



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

January President's Message:

Welcome to 2018.

We are at the start of the planning process for the next 12 months. Our committees designing the next 12 months could use your input. They also could use some of your time as well. Given the travails we have seen in the last couple of years, we need to design a series of robust programs and activities that are of high interest, flexible and give us an opportunity to spend time together.

Decisions being made by regulatory agencies regarding many issues that affect our sport. This is not a call for a specific action or point of view. It is a call for your considered participation in the process. As we have seen over the last couple of years the environment in which we play is in a state of change. There are many voices calling for particular outcomes. Yours is one of them. There will be opportunities to provide input through a number of avenues. Take the time to respond, whether it is attend a meeting, sending an e-mail, making a call. And at the very least spend some time getting informed.

Congratulations to the other members who received awards for their contributions to our community, our sport, and our club. Sid Strong received the Ralph Wahl Conservation Award, Jamie Harrington received the Ed Ruckey Mentoring award, Cassie Spitzer received the Linda Sherman award, and Bill Faulkner was presented the Hookless Bard award for his ongoing practice on noninvolvement with numerous piscatorial species.

We are starting the fly tying sessions for this year. They will be on the calendar and we will be using Eventbrite to sign up. If you want to schedule a session let me know.

Here is the current schedule:

Dan Coombs - February 10th 12:30-4:30

Ken Kloehn – February 24th 1-4:30

Klaus Lohse – TBD

Frank Koterba – TBD

The Hillers.-.TBD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

Memorial service for Bill Hall:

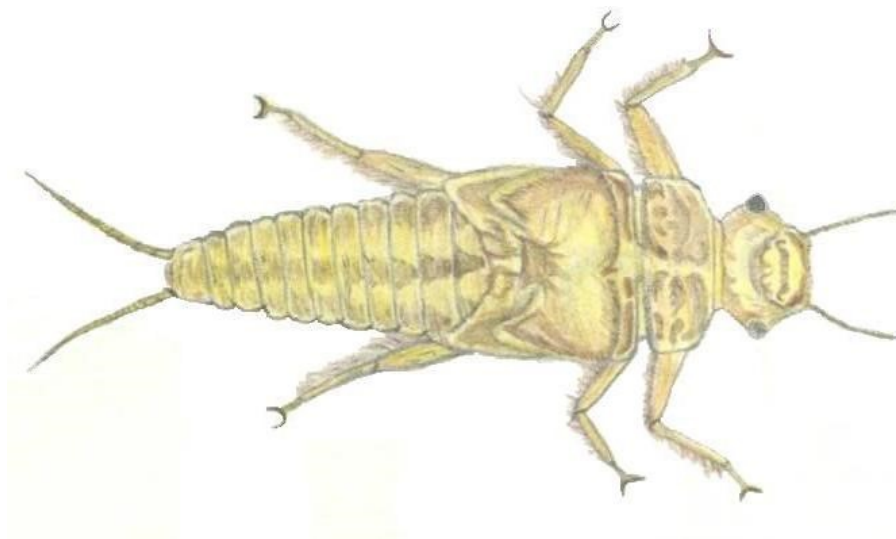
A celebration of Bill's life will be held by his Bellingham family on Saturday, February 3, 2018 at 1:00 P.M. at the Congregational Church/United Church of Christ, 2401 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham, WA. All are invited to attend Bill's memorial. Condolences may be written at the websites of www.molesfarewelltributes.com and/or www.whidbeyememorial.com. At Bill's request his remains will be spread on the mountains and the waters of the Pacific Northwest.

To help Norma plan for the food, could you drop me an e-mail letting me know if you plan to attend. [Frank Koterba](mailto:Frank.Koterba@4thCornerFlyFishers.com)

I look forward to creating more stories with you on the water this year.

Frank Koterba

President, 4th Corner Fly Fishers



Monthly Meeting

General Membership Meeting: Thursday, January 25

This month's general membership meeting takes place at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club on Thursday, January 25, 2018, third Thursday. The evening begins at 6:00 P.M. with The Wet Fly, a social time/open bar. Dinner follows at 6:45. The evening's program begins at 7:30 P.M. After the program, members are invited to stay for a business meeting: fish stories, introduction of guests, announcements, and various committee reports. It concludes with a raffle for ticket holders who are in attendance.

