



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 22 Issue 10

October 2022

Page 1. A message from our president.

Page 10. An update to the Introduction to Fly Tying.

Page 12. This month's fly fishing outing is to Munn Lake.

LEADER S LINE

President Lee Yeager



I don't know about you, but this October so far feels a lot like June. Makes me wonder what the fish think. Now wondering what fish think is something I have pondered many times over the years. I have often asked myself when I am fishing, and usually not catching, why the fish don't bite the offering on the end of my line. As a boy fishing with my dad, I would watch him catch fish after fish from one side of the boat while I would not get a bite. He and I would switch sides and still no luck. With time and experience I learned that it was more about his attention to detail and focus on the fish he was trying to catch. He could tell when fish were nosing about his bait suspended beneath a popping cork in Galveston Bay or when crappie were about to completely take a minnow fishing Lake Houston. The key was always to be ready and focus on the line; a good lesson for all fly fishers.

Last month we sent out a survey to all club members asking what type of programs and presentations you were interested in for 2023. Respondents said they wanted to see more casting sessions and some fly tying. We plan to include fly tying demonstrations before the regular meetings this coming year. We will also be including more opportunities for members and guests to get casting practice and tips from expert instructors. You also told us that you wanted to see more programs and speakers that targeted fishing opportunities in our area, both salt water and fresh water. We are in the process of getting speakers set for 2023 with a focus on guides and members who can share knowledge and experiences.

At our club meeting this month we will host Brian O'Keefe. Brian is an award winning photographer and excellent fly fisher. I know you will enjoy his presentation on fly fishing for bass in the northwest. If you have any specific requests or ideas for presentations and programs for 2023, please let me know. Your input is invaluable in helping make the South Sound Fly Fishers the best club in the area.

As always, keep your rod tip up and be well.

Lee Yeager



Don Freeman during a hail storm © Howard Nanto



October 18, 2022
Fishing for Bass by Brian O'Keefe

This month's speaker is Brian O'Keefe. He has combined a lifetime of fly fishing photography with a lot of serious fly fishing. He published his first fly fishing photo when he was 16. That was 52 years ago! In the years since he has been very busy trying to fish and photograph as many interesting places as possible. His angling travels have taken him to distant destinations like Cuba, Tonga, Bikini Atoll, New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Kashmir, England, Brazil, Nicaragua and many more.

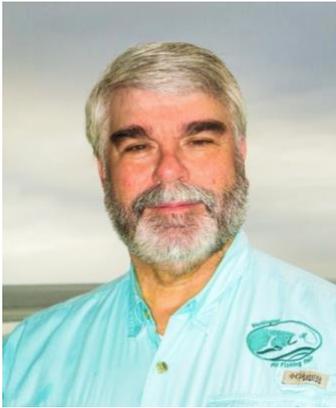
As much as Brian likes trips to the Bahamas, Belize, the Yucatan, etc., he is just as much a home water fisherman. He moved to Bend, Oregon in 1975 and guided on the Deschutes, North Umpqua, and Klamath in California through the late 70's. He has been fortunate to live on steelhead rivers, bass lakes, plus trout streams like Oregon's Metolius River. Currently, Brian lives in Eastern Idaho, near the South Fork of the Snake River, the Teton River, and the Henry's Fork.

Brian has enjoyed a nice working relationship with many fly fishing magazines, newspapers and many tackle catalogs, books, websites, and seven years as co-owner of Catch Magazine.

You can find more of Brian's work on his website: www.brianokeefephotography.com



Don Freeman fish on © Howard Nanto



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

Membership

Randy Allen, Chair



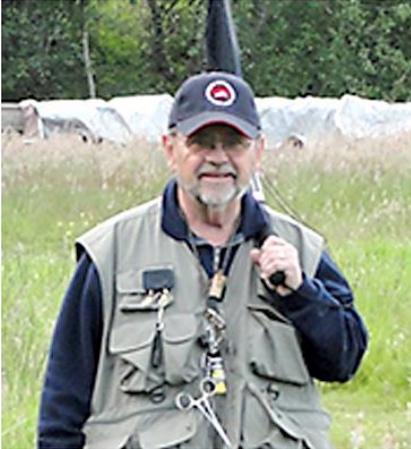
We have no new members this month.



Nahwatzel Lake © Howard Nanto

Washington State Council FFI Government Affairs

Mike Clancy, Chair



WSCFFI and The Academy

WSCFFI

The Washington Council FFI conducted a very successful event at Lake Ballinger Park in Mount Lake Terrace, north of Seattle on August 13th. They were very pleased with the turnout for the casting classes and fly tying. The Council will be planning another event next year at the same location.

FFI

The FFI is planning another international Virtual Expo November 4-6, 2022. The 2021 international event was very successful. Please go to the FFI website to learn about the Education and Conservation programs. They are amazing. Please view the FFI website - www.flyfishersinternational.org. You could spend hours on the computer viewing various events.

Boise Valley FF is conducting their 18th live annual Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo on January 6-7, 2023.

Alaska

From the desk of Meghan Barker regarding the Pebble Mine:

- EPA's public comment period concluded on September 6th, 2022. Over 500,000 comments were submitted in support of finalizing protections with record comments coming from Bristol Bay residents and Alaskans.
- EPA has extended the deadline to decide to move the protections to the next step (a Recommended Determination) until Dec. 2, 2022. We hope to see a Final Determination made in early 2023.
- Even if Clean Water Act safeguards are finalized, our work isn't done to ensure Pebble Mine can never come back again. Ongoing work will continue and pass legislation that would retire the mineral leases in Bristol Bay. We want the most durable protections possible for the region.

The Northwest Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy

Jim and I are finally retired after 18 years from conducting The Academy. Three new directors have taken over the event:

- John Gravendyk - 818 219th Ave. NE, Carnation, WA 98014
Phone 425-615-0356 - gravendyk@hotmail.com
- Bruce Merighi - 26105 Bronco Ln., Leavenworth, WA 98826
Phone 509-679-2274 Cell 509-763-3581 Home - bruce401@nwt.net
- Carol Anderson - PO Box 75, Friday Harbor, WA. 98250
Phone 360-298-2999 - cja@windwalkermedia.com

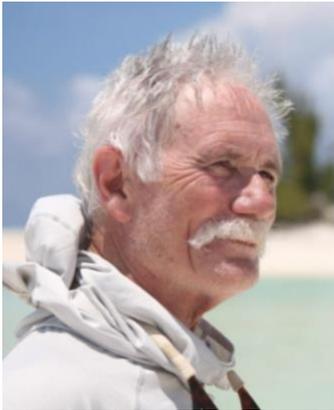
The Academy will be held the last full week of June, 18-24, 2023. It will be conducted at a new location in the Shelton area.

Teaching our Youth - Our Future

For many years Trout Unlimited, FFI, and area clubs have hosted a Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy. This week long program has been a resounding success in bringing young people into the sport of fly fishing and teaching conservation. For the past 18 years this program has been led by SSFF member Mike Clancy and WSC member Jim Broglio. Mike and Jim are both retiring from the Academy this year, but they leave it in great hands. Because of Mike and Jim's many years of leadership and hard work this program will continue to promote fly fishing and conservation in the Puget Sound area.

Check out the October newsletter from the Washington Council of FFI for their page of recognition for outstanding service to Mike and Jim (<https://wscffi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Vol26No4.pdf>, page 13).

Kudos Mike to a job well done!



THE SOAPBOX

There is no article this month.



Narada Falls (Mt. Rainier NP) © Howard Nanto



We've started our Introduction to Fly Tying class with 12 students!

They are learning to tie eight flies. The class includes the instruction, materials to tie the flies at home, and students receive instructor feedback when they return the following week with their homework. In addition to the eight nights of instruction we provide four additional "lab" nights to practice tying with help from the instructors.

About a dozen instructors are available to provide assistance to the students. Any given night we should have about four to six instructors in the class. We know this is a skill best learned with an experienced set of hands and eyes ready to help. I remember very well learning to tie and how valuable it was to have several instructors available.

We are all enthusiastic about SSFF getting back into the training game. This is a great start! Look for our Fly Tying course annually about this time in the fall.

Here is a sample of the flies our students will tie:





Elk Hair Caddis



Foam Hopper



Adams Dry Fly

The SSFF training program includes these three formal classes:

Introduction to Fly Fishing - taught in spring, five weeks, once per week. Is this something I want to try? After this course you'll understand the gear you'll need like 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, nine weeks. Students learn a new fly each week. Students also tie flies at home and bring their homework 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 can apply their skills to other similar flies.

