



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

## President's Message

Dear 4CFF Members,

It appears as though I have struck a few nerves with the idea of raising club dues. This is good and I'm glad some members are taking the issue seriously and are asking important questions. To help the Board with the issue of raising dues, I have established a Dues Committee – yep, one more level in the hierarchy of politics that will increase our budget, deficit, and require the raising of the club's debt ceiling!! But why not, I can't have the Board members make a decision and take all the heat – can I? Actually, the idea for the Dues Committee is really to get a broader representation of club membership to help with this topic. This committee, along with the Board, has discussed the club as a whole, and has reviewed the club's current expenses, discussed where to cut and also where to maybe increase expenses. The dialogue has included different thoughts and opinions about the aims and purposes of the club, the future of the club, the new membership application requirements, etc. At the end of the day, the discussions have been very healthy and in some cases eye opening for some members.

Although our club is made up of members who have common interests – fly fishing (from those who want to be fly fishers, to those who have a passion for small streams to deep sea), conservation, and education, in reality, not all members have a dedicated interest in all aspects of the club. We are a club with clear aims and purposes, yet of a sport that is very broad in nature. Therefore, every member, or groups of members, might belong to the club for different reasons, and, it's highly likely a member's reason for being in the club will evolve over time.

Nonetheless, the very one thing we all have in common is that we are a "club", and because of that, I ask that as you ponder the club's budget, dues being raised, and why you are a member, please look at the "big picture" of the club and not just your personal motivation for being a member of the club.

My hope is that the dialogue will continue, and with the dissemination of budget/expense details (please see the attachments to the e-mail of this Newsletter – thanks to Larry & Frank), I hope to receive more input from membership on the club's activities and



resulting expenses, for, the end result will dictate what the club's annual dues should be.

With warm regards,

Lin Nelson, Club President

P.S. I have just received word that my parents will be arriving in Bellingham on the Alaska Ferry on Friday, August 3rd after a month of salmon fishing. As family is first, especially not having seen my parents for the last few years, I will be unable to attend the 4th Corner Classic outing at Winthrop. This is set to be a great outing with the unveiling of Bob Cooper and Ed Dahl's pig roaster, a wonderful setting at the KOA campground, and access to several fisheries. I'm so bummed! The good news is – there is now a 12' Dave Scadden Northfork Outdoors two person raft available for someone to use.



## Conservation Report

Hopefully many of you have tried your luck at Squalicum Lake during the past month as our records show that it was a good month out there. Jane and I took a short vacation back East and, that upon our return, that the canary grass had regrown at Squalicum Lk with a vengeance due to all the rain. Don Anderson responded again with his tractor and we re-mowed the trail and kiosk areas.

Thanks Don. I visited 10 Mile Creek site about two weeks ago and am pleased to announce that the weeds and berries are still under control, the newly seeded grass area is coming along and that all the plants that we planted during the last work party out there are at least twice their original size. I guess our timing on that planting was near perfect. If we keep getting these weekly rains we won't have to hand water the new plants until things start to dry up. Thanks to all who have helped with this stream restoration work so far in 2012.

Dan



**Dan Coombs**

*FCFF Conservation Chairman*

360-398-1637, [djcmbms@nas.com](mailto:djcmbms@nas.com)



### **Elwha Update** (a note from Hugh Lewis)

For those of you who remain interested in the fate of wild steelhead in the Elwha, this latest article by Lynda Mapes in the Seattle Times is heartening:

[http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/fieldnotes/2018609640\\_steelhead\\_spawning\\_in\\_the\\_elwha.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/fieldnotes/2018609640_steelhead_spawning_in_the_elwha.html)

BTW, John McMillan is Bill McMillan's son. Quite the budding fish biologist.

## A Fisherman's Fate

At Island Lake we congregated and good fishing was much anticipated. But the trout had other ideas, so our efforts went much unappreciated. In response, we got irritated, agitated, even a bit inebriated.

So, we returned to camp and cooked meals that at times were cremated, looked macerated, but made our stomachs satiated. After Klaus's chile we flatulated, and some of us may have levitated. That night, the people in Errol's jokes often fornicated, and we laughed so hard we almost needed to be defibrillated. At times, Don's sharp tongue seemed serrated.

