



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 18 Issue 6

June 2018

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President Wayne talks about all the club activities this month.

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Gene Rivers' June program will be Officer Greg Haw from the WDFW Enforcement Program.

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Jim McAllister sets SSFF June outing at Swofford Pond.

## The Leader's Line

By President Wayne Dixon Sr.



### Greetings,

It's 62 degrees outside, the wind is blowing and rain is in the forecast. Don't lose heart, the beginning of Summer is only a week or so away. If you have been out to any of the local rivers you will find the trout hitting on dry flies. A few of the dry patterns I found most productive are "Screaming Banshee, and Elk Hair Caddis patterns, of course Jay Paulson's Titanic is always "money".

We have been busy at the club with a lot of events going on to include outings with Oly Women on the Fly. Jim McCallister has been instrumental in building that relationship. We are also planning some annual trips for those who want to get away from Olympia, do some overnight trips, participate in combined outings, and enjoy a BBQ with fellow fly fisherman (fisherwomen). If you have any ideas for a trip or want to be a ghillie for one of the trips contact your board members and give them the information.

The Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy kicks off the last week in June. The curriculum focuses on conservation, natural resource stewardship, and fly-fishing essentials. Fly fishing classes include fly casting, fly tying, knot tying, reading water, and water safety. Jim and Mike continue to work hard on this program and are a major part of their success.

There is also going to be an introduction to fly tying class offered by the Parks, Arts and Recreation Department in Olympia, our own Jim Maas and Janet Schrimf will be the featured Instructors for the event. More information will be available as soon as dates and times are decided on.

Your board of directors always welcomes your ideas, thoughts and recommendations on events you would like to see the club participate in. Also feel free to contact me anytime with any concerns. Hope you have a great summer, participate in our club activities and get a chance to get out and drown some flies.

Peace,

*Wayne*



Photo by Howard Nanto



**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program**

Our June 2018 Program will be given by Officer Greg Haw from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Law Enforcement Program has 144 commissioned law enforcement personnel statewide. Fish and Wildlife Officers respond to public safety issues such as dangerous wildlife encounters, natural disasters (including floods, fires and severe storms) and general law enforcement calls for service.

The Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program is primarily responsible for enforcing Title 77 - the ***Fish and Wildlife Code***. FWO's enforce all criminal laws, including traffic violations, drugs and warrants for arrest. Officers may also hold county commissions and are charged with enforcing county ordinances as applicable.

On an average, WDFW make more than 225,000 enforcement contacts annually.

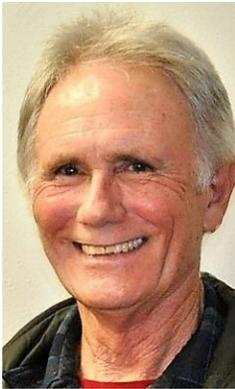
Plan to attend this fascinating opportunity to learn more from Officer Greg Haw about your Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program.

*Gene Rivers*

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# THE SOAPBOX

BY Don Freeman Conservation and Political chair



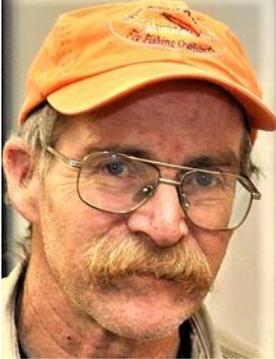
**Greetings Fellow Fly Fishers,**

Conservation of our resources is a huge topic on the scene now be it local, regional or national. I'm currently studying a number of conservation issues that confront SSFF members and there are so many issues to deal with it almost takes your breath away. One issue leads to another and another and another.

One issue that never goes away is poaching and WDFW's enforcement of state laws. That leads us to this month's club program featuring Officer Greg Haw of WDFW's Enforcement Division. Greg is a good friend of the club and really all organizations that are concerned with conserving and protecting our outdoor resources.

This will be a great program and we will see you at the club meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.





### Hello Fellow Fly Fishers,

Our next outing will be June 23<sup>rd</sup> at Swofford Pond. At 217 acres, Swofford Pond is really not a pond at all, as it is bigger than the typical lake here in Washington. It is also home to a large variety of fish including: Rainbow Trout, Brown Trout, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Channel Catfish, Warmouth, Pumpkinseed and a few other species. 4-5 weight rods with slow sink or floating lines are recommended. A variety of dry and wet flies will work. We will discuss the outing on June 19<sup>th</sup> and I hope to have maps available for this club meeting.

