



## SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

# THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 22 Issue 11

November 2022

Page 1. A message from our president.

Page 3. This month's program features Chester Allen.

Page 14. 2023 officer elections.

## LEADER S LINE

## President Lee Yeager



Greetings SSFF members and guests; thanks for reading this month's Garden Hackle. Well, it looks like more normal fall weather has returned as of this writing. After four months of almost no rain we seem to be trying to make it all up in a hurry. Yes, this will stir up some area fishing spots but it already has benefitted coastal rivers. Fall fishing is usually a great time to target fish that are on the move and looking to ready for the colder winter months. I hope everyone can get out when and where you like as much as possible.

The New Year 2023 will bring some changes for the South Sound Fly Fishers. We will return to meeting in person at the Boston Harbor fire station location beginning in January 2023. If you have never been to that location, it was the long time meeting place prior to the Covid pandemic. We are bringing back the monthly raffles for prizes at each meeting along with items for purchase that will go to the Al Harger fund. In May of 2023 we will be holding our

biannual club auction. We will include more information about the auction beginning with the January newsletter. We also are planning several dates for casting clinics and practice and one fly tying event.

I hope that everyone will make it to the Griffin Fire Station for our meeting on November 15. In addition to the annual officer election that is held each November, we have a great program lined up. Chester Allen is coming in person to give a presentation on fishing with soft hackles. He will be at the meeting early demonstrating some fly tying, and he will have some of his books for purchase and autographing. This will be our final meeting of 2022; we do not have a club meeting in the month of December. You will not want to miss this final presentation of 2022.

Finally, thank you for being a part of the South Sound Fly Fishers. We have so much to be thankful for. I am thankful for the friendship and support you have given this year. May you and your family have many blessings and thankful days. Take care and be well.

Tight lines,

**Lee Yeager**



Yakima River near Cle Elum © Howard Nanto



**November 15, 2022  
Soft Hackles and Yellowstone  
National Park - Chester Allen**

Chester Allen, a lifelong journalist and longtime resident of South Sound wrote a popular outdoors and fishing column for The Olympian from 2004 to 2010. He is the author of two fly fishing books: "Fly Fishing for Sea-Run Cutthroat" and "Yellowstone Runners."

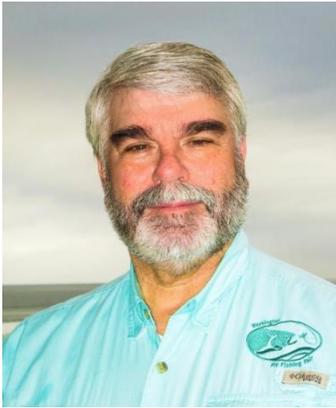
"Fly Fishing for Sea-Run Cutthroat" focuses on learning how to find and catch sea-run cutthroat in Puget Sound. "Yellowstone Runners" is about the wonderful run of big brown and rainbow trout that run into Yellowstone National Park's Madison River each fall.

He has lived in Oregon since he left The Olympian in 2010. Chester currently lives in Sisters, Oregon, where he fishes the Metolius River at least four days a week - and spends a great deal of time on his home water, the Lower Deschutes River. Chester also travels and fishes throughout the West, and he spends several weeks each year in Yellowstone National Park.

Chester believes that soft-hackle flies are underrated!

Chester will be at the meeting at the Griffin Fire Station. He will be demonstrating fly tying and will autograph any purchases of his books.





## Munn Lake Fish Fund

The South Sound Fly Fishers have partnered with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to stock the Munn Lake with quality sized fish (about 2.5 pounds per fish) in the spring and in the fall. The fish are raised at the Lakewood Hatchery, and the club provides the funds for purchasing fish food for these fish.

If you would like to make a donation to help continue the Munn Lake project, please mail your check to: SSFF-Munn Lake Fund, PO Box 2792, Olympia WA 98507.

A check will avoid credit card and PayPal Fees, but you are certainly welcome to use those methods. Regarding PayPal, there is a button on the top left of the Munn Lake web page to make a donation via PayPal.

Thank you for supporting this project.



Munn Lake Rainbow © Bruce Baker

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## Membership

Randy Allen, Chair



We have no new members this month.

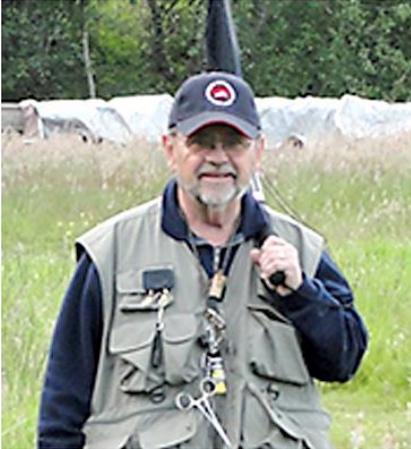


Munn Lake © Howard Nanto

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## Washington State Council FFI Government Affairs

Mike Clancy, Chair



### ***WSCFFI and The Youth Academy***

#### **WSCFFI**

Due to the success of the event held at Lake Ballinger Park in Mount Lake Terrace (north of Seattle), the Washington Council FFI is planning to hold another event next year at the same location.

