



Garden Hackle



Volume 12, Issue 5

South Sound Fly Fishers

May 2012

Program

Casting Clinic

Leader's Line

by Don Freeman

Greetings

Against all indications, it looks like the rivers are finally dropping in Western Washington. Aside from the steelheaders, fans of trout fishing the Yakima drainage should get a break as well. Maybe the rising temperatures will trump the high flows until they start irrigating.

Most of the trout anglers I know are preparing for that wild early spring Eastern lakes ruckus. Several of us are leaving next week, but with all the conflicting early reports we've received, we're prepared to split up and scout. One of those lakes will be good, and if not, maybe I'll just enjoy Chopaka by myself. In fact, it looks like I leave the day before the general meeting, so I'll see you in June.

Conservation

By Gwill Ging

Munn Lake Update

Larry Phillips, WDFW, still wants our Munn Lake catch reports, so please continue to use the "Munn Lake Catch Report" link located on our southsoundflyfishers.org home page to get the information to him. Our catch data is important in the understanding of how the lake is doing in terms of carrying capacity and future stocking needs.

I've sure enjoyed fishing Munn Lake this year and especially after the stocking of those 20"-25" whopper rainbows in early April. I hope you are enjoying the fishing there as much as I am. If you haven't fished Munn Lake recently, you are missing a great experience.

I must say I took Skip Morris' March presentation to heart, tied up the patterns that he demonstrated at the SSFF general meeting, and put into practice the fishing tips that he shared. It was time well spent. Thank you Skip Morris, and Jason Small, Program chair, for setting up the program.

Photo credit: Howard Nanto

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Senate Bill 5661 (Derelict Gear)

The Next Meeting is

Tuesday May 15th

7:00PM

Casting Clinic

Jason Small

North Olympia Fire Station

5046 Boston Harbor Road NE



Commercial fishers are now mandated to report the loss of fishing gear to WDFW within 24 hours. Previously, they were only required to report lost gear on a voluntary basis. The prior regulation was ineffective, resulting in large numbers of ghost nets in Puget Sound that continued to kill both fish and wildlife. Thanks to all of you who took the time to contact your elected officials to support the passage of this legislation.

Supplemental Capital Budget Funding for WDFW Hatchery and Fisheries Infrastructure

Sixty-six million dollars will be provided to WDFW for hatchery, fish passage and fishing access improvements. WDFW's budget has been cut for many years, which prevented it from making needed hatchery improvements, including those required to meet its hatchery reform mandates to protect wild fish. Budget cuts also precluded it

from implementing fish passage projects and projects related to public access, including boat launches.

Sufficient numbers of recreational fishers, including members of our club, contacted their elected officials to support the supplemental funding for WDFW. Our elected official do listen to their constituents, if enough of us take the time to express our concerns and interests. Thanks and keep up the good work.

Outings

No outings this month.

Fly of the Month:

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May 2012

Klinkhåmer Special

Hook: Partridge GRS15ST, size 14-8

Thread: Uni-thread, 8/0 waxed match body, Danville's Spiderweb for parachute

Body: Fly-Rite poly 2 dubbing

Wing: White poly-yarn

Thorax: 3 strands of peacock herl

Hackle: 1 large hackle, tied parachute

Among fly anglers, the term "tied in parachute style" can elicit a variety of emotions. While there surely are a few freakish masochists who relish the opportunity to tie a dozen parachute flies, I would think the majority of tiers are left squirming with anxiety at the thought of tackling this seemingly impossible task. Yet we push on, and fumble our way through a few flies for our next trip. Inevitably collapsing posts, trimming away hackle fibers caught in a whip finished head, and muttering under breath.

Why do we do this? I think the majority would also say that parachute style flies are a necessary evil, if you want to catch more fish that is. While the thought of *tying* such flies may leave you wincing, the thought of *fishing* such flies will leave you glowing with the wonderful memories that only dry fly fishing can leave. This notion rang true early in my fly fishing journey, on a productive lake atop a well-known southerly passage. It is a trip that always comes to mind whenever I think of the parachute style fly.

