



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 16 Issue 12

December 2016

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The Leaders Line

December 12, 2016

Greetings, or should I say Hail and Farewell? This should be my last "Leader's Line"; we are fortunate that Gene Rivers has stepped up to take the helm despite being so newly retired. Despite that, Gene has a very busy personal and professional schedule, so we are fortunate that he is willing to donate his own time to help keep us entertained and informed.

You won't be completely shut of me though. I will go back into my original role in the club of Conservation and Political chair to keep the membership informed and involved with conservation efforts and challenges to our fisheries and south sound resources. Some of this will hopefully be hands on opportunities for club members to participate in research and protection of the coastal cutthroat that are such an integral part of our region and the club's history.

I also will cooperate with the board to identify and book speakers and programs to keep our meetings informative and interesting. Only the first two months have been scheduled so far, so I would like some feedback from members on what interests you. Do want to see more fly tying presentations, learn about travel fishing opportunities, trout tactics, steelhead and salmon techniques, warm or salt water fishing or more science and conservation? If you have a particular speaker or field of interest, please write to me at donfreeman74@gmail.com to give me an insight to your interests, and we will check it out. I will attempt to schedule and post a minimum of a quarter year schedule at a time, so the more notice I have the better job I can do.

I want to thank the membership and especially the Board of Directors for putting your faith in me to manage your club, your resources and especially the reputation of South Sound Fly Fishers within the community and with the various agencies and organizations with whom we interact. It was both challenging and highly rewarding, so I just hope it was as good for you as it was for me.

Best regards,

Don Freeman



Don Freeman at Coldwater Lk. WA

photo courtesy of Howard Nanto

Holiday Greeting to All SSFF Members,

On behalf of the Officers and Board Members of SSFF I extend Holiday Greetings to all SSFF members. We have exciting plans for South Sound Fly Fishers in 2017.

As 2016 draws to a close I would like to thank those members who have served as Officers or Board members during the past year. Their names are always listed on the last page of the monthly Garden Hackle, so rather than list them individually I will refer you to the Hackle if anyone is unsure who they are. They normally meet twice a month most of the year and devote a lot of time and energy to SSFF in a very busy world that places many demands on people's schedules. Their work at the Board meetings helps us keep business matters to a minimum during the general meeting, so that we may socialize and enjoy the monthly Program. Many of these folks have served in two positions during 2016 because of their willingness to help SSFF and a scarcity of volunteers. This is a fact of life, and is a challenge that faces many organizations, not just SSFF.

So to paraphrase President John Kennedy, "Ask not what SSFF can do for you; ask what you can do for SSFF." Consider helping in an activity or serving on a committee. Feel free to email me personally if you are willing to help in any way. Also if you have any activities you would like to see SSFF participate in or have any concerns feel free to let me know. Email is the best way to contact me. Both new members and long standing members are welcome to participate in our 2017 plans.

As Christmas approaches remember that important rule of fly fishing that "the correct number of fly rods is always one more than the number one currently owns!"

Have a safe Holiday Season,

Gene Rivers

2017 President

acu4pets@hotmail.com

Reya Adams

Fly fisher of the year!



Fly Fisher of the Year - by Randy Allen SSFF VP

At our November general meeting Outings Chairman Jim McAllister awarded the 2016 SSFF Fly Fisher of the Year. Exciting in itself, our recipient is one of our younger members...but age alone did not gain our attention.

Here's a quick run-down on some of the attributes and activities of our recipient. For the last three years she attended the Ellensburg IFFF Fairs and supported these events through her sales of raffle tickets. She's a top competitor in fishing derbies - for the last three years she has taken top honors at the Scott Lake Fishing Derby, catching not only the most, but also the largest fish. She participated in SSFF outings over the past several seasons. She has represented our club to the public at five Cabela's events by participating with other SSFF members in fly-tying demonstrations. She has tied her own flies and competently casts them forty feet. In 2015 she caught her first chum salmon on a fly. She's still a student in school balancing grades, gymnastics, dancing, football, and baseball ... with her love of *fly-fishing*.

Reya Adams - Congratulations on being awarded the 2016 Fly Fisher of the Year! And, *thanks for all you do* to promote our sport and represent your South Sound Fly Fishers club.

On the water...Outing Report from Jim McAllister

The club outing on October 22nd was fly fishing for Chum Salmon at Hoodsport. Vance creek has been steadily moving north which makes access difficult for chum fishing. Small boats make fishing much easier and productive. Several good sized fish were caught and released by fly fishers.



On the water...Outing Report from Randy Allen

Seven enthusiastic fishers assembled at Munn Lake Saturday December 3 for the day Outing Chair Jim McAllister promised: cool, overcast, a mild breeze, and little to no rain - great fishing weather!

