

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com



MMXIII No. 12

December, 2013

Officer Nominations for 2014



President



Michael Moscyński



Ghillie 1



James MacDonald



1st Vice-President (Membership)



Charles Davis



Ghillie 2



Abe Gillard



2nd Vice President (Programs)



Robert Burdick



Trustees



Mark Pratt



3rd Vice President (Christmas Party/75th)



David Schorsch



Maury Skeith



Treasurer



Robert Young



Secretary



Gary Bergquist

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In Memoriam



Jean Young 1916-2013

Jean Young, age 97, passed away peacefully on November 24, 2013. She was the wife of long time WFFC member Gordy Young who passed away in 2005.

Born in Oakesdale WA her family moved to Corvallis OR where she attended high school and graduated from Oregon State University in Home Economics. She was a longtime resident of West Seattle with her husband, Gordon, where she raised two sons.

This endearing lady was an active fly fisher person herself and along with Gordy was present at most of the WFFC outings for nearly 40 years beginning in the 60's. She was named the Woman Flyisher for 1975 by the Federation of Flyfishers.

She is preceded in death by her husband (Gordy) and survived by her sons, James (Ann) of Bellevue, WA and Robert (Kathy) of Wheaton, IL, five grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

A Word From The Family

Thanks to the members of the WFFC for your cards, flowers, messages of sympathy and condolences.

She loved fly fishing and in her later years we would tell stories and share memories of the many places she had been. Her favorite place was Chopaka Lake with all her friends. Thank you.

Jim Young



Jean Young double hauling
Creel Notes August 1978

Membership Dues—A Bargain

2014 Dues Notice

It's time for 2014 membership dues renewal. Attached in this issue is the 2014 renewal form. Renewing can also be done online at the 'members only' area of the website saving yourself a stamp.

When you consider all the outdoor, social, service and special activities the club has to offer, it's a bargain. And how could you miss even one edition of the **Creel Notes!** Add this year is a \$25 Initiation fee for new members joining the club in 2014

Let's all get renewed by January's end, avoid that reinstatement fee and make our 1st VP of membership, **Charlie Davis** a happy man.

January Program

January Traditional Awards Meeting

Bill Neal (WFFC Awards Committee Chair) will present numerous awards made in recognition of club members (or others) who have distinguished themselves through service to the club and the community.

Creel Notes

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Ghillie 2

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Trustees

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Roger Rohrbeck '13 Dave Hawkinson '13
Mark Pratt '14 Maury Skeith '14

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.

2014 Program Schedule Slate

WFFC Speaker Schedule for first 1/2 of 2014

By Bob Burdick, 2nd Vice President (Programs)

- January 21, 2014** Awards Ceremony----No outside speaker
- February 18, 2014** Bruce McNae, "Fishing for Atlantic Salmon on Russia's Kola Peninsula and the Atlantic Salmon Reserve"
- March 18, 2014** Chad Jackson, WDFW Regional Fisheries Biologist from Moses Lake will speak on the state of lake fisheries in the Columbia Basin.
- April 15, 2014** Bob Magulis from the Wild Steelhead Coalition will talk on "The state of Wild Steelhead in the State of Washington and the Pacific Northwest"
- May 20, 2014** Joe Bogard from Save our Wild Salmon and Chris Caudill, chairman of the University of Idaho's department of fisheries will discuss the state of salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River drainage.
- June 17, 2014** Marc Williamson, flytyer, flycaster, and guide will discuss fly fishing opportunities in Central Oregon

Cruelties of Bait Fishing

Bear Witness

During a private "fly-in" fishing excursion in the Alaskan wilderness, a charter pilot and fishing client left a cooler and **bait** in the airplane



(Continued on page 4)

Education

Fly Tying Classes Start in January

By Dick Brening

On January 9th we will begin our eight weekly session fly tying class for 2014. If you or someone you know would like to take this popular and effective class please be sure to sign up now. Details are found at www.wffc.com. Look under the "2014 Classes Schedule" in the middle of the page for instruction on how to sign up on line.



