

4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November President's Message:

Bill Hall

It is with a heavy heart and sadness that we saw the passing of one of our members. Bill Hall.

Everyone wants a life that has meaning. What Bill gave us was his willingness to recognize the meaning that we represent and celebrate it with us. To be a part of his time here was to share in a life well lived.

Bill, Thank You and Rest in Peace.

Conservation Auction News:

The big news for October is that we have again done well in our 22nd Conservation Auction. We want to thank all the individuals and companies that contributed their time and treasure to our event. I especially want to thank the members of the Conservation Auction Committee: Bill Rodgers, Dan Coombs, Cassie Spitzer, Mike Riber, Kelli Cole-Vadjic, Paula Faulkner, Kevin McClurg, Chris vanStaalduin, and Steve Kopp, who put in a lot of time and effort making the event a success.

Have a great holiday season and I look forward to seeing you out there,

Frank Koterba, President 4th Corner Fly Fishers



Hugh Lewis and Bill Hall



Monthly Meeting

November 16, General Membership Meeting

This month's general membership meeting takes place at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club on Thursday, November, 2017, third Thursday. Please not that this is a change from the fourth Thursday to the third Thursday, November 16, due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. The evening begins at 6:00 P.M with The Wet Fly, a social time/open bar. Dinner follows at 6:45. The evening's program begins at 7:30 P.M. After the program, members are invited to stay for a business meeting: fish stories, introduction of guests, announcements, and various committee reports. It concludes with a raffle for ticket holders who are in attendance.

Our speaker is Bob Warinner, a Fish and Wildlife Biologist, at Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. His presentation "The Recovery and Sustainability of our Regional Fisheries in Light of a Changing Climate" covers topics including changes in food web dynamics, spawning success, and the effect of an over quickening of evolution of habitat. Included in the presentation will be predictions of global warming specific to our eregion and ideas on what we can do to help our fisheries adapt to them.

Maybe the first memory he can recall was fly fishing with his dad out at a lake in Northeast Washington. In the excitement of hooking a fish he would repeatedly reel the line all the way to the tip of the rod and de-hook the fish letting it drop back into the water. His father could not help his uncontrollable laughter; he was mortified. Despite that event, he continued to be an avid fly fisher for most of his life. His appreciation for fishing and general respect and appreciation for nature is somewhat responsible for seeking work at Fish and Wildlife.

He has spent almost his entire career in the habitat program with WDFW, with most of the time focused on salmon recovery and restoration on the Skagit River and in the San Juans. He has been lucky enough to work with many exceptional people throughout the Puget Sound region and has been involved with efforts to help people understand the impact that climate change will have on our local environment; specifically on salmon recovery. He feels that this issue is the most significant issue of the time when it comes to the possible extirpation of our regional salmon stocks.

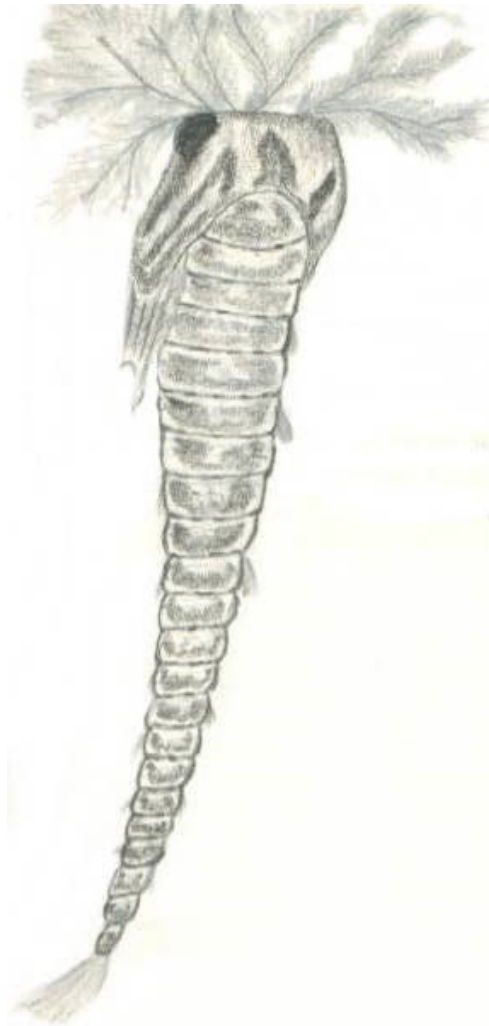
Bob Cooper manages the Eventbrite invitations and RSVPs. He asks you to make your reservation with an RSVP on Eventbrite by Wednesday, November 15, 8:30 A.M. at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fcff-dinner-meeting-november-tickets-39561965905>, by email at bxcooper2010@gmail.com or by phone at 360-961-4398. Getting your RSVP in on time helps provide an accurate count for the kitchen and is highly appreciated. Please indicate if you desire dinner or just attending the meeting. Remember a dinner reservation made is a binding commitment to pay.

