



**Valentine's Day This Month!
Don't Forget!**



February Program -

Charles St. Pierre

**The Leader Line
By Bob Jimerson**



Soon enough we will be back out on the water making new memories and not having to rely on old ones as we wait for winter to retreat and for warmer (and longer) days to take their place. As much as I enjoy time at the tying vise and in the reading chair during winter, February is when I start to get itchy to get back out and find hidden treasure in the mountains. Nothing scratches that itch like making plans and dreaming of fishing trips to come.

Your Board of Directors just wrapped up a series of meetings on our annual budget and have approved our 2017 budget. Our financial house is in good order. The approved budget is a tangible expression of our plans and priorities for the year -- and we do have a great year planned for the club.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

We have allocated our expected revenues to fund activities that are important to our members. This year we had a wonderful “problem” to solve in getting to a balanced budget. Our volunteer leaders wanted to do more for the Club than we had expected revenue to support. We wanted to provide more in the way of programs, outings, education, the library and support to outside organizations than we could fund from expected dues revenue alone.

Rather than tell our volunteers to dial back their aspirations and do less for us, we decided that we will try some new things to help extend our available budget dollars as far as possible. We expect that, by trying some new approaches, we will be able to do more for the members this year and still stay within our expected revenue.

The Board very much wants to keep Puget Sound Flyfishers the outstanding value it has always been. Where else can you get so much fly fishing value for \$3.33 per month? We do not want cost to ever be a reason that members feel that they can not participate in the club's events.

So, look forward to an exciting and engaging 2017 for the club. We have a lot planned that will provide opportunities for everyone to share the joy of fly fishing with their friends and fellow club members.

Join me in thanking and supporting our volunteer leaders as they do the real work of the club and provide us with some great opportunities this year. It is their work that makes it all possible for the rest of us.

PSFF NEWS

Our Next Meeting
Thursday, February 9th
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Tower Lanes Entertainment Center
6323 6th Ave.
Tacoma WA 98406

February 2017 Program

SPEY CASTING FOR STEELHEAD ON THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA

with **Charles St. Pierre**

The name Charles St. Pierre has a way of coming up in conversations at local fly shops. Since 1998 when he started Northwest Speycasting our speaker has been one of the key spey casting authorities in our area. He'll share with us his vast knowledge of Olympic Peninsula Steelheading, from timing and location to fly selection and spey technique. As an excellent teacher we are in for a special experience.

March teaser:

David Paul Williams will present a new program: "Stuff Fish Eat." It focuses on the foods that make up the majority of fish diets-other than mayflies, caddis and stoneflies.

FFF EVENTS



Regional FFF Events in 2017

OCIFFF Fly Tyer Expo (<http://www.nwexpo.com>)
Albany, Oregon March 10 & 11, 2017

WSCIFFF Fly Fishing Fair (<http://wsciff.org/index.php/fly-fishing-fair/fly-fishing-fair-welcome>)
Ellensburg, WA Fairgrounds May 5 & 6, 2017

IFFF Fly Fishing Fair (<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/>)
Livingston, MT - Park High School August 1 - 5, 2017

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Raffle News By Thomas Lamphere

Item #1. This is a box of the flat wings I have been using a lot of in the salt for cutthroat. We also did these at one of our tying nights. It's a great pattern to keep around and one that has proven to work well.



Item #2. This is a fly box of small mouth flies donated to the club by Michael Lillie. Good and tested flies. These will be great for your summer fishing.



Item #3. This is box of Rueben's new squid pattern. Many of you have seen this pattern and have been asking for some. Well here is your chance at a few.



Item #4. We have a lot of books that have been donated to the club. This will be a good spot to come look at and see if you want to expand your mind and see what books are out on the table.

Item #5. This will be a shop surprise item. An item received from the local fly shop that I know many are drooling over. Come over to the table to find out what the item is...

Item #6. OUR BOARD ITEM. A Simms pack is out on the table at \$5 a square. Come back and take a chance and see if you can win this great pack on the drawing board.

HOT SCOOP

Membership News

Greg Shimek

We ended 2016 with a very healthy membership of 121 engaged and active fellow fly fishing enthusiasts. As we enter 2017, we welcomed two new members at our January meeting, Mike Post and Bob Shirley. I am sure Mike and Bob will soon be joining the rest of us on our outings. I am sure you all know our membership dues fund the operation of our club and all the benefits we enjoy. With that said, we are well into our renewal period. At this time we have had about half of our members renew which is a great start. However we need everyone to get their membership renewals in. This year there are more options available to make it easier to do this. You can send checks to PSFF at 4202 76th Ave. NW, Gig Harbor, WA. 98355, you can also pay by cash, check or credit card at our monthly meetings.

