



Volume 65 #5

May 2021

Next Meeting 5/13

Leader Line

Greg Shimek

Well by the time you read this, lowland lakes have opened and stream fishing is only a few short weeks away. To me this time of the year is the start of fishing season. Yes, I know we have lots of folks who chase elusive winter steelhead, when ice in guides can cut your line, and others that love to fish for trout on year-round streams when it is so cold your eyelids freeze shut. For the life of me, I still don't know why. Others still can't seem to leave those strange looking pan fish alone at any time of year. Now before some of you start heading to your computers to remind me that yours truly can indeed be found wandering around on a number of beaches harassing the coastal cutthroat population in the winter months, I must inform you that I pick the warmest, driest and calmest days to venture out. I know those days don't come along very often, but often enough to satisfy my winter fishing needs. However enough of the trials and tribulations of winter fishing, it is spring, it is getting warmer, it has already been in the 70s for a number of days, plants are blooming, bugs are hatching and fishing season is underway. I hope you all will take advantage of the good weather and go catch some fish.

On a much less positive note, we have not had anyone step up to fill our empty positions of Secretary, Vice President and President-elect. At our last Board Meeting we did not have enough officers for a quorum and we could not carry out any business as required. This cannot continue if we want to maintain our non-profit status and indeed continue as one of the oldest fly clubs in the Northwest. We really need some people to help out. With a membership in excess of 100 people, I find it difficult to believe, that there are not a few of you, with the desire, time, or experience to help lead this great organization. Experience, I might add, is not a prerequisite but a desire to continue our club is the reason we do this. Feel free to contact me at gregs47@icloud.com if you have an interest in helping.

Out of the Salt & into the Pan Steve Saville

I was thinking about an internet acquaintance who had inquired whether he should buy a set of waders to use while beach fishing. I wasn't sure if he meant specifically for beach fishing because he had another set he didn't want to ruin or whether he was truly thinking about wet wading while fishing the beaches of Puget Sound.

I had to think about that for a bit and then I was slapped in the face this morning when I looked outside and decided to head for the beach to chase some Cutthroat. It was supposed to be near sixty degrees today so about 11:30, I packed up and headed out, waders and all. You see, if you haven't experienced the Sound during April or May and most of the year for that matter, the water is really cold. And, of course, Mother Nature plays cruel tricks, often. It looks nice but at the beach, the wind may be blowing ever so softly and the temperature might be only forty-five degrees or so. That can make for a very uncomfortable trip.

That drew me back to the wader question. I am not wet wading but nevertheless, the water is still quite cold through the waders. So, if I want a new pair of waders or if I'm just starting out beach fishing, what should I look for in a pair of waders? The shelves of every sporting goods store and fly shop are stocked to the gills this time of year and the selection is mind boggling. Now, I actually have four or five pairs of waders with one specifically designated for beach fishing. They are the ugliest, cheapest thing I could find that I felt were durable enough to take an everyday pounding on the beach. I'm talking

barnacles, sand, salt, seaweed, etc., all over them, all the time. Sure, you can sport a \$600 pair of Simms waders on the beach and look real cool but I'm no fashion model as most of you well know. Besides that, one accidental trip on the rocks and my fancy waders are toast. Even when patched, they will never be the same and I would be kicking myself if I ruined one of the two really good pairs that I have.

The dilemma then is what to spend your hard earned cash on to meander along the beaches in while taking the chance of ruining about anything you might put on. I had two or three choices. First, I thought about neoprene, either boot foot or stocking foot. I discarded the stocking foot idea for a couple of reasons. Mainly because then I would need another pair of boots that could "take a lickin' and keep on tickin'" for more than a summer. Besides that, inexpensive boots that will get pounded usually come with felt soles which, in my opinion, are next to worthless on the beach. The barnacles eat them up in no time and they get slimy from the seaweed even though you might do an exemplary job of cleaning them. The eyelets rust almost immediately as well. They're cheap, remember? So, that led me to boot foot models. They come in several different types, as well.

