



# 4<sup>th</sup> Corner Fly Fishers

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear 4CFF Members,

It's March! And we're heading into a year filled with opportunities to enjoy time on the water, a fine fly at the end of our line posing tantalizing prospects of contact with mysterious, glistening creatures from that other dimension beneath the surface. The tension mounts...Can you stand it?

I, personally, can hardly stand it!

But sliding for the moment back into the world of the practical, I'll observe that it's also a year where we can make a difference to the Club and its conservation efforts. The Biannual Conservation Auction is coming up in October. This year's all-volunteer Auction Committee will be meeting shortly to identify its theme for this year, and to divide up responsibilities for making the 2013 Auction a social and financial success. This year's Auction Committee members are: Bill & Paula Faulkner, Bob Johnston, Frank Koterba, Angus McArthur, Mike Reed and Rick Todd, WITH assistance from Bob Cooper and Ed Dahl. These good folks will be looking for donations in all the right places, and some of those places could involve YOU!!

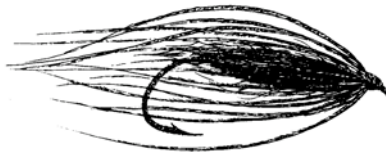
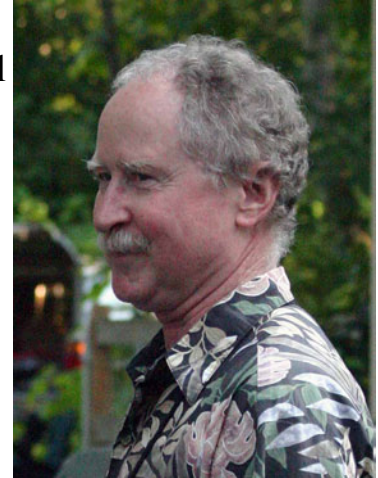
At last Tuesday's Board Meeting, Sid Strong recounted how he had gone recently through his stash of fly-tying tools and materials, realizing that much of it, although still useful, hadn't been touched in years. Unlike yours truly and some others we know [and you know who you are, my darlings], Sid didn't just slam it all back into his drawer, to be dealt with posthumously. Nope, he bundled up that good stuff and donated it to the Education Committee, for use in the Club's fly tying instruction sessions.

We all have "stuff" like that lying around: fly tying tools and materials. Antique creels, fishing memorabilia, perhaps a Ferrari more than five years old. Older rods, reels and

lines bearing scars of battle with fish, car doors and the elements, but retaining vitality worthy of a place in the Auction, or in some student's hands. I'd like to urge you to paw through those drawers, bins and closets in your house NOW, in anticipation of the Auction, to extricate your own forgotten treasures from obscurity. You'll make an Auction Committee member happy. You'll make some successful Auction bidder happy. Hey, you'll even make yourself happy, and I will be rendered positively giddy with joy!

How much better than that can things get, I ask you? Be well....

Hugh Lewis  
President  
[hugh@lewislaw.com](mailto:hugh@lewislaw.com)



*“The river banks are brimming with activity by late March. Schools of juvenile salmon and steelhead emerge from winter hiding, competing, and darting around in search of food. Juvenile coho are especially common in off-channel sloughs and wetland ponds where mating newts are ubiquitous, careless, and single-minded. Chinook are out too, but are a bit more wary than coho. Adult steelhead are spawning and the eggs of their earlier spawning counterparts remain buried in the gravel. Water ouzels flutter into and out of the water, incessantly bobbing, with males courting females like kamikaze pilots in an aerial duel. Newly arrived swallows dart, glide, and dive over the river. In the riparian forest canopy and understory, the avian symphony ranges from the raucous, scolding rattle of the belted kingfisher to the melodious serenade of the courting winter wren. Along the river and its floodplain, trees, shrubs, and flowers are starting to bloom, painting the forest and forest floor with a fresh tinge of greens, yellows and whites. As the first act of spring winds to a close, the dampness [of early March] begins to fade away as the warming rays of sun and the vitality of nurturing water start priming the biological pump for the coming spring and summer...”*

*Bill McMillan, “May The Rivers Never Sleep”*

## CONSERVATION REPORT

Fellow Members,

The Conservation committee has taken on a new project that requires club members' help: a Steelhead redd survey for certain creeks that feed into the Nooksack. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has OK'ed our club's participation with these surveys as long as we do them in conjunction with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement team. (NSEA) Bob Johnston will provide you with information and will have a sign up sheet for these redd surveys at our meeting on Thursday night. There are 7 redd survey dates that will need to be filled by one member per date because the WDFW is allowing one 4CFF member to accompany NSEA on each date listed. This project is in response to several members request to do steelhead redd surveys.