There are so many benefits available by being a member. First, all memberships are family memberships. Then there are the outings, the monthly speakers, the library, and the education classes, just to name a few. Let's get those membership renewals in so we can continue to offer the things our members want from our organization. Please feel free to contact me anytime.

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Library and Education

Rueben and Thomas Lamphere

Library: The library is there for club members. It's there to entertain and to help you gain knowledge that you have not yet gathered or for which you need a refresher.

We have a vast collection to suit all your needs, but we don't have everything. If there is ever something that you do not see and think would be a great addition to the library we will have paper and pen in the back for you. Please leave the name of the book and author of the book. This way it makes it easier for us to find the book that you wish to see in the library.

Also, it's winter time, which is a great time to read when the weather fowls up or the rivers are blown. If you wish in increase your knowledge in fly tying, might we suggest a pattern book. It's always a good idea to

take a pattern book and look at patterns that you have never tied. Also take those patterns and tie them. This will not only increase your skills as a tier, but also increase your vocabulary of flies.

February class: Rueben Lamphere will be teaching a class on indicator fishing. This is a class that will cover all kinds of fishing with all types of indicators. From still water to river fishing and even how to rig your rods to work them as well as build your own indicators. There will also be a sign up sheet for this class as well at the next meeting

Date is Feb. 2/18 at 11-2pm.

March class: In March we will be teaching a class on Mayflies. This class will go over the life cycle of the mayfly from nymph through to the adult. Also how to fish them and what to look for when you're on the water to see which stage of, and what bugs you should be fishing.



PJ's TIPS

Tying Tip -
Jim Maus's Favorite

Jim is one of the Puget Sound clubs premier tiers. Whenever he gives a demo or class you better pay attention... he knows his stuff. I'll pass on a little trick he tells everyone about at any demo or class.

When you have the fly tied and are ready to do your whip finish and before you make those last couple wraps in the finish, dab a little head cement on the thread before cinching it up. That pulls the cement into the 'knot' and makes a very secure tie off, particularly good for those small flies. If you need a shiny slick head you'll still have to paint it on as usual.

News from the Treasury

By Dennis Beardsley

We are well into 2017 and looking forward to a lot of fun and activities. The Board of Directors has adopted a budget for this year and I am happy to report that PSFF is financially sound with healthy reserves. Of course, the ability to provide the wide array of benefits to our members is dependent on membership participating, leading activities and events and renewing memberships. Anytime you part with your money, you expect and deserve to receive value. For over sixty years members have asked for a variety of programs and services and the Board attempts to meet as many of those requests as possible. In 2017, revenue from memberships supports core PSFF functions including:

- ◆ Guest Speakers- We are really fortunate to have such high caliber presentations. Their timeliness and content continues to be superb.
- ◆ Educational opportunities including fly tying, knots, making leaders, casting instruction and fly rod building and one to one sharing of all aspects of our sport.
- ◆ Reference Library – incredible book and media treasure trove of information available for the asking.
- ◆ -Outings – ability to apply our individual interests, skills, laughs and expertise with fellow enthusiasts. Learning from one another and exploring new or returning to familiar water is always a joy. It is kind of like meeting a new friend or enjoying a familiar one.
- ◆ Monthly Newsletter – What a great resource that keeps each of us up to date on upcoming events, practical ideas and the list goes on.
- ◆ Facebook Group – a great way to share fishing stories, what is going on in fly fishing and even where the fish are (were) yesterday.

The total Operating Budget for 2017 is \$7,651 of which \$4801 is from membership dues. The balance comes from raffle tickets, name tag fees and drawing boards. Without membership dues, volunteers can only do so much. The Board of Directors considers the above services and programs the real core of why PSFF exists. Every effort has and continues to be made to keep dues affordable and increases (when needed) to a minimum. As a result, this year you may be given the opportunity asked to pitch in a few bucks to help defray the cost of materials and supplies for such programs as fly tying, rod building or supplies for an outing. Passing the Creel, introduced at the last meeting, is an experiment and is absolutely voluntary. It is being offered not because there is a wind knot in our finances but because the Board wants to do more and provide quality for our members. At some point we will need to discuss dues increases. Just not now.

