

The Puget Sound Flyfishers News

January 2010



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Our Next Meeting is...

Thursday, January 14, 2010

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

**DON'T FORGET, THE JANUARY GENERAL
MEETING WILL BE AT THE
GREAT AMERICAN CASINO
ON SOUTH TACOMA WAY.**

Address is 10117 South Tacoma Way, Lakewood

See the map on page 4

Leaders Line

By Al Bessette

WOW!! I am writing this on New Years Day 2010. Doesn't that date seem like something out of a futuristic Sci-fi movie? I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday.

PSFF closed 2009 with the two great classes. Paul Elsberry did a fabulous job teaching a class on leaches. Twenty four PSFF members participated in this extremely well done class. We are very lucky to have folks in our club, like Paul, who are willing to share their vast fishing experience with the rest of us. We also had a great turnout for the casting class at the ShowPlex. A total of 16 people showed up, and took advantage of this wonderful venue, to do some winter casting practice. Special thanks to Les Rosenthal, Carl Zarelli and Chuck Tye for providing expert instruction. Very special thanks to Bob Carlson for getting the ShowPlex for us. Bob has arranged another class at the ShoPlex in February.

The Elks saga continues. The Friday before Christmas, eight PSFF members showed up to help move the cabinet from the Elks. After loading all the stuff from the cabinet into trucks and removing the anchors from the floor (which yours truly did incorrectly, according to Carl), one of the senior board members from the Elks approached us. He assured us that the Elks had worked things out with National and that they were off probation. I was aware that their real estate deal had fallen thru and brought that issue up. He assured us, that despite that, they were on the road to recovery. Obviously, we all would like to see them survive. A few of us on the board, who have been in business for many years, recognize a struggling business. The Elks is a struggling business with a steep hill to climb. With that in mind, I told the gentleman we would consider staying if we

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PSF Website Address: <http://www.psff.org>

Board of Directors Meeting

Please check the PSFF Website Calendar for the most up to date info regarding the next PSF Board meeting <http://www.psff.org>

Leaders Line Continued

received a letter, from the head of the board, assuring us that we would receive 30 days notice prior to closing. I also required them to provide names and phone numbers of senior members, with keys, so we could get our cabinet out. Based on that requirement being fulfilled, the PSFF board has approved us staying starting in February. With that, eight of us took everything out of the trucks and put it back in the cabinet. We then adjourned to Shari's for well deserved coffee, sweet rolls and a lot of good B.S...

DON'T FORGET, THE JANUARY GENERAL MEETING WILL BE AT THE GREAT AMERICAN CASINO ON SOUTH TACOMA WAY.

In our By-Laws, three of the goals and objectives in our club are to encourage and support conservation, enhance the quality of sports fishing and education. In recent years we have done that by donating money. Although, I hope we will have the financial means to continue to do that, we now have an opportunity to accomplish part of that goal with the states money. Washington Fish and Wildlife now have grants available to accomplish. They provide money for materials and equipment and the requesting organization provides the labor. PSFF is now involved in pursuing two such grants. Carl Zarelli is working, on our behalf, with the Clover Creek Council to obtain a grant to replace an old rusting chain link and barbwire fence on Chambers Creek with a new one. The goal is to create a viewing area for the public to watch the salmon run up the creek. Dick Kuykendall, along with Carl and me, on behalf of PSFF, is applying for a grant to build a permanent concrete toilet and improve the road at Cady Lake. Both these projects may sound ambitious, however, because of the expertise we have in the club and access to trades and materials they can be accomplished in 3 or 4 Saturday's. I believe these are two projects that we all would be very proud of.

Finally, I want to wish you all prosperous, happy and healthy New Year.

