

# Puget Sound Fly Fishers

*August 2014*



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*The "Dog Days" of Summer  
Warmwater fishing anyone?*

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No meeting in August!

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## **The Leader Line**

By  
**Chuck Tye**

I have to tell you that we all had a great time on at the club picnic on Deep Lake at Nolte State Park. Gene Jackson did a great job setting up the event and orchestrating the lunch and the boat sampling. Robert and Carroll did a great job running the fly casting event and in my eyes everyone was a winner despite the heat. Thanks to all that showed up for the day.

Don't forget there is no general meeting this month but there is the Coldwater Campout 15-18 August. Hope to see everyone there.



# DSFF NEWS

*Our Next Meeting*  
Thursday, September 11th  
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM  
Tower Lanes Entertainment Center  
6323 6th Ave.

No August meeting, so no program

# FFF EVENTS



## *FFF Events in 2014*

**International Fly Fishing Fair, Livingston, Montana**  
August 5th through 9th, 2014  
Info - <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/FlyFishingFair.aspx>

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## Outings News and Updates By Gene Jackson

Well the 2014 PSFF Annual Picnic was a success. While I appreciate "Thank You's" that have come my way, the real thanks go to the PSFF members and their families. There were over 60 folks from the club that made the drive "to the country" for this year's picnic. So here is my THANK YOU for all those that helped and participated in the various activities throughout the day.

For those that could not attend this year, we missed you. Here is a little of what you missed:

On the fishing front, quite a few folks tried their luck chasing Largemouth Bass. Here are the highlights:

- Top Fisherman went to Kevin and Catherine's grandson Adrian (sp?). While the old folks went all over the lake chasing bass, Adrian took his spinning rod and a lure and landed two nice Largemouths right in front of the picnic shelter!
- Largest fish honors went to Thomas for an 8" bass. Ruben and Thomas both confirmed that Thomas also had a 3 lb bass to the boat but it was not netted. An even larger bass was trying to eat the 8" bass while Thomas was reeling it in. Their best guess on size of that fish was over 5 lbs!
- Most fish caught went to Les. He landed two bass, two perch, and one trout.
- Best looking fish went to Chuck. Since he did not catch a single fish, I am confident the one he pictured in his mind was a beauty!

On the "Sample the Boats" activity, there was a wide array of fishing vessels on the beach to test. Larry's sit on top kayak, a Nucanoe Frontier, appeared to be the most popular. Thanks to all that provided equipment for fellow members to try out! Getting all the equipment to the lake was not a simple task but it was very much appreciated.

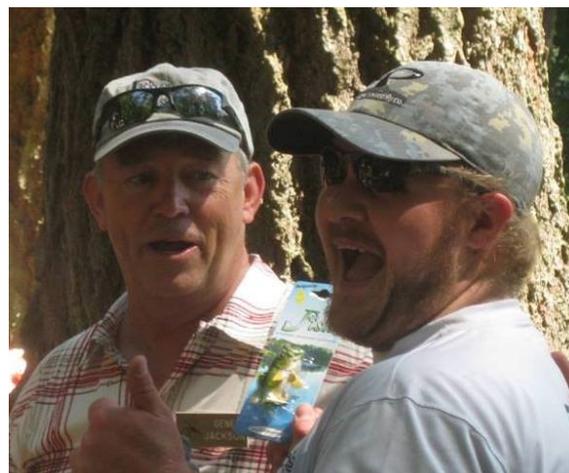
On the food front, WOW, we had a ton of great food! As usual at any PSFF event, we had way more food than was necessary. However, also as usual, our members did their best to consume all of it! OK folks, don't forget all those promises to get out and exercise today.

On the kid's activities, Catherine and her friend Kim, did an outstanding job keeping the kids smiling, laughing, and having a great time all day long. As much as the kids enjoyed it, I am sure there were quite a few of us older folks that really enjoyed seeing the kids having such a great time.

