

# Garden Hackle



October 2013

Volume 13 Issue 10

## **ATTENTION:**

The General Meeting will NOT be held at its normal location. We will be holding this month's meeting at the Olympia Community Center.

222 Columbia St NW  
Olympia, WA 98501  
(corner of Columbia and Olympia)

## **Leader's Line** by Tom Bolender

Here we are in October. As has been the case for the past few years, I had high hopes of spending many days on the water fishing for returning South Sound Coho and failed to make it happen. Why is September such a busy time of year? It sure doesn't help when the sun sets shortly after 7:00 pm. While not my favorite table fare, the Chum are here and will be for another four weeks or so. If you don't have a boat, you can find these fish at John's, Kennedy, McLane and Perry Creeks. Each spot has a different run timing making every weekend (or weekday if you've got them) another opportunity to hook into the hardest fighting of all the salmon species. Pound for pound no other salmon matches the ferocity of Chum. Probably the most popular of all Chum flies is the Chum Candy. If you don't have at least a half dozen in your box you better get tying. These flies are not commercially available so if you don't tie, try to find a club member who can help you out. In addition to the Chum Candy, you should have a selection of other chartreuse and pink flies in varying sizes. I've

## **General Meeting:**

**October 15th**

**7:00PM**

**@ The Olympia Community Center**

## **Presentation by:**

**James Lossee (WDFW)**

seen people catch them on Clouser Minnows so don't forget to add a few to your Chum box. If Chum fishing isn't your game, this is also a great time to be lake fishing. Trout know the cold season is upon them and they'll be eating whatever they can this month. Most lakes close on October 31<sup>st</sup> so hit 'em hard while you've still got time.



## **Program- James Lossee (WDFW)**

James Lossee, a biologist from the WDFW will come to talk about the opportunities for our club and the department to work together towards improving our local fisheries. Among those topics will be Munn Lake, and sea-run cutthroat.

## **2013 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairman**

*President*, Tom Bolender (360)280-5770  
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**Web Site** [www.southsoundflyfishers.org](http://www.southsoundflyfishers.org)  
SSFF Box 2792  
Olympia WA 98507

### **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.**

Where is this? Come on, this is an easy one!



## **Conservation**

The Sea-Run Cutthroat conservation project is  
officially open for donations! Here is your  
chance to get a SSFF 32 oz. growler.



Click on the [link to donate!](#)

Also remember, Fish Brewing will be serving  
SSFF Ale in their Olympia and Everett Brew Pubs  
for the entire month of November. Stop by and  
have a pint, because for every pint sold Fish  
Brewing will donate \$1 to sea-run cutthroat  
conservation! For more info go to:

<http://www.southsoundflyfishers.org/2013/09/18/srcprojectinfo/>

## **Mark your calendars!**

**October 12<sup>th</sup>** – SSFF will be arranging a Nisqually river clean-up.

THAT'S THIS SATURDAY!

We will be meeting at the handi-cap hole on the Nisqually river at 11:00 am Saturday morning.

You can find [directions here](#).

WDFW will be providing gloves and trash bags, but be sure to dress appropriately.

After the pick-up we can all meet up at Brewery City Pizza in Lacey.

The poaching hotline is 877-933-9847. Use it!

## **Treasurer's Creel** by Dave Field



This month we take a brief look at the Salmon Enhancement Groups the club supports through donations of time and money.

As we discussed in last month's article, the club makes a major donation of time and money into the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy. This is an investment in the next generation of fly fishers who will inherit the precious fishing resources of the northwest.

By supporting the Salmon Enhancement Groups (SEGs) the club provides direct support in the protection and promotion of the Salmon fisheries in the south sound. The mission of the SEGs is to *"Protect and restore salmon populations and aquatic habitat with an emphasis on ecosystem function through scientifically informed projects, community education, and volunteer involvement"*.

Probably one of their best known programs is the Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail. Every November the Kennedy Creek Visitor Center is visited by thousands of people wanting to see the Salmon migration. The center provides an important educational opportunity for hundreds of school children making field trips to Kennedy Creek.

This year the Kennedy Creek Visitor Center will have an open house where for a small donation the public can sample specialty sea foods from Taylor Shellfish as they learn about many the Salmon restoration efforts underway in the south sound. For more information please visit: <http://spsseg.org>.

Over the years SSFF members have volunteered to support Salmon Enhancement Groups by serving as field volunteers, docents at Kennedy Creek as well as serving as members of one the SEGs Board of Directors.

SSFF members interested volunteering in the south sound should contact [Adam Sant](#) or [Jerilyn Walley](#) at South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group. (360) 412-0808.

SSFF members interested in volunteering in Hood Canal waters should contact: The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, 600 Roessel Rd. Belfair, WA 98528 (360) 275-3575

Next month we will continue our look at the important organizations your club supports through donations of time and money.

