



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 24 Issue 4

April 2024

<p>Page 1 -2 Saturday, April 13th - Washington Council of FFI - Skills Development clinic.</p>	<p>Pages 2 and 4 2024 membership fees are now due.</p>	<p>Page 5 Contribute to the NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy.</p>
---	--	--

Leader's Line

Jared Wood, Club President



Greetings fellow South Sound Fly Fishers. I hope this month's newsletter finds you well, rested, and ready for spring fishing. Talking about the weather never seems to help improve it, but I find myself doing it often hoping for clear skies. Now that March 31st has come and gone, a friendly reminder to renew your fishing licenses for the 2024-2025 Season.

I was a part of a planning meeting on Sunday with the Washington Council of FFI, the Puget Sound Fly Fishers, and a few others. They have put together a great team of casting instructors for us and are looking forward to hosting a Skills Development clinic this **Saturday, April 13 from 10am-3pm**. It will be at the Lacey Community Center 'Shelter A' otherwise known as Woodland Creek Community Park, 6729 Pacific Ave.

SE, Lacey WA 98503. Bring your favorite 5-6 wt rod, safety glasses, and a delicious lunch.

In the words of Jim Black, one of the casting instructors for this weekend, "The goal is helping your members develop casting skills and having fun. We don't want the casters to get the idea that this is a test. It's an easy laid-back way of learning a number of casting skills and advanced techniques. Everyone will learn something and for your members interested in pursuing casting certification it can be a first step." There will also be a briefing that afternoon on steps to get your Casting Instructor certification if you are interested.

The Skills Development Guide includes how the three courses will be laid out. The Skills Development Guide can be viewed at this link:

[FFI FCSD Program Angler Guide.pdf \(flyfishersinternational.org\)](#)

We recently completed our first class of the year with the City of Olympia, 'Introduction to Fly Fishing.' A big shout out and thank you to all who helped on the Monday evening classes. Our 30 students had access to a wealth of knowledge and experience. Randy Allen is our Education Chair and does an outstanding job in organizing and coordinating all that goes into each class. As I am sure he will mention, we are looking for help in instructing the 7 week **Fly Casting class** we just started (which is held on Monday evenings). If you are interested in taking these classes as a participant, it is not too late to join. We still have room, just reach out to Randy for the info.

Our first overnight outing of the year will be **May 17-19** to the Ephrata, Wahington area. There are multiple lakes in the area which have outstanding fisheries. To help with reserving sites for camping and carpooling we will have a sign up at this month's meeting. If you plan on going on this trip but won't be at our meeting, please let me know. We already have three boats committed, so if you are interested in going but don't have a boat, there will be room.

Project Healing Waters reached out and asked that I share that Rick Davidson (who did a presentation to us a few months ago) will be taking over as the Regional Program director. Because of this, they are looking for volunteers to help with the local Joint Base Lewis McCord chapter as a Program Lead or to help with Activity Director. You do not need to be a veteran to help with this great organization, to only requirement is wanting to help disabled veterans.

With the summer months approaching and the benefit of longer days, we will be transitioning away from using Zoom at our monthly club meetings unless the presenter requires it. This is to encourage and facilitate in person connections, and lessen the impact of computer tech issues the fire station seems to always have. As we get closer to fall, we will incorporate Zoom again for those who do not wish to drive in the dark.

Lastly, if you still have not paid your membership dues for this year, you will receive a call from a board member to verify your membership intent. If unpaid after this month, you will no longer receive communication from our club.

I look forward to seeing you all on April 16th. Remember, "fly fishing is the most fun you can have when you are not catching fish." Take care, be well, and tight lines!

Jared Wood
SSFF President
president@southsoundflyfishers.org



Our speaker this month will be Steve Jones.

Steve has been a member of Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers for about 15 years and served as club president for three years and on the board since 2013. He enjoys helping the Washington chapter of Fly Fishers International and helps keep it the lively and successful group members expect. Steve manages to visit every fly fishing club in the Washington Council to help inform each group about FFI programs.

At our April meeting Steve will be speaking about the new Skills Development program the FFI has created. This program can be utilized with individuals or groups. It is easy to set up and implement. Becoming better at casting makes fly fishing more enjoyable and leads to more successful outings. You will enjoy Steve's presentation and his passion for teaching.



Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers President

Steve Jones

Treasurer

Lee Yeager, Chair



Hi everyone. Please allow me to take this opportunity to remind you that annual club memberships are due. The dues that the South Sound Fly Fishers collect are used to fund club operations primarily to pay for speakers and presentation fees.

Your membership is vitally important in helping to keep the South Sound Fly Fishers financially sound and able to continue to provide quality programs on fly fishing strategies, opportunities, and locations in the Pacific Northwest.

- Renewal dues are still \$40 per person or for families.
- Spouses or significant others are considered a family membership.
- New member dues are \$45; that is \$40 for club dues and \$5 for a name badge.
- First time family memberships are \$40.00 plus \$5.00 for each person's name badge.

If you have not submitted your dues for 2024 you may do so in any of the following ways:

1. Pay in person with cash, check, or credit card at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting at the North Olympia Fire Station.

2. Mail a check to the club at:

South Sound Fly Fishers
PO BOX 2792
Olympia, WA 98507

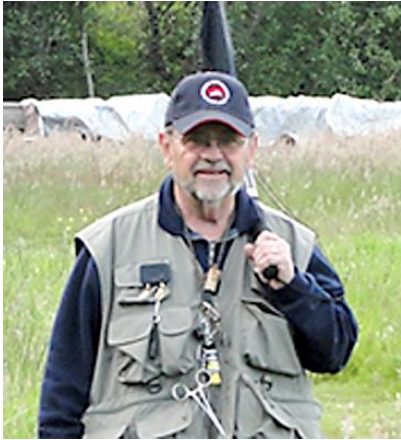
3. Use the Membership tab on the club website below to pay via Pay Pal or credit card:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=BXHH6MJ3T5MAU

Tight Lines,
Lee Yeager, Treasurer

Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International (WSCFFI) & Government Affairs

Mike Clancy, Chair



The FFI has published a survey on the internet to learn what everyone's thoughts would be on a fly fishing event, and in what location they think they would attend an event in 2025. In the past, there have been many fun events in the Montana area around Livingston, MT.

May 4th the WSCFFI will conduct another Fly-Fishing Fair at Ballinger Park in Mountlake Terrace, north of Seattle. This event will feature a rotating series of the best fly tyers in the Northwest along with an introductory fly-tying class, and a full day of casting classes for beginners and advanced fishers. This is another opportunity to see our friends. Food will be available

for a fee.

The NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy will be conducted June 22-29 at the Panhandle Lake 4H Camp, west of Shelton. I'm happy to report they have a full house, actually more than they originally wanted. But, it's hard to turn these great kids down for this incredible opportunity to learn our sport of fly fishing. There are a number of young ladies, with 4 students attending from out of state. And as everything else, costs have increased considerably. Any help with finances would be greatly appreciated. Any amount of contribution to support the Academy will be greatly appreciated.

Please send your donation to:

NY Youth Conservation and FF Academy
c/o John Gravendyk
818 - 291st Ave. NE
Carnation, WA. 98014



We completed our five-week *Introduction to Fly Fishing* on Mondays beginning with a roster of 30 students. If you're just tuning in, 16 were women! Everyone was interested in learning the basics or in furthering their fly-fishing skills. This was the most exciting class we've presented yet. There was a lot of energy in the room each night.

Included in the class were two Saturday morning casting introductions. Many thanks to **Mike Clancy** for bringing rods for the students. It was great as always to see long-time friend and fellow SSFF member **Burt Sarver** coaching the new students.

Bringing decades of experience to the training class, our team of instructors included **Wayne Dixon** on entomology and water safety; **Jim Maus** on reading streams and lake water and where to find fish; **Lee Yeager** on conservation and stewardship of the watershed and its fish. Further assisting in the classroom were members **Mike Clancy**, **Kevin Angevine**, **Tim Mettier**, **Bert French**, **Vic Andrade**, and **Dave Brombach**. And, the women in the class were especially delighted to learn experiences from **Tobey Anderson** and **Ginger Sarver**! These members all brought excellent experiences of their own to share.

I hope I have not omitted anyone's name who contributed their time. I'm recognizing our fellow members for dedicating their time to tomorrow's fishers. The students were so fortunate to have this competent team working with them. *Thank you one and all for dedicating your time to these new fly fishers.*

Was the class effective? Did it make a difference in these students' lives? Read the follow-on article, [*The Rest of the Story*](#) about Kendall, one of our young-lady students.

