



FLY PAPER

October 2023

Looking Upstream

October	5	Board Meeting
October	19	Club Meeting / Richard de Lorenzo <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flyfishing in Labrador for Atlantic Salmon
November	2	Board Meeting
November	16	Club Meeting / Presenter TBA

Flyfishing in Labrador for Atlantic Salmon



With a lifetime of experience under his belt pursuing the best fly fishing on the planet, Richard is a leading expert on Argentina, Alaska and Christmas Island, to name but a few. Many of our clients prefer to call Richard by his apt nickname, the "Dry Fly Jedi".

President's Message

The Elephant in the Room

According to our bylaws, October is the time that the president appoints a nominating committee of 3-5 club members for the purpose of developing a new slate of officers for the coming year. The committee will report their findings to the membership in November.

I'm asking for volunteers for this committee (one of them being a chairperson) to query our membership for those who are willing to become new board members. Please contact me of your willingness to serve on this committee either by e-mail or by phone drhammond51@gmail.com; (509) 885-0576.

I will be moving into the role of Past President. Therefore, we will need someone to step into the role of President for next year since this past year we didn't have a Vice President who would move into that role. It's important, (for those in our club who haven't taken a leadership role in the past) to step up and take an active role in leading if we want this club to continue. We simply must have board members if we are to continue as a non-profit organization. If we can't find members willing to lead, then we are facing the prospect of **dissolution**. That is the elephant in the room.

The Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers has been a thriving non-profit club for 38 years. This past summer our club was recognized as '*Outstanding Volunteer 2023*' by the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife: Region 2. We've funded scholarships for young people to participate in the Fly Fishing Academy. We've help fund Casting for Recovery. We held free casting clinics for the community. We've funded and volunteered for numerous conservation projects in Chelan, Douglas, Grant/Adams & Okanogan counties. We've provided numerous outings and presentations for our members. Our membership is growing. **Are we really to consider dissolving this club?**

For those who haven't served, I'm asking that you step up and become a leader. You can expect help from experienced people who want you to succeed in a leadership role and keep this club thriving. Let's look forward to the next 30+ years of a vibrant fly fishing club!

Respectfully,
Dan Hammond WVFF President

BT's Fly Tying Friday Oct 13th 6 pm MDT

Wrong Way Dun

After our "shakedown" Fly Tying Friday on 8 September 2023 we decided we needed a little more practice before our actual Fly Tying Friday season starts on 20 October 2023 and that's what we'll be doing this Friday. On Friday, we'll outline what we hope to accomplish during the 23/24 season including our main (but not only) theme for the season – "Making Do" with the materials on hand even if they may not be the best for the intended pattern. The fly pattern we'll feature gets its inspiration from two directions. Join us to find out what they may be. One reaches back to 1938!

The WEEKLY TIP topic has not yet been decided so you must wait to learn whether it relates to fly tying, gardening, or cooking. Who knows what we'll come up with! We certainly don't!

The Beattys are inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Time: Oct 13, 2023, 06:00 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83089942589?pwd=r5bbwoWvMFwPWB5hQVRYAKkAL9YaaR.1>

Meeting ID: 830 8994 2589 Passcode: 772885

Challenge Your Preconceptions Or They Will Challenge You

By Bruce Merighi Editor

The above is a quote from an anonymous source and it has always resonated with me since I first read it twenty-seven years ago. It was originally intended to be a reminder to myself that I should always question the status quo but lately it's taken on a new meaning.

Our fly club was formed back in the '80s by folks that loved flyfishing, the comradery of getting together to help each other in a mutual love of their sport and to bring along new folks that wanted to learn more about this form of fooling fish with fuzz and fur.

The founders and many subsequent members had a preconception that the club would keep on moving forward with conservation work and new membership and for a few decades that preconception held true. New members were found, people shared responsibilities and the club remained vibrant. That early preconception was that the membership would always step up and share the easy lifting required to manage a club. The running of meetings, creating fun outings, bringing in educational speakers, volunteering for conservation projects and magically creating a yearly banquet. That thought worked for decades but unfortunately that time has passed. As proven by the last few board elections, the membership has decided to disengage from the work and simply enjoy the benefits. Our club now resembles a shrinking glacier during climate change. Once purposeful and great in scope, now shrinking, losing its effectiveness, dying.

Elections are coming up again in January and without just a few members willing to step up and help run things, this club will degrade like another one of our planet's receding and dying glaciers. The perception that the Wenatchee Vally Fly Fishers would carry on without membership support is a false narrative. A preconception that will end in a challenge. The challenge of how will the membership deal with the dissolution of this club.

Proposed Conservation Projects

You Decide

To date I have received three proposals from regional partners in fisheries conservation. The board will sort out these projects and propose the candidates to the membership at the November meeting for final approval since. These projects re:

A TEANAWAY VALLEY – UPPER MEADOW RESTORATION**\$5,000**

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Mike Bosko, Project Manager

The Yakima River Headwaters Chapter of TU would like to apply to your club for \$5000 in funding to assist in the Beaver Dam Analog (BDA) project we are participating in with Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (MCFEG). This project is in the Teanaway Community Forest on WDFW property on the Teanaway River. It is a large restoration project and collaboration of partners; we are helping to fund the BDA part of the project specifically. As I know you guys are already familiar with BDAs and have supported TUs effort with these in the past we hope you will consider helping us fund this project. MCFEG is the lead entity and we are partnering with both funding and volunteers. We are looking to fill a \$20k deficit and the Washington Council of TU will also be participating with some funding and hopefully some volunteers.