If you are already an accomplished fly tier and would like to volunteer to help teach the class please contact club members **Dick Brening** or **Pat Peterman**. It is a good way to help others enjoy the sport of fly fishing.

At the Movies

Salmon Fishing in the Yemen

A comedy that may be of some interest to the fly fisherman. A bit wacky but keeps your interest.

Premise: A London fisheries expert is approached by a consultant to help realize a Yemen Sheik's vision of bring the sport of salmon fishing to the desert and embarks on an upstream journey of faith and fish to prove the impossible is possible.



Available on DVD locally in the KCLS library system.

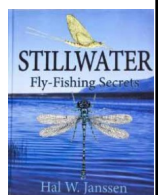
Winter Reading

Stillwater Fly Fishing Secrets

Book by Hal Janssen

Seems Hal Janssen has been around as long as I can remember. Fly fisherman par excellence.

In this book Hal pretty much distills all his half a century worth of research and on the water experience. Includes 48



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(Continued from page 3)

The pilot radioed another pilot with a request; "bring me 2 new tires, 3 cases of duct tape, and a few rolls of visqueen."



No problem! The pilot patched the plane together and on home they went. The bear probably went home with what he was after too!

"Three-fourths of the Earth's surface is water, and one-fourth is land."

"It is quite clear that the good Lord intended us to spend triple the amount of time fishing as taking care of the lawn."

- Chuck Clark



Stillaguamish River

Stilly 'Rising' November 16, 2013

By Dave Schorsch

Went against better judgment and river flow info. Saturday morning, and headed to the fly water section of the Stilly. Figured if I went up to Hazel I would be above the REALLY dirty water, and there should be

some chums in the hole there by now. I've always caught them in mucky water full of leaves anyway.

At 7:00 the river had about 18 inches of visibility, and was coming up pretty fast. No fish showing, caught one sucker in the run above in an hour. Saw a fish roll in the frog water at the corner, and fished with everything in the box for another hour. Sticks and branches started building up in the eddies with the rising water, visibility down to 12 inches.

More fish started to roll, I changed to a small dark purple fly, and caught a nice hooknose silver, in pretty good shape. A group of silvers moved into the corner pool, and seemed to like my purple leech just fine!

In the next half hour I landed 4 more. All aggressive takes, and all in great shape, with just a bit of pink on the sides. Amazing for this time of year!

Only one other person showed up, a guy that owns a fly shop in Oregon! He took a picture of fish number 5, and asked to put it on his web site called "bigstick .com" or something like that. Dedicated to spey rods I think.

Anyway, the fish were moving up with the rising water, and I just happened to hit it right. By the time I gave up at 11:00 the debris swirling around the pool was impossible to get through. Fish were still rolling in it though. I hooked a lot of salmon, lost only one hooked fish, and landed 9. I saw only one dead chum, and no live ones.

That's my fish report. Now I have to do chores for the rest of the weekend.

E. Washington & N. Idaho

Swede's Report for November

By Allen Peterson

The Spokane river is hot right now, mostly the lower river section fishing CH rubber leg wooly buggers on a 15 foot sink tip line. Brown and olive are the key.

Crab Creek N of Ritzville of Marcellus Rd is doing well with small (16-18) beaded scuds or emergers. Nice brown trout and rainbows to 18" and please don't use strike indicators (bobbers) as they don't allow the fly to sink deep enough to the larger fish. Additionally, they are a pain to cast. And just fish one fly at a time, as the rainbows can only take one fly at a time.

NFCDA river in ID is well worth the drive and effort. The cutts are taking surface patterns ranging from big and ugly Chernobyl's, stoneflies and Oct caddis patterns. Need to drive N of Pritchard into the Jordan Ck area and fish the near the pools formed by the boulders.

St. Joe is a zoo, as it usually is. Too many people fishing to little holding water, but if in the area use some

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small gray or black midge patterns in the morning or evening to the rising cutts. I would recommend fishing above Spruce Tree CG. Very beautiful in the fall as is the NFCDA.

