



The Barbless Flyer

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.



The 2024 SFFC Annual Awards Picnic

May 18th - 11:00 AM



Host: Craig Adams

Come out to the Fairchild AFB Recreation Area at Clear Lake for our year-end potluck picnic and annual awards presentation. Food, friends, and fun promise to be the theme for this year's event. We have reserved a covered pavilion next to the water's edge just in case it rains. There will be games for all, even a long-distance casting competition for those who are up to the challenge.

SFFC is providing burgers, brats, hot dogs and soft drinks. Feel free to bring other beverages of your choice. Please bring a potluck side dish, salad or dessert according to the following plan:



Last Name begins with: A – G: bring Salads | H – O: bring Desserts | P – Z: bring a Side Dish

This is a family friendly event so bring your spouse and the kids and enjoy!

Sign up on the website at <http://spokaneflyfishers.com> in the Events section. RSVP at craigflyfisher@gmail.com by May 11th.

Directions: East or West bound on I-90, take Exit 264 (Cheney/ Medical Lakes Exit) and go north. Turn Right (100 ft) onto Clear Lake Road on the North side of I-90. The US Air Force Clear Lake Recreation Area is clearly marked at the corner of Clear Lake and Salnave Rd. The Recreation Area is then just a short distance down Clear Lake Road on the left. Drive past the open sliding access gate down to the parking lot.

All Members Encouraged to Attend 

If you have any questions, contact Craig Adams at (509) 999-5660



The Prez Says

May 2024

By Craig Adams

Well, our meeting year is almost over and it has been very interesting. Finding someone to take over the Barbless was probably the most daunting task that our board faced. Surprise rent increases made it difficult to balance the budget but everything worked out. My term as President is ending and I want to thank everyone who helped me this year.

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May 2024

NOTES:

- May 4** Amber Lake Outing. 8:00 – 12:00pm @ Amber Lake nr Cheney. For more info and registration see Outings on Page 5. Discover Pass required.
- May 16** Thirsty Third Thursday Fly Tying at Lumber Beard Brewing Co., 25 E. 3rd Ave., Spokane. BYO tools and materials to tie the flies you need!
- May 18** Clear Lake Outing 8:00am – 12:00pm, followed by Annual Picnic and Awards Presentation at Fairchild AFB Recreation Area, 14824 Clear Lake Rd, Cheney, WA. For more info and registration see Outings on Page 5.
- May 25** Washington General Trout Opener- Many rivers will be running high, stay safe!
- May 31 – Jun 2** Long Lake Outing @ Long Lake, Ferry County WA, nr Republic. For more info and registration see Outings on Page 5.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Amber Lake Outing 8:00am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Thirsty Third Thursday Fly Tying 6:00pm	17	18 Clear Lake Outing 8:00 – 12:00am Annual Picnic and Awards Presentation
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Washington General Trout Season Opener
26	27	28	29	30	31 Long Lake Outing Day 1 (of 3) 9:00am	June 1 Long Lake Outing, Day 2 (of 3)





KIDS' FISHING Day! May 11, 2024



Kid's Fishing Day is one of the most enjoyable days of the year! Come out and help them catch fish, some for the first time in their lives. Over 1,000 kids trying their best to catch fish from net pens. Starting at 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM, The kids fish in shifts.

Volunteers are needed to bait hooks and help land the fish. If you haven't been to one of these, please come out and experience the moment.

Spokane Kid's Fishing Event

Canned Food Drive

Donate at least 2 cans of food at the Event, and your name will be entered into a drawing for a prize from one of these fine supporters!!



April Meeting Re-Cap

April Program Highlighted Members Helping Members Navigate Our Local Rivers

At the April membership meeting, we tried out an experimental new program format. The brainchild of club director Brian Desautels, the idea was get some of the Club's longer-tenured members and most experienced anglers to share a few tips and tricks about fishing some of the streams closest to Spokane with those newer to the area or without as much fishing experience.

By all reports, it was a solid success. At least 50 Club members attended, including a large contingent from this year's fly-fishing school class. One of this year's students brought along a guest, who then joined the club right afterward. Special thanks are owed to presenters Brad Collins (NF CDA River), Chip O'Brien (Spokane River) and Ken Moore (the upper St. Joe River). Ken performed above and beyond when he stepped up as last-minute substitute in the wake of a health emergency – he even came up with maps to hand out somehow. Kudos are also due to Brian Desautels both for coming up with the idea and shepherding us all to the right places on schedule. This event came as close to demonstrating this club's guiding purpose as we are likely to get.

