



FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

Washington State Council

Covering the Drift

Volume 28 Issue 4 - October 2024

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FLY CASTING FAIR

September 21

Campus of Clark College Vancouver, WA



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday Sept. 21, when the Washington State Council is putting on another Fly Casting Fair this time on the campus of Clark College in downtown Vancouver, WA
Please save the date.

**Invite
Someone
To
Join
The
FFI**

See Page 50



**FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL**

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI



The Newsletter Has Changed!

By Larry Gibbs & Sam Matalone

Covering the Drift

Volume 28 Issue 4 - October 2024

FLY CASTING FAIR

September 21

Campus of Clark College
Vancouver, WA



To keep with the times and new technology, the Washington State Council newsletter is changing and, hopefully, you will think it is for the better. The changes are designed to improve the quality of learning and communication. The old newsletter was in a PDF format with a limitation of 3MB. In many cases, this prevented us from bringing you, the reader, the best possible experience. We are now able to have video links, direct links to web addresses and everything is online; so, no files are stored on your computer. (For those who want a hard copy, you can download the file.)


The biggest change you will notice is that the newsletter is now in a vertical page format, which means all you must do is scroll up or down. Additionally, all links will be highlighted and should open into a window by themselves. (This saves time in reloading pages and provides easy return to where you started.)


This is the tool bar which should appear at the top of the newsletter.





If for some reason it is not there check the bottom of the page. It is very light in color and easily missed.


10/10 Page counter icon, the top number is what page you are on the bottom number is how many pages there are.

 This icon provides an index for the entire newsletter. It creates a vertical representation of all the pages. You can simply click on any page and you will scroll straight to that page.

 These icons will increase or decrease the size of the print for easier reading

 This icon will expand the newsletter to full screen viewing

 This icon will allow you to share the page/pages to FB, IG, IN, etc. In addition, you can email page/pages directly.

 This icon gives you several options, such as: downloading the newsletter and quickly jumping to the top of the newsletter or the bottom.

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Since this is the 1st time we will have published the newsletter in this format, we anticipate a few hiccups. If you encounter any problems, PLEASE send an email to:

webmaster@wscffi.org

Also, if you have a suggestion, please send those in as well.

Home Water



President Steve Jones

In May I fished the Yakima River with an younger fishing companion. It was a so-so day until the final two hours drifting to our take-out at Roza when the hatch and the fish came into harmony and we hooked up on some really nice trout.

It so happens two days later was the formal opening of the new Bighorn Recreation Area on the Yakima that Washington State Council FFI and its members statewide had worked to buy and protect. The Washington State Council helped the Western Rivers Conservancy raise money to purchase the former Yakima Canyon Ranch, which included Bighorn, and turn the land over to BLM to manage for all our benefit. That week the joy of fishing the Yakima and the value of Fly Fishers International came into clear focus for me.

It was Lee Wulff who said: “Make a fly fisher and you make a conservationist.” Wulff, who passed away in 1991, was visionary in many ways but none so clear eyed as that statement. The skill to present and hook a fish with a fly requires a close inspection of nature, so close in fact that it becomes a kind of love that turns into commitment to sustain that water and the land around it.

That also summarizes the reason why I’m a member of Fly Fishers International and why I want to sustain this organization and the fishing culture around it. FFI helps us turn our passion for fishing into action for the environment. That’s important to me and I think it’s important to you as well. It became important to the young man I fished with on the Yakima too. I asked him to join FFI. He did and that was a big reward just like the chunky 18 inch rainbow that came to my net near Roza and the ribbon cutting at the new Bighorn Recreation Area. We need the new generation of fly fishers to sustain our organization just like we need healthy watersheds to keep our water clean and our fish healthy.

The perfect opportunity to ask a friend to join is coming up Sept. 21 at the Fly Casting Fair at Clark College in Vancouver Wash. Make a plan now to attend and invite a friend to join you. When people see what FFI is about and understand our commitment to education, conservation and community our membership grows. During the pandemic our membership fell. Now thanks to new events and the effort of our membership director, Larry Gibbs, our membership has stabilized. I look forward to growing again.

Besides leading membership for our council, Larry has been instrumental in helping FFI rekindle membership efforts nationwide.

For that, FFI named him its 2024 Fly Fisher of the Year. Please see the story elsewhere in this edition for more on his contributions.

Washington State Council Fly Fishers International

Fly Casting Fair



Dave McCoy Photography

FLY TYING DEMOS
Tying Classes
Atlantic Salomon
Fly Tying

NOON CASTING DEMO BY TIM RAJEFF designer of ECHO RODS

BEGINNING, INTERMEDIATE and ADVANCED CASTING CLASSES

WALK-IN CASTING CLINIC
CASTING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT COURSE

Saturday Sept. 21, 2024, 9 am to 4 pm

On the campus of Clark College

1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver Wash.



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Washington State Council

Reserve classes at WSCFFI.ORG



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Washington State Council

Fly Casting Fair Is On September 21

Register Now For Fly Casting and Fly Tying Classes

Tim Rajeff will be the premier instructor and demonstration caster Saturday Sept. 21 at the FFI Fly Casting Fair on the campus of Clark College in downtown Vancouver WA.

Rajeff will headline a range of expert casters including Mary Ann Dozer of Sisters, Ore. who will lead women's casting, Don Simonson of Camano Island Wash. who will lead the walk-in casting clinic and Dwight Klemin of Salem who will teach single-handed spey techniques. All four, including Rajef, are FFI Master Casting Instructors and make up the core of an experienced group of instructors offering classes and demonstrations throughout the day Sept. 21. The Washington State Council of FFI is hosting the event with the volunteer help of Clark-Skamania Flyfishers. For a complete list of classes that will be offered during the day go to WWW.WSCFFI.ORG. You can reserve your space in a class beginning Friday, Aug. 2.

In addition to casting instruction, the event will feature the FFI Casting Skills Development Course where throughout the day participants can work through a range of casting challenges and skills. FFI will award Bronze, Silver and Gold levels to recognize participants achievements. Participants also can step over to the Walk-in Casting Clinic to iron out a wrinkle they discover in their cast. Casting classes are 90 minutes and range in price from \$25 to \$50. There is no charge for the Skills Development Course and Walk-In Clinic, donations are welcome.

Casting classes will be held on the expansive lawn at the center of the Clark College campus, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way. Parking is free. Around the edges of the casting areas, rod makers including Sage, Reddington, Echo, Burkheimer, TFO and others will have booths set up offer participants a hands-on experience to try out the latest in rod design. It's a great opportunity to meet the people behind some of the iconic brands in our sport like Erik Johnson of Sage/Redington and Dick Sagara of TFO.

And casting is only the half of what will be happening Sept. 21. Inside the Gaiser Student Union FFI will host a rotating series of the most skilled fly tiers in the Northwest. Aaron Culley, FFI's Hall of Fame tier for 2024 and a member of the Atlantic Salmon Fly Tying Guild will be demonstrating his tying skill in the afternoon. Gaiser Hall will also have a 30-seat tying theater where participants can watch selected tiers at work on a big screen.

To top it off, a Clark-Skamania tying trio of Forrest Koponen, Dean Potter and Russ Flaskerud will offer a beginning tying class in the afternoon. Invite your friends, wives, neighbors, kids, brothers, grandkids and learn how to tie a fly. All materials and tools are provided and there is a \$25 fee.

The event is open to the public and there is no charge for Tim Rajeff's noon presentation about rod design and how to pick the best rod for your casting ability. There is a \$50 charge for Tim's afternoon Advanced Distance/Performance casting. 90 minute classes for beginning casting, women's casting, intermediate, single-hand spey and advanced casting cost between \$40 and \$50. Registration for all classes will open Friday Aug. 2 and space is limited.

Lunch will also be available. For a menu and pre-order go to WWW.WSCFFI.ORG for details and to purchase in advance.

CSF members need to mark their calendar for Sept. 21 and join Washington State Council FFI at the Fly Casting Fair. We couldn't pull this off without all the volunteers from Clark-Skamania that are helping with set up and take down for the day.

Thanks from all of FFI's 700 members in Washington and Alaska.

One Fly Casting Fair Done In May

Next Fly Casting Fair Is On September 21

The May Fly Casting Fair in Ballinger Park was a rainy success. Or, it was a success despite the rain would be another way of saying it. Either way you look all the class space available in our roster of casting classes was filled. Feedback was good and the rain didn't dampen the fun, although it may have limited the crowd.

One big reason for that success was the Overlake Fly Fishing Club and its volunteer coordinator Steve Foisie. They were FFI's well-organized volunteer partner for the day. Special thanks goes out to our team of FFI Certified Casting Instructors Ryan Smith, Pat Peterman, Tom Cammarata, Todd Somsel, Marion Hiller, Ruth Sims, Don Simonson, Jim Black and Frank Koterba. Students were really engaged during the day and it was thanks to instructors that reached out to participants. The same is true of Washington State Council director Neal Hoffberg who organized the teaching team. Neal has been involved with coordinating the instruction program for each of the past 3 Casting Fairs and we're all the better for his consistent effort.

This year the event benefitted from the expanded Fly Casting Skills Development courses. The FCSD, as it's commonly referred to, attracted steady attention from visitors. Frank Koterba led the effort and during the day FFI awarded participants two Bronze, five Silver and three Gold level awards. Besides Frank, three other instructors led participants through the course that day including Aaron Culley, Marion Hiller and Robert Gerlach. Part of visitors' success on the FCSD, was the adjacent Walk-In Clinic led by Jim Black where participants could get help swatting bugs in their cast. Thanks also goes out to Bill Reisbick and Howard Levens for leading both morning and afternoon classes in beginning fly tying and Washington State Council fly tying director Sam Matalone for bringing a skilled team of tiers to the event throughout the day.

Now the focus shifts to Saturday Sept. 21, when the Washington State Council is putting on another Fly Casting Fair on the campus of Clark College in downtown Vancouver. Please save the date.

Taking the "show on the road" to Vancouver is a new opportunity to engage with our growing membership in Southwest Washington. And what better place for casting classes than on the quad at the center of a community college. Classes will be organized on the football-field-size lawn stretching south of the student union in Gaiser Hall. Inside the hall, we will have an expanded roster of expert fly tiers at work. We're adding a tying theater where some of FFI's leading tiers will be projecting their techniques the audience. Space limits our tying effort at Ballinger Lake to just a few tiers at work at one time. Space won't be a limit in Vancouver, where we will have dozens of tiers at work throughout the day in Gaiser Hall. Just like at Ballinger Lake, we will have box lunches and coffee available and a comfortable place to gather with fellow fishers.

Our partner in Vancouver is Clark-Skamania Flyfishers, a 49-year old club with a thriving membership. Club member Bill Victor has taken on the role of volunteer recruiter and coordinator. Washington State Council FFI also is getting help from FFI Certified Master Casting Instructor Mary Ann Dozer of Sisters, Ore., who is helping recruit Oregon's FFI Casting Instructors to help with our Washington event. Outreach is going well.

Thanks to all who attended the May event at Seattle's Ballinger Park and we look forward to engaging with a new group of FFI members and affiliated fly clubs in Vancouver in September. With any luck, it shouldn't be raining.

One Fly Casting Fair Done In May

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Thanks to all who attended the May event at Seattle's Ballinger Park and we look forward to engaging with a new group of FFI members and affiliated fly clubs in Vancouver in September. With any luck, it shouldn't be raining.

Frank Kortuba at work with a caster on the Skills Development course. →



← Steve Foisie lending a hand at the Walk-In Clinic.

Don Simonson and Todd Somsel in front of crowd for demonstrations. →



Class Schedule September 21 Casting Fair

Clark College, 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver WA

The Washington State Council of FFI will hold a Fly Casting Fair Sept. 21 in the center of the Clark College campus in downtown Vancouver WA. The day-long event will offer Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced, Women Casting and Spey Classes. There will be a free Walk-in Casting clinic and Casting Skills Development Course led by FFI certified instructors. Please bring your own equipment. The recommended rod is 9ft 5wt rod with a 7.5' leader with a yarn fly attached. We will have a minimum number of loaner rods. The WSCFFI highly recommends that you wear a hat and sunglasses or other protective eyewear. Sunscreen is recommended.

For the best experience, register for one of the following 90-minute casting classes:

Beginning Fly Casting Class - 9:00 a.m.

Brad Cleaves, CI, Instructor, Morning Class, 9 a.m.

This class is for those new to the sport or with limited casting experience. This class will cover the basics beginning with the pickup and lay down and the fundamental overhead cast. From there the focus will shift to the techniques to make a confident cast on rivers and lakes. Instructors will rely on brief demonstrations then shift to individual help for each student to identify and overcome problems. And if you don't have a fly rod, don't worry. We've got a loaner for you to use.