Roosevelt Lake is probably the hottest thing going right now out of the Lincoln launch area. Many reports coming in on double headers all day long using leech or olive willy patterns fished on a RIO deep 7 line all 90 feet out with short strips. The rainbows are bright and full of fight. You can troll or cast, trolling being the preferred.

Try the mouth of Asotin Ck on the Snake river for steelhead. Just above Heller Bar. On the average there are 3-6 fish being caught now using 24 ft sink tips with articulated leeches in black/purple or pink/purple. The best way is to fish cast up and target down on the swing, stripping on the retrieve, allowing the fly to sink deep.

Rufus Woods is either a hit or miss depending on the flows of the river. Grand Coulee dam creates quite a current downstream where we fish and can keep our flies from getting to where the fish are. No fish story....last time I was there I caught and netted between 35-40 rainbows between 8 and 14 pounds each. It is an incredible fishery when turned on. We have a few spots that are favorable to us and would be willing to share that intel with the club members, but not to be exploited on the internet as with all my fishing reports.

Up north a bit the upper Columbia from black sand (near Steamboat rock), fishing north between the gaging stations (Stroh Spur & Boundary) is amazing for nice 14" to 18" rainbows using large sedge patterns (#8 Oct caddis) or stone fly dries and nymphs toward the evening hours. I would recommend getting lodging perhaps in Northport.

If there are a few of you who can appreciate the beauty and strength of a 16" to 18" brook trout, then Buffalo lake should be your destination next season on the Colville

land. Brookies hug the bottom and love a dragon fly nymphs fished very lazily in the depths. You'll need a tribal permit to fish the lake (10.00/1 day, 20.00/3 day) but that will allow you to fish Omak lake from the shore on a sink tip or full sinking line using caddis emergers and small electric buggers in black. Quite an experience!

Swede's Fly Shop
1611 N Ash St
Spokane, WA 99205

Fly Tiers Roundtable



Last Month's Fly Tiers Roundtable

November 13, 2013

The Roundtable is open to all
2nd Wednesday of the Month **-be there!**

Conservation Issues

Park Service Wages Battle on Lake Trout

Non-Native Invasive Genus

From Various New Sources—Thanks to John Callahan

Up the Southeast Arm of Yellowstone Lake a commercial netting boat is setting out nets in effort to capture lake trout. This is the first time the Park Service has set nets in this particular remote section of the park.



Lake trout eat cutthroat. Ever since lake trout (Mackinaw) were discovered in Yellowstone Lake in 1994 the 139-square-mile high-elevation lake has become a target of park biologist's effort to reduce the lake trout population which, in theory, has been primary cause of catastrophic collapse (90% drop) in the native cutthroat trout population. Lake trout are not native to Yellowstone Lake and its speculated they came from nearby Lewis Lake (Genetic work shows the Yellowstone lake trout are related to those found in Lewis Lake). How the transfer occurred, no one knows for sure. Fisherman could have secretly transplanted, or firefighting helicopter carrying water from Lewis Lake could have inadvertently dropped an invader into Yellowstone Lake.



Netting Operations

In an attempt to revive the native cutthroat trout fishery, the park agency started the program in 1998 to curtail the population of lake trout. Lately the lake trout catch rate is falling which may indicate progress is being made. Five years of aggressive fishing with miles of drift nets and electric shocks, biologists have killed more than 136,000 lake trout. Fishers are also allowed to catch and kill as many lake trout as they want. Because the lake trout are primarily deep water fish they do not support any of the park's above species as the cutthroats do. Yellowstone Lake, once a stronghold for cutthroat trout, provided food for eagles, bears and other species.



The Suspected Culprit

(Continued on page 6)

In the last couple of years there has been an increase in the cutthroat population, though it is too early to be optimistic, officials say. "The lake trout may never be eradicated, and officials may always need to remove them. If no better technology emerges, the fishing will have to continue perpetually to save the Yellowstone cutthroat.

Not everyone is on board with this program. Some think the program is far too expensive, a long term proposition with marginal returns. Others view it as a program designed to excite the general public and collect donations from various organizations. Still others point out that healthy cutthroat populations exist in surrounding lakes that also contain lake trout and it's just a fraction of larger environmental problems existing in the park.



