



The Barbless Flyer



Spokane Fly Fishers

www.spokaneflyfishers.com

January, 2014

JANUARY 8, 2014 KELLY LAATSCH "WILD RAINBOWS OF THE UPPER COLUMBIA"

Kelly Laatsch has been fly-fishing and tying flies for over forty years and guiding professionally for over twenty years.

He grew up in Alberta, learning the art of fly-fishing on the Bow, Crowsnest, Oldman and Castle rivers. He and his wife Karen own the St. Mary Angler Fly Shop in Cranbrook, British Columbia where they guide the Upper Columbia river out of Rossland and the famous cutthroat waters of the East Kootenays on the Elk, St. Mary, and Bull rivers.

Kelly has fished most of the major trout streams in western Canada and the U.S. including the San Juan River in New Mexico, the Madison, Bitterroot and Gallatin in Montana, the rivers of the Olympic Peninsula and Utah's Green and Provo rivers.

His experience with lake fishing is also extensive with a significant background with the quality fishing lakes of the Kootenays and Kamloops-Kelowna region of B.C, to the high desert lakes of New Mexico, Arizona and Washington State. Every year Kelly hosts groups of anglers to exotic locations in search of bonefish, trevally and permit with destinations in Mexico, Belize, Bahamas and Christmas Island.

Kelly is a seasoned presenter via seminars and speaking engagements throughout Canada and the United States. Please join us for what should be an entertaining and educational experience.



FLY TYING CLASS WITH KELLY LAATSCH FLIES FOR THE UPPER COLUMBIA

JANUARY 8, 2014
NORTHWEST WILDLIFE COUNCIL
6116 N. Market St.

SFF MEMBERS ONLY — COST \$15.00

CALL GALE ALLEN AT 465-3272 TO REGISTER

BRING YOUR VICE AND TYING TOOLS.

MATERIALS (OTHER THAN THREAD) WILL BE PROVIDED

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Kurt Tempel
Vice President	Gale Allen
Treasurer	Nedra Bayne
Secretary	Dan Wells
Board Position 1	Brad Thompson
Board Position 2	Mike Fortney
Board Position 3	Sherie Patano
Past President	Mike Berube
Sgt. At Arms	Larry Ray

Contact us at:

P. O. Box 4141

Spokane, WA 99220

Or

sffishers@comcast.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Programs:	Gale Allen
Barbless Flyer Editor:	Linda Howe
Conservation:	Dan Wells
Outings	Don Tietz
Membership	Sherie Patano
Fly Fishing School:	Mike Berube
Librarian:	Larry Ray
Project Healing Waters:	Norm Scott
FFF Liaison:	Dan Ferguson
Beg. Fly Tying:	Betty Smith-Lambert
Int. Fly Tying:	Dan Ferguson
Casting for Recovery:	Mary Kovatch

AROUND THE BEND

Jan. 2, Int. Fly Tying 7 PM

Jan. 8, SFF Meeting 7 PM

Jan. 11, Beg. Fly Tying begins 9:00 AM

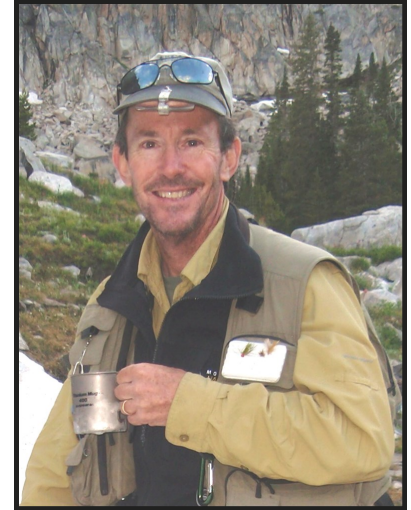
Jan. 15, SFF Board Meeting 6:30 PM

Feb. 12, SFF Meeting 7 PM

Feb. 19, SFF Board Meeting 6:30 PM

PREZ SEZ**By: Kurt Tempel**

Season's Greetings! It was great seeing all of you at our Christmas Party. I believe we had a larger turnout then we've experienced in many years. Word must be out that the annual SFF party rocks! Many thanks to this year's party planners: Mike Fortney led the event and Rick Newman and his staff organized the food and preparations. Barbara Fortney, and Linda and Fred Howe brightened up the room with their Christmas tree in addition to placing all the tables and chairs, along with Dan Wells, for our event. Awesome job by everyone! Thanks also to George Davis and his Rein Dog. Last but not least, I have to say how impressed I was with all the helpers who stayed late and helped "reassemble" the cafeteria. It was a long night for many but you got it done with a smile. Thank you!!!



