

# 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

July 17, 2001

LI No. 7

The College Club, 505 Madison St.

Seattle, Washington

Phone: 206-622-0624

Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM

Dinner 6:45 PM

## July Program: Fish in King County

by Jim McRoberts, Program Chairman

An item that is of particular importance to the majority of our members is the kind of fish we will have in King County waters. July's program will be about Bull trout and other Char in King County and surrounding areas, and how the proposed listing on the Endangered Species Act may affect our fishing in our home waters. The speakers are Bill Mavros, Senior Ecologist, from King County Water and Land Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources, and Hans Berge from the same organization. Your attendance is solicited. No decision has been made concerning the menu for the evening; however, the College Club manager is looking into the availability of Bull Trout in sufficient quantities to satisfy the membership's appetite.

## WCFF Casting Games September 29th 2001

by Don Simonson, Certified Fly Caster Extrordinaire

The WFFC will be entering a 4 man team in the WCFF Casting games competition on September 29, 2001. The WFFC Board approved to pay the \$75.00 entrance fee per team member along with an additional \$100.00 for the pledge portion of the competition. Because the club is paying for the team the entire membership should be allowed to tryout for the team. Tryouts will be conducted at the club picnic in August. The first requirement to be chosen is that the individual must commit to spend the entire day on the 29th to help run the competition and fun games along with competing in the team event. Those who have the four top combined scores for the accuracy and distance will be chosen for the team.

*The availability, quantity and kinds of adult beverages have not been determined; however, a committee has been appointed to study the matter. When last seen, the committee and a couple of extra "strap hangars" were headed for the Red Hook Brewery's Tasting Room, in Fremont. Ed.*

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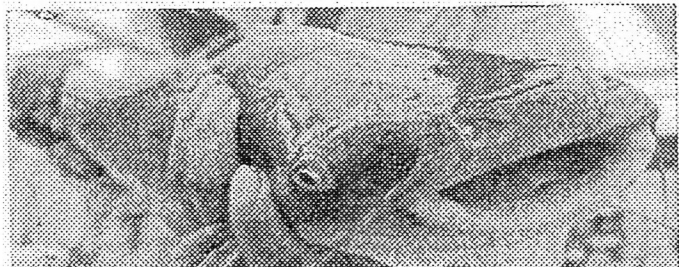
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## Catfish Rumors

by Don Gulliford

I suppose you have heard of Board Action designating me as having authority to ferret out catches by members not reported and order their photo(s) to be in the CreelNotes.

Therefore, I have confirmed that Don Clough has been catching the fish photo'd below, and is totally enamored with them. Here is a photo:



### Members On The Move

John T. Garland  
829 - 198th Pl. S.E. Sammamish, WA 98075-8602  
425-836-4626

Brother Garland has moved and the latest Situation Report reads "...the household goods are inside the four exterior walls...". Ah yes, moving! It is time for John to go fishing. All other things can be dealt with in due time.

### E-Mail Address Change

Dan Melton  
dkm2711@w-link.net

### E-Mail Address Change

Walt Walkinshaw  
wwjsw@aol.com

### Outings Schedule for 2001

by Dave Schorsch, Outdoors Chairman

These are the dates we've settled on for the traditional outings, as well as a couple of new ones. Suggestions for other activities are welcome.

July 21-29 is the annual high lakes outing. Headed by Pete Baird and Co.. This is the annual backpack trip for the hardy and adventurous. This year its the Seven Devils Loop trail in Idaho. Contact Pete for details. 206-232-7682

August 25 is a combination date. We have a work party at the planting site on Griffn Creek from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with lunch served at 1:00 p.m.. Park at the usual place near camp Don Bosco and walk in with your gloves and ambition. We need all the help we can get. Contact Doug Schaad for details. 206-522-7491.

August 25 Later in the day we have the WFFC club picnic at the Good Sheperd Center, 50th and Meridian (just west of the U district in Seattle), games for the kids, casting competition, and a pot luck barbeque. Bring the family and mingle with other fly types. We have access to the facility by 4:00 p.m., and activities will commence around 5:00 p.m. Contact James Schmidt for details at 206-523-5262. Hope to see you there.