Future Programs:

December 21, Thursday: Annual Membership Christmas and Awards Banquet

Marion Hiller, 4CFF Internal VP (Program) Chair

Bob Cooper, 4CFF, Programs Eventbrite Manager



Conservation Report

Greetings to All You 4CFF's !

November is the month we finish up our conservation activities and also do a final check on our project sites. I'm very happy to report that after this summer's growth period, the **10 Mile Creek** site looks great. All the trees we've planted in the past are large enough now to shade the water and keep the canary grass at bay. We can step away from that site knowing that we have provided valuable riparian habitat for spawning salmon and a great nursery area for their fingerlings.

Klaus and I visited **Ladies of the Lake** site recently, and discovered the creek full of spawning Kokanee from Lake Whatcom. Things look healthy out there as well, but we will be organizing a work party next Spring to cut back certain invasive species.

We had to cancel the **Whatcom Creek** cleanup in Oct. due to heavy rain, so I may call a few of you to finish that job on a spur of the moment basis.

We are in the process of booking two conservation related speakers for the 2018 program schedule. One of them will cover the current status of net pen operations in Puget Sound. This is a subject that many of us are concerned about so should be a timely update. The Conservation Committee will have met by the time you read this, and will be making it's recommendations about the disbursements of Conservation monies in 2018 to worthy organizations. Our committee's proposed donations are then reviewed by the Board before final approval is granted. All of you received notice of our committee meeting, which you are always welcome to attend. If you have any suggestions for the Conservation Committee you can always E-mail any one of us with your concern or suggestion. In the past several years we have had very little input from individual members, so we have to assume that we are on the right track for the most part.

Work Parties: For those of you who still wish to do something physical during the offseason there will be several work local work parties each month so here are the ones in November:

Whatcom Creek, Bellingham Location Maritime Heritage Park (C street off Holly) Time: 9-12 am Saturday November 11

Landingstrip Creek, Acme Hwy 9 south about 7 miles and turn right on Tarkington Rd. park at elementary school. Time: 9-12 am Saturday November 18

Garden Party, Bellingham Open House Garden Party to help NSEA winterize, fertilize and organize their native plant nursery. Park at NSEA headquarters at 3057 E. Bakerview Rd Time: 12-4 pm Tuesday November 14



Hope to see you at one or more of these worthwhile functions, Dan

Conservation Money at Work

California Creek Estuary

By Mike Reed



Our 4th Corner Fly Fishers' donations are being put to good use. This year, along with other purchases, Whatcom Land Trust (WLT) teamed with other partners to purchase 11.5 acres of the California Creek Estuary, located in the Drayton Harbor Watershed, Blaine, Washington.

Whatcom Land Trust solidified an innovative financial partnership with The Conservation Fund for bridge funding while also seeking permanent funding from sources such as The Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and Aquatic Lands Protection grants. At some future point, WLT plans to

convey the property to the Blaine-Birch Bay Park and Recreation District #2 while continuing to hold an easement on the property, ensuring that the land is protected in perpetuity.

According to Whatcom Land Trust Conservation Director Gabe Epperson, "The California Creek Estuary property is a critical link in protection of bird and salmon species in northern Washington. This property includes the mouth of the estuary and thus is a vital link to Drayton Harbor and the protection of its tidelands and vulnerable wetlands ecosystems."

