



# SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 21 Issue 8

August 2021

Page 3 The August 17<sup>th</sup> program is the annual picnic.

Page 7 Capitol Lake Alternative Option response drafted by Don Freeman.

Page 14 - 17 Check out the photos from recent club outings.

## **LEADER'S LINE      By President Randy Allen**



A lot of energy and a lot of questions surround the future of Capital Lake at the foot of the glorious capital buildings in Olympia. As is the fate of all lakes our own is not exempt from filling with suspended sediment carried down the Deschutes River until it is deposited in the still lake water. Add to that the unhealthy conditions caused by invasive species and you have a lake that has been closed to all recreational opportunities. It provides a picturesque setting for photo buffs but remains closed to recreation.

The Department of Enterprise Services issued a request for public opinions on the future of the lake. Your Conservation Chair, Don Freeman, brought before the board the question of responding as a club. We are a club of fishers, dads and moms, citizens who are concerned

for the future of the lake and for future generations. Feeling a sense of responsibility to comment, the board requested Don to draft a response.

Please read his Conservation article with our response in this edition of the Garden Hackle. His response reflects the position of your Board and your Club. Please also respond as individuals whether your opinion echoes this response or if you have a differing viewpoint. You'll find the links to the official publications and how to respond in Don's Conservation article.

Thanks again, Don, for your years of service to our Conservation efforts, and for drafting this response.

Through Don's relationship with the Puget Sound Fly Company, Tacoma he was able to dispose of a lot of gear through the shop's garage sale. He's been storing a lot of equipment donated to the club by our members and friends. I'll not spoil Don's article, I'll just say you owe it to yourself to read it. We cleared out a lot of miscellaneous fishing gear, and it worked out beautifully for customers, for the shop, and for SSFF. Don, many thanks for your efforts. Very well done! And, enjoy your new-found garage space!

Our outings are going along swimmingly in this prime fishing season. We caught what was in the Skookumchuck, and also at the local beach sea-run saltwater outing. Maybe not so many sea-runs, but as a group we weren't skunked. Check out our next outings to the Olympic National Park and to the Cowlitz River. The trout returns to Cowlitz / Blue Creek are projected to be good. The last time we fished there it was great - join us!

Stay well - fish well !

*Randy Allen*



## **August 17, 2021 SSFF Picnic**

Our August program will be the annual picnic on Tuesday, August 17 at 6:00 PM. This is a family event not just intended for the fishers. Spouses, partners, and kids are all welcome. This replaces the monthly Zoom meeting.

Jim McAllister is arranging for us to use the picnic shelter at Scott Lake. Because of COVID the Club is exercising the greatest caution this year. We will not be providing any food items. This will be a BYOE event - bring your own everything - beverage, food, utensils, plates. . . bring it from your home. We will spread only goodwill and camaraderie.

We hope to see you. But, if you're feeling uncomfortable about group meetings and you choose to sit this out, we understand.

The lake is closed to non-residents, **but** if you feel like wetting your line Jim will get you access to the lake starting about 2:00 PM. Bring your boat, canoe, kayak, or other floatation. Coordinate with Jim at 360 970-2953.

### Driving from the north

Exit I5 at 93<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW and turn left

At Case Road turn right

Follow Case to the stop at 113<sup>th</sup> Ave, a 5-way intersection

Make a soft left onto Scott Creek Drive SW, keeping the Chevron gas on your right

Follow Scott Creek to its end at the golf course. The picnic shelter and parking will be to your left.

### Driving from the south

Exit I5 at Maytown Road and turn left

At Case Road turn right

At 113<sup>th</sup> Ave turn right

At the 5-way intersection turn right onto Scott Creek Drive SW, the other side of Chevron gas

Follow Scott Creek to its end at the golf course. The picnic shelter and parking will be to your left.



**WSCFFI-FFI-ACADEMY UPDATES** by Mike Clancy, WSCFFI Rep.

**FFI Inaugural Film Festival** - Have a phone or camera? Want to win some cool stuff? Enter the FFI Inaugural Film Festival.

In keeping with the mission of FFI to preserve the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters the objective of the Inaugural FFI Film Festival is to invite and encourage filmmakers of all ages, abilities, and experience to tell their fly-fishing-related stories through film. Experienced or novice, young or old, close to home, or in exotic locations, all are invited to submit their original films. Deadline to submit a film is September 10, 2021. Learn more at the FFI website and do a SEARCH for Film Festival.

**NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy** - We will open registration for the 2022 Academy on January 1, 2022. An essay and letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, or scout leader is required along with the application. No one is turned away because of funding. Sponsorships are available. The event will take place the last full week of June, June 19-25, 2022. In 2022 only, the age is open to 12-17 years old. The event will be held on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Let's hope we can do this in 2022.

**Alaska - Anchorage** - The Biden administration is ending large-scale, old growth timber sales in the Tongass National Forest and will focus on restoration, recreation and other noncommercial uses for the southwest Alaska rainforest.

**The Osprey** - The international Journal of Salmon and Steelhead Conservation. The Osprey is supported by the FFI along with many other organizations. To me, it provides more information on conservation issues in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho than any other publication under one cover. Their website: [www.theconservationangler.org/osprey](http://www.theconservationangler.org/osprey)



Dear Bristol Bay Supporters,

We have exciting news to share with you! Yesterday the Alaska Department of Fish and Game reported that the Bristol Bay's 2021 sockeye run reached the largest on record with **63.2 million fish returning to the bay**. The 2021 run broke the 2018 standing record of 62.9 million fish returning to the region.

Thousands of years of indigenous stewardship and 100+ years of sustainable commercial fishery management made this year's record-breaking sockeye run in Bristol Bay possible. Science has shown that clean water and healthy fish habitat will continue to support this world-class fishery that produces roughly 50% of all sockeye salmon on the planet. Even though the fishery's biggest threat- the proposed Pebble Mine- was denied the key federal permit last year, Bristol Bay isn't safe yet. **The region still needs durable and permanent protections to ensure that Pebble, or another mining company, won't come back in the future. Join us in asking decision-makers to advance permanent protections for Bristol Bay today.**

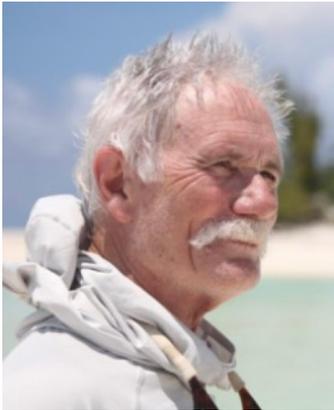
Both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Congress have the opportunity to establish safeguards that, together, would protect the fish, people, and fish-based industries in Bristol Bay. They need to hear from people in Bristol Bay and beyond that this is a treasure that requires permanent protection.

The 2021 run record is just one reason we say "No Pebble Mine- Not Here, Not Ever." And it's why our work doesn't stop until we can fully assure that we will never have to fight this irresponsible mine plan again. Help us continue our work in Bristol Bay by making a donation today.

*Thank you for taking action and sticking with us!*

*Megan and Trout Unlimited's save Bristol Bay team.*

**Donate here.** <https://www.votervoice.net/BroadcastLinks/TtRUHOVDdiUt5BtfOSbsWQ>



## THE SOAPBOX

Most of us who live in Olympia and the area are aware of the controversy surrounding what is to be done with Capitol Lake. Invasive New Zealand Mud Snails and the Purple Loosestrife plant have closed the lake for swimming, boating, and fishing for years now. The accumulated soil and muck have brought the condition of the lake to the point that that you wouldn't want to swim if it were allowed. I can attest to that; nearly 30 years ago I made my last commercial surface supplied dive to hook up the cables used to remove the "stop logs" that form the dam on the outlet end of the lake. Less than 10' from the surface the water was so turbid that I couldn't see my hand in front of my face, and I was happy to be wearing equipment suitable for contaminated water. Failing any further dredging, it's that way again.

