

September 2021

Volume 65 #9

Next Meeting 9/9

September in-person meeting has been cancelled

Leader Line

Due to the increase in COVID-19 cases we have decided to postpone our in-person meetings at this time. Thanks to Bob Jimerson for his informative notice included below.

I would like to remind everyone that it is that time of year when we reach out to our members and ask for help filling Officer positions and seats on our Board of Directors. If you have ever thought about getting more involved in the club and its future direction now is the time to step forward. You don't have to be a long-time member, a good fisherperson, or have past experience. All it takes is a couple of hours a month and a desire to help see PSFF continue to be one of the best fly-fishing clubs in the Pacific Northwest. I can assure you that you will get all the support you need to feel comfortable. If you are interested, please email me at gregs47@icloud.com or text me at 206-979-5840 and we can set up a time to talk.

On a similar topic, we are very fortunate to have really dedicated chairpersons for our many club functions such as Membership, Education, Legislative, Conservation, Newsletter and others. One of the most important is that of Chairperson for Monthly Speakers. Charles (Chic) Sundahl has filled this position for us for many years and has done an outstanding job at finding terrific speakers that have covered all aspects of flyfishing. Unfortunately, due to a number of reasons Chic has decided that he can no longer continue in this vital role. Therefore, we are also seeking a member to take on this important position. With Chic's wealth of knowledge, he is happy to help anyone get up to speed. If contacting and talking with some of the most well-known authorities on fly fishing sounds like fun, please contact me.

With cooling temperatures arriving, I hope everyone can get back on your favorite waters and enjoy some late summer early autumn fishing.

Greg Shimek

September's PSFF Meeting Via Zoom

We hope everybody is safe and having a good summer so far. As August winds down it is time to look forward to fall.

That forward looking exercise has prompted the Board to reschedule September's meeting as a Zoom meeting and to postpone the resumption of in-person meetings at Tower Lanes for a bit longer. Covid numbers are moving against us and it is quite possible that indoor gatherings will not be allowed by our September meeting date.

So, to allow everyone time to plan to attend the meeting and enjoy the fellowship and the presentation we are announcing that we are staying with the Zoom format for at least another month. The Zoom meetings have been a surprising treat with great interaction between members and presenters. If you have not been attending you have been missing out.

Click this link to attend September's meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82351603622?pwd=aiszRmZ3YW85RitCRDdUWWWhGTzVYUT09>

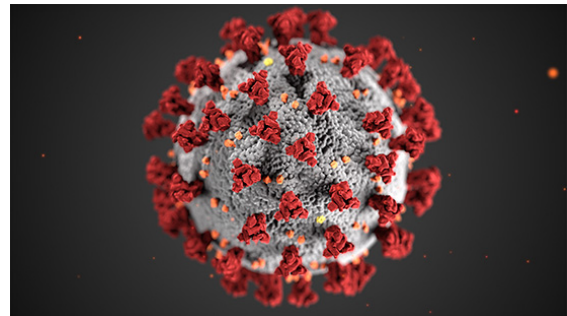
September's "Return To Normal Gala" Postponed

For the same reasons that prompted us to hold September's meeting online, we are postponing the "Return to Normal Gala" that was planned for September 18th until conditions improve. This should be a great event giving all of us a chance to meet and mingle with fellow club members we have not seen in person for well over a year - and to meet the new members that

have joined during the pandemic. The party will be a celebration of our collective resilience and to gather again in an unstructured social event to renew and strengthen friendships. Keep an eye out for information on plans for this party when we have a new date and plan to attend and enjoy the company and fellowship of some very good fly fishing folks.

Fly fishing may be a sport well adapted for these pandemic times but...

COVID be gone!



September Program

“Make Soft-Hackle and Wet-Fly Fishing Work” with Skip Morris

These very old flies and the techniques by which they are fished were for a long time all but forgotten—but they really do catch trout. And they catch them sometimes when other flies and methods won't.

Soft hackles and wets can drum up trout that aren't rising, but they can also be deadly during a hatch of mayflies or caddis, even midges.

Skip came to his understanding of these flies and the ways they are fished through reading the works of, and fishing with Dave Hughes. Skip has also learned a lot, both directly and indirectly, from wet-fly master Davy Wotton.

You'll learn to skip a wet atop the water to drive trout a little mad, how to solidly hook a high proportion of the trout that take both your wets and soft-hackles (an area where many fly fishers have trouble), the rigs, the flies, and more.

Bonus: Skip will be tying flies for anybody who wants to stick around after his presentation. His wife Carol has set up a very effective approach to “filming” fly tying and they've done it dozens of times during the pandemic. Skip will be tying a March Brown Spider and a Light Cahill.