Last but not least, the Fly Casting Challenge was very well done. Robert out did himself putting together a nice course. All types of "casters" came out to test their skills. There were those who really needed to work on watching their back cast, those that struggled to understand that there is a time and place for a pile cast, those that blamed the equipment, and those that seemed to accept defeat before they started --- and that was just in the "Expert" class! Here are the results:

- Novice class winner - Mary Anne Jimerson
- Intermediate class winner - Dennis Ehlers
- Expert class winner - Thomas Lamphere

Once again, thanks to all that came out. The day reminded me of the family unions back in South Georgia that were such a big part of my life growing up. While I don't have any "blood" family out here, I sure do enjoy spending time with my "PSFF" family!



## **Raffle News**

By Bev Simpson

There's no meeting in August, so be ready for some fun in September! We will be drawing the winner of the beaver skin, perhaps the TFO rod as well, currently 80% sold; raffle items will include a set of Classic float tube fins. Help yourself to some peacock feathers and, of course, to one of our gourmet cookies.

See you then!

### **Nominations of Officers and Board of Directors**

Just like Uncle Sam, Puget Sound Fly Fishers wants you to consider a leadership position in the club for 2015. There is currently an opening for a 1st Year Director since Bob Jimerson has agreed to run for the Vice President position. The remaining Officers and Directors are willing to continue serving but will need your confirmation at the Election of Officers during the September meeting. But don't let their incumbency lull you into complacency! If you have an interest in running for any position let the Nominating Committee know.

Your club has been making great strides in programs, outings, conservation and outreach due to the passion and interest of its members. Be a part of that movement and share in the fun.

Nominating Committee;  
Dan Carlton; [dbcarter@wavecable.com](mailto:dbcarter@wavecable.com)  
Paul Elsberry; [prelsberry@aol.com](mailto:prelsberry@aol.com)  
Catherine Jones; [kwon1962@yahoo.com](mailto:kwon1962@yahoo.com)

In addition to the elected positions there are many volunteer committees available for you to work with;

- Programs, •Education, •Conservation, •Library,
- Raffle, •Membership



# HOT SCOOP

## Classifieds

The academy has acquired several new rods that have been donated to the academy. There are several rods in weights 7 to 10 and 3 to 4 that are not suitable for the academies use. We are offering these rods to the PSFF membership for a minimum donation of \$75 except as marked otherwise.

### 2 Piece Rods

- 1-Fenwick BCF908-2 - 9' - 8 WT.
- 1-Fenwick GFF854-2 - 8'-6" - 4 WT.
- 1-Fenwick GFF857 - 8'-6" - 7 WT.
- 2 - Fenwick GFF858 - 8'-6" - 8 WT.
- 1 - Fenwick GFF903 -2 - 9' - 3 WT.
- 1 - PacBay PRF904 - 9' - 4 WT.
- 1 - Fenwick WF704-2 - 7' - 4 WT.
- 1- JD Hill 907 - 9' - 7 WT Best Offer
- 1- PacBay TRF908 - 9' - 8 WT.
- 1 - PacBay PRF908 - 9' - 8 WT.
- 4 - PacBay 9' - 8 WT.
- 1 - PacBay 9' - 10 WT.

### 3 Piece Rods

- 1- Martin - 8' 5/6 WT. Best Offer

### 4 Piece Rods

- 1-TFO IM6 Graphite - 9' - 4 WT.
- 1 - TFO IM6 Graphite - 9' - 6 WT.
- 1- TFO IM6 Graphite - 8' - 4 WT.

If you are interested in one or more of these rods please contact me at [brosioj@q.com](mailto:brosioj@q.com) and I will bring the rod or rods to a PSFF meeting for you to look at before purchasing. The sale of these rods will go towards purchasing new camp rods for the academy. I will not be available for the September meeting . Contact Mike Clancy [mtclancy39@comcast.net](mailto:mtclancy39@comcast.net) and he will bring the rods to the September meeting. Rods will be sold on a first come first serve basis.

## New Members

James Timson  
Welcome!

## Library Report

By Galen Hansen

There are currently 10 items that are overdue from the library. Please make sure that any materials you check out of the library are returned within the 2 month time period.

