



FLY PAPER

March 2025

Editor's Message

All,

You may have noticed that I missed February! After years of Bruce's consistency, I expect we may get a little irregular. But the Fly Paper remains as important as ever, and I am committed to ensuring that the Fly Paper is both valuable and entertaining. I would love to include more information from you, our members, including stories, photos, upcoming events, and other contributions. Please consider sharing some of your best (and worst) experiences for the enjoyment of Club colleagues!

This month's contribution comes from Board Secretary Mike Wyant, with a few slight embellishments from yours truly. Enjoy!



Hiheum Lake, BC, Canada | Brian Hermon | https://live.staticflickr.com/8355/29451369895_cce6430a9b_b.jpg

This is a true story. No, honestly! It's a true fishing story. Friends John and Randy and I took a little trip to southcentral British Columbia last summer to spend a few days at a lake named Hihium to fish for the renowned Kamloops rainbow trout. Kamloops trout are a lovely fish, especially well known for their aerial acrobatics when hooked. But more on that later.

The resort we visited at Hihium Lake was a real trip back in time. Several rustic cabins were scattered at intervals along the lake, accessible only by boat. The cabins were outfitted as if it were 1951. No power, no indoor plumbing, an adjacent smoke house, firewood stacked around, and furnished with household items that would sell quite well at the local antique shop. Surplus military cots were the bunks. An derelict ice box (for you kids reading this, that's way different than a refrigerator) kept perishables cold with ice cut from the lake during winter and stored for summer in an honest-to-goodness ice house.

Maybe the best part of the whole resort experience was how access to our cabin and to the fishing was provided. Each of us got our own aged, flat bottomed, spacious and very stable, fiberglass fishing boat equipped with oars and an ancient 3 horsepower motor. No hyper-powered bass boats, these. But a great ride and more than enough boat to get us and our gear from resort to cabin to fishing spots in comfort and old-school style.

Back to the true story. I mentioned that Kamloops trout are noted jumpers. Fishing one beautiful morning, I hooked one at maybe 30 feet out from the boat. This fish was especially athletic. It took to the air immediately with a powerful leap. Being quite aware that a jumping fish can throw the hook in an instant, I stripped in to tighten the line. The fish jumped again, maybe 20 feet out this time. I stripped in some more. And again, it leaped, maybe 10 feet from the boat this time as I continued to quickly take in line. By this point I was mumbling, "Geez, don't jump in the boat." (Or maybe similar words with some in there that I wouldn't want my grandkids to hear.) Well, you're no doubt already anticipating what happened on the next jump. Yup, right into the front of the boat it went. But that's not the end of this story. I mentioned earlier that these boats were stable, roomy, flat-bottomed numbers. Being toward the back by the motor, I found the floor at front of the boat a convenient lay my landing net. Into the boat and straight into the middle of the net that fish went.

Now I've known plenty of fish to hook themselves, but until last summer, never any to land themselves. I simply reached forward and lifted the net, set it and the fish in the water and removed the hook. Not sure which of us was more surprised by the whole episode. Too bad no one was around to see it.

Singer/songwriter John Prine once ended a tune by saying if it's a story-song you better have a darn good ending. And if you don't, you better have a good moral to the story. For this story, sorry to say, I have neither. But it is a fishing story and it's all true.

Remember, it's not about us the fish, it's about the fish!... US, our relationships, and each other!

Looking Upstream

Next Club Meeting

Wenatchee Valley College Cafeteria, 6:00-9:00 pm, no meal or beverage (feel free to bring your own, no alcohol). Club President Derek Corder and Friends will be sharing about all the upcoming outings.

Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers are once again providing a Continuing Education course at Wenatchee Valley College in support of a great sport and potential new members. Over the years, Gary Anderson and Tom

Whitesides have been joined by many of you to support. This year will be no exception. Your help and support will be needed! More information to follow!

RECREATION

FLY FISHING

Learn the art and science of fly fishing. You will learn about equipment, knot-tying, casting, and fly-tying. You will gain the skills you need to successfully fish lakes and streams. Members of the Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers club will also help you understand the nature of trout, their feeding habits and other mysteries surrounding this elusive fish. Join us to learn tips and skills to catch the big one! 17.5 hours

Instructor: Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers

TU | April 11 - May 23 | 7-9:30PM | CED110 | \$95

Sexton Hall, Room 6016

Upcoming Events

- March 25 - Conservation Fair - Cascadia Conservation District (Pybus Market, Wenatchee, WA)
- April 18 - Salmon Release Party - Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery (Leavenworth, WA)
- April 19 - Earth Day Fair - Sustainable NCW (Wenatchee Valley College, Wenatchee, WA)
- April 19 - Chelan Earth Day Fair - (Chelan, WA)
- April 27 - Earth Day Fair - Waste Loop (Leavenworth, WA)

Sources: Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

Upcoming Club Outings

Quincy Lake, March 21-23, Club Lunch on Saturday the 22th, first come first serve, no hook up.

