

4th Corner Fly Fishers



4CFF MEETINGS CALENDAR



General Monthly Meeting

April 27, at Bellingham Golf and Country Club

Wet fly: 6:30 pm
Dinner: 7:15 pm
Auction begins: 8.00 pm

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

Virtual Board Meeting

May 2, 2023

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

4CFF Board Members, Chairs and Directors

- President:..... Steve Kopp
- External Vice President - Outings:..... Kevin McClurg
- Internal Vice President - Programs:..... Dean Bates
- Secretary:..... Paula Faulkner
- Treasurer:..... Frank Koterba
- Conservation Chair:..... Mike Riber
- Education Chair:..... Klaus Lohse
- Policies and Procedures:..... Hugh Lewis
- Website:..... Marion Hiller
- Newsletter:..... Jamie Harrington
- Raffle Chair:..... Susan Swetman
- Membership Chairs:..... Kevin Formway
- Directors:..... Mark Munn, Susan Swetman, Bill Rogers
- Events:..... Bob Cooper

President's Message

President's Corner

The days are now longer than the nights, and folks are back to catching a few fish in the Skagit, soon we'll be out there in short sleeves and sunglasses. A bit of a fallback Easter weekend being mostly dark and wet. It made for some realistic casting conditions this morning at Cornwall Park (*felt more like winter steelheading*). Marion and Frank were putting people through the Fly Fishers International Bronze and Silver casting courses. A few people earned Bronze last weekend, and a few Silver today, with more opportunities next weekend and in the future. See more about casting in the following pages.

Friday we had our first informal club happy hour at Kulshan, and more than 20 people turned out on short notice. The club will be inviting you all to more of these informal social gatherings in the future. No agenda or focus, just show up for some social time with fellow club members.

At the March meeting Jack Salstrom drew a good crowd. We had a larger number of people attend and pay for dinner than had registered which cut it really close on food. Since the kitchen is only cooking for the number of people we tell them (earlier in the week) are coming we need a pretty accurate count. So please sign up on Eventbrite, and sign up for more than yourself if you're bringing guests.

As club membership and member candidates are growing, and members are bringing guests, just a reminder that when you invite guests to an activity like an outing or conservation work project, please remember we need them to sign a liability waiver their first time.

This will be my last cast here in the President's Corner, its someone else's turn to step up on the bow and take a shot. Its been an honor and pleasure to serve as your president, and I want to thank everyone and especially the board for the support and help in navigating through the last few years as we all found a way to each balance our health risk and social desires. While many clubs are struggling to get membership to re-engage, you've all been great, and the strong turnout for happy hour last night and casting lessons this morning convinced me our club is strong. I'll continue to be active in the board and club focusing on wrapping up the results of the eNDA project, helping some stream access, and hopefully being out on the water with you more.

See you soon! Steve Kopp, President



Featured April Speaker

Marc and his love of Fall River and Fly Fishing

My love of fly-fishing began on Fall River, in Central Oregon. In my early years my parents and I traveled, in our travels stayed at many different places to fish. My dad and I did a lot of fishing together, and on one stop at Fall River Lodge I fell in love with fly fishing. My dad bought me a JC Higgins fly rod and reel. It's was the beginning of a life-long love affair with fly fishing.

While teaching in the Sandy School District, I got my start in the fly fishing industry at Stewart's Custom Tackle. In that time I taught fly tying classes from beginning to advanced. I instructed fly fishing seminars. In those seminars I did in-store demonstrations on knot tying, entomology, reading streams. I co-taught the on-the-river portion (with Doug Stewart) which covered instruction on casting and general fishing techniques.

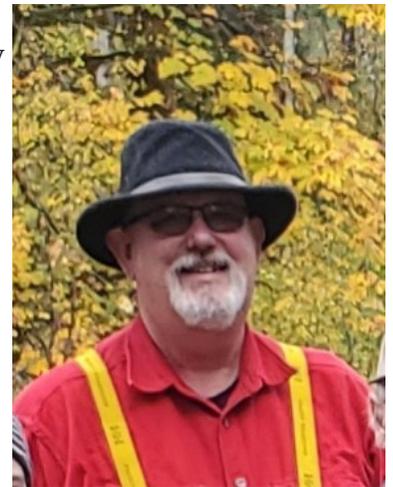
From those different opportunities I began doing presentations at fly fishing clubs, and shows. I currently present to fly fishing clubs and sportsman shows in Oregon and Washington.

