



Note: There is no Leader Line this month

Volunteering Just Say Yes

With only four months to go before I bow out as PSFF Outings Chair, I'd like to say thank you. Thank you to my predecessors in the club who paved the way for all us. Thank you to all of our members who want to belong, to learn and, most importantly, to share. Thank you for encouraging me and guiding me along the way from shore to shore.

We've all seen too many long-time fly-fishing clubs fold their tents due to a lack of committed volunteers. But think about it: Aren't we all volunteers here?

Haven't we all said yes to joining, yes to attending a meeting, yes to taking a class or yes to attending an outing?

When I think back, there must be at least half of you who have already volunteered at least once to fill a committee post or serve in the leadership of this 68-year-old club. It may seem that it's always "the usual suspects" playing musical chairs in the jobs. But every one of them decided to take a first step and say "yes." From personal experience, I guarantee you that this kind of

passion and dedication is the main ingredient for keeping this club, or any club, growing and vibrant.

When I said yes, I decided to give myself up to three years as the Outings Chair. "Three and out." In retrospect, my first year was learning the ropes and talking with some of my predecessors in the job — people like Jim Baker, Mike Koslosky and Dennis Ehlers. My second year was for trying some new things. And this year, I've accepted that some things are out of my control, such as unpredictable

Next Meeting
September 12

Tower Lanes
6323 6th Ave, Tacoma, WA 98406

Dinner: 6:30
Program 7:15

weather, road closures and run-of-mill personal challenges. But it's been a blast. I truly believe it's the best job in the club. There's nothing quite like planning an outing just because you selfishly wanted to fish Lake Kokanee, Lenice Lake or the Snoqualmie and the Cedar rivers. It's also a great way to get to know each of you better. It's essentially a communications job, with fishing.

So I'm tossing down a challenge to any member on the fence about stepping up. In the words of the old Nike ad: "Just do it!" It's not hard ... really. You will not be without support. The room is full of experienced members who will gladly help you along the way.

I'm certainly not going away. I'll be entering my second term on the Board of Directors next year and hope to move into my third year in 2026. And I'll always be around for helping out whenever I can.

To learn more about what our club jobs entail, check out the [Roles and Responsibilities](#) documents listed just under the Members Only section of PSF-F.org. Think about filling one of the several jobs that come open each year.

And ... if you'd like to chew the fat about the Outings position, please contact me. I have a method and templates to share, but you are free to follow your own vision — which will be spectacular!

Eglon Report

On a scale of 1 to 10, fishing conditions at Eglon beach Wednesday morning were about an 8. Points off for a bit of seaweed (not too bad) and the *ode de skunk* when it came to catching sea-runs and coho.



At the start of the morning, the sunlight was bright and in our eyes but soon disappeared in some charitable cloud cover as the outgoing tide sped up. There were a few of our dear friends, the bullheads and flounders, picked up. Otherwise, all systems were go as reports of coho appearing in the North Sound were bandied about. Any day now.

It was a good turnout with the perfect mix of new members and old, first-timers to Eglon and old salts. Ten club members in all. Besides myself, we netted Dennis Ehlers, Mark Paul, Tom Krughoff, Barry Miller, Tom & Nada Healy, Jim Schmidt, Merritt Kline and David Ska

Two Outings in September

For more information, including details about directions, check out the info sheets posted under Outings in the Members Only section of PSFF.org.

Cowlitz River:

Tuesday-Thursday, Sept. 17-19
1086 Evans Road, Toledo WA

Join us for our return to a grand club tradition that has been on hiatus since the Covid years. Long-time club members John and Kathy Clark are hosting this year's Cowlitz outing at their bucolic property about 20 minutes northeast of Toledo. There is a magical place with what I'd call a huge party building with an indoor kitchen, tables and a big outdoor barbecue and more tables. The expansive lawn area has plenty of room for tents and trailers. There are a few places where water and electrical hookups are available. There is no sewage hookup but there will be a porta-potty on-site.



Wednesday evening we'll share the facilities and have a group dinner. You bring a side dish and your club will provide a main course from the grill. You're on your own beverages and for the rest of your meals.

This time in September is prime time on the Cowlitz because the river can have simultaneous runs of chinook, coho, steelhead and cutthroat. So bring a heavy rod with a sinking line for the big boys and a 5- to 6-weight for the incoming cutties. It's the only river in the state stocked with sea-

runs by the DFW. It's also a good place to use a spey. A stripping basket is recommended. Be sure to bring cleats for your boots and a wading staff. The large rocks can get real slick.

Within an hour's drive you can be at Coldwater Lake at Mt. St. Helens. Bring your watercraft and enjoy this beautiful alpine lake. John says you'd be wise to bring hoppers this time of year.

Directions: South on I-5 from Tacoma. Take exit 63 and SR 505 east. Turn left at the stop sign; go through Toledo and cross the Cowlitz River. Stay to the left on SR 505. Mile post 11 will be on your right just before you turn left onto Layton Road.

