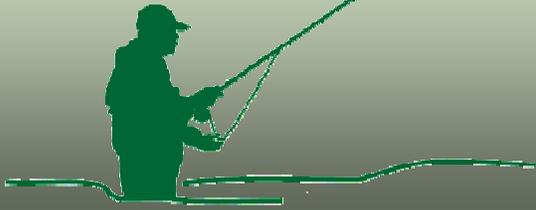


# Alpine Fly Fishers



## Meeting Location:

Niftys Sports Bar  
8924 Canyon Rd E  
Puyallup, WA 98371  
(253) 531-8202  
Socializing begins at 6:30

J A N U A R Y 2 0 0 8 / N E W S L E T T E R

## In this issue:

- March Meeting
- Old Humor
- Tidbit of Conservation
- Fly of the Month
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- Book Review
- Calendars!

## MARCH MEETING! Tuesday, March 25th



Joe Fitzpatrick of Little Deschutes Fly Co. and fellow club member will demonstrate fly tying techniques and patterns in tying steelhead flies. Here is a picture of a box of the "Foxee Prawn".

**BRING YOUR VISE, TOOLS AND MATERIAL AND TIE ALONG WITH JOE!**

**(See the Fly of the Month on page 3 for the Recipe)**

**\*\*\*\*\* REMINDER \*\*\*\*\***

### **DUES ARE DUE!**

***Reminder that renewal of annual membership dues are due by May 2008. Membership cost is \$20 a year. New members can join anytime. Contact the clubs' treasurer, Duffy Christy, for payment.***

***Thanks!***

## A LITTLE “ELDERLY” HUMOR

*No implications meant about our club!*

### Changing Times

By Daryl Crowley – FFF member of the West Michigan Hacklers Club

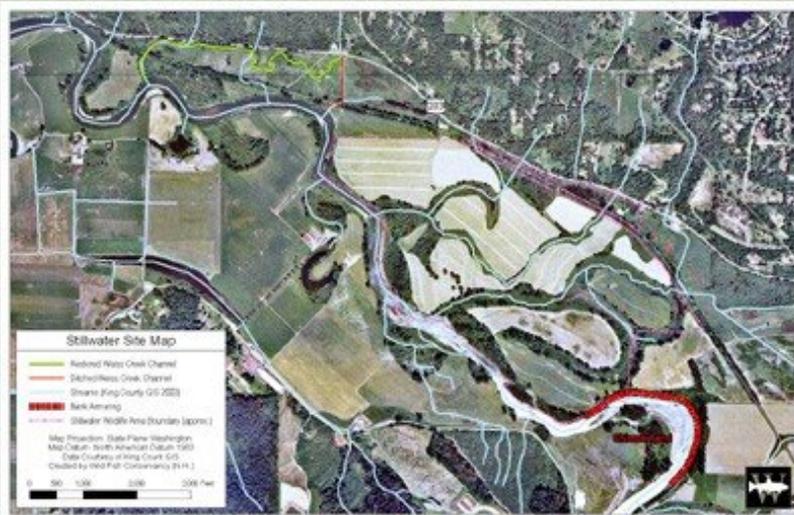
Aging is insidious. It creeps up on us. While some of us age slowly with grace and some seem to age rapidly, none of us are immune and we find that our approach to fishing inevitably changes as a result. Like it or not, we are victims of time and our approach to fly fishing reflects that victimization. I don't mean to imply that we fall apart and everything goes to hell-in-a-hand-basket: but the effects of aging definitely change our approach to fishing.



Most of us, long before true old-age, find that we can no longer find the eye on a hook. By middle age, finding the eye on a #22 hook often requires the addition of those cute little clip-on magnifying glasses. These are small and somewhat discreet and we can claim that they are really just for #24 flies in the waning light of day. But increasingly we find that they are also a big help on #12 hooks at high noon. By the time we add bifocals to our regular prescription we are again OK on #12 hooks in daylight but the magnifiers are still required on #22s or even #16s. Even with my bifocals I find that I can either see the eye of a #20 hook or the 6X tippet, but not both at the same time. Now all this is not such a big deal, as long as we have the magnifiers with us, but should we forget them we find ourselves in the last light of day, during a prime hatch of #22 caddis, fishing a #14. We rationalize that we are really looking for that one outsized fish that relishes a larger meal. But in truth we are fishing the #14 because there is no way in heaven or earth that we can possibly tie on a #22 without the magnifiers and a strong flashlight. Eventually #22s are just out, then #20s, and so on. I suspect at some point we just tie a #4 streamer on our 20lb tippet before we leave for the river and we fish with that until we lose it, and then go home.