The Yellowstone Cutthroat

Currently, biologists think they are making headway. The lake trout catch rate per net is down from 2012, a key indicator the population of lake trout is falling. They are also continuing to learn the where the lake trout are which will continue to help in the netting program. Removing all lake trout from this large lake is believed to be impossible but biologists hope to keep the population in check to where the cutthroat can again thrive.

Speaking of Non-Native Invasive Species! 'Missing Toes Department'



This alligator snapping turtle was captured in Prineville Reservoir (Oregon), October 2013 by ODFW.

of the authors proven fly patterns that cover just about every aquatic food organism.

Hal's been around a long time and it's well worth a read.

'Reeling' in the Years

Club Reports from Yesteryear From Creel Notes 1971 and 1967

December 4, 1971 —Larry Loudenback fished Roses Lake, north of Manson, Chelan County under blizzard conditions on December 4th. Despite below freezing temperature, six inches of snow, iced guides and near freezing water temperatures, the same 'Nyerger Rose' fly produced seven 10 inch, two 13 1/2 and one 18 1/2 inch rainbows in two sessions of 90 minutes each. There were a number of other fisherman on the still ice free lake, but Larry was the only visible fly fisherman. Roses is a winter lake , open December 1 –March 31.

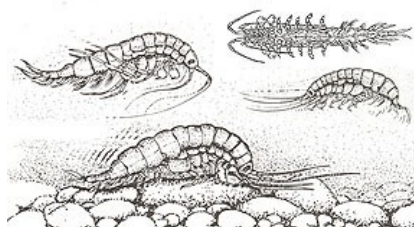


I'd said the hell with it and found a warm motel- Ed

October 21-22, 1967 - Pat Kirkpatrick and Carl Coggins, Bob Rockwell and Family fished Crescent Bay Lake. Pat says all did "real well" on rainbow averaging 15-16" and full of fight. "Best fishing I've had in this state in 15 years", Pat says. He took his weight limit, return others including one 19 incher. Carl also did very well and also took on large perch on a fly. Activity increased after 10 a.m. Flies used Irwin Sedge (dry) took fish . Best results with sinking line, retrieved on Gil's Monster and "WSU Halfback" (Pat says this fly is crimson and grey (but black and blue seems more likely). Pat recommends access on the far end of the lake rather than off the main road, which is pretty steep. At least 40 feet of anchor rope is required if you want to fish the deep areas.

I had similar results in early 70's. Crescent Bay Lake grew beautiful fish up to 20+" and very heavy for their size. Lake had extremely fast growth rate. This lake was 'sort of' a secret for many of the area residents for years. Pat was also correct about launching area—easy to get yourself in trouble if you take the wrong road.

Sadly because of pollution problems and repeated scrap fish infestation it's no longer the great fishing it once was—Ed



Scuds—Illustration By Dave Whitlock



The proper wind knot effortlessly draws tight and small as if it were hand-tied on purpose. Anyone can become a pro at this knot instantly.

Fly of the Month

The 'Creedle'

Wayne Luallen of Southern California developed this pattern which proved very useful in local streams of the Sierra.

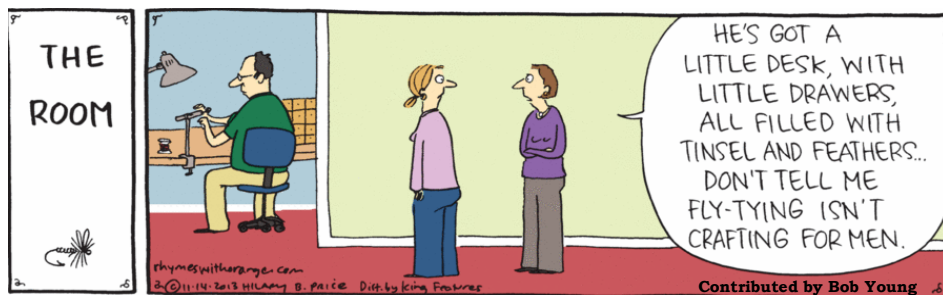
The 'Creedle' is a cross between a cricket and beetle. No reason why it should work up here in Washington.

