



4th Corner Fly Fishers

President's Message

Dear 4CFF Members,

Following is a reflection of the inaugural 4th Corner Classic outing by guest writer - Craig Lang:

Lin Nelson, *President 4CFF*



Big Twin Lake - 2011

By Craig Lang

For those willing to endure the extra two hour drive over Steven's Pass, due to the late opening of the North Cascade Highway, May's inaugural 4th Corner Classic outing at Big Twin Lake in Winthrop was everything one could hope for: warm weather, great fishing and the camaraderie of fishing buddies. Arriving on Thursday, the true diehards set up camp and got a little early fishing in. There were the usual tall tales and practical jokes spurred on by a wide range of adult beverages as the afternoon and evening wore on. The small group shared a mini pot luck, (it's a good thing we brought bratwursts) and rounded out the evening with an early bird fly box raffle, won by Charlie Scaief.

Friday's sun wasn't even above the horizon and the early risers, both fish and fishers, were seeing lots of action. Chironomids, damsel nymphs, leeches, woolly buggers and a few homemade inventions such as Ed's "Table Scaps" and Gary's "Red-headed Leech" (or whatever he calls the darn thing) were knocking them dead. We won't mention any names, but one club member was catching fish on practically every cast and actually had to come in early due to a sore arm. Rainbows were running anywhere from 12" to 20" - all hard fighters. A full-on spaghetti dinner, provided by the 4CFF Board of Directors, was waiting for weary fishers coming off the lake that evening as well as for members and families that arrived late.

Before the weather turned on Saturday, folks were able to get out and try a few new things as well as introduce some of the newer members to float tubes and pontoon boats. Nothing like that first time getting into and out of a tube - we've all been there. Fishing continued to be hot right into the afternoon when the rain set in. For most, it was time to come in and get ready for the great paella feast

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sponsored by the Club. If you have never had paella, put it on your top ten list of things to try. To add to the festivities, the skies decided to open up sending folks running for tarps and any other devices to provide shelter from the storm – a wooden paddle was even used to support one of the tarps. It looked like a scene right out of Woodstock. The creative engineering and close quarters of tarp city provided for an evening of great food, great conversation and great friends. To top it all off, there was a special raffle for 4th Corner Classic hats, the traditional fly box won by Dennis Elwell, and Sherri Roleof won the grand prize 4th Corner Classic vest and a hat!

And just as quickly as it came, it was Sunday morning – time for French Toast, a few more casts, breakdown of camp, and then the long road home. In the end, outings such as this reinforce why we do them. It's just like fishing, every time you toss your line in the water, ya just never know what you are going to get.



“June is transition from spring to summer, a month when everything has its full vigor, before anything is stale or mature. In June May flies may be thick on the water, stone-fly nymphs may still be crawling up the rocks to split their cases and fly away, midges will be dancing in clouds near the water’s edge and falling spent on the water to move fish that the angler finds it difficult to tempt with his larger flies; and on June evenings may come the early sedge hatches.

When a June fish takes, he is into his run before you can move to raise the rod, and that run is fierce and long and dangerous. Almost always a June fish is a jumping fish, a bold, wild, jumping fish, and he is little concerned to keep within the limits of the pool in which he has taken the fly.”

Roderick Haig-Brown, “A River Never Sleeps”

More pics from Big Twin....



“There is no substitute for fishing sense, and if a man doesn’t have it, he may cast like an angel and still use his creel largely to transport sandwiches and beer.”

Robert Traver

Trout Madness (1960)

Small Stream Clinic

Here's an update on the small stream clinic that we've been planning. It's for 4CFF members interested in perfecting the skills necessary for fly fishing on small streams.

The Clinic will be open to a dozen members who have indicated their interest on the Sign-up sheet earlier this spring. The Clinic will initially consist of a couple of hours of classroom instruction in an urban outdoor environment, so that participants can become familiar with nuances of fishing in a small stream environment. Discussion topics will include choices for rods, reels, lines, leaders, flies and casting techniques unique to the small stream environment.

Following the classroom session, anglers will participate in a field trip designed to put classroom knowledge into useful practice. Two field trips are offered this summer. Small streams are just that, small. There is no room for crowds. Each field trip will be limited to 6 members, who will fish together in three groups of two anglers: a buddy system that is designed to maximize retention of the information and techniques that will be presented in the Clinic. The field trips will also offer an opportunity for reading the water in a small stream setting, to learn where fish lie and how a fly should be presented in order to hook and land wild, small-stream trout.

