



**Puget Sound Fly Fishers**

**April 2016**



***Have you renewed your fishing  
license?  
Don't forget your PSFF dues!***



**April Program -**

**Streamer fishing**

**The Leader Line  
By Paul Fournier**

**"Mended Stone"**

No stone left unturned  
no Stonefly left unmended

We move with the river as it flows from  
shallow to deep to nervous to still

Rounding another corner  
and yet another bend

Searching for life in the shadows  
of undercut banks, logs and deep pools

With our best flies on display  
we make one quick mend upstream

Out of nowhere raises a bright rainbow  
who will not leave this stone unturned



I learned a good lesson this month. Patience pays off and always explore a problem from multiple angles. For years I have been stumped by the Yakima River. Countless times I have made the trip over the mountains, only to stare at amazing water and walk away disappointed by how unproductive my efforts have been. But with every problem comes with an opportunity to solve the "puzzle." Not long ago, a buddy and I took the opportunity to once again float the Yakima, or as I had nicknamed it, the "Blue Ribbon Ditch." This time the stars and hatches

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were aligned; we were right on time for an annual Stonefly (Skwala) hatch. That day we caught and landed several large, healthy fish on dry flies and nymphs. I learned to keep trying and also to pay close attention to what is happening on the water. I am now encouraged, more than ever, to spend time on the water, asking good questions and observing fish habitat. So the next time you are stumped, don't give up. You will be glad you kept with it!

As we finish up with March and head into April, we fly anglers begin to prepare for upcoming fun by stocking our fly boxes for spring/summer trips, fishing open waters before the crowds are released into the wild or we are getting those last items checked off the "honey do" list. Spring is here and with that comes the promise of longer days, sunny weather and the chance to get out on the water. As you pack your bags be sure to include plenty of sunscreen, a hat, flashlight, first aid kit, pocket knife, waterproof matches, whistle, insect repellent, sunglasses and fire starter. All great essentials before heading out on upcoming adventures. Don't forget to renew your fishing license and boat tabs on time!

As a reminder, there is no club meeting in May. Many club members will be attending the Sandy River Spey Clave or Park Lake outing. If you are a new member or guest, I encourage you to check out either of these events. It is a great way to get to know other club members and fish. Park Lake has been my favorite spring outing since I joined the club and I hope to see many of you there.



**Happy fishing!**

# PSFF NEWS

**Our Next Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 14th**  
**6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**Tower Lanes Entertainment Center**  
**6323 6th Ave.**  
**Tacoma WA 98406**

## April 2016 Program

### How do Streamers Work in Local River Fly Fishing

Are you ready for river fishing yet? Want to connect with some trophy trout this year, maybe in the 16 to 24 inch range? Streamers can be your solution. We'll learn about streamers at the next regular meeting of Puget Sound Flyfishers on Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Club member Thomas Lamphere will describe the lifecycle of a typical west coast river system and how this knowledge can help drive our fly selection throughout the seasons. Learn what bugs to have in your fly boxes and how the salmon migrations can help determine what we should fish when we go out for the day. What are the best streamers to use in the different conditions we face and why? When should you switch from dries or nymphs to streamers? Where and how should they be fished? Of course streamers aren't the only go-to set of flies. We learn how these flies fit with other flies in improving our chances at trophy trout.

### May Program:

There will not be a regular club meeting in May this year because of a conflict with our annual Park Lake outing scheduled for May 13, 14 and 15. But never fear we have a program. Matt Paluch from The Desert Fly Guide Service, who is associated with the Desert Fly Angler shop in Ephrata will meet club and family members attending the Park Lake outing at 8:30 Saturday morning, April 14<sup>th</sup>, at Laurent's Sun Village Resort. We've asked him to describe the ecology of the area, the bugs in May as well as later in the year and their recommended flies and fly fishing opportunities in the area.

### June Program:

Molly Semenik, Master Certified Casting Instructor, owner of Tie The Knot Fly Fishing [www.tietheknotflyfishing.com](http://www.tietheknotflyfishing.com) and author of "25 Best Off-the-Beaten-Path Montana Fly Fishing Streams" will be our June speaker. She will talk about Wildlife Safety taken from her book, small stream fishing strategies and fishing a pod of rising fish sipping midges and/or Blue Winged Olives.

