



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 18 Issue 4

April 2018

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President Wayne discusses wading and water safety.

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SSFF Pot-luck and Auction is Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> at the Black Lake Grange. Support conservation!

## The Leader's Line

By President Wayne Dixon Sr.



### Out like a lamb?

“In like a lion, out like a lamb” has always seemed a straightforward enough proverb: when March starts, it’s still winter, and by the end of the month spring has begun. True, in many climates the weather hasn’t quite reached the lamb stage by the end of the month—it’s more like a Raging Bull here in Western Washington.

The National Weather Service has issued warnings and many rivers in our area have reached dangerous flood levels. Along the Cowlitz river about 200 people have been evacuated from their homes and it doesn't look like the rivers will be receding any time soon. This brings to my attention the many dangers we all should be aware of and what safety precautions we can take so we can continue to enjoy this great sport for years to come.

Even when the rivers do get fishable again we all need to use some common-sense strategies so we avoid getting hurt. Here are some tips for safe wading.

**Footwear**, at a minimum you should have on the proper footwear when wading rivers. Felt soles will provide secure footing in most spots. Although they provide safe footing they may be outlawed soon as they tend to carry bacteria on the felt from one river to another. There are many varieties of soles and boots you can purchase such as cleated or studs. I really feel that the rubberized suction cup type of boot is better and makes less noise and provide gripping action. I recommend you shop around.

**Wading Belt**, I can't tell you how many times I have come across people with waders on and no wading belt. I refer to them as "water balloons". I don't think I need to discuss this anymore, you get the visual.

**Go slow**, this has broader implications than you may think. It obviously includes being careful while wading, but also encompasses taking time to evaluate current conditions and particularly to evaluate conditions when you are visiting unfamiliar rivers or locations. When entering the river and moving through the water, make your moves slow and controlled to minimize the risk of falling. With experience "slow" will become much quicker, but wading is always slower than traveling on dry land and as the hazards become greater your approach demands greater caution. You may also want a wading staff to help give you more support and stability.



Cowlitz at flood stage

**Falling**, the reason why we usually fall in is that our feet slip and shift the center of our body. It's a good practice to maintain shoulder width stance with our feet. Find the low places. In the water, when you can't see where your feet are landing let gravity help. Slide your feet into position and work them into the valleys between rocks and cobbles, rather than standing on rounded top of slippery rocks. If you do fall, make sure you bring your feet up and they are facing downstream. Do not panic, slowly make your way to shallow water.

**Final safety considerations** A personal floatation device is necessary for waders that can't swim and may be a good investment for anyone in big rivers and cold water. Both CO2 inflatable suspenders and solid, kapok-filled vests can be found in stores selling whitewater gear. A whistle is one of a mountaineer's 10 essentials and is an excellent safety item for waders to carry for emergency location.

These tips for safe wading will make your fishing a lot more fun – and could save your life!

I am going to stay out of the rivers and continue to tie flies for the time being. Safe fishing everyone, and happy April.

Peace,

Wayne

360 701-7423

[wkdixon@gmail.com](mailto:wkdixon@gmail.com)



Photo by All Waters Fly Fishing

## Saltwater Fly Fishing in Puget Sound and Hood Canal



Photo by All Waters Fly Fishing

### By Captain Justin Waters,

Owner - All Waters Fly Fishing

Our April 2018 Program is a good one. Captain Justin Waters, owner of All Waters Fly Fishing Guide Service will be speaking about fly fishing for resident salmon and coastal cutthroat trout in the saltwater. Justin and his guides fish Puget Sound and Hood Canal, in addition to Olympic Peninsula streams with their clients.

Justin says, “Hood Canal is a uniquely special piece of water. Massive tide shifts, narrow channels and steep shorelines make it one of the most interesting pieces of saltwater in Western Washington. Huge populations of baitfish use this protected piece of water to spawn. All 5 species of salmon run through Hood Canal and Puget Sound and it’s home to one of the best coastal cutthroat populations on the planet. All Waters Fly Fishing has made a home in these special bodies of water and know from experience they are among the best places on earth to be a fly fisherman.

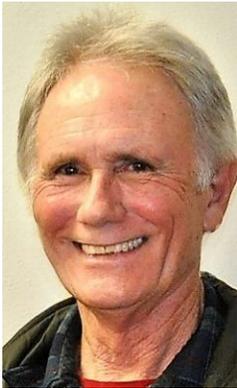
Justin will also be tying a few flies before the meeting and will discuss which flies to use for our local saltwater fisheries. This is another don’t miss Program. See you April 17th.

