

Panther Lake



Doug Peterson just could not pull away from another great fishout on Panther Lake. A map and directions to get there is on page 6.



The Island Waters Fly Fishers Box 323, Lantzville, BC V0R 2H0

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

CONTACTS

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Videos:	Ed Tremblay	245-8552
Library:	Matt Haapala	390-1917
Gilly:	Ray Honig	758-9930

Meetings at 7:15 pm. on the 4th Tuesday of the Month at the Ukrainian Hall at 4017 Victoria Ave. off Norwell Dr. Visitors and Guests welcome. Phone 758-2138.

Email us at iwff@shaw.ca Ph 758-2138 Visit at www.members.shaw.ca/iwff



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

Sorry about last month's report (I should say no report). It looks like the editor has lost the last of his human relations skills. That criticism of my momentary lapse was



Bernie Heinrichs

far too scathing. It is time to replace him.

Thanks to all who participated in the Millstone Bypass Channel Open House held in Bowen Park June 15, 2006. They are all mentioned in this newsletter. The timing of this event was right on the heels of the BCFFF AGM held in Victoria this year. The theme of that was "Passing the Rod". There were several groups of school children who attended the open house and this gave us the opportunity to practice some of the themes and ideas given by the panel at the presentation. One of these themes was "Tie a fly-catch a kid". Our fly tying demonstrators did just that and held their attention until the teachers had to drag them out of there before another

hook was put on the vise. The fly casting demonstrators also did a great job of holding their attention by giving them a chance to cast a fly. This was another challenge for the teachers to get them away. Mel Sheng said that the kids were asking him, "Where are the fly fishers?" when they first arrived.

Although we have had discussions about not needing to expand the membership of our club, we still need to promote fishing to the public and especially to the children. I am very satisfied that this event and the open house at the hatchery went a long way towards that objective. Joie Coe offered to put on a Pink Fishing Clinic on site at the Nile Creek Beach when the Pinks first start showing. We also need to develop some protocol of rotating positions and other acts of etiquette. What is it going to be like when the pinks arrive in Departure Bay? How will we be able to deal with the throngs of fishers all charging out into deeper and deeper water and chasing the fish even further away from casting positions? We need to discuss this further. Have a good fishout/picnic at Westwood Lake on June 27th and a great summer of fishing.

Bernie Heinrichs

Program

We are still looking for ideas and speakers.

July 5 - Tour the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department at Malaspina College guided by Frank Dalziel.

June 27 - Barbecued tube steaks and evening fishout at Westwood Lake. No business meeting.

September - To be announced.

October 24 - Fishing the Island's Rivers

November 28 - Match the Hatch and **Election of Officers**

Calendar of Events

Ron Moll has made up a 2006 calendar of all of our events and activities for the year. It is posted on our web site at www.members.shaw.ca/iwffnews/.

Noon Socials and Luncheons

At 11:30 am every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at the Wellington Pub (half price specials). This is getting so popular that there are some who lunch there every Wednesday.

Club Library

The list of books has now swelled to over 60 books. Matt Haapala is the custodian and he will bring your requests to the next meeting if you call him at 754-4124. Check out the list of books on our website. The link is above the calendar on the newsletter page. There will be some lists available at the meetings.

Book Reviews

Are you looking for ideas for an article for the newsletter? How about a book review? It could be one from our library, your favourite fishing book, a fly tying book or whatever.

Fish Outs

If you have a hot fishing idea, call Bernie or anyone on the front page and we will organize it by announcing the time and place to meet by email and telephone. This system is easy to organize and a fair number of fishers show up.

Fly Fishing Pink Salmon DVD

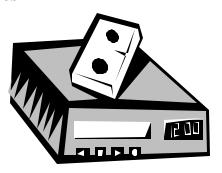
Filmed and produced by Steve Wawrykow of "on the water" action and other club activities.

The panel discussion portion reveals the secrets of success by our own expert members and is loaded with tips.

They can be obtained from Steve at 754-3650 or at the next meeting for \$20.00 (\$15.00 will be donated to fish enhancement).

List of Videos

See Ed Tremblay, or Call 245-8552, to Check These Out



Note: These videos are also now available in DVD format.

