

Creel Notes from the



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

www.wffc.com

Founding Club of the FFF & members active in the FFF



Monthly Meeting Notice

May 21, 2002

LII No.5

The College Club, 505 Madison St.

Seattle, Washington

Phone: 206-622-0624

Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM

Dinner 6:45 PM

Two Prospective Members for May

We will be voting on two very experience fly-fishers at this month's general meeting.

NATHAN KEEN was born in the Boston area, but has lived in the Northwest for the past 23 years. He graduated from Seattle Pacific University with a degree in Accounting and after 12 years in business decided to move into the fly fishing industry (smart move!) where he is now part owner and full time manager of the Avid Angler in Lake Forest Park.

Nathan grew up fishing for largemouth bass and trout in New England Ponds. He joined the fly fishing ranks shortly after graduation from college and has since pursued steelhead, trout, striped bass and bon-fish. He ties all his own flies and enjoys teaching others both fly fishing and fly tying.

Nathan's sponsors are James Schmidt and Larry Karlovich.

BRIAN LENCHO started fishing when he was 6 years old. His dad put a Zebco rod in his hand on a family vacation to Ontario, Canada, and thus began a 30+ fishing odyssey.

A trip down Montana's Yellowstone River at age 14 was his first opportunity to cast a fly, and he was hooked! A 16" acrobatic rainbow on a Bitch Creek Nymph was a memorable first. From Trico hatches on

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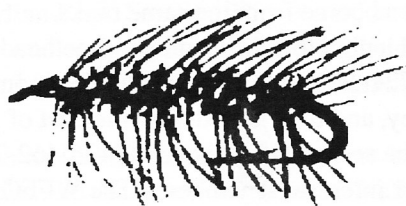
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Pennsylvania's limestone streams to after-dark forays into Eastern Washington's desert lakes and many spots in between, he's been privileged to experience many unique fishing opportunities since that day.

Steelhead and Spey Casting are his current obsessions. Though the Skykomish is his home river, he regularly travels to Idaho and BC to chase his favorite game fish.

On the horizon, he's looking forward to discovering what flies might tempt Green Lake's infamous Tiger Muskies this summer.

Brian's sponsors are Blair Alexander and Leland Miyawaki.



WCFFF Fly Casting Exposition on Saturday September 21st

by Don Simonson

The WFFC Board has approved the sponsoring for another four member casting team for the upcoming WCFFF Fly Casting Exposition on Saturday September 21st at Trophy Lakes Golf and Casting Club in Port Orchard. This will allow more club members to participate and give the club two participating teams. The original team that competed last year will remain as is at least for this year.

If you would like to try out for the team please call Don Simonson, 206-932-4925 prior to June 7th to schedule a tryout. Upon making the team, the commitment must be made to attend practice sessions, and become involved in helping with the distance and accuracy events during the full day on Sept. 21st.

The tryout will include the trout fly accuracy event along with the distance event. If more than four sign up, the four selected will be those with the highest combined score for both events.

Subscriptions to the Osprey

by Bill Redman

I heartily recommend that WFFC members and friends interested in the protection and recovery of wild steelhead and Pacific salmon subscribe to The Osprey, the three times per year, 20 page conservation journal of the Steelhead Committee of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Our feedback tells us The Osprey is the best thing of its kind, filling a need that no other publication does. Former WFFC Conservation Chair John Sager brought The Osprey to a high level of quality in his extended tour as Editor, and current Editor Jim Yuskavitch continues in that tradition.

Science based and hard hitting, The Osprey reflects the Steelhead Committee's views that the future of these marvelous fish is dependent on the genetic and life history diversity of the wild fish, protection and restoration of their habitats, dam and reservoir removal, prioritization of escapement over harvest, and elimination of the harmful impacts of hatchery operations on wild fish. Readers of The Osprey include state and provincial fish and wildlife commissioners and agency personnel, scientists, politicians, environmentalists, angler/conservationists and others, in short the people who influence and make decisions affecting these fish. The editorial contributors come from the same ranks.

To subscribe, send a note to: The Osprey – Steelhead Committee, Federation of Fly Fishers, PO Box 1595, Bozeman, MT 59771-1595, with a tax deductible contribution of \$15 or more. Contributions are used solely to support The Osprey, and they help defray the cost of sending copies to policy makers who are unlikely to contribute. I will be available by phone at (425)462-7199, and at the April 16th Club meeting with copies of a few back issues for interested members. The WFFC Foundation has committed a matching grant equal to new contributions made between April 1, 2002 and March 31, 2003 up to a total of \$2000, so your contribution will be doubly effective, and the fish will thank you.

FINAL NOTICE FOR DUES!

from Leland Miyawaki, Membership Chairman

The following members have not paid their 2002 dues. If you are on this list, or you know one of these members, please remind them that they must make out a check for \$55 (includes \$5 late penalty), payable to the WFFC, and sent to Leland Miyawaki, 12215 SE 261st St., Kent, WA 98130. If dues are paid soon, you will still be a member, however, you will not be in this years Roster.

Maurice Clark
Mark DeWitt
Earl George
Jimmy Lemert
David Miller
Tad Parker
Michael Racine
Loring Sheppard
Maurice Skeith
John Thomas
Frank Webster
Paul Wiltberger
John Arechavala
Don Minden

Club News

Scottish Lakes High Camp

Anybody interested in taking a trip to the Scottish Lakes High Camp please contact Michael Wearne. E-mail Michael_Wearne@msn.com Phone 206.784.8609

Roster Updates

Bob Birkner- e-mail robirkner@spro.net

Kyle Looney- work phone 206.297.3133, HomeStone Mortgage

If you need to reach me in the day time, e-mail:

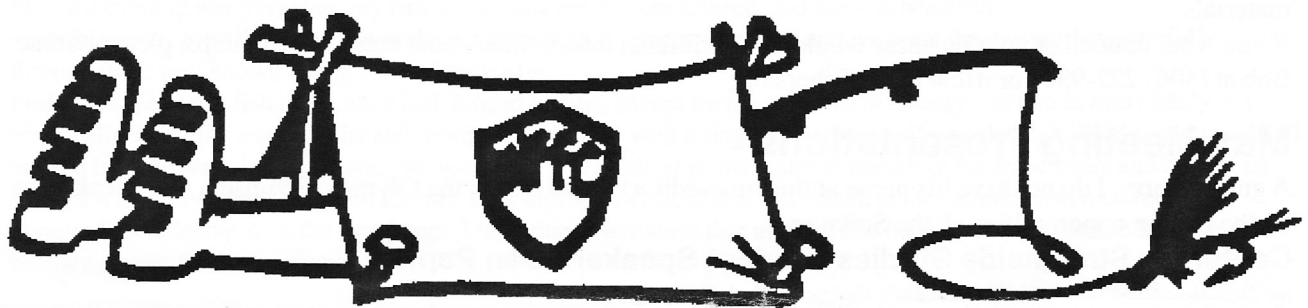
kyle@kylelooney.com

2002 Roster is on its way!

Please Donate 2-3 Different Fly Patterns

by Don Simonson

The WCFFF has asked each fly club who participates in the annual fly casting exposition to contribute two fly boxes of flies to be raffled off at the games. This year the games will be held Saturday September 21st at Trophy Lakes Golf and Casting in Port Orchard. I am asking all club members to donate 2 or 3 of their favorite patterns to help fill our two boxes. I will accept them at the general meeting or what would be convenient for you.



Club Outings

by Dave Schorsch

Thanks to everyone that made it to the Griffin Creek work party! I know it wasn't much of a fishing outing, but the weather was nice and the water looked great. I know Doug and the boys in conservation appreciated the help. Our next trip will be more recreational.

CHOPAKA LAKE is our next destination. This is our traditional Memorial Day outing and is one of the most popular annual events. It's happening May 25-27. Features include a great potluck happy hour Saturday evening (the club grill will be ready for action), "usually" reliable hatches, and the east Cascades most famous tempura chef- Ken Jarvis.

This is a relatively undeveloped "camping" style trip. The camp area is large and popular, so an early arrival is suggested. It's in two large meadows with established campsites and privies. You need to bring potable water as the well there may or may not be usable. The setting is spectacular, and the fishing is top notch even though it may be "technical" at times. You won't believe the night fishing until you try it! Friends, family, and musical instruments are welcome.

