

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXVIII NO.9

DECEMBER, 2018

President's Riffle

(Tailout Section?)

Where does the time go? Seems like just yesterday I was being handed the WFFC gavel by outgoing President, Gary

Berquist. In reality that event happened in January 2017. The ensuing 23 months have been both challenging and rewarding.

Challenging because right from the get go your WFFC administrative team (Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs) felt that we were in a place where certain changes to our by-laws were necessary to ensure that there would be a possibility of attracting new members at the rate necessary to offset the forecast attrition rate of our aging demographic. It was so refreshing to work with a group of folks all pulling together to put together a proposal for attracting and then fast tracking new member candidates; bringing that plan to you the members who decided to take a chance, break with tradition and approve the by-law changes.

The reward is that in those same 23 months we have welcomed 40 new members to our ranks. Our total membership now stands right around 150 members—a number that allows us to breath easier knowing that these are the kind of numbers we need to sustain our Club. The ultimate reward is that within that batch of new members people like Deb Katz (3rd Vice President-Fund Raising for this year and next), Marcia Kindinger (Senior Ghille for next



year and maybe forever), Dave Spratt (Treasurer for next year), Trevor Bennett (Youth Committee Chair this year and next) have already stepped up to take on leadership roles within the club. The point is, we are attracting the kind of new members that care about our club enough to pitch in with their time and talent to ensure its success.

Concurrent with these structural changes to the club the usual high standards relative to outings, programs, conservation, youth activities and The Creel Notes never flagged. Thank you to all the Officers and Committee Chairs and Members for all that you do for us month in and month out.

It has been a highpoint of my life to have had the opportunity to serve as President of The WFFC. Thanks for your trust, guidance and patience. I know that you will give the same level of support to incoming President Jim Goedhart along with all the new and continuing Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs. I cant imagine a more competent group of folks to lead our club forward.

See you at the Christmas Party,
John

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Upcoming

December 18th, 2018 Christmas Fundraiser Dinner

Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Bring your sweet-heart, family (adults), prospective members and friends to our annual Christmas dinner and fundraiser.

Happy hour starts at 5:30 pm, allowing plenty of time to visit with fellow WFFC members and friends and to view the wide selection of live and silent auction items, and raffle offerings. Bidding for silent auction items and raffle items ends at 7 pm.

Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm and will consist of one of the following entrees, wine and dessert.

ANGUS TENDERLOIN FILET
- Crispy shallots, truffle demiglace

HERB SEARED WILD
KING SALMON -Smoked to-
mato sauce, petite greens

HERB GRILLED BREAST
OF CHICKEN - Crispy pota-
to angel hair, natural jus

GRILLED WHIDBEY IS-
LAND TOFU - Seared mush-
rooms, heirloom tomato coulis

As we start dessert, Kris Kristoferson, our Master of Ceremonies and our auctioneer, Keith Robins will start the live auction. They will entertain you through the remainder of the evening to win your hearts, and dollars, to fund our social, outings, youth and conservation activities for the upcoming New Year.

Below are some of the great auction items we have this year:

- Black Bear Lodge Upper Columbia Fishing for Two
- Multiple Guided Fishing Trips on the Yakama River and Puget Sound
- Multiple offered weekend home stays with fishing opportunities
- Exceptional Fly Fishing Rods,

Pontoons and Kayak flotation selections

- Outstanding dining and wine offerings

Seating is limited, so go to WFFC.com to sign-up for the event (credit cards only) quickly!

Can't attend the Christmas Dinner but want to help fund next year's activities? Go to the WFFC.com website, click on the Christmas Dinner Meeting and select the \$50 donation sign-up option. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Gentlemen are requested to wear a coat and tie at the Christmas Dinner.

Thanks for your support!