The next morning the poor fishing still bothered us so we contemplated, deliberated, and some of us even meditated. Had we miscalculated or miscommunicated? In a word, we felt discombobulated. So, a plan we did formulate and from that we did not deviate. But as the day went on, the fish refused to cooperate. Had they decided to hibernate? After two days of fishing, Dan had a perfect score - zero for zero. For him was the fishing fraternity going to excommunicate? Or would this cause him to degenerate and to overindulge in the distillate, which to his ego would serve as an opiate? But upon leaving the lake he did articulate that to the fish he would never capitulate, because at the next lake he will exonerate

-Anonymous



## July's Meeting Program

### Protecting the Nooksack River Through Wild and Scenic Designation



A group of local boaters, anglers, salmon recovery experts, recreation enthusiasts, and business owners have developed a proposal to designate 100 miles of rivers and tributaries in the upper Nooksack watershed under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. As a representative of the "Nooksack Wild and Scenic Work Group" and as a policy expert with American Rivers, Darcy Nonemacher will present on the Nooksack Wild and Scenic proposal, explain what designation means for rivers and recreation, answer any questions, and provide information on how you can help.

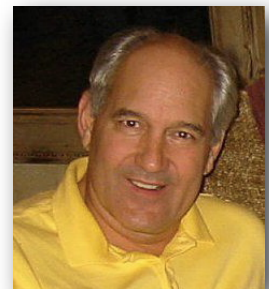
Darcy is a lawyer and a former whitewater guide, and she has a passion for river conservation and promoting sustainable recreation. Darcy grew up in the Flathead Valley in Northwest Montana, and has worked in environmental policy and law for about a decade.

**When:** Wet fly at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00, then Ray's presentation.

**Where:** Bellingham Golf and Country Club.

Please let me know if you plan to attend.

Gary Jones, FCFE Program Chair (425) 239-4193  
or [gary-jones@comcast.net](mailto:gary-jones@comcast.net)



## July Outings Report

We have reached that point in our schedule where there are few formal outings. Many members are on vacation, spending time with family, getting away to those dreamed of locations and trips. Or maybe you are finishing that major home project. Good luck with all that. I hope it all comes together.

When you again turn your attention to our fly club this is what you will find:

### Impromptu outings:

Check your email or your phone for invitations to join a quick trip to a local stream, lake, or maybe a stretch of beach. If you can't find one....go ahead and start one! If you are looking for some company let me know where, when, and how many you want. I will be glad to spread the word. (I would also like to get a report on the success you had.)

### The Methow Classic:

This outing should be a well.....Classic. We will see the inaugural appearance of the Cooper/Dahl beast roaster. With it we will be carried to the heights of porcine gastronomy! We will have some of Ed Ruckey's great flies to give away. As an added incentive they will be housed in one of our 40th Anniversary boxes. (Check out the pics!) In addition to the boxes we will again be drawing for 2012 Classic hats. The big event will be on Saturday night. We will eat at around 7:00 pm. Your part of the pot luck will be to bring a side dish for about 4-6 people. For those of you who are signed up. Call or e-mail me with your contribution. To help defray some of the costs non members will be asked to contribute \$4 each to the cause.

Once again I need to know how many of us are going to be making the trip.

The club will be picking up the tab

for the meat we will be cooking and I need to coordinate with the KOA folks to handle the crowd. We have 7 tent sites together and a couple of RV hook-ups reserved. The tent sites can hold 42 and the others 1 group each. This might seem a lot however I already have 47 signed up to go. And that doesn't include any of the folks that will be in the area and not camping with us. So if you are not on my list, or think you are not on my list let me know you are coming and how many there will be in your party. Give the KOA a call and let them know you are with us. The reservation is under my last name.



Be advised that there will be more than a single party in each campground. The maximum occupancy is 6 and we will need it to accommodate everyone. This also means that there will be a requirement to allocate the costs among the individuals at each site.

When you are not eating there is plenty to do in the area. As I said last month your choices can range from a day at the spa to floating the Methow, or hiking and fishing a beautiful small stream. You can even just spend 4 or 5 days soaking in the pool.