- 12 FLY FISHING MAGAZINE OLYMPIC TROUT & STEELHEAD
- 13 THE ESSENCE OF FLY CASTING MEL KRIEGER
- 14 FLY FISHING STILLWATERS ALF DAVIES
- 16 SURVIVING THE HOOK D.F.O.
- 17 RELEASE 'EM RIGHT D.F.O.
- 21 TROUT FISHING STEVE WAWRYKOW, IWFF
- 23 STEELHEAD FISHING IWFF
- 27 MAGIC OF FLY FISHING STORIES OF MANY TRIPS
- 34 DUBBING THE LOOP WITH ROOTS
- 35 TYING BASS FLIES IWFF
- 37 BASS THE 99% SOLUTION FISH'N CANADA
- 40 THE RIVER OF NO RETURN IWFF REPORT
- 42 25 FISHING LAKES MERRITT TO KAMLOOPS
- 43 1 NORTHERN LAKE TROUT FISH'N CANADA
- 43 2 FLOATING FOR GATORS FISH'N CANADA
- 43 3 LARGEMOUTH BASS FISH'N CANADA

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May Meeting

John Bucchieri described how his released fish escaped from an eagle's claws just meters from his pontoon boat on Panther Lake. Fish 1, Eagle 0 - Yea!



Harold Tinling, right, was the happy winner of one of Steve Wawrykow's DVD's at the Gilly Draw from our Gilly, Ray Honig.





Roy Sorensen enthusiastically accepts the other DVD from Ray.



Bob Kissinger also took home a DVD



Gerry Stevenson won the gift certificate at the Gilly Draw.



John Ellis produces his winning ticket to qualify him for one of the DVD's in Harold's fly draw.



Doug Peterson, left, won another one of Steve's DVD's during the fly draw. He now knows what is supporting his halo.



Two-time winner, Gerry Stevens collects the flies from Harold during the fly draw.

Guest Speaker, Mel Sheng

Mel gave us a very informative update on the status of the projects that he is involved in this area through the DFO and the Pacific Salmon Foundation. One of the highlights this year is the release of 600,000 Pink fry from pens in Departure Bay and close to the Nan-aimo River estuary. If there is the usual 2.2% survival rate, then we will be looking forward to catching a few of the 11,000 adults who will be returning in the summer of 2007. Fly fishers will play a role in monitoring this by recording our catches--right on Departure Bay! This is the type of science project that we can really get into!



Fly Casting Analyser



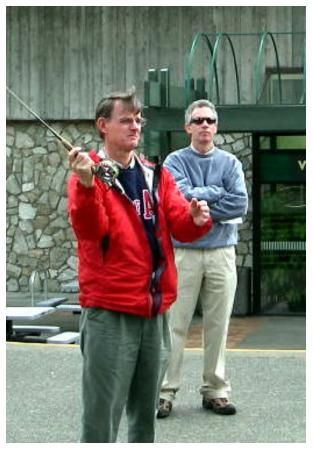
Andrew Sneddon, kneeling, records Doug Peterson's casting technique with the Sage Analyser. The data was downloaded into a computer and the two pages of results were printed. This printout listed the following parameters: Cast Symmetry, Cast Arc, Creep, Smoothness Ratio, Peak Speed, Deceleration, Stopping, and Rod Load. These were measured on the forward cast and the back cast then compared to what expert casters would do.

WANTED

Photos, stories, poems, information, "How To's", book reviews etc. for the newsletter.

Recycle your magazines to the waiting rooms in the hospital. Bring them to Larry Miller at the next meeting or noon lunch.

Do not throw out your fishing magazines-bring them to the welcome table at the next meeting. They are appreciated by the members.



Ian Muirhead, fly casting instructor, observes Ron Busche's casting technique at the BCFFF's Casting Clinic held during their AGM in Victoria May 27, 2006.



Steve Wawrykow manned the video display at the IWFF booth at the Millstone Bypass Channel Open House in Bowen Park June 15, 2006. The school children were very enthusiastic and interested in our displays and demos. Thanks Steve for this and for doing the same in Victoria at the BCFFF AGM.

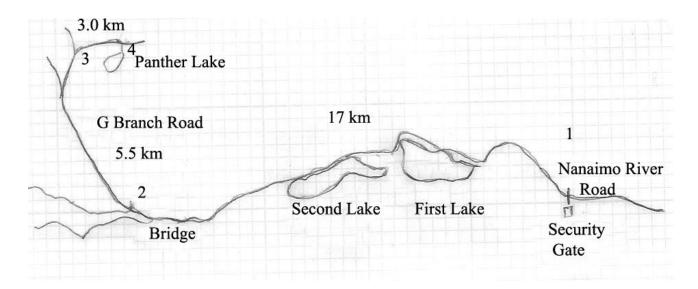
ELEMENTARY ENTOMOLOGY & O. **MYKISS**

WRITTEN BY THE CHALKBOARD TROUTIST

The Chalkboard Troutist's association, "The Bug Writers Union" does not allow its membership to be engaged in scriptal activities when there is material and information to be collected in the field. Some cynics will no doubt determine that this activity looks very suspiciously similar to fishing. Hopefully this data collecting will end in time for the September issue of the newsletter and we will, again, be treated to the next installment.



