



LEADER LINE

Your Curated Guide to Guiderisms



I've been mostly blessed with being able to spend time on the water with professional fishing guides. I say mostly because there are always a few worms in any apple barrel.

But whether wiggly or squiggly (if you get my nuanced drift) all those in the guide culture are a reliable source of mnemonic admonitions and advice. Quaint, rhymey and concise instructions for the fly-fisher. Have you ever been babysitting a bobber on a river when, in the middle of a mind-numbing reverie you hear your guide shrieking, "Set! Set!! Set!!!"

Next Meeting
JULY 9

Dinner
Program

6:30 PM
7:30 PM

Tower Lanes

6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

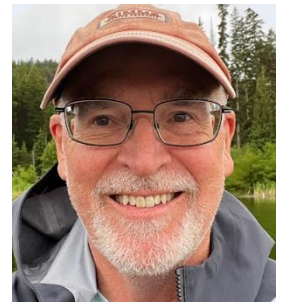
LEADER LINE (continued)

And then, pathetically, followed by the dusty old adage, “Hook sets are free.” There never seems to be a shortage of guide sayings. In case you missed any, here are some pro tips I have culled from my time going with the flow (snide comments compliments of the author):

Wisdom From the Pros

“Foam is home.” (There’s no place like foam.)
“Wood is good.” (Refers to actual wood.)
“Rocks rock.” (Unless you’re stuck on one.)
“The seam is the dream.” (Especially if there’s foam, wood and rocks involved.)
“Deep and slow is where they go.” (I’m hoping this refers to the fish.)
“Look for the nervous water.” (It’s the best place to find jittery trout.)
“Drag is a drag.” (Except for RuPaul.)
“High stick to slick the drift.” (Say again?)
“Mend it or end it.” (Also good marital advice.)
“Keep your tip in the dip.” (Referring to the rod tip, presumably.)
“Set on the flash, don’t wait for the splash.” (But if you set too hard, it may be you making the splash.)
“It ain’t no use if it ain’t chartreuse.” (Or blue, the color of the year.)
“Chucking the meat.” (This refers to big flies.)

“Chuck and duck.” (A reminder to not impale yourself when casting a heavy fly. See above.)
“Never fish two days in a row on the same lie.” (It’s always better to tell the truth.)
“Match the hatch, or scratch.” (Scratch what?)
“If you aren’t snagging the bottom, you aren’t fishing.” (Because snagging your bottom is a real pain in the ...)
“Big flies, big fish.” (Promises, promises.)
“Dark day, dark fly. Bright day, bright fly.” (Bring your mood ring.)
“Don’t trout set, strip set.” (The Statue of Liberty pose is out of vogue.)
“LDR.” (Long Distance Release, which always makes me feel better.)
“You can’t catch a fish with your fly in the trees.” (Some days, the tree is the only tug you’re going to get.)
“Paint the fence, don’t just throw the brush.” (a.k.a. The Tom Sawyer approach.)
“It’s called fishing, not catching.” (Right.)
“You should have been here yesterday.” (A classic!)



*David Frazier
President*

Are You Ready?

Ask not what your club can do for you, ask what you can do for your club. Have you ever thought about taking the next step in your involvement in PSFF? Consider one of several leadership positions that come open from time to time. Ask around. Volunteers agree they get as much if not more out of their positions as they put in.

Let’s talk!

By the end of this year, PSFF will have key committee chair vacancies that provide so much for its members: Newsletter Editor and 1st year Director. To learn more about these opportunities, go to PSFF.org and click “More” at the top of the home screen. Select “Roles and Responsibilities,” which provides a list of PDFs that outline the duties. Or click [HERE](#).

- David Frazier

PROGRAMS

JESSICA LINKEMYER



Jessica will be presenting about the projects ongoing with the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group.

