

# Creel Notes from the



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



Website: [www.wffc.com](http://www.wffc.com)

Member of



MMXXI No. 9

November, 2021

## President's Riffle

The club has reopened its favorite get together activities: Outings and Dinner Meetings.



Seventeen members attended the Lake Hannon Outing on October 16th catching nice sized cutthroat and rainbow trout. Fifteen members showed up for the Wet Buns Outing on November 6th fishing in the rainy, windy and 40 degree weather, with no fish caught by anyone, but all had a great time together at the Penrose Point Park Camp Shelter, warming up by the fire pit, swapping fishing stories and enjoying Dave Schorsch's famous seafood stew.

We are scheduled to hold our first Dinner Meeting at the Seattle Tennis Club on November 16th after a nineteen-month hiatus due to the Covid Pandemic shutdown. The Dinner Meeting will be "Free" for all WFFC members. Our speaker Carol Morris, will talk on "Searun Cutthroat: Phantom of the OP (Olympic Peninsula)" via Zoom. Go to [Wffc.com](http://Wffc.com) to sign up to attend. Note that if you do plan to attend in person, you will need to show proof vaccination or a within 72hrs negative covid test to gain entrance to the Seattle Tennis Club at the Guard Shack.

The December Holiday Fundraiser will be held virtually December 9th through 13th using the internet Greater Giving Auction application, as we did last year. Detail instructions on how to register, view the

auction items and bid with be emailed out to the membership in the first week of December.

The Holiday Dinner will be held at the Seattle Tennis Club on December 14th with the festivities starting at 5:30 PM. Along with a great dinner and festivities, we will be holding Raffles for some wonderful handmade Fly Boxes and will have Raffle Tables which will hold lots of fly fishing and novelty items for the lucky ticket drawing winners. Sign up on our website early so that you won't miss out as seating is limited to 126 attendees. Note that the proof of vaccination holds for this event as well.

This year's virtual auction and Holiday Dinner will be the primary fundraisers for the Club's 2022 Out Reach, Conservation, Outings, Education and Youth activities and need all your support to make them a

Continued on Page 3

## Inside this Issue

- |        |                                       |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Page 3 | Ehrich Bribed to attend Board Meeting |
| Page 4 | Wet Buns!                             |
| Page 5 | This Month in History                 |

# Fishing Report

## Last Trip for 2021

by Chuck Ballard

Ron Tscheder and I made a quick trip to Buzzard lake October 29. The weather cooperated and although fishing was slow I managed 4 hookups I only got 2 to the hand. They were fat 14" fish that put up a great fight.

The next day I returned to Big Twin. The fish took a while to get started feeding but once they did it was a great day! All were in very



shallow water and I was using a dry line with a Carey Special . These were big 18" and bigger fish that were very spooky but long casts still worked.

This has been one of the "best years ever for me in Eastern Washington lakes.

Hopefully it will start this way next spring!

## Okanogan County Lakes

by Mike Nolan

I fished a couple of new lakes in

Okanogan County based on the information that was shared by Ryan Fortier, WDFW, during his Zoom presentation to the club in April 2021. I headed to Tonasket WA and stayed at Wannacut Lake Resort, aka, Sun Cove for three nights.

On Monday, 10/18/21, I drove five miles from Wannacut Lake to Blue Lake which has Lahontan Cutthroat trout. I caught one 16" Lahontan cutthroat trout in about 2 hours fishing with a full sinking line from my float tube near the boat launch. I would recommend fishing from a boat as the lake was larger and deeper than what I was expecting.

On Tuesday, 10/19/21, I fished Washburn Lake located 2 miles northeast of Loomis, WA. The 13-acre lake is reported to have both eastern brook and tiger trout. A ¼ mile hike from my truck was required to access the lake. I fished about 2 ½ hours in my float tube and caught two brook trout from

Fall day (left) on Big Twin. Below, Mike Nolan tests the waters of Blue Lake surrounded by desert beauty.



# Creel Notes

IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON FLY FISHING CLUB. SUBSCRIPTION IS FREE WITH MEMBERSHIP.

PRESIDENT  
JIM GOEDHART

1ST VICE PRESIDENT (MEMBERSHIP)  
DEXTER BROWN

2ND VICE PRESIDENT (PROGRAMS)  
NEAL HOFFBERG

3RD VICE PRESIDENT (CHRISTMAS PARTY)  
LILY CUTLER

TREASURER  
DAVID SPRATT

SECRETARY  
DEBORAH KATZ

GHILLIE 1  
MARSHA KINDINGER

GHILLIE 2  
BEN PORTER

CREEL NOTES EDITORS  
DAVID EHRLICH  
DAVIDEHRLICH@ROCKETMAIL.COM

TRUSTEES  
JOHN GRAVENDYK, PAST PRESIDENT;  
JOHN NARVER '21; JAMES YOUNG '21;  
GREG CRUMBAKER '22; DICK BRENING '22;  
TOM NEU '23; GARY BERQUIST '23

# On the Fly

## Board Meeting, November 2

by David Ehrich

I'll be truthful, I have not attended many WFFC Board meetings as Creel Notes



Editor. For a couple reasons: first I'm not needed to be honest and secondly, I don't enjoy the minutia of board meetings. But this meeting was special; Jim and Caroline invited us for dinner at their lovely home, served us their own vintage wines, and celebrated the efforts of all. In other words, I can be bribed.