WHEN & WHERE:

Classroom Session: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 @ 7:00 p.m. @ Lin Nelson's
526 Fern Road, Bellingham, 98225
Stream Sessions: Saturday - July 23, 2011 @ 9:30 a.m.
Sunday - July 24, 2011 @ 9:30 a.m.
Meet @ Sunset Square Parking Lot, in front of Starbucks

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:

Basic fly fishing gear: fishing license, waders, boots, vest, rain jacket, hat, wading staff, sunglasses, sun-screen, bug repellent, lunch, snacks and lots of drinking water.

Specialty fishing gear: short, light fly rod designed for a very light line, a reel with appropriate line, several light leaders, tippet material and some basic barbless trout flies in smaller sizes.

Recommendation: A long cast in a small stream is 20 feet, and even a 5 wt line makes a big splash in a small pool. Anything longer than 7'6" is too much rod, and even 7'6" is pushing it. If you don't have a 7' 3wt bamboo rod inherited from your great uncle, try this rod/reel combo from Cabelas. 7'6"- 3 wt, 3 piece Three Forks rod with Prestige reel, complete with wt. forward line, backing and leader, for a total of \$100.00, including shipping. That's pretty hard to beat.

Hugh Lewis, *4CFF Lifetime Member*



Conservation Report

Hi Everyone, Last Saturday a small group of us descended on 10 Mile Creek for a final cleanup before summer. Larry Grunden and prospective member Bob Johnson laid waste to a goodly portion of the last blackberry patch along the creek while Pete Chorney finished the needed pruning along the trails. Klaus Lohse and Steve Rungee attacked canary grass, pulled berry roots and placed marker stakes near the new plants. This allowed me to go hide in the woods and take a nice nap. Seriously, thanks to this dedicated crew for their fine efforts. The creek area improvements are really taking shape and will soon become a source of pride for both the students and our club. On another note, my assistant Pete Lamb will be going in for major back surgery in a couple of weeks so let's all hold a good thought for his full recovery.

Dan Coombs, Conservation Chairman



"At midday, when the sun beats down on the forest, you often hear in its depths a sound like a long sigh, a plaintive cry that lingers into the distance. It is the last effort of the dying wind. Then all around you everything subsides into a silence so profound, a stillness so complete, that your soul feels penetrated by a sort of religious terror... How come it is that human languages, which find words for every sorrow, meet an insuperable obstacle when they try to express the sweetest and most natural emotions of the heart? Who can ever paint a faithful image of those moments, so rare in life, when physical well-being prepares you for mental peace, and before your eyes the universe seems to attain a perfect equilibrium? Then the soul, half asleep, balances between the present and the future, between the real and the possible; enveloped in the beauty of nature, breathing a mild and tranquil air, at peace with yourself in the midst of universal peace, you listen to the steady beating of your arteries, and each pulsation seems to mark the passing of time blowing drop by drop into eternity."

"Tocqueville's Discovery of America" by Leo Damrosch.

Program for the June Meeting

Jerry De Barker from the Whatcom Land Trust is the speaker for the program this month. The meeting is June 23rd.

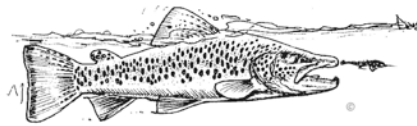
Dry fly is at 6:00 and the program is at 7:30.

If you need more information, contact Gary Jones.

gary-jones@comcast.net

"A trout stream should be approached with a degree of reverence, for practical as well as aesthetic reasons: if you jump out of the truck after five hours on the road and hop into the stream, you'll not only wade right through a pod of rising trout, but will probably fall down and get your ass wet, too."

John Gierach, "Trout Bum"



Education

Annual "Liam Wood" summer classes @ WWU.

6/20 - Monday, casting - 10:15 to 12:00 & - 6:45 to 8:00

6/27 - Monday, tying the Woolly Bugger - 10:15 to 12:00 & - 6:45 to 8:00

7/6 - Wednesday, tying the Elkhair Caddis - 10:30 to 12:00 & - 7:00 to 8:30

7/11 - Monday, tying the Hare's Ear Nymph - 10:30 to 12:00 & - 7:00 to 8:30

We are looking for 4 to 5 "good men" - to volunteer to help with these classes. Anyone interested and able to pitch in with either the AM the PM or both classes, please contact us.

Klaus Lohse at (360) 671-8453 or
Bill Hall at (360) 305-0161 -- NO
LATER THEN -- 6/17/11 please.

Your education co-chairs,
Bill & Klaus



Fishing Report

Went out for Ling Cod on opening day and we couldn't have asked for it to be more perfect. Except for maybe the boat battery not being dead. Pulling that motor cord hurts my boating arm. Three of us went out and we each got our limit, plus a bonus, Cabezon. In the picture, Eli is holding a 40 inch Ling, which was over the slot limit, so we had to put er back. He had hooked a 17" Ling and this big one chased it up, like a pit bull that couldn't release it's bite.

