



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear 4CFF Members,

This is my last President's Message – so now I will tell you what I really think!

It has been a great pleasure serving you for the last three years. I believe we have made some positive changes to the club and I thank everyone who has contributed to discussions, committees, projects, outings, etc. for the betterment of the club.

I especially want to thank the club officers and board directors who I have worked with and who have endured my intensity.

I now look forward to working with Hugh and the new officers and board directors as we continue to fulfill the aims and purposes of the 4th Corner Fly Fishing Club.

Happy holidays and with warm regards,

Lin Nelson

Your Club President



"For the fly fisherman on the Pacific coast, December is the beginning rather than the end of the year. In November even the most enthusiastic fly-fisherman may decide to lay his rods aside, dry off his lines and tie up some flies against a new season. Then in December, with the running of the first winter steelheads, the new season starts."

Roderick Haig-Brown, "A River Never Sleeps"

DUES TIME!!!

Now that you know the ins and outs of the dues structure for 2013 - \$60 for single membership and \$90 for family- and the why –to become less dependent on the auction proceeds; maybe you're ready to join the fifteen of us who are the current paid membership for 2013. You can bring a check made out to FCFF, or 4CFF, or Fourth Corner Flyfishers to the Holiday Party next week or spend the few extra pennies and send it to P. O. Box 1543, Bellingham, WA 98227. If you really want to do cash, please include a slip of paper with your name and amount so I can keep the \$60s and \$90s straight and list you or your family appropriately.

In March the Communication Committee plans to develop a picture directory to include each member's photograph and a brief statement about each person, their fishing interests, preferences and history, etc. We'll need to have everyone who is staying with us paid up and ready to be included.

This would also be a good time to consider the possible benefits of family membership if you have a child or spouse becoming interested in sharing your hobby. The extra cost will be at least partly offset by charges for non-members being instituted for some of the events being planned for the coming year.

If, for any reason, you are planning not to renew, the Board would appreciate knowing that in a timely manner. Also, should you have any helpful feedback as to things that would have made the club more able to meet your expectations; we would appreciate hearing from you. The best way to get your information to us is by mail to PO Box 1543 Bellingham, WA 98227 or talking directly with any of the Board Members.

Larry Irwin, FCFF Treasurer



"With the exception of painting, nothing in this life has held my interest as much as fishing. Fishing, in my estimation, is not a hobby, a diversion, a pastime, a sport, an interest, a challenge, or an escape. It is a necessary passion."

Russell Chatham, "Dark Waters" (1988)

Season's Greetings from your Conservation Committee

Looking back over the 2012 year we got quite a bit accomplished for our club conservation wise. We are expanding into new areas of 10 Mile Creek with the hope of having more and more of the creek suitable for spawning salmon. In addition, the students at 10 Mile School benefit from our efforts by learning streamside ecology first hand by visiting the creekside with their teachers and staff from NSEA. Having weed control at Squalicum Lake taken care of by tractor has greatly eased the workload out there. Thanks goes to Don Anderson for his ongoing tractor work at that site. Those of us who fished Squalicum this spring and summer were treated to some very good days so mark your new calendars for a visit or two in 2013.

A new area of conservation support came when the wild fish program on the Elwha River was challenged by the hatchery interests. I'm so pleased that both the conservation board and the general membership saw the value in supporting wild fish on the Elwha by sending a donation to that effort. The Cons. Board will again be voting on whether and how much support we can give to them this year. Any club input will be appreciated and considered on support of the Elwha wild fish population. A good number of us attended Bill Mc Millan's talk at the Bellewether on hatcheries vs. wild fish last week. A lot of information and food for thought as to where state monies can best be spent for salmon and steelhead recovery efforts. Bill very clearly pointed out the pitfalls of our state's current programs of primarily supporting state run hatcheries as a solution (beneficial in the short term) as compared to putting more of the monies into encouragement of wild stocks which would be a better and much more long term solution. We are looking for ideas from our membership on how to get more involved in helping wild stocks in our own backyard so let me know of your thoughts.