Note: Your GPS may not tell you to turn onto Layton Road.

Layton becomes Evans Road. After the paved portion gives way to gravel, look for a blue sign on your right that says 1086. Drive in and go around the pole barn. Park anywhere on the grassy area.

If you have additional questions or help with directions, call John Clark at (253) 381-8249.

Lake Kokanee:

9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25

The 103-acre Lake Kokanee sits below its much larger sister, Lake Cushman, fed by the North Fork of the Skokomish River in Mason County. Known for its cold water (even in September), Kokanee has steep drop-offs up to 144 feet, which provide shelter for its namesake landlocked sockeye salmon.

The Tacoma Power lake is stocked throughout the year with rainbow trout, reliably coinciding with Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends. Average size is 11-13 inches. Despite its dark depths, much of the productive trout fishing can be found near the public launch site near the dam at the southern end of the lake where the trout are stocked.

There is an abundance of Kokanee in Kokanee. Best circumstances for catching multiple fish is in the spring, but in general, fish deep, fish slow, fish small colorful patterns, such as pink, silver and chartreuse. Try chironomids in brown, black, orange, green and red. Make sure to bring a fast-sinking line of 6-7 inches per second. For trout on a 4- to 5-weight rod, bring an intermediate or a slow-sinking sink-tip line and a floating line for

hanging nymphs under an indicator.



The lake is open to fishing year-round. The sign at the lake that says "No personal watercraft allowed" refers to jet skis. Internal combustion engines are also on the naughty list.

Directions:

The Lake Kokanee Public Boat Ramp is 1:24 hours from Tower Lanes. From Hoodspoint, turn west onto N Lake Cushman Road (highway 119) for 2.6 miles. Turn left on Cushman-Potlatch Road. A right onto Lower Lake Road takes you down to the public boat launch.



David Frazier
Outings Chair

2024 Outings Schedule

SEPTEMBER

Cowlitz River

Hosted at John & Kathy Clark, near Toledo

Cutthroat, Steelhead, Coho, Kings: Tuesday-Thursday, Sept. 17-19

Lake Kokanee

Trout: 9 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 25

OCTOBER

Pass Lake

Deception Pass State Park

Trout: Tuesday-Thursday, Oct. 15-17

NOVEMBER

Beaver Lake — Sammamish

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

DECEMBER

Purdy

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

Education

September 2024



Fly of the month: Soft Hackle

If you are relatively new to fly tying, this session is for you. Because of their simplicity, soft hackle flies are some of the easiest flies to tie—and often times one of the deadliest. Soft hackle patterns are delicate-looking flies that can elicit incredible strikes from fish. Based on the methods in which they're tied, soft hackles can represent a variety of insects and stages, plus be fished throughout the water column.

Join us **Saturday, Sept. 14th, 9:30-11:30AM** at Tower Lanes to tie the soft hackle.

Fly Casting Session coming in October

Do you want to work toward your Fly Fishing International bronze, silver or gold certification in fly casting? Now is your chance. Our club is hosting a casting certification session on **Saturday, October 19th, 10:00AM -1:00PM** 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 (Rob Jensen, 253-670-5339, gnw987@gmail.com) 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

Washington State Council – Fly Fishers International (WSCFFI) FFI Fly Casting Fair, Saturday, Sept. 21

Tim Rajeff will be the premier instructor and demonstration caster Saturday Sept. 21 at the FFI Fly Casting Fair on the campus of Clark College in downtown Vancouver Wash.

Rajeff will headline a range of expert casters including Mary Ann Dozer of Sisters, Ore. who will lead women's casting, Don Simonson of Camano Island Wash. who will lead the walk-in casting clinic and Dwight Klemin of Salem who will teach single-handed spey techniques. All four,

including Rajeff, are FFI Master Casting Instructors and make up the core of an experienced group of instructors offering classes and demonstrations throughout the day Sept. 21. The Washington State Council of FFI is hosting the event with the volunteer help of Clark-Skamania Flyfishers. For a complete list of classes that will be offered during the day go to WSCFFI.ORG. You can reserve your space in a class beginning Friday, Aug. 2.

In addition to casting instruction,

the event will feature the FFI Casting Skills Development Course where throughout the day participants can work through a range of casting challenges and skills. FFI will award Bronze, Silver and Gold levels to recognize participants achievements. Participants also can step over to the Walk-in Casting Clinic to iron out a wrinkle they discover in their cast. Casting classes are 90 minutes and range in price from \$25 to \$50. There is no charge for the Skills Devel-

opment Course and Walk-In Clinic, donations are welcome.

Casting classes will be held on the expansive lawn at the center of the Clark College campus, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way. Parking is free. Around the edges of the casting areas, rod makers including Sage, Reddington, Echo, Burkheimer, TFO and others will have booths set up offer participants a hands-on experience to try out the latest in rod design. It's a great opportunity to meet the people behind some of the iconic brands in our sport like Erik Johnson of Sage/Redington and Dick Sagara of TFO.