Caught a nice 12" Cut at Fragrance lake, which surprised me because I thought there were only little guys in there. This was the first time I'd fished this lake.

Toad Lake has been really fun to fish this year. I would still call the fishing a little slow for this lake,

but it is probably due to a cold Spring. And by slow, I mean 30 fish days, instead of 50 fish days. A slow troll with a medium sink line and any leechy, buggy looking thing will work. I've been relying on my go-to fly, it's a copy of the flesh fly pattern that Sid showed me, but with a green bunny strip and green yarn instead. John Morgan was kind enough to show me a new pattern that has worked on every lake I've gone to since. Saddle hackle in the front, green chenille, sparkle yarn for the body and a sparse black or green marabou tail. He said he couldn't take credit for it, but I can't remember who he said tied it. Sorry guys, I still get you all mixed up sometimes.

And I just returned from Leavenworth. Our condo/room was amazing. Pool, Hot Tub and catch and release fishing pond right out the back door. My daughter Audrey got the hang of casting her fly rod on her own and was the first to catch a fish. Later we got to see them stock the pond. A fish on every cast. It just wasn't fair, but oh so much fun!

We decided to jaunt over to Dry Falls before heading home. I only had two hours to spend on the lake but it was worth it. Fishing was really slow. Got four bites and missed every one! I saw 3 turtles sunning themselves on a rock and I had to interrupt their solitude and try to get a photo.

Tammy Findlay, *Website Editor 4th Corner Fly Fishers*



Doc Hackle's Fly Tying Corner

Well here is another fly I came up with, using stuff from my fly tying table. It was tested over on big twin lake during the last outing we had. It worked quite well there and so I thought it might be a good candidate for the Doc Hackle column. The credit for the name goes to my wife, who after I showed her the fly and said that I did not have a name for it yet, said "Table Scraps". So it shall be called;

Doc's Table Scraps:

Hook 2 or 3X Long nymph hook / Size #10 or #12
 Thread Olive Brown 8/0 or 70 Denier
 Tail Marabou feather from the rump of a olive dyed Partridge
 Rib Olive or green krystal flash
 Body Spirit River nymph blend, Light Olive
 Hackle Partridge hackle from down by the tail, dyed Olive
 Thorax Stillwater Solutions soft blends, Dark Summer Duck
 Eyes Black Ultra Chenille



STEP #1 De-barb the hook and place it in the vice. Now take your thread and anchor it on the hook and cut the tag end off. Now run the thread back to the bend of the hook which will be the Tail tie in point.

STEP #2 Now take from the section of the olive dyed partridge down near the tail and off to the side, a marabou feather with baring in it. Now tie it in on top of the hook at the bend by making 2 or 3 soft wraps then pulling straight down. Make several more wraps forward keeping the tail on top of the shank. Clip the excess tail material. It should be sparse and hook length.

STEP #3 Now run the thread back up to the hook eye.. Next take one strand of krystal flash and fold it around the thread. Now keeping the ends of the krystal flash even, run the thread back down the shank of the hook back to the tie in point of the tail, binding down the krystal flash on the near side as you go. At this point you will have two tag ends of krystal flash at the tail.

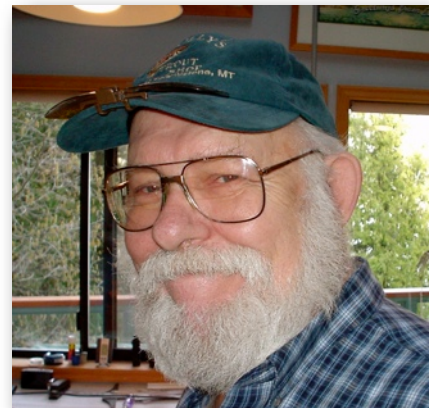
STEP #4 Now take your light olive dubbing and twist it on to the thread in a clock wise motion keeping the dubbing sparse. Now wrap the dubbing noodle up the shank two thirds of the way. Next take your ribbing and twisting the two strands clock wise wrap it up the body to the tie off point and tie it off. Clip the excess ribbing material from the fly.

STEP #5 Now take your partridge hackle and clean off any fluff from the bottom of the feather. Take the feather and tie it on the near side of the hook by the tip. Now as you start to wrap it fold it as you go making 2 to 3 complete wraps. Don't over do it.