Thanks to the generosity of Ed Poppleton, I will be adding 2 new books to the club library at the September meeting. They are...

1. Darwins Bass – The Evolutionary Psychology of Fishing Man by Paul Quinnett. Sporting Classics magazine says "Great Humor and good insight...Dr. Quinnett explores 'The essence of fly fishing and why we all love it so.'"
2. Fishing Lessons – Insights, Fun and Philosophy from a Passionate Angler – This book is made of scores of short chapters...all very entertaining. The forward is by his friend Patrick McManus so you know it's going to be entertaining and worth a read. Check it out.

Both of these books are very entertaining; their titles do not do justice to the content.

I'm still seeing that a number of you continue to use the incorrect format on the library cards. Please use the format of Month/Year to avoid the confusion that is caused by those that utilize month/day...or even, as I've noticed on a few, day/year. All compliance with the month and year standard is much appreciated.

The library is set up before the meeting and is available until we break before the speaker. Please stop by and check out what is available and utilize this valuable resource.

**Only** club members that are current on their dues are eligible to check out materials from the library. Only 3 items may be checked out at one time. Someone that is apparently not a member of the PSFF checked out 3 items awhile back and I'm in the process of attempting to contact the individual.

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## **PJ's TIPS**

Tying Tip -

Pass the wine my friend.

Not a wine drinker? Then hit up your friends. Save your old wine bottle corks. Not only do they make a nice lanyard but they are invaluable on the tying bench. What do you do with that tied fly when the whip finish is done but the head is not quite dry and you want to start the next one? Most of us just throw it on the bench to be gathered up at the end of the session, right? Get organized! Make a flat side on the cork so it won't roll around and you have a perfect place to stick your fly so it finishes drying and is handy for gathering up later. You also can easily count how many you've finished..... flies, not bottles!

# Fly Fishing on The Edges

## By Bob Triggs

*Out on the edges of things, along the boundaries and borders, in the little in-between spaces, and in the least likely of waters, sometimes life's best lessons come as a surprise.*



*Perhaps we are simply fishing for our own lost innocence.*

**Most of us started out our fishing lives with the idea that we had to get right to the center of it all, in the honey hole, the jackpot hole. We had to know where the fish were.** And we fished aggressively and hard. We had to catch all of the fish that we possibly could. And some of us did. Especially on bait. Once we moved on to fly fishing, things changed. Along with decades of over fishing, pollution toxicity, development and loss of wild fish habitats, many of the best, good old places had lost much of their charm, and most of their wild fish runs. In many once prolific waters the wild runs are gone now. Replaced, in varying degrees of success and failure with hatchery fish. But that was all that we had to fish for, so we went straight to the center of that game, just downstream of the hatchery, and fished hard. If all we cared about was catching fish, we were happy.

**But some of us grew weary of the hatchery mentality-** the cheap and easy quick fix for lost wild fish runs, that ended up costing us too much in lost wild fish genes, and the wasted dollars on diminishing returns of obviously inferior fish. Now with hatchery reforms being enacted in many regions, and wild fish being protected and supported in spawning, there is a smattering of hope, here and there, for the restoration of our wild fish runs. Some fishermen are accepting the decreases in hatchery production, and the lost fishing opportunity, as a necessary investment in improving conditions for wild fish, to retain their genetic integrity, and to improve survival of more wild juvenile fish. And there are others who remain focused on catching maximum numbers of fish, no matter where they come from, and they don't want to see any reductions in hatchery fish production. In fact they are demanding more. And occasionally things have gotten nasty between anglers with differing values in this regard.

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### ***Waging The Fish Wars.***

***A new kind of Fish War has emerged today-*** one between the warring factions of fishermen, all kinds of fishermen, as each angry divisive phalanx lines up to engage the others in heated debates over fishing methods, fishing rights, the value of wild vs hatchery strain fish, the need for or arguments against wild fish harvest, etc. It can be kind of wearying. And the distraction of fisheries politics can take a lot away from your fishing enjoyment. It can even ruin it if you allow it to do so.



