



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is now clearly a thing of the past, but autumn in the Pacific Northwest brings a soft beauty to our rivers, along with the prospect of discovering salmon and steelhead grabbing your fly. Some of you may remember this: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JogGrKhz5Hc&list=PL1BE30BDC2ED213B3>, where feather-flingers of greater and lesser renown got to watch salmon of three species and sea-run cutthroat in gin-clear water, with less than an hour of driving to get them into it all. Pretty special stuff, n'est-ce pas? Thanks to Sid Strong for posting this and other great videos on our website.

And thanks to Sid for something else: You've read and heard the hype about our upcoming Conservation Auction, how we once again have great raffle ticket items and a truly fine Auction Committee hard at work hoping to make this year's Auction fun and financially rewarding. A lot of Silent Auction items have been collected, along with a few good Live Auction items as well. Sid is responsible for one of those. He's donated one of his bamboo fly rods. It's a 5 weight with a taper developed by legendary rod-maker Lyle Dickerson to afford both predictability and serious power to the caster. This ain't no "slow, wimpy bamboo rod." Nosirree. You gotta check it out, and the only way you'll be able to do that is to attend the Auction. Buy your dinner tickets now, so you don't miss it. Some lucky dog will win that rod. Just who might that be?

And we're still collecting items for the Auction. If you have items to donate to the Auction [nice stuff, not yard sale material, please...] you can drop them off with Mike Riber, Dan Coombs or Bob Cooper, depending on who is closer to you. I've personally been assembling some reels with extra spools and lines, along with a rod or two to donate to the affair and it could make someone starting out in this sport quite happy.

Hugh Lewis, *President of the 4CFF*

CONSERVATION REPORT!

As you know, we are in the midst of preparing for our semi-annual Conservation Fund raiser to be held at Bellingham Country Cub on Saturday October 26. Historically speaking, the Conservation Committee realizes that not everyone in the club can go out to work sites and do manual labor to improve our local salmon spawning streams. However, each member can and should actively donate time/money to the following worthwhile projects and groups that we are currently helping. The club's current conservation projects include major stream rehab at the 10 Mile Creek School site, maintenance of the entryway and boat launch areas of Squaticum Lake as well as its yearly creel census, assistance with salmon carcass planting in various creeks under the auspices of CCA and assistance with stream rehab of the headwaters of the Samish River near Wickersham. In the past two years the Conservation Fund has made important donations to Nooksack Salmon Enhancement, the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, the Coastal Conservation Association, the Native Fish Society, the Flyfishing Educational program at Western Washington University, the Wild Fish Conservancy and monetary support for our Educational branch of the club. Whew! That's a lot of well deserved support from our club and you as members can be quite proud of your involvement. What can you do to keep our projects and donations going? Get involved at some level in the success of our fundraiser i.e. attend and participate in the auctions, bring a guest who might also participate in the auction, donate an item or buy an item to donate for that night, buy and/or sell as many raffle tickets as you can, ask business acquaintances for a donation of items or services for our fundraiser, and call to volunteer a little of your time for the fundraiser setup. We can all get involved in one or more ways so let's make this the best fundraiser yet!!!

Thanks for All your support,
Dan Coombs, *4CFF Conservation Chair*



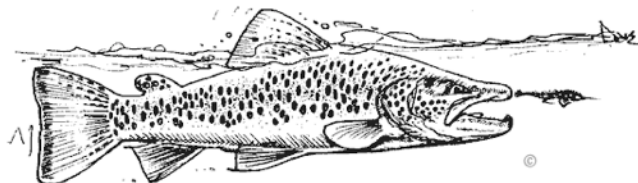
CONSERVATION AUCTION

Just a few quick notes about our upcoming auction on October 26th.

- It will really help the Auction Committee if as many donations as possible get turned in this weekend. If need be myself or Frank can pick up items, just let us know. We will continue to accept items, but they become much more work to process and sort the closer we get to the auction.
- I'm collecting raffle tickets and money. If it is convenient to get tickets and money turned into me before the auction that would be nice, but we will definitely accept and sell tickets right up to the end. If you have tickets now, you are on my money collection list (*you should know who you are*).
- Paula and Bill Faulkner are coordinating dinner reservations so please contact them or any Auction Committee member with last minute information. Have you invited a friend to the auction yet?
- Please remember that auction night we will only be able to accept cash or checks for payment of dinner and auction items.
- Auction committee meetings are at my house every Tuesday evening, 7PM, through October 22nd. Anyone is welcome.

