



Leader Line

Let Us Help YOU

Not sure why, but I struggle each month to write this Leader Line. I'm not an expert fly-fisher, I'm new to fly-tying and I flat out don't understand most of the fishing regs because the whole pamphlet reads like a novel of numbers. I do know the basics of fly-fishing and also know I love to fly-fish in the beautiful, sometimes stark surroundings of the outdoors. So, instead of trying to sound like I know all things fly-fishing, I'm going to brag about Puget Sound Fly-Fishers and things they do to provide you the tools to become a confident fly-fisherman.

We strongly encourage new members to reach out if you have questions about PSFF, navigat-

ing our website, fly-fishing or would like to have someone coach/mentor you to learn or improve your fly-fishing skills. There's a vast amount of knowledge and expertise in PSFF and wow do we love to share!

Some things to look forward to:

- A beginning fly-tying class (I'll be attending). Details to come.
- A casting instruction clinic Saturday, Oct. 19 at the Titlow Park Shelter for all levels, tune-ups and course preparation for FFI casting certification levels.
- An end-of-the year holiday celebration at our Dec. 12 general meeting. See details in this newsletter.

Next Meeting

October 10

Tower Lanes

6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Dinner: 6:30

Program 7:15

- Our second Fly-Fishing 101 Class offered in spring 2025. More information to come.

Last month, David Frazier wrote an appeal to club members to volunteer for Board of Director and Chairman positions. David has been Outings Chair for three years and his tenure ends this Dec. 31. Also needed are a Director First Year, Website Editor and Newsletter Editor. A new member, Fred Olin, will be our Raffles Chair for 2025. Thank you Fred and heartfelt thanks to Rachel Dagovitz, our previous chair. Interested in stepping up? See any member of the Board or our Nominating Committee: Steve Saville, Mike Koslosky or Greg Shimek. Job responsibilities are online at psff.org under Members Only.

Before you skip to the next column, hear me out. We are one of the few fly-fishing clubs that has thrived despite Covid and the cost of doing

business. Too often the same members simply rotate in the administrative positions of PSFF. This is not healthy if we want to continue as an active, vibrant fly-fishing group. We need new and different ideas, perspectives and (dare I say) new blood. This year to date, we have 30 new members. Most are seeking a community where they can learn and “do” fly-fishing with like minds. PSFF’s administrative staff makes this all possible. Do you have ideas on making new members feel welcomed and informed, want a say in which waters our club should fish, wish to see certain changes in PSFF or want to help with the direction of our club ... **STEP UP!** Challenge yourself. Make a difference in PSFF, the fly-fishing community and perhaps your own lives.



*Tess Frazier
Club President*

Programs

Rick Davidson from Project Healing Waters is October 10 Speaker



Rick Davidson will recap the Yakima 2 Fly event.

The Project Healing Waters Northwest Region came together on the Yakima River in Ellensburg, Washington. Hosted by the PHW Ellensburg Program. Veterans — 36 in 13 boats including rowers, some of whom are also veterans — set out along the

Yakima River for a friendly Northwest Region trout-catching contest Saturday with each contestant choosing just two flies to fish.

Project Healing Waters began in 2005 serving wounded military-service members at Walter Reed Army Medical Center returning from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Since then, PHW has expanded nationwide, establishing its high-

ly successful program in Department Of Defense Hospitals, Warrior Transition Units, and Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and Clinics, serving all eras of U.S. veterans.



*Mark Paul
Programs Chair*

Outings

The Cady Lake Special

Sounds like a fly pattern, I know, but this is more like a special offer. Members of PSFF and Trout Unlimited's Kitsap-Olympic



Jim Baker tests his rod strength at Cady Lake.

Peninsulas Chapter have collaborated in augmenting the state's stocking program for one time this month. We're planning on fishing together at the Mason County lake on Saturday, Oct. 5. Join us. It should be a productive day on the water.

Thanks to our partnership with TU, WDFW will also be bringing in \$1,000 worth of trout of various sizes, including some jumbos. This is in *addition* to the traditional fall stocking in late September. Both organizations have split the cost of this joint project. Special thanks to TU's Jane Peterson, who ably dealt with the the complicated paperwork.

