

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



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President's Riffle

The summer is just about over and I hope all of you have had some great fly fishing trips and that you are looking to start Fall fishing for cuts and salmon in the Puget Sound as I am.



Jay Deeds is hosting the Hood Canal Outing at his home on Sept 14-15. To end the year, our Wet Buns Outing is scheduled for November 9-10 at the Penrose State Park. So don't miss out on these two great fishing and membership comradery opportunities and sign up on our website to attend one or both of these events.

The Christmas WFFC Fundraiser will be held at the Seattle Tennis Club on December 17th, this will once again generate the majority of the funds the club needs to continue our Outings, Conservation, Dinner Meetings and Administrative functions in 2020. Deborah Katz, who is our 3rd Vice President of the Christmas Fundraiser, will be reaching out to all of you who made donations last year for your gener-

ous support again and also to our new members asking for helping hands to assist with all of the tasks necessary to organize and conduct the fundraiser. If you did not donate last year, we would appreciate you doing so this year. All members please help make this year's fundraiser have a record breaker year and email Deborah (DNAOMIKATZ@GMAIL.COM) to let her know what you would donate and/or help out with.

At the September 17 dinner meeting Chad Brown, a decorated US Navy veteran, will give us an inspirational talk on how he recovered from PTSD illness through fly fishing, which inspired him to launch Soul River Inc., a non-profit to share the healing powers of rivers with veterans and inner-city youth.

Tight Lines – Jim Goedhart

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BIG FISH!!!

Ha, I got your attention, right?

The December fundraiser needs YOU! and I need you, as well. Folks who donated good stuff last year - what do you have for me this year?

Folks who donated time and space in their awesome mountain, river and Sound getaways, can you do it again this year?

Who has a boat that isn't being used??

What about rods, reels, or WINE?

Let me know. I'll come get it, really! Alternatively, bring it to a meeting; I'll be there.

Besides your stuff, I need YOU to commit to helping out a little bit on the evening of the event. Raise your hand just a little higher so I can see you.

We all benefit from the money that we raise that evening. (If you all don't come through, there will be no dessert. I have the power and I'm not afraid to use it..)

December 17th, 2019 is going to be another stellar event with your help!

Yours in BIG BUCKS and BIGGER FISH,

Deb Katz

206 -769-5178

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Club Outings

On August 24th We took six wounded veterans on an outing to Trophy Lake Golf & Casting Club, near Bremerton. We had six volunteers, 5 from WFFC and one from Overlake Club.



Creel Notes

is the official publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscription is free with membership.

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3rd Vice President (Christmas Party)

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'17; James Young '18; John
Narver '18; Dick Brenning '19;
Greg Crumbaker '19

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

Please send your articles for the October edition of Creel Notes no later than Friday October 6th to David and Mel

We fished the lower lake in the morning, it was a bust! Had a great lunch then moved to the upper lake. Different story!



There were many fish working the surface. Not many were brought to hand, several were long distance releases. Two of the nicest were taken on dry flies!

Jim McRoberts



Fishing Reports

Spokane River

The lower Spokane river is fishing extremely well this fall for the red band rainbow which are resident and specific to this

river system. Average fish will run between 16 to 20 inches with a few in the mid-twenties. The lower section, because of the interchanging of the aquifer and river bottom, produces underground springs which are cooler, bug friendly and fish concentration. Fish the seams, pools, tail outs or where the river changes direction in the deeper sections. Stonefly nymphs, caddis nymphs and streamers fish on sink tip lines are the best during the day with salmon fly, sedge and ant patterns for dries during the transitional light periods.

Both the North Fork CDA and St. Joe are running a little low right now, but the cutthroats are actively taking dry flies, mostly terrestrial patterns with maybe a small caddis dropper. Average cut is 14 to 16 inches but 24 inches is not uncommon. This is stunning dry fly action in one of the most scenic river systems we have around here. About 1.5 hour drive from Spokane. Best fished above Prichard around Kit Price, Devil's Elbow and Big Hank campgrounds. Call shop for more details if interested.

There are numerous lakes and streams around the region that offer some stellar fly fishing, too many to list, but it only

takes about a 4 hour drive to get to Spokane from Seattle. This is the time of year to plan a few days or a week exploring some of our best we have to offer. So if you and some of your friends are itching to get out of Dodge and see some of the fall beauty our state has to offer, give me a call and I'd be more than happy to help in planning some potential memorable fly fishing.

Allen Peterson
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(509) 323-0500 shop
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Cottonwood Lake

I hiked into Cottonwood Lake on the Sunday of the Labor Day weekend with my friend Elizabeth. This was a reboot of a hike we attempted on the Sunday of the Memorial Day weekend in which we turned back due to excessive snow. Cottonwood Lake is west of Lost Lake and is located below Mirror Lake in the Snoqualmie Pass region. The lake is at 3,000 feet elevation and is approximately 8.3 acres in size.

I came across the information

concerning Cottonwood Lake from two sources. The first is a blog post on the website “The Wading List”. The second is from Enos Bradner’s masterpiece book Northwest Angling. Enos discusses Cottonwood Lake on page 31 of the book. He recommended the following flies for the lake: bucktail coachman, gray hackle with yellow bodies, and the carot nymph. I chose to use my version of the carot nymph. Enos discusses the carot nymph on pages 46 and 47 of his book. The recipe for this fly in in the pattern book produced by the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. Enos further discusses the appropriate flies on pages 46 and 47 of his book.

The hike to the lake is divided in two parts, the first is up a forest service road, the second portion is up and down on a trail to the lake. We encountered NO mosquitos on the trip. This is counter to the information on the Washington Trails website concerning hiking to Mirror Lake and Cottonwood Lake.

When we were at Cottonwood Lake for about three hours and observed only one rise. In May several hikers who were coming out from Mirror Lake and

Cottonwood Lake mentioned the extensive number of rises they observed on Cottonwood Lake.



You will need a floatation device to fish Cottonwood. There is a great spot to launch near a great camping site on the south shore.

I tagged a couple of brookies on this trip, I believe the fishing may be better earlier in the summer, mid June. Next year.

Upper Clark Fork Rainbow

Couldn’t resist the twitch of a size 8 Hopper. Fish the foam!
Neal Hoffberg



From The Editor

It’s been my pleasure to edit the Creel Notes this summer. Back in May, David promised me he’d return for the October edition. We’ll see if a few months of retirement changed his mind.

It was fun getting an early glimpse into where folks were fishing and the great work our club does. We’re heavily involved in our community and are ensuring our little slice of the planet is enjoyable for generations to come.

As David takes back the Creel Notes, I’ll continue to help him, maybe I’ll even submit a fishing report! hint.. hint..

Going forward, I’ll be taking on some duties helping maintain the club website.

I hope you enjoy what summer we have left and see ya’ll this weekend at Jay’s for the Hood Canal Outing.

~Mel Fry



Washington Fly Fishing Club

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September, 2019

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 September 17th. The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM and dinner is served at 6:45 PM.

This month:

Chad Brown, decorated US Navy veteran who founded Soul River Inc, helping veterans and inner-city youth.

Bob Tovar will be tying "midge patterns"