

WASHINGTON FLY FISHING CLUB
Meeting Notice

November, 1956

Time: 6:15 P.M. Tuesday, November 20, 1956 Dinner 7 o'clock sharp

Place: Edmond Meany Hotel

Program: Once again we will have the opportunity to visit the School of Fisheries at the University of Washington as guests of Dr. Loren Donaldson. This annual trip to the "U" is always instructive as well as entertaining. Those of us who have taken advantage of this opportunity in other years do not need to be urged!... If you are a new member, or if you have not made this trip before, this is one meeting you should not miss. Dr. Donaldson is a good host, and he has a remarkable ability to explain the science of his work excitingly, and in language that the most unscientific of us can understand.

Because of our visit to the "U", there will be a minimum of business. We hope to leave the Meany Hotel no later than 8 o'clock. With cooperation, it should be possible to take care of most of the business that needs to be done during the dinner hour.

Nominating Committee: As provided in Article 3, Sec. 3, as amended, a nominating committee of five members will be elected at this meeting. If you wish to make a nomination, please contact your nominee before the meeting and be sure he will serve.

Christmas Party

Place: College Club Floyd Baldwin and his committee have already put
Date: December 18th in a lot of hours getting ready for the annual
Cost: \$3.25 a plate Christmas Party. There will be a sign-up for
reservations at the November meeting. If you are
not able to make the meeting, call one of the officers or directors and he will
make the reservations for you. Remember, reservations are a must, and guests
are welcome, IF they make reservations!

Cowlitz Initiative Petitions

If you have not done so already, get busy and obtain your quota of signatures, and then go out and get some more. The W. F. F. C. has promised 4,000 signatures! And remember, the initiative petitions have to be in Pres. Russ Light's hands before December 1st! The following have already turned in, complete with signatures, number of pages indicated:

C. M. Richardson	4	Roy Patrick	1
Mike Gudor	2	Don Sachs	1

Thanks!

To George Lemke and Don Ives for taking care of the fly-tying demonstration at the Boy Scout Court of Honor on Monday, Nov. 5th, at the Lutheran Church.

Instructors

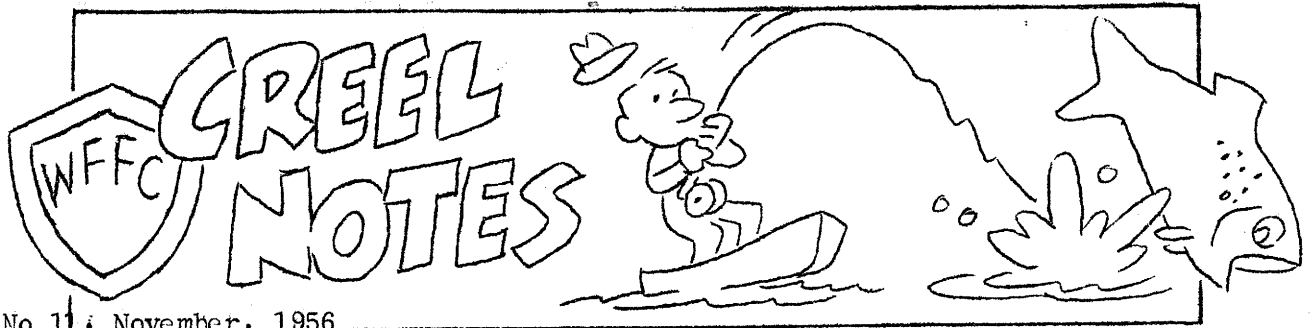
Don West is now in charge of obtaining instructors to assist Roy at the "Y" classes. If he calls you, please give him your cooperation.

New Member

Frederick A. Valentine
7520- 37th., N.E.
Seattle-15, Wash.

See you without fail, Tuesday.

Russ Light, Pres.
Cecil Schmidt, Secy.



Vol IV, No 11, November, 1956

In early October, Walt Walkingshaw had a long and interesting letter from Lee Richardson describing Lee's trip down the Rogue River. We wish we had space here for the complete letter.

Lee tells of leaving Grant's Pass the morning of Sept. 30th and putting into the river approximately 22 miles West of Grants Pass-- two boats, four in the party, with Bob Pruitt and Bruce Lathrop of Grant's Pass, guides. They started fishing around 11 o'clock, but the day was bright and hot, they had little success until the shadows came on the river in the late afternoon, just before they reached Black Bar.

"For any of the boys who have fished this river, they will recall the beautiful water that one encounters below Rainie Falls, where the boats must be lined down around the 6 ft drop in the river. Salmon were leaping the Falls, and a few small steelhead, though it was obvious that the run of large fish had not arrived this far up the river.

"Nevertheless I took 4 small steelhead in about the 2 pound class that struck the fly savagely and put on a fine show.. The best fly seemed to be one tied by Hal Witherwox who, with his wife Bea, run the attractive Wilderness Lodge at Black Bar. Small flies seemed to be the best, sizes 8 or 6, and the Witherwox resembles a small Royal Coachman except that it has more green near the shank of the hook. I used this fly almost continuously, and took a total of about 12 fish on the trip....."

The second morning's fishing was very poor, due to the opening of the headgate on the dam above Grant's Pass, with the river rising and turning off-color. Lee learned that the dam is opened occasionally to clean out the sludge, and because no announcement is made it is possible when this happens to run into two or three days of impossible fishing conditions.