Here is our annual education program:

Introduction to Fly Fishing - Taught during the spring.

What is fly fishing all about? Is this something I want to try?

Students learn fly fishing gear: rods, reels, lines and leaders, waders, boots, and floatation devices (boats). We discuss locating fish in rivers, lakes, and the salt water, as well as local fish species you'll encounter. Our evening on entomology teaches about the life cycles of various insects, and which artificial flies imitate them.

Students also learn three useful fly-fishing knots.

We include two Saturday mornings to introduce you to the basics of casting a fly rod.

Enrollment is through the City of Olympia Parks, Arts, and Recreation.

Fly Casting - Taught spring-early summer, seven weeks, once per week. This class is for single-handed rod casting (not two-handed spey rods). You will cast a fly line for different situations including the wind. You'll also learn to "mend" your line 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 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 Randy with questions. <https://southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/>

The *Rest* of the Story



Kendall Kohler is a delightful new member. She joined SSFF while attending our recent *Introduction to Fly Fishing* class.

One class weekend Kendall was in the eastern part of the state. But, before she returned home to Olympia she discovered one of her tires was low on air. It wasn't *totally* flat, just leaking enough to be an *inconvenience*. Yeah, it would never make it to Olympia. If only there were a Les Schwab nearby, where she bought her tires, to repair her leaky tire.

She considered getting out her spare and changing the tire. All that trouble for a tire that wasn't leaking *that* badly? She called Les Schwab in Ellensburg, and they could take care of her that afternoon. But, she had to get there. Next, she did the *logical* thing. She found an air hose at a service station to pump up the tire. She was good to go. For a little while.

Driving westward Kendall remained attentive to the tire. Resourceful Kendall, she found another filling station and pumped up the tire again. She drove some more and repeated the process. Over and over again until, finally, she reached Les Schwab. It would be an hour or two before they could repair the tire and get her going.

I said she's resourceful. At Les Schwab while awaiting her repair she found that Mattoon Lake was only a couple of walking miles from Schwab. Who would travel east into some of the state's great fly fishing waters without their fly gear? Not Kendall. Fish or eat popcorn? Fish or eat popcorn? Fish or eat popco....? She took off on foot, rod and flies in hand.

Only one other fisher was on Mattoon that day. He was in his kayak trolling just in front of where she was fishing. He wasn't having any luck. Kendall's attempts casting a wooly buggler interested some fish, but none that she could catch. She considered those misses, and she recalled Jim Maus in the class. With a rod and line he demonstrated why we cannot set the hook with a slack line. She compared her slack line to Jim's discussion, and she made a change.

After her next cast she mended her line. No more slack. There! A nice bend in her rod! She kept the fish on and brought it to her net. The fish-less kayaker had been watching her the whole time. He

paddled over, amazed by the size of her fish. He was no stranger to that lake, and he had never seen anyone catch a fish that large! Kendall kept the fish in the water while her newfound buddy yakked. Finally she asked, “Will you please take the photo?!?” Right after the photo she placed the fish back into the lake to swim away and be caught another day.

A *considerate* fly fisher, Kendall suggested he use a green wooly bugger.

Was the class effective? Our Jim Maus made an obvious impression by demonstrating fishing with slack line and why to correct it. Her leaking tire now repaired, it was time to head back to Les’s for some well-deserved popcorn.

And, Kendall, you never dirtied your hands changing your spare tire!!
Congratulations! That is a fantastic rainbow trout! You made Jim Maus proud!



Kendall's Mattoon Lake Rainbow © Kendall Kohler

Outings

Doug Dunster, Chair



April 18 and 20 - Spencer Lake (Mason County) - rainbow, cutthroat, bass, blue gill.

