



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 22 Issue 8

August 2022

Page 3. Annual club picnic.

Page 7. The Academy was a success.

Page 12. This month's fly fishing outing is to Oakland Bay in pursuit of Coastal Cutthroat Trout.

LEADER S LINE

President Lee Yeager



Greetings South Sound Fly Fishers, I hope this edition of the Garden Hackle finds you all well and keeping cool. After a mild June, July hit us in a big way. I am sure the fish are not enjoying the water temperatures in some of our area lakes and low rivers. So why not have a picnic? August is the month for the club's annual family picnic at Scott Lake. We will not have a regular meeting this month. See the program page for more information on the picnic.

In July we had a club casting clinic for our monthly program. We had a nice turn out with participants being able to receive one-on-one casting tips and guidance from some excellent instructors. This month the Washington Council of the FFI is hosting a casting clinic at Lake Ballinger on August 13. This event is free to attend. There are some casting classes that are paid events. There will also be fly tying demonstrations and food trucks. See this link for more information - <https://wscffi.org/fly-casting-fair-2022/>.

This event promises to be a great opportunity to improve your casting and enjoy meeting with some excellent fly tiers.

And finally, remember the old army recruitment posters that simply said, “We need you”? Well the SSFF needs you also. At the end of each summer our Board of Directors’ nominating committee begins work on identifying individuals who are willing and able to help with the club operations. If you are interested in serving as a club officer, a committee chair, or just willing to volunteer as needed please let me know. Feel free to call or email me or any of our current Board members. Our email addresses are listed at the end of this newsletter.

I hope to see everyone at the picnic at Scott Lake on August 16. Take care.

Lee Yeager



Westport No. 1 © Howard Nanto



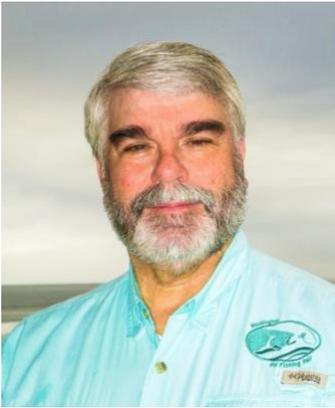
**August 16, 2022
Club Picnic**

Our August program will be the annual South Sound Fly Fishers club picnic. This year the picnic will be held again at Scott Lake and will start at 6:00 PM. Directions to Scott Lake are below. All club members and family are invited to come and share fellowship. Bring your lawn chair(s) and a fly rod. Fishing will be available on the lake for those interested, and some casting games and contests will also be on hand. I hope that everyone can attend and look forward to seeing you in person.

The Board of Directors decided to have this year's format be one in which everyone brings their own drinks and food for themselves. Hopefully the lingering effects of the COVID pandemic will pass next year and we can have either a club cookout or a potluck dinner option.

Directions:

From I-5 heading South take the 93rd Ave exit and go east. Turn right on Case Rd. Cross 113 Ave SW at the Chevron station onto Scott Creek Dr SW. Take it Scott Lake Dr SW and turn left and follow it around to the community park pavilion.



Treasurer's Report

Hi everyone. Thank you for continuing to support SSFF. I hope you and your families are safe and well. With the number of vaccinations finally starting to ramp up I'm optimistic that we will soon begin seeing light at the end of the dark COVID-19 tunnel. Get your second booster!

If you haven't already done so, please pay your 2022 dues as soon as possible. Dues for 2022 are \$40.00 for returning members. There are two convenient ways to pay:

1. You can make your Dues payment by Check. Please mail the check to:

Sound Fly Fishers
PO Box 2792
Olympia, WA 98507

2. You can make your Dues payment using PayPal or a debit/credit card. Please use the link below:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=NRE77ZFCKLF32



Welcome Ken Adney.

Ken is recently retired and wanted to add fly fishing to his experiences. Ken likes fishing all waters - lakes, saltwater, and streams. If it's got fish, Ken's there.

He provided this about himself and fly fishing.

