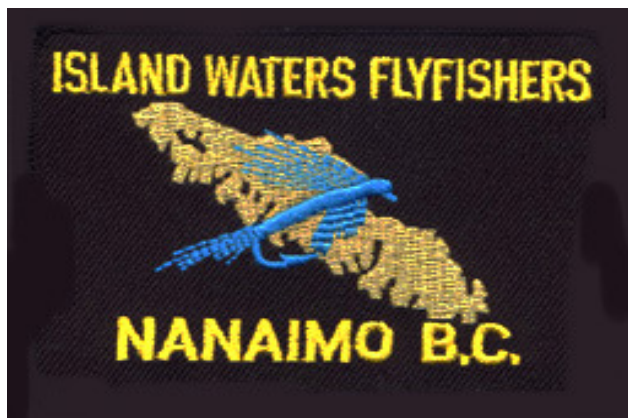




***Who would have thought that Fund Raising
could be this much fun?***

Island Waters Fly Fishers

Email us at iwff@shaw.ca or Phone
390-3266
Visit at www.iwff.ca



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.

CONTACTS

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------|
| President: | Jack Toomer | 756-0987 |
| Vice President : | Lloyd Erickson | 390-4905 |
| Secretary: | Frank Perilli | 390-4400 |
| Treasurer: | Harold Tinling | 758-2655 |
| Past President : | Bernie Heinrichs | 390-3266 |
| Directors: | | |
| Youth: | Leo Snye | 729-7242 |
| Program: | Ron Busche | 758-2225 |
| Entertain: | Bob Kissinger | 758-8995 |
| Conservation: | Wayne Pealo | 743-4569 |
| Fund Raising: | Tom Skilton | 729-5685 |
| Raffle: | Brian Lapadat | 753-7440 |
| Webmaster: | Mike Orr | 754-6184 |
| Fly Tying | Ron Busche | 758-2225 |
| Videos: | Wayne Legge | 756-3114 |
| Library: | Larry Miller | 390-4495 |
| Gilly : | Ray Honig | 758-9930 |
| Coffee, Hall: | Bob Kissinger | 758-8995 |
| Newsletter: | Bernie Heinrichs | 390-3266 |

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/>

President's Message

Hello Fly Guys, Well we finally have some warmer days I think its actually called spring. Anyway the fish have got the message and there has been some good action on all the local lakes. Westwood has been producing very well, wooly buggers cast and allowed to sink and then stripped in have been fishing well. Also, a little farther afield, Spider Lake has been giving up some good fish.



Jack Toomer

I would like to give Brian Lapadat a big round of thanks for doing such a fine job running the raffle for the Seamor Inflatable. We raised close to \$3175 - a very tidy sum indeed. Also, to everyone who volunteered at the different malls, you also deserve a pat on the back, and, lastly, a thank you to the BCFFF for the gaming licence and their insurance coverage. Speaking of the BCFFF, don't forget their raffle is not only for rods and reels but also some fantastic fishing trips. Our club, showing their support, has bought three books of tickets. If we hold a winning ticket, we will then draw for it from the club membership. Now don't forget your own tickets at \$10 each, see Harold Tinling. We have a very interesting speaker for the next meeting, a Biologist from fish and wildlife speaking on the recent fish stocking program. All for now, tight lines and good fishin'!

Jack Toomer



Jim Duddridge, a guest at the March meeting, invited us to attend a meeting concerning the problems with the "Run of the River" projects being constructed on B.C. rivers.

Events and Services

Pub Lunches

Come out to the Wellington Pub on Victoria Ave. every Wednesday from 11:30 A.M. to late noon. Get the latest fishing stories but accuracy is not guaranteed. Guests and new members are especially welcome to join this very informal gathering.

Club Library

The list of books has now swelled to over 100 books.

Larry Miller is the custodian and he will bring your requests to the next meeting if you call him at 390-4495. Check out the list of books on our website. There will be some lists available at the meetings.

