

# WASHOON NEWS



VOLUME 40

APRIL 2013

NUMBER 4

## AROUND THE BEND



### April Meeting Thursday, April 18, 2013

*Farm House Restaurant, La Conner*

*Wet Fly: 6:00 PM*

*Dinner: 7:00 PM*

#### **Restoring Salmon Habitat in the Skagit Basin with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group**

Please join us for a presentation by Sue Madsen of the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group.

Sue is SFEG's Restoration Ecologist, and will talk about the work her group is doing to restore salmon habitat in local watersheds, and how you can help. Sue is responsible for project development and implementation. She has a Masters Degree in fluvial geomorphology, and worked as a consultant for 15 years prior to joining SFEG

in 2009. SFEG is the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group for the Skagit and Samish Watersheds, San Juan Islands, and northern Whidbey Island.

Our mission is to engage communities in habitat restoration and watershed stewardship in order to enhance wild salmon populations. As a non-governmental organization, we have unique cooperative relationships with local landowners, conservation groups, government agencies and tribes. Through the hard work of our volunteers and professional restoration crew, we have been recognized as a local leader in salmon restoration. Recent projects have included placement of engineered log jams in Finney and Day creeks, restoration of off-channel habitat at Howard Miller Steelhead Park, and re-planting of several hundred of acres of riparian floodplain forests.

Sue will talk about these projects, as well as upcoming projects including culvert replacements, off-channel habitat development and riparian restoration in the Samish basin, reconnection of off-channel habitat in the middle Skagit River, and beach restoration at Deception Pass State Park and Blakely Island.

Much of SFEG's work is accomplished with the assistance of community volunteers, and Sue will provide information on how you can assist with the implementation and monitoring of SFEG's projects.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE TIP TOP

(Or Next Guide from the Leader)

This past weekend, a number of club members showed up at the April Fools event at Pass Lake, organized by Frank Barcott. Sadly, Frank had an unfortunate event come up and had to leave town, so his brother Dave Barcott stepped in. He and other club members supported the participants with great food, help with their gear, and “fish” stories! I saw a number of fish caught and personally had one of my best days on this lake. I would like to thank everyone who helped a fellow fly fisherman who was ejected from his boat and needed help. Again, thanks to all who came and made this event a success!

Don't forget your new fishing license for 2013. Make sure to have a current Discover Pass on hand. They do check and the fine is not easy to swallow. A ranger came by twice on Saturday's event at Pass Lake. Fidalgo Fly Fishers will be teaching eleven students at Skagit Community College this year. Bruce and others are getting ready for a great class. I took this class a few years ago and loved it. The class starts April 10<sup>th</sup> and will go through May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Our committees have been really busy, as you will see within the month's Wahoo. The conservation committee proposed several grants listed for this year, which the board approved. So please take some time to review the items so that we can approve them at this month's meeting. The membership committee has been working hard with all the new members. We are growing, so please take some time to meet and greet the new members, and if you have time, take them fishing! The legislation committee has an item that could use some attention by some club member. Please take a moment to read their information and get in touch with Sheila Tomas

There will be a swap meet at the general meeting May 16<sup>th</sup>, and tables will be ready for your stuff to be displayed. Bring items that you would like to sell, trade or give away to other members. Don't forget you can submit a classified ad to sell Fly Fishing Items (ONLY) in the Wahoo.

Please feel free to get in touch with me with any issues that may occur. Also inform me or the board of any events that may be coming up through the year so we can provide the info for people to attend. Our next general meeting will be April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Farm House. Hope to see you all there.

**Carl Hendricks, 2013 President**

## Outings & Events

### Events:

1. Washington Fly Fishing Fair – May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Ellensburg, WA.
2. Skagit Land Trust – Lyman Slough – This is being developed as we print
3. Skagit River Salmon Festival - September 7<sup>th</sup> – more info to come.

### Outings:

1. Fly Tying Class , Skagit Community College – April 10<sup>th</sup> thru May 8<sup>th</sup>, Bruce Freet
2. Ruby Lake – May 18<sup>th</sup> – Chuck Smith – More info to come.
3. Janice Lake – June 6<sup>th</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> – Tom Fulk

## Ruby Lake Family Day

Family Day will be on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>, starting at 9 AM or so. The club is buying the meats (tri-tips, hamburgers, and hot dogs), buns, condiments, paper plates and plastic cutlery, soft drinks, and bottled water. A sign-up sheet for pot luck items such as salads, desserts, chips, maybe chili?( Hint, hint), will be passed around again at the April meeting. I will give a final update at the May meeting. There is a good possibility that this will be our last outing at Ruby Lake as it is up for sale by Sandra.

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# Lingren's Indispensable



**Originator:** Art Lingren,  
**Photograph:** Hans Weilenmann

**Hook:** Size 10 to 1/0, Partridge low-water salmon, Tiemco 7999, or Gamakatsu T-10-6H

**Thread:** Black 6/0

**Tail:** Black squirrel, with or without a few strands of black, pearl or red Krystal Flash

**Rib:** Silver oval tinsel

**Body hackle:** Black, palmered

**Body:** Black mohair

**Wing:** Two black-dyed golden pheasant breast feathers tied in to lay flat over body

Notes: Intended Use: Wet fly for winter-run steelhead

Since its inception in January 1984, I have altered the original fly's dressing considerably. As the Black GP evolved over the years some of the first things to go were the golden pheasant red breast feather in the tail and the tippet eyes. I sometimes add a few strands of black, red, pearl, silver, or chartreuse Krystal Flash in the tail to add color and, at times, I do like to dress the Black GP on red Gamakatsu hooks. The Krystal Flash and red hooks add sparkle and color to the fly. However, just plain black without the color works just as well. I realized early on that the golden pheasant red breast in the tail and tippet eyes were superficial components and that the critical components that attracted a response from the fish were the Black GP's long supple

squirrel tail, the flowing body hackle and its attractive dark silhouette. As the fly evolved, Bob Taylor would look at the most current version and comment on the lack of golden pheasant in the fly. He is one of the few people who knew how important a role golden pheasant played in Drury's GP and that fly's name. With the golden pheasant breast feather and golden pheasant tippet feather eyes gone from my fly and with my use of wood duck or hen hackle feathers for the wing, Bob questioned my GP name and hinted that I should either re-institute golden pheasant into the fly or consider a different name. In more recent years after one supplier started dying golden pheasant capes black I used the golden pheasant black dyed breast feathers for the wing but do not layer them in as did Colonel Drury. I dress my black version now with two black dyed golden pheasant breast feathers tied in at the hook eye. Even then when Bob commented on my wayward GP I would respond with "but there is golden pheasant in the wing" and it is still a GP.

During a recent spring of 2004 coastal cutthroat fishing trip with Taylor, the subject of a Black GP name change rose to the surface again. We were hoping to hit the main salmon fry emergence and planned on fishing silver-bodied fly patterns. We did have some days when the cutts and Dolly Varden were slashing the surface after fry but, when the surface was quiet, surface fished fry patterns provoked few responses. I can't say how many trips I have been on where I was told that you need to have a certain fly to be successful but by trip's end the anglers in the party I was with have discarded their recommended pattern for the Black GP.

The spring cutthroat trip turned out the same. Some of the guys left their supply of Black GPs at home or had too large a fly to fish on our trout rods. Their facial expressions revealed their despair as they witnessed the cutts and Dolly Varden attacking my Black GP. I being a generous spirit took pity on the poor souls and dished out an allocation of Black GPs--regular and marabou versions--dressed on six 6 and 8 hooks to Bob Taylor and Charlie Brumwell. And catch fish they did. It was after this 2004 spring cutthroat trip that the name change came up again and because the Black GP has become indis-

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pensable to me, I asked Bob if he thought the name The Indispensable was appropriate. He replied that this fly is such a part of you that you should call it Lingren's Indispensable.

Regular, marabou, and low-water versions of my Indispensable as well as a bar-bell eyed version dressed on hooks ranging from 2/0 to 10 line the foam ridges in my fly box and like the advertisement for the American Express card, I never leave home on a fishing trip without a supply of Lingren's Indispensable. That fly that has become an indispensable part of many a fishing trip.

*David Priebe*

*David will be tying Art Lingren's Indispensable fly at the next meeting.*



Blue Winged Olive



Dick showing one of the steps in making the Doc Spratley to Wayne Lantz and Bill McCall.

## ANACORTES FLY TYING CLASS

Eight members of the club successfully completed an eight week fly tying class at the Anacortes Senior Activity Center. Each teacher/demonstrator furnished material, printed handout and tying demonstrations. There were also tips on finding proper and quality material. The flies were a good cross section for fishing northwest lakes and streams.

