

Garden Hackle



November 2013

Volume 13 Issue 11

Leader's Line by Tom Bolender

What a short year this has been. In just a little over a month I'll have been president of the South Sound Fly Fishers for a year. I've had a great time as president. The enthusiasm you've all showed this year has been a real positive experience for me. I'm looking forward to a large turnout in November to vote in a slew of new board members. Together we can make this club stronger.

If you are interested in a board position but have not been contacted by a current board member please let me know. We still have a couple of positions we could use help with. We're losing Ryan as our newsletter editor and website manager. As of yet we have no replacements. Big shoes I know, but we'd sure like the help.

Not unlike most newly elected officers, I had an agenda when I started as president. Ideas on how to add value to your membership have been a top priority for me. I feel, due to the length of time it's been since those plans were made, I have not done the best job I could have. I'm happy to say I'll be working hard in the upcoming year to see a couple of those ideas through. Early next year you'll be able to start checking things out from our lending library. Books, videos, magazines, waders, boots, rods and reels will available at meetings or by giving me a call. The library will be stored at my home. Hopefully before the spring fishing season gets into full swing the guru network will be available for your perusal.

General Meeting:

November 19th

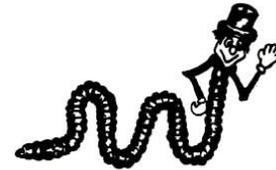
7:00PM

**North Olympia Fire Station
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE**

Presentation by:

Janet Schimpf

If you ever have question or concerns about anything club related, please feel free to contact me.



Program- Janet Schimpf Fly Tying



Janet Shimpf, fly tier extraordinaire, will be tying flies for us at this month's meeting. Come see an expert production tier at work. Ask questions about that technique you may be struggling with. Or to heck with it and get her card so she can tie flies for you!

2013 Officers, Directors & Committee Chairman

President, Tom Bolender (360)280-5770
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VP & Conservation, Jason Small (253)380-2583
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Web Site www.southsoundflyfishers.org
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General Meetings

When:

The 3rd Tuesday of every month except December.

Where:

North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station)
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE

Time:

6:15 PM Doors open, 6:30 P.M. Social Time
7:00 – 9:00 P.M. Meeting and Program

Board Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00PM at North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station).

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Where is this? Last Chance to guess at the meeting and win some raffle tickets. Just raise your hand and tell everyone!



Conservation

SSFF Cutthroat Conservation Project

November 1st we kicked off our month long cutthroat conservation fundraiser. Thanks to all of you who showed up at fish brewing and had a pint to support sea-run cutthroat conservation. Remember, Fish Brewing is helping us out all month long, so stop in and have a pint of SSFF Ale!



Along with the \$1/pint deal with fish brewing, we are accepting donations to the project. For you donation of \$15 or more, you will receive a 32 oz. growler. What more than one growler, that's great! With each \$15 dollar donation you will receive another growler. These half size growlers are a perfect size to fit in your fishing pack for you and a buddy out on the water. To get yours now go to [click here](#).

Currently we have sold 61 growlers for a total of \$1021.51! Good but we have a ways to go. Bring cash, check or credit card to the meeting and you can get a growler there. They would make a great Christmas present for someone!

Protect our Deschutes River

If you see any poaching on the Deschutes please contact the WDFW to report it. Also, please avoid any conflict between you and the violators. The poaching hotline is

877-933-9847

Treasurer's Creel by Dave Field



This month we focus on the Wild Steelhead Coalition which the club supports through a donation of money. By supporting the Wild Steelhead Coalition the club is really putting its money where its mouth is when it comes to protecting wild fish be they Steelhead, Salmon or Sea Run Cutthroat trout.

The Wild Steelhead Coalition (WSC) was started about 15 years ago in response to the pending closure of steelhead fishing in several rivers in northern Puget Sound. These closures were in an attempt to reverse the steep decline of wild steelhead populations in these rivers.

It was at this point that sport anglers realized that without concerted action to save these iconic fish, wild steelhead eventually would be relegated to the history books in most of Puget Sound country. WSC now has grown to a membership of over 500 anglers, conservationists and businesses committed to saving wild steelhead. The coalition not only fights for the protection of wild Steelhead in Washington State but now partners with

organizations in Oregon, California, Alaska and British Columbia in behalf of these fish.

The WSC primarily focuses on developing sound fishery policy based on the best available science and research findings. In carrying out their mission of increasing the return of wild steelhead to the rivers and streams of the Pacific Northwest the WSC promotes initiatives that often draw fire of land owners, developers, municipalities, state agencies, tribes and of course commercial fishing interests.

WSC does not have a large group of professional fish biologists or researchers like most other organizations we support, instead they rely more on knowledgeable volunteers. WSC serves as a clearing house of research information and coordinates policy development to deal with the ongoing issues of saving wild steelhead in the Pacific Northwest.

Next month we will look at another organization we support with time and money: Project Healing Waters through Fly Fishing.