Best Holiday Wishes to You and Your Families!

Dan Coombs, FCFF Conservation



"There is no use in your walking five miles to fish when you can depend on being just as unsuccessful near home."

Mark Twain (1835-1910)

December Outings Report:

This is the last report for 2012. It will also be my last report for this term as Outing Chairman. As such it is a great time to look at the current state of things and what next year might bring.

We have had an amazing year as far as the number of events and activities that occurred. Many of you have gone out of your way to make sure that this was a great year. Ed Ruckey has again spent untold hours doing his amazing work at the vice and giving it away! Bob Cooper and Ed Dahl have given us the best slow roaster around. Scott Willison instigated a steelhead trip. Brian Faloon and Jack Salstrom have been responsible for Skagit River float for searun cutties. Mike Reed, Bob Johnston, Errol McWhirk, Steve Runge, Klaus Lohse, Dan Coombs, Roy Wilson and numerous others have jumped in to make individual outings a success. Scott Christenson, Sid Strong, Wayne McLemore, Ralph Lloyd, Ed and Bruce Ruckey have taken new members under their wing and produced those memorable days for new members just getting started. Hugh Lewis and Bruce Ruckey gave another great Small Streams Course. Don & Linda Anderson & Heather Gorum generously made their winery available for the club picnic and the conservation dinner. And I can't give a list of all of you who pitched in to make this all happen. I know I can say for the rest of the club....THANK YOU!!!

So where do we go from here??? Good question!

As far as the internal education goes I would like to have more of Scott's casting classes available, they are a steal! We are also going to institute a boating safety course with Ed Megill. We might add a boat handling course as well.

We are also working on getting a private tour and presentation to the Ford Fly Fishing Collection at WWU.

Our major events seem to work pretty well and I'm not sure much will be changed. We will have a classic outing and the breakfast and picnic will probably be the same. We might add something in the fall as a 2 handed casting event. There will also probably be a change in the way we organize each outing. Stay tuned there will be more!

The day trips for trout next year could show a lot of variation. These are the events affected most by the weather. The small streams are dependant on the melt especially on the western slope. So the timing is tenuous.

This is also true for the trips into pelagic streams with salmon, steelhead, bull trout and searun cutthroat's. With some new members we may new interest in the first 3 and given the last program the searuns look like a whole new way to plug the gap for fishing in February and after.

(December’s Outings Continued)

I think for the long term benefit of the club we should create a committee to organize and run the outings. It will help to spread the load and ensure a continued improvement in this part of the club’s activities. If you are interested in participating in this give me a call or send me an e-mail. We would meet several times before the January Membership meeting to get the 2013 schedule in place. During the course of the year we would get the outings organized, make reservation where required, track attendance etc. It is a great way to get to know more about the fishing opportunities that are available.

Finally, if you have a place or a type of outing you would like to see in the schedule....give me a shout.

I have been keeping track of the activities the club has had over the last several years and I have compiled the following report that describes them. I have made an estimate for the last outing that will be done by the time you get this

Outings results

	Internal Education		Fly Tying		Major Events		Day trip		Total	
2010	2	28	4	28	6	102	5	50	17	208
2011	7	66	6	76	6	84	5	68	24	294
2012	6	58	7	76	6	192	7	103	26	429
Change 2010-11	350%	236%	150%	271%	100%	82%	100%	136%	141%	141%
Change 2011-12	86%	88%	117%	100%	100%	229%	140%	151%	108%	146%
Change 2010-12	300%	207%	175%	271%	100%	188%	140%	206%	153%	206%

Internal eEducation: Casting classes, Small Stream Class
Fly tying: Hosted sessions at members homes.
Major Events: Overnight, Multiday Outings, The Pancake Breakfast, The Picnic
Day Trip: Single day trips



I am looking forward to seeing you out there.

Frank Koterba
 Your FCFE
 External Vice President / Outings Chair



“Fly-fishing is solitary, contemplative, misanthropic, scientific, in some hands, poetic in others, and laced with conflicting aesthetic considerations. It is not even clear if catching fish is actually the point.”

