

4th Corner Fly Fishers



4CFF MEETINGS CALENDAR



General Monthly Meeting Conservation Auction

November 17 at Bellingham Golf and Country Club
Wet fly: 5:00 pm
Dinner: 7:15 pm
Auction begins: 8.00 pm

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

Virtual Board Meeting December 1, 2022

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:..... Bob Carney
- 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:..... Susan Swetman
- Membership Chairs:..... Cassandra Spitzer
- Directors:..... Angus MacArthur, Dean Bates, Kevin Formway
- Events:..... Bob Cooper

President's Message

President's Corner

Congratulations on one of the most successful conservation fund raiser events our club has ever held. A big thanks to everyone who helped put it on, everyone who attended, and everyone who was generous in the name of conservation. On top of it being a financial success, it was also wonderful just seeing a lot of familiar faces in person again, and plenty of new faces as well.

Coming up on Friday December 2nd at the Lynden Fairgrounds is the **BP Kids Christmas Party** where 4CFF members staff an area to tie flies for Christmas ornaments for the kids. This is a fun activity, I typically let them tell me what colors they want, and then tie something big and gaudy. Expect a lot of requests for Seahawks colors and a lot of pink. We're only about half staffed and need more volunteers. Even if you don't tie we could still use your help putting flies into the glass balls and the ornaments into boxes. Reach out to a board member if you're interested.

Mark your calendars, the 4CFF annual Christmas Party dinner will be **Wednesday December 21st** at the country club. It will feature a general raffle, a special Christmas rod raffle, and will also include gifts for non-fishing spouses and partners so bring them along too. More information on this coming soon...

Its time for the changing of the guard in the 4CFF board. The board is assembling a nominating committee and we are looking for new folks interested in being part of the club board. Our board roles are typically 2 years but we also have a couple 1 year openings available. Available positions are President, Vice President/Programs (1 year), Secretary, and several director roles of 1 and 2 year options. The conservation committee chairman position is also available. Please reach out me or another board member if you're interested in getting more involved or just curious what some of these roles involve.

With an unseasonable dry spell in November providing clear skies and low clear flows, I hope that many of you were able to get out on the river recently. One of our guest speakers this year reminded us "the tug is the drug", and this is the time to be out there with your 8 or 9 wt to do battle with a 15 lb chum trying to spool you in the current. They are usually still in good shape through the end of November before they start getting a bit too moldy, then I'll switch to bull trout. There are a few fun Coho around I'm just no good at finding them.



See you soon! Steve Kopp, President

eDNA Report

Nooksack eDNA Sampling Completed

Thanks to everyone who helped over the last 3 years with the Nooksack basin environmental DNA data collection. Earlier this month we completed our final collections and shipped the samples off to Missoula for analysis. This project would not have happened without early support from the 4CFF conservation fund, and you also further supported the project with the development of a 10 species Pacific Northwest DNA test. Steve Kopp



Outings Report

4CFF Newsletter Outings Report August 2022.

Greetings fellow fly fishers. There are no scheduled Club outings for the rest of 2022, but fishing opportunities are still out there. 2023 will soon be upon us and I'm starting the planning for next year's outings. We will hopefully be able to have our March Pass Lake outing. My understanding is the parking lot repair work is finally underway and will hopefully be completed soon. I've been taking suggestions for possible outings which are listed below.

- ◆ Omak Lake – fishing for Lahontan Cutthroat, April.
- ◆ Sea Run Cutthroat fishing in Puget Sound (spring or fall).
- ◆ Big Twin Lake – Methow Valley spring lakes fishing.
- ◆ Canada – BC spring lake fishing (May-June or fall).
- ◆ Kettle River or Methow River –July.
- ◆ Olympic Peninsula Rivers.
- ◆ Humpy fishing on the Skagit River, Aug-Sept.
- ◆ Upper Skagit River (depending on if the road has been re-opened).
- ◆ Chopaka Lake – fall.
- ◆ Steve Kopp has indicated that he would like to do the small streams class and outing again.

If you would like to add a fishing location to the list please let me know.

Cheers,

Kevin McClurg



"The best fishermen I know try not to make the same mistakes over and over again; instead they strive to make new and interesting mistakes and to remember what they learned from them."

-John Gierach "Fly Fishing the High Country"

Treasurer's Report

November Treasurer's Report:

2022 Conservation Fundraiser:

And another milestone has been passed. The 24th edition of the 4th Corner Fly Fishers Biennial Conservation Auction has occurred. And it proved to be quite a success! After the numbers were crunched and the expenses deducted the proceeds were roughly \$18,500! We had more sponsors than ever before. They included *Rice insurance*, *WECU*, *Northwest Marine Industries*, *Bellingham Family Dentistry*, and *Meridian Auto and Tire*. 100% of the funds they provided went directly into our Conservation fund. We were also the beneficiary of many items from the estate of Dan Coombs, a driving force for decades of 4CFF conservation activities. Much of his gear found new homes with other members. And the funds raised will continue the work he loved. The success of this event was the result of a crowd of generous attendees and the hours of work put in by the Auction Committee. Many thanks to the committee members: Chairman John Leighton, Cassie Spitzer, Klaus Lohse, Mike Riber, Kevin Formway, Bruce Aigner, Susan Swetman, Jamie Harrington, Paula Faulkner, Bill Rodgers, and Bob Carne.

Christmas Party:

On the subject of committees, there will be one required for our upcoming 50th edition of our Christmas bash. It will be at the Bellingham Golf & Country Club on **Wednesday, December 21st**. Details will be forthcoming but put it in your calendar.

Kids Christmas Fair:

We have again been asked to participate in the **BP Kids Fair** up in Lyndon. It is on Saturday December 2nd. This is a chance to dust off your fly tying or ornament stuffing skills. It has always been a bunch of fun to see what the latest color schemes the kids request. If you can make it let me know @ 4thcornerfly@gmail.com. We usually run in shifts, the crowds start showing up midafternoon. You wouldn't need to be there for the whole event. Come join the fun!!

Frank Koterba,
4CFF Treasurer



BP Kids Fair Pics (years past)



Cedar Grove Conservation Pics

Final plantings





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