



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Washington State Council

Covering the Drift

Volume 22 Issue 3 July 2018

12 Successful Years

Retiring President
Celebrates Community
He Helped Create

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Leaders Line

Building Community For 12 Years

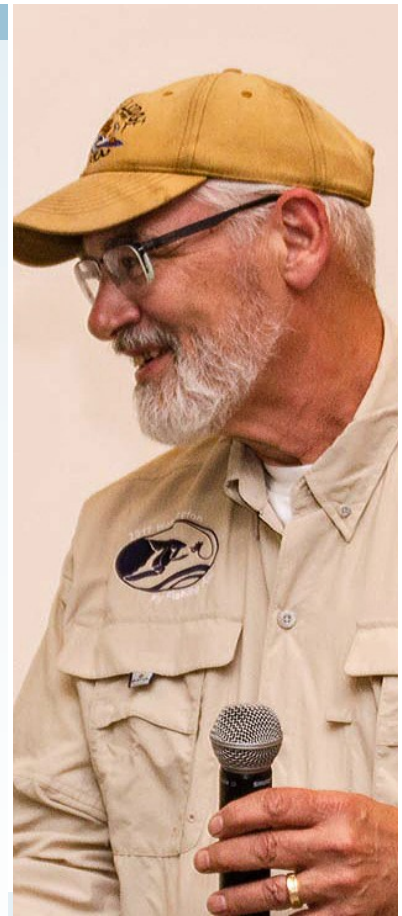
I have been giving this column a lot of thought since it is my last one. The next time the newsletter comes out Bill Wheeler will be the Council President. I know you will continue to give Bill your support as you did for me.

Looking back over the past 12 years as Council President made me look back at how I got involved in fly fishing. I started fly fishing in 1966 in New Jersey before heading off the next fall to Colorado for college. After getting a degree in Mining Engineering I worked NM, CO, TN, ID, UT, LA, and MT before arriving in western Washington in 1990. As you can see by that list a number of times I had great fly fishing close and others I had to drive some distance, but I always fly fished. I took up fly tying in



Colorado and joined a fly club in LA, the Acadiana Fly Rodders.

Along the way I joined the FFI then the FFF. After my first wife passed in 2001 I joined the Evergreen Fly Fishers. I became the club's FFF representative and then became Council Treasurer in 2005 and President in 2006. The Council put on the first Fair in Ellensburg in 2007 and this year we had our 12th Fair in Ellensburg. During this time the Federation Continued on page 6



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On the cover

- Steve Egge with a wild Olympic Peninsula steelhead . One of the high points of our sport is landing big fish in free flowing rivers. When cast, fly and fisherman all come together to land a steelhead it puts a smile on a fisherman's face.

Elections

In coming weeks you will receive a ballot for election of officers for the Washington State Council of FFI. Please fill out the ballot and return it. The officers aim to keep the state Council on track and growing and your vote helps them meet those goals.

In addition, two council officers were appointed to new positions to fill the terms of departing directors. JoAnn Allison is retiring as Treasure after many years supporting her husband's fly fishing career. John Roskopf will take over the position from JoAnn after July 1. Also, Jim Maus has taken over as Treasure for the national office of Fly Fishers International. To dedicate more time to that he is turning over his role as VP Communications for the state council to newsletter editor Steve Jones. The Candidates

President

Bill Wheeler had been fly fishing about 10 years when he moved to Washington. At first he thought his eyesight was going bad because he couldn't see his fly when he cast. It turned out that his eyesight was fine, his casting was bad. So he started on a journey to become a FFI Master Certified Casting Instructor

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FFI Outreach

Fly Social extends welcome to a younger generation of fly fishers

By Len Zickler
FFI President

Over the last couple of years, FFI leadership has been exploring a variety of ways to attract a younger and more diverse group fly anglers to our organization. Membership oriented organizations are generally in decline and we need to examine ways to more effectively reach a more diverse demographic. Other organizations and a few clubs have tackled this goal successfully and are doing a great job of attracting younger fly angler's through more informal events. Clubs are finding success reaching new members through events such as brew ties, wine tastings, hackles and hops tying gatherings, and pint night events.

People in general are rejecting the old "service club" model of monthly Club meetings. While the old style meetings may be comfortable for the more mature crowd, they are not appealing to the younger fly fishing community.

The intent is to develop an informal meeting for-



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Hang out with fellow anglers and make a difference for clean water.
flyfishersinternational.org, pugetsoundkeeper.org

mat to bring fly anglers together in a relaxed atmosphere to discuss topics of interest and support for local conservation efforts.

The June 13 FFI Fly Social in Seattle will be one of the first Fly Fishers International sponsored informal social gatherings.

