



ISLAND WATERS FLY FISHERS



The members and guests were spellbound by Peter Morrison's presentation "Fly Fishing Salmon" at the April 24, 2007 meeting. The fly box, right, was amongst the many displayed on the table.



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

Email us at iwff@shaw.ca Ph 390-3266

Visit at www.members.shaw.ca/iwff



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 390-3266.

CONTACTS

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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

Don't miss Andy Sneddon's "Control Depth Fishing" to be presented at our next General Meeting Tuesday, May 22, 2007 in the Ukrainian Hall on Victoria Ave. We will be starting the meeting at 7:00 pm and he will be first on the agenda. This will allow him to return to Victoria and avoid travelling too late at night. Andy's background is as follows:

- Owner of "Custom Rod Builder's Supply" in Victoria.
- A Master Rod builder.



Bernie Heinrichs

-An accomplished fly-fisher that has fished all over the world and has just returned from fishing for bonefish in Mexico and for giant brown trout in New Zealand.

-Andy has a Doctorate degree in Zoology and before he retired he was a professor at the University of Kansas and at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

-Andy has done presentations on rod building and flyfishing throughout Canada and the U.S.

The Control Depth Fishing will take approximately 1hr. 15 min. but he will answer any questions about this or about rod building or rod mechanics.

The rest of the meeting's agenda will depend on how long Andy's presentation takes. We will definitely hold our popular fly draw (bring your flies), announcements and probably some committee reports. If there is time, we will hold the Gilly and get up to date on where all the fishing action is happening. As usual, guests and members of other BCFFF clubs are more than welcome.

Check out the article on page 10 concerning Derek Watters from South Africa who is coming out here for the month of June and wants to try out the fly fishing in this area. He wants to write up an article on urban fishing. Fishing in his city and nearly all of the others in the world involves driving a considerable distance to find any kind of fish. I nearly forgot about how readily available our sport is to us. We will be having some club fishouts during that month and I told him that he is more than welcome to come along. He is bringing his float tube so it will be easy for any of you to bring him along on your trips to your favourite sites.

Speaking of club fishouts. I have been slack in organizing these so far this year and some of the guys that were coming up with ideas last year are also preoccupied. All that is needed is an idea on where to go, let me know and I will email the message to the rest. Mike Orr tried but, unfortunately, I did not get it. Please try it again.

Bernie Heinrichs

Spring Dinner at the Nanaimo Golf Club



Tom Skilton, top left, Mary Tinling, Jeanne Winters, Harold Tinling and Doug Winters!



Doug Winters and Leo Snye



Wayne Legge, Jack Toomer, Linda and Paul Inscho.



Pat and Ray Garton. You would smile too if you had just won a Dodge Nitro from the Hospital Foundation. Congratulations Pat and Ray



Joan and Jack Nelson, Gerry and Lill Stevens.



Dave and Pat Connolly talking to Elena Toomer, center.



Christine and Brian Lapadat



Linda and Mas Iwasawa



Dan and Barbara Hooper

Program

May 22, 2007: Andy Sneddon: “Control Depth Fishing” but will also answer your questions concerning the construction and characteristics of fly rods. See more details on page 2 under the President’s Message. It starts at 7:00 pm.

June 26, 2007: Fishout and picnic at Westwood Lake.

August 25, 2007: Summer Barbecue at Jack and Elena Toomer’s.

September 25, 2007: Our own Bob Leverman will be presenting “Match the Hatch”

October 23, 2007: John Beaven, another one of our own, has not yet decided on his topic - he has too many good ones to choose from.

November 27, 2007: AGM then Election of Executive and Directors

December 1, 2007: Christmas Dinner and Auction at the Legion Hall in Lantzville.

What Is This?



A fish’s view of an Elk Hair Caddis (and trees).

Nanaimo River Hatchery Open House

Paul Inscho sets up another fisher who caught a nice 12 inch rainbow from the tank stocked with 200 hungry trout.



Ron Moll assists an eager, young fella to land his trout from the same tank.



And Doug Peterson used a net to help his young protege.

The annual Nanaimo River Hatchery Open House held on Sunday, May 6, 2007 drew a fair number of visitors despite the poor weather. Keith MacDonald and Gerry Stevens managed to elude the camera during this event. Thank you all for giving a lot of young people a very memorable day.

Events and Services

Pub Lunches

Come out for the half price specials every Wednesday from 11:30 A.M. to late noon. We need to see some new faces - the old ones are starting to recycle their lies.

Club Library

The list of books has now swelled to over 65 books.

Gerry Stevens 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.

Fly Fishing Web Sites

www.iwff.ca

Our club's site containing past issues of the newsletter, fly patterns by our members and library books. It also has a link to our Message Board where members post their exploits and follies.

www.bcfff.bc.ca/

This is the site of the British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers our parent organization.

www.gofishbc.com/

The site of the Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. They are responsible for stocking the lakes all over B.C. Check out their stocking statistics for local lakes and many in the interior of B.C.