The city has now invested in a study of the problem and has solicited public comment on three alternative plans for dealing with the lake, which was converted from an estuary sixty years ago by constructing the Fourth Street dam. This impoundment has gradually filled with sediment from the Deschutes River and has reached a critical point from which it will soon convert to marshland.

In my capacity as Conservation Chair I was asked by the board to study the published alternatives and write a letter to submit an opinion for the club as a body to submit to the Enterprise Agency. After many hours of study over several weeks I composed the letter and forwarded it to the board to judge and vote whether to submit the opinion formally. We have agreed on the position described in the attached letter. I have also included the links by which we can also comment as individuals. The board encourages our members to do that, giving their own personal preference whether it agrees with the club position or otherwise. Think of the club as a representational body whose policies reflect the views of the officers elected to speak for the whole. The end date for submission has been bumped back to August 29, 2021.

Don Freeman

# Capitol Lake Alternative Option

South Sound Fly Fishers

Capitol Lake Alternative Opinion

Department of Enterprise Services Capitol Lake – Deschutes Estuary EIS

For your consideration the members, board and particularly the Conservation Committee of South Sound Fly Fishers has thoroughly studied the published alternatives, consulted with WDFW biologists, entomologists and most importantly resident and community members who will be affected by the future of this proposal. We have considered the impacts of the decision on the costs of the alternatives, the recreational and community values provided, environmental health of the area and the wildlife impacts the several options would incur.

As citizens and taxpayers, we are concerned with the costs of any construction and maintenance. Ignoring these obligations has precluded the dredging and disposal of spill for decades which has brought us to the current status. We have an unhealthy body of water contaminated by invasive species which prevent the activities the lake was supposed to provide, including swimming, boating and fishing. Our study has led us to prefer an alternative which re-establishes the recreational use of the area, provides a healthy environment for residents, both human and wildlife, at a cost that is most likely to be supported by community resources.

South Sound Fly Fishers is a local organization that has promoted conservation projects in our area for more than 50 years. Our primary interest is, of course, fishing but this activity is dependent on a healthy environment that nurtures waterways, riparian zones and saltwater ecologies. It is also a recreational activity which means that we are committed to providing healthy outdoor opportunities for ourselves and also for our families and the non-angling community that we are no less a part of. We include this insight to illustrate that our preferred alternative is certainly the best option for fish and wildlife, but is tempered by our support for the community we share and for which we are creating a legacy that will affect our community for decades to come. We choose not to kick the can of worms our predecessors left us down the road for our children and grandchildren to correct and pay for.

**\*Our preference is for the re-establishment of the Deschutes estuary.** We can explain this decision by addressing each of the four stated objectives of the project: Improving Water Quality, Managing Sediment Accumulation and Future Deposits, Improving Ecological Functions and Enhancing Community Resources in turn. We will also address the likelihood of success of each alternative both of being chosen and long-term results.

## 1. Improving Water Quality

- A. Estuary. Initial estimated cost \$179 million to \$336 million. Maintenance costs are minimized. The alternatives document states “water quality will be self-managing as a brackish estuary.” This means that the constant flow of the river meeting with tidal influx of saltwater will create a semi-saltwater mix that continuously replenishes itself preventing stagnation and eliminating the New Zealand Mud snails and Purple Loosestrife plants. These are the invasive freshwater species whose presence has closed the lake to swimming and boating.
- B. Managed Lake. Estimated initial cost \$337 million to \$607million. “Water quality plans to be developed”. This vague statement underlies the root of the current problems. Regular dredging will be required to maintain a depth and quantity that would allow healthier conditions. Aquatic vegetation may have to be controlled by using herbicides and/or mechanical removal. Most importantly, maintaining a freshwater habitat allows the survival of the most troublesome invasive species. Managing acceptable water quality would be expensive and uncertain.
- C. Hybrid Alternative. Estimated initial cost \$249 million to \$463 million. This option reduces the size of the freshwater lake but furthers the need to control weeds and water quality and to manage the chemical content of the water since the lake would be groundwater fed. Groundwater contains high levels of phosphorus which promotes algal growth and higher density of aquatic plants. Mud snails and loosestrife could persist.