It will include a brief introduction of FFI and an evening of socializing to discuss FFI's mission and vision toward preserving the legacy of fly fishing for all fish and all waters through conservation, education and community.

Ellensburg Grants and Education



The Washington State Council FFI raised funds in Ellensburg for three efforts that aim to help fishers overcoming disability and illness to better enjoy our sport. Washington State Council President Carl Johnson shared the benefits.



Project Healing Waters is a national effort to provide physical and emotional rehabilitation through fly fishing to veterans and active service military. Chuck Tye (above) has been instrumental in offering those services in Washington. Jesse Scott and Chuck Tye (center) of Olympic Peninsula Fishing Innovations manufacture adaptive one-handed fly fishing and fly-tying products. The non-profit offers products to anyone with physical challenges free of charge.

Diane Sears and Dana Chambers (above) of Casting for Recovery receive a donation to support those recovering from cancer. As more women survive breast cancer Casting for Recovery seeks to give them the encouragement and confidence to tackle an outdoor



Fish On! at CWU

Mike Clancy and Aaron Cully of the Washington Council FFI in front of a class of beginning fly fishers from Central Washington University. Members of the university fly fishing club, learned the sport from casting to entomology during the Ellensburg fair.

Fair Celebrates the Art of a Well Made Fly



Schimpf Named to Tying Hall of Fame

Janet Schimpf of Montesano was inducted into the Washington State Council FFI Fly Tying Hall of Fame at the Ellensburg Fair, the first woman so honored. Schimpf, who estimates she ties “a couple of hundred dozen flies a year” for her commercial tying business, works at her bench most days. She teaches tying at the annual Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy and freely shares her tying knowhow at FFI events. After 40 years of commercial tying she still enjoys the process and the sturdy beauty of flies like the olive willie and her crawdad with its feather claws.

Masuda Uses Novel Materials for Precise Wings



Kuni Masuda of Vancouver uses materials from tea bags to polymer packing materials like the sample he holds to make the delicate wings for his mayfly patterns. He uses metal forms to cut the wings. He trims the fabric close to the form with scissors, then uses flame to burn the excess material away. The process gives the wing a precise shape and a faint dark like of scorched fabric that defines the edges and makes them durable.



Dominic Singh Ellensburg's Youngest Expert

Dominic Singh at work on a bass streamer that combines wool and craft fur on a Daiichi sproat hook. Singh, who is 17, ties daily and has become a Nor-Vise Pro. He has one fishing companion his age. The others are older people who have the stamina to keep up with a teenager.

Weaving Body and Tale

Gil Biles weaves floss and fiber into flies with dark and light body colors, giving them a more realistic impression of a nymph. Gil is at work on a book about the technique to be called “Woven Flies and More.”



Leaders Line

from page 2

tion of Fly Fishers became the International Federation of Fly Fisher and now Fly Fishers International. While it will take a long time for me to not think of myself as a Federator, I like the new name. The part that I really like is the mission: **Conservation - Education - Community**. And it is Community that I am thinking about. It is the fly-fishing community that is so special to me and I am fortunate to be a part of that community.

Normally, I would be thanking everyone who supported the Washington Fly Fishing Fair in Ellensburg this year, but this year I want to THANK everyone who has helped the Washington State Council of the FFI over the past 12 years! Many people have put in a lot of hard work to bring the Council to where it is today, and I have been very fortunate to be a part of the community. Unfortunately, a number of folks who were very active in the Council during this time are no longer with us. As I write this column this Memorial Day I stop and remember those folks.

I want to Thank everyone who served on the Council Board of Directors for the past 12 years some for all 12 years. Your help has been invaluable, without your



A big thank you from Len Zickler, FFI President and CEO and all of Washington FFI. Mara Johnson accepts a basket of goodies from Bill Wheeler as Carl looks on with a smile. Gifts include a good cognac and some days of guided fishing on the river of the Johnson's choice.

“It is the fly-fishing community that is so special to me and I am fortunate to be a part of that community.”

