



The Flypaper

Nov/Dec 2017

Holiday Party and Auction

Come one, come all to the annual [NFA holiday party](#) and auction on Saturday December 9, 2017 at Ivar's Salmon House, 401 N.E. Northlake Way on Lake Union. Festivities begin at 5:00 p.m. with a no-host bar. At 6:00 p.m., we'll have a delicious buffet dinner featuring salmon, chicken marsala, and flank steak. Penne pasta pomodoro will be available for vegetarians.

The dinner and auction is a great way to socialize with other NFA members. Try your luck at our raffle featuring fishing and non-fishing items. Some raffle items in the past included gift baskets filled with specialty food, fly fishing rods and reels, fly tying materials, books, and home baked treats. We'll also have some great auction items including an Australian themed dinner and a weekend stay at a cabin in Superior, Montana. Following the dinner, we'll have our awards ceremony and conclude the evening with our always popular Year in Review.

This is our primary revenue generating event for the year. Your participation enables our club to host fishing outings, education, and conservation events throughout the year.

The deadline for reservations is Friday December 1st. Feel free to bring family members, friends, and guests. Please go to the NFA website and [register today](#) so you don't miss out on this fun event.

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Picture by Mark Connor.
Sasha Common on Clark Fork

Pass Lake (Oct. 7)

As Peter Rubenstein and I headed for the Deception Pass campground on Friday afternoon, we anxiously scanned the clouds for rain. The weather report was for wind and rain for that evening and the following day. We thought we could grab a quick bite in Anacortes and get in a little fishing on Pass Lake that evening. Unfortunately, we were side-tracked by a throng of locals headed to the Friday night "Beer on the Pier" and never got to our objective.

However, the next morning we awoke to slightly overcast weather with little wind and no rain. Fishing looked promising and we anticipated the arrival of the twelve NFA'ers who had signed up for the outing. Apparently, some had read the weather report and bailed. We did our best and found fishing tough. A few hook-ups but no trophy pics. About noon we gathered for a little Iver's Clam Chowder, pictures and most headed home. Pass is a tough lake, big fish, but hard to locate. Which brought us to the third element of our "two out of three", no rain, no wind, but unfortunately NO FISH.

- Written by Scott McCracken
- Photos by Scott McCracken



Philip Friend, David Arm, Peter Rubenstein, Bill Rose, Scott McCracken and Jim Morrison



Bill Rose with fly box



Scott McCracken and Jim Morrison ready for an early morning

Upcoming Trips

Fishing 2018 - A new season of fishing is on the drawing board! Stay tuned to our [website](#) for trips in 2018.



Klickitat River (Oct. 1)

The last weekend of September, the NFA returned to the Klickitat River, with its remarkable Oregon white oak forested canyon, fly fishing for steelhead, salmon and trout. Dan Hall and friend Dan, and Mark and “hooky playing” Sasha Conner with their guest Carolyn Sells arrived at Stinson Flats Campground late Wednesday afternoon and set up camp. Thursday Mark and Sasha rafted and Carolyn pontooned down the lower river from the muddy “Slide” put-in down to the town of Klickitat in exceptional autumn weather. We negotiated a riffle on a bend and came upon an extended run where a



35" hatchery steelhead caught and released by Dave Campbell

couple of fellows were expertly Spey casting for steelhead. Upon closer examination we discovered that they were indeed Dan and Dan, Edwardian in appearance, each puffing away on a stogie. What a sight! Such elegance in a near wilderness setting! That day we caught resident rainbow trout, Sasha nymphing for a nice 16"er on a Carolyn Sells tied Purple Lightning bug. Later we were joined by Bill Gibson and Jim Watson with Dave Campbell.



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Klickitat River (cont. from pg. 3)

Friday everyone floated from Leidl down to Stinson, Mark shuttling the vehicle and staying in camp to watch over our gear and Dan and Dan scouting and wade angling down river. Several of our group again caught resident rainbow trout, Carolyn 6 or 7. Tom Beaulaurier joined us that evening and we all dined on Chili Mac, St. Louis style. The sun set and with the temperature cooling and a burn ban in effect we broke out a propane fire pit and “talked fishing” into the night. The next day Dave and Jim floated from the one lane bridge above Leidl down and others the same stretch as the day before, Tom Beaulaurier and Mark wade fishing after the shuttle.



Klickitat Riiver

Lifetime NFA member and master angler Dave Campbell fished a Wooly Bugger off a short 4’ leader below a heavy sink tip and caught an amazing 35” hatchery steelhead. Wow, what an impressive fish! Biggest yet by an NFA member on any of the dozens of outings that Mark has attended over the years. Others caught more trout. This is such a wonderful, near wilderness fishery that the NFA absolutely must return every year.