January's program guest has been selected by our Conservation Committee to keep us updated on efforts of local organizations that support wildlife habitats and actively seek solutions to protect these special areas. Gabe Epperson, the Conservation Director from Whatcom Land Trust will present an updated Land Conservation Plan that identifies priority areas of the County to focus acquisition and stewardship efforts. Gabe Epperson will also present public survey results with county residents' conservation preferences.

Gabe has a background in Urban Planning and large-scale environmental planning with a focus on public outreach. He was the Planning Director at Envision Utah for 5 years, completing the *Blueprint Jordan River* and *Wasatch Canyons Tomorrow* projects, which included thousands of Utah residents and led to the formation of the Jordan River Commission and the protection of hundreds of acres of wildlife habitat and recreation lands in the Salt Lake Metro area. Mr Epperson moved to Bellingham in 2015 to do land acquisition and conservation planning for the Land Trust. Since joining the Land Trust he has helped create a new Land Conservation Plan with public input from hundreds of Whatcom County residents and has led numerous land purchases and conservation easement acquisitions protecting many new farms and habitat areas.

Bob Cooper manages the Eventbrite invitations and RSVPs. He asks you to make your reservation with an RSVP on Eventbrite by Wednesday, January 24, 8:00 A.M. at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fcff-dinner-meeting-january-25-2018-tickets-41888851683>, by email at bxxcoper2010@gmail.com or by phone at 360-961-4398. Getting your RSVP in on time helps provide an accurate count for the kitchen and is highly appreciated. Please indicate if you desire dinner or just attending the meeting. Remember a dinner reservation made is a binding commitment to pay.

Marion Hiller, 4CFF Internal VP, Program Chair

Bob Cooper, 4CFF, Programs, Eventbrite Manager

Conservation Report

Happy New Year to you all!

Most recent news on the fish farming net pen operations came last week when Washington Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz closed down Cooke Aquaculture's Atlantic Salmon net pen operation near Port Angeles. Seems that during a recent inspection this net pen operation had numerous infractions noted including being in the wrong location, having at least one of its anchors close to failure and several instances of other equipment in poor condition. As you remember, Cooke is the same multi-national company whose net pens failed and sunk off Cypress Island. You would think that they would have been less cavalier about the conditions of their remaining net pen operations in Puget Sound after that fiasco. So they have a cease and desist order for their Port Angeles operation with no chance to turn around the decision by the Land Commission. It's good to know that certain state agencies are now monitoring the fish farming industry here and will start requiring them to meet their criteria for safe operation. I'll keep you posted as this whole issue unfolds thru the 2018 year.

All the rains have brought stream levels at or above max. so hopefully Whatcom, Squalicum, Padden and other local creeks will have good returns of Salmon.

After the awards presentation at our annual Christmas party Frank asked that I spell out which awards were given, who received them and what each award stands for.

Ed Ruckey Mentoring Award- For the member who has gone beyond the norm in helping other club members and/or non member to learn the art and science of fly fishing. In this case, Jamie Harrington received this award for his unflagging support of our Education activities at local schools, senior cancer center and BP Christmas fly tying extravaganza.

Linda Sherman Award-For a person who has provided extraordinary encouragement, education and support in advancing the participation of women in the sport of fly fishing and/or the aims of 4CFF. Cassandra Spitzer received this award for her major participation in the set up and organization of the Conservation Auction this past Fall and for becoming an active participant in other club activities.

