



**A MEMORIAL
ISSUE
DEDICATED
TO LARRY
MILLER**

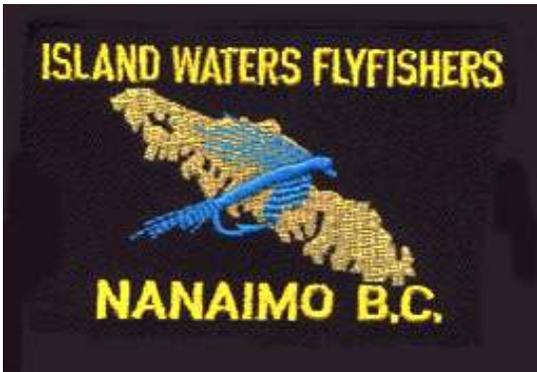


Island Waters Fly Fishers

CONTACTS

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Island Waters Fly Fishers

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Meetings at 7:00 pm. on the 4th Tuesday of the
Month at the Ukrainian Hall at 4017 Victoria Ave.
off Norwell Dr. Visitors and Guests welcome.
Phone 390-3266.

Welcome Table: Leo Snye 729-7242
Membership: Rick Wanhill 753-3982

The Island Waters Fly Fishers

The Purpose of our club is as follows:

- To practice, further and promote the art of fly fishing
- To practice and promote fish conservation and enhancement
- To encourage fellowship and sportsmanship amongst anglers



The British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers (BCFFF) is a registered, non-profit society whose main objective is to promote the conservation of the fishing environment in British Columbia. By networking with similarly minded clubs, organizations, businesses and individuals, the BCFFF provides a voice that reflects its member's and the public's concern for the future of B.C.'s natural resources. Our organization believes that concern for the future of our province's environment is not just the exclusive domain of fly fishers or other recreation groups, but should be the concern of all citizens. Consequently, it is with this broader population in mind that we strive to protect and promote our natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations to respect and enjoy.

Visit the BCFFF on their webpage at <http://www.bcfff.bc.ca/>

Message from the President

Hello to all you hard fishing folks. At least I hope that is true. It has been 4 months since my last meeting and I am starting to get back into the club swing of things. At the rate I am going, it will be "Nothing to report" at the next Gilly. I spent the summer moving my in-laws, a month travelling through Western North America and catching up on yard work. I had my Inflatable in Westwood for about a half hour and that was just a test drive on a friends depth sounder.



Ron Moll

The day after I got back from Manitoba, I did a quick visit to the Millstone Estuary. It certainly was not the "Gong Show" of last year. I believe the information booth manned by the club members was, in no small part, a major component in educating the fishermen and protecting the Pinks. Well done Bernie and to all the volunteers.

As I sit here composing this treatise I think back to travelling through Montana. Despite a minor difference in geography and vegetation, they have it right. Just about every highway running parallel to a river had marked access points that were serviced by a road, had a launch area and allowed for bank fishing in any direction. Makes people from this province and Alberta a little jealous.

And that is it for this month.

Ron

Fourth Tuesday Meetings and Events

September 28, 2010. General Meeting, topic to be determined

December 4, 2010 Christmas Dinner and Auction.

Club Library and Videos

Don Ginter is the custodian for both, and he will bring your requests to the next meeting if you call him at 756-4867 or email him at: donheather@shaw.ca.



Check out the list of books and videos on our new website at www.iwffl.ca. He is revising and updating the lists and will be bringing a few of the popular ones to the meetings. They are free to members - just sign them out.

Pub Lunches

Come out to the Black Bear Pub every Wednesday from 11:30 A.M. to late noon. Guests and new members are especially welcome to join this very informal gathering. A few members have gone fishing in the local lakes after the lunches. An email will be sent a few days ahead.

IWFF Summer BBQ



“Basher” Bob Kissinger shows off his culinary skill on the barby. Thanks, Bob, for this and all of the organizing that you did to put this one on.