"The third day we ran the river through the exciting Mule Creek Canyon which starts just below Marial. At the Narrows, we encountered a huge whirlpool and our boats spun around completely once or twice. The entire thrust of the river is constricted between sheer rock walls at a width of about 15 feet. For those of you who have made this trip, you will probably never forget this stretch of river....."

"We visited and had lunch at Zane Grey's old Winkle Bar Camp, long since abandoned, but the cabins still stand in an advanced state of disrepair. If any members of the Fly Club are interested, the 160 acres embracing Winkle Bar are for sale by the Zane Grey Estate for \$20,000....Incidentally, all along the stream we saw evidence of last year's disastrous flood, when the river rose 32 feet on the upper reaches and 80 ft at Agness... There were logs balancing crazily on the high lava rocks 30 to 40 ft above the present level of the river.

"The river began to clear slightly... but not enough to improve fly fishing. We reached Schneider's Lodge at Illahe as darkness descended and learned the fishing had been very good there before the river rose, with one or two 6 pounders having been taken along with several smaller fish. This lodge can be reached by a road from the Coast and it would be a splendid place for a week's fishing in early October, The address would be simply Schneider's Lodge, Illahe, Oregon."

"The 4th day we drifted the river from Schneider's to Agness, spending the night at that point. The river was clearing nicely, and we had some fabulous fishing below Two-Mile Rapid and around the Coon Rock area. This can be reached by road and we understand that bank fishermen frequent this stretch occasionally though it is difficult to stand in the river because of the slippery like ledge-like rocks where the steelhead lie.

"Our last morning on the river produced some wonderful sport as I hooked into five fish and landed four, averaging about 2½ to 3 pounds....."

"We all thought some of the best riffles on the Rogue are from Agness on down for about four or five miles, and we ran into quite a crowd of fly fishermen who were based

at Lucky Lodge on the Rogue River above Gold Beach. Otherwise, there were not too many fishermen on the river.

"If I ever go up that way again, I should like very much to possibly make camp at Solitude Bar down in the wilderness part of the river, and if one were to stay there for two weeks, he would undoubtedly encounter some splendid sport."

It has been quite a while since we have heard from Dr. Richard Koch, our fellow member in Pilot Rock, Oregon. So long that we were beginning to wonder if he had given up fly fishing and turned to spinning gear, or perhaps even "gone to the dogs". But we received a letter from Dr. Koch this month, and although much has been said about the Kispiox, his observations gathered from conversation with Jack Horner of San Francisco should be particularly interesting to the many members who have fished that Canadian river, or plan to next year.

"Sorry to be so lax in not sending in any creel notes, but this is so remote from the rest of your members that I doubt it would interest anyone if I were to report on local conditions here. In general, the season was far better for the fly fishermen in this area than for the bait men. I did get down to San Francisco this summer and had a fine evening of talking with Jack Horner.. He had fished the Kispiox last year and had some interesting observations to make.

"He stated that he felt that large flies were the most effective, such as the Horner Shrimp on a 2/0 or any pattern as long as it would get down to the fish. He had a lot of luck with the Fall Favorite.. It is tied with two bead eyes made out of the bead chains, a silver tinsel body, red eastern bucktail wing, and no hackle or tail.. He used the shooting Dacron lines and said that the B's worked fine but that the A's took the larger flies required much better..... The backing that he used was 300 yards of flat braided nylon of 18 pound test, and the most line taken out by any one fish was 250 yards. The steelhead were holding in water 4 - 6 feet deep about 3-5 MPH speed, and in general were in the same type of water that they would be found in the Rogue or other steelhead streams..

"He fished 2 days out of 3 and would get two fish a day. His biggest went to 18 pounds. 98% of the fishermen there were spinning, and keeping all they caught and he was dismayed by the lack of sportsmanship he saw. He felt that most of them had their eyes on the Field and Stream awards and not on the joy of catching the fish.... Two things particularly intrigued him, the Thompson River where the weather is better and the Steelhead aren't fished much, and which has beautiful fly water, and the wonderful Cutthroat fishing on the Kispiox..... They held out in the eddies and ran from 3/4 to 1 1/2 pounds. They would just take the driest of flies and only patterns they would hit consistently were the #12 deerhair and a pattern resembling a natural hatch there of about a #12 smoky blue fly that floats into the eddies each evening...

"Not too much else to report but while talking with Doug Merrick in S.F. he mentioned some newer products that are probably out by now. A dacron impregnated with a graphite which is guaranteed not to wear out. Also Miller has finally come out with a cheaper floating line. Says they are getting more orders than ever before for shorter rods...."

The local scene: Near the end of the trout season, five members of the WFFC fished Lake Hannan! Results..poor fishing, almost no rise, 2 RB creeled, average 9".

On Wednesday, Oct. 31st, Dr. Maycumber journeyed to Lake McMurray to be greeted by dark skies, wind and rough water. According to Bob, the wind was from the wrong direction for good fishing, but there was a small hatch and a good rise of fish showing in the partly sheltered areas of the lake. Boated a 19", 2 1/2# RB on what Bob calls a "Fore and Aft"

Hook size #12 standard light wire

Tail wisp of brown hackle

Body hot orange and red (blended or mated--ya got me!)

Hackle Brown, tied double, at front and rear of body. (See

"Northwest Angling" page 52, Enos Bradner. (adv)),

Creel Notes Comm.
Vince Sellen, Chr.