



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear 4CFF Members,

The number of fishing reports at the September membership meeting was certainly indicative of the great fall weather we have been having and the number of members who are out fishing. In fact, I think the September meeting's fishing reports was the longest we have ever had – especially with all of Errol's reports, which, if I recall correctly, had a common theme of: "I lost four", "I had two on", "I missed one", etc., etc. I guess it truly is a "fishing" report and not a "catching" report. Thanks to everyone who fished and provided a fishing report!

We're winding down the year as well as the reign of some of the officers of the club. It's time for some new blood to lead the club. According to the new bylaws, each year an election is held to select open officer positions and two director positions. Both officer and director positions are for two years. This year all officer positions are open even though some incumbents have graciously offered to continue in their role. Also this year a third director position, with a term of just one year, is open as Matt Roelofs is resigning from his director position to run for the Internal Vice President (Programs) position. We have a Nominating Committee consisting of Jim Darden, George Farkas, Pred Vadjic, Jack Salstrom, Ed Dahl, and Tom Farnell. If you are interested in either an officer or director position, please contact one of these individuals.

Dues, dues, and more dues. At the October Board meeting, after yet another rather in-depth discussion and budget cutting exercise, the Board drafted a 2013 proposed budget (see attachment to this Newsletter e-mail). Based on the proposed budget we're looking at a dues increase to \$60.00/year for single membership (that's only \$5.00 per month) for 2013.

(President's Message continued)

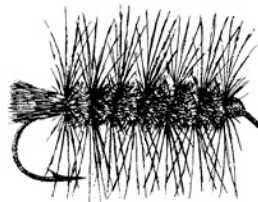
Included in the dues discussion was also a discussion on whether or not the club should depend on the Conservation Dinner/Auction (25% of net auction proceeds goes to the club's general budget) for the club's basic operational expenses. Board's general was that the club ultimately should not depend on Conservation Dinner/Auction proceeds for the operational expenses of the club. As a result of this, we might need another small dues increase in 2014. The Board will vote on the budget and dues at the November Board meeting, so If you have any comments, please let us know before then.

The October Membership meeting program is on river safety by Ed Megill of www.cascadesfly.com. This is a very important topic for club members whether you fish rivers, small streams, lakes and/or saltwater. I guess there is probably not much else to fish other than maybe a beaver pond! Our goal is to also have Ed lead the club on a river safety program next spring or summer on a river to provide participants with first hand training and experience on river navigation and safety. The October's presentation and next year's field trip on a river are great opportunities for members to learn more about being water safety and I encourage everyone to take advantage of them.

Wishing everyone a great fall season of fishing!!

Regards,

Lin Nelson, *President of the FCFE*



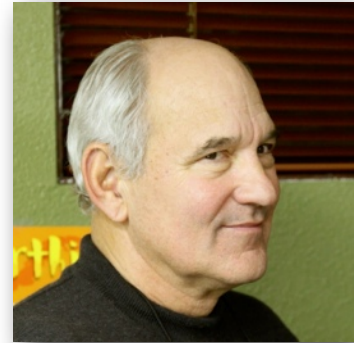
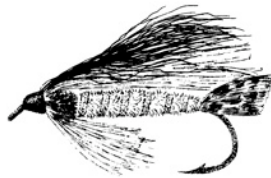
"On all the streams and little rivers and in many of the lakes there are spawning salmon in October; and the big rivers carry their own tremendous runs, becoming tributary to their own tributary streams."

Roderick Haig-Brown, "A River Never Sleeps"

OCTOBER'S PROGRAM

Ed Megill will be giving a program on river safety. This is a very important topic for club members whether you fish rivers, small streams, lakes and/or saltwater. Below, is a short Bio for Ed. This should be a "MUST SEE" for all club members. If you plan to attend and have Dinner, please contact me A.S.A.P. Thanks.

Gary Jones, *Program Chair FCFF*
fcff@comcast.net



"My name is Ed Megill. I am a full-service, full time Washington flyfishing and whitewater outfitter. When I started Cascades Expeditions, my thought was "I absolutely have to stay on the river". Since that point, I have been fortunate enough to meet some amazing people, accumulate a few river miles and have one of the most epic experiences of my life.

I was shown the water at an early age and never wanted to leave. Living in the Pacific Northwest, there is an endless supply of such and it would take an immense amount of time to see even a fraction of it. All I can say is, I'm doing my best. The best part is, we're *almost* always having a great time and usually chasing these crazy fish or running nutty whitewater.

I have been lucky enough to fish and boat in some of the most beautiful places in the world...the Tuamotu Archipelegos/French Polynesia, Bahamas, Yucatan Peninsula, Gulf of Mexico, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Montana to British Columbia...and, of course, Washington.

