



Garden Hackle



Volume 12, Issue 2

South Sound Fly Fishers

February 2012

Program

Sea run Cutthroat trout

Chester Allen was the fishing and outdoors columnist for The Olympian newspaper from 2002 through January 4, 2010. He spent more than 14 years at The Olympian, and much of that time involved rushing off to Puget Sound beaches to fish for sea-run cutthroat trout. What started as a way to while away the time between trips to the Yakima or Deschutes rivers became a full-blown, happy addiction.

Chester started fly angling at the age of 8, which is when his mother said: "Chester, you can't fish every day." Chester has spent the past 42 years proving that he can indeed fish more than most people. Chester's first book, "Fly Fishing for Sea-Run Cutthroat" was published by Stackpole in January. The book, like his columns, isn't just about fishing, but it's mostly about fishing.

Chester, a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication, now splits his time between Portland, OR and Hood River, OR, but he still manages to pester Puget Sound sea-run cutts. Chester's day job -- the one that supports his fishing, surfing and traveling addictions -- is as executive editor of Sports Car Market and American Car Collector, which cover the nutso world of buying, selling and collecting old, valuable cars. Chester drives a Subaru Outback.

Chester also has a blog at www.watermagic.typepad.com



The Next Meeting is
Tuesday February 21th
7:00PM

Chester Allen

Sea run Cutthroat trout

North Olympia Fire Station

5046 Boston Harbor Road NE

Leader's Line

by Don Freeman

Greetings

I am still looking forward to seeing everyone again after the long hiatus. We'll be back in our old same place so make it a point to come out and swap snow stories. And of course, please remember to bring a check or cash for dues renewal.

I had beautiful conditions on the river today, never a drop of rain, warm compared to what we've become used to, and calm winds. No doubt, spring is coming. We often get this nice spell in February, so strike while the iron is hot. We're coming out of the tunnel fast now, in just two weeks, our days will be an hour longer than today.

See you the 21st ,we have some club business to take care of, fresh raffle prizes, and the speaker is an old friend.

Conservation

By Gwill Ging

Kennedy Creek Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout Spawner Surveys

I hope you all managed to make it through the snow/ice storm safely and that it was only a minor inconvenience. It was unfortunate that the storm resulted in the cancellation of our January meeting, including Larry Phillips' presentation on WDFW's searun cutthroat data needs, and how we could help out by conducting sea-run cutthroat trout spawning surveys on Kennedy Creek. He is planning to attend our February 21st meeting to provide details on what would be involved.

Just so you have some information to think about in advance of the meeting, the survey reach is about 3 miles long over relatively gradual terrain, although some bushwacking and scrambling over logs and rootwads

would be involved. The surveys would be conducted on a weekly basis., and while there is some flexibility on what days they are conducted, they need to be done consistently in order for the data to be comparable with the other South Sound streams. Consequently, we need enough participants to spread the workload and to provide backup.

If you would like to help out on this effort, or would like more information, send me an email at: gwillg@southsoundflyfishers.org.

Snider Creek Steelhead Program Update

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has adopted the management option for the Snider Creek Program that SSFF endorsed. The WDFW will end the stocking of hatchery steelhead into the Sol Duc River next year so that it can establish a wild steelhead management zone there. It would be the first zone established under the WDFW’s Statewide Steelhead Management Plan. Wild steelhead management zones are intended to preserve key populations of wild fish by minimizing interactions with hatchery steelhead.

WDFW is working with the Olympic Peninsula Guides Association to re-establish the program on either the Bogachiel or Calawah Rivers where the WDFW already releases hatchery steelhead.

Funding for WDFW Hatchery and Fishery Infrastructure

The House 2012 “Jobs Creation Package,” authored by Hans Dunshee, Capital Budget Chairman, includes \$70 million in funding for WDFW projects that include hatchery upgrades, fish passage improvements, and boat ramps and launches. The Senate package does not include any funding.

If you want your tax dollars to go toward projects that you and SSFF have a strong interest in and benefit from, contact your legislators and let them know you want them to support the Dunshee proposal that provides funding for WDFW projects. The Coastal Conservation Association link below is a quick and easy way to contact your legislators.

<http://www.votervoice.net/link/target/ccapnw/rW854gFW.aspx>.

Outings

No outings this month

Fly of the Month:

Ferguson’s Green & Silver

Hook: Mustad 34011, Size 6

Thread: Black monochord, 3/0 waxed

Body: Rear half, silver Diamond Braid. Front half, four turns of medium chartreuse chenille.

Tail: Short bunch of white polar bear

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General Meetings

When The third Tuesday of every Month except December.
Where North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station)
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE
Time 6:15 PM Doors open,
6:30 P.M. Social Time
7:00 – 9:00 P.M. Meeting and Program

Board Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00PM at North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station) Every one is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Newsletter Articles

E-Mail articles to Ron Smorynski at ronaldvs@me.com by March 10th

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Wing: White polar bear, calf tail or bucktail, 1 ¼” to 1 ½” long

Sides: four or five strands of pearl krystal flash.

Around here, us fly fishers are blessed with a cornucopia of different fly fishing opportunities. Among these choices is saltwater fishing in the Puget Sound, an activity which I as well as many others, hold dearly to our hearts. Our very club was founded by adherents of the Sound, as our club fly, the South Sound Finn, marks the club emblem. Let’s face it; South Sounders are born of the Salt. Whether we fish it, boat it, or just walk by it admiring its influences, it is part of our way of life.

One man who held these beliefs is Bruce Ferguson. A legend in his own right, Bruce’s passion for fly fishing for salmon in saltwater was instrumental for putting northwest saltwater fly fishing “on the map”.

This month’s fly is a local favorite. The Ferguson Green and Silver is an effective pattern for resident coho, chum, and sea-run cutthroat. This fly is tied with a single hook, or Bruce also tied it tandem style, with a Daiichi 2556, size 6 as the trailer.

The original is tied with a silver body, but I have also shown it with a pearlescent body. Tie both, and other variations, just make sure you keep a few in your saltwater box.



Membership

Be sure to check out the website for new fly fishing videos, articles and other happenings in the SSFF world. If there is a topic you would like to hear more about let us know and we’ll try to write about it. To see the new SSFF website go to: www.southsoundflyfishers.org

It is time to renew your membership! It really helps us out when planning out the year when we can get membership dues in as soon as possible. We will accept cash or check at the general meeting or you can send your checks to PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507.

2012 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

Here we are in 2012 and getting ready for The Academy again. The SSFF organization can be proud of their history with The Academy and we should look forward to carrying on that commitment. We are now accepting applications for the 2012 Academy and we anticipate another good year. Jim Brosio and I are committed to making this another great event for the kids, but we will need your help. We can not do it without you. So please plan on helping for the event this year on June 24-30, 2012. Trust me, this is a very rewarding and enjoyable event. These kids are the future for the sport of fly fishing. Mike Clancy