**Continued on page 6...**

## A TIDBIT OF CONSERVATION INFORMATION



This year, the Wild Fish Conservancy will begin collecting data for the design of a floodplain restoration project on the Snoqualmie River. The Stillwater Unit of the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area is a 456-acre natural area on the northern banks of the Snoqualmie River between Duvall and Carnation. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife manages the Wildlife Area, and a major objective for the unit is the protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetland and riparian habitats in the unit.

## FLY OF THE MONTH

### **The Foxee Prawn**

By Joe Fitzpatrick

SHANK: Waddington 35mm  
 TRAILING HOOK: anyone, but I like the Gamagatsu Finesse Wide (Size 2)  
 LINE FOR TRAILING HOOK: 30lb Fireline  
 REAR BODY: Angora Goat in a dubbing loop  
 TAIL: Silver fox (Blue)  
 COLLAR: Purple Guinea  
 FLASH: Angel Hair  
 OVERWING: Golden pheasant



MAIN BODY: Silver Braid  
 FRONT BODY: Angora Goat in a dubbing loop  
 TAIL: Silver fox (Blue)  
 COLLAR: Purple Guinea  
 FLASH: None  
 OVERWING: Golden pheasant

Techniques: How to tie on a Waddington shank  
 Using the new Wasatch "Mitch's bobbin whirler" for dubbing loops  
 Folding feathers for collars  
 Proper mounting of feathers that have oval stems

## FISHING TEAL LAKE

I know that this outing has passed, but as a more novice fly fisher I always enjoy information on new prospective waters to fish and how to fish them. Part of being in a club like the AFF is to glean information from the wiser (okay, more experienced) members on where, when and how to fish new water. For this reason, I thought that including the trip outline presented by Bill Aubrey for Teal Lake would still provide great information on when, where and how to fish Teal Lake, even if we missed the club outing.

Teal is on the Peninsula approximately 4 miles past the Hood Canal Bridge. You will need a float tube, pontoon boat, watermaster or a really good rubber ducky as shore access is extremely limited. The lake is starting to fish well. Bring wooly buggers, leech patterns, San Juan worms, and emergers as well as some small dry flies, like sparkle pupa, BWO's, and caddis. I usually fish a 3 and 5 weight, but a 6 weight would work fine. Dress for the weather! For me, this is some of the best information to be passed on so I can go fish new water!

## *An Excellent Event!*

### *Oregon Council FFF Fly Tyers & Casting Expo*

By LARRY GIBBS

Bill Aubrey, PJ, Bill Fox and I had a good time in Albany at the Oregon Council FFF Fly Tyers & Casting Expo.

We got down there on Friday at around 10:30 AM. I took two classes and the rest of the time I was hanging around the silent auction and the raffle tables (didn't win anything there on Friday and only won one silent auction item). The rest of the time was spent talking to tyers from all over, that is fun, and talking to donors that Carl Johnson came up with for some very nice donations to our WSCFFF May 3 Conclave.



Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo 2008

On Saturday, there were a lot more people there. I also took two classes that day. All of the silent auction tables were full of good stuff. I bought a ton of packets containing a lot of fly tying materials. I am placing them in our WSCFFF Conclave on May 3 in Ellensburg.

In the raffle section, they came up with a neat gimmick, they had hourly drawings (that caused people to buy more tickets and place them in the tub every hour). I won two times! The first time was a nice selection of fly tying materials and the next time a few tying materials and a fly box with some great looking salmon flies.

I also won a bunch of stuff in the silent auction tables that day. Most of it will find its way to the silent auction tables on May 3.

We had an uneventful trip back home that evening; the weather was good and the traffic not too heavy.

It was a good trip. Next year the Oregon event will be held on March 13 & 14. Mark those days on your calendar as it is well worth attending.