Casting Clinics

Jim, the real, McCoy will be organizing casting clinics which will be held in April at Westwood Lake. Come to the April meeting to see if there is enough interest to continue this for a few more sessions. He will be assisted by several good casters in our club who will help beginners, intermediates and experienced casters to learn or improve their skills. This has always been a popular event.

For Sale



Buck's High and Dry Float Tube

One owner, well maintained, used only in quality trout lakes. \$50.00

Call Tom at 250 729-5685

Fourth Tuesday Meetings

April 28, 2009: An update on the stocking program by the local Department of Environment's new Fisheries Biologist, Scott Silverstein.

May 26, 2009: Wayne Pealo will be giving us some of his secrets to fly fish for Coho and steelhead in the Skeena River.

June 23, 2009: Picnic and fishout at Westwood Lake.

July - August: Too busy fishing to have meetings

BCFFF Raffle



Harold Tinling explains the prizes offered by the B.C. Federation of Fly Fishers for their annual raffle. The 10 prizes include top line equipment, lodges and guided fishing trips. He still has a few tickets and will have them at our April meeting.



Harold and Jack Toomer did well with the BCFFF tickets at the raffle table in Woodgrove Centre

Inflatable Boat Raffle



Jack Toomer sells raffle tickets at Woodgrove Centre.

Justin Millward, 888 Riverside Dr., Nanaimo, saw his dream of fly fishing the local lakes from a boat realized when he won Island Waters Fly Fisher's raffle - an inflatable boat. He has been restricted to fishing the shorelines of lakes and streams up until now. The boat, donated by Seamor Marine, 2525 McCullough Road to Island Waters, will greatly expand his fishing access. The lucky ticket was sold by Gone Fishin', Nanaimo.

This was Island Water's first foray into conducting a public auction which resulted in \$3175.00. 100% of this money will be used to enhance fish opportunities and habitat conservation projects in the Nanaimo Area. Actually the resulting value will be even greater. Many of these projects have a donated labour component that the members contribute towards and the funds are usually combined with the donations of other organizations such as the Pacific Salmon Foundation and Nanaimo Fish and Game Protection. Examples of these are: the Bypass Channel in Bowen Park, Millstone River Habitat Restoration, VIU Cutthroat Research Program, Long Lake Handicap Fishing Dock, Catstream Viewing Platform and Habitat Restoration etc.

Island Waters Fly Fishers would like to thank Seamor Marine, Gone Fishin', club members, Woodgrove Centre, Nanaimo North Town Centre, Port Place Shopping Centre and especially all of the people who bought tickets.

The draw was conducted at the Wellington Pub where the manager draws the winning ticket from the pail held by Brian Lapadat. Thank you, Brian for organizing this very successful raffle.



Left to right: Robin Li, President of Seamor Marine; Brian Lapadat, Raffle Coordinator, Island Waters Fly Fishers; Justin Millward, Raffle Winner; Jack Toomer, President, Island Waters Fly Fishers

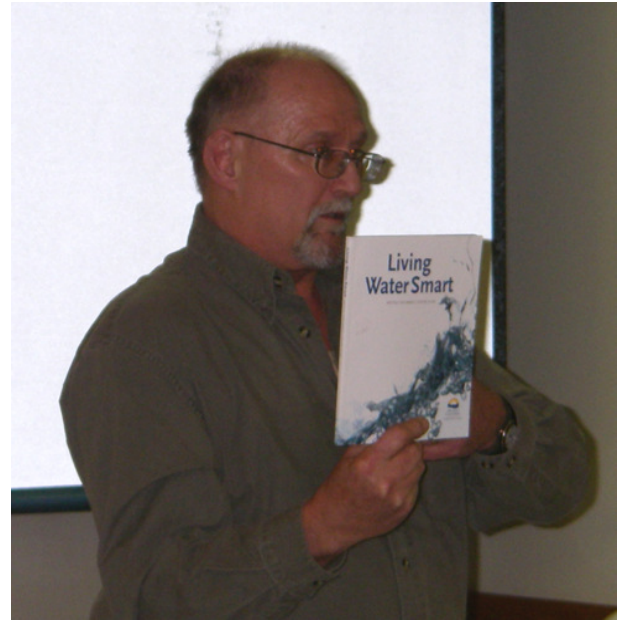


Justin Millward, centre, also receives congratulations from Robin Li, President of Seamor Marine and Patrick Johnston, Production Manager.