On the Fly

The Meeting in Reel Time

by David Ehrich

The Meeting
in Reel Time
November
20, 2018



Good pre-meeting conversation centered on the cause of my recent reception of the Half-assed award, with speculation about who might have earned the title in the mean time. In fact, anytime the half-assitude award comes up, I'm always surprised at how many stories emerge: up the creek without a paddle; empty rod cases eight miles up the trail; broken rods and lost gear. From there, we moved on to the recent revelation that we don't have enough salmon. Thank the endangered Orca for this news. Well, maybe the politics of fuzzy whale stuffed animals will bring down the dams where angler common sense has failed. We can't say what might happen to the chemical waste, human refuse, and other detritus, but perhaps local politicians will volunteer to evacuate the area to make room for salmon. Perhaps.

From these haughty topics, we moved to the sound of the gavel from

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President

John Gravendyk

1st Vice President (Membership)

Michael Moscynski

2nd Vice President (Programs)

Michael Wearne

3rd Vice President (Christmas Party)

Deborah Katz

Treasurer

Jim Goedhart

Secretary

Tom Neu

Ghillie 1

Pat Becker

Ghillie 2

Dexter Brown

Creel Notes Editor

David Ehrich

davidehrich@rocketmail.com

Trustees

Gary Bergquist, Past President; Pete Crumbaker '16; Ron Little '16; Hugh Clark '17; Robert Birkner '17; James Young '18; John Narver '18

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

the short timer, President Gravendyk. Mike Moscynski then introduced guests, who evolved to new members at the new rapid pace. Another legacy, Sarah Rounds, with deep roots in the club including her grandfather, David Rounds. Next, Kurt Peterson, described his ascendancy, expressing interest in learning about fishing.

On another note, Jim McRoberts, introduced our new slate of candidates for next year's offices. Some familiar faces: Jim Goedhart for President, Mike Moscynski for

First VP, Mike Wearne for Second VP and Deborah Katz for Third VP. New blood includes Dave Spratt for treasurer, Tom Neu for Secretary, Marcia Kindinger for First Ghillie, Dexter Brown for Second Ghillie, and Trustees Dick Brening and Greg Crumbaker. The President called for further nominations, everyone held their breath, and hearing none, went on to unanimous vote in favor.

Taking a moment of personal privilege, our outgoing Ghillie, Pat Decker, who retired from the position to deal with a breast cancer, acknowledged shared her gratitude for the support of club members. We also had some fishing notes, but the meat loaf got in the way of accurate recording. I can pass on that the NF of the Stilly fished well for multiple species. We also heard about trout in Montana, sea run in pajamas north of Belfast, red fish on the Mississippi Delta, finishing off with a skunk for Pat Decker at Wet Buns. Others had more luck. I hope all of these stories find their way into the next Creel Notes.

Our guests morphed into inductees with Pete Baird doing the honors, starting with sharing his personal connection with Sarah Rounds' father

and grandfather. Pete, in great style, gave out the packet of goodies we are all familiar with and enjoy. One of my table mates noted that we might run out of this pressing of Backcasts and I came upon an idea: donate your Backcasts back to the club in your will. We should be able to keep up.

Deborah brought us up to date with the Christmas Party, including a hint of the wealth of good stuff available for auction and raffle. Don't miss it, but by the time you read this, the tables might be full up.

Committee reports started with news of a few members who visited Gil Nyerges, who is "remarkably good" at age 97. Not so, his wife, who sadly passed away shortly after members visited.

We also heard from yours truly about the opportunity to contribute to our monthly organ. Dick Brening reminded us that the fly-tying class is now free to members! We heard news of conservation, Project Healing Waters, Fly-Fishers International, and hope for the future. Schorsch gave us the low-down on future outings after re-living Wet Buns' success. Look for upcoming notices of outings to "back-yard" fisheries. If you have a favorite, let Dave know.

And that was just the business part of the meeting. Now the real work began. Greg Crumbaker reveled us in stories about past members, inspired by early founders of the WFFC, called the "Broadway Bunch", in part for their proximity to Broadway on Capital Hill in the depths of the Great Depression. The community started at the barber shop where Bob Holbrook, owner of the Rainbow Fly Tying Co., would tie flies to lure in customers to be shorn after they bought a few flies and talked about fishing. After fly tying and shaves, they would head to Enos Bradner's book store. One member, who worked at a bank on Broadway, put his efforts into getting other fishing clubs to support the WFFC objective of fly-only waters, Pass Lake & the NF of the Stilly.