### ***For our sanity . . .***

***Maybe the best thing to do is to move off to the edges of things.*** This is not to say that we must give up the good fight of protecting our wild places and watersheds, and the wild fish. But to retreat and regroup, and to stay sane, we have to keep things in perspective. So occasionally it helps to get away from the center, off to the smaller places, and work along the fringes, fishing the eddy lines and drop offs, hunting in the slow water drifts, and under the foamy, shallow, white pocket water, and in between the slippery rocks and big boulders. When I begin to feel jaded by all of the

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hate and phony statistics from the biostitutes and hacks, and the harsh judgments that spew from hateful minds- I go looking for the little quiet places, the hidden peaceful spots, the places no one else seems to go. And they are everywhere. I no longer worry about finding other people fishing in my favorite fishing locations. I am counting on the little places to reveal a gem. We have caught big, bright wild steelhead in the kinds of places you would expect to catch a tiny brook trout. And we have caught dozens of smaller wild trout on dry flies, within a few feet of the same drifts. And we have spent days fishing tide water with surface flies, catching wild sea run Cutthroat, with no one else in sight. But not always- And yet still we felt renewed.



***A wild sea-run Cutthroat in autumn.***

***Sometimes we did not catch any fish.*** And yet we felt better for it anyway, redeemed in some way, simply for being there. Aside from thinking of sizes and numbers of fish, there is simply the joy and freedom of ambling along a stream or beach, wading and casting a fly amid the dappling light, and the dripping beauty of a mountain forest canopy, or basking in the azure light, fishing the saltchuck flats of a summer beach, angling for sea run Cutthroat and Coho, watching the soft red glow of a sunset encroaching. We let it all unfold.

***I think perhaps that all we are really fishing for is our own lost innocence.*** And like any kind of fishing, in the beginning, we look for it in all of the wrong places. But if we stick with it, and we get off of the beaten path a little, and we fish someplace new, trusting our efforts are not in vain, we just might make the catch of a lifetime. It always comes as a surprise. This kind of fishing is always its own reward.

*(Continued on page 11)*

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***Sea run Coastal Cutthroat trout.***

*Bob Triggs is a veteran fly fishing guide, certified casting instructor and writer. He guides on the Olympic Peninsula rivers and beaches for trout, sea-run Coastal Cutthroat trout and steelhead. To learn more about Puget Sound and Olympic Peninsula region sea-run Coastal Cutthroat trout fly fishing, call or write for details.*

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## Gig Harbor Fly Shop – Fishing Report



Ok I'm beginning to sound like a broken record here. But August may be my favorite month to fish Western Washington. I mean, what can't you go do...Silvers in the salt, kings nosing into rivers, summer steelhead, rockfish on the northwest coast, cutties in the salt, small stream trout are still available, bass are still hitting...its just dizzying!

*Some best bets:*

- *Silvers from the beach, kayak, or small boat. Ok, this one I can say without hesitation. My personal favorite fly rod fish in Western Washington are feeding silvers in the salt. These fish are ravenous. They hammer the fly then usually go berserk when hooked. The farther north and west you can go, the more likely you will encounter true "feeders" but make sure you have a watercraft suitable to what waters you're fishing out there. In other words be safe. Early and late usually has them fairly close to the surface. Baitfish patterns dominate but smaller patterns including krill shouldn't be dismissed.*

- *Swinging small stuff for summer run steelhead. Put away the mega-heavy sink tips. The five-inch articulated patterns can be left at home as well. Grab a switch rod or single hander, some buggy looking flies, lighter tips (or just rock the floater), and try to get one of these aggressive fish to attack. Feeling super-lucky? Try to skate a fly and get a steelhead on top! Small stream trout. Want to rise a bunch of trout to fry flies? The tail end of August can be one of your best chances to get feisty little trout to take on the surface. Most will be small, but with appropriate light gear (read 2 wts and 3 wts) they can be a heck of a lot of fun. Admire their beautiful native coloring and turn them loose...you never know they could be juvenile steelhead or sea-run cut ties.*

Speaking of cutties, for salt anglers it can be a little tough not to go salmon crazy this time of year but there are plenty of cutthroat to be had as well. Rounding it all out are bass in lakes and for those who know where the deeper holes are, there should be some sizable trout down there trying to beat the heat.

