

GARDEN HACKLE

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 6

JUNE 2015

PROGRAM

WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM THIS MONTH. ANIL SRIVSTANA FROM PUGET SOUND FLY CO.

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MARCEL DUMONT

THANK YOU KEVIN RYAN FOR SUBMITTING A WONDERFUL TRIBUTE TO LONGTIME CLUB MEMBER MARCEL DUMONT.

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LANDING BIG FISH

DON HAROLD HAS SUBMITTED AN ARTICLE ABOUT LANDING BIG FISH.

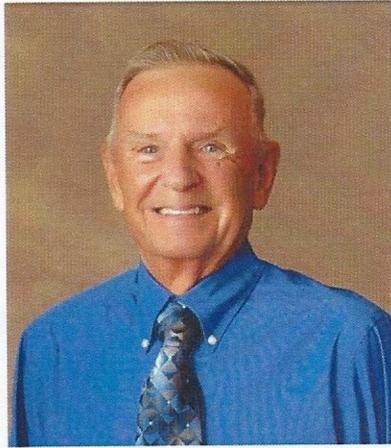
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Photo by Virginia Rivers Copyright 2015

2015 NWYCF Academy - Registration for The Academy is on Saturday, June 21st, @12 pm, when 23 boys and girls will be showing up with all their paperwork, sleeping gear, fishing cloths, etc. preparing for an exciting week. Some have a little experience, most don't, but these kids will learn quick with the help of all the great volunteers. Jim Brosio has a great line up of instructors and we have the schedules made up for the fishing. Our next challenge is getting volunteers to help the kids fish on The Deschutes River and on the Nisqually Pond by I-5. If you would like to help with the guiding, please give me a call @360-753-1259, Jim Brosio @360-943-9947 and Tom VanGelder @253-261-8890. Guiding consists of helping the kids land fish or just assisting them when needed. Some will just need encouragement since the kid fishing next to him is catching all the fish. You know how that goes. We welcome your help, this is a very rewarding event. The kids will never forget your help.

I want to thank all the Washington Fly Fishing Clubs, TU Chapters, private folks and corporate organizations, that are supporting the 2015 Academy. Without the support of these organizations, the Academy would not happen. Remember - *Our youth are the guardians of the future for our sport of fly fishing.* Mike Clancy - Jim Brosio - Tom VanGelder, Co-Directors



In Loving Memory of

SGM (R) Marcel B. Dumont

Born

April 27, 1931
Lewiston, Maine

Passed Away

May 29, 2015
Lacey, Washington

On the 16th of June, we will have our next club meeting. However, unlike so many meetings over the past several decades, our friend and fishing companion, Marcel Dumont will not be present. Marcel passed away on the morning of May 29th from complications following a fall at his home.

Although Marcel called Washington home for many years, he always considered himself a proud Mainiac. He began working as a young fellow and, eventually, after 26 years of active army service, he retired as a Sergeant Major. His service included three tours in Viet Nam. Following his service, he ran various departments in a grocery store. Then, he managed the cafeteria for the members of the Washington House of Representatives for a number of years before finally retiring.

Marcel was a strong supporter of the club and of fly fishing. He held a number of club offices, including outings and conservation chairs. He was the recipient of several club awards for his contributions, including Fisherman of the Year and the prestigious Sweeny Award. He was an enthusiastic fisherman. Marcel lit up our trips from Mexico to Clayoquot Sound and from Neah Bay to the Blackfeet Reservation. Further, nobody suffered when Marcel took over the cooking chores, as he did so often on our camping trips.

So, here is to our Sergeant Major, our Chef de Cuisine, our “Frenchie”, our rare companion! May your fly land softly and your knots hold fast. We will not see your like again.

Thank you Kevin Ryan for submitting the above tribute to Marcel.

Editor

Submitted by Don Harold

Landing Fish Without a Net – 6 Tips

The ability to ‘tail’ a fish, that is, the ability to land fish safely and effectively without a net is a skill every angler should possess. After all, we’ve all been on a trip where the net didn’t make it into the back of the pickup. Regardless, the old adage reigns true; if you want to catch the biggest trout of your life, leave the net and camera at home.

Many steelhead and salmon anglers actually prefer to fish without a net. A net worthy of landing large anadromous species, particularly those that are few and far between, can be a bit cumbersome while wading and some would argue that they’re also worse on the fish.

Regardless of what you fish for, tailing fish is a worthwhile skill and the following tips will help you land more fish, safely release more fish, and protect your gear in the process.