For the first time we tried out the Lantzville Legion’s patio and grill. It was the right size, well equipped and enjoyed by all.



A pair of early samplers, Peter Huyghebaert and Gerry Stevens, got the eating event started.

Summer Scenes



June Picnic at Westwood Lake: Heather and Don Ginter, Isobel and Bernie Heinrichs, Diane and Ron Moll. This was another successful event organized and photo'd by Bob Kissinger - thanks again Bob.



Henry Lake
Left: Dennis appears out of the morning mist. But it cleared off enough to get this photo of Dennis Mullins with Don Ginter while Matt Haapala and Peter Lechthaler continue fishing.



Doug Winters confirms that the fishing for sock-eye on the "Canal" was even better than reported.



And Harry McLeod also confirms that the stories about the huge run of pinks on the Campbell River were not exaggerated.

Larry Miller's Obituary:

William Lawrence (Larry) Miller
September 18, 1944 – July 27, 2010

Born in New Westminster BC, Larry was a 40 year resident of Lantzville and a long time teacher in Nanaimo at Brannen Lake School, NDSS and Dover Bay. He is survived by his wife Roberta, children Aaron (Carrie), Nicole (Chad) and Cuong (Quyen), brother Ted (Patti), mother in law Marge Jeffs, faithful companion Ginger, brothers in law and sisters in law, many nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews and many friends. Left behind was his trusty **fishing hat Steve** and the largest crop of beets ever planted on Vancouver Island. Larry was an avid gardener, fisher, knitter, wood-chopper and camper. He was never happier than when he was on the water, puttering in his garden, knitting in his living room or in his forest looking for downed trees to cut up for his winter wood supply. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Lantzville Community Hall 7232 Lantzville Road) between 2:00 and 4:30 pm on Monday August 2, 2010. Attendees are encouraged to bring their favourite memories of Larry. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Nanaimo Hospice or Palliative Care, NRGH. Cancer may have caused his death, but it did not take his life.

Larry's Hat, Steve

At Larry's Celebration of Life, the story behind Larry's hat was revealed. Steve Wawrykow explained how he has been wearing a baseball-style cap with a shroud down the back of it to prevent the initiation of skin cancer. Larry was so impressed with the concept that he bought one. The first time he wore it was at a fishout. When he first appeared, Jack Toomer thought it was Steve and called him "Steve". The name stuck for the rest of the fishout and to this day.



Larry at home on the water



Larry at Lac Le Jeune



Lunch eh?

Harold Tinling's Memory of

Larry Miller

This is Harold's tribute to Larry at his Celebration of Life on August 2, 2010

You ask did I know Larry Miller. Yes, I knew Larry and I will always be grateful that I knew him even if it was for a short time in my lifetime. We first met Larry back in 1985 when we were a mercury outboard dealer in town. Larry had a 90 HP that he was having problems with and we got it fixed up under warranty for him and he was grateful. The Miller's became good customers and friends, and Larry showed up before Christmas that year with a huge home grown turkey for Christmas dinner. Their generosity overwhelmed us.

We lost track of the Millers for a time as he changed boats and engines and got away from those black ones. I met Larry again when I joined the IWFF club some years later and our friendship took off again.

Over the years we had a lot of good times with the Millers, going camping, fishing and just doing things with the fishing gang.

Larry seemed to grow on me as I observed him over the years, His zest for life, His planning of things to be done and when he was going fishing again.

We had many wild evenings through the winter months playing cribbage at the Miller's and enjoying Larry's brand of humour.

I mention Larry's brand of humour as one time it directly involved me and I still laugh ever time I think of it. There were four of us fishers who

made a flying day trip to the Eve River some years ago. We walked the whole river and there wasn't a fish to be seen anywhere. On the beach there was a very large chunk of turf that had been washed down the river at some time and looked to be just the right size for a good seat and a rest.