Join Zoom Meeting

September 9, 2021

7:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82351603622?pwd=aiszRmZ3YW85RitCRDdUWWWhGTzVYUT09>

Meeting ID: 823 5160 3622

Passcode: PSFF2020

NOTE: If tapping on the hyperlink does not work:

1. You can copy it and paste in to your browser
or
2. You can type in the Meeting ID and Passcode in the Zoom Application.

Outings

September

Spencer Lake - Friday, September 10th at 10:00 am. This 230 acre lake is heavily planted by the state and can produce great fishing and catching year round. If interested join us for breakfast, 08:30 am, at Spencer Lake Bar and Grill before fishing or see you at the boat launch at 10:00 am.

Directions to boat launch:

Northeast from Shelton appx 7 mi on Hwy 3, right on Pickering Rd, right on Spencer Lk Rd, 1 mi to access on left.

The restaurant is approx. 2 miles off Hwy 3 on Pickering Road.

1180 E Pickering Road
Shelton, WA 98584

October

Lenice Lake (Grant County Eastern WA),
October 6-7, Wed - Fri. This 92 acre lake is a
¼ mile hike in from parking lot.

Depending on interest we can camp or RV at
lake parking lot or drive 15 miles back to
Vantage and get accommodations at
Riverstone. If interested please contact me by
phone or email.

This trip could easily be combined with a float
on the Yakima river if a drift boat owner.
This outing will be posted on the forum and
further planning details will be posted there.

Munn lake, Friday, October 15, 10:00 am
This year round small 32 acre lake in
Thurston county is approx. 2 miles from
Tumwater.

Anglers are limited to selective gear rules and it
is catch and release for all species. The lake
offers great fishing for rainbow trout 10-16".
Proven methods for targeting rainbow trout
include fishing chironomid imitations suspended
from a float or trolling your favorite leech/
streamers.

Directions: I-5 South to exit 105 and turn left and
go south on Henderson Blvd SE., turn left on
65th AVE SE. The WDFW public access road
will be on your right

Jim Baker
bake5636@wavecable.com



Fly of the Month

2010 PURPLE RAT



By Bob Bates

October is when many folks in Western Canada,
Northwest United States and down along the
California coast go steelhead fishing. Most of
them use nice looking flies to attract the
attention of these fish returning to their home
waters. Some even use expensive Atlantic
Salmon patterns. Tom Le Bar from Sweet
Home, OR was tying attractive steelhead flies at
the April, 2010 Fly Tying Expo in Albany,
Oregon.

First let me assure you that this is not the only
"Rat" pattern in existence. There are eight more
listed in Flies for Atlantic Salmon by Dick
Stewart and Farrow Allen. According to them
the "Rat" series was originated and introduced
in 1911 by Roy Angus Thompson (R.A.T.).
Many well-known angler/tiers, including Paul
Jorgenson, are named as developers of "Rat"
patterns. A variation of Jorgenson's Blue Rat is
shown in the September 2002 FFF Fly of the
Month.

Most anglers fish this pattern wet fly style. That
is, cast a floating line quartering downstream,
and let the fly swing toward shore. Steelhead
hits are obvious most of the time. I have had
some hits almost jerk me off my rock. Tom
usually fishes this fly deep. However, if you

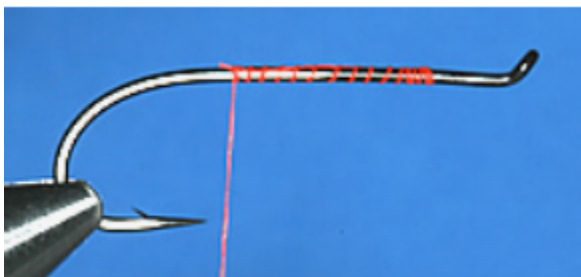
leave room between the eye and the head a raffle hitch can be used. Then you can fish it as a waking fly and watch the fish chase the fly if you keep it waking. What you are supposed to do is bow to the fish and then tighten the line when you feel its weight.

Tying a raffle hitch is easy. (It goes by other names, also.) Tie the fly on your leader using your favorite knot. It can be an improved Clinch Knot or an improved Turtle Knot. Then face downstream, hold the fly pointing toward the shore put one half hitch behind the eye with the leader coming toward you. Put a second half hitch behind the first. Again, the leader comes out toward you. You can use line mends to slow or speed up the fly.

