

THE BROKEN BARB



The Newsletter of the Clark Skamania Flyfishers

May 2017

<http://www.clark-skamania-flyfishers.org/>

Volume 39 Issue 5

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from John Bohrsen

This winter your Board of Directors has been reviewing and updating our club's by-laws, policies, and procedures. You might think this would be boring, but it says a lot about how we as an organization go about accomplishing our mission. You may ask, "What mission? I didn't know we had a mission." Well we do and here it is. *The Clark-Skamania Flyfishers (CSF), as assembled, with the firm conviction that fly fishing as a method of angling provides its followers with the finest form of outdoor recreation and an understanding of nature, do hereby join in a common effort to maintain and further flyfishing as a sport, and through it promote and conserve angling resources, advance its camaraderie*

and broaden the understanding of all persons in the spirit of true sport.

If you look at our club's activities for April and May, I hope you would agree we are accomplishing our goals. We have tried to give our members some opportunities to pursue flyfishing on a variety of waters. Our April outing was at Lake Lenice and one of our May outings will be in Central Washington where our members can choose to fish lakes or streams. Our second May outing has us returning to the Kalama River in search of steelhead.
(continued on page 3)

In This Issue

President's Message	1,3	Lenice Outing Report.....	10
New Members	3	Merrill Lake Cleanup	11
Outings for 2017	4	Apr Fish Reports/Wind Knots ..	12
Fly Fishing International.....	5	High Water at Merrill Lake..	13-14
Fly Tying Class Thanks.....	5	Backcast from the Past	15-16
May Fly Tiers' Night	6-8	Library News	16
Attending Outings	8	Conservation Corner	17
Deschutes River Outing.....	9	Women's Casting Clinic.....	18
Kalama River Outing.....	10	Puget Sound Flyfishing Fair	19

SAVE A NATURAL RESOURCE -- RELEASE ALL WILD FISH

2017 CSF OFFICERS

John Bohrnson, President
360-281-6035
jbohrnson@gmail.com

Forrest Koponen, First VP (Programs)
360-772-5081
AObd@earthlink.net

Don Kohler, Second VP (Outings)
503-891-5486
moabman07@gmail.com

Phil Gulling, Treasurer
360-281-6272
gullingphil@q.com

Peter Anderson, Secretary
386-290-4793
pavanderson321@gmail.com

Kuni Masuda, Director
360-573-3310
kunim305@gmail.com

Dean Potter, Director
360-921-0580
deanpotter@comcast.net

Dennis Ward, Director
360-573-0885
dward7061@gmail.com

Ed Wickersham, Director
360-573-0061
patyn@comcast.net

Sue Cox, Barb Editor
360-260-8767
susan.cox@gmail.com

Mark Heirigs, Conservation
360-258-0562
mark@heirigs.org

Rosanne and John Hatfield, Gillies
360-836-6800
rosanne_hatfield@yahoo.com

Steve Jones, Past President
360-834-1265
sjones022@comcast.net

Mark Masciarotte, Webmaster
360-735-1638
mtm@dsgassociates.com

MAILING ADDRESS
PO Box 644
Vancouver, WA 98666

CSF Meeting May 17

The speaker will be **James Losee** from the Sea Run Cutthroat Coalition. He will be speaking about the status of sea run cutthroat.

The fly tier will be **Al Wood**.

Calendar of Events

May 10	CSF Tiers' Night, 7:00-9:00 PM, WDFW
May 10	Merrill Lake Cleanup
May 15	CSF Board Meeting, 5:30 PM, Camas Meadows
May 17	CSF Membership Meeting, Camas Meadows
May 20	Kalama River Outing
Jun 10-11	Deschutes River Outing

The Clark Skamania Flyfishers meet on the third Wednesday of the month, except for March, July, and August. The public is invited and families are welcome.

Camas Meadows Golf Course

4105 NW Camas Meadows Drive
Camas WA 98607
360-750-6511

6:00 to 7:00 is Wet Fly Hour

At 7:00 PM there is a short business meeting with fishing reports, wind knot award and the educational short program. This is followed by the main meeting.

Directions: From SE 192nd Ave, go east on NE 13th St to Camas Meadows Drive. Find more complete directions from your location on maps.google.com.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from page 1)

What are we doing to further fly fishing as a sport? Well, on April 30th many of our members will be assisting **Don Starkin** with our 21st annual Beginning Fly Fishing School. Here we will introduce about 30 people to flyfishing and give them enough knowledge to get some introductory gear and to set foot in a stream to enjoy the pursuit of a fish. The following day we will sponsor a fly casting clinic aimed at helping all flyfishers of all abilities improve their casting skill. Last month more than 20 of our members helped kids catch a fish or two at the Kline Kids Fishing Derby and we will be helping more kids in June at Lake Merwin, all potential flyfishers.

What about that part about "...promote and conserve angling resources...?" We have supported a wide variety of environmental and conservation grants with funds we raised at our annual banquet and auction. In the last 16 months we have funded a dozen grants for over \$21,000. These include such things as restoring Trout Creek in the Gifford Pinchot Forest, assisting Dave Brown in purchasing new fish ponds for his Wild Fish Rescue project, funding scientific research by the Deschutes River Alliance to keep fish runs in that river healthy, helping the Mid-Columbia Fish Enhancement Group restore salmon runs to the White Salmon River, opposing the Ascott Mine on the Green River, and on it goes.

And then there is that part about "camaraderie ...in the spirit of true sport." If any of you have listened to the wind knot portion of our monthly meetings or sat around a campfire with fellow members of CSF at one of our outings, you know that we know how to have a good time together.

Our club is alive, well and growing by staying true to our roots, true to our mission. See you on the water.

New Members

Ron and Sally Karsten	ronkarsten@comcast.net	503-701-1010
Ken and Deb Hansen	n2fishtoo@gmail.com akokie1959@gmail.com	907-942-2847
Phil Crochet	philjcrochet@yahoo.com	512-619-0324
Rich Pichette	rpichette60@gmail.com	603-748-4789

2017 OUTINGS (for members and guests)
--

April 30-May 5	Soap Lake Area Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Carol Whitney, 360-607-9343 Overnight Trip; Wade or Float; Trout
May 20	Kalama River Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Mike Carroll, 360-254-1673 Day Trip; Wade or Float; Steelhead
June 10-11	Deschutes River Outing -- OR Fishmaster: Gene Reinert, 503-341-1085 , reinertgene@gmail.com Overnight Trip; Float or Wade; Trout
July 8	Coldwater Lake Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Julie Berge, 360-256-2335 Day Trip; Float; Trout
July 15-16	Upper Lewis Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Tim & Megan Wickersham, 360-574-3464(MW) Overnight Trip; Wade; Trout
August 25-27	Puget Sound Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Forrest Koponen, 360-772-5081 Overnight Trip; Wade or Float; Sea Run Cutthroat or Coho
September 15-17	Cowlitz River Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Al Wood, 360-904-7797 Overnight Trip; Wade or Float; Sea Run Cutthroat and Steelhead
September 21-24	Skagit River Outing--WA Fishmaster: Steve Jones, 360-606-5947 Overnight Trip: Float; Humpback/Pink Salmon
Sept 30-Oct 1	Merrill Lake Outing--WA Fishmaster: Julie Berge, 360-256-2335 Day Trip; Float; Trout
October 7-8	Klickitat River Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Don & Sherry Starkin, 509-637-4405(DS) Day or Overnight Trip; Wade or Float; Trout or Steelhead
November 11	Wind River Outing -- WA Fishmaster: Sam Stanley, 360-904-1375 Day Trip; Wade; Steelhead

ARTICLES ON OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES
Suggested By Ed Wickersham

Al Thomas is the outdoor writer for the Columbian and has a large following in our region. Ed says he is one of the best outdoor writers and has been very good about accurate reporting of the local fisheries' issues as well as many other outdoor activities. This is the link to his website and blog columbian.com/news/sports/outdoors. Please take the time to support a local resource.

Fly Fishing International (FFI) and CSF

By Jack Whitney

I suspect that most of the CSF membership hasn't heard of Fly Fishing International. Fly Fishing International (FFI) is the new name of what used to be known as the Federation of Fly Fishers or FFF for short. The FFI consists of individual members and affiliated clubs. Twenty percent of the FFI board members are also on the board of the Washington State Council (WSCFFI), one of 17 councils in the US. CSF is one of the twenty-four Washington flyfishing clubs which have joined FFI. CSF members make up 17% of the WCSFFI board. **Kuni Masuda** serves on both the FFI and WCSFFI boards. **Gary Bevers**, a member of both the Cowlitz Fly Anglers and CSF, is also on the WCSFFI board. **Steve Jones** is the new WCSFFI newsletter editor and **Jack Whitney** is the WCSFFI Western Conservation VP.