Spending time on these Pacific Northwest rivers is my passion. The diversity and complexity of our Washington ecosystems, the variety of wildlife and the life histories of our anadromous fish is simply fascinating. There's also this great chance for adventure and challenge that keeps me super excited as well.

As a conservation-minded outfitter, I spend a significant amount of time and effort assisting in the facilitation of protection for our anadromous fish and these valuable Washington natural resources."

- Native Fish Society River Steward, Skagit river
- American Rivers, Nooksack river, Congressional Wild and Scenic Designation work group
- Coastal Conservation Association, Member
- American Whitewater, Member
- WDFW "Eyes in the Woods" program

CONSERVATION

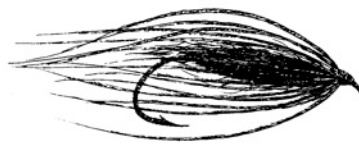
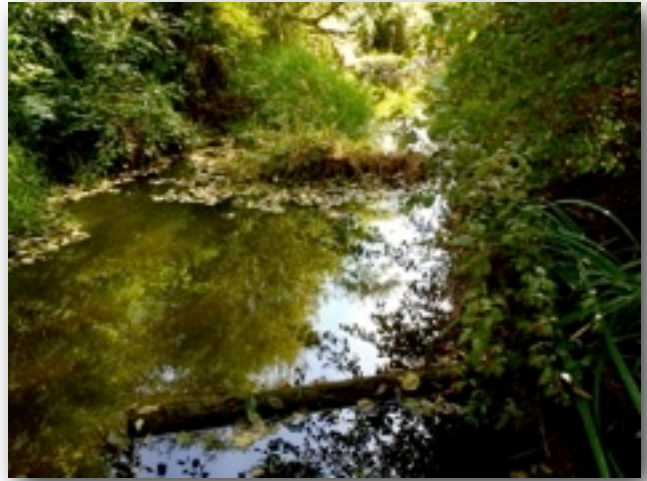
Last Saturday our work party descended on 10 Mile Creek School site for the Fall cleanup. The weather was perfect for a little pruning, some weed wacking, raking and weed spraying. Our periodic use of weed spray to control the canary grass has really paid off in a lot less time spent with a weed wacker in our hands. The 25 new plants we put in the ground in June have done quite well despite the drought. We lost only one plant! In addition, John and Sid removed an early attempt by our resident beaver to construct a new lodge just upstream from the bridge. In the past this area always had a good stream flow and was prime spawning habitat for our salmon. The beaver will have to pick another spot for his lair. We finished by 11 AM as promised and were then treated to a great hot lunch thanks to Frank. Many thanks go to Terry McEwen, John Leighton, Emil Ekman, Bob Johnston, Larry Irwin, Dennis "Wet Pants" Elwell, Sid and our chef Frank. We just had enough help to finish our job so we need more of you to get involved in 2013. There's a wide range of jobs at our work parties and I will be happy to find one that meets your physical capabilities.

As Frank and I have mentioned, there will be opportunities this Fall/Winter for planting of salmon carcasses on a few local streams. I will post these dates as they come up and encourage prospective members to participate in this nutrient enhancement activity.

Dan Coombs, *FCFF Conservation Chairman*



Ten Mile Creek



“...and every strange, half-seen, gliding, beautiful thing that eludes him; every dimly-discovered, uprising fin of some undiscernible form, seems to him the embodiment of those elusive thoughts that only people the soul be continually flitting through it.”

Herman Melville, “Moby Dick”

October Outings Report

Fall looks like it has finally arrived. Well at least the temperatures are consistent with that statement. The usual precipitation is still a ways off and so are the resulting fish in the rivers. There are a few silvers around but they are a tight lipped bunch. Reports from across the border are that the fish in the Vedder are sulking in the dugouts waiting for the rains. So what are we to do?? Fish for something else!

Late last month 10 of our members got together for a float down the lower Skagit River. Some were in sleds and some were in pontoon boats. (It was nice to have the power boats around at the end of the trip as the tide changed stopped the down stream direction of the float toward the end.) They started at the "Spud hut" just above the split and floated the South Fork down to Conway. They hit the bars and shoreline and got into sea-run cutts, dollies and yes the occasional coho. Almost everyone brought fish to hand. Steve Runge kept everyone entertained in a prolonged duel with a big silver salmon until it straightened out the hook. Thanks to Jack Salstrom for providing the inspiration for the trip. This is a trip that will probably be repeated in some form next year.

