

# Creel Notes from the



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

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

Member of

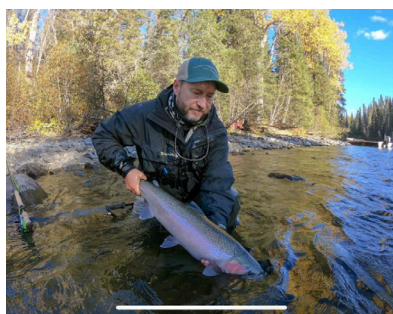


MMXXII No. 9

December, 2022

## President's Riffle

Happy Holidays WFFC! 2022 has flown by, and our annual Holiday Fundraiser is final-



ly here. This great event is the time and place to help raise money for our club, including the WFFC Foundation while having a wonderful evening with club members and friends. Remember, the WFFC online auction is currently up and running. Bidding on items will be accepted online until the evening of December 13th. If you have questions or need assistance with the auction website, please do not hesitate to contact James Goedhart or me.

Looking back at 2022, I am pleased that the club chose the VFW Hall on Mercer Island for our monthly club meetings. The VFW Hall has been an excellent partner for our club, and I hope more of you will return to our in-person meetings each month. This last year we were fortunate to have many great speakers. The upcoming year 2023 is shaping up to be even better! So, please come out and attend these monthly meetings. It is a great way to meet other members and gain invaluable fishing knowledge from the line-up of speakers and our diverse membership.

In 2023, the WFFC board has decided to return to our customary annual dues, \$80 for active members and \$50 for associate members. The return to our regular yearly dues will help cover our operating

costs making it possible to continue to provide new and excellent educational programs and outings for our membership. The WFFC website is now updated to reflect this change. Your 2023 Membership Dues can now be paid directly on the WFFC website through February. As a reminder, please use the WFFC website to pay your dues. The club will not be taking payments for annual dues on the night of the Holiday Fundraiser. Our Ghillies will have their hands' full tracking payments for the fundraiser event. We don't want membership payments not to be recorded accurately during the chaotic fun of the Holiday Fundraiser event.

Finally, I want to thank everyone for an excellent year. It has been a great privilege to be your president and past treasurer. In January, Danferd Henke will take over the reins as your next WFFC president. I know with great confidence that Dan will be a fantastic leader for the club. And a much better president than I could ever try to attain!

I look forward to seeing you all at our monthly meetings and out fishing on the Yakima River. Thank You, and Be Well! Happy Holidays, David Spratt - WFFC President

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# Fishing Reports

## “ITS A WRAP”

by Chuck Ballard

Now that the fishing for this year is coming to a close it makes one reflect on the past year!

My year finished with a “bang” as Eastern Washington lakes were fishing really well!

Now as the midwinter drearies set in my focus is on fly tying.

Some tying I do is to replace missing patterns and some is to purge flies I never use.

After tying for more than fifty years, I have become interested in tying the more artistic flies like Steelhead and Atlantic Salmon patterns. With a lot of help from YouTube and the local chapter of the Atlantic Salmon Fly tying Guild, getting started is not such a challenge.

What you discover very quickly is the difficulty in acquiring quality feathers as many are unique and as

a result very expensive. This, in a way, makes you become creative by using more common feathers dyed ( I use permanent markers) to replace expensive ones. The other thing you learn is choosing quality feathers is critical to this kind of tying.

One major benefit to this learning experience is that you get “very good” at selecting “*quality*” feathers. This skill will benefit you in buying any of your fly tying materials.

Another thing you learn from all this experience is if you find some great material or feathers don’t pass on them even if they seem to be a bit costly because they may not be available for a long time and sometimes never again.

So! My winter is now filled with fun challenges and for those who haven’t learned to tie flies yet ,our beginning classes start after the first of the year Fly tying can become almost as fulfilling as fishing, and it really helps pass through the “midwinter drearies.”



Chuck Ballard shows what he means by “Quality” flies made of fine materials.

# Creel Notes

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

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DANFERD HANKE

2ND VICE PRESIDENT (PROGRAMS)  
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3RD VICE PRESIDENT (CHRISTMAS  
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GILLIE 1  
SHELLY SCHEFF

GILLIE 2  
JAMES EMSWILER

CREEL NOTES EDITOR  
DAVID EHRLICH  
DAVIDEHRLICH@ROCKETMAIL.COM

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JAMES GOEDHART, PAST PRESIDENT;  
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# December Meeting

## Holiday Fundraiser

**December 13th, 2022 - VFW Hall  
Dinner Meeting @ 5:30 - 9:00 pm**

### Places Still Available

If you are still interested in attending the Dec 13th WFFC Holiday and Fundraiser, there are as of this morning only 14 dinner sign ups left be we max out at 85 dinner attendees. Here is the link to sign up for the Holiday Dinner: <https://wffc.com/event/december-13th-2022-holiday-dinner-and-fundraiser/>

