

Garden Hackle



July 2013

Volume 13 Issue 7

Leader's Line by Tom Bolender

Proud to be a South Sound Fly Fisher

Happy July to all! Over the course of my term as your president, (a whole six months now) it has been my goal to make sure all of you are as proud as I am to be a South Sound Fly Fisher. I believe the two most important things we can do to create a sense of pride are through education and conservation. It doesn't take everyone to make things happen but help from a few from time to time goes a long way. I've been coming to SSFF meetings for over 20 years. In that time I've seen many ups and downs. There have been years when restoration projects have been front and center and also years when raising funds for conservation have been extremely successfully. Some years our educational offerings have been many and as of late very few. Throughout the 1990s and into the early 2000s our club had a group of dedicated individuals who spent a lot of time and effort to achieve these successes. I am working to once again bring us together to enhance our fishing resources and add to our educational offerings.

At the last meeting I passed around a sign-up sheet for our first annual Deschutes River and second annual Nisqually River clean-ups. Thank you to the 11 people who have already signed up for these events. And thanks to the four who signed up for both. As time draws closer I hope to have many more names on the list. Whether you can or can't attend one or both of the clean-ups, you can be proud to be part of a group that is making a difference.

General Meeting:

July 16th

7:00PM

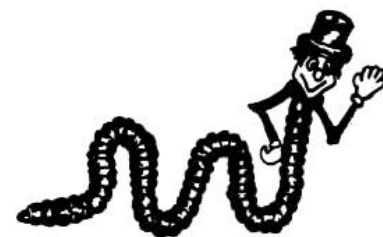
**North Olympia Fire Station
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE**

Presentation by:

Jason Small- NWYCCFA

On the educational end, many thanks to Ryan Haseman and Chuck Pfiel who spent a day with students at New Market Skills Center. They could have used some help but with short notice gave an exceptional fly fishing 101 class. Of course a huge round of applause goes out to the many members who helped with the Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy. We can all look forward to getting to know more about the academy at our July general meeting. We are currently working on a fly tying class for October. Janet Schimpf, famous Washington fly tier has given many classes to our club over the years. Several members have reported they sign up every time.

I hope to see you all on the 16th. Make sure to save the date, August 20th for our annual barbecue.



2013 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairman

President, Tom Bolender (360)280-5770
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General Meetings

When:

The 3rd 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).

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The club is sorry to learn of the recent passing of Linda Kellogg, wife of past club President Gary Kellogg. Although Linda did not fly fish, she was always supportive of club conservation fundraising activities. Linda was a very positive and energetic person and a joy to be around. The club extends sincere condolences to Gary and the entire Kellogg family at this time.

Program



Wished you could have made it to the Academy to see what it was all about? Jason will fill you in on what you missed! This month Jason Small will regale us with his experiences at the Northwest Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy over the years.

Where is this? Hint: it's on the OP. Name this river at the next club meeting and you will be entered into a raffle to win 5 free raffle tickets!



Conservation

Cutthroat Conservation

We are looking for volunteers to serve on a SSFF committee to help develop Coastal Cutthroat conservation goals.

If you are interested please call or email Jason Small. (253)380-2583
orangeradishphoto@gmail.com

Protect our Deschutes River

Now that the weather is nicer, more people are fishing our local Deschutes river. While that is not a bad thing, some have chosen to ignore the selective gear fishing regulations that protect our Deschutes river.

If you see any poaching on the Deschutes please contact the WDFW to report it. Also, please avoid any conflict between you and the violators. The poaching hotline is

877-933-9847

Mark your calendars!

September 14th - SSFF will be arranging a Deschutes river clean-up.

October 12th – SSFF will be arranging a Nisqually river clean-up.

Treasurer's Creel by Dave Field

The club' finances are in good shape at the end of June, the midpoint of our fiscal year.

We have a fund balance of \$9600 and no outstanding bills at this time.

We expect several major expenditures in the second half of the year. The biggest is to fulfill our pledge of \$2000 to the Department of Fish and Wildlife in support of Munn Lake. This cooperative program between SSFF and WDFW allows the state to manage Munn Lake as quality water. The money is to offset the extra cost of rearing large trout for eventual release into the lake. This is the only Catch and Release-Selective Gear Rules lake in the area.