Early this month we had an outing on the Stillaguamish River in pursuit of steelhead! Yes that's right steelhead. This is the first such trip we have had in quite a while. We fished the North Fork on a clear morning that makes you appreciate the area where we live. A total of 13 of us spread out over 10 miles of river. I am happy to report that several of us were rewarded with fish. Steve Runge continued his streak and was able to bring home a nice 7-8 pound hatchery buck. John added to his lifetime total with a nice wild fish and Roy Wilson managed to hook and play one for a while. We had lunch behind the OSO fire station and then many fished awhile longer. It was a great break in the routine we usually have in the fall.

With the current state of the rivers and the low water we will probably be holding outings on an impromptu basis for the near term. So as I just mentioned, if you have a trip you would like to make. Let's do it!! Give me a call or send me an e-mail and we can pit it together. I will continue to monitor the local and Canadian rivers and if something breaks I will get trips on the schedule ASAP.

"40 Year" Fly Boxes: If you want one of these now is the time. Wholesale Sports has just about exhausted it supply of these. I'm not sure how long it will take to get more. I can get 1 or 2 more large and about 6 small before they are gone.

See you out there.

Frank Koterba
Your External VP/Outings Chair



The Skagit Float....



WHISKEY CHALLENGE 2012



A handful of FCFF volunteers held a “Blind” whiskey tasting to end the debate of what is the best whiskey available. The hardy bunch tasted a variety of whiskey’s ranging from Jamison’s to Pendleton. Overwhelmingly, the conoisoirs of our club chose Pendleton as the best whiskey in North America and maybe, the world.

Drink responsibly....

REEL RECOVERY

How does one best describe or explain a life enriching experience gained through voluntary activities? It is the emotional involvement that makes words so difficult to come by. And, it is also the interaction that happens between individuals first, and then the group secondly.

For the past four years members in FCFF have experienced significant camaraderie with one another and with their participants in RR who have suffered or recovered from various kinds of cancer. This opportunity to share a part of our lives with others and to look at life through the eyes of these men is to realize how fragile life is and how the will to live dominates in all of us.

Perhaps the bonding began among our FCFF volunteers as we gathered to review and discuss our responsibilities as fishing buddies. It is during this time as we shared information that we also began to reminisce about difficult times in our own past lives and to look more carefully into how we manage our own lives on a day to day basis. As we reflect on our duties, it also brings forth a commitment to these men and an even greater role we want to play within our immediate families, our club and our greater community.



(Reel Recovery Continued)

What is it that drives us as volunteers? It isn't a financial gain nor is it the resultant financial expenditure. It isn't personal recognition or the accolades from others. It isn't the time it takes or takes away. It isn't the energy expended or the work involved. It is the caring, the sharing, the sensitivity towards others, and the ability to go beyond oneself and understand the limits all men face. When this takes place, we grow as individuals and in our quest for a better world without hate, hurt, and discord.

It has been my privilege as a facilitator of this program for FCFF for the past four years to have received much more than I can express. I have seen the emotional impact this has had on all of our FCFF volunteers, and it has brought me to the place of knowing this is an important part of our club's mission. Please take the time to visit with our 2012 FCFF volunteers and you will be able to piece together a whole picture of our time there at Canyon Lodge in Ellensburg where we met with our participants and had this incredible two day life enriching event.

The volunteers who gave of themselves this year were (alphabetical order) Paul Bodenshot, Scott Christensen, Pete Chorney, Larry Grunden, Bill Hall, Larry Irwin, Klaus Lohse, Craig Lang, Sid Strong, and Roy Wilson. These FCFF members asked to be involved. From the very beginning of this program all the FCFF volunteers have asked to be involved and I think they have known something it has taken me four years to gain and that is there is more to be gained in life by giving of oneself to enrich the life of someone else than there is to simply fulfill a role as a member of FCFF.

Bill Hall, *Proud member of the FCFF*



*My fishing buddy will never be taken from me.
He will always wade beside me.
I'll never let him slip away.....
Be well! Fish on!*

Roy Wilson, FCFF Volunteer for RR



(Reel Recovery Continued)

For those who have undergone a life threatening illness or disease, we know the impact it has on friends, family, and especially self. From the moment the doctor utters the horrible words, we go into a self preservation mode, often focusing on nothing more than survival. It takes a huge toll. I know - I've been there. Many hold that feeling of loneliness and hopelessness within - you can see it in their faces. Such was the case at this year's Reel Recovery. On Tuesday we were strangers. By Thursday, after several hours of standing in the Yakima River with a fishing buddy, a calm and sense of peace had come over the entire group. If for only a moment, everything was right with the world: a testament to the power of human touch and understanding, not to mention the sound of the river, a new found friend, and a fish on the other end of the line. When asked my reactions to this event, I can only say this, "It was one of the most humbling and rewarding experiences of my life."