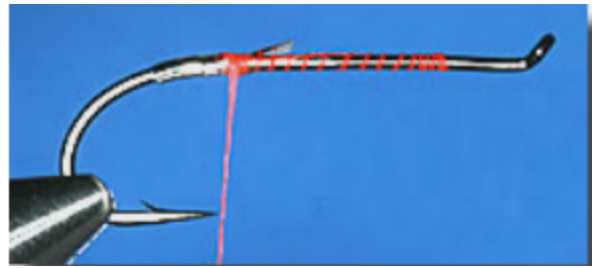
Materials:

- Hook: Daiichi 2421 Low Water
- Thread: Orange, black or any color you like
- Tag: Mylar tinsel, medium, gold/silver and fuchsia Uni-Stretch
- Tail: Fox squirrel, reddish/brownish hair from the bottom of the tail
- Rib and counter wrap: Small oval tinsel, silver or gold
- Body: Peacock herl Wing: Fox squirrel

Tying steps:



1. Before you start tying smash the barb down if you want barbless hooks. Start thread at rear of loop eye to be sure it is closed. Then wind rearward with open spiral to a little in front of the hook point.



2. If you are using tinsel that is gold on one side and silver on the other, tie it on with the gold side up. Wind thread rearward over it to a point slightly in front of the barb. Return thread to tie in point. When the tinsel is wrapped forward it will turnover so the silver side shows. Secure tinsel and trim excess.



3. Tie on the UniStretch and wrap it with a firm pull so it lays on flat and smooth. Leave some of the silver tinsel showing. Tie down with two or three thread winds.



4. Select a small bunch of fur from the underside of a fox squirrel tail. Clean out under fur and stack hair. Tie on fibers so they extend about a quarter of the tail length past bend of hook. Tie them on near side of hook so thread torque will move fibers to top of hook. (This assumes that the thread is wound away from the tier over the top of the hook.)



5. Tie on two pieces of fine oval tinsel. The counter wrap piece goes on the far side of the hook, and the other piece goes on the tier's side of the hook.



8. Remove a small bunch of hair off the back of a fox squirrel skin, clean out under fur and stack it. Sometimes Tom will build up the front of the body to make the wing stick up higher. Steelheads probably do not care if wing sticks up high or not. Position wing so it reaches about halfway along the tail. Tie the squirrel hair in as firmly as possible because it is a hard hair and tends to slip.



6. Take about 4-5 or more peacock herl. Trim ends of the herl, and tie them in. Lay the near side tinsel in with the herl. Spin herl lightly so peacock will stay together. Wrap herl and tinsel forward, secure and trim excess.



7. Spiral the counter wrap rib forward, secure and trim excess. (Counter wrap means opposite direction from thread and herl wrap.) Tom varies the number of wraps to have a fly that looks good to him. He said three or four wraps, but looking at the fly in high resolution I count five turns. Therefore, on this particular tying session five looked good.



9. Select a feather with fairly long fibers (barbs) because they will give a lot of movement. However, not too much webbing. Tie on feather and hold it up to fold the hackle. When folding pull the barbs back so the insides of the barbs are facing each other. This helps the fibers point rearward when the feather is wrapped. Put on three or four wraps of hackle, secure and trim excess. Stroking barbs back while wrapping helps to make them point rearward.

The Pink Salmon Cometh

Well, if you haven't experienced the coming of the pink salmon or "Humpies" as they are sometimes called, now would be a good time to head to the beach and give it a try. I started fishing for pink salmon in 2007 and have continued chasing them each odd year since. Back in those days they were super abundant. I mean, like somewhere around two million or more returning to the Canadian and Puget Sound rivers. These days the runs are smaller but nevertheless, hooking up with a two- or three-pound salmon from the beach or boat can tax some equipment.

I started using a six-weight rod back then, confident that I could handle the fish. I soon found out that it was somewhat difficult. I broke the six weight Sage rod that I had used for years. It's fixed now but I switched to an eight weight for a couple of reasons. The fish were stronger than I had anticipated in open water, and I wanted to be able to catch and release quickly if I had no intention of keeping the fish. If you decide to keep the fish, clean and ice immediately and don't forget to mark your card.

Fishing for the Pink salmon can be done in many locations up and down the Sound but in the South Sound where we live you must keep in mind that they return only to the Green River (Duwamish), the Puyallup, and some to the Nisqually. Years ago, I made an uneducated guess that they would begin to home in many other area streams, but I was incorrect in my assumption. They still return to only the three rivers in any number. I saw a prediction earlier this year that the return would be about 600,000 fish. That's a far cry from what had been in the years 2007-2011 but more than the last two runs. These locations mean that there are some areas to fish that are better than others.