Dressing:

Hook: Daiichi 1180, sizes 8-16
Thread: 3/0 - 6/0 flat (choice of color)
Body and Thorax: Craft foam (choice of color)
Legs: Round Rubber (choice of color)
Indicator: Craft foam (bright color)
Wing: Cow Elk (natural color)

Tying Sequence

1. Form a base on the hook by covering the shank with tying thread.
2. Prepare a section of craft foam at least three hook lengths long with tapered forward section.
3. Attach the foam behind the eye and bind it to the shank forming a series of 4 lumpy sections along the shank.
4. Return the thread to a point 1/3 a hook length behind the eye. (Remainder of the foam will extend beyond the bend)
5. Fold foam forward and place several wraps. Lift the foam and wind thread to the eye
6. Bind the foam to form the thorax. The rest of the foam will extend beyond the eye temporarily.



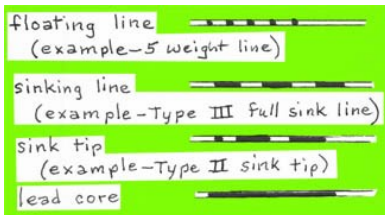
An Extra Tip

Label Your Lines by Elaine Cook

Manufacturers provide a sticky label to put on your reel spool. It often comes off in time leading to confusion and lousy casting when the line weight doesn't match the rod.

Simply use a Sharpie pen and, on your floating lines, make the same number of short marks on the line as the line weight. (see diagram)
 For sinking lines make lines. For sink

tips and shooting heads, a dot before the lines works well. (see diagram) Lead core, a solid line. (see diagram) Be creative for special lines.



Want Ads / Buy and Sell

Cane Rods & Hardy Reels For Sale From Dick Stearns

Back in '89 when we were staying at Corbett Lake Lodge regularly, I had Peter McVey make two 6wt, 8'6" cane rods, and bought two Hardy Perfect 3-5/8 reels/w spare spools to balance them out. The reels are left-hand wind



We've used them only on rare occasions, so I'm offering the lot for \$3,000. Contact me for pictures and particulars.

Dick Stearns

The 'Creedle'



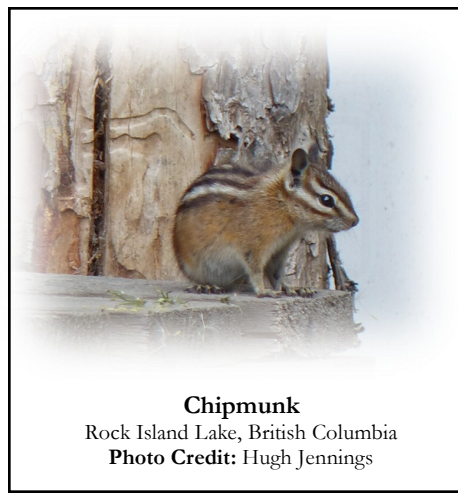
1



2



Finish



Chipmunk

Rock Island Lake, British Columbia
 Photo Credit: Hugh Jennings



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

Stamp
here

December, 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:

**WFFC Annual Christmas Party
and Auction Fundraiser**



Washington Fly Fishing Club

WFFC Membership Dues Notice

2014 Dues are due on January 1... Let's all renew by the end of January!

Online payment (preferred), or mail this form with your check

Type of Membership:	Dues Amount:
<input type="radio"/> Regular	\$ 70*
<input type="radio"/> Associate	\$ 45*
<input type="radio"/> Senior or Honorary	\$ 0
Contribution to club (voluntary)	\$ _____
* Reinstatement fee <u>after February 28</u>	\$ 30
=====	=====
Check amount	\$ _____

Please fill out completely, and circle anything that has changed:

Last name _____ First name _____

Spouse or partner name _____

Address:

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ - _____ - _____

Work/mobile phone _____ - _____ - _____

Email address _____

Mail to: Charles Davis
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Edmonds, WA 98026