



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear 4CFF Members,

The change to Winter has come abruptly this year. Last weekend's Northeaster, howling through the trees, bringing snow-drifts to our driveways and icicles to our roofs, confirmed that year's end is not far off. But 2014 has been an interesting year for me, and a great year for the Club, and I am honored to have been wielding a virtual gavel, as well as my literal Martini glass, at significant moments along the way.

It has been my distinct pleasure to have worked with your current Board of Directors, attempting to craft appropriate resolutions to various issues that arose to challenge us. Facing such challenges, this Board was just awesome, bringing a spirit of good will and collective wisdom to bear on thorny topics. Our Club seems stronger than ever for their efforts. But now writing this, my last "President's Message," I find myself also awaiting a change, in the faces of leadership if not the actual direction of the Club.

The new Board that was elected at our Club meeting in November is loaded with talent and energy. We will be well served by these fine members, strong and true:

President – Frank Koterba
External V.P. - Phil Terzian
Internal V.P. – Matt Roelofs
Treasurer – Bill Faulkner
Secretary – Mike Reed
Board Member – Paula Faulkner
Board Member – Nathan Weston





(From Left to Right, Frank Koterba, Matt Roelofs, Nathan Weston, Paula Faulkner, Bill Faulkner, Mike Reed, and Phil Terzian)

Frank is already planning new avenues for participation and leadership by our members. Phil Terzian has already organized a meeting of the Outings Committee, and Matt is still at the helm for programs. Mike Reed has been subbing occasionally for Craig as Secretary and has demonstrated real aptitude for the position. And, as of the end of Larry Irwin's inspiring long run as Treasurer, the Club's financial statements are now presentable for use by new Treasurer Bill Faulkner, following generally accepted accounting principles in the Quicken accounting software. Thank you, Larry [and Frank who helped at least a bit] for our move into modernity! Finally, new Board members Paula and Nathan join 2nd year members Sid Strong and Mike Riber, each bringing personal attributes and strengths that will, no doubt, make our 2015 Board meetings fun and productive. And I'll continue to hang on as Past President, if only to be an occasional source of annoyance...

Most immediately, though, I'm looking forward to kicking back and seeing everyone on Thursday the 18th for our Holiday Party. Be well.

Hugh Lewis, 4CFF President

"I fish because I love to . . . because I love the environs where trout are found . . . because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time, and I for one don't want to waste the trip . . . and, finally, not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant--and not nearly so much fun."

Robert Traver.



“4Cff Holiday Party”



On THURSDAY, December 18 we will gather at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club to celebrate the holiday season with fishing buddies old and new!

The social hour begins at 6pm and dinner will be served at 7. The dinner will begin with bread + butter and a roasted beet and apple salad. You will have a choice of three entrées (please specify your choice when you make your reservation): braised pork belly, chicken forestiere with apples and leeks, or butternut squash ravioli (vegetarian). The entrées will be paired with a side of smashed Yukon potatoes and a seasonal vegetable. The dinner will conclude with crème brulee for dessert.

Dinner is \$35 per plate, payable upon arrival. In addition, as a thank you for being flexible with our date, Bellingham Golf and Country Club is going to provide an open bar for the first 45 minutes of the evening (6-6:45) with beer, wine and well drinks on the house. The remainder of the evening a cash bar will be available.

In addition to the wonderful holiday meal, there will be a number of fun opportunities to exchange gifts and perhaps win a nice prize.

The Rod Raffle this year is an Echo SR (switch) or TR (spey) rod (winner's choice of weight) + matching Echo Ion reel + line and backing. The winner will work with Scott and Brandon at the Confluence Fly Shop to finalize their choice. Tickets in the rod raffle are \$5 each and will be available the night of the party.

For the Christmas Raffle, Santa Pete has a couple of big prizes (a fly tying vise + Dr. Slick tying tools and a Redington Butterstick + Ion Reel) and a whole sack full of other stocking stuffers. Remember to bring your raffle tickets from this past year and exchange them 5 to 1 for tickets in the drawing.

