



# FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

Washington State Council

# Covering the Drift

Volume 25 Issue 3 September 2021



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**VIRTUAL EXPO 2021**  
**Check out pages 3 & 4 & 5**  
**for information about FFI's**  
**Virtual Expo**



**Register for the FFI Virtual**  
**Expo 2021**

Expo registration opens on Monday, August 16. Come back to register, but explore the offerings now.

# Home Water



President Steve Jones

I've been tying a lot of flies lately. I'm preparing for a long delayed steelhead trip to northern British Columbia and I want to be equipped. Steelheading is often a crapshoot. You can enjoy multi-fish days and you can also have zero-fish weeks. Either way, the worst thing is to miss an opportunity because you weren't prepared. Directors of the Washington State Council of FFI feel the same way about our coming year of programs. We are planning to hold a couple of one-day casting fairs in 2022, one each in Western and Eastern Washington. We also want to revive our Fly Fishing Expo in some form in the near future. But while planning has begun we're also aware a pandemic still lurks and there is the chance in-person events could be cancelled again like they were in the past year.

I've talked to a few club presidents recently that have shared the same concern. Many were planning to resume in-person monthly club meetings this fall. Now, some aren't so sure that would be a good idea. Regardless, planning continues because they want to be prepared.

Besides planning, clubs statewide have continued to pursue conservation and education work with remote meetings and social distancing. More than half of the 17 clubs in the Washington State Council are conducting online membership meetings. Most of those also are sustaining online tying groups and tying classes for both experienced and beginning tiers. Launching new conservation efforts has been difficult, but sustaining efforts begun before the pandemic is working. For example, the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club in Spokane two years ago began a campaign to purchase and preserve the Ebsen Fishing Access on the Grand Ronde. Even though the pandemic hit in the middle of the effort, Inland Empire officers stuck to the job and concluded the purchase and transfer of the 8-acre site to WDFW management last month.

To recognize the commitment of Inland Empire and others, the Washington State Council also is giving its annual awards for outstanding efforts in conservation, education and leadership. Traditionally, those awards have been handed out at our Fly Fishing Expo. But the work goes even if the in-person events do not. Elsewhere in this newsletter we recognize five clubs and/or individuals for their outstanding work on behalf of the Washington State Council of FFI and the sport of fly fishing.

Another thing that the Washington State Council prepared for this year did become a success. That was our 2021 election of officers. Neal Hoffberg of Seattle was elected a director at large and Len Zickler was elected our new Vice President for Eastern Washington. Neal is a member of Seattle's Washington Fly Fishing Club where he has helped move their fly tying group online and assisted with the club's extensive outreach to veterans through Project Healing Waters. Len needs no introduction to FFI members. He is the past President and CEO of Fly Fishers International. After holding the national leadership role he took some time off and has now re-engaged by joining our Washington State Council board again. Neal and Len will be good additions to our board and I thank them for serving.

Jim Maus and myself, Steve Jones, were also elected to three-year terms as treasurer and president respectively. Because we were appointed to those roles last year we needed to go through the election process in order to continue.

## VIRTUAL EXPO 2021

Fly Fishers International (FFI) has transformed its annual International Fly Fishing Expo into a virtual event for 2021, completely reimagining how fishing enthusiasts from around the world can enjoy the Expo from the comfort of their own home.

“Our goal is to have fun while learning and immersing ourselves in everything fly fishing,”  
— Patty Lueken, Chair of FFI’s Virtual Expo Planning Committee



The FFI Virtual Expo 2021 will take place November 5-7, and will be unlike any fly fishing show in the past.

FFI is pulling out all the stops to make the Virtual Expo the premier fly fishing event of the year. Teaming up with some of the best instructors, presenters, and fly fishing personalities in the sport, FFI Virtual Expo 2021 will feature workshops and presentations on casting, fly tying, conservation, women in fly fishing, travel, and much more. Similar to fly fishing shows, there will be vendors, break-out rooms, and entertaining activities—something for everyone.

Highlights will include:

- Fantastic classes and workshops from renowned “fishy” folks
- Compelling and important conservation workshops
- Fly tying demonstrations with some of the world’s best
- An online auction culminating in a virtual live auction on Nov 6
- Great giveaways
- Specialty classes on cooking, nutrition, tricking out your camper, “how it’s made,” and other topics to interest fly fishers and non-fishers alike.

“Building off of the incredible success of the FFI Online series — during which we brought the essence of FFI out to the international fly fishing community — the Virtual Expo will bring the fly fishing show experience to you.”  
— Patrick Berry, FFI President, and CEO



# Come Join Us for the Fly Fishing Event of the Year Virtual Expo



**November 5-7, 2021**

## Virtual Expo Activities

Some great activities are planned for the FFI Virtual Expo. As information becomes available we'll post it in future newsletters, on our website and in emails sent out to all of the FFI members in Washington State.

## Be a Sponsor or Exhibitor

All sponsors will be given an exhibitor space at the Expo, plus additional benefits at each level.

Gold - \$3000 - 8 available

Silver - \$1500 - 12 available

Bronze - \$500 - 8 available

## Workshops & Seminars

FFI has some of the best instructors in the world. They are coming to you online to provide some great learning opportunities through seminars and workshops. Topics covered include:

Casting

Tying

Fly Fishing Skills

Conservation & More

Full schedule will be available in July.

## Auctions, Raffles & More

Want to Participate in our Auctions and Raffles?

Donate an item to our auctions and raffles. Send an inquiry to **[ffiexpoauction@flyfishersinternational.org](mailto:ffiexpoauction@flyfishersinternational.org)**

Bid on an item of your choice, and bid high! Remember it's for preserving the legacy of fly fishing for all fish, all waters.

## GRAB YOUR SPOT IN THE FFI VIRTUAL EXPO 2021!

Fly Fishers International has opened registration for the inaugural FFI Virtual Expo taking place from November 5-7, with some classes starting as early as Sept 6. Fly fishing enthusiasts will have the opportunity to learn from some of the best instructors, presenters, and fly fishing personalities in the sport during this one-of-a-kind event focused on education and fun.



**November 5 - 7, 2021**

REGISTER NOW

## FFI VIRTUAL EXPO HIGHLIGHTS

“Fly fishing enthusiasts won’t want to miss this event!”

– Patty Lueken, chair of FFI’s Virtual Expo Planning Committee

The Virtual Expo can be enjoyed right from home and will feature:

- Over 150 interactive, hands-on workshops and presentations on casting, fly tying, conservation, women in fly fishing, travel, and much more with experts like April Volkey and conservation partner, Trout Unlimited.
- Offerings for every skill level and all things fly fishing.
- Break-out rooms, social gatherings, and entertaining activities.
- A fly fishing film competition open to anyone with a camera, a love of fly fishing, and a great story to tell.