September 8 is the new members outing. This is a chance for the new members to get to know some of the old guard and get some fishing in at the same time. We'll hold it at Kayak Point state park on Puget Sound near Marysville. This is one of the best saltwater fishing spots for pink salmon, and they are traditionally here in good numbers on this weekend. Learn how to fish for "humpies" in the salt, and discover that they're a totally different fish than those 'rags' you're used to catching in the river. We'll set up a lunch in the park and have everyone home by dinnertime.

October 6-7 is the "real" Dry Falls outing. A lot of

us consider this the best outing of the year. Great fishing, nice weather, and a great potluck dinner Saturday night. Lots of other places to fish and a nice campground at Sun Lakes state park. We usually have some entertainment around the fire, and always have a good time.

November 3-4 or 10-11 is the "Wet Buns" outing. The dates have yet to be worked out on this very popular outing. Let the outing chairman know which weekend you prefer. Joemma state park is the usual spot for the fabulous meal and storytelling that accompany the sea-run and salmon fishing we do down there. Contact Dave Schorsch for details.

Contact me with any ideas you may have for club outings, formal or informal. I'm also interested in information and resources on the Deschutes (Oregon) in the fall. Get out there and fish!

Dave Schorsch  
206-227-6134

*GOVERNMENT continued from page 3.*

their unauthorized dams as long as the sky is blue, the grass is green and water flows downstream. They have more dam right than I do to live and enjoy Spring Pond. If the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection lives up to its name, it should protect the natural resources (Beavers) and the environment (Beavers' Dams). So, as far as the beavers and I are concerned, this dam case can be referred for more elevated enforcement action right now. Why wait until 1/31/98? The Spring Pond Beavers may be under the dam ice then and there will be no way for you or your dam staff to contact/harass them then. In conclusion, I would like to bring to your attention a real environmental quality (health) problem in the area. It is the bears. Bears are actually defecating in our woods. I definitely believe you should be persecuting the defecating bears and leave the beavers alone. If you are going to investigate the beaver dam, watch your step! (The bears are not careful where they dump!) Being unable to comply with your dam request, and being unable to contact you on your dam answering machine, I am sending this response to your day office via another government organization — the dam US Postal Service. Maybe someday it will get there. Sincerely, Stephen L. Tvedten



## Your Government At Work

*Submitted by Gil Nyerges*

This was an actual letter sent to Ryan De Vries of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, State of Michigan. Wait till you read this guy's response - but read the entire letter before you get to the response.

### Government Edict

Mr. Ryan De Vries, 2088 Dagget, Pierson, MI 49339.

Dear Mr. De Vries: SUBJECT: DEQ File No. 97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20; Montcalm, County

It has come to the attention of the Department of Environmental Quality that there has been recent unauthorized activity on the above referenced parcel of property. You have been certified as the legal landowner and/or contractor who did the following unauthorized activity: Construction and maintenance of two wood debris dams across the outlet stream of Spring Pond. A permit must be issued prior to the start of this type of activity. A review of the Department's files shows that no permits have been issued. Therefore, the Department has determined that this activity is in violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated. The Department has been informed that one or both of the dams partially failed during a recent rain event, causing debris and flooding at downstream locations. We find that dams of this nature are inherently hazardous and cannot be permitted. The Department therefore orders you to cease and desist all activities at this location, and to restore the stream to a free-flow condition by removing all wood and brush forming the dams from the stream channel. All restoration work shall be completed no later than January 31, 1998. Please notify this office when the restoration has been completed so that a follow-up site inspection may be scheduled by our staff. Failure to comply with this request or any further unauthorized activity on the site may result in this case being referred for elevated enforcement action. We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at this office if you have any questions. Sincerely, David L. Price District Representative Land and Water Management Division