**Outings Backcast** The club has had two outings in the past few weeks.

On Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> we had a club outing at Lake St Clair. The weather was gorgeous. Similar to past outings at Lake St Clair a variety of fish were caught. Rainbows, Cutthroat, Bass, Crappie and Perch all fell prey to a wide variety of flies. Nobody caught a Channel Catfish, although a some of the other heavy gear folks may have caught a Catfish with bait. Most club members found the fishing only fair. There were a lot of hookups but not many fish brought to the net.

On June 2<sup>nd</sup> we had a club outing at Scott Lake. It was another beautiful day with lots of sun and light and variable winds. Fish were caught using a variety of fly fishing techniques. Lots of fish were caught by members trolling with slow sink lines. Larry Hall caught the biggest fish of the day by casting and stripping. All in all it was a good day of fishing at Scott Lake.

*Jim*

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# Fundraising

John Sabo Fundraising Chair



## Greetings,

### SSFF Raffle News

We are doing well with the Club's Raffle this year with a "profit" of \$200 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.

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.

### 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*



### SSFF 2018 Dues are Due!

If you haven't already done so, please pay your 2018 dues. Yearly dues are \$40.00 for ongoing members. Your dues may be paid by cash or check and given to the club Treasurer 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*



Crab Creek

SSFF welcomes these new members!



**Kathy Barkus** - our *very own* “Valley Girl” has been fishing “a while”. . she started *fly* fishing when she lived in Van Nuys, So Cal. (There’s more fly fishing going on in SoCal than people might imagine!) Yeh, she saw “the movie.” (A River Runs Through It - she has her own copy!)

She and her son, then in high school, were planning a summer trip to Yellowstone. She was interested in fly fishing, but shocked at the exorbitant prices fly fishing guide services commanded. Her valley sports shop had a flyer for a local club, the Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers. Kathy and her son took up with them, and attended their free casting and fishing classes. To conclude the classes the club held a graduation outing to the Eastern Sierra, where instructors helped the new students to ensure success. Successful on that graduation outing, Kathy and her son became confident that they could fish Yellowstone on their own. They were, they did, and it was a very successful fishing trip. They fished out-of-the-way streams coming and going as well as the Firehole, Madison, and other big famous rivers.

Her SoCal occupation was highly stressful. She found fly fishing was the only time she had with a complete lack of stress. She relocated to the South Sound, and loves living in an area like she used to drive 5 hours to visit. She greatly appreciates the casting help from Ben Dennis, and Jim McAllister for lake fishing. She loves fishing streams for trout, and she’s looking forward to catching her first salmon! (Remember the November Chum outing to Hoodsport !\_) Welcome, Kathy!



**Jay Paulson** –After living in the Redmond area Jay transplanted himself into Olympia, and now he attends meetings with a member badge! As a youngster in the Michigan-Minnesota area Jay grew up fishing conventional gear. He started carrying a fly rod along with his spinning rod. But, he had no real training in setting up the fly rod - no tapered leaders, no good knots, not much going on. One day he ran into an old fly fisher. Crusty, but happy to see a youngster starting out, this senior set him up at the side of the stream.

The eighteen-year-old Jay was lucky to have six things back then: one good fishing buddy, and their five flies. That's all they had to spend on flies back then. They climbed trees to retrieve their stuck flies! Then Jay discovered the very hospitable Bob Mitchell and his fly shop. He took a fly tying class in the late 1970's and fished every weekend, becoming a master *nymph* fisher.

In the late 1980's Jay moved to Redmond, Washington. About 2004 Jay's interest in dry-fly fishing took off. Dissatisfied by dry flies that weren't, in search of an invincible dry fly that would really float...he developed his Titanic fly, with its unique floating hull. (Students at last Fall's fly tying class learned to tie "Titanic" flies with Jay.) His Titanic series flies are the basis of his business, "Amazing Flies." He's fished the world's prime destinations many dream of, shipping "Titanics" around the globe. Thank, you, Jay, for all the support you've provided the SSFF for a long time. That master nymph stuff? A stepping stone to his love of fishing dries!

Welcome, Jay!