# FFF EVENTS



## Regional FFF Events in 2016

April 29th & 30th - Ellensburg, WA / Washington State Council / Fly Fishing Fair  
[www.wscaff.org](http://www.wscaff.org)

June 3 - 5 - Renton, WA / The Atlantic Salmon Fly International  
[www.asfi-expo.com](http://www.asfi-expo.com)

August 2-6th - Livingston, MT / International Fly Fishing Fair  
[www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org)

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# HOT SCOOP

## Education Corner

By John Brett

We have had several outstanding classes this year and we now want to continue with tying several flies that will be productive in still water fishing. Specifically, all attendees will depart with dry and subsurface flies that should help catch the lunkers in Park Lake and other favorite fishing waters. Out big outing for the year is fast approaching and I'm sure you'd like to have the "Right Stuff" in your box.

I think we all agree that the most spectacular fishing is witnessing some large fish take a floating fly. That generally results in some great photographs but also ends in fewer fish being caught!! The fish biologists agree that less than 10% of all fish diets are associated with bugs and flies found on the surface and the overwhelming majority of nourishment is derived from subsurface creatures. This class will concentrate on this non-floating type of "fly" that can be used for the summer trout, crappie, bass and any others that are spending their free time dinning at the fresh water buffet.

Your boxes of floating and subsurface bait will all have the opportunity to get wet when you fling them at our western Washington live menu. Find your calendar and make a plan to fish still waters soon and often this year.

The big room at Tower Lanes is reserved for Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, where we can enjoy each other's company, brag about our recent achievements and learn to tie several still water "Catch 'ems". If you are a seasoned tier, bring your toys; and if you are new or just want to give it a try, we've got plenty of the extra tools, materials and lots of room at the tying bench. The fun starts at 9:00 and continues till 12:00. A signup sheet will be available at the April meeting. If you don't sign up and still want to attend, I'd appreciate a call or e-mail so enough supplies will be on hand.

Don't forget to bring your lunch money.

John Brett 253-265-3870  
jmbrett99@yahoo.com



## PJ's TIPS

Tying Tip -

Flash in a flash

My crystal flash, flash-a-boo, etc. used to drive me nuts. It was difficult to get out of the package and even more difficult to get back in. If I left it out of the package it tangled and became generally unruly. The solution to this problem is so simple even a fly tier can do it! First, remove the material from the package. The material is generally held in a bundle with a cable tie. Take the pointed end of the tie and poke it through the closed end of the zip-lock package. You now have a convenient 'handle' to grasp. Next cut one of the corners of the package off on the diagonal. The opening only needs to be about 1/4" on a side. It is easy to use your scissors tips or bodkin to pull out the required number of strands and clip them off.

Courtesy of Mike Clancy

Vern young was a long time member of the club. He passed away not to long ago, actually, he saved the Club from failing in an event that took place on a river.  
Mike C.

**Club Participation by Vernon Young:**

Occasionally I observe symptoms of burnout in club members. For me, burnout occurs when perceived effort exceeds perceived rewards. When this occurs it has helped to count all the ways I have benefited from club membership. For example:

1. I joined the club for the sole purpose of learning more about fish resources, especially Searun Cutthroat. That has happened through knowledgeable club members, guest speakers and other conferences and activities I learn about through the club.
2. The club has helped me to speak before a group. It has acted much like a Tostmasters club in encouraging people to stand up and make fishing reports.
3. News letter editors have printed articles that I submitted, giving me the feeling I can write, a point my college English professor would totally denounce.
4. Occasionally, I have disagreed with a club policy or action. My suggestions or criticism has always been listened to. When warranted the club has changed its action, teaching me that I can make a difference.
5. When attending an environmental type conference, hearing or activity you are often asked what organization you are with. I have always put down Puget Sound Flyfishers. It has given me a sense of belonging. It has helped me to be recognized by others.
6. The club has given me many good nights out with my wife, entertained us with excellent programs and good club humor.
7. The club has introduced me to fishing partners giving me companionship on fishing trips.
8. PSFF has always had the ability to take in more money than its current needs called for. The club has financially supported activities I have suggested.
9. Being the conservation chair for several years gave me some insights about myself and how to work with others. We accomplished some experiments and stream side projects that are still in place.
10. Being a PSFF member has taught me how to be a better steward of our natural resources. "Limit your kill. Don't kill your limit."

If you are a current or past club officer, chair or board member I want you to know you are the glue that makes it all possible.

**YOU ARE APPRECIATED.** Vernon Young

## Fly Fishing Academy News

Applications are now being accepted for the June 19-25, 2016 Academy. Up to 22 lucky boys and girls may attend the 2016 Academy at Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The applicant must submit an essay, explaining why “they” would like to attend The Academy and a letter of recommendation is to be submitted by their school counselor or science teacher. Both items may be emailed to me. Enrollment fee is \$300, however; there are sponsorships available, so no applicant will be turned away because of funding.

Again we are very fortunate to receive financial support from the fly fishing clubs, the TU chapters, individuals and corporate organizations. The event is supported by WSCIFFF and WCTU and the SSFF, PSFF & Olympia TU.