FFI has been in existence for 52 years and hasn't changed a lot during that period. As a result, it has fallen behind what is needed for an organization to be a viable entity. Right now, they are in a process of "reinventing" themselves. They are investing heavily in consultants to get them on the right track to represent the flyfishing public. First it was a name change which is the second one in two years. Their latest change was updating the website which can be seen at www.flyfishersinternational.org. Believe me, this new site is a big improvement over the old site. I would encourage everyone to explore the new site and learn what FFI has to offer.

Gary, Kuni, Steve and I are planning to submit a short monthly column in the Barb to keep the CSF membership updated on FFI and WCSFFI happenings. Stay tuned for more information.

BEGINNING FLY TYING CLASS—THANK YOU!

By Al Wood

I would like to thank all the CSF members who came out to the classes of the Beginning Fly Tying Class. It is through their dedication and efforts that our 2017 class was a success. The feedback I received was that each student appreciated their assistance and details in their learning process of fly tying. Some have already caught fish with their own flies!!!! Without our experienced tiers' help, the class couldn't support as many new tiers as we get each year! I would also like to thank the 40 et 8 Club for allowing us to use their building free which enables CSF to offer this class at a lower rate! Let's continue to bring this class to more new members at CSF for the future generations.

CSF FLY TIERS' NIGHT

By Gary Bevers

The CSF Tiers' Night will be held the second Wednesday of every month except August, from 7-9 PM at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife building on Grand Blvd. The CSF Tiers' Night offers our members and guests the opportunity to gather for fellowship and fly tying. Participants informally teach each other new flies and tying techniques. The event is designed to accommodate all levels of fly tying skills and typically includes individuals new to tying all the way up to professional tiers. It has become a very popular club activity. Please join us if you can.

The May Tiers' Night will be May 10 and we will discuss handling hair in wings and heads. This is summary of the night. We will have a special guest, **Shawn West**, for the hair spinning demonstration.

Handling Hair in Wings and Heads

Types of Hair

Coastal Deer:

Better for wings and small muddler type heads and small Bass Bugs

Calf Body Hair and Calf Tail:

Very good for dry flies; Good for dry fly wings or Trude style wings

Buck Tail:

Saltwater flies

Arctic Fox:

Great steelhead wings; Moves better than buck tail

Elk Hair:

Caddis and Steelhead Wings

How to tell what season your deer hair was harvested in

We will demo:

Good Hair/Bad Hair; Proper Thread for Hair spinning

Hair Wings on Steelhead Flies:

“Temple Dog” style wings (Closer to the body); Demo (Green Butt Skunk)

Muddler Heads:

Build your own hair compressor; Muddler style heads; Demo (Muddler Minnow)

Whole Spun Hair Bodies: Demo (Steelhead Bug)

(continued on page 7)

CSF FLY TIERS' NIGHT (continued from page 6)

Green Butt Skunk

Hook: Size 2-6 steelhead hook
Thread: black
Tail: red webby hen hackle
Butt: chartreuse floss or dubbing
Body: black floss or ice dub
Rib: flat silver tinsel
Wing: white bucktail or Arctic fox
Hackle: black webby hackle



1. Wrap black thread to back of the hook
2. Tie in red hackle.
3. Tie in the chartreuse butt
4. Tie in the silver tinsel
5. Start the black floss from the front and wrap back and back to the front.
6. Tie the wing material forward, wrap tight and bend back over the hook.
7. Wrap a smooth head and finish.

Muddler Minnow

Hook: Size 2-10 3x long streamer hook
Thread: 140 Denier or 3/0 black
Tail: mottled turkey tail.
Rib: gold oval tinsel
Body: flat gold tinsel
Underwing: squirrel tail
Wing: mottled turkey tail
Head: natural deer fair.



