



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear 4CFF Members,

It's August, now, with lovely weather marred only by a persistent red haze – a haze filled at least in part by fires that still threaten some of our favorite eastern Washington fishing destinations. It's hard to think of the devastation and loss – and so much easier just to plan a trip to some other environs where the water will be cool and the trout hungry and naïve. Well, since there's not much that any of us individuals can do about the fires and the changes in the environment that make their recurrence more likely for the foreseeable future, it's tempting to search for some good news coming from the dry side of the State.

Fortunately, there is some very good news, demonstrating at once the value of wild fish and that there are inexpensive, natural ways to preserve their contributions to our society. I'm referring to an article penned by Linda Mapes for the Seattle Times on August 3rd, dealing with a spectacular return of wild Sockeye to the Okanagon River. The article correctly attributes the strength of the return to changes in the flow regimes of water flowing through the Columbia River hydro dam network as a result of the development of a sophisticated water management program developed in 2004. The computer model helps managers operating Canadian dams avoid scouring salmon eggs out of their nursery gravel when water is released. They also are better able to maintain enough water and flow in the system so that salmon eggs don't freeze or dry out. They can even time the release of fresh, cold, oxygenated water to help juveniles and adults survive in late-summer heat. The article also mentions that a new hatchery constructed by the Douglas County PUD at a cost of over a Million Dollars has failed to build up populations of out-migrating juvenile sockeye. For ease of reference, a link to her article appears here: <http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/>

(President's Message Cont.)

And I'm happy to report that Jack Salstrom is recovering nicely from his surgery. It won't be too long before that big galoot is back on his feet, tying flies and flinging them in his accustomed fashion. Way to go, Jack !

I can't make the Summer Party, folks, but we'll catch you soon...

Hugh Lewis, *President of the 4CFF*



"It is your place. We all have them. Places of heart home, places where we feel centered and right with the world. If you are lucky, you have more than one of these places. But one is enough. Perhaps, too, you only have been here once but that once was enough, for you stood in cold water and you cast to rising trout and everything was just so. Just perfect. And at that moment when you were there, you were all there. All in. There was nothing else. No thoughts of checkbooks and interest rates, no nag of mortgages and college loans begging payment. Just the now. Just the water and the rod and the fly and the fish rising and falling. The sound of water and bird and feel of sky and leaf. You were there and the distractions were not. There."

Tom Reed, "Blue Lines, A fishing Life" [2010]



"Evening fishing is important, though, traditionally, aesthetically and actual. The hot summer months are the time for it, July, August and early September, and it is no effort then to stay out until the last light is gone."

Roderick Haig-Brown, "A River Never Sleeps"

August's Meeting (is a Picnic!)

This month, on FRIDAY August 22 (note the day AND week change), we have the pleasure of gathering in a time-honored 4CFF tradition for our annual summer picnic. This year we are grateful that Rick and Patty Todd have offered up their beautiful home and property in Ferndale for the event. The CooperCooker will be in action again and we all will be chipping in with sides and desserts to fill out the potluck. There is also a rumor of some casting games, so keep your casting arm limber.

The gathering will start at 6pm with dinner at about 7. As part of your annual dues, there is no cost to club members beyond their contribution to the potluck. Nonmembers (including those in the membership program) will be asked to pay \$5 to cover the cost of the main dish and should also plan to contribute to the potluck. Drinks are BYO.

I am posting an Eventbrite page for the picnic, but with a couple of a twists this time around. When you sign up, please notice that there are multiple forms of 'tickets' - there are tickets for members and guests (those of you in the membership program should select a 'guest' ticket) along with different tickets for the type of contribution you would like to make to the potluck. For example, if you are registering for yourself (a member) and your spouse (not a member) and the two of you are bringing a big, tasty salad - you should pick one 'Member Attending + Salad' ticket and one 'Guest Attending + Salad' ticket. This slightly cumbersome system will allow us to track attendance, give us a general idea of how much money Larry has to collect, and help avoid having only desserts at the potluck (although I can think of worse outcomes).

Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 20 at 6pm by visiting <http://4cff.eventbrite.com> or by contacting Frank Koterba at 360-647-9715. As with all of our meetings, getting an accurate count helps us plan for the right amount of food - and in this case allows Frank to go shopping in a timely manner.

Please note that for the second month in a row family travel plans mean I will not be able to join you all. In addition, this time I will be in Canada and will have my phone off for much of the trip. If you have questions or need to sign-up at the last minute, Frank is a better contact this time around.

Best wishes for a fun and relaxing picnic and I'll see you all in September!

