

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



## 4CFF MEETINGS CALENDAR



### General Monthly Meeting

Via ZOOM January 28, 2021  
Bellingham Golf and Country Club  
Wet Fly: 6:00 pm  
Dinner: 6:45 pm  
Program: 7:30 pm

RSVP to Bob for reservations:  
<http://4cff.eventbrite.com>

### Virtual Board Meeting

February 2, 2021  
Own home or Trinity Lutheran Church (maybe)  
119 Texas Street  
Bellingham, WA  
6:00 P.M.

### 4CFF Board Members, Chairs and Directors

- President:..... Steve Kopp
- External Vice President - Outings:..... Kevin McClurg
- Internal Vice President - Programs:..... Marion Hiller
- Secretary:..... Bruce Aigner
- Treasurer:..... Frank Koterba
- Conservation Chair:..... John Leighton
- Education Chair:..... Klaus Lohse
- Library:..... Wayne Mclemore
- Website:..... Marion Hiller
- Newsletter:..... Jamie Harrington
- Raffle Chair:..... Scott Willison
- Membership Chairs:..... Cassandra Spitzer
- Directors:..... Angus MacArthur, Dean Bates, Kevin Formway
- Events:..... Bob Cooper

# President's Message

## January President's Message

Farewell 2020, and a hearty welcome to 2021! This past year was challenging in many ways, but I am quite optimistic about the coming year. I want to first thank you all for trusting me to lead the club as we emerge from these strange times, and want to thank Dave Johnson and the rest of the board for keeping our ship afloat and on the right tack in 2020. In recent months we've had a couple successful online club meetings using Zoom, and the board and committee chairs with support from other members have been hard at work improving the club's web presence (now <https://4thcornerfly.com/>), planning a full slate of monthly meetings, and looking for new opportunities for safe interaction. As the year progresses, we will continue to evaluate health recommendations and comfort level of club members to guide our activities. We will try to keep meetings similar to in-person meetings. We will open with a welcoming of guests, so if you have a guest present we'd appreciate you introducing them, and each one give a short bio and reason of interest in joining. If you've been fishing we want to hear about it, but if the story is more than a couple minutes it might be better to send an account of your sojourn and epic pictures to Jamie to include in the next newsletter. For this month's meeting we have Gary Bulla as our guest speaker, a long time icon of saltwater fly fishing talking about fishing the Amazon, so come immerse yourself in thoughts of future adventures in exotic destinations.

We will try to keep the club business portion short and relevant, and end the meeting with Scott bringing us a new twist on the **traditional raffle**. This raffle will be a true test of your luck and perseverance, everyone still present at the end of the meeting will be automatically entered to win and you don't have to buy any tickets. 1 person – 1 ticket, everyone has an equal chance to win. Rumor is there will be only a few raffle items so it might be something quite worth sticking around for.

A brief introduction for those who've not shared a meeting dinner table, camp fire, drift boat, or gravel bar with me... I grew up mostly a Midwestern spin casting bass fisherman plus occasional trips to a nearby hatchery put-and-take trout stream, and toyed around fly fishing for bluegill. I began chasing wild and native trout with a fly in California in the early 90s, mostly small streams and remote alpine lakes, joined a fly club, and became immersed in tying flies, building rods, and learning about aquatic entomology and native trout of the area. I was pretty obsessed with it all, spent many years on my club board in a variety of roles and a few years as Conservation VP for the southwestern US for the Federation of Fly Fishers (now Fly Fishers International). I became pretty passionate about native species, spending more time reading about and advocating for fish than actually fishing, which continues today. If you've ever recognized what I put on the fly plate or seen my double haul, you might suggest I spend more time fishing.