Back in camp expert fly tier Carolyn Sells broke out her boxes of elegantly tied wet flies for our admiration. For dinner we grilled flank steak with onions, garlic and mushrooms sautéed in red wine, corn and a cucumber tomato salad. Why was the food so perfect? Well, if it had been any better we would not have been able to cook it, any worse and we might not have eaten it!

After Sunday we broke camp and all but Spokane resident Carolyn headed back to the “dark side” of the mountains, all wishing that we could have extended the spate of excellent weather, good fishing and great companionship till later in the week.



Rainbow trout caught by Mark Connor

- Written by Mark Connor
- Pictures by various

Guide Training with Todd Friedmar

In July 2017, I attended the [Sweetwater Fly Fishing Guide School](#) on the Big Horn River, outside of Billings, MT.

Before signing up, I researched a number of options including week-long fly fishing/casting classes, self-guided trips and lodges. In the end, Sweetwater hit the mark. A highly regarded trout river, plenty of time to learn to guide on a drift boat, casting instruction and as an added bonus, running a jet boat. Sweetwater offers school options that are either the Big Horn or Yellowstone rivers (depending on the time of the year.)

Arriving in Fort Smith, MT, I was greeted by a 100°+ heat wave that continued through the week. We stayed at the [Cottonwood Campground](#), just off the Big Horn river.

The school included nine students and three full-time instructors. Right away, we reviewed the weeks plans, met the crew and heading for a pre-dinner wade fishing.

On Monday morning, we met with Doug Lobaugh, a retired Montana fire chief to complete First Aid/CPR certifications and talked about emergency preparedness on and off the water. Then off to the river for an afternoon running drift boats on fast moving water hovering around 9,000cfs during the course of the week (3,000cfs is considered optimal.) Each day, we broke into groups of one instructor and three students per boat. We launched just

under the Afterbay (Yellowtail Dam put in). Within my second cast, I hooked a beautiful lake trout on a San Juan worm with an orange scud bug underneath. Nymph and streamer fishing were the standard for the week.

Each day focused on improving our guide and boating skills. If you weren't fishing then you were on the oars or in the water. The third day, our group transitioned to jet boat school. We received a thorough overview jet boat engine maintenance and repair. On-water instruction focused on conditions similar to Alaska and Mongolia, where Sweetwater Travel hosts trips. The highlight was running full throttle while navigating an obstacle course around islands, through rapids and over sand bars. We then headed over to Bighorn Lake to target carp and explore the canyon.

Another highlight was the casting instruction provided by Bill Toone, a Bozeman-based Master Casting Instructor. He not only helped us improve our skills but coached each of us on instructing each other.

By the end of the course, I made a great new group of friends, experienced exceptional fishing and received the approval of my instructors to become a certified guide. In the past three months, three of my fellow students have become licensed guides. I would encourage anyone to checkout Sweetwater if they want to become a guide or just act like one. The experience will change you forever.

- written by Todd Friedmar, pictures by Todd Friedmar



World of Competitive Fly Fishing

The 2nd weekend of August the U.S. International Youth Fly Fishing Team held their Western Clinic for competitive fly fishers aged 14-18 on the Big Wood River in Stanley, Idaho. The team competes all over the world, mainly in Europe, utilizing a set of rules most often referred to as “Czech Nymphing”, although the art was originally developed in Poland. The technique employs “high sticking” utilizing 10 to 11 foot long 3 weight rods. Normal 9 foot tapered leaders are tied on to the fly line. Multi-colored monofilament tippet is used as an indicator. The art is delicate, perfected line control a must, bending the wrist to the indicator and hook setting at the slightest indication of a nibble.



Sasha Connor with rainbow on Gallatin

The U.S. team fishes exclusively with 2 simple bead head “Frenchy” nymphs tied to 3x fluorocarbon tippet triple surgeon knotted to the monofilament indicator.