STEP #6 Now take a short length of black ultra chenille and tie it off on top of the hook about two eye widths back from the eye. You do a figure eight tie on the eye material. Next take your Stillwater Solutions dark summer duck dubbing and spin it on the thread in a clock wise manner. Now figure eight the noodle around the eye material and then back to the hackle, then back up to the eyes building up a nice thorax ending up with just the thread in front of the eyes where you will whip finish the the thread tying it off. Clip the thread and also clip the eye's even with the thorax. Now add a drop of head cement to the tie off point to complete the fly.

NOTE; This fly was used at the Big Twin Outing with good success by a few of the club members so tie a few and try them at some of the local lakes.

Doc Hackle, A.K.A. Ed Ruckey



Koterba's June Culinary Corner

Grilled Salmon with Agave Mustard Vinaigrette

With all the great Alaskan (Copper River) Salmon available right now it's the perfect time to fire up the grill!

I prefer reds or sockeye salmon, because it has plenty of the fat needed to have good flavor and the fillets are more uniform in thickness. This helps keep the portion serving from being raw in the middle and overdone on the edges. I also trim off the belly of the fillet for the same reason. These can be grilled separately or they are great in the smoker.

One other key to grilling fish is to have a clean grate. Any deposits or crust on the grate will cause the salmon to stick.

Ingredients:

4 Salmon fillets (5 to 6 ounce size) with the skin on salt and pepper
2 tablespoons Whole Grain Mustard
1 tablespoon Dijon Mustard
2 ounces Red Wine Vinegar
1 tablespoon Agave Syrup or Honey (more if desired)
1/4 cup Olive Oil, plus more for brushing on fish before cooking

Directions:

*Before grilling or searing salmon, prepare vinaigrette:

*In a medium bowl whisk together mustards, vinegar and agave syrup or honey, slowly whisk in olive oil until mixture thickens. Finish with salt and pepper to taste.

*Prepare grill to medium-high heat. And oil it, wiping with a soaked paper towel and tongs.

*Brush both sides of salmon with olive oil, lightly season salmon with salt and pepper.

*Place the filets on the grill skin side up and turn down the heat to medium. Let it roast a a couple of minutes. Using the tongs gently shake the filets loose and turn over. Baste the filets with some of the vinaigrette do not use too much or it will flair up. Let continue to grill until you see the "milk" come up the sides of the filet. This is the protein changing as it cooks. Do not cook it until it flakes, that is way too long as the fish will continue to cook once the filet is removed.

Plate the fish on warm plates. Drizzle with Mustard Vinaigrette and serve hot.

Enjoy





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 Klaus Lohse (671-8453) or Frank Koterba (647-9715) 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.

June's Meeting

June 23, 2011

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"!

July's Board Meeting

July 5, 2011

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

4CFF Board Members

PRESIDENT: Lin Nelson

lin.nelson@comcast.net

Outings Chairman: Frank Koterba (647-9715)

fwkphotography@comcast.net

Secretary: Brian Faloon

bfaloon@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Larry Irwin (752-1506)

larryandbarb@comcast.net

Program Chairman: Gary Jones (425-239-4193)

gary-jones@comcast.net

Membership Chairman: Brian Faloon, Nathan Weston

Directors: Klaus Lohse, Sid Strong, Nathan Weston, and Ed Ruckey

Education, and Conservation.

Dan Coombs (398-1637)

djcmb@nas.com

Klaus Lohse (671-8453)

kpstnlohse@nas.com

WEBSITE

Tammy Findlay

tammy@bbaybrewery.com

Newsletter Editor

Sid Strong (220-0099)

swstrong@comcast.net

Raffle Chairman

Errol McWhirk, Craig Lang

Library

Susan Swetman

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 a lawn chair.

For more information, please contact the hosts.

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed in our club. Conservation projects, educational classes, and all chairman positions are always open for new and old members....including the "Newsletter Editor" position.

ATTENTION!!!

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.



4th CORNER FLY FISHERS



Aims and Purposes

The members of the 4th Corner Fly Fishers are united by our enjoyment of the sport of flyfishing 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 following are the aims and objectives as stated in our Constitution.

- To work for the betterment and preservation of angling waters and surrounding lands.
 - To promote the creation of fly only and/or quality fishing waters and encourage appropriate management of these waters.
 - To practice and advocate protection of the resource and the natural environment.
 - To improve the state-of-the-art of fly fishing and keep members informed of developments of interest.
 - To maintain high standards of membership by selecting as prospective members those persons who are dedicated to fly fishing, are good sportsmen, and are conservation oriented; and to temper organizational growth consistent with the maintenance of quality membership standards.
 - To develop and implement programs of education designed to encourage individuals of all ages to become fly fishers and better sportsmen.
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P.O. Box 1543
Bellingham, WA 98227

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

