then the tail & body and tying off the fly at the hook bend.

At the November Round Table we will tie flies for Steelhead fishing.

You and your guests are welcome. Come to tie, watch or just share ideas.

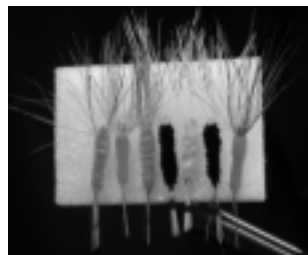
If you have any questions on directions contact Pete Baird or me at the club meeting or give me a call.



Swede's Shrimp



Alexander's Baitfish



Reverse Spiders, Simonson

President's Raffle

President's Raffle

by Kris Kristoferson, President 2002



With Halloween out of the way, we have officially entered the holiday season. Each day or mailboxes, now overstuffed with merchandise catalogs, remind us that the mighty marketing blitz is fully underway. Similarly, the WFFC's marketing effort for its own holiday extravaganza is now in full swing too. While it is, perhaps, a little less mighty, it is still a big deal for the Club. And, to the degree we support the Holiday Party and Raffle, we make a real difference in what the WFFC is able to accomplish each year.

The proceeds from this event are the Club's single biggest revenue component (yes, more than dues) outside of dinners where our cost is very close to the dinner fee collected. This underscores the importance of the Holiday Party and Raffle to critical Club activities such as Education, Conservation, Outings, Youth and all the rest.

Understanding the importance of this event makes it that much easier to say "Yes" when called upon to help out. In doing so, we'll not only help to create a memorable evening, we will also help secure a successful 2003 for the Washington Fly Fishing Club.

Fishing Reports



Chuck Ballard, South Sound, November 1st

I met Dick Stearns at Allyn and we fished for Chums in the afternoon at the mouth of Sherwood Creek. They were cooperative using a 3X #6 light green body with a white beadhead and a wing of dark green flashabou and a slow sink line. Dick hooked 4 but I only hooked one. One of Dicks fish was a 20LB male. Although this report will be too late for the wet buns outing, the Chum fishing will probably be good for a while in the south sound. So, give it a try.

P.S. don't give up too easily as the fish do seem to get on a bite and then go off the bite so hang in there!

The *Creel Notes* is a publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscriptions are free with membership. Articles and other materials appropriate for publication in *Creel Notes* may be sent to: *Creel Notes* Editor, 4244 1st Ave NW, Seattle, WA 98107, e-mail to kylelooney@attbi.com (e-mail is preferred). This issue of *Creel Notes* was produced by Kyle Looney. ***Creel Notes is printed by the second Tuesday of the month; article submissions must be received by the previous Saturday by noon.*** Mail roster updates directly to Kyle Looney at kylelooney@attbi.com or the above address. The WFFC may be visited on the internet at <http://www.wffc.com>.

Fishing Reports

Leland Miyawaki, Snoqualmie River, October 19th

It was crowded, as are all fall Saturdays, on the river this morning so I had to fish some secondary water. In actuality, the pool I chose was very fishable at this low (400 cfs) water flow. I was able to follow the main current downstream further than usual while getting terrific swings as I quartered my casts and drew my fly broadside through the nearside seam.

Halfway down, my #5 low water Freight Spey got absolutely slammed. I knew immediately that it was a big fish. It took nearly all 100' of Windcutter flyline off my little CFO V in the first run. The fish ran down the pool while I hung on and applied pressure to the side. It stopped and shook it's head like a big ol' buck and slowly came back upstream. I stripped line and kept up the side pressure. The fish came up and moved past me into the heavy current and held as I took up the loose flyline and got him on the reel. I caught a good look of his tail and my knees got a bad case of the quivers. It looked to be the biggest steelhead I had ever hooked in the Sno.

The runs shortened and became more dogged as I slowly backed into some slack water. When I brought him to me and saw his length and girth, I had to laugh. I quickly laid the rod down and grabbed hold of his wrist, removed the fly from his mouth, picked him up to feel his heft and set him back gently in the current. He had a beautiful red stripe, rosy cheeks, a big scarred kype, and an adipose fin that waved like a flag. He was a beautiful wild buck that I figure to be between 12 and 15 pounds. He wasn't your typical Snoqualmie steelhead with length but no girth, it was a fish proportioned like a Clearwater B-run. And unlike any other Snoqualmie fish I have ever caught, this one tore me apart.

I wished I had a camera with me, but then I wouldn't have hooked the fish.

Leland Miyawaki, Snoqualmie River, October 25th

It's been almost a week since the big guy and I met on the river. I've been out for an hour or so at lunch every day since. Today I fished a new spot and missed one. After leading a nice slow swing through the run, my fly was hanging in the slack water. When I looked down to negotiate the slipperier-than-snot-rocks, I got a pull, two heavy pulses and a splash as the hook lost it's grip.

Ah, but now I know where he lives.

Leland Miyawaki, Snoqualmie River, October 27th

I went back this morning to see if anybody was home. I don't think it was the same steelhead as Friday but it is definitely a spot where alpha fish will move into sometime during the night or early morning. The grab was as vicious as they come. The fish rocketed immediately to the other side of the river and well downstream into the lower hole. I could see my backing on the arbor as I stepped gingerly backwards out of the river and onto the slippery rocks. The fish sounded deep into the pool and stopped when I got that depressing feeling you get when you feel tension in the line and no signs of life at the other end.

Now, not only do I know where they live, I know the location of a deep snag in the lower pool.



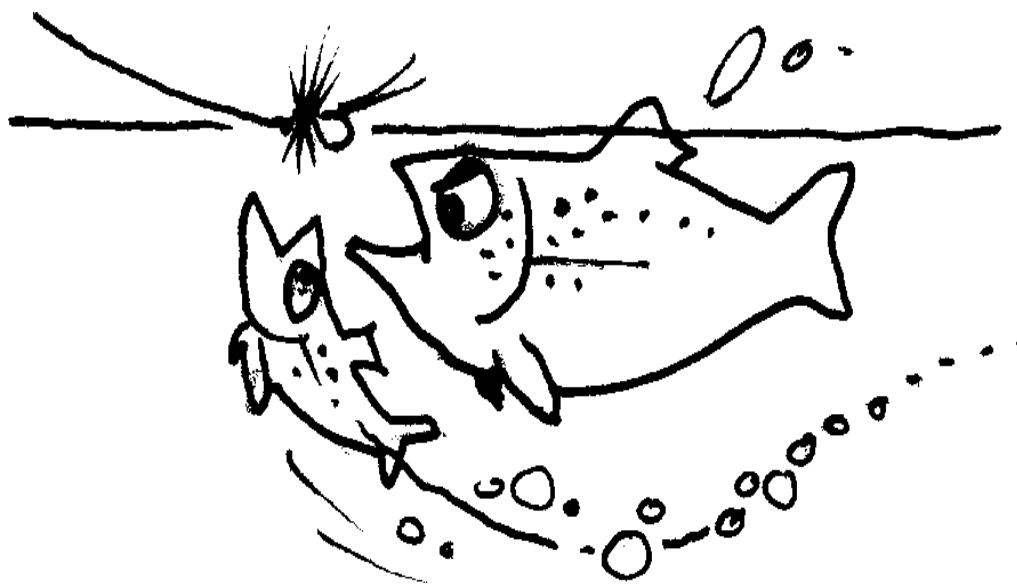


November

November 19th- WFFC Meeting, College Club 5:30 pm
October 26th- Fly Tier's Roundtable

December

December 2nd- Board Meeting, College Club 7:00 pm
December 7th- Creel Notes submissions due by noon



To:

Washington Fly Fishing Club
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