Another priority is the support of groups and organizations that share the same goals and objectives as PSFF. Through the incredible work and effort of former and existing members, PSFF is fortunate to have healthy reserves and money available to support worthy projects and causes. To ensure our reserves are not quickly depleted, the Board of Directors annually allocates a predetermined amount from reserves for worthy projects, programs or organizations. This year, the Board has allocated money supporting to the PSFF Puget Sound Fly Fishing Fair (July 29, 2017) and the Fly Fishing Academy. The Fair is a bold new idea that will be a lot of fun and introduce many people to fly fishing. Supporting the Academy has and continues to be a high priority. Youth are our future.

Unless approved by the Board of Directors, no other uses for reserves are budgeted for 2017. Unless we replenish our reserve accounts, when they are gone, they are gone. As a result, the Board is carefully gauging how much of those reserves to spend each year. There are certainly many projects and programs worthy of support. The question is how PSFF can have the greatest impact in areas aligned with PSFF's purpose and objectives. No simple task. In the meantime, anyone with ideas or suggestions should contact a Board member and be willing to help make it happen. Please do not make any

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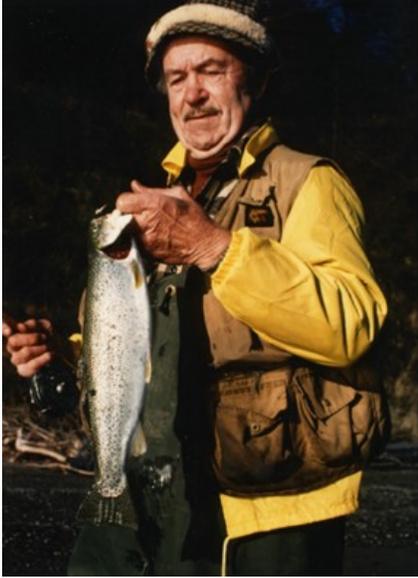
(Continued from page 7)

commitments for support and funds without first discussing with, and getting approval from , the Board of Directors.

Supporting other organizations does not always require money. For example, the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition recently used PSFF's ability to take credit cards to raise over \$10,000. As a non-profit organization, PSFF also accepts donations on the Coalition's behalf and forwards that money to the Coalition for its great work. Yes, donations to PSFF are tax deductible.

If you would like to take a deep dive into the actual numbers, let me know. I will buy the coffee.

Dennis Beardsley
Treasurer



Al Allard Award

A Little History by Mike Koslosky

“The Al Allard award is named after Al Allard, a long-time and highly regarded member of the club. The award consists of a plaque and a framed picture of Al holding a large sea-run cutthroat trout. The picture travels with the award. The plaque is personalized and stays with the recipient. Former club President Paul Elsberry conceived the idea of this award when a fishing writer whom Al had taken out for an article on sea-run cutthroat fishing gave Paul a picture of Al holding a large sea-run cutthroat, a memento of their trip.

Paul had the picture matted and framed and had intended to present it to Al at the next club meeting, but Al was seriously injured in an automobile accident and did not survive.

It was Paul Elsberry and the Board of Director’s idea that the picture be presented to an outstanding member of the club in memory of Al.”

This year’s 2016 award was presented to Chuck Tye for his outstanding service to the Puget Sound Flyfishers as a volunteer, board member and president. Chuck is also recognized for his incredibly impactful work with Project Healing Waters. We are honored to have Chuck in our family and local community.

It was our deepest pleasure to provide Chuck with this award.



NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY 2017

There is no better opportunity for our girls and boys, 12-16, to learn the sport of fly fishing and the merits of conservation. **The last full week of June, the 18th through the 24th**, the Academy will be held again at The Gwinwood Conference Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Applicants must write an essay explaining why they would like to attend the Academy and a letter of recommendation is requested from their science teacher, school counselor or responsible person. Deadline for applications is April 15, 2017. Financial Aid is available.

Jim Brosio is lining up the Academy instructors and we are very pleased to learn, most of the instructors from our 2016 event will be returning. We are very fortunate to have the most amazing, talented instructors in conservation, fly tying and casting, from our Pacific NW fly fishing clubs and organizations.

Applications may be downloaded from our website – www.nwycffa.com or you may contact:

Jim Brosio @ brosioj@q.com
Mike Clancy @ mtclancy39@comcast.net
Tom VanGelder @ TVG@comcast.net

Our website – www.nwycffa.com.

We also have a Facebook page displaying pictures from past events.