“Even through my awkward teenage years fishing with my father was a pleasure and an opportunity for us to talk while we trolled the lakes of Minnesota looking for walleye, northerns, or a nice mess of panfish. When I started working, there wasn't much time for fishing although occasionally I'd steal a few hours away from my other obligations.

I've long admired the grace and beauty of fly fishing, having read Norman MacLean, John Gierach, and others.

Five to seven years ago my wife gave me a Christmas gift of the gear, a pair of insulated waders, and some preliminary lessons from one of my employees (“use your arm, not your wrist”). Retirement last fall has finally given me the time to improve my skills and the possibility of landing a fish or two.

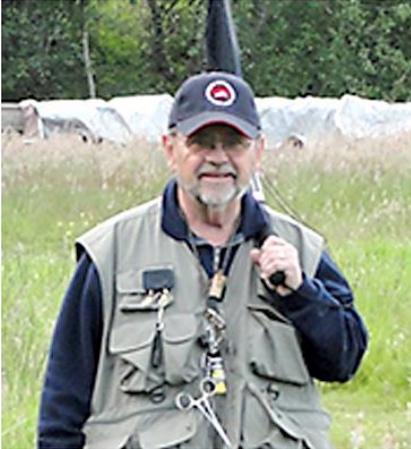
I'd met Jay Paulson through the Olympia philosophy club and, knowing that he was an avid fly fisher, I asked him where I might meet someone to go fishing with, since I don't know the local waters very well. He suggested joining SSFF. With no boat, I'm restricted to casting from shore at the local lakes (I live near Munn) or wading a few streams but I'm pretty much always up for learning some new skills and hanging out with someone who isn't too critical of how bad I am at casting. And, I'll like them even better if they have a boat.”

We took this photo at our July meeting when the program was fly casting. Ken - you're doing it right. New fly fishers find one year with a club can equal four to seven years messing about on their own. We want to accelerate that learning curve for you.

Welcome, Ken!

Washington State Council FFI Government Affairs

Mike Clancy, Chair



WSCFFI and The Academy

The Washington Council FFI is planning a casting and fly tying event at Lake Ballinger Park north of Seattle on August 13th. Come and get casting instruction and watch fly tying. There will be some vendors. Food will be available. There is a charge for the casting instruction, but free admission to the event. To sign up for the classes contact Jim Maus @ jimmaus@comcast.net .

FFI - The FFI is planning another International Virtual Expo November 4-6, 2022. The 2021 international event was very successful. Check out the FFI web site at www.flyfishersinternational.org.

Alaska - It is official - Bristol Bay has produced the all-time record for sockeye salmon this summer. As of August 1, nearly 78.4 million fish have swarmed through Bristol Bay waters, beating the 2021 record.

2022 Northwest Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy



Finally, after two years of no Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy due to COVID, we gathered in Lacey Washington at the Gwinwood Camp the last full week in June. With four returning students working as "ghillies" (*In Scotland and Ireland : a fishing or hunting guide*) and eight young first time students, an incredible team of volunteers worked to teach them as much as they could learn in one week about our watersheds, fish, aquatic insects, water safety, accountability and the natural world around them, fly tying, and fly fishing. What an incredible group of youngsters this was and a great experience!! I was so fortunate to attend and help out.

Huge THANKS to our amazing outgoing co-directors from FFI (Fly Fishers International) and both TU members - Mike Clancy & Jim Brosio for their 18+ years of running this camp. These two guys have so much knowledge about running this camp that we are glad they will be around next year on an advisory capacity!! Their dedication and love of these youths really shined through the whole time!!

Extremely grateful for the new co-directors stepping up to take over - John Gravendyk (WCTU Youth Education Chair) and from the Icicle Valley TU Chapter - Bruce Merighi, and from FFI - Carol Anderson. This Youth Camp is an amazing collaboration with FFI and WCTU; FFI has provided years of invaluable support to the program. Thank you to all the FFI team!!! We are so proud of this partnership and look forward to next year!! Of note the work has already started and we are planning this camp for 2023, which includes re-building the website. So in a few months we will link you all up to the new website so you can keep tabs on this program for 2023! Stay tuned!!

