



## SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 21 Issue 11

November 2021

Page 3 Election for the 2022 Board of Directors will take place during the November 16th general meeting.

Page 4 The November 16th meeting will feature the program "Problems Facing Our Northwest Salmon and Steelhead" presented by Jacques White.

## LEADER'S LINE      By President Randy Allen



Happy Thanksgiving! Interesting that Veterans Day falls in the same month as Thanksgiving.

A few years ago I was playing a mid-week round of golf. A two-some ahead of us was just teeing off. The second man wore a hat bearing the name of his WWII ship. After he teed off I offered a sincere "Thank You!" Somewhat surprised he responded that it was an okay drive, nothing spectacular.

I wasn't talking about his golfing skills. (But, it *was* a great drive!) I summarized, "It's a Wednesday, we're all out playing golf because we *can*. We're still speaking English, we have a day of vacation to pursue the recreations we want. We work at jobs of our choosing. We can do these things because of you veterans. Thank you for your service!"

To all of our SSFF members who served in our armed services, Happy Veterans Day, and ***thank you for your service***. We all are indebted. We can fly fish, golf -whatever we choose- thanks to you who served in our armed services.

My friend, Dennis McTeer, calls it “*fishtified.*” I’ve been fishtified - how about you?

It goes like this. I was fishing with my friend, Jeff Sadler. I had caught about ten little native rainbows. Not huge, but keen fish - wild little scrappers full of fight and vigor for their size. But I was missing fish I didn’t think I should have.

Jeff and I played below a small riffle. The dries had been very productive so I tied on a size 14-ish mosquito. The fly landed gently and was *immediately* attacked. *Lift!* Miss, dang! Another cast to the seam. Another strike- Woo-hoo! *Lift*, miss, dang! Jeff quietly observed this for a while.

Then he stopped me. He set his mosquito in the same place I’d been casting and (snap your fingers here) he hooked one *that* fast. He pulled his fish in and cheerfully offered, “Nope! Nothing wrong with *those* trout. And you know, I *just love* catching *another* man’s fish!” He went back to sit on his rock, catching one after another. I wasn’t getting skunked, but I wasn’t catching what I felt I should have.

He must really have considered me a friend, because he could have left it at that. A little while later he chimed in, “What are you doing with all that slack out there? Tighten it up or I’ll come back and catch your fish again! And get that rod tip down, will you?” (I *did* have an extra squiggle of line on the water.) My tip was a little high. Those little fish were so fast they allowed no time for setting the hook. Never mind saying “God save the Queen” before setting the hook. Are you thinking line management?

Magically, strike-lift-*miss* transformed into strike-lift-*catch*. Again and again. Jeff referred to days like this as “a-fish- a-cast.” And that’s what it became. My fish counter blurred around fish 45, with most fish caught after about three o’clock. Happy hour.

Back to my friend Dennis who started me on this. He was discussing with a guide-friend what to call it when you are satisfied to the point that you just don’t need or want to catch any more fish. Dennis and his friends coined the term “fishtified.” Jeff, thanks for your help that day getting me “fishtified.”

Until next month - narrow loops, tight lines, Happy Thanksgiving with your loved ones, and *thank a vet!*

*Randy Allen*

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## *Elections*

You voted in the State and local elections, but your civic duty's not over. SSFF's annual elections are each November. Be sure to attend and vote during our general meeting November 16. Candidates are:

President, Lee Yeager

Vice President, Randy Allen

Secretary, Jeff Miller

Treasurer, Jim Maus

Director starting 2 year term, Todd Parker

Director continuing year two, Kevin Angevine (needs no vote as he is continuing into year two)

Thanks go to your Nominating Committee of Vic Andrade, Bruce Baker, Doug Dunster, John Mankowski, Todd Parker, and Randy Allen for putting together these candidates for your 2022 Officers. Please remember to attend and vote at our general meeting, November 16.