Your 2013 Conservation Auction Committee,

Frank Koterba, Dan Coombs, Angus MacArthur, Paula Faulkner, Bill Faulkner, Bob Cooper, Bob Johnston and Mike Riber



BONKED! A Contest of Fly Tying Creativity

Join us in November for a fun evening of fly tying. The contest will follow rules similar to the television show ‘Chopped!’ which airs on the Food Network (visit www.foodnetwork.com/chopped for an idea of what the show is like). In our version, four or more fly tiers will compete to show off their creativity, demonstrate a variety of fly tying techniques and tie a bunch of gorgeous and interesting flies.

The contest will have three rounds – each with a specific type of fly required (eg. streamer, nymph, dry, etc.). The tiers will be given a bag of mystery ingredients and, much like the cooking show, some of these ingredients will be a more than a little odd. Tiers will work against the clock to tie the best fly they can using all of the ingredients in their bag. Each tier will present their fly to an esteemed panel of judges who will award points based on creativity, technique and fishiness. The tier with the lowest score in each round will leave the competition...they will be BONKED!

I’ve already had conversations with some of you and plan to track a few more of you down in the next couple of weeks, but I am also very much in need of some of you to step forward and identify yourself as volunteers. So, if you would like / be willing to participate as either a judge or a tier, please let me know as soon as possible. I’m hoping for a big turnout of volunteers (both participants and judges) to make the night as entertaining as possible. Keep an eye out for final details in November’s newsletter and remember that the November meeting is a week earlier (Nov. 21) than normal because of Thanksgiving.

I look forward to seeing you at the auction in a couple of weeks and then again for BONKED!

Tight lines,

Matt Roelofs

4CFF Internal Vice President and Program Chair



*“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 Outings Report:

Since the last report we have had several outings with a little bit of history. I was not able to attend either one so these are "tales told by others".

The Upper Skagit (BC):

It was a dance between the intention to fish and the weather! Several prospective members (Phil Terzian & John Boblett) went up early and were able to connect and fish for a couple of days. They had some success with fish brought to hand and were enamored of the waters like we all appreciate. However when the clouds, rain, and the lightning hit - it was in their rear view mirror!

There was another wave just on their way! Pete Lamb, the ever-present Errol McWhirk, guest status member Ken Keisner, and the wild card Justin Guude all went into the storm. They dealt with the issues involved:

They had a ringside seat for some great night pyrotechnics.

They dried out the bedding every day.

They caught the fish available.

Justin carried Errol when it was required. (A lot)

Errol won Ed's Fly box. (Coals to Newcastle)

The bottom line is they had a Great a Time!

I appreciate the freedom to turn over outings to you! There were more to come!

The Yakima Outing:

We had a lot of people in the area! In addition to the crew on the outing others took part in supporting "Project Healing Waters", a focused on rehabilitating wounded active duty and disabled veterans through fly fishing and related activities. In all 15 made the trip.

They spent time floating and fishing the Yakima. Everyone got into some fish, be they rainbows, cutthroat, or even white. This has been a year when the Yak has lived up to its reputation. It was good to get this into the schedule again and you will see a return again next year.

Vedder River, BC:

Four of us slipped over the border on the 10th to hit the Vedder. With the recent bouts of rain it is always a question of river conditions. In this case the river was pretty clear but still high. There were scads of the ever-present pinks, with a few Kings and Silvers thrown in.

(October Outings Report Continued)

The problem as always was getting your fly to where the fish are holding. We were constantly changing lines and heads to either get match the water conditions as we moved to different spots.

We did manage to fair hook a couple of pinks, but there were many more where the hook was somewhere else. The largest number of bites came around the truck when the chili got warm! It was one of those great fall days we get to spend on the water.

Look to your e-mails to see when and where the next ones will be. We will be scheduling them as conditions permit.

Next Year:

It will soon be time to plan the outings calendar for next year. Please let me know if there are any places, venues, species or types of angling that we should consider. You also might have a group we should include in an outing. There will also be many more opportunities for you to jump in and join the committee producing all the fun. This is our club and the more of you who add to it the better it will be.

The Conservation Auction and Raffle:

As you all have heard by now we are having a fundraiser to finance the conservation activities and projects in which our club participates. It will be in lieu of our next meeting. In addition to helping raise the funds by buying raffle tickets, donating an item, or being there and bidding your heads off, I would invite you to also participate in those programs and activities.

We do stream-side restoration projects of our own choosing and work with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement group, the Whatcom Land Trust, and the Coastal Conservation Association. We also make monetary contributions to several of the aforementioned groups as well as the Wild Fish Society, and the Native fish Society. This enables them to extend our reach in areas that we support. And since this is your club if there is some thing or group that you think deserves our support make sure you bring it to the attention of the board or a member of the Conservation committee, Dan Coombs or Terry McEwen in particular.

See you all out there!

Frank Koterba

Your External Vice President / Outings Chair



Reel Recovery

"One can't explain what goes through a man's mind when he is confronted with everyday problems, and physical set-backs. Everything that happened at the "Reel Recovery" project stopped me in my tracks! The men we met had experienced bigger set-backs, and fears, in their lives. But, they lifted US up, as we were gratified to be able to offer our companionship as "fishing buddies". It is very humbling to meet such strong men in their battle for life. I feel very blessed to have had the opportunity to meet, and fish with, those who face far greater obstacles.

Also, the Fourth Corner Fly Fishing Club's participation in the "Reel Recovery Project" has made me very proud of our club as we were able to mutually offer our support to men with cancer.

Be well and fish on!"

Pete Lamb



"On September 18 and 19, I was fortunate enough to join 8 other members of 4th Corner Fly Fishers for what was for me a life changing experience. I had heard Bill Hall and Sid Strong talk about Reel Recovery and with more free time on my hands thanks to retirement, I thought it would be a rewarding thing to do.

Reel Recovery has been helping cancer victims since 2003. A group of fly fishers noticed how much a day on the water helped one of their friends who was fighting brain cancer. That was the start of Reel Recovery. In our case, 12 men fighting (some successfully and some not) various forms of cancer gathered at Red's Lodge on the Yakima River for 3 days of facilitated interaction with each other, their counselors and us volunteers, called buddies.

I was buddied up with Gary, who has fought multiple myeloma for 5 years now. He uses a walker, so he was not able to don waders and fish from the bank like the rest of the participants. Luckily, I had my drift boat along, so we got to spend some quality time floating the river, fly fishing, (even hooking a couple fish!) and just talking about each other and life. There is something about facing a potentially life ending disease that brings conversation to a whole different level. My new friend Gary and I got to share the trials and triumphs of his life in a deep and meaningful way. It was an incredibly special and intimate time we shared on the river and one that I will value always. Whether we helped our participants or not, I can't assess, but I know my new friend Gary, helped me to see life through a whole new set of lenses!

I have such admiration for the courage these cancer victims displayed during our time together. For Gary to even apply to go on the retreat was a huge step of faith, as he knew he couldn't wade. I believe God brought my drift boat to the river just for him! (and the fact that Sid got to fish out of it the day before was just a bonus!)

The closing ceremony was truly special, and to see many of my fellow club members overcome with emotion was very special. To open up as men and be able to show our vulnerable side and to cry with each other is an incredible experience! I hope many of you get to experience what I and 8 other club members got to experience. I know our lives are all so much richer for our time with these men and each other. (and that bottle of Scotch Pete Lamb shared one night made for a special experience as well!) I'm looking right now at a bracelet Gary gave me as we parted. It has the ending "war cry" of Reel Recovery printed on it-"Be Well! Fish On!"



Rick Todd



"The hard part;
Meeting men who are in the toughest fight of their lives, needing compassion and understanding.
The easy part;
Being with those who gave that to them."

Roy Wilson

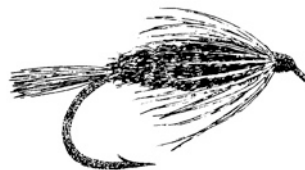


"I love being outdoors. I love leaving the noise, distractions and the hustle of every day life in our modern world to be out on water—pond, stream, river, lake or ocean to cast a fly. Am I good at it? Terrible! Club members who have fished with me know that I'm the guy with my clanking vest of doodads that takes 15 minutes to rig up, snag my line several times on the way to the water and who too often ends up with a tangled line after the fourth cast. But sometimes we need to put ourselves in perspective. Going with other club members each year to the Reel Recovery program in Ellensburg and assisting the participants gives us that perspective. It certainly does me. These men, who's life is being turned up-side-down by cancer as I write this, could care less if it's the right fly, a perfect cast, or the current drifted the fly right to the holding eddy. To them, with our help, we have taken them away from both mental & physical anguish to a place of solitude, peace and tranquillity. Their being on water momentarily minimizes their current situation with its' quietness and simplicity, and reminds us of nature's cycles and humbles us into insignificance. It certainly humbles me.

This year's group of FCFF guys were a great bunch with three new members. Rick Todd, who brought his drift boat for the participant who uses a daily walker, is a wealth of fishing knowledge and can recommend the best places to eat. Dennis and Pete for their contagious laughter and for volunteering. Sid Strong who transformed his work in the music industry to one of listening to the sound of the river close enough to hear trout. Roy Wilson, who should remember to bring some aspirin for those morning headaches. Happy hour in Klouse's room each night. Larry, my bunkmate for putting up with me. And our commander Bill Hall for allowing the other nine of us to pick on him every chance we had.

To quote Reel Recovery's motto....Be Well. Fish On. Thanks guys."

Paul Bodenshot



Most men fish their whole lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after.

--Henry David Thoreau

Neilan Hart Fundraiser

A good friend of The Confluence Fly Shop and an avid flyfisher, Trevor Hart, recently learned that his young son, Neilan, has a rare form of leukemia. Neilan is currently undergoing chemotherapy at Seattle Children's Hospital. Neilan and his family are facing some enormous challenges, and The Confluence Fly Shop has solicited donations for a silent auction and raffle in hopes of providing some morale support and financial assistance. The generous response of companies, associates, and friends with donated items has been absolutely amazing.

Complete descriptions of Silent Auction and Raffle items can be found at www.cascadesfly.com.

The drawing will be held at The Confluence Fly Shop in Bellingham on Thursday, October 17th!!!



Pictures...

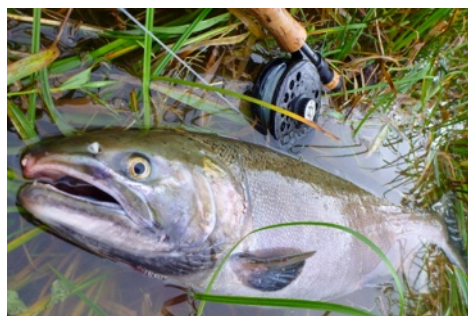




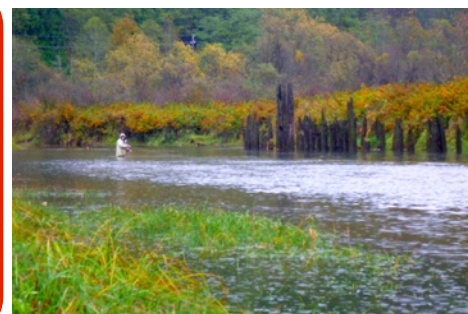
con·flu·ence [**kon**-floo-uh ns]:
A flowing together of two or more people, ideas, dreams,
streams, or rivers.

<http://www.theconfluenceflyshop.com>

360.312.7978



Hours of Operation:
Tuesday 11 am - 6 pm
Wednesday 11am-6 pm
Thursday 11 am - 7 pm
Friday 11am - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm
Or By Appointment





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.

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>. 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 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.

October's Meeting

SATURDAY,
October 26, 2013

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

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

RSVP to Matt for reservations:
<http://4cff.eventbrite.com>
msr@deepsnow.com
360-319-1350

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

November's Board Meeting

November 5, 2013
Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA
6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

President

Hugh Lewis (360) 676-5150

hugh@hughlewislaw.com

Outings Chairman

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

Program Chairman

Matt Roelofs (360 714 8407) msr@deepsnow.com

Secretary

Craig Lang (360) 201-1917 craig.lang@ch2m.com

Treasurer

Larry Irwin (360) 752-1506 larryandbarb@comcast.net

CONSERVATION

Dan Coombs (360) 398-1637

djcmb@nas.com

EDUCATION

Bill Hall (360) 305-0161

billfies@comcast.net

Joe Kelly (360) 384-0623

jmkellyrr@comcast.net

Klaus Lohse (360) 671-8453

kpstnlohse@gmail.com

LIBRARY

Nathan Weston (360) 306-8513

npweston@comcast.net

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

Directors: Sid Strong, Ed Dahl, Jim Darden, Dave Johnson & Lin Nelson

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>