*“The Virtual Expo allows FFI to transform the legacy of our fly fishing education programs and build a more inter-connected fly fishing community,”*

— Patrick Berry, FFI President and CEO

Space is limited to the first 1,500 registrants. Significant benefits are available for FFI members and discounts for non-members.

**Log onto FFI and sign up for the Virtual Expo!!!!!!!!!!!!**

# IMPROVING YOUR CASTING ABILITY WILL INCREASE YOUR CATCH AND RELEASE NUMBERS

By Don Simonson



Why does one take up the sport of fly fishing? Some reasons could be:

Being outdoors and enjoying the environment.

To have fellowship with other fly fishers.

Because it is a challenge to be able to match one's self against a fish by enticing it to engulf an insect imitation that was presented exactly the way a natural insect would be.

In order to present your fly in that manner it needs to be delivered where you want it and how you want it. IE: The fly cast.

The fly is delivered by the fly line. The fly line does what the rod tip does. The rod tip does what the casters body does. This brings us to the basic fly casting fundamentals of the cast.

## Fundamentals:

◆Face the target

◆Remove fly line slack and point the rod at the fly line, IE: (give the tip a drink), prior to the cast.

◆Back cast. Smoothly accelerate to an abrupt stop where the acceleration begins at the point where the line/ leader connection leaves the water as the rod tip is lifted stopping straight up, (thumb on top grip with thumb pointing straight up), with adequate power or force.

◆Move the rod tip in a straight-line path.

◆Pause to allow the loop formed to unroll.

◆Forward cast. Smoothly accelerate to an abrupt stop, (stopping at 10 to 11 o'clock}, with adequate force or power.

◆Move the rod tip in a straight-line path

◆As the loop unrolls follow the fly line down with the rod back to the grass or water.

If you would like more detail, please watch my video at <https://youtu.be/UVZnTmlSsNE>

Don Simonson  
FFI Master Certified Fly Casting Instructor



# Slack line Fly Casts

By Don Simonson

By expanding on fly casting fundamentals from my first article let's explore what happens after the cast has ended. Once the rod is stopped on the delivery cast the cast is over. The fly will go in the direction the rod tip was going at the time of the stop. What the rod does after the stop will affect what the fly line does as it lowers back to the water. IE: an "Ariel mend" of the line. Why would a caster want to reposition the line? To be able to create a drag free float of the fly on moving water.

So, let's investigate a few moving water fishing situations where an aerial mend is so important.

## Fishing Down Stream:

- (1) Stopping the rod followed by moving the rod tip horizontally back and forth. How far you move the tip from dead center will determine how much slack line is created.
- (2) Stopping the rod high and dropping the tip toward the water. The higher the rod is stopped, the more slack line will be produced.
- (3) Stopping the rod followed by moving the rod tip vertically up and down. This will provide a distinct amount of slack line at a certain place in the line from the fly to the rod tip. How long after the rod is stopped before the vertical motion is performed determines where the mend is placed. The longer the delay the closer the mend will be to the rod tip.

## Fishing From a Drift Boat:

Using reach mends left and right. Stopping the rod followed by moving the rod tip from the stop on an angle of 45 to 90 degrees up current. If extending line is necessary allow some line to be extended during the reach. How long after the stop the reach is performed determines where the line will be moved in the direction of the reach. IE: If the reach motion is executed immediately after the stop there will be a straight line of the fly line from the rod tip to the fly.

## Fishing cross current while wading:

Reach mends up current followed by an on the water mend to produce a longer drag free float of the fly. When mending; stop the rod a little higher to allow time for the mend to be completed before the line hits the water. IE: The gravity Factor.

These are just a few of many mends that can be made. Consult on-line info and several great publications available to learn and perfect additional mends.

Don Simonson  
FFI Master Certified Casting Instructor



Editors Note: For some more really great casting tips and lessons, go to the FFI Learning Center and click on Fly Casting!!

So, go to the FFI home page at: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>

Log in

Then click on The FFI Learning Center

Then click on Fly Casting

There are some great videos and lots of very helpful casting tips. Check it out!!!

## FFI's Women Connect

by Trisha Campbell



June was Women's Fly Fishing Month. The Washington Council of Fly Fishers International celebrated June as Women's Fly Fishing Month. The Women Connect branch of Fly Fishers International declared June as Women's Fly Fishing month to promote women's participation in fly fishing through council events. Most councils scheduled one event but the Washington State Council ambitiously set up three events.

On June 12th and June 23rd, Washington State Council Women Connect Representative, Trisha Campbell, instructed casting classes in Pullman, Washington. This was a basic casting class. they had six eager participants ready to learn the fundamentals of casting. Great strides were made on casting mechanics by all participants.

On June 23rd a casting challenge course was offered. Two women passed the Bronze Casting Challenge. Peg Kingery and Sara Cochran took the challenge and passed easily. Sara worked on the Silver Challenge and learned new casting techniques. Five others came to the event for a casting 101 course.

On June 25th and 26th, five women met on the Selway River for a weekend fishout. The women shared stories, skills and went over knot tying knowledge.

Fishing was difficult due to the hot weather, but the water temperature stayed in a safe zone. Some nice Cutthroat trout honored participants and fun was had by all. One 17 inch hen came up from the depths to take a sparkling pupae fly. The anticipation was great as the clear water revealed the long approach she made to the fly before gulping it in. A steady hand was rewarded with her coming to the net followed by a safe release.

The Washington State Council is excited about holding safe future public events!



# Fly Tying Tips and Other Assorted Pearls of Wisdom

By Sam Matalone



Welcome to the 2nd installment of a new section of our newsletter devoted exclusively to fly tying. As fly tiers, we all look for better ways to do things and to a large degree we all steal shamelessly. None of the ideas here are my own; nor can I often remember where I got the idea. So, I apologize in advance if I fail to give credit to the rightful owner of the idea.

Since the last newsletter, I have been helping a number of people improve their tying skills. Helping these tiers helps me to think about what I am doing consciously and what different techniques or tips I am using unconsciously. This awareness becomes the foundation for these articles. The format of the articles is going to change a little. Now, there will be two sections:

- 1) Quick tips which require a paragraph or less and maybe a picture to explain.
- 2) Slightly longer section which requires more than a paragraph.

If you have a tip to share, please send me an email ([sam@matalone.us](mailto:sam@matalone.us)) with “fly tying tip” in the subject line. I will gather, organize and submit to our newsletters, as time and volume allow. As the adage says: The wisdom of one should be the knowledge of many.