Panther (Healy) Lake



Directions: The Nanaimo River Road can be accessed from the Nanaimo Lakes Road at the end of Harewood Road in Nanaimo. Follow it until you get to the Security Gate which is manned during working hours and closed for the night. Go 17 km to the bridge and another few hundred meters to the sign "G Branch". Go uphill, stay on the main logging road for about 5.5 km and follow the main road to the right. Go another 3.0 km then turn right for less than 0.5 km to the lake. There is a sign about 100 m from this last turn. Panther Lake is usually only available for fishing on weekends. If a poll was conducted amongst our members, this lake would probably rank as number one in the central Vancouver Island for numbers of fair-sized rainbows that can be hooked. But, remember, this is a catch and release, fly fishing only, barbless hook lake and we want it to continue to be number one.

The following story is the fourth in a series of tall tales which were presented at the October, 2005 Meeting.

THE CAST

By Dave Connolly

Several weeks ago, with my friend Jack here, I made a trip to the Crooked river area which is about a hundred miles north of Prince George. One of the Crooked's tributaries is the Bent River which originates from a Glacier high in the Rocky Mountains to the east.

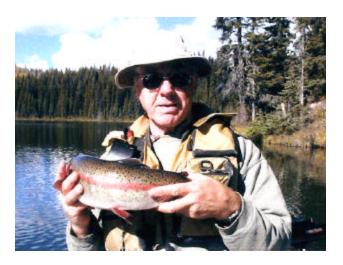
This river, although navigable for fish, is in such rugged and impenetrable country that there is almost no access. Most of the 44 miles of this river run so swiftly and powerfully around one sharp bend after another that over many thousands of years, the rainbow trout have taken on a "bent" shape. In fact we noticed that the trout fingerlings have also taken on the bent configuration. It's obvious that these effects have become genetic over time. One area of the Bent river is accessible only with great difficulty and only with great perseverance and with the use of All Terrain Vehicles. This part of the river is almost like a lake as it flows at only about 2 miles an hour. It is approximately 1/4 mile wide and 1/2 mile

After a brutal four-hour ATV ride we set up camp beside the Bent and inflated my Zodiac with great anticipation. These Bent River trout were reputed to be 22" to 26" long and great fighters. There were lots of fish rising and there seemed to be a modest Caddis hatch in progress. I attached a #14 Caddis imitation to my 6 lb. test leader on my dry line. I expected immediate action but got none. The fish just didn't seem interested in my offering. Then I noticed that the trout were actually taking the Caddis flies in the air about 4" above the water. Most of you will remember the late Bill Brown, charter member of this club, self proclaimed "Worlds Greatest Fisherman" and also the inventor of the



Dave Connolly demonstrates the preparatory actions needed to perform the "Horizontal Hovercast" technique used to land the bent trout from Bent River.

hovercast. This was a unique speciality cast whereby the fisherperson allowed his cast to hover above the water until the feeding fish devoured it. So, I tried a hovercast. With the first 3 tries I had 7 attempts by large trout and they all missed. I then realized that the fish were taking moving caddis. This posed a real



Dave passed these photos around to the members as evidence of the authenticity of the event.

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Continued from the previous page

problem. I headed for shore and found a spot to work. Four hours later I perfected the horizontal hovercast whereby the hovering fly travels horizontally at the speed of a flying Caddis. To make a long story short I headed back out onto the lake, met with instant success, caught and released more fish than I could count in an afternoon's fishing and had a wonderful time. As you will see I kept a couple of specimens.

I realize that an extraordinary experience such as this, even told by a person with my reputation for exemplary honesty and integrity, necessitates proof. I, therefore, respectfully submit original untouched photographs that I'm positive will convince the most sceptical listener of the authenticity of this story.

Please note that I have included a photograph of a crooked fish from the Crooked River and will look forward to sharing that story with you at some future date.



Live Bent Trout

Harold Tinling's Lessons in Life Learned from Fishing

There is no such thing as too much equipment. When in doubt, exaggerate.

