



Leader Line

No August Meeting

This is a tradition of PSFF. It's summer, most folks are on vacation, some are fishing in cooler parts of the nation or world. When the weather is too hot, direct sun or high temps are uncomfortable for most of us, including the fish. They're deeper in the water column where the water is cooler and more oxygenated. In rivers and streams, their habitat is shrinking, the water is warmer and the fish look for deeper runs, which offer better protection and riffles that provide cover and more oxygen. And we fishers head to higher elevations, deeper lakes and colder streams to pursue our passion.

The **Cady Lake Boat Cleanup** was a brilliant success. A dozen members helped gather the submerged boats, bail them out, then moved

them to shore. The owner was very grateful and stayed to socialize with us (after we fished). Thank you Paul Fournier for organizing and starting the day with a box of donuts; also Jim and Pam Baker for the tasty BBQ. See the Forum for a full description and photos.

Our membership is growing, not just in numbers, but in diversity of ages, gender, knowledge and experience. The range is from newbies to experienced, seasoned fly-fishers. The vibe that can be felt at our meetings is electric. Folks feel comfortable and welcome, which indicates we have a lot to offer our membership. PSFF has changed and evolved since 1956. Women, the fastest growing market in fly-fishing, are finding their way into our education programs, casting classes and monthly presentations. It's very rewarding to witness and be part of this growth and evolution.

Next Meeting
September 11

Dinner 6:30 PM
Program 7:30 PM

Tower Lanes
6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

If you'd like to be a part of the change, consider being part of the PSFF administration. We will have two positions open for club officers in 2026: President, plus Programs Chair. Tedd Wilkinson has already volunteered to be Director, first year, for 2026. You've heard all the reasons for being a club officer, so I won't repeat them. We need leaders to guide the club in providing its members with a sense of community, ideas for great programs and education and the confidence to ask questions regardless of your fly-fishing experience. Contact me tessfrazier@wavecable.com or any Board member with questions or interest.

On a sad note, Robert Gerlach has passed away. Robert was a member of PSFF for 18 years and headed up our casting classes. Please see the article written by Michael Merringer in this newsletter.

Reminders

The Board of Directors meeting takes place on Zoom, the third Thursday of the month. Members are encouraged to attend. Simply notify Dennis Beardsley (our Treasurer, listed on our online roster) and he can give you the Zoom information.

Keep up with what goes on at the monthly Board Meeting. The Minutes are located on our site psff.org under the Members Only drop down menu. Our library collection is also listed there with instructions on how to check out and return book(s).

The **PSFF Annual Picnic** will be held Saturday, Aug. 16, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m. at Steve Saville's family property at Dash Point. Bring your own beverages and favorite potluck dish. We'll provide the BBQ'd meat and bottled water. If your last name starts with A-M, bring a salad or side dish; if it starts with N-Z, bring a dessert. A view of the Sound, BBQ, lots of food, friends, fish talk ... what more could you ask for. Please RSVP to get directions: tessfrazier@wavecable.com



Enjoy your summer,

Tess Frazier
President

Raffles

Officially Cleaned Out!

Because there is no meeting in August, we (Tim & I) have a chance to resupply our inventory of flyfishing gear. As you go through your stuff, take note of things that you no longer use because you've replaced them with newer items or better models or have accumulated doubles or triplicates. We are especially short of lines, leaders and tippets, as well as tools.

Clothing is always of interest to our membership. We have a high percentage of beginning fishers who love to take a chance (for less than a buck) to add to their stock for way less than retail. It is one of the main incentives to join and attend. When you

consider the speakers, outings and raffles, we have a great thing going but we can't "sell" something we don't have.

Because our next meeting is so far off, we will come by and pick up anything you have to donate. We can then organize our offerings - only three regular meetings to go this year.

PS - we have two sets of waders and boots, men's size 10, Simms and Reddington brands that we will sell outright for a fraction of market value.

Text or voicemail
(360) 509-9478

Fred Olin
Raffles



My memories of Robert Gerlach

by Michael Merringer

We met earlier this month and learned about the passing of one of our members, Robert Gerlach.

Steve Jones from the Washington Chapter of Fly Fishers International (FFI) was there to announce that they were naming an award after him. It would be given to people who had dedicated their time and talents to helping others. Robert's family was also there, and two of his sons expressed their gratitude and how much this meant to their dad.

Unfortunately, Robert passed away a couple of days before the meeting. I was especially sad because I knew how much he appreciated this gesture and how honored he was for this recognition. Many of the people at the meeting knew Robert and had a long history with him; mine only started five years ago.

I wanted to get a Casting Instructor (CI) certification from FFI, so I found Robert's contact information. He was listed as a gifted fly rod caster who had gotten his CI certification a number of years ago.

One of Robert's favorite stories about his CI test was that he put his yam on the tape at 75 feet, not only meeting the distance limit but literally, on the tape. I asked if he would be willing to be my mentor, and to my surprise, he agreed. We decided to meet at Gold Mountain Golf Course, where he was pursuing his other passion.