Finally, there will be the traditional gift exchange – bring a gift, get a gift. Aim for around \$25 and it need not be fishing related.

Our usual signup procedures are in place, so please RSVP as soon as possible. Because of the extra lead time required for the meal, I've set a deadline for all reservations to be in by Monday, December 15 at midnight.

(Christmas Party Continued)

Please take special care in making your reservation as I'm using ticket types to keep track of your entrée preference as well as the number of women who will be attending. This means that there are six ticket types - male and female versions of each of the three entrée choices.

You can make your reservation by visiting <http://4cff.eventbrite.com> or by contacting me via email at msr@deepsnow.com or by phone at 360-319-1350.

I look forward to seeing you for the party!

Tight lines and ho, ho, ho!!!

Matt Roelofs
4CFF Internal Vice President and Program Chair



Treasurers Report!!!

It's December and, once again, I am reminding all that **Dues are Due**. I'll still be collecting until Bill Faulkner takes over after the January installation of new officers. If you want to pay me just for old times sake the price is still \$60 for individuals, \$90 for families (spouse, etc. and minor children) until March 1 when the usual late fee of \$10 is added.

If you'd rather wait a while, you can pay Bill at a later meeting. Or just send your check to P.O. Box 1543, Bellingham 98227.

By all means get 'er dun before the April 1 drop date.

Larry Irwin, 4CFF Treasurer



December Outings Report!!!

I knew I would get around to this one eventually. This is 84th and last outings report for this run.

Vedder River:

10 of us made the trip over the border to fish the Vedder River earlier this month. It was in the middle of the first really cold snap of the year. We arrived in several waves. The early birds got into the fish, (I'm reasonably sure this was by design but...) they also looked like they paid a price. When they came up to meet the second wave they all looked a little blue and they were knocking ice out of everything and shivering as well. Regardless, it was still a great day to get out on the water. The sun was out, a few fish decided to nip, including the one landed by Paula Faulkner (unfortunately it was already deceased). At about 1:00 the bite really picked up! The chili was hot and lunch was served. What more could you ask for??

The Past:

Before I move on I would like to acknowledge the progress the 4th Corner Fly Fishers have made. When I found the brochure at H&H and joined the club there were 59 souls on the roster. Of those 39 remain on our membership rolls today. At the end of this year we have 96 members. Some are lifetime, others are the old guard, some like me have been around for a while, and many are new. The character and breadth of the membership have changed and the vitality of our organization continues to grow.

I took over from a master; an individual who has been a stalwart for decades, Ed Ruckey. The first outings schedule I put together had 5 outings to some of the old standard places, (the Yakima River, the upper Skagit, the Methow, and Rocky Ford). Later on that year, several trips to the Vedder were added.

For the most part, it was pretty straight forward angling. The rods were single handed about 9' long. We used lighter weights for trout and the heavier stuff for the salmon and mythical steelhead.

This year we had 18 outings scheduled. We fished on both sides of the border in lakes, rivers, small streams, and several excursions into the salt! New trips were scheduled to Montana and the south Puget Sound. There was even a Kid's Derby! The flies were cast using single, spey, switch and even Tenkara rods.

(Outings Continued)

In the interim between those schedules, we have added a rich mix of elements to our endeavors. Ed Ruckey has produced thousands of flies and boxes tailored to the waters we have fished. Bob Cooper and Ed Dahl have built a number of implements to improve the culinary aspects of our outings. (After the first use of the Asada Cruz you could see our picnic on Google earth!!) And Lin Nelson hatched the Classic outing where we could enjoy all the fruits of the above (yes I had a little to do with it but you do not work alone!) And let's not forget the contributions of all those who have hosted and attended each one of the outings

The Future:

I want to thank Phil Terzian for stepping up to take the Chairmanship of the Outings Committee. He is new to our club, but so was I when I took over. I know with his enthusiasm and your support we can look forward to memorable trips and experiences in our future!

The expansion of the outing schedule has been made possible by the addition of hosts for each trip. It has given us the opportunity to tap the expertise and interests of all of our members. The schedule is a product of input from the outings committee, the outing hosts, and especially you! If you have a fishery you want to pursue or a place you want to fish let Phil or me know. The committee is getting together on ***December 13th at 9:30am at the Barkley Haggens*** to put together a schedule for next year. In addition I know there is always a spot open for anyone who wants to lend Phil and the club a hand.

I look forward to see where the program will go from here and to all the places it will take us.

As for the last 7 years ... What can I say but Thank You!!!!

I hope to see you out there,

Frank Koterba
Your External Vice President and Outings Chair,
RETIRED



Cancun!

After my presentation last week I've been asked to provide information for those who would like to go. Like I mentioned, we stay at the Westin Laguanmar in the Hotel Zone http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g150807-d1145564-Reviews-The_Westin_Laguanmar_Ocean_Resort_Villas_Spa-Cancun_Yucatan_Peninsula.html We have a Westin time share so it is almost free for us to stay there, but it is nice, named one of the Best Resorts in Mexico by Travel + Leisure's "Best of 2014" list, and it is AAA rated Four Diamonds. Plus it is right across the street from an upscale mall for shopping and great restaurants.

There are many other options for where to stay. For fishing, if you want a 5 or 6 day fishing trip, I would look at the packages put together at Red's Resort <http://redsflyshop.com/> or Troutwater <http://troutwaterfly.com/guide-service/>. We used Pesca Meya for a 2 day one night trip on one of our trips down. That is a good package giving you two full two days of fishing where you should catch up to 30 bonefish per day. They pick you up at a motel and take you back afterwards. The food is excellent and we had two guides in our boat for two fishers. 2015 rate for this package is \$900 per person, with a 10% discount for Nov-Feb. <http://www.pescamaya.com/>.

If you stay at a hotel in the Hotel Zone, two other options for a day of fishing are Cancun Fly Fishing http://www.cancunflyfishing.net/cancun_guide.html. This is a day at Isla Blanca, about an hour north of the Hotel Zone. You are picked up, have an 8 hour day of fishing and are brought back to your Hotel. The cost is \$375 for two anglers. You will see and get shots at several tarpon (10-25#) and snook in the winter months (the only time I've been there) and I'm told you get opportunities at permit and bonefish in the later spring. They also offer 4-8 hour trips to Cancun Lagoon, leaving right from a marina in the Hotel Zone. This is a trip for tarpon, snook and barracuda. It makes a nice 1/2 day trip with time for a pool side drink in the afternoon!

I have also used <http://www.cancunflyfishing.com/> with excellent results for a Cancun Lagoon trip. They also do Isla Blanca trips, which I haven't done with them. Enjoy your tropical trip!

Rick Todd, 4CFF Member



Fourth Corner Fly Fishers Member Receives Prestigious Award

Into everyone's life.....there walks a mentor, another human being who for a unique moment in time gives our lives new meaning, purpose, and resolve. As Albert Schweitzer, Nobel Peace Prize recipient, said: "In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit". A fellow FCFF member we all know so well would say: I have never met another human being I didn't learn something from, nor someone I wouldn't want to enter and share my life!

Over the years in Bill Hall's life, there have been many such encounters. He would say his career has been rewarding and his experiences life changing. Recently, Bill was inducted into UNI's "Hall of Excellence". The University of Northern Iowa (Cedar Falls, IA) nominated him for this recognition in 2013, and a committee researched his professional education, professional experiences, scholarly endeavors, professional service record and activities, awards and honors and bestowed this prestigious award on him in a 3 day whirl of events this October, 2014. Bill hadn't been back to UNI since 1956 when he got his Master's degree there, so you can imagine he was surprised to be one of six people this year to be inducted. Over the past eleven years this University has honored 108 recipients. It's been about 30 years since Bill's doctorate degree from University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA), but almost 60 since he was at UNI. We can all imagine it took them a year of research to identify as accurately and completely as possible his candidacy for this award.

Bill now has a bronze plaque with an artist's rendition of his face and a short biographical sketch of his career posted in UNI's "Hall of Excellence". That biographical sketch reads:



(Award Continued)

"William R. Hall was a fighter pilot (1943-1947) for the Army Corp and United States Air Force before graduating from the University of Northern Iowa with a Bachelor of Arts degree (1949) in Physical Education. He served the Waucoma Independent School District, Waucoma, Iowa as a high school teacher/coach/principal while he continued to serve his country by serving in the Air Force Reserves. Hall joined the Dubuque Community School District as a teacher (1956-1983) in Dubuque before graduating from the University of Iowa with a Doctor of Philosophy degree (1985) in Educational Administration.

Dr. William R. Hall served as president of both District #1 and the Iowa Association of Elementary and Middle School Principals, and as a member of the UNI Graduate Advisory Committee. He served as president of District #1 Elementary Principal Association of Iowa and later Director of the Institute for School Executives (1983-1985), University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Hall served the College of Education, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA as a visiting professor (1985-1995). He was a member of the USA Air Force Reserves twenty four years (1950-1974) retiring at the rank of Major, serving as coordinator for the Iowa Air Force Reserves and liaison officer for the United States Air Force Academy. He received an honorary life membership to the Scottish American Military Society in 2009."

The plaque was limited in space to the above information, and Bill would be the first one to note that years of service to FCFF since 2002, or the Bellingham Police Department senior volunteer department for 12 years, or coming up this next year (2015) 70 years of membership in Free and Accepted Masons when he will receive his 70 year pin was not engraved on it. **Congratulations Bill!**

Bill's induction speech typified his philosophy of recognizing others for their influence and who played a major role in his life. AND, HIS FAMILY, FRIENDS, SPOUSE CAN ATTEST TO HIM DOING THIS IN ONE MINUTE AND FORTY SECONDS!!!!



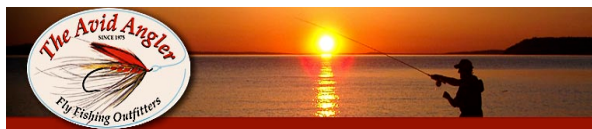
“For the fly-fisherman on the Pacific coast, December is the beginning rather than the end of the year. In November even the most enthusiastic fly-fisherman may decide to lay his rods aside, dry off his lines and tie up some flies against a new season. Then in December, with the running of the first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

Roderick Haig-Brown, “A River Never Sleeps”

A Few Of Our Club Supporters



<http://www.theconfluenceflyshop.com>



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 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.

December's Meeting

December 18, 2014

BELLINGHAM
COUNTRY CLUB
3729 Meridian St
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 733-3450

RSVP to Matt for reservations:
<http://4cff.eventbrite.com>
msr@deepsnow.com
360-319-1350

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

January's Board Meeting

January 6, 2014
Trinity Lutheran Church
119 Texas Street
Bellingham, WA
6:00 P.M.

4CFF Board Members

President

Hugh Lewis (360) 676-5150

hugh@hughlewislaw.com

External Vice President-Programs

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

Internal Vice President-Programs

Matt Roelofs (360) 714 8407 msr@deepsnow.com

Secretary

Craig Lang (360) 201-1917 craig.lang@ch2m.com

Treasurer

Larry Irwin (360) 303-6701 larryandbarb@comcast.net

CONSERVATION

Dan Coombs (360) 398-1637

dwmcoombs@gmail.com

EDUCATION

JERRY HILL, CHAIR

(360-371-2506)

Bill Hall (360) 305-0161

billfies@comcast.net

Klaus Lohse (360) 671-8453

kpstnlohse@gmail.com

LIBRARY

Nathan Weston (360) 306-8513

npweston@comcast.net

Website

Tammy Findlay

tflevel5@gmail.com

Newsletter

Sid Strong (360) 220-0099

swstrong@comcast.net

Steve Runge

srunge@logos.com

Membership Chairmen: Brian Faloon and Nathan Weston

Raffle Chairmen: Pete Lamb

Directors: Sid Strong, Rick Todd, Mike Riber, and Ed Dahl

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.
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P.O. Box 1543
Bellingham, WA 98227

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