## 2. Manage Sediment Accumulation and Future Deposits

- A. Estuary. Sediment from dredging the large basin would be deposited upriver in the middle and upper basins creating tideland habitat for plants and animals. *Subsequent accumulation will be minimal* as deposits terminate in West Bay as would have occurred naturally. Dredging in these areas such as Olympia Yacht Club will be required on a six-to-twelve-year schedule. Less accumulation will occur in federal navigation channel to be the responsibility of Army Corps of Engineers and possibly Port of Olympia.
- B. Managed Lake. Construction sediment will be dumped in the middle basin and will establish a freshwater wetland community. *Subsequent dredging will be required on what is assumed to be a 20-year schedule. The amount removed will be greater each instance and the interval will likely decrease. This passes the expense and responsibility to future generations in perpetuity.*
- C. Hybrid. Construction sediment will be deposited upstream to create tidelands, *subsequent dredging will be required at assumed 15-year intervals.* A saltwater marsh will develop in middle basin.

### 3. Improve Ecological Function

- A. Estuary. *This alternative will restore the original estuary ecology to the area.* Tidelands support populations of crustaceans, shellfish, aquatic plants and birds and provide a nursery for outgoing smolt of anadromous fish such as salmon and sea run cutthroat trout. The current sad condition of the lake is detrimental to the smolt released by the Tumwater salmon hatchery reducing the success of these fish in escaping to Puget Sound and eventually the Pacific where they grow and feed aquatic species such as Orca whales.
- B. Managed Lake. *A freshwater lake does not provide substantial ecological function to our region.* The benefits of the freshwater habitat includes providing a generous chironomid larvae population in the shallow muddy waters. These larvae hatch in clouds of midges that are a primary food source for the Mexican Brown Bats that roost in Woodard Bay. The freshwater lake itself attracts a rich diversity of water birds including ducks, brandts, geese and swans that provide excellent bird watching for local enthusiasts.
- C. Hybrid. *This mixed environment provides the same benefits as both the freshwater lake and estuary, though each to a lesser extent due to the reduced scale of each.*

### 4. Enhance Community Resource

***All three alternatives provide enhanced community recreational facilities and opportunities. A pedestrian bridge will allow access along fifth avenue regardless of the width of the opening to be established. Boardwalks would meander through the tidelands or wetlands to allow up close experience of the habitats and wild life. Boat ramps and docks are projected to provide access to the waters freed of invasive species.***

- A. Estuary. One has only to experience the popularity of the estuary boardwalks at the Nisqually Wildlife Sanctuary to appreciate the value and appeal of our natural tidal ecology, unique to Puget Sound. Opening the basin to boating would benefit local anglers who could access the glut of unharvested hatchery salmon that congregate beneath the falls of the Deschutes. This fishery is produced at great cost but are not optimally harvested since access is restricted.
- B. Managed Lake. Swimming and boating will be part of the mix available only so long as water quality is maintained and invasive species are controlled. Visitors will continue to enjoy the reflective pool that graces our capitol landscape and observe the myriad waterfowl species that stop over on their migrations.
- C. Hybrid Alternative. The community will enjoy the benefits of both the other alternatives, though with a lesser impact due to the smaller reflective pool and estuary tide flats.

- A concluding statement. The opinions and observations expressed here are based primarily on the information included in the published materials presented in the submission for public input. We point out two glaring omissions which could substantially affect the success of each project and therefor the support for each. To wit:
- **Sea level rise.** No mention or projection was made concerning the very real prospect of sea level rise. One might assume that for instance under the estuary option the tide flats would be covered for a longer period than illustrated in the study, but what effect does this have on the need for armoring the perimeters? Under the managed lake or hybrid alternative, are the projected dams and barriers adequate? There remain a number of unanswered possibilities.
- **Flood water management.** Very little attention has been given to the function of the lake and the dam in controlling unusually high flows in the Deschutes due to storm conditions. No references are found regarding historical downtown flooding prior to or following the construction of the 4<sup>th</sup> Street dam. Neither are there projections as to the future effects of the three alternatives regarding this issue. For this reason, it is germane to note that the preference of the estuary alternative is predicated on the information provided but we do wish to identify these caveats.

