



# ISLAND WATERS FLY FISHERS

**A Memorial  
Issue  
Dedicated to  
Tom Skilton**



## Island Waters Fly Fishers

Email us at [iwff@shaw.ca](mailto:iwff@shaw.ca)  
or phone 250 754-3978  
Visit at [www.iwff1.ca](http://www.iwff1.ca)



## Island Waters Fly Fishers

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: Ron Moll        | 754-3978 |
| Vice President : Ray Honig | 758-9930 |
| Secretary: Ron Busche      | 758-2225 |
| Treasurer: Bill McColl     | 722-3123 |
| Past Pres.: Jack Toomer    | 756-0987 |

### Directors:

#### Program:

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Entertain: Bob Kissinger     | 758-8995 |
| Divas...: Wayne Pealo        | 743-4569 |
| Newsletter: Bernie Heinrichs | 390-3266 |

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Webmaster: Steve Wawrykow  | 754-3650 |
| Fly Tying Ron Busche       | 758-222  |
| Videos/Library: Don Ginter | 756-4867 |

|                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| 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.



**Tom Skilton**, we will miss you.

## Fourth Tuesday Meetings and Events

**November 23, 2010** Full membership meeting in the Ukrainian Hall on Victorian Ave. AGM, Election of Directors.  
Tentative Guest Speaker: Michelle Kehler on a brief review of the importance of the Brannen Lake Storage Project. Also, a request for ideas on how to improve access and to promote the use of public fishing opportunities.

## Other Events

**December 4, 2010** Christmas Dinner and Auction.

## Fly Tying at Oliver Woods

These are full day fly tying at the community hall on Oliver Road North East of North Nanaimo Town Centre on Rutherford. They start at 9:00 am and run until mid afternoon. The lunch break features a main dish supplied by one of the members and everyone supplements that with a salad, bread or buns, dessert. etc.

November 13, 2010

January 8, 2011

February 5, 2011

## Pub Lunches

Come out to the Wellington Pub every Wednesday from 11:30 A.M. to late noon. Guests and new members are especially welcome to join this very informal gathering.

**2011 Memberships and Tickets to the Christmas Dinner will be available at the November Meeting.**

**Also bring your auction items.**

## 2010 AGM President's Message

It is amazing how fast a year can go by. It just seems like yesterday when I sat down to look at the Executive slate of officers. It was with great sadness that I accepted Tom Skilton's resignation. As you know he was having health problems and later succumbed to the disease that ailed him. Also on a sad note, we lost Larry Miller during the year.

On a more positive note we had a very good year with plenty of activities to keep members busy.

I have to thank Bob Kissinger for all of his efforts to produce the 2009 Christmas auction and two very enjoyable picnics.

Next is Bernie Heinrichs for his continued work on the club newsletter and involvement in conservation activities.

There are other members who need to be mentioned, Wayne Pealo for the Divas on the Fly Program, Harry McLeod for his contributions to club Conservation matters, Steve Wawrykow for assuming the webmaster and BCFFF duties. In fact I would like to thank all of the Executive for their support to the club and myself.

Club support activities that come to mind are: The Nanaimo Hatchery Open House, Rivers Day, the Millstone Coho Tagging program and financial support to the Pacific Salmon Foundation.

Internally, we had two very successful fly casting clinics and some interesting fly tying sessions. I would really like to mention all those individual members who contributed to these activities, however, like any awards show, they are too numerous to mention.

I would like to wish the 2011 Executive the best in the forthcoming year and hope you have as much success as your predecessors.

Ron Moll



**Ron Moll**

## Cowichan River Walking Tour



Wayne Pealo, second from right, lead the walk from the Spring Pool to the Mile 70.2 Trestle and back. He is showing the route to Wayne Legge, Dennis Mullins, Marc Bell, Harry McLeod and Ron Busche. Bernie Heinrichs was on the other side of the camera. We drove up to the Road Pool where some coho and trout were found. There were also some at the Spring Pool but this was a walking tour only to the chagrin of some die hard fly fishers.

## November Meeting



Andrew Cathers, right, welcomes guest Stephen Struthers



Wayne Pealo at the controls while conducting the Fly Fishing Jeopardy Game.



Jeopardy Game Keeners at the front row: Stephen Struthers, left, Jim MacFie, Paul Inscho, Andrew Cathers, Ian Stewart and Gerry Stevens eagerly anticipate the next clue.

For Sale. Honda 7.5 4 stroke outboard engine. This is a prime buy, very low hours, clean and runs like a clock.  
Only \$850.00 Contact Harold @ 250 758 2655



## Memories of Tom Skilton

### Photos and Stories by Bob Kissinger:



On the 5th August '09 my son, Mark, Tom and I went to the Eve. This was the first time for Tom.

We started at the corner pool, just below the tidal boundary, expecting it to be full of fish like the previous year. Much to our surprise there wasn't a fish to be seen.

We then fished down stream all the way to the estuary before we encountered any. Both Tom and my son had one on but both lost them. I managed to save the day and landed one for each of us.



### From Steve Wawrykow:

Tom loved apple pies. Last year I had a large surplus of apples. Not to worry, Tom took all I offered. He came over with boxes. I know he enjoyed the pies.

Tom also voluntarily took on soliciting items for the annual club fund raising auction. I really appreciated his efforts .

These pictures are from the 2nd Sept '09.



It was one of those glorious warm early September days. The sky was clear and there were lots of fresh and friendly pinks in the "Island pool"

Shortly after arriving at the pool a large black bear crossed the river about 50 meters upstream from us. The fish were cooperative and by 1 p.m. we were limited.



This picture of Tom was taken just before we headed back home.



### Tom at Our Meetings

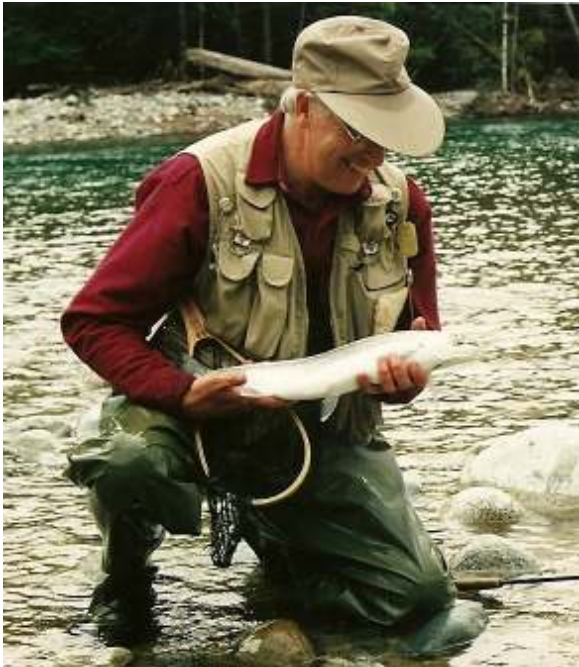
These photos show Tom as we remember him in top form. We always looked forward to the fly draw when we knew that he would be the star of the show with his infectious sense of humour.



## More Memories of Tom Skilton



These photos were sent by Tom's daughter, Paula. She does not know anything about the above photo and thinks that the rest were taken on the Island in the last 10 years.



## More Memories of Tom Skilton



Paula photographed this September 3, 2009. It was the last fishing trip that Tom had with his grandson, Chase who is showing off his fish. Grandpa is clutching on their favourite—a bag of Tim Hortons Frosted Cinnamon

## Tom Skilton's Obituary

(Copied from the Nanaimo Daily News)

SKILTON, Thomas Alfred Charles September 29, 1932 - October 6, 2010. Tom was born in Toronto and lived in Calgary, Vancouver and most recently Nanaimo, BC. Survived by his wife Nancy; children Paula and Jason (Delena); grandsons Chase and Connor; sisters Marjory (aka. Mardie) Mooney (Henry) and Eve Greenly (Howard), both of London, Ontario and several nieces and nephews.

Tom will be missed by all. Please join family and friends from 2-4 PM on Sunday, November 14, 2010 at the Rotary Activity Centre, 850 3rd St. (access off Jingle Pot). In lieu of flowers, donations to the ALS Society would be appreciated.

## Thomas Alfred Charles Skilton

September 29, 1932 – October 6, 2010

By Paula Skilton

My father attributed his fishing roots back to his grandfather in the United Kingdom. My great grandfather taught my father's mother how to fish – mostly coarse fish. My father proudly displayed evidence of this familial passion in a photo of his grandfather fishing from a wheelchair at the age of 93; I believe that my father emulated that life long passion for the sport.

My grandmother encouraged my father to take up fishing. As a young lad he caught his first fish, a brooky, when he was living in Caledon, Ontario. My grandfather loved to eat fish so he got hooked on the sport too and it became a family affair. When my father was growing up his entire family used bait rods with level reels.

My father often shared stories with his children and grandchildren about fishing a stream as a young lad with just a string and a hook... without a proper rod. It was evident that he loved to fish from an early age!

By the time he was 20 he was into fly fishing; however, he dropped it temporarily when his father passed away. My father took up fly fishing again when he was in his mid thirties and he continued to fish for pickerel, bass and trout in the lakes and streams of Caledon.

In approximately 1960 my father and mother purchased a remote island just outside of Parry Sound, Ontario. Many of my fondest memories are being at the island with my father embracing some new adventure... and that often included fishing. My parents owned the island until 1974.



In 1974, my father moved his family to Calgary, Alberta where he fly fished with great fervour. He took fly casting, fly tying and fly fishing lessons! His passion for the sport continued and remained with him throughout his life.

My father's first career was in industrial hydraulics. However, he found his niche in the late 1980s when he moved from Calgary to Vancouver and began working as a yacht broker. Soon thereafter he started his own yacht brokerage, *Nightstar Yacht Sales Ltd.* This passion and career lasted for the better part of thirty years. My father was always passionate about boats, particularly wooden boats.

My father was active in every community in which he resided. Over the years he was an active member of *the Burnaby Power and Sail Squadron, the Vancouver Wooden Boat Society, the Seymour Salmonid Society, the Calgary Fish and Game Association, the Island Waters Fly Fishers...* just to name a few.

My father had an early awareness of conservation and its necessity. Whether it was while living in Calgary and being involved in pheasant rearing projects through the *Calgary Fish and Game Association* or his involvement with the *Seymour Salmonid Society* in Vancouver... conservation and giving back was always important to him.

My father was a special man – gentle, sensitive, kind and compassionate – with a dry sense of humour, keen wit, and a warm, infectious laugh. He loved to laugh and to make people laugh. He had a zest for life and deeply touched the lives and hearts of all whom he encountered. He was a gregarious fellow with numerous friends throughout the country.

My father loved the outdoors and taught us all how to experience nature and its beautiful details with a unique eye and perspective. He taught us how to observe and appreciate the world. He ingrained both this ardent love and his unique way of seeing into those he touched.

My father loved animals, particularly cats and dogs. He loved food and to cook. He was an avid gardener and loved to grow tomatoes. He loved to fish and camp. He had an unusual love for fungi. There are no two ways about it my father loved hockey, in particular, the Toronto Maple Leafs. My father was an outstanding photographer. He was an avid reader and admired the works of Roderick Haig-Brown. He loved music including contemporary, jazz and classical and a wonderful evening at the symphony. Annually, he watched Christmas in Vienna... it always moved him.

As long as I can remember my father was tinkering with a boat, hiking through the woods, fishing, or playing with a critter. There was no doubt that his children and grandchildren were exposed to his passions and learned to appreciate them through his eyes. The familial passion for fishing was nurtured by my father and cultivated in his grandson, Chase. My father provided my son with a wonderful gift – a love for fishing and the outdoors.

Dad, thank you for all of your wisdom, humour and passion. We will all miss your beautiful laugh.

Paula Skilton