## Greetings,

Here is up-coming FFI Northwest event to put on your calendar:

**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



Registration for The Academy is on Sunday, June 24, @12 pm, when 22 boys will be showing up with all their paperwork, sleeping gear, fishing gear, etc. preparing for an exciting week. Some have a little experience, most don't, but these kids will learn quickly with the help of all the great volunteers. Our ghillies are all alumni and know how to relate to the new kids. 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 our new ponds in Graham. 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, insuring they are safe and learn to land fish. 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 2018 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

*Mike Clancy*



NWYC&FFA Photo

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## Around the Campfire with Gary Oberbillig



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

### Greetings fellow fly fishers,

This story takes us back to western Ireland, County Galway and the surrounding area. I took my mountain bike on many trips to Ireland and this story has to do with one of many bike rides. One of the best ways to get around is by bicycle. Bike travel is ideal in Ireland because you can easily meet local folks and to see things you cannot see from a car.

You may recall in an earlier story I told you about fly fishing the River Annalee. In County Galway I visited with many fisherman and carefully observed the locals as they fished both the salt and fresh water. As a kid growing up in Idaho, my grandfather taught me much more than just fly fishing. He and the family imparted a love of geology, geography and natural history. County Galway was fascinating in its geology, geography and natural history and that's why I kept returning to the Emerald Isle.

The Aran Islands sit in Galway Bay and are an extension of the rocky limestone country of southwestern Ireland known as the Burren. Getting to these islands took less than an hour by ferry, but when you stepped on the Arans it was like turning back the clock by a century. You entered the Ireland of old. The locals spoke Irish and lived in the same manner as their kin folk going back countless generations. Only towards the middle of the last century did the island folks have electricity and indoor plumbing. Farming and fishing were the primary occupations of the islanders. By the 1800's the Arans became a haven for artists and writers. One artist was Elizabeth Rivers and her work as an illustrator is still admired around the world.

The fisherman use small boats in the ocean known as corrachs. They made them of canvas laid over wood stringers and coated with tar. While out in one of the corrachs I asked one of the oarsman if I fell in the water would he try and save me and his answer was only a chuckle. You see the Galway fisherman believe that if they save anyone from the sea, the sea will later take them or a family member. In their mind the sea keeps a scorecard and anyone who's life is saved requires that another person's life be taken by the sea. I found that some fisherman refused to learn to swim because they would rather quickly drown than suffer the agony of swimming in the icy waters of the North Atlantic until they die of hypothermia.

It was interesting to watch how they moved cattle off the Aran islands to the mainland. They fitted the steers with a large harness around their midsection and waded them out in the ocean until they were neck deep. They would hook their horns on the transom of the boats to keep their head out of the water and then row them out to the transport ship. The ship's crane would lower a cable and they would hook it on the harness and signal the crane to lift the animal on board the ship. The man rowing the boat said they had learned the hard way to never begin lifting to steer out of the water until they rowed well clear of the area. Usually the steer would let go of everything they were holding when they swung in the surprised animal in the air land it on the deck.

Dún Aengus is an ancient fortress on the islands. It is a huge structure constructed of limestone and stands on the high ground of the large island. The fort is in ruins but the cheval-de-frise which was made of rocks with the sharp side pointing up are still around the ancient walls. Rock is everywhere on these islands. For centuries the farmers worked on moving these rocks off the pastures and used them to mark the the property lines and to form walls on each side of the island roads. Over many years, the walls became high and are very prominent feature of the island landscape.

One day as I peddled up the road to the Dun Aengus fortress, I stopped for a brief rest at a pub. As you know the Irish are friendly folk and it wasn't long before a conversation was struck up with one of the locals named Bartley. First, Bartley confirmed I was a Yank although he undoubtedly could guess this by my American accent. He then asked how good my brakes were on the bike. I told him the brakes were quite adequate in the states but probably not the best for the steep ups and downs of the rock walled roads of the Aran Islands. He slammed down his beer mug and said the Aran Irish have the best brakes in the world—they called them rock walls!





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## Club Bulletin Board

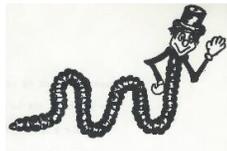
**Meeting Night Activities** With the warmer weather and longer days the doors will be open at 5:30pm for casting and fly tying. Experienced fly tiers will demonstrate how they tie some of their favorite flies.

