



***Time for Holiday hangover, fly  
tying, and maybe a little fishing?  
WHERE'D THAT YEAR GO!!***



**January Program - Chad Brown - Arctic Expedition**

**The Leader Line  
By Bob Jimerson**



Happy New Year everyone! 2016 was a very good year for the Puget Sound Flyfishers Club and 2017 promises to be building into something special too. Fasten your seat belts and join me on this ride!

Let me begin by offering my sincere thanks to all of those that have served the Club as volunteers in the past year and those that continue to serve. We have been blessed to have many folks lend their time, talents and expertise to us; making the Club something special. Please take a moment to say thank you to our friends that have served on the Board or have headed up functions for us the next time you see them.

It is amazing to take a moment and think about all that the Club offers to us as members. I know it is dangerous to make a list like the one that follows, given the risk of missing something, but I think it is worth highlighting some of the great stuff we get as members. So, in no particular order, here are some of what is available to us:

- Monthly Club meetings and programs - our monthly opportunity to gather with friends and to be educated, inspired and entertained.
- This newsletter - A monthly publication that keeps us informed. Always full of interesting articles and important news.
- Education programs - Fly tying, knots, how and where to fish, and more.
- Outings - Great opportunities to make new friends and learn new waters
- Library - Access to thousands of dollars worth of books and videos on just about any fly fishing topic imaginable.
- Casting Clinics - The central skill to fly fishing is fly casting. Improving your casting skills makes fishing much more enjoyable.
- The Yahoo Group - The longstanding online message board for club members to communicate with each other.
- The Facebook Page - A place where we post announcements and share news about the Club with the world.
- The Facebook Group - A member's only group where we can share secret spots with each other without letting the whole internet know about it.

Each item on the list above deserves a full article of its own, but not right now. My point here is two-fold. The Club offers a lot of value to its members; that value is created and delivered by its members. We all are able to enjoy the fellowship, learning and activities that we value so much as members of the Puget Sound Flyfishers because we come together and make it happen.

So a very sincere thanks to all of those that have pitched in over the past 60 years to create the Club that we all enjoy today. A special thanks also to those that are taking on leadership roles this year and will be creating the great experiences that 2017 has in store for all of us.

We have an exciting year already being planned. Stay tuned for more information on a wide range of fly fishing opportunities coming your way.

Hope to see you on the water soon!

## PSFF NEWS

***Our Next Meeting***  
**Thursday, January 12th**  
**6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**Tower Lanes Entertainment Center**  
**6323 6th Ave.**  
**Tacoma WA 98406**

### January 2017 Program

Soul River leads Expedition to the Arctic

*"Veterans and inner-city youth share similar troubles. But they also have one important thing in common: the healing power of wild rivers. Getting outdoors onto protected, public lands inspires hope in both groups. It inspires hope in all of us. Let's conserve our lands and our waters for generations of today and tomorrow."* – Chad Brown

Chad Brown told us in January of 2015 about the two organizations, Soul River Runs Deep LLC and Soul River Inc., that helped him parlay his love for fly fishing into a tool to reach at-risk kids and veterans fighting PTSD.

He and his board organized an outing for 12 inner-city youth, 7 veterans and four volunteers to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and to the Ke-

nai National Wildlife Refuge for what was called Arctic Circle/Alaska, Cross-Cultural Science Exploration Youth and Veterans. He'll share details of the experience and update us on the Soul River organizations.

## 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://wsciiff.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

**PSFF 2016 OFFICERS AND TRUSTED SERVANTS**

**President:**

Bob Jimerson  
253-682-7768  
[bobjimerson@gmail.com](mailto:bobjimerson@gmail.com)

**President-Elect:**

Greg Shimek  
253-588-7606  
[gregs47@icloud.com](mailto:gregs47@icloud.com)

**Vice President:**

VACANT

**Secretary:**

Becci Curtis-Lillie  
253-355-2775  
[beccicurtis@yahoo.com](mailto:beccicurtis@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:**

Dennis Beardsley  
530-624-0929  
[dsb615@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dsb615@sbcglobal.net)

**Director, 1st year:**

J. Michelle Swope

**Director, 2nd year:**

Kristin Macy  
253-222-0715  
[KHMacy@live.com](mailto:KHMacy@live.com)

**Director, 3rd year:**

Thomas Lamphere  
253-298-6419  
[lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com](mailto:lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com)

**Past President:**

Paul Fournier  
206-972-2513  
[pfournier@gmail.com](mailto:pfournier@gmail.com)

**Librarian:**

Rueben Lamphere  
253-313-3062  
[lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com](mailto:lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com)

- and -

Kristin Macy

253-222-0715  
[KHMacy@live.com](mailto:KHMacy@live.com)

