



# FLY PAPER

September 2023

## Looking Upstream

- September 21 Club Meeting / **Fly Gear Auction n Swap** at the Wenatchee Eagles
- Business Meeting
  - Auction
    - Surplus items from the club's storage unit.
    - Surplus donated fly gear and equipment.
  - Fly Gear Swap Meet
    - Bring your extra gear to sell or swap.
      - Lines – Rods – Reels – Boats - Flies – Anything Fly Fishing
- September 23 **Free Casting Classes** – See article on page two for more details.
- September **Pink Salmon** with Steve Aguilu on the Dark Side
- For details contact him at: [flyfishingsteve@comcast.net](mailto:flyfishingsteve@comcast.net)
- October 5 Board Meeting
- October 19 Club Meeting / Richard de Lorenzo
- **Flyfishing in Labrador for Atlantic Salmon**
- November 2 Board Meeting
- November 16 Club Meeting / Heather Hutchens
- **Do It Yourself Fly Fishing the West**

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## Presidents Message

Greetings WVFF Members!

Hopefully you have enjoyed a great summer, traveled a bit, wetted some lines and reeled in a fish or two! It's time to think about re-connecting and sharing our stories. To that end, a reminder that **the club will reconvene on Thursday, Sep. 21st at the Eagles Club in Wenatchee:**

**Social Hour/Dinner** begins at 6 PM (Dinner can be purchased at the Eagles)

**Business Meeting** - 6:30 PM

**Club Activity** - 7 PM

It is important that you know that the September 'presentation' is actually the fly casting clinic on Saturday, September, 23rd. Consequently, the club activity on Thursday, September 21st (after the business meeting) will include a garage sale of fly fishing/fly tying equipment and materials from our storage unit. In addition, members are encouraged to bring their own fly fishing/tying equipment and materials for a Fly Fishing/Tying Swap (like a Ski Swap). I'm sure that many of you have some stuff that you would like to trade or sell. Finally, we acquired some fly fishing and camping equipment donated by Greg & Anita Van Stralen that we would like to auction off. Also worth mentioning is that WVFF was awarded Outstanding Volunteer[s] 2023 by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: Region 2 at their annual banquet this past July. On hand to receive the award were Gary Anderson, Bob Bartlett, Bruce Merighi, and myself.

I look forward to seeing you all on September 21st! Sincerely, Dan Hammond President

## Free Casting Clinic / Tune-Up For Members & the Public Saturday Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>

- FFI Certified Casting Instructor Aaron Cullen
- **Walla Walla Point Park** (Across from Lowes) Down by the Swimming Hole
- 9:30 – 11:30    Beginners Fly Casting Lesson**
  - We are expecting students from the spring WVC Fly Fishing Class, Boy Scouts Troop 7 and new WVFF members.
- 12:30 – 2:30    Casting Tune – Up - For Intermediate & Advanced**
  - Want to cast a Tighter Loop?
  - Fine tune that Roll Cast?
  - Lengthen your Double Haul?
  - Learn the Air Mend or Casting w/your Non-Dominant Arm?
- Bring Your Rod n Reel with a bit of yarn tied to the end of your leader.
- **Members are needed to assist the casting instructor in the morning.** If you can help, call Bruce Merighi at 509-679-2274 and bring your rig plus a few 'backup rods' to loan to the students.
- Plus, a **Casting Skills Development Course & Casting Tic-Tac-Toe.**

# 2023 WDFW Region 2 Volunteer of the Year Award



On July 27<sup>th</sup> the WVFF was recognized as being an integral part of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) volunteer program. The club was the recipient of their Volunteer of the Year Award for 2023.

In recognition of our work and contributions of equipment, the board members and their spouses were invited to the WDFW Region 2 Awards Banquet held at Wenatchee Valley College. Many members have volunteered to help our local fisheries but most notably, President Danniell Hammond and a stalwart crew of club members worked with the WDFW Ephrata office, to rescue and relocate numerous Lahotan Trout in Grant County. For a complete listing of the fisheries conservation work your club has accomplished, type your way to the club website at: [wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com/conservation](http://wenatcheevalleyflyfishers.com/conservation).



# Volunteers Needed Oct. 2 - 6

Cascadia Conservation District Potato Creek Phase 3

## Help Build Beaver Dam Analogs

In 2020 club members assisted with the first phase of the Potato Creek Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) Project. We got dirty, pruned up a lot of brush, dragged it to spots on the very dry creek bottom, wove the brush into the pre-pounded log columns and created a large basket like structure that would eventually help the fishery by increasing surface and riparian area moisture levels. The following year we were treated to photographs of the area we worked in. Photos of cougar, bear and other forest critters made us realize that our efforts the previous fall had extreme benefits. This was in addition to seeing our dry creek bottom covered with over a foot of water and after a dry winter. The BDA system works in assisting waterways regain their original water moving and storing capabilities, all to the betterment of the local fishery. This fact was proven by another great picture taken by their game camera. A mature Steelhead heading upstream in what was the year before, an almost dry creek bed. Insert smiling emoji here...