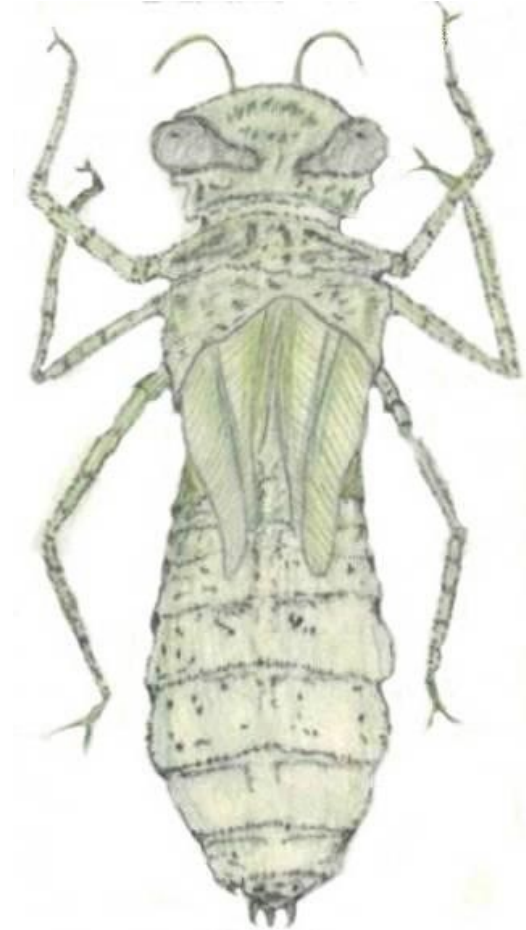
Ralph Wahl Conservation Award-for extraordinary efforts resulting in positive effects in the areas of fisheries conservation, fisheries management or environmental matters. The committee was pleased to present this award to Sid Strong who has worked on all of the club's conservation projects since the mid-nineties!!! Little Deer Creek, Nessel Creek, Boyd Creek, Ten-Mile Creek, Whatcom Creek etc. There are only a small handful of members who can now claim this. The Conservation Committee also wishes to acknowledge Sid's major contributions to the restoration of our local streams as well.

Conservation Report

Club Service Award-For outstanding service to the Club in terms of furthering its aims and purposes. I don't think anyone could possibly list all the contributions that Frank Koterba has made and will continue to make for our Club. Frank has his hand in almost every operation of our club including meetings, fundraisers, Board Meetings, internet access, outings, education ad infinitum. We all owe this man a major amount of gratitude for all his efforts.

"Hookless Barb Award"-For the person who has promoted conservation of the resource by consistently NOT catching fish! This is a "tongue in cheek" award usually presented to a popular club member which has very little to do with fishing prowess. Congratulations to Bill Faulkner.

See you at the meeting, Dan Coombs



Outings Report

Greetings to All You 4CFF's !

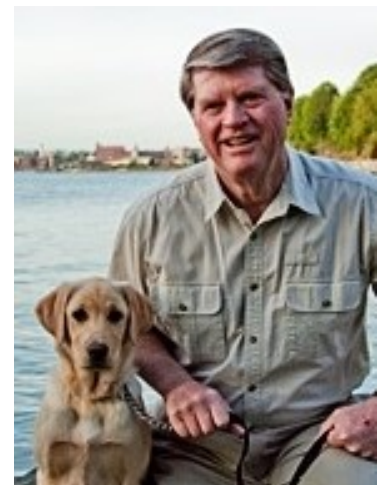
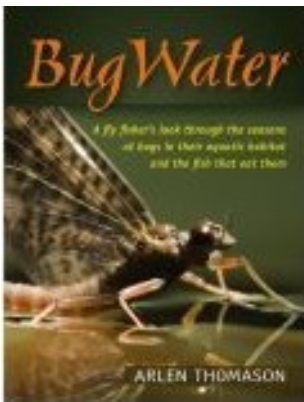
We're starting off early this year with the first official outing of the year coming up on January 16th. Not a fishing trip but an important meeting that could lead to many exciting outings in the near future. If you haven't signed up to attend the meeting check your email or go to this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wdfw-to-host-public-workshops-on-proposed-skagit-basinsteelhead-fishery-tickets-41892583846>

We'll be putting out the list of attendees later this week so those that want to car pool can get together. This year we're going to be putting together more locally oriented outings with some emphasis on exploring new opportunities right in our own back yard. For those intrepid explorers of the northern Canadian provinces, don't worry, we've got several exciting trips planned to the usual hangouts as well as a couple newly discovered "SECRET" waters recently revealed to me by unnamed sources.

Library Acquisition:

Our latest acquisition for the club library is a marvel of photography combined with a wealth of information about the linchpin of our favorite pastime. Bugwater is that soggy place inhabited by creepy, crawly, hopping, flying, wriggling creatures we call, if imprecisely, bugs. Organized around the seasons, BugWater follows the bugs and the trout through their life cycles from spring through winter. Thomason's stunningly striking photos and fascinating narratives show off the bugs up close, in amazing detail. With the author's insights as both a scientist and fly fisher and his expertise as a photographer, this book delivers solid content all fly fishers can learn from. You can pick it up at the library at the Jan meeting.