Club Chose Next Year's Leadership in April Elections

Also at the April meeting, Club membership heard the report of the Nominations Committee, led by Past President Mike Berube, and voted unanimously to approve its recommended slate of officers and directors to serve on the Board of Directors for fiscal year 2024-25, which begins on June 1st. Membership also confirmed the nomination of the new Sergeant at Arms made by president Craig Adams.

Those elected were:

President:	Kevin Brannon
Vice President:	Dan Ferguson
Secretary:	Linda Howe
At Large Director, Position #2:	Bill White
Sgt. At Arms:	Brad Collins

In addition, current Treasurer, Brian Soth, At Large Director (Position #3), Brian Desautels and At Large Director (Position #1), Chris Bryant remain in their current positions. Craig Adams will remain on the Board in his new role as Past President.





SFFC Fly-Fishing School 2024

By Paul Olsen and Claude Kistler

The fly-fishing school wrapped up on Saturday, April 13th with 20 students receiving their final casting on the water and field instruction. After enduring rain during our casting instruction the previous week, the sun, light clouds, and temps in the 60's was a welcome change. The heart and soul of so many of our classes and outings with the Spokane Fly Fishers depends on the great core of volunteers and this school was no different. From our outstanding in-class instructors to our knot tying and casting volunteers, this class was simply outstanding in every way. It was a pleasure for Paul and me to see this class through in our final year as co-chairs. Again, we thank our students, instructors and volunteers for making it an enjoyable 8 weeks!



Outings 2024

By Robin Gavelin

The May-July portion of our Outing Schedule is in the can and you can see it below.

We will be heading to the Lower Selway River on June 11-16, rather than to Kelly Creek and the North Fork Clearwater (article on page 10) Let me say that Lower Selway is hands down my favorite outing. Closer than Kelly, better driving, better fishing access from the 12 miles of riverside road and a horse trail to access the river from roads end. O'Hara campground is great and the only one in the area where you can reserve a site. Use www.recreation.gov. Hosts will be based out of O'Hara. Additional first-come, first-serve campgrounds are along the river. Popular and no reservations. I suggest you book a spot at O'Hara. There is a modest cancellation fee.

We need Two Hosts for Local Day Outings: Please help! Check the list below and, if you are available then please get hold of me.

Please note these features of the outings registration process: First, all outings require online pre-registration at <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/events>. A link to the description and registration portal for each outing is provided in the following schedule. For overnight outings, you must register at least 7 days in advance to allow the hosts adequate notice for purchasing food, choosing a right sized campground, planning activities, etc. If you miss the deadline, you may contact the host to inquire about attending.

Second, we have added a guest sign-up portal that allows non-members to register for outings without logging onto the website as a member. All guests will be required to identify the member they are accompanying and click "agree" to the waiver and release of claims required of all attendees. If you are inviting a guest, you will be asked to identify your guest(s).

We are looking forward to the Fall season (August- September): I have confirmed Kootenai river and Georgetown trips. I also want to organize an outing centered on a Missouri River tailwater float below Holter Dam near Craig, MT, but need some expert advice and assistance that I know is in our club. Many members have done this trip. The last time we hosted an outing there was 2019.

May - July 2024 Outings Schedule

May 4 – Amber Lake Saturday float (Hosted by Robin Gavelin) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/amber-lake-afternoon-float/#!event-register/2024/5/4/2024-amber-lake-saturday-float>

May 18 – Clear Lake float and SFFC Awards Picnic at Clear Lake (Hosted by Craig Adams) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/clear-lake-outing/#!event-register/2024/5/18/2024-clear-lake-float-and-club-picnic-awards-day>

May 31-June 2 – Long Lake in Ferry County , WA (Hosted by David Marshall) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/long-lake-ferry-county-outing/#!event-register/2024/5/31/2024-long-lake-ferry-county>

June 5 – Silver Lake weekday float (Hosted by Robin Gavelin) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/clear-lake-float/#!event-register/2024/6/5/outing-event-master-form>

