



Resolutions? How about new water!



January Program - "Fishing Can Be Funny"

The Leader Line By Paul Fournier

*The sound of crunching barnacles fill the air as I stroll down the beach.
No one in sight.
A cold winter haze hangs low in the sky.
As I breathe the salty air I am interrupted by the sound of a distant seal.
I muse, did the fish hear that?
My soul and my schedule is light.
This Puget Sound beach is where I am meant to be.
Right here, Right now.*

As I write my first Leader Line, the rain is driving against the window, my heart is light. Winter Solstice has passed and long dark days are slowly disappearing. Snow continues to fall in the mountains restoring balance after our long hot summer. Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall lay ahead filled with fishing, friends, family, learning and most of all memories. Thank you all for making 2015 a successful year for Puget Sound Fly Fishers. A special thank you to Mike Koslosky, our Directors, Officers and volunteers for your leadership and passion.

2016 marks Puget Sound Fly Fishers 60th anniversary. Together we will explore the past, present and future of fly fishing in our area. We will examine Puget Sound Fly Fishers role in growing the art and sport of fly fishing in our community. I am looking forward to this yearlong celebration.

A little about me:

I grew up in Northern Ontario Canada and at a very young age discovered my love for water. I would spend countless hours on the water. Early mornings, late evenings and throughout the day. Often with mask, snorkel

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

and fins. Observing aquatic life in local lakes and ponds. I grew up like a fish so it's no surprise I took so well to angling.

Many years went by since I had last fished. I am not one to join sport clubs so I resisted my wife's urging to check out Puget Sound Fly Fishers. I still remember my first meeting. The incredibly warm welcome by Les Rosenthal and Dick Matthaui. I felt welcome right away. A short time later I was asked to help with the raffle where I met Ned Krilich. We soon became fast friends. One day Ned asked if I would join the Board. The rest is history. I love this organization. I love it because we promote the art and sport of fly fishing. Because we fish, we fellowship, and we learn. Most of all I love PSFF because we are a fly FISHING club.

Your club volunteers and I have exciting plans and goals for 2016. We look forward to sharing our 60th Anniversary with you and making this our greatest year yet.

Election results are in, please join me in welcoming your 2016 Officers and Directors.

Paul Fournier, President
Bob Jimerson, President-elect
Bruce Frickleton, Vice President
Steve Saville, Secretary
Mike Saville, Treasurer
Kristin Macy, Director
Mike Clancy, Director
Paul Amschler, Director

Our club is great because of members like you, I look forward to seeing you at the meeting in January.

~Paul

PSFF NEWS

Our Next Meeting
Thursday, January 14th
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Tower Lanes Entertainment Center
6323 6th Ave.

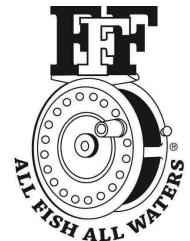
January 2016 Program

“Fishing Can Be Funny” with Dick Streater

Please join us at the next regular meeting of the Puget Sound Fly Fishers on Thursday, January 14th, when Freshwater Hall of Fame member, Dick Streater, will present his “Fishing Can Be Funny” program. He is a nationally recognized, published authority on antique lures and tackle, and will be giving his highly acclaimed talk based on gadgets and inventions of the past 50 years. He has found the funny side of trying to outwit all those very smart fishes and has been referred to as “The Henny Youngman of Fishing Lures.” The proper use of snapping hooks, spring loaded casting rods, shooting and folding landing nets, hand crank small boat motors and dynamite lures (Dupont Spinners?)

are just a few of the many wonders from his extensive collection to be demonstrated. Perhaps he'll also have time to share a 1930's era silent video featuring salmon fishing in small boats by the TYEE CLUB of Campbell River, BC, Canada. “Ole and Sven” will also be telling a couple of fishing jokes. Attendees are encouraged to bring any old tackle items for identification and value.