Mike Clancy, Co-Director, NWYCFF Academy

By Bob Triggs
www.searuns.com



Sunrise over the Cascade range.

February is over a month after the winter solstice. Up until now I have been taking it on faith that the days were getting longer. But by now it is undeniable. And I am feeling optimistic for the progressive return of those long sunny days on the water. Even if it's only adding a few seconds of daylight to each day. I have fished on the beaches a little bit this winter, and we've had some great days. But the weather has been rough too, so timing is everything. The last week of January was superb, with mild days, lots of sun, almost 50 degrees. And some big fat trout around too. This is enough new energy to stimulate me into fixing my leaky waders, checking all of my tackle, and sorting through my fly boxes. And it's time to tie those spring sea run cutthroat trout flies. There's plenty of time. I'm even going to paint the dory again. The cutthroat will be heading into their spawning period shortly, and the fishing on the saltchuck will be slow for a while. It won't hurt to give the fish a break for a time, to allow them to recover. It's amazing what a difference a few weeks can make in the condition and fight of these wild trout. I like to get back to fishing for the sea-run cutthroat trout in mid to late April up here in the northern reaches of Puget Sound country. South Sound anglers enjoy an earlier return of the cutthroat, and the chum fry. We're a few weeks behind them.

This will be my 37th season as a fly fisherman. So you would think that I am kind of over the excitement and anticipation of the coming spring. But I'm not. I spend the early winter months thinking about the fishing we did earlier in the year, remembering things about the way the water was, how the tides and winds were on some days, and remembering the fish that we caught. There's always a few days that I will never forget. And I spend some time each winter, scouting new water too; looking over marine charts, tide and current tables, and road maps. Every year I like to try some new water. I have been fishing here on the Olympic Peninsula for the last 16 years, and there's still so much to see and do here. It's a life's work.

I try to add some new flies to my fishing too. This is something that we can do throughout our fly fishing lives. It's amazing to contemplate the variety of trout flies that can be used for sea-run cutthroat fly fishing. Just about any trout fly will work at one time or another, not just saltwater flies. Dry fly fishing on the saltchuck is a hoot. And even though we may have our favorites, we should always be trying some new things. If you are tying your own flies, then you know how rewarding this can be. If you aren't already tying, I encourage you to get into it soon. This really rounds out your fly fishing adventure. Catching fish on your own hand tied flies is very satisfying. I just got this message from fly tying dynamo and sea-run cutthroat guru Jeffrey Delia today. This looks like a good opportunity to learn some new fly tying ideas.

Howdy Folks,

Just thought I would let you all know there are still a couple of seats left for my Steelhead/Salmon Fly Tying Class this Saturday Jan. 28 at Peninsula Outfitters in Poulsbo. If you're interested please call the shop at [360-394-1599](tel:360-394-1599). I hope you have all been doing some Winter Cutthroat fishing, we have had some great fishing recently and you can read about it and see some of the fish pics on my Facebook page. If we are not friends on Facebook and you would like to be just type in Jeffrey Delia Facebook page and send me a friend request.

**Thanks,
Jeffrey**

Jeffrey Delia <http://www.oysterchannel.com> Food, Fish, Fun and Videos from the Pacific Northwest

Spring sea-run coastal cutthroat trout fishing season is just a few months away!

Fly of The Month (flashback)

Credit to FFF Website

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month

February, 2001 - The Irresistible



Shown here is the Irresistible Wulff

Irresistible: What we all want our flies to be

By Jim Abbs

New techniques and new fly patterns play upon our need to fool those unseen lunkers we know are hiding in the deep holes of our favorite waters. However, like homemade bread and real log fires, there is much to be said for traditional tools and old time ways. If you look into the history of fly fishing there were many successful methods and tools that somehow, along the way, lost their appeal. Often there was little functional reason for these changes in popularity. In the last 30 or so years it seems we have especially bought the idea that something new must be better. While Madison Avenue may be to blame, favoring new things is probably just human nature. More importantly, it is unlikely that fish feeding habits are very different than they were 100 years ago.

One set of fly patterns that fall into the once very popular, once-famous category are those of **irresistible** style. Basically, an **irresistible** refers to a dry fly (primarily to imitate an insect, not a frog or other critter) that is tied with a spun deer hair body. Included in this category are the irresistible mayfly patterns (Ratfaced McDougall, Adams irresistible, Woodchuck irresistible, Wulff irresistible, and the original Irresistible). However, clipped deer hair flies imitate other insects, like the Irresistible Caddis and Irresistible housefly as well as the Bullet-head and Goddard caddis.

