

WASHINGTON FLY FISHING CLUB

MEETING NOTICE

June 1957

Time: 6:15 P.M. Tuesday, June 18th

Place: Edmond Meany Hotel

Program: British Columbia Lakes. Chairman Al Harsch has arranged a program which will interest both the envious stay-at-home and the lucky ones who plan trips to Canadian waters in the future. Gordy Frear, our prominent sportsman, printer, publisher, writer and night-life authority, together with Roy Langley, owner of the Washington Sp_n and B__t Company, will discuss the trout fishing in British Columbia.

Come early: During the social hour Don Sachs will demonstrate his method of fly-tying, and will tie a few of his favorite patterns.

Dues The dues of the twenty-nine members remain unpaid. We trust this is merely an oversight. But if you are one of this number, please remember to pay the treasurer Grant Rutnam. It's the thing to do, and we need the money.

Casting Class: Every Thursday evening at Green Lake. A good place to practice, and a good time to help as an instructor if you don't need the practice.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Dawn Holbrook is ill, and confined to Firlands Sanitorium. Our wish for a speedy recovery Billie, and keep smiling. According to reports, Billie will be in the hospital for two or three months.

Stream Bank Access: June 22nd is the date of the next work party scheduled by the Stream Bank Access Committee of the Washington State Sportsmen's Council. Work will be done on the Puyallup River. The meeting place is Ingham's Cafe on the Puyallup River Road just across the bridge from Sumner. The time, 9 A.M. The program: Brush cutting, stile construction, trail and fence building. Necessary equipment: axes, shovels, hammers, post hole diggers- and manpower. Ninety-seven turned out for the April work party on the Pilchuck and Canyon Creek, including two members of the Fly Club. The fault of most conservation and protection efforts is that results are intangible or not of immediate significance; many times a futile chase after a lost cause. With this program results are in the present, as well as a guarantee of future access to fishing waters. Several members of the club have joined these parties in the past couple of years, and they will tell you these efforts give a lot of personal satisfaction. Remember the date, June 22nd, and plan to enjoy the pleasure of working with other sportsmen from King and Pierce Counties to further the efforts of adding more access area to the many miles already obtained.

New Member

William L. Slossan
7601 Laurel Avenue
Seattle-88, Wash.
La. Mo 4444- Ext 450

Don Ives, Pres.
UNCLE Jim Headrick, Secy.

Creek Notes

Vol V, No 6, June 1957

A series of conservation and information programs, under the sponsorship of the Education Committee of the Washington State Sportsmen's Council, are scheduled for each Tuesday from 7:00 to 7:30 P.M. on Channel 9.

Date	Activity	Participants
June 25	"Your boy and mine" (Film)	Howard Gray WFFC
July 2	Forestry	Don Hopkins State Dept of Natural Resources
July 9	Fly Casting	Dawn Holbrook WFFC
July 16	Fly Tying	Dawn Holbrook WFFC
July 23	Lures and Bait Casting	Tom Hughes Hi-Line Jr. Sportsmans Club
July 30	Camping	Judge Wm Long King Co. Juvenile Court
Aug. 6	Water Safety	E.J. Hostrom Red Cross
Aug 13	Archery	Howard Valentine Sammamish Archers
Aug. 20	Salmon Fishing	Wilson Gaw Poggie Club
Aug. 27	Fisheries	Andy Alm State Dept. Fisheries
Sept. 3	Fire Arm Safety	Roger Dahl West Seattle Sportsman's Club
Sept. 10	Dressing Game	Paul Marley State Dept of Game
Sept. 17	Steelhead	John Evensen Steelhead Trout Club
Sept. 24	Jr. Conservation Projects and new film	Howard Gray WFFC

FISHING REPORTS

Under May 9th date, a letter to Jim Headrick from H. Hawkins who at present is with the Bureau of Public Roads, Valdez, Alaska:

"Am leaving for the interior where I expect to headquarter about 216 miles out of Valdez on the Richardson Highway. Will be on the Delta River at Trim's Camp which is between Paxson and the old Rapids Roadhouse just in case any of the fellows should wander through during the summer.

"Expect to get in some fishing during the next few months. There are some good lake trout in Summit Lake, grayling in Fielding Lake and the Tangle Lakes and Denali areas are right close.

"Fishing in the Valdez area is not so hot. Fished the Tiekel about ten days ago for about five minutes when I met another fisherman who had a limit (10 fish) which ranged all the way from 7" on down to a short 4". They were all dollies and were about as thick as your little finger. Was afraid one of them would pull me in so I put up mu outfit and departed.

"Wouls surely like to be able to drop in for a meeting once in a while but living in these parts is almost as isolated as in Port Angeles."

Signed H. Hawkins.

May 18 Merlin Martin and Cece Schmidt together with a party of Trailblazers hiked into Boundry Lake above Cedar Ponds. This was a stocking trip mainly. During a trip to this lake in 1956, five rods accounted for 23 fish. But no evidence of any holdovers this year, and 600 brooks were planted.

Ten Cent Lake: Reports circulate regarding a couple lunkers taken by Grandpa Frank Headrick (7 pounds) and by Don Ives (12 pounds). Also hear that Frank on the quiet has been sneaking back to this hot spot, and has accounted for several more really big fish. Double barbed hooks, long shanks, sparse dressing, and turkey quill wings. No hackle.

Price Lake June 1 and 2. Don (Shut Up I Want Some Sleep) Sachs and Enos (Rattlesnake) Bradner journeyed across the Canal to Prices and took limits of 10-12 inch brooks. No big fish, but lots of action. A good hatch of green sedge, and green bodied flies worked well. Best fish taken this year a 3 pound 14 oz. rainbow.