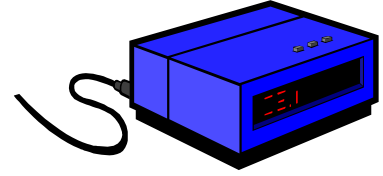
www.anglingbc.com

This is the most popular site in B.C. and covers fly fishing, articles, gear, fishing reports, best tackle, fishing clubs, books, forums, resorts etc. for lakes, rivers and salt water.

Please send us your favourite site.

List of DVD's

See Ed Tremblay (245-8552) at the meetings to check these out



Casting DVD's

Introduction of Spey Casting
Spey Fishing Steelhead
The Art of Spey Casting
Joan Wolf: Dynamics of Fly Casting

Fly Tying DVD's

Brent's Top 10 Lake Flies
Streamer Flies for Trophy Trout
Fishing Still Waters Shrimp and Leeches
Tying the Classic Salmon Fly
Expert Techniques Tying Fly Patterns
Fly Tying: The Anglers Art #1 and #2

Fly Fishing

The Trout Bum Diaries
Top 85 Tips on Fly Fishing for Trout
Expert Techniques for Stillwater Fly Fishing
Fly Fishing 2 and Matching the Hatch
Fly Fishing Large Western Rivers - Winter
Fly Fishing Large Western Rivers - Summer
Fresh Water Fishing Society & Trout Fishing
Successful Fly Fishing - Casting Techniques
Successful Fly Fishing - Salmon, Brook Trout
New Fly Fisher #1
Fly Fishing Salmon
Matching the Hatch
Casting Shadows #1 and #2
Magic of Fly Fishing - Cowichan River

There are also numerous DVD's produced by IWFF on Fly Tying, Fishing Techniques, Casting, etc

We still have the video tapes as listed in previous newsletters.

Guest Speaker: Peter Morrison

Peter's topic "Fly Fishing Salmon" was well received by the members at the April 24, 2007 meeting. His focus was on Coho in the Tofino Area and was especially enthusiastic about using dry flies for them. His techniques were developed by close observations of the Coho behaviours during his many guiding trips into this area. His first observation was obvious. You could rarely get your bait down deep for chinook because a surface feeding Coho would nearly always take it first. So why fight it? He started targeting the Coho by using shallow lures and eventually dry flies.

Peter also observed that fishing this style in tidal currents is very similar to fishing streams. The edge of kelp beds provides good cover and the currents provides a means to float the fly into a school of feeding salmon. There were times when this feeding became a frenzy and the hook-ups even more so.

"So, how many fish are lost in the kelp beds?" Queried one member. "The Coho can usually be worked out of them", Peter replied, "the chinook are a different story - they really get tangled up but they are rarely in that shallow water to get caught". He even uses the kelp fronds to tie up his boat rather than using the anchor.



Peter Morrison presented "Fly Fishing Salmon"



Peter explains one of his flies to Bill Ratcliff, left, Gord Davis and Al Bieberstein



This foam-backed fly is an ideal dry fly for coho



This "Bugskin" is a good herring imitator.

Some of Peter's other favourite flies include: Yellow Clousers, Chartreuse Clousers, Polar Bear Needle Fish, Glass Minnows, Chrystal Shrimpan Flures (a marriage of flies and lures).



Some more of Peter Morrison's salmon flies.



Winners



Ron Busche, left, blinked at the flash but not at the pheasant tail he collected from Harold Tinsling won during the fly draw. Thanks Jim MacFie for this one and the previous pheasant tails given out for prizes. Did you notice how this reporter refrained from using the word “piece” in his description of the prize? Harold, on the other hand, could not resist the temptation and flagrantly spouted off the word several times.



Peter Morrison donated fly lines, leaders, tippets and flies for a raffle. Brian Lapadat won the first draw and chose a fly line. Thanks Peter for this and a great presentation.



Paul Inscho won the flies



Keith MacDonald also won a fly line by drawing the second choice of the raffle.



Jim MacFie, left. and John Snook had tough decisions to make amongst the choices remaining during the raffle.

This is the second of two stories that Harold told us at the October, 2005 Tall Tales Night.

Super Floatant

by Harold Tinling

The other thing I wish to tell you about was a floatant Stan developed many years ago for some project I don't really recall. But he gave me a little bottle of the stuff and said I should try it out some time. Well this stuff hung around my house for some twenty five years. I found it one day and I thought I would give it a go and I tossed it in the fly fishing gear bag.



It was on the Fallen Timber Creek in about 1976 that I tried it out as my regular floatant had expired. I dressed a fly with it and dropped the dam bottle and it broke on the rocks in the shallow water at the creek edge, I took a few casts then moved downstream a few hundred feet to where I could get into the water again. I spotted a rise and cast to it, well that trout seemed to grab that fly before it hit the water. I released the fish and cast again with the same thing happening again, the trout grabbed the fly out of the air.

While playing that fish something bumped my leg and I looked down and there was a grey black object floating in the current, I thought little of it but noticed there were more of these objects floating down stream, what the heck is going around here I thought. I landed and released the fish and made my way back to my fishing bag and got the surprise of my life, where I started fishing on the rocky shore was now a sandy beach. I then realized that the floatant was so powerful that when I dropped that little bottle the liquid splashed on the rocks and caused them to float away.



It was so powerful that my fly would not land on the water but hovered inches from the surface; this is why the trout had to jump to get the fly.

I never told anyone of this as I didn't want to get in trouble for causing damage to fish habitat. As I don't live in Alberta any longer I feel I can tell you fishers about this event. I have brought along one of the rocks I have saved all these years. Please feel free to come and have a look at it but please do not handle it.



Harold: Please feel free to come and have a look at it but please do not handle it.

Ellison Lake



Two years ago Barry Ellison, the owner of this private lake, drained most of it and commenced a two-month reconstruction and a re-excavation project. The existing trout were contained in a small “hole” at the south end during this process. Barry owns the two excavators used but, if the job would have been hired out, it would have cost over \$300,000. The bridge to the island was part of the reconstruction. The brush on the island and some along the south shore were removed. A lot of rock, gravel, features etc. were added. The main focus of the work was to deepen the lake by removing about two feet of sludge then digging another few feet of original clay.

It is amazing how well the fish are thriving. They are only fed fish pellets once or twice per week, there is very little water inflow in the spring and none in the summer other than enough to keep up with evaporation. There is virtually no visible weed growth in the water and very little along the shore. Text books claim that this is a recipe for no habitat for fish but these trout are big and healthy.



Bob Leverman's chironomid pattern proved to be a winner.



Doug Peterson also scored with nymphs and chironomids in his “honey hole”.

“www.iwff.ca” Becomes Global

Derek Watters, Cape Town, South Africa, is coming to visit his brother in Nanaimo, wants to do a little fly fishing here and found our website. The following is his first email:

My name is Derek Watters and I live in Cape Town, South Africa. As you may have guessed, I am a keen fresh water fly fisherman. I have been a member of the Cape Piscatorial Society since 1968. The CPS is the oldest fresh water conservancy and fishing society in South Africa. I must hasten to add that, although I have been angling for the last forty five years or so now, I am by no means an expert. I think this “game” is akin to golf - the more you practice the less you know. However, I have, by some stroke of luck, managed to hook some reasonable fish during my years of angling. We have both rainbow and brown trout in our local waters, neither being ideally suited to our rather warm climate. Our Cape waters consist of mainly higher altitude mountain streams and some man made dams. We have very few, if any, natural lakes in S.A. Our local streams are fairly fast flowing with beds of varying sized stones and boulders. The fish do not reach any significant size, due mainly to the low food content and fluctuating temperature, with a fish of 16 - 20 inches being considered as a good catch. The practice of catch and release is becoming the rule these days with fishing pressure increasing.

On the eastern borders of S.A. we have a different terrain with similar types of mountain streams in the higher ground but slower, wider rivers on the upper plateau. This area also hosts numerous dams of varying proportions.

A fair number of these are on private land. If one is fortunate enough to have access to these waters, the quality and size of fish is much greater. Rainbows and browns of up to 12 lbs are not uncommon.

I am actually way off the point of this correspondence and apologize for wasting your time. The actual intention of this letter is to find out a bit about the local fly fishing in the Nanaimo area. My wife and I will be spending a month in Nanaimo from early June 2007 until the 4th July. My brother has recently retired to Nanaimo, having spent his working career at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan. He now lives on Parkwood Drive.

I am hoping to be able to wet a line in the Nanaimo and surrounding areas. Any advise on local conditions, regulations etc. would be much appreciated. As you can appreciate, I am not familiar with your local waters and advise on rod length, line weight and types would also be of great assistance.



Derek Watters displays his 12 lb. rainbow taken in South Africa.

I have spent much of my fishing career on still waters, but have some experience of river fishing - both wet and dry. I have picked up some valuable info on fly patterns from your web site but any tips in this regard will be helpful.

I am hoping that one of your members will be able to find the time to reply to this e-mail as any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

**Best regards & tight lines,
Derek Watters
[dwatters@iafrica.com](mailto:dwaters@iafrica.com)**

I responded with some information but also invited him to join any of our fishouts, introduce him to other members who will be willing to take him along and show him some of our local fishing waters. We exchanged a few more emails and I asked Derek if we could do an article on all this. The following is some excerpts from these:

My fly fishing “career” started at the tender age of twelve. At that time my father was a keen outdoor type and subscribed to the American Field & Stream Magazine, from where I first gained interest in catching fish on “a bunch of feathers”.

I have also been an enthusiastic salt water fisherman from an early age - four years old to be exact. At that stage of my life, I was living on the eastern side of SA and spent most of my holidays on, what we call, the Wild Coast. This area is still known for it’s natural environment and abundant sea life - much like the Pacific side of Vancouver, Island from what I can see.

We do not have big trout on the Island but our hospitality will make up for it - eh guys!