



Leader Line

Happy Holidays

Indeed! It's December already and I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving (My favorite time of the year). As we enter December there are many things for me to relay to the membership. I'd like to remind everyone of the December meeting. There won't be a speaker, but we have some holiday celebrations scheduled. There will be a slide show put together by Bryan Habeck and a silent auction spearheaded by Jim Baker. There are some very nice auction items so be prepared to bid on them. Dinner will be as usual but with a couple of twists. The price of the December meal will be \$20 for this month only and there will be a choice of two entrees. As a side note, desserts are requested. I

plan on bringing a homemade cheesecake if anyone cares to partake in some extra calories. It should be a fun meeting all around.

The President's award will be given to a member who has distinguished himself in giving above and beyond what has been asked of him. I look forward to making that award as well as recognizing the new group of members who will guide the club in the coming year, 2024.

This will be my last meeting as President, and I would be remiss if I did not say thank you to the many people who have made the job easy. The members of the board, Dennis Beardsley, Amy Weller, Rob Jensen, Bryan Habeck, Dennis Ehlers, and Richard Stone have served the past year in various board positions. Our committee chairs, Greg Shimek, Mike Koslosky, Tess Frazier, Mike Clancy, Bryan Habeck, David Frazier,

Next Meeting

December 14

Tower Lanes

6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

PSFF
Members Only
Celebration Begins
6:00

Jim Baker, Chic Sundahl, Mark Paul, Tom Long, and Tom Krughoff have all pitched in making sure that we have activities that are and continue to be meaningful to the membership. It has truly taken a village to keep our club strong.

I never aspired to be President of any organization, but the group of people above have made it not only easy but enjoyable as well. My tenure of two years has been one highlight of my life that I will never forget. It has allowed me to branch out to other organizations and make new friends and colleagues. I look forward to my position as Past President which will allow me to continue in the leadership of the club with a few less responsibilities.

Another highlight that I will always consider meaningful is the donation we made to The Western Rivers Conservancy. Our contribution helped ensure that a good portion of land on the Yakima River will be open and accessible to fly

fishers in the future. I am proud of our club for helping make that a reality. Our continued support of the Youth Fly Fishing Academy and the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition are significant as well.

And so, as I step back, I'd like to thank everyone for their trust and support these past two years. It was fun and rewarding. I'm still here and I plan on active membership. I'm planning to write a short club history now that I will have a bit more time. Don't hold your breath because there is plenty of fishing ahead. It will be a spare time endeavor.

Tight lines and happy holidays everybody. Thank you all again and I'll see you at our December meeting.



Steve Saville
Club President

Outings

Happy New Outings Schedule!

By now you should have seen PSFF postings containing our 2024 plans for club fishouts. I prepare these 12-month schedules with a mix of excitement and trepidation. Yes, some of last year's offerings seemed to be snake-bit. Our "normal" weather was hard to find. My estimation of best dates were too often pillaged by climatic disruptions. Either that or I just guessed wrong.

Our Yakima River outing during the first week in March was be-

set by colder-than-normal days, rain and snow flurries. Our Spencer Lake outing in April turned out to coincide with a fishing derby, and the resultant crowd made it difficult to find parking. And the recent Johns Creek Estuary (see my report below) missed the run, which I had enjoyed there just a week or two earlier. But we had an unexpectedly large turnout and everyone claimed to enjoy themselves.

Looking ahead to 2024, I'd like to point out a few special items. January is special because I have intentionally left it blank, except to say I'll watch the weather and see if we can pull off relatively last-minute Flash outing. The past two years have convinced me that, despite my desire to fish, fish, fish, the weather can be too cold and unpredictable to expect anyone to show up.