PSFF and TU have worked together in the past on special projects, including a work party

earlier this year to improve access to Cady and open up a few overgrown areas for the limited parking.

Directions: Cady Lake is about 54 minutes northwest of Tower Lanes, or 18 minutes west of Belfair in Mason County. For those who haven't been there before, follow your GPS mapping to Cady Lake Manor (now out of business), 1471 NE Dewatto-Holly Road,

Tahuya, but instead of entering at the sign, look about 100 yards on the left for an opening at a one-track gravel road. When you hit a fork in the road, turn left and it will take you to a couple of parking areas near the launch. Buddy up and carpool if you can.

Passing on Pass Lake

Well, looks like the toxic algae bloom has returned to Pass Lake on Fidalgo Island and the lake is shut down.

Our outing there, set for Oct. 15-17, has been cancelled.

It's time to make lemonade.

Since I've also had to cancel the Sept. 25 outing to Lake Kokanee, let's go instead to Lake Kokanee on Saturday, Oct. 12. Meet there at the Public Boat

Launch at 9 a.m. I've posted the revised info sheet on the Forum. Please let me know if you'd like to sign up.

Cowlitz River Report

After a last-minute pivot to a different nesting spot — dry camping at the boat launch area of Blue Creek Trout Hatchery — we found ourselves with good overcast weather, an approachable flow and fish in the water, steelhead in particular. Also around were a number of King salmon and searun cutthroat. As is sometimes the case when fishing, we found ourselves coming up dry in the cold water of the Cowlitz.

We had some trout to hand, but the main run was perhaps a week out. Same for the silver salmon, according to some local



Tom Krughoff navigates the slick stones of the Cowlitz River.

voices on the water. A couple of us hooked big fish but couldn't make them stick. I'll forever remember the big pull of a big fish silhouetted downriver as it

cleared the water and said *sayonara, baby*. Some of the members came up just for a day. I figure there were nine who made the outing but seven who bowed out.

The angling honor roll includes Bryan Habeck and Teri Tomatich, Barry Miller, David Skau, Tedd Wilkinson, Mike Koslosky, Bill Pierce, Tom Krughoff and yours truly.



*David Frazier
Outings Chair*

2024 Outings Schedule

OCTOBER

Lake Kokanee

Trout: 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12

NOVEMBER

Beaver Lake — Sammamish

Trout: 10 a.m. Friday, Nov. 15

DECEMBER

Purdy

SRCs: 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13

Membership

Welcome to New Members

Membership Update

We have had twenty-nine new members join our club so far this year.

Welcome to New Members

You will find below a short bio and picture of a recent new member to help you get acquainted with him. Please reach out and welcome Brian at the next meeting or outing he attends.



Brian Halpern

I have lived in the Puget Sound area for 25 years. I grew up overseas as my father was in the Department of Defense and worked in the American Embassies. I am a nurse presently working for one of the two large health care systems in the Tacoma area. I am also on the Federal Disaster Medical Team. (HHS/NDMS/DMAT) and I have served on the team for 20 plus years. I have been fly fishing steadily for about six years now although I was introduced to fly fishing as a child and attempted it on my own when I was in my 20s. That did not go so well. I love fishing small mountain streams for trout. I also attempt to tie flies.

New Section for Membership Update

This month we are debuting a new component to the membership update. It is called “Show Me a Pic.” The intent is to encourage discussion amongst members about locations, techniques, and species. I will post this month and encourage others to submit a picture and short description to me at jjmmkk@comcast.net. We will see how it goes, feedback welcomed.

Show Me a Pic



Joe Harrison submitted this picture. The pike was caught in early September 2024 on the Clark Fork River near Missoula. This is my second time to target pike with a guide from Grizzly Hackle Fly Shop out of Missoula.



*Joe Harrison
Membership Chair*

Anniversaries/Years September and October:

Nick Rajacich	34	Steve Knowles	11	Curt Stoner	7	Mike Saville	11
Catherine Stoner	7	David Frazier	7	Rob Jensen	5	Tess Frazier	7
Kara Jensen	5	Michael Merringer	2	James Maus	31	Jerry Brown	1

Conservation

Theler Wetlands Stewardship Event

Saturday, October 5th
9am-12pm

Join us for a day of environmental stewardship at the Theler Wetlands in Belfair! We will be focusing on trail maintenance and removing invasive plant species. Removing invasives

allows our local ecosystem's native plants to thrive and provide essential habitat for the several species of salmon that call the Theler Wetlands home!