## Quick Tips

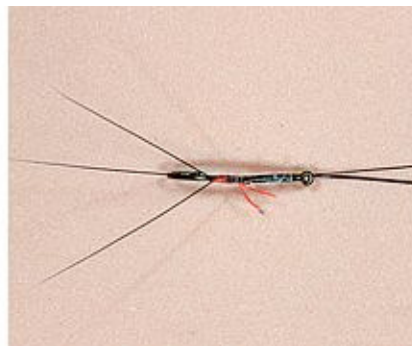
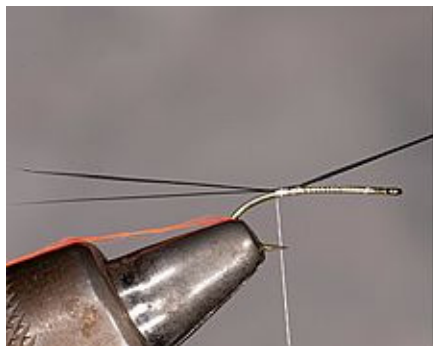
### Quick Tip #1:

I have known some great fly tiers. One in particular was a perfectionist. He would not use a fly unless it was perfect. One tip he gave me was not to use scissors to cut the thread as it would leave a small tag which could be seen. Instead he used a straight blade of some sort such as an X-Acto knife for a clean cut. (This is NOT the tip yet.) So I got an X-Acto knife and used it for years. One day I was tying and I reached for some material. As I did something began to roll off my desk. I closed my legs to catch it, and I did. Unfortunately it was the X-Acto knife. Four stitches later I was as good as new and a little wiser. Since then I have switched to a cuticle remover to cut thread. It works perfectly and is SAFE.



### Quick Tip #2:

When showing a friend how to tie some parachute dry flies, he was having a very difficult time splaying the tail fibers and keeping them splayed. A very simple fix is to use a loop of thread (or any other small diameter material) at the bend of the hook. Pull it from bend through the tail fibers to split them. To split the tail in half, run the thread evenly between the fibers. Then tie down the excess thread and you have a perfectly split tail.



Please note there are 3 tail fibers in this example. When you go to split 3 fibers, you pull the thread such that your loop straggles the center fiber.

## Working with Biot

Biot, the little short stiff barbs on the leading edge of a bird's flight feathers, is such a misunderstood material. Most people are familiar with biots as split tails on stoneflies or wings on nymphs such as the Prince nymph or a caddis emerger. However, they can be a little difficult to work with but by properly preparing the material it is easily managed. Biot can yield some very striking natural looking segmented bodies that have a natural taper. Depending on how you secure the biot to the hook you have options of a smooth body segmented body or a body which has a "natural" rib.



All birds that fly have biots, some biots are more usable than others for fly tying. The 3 most common biots are turkey, goose and duck. The critical difference between these three biots are their length.



Biot closest to the ruler is a Turkey, followed by goose and finally a duck.

Please note the "notch" at the base of the Biot, the orientation of this notch will define whether you get a ribbed body or a smooth.

From my experience:

Biot Type	Hook Size
Turkey	#10-#6
Goose	#16-#10
Duck	Great for tails/wings

The most difficult part of tying biot bodies is securing the biot to the hook. Once this is accomplished, it is just a matter of winding the biot body. (If you have a rotary vise, use it. Most tiers will get a more consistent body) Start with a good even thread base wrapping back from the eye of the hook to the point of the hook. Orient the biot such that as you tie it in on the near side so it extends away from the hook at about 45 degrees. Depending on the body type orient the notch. If the notch is oriented towards the front of the hook, you will get a ribbed body. If the notch is oriented towards the rear of the fly you will get a smooth segmented body.

Secure the butt of the biot (notched end) with a pair of hackle pliers and slowly begin to wrap the biot. It is critical to ensure you do not get a twist in the biot. If you do you will not get the body type you were expecting. After your 1st wrap, the notch must be oriented in the direction at which it was tied in. Wrap forward overlapping the previous wrap, adjusting the overlap to define your segmentation. Continue wrapping forward until you come to your tie off point. Make a couple of extra wraps and cut off the excess material.

Continued on Page 11 →



Below are a few pictures to illustrate this process.

Note Notch is facing forward.



Note Notch is facing away for the eye.



A couple tips to make tying biots easier:

- ◆ Moisten the biots however you desire. (water, saliva, sponge, etc) This makes handle the biots much easier. (If you want to put a finish on the biots, (UV resin, Zap a Gap, etc) You need to make sure the biot has dried. I use a small hair dryer for about 15-30 seconds.
- ◆ If you want to add strength to the biot body, without drying the biot use a water base head cement.
- ◆ A smooth thread base is essential for achieving a uniform and consistent body.
- ◆ Lastly, pull the biots off of the feather. If you cut off, you loose your reference, the notch.

Hopefully, we will be able to share more pearls of wisdom, leading to better flies, more bites and greater stories.



## What's New at the WSCFFI Website?

By Sam Matalone

Thanks to you, our website is expanding as well as the number of people visiting the the site. We still want your ideas on how to continue to grow.

Have you ever wondered what other clubs around Washington/Alaska are doing? One idea which recently surfaced was to link affiliated clubs newsletter to our site. We have linked to Alpine Fly Fishers newsletter from our site. We hope in the near future to get all affiliated clubs' permission to link their newsletters on our site.



Below is the URL, which we plan to use to link affiliated clubs newsletters:

<https://wscffi.org/afflicted-clubs-newsletters/>

Talking about the newsletter, the WSCFFI website has an archived set of newsletters dating back to Sep 2000. Though there were some newsletters prior to this date, we were hacked about 10 years ago.

Some of the files were damaged, infected or lost. Since then we have upgraded our system with more security and backup capability.

You can access our newsletter page from our home page [wscffi.org](https://wscffi.org) or from the following url:

<https://wscffi.org/news-letters/>

On this page you will find:

- 1) A link to the most current Newsletter
- 2) A link to our archived Newsletters
- 3) Affiliated Club Newsletter (New Section added in July 2021)

What is it that would make you visit our site and revisit it periodically?

Please send your comments to [webmaster@wscffi.org](mailto:webmaster@wscffi.org).

### Covering the Drift

The image shows the cover of the 'Covering the Drift' newsletter. At the top left is the FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL logo with a globe icon and the text 'Washington State Council'. The main title 'Covering the Drift' is in a large, blue, serif font, with 'Volume 25 Issue 2 June 2021' underneath. A photograph of three people in fishing gear is featured. Below the photo is the 'FFI WOMEN CONNECT' logo with the tagline 'CONNECT / LEARN / FISH'. A call to action reads 'Check out pages 3 &amp; 4 for Women Connect June is Women Connect Month'. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Golden Stoneflies' with an image of several stoneflies. A 'Read More' link is at the bottom left of the newsletter preview.