The Board and 67 Members of South Sound Fly Fishers  
PO Box 2792  
Olympia, WA 98507

To comment by online form: <https://comment-tracker.esassoc.com/CLDE/index.html#/21/welcome>

To comment by mail: Department of Enterprise Services Capitol Lake - Deschutes Estuary  
EIS, P.O. Box 41476, Olympia, WA 98504-1476

# CLUB GARAGE SALE



Photo © Don Freeman

The photo is what you missed if you didn't make it to the club garage sale of donated fly fishing gear the club has received. Anil Srivastava, owner of Puget Sound Fly Company in Tacoma, allowed us to take advantage of their annual "Garage Sale" of gear accumulated through their trade-in program. Customers can trade-in their quality rods reels, etc. for credit on new equipment. Anil generously allowed the club to piggy-back on the event, benefitting from their clientele, marketing, and commercial infrastructure.

This made all the difference for us in moving the flies, rods, tying supplies, books, and miscellaneous equipment that has been growing like a mushroom in my basement for the last two years. I loaded the gear in my camper and set up in the parking lot across from the shop and rolled out the canopy for the forecast rain that didn't arrive until we were tearing down. Above you can see club member Howard Nanto, our regular fishing partner Tom Bowden and a PSFCo. customer perusing the stock.

By any measure the event was a smashing success. Everything sold with the exception of four or five boxes out of the nine boxes of books. Those I donated to Goodwill Industries. The sales total was a surprising \$852. The board will vote on allocation of the fund, one suggestion being to buy upgraded items for the raffle once Covid allows us to start in-person meetings again. For my part, I got to visit with old friends and club members and get some space back in my basement.

Don Freeman



Are you new to fly fishing? Many seek the SSFF to learn to fly fish or to improve their skills. New fly fishers accelerate their learning curves by joining a club and attending qualified classes.

Of course COVID-19 benched your skilled instructors. We'll post more details as we open up following guidance from the Department of Health.

SSFF offers three formal classes.

***Introduction to Fly Fishing*** taught in spring, five weeks, once per week. After this course you'll understand what you gear you'll need like rods, reels, lines, waders and boots, floatation devices for still-water fishing. We cover locating fish in rivers, lakes, and the salt water, and discuss local fish species you'll encounter. We also study the flies you'll use in our section on entomology.

***Fly Casting*** taught spring-early summer, seven weeks, once per week. This class is for single-handed rod casting, not spey rods. Through this course you will cast a fly line for different situations including the wind. You'll also experience how to overcome the effects of moving river water upon your line.

***Introduction to Fly Tying*** taught in the fall - winter, six weeks, once per week. Students tie a new fly each week. As homework students tie that fly at home and bring their work to the next class. The instructor-to-student ratio ensures students receive a lot of individual attention. We teach a variety of flies useful anywhere including nymphs, streamers, and dry flies. After completing the course students' skills can be applied to other flies similar to those taught.

Please contact me with questions; my email is on the last page of the newsletter.

Thanks for your patience as we all navigate COVID-19.

Wash your hands, wear a mask, and maintain your distance in parking lots and streamside!

## Randy Allen

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# Outings

## SSFF 2021 OUTINGS

For 2021 President Randy Allen has appointed the Board of Directors as the Outings committee. Suggest any outings to Randy or any board members. Emails are on the last page of the newsletter.

Directions to all fishing outings can be found on the WDFW website if you are not familiar with a particular lake, stream, saltwater park or other outing location. The Ghillies email contact info is on the last page of the newsletter if you have questions about a specific outing.

### August

8/28 **Saturday** North Fork Skokomish River, Olympic National Park - Depart at 8:30 from the Haggen Grocery parking lot, Cooper Point Road at Black Lake Blvd. Good fishing for trout. This stream is fishable from shore or wading. The park's fishing season is June 1 - September 15 when fishing closes in the river water above Lake Cushman. Fish this iconic water now or wish you had.

### September

9/9 **Thursday** Blue Creek / Cowlitz River More details to follow. Date subject to change depending upon return of searun cutthroat trout.

Second trip TBD.

### October

10/9 **Saturday** Lake Kokanee, also known as Lower Lake Cushman. A 150-acre reservoir on the North Fork of the Skokomish River in Mason County, Washington. The lake is stocked to coincide with summer holidays with larger catchable-size (11"-13") rainbow trout and again in the fall with good numbers of larger rainbow trout to provide a fishery through the winter. Its deepest is 480 feet. The lake is fishable by boat but has limited shore access at the boat launch.

Second trip TBD.

### November

Date TBD. Hoodsport Hatchery. This is combat fishing for chum salmon. WDFW is reporting low predicted chum return in 2021. Details to follow. This is if you don't know better places to fish for chum when the Fall run comes in, but there are better and easier to reach locations.

December

12/10

Twanoh State Park on Hood Canal. Big Fjord Project. 10 club members will fish with WDFW biologists and Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group. All slots are currently filled but if any vacancies open up club members will be notified

## Outings Recap

### July 24 Skookumchuck River

Eleven fishers met to test their skills against those mother nature has developed in the local rainbows and cutthroats. Although we caught smaller fish than in previous years we were assured that the larger fish have “gone south” for the summer and ventured to the saltwater until their return and a stronger tug on our lines. The rods of choice were two to four weight, and a variety of nymphs produced most of the takes. The occasional dry fly produced a fish also. It was a great outing with pleasant temps and great camaraderie.



Photo © Rick's Photography

In the parking lot are Lee Yeager, Jeff Miller, Justin Johnson, Jay Johnson, Nita Cook with Rick, and Randy Allen.



Photo © Randy Allen

At the stream are Kevin Angevine, John Mankowski, and Max Doerge. Fishing downstream and out of the camera's view was Wayne Dixon.



Photo © Rick's Photography

Celebrating his successful catches are Nita with Justin.



Photo © Rick's Photography

Concentrating on her target fish is Nita Cook.

## August 7 Local Beach SeaRun Cutthroat

Nine fishers braved the breezy, misty morning to fish for sea-run cutthroat. We've heard the experts tell us, and now we can all say as if we're all experts, "some days the fish are there, and some days they're not." For the most part they were not there that day. We fished a falling tide at a local gravelly beach. It's reported to be a good spot. Aren't they all when the fishing is hot? Unlike most other hot spots we did not have a great view of Mt Rainier from the water.

The casting team with some wives included Wes and Marian Mark, Max and Diane Doerge, Lee Yeager, Todd Parker, Jay and Justin Johnson, Jim McAllister, Jay Paulson and Randy Allen.



Photo © Randy Allen

Pictured are Todd Parker, Jim McAllister, and Jay Paulson.

Congratulations go to Max Doerge for the largest and the most fish for landing his sea-run. Lee had a good tug on his first couple of casts, and Todd saw a fish jump about 30 feet away. He targeted that fish, but couldn't get a take. It was a pretty quiet day at our beach on the South Sound. But everyone pretty much agreed that with so much serene shoreline, a good fishing beach is easily accessed, and something that we will attempt more.

Greetings Fly Fishers:

## Here is a book on fishing for one of the most iconic fish in Puget Sound:

### “FLY FISHING FOR SEARUN CUTTHROAT IN SOUTH PUGET SOUND”

Mel Hurd, past President and a longtime member of SSFF, is the author of this incredible booklet. Mel originally wrote the booklet in 1993 and revised it in 2006. The 20 page booklet is one of the most informative references for the South Sound area with locations, tactics, etc. This booklet comes highly recommended by many members of our club who have had success by following Mel’s tips.

It is a wonderful booklet referencing everything you can think of regarding “FLY FISHING FOR SEARUN CUTTHROAT IN SOUTH PUGET SOUND.” It’s very informative and an easy read. Fishing the salt is great in our area, and there are references to areas for easy access for fishing for searuns, plus recommendations on equipment and fishing techniques.

