



ISLAND WATERS FLY FISHERS

WIN THIS SEAMOR INFLATABLE BOAT

**Draw: March 31,
2009**

**Tickets: 1 for \$5.00
or 3 for \$10.00**



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
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Past President :	Bernie Heinrichs	390-3266
Directors:		
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Program:	Ron Busche	758-2225
Entertain:	Bob Kissinger	758-8995
Phone:	Brian Lapadat	753-7440
	Wayne Pealo	743-4569
Fund Raising:	Tom Skilton	729-5685
Webmaster:	Mike Orr	754-6184
Fly Tying	Ron Busche	758-2225
Videos:		
Library:	Larry Miller	390-4495
Gilly :	Ray Honig	758-9930
Coffee, Hall:		
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

I don't know how many of you fishers are like me, just sick and tired of winter and looking forward to putting a line in the water. You have probably got your fly boxes full and some new gear to try out. Once the ice has finally come off some of the lower lakes it takes just a nice sunny day to really start a good chironomid hatch like on Diver's or a bit later on Westwood. Also Fuller Lake and Chemanius are good bets for early season trout fishing.



Jack Toomer

On Jan. 31st. 10 club members attended the Streamkeepers Course put on by Dave Clough. A very good course and well worth taking. It gives a fisher a different perspective of fish habitat through riffles, glides and pools, water quality and the different bugs that are in our streams. To Nanaimo River Hatchery a big THANK YOU for the use of their facilities for the two days of the course. Our next meeting on Feb. 24th will have as guest speaker Peter Morrison. Peter is the Sage Rod & Rio Line rep. and always puts on a very entertaining presentation.

Last but not least DON'T FORGET TO SELL YOUR SEAMOR INFLATABLE BOAT TICKETS, every ticket sold really helps guys. Also don't forget about a day of fly tying. Saturday Feb. 21st at Oliver Woods Rec. Centre 9:30 - 3:30 come out and enjoy the day. See you all at the next meeting.

Jack Toomer



Tom Skilton and Brian Lapadat followed Jack's urging to sell Seamor Inflatable Boat raffle tickets. This display was set up in front of London Drugs, Port Place Mall January 30, 2009.



Dave Clough encourages all to "Get your feet wet" in his Streamkeeper's course

Events and Services

Pub Lunches

Come out to the Wellington Pub on Victoria Ave. every Wednesday from 11:30 A.M. to late noon. After the smokers were banished, we took over one of their rooms and are enjoying the new, affordable buffet meals. 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.

Free Free Free Free

21/2 boxes of 1/2 lb. flat cans and lids for canning salmon.

Bonus: the hand crank canner to seal those cans!

Call Ron Busche: 250 758-2225

Your Dues are Over Due

Renewals: \$40.00

New Members: \$50.00

The 10% discount from the fly shops will pay your membership fees!

Register with Lloyd Erickson or see any director at the next meeting.

Wednesday Afternoon Fly Tying

These sessions are held after the Pub Lunch at approximately 1:00 pm at the Woodgrove Save On Foods Meeting Room. These will be held on the first and third Wednesdays until the middle of March (see the schedule below). Most of the demonstrators are members who have not shown us any of their favourite flies. Only one Toony to cover the cost of materials.

Wednesday Fly Tying Schedule:

Jan. 7 - Ted Brookman - Different Shrimp

Jan. 21 - Leo Snye - Damsel in Distress

Feb. 4 - Bill Pollard - Black Ant

Feb. 18 - Wayne Legge - Dragon Fly Nymph

Mar. 4 - Ron Moll - Synthetic Seal Fur Leach
and Gorilla Glue Bodies

Mar. 18 - Doug Peterson - Deer Hair Caddis

Saturday Fly Tying

February 21, 2009: Fly Tying at Oliver Woods Centre 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

March 21, 2009: Fly Tying at Oliver Woods Centre 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Fourth Tuesday Meetings

February 24, 2009: The always popular, Peter Morrison - Fly Fishing the High Arctic.

March 24, 2009: Ralph Shaw - "Jack Shaw";

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 (or earlier): Picnic and fishout at Westwood Lake.