A big club **THANK YOU** to: Dan Ballard (Skip Nymph), Russ Asbury (Royal Coachman and tube fly demo), Robin LaRue (Blood Worm Chironomid), Bill Fairey (Egg Sucking Leach), Dick Raisler (Doc Spratley), Pat O'Hearn (Parachute Adams), John Freeman (Knudson Cutthroat), and Dan Farmer (Blue Winged Olive). What is so great about our club's members is that when one of the teachers could not be there another member stepped in and took over. Thanks again!

## FLY TYING COURSE

The Fidalgo Fly Fishers will teach the **Fundamentals of Fly Tying** again as part of the Community Education Program at Skagit Valley College. It is a five week course from April 10 through May 8 on Wednesday nights, 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The course is limited to 12 students to assure individualized attention and there is only one space remaining.

Two fly patterns will be tied each night, so students will have 10 productive trout flies upon completing the course. There is a reference notebook with recipes, formulas, and fishing techniques for each pattern. Students will learn

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about a variety of materials and techniques. The fly tying equipment and materials are provided by our Club. The course costs \$50 per person. Students should have some prior experience tying flies. Russ Asbury, Dan Farmer, Bruce Freet, Carl Hendricks, and Robin LaRue will be teaching.

## TURNERS BAY LAGOON

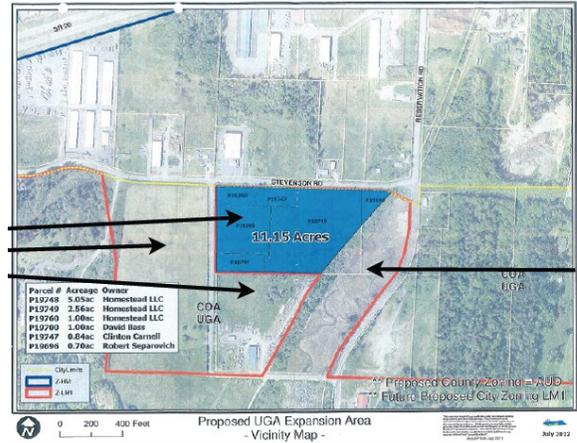
The Legislative Committee is looking for some club members to conduct fact finding research regarding development along Turners Bay Lagoon/Pocket Estuary. The proposed Tethys Beverage Bottling Plant with rail system would like to develop the site next to the estuary.

Would this development in such close proximity to Turners Bay Lagoon/Pocket Estuary be harmful to salmonids? Join the Legislative Committee and help research the implications of such a development. Once the implications, if any, are understood the committee will write a report and present it to the FFF Board. The FFF Board will then make recommendations on how to proceed.

In 2009, a \$671,000 grant was spent to restore the Turners Bay lagoon by removing the segment of Similk Bay road that isolated it from Similk Bay.



Turners Bay/Pocket Estuary. Proposed site for Tethys Beverage Bottling Plant: All areas where these 3 arrows point.



## 2013 WA Fly Fishing Fair May 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ellensburg, WA

The 2013 WA Fly Fishing Fair (WFFF) will be again be held at the Kittitas Valley Event Center in Ellensburg for the 7<sup>th</sup> year. The show hours are Friday 11:00 am until 5:00 pm and Saturday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. We have a number of exciting activities planned for this year's fair. For more information please visit our website at: <http://washingtoncouncilfff.org/wfff.htm>

**Fly Tying** – We currently have over 80 tiers signed up to tie this year. This includes 4 past Buz Buszek Memorial Award, the Federation highest tying award. They are: Frank Johnson – 1984, Al Beatty – 1999, Bruce Staples – 2001, Henry Hoffman – 2008 and John M Newbury – 2009.

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**Casting** – This year as in the past we will have our 9 hole fly casting course set up so you can try your skills. On Saturday we will have a friendly competition on the course. First place will go to the person closest to the numerical average of all who competed. They will have a choice of a 5 or 8 weight TFO TiCrX fly rod. The remaining rod will go to a drawing of all participants. Please join us.

**Free Seminars** – We are presenting a number of free seminars occurring throughout the day. Please visit our web site for the current schedule.

**Workshops** – We are offering a number of casting workshops this year. Please visit our website for the current schedule.

**Auction/Raffle** – We will have a number of fishing and non fishing items in our raffle/silent auction and live auction. Currently we have trips on the Yakima River.

**Awards Banquet and Auction** – On Saturday night we will hold our annual awards banquet and auction. Dinner tickets must be purchased by April 24<sup>th</sup> so we can give the caterer a final count. This year banquet will be catered by Cascade Mountain Grilling.

For additional information please visit our website at: <http://washingtoncouncilfff.org/wfff.htm>



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