B BEAVER PROJECT – CHAINSAW KIT**\$945.94**

A chainsaw would be an essential tool for the Trout Unlimited, Wenatchee-Entiat Beaver Project. The low-tech restoration projects that the Wenatchee Entiat Beaver Project implements for the betterment of fish often involves the installation of post assisted log structures (PALS) and the addition of large woody debris to streams. This requires bucking sizeable logs into manageable pieces for use in our restoration projects. In some cases, large, perched, logs have been dropped into the stream to expedite the natural process of a downed log entering the aquatic system. PALS and woody debris add complexity to the stream's flow, pool water, induce meandering, and create rough edge habitat. Historically, our aquatic systems were characterized by collections of logs and other organic material that has been lost overtime. Fish in our local streams rely on woody structures to survive throughout their life history. Using a chainsaw, we would be able to restore these lost features of our local waterways. Additionally, the field crew for the Wenatchee-Entiat Beaver Project spends a significant amount of time on seldom maintained USFS roads. They often encounter downed trees in the road that prevents them from accessing important sites where they intend to restore fish habitat.

Chainsaw Kit:

Stihl Farmboss 271 with a 20" bar \$479.99
Round and raker file kit for 0.325 pitch chain \$33.99
7.5" wedge \$9.99
5.5" wedge \$6.99
2 ½ gallon gas can \$29.99

Axe:

Council Tools 3.5 lb, 20" long, felling axe/hatchet \$60

PPE:

Stihl Pro Mark Apron Chaps, 32"-orange \$146.99
2x Bug-eye goggles \$89.90

Med Kit:

Stop the bleed med kit w/ celox gauze: \$89.00

Aaron Rosenblum, CERP Project Manager

I request 12 of these: <https://www.onsetcomp.com/products/data-loggers/mx2203>

Initially, I would use them to monitor our newly completed Merritt Oxbow project (in the side channel and oxbow) and at our Goodwin Side Channel Project, where we are collecting pre-implementation data. Over time, they would get used at a wide variety of projects! Cell: 509.630.4160 | <http://www.ccfeg.org/>

August Board Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

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

Call to order: 6:10pm

September 21st Meeting

- We have the casting clinic so there will be no presenter at the general meeting.
- Dan Hammond said we should have a garage/swap meet after the business meeting. The board agreed.

Treasurer- John Richmond

- John Richmond said that the finances for the club are good.
- \$14,999 checking account
- \$7,600 in community fund
- \$22,214 total funds

Education- Bruce Merighi

- Troop 7 B and G are interested in the Casting Clinic
- There were some 7wt and 8wt rods donated for education purposes.
- Bruce Merighi is contacting the members from Gary Anderson's college class.
- Steve Aguilu volunteered to help out with the Academy next June.

Conservation- Bruce Merighi

- Nothing at the moment.

Presentations- Gary Anderson

- Oct Rich De Lorenzo is presenting one of his programs: Atlantic salmon fishing or Seychelles flyfishing.
- Nov: Do it Yourself: Flyfishing the West
- Both October and November are live presentations.
- December is the club's group presentation.
- Steve- Pink Salmon Fishing on the Skagit

Outings- Bob Bartlett

- Nothing for September or October.
- There was discussion concerning Steve Aguilu's Pink Salmon trip and whether to make it an official outing.

New Business Banquet

- Dan Hammond said that it seems that everyone wants a banquet, but we don't have anyone to run it or organize it. We may need to change the responsibilities of the vice president as running the banquet is daunting.
- Steve Aguilu moved that we create a banquet position on the board or divide the duties of the banquet among the board members. There was discussion but no vote.
- Bob Bartlett said we need to stress the banquet responsibilities at the September meeting, and we need some deadlines.
- Gary Anderson said that we could hire a banquet planner and then compensate them for their work. Steve Aguilu knows some people that may be able to help, and he will reach out to them.

Incoming Officers

- No incoming president
- Dan Hammond warned that the worst-case scenario is we will have to dissolve the club if no one steps up to be on the board.
- Dan Hammond stated that he is going to be a one term president.
- Bruce Merighi said that three Trout Unlimited clubs have gone under as well.

Gary Anderson gave a shout out to Bruce Merighi for increasing the participation in Education and Conservation.

Adjourn: 7:24pm



Fishing Report - Largemouth Bass and Trout

Above is a map of the Potholes Reservoir just south of Moses Lake. The waterway running into the southwest corner of the rez. And next to the State Park Campground is called Frenchman Wasteway. Plan to go out there next fall. The water will be much lower than what the map shows but position yourself at the arrow for sunrise and sunset action. Cast purple and white Clousers or whitish minnow imitations. The bass are holding just above the weed beds so retrieve with prejudice and you'll be rewarded by nonstop action. It was one of those trips where I stopped fishing because my arms were getting tired of fighting fish. For more details contact the Editor.

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