**Warning:** Munn Lake and some of the other county lakes have major algae blooms. Thurston County recommends that affected lake waters should not be used for drinking, cooking, swimming or washing. If the algae bloom becomes toxic, it can cause serious illness and even death according to Public Health officials. Fishing is usually slow in these lakes.

**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 years. Please leave a message if Bill is out doing a redd count on a local stream. To learn more about these native fish, click on 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!**



## Club Bulletin Board



Please join Trout Unlimited Chapter 189 and Oly Women on the Fly at Pioneer Park for a BBQ potluck on June 27, 2018 from 4pm-8pm in the Pavilion. This is a family friendly event and kids will have the opportunity to win prizes and practice their casting.

**Please RSVP** with your favorite dish you intend to bring and how many will be attending to Kathy (818) 917-8935 call or text.

Pioneer park is located at: 5801 Henderson Blvd. SE Tumwater

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## Fly of the Month

### ZUG BUG



By Bob Bates

#### Opening Comments:

I mentioned before that many great fly tiers at TU and FFF shows are available to photograph for the FFF Fly of the Month. I just sit down in empty chair in front of a tier. This is the second fly that Milt Jenkins of Taylorsville, Utah tied for me at the 2011 East Idaho Fly Tying Expo. He has only one hand. A prosthetic device served as the other hand. He still ties flies professionally, although he admits that he is a little slower than before when he turned out 500 dozen flies a year for Jack Dennis. Milt has been tying for 53 years.

In *Flies for Trout* by Dick Stewart and Farrow Allen say credit for this pattern goes to Cliff Zug. Then they go on to say that any fly tied with peacock herl will catch fish. Just about everyone agrees with them on that. I use it in both streams and lakes. Just use your favorite wet fly techniques.

#### Materials List:

**Hook;** Daiicche 1180 10 -14 mostly 12

**Thread:** 6/0 black

**Tail:** Peacock sward fibers

**Weight:** Optional 0.015 lead wire

**Rib:** Oval silvertinse

**Body:** Peacock herl

**Beard:** Pheasant tail fibers

**Wing case:** Mallard breast feather



**Step 1.** Put a thread base whole length of shank, and tie on a good clump of peacock sward fibers. Milt ties them long and then adjusts the length. Hold fibers and pull thread down so material doesn't move around the hook. If he wants lead, he puts it on now at mid shank and wraps it forward to within a couple of eye widths of the eye. If he had a bead on the hook he would take a few more wraps and shove them into the back of the bead.



**Step 2.** Tie in oval silver rib. He also uses gold tinsel, it depends on the customer wants.



**Step 3:** Pick a bunch of peacock herl. Milt doesn't count fibers, he just grabs enough to make a nice body, and double wraps the peacock herl. He stops the herl about two eye widths back from the eye. Milt also adjusts the amount of herl if there is lead on the hook. He secures it with a half hitch so he can use a loose loop to put on beard.



**Step 4:** Reverse wrap rib so it isn't doesn't gets lost in the peacock herl. Also he doesn't like to use too much rib because it hides peacock.



**Step 5:** Tie the beard about two eye widths back from the eye.. It is easier to turn the hook over tie the fibers on loosely adjust the length, and then put on some tighter wraps. Trim excess. (He tied the beard in with the fly upside down, and I asked him to turn it over for the picture.)



**Step 6:** Use Mallard breast feather for the wing case. Strip off the real fuzzy stuff. Tie it on top of hook.



**Step 7:** Then cut it so it looks like wings are just starting to develop. Wind a small head, whip finish and put on a little head cement. (He makes his own glue with 50-50 Duco cement and acetone.)

**Closing comments:**

I have had Zug Bugs in my Fly box for more years than I want to admit. If you are not using them, shame on you. Get busy, and tie a few for your fly box.

There was no hackle on the flies he tied for me, but here is a little tip that he told me about. I will pass it on anyway. Cut a piece of cardstock in a circle, use a leather punch to put a small hole in the center. cut a slot from the edge to the hole. Slide it on to the thread, put it over the eye of the hook to push the hackle back and whip finish.

Thank you FFI for sharing this pattern.



Coldwater Lake

Howard Nanto Photo



## SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS - 2018

Officers, Directors, Chairs and Club Information

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

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**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.**

**July 8, 2018 will be the deadline for the next edition of the Garden Hackle.**