I was wearing a home made stripping basket made from those plastic sink tubs we buy at the buck store and hold them up with a belt or a bungee cord so I just moved the basket to my back side and sat down. Everything was ok, the basket was out of the way and I could sit and watch the river while we rested.

Some time went by and I made the observation that if a fish showed its head there would be a mad dash to the waters edge, Larry was behind me and said I would be the last one to get to the water and he gave a little snicker. I though he was referring to my short legs and that I would be left behind by the fishers with the longer legs. I paid little attention to the remark but I could hear him snickering away behind me and I wondered what the heck got into him.

I found out what he was snickering about as when we went to leave I couldn't get up, let alone walk. The Piker had filled my basket with rocks.

So that's how I remember Larry Miler. A generous man, a good thinker and fun to be around.

We'll miss you Pal



Dave Connolly and Larry Miller enjoying a day of fishing on the lake.

Dave and Pat Connolly submitted the following:

Since we were unable to be at Larry's celebration of life, with your permission, we would ask you to publish the following:

As we all know, Larry was usually all over the map when it came to planning his time and future events. In the dozen or so years I have known Larry, this love of life and enthusiasm for the present moment and all future possibilities has left me in awe of this wonderful person who became my good friend. I have never in my life met anyone with such a consistently positive outlook on life. The following poem expresses perfectly my sentiments and 'Pat's as well.



**We'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to us;
We'd like to be the help that you were always glad to be;
We'd like to mean as much to you, each minute of your days
As you meant, old friend of ours, to us along the way.
We would like to have done the big things and the splendid things for you,
To brush the gray from out your skies and leave them only blue;
We'd like to have said the kindly things that we so often heard,
And feel that we could rouse your soul the way that ours you stirred.
We would like to have given back the joy that you so freely gave to us
Undaunted in the darkest hours with you to lean upon.**

Thank you for this opportunity to honour a true and brave friend.
Dave Connolly

More Larry Miller



Larry, Auctioneer at the Christmas Banquet and Auction.



Larry and Ron Busche at Buttle Lake

Roberta: “No, it was only this big”!