July - August: Too busy fishing to have meetings

Gilly Fund's Donation to Millstone River, Fish - Counter Building



Harold Tinling, left, presents the \$6000.00 cheque to Damon Johnston and Steve Corscadden. Harold is not only our Treasurer, he is also the Treasurer for the BCFFF and he is presenting the money on behalf of the BCFFF who manages the Gilly Fund. Damon, City of Nanaimo, is the Chairman of the Millstone Committee and Steve is the Treasurer. This committee organizes and is responsible for projects on the Millstone River in Bowen Park. It is committed to enhancing the by pass channel constructed in 2007 and a fish counter/camcorder is one of those projects. Funding is provided by the DFO, City of Nanaimo and various volunteer organizations.



The building, shown above during the installation of the camcorder housing, will shelter the computer and related electronics used to record and operate the camcorder located in a cement channel used to control the amount of water entering the channel. Wiring and cable has been installed so that eventually the public will be able to either view live, or recorded, images of spawning Coho passing through.

Other projects that the committee has undertaken include signage along the trail beside the channel and programs to educate youth about the salmon life cycle.

The Bend Back Streamer is one of the flies that Jim McCoy demonstrated for us at one of last Fall's Wednesday afternoon sessions.

Bend Back Streamer

by Jim McCoy



Hook:	#4 - 6 2XL Streamer
Thread"	#06 Black
Body:	Medium Tinsel and White Fur
Upper Wing:	Peacock Green Deer Hair
Over Wing:	Black Deer Hair with 6 Strands of Micro Flash
Head:	Thread
Eyes:	2.5mm Yellow Eyes covered with Nail Polish

Tie in the order given above. Deer hair can be substituted by any suitable fur or hair.

This is one of Jim's favourite flies on the beach for pinks or Coho. He has found that by retrieving a fly with the point in the up position he has less snags on bottom. It also tracks very well.

January Meeting



Don Ginter, guest, introduced himself during the Gilly. Don also “test drove” the Wednesday fly tying session at Save On Foods.



Evan Harrison told us about his latest exploits on the Stamp. It was successful as usual for him.

Winners



Ray Honig, right, presented Dave Degner with the prize for the first draw of the Gilly.



And Brian Lapadat won the second draw.



Tom Skilton, left, the new fly draw master, presents a cup of great flies to Larry Bishop.



Bob Kissinger, right, presents Ron Moll with his prize - a variety pack of cheeses. This package did not make it to the auction but fetched considerably more at this raffle.

Ton Plienaar's Fly Tying Demo



Ton demonstrates the Akroyd (a poor man's version of the Jack Scott) at our January meeting. This fly took him 45 minutes to tie but much of it was prepared before and, although it looked great to us, Ton confided that he did not tie a perfect fly. He did not want the process to be unduly long. This fly was first produced by Charles Akroyd in 1875 and was very basic. Several famous and other tiers improved it to the version that Ton showed us. Many members who saw this demonstration want to get a closer look at some of the techniques that were used. Hopefully Ton will be able to share more of these with us.



Ron Busche presents Ton with one of Dave Connolly's engraved pens for a much appreciated demonstration and especially for the hints and techniques that he shared with us.



These are several variations of the Akroyd. The small one is a "fishable" version.

The Akroyd



Materials:

- Hook: Blind eye, extra long bartleet
- Eye: Silk worm gut or backing
- Tag: Silver tinsel
- Tail: Topping and golden pheasant tippet
- Butt: Black ostrich
- First Body: 1/2 yellow wool, silver tinsel, silver oval tinsel, thin silver oval tinsel
- Butt: Black ostrich
- 2nd Body: 1/2 black floss, silver tinsel, silver oval tinsel, thin silver oval tinsel
- Hackle: Yellow hackle over yellow, black heron or blue eared pheasant over black
- Throat: Teal
- Cheeks: Jungle cock
- Wing: Cinnamon, brown or white tippet turkey
- Head: Black thread or marker pen

Wayne Pealo, a Director with Island Waters Fly Fishers, wrote this assignment for a Travel Journalism course that he is taking. I am sure that you will agree that we are privileged to have had the opportunity to enjoy it.