\$40, 10 participants morning class

Women's Fly Casting Class – 9:00 a.m.

Mary Ann Dozer, Instructor, MCI, CI, Level 1 examiner & Marion Hiller, Instructor, C.I.

This class is designed for women anglers with beginning to intermediate fly casting skill and fishing experience who want to learn what it takes to improve casting skills and become a more effective angler. Students will gain insights to improve the foundational cast: the pick up-lay down cast, the overhead cast: false casting, accuracy casting: effectively casting to different distances. Students will leave with exercises to practice for continued progress.

Suggested gear: one rod: 4-6 wt. rod, a floating line if possible, and 7.5 feet tapered leader with a yarn fly attached, and eye protection.

\$40, 10 participants

Intermediate Casting Class – 9 a.m.

Beth Jappay, Instructor, C.I.

In this class you will learn techniques to self-improve your overhead cast. You will learn the 5 essentials of a cast and how they each influence the outcome of a cast. From there you will learn how application of these essentials enables a caster to shoot line, perform a single or double haul, perform aerial mends, and improve your accuracy. For this class you must have solid experience fly casting. This is not a beginners fly casting class. The gear required for the class includes a 5 to 7 weight forward floating fly line, 8.5 to 10 foot fly rod, 7.5 feet of leader with yarn attached, and eye protection.

\$40, 8 participants

Walk-in Casting Clinic – All Day

Don Simonson, MCI, CI, Level 2 Examiner

Expert instructors engage with you one-on-one in a relaxed outdoor setting to teach techniques for overcoming a problem and perfecting your cast.

\$7 Donation appreciated

Class Schedule September 21 Casting Fair

Casting Skills Development Course

Aaron Culley, C.I.

The Casting Skills Development Course is a fun way to improve your casting skills in a self-paced interactive fashion. You can engage with instructors at the site to work through the skills step by step. Better yet, you and your friends can engage together working through steps and challenging one another to advance your abilities. The Skills Development Course moves through four levels from beginner to advanced. Those with solid foundational skills can work up through the levels to Bronze, Silver and Gold abilities and win FFI recognition for your level of achievement.

\$7 Donation appreciated.

Lunch Time Casting Demonstrations 12 noon to 1 p.m.

Spend some time with the designer of ECHO rods and former casting competitor Tim Rajeff. He will review rod design and how to know what type of rod is best for your casting style.

No Charge, open to all

Advanced Distance/Performance Casting Class 1:30 p.m.

Join Tim Rajeff for 90 minutes of distance and performance casting. Tim will spend personal time with the students to focus on aspects of casting that the students most want to cover. Bring your trout rod and a heavier rod if you want to work on saltwater casting techniques. Be ready to have some fun while you achieve the next level in your casting.

\$50, 6 participants

Single-handed Spey Casting Class – 9a.m.

Dwight Klemin, MCI, THMCI, CI

This class is designed for experienced casters who want to expand their fishing range with single-handed spey techniques. The class will cover the seven steps for a Spey Cast which include the four main repositioning moves for a successful Spey Cast. The focus of the class is to improve participants' ability to deliver casts that cover the water and put flies in position to catch fish. 9foot 6 or 7 weight rod with WF line and a 7 1/2 — O-X leader. Instructor will supply additional (Special Tippet)

\$50, 6 participants

Beginning Fly Casting Class – 1:30 p.m.

Ryan Smith, C.I.

This class is designed for individuals, couples and parents and kids with beginning fly casting and fishing experience who want to improve casting skills to become a more effective angler. Students will gain insights to improve the foundational cast: the pick up-lay down cast, the overhead cast: false casting, accuracy casting: effectively casting to different distances. Participants will leave with exercises to practice for continued progress.

Suggested gear: one rod: 4-6 wt. rod, a floating line if possible, and 7.5 feet tapered leader with a yarn fly attached, and eye protection.

\$40, 10 participants

Class Schedule September 21 Casting Fair

Introduction to Fly Tying

Forrest Koponen, Dean Potter and Russ Flaskerud 1:30 p.m.

The thrill of catching a fish on a fly you tied is like no other. Tying your own flies adds a new dimension to your angling experience. Tying a fly may appear intimidating, but it is not. Especially, with experienced tiers to teach you the basics. This course is an introduction on "How to Tie a Fly". All the equipment and material will be provided. You will spend the majority of time learning the basics of how to handle and prepare materials, use tying tools and basic tying techniques. The class is open to all from 5 to 95 years young. Don't worry if you've never tied before, we will show you how easy it is.

\$25, for the morning and \$25 for the afternoon classes, 10 participants per class

Attendance for all classes is limited. Don't miss out.

Participants in casting classes or the other events are welcome to bring their own fly rods. Please attach yarn to your leader. No hooks please. If you don't have a fly rod, you will be able to borrow one for the classes.

FFI would appreciate a \$7 donation from members of the public for participating in the Walk-In Clinic and Skills Development Courses to help cover the costs of the Fly Casting Fair.

You can also make a \$30 donation to the FFI Washington Council to help support our mission is to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters continues by focusing on conservation, education and a sense of community.

Washington State Council Fly Fishers International

Fly Casting Fair



FLY TYING DEMOS
Tying Classes
Atlantic Salomon
Fly Tying



Dave McCoy Photography

The Washington State Council's Board of Directors

These are the officers and directors of the Washington State Council of Fly Fishers International

Officers:

Steve Jones - President



Steve

Neal Hoffberg - VP-West



Neal

Jim Black - Secretary



Jim B

Peter Maunsell - VP Membership



Peter

Jim Goedhart - VP Education - Youth Fly Fishing Academy



Jim G

Richard Plunket - VP Conservation



Richard

Jim Maus - Treasurer



Jim M

Carl Johnson - Past Council President



Carl

Directors:

Kuni Masuda - Director



Kuni

Don Simonson - Director



Don

Sam Matalone - Webmaster - Director



Sam

Larry Gibbs - Newsletter Editor - Free Fly Program—Director



Larry

Mike Clancy - Government Affairs



Mike

Robert Gerlach—Director



Robert

Marion Hiller - Director



Marion

Ryan Smith - Director



Ryan

Aaron Culley - Director



Aaron

Dareld Thompson



Ruth

Ruth Sims



Dareld

Fly Tying Tips and Other Assorted Pearls of Wisdom

By Sam Matalone

“How many tying capes do you need?” Correct answer: Just one more!



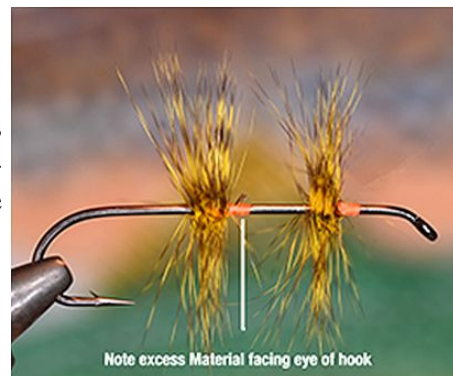
Thread and Waste Management

As I have said many times before in my various articles, “steal shamelessly” and “the knowledge of one should be the wisdom of all”. Well, this article certainly does that and maybe a little more. I watched one of AL and Gretchen Beatty's (FFI Buszek Award Winners) weekly Zoom meetings from the spring of 2024. The method they described touches on both thread control and material management. Al and Gretchen did a great job of presenting the material in a manner that makes sense and explaining why they are using this method. I have to admit when I first saw the technique, I thought it might improve my tying. After using the technique for approximately 3 months, I have to say it has. However, the improvement was not where I thought it would be; in general, my flies have become much more consistent, especially when in finishing off the heads of flies. As I am getting ready to do some unicorn fishing (a.k.a. steelhead fishing) I have seen a more consistent application of tags and butts on my steelhead pattern. (In just thinking about it, there are areas in Atlantic Salmon where this will be most helpful. Who knows? I finally may be able to tie an Unmarried Angel that I like).

This tying techniques is very easy to master and you will see improvements after one or two attempts. Below, are a series of pictures explaining the technique. Additionally, at the bottom of the article I have included a link to the Zoom meeting referenced above. I encourage you to watch their YouTube channel as there is much more info than what I will use in this article.

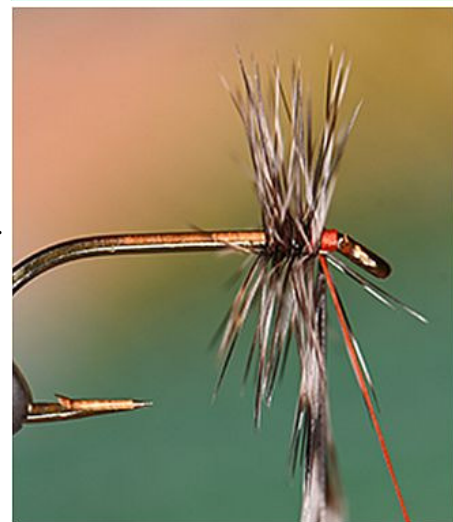
Tying off a hackle at the head of the fly:

When tying off the hackle in a conventual manner, the excess hackle fibers are facing forward. (hackle on the left) With a “better” technique, the excess material is facing toward the bend of the hook hidden in the hackle fibers.



Now for the simple technique:

Wind on your hackle was you normally would towards the head of the fly. At this point, I am just letting the material hang.



The key point here is that the thread is in front of the hackle. This techniques will not work if the hackle is in front of the thread.



With a pair of hackle pliers, bring the hackle around and in front of the thread, making one complete turn.



Once you have completed one wrap of hackle around the front of the thread, repeat the process for a total of two complete wraps.

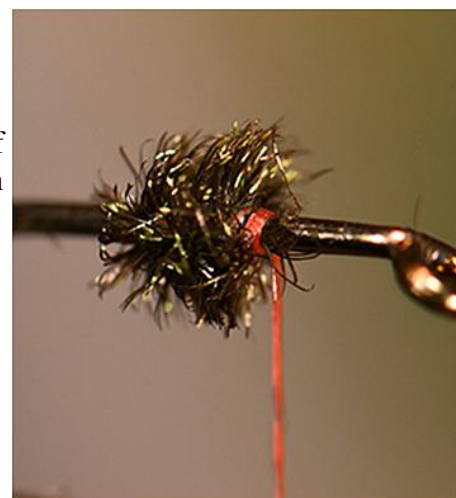


Now, the next critical step, wind the hackle and thread together, make a total of 2-4 turns and cut off the excess hackle. If you have performed this step correctly, the waste fibers are facing the bend of the hook. You are now done!

Simple to master and it improves the look and consistency of your flies!



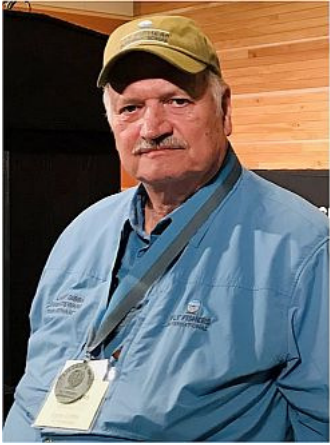
You can use this anytime you are tying off material. Here is an example of extremely cleanly tied peacock herl. This technique can also be used on wire, tinsel, ostrich, etc, etc.



I encourage you to watch this video if you are interested in learning more about this technique. Betty's Tying technique-waste management:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKay5r4prIw&t=4100s>

Larry Gibbs named FFI's National Fly Fisher of the Year



Long-time member Larry Gibbs has received one of the highest honors that FFI gives members, its Fly Fisher of the Year Award. Congratulations Larry.

Larry Gibbs is unique among leaders of FFI in the Northwest and nationwide. While most FFI members are focused on developing their expertise in casting, tying or fishing skills, Larry has focused on developing our organization. From recruiting members, creating and leading clubs, supporting FFI financially and over the past three years helping establish a service focused membership strategy for FFI nationwide. For his long service and success in those efforts, the national Board of Directors of FFI named Larry 2024 Fly Fisher of the Year.

Larry first stepped into leadership in 2001 as director-at-large for the Washington State Council and an organizer of its Northwest Fly Casting Expo at Trophy Lake, Wash. that year. A year later he became Council treasurer and has been in a leadership position for the council ever since.

- He helped establish two new charter FFI clubs in Washington
- He was an outspoken proponent in 2003 of creating “The Osprey,” an FFI funded wild steelhead conservation newsletter
- He was always involved in fundraising efforts at the annual Expo in Washington and is one reason why the Washington State Council remained solvent through pandemic and donated consistently to partner organizations in less fortunate financial conditions
- He helped organize funding in 2005 to install regulation signage at 10 important trout lakes in Washington’s high desert helping conserve the opportunity for all fishers
- Larry took on a national role in 2008 as Auction & Raffle Coordinator for the FFI Conclave in Loveland, Colorado and held that position for five years.
- As the nation emerged from pandemic, Larry took on the role of Membership Director for the Washington State Council to help restore its membership, a role he also shouldered as a contributor to FFI’s national Membership Committee
- And Larry has long been a contributor to FFI’s national fundraising efforts

Throughout his two decades of navigating the Washington State Council and FFI along its path of growth and changes, Larry has been a cornerstone of the organization. He has been a player-coach who rolls up his sleeves to get things done and guide and improve team members. Crucially, leaders must be able to balance vision for an organization with authenticity. Larry never over sells what he or our organization can accomplish, but he never doubts the value of education, conservation and community to our fellow fishers, both men and women.

