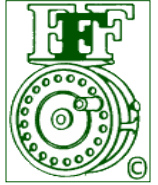




The Barbless Flyer



Spokane Fly Fishers

www.spokaneflyfishers.com

April, 2009

APRIL 8TH MEETING: 5 PM to 9 PM FLY FISHING EXTRAVAGANZA

By Dan Ferguson



Our April Meeting will feature representatives from Washington Fish and Game, Trout Unlimited, the Forest Service, the Federation of Fly Fishers, local guides and outfitters, fly shops, rod builders and fly-tiers, as well as other displays.

You'll be able to chat with biologists about Washington fishing opportunities - 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 Fly Fishers.

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 5 PM rather than our normal 7 PM starting time. See you there.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2009—2010

By Dan Ferguson

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

President - Mike Melmoth
Vice President - Bob Hudson
Secretary - Gail Bailey
Treasurer - Ray Baker
Board Position 1 - Mike Berube
Board Position 2 - Kurt Temple
Tim Reed will continue in Board Position 3 until the expiration of his term.

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 | Fred Howe |
| Vice President | Mike Melmoth |
| Treasurer | Ray Baker |
| Secretary | Gail Bailey |
| Board Position 1 | Bob Hudson |
| Board Position 2 | Craig Pearsall |
| Board Position 3 | Tim Reed |
| Past President | Dan Ferguson |
| Sgt. At Arms | Bob Kowal |

Contact us at:

P. O. Box 4141
Spokane, WA 99220
Or

sffishers@comcast.net

AROUND THE BEND

April 8th, SFF Meeting
EXTRAVAGANZA
5 PM to 9 PM

April 11th, Amber Lake
Outing

April 15th, SFF Board Meet-
ing 7 PM

May 2nd, Fishing Kid's Day
7:00 AM at Clear Lake

May 6th, Medical Lake Out-
ing 3 PM

May 9th One Fly at Badger

May 13th, SFF Meeting
Awards Banquet 6 PM So-
cial and 7 PM Dinner

May 20th, SFF Board Meet-
ing 7 PM

PREZ SEZ

By Fred Howe



March was a very busy month for our club. It started off with the set up and participation in the Great Western Fishing Show, where we met a lot of people and gained some new club members. Dan Ferguson did a tremendous job of organizing this event for us. Next, we had our Annual Conservation Raffle, raising a record \$4,800 for our conservation projects, thanks to Roger Bertsch and his hard working committee. (We still have some tickets left for the tying desk.) We also finally started Project Healing Waters and had our first fly tying class with the veterans. Tim Reed did a great job in getting this off the ground.

We picked up 29 people for the Fly Fishing School, plus a number of new members. We should all welcome them and assist them (if needed). We hope that their experience with SFF is enjoyable for them.

Dan Ferguson has put together a great number of local and interesting people to be at our annual EXTRAVAGANZA (APRIL 8TH) so, plan on attending this show. It is from 5 PM to 9 PM.

We will be offering tickets(\$25 each) for our May Awards Banquet to be held at Northern Quest Casino. You don't want to miss the dinner. We have two local TV Sport Fishing Show hosts as our guest speakers. The banquet will be the last meeting for the 2008/2009 SFF year.

Now that the weather is finally getting better, **LET'S GO FISHING.**

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

By Mary Kovatch, Membership Chair

This is just a reminder that dues for ALL members are payable by May 31, 2009. This will pay your membership for the fiscal year 2009-2010.

You may pay your dues early at the April meeting or mail it to the post office box, but be sure to have your dues paid by May 31.

There is a renewal form in this newsletter for your convenience. Some of you have already paid your dues for next year, so just disregard the renewal form. If you have any questions please call me at 509-487-1224.

TYING DESK RAFFLE

There are still some tickets left for this beautiful tying desk created by Klaus Rissman.

For a \$5,00 ticket, you could be the proud owner of this piece of art. The tickets will be sold until the May 13th banquet, or until 300 are sold. They will be available at the April Extravaganza meeting.



