



4th Corner Fly Fishers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Birthday!!!

This is the time of year when most of our planning is in the finishing stages. One of the elements that will be woven into our activities is the celebration of our 45th year in existence. 4CFF came into being on the evening of April 12th 1972. We presently enjoy the benefits of hundreds of man-years of effort by the previous men and women who have been part of our club

When Bill Faulkner took over as treasurer he showed me a ledger that recorded our membership from 1972, through 2004, with a gap from 1986-88 missing. Just reading the names gives you a feel for the club we now have. Of the founding members only Wayne McLemore is still with us. We also have several members who have been here over 40 years, Ken Kloehn ('73), Jim Darden and Jack Salstrom ('75). Bill Keep was a member from '75-84 and returned last year. Ralph Lloyd joined in '79.

To give you a better feel without burying you with minutia; here is a longevity list with just our current members. They have been on the roster for the following:

45 years: Wayne McLemore

40+ years: Ken Kloehn, Jim Darden, Jack Salstrom

35+ years: Ralph Lloyd, Don Anderson

30+ years: Susan Swetman, David Johnston, Errol McWhirk, Ed Ruckey, Mark Hulbert

25+ years: Hugh Lewis, Mike Riber, Pete Elich, Steve Moore, Bruce Ruckey

20+ years: Klaus Lohse, Dan Combs, Brian Duim Dick Steers, Harold Cashman, Tim O'Conner, Sid Strong, Bill Keep

15+ years: Rick Todd, Roy / Nancy Morris, George / Fay Farkas, Bill/Norma Hall, Chris Thomas,

10+ years: Larry Irwin, Lin Nelson, Ed Dahl, Emil Ekman, Brian Faloon, Frank Koterba, Charlie Scaief

5+ years: Matt Roelofs, Gary Jones, Bob Cooper, Robert McArdle, Terry McEwen, Nathan Weston, Paul Bodenshot, John deValois, Byron Swedberg, John Leighton, Robert Gaeta, Larry Grunden, Craig Lang, Richard Shoenfeld, Predrag & Kelly Vldjic, Roy Wilson, Bob Johnston, Steve Runge, Brad Williams-Hill, Angus MacArthur, Pete Chorney, Mike Reed, Bill Rogers

5- years: Bill & Paula Faulkner, John Boblett, Jerry Hill, Ken Keisner, Phil Terzian, Scott Willison, David England, Jamie Harrington, Steve Kopp, Kevin McClurg, Bruce Aigner, Steve & Marion Hiller, Tom Langley, Molly Semenik, Cassandra Spitzer

In total our current roster has compiled roughly 1067 years in the 4th Corner Fly Fishers. The average is 13.5 years.

It would be interesting to work out the number for our total membership since the beginning. If I can discover the records I will pass it on. Suffice it to say we have been the beneficiaries of an enormous effort by a large number of people.

To keep it going, I invite you participate in the upcoming club activities. Tom Langley has been putting together a robust outing schedule. And there will be numerous opportunities to pitch in at our education and conservation events. There will also be a number of opportunities to work on our casting and presentation skills as well. Keep an eye on the calendar on our website 4thcornerfly.com. It will have all the information you need for to see what has been scheduled.

There are 2 other openings that are critical for the club.

Steve Runge is leaving the area and someone needs to take over as "Random Casts" editor. The May issue will be the last one he will do. Check out the description later on in the newsletter.

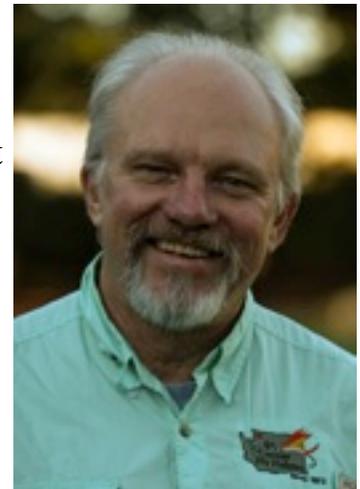
The club also needs a co-chair for the Conservation Auction. The advancements that were made by the last auction committee especially Ed Dahl has really taken some of the major headaches out of the process. You can contact me to get started.

And finally, the snow will stop sometime this year and we can get out there and enjoy our corner of the world.

I am looking forward to spend some quality time with all of you.

Frank Koterba

President, 4th Corner Fly Fishers



Monthly Meeting

The BGCC has raised the price of the monthly Dinner Meeting to \$20 to cover increased minimum wage. Please be aware that the dinner price also includes the use of the facility for the evening.

This month's general membership meeting takes place at the Bellingham Golf and Country Club on Thursday, March 23, 2017. 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.

The program includes Karlee Deatherage (Policy Analyst) and Eleanor Hines (Lead Scientist) of the RE Sources for Sustainable Communities, who will present on the outlook of salmon recovery and restoration efforts in the Puget Sound and the Nooksack River watershed. They will highlight the impacts of exempt-wells on salmon recovery in addition to other issues affecting salmon populations.