### Response:

Dear Mr. Price: Re: DEQ File No. 97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20; Montcalm County. Your certified letter dated 12/17/97 has been handed to me to respond to. First of all, Mr. Ryan De Vries is not the legal landowner and/or contractor at 2088 Dagget, Pierson, Michi-

gan. I am the legal owner and a couple of beavers are in the (State unauthorized) process of constructing and maintaining two wood "debris" dams across the outlet stream of my Spring Pond. While I did not pay for, authorize, nor supervise their dam project, I think they would be highly offended that you call their skillful use of natural building materials "debris." I would like to challenge your department to attempt to emulate their dam project any time and/or any place you choose. I believe I can safely state there is no way you could ever match their dam skills, their dam resourcefulness, their dam ingenuity, their dam persistence, their dam determination and/or their dam work ethic. As to your request, I do not think the beavers are aware that they must first fill out a dam permit prior to the start of this type of dam activity. My first dam question to you is: (1) Are you trying to discriminate against my Spring Pond Beavers or (2) do you require all beavers throughout this State to conform to said dam request? If you are not discriminating against these particular beavers, through the Freedom of Information Act, I request completed copies of all those other applicable beaver dam permits that have been issued. Perhaps we will see if there really is a dam violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, annotated. I have several concerns. My first concern is - aren't the beavers entitled to legal representation? The Spring Pond Beavers are financially destitute and are unable to pay for said representation so the State will have to provide them with a dam lawyer. The Department's dam concern that either one or both of the dams failed during a recent rain event causing flooding is proof that this is a natural occurrence, which the Department is required to protect. In other words, we should leave the Spring Pond Beavers alone rather than harassing them and calling their dam names. If you want the stream "restored" to a dam free-flow condition — please contact the beavers - but if you are going to arrest them (they obviously did not pay any attention to your dam letter being unable to read English) be sure they are read the Miranda rights first. As for me, I am not going to cause more flooding or dam debris jams by interfering with these dam builders. If you want to hurt these dam beavers — be aware I am sending a copy of your dam letter and this response to PETA. If your dam department seriously finds all dams of this nature inherently hazardous and truly will not permit their existence in this State, I seriously hope you are not selectively enforcing this dam policy or once again both the Spring Pond Beavers and I will scream prejudice! In my humble opinion, the Spring Pond Beavers have a right to build

*See GOVERNMENT on page 2.*

## Fishing Reports

### Chopaka, Aeneas, and Dry Falls Lakes

by Bill Hamilton

We started at Chopaka on the 15th of June, had good luck on chironomids from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Then, we waited for the Mayfly hatch which started fitfully at 2:00 p.m. and ended poorly at 3:00 p.m.. I had two on Singletary's emerger and then caught some on chironomids after the hatch for a total of about 14 fish. Then travelled to Aeneas on the 16th of June and fished for two hours which resulted in two 12-inch rainbows.

We dashed back up the hill to Chopaka where the wind was 10 to 15 mph plus - the hatch was again poor and I had one rainbow on a pheasant tail nymph (total of 3 for the day). On Sunday I stayed at Chopaka, and had ten fish in the first hour on chironomids. I caught zero on dries during the "hatch" but had six fish on a pheasant tail soft hackle (in half an hour) which is a modification of the Mayfly nymph in Philip Rowley's new book "Fly patterns for still waters". I think this is one of the best books on the subject that I have seen.

So I had about 16 fish on Sunday and my ego was feeling better. Then, on to Dry Falls on the 18th and had the lake all to myself. During the first hour at Dry Falls I sight-fished in the shallows and had six lovely rainbows to hand up to 19 inches and very strong. I tried chironomids with no luck.

I put lots of driving on my newly rebuilt \$1900 transmission, but I gotta get there to support my habit.

### Nunnally Lake, 3 June 2001

by Leland Miyawaki

Three of us fished Nunnally from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm yesterday. We walked into the eastern end where we had it all to ourselves. The weather was bright and calm with an occasional little breeze to ruffle the waters until about three, when a full scale windstorm blew up.

The water was weed-choked. The weeds were up to within a foot of the surface, which was fine for Scott Rosenkranz and Earl Harper, who both had inflatables, but not for me, in my u-boat - I had to kick my butt through the weeds when my feet weren't entangled.