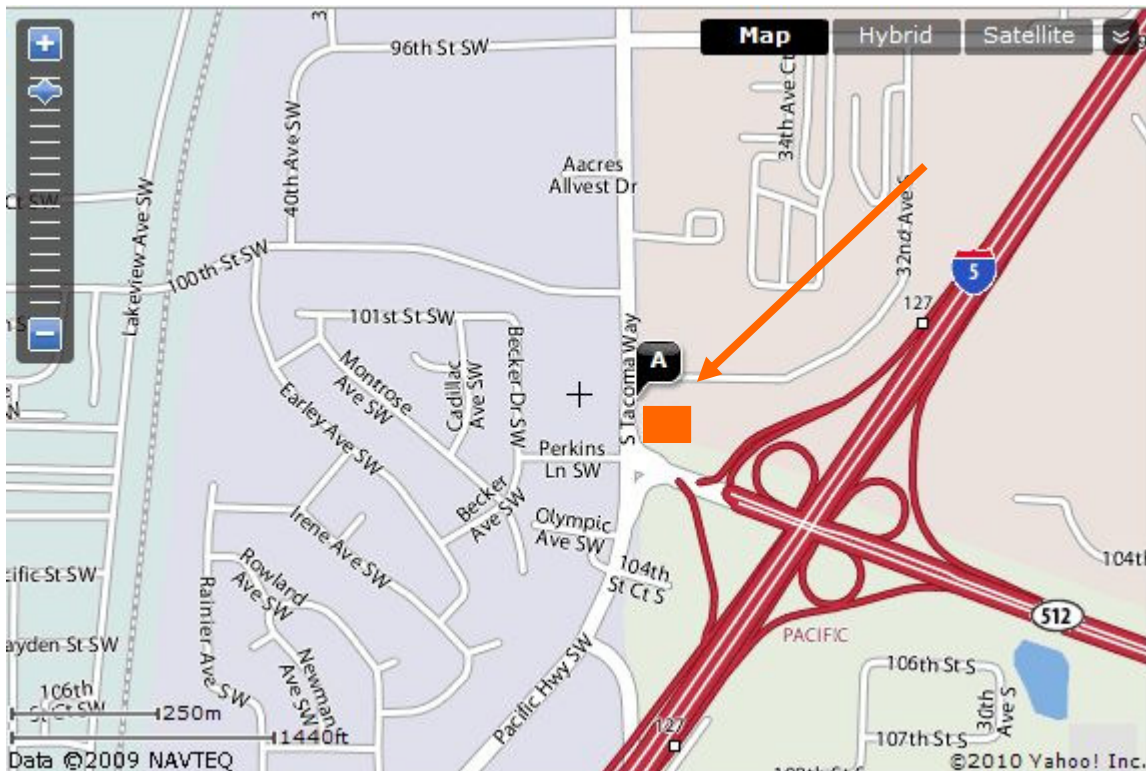
Good Fishing,

President Al

Membership Dues Are Due NOW!!!!
Dues are \$40.00 per year for an individual and a family membership is \$60.00 per year

The **Great American Casino** is the location for our January meeting.

The address is **10117 South Tacoma Way**, Lakewood. You can come in from either 512 or I-5, but the traffic will be heavy. Our you can drive by the location going south on South Tacoma Way then make a left into one of several locations on Pacific Hwy SW and head back north. Map by Yahoo Maps.



Newsletter Article Deadlines

I have been asked to post the newsletter article deadline dates.

These will always be on a **Sunday** and the deadline time will always be **4:00 PM**.

- January 31st for February 2010
- February 28th for March 2010

\$\$\$ Don't forget \$\$\$

Be sure to wear your badge to the club meetings, or it could cost you a dollar!

Quote Of The Month

Fishing books, lit by emotion recollected in tranquility, are like poetry... We do not think of them as books but as men. They are our companions and not only riverside. Summer and winter they are with us and what a pleasant company they are.

