



# SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 16 Issue 8

August 2016

President Don discusses summer temperatures and some fishing opportunities this time of year. Page 1

August 16<sup>th</sup> Program is our annual club picnic. This year we are at Scott Lake.

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Kevin Ryan our historian has another tale while fishing Price Lake some years ago. Page 7



## Leaders Line

August 7, 2016

Howdy anglers, here's hoping that you're enjoying summer as much as the Freemans are. Granted, you have to look a little harder to find fishing opportunities in August as streams get skinny and lakes warm up. I haven't been out on the sound this season at all myself, but this is about the time of year I start looking for trout and resident

Coho/blackmouth to slide off the beaches to hold in deeper, faster water where the temperatures suit them better. If you have a boat or better yet, a boat friend, now is the time to lash up the sink tips and dredge the deep seams. The key is to fish it like a river.

Or think warm. I got infatuated with top water patterns this season, and have been fooling trout consistently with exotics like foam hoppers. Then, I got some purple and black foam flies from Anil and took them to Munn yesterday afternoon as it had turned cool and cloudy. As long as I was willing to wait for it, I hooked croppies on every cast with the poppers. Could take up to a minute out in the middle of the lake, but lay the pattern an inch or two from the lily pads and hang on! Well, that's a bit over rated, but this is great casting practice, and lot's of fun timing your hook sets. Right now, you can C&R all the croppy you want, which, admittedly may not take long, but it's fishing, and would be great for kids from 4 years up since there's almost immediate gratification. This isn't bad for adults either, now that I think of it.

Best regards,

*Don Freeman*

## SSFF August 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting is the Club Picnic at Scott Lake

The club's annual picnic is on our regular third Tuesday meeting night but this year it will be held at Scott Lake picnic area beginning at 6:30PM. This annual event is a potluck so please bring a hot-dish or salad or dessert to share and your preferred beverage and table service. The lake is producing and the boat launch is open so it will be fun. See you there!

Directions to Scott Lake from I-5. Take exit at 93<sup>rd</sup> and go east and then turn south on Case Road. Go 2.5 miles on Case Road. At intersection by Scott Lake Grocery enter Scott Lake Community by making a half left onto Scott Creek Drive. Go .9 mile and make left onto Scotlac Drive and proceed to picnic shelter area by the lake.



Figure 1 Summer afternoon at Scott Lake

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## Comments on the July Meeting...



The July program was a complete change of pace from our usual fare of professionals speaking on fishing or recognized experts sharing some of their knowledge. As proven so many times in the past, SSFF members themselves have an abundance of knowledge of the waters and fly fishing the great Northwest. Fellow members demonstrated how to tie of some of their most effective and productive flies and explained how to fish them. Also, President Don showed us some of his favorite knots and fly fishing setups. The presentations were informal and interactive and much knowledge was shared as the presenters hovered over their tying vices and talked about their favorite flies and fly waters.

Thanks again to our presenters: Evelyn and John Templar, Walt Dohring, Don Freeman, Don Harold, Jim McAlister and Gene Rivers. Thank you also goes to Ben Dennis for the fly casting lessons on the back lawn.

## Fly Tying Class

Signups are now open for an Intermediate Level Fly tying Class taught by Janet Schimpf, professional fly tier. Janet has taught a class for our club on numerous occasions and always does an outstanding job.

**Class size is limited and will be open to the public. Club members wishing to reserve a spot should mail your check made out to SSFF to PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507. Payment can also be made at Club meetings, cash or check only, the club does not take credit cards. The only way to reserve a spot is with a prepaid reservation.**

**ONLY SIX SPOTS ARE LEFT !!! Pay Dave Field, club Treasurer now if you want to take this class. Mail your check to the club Po Box listed in the above paragraph.**

**Cost is \$90 for SSFF members and \$100 for non club members.**

Dates for the class are Monday Oct. 17, 24 and 31 and Monday November 7. The classes will run from 7 to 9pm and will be held at the Olympia Community Center Room 205. The Community Center is located at 222 Columbia St. NW, Olympia, WA 98501.

Participants will need to provide their own vice and fly tying tools but all materials for the flies that are taught in class will be provided by the instructor. The Instructor limits the size of the class, so to assure a spot a paid reservation is highly recommended—don't wait.



## July Outing Report:

SSFF had a club outing at Coldwater Lake on July 23rd. Several club members had some success fishing the west end of the lake. Outing Chair Jim McAllister served as Ghillie for the outing.

Several other club members have fished Cold Water and have had good success. It is a beautiful lake and a joy to fish.



## Next SSFF Outing:

When: Tuesday August 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM

Where: Picnic Shelter at Scott Lake

Bring: Choice of Hot Dish, Salad or Dessert and your choice of Beverage and Service. Fly rods, boats or other floating devices for fishing.

## 2016 SSFF Outings Schedule

SSFF Outings Chairman is Jim McAllister 360-970-2953. Jim will explain rendezvous points, times and details at club meetings.