Most would agree that fly fishing has a somewhat steep learning curve. For me, that curve was amplified when I randomly decided to pick up fly fishing. With only a few books from the library and the little information (at the time) that I could find online, I would set out by myself fishing the local Bellingham area. Most days were an exercise in futility, but sometimes I would catch a few small perch or something that would at least quell any frustration and hopelessness that I was feeling. This pattern went on for a year or so, held together by, yes... a freakishly masochistic sense of stubbornness.

While back home for spring break, my mother introduced me to a friend of hers from her Rotary group. She had overheard him talking to someone about fly fishing and

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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 June 16th

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thought it would be great if he could give me a few tips. A few days later I was heading up the pass to a lake I had never heard of, and listening to this gentleman talk about gear, bugs and techniques that I was still confused about.

My host was exceptional and very generous. He provided me with a pontoon boat, a box of flies and an extra rod. As we approached the lake he told me the areas I should concentrate on and showed me how to rig up a technique that I later would know as chironomid fishing. The day started just like most of my fishing had, untangling leaders and figuring out how to cast this ungodly setup. I quickly gave up and tied on an elk hair caddis.

My first cast, I got a swirl! Then the inaction resumed. My friend, seeing my frustration kicked over to me and asked me what I was using. I told him, and in a half-cocked smile he said 'why don't you use what is landing on you. Remember the Callibeatis hatch I said to watch out for?' I dug out my loaned fly box and stared. 'Use a parachute Adams.' He said as he kicked back to his spot.

From then on I was hooking fish that I had previously only seen in magazines. My jaw would drop as I watched the water turn silvery under my size 14 parachute Adams. The fishing continued at a pace to where I expected a rise with every cast. I still however was plagued by my inexperience. The half dozen or so parachute Adams that my host had so kindly tied for me had dwindled away, due to my poorly tied knots and clumsily fought fish.

I tied on the closest thing I could find in the box, a standard Adams with a full hackle. After that the fishing didn't just slow, it stopped! I got a few "looks" but nothing else. It was a moment that truly clued me in on the sometimes subtle differences between success and failure as an angler. At some point during the hatch I had an idea to cut off the bottom part of the hackle on my Adams. To my amazement the fish responded. I was hooking a fighting fish again, all because of a few snips of hackle.

That trip was a turning point in my life as a fly fisherman. It gave me valuable insight and recharged my enthusiasm and drive as an angler that has never left me since.

Since then my fly box has never been without a parachute Adams. I have also added this parachute fly to my angling arsenal, the Klinkhåmer Special. This fly was introduced to me by Tom Bolender after sharing this story with him. He said if you're going to fish a parachute adams, might as well make it a Klinkhåmer Special, its sort of like a belt and suspenders.

The Klinkhåmer has proven very effective in many situations were mayflies were present. The originator Hans van Klinken has a very good write up about his fly at http://www.danica.com/flytier/hklinken/klinkhamer_special.htm. I will let him explain how to tie it since he does an excellent job. His parachute technique may also help subdue any anxiety about tying parachute flies for your next outing!



Flies Tied by Hans van Klinken
Photographs by Hans Weilenmann

Membership

Pay your dues.

Education

by Chuck Pfeil

No report

2012 Washington State Council's Fly Fishing Fair

was a very successful event again this year. The attendance was very good even with the miserable weather in Western Washington. Many folks attended both Friday and Saturday, attending classes, watching fly tiers (some of the best in the USA), watching Steve Rajeff toss a fly line 280'. There is one man that knows what he is talking about, he walks the walk. If you were a FFF member, it was free, if not, it cost \$5. I worked the front desk and I think we had 25 new members sign up for the FFF.

The next big fly fishing event will be in Spokane, WA., July 12-14, 2012. The National/International Fly Fishing Fair is an event that will attract tiers from all over the World. And this again, is a wonderful, fun event. Check it out on www.fedflyfishers.org to learn more about this event. See you in Spokane. Mike Clancy, WSCFFF, Government Affairs Chair

The 2012 Northwest Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy

2012 Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

is set and ready to go. We have 23 boys this year, no girls (which is a big disappointment), all their essays and letters of recommendations are in and it appears we have another great group of kids. The Academy is June 24th to the 30th on Hicks Lake at The Gwinwood Community Center in Lacey. We have a fantastic instructor lineup with some of the best professionals in our State. Last year we had over 50 volunteers, this year I anticipate about the same number. They will be fishing on the Nisqually ponds and the Deschutes River in Thurston County. The guides are all experienced and they are willing to give their time for a great experience for the kids. Jim Brosio has done a stellar job organizing and recruiting the speakers and recording all the finances. We are ready to go, come on out during the week to see what is happening and if you are available for guiding, we could use your help, especially in the evening. Contact either Jim Brosio (360-943-9947), Mike Clancy (360-753-1259) or Jason Small (253-380-2583) or Ron Smorynski (360-789-6054). Jim, Ron, Jason and myself have worked all year to make this another great event for the kids.

