



## Leader Line

# Spring is Here (I Think)

Weird! I'm writing this at the end of March, having returned from fishing a favorite lake; it was 68 degrees on the water. You would have thought it was late spring. I actually had to wear my polarized sunglasses. Dang, that sun felt good. Catching fish was a bonus. Still, I'm not putting away my battery heated socks anytime soon.

I attended, for the first time, the annual Northwest Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Expo in Albany, OR on March 8-9. This was going to help my goal of becoming a decent fly-tier. Maybe, by osmosis, I would breathe in some of the talent I was exposed to. There were so many folks ty-

ing, it was overwhelming, but I determined what I needed to start tying. Thanks to the advice and generosity of husband and friends, I'm all set to begin. A friend noted "this may involve some additional costs to your fly-fishing habit." I've asked that he not remind me of this again.

There were also FFI casting instructors at the expo. They encouraged folks to participate in their Skills Development Program. After grading our attempts at certain casts, they determined whether we qualified for one of three levels: Bronze, Silver or Gold. From there, participants could choose to continue training to become a Certified Casting Instructor. Members of PSFF and South Sound Fly-Fishers will be given this opportunity in Lacey on Saturday, April 13. They will be assessed by casting instructors and may choose to participate in the FFI Skills Develop-

## Next Meeting

April 11

### Tower Lanes

6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

**Dinner:** 6:30

**Program** 7:15

ment Program. Contact your club leaders for the particulars.

I am on a quest to find a lake that PSFF can “adopt” (for want of a better word). At the moment, two local fishery biologists have offered to help my search. I see PSFF helping DFW to maintain public access and provide funds to feed or stock fish. The end goal is to have this lake become year-round, catch and release. I’ve spoken with Don Freeman, past president of South Sound Fly-Fishers, who spearheaded their Munn Lake project. This took a couple of years, lots of leg work and a ton of paperwork. First things first, we need to find a lake in

(preferably) Pierce, Mason or Thurston counties. I’m looking for suggestions I can pass onto the state, so please email me.

April 22 is Earth Day. I urge everyone to participate in local movements to restore and make sustainable our aquatic environments. Fly-fishing is about so much more than catching fish. Let’s inspire and lead by example our future generations of fly-fishers.



See you on the water.

*Tess Frazier*  
Club President

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## Outings

# Rendezvous on the Yak

Friday-Sunday, April 5-7

Winter dreams spring to life as I contemplate our fast-approaching outing to the Yakima River. As the water warms with sunnier days, it’s showtime for the annual Skwala stonefly emergence. The bouncing and bobbing bugs tend to keep the trout looking up for an easy meal. It’s also a time for great nymph action. Baetis or worm droppers combined off a Pat’s Rubber Legs can be a killer combo. I also look forward to pulling out my trout spey and swinging leeches and small sculpin streamers through the feeding lanes and into softer edges and seams. Blue-winged olives should be making an appear-

ance as well, especially on cloudier days.



*PSFF Member Doug Post does the walk 'n' wade at part of the new BLM access to formerly private property along the Yakima River.*

The fabulous Yak is Washington’s only Blue Ribbon river. The flow should be low enough for good wading and high enough

for smooth drifting. Although the Yak is known for its drift-boat angling, there is an abundance of walk 'n' wade access. If you’re new to the river, let me know so we can arrange to meet and get you to one of my favorite spots.

This will be our annual club rendezvous, after several years meeting up at Park Lake. The Yak is closer to home and Ellensburg offers more options. It’s also one of our favorite choices for fishing moving water. We’ll be camping at the BLM’s Big Pines Campground in the canyon, just downriver from Red’s Fly Shop. No reservations needed (or possible) for our dates. First come, first served.

Or if you choose, stay in Ellensburg at the KOA Journey, a motel or Airbnb. There are also other BLM dry camps in the canyon at Umtanum, Lmuma Creek and Rosa.

The *sad* news: The Yakima River RV Park off Ringer Loop Road is now permanently closed. The *glad* news: The property was part of the sale to Western Rivers Conservancy, which turned it over to the Bureau of Land Management ... which makes it accessible to the public. It's part of the same purchase that was partially financed through a generous donation by PSFF.

