

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com



Member of



MMXVII NO. 10

DECEMBER, 2017

President's Riffle

Its hard for me to believe that the year is almost gone—and what a year! War seems to



have been declared on our precious planet and common sense in general. Yet despite the now daily attacks on the environment and the surreal distractions emanating hourly from the “other” Washington, grass roots organizations and individuals have come together and joined forces to push back like never before.

By staying focused and choosing our battles carefully we are making a difference. The WFFC is one of those organizations and has been active in lobbying against resource management policies that are a threat to native fish populations in our beautiful Salish Sea and Northwest Rivers and lakes. Members of our Conservation Committee routinely give up days and travel far to make the case for the environment. They are having a positive effect. I'm sure you are as proud as I am to be associated with these folks.

2017 for the WFFC has been significant in other ways as well. Your board of directors proposed and the membership came together in a coura-

geous way to vote in needed changes to our membership bylaws that have allowed the Membership Committee to reach its stretch goal of 20 new members for the year. I'm so happy to report that this 2017 class of new members—both women and men—are breathing new life into our club. These are quality folks not afraid to step up and take on the important jobs in the club. In fact, not one new member has refused when asked to take on a leadership role! Thank you and thank you also to the long time members who have agreed to act as mentors for these new members in order to help integrate them into the life of our club. Another big job being done well.

The unsung heroes of the WFFC are those Committee Chairs and Committee Members who are back year after year updating our website, arranging for dinner meeting speakers, greeting and checking you in, making awards, hosting and teaching classes, organizing fishing trips and outings, editing and publishing the Creel Notes, checking up on those of us who are ill and the myriad other activities that allow the rest of us to enjoy our wonderful sport to the fullest. Thank you all and I hope you will all stay on for 2018!

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your club president in 2017. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Best, John

The 2018 Northwest Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy

As we approach the holiday season, now would be the time to be thinking of gifts for your children, grandchildren, neighbor and any other youth you think might like to learn about fly fishing and conservation. We are looking for mature and serious minded youth willing to learn the sport of fly fishing and conservation.

To qualify for The Academy, the applicant, boy or girl, 12-16 years old, must write an essay explaining why they would like to attend The Academy. A letter of recommendation is also required, written by their science teacher, school counselor, scout leader, etc. The dates for the WSCFFI supported, and the WCTU sponsored event is Sunday, June 24-30, 2018. The Academy will be held again at The Gwinwood Conference Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The youth reside in cabins with Ghillies (counselors), fly fishing gear is provided along with fly tying materials, all meals are included. Cost for the whole week is \$300, there are sponsorships available. No one will be turned away because of funds. To learn more about the Academy, go to www.nwycffa.com or our Facebook page. The application is available on our website or contact

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A special 'Heritage Fly Box' to be auctioned off at this years WFFC Holiday Party

When Preston Singletary was asked to contribute some flies to our Fly Box Raffle he responded with the following write-up explaining the significance of his donation.

“It’s surprising to me how many were originally tied by former club members. Purple Peril and Skykomish Sunrise are generally attributed to Ken McLeod (though actually tied by his son George), Hellcat by Frank Headrick and Brad’s Brat by Enos Bradner. Polar Shrimp is usually attributed to Clarence Shoff and the origin of the Green-Butt Skunk is still a mystery with many closely-related relatives.” (ed. note: there are several references on the web that Wes Drain was probably the originator of the Skunk pattern with the ‘green butt’ added later).

Preston’s perfectly tied flies will be boxed in one of Dick Brening’s hand crafted fly boxes and will be Auctioned Off at this years WFFC Holiday Party. This is an exceptional opportunity to bid on a collector’s piece of club history.



Creel Notes

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Club officers and chairmen can be contacted by logging in the WFFC website in the roster area.

Youth Academy cont.

Mike Clancy @ nwycffa@comcast.net

This is a life rewarding experience for our youth to learn conservation and the basics of fly fishing. The youth of today, are the guardians of the future of our sport of fly fishing.





Washington Fly Fishing Club

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Mercer Island, WA 98040

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Meeting Announcement



Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Seattle Tennis Club, 922 McGilvra Blvd. E.

This month's holiday program is on December 19.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Bring your sweetheart, family (adults), prospective members and friends to our WFFC fun, entertaining, and delicious Annual Holiday Dinner and Auction.

Happy hour starts around 5:30 with plenty of time to peruse and bid on a wide selection of raffle and auction items and to visit with fellow WFFC members and close friends!

Dinner will be served at 7:00 with your gourmet entrée sign-up selection, with wine, followed by a delicious dessert to begin the live auction fun.

Kris Kristoferson, our Honorary Master of Ceremonies along with our Auctioneers, will work to outdo each other to win your hearts, your dollars and entertain you throughout the evening.