PHOTO CONTEST 2012

We are excited to announce this year's 2012 International Fly Fishing Fair Photo Contest. A Youth Category has been added to encourage participation from young photographers. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded to the winners in each category and winners have an opportunity for a "cover shot" on the Flyfisher magazine. Attendees of the Fly Fishing Fair will have an opportunity to vote on all photos submitted, so don't forget to vote for your favorite in the People's Choice Award.

CATEGORIES:

ALL FISH MUST BE CAUGHT ON A FLY AND RELEASED UNHARMED.

1. Native Fish of North America

Any cold, freshwater fish caught on a fly in their native waters. Examples include: Alaska rainbows, Northwest steelhead, Rocky Mountain cutthroat, Eastern brookies, etc. Label the photo with the fish species and the water from which it was caught.

2. Naturals and Their Imitations

Close up photography of insects, baitfish and their imitations, as in flies.

3. Fly Anglers in Their Element:

People of all ages enjoying fly fishing. That includes: casting, rowing, landing fish, etc.

Mood shots and action shots are welcome.

4. International Fly Fishing Experiences – Freshwater

The great waters of Canada, Iceland, Chile, NZ, etc. Trout, Atlantic salmon, grayling, peacock bass, etc.

5. International Fly Fishing Experiences – Saltwater

Sailfish, tarpon, bonefish, etc. in Belize, the Bahamas, Christmas Island, etc.

6. Youth (New this Year)

Limited to photographers age 16 and under. Photos can be of anything as long as the subject is fly fishing related.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Photo prints are required. Photos taken in 2011 and 2012 only, will be judged. No smaller than 8x10 and no larger than 11x14. No slides. Film and digital photos can be used but altered photos are not allowed. Photos must be mounted or matted but not framed. Each entry must be permanently labeled on the back with the following:

1. Category
2. Name of Photographer
3. Address and phone number
4. Title of photo and location where shot
5. Date when photo was taken

Contestants must include a self-addressed mailer with sufficient postage for the return of their photo(s). Contestants attending the show may drop off entries in person, and they may be picked up after the Fair if they are not winners. Those without mailers or sufficient postage will become the property of the FFF. Utmost care is taken to return photos in condition received, but the FFF is not responsible for damage or loss in shipment.

Note: because of magazine listing and publishing it may take to the end of October 2012 to return winning photos. If you submit more than one photo and have a winning photo(s), all will be returned together with the winning photo(s) unless you pick them up the Fair.

RIBBONS AND PRIZES

All winning photos will be kept by the FFF after the Fair. Winners will be announced in the Fall/Winter issue of the Flyfisher magazine. All 1st,

2nd, and 3rd places will receive ribbons. The FFF will submit the first place winning photos to the Flyfisher magazine to be published. Second and third place winning photos will be listed by name and category only. First place winners will also receive fly line of their choice, courtesy of Scientific Anglers.

(Depending on the number of submitted photos for a category, winning placement may only be 1st, or 1st and 2nd if there are not enough entries to judge for 1st-3rd places.)

FLYFISHER COVER SHOT

The Editor of Flyfisher may select one of the winning photos to be used on the cover of the magazine. Remember, the photo must be taken in the portrait, or vertical format in order to be used.

AWARD WINNING PHOTOS

First place photos will be sent to Scientific Anglers for use in their advertising. Releases will be required.

TO SUBMIT YOUR PHOTO

Mail your photo to the FFF office or deliver in person to staff at the Fly Fishing Fair. Mailed photos must be received by Friday, June 29, 2012. Hand delivered entries must be received at the show registration desk by 10:00 am Tuesday, July 10, 2012.

MAILING ADDRESS:

FFF Photo Contest
Federation of Fly Fishers
5237 US Hwy 89 So., Ste. #11
Livingston, MT 59047-9176