The applications can be obtained by contacting me or go to our website and download the forms at [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com).

We now have a Facebook page with loads of pictures from last year's Academy. Just put in NW Youth and it will pop right up.

If you have any questions, please contact me @ [nwycffa@comcast.net](mailto:nwycffa@comcast.net). Phone: 253-278-0061.

Looking forward to another great year –

Mike Clancy, Co-Director,  
Jim Brosio, Co-Director &  
Tom VanGelder, Co-Director

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## IFFF Youth Fly Fishing Camp 2016

Do you know of any youth that are interested in learning about fly fishing? If you do, then plan on signing them up for the annual International Fly Fishing Fair Youth Camp. We are excited to be in Livingston, MT. for our 51<sup>th</sup> anniversary and have the opportunity to teach youth about our sport of fly fishing!

This year's Youth Camp will be an exciting two-day program, full of learning, fun, and fishing. It is designed for ages 8-17 and will offer a wide variety of angling and aquatic education topics. The first day classroom portion of the Youth Camp will be held at the high school in Livingston, the casting will be conducted on the school grounds. We have reserved a pond and a shelter for the fishing day of the camp.

Folks interested in volunteering for this event, please go to the Fly Fishing Fair tab at our website [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org) to sign up. Volunteers will be needed to insure the youth are safe and having fun. A number of the youth will be new to fly fishing and guidance will be appreciated.

The camp will begin both days at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 4:00 pm, with a lunch break (lunch included) around noon. Anyone with special dietary needs please attend to those individually. *Please make mention of any food allergy or diet restrictions when registering.*

Instructional topics will include entomology, fly tying, equipment and accessories, explanation of the balanced system, angler ethics, fishing safety, abeyance to regulations, catch and release, fly casting and last but not least, FISHING! I am a registered Fly Fishing Merit Badge counselor with the Pacific Harbors Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Any scouts interested in obtaining credit for requirements, please bring your own blue card and I'd be happy to sign off those that are earned.

Be prepared for inclement weather. Rain may not prevent continuing the program, but should high winds or lightening be present, we may have to make alternative arrangements. Participants need to bring a good hat/cap, sunglasses, sun screen, safety glasses for eye protection and a water bottle, along with any rescue medications needed. *Be sure to indicate any health issues or concerns also when registering.* I appreciate everyone's patience and flexibility to adapt to whatever conditions exist. I'm sure we'll have a great time and a good experience.

Class will be limited to the first 20 registrants for each day. All youth 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Plans for transportation are being looked into, kids will ride via private vehicles to the fishing. Everyone will be notified of transportation plans prior to the camp.

If anyone has any questions of me in the meantime, feel free to email me at [mtclancy39@comcast.net](mailto:mtclancy39@comcast.net) or call my cell phone 253-278-0061. I'm looking forward to meeting our participants and another great IFFF Youth Camp experience.

Tight Lines  
Mike Clancy, Life Member IFFF  
Member WSCIFFF Council  
Co-Director, NWYCFFAcademy

Fly Fishing Artist Gallery

Featured Artist: **Dave Roholt**

*A native of Salt Lake, I lived in Japan for two years prior to studying at Utah State University, earning a BFA and received a MFA in Painting from Colorado State University in 2006. I am currently a tenured Professor of Art at Pierce College in Lakewood, Washington. I enjoy living in the Pacific Northwest with my sweet artistically gifted wife Jenny. When I am not in the studio or classroom, I can often be found fly fishing the beaches, still water, and rivers, in search of inspiration for the next work of art.*

*My goal is not to mimic and copy the obvious, but rather to produce art that departs from the familiar. Subject matter largely acts as an inspirational catalyst in my work. Swimmers, Fly Fisherman, railroad cars, trees, and various observed forms orchestrate a springboard in my art making method. To me it is not merely a question of what to depict, but rather how to reinvent the subject.*

*Formally, a key facet of my imagery includes a contrast of abstracted elements in relation to more referential forms. I strive to give identity to my work by controlling paint quantity, color, and the abundance or absence of mark. High and low chroma contrast, and a persistent use of less commonly utilized color combinations are often visible in my work. Above all, I enjoy the simple pleasure of taking seemingly ordinary materials and creating viable works of art. Why I make art rests in the satisfaction found in the process of simply producing.*



*"Double Haul" – Oil on Canvas*

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(Continued from page 8)*

*"Narrows fisher"*



*Oil on Canvas*

*her" –*

# *Fly of The Month (flashback)*

Credit to FFF Website

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month

**April, 2000- The Stimulator**



This photograph of the Stimulator was provided courtesy of its originator, Randall Kaufmann.