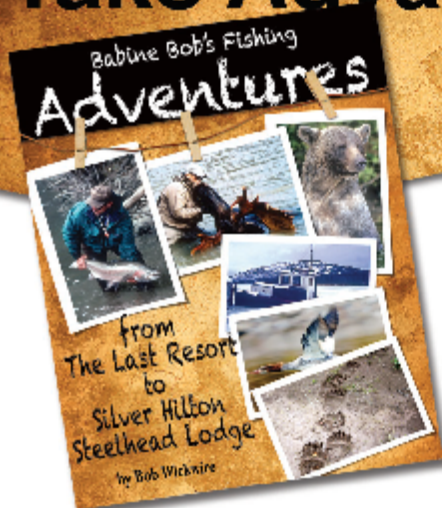
efforts we would not be where we are today, **Thank You!** There are four organizations the Council has supported, all are members of the fly-fishing community and they all do wonderful work. They are:

Casting for Recovery, Project Healing Waters, Olympic Peninsula Fishing Innovations and the North-

west Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy. I encourage everyone to support these organizations. I will end by thanking the fly fishing community for the support they have given me and the Washington Council over the past 12 years. **Thank You**

Carl Johnson

Take Advantage **NOW!**



Special Pre-Publication **Book Offer!**

Babine Bob's Pioneering Fishing Adventures

From the Last Resort to Silver Hilton Steelhead Lodge

by *Bob Wickwire*

In misty, forest covered, Northern British Columbia flows the legendary Babine River, long known for its magnificent large steelhead to over 30 pounds. This all color, 200 plus page, 8 1/2 by 11 inch volume is truly a classic. Author Bob Wickwire and his wife Jerri Lou created several lodges known for offering the finest steelhead fishing in the world.

This is their 60 year story about the discovery, development and protection of what many believe to be the world's finest steelhead fly fishing river! At one hundred thousand words in length and featuring about 200 color photographs and illustrations it almost has as much meat to it as one of the local grizzlies!

From the first pages to the very end of the book you will be enjoying their continual discoveries as they fashion a beautiful life filled with almost unbelievable happenings and challenges—most successfully overcome. Bob and Jerri Lou migrated to British Columbia in the 1960s from Oregon where Bob helped pioneer Clackamas River steelheading and boating.

I have known Bob since the 1960s and can only say: "What a guy!" He has lived to become the classic steelhead river pioneer. This is his wonderful story. . . Frank Amato, Clackamas and Babine steelheader, too.

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The Candidates

(MCI). He has had the opportunity to teach casting at national and regional FFI fairs and various club and private venues. Bill is Past President of the Overlake Fly Fishing Club, edited the club newsletter and was VP Education for the club. Currently he can see his fly, he just wishes that more fish would see it.

Vice President for Conservation East

Gilbert Biles is a member of The Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers and The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program. Born and raised in Maryland on the Chesapeake Bay, Gil moved to Washington in 1954. He has fished all his life and started fly fishing in his teens. He loves to fly fish and tie flies and he has taught kids fly tying, rod building, boat building, fly fishing.

Vice President for Conservation West

Jack Whitney was given his grandmother's bamboo fly rod as a kid. Soon after on a family camping trip he found a stream loaded with hungry 4" trout that he couldn't keep off his fly. Jack says, "I had never had so much fun and the big fish hooked that morning was me."

Jack has fly fished in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Baja, Honduras and the Pacific Islands. He retired in 2001 from a career in sales, small business, engineering and manufacturing and lives in Hockinson.

Director, Mike Clancy

Mike retired in 2000 and joined the Puget Sound Fly Fishers in Tacoma where he says has "absolutely enjoyed our sport and



relationships I have made from that day on." In 2003 Mike joined the board of the Washington State Council of FFI where he has served as the Secretary, Vice President West and presently the Government Affairs Chairman.

Since 2009 Mike has volunteered with the NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy and in 2010 became co-director. The Academy is a youth education project of the Washington Chapter of Trout Unlimited and made possible with the help and support of WSCFFI.

Director Don Simonson

Don was born and raised on Camano Island in Puget Sound. He lived in Seattle during a 32-year career with IBM. He has been a member of the Washington Fly Fishing Club for more than 40 years serving in most of the officer and chair positions including president in 1994. Don is a Master Certified Casting Instructor and a member of the FFI Casting Board of Governors. He has served as a Director at large on the state council of FFI for several years and taken responsibility for the council's fly-casting education efforts throughout the state.

The candidates from top are:

Bill Wheeler, President

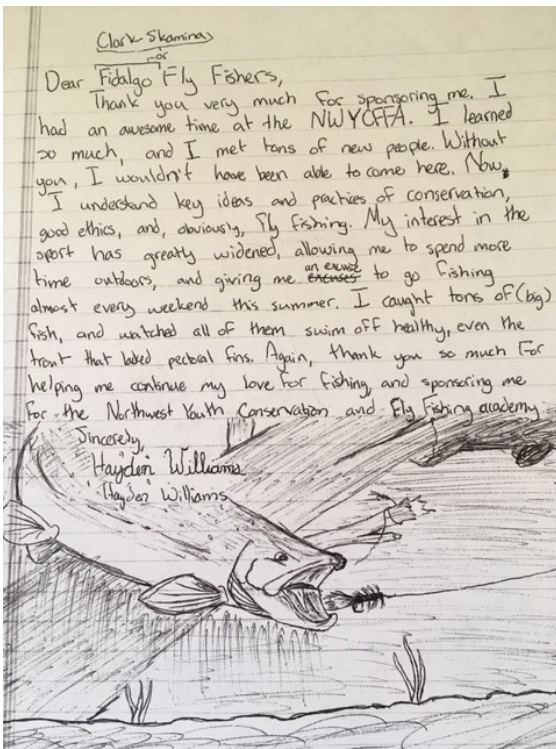
Gilbert Biles, VP Conservation East

Jack Whitney, VP Conservation West

Mike Clancy, Director

Don Simonson, Director

Academy Student Sends Notable Thanks



Hayden Williams, age 13, knows the value of a well written letter and he knows a lot about art too. Hayden was a student at the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy this spring. He was sponsored thanks to donations from Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers and the Fidalgo Fly Fishers, both FFI affiliated clubs. Hayden wrote this note of thanks to the clubs and Mike Clancy, co-chairman of the academy, took note as well. Several kids have written thank you notes, but Hayden's stands out for its creativity, says Mike. Hayden said that he met "tons" of interesting people at the academy and skills acquired at the academy are "giving me an excuse to go fishing almost every weekend this summer."



In both the drawing and his words, Hayden illustrates that the FFI investment in this academy is worth every penny. Tight lines to you Hayden.

Norm Norlander 1939-2018

Norman Norlander, one of the preeminent fly fisherman of his time, died peacefully at his home in Kelso, Wa, on Monday, May 14, 2018. Norm was 79.

Norm changed the world of fly-fishing by inventing and developing the first rotary fly-tying vice, called the Norvise. He was featured in countless articles, numerous videos, television appearances, and public appearances around the world, teaching others practical techniques and sharing his vast knowledge on the secrets of catching fish. He was extremely generous, and always took the time to talk with people and help them through their challenges, ei-



ther personal or with their fly-tying techniques. He enjoyed cooking, laughing, and sharing time with friends.

Norm was a loving father, husband, grandfather, and friend to all.

Norm is survived by his wife Ruthe of 23 years, his son Brent Norlander,

daughter Gwen Porter, stepdaughters Lauree Placencia and Julee Bryce, stepsons Jeff and John Cameron, and many loving grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A celebration of life service was held May 19 in the Sanctuary at Longview Community Church in with Pastor

Mary Ross officiating. A fellowship gathering was held after the service.

Memorials can be made in lieu of flowers in his name to Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc., PO Box 695, LaPlata, MD 20646.

Bamboo Rod Builder, Author, Honored

Tom Fulk Receives Washington Fly Fishing Club's Letcher Lambuth Award

Tom Fulk (center) was presented the Letcher Lambuth Angling Craftsman Award from the Washington Fly Fishing Club's Past President, Gary Berquist (right). Danny Beatty (left) representing the Fidalgo Fly Fishers, introduced Tom to the WFFC.

The ceremony was held on January 16, 2018 during the WFFC's Annual Awards Meeting at the Seattle Tennis Club. Cathy Schaefer drove the group to Seattle. Sandy Fulk also joined the trip.

The opening criteria statement for award reads in part:

"This award shall be made to outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions to the knowledge, art, philosophy and techniques of fly-fishing, and to encourage and recognize significant similar contributions by others. "

The Award is not given unless there is a worthy candidate. Since the first award to Roderick Haig-Brown in 1975, Tom is the 29th recipient. The list includes authors, bamboo rod makers, fly tiers and journalists from Oregon to British Columbia. A who's who of Northwest Fly Fishing History. In his introduction of Tom, Danny Beatty said:

"I am pleased to introduce Tom Fulk, an active member of the club. Tom joined the Fidalgo Fly

Fishers in 1990 after moving to Anacortes from the east side of San Francisco Bay. He retired from the United States Forest Service where he was an administrator in the San Francisco office.

Tom soon got involved with the club as an officer and president.

About twenty-five years ago he bought and read Hoagy Carmichael's book about making your own bamboo fly fishing rod. This introduction and already established wood working skills led Tom to making some planing forms and buying some bamboo. A fly rod was soon the result.

Since those early beginnings he has made 106 bamboo rods. Twenty-two of those rods were donated to the club for raffle prizes with the funds generated going to conservation organizations. Other rods were donated to fund Habitat for Humanities. He has



repaired dozens of bamboo fly rods including Letcher Lambuth's rod number 19 which is now in the Western Washington University Fly Fishing Collection. Tom has also written three books about bamboo rod making.