Arthur Ransome

The Fisherman's Library (1959)



Dave & Emily Whitlock Clip Art

I want to thank Dave Whitlock for some of the clip art used in this newsletter. Check out Dave and Emily's web site at: www.davewhitlock.com

PSFF Yahoo Group

Join the PSFF Yahoo Group. This site is there to discuss the club and / or fishing issues.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PSFF>

FFF Fly Tying Corner

FFF Fly of the Month

January 2003

KNICKERS

By Bob Bates and Chad McPartland



Materials List

Hook: Dai-Riki 135, or equal, sizes 10-16

Weight: Brass bead

Thread: Black Uni 8/0

Rib: Medium amber v-rib

Body: Gold Mylar tinsel

Dubbing: Olive brown, Hairline Ice Dubbing

Herl: Brown ostrich

Hackle: Hungarian partridge

Collar: Peacock herl

This pattern by Chad McPartland, San Luis Obispo, CA, has a proven track record. It is responsible for hooking fish in dozens of waters. A few that Chad talked about while he was tying the pictured fly were: Madison River (browns and rainbows); Quake Lake (rainbows); waters around San Luis Obispo, California; Manzanita Lake in northern California and even the Snake River. There were always people around his tying table at the 2002 FFF Show in Livingston, MT. One of the reasons was the great bug he was tying with a good dialog of how to do it. Another, he gave out a printed materials list and tying instructions, which makes reporting on his fly easy.

There are several ways to fish this fly. In lakes some anglers use a full sink or sink tip line, cast and let the fly sink to where the fish might be. Then use a slow hand twist retrieve until a fish hits or you are ready to cast again. Some say that if you don't drag up a few weeds once in a while you are not letting it sink long enough. However, you don't want too many weeds and the fish might not be on the bottom, so the key is to experiment when necessary. Another way is to fish it on a strike indicator called "chironomid fishing" by some and denigrated by others as "bobber fishing." Decide how deep you want to the fly, attach a strike indicator to the leader at that distance, cast, let the fly sink and relax while you watch the strike indicator. Most of the time when a fish hits the indicator goes down forcefully, and you can set the hook with a sweeping arm motion. Sometimes it goes down an inch and pops up; then a quick set as the indicator starts down is worth a try. Fluorocarbon is a popular leader material because it sinks fast and is almost invisible in water. The strike indicator may be yarn; stick-on, flexible-foam patches; a variety of hard foam floats with or without tooth picks or a little corky with a tooth pick.

Streams provide many opportunities to use Kinckers. If fish are occasionally taking bugs on the surface the double team them. Attach a dry fly to the main tippet, and suspend a Knickers under it. Dead drift the flies as long as you can. If the fly does anything strange (stop, move sideways or sink) strike. It could be only a rock but it also could be an 18- to 20-inch brown. At the end of the dead drift let the flies swing, lower the rod and lift up. Spend a little time with the flies hanging below you. Sometimes fish will hit after the fly hangs there for a few seconds. If there is no hope for a surface take then use a strike indicator. The usual rule for length of leader between the floating fly or indicator and the wet fly is: Use a leader that is twice as long as the desired depth for the wet fly.

Continued on Page 5 —————▶

Tying Steps

1. Pinch barb
2. Put on bead. An easy way to do it is hold the hook in pliers, and scoop it through the beads. He learned this from Britt Phillips.
3. Attach thread on front third of hook, wind thread base rearward to half way around bend and spiral thread forward stopping a bead's width back from bead.
4. Attach v-rib on top of hook tightly, pull v-rib to stretch it and wind thread over it to past the bend.
5. At back of hook tie in ostrich herl, dubbing loop and tinsel. Wind thread forward stopping a bead's width from bead.
6. Wrap tinsel forward, secure and trim. Make a sparse dubbing loop and spiral it forward in wide open turns. You only want to tone down the flashy tinsel. Trim excess material.
7. Pull ostrich herl forward, make one wrap of v-rib behind herl and one in front of it to lock herl in. Spiral v-rib forward leaving space between wraps. Secure last wrap with four turns of thread. Trim excess. Leave plenty of room behind bead for more material.
8. Spiral ostrich herl forward in the gaps of v-rib, secure and trim excess.
9. Prepare the hackle by pulling off any fluffy fibers, and secure to hook by the stem so barbs curve toward rear of hook when wrapped, make 1-1/2 turns of hackle, secure and trim excess.
10. Attach peacock herl, wrap forward a turn or two against the bead, secure and trim excess.
11. Whip finish head, trim thread and add a drop of head cement if you want the added security.

Now is a good time to start practicing with this pattern. If you are in the northern areas, midges will hatch any time there is open water. Sometimes that is why there is such good catching just off an ice shelf. If you are in a more moderate climate there might be enough activity for some real fishing. This is the kind of pattern that will work almost anytime and anywhere. (We say "almost" because thankfully there are no absolutes in fishing.)

In The FFF Corner

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org>

—FFF Annual Fly Fishing Fair 2010 —

This used to be called the Conclave but we are changing the image and going with the Fair. The location for 2010 will be in West Yellowstone, Montana. The dates are August 23 – 28. More information will be posted to the site in the coming months. Mark your calendars!

About Our WSCFFF

www.washingtoncouncilfff.org

By Larry Gibbs

Washington Fly Fishing Fair

Washington State Council Federation of Fly Fishers

Ellensburg, WA April 30-May 1, 2010

Friday: 11:00 am- 5:00 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Our highlighted personalities this year are Brian O'Keefe and Skip Morris

Library Corner

by Mike Clancy

I have not purchased any new items for the library in 2 months. If we do return to the Elks in February, I have a couple of items on my list for new purchases. One is a new book published by Phil Rowley that really looks good. I would sure like to change all the VHS tapes to DVD, but it looks like some of them can not be copied. So we'll have to consider buying new DVD's.

If you have some items that are really late, and you can not make it to the next meeting, give me a call and we'll make arrangements for someone to pick them up.

I will have the library at our next meeting on January 14th at the casino. See you there.
You can contact me at 360-753-1259 or mtclancy@earthlink.net Mike

January Program

Mark Rutherford

Disabled Fly Casters.

Mark spent the past couple years preparing to take significantly disabled fly fishers on wilderness fly fishing trips. He got the bugs worked out and took a paraplegic fly fisher and a fly fisher with a prosthetic leg out on a week long trip in AK last summer.

It turns out the story is pretty inspirational in it's own right, as the participants were super motivating to be around.

Mark Rutherford

Wild River Fishing Guides Co.

Scientists have confirmed that Capitol Lake in Olympia is infested with aquatic invasive New Zealand mudsnails, prompting state agencies to seek the public's help in containing the destructive invaders. A notice from the WSCFFF website.

Membership Dues Are Due NOW!!!!

Individual Membership — \$40

Family Membership — \$60



Five Rivers Sweepstakes Continues

By Larry Gibbs

The Five Rivers Sweepstakes has been EXTENDED! You still have a chance to win a trip to Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT and a chance at the grand prize - a trip to Cinco Rios Lodge in Chile.

The Five Rivers Sweepstakes has been extended due to economic conditions.

The drawing will be held on March 15, 2010. Tickets must be postmarked by February 28th, 2010 to be eligible.

Please support the FFF's ongoing efforts in conservation and education by purchasing a ticket.

To purchase tickets and for more information on the Sweepstakes



Membership Dues Are Due NOW!!!!

Individual Membership — \$40

Family Membership — \$60

Book Review

Taken from the FFF ClubWire (December 2009)

Modern Midges

by Rick Takahashi & Jerry Hubka

Headwater Books, New Cumberland, PA, 2009

(Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA, 2009)