Member Max Doerge offered prospective new member Ron Lewis to join him in his boat. Thanks, Max, for sharing your equipment with another fly-fisher. President Don Freeman floated his boat into his favorite spots. In pontoon boats we had Jim McAllister and Kevin Ryan. Jim generously brought a second boat which Ron Backman and I appreciated immensely. Thanks, Jim!

Don reported landing several nice perch, and Max reported three bluegill. In our boat Ron took top honors. The excitement was about 1:00 when Jim and Kevin each hooked into 23" (plus) trout within about ten minutes. Jim and I discussed the challenge of using your rod to bring the fish in close enough to net it, that is, without excessive bending and snapping your rod tip. He released his fish successfully a few feet out from his boat. You see the fish's head out of the water as he captures a photo.

Shortly after Jim's hook-up Kevin's rod bent over. His fish took off several times. Finally it looks like Kevin's getting the upper hand. Wrong again, over and over. Jim, freed up from his fish, rows toward Kevin. This is no average fish. Finally the fish tires and Jim nets it to be revived and released. Enjoy the pictures. It's just neat to see your fellow club members hook into such nice trout, and to assist their partners!

Munn was another great outing. Many thanks, Jim, for a job well done this year planning our club outings. You were spot-on when you said the lake has very nice fish. Those who missed this outing - get with some of our Munn Lake experts; talk to Don, Kevin, and Jim and they'll advise you to have a productive day on a great lake practically in your backyard. Folks who fish there just love Munn Lake!

Outing photos from Randy Allen



Outings Chair Jim McAllister hooks into a nice trout of his own. Munn Lake 12/3/2016



**Hold on,
Kevin ! I got the net!
I'm on my way !**



**Heckuva
fish, Kevin !
Dunno who's more
tired - you, me, or the
fish !!?**



2017 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY



Mike Clancy

NWYC&FFA Co-Director

2017 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

It is not too early to start thinking about the 2017 Academy. 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 WCTU and WSCIFFF, and members of SSFF, TU and other fly fishing clubs of 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 FLYFISHING

Raffle Report by John Sabo

We have done well with the Club's Raffle this year with a total "profit" of \$400 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.

Fly tying season is here and 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.

At the January 2017 Club meeting, in addition to our monthly Raffle, we will have SSFF cloth patches available for a donation of \$5.00. These are high quality brightly colored patches that would look great on a cap, shirt, or jacket. They are perfect to show your club membership and support.

At the Raffle table, we will also have a limited number of excellent TFO fly rod sets. These gently used sets consist of a quality TFO fly rod (we believe a 5 or 6 weight), reel, fly line, and case. (See photo below). They will be available for a donation of only \$50.00 (cash or check). They are "first come first served", so if you want one, see me at the Raffle table before the meeting.



We currently have 6 TFO Lefty Kreh 9' 5wt Professional Series rods with reel, line carrying case and socks. We've been selling at \$50. I just realized what a great Christmas gift these would make, so I may buy a couple myself. If any member wants to buy them for a gift, they can contact me at donfreeman74@gmail.com before the next meeting which is on January 17th. *Don Freeman*

This month we say a fond farewell and **thank you** to our retiring board members Don Harold and Joe Spancic. Don and Joe have served the club well during their time in office.

Don served as membership chair for several years. As Membership Chair, Don ensured that new members and visitors alike were warmly welcomed to club meetings and activities. Don also oversaw club outreach to the community and other fly fishing organizations and events in the northwest. Don came to us from Idaho where he fished some of the iconic waters of the state as well as Montana. Don is a recognized production fly tier.

Joe Spancic served as club secretary and brought his considerable skills as a professional system manager to the club board. Joe's work demands that he leave the board after one year but his contributions are appreciated and hopefully Joe can either remain or will return to the Olympia area if his work permits.

The board thanks these gentlemen for their devotion to the sport of fly fishing and their contribution of time and energy to the club.

A big "welcome aboard" to Wayne Dixon as Wayne steps up to become the new Club Secretary. Wayne bring considerable talent and abilities to the board not only as club Secretary but also as Education Chair.

Look for a future article about Wayne in the Garden Hackle.



14" Grayling, Rogers Lk. MT

photo by Tom Case



South Sound Fly Fishers

2017 OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

President: Gene Rivers acu4pets@hotmail.com

Vice President: Randy Allen randyandcarol2@comcast.net

Secretary: Wayne Dixon Sr. wkdixon@gmail.com

Treasurer: David Field d_w_field@hotmail.com

Past President: Don Freeman donfreeman74@gmail.com

Membership: Randy Allen (acting) randyandcarol2@comcast.net

Conservation and Political: Don Freeman donfreeman74@gmail.com

Director-at-Large: Ben Dennis flyrodbranch@comcast.net

Education: Wayne Dixon wkdixon@gmail.com

Outings: Jim McAllister jimspackmule@msn.com

Programs: Don Freeman donfreeman74@gmail.com

Fundraising: John Sabo chrisonquince@comcast.net

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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 beginning 7:00PM, doors open at 6:15pm. Board meetings are 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.