**Raffle:**

Thomas Lamphere  
253-298-6419  
[lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com](mailto:lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com)

**Programs:**

Chic Sundahl  
253-381-5082  
[chicster21@gmail.com](mailto:chicster21@gmail.com)

**Outdoor Activites:**

Joe Johnston  
253-857-9122  
[steelheadak@gmail.com](mailto:steelheadak@gmail.com)

- and -

Larry Vaughn

(253)219-9005  
[larrytvaughn@live.com](mailto:larrytvaughn@live.com)

**Education:**

Rueben Lamphere  
253-313-3062  
[lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com](mailto:lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com)

**Membership Chair:**

Greg Shimek  
253-588-7606  
[gregs47@icloud.com](mailto:gregs47@icloud.com)

**Conservation:**

VACANT

**Legislation:**

Mike Clancy  
360-753-1259  
[Mtclancy39@comcast.net](mailto:Mtclancy39@comcast.net)

**Web Site Editor:**

Bob Jimerson  
253-682-7768  
[bobjimerson@gmail.com](mailto:bobjimerson@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor:**

Dennis Ehlers  
[dehlers408@gmail.com](mailto:dehlers408@gmail.com)

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Dennis Ehlers, Editor  
[dehlers408@gmail.com](mailto:dehlers408@gmail.com)  
[dehlers408@yahoo.com](mailto:dehlers408@yahoo.com)  
206-229-7808

# HOT SCOOP

## Raffle news with coming items

[By Thomas Lamphere](#)

**Item #1.** This is a box of good standard nymphs for your fly box. Variations of pheasant tail nymphs for all your local river needs. With standard, flashback, and ice dub body variations you will have the advantage on the river.



**Item #2.** This is another fly box full of donated predatory flies. They even include a couple of steel leaders so that you have that extra protection on your tippet for those big sharp teeth.



**Item #3.** This is box for those winter steelhead swingers. A box with those low water condition flies for when the waters are really low and its better to go small. All of these are tied on Partridge hooks to hold up to those big winter fish.



**Item #4.** This item is a stack of balsa wood for making poppers. This is a very traditional way of making poppers and one of the most popular before foam came into the market. I will also include other materials to go with as well as a set of instructions on making Balsa wood poppers.

**Item #5.** This will be our shop surprise item. An item gotten 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** is a live auction of a Ponderay pontoon boat donated by a club member. We now also accept debit cards for auctions adding the ability for you to participate in the auction without worrying about carrying a bunch of cash or checks.

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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.

**Education:** for the month of January the class with be taught by Thomas Lamphere on steelhead flies. This is a great time to learn a few simple patterns for steelhead that are very affective. There will be a sign up sheet in the back by the raffle table for those that want take the class. Materials will be provided as well as a recipe for the flies at the class if you wish to go out and get more material to continue tying them. We will have a date at the meeting. We are working on the scheduling of the classes for the year.



February class: Looking ahead, 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 at the January meeting.



## 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 you fly so it finishes drying and is handy for gathering up later and you can easily count how many you've finished..... flies, not bottles!

(Editor – Save your single malt corks, too! The T shape they usually have is nice and stable.)

# Puget Sound Fly Fishing Fair

## Save the date!

### July 29th, 2017

Progress is moving along coordinating our 60th Anniversary celebratory event. Take a moment to mark your calendar right now for July 29, 2017 to attend the Puget Sound Fly Fishing Fair at Chambers Creek Regional Park. There will be a number of presentations, assorted exhibitors, personal watercraft demonstrations, product vendors from manufacturers such as Simms, Echo, Patagonia, Sage, Rio, Redington, Hardy, TFO, Fishpond, Outcast, Tibor and many more.

A unique feature will be a swap meet to buy/sell/trade your outdoor sporting gear. Clean out that collection of unused gear stuffed into the garage and let someone else enjoy your discards. You'd be surprised at the treasures you have.

There will also be activities for kids, and special programs geared to families and women - a group fast on the rise in the world of fly fishing.

As host of the event we will need volunteers to pull this off; fly tiers, program moderators, information gurus, casting instructors, and general logistical support. I know you will rise to the occasion. Stay tuned as the year progresses and the call for volunteerism is launched.

Remember 2017 will be a Pink Salmon year and we will have a local expert share his insider tips with you. There will also be sessions on kayak angling, targeting sea run cutts from a skiff, and maximizing your skills as a warmwater fishery angler. We've added Mike Sturza to talk about tiger muskie fishing, Skip and Carol Ann Morris will offer specialized techniques and fly fishing photography, David Paul Williams with his mastery of all things smallmouth, a session on tuna on the fly, and an expert to unravel the mysteries of all those different fly line designs.

April Vokey is scheduled to make several presentations so dust off your spey gear and pick up some new tips from British Columbia's steelhead maestro.

