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Swirl Tips

February 2006 Issue

Evergreen Fly Fishing Club
www.geocities.com/EFFC2000



MEETINGS

General Meeting – 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 pm (6 pm Wet Fly hr.) Flying Pig Brewery
Board Meeting – 1st Thursday of the month, 7 pm (6 pm dinner) Petosa's Restaurant
Conservation Committee Meeting – 3 rd Thursday of the month, 7 pm Village Restaurant

Meeting: February 28, 2006 @ Flying Pig Brewery
Wet Fly – 6:00 p.m. Meeting – 7:00 p.m.

February Program A Bitterroot Autumn by Carl Johnson

As most of you know, I enjoy fishing in Western Montana and when asked the best time to fish I always say the fall. In my opinion, the fall is a magical time in Montana, the hot dog days of summer are gone, replaced with cool mornings and comfortable days with the threat of snow always on your mind. The scenery of the fall, with the tamarack turning yellow is one of my favorites. And then there is the fishing, in the fall the fish seem to be in a hurry to put on that last few ounces before winter and take the fly accordingly. Fall in Montana is a favorite time. This month Chuck Stranahan of *Chuck Stranahan Flies and Guides* in Hamilton, MT will talk about the Bitterroot River in the fall. Chuck Stranahan is a nationally published writer, and a sought-after speaker at fly fishing clubs and conservation organizations. He is a regular in the Fly Tying Theater and seminar presentations at Sportsmen's Shows including the Evergreen Sportsman Show in Monroe. Chuck's fly patterns are becoming standards throughout the West, and are featured in books by Randall Kaufmann, Jack Dennis, and John Holt and many of the fly fishing magazines. Chuck will be tying flies for us during the wet fly hour and will also be donating a group of flies for our raffle, so bring a few extra dollars for the raffle and join us for the evening.



Fly Tying Contest by Rob Gamage

Doug Nordstrom won the January Fly Tying Contest with a fly of his own design, the "*Autumn Leaf*." Congratulations Doug, nicely done!

The pattern chosen, to be judged against and by your peers, for the month of February, is "Your Favorite Dragonfly Nymph." I hope I speak for a lot of us when I say that I'm looking forward to seeing some different and new ideas of ways to tie one up! Good Luck! Recipe: Whatever you have for us!





President's Message

by Carl Johnson

This month I was thinking about talking about spring in my message, but the recent cold spell changed my mind. It just didn't feel like spring! Then I started thinking about the Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue. As some of you know, I worked the FFF booth all three days of the show. This got me to thinking about what I like about fly fishing, the places where fish live, the ability to forget all your problems while fishing, and the people. The people are a big part of what makes fly fishing enjoyable. I have found very few fly fishermen that are unwilling to talk about fishing. Now don't ask them which rock to stand on, but I have found everyone willing to share their thoughts and we all seem to talk to one another like we have known everyone for years. A great example of this happened the other evening, I received a call from a gentleman in Virginia calling about the FFF program teaching fly fishing to the disabled soldiers returning from Iraq. We probably talked about 10 minutes on this subject but talked about 2 hours on fly fishing. I had never met the man previously but by the end of the call I felt like he was an old friend. This brings me back to my thought when I stated this, what is the one thing that makes EFFF special. In my mind it is the people, we are a club of extraordinary people. I encourage everyone to get to know more of the members, become active in the club, and participate in the outings. You won't be sorry!



Librarian's Corner

by Jim Pankiewicz

Okay saltwater anglers, we have just added another great title to our EFFF collection. "Salmon to a Fly: Fly Fishing for Pacific Salmon in the Open Ocean" was published in 1995 and authored by Jim Crawford. The writer begins with some information about equipment and fly patterns. He also gives some great background on salmonids, salmon enhancement, life cycles, and salmon distribution.

Crawford discusses fishing for Sockeye, Pinks, Chums, Chinook, and, as he calls them, the "always reliable Coho". The Coho I fish for aren't always reliable but I'm sure that's my fault. Anyway, he gives specific information on how to get to the following places and how to successfully fish each location. The Queen Charlotte Islands, Northern Vancouver Island, Vancouver Island-Inland, Outer Coast—Vancouver Island, Kyuquot, Nootka Island, Clayoquot Sound,

Tofino, and Barkley Sound are all covered. He gives history of the people and the species in these areas. He makes catching Kings in the open ocean on a fly seem easier than you might think. Okay, it's not easy, but he does show it can be done.