*Gene*

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## THE SOAPBOX

BY Don Freeman Conservation and Political chair



Greetings,

First, a reminder to renew your fishing license if you haven't already. I use the online service at the WDFW website. It is fast, entails only a \$2 dealer fee and the license is mailed to your home. In the meanwhile you can print a temporary license to carry until the official document arrives.

Now we are going to delve into the two part title of my chair, which is Conservation and Political. I will do my best to remain as objective as possible when tap dancing around the political issues that affect our resources but keep in mind that my background has shaped my views as much as anyone else. My first career after the military was working in the woods. I have both a Forestry degree and one in Outdoor Recreation. After a few years surveying logging roads I left with a gut-full of deliberate waste and wanton destruction of public lands and waterways by corporate interests and complicit government administrators. I went on to share my appreciation of the yet untamed with others, both for the recreation potential and to foster a sense of stewardship for the resources we enjoy and depend upon.

We have a request by Trout Unlimited regarding the Pebble Mine proposal for Bristol Bay, Alaska. Please see the next page. Please do respond, either by copying TU's message, or writing your own. If you disagree and favor the supposed economic benefit to a few over the protection of a truly unique resource, you can state that too.

Here is why I find this participation to be more critical than I have ever seen it. The current federal administration has made it chillingly clear that short term profits from extractive non-renewable resources, no matter for how few, will always trump any environmental consideration. Examples include opening the entire US coast to oil and gas drilling, except when adjacent to private golf courses, and the declassification of millions of acres of national monuments.

I just watched a video of Senator Martin Heinrich of New Mexico regarding the declassification of National Monuments in his state. Rio Grande del Norte and Organ Mountains/Desert Peaks have been de-classified to make them available for mining. The rationales for these changes have been found to be worse than inaccurate, containing easily disproven falsehoods. The Department of Interior official questioned by the senator openly admitted that no effort was made to confirm their claims, implying that such diligence was being discouraged.

The rationales: “Organ Mountains/Desert Peaks” abuts the US Mexico border. This can be disproven by a glance at a map. The agency claimed that road access had been closed, preventing ranchers from ranging their cattle. A phone call to the BLM revealed that no closures exist and ranching continues as always. The claim that access to hunting and fishing had disappeared, a major reason to change the listing, was refuted by sporting organizations in NM that state their access has improved since designation as a monument.

So, here is my point, we have to be more involved than ever. Gone are the days when Secretary Udall would personally visit areas of interest to determine the best public use of our resources. We now have officials in DC that refuse to do the simplest research that might impede their directive to undo the work of every prior administration, from Nixon’s establishment of the EPA to the protections for our coastlines from petro fuel giants. Our only hope for future generations is to work locally, work together and don’t give an inch.

*Don*

[donfreeman74@gmail.com](mailto:donfreeman74@gmail.com)



Photo by Howard Nanto

Dear Bristol Bay Supporter,

Today is the first formal chance to weigh in on Pebble's latest mine plan to help ensure the proposed Pebble mine doesn't become a reality and irreparably harm the Bristol Bay region of Alaska.

In December, the Pebble Partnership applied for the first major permit it needs to construct a mine. That application is huge news because it brought Pebble one step closer to industrializing the wild and productive landscape in Bristol Bay.



[Click here to tell the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that Pebble's application is inadequate and should be rejected.](#)

The Corps of Engineers has just opened its first public comment period, where it is accepting input on what it should consider as it reviews potential impacts of Pebble's proposed mine plan. Pebble's plan would be catastrophic to the fish and waters we all love in Bristol Bay, and we need you to help make sure the Corps of Engineers holds Pebble to the highest standards possible.

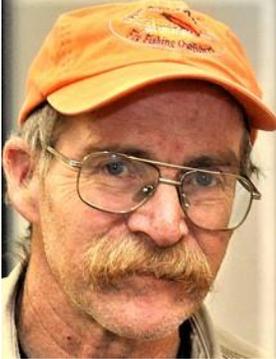
[Please take a moment to tell the Army Corps of Engineers that Pebble's plan is inadequate, and they need to conduct a rigorous, scientific and public review of ALL potential impacts of Pebble mine.](#)

This includes allowing all stakeholders - anyone who owns a business, fishes, or one day hopes to fish in Bristol Bay - to weigh in on issues Pebble could impact, like water quality, fisheries, scenery, economies, cultures, and airways of the Bristol Bay region, Cook Inlet, and impacted areas of the Kenai Peninsula.

