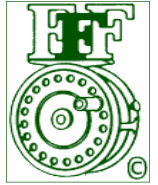




The Barbless Flyer

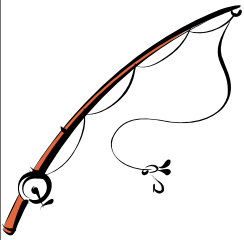


Spokane Fly Fishers

www.spokaneflyfishers.com

April, 2008

APRIL 9TH MEETING: 6 PM to 9 PM FLY FISHING EXTRAVAGANZA



Our April Meeting will feature representatives from Washington and Idaho Fish and Game, the Forest Service, The Federation of Flyfishers, local guides and outfitters, fly shops, rod builders and fly-tyers, as well as other displays.

You'll be able to chat with biologists about the St. Joe and Coeur d'Alene Rivers - pick a guide's brain on steelhead fishing on the Clearwater - check out the latest tying materials from the local shops - pick up a pointer or two on rod building or tying your favorite fly - hear Chris Donley give the stocking report for all of our local lakes - learn about the Federation of Flyfishers.

To top it all off, you can enjoy a hot dog or sausage, chips and a soft drink.

This will be a busy and informative time. Because of the variety of information available to you at the different booths, the meeting room will be open and ready to enjoy at 6 PM rather than our normal 7 PM starting time. See you there.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2008—2009

It is time again for the election of board members for the next year. The nominations from the nominating committee are:

President	Fred Howe
Vice President	Mike Melmoth
Secretary	Gail Bailey
Treasurer	Ray Baker
Board Position 1	Bob Hudson

Craig Pearsall and Tim Reed will continue in their board positions until the expiration of their terms and Bob Kowal has agreed to remain Sergeant At Arms.

Nominations will also be taken from the floor prior to the vote. The new officers will be installed at the May Awards Banquet.

SFF Officers and Board Members

President	Dan Ferguson
Vice President	Fred Howe
Treasurer	Mike Melmoth
Secretary	Linda Howe
Board Position 1	Mike Kostel
Board Position 2	Craig Pearsall
Board Position 3	Tim Reed
Past President	Judy Kaufman
Sgt. At Arms	Bob Kowal

Contact us at:
P. O. Box 4141
Spokane, WA 99220
Or
sffishers@comcast.net

AROUND THE BEND

April 5th and 6th, Bitterroot Outing

April 9th, SFF Meeting, 7 pm EXTRAVAGANZA

April 16th, SFF Board Meeting 7 PM

April 19th and 20th, McGinnis Lake Outing

April 30th, Amber Lake Outing

May 3rd, Kids Fishing Day

May 7th, Eloika Lake Outing

May 10th, One Fly Contest Badger Lake

May 14th, SFF Meeting AWARDS BANQUET

May 16th, West Medical Lake Outing

PREZ SEZ

By Dan Ferguson



I would like to extend a special thanks to all of those who made our 2008 conservation raffle a huge success. Without the likes of Bob & Pat Mielbrecht and Betty Smith-Lambert it would have been quite a bit more challenging, to say the least, Thanks also to the conservation committee for their help.

There will be more to read on the raffle in another section, but I do want to give a big thank-you to Sportsman's Warehouse for their donation of a Pontoon Boat and a \$100 gift card. This is at least the third year they've given us a boat for the raffle. Sean Visintainer, Silver Bow Fly Shop, has donated a Clark Fork day trip for the last couple of years in addition to other items and discounts. Both Cantrell's and Clark Fork Trout and Tackle in St. Regis also donated fishing trips. We also received donations from Swede's Fly Shop and Cabela's. Please make a point of thanking these businesses.

Our next big event will be the Extravaganza on April 9. We'll be having a number of interesting and informative "booths". This is the event you want to invite your friends, family, and co-workers to. Additionally, we'll be holding our election at this meeting.

In the last newsletter, I announced that our Banquet dinner would cost \$20. I was a bit premature in making that announcement. With the need for a larger facility and rising food costs, we've had to go with a cost to the member of \$25. The club is still picking up a portion of the total in order to help keep costs as low as possible. Carla has found a great facility at the Holiday Inn – Airport. We'll be selling tickets at the meeting and by mail.

The Fly Fishing School is off to a great start. We have 61 new students and members of the club. Make sure to give them a great welcome as we see them at the meetings and outings to come.

Lastly, I'd like to thank those who helped with the First Annual Game Fish Show. The event organizers report that they were pleased with the show and have already booked the show for March 6-8, 2009. Never too early to start making plans!

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET - MAY MEETING

By Dan Ferguson

May 14th will be the clubs annual awards banquet. We'll be meeting at The Holiday Inn-Airport. The menu will consist of a great Prime Rib Buffet with all the fixings, including dessert. Our speaker will be Leroy Hyatt of KSPS's "Fly Tying, The Anglers Art".

We'll have door prizes and a special gift for each guest. We will have plenty of room with no crowding this year.

Cocktail hour is at 6 (no host), with dinner served at 7, followed by the awards and speaker.

Tickets will be available at the April meeting and by mail. Cost is \$25.00 per person.

FISHING KIDS DAY

(Leaping Fish, Flying Bobbers, and Buddy Can You Spare Another Worm:)
CLEAR LAKE, SATURDAY, MAY 3RD — 7 A.M.

By Judy Kaufman



The dock and the shore are lined with kids, parents, grandparents and volunteers. The signal to fish is sounded. The air is filled with red and white bobbers (strike indicators to fly anglers); they hit the water and disappear. Shouts of “You got him.” “Reel him in.” “Way to go.” are heard up and down the dock and beach! Another Fishing Kids Day is launched. Between the hours of 8 AM and 3 PM, 1000 kids between the ages of 5 and 15 will have the opportunity to fish. They will succeed. They fish for 30 minutes or catch 3 fish (whichever comes first). Every child catches at least one fish and goes home with a Zebco rod, reel, line and a T-shirt. All this for \$5.

The event is sponsored by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation. The program is aimed at getting more kids involved in fishing. The Spokane Fly Fishers, other fishing and youth organizations and businesses help sponsor this event monetarily and with heartfelt labor. About the labor part: we need you to volunteer. If you do, here are some of the tasks you will be performing: assembling rods, baiting hooks, casting, reeling, landing, unhooking fish, putting fish in plastic bags, taking and posing for pictures and CHEERING on young anglers. If you prefer to stay dry and fish scent free, there are non-fish jobs to do. If you are really into it, you can even clean the caught fish (which are either taken home by the kids for dinner or donated to the Gospel Mission).



You will need to be at Clear Lake at the Air Force Camping Area by 7 AM. There is breakfast available (for a fee) at the lake starting at 6 AM. (We may gather elsewhere for breakfast, stay tuned.) You will have a great time at this event and probably will sign up again next year. Sign up at the April General Meeting or call Judy at 924-9462.

ONE FLY CONTEST - MAY 10TH - BADGER LAKE

Hosts: Dan and Carla Ferguson

One fly outing? The rules are simple: We each pick one fly (barbless only) and then catch and release as many fish as possible between 10 AM and 1:30 PM. You keep track of the number of fish caught and the length of your longest fish (for tie breaking purposes). If you lose or change your fly, any fish caught with the replacement fly cannot be counted in the competition.

Registration begins at 9:30 AM with a donation of \$5 per member and \$10 per family or non member. Donations will benefit SFF Club programs. At 1:30 PM we meet at the BBQ pit for some burgers, beans and all the extras.

Regrettably, both the Coffee Pot Lake and the Bitterroot outings had to be cancelled due to the extended winter season this year.

WEST MEDICAL LAKE - FRIDAY, MAY 16TH - 5 PM

Host: Jan Sadlo

How do you get there...take I-90 to Exit 272 (Route 902). Continue on 902 into the town of Medical Lake and make the 90 degree left turn where it becomes Lefevere Street. Go south on Lefevere (which becomes Salnave Road) until you get to the south end of Medical Lake, then look for a sign to Eastern State Hospital. Turn right at that sign (on Fancher Connection) and then take your first left (Fancher). This will take you straight to the West Medical Lake Marina. Public access is just past the marina.

JUMP OFF JOE LAKE - WEDNESDAY, MAY 21ST

Host: Jan Sadlo

We will meet at 5 PM. Jump Off Joe Lake is 9 miles south of Chewelah on 395. Look for and follow the signs. Bring whatever you have to float and the regular assortment of lake pattern flies. This is a fun lake for rainbow and brown trout.

COUER D'ALENE RIVER—NORTH FORK—JUNE 20TH TO 22ND

Hosts: Mike and Alli Melmoth

Better known as the Big Hank Outing, we will once again be camping at Big Hank on June 20-22, 2008. If you have never been there, the upper end is strictly wading and the lower end (below Pritchard) is floatable if there aren't too many rafters and swimmers. By this time of year it is pretty warm usually and the sun freaks have found the CDA. To get there, take I90 East to the Kingston Exit, left over I90 and stay on FR9 to Pritchard (Ice Cream is great at the gas station) then hold left (almost looks straight) onto FR208 for another 25 or so miles. The ice cream shop also has maps of the drainage containing the area we will be fishing. Camp sites at Big Hank are first come, first serve and there are 40 sites. Get there on Thursday if you can, or have a buddy pay for one night at two sites so you get in. Reservations for the few that can be reserved can be made at Reserve America by internet. Can't find a phone number for them anymore.

Idaho licenses can be purchased at Sportsman's Warehouse or Cabela's, or www.IdahoFishandGame.gov. Flies are the usual array for cutthroat, stimulators, renegades, Humpies, Royal Wolf, and emergers. If the hatches are on schedule there will be BWO and some small caddis and possibly a few stones.

Alli, Sue, Mike II and I will be hosting again with a wine tasting Friday evening and a pot luck on Saturday. A-H bring a salad, I-Z a dessert. Bachelors bring chips and dips. Club will provide main course (surprise this year, no advanced warnings) condiments and some drinks. Make sure you bring your chairs. Also, for those who haven't been before, this is rustic camping. Well water at central pumps is clear and clean, but no hook ups of any sort. Bring your generator and water hauling containers. Use of honey buckets recommended as the closest dump site is about 10 miles south.

GREAT NORTHERN GAME FISHING SHOW

By Dan Ferguson

This show, presented by Schuler Productions, was held for the first time February 29, March 1 & 2 at the convention center. We decided early on to be a participant in the show and were glad we did! One of the show's features was a Fly Tying Theater. Our club provided a portion of the tiers including, Jan Sadlo, Jerry Voelker, Hal Blegen and myself. Skip Morris, Jim Teeny, Drew Miller, John Newberry and Danny Snider joined us in filling out the three days of tying.



I want to thank all who helped man our booth and promote our club and fly fishing school. I hope I don't forget anyone, but here goes! Ray baker, Bob Harwood, Bill Sagvold, Mike Melmoth, Claude Shook, Fred & Linda Howe who put in the extra time with set up and take down, Dale & Aleta Esau, Gail Bailey, Jack Fruit, Jerry Voelker, Jan Sadlo, Mike Berube, Hal Blegen, Craig Pearsall, Tim & Karen Reed, Art & Clara Ross, Carla Ferguson and a special thanks to Dan Wight for his help with set up and tear down and Bob Kowal for help tearing down.

Next year's show dates have already been set for 6-8 March, the club will be considering sponsoring the fly tying theater. There will still be nationally recognized tiers with the club filling the blanks. We would also man tables for kids tying and "trouble shooting" sessions.

2008 CONSERVATION RAFFLE REPORT

By Betty Smith-Lambert



I would like to thank those people who helped make this year's Conservation Raffle a success. I will not name each of those people, as they are aware who they are, but offer congratulations on making this a profitable and smooth running event. Without their help the Raffle would not have been. I also wish to thank those who attended and were so generous with their money, assisting SFF in the Conservation effort. I have never seen the parking lot so full as it was the night of the Raffle.

There were 126 items in the raffle. They brought in a gross income of \$3,480 that will be used for Conservation. As usual, Klaus Rissmann's desk was the highlight of the event. The desk was so beautiful and it generated more tickets than any other single item. I think the general quality of the items continues to improve. We had fishing trips, equipment including flies, rods, through fins, vests and nets. There were books, art and fishing related items.

We tried some different methods on this Raffle and I look forward to comments from the members. Ideas for changing our methods will be considered. We are also looking for several people who are willing to "learn the system" and then move up to "changing the system".

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS — SFF FLY FISHING SCHOOL

By Dan Ferguson

I'm pleased to announce that 61 folks signed up for the fly fishing school. We intentionally started it later than usual to take advantage of the new Great Western Game Fish Show. Fifteen signed up at the show and the remainder either read about it in Rich Landers column or saw our advertisement in the paper.

Please welcome these new members!

Mark Anderson
Trevor Ball
Josh Boucher
Amy Calkins
Paul Davis
Joel Fielder
Greta Grim
David Himebaugh
Wayne Leonard
Anne McKinney
David Miller
Chris Munoz
Allen Reilly
Hal Seim
Jesse Simpson
Cris Yancey

Judy Babb
Janis Battan
Larry Boyd
Lamont Cloy
Chad Dunnahoo
Sheridan Frost
Liese Grim
Caulin Himebaugh
Elizabeth Lochte
David McMicheal
Mickey Moreau
Neil Newlun
Dan Robisch
Lynn Shupe
Larry Steinmetz
Carey Yuen

Toni Babler
Mark Beck
Chris Bugbee
Jim Cutler
Michael Dye
Lawrence Grey
Hilary Hart
Anita King
Jim Lynass
Melissa McMicheal
Chris Moreau
Carrie Ochoa
Katie Schatz
Linda Shupe
Chuck White

Doug Bakken
Mike Berube
Kaeleih Cain
Steve Daehlin
Aaron Fiedler
Erec Grim
Glen Hickman
Bob Lawrence
Lindsay Marshall
Connie Miller
Bill Mulholland
Marla Reilly
Beck Scherich
Max Simon
George Wolfe

Also, we'll have sign up sheets for volunteers to assist with the knot tying class on April 24 and the Saturday casting classes starting April 12. We're going to need a good turn out with 60 rookies!

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY - May 17TH



Art and Clara Ross invite everyone to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with them on May 17 at East Valley Presbyterian Church, from 2 to 5. This is located just South of Trent at 5305 N. Harvard Road.

At the Ross's request, please don't bring anything but yourselves to help them mark the occasion.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2008 PROPOSED OUTINGS

By Geno Baril

See March Barbless for:

Bitterroot — Cancelled
McGinnis Lake
Amber Lake
Eloika Lake

April 5, 6th
April 19-20th
April 30th
May 7th

Hosts Jan Sadlo & Dale Esau
Host Kassa's
Host Geno
Host Jan Sadlo

See April Barbless for:

One Fly Contest (Badger)
West Medical Lake
Jump Off Joe
Coeur d'Alene North Fork

May 10th
May 16th
May 21st
June 20-22nd

Hosts Dan and Carla Ferguson
Host Jan Sadlo
Host Jan Sadlo
Host Mike and Alli Melmoth

Future Newsletters:

Williams Lake
Browns Lake
(conservation weekend)

June 4th
June 7-8th

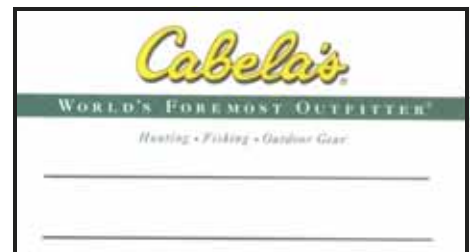
HOST NEEDED
Host Roger Bertsch

Big Hole
Clark Canyon
Kelly Creek
St Joe
Elk River & Wigwam
Kootenai River
Missouri River
Yellowstone
Clark Fork
Amber Lake
Dry Falls

June 13-15
July 11-13th
July 26,27
August 8-10
August 22-26th
September 6-7
September 12-13
September 14-21
October 4-5th
October 11th
October 18-19th

HOST NEEDED
Host Judy Kaufman
Host Rick Hodges
Hosts Art and Clara Ross
Host Roger Bertsch
HOST NEEDED
Host Carolyn Sells
Host Jan Sadlo
Hosts Jim & Jo Gooley
Host Geno Baril
HOST NEEDED

As you can see, we need more hosts for three of the outings. Please contact Geno at 468-0589 if you are interested in hosting an outing. There will also be sign up sheets at the March meeting.



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Spokane, WA 99220

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR NAME TAGS TO THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

APRIL 9TH, 2008

EXTRAVAGANZA

6:00 P.M.

**ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL
1104 W. HEROY**

“THE MISSION OF THE SPOKANE FLY FISHERS IS TO PROVIDE A FAMILY FRIENDLY ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTING THE SPORT OF FLY FISHING THROUGH EDUCATION, APPLICATION, AND CONSERVATION.”