RE Sources for Sustainable Communities is a nonprofit environmental education organization founded in 1982 as Bellingham Community Recycling, the group responsible for curbside recycling in our state. Since then, RE Sources has grown to promote sustainable communities and protect the health of northwestern Washington's people and ecosystems through application of science, education, advocacy and action.

Bob Cooper manages the Eventbrite invitations and RSVPs. He asks you to make your reservation with an RSVP on Eventbrite for the meeting by Wednesday, March 22 by 8:00 A.M. by visiting [Eventbrite](#), by email at [bxxcoper2010@gmail](mailto:bxxcoper2010@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:

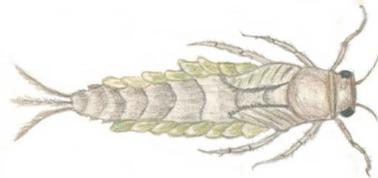
April: Owner of Tacoma's Puget Sound Fly Company, Anil Srivastava, presents catching "Albacore tuna on the fly."

May: Pete Soverel: Founder of The Wild Salmon Center out of Portland presents information about the current studies and campaigns along US/Canada/Russia/Japan Pacific Rim rivers currently in progress.

June: Owner of Searun Pursuits and a fishing guide of SW Washington and the Olympic Peninsula rivers and beaches present "Fly Fishing for Steelhead and Cutthroat on the Cowlitz River."

Marion Hiller, 4CFF Internal VP (Program) Chair

Bob Cooper, 4CFF, Programs Eventbrite Manager



Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report

Monthly expenses for February of 2017 included:

Special Event Speaker's Fee	\$600.00
Prepaid Non Member Dinners	30.00
QuickBooks Monthly Fee	26.09
Outings Committee Meeting Supplies	29.00
Total	\$659.00

Monthly income for February of 2017 included:

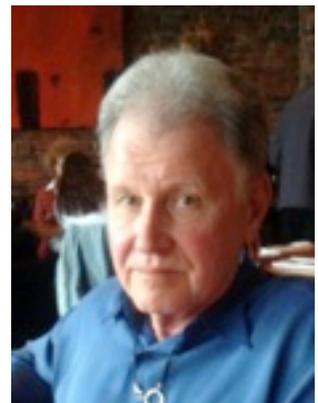
Annual Member Dues Jan. & Feb.)	\$4,200.00
Total Income	\$4,200.00

Bank account balances as of December 1, 2016 were \$20,281 (Club Checking & Savings) and \$7,885 (Conservation Savings). The deadline for payment of club dues was February 28. As of this date, \$4,200 in dues were collected from 65 single and family memberships. Dues have not yet been received from seven of our members. These may still be paid until the end of March, but they must be accompanied by an additional \$10 late fee. Memberships not paid after March 31 will be cancelled.

CHECKS FOR DUES CAN BE MAILED TO:

4th Corner Fly Fishers, PO Box 1543, Bellingham, WA 98227

Bill Faulkner, FCFF Treasurer



Communications Report

The website is performing sluggishly lately because we are operating on an old server using an old version of PHP. Our web designer has recommended that we upgrade to a better server with modern software for a Godaddy (our server host) charge of \$85/year. (ten year contract). I am recommending to the board that this line item be approved for 2017. We are also experiencing some login errors related to old passwords that are too simple. For example, a password like "riverfisher" might not be acceptable, whereas "RiverFisher1952!" would be more robust.

New committee chairmen and chairwomen are successfully posting up events and meetings on the web now. This is very gratifying to see.

If you have any issues or trouble logging on, please get in touch with me.

Phil Terzian

Conservation Report

Hi to All!

Needless to say this winter has been a doozy. Reports are in that there are a lot of downed branches and a few trees at several of our project sites. We are gathering a small party to do a preliminary branch clean up at Squalicum Lake on or around March 10. Next on our Conservation agenda will be 10 Mile Creek School on Saturday April 15. This will be a function that will require a goodly number of participants so please mark that morning off on your calendars. Mike Reed has arranged for a Ladies of the Lake conservation outing on Saturday May 6 as well. Please get involved in at least one of these functions by signing up at the March meeting or by calling either Mike or me.

On a relatively sad note we have just discovered that the new Sect'y of the Interior Ryan Zinke has issued an order that reverses the ban on lead ammunition and fishing tackle used in national wildlife refuges. This order reverses a decision by the Obama administration to phase out the use of lead ammunition and fishing tackle on these refuges by 2022. As most of you know, our club has learned over the years of the negative aspects of putting lead into our environment and has taken steps to individually begin using non-lead substitutes during our hunting and fishing activities. Most of us realize that going away from lead costs us a bit more money for lead substitute ammo or weights but in the long run will be very beneficial to our environment. One estimate has over 130 species of birds and mammals that have been poisoned directly or indirectly by lead left in our environment by hunting and fishing activities that use this heavy metal

toxin. As a veterinarian I was involved for several years with autopsies of over 200 dead Trumpeter Swans per year in Whatcom and Skagit counties alone. The vast majority of these deaths were proven to be from ingestion of lead shot from local ponds and fields. A program that would switch to nontoxic ammunition should be a no brainer and can save the lives of thousands of birds and other wildlife species as well as protect the health of hunters who consume game animals. I think this is a step in the wrong direction and I will be sending my opinion to the proper agency.