Thank you for speaking up, and for sharing this [action link](#) with your friends and contacts. The fish, clean water, businesses, and residents of Bristol Bay are immensely grateful for your help.



Sincerely,  
Eric Booton  
Sportmen Engagement Organizer  
Trout Unlimited



### **Hello Fellow Fly Fishers,**

On **Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>** we will have a club outing at McIntosh Lake. McIntosh is a good Thurston County lake in the Spring. The lake supports stocked Rainbows, naturally reproducing populations of yellow perch, largemouth bass, and brown bullhead catfish. McIntosh Lake used to be crowded at the end of April. That all changed when a few years ago WDFW expanded the open year-round season to include many of our area lakes. This outing will provide club members a chance to sharpen their fly fishing skills on a local lake in the early part of trout season.

We will rendezvous at the parking lot of the Tumwater Dollar store in the Southgate Shopping Center at 8:00am. You can pick-up your Espresso coffee at a barista stop right there in the parking lot. If you know where the lake is located and want to drive independently, we will meet you at the McIntosh boat ramp around 9:00am.

What: SSFF April Outing

Where: McIntosh Lake, South Thurston County

When: Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>

Meet-up point: 8:00am Dollar store parking lot Southgate Shopping Center

Gear: Boat needed to fish McIntosh efficiently. 4-5 weight rod with Intermediate or slow sink line. Jim will discuss recommended setups and flies at club meeting. Jim may have a few flies on hand at the outing.

## March Back Cast

The SSFF outing on March 24th was our famous annual Indoor-Outing at the North Olympia Fire Station. The event featured Fly tying/fly swap, fly casting, Entomology classes and offered a tasty pot-luck lunch.

The event provided members a chance to learn more about fly tying, casting and aquatic insects. Randy Allen and Ben Dennis offered casting practice on the back lawn. President Wayne provided a “fly fishers Entomology” class. Jim Maus, Jim McAllister, Loren McAllister, Walt Dohring, Don Alexander and Mark Brownell, Don Harold and Jay Paulson and other members did fly tying demonstrations. Randy Allen conducted a knot tying session.

The class members of the “Introduction to Fly Fishing” being staged by the SSFF Education Committee and the City of Olympia were also invited to the event.



Indoor-Outing Knot Tying Session

Tight thread as always,

*Jim*

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# Education

By Vice Pres. Randy Allen



## Greetings Fly Fishers,

SSFF members instructed a four-week *Introduction to Fly Fishing*. Instructing the course were Ben Dennis, Wayne Dixon, Randy Allen and Dave Field. Again, we mention the legacy class developed by our respected members John Woods and Mel Hurd. Their *Art of Fly Fishing* provided our current team a well-developed, highly detailed wealth of topics and information.

This class was developed and presented in cooperation with the City of Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation Department. Classes were held at the Olympia Center. Students learned about the history of fly fishing, fly-fishing gear and equipment, entomology, reading the water in rivers and streams, lake and saltwater fishing, local sport fish species available in fresh and salt water, locating fish, basic fly casting, outdoor savvy, water safety and conservation.

A number of students indicated they would appreciate casting lessons. Responding to the need, SSFF casting instructors Randy Allen and Ben Dennis held casting lessons one Saturday at Capital Lake Park, as well as at the club *Indoor-Outing* on March 24th. Class members were exposed to fly-tying, more casting, entomology, fishing knots, good pot-luck food and socializing with experienced fly fishers in a relaxed setting.

The photo below includes eleven students who attended the final night. Several other students would have attended were it not for previous schedule conflicts. New member Peter Vu comes from this class - he is missing from the photo because the knowledge he gained in the class convinced him to include fly fishing on his family vacation, for which he missed the last night of class. Peter was fishing in Tuscany, Italy. Good for you, Peter!

Congratulations to the graduates! Congratulations to the Education Committee Team!

Photo below:

Eleven of the students who completed the *Introduction to Fly Fishing* at the Olympia Community Center.



Photo by Randy Allen

Tight lines,

*Randy*



Photo by FFI

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# Fundraising

John Sabo Fundraising Chair



## Greetings,

### SSFF Pot-Luck Dinner and Auction News

Once every two years the club hosts The South Sound Fly Fishers' Family Pot-Luck Dinner and Auction for club members, their families and guests, in order to raise the funds needed for the club's conservation and service projects for the next two years.