## **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 second and third quarters, this year, we had a total "profit" of \$220 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. We are looking forward to even more interesting and useful raffle prizes in the coming months. By the way, we have some empty fly boxes to be filled...fly tiers, please see me at the back of the room at our next meeting. Also, in answer to a question made to me by a club member, I would like to remind the club members that the "raffle" is an independent subcommittee of the club that is self-sustaining, and uses no club funds, and only exists to provide fun and entertainment for the club members while raising much needed revenue.

### **South Sound Fly Fishers Dinner and Auction**

The club's Potluck Dinner and Auction will be on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at the Black Lake Grange Hall, next to the fire station on Black Lack Boulevard. We will be 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](mailto:chrisonquince@comcast.net).

## **Fly of the Month**

*By Ryan Haseman*

### **The Green Lantern**

Hook: Mustad C70SD Size 4  
Under body: Holographic Mylar Tinsel  
Body: Yak or Fish Hair (Chartreuse)  
Wing Yak or Fish Hair (Chartreuse)  
Thread: Chartreuse 3/0



*"I shall Shed my light over dark evil. For the dark things cannot stand the light, the light of the Green Lantern!"*

*-Alan Scott*

What does DC comic's Green Lantern and his cheesy battle cry have to do with fly fishing?... Nothing, but after I was done tying this fly, my mind immediately went that way. If the Green Lantern had to use his intergalactic power ring to create an 8wt fly rod and reel set up, I would like to think that this fly would be on the end of his line.

After thinking "What the heck is this guy talking about?" you may also be thinking "What are you using this fly for?" Well, this answer to the latter is one of my favorite fall fisheries. Chum. We are rapidly approaching prime Chum Salmon season.

In my opinion an ideal Chum salmon fly is smallish (size 4-6), light (no weight added), and either chartreuse, hot pink, or cherise. Other fishermen claim other colors work well also, but these colors have worked well for me.

It is important when fishing estuaries that your fly does not sink very fast. Most of the time you are fishing in water that is only 2-5ft deep, if you are fishing a fly that is heavy you will inevitably be stripping your fly in fast in order to avoid hanging up on the bottom. This will undoubtedly lead to hooking fish in the back. While a back hook chum will certainly test your gear, it is unsportsmanlike and unethical. A light fly fished with an intermediate line will get you down into the strike zone and will greatly reduce the chances of a foul hookup.

The Green Lantern fly has an underbody of holographic or pearlescent tinsel. This is wrapped over the yak hair that you just tied down, and then covered with a layer of head

cement or soft-tex. Next you will gather the yak hair and fold it up to the head of the fly and create a little bubble around the body of the fly. This is the same technique for tying a sparkle pupa. After tying down the yak hair, fold it back over again and form the wing. Now you can whip finish the head and cement it. I usually trim the wing up a little to thin it out.

Tie a few of Green Lanterns up and keep them in your salmon box for this fall, you will be glad you did!

And to go along with Tom's chum fly suggestions here are some links to various chum flies to tie this season.

[Guinea and Gold Chum Spider](#)

[Ferguson Green and Silver](#)

[Chum Candy Express](#)



## **2014 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY**

Once again we are preparing for another Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy to be held June 22 – 28, 2014 at Gwinwood Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Once again Jim Brosio and I will be contacting over 50 dedicated volunteers to contribute their time for the success of the Academy and **for** the kids. This Academy is all about the girls and boys, 12-16 years old, to help them learn the basics of fly fishing and conservation. The event is one full week with the staff and youth living at the Gwinwood Center and boarding in cabins.

All meals are provided. Students need to bring their personal belongings, i.e., sleeping bags, pillows, rubber boots, etc. All fishing gear and fly tying equipment is provided, however, students may bring their own fishing gear.

The event is sponsored by WCTU and WSCFFF and hosted by South Sound FF and Olympia Chapter TU, and Puget Sound Fly Fishers of Tacoma.

The cost to each student is still \$275, but sponsorships are available through TU Chapters, FFF fly clubs and private donations. No applicant will be turned away because of lack of money.

Applications will be accepted starting January 1, 2014 until April 15, 2014. Applications may be downloaded from our website – [www.nwycffa.org](http://www.nwycffa.org), requested via email to [mtclancy39@comcast.net](mailto:mtclancy39@comcast.net) or call 360-753-1259. Each applicant must submit an essay explaining why THEY want to attend The Academy. A letter of recommendation is required from a school teacher or counselor.

We are very proud of The Academy, this has been a life changing experience for many of the youth.

THE YOUTH OF TODAY ARE THE GUARDIANS OF  
THE FUTURE FOR OUR SPORT OF FLYFISHING

This is a great story published online by the Global Fly Fisher.

## **The Best 30 Minutes**

Published Aug 20th 2013

*By Paul Rice*

HEY! Nice fish Mister! When I turned to see where the small voice came from, I saw a youngster, half a century different in age and his Dad on the bank just slightly behind me.

We have all had them... bad days. You know the ones. Can't seem to get any traction in anything you do, the sun's out and you're trapped inside, easily distracted... That was me yesterday. Wasn't really thinking about fishing as I was working late, but when I drove by the Cole WMA in Tolland, the stream was "calling" if you know what I mean... So, on with the gear and into the river, to seemingly continue the day... Third cast in the trees... oh, well. After a quick re-rig I got into a rhythm and became "lost" in what I was doing. The fish were being picky and once again I changed flies, this time to a dark CDC & Elk #12, and BAM!

That's really NOT the story here, but for the record, it was a small rainbow, probably 12 inches or so, but it must have read the article "Interview with a trout" that was posted some time ago on GFF, as it jumped and danced like a pro...

That's when I heard him... "HEY! nice fish Mister" When I turned to see where the small voice came from, I saw a youngster, half a century different in age and his Dad on the bank just slightly behind me. The "young man" (I'll explain that later) was fishing behind me with his fly rod in hand and his excitement was almost overwhelming. It was getting late, and time for me to go, so I worked myself out of the stream and onto the bank just below them and walking past, was engaged in a brief conversation about fishing and "stuff", exchanged the usual pleasantries and proceeded up the short hill to my truck. I had just stripped off the waders when I saw him running towards me... got to love the energy.

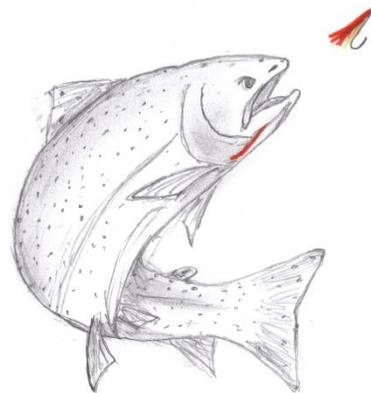
Anyway, what transpired next, and over about 30 minutes, was just amazing. His Dad had caught up to where we were, just about the same time that he started asking about my gear, what kind of rod, weight of line, leaders, tippet material and all in an almost endless barrage of raw curiosity. He told me about how he got his first setup last year as a gift and how much he loved fly-fishing and he was just bubbling with excitement as he spoke. With a quick jerk of his thumb, pointed back at the river he asked, "so... what did you catch that

nice rainbow on?" and the subject quickly turned to flies and tying them. He pulled out his fly box and showed me flies that he had tied himself and we compared a few when he floored me... "What's your Go-To fly?" You could see how proud the Dad was, watching and listening to his sons interrogation of me, and I'll tell ya... I was engaged and having the time of my life with this young man. I pulled out the fly that I used to catch the rainbow, saying that this was it. Whenever it gets slow, it's the dark CDC & Elk every time. That's when it happened... I pulled out another one that wasn't soaking wet and handed it to him.... "Here, try it the next time you're out with your dad".

The next few seconds were priceless... He turned to look at his dad and with a quick nod of approval to the boy, he accepted and absolutely gushing with thanks, reached into his pack and pulled out his "Go-To" and gave it to me. What a moment! One that I will cherish for a LONG time.

This Dad had done a fantastic job of raising his son. Polite, articulate, proud of his accomplishments, and understated at the same time. Fly-fishing should be proud of this boy and how he is beginning his journey, truly a "Young Man"

I can only end this by being thankful that I could share the experience with you and remind us all that it's not about the fish... It's about young men and their Dads and the experience that took a dismal day and changed it to one of the very best in almost 65 years.





**The South Sound Fly Fishers have partnered with Fish Brewing to create an exciting and fun way to raise money for Sea-Run Cutthroat Conservation!**

For the month of November Fish Brewing will be serving a South Sound Fly Fishers Ale to help raise money for cutthroat conservation. For a \$15 donation to SSFF cutthroat projects, you will receive a 32-oz SSFF cutthroat growler as a thank you. There is no limit on donations and growlers!

Here is what you need to know:

**- All of November you can buy a pint of SSFF Ale at any Fish Tale Pub location. Fish Brewing will donate \$1/pint to SSFF sea-run conservation projects.**

**- You can donate to our project at [www.southsoundflyfishers.org/SRCproject](http://www.southsoundflyfishers.org/SRCproject). When you donate \$15 or more, you will receive a SSFF growler as a thank you! You will be able to pick them up at any Fish Tale Brew Pub. Fill the growler with SSFF Ale and we get another \$1!**

**- Directions to your local Fish Tale Brew Pub can be found at [www.southsoundflyfishers.org/SRCprojectInfo](http://www.southsoundflyfishers.org/SRCprojectInfo)**

**- If you would like to help in anyway contact Ryan Haseman at [ryanh@southsoundflyfishers.org](mailto:ryanh@southsoundflyfishers.org)**

For 2013 and 2014 SSFF projects will focus on the sea-run cutthroat's freshwater environment. Through hook and line surveys, scale samples, photo documentation and observation we intend to provide hard evidence to whether or not these cutthroat are utilizing South Puget Sound streams during non-spawning times (when these streams are under harvest regulations). With our findings we will work with WDFW to shape regulations to better protect these fish. We will also continue to help WDFW with cutthroat redd surveys, as well as making sure signage is posted on beaches and on catch-and-release waters leading to the south sound.