Those who participate will learn how to properly access streams and to recognize and locate steelhead redds. NSEA will provide transportation to and from the survey sites, and will supply all needed equipment. You should take your own waders and boots just in case. Volunteers will meet at the listed times at the NSEA offices at the intersection of E. Bakerview and Hannegan Road. Total time involved for each survey day will be 4-5 hours, so take water and a snack.

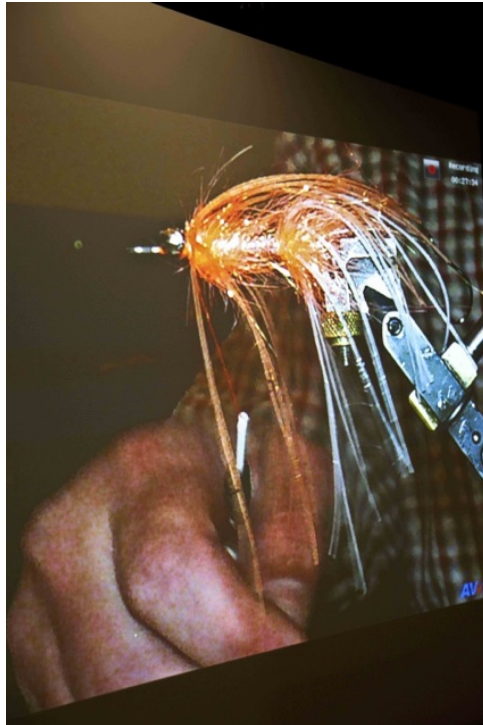
Please place your name and contact information next to a date on the sign up sheet provided at the meeting to indicate your participation. We need to fill these dates in as soon as we can. Dan will call you a few days ahead of the date you volunteer for and will let you know if there are any schedule changes due to weather. No prior experience with stream surveys is needed, so this opportunity is open to all of our members.

Have a great February,

Dan Coombs  
*Conservation Chairman*  
360-398-1637  
[djcmbms@nas.com](mailto:djcmbms@nas.com)



## February Meeting Highlights



Scott Willison presents brief slideshow discussing his approach to swinging flies for winter steelhead and engineering effective fly patterns for fishing them.



## MARCH PROGRAM

This month's general meeting of the 4th Corner Fly Fishers will be held at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club on March 28, 2013. The Wet Fly will begin at 6pm with dinner at 6:45pm. The program will begin at 7:30pm and will be followed by the general membership meeting.

This month's program features the first (to my knowledge) '4CFF Movie Night.' We will be viewing a new documentary called Low and Clear. The film's website gives the following description:

*During a winter flyfishing trip to Canada, two old friends, J.T. Van Zandt and Alex "Xenie" Hall, learn they've have grown apart in more ways than one. J.T., the thoughtful even-keeled son of a songwriting legend believes there's more to fishing than catching fish. Short-tempered Xenie, a "firewood salesman," sees it differently and fishes like it's a race against the clock. Their different approaches to fishing and life emerge and clash on the snowy river banks and damp hotel rooms of British Columbia in this true story of a friendship stretched to the breaking point. An exploration of life in the disappearing wilderness of the West, Low & Clear unfolds with moments of humor and pathos, success and failure, as J.T. and Xenie find themselves on a fishing trip that could be their last.*

If you want a bit of a preview, you can view a trailer of the movie at <http://www.lowandclear.com>. The website also has biographies of the filmmakers and a list of the many awards the film has won since it's release. This promises to be a great show and I hope you all can make it. Also, in the event that you aren't able to attend, the movie will be placed in the 4CFF library for you to check out and view at home. [Note: The movie is not rated, but does contain a some well-placed profanity – if you don't like cursing about getting your fly caught in a tree, you might want to approach the film with caution]

Also, as long as I have your attention, I've been asked to point out a couple of details related to the registration process I've implemented in the last couple of months. Your RSVP in advance of the meeting is very important in helping the staff at the country club prepare for us each month. It is easiest for me if you can make your RSVP via Eventbrite, but if that is not possible or if you have questions about how to do so, I am happy to help or take your RSVP via email or phone.

