

Creel Notes from the



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



Website: www.wffc.com

Member of



MMXXI No. 1

January, 2021

President's Riffle

When I was working at GE our "Friday" morning coffee always came with a "TGIF" (Thank God It's Friday), in recognition that we made it through the week. My new WFFC plea is "TGI2021" (Thank God Its 2021) and that we all made it through last year and are looking at a promising later part of 2021 where we can once again hold outings, education classes and monthly dinner meetings together. We will still be doing monthly Zoom Meetings and Fly Tying Forums at least through June or July and COVID-19 vaccines permitting, we will be able to meet together once again – keep your fingers crossed.



The WFFC December Virtual Holiday Fundraiser was the most successful fundraiser that we have ever had with more than 50 percent of the membership participating to bid on the great auction items that Lily Cutler organized on the Greater Giving Auction Application. Great Job Lily!

The details of the Holiday Fundraiser's success, the 2020 end-of-year WFFC Budget vs. Actuals and Cash-on-Hand results were presented at the January 5th Board Meeting. To review the presented Fundraiser and the 2020 WFFC Financials results, login to the Members Only side of the wffc.com website, click on the "BOARD & COMMITTEES" pictured tile, then scroll down the page to the "BOARD MEETINGS

ARCHIVE" and click on "2021 January" to view the "WFFC 2020 Fundraiser and End-of-Year Budget vs. Actuals Results" "members only" information.

I hope to see you all at the January 19th Zoom Monthly Meeting. At that meeting I will report on the Holiday Fundraiser Results and the 2020 WFFC Budget vs. Actuals end-of-year financials. Following the business part of our meeting, Sarah Cloud will talk to us about the Deschutes River Alliance and its mission. The Deschutes River Alliance is a science-based advocacy organization seeking collaborative solutions to basin-wide threats to the health of the Deschutes River and its tributaries.

Don't forget to pay your 2021 WFFC Dues, they are only \$40 this year!

I look forward to "seeing" you at our virtual events and later on in the year at our "in person" WFFC group activities.

Stay Safe and Tight Lines - Jim Goedhart WFFC President

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Why Tie Flies?

This message is primarily directed to those in the club who don't tie flies. I would say that half of the experience of fly fishing or more is the flies and their make up or style.

By combining a knowledge of entomology (the study of bugs) with tying technique you will have a much better experience at fishing the fly.

There are many variations in a single fly pattern representing a single species and gender of an insect .

This is what makes tying such a great experience creating your own interpretation.

The club has a great ongoing fly tying group on zoom twice a month. [See Back Page] Neal Hoffberg does a great job in conducting these classes . He moves slowly enough in technique for beginners to follow and will help you get started.

Please take advantage of this great opportunity to learn and stay engaged in a sport that you never stop learning about.

Chuck Ballard



Creel Notes

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Searching The Pocket Water

Lee Vining Creek, Lee Vining, Ca.

Angler: David Hoffberg

Photo: Neal Hoffberg

It Ain't All About Fish

We all know that the sport of fly fishing has many facets.

There is definitely the pursuit and catching of fish, whether close to home or in far away places. We know that the study of entomology is important to understand what fish feed upon and when and where this may occur, as well as, the practices of good ecology and conservation that is important to the health and preservation of the sport.

Many of us become involved in the crafts of fly tying and rod building and the competitive aspects of fly line casting and fishing derbies. Even volunteering to help teach fly fishing to people recovering from serious illness or service related trauma is a rewarding experience.

There seems to be no end to the opportunities presented when you embark upon fly fishing as a life long sport.

I have found other passions that I love including crafting custom designed furniture. I have been involved with this activity from when I was a youth building crude items in my father's small basement work shop. As a result, I think I have become fairly adept at developing my design and crafting skills. Since I retired 25 years ago I have also tried with some success to link these two passions, fly fishing and wood working, together.