Sign up using this [link](#).



Greg Shimek
Conservation Chair

Education

October 2024



Fly of the month: Sparkle Minnow

This streamer has earned a reputation for its remarkable ability to entice even the most discerning trout, making it a must-have addition to your fly box. Its cone-shaped head provides a streamlined profile and ensures a quick descent to the desired depth and, using a combination of Krystal Flash and Mylar strands, creates an enticing sparkle that draws attention in even the murkiest waters. This versatile pattern can be used in a wide range of fishing techniques. Try it under an indicator, dead drift it with the current, or give it some action with a subtle twitch.

Join us October 12, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at Tower Lanes to tie the Sparkle Minnow.

Fly Casting Session coming in October – A few spots still available

Do you want to work toward your bronze, silver or gold certification in fly casting? Now is your chance.

Our club is hosting a casting certification session on **Saturday, October 19th, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at Titlow Park in Tacoma.**

Club members Steve Saville and Michael Merringer will lead us through the course. There is a limit of ten participants, so if you are interested, let me know and I'll get you on the list.

Just bring your favorite rod (and probably a rain jacket). Lunch will be provided.



Rob Jensen
Education Chair
253-670-5339, gnw987@gmail.com



Image courtesy of Bryan Habeck

December 12, 2024 Mark your calendar for our 2nd PSFF Holiday party.

The same format of fun as last year. No guest speaker or library setup but another evening to close the year in style! Join us for a delightful evening filled with good company, tasty eats, and plenty of surprises. Our main event? Another up graded dinner featuring club favorites pork tenderloin or chicken parmesan. Same price as last year, \$20 per person! We are working hard to collect quality silent auction items even better than last year. Just a few examples are rods, reels, fly tying and fishing tools, fly gear and fly boxes loaded with member-craft ed flies that practically guarantee a great catch! So, bring your card or cash for a chance to snag some amazing

deals. And let's not forget the cherry on top – your favorite holiday desserts! We're calling on you to bring a bit of sugary magic to but that's not all! We've curated a captivating slideshow of member photos from the current year and years gone by, sure to leave you in awe and maybe even bring a smile to your face. So, mark your calendars and come join the fun.

There will be a signup sheet to help Tower Lanes plan enough dinners.

Jim Baker
Party Planner

Visited the Forum Lately?

There's been a lot of great tips from club members posted lately. Where to get good deals on fly-tying material (Jim Baker), tying with EP fiber (Mike Trask), Outing updates (David Frazier) and a treasure found (David Pettit). If you haven't been on the site, or are having troubles getting on, see the last page of the Newsletter for directions or contact me if trouble persists.

Just a reminder that the Forum is in the Members Only section on the website.

Bryan Habeck
Webmaster

Washington State Council – Fly Fishers International (WSCFFI)

Fly Fishers International (FFI) is taking bold steps to protect the environments vital to the sport of fly-fishing. With conservation protections under threat, such as attempts to weaken the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, FFI is using its voice to support efforts to safeguard natural resources. They are partnering with organizations to advocate for legislative protections and to maintain important habitats for fish and wildlife.

One of FFI's significant conservation efforts involves removing obsolete dams along the Klamath, Columbia, and Lower Snake Rivers, which are essential for salmon and steelhead populations. Additionally, they are pushing for better management of species like redfish in Louisiana and menhaden in

Chesapeake Bay, as well as advocating for the protection of old-growth forests.

FFI also invests in future conservationists by offering scholarships and grants. Recently, they awarded scholarships to students dedicated to fisheries research. Grants have funded projects like building a new canoe launch on North Carolina's Uwharrie River, restoring Fish Creek in Colorado, and stabilizing the railroad bank along Michigan's Pere Marquette River.