Over the next five years, we had lots of chances to talk, floating the Yakima, long rides back and forth to casting events and shows, and sharing many meals together. As it turned out, we were a great match.

He loved telling me about his life, and I was a good listener.

At that meeting at Gold Mountain, I first heard him say, "You can always tell a German, but you can't tell him much," about his heritage and personality. He had always tried to be perfect in cabinet making, fly rod casting, and his golf swing.

He also mentioned that I could help him with his volunteer work with the youth at the Northwest Fly Fishing Academy. He had spent countless hours teaching them how to cast.

Robert had lived a full life. He told me about making floating display cases for a famous jeweler on the West Coast, riding Harleys, and his time at Sturgis, South Dakota, and camping in his RV that looked like a semi-truck. He also talked about all the fishing trips he had taken. Robert was incredibly proud of his three sons and grandson and often talked about their achievements. It was clear that family was the most important thing to him.

Even though he was small in stature, Robert was larger than life. You always knew he was in the room, and he wasn't afraid to share his thoughts and opinions. What started as a mentorship turned into a friendship, but he never held back when it came to my casting. I'll never forget some of his comments, like telling me my loops were "big enough to drive a semi-truck through and maybe, most importantly, 'slow the **** down.'" Maybe we should all take that advice, no matter what we're doing.

I'll miss my friend a lot.

Programs

No meeting in August

Our speaker series will continue in September.

*Mark Paul
Programs*



Outings

Greetings!

See updated Outings list on the next page.

Walk and Wade Outing – North Fork Skokomish River

North Fork of the Skokomish River Outing
Rescheduled for **August 26**.

The road to North Fork Skokomish River at Staircase Campground is still closed at this time. The last I heard the fire was 19% contained. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that the road will be open prior to August 26 so we can complete our outing. Please pencil in this date and I will update you 4-5 days prior. Otherwise, the last day we can fish that particular river is September 15.

Pink Salmon Beach Fishing Outing

Sunday, August 10 at 6 a.m. at Dash Point Park & Pier, Tacoma.

It will be time to hit the beach soon and chase those pink salmon, hopefully they will be there! Please join PSFF at Dash Pt County Park and fish for pinks on the outgoing tide. The Park is located at 1500 Beach DR NE, Tacoma WA

[MAP](#)

I am a rookie at fishing for salmon from the beach, however here are a few basics I have learned. Anyone who has experience, please post helpful tips in the forum.

- 6-8 weight rod (8 would be best in case you hook up a big one)
- Intermediate or outbound short line, 8 to 10 pound tippet. Some folks use a floating line if you want your fly on the surface
- Pinks prefer bright colors, of course pink, and chartreuse works well. To name a few: pink and white clouser minnows, pink comet, flashabou, beach boy and handle bar (?) Ask for recommendations at your local fly shop or a PSFF member. Most common size hook is #6.
- When fishing for salmon in Washington you must use single pointed barbless hooks.
- According to the WDFW fishing regs the daily limit is 2 (if you choose to keep fish) plus 2. This can change, we can check the emergency rule change post the morning of the outing to confirm.

I'm looking forward to this fishing adventure, please let me know if you will be attending!

julielkelner@gmail.com
(360) 731-2202

Thank you!

*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

POSTPONED until August 26th

AUGUST

Annual Club Picnic

11 AM – 4 PM

Saturday August 16th

@Steve Seville's family property

PINK SALMON OUTING

Sunday August 10th

Dash Pt Park & Pier, Tacoma Wa

6 AM

SEPTEMBER

Puget Sound Beach Fishing

Norwegian Point Park, Hansville

Saturday September 13th

OCTOBER

Cady Lake

Mason County

Tuesday October 7th

NOVEMBER

Black Friday - Get Outside and Fish

WDFW stocked lake of choice

Friday November 28th

DECEMBER

Watch the forum for a FLASH outing.

Membership

Welcome to August 2025

Welcome to New Members

We continue to see new members join PSFF. You will find below bios to help you get acquainted. Please reach out and welcome Winnie and Connor at the next meeting or outing they attend.

Winnie Chapin

I have been fly-fishing for over 40 years all over the world. I used to write for International Women Flyfishers, an organization that has recently closed. It started when there were just a few of us women out there, but as you know, there are so many women and many more organizations for us in the flyfishing world today. I am already a member of the Fly Fishers International organization out of Livingston. I moved to Tacoma from Seattle a little over a year ago.

Connor Knutson

Washington state is where I grew up. I participated in the mayfly project and been fishing lakes and ponds and caught rainbow trout. Ever since I caught my first fish I fell in love with it.



*Joe Harrison
Membership*

August Anniversaries/Years

Tedd Wilkinson	1	Brad Bates	3	John Corso	7
		Stacy Bates	3		

Education

August

New to pink salmon fishing? Steve Seville has graciously agreed to give a brief tutorial to those of us new to this fishery, covering what to use and how to fish it. Join in at the **August 10** club outing at 6:00 a.m. at the Dash Point Park & Pier in Tacoma where Steve will go through some of the basics and answer your questions. This is a great way to build confidence and hopefully hook into a pink!

No Saturday fly tying in August; we resume in September.



*Rob Jensen
Education*

Fly Fishing 101 Graduates Shine on the Water

All involved in the FF 101 seminars should be proud. Those that attended the two-hour fishing event on the 18th hole pond at Trophy Lake golf course had a great time on the water. They came armed with their rods, reels, nets, assortment of fly patterns, new skills and performed with confidence! Several fish in the 14-18 inch range were caught.

- Jim Baker



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

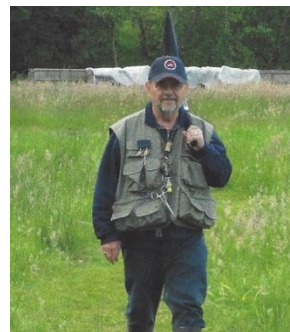
NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

There was another successful Academy conducted again this year. They started with 18 participants and in the end there were 14, between, (I don't want to be here) and illness, some went home early. Between the instructors and staff, it was very successful. They are looking for another Director, one of the Directors is resigning, and they are looking for a replacement. Please contact Bruce Merighi, @bruce401@nwt.net or 509-763-3561 if you are interested. Being involved with this Academy with the young folks learning to fly fish is very rewarding. These young folks are wonderful, and they are grateful for being able to attend this wonderful Academy.

See the flyer for 2026 on the next page for more information.

The FFI – Fly Fishers International

There is a lot going on with FFI this year. FlyFest 2025, September 26 - 27, 2025, to be conducted in Grand Rapids, MI. An event long overdue. And I highly recommend that we go to the FFI website. It has improved about 1000%. It has so many wonderful education programs, fly tying, casting, etc. It's worth the time to check it out.



*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	Paul Fournier

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



Fly Fishing Academy

June 20 - 27 2026

Panhandle Lk. Shelton WA

12 - 16 year old Co-Ed Program

18 Students Can Become Better Aquatic Stewards &
More Effective Fly Fishers

\$750 Enrollment

- Introduction to Fly Fishing Equipment
- Beginner & Intermediate Tracks for:
Casting & Fly Tying
- Fly Fish with our Mentors on:
 - Our Stocked & Private Lake
 - Local Rivers & Streams for Cutthroats
- Field Trips
 - Collect & I.D. Macro Invertebrates
 - Fish Barriers & Satsop Hatchery
- Wading & Watercraft Safety - Fly Fishing Intro.
- Salmon & Trout Dissection - Invasive Species
- Fisheries Conservation - Too Much Time to Fish
- Casting Course - Stream & Lake Tactics
- River & Lake Aquatic Entomology - Fishing Ethics
- Free Time to Tie Flies & Improve Your Casting

**Students GIVEN a Rod Kit - Sling Pack Full of Gear - Flies
Full Meal Service & Dorm Lodging**

The academy is a non-profit youth education program of the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited & supported generously by the Washington Council of Fly Fishers International, Regional Fly Fishing Clubs, T.U. Chapters, Washington Fly Fishing Club & Foundation, The Paul & Mary Ford Foundation, Great Individuals & Fine N.W. Businesses.



[Flyfish.academy](https://flyfish.academy)



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

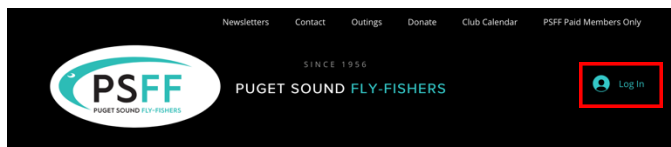


Figure 2

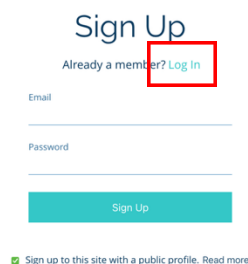


Figure 4

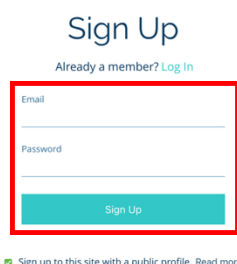
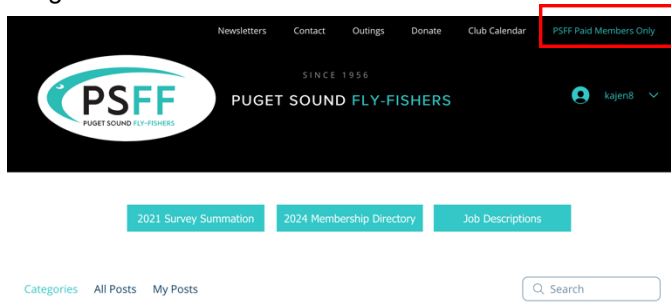


Figure 3



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