If you haven't already put your name on the sign up sheet, please do so at the May meeting, or give me a call at 206.227.6134. We need to know how much stuff to get for tempura. See you there!

WFFC SUMMER PICNIC is Saturday June 15th at Meridian Park, Seattle. This is a mid-afternoon lazy day of family fun and food. Games and activities for the kids, and competitions for the "big" kids are planned. Meridian Park is at 50th and Meridian near the Wallingford district. Contact James Schmidt or Dave Schorsch for more details as the date draws near.

HOSMER LAKE has been a destination for the WFFC in the past, and several members have expressed interest in a trip there this year. A good tentative date looks like the weekend of June 22-23. I'm not sure what the fishing conditions are this season, or the condition of the campground. Let's talk to the guys that know, and discuss it the May meeting.

Loose Ends

The International Fly Fishing Center Needs Your Help

The rooms at the IFFC in Livingston, Montana, are available for sponsorship by groups and/or individuals. Room sponsors are key to the continued improvement of the IFFC. The funding will provide enhancements and maintenance for these rooms. There are several rooms with no sponsor and these rooms are falling behind as other exhibits and rooms are upgraded.

Currently, there are sponsors for three of the rooms in the Center. The Warm Water Fish Room is sponsored by the Southern Council FFF. Major projects have been completed in this room using the sponsorship money to attract matching funds from other sources. New for 2002 will be an exhibit exploring the unique environments found in our nation's estuaries.

The Oregon Council sponsors the Lewis A. Bell Memorial Library. A new computer and museum/library management software are being purchased that will allow every item in the library to be accessed and searched by anyone seeking fly fishing information.

The Fly Room is sponsored by the DuPage River Fly Tyers in Illinois. The room has been completely overhauled and a "Tools of the Trade" exhibit is being developed. The new display will feature fly tying tools and materials.

If you, your council or your business would like additional information about these sponsorships, please contact Bob at (406) 222-9369 or iffc@fedflyfishers.org

May Meeting Presentations

A guide (Sorry, I do not have his name at this time-editor) based out on the Olympic Peninsula will speak to us on the fishing opportunities of the Seiku area.

Center for Streamside Studies Student Speaker: Dan Peplow

by Douglas C. Schaad PhD, Co-Chair Conservation Committee

This month I'm pleased to introduce Dan Peplow to the WFFC. Dan is a bit of an anomaly among the students that we've funded. Most students apply for funding early in their graduate student career, Dan applied near the conclusion of his. Most students are on a relatively fast-track from undergraduate studies into their doctoral work. Most students have yet to begin their first career. None of these are applicable to Dan.

Six years ago, Dan was progressing nicely in the corporate world of industry. And, while financially secure, he wasn't satisfied with the direction that his life was taking. He left the corporate world and returned to college for post-baccalaureate work to prepare himself for doctoral studies in Forestry and the Center for Streamside Studies. His subsequent doctoral work has led him to seminal investigations of the long-term consequences of mining upon aquatic flora and fauna. Though the majority of Dan's work has concerned the Methow River and its tributaries, the WFFC provided funding for collaborative work with Heather Bartlett on the Similkameen River.

Dan will take us on a quick tour of the Methow River, the mines that pollute its tributaries; and the insects and fish that concentrate the heavy metals leaching from those mines. He will conclude with a brief presentation of his work on the Similkameen River. I think you will find his research to be of interest.

Fishing Reports

Scott Hagen, Lake Lenice, April 27

Fished Lenice yesterday hit snow from top of pass to 15 miles past Lake Kachess, and then again at the top of Vantage hill.... the rest of the trip over it just rained real hard. Needless to say, it was cold at Lenice, but the weather improved through the day, ending up a pretty nice afternoon.

Fishing was good, and so was the catching. Had a twenty-two incher show me my backing. There were fish working all day in the shallows across the lake, but I never got it totally dialed in. Took most of my fish on a Hare's Ear, using a floating line in three to five feet of water. There was a pretty good callibaetis hatch, but the fish never really turned on to it, I think because there were so many chironomids hatching. Only got one fish on an emerger, but not for lack of trying.