Tight Lines

Tom Langley



WDFW Workshops

WDFW is considering opening the Skagit, Sauk and Suiattle rivers for a recreational steelhead season. WDFW is hosting two public workshops, one of which will be held at the **Sedro-Woolley Community Center on January 16 from 6pm to 8pm**. Please review the WDFW News Release below and try to attend this meeting.

Thank you,
Roger Goodan
CCA North Sound

WDFW NEWS RELEASE
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/>
January 4, 2018
Contact: Edward Eleazer, (425) 775-1311, ext. 109

WDFW to host public workshops on proposed Skagit Basin steelhead fishery

OLYMPIA – The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has scheduled meetings to discuss with the public a proposed recreational steelhead fishery in the Skagit Basin, where rivers have been closed to steelhead fishing for several years.

The public meetings are scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. and include the following dates and locations:

- **Mill Creek:** Jan. 12, WDFW Regional Office, 16018 Mill Creek Blvd., Mill Creek
- **Sedro-Woolley:** Jan. 16, Sedro-Woolley Community Center, 702 Pacific St., Sedro-Woolley

At the meetings, state fish managers will discuss a proposal to allow fisheries for wild steelhead in the Skagit, Sauk and Suiattle rivers. These rivers have been closed to steelhead fishing since 2010 due to low numbers of returning fish. WDFW is proposing catch-and-release recreational fishing for wild steelhead.

"In recent years, we've seen more steelhead returning to the Skagit Basin than before we closed the rivers to fishing," said Edward Eleazer, WDFW regional fish program manager. "Given the low number of steelhead mortalities associated with this sport fishery, we don't expect it will harm efforts to recover steelhead populations."

The Skagit Basin steelhead proposal, developed by state and tribal co-managers, is pending approval from NOAA Fisheries. The federal agency is seeking comments through Jan. 8 on the proposal, which can be found on NOAA's website at http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/fisheries/salmon_steelhead/skagit-steelhead_proposed_evalu.html.

WDFW Workshops

If the proposal is approved, the state could allow a sport fishery within the next few months. During public meetings, WDFW will gather feedback on timing for the proposed fishery as well as discuss gear regulations.

Persons with disabilities who need to receive this information in an alternative format or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact Dolores Noyes by phone (360-902-2349), TTY (360-902-2207), or email (dolores.noyes@dfw.wa.gov). For more information, see http://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/reasonable_request.html.

Bill Hall Memorial

Dr. William R. Hall, age 92, passed away on October 26, 2017 at his home in Bellingham, Washington. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Lynn and Alberta Hall, and sister, Betsy Reynolds. He is survived by his wife Dr. Norma J. Williams and her children: Brad Williams and Pamela Brant. Also surviving are his brother Jack Hall, Bill's first wife Rose Hall and their children: Bruce (Jenny) Hall, Cindy (Lee) Scovanner, Debra Finn and Kim (Doug) Stickney. Grandchildren are Austin (Tina) Hall, Amelia Hall, Anna Hall, Cassie (Mark) Scovanner-Bloom, Johnathan Scovanner, Melissa Scovanner, Chad Finn, Brian Finn, Tony (Lori) Finn, Greg Finn, Christopher Stickney and Caitlin (Nic) Mortelliti. A great grandson Connor (Tony and Lori) Finn and many nieces and nephews are also left behind.

William R. Hall was a fighter pilot (1943-1947) for the Army Air Corp and United States Air Force during World War II before graduating from the University of Northern Iowa with a Bachelor of Arts degree (1949) in Physical Education. He served the Waucoma Independent School District, Waucoma, Iowa as a high school teacher/coach/principal while he continued to serve his country by serving in the Air Force Reserves. Hall joined the Dubuque Community School District as a teacher (1953-1956) and earned a Master of Arts degree (1956) in Elementary Administration from the University of Northern Iowa. He served as a principal (1956-1983) in Dubuque before graduating from the University of Iowa with a Doctor of Philosophy degree (1985) in Educational Administration.