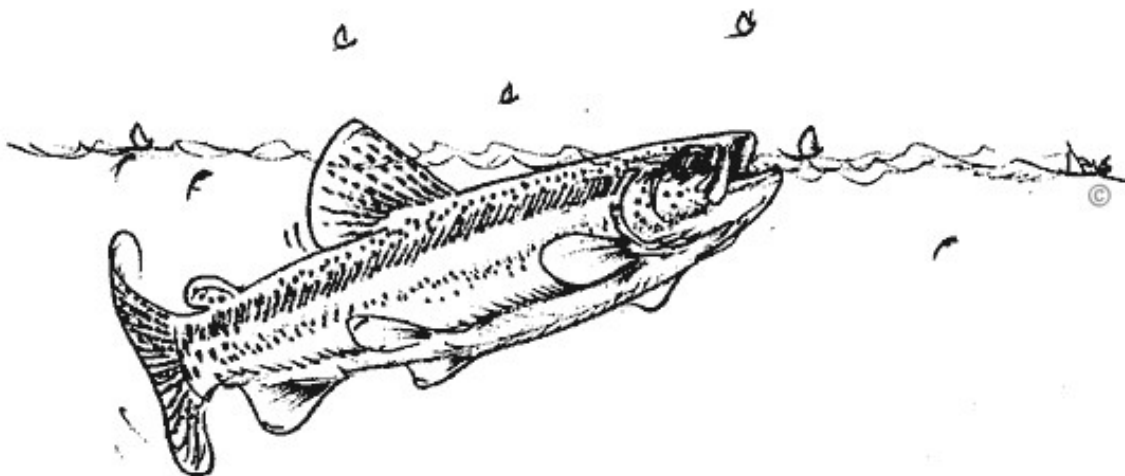
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## President's Message (con't)

So one of my personal goals while president is to fish at least once every month to grow my awareness of local fishing opportunities and expand my range of skills. At the end of December that meant standing crotch deep in the Skagit on a dark, rainy, windy, 40 degree day, (my least favorite weather) for the best bull trout success I've ever had, under trees full of chatty bald eagles. It is often these days when the odds of catching seem low and the weather is discouraging you from leaving the house, that lead to memorable experiences. What started as "*I can't believe we are really going to do this*" ended up being my favorite fishing day of the year. If that goal sounds interesting to you, take it up as yours for the year, you've still got time to sneak in something for January.

I look forward to seeing many of you virtually at the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>, and on the water in coming months.

May the fish be with you,  
Steve Kopp, President 4CFF



# Treasurer's Report

## January Treasurer's & Past President's Report:

I want welcome you to a new year,.....FINALLY!

We are done with 2020! It is now time to get on with it. So, let's do the Treasurer's part first.

I will be emailing you an invoice for your 2021 dues. I will also be sending the 2021 initial Club Roster. I will point out that the latter will be available in its current form on our new website. [4thCornerFly.com](http://4thCornerFly.com)

I invite you to go and check out our website. Marion has done a great job bringing us and our website into the 2020's.

Our budgets this year are obviously in a state of flux. The Board is really focused on how we can carry out our club's ability to deliver some value to you our members. Last year we turned it over to you with the "2020 Distribution". Hopefully 2021 will see us get much closer to normal life and club activities.

### Past President

After "distancing" for much of last year, we can look forward to a more normal schedule for club events. However much of it will still be digital in nature. Zoom will continue to be an important verb.

This year will be one of reconstruction and revitalization, you are invited to jump in. Someone from the club will be calling on you to see where you can lend a hand. We also have a new board and you will notice a new president! I look forward to having new members take up the leadership of the club.

Marion Hiller has an outstanding lineup of presenters during our upcoming membership meetings. They will be coming via the usual Eventbrite invitations. Check your email for notifications on how this will occur.

Next year the 4<sup>th</sup> Corner Fly Fishers will be celebrating 5 decades of existence! It gives you all an excuse to dig through your old files, photos and memories to put together our story. More on this will be forthcoming.

Stay Safe

Frank Koterba, Treasurer





# Monthly Zoom Meeting

## January 28 Zoom Presentation with Gary Bulla-Fly Fishing in the Amazon

Watch your email for an Eventbrite invitation

Over the years **Gary Bulla** has explored unique and pristine fly fishing waters and shares his fishing adventures. These include fly fishing the California surf, kayak fly fishing expeditions to the islands of Southern Baja, mothership trips to Belize for tarpon and bonefish, and guiding anglers with his trained family of captains on the Sea of Cortez in Baja Sur, Mexico.

In the last four years he has also hosted trips to Amazonia. His zoom presentation "Angling the Amazon" will take us through the capital city of Manaus in central Brazil and onto a mothership traveling the waters of the largest river system on the planet.

He will cover two tributaries of the central Amazon which he visited on separate expeditions, the Rio Negro and the Uyetama Reserve. His first trip was exploratory on an old wooden mothership. Through intense experimentation he and Michael Williams of Nomadic Waters helped train the native guides on fly fishing strategies that led them to become believers in the power of the fly in the jungle waters.