I'll even speculate that February could also be a good time for a

Flash outing, so stay tuned to your bat radios. I've put down a trip to Albany, Oregon, for the Northwest Fly-Tyer & Fishing Expo. Last year was the first time I attended and was pleasantly surprised by how much fun I had at this large two-day event. The organizers had cancelled the event in the previous two years due to Covid. The 2023 show attracted at least a dozen PSFF members. Ironically, the show's reopening was beset by cases of Covid. After returning home, I learned that about half of our group returned to test positive. Let's hope this year is safer. Ticket discounts are available to veterans and members of Trout Unlimited.

Our calendar for April has the boldest change on the new schedule. After several years of declining reviews at Sun Village Resort, the location and date of our much-loved annual rendezvous has been reconsidered. We are putting Park Lake, et al. in the rear-view mirror for awhile. Instead, we're going closer to home to one of our favorite destinations — Yakima River. No reservations needed (or possible) for our dates. We'll be camping at the BLM's Big Pines Campground, unless you choose to camp at the increasingly expensive KOA in town, or at a motel or Airbnb. As always, more info to come.

I strongly urge you to make reservations for overnight accommodations if you're planning to attend the Fly-Fishing Show in Bellevue for more than a day, the Albany event, Mayfield Lake, Leech Lake or Pass Lake. Lodg-

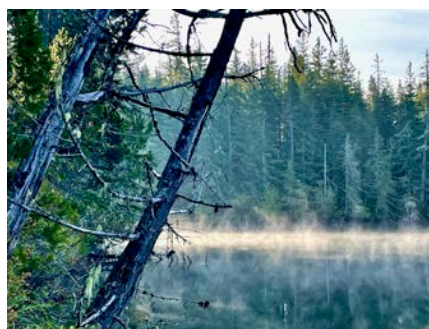
ing near the Bellevue show and in Albany tend to fill fast, as do the state parks. You can book like Kinswa State Park now (they even have some nice cabins). Condos at White Pass Village Inn (Leech Lake) start taking reservations on Jan. 3 for our dates. To book a campsite at Deception Pass State Park, get online starting at 7 a.m. Jan. 15. I've already marked my calendar to remind myself.

Cady Lake Outing

10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 2

Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.,
JR's Hideaway,
22540 WA-3, Belfair

This is still one of our top catch-and-release lakes in Western Washington, despite the ups and



downs of stocking program. Barring ice on the lake, December is not too late in the season to hook up on one of Cady's renowned supertankers. Colder surface water translates into more oxygenated topwater. Expect a mix of selective rainbow and cutthroat trout from one to five pounds or more.

I often take three rods with me, from 4- to 6-weight: a floating line with either a dry or a nymph rig, an intermediate line for slow

trolling and a full-sinking to tick off the bottom. At 15-acres, the lake is a perfect size to cover in a float tube or small boat (no gas engines allowed). Winter fishing can be challenging but it's also a good time to hone your skills with chironomids. Other popular flies this time of year can include emerging mayflies, all styles of streamers and even Mop Flies, Boobies and Boobie Mops. It's a great place to test out your fly boxes and your patience.

Directions: Cady Lake is about 54 minutes northwest of Tower Lanes, or 18 minutes west of Belfair in Mason County. For those who haven't been there before, follow your GPS mapping to Cady Lake Manor (now out of business), 1471 NE Dewatto Holly Road, Tahuya, but instead of entering at the sign look about 100 yards on the left for an opening at a one-track gravel road. When you hit a fork in the road, turn left and it will take you to a couple of parking areas near the launch. There is parking for about only a dozen cars, so see if you can buddy-up on your drive.

As always, please contact me if you are attending: David Frazier, dfrazier@wavecable.com (360) 265-6963

Johns Creek Estuary Report

This event had a significant turnout, with 14 PSFF anglers for Chum salmon. I extended it by a day to accommodate the high participation, dividing the group. Unfortunately, the Chum salmon didn't cooperate as expected.