Meeting for Breakfast - 8:00 AM
Spencer Lake Bar & Grill, 1180 E. Pickering Road

Flies: Woolly buggers, leeches, chironomids

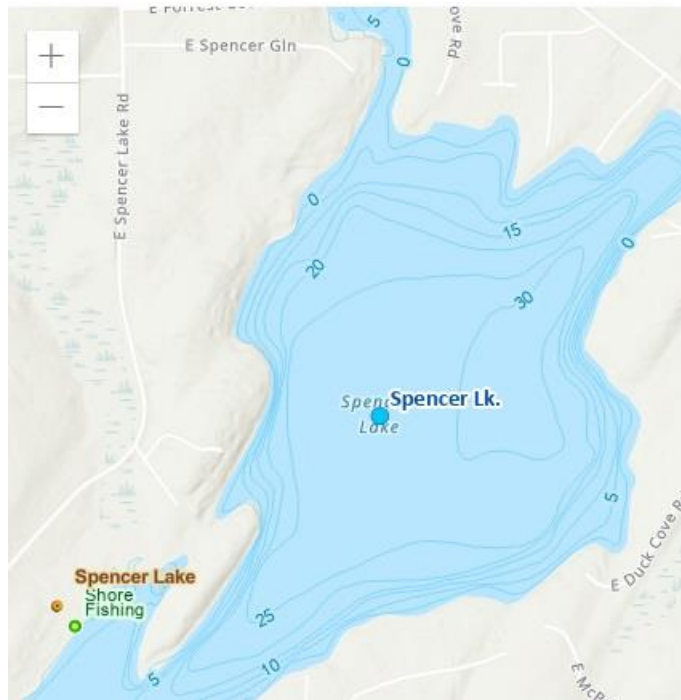
Lines: Full sinking and intermediate lines for trolling deeper parts of lake. Floating line might be effective for recent plants and in the shallows or if you see some surface action.

Motors: Gas motors are allowed.

I have only fished Spencer a few times and don't claim to know it well. I bring several rods with floating, intermediate, and full sinking lines, and I change them depending on depth of water and how I am fishing. When using an electric trolling motor we have done best using a full sinking line. The area straight out and to the right of the launch is shallow and mostly targeted by bass anglers but is worth giving a shot for trout, too.



The fish in the picture is a 20+” rainbow I caught on my first SSFF club outing. It was in 4 ft of water almost straight out from the launch. I was using a floating line with a snocone chironomid. I fished Spencer most recently in mid-March. The fish planted last fall appeared to be hanging in 20+ ft of water according to folks with fish finders. I forgot my full sinking line and fishing was slow. I managed one 16” fish using an olive leech on an intermediate line in the 20 ft deep channel to the left as you head out to the main body of the lake. It's fishing so, of course, it is almost guaranteed to be different every time you go.



Directions: Highway 101 to Shelton then Highway 3. Turn right on E. Pickering Road (road to Hartstene Island). If going to breakfast at Spencer Lake Bar & Grill continue to 1180 E. Pickering Road. Take the first right onto E. Spencer Lake Rd if going directly to boat launch.

Stocking Reports: Sept. 2023: Rainbow - 4,200 @ 0.9 lb; Nov. 2023 - Cutthroat - 300 @ 1.4 lb; Nov. 2023 - Rainbow - 600 @ 1.15 lb; April 2, 2024 - Rainbow- 10,000 @ 0.4 lb



South Sound Fly Fishers - 2024 Outings		
March 21 & 23	Munn Lake (Thurston County)	Rainbow, Cutthroat, Bass, Blue Gill
April 18 & 20	Spencer Lake (Mason County)	Rainbow
May 17-19	Dry Falls, Lenore, Quincy Area Lakes (Grant County)	Rainbow, Lahontan Cutthroat
June 13 & 15	Summit Lake (Thurston County)	Rainbow, Kokanee, Bass
July 18 & 20	Deschutes River (Thurston County)	Rainbow, Cutthroat
August 22 & 24	Kokanee Lake aka Lower Lake Cushman (Mason County)	Rainbow
September 20-22	Yakima River (Kittitas County)	Rainbow
October 17 & 19	Cowlitz River (Lewis County)	Coho, Cutthroat, Steelhead
November 23	Fly Tying	Boston Harbor Fire Station



From time-to-time people ask how and where they can find information about conservation projects in our area. If you are new to the south Puget Sound region or are looking for more information, check out the two web links below.

For both groups no prior experience or expertise is required. All you need is a few hours and the willingness to help.

[*The Stream Team of Thurston County*](#) conducts monthly activities focused on improving and maintaining local waterways. Look at their web site and sign up for monthly notices about volunteer needs and projects.

[*The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group*](#) works to improve the conditions for salmon populations.





Kevin would like to pass along a simple tip that he has received from an old fishing friend. Sometimes we all forget the simple things. A reminder can help catch more fish.