## WSCFFI-FFI-ACADEMY UPDATES

by Mike Clancy, WSCFFI Rep.

### FFI Inaugural Film Festival

Have a phone or camera? Want to win some cool stuff? Enter the FFI Inaugural Film Festival.

In keeping with the mission of FFI to preserve the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters, the objective of the Inaugural FFI Film Festival is to invite and encourage filmmakers of all ages, abilities, and experience to tell their fly-fishing-related stories through film. Experienced or novice, young or old, close to home or in exotic locations, all are invited to submit their original films. Deadline to submit a film is **September 10, 2021**. Learn more at the FFI website and do a SEARCH for Film Festival.



### NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy

We will open registration for the 2022 Academy on January 1, 2022. An essay and letter of recommendation from a teacher, counselor or scout leader, is required along with the application. No one is turned away because of funding. Sponsorships are available. The event will take place the last full week of June, June 19-25, 2022. 2022 only, the age is open to 12-17 years old. The event will be held on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. Let's hope we can do this in 2022.



### The Osprey

The international Journal of Salmon and Steelhead Conservation. The Osprey is supported by the FFI along with many other organizations. To me, it provides more information on conservation issues in WA, OR, & ID. than any other publication under one cover. Their website: [www.theconservationangler.org/osprey](http://www.theconservationangler.org/osprey)

## **Education**

By Carol Anderson

Hi all from the road. This VP Education is currently in Oregon heading to Wyoming to work with Joey's Fly Fishing Foundation to film young people learning how to fly fish at his camps. I stopped along the way at small rivers in the Cascades to check water levels and temperatures and do some fishing when the water was cold enough. What a fun way to start this summer adventure.

For the rest of summer I will create about 10 short movies of kids learning fly fishing skills, fish anatomy, fly tying, stream conservation and etiquette, reading the water column and anything else important to our youth becoming responsible fly fishing stewards. These movies will form the foundation for the Fly Fisher's International - Youth Fly Fishing Education Curriculum.

During the FFI Expo November, 5,6,&7, I will virtually present the new curriculum along with extensive materials for all FFI councils and affiliated clubs to use for their own education programs. Look forward to seeing you all online in November. Don't forget to sign-up for my Youth Education presentations. One is for kids and parents and one is for interested club education leaders.

Look for an announcement and link on the WSCFFI facebook page to my Youth Education Facebook page to follow this Youth Curriculum adventure.

Happy Trails,  
Carol



## CONSERVATION

*Mike Clancy*

VP Conservation



FBI – Public access to a portion of the lower Grande Ronde River is now permanently protected through the purchase of an eight-acre private parcel approximately 2 miles upstream from the confluence with the Snake River. The access is located on a great steelhead river near the popular Turkey Run and Shadow Hole sections of the river. FBI and WSCFFI, and the Inland Empire FF Club, worked with the Wild Steelhead Coalition and others to fund the purchase of this property. Ownership was recently donated to the State of Washington and will be managed by WDFW for access and use in perpetuity.

WASHINGTON – Chehalis Basin Board voted unanimously to approve a spending plan for 2021-2023 for the Chehalis Basin Strategy. This plan allocates \$70 million, appropriated by the state legislature to the Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB), across a portfolio of actions for flood damage reduction and aquatic species habitat restoration at every scale. To learn the whole story, go to “Office of Chehalis Basin” [www.mcma461@ECY.WA.GOV](http://www.mcma461@ECY.WA.GOV)>

ALASKA –Large-scale, old –growth timber sales in the Tongass National Forest is ending. Next we need to focus on restoration, recreation and other noncommercial uses for the southeast Alaska rainforest.

SAVE BRISTOL BAY – The Alaska Department of Fish and Game reported that the Bristol Bay’s 2021 sockeye run reached the largest on record with 63.2 million fish returning to the bay. The 2021 run broke the 2018 standing record at 62.9 million fish returning to the region. Thousands of years on Indigenous stewardship and 100+ years of sustainable commercial fishery management made this year’s record-breaking sockeye run in Bristol Bay possible. Science has shown that clean water and healthy fish habitat will continue to support this world-class fishery that produces roughly 50% of all sockeye salmon on the planet. Even though the fishery’s biggest threat – the proposed Pebble mine – was denied the key federal permit last year, Bristol Bay isn’t safe yet. The current administration needs to put a permanent denial on mines that threaten Bristol Bay, such as Pebble mine or any other future mine.

A federal judge threw out approvals for a North Slope oil project, saying the federal review was flawed and didn’t include mitigation measures for polar bears.

**WE PROUDLY SUPPORT THE  
FOLLOWING ORGANIZATION**



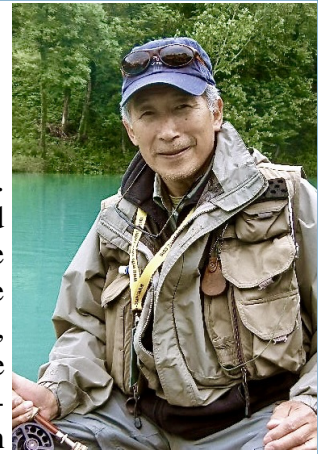
<https://projecthealingwaters.org>



<https://castingforrecovery.org>

## International Programs Committee

*By Kuni Masuda*



Kuni Masuda

I am proud to introduce our seasoned FFI member in Patagonia. His name is Jorge Trucco. He has spent his life as a pioneer in fly fishing establishing a reputation unprecedented throughout the fly fishing world. A native of Argentina, He pursued his passion at a young age even before fly-fishing became fashionable as a recreational opportunity. He grew up with the other legends guiding some of the most famous including Lefty Kreh, Mel Kreiger, Art Lee, Billy Pate, to name just a few. Serving as their guide was a profession but secondary to the deep personal relationships formed with each. These friendships evolved into a “mutual admiration” society elevating Jorge’s status to the industry leader throughout North and South America.

His well-deserved fame allowed Jorge to form Patagonia Outfitter’s, the premier Argentina fly-fishing outfitter in some of the world’s most sought after trout fishing destinations. The pristine waters of Patagonia attracted the rich and famous resulting in Jorge being revered as the “Guide of the Stars”.

From actors like Robert Duvall, Michael Keaton, Liam Neeson to celebrity stars like Super Bowl champion Coach Dick Vermeil, cyclist Greg Lemond, astronaut Wally Shirah, Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and even President Jimmy Carter, he built endearing friendships with them all. These life long bonds formed because of fishing, but the attraction was Jorge’s extraordinary fly-fishing skills. Regardless of one’s level of experience, Jorge can guide you to a gratifying skill level previously unattainable. He has been a teacher, mentor, pioneer, conservationist but equally important, a person who imparts friendship among sportsmen and respect for the natural resources we love to fish.

