

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXIX NO.11

NOVEMBER, 2019

President's Riffle

Happy fall fishing to all of you and I hope that you are getting ready for the holiday season – turkey anyone?

To avoid a dinner meal escalation cost, the board accepted the Seattle Tennis Club's alternative to serve the dinners "buffet style" at the January through November Dinner Meetings meal that will enable us to maintain the \$37 price that members pay for the Chef's Choice meal currently.

Mike Mosczynski, our 1st Vice President of Membership, has had to step aside from his position due to a serious illness that he is treating for recovery. Due to his great efforts, the membership of the club has grown from 124 members when he started in 2018 to the 154 members we have today. Dexter Brown will be supporting the WFFC Membership responsibilities for the rest of the year. I'm sure that Mike would enjoy hearing for you to wish him a speedy recovery (see the Roster for his contact information). I will greatly miss all of the help and guidance he has given to me as a new President and know that he will continue to do so – he is a best friend of mine.

Hope to see you all at the December 17th Christmas Fundraiser gala that Deborah Katz doing a great job putting together with many exciting silent and live auction items to be bid for.

Tight Lines – Jim Goedhart



SAVE THE DATE and DONATE!

DECEMBER 17th, 2019 will be the WFFC Christmas Annual Holiday Dinner and Auction!

Greetings! We're in the countdown to another great event. Donations are rolling in but there is always room for your contribution to the bidding frenzy. As usual, generous donors have provided us with the opportunity to pick up some juicy guided trips and lovely home stays.

Plan to bring your sweetheart, family (adults), prospective members and friends to our WFFC fun, entertaining, and delicious Annual Holiday Dinner and Auction. Support our club's annual fund raiser and our meaningful community service programs such as Healing Waters and Reel Recovery all while reeling in fabulous auction items and having a good time!

Mark the Date and Donate! Save December 17th for the WFFC 2019 Annual Holiday Party at the Seattle Tennis Club. Then make a call this month to donate an auction item in support of this great event.

Happy hour starts around 5:30 with plenty of time to peruse a wide selection of auction items and visit with fellow WFFC members and friends! Dinner will be served at 7:00 with wine on the tables and your special entrée choice made when you register. Then the auction fun begins.

Come join your fellow club members along with our Auctioneers, as they outdo each other to win your hearts, your dollars and entertain you throughout the evening. As our annual and primary fundraiser, we count on your support

Continued on page 3

Inside this Issue

Page 2...Fly Tying Classes

Page 3...Outings & Christmas Gifts

Page 4-5...Fishing Reports

Fly Tying Class Set for January

The Beginning Fly Tying Class is taught by members of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. You will learn to tie 7 trout fly patterns, as well as receiving personal instruction on useful fly tying skills and is free for WFFC Members.

The class sessions consist of watching a video of each fly being tied followed by hands-on tying with class instructors helping you personally to learn the necessary tying skills. Each successive fly that you tie has been selected to build on the skills learned from tying the previous flies.

Homework assignments will help you perfect your skills and fill your fly boxes with commonly used flies. The skills you learn will prepare you for tying many popular fly patterns for your fishing enjoyment.

A fly tying tool/vise kit (\$45) and an extensive material kit (\$90) for the 7 fly patterns can be purchased when you signup and will be given to you at the first class session. They will also be available for purchase (Cash or Checks only) at the

first, class session. You may provide your own; however, we highly recommend these kits as an easy and economical way to get started.

The class is taught in a classroom at the Evergreen Covenant Church on Mercer Island. This year there are 4 class sessions beginning on Thursday January 9th from 7 to 9 PM and continuing each Thursday evening through January 30.

The max class size is for 12 of which starting with 6 reserved for member sign-ups and 6 reserved for non-members to sign-up and pay \$80 to attend (which can be applied to becoming WFFC members).

So if you want to attend, please paste the following link into your browser before class sign-ups fill: <https://wffc.com/event/beginning-fly-tying-class-january-9th-to-january-30th-2020/>

NOTE: Do not reply directly to this message; please use the contact us form to send your message.

October Sunset on Hot Creek Ranch, CA



Photo by Neal Hoffberg

Creel Notes

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

"Somebody behind you, while you are fishing, is as bad as someone looking over your shoulder while you write a letter to your girl."

-Ernest Hemmingway

"If I fished only to capture fish, my fishing trips would have ended long ago"

-Zane Grey

Outings

Wet Buns

Well the day started off with a long awaited rain that stopped around 10AM and left the day calm and cloudy. Most ever one caught fish in their favorite spots including Penrose Park.

I even avoided a skunk by a six fish day (four cutthroat and two small 12" silvers).

The 16 or more chefs helpers prepared the incredible fish stew-with master chef Dave Schorsch and assistant Mark Pratt who did the stirring and staged the addition of the prime ingredients.

If Goofus awards were still in effect Dave would have earned one. He left out the great wine furnished by President Jim Goedhart! Yikes! However no one complained.

Members enjoyed hor d'ou-vres, many deserts and lots of great wine provided by Jim Goedhart the clubs current fine wine maker!

The campfire chats were very entertaining including a how to get raccoons into someone's tent when it was desirable to have a great laugh.

The mix was made up of the usual

troops plus several new members and a toddler too. This was one of the better turnouts we have had in a long time. So put early November 2020 on your calendar!

Chuck Ballard

Right, Chef's Pratt and Schorsch stir the magic. Below, the master delivers wisdom.



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.

Christmas Party Planning continued

of our club activities through attending and participating in the silent and live auctions and raffle selections. We also count on the generous support of members and businesses that donate to help us fund our conservation projects, veterans' programs, youth programs, homeless outreach and outings.

If you have items to contribute to our raffle cans, silent or live auction, you can bring it to the November dinner meeting for me, Deb Katz.

Otherwise, give me a call at (206) 769-5178 or email: dnaomikatz@gmail.com and like Santa, I will pick up your items or arrange printed auction gift certificate for items such as trips, dinners, weekend stays, or guided fishing outings. Weekend getaway at a cabin or condo? Guided fishing day on local waters? Spare rod or reel that

you've rarely use? Artwork you are ready to part with? Recommendations for guides, lodges, local activities or restaurant contacts? Now's the time to make a call for a good cause! Registration will be available on the WFFC web site in November for dinner selections and to register guests.

SO SAVE THE DATE on your calendar and remember to Sign up in November to reserve your spot! Reservations will include dinner, salad, your choice of entrée, scrumptious dessert, and wine. The camaraderie and fun are free!



Fishing Reports

Fishing with Jay by Danferd Henke

Last year at the Club's Holiday auction, my wife, Adair, and I bought a trip with Jay Deeds fishing for searun cutthroat on Hood Canal. What a great decision that turned out to be! After much scheduling and rescheduling (thank you, Jay, for your flexibility), Adair and I met Jay at the Seabeck Marina on the first Sunday in October. We boarded his 19' Grady White, that he has kept in first-rate condition, and headed out down the coast of the Canal. It was a gorgeous Northwest autumn day, sunny and clear, the mountains were out, and we had no wind to speak of. I was a bit concerned by the sunshine, but I needn't have been.

At Jay's advice, I had tied up some mini-clousers in chartreuse and white and pink and white for the trip. I started casting the chartreuse and white to the shore and swinging it on a Rio Outbound intermediate line with a poly-leader. Adair began with the pink and white on a floating line, with a long leader. (Jay's boat has plenty of room for two casting anglers.) I hooked up on the first pass and continued to catch fish all morning with that fly and rig. Meanwhile, Adair was getting nothing on the pink and white. We switched her to the chartreuse and also put a 7 ips sink tip on her line. She began catching fish right away. Was it the color, the depth, or both? In that morning session, Adair landed a fat 17" cutthroat, one of the heaviest I've seen. To her, the searun cutthroat had been like a unicorn, a creature of myth never seen. But she landed her first and a good number that morning.

After a pleasant lunch and a beer at Pleasant Harbor, Jay took us to a new location. We made a few passes in about 20' of water, but the clousers had lost their charm. Nary a bump. (Next time, I'll have some heavier clousers with me.) Jay took a look

at my box and recommended I try a Nano's Leech, a pattern I've been tying for freshwater lakes. It could be taken as a dark minnow, a sculpin, or a worm, or for that matter something else that I don't know about. I tied on an olive version with a conehead and it rewarded me with hookups on the first three casts, all hitting in the deeper water at the end of the swing. We put one on Adair's line and she began picking up fish again as well. Was it the fly, was it the conehead taking the fly deeper, or both, or something else? I love the mysteries of fishing, but all I know is that the fly worked. Our afternoon session produced more fish and bigger fish than the morning, and the morning had been quite productive. Adair picked up another fish over 17", one that would make any searun cutthroat angler's season.

We called it quits around 5 PM, after a wonderful day on the water. Jay had us over fish all day long and we wound up hooking many, including some very nice ones. It was the best day of fishing for searuns that I've ever had. Jay is a wonderfully pleasant fishing companion and more than generous with his years of knowledge about that fishery. I understand he is offering the trip again at this year's auction. I can't recommend a day of fishing with Jay enough!

October Yakima by Jim & Joe McRoberts

On October 26th, I took my 23-year-old grandson, Joe, with me on a guided float trip on the upper Yakima from the Thorp "Green Bridge" to the last takeout before the diversion dam between CleElum and Ellensburg. Joe had never fly fished on a river out of a boat. We used Nathan, a guide from Worley Bugger fly shop in Ellensburg. Nathan started by showing Joe how to use a dry and dropper rig. We used a big October caddis dry and 2' below a bead head nymph size 16. Joe was in the bow and "caught on" quickly!

We had good weather most of the day. Not much wind! Joe never



used the strike indicator AKA bobber before with a fly. He has quick reactions, but Nathan was after him to set the hook most of the morning!

Nathan was very patient with us because mating fly lines were frequent! He untied lots of knots! We (mostly Joe) had lots of takers both drifting and anchored. Joe landed several nice fish to 13". He even landed one during a 3-minute hailstorm!

We kept the same 2 fly setup all morning. There was a BWO hatch soon after lunch around 2pm. Nathan had a rod rigged with two # 16 may flies. He did not want us to cast our big caddis/dropper rig where they were rising. I used the may fly rig and landed a 14" rainbow.

The over all success was: Joe hooked over 20 fish and landed 15. He had a Yakima grand slam! Rainbows, cutthroat, cut bows and whitefish!! I landed 4! I think he is "hooked"!

Joe takes a rainbow to task, *above*, and then teaches Mighty Whitey a lesson.





Washington Fly Fishing Club

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November, 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 November 19. The Wet Fly hour begins at 5:30 PM and dinner is served at 6:45 PM.

This month: We are going to be treated to four of the most outstanding speakers we've had for this annual roundtable event in several years on the following topics: Table 1: European nymphing; Table 2. Line and leader management; Table 3: Entomology; Table 4: Southern Oregon Coastal Stealhead Opportunities.