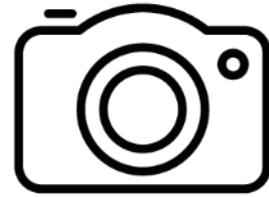
The tag end of the tippet is long enough to tie on top a #16 “Frenchy” with a #14 about 24” below. Tying flies eye to eye is not allowed. Often there is only 3” of fly line below the tip of the fly rod. Among other rules, no weight may be added to the line — tungsten hooks with lead are tied into the flies. Leaders can’t be more than twice the length of the rod. The U.S. team members often have as much as 14’ to 15’ of leader/tippet out and many fish are caught virtually at the feet of the fisher. Each angler is given a section of river for a given length of time, usually 30 minutes. Each fish caught must be presented to a stationary judge and measured in the net to score a point. So large hoop nets are used. Size of fish only matter when there is a tie. Fish that are foul hooked or cannot be revived when released represent a demerit. The sport requires a certain amount of athleticism with fishers often sprinting to the judges through boulder strewn rock gardens. They wear knee pads given the danger.



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FISHOTS



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



Mike Olson with beautiful Yellowstone brown trout



Susanne Staats with Yellowstone brownie

September Monthly Meeting

In the September meeting, Jason Cotta (425-452-9138) from [Orvis in Bellevue](#) spoke on fly fishing access 365. He gave us tips on waters that are a day trip from Seattle.

Jason covered winter fishing in Rocky Ford, spring fishing on the Yakima, and summer fishing on the Skykomish among lots of other waters. Jason encouraged us to “get out there” and reminded us of the simple power of the Delorme maps and Google Earth for general scouting.

- Written by Brian Boone
- Pictures by Brian Boone



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The competition is a bit like American football as it is considered to be nearly a contact sport. For this reason NFA member Sasha Conner was received with surprise when she showed up for the event. No other girl had registered for a clinic in decades. Nevertheless, the world class coaches and mentors – including legend Joe Humphreys - took her seriously enough to help her master the technique so well that on the third day she caught the largest fish of the weekend. She has added the technique now to her repertoire, teaching her dad the art and together they “Czech Nymphed” across the west on the Gallatin and Clark’s Fork of the Yellowstone rivers, Sasha with alarming success, Papa not so well.

- written by Mark Connor, pictures by Mark Connor



October Monthly Meeting

Despite a rainy and blustery night, about 45 NFA members turned out for the October 19th NFA meeting. We inducted three new members into the club: Scott and Teresa Keenholts and Bill Rose. All three are interested in meeting new people to fish with and learning about fishing opportunities in our area. Dave and Freda from West Seattle were welcomed as guests.

The membership voted on the 2017 Memorial (Conservation) Award. There were three nominees- Coastal Conservation Association, Washington Water Trust, and North Olympic Salmon Coalition. The winner is Coastal Conservation Association. Wytold Lebing reminded the membership of the upcoming Duwamish Shoreline conservation event on October 21st.

Peter Maunsell hosted the raffle, which included lanyards, fly tying materials, and flies. Various fishing reports were given about the Yellowstone River, Pass Lake, Omak Lake, Big Hole, Madison, and Klickitat Rivers. All the reports were true.

Wayne Balsiger encouraged members to donate raffle and silent auction items and services for our December 9th annual auction and holiday party. We've already received some great items from members and are looking for more. Everyone is welcomed to come to the party, which will be held at Ivar's Salmon House on Lake Union. This year's menu features a wonderful buffet dinner. Be sure to register on the website by the December 1st deadline. Guests are welcome and can be easily added via the website.

The guest speaker was Peter Rubenstein. Peter shared suggestions submitted by members for 2018 outings. This includes lakes and rivers located west and east of the Cascades as well as multi-day trips in Canada and Oregon. He also shared the proposed 2018 outing schedule. Many trips are still tentative depending on availability of hosts. Peter is still soliciting ideas. If you have a trip in mind and are willing to host, please send an email to Peter at peter@rubensteinclan.net. Peter will be finalizing the 2018 outing schedule around December 2017.

- written by Susanne Staats
- Photo by Mike Olson



New members Scott and Teresa Keenholts and Bill Rose.
Susanne Staats presenting at right





Mark and Sasha Connor
on Klickitat River



SERVING

OFFICERS

Matt Moore, President

Jim Morrison, Vice President

Peter Maunsell, Treasurer

David Arms, Secretary

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Alan Pilkington, Maura Johnson, Wytold Lebing,
Nominations

Susanne Staats, Membership

Peter Rubenstein, Outings

Wytold Lebing, Conservation

Russ Shropshire, Librarian

Kim Kreidler & Helsa Petersen, Fly Box

Maura Johnson, Hospitality

Brett Schormann, Webmaster

Art and Candee Alton, Raffle Coordinator

Open Position, Education

Brian Boone, Flypaper Editor

stauroo@gmail.com

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

Quote of the Month

*"Things fishermen know about trout
aren't facts, but articles of faith."*

~ John Gierach

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