Fishing Reports

Leland Miyawaki, Prices Lake, April 27, 28 and May 4

I have been fishing with Mrs. Price (that's what I affectionately call Prices Lake) for six years. I will state here and now for the record that she's a very fickle little bitty. One day she'll give up trout like a hatchery truck with a broken door and the next, she'll tighten up like a blind date at a drive-in movie.

Mrs. Price was true to form this opener. Ed Sozinho and I had met earlier at the venerable Poodle Dog in Fife to wolf down a breakfast guaranteed to plug our lower orifices. I'm sure all you old-timers who've been to Prices know why you don't want to search the shoreline for a place to relieve yourself. Anyway, at 11am we joined five other fly fishers on the water, who all looked to be pulling sinking lines – something else you don't want to do at Mrs. Prices – unless you're looking for a limit of stumps, lily pads or salamanders.

I've learned that Prices is a dry fly lake – even on cold April opening days. She is a very shallow lake and I believe all her kids learn to look up for their food. I tied on a #14 Parachute Adams and was into my first gift from Mrs. Price within a few minutes. Ed and I caught wild cutts, 'bows and hybrids to 18" on dries for the next five hours. The weather was cool and cloudy with variable light breezes from the southwest and the water temp was 48 degrees. At five, we were eating fresh, handcut Alaskan cod & chips at the Hoodsport Marina Café – a place I would recommend for dinner even if you aren't fishing in the area.

I returned on Sunday and was the only person on the lake. It was bright, sunny and the northeast winds were up all day. Not good. I was on the water at 11am and didn't raise my first fish until 1pm, on a #6 Orange Stimulator – a favorite trick in the first half-hour of a rising wind at Prices. I got my next strike on a #14 Parachute Adams at 2pm. Outta there at 3. The following Saturday, Earl Harper and I fished a heavy wind that had been blowing all night. I was determined to find a way to catch fish at Prices under high wind conditions. The key definitely appears to be large dries fished across the wind waves. I fished a #6 Stimulator all day. The color didn't seem to be important. We caught between 10 and 20 fish each, nothing larger than 16" but made all the more fun on my 2wt rod.

President's Riffle



by Kris Kristoferson President 2002

Fishing season is now getting into full swing and, as the number of daylight hours increases, we can really cram a lot of fishing into a single day. It gives us time to better figure out what the fish will take, maybe even hop from an unproductive or overcrowded fishery to more promising water. We have enough time in one day to fish ourselves to near exhaustion. Along with the serious anglers, more casual fishers are added to the mix as the weather improves and TV ads tell them, "Take me fishing because . . ." There is a lot of fishing going on and lots more to come.

On the other side of the surface film are the fish and they are on the receiving end of this big jump in angling pressure. Water temperatures are still cool and, in most waters, fish are not stressed. Their numbers however are falling as many of their cohorts are hauled out without return. Treble hooks and heavy-handed release techniques compromise the survivability of many fish that do get returned to the water. Ignorant and irresponsible anglers add more problems and aggravate those already mentioned. Department of Fish and Wildlife regulations are established to shield our fisheries from this onslaught but this shield is flimsy and full of holes unless properly supported.

As we take to the water, let's give life to the regulations so they are more than a bunch of pamphlets lost or discarded who knows where. We strengthen the protective shield by a) knowing knowing the regulations of the waters we fish and b) confronting anglers in clear violation of those regulations. Having a copy of the regs handy can be helpful here. People respond to the people around them. If you inadvertently cut somebody off on the freeway and that person gives you a good blast of their horn, you tell yourself "I've got to be more careful, . . . pay better attention." It is our duty to step in and blast our horns when other anglers cross the line. In most cases, it can be done in a friendly way. Many violators simply don't know the rules. Ignorant and irresponsible anglers can and have hurt our favorite waters so we must do our part to eliminate that ignorance and promote proper, regulation-compliant angling. Ultimately, the long-term health of our fisheries rests in the hands of informed, responsible anglers and among these anglers, the WFFC should be leading the charge.



WFEC IMPORTANT DATES

May

May 21st	WFEC Meeting, 5:30 College Club
May 22nd	Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room
May 25-27th	Chopaka Lake Outing
May 28th	Fly Tying Round Table 7-9PM
May 29th	Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room

June

June 5th	Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room
June 12th	Luncheon 11:45 Camlin Room
June 15th	WFEC Summer Picnic, Meridian Park

