



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear 4CFF Members,

A crisp chill in the air tells us that November is really upon us. Yet still rich with opportunities to find salmon and steelhead returning once again to our streams, fierce but gullible in their zeal to spawn.

So, what will you be doing this month? Hitting the Skagit, hoping to experience that electrifying tug that can only say "STEELHEAD!"?? Or trying the Yakima one more time? Maybe spending time in a cozy armchair someplace, dreaming of the ones that got away? Golly, if you played your cards right, you just might do ALL of the above!

But even if you don't do any of the above, you certainly can thank our Auction Committee for a job exceptionally well done last month. The Conservation Auction made real money, and those in attendance had a great time watching it unfold. We'll have the funds that we need to help conserve important habitat and support efforts to promote better fisheries management. We'll otherwise be financially secure, and this can lead to a healthy dialogue on how our Club should internally allocate its financial resources. To assist us in that process, our Club Meeting on the 21st will give us an opportunity to elect good people to fill three (3) vacancies on our Board for year 2014. And maybe sip a beverage or two and bask in the warmth of companionships that defy the cold outside.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 21st.

Be well.

Hugh Lewis





"What kind of fish climbs a mountain? A Pacific salmon, of course.

The secret of life in the Northwest runs in packs of silver; as with most mysteries, it lies just below the surface, evident to anyone who thinks it important enough to look. To the continued befuddlement of biologists, [salmon] return to the neighborhood of their youth after seeing the world. In the fall, as the ground goes cold and the fields die, they bring a dose of fertility in from the sea, carrying the collected natural history of the river in their gene pool.

When you pull a fish like a king salmon out of water it overwhelms you: the size, the fight, the color, the connection between a landbound two-legger and a sea-touring giant. After fishing for Chinook in the Columbia River, Rudyard Kipling wrote "I have lived! The American continent may now sink under the sea, for I have taken the best it yields and the best was neither dollars nor real estate."

In the Northwest, a river without salmon is a body without a soul.

The Good Rain, by Timothy Egan [1990]



NOVEMBER MEETING

This month's general meeting of the 4th Corner Fly Fishers will be held at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club on Thursday, November 21, 2013 (Note that this is a week earlier than normal because of the Thanksgiving holiday). 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.

Our program this month is called 'BONKED! A Contest of Fly Tying Creativity.' 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.

(November Meeting Continued)

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!

My slate of judges and contestants is largely complete, but I still have room if you would like to participate (particularly as a tyer). Please contact me as soon as possible if you'd like to be involved and I'll get you the details. The rest of you can participate too by suggesting ideas and/or making donations for some of the odd tying materials (ideas I've had include a Barbie doll head or a piece of costume jewelry). Let me know if you have any crazy ideas of things you'd like to try to stump the tyers with!

Our usual signup procedures are in place, so please RSVP by Tuesday, November 19 by visiting <http://4cff.eventbrite.com> or by contacting me via email at msr@deepsnow.com or by phone at 360-319-1350. Be sure to indicate if you'll be having dinner or just attending the meeting, and remember that a dinner reservation made is a binding commitment for you to pay. Also, a reminder that getting your RSVP in on time helps us provide an accurate count for the kitchen. Your cooperation the past couple of months has helped smooth out the planning for both myself and the kitchen. Thanks for your help in placing your reservations on time!

I look forward to seeing you on the 21st!

Tight lines,

matt

Matt Roelofs

4CFF Internal Vice President and Program Chair



A look into the rearview mirror for Education in 2013

To start, the committee wants to thank, and is grateful for the participation of the membership. The phone calls and the friendly arm twisting have become a thing of the past. Thank goodness!

In the spring, on '4H Super Saturday' we give 2 tying and 2 casting classes for about 40 to 50 kids. For 12 weeks we help at the Blain Middle School, Ken Johnson's (soon to be a member) after-hour class for about 25 students with tying and casting, twice a week in the afternoons. We also have an all day session of tying and casting for about 30 to 35 kids from the Lynden Christian Middle School at Mt. Baker Retreat Center.

The Club continues its support with a scholarship, and is involved with the "Liam Wood" fly fishing class with casting and tying instructions at Huxley College on the campus of WWU in the summer: a 6-week commitment to about 20 students.

This fall we had a 2-day tying class at the Cancer Center at St. Joseph Hospital here in town, with an other class in the works for the end of January. As in past years, we support "NSEA" with tying and casting instruction for about 120 students (4 class groups) at the Ferndale High School - November 14 & 15 tying and November 22 & 25 casting.