Larry playing the “Casting Game” at Rathrevor Park



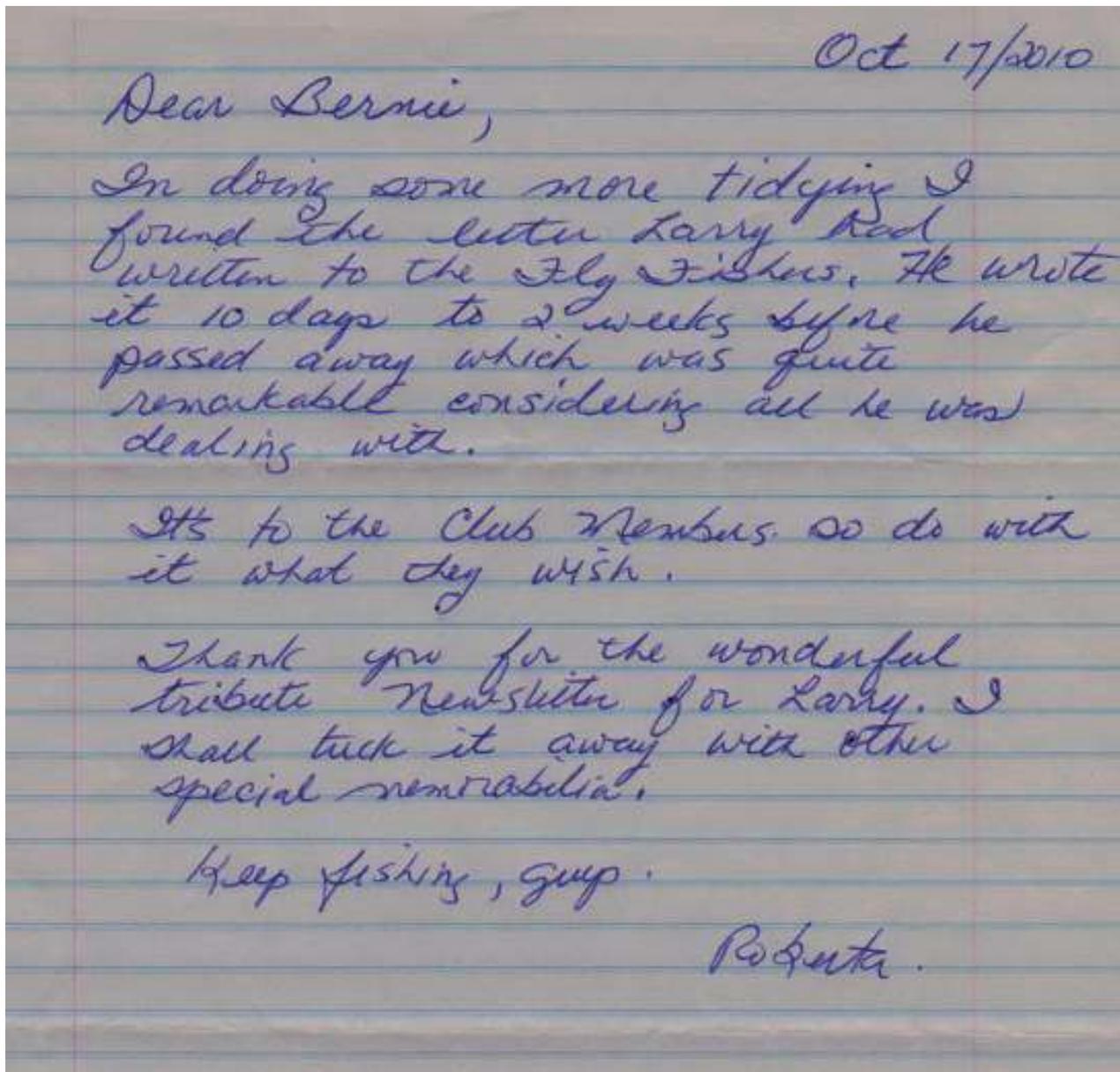
Larry coaches Ron on the fine art of onion frying

Larry and Roberta's Letters

The letter on this page, from Roberta explains Larry's letter on the following page. His letter is quite remarkable considering the circumstances he was under at the time. It takes a bit to interpret and, hopefully, this one is correct.

It starts out with "Dear fellow IWFF fishermen". He goes on to explain that his cancer will cause his death but will not take his life. He is grateful for the friendships, the barbecue at Westwood Lake, the fishout at Ellison Lake, his opportunity to catch a fish at Green Lake and how he wishes he could go back to the Eve River but is too weak. The last statements appear to be:

"However I have a request for you in the future. If your arm is tired from reeling in fish could you please make a few casts for me and Ray Brunt. Let my wife know if I got a bite. I will not stop fishing."



Oct 17/2010

Dear Bernie,

In doing some more tidying I found the letter Larry had written to the Fly Fishers. He wrote it 10 days to 2 weeks before he passed away which was quite remarkable considering all he was dealing with.

It's to the Club Members. So do with it what they wish.

Thank you for the wonderful tribute Newsletter for Larry. I shall tuck it away with other special memorabilia.

Keep fishing, Guy.

Roberta.

Dear fellow WFF fishermen.

My cancer is progressing and will cause my death. I want you to know however it ~~is~~ will not take my life. Thanks to some exceptional friends I have been able to get out on green lake + I actually caught a lovely trout. My bucket hit down to

① I am so fortunate I would like to thank those who put the barbecue at Weehock lake. I wish I could have helped. I also would like to thank all those who went to Ellison Lake. I never thought I would get a chance to fish with a group + enjoy the best I have caught

in our club. You have enriched my life. I have great hopes to figure out how I can get to be here this year. I am just to weak. However I have a request for you in the future. If you ever is turned from meeting in pit could you please make a few casts for me + Ray

Brent if I get a bite I will have stay fishing