What did I experience? People take their jobs seriously, often applying a global perspective to the work they do and connecting many dots in the process. Not only do people hold a general interest in things, but they also dive deeply where their interests take them.

Meetings are also a time to remind people of things that we have let slip and overlooked. For example, the president gets to administer

gentle goads to sign up, show up, step up, and make it happen. A few things are the sort of granular things that you should be glad other people take care of: bylaws, tax status, finances, dues, leases, details regarding STC, and the like. As a regular member, you should be glad someone dots these eyes and crosses these tees.

Now there's another benefit to being on the club board; you get to talk and people (mostly) have to listen. That's a unique deal for many people in this world. This can, and has, lead to conflicts of time management. I prefer to move briskly through agendas, but several presidents have reminded me, "David, we need to work through things one at a time."

We ended the Zoom/in-person hybrid meeting with a promise to help sort the abundance of gear up for auction and raffle, a promise most of did not keep after the wine and dining began. I lost all sense of time talking to old friends who I have not seen in years, gobbling down yummy dishes, and once again, being reminded of why I joined the club.



The hard work of club business gets done by past and future presidents, Jim Goedart (right), Dave Spratt, and Marcia Kindinger

## President's Riffle continued

success next year.

Later this month you will receive an e-ballot to vote on the slate of 2022 Board Members and Trustees, organized by the Nominations Committee, per the WFFC Bylaws.

At the November 6th Board Meeting, the Board voted to set the 2022 dues at \$50 for both Active and Associate Members. Dues will be available on the website for payments starting on December 1st.

I encourage you to sign up for the November Dinner Meeting and the December Holiday Dinner so we can once again enjoy each other's fellowship and share our passion for fly fishing.

### 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.

# Wet Buns, Satisfied Taste Buds, & Missing Searuns

by Chuck Ballard

Hail and farewell to 2021 outings

The Wet Buns outing certainly lived up to its fame of “very very wet buns” plus a hail storm that was enough to cover the ground.

Just to add to the misery everyone was skunked big time!

There has been a lot of pressure on searuns of late due in part (or maybe mostly?) to too many guided trips. It is really beginning to show. I fished the entire Vaughn Bay and never even saw a fish. Others tried several different South Sound sites with the same results.

However, the day was not lost due to Dave Schorsch and Lynn preparing some the delicious fish stew known in finer establishments as bouillabaisse. Oui, C’est tres bon!!

Everyone pitched in with wood supplies needed for warmth and prep work for the stew.

President Jim provided all with his latest great bottles of home grown wine.

It was again another fun time for all sharing stories of the past wet buns outings.

President Jim and Jim Young . Richard Plunkett a new member and celebrity guest Aaron Rogers look alike Ben Davidson.

Below, Pat and Lynn, Jim Young and Ben Davidson Mark.

Bottom right, Dave sharing secret plans for next year!

Below left, Pat and Mark Cleaning the crab.



# This Month in WFFC History

As a new feature, we will take a look back at this month in recent WFFC history.

In 1999, Creel Notes included a form to reserve your place at the Christmas dinner at the College Club. The November program was Steve Raymond reading excerpts from his books. A serviceouting on Griffin Creek detailed a van full of members planting trees and shrubs along the creek to keep cattle pollution from reacing the creek.

The usual business - fly tyers round table, Boyd Aigner Competitions, and Conservation announcements found a place amid an article describing the advantages of polarized Sunglasses.

We worried about Bull Trout and dams.

Fishing reports came in from Hood Canal and a recap of the late September Chopaka Lake outing by John Townsell:

*"After quickly setting up camp, I went fishing close to camp when we got there a little before dark... Caught a few Rainbow trout to 16 inches and had several other strikes that evening on Black Leech and Mayfly emergers..."*

*"One evening we had a bear come down to the lake across from camp. I saw it as I was rowing up the lake but dismissed it as a cow standing in tall grass, but Grant watched it through a spotting scope. It was too lake (dark) to photograph it when we heard about it. Later, Chuck Ballard told me that is is common in the Fall to see a bear by the lake..."*

*"Great trip! Great Fishing! Great having fishing buddies in camp! What a great way to round out the year in Washington."*