1. Wrap thread to the bend of the hook
2. Tie in the mottled turkey.
3. Tie in the oval tinsel
4. Tie in the flat tinsel body
5. Wrap the gold oval tinsel over the body.
6. Tie in the squirrel tail underwing.
7. Tie in the wing.
8. Spin the deer hair on in 3 sections.
9. Trim the front part of the head leaving some deer hair and finish.
10. Whip finish

(continued on page 8)

CSF FLY TIERS' NIGHT (continued from page 7)

Buck's Bug

Hook: #4 steelhead fly

Thread: black

Tag: oval silver tinsel and red or orange floss

Body: deer hair

Hackle: brown hackle

1. Tie the tag in 1/2 of the way behind the eye of the hook
2. Tie in the brown hackle
3. Tie in three bunches of deer hair.
4. Trim the deer hair like in the picture.
5. Palmer the hackle through the deer hair and tie off.
6. Whip finish



ATTENDING OUTINGS

By Don Kohler

Thinking of attending an upcoming outing? Maybe you are not quite sure but might just decide to at the last minute. So in addition to freeing up the time, getting the gear together, what else might be important? Letting the fishmaster of the particular outing know you might be attending.

Why is this so important? The fishmasters, in addition to other duties, will provide the main course for a potluck dinner or, on a day outing, a lunch or, in the case of the upcoming Kalama outing, a BBQ. In order to have an adequate main course, the fishmaster needs an idea of the expected attendance and, if the outing is an overnight one, to plan camping accommodations as needed. So to help out the various fishmasters, please take the time to contact the outing's fishmaster and let him know you are planning to attend. This will help ensure we have enough food and space, and even if you are not sure, it would be better to have more rather than less.

We have two outings coming up: first on May 20, the Kalama River outing. **Michael Golob** has offered his residence on the Kalama for a BBQ after a day's fishing. If you are planning on attending the outing, let me know at moabman07@gmail.com and I will let Michael know so he knows how many to plan for. The second is on the Deschutes River June 9-10. **Gene Reinert** is the fishmaster, please let him know if you might attend. Gene needs a head count for food and to plan on camping space at Harpham Flats campground.

DESCHUTES RIVER OUTING, JUNE 10-11

By Gene Reinert

While some hardy souls are still dredging the depths with their big flies and two-handed rods, many more of us are looking forward to warmer weather and trout. This outing will be our first chance in 2017 to chase big reddsides in the Maupin area on the Deschutes River. This outing will be the weekend of June 10-11.

We will be camping at Harpham Flats Campground located about 4 miles south of Maupin on the BLM access road. This is a gravel road and runs south or upriver from Maupin City Park. Use caution; you may come across large rocks that have rolled onto the road. This is a primitive camp area with pit toilets but no potable water so bring your own. This camp area has both group and single camp spots. I will be arriving Thursday in order to secure sites and would like an idea of how many members plan on attending this outing.

We will be having a potluck Saturday evening. In order to have an adequate amount of the main course, I also need to know how many might be attending. Please email or phone and let me know you will be attending. Any help on this outing is very much appreciated.

On Friday evening at 7:00, we will meet at The Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop where **John Smeraglio** will put on a program on how to fish this area. He will cover both flies and techniques in order to get the most out of this fishery. John has, for the last few years, donated a wading trip on this river for our annual banquet. Those who have been guided by John recommend him highly. The Fly Shop is located on the paved road just south of the bridge crossing the river in Maupin.

John Smeraglio recommends a 5 wt. rod with floating line for dry flies. Blue Wing Olives in size 16 or 18, Igloo Cased Caddis size 20, Skawala Stone size 10, March Browns size 16. and many types of Caddis would be good choices. You may want to spend more time fishing wets and nymphs using a two-fly setup on either a 5 wt. or 6 wt. rod. A size 10 to 14 is a good choice for your first fly and 18 or 20 for your point fly. Copper Johns, Prince Nymphs, Lightning Bug, Tied Back Caddis, and Rainbow Warrior are just some of the flies used. John's program will cover the best techniques and flies can be purchased at the shop. More information can be found on the Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop web site, flyfishingdeschutes.com

This outing has been described as a wade and fish outing, but this section of the Deschutes can be floated in pontoon type boats or floated as a means to reach the west bank of the river. Your floats can begin at Nena day use area upstream of Harpham Flats and take out either at Harpham or further down river at Wapinitia campground. If you intend on floating, you **WILL** need a Boaters Pass which can be obtained online at boaterpass.com The pass will run \$2.00 per day and will be enforced by BLM. Also there is no fishing from a floating device (pontoon boat) on the Deschutes River.

Last and very importantly is the need for the fishmaster on this or any outing to receive information from members planning on attending an outing. In order for the fishmaster to provide the main course for a potluck, he or she must have some idea of how many members to provide for. In addition, if the fishmaster is planning on arriving early to an outing site to save camp space, knowing how many sites or space is needed would be important. The fishmasters have volunteered to make this or any outing more enjoyable; please help them by letting them know you will be attending. In the case of this outing I will be serving as fishmaster. Contact me at reinertgene@gmail.com, 503-341-1085.

KALAMA RIVER OUTING, MAY 20

By Mike Carroll

Fishmaster: Mike Carroll, 360-953-3310, mudler.mike@gmail.com
You can also contact Don Kohler, 503-891-5486, moabman07@gmail.com for information.

Description: A day of fishing on the Kalama River.

Driving Directions: From Vancouver, take I-205 N to I-5 N. Take exit 32 (Kalama River Road). Turn right onto Kalama River Road and drive about 2 miles to Modrow Bridge on the right. Cross the river and turn left into the boat launch area. **A Discover Pass will be needed if you leave your vehicle at this launch site.** The turn in to this site will be marked with CSF club signs.

Scheduled Events: We will meet about 8 AM at the parking lot beneath Modrow Bridge. We will discuss the river and general directions. From this location we will arrange floats and shuttles. No meals will be served on this outing so pack a lunch and beverage.

Description of the area: The Kalama River has about 16 miles of fishable water along the Kalama River Road. Some of these areas are easily accessed: however, some require a steep hike down and back up. A wading staff or trekking pole is highly advisable.

Fishing Methods: As the river levels can change this time of the year with the rains, so too can the wading difficulty. If you can, please bring and use a wading staff. Most of the fishing is done with 6 to 8 weight rods of 9 to 10 lengths as well as switch or spey rods. A fast sinking tip will serve you well in a length to match your rod. The prevailing wisdom is to fish "low and slow" when swinging a fly. Intruder type flies in size 2 work well. Also good choices are leeches in purple and black. Traditional patterns such as Green Butt Skunk, Purple Peril, Springer Green, Freight Train, Ferry Canyon, and Deep Purple Spey, along with muddlers such as the After Dinner Mint, are used regularly in size 6 to 2. Nymph fishing with stoneflies as a dropper with an egg pattern is also very effective. Pink beads are also proving themselves on this river. Choice of water type and presentation should be of first consideration.

LENICE OUTING REPORT: BREEZY BUT FUN

By Dan Green

Seventeen club members and guests braved the windy, cold conditions at the club outing to Lenice Lake April 5-7. Several new members attended and the entire group met for an enjoyable but chilly barbecue Saturday night. Many members caught nice rainbows from 12 to 20 inches despite the high winds. Surface fishing was not generally productive what with whitecaps splashing over and sinking the dry flies. Sink line presentations with micro-leeches, streamers, and midge pupa did better.

It was good to see new folks coming out and we hope they will attend other outings over the coming months where we can enjoy better weather.

MERRILL LAKE CLEANUP – ATTEMPT NUMBER TWO, MAY10

By Warren Bieker

I would like to thank everyone who signed up to help at the first cleanup. I know you would have been there to help if we had been able to go ahead as planned. Also, I want to thank all who signed up at the April CSF meeting a few nights ago to volunteer for a second attempt at preparing the campground and boat launch for the summer season. We are fewer in numbers, but DNR did not have a weekend date that is compatible with the CSF schedule. I hope that a mid-week date won't inconvenience too many of you.

As you know, the Saturday, April 15th cleanup date was cancelled because of high water. We are now going to attempt to get the job done on Wednesday, May 10th and we will meet at the park at 9:00 AM. DNR has scheduled the park opening for Friday, May 12th.

The tasks we have to perform remain pretty much the same, but perhaps with an emphasis on getting rid of a great deal of driftwood from the parking area, roads, and trails. Instead of gathering the driftwood and throwing it into the brush to be washed in next year, I've been told that we will be loading it onto a trailer or truck to be taken away.

Even though it will be near the middle of May, parking may be limited. So if you are able, it would be helpful if you could carpool to the park. Highway 503 between Woodland and Cougar may still be blocked in May, so you may have to use one of the alternative routes, all of which will take you through the metropolis of Amboy.

If there's anyone unfamiliar with the area and who needs assistance finding a route to participate in the cleanup, please call **Warren Bieker** at 360-687-5475 or email at ljbieker@comcast.net. We could caravan from the Safeway parking lot at the intersection of Highway 503 (Lewisville Highway) and Highway 502 (Battle Ground Highway or Main Street) in Battle Ground if necessary.

Because there are fewer of us who can volunteer for a mid-week event, we will not be taking advantage of the offer from the owner of the Cougar Bar and Grill to open three hours early for us. However, I'm hoping that several of us can stop there for lunch and some liquid refreshment after we've finished for the day. I feel it's important to patronize the businesses that support us, and here's a chance to do so.

Please don't forget that although we do not need a DISCOVER PASS to volunteer for the cleanup, you will need one to use the park and launch at all other times. It's easy to forget, and there's someone out there just looking for a chance to nominate you for a WIND KNOT!

APRIL FISHING REPORTS

By Don Kohler

Despite the fact spring is trying to show, the fishing has not been that good so far. At least that seemed to be the case at the last meeting with very few fishing reports.

Forrest Koponen and **Dean Potter** did manage to stir up some water but no fish.

Doug Anderson fished with **Roger Cox** on one of the Oregon Fishing Club Lakes. Doug said that he did manage a half dozen caught but told me Roger must have caught two dozen. Good going, Rog.

The Lenice Lake outing did provide some members with results despite the lack of reports from that outing.

Tim Wickersham shared that his dad, **Ed Wickersham**, was helping out at the Kline Kids Fishing Derby and, while attempting to help a youngster land a fish, wound up with a unwanted fish release. Not sure if that doesn't come under Wind Knots.

APRIL WIND KNOTS

By Don Kohler

Richard Bowers was having trouble getting his outboard motor to start. Taking a closer look at the fuel line, he discovered that one end had become bad and needed to be repaired. So Rich disconnected the line, cut off the bad, and reconnected it. Still it would not start. He took it to a repair shop and, after spending major bucks (\$236.00), found out he had reattached the fuel line backwards. OOPS!

Sue Cox shared what **Bob Young** had shared with her. Seems while using his pontoon boat recently he heard a hissing noise. Bob was sure that meant a leak and hurried to shore. It wasn't until further investigation that Bob discovered where the hissing was coming from. Seems static on his radio was the source. Bob thanked Sue for sharing that with the group.

The winner for April was an often told story but with a different ending. **Eric Rice** had spent hours on Lenice Lake and it was past time head to shore for a nature call. The urgency led to a bad decision. Eric laid his rod on his stripping apron and not in the pole holder. Well it happened again. Fish hits, pole plops into the lake, and sinks. Eric shared that this was an expensive Sage combo and he was not going to let it just fall into the lake. He returned a few days later and, wearing neoprene gear, spent four long, cold hours in the lake until he retrieved the lost rod. This is a determined man.

HIGH WATER AT MERRILL LAKE EARLY APRIL 2017

Photos by Jan and Chuck Holstein; Captions by Warren Bieker



Left: **Chuck Holstein** and **Forrest Koponen** survey the aftermath of the high water from near the outhouse.

Right: View from in front of the main kiosk looking toward the boat launch. Note the CSF “Fly Fishing Only” sign in the background.



Left: Boat launch? What boat launch?

Right: Driftwood indicates that high water covered the bridge to the new nature trail.



(continued on page 14)

HIGH WATER AT MERRILL LAKE (continued from page 13)



Left: Campsite Number 4 is available if you don't mind a little water in your tent.

Right: View from the group camp site at the north end of the park.



Left: Some of the water has receded from the parking lot. Note the concrete dividers to the right center of the picture.

Right: **Kathy Koponen** shows that some of the driftwood is quite large



BACKCAST FROM THE PAST

By Warren Bieker

Changes

Last month, the first sentence in the last paragraph of this column was, “Last, even over 35 years, some things don’t seem to change very much.” In light of what was found in the October 1995, issue of The Broken Barb newsletter, the word “some” should be emphasized. There certainly have been some huge changes in the Clark-Skamania Flyfishers as evidenced by a few excerpts from that issue’s PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE.

Clark Skamania Flyfishers Today

Before we look back at October 1995, please consider CSF’s current vibrant state. At the present we have a very healthy and respected grant program, a wonderful banquet and auction, annual classes for fly tying, rod building, and net building, a dozen or more scheduled club outings on the calendar, interesting and stimulating programs at meetings, a membership approaching 300, a great newsletter, the successful Bill Wiggins Beginning Fly Fishing School, and volunteer activities like the Kline Kids Fishing, the Merrill Lake Cleanup, and the heralded Nutrient Enhancement Project. We try to stretch and grow as time passes.

Poor Attendance and Apathy – 1995

The President’s Message was titled, “Extinction?” CSF was 20 years old at the time and it must have been in the doldrums. Maybe it was a mid-life crisis. Some excerpts from the column follow—the entire thing was half a page long. The president began by writing, “The board, and in particular, I, are getting a little disturbed over a trend that’s been happening this year. Not enough people are showing up to Clark-Skamania meetings; not enough people are helping out with club events.” He goes on later, “The board has talked about the apathy sweeping the club, and it doesn’t seem like there’s any single cause.”

Lack of Growth

A discussion follows of the need for new faces and new members needed to replace the natural turnover in the membership, which all clubs and organizations have due to aging, life changes, new interests, and burnout for some who have been overworked. It’s then stated, “... new faces have been showing up at our meetings. New people come month after month. The bad news is, very few new people actually ‘stick’ and become active members. I think the reason is that our meetings have been so small lately, so quiet, so dull, that they aren’t impressed, and they don’t come back.”

Extinction?

Near the end of the article the president apologizes for having written “a cheerless” column and says he’s getting desperate. He makes a plea for volunteers to step up or he isn’t sure that they could even have the annual banquet. (There was no banquet committee in place at the time of that October newsletter.) He also made the statement, “...our membership is shrinking,” and the question, “Will we go extinct?” (continued on page 16)

BACKCAST FROM THE PAST (continued from page 15)

Cause and Effect

The comparison of then president **Steve Otto's** view of CSF in 1995 to CSF as we know it now is remarkable. What has made the difference? Did the kick in the butt he delivered in his message revitalize CSF? Was it new leadership? New ideas? Whatever the cause, aren't we happy that it happened? One thing remains unchanged though, and that is we're only as strong as our volunteers can make us.

LIBRARY NEWS

By Dan Green

If you are interested in learning about the insects that trout feed upon, I highly recommend *The Complete Book of Western Hatches*, by **Rick Hafele** and **Dave Hughes**. The club owns several copies, and I have had my own copy for years, which I mark up and underline and pack with me on fishing trips.

Rick Hafele is an aquatic entomologist who has published articles for both flyfishing magazines and scientific technical journals. Dave Hughes is a well-known writer of flyfishing books who has fished the western states since he was a boy growing up in Astoria.

Too many books about insects and flies start at the wrong end: dozens of patterns are paraded forth and eventually the author may or may not get to describing the insects the flies purportedly represent. This book starts with the insects and their behavior. Accurate drawings assist in explaining the anatomy, life cycle, and behavior of the major insects. The writing is clear and logical but remains engaging. Once each insect and its behavior are fully described, the authors then discuss what an imitation of that insect might look like. The advice is practical and sound, whether you purchase flies, tie your own based on existing patterns, or design your own flies.

The book concentrates on insects of the West, from Astoria to Montana. This fills an important need: flyfishing in America started in the East and most books about flies and insects are based upon that experience. But insects and streams and lakes out west are different and this book helps fill the gap.

Shoot me and **Marty Fogel** an email if you would like to check out this fine book, or any others that are listed on our club web page. Dan Green: dgreen066@gmail.com and Marty Fogel : ohcaptmarty@gmail.com.

CONSERVATION CORNER

By Mark Heirigs, Conservation Director

Our state's wild steelhead is in dire straits and needs our help.

If you believe WDFW needs to take action now by:

1. Refine and improve the strategies centered on maximizing harvest (Maximum Sustained Yield), including the development of a management model that acknowledges the variability of natural ecosystems.
2. Adopt more dynamic management strategies that have sufficient buffers and sound biological goals, including increased escapement thresholds to account for variable returns; additionally, publicly provide the methods, data, and equations used by the WDFW for estimating these escapements.
3. Provide transparent and robust documented methods for estimating total harvest, including all sources of fish mortality. This includes sportfishing catch and release, illegally harvested fish, tribal catch, tribal underreporting, and net dropout mortality from tribal commercial fisheries. Using the above methods, communicate to the public run reconstructions for priority stocks (notably those on the Olympic Peninsula) showing source specific and total fishing mortality.
4. Modernize and expand creel surveys, catch record card collections, use of sonar, and conduct more rigorous in-season catch monitoring of both recreational and tribal catch, so we can better forecast runs, understand run sizes in real-time, and incorporate various life histories into steelhead management harvest and fishing plans.
5. Ensure written steelhead harvest management plans are in place with all tribal co-managers before any river system in the state is open for steelhead fishing, including tribal commercial and ceremonial or subsistence fishing. WDFW fisheries managers must work with the tribal co-managers toward accountable, transparent, and sustainable fisheries before both tribal and sport seasons commence. Transparency with the public is also critical in these negotiations, so we ask that you publicly state your positions and goals before negotiations commence and hold co-managers accountable to only 50 percent of the harvestable surplus of steelhead;
6. Continue to ensure that fisheries management and regulations are better tailored to reduce over-pressure on sensitive steelhead stocks by recreational anglers and guides, especially in areas such as the Olympic Peninsula.

Please go to Steelhead Country at, www.steelheadcountry.org and sign the petition!

Conservation is everyone's responsibility!



***Are you a woman new to fly fishing?
Always wanted to learn how to fly cast?
Or improve your fly casting?***

Join us Saturday, June 10 at Blue Lake
for a beginner fly casting workshop

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Lunch and fly rods/reels provided

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants,
fee is \$25 per person

To Register, <http://stoneflymaidens.org/casting-clinic/>

or scan



Send questions send to castingclinic@stoneflymaidens.org

Puget Sound Fly Fishing Fair

July 29, 2017



Puget Sound Fly Fishers is celebrating 60 years in South Puget Sound by hosting a fly fishing fair July 29, 2017 at Pierce County's Environmental Services Building in Chambers Creek Regional Park. The facility has a spectacular view overlooking Puget Sound with the Olympic Mountains in the background.

Our objective is twofold: to introduce non-anglers to the sport of fly fishing, and to enhance the skills and knowledge of current fly anglers.

Of particular interest to us is providing particular programs, activities and demonstrations to women, children and families so they can see a way to get engaged in the sport.

There are 13 presentations scheduled including techniques for catching tiger muskie presented by **Mike Sturza**, topwater tactics with **Leland Miyawaki**, open water cutthroat skills by **Bob Triggs**, introduction to fly fishing with **Rueben Lamphere**, fly fishing photography brought to you by **Carol Ann Morris**, BC steelhead with **April Vokey**, panfishing for everyone with WDFW's **Bruce Bolding**, tuna on the fly with **Anil Srivistava**, stillwater tactics with **Skip Morris**, smallmouth fly fishing featuring **David Paul Williams**, new and exciting information about Coastal Cutthroat Trout thanks to WDFW's **James Losee**, and kayak fishing in Puget Sound.

Topics are designed to cover all interest and skill levels from fresh brand-new beginner to the seasoned angler. One of the most rewarding elements of fly fishing is that you can always add to your skill set and reset your game. Ask yourself if there is a species you haven't chased, a technique you need help with, a style of fly fishing you haven't tried yet. Be sure to save **July 29, 2017** on your calendar to attend our celebratory event.

Like other fairs we will be providing demonstrations, seminars, kids activities, hands-on practice sessions, industry reps, a silent auction, fly tying demonstrations, casting tips and techniques, and resource personnel from both WDFW and USFWS. As a special bonus we will be holding a swap meet where anyone can bring used gear to buy/sell/swap which could be a great way for new anglers to get into the sport without a huge outlay of cash. We will also be providing a selection of personal watercraft so visitors can see the options available to get out on the water - both fresh and salt.

Clark Skamania Flyfishers
P.O. Box 644
Vancouver, WA 98666

The **Clark Skamania Flyfishers** (CSF) is a federally registered 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Washington. Founded in 1975, CSF is dedicated to the preservation of wild fish stocks and the natural resources that sustain them. CSF is further committed to the promotion of fly fishing as a method of angling and, through it, an understanding and appreciation for the diversity of nature.

The Broken Barb is a publication of the Clark Skamania Flyfishers, published monthly and free to its members.

CSF is a member club of The Federation of Fly Fishers. Annual membership is \$45.00. For further information visit our website <http://www.clark-skamania-flyfishers.org>

CLARK SKAMANIA FLYFISHERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual dues are \$45.00 payable to CSF, PO Box 644, Vancouver, WA 98666

New Membership _____ Renewal _____ Are you an FFF member? _____

Name: _____

Second member name (e.g. spouse) if wanted (note: no additional charge) _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Second phone: _____

Email address _____

Second email address for spouse to get "The Barb" _____

Name you would like on the nametag (if new member) _____