Tight lines,

Matt Roelofs, 4CFF Program Chair



"Nothing in this world so enlivens my spirit and emotions as the rivers I know. In their clear, swift or slow, generous or coy waters, I regain my powers; I find again those parts of myself that have been lost..."

Nick Lyons, "Bright Rivers"

Welcome to our place!

August 22 is our annual club picnic. Patty and I are looking forward to seeing many of you at our house! This is certainly a motivation for me to get the yard and house in shape (kind of spring cleaning in August!) To get to Casa Todd, take the Grandview exit and head west. At about 3 miles you will pass North Star Road. Our driveway is the second after North Star on the left. You will see a concrete silo and old barn with a blue roof next to the driveway. Drive up the driveway past the first house (my Mom's) to the end of the driveway. Should be lots of room to park up there. Look for Frank Koterba's article in this newsletter about what to bring. Rumor has it he is planning a fly casting course. It is always a fun event and we are hoping our stellar summer weather continues for it! See you all there!

Rick and Patty Todd

August Outings Report:

The summer is here and all the fishing opportunities that go with it. I know many of you have spent time enjoying lakes, rivers, small streams, and the salt. The efforts used have included everything from 2 wt. bamboo rods on small streams to 10 wt. high tech products in Alaskan waters. And don't forget the growing number of us out there with those telescoping Tenkara set-ups! And soon we can add the salmon to the mix. What's not to like about angling in our part of the country?

South Sound Beaches: As I write this I am also thinking what I need to load in the truck to take down to the south sound for our first foray to the beaches. This outing is another one of the new venues included our schedule for this year. We will be targeting the beaches for sea run cutthroat, salmon and the other near shore predators. For me it will be a chance to break in a new rod and give the "Confluence Beach Line" a workout. See Scott at the Confluence Fly Shop for one of these lines. It is your chance to give our friends with the spinning rigs a run for their money.

We will be basing out from the Belfair State Park and hitting water all over the area. This is a venue that we can bring north and it is a fishery that is viable every month of the year.

The Classic: Our annual celebration over in the Methow Valley was terminated by the wild fires that ravaged the area. At present, the locals near the Big Twin Campground and some of the waters we have fished are physically untouched. However the southern and eastern portions of the Valley have been devastated. Our friends who live and work over there are going to need help. This is the height of their tourist season and we are not the only group that was forced to cancel. If you are planning any travels in the near future or next year keep them in mind. There are still a lot of reasons and opportunities to spend some enjoyable time in the area.

The outing to the Yakima (September 18th-21st) will now become Classic for 2014. We will be joining as number our members who will be participating in "Reel Recovery", a program that uses fly fishing to assist men who have had cancer in their recovery process. The program will include the usual great food, some of Ed Ruckey's great flies and raffles of 4CFF Classic logowear. If you plan to make it please let me know so we can get the planning done.

(August Outings Report Cont.)

The 4CFF Picnic: We will be the guests of Rick and Patty Todd for this year's gathering on *Friday August 22nd*. Bob's Big Roaster will again be in attendance though he will not. And in addition to the usual activities we will be setting up a "Mini Danish Casting" for you to see how your casting technique stacks up. To keep it fair, the club will be providing the equipment for the competition. You can still bring your own to see how you do.

We could use a few of you to help with the set up and clean up. We could also use a few tables and don't forget to bring your own chairs. To plan for the entrée, and the rest of the meal, make sure we know you are coming, how many of you there will be, what you are bringing for the potluck, and how many of you are not members. (There is a contribution of \$5 for guests). In addition I could use a few for the roaster team.

This has always been a great way to end the summer. I hope to see you there.

Upcoming Outings: And there's more! We still have more outings in the near future.

Sandy Point on August 23rd for the returning Coho (Dan Coombs hosting)

Montana Rivers from September 3rd (Ken Kloehn & Jim Darden Hosting)

Upper Skagit on September 5th-7th (Ralph Lloyd hosting)

Yakima River September 19th-21st (Matt Roelofs & Nathan Weston Hosting)

Lower Skagit Float September 27th (Jack Salstrom hosting)

The future of the outings program:

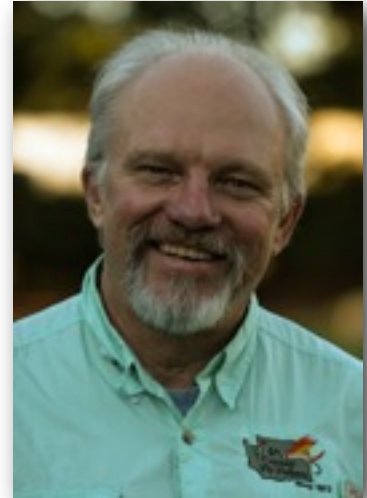
The outings we have enjoyed over the last 8 years I have done this have seen significant changes. This is particularly true in the last year. The schedule has grown by 50%. While maintaining outings to some of our favorite venues, we are exploring new areas, techniques, and fisheries. There are more to come.

