



Leader Line

Memories

A scary experience happened on a recent outing while I was learning to spey cast. We were rafting an unfamiliar (to me) PNW river, when midway through the float, my seat, which overhung the rear of the raft, felt like it was coming loose. During an inspection on shore, the guide discovered that the seat (and me!) was ready to fall off the raft. Did I mention I don't swim? He quickly tightened everything down and we were on our way. Phew.

The next words from the guide were "we're going to experience some small rapids soon." Did I mention I don't swim?? Those rapids were a bit more than "small" to me. I slid to the floor of the raft, clutching my life vest and muttering "I'm going to die." A minute later we

were on calm water with everyone saying "That wasn't so bad." Hah! Who knows the outcome if I hadn't mentioned my loose seat...

A close friend described one of her "most exciting experiences" on the water. Her friend had a fish on, but was struggling to bring it in, so he asked her to net it. The fish saw the net and twice, turned and ran. Almost falling in the river, she finally netted a large, wild steelhead weighing approximately 14 pounds. It was healthy, heavy, feisty, very strong and beautiful. The thrill for my friend was to take part in its catch and release. Excitement and the joy of fly-fishing comes in all forms: the sight of wild creatures you don't normally see, the appreciation of your equipment or appropriate clothing, new and beautiful surroundings, the admiration of fish you stalk, catch and release, and the satisfaction that you're leaving a moment for another angler to experience. The next time you're out, take a moment to catalog your special memories.

Next Meeting
April 10

Dinner 6:30 PM
Program 7:30 PM

Tower Lanes
6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Get Involved

PSFF will be partnering with local community organizations in conservation and restoration projects to keep our waterways clean and healthy. If you have ideas or suggestions, please contact our new Conservation Chair, Steve Knowles (jsknowles25@gmail.com).

Your annual fishing license expires **March 31**. Renew it, if you haven't already.

April 22 is Earth Day. Do your part to help local organizations clean up our waters, beaches and trails. Fly-fishing is so much more than catching fish. Let's inspire and lead by example our future generations of anglers.

Saturday, April 26 starting at 9:00 a.m. we'll be doing a clean up at Purdy, followed by lunch (bring your own, refreshments provided) and fishing. Richard Stone is the lead on this; contact Richard if you have questions.

Sign up to volunteer with PSFF at the Washington State Council FFI Fly-Casting Fair at Pickering Barn Park in Issaquah, **Sunday April 27**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. PSFF is leading volunteer efforts for this event and we still need more volunteers to help set up and take down exhibitor booths. Select one shift or more, especially if you plan on attending all day. The shifts are 8-9:30 a.m., 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. We need help. Please volunteer. Contact me at tessfrazier@wavecable.com.

UPDATE: I finally found my rechargeable, heated socks! I'm still on the lookout for the replacement pair, which have also gone missing. If you can keep track of them, I highly recommend a pair. See you on the water.



*Tess Frazier
President*

Programs

Tom Harwood is our April 10 speaker

Our April speaker is unique, and is not a guide, biologist or lodge owner. His presentation has been praised by South Sound Fly Fishers as one we will thoroughly enjoy. I'm talking about Tom Harwood.



Tom has been collecting all forms of vintage fishing equipment for almost 40 years and has been a national and regional officer in both the National Fishing Lure Collectors Club and the Old Reel Collectors Association. He's co-authored Northwest Fishing Reels, a history of reels and manufacturers from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and British Columbia, and has authored many articles in his club's magazines.

Tom's stories of fishing gear of the past are intertwined by social, economic, governmental and technological factors. The rod, reel, line and flies we use today are the descendants of what came before. Join us as Tom shares the equipment history of the sport we love so much.



*Mark Paul
Programs*

Let's Get Social

As weather warms and the waters beckon, bring a new member on your fishing outings. PSFF has an educational mission, and the best way to learn is to do. Experienced anglers- consider posting your outings on the forum for others to join in the fun. New members- consider posting on the forum for activities you have specific interest in learning more about (lake nymphing? saltwater? spey casting?) Let's connect on the forum and enjoy this beautiful place together!

Outings

Greetings Everyone!

PSFF Annual Rendezvous

This year we will be gathering on the Yakima River **April 11, 12, and 13** at Whispering Pines RV Park in Cle Elum. If you are camping, call (509 674-7278) or reserve a spot online ([HERE](#)); I would suggest doing so soon as limited sites are available.

Come early on Friday to fish and set up camp, or come later and stay through Sunday night, depending on your schedule. Please join for the Potluck Saturday night if you can; a group picture will be in order! The Fraziers have graciously offered their site (#86) to be the gathering spot for our evening activities.

FRIDAY APRIL 11 * Meet & Greet * 5:30 pm. BYOB, a snack to share and a camp chair. This is a great opportunity to share your fishing experiences and help a fellow fly fisher if they are new to the club.

SATURDAY APRIL 12 *Potluck* Chili and cornbread will be provided by the club (thank you, Tess!) Please bring a side, salad or dessert to share! **Please RSVP to Julie (julielkelner@gmail.com) by April 7 for a potluck headcount.** Thanks!

On the Yakima River in April

The link below is a great article that gives a snapshot of the Yakima River- where, when

and what to use for fly fishing. According to my Yakima River guide friend, walking and wade fishing can be tough if the river flow is 1700 CFS and above. But it also depends where you are on the river (Cle Elum versus closer to Ellensburg). It is hard to predict what the flows will be, but April flows typically accommodate wade fishing in my experience. Check the flows before you head out and be safe!

If you have the opportunity to float with a guide, it really helps to learn the river, find fish and take in the beautiful scenery!

[ARTICLE](#)

Rattlesnake Lake

The Outing for May is at Rattlesnake Lake in King County, **Saturday May 3**. Meet me at the boat launch no later than 8 a.m. FYI, this lake is popular with kayakers and paddle boarders, so the parking lot fills up fast on a nice day.

Sign up at the April 10 meeting or just send me a message!

[RATTLESNAKE LAKE](#)

Warm Regards,

*Julie Kelner
Outings*



Outings



JANUARY

Watch the Forum for a FLASH outing
(weather permitting)

FEBRUARY

The Fly-Fishing Show

Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue
Saturday-Sunday, February 15-16

MARCH

Sea Run Cutthroat

Oakland Bay, Shelton
Tuesday March 4th Noon
Oakland Bay Rec Area, WDFW Parking

APRIL

Annual PSFF Rendezvous

Yakima River: Whispering Pines Campground
Cle Elum Friday-Sunday April 11th, 12th, 13th

MAY

Rattlesnake Lake

King County
Saturday May 3rd

JUNE

Lake Kokanee

Hoodsport, Mason County
Tuesday June 10th

JULY

North Fork Skokomish River

Staircase Campground
Monday July 14th

AUGUST

Annual Club Picnic

11 AM – 4 PM
Saturday August 16th
Outing for **Pinks**, **TBA**

SEPTEMBER

Puget Sound Beach Fishing

TBA
Saturday Sunday 13th

OCTOBER

Cady Lake

Mason County
Tuesday October 7th

NOVEMBER

Black Friday - Get Outside and Fish

TBA
Friday November 28th

DECEMBER

TBA – Watch the forum for a FLASH outing.

Education

April

Fly Tying

The monthly fly-tying session is **Saturday, April 10 at 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.** at Tower Lanes. Join us to tie an emerger pattern, designed to mimic the transition phase between nymphs and adults. Emerger patterns vary by insect, but are generally best fished near the surface, and can work well with drift, or as a dropper off a dry fly.



Tips for using emerger patterns:

- use intermediate line to test shallow depths in the water column
- emerging insects are often mildly active near the water surface or float in moving water
- Consider floatant or foam for buoyancy

Personal Watercraft Show

We are planning a tentative personal watercraft show and tell on **Saturday May 10**. Club members interested in showing their personal crafts will bring their boats and be on hand to demonstrate the pros and cons of their vessels. This event is an opportunity for new members to assess the features and functions of different boats or floatation devices before purchasing one of their own (or for members interested in expanding their fleets!). Please check the forum for updates, and contact me if you're willing to demo your craft(s).