Jessica Linkemyer is the education and outreach coordinator at the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group. In 2023, Jessica graduated

from the University of Washington - Tacoma with her bachelor's degree in Environmental Science: Geoscience. In college, she started working at Foss Waterway Seaport, where she fell in love with teaching elementary students about the life history of salmon. Outside of work, you can find Jessica fishing in front of the Point Defiance Marina or packing up to the alpine lakes to flyfish for trout.



*Tim McKey
Programs*

FROM THE LIBRARIAN

July: General Fly-Fishing

At the July meeting, the library will feature books about general fly-fishing, i.e. everything **except** fly tying and fishing destinations. As always, you can look at the library spreadsheet on the web site and reserve ahead of time any title that you would like to check out.

Please remember the library guidelines when checking out books: *Check-out privileges are for members only. *Please fill out the library card with your name & date and drop the card in the “catch and release” basket. *Books are due two months after the check-out date.



*Tom Krughoff
Librarian*

RAFFLES

July's Raffle will be more of the same - a great assortment of flies and fishing equipment. New this month is over two dozen choices of new line. Those of you who have Spey rods and know your preferred weight (in grams) will have an opportunity to upgrade your assortment for only \$10. There are also choices for silvers, steelhead and black mouth.

The free table will contain books to entertain and educate.

*Fred Olin
Raffles*



OUTINGS

July - Little Naches/Naches Rivers

The outing for **July 18-19** will be on the Little Naches and Naches Rivers. Our meeting spot will be at the [Kaner Flats Campground](#). I will be there on Friday the 17th to set up camp and do some scouting. At this point there are 15 First come First serve non-electric campsites that will be available starting on Friday the 17th. I will post my campsite number by Friday noon. I missed the window to reserve a spot for the weekend. Sat/Sun you can meet at my site at 8:30 AM to gather info and coordinate with other member(s) to fish together if you wish. For some of you the distance to drive to Kaner could be a daytrip. The [Little Naches Campground](#) is another option about 5 minutes away with vault toilets, potable water and no electricity.

Fishing

I have never fished this area but have learned that it can be productive. The Little Naches will have smaller cutthroat and rainbows. Like its name the water is little compared to the Naches River. This will make it easier for folks to walk and wade without being concerned with stronger currents. Typically after July 4th the upper Naches River is walkable and wade-fishable.

The native Westslope Cutthroat trout and Rainbows will be present and could have some size to them in the Naches River. This is bigger water with bigger rocks. Please be mindful of currents and walking conditions. Proper soled wading boots and wading staff are most helpful for your safety!

Flies

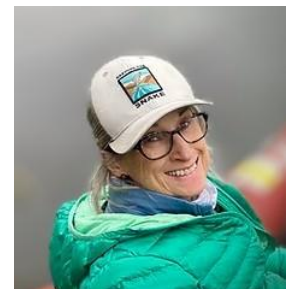
Bring staple flies like Elk hair caddis, PMD, parachute adams, purple haze, yellow mayflies, PMD, stone fly nymphs (like Pat's Rubber Legs), caddis nymphs, chubby chernobyl, and whatever flies you have confidence in. Also throw in a streamer...you never know!

Access Points

I am gathering information about the access points. I will have the handout ready for the July 9th meeting and will post online under the members-only OUTINGS group. Let me know if you might be coming, even just for the day! Email julielkelner@gmail.com.

Best,

*Julie Kelner
Outings*



Outings



JANUARY

Watch the Groups for a FLASH outing
(weather permitting)

FEBRUARY

The Fly-Fishing Show

Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue
Saturday-Sunday, February 14-15th

MARCH

Annual PSFF Rendezvous

Yakima River – Whispering Pines Campground
CleElum Friday-Sunday April 24-26th

APRIL

Cady Lake

Mason County
Saturday April 18th

MAY

Lake Kokanee

Hoodsport Mason County
Wednesday May 20th

JUNE

Cedar River

Auburn WA
Tuesday June 23rd

JULY

Naches River

Campground on River
July 18th & 19th

AUGUST

Annual Club Picnic

11 AM – 4 PM
Saturday August 15th

Hood Canal Watershed

Womens Outing Dosewallips
River
Tuesday August 18th

SEPTEMBER

TBA

Saturday September 19th

OCTOBER

TBA

NOVEMBER

Black Friday - Get Outside and Fish

WDFW stocked lake of choice

Friday November 27th

DECEMBER

Watch the Groups for a FLASH outing
(weather permitting)

CONSERVATION

Welcome to summer!

I am sure many of you have seen this [YouTube video](#) on things that can hurt trout. It reviews the methods we can all follow to minimize the risk of trout or salmon mortality. The items touched on include:

- minimize the fight time
- use barbless hooks
- don't try to extract deep set hooks (cut the line)
- be mindful of water temperatures (>67F is tough on trout)
- use a rubber net
- minimize physical handling
- limit air exposure to <10 seconds

Conservation can happen at many organizational levels. These approaches provide an opportunity to practice conservation each time a fish is caught.



*Steve Knowles
Conservation*

I took a look through the following websites for near term volunteer opportunities. Each of these groups has a steady stream of events, so if you are interested in direct participation in conservation work I encourage you to see what's new at these sites.

[Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group](#)

[Nisqually Stream Stewards](#)

[Nisqually Land Trust](#)

[Pierce Conservation District](#)

This month I'd like to highlight the [Columbia Riverkeepers](#). This group focuses their conservation efforts on a wide range of projects to improve the Columbia River watershed. Given the breadth of this watershed the scope of their work is broad. Their [Annual Impact Report](#) and their [Victories](#) website give a good sense of what they focus on and what they have recently achieved. There is a strong emphasis on legislative, advocacy, and education initiatives.

EDUCATION

Fly Tying

Tying sessions resume in September.



*Rob Jensen
Education*

Casting

There will be a joint casting session with SSFF (South Sound Fly Fishers) on **Saturday, September 12 at 10:00AM** at Tumwater Historical Park, (802 Deschutes Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501). This session will be open to all who want to work on their casting technique, even if you are not interested in the FCSD program ([FCSD LINK](#)).

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to July 2026

New Members

Our membership is currently at 130 members. We continue to see new members join PSFF. Please reach out and welcome Will Doyle, Steve Metzner, and Robert Steele at the next meeting or outing they attend.

Will Doyle

I grew up in San Jose, CA but have lived in Nashville TN for the last 22 years. Almost all of my fly fishing has been in the south. I've chased trout in the Smoky Mountains and Appalachian Mountains including TN, GA, KY, NC and VA. I also love fly fishing for smallmouth and have done that all over the south as well. I've made some trips to western states for trout fishing. I have family here and have fished a bit for sea runs during my previous trips. I'm a professor at Vanderbilt— my wife and I bought a place in Port Orchard to be closer to family here. I'm on sabbatical this year and so I'm eager to spend more time learning about fishing in the NW.



Steve Metzner

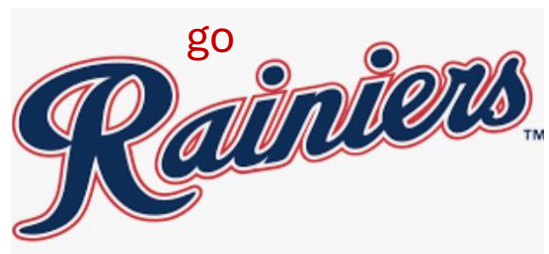
I grew up in Bucks County, PA. In 1993 I was in West Yellowstone and bought a RL Winston IM6 fly rod at West Yellowstone Outfitters and the hook was set. I have fished the Madison, Henrys Fork, Spokane, Grand Ronde, Yakima, Wenatchee, Snoqualmie Middle Fork, Chehalis and Cedar but most of my fishing time has been spent float-tubing on lakes. I lived on Queen Anne in Seattle for 40 years and moved to Gig Harbor 5 years ago and lost most of my fishing and diving buddies.



MEMBERSHIP (continued)

Robert Steele

I am not much of a fly fisherman, but want to learn. Connie and I live in West Seattle and are both retired and love the outdoors. We both volunteer at Billy Franks Wildlife Refuge. We have 5 children, one in West Seattle, my daughter is a physician and lives in Minneapolis, my son is a photographer for the Detroit Art Museum, my youngest daughter lives in Southern California and is a fabric designer. Connie has a son in Delaware who is a software engineer. We have 5 grand kids.



July Anniversaries/Years

Kell Conlon	1	Gilbert Wood	1
John Emerson	1	Jason Hardt	2
Jessi Knutson	1	Jeff Meacham	3



*Joe Harrison
Membership*

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

FFI Annual FlyFest comes to the West Coast

FlyFest brings anglers of all ages and skill levels together under one roof for a weekend built around learning, sharing, and celebrating fly fishing. From hands-on instruction to meaningful conversations, everything is designed to meet you where you are.

FlyFest is where the fly fishing community comes together to learn, connect, and experience the sport at its best. Over three days in Redding, September 24-26, anglers will find world-class casting instruction, fly tying demonstrations, educational seminars, conservation conversations, and a vibrant consumer trade show featuring the brands, outfitters, and organizations shaping fly fishing today. It's a place to discover new gear, build meaningful relationships, plan future adventures, and deepen your skills on and off the water.



For attendees, it's an immersive experience that stays with you long after the weekend ends. For sponsors and exhibitors, it's a rare opportunity to engage directly with a highly dedicated audience in a setting built on trust, education, and shared passion for the future of fly fishing.

George Daniel to be Headline Speaker "George Daniel represents the very best of fly fishing education," said Tilda Evans, FFI Board Chair. "His passion for teaching, depth of knowledge, and ability to connect with anglers make him an ideal fit for FlyFest. We are thrilled to welcome him as a Headline Presenter."

Then Fly Shop of Redding, CA is the host organization and if you want to see a shop with a comprehensive collection of offerings The Fly Shop can't be beat. Redding is also a dynamic city straddling the Sacramento River and its iconic Sundial Bridge.

For registration visit the FFI website [HERE](#).



Mike Koslosky
WSCFFI Membership Director
membership@WSCFFI.org

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL OF FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS (continued)

The Fly Shop Presents “FFI” FLYFEST 2026

September 24-26 (Redding, CA)

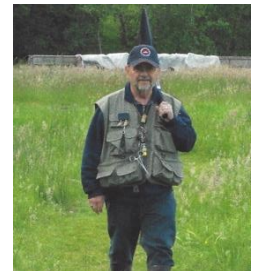
Registration is now open. FlyFest offers 3 full days of educational presentation, fly tying and casting demos, a trade show, and time set aside for fly fishing, food and fellowship, all under one roof and covered by a single registration fee. More info [HERE](#).

Fly Fishing for Searun Cutthroat in South Puget Sound by Mel Hurd, longtime member of SSFF

We request a donation of \$10 or more to cover the postage and printing. My labor is free. Order [HERE](#). Payment can be made via the PayPal link, or mail a check to Lee Yeager, our treasurer at: SSFF PO Box 2792, Olympia, WA 98507.

It’s a wonderful booklet, easy reading, and where and when to fish for Searun Cutthroat in South Puget Sound. It also recommends what equipment to use.

PS – I’m happy to report that I acquired my Silver Casting level with the coaching and assistance of Tim Bartley and Murry Boulware. Thank you gentlemen. Greatly appreciated.



*Mike Clancy
Legislation & FFI*

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Puget Sound Fly-Fishers is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization
which can accept donations and bequeaths.

Consider including PSFF in your estate planning to invest in future generations
of fly fishers, with our thanks.