The accomplishments Jorge has amassed are overwhelming.

- Single handedly made the Patagonia Region of Argentina an international fly-fishing destination.
- Pioneered and established the ethics of “catch and release” regulations in Northern Patagonia.
- Successfully stopped construction of dams on the Collon Cura and Alumine Rivers in Northern Patagonia.
- Introduced the first drift boat (McKenzie) to the Patagonia area.
- Founded and chaired the Fishing Guides Association of Neuquen to promote fishing conservation.
- Co-founded the “Calviello & Trucco Rods” company manufacturing native bamboo rods.
- Organized and starred in several TV shows including “Fly Fishing the World”.
- Won the prestigious “One Fly” tournament in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.
- Elected chairman of the Argentina Chamber of Hunting and Fishing.
- Selected as Outstanding Fly Casting Instructor by IFFF.
- Collaborated, participated, and was featured in the Joe Brooks Documentary.
- Transcribed and translated the complete Joe Brooks Documentary into Spanish.



Jorge Trucco

After more than 40 years as a renowned fly-fishing guide, Jorge Trucco still loves to pull on his waders and help new friends experience the joy and love of being outdoors. Whether spending time tying flies, building rods, pursuing photography, or recording music, he is always excited to explore a new river.

Jorge is helping us in Argentina and the rest of Latin America for FFI to grow. Virtually all countries are fly-fishing destinations in one way or another, whether it is trout and salmon fishing along the Andes of Argentina and Chile, warm water fishing in northern Argentina and the rest of South America (golden dorado, peacock bass, wolf fish, etc, etc.), and numerous options for saltwater fly-fishing in northern South America, all of Central America and Mexico. Besides, all of these countries have their own fly-fishing communities which are rapidly growing. And then, there's also Spain, where the fly fishing culture is centuries old and well established.

Anyone interested in working with the International Programs, please contact Kuni Masuda.

# Washington State Council Awards for 2021

## **Fly Fisher of the Year — Trisha Campbell**

In 2015 Trisha went to the FFI Expo in Livingston where she met Molly Semeneck and soon after joined FFI. The two began talking about Casting Certification, but with two kids at home and a career, the process got off to a slow start. She began to engage in the CI journey about three years ago and began working with other casters at schools and casting events. She assisted Molly and others whenever she could. “I had to learn and improve my teaching skills so I took every opportunity I could as my kids got old enough” to allow it.



She was a member of Kelly Creek Flycasters in Lewiston where she and other women in the club heard about Casting for Recovery. In 2012, they began organizing a chapter of CFR and Trisha joined the casting team there. Their CFR retreat now serves Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington. She began helping with the CFR Washington retreat four years ago. Engagement there led to other invitations. She now is an ambassador for Reel Women Fly Fishing Lori-ann Murphy owner. She now is an instructor on their trips to Belize and trips in the domestic US. In 2019, Trisha was elected a director FFI’s Washington State Council and this year she became the Council’s representative to Women Connect, FFI’s nationwide women’s fly fishing group.

## **Club Conservation Award — The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club, Spokane**

The Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club of Spokane wins the Club Conservation Award for 2021 for its outstanding leadership acquiring and permanently conserving 8 acres of public fishing access on the Grand Ronde River.

Known as the Ebsen Fishing Access site, the private lot had been operated by WDFW for public use for years. When the Inland Empire club learned the owner wanted to sell but WDFW was unable to purchase the site, the Inland Empire Club moved swiftly to create a partnership with the Wild Steelhead Coalition and put down earnest money to keep the land off the market. Inland Empire then swiftly reached out to the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International for help raising the cash to finance the purchase.



Thanks to the hustle of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club of Spokane, the partnership of Seattle’s Wild Steelhead Coalition and the generosity of fly fishers statewide, eight acres of prime river access are permanently in public hands. Special credit goes to Inland Empire Treasurer Jim Athearn who was at the center of every step in the transaction, and club President Jon Bowne who kept the club squarely behind the effort. Credit also goes to landowners Lynn “Radar” Miller and his wife Kay. The couple has admired the rugged Grande Ronde for years and wanted future generations to enjoy it as well.

The Inland Empire club put up \$2,000 in earnest money to secure the land. The Wild Steelhead Coalition pledged another \$2,000 to launch fundraising. More than a dozen clubs and individuals –most of them affiliated with the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International—donated \$30,000 that covered the purchase price and legal fees surrounding the transfer to state control. Donors included eight Washington fly clubs; the Spokane Fly Fishers, Evergreen Fly Fishing Club, Puget Sound Fly Fishers, Columbia Basin Fly Fishers, Northwest Fly Anglers, Clark-Skamanian Flyfishers, Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers, Dry Side Fly Fishing Club and the Kelly Creek Fly Casters of Lewison, Idaho. In addition, the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International donated and two national organizations pitched in, the national board of Fly Fishers International and Back Country Hunters and Anglers.

“There was regional support for this,” said Jim Athearn. “Now it will be a regional asset forever.”

# Washington State Council Awards for 2021

## Fly Tying Hall of Fame Award — Sam Matalone

Sam grew up in Northern California where his passion for fly fishing started at the age of 11. He joined the California Fly Fishermen Unlimited soon after. With the help of many CFFU club members he honed his tying and casting skills. Soon, he was invited onto the board of directors and became the lead fly tying instructor. Sam has participated in numerous fly tying events from sportsmen shows to various FFI council occasions. A career slowed Sam's extra curriculum activities; but, he never stopped tying flies or helping others develop their skills and passion. Sam continues to support the Washington State Council FFI. He has many talents and likes to tie a range of flies from carved balsa wood poppers (taught several classes at WSCFFI events) to Atlantic salmon classics.



During the pandemic, Sam worked with other FFI councils to develop Zoom events helping clubs stay connected through virtual fly tying classes.

Sam's efforts are driven from his favorite adage: *"The wisdom of one should be the knowledge of all."*

## Pat Herdt Education Award — Jim McRoberts

Jim McRoberts is a long-time member of the Washington Fly Fishing Club with a keen interest in helping wounded veterans recover from their injuries. In 2006, in cooperation with the Red Cross, Jim and others from the club began showing recovering soldiers at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma how to tie flies. The process was therapeutic for soldiers with injuries and veterans became engaged in the process and fly fishing in general.



About the same time, others on the East Coast were coming to the same realization and founded Project Healing Waters to deliver organized outreach and therapy to wounded veterans nationwide through fly tying and fly fishing. The project came to the Seattle area in 2008 and Jim became one of its earliest backers and soon its Program Lead for Puget Sound. With Jim in the lead, the group began offering Project Healing Waters services to Seattle VA veterans. Since then the project has expanded to deliver service to veterans at the American Lake VA Medical Center as well.

Jim is quick to say he couldn't do the work alone. Dozens of WFFC members have contributed to the effort. Jim, however, is the man who has stuck with the effort and led it for the past 15 years. Until the pandemic stalled work, Jim led a Project Healing Waters team of 13 volunteers that deliver about 300 hours of volunteer service every quarter to wounded veterans. Jim hopes to get back to that level of service soon.

Since its founding, the effort was hosted by the Washington Fly Fishing Club. In 2020, FFI created an affiliate club called the Caring Fly Fishers of Washington to more easily insure the Healing Waters outreach effort. Jim is president of that affiliate club. "I love fly fishing and teaching people how to do it," said Jim. "To tie a fly and watch someone catch a fish is just a great thing for me."

## Washington State Council Awards for 2021

### Washington Club Education Award — The Washington Fly Fishing Club

The Washington Fly Fishing Club has been reaching out to veterans and their families for more than a decade with programs for fly tying and fishing, support for the families of fallen soldiers and education for teenagers picking up a fly rod for the first time. For those ongoing efforts, the Washington State Council is giving its Club Education Award to WFFC.



WFFC helped establish the Project Healing Waters program in Puget Sound. Since 2008, the club has been at the center of efforts to support the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled veterans and active duty military. Teaching fly tying was the first activity they introduced and it remains a core part of the program. Over the past 13 years the effort has regularly engaged more than a dozen WFFC members teaching tying, casting and assisting Healing Waters participants on the water.

From that commitment, WFFC members have also reached out to Gold Star Families who had a family member who died serving in a time of conflict. In 2018, about a half dozen WFFC members introduced children of fallen soldiers to fly fishing during a one-day event at American Lake. The following year, WFFC offered a walk and wade fly fishing trip on the upper Cle Elum River to Gold Star kids, said Trevor Bennett, the WFFC member who assisted with the effort. WFFC also contributed to help launch Streamgirls, a program aimed at engaging young women in the sport. Pandemic halted both efforts, but club members said they hoped to restart the work in the future.

WFFC also has been a longtime supporter of the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy. Pandemic halted the annual week-long school that introduces groups of about two-dozen teens to the sport. “The plan is to restart next year,” said John Gravendyk, a WFFC member and new co-chairman of the school. Gravendyk’s partner leading the school next year will be Carol Anderson, a director of the Washington State Council of FFI.



# FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

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Washington State Council

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**FLY FISHERS**  
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Washington State Council

## Washington State Council FFI joins the Amazon Smile Program



**FLY FISHERS**  
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Washington State Council



You can donate to the state FFI council with every purchase at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile)

Reward programs are everywhere these days. From the grocery to airlines everybody is rewarding a purchase by giving you credit for future purchases or contributing to a cause. Now the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International is one of the groups you can help when you purchase goods through Amazon Smile.

Amazon Smile donates 0.5% of the price of every purchase to the non-profit of your choice. It doesn't change the price you pay for goods. Amazon takes a sliver of its earnings from the transaction to donate to the non-profit you choose.

Washington FFI supports a range of education and conservation efforts every year from cash contributions. We support Casting for Recovery for women cancer survivors and Project Healing Waters serving wounded veterans. For years we've backed the annual Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy that has introduced a generation of teens to our sport. Last year we helped organize and fund a successful effort to preserve public ownership of the Ebsen Fishing Access on the Grand Ronde and we helped fund new signage for fishers on the Yakima River.

It takes cash to sustain these efforts, cash we usually raise through our annual Fly Fishing Fair and other events. That hasn't been possible lately. But everyone still shops. Many FFI members shop online at Amazon. Directors of the Washington State Council have joined the Amazon Smile program to help fund our work. You can help by shopping through Amazon Smile.

To join follow these steps:

Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com)

Sign in with the Amazon.com credentials you ordinarily use to shop at Amazon.

Search the list of charities and select **Fly Fishers International Inc. Seattle WA**. Make sure it says Seattle!

Bookmark [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) on your computer to make it easy to return to the charity site.

Every time you shop through Amazon Smile a portion of every purchase you make will help fund FFI education and environmental stewardship in Washington. Several FFI councils nationwide participate in the program so be sure to select Fly Fishers International Inc. **Seattle WA** when you sign up.

Since our founding 56 years ago, Washington FFI has worked to support the 22 FFI member clubs in Washington and Alaska and design ways to promote and conserve fly fishing for all fish in all waters. Washington FFI pursues projects and partnerships that educate the public about our sport and the habitats that sustain salt and freshwater fisheries. We have a track record of success creating innovative education programs, sound conservation efforts and a strong community of fly fishers statewide. Help Washington FFI continue that success by signing up at [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and selecting:

**Fly Fishers International Inc. Seattle WA** as your non-profit of choice. Thank you.

*Editors Note: I already had a link to Amazon on my computer but it did not open to Amazon Smile, so I copied the URL to the Smile site and opened up my link and pasted the new URL in it. Now I open to Amazon Smile when I click the link. It doesn't cost me any more money and the WA State Council FFI gets a donation from Amazon.*

*I call that a Win-Win*

*Larry*

# Back of Beyond

By Stephen Neal

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

## Dedicated to Women of Vision

Coming home from work this evening the sky was full of temperature dropping gray clouds and the sun's low to the horizon shafts of light, turned the cloud's heavy bellies golden. What a gift, refreshing coolness and a rich golden hue to end the day. I haven't been fishing since my sea bass trip with Chonly and Howard but I have been hitting the mountain trails on and around Mount Rainer. When Cy was here in July we took a day off from home repair projects and met up with Sean. Sean had been wishing to show me one of his treasured hikes and we took him up on his offer. He introduced us to Grand Park via the Lake Eleanor trail.

The day opened with the threat of rain but that was the only path open to us so that's the one we took. A rain jacket in the backpack is just one of the essentials that are always at hand, so soggy or not we were on our way. Grand Park in July is a high mountain bench meadow, miles long and wide hanging above the Carbon River. In July and early August it can be covered by an expansive display of wild flowers. It is home to elk, bear and other critters that make the meadow and tree copses their homes. Sean waxed reverently on the beauty of the view we would see when we arrived in the meadow. But on that day we walked into low clouds and Rainer and other surrounding peaks and ridge lines were ghosts who failed to show themselves. We still had a wonderful time exploring and dining on sustainable sardines and crackers amidst the plethora of young wild flowers. Catching the musky sent of Elk forted up in the Western Hemlock groves that dot the meadow.