The next SSFF Pot-Luck Dinner and Auction will be on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Black Lake Grange Hall, on Black Lake Boulevard, next to the fire station. For those of you who have GPS the address is: 6011 Black Lake Boulevard SW, Olympia, WA. The dinner will be at 6:00 PM and the live-only auction will start at 7:00 PM.

The family pot-luck is always a success, with an abundance of hot-dishes, salads and desserts. The club will supply plates, silverware, napkins, soft drinks, bottled water, coffee, and tea. However, we need two large (not huge) coolers (no ice - we have cold packs), one heavy duty (not long) extension cord, and one power strip (with circuit breaker). We also need two banquet size coffee makers (one for coffee, and the other for hot water for tea). If you can supply any of these items, please see me at the raffle table, or email me at: [chrisonquince@comcast.net](mailto:chrisonquince@comcast.net).

We have an awesome list of donated items and experiences for the auction. Here is a partial listing, with more items pledged:

### **FISHING BUDDY BOTTOM LINE ELECTRONIC FISHFINDER**

### **ONE-HALF DAY OF FISHING ON THE SOUND OR LAKE**

(Auction Items Continued)

**FLY FISHING COMBO KIT**

**PRIME RIB DINNER**

**GUIDED FISHING TRIP WITH CHESTER ALLEN**

**TOUR OF THE SALMON CENTER AND LUNCH FOR FOUR**

**ALPINE PONTOON BOAT**

**GUIDED FISHING TRIP WITH JIM McALLISTER**

**ROD BUILDING COMPONENTS AND INSTRUCTION**

**TAILGATE LUNCH FOR YOU AND THREE OF YOUR FISHING BUDDIES**

**FLY CASTING INSTRUCTION AND ON THE WATER GUIDE**

**GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR THE FLY FISHER**

**BOX OF BEAUTIFULLY TIED FLIES**

**FISH CAT 4 FLOAT TUBE BY OUTCAST**

**MINN KOTA TURBO ELECTRICTROLLING MOTOR**

**RVQ CAMPING GRILL**

The last time we can accept donations is the club meeting on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Here is a copy of the donation form and I will also have donation forms at the April 2018 meeting. See me at the raffle table for your donation form.

# South Sound Fly Fishers PROCUREMENT FORM

April 21, 2018

Auction

Thank you for procuring an item for the auction! Please complete everything above the dotted line. Remember that the quality and quantity of detail you provide on this form will directly affect its sale at auction, so be thorough in your description. *If you have questions regarding how to fill out the form or what information to include, please contact John Sabo or Dave Field.*

When you have completed this form, please email to:

**John Sabo**

2933 Quince St. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

360-943-6853

chrisonquince@comcast.net

OR

**Dave Field**

2000 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

360-352-0167

d\_w\_field@hotmail.com

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Procurer (You!):

Phone:

Email:

What is the item? (ONE ITEM PER FORM PLEASE!):

Below, please describe the item **in detail**. If fishing trip, please specify a date or the available time window, what you will provide and what the bidder must bring such as a floating device, waders, rod weight, fly-line type, flies, lunch/beverages, etc. Also please indicate fly fishing skill level (beginner, intermediate, advanced) if this is important to the success of the trip. If you are donating a physical auction item, please provide a full description such as size, type, model year and indicate if it is new or gently used.

ESTIMATED VALUE:

**FOR PROCESSING ONLY (DO NOT COMPLETE):**

Item received/stored at (location):

Item to be delivered on (date):

CONTROL NUMBER:

## Club Raffle News

Thank you, to all the club members who participate in the raffle at each meeting and all the members who donate raffle items. Remember, we will continue to have interesting and useful raffle items at every meeting, so stop by before the meeting and get your tickets. We also have some empty fly boxes to fill for the raffle, please see me at the raffle table.

## SSFF Patches

Official SSFF Patches are available at the Raffle Table for only \$5. These can be placed on a cap, shirt, jacket, or fly fishing vest to show your membership in the club.

## SSFF Stickers

Official SSFF Stickers are available at the Raffle Table for only \$10. These can be placed on your boat, truck, auto, motorcycle, skateboard, or virtually any hard smooth surface to show your membership in the club.

*John Sabo*



Photo by FFI



### SSFF 2018 Dues are Due!

If you haven't already done so, please pay your 2018 dues. Yearly dues of \$40.00 for members are payable on January 1st. Your dues may be paid by cash or check and given to the club Treasure at the monthly club meetings. For those that plan to pay by check at a club meeting please remember to bring your checkbook!

Of course, you can also mail your check to: South Sound Fly Fishers, PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507. Thank you.