The fishing was the best any of us ever had at Nunnally. The fish were big and strong and were up on callibaetis almost all day. It was technically demanding, in that, we were fishing skinny water where the fish were extremely wary and in some places, a slow moving current moved over the weeds, making it necessary to fish it as you would a spring creek. The fish were cruising in circles and picking off duns with audible slurps while leaving the smallest of rings. And when hooked, you had to immediately hold the rod up high and let them take as

little line as possible to keep their heads out of the weeds. We used 3x tippet, which held the fish, but was probably the reason we didn't hook more fish than we did.

Earl and I each had five to hand and Scott landed a dozen. We all had numerous breakoffs, lost fish to weeds, long releases, and rejections. Scott used a #10 weighted GRHE and caught good fish during the windstorm and Earl caught one on an adult damselfly (he also caught and released a turtle). Scott and I each landed a brown while the rest were rainbows. I don't think we caught any fish under three pounds and my largest was a whopping 25 inches.

### Lake McMurray - May 21 and 25

by Lyn Gross

Yes, local waters are still worthy of attention. A friend, Joe Yee, and I bagged a planned trip here last week due to foul weather, but found bluebird conditions on the 21st. We fished from Joe's boat from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and caught twelve hefty fish from 13-16 inches. We kept seven, and they were as delicious as any I've ever eaten. Joe used a nymph heavily laced with colorful Flashabou, while I worked with newly-acquired Carlton Generals. Joe outfished me, possibly because he was using a full fast-sinking line while I had a 20 foot Type II-nk tip. In this deep lake, the full sinker is probably a better choice, but I had not brought one. This was my first trip to McMurray, and I was impressed.

I returned four days later, armed with a full sinking line. While launching, I was informed by departing anglers that fish were taking lightly and not hanging on. Sadly, they were right. I hooked three on Carlton Generals, but they were gone within five seconds. Several other parties using hardware reported similar experiences. A brisk breeze was the only apparent difference from the 21st. Whatever, I feel McMurray warrants further exploration. Nearby Lake 16 also appears worth looking into.

*Catch and eat a few of them! That is what fishing is all about! Ed.*

**FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS**



## Fishing Reports

### Hi Hium Lake, June 19 – 26, 2001

By Bill Rundall

Another enjoyable trip to the Circle W fishing camp; Chris and I and our friend Bob Knappe (first time fly fishing and he caught the largest trout!!) in Owl II. Weather was a mixed bag: wind, rain, hail, sunshine, electrical storms, and generally cool temperature – 40F at 9 a.m., perhaps reaching 60F in the afternoon. Lots of wood chopping (Bob Knappe) to keep the Monarch wood stove going! Fishing was slow. No noticeable hatches – trout stomachs contained a few chironomids and plenty of shrimp. Sights included ospreys, bald eagles, loons, goldeneyes and young mallards, young Canada jays, robins, varied thrushes, seagulls, rabbits, Douglas squirrels, chipmunks, beavers, muskrats. And the sounds: wolves (yes!!), coyotes – and loons.

ADVICE: If you haven't been to the Bendzak's Circle W, don't wait too long; take your family for the sights and sounds and these experiences at 4500 feet elevation will be a jewel in your experiences!

On a traumatic note: While we were at the lake, Missy and Ron's youngest son Tanner (13 years old) was at another ranch with Connor Bennett (also 13) near where Cris Creek enters Deadman River. They were chasing gophers out of aluminum irrigation pipes, a problem that occurs all the time. Both boys apparently had the 25 foot pipe vertical to drop out the gopher, and the pipe hit an overhead electrical line (4400 volts?)

Tanner was severely burned, lost one ear, and in subsequent surgeries will lose up to 3 or 4 toes on each foot. Then there are the other burns on his side. Fortunately his face and hands were spared. Tanner was hoping to tie flies for sale at the ranch. Connor will lose about 3 inches of big toe bone on one foot. Their dog and the gopher were killed.

Tanner was eventually taken to Savona, then helicoptered to Kamloops where he was Lear-jetted to Vancouver General Hospital where he may be for 6 weeks. Both Ron and Missy are still in Vancouver at this writing. Bob Bendzak (WFFC member) and his wife Doreen have visited their grandson twice since the accident.

### McMannaman Lake Grant County - June 12, 2001

by Don Gulliford

This is a fairly cold, clear lake on the Goose Lake road that goes North from the McMannaman Rd. out of Othello, just north of Halfmoon & Morgan. One of the few non-published lakes that gets Lahontan plants. A small parking lot lies northeast alongside the Goose Lake Refuge road from whence a 200 yard trail goes to McMannaman. Nothing hit, not even the few stunted bass that furnish food for the Lahontans (in my opinion). Likewise, nothing hit on a few casts from the shore of Morgan. Probably middle of the day syndrome.

On the Northeast corner of the McMannaman parking lot is a new "Unauthorized Entry Prohibited" blue and white USFWS sign. I spoke with Bob Flores of the USFWS in Othello (509-488-2668) and confirmed that this sign does NOT mean that you cannot walk in and fish. **South shore Mutiny Bay Whidbey Island - June 16, 2001**

Too much eel grass for any meaningful attempts on sea-runs along the south shoreline of Mutiny Bay, although it has been some time since I have seen BIG balls of gulls on top of baitfish which we did see close to shore. **Goss Lake Garage Sale - June 16, 2001,**

Later in the morning at a garage sale, a guy was looking for a couple of huge forged hooks, with which to tether the chain he has on his PET ALLIGATOR at Goss Lake. Goss Lake is highly advised this spring for excellent sport.

### Interesting Quillet of the Month - June 18

Fishing & Hunting News says in today's F & H that "Big Greider" (that means upper Greider, in a cirgue tarn) has Goldens in it. Big and Little Greider are reached on what is now a DNR trail from the mouth of Greider Cr. in the Sultan Basin above Spada. I went in many times in the 50's and early 60's on a decades old logger's brushwhack - just look for calk marks. These are two of the prettiest lakes in Washington; we used to release 18+" types from their connecting creek, and wonder with awe, what trapper (?) or miner (?) could have built the log cabin across from Little Greider with logs about 3 FEET in diameter. We hope Pete Baird et. al., will practice here one day soon and issue a Full Report.

The *Creel Notes* is a publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscriptions are free with membership. Articles and other materials appropriate for publication in *Creel Notes* may be sent to: *Creel Notes* Editor, 810 Crown Drive, Everett, WA 98203-1801, E-mail to [bboard@gte.net](mailto:bboard@gte.net) (E-mail is preferred). This issue of *Creel Notes* was produced by Roman Millett and Bill Boardman. *Creel Notes* is printed by the second Tuesday of the month; article submissions must be received by the previous Friday. Mail roster updates directly to Roman Millett, 2725 161st Pl. S.E., Mill Creek, WA 98012-7877. The WFFC may be visited on the internet at <http://www.wffc.com>.

