CONSERVATION & EDUCATION RAFFLE
MARCH 11 MONTHLY MEETING

This will be one you don’t want to miss! Always an enjoyable evening, the raffle provides the funding for the club’s conservation and educational efforts.

The local fly shops and the generous members have donated a great number of items to make our Conservation & Education Raffle a success. The items will include flies, fly rods, guided & hosted fishing trips, chances to fish with a club mentor, and numerous other items, including a lot of fly tying equipment and materials.

You can check your donated items in beginning at 5:30 PM.

The kitchen will have hot dogs, etc. available after 5:00 PM.

Please bring your friends, neighbors and families. Don’t forget your checkbooks and/or cash. We will also be able to take Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express credit cards.

Ticket sales and viewing will begin at 6 PM and the RAFFLE will begin at 7 PM.

The prices for the tickets are:

- $1 1 ticket
- $5 7 tickets
- $10 15 tickets

Once you have purchased your tickets, you put your assigned number on the back and then place a ticket in the bag placed in front of each item you wish to win. If you like, you could put a lot of tickets in one item that you REALLY want. After depositing your tickets, just sit back, listen for your number, enjoy the drawings and get ready to pick up the item or items you win.

THIS IS A REALLY FUN, WORTHWHILE EVENT.

EARLY DONOR DRAWING

There is still time to get into the early drawing by giving your donated item to the club prior to March 7th. Contact Mike Berube @ 999-8235 or email to tytllynz@gmail.com for directions to drop off the items.
"The little I have learned only shows me how very much there is to learn."
Louis L’Amour

Rich Hafele is known for sharing his fishing entomology knowledge with anyone willing to listen. He did not disappoint us, sharing his “bug” knowledge and presentation techniques at a level even I could grasp. Your speaker committee is currently working on another strong lineup for next year. It’ll be a difficult task to top our own Jeff Voight and Leroy Hyatt who spoke last fall, Kelly Galloup’s presentation last January followed by Rick this past month. If you see Brad Thompson, your speaker committee chair, give him a word of “thanks”.

“It’s always darkest before the dawn. So if you’re going to steal your neighbor’s newspaper, that’s the time to do it.” Unknown

Dan Ferguson, your outings chair, has put together nearly twenty outings. For you that are new to the club, these are fishing trips to various bodies of water located across our great northwest. Normally they are multi-day events staying in campgrounds on or in the vicinity of the lake or river targeted to be fished. It is perhaps the best way to develop friendships within the club, learn about fishing a particular lake or river, and expand your fishing knowledge. I don’t think you’ll find many newspapers to snitch, but you may be able to pocket the hot fly of the outing from its owner.

“The man smiled. ‘All the trout are never caught out. Sometimes they get very scarce, and the fewer there are the wiser they seem to get. Some become too smart to be taken even by the most expert, and these fish constitute the seed that keeps the streams stocked.’” Ray Bergman

At the time this quote was written, stocking programs and habitat improvements were just beginning to come to the forefront. Over time, as our knowledge has moved forward, we have learned more about the environment where fish live and fisheries in general. Today, we do not have to live with the peaks and valleys of a fishery in a lake or stream...we have the knowledge to maintain a better balance. Whether it be an aerator for a put-and-take lake such as West Medical (sponsored with funds from SFF), or working with stream habitat improvement at Calispell Creek or spawning streams such as the one that feeds Browns Lake (the club provided labor and knowledge), we can improve our local fisheries. Through education and hard work, we can make a difference. Please consider donating your time and efforts to this recreation we all in the SFF partake in. Begin with contributions to the Conservation/Education Raffle and consider helping with those labor intensive projects that come up from time to time.

Norm Scott is retiring as Chairperson of Project Healing Waters. Norm began his leadership role over five years ago. The program has flourished under his direction and has become one of the leading PHW programs in the Region. He has also assisted other organizations in getting their programs off the ground. Norm’s leadership will be sorely missed. The SFF Board, SFF membership and Project Healing Waters participants thank you, Norm, for your contributions to this great cause.
By: Norm Scott

It has been a couple of months since I have written to you on our Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing activities, so let’s get started. Last month we kicked off our 3rd rod building class for the PHWFF Rod Building Competition. This year we have 13 Veterans participating, some for the first time and others for their second attempt. Nationally, the Rod Building Program, like the PHWFF Program itself, has continued to grow. I think the number of Programs (such as ours) participating last year were 45, while this year there are over 75 Programs involved in the rod building efforts. All of the rods being built this year will be submitted to the rod building program at Hook and Hackle Outfitters for judging in mid-April and will be returned to the builder after judging. The rods will be theirs to keep.