**Directions:** Ellensburg is about two hours from Tower Lanes in Tacoma. The most popular spots along the lower Yakima for launching watercraft and wading access are Ellensburg KOA Journey, Irene Rinehart Riverfront Park, Ringer Loop Road and Bighorn Campground. Big

Pines, our rendezvous location, has a good takeout.

## Strong Club Turnout for Albany Tying Expo

I counted at least 15 members of PSFF at last weekend's NW Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Expo in Albany, OR. Thanks to all who came and represented our club: Michael Trask (tying), Mike Kosloski, Mike Clancy, Mark Paul, Jim Maus, Steve Saville,



Dennis Ehlers, Kristin Macy (tying), Ron McNeal, Barry Miller, Dave Stiffler, Alan Yamashita, Tess Frazier and her husband — what's his name???

## Pyramid Power

I've been anxious to get back to Pyramid Lake in Nevada since

taking a small group there last spring. After speaking with Rob Anderson of Reno Fly-Fishing Outfitters at the recent Fly-Fishing Show in Bellevue, I got my fire re-stoked for a possible outing in the fall, soon after the lake reopens on Oct. 1. Rob loves that opener period when the weather is warmer, the big Pilot Peak strain of Lahonton cutthroat are hotter and angler competition is lighter. The big fish — which can often exceed 20 pounds — are in greater numbers within reach in 20-30 feet of water. We'd be using light watercraft instead of the famous ladders. If you're seriously interested, please contact me and I can advise you on logistics: [dfrazier@wavecable.com](mailto:dfrazier@wavecable.com)



*David Frazier  
Outings Chair*

## 2024 Outings Schedule

### APRIL

#### Annual PSFF Rendezvous

Yakima River: Big Pines Campground (BLM)  
Trout: Friday-Sunday, April 5-7

### MAY

#### Mayfield Lake

Ike Kinswa State Park  
Pike, Trout  
Tuesday-Thursday, May 28-30

### JUNE

#### Leech Lake

Trout: Wednesday-Friday, June 5-7

### JULY

#### Cedar River

Landsburg Road river trailhead, Maple Valley  
Trout: 9 a.m., Tuesday, July 9

### AUGUST

#### Annual Club Picnic

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 11

#### Egdon

Coho, SRCs: 8 a.m.  
Wednesday, Aug. 21

### SEPTEMBER

#### Cowlitz River

Hosted at John & Kathy Clark, near Toledo  
Cutthroat, Steelhead, Coho, Kings:

Tuesday-Thursday, Sept. 17-19

#### Lake Kokanee

Trout: 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25

### OCTOBER

#### Pass Lake

Deception Pass State Park  
Trout: Tuesday-Thursday, Oct. 15-17

### NOVEMBER

#### Beaver Lake — Sammamish

Trout: 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 15

### DECEMBER

#### Purdy

SRCs: 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13

# Membership

## Welcome to New Members

We continue to have new members join PSFF. You will find below a short bio and picture of a recent new member to help you get acquainted with him. Please reach out and welcome Fred at the next meeting or outing he attends.



**Fred Olin**

I was born in Minnesota and lived there for my first ten years prior to moving to Washington. I attended junior and senior high in Kent and graduated KM '63. I attended WSU and in six years, got two

degrees and taught in the Pullman Public Schools for one year. After that we (my wife and I) moved to Port Orchard, where I have lived for fifty years. During Covid I decided to take up fishing. One neighbor got me started on fly-fishing, another showed me the art of "plunking" on rivers and a third showed me how to saltwater fish for salmon. I mostly fished the lowland lakes of Kitsap and Mason counties dragging a woolly bugger behind a boat. My wife arranged a trip to Big Sky Montana and I fished the Clark Fork (alone) and the Gallatin with a guide (nymphing from the shore). I want to continue stream fishing and to also target SRCs. I

am now 78 and have been retired from Education for 24 years, and riding motorcycles for most of the last 24 years. We moved to a condo in Tacoma last summer and have no room for a boat, so I have a one-man inflatable in my truck box. I swapped my 6 hp outboard for a Sage 6wt. to go with my Orvis 5wt. I also have an 8wt. that I picked up at an estate sale to take to Ketchikan for a family vacation.