**Creel Notes from the**



**WASHINGTON FLY FISHING CLUB**



P.O. Box 639, Mercer Island, WA 98040  
www.wffc.com

Founding Club of the FFF & members active in the FFF

<b>Monthly Meeting Notice</b>	<b>November 16, 1999</b>	<b>IL No. 11</b>
<b>The College Club, 505 Madison St.</b>	<b>Seattle, Washington</b>	<b>Phone: 206-622-0624</b>
<b>Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM</b>	<b>Dinner 7:00 PM</b>	

## Fishing Reports

### Wetbuns Fishing Report, October 22 - 24.

by Ron Dion

Again this year the weather was very dry and pleasant until it was time for Dick Stearns to do his thing on Saturday evening, i.e. concoct the usual delicious bouillabaisse. According to Dick his recipe is circa 1965. Great stuff! It did rain a little on Saturday during the festivities but not enough to dampen anyone's spirit (there were a few spirits consumed however!). Boyd Aigner and Fred DeWitt have taught us well in the art of fire-making! We have finally learned to bring an ample supply of wood (thank you all). Both Boyd and Fred would have been proud with the size of the fire.

Migrating coho were not to be found, evidently there are very few returning to the South Sound this year. However, the searuns were plentiful and very cooperative. The average size of the searuns seems to be increasing with more fish in the 14 -16 inch range and a few larger. There were also a few local coho caught/released. The best fishing on Thursday was in the bays of the upper portion of Case Inlet. Friday the fog hampered fishing. On Saturday, with a southwest wind blowing, the best searun fishing was in the vicinity of Penrose. If you want to know the best fly patterns you'll have to talk to Don Simonson, Ted Pearson, Chuck Ballard, James Schmidt, Preston Singletary, Gil Nyerges, or Dan Dion.

Thanks again this year to Dick Stearns for continuing the bouillabaisse tradition.

hosting the Wet Buns outing and Kris and Don hosted the new member fishing outing. One thing that made the outings unusual was that fish were caught. Imagine that! Next up is the Christmas party on December 21st. Mark your calendars and plan to bring a friend. With the amount of time and work that Greg Hicks is putting into the evening, you can rest assured it will be another great one.

As a Club we are trying to improve the fish-related environment. We work politically, we work physically at streamsidess like Griffin Creek and we financially contribute towards conservation causes. The recent announced river closures next year on the Methow, Chewuck, Twisp, Lost rivers and many of their tributaries is fair warning to all that efforts must be made by us and others to find solutions to our environmental problems. The WFFC will be a leader in the decade ahead. Get involved. Participate in the conservation programs. When we work as a group, it does not require much time of any one individual, and the results are dramatic. We can't wait for the state to close more rivers. The time to participate is now.

Greg Crumbaker, President, 1999



### President's Riffle

by Greg Crumbaker

Greetings fellow fly fishers. First, a word of thanks to all of you who gave "more brief" fishing reports at our last meeting. Everyone wishing to report was heard from, our speaker had ample time to deliver his message, and we were out by 9:30. Thanks for your support of the new format. Those members who rise early for work, have ferries to catch after the meeting or have young ones they wish to see before they go to bed, all appreciate the meeting ending by 9:30.

The turnout at the October 30th tree planting on Griffin Creek had about 10 WFFC members joining 50 other volunteers from numerous community and youth organizations. The trees were planted by 11:00 and time was left for fishing below the mouth of the creek. While planting, salmon were seen swimming up the stream, and a county worker was able to show spawning beds to a group of teenagers. Learning why it's necessary to protect a stream can never start too early.

Special thanks to Club members Dick Stearns, Kris Kristoferson and Don Simonson. Dick did a wonderful job



BATES continued from page 1.

Deadlines:	
Issue	Date
December	November 15
March	February 15
June	May 15
September	August 15

This is an opportunity to tell everybody in WSCFFF about your club. Please let me know by e-mail [bobbates@worldnet.att.net](mailto:bobbates@worldnet.att.net) if your club can supply an article and when.

Thanks,  
Bob Bates

*If anyone would like to take this on, please contact Bob Bates directly or contact the Creel Notes Editor or one of the WFFC officers. Ed.*





Washington Fly Fishing Club  
P.O. Box 639  
Mercer Island, WA 98040  
[www.wffc.com](http://www.wffc.com)



**November 16, 2021**

## **Live Meetings Return**

**November 16 @ 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm PST**

**November 16, 2021 Dinner Meeting- Its On and Free for all Members**

**Seattle Tennis Club 922 McGilvra BLVD, Seattle**

**The November 16th Dinner Meeting at the Seattle Tennis Club has been reinstated as the Covid proof of vaccination protocols mandated by the King County Health Board will be in effect for Clubs and Restaurants beginning on October 25th. If you sign up for the Dinner on the 16th you will have to show a proof of Covid Vaccinations or a negative FDA-approved PCR Covid test, that was administered within the past 72 hours, at the Seattle Tennis Club entry Guard House to be admitted to attend the dinner. Free for members and \$40.00 for guests**