Also, once you have registered for the meeting, you should receive an automatically-generated confirmation email. If you are ever unsure about whether you've already registered (you only need to register once) or if the registration process was successful, you can look for that confirmation email in your inbox or you can visit the Eventbrite website and scroll to the bottom to look over the list of everybody who has registered so far.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, March 26 by visiting <http://4cff.eventbrite.com> or by contacting me via email at [msr@deepsnow.com](mailto:msr@deepsnow.com) or by phone at 360-319-1350.

I look forward to seeing you on the 28th!

Tight lines,

Matt Roelofs  
Internal Vice President and Program Chair



## March Outings Report

The last tying session was held at my humble abode and a dozen or so turned out to tie, lie, eat and watch. The group ranged from one who had just attended his first 4CFF meeting, the last member to join the club, several in the guest status program and some of our oldest and most prolific members. The discussions covered everything from what do you need to look for in your first vice to Jack Salstrom describing how to tie in a topping on a classic salmon fly. In short a great time was had by all.

### Upcoming tying sessions:

The next session will occur at Tammy Findlay's home **Thursday March 21st 5:00-8:30**, there will a light dinner. RSVP 220-7879 or [Tammy's e-mail](#).

**Thursday April 4th 11:30-3:30** at Emil Ekman's there will be a light lunch. RSVP 738-2913 or [Emil's e-mail](#)

In April after Confluence fly shop opens, Scott Willison will host a tying session as well. There might be more to come.

### Pass Lake Outing:

We will be commencing this year's outing program with the trip to Pass Lake on the 23rd of March. The club will be providing lunch at 1:00pm. Please let me know if you are coming so we can have enough.

The particulars on the trip are in the outings detail document on the website. ([4CFF Website](#)) We will be raffling off one of Ed Ruckey's fly boxes as well. It already looks like there is going to be a great turnout. So come join us and get the season started!! If you have any questions please just give me a call.

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**Silver Lake Pancake Breakfast:**

The club has rented the large gazebo at Silver Lake Park for our pancake breakfast and trout opening day. As we did last year we will be collecting a small fee to pay for the food. Members and those covered by family memberships will \$4, guests will be \$5. Once I get an idea how many will be attending I can figure out the costs. If you are planning on attending please let me know so I can start the planning for food purchases. We will schedule the breakfast as early as possible to get those who want to fish out on the water. The directions will be on the Silver Lake Outings Detail Document. The schedule for the year is at the end of this report.

**Casting Classes:**

We will be organizing casting classes with Scott Christensen again this year. He offers two levels of instruction.

Novice course: covers the mechanics of casting, including: Overhead, Line control, Shooting Line, Roll Casting, False Casting, and Counter Casting.

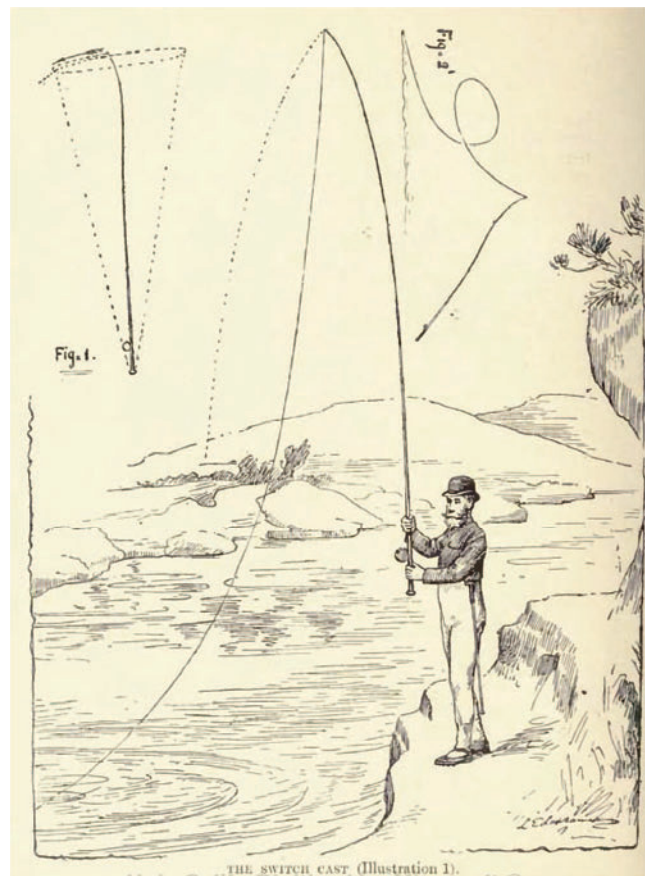
Intermediate Course: covers Single and Double Haul, The Wrist Roll, and Individual instruction.

There is a limit of 10 students per session. Cost: Members-\$15, Guest Status Members-\$20, and Nonmembers-\$25.

Enrollment will be for members first the Guest Status individuals and finally nonmembers. To make sure that everyone gets a chance, if you have already taken the course, you will be enrolled after those who haven't.

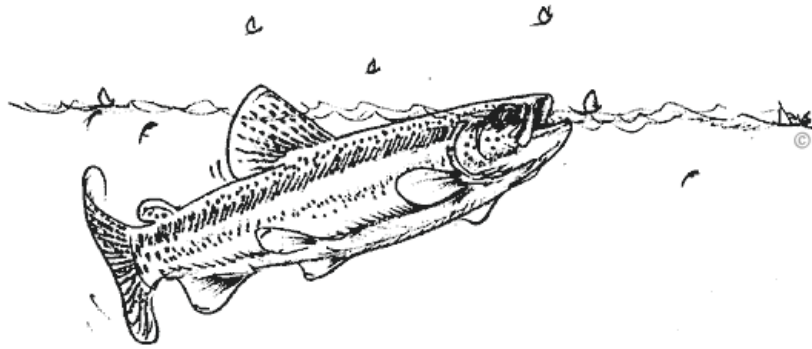
This is a great deal. I would recommend it to just about everyone as a way to get your technique tuned up for the year.

I would like to get a couple of sessions set up for each class level. I can set them up for the weekend, weekday or weekday evening. We will probably be doing them down at the Sudden Valley Marina on Lake Whatcom.



If you are interested let me know which class level you want and what timeframes works for you. This should be another great year, so I hope to see you out there. I think this going to be a great year for outings!

Frank Koterba  
Your External Vice President/Outings Chair



## For Sale



Buck's Bags High  
Adventure pontoon boat.  
Used one time. Includes  
pump and oars.  
**\$350**

The High Adventure comes complete with a motor mount, framed battery well and an integral anchor system with our patented Line-Lock for easy anchor release and retrieval. Other standard features include a roomy cargo deck, side storage pockets, an effective stripping apron and 6' breakdown oars. The frame is powder-coated steel and the pontoons are made from 18oz. PVC coated polyester with an internal vinyl bladder.

Call Bill Pratt, 223-0318 or 738-9176



## OUTING SCHEDULE

There are still some adjustments that are being made but here is what it looks like.

### March:

23<sup>rd</sup> Pass Lake: Lunch will be at 1:00 pm, **please notify me if you plan to attend**. This is a big group and I want to have enough lunch.

### April:

27<sup>th</sup> Silver Lake Pancake breakfast: **Please let us know if you plan to attend** we are purchasing food and there will be a charge to cover the cost, (Members-4\$, Guests -\$5).

### May:

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Peter Hope Lake with the Osprey and Totem fly clubs

15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> Big Twin Lake

### June:

18-26<sup>th</sup> Interlake District (Hwy 24) Canadian lakes 1 week plus

### July:

Mid-month Steelhead on the Stillaguamish

### August:

7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Classic at Big Twin with Osprey's

23<sup>rd</sup> Club Picnic

### September:

4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Upper Skagit

18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Yakima River

This is a pink salmon year so we will be adding day trips and floats for the various opportunities as the runs develop.

### Other Events:

We will be scheduling a set of casting classes with Scott C again. I will be sending out a potential schedule soon.

A third session of the small Stream course will be offered.

A boating safety event will be held with Ed Megill.



## March Culinary Corner



Continuing on from last month and its Mediterranean theme, there is a staple of region that transforms a lemon into an extraordinary condiment. You can buy preserved lemons but you can also make them. After you have done it once, you will want to have several jars around all the time. Especially now, when seeing the sun for a day can raise your spirits.

### Preserved Lemons:

Begin by sterilizing a wide mouth jar with a good air tight lid, either by immersing in boiling water or running it through the dish washer. Make sure that they are dry. Water in this process can cause all kinds of problems.

For the lemons use, Eureka or Lisbon varieties which are the ones at most supermarkets. Pick out those that are heavy for their size and that have no surface blemishes. I also recommend picking up organic as the peel is what you will end up using. You do not want to use Meyer lemons for this as the skins are too thin. They can be preserved in a different process.



### Ingredients:

- 6-8 lemons
- 4-6 more for juicing
- 2 cups kosher salt or more as needed

Optional: you can add any number of spices the process to alter the flavor. Bay leaf, whole allspice, peppercorns, sticks of cinnamon, cardamom, fenugreek, cumin seed, whole coriander, and many more

### Procedure:

- Begin by washing the lemons and drying them (Be careful with that water thing)
- Next zest and juice 4 of them (I save the zest in plastic wrap and freeze it for later)
- Cut the lemons almost into quarters leaving about a quarter inch at the stem end



- Put about ¼ cup of salt in the bottom of the jar
- Take each lemon and pack as much salt (2 tbs.) as you can between the quarters
- Pack them into the jar as tightly as possible do not be afraid to jam them in there
- If you are adding additional spices add them between the layers
- When the jar is full pour in the lemon juice until it covers all the lemons
- Leave just a little space between the lid and the juice
- Seal the lid and store in a cool dark place for a month

You can check after a day to see if you need to add any more juice or need to push down the lemons again. I usually put a sheet of plastic wrap over the lip before I close the lid as the liquid is really corrosive and will attack a regular ball jar lid. Of late I have gone to the glass lids with the rubber gaskets.

After a month you can use these little beauties to add a punch for many dishes. In most cases you will be using rind. The flesh and jelly can be used as well when mixed sparingly into things like vinaigrettes.

When you remove them do so with a sterile instrument. You do not have to refrigerate this as long as you keep it dark and cool. The shelf life is well over a year. Assuming they will last that long.

I preserved a jar of limes as well and will probably try oranges next.

Enjoy!

Frank Koterba

*Campsite Chef of the FCFE*

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# 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 outings, it's wise to bring your own lawn chair.

For more information, please contact the hosts.

## March's Meeting

**THURSDAY,**  
Mar. 28, 2013

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

RSVP to Matt for reservations:

<http://4cff.eventbrite.com>

[msr@deepsnow.com](mailto:msr@deepsnow.com)

360-319-1350

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

BRING A FLY FOR THE  
"FLY PLATE"!

## April's Board Meeting

Apr 2, 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](mailto:hugh@hughlewislaw.com)

### Outings Chairman

Frank Koterba (360) 647-9715 [fwkphotography@comcast.net](mailto:fwkphotography@comcast.net)

### Program Chairman

Matt Roelofs (360 714 8407) [msr@deepsnow.com](mailto:msr@deepsnow.com)

### Secretary

Craig Lang (360) 201-1917 [craig.lang@ch2m.com](mailto:craig.lang@ch2m.com)

### Treasurer

Larry Irwin (360) 752-1506 [larryandbarb@comcast.net](mailto:larryandbarb@comcast.net)

### CONSERVATION

Dan Coombs (360) 398-1637

[djcmbms@nas.com](mailto:djcmbms@nas.com)

### EDUCATION

Bill Hall (360) 305-0161

[billfies@comcast.net](mailto:billfies@comcast.net)

Joe Kelly (360) 384-0623

[jmkellyrr@comcast.net](mailto:jmkellyrr@comcast.net)

Klaus Lohse (360) 671-8453

[kpstnlohse@gmail.com](mailto:kpstnlohse@gmail.com)

### LIBRARY

Nathan Weston (360) 306-8513

[npweston@comcast.net](mailto:npweston@comcast.net)

### Website

Tammy Findlay

<[tammy@bbaybrewery.com](mailto:tammy@bbaybrewery.com)>

### Newsletter

Sid Strong (360) 220-0099

[swstrong@comcast.net](mailto:swstrong@comcast.net)

Steve Runge

[srunge@logos.com](mailto:srunge@logos.com)

Membership Chairmen: Brian Faloon and Nathan Weston

Raffle Chairmen: Errol McWhirk

Directors: Craig Carlile, 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>