Miraculously, some of them agreed. Letcher Lambuth took to writing people he thought should be members, including Bob Boeing, who joined on demand. Bob took his flies on the road, selling them for 89¢ a dozen, gaining customers from state to state, including a big order in Bend, Oregon. Along the way, he took up an interest in bamboo rods, inventing a lathe to trim down the bamboo sections in even proportions from butt to tip.

Ron Dion even took lessons on how to build a rod from the master, Enos, who is considered the founder of the WFFC. As a bookseller and writer, Enos spread the word of the sport while spreading the gospel of Brad's Brat, the fly that adorns our club logo. Enos, reputedly territorial on the right to catch all fish, would insist that any fellow angler who caught fish while he didn't, would have to switch places on the boat. Guides, reputedly, would never pair him with anyone Enos didn't know well.

Greg went on to tell a few more stories, funny and tragic, including early member, Jack Litsey, who learned the sport at Enos' elbow and went on to become a pilot, mountaineer, and expert angler. Since he knew all of Enos' favorite locations, he would buzz him at tree top level and scare off all the fish and send Enos back home. Greg came to know him well, talking to Jack even as he suffered from increasing dementia. After getting kicked out of a few nursing homes, Jack landed north of Seattle, even though he was losing his marbles, he could remember every worth-while fishing hole he'd ever discovered. And with that pleasant story, Greg ended his remembrance of conversations he'd had years ago during the fishing deprived winters of year's past.



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.	

Classifieds

Fly Tying Desk

Solid oak fly tying desk. Two pieces for easy transport. Fold down extensions on either side, 14 drawers, thread storage and more. Includes solid oak swivel chair in matching finish. This is the “TV Tyer” flytyingfurniture.com Original cost as configured was \$1500. Time to ditch that wobbly card table and go first class.



Give it a new home for \$500. Call Dennis Westover @ 206 605 0404

Spring Creek Pram

A 10' Hopper II Spring Creek Pram, a pram that has been well developed for fly fishing in stillwaters. (See the Spring Creek Prams website.) The particulars: The pram is 9 ft. 8in. long with a beam of 54in. It weighs 120 lbs. It is extremely stable. My pram comes with a single seat (fold-down) with sufficient room, should one wish, for a removable chair/seat; included also are a pair of cataract oars (Mini Magnum) and oar locks; 2 anchor pulleys fore and aft; 2 fly-rod holders (one each side) for wet-fly mooching or chironomid fishing; the pram is wired for an electric motor and 12 v. battery; the pram car-tops easily; the



light-camouflage exterior blends in with shoreline vegetation should one wish to mix in some birding with his/her fly fishing. Included in the price are two strap-on large wheels (\$200 value) that facilitate moving the boat from the parking lot to the boat ramp. The pram is just what I have wanted for stillwater fly fishing — but a medical issue causes me to sell the pram. My pram has been used only a couple of times — it's truly like-new.

I will donate \$100 from the proceeds of the sale to the WFFC Foundation. Asking price: \$2,000Contact



John Narver @ 206-465-1054



Quotable

“The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of what is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.”

— John Buchan 1st Baron Tweedsmuir PC GCMG GCVO CH (26 August 1875 – 11 February 1940) was a Scottish novelist, historian and Unionist politician who served as Governor General of Canada, the 15th since Canadian Confederation.

Good Advice from Wyoming



Sockeye bear attraction device in AK



Terry holding a ‘Bow fat with salmon ettes on Arolik, in Alaska





Washington Fly Fishing Club
P.O. Box 639
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December, 2018

Meeting Announcement



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

This month's program is on December 18th. The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM with plenty of time to peruse a wide selection of auction items. A special gourmet dinner is served at 7:00 PM. Then the fun begins with a silent and live auction, an opportunity to "Raise the Paddle," and then the ever-exciting raffle drawing.

Please be sure to check out and pay for your commitments after the meeting comes to a close.

Don't forget, the Christmas Dinner is a fancy dress occasion