#### **FFI**

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

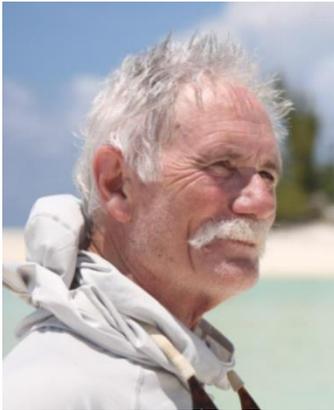
#### **The Northwest Youth Conservation Fly Fishing Academy**

The Academy will be held June 18-24, 2023 at the Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp near Shelton.

The current directors are:

- 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 has recently updated its website (<https://nwycffa.com/>) and it is well worth taking a look at!



THE SOAPBOX

There is no article this month.



Hood Canal © Howard Nanto



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 water and wind situations. 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 as they travel to new fisheries.

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

*Randy Allen*

## SSFF 2022 OUTINGS

Nov 19 St. Clair Lake, Lacey  
An urban lake located in Lacey off Yelm Highway.  
The boat ramp is on Rehklau Rd SE.

### November Outing - St. Clair Lake

St. Clair Lake has a year-round open season that provides good fishing for stocked rainbow trout and brown trout. The lake has also been stocked with channel catfish and supports naturally reproducing populations of bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, and black crappie. This is a large lake that fishes best from a boat.

There are two WDFW access sites on opposite sides of Rehklau Road SE, off Yelm Highway. One of the sites is improved with a boat launch and vault toilets. Here is a link to the DFW site about St. Clair Lake.

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/locations/lowland-lakes/st.-clair-lake>

Plan to meet at the boat launch between 8:30 and 9:00 AM on Saturday, November 19.



WDFW Access site at Lake St. Clair © WDFW

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!*

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.**



Olive Woolly Bugger © South Sound Fly Fishers 2022

The woolly bugger is a versatile fly that can be used in many different fishing situations. It is referred to as a suggestive pattern versus an imitative pattern as this fly doesn't imitate anything specific, but looks like many different food items. Woolly buggers can be tied in a variety of different colors, but the three most common are black, brown, and olive. Popular sizes for this fly range from 6 to 12.

### **Materials**

Hook: 2x or 4x long streamer hook, for example Dai-Riki 700

Thread: Brown olive or black Danville 6/0 or 140 denier

Weight (optional)

Bead

Rib (0.020" diameter lead-free wire)

Tail: Olive marabou blood quill, tips removed; 2-3 strands of Krystal flash (optional).

Body: Olive chenille

### **Tying Steps**

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

Step 2. Tie one marabou feather right before the bend of the hook starts. The tail is 1 to 1 ½ times the shank length.

Step 3. Tie in the chenille as close to the marabou as possible.

Step 4. Tie on the saddle hackle quill on top of the chenille thread core.

Step 5. Wrap the chenille down the shank of the hook toward the hook eye with no gaps between the wraps. Leave a gap before the eye of the hook for the head, and secure the chenille.

Step 6. Ensuring the hackle quills lay in the grooves between each wrap of chenille, wrap the saddle hackle down the shank of the hook to where the chenille ends, and tie off. Reverse wind the ribbing forward with evenly spaced spiral wraps. This will prevent the herl from breaking.

Step 9. Create a head and then whip finish.



Omak Lake © Howard Nanto

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## Classifieds

9' Wilderness pontoon - excellent condition - oars, hand pump, rod holder , anchor bag, motor mount, and rigging to store hanging from garage ceiling.. Plus brand new portable fish finder (\$43 on Amazon).

Asking price is \$250

Contact: Bob Weinberger (360) 968-1768



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## **2023 Officer Elections**

Each year the Board of Directors of the South Sound Fly Fishers nominating committee presents a slate of officers to the BOD in October. The slate is voted upon by the general club membership at the November meeting. Below are the candidates that have been nominated for election.

The Board has to be voted in by club members. The committee chairs are selected by the Board of Directors. The complete list is below. Many thanks to the nominating committee and the candidates for stepping up to help grow the SSFF.

### Board of Directors

President	Lee Yeager
Vice-President	Randy Allen
Secretary	Rachel Dagovitz
Treasurer	Jim Maus
Director At-Large 1-yr	Todd Parker
Director At-Large 2-yr	Jared Wood

### Committee Chairs

Conservation	Harry Griffith
Education	Randy Allen
Fly Fishers International	Mike Clancy
Fund Raising	Kevin Angevine
Membership	Phil Jaramillo
Newsletter	Bruce Baker
Outings	Doug Dunster
Programs	Lee Yeager
Webpage/Media	Vic Andrade



## SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS – 2022 Officers, Directors, Chairs

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

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

Secretary: Jeff Miller, [jmill2003@gmail.com](mailto:jmill2003@gmail.com)

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

Director at Large: Todd Parker, [tparker2356@gmail.com](mailto:tparker2356@gmail.com)

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

Past President: Randy Allen, [randyandcarol2@gmail.com](mailto:randyandcarol2@gmail.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: Lee Yeager, [yeagerflyfish@gmail.com](mailto:yeagerflyfish@gmail.com)

Webmaster/Facebook: Vic Andrade, [hp8202va@gmail.com](mailto:hp8202va@gmail.com)

Newsletter Editor: Bruce Baker, [bmbaker09@hotmail.com](mailto:bmbaker09@hotmail.com)

FFI/Gov't: Mike Clancy, [mtclancy39@comcast.net](mailto: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](http://southsoundflyfishers.com)  
USPS Mail Address: SSFF, PO BOX 2792, Olympia WA 98507