*Joe Harrison  
Membership Chair*

**Anniversaries/Years April:**

Lee Winegar	22	Les Rosenthal	18	Ron Zarges	14
Tom Van Gelder	11	Jim Collins	6	Tom Long	5
Gary Villella	5	Steve Fulkerson	3	Mark Paul	2
Alan Hebert	2				

## Raffle News

We have a monthly raffle which provides members with chances to win great prizes and support club activities. We welcome donations of new or gently used fishing, camping or other related items. If you have questions regarding raffle donations, please contact Raffle Coordinator, Rachel Dagovitz, [racheldagovitz@hotmail.com](mailto:racheldagovitz@hotmail.com).

## A Big Shout Out to Our March Donors!

Jim Baker  
Mike Koslosky



*Rachel Dagovitz  
Raffles Chair*

## A Blast from our Past



PSFF member in long standing, Phil Moore, residing in Grants Pass, OR met up with Mike Koslosky and Mike Clancy at the recent Albany Fly Tyers Expo and shared the banquet with all the PSFF members present.

# Education

## April 2024

### Fly-fishing Intro Class

The open spots are filling quickly for our club-sponsored Fly-Fishing 101 course. Scheduled for the first three Tuesday evenings 6:00-9:00 on April 2, 9 and 16. This class will provide students all the basics of fly-fishing. Club members are conducting the course with facilities, administrative, and marketing support from PenMet Parks. The class will be held at Sehmel Homestead Park ([penmetparks](https://penmetparks.org)). If club members would like to sign up, registration is on the PenMet Parks website ([penmetparks.org](https://penmetparks.org)).

### Fly of the Month: Woolly Bugger



Woolly Buggers are tied in a wide variety of styles and colors to imitate a wide range of game fish prey in streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes. Its effectiveness is due to its resemblance to so many edible creatures in the water; nymphs, leeches,

salamanders, or even small sculpins. Its tail undulating behind a fiber, bubble-filled body is just too much for most fish to resist. Although the original Woolly Bugger pattern was believed to have been created by Pennsylvania fly-tyer Russell Blessing as early as 1967 to resemble a hellgrammite, or dobsonfly nymph, its precise origin is unknown, but is clearly an evolution of the Woolly Worm fly.

The Woolly Bugger is typically tied on a size 2 to 14 streamer hook and is constructed with a marabou tail (with or without flash), a chenille or fur body, and a hackle palmered from the tail to the head of the fly. Tying the pattern with a rib of fine copper wire helps protect the palmer hackle. The underbody may be weighted with lead or tungsten wire. Popular colors are olive, brown, and black for freshwater use. Brighter colors and combinations of colors are especially popular for steelhead, salmon and saltwater use.

Join us **Saturday, April 13, 9:30-11:30 a.m.** at Tower Lanes to tie the Woolly Bugger just in time for our club outing to Mayfield Lake.



*Rob Jensen*  
Education Chair

## Programs

# John Owen is April 11 Speaker



Jon Owen is The Campaign Director and a Co-founder of the Wild Olympics Campaign, a broadly supported Olympic Peninsula-based coalition working to protect salmon streams on Olympic National Forest through passage of the Wild Olympics Wilderness & Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, sponsored by U.S. Senator Patty Murray and Representative Derek Kilmer. The legislation has been endorsed by 800 local Olympic Peninsula Tribes, businesses, local elected officials, sportsmen, conservation & outdoor recreation groups & others. This support includes the hundreds of local sportsmen & over 30 leading local sportsmen groups & guides in [www.SportsmenForWildOlympics.org](http://www.SportsmenForWildOlympics.org) backing the bill because it would safeguard salmon streams for our future while protecting hunting & fishing access without closing any roads or costing any timber jobs.



*Mark Paul*  
Programs Chair

# Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International and Government Affairs

The WSCFFI booth at the fly-fishing show in Bellevue on February 17th was somewhat successful. Jim Maus sold memberships to the FFI, I and Jim Goedhart represented The Academy with many potential candidates for the event. Some of the highlights were seeing old friends that we only see at these events every year and fly-tying with young folks was great.

May 4th – the WSCFFI will conduct another Fly Fishing Fair at Ballenger Park in Mountlake Terrace north of Seattle. This event will feature a rotating series of the best fly-tyers in the Northwest, along with an introductory fly-tying class, and a full day of casting classes for beginners and advanced fishers. Again, this is another opportunity to see our

friends. Food will be available for a fee.