I'm getting excited that the new fishing season is right around the corner. To start things off we're starting our fly tying classes in January. Then our fishing school starts in February. Better yet, our first club outing of the year looks like it will start the last week of February with an outing to the West side. From this point on it's "fish on"!

You don't want to miss this month's speaker Kelly Laatsch and February's speaker Dave Hughes. We're bringing our club the best of the best trout speakers! Make sure to mark your calendars for these Wednesday events. We're also getting our Education and Conservation training program geared up for Spring. More details to flow on this shortly.

I've got to make a pitch for your help to keep all these programs running at full speed. Likewise it's time to start thinking about club leadership positions. We need your help and promise to find the right fit for you in our club. Really, no experience required—plus it's fun. (Did I mention our small groups of helpers often get together to fish smaller and less known waters...?) Please consider helping.

Wendi and I wish you a happy new year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - FEBRUARY 12, 2014**By: Gale Allen**

Dave Hughes is our February speaker giving us his presentation on "Nymph Fishing".

Dave is the editor of the FLYFISHING AND TYING JOURNAL and author of more than twenty books about fly fishing for trout.

MEMBERSHIP

By: Sherie Patano, Chair

This month we have one new member, Mitch Bowers. Hopefully we will see him at our January meeting to say hello and give him a big welcome to SFF.

CONSERVATION CORNER

By: Dan Wells

2014 CONSERVATION RAFFLE

2014 will be a busy year for the Conservation Committee. First of all is our March Conservation Raffle. This will sneak up on us before we know it! All of the funds for conservation projects come from this event. We'll have a sign-up sheet at the next couple meetings for donations – so check your closets/garage for new or gently used items. As we've done in the past, we'll have a drawing for those who get items to us before the organizational meeting.

You'll be able to drop off items at the next two meetings or at Kurt Temple's in the Valley, Fred Howe's on the South Hill, Mike Berube's on the North side or my place in Medical Lake.

We want to limit the total number of items to 60 or 70 this year. Call or email 509-731-0116 or dan.wells92@yahoo.com with questions.

UPCOMING PROJECTS:

- We have a request to help fund Trout in the Classroom again this year. This is a project the club has been involved with for the last couple years. We help set up the tanks, educate the kids, help with the release of the fry and provide some fly casting instruction at both Liberty and Bear Lakes.
- The North Idaho Fly Fishers requested our help in upgrading the Graham and Shoshone creek boat launches along the North Fork of the Coeur D'Alene. The SFF Board supports making a monetary donation after additional information about the project is presented at the next Board meeting. When the weather improves, we'll be looking for volunteers to help with some of the rock/gravel work.
- We are also looking to help the Spokane River Forum water all their new trees/shrubs along the Spokane River Water Trail over the hot summer months.

I'd like to get a good list of potential volunteers for these and other projects throughout the year. I'll have another sign-up sheet at our regular meetings...Please consider adding your (or your friend's) name to the list.

2013 CHRISTMAS PARTY REPORT

This years Christmas party was the best attended with over one hundred people served. Mike Fortney did an incredible job organizing this event and with his supervision everything ran smoothly.

FROM MIKE FORTNEY

I want to first thank my kitchen crew, led by Rick Newman, for preparing an AWESOME MEAL ! His crew of: potato peelers, Harold Waters and Dan Wells; the dishwasher, Brad Thompson; and the hot-dish runner, Harold Waters ,performed wonderfully. Thanks to club members too for the side dishes and desserts.



