

December 2022
Volume 66 #12



Leader Line
Steve Saville
President

Happy Holidays!

Thanksgiving has come and gone. It's my favorite holiday each year. Good food (The turkey was excellent), family, and the anticipation of this coming month. My grandchildren are buzzing. There are all kinds of crafts being completed and hopefully I can get the house lights up. I like the month of December as well.

There was a lot happening this past month. The weather was remarkably different than in past years. Cold! I have to admit that when it comes to cold weather, I am pure and simple, a sissy. I can't stand cold weather so I have confined my outside activities to raking leaves and my morning walks. The leaf raking has come to an end, finally. The rest of the time I have spent either reading a novel or better yet, sitting at my vise and tying flies in anticipation of a warm weather trip three years in the making. January marks the end of the wait for a trip to Christmas Island in search of Bonefish and

Giant trevally. Alas, the government has again closed air travel to the island, and I will once again be sitting on the sidelines. It is a blow to all of those who booked trips but more to the people who live there who will not have the revenue that has been missing for more than three years.

This past month I had the opportunity to visit and sit in on the regular meeting of South Sound Fly Fishers. They have had, like us, a difficult year, getting their membership back to meetings, according to President Lee Yeager. But this past month saw more than thirty members showing up for elections and a presentation by Chester Allen on tying and fishing soft hackle flies. We are in the process of getting Chester back for a visit and presentation. Not only is Chester a good presenter but he is also an author. I was able to secure a copy of his latest book titled Yellowstone Runners. I look forward to reading the stories and passages in the book now that my trip has been canceled again.

There was also a significant if not monumental decision handed down recently by Commissioner of Public Lands, Hilary Franz. After several years

Next Meeting
December 8, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Tower Lanes

Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Program 7:15 p.m.

of litigation and downright fighting, Cooke Industries suffered a fatal blow as far as the waters of Puget Sound go. If you haven't heard already or didn't see the news story, Cooke has until December 14th to remove all net pens from Puget Sound. Commissioner Franz denied further permits for fish farms in Puget Sound with no opportunities to renew leases. This is truly a blow for the good of our local waters. The net pens have spread disease and pollution in the Sound for years. There was also a catastrophic loss of nearly 250,000 Atlantic Salmon a few years back when the net pens failed and released the non-native salmon into our Sound and nearby rivers. It's an opportunity to cleanup affected areas.

Next month we will mark our second annual planning meeting. Board members and Committee chairmen will meet to map out the coming year of club activities. Our meeting is planned for January 6th so if there is something that you may wish to include in the coming year, please let me or another board member know so it can be included in our planning agenda, As always, your input is requested and desired. We want to make your club experience as good as possible.

Finally, I would like to wish all of you a healthy and happy holiday season, from my family to yours. Please be safe out there. Drive carefully and watch out for the kids. They will be out of school.

Happy Holidays and tight lines.



Education

Mike Koslosky

Need Casting Help?

It's said the best casters catch the most fish. If you would like to improve your casting or learn some new casts contact new member Mike Merringer at; mmerringer21@gmail.com. Mike has been training

to earn his Certified Casting Instructor title but could use more time teaching students. Some of you might remember him from last season when he, Robert Gerlach and Carl Zarelli helped us work out our casting kinks at Titlow Park. Mike needs you just as much as you need him so set up a mutually convenient time and tighten those loops.

Fly Tying

We are heading to Nahwatzel Lake for this month FishOut on Saturday, December 10, 10-3. But, since December is one heckuva a busy month with family activities, shopping, parties, and general carousing we will dispense with an in-person fly tying session. Instead here are a couple references to tying some Chironomid patterns to get your skills honed to fish for those fatties Nawhatzel Lake is noted for.

*Remember, keep 'em trim, no fat chironomids

YouTube videos;

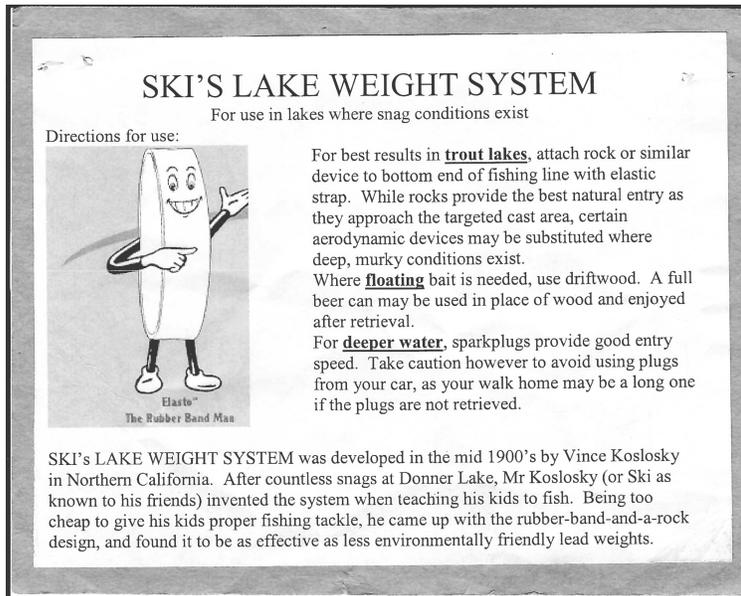
Tying a free swimming blood worm with Barry Ord Clark
Grahams Bloodworm Fly Pattern

Tip of the Month

Not so much a tip for us fly fishers but a fun blast from the past to liven your Holiday Mood during these dark times.

As a kid growing up in California my folks would take me and my 11 siblings camping at Donner Lake State Park. My dad would spend hours bait fishing along the rocky lake shore soaking Pautzke Balls O' Fire salmon eggs and losing sinkers at an alarming rate due to the rocks and boulders underwater where the trout hung out. With 12 mouths to feed on his blue collar factory job, even spending money on sinkers was a luxury he couldn't afford. Lo and behold he devised a workaround to keep his money in his pocket and some trout frying on the Coleman stove back at

camp. The technique, memorialized by my brother-in-law Bob Strange honors my dad's ingenuity;



Outings David Frazier

Nahwatzel Lake, 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 10
Meet for breakfast (see below) at 8:30 a.m.

“Fall plants into Nahwatzel make it a great fall fishery but also a fine winter opportunity.”
— Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

... Which is why we've saved this outing for the end of the year. With relatively shallow edges up to only about 25 feet in depth, the 280-acre Nahwatzel Lake is the perfect spot for slow trolling and bobber hopping for bigger rainbows and resident cutthroat. Dress appropriately for the colder weather and be ready with the usual lake set-ups of intermediate, sink-tip and full-sinking lines on 4- to 6-weight rods.

Directions: Nahwatzel is in Mason County, about an hour from Tower Lanes. From Tacoma, take I-5 south to Olympia, then north on Hwy 101 to Shelton. From there, travel west on West Shelton Matlock Rd for about 13 miles (19 minutes) to Nahwatzel fishing access and boat launch, which is directly off the road on the right.

Breakfast Meet-Up: 8:30 a.m. at Blondie's Restaurant, 628 W Railroad Ave, Shelton.

Please RSVP if you are interested in attending.
Contact: David Frazier dfrazier@wavecable.com
(360) 265-6963

American Lake Report

Six hearty souls arrived at Black Bear Diner to fill our bellies and stiffen our resolves before heading down I-5 to American Lake (Rob Jensen, Mark Paul, Mike Koslosky, Ryan Puddy, Jim Baker and myself). The day was a bell-ringer, clear, windless and cold — in the low 30s when we started. Still, except for the frozen layer on the boat launch, we were all dressed appropriately and it really didn't seem that cold. Very comfortable in the sun.



Rob Jensen gearing up at WDFD boat launch

January Outing

Munn Lake, 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 28

OUTINGS 2022

Reel Moments



Park Lake



Columbia River



Snoqualmie River



Leech Lake



Naches River



Cady Lake

Outings 2023



By David Frazier | Outings Chair

JANUARY

Munn Lake, Saturday, **Jan. 28**, 10 a.m.

FEBRUARY

Rocky Ford, Wednesday-Thursday, **Feb. 22-23**

MARCH

a) Yakima River, Monday-Wednesday, **March 6-8** (full moon March 7)

b) NW Fly-Tyer and Fishing Expo, Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany, OR, Friday-Saturday, **March 10-11**

APRIL

Spencer Lake, Saturday, **April 22**, 9 a.m.

MAY

a) Annual PSFF Gathering: Park Lake, Sun Village Resort, Friday-Sunday, **May 19-21**

b) Mineral Lake, Saturday, **May 27**, 9 a.m.

JUNE

a) Lake Kapowsin (bass), Saturday, **June 10**, 7 a.m.

b) Leech Lake, Friday-Monday, **June 23-26**

JULY

Merrill Lake (Hexagenia hatch), Sunday-Tuesday, **July 14-16**

AUGUST

Little Deschutes River, Saturday, **Aug. 12**

SEPTEMBER

a) Dash Point Pier (Coho & pinks), Saturday, **Sept. 2**, 6 a.m.

b) Cowlitz River (Coho, cutthroat, steelhead), Thursday-Saturday, **Sept. 16-18**

OCTOBER

Island Lake (Mason County), Saturday, **Oct. 7**, 9 a.m.

NOVEMBER

Johns Creek (chum salmon), Friday, **Nov. 10**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

DECEMBER

Cady Lake, Saturday, **Dec. 2**, 10 a.m.

Updated Nov. 17, 2022



Membership

Tess Frazier

Puget Sound Fly-Fishers is going into its 67th year, an incredible achievement. We have not just survived, but thrived under the cloud of Covid. Our membership is strong and still growing. That is really what makes our club special. The Club provides the platform and structure for all it has to offer, but it's the membership who make the club what it is.

The club meetings, the outings, the fly-tying and casting classes ... the members make all of this enjoyable for each other. The last outing at American Lake didn't provide as many catches as anticipated, but breakfast beforehand and being together on the lake made for a day filled with conversation, new friendships and new techniques. Take the time to meet someone new at the next meeting. Make a first time visitor feel welcome. Our club has an extremely talented and knowledgeable membership, so take advantage of what they have to share. Ask questions, volunteer to help with a class or an outing. This is part of what keeps Puget Sound Fly-Fishers strong.

Our monthly meetings have increased in attendance. Our renowned speakers cover all things fly-fishing, including conservation. Our fly-tying class has become so well attended, we might have to get a bigger room. We've had many participants on our monthly outings, either to renew knowledge of familiar water or to experience a totally new setting to fish in. Fly-fishing classes are being set for 2023, as are more social events. These are things you asked your Board of Directors for. They listened and made it so. Be an active member and participate.

To date we have 114 members. Our membership has not diminished, but grown since 2019. Member renewal forms will be mailed out December 15. **Deadline for renewal is February 1, 2023.** We've

provided a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your convenience (there will be no increase in membership renewals; it will remain \$45). Mail your renewal in right away. Please fill out the renewal form to ensure that your information is correct for our roster.

YOU are our driving force and what keeps Puget Sound Fly-Fishers going strong. Thank you.

Newest Members:

Cathy Walters	Kevin Jones
Michael Merringer	Rick McCabe
Ryan Puddy	Mirae Brooks

Anniversaries:

Jim Baker	4	Dan Carlton	15
Jerry Costello	1	John Fullerton.	7
Bryan Habeck	8	Steve Hammer.	10
Gary High	1	David Hombach.	1
Ned Krilich	15	John Lenth	1
Terry Lueck	10	Penny Mabie	2
Kristin Macy	8	Chuck Tye	15
Joe Vlaming	1		

PSFF Programs

Chic Sundahl

December Program:

“Comparing Omak and Pyramid Lakes” with Fly Fish Dan

Many of you have likely viewed YouTube videos featuring a fellow Washingtonian who goes by the name “Fly Fish Dan.” According to his YouTube page he has over 22,000 subscribers and 563 short videos. One thing he likes to do is follow the narrow blue lines on maps depicting unnamed streams and creeks that take him to out-of-the-way fly-fishing

destinations. But for us in the December meeting he'll be talking about the similarities between Omak and Pyramid Lakes. He might even toss in a little about a special cutthroat in Lake Lenore. Should be a good program.



WSFFI and The Academy Mike Clancy

The 2023 Academy – The Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy is alive and well. Jim Brosio and I tried to retire in 2020, but because of Covid, we couldn't do it. We are so fortunate now to be able to turn The Academy over to three incredible new co-directors. John Gravendyk, Bruce Merighi and Carol Anderson have assumed the responsibility of The Academy along with Matt Tuttle camp director. The event is going to be conducted at The Panhandle 4-H Camp on Panhandle Lake west of Shelton. Unfortunately, they had to move the event to the new location, since the Gwinwood facility was not fulfilling their needs any longer. Please go to the Panhandle 4-H Camp website and you'll totally understand what a wonderful facility the new location is all about.

The Academy next year is the last full week of June, June 18-24, 2023. For new information and registration for the 2023 event go to the new Academy website @ www.NWYCFFA.COM. Did I say, registration is open, it sure is. I'm going to repeat myself - The new facility is West of Shelton, a little further next year, but, it's well worth it.

Jim and I would like to thank all the folks that participated in the success of The Academy during the past 18 years. And what a blessing it's been to still be friends with past Ghillies and Students on

Facebook. All the boys and girls are quality folks, many married with families and many very successful with their education.

Thank you everyone. Thank you.

Library

Tom Krughoff

Hello everyone. This is Tom Krughoff, your new PSFF librarian. First off, we owe a huge hats off to Kristen Macy for the tremendous job she has done organizing the library over the past several years. It makes it easier for me to take over when she has created such a fabulous system for keeping track of our collection. Even so, it will take me a few months to get the library operating as smoothly as it has been, so please bear with me as I learn the ropes. Here are a few considerations for the immediate future:

With the help of a few other members, we will do a re-inventory of our collection to see if there are missing titles or books that have found their way into the collection that aren't on the current list. At the same time there may be some culling of books that are obsolete, or duplication of information found in other books. Any materials that are removed from the collection will be made available to the membership before being disposed.

We are exploring a more efficient and easily moved storage system. (Thanks to everyone who helped my lug those heavy crates the first couple months on the job!) *Once it is updated, I hope to post the library list in the members section of the web site.

In the short term (the next 2-3months) please refrain from donating new books to the library until I get a handle on what we have.

As has been the policy for many years, here are the checkout requirements:

- Current Membership
- Up to 3 items at a time
- For 2 months at a time
- Write Month/Year on checkout card
- Return books to the basket

Books are setup in the following categories:

- General Fly Fishing
- Fly Tying
- Destinations
- Novels
- Rod building
- Conservation
- Women's Fly Fishing
- Reference
- Float Tube / Drift Boat / Kayak
- Knots
- Casting

Videos are setup with the following categories:

- Fly Fishing
- Fly Tying
- Destinations
- Movies
- Conservation
- Knots
- Casting

Please let me know if you have any suggestions to make your library serve you better. Look for me hanging around the books during meetings or email me at twkrughoff@gmail.com.

More memories from 2022

Dennis Beardsley at Nahwatzel in April



and Mark Paul at the mouth of Murray Creek on American Lake in November



May the light of this Christmas and Holiday Season...



fill your days throughout the New Year

Club Officers

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Vice President: Vacant

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Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley, 530-624-0929, dsb615@sbcglobal.net

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Director, 2nd year: Bryan Habeck, 253-345-8565 bryan.habeck@icloud.com

Director, 3rd year: Tess Frazier 360-265-6833 tessfrazier@wavecable.com

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