Marc will be our Presenter for our April 27th meeting. Some others coming up are Leland Miyawaki for June 22nd, Domenick Swentosky for July 27th, and I think that Skip Morris will be our October presenter, though I'm waiting for a confirmation. I've got some other irons in the fire and am waiting for confirmation of those dates.

Thanks,

Dean Bates

Internal VP, Programs



Outings Report

4CFF Newsletter Outings Report April 2023

Greetings fellow fly fishers. We had our first outing at Pass Lake recently. The fishing was a bit slow, but we got into some fish and most were in the 16-18 inch range. I only got one, but it sure felt good to have a tug on my line. We had cool damp weather, however the rain was minimal. Frank made us his famous chili verde and it was fantastic. Thanks Frank! Ralph won the fly box raffle, which was kindly tied up for us by Ed Ruckey. Thanks Ed!

Additionally, thanks to all who came out for our 4CFF beer social event at Kulshan Brewing last Friday. We had a total of 20 people show up – a good showing for international beer day! The board is planning more of these events in the future at different locations around the area – stay tuned.

Upcoming outings and some additional potential events are listed below. Hope to see you on the water.

2023 Fishing Outings:

April 20 – 23rd, Dry Falls.

May 25 - 28th, Tunkwa and Leighton Lakes, BC.

June 23rd, Fazon Lake.

July 27 – 30th, Methow Classic.

August, small streams clinic and outing, date TBD.

August /Sept, fishing for Humpies on the Skagit. Date TBD.

September upper Skagit River (if road from Hope is open) vs Yakima River.

Also, some other potential outings that have been proposed include; Searun Cutthroat Trout fishing off Whidbey Island vs south Puget Sound, Kettle River WA and Chopaka Lake fall fishing. These outings would require that a member step forward to be the outing.

Cheers,

Kevin McClurg



Outings Report Pass Lake

Fun time was had by all!!!



Education Report

Casting

Hi folks,

Here's a great casting tidbit from Frank Koterba to help you and folks you might be trying to teach how to cast: <https://www.sexyloops.com/flycast/the-triangle-method/> Something to keep in mind when you start your morning routine of practicing fly placement and muscle memory (most of us can use that!).

Frank brought this clip to the attention of the Education group to use at Blaine Middle School tying and casting sessions with Ken Johnson's class.

We have been invited to teach casting and fly tying at the following events:

Blaine MS for after school classes with Ken Johnson.

Here are the class dates:

April 19, 26

The Silver Lake day will be May 13th.

Classes are from 3 to 5, on those dates.

We meet in town about 2:15 in the Sunset parking lot to carpool.

Anyone interested and willing to help, call Klaus (360) 739-1739

Lynden Christian Middle School

We have begun our planning for the 2023 6th Grade Outdoor Ed. Program.

Thursday, May 4, 2023 (9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

4 sessions of approximately 8 students

Mt. Baker Bibleway Camp

8444 Mt Baker Hwy. Deming, WA 98244

We would meet at the Sunset Parking lot at 8:00 to go up.

Anyone interested and willing to help, call Klaus (360) 739-1739

Treasurer's Report

April Treasurer's Report:

This year's roster is now set. Our club currently has 8 life, 45 single and 6 family memberships. We also have 6 member candidates. If you are on the roster you should receive 2 pdf file via email, the roster with the complete members info and a contact list with just names, phones and emails. If you did not receive them and think you should contact me below and I will pass it on to Kevin Formway who is now the keeper of the roster. It is also available on our website, <http://4thcornerfly.com/>, in the "members" section.