**To get there:**

KOA Campground Winthrop, 1114 SR Highway 20, Winthrop, WA 98862 (509) 996-2258

- Take highway 20 east over the passes to Winthrop.
- When you get into town take a right at the first stop sign.
- Follow this street through town and stay on 20 over the bridge.
- Take the left immediately after the bridge and stay on it until you reach the KOA campground. It is on the Left just past the Red Apple Grocery and the Hardware Store. Look For the big KOA sign.

**Picnic:**

I know it will be hard to top last year but I think we have a pretty good chance. We have a new venue, thanks to Don Anderson and his family. The event will be held at their Willow Tree Vineyard on Friday, August 24th. In addition to the location, they will provide a complimentary wine tasting, with their wines for sale by the glass, bottle or even case! We will have a return of the aforementioned beast roaster. The same rules will apply regarding the potluck and nonmember rates. We will need to track the attendance to make the appropriate site preparation. And to ensure that we have a balanced mix of side dishes please RSVP to me. Let me know how many are coming, and what you would like to bring. (360) 647-9715 and fwkphotography@comcast.net In addition to the food we will be giving away another of the 40th Anniversary Fly boxes and hats. So mark your calendars and pray for good weather!

**40th Year:**

Yes we are that old! Congratulations!! To celebrate this milestone, we will be raffling hats and custom fly boxes throughout the remainder of the year. The only way to get one of the hats is to hold the lucky ticket. The fly boxes are another story all together. If you can't win one you can buy one. They come in 2 sizes. The large one is 4" x 8"x 1.5" and will set you back \$20. The small one is 4.5" x 3" x 1.5" and will go for \$16

Just let me know what you want and we will get them made.

**Skagit River Float:**

We have a 1-day float scheduled for September 26th. The exact section of the river has not yet been determined. If you are interested in making this trip, now is the time to start planning. Let me know if you will be going. We will need to evaluate gear and boat handling skills to ensure a safe float. It will also determine if we must hold any classes before we go.

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**Budget:**

There are many ways to interpret the budget that was sent with last month's newsletter. To help clear up some of the underlying issues I have prepared a supplementary report that will be sent this month. It shows the year to date and anticipated spending in outings budget. If you have any questions feel free to ask me.

The differences in the total spending are based on our actual needs versus the estimate made in the annual budget that Larry Irwin prepared earlier. If you look at the individual items that are in the budget you can see that the basic outing costs have stayed about the same as the historical level. The biggest increase has been the inclusion of the extra events, (The Pancake Breakfast rental, the Classic and the Picnic). There have been discussions about the interests of our members in different activities involved in the club. I can say that the turnout for the Classic (probably 50+) and the Picnic (almost 100 last year) indicate they are events that are interest almost everyone.

I hope to see you at all our events.

Your External Vice President and Outings chair

Frank Koterba



## July Culinary Corner



Summer is finally **Here!!** And with it comes all those local ingredients that are available. I just finished off a flat of great strawberries from Joe's Garden. A couple of pounds became *Strawberry/Lemon Sorbet* and the rest went into this month's recipe *Strawberry Gazpacho*.

As I have mentioned before I spend a fair amount of time cruising the web to get ideas related to food. Recently I was back up on *Food52* and ran across this version of a classic cold soup. Instead of the usual tomatoes to drive the flavor you use the freshest thing available...Strawberries!

This concoction is served at Eleven Madison Park in NYC where Daniel Humm is running the kitchen.

### Eleven Madison Park's Strawberry Gazpacho (Serves 4 to 6)

#### **For the Gazpacho:**

- 1/2 tablespoon plus 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed but kept whole
- 1 1/2 cup whole grain bread, crusts removed, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 sprigs thyme
- 6 cups strawberries, hulled and quartered



- 2 1/4 cups English cucumbers, peeled, seeded, and diced
- 1 1/4 cup diced red bell pepper
- 3/4 cups diced green bell pepper
- 6 tablespoons tomato juice
- 3 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Tabasco sauce

**For the Garnish:**

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed but kept whole
- 2 cups diced (1/4 inch) whole grain bread, crusts removed
- 3 sprigs thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Heat a small sauté pan over medium-high heat. Coat the bottom with 1 tablespoon of the olive oil and add 1 clove of garlic. When the garlic begins to sizzle, add the bread cubes. Toss occasionally until the bread begins to color, being careful not to burn. Add the thyme and continue to toss until the bread is golden brown. Transfer the bread to a large bowl. Discard the garlic and thyme.