Thank you Fred and Linda Howe and my wife Barbara Fortney for setting up the hall for our party. I want to thank Norm and Cheryl Scott and Kurt and Wendi Tempel for the wine and beer table. Also, a special thank you to George Davis (Santa).

I would also like to thank everyone who participated in Toys for Tot's--it was a big hit. Thank you Dan Ferguson for the great idea of doing this at this year's party.

Thanks also to Betty Smith-Lambert for tying the colorful flies and thanks to Courtney and Donnie Sohler for putting the flies in the Christmas balls for the table ornaments.

I also want to thank Hilary for being the MC this year. Likewise, I want to thank Gale Allen and his crew along with the general membership for helping clean up after the party. I apologize if I missed anyone.....thanks to all.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you all in 2014, Mike Fortney



TOYS FOR TOTS

By: Dan Ferguson

I want to extend a heart felt thank-you to all who helped make out first Toys for Tots drive a success. I'll be honest and tell you I was concerned with getting many toys. I know I shouldn't have been as our folks always come through.



Having the Marines present was a real plus. Given the number of military retirees in the club, they were very well received.

My plan is to continue doing the T4T event every year and know I can count on your future support.

Thank you again, Dan Ferguson



Spokane Fly Fishers /Northwest Fly Anglers Joint Outing***By: Don Tietz***

The Northwest Fly Anglers has invited the Spokane Fly Fishers to join them on a joint outing on the Olympic Peninsula February 28th through March 2nd.

This will be a Steelhead Outing at Olympic Natural Resource Center near Forks. The Bogachiel, Queets, Sol Duc, Hoh, Calawah are all names of legendary rivers that bring visions of large winter run steelhead to the minds of steelheaders throughout the Northwest.. The size of these fish demand respect, so bring an 8 weight rod if possible though I'm told many use 6 weight. For Steelhead fishing both swing & nymphing with streamers work well. For flies Streamers, also weighted egg sucking leaches and egg sucking stone flies. For access pontoon boats or rafts work best and wade fishing is readily available. Also coastal trout fishing will be available.

The Olympic Natural Resources Center (ONRC), will be the NFA/ SFF's refuge during the Olympic Peninsula Outing February 28 - March 1... FEBRUARY 28 - March 1: \$40 FEE Includes club rental of the common facilities. The fee also covers meals. Meals included in the registration fee are Sat. & Sun. breakfast, Sat. Sun. packed lunch, and Sat. dinner. Register for the outing at: <http://www.northwestflyanglers.org/outings.htm> I did and it's an easy credit card or PayPal transaction. You will also need to fill out their liability release for and mail it to NWFA or bring it with you to the outing. Please notify me at don@troutfisher.org after you sign up.

You can lodge at the ONRC. They have many options from dormitory rooms to apartments go to this web address for more information: <http://www.onrc.washington.edu/ConferenceCenter/Rates.html> Arrange for your lodging through Theresa Santman at the ONRC who can be contacted at 360.374.4550 or 206.685.9477 x223. There is no camping on the ONRC however there are several places to camp or park your RV if you choose in the Forks area. If you choose to camp offsite you can still participate in the onsite meals and activities.

Travel info: 420 miles, approximately 9 hours.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at don@troutfisher.org.



PHWFF SPOKANE UPDATE

By: Norm Scott

Happy New Year from Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Program. 2014 looks to be a promising year for our local Program. We will be starting the year with our rod building program in early January for 10-11 Vets. Because we have had a significant interest in this program, we will most likely offer a second rod building program for additional veterans later this Spring. And, there will be lots of additional activities through out the year for the Veterans involved in this program.

Now I would like to take a quick review of our past year, 2013. Our local Program became quite active and started the year with lots of activities. We held rod building classes for 9 Veterans, followed by Fly Fishing 101 for 11 Veterans. We also held 8 or 9 outings with a total of 23 Veterans fishing which included 3 outings for TV shows, including Trout TV. (This program should air on our local channel sometime in early 2014.) And our fly tying program has flourished. We have also contributed over 1000 hours of volunteer services to 51 veterans during 2013. Considering that we ended 2012 with 4 veterans on our roster, 2013 was a good year.