*John Gierach
 Dances With Trout (1994)*



"Christmas Party"



The Christmas party is **Saturday, December 15th** at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club. The party will be in the club restaurant (same place as last year). The social time begins at 6 pm with dinner at 7 pm. Drinks will be supplied by the Bellingham Golf club, so...POLITE SOCIETY DICTATES to leave a bigger tip! (Nothing is free)

The cost is ONLY \$17 per person including tax. I must have your reservation ASAP. REMEMBER, A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID. The club will be charged for no-shows and therefore we expect payment if you make a reservation. I ALSO NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY WOMEN ARE INCLUDED IN YOUR PARTY.

There will be a gift exchange for those who wish to participate. If so, bring a wrapped gift. I don't believe a price range has been decided but I would suggest under \$25 and does not be fishing related.

Bring your raffle tickets purchased at the regular meetings during the year and trade them in for the Christmas raffle tickets at the rate of 1 per five. No extra tickets will be sold.

There will also be a raffle for a 8 weight rod, reel, line and case. Tickets for that may be purchased at the meeting for \$5.00.

I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!
Gary Jones, **425 239 4193**



MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Greetings Fellow Fly Fishers,

I am excited to begin my work as the new Program Chair for the 4CFF. I know that I have some big shoes to fill after the excellent job Gary Jones has done guiding the programs and monthly meetings for the past few years. Thankfully, I've already received a number of offers to help and individuals sending me ideas for programs. You are truly a great bunch of people to work with!

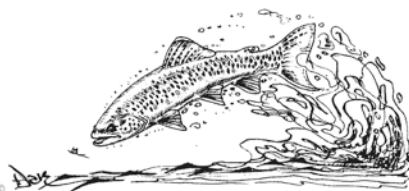
Since I am only recently elected to my position, I am still sorting out details for the first few programs of the new year. Some of the things you can look forward to early on are programs on fly tying, a film night with the showing of a fly fishing documentary, a program highlighting the three main areas of club activities (education, conservation, and outings), a visit from a conservation group and more.

One of the other changes you will notice is that I plan to implement an online signup system for our monthly meetings. This will help me manage attendance and dinner purchases. It will also help streamline the communication about our meetings. I am still in the process of selecting the website that I will use, but you can expect to see something from me in your email inbox soon after the first of the year.

Finally, I would like to solicit your input on program ideas. I plan to send out a survey sometime during my winter break and will ask for your thoughts on the types of programs that you would like me to pursue. You are, of course, welcome to contact me via phone or email or catch me at a meeting if you'd like to give input in a more informal way.

That's all for now. I hope to see you at the party on the 15th!

Matt Roelofs, *FCFF Program Chair*



OUTGOING THOUGHTS....

This past three years has been my second time around on the 4CFF board. The latter was nothing like the first experience, the only common component was Bill Hall cornering, coersing, arm wrestling, me into both positions.

When I was asked to be club Secretary, I immediately thought, what do I know about taking notes at meetings.. Then I thought; well I had some experience in taking notes in a previous lifetime career, (which only lasted 10 years) and I thought I should give it a go.

The first few months were a challenge, not only for me but the new board as a whole, as we got to know each other, learning how each person operated and what pushed their buttons. After that learning curve we got down to business and under the leadership of the best President I have ever seen at 4CFF, we tackled many thorny subjects that had been ignored for many years. One at a time these topics were brought up by some passionate board members, discussed passionately, then voted on and usually passed in motions. I cannot express the hours and hours board members spent discussing and considering their positions on each of the topics with some meetings not ending until close to 9 pm. What kept us going and not killing each other was the words of our President; "express your opinions for the betterment of the club and not your own thoughts that are best for you individually".