Gary will share his discoveries, including a brief geological history of the area, the warmth of the native Amazonians, the stunning biodiversity of the diverse habitats in the jungle's ecosystems, the rhythm and camaraderie of life on a mothership, and the tackle and techniques for wrestling the dazzling variety of fish in the vast Amazon forest. As you will discover, Brazil should definitely be on every fly fisher's bucket list. Please join Gary for a colorful trip through a very biodiverse and mysterious part of the world.

Gary will share his discoveries with the club, including tackle and techniques for the dazzling variety of fish south of the border. As you will see, Baja should definitely be on every fly fisher's bucket list.

He also guides kayak fly fishing expeditions each year to Magdalena Island and Bay. He has hosted several trips to Belize. He has photographed and fished the Bahamas, Florida, the Outer Banks in North Carolina, freshwater rivers all over the USA and British Columbia. In 2016 he hosted his first mothership trip deep into northern Brazil for Peacock Bass.

Gary has personally landed over 160 species of fish in the salt on the fly, including a California Yellowtail of 34.7 pounds on 16 pound test breaking a 43 year old world record. He spends several months a year hosting fly fishing trips blue water panga trips at Punta Arena/Cerralvo Island (in the Sea of Cortez). He was recently featured on Fly Fishing International Season 1 Zoom Presentations hosting FFI's Women Connect annual trip to the Baja. Watch the presentation at [FFI Women Connect: Gary Bulla in the Baja](https://flyfishersinternational.org/Events/FFI-Online/Previous-Webcasts) on Youtube linked from the FFI website. <https://flyfishersinternational.org/Events/FFI-Online/Previous-Webcasts>



## Monthly Zoom Meeting (con't)

### Monthly Meetings Continue via Zoom

Back at home he ties flies, presents programs, writes articles, teaches casting and surf fishing clinics. His photos have appeared in Southwest Flyfishing, The Drake, Fly Rod and Reel, Patagonia catalog and more.

His latest article is Surf Fishing Santa Barbara in Southwest Flyfisher Magazine Jan/Feb 2016.

### February 25th Zoom Presentation with Skip Morris-Dry Fly Fishing with a fly tying demo

Marion Hiller, 4CFF Internal VP, Program Chair

Bob Cooper, 4CFF, Programs, Eventbrite Manager

*"To go fishing is the chance of washing one's soul with pure air, with the rush of the brook, or with the simmer of the sun on clear water. It brings meekness and inspiration from the decency of nature, charity toward tackle-makers, patience toward the fish, a mockery of profits and egos, a quieting of hate, a rejoicing that you do not have to decide anything until next week. And it is discipline in the equality of men, for all men are equal before fish."*

**Herbert Hoover**



# Outings Report

## 4CFF Outings report January 2021

Greetings fellow fly fishers. If you haven't been on the new 4CFF website, you should check it out. Click on the Outings tab and you'll see what club outings have been scheduled. Currently we have Pass Lake on Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> and Methow Valley Lakes Outing at Big Twin Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup>. Click on the "Find Out More" button

**FIND OUT MORE**

This will take you to a page on Eventbrite where all the details for that outing can be found as well as a "Register" button to sign up for an Event. Other outings to be scheduled will be the 4CFF Annual Classic outing on the Methow River in July. If you have suggestions for an outing and would like to be the host for an outing please let me know.

Also, on the Club Website Outings page, scroll to the bottom of the page where there is a Photo Gallery with some shots of our club members in action. If you have any photos from past outings that you would like loaded onto the Gallery please email them to me. Hope to see you on the water.

Cheers,

Kevin McClurg



*"As no man is born an artist, so no man is born an angler"*

*~ Izaak Walton*

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## 4CFF Activities



### 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.

Contact John Leighton to 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 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>.

Kevin McClurg is our present Outings Chairman.

**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 outing hosts.**

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*



Please try to contribute to folks that helped us in their time of need. Buy Gift Cards or Buy on Line!!!

[Osprey Fly Fishers](#)

[Wild Fish Conservancy](#)

### A Few Of Our Club/Auction Supporters



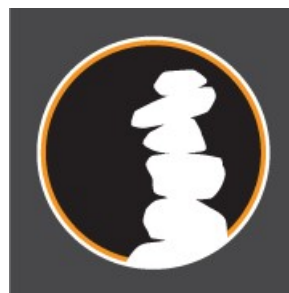
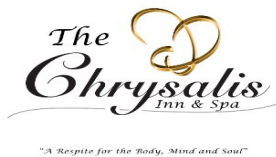
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*Dynasty Cellars*



# A Few Of Our Auction Supporters



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ASLAN



We thank you all for your support!!!

Graciously,

Fourth Corner Fly Fishers

