



The Flypaper

May/June 2018

Fun on the Yak!

The club took one of our annual outings to the Yakima River in April. Cold days and tough fishing. But lots of warm friendships! Read more about the trip from the report by Scott Keenholts on page 3.



Photos: Tom Ahlers

In this Issue...

- 2 NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy
- 3 Yakima Outing
- 5 Conservation Outing
- 6 April Meeting
- 7 NFA Summer Picnic
- 8 Help Needed
- 9 FiSHots
- 10 Officers and Committee Chairs



Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

The 2018 Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy is set and ready to go. We have 22 amazing boys registered for the event. 2 from N.Y., 2 from AK, 1 from OR, the rest from WA. Unfortunately, no girls this year. All their essays and letters of recommendation are in and it appears we have another great group of kids. The Academy is June 24-30 on Hicks Lake at The Gwinwood Community Center in Lacey. We have a fantastic instructor lineup with FFI/CCI casting instructors, fly tying professionals and conservation experts. Last year we had over 50 volunteers. The 2018 Academy would not take place if it was not for the generous support from the Fly Fishing Clubs, TU Chapters, corporate and private donors.

The kids will be fishing at new ponds in Graham, and the Deschutes River in Thurston County. Everyone is welcome to visit us during the week to learn what is happening (please call 1st to insure we are available), if you are available for guiding, we could use your help, especially in the evenings on the river. If you want to help – please contact Jim Brosio @ 360-941-9947, Tom VanGelder @253-261-8890 and Mike @253-278-0061. Seriously folks, we could really use your help with the guiding in the evening on the river. It's really not guiding, it's being there to make sure the kids are safe, but you could share your experience on fishing a river with them. Mike Clancy, Co-Director, NWYCFFAcademy, 253-278-0061, www.nwycffa.com

-Dana Bottcher



Upcoming Trips

Langlois Lake Day Outing

May 5

Langlois Lake King County

Teal Lake Day Outing

May 12

Teal Lake

Lower Deschutes River Outing

May 18-20

Beavertail Campground

Chopaka Lake Outing

June 1-3

Chopaka Lake



Yakima Outing

It was Friday morning the 23rd when we all woke up to active snowing here in Seattle. First thoughts are “Can we still do this?” and “What’s it doing on the pass?” Then we see a lot of rain mixed in so it’s not sticking. That’s it, we’re going. Fast forward to Cle Elum Rest Stop. It’s broken clouds and dry. I send photos out to the group encouraging them it’s going to be fine.

No slackers in this group. By Friday early evening, everybody showed or checked in for Saturday morning. I am impressed at the tenacity of these people. Evening temperatures fell just below 30, and most were in tents! This is the life of a fisherman.

Co-chairs Ron and Tamae Bailey were first on deck Saturday morning getting the coffee going and the kitchen fired up. We served up fried egg sandwiches with sausage and oatmeal and sliced oranges. Filling and hearty. Folks made their own lunches in a buffet of deli sandwich, PBJ sandwich, chips, cookies and an apple. Plenty of food for a long day.

Fourteen people hit the road in all directions. Mark and Sasha in their drift raft, what a rig. Matt and Larry in the drift boat, a few had pontoon boats and the rest fished from shore, which was a challenge to say the least. Water was running near 3,000 and pretty muddy. No possibility of actually wading, but some shore points were found.

Our group drove up to the upper canyon, scouted out Twisp and Hwy 10 access points and then on to Cle Elum where we had a better chance for wading. We took a short hike down the John Wayne Trail to where the Cle Elum River merges into the Yakima. This turned out to be great conditions. Water was still over 2,000 but very clear and low enough for a lot of wading.



Top; Jim Hopper in pontoon boat
Bottom: Marc and Sasha Connor trying to stay warm

Yakima Outing continued

Dinner was served at 6pm and everybody made it back in time. Hot food was in order. Scott's smoked pulled pork over rice or with slider rolls, Caesar salad, and Teresa's Mexican cinnamon chocolate cake for dessert. Again, no one went hungry.

Cudo's to Ed for bringing a ton of split firewood. We had a toasty bonfire where everybody sat around and took the fishing score. Not much of a story here, a few people caught a very small fish each. The fire grew bigger and bigger, but the fish stories died early. Conditions were against us and the water temp was around 38.

After a cold night, Sunday's breakfast got going early. Basically a repeat of Saturday for breakfast and sack lunches. There was a ton of food. Most people were taking a more relaxed stance on Sunday. Nobody was in a hurry to do too much, maybe some scouting on the way home.

Sometimes an outing is more about fellowship in fishing than fishing itself. Such was this outing. Most did not know each other that well but all felt they had bonded together in camp. The camp set up was outstanding with all the great equipment, and oh those fires were so sweet!

I want to make special mention of how all the members participated in the setup, take-down, washing dishes, preparing food, everything. Special thanks to my co-hosts Ron and Tamae Bailey, non-stop workers before, during and after the event. There was nothing about this outing that was hard. Well.... The fishing!

Host,

- Written by Scott Keenholts
- Photos by Tom Ahlers



Top; NFA Camp

Bottom: Matt Moore, Scott Keenholts, Larry Belmont



Conservation Matters!

NFA members showed up at Miller Creek Park on March 31 to find a hidden salmon spawning stream in Burien right below the SeaTac landing approach.

The Miller and Walker Creeks Stewardship program monitors and improves the two main streams,

Miller and Walker, which drain the northern and western drainage basins adjacent to SeaTac Airport. They join together and empty into the Lower Puget Sound - Normandy Park Basin. Each fall returning Coho and Chum salmon journey up these two small creeks in order to spawn. They maintain an almost miraculous hold on these small creeks. Fish count estimates indicate that a single large rain event and the associated run off can kill up to 60% of the Coho attempting to spawn. The fish are doing their part. But they need help from us to improve this spawning area. Like many of our small streams in the metro area Miller Creek is overgrown with invasive species. The combination of asphalt, storm drains, and invasive plants allow heavy run off during large rain events.

On that Saturday six NFA members: Dave and Rita Preston, Tom Beaulaurier, Jim Watson, Scott McCracken, and Wytold Lebing volunteered for clean up along the Miller Creek Trail. The work included the usual: pulling blackberries, clearing Scotch broom, and mulching replanted native species. The section of stream we worked on was small and our efforts showed. When we first arrived one could barely see the stream behind thickets of blackberries. The native plants that were put in last fall seemed lost in the weeds. After a few hours of mulching and weeding we could see the improvement our efforts had made. That section of Miller Creek looked like someone cared about it, and that made all of us pleased about the day. Maybe those salmon will find Miller Creek to be a little bit better place to spawn.

- Written by Wytold Lebing
- Photo by Wytold Lebing



March Membership Meeting

Michael Olson welcomed approximately 45 people at the March meeting. Peter Rubenstein reviewed upcoming outings and reminded members to sign up as soon as possible. Many of the outings fill quickly. Be sure to check the NFA website for outing dates and details.

Thank you to Wytold Lebing for hosting the club raffle. Also thanks to Russ Shropshire and Michael and Susanne Olson for bringing refreshments.

Maura Johnson is asking for a volunteer to supervise refreshments for the June 21st meeting. Maura is also seeking a volunteer to help send out cards to members who are ill or members celebrating milestone events.

Susanne Staats inducted new member Art Sprenkle to our club. Art learned about our club on the NFA website and attended the January NFA meeting as a guest.

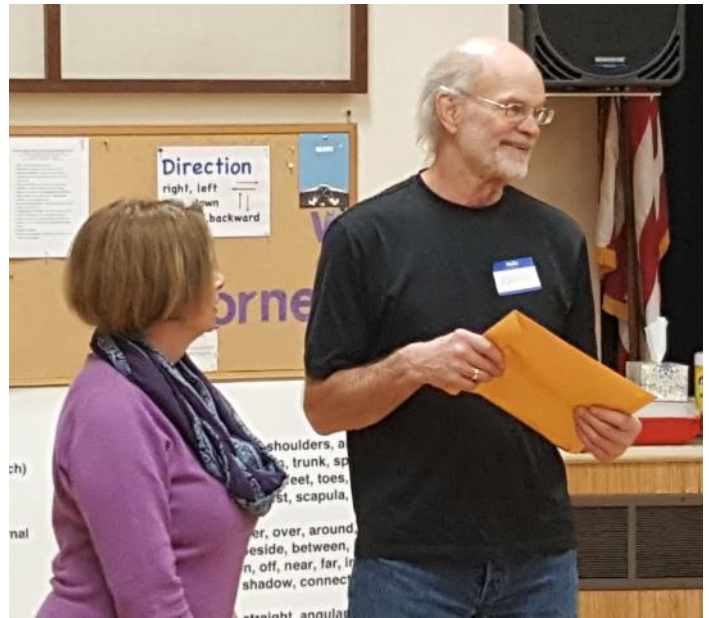
Fishing Reports were given about Green Lake, Pass Lake and the Yakima River. A member reported catching 20 fish in a single day on the Yakima.

Carl Johnson announced the WSCFFI Fly Fishing Fair on May 4-5th at the Ellensburg fairgrounds. There will be fly tying demonstrations, casting classes, casting competitions and many interesting seminars. Carl is seeking volunteers to help at the fair. For more information contact Carl Johnson or go to the WSCFFI website at <http://wscffi.org/fly-fishing-fair-may-4th-and-5th2018>.

After a short break for refreshments, Carl Johnson introduced Jim Gallagher as the guest speaker. Jim is a guide and owner of TroutWater Outfitters located in Cle Elem and Ellensburg. Jim handed out a map showing the access sites for various sections of the Yakima River. For fishing nymphs, Jim recommended a 2-fly dropper system. One technique is to use 2 stone flies, one big and one smaller, or use a Skwalla fly on the top with a pink San Juan worm on the bottom. Jim believes it's important the fly have some movement vs. a dead drift, which is more suitable when fishing May flies.

For fishing dry flies, Jim suggests different approaches. If you don't see a fish, then use a bigger fly with a poly post on it (e.g. Gypsy King). This is referred to as a "prospecting fly" and should sit low on the water with foam to support it. If you see a fish rising, use a smaller fly (e.g. Bullet Head Skwalla) to target the fish. For stubborn fish, use a stimulator, but get it wet so it sinks just below the surface or use a split shot to submerge the fly. And if those techniques don't work, use a large Carey special.

- ♦ Written by: Susanne Staats
- ♦ Photos by: Wayne Balsiger



Susanne Staats, new member Art Sprenkle (right)



NFA Annual Summer Picnic



July 19, 2018

Innis Arden Club House 14300 N.W. 188th St. Seattle

NFA members, families, and guests are welcome to our Annual NFA Picnic on Thursday, July 19th at the Innis Arden Club House in Shoreline. The club house is located at 1430 NW 188th St, Seattle, WA 98177.

The club will provide Swedish meatballs, hotdogs and brats, and vegetarian "sausage".

Members bring a potluck item.

If your last name begins with:

A-H, bring side dishes

I-Q, bring desserts

R-Z, bring appetizers

The club will furnish sparkling water, regular water, coffee and tea. If you want something else to drink, bring a non-alcoholic drink. Food and fun begin at 6. There will be lots of opportunity to socialize. The picnic replaces the regular monthly membership meeting. Bring the whole family and friends.

Please be sure to [register on the website](#) so that the organizers will know how much food to bring.



Volunteers Needed

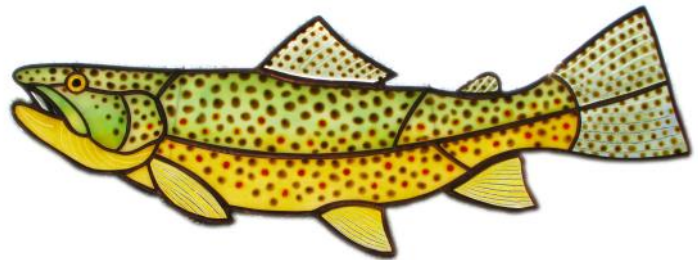
NFA Needs You!

We are seeking volunteers to help with the following committees.

Monthly Raffles-Like to meet people and shop for fly fishing stuff? This job is for you. We need one or two members to serve on the Raffle Committee. Members bring items and sell them at the monthly NFA meetings. The club has a budget for procuring items so members do not need to pay for the items themselves. This position is perfect for a couple or two members to share. Interested?- Please contact Michael Olson.

Hospitality Committee- Maura Johnson is seeking an additional person to help send out cards to members who are celebrating milestone events or who are ill. Interested?- Please contact Maura Johnson.

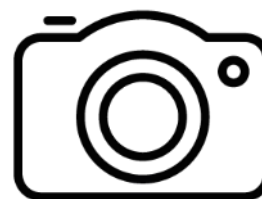
Our club's activities depend on volunteers. Please consider signing up for these positions. Thank you!



New members Jake Watrous, (lef),and Bill Corrison (right), Susanne Staats (middle)



FISHOTS



Submit your fishots to Brian at
stauroo@gmail.com. Include your name,
fish caught, and location.



Bill Gibson on Queets River in April



SERVING

OFFICERS

Michael Olson, President

Carl Johnson, Vice President

Bill Gibson, Secretary

Peter Maunsell, Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Matt Moore, Alan Pilkington, Wytold Lebing
Nominations

Susanne Staats, Membership

Peter Rubenstein, Outings

Wytold Lebing, Conservation

Larry Belmont, Librarian

Kim Kreidler & Helsa Petersen, Fly Box

Maura Johnson, Hospitality

Brett Schormann, Webmaster

Michael Olson, Awards

Open Position, Education

Open Position, Raffle Coordinator

Quote of the Month

"The solution to any problem -- work, love, money, whatever -- is to go fishing, and the worse the problem, the longer the trip should be."

~John Gierach

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Please send stories, photos, edits, and updates to the editor.