

Creel Notes from the



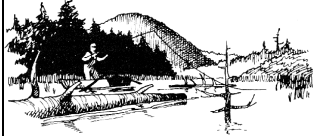
P.O. Box 639, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Website: www.wffc.com



MMXXIV No. 1

January, 2024



President's Riffle

Kindness Has a Ripple Effect

Danferd Henke, President, Washington Fly Fishing Club

My wife, Adair and I are building a fishing cabin in Montana. Our most recent trip there was to meet with our contractor, Tim Yates to settle on a layout. Tim is a young fellow (by my standards these days) and had spent ten years in the Army before becoming a contractor.



Our property is more than 20 miles up a rough road. The drive takes about two hours. After detailed discussions regarding the building of our home we had time to really get to know one another. During our conversation I asked Tim what he does when he isn't building houses. I was hoping he would tell me that he spent most of his time fishing and would give me and Adair places that only the locals know about! Wishful thinking on my part. It turns out that Tim does fly fish. However, when not building houses, he spends a good deal of his time helping his father run a non-profit organization called 'Task Force Heroes.' Task Force Heroes provides support for first responders, active-duty military, and veterans suffering from PTSD. Tim and his father bring people out to a ranch in Montana. Along with spiritual and personal counseling the attendees are taught fly tying, fly fishing, and archery. I told Tim that Task Force Heroes sounds like Project Healing Waters.

Tim proceeded to tell us that during a training exercise his femur was shattered, requiring three surgeries and countless hours of physical therapy. While going through that ordeal the Army stationed him in Wash-

ington State at Fort Lewis. Fort Lewis is one of several places in Washington State that has a PHWFF program. This is where Tim learned all things fly fishing. Now back in Montana, Tim runs his own business and supports his father at Task Force Heroes; sharing his spirituality and all that he learned about fly fishing at PHWFF to others in need while on their journey to recovery.

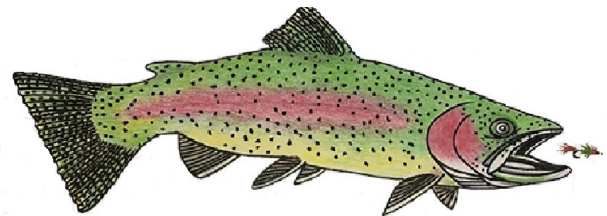
Kindness has a ripple effect.

Monthly Meeting Location

In 2024, the Club's monthly meetings will be held at the Seattle Tennis Club, 922 McGilvra Blvd. East, Seattle, WA 98112.

Wet Fly and fly tying commence at 5:30, dinner 6:15, with a program commencing at 7:00.

Please sign up early on the website.



Inside this Issue

- ✓ Page 1...Pres Riffle, Meetings 2024
- ✓ Page 2...Program, Fly Fishing Show
- ✓ Page 3...Dues Reminder, Book Review, Club Outings 2024
- ✓ Page 4...Fly of the Month, Cartoon

January Program

Steph Albano on Fly Fishing Idaho and Beyond

Her topic will be Fly fishing Idaho; Henry's Fork and beyond. Steph owns Fanatical Fly Fishing. Fanatical Flyfishing was created for women by women who have traveled and fished around the globe.

She has fished in Chile, Alaska, the Bahamas, Mexico, Cuba, the Seychelles, Belize, Christmas Island, Hawaii.



Steph Albano

Bellevue Fly Fishing Show

Bellevue Fly Fishing Show February 17 and 18

By Shelley Scheff



The Washington Fly Fishing Club will be hosting a booth at the 2024 Fly Fishing Show, Pacific Northwest Edition. The event will be held February 17th and 18th at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue.

This show offers a wide range of expert demonstrations and seminars about fly fishing with a focus on our local waters of the Pacific Northwest. Here is a link to the show with more information: <https://flyfishingshow.com/bellevue-wa/>

We are seeking volunteers to help with the set-up, staffing, and take-down of our booth. We are also seeking volunteer fly tyers to tie the fly of your choice at our booth. As a "thank you" for your time, you will receive a day pass for entrance to the show. Set-up will take place in the afternoon of Friday, February 16th. Staffing of the booth and fly tying demonstration will run from 9:00-5:30 on Saturday, February 17th and 9-4:30 on Sunday, February 18th. Take-down will begin at 4:40 on Sunday, February 18th.

This is a great opportunity to meet fellow anglers and learn about our favorite sport! If you are interested in volunteering please contact Shelley Scheff at shelley@collageclipping.com

Location

Meydenbauer Center
11100 N.E. 6th Street
Bellevue, Wa 98004

Creel Notes

...is the official publication of the Washington Fly Fishing Club. Subscription is free with membership.

President

Danfred Henke

1st Vice President (Membership)

Jim Beck

2nd Vice President (Programs)

Neal Hoffberg

3rd Vice President (Christmas Party)

Jim Goedhart

Treasurer

Kurk Peterson

Secretary

Shelly Scheff

Ghillie 1

James Emswiler

Ghillie 2

Paul Buehrens

Trustees

Don Schroder '12 Gene Gudger '12
Roger Rohrbeck '13 Dave Hawkinson '13
Mark Pratt '14 Maury Skeith '14

Creel Notes Editor R. Tschetter
batribble@juno.com

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.