We are now thinking about fishing. Two of our volunteers, Mike Fortney and Fred Timms (new member) took one of the PHWFF veterans over to Rocky Ford last week and he landed his first trout on a fly rod; a 28 inch Rainbow. Nice job!

Aside from that, we are now into the planning stages for several outings with our Vets throughout the Spring and Summer ahead. More details will follow.

And, lastly, I have had the honor and pleasure of being involved with the PHWFF Program here with the SFF for the past 5 years, and I think we have made some headway with the Program. That was accomplished with a lot of VIPs, namely, all of those volunteers in SFF who have made it possible. They are: Mike Fortney, Rick Newman, Mike Ainsworth, Fred Timms, Lynn Keener, Bob Kowal, Dan Wells, Ed Chezem, Judy Kauffman, Kurt Tempel, Mike Berube, Brad Thompson, Steve Wright, Dan Wight, Joe Ford, Carl Griffin, and Mike Keegan. Also those volunteers outside of SFF include: Gerald Sullivan, Al Barrett and Rob Leslie. Thank You All. That said, it is time for me to step aside and bring in some fresh ideas and new energy for the Program. Fred Timms, USAF Veteran and new member of SFF, has eagerly volunteered to take over for me. Fred has a lot of energy and brings his years of fly fishing experience and involvement with TU and other PHWFF Programs from the West side. Please give Fred the support all of you have given me over this past time. Thank You!
BEGINNING FLY TYING REPORT
By: Betty Smith-Lambert

The 2015 Beginning Fly Tying Class was a very full class. The tables only have room for ten people at a class and twenty people signed up. Of those, sixteen attended. The morning class, taught by Betty Lambert and Mary Kovatch was composed of Craig Adams, Victor Frazier, Dave Chromy, Dave Merabell, Larry Tichey, Dick Brereton, Dallas and Michelle Buckanan, Pat Hutchins, and Lamarr Lam-er. The afternoon class, taught by Bob Mielbrecht and Larry Ray contained Doug Keen, Jeff Reed, Less Lynton, Marlene and Jerry Williams, and Pat Shine. I hope that I got everyone’s name correct and did not leave anyone out.

This year we reorganized the class and materials. Instead of five classes the course was extended to six and some of the flies were changed.

I am happy to say that all people progressed from putting the hook into the vise, to wings, beads, dubbing, and spinning deer hair.

Bob, Mary and Larry were exceptional in their assistance with the instruction and the class would not - GO - without them. They are not only important as helpers for those who have questions but can explain how to fish the flies. I only tie flies...someday soon I hope to fish again.

I would also like to thank the unknown person who dropped off turkey feathers, deer hair, and ring neck pheasant feathers at my front door. The materials were badly needed for the class.

INTERMEDIATE TYING CLASS FINISHED
By: Mike Berube

Thanks to all of the volunteer instructor tyers. Dan Ferguson, Brad Thompson, Dan Wight, Bob Newman did a great job showing us some new patterns, techniques, and tips. We tied quite the variety; emergers, nymphs, dries, streamers, bass bugs, and some lake bugs. Thanks also to all of the tyers who came out and showed a lot of enthusiasm learning new patterns.

If you took the beginner's class this year, I hope to see you next year in the intermediate.

HELPFUL HINT FROM SFF MEMBER
By: Bob Kowal

Losing a box of valuable flies or other equipment is painful. Although some people may not return them, most fly fishermen and women are the type that will try, as noted by the "Found Fly Box" that Bruce Farr attempted to return in last month’s issue of the Barbless. Lean the odds in your favor to get your fly boxes, rods, or anything else you can put a label on. I use a computer and make a stick on label with my email and phone number, and put it inside every fly box, and on anything else I can; net, knife, vest, even my reel/rod. Address labels with your phone number added or email will work also. I put a few layers of waterproof Scotch tape over the label for items that will get wet. Another option is to use a waterproof marker and just write your info on the item.
SEA EAGLE FISHING KAYAK FOR SALE  
By: Bob Kowal

Sea Eagle fishing kayak. An incredible fishing platform with two swivel seats, fishing rod racks, and motor board for an electric motor. (Motor sold separately) It also has kayak paddles and kayak seats for fun on the water. To get a full description, go to seaeagle.com and look for the Paddleski model. On the right column is the fishing package which is $1500 with only one seat, mine has two. Very good condition. If you want a versatile craft for fun fishing, floating with kids, relaxing on the water, you will be pleased with the Sea Eagle. Stores in a closet or trunk of car. Asking $975, firm. Bob Kowal bobkowal@gmail.com 509-251-9034.