It wetted my appetite for further exploration and I have been back twice since my first exploration. The second time Terry and I made the 10 mile round trip and then last Friday I took Darren and Colin with me. Terry and I had a close encounter with a mama black bear and her cubs passage in front of us. She crossed to a grove of Hemlocks and then stood tall to sniff the air and appraise us before returning to her journey. As you come up and onto Grand Park from the conifer forest below, you are greeted with a magnificent view of Willis Wall and expanse of ice and rock that is climbable in the winter, but spectacular anytime of the year. Willis Wall, the Nordwand (North Face) of Mount Rainer, is a route known for loose boulders, cliffs of frozen mud, frequent rock falls, and sporadic massive ice avalanches from the 300 foot ice cliffs hanging above the climbing routes. Grand Park is separated from Mount Rainer by the Carbon River valley. From the Meadow it appears as if you could reach out and touch it but Nature rules here and you must earn the right to touch it by crossing the mountain valley between you and your goal.



The twins are nearing their eighth birthday in September, they have grown from park, glen and river rambles with me to mountain hikers and high vantage point viewers, what a blessing they are to have in my life. One of the joys of mountain rambles is side trips. On the Grand Park adventure tours Sean also introduced Cy and I to the Federation Forest. The Federation Forest is found on Washington State Route 410 just before you get to Greenwater. The Federation Forest is a protected old growth forest.

Continued on Page 21 →

This is not a place of spectacular views. But it is a small piece of the old growth forest that used to cover Washington's low-lands before the timber companies pushed to convert the vast forests to cash. Its beauty lies with-in, in its back story and in what lies beneath our feet out of sight. This remnant of old growth forest, was saved by a group of forward seeing women who recognized that we were rapidly losing the beauty of Washington in a rush for cash.

In 1920's The General Federation of Women's Club's of Washington State began to raise money to preserve a part of the old growth forest before it disappeared under the lumbermen's axes and saws. A member of Washington State Federation of Women's Clubs, Miss Caithness Greenlee an Everett High School teacher had witnessed the destruction of the mighty forests in her home state of Wisconsin and did not wish the same fate for Washington's majestic stands of tall, old trees. Her idea of saving a sample of great trees for future generations was embraced by the women's club. Over a two year period the club raised 25 thousand dollars and they bought their first 62.89 acres of land near Snoqualmie Pass.

Among the members of The General Federation of Women's Clubs was Miss Catherine Montgomery a Teacher of Teachers at Western Washington University and avid outdoors women, who upon her passing in 1957 bequeathed her estate to The General Federation of Women's Clubs. This seed money was used to build the interpretive center named in her honor.

But wait, Miss Montgomery is part of another fascinating back-story. As a teacher she bought text books for the school and on January 13, 1926 she had a meeting with Joseph Hazard. At that time Hazard was a well known mountaineer who sold textbooks for H. Sanborn & Co. In his book Pacific Crest Trails, Hazard talks about this meeting.

"Do you know what I have been thinking about, Mr. Hazard, for the last twenty minutes?"

"I had hoped you were considering the merits of my presentation of certain English texts for adoption!"

"Oh that! Before your call I had considered them the best – I still do! But why do not you mountaineers do something big for Western America?"

"Just what do you have in mind, Miss Montgomery?"

"A high winding trail down the heights of our western mountains with mile markers and shelter huts – like these pictures I'll show you of the Long Trail of the Appalachians" - from the Canadian Border to the Mexican Boundary Line!" That very evening I carried the plan to the Mount Baker Club of Bellingham. Favorable action was taken. The rest of the mountain clubs of the Pacific Northwest promptly contacted all other organizations. All adopted the project with enthusiasm and organized to promote it.

Clinton C. Clark is known as the Father of the Pacific Crest Trail, but 6 years before at that foggy January meeting Miss Catherine Montgomery planted a seed that finally flourished and grew into being through Clinton C. Clark.

There are too many important women in The General Federation of Women's Clubs who helped the two women mentioned in this article to bring the Federation forest into reality, for me to mention let alone cover in detail. As a lover of the outdoors and knowing nature's intrinsic value to mankind, I am indebted to each and every one of them for saving the Federation Forest for all of us.

You can read more at this website: [http://www.orgsites.com/wa/gfwcwashington/\\_pgg1.php3](http://www.orgsites.com/wa/gfwcwashington/_pgg1.php3)

Hope to see you on the water soon.

Side trips lead to wonder, amazement and discovery.

Stephen

*"Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after"*

*Henry David Thoreau*



## Knotty Tips

By Larry Gibbs

Every person who fishes most likely has a favorite knot or two. I was always willing to experiment when it came to knots especially when I started using fluorocarbon leaders and tippets. Some of the standard knots did not go over very well with that material. I searched around for a 100% knot to use to tie my fly onto the tippet. I came across the Turle Knot and was very impressed with it. However, the instructions I found on the web were less than clear and it took me a bit to get tying the knot down pat. One day I was on a guided drift on one of my favorite large western rivers. When I go guided, which is the only way I fish now, I let the guide determine the flies to use and he ties them on for me. Well for some reason that day I lost three nice fish in a row and the tippet told the story, the curled pigs tail of a bad knot. I had been fishing with this guide for a number of years so I was surprised. But, I told him he should learn the Turle Knot and I showed him how to tie it a few times. We fished the rest of the day without losing a fish due to a bad knot. That winter he was fishing for steelhead and was using the Turle knot. He hooked into a large steelie and he remembers thinking, "Larry, that knot had better hold". It did and he got the fish to the net.



But, explaining the way to tie the Turle Knot was difficult. When I checked out the Orvis website and found their section on Illustrated Knots (and Videos) I noticed that the Orvis Knot was just like the Turle Knot, with the exception that with the Turle you let the fly slide down the leader and then bring it back up through the main loop. With the Orvis Knot you leave the fly inside the main loop the whole time. A minor difference that has no effect on the strength of the knot. The Orvis Knot is also a 100% knot and that is the one I recommend for tying the fly to the tippet.

You can see the animated version and the video version at the following link:

<https://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/fly-fishing-knots/orvis-knot-animation>

I suggest you copy that URL and use it. Finding that link on the Orvis site is a bit difficult without it.

Watch it a few times, grab an old fly line that you can tie in knots, or a really thick leader, just so you can get the motion down right, then switch to tippet material. If you practice this knot a number of times, it will come as second nature to you out on the water.

## FFI Learning Center Knot Class

The FFI has a great resource for its members. The Learning Center.