Our preferred spot will be on the south end of the lake, east of the vault toilet (clearing on south shore just under the "Quincy Lake."



Big Twin Lake Resort, May 8-12, More information to follow.

**Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers
Minutes
2/13/25 Virtual Board Meeting**

Attendance: Present: Derek Corder, John Richmond, Mike Wyant
Absent: Tod Treat

Call to order: 7:03 p.m.

January 9, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes (taken by Mike Wyant)

Motion to Approve: John, 2nd: Derek

Vote: Unanimous

Banquet debrief:

John reported that the net income from the banquet was about \$3,500 which is down somewhat from the previous year. John commented that net income has been steadily declining over the past few years. Consensus was that the banquet went well. The only complaint appeared to be that some of the food was a bit cool.

Budget:

John provided a draft of a budget for 2025. A few key points made by John were:

- The individual who has been making an annual donation to the club for conservation over the past few years donated \$2,600 for 2025, down from around \$4,500 in previous years.
- The college charges \$113 for the meeting space.
- John led a detailed discussion of the budget draft with the bottom line being that the draft proposes using money on hand to cover a roughly \$10,000 difference between projected expenditures and projected revenue.

John will present and refined budget by the next board meeting (scheduled to be held on 3/6/25

Misc.

John reported that around 36 members have paid dues for 2025, leaving somewhere between 25 and 30 who have not yet renewed.

John complimented Dan Hammond on the fly-tying gatherings Dan has organized for the winter months. John pointed out that the gatherings have resulted in the club gaining a few new members.

Discussion was held on the question of a meeting space and attracting new members.

Adjournment Time:

Motion to adjourn: Adjourned at 8:06 p.m. following a motion by Derek.

Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers
Minutes
Virtual Board Meeting
January 9,2025

Attendance: Present: Gary Anderson, Derek Corder, Dan Hammond, Bruce Merighi,
John Richmond, Tod Treat, Mike Wyant

Absent: Fred Kunzman, Allan Warman

Call to order: Tod called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board Meeting Minutes (recorded by Mike Wyant)

Motion to Approve: Dan Hammond Second: Derek Corder

Vote: Unanimous

President's Report: Derek will contact the area fish biologists to schedule them to present to the membership in February. Derek and Tod will coordinate to schedule the Eagles for the presentation.

Education Report:

None

Conservation Report:

None: Thanks was offered from the rest of the Board to Bruce for serving as conservation chair for the past several years.

Treasurer's Report:

John reported roughly \$10,000, not counting the community fund savings in reserve, noting that there hasn't been a notable change in the club's finances.

John reported that the individual who has been donating for conservation projects for the past few years has given about half of what he had been giving in the past. That amounts to about \$2,300 for 2025. John noted that the individual is interested in getting some guidance on lake fishing (probably in the form of someone taking him out fishing) and that he will attend the banquet this year.

Outings Report:

Derek reported: Quincy Lakes outing is tentatively set for March 22, 23. Derek is checking with Fred Kunzman to see if he will be grilling again at the outing. The Big Twin Lake outing is scheduled for May 8 – 12.

Membership Report:

None

Program Chair Report:

Gary offered to help someone arrange programs but he reiterated that he does not want to be the lead in arranging programs. Tod suggested selecting programs based on membership's wishes. Dan suggested soliciting ideas for programs at the banquet via feedback cards placed on the tables. One suggestion is to have one or more programs about fishing lakes in our area.

Old business:

None

New business:

None

Misc.

Banquet:

Dan asked that an e-mail be sent to the membership directing those who have donations on how and when to submit their donations.

A group will meet at 10:00 a.m. Friday, January 17 at Dan's house to prepare banquet envelopes. (Dan, Tod, John, Mike and Gary will help.)

Additional details:

Attendee list will be prepared

A schedule for the evening will be developed

Tod will serve as M.C.

Gary will arrange the raffle.

Bruce Phillips will be the auctioneer

Fly Paper: Dan had previously agreed to produce the Fly Paper starting this month. Family matters will prevent him from doing so for at least the next few months. Tod volunteered to do the Fly Paper for the time being.

Adjournment Time: 8:15 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Bruce Second: Gary

Vote: Unanimous

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