Bottom line? August means options and who doesn't like options. Get out there!

-James Harrington

## Puget Sound Fly Shop



### Trade-in Program

This is what one might term a “no-brainer”. It’s pretty simple really, just bring us any old (or new) fly tackle that you aren’t using and/or don’t plan on using. We will handle the rest, from photographing, product description, to listing, shipping and receiving payment via eBay. After a successful sale, 90% of the final sale price goes to you, all for store credit here at the shop. We will evaluate the expected sale value by grading the condition of the equipment, looking up past eBay sales, and then price the reserve accordingly and with your input on minimum price needed.

This truly is a great way to turn unwanted gear into something you may have had your eye on, or maybe simply to assist in offsetting the price on a new rod, reel, waders, vise, you name it.

You are always welcome to call us prior to bringing in your trade-in gear to help assess if it’s of sufficient value. We strive to give you an accurate assessment over the phone, but actual value cannot be determined until we inspect it.

So, what are you waiting for? Start rooting thru that closet, fishing room or tackle bag and give us a call!

(253) 472-2420  
dan@pugetsoundflyco.com

# *Fly of The Month (flashback)*

Credit to FFF Website

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month  
**Joe & Dave's Hoppers**  
August 1998



**Joe's Hopper**



**Dave's Hopper**

## **Comments by Jim Abbs**

Throughout the U.S., this is the time of year when grasshoppers become abundant. If you are in luck, a blessed wind will blow these wonderful fish snacks into your favorite waters. When that happens, whether it is the Bighorn River in Montana, a little creek in northern New Hampshire or some mid-south tailwater, it is a great time to be a fly fisher.

The advantages are many. First, a delicate presentation is not critical because even big selective trout (largemouth or smallmouth bass, bluegill, etc.) are looking for the tell-tale splat of this helpless terrestrial as it flops into their food lane. Second, these are big flies and you can use short leaders that are easy to cast. Moreover, even if a hopper has been chewed on a few times, the fish don't seem to mind.

So, what is the downside with hopper patterns, aside from the fact that they don't work all year round?. The biggest problem with hoppers is keeping them afloat. One of the most famous hopper patterns is that of the famous Joe Brooks, appropriately named **Joe's Hopper**. Joe's hopper has a body of synthetic dubbing, with the rest of the fly constructed of turkey wings and regular hackle. This is a dynamite pattern, but because of its materials, it will start to get fatally waterlogged after a dozen or so casts, and especially gunked up by a fish.

Other hopper patterns appear to be attempts to devise a hopper that is as successful as the one by Joe Brooks, but floats better. These include **Dave's Hopper** (by Dave Whitlock), The **Letort Hopper** (by Ed Shenk), **Deer Hopper** (By Jack Dennis), and a Dave's Hopper with legs, **Jay's Hopper** (by Jay Buchner).

The Deer Hair Hopper takes Joe's Hopper (with its dubbed fur body, palmered hackle and conventional hackle wound behind the eye of the hook) and adds a body of yellow spun deer hair, which helps it float a lot better. Dave's Hopper is different yet again because it has a yarn body but a spun deer hair head, and also retains the palmered hackle of Joe's Hopper.

To give you some choices, I have provided materials and tying instructions for both Joe's Hopper (the classic) and Dave's Hopper (the best floater, with a Joe's Hopper kind of look).