In addition to conservation, FFI is a leader in fly-fishing education. They've developed resources to teach new fly-fishers essential skills and instill a passion for the sport. Their educational materials, including videos and guides, are accessible

worldwide. FFI is also launching a new Youth Program in partnership with Trout Unlimited, aiming to engage young fly-fishers through a series of videos to be released this fall.

Furthermore, their Fly Casting Education Program, launched in September 2023, is expanding access to high-quality casting education, helping participants develop skills and work toward Fly Casting Certification. FFI's dedication ensures the future of both fly fishing and environmental stewardship.

If you'd like to join or donate to FFI, click [here](#).



*Mike Clancy
Legislation/FFI*

2024 PSFF - Officers and Committee Chairs

Club Officers

President: Tess Frazier
Vice President: Rob Jensen
Past President: Steve Saville
Secretary: Anne Stiffler
Treasurer: Dennis Beardsley
Director, 1st year: David Frazier
Director, 2nd year: Richard Stone
Director, 3rd year: Dennis Ehlers

Committee Chairs

Membership: Joe Harrison
Librarian: Tom Krughoff
Raffles: Rachel Dogovitz
Programs: Mark Paul
Education: Rob Jensen
Outings: David Frazier
Web Site Editor: Bryan Habeck
Newsletter Editor: Bryan Habeck
Legislation/FFI: Mike Clancy
Conservation: Greg Shimek

Having Trouble Joining the Members Only Forum?

1) Launch the PSFF.org webpage as shown in **Figure 1** and click on the Log In link (circled in red). That'll take you to the Sign-up or Log-In form in **Figure 2**.

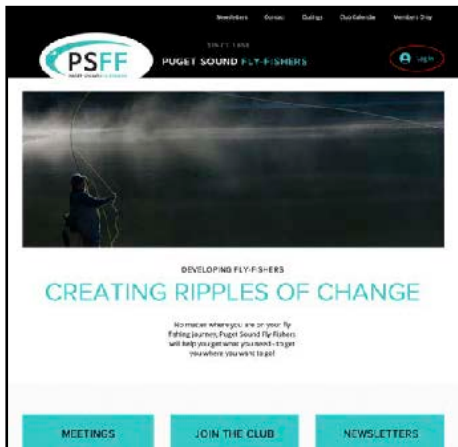


Figure 1

2) Log in or sign up

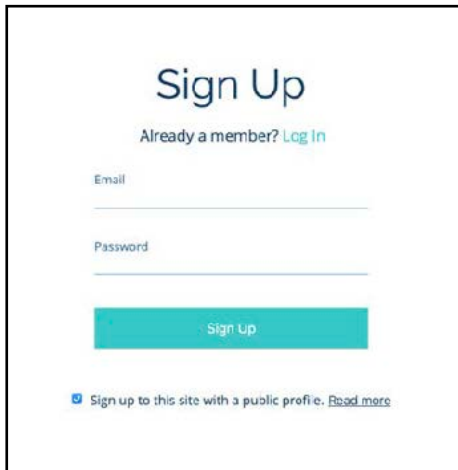


Figure 2

If you are registering as a new FORUM member, Sign Up first as shown in **Figure 2**. Enter your email address and create a password. Once you've done

that and have received confirmation that you've been confirmed as a member and now have access, then log in (clicking the teal type seen in **Figure 2**) and click on the Members Only link as shown in **Figure 3**.

3) Members Only will now be available to you

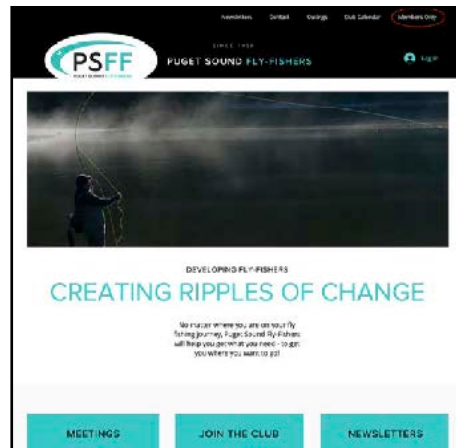


Figure 3

4) The Forum Page

Explore the different categories of discussions and learn about where others are fishing, and what they're tying.



Figure 4