Craig Lang, *FCFE Volunteer for RR*



Reel Recovery Pics.....



New FCFF Member...

Mike Reed is a native of North Carolina and a long-time resident of Arizona, where he went to college and worked as a public accountant for many years. He returns there periodically to manage his rental property and visit with his grandchildren. Subsequently, Mike became a physical therapist. Together with his partner Mary, Mike practices his profession for various hospitals in this area. Now 65, Mike is new to fly fishing, but is eager to make up for lost time. For more than a year, he's been fishing for trout, and now steelhead, in streams large and small.



Newsletter Awards!

The board has agreed to handing out awards for best articles and photos of the year. There will be three classifications for best articles: best report on any outings during the year, memories of fishing, and third will be any article of interest to the club such as fly tying.

Here is the October winner from Roy Wilsom



October Culinary Corner

I have always had mixed feelings about this time of year. I love the kinds of things that are available from the farmer's markets and places like Joe's Garden. However it won't be long and they will be closed for another winter. I had a dinner this weekend where I wanted to showcase some of the last vegetables available. I decided to take a step back and south for that section of the entrée. I selected an array of corn, beans, peppers, shallots, herbs and yea bacon to make succotash. I wanted to make sure all of them were cooked to perfection so before I did the final preparation I blanched them all. (See May CC.) The final assembly just required crisping up the bacon and giving the rest a quick heating. It was fast and did a great job delivering the best from each ingredient.

Late Harvest Succotash

Yield: Makes 8 servings

Ingredients:

2 slices thick-cut bacon (about 2 ounces), chopped
 ¼ cup shallot, finely chopped
 2 cups fresh edamame or thawed frozen edamame
 blanched (soy beans)
 2 cups corn kernels, Trimmed from a blanched ear
 2 cups Romano beans blanched and cut into ½ inch
 sections
 1/4 cup chopped fresh Italian parsley
 3 Tbs. unsalted butter
 ½ cup raw, colored pepper (red in this case) ½ inch dice
 Kosher salt and fresh ground white pepper to taste.



Method:

Heat a heavy large skillet over medium-high heat.
 Add bacon and sauté until fat begins to render, about 1
 minute.
 Add shallot and sauté until bacon and shallot begin to brown,
 about 3 minutes.
 Add edamame, corn, peppers and beans and ½ the butter and
 cook until vegetables are warm, about 3 minutes. Add last of
 the butter, season with salt and pepper. Transfer to bowl and
 sprinkle with parsley.

Enjoy,
 Frank Koterba





4CFF CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Conservation Projects

Conservation is the corner stone 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 will all love. Call Dan Coombs at (360) 398-1637 and 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.

R.S.V.P.'s are required.

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 Bill Hall (305-0161), Joe Kelly (384-0623), Klaus Lohse (671-8453) if you wish to participate.

OUTING

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>. Frank Koterba is our present Outings Chairman and can be reached at (360) 647-9715.

If you are new to fly fishing, our club has fly rods, reels, and fly tying equipment available for use. Also, if you attend outings, it's wise to bring your own lawn chair.

For more information, please contact the hosts.

October's Meeting

Thursday, Oct.
25, 2012

BELLINGHAM
COUNTRY CLUB

3729 Meridian St
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 733-3450

Wet Fly	6:00
Dinner	6:45
Program	7:30
Meeting	9:00

Contact Gary Jones,
gary-jones@comcast.net
for all dinner reservations.

Be sure to check off your name on the list when you arrive for dinner.

BRING A FLY FOR THE
"FLY PLATE"!

November's Board Meeting

Nov. 6, 2011

Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA

6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

President

Lin Nelson (360) 961-0408 lin.nelson@comcast.net

Outings Chairman

Frank Koterba (360) 647-9715 fwkphotography@comcast.net

Program Chairman

Gary Jones (425) 239-4193 gary-jones@comcast.net

Secretary

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Treasurer

Larry Irwin larryandbarb@comcast.net

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Website

Tammy Findlay

<tammy@bbaybrewery.com>

Newsletter

Sid Strong (360) 220-0099

swstrong@comcast.net

Steve Runge

srunge@logos.com

Membership Chairmen: Brian Faloon and Nathan Weston

Raffle Chairmen: Errol McWhirk, Craig Lang

Directors: Klaus Lohse, Craig Carlile, Nathan Weston, and Matt Roelofs

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 FCF.

All Fly illustrations are drawn by Ed Ruckey taken from, "Diary of Northwest Trout Flies" by local author and FCF Member Dan Homel.



4th CORNER FLY FISHERS



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.
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P.O. Box 1543
Bellingham, WA 98227

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