*Jim*



Photo by Howard Nanto

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## Membership

by Randy Allen

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SSFF welcomes two fishers into the club so here is an introduction if you were not at the last club meeting.



**Harry Griffith** - hails from Montana. His dad was an enthusiastic fisher and fly tier, introducing the young Harry to Dan Bailey in Livingston, Mt. While attending school in Bozeman Harry welcomed his late September fly fishing trips into the Beartooth National Forest. Summer crowds diminished, and fly-fishing was great. Eventually the South Puget Sound lured him away from his beloved blue-ribbon Montana trout streams; he's been here ever since. (And, he's fished some of the streams near Shelton that I've wondered about!) He is interested in our conservation efforts - we will connect you with our Conservation Chair, Don Freeman, who can fill you in on those efforts and activities. Welcome, Harry!



**Kevin Kier**- started fly-fishing about 14 years of age living near Corvallis, Oregon. He fished a number of local rivers including Siuslaw, Santiam, and Umpqua to name a few. Later Kevin was stationed in Alaska with the Coast Guard which provided opportunities to sharpen his fishing skills while serving there. He settled in Olympia and joined the SSFF. Kevin ties his flies and is interested in fishing for trout, salmon, steelhead, and coastal cutthroat. Committee interests include conservation, education, programs, outings, membership, and newsletter activities. Welcome, Kevin!

*Randy*



## Greetings,

Here are the up-coming FFI Northwest events to put on your calendar:

**May 4-5, 2018 - Washington State Council Fly Fishing Fair**, Ellensburg WA, Please join us at the Washington Council's 12th annual Fly Fishing Fair. The 2018 Fair will be held in Ellensburg, WA on May 4th and 5th, 2018 (Friday and Saturday) at the Kittitas Valley Event Center (Fair Grounds) in Ellensburg, WA. You may register beginning Jan 15, 2018 on our website (<http://wscffi.org/>). The Volunteer Dinner (it's free and open to all volunteers) will be held on Thursday, May 3rd. The Social hour with no host bar opens at 5 PM, Dinner will start at 6 PM. The Council's annual Award Banquet and Auction (the Council's major fundraiser) will be held on Friday, May 4th. The no host bar will open at 5 PM, Dinner will begin at 6 PM. The Live Auction will follow Dinner. Reservations can be made and tickets can be purchased (for \$40) on our website after January 15th, 2018. Discounted Motel and Hotel options are listed at (<http://wscffi.org/>), please note that you must call (no online) your chosen hotel directly and mention the WA Fly Fishing Fair to get the discount price (listed for each hotel on our website) which is good through April 1, 2018.

**August 6-11, 2018 - 2018 FFI Annual International Fly Fishing Fair** in Boise ID, Boise Centre, Century Link Arena and The Grove Hotel. Watch for more details in the coming months. The show will feature Vendors, Gear Sales, lots of Kid Activities, Free Classes and Demonstrations, Live Music and lots of family fun. The Fair will feature: FFI Learning Center classes and workshops on Fly Tying, Fly Fishing Skills, Fly Casting, and Conservation; a Women's Extravaganza featuring Women's Outreach activities, Women's Fly Tying and Fly Fishing workshops. Conservation Keynote Address and Discussion with this year's FFI Leopold Award winner; 2-Day Youth Fly Fishing Camp, numerous Meal Events, Fly Tying Demonstrations, Auctions and Raffles, Fly Casting Demonstrations, and much more.

Tight Lines,

*Mike*

## Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy-2018



The deadline for the 2018 Academy is closing in - April 15, 2018/ Those that apply and are accepted, will be notified by the middle of May. The Academy this year is again the last full week of June 24-30, 2018. The Academy is held on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Applicants need to write an essay explaining why “they” would like to attend. They also will need a letter of recommendation from their school counselor, science teacher or responsible person. The applicant, boy or girl, 12-16, should not be 17 at the start of the Academy. Cost is \$300 and there are sponsorships available. No one will be turned away because of lack of money.

The support from the fly fishing community again this year is nothing short of spectacular. Applications are coming from all over the State. In the past years, we have been supported by over 50 volunteers. We will need volunteers again this year as guides to take the kids fishing in the morning and evenings. We will be fishing a local pond and the Deschutes River in Thurston County. The Academy will be a life experience for these youth, they are the future of our sport of fly fishing.

The Academy has a Facebook page loaded with pictures from past years and our website [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com) You may download the application off the website or call Mike Clancy @253-278-0061, Jim Brosio @ 360-943-9947 or Tom Van Gelder @253-261-8890.