Despite the fishing challenges, I like to think the participants focused on the positives:

- "At least the weather was good" (rain didn't drive the salmon run).
- "Everyone seemed to have a great time" (though some traveled without catching fish).
- "The pre-fishing meal was good" (despite a crowded restaurant making us late for the tide).
- "I think some of us learned about the fishery" (including myself).

In the future, I might plan earlier and target specific conditions. Thanks to Curt Dorn for his advice.

It's reassuring that we can count on each other to make our outings special! Thanks to those who participated: Thursday's group - Greg Shimek, Dennis Beardsley, Mike Koslosky, Barry Miller, Dennis Ehlers, and Richard Stone; Friday's group - Steve Saville, Ryan Puddy, Rachel Dagovitz, Joe Harrison, Mirae Brooks, Mark Paul, and Tom Krughoff.



David Frazier
Outings Chair



Image courtesy of Bryan Habeck

December 2023 Celebration

Get ready for a December meeting like never before! We're shaking things up to add a dash of excitement to our usual routine. While there won't be a guest speaker or library setup, fear not, because we've got something special in store!

Join us for a delightful evening filled with good company, tasty eats, and plenty of surprises.

Our main event? A scrumptious, upgraded dinner featuring mouth-watering chicken parmesan and pork tenderloin. (pick your favorite, not both)

And the best part? It's only \$20 per person! Bring your spouse for double the fun. To ensure there is enough food for all, we need to give a headcount to Tower Lanes. **Please RSVP to Jim Baker by December 8** if planning to attend via text/call, 253-394-1522 or email bake5636@wavecable.com

But wait, there's more! We've amped up the fun with a silent auction extravaganza. We're talking

reels, fly tying tools, fly gear, Out-cast float tube, gift basket and more, including several fly boxes loaded with member-crafted flies that practically guarantee a great catch! Depending on the item the bidding will range from \$10 - \$50. The winning bidders can pay by card, check or cash. You don't want to miss this opportunity to snag some amazing deals.

And let's not forget the cherry on top – your favorite holiday desserts! We're calling on you to bring a bit of sugary magic to share with the group. Let's make this gathering a sweet success!

But that's not all! We've curated a captivating slideshow of member photos from the current year and years gone by, sure to leave you in awe and maybe even bring a smile to your face.

So mark your calendars and come join the fun.

Jim Baker
Raffles Chair

It's Been a Ride

My time as Membership Chair is coming to an end this year. I've served three years, two years more than I thought I would. The first year was spent learning all that was required for the position and trying to match member names with faces (good exercise for my short term memory). The second year I felt at ease with the duties, gained the courage to implement some small changes and also focused on growing our membership. Our membership took a dip during Covid, as did many similar organizations; but, we've steadily grown back. This third year I relaxed some and took the opportunity to enjoy everything our club has to offer: education, outings, speakers, social events. What has stood out are the friendships, wisdom and support I've received from everyone in Puget Sound Fly-Fishers. An outstanding group to belong to and an amazing bunch to learn from and fish with.

There's a new slate of officers and committee chairs for 2024. Announcements will be made at the December 14 celebration meeting. Plan on joining us for good food, a silent auction, some photo memories of 2023 and some early PSFF years, plus a glimpse of 2024. Members are asked to bring desserts. See you there.

'Tis The Season to Renew

Members will be sent an email reminder early December to renew their membership to Puget Sound Fly-Fishers. The deadline to renew is February 1. You can do this online with a credit card or send a check or money order in the mail. See our website psff.org. Scroll down to Join The Club and click on Join Now. We want to see you in 2024, so y'all come back!!



Tess Frazier
Membership Chair

129 # of PSFF Members

Welcome to New Member: John Horning,

Anniversaries/Years December:

Jim Baker	5	Ned Krilich	16
Dan Carlton	16	John Lenth	2
Bryan Habeck	9	Penny Mabie	3
Carl Hammer	11	Kristin Macy	9
Gary High	2	Beth Mason	7
David Homback	2	Barry Miller	1
Merritt Kline	1	Jeff Pettigrew	1
		Joe Vlaming	2

Help Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group restore the Theler Wetlands!