Your Education committee,

Klaus Lohse, Bill Hall, Joe Kelly



VIDEO ON WHERE WE LIVE AND FISH

Nicely done video (~ 13 minutes with background music) of chum salmon in Alaska spawning, dying, being eaten by various animals (ravens, bears, eagles, etc.), and spread all around and into the forest to keep the nutrient (marine derived) cycle going. Amazing time lapse video of actual salmon carcasses being broken down.

Well worth watching.

<http://vimeo.com/75003932>

4th Corner Fly Fishers and the BP Kid's Holiday Fair!

Every December for the last 4 years our members have joined forces with the Coastal Conservation Association and BP to help produce the BP Holiday Fair for the kids of BP employees and contractors. It has become a big deal for the kids and has been a real hit with the parents.

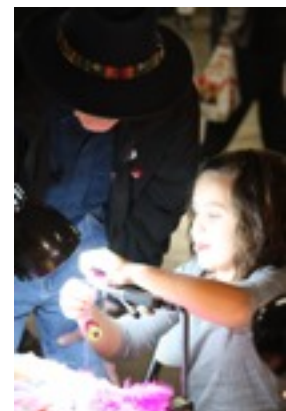
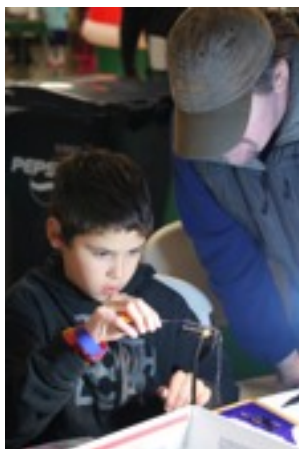
We assist and instruct the youngsters tying their pattern of choice and then we install it in a clear glass tree ornament for them to take home. I am not sure who has more fun, the kids, the parents or us.

The fair starts in the early afternoon and lasts until about 6:00. Last year we had almost 200 tiers make their creations and go home happy. So we could use a bunch of 4CFF elves to get it done. You really don't have to know how to tie a fly; you can help get the ornaments put together and work a little crowd control. Also as you can imagine it can turn into a long day so we are planning on setting up shifts to handle the load.

If you are interested, the contacts are:

Scott Willison: (360) 224-4043, willisonscott@msn.com

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



November Outings Report:

But before we do that we should thank all of you who made this year's 20th Conservation Auction such a success. That goes for the Auction Committee, the volunteers who helped set up the room, the many of you who made donations and all of those that bought tickets to the event and contributed your hard earned money! We should also thank the Bellingham Golf and Country Club for doing another great job providing our venue.

One of the new categories this year were all the member donated trips, and events. I think it made this year special and gives many of us an opportunity to discover more about who is in the club and the talents we possess! I can't wait to hear all the reports of the aftermath.

Final Outings for 2013:

There will be several more outings in the schedule for this year. They will probably be of the one day impromptu variety. In addition to the usual forays for salmon, we will be adding a trip for sea run cutties. Several of us spent the day with our friends from Avid Angler chasing them around the Sound last month. It was a blast and other than a little bit of travel it is an easy trip.

November Salmon:

The plan for the rest of the year will be to see what is happening and act accordingly. For the time being it looks like the Canadian side offers the better alternative for hitting some hatchery Coho. We want to be on the water at first light so we will meet at 6:20am. There will be a brunch at about 11:00, location to be determined. Later we will be looking on our side for opportunities to present themselves. There are several members who are making the crossing on a regular basis and they are reporting back their results. This is something that will be run through e-mails. Therefore, make sure we have yours, and keep an eye out for the announcements.

Sea Run Outing:

This is still in the planning stage. We will probably be heading to the south sound and staying overnight at a campground or a motel for you folks who don't want to spend the night in as tent. This will require the proper tags for your vehicles and a saltwater license. I will get the information together a.s.a.p.

Outings for 2014:

It is once again time to start looking from one year to the next. Looking back on this year I think there are some definite outings that should be continued, some that might be changed some added and some put on the shelf for a while.

The trips to Pass Lake, Silver Lake and Big Twin are great ways to get things going. And we have been invited to cross the border for a joint outing with the Osprey's at Peterhope. After last year I think another trip up to the Hwy 24 area is a must. I also think a fall trip to the Yakima and maybe a return to Chopaka is in order. There are also a number of small streams that should be fished as well. And there are all those beaches on both sides of the border that need attention.