Fundraising by John Sabo

Raffle Report

We are doing well with the Raffle and T-Shirt sales, and are ahead of last year. For the second and third quarters, this year, we had a total "profit" of \$220 which was deposited into the Club's bank account, to help continue the club's activities. Thank you; to all the club members who participate in the club's monthly raffle and to all of you who donate raffle items or fill fly boxes. We are looking forward to even more interesting and useful raffle prizes in the coming months. By the way, we have some empty fly boxes to be filled...fly tiers, please see me at the back of the room at our next meeting.

South Sound Fly Fishers Dinner and Auction

The club's Potluck Dinner and Auction will be on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, at the Black Lake

Grange Hall, next to the fire station on Black Lack Boulevard. We will be looking for donations of “experiences and adventure” (fishing trips, vacation cabins, gourmet dinners, etc.), and for club members who would like to be on the auction committee and support the club. If you would like to participate, please see me at the raffle table at the club meetings, or e-mail me at: chrisonquince@comcast.net.

Fly of the Month

By Ryan Haseman

General Practitioner

Hook: Partridge Bartleet Style Size 2 (depends on preference)

Body: Orange Seal, or Angora Goat

Rib: Sm Oval Tinsel

Hackle: Orange Hackle (long barbs)

Shellback: Red Golden Pheasant Breast

Eyes: Natural Golden Pheasant Tippet

Thread: Orange

It is this time of year where I am sure I look like a kid in a candy store. I literally stand in front of my gear and argue with myself, “Sea-runs? Salmon? Trout? Steelhead?” Then, when a decision is finally made, the car ride out to my agreed upon destination is rife with the pangs of passing by fertile water and thoughts like “Hmm, maybe I should have gone there” or “I wonder how that’s doing now?”

This month’s fly is a somewhat challenging fly to tie, but since we are heading towards the end of the year, I figure everyone is up for the challenge. The General Practitioner is a very well-known fly, but misjudged. When asked to name ten classic salmon fly patterns, I bet the General Practitioner would be on more than one person’s list. While this fly suggests a sort of Dee style fly, its origins are far from what most would call a classic salmon fly. In fact the only real commonality is that this fly was intended for Atlantic salmon.

The General Practitioner was created by Colonel Esmond Drury in 1953 (not the 1800’s). It is a

model for most of today’s shrimp imitation patterns, and for good reason. Apparently Drury created this fly after his favorite salmon river’s regulations were changed, forbidding the use of prawns. Originally tied on a smallish salmon hook, GP’s are fished on a range of hook sizes, and in many different colors.

I am not going to go over every step to tying this fly, I am not sure I could do it in less than 2 pages. I will however, offer advice.

For your first GP, I would suggest taking things slowly. Go online, get a good book, and follow along with the instructions. Lay out all of your materials beforehand so you have them ready to grab. This means clip your pheasant tippets and get them exactly how you want them.

When you are tying your fly, do it sections. Tie in your tail, make a half hitch, reset yourself, tie in the back section up to the first set of eyes, or shellback, half hitch, reset. While you are “resetting” look at what you have just done, adjust it and make it just the way you want it before you get too far ahead of that section. You will be surprised how much this technique helps. Another tip for the head of your fly is to smash flat the stem of your final shellback. This makes it easy to tie in and also makes for a smoother head.

Have fun and get out and fish!!



Photo by Ryan Haseman

Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing

Academy by Mike Clancy, Co-Director

Academy for 2014 will be June 22-28 at The Gwinwood Center, on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Contact: Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259, email: nwyccfa@comcast.net or Jim Brosio, 360-943-9947

It all started with idea of the founder, Dick Nye, a retired Tacoma middle school music teacher. Preparations for the Academy started in 2002 with Dick attending a youth camp, the nationally acclaimed, award winning Pennsylvania Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp in Boiling Springs, PA. After 2 years of preparation, Dick conducted the first Academy on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. at the Gwinwood Christian Community Center in 2004. The Academy is sponsored by The Washington Council of TU, The Washington State Council of the IFFF, hosted by The Puget Sound Fly Fishers of Tacoma, Olympia Chapter of TU and the South Sound Fly Fishers of Olympia. Dick Nye retired after the 2009 Academy. Jim Brosio and I took over the responsibly of The Academy with our first challenge for the 2010 Academy. With the financial support of the Washington TU Chapters, the IFFF Fly Fishing Clubs, corporate and individual sponsors, we gave it our best and it worked. In all the years that Jim and I have been co-directors, we have been assisted by at least 50 volunteers, during the week of the Academy. Without the support of the groups I mentioned, this Academy would not happen. Ron Smorynski, TU/SSFF, has been involved since the very first Academy in 2004. The curriculum is structured to provide students with a background in environmental science and includes lessons in ecology, hydrology, aquatic entomology, invasive species, watersheds, fish biology and behavior. Students also learn the skill of fly fishing, including fly tying, casting by CCI's, knot tying, stream side ethics and water safety. The Academy is for boys and girls, 12-16 years old. All equipment is supplied, tuition is still \$275, however; no one will be turned away because of money. Each applicant needs to write an essay, explaining why they would like to attend and a letter of recommendation from their school science teacher or counselor. The