That said, I want to thank the supporting cast from the Spokane Fly Fishers for all of the support and volunteer hours they have contributed to PHWFF Spokane. Thank You

IT'S NOT TOO LATE



To join the Beginning Fly Tying.

Contact Betty Smith-Lambert at 838-5914.

To join the SFF Fly Fishing School.

Contact Mike Berube at 999-8235.

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BOOK OF THE MONTH

By: Larry Ray

A River for Christmas. With such a title, this book was just begging to be reviewed during the holiday season. It is, however, so wonderful that it should be read at any time of year. I, myself, have read it twice and will probably do so again. The author, Ernest Schweibert, is one of the great traveling fishing writers of our father's generation and, in my view, *A RIVER FOR CHRISTMAS* is his best work.

This book's chapters are fascinating accounts of Schweibert's fishing travels. Masculine, much like Hemingway, but with greater attention to detail, Schweibert's style is fascinating both in his wonderful descriptions of the fishing itself, as well as in the various historical and political backdrops against which he sets his stories. *The Night of the Geytfisk* describes fearsome battles in which Lapp boatmen and ghillies maneuver to survive while following their clients' monster salmon through boulder-studded rapids in a fishing setting once reserved for British upper class and royalty, Norway's Alta River. Schweibert's quest for trout in the south of Chile, in river locations as pristine and remote as one can find anywhere, seems almost an afterthought during the political torment of the Allende regime's overthrow and its aftermath. Political discourse and reminiscence, in hushed tones over small bars and in quaint cafes in Santiago and in coastal villas, add an air of tension and intrigue not usually found in fishing journals.

But this is a fishing book and its best writing, for those of us in the Northwest, is found in two chapters. One, *The Song of the Stillaguamish*, is the best historical recitation I've read of that fabled river's steelhead and the northwest angling pioneers who kept cabins along its shores and originated flies to fish it. Anglers such as Enos Bradner, Wes Drain, Al Knudson, Letcher Lambuth, and Ken McLeod kept cabins at Oso, near the mouth of Dear Creek to fish the famous summer run, and are recognized and described accordingly. Schweibert goes back even further, to the early 1900's, when the river was explored and fished by Zane Grey and an English immigrant studying logging practices in the area, named Roderick Haig-Brown. And, in the second of the chapters most meaningful to those of us in the Northwest, *The Orchard and the River*, he makes a pilgrimage to Haig-Brown's home on Vancouver Island's Campbell River to extensively interview the icon. The historical insights into his fishing life, as well as his intimate descriptions of Haig-Brown's home and its grounds, his writing nook, and his family, are the best I've ever found.

For all this, and much more, you simply have to read *A RIVER FOR CHRISTMAS*, which can be checked out of your SFFC Library.

Housekeeping: First, I have been directed by the SFF Board to post the names of those with overdue books in the *Barbless Flyer*, and to be judicious in the collection of late return fines. Sadly, non-return has become a growing problem. Accordingly, next month, the names of those failing to return books timely shall be published. So, if you don't wish to see your name bandied about the newsletter in an unflattering manner, get those books back to the library at the January meeting!

Now, the good news. The library has a fair number of books and videos that are going to be removed from its collection and offered to club members, for free, on a first come-first served basis. These books and videos will be placed on a table, near the library, at the January club meeting. While this will be a little late for Christmas, come see if there are any books or videos of interest to you that you can pick up for free!



THE BARBLESS FLYER

Spokane Fly Fishers
P. O. Box 4141
Spokane, WA 99220

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR NAME TAGS TO THE MEETING

NEXT MEETING

JANUARY 8, 2014

KELLY LAATSCH

7 PM

ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL

1104 W. HEROY

**“THE MISSION OF THE SPOKANE FLY FISHERS IS TO PROVIDE A FAMILY FRIENDLY
ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTING THE SPORT OF FLY FISHING THROUGH
EDUCATION, APPLICATION, AND CONSERVATION.”**