Conservation

by Jesse Scott

Youth Conservation Camp

Every year our club sends four children to a week long Youth Conservation Camp at Moran State Park in the San Juan Islands. The children are nominated by individual EFFF club members, and the Conservation Committee makes the final selections. The only requirement is that the children must be between 12 and 16 years of age. Ideally, we would prefer to send 2 boys and 2 girls; however, we rarely get 2 girls nominated.

The girls camp is scheduled for July 16-22, and the boys camp is July 23-29 this year. If you have a child you would like to nominate, please contact any Conservation Committee member. We will have information pamphlets available at the February meeting.

Volunteer Events

The Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force is hosting a Fly Fishers Tree Planting Day on Saturday, February 25th from 10 am - 1pm. The location is in Duvall at McCormick Park on the Snoqualmie River. Call (425) 252-6686 for more information.

The Stillaguamish Tribe Natural Resources Department had some volunteer opportunities for their beach seining project. They will be using their boat to survey the Port Susan area to net and identify small fish. The dates are generally from the 5th to the 10th of every month from March to August. Call Franchesca Perez at (360) 435-2755, ext 22 for specific details.

Jesse Scott also has details at (425) 745-6092 or e-mail gardenfly@comcast.net.



Activities

by Gary Medema

Coming Attractions:

The Winter Steelhead Outing is Saturday, Feb. 25th. Fish the river of your choice; catch a steelhead of legal length and you could very well take home one of the clubs finest awards.

The Dub Price Award is a winter scene watercolor painting of a steelheader walking up the riverbank in a snowstorm with his fish. It was painted by Dub for his father and it is titled "*A Steelhead for My Father*". It also displays three speyflies that he tied. Dub was a past honorary member of the EFFC. Win this award and it could very well be displayed in your home for a number of years. After the days fishing, we will meet at the Village Restaurant in Marysville. Check-in-time is 5:00 P.M. Even if you don't fish, join us for dinner. It's always a good time.

Spring Outing

The Spring Outing will be at Big Twin Lake Resort (near Winthrop) on May 20 and 21.

We will be reserving space at the resort so I would like to get a count on how many people will be attending to know how many camping spots we will need. There will be sign up sheets at the next general meeting. If you are partnering up to share a space, let me know when you sign up. We will also decide on our dinner format at the next meeting, steak dinner or potluck.

Don't forget the unofficial Lone Lake outing on Saturday, April 1st.

Fishing For Kids

by Carlos Ditto

I was trying to remember how long ago it has been since Jesse Scott got me involved with the Fishing for Kid's program. I think it must have been in the spring of 2002.

I had been spending my time for the past twenty plus years with the Boy Scouts of America when Jesse made contact with me and I wound up joining the Evergreen Fly Fishing Club. Needless to say, there is a long story there but right now I want to talk about the joy that I have received by participating in the Fishing for Kid's program that is sponsored by the Everett Parks and Recreation Department.

I shall never forget that first year and I particularly will never forget a little nine year old girl who came down to Silver Lake with her family. She was the first youth of the day and as I introduced

myself to her I made sure that I knelt down to her eye level and talked to her about catching fish. I explained what we were going to do and ask her if she would like to learn to cast the rod. She was very excited about the prospect and we proceeded to learn the process. After several attempts she got the worm out a little ways but was unable to get a bite. I ask her if she would like me to throw it further out and she said, "yes please!" Of course, in no time she had landed her limit and thanked me as she left.

As she walked away her father came up to me and shook my hand in profound thanks. It seems that his daughter suffered from one of the attention disorders and by working with her one on one and keeping her focused with eye contact I had done exactly what was needed in order to keep her focused. He said that he was certain that she would never forget the experience. I know for certain that I never will.

The whole purpose of this article is to remind you to mark May 13, 2006 on your calendar. That is the date for the next Fishing for Kid's event. Be sure and invite your grandchildren, your younger children and your neighbor kids. They will love you for it. As far as gear to bring, I would include a hook remover of some type, boots to keep your feet dry and a towel that hooks to your belt. After handling ninety plus fish your hands do get a little slippery.

I usually bring some of my own worms or brown Power Bait but the Parks Department will provide bait. I don't think it matters what you use. Just get the bait right next to the net.

Actually you don't have to work the "line" messing with the fish. We also have a great time teaching the kids how to tie flies and to cast a line.