(August Outings Report Cont.)

I am coming up to the end of my 4th 2 year term. I considered stepping down and passing on the baton. To ensure that we maintain our levels of success, I am requesting one or more of you become my co-chairs for the next term. The program, the club and its members will benefit from your participation. There is a bit of work, but with the inclusion of the individual outing hosts and information available for existing outings, the fun outweighs the load. If you are interested give me a call (360.647.9715) or shoot me an e-mail. (fwkphotography@comcast.net)
Enjoy the rest of your summer! I hope to see you out there!

Frank Koterba

Your External Vice President and Outings Chair



Join the Newsletter Team!

Join Steve Runge and myself by signing up for the newsletter. There are times neither one of us can fulfill the obligation of putting it together and we would like additional help.

All that is needed is a computer and a desire to get involved. The computer can be either a PC or a MAC. Our newsletter is formatted for "Publisher" on both. You may use the current format or stretch out on your own.

I will personally guide and help anyone interested in this position with technical and moral support for a truly seem-less transition. Both Steve and I have a library of quotes, insights, jokes, photos, and sketches that are available for use. I also have on disc every newsletter since the clubs conception.

This is a great opportunity for newer members to get involved with the 4CFF.

Sid Strong, *4CFF Newsletter Editor*



First Coho Outing!!!

This newsletter announcement is to promote our club's first Coho outing at the Sandy Point area. The date we will meet at the beach launch site will be Saturday August 23. Low tide that morning will be around 10AM so we will meet at 9AM to help each other with launching, gearing up and parking. To get to the beach launch area take Slater Rd off I-5 and travel West past the Silver Reef Casino, then past Barleans fish processing plant until you reach a sign that says Maple Lane/Sucia Beach Way. Go straight at this juncture on Maple Lane one block and turn Left until you pass the row of houses on the right. The open space just past the last house is a public access site. Unload your equipment there and I will assist you in finding a parking spot. All participants will need to have a pontoon boat or carry able pram/small boat with oars and a seriously weighted anchor (8-16 lbs.) Trolling motors or small outboards can be added on if desirable.

Sorry, NO float tubes as the current wrecks havoc with these crafts when only using fins. Everyone must have a Personal Floatation Device to be part of this outing. Fishing equipment should include a 7-9 wt. rod . Best line is a clear,slow sinking line but floating lines and medium sink tips will also catch fish. Leaders can be 6-8 ft with 2-3 ft of tippet material in the 6-10 lb class. Flies are predominantly baitfish patterns with the occasional crab larvae or shrimp Pattern. Scott at Confluence Flyshop can supply you with several good Coho fly patterns and any other items you need.

We will be fishing the incoming tide for several hours that day so bring a hat, sunscreen, water and something to eat. Unfortunately, this area is not suited for flyfishing from shore as the fish hold or run outside the Bullkelp bed which is over 100 feet offshore. I know some of you will have other questions so please feel free to E-mail me at the following address dwjmcoombs@gmail.com or call 360 3981637. This is a great opportunity to learn about a wonderful fishery that is very close to home. See you there, Dan Coombs PS If anyone wants to launch a larger boat there is a fee launch ramp at the Sandy point Marina.You will need to call me if that is your plan so I can give you detailed directions to the ramp but also on how to find the rest of us after you leave the Sandy Point harbor.

Dan Coombs, *4CFF Conservation Chair*



Education Classes

Greetings, Classes for the summer are wrapped up. Most of the Education group are catching our breath, and doing a bit of fishing.

We are looking forward to an active fall with a two day session at the St. Joseph Cancer Center scheduled for the 4 and 5th of Sept.

Followed in early Oct. with class with 4-H at The Firs in Bellingham. This is a teen outing with about 100 young people attending from five Washington counties. We have been informed that we will have groups of about 15 kids. for sessions in casting and fly tying. This outing is sponsored by WSU. There will be plenty of opportunity for all and everyone to get involved.

After that it will be back to Ferndale High School then on to Blaine Middle School. These classes provide a great chance to be involved in one of the core value missions of The Forth Corner Fly Fishers.

