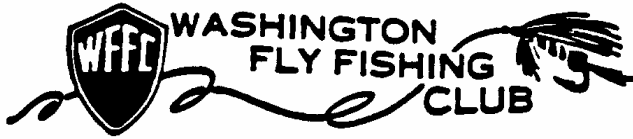


# Creel Notes from the



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



December, 2005

## PRESIDENT'S RIFFLE

The time has come to dig through the closet and find a suitable jacket and tie or suit and tie for the big Christmas Party! Then we can leave 'em out for the Awards meeting in January 2006. Let's see - do we use a turle knot or a double surgeon's knot on a tie? If you've forgotten how to tie a tie call **Doug Schaad** ASAP.

This would also be a good time to complete your application for a Gold Button Certificate for that qualifying fish you caught this year. Bill Neal will be glad to receive your entry.

I was pleased to see most of our new officers and trustees at the December board meeting. The next board meeting will be January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm at the College Club. All members are welcome to come and see the board in action. We always appreciate comments and input from any member.

**Jim McRoberts** reported that he will be attending various meetings in order to monitor the legislative activities that are of particular interest to the WFFC. Doug Schaad frequently apprises us of conservation issues that can use our support. Please respond quickly when Jim or Doug ask for letters and phone calls to legislators. We all need to help protect our fish resources.

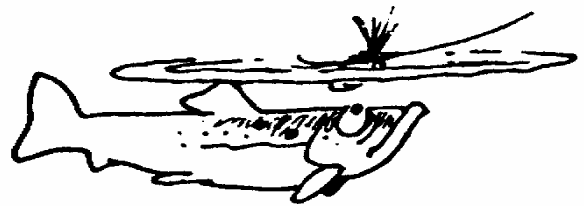
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and yours!

## CALL FOR PROGRAM IDEAS

*By Les Johnson*

I have some ideas for programs in 2006 but would also like to hear from members who also have some fishing, conservation or personalities that they are particularly interested in. We cannot accommodate every request with only eight programs to present but I will try to arrange all requests or ideas that I can. Please send me a brief email with your idea(s) between now and December 20th, 2006.

Thanks,  
Les Johnson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
[Les.johnson5@verizon.net](mailto:Les.johnson5@verizon.net)



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## IMPORTANT WEBSITES

By Jim McRoberts

I attended a forum made up of 23 conservation organizations from the state. The web page is <http://www.environmentalpriorities.org/>

Our members can read about the five major issues which are:

**Promote Energy Independence through Renewable Fuels** <http://www.environmentalpriorities.org/biofuels>

**Clean Up Puget Sound**  
<http://www.environmentalpriorities.org/pugetsound>

**Launch Electronics Waste Recycling**  
<http://www.environmentalpriorities.org/e-waste>

**Protect Kids Health by Eliminating Toxic Flame Retardants** <http://www.environmentalpriorities.org/pdbe>

**And we are united in defense of our state's land use protections.**

These do not seem to have a direct bearing on fish and fishing. However, they have very strong effect on water quality and thus fish in the long run. There are two citizen activities available to any one wanting to become an activist. They are also available on the same web page.

One is on January 7th which is a Legislative Workshop. The other is Citizens Lobby Day in Olympia on January 26th. The Legislative session starts on January 9th next year and runs for 60 days. It is a short session and not a budget year. All the bills that were not passed last session are still active this time. The good as well as the bad are still "in play" so to speak. Anyone wishing to learn more may contact me.

## Creel Notes

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Kris Kristoferson '05      John Schuitemaker '05

### **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.

## Coming Into The Pool, November 3

By Leland Miyawaki

Two years ago while fishing the Skagit for steelhead, my friend Nobuo Nodera asked if I had ever seen "fish come into the pool?" "No, but I've read about it happening with Atlantic salmon," I replied. Last year, while fishing with **John Farrar**, I asked him the same question. John said, "In all the years I have been flyfishing for steelhead, I have only seen fish come into the pool once. It was on the Sky during the last hour of light – all of a sudden the tailout was alive with rolling fish. A small school of steelhead had just swum into my pool from the one down below. For the next two hours, I caught and released five chrome bright steelhead!"

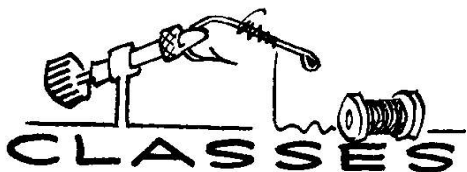
This morning, Ryan Petzold and I caught the 5:50 Kingston ferry and drove three and a half hours through freezing fog, snow and ice to emerge into a bluebird day on the Bogie.

At 9:30, Ryan began fishing and I took my spot below him halfway down to the tail-

out. Ten minutes later, as I was still getting the kinks out of my line, I hooked up with my first winter steelhead of the season. I was using a #2 pink, orange, yellow popsicle. Ryan came down and took a photo and I released the 5lb. hatchery buck. I told Ryan to take my spot and that I would walk back upstream and fish down behind him. Soon I hooked my second fish. An incredulous Ryan laid down his rod and tromped back up to take a photo of my second steelhead.

Fish were rolling in the river between the two of us. They must have come into the pool just before we arrived. It wasn't long before I heard Ryan yell, "Fish on!" Just as I began to strip in my line in order to go down and take Ryan's photo, I got a big grab and just missed getting a "double."

I saw six fish roll in the next few minutes before Ryan hooked his second fish. After landing the fish we looked at his watch. It read 11:00! In an hour and a half, we hooked five fish and landed four. For myself, I equaled in an hour and a half all that I did last winter – two fish landed and one lost.



Beginning Fly Tying Class

Date: Thursday January 5, 2006

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: Mercer Island Covenant Church

Basic Cost: \$35.00

Registration is required: To register or further questions please call **Don Simonson** 206-932-4925 or **Bob Birkner** 206-542-4623





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

Stamp  
here

Dec. 2005

### **Meeting Announcement**

It is time to have a party at The College Club, 505 Madison St.  
The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM and dinner is served at 7 PM

Tuesday the 20th should be a great time for all to enjoy the festivities of the Holiday party. As always the bartenders will pour your favorite spirits and the raffle tickets will be plentiful. Keith Robbins will be reaching into your pockets again this year as he auctions off a week long trip to the Bahamas, a boys weekend at the cabin in Skykomish, and a day on Puget Sound hosted by Sage and A Spot Tail Salmon Guide, which includes a complete Sage outfit. There are many more silent auction and raffle prizes to be won. Come early and have a couple before dinner and enjoy yourself.