*We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can always build our youth for the future. FDR*



NWYC&FFA Photo



(This is another story from fisher, fly tier, mariner and past SSFF board member Gary Oberbillig)

### **Fishing Lenice and Nunnally with John McKenzie**

Some of my fondest memories of fishing with John McKenzie are the fishing trips we took to Lenice and Nunnally lakes. These were among our favorite fishing destinations in central Washington.

These lakes along with their adjoining little sister, Merry Lake, flow into lower Crab Creek before it dumps into the Columbia near the town of Beverly a few miles away. I can usually tell if someone is a native to our area by the way they pronounce Crab Creek. If they say Crab “Crick” then they are likely a native because this is the way we pronounced “creek” when I was growing up in Idaho.

Lenice and Nunnally lakes didn’t even exist until after WWII when the O’Sullivan Dam was constructed. For that matter the most of Pothole Lakes didn’t exist either. Maybe I should backup a little and explain how much the fishing in Central Washington was shaped by all the changes we made to the landscape in the 30s and 40s. Our last story was about fishing Dry Falls Lake and so we’ve already talked a little about the shaping of the land in Washington since the last ice age. You may remember we talked about a second channel of the Columbia that eroded the southern end of the Grand Coulee and we know today as Dry Falls. When this channel was operating the falls were 400 feet high and 3.5 miles wide - five times the width and much taller than Niagara Falls.

During the last ice age, Lake Missoula was formed when the Cordilleran ice sheet blocked the Clark Fork River near the Idaho Panhandle. Lake Missoula was huge - 2,000 feet deep and contained over 500 cubic miles of water. This is more water than Lake Erie and Lake Ontario combined. When the lake burst through the 2,500 foot wall of ice holding it back the rush of water reached speeds of 65 mph. The torrent traveled through northern Idaho, eastern Washington and on to the western parts Washington and Oregon. Over the course of time these repeated floods stripped away soil and created canyons or what we call coulees. The region carved out by the floods are collectively known as the Channeled Scablands.

Fast forward to the last 150 years. The European settlers in what is now eastern Washington knew their region had good soil but very little rainfall. They also knew that the Columbia River could provide plenty of water for farming. So early on the eastside communities developed plans on how to get Columbia river water to their soil. The proposals created a bitter debate during the 1920s between two groups.

One group wanted to use the ancient Grand Coulee channel as a gravity canal, while the other group wanted a high dam with generators and pumps to move the water to where it was needed. The high dam supporters were in the majority so in 1933 FDR and the Whitehouse supported a high dam project and made it part of the National Industrial Recovery Act. It became a huge jobs program for the people of the northwest.

The National Industrial Recovery Act was later declared unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court, so congress reauthorized the dam as part of the Rivers and Harbors act of 1935. Construction work later continued under the Columbia Basin Project Act of 1939. Construction of Grand Coulee Dam took almost ten years and took on a life of its own now immortalized by poems and songs. The dam was finally completed in 1942 and of course the WWII aluminum industry and the Hanford project got much of the electricity the dam generated.

After the war the Federal government was able to get back to work on the irrigation business and O'Sullivan Dam was constructed. O'Sullivan Dam is one the largest earth dams in the U.S. The dam was designed to recapture irrigation runoff and regulate water flow in Crab Creek. The dam also raised the water table and created many of the lakes we fish on the eastside including Lenice and Nunnally.

The landscape around these lakes is of course part of central Washington scablands. It is an arid land of sagebrush except for the irrigated plots of ground. There's no sound of traffic with the exception of a lonely school-bus making its way between farms, an occasional airplane and the chattering of birds in the cattails.

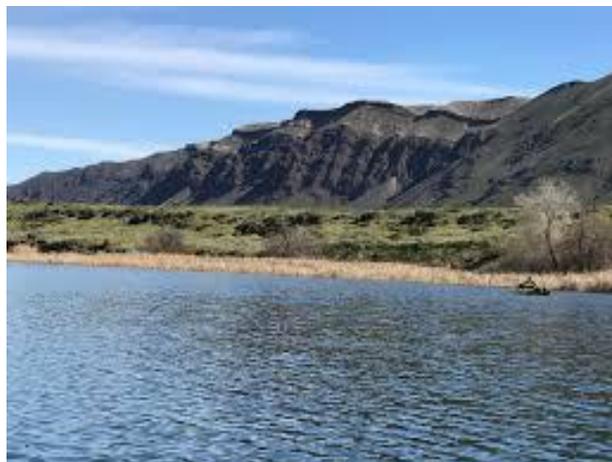
For fishing purposes, Lenice and Nunnally are best accessed from the chief walk-in entry points near the parking areas. The main access area provides good nearshore fishing in water from 5 to 8 feet deep, as well as drop-off areas that descend quickly. The lakes' cliffs plunge into cattails; perfect for prospecting with Woolly Buggers, leeches, scuds, and damselfly nymphs. Where there is less vegetation and a muddy bottom, John and I would fish chironomid patterns. The middle part of the lakes is the deepest. Here we'd troll Woolly Buggers, Zonkers, or Carey Specials with full-sinking lines.