And casting is only the half of what will be happening Sept. 21. Inside the Gaiser Student Union FFI will host a rotating series of the most skilled fly tiers in the Northwest. Aaron Culley, FFI's Hall of Fame tier for 2024 and a member of the Atlantic Salmon

Fly Tying Guild will be demonstrating his tying skill in the afternoon. Gaiser Hall will also have a 30-seat tying theater where participants can watch selected tiers at work on a big screen.

To top it off, a Clark-Skamania tying trio of Forrest Koponen, Dean Potter and Russ Flaskerud will offer a beginning tying class in the afternoon. Invite your friends, wives, neighbors, kids, brothers, grandkids and learn how to tie a fly. All materials and tools are provided and there is a \$25 fee.

The event is open to the public and there is no charge for Tim Rajeff's noon presentation about rod design and how to pick the best rod for your casting ability. There is a \$50 charge for Tim's afternoon Advanced Distance/Performance casting. 90 minute classes for beginning casting, women's casting, intermediate,

single-hand spey and advanced casting cost between \$40 and \$50. Registration for all classes will open Friday Aug. 2 and space is limited.

Lunch will also be available. For a menu and pre-order go to WSCFFI.ORG for details and to purchase in advance.

CSF members need to mark their calendar for Sept. 21 and join Washington FFI at the Fly Casting Fair. We couldn't pull this off without all the volunteers from Clark-Skamania that are helping with set up and take down for the day. Thanks from all of FFI's 700 members in Washington and Alaska.



Mike Clancy
Legislation/FFI

Programs

Sarah Cloud Is September 12 Speaker



liance (DRA) advocates for the protection of the wild and scenic lower Deschutes River. She will be showing the documentary film "The Last 100 Miles" and taking questions afterwards.

The lower Deschutes River is the beating heart of Maupin, OR. and many other rural communities. It sustains economies by providing recreational tourism. Fish, wildlife, aquatic insects, and humans rely on the cold, clean water of the Deschutes. DRA

Sarah Cloud from The Deschutes River Alliance will be our speaker. The Deschutes River Alliance

is committed to preserving the integrity of the lower Deschutes River by enforcing state water quality standards.

DRA is a non-profit (501c3) science-based advocacy seeking collaborative solutions to the threats facing the Wild and Scenic Deschutes River and its tributaries.



Mark Paul
Programs Chair



Hopper / Dropper pre-ties

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**.

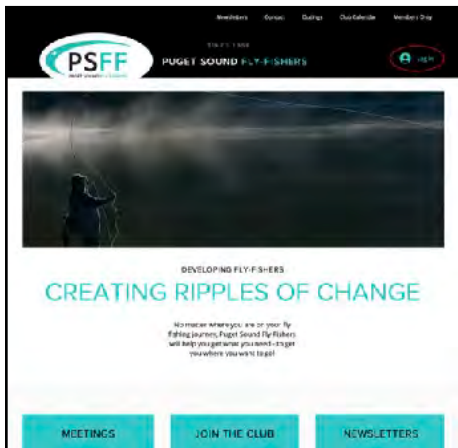


Figure 1

2) Log in or sign up

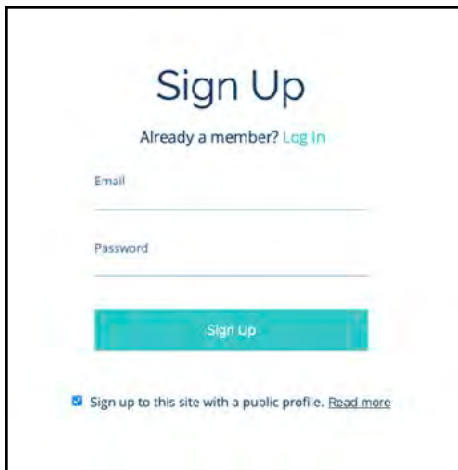


Figure 2

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

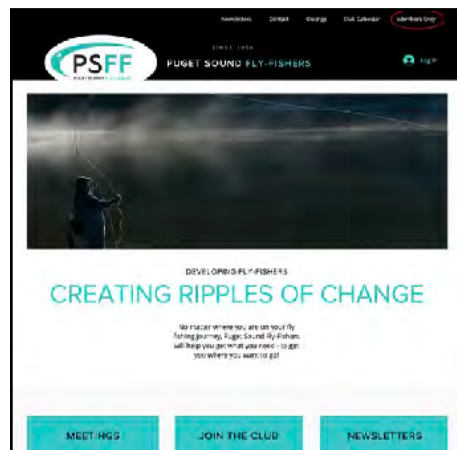


Figure 3

4) The Forum Page

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



Figure 4