If it feels good, it's fishing.

Everyone has a story about the one that got away.

It's good to be at the top of the food chain. Even the best lines get weak after they've been used a few times.

Sometimes you've really got to squirm to get off the hook.

Cast everything in the best light possible.



Prior to dissection -- very convincing evidence!



We are looking forward to Dave's story about how he caught this crooked trout from Crooked River.

Dave's Proverbs

Keep one eye on your bobber at all times.

Life is a stream of consciousness thing.

Take time to smell the fishes.

I fish therefore I am.

The way to a fisherman's heart is through his fly.

You never forget your first bite.

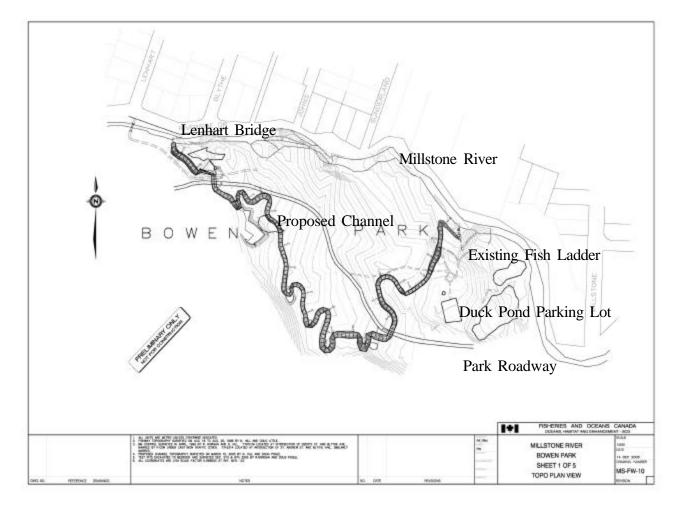
A fishing line has a hook at one end and an optimist at the other.

Fish always start to grow after they get away. Life is a can of worms.

The fishing is always better on the other side of the lake.

When the going gets tough, the tough go fishing.

Millstone Bypass Channel



This is part of the presentation that was presented at the June 15, 2006 open house held at Bowen Park. The Nanaimo Hatchery Coho fry release program demonstrated that over 30,000 smolts can be supported in the areas accessible to spawning Coho. Pre-1990 this number of smolts would produce over 3000 adult salmon. Deadman Falls is a complete barrier to spawning coho. The next step is to submit a detailed design report this summer to the City for final approval. Construction will be next summer.

Richard Thirkill, Biologist and Honourary IWFF Member, explains the construction and purpose of the counting fence that was set up on the Millstone River near the German Centre. He needs 56 more coho smolts to get his count up to 15,000 which exceeds by a wide margin the hoped for 10,000. This could easily be done by dragging a beach seine net through the railroad overpass just upstream of the fence. Hopefully, the bypass channel will be in place when these smolts return to spawn.



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Andrew's Chirono Emerger

Tied by Andrew Cathers



Hook: Caddis #14 C49 **Thread:** Black #8/0

Tail: Natural mallard flank feather **Body:** Ultra small, red wire, mylar tinsel

gun metal-gold or to match the

hatch

Hackle: Grizzly

Wing: Brown craft foam cut in strips

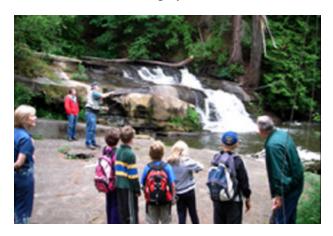
The craft foam can be obtained in sheets from craft stores. Tie in the order given above. The wing of the finished fly actually represents the body of the emerging chironomid. The body and tail of the fly is the shuck.

Andrew, IWFF member, tried various versions of this fly. This one really worked well on Green Lake then Westwood Lake. Several club members tried it in early May on Panther and it was a real winner there. In the early season it seemed to provoke more hits when it was presented as an emerger rather than as a dry fly. To slightly immerse the fly, give it a few pulls to wet the hackle then slow retrieves seem to work well.

Millstone Bypass Channel Open House



Ron Busche oversees fly tiers Gerry Stevens, left, Harold Tinling and Andrew Cathers. The kids were glued to the demonstration and the teachers had to become quite persuasive to get them on to the next display.



Another group of school children came down to the site of the channel's outflow into the Millstone River to observe Paul Inscho's fly casting demonstration. The first few casts even enticed a few resident trout to take a swipe at the wool at the end of Paul's line. Jim McCoy points out where the fish are hiding.