The Academy will be conducted on June 22-29, 2024, at the Panhandle Lake 4H Camp, west of Shelton. The response for enrollment has been amazing, the Academy is full with a waiting list in case of cancellations. There is a serious financial challenge this year, as expenses keep increasing. Any contribution for The Academy will be greatly appreciated. Please send your donation to: NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy, c/o John Gravendyk, 818 291st Ave. NE, Carnation, WA. 98014. I repeat, any amount would be greatly appreciated.

I attended the NW Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany,

Oregon. There were over 150 fly tyers with their amazing talent in demonstrating their fly tying talents displaying their original flies that they created. The attendance was again amazing. The event is organized by the FFI Oregon Council. Mike Kosloski and I stayed at the Comfort Inn, next to the Expo Center, and the RV spots were completely occupied. Mike qualified for the Bronze level in the new casting rating. What an amazing event. Looking forward to next year.



Mike Clancy  
Legislation/FFI

## 2024 PSFF - Officers and Committee Chairs

### Club Officers

President: Tess Frazier  
Vice President: Rob Jensen  
Past President: Steve Saville  
Secretary: Anne Stiffler  
Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley  
Director, 1st year: David Frazier  
Director, 2nd year: Richard Stone  
Director, 3rd year: Dennis Ehlers

### Committee Chairs

Membership: Joe Harrison  
Librarian: Tom Krughoff  
Raffles: Rachel Dogovitz  
Programs: Mark Paul  
Education: Rob Jensen  
Outings: David Frazier  
Web Site Editor: Bryan Habeck  
Newsletter Editor: Bryan Habeck  
Legislation/FFI: Mike Clancy  
Conservation: Greg Shimek

# Having Trouble Joining the Forum?

1) Launch the PSFF.org webpage as shown in **Figure 1** and click on the Log In link (circled in red). That'll take you to the Sign-up or Log-In form in **Figure 2**.

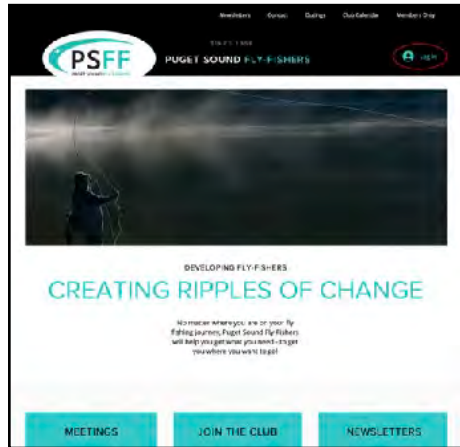


Figure 1

2) Log in or sign up

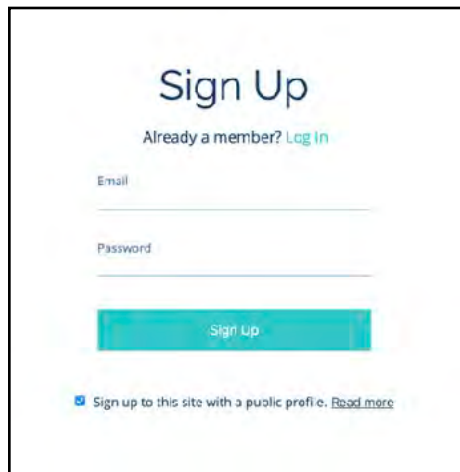


Figure 2

If you are registering as a new FORUM member, Sign Up first as shown in **Figure 2**. Enter your email address and create a password. Once you've done that and have received confirmation that you've been confirmed as a member and now have access,

then log in (clicking the teal type seen in **Figure 2**) and click on the Members Only link as shown in **Figure 3**.

3) Members Only will now available to you

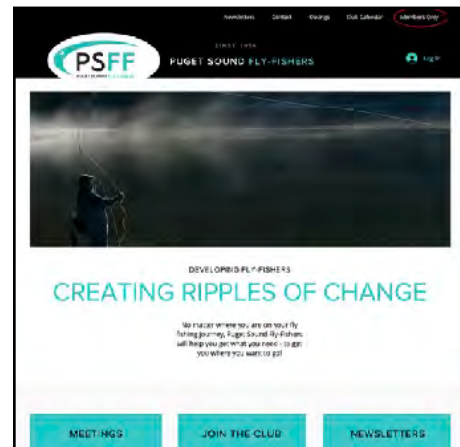


Figure 3

4) The Forum Page

Explore the different categories of discussions and learn about where others are fishing, and what they're tying.



Figure 4