



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 16 Issue 11

November 2016

President Don discusses the Annual General Meeting and election of club officers. Don talks about nearby fishing opportunities.

Page 1

Tuesday November 15th meeting features Justin Waters sharing his knowledge on flies and fishing Puget Sound.

Page 2

Outings Chair Jim McAllister discusses club outings. Members can discuss next year's outings with Jim.

Page 4



The Leaders Line

November 5, 2016

Greetings,

First off, I want to apologize that I will miss the next general club meeting on November 15, which is the last of the year, making it also the final while I have the pleasure of being your president. And yes, I know you've heard that before, but this time for sure. I have enjoyed working for you enormously, and have made a number of real friendships in the process. You've helped me to continue our support for Coastal Cutthroat, for our own quality fishery at Munn Lake, which, along with other accomplishments have served to preserve the reputation of SSFF as good stewards of our resources, and proponents of responsible fly fishing.

I will be in Louisiana next week fishing for red drum with some friends, so I'll have that to console me. Remember that this is the last general meeting of the year, please show up to vote for next year's officers and enjoy the presentation by Justin Waters. There is a change on the officers that will be voted on at the meeting. Gene Rivers has stepped up to be the nominee for club president. Randy Allen and Jim McAllister have agreed to stay in their current club positions as VP and

director-at-large respectively. The modified slate of nominees will be handled from the floor at the November meeting. Your participation in the election process is important, so please attend the meeting and then stay on to enjoy Justin Waters' program on special techniques for fly fishing Puget Sound.

We did get one day chum hunting with a couple of club members this week and encourage you to get out and give it a shot this fall. Some of the state parks on Hood Canal offer excellent beach access where you can spot schools of salmon along the shore at tidal changes and at dusk. Jim McAllister, our outgoing Outings Chair can dial you in on equipment and techniques.

I look forward to seeing you all at meetings next year, and again give my thanks for the honor and responsibility of representing South Sound Fly Fishers as both President and Conservation/Political chair over the past several years.

Best regards,

Don Freeman



Photo of Lahontan Cutthroat courtesy of Howard Nanto

SSFF Tuesday November 15th Club Meeting

Program Chair Gene Rivers has arranged a presentation by

Justin Waters

Flies and techniques for Puget Sound



Justin Waters grew up on the Gulf Coast of Florida fishing for largemouth Bass and Redfish. He left Florida in pursuit of salmon and steelhead on the Skagit River and in Puget Sound in Washington state. He now guides full time for Gig Harbor Fly Shop for salmon and sea run cutthroat in the salt water of Puget Sound and Hood Canal. He teaches fly tying classes and is also available for private casting instruction. This will be a very informative session on fly fishing Puget Sound and it is a program you will not want to miss.

On the water...The Outing Report from Jim McAllister

The club outing on October 22nd was fishing for Chum Salmon at Hoodsport. For many years Vance Creek has been steadily moving north making access more difficult for chum fishing. Small boats are gaining popularity to overcome this situation and make fishing much easier and productive. Several good sized fish were caught and released during the day. Jim McAllister, SSFF Outings Chair, has been fishing Chum Salmon in Hoodsport for many years and willingly shares his knowledge on how to catch these big fish.

...and Around the Bend...

The next club outing will be at Munn Lake on Saturday December 3rd. This will be your chance to learn how to productively fish Munn Lake, a quality, year around fishery. Some people find this lake difficult until they master the techniques needed to productively fly fish this lake. Plan to participate in what will be the last club outing this year. Jim is Ghillie for this outing and he will provide further information at the club meeting November 15th, 2016.



2017 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

By Mike Clancy



NWYC&FFA Co-Director and SSFF member

2017 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

It is not too early to start thinking about the 2017 Academy. Again, we are preparing for another Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy to be held June 18-24, 2017 at Gwinwood Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The Staff will be contacting dedicated volunteers to contribute their time for the success of the Academy - for the kids. This Academy is all about the girls and boys, 12-16 years old, to teach them the basics of fly fishing and conservation. The event is one full week with some staff and all youth living in clean, warm cabins at the Gwinwood Center. 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 supported by SSFF, WCTU and WSCIFFF, and members of TU and many fly fishing clubs in Washington.

The cost to each student is only \$300 for the week, sponsorships are available through TU Chapters, FFF fly clubs and private donations. No applicant will be turned away because of lack of funding.

Applications will be accepted starting January 1, 2017 until April 15, 2017. Applications may be downloaded from our website - www.nwycffa.org, via email to 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 have a Facebook page listed under our name for viewing pictures from previous events.