FISHING KIDS DAY

(Leaping Fish, Flying Bobbers, and Buddy Can You Spare Another Worm?)
CLEAR LAKE, SATURDAY, MAY 2ND _____ 7 AM

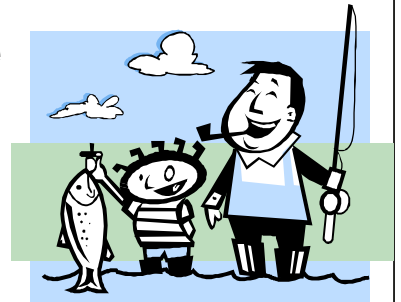
By Judy Kaufman



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 Kids Fishing Day is launched. Between the hours of 8AM and 3Pm, 1,000 kids age 5 – 14 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 T-shirt, all this for \$5.

The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife & C.A.S.T. present the event for Kids Foundation. The program is aimed at getting more kids involved in fishing. The Spokane Fly Fishers, other fishing, 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 may be performing: help with baiting hooks, casting, reeling, landing, unhooking fish, putting fish in plastic bags, taking & posing for pictures & 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 help clean the caught fish. You will need to be at Clear Lake at the Air Force Camping Area by 7:00AM on Saturday, May2nd. There is a for fee breakfast offered at the lake starting at 6:00AM (we may gather elsewhere for breakfast, stay tuned). You’ll have a great time at this event and probably sign up next year! Sign up at the April general meeting or call Judy at 924-9462.

(Editor’s note: The best part of the day is watching Judy Kaufman jump for joy when “her” little angler, each half hour, reels in his fish.)



JUMP OFF JOE OUTING - MAY 22ND - 3 PM

By Bill Lundin

We will meet at 3pm. Jump Off Joe Lake is 9 miles south of Chewelah on 395 (35 miles north of Spokane). Look for mile marker 198 just west of 395 on a paved road. You’ll see and follow the signs. Bring whatever you have to float, and the regular assortment of lake pattern flies (wooly buggers, chironomids, stillwater nymphs, etc.). This is a good time of year to fish this spring fed lake for rainbow and brown trout.

ELOIKA LAKE OUTING - JUNE 3 - 5:30 PM

**THIS OUTING STILL DOES NOT HAVE A HOST AND WILL BE CANCELLED
 IF A VOLUNTEER HOST DOES NOT STEP FORWARD.**



ONE FLY CONTEST - MAY 10TH at BADGER LAKE

By Judy Kaufman

The ONE FLY CONTEST is a great way to learn what flies will catch the most fish at this time of year in Badger Lake. If you already know this (and know where the fish are), and catch the most fish, you will win 1st place and a \$30 gift certificate to your favorite fly-fishing store (located in the Spokane area). If you catch the second most fish you win a \$20 certificate, third place, a \$10 certificate. **THERE WILL BE OTHER AWARDS PRESENTED.** Basically the rules are: choose one barbless fly, catch and release as many fish as possible between 10 AM and 1:30 PM, count the number of fish caught and record the length of the longest (for tie breaking purposes), if you lose the fly you originally tied on, count only the fish caught to that point, you may continue to fish with another fly but you are out of the contest.

Be prepared for foul weather! Most ONE FLY CONTESTS are contended in rainy, snowy, windy weather. Last year was typical. The weather was really nasty. There were 25 anglers signed up and 9 showed.

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. There will be coffee and morning snacks available. **THE REAL HIGH POINT OF THE ONE FLY CONTEST IS THE BBQ FOLLOWING THE FISHING!** Burgers, beans, and all the extras will be served! The wonderful and strikingly attractive host of this outing needs all the help she can get! Please step up and help with the following chores: *help with food and stuff shopping, help with transporting all heavy BBQ paraphernalia, help with registration, HELP WITH THE BBQING, help with clean up.* If I don't get volunteers I'll do very active recruiting.

Sign up for the ONE FLY CONTEST at the next meeting of call Judy at 924-9462

SFF FLY FISHING SCHOOL

By Dan Ferguson

I'm pleased to announce that 29 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. Ten signed up at the show and the remainder either read about it in Rich Landers column or saw our advertisement in the paper. The class attendees are:

| | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Tom Brasch | Tom Brasch | Shawn Cahall | Mark Chalem | Bonnie DeMattia |
| Dave Gilbert | Patty Gouert | Michael Graves | Barbary Haynes | Janice Jones |
| Anita King | Vern Knudsen | Anthony LaRocco | Steve LeClaire | Jon Lepper |
| Dale Magart | Tim Meyer | Hal Moffit | Ken Moore | Bruce Palmer |
| Leta Palmer | Jerry Powers | Judy Rish | Betty Santora | Dennis Smith |
| Richard Smith | Steve Trapp | Dave Voelker | Doug Wilma | |

NEW MEMBERS

By Mary Kovatch

The Spokane Fly Fishers extend a warm welcome to our newest members. They are:

| | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|
| Truman Cantrel | Barb Echo | Adam Fromherz | Bill Haight | Bill Hansen |
| Alan Marsh | Michael Nagele | Eric Platt | Richard Rivers | Eric Ruberg |
| David Sargent | Roger Stam | Rob Stock | Monique Viren | Don Wright |

MC DOWELL LAKE OUTING – May 30 & 31

By: Dale Isenberg

This is a walk in lake, so a pontoon or float tube is needed. Traveling north on US 395 near the town of *Arden*, look for the *Crossroads Bar & Grill*...it will be on the right side of the road just past Stimson lumber mill on the left. Turn right (just before the bar) on *Rocky Lane* and one block later turn left on *Old Highway*. Drive 0.6 miles then turn right on *Artman-Gibson Road*. Go 3.9 miles and turn right on *Kitt-Narcisse Road*. 2.2 miles later bear right when the road splits at the sign for Bailey Lake – McDowell Lake. This is also where the pavement ends. Continue another 2.6 miles to *Narcisse Creek Road*. Turn left on NCR and drive 2.9 miles (bearing right at two forks in the road) to the campground (on the right just after you cross a bridge). NOTE: (1) Forks are about 45 degree angles...don't make any 90 degree right turns onto the dirt roads leading off to the right. (2) I did not make up these street names...they are for real. The campground has plenty of room, many good campsites, fire pits and a new outhouse. If it is open past the campground, the road you drove in on will take your truck and maybe a car, to the south end of the lake, but you will have to hike down a pretty steep hill to the lake. This is the route usually taken by people with pontoon boats since access from the campground to the north end of the lake involves a half mile walk on a newly graveled trail. For youngsters the Little Pend Oreille River (a small creek containing very cooperative little Brook Trout) runs right next to the campground.

Recommended Flies: Halloween Bugger, Water Boatmen, Chironomids, Soft Hackles, Ants, Alice's Don't Ask and the Red Butt Guaranteed.

Don't forget to bring something for the Pot Luck Saturday evening. Questions, need equipment or would like the assistance of a mentor – give your host Dale Isenberg a call at 292-8248 in plenty of time.

GREAT WESTERN SPORTFISHING SHOW REPORT

By Dan Ferguson



I want to thank everyone who turned out to help with the show this year. It was a long weekend, but totally worth it. Fred and Linda Howe and Mike Berube spent the entire weekend helping out. Dan Wight practically lived at the tying table helping with the kids tying. Our goals at the show were to sign up folks for the Fly Fishing School and sell raffle tickets for the Klaus Rissman desk. I think we succeeded on both levels. Ten signed up for the school and we sold 95 desk tickets!

The club manned the "Fly Tiers Workshop" where we tied with the kids. As near as I can tell, we ran about 200 young tiers through during the weekend.

Here goes with the Thanks - I hope I don't miss anyone! Fred and Linda Howe, Walt Gilbert, Mike Berube, Paul Luppert, Bill Lundin, Dan Wight, Larry Tichey, George Davis, Ray Baker, Judy Kaufman, Tim Reed, Dale and Aleta Esau, Mike Keegan, Ross Talbot, Art Ross, Jack Ross, Craig Pearsall, Brad Thompson, Kurt Temple, Jack Fruit, Jerry Voelker, Gale Allen, Chuck Jungblom, Gary Gove, Bob Kowal and Jim Heywood.

I'm sure we're all looking forward to this show when it comes around next year.



2009 CONSERVATION RAFFLE REPORT

By Roger Bertsch



Thank you to the donors, participants, and workers that made this year's raffle the most successful ever. Also, congratulations to the many lucky winners who took home some great items. Please be sure to say thank you to the donors for the items you won. So far over \$5,000 has been raised to support SFF conservation projects and grants. The first grant will provide a new wind turbine for Z Lake. This turbine in conjunction with an existing solar system powers an electric compressor motor that powers a diffuser to help keep a portion of the lake ice free. This system benefits the lake ecosystem that Dr. Ross Black, Fisheries Professor at Eastern Washington University has said has the potential to become one of the best trout lakes in the region. The remainder of the funds will be held in the SFF Conservation fund and will be used to fund additional projects.



Betty Smith-Lambert's organization and computer skills are a great asset to this event as are the emcee skills of Bob Mielbrecht. Thank you, both.

CONSERVATION WORK PROJECT

By Roger Bertsch



Saturday, June 13th is our annual project in support of the Colville National Forest. At this time, we expect to return to the Middle Fork of the Calispell Creek to continue an ongoing restoration project. This will be a day outing and will conclude with a BBQ when the day's work has been finished. Please sign up at the General Meeting or contact Roger Bertsch at 327-8231. Participants will be contacted individually as to the final details and what to bring.

In the past, we have built fences, erected sign posts, planted trees, spread grass seed and cleaned up the campsites. It is hard work but, very enjoyable. Every little bit of help is definitely appreciated.

MAY MEETING - MAY 13, 2009 ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

This year, the Annual Awards Banquet will be held at Northern Quest Casino's Pend Oreille Pavilion. There will be a prime rib and chicken buffet with all the fixings and, of course, dessert. There will also be a no-host bar in the room.

Our speakers for this event will be Steve and Ladin of "Fishing with Ladin". There will be a few door prizes and well deserved awards will be given. It is hoped that you will all join us in the fun and wrap up our 2008-2009 year.

Tickets are \$25 per person and will be sold at the April General Meeting (Extravaganza) or you can contact Fred Howe at 448-4707 or email to frednlindah@comcast.net.

SFF 2009 OUTINGS

See March Barbless for:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------|---------------|
| Coffee Pot (Cancelled/weather) | March 14 | Host: | Tim Reed |
| Clark Fork | March 28-29 | Host: | Carolyn Sells |
| Amber Lake | April 11 | Host: | Geno Baril |
| McGinnis | April 18-19 | Host: | Chris Kassa |
| West Medical | May 6 | Host: | Dave Sowinski |

See April Barbless for:

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|
| One Fly at Badger | May 9 | Host: | Judy Kaufman |
| Jump off Joe | May 22 @ 3:00 | Host: | Bill Lundin |
| McDowell | May 30-31 | Host: | Dale Isenberg |
| Eloika Lake | June 3 @ 5:30 | | |
| Conservation Trip | June 13 | Host: | Roger Bertsch |

See May Barbless for:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|-------|---------------|
| North Fork CD'A River | June 20-21 | Host: | Art Ross |
| Grand Ronde | June 27-28 | Host: | Carolyn Sells |
| Big Hole | July 11-12 | Host: | Brad Thompson |
| Kelly Creek | July 25-26 | Host: | Mark Potter |
| St Joe | August 8-9 | Host: | Art Ross |

See Summer Barbless for:

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------|---------------------------|
| Locksa | August 22-23 | Host: | Don Tietz |
| Amber Lake | August 26 | | |
| Spokane River | August 29 | | |
| Missouri River | September 11-12 | Host: | Carolyn Sells |
| Yellowstone | September 14-20 | Hosts: | Judy Kaufman & Karen Reed |


See September Barbless for:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|--------|-----------------|
| Clark Fork | October 10-11 | Hosts: | Jim & Jo Gooley |
| Amber Lake | October 17 | Host: | Geno Baril |
| North Fork CD'A River | October 24 | | |

Hosts are needed for a few of the outings. To volunteer, please contact Geno at 468-0589.



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PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR NAME TAGS TO THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

**APRIL 8, 2009
5 PM TO 9 PM**

EXTRAVAGANZA

**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.”