July 23<sup>rd</sup> Coldwater Lake (Cowlitz County)

August 16 SSFF Picnic at Scott Lake

Sept. 24 Cowlitz River (Blue Creek)

October 29 Hoodsport (Chum Salmon)



Figure 2Loon Lake MT photo by Tom Case

**2016 NW Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy** had over 40 volunteers again this year. If it wasn't for the volunteers and the financial support from SSFF, IFFF, WSCIFFF Fly Fishing Clubs, WCTU and TU Chapters, business organizations, private individuals and folks like you - this event would never happen. So on behalf of the Youth, the Staff, and the community - thank you from Jim Brosio, Tom Van Gelder and Mike Clancy - Co-Directors.

**Thank you to Jim, Tom and Mike for all your work in organizing and running the Academy!**



Ryan's REMINISCENCES -of SSFF and its members from the 1970's and 80's, the  
BF years (before fluorocarbon) By Kevin Ryan, SSFF Chronicler

## Donuts on Price Lake

The morning sun danced and sparkled on the water as I scanned the surface for signs of feeding trout. Unfortunately, not one fish had shown itself since our arrival, but it was a gorgeous May day just the same. Yours truly and fellow fly flinger John Conklin had left Olympia at first light so we could enjoy a full day's fishing at one of our favorite places, Price Lake. I was fishing out of my ten-foot john boat while John was in his beloved and much traveled canoe.

Up to this point the action had been *really* slow (read nil), but being the optimists that true anglers are, and knowing that the bugs would soon be wiggling their way to the surface once the water warmed up a bit, we were hardly discouraged by the lack of tugs on our lines. So convinced that it was only a matter of time before we'd be hooking one fish after the other, we continued to cast our carefully crafted offerings to the yet to be seen trout. And cast and cast and cast.

One can easily lose track of time when surrounded by such natural beauty, so I'm not sure whether a half-hour or hour or two had passed when suddenly from behind me I heard a mighty racket, immediately followed by an unrepeatable exclamation, followed by the sound of a heavy object entering the water. Whatever it was, I was certain that it was probably not a good thing. And I was right. Upon getting myself turned around I viewed what can only be described as a most dramatic scene.

My attention was first drawn to John's bearded face breaking the surface. I then became aware of a loud sucking sound emanating from his mouth, immediately following by a cascade of words not suitable for mixed company. Not far from John's dripping pate, the top of his crusty Filson crusher bobbed gently in the surface, but unfortunately sinking at a rather rapid rate. And just a little further away floated various and sundry items, to include a lunch sack, boat cushion and several articles of clothing.

And then I saw them, a half-dozen or so powdered sugar donuts and the box in which they came, floating ever so serenely in the tannin colored waters of Price Lake. If memory serves me they were a Hostess product.

The sight of these white confections seemed quite surreal, but I had little time to dwell on it as by now John had made it abundantly clear he'd really like some help. So as fast as I could row my little tin boat, I got to John, told him to grab the stern and I'd get him to the beach just as quickly as I could. Which I did. (For those of you who were wondering why I didn't have John climb into my boat, well, it was just not an option: my boat was much too light and had only a few inches of freeboard).

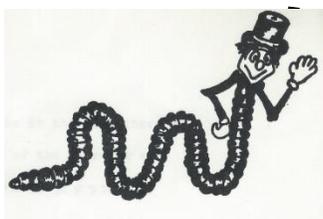
Having deposited my waterlogged and somewhat forlorn friend on dry land, I returned to the accident scene where I picked up whatever items were still afloat, and then towed the half-submerged canoe to the beach. Needless to say our fishing was over for the day, as our priorities had suddenly shifted to the prevention of hypothermia on my friend's part. But as we bumped along the old logging road on our way home, my thoughts again turned to the floating Hostess donuts and whatever might become of them. Perhaps one of the monster brook trout who once resided in that lake enjoyed a little sweetness along with its breakfast of caddis and dragonfly nymphs.

*Kevin*



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With summer arriving underway and with the longer evenings, SSFF will have casting practice before club meetings on the Fire Department's back lawn. There will be knowledgeable members available to assist you with casting. Bring your own fly rod or you can use one of the club's instructional rods that are available. This is the time to sharpen up your casting skills and maybe pick up a few tips.



please do not park your car or truck in North Olympia Fire Department's Emergency Vehicle Driveway during SSFF meetings. If the designated parking spaces in front of the station are full, please use the parking area behind the building.

Garden Hackle Willy says, Thank You!



## South Sound Fly Fishers

### OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: Don Freeman [donfreeman74@gmail.com](mailto:donfreeman74@gmail.com)

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**WEB SITE:** [www.southsoundflyfishers.org](http://www.southsoundflyfishers.org)

**US Mail Address:** SSFF PO BOX 2792, Olympia, WA 98507

**Club Meetings are held the third 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. Both regularly scheduled meetings are held at the North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station) 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia WA. USA.