Special thanks to the parents of these teens for trusting us in their care and education. And, a special thank you to all our volunteers who made this program work this year!!

Matt Tuttle, Camp Director; Robert Gerlach, Steve Jones FFI Certified Casting Instructors; Ron Holtcamp - Olympia Chapter Trout Unlimited, Coast Guard Auxiliary; Janet Shimpf, Fly Tying Instructor and Commercial Fly Tyer; J. Michelle Swope- Fly Tying Demo and Instruction, Oly Women on The Fly, Olympia TU Chapter, and WDFW enforcement officers; and Joshua Howen and Sarah Ashworth - Olympia TU Chapter for feeding the camp in an outstanding BBQ on Friday night!!

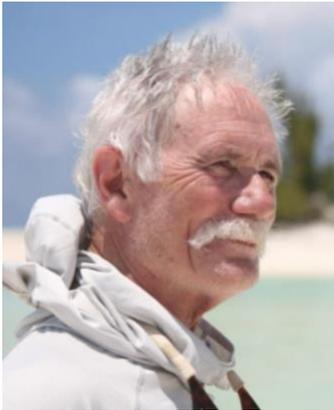
Finally, A HUGE Thank You to all our donors from both TU and FFI chapters across our state. Fly Fishing Clubs and individuals here in Washington - without your donations we could not provide this opportunity in Youth Education!!

Pat Hesselgesser - WCTU - chair



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**Launches 'Strategic Relationship' w/ the Mt. Baker
Snoqualmie National Forest!**



THE SOAPBOX

There is no article this month.



Fisherman Boardwalk © Howard Nanto



Education / Community Outreach - by Randy Allen

We will teach our Introduction to Fly Tying class this fall.

This class is a great way to learn to tie your own flies. Students can then transfer their skills to other similar flies when they travel to new waters. We start with simple patterns for students with no experience. All the great internet YouTube videos have the same thing in common; they lack experienced eyes watching you tie. Students of club-taught classes learn more and learn faster with mentors sitting at their sides.

Introduction to Fly Tying

Dates / times: Classes are every Monday evening from October 3 through December 5 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Note - we will not have any class or lab the week of November 21, Thanksgiving week.

Eight flies, nine classes? Students return each week with the flies they tied at home to receive constructive comments. The ninth Monday is to show your eighth fly. After review, students may tie the fly of their choice.

Lab nights: Included are four “lab” nights, Thursdays 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Instructors will give students individual coaching for anything that challenges the students.

The eight flies include nymphs, streamers, and dry flies using a variety of materials and techniques.

Location: All classes and labs are held at the Olympia Center, 222 Columbia St. NW, Olympia.

Tools: For a refundable deposit students may borrow a tool kit. We have only 10 kits available, so if you need one let us know. If you already decided you’re getting into this aspect of the sport contact us for recommendations on tools.

Materials: Included are the materials to tie during classes and also to tie your homework.

Homework: You need to practice. At home you’ll tie the fly you just learned prior to the next class session. Return to the next class with your homework for helpful suggestions.

Cost: \$69

Register: On-line or contact the Olympia Center 360-753-8380. As of the newsletter date the course code had not yet been assigned, but will be shortly. Check their web-site [Experiencelt!](http://www.experiencelt.com) with the link below, or copy/paste it into your browser.

https://www.google.com/url?esrc=s&q=&rct=j&sa=U&url=https://apm.activecommunities.com/olymparksartsrec/&ved=2ahUKEwilko_W_rr5AhXtGDQIHSPBDMUQFnoECAoQAg&usg=AOvVaw3NNa7w35p8tKoap9PFAahp

Back to our regular programming.