The important thing is to get involved. We will have a lot of kid's out there and we really need your help. I promise you, you won't be sorry.

Well, I guess that's all I wanted to say except I am looking forward to seeing you there. By the way, bring your club business cards with you. I was surprised as to the number of dads who expressed an interest in becoming involved with the club.

So, keep your hooks sharp, your back cast out of the trees, and share your passion [fishing that is] with others.



Membership Report by Mark Simpson

I want to thank Rob Gamage for helping me with some of the membership committee duties lately. Even though he's busy with other club duties, like fly tying and contests, he's offered his help on my committee. Thanks Rob.

I'm also looking for a volunteer to help as a greeter for visitors to our general membership meetings. Often a visitor is already sponsored and accompanied by a member they know. We need someone for the other times when a visitor is a "walk-in" and needs someone to help them get acquainted. Please let me know if you can help with this. Not a big commitment but it would really help the club welcome new members.

Club dues are overdue for some members. Did you know, according to our club by-laws, that an individual who is delinquent in the payment of dues may not participate as a member in club sponsored activities? As of this writing most of our members have paid their dues but some have not yet paid. Calendar year 2006 dues are \$30 for members and \$25 for associate members. Dues checks should be made to EFFC and sent directly to the membership chairman. Please do not send them to the treasurer or to the club's post office box. Please send dues to: Mark Simpson, 2505 5th St, Everett, WA 98201

I believe I've kept an accurate list of members I received dues from, both by check and by cash, but please contact me directly by phone (425-258-1149) if you believe your name is included on this list in error.

In the next issue of *The Swirl Tips*, we are required to publish the names of all members who have still not paid their 2006 dues. That will be the second and final notice of delinquency. Unless your dues are paid, your name will be dropped from the member list 30 days after the second notice. Please pay your dues and remain as a 2006 member.



Publications by Jerry Buron

This will be the first issue of *Swirl Tips* that I will be responsible for getting out to the membership. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Eric Nordstrom for making the transition relatively painless. Eric has done an outstanding job for the Club for as long as I've been member. He, along with Jim McGauhey, has been putting out a first class newsletter and yearly calendar for the club.

The EFFC 2006-2007 Calendar will be ready for the March meeting. It will be handed out at the meeting to those in attendance.

EFFC Coming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Winter 2006	Fly Tying Classes	Stillaguamish Senior Center
Feb. 25 th Sat.	Winter Fishout	Village Restaurant
April 1 st Sat.	Unofficial Lone Lake Fishout	Lone Lake, South Whidby Island
May 13 th Sat.	Fishing Kids	Silver Lake, Everett
May 20-21 st Sat. Sun.	Spring Fishout	Big Twin Lake
June 24 th Sat.	North Fork Stilly Cleanup	Charlie Rickett's place
July 16 th Sun.	Unofficial Saltwater Searun Fishout	Marysville Launch – Ebby Slough
July 23 rd Sun.	Summer Fishout/Mtg.	Gordy Swanson's place on NF Stilly

This is the first notice of delinquency, according to Section 4.7 of our by-laws. As of this writing, my records indicate the following members have not paid 2006 dues:

Joel Bell, Mike Benbow, Joe Bly, Troy Dennis, Alex Dorchak, Neil Farler, Brent Flinn, Dick Greaves, Stan Jarmiolowski, Norm Johnson, Kyle Kragseth, Adam Larson, Jerry Larson, Mike Manson, Joe Marsh, Paul Moore, Larry Roxby, Maurice Travis, and Carl Warren.

For those of you who have not seen the Winter 2006 issue of *Northwest Fly Fishing* magazine, there is an article written by one of our own. Mike Benbow describes a fishing trip to Dragon Lake, BC in the Spring of 2003. Several club members, including George Richardson, (nice photo of George with large kamloop trout) are prominently mentioned in the excellent piece describing a jewel of a lake in the

Caribou Region of British Columbia. Jack Gobel has described Dragon Lake as his “Golden Pond.”

During the winter months a number of EFFC members have been “unofficially” meeting for lunch at the Everett Elks Club at noon on Fridays. Drop in and see if you can top some of the outrageous lies that are shared during lunch!

Worth taking a looking at is a new reference book out entitled *Washington River Maps and Fishing Guide*. It features 34 detailed river maps, how to information, river access points, launch sites, charts of peak fishing times for trout, salmon, and steelhead.