Introduction To Fly Fishing Class

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Classes for our second annual Introduction to Fly Fishing class (FF101) are scheduled for **Tuesday May 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 6-9 p.m.** at Sehmel Homestead Park in Gig Harbor. Feedback from our first year has been incorporated for an even better series this spring. Volunteers, especially to assist with casting, would be greatly appreciated. Contact me to volunteer! Just 9 spots remaining as of March 24.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Casting Clinic

We completed a refresher casting clinic this month, just in time to hit the waterways this spring. Many people stopped by and got to practice casting with the opportunity for helpful feedback. New information, demos and continuing education are primary service objectives of PSFF. If you would like to have more events like this one, or have suggestions for other educational events that you'd like to see offered, please contact me.



*Rob Jensen
Education*

Membership

Welcome to April 2025

Join PSFF! Visit [HERE](#) to complete the Membership Application Form electronically.

Or print the Membership Application PDF. After completing the form, either:

- i. Send by mail following the instructions on the form (please include check/money order)
- ii. Bring form to Dennis Beardsley at the next PSFF meeting (cash, check, money order, credit/debit, or Zelle)

To renew your membership, go to [HERE](#) to submit your dues.

*Joe Harrison
Membership*



Welcome to New Members

James Klug

"I was born and raised in Peru, IL. I learned to fish with red worms in the Illinois River. We raised our own worms and fished for pan fish in WI while on vacation. My fly-fishing adventures began about 20 years ago in Colorado with the Cutthroat Chapter of Trout Unlimited. I was introduced to the sport via nymphing in the South Platte River South of Denver. Since then I have fished many of the Colorado and other Western, and I also enjoyed Florida

fishing on the Southwest coast for Tarpon, Redfish, Snook Sheepshead, Grouper and Sea Trout. I am now learning to fish for Salmon, Ling Cod, Sea Bass, Halibut and Steelhead here in WA. My daughter's family and my grandkids reside here in Tacoma. I am a retired electrical engineer specializing in semiconductor devices and integrated circuits. I am interested in environmental and fishery conservation activities. In CO I was the Conservation Director for the TU chapter, we conducted 8 to 10 projects per year."



Eileen Petralia

"I grew up on the east coast of Florida, around the Space Center. I started fly fishing in 2010 after a float trip on the Yakima. I fish once a week on our local rivers, lakes and the salt. I also take several trips a year to fish other places. My favorite type of fishing is on small creeks for trout. I am a retired Family Nurse Practitioner. I live in Issaquah with my wife of 29 years and I have one daughter who is now 19. We have 4 standard poodles and an Appaloosa."



March Anniversaries/Years

Bob DeNully	1	David Stiffler	2	Tom Van Gelder	12
Hans Fredrikson	1	Mark Paul	3	Ron Zarges	15
Deb Fredrikson	1	Steve Fulkerson	4	Les Rosenthal	19
Mike Riches	1	Gary Villella	6	Lee Winegar	23
Anne Stiffler	2	Jim Collins	7		

Fly Fishers International

FFI Casting Fair

Our next event is **Sunday, April 27 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.** at Pickering Barn, a city park and event space in Issaquah just off I-90 (1730 10th Ave NW, Issaquah, WA 98027).

Molly Semenik will conduct a casting demo at noon, and casting instruction is available for anglers of all levels. The NW Atlantic Salmon Fly Guild will have tying demos and fly tyers and exhibitors will be exhibiting in booths indoors. Check the website [HERE](#) for coming details regarding course details, fees and to register. Set up and take down **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**- contact Tess Frazier to sign up.

NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

Enrollment is open for the **June 21-28, 2025** Youth Academy, held at Panhandle Lake 4-H Camp. Visit the website [HERE](#) to learn more and to complete the application. Info about Panhandle Lake is at [HERE](#). The camp is for kids, ages 12 to 16. Academy graduates are completely prepared for fly fishing. Tuition is \$750.00 for the entire week, but no one is turned away for lack of tuition.

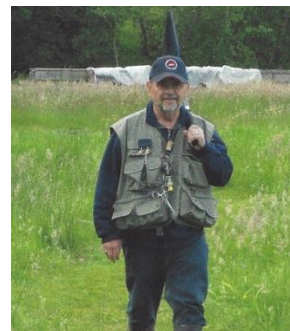
Fly Fishing for Searun Cutthroat in South Puget Sound by Mel Hurd

This 20-page booklet was revised in 2005-06 and is an absolutely wonderful guide to fish our searun cutthroat, with recommended equipment, fly patterns, beach fishing, secret

locations (haha), plus maps. We promoted this booklet for years, with profits going toward conservation and education. A requested donation of \$10 or more gets you your own copy, which will be available at the next meeting. Lee Yeager will be happy to take your donation.

NW Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo

This month's Oregon FFI Council's for tying and casting event in Albany, OR was great, with good attendance, wonderful tyers, and casting testing conducted by Steve Jones and other CCI instructors. There was a wonderful banquet Friday evening with a live auction conducted by our wonderful Will Godfrey. Saturday was much the same, with casting testing, instruction and fly tying. It was just a wonderful event with seeing friends we've known over the years. The problem is, we see our friends maybe once a year, like this type of event, but I couldn't remember their names. It would be nice if folks would wear their name tags. That would make it a lot easier to say hello, if we could remember their names. All in all, I give the event an A+. Sherry Steel and the Oregon Council did a wonderful job. See you next year.



*Mike Clancy
Legislation & FFI*

2025 PSFF Officers & Committee Chairs

Club Officers

President	Tess Frazier
Vice President	Rob Jensen
Past President	(vacant)
Secretary	Anne Stiffler
Treasurer	Dennis Beardsley
Director, 1 st year	Mark Paul
Director, 2 nd year	David Frazier
Director, 3 rd year	Richard Stone

Committee Chairs

Conservation	Steve Knowles
Education	Rob Jensen
Email Editor	Merritt Kline
Facebook	Tim Bayliss
Legislation/FFI	Mike Clancy
Librarian	Tom Krugoff
Membership	Joe Harrison
Newsletter	Kara Jensen
Outings	Julie Kelner
Programs	Mark Paul
Raffles	Fred Olin
Website	Jason Hardt

Having trouble accessing the Forum?

The forum offers current information for users on what to fish, where, and which patterns are hitting. Use the forum to post events, share resources, ask questions and organize outings around the area.

Existing Members

1. On the [PSFF.org](https://psff.org) website, click the Log In link (red box in figure 1)
2. Select the Log In option (red box in figure 2), then enter your email and password
3. Once logged in, navigate to the 'PSFF Paid Members Only' tab on the upper right of your screen, which will take you to the forum

Figure 1

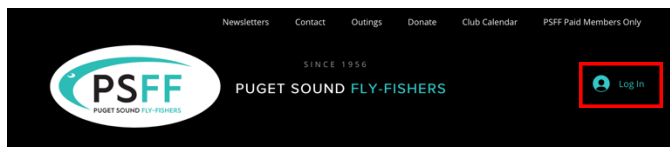


Figure 2

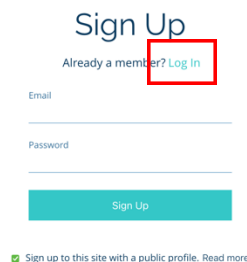


Figure 4

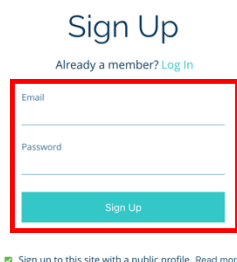
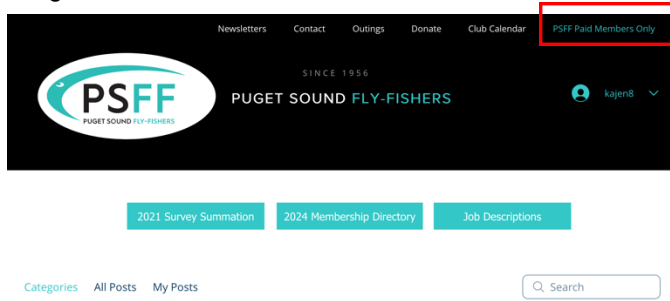


Figure 3



Forum

Welcome! Have a look around and join the discussions.

New Members

1. On the [PSFF.org](https://psff.org) website, click the Log In link (red box in figure 1)
2. Enter your email and a password, then click Sign Up (red box in figure 4)
3. You'll need to wait to be confirmed as a PSFF member. Check your email
4. Pay membership dues (see 'Membership', above)
5. Follow steps 1-3 (left) for existing members