We have nearly filled our 15 available spots for guest speakers and worked hard to cover as many areas of fly fishing as possible.

We are also working on a **silent auction** with some customized commemorative gear celebrating our 60 years. We will be tapping many of you with specialized talents to provide items for the silent auction so get your tying table ready, your woodshop tuned up, your artist brushes cleaned, and your stellar photos matted and framed.

## Fly Fishing Academy News by Mike Clancy

2016 is over, and we are now in the planning stage for 2017. So is The Academy. We will be accepting new applications effective January 1, 2017 for another wonderful event for our girls and boys, 12 to 16 years old. What a great opportunity for these kids to learn about conservation and fly fishing. They will spend a week at Gwinwood Christian Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. June 18-24, 2017. We enjoy clean, warm cabins with showers and comfortable bunks. All meals and fly fishing gear is provided.

Our goal is to open the door to the future in conservation and fly fishing, regardless of financial means, for any serious minded youth willing to do the work.

The applicant must write an essay, stating why they would like to attend The Academy and they will need a letter of recommendation from their school counselor, science teacher, minister or a responsible person. Applications may be submitted via email or U.S. Mail.

Questions may be directed to:

Mike Clancy @ [mtclancy39@comcast.net](mailto:mtclancy39@comcast.net)

Jim Brosio @ [brosioj@q.com](mailto:brosioj@q.com) or

Tom VanGelder @ [TVG@comcast.net](mailto:TVG@comcast.net).

Applications are available on our website – [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com) email address – [nwycffa@comcast.net](mailto:nwycffa@comcast.net). And we are on Face Book.

# To a New Year 2017

A new year is upon us and there is a lot to look forward to... as of right now steelhead fishing is in full swing. What do we have to look forward to this year? The Pinks are coming, that is always a fun time to fish, I am personally going to try Olympic Peninsula Skagit Tactics set-up on my single



hand rod, in theory I should be able to fish the crowds on the river without needing a lot of space to make my casts or fish. Speaking of crowds, we will see a significant increase in the cost for fishing licenses. I wonder if this will have an impact on how many fisherman we will see on the waters this year? Could be interesting. We also have the Fly Fishing Fair at the end of July. This date will definitely be marked on my calendar, be sure to mark it on yours as well.

I hope everyone has a prosperous and healthy 2017...as well as making great memories out on the water.

Jason Bordash



*Fly Pattern: Drunkin Shrimp  
Pattern: Thomas Lamphere  
Painting: Jason Bordash*

## **Winter Cutthroat**

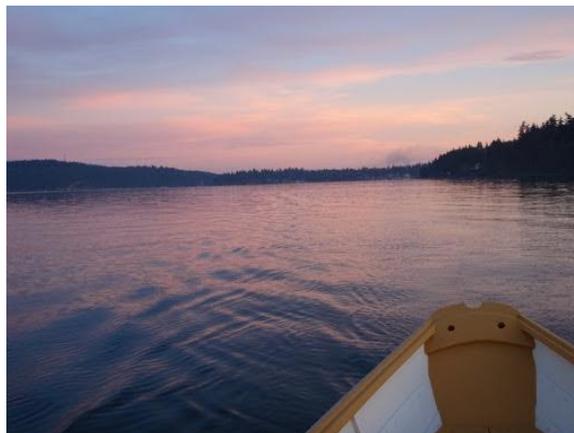
By Bob Triggs  
www.searuns.com



*Winter sea-run Cutthroat fly fishing on Puget Sound.*

***For the last few days around here the winds have been blowing a gale much of the time.*** The waters on the bay have been marl grey colored, and raging, on and off. Big waves came ashore like an invading legion, one phalanx after another came crushing onto the beaches, white foam and spume blowing up onto the rocky shores, and forty knot gusts. On days like that you wonder when you will be able to fish here again. It was like that last night, and we had trees down, power outages, etc. But by this morning it was as calm as could be, a bluebird day. The water was greenish blue, and clear as gin. The saltchuck waters clean up, sometimes within a few hours at most, after the big wind storms die down here. And we can get many mild, fishing friendly weather breaks between storms.

***This afternoon I drove down to the beach to check things out.*** I knew I wouldn't be fishing. I have been taking it easy after a bad cold knocked me out for a while. It was so nice out. There was a guy fishing out there, in the shallow water. He was dressed appropriately for the winter fishing game- like an Eskimo. The water is cold now. And when the winds get blowing, you'd better be dressed for it. I was feeling pangs of withdrawal, watching this fellow wading and casting, the water so flat, the sun shining. But in the distance I could see a squall, making its way down from the mountains, and I rolled up my window to shut out the cold air rushing along with it. Within minutes the rain was blowing down hard, the sky darkened. There was sleet in the mix, hammering at my windshield as I drove to town for coffee. In a few minutes it was clear and sunny again, and the waters calmed. Everything had that fresh sparkle to it. There was a nice rainbow arched over town as I drove in. That's the way it is here now. We play it by ear. But we can fish all winter if we like.



*"End of the day"*

# *Fly of The Month (flashback)*

Credit to FFF Website

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month  
**January, 2001- Quill Gordon**



## **Quill Gordon: An American first by our first fly fishing legend** By Jim Abbs

While fly fishing historians may quibble about the details, the popular vote for father of American Fly Fishing is none other than a sickly fellow from New York, who was better to know through his writings than in person. Theodore Gordon was born before the American Civil War and apparently fished the Catskill streams as early as his teens. For the 25 years between 1890 and 1915, he was a prolific fishing writer, publishing over one hundred short articles of various kinds, mostly in British magazines like *The Fishing Gazette* and *Forest and Stream*. However, his modern-day household fame comes primarily from his connection (with some question about fact versus fiction) with the development of a classic and widely admired dry fly style, the Catskill flies.

These patterns, which are particularly effective on the broken eastern U.S. waters for imitating certain mayfly species, are different from the no-hackle or low riding adult mayfly imitations. Gary LaFontaine calls these classic Catskill patterns the tiptoe flies, referring the fact that when they are properly tied, only the hackles and the tail touch the water. To achieve this high riding feature, the Catskill flies are quite different from the heavily dressed flies like the adams or the coachman. Others have described the Catskill patterns as having a particularly "clean" or Spartan appearance, which adds to their appeal.

With respect to imitation, the most famous Catskill fly, the Quill Gordon is first in another respect. It does a particularly effective job at imitating one of the earliest hatching large mayflies on many Pennsylvania and New York streams, starting as early as mid-April. The size of these flies and the time of their hatch apparently cause trout to feed eagerly. These mayflies (*Epeorus pleuralis*) are found in the faster sections of eastern rivers and thus have difficulty getting off the fast water, making them easy victims to winter-starved trout.

Why is this the fly of the month for January? Perhaps one way to survive this especially cold and snowy winter of 2001 is to keep in mind that even in the frozen northern U.S., this great hatch is only four months away.

*(Continued on page 12)*

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## **MATERIALS**

**HOOK:** Mustad 94833, 94849, or Tiemco 5230 (# 12 to 14)

**HREAD:** Olive or gray

**HACKLE:** Blue dun stiff

**WING:** Barred woodduck flank, or mallard dyed wood duck

**BODY:** Stripped herl from the peacock eye

**TAIL:** Stiff dun hackle fibers

## **TYING STEPS**

1. Tie in thread immediately behind hook eye and create base of thread almost to the hook bend.
2. Select a single wood duck flank feather and separate out about one inch of tip (for a size 12-14 hook). Stroke and fold the tips to form a bunch of fibers.
3. Pinch the bunch of fibers between the thumb and forefinger and position it so it about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the distance between the hook bend and eye so the fibers extend beyond the eye of the hook roughly the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the size of the hook gap. The wings when elevated should be about 2 times the hook gap.
4. Tie in the fibers in place, wrapping the thread forward and then backward. Trim the butts of the fibers and then wrap in front of the wing fibers (4-5 wraps should be adequate) and position the wing upright.
5. Wrap thread back to bend of hook. Select stiff blue dun fibers for tail and position these fibers so the tail extends beyond the length of the tail about 2 times the size of the hook gap. Tie the fibers in place.
6. Select a peacock quill with from the eye with a distinct degree of dark and light contrast and strip the herl barbules off by scraping them off with your thumb and forefinger. If you are tying many of these flies, pre-stripped fibers can be purchased or the herl can be removed with bleach.
7. Wrap the peacock herl forward to just behind the wing and tie off.
8. Tie in a stiff blue dun dry fly hackle just behind the wings and wind thread forward to the tie off area behind the hook eye (in front of the wings). Wrap the hackle forward both behind and in front of the hook eye. Tie off and lacquer head as well as quill body.

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.  
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at [flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org)

# PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
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January 1, 2017 <b>NEW YEARS DAY</b>	2	3	4 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	12 PSFF General Mtg 6:00	13	14
15	16	17	18 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	19 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	20	21
22	23	24 <b>Newsletter Deadline 5 PM</b>	25 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00 Puyallup Sports- man Show	26 Puyallup Sports- man Show	27 Puyallup Sports- man Show	28 Puyallup Sports- man Show
29 Puyallup Sports- man Show	30	31				

			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	15 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	16 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	17	18 Lynnwood Fly Fishing Show
19 Lynnwood Fly Fishing Show	20	21 <b>Newsletter Deadline 5 PM</b>	22 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	23	24	25
26	27	28				

**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 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.