Guest Speaker, Ted Brookman

Ted described the problems raised when the Federal Government passed legislation that revised the Navigable Waters Act. It opens the way for developers to build structures such as power generating facilities with less restrictions and regulations. He stated the DFO still has control if fish are involved. But, what happens when the present managers in that department retire along with the knowledge they have of specific streams? Ted urged us to write or email the Minister of Fisheries and associated politicians. The email and postal addresses were sent out prior to this meeting.

We apologize to Ted for not being able to provide the equipment to show his Power Point Presentation which was more specific.



Ted Brookman displays one of his “must reads” books, Living Water Smart at the start of his presentation.



Above: Dave Degner, right, won the fly draw prize from Tom Skilton and finally gets repaid for the hundreds that he has contributed to this draw.

Top right: Frank Perilli had the winning ticket for one of the peacock tail feathers but decided that he has enough of them now.



Right: Even our guest speaker, Ted Brookman got into the winners circle.



More Winners



Dave must have bought three tickets because he also won a peacock tail feather



Guest, Doug Gilroyed won another one of the feathers.



Ron Moll congratulated himself for winning the cash from the Gilly Draw. He was the substitute Gilly Master but asked a guest to draw the winning ticket which was for himself!



And Ron was not happy with just one draw prize - he got into a second one for the night. If you buy the tickets you are qualified to win!



Ron Busche pulls out another winning ticket for another peacock feather. Come out to the April meeting and there will be another batch of feathers to draw for!



Jack Toomer shows off the new signs that were made up for the raffle table at the mall and for later events. Thanks Frank for organizing the production of these.

Wayne Pealo passed along this article, written by his fishing partner, describing their recent adventure.



Skeena River Coho and Steelhead

by Doug Pollard

The river was the Copper aka the Zymoetz, the fly a newly tied purple marabou, and the rod as yet untested, but warranting mention because it was a present from my wife this year, celebrating thirty years of marriage. My companion for the day was Wayne Pealo of Nanaimo, while Owen Fisher was tucked away on the Exstew River some distance away. The three of us were staying at Nicholas Dean Lodge in Terrace at the invitation of Gary Cooper to shoot "Nice Fish" episodes on fly fishing for steelhead and coho.

We had followed the Copper for an hour, cooped up in an aging Ford truck. Two moose ran across our bow, not a spey cast away. Earlier we had spotted two mud-covered fellows hurriedly pulling a tarp over their equally muddy truck. Perhaps there had been three moose. Our guide was at the wheel, and as he took the machine higher and higher the light rain turned to white stuff before he stopped the engine.

Our immediate attention was fixed on finding the river. It was nowhere to be seen or heard. We had climbed a long way. Wisely we had geared up at the lodge, so we were able quickly to set off through really old second growth. No trail was evident, and it crossed our minds that this was to be almost virgin fishing territory. After 15 minutes of slipping and sliding down mossy slopes and clambering over logs, we dropped down a muddy bank to the water's edge. We were not there yet. Now we had to cross the river which we did with the very necessary assistance of our guide.

It was not long before Wayne was into his first fish, a lively doe of about 5 lb. My fish came shortly afterwards as I let my fly swing across the tailout. Quite a bit bigger than Wayne's, this beauty took several long runs but stayed within the pool. I was not allowed to touch it; Wayne got his shot in with the guide firmly in control. The guides of Nicholas Dean Lodge are very protective of their clients' fish, and make darned sure they go back unharmed. Had I suggested "One for the pot?" I surely would have been frog-marched back up that hill to the Ford. The first steelhead on my new rod swam off with little sign of discomfort.