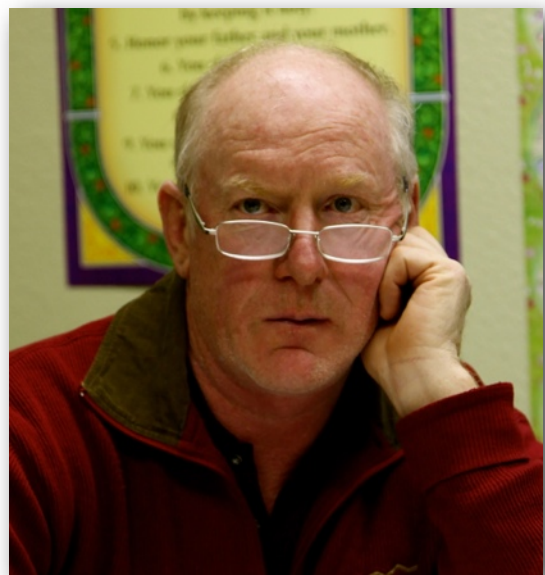
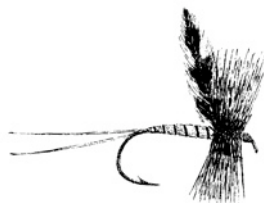
Like a good fisherman, who picks up garbage, or does something else and leaves the lake or river cleaner or better than when he entered it, I feel this sense of accomplishment after these past three years of service to the club.

Actually, the past three years was a period of tremedous individual growth for me and I contribute this in great part to my experiences on the 4CFF board. I strongly suggest this experience to other club members, get onto the board or a committee and participate.....

Must go now, as this is the end of time for the newsletter schedule and I am up at 5 to head off to the Skagit for a float, andfish on !!!!!!!

Respectfully submitted

Brian Faloon
Club Secretary, outgoing



Saltwater Tackle Care

By Lefty Kreh

(Submitted by Emil Ekman)

Freshwater tackle requires minimal care and maintenance in order to stay in working order.

That is not the case when it comes to saltwater gear, which often times, gets the same treatment as its freshwater counterpart.

The finest of saltwater gear will suffer if not properly cared for.

It is not just the water that's harmful, but also the air that can cause damage.

Reels

One way to maintain a saltwater fly reel before ever using it is to thoroughly clean it and give it a coating of the hard wax used on autos. Be sure to polish it well. For a long time afterwards any salt water that falls on the reel will bead up and fall away.

Be careful to read all directions before applying anything to a fly reel.

When on a trip with a saltwater reel I don't clean it until I return home.

Manufacturers also have a large list of things not to do, they are: take the reel in the shower with you or douse it in a bucket of freshwater—or worse wash it down with a freshwater hose. All of these methods drive some salt inside the reel but more importantly, they often will flush the grease coating from the drag impairing its performance.

I was lucky enough to enjoy several trips to Australia in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

After watching some of the top saltwater anglers in the world clean their reels—all kinds—I adopted similar methods.

Clean and fill an empty plastic spray bottle with warm soapy water and spray the reel thoroughly—be sure to get in all the crevices. Scrub around the reel foot with an old toothbrush. This is where corrosion first occurs. Fill another bottle with hot, fresh water and thoroughly rinse away the soapy water. Wipe the reel clean with a dry rag.

If you suspect the drag is not functioning properly, consider sending it to a manufacturer for maintenance. If you are handy you can remove the spool and apply a thin-film of grease on the cork or carbon fiber drag—don't overdo it.

Rods

Even rods designed specifically to handle the brine can fall victim to corrosion, even after only one use.

Hold the rod under warm, flowing water and scrub around the foot of each guide with an old toothbrush.

The locking rings should be treated the same way. Many saltwater fish carry extra slime on their bodies, which can be transferred to rod handles making them difficult to grip.

(Continued Next Page)

(Saltwater Tackle Care Continued)

My favorite way to clean the cork handles is with commercial hand soap. Remove any excess cleaner with warm water and an old rag. You can also use a rough terry cloth rag and warm soapy water.

There are many commercial fly line cleaners on the market today.

But one of the best ways to clean any fly line is to simply immerse it in warm, soapy water. Don't use detergent because it can remove the line's lubricant, which helps it shoot cleanly through the guides. After cleaning the line with soapy water, use a clean rag and fresh, warm water to scrub away any soap residue.

Backing must also be cleaned.

When lines are rewound on a spool they can contain saltwater, that if left on for even short periods can corrode the inner walls of the spool. To eliminate this problem fill a laundry tub or a large container with warm water and strip off a little more than the amount of line that was fished. Give it a good scrubbing by pulling it through a wet rough cloth. Before re-spooling the lines wash the insides of the spool with warm water and dry thoroughly.

When not in use reels should be covered and rods stored in dry rod socks and tubes. It is not advised to leave tackle sitting in open air, even if under a covered porch.

To care for saltwater flies, a small plastic container on the boat can help prevent rust from appearing on the hook. It may also be wise to use a small comb to straighten out any tangled fibers before drying the fly completely.

Lefty Kreh



EDUCATION REPORT

The Education Committee will hold beginning fly tying classes on the following dates in January. The dates are: January 7, 14, 21, 28, 2013.

The classes are scheduled from 6:00- 8:00 P.M. All materials and equipment will be provided. Joe (Mayberry's) has graciously let us use the community center in his store.

Enrollment will be limited to twenty 4CFF members on a first sign up basis. To register call Klaus Lohse (36-303-8962) or Bill Hall (360-305-0161).

We will provide the course syllabus for each participant. Register early and plan to enjoy this learning opportunity.

Bill Hall, FCFF Education Board
305-0161



Koterba's Kulinary Korner

Cranberry Currant Relish

We are now in the primary turkey portion of the calendar. And that always brings up the question. What kind of cranberries do you serve? In the debate over cooked verses tubular I always come down on the side of the former. Even with that decision made there are a million ways to make this delectable condiment. Over the years I have made several that lean more to the traditional end of the spectrum. This one goes even further. It is good enough to go with grilled salmon. It's great with roasted chicken or pork. In other words this one can be served outside the turkey zone.

Serves 3 cups

- 3 cups fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup dried currants
- 1/2 cup minced shallot
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1/4 cup Sherry vinegar
- 1 tablespoon yellow mustard seeds
- 1 tablespoon brown mustard seeds
- 1 teaspoon black peppercorns, lightly crushed
- 1 tablespoon lemon peel, julienned
- 1 tablespoon coarsely grated fresh ginger
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 teaspoon Kosher salt

1. Combine all ingredients in a small non-reactive saucepan.
2. Bring just to a boil, then reduce heat, cover, and simmer over low-to-medium heat for about 30 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Cool and serve alongside your favorite roast meat or poultry.

p.s. This was another gem from the FOOD52 blog.

Enjoy!