Volunteers will be helping with trail maintenance, removing invasive plant species, and installing live-stakes on the estuary to encourage the growth of native plants and habitat resilience on the wetlands! We have multiple volunteer dates available, each with a morning and afternoon shift. No need to stay for the full shift - volunteers are welcome to stay for as long as they are able!

Dates: Dec. 4-7, 18 and 20

Times: Morning shifts

(9am-12pm)

Afternoon shifts (1pm-4pm)

Place: Theler Wetlands,
Belfair WA.

Sign up at: PNWsalmoncenter.org



Greg Shimek
Conservation Chair

Youth Academy Enrollment now Open



The **NWYCFFA** Academy – Enrollment is now open for the June 22-29, 2024 Academy to be conducted again at the Panhandle Lake 4H Camp west of Shelton. Go to the website – nwyccfa.com to learn about the event, the application is available and more important information. To learn about the Panhandle 4H camp, go to panhandlecamp.com. It's a beautiful facility. Sadly, the facility that we conducted the event for years, had a major fire and the main building was destroyed.



*Mike Clancy
Legislation/FFI*



To learn more or apply, scan the QRcode or go to <https://nwyccfa.com>

Education

New Year. New Skills?

Ever fancy adding another skill to your DIY tool chest? How about building your own “signature” fly rod? Although the details are still being worked out, the current plan is to conduct a few evening sessions this winter with local fly builder Neil Fox, owner of FFD fly rods in Steilacoom (<https://fishonrods.com/>). He is the rod builder for Fly Fish Dan. We are planning two, Tuesday evening sessions (dates to be worked out) at his shop in Steilacoom. Because of logistics, you will not come away with a built rod, but will hopefully have the knowledge

and excitement to pursue this project. The class will be limited to 10 persons and will have a nominal fee. Neil hopes to join us at the January meeting to answer questions. Once dates are finalized I will put out a signup sheet.



*Rob Jensen
Education Chair*



Image created by AI via prompts by Bryan Habeck

2023 PSFF - Officers and Committee Chairs

Club Officers

President: Steve Saville
President-elect: Vacant
Vice President: Rob Jensen
Past President: Greg Shimek
Secretary: Amy Weller
Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley
Director, 1st year: Richard Stone
Director, 2nd year: Dennis Ehlers
Director, 3rd year: Bryan Habeck

Committee Chairs

Membership: Tess Frazier
Librarian: Tom Krughoff
Raffles: Jim Baker
Programs: Mark Paul
Education: Rob Jensen
Outings: David Frazier
Web Site Editor: Bryan Habeck
Newsletter Editor: Bryan Habeck
Legislation/FFI: Mike Clancy
Conservation: Greg Shimek

2024 PSFF - Officers and Committee Chairs

As we approach the end of the year, we announce the new Officers and Chairs for the coming year. A hearty thanks to all who have served this past year. We could not have been as successful without all of the hard work, dedication, leadership and guidance

provided by them to our club. And good luck to our new Board members and Chairpersons. Approval of the club officers will take place at the December club meeting/celebration.

Club Officers

President: Tess Frazier
Vice President: Rob Jensen
Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley

Secretary: Anne Stiffler
Thank you Amy Weller for your years of service as Secretary.
Director, 3rd year: Dennis Ehlers

Director, 2nd year: Richard Stone
Director, 1st year: David Frazier
Past President: Steve Saville

Committee Chairs

Membership: Joe Harrison
Welcome and many thanks to Tess Frazier for her hard work and dedication.
Librarian: Tom Krughoff
Programs: Mark Paul
Thank you Chic Sundahl for many years of service in this capacity.