## President's Riffle

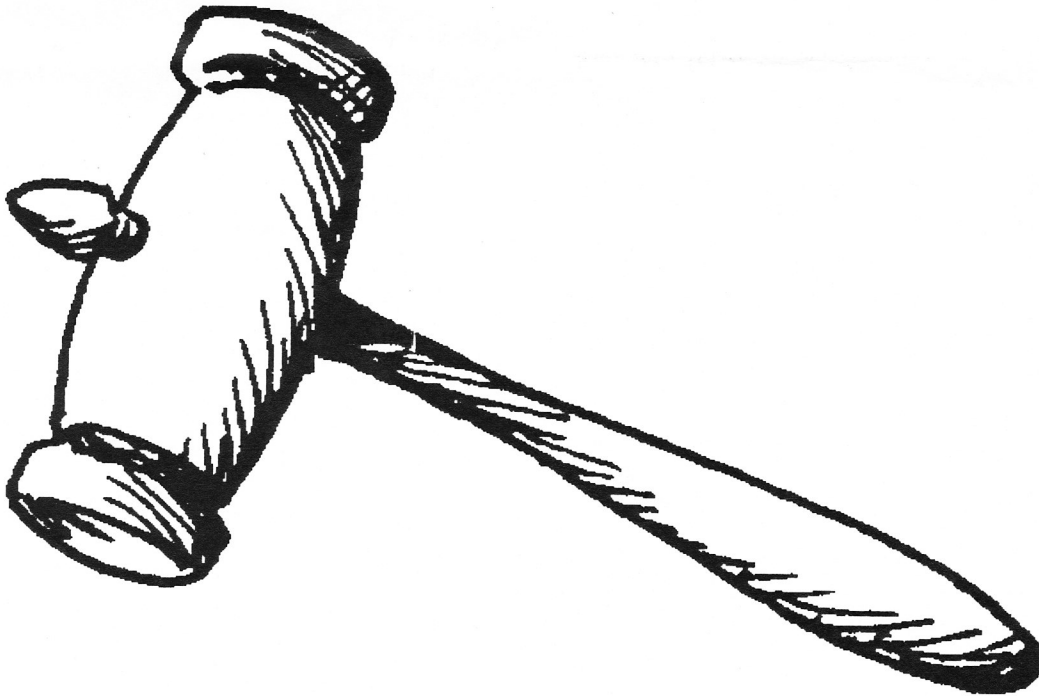
### President's Riffle

*by Kris Kristoferson, WFFC President, 2001*

The Club's Youth Program is something we don't hear much about in meetings but it is an exciting component of the WFFC's outreach efforts. Without much fanfare, the Club has created a series of youth classes where students are introduced to entomology, fly tying, casting, and more. The program even boasts a thoughtfully prepared and thorough curriculum document.

Short on instructors, Mike Racine (Youth Program Co-Chair) called me about helping out with a couple of the classes. I'll confess that this "opportunity" sounded like one more life-complicating obligation to throw on the heap but I said I would do it. Yeah, it did tighten my schedule a bit, but it was more than worth the trouble. Seeing these kids take their first cracks at casting a fly line was a lot of fun. One boy, there with his dad, was going through the motions without great conviction. When he reduced his casting arc a little, he achieved a good looking loop. Moments later, both father and son were excited and practicing together.

These are small successes now but they carry big implications for the future. To catch fish, fly fishers must consider many factors in the habitat surrounding the fish and, before long, the new fly fisher cares not just about the fish, but also about their habitat. Teaching these kids to fish is not only fun, it's a great investment in the future health of our fisheries. Thanks are due to those who have already volunteered to help out and to all who may ultimately participate in the WFFC Youth Program. This is good work.



# JULY - AUGUST 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8 JULY Go Fishing!	9	10	11 LUNCHEON EVERY WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM CAMLIN HOTEL, 9TH & PINE	12	13	14 Go Fishing!
15 Go Fishing!	16	17 WFFC DINNER MEETING 5:30 PM COLLEGE CLUB	18 LUNCHEON EVERY WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM CAMLIN CLOUD ROOM	19	20	21 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29
22 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29	23 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29	24 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29	25 LUNCHEON EVERY WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM CAMLIN CLOUD ROOM	26 CONSERVATION COM. MEETING 7:00 PM AT THE RAM PUB	27 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29	28 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29
29 HIGH LAKES TRIP DEVIL'S LOOP JULY 21-29	30	31	1 AUGUST LUNCHEON EVERY WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM CAMLIN CLOUD ROOM	2	3	4 Go Fishing!
5 Go Fishing!	6 WFFC BOARD MEETING <u>NOT!</u> No AUGUST BOARD MEETING THIS MONTH	7	8 LUNCHEON EVERY WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM CAMLIN CLOUD ROOM	9	10 AUGUST CREEL NOTES FROZEN	11 Go Fishing!
12 Go Fishing!	13	14	15 LUNCHEON EVERY WEDNESDAY 11:45 AM CAMLIN CLOUD ROOM	16	17	18 Go Fishing!