Parking for the Holiday Dinner at the Mercer Island VFW Hall, located at 1836 7nd Avenue SE, is a bit of a scramble for locations. First off there will be signs posted in front of the VFW Hall for a riders drop off area, with parking spots reserved for out senior members to park in. You can also park across the street at the Roanoke Inn if there are spaces available, or you can park nearby on the road along 72nd Avenue or continue on up the road a block or so and park at a Public Parking lot that is located near/under HWY 90 per the following map The Virtual Holiday Fundraiser is Live for bidding and for WFFC Foundation Donations. The auction closes at 9PM on December 13th.

### On-Line Auction Closes Soon

Here is the link to sign into the auction: <https://wffc.betterworld.org/auctions/2022-washington-fly-fishing-club>

Your winning bids and donations are the mainstay for funding the clubs 2023 Operational Expenses for the Dinner Meetings, Speakers, Educational Classes , Outings and administrative costs for the Website, Insurance, Storage locker costs to name a few. The funds also will be used to support Conservation, Youth and Outreach Donations.

Your WFFC Foundation donations help us reach its \$10,000 funding goal for Conservation, Youth and



Outreach donations as were given out in 2022. All foundations are tax deductible as it is a 501C-3 non-profit organization.

So dig deep in to your credit cards to help meet the Club's and the Foundation's 2023 financial objectives.

If you are having problems signing into the Betterworld app, please give me a call at (425) 985-2316 or email me at [JLGoedhart@gmail](mailto:JLGoedhart@gmail.com)

Good Luck - Jim Goedhart WFFC Virtual Fundraiser Organizer

### 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.



## This Month in History December, 1999



Washington Fly Fishing Club  
P.O. Box 639  
Mercer Island, WA 98040  
www.wffc.com

Here's the cover from the December, 1999, *Creel Notes*. Not much has changed unless you look near the bottom for the "Fish Needed..."

I started attending meetings around this time and one of the highlights was sampling smoked salmon donated by members who had set some filets aside from various trips over the years and giving them some brine and smoke.

I remember greasy fingers being licked while members made comments in evaluation of each new plate.

The College Club was packed with members and their guests.

Traditions change and I look forward to new ones at the VFW.

-D. Ehrich

# Creel Notes from the THIRD TUES.

**WASHINGTON FLY FISHING CLUB**  
P.O. Box 639, Mercer Island, WA 98040  
Founding Club of the FFF & members active in the FFF

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**Monthly Meeting Notice**  
The College Club, 505 Madison St.  
Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM

**December 21, 1999**  
Seattle, Washington  
Dinner 7:00 PM

**IL No. 12**  
Phone: 206-622-0624

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## WFFC

### 1999 HOLIDAY BANQUET & RAFFLE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1999  
THE COLLEGE CLUB OF SEATTLE  
505 MADISON STREET  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98104

**PREVIEW OF EVENTS:**

- 5:30 pm: Wet Fly Practice, Hors d'Oeuvres, Raffle Ticket Sales
- 7:00 pm: Dinner: Choice of Prime Rib or Salmon with all the customary embellishments.
- Awards ceremony
- Break and final ticket sales

**RESERVATIONS ARE ESSENTIAL IF YOU PLAN TO EAT!**  
**IF YOU COME WITH 2 OR MORE GUESTS, WE WILL RESERVE YOUR TABLE SPACE TOO!**

Send reservations to Kris Kristoferson by December 14th.

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**RAFFLE ITEMS:** This will be the largest collection ever! Donated items include two pontoon boats, trips to Montana and other mysterious and fishy places, rods, reels, lines and leaders, tackle bags and works of art. The evening is one not to be missed! Bring a friend or make up with an enemy by bringing him here!

**PARKING OVERFLOW:** The College Club garage will fill early. Try lots north and south of Madison just east of I-5. If you need transportation help or help getting from parking to the club, contact Greg Hicks at (206) 282-9831.

### Fish Needed for Christmas Party

Greg Hicks is looking for volunteers to provide smoked fish for party hors d'oeuvres. If you can help the club by offering some of your personal stock, please contact Greg at (206) 282-9831. Salmon or trout would be most eagerly accepted but other succulent species will be welcome.

### Dick Thompson Recovering

Our friend and Associate Member Richard B. Thompson is reported to be at home recovering from recent hip socket replacement. You can encourage him by giving a shout at (509) 962-4990 or writing to 1561 Strande Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926. Dick and Betty's e-mail address is thomband@ellensburg.com.