



Leader Line

What Makes a Club More Than a Club?

Engagement. It's about creating a sense of friendship, community, sharing, involvement. We do that at in-person meetings, outings, classes, picnics and our own little slice of social media.

The PSFF Forum offers a platform where members can chat about what and where to fish. Users can also post events, share resources, ask questions and organize outings. The Board of Directors and Committee Chairs encourage members at every meeting to give it a try, describing how easy it is to post items. It has taken awhile, but it seems the Forum is catching fire among the membership.

The General Discussion category has been a real eye opener. Here is where most members post questions and comments about everything fly-fishing. David Pettit ("Repairing Waders"), Steve Saville ("Great Day on the Yak"), Lance Leonard ("Chinese Mitten Cream"), Fred Olin ("Getting Started") to name a few.

Julie Kelner has used the Outings: Club and Personal category to make sure club members are kept up to date on all club fishouts ("Walk and Wade Outing North Fork Skokomish River"). Other club members share intel and their experience on local fishing waters (Jim Baker, "Lake Kokanee"), also photos of personal fishing trips in Washington (Rob Jensen, "Eastern WA Trout Quest") and beyond (Alan Yamashita, "Spey Clave at Ox Bow Park").

Next Meeting
July 10

Dinner 6:30 PM
Program 7:30 PM

Tower Lanes
6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Posts on the Fly-Tying category have been numerous. Mike Trask ("Hobo Intruder"), Paul Fournier ("Refining the Frog"), David Frazier ("The Ties That Bind"), Robert Gerlach ("Tuesday Night Tying"), Ron McNeal ("HIP, HIP for the Hippy Stomper"), Jim Baker ("Atomic Slush Boobie"), Bryan Habeck ("Cheap Tool Holder"), and many more, have shared fly-tying methods and a multitude of related tying topics.

The under-appreciated category of Classifieds is always worth a look, so to speak: Jason Hardt ("NIB Waterproof Digital Camera \$175 obo,"), Dennis Beardsley ("Kayak Cart and Window Mount for Car-Top Loading"), Paul Fournier ("EIDE 12v Boat Loader for Sale") and Mike Koslosky ("Beulah Rod for Sale").

The Forum has become a measure of the health of Puget Sound Fly-Fishers. Our members have shown that they want to share information, techniques and skills, ask questions and learn from each other to make them better anglers. If you haven't participated in this club resource, please give it a try. Start as a looky-lou. Write a post. Become a Top Contributor. Make new friends. Be an active member of your fly-fishing community.



Now Go Fish,

Tess Frazier
President

Programs

Tim Flagler

In July we welcome Tim Flagler, the owner of Tightline Productions. Tim is a well-known fly tying instructor and video producer. His YouTube videos ([practicalpatterns.com](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpracticalpatterns)) are some of the best in the business, with over 122,000 subscribers and 40 million views. He produces new videos weekly, which are also featured on Midcurrent, Trout Unlimited's website, and in the Orvis Learning Center and blog. In addition, he has a regular column "Beginner's Masterclass with Tim Flagler" in Fly Tyer magazine, which selected Tim as their "Fly Tyer of the Year" in 2022.



Many of Tim's videos delve beyond tying to show what flies look like underwater, what natural it represents and how it can be fished. Tim's a fixture at Fly Fishing Shows and does monthly "Tie-Offs" with Tom Rosenbauer (Orvis) and Cheech Pierce (Fly Fish Food). He enjoys guiding year round for South Branch Outfitters (formerly Shannon's Fly & Tackle) in Califon, NJ and hosts annual trips to Patagonia in the spring and to the Kootenai River in MT and Northern British Columbia in the summer.

Tim's presentation will be "What Trout Like to Eat & Flies to Feed Them". As one of Tim's most popular topics, this recently updated video-based presentation includes incredible underwater footage of a variety of aquatic insects, bait fish and crustaceans that trout eat. In addition, Tim will share the fly patterns we use to best imitate the variety of bugs discussed. Instructions on how to tie the patterns shared in this presentation can be found on Tim's YouTube channel.



Mark Paul
Programs

Raffles

Pink, Pink, Pink!!!

Been saving up, gathering up and buying up. Got enough pink flies to catch a 1/2 million of the pinks that are coming our way. Steve Saville has tied up and donated a dozen of his Dash Point Specials (which are going to cost two tickets), David Frazier donated his collection and I bought eight varieties of pink salmon flies from Big Y in Hood River.

BUT I also have several large collections donated by Al Veitenhans, a 93-year-old

former member from Gig Harbor for you fresh water guys! Many are classics from Montana. Also, please remember me when you're making room for your new pink collection! And don't forget my "money-back guarantee".



*Fred Olin
Raffles*

Outings

Walk and Wade Outing – North Fork Skokomish River

Want to enjoy a beautiful river, nature and hopefully a few fish in our local National Park?

Join me on **Monday July 14th at 8:30 AM** at the Staircase Campground bridge.

The North Fork of the Skokomish is a beautiful, clear, clean and cold river. There are Cutthroat Trout and I have heard there may be Dolly Varden present. All species are catch and release on single-pointed barbless hooks.

There is easy river access right from the campground. Also, if you follow the Rapid Loop Trail, you can access the river by some side trails and way points. The rocks in the water are really slick, so be careful, wear appropriate wading boots and bring your wading staff! I will probably not wear waders-just wading boots and socks unless it's raining. But the water is really cold, so be prepared! A 4 or 5 weight rod will work well. I have caught fish nymphing, but bring dry flies too.

I plan on meeting folks on the bridge next to parking at the campground between 8:30 and

9 AM to offer directions to river points if you've never been there. There is a beautiful loop trail that follows the river and is well worth the walk! [Staircase Area Brochure- Olympic National Park](#)

The access to the North Fork for this outing is located in the Olympic National Park from the Staircase Campground. Basically, drive to Hoodport on the Hood Canal and turn on WA-119/Lake Cushman road. Follow until the end (about 15 miles) and you will get to the park entrance booth. There is a fee to enter the park, and the cost varies by pass type. The America the Beautiful pass, Annual pass, Senior pass and Vereran/Military will get your vehicle in. If the booth is closed, display your pass on your dash. If you don't have a pass, you can pay that day fee (\$15-30; no cash). More info about the Park fees [HERE](#).

There is no cell service in the Park.
Driving directions from Tower Lanes [HERE](#).

I hope you can join us! Please contact me to RSVP or for questions

juliekeln@gmail.com
(360) 731-2202



*Julie Keln
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.

Membership

Welcome to July 2025

We continue to see new members join PSFF. You will find below bios to help you get acquainted. Please reach out and welcome Fred, Paul, and Mark at the next meeting or outing.

FRED BRANTNER

I'm originally from Minnesota and grew up in a family that loved the outdoors. I spent much of my time hunting and fishing; especially in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, where conventional fishing was a big part of our lives. My introduction to fly fishing came when my wife, Polly, and I won a half-day guided fly-fishing trip. Our guide was Todd Groat, the pastor at Reeves Church in Clear Lake, WI. We started the day learning to cast a piece of yarn into a hula hoop in the church parking lot. Once we got the hang of it, we crossed the street to a small creek and had a blast catching little brook trout. We were instantly hooked. That Father's Day, Polly surprised me with a full set of fly-fishing gear. As I unwrapped my gifts, she revealed that she had her own gear as well. We were excited to get started but quickly found ourselves overwhelmed by all the new terminology; fly lines, leaders, tippets, dry flies, emergers, and more. In the end, we never actually used the fly-fishing equipment Polly had bought. Instead, we bought a motorcycle and stuck with conventional fishing during our free time. In September 2018, we moved to Gig Harbor, Washington, without the motorcycle. Once settled, we decided to give fly fishing another try. We booked a guided trip with Blake from the Gig Harbor Fly Shop, and I started watching YouTube videos to learn as much as I could. Polly's boss, Eric Lansford, is an avid fly fisher, and he introduced me to Mike Merringer. Mike kindly offered to teach me how to cast with a fly rod, despite my ingrained habits from years of conventional fishing. He also told me about the PSFF beginners' course in Gig Harbor, which I attended. That class reignited my passion for fly fishing and introduced me to Darin Rich, who has since become a good friend. I introduced Darin to



Mike, and now the three of us practice casting together every week, benefiting from Mike's excellent coaching. Since returning to fly fishing, Polly and I have fished under the Narrows Bridge and in Olalla Bay. I've also enjoyed guided float trips down the Yakama River for trout and the Upper Hoh River for steelhead. Darin and I fished at Crescent Lake in Gig Harbor, where he caught a nice rainbow trout and I landed a small crappie, the first fish I've caught on a fly rod in Washington! A bit about myself: I work at BDO as an IT security consultant, helping companies that process credit card payments protect their customers' information. This September, Polly and I will celebrate our 35th wedding anniversary. We have two sons, Richard, who lives in Seattle, and Zachary, who lives in Phoenix, AZ. I'm not retired yet, so I don't get to fish as often as I'd like, but I plan to keep listening, learning, practicing, and, of course, fishing.

PAUL HOLLISTER

I grew up in Philadelphia, PA and had a career as a high school wood shop teacher. My fly-fishing experience so far has been two classes, the first was 15 years ago and most recently a month ago. I enjoy surfing and love anything with water.



Membership

MARK PLATTA

I have lived in Rhinelander, Wisconsin as an adolescent and Brainerd, Minnesota as adult. I learned how to fly fish at 7 yrs old and taught myself to tie flies at age 8. I have fished in Wisconsin, Upper Peninsula Michigan, Minnesota, Canada, and Montana; for panfish, bass, brook, brown and rainbow trout, northern pike, whitefish, and grayling. I have a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Water Resources, Master's degree in Anatomy and Microbiology. I have taught a variety of biology courses and chemistry labs at Central Lakes College for 35 years. In addition, I worked for several state and federal agencies dealing with forest management based on insects and disease issues. We have two adult sons that are married and live in the Puget Sound area.

*Joe Harrison
Membership*



July Anniversaries/Years

Jason Hardt	1	Craig Ottavelli	2	David Peel	
Gary Jordan	1	Jeff Meachem	2	Jeffery Pikul	6
Jeffery Phan	1				

Education

July

No Education programming until September.



*Rob Jensen
Education*



Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International (WSCFFI) & Governmental Affairs

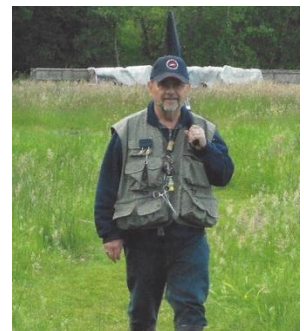
NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

Live from Panhandle Lake 4H camp, I'm reporting on the 2025 NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy that is happening as I write this article. What an absolute amazing program 16 boys and girls are receiving this week. Fly tying, casting, instruction from professional individuals. The individuals that took over the responsibility to continue the Academy after Jim Brosier and I needed to move on, took over the program and have done an amazing job in making it still work. Fortunately, we/they moved the event to Panhandle Lake West of Shelton. The facility is just great. Sadly, a serious fire at Hicks Lake destroyed the main building where the whole event was conducted. Lodging at Panhandle for the kids is wonderful, the class instruction facility is perfect and the dining room is great. The meals are very good for the size of the

group. We are so fortunate to have this event for our children. Obviously, as reported, I can't say enough about The Academy. So folks, if you have a candidate for next year, check out the website – www.nwycffa.com.

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

Mel's 20 page booklet is available by contacting me at mtclancy39@comcast.net. This is an absolutely wonderful booklet to fish the searun cutthroat in our area. It was published years ago and we have sold many to the fly fishing community. It is easy reading with recommendations for catching the searun fish in our local waters. We recommend a \$1000 dollar donation, but a \$10 donation will work. Did that get your attention?



*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

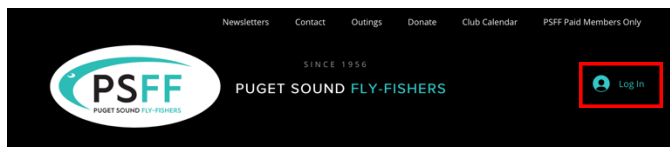


Figure 2

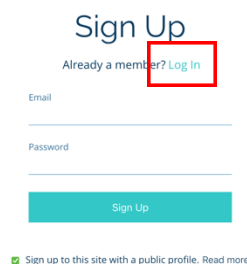


Figure 4

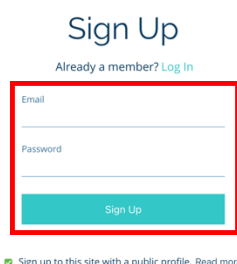
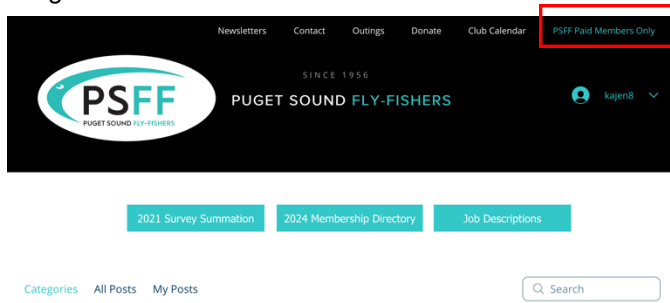


Figure 3



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