The club budget includes donations to conservation programs in the second half of the year. We also donate to Project Healing Waters, which is our way of helping veterans recovering from physical and psychological combat injuries.

Much of the money we expend for donations is generated from the club auctions we hold every few years. The next club auction is scheduled for November 16th. Please save this date as it is a fun event with dinner and fund raising for conservation.

Fishing Report by Dave Field

Hit Walupt Lake July 3rd. All day long there was a cool breeze from the west putting a moderate chop on the water. There were snow banks in several places in the surrounding mountains and few white clouds in the sky. It was one of those days where the sun was hot but the wind kept us cool and comfortable on our pontoon

boats. The catching was good. Loads of Cutthroats were eager to take the fly.

AMAZING! For an alpine lake (Walupt is about 4000 feet in elevation), this lake is full of beautiful wild Cutthroats that have never seen a hatchery. These beautifully colored fish are born in one of the many streams that spill into the lake from the surrounding mountains. In the span of 3 hours Dave Jr. and I caught and released dozens of trout. The largest were 15" but it's an alpine lake so they never get that big although we've heard that some huge trout hold in the deep water. Adams were the most productive although Comparaduns also worked. Interestingly the standard Adams with wings far outdid the Parachute Adams.

Another great thing about these fish, they fought well. We rarely catch trout that are so strong for their relatively small to moderate size. Most of them would SLAM the fly on the initial hit and were instantly jumping 2-3 feet in the air. The lake was most productive on the western shore in about 10-15 feet of water. Fish were breaking the surface everywhere going after Mayflies and other bugs between wind gusts.

For those that have never fished this lake be aware that there is a large campground in the northwest corner of the lake that can be very busy on summer days. Consequently, we like to fish Walupt before July 4th and after Labor Day. Only one other boat was out fishing on this trip. Be aware there is a \$5.00 launch fee when the campground is open. Also, there is no fishing in any of the inlet streams.

Some of our club members fished Walupt a few years back as part of our club outings. So, if you like catching frisky trout on dry flies be sure to put Walupt on your summer fishing calendar.



Fundraising by John Sabo

Raffle Report

We are doing well with the Raffle and T-Shirt sales, and are ahead of last year. For the first quarter, this year, we had a "profit" of \$130 which was deposited into the Club's bank account, to help continue the club's activities. Thank you; to all the club members who participate in the club's monthly raffle and to all of you who donate raffle items or fill fly boxes. However, we have not had much interest or participation in the club's "garage sale", so that program has been discontinued and the remaining items have been transferred to the raffle. We are looking forward to even more interesting and useful raffle prizes in the coming months.

South Sound Fly Fishers Dinner and Auction

The club's Potluck Dinner and Auction will be at the Evergreen Shores Beach Club on Black Lake on Saturday, November 16, 2013. We are looking for donations of "experiences and adventure" (fishing trips, vacation cabins, gourmet dinners, etc.), and for club members who would like to be on the auction committee and support the club. If you would like to participate, please see me at the raffle table at the club meetings, or e-mail me at: chrisonquince@comcast.net.



Fly of the Month

The EZ-Bullet Head

By Ryan Haseman



Hook: 1260 Daiichi size 12-6
Body: Spirit River Brite Blend
(color to match the hatch)
Head/Wing: Elk or Deer Hair, Natural
Flash: Pearl mirror flash
Foam Patch: white closed cell foam
Legs: Pheasant Tail Fibers
Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 to match the hatch

Here is a fly that I have written about before. It is a lazy man's bullet head that I created while fishing the Deschutes in the spring and summer. This fly has proven itself on many occasions in many different rivers. I am writing about it again because just by chance I found a new use for it.

About a month ago, while futzing around with my 6wt saltwater rod, the tip broke off of the rod. Dang! Never a good thing, especially coming into some prime saltwater fishing time. However, I didn't get too upset because my rod has a lifetime warranty, which I have used with some of my other rods of the same make. The last time I sent a couple of rods in for repair, within a week or so I had my rods back good as new.

This time was different!! My fly rod has been aimlessly wandering around the United States for the last month. I sent my broken rod via the United States Postal Service, first mistake, and I used an old cardboard tube I had lying around, second mistake. A couple of days after shipping it, I got a call from my neighbor/mother-in-law. She was wondering why I sent her a fly rod. Turns out, my rod didn't ship to the repair shop, the old cardboard tube I used had their address on it, and apparently wasn't scratched out enough, so the postal service sent it there. Hmmm, okay, let's try this again. I shipped it a second time, making sure to black out anything remotely resembling anything but its intended destination. There, now just a short week's wait and I'll have my rod back, right?... Wrong.