Raising the reel drag also raises the muscle needed to keep the rod upright and bent. Keeping the reel drag low reduces the chances of a break-off.

If you have an item(s) that you would like to sell, please send a note with a description of the item(s), price, and contact information to Kevin.

<https://southsoundflyfishers.org/contact/>

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.

The following are available for purchase.

Glasses
\$7.50 each / \$15.00 all 3



Albright Fly Rod (9' #6) & Ross R 3.5 Fly Reel (New) \$380.00



Back Brace
\$35.00



Orvis Battenkill Large Arbor V Fly Reel
with line
\$250.00



Redington Crosswater + CW 7/8/9 Fly Reel
\$50.00



Ross CLA 4 Fly Reel, with spare spool
and lines
\$350



South Bend 1144 Finalist Fly Reel with line
\$29.00



Adams Dry Fly



- Attach thread by wrapping a few times forward and then back on top of itself.
- Trim off the tag end.
- Wrap to the 2/3 mark of the shank.
- Now attach 2 wings at the 2/3 mark with a few wraps, the wings should be about the same length as the hook shank.



- Now pull back on the wings and form a thread dam right in front of the wings.
- The wings should stand up on their own.



- Clean up any stragglers.



- Now make a few figure 8's between the wings to separate them.



- Now lay down a thread base and attach the tail.



- Take 1 or 2 loose wraps over the top.
- Make sure that 1 is sitting directly on top of the hook and to your desired length (just shorter than the hook).
- Add a few more securing wraps and trim off the excess.



- Get some Adam's grey super fine dubbing and create a thin dubbing noodle.
- Wrap the dubbing back to front to create a tapered body.
- Stop just past the halfway point.
- Cut hackle feathers to the appropriate size (Grizzly and Brown).
- Trim the base fibers leaving a good length of base stem.



- Attach both the Grizzly and the Brown with a few securing wraps on both sides of the wings.



- Wrap the Brown 2 - 3 times behind the wings and 2 in front of the wings.
- Secure with a few wraps just in front of the wings.
- Trim off excess.



- Wrap the Grizzly 2 - 3 times behind the wings and 2 in front of the wings.
- Secure with a few wraps just in front of the wings.
- Trim off excess.
- Finish with a drop of super glue or cement.





2024 SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS Officers, Directors, Chairs	
President	Jared Wood
Vice President	Max Doerge
Secretary	Open Seat
Treasurer	Lee Yeager
Director at Large	Tim Veneziano
Director at Large	Dalton Gorham
Past President	Lee Yeager
Conservation	Open Seat
Education	Randy Allen
Fundraising	Kevin Angevine
Membership	Phil Jaramillo
Outings Chair	Doug Dunster
Programs	Lee Yeager
Webmaster/Facebook	Vic Andrade
Newsletter Editor	Dave Brombach
FFI/Gov't	Mike Clancy

South Sound Fly Fishers - 2024 Meeting Dates	
<u>Board Of Directors Meetings</u>	<u>Club Membership Meetings</u>
Jan 9 (in person)	Jan 16
Feb 6	Feb 20
Mar 5	Mar 19
Apr 2 (in person)	Apr 16
May 7	May 21
June 4 (in person)	June 18
July 2	July 16
Aug 6 (in person)	Aug 20
Sep 3	Sep 17
Oct 1 (in person)	Oct 15
Nov 5 (in person)	Nov 19
Dec 3	No meeting this month

Board of Directors meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 PM with the noted exceptions as indicated above.

Club Meetings are conducted by Zoom and in-person at 7:00 PM the third Tuesday of every month except December. Zoom is open at 6:30 PM if you want to visit and talk fly fishing. In-person meetings are held at the North Olympia Fire Department located at 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia, WA. 98506.

From the north - Use I-5 south exit 105B and stay right toward the port of Olympia. Follow the main road as it changes its name to East Bay Drive and then to Boston Harbor Road. About 4 miles north of the State Ave. signal is a Shell gas station; you'll find the Fire Department just past the Shell on the right side.

From the south - Use I-5 north exit 105 and stay right toward the port of Olympia. Go right (north) at the round-a-bout, then left at the Plum Street signal. Continue up Plum St. as it changes its name to East Bay Drive and then to Boston Harbor Road. About 4 miles north of the State Ave. signal is a Shell gas station; you'll find the Fire Department just past the Shell on the right side.

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