

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXIX NO.10

OCTOBER 2019

President's Riffle

It's Fall, the leaves are starting to change, our thoughts are about how to get in those last two fishing trips, starting to plan for the Holidays and wondering how it got to October so fast this year.



The last two Club Outings for this year are at Twin Lakes, Oct 12th -13th, and the closer for us is Wet Buns on November 9th -10th. Go to our website for more information about these trips and to sign-up if you are planning to attend.

At this month's Dinner Meeting on October 15th, Todd Fuchigami, of the Ellensburg Angler, will discuss fly fishing techniques and access points for the "Do-It-Yourself" Angler to successfully wade fish the Yakima river.

Bob Burdick has once again organized a very interesting slate of speakers for the November 19th Round Table Fly Fishing Seminars that will improve our fly-fishing skills and opportunities:

- Conrad Gowel, of the Native Fish Society, on how to fish the Southern Oregon coastal streams for Steelhead.
 - Heather Hodson, one of the best speakers in the Northwest, will share with us her stream and lake entomology secrets.
 - Denny Westover, our member, will explain and demonstrate the intricacies of European nymphing and discuss its advantages over traditional nymphing.
 - Ryan Smith, of the Avid Angler, will show us how to tie those basic knots that we all need to know and demonstrate how to splice lines and make loops with a heat gun.
- The Members gear swap and sale will also be held at the November Dinner Meeting. It will be a chance to unload some fly-fishing gear that you are no longer using or, to find good deal on equipment you just must have.

Continued Page 2

Inside this Issue

Page 2...December Fundraiser

Page 3...Club Outings

Page 3-4...Fishing Reports

Deborah Katz is heavily involved in soliciting and receiving Christmas WFFC Fundraiser donation items for the Silent and Live auctions and for the Raffle Tables. All members please help make this year's fundraiser be a great success by making donations! E-mail Deborah (DNAOMIKATZ@GMAIL.COM) to let her know what you would like to donate and/or help out with. Thanks in advance for all your support.

Tight Lines – Jim Goedhart

December Fundraiser

Things are starting to come together for another spectacular December WFFC fundraiser.

For those of you new to the club, this is a festive holiday event where you will have the opportunity to bid on some fabulous items in our silent and spirited live auction as well as trust your luck with out raffles for must-have goodies or flies tied by our own talented artisans in gorgeous hand-crafted fly boxes.

It will be held on our usual dinner meeting day: the third Tuesday of the month which this year falls on December 17th. Maybe we'll be spared the torrential rain that made last year's event a little 'steamier' than usual.

For those of you who have been around for a while, it is going to be better than ever - especially with your help.

I am still looking for offers of home stays, guided fishing trips and those rods that you haven't used in a while. You know you have some - or a bunch!

I am also looking for a few volunteers for the afternoon and evening of the event.

Especially for new members: I need your help! Getting involved with the club is really a great way to get to know a bunch of amazing people. This is a great volunteer opportunity. Send me a note or grab me at the next two dinner meetings.

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Creel Notes

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*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
Sunday November 10th to
David.*

Club Outings

Hood Canal

Jay Deeds hosted the annual Hood Canal outing and pizza party on September 14th. I was lucky enough to snag a spot on the host's boat and learn his secret spots fishing for sea-run cutthroat.

Jim Goedhart was also on the boat, the three of us has a pretty good day. Cutthroat struck well in the calm morning waters on various types of clouser's. Chartreuse appeared to be the best that day.



The wind picked up in the afternoon and made casting interesting. We decided to head back in before it became too much of an adventure.

The pizza and pie at Jay's was delicious and enjoyed by all. I'd like to thank Jay for opening his home to the club for the weekend. ~Mel Fry

Fishing Reports

Chopaka Lake

Week of Sept 9, 2019

Arrived at the lake with my brother Bob, (aka "Chicago Bob") on Tuesday afternoon. Weather was clear and pleasant. Managed to catch some big rainbows up to 20 inches that day with an intermediate line and a small leach pattern. Saw a few adult damselfish but no visible hatch. We were joined in the middle of the week by my son, Peter and my grandson, Cody (12 yrs). Peter had not been to the lake for 20 years. This was Cody's first time making him the fourth generation in the Young family to be on the lake (starting with Gordy and Jean Young). We all caught fish which were bright and healthy in three size groups, 14", 16" and a few at 20". Cody caught his first five large trout one afternoon aided by the coaching of Peter. He was using his great grandfather's Hardy reel and a fly tied by his grandfather. A great week.

~Jim Young

Chopaka Lake #2

Mid September

I camped at lake Chopaka for a few days in mid September with two of my sons. Club member Jim Young and his brother "Chicago" Bob were also there.

The fishing for me was slow some days but good on others. The weather was mixed with wind and rain and a day or two of beautiful fall sunshine.



Twenty plus inch bow caught on a size #8 dry Stimulator.

I had some action on size #14 dry mayflies in the afternoons but the best fishing was with wet flies. A size # 10 Pumpkin Head worked for me.

~Dick Brening

Stehekin, WA

Sept 5-8



My wife Linda and I boarded the Lady Express boat at Fields Point Landing in Chelan, WA for a 3-day backpacking trip to Stehekin, WA. The 25-mile trip up Lake Chelan to Stehekin took about 2 hours and it was very scenic. We made our base camp for 3-nights at the Lakeview Campground in Stehekin and we did day hikes in the area.

On Saturday, 9/7/19, we rode the Red Bus 4.5 miles from Stehekin to Harlequin Bridge to access the Stehekin River Trail. We hiked 8 miles round trip on the trail along the Stehekin River to Lake Chelan and back. I didn't have waders and the riverbank access to fishing spots was far and few in between.

I was able to locate a couple of good stretches of the river that

I fished using dry and wet flies. However, these areas of water were full of spawning Kokanee salmon. The normally clear water was a red hue where the congregating salmon were packed in the deep pools. Unfortunately, I didn't get any takes in the accessible areas of the river that I fished.

We made our way down the river trail to Weaver Point Campground on the south shore of Lake Chelan. I caught a couple of 14" sized cutthroats using a dry line and a size 12 weighted nymph fishing from the dock.



I fished the river near the Harlequin Campground to pass the time until we were to be picked up by the Red Bus. I caught a couple of 12" sized cutthroats using a dry line and a size 14 dry caddis fly.

We both had never been to Stehekin before and we were impressed with the hiking and

fishing available in the area. I will bring wading and float tubing gear if I make a visit back there again.

~Mike Nolan



Washington Fly Fishing Club

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October, 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 October 15th. The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM and dinner is served at 6:45 PM.

This month:

Todd Fuchigami, of the Ellensburg Angler, will discuss wade fishing the Yakima river.

Dave Spratt has volunteered to tie the "Hobo Spey" fly.