I want to thank everyone for the bringing the checks to cover the membership meeting dinners. It has helped. To keep the process evolving we are currently setting up to accept credit cards at the next meeting. There is one remaining issue. If you plan to attend or have a guest or even hear about someone who might attend a meeting, we need to know by the morning of the meeting. The kitchen will prepare enough for a few extra attendees. The last meeting 19 reservations and 25 attendees. That's a problem.

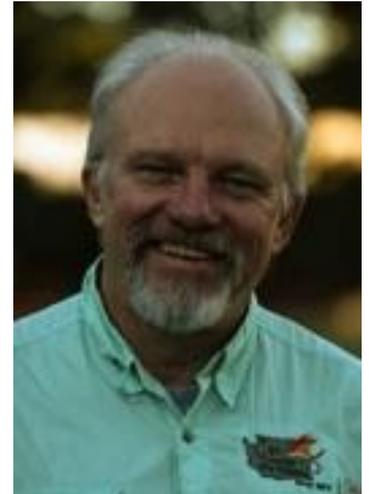
Everyone was gracious and we worked it out. As the meeting attendance grows, someone will get left out.

The members to contact are Bob Cooper, Dean Bates, or as a last resort me. (You can get their contact info via the roster.)

I look forward to seeing you at one of our **Casting Skills Development** events. Check Special Upcoming Events article in this issue for the details.

For all of the above you can reach me at 4thcornerfly@gmail.com

Frank Koterba,
4CFF Treasurer



Special Upcoming Events

4CFF Casting Skills Development Sessions

With a new fishing season approaching its time to get your gear in order. We (Marion Hiller our own Certified Instructor and I) suggest you add a casting tune up to the list! No matter what piscatorial pursuits you have planned this year, improving your casting will make all your other tools work that much better. Especially if you are venturing into a new fishery.

The current session is scheduled on:

Saturday, April 15.

Sessions start at 10:00 am and run to noon.

The location is Cornwall Park, 3424 Meridian St, Bellingham, WA

Use the southern entrance off Meridian St.

We will be setup in the field near the pickleball courts.

As a primary format, we will be using the FFI Casting Skills Development course. More detailed on the format is available at: https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Portals/0/LearningCenter/FCSD/FFI_FCSD_Program_Angler_Guide.pdf

We will be starting with the **Bronze** level and once everyone has had a chance to complete it, we are available to work on specific casting interests you wish to address.

There is also a description of the gear you should bring. We will have some of the club rods available as well.

Another opportunity (see next page) to get some casting work with some of the great instructors in the state is the **Casting Fair the Washington State FFI is hosting on April 29th**.

Class list and signup: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/washingtonflyfishersinternational/838754>

If you have questions, please email me at 4th-cornerfly@gmail.com

Frank Koterba



Special Upcoming Events

The Fly Casting and Fly Tying Fair offers learning opportunities.

For fly casting, **two all-day casting offerings** are held at "no charge" to participants. One is a **Walk-in Casting Clinic** with one-on-one casting help provided by certified instructors and/or instructor candidates.

The other is a **Casting Skills Development** program which provides the opportunity to evaluate casting skills when applied to realistic fishing situations targeting all anglers from new-beginners to advanced casters. Click **Casting Skills Development** for details about the program.

To highlight a few class offerings (requirements: registration, fee, and limited to a set number of students):

- ◆ A beginner's class to learn fundamental casts, getting the angler off to a great start.
- ◆ An advanced beginners-intermediate class for women to refine the fundamental skills of a PULD cast, a overhead cast, and accuracy casts and become a more efficient angler.
- ◆ An intermediate class offering a self-help methodology and understandings to self-correct casting errors when one sees the fly line misbehaving.
- ◆ An advanced caster class designed for anglers who want to really enhance their casting ability, which teaches techniques to see his/her and analyze his/her casting errors and learn how to fix them-note taking is highly encouraged.
- ◆ A two-handed Spey class for non-beginners who want to refine TH skills.

Classes and clinics include instructors from the greater Seattle area and Bellingham. Three members of our 4CFF are providing instruction throughout the day.

For Fly tying, tying opportunities in the main building are offered thought out the day, much like what you would see at a fly fishing show. It's an opportunity to watch fly tying demonstrations, to ask questions, and to gain insights to better your tying skills.