Lake Kapowsin May 24. Don Sachs and Don West. A good rise, but mostly small rainbows. Don S. took four 10 inchers with a coachman. Don W. took 2 of the same size on a #12 Peacock herl nymph.

Lake Hannan May 30. Walt Ribble, in approximately 2 hours of evening fishing took three nice rainbows, 2 eleven inchers and one fourteen incher. Walt says the trout are in good condition, and fat. No complaints. This lake is being fished, and fish are being caught, but Jack Donaldson is not getting the reports necessary as a basis for the lake improvement program. Remember, when you fish Hannan measure the fish and pass the information along to Jack.

Bonney Lake Hank Reynolds reports that fly fishing is improving, and that the trout are in much better shape than was true in early season.

Burke Lake Walt Walkinshaw. 2 days of concentrated fishing and one fish, a 19 incher. Walt fished May 27-28. May 25-26, Enos Bradner also found poor fishing. Hear tell that Brad almost stepped, or sat, on a rattlesnake, jumped 12 to 14 feet in the air, and came down running. Wouldn't you? Gil Nyerges: 3 trips in late May and early June. Best fly Olive drab Carey, #8, 4x long. Body: Olive drab chenille, brown hackle tied in 2/3 up from the bend of the hook and wrapped sparse; head olive drab and built up large. Fish averaged from 1 pound to 1½ lbs, the largest a 2½ pounder. Cece Schmidt, Merlin Martin and Joe Kristof. June 1 and 2. Best fly, olive drab chenille body, #6 4x long hook, Pheasant rump hackle. Best results with deep mooch. Some action on strip of mooched fly. Fished south end of the lake and caught no small fish. Best fish a 3¼ lb. 1954 rainbow by Merlin Martin.

The Stilly The Walt's doubled report the river low and clear, almost in mid-July condition. Little action however, and not many steelhead showing. Three summer runs caught so far, and the river gang anxiously searching and awaiting the run.

On June 9th, Cece Schmidt and G. Kniert hiked up Fifes Peak Day Trail by way of American River and Hall Creek Trail to top of ridge in search of a 5 acre pot-hole which was supposed to be just off of the trail. Hiked and climbed for 10 miles, but no pothole. Scenic country, and maybe should ask Ernie Wolcott if this little lake is or was.

A breath of scandal! Did you happen to read the following in Watson's column? "Field and stream scandal: Despite his denials, anglers are whispering that Roy Patrick, champ fly-tyer and caster, took a big lunker rainbow trout on opening day with a "garden hackle"-angleworm to you. In case you don't know it, luring trout with worms is supposed to be a worse crime than pushing baby chicks in the creek..."

Hear that Bob (Sailor) Bollong, Sunday June 9th, accounted for a 3 pound cut at Lake Sutherland. And just when we were beginning to think that Bob had given up fishing. Now if we had a word or two from Homer Wickerd.....

PATTERN OF THE MONTH

As the June program is concerned with British Columbia trout fishing we give you a pattern which, although not identified with Canadian lakes or streams, and originally constructed for fishing in the High Sierras of California, it has proved effective in British Columbia, and on occasion has produced well when other more characteristic Canadian patterns have

failed.

Roy Patrick's Pacific King

Hook: #6- #12
Tail: Black hackle fibres, 6-8
Body: Insect Green floss for body, seal brown or dark brown floss tied lengthwise over top of body.
Ribbing: Black tying silk, 4 turns
Hackle: Black, tied wet, most of the fibres tied down beard fashion.
Wing: German black squirrel tail, length of body.

Some personal comments re: fly patterns.

In recording fishing reports and various activities of the WFFC, there is some advantage in a wandering approach. Your Creel Notes Editor may with safety meander midst report and comment and not worry at all about mixing mediums. But motivated by ignorance, and not because of an excess of modesty, he has carefully avoided dogmatic criticism.

There seems to be a curious trend in fly patterns, however, which is mildly disturbing, and perhaps worth some study. The opportunity to experiment is part of the pleasure of fly fishing, and of fly tying. Certainly one of the more pleasant aspects of fly fishing is the fact that one is always a student, learning and unlearning, developing and discarding, seldom satisfied and almost never reaching that point of knowledge which permits approach to lake or stream with sure confidence that all the mysteries of weather, water, insect life and the feeding and striking habits of the sought-after trout are clear and completely known. Variation in pattern and method, if the result of actual experience, is a part of learning and skill.

While learning his hobby, the average fly-tyer will work his way through progressive phases. First, the clumsy-fingered effort to produce reasonable copies of historically accepted and proved patterns. When a fair degree of proficiency is accomplished, then comes the period during which standards are discarded. The tyer devotes himself to creating curious combinations of fur and feather which evolve not from experience but from the mere wish to create something new.

As a phase there is nothing wrong with this. And as a rule it is outgrown and there is a return to the traditional proved patterns. With expertness and increasing skill, he will sit down at his fly tying bench now and then and work out a new variation. But this will be a thoughtful variation based on something learned or dreamed of on lake or stream.

If what we hear and see is to be trusted, then a lot of us have come to a halt in the second phase. Innovation is the rule. Every fly must have a new name, and some of these names are a bit ridiculous. (Nymph nymph, for example) Proved patterns are scorned or ignored. When you hear that a good mess of fish has been caught on a Dandy Green, a March Brown, or a Buck Coachman, you are surprised rather than impressed. To say that you had good luck with a Carey Special is to say nothing; every fly tied with pheasant rump hackle is named Carey.

It may be we have become so devoted to a search for "New" patterns that we have lost sight of the fundamentals of lake and stream entomology. Variations for the purpose of improvement and increased effectiveness is one thing, innovation for the sake of innovation is something else.

Creel Notes Committee

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Boyd Aigner Don West

Alan Pratt

Humbly,

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