Frank Koterba, FCFF Master Chef



2013 FCFF BOARD AND CHAIRS

PRESIDENT



Hugh Lewis

VICE PRESIDENT
INTERNAL



Matt Roelofs

VICE PRESIDENT
EXTERNAL



Frank Koterba

SECRETARY



Craig Lang

TREASURER



Larry Irwin

CONSERVATION
CHAIR



Dan Coombs

DIRECTOR &
EDUCATION CHAIR



Klaus Lohse

DIRECTOR



David Johnson

DIRECTOR



Ed Dahl

DIRECTOR



Jim Darden

WEBSITE



Tammy Findlay

LIBRARIAN



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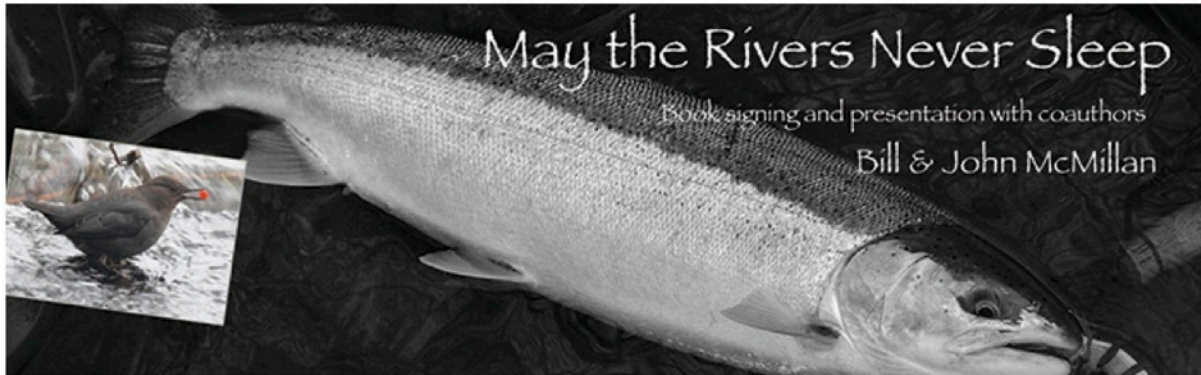


Bill Hall



Joe Kelly

May the Rivers Never Sleep - Book Signing & Presentation



Presented by Wild Fish Conservancy

When: Friday, December 7, 6:30-8:30 PM

Where: Seattle Flagship REI Store, North Meeting Room, 222 Yale Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

Join us for a special evening with Bill and John McMillan, coauthors of the recently released book, *May the Rivers Never Sleep*, as they share their view of rivers, salmon, steelhead, and the Pacific Northwest.

The authors, a father-and-son team, have lived most of their lives along the very rivers that they have so eloquently described and photographed. Bill (father) is a biologist as well as a founder and past president of Wild Fish Conservancy. John (son) is an ecologist with NOAA Fisheries, and is currently monitoring the salmon recolonization of the Elwha River watershed.

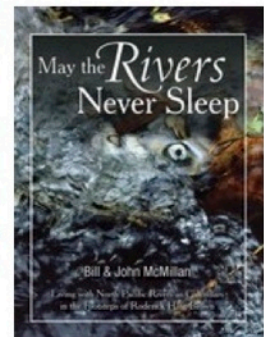
The essence of *May the Rivers Never Sleep* is the physical and biological tapestry of river time, month by month, a concept fostered by Roderick



Haig-Brown. Well-respected anglers in their own right, Bill and John have spent thousands of hours viewing rivers and fish, above and below water. Their revelations from snorkeling in rivers have led to its spread as a tool of science to protect fish, rivers, and related wildlife.

Book signing begins at 6:30 PM, followed by a presentation and Q&A with the authors at 7:30 PM. This is a free event.

For more information, visit wildfishconservancy.org, or contact Trent Donohue (425-788-1167 or trent@wildfishconservancy.org).





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.

OUTING

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 outings, it's wise to bring your own lawn chair.

For more information, please contact the hosts.

December's Meeting

SATURDAY,
DEC. 15, 2012

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

Contact Gary Jones,
gary-jones@comcast.net
for all dinner reservations.

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

BRING A FLY FOR THE
"FLY PLATE"!

January's Board Meeting

Jan 8, 2013

Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA

6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

President

Lin Nelson (360) 961-0408 lin.nelson@comcast.net

Outings Chairman

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

Program Chairman

Gary Jones (425) 239-4193 gary-jones@comcast.net

Secretary

Brian Faloon bfaloon@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Larry Irwin larryandbarb@comcast.net

CONSERVATION

Dan Coombs (360) 398-1637

djcmb@nas.com

EDUCATION

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billfies@comcast.net

Joe Kelly (360) 384-0623

jmkellyr@comcast.net

Klaus Lohse (360) 671-8453

kpstnlohse@gmail.com

LIBRARY

Susan Swetman (360) 428-2016

swetmans@comcast.net

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, Craig Lang

Directors: Klaus Lohse, Craig Carlile, Nathan Weston, and Matt Roelofs

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 FCF. All Fly illustrations are drawn by Ed Ruckey taken from, "Diary of Northwest Trout Flies" by local author and FCF 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.



P.O. Box 1543
Bellingham, WA 98227

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