Larry’s long dedication to that mission, his willingness to pitch in, his ability to get things done and his generosity to its efforts make his contributions deserving of FFI’s Fly Fisher of the Year Award.

FFI Fly of the Month
Fly Tying Group
October, 2000
The Llama



Llama: A fly with a native American connection By Jim Abbs. While we have heard about pre-historic peoples fishing with fur or feathers crudely wrapped on a bone-type hook, there are no documented cases of flies with truly native origins, at least in the Americas.

One fly that may have some aboriginal connections comes from the Menomonee Indians in central Wisconsin. The Menomonee currently reside (and have for the last 300 plus years) in the northeast region of Wisconsin, where their extensive lands include the headwaters and a substantial segment of the upper Wolf River. They have lived in this same region since their first contacts with Europeans in 1634. This section of the Wolf River is perhaps the most famous and best western-style water in the State of Wisconsin, surrounded by towering stands of native white pines and including water falls, challenging whitewater and even some flies-only trout water.

Obviously for fly fishers in the Midwest, the Wolf is a holy water of sorts and is often a prime destination, even for the famous. Many legendary brown and brook trout have been caught (and re-caught) in these waters. The Menomonee are famous for their reverence for nature -in fact their very name means "Wild Rice Men", a reference to the fact that they refuse to cultivate wild rice, because it is viewed as an insult to mother earth. It is not surprising that the portions of the Wolf River that lie on the Menomonee lands are wild and natural.

The famous fly that originated from the Menomonee waters of the Wolf is the Llama streamer. This fly has shadowy origins, but everyone agrees that it appears to have originated, at least in the last century, from a member of the Menomonee by the name of Miles Tourtilloutt (if you wonder why this native American has a distinctly French name, remember the influence and habits of the French in the Great Lakes region in the 1600s and 1700s). Apparently Mr. Tourtilloutt had a fly shop of sorts on the Menomonee reservation and tied flies, which he sold to visiting fly anglers.

This fly was given the highest praise: it was equal to worms in taking trout from the famous Wolf. In recent times the Llama was popularized by an eastern fly expert, Eric Leiser. In the early 1970's, Leiser received a copy of the fly and tested it locally. A couple of years later, Leiser wrote (for the Flyfisher magazine) that the Llama is an astounding fly that works when other methods fail, taking trout with regularity, in many waters and in many states

The Llama has some unusual features, the most striking of which is a downwing of woodchuck guard hair, with a white tip, a black bar, a tan mid-section and a black base. It may be this natural variation in color that makes the fly so effective. The Llama also is reported to be effective for Atlantic salmon. Llamas are tied with alternate body materials, but always with the woodchuck wing.

**FFI Fly of the Month
Fly Tying Group
October, 2000
The Llama**



MATERIALS:

Hook: 2-3X long streamer hook (Tiemco 5263 or Mustad 38941) , sizes 6-12

Thread: Black (6/0)

Tail: Grizzly hackle fibers (length of gap width beyond bend)

Rib: Flat gold tinsel Body: Red floss Wing: Woodchuck guardhair fibers with black, tan, black and white colors showing

Hackle: Grizzly hackle wound as a collar

Head: Black (a white eye is optional) lacquer coating.

TYING STEPS:

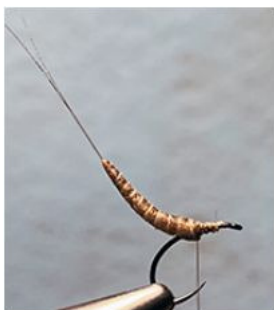
1. Secure the hook in the vise and wrap shank toward the rear of the hook. Tie in Grizzly tail and Flat gold tinsel
2. Wrap the thread forward to about 1/8 inch from the eye of the hook. Tie in red floss and wrap the red floss toward the bend of the hook and back behind the eye so as to create a cigar-shaped oval (Eric Leiser's term) on the hook shank. Tie the floss off and clip excess. (For fishing heavier water, consider winding some fine lead wire on the body).
3. Take the gold tinsel and wrap behind the tail and then forward in an even spiral toward the end of the floss. Tie off tinsel and clip excess.
4. Select a bunch of hair from the back of the woodchuck with the black-tan-black-white color bars for the wing. The wing should extend from about 1/5 the distance of the hook shank behind the eye to slightly beyond the length of the grizzly tail. Leave in some underfur, but not too much. The proper length of wing woodchuck hair will vary with hook size.
5. Tie in the wing, including a few turns of thread in front and in the rear under the wing. Clip excess butt hairs and wind the thread to an even taper.
6. Wind on the grizzly hackle collar as you would for a wet fly and fold it toward the rear of the fly over the butt end of the wing hairs. Tie down tip and trim excess.
7. Build the head with the black thread, giving a smooth taper. Coat with black lacquer for the best finish.
8. After the black lacquer is dry, take a tooth pick and create a white eye with a drop of white paint. For the black pupil, use a toothpick with a smaller drop of black lacquer.



Extended Mayfly Bodies “the rest of the story” Part 3 by Dan West



This is a method I developed to create extended body mayflies that are very durable, light weight, float well and create the element of realism. Though the process may seem complicated, it is not. After a few tries, you will begin to master the technique. This article was really 3 articles, part 1 is creating the extended body, part 2 demonstrates attachment of the extended body and tailing fibers. That was demonstrated in the July issue of the WSC newsletter , and part 3 is tying the wings, thorax and legs.



We started with the extended body created (Part 1) and the extended body and tailing feathers attached to the hook (Part 2). These steps were described in the previous article which can be viewed at the following url:

<https://wscffi.org/240605-zflipbook-dan-west/>

The last step of tying the wings, thorax and legs is the focus of this article. So, onto the wings....

I typically use a variety of synthetic wing materials. Of course, you can choose your own materials; but, I find the synthetic poly yarns and antron fibers hold up better and hold floatant better without matting. This is another area where you have a lot of possibilities for wing design – Different color combinations, markers to add details, adding a bit of Teal or Mallard flank to give some speckling.



You can also buy very realistic wings from various suppliers. Shown below is a fly incorporating the realistic wings from Dutch Fly Tying, (looks cool, but doesn't cast well...tippet twisters). and MFC are other choices for plastic wings. So, get creative with your wing materials. Whether it be a “Wally Wing”, realistic store bought, or many other fibers.



The thing to keep in mind if you intend to fish your fly, is keeping the wing materials spaced correctly! Too much bulk on top of the fly will keep it from floating upright, especially after a bit of floatant and getting wet.

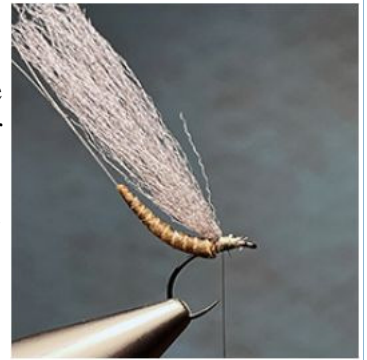


Choose your colors, blend together if using different fibers or colors. I use a comb or tooth or brush to comb out the fibers. It helps blend and straighten the fibers.

Remember to keep it sparse.

Note on wings: Before you tie in the fibers you can decide if you want to split the wings into two, a single upright, or even spinner type wing. If tying a split wing or spinner, I would tie the fibers in across the tie in point using figure eight wraps.

Here I am attaching the wing to the top of the hook with several securing wraps. Be sure to leave enough room for thorax dubbing and a small head.

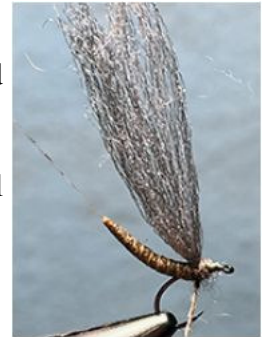


Building up the thorax: Select a dry dubbing of your choice. Use colors that imitate the fly you are imitating. I use different blends such as Wapsi Superfine blended with beaver and or muskrat, kapok, cdc...

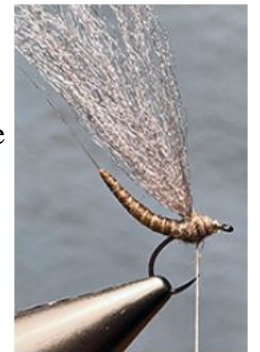


There are a number of ways to get your dubbing on the thread. You can use any method you feel comfortable with. I personally just dub it directly onto the thread.

Splitting the thread to create a dubbing loop is also a very effective way to dub material onto the thread.



Dub the thorax building up to the proportion and color of the fly you are imitating. End the thread behind and at the back of the wing.



Now we are going to create the legs for the fly using the “split thread” method for creating a dubbing loop. You can also use the standard dubbing method loop if using fine thread and on larger flies.

I prefer split thread loops for dries because it creates less bulk and it’s a bit more efficient. The bobbin becomes the tool for wrapping the materials, rather than a separate dubbing loop twisting tool.

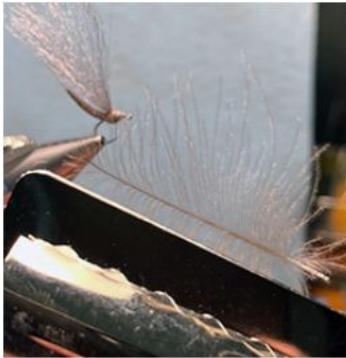
For the smaller flies, or any for that matter, you can certainly use a hackle feather for this. I would trim the bottom fibers off for floating stability.



In this demonstration I'm using Australian Possum guard hairs and CDC mix. I have used many different fibers and hairs for this, so get creative and experiment.



The two flies in this photo to the left, (showing Dutch Fly Tying wings) incorporates Chesapeake Bay Retriever hair!!!!!!.



Prepare your CDC feather. In this example we are using a Bull Dog click with a strip of foam on one side, which you can get at most office supply stores.

There are many different approaches to creating a CDC hackle. To me this is the simplest and straight forward approach.



Using a split thread technique, ensure you use some wax as it helps to control both the dubbing and CDC fibers. I use wax on my thread through all the tying steps.



I place the fibers/hair into the dubbing loop. You certainly can utilize a composite loop here.

The url below will take to to the Washington State Council FFI website on How to create a composite dubbing loop. <https://wscffi.org/a-different-composite-loop/>



Comb or pick out trapped fibers. Best to keep it a bit more sparse than I did here. Also, I left the fibers a bit too long here and ended up trimming off a lot of the nice dark tips from the possum...oops.



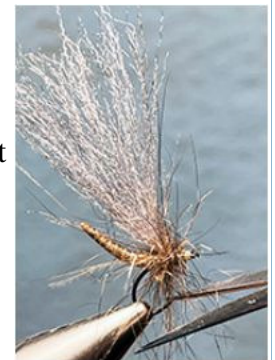
Wrap the legs forward preening back as you wrap forward. Try not to get too close to the back of the wing as it will push it up and not let it lay back. Try to get 2 - 3 wraps behind and in front of the wing, but leave space for a nice little head build up.



Brush and pick out some of the trapped fibers, evenly balancing the same amount of legs on either side of the fly.



Trim off any that are too long or undesirable. You can also pluck out any you don't want with tweezers.



Here is when I trim the wing to shape. I always start long and work down to the proportions I like. Pluck the hook head a couple of times before final trimming to let the fibers settle where they want.



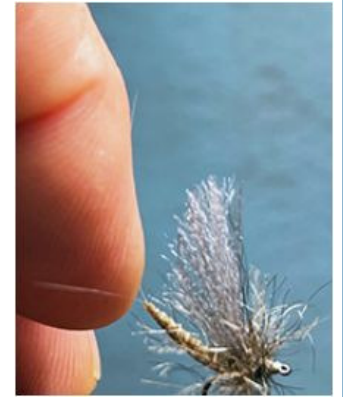
Using any thin UV resin, we now adjust the tail fibers.



Separating the tails: Use a VERY SMALL amount of thin UV resin where the tails exit the extended body, wiggle the tails a bit to let the resin penetrate, remove excess if any.



Separate them with your finger and hit with your UV torch.



The finished fly after using a bit of maker on the wing.