Dr. William R. Hall served as president of both District #1 and the Iowa Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals, and as a member of the UNI Graduate Advisory Committee. He served as president of District #1 Elementary Principals Association of Iowa and later Director of the Institute for School Executives (1983-1985), University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Hall served the College of Education, Western Washington University, Bellingham WA as a visiting professor (1985-1995). He was a member of the USA Air Force Reserves twenty four years (1950-1974) retiring at the rank of Major, serving as coordinator for the Iowa Air Force Reserves and liaison officer for the United States Air Force Academy. In addition, he received honorary life membership to the Scottish American Military Society in 2009.

Bill served as a senior volunteer on the Bellingham Police Department for 12 years. He also served as secretary of the Roche Harbor Yacht Club and President of the Fourth Corner Fly Fishers Club.

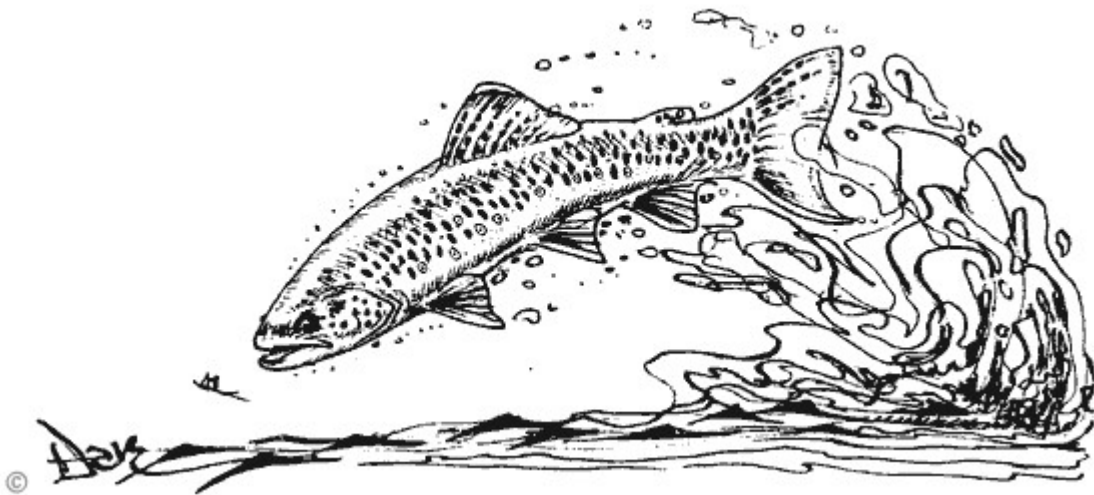
Bill Hall Memorial

He often said his love of fishing gave him the greatest joy of life due to friends and camaraderie found in FCFF. He was honored for his service with FCFF/education committee with a life membership.

Bill was a Mason for 70 years, serving masonry in Iowa for 40 years as a District Lecturer and Masonic Instructor for Grand Lodge and member of their Speakers Bureau. After moving to Bellingham, Bill joined Bellingham Bay 44, and then Whatcom Lodge 151.

A great honor was bestowed on Bill when he was inducted into the Hall of Excellence in 2014 by the University of Northern Iowa for his distinguished careers. A brass plaque honoring him hangs in UNI's Hall of Excellence and will remain there for all to see in years to come.

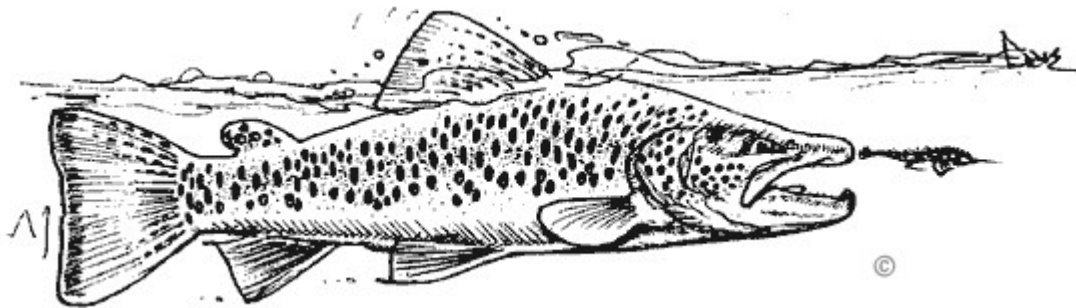
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A Few Of Our Club Supporters



<http://www.theconfluenceflyshop.com>



Other News Letters and Notes of Interest



[Osprey Fly Fishers](#)

Wild Fish Conservancy Northwest

[Wild Fish Conservancy](#)

"...come let's to supper...this Trout looks lovely, it was twenty-two inches when it was taken, and the belly of I looked some part of it as yellow as a marigold, and part of it as white as a lily, and yet methinks it looks better in this good sauce."