June 8 – Badger Lake Saturday float (Need volunteer Host, please contact Robin Gavelin) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/badger-lake-1-fly-contest-2023/#!event-register/2024/4/30/2024-badger-lake-weekday-float>

June 11-16 – Lower Selway River, O'Hara Campground (Hosted by John Hudson) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/lower-selway-river-outing/#!event-register/2024/6/11/lower-selway-outing>

June 21-23 – North Fork of Coeur d'Alene River (Hosted by Chris Bryant) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/nf-coeur-dalene-river-outing/#!event-register/2024/6/21/nf-coeur-d-apos-alene-riiver-outing-2023>

July 13 – Spokane River (Need volunteer Host, please contact Robin Gavelin) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/spokane-river-outing/#!event-register/2024/7/13/spokane-river-outing>

July 26-28 – St. Joe River, Fly Flats Campground (Hosted by Ken and Alicia Moore) – *Click here for info and registration:* <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/event/st-joe-river-outing/#!event-register/2024/7/26/st-joe-river-outing-2023>

August 15 – Kootenai River (Hosted by Dan Wight) - Info and registration info coming soon at: <https://spokaneflyfishers.com/events/>



Twin Lakes Outing Report

By Robin Gavelin



Good turnout but windy conditions deterred most anglers from stepping off the dock. Eric Hensley bravely dared to head out. The stiff wind confined him to the south end. He just couldn't stay anchored and made zero headway with flippers or oars. No luck with his Olive Wooley and Christmas tree streamers. Bill Millsbaugh and I put my Klamath Jon boat in. We had a 55 Minnkota and needed it to get up the lake. Best fishing was along the westside cliffs. We caught some nice fish with balanced leech under indicator or trolling in rougher water. I finally got to use the stomach aspirator and tried out my competition drogue. It did seem to safely slow our drift The wind died in the early afternoon. That gave us perfect conditions EXCEPT we could now see the lake was turning. All in all a good day, 7 beautiful bows for Bill, and 3 for me.



Lee's Ferry, AZ – Colorado River

Membership News

By Brad Collins



Let the Numbers do the Talking!

New Members Since Last Barbless	New Members Since July '23	Total Members
3	63	252

Please welcome these new members to the group!

Terry Coplin

Doug Zikan

Chip O'Brien (honorary)

Chip O'Brien was given honorary membership because of his outstanding contributions to the club and never-ending willingness to help out. Thanks, Chip!

Thirsty Third Thursday

This idea was born from some attendees of the *Intermediate Fly Tying Workshop* who were mourning the end of the class and wishing there was somewhere to go to tie flies informally and just to hang out with friends during the rest of the year. We made it happen!

Introducing, **Thirsty Third Thursday**, an informal fly tying event for everyone, from beginners to experts!

We will be meeting at 6:00 pm on the Third Thursday of each month at Lumberbeard Brewing Company (25 E 3rd Ave in Spokane). Lumberbeard has pub food, good beverages, and lots of space.

There is no cost, no registration, and no structure to this event – just bring materials, tie the flies of your choice, and have fun. If you are an absolute beginner, you are welcome to come learn a few tips and practice. If you don't tie flies and just want to hang out, that's OK too. If you need some materials, the club has some in storage – just let us know.

Watch for emails about May's date if you are interested, I will need to get a head count for reservations...

Brad Collins
 Membership Committee Chairman
Membership@spokaneflyfishers.com

Mending Your Fly Line Part 2

Level 1 & 2

By Ken Moore



Publisher's Note: This month, Ken's instructional column is the second of a three-part series on why, when and how to mend your line to maximize the time your fly spends in front of the fish you are targeting. Ken considers this series as both Level 1 and Level 2 material – of use to both novice and intermediate fly anglers. The first installment, published in our April, 2024 issue, covered the basic theory of mending. This installment describes effective ways to mend a line and extend the drift of your fly after it hits the water surface. Future installments will provide instructions on how to mend while your line is still in the air and minimize on-water mending.