Note from the newsletter editor: Dan West will be demonstrating how to Be these extended body flies at the Washington State Council Fly Casting Event Sept 21st at Clark College, Vancouver, WA. The day-long event will feature dozens of expert fly tyers at work inside Gaiser Hall on campus with a variety of casting classes and activities on the lawns outside.



The CI and THCI Certification Roadmap

This roadmap is designed to help keep you on track during your journey to becoming a certified casting instructor. It is broken into three sections (1) Frequently asked questions, (2) a notional timeline, and (3) recommended actions for each of the steps on the timeline.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- ◆ What is required to become a certified instructor?
- ◆ The desire to become a better caster and the desire to teach fly casting.
- ◆ The willingness to put in significant time and effort to meet the high standards required for certification.
- ◆ Be a member of FFI and register as a candidate.
- ◆ Participate in an Instructor Workshop.
- ◆ Pass a written Knowledge Exam.
- ◆ Pass a Performance Exam (casting and instructing).

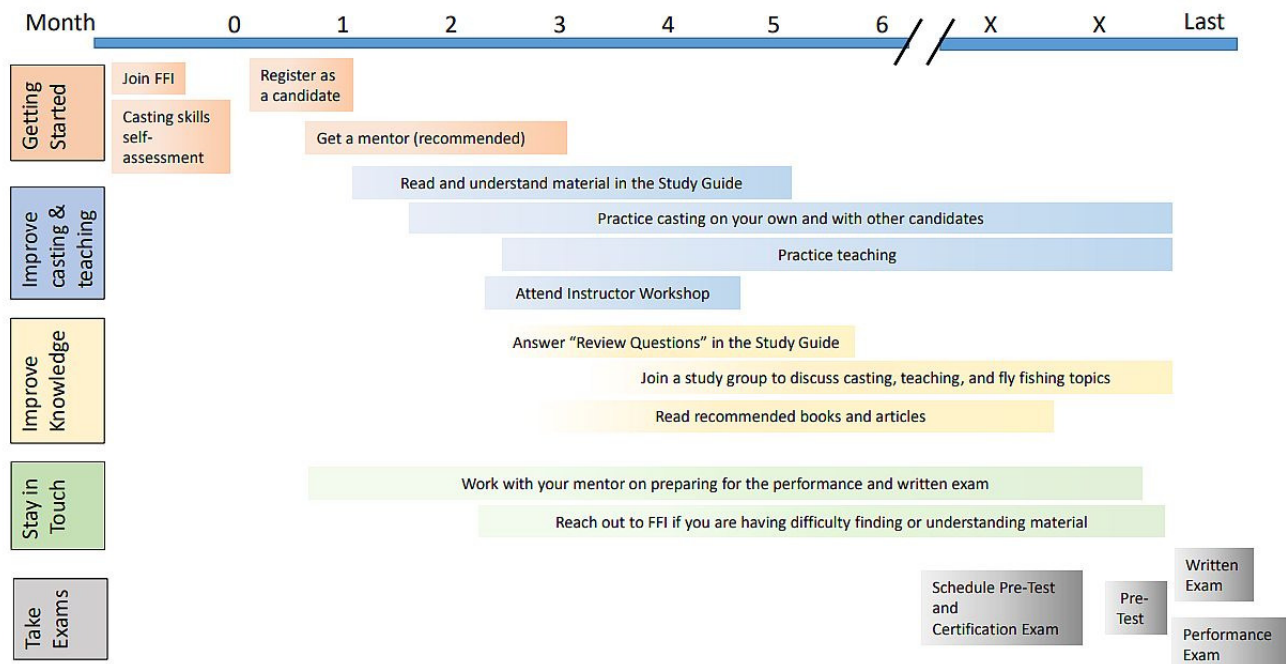
Why become a certified casting instructor? You join the ranks of professional casting instructors who serve as ambassadors for FFI and are fully prepared to provide expert instruction to those wanting to improve their fly-casting and fly-fishing skills. In the process you become a more effective instructor and are exposed to other casting enthusiasts and state-of-the-art casting and instruction.

How long will it take to become a certified instructor? Generally, it will take at least a year for you to prepare for and take the certification exam. The exact timeline depends on your existing casting skills and teaching experience, how much time you dedicate to reading, reviewing, and practicing, and how long it takes you to master the necessary teaching and casting skills.

How much will it cost? The cost to get certified will vary with each candidate. Typical costs include:

- ◆ The exam fee (\$350)
- ◆ “Pass” fee (\$30), which covers the paperwork and your badge
- ◆ Annual instructor fee (\$45). This is in addition to your FFI membership fee.
- ◆ Mentor’s fees. Some do not charge, some charge a one-time fee, and a few charge by the hour.
- ◆ New fly lines (\$180). You don’t need to use any specific line, but which ever line you use must meet the exam requirements. The specialty lines we recommend are about \$90 each and you’ll need (at least) one for practice and another one for the test.
- ◆ New equipment and travel are variable.

CI and THCI Certification Timeline



CI and THCI Certification Timeline

Month 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 X X Last

Getting Started

Join FFI

Get a mentor (recommended)

Casting skills selfassessment

Register as a candidate

Improve casting & teaching

Read and understand material in the Study Guide

Practice casting on your own and with other candidates

Practice teaching

Attend Instructor Workshop

Stay in Touch

Reach out to FFI if you are having difficulty finding or understanding material. Work with your mentor on preparing for the performance and written exam. Read recommended books and articles. Improve Knowledge

Answer “Review Questions” in the Study Guide

Join a study group to discuss casting, teaching, and fly fishing topics

PreTest

Performance

Exam

Written

Schedule Pre-Test Exam and Certification Exam

Take Exams

Recommended actions for each step on the timeline (NOTE: you will need to log into your FFI account to access the links.)

Getting Started:

Join FFI

Go to the website Join Renew (flyfishersinternational.org).

Register as a casting instructor (CI) candidate.

Go to the FFI website to register (<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/GetInvolved/Casting-Instructor-Certification/How-to-Become-Certified/CertificationCandidate>). If you don't already have a mentor, when you register we strongly recommend you ask to receive information about a mentor.

Casting skills self-assessment. Before you begin your journey to become a certified single-hand casting instructor (CI) or two-hand casting instructor (THCI), we ask that you do a self-assessment of your casting skills. If you don't have the recommended skills, continue working until you do. Having these skills will make your journey more enjoyable.

For those wanting to be a single-hand casting instructor, we ask that you be able to perform the Silver Level casting skills listed in the Casting Skills Development Angler's Guide (FFI_FCSD_Program_Angler_Guide.pdf (flyfishersinternational.org)). If you need help with the Silver Level tasks, please see the FFI Fly Casting Skills Development Angler's Guide for a detailed description of the tasks. We also suggest reaching out to an existing certified casting instructor by using our new “Find an Instructor” search engine, or contacting your nearest FFI Council Casting Director Locate Clubs & Councils (flyfishersinternational.org) for assistance.

For those wanting to become a two-hand (Spey) casting instructor, please be able to perform the Level 1 casting skills that are part of the Single Hand Spey Skills Development Program. Although the Level-1 skills are intended for single hand rods, please use them as a diagnostic for your two-hand casting skills. If you need help with your two-handed skills, please reference the Single Hand Spey Ladder Skills Sequence and User Guide (Single Hand Spey (flyfishersinternational.org)). We also suggest

reaching out to an existing certified casting instructor by using our new “Find an Instructor” search engine, or contact your nearest FFI Council Casting Director Locate Clubs & Councils (flyfishersinternational.org) for assistance.

Once you can confidently accomplish, at a minimum, the Silver-Level skills or Level -1 spey skills, you are ready to begin your journey.

Finding a mentor: FFI can point you in the right direction, but it will be up to you to find a mentor.

To find a mentor, use the same “Find an Instructor” search engine to locate one near you, or one you want to work with.

If you are not successful at finding a mentor in your state, select an adjoining state and run another search. If you can't find a mentor, we recommend finding a MCI or THMCI in your state to cast with. If that doesn't work look for a CI or THCI and email casting@flyfishersinternational.org to request assistance with finding a mentor.

When talking to a prospective mentor you should ask about

Cost: Some mentors charge for their time, others do not. Find out ahead of time what you will pay and what the mentor will provide.

What type of mentoring can they provide? Do they provide in-person, remote/virtual, or a combination of both? Also ask if they have a group you can join.

How long will they work with you. Preparing for the certification exam can take a year or more. Find out how long a potential mentor is willing to work with you.

Email casting@flyfishersinternational.org to provide FFI the name of your mentor. We track this.

Improving Casting and Teaching skills

This leg of your journey can take anywhere from 9-24 months depending on how fast you master the needed skills and gain the necessary knowledge. During this phase we recommend:

CI candidates - Read and understand the CI Study Guide ([CI_STUDY_GUIDE_2023.pdf](#) (flyfishersinternational.org)) and take advantage of the other learning resources found at CI Exam Preparation (flyfishersinternational.org) and Become a Certified Casting Instructor (flyfishersinternational.org). The password is **blueGillfish2**.

For THCI candidates – Review the material and use the learning resources found at THCI Exam Prep (flyfishersinternational.org) and Two-Handed Casting Instructor (flyfishersinternational.org).

Practice casting by yourself and with others. You (and your casting mates) are your first student(s). Use the opportunity to practice evaluating and correcting casting faults, and for practicing the teaching tasks (CI exam - tasks 16-22; THCI exam – Section 2) on the performance exam.

Start teaching. Find opportunities to teach. Local fishing clubs are always looking for instructors. In the spring of each year, many local fly shops offer fly fishing classes and most are in need of instructors. Work with your mentor to identify other teaching opportunities.

Watch casting and instructional videos at the Learning Center - Fly Casting (flyfishersinternational.org)

Participate in the mandatory Instructor Workshop. This 2-hour workshop contains valuable information to refine and improve how you teach fly casting.

We recommend attending this online workshop at about the 3-month point in your journey.

To register for a workshop, visit the Casting Examinations and Educational Opportunities page (Calendar of Events (flyfishersinternational.org)) and select a date that works for you.

Improving Knowledge

This stage of your journey can take anywhere from 6-12 months and is totally dependent on your schedule.

This is the time to dig into casting mechanics, fly rods, fly lines, leaders, and tippet, and why different configurations and types of equipment are better in certain situations

We recommend joining a study group, or forming one if you are part of a group mentoring program.

For both CI and THCI candidates, there is a list of “Review Question” in Appendix D of the CI Study Guide. Develop answers for each question and discuss your answer with other candidates. If you are not part of a study group, find a current CI or THCI who is willing to discuss the questions and your answers.

Read recommended books and articles found on the CI and THCI Becoming-a-CertifiedInstructor pages. The quarterly Loop Journal is also full of great casting and teaching information The Loop Journal (flyfishersinternational.org).

For CI candidates, see recommended reading material listed in the back of the CI Study Guide.

For THCI candidates, see recommended reading material at THCI_Study_Materials.pdf (flyfishersinternational.org).

Stay in Touch

Establish a regular schedule to meet with your mentor to prepare for the performance and written exams.

If your mentor is not nearby, find another CI or CI candidate to cast with and review material.

Reach out to your nearest FFI Council Locate Clubs & Councils (flyfishersinternational.org) to find other casters, like-minded anglers, and upcoming events.

Reach out to other casting instructors if you are having difficulty with a concept or casting@flyfishersinternational.org if you have a question about the certification process.

The Exam

It can take several months to schedule and take a pre-test and the exam, and there are several factors to consider.

Bottom line: confer with your mentor before scheduling an exam.

Exam fees are not refundable. You need to be sure you will be ready to take the test on the exam date you select.

Testing events fill up quickly, but committing to an exam means you are paying for that exam—ready or not.

Identify the most convenient testing location. Most people must travel to their testing location. Some people have realistic access to multiple testing events throughout the year. Others may only have access to one event each year.

When you are ready to schedule your exam, go to the Calendar of Events to learn about exam events closest to you. As mentioned above, candidates normally need to travel to exams as they are often held in conjunction with other fly fishing events. Additional exam opportunities may be arranged by contacting the FFI office at casting@flyfishersinternational.org

Pre-Test

A performance pre-test is a simulated exam conducted by one or more Master Casting Instructors who are familiar with how the exam is conducted and the performance standards required to pass.

Pre-tests provide an opportunity to experience actual exam situations and to get detailed feedback on your performance and your readiness to take the actual exam.

When you and your mentor believe you are ready, we recommend scheduling a pre-test with a validated examiner. If an examiner isn't available, work with your mentor to find another MCI/THMCI to give the test. The pass rate is significantly higher among those who take and pass a pre-test compared to those who do not take or pass a pre-test. If you don't have a mentor, reach out to an MCI or THMCI to take you through the exam. If all else fails, contact casting@flyfishersinternational.org and explain your situation.

You can take as many pre-tests as needed.

The Certification Exams

The written exam and performance exam are given at the same exam event.

The written exam is the same for CI and THCI candidates and covers casting mechanics, your understanding of fly rods, fly lines, leaders, and tippet, and uses of casts and mends.

The performance exam evaluates your casting and teaching skills.

The written exam consists of 36 true-false and multiple-choice questions. It covers material provided in the study guide, and the “tips” are identified for a reason. General topic areas covered on the exam include:

Casting definitions

Casting mechanics

Rod tip path and the resulting fly leg shapes

How force affects rod tip path

Effective Hauling

Effective teaching skills

Style vs technique

Teaching methods

Fault analysis

Uses for various casts and mends

Equipment characteristics and their effect on casting and presentation o For CI candidates, the expectations for the performance (casting and teaching) part of the exam are covered in the exam itself, the study guide, and the Tips for Performance and Teaching Tasks (Tips_for_Performance_and_Teaching_Tasks11-7-2022.pdf (flyfishersinternational.org)

For THCI candidates, , the expectations for the performance (casting and teaching) part of the exam are covered in the exam itself, and the THCI Prep Cards (THCI Prep Cards_Williams_6-26-21 (flyfishersinternational.org)

The exams only take a few hours, but plan on spending the day at the exam site.

You will be evaluated by two examiners.

The written exam (1 hour) and performance exam (2.5 hours) are given at the same event, but not always on the same day. Also, depending on the number of candidates, you may be the second, or even third, exam of the day.

The CI exam will most likely be administered on grass but may be administered on water. The roll cast should be administered on water if it is available. The THCI exam will be administered on water.

After the Exam

If you passed your certification test, congratulations! You have a reason to be proud of your accomplishment. Once you’ve taken some time to celebrate, please complete the following actions.

Send an email to the Casting Program Coordinator at casting@flyfishersinternational.org with a copy of the signed exam sheet. The coordinator will send you an email with a link where you can pay your “exam pass fee” (\$30) and your prorated instructor dues.

Participate in Casting Instructor Certification Program (CICP) continuing education opportunities at council, club and international levels, virtually and in person.

Discuss ways of obtaining students for instruction with other Certified Instructors. Your mentor may be a good place to start."

Respond to FFI Casting Instructor Development surveys. Your answers help us make improvements to the program.

If you didn't pass your certification exam on this attempt, use this as learning opportunity. Many currently certified casting instructors needed to make improvements before achieving their certification goals. The following are some suggestions to get you ready for a re-test. You can do this!

Write yourself a debrief about your exam: what went well, what would you do differently, what surprised you, how would you prepare differently if you could take the test again right now? Use these debrief notes in the next step.

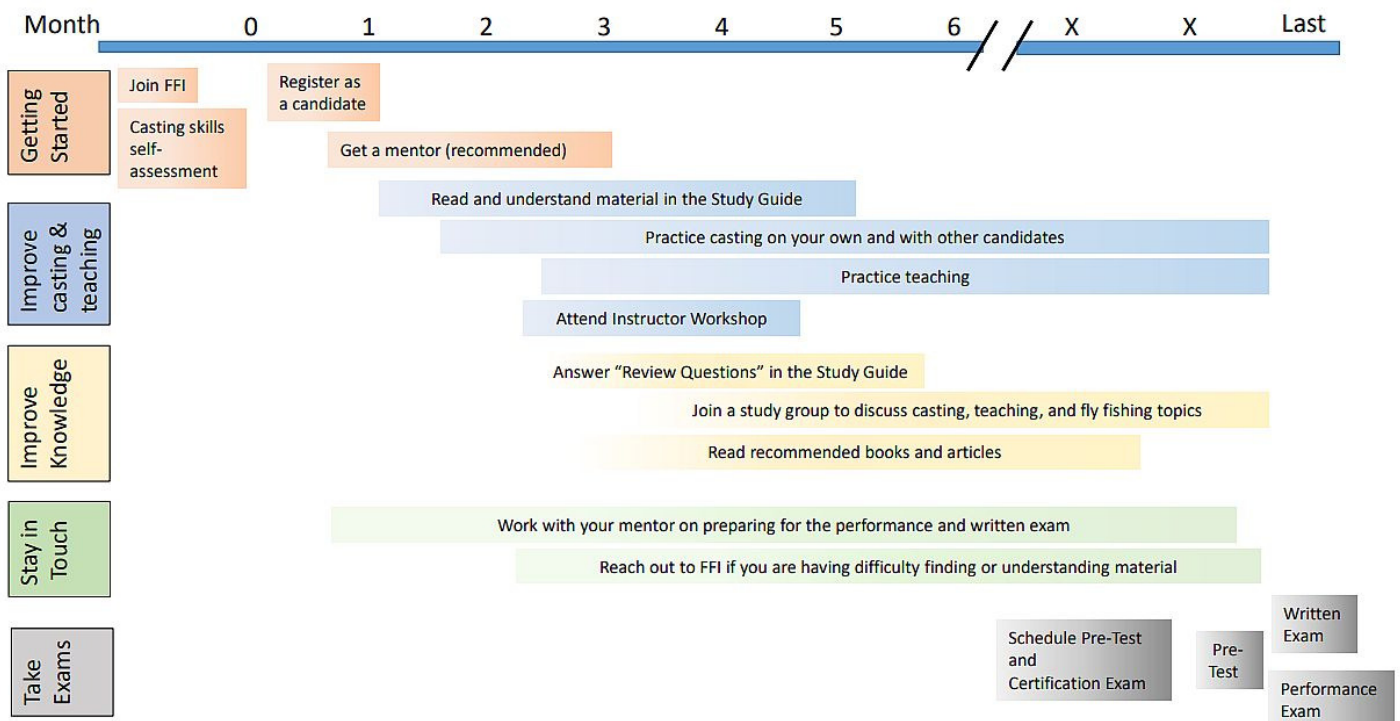
Develop a plan to specifically target those items identified by your exam team as needing improvement. If you need further clarification from your examiners, just send them an email. Do this sooner rather than later while the test is still fresh in everyone's mind.

Work with your mentor to implement your plan and to measure your progress towards improvement.

Remind yourself why you began this journey in the first place. Use those reasons to reinforce your commitment to improve.

Good luck!

CI and THCI Certification Timeline



The FFI Learning Center

The FFI Learning Center represents the premier source of fly fishing education material found anywhere online. Our quality-selected library of videos, articles, manuals, and workshops developed by FFI and sourced by some of the foremost experts in the world will inspire any level of fly fisher to improve their skills. So whether you want to learn the basics of fly fishing, polish your casting skills, twist up new fly patterns, or learn about conservation, the Learning Center is here to deliver generations of fly fishing knowledge found in a single online resource.

Fly Casting

Learn from some of the best fly casting instructors in the world. Lessons feature an array of casts, loop control, a teacher's package, and more. Peruse the Skills Development Program that can help improve your casting skills.

Fly Fishing Skills

A comprehensive source for instructional materials for all skill levels; Knots, Rigging, Casting, “the Catching Part of Fly Fishing”, Fish Behavior and Habitats, Entomology, Reading Water, Safety and Etiquette, Equipment.

Fly Tying

Explore the Fly Tying Video Library, fly tying educational and instructional slide presentations for all skill levels, the Fly Tying Awards Program. See the Saltwater Flies Manual. Learn to tie flies here.

Conservation

Conservation education presentations and material pertaining to Conservation and the Fly Fisher, Personal Conservation, Practices of Catch and Release, and Understanding Freshwater Fish Behavior.



The FFI Learning Center

Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award Library Now Open

Fly Fishers International recently launched the Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award Library (Buszek Library), making some of the highest quality fly tying instructional and informational materials available to its members and the fly fishing community. The Library appears in the FFI Learning Center. Preserving the “Legacy of Fly Fishing” is the mission of Fly Fishers International (FFI) and the tying of artificial flies for fly fishing is very much a part of that Legacy.

The Buszek Library can be found on the FFI website (www.flyfishersinternational.org) in the LEARN section of the website.

The Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award is named in honor of Wayne “Buz” Buszek who developed a retail business during the mid-1900s where he established a standard of excellence for fly tying materials and more importantly the many excellent fly patterns he developed that include the Western Coachman and Old Gray Mare that continue to inspire the highest skills in fly tying today. The award, likewise, is presented to individuals who have demonstrated highest skills in fly tying and made significant contributions to the preservation of the artform of fly tying.

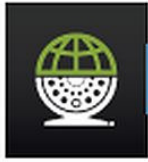
The Buszek Library will include educational and instructional materials created by many of the 54 fly tiers who FFI has recognized by presentation of the Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award since 1970, each for their excellence in the innovation and teaching of the art form of fly tying. Many of the Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award recipients have published articles, developed videos and other materials on the topic of fly tying and each is invited to donate these valuable documents to the Buszek Library. Featuring these donations in the Buszek Library will not only memorialize the works of the recipients but also make some of the highest quality instructional materials in the world available to all fly tiers who desire to learn and improve their skills at tying the artificial fly. It is the intent of the Buszek Library that its content represents the essence of fly tying knowledge and instruction.

Wayne Luallen, the 1991 recipient of the award, is the inaugural donor to the Library that includes 19 educational articles and 49 videos. Wayne Luallen (born 1950) is a retired radiologic technologist from Visalia, California. He started tying flies in 1974 to save money — thousands of dollars on tools and materials ago.

Wayne’s dexterity and attention to detail soon became apparent. One year later he was invited to tie professionally for Buz’s Fly and Tackle in Visalia — specifically the specialty custom flies for discerning fly fishers, for some added income — hence his “flybynyt” email address. With this repetitive work, like a musician practicing scales and etudes, he steadily gained in technical skills and materials selection and handling. You can view his collection of works at <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/wayne-luallen>

The Buszek Award recipients who donate will have a section in the Library dedicated to them and easily available to those who visit the Library. The information displayed in the section may include written articles, instructional videos, and other donations such as examples of unique fly tying techniques, fly patterns they developed, and stories that pertain to their personal experiences in fly tying. The families and friends of deceased Buszek Award recipients are invited to donate works of their family member to the Buszek Library.

The Buszek Library Planning Committee has worked the past 3 years to develop the Library. The Committee includes Tom Logan, Jack Gillis, Fred DuPre’, Sherry Steele, Barry Webster, Dutch Baughman, and Rhonda Sellers.



Fly Casting Tip

Fly Casting Skills & Drills

LEARNING CENTER

Saltwater Skills Development

Ladder: Level 1

Introduction

Setting Although most of the skills emphasized in this program can be applied to wading, kayaking, and other saltwater scenarios not involving a boat, the most challenging setting commonly encountered by newcomers to the salt looks like this: the angler is standing on the bow of a skiff with a guide on an elevated poling platform some 10-15 ft. behind them; the angler is expected to cast to fast-moving targets while avoiding any casts over the boat or near the guide while dealing with wind and boat rotation / movement with respect to the target(s).

With only a few exceptions, an angler able to cast effectively in this situation will be well-prepared to deal with other saltwater casting scenarios. The layout of this casting course thus assumes that the angler is standing on the bow of a technical poling skiff, per the illustrations provided at the beginning of each level.

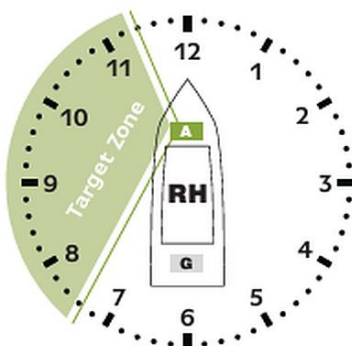
On-Side Casts & Targets: Target Zone For this document, “on-side” refers to casts made over the shoulder on the caster’s dominant casting side (aka “on-shoulder”), and to targets located on the opposite side of the centerline from the caster’s dominant shoulder.

Right-handers: For a right-handed caster, “on-side” casts would be made over the caster’s right shoulder to “on-side” targets left of the centerline, so as to avoid casting over the boat. See the Target Zone in the left-most boat + clock illustration below.

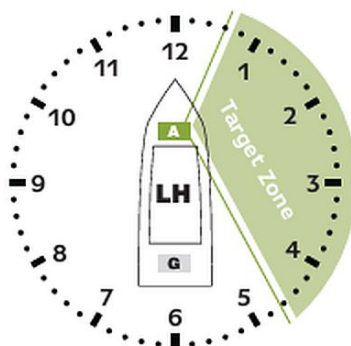
Left-handers: For a left-handed caster, “on-side” casts would be made over the caster’s left shoulder to targets right of the centerline, so as to avoid casting over the boat.

See the Target Zone in the center boat + clock illustration below. 11 12 10 9 8 A 1 2 RH G 7 6 4 5 3
Right-Handed Caster On-Side Left-Handed Caster On-Side 11 12 1 11 12

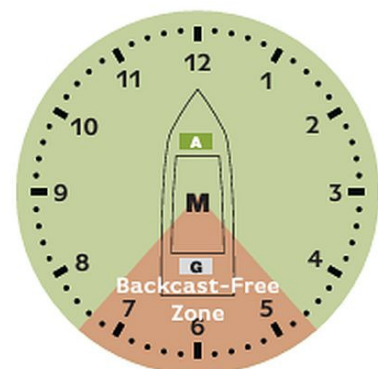
Go to the FFI website and click on the Learning Center to get more instructions regarding this type of casting.



Right-Handed Caster On-Side



Left-Handed Caster On-Side



Multi-Dimensional Caster

2024 NW Fly Fishing and Conservation Academy

By Neal

This year's NW Fly Fishing and Conservation Academy got off to a great start at the Panhandle Lake 4-H Lodge located in Shelton Washington, on June 22nd. It was attended by three girls and fifteen boys ages 12 to 16, from Washington, Oregon, California, Ohio, and Minnesota. Each received a 5 wt. rod-reel kit, a sling pack loaded with a box of flies, nippers, hemostat tools, with knot tying and bug ID card packs; and a Fly Fishing Handbook.

Camp was jammed packed from sun-up to sun-down with fun, educational action packed events. Everything from learning to tie flies, knots, rod and reel assembly, fly casting, water safety, stream health, reading water, fish biology and health, keep em wet philosophy, fisheries conservation and stewardship, invasive species, tactics and techniques, entomology and macroinvertebrate sampling and more!! All this was put to use at the kids fly fished on Panhandle Lake in watercraft and waded on nearby rivers. Below are some photos from the camp:



2024 NW Fly Fishing and Conservation Academy



2024 NW Fly Fishing and Conservation Academy



“Thank You for holding this camp. I learned how to tie flies, cast and I even caught a Fish!”



Many thanks to all the volunteers and supporters who helped this year at the camp.

For more information about the camp, visit <https://nwycffa.com/>

FFI Conservation

Steelhead and Salmon Issues



The cumulative impacts from habitat loss, restricted access to traditional spawning sites, water diversion for competing uses (i.e. municipal, agricultural, hydro-electric, etc.), genetic degradation related to stocking or aquaculture, mining, overharvest, climate change, decreased water quality, poor regulation enforcement and lacking or insufficient recovery and management plans have greatly reduced populations of wild salmon and wild steelhead in their native ranges.

The FFI advocates for conservation of existing wild steelhead and wild salmon stocks and recovery of depressed, threatened and endangered populations. We are hopeful that through dedicated research, education and advocacy on their behalf, wild salmon and wild steelhead will recover and thrive in perpetuity.

FFI's Actions

9/13/2023 Letter to the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. Letter was signed by 32 NGOS in support of a comprehensive solution for salmon recovery in the Columbia Basin that includes restoring a free-flowing lower Snake River.

11/15/2022 - Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) - letter to Chair Brenda Mallory (CEQ); endorsing the September 30, 2022, NOAA/NMFS technical report and its conclusions and recommendations regarding "Rebuilding Interior Columbia Basin Salmon and Steelhead".

08/17/2022 – Senator Patty Murry and Governor Jay Inslee, Senator Maria Cantwell – Letters joining 60 Conservation Partners supporting leadership for moving the proposal forward to remove the four out-of-date dams from the Lower Snake River for recovery of salmon, steelhead, orcas and tribal cultures in the Columbia and Snake River Region.

8/27/21 - Steelhead Protection - Letter to OR, WA and ID FWCs urging emergency closure of fishing seasons for ESA-listed steelhead minimize further mortality of declining stocks especially under prevailing drought conditions affecting the Columbia and Snake River Systems.

7/22/21 - Steelhead & Salmon Injunctive Relief - Learn more about why Fly Fishers International has joined Earthjustice and other Conservation Partners in seeking injunctive relief for more water to be released from a series of dams in the Columbia and Snake River Basins in the spring of 2022.

4/12/21 - Congressman Simpson's Snake River Proposal - signed on to letter to the NW congressional delegations asking for their leadership in restoring salmon to the Columbia River Basin by working with Congressman Mike Simpson to refine and advance his proposal that would breach the four lower Snake River dams, while simultaneously taking care of communities, irrigators, shippers, and power generation.

8/31/20 - Winchester Dam - Signed on to letter to Oregon Department of State Lands raising concerns about past maintenance and reconstruction activities at Winchester Dam.

8/14/20 - Klamath Dam - [Klamath_Renewal_Grant_Support_Letter_14AUG2020](#)

6/9/20 - Puget Sound Aquaculture - Signed on to Our Sound, Our Salmon comments on Cooke Aquaculture Aquaculture's NPDES Application to rear *Oncorhynchus mykiss* in Puget Sound open water net pens

4/13/20 - Columbia/Snake River Environmental Impact Statement Comments - Signed on to a Earth Justice letter to the Army Corps, Bureau of Reclamation, Bonneville Power administration, Dept. of Interior, and Dept. of Energy providing comments on the Draft Columbia/Snake River Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Senior Conservation Advisor Rick Williams played a significant role in the development of these comments.

3/6/20 - Columbia River System Operations Draft Environmental Impact Statement - Signed on to Save Our Wild Salmon letter to the Corps of Engineers, U.S. Dept. of the Interior and U.S. Dept. of Energy asking for an extension of the public review and comment deadline for the Columbia River System Operations Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

8/26/19 - Klamath River Hydroelectric Settlement - Provided comments authored by Mark Rockwell and Rick Williams to the Federal Energy Relicensing Commission supporting the Amended Klamath Hydroelectric Settlement Agreement and the KRRC applications for transfer and surrender. want/ need to achieve.

FFI International

It Is Not About the Fish

By Kastine Coleman



Kastine Coleman is an accomplished FFI casting instructor, having demonstrated her exceptional skills and passion for the sport over the years.

Her achievements extend beyond instructional excellence, as she has received 2 IGFA world records for Atlantic Salmon. Additionally, she is an esteemed fishing guide, and the proud owner of "Tight Loops Tight Lines," a renowned business offering experience-based fishing packages, hosted trips, and a fly-casting school in Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, aimed at introducing youth and women to the sport with conservation at the forefront of learning.

Many of you may be familiar with Kastine's work through her captivating fly-fishing television show, airing on Sportsman Channel Canada and the World Fishing Network. Her contributions to the industry just don't stop there, Kastine is also a published freelance writer, with her articles featured in esteemed publications such as Fly Fusion, the Atlantic Salmon Journal, Saltscapes, Fishing & Travel/VDP magazine and FFI's Flyfisher Magazine.

Kastine Coleman has been actively involved in the FFI community for many years. She is our Canadian ambassador for the organization, has presented virtually at the expos and women connect educational programs, and is a member of both the International Programs Committee and the Women's Committee.

Furthermore, her dedication extends to broader conservation efforts, as she serves as a director with Fly Fishers International, the Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon, SPAWN, and is an ambassador for Keep Fish Wet.

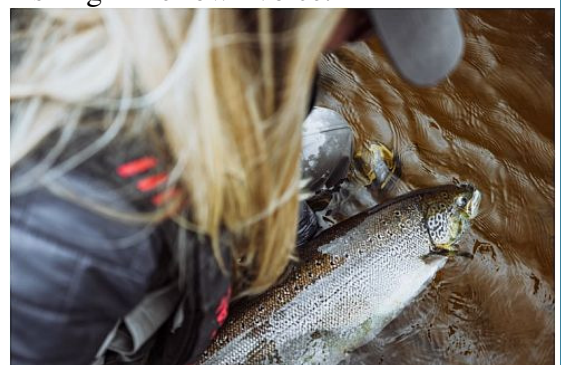
Her passion for the sport and her commitment to fostering international relationships within the flyfishing community make her an excellent choice to help further the mission of Fly Fishers International on a global scale.

The best way to get to know Kastine is to hear about her love for fly-fishing in her own voice.

Below is an article written by Kastine, "it is not about the Fish"

<https://saltscapes.com/roots-folks/3310-it-s-not-about-the-fish.html>

All Photo taken by Jake Dicks



Knotty Knots

Here is an example of a page from the FFI Knots and Rigging PDF that you can download from the FFI website.

SALTWATER CONSIDERATIONS

HAYWIRE TWIST KNOT

The Haywire Twist is considered by big game fishermen to be the strongest connection for joining wire to a hook. It can also be used to make a loop in the end of a wire leader.

The first twists are called haywire wraps and the second twists are considered barrel wraps.

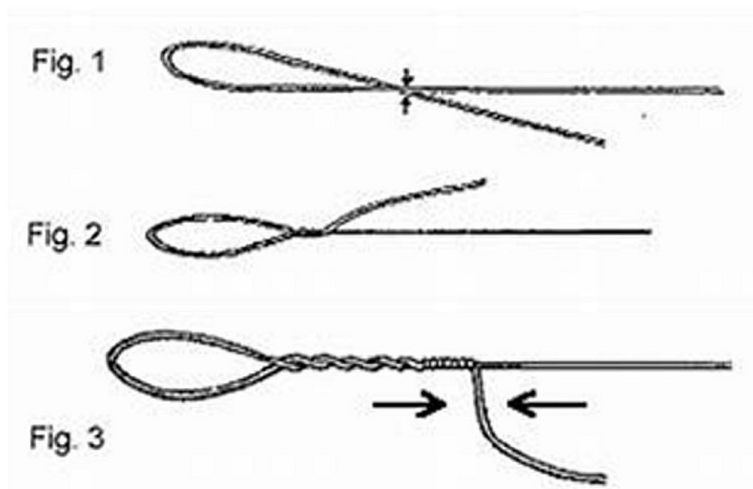
It is the combination of the two that make the Haywire Twist so dependable.

Tying Instructions:

1. Thread the wire through the eye of the hook. Hold the loop between first finger and thumb. Cross one strand of wire under the other strand. Grip the two strands between finger and thumb of the other hand and twist.
2. Make sure the standing part of the wire and the tag end cross each other at an angle in excess of 90 degrees. This is the critical part of tying the Haywire. If they do not have sufficient angle, you will find that one wire is only wrapping around the other. You also must twist both at the same time so that they are both crossing each other. Make at least 3 ½ haywire wraps.
3. Next, start to make your first barrel wrap. Push the tag end until it is at a right angle to the standing part. Then make about five (barrel) wraps around the standing part with the tag end.

Bend the tag end into a little “handle” and use that to rock the handle back and forth until the wire breaks at the last barrel wrap.

Never cut the wire with pliers as that will leave a dangerous burr that can make a nasty cut to hand or finger.





Learning, Sharing, Inspiration...it's Our Mission

To create a community of women fly fishers where learning, sharing and inspiration are offered in a safe and non-intimidating environment, to develop and improve fly fishing/ tying skills and, offer new opportunities in a creative and fun manner.

FFI Women Connect encourages female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry as a whole by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills and build confidence. If you want to get news from FFI Women Connect, sign up for regular communications.

Connect with FFI Women Connect

Join Fly Fishers International

Become a member of the group and all the benefits of being a member of FFI.

FFIWC Newsletter: Read the latest issue of The Connection.

Follow on Facebook and Get up-to-date information on what's happening, event postings, activities and more.

Follow on Instagram

Check out our photos.

FFI Women Connect Mission Statement

To create a community of women fly fishers where learning, sharing and inspiration are offered in a safe and non-intimidating environment, to develop and improve fly fishing/ tying skills and, offer new opportunities in a creative and fun manner. To encourage female leadership in FFI Clubs and the fly fishing industry as a whole by creating a platform where women can develop fly fishing skills and build confidence.

FFI Mission Statement

The Mission of FFI is to support, enhance and preserve fly fishing opportunities. Fundamental to this mission is FFI's commitment to support conservation, education and programs to support the fly fishing community.

High Fa-loatin' Stimmie - A Fly to Tie by Susan Parsons

From The Women Connect Newsletter



As is the case with many patterns, the exact origin of the Stimulator is disputed. Some believe it is derived from early stonefly patterns going back to the 1940s or even 1900s. Many give credit for the creation of this pattern to Jim Slattery, but it was popularized in the 1980s by Randall Kaufman of Seattle. Regardless of its origin or creator, what we do know is that it is a great fly.

The Stimulator is considered an attractor or searching pattern, as it resembles many things yet nothing particular, and fish go for it aggressively. For many anglers it is listed among the twelve “must carry” or “deadly dozen” flies. Depending on the size and color in which it is tied, it can be used during stonefly, mayfly, and caddis fly hatches. Add some rubber legs and it becomes a terrestrial. The Stimmie can be fished alone and is easy to spot on the water surface. Some anglers will strip it sub-surface. It also works extremely well in a hopperdropper set up. Generally, I want dry flies I tie to float. While fishing from our boat on local streams I was often frustrated by traditionally tied Stimulators becoming waterlogged and no longer floating well after being dragged in the water as my husband adjusted the boat during drifts or to avoid obstacles in the water. After some experimentation at the vise, I came up with a solution.