282 pages, hard spiral bound, illustrated, color and B&W

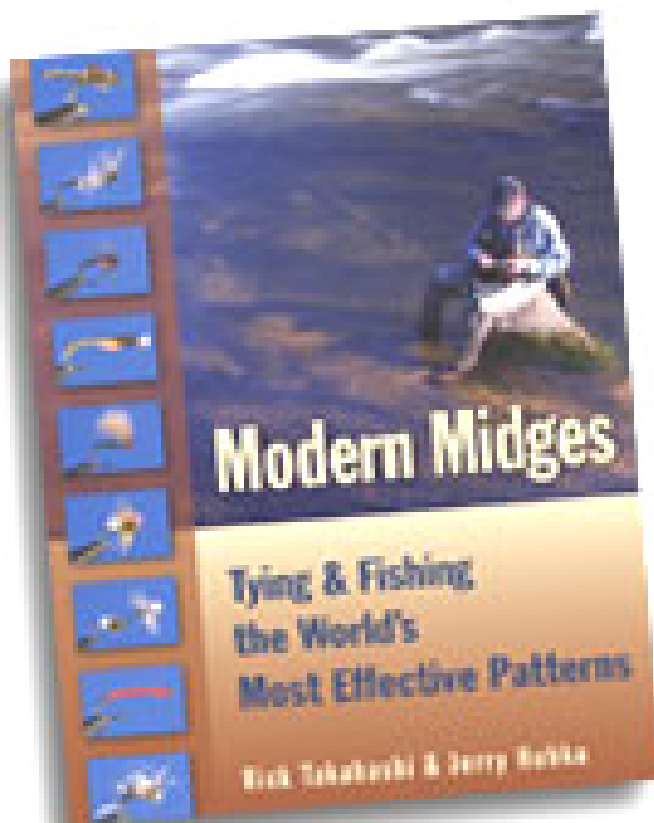
Suggested price \$39.95

This well written and illustrated book may be the most comprehensive "midge" book to date. The design and layout of the book are very fly tyer friendly. The book starts out with an introductory chapter giving a good overview of what midges are to the fly fisherman, why they are important to fly fishing, and an overview of the midge life cycle to give the fly fisherman a good basis for successfully tying and fishing midge patterns. The rest of the book is broken down into two major parts and concludes with a well presented fly pattern index.

The first major part of the book is directed to tying midge patterns for all of the life stages of this important fish food source. In each life stage; larva, pupa, emerger (not a scientific life stage but a stage important to fly fishermen), and adult the book is broken down into a lead chapter giving detailed step-by-step tying instructions for the major fly styles for each stage. For example in the Larva stage there is presented tying instructions for thread bodied larva, D rib larva, and latex larva patterns. This is followed by a comprehensive list of larva patterns from all over the world.

The second major part of the book comprises twenty three sections each written by very experienced midge pattern fly fishermen on various topics concerned with successfully fishing midge patterns in flowing and still waters all over the world.

The book is bound in a spiral bound hard cover which allows easy use on the tying bench as it lays open flat on the table. The writing is well done and easy to read and understand. The editing is excellent and the photography and illustrations is top notch. The value of this well done book to the fly fisherman is far higher than the purchase price.



January / February

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					January 1 2010	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 PSF Club Meeting @ Casino	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Washington	28 Sportsmen's	29 Show	30 Puyallup
31 Show Ends	February 1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 PSF Club Meeting @ Tacoma Elks	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

\$\$\$ Don't forget \$\$\$
Be sure to wear your badge to the club meetings, or it could cost you a dollar!

————— **In the Future** —————

Washington Sportsmen's Show, Puyallup.....January 27 thru 31, 2010
 Showplex Casting.....To Be Announced.....February, 2010
 NW Fly Tyers Expo, Albany, Oregon.....March 12 & 13, 2010
 Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA.....April 30 & May 1, 2010

Want some dates posted here for future events?
 Let me know and I will plug them in!! Larry Gibbs

Tips

Taken from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

Taken from the December 2009 FFF ClubWire

ARE YOU A SLACKER?

Improve your casting.....eliminate slack! Start your pickup with the rod tip close to the water with the fly line in a straight line with the rod. Before your backcast unrolls completely, begin your forward cast. Waiting too long will unload the rod and slack will occur. Slack should never occur between your line hand and the stripping guide. Practice false casting while first watching the rod tip and then your hands. Pat Damico

ALIGN YOUR RODS THE EASY WAY

After you assemble your fly rod, do you have to spend several minutes getting the guides lined up perfectly? Unless your rod has alignment dots, you probably twist each section a tad, and then sight down the rod to see if the guides are providing a perfect path for your fly line. Sometimes, if the sections are already fully pushed together, you risk distorting the guides while trying to make a small twisting adjustment. An easier way is to apply your own alignment dots to the rod sections. This is not difficult, and only has to be done once.