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## **SADDLE UP!**

Great response to Bob Alston's planned pack trip to Passayten Wilderness Lakes in July of 2009! In fact the response was so great, the trip is full!!!! Those signed up to saddle up a horse and ride into the lakes include:

Bob Alston, Steve Egge, John Wenzel, Fred Fishback, Bob Jacobs, Bill Aubrey, Brent Byquist, Doug and Julia Smith, and Bruce Everett.

There will be a short meeting Tuesday after the club meeting for those who will be saddle sore next July. So hang around after the club meeting.

## TEAL LAKE OUTING A SUCCESS?

Thank you Bob Jacobs! The year's first outing was this past Sat at Teal Lake. 4 members Larry Gibbs, Bob Jacobs, Bill Fox and Howie Inks showed up, had a good day but it was cold and wet. Bill caught 1 nice rainbow.

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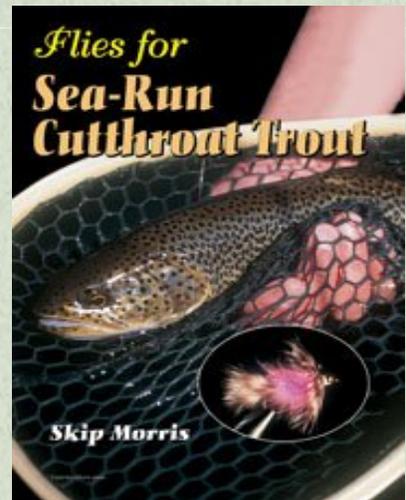
## DVD Review

### Flies for Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout

By Skip Morris

Frank Amato Publications, Inc. - Portland, OR, 2003  
DVD, 120 minutes, Color - suggested price \$29.95

This DVD is directed to instructions for tying sea-run cutthroat trout flies but the patterns are clearly suitable for other species of trout as well. The author is very personable on screen making watching a pleasure. The patterns taught are the Raccoon, the Jim Dandy, the Skip's Sculpin, the Glo Bug, and the Spruce Fly. As you can see some of these patterns are well known for trout fishing in general. The tying sequences are very well done. In addition, the author clearly informs the viewer of many tricks and materials tips as well as his affiliation with certain of the products described. These comments are of excellent value in giving the viewer a real insight into the development and design of each pattern. Some of these patterns are creations of the author and local PNW guides. Others are old patterns or variations of old patterns. But they all have one common thread - they catch sea-run cutthroat trout. The sound is well done and the original music is a very pleasant addition. The DVD is kept very interesting by the addition of fishing segments between pattern tutorials, and the short concise sections on tackle, fishing techniques and the life history of the sea-run Cutthroat trout. The DVD is beautifully photographed and edited. Overall, this DVD is easy to watch, easy to learn from, and just plain fun. Buy a copy, you will be happy you did.



### ***Rumor has it.....!***

***A suggestion of a club picnic in place of (as)  
the club meeting sometime in May or June?  
If you think this is a good idea, lets discuss  
at Tuesdays meeting!  
Maybe some fly tying?....casting instruc-  
tion?.....contests!!!???***

***Continued from page 2.....***

Hearing loss starts to impact us as well. It's always hard to understand someone over the babble of even small rapids, but at some point it becomes impossible. Your buddy might be shouting a dire warning or communicating what the "hot" fly is but try as you might, cupping your hand to your ear you can't make out a word. Finally you smile, wave, and nod in some sort of agreement pretending to understand and then mumble to yourself: "I have no idea what in the hell you're saying". Even when you can hear a nice fish rise, you can't determine where he was and you have to stop fishing and just watch so you know whether to move upstream or downstream. You know it has become serious when they blast the warning horn below a hydroelectric dam, and you assume it was just a car way out on the highway.



Aging muscle and bone have huge impact on our fishing style. Aggressive wading through deep rocky runs, once a source of pride and veritable necessity, now seems foolhardy. You begin to avoid walking in certain areas that require you to get your old legs over a submerged log because if you go there now you will become hopelessly pinned against the log with no way out. Rocky boulder strewn runs are now less desirable places to fish. It's easy to convince ourselves that such highly oxygenated waters harbor only small fish and the shallow, sandy, easy-to-wade places are surely where the big ones hang out. I don't have the stamina that I once had, so I often start the day a little later, leave a little earlier, and I don't hike as far. That certainly has an impact on my fishing. We used to joke that we were "so tired from fighting fish we need to take a break", now we find that we actually do need to take a break.