After our well-provisioned shore lunch (no steelhead filets) we made our way back across the river, and proceeded downstream to new water. Now I have to say that this was the most difficult shoreline I have ever encountered, for while it was not encumbered with overhanging shrubbery, it was, like the river bottom itself, strewn with boulders, large and small. After about twenty-five minutes of riparian balancing acts I was exhausted, while the gazelle-like Wayne and guide were almost out of sight. Our efforts brought us to some long and promising pools, but we got no action at all other than sighting some large bull trout. So back we went to the first pool, except that we would not be crossing the river. By the time I reached Wayne he was already into a fish. After he had his buck beached and photographed, the guide called time out, and so back up the slope we went. It did not take as long as we expected, but it was pretty demanding all the same.

Only a month after the fall equinox Skeena days are surprisingly short, and it was dark well before our arrival at the lodge. After peeling off my boots, waders, etc., I staggered upstairs to my room to find Owen lying in his not-unfamiliar après pêche pose: in bed, fully attired, including his wool cap, with a half-finished glass of single malt on his bedside table (the second glass I hasten to add), with a bit of a grin on his weather-beaten face. "Caught the biggest coho of my life!" He mumbled across the blankets as I reached for my own glass. His success was couched in some reservations

like thirty large coho further up the Exstew, Moose to separated in a line of Day 2. Since we had Gopher's recommendation



that Owen is been my friend for a long time and he suggested to the Gopher. Rivers of the time we was hustled away to an undisclosed destination with the camera crew. Wayne and I were off to Owen's stretch of the Exstew. This would be easier than our previous trip, since the old Ford had hauled a jet-boat to the river. Our day began in broken sunshine. Ever-changing images of sun, mist, cloud and mountains are locked in my memory and will, I know, draw me back for another trip. Wayne kicked off in fine style as I struggled with line changes before realizing that it was Wayne's technique that was widening the gap. My luck changed when we moved down to the next pool, and I kept up with Wayne (more or less) with some fine fresh-run coho as well as a few that were the colour of cock sockeye. But as the day wore on rain got the upper hand and we retreated in late afternoon in a torrential downpour.

Back at the Lodge, the room was empty, and I settled into the routine of drying my tackle and clothes. I was well into my second scotch when a cold and tired Owen appeared at the door. "Had the best day's steelheading of my life!" He managed before he hit the bed and the drink I poured him, in what seemed like a single motion. Indeed he had, taking four of the magnificent fish in front of cameras. As you can imagine, Gary shot a fine episode with Owen, and we should see our erstwhile companion on form in a forthcoming programme (I say erstwhile because he and Elizabeth are in the process of emigrating to England, but with the real estate market the way it is in Mill Bay I expect to enjoy at least one more season with him.)

As forecast the rain continued, with 60 mm overnight. All the local rivers were blown by the morning of the third day and we had to content ourselves with a guided tour of the pubs and tackle stores of Terrace. Day 4 showed little promise, but the local knowledge of our hosts paid off. The three of us were taken to the confluence of the Kasiks River with the mighty Skeena. While the contrast was not quite as distinct as the Thompson-Fraser mix, the Kasiks was moderately clear and fishable and we launched the jet-boat. The scenery we encountered during our ascent of the Kasiks was as spectacular as any in the Rockies. We fished for coho, and while we each caught fish, Wayne's prowess was evident. He even caught a sockeye, which is a most unusual event on the Kasiks. Again the rain arrived in the afternoon, and we eventually retired downstream to the patient Ford. Day 5 promised to be a write-off, and it was. The Lodge staff did their best with fly-tying demonstrations and a fascinating trip to the Nisga lava field, and Kincolith at the mouth of Nass River.

We were, in all honesty, and against the wisdom of knowing friends, in the Skeena area a tad late. The fish were there, but we were dicing with the weather, and scored on only a couple of rolls. We were not overly disappointed. We caught magnificent fish, we had excellent accommodation and guides, and had the great fortune of being in grand country with the best of friends. It was surely a day God would not count.