To download a great resource for tying knots and rigging lines do this:

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

Login

Hover over the 'Learn' word and you get a pop up then go to the following:

Learning Center Resources

Fly Fishing Skills

Knots and Rigging - Click

Download a Lesson here

A 33 page PDF shows up that you can put in your computer



FLY FISHING:  
KNOTS & RIGGING

## Something in Common

There is a common link between the Turle Knot, the Orvis Knot. The portion of the tippet that tightens up into a solid knot is not the tippet that leaves the fly. The actual tightening, hence possible cutting of the tippet is actually on the loop that is formed while creating the knot. This is what makes the Turle and Orvis knots 100% knots.

If you look up the Double Davy Knot on the Learning Center's PDF, this is a knot that is really liked by a lot of fly fishers. This is a about a 90% knot. Most knots that apply pressure to the tippet or leader as it exits the fly cause a little damage to that line which keeps them from being 100% knots.

# Meet Some of the Washington State Council's Board of Directors

## VP-West Robert Gerlach

I am a retired general contractor living in Gig Harbor, Washington who has been angling the Pacific Northwest for over 30 years. The fly rod captured my attention 13 years ago, and I have picked up the gear rod only a few times since then.

I studied for three years and became a Certified Casting Instructor at the WSCFFI Fair in Ellensburg in 2013 and have been working on becoming a Master in the Art of Teaching for over 5 years now. I find just about as much pleasure throwing a perfect loop as I do hooking a great fish, well I said almost! I have been working with Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy, Tacoma School of the Arts and SAMI teaching larger groups of young men and women the Art of Fly Casting as well as many smaller groups and individuals. I am constantly working on improving my ability to “COMMUNICATE AND DEMONSTRATE” good casting form as well as working with each individual and their particular casting Style! I am available for both group and private lessons, 253 377 1798. It is an honor to serve on the Board of Directors of the Washington State Council of the Fly Fishers International and have a hand in “PASSING IT ON” to future generations.



## Director Kuni Masuda

Kuni Masuda has 36 years of fly fishing experience and is a member of World Fly Fishing Japan, FFI and Clark-Skamania Flyfishers in Vancouver, WA. He participated in the 2012 World Fly Fishing Championship in Slovenia. He was invited to compete as a member of Team Japan and a manager of the team. He joined one of the finest handcrafted and high performance rod makers, C.F. Burkheimer as a pro-staff in 2011. He has been invited to become a pro-staff for Wastatch Custom Angling as a demo tier.

Currently he is a member of the FFI Board of Directors who is responsible for international outreach and member of the Fly Fishing Museum steering committee in Livingston, MT as well as a demo fly tier for their fly fishing events. Over the years he's fished in Alaska, Europe, Canada, Mexico, Japan as well as widely in the Northwestern U.S.



Besides being a director of the Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers, he got involved and committed to the education, conservation, promotion of fly fishing as a method of angling. And through it, an understanding of and appreciation for the diversity of nature. He manages the Fly Tyers' Night every 2nd Wednesday of each month at the WDFW for the last 4 years.

JOIN THE

FFI1K

SAFEGUARDING THE LONG-TERM  
HEALTH OF FLY FISHING AROUND  
THE WORLD  
[FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K](http://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](http://FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG/FFI1K)  
OR CALL 406.222.9369 TO JOIN TODAY!

\*See enclosed remit envelope for payment options  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF: Ed Coyle, 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**

## Editors Notes

*By Larry Gibbs*



Murphy's Law, I am sure most people are familiar with it. The old saying "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong". The last newsletter went that way. I had finished it, and Sam asked me to send him the PDF so I created the PDF and sent it. I failed to check the PDF before I sent it, my bad. Turns out there was some kind of an electronic error within the newsletter that only allowed half of it to be created. I had to redo the whole newsletter to remove the problem. Then when I sent it, all of it got copied into the PDF. Live and learn but you would have thought I knew better than to not check it first.

The summer has come and almost gone by now. Fall is peaking out from behind the foliage and the fish are starting to feed a lot to bulk up during the winter. I really love fishing in the fall. It can be a magical time out on the rivers I like to fish.

Just in case you haven't noticed, the first week of fall is only a couple weeks away. Now why would I mention fall? The **Virtual Expo!** If you haven't checked out the Fly Fishers International website you really should. There is a listing of all the classes and seminars you attend, sitting in your chair at home and listening to speakers from all over North America and the world. More information is on page 5 of this newsletter. Don't forget about the auctions they will be having. Great destinations and lots of good 'stuff' to bid on.

**November 5-7 Check it out: <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>**

I am sure you noticed the previous page and the notice about the **Thousand Stewards** program, FFI 1K. This is a great way to donate to the FFI and you will hardly notice it in your pocket book. An easy way to do this is to sign up for the five year plan of automatically donating \$42 each month for five years. That is only \$1.37 per day. This helps give the FFI the funds they need to complete all the great work they do. I was the first person to become a Thousand Steward member and when I finished my initial donation I 'rejoined' again to continue with a five year plan. When that one ends, I will sign up again for yet another five years. Why not? It is a great way to donate funds to the FFI. Money that they can use to enhance our fly fishing experiences. Please give it some serious thought and join those of us who are FFI 1K members. Here in Washington, we have two fly clubs that are members and the Washington State Council is also a member. Join us in this endeavor.

Speaking of the FFI Virtual Expo in November, I had initially thought I would post a listing of all of the fantastic classes and seminars that the FFI are going to have on line! Yes, that was my initial thought. Then the FFI opened up the enrollment for the event. I copied all of the classes/seminars/events that they had listed and pasted them into a document. Wow, the document was over 50 pages long.

So I cancelled that idea right away. As indicated on page 5 of this newsletter, the FFI announcement about the expo states that there are over 150 interactive, hands-on workshops and presentations on casting, fly tying, conservation, women in fly fishing, travel, and much more.

They are having some auctions as well, where you can bid for some great destination trips, and all kinds of neat 'stuff' we fly fishers always like to get. They are even going to have a live auction with Will Godfrey as the auctioneer. I am not sure how all that works but you can bet I will be there waiting to place some bids!

The story behind the picture of me and my very large smallmouth bass. A few years ago I was fishing with one of my favorite Montana guides, Brooks Sanford, from the Clark Fork Trout fly shop/guide service. We were on the Flathead River in western Montana between Perma and Paradise. This absolutely beautiful female smallmouth bass took my streamer and the fight was on. We got her to the boat and took a very quick picture to get her back into the river so she could go spawn and introduce even more bass like herself. She was obviously not the standard size for smallies in Montana or elsewhere. She was a smallmouth fish of a lifetime for me. I am sure there are more like her in that river and I am trying to find them while having fun doing so.

Fly Fishing in the fall can be a magical time so get out there and find that magic!