We may also be asked to help with:

- Taking measurements.
- Collecting weave material.
- There is a possibility they'll be using a larger wood grip hoist which might require a few extra hands.
- If you're interested in helping, please contact:
  - Dan Hammond - drhammond51@gmail.com
  - Bruce Merighi – bruce401@nwi.net

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## June 1, 2023\* Virtual Board Meeting

### ATTENDANCE:

Present: Dan Hammond, Bruce Merighi, Bob Bartlett, Derek Corder, Steve Aguilu and John Richmond

Absent: Gary Anderson and Bruce Phillips

**Call to order:** Time: 6:31pm

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**May 4th Board Meeting Minutes- *No Quorum present***

Motion to Approve: NA    Second: NA    Vote: NA

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**President's Report:**

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- Notice of sale of our AA Storage; currently pay \$47/month
  - The club has until July 31<sup>st</sup> to vacate the unit.
  - Steve Aguilu found that most storage units have a waitlist and the cheapest was around \$60.
  - Another 5x10 unit will work but it might be a good idea to sell some of the stuff to make room.
  - Steve Aguilu said that we should try to get on a couple of waitlists for a 5x10 unit and take the first one that becomes available.
  - John Richmond very generously offered to store some stuff if we can't get into a unit in time before vacating the current unit.
- Report of Laptop status and reimbursement request (\$259.79)
  - Steve suggested that the club reimburses Dan Hammond and then Steve Aguilu will reimburse the club.
  - There was discussion concerning whether Steve should be solely financially responsible for the costs or should the club cover the costs for repair.
  - There was a motion to reimburse Dan Hammond. Bob Bartlett moved to approve, and Bruce Merighi seconded. Dan Hammond abstained. The motion was approved.
  - There was a motion for the club to take financial responsibility for the laptop repair. Bob Bartlett moved to approve, and John Richmond seconded. Bob Bartlett, John Richmond, and Derek Corder approved. Bruce Merighi and Dan Hammond opposed. The motion was approved.
- Banquet/one term president
  - Dan Hammond said he will be a one-term president.
  - There is no incoming president/vice president to organize next year's banquet.

**Education Report:**

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- **Fly Casting Clinic-** Still working on getting a date for Casting Classes in Sept. Will advise.
  - Bruce wants to organize it so that club members help with the introduction so the instructor can focus entirely on casting technique.
- **Casting for Recovery-** going to the Methow this year.
- **2023 Salmon Festival Sept 15-16**
  - Still looking for volunteers to help with a booth.
- **Cashmere Public Library Community Salmon Celebration June 24<sup>th</sup>**

- Report from Bruce Merighi: The Cashmere Salmon Celebration event is coming up soon but only Derek Corder has volunteered. Steve Aguilu moved to pass on this event for this year and John Richmond seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Conservation Report:**

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- Trout Unlimited Grant application looking for survey equipment, Chelan County Fisheries Enhancement Group request & Methow Cutthroat Study Program request will have to wait to be considered in September.
- Conservation Mini Grant application
  - Wenatchee TU
- Cascadia Tour of Potato Creek report
  - Water has returned since 2020.
- Washington Wild Statement on the maintenance of the Eightmile Dam
  - They want the club to support their environmental statement.
  - John Richmond moved to approve the group's statement and Bruce Merighi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
  - Steve Aguilu will send the club a copy of the letter.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

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- Clarification of donation to Casting for Recovery
  - John Richmond said the club has already sent \$300.
  - Dan Hammond proposes to send \$200 more. Bruce Merighi made a motion to approve the additional funds and Steve Aguilu seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

### **Outings Report:**

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- **Big Twin Lake- May 11-14**
  - Had a great time with a lot of new members.
- **Jameson/Grimes- June 4<sup>th</sup> deadline to sign up.**
  - Jameson / Grimes Lake Outing (from Bob): I am the only person signed up / reservation made for camping at Jameson, and the outing is scheduled for June 13-16, less than 2 weeks away. I intend to email club members today/tomorrow, telling them that unless at least 2 other members notify me they want to go, I'm cancelling the event.
  - Bob will consider a day trip to Grimes
  - Grimes Lake signage- whoever attends the June outing needs to take some good pictures of the existing signage in order to consider replacing the sign. Contact Travis Maitland to see if he will build a kiosk for the sign.
  - **St. Joe**
  - **Georgetown**
  - **Pink Outing?**
    - Steve Aguilu will reach out to the membership about an informal outing.
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## Membership Report:

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- **Membership renewals/payment:**
- **New members:** added WVC fly fishing class members to roster.
- **Deleted members who didn't pay dues**

## Program Chair Report:

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- **Fly Fishing Class-** next dates for volunteers.
  - Beehive Reservoir- June 3<sup>rd</sup>
    - Meet at the back parking lot of Wenatchee High School at 9am

## Old Business:

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- Website: status of page counters?
  - Tell Patrick Herzog that we want that finished asap.
- Report from Bob Bartlett- Website Work:
  - We know Patrick Herzog has enable member join year on registration so we can keep track of who's current on dues, but we're still waiting for Patrick's creation of a password-protected registration link, and enhancement of the visitor log counter so it counts unique visits to all pages, not just visits to the total website. We've also asked him for suggestions for integrating an email list to the website. Any other wants from board?? We may want to have a meeting between Dan, Bruce M, and myself to discuss any other needs. Board members please provide input!

## New Business:

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- Plan for Banquet
  - Bruce Merighi said we should send the membership a letter to say we don't currently have leadership to have a banquet.
  - Bob Bartlett said we need to have a decision by the October Membership meeting at the latest about the banquet status.
  - This needs to be the focus of the September membership along with a "garage sale" of items from the storage unit.
  - Steve Aguilu said we could expand the board to include a fundraising position, but Dan Hammond said this may be a challenge as we cannot fill the current vacant positions.
  - Steve Aguilu also suggested that we could have a social dinner where we advertise an online auction that will happen on another date.

## Adjournment Time: 8:31pm

- Reminder that we publish the most recent Board Meeting Minutes and since the Board did not meet between June and September the latest minutes are from June. Editor