FFF EVENTS



Regional FFF Events in 2016

January 9 & 10th - Boise, ID / Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo

www.bvff.com

March 11 & 12th - Albany, OR / Northwest Fly Tye & Fly Fishing Expo

<http://www.nwexpo.com>

April 29th & 30th - Ellensburg, WA / Washington State Council / Fly Fishing Fair

www.wsciff.org

June 3 - 5 - Renton, WA / The Atlantic Salmon Fly International

www.asfi-expo.com

August 2-6th - Livingston, MT / International Fly Fishing Fair

www.fedflyfishers.org

PSFF 2016 OFFICERS AND TRUSTED SERVANTS

President:

Paul Fournier
206-972-2513
pfournier@gmail.com

President-Elect:

Bob Jimerson
253-682-7768
bobjimerson@gmail.com

Vice President:

Bruce Frickleton
bfrickelton@comcast.net

Secretary:

Steve Saville
253-927-4401
stevesaville@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Mike Saville
253-426-1029
msaville2011@hotmail.com

Director:

Paul Amschler
253-792-9366
wb6mri@outlook.com

Director:

Kristin Macy
KHMacy@live.com

Director:

Mike Clancy
360-753-1259
mtclancy39@comcast.net

Past President:

Mike Koslosky
253-514-8754
mikek1801@gmail.com

Librarian:

Rueben Lamphere
lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com

Raffle:

Thomas Lamphere
lamphereflyfishing@gmail.com

Programs:

Chic Sundahl
chicster21@gmail.com

Outdoor Activities:

Larry Vaughn
(253)219-9005
larrytvaughn@live.com

Ed Ortiz

Education:

John Brett
253-265-3870
Jmbrett99@yahoo.com

Membership Chair:

Bob Jimerson
253-682-7768
bobjimerson@gmail.com

Conservation:

Ben Dennis

Legislation:

Mike Clancy
360-753-1259
Mtclancy39@comcast.net

Web Site Editor:

Bob Jimerson
253-682-7768
bobjimerson@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor:

Dennis Ehlers
dehlers408@gmail.com

Puget Sound Flyfishers News

Published monthly by:
Puget Sound Flyfishers
33124 170th PL SE, Auburn, WA 98092

Dennis Ehlers, Editor
dehlers408@gmail.com
dehlers408@yahoo.com
206-229-7808

HOT SCOOP

EDUCATION CORNER

First of all, "THANK YOU" to all of the December meeting attendees who supplied suggestions for our 2016 education calendar. Several of your requests have never been addressed in the past so we now have some new ideas to explore and enjoy.

The big meeting room has been reserved for January 16th and we will answer many of the questions you may have about beginning to tie your own flies. The club has several certified instructors for fly tying and others who have tied professionally for fly fishing shops and still more who have tied several years for their own enjoyment of the sport. All of these backgrounds will be represented at the meeting and the intent is to provide a well rounded education in the tools used, the characteristics of the different materials used and a good "show and tell" of the various tying techniques and how they are used with the different materials. That is a very ambitious teaching goal but that isn't the true finish line.

Success will be when every new tier, including all who may have never tied a single fly, will end the program with at least two completely different kinds of flies that they have tied and can use them the next time they are on the water. Because this is intended as an introductory session, new tiers do not need to supply any tools, materials or pay for anything except their lunch. Each new tier will be matched with an experienced tier to help the learning and reduce the number of false starts and frustrations. It should be an easy education opportunity providing a different window to view the sport of fly fishing.

Date: Saturday, January 16th
Time: 9:00 to 12:00
Lunch: 12:00 in the Tower Lanes Restaurant

Members who are experienced in tying, bring your kit and a good variety of materials. Everyone interested should put this date on your calendar and anticipate having a new and different kind of fun.

If you would like to attend but missed signing up at the January meeting, please call:

John Brett - PH [253-265-3870](tel:253-265-3870)
or
e-mail jmbrett99@yahoo.com



PJ's TIPS

Tying Tip - Damn Hackle!

