



# Washington Fly Fishing Club

May 5, 2020  
Virtual Meeting

	OFFICERS			COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Jim Goedhart	President	P			
Dexter Brown	1st VP - Membership	P	Robert Thorpe	Conservation	P
Neal Hoffberg	2nd VP - Programs	P	David Ehrich	Creel Notes	
Lily Cutler	3rd VP - Christmas Party	P	Neal Hoffberg	Education	P
David Spratt	Treasurer	P	Pat Becker	Fruit & Flowers	P
Deborah Katz	Secretary		Robert Thorpe	IFFF Coordinator	P
Marcia Kindinger	1 <sup>st</sup> Ghillie	P	Kris Kristoferson & Steve Sunich	Home Waters	
Ben Porter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ghillie (non-voting)		Mike Wearne	Librarian	
	TRUSTEES		Dave Schorsch	Outings	
John Gravendyk	Past President	P	Bob Birkner	Photographer	
Tom Neu	Trustee	P	Cooper Hartman	Publicity	P
Jim Young	Trustee	P	Deborah Katz		
Gary Bergquist	Trustee	P			
Dick Brenning	Trustee	P	Pete Baird	Senior Advisor	P
John Narver	Trustee		Mel Fry	Webmaster	P
Greg Crumbaker	Trustee		Chuck Ballard	WFFC Heritage	P
	GUESTS		John Gravendyk	WFFC Foundation	P
Jim McRoberts		P	John Gravendyk	Youth	P
			Bill Neal	Awards	

P = Present

## President

President Jim Goedhart opened the virtual meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum of thirteen officers and trustees. The minutes of the April board meeting were approved.

## **Committee Reports:**

### Conservation

Robert Thorpe

Robert Thorpe asked the board to authorize him to draft a letter to the Washington Department of Ecology concerning the dam proposal on the Chehalis River. The letter must be submitted by May 27<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made and approved to authorize the letter.

### Education

Neal Hoffberg



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Neal Hoffberg reported that Dave McCoy is prepared to give a virtual presentation to the membership on his numerous fishing trips around the world. Looking into the future, Rick Haffle will be presenting at the October virtual meeting. Neal hopes to tap other presenters willing to give presentations at future virtual membership meetings for the foreseeable future.

Neal reported that 28 members logged on to April's virtual meeting with Jim Cox's presentation on Western Rivers Conservation.

### Outings

The canceled club outing to Hanon Lake has been tentatively rescheduled to sometime in the fall.

### Youth

John Gravendyk

John Gravendyk reported that the club has donated \$270.00 to the Mayfly Project for the purchase of fly-tying materials.

### Heritage

Chuck Ballard

Chuck Ballard reported that the University of Montana has asked our club for its member interview video archives some dating back 20 – 30 years. Board members agree to provide the archives to the university for education purposes only. Jim Young is asking the university to provide a written permission form testifying to its exclusive use. Meanwhile, Gary Berquist and Chuck Ballard will investigate any legal issues regarding the use of the archives.

### Webmaster

Mel Fry

Mel Fry will work on setting up the next virtual meeting using the Zoom app. Using Zoom will cost the club \$15/month. Dave Spratt and Neal Hoffberg have volunteered to help Mel on this.

### **Board Member Reports:**

#### 1st V.P. – Membership

Dexter Brown

Dexter Brown reported that the club has 148 members, 13 of which are new members not yet inducted. A motion was made and passed to reduce membership dues for these newest members to \$40 or half the annual fee due to the time of year of induction. Devon Wells, widow of Dick Stearns who passed away last year, was given



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an honorary membership in the club to honor the years Dick was an active member and contributor to the WFFC.

3<sup>rd</sup> V.P. -- Christmas

Lily Cutler

Lily Cutler presented the concept of holding a virtual Christmas auction in lieu of the annual dinner/auction at the Seattle Tennis Club. In her research of a similar virtual fundraiser given by the Native Fish Society, she has the following recommendations:

- Open the virtual auction bidding for an entire week;
- Provide excellent pictures of the items for bid;
- Accept only new gear from donors;
- Use clear descriptions of each auction item;
- Present the proper procedural instruction to members well in advance of the auction.

### **Old Business:**

Jim McRoberts reported on the club's outreach efforts for the national veterans' project Healing Waters. WFFC will be an affiliate of the Fly Fishing Federation (FFF), to be called Caring Fly Fishers of Washington. Members will form the Caring Fly Fishers of Washington leadership consisting of Jim McRoberts (president), Bob Burkner (secretary), Bob Young (V.P.), Dick Brenning (treasurer) to caring out the club's participation and dedication to the veteran's project.

### **New Business:**

Jim Goedhart presented the challenges facing the club going forward in the time of physical distancing, mainly maintaining relevance and enthusiasm from club members given such distancing measures and cancellation of outings and the move to virtual meetings. Some recommendations and points for discussion include:

- Setting up a telephone tree and enlist board members to personally talk to each member to connect and get feed back. The board will each be given a roster of members to call and maintain contact with. Also, on the agenda is to ask members to submit photos of themselves for the website members listing.
- Maintaining cohesiveness as a club in the time of Covid-19.
- Electing new board members for the new year. (To that Gary Berquist proposed a virtual nominating committee convene in June to propose prospective board members and then vote remotely in December.)



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- John Gravendyk suggested that dues may be reduced or even suspended for some or all of 2021 if physical distancing is necessary through the new year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Submitted by Tom Neu