My memory doesn't function as well as it once did either. Not that it was ever great, but I'm pretty sure it was better than it is now, at least it seems like I remember it being better. Memory could have a dramatic impact like; like not remembering how to cast, but it's generally more subtle, like not remembering to bring the stuff you really need; like your sunglasses. If I go out in the morning, before the sun is high in the sky, I'm just as apt to leave my sunglasses in the car. Now I can't see as well into the water, so I'm even less likely to wade into difficult waters because I can't see submerged obstructions. I can't see the fish as well either so I probably pass by some really huge fish in plain sight, all because I forgot my sunglasses. Or I forget a critical box of flies, my spare reel, my dry fly floatant, medications, magnifying glasses, bug repellent toilet paper, or a number of other things that will have a huge impact on my day of fishing by their absence. Obviously the effects of aging impacts everything we do, and fly fishing is no exception: we don't play the game in the same way as we did when we were young. Some may say that as we get older we "fish smarter not harder". There is some truth to that. We have to fish smarter because we can't fish as hard, since we are not as able and probably left critical gear at home. But despite the impact of aging on our fishing style, we seem to catch just as many fish or we at least tend to be more satisfied with what we do catch. We don't need to catch as many fish since we have long since forgotten just how many we've caught over the years and we place more emphasis now on a quality day rather than the quantity of fish we catch, and I'm pretty sure that is a good thing: I just can't seem to remember why.

**AGAIN, NOT TO IMPLY ANYTHING ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIP OF  
OUR CLUB BUT, THIS BRINGS UP A GOOD POINT.....**

**DO I NEED TO INCREASE THE FONT  
SIZE OF THE NEWSLETTER?**

# Puget Sound Flyfishers 52nd Annual Banquet and Auction

Saturday, April 5, 2008, 5:30-9:00pm  
 Tacoma Elks Club  
 1965 S. Union  
 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, \$30

**RSVP to:**  
**Jim Maus**  
**6348 School St SW**  
**Lakewood, WA 98499-1319**  
**jimmaus@aol.com**  
**www.psff.org**

The Non-fishing/Fishing Club Auction. We'll have gift baskets, artwork, dinners, romantic getaway packages, kitchenware, toiletries and of course all the great things you'd expect at a fly club auction. Silent auction begins at 5:30pm. Buffet dinner is served at 7:00pm, and live auction begins at 8pm.

## NW FLY FISHING EVENTS FOR 2007 – 2008

<u>March 22, 2008</u>	Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Expo, Port Townsend, WA
<u>March 29 – April 1, 2008</u>	Great Alaska Sportsman Show, Anchorage, Alaska
<u>May 3, 2008</u>	Washington State Council FFF Event – “Washington State Fly Fishing Conclave”, Ellensburg, WA ( <a href="http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org">www.washingtoncouncilfff.org</a> )
<u>July ???, 2008</u>	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Metolius River Fly Fishing & Bamboo Rod Fair @ Black Butte School, Camp Sherman, OR ( <a href="http://www.campshermanstore.com">www.campshermanstore.com</a> )
<u>July 22-26, 2008</u>	FFF 43 <sup>rd</sup> Int'l Show and Conclave 2008, Whitefish, MT ( <a href="http://www.fedflyfishers.org">www.fedflyfishers.org</a> )

# MARCH/APRIL 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		18	19	20	21	22 Olympic Pen. Fly Fishing Expo Port Townsend
23	24	25 AFF Club Meeting 6:30 p.m.	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5 PSFF Auction
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 AFF Club Meeting 6:30 p.m.	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Club correspondence can be sent to:

Alpine Fly Fishers  
PO Box 3486  
Federal Way, WA 98036

If you have an email address allow us to send this newsletter via the internet. If your email address has changed recently, please share your new address. Visit our website at [www.alpineflyfishers.org](http://www.alpineflyfishers.org).

Club Officers:

President:	Bill Aubrey	253-678-3683
Vice President:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164
Treasurer:	Duffy Christy	253-568-7965
Secretary:	Doug Smith	253-864-0674
Ghilly:	Bob Alston	253-848-6884
Outings Coord:	Bob Jacobs	360-897-8733
Programs Coord:	Vacant	
Librarian:	Bruce Everett	253-278-0164