Have trouble keeping that nice dry fly hackle out of the way when wrapping your head and doing the whip finish? Get yourself a bit of plastic like those bubble wrap packages are made of. Any semi rigid clear plastic will do. Cut out a circle about an inch in diameter and punch or cut a 1/8" hole in the center. Now cut from the edge to the center hole on the radius and you have your hackle shield. When you are ready to form the head and whip finish slide your thread to the center of the shield via the slit then slide the shield over the hook eye and it will push all those hackle fibers back out of the way. Make a nice head, whip finish, and nip off the thread and it falls right off. You might make a few with different size holes for different hook eye/hackle sizes.

Membership News

By Bob Jimerson

First off, let us all thank Paul Fournier for the nice job he did last year as membership chairman. Paul made a serious effort to make every guest feel welcome and to help connect them to members at their first meeting. The club had a good year for membership growth under his care, but more on that in a little bit.

The change from the old year to a new year always prompts reflection. Reflection on where we have been and where we are going. This reflective spirit seems especially appropriate as we head into the Sixtieth Anniversary year for the Puget Sound Fly Fishers Club.

It is a remarkable achievement for the club to enter its sixtieth year as strong and healthy as it is. Many volunteer organizations fade away long before they make it to this point. It is a remarkable testament to the membership and volunteer leaders of the past sixty years that the club has not only survived, but that today it is thriving, growing and showing no signs of slowing down.

The membership really is what makes the club special. The members provide the enjoyable dinner conversations and fellowship at the meetings. The members conspire to make the outings so enjoyable for each other. The members contribute to this newsletter each month. The members teach classes and pass on knowledge. The Club provides the structure for all of this to happen, but the members make the club what it is.

So take time to meet someone new at the next meeting and broaden your circle just a bit. Spend a moment or two to make sure a first-time visitor feels welcome at the next meeting. Attend an outing to a new spot - it is as easy as sign-up and show up. Come to a tying class and learn a new pattern or two. For goodness sake take advantage of the casting classes when things warm up! Take advantage of what others in the club are willing to share.

We are a volunteer organization. Nothing happens by itself and many hands do make for light work. So when the chance comes up to help out with a class or an outing, step in and give just a couple of hours to make things work. It is a rewarding thing to help keep the wheels turning and to be part of what keeps the club strong.

So, numbers wise, how did we do in 2015 on the membership front and how are things looking for 2016? In a word, good.

We came into 2015 with 131 members. By the end of the year our membership had grown by 21 new members (a 16% increase) to 152. We already have eight members that have joined as new members for 2016. The club continues to attract new members.

Renewals are coming in at a good pace. Let's get the remaining renewals taken care of. Club memberships are now family memberships, so renewing is an even better deal than it has been in the past. It would be a big help to the volunteers that keep the books and records if all of the renewals came in soon. Please help out and get your membership renewal in right away if you are not one of the many that already have!

December Meeting Guests:

Heather Hodson	Leeana Young
Beth Mason	Susan Hunter
Lynda Filson	Karen Adams
Ed McManus	Mary McManus
Kimberley Hopkins	Charlie Dunlop
Tom Peterson	Gay Ann
Ruth Sims	Scott Manson
Robbi Krumm	Dave Canning

New Members:

Beth Mason
Scott Manson
Susan Hunter

If you have any questions, please reach me at bobjimerson@gmail.com

Thanks again to all the guys and gals that make PSFF such a great organization. See you at the next meeting or on the water!

More News

Mike "Gus" LaCombe passed in mid-December after a courageous battle against cancer. Gus was a long time member of the club and Editor of the PSFF Newsletter for many years. He will be missed by family and friends for his great humor, passion for steelhead, and of course his famous cowboy hat.



NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

by Mike Clancy

2015 is near to an end, and we are now going into 2016. So is The Academy. We will be accepting new applications effective January 1, 2016 for another wonderful event for our youth 12 to 16 years old. What a great opportunity for these kids to learn about conservation and fly fishing. They will spend a week at Gwinwood Christian Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. June 19-25, 2016. We enjoy clean, warm cabins with showers and comfortable bunks. All meals are provided.

Our goal is to open the door to the future in conservation and fly fishing, regardless of financial means, for any serious minded youth willing to do the work. The applicant must write an essay, stating why they would like to attend The Academy and they will need a letter of recommendation from their school counselor or science teacher.

Questions may be directed to:

Mike Clancy @ mtclancy39@comcast.net

Jim Brosio @ brosioj@q.com

Tom VanGelder @ TVG@comcast.net.

Applications are available on our website:

www.nwycffa.com

email address – nwycffa@comcast.net.

We are also on Face Book.

2016 PROMISES TO BE A GREAT YEAR FOR FAMILY AND YOUTH PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATION IN OUR SPORT OF FLY FISHING

There are a number of events coming up in 2016 for families and youth to learn or improve their skills for fly fishing.

January 27-31, 2016 – **Washington Sportsman Show** at the WA. State Fairgrounds in Puyallup, WA. WSCIFFF will have a booth at this event.

April 29-30, 2016 – The WSCIFFF will conduct the annual **Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg**. The program will have a youth program on April 30th for boys and girls 12-16 years old. The youth program will begin with classes 9-12am, after lunch a more hands on time either for casting or fly tying. The cost is \$40 which includes lunch and a new fly rod outfit. This event is still in the planning stage, but it will

happen. Sign up is via the WSCIFFF website. www.washingtoncounciliff.org.

May 13-14-15, 2016 – **The Sandy River Spey Clave** at The Oxbow Regional Park on The Sandy River just outside Gresham, OR. Website: www.flyfishUSA.com/spey-clave This is quite an event.

June 19-25, 2016 – The **NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy** will be held again on Hicks Lake at The Gwinwood Conference Center in Lacey, WA. The week long event will cost \$300, but financial support is available. This year the limit will be 22 boys and girls, 12-16 years old. Enrollment starts January 1, 2016. Applications may be downloaded from our website – www.nwycffa.com. or contact Mike Clancy @ nwycffa@comcast.net, Tom VanGelder @ tvq@comcast.net or Jim Brosio @ brosioj@q.com.

August 2-6, 2016 – The **International Fly Fishing Fair** will be held in Livingston, MT. Fly tyers from all over the World attend this event along with casting instructors and classroom instruction. There will be a 2 day Youth event during the event, it is still in the planning stages. Information may be obtained by going to www.fedflyfishers.org

The local Fly Clubs have their own events during the year.

2016 promises to be a good year for our families and especially our youth. The future of our sport is in the future of our youth. So let's get them out doors, in or on the water, away from their electronics and have some fun.

Mike Clancy

Gig Harbor Fly Shop – Fishing Report

Rivers - Hatchery Steelhead are being caught by those creative enough in their river choice to find water that is not flooded. We have seen some nice wild fish mixed in and still some Coho mixed with them. Swinging all the way through to the bank is going to yield you the best results especially with the higher flows and dirtier water.

Yakima - Our friends at Worley Bugger gave us the Yakima report: The river has dropped back into shape and is finally fishing real well again. The temperatures are going to remain steady with some good snow along the banks. If you can brave the pass the nymph fishing and streamer tossing should be very rewarding!

Saltwater - Puget Sound and Hood Canal have both been fishing very good. The Sea Run Cutthroat fishing has been a little more selective on location than in the summer, but if you find the right beach you can be rewarded with good numbers and good size fish. The fishing for resident coho has been picking up with good numbers around the narrows. The fish are averaging about 12-14" and we are expecting them to be packing on the weight over the next few months!

Stillwater - The still water fishing has been fair to good with chironomids and smaller streamers in the larger lakes with good numbers of holdover/wild fish.

Happy Holidays and we hope you all have a fantastic New Year!