## **Kaufmann's Stimulator: A great all-around attractor fly By Jim Abbs**

While the April Fly of the month is nationally heralded, it is almost worshiped in the American West. That is not to say that it is not used elsewhere for it has an international following and is reported to be very effective from New Zealand to the mountains of Sweden. However, aside from these reasons for describing Randall Kaufmann's Stimulator and how to tie it, I have personal endearing memories toward this fly. From the time I started fishing western waters in the early 1980's this fly has been a great producer, first on rolling, roaring Rock Creek in Western Montana, and following that on a couple dozen medium sized and large western rivers, including the Wenatchee, Yakima, and Methow in Washington State, the Clark Fork, Yellowstone, Gallatin, Bitterroot, and Blackfoot in Montana and even the Tongue in Wyoming. This fly is truly an attractor for all occasions and can be fished in sizes from 4 to 16, with features of both stoneflies and caddis, but also working as a hopper.

What makes the Stimulator so effective? Many fly originators have elaborate theories. Randall Kaufmann is perhaps more honest than most in stating outright that he doesn't know why the Stimulator is so effective. He even raises a possibility that is not mentioned by most fly designers who want to mimic nature with new looking patterns: "The Stimulator may be just different enough that fish do not remember having an earlier encounter with it and mistake it for real food."

Randall Kaufmann is unusually honest in another way as well. He readily admits that the Stimulator is not unique, but is kind of a composite of "parts" from other effective flies. In the 21st century, there are very few things that are truly brand new. In fact, genius is often in the ability to synthesize, rather than create.

So why does the stimulator work? Well, I think one particular insight deserves a direct quote: "By tying the fly wide (spreading out its tail and wing) and tall with the wing spread upward, the fly "creates the illusion of bulk and the blurred or fluttering image of wing movement. Palmered hackle adds to this illusion, and it should be stiff and tapered, smaller at the tail area. These features, along with fishing them when they are in good condition ensures "they react to tiny individual currents, portraying a bouyant, animated natural insect." (Randall Kaufmann, *Tying Dry Flies*, 1992).

If you are going somewhere out west (or to New Zealand or Sweden) and are not familiar with the Stimulator, try it this year. It is very easy to tie and by varying color combinations and sizes, it offers almost a full fly box of variety.

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*(Continued from page 10)*

## **MATERIALS**

- **Hook:** 2X OR 3X Long Dry Fly, TMC 200R, Mustad 79580, Size 6-16
- **Thread:** Orange, 3/0 or 6/0
- **Tail:** Elk (Deer Body Hair is called for by some tyers)
- **Abdomen:** Yellow/orange dubbing
- **Rib:** Brown or grizzly hackle, palmer style, smaller than hook size
- **Thorax:** Orange Dubbing
- **Hackle:** Grizzly over thorax, dry fly style
- **Wing:** Elk

## **TYING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Tie in clump of elk hair for the tail, with a length extending beyond the bend of the hook about 1 ½ times the hook gape. Some tiers tie the butt ends of the elk hair on the hook shank as an underbody.
2. Tie in brown or grizzly hackle for palmer rib and dub a tapered yellow-orange body forward to about 2/3rds the length of the shank.
3. Wrap the hackle forward, palmer style over the abdomen. Tie off and tie in the wing of elk hair such that the end of the wing is even with the bend of the hook.
4. Tie in second hackle and dub the thorax forward to a few mm behind the hook eye.
5. Wrap the hackle forward, dry fly style and tie off.
6. Whip finish and go fishing.

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.  
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at [flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:flyofthemoth@fedflyfishers.org)

# PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
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					April 1 Got your new license?	2
3	4	5	6 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 PSFC Fly Tying 6:00	14 PSFF Mtg 6:00	15	16
17	18	19	20 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	21 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	22	23 Tying Class 9AM Tower Lanes Lowland Lakes Opener Newsletter Deadline 5PM
24	25	26	27 PSFC Fly Tying 6:00	28	29 Ellensburg, WSCIFFF Fly Fishing Fair	30 Ellensburg, WSCIFFF Fly Fishing Fair Catch Card Deadline

May 1	2	3	4 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	5	6	7
8 Mothers Day	9	10	11 PSFC Fly Tying 6:00	12 Outing - Rocky Ford (No General Meeting this month)	13 Outing - Park Lake Sandy River Spey Clave	14 Outing - Park Lake Sandy River Spey Clave
15 Outing - Park Lake Sandy River Spey Clave	16	17	18 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	19 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	20	21
22	23	24 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	25 PSFC Fly Tying 6:00	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31				

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](http://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.