Izaak Walton, "The Compleat Angler"





4CFF CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Conservation Projects

Conservation is the cornerstone of our club. Projects are continually being added to our calendar. The only thing that is needed is the willingness to give something back to the resource we all love. Contact Dan Coombs to sign up to be put on the list of volunteers.

Fly Tying Sessions

Fly tying sessions are constantly being held. Whether you're an expert or just beginning, please join us. Check our website <http://www.4thcornerfly.com> for dates, times, and locations.

Education Classes

We need Volunteers to help teach fly tying and fly casting at various places throughout the year. Even if you have tied for a little while, your presence is needed. Please contact Klaus Lohse if you wish to participate.

OUTINGS

Our club has a constant list of fantastic outings every month. We also have smaller outings for those who can only make it on the weekends. For a list of outings, their dates, and locations, please check out our website <http://www.4thcornerfly.com>.

Tom Langley is our present Outings Chairman.

If you are new to fly fishing, our club has fly rods, reels, and fly tying equipment available for use. Also, if you attend ANY outings, it's wise to bring your own lawn chair. (it's better than a rock or a tailgate.)

For more information, please contact the hosts.

Monthly

Christmas Party December 21,

Bellingham Golf and
Country Club
Wet Fly: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 6:45 pm
Program: 7:30 pm

RSVP to Bob for reservations:
<http://4cff.eventbrite.com>

Don't forget to bring
a fly for the FLY
PLATE!

Next Board Meeting

Jan. 2, 2018

Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA

6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

President

Frank Koterba
(360) 647-9715

External Vice President-Outings

Tom Langley

Internal Vice President-Programs

Marion Hiller & Bob Cooper

Secretary

Paula Faulkner

Treasurer

Bill Faulkner

Conservation

Dan Coombs

Education

Klaus Lohse

Library

Tom Langley

Website

Phil Terzian

Newsletter

Jamie Harrington

Membership Chairmen: Steve Hiller

Raffle Chairmen: Scott Willison

Directors: Sid Strong, Steve Hiller, Bruce Aigner, Mike Riber, and Angus MacArthur

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed in our club. Conservation projects, educational classes, and all chairman positions are always open for new and old members.

It is the responsibility of ALL members for ALL of the outings to obey ALL local, state, and national regulations. We represent an outstanding conservation and fishing club. Let's set a great example to ALL.

All entomology sketches are drawn by Jack Salstrom, Member of the FCFF. All Fly illustrations are drawn by Ed Ruckey taken from, "Diary of Northwest Trout Flies" by local author and FCFF Member Dan Homel



4CFF Board Members



Aims and Purposes

The Members of the Fourth Corner Fly Fishers (located in Bellingham, WA) are united by our enjoyment of the sport of fly fishing and by our desire to preserve and enhance fishing opportunities for all. To these ends, we will strive to promote conservation of angling brotherhood and to broaden the understanding of fellow anglers.

The purposes for which the Club was formed are:

- To operate a social club for the pleasure, association and recreation of its members engaged in fly fishing activities.
- To work to protect wild fish and the habitat which sustains them.
- To work for the betterment and preservation of angling waters and surrounding land.
- To improve the "State of the Art" of flying fishing and to keep members informed of developments of interest.
- To develop and carry out programs of education designed to encourage individuals of all ages to become fly fishers and to promote ethical use of the resource.



P.O. Box 1543

Bellingham, WA 98227

<http://www.4thcornerfly.com>

"On all the streams and little rivers and in many of the lakes there are spawning salmon in October; and the big rivers carry their own tremendous runs, becoming tributary to their own tributary streams."

Roderick Haig-Brown