SSFF offers three formal classes:

Introduction to Fly Fishing - Is this something I want to try? We teach the Intro class in spring, five weeks, once per week. After this course you'll understand the gear you'll need such as rods, reels, lines, waders, boots, and floatation devices (boats). We discuss locating fish in rivers, lakes, and the salt water, and cover 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 learn to overcome the effect upon your line by moving river water.

Introduction to Fly Tying - taught in the fall - winter, nine weeks (see above). Students tie a new fly each week. The instructor-to-student ratio ensures students receive individual attention. We teach a variety of flies useful anywhere including nymphs, streamers, and dry flies. After completing the course students can apply their skills to other flies similar to those taught.

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

Randy Allen



Falls at Kokanee Lake © Howard Nanto

Outings

SSFF 2022 OUTINGS

- Aug 20 Oakland Bay - Mason Co.
Saltwater fishing for cutthroat trout. Shoreline access if you do not have a floatation device.
- Sept 24 Deschutes River - Thurston Co.
A wild river that has rainbow and cutthroat, the fish are not stocked. We will determine which section of the river we will fish in September.
- Oct 22 TBD
- Nov 19 Lake St. Clair - Lacey
An urban lake located in Lacey off Yelm Highway. The boat ramp is on Rehklau Rd SE. The lake has good shoreline access.

August - Oakland Bay

The monthly outing for the SSFF is a salt trip to Oakland Bay just outside Shelton on Saturday, August 20. This is a walk-in location where we will fish a rising tide. The projected low tide of about 1.0 ft will be at 7:00 AM and the high will be 8 ft at 3:00 PM. We will gather at the parking areas at 8:00 AM at Oakland Bay. There is parking at DFW access points off of Highway 3. You can take Highway 3 north from US 101 to get to the location.



This area is favorable for Chum and sea-runs when the fish are moving. Take care not to walk on the sea grass that is often visible on a low tide. The black line above indicates fishable areas to wade from.

July Outing to Coldwater Lake Recap

Members Bruce Baker, Doug Dunster, and Bob Weinberger participated in last month's outing. The weather cooperated, though at times the wind gusts made navigating in pontoons and float tubes a little strenuous. The fish did cooperate.



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

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.



Sea Run Bugger © Gig Harbor Fly Shop

The Sea Run Bugger is an effective pattern for anadromous coastal cutthroat trout in Puget Sound. Although it is more effective spring through fall, it can be fished all year. It is also effective on surf perch, shad, trout, bass, and coho. Popular colors are rust/orange, peach, pink, white, olive, and brown.

Materials

Hook: Daiichi 2546 size 6 saltwater hook

Thread: 6/0 color to match fly

Eyes: Spirit River Real Eyes 5/32" with chartreuse tape eyes size 1.5

Tail: Rust colored/burnt orange marabou, with two to four strands of orange krystal flash on each side

Body: Pink flesh marabou wrapped

Legs: Hareline Orange Loco Legs

Head: Hareline Amber Orange UV Estaz (regular size)

Tying Steps

Step 1: Start the thread about 1/3 of a shank length behind the eye. Wrap it forward and form two small bumps of thread, making sure to leave ten to fifteen percent of the shank length free in front of the bump closest to the eye. These bumps of thread help to hold the eyes in place and prevent them from spinning. Apply a small amount of Zap-A-Gap to the space between the bumps and place the eyes in the middle. Secure the eyes using a series of figure eight wraps.

Step 2: Tie in a rust/burnt orange marabou feather that is measured out to be 1 to 1-1/4 of a shank length long. Tip - secure the feather just behind the eyes then wrap back to the bend of the hook to provide the body with an even taper.

Step 3: Trim the excess marabou behind the eyes and then tie in four strands of orange crystal flash on each side of the tail.

Step 4: Tie in a peach marabou feather, tips first, starting just behind the eyes and wrapping back to the bend of the hook.

Step 5: Apply a small amount of Zap-A-Gap to the body between the tail and the eyes. This will provide extra durability for the body. Now wrap the peach marabou feather up the body and tie it off just behind the eyes.