With Mel’s permission SSFF is offering his booklet to interested members and non-members. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$10 which includes shipping via U.S. Mail (U.S. addresses only). All proceeds go into our Conservation donation fund. Some members have donated more than the minimum. For your extra donations *we thank you!*

Either send a check to Jim Maus Treasurer SSFF PO Box 2792, Olympia WA 98507 or use PayPal/credit card/debit card:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\\_button\\_id=GYWE6RQWY2CF4](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=GYWE6RQWY2CF4)

As soon as Jim receives your donation he will notify me with your address, and I will get the booklet to you.

**If you pay electronically you will receive your booklet sooner than sending your check to the PO Box.**

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## *Boy Scout Fly Casting Class*

David Brenna

Randy Allen called me on a Wednesday, and by Saturday afternoon, June 19, several members of South Sound Fly Fishers - Lee Yeager, Don Freeman, Kevin Angevine, Max Doerge and Tobey Anderson - gathered to give individual beginning casting lessons to 10 local Boy Scouts. Thanks go to Justin Fordice for networking through Project Healing Waters; Bruce Tyson from PHW joined our instructor team. The instructors that Randy assembled were excited to share their wisdom and casting skills!

We agreed on providing a very basic two part initial lesson that also covered the requirements for them to gain their merit badges. We taught a “tip path” drill, a side arm short practice that gives the student the ability to watch what a fly rod will do with a careful 10-2 action with a hard stop and pause. We next taught a basic pick up/lay down cast that focused on line control, tight loops (well, almost!) and accuracy. We kept the enthusiastic students casting only to 30 feet with a target for each of them, and an instructor by the scout’s side.

One ambitious and quick learner was laying out 50-foot casts by the end of the lesson! I applauded his effort but cautioned that his enthusiasm might create some unintended difficulties. So he stopped trying to hit the “far bank” and aimed at the target!! Most students were able to gain the basics and understand that casting is all about rhythm and timing. Of course, most new casters want to apply too much power, so there was lots of discussion about the appropriate application of power. My favorite Lefty Kreh quote was used often: “start slow and finish fast!”- a very confusing concept!

Everyone, students and instructors alike, had fun, and we took time to answer all their great questions at the end of the lesson. I believe the SSFF have added a few new fly fishers to the lifetime joy of casting and catching!



Photo © John Tulloch

David explaining the tip path drill



Photo © John Tulloch

Instructors standing behind the Boy Scout students: Don Freeman, PHW Bruce Tyson, Lee Yeager, Tobey Anderson, David Brenna, Max Doerge, and Kevin Angevine

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## South Sound Fly Fishers Growler Sales

Are you thirsty? The SSFF would like to help you. For a \$10 donation, you can become the proud owner of a South Sound Fly Fishers beverage growler. The brown glass container is ideally suited for beer and ale. Several local breweries are happy to fill the growler with your choice of their products.



Once payment is received, the growler can be picked up from club members Randy Allen (in West Olympia) or Vic Andrade (in Lacey). These fine containers are available to anyone, member or not. Hurry while supplies last! Click on the link [here](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=FD6FPL3SKN2D2) [https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\_button\_id=FD6FPL3SKN2D2 ] or send a check to South Sound Fly Fishers, PO Box 2792, Olympia WA 98507.



## **SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS – 2021 Officers, Directors, Chairs**

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Fundraising: Vacant

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Director at Large, Kevin Angevine [grcaulder777@gmail.com](mailto:grcaulder777@gmail.com)

Club Meetings are conducted by Zoom at 7:00pm the third Tuesday of every month except August and December. Zoom is open at 6:45 if you want to visit and talk fly fishing.

Board of Directors Zoom meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 pm.

During the COVID-19 pandemic and until further notice, all scheduled meetings are conducted on-line. The North Olympia Fire Department is closed to meetings until further notice.

The meeting announcement and meeting Zoom code are sent to members and friends about a day ahead of the meeting by email. Website: [southsoundflyfishers.org](http://southsoundflyfishers.org)

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

SSFF Garden Hackle Newsletter  
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