

Creel Notes from the



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

Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXIX NO. 12

DECEMBER, 2019

President's Riffle

Happy Holidays and a very happy, healthy and successful fly fishing 2020!

This has been a very productive year for the Club. We have increased membership to 156, held eight great Outings, conducted 3 fully attended Fly Fishing Classes, averaged 43 attendees for the January through November Dinner Meetings, funded several Conservation activities and hosted a Gold Star Kids day of fishing on the Yakima River, to name a few of our accomplishments.

The Board and Committee Chairs will be meeting in January to brainstorm on our 2020 goals and objectives. These will help advance the Club's founding mission:

"To provide resources to members, improve fisheries and habitat, and develop a public conservation ethic through fly fishing."

At the November Dinner Meeting the following new Board Members and Trustees were elected to serve in 2020:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| • 1st VP Membership | Dexter Brown |
| • 2nd VP Programs | Neal Hoffberg |
| • 3rd VP Christmas Party | Lily Cutler |
| • Secretary | Deborah Katz |
| • 2nd Ghillie | Ben Porter |
| • 1st Year Trustee | Tom Nue |
| • 1st Year Trustee | Gary Bergquist |

The following Board Members and Trustees will continue to serve in 2020:

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| • President | Jim Goedhart |
| • Treasurer | David Spratt |



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|----------------------------|------------------|
| • 1st Ghillie | Marcia Kindinger |
| • Immediate Past President | John Gravendyk |
| • 2nd Year Trustee | Greg Crumbaker |
| • 2nd Year Trustee | Dick Brening |
| • 3rd Year Trustee | John Narver |
| • 3rd Year Trustee | Jim Young |

The following Officers retired from the 2019 Board and we thank them for their outstanding services:

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| • 1st VP Membership | Michael Moscynski |
| • 2nd VP Programs | Mike Wearne |
| • 3rd Year Trustee | Bob Brinker |
| • 3rd Year Trustee | Hugh Clark |

This year, starting this month, Active and Associate members are able to pay their respective \$80 and \$50, 2020 annual dues by logging into the WFFC.com Members Only Website, rather than on January 1st, which has been the past practice.

I hope to see you all at the December 17th Christmas Fundraiser gala! Deborah Katz and her committee are doing a great job putting the event together with many exciting silent auction, live auction and raffle items available for bidding. The proceeds for this event generates the 2020 funds to support the club's membership, outings, conservation, education and youth activities.

Happy Holiday and New Year – Jim Goedhart

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On the Fly

The Meeting in Reel Time

by David Ehrich

Nov. 19, 2019



After a tasty smorgasbord (not chicken), Chapin Henry delivered the nominations committee recommendations, all unopposed and all immediately voted into office. With the dirty work complete, President elect, James Goedhart, introduced guests, notable by both their youth and vocation (international guide, international angler, and giving back to the sport). Some of those introduced as guests went right up to be inducted. Pete Baird, the venerable, the remarkable, took the privilege to induct Harold Abell, Tom Graue & Patrick Berkley. Pete gave the usual challenge followed by gifts and a few flies, only missing those special flies Gil used to slip new members on the side.

Next we got a non-fishy (unless you count the stew) reports from Wet Buns. Schorsch, on the other hand, knew where to go, how to fish, and what to throw at schools of big Chums and then Sea Runs. The Prez ran into some fish. From other shores,

Tarpon above 25 pounds were caught. Chinook were caught on the Queets, and some such other place that got lost in the noise.

After the break Bob Burdick, the greatest fly tier in the world, introduced the Roundtable discussions on Entomology, European nymphing, and welding line. Each Roundtable had two tables and many listeners gathered around. All this information being delivered in the same room caused a bit of cognitive dissonance at first, but once I got used to it, I started to focus. For example, using a heat gun, James Powell demonstrated the process of welding line, welding loops, adding tips, connecting to the Dacron backing, and many fascinating tricks with knots. I learned what an UN-improved clinch knot looks like, a surgeon's knot, and a loop knot. I'd tell you more, but then you'd skip the next meeting.

I also found out from Jim Vande that his novel, *Blue Screen*, a novel about homelessness, mental illness, and the friendships that combat this lethal duo is Available from amazon.

Most members took in the second round of talks, whilst I headed off into the tennis sunset (or rain cloud to be precise)

Get ready for our Great Big Beautiful WFFC Fundraiser

The time is near, folks! I hope you are ready for the best one yet! Our busy, generous and creative WFFC members have offered up some new and wonderful opportunities and items to bid on. I'm not kidding when I tell you that you are in for a treat.

This is a great opportunity to socialize, to snag some wonderful items or fishing excursions.

The fun begins at 5:30. Keep in mind that the silent auction closes fairly early in the evening so get over to those tables along the walls of the main dining room early and often.

Creel Notes

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

President

Jim Goedhart

1st Vice President (Membership)

Dextor Brown

2nd Vice President (Programs)

Neal Hoffberg

3rd Vice President (Christmas Party)

Lily Cutler

Treasurer

David Spratt

Secretary

Deborah Katz

Ghillie 1

Marsha Kindinger

Ghillie 2

Ben Porter

Creel Notes Editors

David Ehrich

davidehrich@rocketmail.com

Trustees

John Gravendyk, Past President; Marsha Kindinger, Ghillie; Dick Brenning '20; Greg Crumbaker '20; John Narver '21; Jim Young '21; Tom Neu '22; Gary Bergquist '22

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

"The finest gift you can give any fisherman is to put a good fish back, and who knows if the fish you caught isn't someone else's gift to you?"

-Lee Wulff

"the fishing was good; it was the catching that was bad."

-A. Best

Pesky Sea Lions

This from the Northwest Sportsman Industry Association newsletter:

“In the first year of their Section 120 take permit, (2019) ODFW removed 33 California Sea Lions at Willamette Falls and the benefits to wild winter steelhead and spring chinook were immediately realized. In 2017, 512 passed over the falls, and in 2019, 3118 wild winter steelhead went over. The punchline: The predation rate on winter steelhead is estimated at approximately 8%, down significantly from the estimated 21% and 25% the previous two years. Two years ago, the “Extinction Risk” for winter steelhead was 90%. ODFW estimates that when they rerun the model at the end of year it will probably be 10-15%!

On spring chinook the news is also good: The predation rate on spring Chinook is estimated at approximately 4%, down from 9% past several years.

And lest we forget, Sea lions were residing in the Willamette 11 months of the year. The removal of the previous “early returning” California sea lions has apparently had an effect. We have yet to see a sea lion at Willamette Falls this fall even though lots of coho are migrating through the area. “

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.



Washington Fly Fishing Club

P.O. Box 639

Mercer Island, WA 98040

www.wffc.com

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

This month: Time to gather, raise a glass, raise some funds, have some fun, and (perhaps) take home a keepsake or experience of a lifetime. Bring your credit card and prepare to bid, raise the paddle, and make the magic possible for next year and beyond.