Add the strawberries, cucumber, peppers, remaining garlic clove, remaining 1/2 cup of olive oil, tomato juice, vinegar, and salt to the bowl. Toss to combine and cover tightly with plastic wrap. Marinate at room temperature for 3 to 6 hours. Puree the ingredients and their juices in small batches in a blender on thigh speed until very smooth. Strain through a chinois and chill in the refrigerator until very cold. Taste and season, if necessary, with Tabasco sauce and additional salt and red wine vinegar.

Heat a small sauté pan on medium-high heat. Coat the bottom with the olive oil and add the garlic. When the garlic begins to sizzle, add the diced bread. Toss occasionally until the bread begins to color, being careful not to burn. Add the thyme and continue to toss until the bread is golden brown. Quickly transfer to a baking sheet lined with paper towels. Discard the garlic and thyme and season with the salt. Once cool and dry, store in an airtight container lined with paper towels for up to 1 day.

**Enjoy!**

*Next month I will be diverting from the usual and I will be outlining several local businesses that provide not only ingredients but some real passion to our little corner of the culinary world.*

Frank Koterba

*Campsite Chef of the FCFE*



## Fly Tying Thread

Fly tying thread can get confusing. This is an article out of "Better Flies Faster" by David Klausmeyer that takes some of the mystery out of it.

"The traditional system of describing the size of fly-tying thread in pattern recipes – A, 3/0, 6/0, 8/0, etc. – is giving way to a more accurate method of rating thread. The garment industry has used the denier standard for many years, and some suppliers of fly-tying threads are adopting it to describe the products they offer. Why make this change?

Under the old system, there was no standard for listing the diameter of a thread, and one company's size 6/0, for example, might differ from another manufacturer's size 6/0. With the denier system, the listed size is based on the weight (in grams) of 9,000 meters of a thread. This improved method leads to greater uniformity so you will know the exact spool of thread to purchase when visiting a fly shop.

Use the following chart when selecting thread to tie the flies you find in books, magazines, and on the internet."

Size A = 280 denier  
3/0 = 220 denier  
6/0 = 140 denier  
8/0 = 70 denier

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## Newsletter Awards!

The board has agreed to handing out awards for best articles and photos of the year. This competition will start as of January 1, 2012.

There will be three classifications for best articles. The first will be the best report on any outings during the year, the second will be memories of fishing, and the third will be any article of interest to the club such as fly tying.

There will be three classifications for best photo. The first will be the best photo fish and fishing, the second will be the best photo of any gatherings at outings, and the third will be the best photo of either flies, insects, or nature.

Photo resolution is not required...you don't need an expensive camera. However, the photo has to be taken during 2012. The pictures and articles will be displayed at the November meeting and will be voted on by the membership and the winners will be awarded prizes at the January 2013 meeting.

It is important that I receive the articles and photos as soon as possible so that I can put some of them in the monthly newsletter. That way, everyone has a chance to read and see the entries before the vote.

Sid Strong, *FCFF Communications Committee*  
[swstrong@comcast.net](mailto:swstrong@comcast.net)

Steve Runge, *Newsletter Editorial Ass.*  
[srunge@logos.com](mailto:srunge@logos.com)

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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 Klaus Lohse (671-8453) or Frank Koterba (647-9715) 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.

### July's Meeting July 26, 2011

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](mailto: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"!

### August's Board Meeting

August 7, 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](mailto:lin.nelson@comcast.net)

## Outings Chairman

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

## Program Chairman

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## Secretary

Brian Faloon [bfaloon@hotmail.com](mailto:bfaloon@hotmail.com)

## Treasurer

Larry Irwin [larryandbarb@comcast.net](mailto:larryandbarb@comcast.net)

## CONSERVATION

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## EDUCATION

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Joe Kelly (360) 384-0623  
[jmkelly11@comcast.net](mailto:jmkelly11@comcast.net)

## LIBRARY

Susan Swetman (360) 428-2016  
[swetmans@comcast.net](mailto:swetmans@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)

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