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

THE YOUTH OF TODAY ARE THE GUARDIANS OF THE FUTURE FOR OUR SPORT OF FLY FISHING



SSFF Past Presidents John Woods and Mel Hurd

Another Story about fishing PRICE LAKE

Reminiscences with a Dash of Humor by Mel Hurd

Then, there was the memorable occasion several of us SSFF club members had just sweated our boats down the long trail from the road to the lake and were sitting on a log catching our breath before launching our prams and canoes. We were trying hard not to think of the return trip uphill lake, when down the trail came five members of the fly club to the North. They were led by the then only fly shop operator in the area. It appeared that he had sold them all brand new float tubes - belly boats - the round things hardly anyone uses anymore because they are so cumbersome. If you step into one, it is next to impossible to put on your fins and, if you put on your fins, it requires more athleticism than I possess to get into the tube without floundering about in the mud. We on the log watched in wonder and amusement as each of the adventuresome put on their new seal-dri latex waders, somehow girded themselves with their tubes and fitted their new fins on their boots. Had they sported red noses and orange hair, I would have thought that the “Bozo the Clown Club” was on an outing.

Then, they had to get to the lake edge, which, because of the newly acquired foot extensions, was not going to be easy. At Neil’s suggestion, they each turned around and began to walk in reverse to the drop off that made getting into Price Lake unpredictable in the best of circumstances. They did not enjoy the best of circumstances. It is probably unnecessary for me to mention that we on the log found this all highly amusing. I’m sure we took a silent vow never to give up our sensible prams and canoes.

It was, and still is, necessary to sort of drop off the lake edge a foot or two into the water. Neil went first and made the transition to amphibian without mishap. He encouraged his ducklings to do the same. Hesitantly, the next fellow in line made the attempt, but got crossed up somehow. He made it into the water alright, but in the process of trying to regain his balance, he split his new waders from one side of the crotch to the other. Now, I should have mentioned that this scene occurred in early spring and the lake water temperature was in the 40’s.

The frigid water filling his ruined waders and rushing past his nether regions had breathtaking effects. One of which was the sufferer's instant antipathy to the enterprising shop owner who had sold him waders, fins, and float tube at a handsome profit and who was now paddling at top speed (i.e., slowly, but frantically) away from his thrashing customer. The invective hurled at the departing vendor was inventive and rich in color and imagination, not to mention loud. There may have been hikers on distant trails who wandered what all the shouting was about.

I must say that those of us on the log had been rather successful in openly displaying our growing mirth as the scene unfolded. However, when the grand finale occurred, we gave up all pretense of restraint. In fact, everyone was enjoying the show, except of course, the protagonist and his victim.

As I recall, the rest of the brood of ducklings all made it safely into the water and maybe a fish or two was caught by someone. And, I am reasonably confident that Neil made good on the waders and that all is forgiven. We know that the belly boats evolved into U-boats, Fish Cats, and South Forks, and that they have become fixtures among our fly fishing paraphernalia. But, it was not always so.

In time, I had my own misadventures with the round tube, but you would not want to hear about those.

Mel



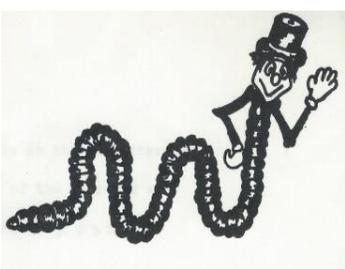
Tag end comments

With the end of daylight saving time the club will no longer have casting practice on the back lawn before meetings. For those that took advantage of this program, the club board hopes you picked up a few pointers that helped add ten to twenty feet to your cast. The club still has a few teaching rods available for sale at \$50.00 per rod. See John Sabo at the raffle table if you are interested. Club logo patches are now available for \$5.00 each. Please see John at the raffle table.



Photo by Howard Nanto

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.



Willy says, please keep the driveway clear for emergency vehicles!



South Sound Fly Fishers

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: Don Freeman donfreeman74@gmail.com

Vice President: Randy Allen randyandcarol2@comcast.net

Past President: Tom Bolender tombolender@comcast.net

Secretary: Joe Spancic jspancic@comcast.net

Treasurer: David Field d_w_field@hotmail.com

Membership: Don Harold don@gophish.net

Conservation: Ben Dennis flyrodbranch@comcast.net

Education: Vacant

Outings: Jim McAllister jimspackmule@msn.com

Programs: Gene Rivers acu4pets@hotmail.com

Fundraising: John Sabo chrisonquince@comcast.net

Webmaster Contact: d_w_field@hotmail.com

Newsletter: Dave Field d_w_field@hotmail.com

WEB SITE: 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.