Club Wire by Federation of Fly Fishers

Applications are being accepted for the FFF Conservation Grants.

The Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) is proud to offer conservation grants to clubs, agencies, organizations and individuals who are working to preserve and restore the waters we cherish. If you know of a resource project that is working to assure healthy aquatic habitats, visit the Conservation Grants web page at <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/conConsGrants.php> or contact the FFF Conservation Coordinator at (406) 222-9369 ext 101 or e-mail operations@fedflyfishers.org. FFF Conservation Grants for resource projects have normally been limited to \$2,000 per year for any individual project. Please use this as a guideline in making your annual requests for funding.

Currently funded projects include Guadalupe Bass restoration in Texas, stream habitat restoration in Maryland and Michigan, and trout population assessments in Idaho. We're happy to provide these funds to support the valuable work of FFF clubs throughout North America. Please contact the FFF office if you have any questions about the program. 406-222-9369.

Applications are accepted year round and are considered three times each year.

Summer Deadline: July 15, 2005 - Successful applicants notified September 1, 2005.

Fall Deadline: November 15, 2005 - Successful applicants notified January 1, 2005.

Spring Deadline: March 15, 2006 - Successful applicants notified May 1, 2006.

1ST Annual Federation of Fly Fishers International Fly Tying Competition In Support of Conservation and Education



As a fund raising event in support of its many conservation and education projects, the Federation of Fly Fishers is sponsoring an International Fly Tying Competition. The Competition will run from February 1, 2006, until midnight April 30, 2006. There are 39 separate categories within which to enter a fly. Judges include such famous fly tyers as David Whitlock of bass fishing fame, Ron Alcott of traditional salmon pattern fame, Bill Blackstone, the master of the “realistic” patterns, Bob Clouser, creator of the famous Clouser Minnow, Stu Apte the saltwater fly fishing legend, and Bob Jacklin, the famous instructor/guide of West Yellowstone, Montana, to name a few.

In addition to the “Judged” competition where specific flies must be tied for comparison by the judges, there will be a “Peoples’ Choice” competition where tyers may submit the fly of their choice in any of the 39 categories. These flies will be posted on the FFF website where the people will get to vote for their favorite patterns.

Awards include beautiful 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medallions in each of the 39 categories, and prizes totaling over \$11,000 including Orvis, Thomas & Thomas, Loomis, and Winston fly rods, Islander and Abel fly reels, the famous Oasis tying benches, the incomparable Wasatch custom tools, among many other valuable prizes. To learn more about this great event linking dedicated tyers from around the world, go to the following website where you will find the link to the Fly Tying Competition:

<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/begin.php>.

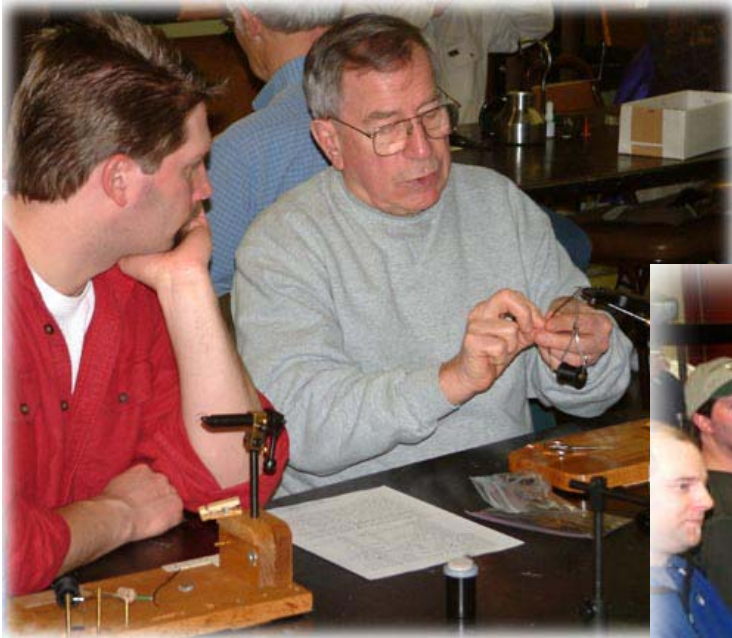
Join in...have fun, and at the same time help support our sport and preserve its heritage.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Cordes (troutbeck@ida.net)

Evergreen Fly Fishing Club

PO Box 221

Everett, WA 98206



EFFC Winter Fly Tying Classes Stillaguamish Senior Center