2024 Dues Reminder

From Dan Henke

**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL**
Annual Dues

2024 dues are due! You can pay online on the website at “Member Dues.” Dues for 2024 are \$80 for Active Members and \$50 for Associate

Upcoming WFFC Fly Tying Class

A reminder that the WFFC fly tying class is posted on our website. Log in to sign up.

This is a four week class. You will learn about the basic materials and tools used for fly tying. Most importantly, you will receive a solid foundation in fly tying. We will have a class leader along with experienced volunteers to work with you one on one.



Join us, and get started on a very rewarding aspect of fly fishing.

Fly Tyers Corner, Book Review

From Dan Henke

The Feather Mechanic II: Beyond the Pattern

by Gordon van der Spuy

The Feather Mechanic is back and this time he brought friends. South African tyer Gordon van der Spuy recently published a second volume and it is every bit as good as the first.

This time, though, van der Spuy is joined by some of the world’s best tyers: Hans van Klinken, Barry Ord

Clarke, Wayne Luallen, Steven Fernandez, Umberto Oreglini, Davy Wotten, and others from around the world. It’s quite a collection of tyers, and of patterns.

The author begins with his mantra – function over form, thread control, understand the materials. Then each of the tyers introduces a pattern, sometimes an old stand-by, sometimes new, with its history, how the fly developed, why he likes it, and how to fish it.

The book is worth its price just for those stories. Each pattern comes with van der Spuy’s clear and com-

plete instructions and, as I’ve come to expect from him, exquisite drawings. The instructions and drawings are so good that no beginning tyer should shy away from using this volume to get started in the hobby. But van der Spuy includes the nuances of each tie, tips you can’t get off a video, which will appeal even to advanced tyers. Van der Spuy is rapidly becoming one of my favorite tying authors.

Available on various fly shop websites, \$40.

WFFC Club Outings 2024

From Mike Nolan – Outings Chair

We’re looking forward to you joining us on some of the club outings this year. I’ll be hosting the majority of the outings and a few members have volunteered



to host other outings. Let me know if you would be interested in volunteering to host an outing to a river, lake or saltwater location. There may be other local one day outings to westside lakes or rivers that may

be added to the outing schedule on future dates.

Contact me if you have a fishing outing suggestion or are interested in volunteering to host an outing. I hope to hear from you soon and email me at mikes-nolan@comcast.net or call me at (425) 754-1234.

The outings shown below are now live on the WFFC website and please sign up if you plan to attend.

WFFC 2024 Outings Schedule

- March 30 Pass Lake
- April 20 Lake Hannan
- May TBD
- June 22-23 Leech Lake
- September TBD Hood Canal
- October 5-6 Big Green Lake (Okanogan County)
- October 12-13 Big Twin Lake
- November 2 Penrose Point Wet Buns

"What a tourist terms a plague of insects, the fly fisher calls a great hatch"

- Patrick J. McManus

Fly of the Month

Crayfish Pattern

Materials:

Hook size 2-6

Thread to match body (brown)

Weight, lead wire layers

Feelers, tan bucktail

Eyes: varnished false flower stemens from a craft store

Legs, brown partridge hackle

Claws, natural squirrel tail

Thorax, chocolate mink with plenty of guard hairs

Carapace, as Thorax but with less guard hair

Shell casing over thorax and carapace, brown flxibody

Rib 6lb nylon

Coloring, Prismart pens

Dressing:

Run the thread down the shank catch in a length of lead wire, wind the wire to the eye and back. (I build a second layer under the shank). Varnish or superglue the wire, tie in two eyes and the feelers, at the bend and catch in the waste and bind along the shank.

Next cut the claws from two small bunches of squirrel tail, tie them separatley on top of the hook and figure of eight each one to make them stand out and "claw like", varnish the butts and tie down.

Take a 1/4 inch wide strip of flxibody and tie in behind the eyes, select a partridge hackle of a size that will represent the legs, strip off the flue and stroke the fibers downwould measure the length of the thorax and tie the feather in by the tip concave side facing down, rake some mink fur and mix together then dub onto the thread and dub a thick thorax, pull the flexibody over the top and tie down.

Tie in a length of the 6lb nylon (about 6 inches) then another piece of flexibody making sure it is long enough to reach just past the hook eye.

Rake some of the mink underfur and dub the body fairly thick. Taking care now stretch the flexibody very tightly to the eye and tie it down but dont cut it off. Bring the rib over very tightly in even spiral pulling it into the flexibody to create the segments.

Tie off and cut off the waste rib, cut the overhanging piece of flexi-body(which should now be laying over the hook eye) into the shape of the crayfish tail.

Color to your liking and then varnish over the flexibody two or three coats.



Fishing Tips

Re-Sealing an AQUASEAL Tube

by Elaine Cook

I love Aqua Seal for mending neoprene but when going to use the tube the second time the cap sticks to the tip and requires two pliers to grab and twist off, then, by golly, the opening is sealed shut.



Don't throw it away; try this.

Squeeze the glue up to the cap end, cut straight across the bottom, squeeze and it will apply a thin strip instead of a glob which is a much easier way to apply.

Then to seal the tube, squeeze the glue up toward the cap again, pinch the bottom with pliers and fingers, squeezing out any glue at that end, wipe well with rubbing alcohol.

Next time, cut straight across the bottom again.



Traveling Sedge

Photo Credit: Hugh Jennings