Note: Molly, Marion and Frank will be instruction at this event! Kudos Gang!!

Fly Fishers International and Mountlake Terrace Recreation



CASTING CLASSES
FLY TYING DEMOS AND TYING CLASSES
SPEY CASTING CLASSES
WALK-IN CASTING CLINIC
CASTING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Saturday April 29, 2023 9 am to 4 pm
Ballinger Park, Mountlake Terrace WA



Club COVID Protocols

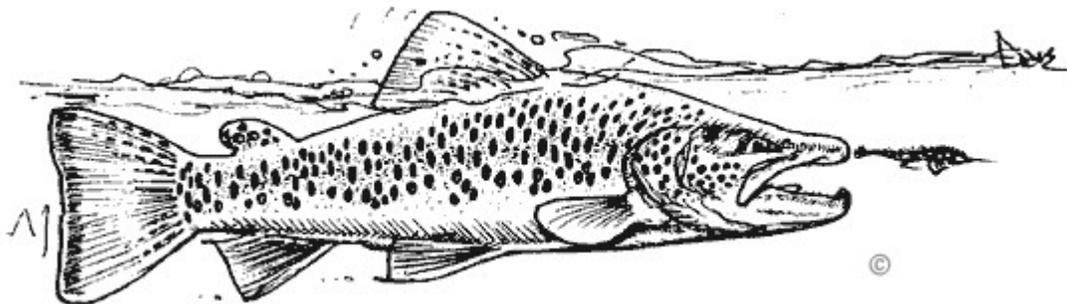
COVID Notification Guidelines:

We managed to go 3 years without a club event having a COVID transmission, and congratulate you all for that success. Following the February 23rd meeting three people tested positive, notified the board, and the club sent an email to all meeting attendees to inform them.

We didn't have a plan for how to handle this, but the board agreed we should. Our COVID notification guidelines will follow the pattern we used last month. We ask that if you test positive for COVID within 72 hours of a club event, that you notify the board immediately. The club will send an email to all attendees informing them someone tested positive who as at the event.

That email will include the email address of everyone at the event. This is to make it easy for anyone testing positive to reach out to others and let them know "*I was the person*" who tested positive. The club does not want to be in the position of sharing members' medical information so its up to you - if you choose to reach everyone who was there and say "*it was me*", or just those who you spent time in close proximity, or no one.

Fingers crossed this is all moot and may never happen again, but at least now we have a plan.





4CFF Activities



Conservation Projects

Conservation is the cornerstone of our club. Projects are continually being added to our calendar. The only thing that is needed is the willingness to give something back to the resource will all love.

Contact Mike Riber to sign up to be put on the list of volunteers.

Fly Tying Sessions

Fly tying sessions are constantly being held. Whether you're an expert or just beginning, please join us. Check our website <http://www.4thcornerfly.com> for dates, times, and locations. R.S.V.P.'s are required.

Education Classes

We need Volunteers to help teach fly tying and fly casting at various places throughout the year. Even if you have tied for a little while, your presence is needed. Please contact

Klaus Lohse if you wish to participate.

Outings

Our club has a constant list of fantastic outings every month. We also have smaller outings for those who can only make it on the weekends. For a list of outings, their dates, and locations, please check out our website <http://www.4thcornerfly.com>.

Kevin McClurg is our present Outings Chairman.

If you are new to fly fishing, our club has fly rods, reels, and fly tying equipment available for use. Also, if you attend ANY outings, it's wise to bring your own lawn chair.

(it's better than a rock or a tailgate.)

For more information, please contact the outing hosts.

Volunteers are ALWAYS needed in our club. Conservation projects, educational classes, and all chairman positions are always open for new and old members.

It is the responsibility of ALL members for ALL of the outings to obey ALL local, state, and national regulations. We represent an outstanding conservation and fishing club. Let's set a great example to ALL.

All entomology sketches are drawn by Jack Salstrom, Member of the FCFF. All Fly illustrations are drawn by Ed Ruckey taken from, "Diary of Northwest Trout Flies" by local author and FCFF Member Dan Homel