For the last month, I have been logging on to the USPS tracking website to watch my fly rod go from Olympia, to Seattle, back to Olympia, down to Texas, up through the South and now it is on the East coast in Maryland at my wife's aunt's house. WTF???? No one is quite sure how it ended up there, not even the post office. When she called me I was sure my wife was playing a joke on me. However, I am glad it ended up there; at least I can arrange to get it back!

Anyway, the reason I am telling you about the never ending journey of my 6wt fly rod, is to show you how I sort of fell into a new use for my EZ Bullet Head fly. Since I didn't have my 6wt fly rod I haven't been fishing beaches much lately. Instead I have been toting around my 5wt rod, and a box of trout flies (for rivers). While on an exploration trip for new places to fish, I decided to just check up on a beach I like on my way home. I grabbed my 5wt and trout stuff and decided I would wet wade if the fishing looked good.

While down at the beach I observed 2 other fly fishermen fishing with sinking and intermediate lines and something heavy on the end of their lines. Later on, I learned that they had been there for a few hours without a bite.

Just for the heck of it, I tied on my EZ bullet head fly and using a floating line started skating my fly across the current. Within 3 cast I had a fish on, and after about a half hour I had about 3 or 4 splashy takes. I wasn't really surprised that it had worked, but I did learn something that day. Sometimes it is good to break away from what you know works, and try something different. I have a habit of always using my "go-to" flies and using my "go-to" techniques. Changing it up keeps the experiences fresh and exciting. There is more than one way to skin a cat, especially with cutthroat.

As for the fly, its pretty easy to tie. Use the direct application method when dubbing this fly and add a little bit at a time to build up a tapered body profile. Only make the body about 2/3 of the shank length as you will need room for the head.

After tying in a few pieces of flash, tie in the wing with the tips pointing toward the eye of the hook. After a few tight wraps, snip the butts close to the wraps (but not too close!). Now you can fold the wing back over and tie it down to form the head. I started using pheasant tail fibers for legs a while back because I ran out of rubber legs. I really like the looks of them and so do the fish. The only compromise is that you lose some durability.

Top the fly with a small square of closed cell foam, white is the easiest for me to see. I hate fishing dry flies that I cannot see. I fish these flies in various sizes and body colors, depending on what flies are on the water. You can also make a mini size as well and use it as a caddis pattern. Enjoy!



ANGLERS: Do you need a life jacket?

FISH SAFE: *Wear a Life Jacket!!* Some life jackets are designed with anglers in mind, offering the "look" and convenience of a fishing vest, while still providing flotation. Make sure all life jacket or inflatable vests are U.S. Coast Guard approved.

A Life Jacket is "**REQUIRED**" to be on board when any of the following conditions exist:

- Angler sits above the water surface and uses the vessel for transportation, i.e. – a pontoon boat and small rafts.
- Vessel is designed to be rowed or paddles. Angler also might use kicking fins.
- Vessel has a 12-character Hull Identification Number (HIN). (A HIN is not the same as a state-issued vessel registration number.)

A Life Jacket is "**NOT REQUIRED**" but recommended when:

- Angler's body sits in the water, i.e. float tubes or belly tubes.
- Vessel is propelled by kicking fins and does not have a HIN
- Please note: If a motor is attached, it is considered a boat. It may be necessary to register the vessel as a motorboat, and a life jacket is required to be carried on board.

For more boating safety information, call (360) 586-6592. Washington State law (RCW 79A.60.160) requires all boats to carry a U.S. Coast Guard-approved wearable life jacket for each person on board. Children 12 years and younger are required to wear a life jacket when on board boats under 19 feet long.

The information for "ANGLERS: Do you need a life jacket?" is copied from a poster that is published by The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. This poster should be displayed at every boat ramp in the State of Washington. Anytime I get on the water in my

pontoon boat, I wear my inflatable life vest. Two years ago, the sheriff in Grant County was writing tickets on Park Lake for those folks that were not in compliance with the law. There are many times I wear my life jacket when I'm wading in a river and I definitely wear it when I'm floating a river.

-Mike Clancy