It has been suggested (and I agree) that there are several areas where we could spread out the effort by and improve the quality of the picnic the "Classic" by having a group or committee take over planning and execution.

There are going to be some changes in the way we run our outings program and the classes we offer to our members. To keep it growing and improving we will need to get more of you involved. I hate to admit it but there are opportunities we are missing with the current organization. The good news is - it can be fixed and with you help it can get much better.

There will be more discussion regarding this in the next few months. So be prepared to make suggestions regarding what you would like to see for outings and classes.

See you all out there,

Frank Koterba



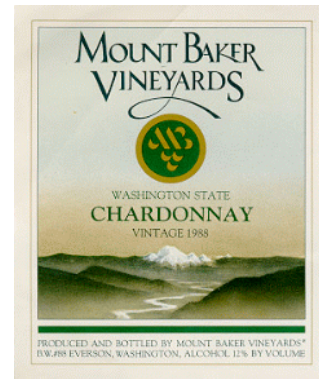
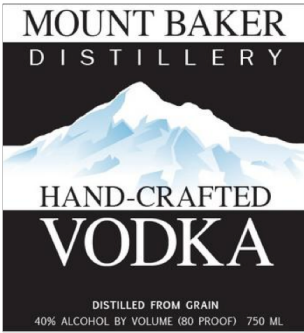
Your External Vice President/Outing Chair



"It is the constant, or inconstant, change, the infinite variety in fly-fishing that binds us fast. It is impossible to grow weary of a sport that is never the same on any two days of the year."

Theodore Gordon (1914)

A Few of Our Auction Sponsors



November Culinary Corner

As you probably have guessed I never tasted a pesto I didn't like. That is particularly true if it shifts our experience of the ingredients. I also like the simplicity complexity that pesto can bring to the plate. I didn't consider this one until it was almost too late. It was September when it occurred to me that it might be a good idea to give fresh corn a try. I had been eating the fresh local varieties both on and off the cob and there had to be something simple yet different I could do with it.

Usually I jump on the web to see what is out there. I don't have the time nor can the requirement to develop recipes from scratch anymore and this can save a lot of time. It also gives me a chance to work off incorporate other ideas. Once you hit search there are normally thousands of hits on versions from all over...not this time! There are only about half a dozen before the search engine moves off into corn and pesto. The first and root recipe came was published in [Bon Appétite](#) in 2010 by Ian Knaur.

This pesto really brings out the sweetness and the creaminess in the corn. I was only able to try this once with really good corn so there have to be many more possibilities in this dish. It is just one more reason to look forward to next year when the cobs are piled high! (Pesto may have other permutations if you have the really flavorful fresh produce we get in the summer...maybe sweet peas???)

The following is an adaptation of the Bon Appétite recipe:

Corn Pesto with Bacon

serves 4,

Ingredients:

- 4 slices thick bacon, cut into lardoons or half inch pieces
- 4 cups fresh corn kernels from about 6 ears
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- salt and fresh ground black pepper to taste
- 1/2 cup grated sheep gouda cheese plus more for shaving as a garnish
- 1/3 cup pistachios, toasted



(Culinary Continued)

- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 3/4 pound orecchiette, tagliatelle, fettuccini, or other pasta
- 3/4 cup basil leaves, chiffonade or roll and cut into strips

Procedures:

1. In a large skillet, cook the bacon pieces over medium-low heat until chewy and beginning to crisp and the fat has rendered into the pan, about 10 minutes. Remove the bacon with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels.
2. Add the corn and garlic to the skillet and toss to coat in the fat. Add a couple pinches of salt and pepper and cook until the corn is just tender, about 5 minutes. Reserve 3/4 cup of corn, then scrape the rest into a food processor. Add the pistachios and Gouda and pulse to combine. Add the olive oil with the machine running and blend until almost smooth. Add some water if necessary to smooth it.
3. In the meantime, bring a pot of salty water to boil and cook the pasta until al dente. Reserve 1 1/2 cups of the pasta cooking water before draining.
4. In the pasta cooking pot, combine the cooked pasta, corn pesto, reserved corn, most of the basil, and 3/4 of the bacon. Over low heat, toss to combine, adding some of the reserved pasta cooking water until the sauce comes together and coats all the noodles. Season to taste with salt and pepper.
5. Divide the pasta among bowls and top with remaining basil, bacon, and freshly shaved Gouda, if desired. Serve immediately.



Enjoy and keep trying something new!