Often called nurseries of the sea (USEPA, 1993), estuaries provide vital nesting and feeding habitats for many aquatic plants and animals. Most fish and shellfish eaten in the United States, including salmon and steelhead, herring, and oysters, complete at least part of their life cycles in estuaries. Estuaries also help to maintain healthy ocean environments. They filter out sediments and pollutants from rivers and streams before they flow into the oceans, providing cleaner waters for marine life. (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).



The Mission of the Whatcom Land Trust is to preserve and protect wildlife habitat, scenic, agricultural and open space lands in Whatcom County for future generations by securing interests in land and promoting land stewardship. Since inception, WLT has been able to preserve and protect 20,670 acres in Whatcom County. This includes several miles of coastal property and approximately 10 miles of Nooksack River frontage. Currently, 4CFF supports stewardship (Mike Reed, 4CFF member, is Steward) for Ladies of the Lake property, located at south Lake Whatcom..

Bill Hall



A Tribute to Bill Hall:

Anyone who ever had the pleasure of meeting Bill Hall knew him as one of the kindest, most soft spoken and genuine people you could ever know. He touched all of us, man, woman, and child with his positivity and good nature. Even in the twilight of his life he continued to be an inspiration. I'll never forget visiting Bill and Norma in their home one afternoon and talking about his days as a flyer. With a twinkle in his eye, he flawlessly recited The Pilot's Prayer, *High Flight* by John Gillespie Magee, Jr.

*"Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of earth,
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds, --and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of --Wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air...
Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace
Where never lark or even eagle flew --
And, while with silent lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
Put out my hand, and touched the face of God. "*

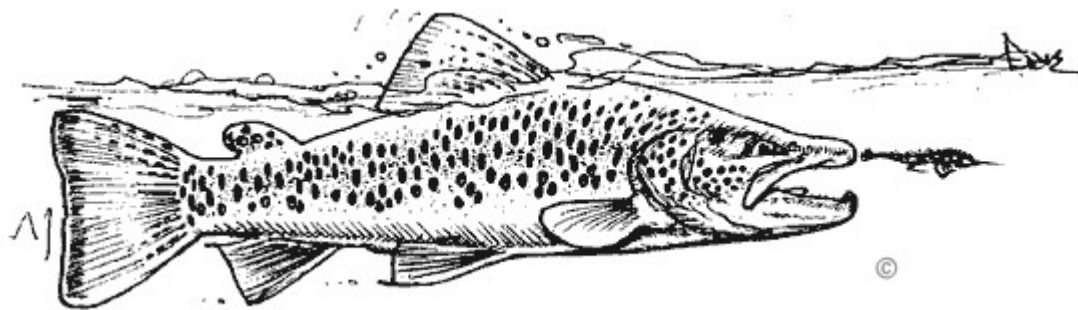
God Speed Bill Hall!

Craig Lang and Pat Draper

A Few Of Our Club Supporters



<http://www.theconfluenceflyshop.com>



Other News Letters and Notes of Interest



[Osprey Fly Fishers](#)

Wild Fish Conservancy Northwest

[Wild Fish Conservancy](#)

"...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"





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 we all love. Contact Dan Coombs 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.

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>.

Tom Langley 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 hosts.

Monthly

November 16,
2017

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>

Don't forget to bring
a fly for the FLY
PLATE!

Next Board Meeting

Dec. 5, 2017

Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA

6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

President

Frank Koterba
(360) 647-9715

External Vice President-Outings

Tom Langley

Internal Vice President-Programs

Marion Hiller & Bob Cooper

Secretary

Paula Faulkner

Treasurer

Bill Faulkner

Conservation

Dan Coombs

Education

Klaus Lohse

Library

Tom Langley

Website

Phil Terzian

Newsletter

Jamie Harrington

Membership Chairmen: Steve Hiller

Raffle Chairmen: Scott Willison

Directors: Sid Strong, Steve Hiller, Bruce Aigner, Mike Riber, and Angus MacArthur

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



4CFF Board Members



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.



P.O. Box 1543

Bellingham, WA 98227

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

"On all the streams and little rivers and in many of the lakes there are spawning salmon in October; and the big rivers carry their own tremendous runs, becoming tributary to their own tributary streams."

Roderick Haig-Brown