Of course, we know that the clipped hair bodies originated in the frog hair bugs from Joe Messinger of West Virginia. The first application of this technique to insect imitations for trout was in the 1930s by the famous Catskill's tyer Harry Darbee of Roscoe, New York. Harry and his wife Elsie Darbee combined the high-floating clipped deer hair body of a bass bug with hackles and wings of a trout fly. The original fly had deer hair wings, although other irresistibles have wings of hackle tips (Irresistible Adams) or calf tail (Irresistible Wulff).

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At first these flies were called H.A. Darbee's Special Mayflies and are said to have sold thousands. A second name, Beaverkill Bastard was adopted for a bit, but it was replaced by one more generally acceptable, the Ratfaced McDougall. The key to this style of fly is that it looks very buggy and floats forever, even in the roughest water. It is an attractor type, not an imitation of any particular species of mayfly. The irresistibles were favorites (and still are in some hands) particularly for trout, both in the eastern U.S. and the mountain west. Many anglers liked irresistibles for Atlantic salmon (like Lee Wulff) and Dave Whitlock recommends them for panfish.

One possible reason for the waning popularity of these flies is the apparent difficulty of creating a spun deer hair body. However, deer hair spinning is not difficult and with a little patience it will become second nature.

MATERIALS

Hook: Standard dry fly, like the Mustad 94840, Tiemco 5210

(some tyers prefer a longer or heavier hook)

Thread: Tan or black monocord 3/0

Tail: Dark deer or moose hair (grizzly for the Adams Irresistible)

Body: Gray deer (elk, caribou) hair, spun and clipped

Wings: Dark deer body (or bucktail) hair. Grizzly hackle tips are used for the Adams Irresistible, while calf tail is used for the Wulff Irresistible.

Hackle: Medium to dark dun or grizzly for the Adams Irresistible.

TYING STEPS

1. Tie in tail at a length about $\frac{3}{4}$ of hook shank length beyond hook bend and trim excess.
2. Wrap fibers down firmly.
3. Choose a small bunch of deer hair (start with a match stick size bundle) and remove fine hairs using a comb.
4. Position the bunch of hair with the butts facing forward, pinching it between your left thumb and index finger. Make one to two loose wraps around the bunch of deer hair and the hook shank and pull firmly on the thread to make the hair flare out from the shank.
5. Wrap the thread forward and in front of the flared deer hair. A small fly may only require one bunch of hair, larger flies (size 12 for example) will require 2-3. If the fly is larger wrap in another bunch of deer hair, repeating the steps to make it flare. Repeat the process until about half the hook shank is covered with flared (or spun) deer hair.
6. Tie off in front of last bunch of deer hair and apply cement.
7. Take the fly from the vise and using a sharp scissors with a fine point, clip the deer hair to a shape tapered toward the tail. Take care not to cut the tail fibers.
8. Put the fly back in the vise. Tie in a clump of deer hair for the wings with the tips facing forward. Trim the butt ends and secure hair with a few more wraps and apply a drop of cement.

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9. Wrap in front of wing to bring it upright. Separate the hair into two bunches for two wings and do a figure 8 around the bases to further support and separate them.
10. Wrap thread behind the wings and tie in hackle. Often two hackles are used for a big size fly. In the case of the Adams Irresistible, one grizzly and one brown hackle are used. Wind the hackle forward, tie off and trim excess.
11. Whip finish the head and cement.

Try this fly on some of your bigger waters this season. History tells us that you will not be disappointed!

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at flyofthethmonth@fedflyfishers.org

PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
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			February 1 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	9 PSFF General Mtg 6:00	10	11
12	13	14 VALENTINE'S DAY!	15 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	16 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	17	18 Lynnwood Fly Fishing Show Indicator fishing class
19 Lynnwood Fly Fishing Show	20	21 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	22 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	23	24	25
26	27	28				

			March 1 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	9 PSFF General Mtg 6:00	10	11
12	13	14	15 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	16 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	17	18
19	20	21	22 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	23	24 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	25
26	27	28	29 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	30	31	

**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

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 as a means of conservation and increasing fishing opportunity.
3. To encourage the conservation, enhancement and quality of sport fishing.
4. To promote both "Fellowship" and "Sportsmanship" in all aspects of club and individual activity.
5. To actively assist and encourage the public to become flyfishers, and to adopt the club's mission and 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 per household per year plus a one time (\$10 Initiation Fee) per member nametag.

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.