

Alpine Fly Fishers

Our Next AFF Meeting

Tuesday

January 23

Puerto Vallarta

215 15th St. SE

Puyallup at 6 PM


FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Charter Club

1000 Stewards member



The Dead Drift - January 2024

In this issue:

Page 2

FFI Fly Of The Month

Page 3 & 4

Back of Beyond

Page 5

In The Past

Page 6

Awards Nominations

Page 7

Future Meetings

Casting Info

Page 8

What The FFI Does For You

Page 9

WSC Editor's Notes

Page 10

Youth Fly Fishing Camp

Page 11

FFI President's Club

Page 12

FFI Thousand Stewards

Page 13 & 14

Invite Someone To Join FFI

Page 15

Join the FFI Legacy Circle

Page 16

Calendar

Editor Information

Mailing Address

Board of Directors



President's Line

By Larry Gibbs

January, 2024. It seems like only yesterday (joke) that being January 2009, that I became the president of Alpine Fly Fishers. That was 15 years ago. I promised the club members, many of whom are still active today, that I would not alter/change the way the club functions. I think I have kept that promise. We are still a 'social club' and we get together to spin our fishing tales, watch some fishing related presentations, eat some good food and win some raffle items.

We used to have club picnics in June, first at Duffy's then at Stephens, but then that scourge that hit the world, called Covid, came into play so those ended. That is why for last June, I asked the club if it was alright to have a Taco Bar Picnic at the Puerto Vallarta. That went over so well that I asked if it was alright to have the same thing for our December meeting, which we did and it went over very well also.

I believe we have set a precedent for the June 2024 and onward, that being having a Taco Bar Picnic every year. The club pays for the June event. If we continue the December event, payment is up for discussion, as I paid for this one.

There were seventeen of us at the December meeting. Four people were picked from the yearly attendance list I had been keeping. Three won fly rods and one won a reel. For the past couple of years I have tried using the attendance list as an incentive to try to get more of our existing club members to attend our meetings, but, alas, it has not been that successful. So, in 2024 I will not be doing that again.

However, we had a nice raffle table set out, with twenty two items and we had a lot of happy winners.

The taco bar was a great success. I even had it enhanced by having a tray of chicken enchiladas added to the mix. Those were well received as well. Peter gave a glowing report on his latest fishing trip to New Zealand. He caught some really, and I mean really nice trout in the 2.5 to 5+ pound range. He used flies that he has won in our past raffles. The Goddard Caddis fly was a favorite and he even enticed a very nice Rainbow trout with a San Juan Worm (the guide laughed at Peter when he put it on, but all other flies had been ignored by the fish so Peter tried the San Juan and the fish grabbed it on the first cast). You just never know for sure what the fish are going to be interested in.

"Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink, I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its thin current slides away, but eternity remains." Henry David Thoreau

Good Fishing & Stay Safe



Larry

Fly Fishing International

Fly of the Month

January 2010

Mohair Leech

By Bob Bates



Often a simple fly pattern will catch as many fish as more complicated patterns. Such is the case with this pattern. As I watched Norm Crisp tying it at the 2009 FFF Conclave in Loveland, Colorado I thought this is too simple to put in the FFF Fly of the Month. Then I remembered that it is very similar to a pattern in my fly box that has caught many nice fish. It even has the same name.

The only difference is the marabou tail. Norm is from Prairie Village, Kansas, and he fishes whenever he can. In fact he fishes it all over the world; it is his fly of choice. For him it is a stream fly, and he drags it through deeper holes like a Woolly Bugger. However, I bet it would work in lakes also.

The lighter colored version imitates a Golden Stonefly nymph. Norm thinks that it might also imitate a crawdad that has just shed its older cover. Fish seem to know that such a crawdad is good eatin'.

Materials List:

- Hook: Cabela's model 21 or TMC 200RBL sizes 6, 8
- Thread: Olive, 6/0
- Weight: Lead wire, 035-inch
- Tail: Marabou, olive
- Body: Mohair yarn, olive, dark yellow golden and black

Tying steps:

1. Attach thread behind eye, and wrap it backward to near where the barb would be if the hook was not barbless.
2. Put on 12 wraps of 0.035 lead wire. Start the wraps about half way between the barb location and point. After the 12 wraps, hold the coil and break off the wire, and roll down any wire that sticks up.
3. Attach the tail behind the lead coil. Tie it long, and break it off later.
4. The mohair yarn that he got at a yarn shop was a little thinner than he likes so he doubled it. Every couple of wraps, pull fibers out and back. This way they will flow backward over the body.
5. Tie off yarn at front. Fold the yarn back, and wrap over it to keep eye clear. Whip finish to complete the fly.
6. Pinch the tail at the length you want, and break off the excess. Pinch the marabou hard between the thumb nail and first finger so it doesn't slip when excess is broken off. You might have to do this more than once.

Closing comments: This is a great fish catching fly that is easy to tie. Tie a few and test them in your local waters; I think that you will be happy with the results. Sometimes mohair has places where the fibers are bound down when the yarn was made. They can be picked out with a bodkin after tying the pattern.

Back of Beyond

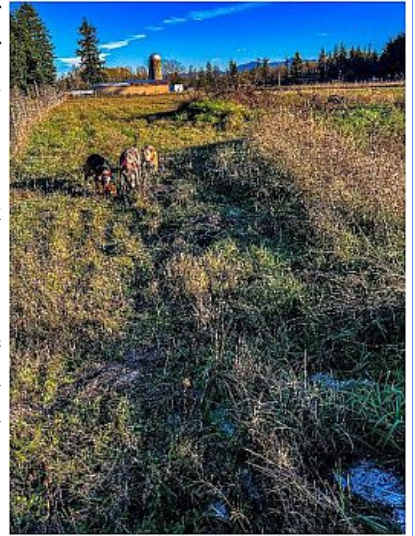
Stephen Neal

In Wildness is the Preservation of the World - "Henry David Thoreau"

Christmas 2023

A Time Between Storms and Fishing Trips

My fur footed escort's prancing excitement ends abruptly as I unlatched the gate. A burst of fleet footed speed carries them into the frost kissed pasture grasses. Their excitement, punctuated by growls, barks, howls, and yips. Our walks do not start off as quiet and contemplative nature interludes, much to my chagrin. The quite mercifully returns when they pick up scents, that pull their noses earthward. Once that blessed moment arrives, I turn my attention to the bigger world as they explore under my purview, while strolling through this backyard grassland. Our grassland is in transition as volunteer Douglas Fir seedlings are popping up in several locations. Change is afoot.



This day's stillness is courtesy of an approaching atmospheric river, pushing calm air at its front. Sun light fills the day, not the harsh brightness of a high summer day which washes out colors, this is the low angle light of December; it emphasizes what it touches, it enhances earth's tones, and they pop. This is the light that artists and photographers dream about.

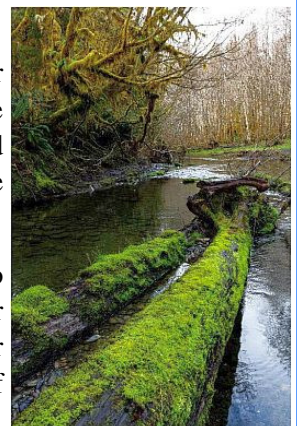
We are approaching the winter equinox in the northern hemisphere, as our home circles the sun. All summer long and through the fall the daylight hours have diminished but soon with the advent of winter our daylight hours will grow. I know it seems counterintuitive, each summer day decreases the hours of sunlight and winter days increase in sunlight.

The air temp is biting brisk, but nature's colors are still warm with the last of the fall colors. Added to this warm mix of colors is frost white. The un-sun-kissed areas have kept Jack Frost's artistic talent displayed for the past four days. A little reminder that winter is about to make its appearance. If I had made my clothing choice by the sunny view out the front window, I would be under-dressed, the sight out the back window showing the holdover frost, told a different story.


In California's Mediterranean climate I seldom wore wool for warmth, except for a few treasured Pendelton shirts. At that time in the psychedelic sixty's synthetics began to supersede natural fabrics, and wool lost favor. In the here and now of Washington residence, I have rediscovered wool. It is now my favorite winter outerwear. Wool sweaters, coats and socks provide special comfort with their weight and warmth. There is contented satisfaction in choosing correctly and dressing appropriately for one's environment. I relax in its warm comfort and enjoy the dogs on our walk without worrying about the cold bite of Christmas weather. It is a great day to be out and about on this day's orbit through the heavens, as we circle our star.

My ears pick-up a honking from the east, I swivel my eyes up toward the Cascades, two chevron flights of Snow Geese quickly approach. Another herald of winter's approach. They soar mere feet above my head, I surmise that they have finished foraging on the leftovers from the corn maze at Maris Farms, and their departing flight pattern has them headed for the remains of Anderson dairy. The flock will bed down on the few pastures still free of ticky-tacky edifices. The majority of dairy cattle grazing land is disappearing under new homes.

When the patriarch passed away, all but the youngest sibling voted for selling and breaking it up for residential real estate. The youngest dream of running the dairy went up in smoke forcing him to move away from his preferred rural lifestyle. The siblings, maybe richer, but have left the neighborhood poorer. One of the few unobstructed views of Mount Tahoma is vanishing, my soul aches at the prospect. Paving over paradise and putting up many gabled boxes in my estimation, was a bad trade.



Soon Canada Geese and Trumpeter Swans will join the Snow Geese in the grass paddocks. On trips to and from our house, the congregating air citizens are a feast for the eyes as they noodle the grasses for feed. As they graze, honks, calls, and warnings punctuate their winter grass pasture habitation. Their yearly return is welcomed, the cycle of life continues to turn. The snow geese flyover is a prized part of the outing.

Continued on page 4 

While the dogs continue to sniff and explore, I get lost in the sounds of this prewinter day. I hear in nature the sounds of horns, violins, wood winds and drums. It is a symphony written for the listener. My love of music and nature has tuned my ears to pick out the lead instrument notes, a breeze through the grass, a woodpecker sharpening his beak on a metal sign, a cricket on a warm summer evening. The melody of the backing orchestra can be the crunch of my footsteps on the frost touched grass or the hum of bees redistributing pollen. The crunch of grass, honking geese, and my dogs barking are the lead instruments on this still day, and the stillness is the melody. Music is just one of the many windows on the world, it is a free concert for those present to hear.

Speaking of concerts, tis-the-season of school concerts, we are very fortunate in that our school district has an excellent music program, two of my grandsons chose to take up instruments and joined the school band. Not only have we witnessed their growth as musicians, but we have been treated to very enjoyable concerts. Each event showcases the dedication and love of music in each performance. We look forward to each opportunity to attend. I play a minor role in this musical journey as I'm the transporter for early morning jazz classes.

Music appreciation is central to my enjoyment of life, even when I'm not actively listening to music, my thoughts and senses subconsciously listen for the music of the world. YouTube, through its algorithm continues to introduce me to new works by new artists and old favorites. Bruce Cockburn recently popped up and I have discovered additional works that I have added to my music collection, I also became aware of 2Cellos. I know I am late in discovering them, but I have gone whole hog into their music portfolio. Music transports me, it puts me on, every river I have walked or floated, beneath towering cliffs with conifer crowns, inside a red rock desert canyon, on an alpine slope sprinkled with wildflowers, staring in awe at a cascading lace curtained waterfalls, holding tight to a kite string with my feet anchored in the sand. It immerses me in the connectedness of all things, to see and feel, the birth of a child, the cry of the lost and lonely, humanities staggering struggles to be and survive, from the mud of emergence to the tops of mountains bathed in sunshine, our inhumanity to one another, and by turns our gentle hands of comfort and caring, our dances of celebration and our public gathering to promote hate and rejection, and conclusively, our release. From the banging of two sticks together with rhythm, humans have expressed their joy, sorrow, reflections and wishes for a better tomorrow through music. Mankind makes music to celebrate, to fortify, to mourn, to push back loneliness, to woo, to mourn to reach out and touch God. We take our music from the earth and mix it with our souls. That music becomes the soundtrack of our lives, music is in my humble opinion, is humanities greatest achievement.

On our walk, my mind drifts too thoughts of winter fishing and camping. Winter Steelheading is out on the Olympic Peninsula; dismal returns have led the Fish and Wildlife entity to close the rivers. With winter Steelhead fishing, off the table for the foreseeable future, that leaves camping to fill the void. I tried to put a trip together for December, but alas December's calendar was full for mi amigos, so January is our next option, a trip to photograph feathered air ambassadors is on the table. Wish us luck, for open calendars and passable weather. As we walk, I keep a weather eye out for dark clouds, a big, sustained river of rain is expected. Its arrival is not eminent, sometime after midnight, but knowing that it is coming keeps pulling my eyes to the west. The approaching storm will bring changes. Low spots will fill with water as the land reaches saturation. Seasonal streams will run, and marshes will fill from the spill over. Emergency crews will close roads that flood, erect warning signs and barricades. School officials will make decisions on student safety. People will rejoice or complain depending on what the storm brings them. Rivers will rise and the sound of rushing water will add to earth's song. Riverbanks will crumble and old and new evergreens will join the waters course. One day soon I may walk on a log turned driftwood, that driftwood once held vigil over the river at its roots. The course of rivers will change, good fishing water will move and be reinvented. Reconnoiters will need to be made to find new fishing lies. The world keeps turning, each turn bring new observations, new viewpoints.

Our world is in the midst of a powerful storm, big changes will be made, and what is now normal, will become a new normal. To survive mankind will need to make tough choices. What that song will be is still to be written. Our present window on the world does not reveal the song that will be sung. The opening verse is melancholy and dissonance, as we struggle to identify our path forward. But today I walk in sunshine and listen to our earth sing, watch the dogs sniff out the wildness news and drink in the beauty that is given to me. Step outside and gaze with wonder in your eyes. May heaven and earth sing and may this season of celebration bring warmth and joy to each of you. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Stephen – Backofbeyond.neal@gmail.com

“The world is out there, the journey starts the minute you leave the door, go outside and truly live.” – S. Neal



“When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind – Dr. Wayne W. Dyer
“Many go fishing all their lives, without knowing that it is not fish they are after” - Henry David Thoreau

~ In The Past ~

The Newsletter of the Alpine Fly Fishers
'The Fly Line' -

July of 1980

Editor: Ed Monger



This *~ In The Past ~* article was published in 1980. The information it contains is **43** years out of date and is not accurate.

This is a historical document only.

Program: Jim Baker, July program chairman, will present Jim Cummins who is a warm water biologist for the Washington State Fish & Game department. The topic is "High Lake Fishing in Washington State" and should prove to be a fine program as Jim spends much of his time in the high lakes.

Door Prizes: Twin reel bag

No Meeting In August: As there is no August meeting, the next meeting will be in September. The program chairman for September is Rucy Thut.

Lake Talapus Fishout: Five club members hiked into Talapus on June 28th, stayed overnight and came out on June 29th. The fishing was fair with most of the fish taken being 6 inch brookies. Joe Roni and family hiked in for the day on Saturday. The word hollered across the lake was that one of his boys surpassed the efforts of club members with an "eleven incher"!

Fishing Report: Steve Anderson reports that the fishing on Leech Lake is good. The rain has caked the ash which keeps it from blowing around and makes it no problem. A green bodied, soft hackle was effective for Steve.

Yes, Mount Saint Helens was erupting during this time

Larry



WSCFFI Awards Nominations 2024

By Sam Matalone



Members affiliated with Washington FFI are engaged in education, conservation, and environmental stewardship statewide. Since the formation of Washington FFI in the 1960s, our members and affiliated clubs have played an invaluable role in conserving and protecting countless acres of stream and riverbank. We bring people together in the vigorous defense of ecosystems and committed efforts to share the best in fly tying, casting, and fishing skills.

Each year, the Washington State Council gives up to 7 awards for excellence in education, conservation and leadership to various members and affiliated clubs. In addition, there are numerous national level awards. Each year we go through a nomination and selection process. You and your colleagues are the engine that drives that and FFI awards are a way to say thanks and invite deeper commitment.

Awards nominations will be open from February 1st, 2024 until April 15th, 2024, with the finalists to be announced in May 2024.

To review the awards along with the criteria for each of the 7 Washington State Council Awards, go to: <https://wscffi.org/award/>

Or

Go to the home page on our the Washington State Council FFI website (wscffi.org), on the menu bar at the top of the page place your cursor over “ABOUT US”. A drop down menu will appear, click on “AWARDS”.

On the “Awards Page” you will find:

- All Washington State Council FFI Awards and criteria
- Past Council Award recipients
- National Award Recipients (WSCFFI members)
- On Line Nomination Forms for the following awards (active link starting on February 1, 2024:
- WSCFFI Fly Fisher of the Year
- Washington State Council Fly Tying Hall of Fame Award
- The Jimmy Green Memorial Fly Casting Instructors Award
- Washington Conservation Award (club or organization)
- Mackay Conservation Award (individual)
- Club Education Award
- Pat Herdt Education Award (individual)

After reviewing the awards, the next step is to nominate one of the unsung heroes in our organization. There is a link to the nomination page on the home page of our website (www.wscffi.org) active on February 1, 2024 and on the awards page.

If you have any difficulties with the on-line nomination process, please send an email with your nomination to: webmaster@wscffi.org

In addition to this article in the newsletter, beginning Feb 1, 2024, we will be using our various social media account to keep everyone aware of the various awards, key dates and updates.

It is our desire to get the most qualified candidate for each award. Within all groups there are many unsung heroes who may not get the recognition they deserve. Please, help us to make sure every qualified award recipient is identified.

Watch our Facebook and Instagram posts for more information.

Send in those nominations!

You have until April 15th, 2024

Which will be way more entertaining than preparing your taxes!

Alpine Fly Fishers



For The Year 2024

The Fourth Tuesday of each month except December, that being the third Tuesday

January 23

February 27 / March 26 / April 23 / May 28 / June 25

September 24 / October 22 / November 26 / December 17

No meetings in July or August

All meetings will be at the Puerto Vallarta

"LOOPS"

New Fly Casting Education Program

Coming Soon

In case you might have missed it, I am delighted to share the announcement of FFI's new casting education program "LOOPS." Pulling together the broad suite of FFI's casting education and instructor resources into one program, LOOPS will further elevate FFI as the leading resource for mentorship and teaching of fly casting skills. In order to ensure success of the program, a new governance model has been developed that will provide leadership and vision for both angler AND instructor education under one committee. This includes casting activities ranging from the Fly Casting Skills Development Program to FFI Casting Instructor Certification Program (CICP).

As a part of this restructuring, the FFI Casting Board of Governors (CBOG) has officially been dissolved, and will now continue to oversee the CICP within the new governing body. I want to offer my heartfelt gratitude to the working group comprised of member of the newly-retired CBOG who developed this innovative new model. Their vision, hard work, and dedication to the positive transformation of FFI's status as a leader in fly casting education represents a profound leap forward for FFI's casting programs and activities. Huge thanks to Jonathan Walter, Willy George, Molly Semenik, Jeff Wagner, Rick Williams, Bruce Williams, Gail Gallo, Brian Henderson, and Jim Wigington for their vision, and to FFI Communications Director, Blake Parsons, who spearheaded branding and messaging for LOOPS.

The transition plan and program development for LOOPS will unfold throughout 2024, and we are committed to keeping you up to date. I am confident this new model will significantly enhance opportunities and support for clubs and councils in your effort to engage the members and fly fishing community in your area.

A press release announcing the launch of LOOPS was issued September 27, 2023. Here is that release.

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

FFI Launches Loops Casting Education Program

Fly Fishers International Launches LOOPS

New Casting Education Program

Fly Fishers International (FFI) is excited to announce the launch of Loops, a new fly casting education program providing instruction and engaging activities for fly fishing enthusiasts of any skill level. Supported by FFI's 1,100 certified casting instructors worldwide and a robust network of existing FFI clubs, Loops offers casting instruction for single and two-handed casting, as well as technique specific instruction for all coldwater, warmwater, and saltwater fly fishing. Loops represents the most significant leap forward in FFI's long history of providing industry-leading fly fishing education.

What Does The FFI Do For You?

By Steve Jones



Fly Fishers International (FFI) is a network of serious anglers who care about the environment and each other. They started in 1965 in Oregon and now they have clubs all over the world, including 21 in Washington and Alaska. We're serious conservationists. We helped make Catch-and-Release a household phrase and the law on many rivers. And we are not just fishing for fun, we support causes like the Northwest Youth Fly Fishing Academy, Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery, which help veterans and women with cancer. We also put our money where our mouth is working to save fishing access to important waters like the Grande Ronde and Yakima rivers. And FFI works to help its members and the public learn the sport with fly casting, tying and fishing instruction. FFI is the real deal, and you should join them if you love fly fishing and want to see the sport thrive.

FFI Conservation Efforts:

- ◇ Acquisition of Ebsen Access completed in 14 months, demonstrating the team effort by FFI.
- ◇ New opportunity: Acquisition campaign for Yakima Canyon Ranch access point on the Yakima River.
- ◇ Western Rivers Conservancy leading the Yakima Canyon Ranch access campaign with support from Washington FFI.
- ◇ Encouragement for others to join the acquisition campaign.

FFI Initiatives:

- ◇ Involvement in Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery for conservation work.
- ◇ Annual Fly Fishing Academy for teenagers in partnership with Washington Trout Unlimited.
- ◇ Education and outreach at the ongoing Fly Casting Fair in Lake Ballinger Park
- ◇ Future plans for a similar fairs in Vancouver, Spokane and elsewhere
- ◇ Plans for a new three-day Fly Fishing Expo in 2025.

What does FFI do for you and your club?

- ◇ Sustained efforts to provide fishing access to rivers and lakes.
- ◇ Protection of fly fishing opportunities for all fish in all waters.
- ◇ Educational materials for enhanced knowledge and enjoyment.
- ◇ Community support for influencing policy and land management.
- ◇ Opportunities for new friendships through fly tying, casting, and fly fishing.
- ◇ A stake in the preservation of the sport and a way to contribute to its future.

Your membership makes FFI effective

- ◇ Your \$35 annual membership sustains the national organization
- ◇ Regional councils raise their own funds separately
- ◇ Your membership helps regional councils thrive
- ◇ Information on joining FFI at WSCFFI.ORG, with membership fees of \$35 for one year or \$90 for three years.

Your membership and more than 10,000 others nationwide make it possible for FFI to offer club insurance that benefits us all

- ◇ FFI's master policy provides insurance for fly clubs covering:
 - ◇ Directors and Officers Liability
 - ◇ General Liability at club events
 - ◇ Umbrella coverage for club activities
 - ◇ Hired or non-club-owned automobile liability coverage

Those are practical benefits that protect our members and save thousands of dollars annually in insurance costs for affiliate clubs

Please join FFI today to take advantage of these benefits and help sustain them for all members of Fly Fishers International



Editor's Notes

By Larry Gibbs



This was my editors notes from the January issue of the WSC newsletter, thought I would show it here also,

The fourth quarter of 2023 started in October. I had suggested to the Washington State Council Board of Directors that we implement a new policy of sending a dozen trout flies to the people who joined Fly Fishers International here in our great state of Washington. They agreed and many of the BOD members sent me flies that I could mail out to the newest FFI members, hence newest members of the WA State Council. I started mailing those out in December for all new members from the October and November lists. I will receive list for December and I will mail those out as well. Our council president, Steve Jones, wrote a welcoming letter that was included in the mailing along with the dozen trout flies. If you are one of the people who receive these, I hope you have a chance to use them. If they do not fit with your targeted species of fish, then please pass them on to someone who can use them.

Meanwhile, here it is, 2024. I graduated from high school in 1964, the year a group of people, many from WA and Oregon, got together and created the idea of the Federation of Fly Fishers (now known as Fly Fishers International). Back then I never even contemplated 2024, it would have seemed so far away, but here it is. I have fished a lot of waters in our great state, as well as Oregon, Montana, Wyoming, Florida, British Columbia and Ontario. I have fond memories from all of them with the fish I have caught and released.

As I was writing this, I realized that in the future there is a huge milestone. The year 2100. I will never see this but many of the people born in the last two decades stand a great chance of seeing 2100 roll around and those who are yet born will stand a very good chance to see that. I can only image what a celebration the world will give to that event.

You may be asking yourself, "What's with this guy reminiscing about the past and thinking of such a future event?" "What on earth does that have to do with fly fishing?"

Well, let me tell you. If you want to go fly fishing, or even more so, if you want your children or your children's children to be able to fly fish, then it will be organizations like the FFI that will make it happen. Our population will only increase in size and fishable waters will be under attack all the time. You need an organization like the FFI to be able to assist in many conservation projects, help protect our waters, both fresh and salt, and keep them open for decent fly fishing. To teach people how to cast properly so they can enjoy the experience. To teach them how to tie flies that they can then use to catch and release their own fish.

That is why I am asking you to join the FFI, or if you do belong now, then maintain your membership. While you are doing that, ask your fishing partners if they belong to the FFI. If not, seriously ask them to join. The more our membership grows, the louder the voice the FFI has in the political arena and the better the chance for future generations to be able to enjoy this great sport.



Join or Renew and Donate to Fly Fishers International. Help us keep fly fishing for the future.

The FFI had a sweepstakes the past few months and I was fortunate enough to "win/buy" six fly rods and some reels. Over this year I will eventually find new homes for these rods and reels. You, the reader, could become the owner of one of these if you attend one of our sponsored events this year. I am sure there will be a raffle of some sort at the Membership booth. If you do not belong to the FFI, you could sign up and become a member, and possibly win one of these rods/reels. OR, if you are already a member, then please RENEW your membership at one of our events and you will also be in the running for one of these rods/reels. If you renew, the extra year or three are simply added on to your existing membership.

With winter upon us, now is a great time to keep up your fly fishing skills. If you go to the FFI website you can open up videos on fly tying, or view and read about casting tips to help you with your presentations. Read up about some of the conservation efforts the FFI is involved with. Check out the Women Connect link, if you are a woman, then consider joining this great group. The FFI wants to help you enjoy fly fishing as much as possible.

Go to: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org>



Fly Fishing Camp

Shelton WA June 22 - 29, 2024

12 - 16 year old Co-Ed

All Equipment Provided

- o Introduction to Fly Fishing Equipment
- o Beginner & Intermediate Tracks For Casting & Tying Instruction
- o Macro Invertebrate Creek Sampling Field Trip
- o Stream Hydraulics - Trout Hangouts
- o Hours of On-Lake & In-Stream Mentoring
- o Techniques & Tactics for Success
- o Fisheries Conservation - Too Much Time to Fish
- o Ethics & Etiquette - Stewardship Awareness
- o Match the Hatch - Aquatic Entomology

Dorm Lodging - Students Given a Rod & Loaded Reel with a Sling Pack Full of Equipment - Full Meal Service

16 Students

become more

Conservation Minded & Effective Fly Fishers

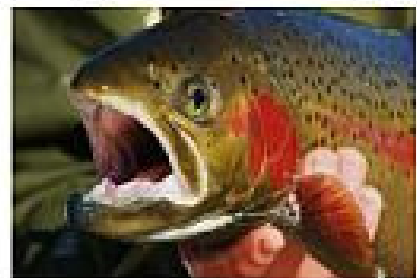
\$500 Enrollment Fee - Limited Scholarships Available

The academy is a non-profit youth education program of the Washington Council of Trout Unlimited & the support of Fly Fishers International, Trout Unlimited Chapters, N.W. Fly Fishing Clubs, Generous Individuals and Great NW Businesses.

Apply Now



Flyfish.academy



Fly Fishers International

President's Club

The President's Club at Fly Fishers International represents the highest level of financial commitment to the organization and comes with exclusive benefits and opportunities as a way of thanking donors for this level of generosity. Over the course of FFI's history, the President's Club has been instrumental in our ability to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters. Members of the exclusive giving circle can support any program or project at FFI that most inspires them, and at a level that recognizes their level of giving, including Platinum, Gold, Silver, or Bronze. The program allows for a pledge to be satisfied with yearly or monthly payment plans.

QUESTIONS? Email: operations@flyfishersinternational.org or phone: 406-222-9369 ext 4

Check out the FFI Donate page on line: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Donate/Presidents-Club>

The categories and their associated benefits are as follows:

BRONZE \$5,000 / Payable at \$500/ year or \$43/month

Benefits Include:

- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, and FFI hat

SILVER \$10,000 / Payable at \$1,000/ year or \$85/month

Benefits Include:

- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, FFI hat, an FFI T-shirt
- Exclusive individualized fly fishing instruction for President's Club members or person of their choosing

GOLD \$15,000 / Payable at \$1,500/ year or \$125/month

Benefits Include:

- FFI Life Membership
- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, FFI hat, and an FFI embroidered shirt
- Exclusive individualized fly fishing instruction for President's Club members or person of their choosing.

PLATINUM \$25,000 / Payable at \$2,500/ year or \$225/month

Benefits Include:

- FFI Life Membership
- Quarterly virtual President's Club meeting with exclusive special guest
- One-on-one meetings with the President and CEO for each member of the President's Club
- Opportunity to select the special President's Club Award
- Invitation to President's Club destination travel opportunity
- Specially designed President's Club pin, FFI President's Club sticker, FFI hat, an FFI embroidered shirt, and an FFI Yeti mug
- Exclusive individualized fly fishing instruction for President's Club members or person of their choosing.
- Unique, customized FFI Special edition fly rod when member reaches the \$100,000 level

Editors Note:

I am a proud member of Fly Fishers International and have been for over two decades. I really believe in what the FFI is doing and their goals. We are truly an "All Fish, All Waters" organization with strong beliefs in conservation and education. I belong to the President's Club as well as the Thousand Stewards program and the Legacy Circle. I would really like it if you, the reader, would join me in helping to support Fly Fishers International.

JOIN THE

FFI1K

**SAFEGUARDING THE LONG-TERM
HEALTH OF FLY FISHING AROUND
THE WORLD**
FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K

THE FUNDS RAISED BY THE FFI1K ARE VITAL to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission, and to support:

- **SPEARHEADING PROJECTS** that improve our fisheries and protect our fishing opportunities
- **THE FFI LEARNING CENTER's** wealth of fly fishing knowledge and resources
- **CAMARADERIE AMONG ANGLERS** built at our annual fair and other events

JOIN US IN SAFEGUARDING THE LONG-TERM HEALTH OF FLY FISHING AROUND THE WORLD BY BECOMING ONE OF THE **FFI1K**.

**VISIT FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K
OR CALL 406.222.9369 TO JOIN TODAY!**

*See enclosed card envelope for payment options.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF: Ed Gipe, David A. Thompson

FFI1K - BECOME A MEMBER OF 1000 STEWARDS OF FFI

You have a unique opportunity to invest in the sport you love.

Fly Fishers International (FFI) has been an organized voice for fly fishers around the world since 1964. We represent all aspects of fly fishing – from the art of fly tying and casting, to protection of the natural systems that support healthy fisheries and their habitats so essential to our sport. Today, our mission is to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters continues by focusing on CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY.

Join us in safeguarding the long-term health of fly fishing around the world by becoming one of the FFI1k, by committing to donate \$500 per year for 5 years (total of \$2500).

The funds raised by the FFI1K are vital to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission and to support:

- Spearheading projects that improve our fisheries and protect our fishing opportunities
- The FFI Learning Center's wealth of fly fishing knowledge and resources
- Camaraderie among anglers built at our annual Expo and other events

Join the FFI1K Now

Fly Fishers International

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL (FFI) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit with the distinctive mission to preserve the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters. Formed by some of the most influential luminaries in the world of fly fishing and conservation back in 1964, and dedicated to innovative strategies to inspire a new generation of fly fishers, providing FFI members the opportunity to leave a legacy in the sport we love.

FFI continues to focus on conservation, education, and community as the underpinning of our work. Our commitment to these principles provides the rock-solid foundation as we lean into the challenge of unprecedented times, and ascend to meet the needs of the evolving demographics of fly fishing.

JOIN FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL TODAY to help ensure that fly fishing can continue to instill the kind of passion it does today in so many of us.

WHY JOIN FFI? TOGETHER WE:

- PROTECT THREATENED WATERS AND HABITATS for current and future generations.
- BRING TOGETHER EXPERTISE in fly casting, fly tying, fly fishing skills, and conservation education and development programs.
- ADVOCATE FOR POLICIES and initiatives for conservation issues.
- STRENGTHEN THE FLY FISHING COMMUNITY by sharing knowledge and experiences.
- PROVIDE RESOURCES for fly fishing educators and professionals.
- INSPIRE A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND CONSERVATION ETHICS in people of all ages.

MEMBERS RECEIVE

Access to an unmatched repository of knowledge through the FFI Learning Center

- Special offers and discounts • Recognition for special skills or achievements
- Access to a network of like-minded outdoor enthusiasts
- A chance to help make a positive impact on the sport

We've got momentum— Help us keep it going as a member of FFI. As participation in fly fishing has grown, FFI is providing enhanced opportunities to learn, sustained our commitment to conservation, and offers new and exciting opportunities to expand our community. JOIN US!

Membership application on the next page



**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI



**ALL FISH,
ALL WATERS™**



FFi

406.222.9369

membership@flyfishersinternational.org

flyfishersinternational.org

Mail to: Fly Fishers International
 1201 US Hwy 10 West
 Suite E
 Livingston, MT 59047



<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org>
 406-222-9369

Please fill out this form carefully and legibly, the form will be the basis from which your FFI Membership will be built.

FFI Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Club(s) Affiliation _____

Paid by: Check Cash Card Square Total Paid: \$ _____

Card # _____ Expire Date: ____ / ____



FLY FISHERS
 INTERNATIONAL

Membership Levels

Each FFI Membership level includes full access to the FFI Learning Center, Online access to both spring and fall issues of the Flyfisher Magazine, and discounts and benefits from a huge variety of FFI partners.

*First time joining the FFI? Mark this box *Renewing your FFI Membership? Mark this box

Standard - \$35 / Yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Advocate - \$75 / Yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Steward - \$125 / Yr	Sustainer - \$250 / Yr
Includes full access to FFI Learning Center, Online	*Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!*	*Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!*	*Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!*
Access to Fly Fisher Magazine Discounts and Benefits from FFI's Partners	Choice of FFI Hat, or 1 year subscription to Flyfisher Magazine Hat <input type="checkbox"/> Subscription <input type="checkbox"/>	Also Includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFI Hat • Magazine Subscription • 1-year Subscription to OnWater App 	Also Includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airflo Fly Line • FFI Hat • Magazine Subscription

I am 65 or Older I am a Veteran Youth Membership Age 22 or younger
 (\$10 Discount per year for either) (\$15 Discount per year) \$ _____

Specialty Groups: Fly Tying Group \$20/yr Guides & Outfitters Association \$30/yr Women Connect \$ _____
 (1 year Complementary)

Printed Flyfisher Magazine: \$15/yr USA \$25/yr International \$ _____

Choose the number of years you wish to purchase: 1 - year 2 - year 3 - year \$ _____

Join the Legacy Circle



What is the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle?

FFI established the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle in 2019 as a way to honor the tremendous imprint Lee and Joan have left on the world of fly fishing and the contributions they have made to Fly Fishers International. Planned giving through your estate can be one of the most transformative gifts to FFI.

Why Join?

There is perhaps no more profound way to establish your legacy withing the sport of fly fishing than by naming Fly Fishers International as a beneficiary in your estate plan.

How Your Bequest Will be Used

Your gift to the Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle will be be used to fund the Education and Conservation programs of Fly Fishers International.

What You Need to Include

Legal Name: Fly Fishers International, Inc.

Designation: Lee and Joan Wulff Legacy Circle

Employer Identification Number (EIN): 23-7037444

Address: Fly Fishers International, 1201 US Highway 10 West, Suite E, Livingston, MT 59047

Sample Language in Estate Document

Residual Gift: “All the residue of my estate, including real and personal property, I give to the Fly Fishers International, Inc., located in Livingston, Montana.”

A Percentage of the Estate: “I give _____ percent of my estate to the Fly Fishers International, Inc., located in Livingston, Montana.”

A Fixed Amount of Money or a Designated Property: “I give \$_____, (or describe the real or personal property, including legal description or exact location) to the Fly Fishers International, Inc., located in Livingston, Montana.

Please Let FFI Know

Maybe you have already included FFI in your estate plans or you are going to do that now. Please let us know. We would like to honor your legacy and acknowledge your generosity that directly impacts the future of fly fishing.

Need More Information?

Please contact Patrick Berry, the President and CEO of Fly Fishers International at pberry@flyfishersinternational.org.

January / February 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p style="font-size: small;">"The fishing season begins on January 1st, and ends on December 31." Marie Huston (Edited by me)</p>	1 January	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Club Meeting	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	"In the bleak mid-winter, Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow, In the bleak mid-winter, Long ago." - Christmas Carol		

"There is nothing in the world more beautiful than the forest clothed to its very hollows in snow. It is the still ecstasy of nature, wherein every spray, every blade of grass, every spire of reed, every intricacy of twig, is clad with radiance." - William Sharp (1885—1905)				1 February	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Club Meeting	28	29	"Away in a meadow all covered with snow The little old groundhog looks for his shadow The clouds in the sky determine our fate If winter will leave us all early or late." - Don Halley	

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Alpine Fly Fishers
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Sumner, WA 98390

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 alpineflyfishers.org

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