Consider neoprene if you will. There are many manufacturers and you can get them relatively inexpensively if you look around. Shoot! They even come in camouflage so your buddies can't see where you're fishing but they get hot, even in winter. Then there is the breathable type. Still relatively inexpensive if you buy low end ones but they are cold in the winter, so you must wear something under them during the winter and spring months. They rarely come in a boot foot type. And finally, there is the type that I bought: Coated nylon. They are warmer than breathable types but not as warm as neoprene.

They have warm, lined boots attached that have a lug sole. They are great for walking the beach but lack support for long days as do other boot foot waders. I inserted arch supports. Three years of almost daily pounding. They are really ugly but they do the job. Problem is, I sweat a lot in them during the summer months because they don't breathe so when I take them off, I have to leave them inside out to dry out a bit.

I think I finally figured out what to do. Buy a boat and fish from it! Really? Just kidding. Whatever you decide on your next trip to buy waders, do some thinking before you go. Check out the prices and the configuration as well as the materials they are made of. I saved my good waders for rivers and lakes even though they could get ruined there as well. But if you fish the beach as often as I do, it might be worth your while to look into an inexpensive, semi-disposable pair that you can pound to death on the beach and not feel bad if you miss rinsing them once in a while.

The Cutthroat are warming up as the weather gets better. I have it on good authority that Chum fry are showing in good numbers. The birds are showing too. Hopefully by the time this hits the newsletter, the fishing will be stellar. The tides look favorable in the coming weeks and if we get a break from rain and continued warmer weather, the beach fishing should get better.

You might want to try fishing a polychaete worm pattern as well. I'm enclosing a photo of some I try now and then. They are easy to tie, on tubes and if you don't have a tube accessory, a small length of metal coat hanger or large sewing needle will suffice to hold the tube while tying. These are tied on several small length tubes using Grizzly hackles as the main material. I cut the tubes into short lengths and melt the ends

slightly to form a "stop on each end. The first tube has a cone to add some weight. Each of the tubes is wrapped with thread and the hackle is palmered to form the "hairs", and the last tube has a bunch of maribou to form a flowing tail. These have been tied with orange, green, and grey hackles but you could use any color or a combination. They are currently tied together with a hook to keep the segments together and then are to be cut off and tied to a tippet before use. I usually tie four segments but you could add or subtract as your size preference dictates. If you tie some, consider coating the thread with head cement just before palmering the hackle. It will add some strength to each segment. Happy tying!



By the way. Don't forget your new fishing license. It's that time of year already.

Tight Lines.



PSFF May Program

Chic Sundahl

“Bristol Bay and the Pebble Mine, Where we Stand”

with Meghan Barker

Join Trout Unlimited's Bristol Bay Organizer Meghan Barker for a digital presentation on the efforts that stopped the proposed Pebble mine in 2020 and that now work to permanently protect Bristol Bay, Alaska. Meghan will be talking about fishing in southwest Alaska, the history and current status of the mine, and how TU is leading efforts to ensure Pebble doesn't come back in the future. Join the meeting through the link above or phone number! For more information or to get a sneak peek of the campaign, check out www.savebristolbay.org

Meghan Barker is the Bristol Bay Organizer for Trout Unlimited based in Anchorage, Alaska. Meghan works to spread the word about the threat of Pebble to anglers and fishing businesses in the Lower 48, and is rallying supporters to advance permanent protection for the southwest region of Alaska. Outside of work, Meghan can be found fishing, running or skiing in Southcentral Alaska.

Spring at last! - Landing practice



Puget Sound Fly Fishers May Meeting

The Public and PSFF Members are invited to join in on the monthly PSFF monthly meeting to get timely presentations and talk fly fishing. Members have access to the PSFF Forum where we share information, seek advice and coordinate outings. Non-Members can find the Membership Application and other great information at PSFF.org.