Just before Christmas 2020 I finished a furniture piece that was started nearly 7 years ago with only a spark of an idea. I have kept

thinking and planning on this project ever since. Progress has been slow. The project was often interrupted and out prioritized by other tasks like special furniture projects for family members, home remodeling activities and even batches of handcrafted wooden fly boxes for the WFFC annual fund raising activities, etc.

The project that I just completed was a "DryFly Fisherman's" bar which I chose to name "Ring Of The Rise" for obvious reasons in



the pictures below.

The bar was built using Poplar and Black Walnut wood. The contrasting grain structure of the poplar was used to suggest the ripples caused by the disturbance of trout feeding on surface insects. Carved 3D cattails and reeds add to the illusion. A touch



Dick Brening's "Ring on the Rise" took his work working skills to a new level. Below, open for business

of elegance was given to the piece by using black walnut burl veneer as trim and drawer fronts.

Woven-reed cloth was used for the semicircle shaped end walls of the cabinet suggesting the woven-reed fishing creels I carried in my youth while trout fishing with my father on the streams and rivers in the Rockies of Colorado.

A sheet of plate glass on top provides a protective surface for mixing drinks.

As you can see, the bar opens to



reveal the liquor and glassware in a rather unusual manner.

Anyone with a basic understanding of plane geometry will know that the pivot axes of the two connected cases in this configuration needs to move laterally while swiveling to the open and closed positions. This resulted in several trial mockups during the early stages of construction and pointed to the use of a single ballbearing wheel running in a hard maple channel to control the movement. As a result the connected corner travels along a centered linear path as the bar is opened and closed while each case moves equally sideways, outward and then back in.

The hardware required included 6 twelve inch diameter ballbearing swivel plates for the rotating parts, 6 ball bearing slides to reduce the friction of the moving car-cases, 6 solid brass leaf hinges for connection between the two cases and 6 flat bronze ring pulls for the drawers. A few brass wood screws and lots of wood glue were needed to hold it all together.

All this resulted in space for 6 decanter size liquor bottles, 6 hanging stemware glasses and 6 high/lowball cocktail glasses. The 6 drawers in the lower section provide storage for bar tools and accessories. A lot of sixes!

The completed bar joins my Fly Fishing themed armchair table I

finished several years ago. I named this table "A River Runs Through It" for the simulated river with an inlaid rock and trophy sized trout from the famous book/movie of the same name.

I know, more than you ever wanted to know! But this last year of Covid 19 restrictions was a good chance to reconsider your passions and discover ways to find fulfillment even while practicing safe conduct.

Hopefully, you too will be inspired to broaden your thinking about fly fishing and link it to your other endeavors.

As for me, I'm on to my next project: finishing a cane rod (Gary Bergquist blanks) that I won at the 2019 WFFC Fund Raiser.

Richard Brening
rbrening@me.com



Dick's favorite chair is flanked by "A River Runs Through It", a table he built several years ago with an inlaid river rock from the famous homewaters of author Norman Maclean. Fun Fact: the film was shot on the Gallatin, not the Blackfoot of the novel..

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.

January 6 Featured Fly: The Wally Wing Mayfly



Materials for the Wally Wing Mayfly:

Hook: Dry fly Size 10 (can be larger or smaller. Your preference)

Thread: Tan 70 denier

Body: Uni Mylar tinsel gold/silver (or equivalent). By gold/silver I mean the tinsel is gold on one side silver on the other

Underwing: Yellow saddle hackle. (Chinese saddle hackle is a cheap and effective material for this.)

Overwing: Mallard flank. Bronze would be a good color.

Hackle: Grizzle and brown. Either dry fly cape or saddle substitute

January 20 Featured Fly: The Hornberg Fly



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Meetings have been temporarily cancelled in person at the Seattle Tennis Club, but club life goes on with new members joining, zoom meetings, fly-tying webinars, board meetings, and regular updates to the club web pages.

- Keep in touch at <https://wffc.com/>
- Send your thoughts and fishing reports to davidehrich@rocketmail.com for the next issue of Creel Notes. Please include a photo (.jpeg preferred) with your article.