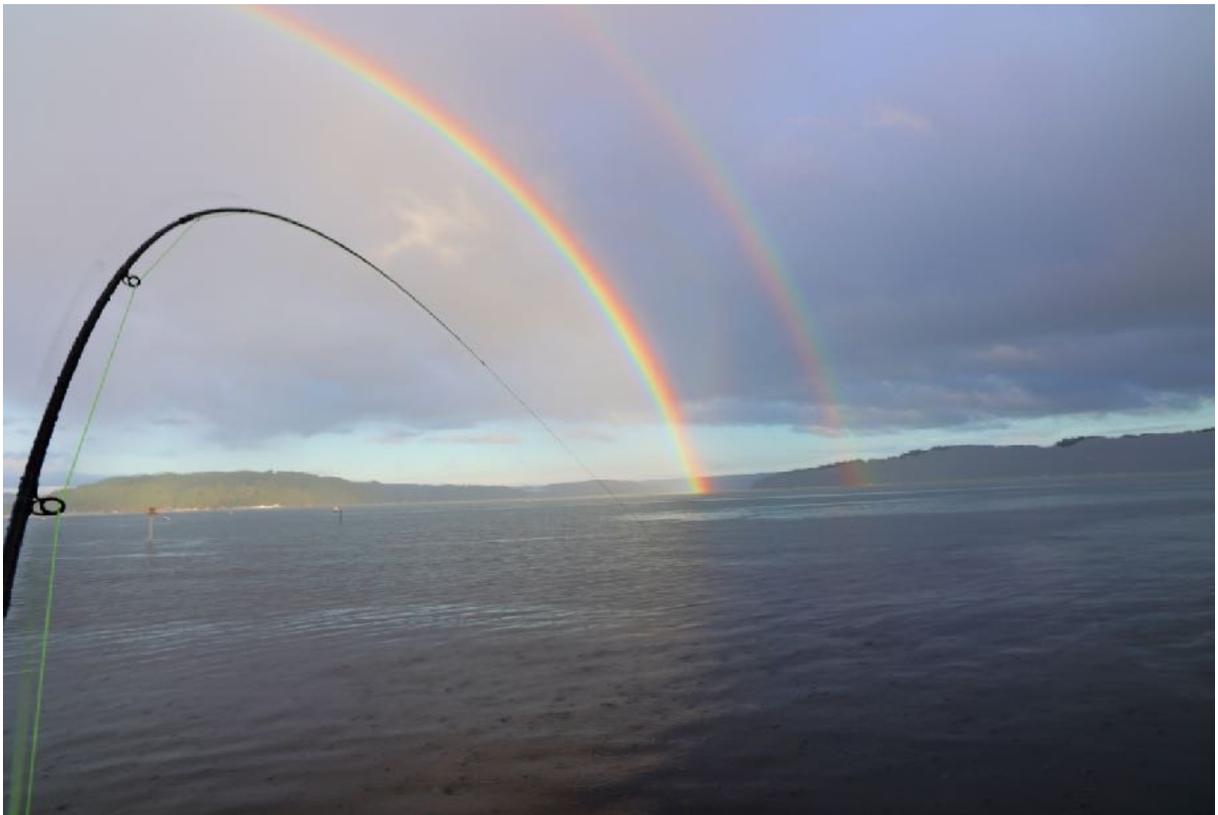


Photo © Howard Nanto



## November SSFF Program

# “Problems Facing Our Northwest Salmon and Steelhead”

Presented by Jacques White



Jacques White is the Executive Director of Long Live the Kings. Prior to becoming LLTK’s Executive Director in March 2010, Jacques served as Director of Marine Conservation at the Nature Conservancy of Washington and Director of Science and Habitat Programs at People for Puget Sound. He has served as a member of the Ecosystem Coordination Board of the Governor’s Puget Sound Partnership and the Steering Committee for the US Army Corps of Engineer’s Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project. Jacques has received several awards for his scientific research, authored more than 20 scientific and policy articles and publications, and frequently speaks at regional and national environmental conferences. He holds a Ph.D. in Marine, Estuarine, and Environmental Sciences from the

University of Maryland, an M.S. in Marine Science from Louisiana State University, and a B.S. in Oceanography and a B.A. in Zoology from the University of Washington.