The best fishing, I have experienced, has been in my own home waters of Dash Point and Browns Point as the fish are returning to the Puyallup River. It's sort of like ambushing the fish as they swim along the beaches in search of the river. There are of course, other areas to



10. Build a fairly large head, and lay the hackle fibers back a little. Leave bare hook shank between the eye and the head so a person can use a ruffle hitch. Put on a little head cement and you are finished.

All you need now is a place to go fishing. The ruffle hitch can go farther back on the fly, behind the head or wing to make it move differently. I used only the standard hitch so I am not sure how alternate positions or even having the leader come out toward you, under the fly or opposite side work. But I read about them on the Internet. If you have time, experiment. Remember, Tom has a lot of success just fishing it deep. So, I spent a lot of time talking about a technique that Tom doesn't use, but others do. Main thing, get out there and have fun.

The fly is Credited to FFI Website or FFI Clubwire for the of the pattern. Direct any questions or comments to FOM at flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org

Kristin Macy



fish, especially if you want to beat the crowds. Because there have been so many fish, the novice anglers come out in droves to try their luck. You must temper that with the fact that the two beaches I mentioned also have many people who merely come down to enjoy the water without fishing. When I had a boat, I could anchor offshore and fish in toward the beach. I also trolled around Vashon Island and between Pt. Defiance Park and the mouth of the Puyallup River. Colvis Passage and Ollalla can also yield catches. Parking and trespass issues are always a problem so keep that in mind as well. One point of relief, this year anyway, is that the Dash Point fishing pier is closed for structural evaluation so there are no crowds lining the dock. Of course, that means more folks on the beach and some parking issues. Get there early if you can.

Equipment is simple. As I said earlier, I use an 8-wt. rod to protect the fish. I have always coupled that with a good reel that has a strong drag in case I need it. I use an intermediate sinking line and retrieve the fly slowly. Don't forget the stripping basket because this time of year, there is a lot of seaweed that can tangle up your line. My fly selection is basic. I use several different flies; all pink or pink and white. I'm including a photo and tying instructions for one specific fly that I stole from my friend Nick Clayton. He describes it as a fly "so simple a flying monkey could tie it."

Here's the fly. It's easy and quick to tie and Nick tells me that it is a good choice for the upcoming coho run as well as chinooks. Tying instructions are easy.

Thread - Pink

Hook-Saltwater size 2 or 4

Tie in thread and add silver bead chain near the eye, on top of the hook. I secure with super glue for durability.

Tie in body of "slinky fiber," fish hair, or choice behind the eyes.

Tie in pink crystal flash, 3-4 strands on top of the body.

Secure, whip finish, and glue for durability.

Shazam!! It's done. The tie takes less than five minutes and I am told the fly is a killer.



Steve Saville

PS Nutrient General Permit

(Last month we introduced the topic of nutrients in Puget Sound and the associated problem of decreasing oxygen content available to marine species. Decision time is approaching. Following is a message from the Department of Ecology. The permit process will affect 58 domestic waste water treatment plants discharging to Puget Sound,ed.)

"As you may know, Ecology received a \$9 million appropriation in the Capital Budget from the 2021 Washington State Legislature to support implementation of the draft Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit. Ecology

intends these funds to help reduce the costs of implementing expected permit requirements related to monitoring, optimization and planning during the first 5-year permit cycle. The Water Quality Program's Financial Management Section has drafted guidelines covering eligible expenses and estimated grant amounts. We (Ecology Department) would like to solicit your feedback related to how Ecology proposes to divide the appropriated funds. In particular, we would like your feedback on the set aside amount and scope of a regional study, the base award for each plant, and the prioritized grant award approach as detailed in the guidelines.

Please review the draft guidelines and provide us (Ecology Department) your feedback by September 9, 2021."

(You may review the Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit on the internet at <https://ecology.wa.gov/nutrientpermit>)

"Please direct your funding questions and comments to David Dunn (dadu461@ecy.wa.gov).

If you have questions related to the status of the draft Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit, please reach out to the permit writer, Eleanor Ott, via email: eleanor.ott@ecy.wa.gov"

Geoff Corso

Conservation

Public access to a portion of the lower Grande Ronde River is now permanently protected through the purchase of an eight-acre private parcel approximately 2 miles upstream from the confluence with the Snake River. The access is located on a great steelhead river near the popular Turkey Run and Shadow Hole sections of the river. FFI and WSCFFI, and the Inland Empire FF Club, worked with the Wild Steelhead Coalition and others to fund the

purchase of this property. Ownership was recently donated to the State of Washington and will be managed by WDFW for access and use in perpetuity.