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

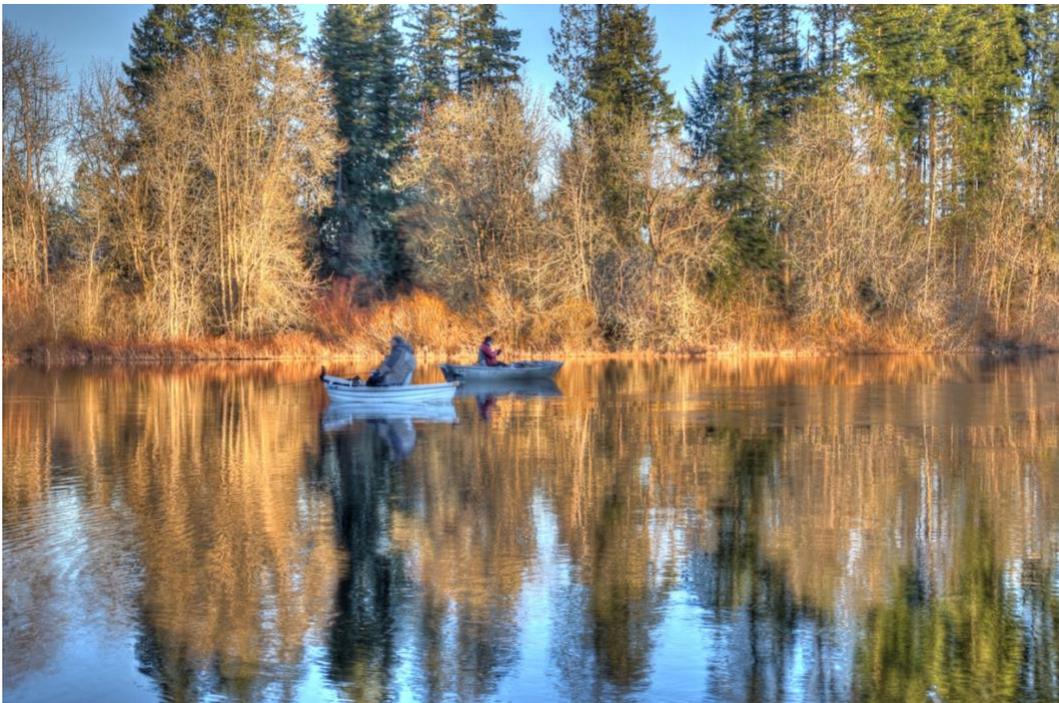
Randy Allen

SSFF 2022 OUTINGS

- Oct 22 Munn Lake - Tumwater
Nov 19 Lake St. Clair - Lacey
An urban lake located in Lacey off Yelm Highway. The boat ramp is on Rehkla Rd SE. The lake has good shoreline access.

October Outing - Munn Lake

This month we will be fishing a spot that is near and dear to many, Munn Lake. Munn Lake is a selective gear rules and catch and release lake for all species. The lake offers excellent fishing for rainbow trout 10-20" and the occasional Brown Trout. The lake also supports naturally reproducing Largemouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Bluegill Sunfish, and Black Crappie. The use of bait and internal combustion motors is prohibited on Munn Lake. There is limited bank fishing from the boat launch ramp, but a float tube, pontoon boat, kayak, or canoe is recommended. Parking is limited. It is located on 65th Ave SE off of Henderson Blvd. Meet at the lake at 8:30 Saturday, October 22.



Winter Fishing at Munn Lake © 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

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.



Carey Special © Jackson Hole Fly Company

The Carey Special can imitate many insects including dragonfly nymphs, caddis nymphs, mayfly nymphs, and leeches. If the collar is wrapped sparsely it makes a great damselfly nymph imitation. It can be trolled or used as a searching pattern.

Materials

Hook: TMC 5263 size #6-12

Thread: Danville 6/0

Rib: Fine gold wire

Body: Peacock Herl, Dark Olive Chenille, or Olive Floss

Tail: Pheasant rump feather barbs

Collar: Pheasant rump feather, 1-2 turns

Tying Steps

Step 1. Attach the thread and lay a thread base to the bend of the hook.

Step 2. Tie in a pheasant rump feather by the tips. The tips serve as the tail, which should extend less than $\frac{3}{4}$ shank length from the bend.

Step 3. Trim the rump feather and save it (use it for the hackle collar). At the base of the tail, attach the ribbing and 3-4 peacock herls by their tips.

Step 4. Strengthen the herl by wrapping it around the thread (forms a chenille).

Step 5. Wrap the herl chenille forward to about 1-2 eye-lengths behind the hook eye, depending upon how much you prefer.

Step 6. Reverse wind the ribbing forward with evenly spaced spirral wraps. This will prevent the herl from breaking.

Step 7. Tie in the rump hackle by the tip just in front of the body.

Step 8. Wrap the hackle 1-2 times for a collar.

Step 9. Use the thread to wrap the hackle back in a sweep. Create a head and then whip finish.



Blue skies © Howard Nanto

Classifieds

There are no items for sale this month.

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.



Nisqually River © Howard Nanto



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 360-229-4252 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