COFFEE POT OUTING - MARCH 7th  CANCELLED
Host: Kurt Tempel

The first club outing of the year (Coffee Pot Lake on March 7th) has been cancelled due to low water levels at the boat launch.

If you have any questions please contact Kurt at: katempel@aol.com

CLARK FORK OUTING – SATURDAY, MARCH 21-22
Host: Don Tietz

Are you ready to fish?? Let’s get together for an early outing on the Clark Fork River at St Regis, Mt. If you’re up for the challenge, throw your pontoon boat in the back of the pickup and drive to the OK Restaurant in St Regis for breakfast at 8 AM Montana time. After a relaxing breakfast or coffee we’ll mosey over to Joe Cantrell’s Fly Shop for flies and advice. Fishing will be mostly with nymph rigs, Pheasant Tails, Rubber Legs, Copper Johns, Zebra Midge and my favorite…the San Juan Worm! There may be some midge dry fly action but don’t bank on it! Dress in layers, be ready for some cold…. But I’ve got to tell you, this is a fun time to fish!

To get there go east on I-90 two hours to Montana exit 33. Turn left at the end of the off ramp. At the four way stop go straight for about ½ mile to the OK Restaurant on the left side. If you have any questions contact Don Tietz at 509-850-5076.

MEMBERSHIP  
By Jodi Fitts, Chair

Please welcome the following new members: Mike and Cathy Ainsworth, and Tim, Beth, Jon and Katherine Merck. We also have 42 new members via the Fly Fishing School. It was very nice meeting all of you and welcome to Spokane Fly Fishers.

May 31, 2015 is the last day to pay dues. This will keep you current through May 2016. Please make sure you pay on or before May 31, to insure you are in the 2015/16 directory.

Fill out the renewal form in this Barbless issue. You can pay at either our March, April or May meetings or you can pay online. You may also mail your check by to: Spokane Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 4141, Spokane, WA 99220

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**AMBER LAKE OUTING - APRIL 4TH**

Host: Jack Mayfield

Amber Lake could still be cold and windy for our outing on 4 April. I’ll test the waters and give everyone that signed up a lake/fishing report on the 11th (Friday afternoon). The table with muffins and coffee will be set-up near the boat launch by 8 AM. Damselfly and dragonfly nymph patterns, leeches and chironomids should work well. Very little shore casting available - selective gear rules, internal combustion motors prohibited, catch-and-release.

Directions: Take I-90 west to the Cheney Exit. Go completely through town and then left on Mullinix Road. Continue on Mullinix for about 10 miles to Pine Springs Road. Turn right and stay on Pine Springs until you find a small Amber Lake sign where you’ll turn left and follow the dirt road to the parking lot. You can drive down the hill to unload, but you have to park in the lot on top.

Questions: Contact Jack Mayfield at 509-926-8017.

**DRY FALLS OUTING - APRIL 10TH /12TH**

The Dry Falls outing is a joint venture with the NorthWest Fly Anglers. You must register with them on the website: [http://www.northwestflyanglers.org/outings.htm](http://www.northwestflyanglers.org/outings.htm)

At Dry Falls Lake the quality fly fishing is matched by some of the most unique scenery in the world. At the end of the last ice age a colossal flood poured out of Canada through the Columbia Basin. Dry Falls Lake is the site where the flood carved out the largest known waterfall in the history of the world. The lake has a healthy population of large browns and rainbows. Tiger trout - the hybrid brown-brook trout - are also caught here. The many weedy shoals in Dry Falls make this lake in north central Washington tremendously productive. And nearby Banks Lake has schools of large carp cruising the shallows. If these species are on your bucket list, then attending this outing is a must.