On water-mending

Since I am not in your living room and we are not on the water, let us look at this mending technique by observations you will observe when you cast and when you need to mend:

Assume that you are casting across or quartering your cast upstream. Once your fly and line contact the water, the river will impart energy onto your fly line and your fly. The sides of the river generally move slower than the middle of a river because the bank imparts friction on the water, thus slowing the water down. Initially, everything is perfect; your fly is on the water, and your fly line is often upstream or parallel with your fly/indicator. Then, the River Gods play a cruel joke on you. Your fly line will begin to move downstream of your fly/indicator. You will see a belly form in your fly line downstream of your fly/indicator. If you are an astute fisherman, and you are, the belly gets bigger and bigger as the faster portion of the river takes your fly line for a trip. Your fly is at the terminus of your fly line, and it has no choice but to pick up speed. What once was the perfect cast to a feeding lane now blows up because the faster-moving line moves your fly to the middle of the river and the speed of the water. Your goal is to keep your fly/indicator moving at the speed of the bubbles, leaves, and debris you see floating downstream. There is only one way to slow down your fly line: to move the slack in your fly line, aka the belly above your fly/indicator.

First: Let's define the term "move your fly line." You aim to move your fly line off the water, that is, imparting drag onto your fly above the fly/indicator. That's it. Simply move your fly line, which you see as a U-shaped belly, upstream of the fly/indicator.

Second: Let's recognize what you have to complete your perfect water mend. You have the length of your outstretched casting arm and hand. If you are 6 feet tall, this means, on average, your arm length is about 3 feet long. You have, on average, a 9-foot fly rod in your hand. Three feet + 9 feet = 12 feet of reach. You have an indicator if you are nymphing or a dry fly somewhere on your leader or tippet in front of you. The indicator or dry-fly is your visual target of how far you want to pick your fly line up and off the water. That is step 1. Pick your fly line up and off the water. If you are nymphing, mend it to your indicator. If you are dry-fly fishing, mend near your fly. Again, your first goal is to move your fly line off the water, which imparts drag onto your fly. Simply raise your extended arm and fly rod to move the fly line off the water. Step 2 is to move your fly line upstream of your fly/indicator and set the line back down on the water. Some of my clients need a visual graphic, so here it is. After you get your fly line off the water, draw the letter "n" with your rod tip and gently set the fly line upstream of your indicator/fly on the water. Suppose you want to make 3/4 of a box that is

ok. Draw with your fly rod tip-lift (the fly line up off the water) and over (upstream) and down (set the fly line on the water).

The more seams of water your fly line crosses, the more mending you will probably have to conduct to minimize all the drag the water imparts on your fly line. The fly line laying on the water imparts your drag onto your fly, whether above or below the water.

Intermediate anglers will want me to point out that you will move your fly line in the opposite direction in an eddy. They are correct; the water flows "upstream" or in the opposite direction in eddies. Technically, you are still moving your fly line upstream of your indicator/fly since the water is reversed compared to the rest of the river.

If you're going to mend your fly line, make sure you are first pointing your rod tip in line with the fly line you want to mend (sometimes this means moving your rod tip away from your fly), and then make sure you follow that up with raising your rod tip high enough in the air when you make your "n" shape (or backward "n" shape mend in an eddy). It is essential to understand that the more you mend your fly line during your drift, the higher the chances you will be imparting drag on your flies or moving them out of the strike zone. And that can rob anglers of many bites throughout the day. A good mending exercise is to practice picking out a drift you want to make and experiment with mending the fly line at different times. Pay attention to how it affects your drift and how many mends it takes to complete it. Usually, the drift that requires the least mending is the one you want to use for that specific spot, but by all means, mend if it is called for during the drift.

Next month, we will discuss the aerial mend and why it is so effective at minimizing the on-the-water mend. Until then, Fish It!



How close is too close?

Beginner Fly Pattern

Mickey Finn by Tim Flagler

www.youtube.com/user/tightlinevideo



Hook: Mustad 79840 or 9672 Sizes 4 – 14
Thread: Black, 8/0 or 70-denier.
Rib: Silver oval tinsel, medium.
Body: Gold/Silver Mylar tinsel, medium.
Adhesive #1: Superglue or Z-Ment.
Lower wing: Yellow bucktail cleaned and stacked.
Mid wing: Red bucktail cleaned and stacked.
Upper wing: Yellow bucktail cleaned and stacked.
Head: Tying thread.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzS4LjZ5Zj8&feature=emb_logo

1. Pinch the barb down, tie in thread about an eye's length back from the eye.
2. Tie in a length of oval silver tinsel ribbing on top of hook shank, wrapping back to the bend to secure tinsel in place. Wind thread forward again to the tie-in point behind hook eye. As you wrap back allow the tinsel to roll to the underside. Spin your thread counter clock wise to let it flatten so you can make a smooth thread base. Roll the tinsel to the underside of the hook using your hands. Now wrap your thread forward in smooth touching wraps.
3. Tie in the flat tinsel at the thread tie in point. Wrap the tinsel to the back stopping over the barb in touching wraps but not over lapping. Wrap the tinsel forward making touching but not over lapping wraps. The body should be smooth, tie off. You can put a little glue on this tie off point.
4. Counter wrap the oval tinsel forward in a nicely spaced apart spiral wrap, tie off at the tie in point. A little glue now will be good, also. Wrap the thread back to about 2 eye lengths from the eye.
5. Cut a small bundle of yellow Bucktail. Measure bundle to approximately length of hook shank.
6. Comb out under fur and pull out any long hair fibers, now use the hair stacker to get them even. Tie the hair on top of the shank making secure wraps. Snip off the butt ends over the eye.
7. Do the same thing with a small bunch of red bucktail. Place it on top of the yellow and tie it in securely. The red should be even in length to the first yellow bunch.
8. Take the smaller yellow bunch and do as you did with the other bunches. Keep all 3 bunches as even as possible. Make a nice head and whip finish and apply head cement. Use the photo to help guide you and watch the video that is provided. If any of the bucktail bunches get too big they will roll on you, so keep them on the small side.

Intermediate Fly Pattern

Red Fox Squirrel Nymph



Hook: Mustad 9671 or 9672, size 2-18

Thread: Suitable color 6/0

Weight: Lead Wire, small or medium depending on hook size

Tail: Red Fox Squirrel back hair or tail fibers

Rib: Copper Wire or Oval Gold Tinsel

Abdomen: Red Fox Squirrel belly hair or dubbing

Wing Stub: Pearl Flashabou (optional)

Thorax: Red Fox Squirrel back hair or dubbing

Hackle: Dark mottled partridge feather

Head: Thread

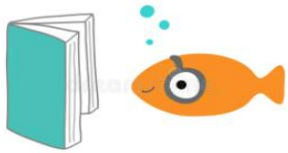
1. Place the hook in the vise and wrap lead wire in tight touching turns from slightly behind the hook eye back to cover the front 2/3^{ds} of the hook shank. Break off any excess wire. Tie-in the thread behind the hook eye and cover the wire wraps with thread then continue wrapping back to the hook bend. Let the thread hang.
2. Cut and clean a small bunch of back hair or squirrel tail and tie it in at the hook bend as a tail. The tail should be the length of the hook gap. Keeping the hair butts on top of hook shank, cover the hair butts with thread wraps back to the end of the lead wraps. Wrap the thread back to the tail tie-in point. Remove any excess hair butts. (At this point, you should have a fairly even underbody.)
3. Cut a 2-3" length of wire or tinsel and tie it in by one end at same point where the tail was tied in. The length of the wire/tinsel should extend back over the hook bend.
4. Form a dubbing loop at the tail tie-in point, then wrap the thread forward to a point 1/3rd of the hook shank behind the hook eye. Let the thread hang. Fill the dubbing loop with fur or dubbing for the abdomen and twist it into a spiky rope. Wrap this dubbing rope forward to where the thread is hanging and tie it off. The abdomen should be slightly tapered toward the rear of the abdomen. Remove any excess dubbing loop.
5. Now take the ribbing wire or tinsel and wrap it forward in 5-6 concentric (evenly spaced) turns to the front of the abdomen and tie it off. Trim excess rib.
6. If including the option to add a wing stub, take a strand of Flashabou, fold it in half, and tie it in by the folded end at the front edge of the abdomen on top of the hook shank. Trim the loose ends of the Flashabou so that they stretch back over no more than the front half of the abdomen.
7. Take the thread and pinch dub on the thorax hair/dubbing, then wrap the dubbed thread forward to slightly behind the hook eye forming the thorax. Tie it off and remove any excess dubbing. The thorax should be twice as thick as the abdomen.
8. Select a partridge feather and strip the fluff off its base, then stroke all the fibers, except for the very tip, back toward the feather base. The feather fibers length should be long enough to stretch from the hook eye back to

slightly past the front edge of the abdomen. Tie the feather in by its tip (at the point where the fibers begin to be stroked back) in front of the thorax and make 3-4 wraps to behind the hook eye and tie it off. Be sure to stroke the fibers back with each wrap to avoid binding them down. Trim off excess feather.

9. Wrap the thread back slightly over the front edge of the feather wraps so that the fibers lean back over the thorax.

Form a small thread head, whip finish, cut the thread and apply head cement to the head wraps. Avoid getting head cement of the feather fibers.






Larry's Book of the Month

By Larry Ray

Some Interesting Local History and Summer Wishes. While going through library material recently, I discovered a fascinating little piece of our Club's history. Hidden among some recently donated books was a copy of what appears to be the first monthly newsletter issued by The Spokane Fly Fishers. It was not yet called the *Barbless Flyer* but was instead simply entitled "TIPPET." This copy is of Volume I, Number 1, issued in March 1977! This little volume is packed with items of historical interest. For example, did you know that the Spokane Fly Fishers once held exclusive fishing rights on the Little Spokane River? It's true, and it is documented in a column announcing the granting of those rights ("Exclusive Rights on Little Spokane Granted SFF"). On April 28th of that year (1977) what appears to be the first actual board election was scheduled. The late Gary LaFontaine, renowned caddis expert and author (*Caddisflies, Challenge of Trout, The Dry Fly-New Angles*, among his works) was the scheduled speaker for the April 1977 meeting. Meetings were held on the fourth Thursday of the month. A committee, tasked with drafting the Club's Bylaws, was set to present a finished draft to the membership at the March meeting, with ratification of the Bylaws and election of the first board (which would replace the interim Board) scheduled for the April 1977 meeting. An article was devoted to Ann Faast, who had recently been named by the Inland Empire Big Game Council as it's newest Conservation Award winner (the first woman to be so named) and who was serving on the SFF's interim board as Secretary.

The simple masthead, meanwhile, showed an interim Board of sixteen (that's right, 16) members, including a President, two Vice Presidents, as well as a Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, Federation of Fly Fishermen Rep, and nine (Yep – 9) DIRECTORS! Oh! For the days when members clambered to serve...

Perhaps most noteworthy of all, two names grabbed my attention. At the top of the list of Directors was none other than CHET ALLISON! There is even a grainy black and white photo of Chet at his vice during an outdoor show (but I wouldn't have recognized it without the caption). Note that Chet still serves the Club at the vice, having taught the most recent Beginning Fly Tying Class. Meanwhile his wife, JOANN ALLISON, served as interim Treasurer! Chet Allison is CURRENTLY SERVING AS OUR PAST PRESIDENT! By my math (frequently faulty), this is a span of forty-seven years between when Chet first served and his current term! Forgive the surplus of capital letters and exclamation points, but in an era in which we struggle to find those willing to serve as officers and committee members, such a record of ongoing dedication is beyond exemplary! Whenever the opportunity is present, please recognize Chet's devotion with a compliment and a nod – it is so well deserved.

Encased in its soft paper cover, in the old manual type of the day, and with its hand-drawn logo and illustrations, this little gem is of wonderful historical importance. If you would like to review it, I will let you do so, at the library desk, but it will not be loaned. It is simply too valuable a Club artifact. 

Moving back into our library collection, I have lately been reading angling short stories again, both for a break from more serious stuff and for sheer relaxation and enjoyment. There is ample fly-fishing literature to read for relaxation – it is not all technical tying, reading the water, casting technique, where to go, and so forth. I think the best way to truly appreciate the body of literature surrounding fly-fishing is to read a good anthology. Doing so enables one to sample many varied authors in a brief reading window. We have some of those anthologies in our library collection. ***The Armchair Angler*** is a collection of classic fishing authors, from ancient (Isaak Walton) to contemporary (Roy Blount, Jr.), serious (Theodore Gordon) to humorous (Patrick McManus). Some are marvelous by reputation, such as Nick Lyons and Thomas McGuane. Others are ruggedly accomplished (Hemingway) with

some lesser known (Beatrice Cook, Charles Bradford). Former President Herbert Hoover also contributes some dry wit and observation. All those and so many more in one volume. You could take this book on a trip and read for a year without getting tired of repetition. *Home Waters*, edited by Gary Soucie, also includes stories by Nick Lyons and Thomas McGuane, but has more recent writers like John Gierach and Stephen Bodio. It also has some musings by an ex-President, Jimmy Carter. *Fifty Favorite Fly Fishing Tales* by Chris Santella is a more recent collection, with stories by western fly fishers such as Jack Dennis, Mel Krieger, and Jim Teeny. A newer addition to our library, from the collection donated by Leroy Hyatt, is *Fish and Tell and Go to Hell*. Many of its contributors are more recent and lesser known. Beyond the catchy title, it is noteworthy for all the handwritten dedications to Leroy by many of the contributing authors. If you want to borrow a smaller volume, light and easy to carry or pack, check out *Fly Fishing Always* by Barbara and Mike Woverton. Included are Charles Brooks, Nick Lyons, Valerie Haig-Brown, Steve Raymond, and Lee Wulff. Some of the black and white photos of these fishing greats “with their hair down” add some mirth! *Gone Fishing*, by Michael Hordern and *Silent Seasons* by Russell Chatham are two more collections of great stories by great story tellers. *Silent Seasons*, Stephen Bodio writes, is “a wonderful collection of real writers on real fishing.” Of course, **ALL THE VOLUMES MENTIONED ARE AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY.**

And so, we move into a new season, while the Club takes its annual summer hiatus. I will leave you with some quotes which provide a bit of humor as well as perhaps a bit of wisdom and admonishment:

“The true fisherman approaches the first day of fishing with the sense of wonder and awe of a child approaching Christmas.” Robert Traver, *Trout Madness*, 1989.

“Whenever I need a psychiatrist, I go fly-fishing, holding a boat to be superior to a couch any day of the week. A fly rod is good for whatever ails a man. Any incurable infirmity to which the flesh is heir is sure to respond to its persuasive therapy. And it is especially recommended for ulcers, nervous breakdowns, and overdoses of wedlock. (Havilah Babcock, *Jaybirds Go to Hell on Friday*, 1964 (as shown in *Sporting Classics*, Nov/Dec 2023)).

“Outside of a dog, a book is man’s best friend, and inside a dog, it’s too dark to read.” Groucho Marx (as shown in *Sporting Classics*, Nov/Dec 2023).

May you enjoy a wonderful season of good reading and great fishing!



SFF Club Information

Officers

President:
 Vice President:
 Treasurer:
 Secretary:
 Board Position 1*:
 Board Position 2**:
 Board Position 3***:
 Past President:
 Sgt. at Arms:
 *3-year term expires May 2026
 **term expires May 2024
 ***term expires May 2025
 President, VP, Treasurer,
 Secretary and Sgt. at Arms
 elected annually

Craig Adams
 Kevin Brannon
 Brian Soth
 Larry Ray
 Chris Bryant
 Bill Millspaugh
 Brian Desautels
 Chet Allison
 David Marshall

Committee Chairs

Publications Comm: Open
 Conservation: Brian Desautels
 Kevin Brannon (interim)
 Robin Gavelin
 Outings: Chris Bryant
 Education: Brad Collins
 Membership: Paul Olsen/Claude Kistler
 Fly-fishing School: Larry Ray
 Librarian: Kevin Brannon
 Programs: Jacki Shear Brannon
 Barbless Flyer Editor: Craig Adams
 Proj. Healing Waters: Brian Soth
 FFI Liaison: Chet Allison
 Beg. Fly-tying: Brad Collins
 Int. Fly Tying: David Marshall
 A/V Coordinator:

SFF Contact Info:

Change of Email Address: Log into our web page spokaneflyfishers.com and change the data on your profile form which is visible after you log in.



Visit Us on Facebook



Club Mailing Address:

SFF Club, PO box 4141, Spokane, WA 99220

SFFC Business Members

PLEASE SUPPORT THESE BUSINESSES



KEN MOORE
OWNER/HEAD GUIDE
509-953-8669
KENMOORE509@GMAIL.COM




RE/MAX
INLAND EMPIRE

LEN ZICKLER
Broker

C 509.720.3228
O 509.232.0824
E lenzickler@remax.net

1311 N. Washington St
Suite A
Spokane, WA 99201




Business Memberships are available for \$50/year or payment in kind and include an Honorary Membership if not already a member. Contact SFFC, PO Box 4141, Spokane, WA 99220.