I have heard a rumor that the club rods and reels will be available at the annual picnic in friendly casting competition and medieval games of chance and bravery. This is so we have a level playing field.....no new fangled laser guided, rocket launching, boron donations from the rod suppliers of the world.

I am looking forward to my annual trip to the Bend, Oregon area for some Red Band Rainbows at the end of the month.

Be safe,

Jerry Hill, *4CFF Education Chair*



"Every once in a while, angling provides an episode one can keep for life. It is not necessarily about big fish, though it sometimes is, nor about great difficulty overcome. Rather, it's kind of poetic singularity. Sometimes you're even aware of it as it's happening."

Thomas McGuane, "The Longest Silence"

North Umpqua

The club received a letter from Becky McRae from the famous North Umpqua river in Oregon. Those of you who know or have heard about the river, understand it's incredible beauty and remarkable steelhead. If you have never been there, The Steamboat Inn is an amazing place. It is right on the river with access to fishing spots not to mention a great kitchen. When I was staying there, the editor for Bon Appetite was writing a review and highly praised it.

Pat McRae, Becky's husband, has journals and journals describing his days on the river. After he retired in 2001, he would spend his mornings composing a "chronicle" about what had happened on the river that day and email it to countless people, young and old.

In 2009, Pat and Becky self-published "North Umpqua Chronicles, The Secret Diary of a Year on the River". They ordered a thousand copies of which over three hundred copies sold for \$29.95. The book is NOT a "How to" book but rather reflections of life events and observations.

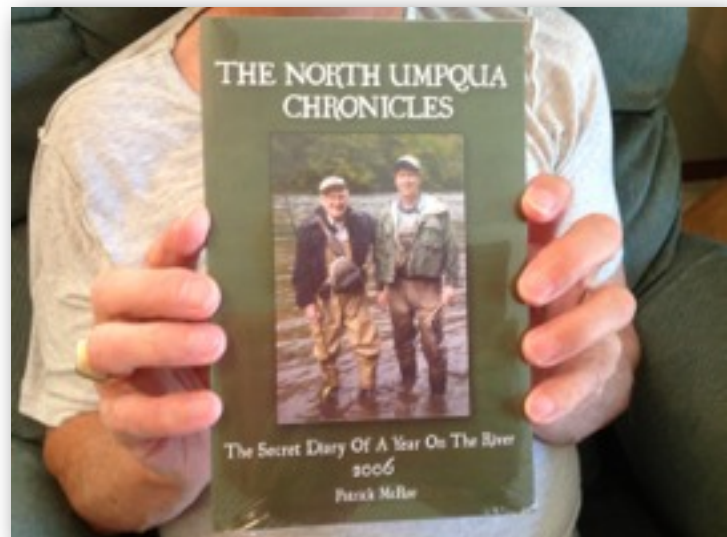
They are board members of The Steamboaters and The North Umpqua Foundation plus are members of The Native Fish Society, The Wild Steelhead Coalition to name a few.

They have offered us an amazing price of only \$8.00 per book!

If you wish to get your hands on one, please contact me. I am putting list together and will order as many as we need. Myself, I am planning to get three.

Sid Strong

swstrong@comcast.net



Pictures...

Whatcom Creek Clean-up



Great job guys! Thank you Nathan!

“.....let me introduce an idea, just something to kick around: Maybe your stature as a fly fisherman isn't determined by how big a trout you can catch, but by how small a trout you can catch without being disappointed, and, of course, without losing the faith that there's a bigger one in there.”

John Gierach,
Fly Fishing Small Streams

A Few Of Our Club Supporters



<http://www.theconfluenceflyshop.com>





4CFF CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Conservation Projects

Conservation is the cornerstone of our club. Projects are continually being added to our calendar. The only thing that is needed is the willingness to give something back to the resource 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.

AUGUST'S PICNIC !!!

FRIDAY,
August 22, 2014

Rick & Patty Todd's
Homestead and
Recreational Center
3561 Grandview Road
Ferndale, WA
(360)366-7264

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

**Check the articles in
the newsletter for all
information pertaining
to the PICNIC**

September's Board Meeting

September 2, 2014
Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA
6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

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hugh@hughlewislaw.com

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Steve Runge

srunge@logos.com

Membership Chairmen: Brian Faloon and Nathan Weston

Raffle Chairmen: Pete Lamb

Directors: Sid Strong, Rick Todd, Mike Riber, and Ed Dahl

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 FCFE.
All Fly illustrations are drawn by Ed Ruckey taken from, "Diary of Northwest Trout Flies" by local author and FCFE 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
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<http://www.4thcornerfly.com>