If you feel the same please E-mail your thoughts to www.doi.gov/fish+wildlife service.

Tight lines,

Dan



Recreational Suction Dredge Mining Reform Status

Mike Reed

Sadly, proposed Washington state legislation (HB1077 and HB1106) addressing changes in Recreational Suction Dredge Mining is basically "dead" for this legislative year. Washington will continue as the only state with populations of Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed Pacific salmon and steelhead that still allows unpermitted recreational suction dredge mining.

The detrimental impact of Suction Dredge Mining on wild fish can be significant. Trout Unlimited states:

Proven impacts of these activities include: erosion and sedimentation in streams, which can smother incubating fish eggs and invertebrates; mobilization of mercury and other heavy metals buried in stream sediments; physical impacts to eggs, juvenile fish, invertebrates, and other aquatic organisms that are "processed" by suction dredges; disturbance of riparian vegetation at equipment access points and streamside campsites due to long-term use; and interruption of natural stream form and function and destruction of habitat features. (www.tu.org/tu-projects/suction-dredge-mining-reform-in-washington-state).

To understand, take a look at this video newsclip which provides a look at Recreational Suction Dredge Mining in action (<http://kcts9.org/programs/earthfix/gold-vs-salmon-fish-advocates-miners-face-in-rural-washington>)

Trout Unlimited and Wild Steelheaders conducted a strong public education effort in support of the bills. These groups, along with scientists, environmentalists, and WDFW spoke at the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee public hearings.

(www.tvw.org/watch/?eventID=2017011142) in January, 2017. Other groups, such as Fidalgo Club Flyfishers, Emerald Water Anglers, Red's Fly Shop encouraged their members and contacts to call their representatives in support of the bills. I'm sure there were other environmental and angling organizations that also voiced support.

Unfortunately, it was not enough to convince Chairman Brian Blake (District 19, Long Beach, Raymond), and/or Vice Chair Mike Chapman (District 24, Olympic Peninsula) that the bills merited movement out of Committee to the House floor. I have emails into both of these representatives, as well as Vincent Buys (District 42, Bellingham/Ferndale) and Tom Dent, District 13, Ellensburg). So far, I have not received any responses..

Unlike fishers, Recreational Suction Dredge miners pay no specific license fees to WDFW. Nevertheless, WDFW must spend budget to regulate their activities and respond to observed violations. California, Oregon, and Idaho have banned or severely restricted these activities. Now, some of these non-resident miners are turning to Washington waters. Why not, it is free!

The Center for Biological Diversity gave the state of Washington a 60-day notice that it intends to sue over its allowance of recreational gold-mining techniques. The Center says these mining techniques are harmful to vital species in the Washington's rivers and streams. The Center, along with an environmental group Cascadia Wildlands, said Washington's allowance of suction dredge mining, which uses vacuums to suck up gravel on river bottoms in search of gold and other minerals, in areas crucial to endangered species such as salmon and steelhead violates the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act.

I'm not sure how the lawsuit, if filed, will unfold. On this issue, I think we are better served by legislators listening to their constituents.

As most of you know, two purposes for which our Club was formed are:

- 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.

Trout Unlimited and Wild Steelheaders have established a strong foundation to build upon. When these bills are proposed again next year, we need to be ready to pitch in and provide strong support.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

Are you creative, comfortable working with word-processing programs, and want to support the club's communication efforts? The primary task is copy and pasting the input from contributors into an existing template newsletter and making sure the fonts and styles are uniform. Sid and I are happy to train any interested individuals (right Sid?). My job relocation means that May will be the last newsletter unless we find a replacement. Please contact Steve Runge for more information.

Free to a Good Home

Past FCFF member and President, Eric Eames has this spool for an STH reel (2 3/4" diameter by 3/4" wide). He has no use for it, so it is free to a good home. Takes up very little space and does not bother the neighbors. Needs to be exercised on a regular basis.

Contact Eric at 360 410 7958.

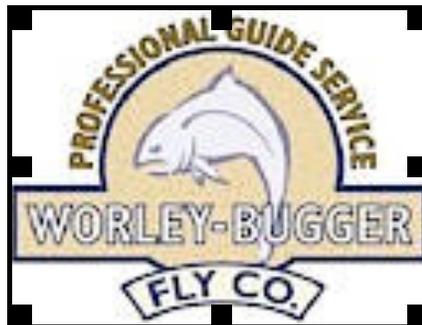
Brian Duim



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. 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. 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>.

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 Meeting

Mar 24,
2017

Bellingham Golf and
Country Club
Wet Fly: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 6:45 pm
Program: 7:30 pm

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

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

Next Board Meeting

Apr 4, 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

Secretary

Paula Faulkner

Treasurer

Bill Faulkner

CONSERVATION

Dan Coombs

EDUCATION

Klaus Lohse, Chair
Brian Duim

LIBRARY

Tom Langley

Website

Phil Terzian

Newsletter

Steve Runge

Membership Chairmen: Brian Faloon and Steve Hiller

Raffle Chairmen: Nathan Weston

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 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>