Join Zoom Meeting

May 13, 2021

7:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82351603622?pwd=aiszRmZ3YW85RitCRDdUWWhGTzVYUT09>

Meeting ID: 823 5160 3622

Passcode: PSFF2020

NOTE: If tapping on the hyperlink does not work:

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

Outings

Jim Baker

Park Lake
Sun Village Resort
Friday - Sunday, May 14-16

The Puget Sound Fly Fishers annual event is once again being held at Sun Village Resort (formerly Laurent's Sun Village Resort) which is located between Park and Blue lakes. Their docks are on Blue lake and they manage a boat launch across the street on Park lake. Nearby fishing opportunities are: Dry Falls, Banks Lakes and Rocky Ford.

Since we are still in a recovery phase of COVID-19 the gathering will be scaled back this year. The club sponsored BBQ, Fly Tie Challenge and guest speaker have been eliminated this year. But the Friday and Saturday evening bonfires to share fish stories and successful fishing techniques are still a Go.

Reservations (RV, cabin, camp) can now be made online at:

<https://www.sunvillageresort.com/>

Directions:

To get to Park Lake, go east on I-90 to the Ephrata Exit (SR 283, exit 151), just past George. Take SR 283 through Ephrata, to the SR 17 junction, turn left and go north through the town of Soap Lake, past Lake Lenore and Blue Lake, about 16 miles. Turn right at the north end of Blue Lake and proceed to Sun Lakes Resort.

33575 Park Lake Rd NE, Coulee City, WA

Ephrata is a good stop to get gas or groceries as needed (Safeway).

Also, as you first come into Ephrata I strongly suggest a stop at Desert Fly Angler.

The owner, Darc Knobel, is a great resource for local fishing and flies.

June

6/11, Friday, 09:00 am, Harts Lake, Pierce County

This time of year we will try for warm water fish or trout. This 111 acre lake appears to be a big bowl with a max depth of 50 feet. The April plant was 6000+ stocker trout. The lake also supports naturally reproducing populations of largemouth bass, yellow perch, black crappie, brown bullhead catfish, bluegill sunfish, and pumpkinseed sunfish.

Directions:

Tacoma > Parkland > Spanaway, Wa-507, 8th Ave, Harts Lake RD, left onto Templin RD S to boat launch.

July

7/1-5 Corbett lake BC, I cancelled again this year. I don't expect the BC Border will allow us across this summer. I still have the lake cabin reserved for next year.

July 12-14 (Mon-Wed) - Leech Lake at White Pass

For this outing we will be establish a base camp in Packwood. Our gracious host here will be Barbara Przasnyski who is offering the use of her property. Bring your sleeping bags, tents or RV's.

The plan is to meet in Packwood July 12. If we arrive by noon then time to get in several hours fishing this same day. You can also arrive later and just relax before fishing the next day.

Further details and directions in June newsletter.

Fly Swap

The April Fly Swap was postponed due to Pierce county dropping back to COVID level 2.

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A new date is pending , hopefully in June.
The swap fly will be an adult caddis. The maximum participants will be ten and will meet at a beer garden in Tacoma for the actual fly swap.

So, if interested get your 9 adult caddis, same fly pattern, ready. The new date, further details and the rules will be communicated to all via mailchimp

Questions: bake5636@wavecable.com

Fly of the Month - Cinder Fly

Kristin Macy

Background

Carl Sanders tied this pattern at the 2013 North Idaho Fly Fishing Expo, in Lewiston, Idaho. He uses it in a variety of places around Enterprise, Oregon where he lives.

In still-water (lakes and ponds) floating or sinking fly lines may be used depending on the depth. One technique is to let the fly sink a bit in hope that a fish sees it and gets aggressive. Then retrieve it with a variety of speeds until the fish tell you what they like. If nothing happens let the fly and line sink a little more. Many anglers use a count-down method to control the depth. They will start with 5 or 10 seconds, and if nothing happens, they let everything sink a little more. When they dredge up weeds, they shorten the count.

This fly, to me, looks like the idea and name came from the Cinder Worm Fly in the salt water world. Always keep your eyes open for ideas (patterns) that might help you be more successful.

Materials list:

Hook: Wet fly hook, heavy, 12-14

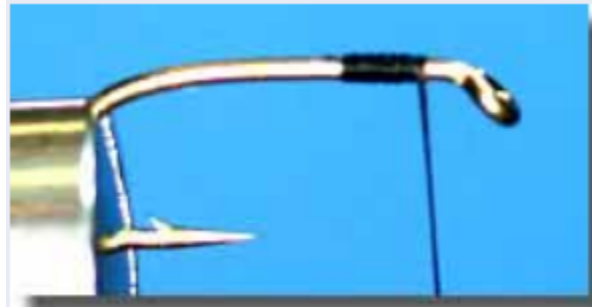
Thread: Pearsall, 14/0, black

Hackle: Partridge, dyed blue dun

Rib: Silver tinsel, small flat

Body: Synthetic Living Fiber (SLF)
orange and black

Tying steps



Step 1 - Put thread on hook at about thorax location, wrap back a couple of times and then forward as shown.



Step 2 - Pull off fuzzy fibers, and put hackle on hook with dull (concave) side up. Wrap backward over the stem.



Step 3 - Trim stem and continue wrapping thread rearward. Attach rib at bend of hook.



Step 4 - Wax the thread a little to help hold the dubbing. Put some of the orange SLF dubbing on the thread. Put it on thread by rolling dubbing between thumb and first finger. Make dubbing noodle tight on the thread.



Step 7 - Pick the hackle up 90 degrees to the hook. Park the thread about two wraps of hackle behind where the hackle is tied in. Make two to three wraps of hackle back to the thread. Tie down the hackle; wiggle the thread through the hackle to the front. This strengthened the hackle. Then whip finish the thread in front of the hackle. Before the whip finish there was a little empty hook shank between the hackle and the hook eye. Normally Carl does not put head cement on the thread winds.



Step 5 - Wrap the orange dubbing to about mid-shank. Put black dubbing on the thread, not as tightly as the orange. Overlap the orange with the black so you get a nice transition.

This fly is easy to tie and the materials are available in most fly shops. Tie a few and try them out in your favorite waters.



Step 6 - Spiral the rib forward, secure it and trim

International Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month May, 2013

CINDER FLY Published by Bob Bates Federation of Fly Fishers -WA Council

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

Club Anniversaries May 2021

Dennis Beardsley	9	Barry Berejikian	8
Jason Bordash	7	Robert Gerlach	14
Stuart Schwartz	8		

2020 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.

The River Beckons

Bryan Habeck

The river gurgles softly in the back of your mind, slowly building up to a crescendo of rushing water tumbling over large broken rocks. Calling your name incessantly, smashing and slowly pulverizing all that resists. Churning your mind from the work at hand until you must respond.

That's the way it was in mid-April. I needed to hit the Yakima like Frazier hitting Ali in Manila. Michael Lillie gave me the excuse to blow-off a day of work. He just purchased a new Flycraft 3-man and wanted to test it on the river. He invited Greg Shimek, and I invited Mike Koslosky for a Friday run and a diminishing chance to catch trout.

The weather, a perfect wet wading temp (for me at least), was too warm for April and a big snowpack. Rising 500 cfs. overnight, and then another 500 during the day, it was off-colored like so many bad jokes. Certainly floatable and still fishable, we guided our boats from Ringer to Mile Marker 20. Stopping along to wade fish here and there. Anchoring to work a run more thoroughly, the fish were rarely found. A few came up in front of us, but couldn't be touched. Our bug sampling net had shown big stonefly's, small golden stones, a mayfly with the budding wing case and lots of various caddis. Knowledge that we used and the fish ignored like a cheap offer to be bought a drink late into the evening by someone not up to the task.

Still the wildlife was out, eagles, big horn sheep, mule deer, ducks, Great Blue Herons, and one

turkey that decided to fly across the river right in front of my boat. Graceful, they are not.

All-in-all, it was a great day of camaraderie capped by a nice dinner at Red's before the long-drive home with additional time to get to know your seat-partner. Fish or no fish, I'd do it all over again.

Fly Fishing by Flycraft



Conservation

Greg Shimek

If you ever get the chance to help the WDFW doing creel counts on opening day of lowland lake fishing, jump at the chance. I have done this for the last few years and it is a blast. Yes, the weather is usually bad and you have to get up early. The work is detailed and can be a bit hectic at times, but to see so many people, young and old, having fun fishing is all worth it. This year there were two of us from Puget Sound Flyfishers helping out. Mike Koslosky was helping at Crescent Lake in Pierce County

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and I was helping at Clear Lake in Thurston County.

There were many highlights for me on Saturday, but the two that stood out, were, two young kids proudly spreading out their limits of fish on the grass for me to examine and record, while excitedly pointing out who had caught the biggest one, and the smile on the face of a 93-year-old angler, after he had carefully climbed down a ladder from a boat on a trailer, and told me all about his great morning of fishing. You don't get to have experiences like that staying home in a warm bed on a chilly, rainy, opening day morning.

Sure, there are always moments you want to forget, like someone complaining about how bad Salmon fishing is, and somebody else complaining about Steelhead fishing being shutdown, the two different guys who made it very obvious that their sidearms were in plain sight when I asked them if I could take a look at their fish, and finally the truck load of guys who took off as fast as they could when I started toward them to count their fish, I guess they must have been late for an appointment of some kind.

Even with all of that I will remember the two kids and the 93-year-old smiling angler and look forward to next year's opening day doing the same thing again. If you get the chance to help with the creel count, do it, you won't regret it.

Environment Mike Clancy, FFI

The following Press Releases were recently published and are reprinted here on the important topic of Salmon recovery.

WSCFFI Press Release - Edited by Steve Jones, President WSCFFI

Washington FFI supports WDFW Quicksilver plan to sustain winter and summer steelhead in

Puget Sound waters. We also support a sport fishery for hatchery fish in locations such as the Snohomish, Dungeness and Quilcene rivers that can sustain hatchery fishery without threatening a wild population.

We support the components of the Quicksilver plan that preserve catch and release fishing for all wild winter and summer steelhead. The best habitat for steelhead reproduction is a wild free flowing river. Washington FFI supports the wild steelhead management initiative begun in 2018 on the Skagit River.

We do not support the introduction of a wild brood-stock program on the Skagit. That wild management strategy should be sustained and recreational fishing rules should be written to maintain the integrity of the wild management strategy. Single, barbless-hook, catch and release fishing should be the standard for all rivers where wild management is a priority.

Washington FFI supports the expansion of wild steelhead management to additional Puget Sound rivers including the Samish, Elwha, Nisqually, Nooksack and Skokomish rivers.



Tom Logan,
Chairman, FFI
Conservation
announced today,
the FFI along with
our conservation
partners, TU and
others, we are going
to endorse
Congressman Mike

Simpson's proposal to remove the four dams on the Snake River. It has been stated, if the dams are removed, we don't know if the salmon and steelhead fishery will recover but, if the dams are not removed, the fishery will definitely go away. We have now joined our partners in asking the NW Congressional Delegation to endorse the proposal and why.

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 a about 3 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

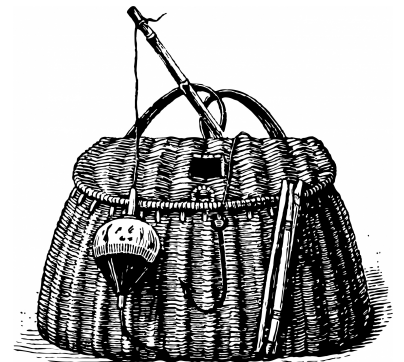
Videos are setup with the following categories:

- 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.

If you have read a good fly-fishing book, write a review and we can feature it in the library section with a picture of you and the book. Nothing else has changed for the last several months for obvious reasons. Stay safe and keep your distance and wear a mask.

If you have some suggestions for the library, please send me an email KHMacy@live.com - I'm happy to look at something new to add.



Officers and Servants

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Vice President: Vacant

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Secretary: Vacant

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