Frank Koterba

Club Chef de Cuisine



"...come let's to supper...this Trout looks lovely, it was twenty-two inches when it was taken, and the belly of I looked some part of it as yellow as a marigold, and part of it as white as a lily, and yet methinks it looks better in this good sauce."

Izaak Walton, "The Compleat Angler"

A NEW BOOK BY A MEMBER

A 4th Corner Fly Fisher wrote a new book on a fact-based tale of the horror and brutality of war – and the compassion and courage hidden in us all to fight for survival...and salvation.

The Russian Army has invaded its long-time foe, Finland, while pursuing the German troops fleeing from Hitler's self-destructive attack on Russia. Aimo Kekkenen and the children of his village are put on a train for Nilstad, Sweden – and safety. But not for all. Aimo's sister finds a warm, loving home with Constable Sten Valheen and his family; but Aimo is taken in by the Blixdals: the Reverend Björn, a sadistic, egomaniacal collaborator; and his desperate, loveless and childless wife, Karen. And the remaining refugee children who are not taken in find themselves trapped in the hell of the town orphanage. The question isn't whether Finland will survive to welcome home its lost sons and daughters – but whether its sons and daughters will survive to return home.

In "Sunpath: The War Orphan Train," Aimo, his sister, cousin and best friend are torn from their idyllic lives in the countryside of Finland and thrust into a maelstrom. They are the "Finska Krigsbarn" (Finnish War Children): the estimated 70-80,000 children evacuated to neighboring Scandinavian countries, mostly to Sweden, throughout World War II. At war's end, over 15,000 evacuees never returned home – and of those who did, most did so to parentless lives.

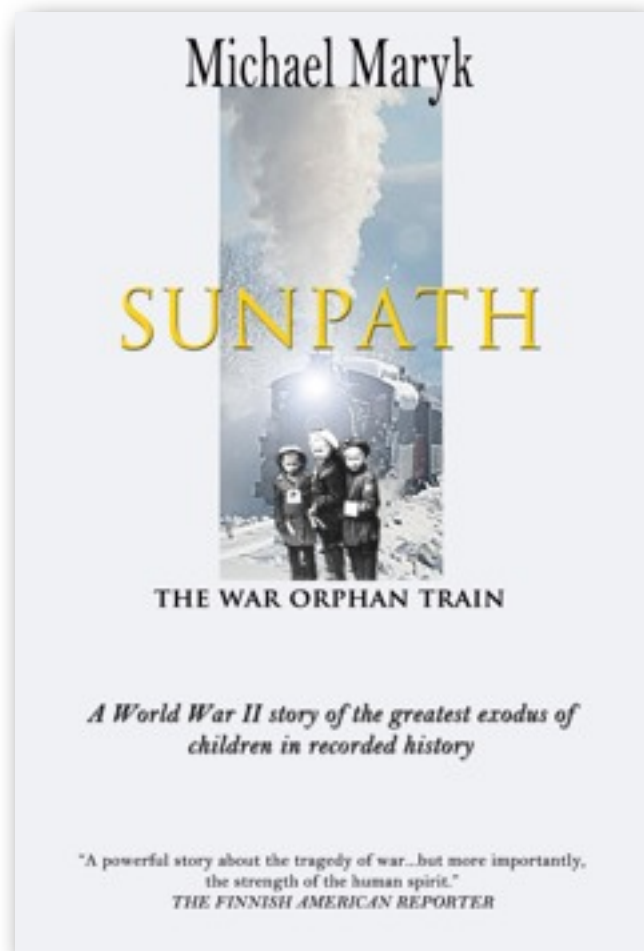
Based on author Michael Maryk's interviews with survivors and local research, "Sunpath" is, at its heart, an examination of the good and bad in all people and the too-soon shattering of childhood innocence – a theme sadly familiar in our world today.



Publication date: October 2013

ISBN: 978-0615886046

Availability: [Kindle](#) - \$3.99



"Nearly always by November the earth is wet and the swamps are full so that all rain that falls runs off to the rivers and rivers are high.

The return of salmon and steelhead is inevitable as the spring of grass or the fall of leaves; it may be delayed a little, reduced from year to year, affected in many ways, but it cannot suddenly and mysteriously fail altogether."

Roderick Haig-Brown, "A River Never Sleeps"



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.

November's Meeting

THURSDAY,
November 21,
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>

mrs@deepsnow.com

360-319-1350

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

December's Board Meeting

December 3, 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

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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 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
Bellingham, WA 98227

<http://www.4thcornerfly.com>