



*Washington March 5, 2019, 7:00 PM*

Seattle Tennis Club

	OFFICERS			COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Jim Goedhart	President	P	Gene Gudger	Bar	
Mike Moscynski	1st VP - Membership	P	Robert Thorpe	Conservation	P
Michael Wearne	2nd VP - Programs	P	David Ehrich	Creel Notes	
Deborah Katz	3rd VP - Christmas Party		Neal Hoffbert	Education	P
David Spratt	Treasurer	P	Pat Becker	Fruit & Flowers	P
Tom Neu	Secretary	P	Robert Thorpe	IFFF Coordinator	
Marcia Kindinger	1 <sup>st</sup> Ghillie	P	Kris Kristoferson & Steve Sunich	Home Waters	
Dexter Brown	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ghillie (non-voting)		Mike Wearne	Librarian	
	<b>TRUSTEES</b>		Dave Schorsch	Outings	P
John Gravendyk	Past President		Bob Birkner	Photographer	
Hugh Clark	Trustee		Cooper Hartman	Publicity	
Jim Young	Trustee	P	Deborah Katz	Raffle	
Bob Birkner	Trustee				
Dick Brenning	Trustee	P	Pete Baird	Senior Advisor	
John Narver	Trustee		Jim Goedhart	Webmaster	
Greg Crumbaker	Trustee		Chuck Ballard	WFFC Heritage	
	<b>GUESTS</b>		Greg Crumbaker	WFFC Foundation	
			Trevor Bennett	Youth	
Ron Little		P	Bill Neal	Awards	

P = Present

**President**

President Jim Goedhart opened the meeting at 6:58 p.m. with a quorum of eight officers and trustees. The minutes of the January and February board meetings were approved.

**Committee Meeting Reports:**

Conservation

Robert Thorpe

Robert Thorpe reminded the club that the long legal battle has finally stopped the gold mining project in the upper Methow Valley -- a win for environmentalists and fishermen.

Robert has taken on the suction-dredging problem on our Washington rivers. Over the years many fishing clubs have lobbied the WDFW to not allow dredging without much



consequence. Now Robert hopes to co-ordinate the effort with other fishing clubs to present one powerful voice to stop this harmful practice. The effort will be long-term, possibly taking a year or more. Washington only needs to look to its southern neighbors, Oregon and California, which have banned river dredging.

Robert said that through the efforts of FFI and Healing Waters, college students from the fraternity Kappa Sigma, with whom Robert stays in touch on behalf of WFFC, are helping out in the area of conservation.

### Education

It was announced that Neal Hoffbert is now the new chair of the education committee.

### Fruits & Flowers

Jim Young mentioned that a number of WFFC members attended the memorial of Jim McRoberts wife.

### Outings

Dave Schorsch

Dave Schorsch reported on the following upcoming outings:

- Hugh Clark will host the outing on Nahwatzel Lake on March 23.
- John Callahan will lead the outing to the desert lakes, tentatively scheduled for April 13. The desert lakes are shallow top-water fishing.
- Hannan Lake outing is May 4 and will include a hot lunch and brats. The new fee of \$20 may possibly apply.
- Chopaka is again scheduled for Memorial Weekend.
- Cooper Lake and Leech Lake outing dates yet-to-be-determined, with Cooper following Leech on the schedule.

Once again, the possibility of adding stream outings to the mix was brought up, however the idea with tabled as the logistics in executing these outings are too difficult.

### Publicity

Cooper Hartman



Cooper Hartman will present a program on social media at a future general meeting, advising members how to use Facebook to connect to other members. Currently, no members are using the “Forum” section of our website to coordinate fishing trips.

Creel Notes

Dave Ehrich

The question was asked – is it proper to have a non-member submitting an article in the Creel Notes as was the case this month? The consensus was it is okay and the board welcomes good information from any source inside or outside the club.

Youth

There are still has no confirmed dates for the youth camps.

Heritage

Chuck Ballard brought up at a previous meeting that he was having trouble with videos posted on the club website disappearing. Apparently, posted videos were hard to access as they were posted to a private club You-Tube site. Our web master is currently investigating the problem.

**Board Meeting Reports:**

1<sup>st</sup> VP - Membership

Mike Moscynski

Mike Moscynski has spent the last month attempting to reach the 40 plus members who have not paid their yearly dues, including personal calls. Now the club simply waits to see what checks arrive in the mail. Current membership is 140, broken down as follows:

- Active members total 114
- Associate members total 10
- Eight members have resigned
- Eleven members are on suspended status (A \$20 over due fee will be charged these members)
- New members for the year stand at 11

Reasons given for members quitting the club:

- No river outings



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- Too far to travel
- Not enough options for dinners (suggestion include a full chef salad, a vegan option)
- Not enough speakers on fishing (instead of such topics as conservation or history).

President Goedhart will speak with the Seattle Tennis Club to explore more dinner options.

1<sup>st</sup> Ghillie

Marcia Kindinger

Marcia Kindinger said that there is a problem with duplications in monthly dinner sign-ups. She suggests that members always sign in as members and to use their complete names (no nick-names).

2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.

Michael Wearne

Program speakers for the next five months are:

- March – Ryan Fortier, Central Washington Lakes and WDFW District 6 fisheries biologist.
- April - Lou Verdugo, The Caddis Fly: Oregon Fly Fishing Blog on Willamette Valley fly-fishing
- May - Climate change report
- June - Justin Waters, guide, on sea-run cutthroat in Hood Canal
- July - Owner, North 40 fly shop on fishing Omak Lake

WFFC Foundation

Foundation expense report:

- Reel Recovery - \$2,500
- Youth - \$1,000
- Western Rivers - \$2,000
- UW Fisheries \$ 500
- FFI newsletter, Osprey - \$1,000



### **New Business**

Gil Nyerges will be memorialized at the March meeting. Members will be invited to speak.

A motion was made and passed to only permit the use of credit cards for WFFC business (January to November), while cash will still be permitted at the Christmas Fundraiser in December.

Jim Goedhart's goal is to make the club better and getting there will mean asking all members to voluntarily fill out an evaluation form after every dinner meeting or on the club website.

Jim has compiled an analysis on membership and event participation. Data facts include:

- Average age of members is 44 years old;
- From 2015 to 2019 dinner participation has dropped 28-percent;
- Members not using the club website are not attending monthly dinner meetings.

Jim's recommendations:

- Reconnect with members showing interest in helping out on the various committees
- Help members to get to outings, offer any open spot in a boat
- Get word out on future fishing trips encourage members to drive and fish together when possible
- Consider a few salt-water beach trips hosted by a couple of members

The camaraderie and enjoyment of fishing keeps members engaged and active in the club.

Creel Notes submission deadline is March 10.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.