My method is to make two properly spaced small round holes in a short piece of plastic electricians tape using a leather punch. Then, having assembled and aligned the rod sections carefully by eye, I apply the punched tape straddling the joint on the side opposite the guides. I then apply a dab of paint or fingernail polish of contrasting color to the rod blank at each punched hole. After the paint dries, I strip off the tape and viola!...the problem is solved. If I am off a bit, I just remove the bad dots with a bit of solvent and redo the job. Usually, though, that is not necessary.

It pays to make sure that the rod surfaces are cleaned carefully, so the paint will adhere permanently. I have used white and silver paint from automobile touchup pens, available at hardware or automobile part stores, but any paint that will adhere to the rod surfaces should work. Be sure to put the tape down firmly so there are no air gaps near the punched holes.

Also, be aware that the tape adhesive can be attacked by solvents in the paint, so use only enough paint to do the job, or use a water-based paint that is not water sensitive after drying. A little experimentation will get you going, and you probably already have the necessary stuff at your workbench or in the garage. Dick Miekka

Three Tips From Robert Fischer

Taken from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

Taken from the September 2009 FFF ClubWire

FINGER PROTECTOR

Aggressive stripping works well with searching patterns like spoon flies, poppers and glass minnows. However, when I strip the fly aggressively I often cut a groove in the long finger of my rod hand, even when wearing a glove. A low cost and effective solution is to buy a roll of waterproof foam tape from CVS Drug Store (about \$3 in the first aid section). The one inch tape is very flexible and lasts about 4 hours before wearing out. The best way to use it is to cut a piece about 4" long and fold it around the joint of your stripping finger. Allow the excess to come together on the top of your finger and stick the two sticky faces to each other. This makes a strong connection that won't work loose after being wet and bending.

GET A GRIP

Another help when casting a lot is to use a glove on your rod hand to grip the rod better. Especially when your hand gets wet and when you're using a heavy rod, the glove gives you better control and more power. The best and most comfortable I've found so far is a Spalding baseball glove. Some of the rubber faced mechanics gloves or tennis gloves would probably work as well.

STRETCH YOUR FLY LINE

Stretching the line before casting is really important. When fishing from a boat, I often let the line out behind the boat about 1/2 mile before getting to the first fishing spot and just hang on. The weight of the line dragging through the water pulls the curls out and when you strip it back in, it is in the "right" order on the deck. (Don't do this if your boat goes 50 MPH.) Robert Fischer

Puget Sound Flyfishers

Club was founded in 1956 and has a long and proud history of involvement, action, camaraderie, and fun. The club's website is located at <http://www.psff.org/>

Aims and Purposes of the Club Are:

1. To improve and encourage the sport of flyfishing by social, educational, and political means.
2. To encourage flyfishing and other selective fishing techniques as a means of conservation and increasing fishing opportunity.
3. To encourage the conservation, enhancement, and quality of sport fishing.
4. To promote "Sportsmanship" in all aspects of club and individual activity.
5. To aid in the eradication of pollution and other practices destructive to fisheries.
6. To actively assist and encourage the public to become flyfishers, and to adopt the club's philosophies.

General Membership Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (**except August**). These meetings are for social, entertainment, and educational purposes.

Educational Activities: The club offers classes and instruction in fly fishing, fly-tying, fly-casting, and rod building. The club has an extensive library of books and videos. The club sponsors an annual Spring Clinic to promote flyfishing.

Outings: The club organizes monthly outings to various lakes, rivers, and estuaries. Experienced ghillies provide expert information and instruction on how, when, and where to fish.

Conservation Activities: The club has a long and proud history of encouraging flyfishing (and other selective fishing techniques) as a means of conserving and increasing fishing opportunities. The club is active in many of the important conservation issues of the day and in helping to fund local conservation projects.

Membership/Dues: Membership is open to anyone 18 or over. Dues are \$40.00 per year (Spousal/Family \$60.00 per year), plus a one-time \$10.00 Initiation Fee.

Affiliations: The club is an active member of the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers.



Puget Sound Flyfishers

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED