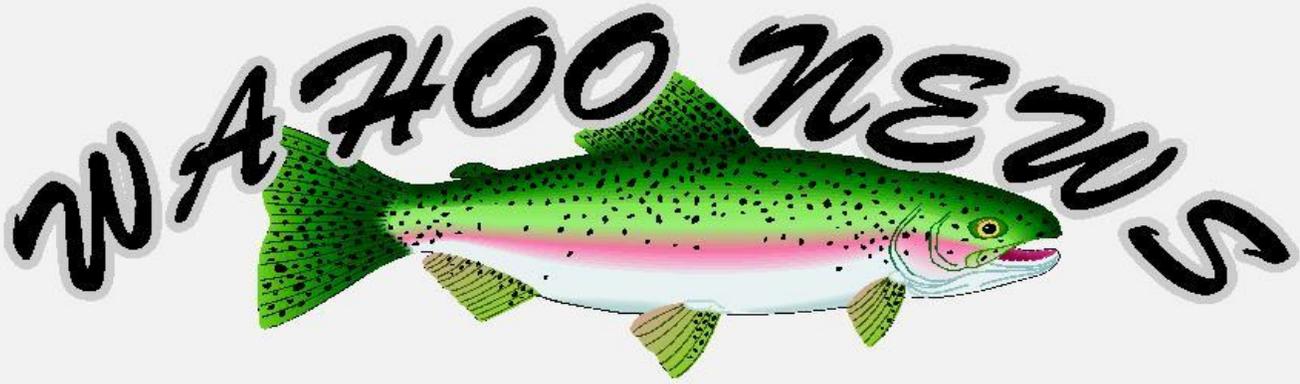


W A H O O NEWS



VOLUME 51

FEBRUARY 2016

NUMBER 02

FEBRUARY MEETING

Thursday, February 16, 2016 @ Farm House Rest

Wet Fly / Social Gathering: 6:00PM

Dinner / General Meeting: 7:00PM

This Months Presentation:

By: Ryan Johnson

Fly Craft Angling Adventures
Outdoor Writer/Instructional Guiding/Seminars/Clinics
O: 780-464-5499
F: 877-656-0320
www.flycraftangling.com

Phil has been fly fishing for over 30 years. His love of fly fishing has taken him across North America pursuing trout, Atlantic and Pacific salmon, char, pike, walleye and numerous other species on the fly. But Phil is probably best known for his stillwater exploits.

A former commercial fly tyer, Phil has written for almost every major fly fishing publication in North America. He has authored three books and numerous feature articles and two regular columns. Phil's first book *Fly Patterns for Stillwaters* is a best seller. In 2014, Phil was the proud recipient of a Life Time Achievement Award from *Fly Tyer* magazine.

In addition to his writing, Phil has five instructional DVD's. In 2007, Phil was a member of the gold medal winning team at the Canadian Fly Fishing championships.

When he isn't on the water Phil travels North America performing at outdoor shows, providing seminars, speaking to fly clubs and conducting fly-fishing schools. Phil also provides instructional stillwater guiding on the lakes located a short distance from his Edmonton area home.

Phil has appeared on a number of T.V. shows including, *BC Outdoors Sports Fishing*, *Sport Fishing B.C.*, *Fishing Alberta*, *Let's Go Outdoors* and *Fishing with Shelly and Courtney*. Phil is also a co-host with *New Fly Fisher*, an educational fly fishing production.



Make a point of visiting or following Phil on-line at, www.flycraftangling.com or www.stillwaterflyfishingstore.com and through his social media channels, You Tube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Fly Rod Raffle:

By: Bruce Freet

Raffle tickets will be sold for \$5 apiece at our club store during our club meetings in March, April, and May for the last fly rod of the 15 fly rods donated to the Fidalgo Fly Fishers by Paul and Mary Ford. This fly rod is a R.L. Winston BL5 990-5, which is a 9 wt. 9ft. 5-piece fly rod with a fast action, full wells grip, and up-locking reel seat with rod sock and case. It was used often, but shows almost no wear. It originally sold for \$600 in 1998. The drawing will occur at our May meeting. You can buy as many tickets as you wish. Write your name on the ticket before you drop it into the bag. You do not have to be at the meeting to win. Good Luck!!!



Up Coming Events:

- 2016 Fly Fishing Show, Lynnwood, WA Feb. 13-14th. Contact Carl Hendricks trying to carpool down.

Note: Please check the Outings and Event page on the web site, things get added from time to time.

Retract Kamloops Rainbow Stocking Proposal:

By: Bruce Freet

In the interest of club unity and to focus the Pass Lake committee's attention upon the overall lake's health or condition, I am retracting my proposal to stock Kamloops rainbow trout in Pass Lake.

The request for a "feedback vote" in the January edition of the Wahoo was simply an opinion poll because the board of directors had received little feedback from the November article. Further, if the board were to proceed, they knew that it would require more time and the "... approval by a majority of the membership at any regularly scheduled monthly meeting". (Fidalgo Fly Fishers By-Laws VII, 5.) The feedback opinion poll was roughly 2 to 1 in favor.

While the proposal to stock 2,600 Kamloops rainbows trout was consistent with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife rainbow stocking plan and had the approval of their fisheries biologist

An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishes

for Pass Lake, a few members were strongly against it. Hopefully, the Pass Lake committee can obtain more information on the current lake health, determine what additional information is needed to improve our understanding, and make recommendations on what we can do as a club to help in the future.

Dinner Survey:

By: Jim Paget

Please visit http://www.fidalgoflyfishers.com/DINNER_SURVEY/ or for Android users http://www.fidalgoflyfishers.com/DINNER_SURVEY/android-chrome.php All you need to do is click on the email link, enter your information on the survey form, click Review to make sure it is correct, and then click Submit and you are done. The survey will ask if you are coming, what you wish for dinner (or no dinner), and if you are bringing a guest and what they wish for dinner. It will only take a couple of minutes to complete. If you are not planning to attend, we need you to tell us on the survey. The survey will end by 4:00 PM on Friday February 12th, so we can give the Farmhouse plenty of notice for our Tuesday night, February 16th meeting. **The Farmhouse Dinner Options will be available later by a reminder email.**

Rainbow Trout Stocking in British Columbia Lakes:

By: Tom Fulk

According to information provided by the BC Fisheries Society which is responsible for stocking in BC lakes the following Rainbow Trout strains are currently stocked, or have been stocked in the past in BC lakes.

Blackwater River
Carp Lake
Dragon Lake
Fraser Valley
Gerrard
Horsefly River
Pennask
Stump
Reds Garden
Tunkwa
Tzenzaicut
Fish
Gerrard Creek

Each of these strains have characteristic feeding habits, preferences for feeding areas, and life cycles. Some mature early in life, some late in life. Some grow to large sizes, others do not. Some eat other fish or minnows, others do not. Some are shallow water feeders, others prefer deep water, and some mid depths. One of these is a jumper when hooked, the Pennask strain fish, but it is not known for growing to large sizes. Others are not known for jumping when hooked but do grow to large sizes.

Information about the strain present in the lake you are fishing enables an angler to use fly patterns and fishing techniques which are appropriated to the fish strain present in the lake. For example, fish of the Blackwater River strain are shallow water feeders. So target the shallow water areas of a lake with dragon fly patterns in lakes where they are present. If the strain present does not eat other fish or minnows don't waste time with streamer patterns. If the lake has Gerrard strain fish, don't waste your time fishing the shallows since these are deep water fish which eat Kokanee. So fish deep with streamer patterns. And so on.

In addition to selecting a strain of rainbow appropriate for a lake several different hatchery treatments are used. So in viewing fish stocking reports for BC lakes you may see the following:

2 N or Diploid (These are unaltered fish in their natural state and the cheapest to produce.)

3N or Triploid (The females are treated to be sterile, but treated males are not sterile.)

AF3N (These are all females which are sterile.)

So the strain, hatchery treatment, stocking numbers, lake biology, and management strategy all enter into the decision making process for planting a lake.

The first prerequisite for decision making about stocking a lake is a full understanding of its biological and physical characteristics. It is a waste of money and time to stock a species or strain which does not match up with the biological and physical characteristics of the lake. One must also have a clear management goal because some management goals are exclusive of other goals. For example if you want large fish as a goal, you cannot also have large numbers of small or mid size fish. Obviously the more that is known about the biology of the lake the better.

Because of the recent changes in levels of toxic algae in Pass Lake, I have the impression that the biology of the lake and how it is effected by land use patterns in the watershed are not fully understood. For sure there is no understanding why toxic algae are on the increase. We are at least somewhat lacking in the first prerequisite for decision making about stocking. More needs to be known about the lake first.

Photo of the Month:

By: Phil



Fly Shops:

The Confluence Fly Shop
2620 N. Harbor Loop Drive #9
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 312-7978

An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishes