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Swirl Tips

WWW.EVERGREENFLYCLUB.ORG DEC 2015

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



The Presidents Message

By Rob Gamage

We made it to the end of another year. I wish some things would have gone better or worked out a little differently, but all-in-all I feel pretty good about what we were able to accomplish this year. I know I fell a little short of the mark several times, but I feel like I landed on or past the mark more often than not. My biggest regret is not making more of an effort to highlight and celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Evergreen Fly Fishing Club. I sincerely apologize to all of you for falling well short on that. I'm most proud of getting the help and support of the board members to come up with and approve the "Committee Participation Request form". I hope it will continue to help identify willing members and help connect them to committees that need and appreciate their time and effort.

I can't express enough gratitude to the members of this year's board of directors and committee chairmen. They all contribute much appreciated effort, thoughtful ideas and valuable time in the interest of the ongoing commitment to the purpose of the Evergreen Fly Fishing Club which is, "To provide fly fishing educational programs and activities for its members, serve as a venue for interaction among fly fishers, and promote the conservation of fish and fishery resources". We've just picked-up where the board left off last year and kept the ball rolling while making some minor adjustments and what we felt were enhancements along the way.

I know I'm not alone when I say that I have a lot of fun and get a lot of satisfaction from working for the membership of this club. Whether it's helping with physical labor on Conservation Committee projects or working with members and the public at activities such as casting clinics and fly tying classes. Helping out at club functions like our Annual Fundraising Auction and Awards Banquet are always fun for me. Heck, I even like attending board meetings. I can't help but think that many of you would feel the same way and get just as much out of it as I do if you gave it a try. I think everybody has something they can contribute that will be beneficial to someone. All you need to do is offer to help out. I plan to stay involved and actively participate where and when I can, and feel good about handing things over to a very capable President.

Sincerely,

Rob Gamage

MEETINGS

General Meeting – 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 pm (6 pm Wet Fly hr.) Blue Heron Room
 Board Meeting – 1st Tuesday of the month, 7 pm (6 pm dinner) Village Restaurant
 Conservation Committee Meeting – 3rd Thursday of the month, 7 pm Village Restaurant

Up and Coming Events

Jan 6th

Fly Tying Classes

Jan 20th

Winter Steelhead Outing

Quote Of The Month

"The trout do not rise in the cemetery, so you better do your fishing while you are still able." - Sparse Grey Hackle

January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	Board Meeting 5	6	7	8	9
10	11	ST Cutoff 12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	Conservation Meeting 21	22	23
24	25	EFFC Meeting 26	27	28	29	30
31						



2016 EFFC Officer Nominations

By Gary Iverson

Hello Fellow Fly Fishers,

Hope everyone is keeping warm and dry this holiday season.

As of this writing, the Vice President, Auction Chairperson and Awards Chairperson positions remain open for 2016.

The Vice President position is effectively a three-year position, the first year serving as Vice President, the second as President, and the third as Past President.

The Auction Chair (committee) is responsible for organizing and conducting the October auction.

The Awards Chairman compiles data and affidavits from outings and various fish categories and presents prizes and awards at the Christmas Banquet.

Our club has a stable 60-year history, and for it to continue, each of us from time to time has to step up and take a turn at a leadership position. I encourage all members to assist when you can. So, if you are interested in serving as a Club Officer or Committee Chairperson, please contact me in the next few weeks.

Gary Iverson



Now that the Christmas season is upon us, please realize that you as members of EFFF have access to your very own fly shop with unbelievable deals. Most of the prices are 75% to 90% below normal retail prices. Please take advantage of these wonderful products. Here is a partial list of the offerings that your fly shop has: Fly rods both new and used, reels both new and used, complete rod-reel-line-tools-case –and more from \$80.00, fly lines, tapered leaders, tippet, backing, all kinds of fly boxes, nets, tons of different fishing tools, polarized sunglasses, stripping baskets, waterproof packs and bags, vests, wonderful waders including the new zip wader, wading jackets, fly tying tools and materials like vises, hooks, brass and tungsten beads, maribou, scissors, bobbins, bodkins, threaders, whip finishers, pheasant capes, and even assortments of wet flies, dry flies, nymphs, may flies, and essential trout flies. There just isn't enough room to list all that your shop has for you.

So call your Ghillie, Ron, anytime. Cell: 425-356-7836. Home: 425-334-3123



Rock Island

By Ron Downing

The EFFF Rock Island Fishing Trip. 11 July 2016 through 17 July 2016

Last year 14 daring souls braved the central British Columbia high lake region north of Kamloops at Rock Island Fish Camp. In general, this exploratory trip proved to be a good time with many fish caught. Good food and generally good weather prevailed. Now that we've got a foothold and a feeling for the lake and its 19 other surrounding lakes, it's time to go back.

The great folks, Dave and Melissa, have offered us the entire camp for the week at a very special rate of \$1,080 Canadian per night. That's about \$810.00 US currently. The wonderful dinners with deserts are priced at \$35.00 per night Canadian or about \$26.25 US. They have 28 beds in all of their cabins. So if we only take 20 people, the cost will be around \$400.00 US for the week and that includes those wonderful dinners. If we can get 25 people on this great trip, the cost at current exchange rates is only about \$350.00 for the whole week. Most trips like this cost more than this per day. What an unbelievable deal at one of my favorite places on the planet. You'll still need your own breakfasts and lunches plus you'll need a BC fishing license, but these are of minimal expense. Driving time from the Everett area is about 7 hours depending on how many stops you make. Car pooling is advised and usually more fun. In the 50 years I've been going to Rock Island, I've never had a bad trip and I go 3 or 4 times a year now. We're signing people who might be interested now. No commitments or money needed at this time. For more info you can go to the Rock Island Fish Camp BC web site or ask me, your Ghillie GO GO Ron, for more information. There's only a max of 28 slots available and 20 have signed up so far. Lots of time to plan for this, so don't miss this great trip. **Get your name on this list now!**



Fishing For Steelhead In December



Before you go steelheading, check the river levels: sudden surges will put the fish off the bite, and very high water will make the rivers too muddy for fishing. Remember, wade up to your knees; if you can't see your toes, go home.

It's seldom productive to fish for winter steelhead when a river is rising, but a clearing and dropping river can create aggressive steelhead. Every stream clears at a different rate, depending on its gradient, the condition of the surrounding banks, and the state of its tributaries. The best bet is to pick one or two favorites and learn how they behave under different conditions. After a bit of observation you'll learn the levels at which a stream fishes best.

Cold water means most fish will hug the bottom; some will suspend a few feet above, if the conditions are right. In either case, they will be hard to budge. Under these conditions, a steelhead will seldom move more than 18 inches to either side or a foot upwards. They won't move down. So your fly needs to travel very close to the fish and at or just above the fish's eye level.

There are two primary ways to do that: use a weighted fly with a sink-tip line and present the fly with traditional tactics; or use indicator tactics. The latter works best when you're fishing ledges, slots, and pocket water. It's can also be the most productive tactic when the water is very cold (under 40).

When choosing a fly, consider the condition of the river. When the water is low and clear, small drab flies often work best; you'll need a thinner tippet under those conditions, too. When the water is on the murky side, a large black fly can be more effective.

Winter steelhead fly fishers need guerrilla tactics to survive. As soon as rivers begin to drop and clear, hoards of gear anglers will invade the prime bank-angling runs and stand shoulder-to-shoulder casting slinkies and roe. If you walk up and say, "Excuse, but I need about 200 feet of elbow room so I can do my double spey cast," you'll be lynched before lunch.

A boat can help a lot. It can put you into places that aren't so crowded, places where you can stake out some turf and be left alone. Also, seek out the productive water that the gear guys won't touch, such as bouldery sections, pocket water, and small, snaggy tributaries.



Fly Tying

By Mike Binbo

It's time to sign up for fly tying classes again. The 12 classes will be held weekly on Wednesday nights beginning on Jan. 6 and continuing through March 23. The cost for members is still \$40. It will be \$60 for nonmembers.

The Rosehill Community Center in Mukilteo will be our facility again this year, and you can register for classes starting on Dec. 12 by calling the center at 425-263-8180. Let them know that you are a club member so that you will be charged the lower fee.

If you've never signed up classes before, here's a little info: The classes are mostly taught by club members focusing on patterns that they've had success on, usually on local rivers and lakes.

The classes will go from simpler to harder patterns, and it helps to have some experience in tying, but it's not required. If you have no experience, we'll try to teach you the basics, then hook you up with more experienced members who can help.

You will need to bring a vise, tying thread and basic tying tools.

Classes start at 6:30 p.m. with information on various tying topics. The tiers will start at 7 p.m. and will supply a handout with tying instructions and the materials needed to tie a couple patterns.

In addition to club members, we will also have a class this year on tying an intruder steelhead pattern taught by Michael Bennett, an accomplished steelhead guide and owner of the Pacific Fly Fisher fly shop in Mill Creek.

We will also have a class with tying tips from member Steve Gobin, an accomplished tier and bamboo rod builder and a member of the Atlantic Salmon Fly Tiers Guild.

If you have any questions about the classes, please contact me at **360-913-3565** or at mikejbenbow@gmail.com

FYI. The Rosehill brochure on the classes has the wrong dates, so ignore them.

Thank You Sponsors



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