Step 6: Cut four orange Loco Legs to about one hook-shank long. Tie in two legs on each side of the body just behind the eyes.

Step 7: Tie in about a 4” strand of amber colored UV Estaz just behind the eyes. Wrap the Estaz around the eyes using a series of figure eights to form the head and tie it off in front of the eyes. Once the Estaz is secured, whip finish and apply head cement.

Instructions were taken from watching the Gig Harbor Fly Shop’s Blake Merwin instructional YouTube video on [tying the Sea Run Bugger](#) and from the website [Native Trout Fly Fishing](#).

The Gig Harbor Fly shop also sells [Sea Run Bugger fly tying material kits](#).



Westport © Howard Nanto

Classifieds

Float tube and accessories for sale by Tom Terry.

The float tube below is an “Outcast Sporting Gear Fat Cat” that has been used less than ten times and has been stored in a temperature and humidity-controlled environment where it was not exposed to sunlight. It therefore is in excellent condition and has had no damage from use. The following accessories are also included: (1) Stearns Heavy Duty Action Hand Pump with adapter nozzles, (2) a float tube patch kit for emergencies, (3) Cabela’s fins with safety straps and carry bag, and (4) a Scotty rod holder with float tube attachment.

Thus, there is everything you need to use it and go fishing the day you pick it up.

This set of gear would cost \$620 new. The price is \$275 with ½ of the price being donated to the Northwest Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy, which is supported by the SSFF club.

Contact Tom Terry at 360-239-0270 or e-mail taterry45@comcast.net. The reason for sale is that my legs (the power supply) are not what they used to be, and I prefer to be higher out of the water in a small rowboat.



If you have an item or items that you would like to sell, please send a description, price, and contact information to Bruce Baker (newsletter editor) at bmbaker09@hotmail.com.

The classifieds section is a courtesy to club members and all sales are the responsibility of the seller and the buyer. The South Sound Fly Fishers assumes no liability and will not settle disputes.



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS – 2022 Officers, Directors, Chairs

President: Lee Yeager, yeagerflyfish@gmail.com
Vice President: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Secretary: Jeff Miller, jmill2003@gmail.com
Treasurer: Jim Maus, jimmaus@comcast.net
Director at Large: Todd Parker, tparker2356@gmail.com
Director at Large: Kevin Angevine, grcaulder777@gmail.com
Past President: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Conservation: Don Freeman, donfreeman74@gmail.com
Education: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Fundraising: Vacant
Membership: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Outings Chair: the Board of Directors
Programs: Lee Yeager, yeagerflyfish@gmail.com
Webmaster/Facebook: Vic Andrade, hp8202va@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Bruce Baker, bmbaker09@hotmail.com
FFI/Gov't: Mike Clancy, mtclancy39@comcast.net

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

Club Meetings are conducted by Zoom and in-person at 7:00pm the third Tuesday of every month except August and December. Zoom is open at 6:30 if you want to visit and talk fly fishing. In-person meetings are held at the Griffin Fire Station (3707 Steamboat Loop NW, Olympia, WA 98502).

Directions:

From the north - Exit US 101 South to Steamboat Island Rd. Turn left over US 101 go 0.4 miles to Steamboat Island Loop - the fire station is on the left.

From the south - Take US 101 north from I-5. Follow signs for US 101 North to Shelton and Port Angeles. In the right hand lane, go 1.3 miles to the Steamboat Island Rd exit. The exit is a sharp right curve, it will T into Sexton Drive. Turn left; go past the Chevron Island Market on *your right*. You will come to a stop sign at Steamboat Island Rd. Turn right; the fire station on Steamboat Island Loop will be 0.3 of a mile on the left.

If you get lost or can't find the station call Lee at 903-421-4984 or Randy at 360-701-9662.

The meeting announcement and meeting Zoom code are sent to members and friends about a day ahead of the meeting by email. Website: southsoundflyfishers.com
USPS Mail Address: SSFF, PO BOX 2792, Olympia WA 98507

SSFF Garden Hackle Newsletter
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