1. **The Honorable Foot.** The old days of ‘beaching’ fish are gone. If keeping fish is your prerogative, then playing fish into inches of water is surely a quick and effective method of landing them. However, if your goal is to release fish, beaching fish is a sure-fire way to increase the chance of mortality upon release. So, if you plan on releasing your fish, please please please land it in **at least** a foot of water. We call this the [Honorable Foot](#), and it’s a pretty solid rule to fish by.
2. **Get the Fish Upstream.** A common mistake made when tailing fish is grabbing at the leader with the fish directly below the angler. Doing so allows the current to put maximum strain on the leader and fly usually ending in an unexpected head shake causing the fly to slip, the hook to bend out, or the leader to break. Instead, try not to grab the leader until you have coaxed the fish to a position directly in front or upstream of you. This results in less strain on the leader and a better angle between your leader and fly as you make your approach.
3. **Let it Slip.** Whether fishing a single hand or two handed rod, any 9 to 15 foot rod doesn’t make grabbing the leader particularly easy on a big fish. However, the easiest method for getting a hold of the leader before tailing a fish is as follows. Once you have tired out (not exhausted) your fish and have brought it to within a rod’s length away from you, pinch your line against the cork with your rod hand and use your line hand to strip excess line off the reel. Once you are comfortable with your position of the fish, raise your rod high and slightly behind you while allowing the excess line to slip through the guides. This will cause the line to fall close in front of you, allowing you to grab the fly line. Then simply hand over hand the line as you approach to tail your quarry. Many steelhead anglers utilize the minimal drag of classic click-pawl reels to create a similar effect by allowing the reel to ‘free-spool’ in order to grab the line as well.
4. **Keep Your Leader Out of the Guides.** A simple but common mistake made when performing the tip above is reeling past the leader-fly line connection. Be cautious that the loop to loop or nail knot between your leader and fly line is not in the guides when performing ‘the slip,’ as the subtle catch of the connection in the guides could cause just enough force for a break off.
5. **Make the Grab Count.** In attempts to be gentle to a prized fish, some anglers attempt to grab the wrist of the caudal softly. We understand that there are good intentions here, but this usually results in a sudden burst of energy, causing the fish to slip free of the grasp and prolong the fight further. Time is the biggest threat to the wellbeing of a fish, so make your grab count in order to send the fish on its way as quickly as possible. Still having trouble holding on? Consider a landing glove for a quicker, safer, and more effective ‘grip.’
6. **Lay Your Rod Downstream.** Once you have control of the leader and/or the tail of the fish, make sure your rod is **pointing downstream**. Many anglers, when caught up in the excitement of a well fought battle, drop their rod in the most convenient direction the moment they get their hands on their fish. However, laying the rod down pointed upstream often causes the fly line to wrap around the rod tip. Should the fish slip free with an unexpected burst of energy, this all too often results in a broken rod tip. Make sure your rod tip is pointed downstream and the current will aid in straightening out the fly line while you tend to your fish, greatly reducing the chance of a broken rod.

JUNE PROGRAM

June: Anil Srivastava from Puget Sound Fly Co. in Tacoma. Program to be fishing for pink salmon, with an overview of opportunities his company offers. PSFCo. Is a true pro shop, dealing in quality tackle and accessories, carries clothing, luggage, tying materials, and features US made products whenever possible. Fishing experiences can be arranged for NW favorites like steelhead, salmon, tuna, including guide bookings plus they offer premier foreign travel. Anil is a FFF certified casting instructor and provides private lessons. His shop just celebrated its 12th anniversary, including 8 years in Kent and 4 in Tacoma. Anil provided prizes for the Munn Lake event.

And for July our planned program is:

July: Mel Hurd, longtime (as in founding member) club figure will hold a group casting lesson on the lawn out back of the fire building. An accomplished professional instructor with decades of experience, Mel encourages members to bring their own equipment and specific areas they want to improve upon. As well as instruction on site, Mel will teach practice methods, and arrange for further sessions should there be interest. The club will have some rigs on hand, but members will be better served by bringing their own gear. Suggestions can then be made to as to line matching and suitability for target activities.

August: Club picnic at N. Olympia FD

Photo by Virginia Rivers Copyright 2015



Photos from MUNN DAY APRIL 2015



John Sabo telling the truth



Don Freeman being decisive

. John Sabo feeding the troops at Munn Lake Day April 2015



A lot of work went into the Munn Lake Day our club sponsored in April of this year. Unfortunately the photos of this event made the May issue of the Garden Hackle too large to email last month. So I have added some of the photos this month. Thank you to everyone who helped and participated in this event.

Gene Rivers
Editor

LEADERS LINE

Tom Bolender

There is no presidents report this month

SSFF 2015

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Newsletter/website:

WEB SITE www.southsoundflyfishers.org

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General Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month except December, starting at 6:30pm.

Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month starting at 6:00 pm.

Meeting are held at the North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station)
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia WA