The River of Anticipation

By Wayne Pealo

Entering the trail to the river I am captured by the beauty surrounding me. The dark greens and dusky browns of the trees, the musky smell of the Skunk Cabbage and the iridescent colors and whites of the lilies suggest that spring is not far off. Sauntering along the trail, the gurgling of the spring fed creek awakened from its' winter slumber indicates the river should be in excellent shape with plenty of flow for the illusive Rainbow and Brown trout which inhabit it. The pace quickens, as I can feel the flow of adrenaline surging through my body in anticipation of the explosion of water when the fish smashes my fly. In the distance, the barking of a dog reminds me this is not a true wilderness, but that passes quickly as the river is close by. As I manoeuvre around the fallen log crossing the trail I hear an owl, screeching, calling out, perhaps sending a warning to the other creatures inhabiting this lush environment. Once again the pace quickens and down the trail I bound, waders flapping and pack slapping against my body. I can hear the roar of the river now, indicating that I am not far away from this Mecca! Suddenly, a deer leaps in front of me, startling me and breaking my cadence toward the rushing river. Just then, I awaken before the alarm clock screams to remind me that soon I will be able to return to my river of anticipation.



Wayne "Haig-Brown" Pealo

My earliest memories of fishing moving water came at the young age of seven or eight, I can't honestly remember! What I do remember is my father cutting a pole for me from a willow and attaching a line, sinker and hook, the basic essentials for a boy to begin his piscatorial journey. I could feel my heart pound as I approached the creek, not really sure what to expect, but knowing internally that it was going to be exciting. As I dropped the line into the water of the fast flowing riffle, a sudden jolt at the end of my line, followed by a leaping silver object exploding out of the water in front of me, assured me the trout was hooked, as was the fisher-boy! So began the journey which has taken me to many destinations, both local and abroad, in search of Piscator.

As I matured, the waters became larger and more challenging, as did the prey. Going from catching small trout in creeks to salmon over ten pounds in rushing rivers was an enormous leap. Many of the rivers from my youth fishing experiences involved searching for larger and more challenging fish. I still remember watching my first salmon spawning, fish were thick in the river, moving through the water in schools, seemingly an unending abundance of silver mixed with the reds, blacks and pinks of earlier fish. Watching as the females used their tails to dig a slot in the river gravel to lay their eggs was fascinating. I observed the already spawned fish, faltering in the flow, the life slowly draining away from them, until they succumb to the current and float lifelessly into the backwaters. They now become the important nutrients for the future, their life cycle complete.

The river is a part of me. Like the flow of blood through my body the river also "flows through me". It provides the life sustaining energy necessary to keep me going... balance, harmony, adrenaline and sustenance. As I wade across the stream I can feel the power of the flow, drawing me downstream,

Continued



creating a “v” in the current and an eddy in front of me. A salmon, exhausted and weary from its’ upstream journey, slips into the eddy and pauses momentarily, fatigued from the several thousand mile journey it has completed. I provide a brief respite for the fish from the challenges of nature. A smile comes over my face as I realize in a small way I have given something back! The river is alive!

Each year this scene is repeated as I return to my river of anticipation. Each year there are transformations to this picture. Fewer salmon return, less water flows through the channels, some of the flora and fauna are absent. I anxiously await the alarm clock to go off, but to no avail. My heart pounds and my palms are sweaty, as I realize this is not a dream! My river of anticipation has been influenced by the collision with progress. Urban sprawl, global warming and habitat degradation have had an impact on this setting. There are no operations to fix this disease, only a search for hope and self-therapeutic relief. The river of anticipation will continue to be just that, a dream and calming relief for the boy who many years ago went in search of Piscator.

Wayne Pealo

Inflatable Boat Raffle

Brian Lapadat got more than just his toe wet when his first Directorship was to head up the Raffle Committee. It involves a lot of negotiating with the malls and a lot of arm twisting to fill in the volunteer schedules. This project has the potential to raise more money than our annual auction and every bit of it goes to fish enhancement.

Another benefit of this project is to expose our club to the public and promoting fly fishing is one of our purposes (on page two of every issue of this newsletter). Please help Brian out in whatever capacity that you can.



Brian and Tom Skilton at the first display in Port Place Mall. Tom’s fund raising for the auction resulted in Seamor Marine’s generous donation of this boat. He has obtained the initial approvals from the malls, helped set up the displays, and emphasizes that his trailer is not part of the package!

Tom’s secrets to promoting raffle ticket sales:

- Do not eat, drink or smoke at the display
- Only sit at the table when tying flies, writing up raffle stubs etc.
- Engage in conversation with anyone who pauses to look at the display.