The FFI's first-ever Virtual Expo is coming up November 5-7. The FFI Virtual Expo brings all the workshops, experiences, knowledge, and community of our annual Expo to a digital platform. A \$25 registration fee grants you access to the Expo, with some workshops requiring an additional fee. Go to www.flyfishersinternational.org to register.

WASHINGTON - Chehalis Basin Board voted unanimously to approve a spending plan for 2021-2023 for the Chehalis Basin Strategy. This plan allocates \$70 million, appropriated by the state legislature to the Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB), across a portfolio of actions for flood damage reduction and aquatic species habitat restoration at every scale. To learn the whole story, go to "Office of Chehalis Basin" www.mcma461@ECY.WA.GOV> A Free Flowing dam is proposed, which would be utilized in case of potential flooding of the valley.

ALASKA - The Biden administration is ending the large-scale, old -growth timber sales in the Tongass National Forest and will focus on restoration, recreation and other noncommercial uses for the southeast Alaska rainforest.

SAVE BRISTOL BAY - The Alaska Department of Fish and Game reported that the Bristol Bay's 2021 sockeye run reached the largest on record with 63.2 million fish returning to the bay. The 2021 run broke the 2018 standing record at 62.9 million fish returning to the region. Thousands of years on Indigenous stewardship and 100+ years of sustainable commercial fishery management made this year's record-breaking sockeye run in Bristol Bay possible. Science has shown that clean water and healthy fish habitat will continue to support this world-class fishery that produces roughly 50% of all sockeye salmon on the planet. Even though the fishery's biggest threat - the proposed Pebble

mine - was denied the key federal permit last year, Bristol Bay isn't safe yet. The current administration needs to put a permanent denial on mines that threaten Bristol Bay, such as Pebble mine or any other future mine.

A federal judge threw out Trump administration approvals for a North Slope oil project, saying the federal review was flawed and didn't include mitigation measures for polar bears.

Mike Clancy, Conservation Chairman FFI

Club Anniversaries September 2021

Rob Jensen	2
Kara Jensen	2
Nick Rajacich	31
Curt Stoner	5

2020 PSFF Directory

All current members had the Directory emailed to you. If you require a hard copy please get in touch with Kristin. If you didn't receive a copy or email has changed let Dennis Beardsley know as soon as possible.

PSFF Library

We are not currently checking out any materials and ask that you please keep track of what you do have checked out.

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

Missing and Lost books

Take this time at home to peruse your personal library and make sure that none of the pesky missing book had infiltrated and take residence. If you find something, there will be no questions asked – Just return to the Catch and release basket on the library table when we gather next. Our books have a stamp or hand written "Property of the Puget Sound FlyFishers" inside the front cover.

Library Organization

I have been working with the library now for about 4 years. Most everyone has stopped by and checked out the books but I wanted to take a moment and let you know how I have everything organized so that you might find that special book that you want to check out a little bit quicker.

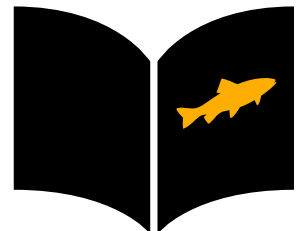
Books are setup in the following categories:

- 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 stop by and have a look around – I'm happy to help you find what you are look for.



Officers and Servants

Interim President: Greg Shimek, 253-588-7606, gregs47@icloud.com

President Elect: Vacant

Vice President: Vacant

Past President: Mike Koslosky, 831-247-8655, mitek1801@gmail.com

Secretary: Amy Weller, 253-973-0443, hunbun@pcswa.com

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

Director, 1st year: Bryan Habeck, 253-345-8565, bryan.habeck@icloud.com

Director, 2nd year: Tess Frazier, 360-265-6833, tessfrazier@wavecable.com

Director, 3rd year: Gene Rivers 360-878-2024, Acu4pets@hotmail.com

Membership Chair: Tess Frazier, 360-265-6833, tessfrazier@wavecable.com

Librarian: Kristin Macy, 253-222-0715, KHMacy@live.com

Raffles: Doug Post, dougpostthedrummer@gmail.com

Programs: Chic Sundahl, 253-381-5082, chicster21@gmail.com

Outdoor Activities: Jim Baker, 253-394-1522, bake5636@wavecable.com

Web Site Editor: Bob Jimerson, 253-682-7768, bobjimerson@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Tom Long, 253 514-8838, tflong2@comcast.net

Legislation: Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259, Mtclancy39@comcast.net

FFI Representative: Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259, Mtclancy39@comcast.net

Education: Steve Saville, 253-927-4401, stevesaville@comcast.net

Conservation: Greg Shimek, 253-588-7606, gregs47@icloud.com