The club has rented Camp Delany, the spacious educational facility at Dry Falls. So we will have a kitchen, dining room, indoor sleeping facilities, and showers! Floating devices mandatory. Fee covers all weekend food. $60 fee covers food and lodging (with showers!) for (2) nights. Wa. State Parks Discovery Pass required.
BWO BIOT EMERGER
Submitted by Mike Berube

Hook: Sz 14 - 18
Thread: Gray 8/0
Tail/Shuck: Gold zelon
Body: Olive Goose biot
Post: White antron post material
Thorax: Gray fine dubbing
Hackle: Blue dun dry fly

These materials can be changed to match your favorite hatch.

1. De-barb your hook and place in vise.

2. Dress the hook shank with thread, start at eye and wrap back to the point above the hook point. This is the tie in point for the shuck.

3. Cut a piece of zelon about an inch long, thin the material out to about 8-10 strands, you don’t want the shuck too thick. Tie the zelon in at the tie in point on top of the hook. To keep the material on top of the hook lift up on the material as you wrap the thread. Wrap thread to about the point above the barb. Leave thread here and trim shuck to about ¼ inch. Pull the material tight but don’t cut the traditional way. Holding the material tight rub one of the scissor blades against the material to cut. This will give an uneven cut, looking more natural.

4. Choose a biot. Hold the tip of the biot to the hook. Angle it slightly to the rear on your side of the hook at the tie in point. The raised rib should also be on your side, as you wrap it, it will form a nicely segmented body. Wrap the biot with slightly overlapping wraps to the hook eye stopping at the 75% point. Secure it with three tight wraps and trim butt. This is the tie in point for the post.

5. Now you need to tie in a post. Cut a piece of antron about 2.5-3 inches long. The post does not need to be too thick, so thin it out a bit. The exact amount you need comes with trial and error, but try a bunch about the size of a match stick. When the thread is wrapped it will compress it to the right size. It should be thick enough to support the hackle. Tie the post in by holding the antron on top of the hook at the tie in point. Make 4 wraps of thread over each other in the middle of the antron, grab the ends and lift forming one post. You have doubled the material over on itself. Holding the material straight up make 5-6 wraps of thread directly at the base of the post in front of and behind it, this will help stand it up. Now make wraps of thread up the post to strengthen it. You’ll want to 10-15 wraps up the post and bring the thread back down with a couple. Your post should be standing up straight. Leave the thread at the base of the post.

6. Next, you’ll form the thorax with dubbing. Apply the dubbing sparingly to the thread. You’ll want about 2 inches of dubbing on the thread. Begin dubbing back to cover biot butt, then back by the post base to the hook eye and back to the pose base. You should have a nice tightly formed thorax. Leave thread hanging at the base of the post, your thread will not go around the hook shank again. The fly will be finished around the post.

7. Choose your hackle to match the size of the hook. Prep the hack by removing any fluff at the butt and trim/pull off barbs leaving about a ¼ inch of bare stem. Hold the stem butt up against the post, on your side, with good side facing you. Secure it to the post with 5-6 wraps up the post and back down. Leave the thread hanging on your side at the base of the post. (This step is optional. Using your bodkin apply head cement to the post sparingly. This will help make a more durable fly by gluing the hackle to the post as you wrap.) Begin wrapping the hackle with the first wrap going to the top of the wraps of thread on the post and wrap down with 5-6 wraps down the post. Stop with the hackle tip on your side. Secure the hackle with 2-3 wraps of thread around the base of the post. Trim the hackle close to the base of the post.