By incorporating a strip of foam into the body (abdomen), the fly floats better. To be most effective, other than at the tie-in points, compression of the foam is minimized to maintain its buoyant characteristics. For consistency I use a tapered Chernobyl ant cutter to cut my foam, but strips cut with scissors work just as well. The width of the foam should be such that when tied in on top of the hook and gently pressed around the sides, the foam wraps about halfway around the hook shank. When finished, the foam is incorporated into the body on the top side of the fly and covered with polypropylene yarn, hackle and wire.

Though the description below might seem complicated, the process is quite simple and, with practice, easy to accomplish.

Tying the abdomen of this fly starts out in the usual fashion with a thread base followed by an elk or deer hair tail. Then the body hackle and wire rib are tied in at the bend of the hook, followed by a thin length of floating polypropylene yarn. When these steps are complete, the three materials hang at the base of the tail. The yarn will be used instead of dubbing on the body and to cover the foam. Keeping the thread at the base of the tail, hold the strip of foam on top of the hook, tapered end to the back of the fly with a small amount (equivalent to the hook gape or less) extending behind the thread and above the tail. Tie the foam in at this position, then lift it up and run a fine line of thin super glue between the top of the hook shank and the underside of the foam. Then gently push the foam down onto the hook shank and make a few widely spaced thread wraps over the foam towards the front to just behind the wing position, to hold the foam in position but not compress it. Tie the foam down tightly at the wing position and trim the excess. Counter wrapped the polypropylene yarn forward over the foam, shaping the abdomen without compressing the foam, tie off the yarn and trim away the excess. Wrap the hackle and wire forward in the usual fashion. Once the body is created the fly is completed with a deer or elk hair wing, dubbed and hackled thorax, and thread head in the typical fashion.

I think you will find this twist on a classic works well in circumstances where a more buoyant fly is preferred.

Hook: Dai-Riki 270, (or similar) hopper hook

Size 6 to 12

Thread: Ultra Thread, 70 or 140 denier, orange, yellow or black

Tail: Elk (large flies) or deer hair (small flies)

Body: Strip of 2 mm thick foam, rounded at one end; orange, yellow or black

Propylene yarn; orange, yellow or black

Dry fly hackle; usually brown

Fine gold wire for rib

Wing: Elk hair (large flies) or deer hair

(small flies)

Thorax: Dry fly dubbing, orange, yellow or black

Dry fly hackle; usually grizzly

Learn the Basics of Fly Fishing with FFI

Learn the Basics of Fly Fishing with FFI

At long last, the 5-part FFI Basics of Fly Fishing video series is now available. We encourage you to view the videos and companion guides. (The link is below.) Then, share it throughout your networks.

This series has been 18 months in the making. Funded by a grant in 2022 from the Howe Foundation and under the direction of the FFI Education Committee, the series was professionally produced with a companion guide that covers the material in the video series. It was designed to give the viewer very basic information about fly fishing.



The FFI community welcomes beginners and seasoned anglers alike, fostering a community where knowledge is shared generously, and friendships are forged through a shared love of the sport.

To view all the videos and the companion guide, click on the link below:

[Learn to Fly Fish \(flyfishersinternational.org\)](https://flyfishersinternational.org)

Here's an easily accessible, good tool to help us spread the joy of fly fishing. Enjoy and share!



4th Corner Fly Fishers	Bellingham	https://4thcornerfly.com
Alaska Fly Fishers	Anchorage	(PHWFF) http://www.akflyfishers.net/
Alpine Fly Fishers	Puyallup	https://alpineflyfishers.org/
Bainbridge Island Fly Fishers	Bainbridge Island	Bainbridge Island Fly Fishers Facebook
Caring Fly Fishers of Washington	Bellevue	Project Healing Waters FF
Clark Skamania Flyfishers	Vancouver	https://www.csfly.net
Clearwater Flycasters	Pullman	https://www.clearwaterflycasters.com/
Cowlitz Fly Anglers	Longview	Cowlitz Fly Anglers Facebook
Evergreen Fly Fishing Club	Everett	https://evergreenflyclub.org/
Fairbanks Fly Fishers	Fairbanks	Project Healing Waters FF
Fidalgo Fly Fishers	Anacortes	https://www.fidalgoflyfishers.com/
Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club	Spokane	https://ieffc.org/
Lower Columbia Flyfishers	Longview	http://www.lowercolumbiaflyfishers.org/
Northwest Fly Anglers	Seattle	https://www.northwestflyanglers.org/
Olympic Fly Fishers of Edmonds	Edmonds	https://olympicflyfishers.com/
Overlake Fly Fishing Club	Bellevue	https://offc.org/
Puget Sound Fly Fishers Club	Tacoma	https://www.psff.org/
South Sound Fly Fishers	Olympia	https://southsoundflyfishers.org/
Spokane Fly Fishers LLC	Spokane	https://spokaneflyfishers.com/
Washington Fly Fishing Club	Mercer Island	https://wffc.com/
Wasilla Fly Fishing Club	Wasilla	Project Healing Waters FF
Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers	Wenatchee	https://wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com/

Washington State Council <https://wscffi.org/>

Fly Fishers International <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/>

Fly Tying Rendezvous 2024

Registration is Open for FFI's Premiere Fly Tying Gathering

The Second Annual FTG Rendezvous, organized by the FFI Fly Tying Group, will take place in Farmers Branch, Texas on **September 27th and 28th**. Farmers Branch is a Dallas suburb and is 20 minutes from both of Dallas' major airports (DFW and Lovefield). Registration has begun, be sure to sign up today!

Dallas, Texas
Springlake Event Center
2280 Springlake Road, Suite 100
Farmers Branch, TX

The event will feature demonstration tyers the Fly Tying Group who will show their skills Friday and Saturday. The event will offer a full schedule of events:

- ◇ Featured Tyers
- ◇ Classes and Workshops teaching a wide variety of Fly Tying subjects
- ◇ A FTG fly box exchange (a fun filled event from past FFI Expo's)
- ◇ A Banquet and Fund raising event Friday evening
- ◇ A chance to meet Fly Tyers from across the Fly Tying Group
- ◇ Rendezvous shirts, hats and pins



 **FFi** FLY TYING GROUP
RENDEZVOUS 2024

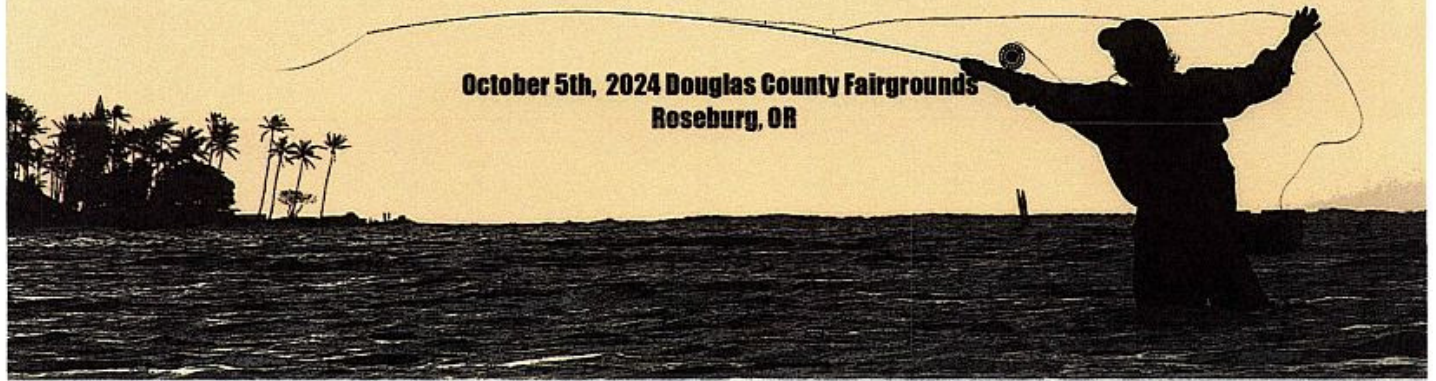
September 27 & 28, 2024
Dallas, TX
(20 minutes from both airports)
Friday and Saturday tying from
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Friday night tiers exchange, banquet
and fundraiser
Fly tying classes and workshops
both days
Registration starts June 10, 2024

 **FFi** FLY TYING GROUP

Southern Oregon Fly Tying & Fishing Expo

2024 Bug Launcher Classic Team Casting Championship

October 5th, 2024 Douglas County Fairgrounds
Roseburg, OR



Eligibility: Fly Fishing Clubs, Industry Partners, and Fly Shops encouraged to send teams

Team Entry: two-person teams, \$50 team entry fee, limited to 24 teams

Preregistration required to: Umpqua Valley Fly Fishers, % Mike McCoy
P.O. Box 2374
Roseburg, OR 97470

Further Details: buglauncher.com mikemccoy@dcwisp.net, 541-517-5820



A Chance To:

- :: Test and celebrate skills of a sport we all love
- :: Enhance and develop a network of outdoor enthusiasts
- :: Discuss water/fish issues from around the region
- :: Enjoy a fly fishing expo on site ... PNW tyers gathering, raffles, silent auctions
- :: Fish local waters for an extended stay



Southern Oregon Fly Tying & Fishing EXPO



SAVE THE DATE!



Overlake Fly Fishing Club 50th Anniversary Celebration

1974-2024

Saturday, October 26, 2024, 5:00 to 9:00 PM

Hilton Garden Inn Redmond Seattle

16630 Redmond Way

Redmond, WA 98052

Discounted Weekend Accommodations Available

You are invited to join for us for OFFC's 50th Anniversary Celebration, including a festive cocktail hour with no host bar; delicious buffet dinner; slideshows featuring OFFC's history, programs, and fabulous fishing photos; an exciting program including Master of Ceremonies Bill Marts (1980 OFFC Past President), Guest Speaker Leland Miyawaki (Pacific Northwest Fly Fishing Legend and Originator of the Miyawaki Popper), and recognition of OFFC's Past Presidents; valuable Door Prizes; 50th Anniversary Commemorative Sew-on Patches and Stickers; and other 50th Anniversary Memorabilia.

Ticket prices are \$70 per person.

To purchase tickets, or for further information, contact Bill Courshon, OFFC Historian and 50th Reunion Committee Chair, Email: Historian@OFFC.org

or Aaron Culley,

Email: no1aaronc@gmail.com

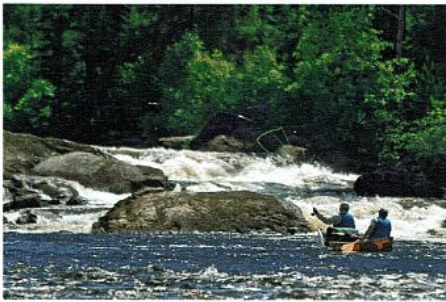
Donate to the FFI



Conservation and education have been critical pillars of FFI since its founding almost 60 years ago.

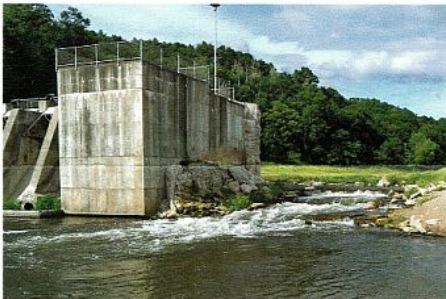
Our organization has advocated on behalf of fish populations under threat and cornerstone natural habitats through strong partnership action and educational programs - everything from guidance on soft handling and safe release of individual fish to the formal adoption of a new Policy on Climate Change which recognizes the existential threat of rising temperatures to our planet and the living things that inhabit it.

FFI HAS TAKEN DECISIVE CONSERVATION ACTION:



PROTECTING PLACES WE FISH

At a time when increased protections are more necessary than ever, too many efforts go in the opposite direction. Like proposed legislation aimed at weakening the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and other conservation guardrails. Legal decisions to ensure a healthy environment, established decades ago, have been struck down by the Supreme Court. **FFI provides a strong voice** specifically representing fly fishers working in partnership with organization leading legislative efforts to protect our important places and resources.



REMOVING OBSOLETE DAMS

FFI members have joined in the fight to eliminate dams along the Klamath, Columbia, and Lower Snake Rivers in the Western United States that have for decades impeded runs of salmon and steelhead to and from the ocean. Beyond these Western-focused efforts, FFI has **sought stronger resource management** of redfish in Louisiana, menhaden in Chesapeake Bay, and old growth forests nationwide.



SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Conservation scholarships and grants have been an important part of our program. Recently, we awarded 4 scholarships to deserving students who are focused on our fisheries resources. **These students deserve our support** so that work in this important area continues. Grants have been provided to assist with the development of a new canoe and kayak launch on the Uwharrie River on NC Highway 49, restoral of Fish Creek at Cheley Camp in Colorado, and railroad bank stabilization on the Pere Marquette in Michigan.

Donate to the FFI

The learning never ends when you pick up a fly rod. FFI continues to build on our robust foundation of online learning resources, enhance in-person mentorship and teaching throughout our network of clubs and councils, and create modern programs designed to engage our evolving fly fishing community. These programs have elevated FFI's status as the leader in fly fishing education and are made possible by your generosity. Help build our momentum to ensure everyone has access to the fly fishing experience, regardless of where they live.

FFI LEADS THE WAY IN FLY FISHING EDUCATION:



FLY FISHING SKILLS

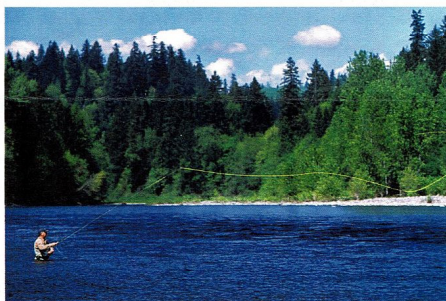
Remember when you first encountered the magic and mystery of the fly fishing experience? **We now welcome new fly fishers with an engaging, easy to use guide that teaches the right skills** and nurtures an enduring passion for fly fishing.

You can help share that feeling of discovery and excitement by using the materials we have developed to inspire new fly fishers in all corners of the world. Scan the QR code to check out the new videos and guide at flyfishersinternational.org/learn-to-fly-fish.



YOUTH PROGRAM

There is nothing more important than investing in our future. In partnership with Trout Unlimited, FFI is well underway in our development of a **fly fishing program** designed specifically to engage the youngest members of our fly fishing community. Through the guidance and support of a hand-selected team of experienced young fly fishers, **we begin filming the Next Gen Youth Program in Michigan this August. Watch for updates soon!**



CASTING EDUCATION

Since inception in September 2023, the Fly Casting Education Program (FCEP) has made progress in several key areas. The new structure and programs have increased access to quality education for the fly fishing community. Delivering the Fly Casting Skills Development Program to hundreds of participants and developing the "roadmap" to Fly Casting Certification are just two examples of our work. Your support will allow **expanded access for casting education programs** and grow new fly fishers into lifelong members of this community.

**FFI is here to enrich your fly fishing experience.
When you support our efforts, you help nurture the journey.**

Photo credit: Brian O'Keefe



1201 US Highway 10 West, Suite D4
Livingston, Montana 59047

flyfishersinternational.org

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, 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/FFHK

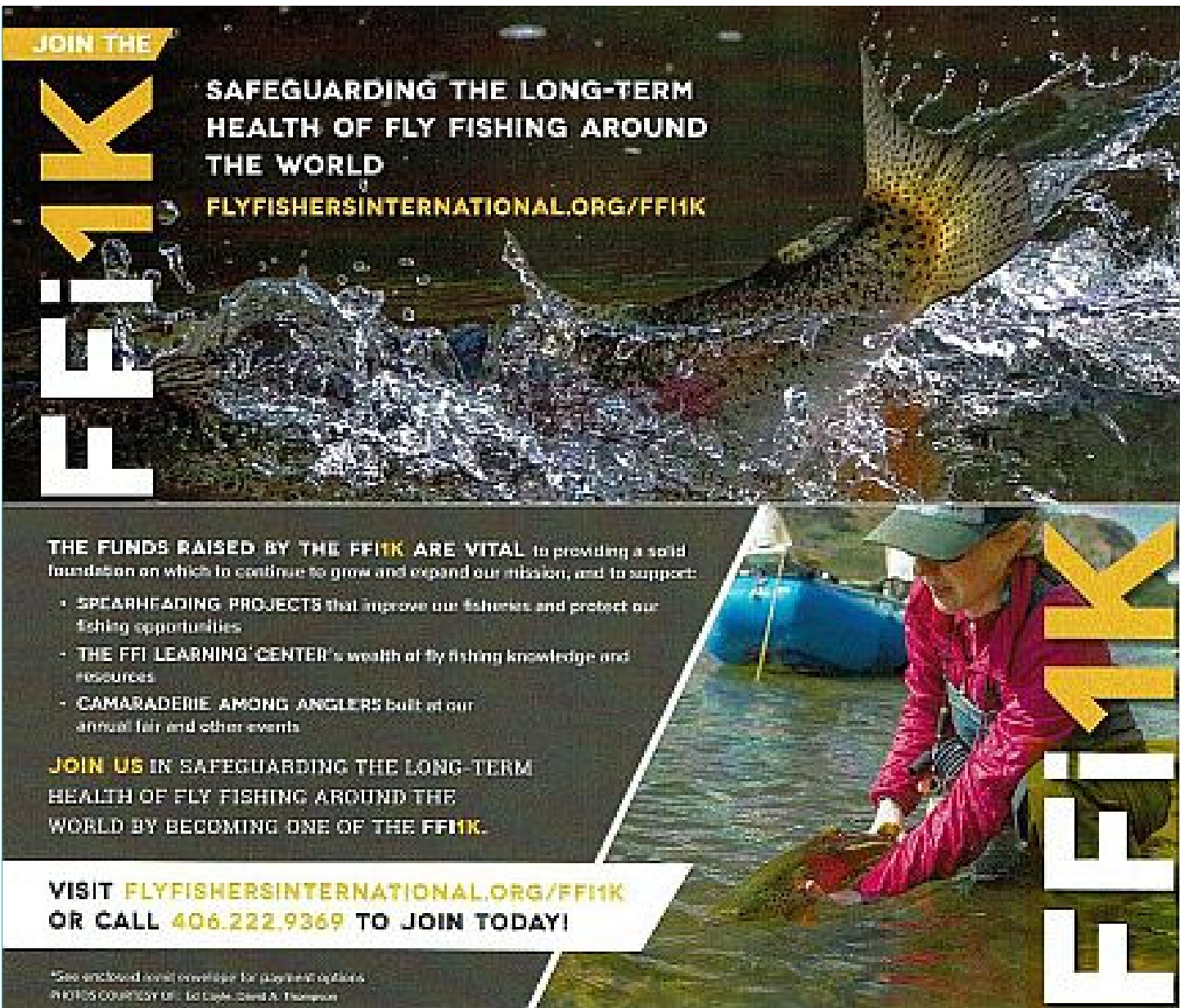
THE FUNDS RAISED BY THE FFI1K ARE VITAL to providing a solid foundation on which to continue to grow and expand our mission, and to support:

- **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/FFHK** OR CALL **406.222.9369** TO JOIN TODAY!

*See enclosed card coverage for payment options.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF: Ed Cape, David 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

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE FFI

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 WATERS 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!

406-222-9369

membership@flyfishersinternational.org
flyfishersinternational.org



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL



**ALL FISH,
ALL WATERS™**

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



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

FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL

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: ____/____/____

Membership Levels

Each FFI Membership level includes full access to the FFI Learning Center, On line 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*

Includes full access to FFI Learning Center

Online access to Flyfisher Magazine
Discounts and Benefits from FFI's Partners

Advocate - \$75 / Yr

Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!

Choice of FFI Hat, or 1 year subscription to Flyfisher Magazine
Hat Subscription

Steward - \$125 / Yr

Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!

.Also Includes:
.FFI Hat
.Magazine Subscription
.One Year Subscription to OnWater App

Sustainer - \$250 / Yr

Includes all Benefits of Standard Membership!

Also Includes
.Airflo Fly Line
.FFI Hat
.Magazine Subscription

Important to fill out all related questions:

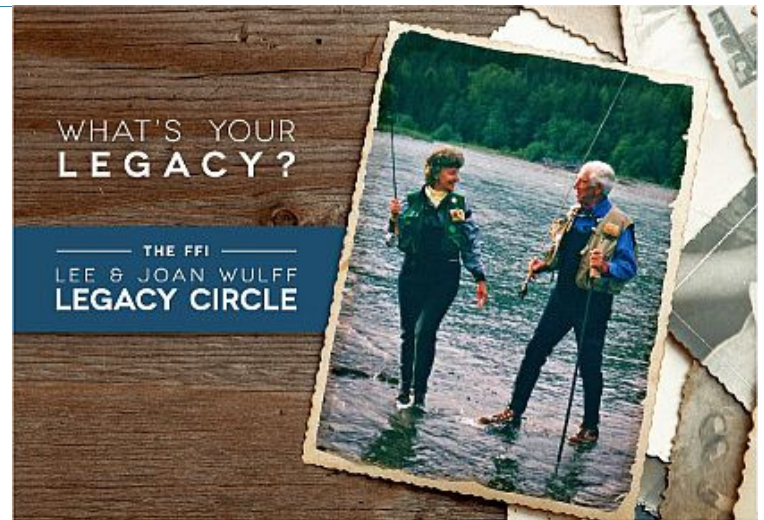
I am 65 or Older I am a Veteran Youth Membership - Age 22 or younger \$ _____
(**\$15 Discount per year**)

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

Printed Flyfisher Magazine: \$15/yr \$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 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?

Fly Fishers International

Donate

1201 US Hwy 10 West

Suite E

Livingston, MT 59047



Editors Notes

By Larry Gibbs



Save the Date - **September 21** - Fly Casting Fair

You may have noticed, I hope, that there were some articles in this newsletter that originated from the FFI Learning Center. If you go to the FFI website you will find links to this fantastic array of knowledge that is right at your fingertips with the simple click of a button. The whole fly fishing world of Fly Fishers International is right there for you to use, so please use it. Videos and tutorials from experts in fly casting and fly tying. Articles on conservation, Women Connect, youth education...and the list goes on and on. You can check out the Fly of the Month all the way back to December 1997. Now that's a lot of flies with photos and recipes on how to tie them. Check out the Casting Instructor Certification program over in the casting link. Click on Women Connect and check out their newsletter and some of their past and future events. Click onto Conservation Actions and read up on all of the conservation issues that the FFI has been involved with. Like I said, the whole world of fly fishing is right at your finger tips, so please use those fingers to check out the FFI.

Another thing you may have noticed were the various articles and notifications about the upcoming WA State Council's **Fly Casting Fair on September 21** down in Vancouver, WA. This will be a great one day casting event, a chance for you to learn new techniques in casting, improve your casting skills or just plain learn how to cast a fly. If you are new to fly fishing and are really wanting to be able to make a decent cast, head on down to Vancouver and spend the day learning. If you have been casting for a while, trust me, it never hurts to watch and try out some new methods to help improve your casting. After all, the better your casting ability and accuracy, that will undoubtedly improve your fishing experience. Want to become a certified casting instructor? Check out Casting Certification starting on page 23.

At the September 21 Fly Casting Fair in Vancouver, there will also be some great fly tyers working their magic at creating flies of all kinds for fishing for all sorts of species of fish. Stop by, sit and watch them tie some flies and they will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have. There will also be some fly tying classes you can sign up for. Check our website for a link to sign up. The WSC just got some new Griffin Enterprises vises, the Montana Pro II kits, which includes some basic tools for tying flies. These will be available for you to use if you take one of the fly tying classes. Sorry we can't give them to you, we need to keep them for all of our future classes. I used this vise for years and was always happy with it.

When I was getting this newsletter together, I decided to make sure you had the chance to see just who is on our Board of Directors. More information about each board member is on our website. Speaking of our WSC website and newsletters, we have newsletters on line that go way back to September 2001. If you read some of those you will see a few names that are still involved with the WSC BOD. Yes, some of us have been doing this for several decades or more.

Back to the Fly Casting Fair. At these events we have many of our board of directors working various aspects of the fair, but we also have dozens of volunteers from different fly fishing clubs located within the region we are having the casting events. Please show up for these fly casting fairs not only to learn new casting or tying techniques and improve your casting or tying, but to show your appreciation to all of the volunteers it takes to do these fairs. They are giving up their time to try to make these fairs great events to attend, do please, do show up and check us out. We will have volunteers from both Washington and Oregon. There will be some clubs there that are in the area for you to check out and see if you want to join their clubs.

I hope you looked at the great article, mainly in picture format, of the 2024 NW Fly Fishing and Conservation Academy. They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so prepare to see eight thousand words. Happy faces. The youth of today will make up the majority of fly fishers in the future. Teach them now, they will remember.

Also at the September 21 Fly Casting Fair are some of the great fly rod manufacturers representatives there to display their latest fly rods and have you give them a cast to try them out. What a deal!!! So, if you haven't gotten the hint yet, I think you deserve it to yourself to head for Vancouver, WA on Sept. 21 and check out our Fly Casting Fair!!!