Cheers,

Justin

Fly of The Month (flashback)

Credit to FFF Website

JANUARY, 2000- THE WHISTLER:

Exploiting the pusher detector



By Jim Abbs

In the early 1960's, a neuroscientist at MIT did some revolutionary work on the brain functions that make frogs so efficient in catching bugs. This work.. published under the title, "What the frog's eye tells the frog's brain" revealed some special features about the way that wild creatures use their vision sense to detect and capture food. The basic finding was that the frog has a fast hard wired neural system to very efficiently identify bugs and capture them with its lightning tongue. The frogs were said to have built-in "bug detectors". Work by other scientists discovered similar sensory detectors in other critters as well, even in humans for speech.

This classic work has a critical message for designers of fly patterns. The frog bug detectors are activated by only a few key bug-like features such as movement, size and maybe shape. Importantly, the frog does NOT do a detailed analysis of its prey, but rather focuses on only a couple of key elements. The implications to fly success are obvious. The sparkle (antron) in Gary LaFontaine's caddis pupa is probably one such key element. Flies designed by Gary LaFontaine, Doug Swisher, Charlie Brooks and many others also clearly are based, perhaps unknowingly, upon these kinds of focused neural detectors.

Much of the focus of fly design is on their visual features, perhaps a result of our narrow human perspective. However, fish also have very keen senses smell and vibration. Fish, after all do feed when visual cues are not available, such as in turbid water and at night. Vibration sense includes low frequency disturbances that humans cannot hear, as well as so-called sound (which we can hear). Don Blanton's Whistler is said to create special disturbances in the water by virtue of its heavily wound hackle collar. The term used by some is that the Whistler pushes the water and that is what the fish respond to. In fact, this fly originally was developed for striped bass in San Francisco Bay, where the visibility is generally less than 3 feet. Today, however, it is used on both coasts and a slightly different version is a favorite for tarpon in the Florida Keys.

(Continued on page 11)

MATERIALS

HOOK: Mustad 9175 or equivalent a Short shank saltwater hook, size 2/0 to 3/0.

EYES: Large to extra-large silver bead chain (1/4 inch diameter)

THREAD: Red Flymaster

WING: A couple of bunches of crinkly white bucktail, with bunches of red bucktail on the sides and silver flashabou and crystal flash on top.

UNDERBODY/WEIGHT: 8-10 turns of .031 lead wire

BODY: Rear 1/3 - 2-3 turns of red chenille,

COLLAR: Wide using three wide, webby white saddle or neck hackle,

HEAD: Red tying tread, several turns in front and in back of bead-chain optics.

TYING STEPS

1. Secure the tying thread, tie in the bead chain eyes directly behind the eye and wind the thread back to the bend of the hook. Use a figure eight to make sure the eyes are secure and cement the wraps.
2. Put 8-10 wraps of lead wire behind the eyes, secure the lead with thread and cement the lead and the thread. Wind the thread back to the bend of the hook.
3. Tie in a 3-1/2" to 4-1/2" long bunch of crinkly white bucktail near the back of the hook. Trim the butts, cement, and tie them down tightly.
4. Take the white bucktail (about the diameter of a pencil) and tie it in at the bend of the hook. Taper the butts to make a smooth edge and cement.
5. Tie in 25-30 strands of flashbou on top of the bucktail, extending it an inch beyond the bucktail.
6. On top of the flashabou, tie in another bunch of white bucktail. The full wing should be arrowhead shape (extending above and below the plane of the hook shank). Remember to leave room for the red chenille body and hackle collar. This is a short shank hook!
7. Tie in the cheeks of red bucktail; crystal flash could be added on the sides of the wings as well (not part of the original pattern).
8. Over all the wing tie downs, tie in the end of the red chenille, make 2-3 wraps, tie it off and trim.
9. Tie in the three saddle hackles, one a time, leaving as much soft material on the feather as possible. These hackles are tied in as a palmer between the end of the red chenille and the bead chain eyes. It is good to reinforce the saddle hackle with thread as they are wrapped.
10. Wrap sufficient thread over the hackle tips (behind the bead chain eyes) to make sure the hackle is secure. Continue to wrap the thread forward, up behind the hook eye. Cement all the final wraps, behind and in front of the eyes. Go push some water!

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org

PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
-----	-----	------	------	-------	-----	-----

					January 1, 2016 New Years Day	2
3	4	5	6 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	14 PSFF Mtg 6:00	15	16 Tying Class 9 AM to Noon
17	18	19	20 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	21 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	22	23
24/31 Newsletter Deadline 5PM (24th)	25	26	27 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	28	29	30

	February 1	2	3 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	11 PSFF Mtg 6:00	12	13
14	15	16	17 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	18 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	19	20
21	22 Newsletter Deadline 5PM	23	24 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	25	26	27
28	29					

Check for Newsletter Article Deadline Date.
Remember articles can always be submitted early.

Puget Sound Flyfishers

Club was founded in 1956 and has a long and proud history of involvement, action, camaraderie, and fun. The club's website is located at www.psff.org

Aims and Purposes of the Club are:

1. To improve and encourage the sport of flyfishing by social, educational and political means.
2. To encourage flyfishing as a means of conservation and increasing fishing opportunity.
3. To encourage the conservation, enhancement and quality of sport fishing.
4. To promote both "Fellowship" and "Sportsmanship" in all aspects of club and individual activity.
5. To actively assist and encourage the public to become flyfishers, and to adopt the club's mission and philosophies.

General Membership Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (except August). These meetings are for social, entertainment and educational purposes.

Educational Activities: The club offers classes and instruction in fly fishing, fly-tying, fly-casting and rod building. The club has an extensive library of books and videos. The club sponsors an annual Spring Clinic to promote flyfishing.

Outings: The club organizes monthly outings to various lakes, rivers, and estuaries. Experienced gillies provide expert information and instruction on how, when and where to fish.

Conservation Activities: The club has a long and proud history of encouraging flyfishing (and other selective fishing techniques) as a means of conserving and increasing fishing opportunities. The club is active in many of the important conservation issues of the day and in helping to fund local conservation projects.

Membership / Dues: Membership is open to anyone 18 or over. Dues are \$40 per household per year plus a one time (\$10 Initiation Fee) per member nametag.

Affiliations: The club is an active member of the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers

HOW TO JOIN THE PSFF YAHOO GROUP.

To receive and post to the PSFF Yahoo group you must first sign up as a member of Yahoo if you're not already signed up.

In your browser search for or go to Yahoo.com and look for the button asking if you want to join Yahoo. Click on the button and follow the instructions to join Yahoo. You will need an email address, a user name and a password. Remember these as periodically Yahoo will ask you to use them to resign in.

Once you are a member of Yahoo look at the top of the Yahoo page and find the search box. Enter PSFF in the box and press the 'Search' button. There will be a number of results as PSFF is used by several entities.

Scroll down though the list until you find Puget Sound Fly Fishers. Select the Puget Sound Fly Fishers and Yahoo will take you to the group site. You will notice a small box that asks you if you want to join the PSFF group. Select (yes.)

Another page will open up seeking your sign in information for the PSFF group. This information is separate from the information you entered for Yahoo itself. There will be a box for you to enter a short message telling the moderators why you want to join and basically who you are. Again you will be asked to select an email address where the PSFF group messages are sent.

You will need to select whether you receive individual messages or a Daily Digest. I suggest a daily digest but you can change this selection at any time later. At the bottom of the page you will have to enter, repeat, a displayed code of mixed letters and numbers. When you have done this go down to the bottom right and select 'Join'. You are done.

All new members are on a moderated basis and unable to post until approved by a moderator to help prevent SPAM and malicious posting. One of the moderators will handle your status usually within 24 hours.