8. Finish the fly by whip finishing around the base of the post. 3-4 wraps should work. Trim the post to desired length.
## 2015 OUTINGS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>OUTING</th>
<th>HOST</th>
<th>RATING / EXPLANATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Coffee Pot</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>1-Could be cold/windy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 20-22</td>
<td>Clark Fork River&lt;br&gt;St Regis, MT</td>
<td>Don Tietz</td>
<td>2-Float: Bridge abutments, small rapids, obstacles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Pontoon Safety Still Water&lt;br&gt;Class</td>
<td>Don Tietz and Crew</td>
<td>1-Could be cold/windy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>Amber Lake</td>
<td>Jack Mayfield</td>
<td>1-Could be cold/windy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 10-12</td>
<td>Dry Falls&lt;br&gt;Northwest Anglers</td>
<td></td>
<td>1-Could be cold/windy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Williams Lake</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>1- Evening Float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>Kid's Fishing / Clear Lake</td>
<td>Carla Ferguson</td>
<td>Fun, rewarding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Clear Lake</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>1-Float (AM Only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Club Picnic</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 3(Wed)</td>
<td>West Medical Lake</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>1 -Evening Float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12-14</td>
<td>One Fly/ Browns Lake</td>
<td>Dan Wight</td>
<td>1-Float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 26-28</td>
<td>North Fork CDA</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>2 -Wading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul 17-19</td>
<td>Kelly Creek</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>2 -Wading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 1-2</td>
<td>St Joe River</td>
<td>Rick Newman</td>
<td>1-3-Wade: Depending on where</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 14-16</td>
<td>Rock Creek, MT</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>1-3-Wade: Depending on where</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 28-30</td>
<td>Lochsa</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>1-3-Wade: Depending on where</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 11-13</td>
<td>Clark Fork River</td>
<td>Don Tietz</td>
<td>2-Float: Bridge abutments, small rapids, obstacles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>Sprague Lake</td>
<td>Dan &amp; Carla Ferguson</td>
<td>1-float</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 25-27</td>
<td>Missouri River</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>2-Float: Bridge abutments, obstacles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 9-11</td>
<td>Grande Ronde River</td>
<td>HOST NEEDED</td>
<td>4-Wade: slick rocks, boulders, visibility&lt;br&gt;4-Float: Low fast water, obstacles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As you can see, hosts are needed for most of the outings. If you wish to volunteer or have any questions contact Dan Ferguson. E-mail to nwflyguy@gmail.com or phone 509 325-8885.

PLEASE SEE JANUARY BARBLESS FOR RATING DESCRIPTIONS
Questions about the ratings also go to Dan Ferguson.
The 2015 International Fly Fishing Film Festival returns to Spokane this March. Enjoy this family event that includes raffle auction items with big time prizes of equipment by Simms, Winston, Airflo, Lamson and others, and guided trips by Silver Bow Fly Fishing. The films are produced by professional film makers from all corners of the globe, capturing the passion, lore, lifestyle and culture of fly-fishing that anglers of all ages and skill levels can relate to and celebrate.

Date: Wednesday, March 25
Location: The Bing
Time: Doors open at 5:00 to check out raffle/auction items and catch-up with friends and local angling legends. Film starts at 7:00 p.m.
Tickets: $15 at Silverbow Fly Shop, or buy on the web via www.flyfilmfest.com or www.showclix.com/event/3924009/tag/widget. $18 at the door.

Presented by Silver Bow Fly Shop, in association with Spokane Falls Trout Unlimited, Riverkeeper and the Spokane River Forum. Proceeds are to benefit Spokane River access and the Spokane River Water Trail.

CASTING FOR RECOVERY
By: Mary Kovatch

Casting For Recovery is an national program for women who have or those who are in remission to learn how to fly fish. The nation is divided into regions and Spokane is in the North Idaho Eastern Washington region.

Women who fly fish enjoy the sport at many different levels—being outdoors in fresh air, sharing another’s company, having time to reflect, or simply catching a fish. For these and other reasons we encourage women to participate in the CFR retreat to be held this July 17-19. It will be at the Orvis Flying B Ranch just east of Lewiston. All of the money for the retreat comes from fund raising activities and donations, thus there is no cost to the participants. All equipment is available so there is no need for a participant to have her own.

The program has sessions Friday and Saturday on fly tying, casting, insects, how to fish the water, releasing the fish, etc. On Sunday there will be a real chance to fish, and hopefully catch one.

Women who have participated in the past three years have indicated that this is one of the best experiences they have ever had. There have been women who are wheelchair bound and some who are in stage 4 cancer. There are enough women who volunteer so that those with physical or emotional needs can be helped. (There is a medical professional on staff.)

Applications for this coming retreat are due by May 1, 2015. There are application forms available on the CFR web site:  www.castingforrecovery.org.

If you need any additional information, contact Mary Kovatch.
NEXT MEETING

MARCH 11, 2015

CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION RAFFLE
PREVIEW 6 PM - RAFFLE 7 PM

ST. FRANCIS SCHOOL
1104 W. HEROY

“THE MISSION OF THE SPOKANE FLY FISHERS IS TO PROVIDE A FAMILY FRIENDLY ORGANIZATION FOR PROMOTING THE SPORT OF FLY FISHING THROUGH EDUCATION, APPLICATION, AND CONSERVATION.”