In May the damselfly hatch was predominantly a nymphing event. John and I would be in the shallow shoreline areas with marsh grass and cattails. We tied olive Marabou Damsel Nymphs in sizes 10 and 12. We would cast with a strike indicator and use a slow retrieve with an occasional “pop” just like in bass fishing, just to keep the damsel moving erratically in the water. Being a lover of bass, that was my kind of fishing.

In June when we would start to see the Callibaetis mayflies emerge we began using mayfly patterns. The fish would key on all stages of the life cycle as the hatch progressed from nymphs to emergers, duns, and spinners. We used Callibaetis Cripples, Parachute Adams and Sparkle Duns for the fish feeding on top. John and I would use Gold-ribbed Hare’s Ears under a strike indicator or an intermediate sinking line to catch fish feeding subsurface. Much of Lenice’s north side is dotted with small, rocky islands, bays, and channels. This is one of John’s favorite areas during the Callibaetis hatch. We’d position our pontoon boats between islands, track the paths of rising fish, and move from one trout to the next.

In more recent years John and I started to hear about vehicle break-ins in the Lenice and Nunnally parking lots. The concern was the large number of migrant farmworkers that worked in the area. Local law enforcement and WDFW Police became involved as the problem became more and more serious. John and I were relieved when the local papers finally reported the officers had caught a local resident. They raided his home to find all sorts of stolen gear taken from parked vehicles. It turned out that the migrants were not at all involved with these break-ins. Goes to show you how easy it is to get caught-up in racial stereotypes.

John and I enjoyed these lakes and always looked forward to fishing Lenice and Nunnally in the spring and fall of each year. Hopefully SSFF members put these lakes on their fishing calendar.



Nunnally Lake



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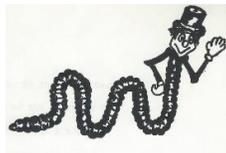
## Club Bulletin Board

**Meeting Night Activities** Doors will be open at 5:30pm and at 6:00pm Justin Waters will use the club's camera and projector on the big screen to demonstrate how he ties some of his favorite patterns.

**Help Coastal Cutthroat Trout.** Volunteers are needed by the WDFW Coastal Cutthroat Trout Program. Learn about these iconic fish as you work to help further their recovery. If you would like to help--Call Bill Young at 360-426-8416. Bill has been a volunteer studying these fish and their habitat for over ten years. Leave a message if Bill is out doing a redd count on a local stream. To learn more about these native fish, click Coastal Cutthroat Coalition on the club website.

**Please...keep the Fire Station's fire and medic truck driveway clear of vehicles during all SSFF meetings. If the designated parking spaces in front of the fire Station are full, please use the parking areas behind the building.**

**Remember to support our First Responders!**



**Willy Worm says thank you for parking in designated areas around the fire station!**

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## Fly of the Month

# Tang

Tied, Written and Photographed By: Kit Seaton



The Fly of the Month is a vehicle for highlighting the talented tiers around us. I know so many talented tiers and I never expected to turn the spotlight on myself. As I was reviewing the video of this months guest tier, I had a startling realization. The video was incomplete. So, I am going to take this opportunity to show you one of the flies that I developed for the Stillwater River of Montana.

This weeks fly is the Tang. If you have heard of this fly, I would be surprised. It is not available in fly shops or on line. One of the great things about tying flies, is that you can make something that no one else will be fishing with. The reason that I developed this fly was to add color into the common Pheasant Tail Nymph. Red and hot orange have always been popular colors on the Stillwater River. So, the first color I experimented with was hot orange. When people started to ask me what I was fishing with, I had no name for the fly. A friend, Doug Haacke, named the fly for me. Since the original was hot orange, he suggest Tang after the orange flavored drink made popular as the drink of astronauts.

This is one of the simplest flies that you will ever tie. It is a Baetis imitation.

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### Materials

Hook - 14 nymph hook

Thread/Body - 6/0 Cream

Tail/Back/Legs - Pheasant Tail Fibers

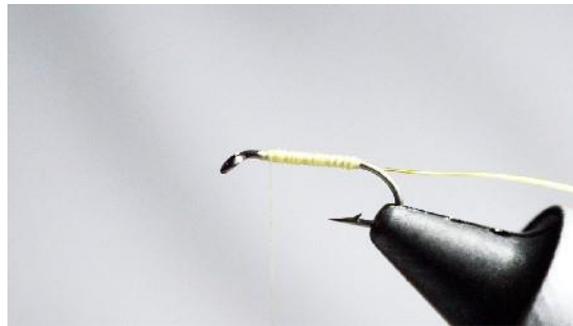
Rib - SM Gold Wire

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Tying Steps



Step 1-Make a thread base from an index point one eyes length behind the eye to the bend of the hook and back up to the index point. I do not mind making several passes to build up the body since the body is mostly comprised of thread.



Step 2 -Tie the wire in on the near side of the hook and lash down the length of the hook all the way to the bend and return the thread once again to the index point.



Step 3 - Cut 6-8 long peasant tail fibers doing your best to keep the tips aligned. Tie the fibers along the hook shank so the ends form a tail the  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length as the hook shank. Leave the excess hanging over the eye of the hook.



#### Step 4

Fold back the pheasant tail fibers and cover then with thread finishing back up at the head of the fly. You may ask why I go to such effort to build up the body when you could simple dub with a fine dubbing. I have used dubbing and when dubbed, I do not catch as many fish.



#### Step 5

Fold the barbules back over the body again being mindful to keep them on top of the fly and tie them in.



### Step 6

Wrap the wire forward, tie it in, and trim off the excess.



### Step 7

Fold the fibers back and form a ball of thread that goes back one third of the shank.



### Step 8

Fold the pheasant tail fibers over the top of the ball to form the wing case and anchor the fibers behind the eye.



## Step 9

Fold the remaining ends back. Divide the fibers and maneuver the fibers to opposite sides of the fly, so that you get an equal number of fibers on each side. Pull the fibers down and back and build a head, whip finish, and cut your thread.

## Closing Comments

This fly can be tied in many colors and on different shaped hooks. Tied thin in red on a scud hook without legs makes a great Chironomids pattern. My favorite pattern is gray with a silver rib and midge flash in place of the pheasant tail on a size 14 hopper hook. I call this version the Crystal Tang.

**Thank you FFI for sharing this pattern!**



Photo by Howard Nanto



## SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS - 2018

Officers, Directors, Chairs and Club Information

President: Wayne Dixon Sr. [wkdixon@gmail.com](mailto:wkdixon@gmail.com)

Vice President: Randy Allen [randyandcarol2@gmail.com](mailto:randyandcarol2@gmail.com)

Secretary: Mark Brownell [brownellmi@outlook.com](mailto:brownellmi@outlook.com)

Treasurer: Jim Maus [jimmaus@comcast.net](mailto:jimmaus@comcast.net)

Past President: Gene Rivers [acu4pets@hotmail.com](mailto:acu4pets@hotmail.com)

Director at Large: Ben Dennis [flyrodbranch@comcast.net](mailto:flyrodbranch@comcast.net)

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

Education: Max Doerge [mdoerge@live.com](mailto:mdoerge@live.com)

Fundraising: John Sabo [chrisonquince@comcast.net](mailto:chrisonquince@comcast.net)

Membership: Vacant (Randy Allen Acting) [randyandcarol2@gmail.com](mailto:randyandcarol2@gmail.com)

Outings: Jim McAllister [Jimspacmule@msn.com](mailto:Jimspacmule@msn.com)

Programs: Gene Rivers [acu4pets@hotmail.com](mailto:acu4pets@hotmail.com)

The Garden Hackle Editor: Dave Field [d\\_w\\_field@hotmail.com](mailto:d_w_field@hotmail.com)

Web-Master: Jordan Larsen [larsenoutdoorproductions@gmail.com](mailto:larsenoutdoorproductions@gmail.com)

WSCFFI Representative: Mike Clancy [mtclancy@comcast.net](mailto:mtclancy@comcast.net)

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

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

**Club Meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month except December. Doors open at 5:30PM with the meeting starting at 7:00pm.** Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month starting at 6:00 pm. All regularly scheduled meetings are held at the North Olympia Fire Station, 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia WA. USA.

**May 6, 2018 will be the deadline for the next edition of the Garden Hackle.**