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

**FFI - Virtual Expo 2021** - By the time this article is published, the Virtual Expo will be over. The event took place November 5-6-7. There were some great classes in fly tying, casting, conservation, education, women in the fly fishing, travel, and much more. Once you learned the procedure to get to the events it was worth your time. Two of the highlights for me were presentations on the Pebble Mine by Meghan Barker, TU, Alaska and by Carl Anderson, WSCFFI, on the proposed FFI Youth Education program she is creating. Both are amazing.

**WSCFFI** - The Council is planning a fly casting fair next year in April on Mercer Island. We are in the planning stages with help from WFFC and Overlake FF assisting in the events. Plans call for tents for fly tying and vendor displays. We plan to have food trucks for meals and coffee. More later.

**ALASKA** - I received an email from Meghan Barker, TU Alaska with the following news.

On Friday, 10-11-2021, the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska vacated the EPA's 2019 decision to withdraw the Bristol Bay 404© Proposed Determination, reinstating important proposed protections for the headwaters of Bristol Bay. The translation: TU has officially won its lawsuit against the EPA, and EPA is now court ordered to reinstate proposed protections for Bristol Bay from 2014, and will work toward finalizing them. TU Alaska has been working on this event for over 2 years; they are very excited about the decision by the EPA. Now they are working to make it forever. They are not against mines, just this one in harm's way for Bristol Bay. I am pleased to say that WSCFFI and FFI have been supporting TU on Pebble for the past years.

The Yukon & Tanana Rivers are closed to salmon fishing, due to the chum stock collapse. The Yukon is the main source of food for many natives and tribes. There has been no food from the river this year. The southern end of the peninsula, Bristol Bay has been enjoying

record salmon runs, and processors have donated 22,000 pounds of chinook and chum salmon to the Yukon villages.

**WASHINGTON & OREGON** - The following rivers are closed to steelhead fishing till the end of 2021 - Deschutes, Umatilla, John Day, and Walla Walla. Wild chinook must be released on the Quillayute, Sol Doc, Bogachiel, and Colawak rivers Nov. 5 - Nov. 30, 2021.

The Snake River is the USA's most "endangered river" by the conservation organization American Rivers.

A letter was sent to OR and WA Depts of Fish and Wildlife to close fishing on the Columbia River; FFI signed on to the letter.

In the upper reaches of the Yakima River canyon, Western Rivers Conservancy has embarked on an effort to conserve a 4 mile stretch of the Yakima river by conserving and purchasing the 812 acres of the Yakima Canyon Ranch just north of Red's.

**THE ACADEMY** - We are conducting monthly zoom meetings with the co-directors. We will make a decision on 2022 in December. There are so many if's, it's hard to make a decision. So far, the only camps being conducted are day camps. We will be following TU's 16 page "Guidance for Operating Youth Camps." Not only do we have to be concerned about the campers, we have to be concerned about the staff.

*Chum time on the Puget Sound*

**Photo © Howard Nanto**





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 the remainder of 2021 President Randy Allen has canceled group outings due to the spike in Thurston County COVID cases.

#### December

12/10

Big Fjord Research Project for sea-run cutthroat trout. SSFF is working with WDFW biologists and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group. Ten club members will fish with the biologists at Twanoh State Park on Hood Canal.

All slots are currently filled but if any vacancies open up club members will be notified.

#### 2022

Stay tuned as your board evaluates the COVID-19 situation. We *will* get back together and we *will* schedule outings again. Winter months are too unpredictable; the club does not schedule outings until about March depending on the weather. Please check back.

Also, please forward any outing suggestions to any of your Board members, emails on the last page of the newsletter.

Your suggestion is just as good as any of ours. Thanks!

*Chum time on the Puget Sound*

Photo © Howard Nanto



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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## 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

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

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

Secretary: Lee Yeager [yeagerflyfish@gmail.com](mailto:yeagerflyfish@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

Fundraising: Vacant

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

Outings Chair: the Board of Directors

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

Webmaster/Social Media: Vic Andrade [hp8202va@gmail.com](mailto:hp8202va@gmail.com)

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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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