*(Continued on page 15)*

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**Materials:**

**Hook:** **Both** - Mustad 9672 or equivalent 3X long, # 6-14  
**Thread:** **Both** - Brown or gray  
**Tail:** **Joe's** - Red hackle fibers      **Dave's** - Red deer hair fibers  
**Body:** **Joe's** - Dubbed yellow fur      **Dave's** - Yellow yarn  
**Rib:** **Joe's** - Brown saddle hackle trimmed - palmered  
**Dave's** - Brown dry fly hackle, tied palmered  
**Wings:** **Joe's** - Mottled brown turkey quill  
**Dave's** - Laquer turkey wing quill, with yellow calf underwing  
**Hackle:** **Joe's** - Brown & Grizzly mixed behind head  
**Dave's** - None aside from palmered rib  
**Head:** **Joe's** - Thread, whip finished  
**Dave's** - Spun and trimmed deer body hair (natural colors)

**Tying Steps**    (Joe's Hopper (JH) Dave's Hopper DH)

1. Tie in several fibers of red deer hair (**DH**) or red hackle fibers (**JH**)
2. Lay down a thread base from the middle of the hook and tie on one brown hackle (saddle-**JH**; dry fly-**DH**).
3. Wrap body with yellow dubbed fur (**JH**) or yellow yard (**DH**)
4. Wrap brown hackle forward in a palmered fashion and tie off.
5. Place one of two matched turkey quills with the curve down and the tip pointing up on one side. place it flat against the body. Tie in quill wing, fairly tightly so it does not stick straight out or down.
6. Tie in second wing on other side in the same manner. Cement tie-in point for wings.
7. **JH**- Wind in a brown and grizzly hackle and tie off.
8. **DH**- Spin several small bunches of light brown or light gray deer hair and trim to form a head.
9. Trim bottom of palmered hackle rib so it is even with the point of the hook.

# PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
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					August 1	2
3	4	5 Outing - Green Lake (Seattle)	6 7 Seas Fly Tying 6:30 PM	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Outing - Coldwater Campout 1/4	16 Outing - Coldwater Campout 2/4
17 Outing - Coldwater Campout 3/4	18 Outing - Coldwater Campout 4/4	19	20 7 Seas Fly Tying 6:30 PM	21 PSFF BRD MTG 6 PM	22	23
24 / 31	25 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	26	27	28	29	30

	September 1	2 Outing - Phantom Lake	3 7 Seas Fly Tying 6:30 PM	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 PSFF MTG 6 PM	12	13
14	15	16	17 7 Seas Fly Tying 6:30 PM	18 PSFF BRD MTG Outing- Mayfield Lake 1/4	19 Outing - Mayfield Lake 2/4	20 Outing - Mayfield Lake 3/4
21 Outing - Mayfield Lake 4/4	22	23	24 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**Check for Newsletter Article Deadline Date.  
Remember articles can always be submitted early.**

## **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 [www.psff.org](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 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 gillies 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 (Family \$60) per year plus a one time (\$10 Initiation Fee) per member.

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

## **HOW TO JOIN THE PSFF YAHOO GROUP.**

To receive and post to the PSFF Yahoo group you must first sign up as a member of Yahoo if you're not already signed up.

In your browser search for or go to Yahoo.com and look for the button asking if you want to join Yahoo. Click on the button and follow the instructions to join Yahoo. You will need an email address, a user name and a password. Remember these as periodically Yahoo will ask you to use them to resign in.

Once you are a member of Yahoo look at the top of the Yahoo page and find the search box. Enter PSFF in the box and press the 'Search' button. There will be a number of results as PSFF is used by several entities.

Scroll down though the list until you find Puget Sound Fly Fishers. Select the Puget Sound Fly Fishers and Yahoo will take you to the group site. You will notice a small box that asks you if you want to join the PSFF group. Select (yes.)

Another page will open up seeking your sign in information for the PSFF group. This information is separate from the information you entered for Yahoo itself. There will be a box for you to enter a short message telling the moderators why you want to join and basically who you are. Again you will be asked to select an email address where the PSFF group messages are sent.

You will need to select whether you receive individual messages or a Daily Digest. I suggest a daily digest but you can change this selection at any time later. At the bottom of the page you will have to enter, repeat, a displayed code of mixed letters and numbers. When you have done this go down to the bottom right and select 'Join'. You are done.

All new members are on a moderated basis and unable to post until approved by a moderator to help prevent SPAM and malicious posting. One of the moderators will handle your status usually within 24 hours.