Education: Rob Jensen
Welcome and thank you Mike Koslosky for your years as Education Chairman.
Outings: David Frazier
Web Site Editor: Bryan Habeck
Newsletter Editor: Bryan Habeck

Legislation/FFI: Mike Clancy
Conservation: Greg Shimek
Raffle: Rachel Dagovitz
Welcome and thank you Jim Baker for your hard work as raffles chair.

Having Trouble Joining the Forum?

1) Launch the PSFF.org webpage as shown in **Figure 1** and click on the Log In link (circled in red).

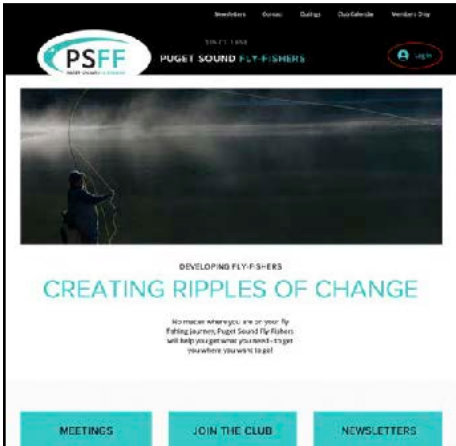


Figure 1

2) Log in or sign up

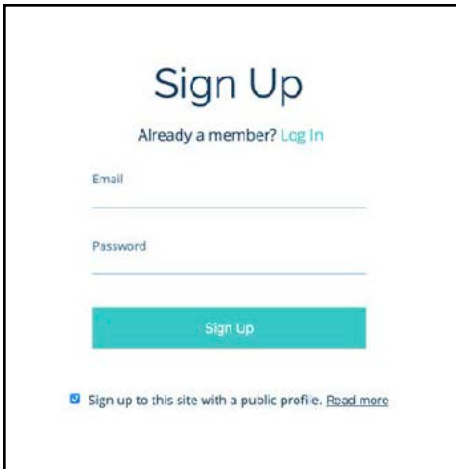


Figure 2

If you are registering as a new FORUM member, Sign Up first as shown in **Figure 2**. Enter your email address and create a password. Once you've done that and have received confirmation that you've been confirmed as a member and now have access,

then log in (clicking the teal type seen in **Figure 2**) and click on the Members Only link as shown in **Figure 3**.

3) Members Only will now be available to you

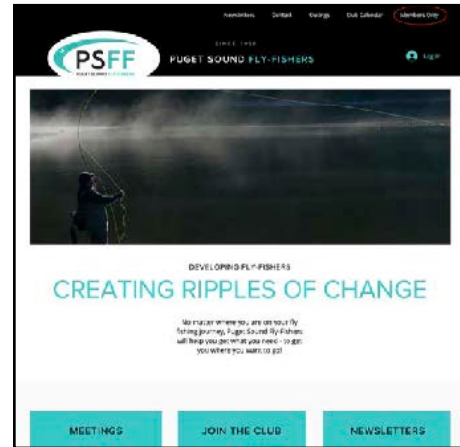


Figure 3

4) The Forum Page

Explore the different categories of discussions and learn about where others are fishing, and what they're tying.

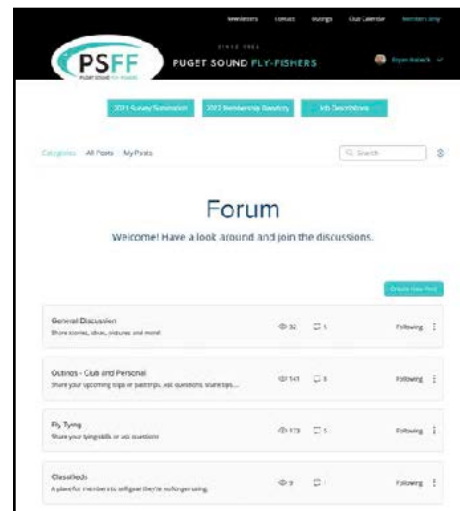


Figure 4