Thank you Paul, Jim, Ron, Harold, Andrew and Steve for your demonstrations and time spent at the Park to try to encourage more kids and adults to get interested in fishing--a sport that is declining in popularity. One of the mottos that has come out of the BCFFF is "Tie a fly and catch a kid". You guys and the rest of the IWFF members who came out to check the open house out certainly contributed towards that goal.

2006 BCFFF AGM Report

by Harold Tinling, IWFF Representative

I attended the BCFFF AGM on May 26 and 27 in Victoria as the delegate for the IWFF. The meet and greet on Friday evening had a good turnout with members from a great number of clubs present

The club's fly box was turned over to the host club with much ado about the quality and variety of the flies.

The meeting on Saturday was very enlightening as the theme was "Passing the rod".

A number of good ideas were presented on getting more folks interested in fishing. The declining number of fishers is a worry to not only clubs like ours but also to the Government and to many of the associated groups.

During the open discussion I elaborated on the program we have with the boys and girls club also what the club had done at the Nanaimo Hatchery open houses. Also, what had been done with the Fairview school?

Suggestions to get to more people interested in fishing ranged from reduced costs to young people to seminars for ladies who wish to learn to fish and tie flies.

Denise Maxwell, the education coordinator is available to assist in various programs we may come up with. Denise is also a certified casting instructor.

The subject of changes to the fishing regulations brought many views some with a lot of passion. It was decided to put forth a new paper outlining the BCFFF possible positions it may take. This paper has now been done and has been distributed to all clubs.

I don't believe the program for selling used equipment was a great success as I did not see a lot of goods change hands.

The banquet and auction was very successful with a goodly number of articles sold. The BCFFF fly box brought in \$290.00. The auction was handled by a professional auctioneer and moved along at a good pace. Keith MacDonald's term as V.P was remembered with a gift of a nice fly box

Sunday I attended the barbecue and fly casting game sponsored by the Cowichan Flyfishers. It was a great success with twenty five casters taking part in the competition. This kind of a competition is a good social function and could be turned into a Island event

All in all it was a good AGM. The BCFFF seems to be in good hands with a lot of enthusiastic people.

The Gilly fund is invested in GIC's and is in good shape for projects.

Respectfully, Harold Tinling

Jim McCov introduces fly casting to one of the school kids who toured the Millstone Bypass Channel Open House in Bowen Park. This was one of the highlights of their tour and Jim declared that she is definitely a candidate for a great future in fly casting.



IWFF Favourite Flies

Compiled by Ron Busche

NAME	FLY - (Wet/Dry) Size	LAKE	INFORMATION
Coe, Joie	damsels	Rheinhart - top of Copper Canyon Toy North Island (Spring)	Lots of small fish Dredge the bottom with bucket to check the feed
Connolly, Dave	Dave's bead head woolly bugger (W) #6 - #10 Egg sucking leech - hot pink egg (W)	Anytime - Anywhere	Troll or cast on sinking line with #6. Cast with dry line with #10 Troll on sinking line.
	Elk hair caddis - green body (D) #12-14		Deer or caribou. Use during caddis hatch when fish are rising.
Heinrichs, Bernie	Green pea (W) #8-12 Stimulator (D) #8-14	Panther, Green, Lois Westwood, Henry	Sinking line to 6'. Dry casting or trolling slightly submerged.
	Bead black leech (W) Leech	Rhododendron, Westwood, Brannen Sproat lake	Spring, searching or trolling pattern. Until May
Inscho, Paul	Doc Spratly	Dog (Summit)	Onth May
MacDonald, Keith	Leech (W) Caddis (W) Tom Thumb (D)	Henry Panther Panther	Spring and Fall Dry - only in the summer. Go out an
Peterson, Doug	Elk Hair Caddis (D) Humpy (D) #12-14 Double Humpy #8		hour before dark. Red, green, yeliow, black
Snook, John	Green Bead Carey Special (W) Chironomids	Local lakes in the Spring Spider	My "go to" fly in all lakes at all times. January to March - tremendous chironomid hatch
		Maple (by Courtenay)	February to March - tremendous chironomid hatch
Sorenson, Roy		Panther Sproat	After March.
		Sproat Sproat	Spring Lots of stoneflies in Taylor River My choice if I only had one fly. Look for them for size and colour

Thanks Ron Busche for compiling this informative collection and to all those who have contributed. We would like to have your flies to add to this list. Please leave them with Ron at our next meeting, pub lunch etc.