





# Fly Fishing Merit Badge Project

By Jack Squires



One of the scouts getting into his back cast



Now that's a WIND KNOT

Four of Wenatchee Valley Fly-fishers worked with the local Boy Scout District to be a part of a Merit Badge weekend at Camp Scout A Vista on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Rob Winters, Bruce Merighi, John Richmond, and I acted as instructors. Bruce gave a fly-fishing 101 about bugs and gear while Rob handled knots, John and Jack covered safety and outdoor ethics. While Jack and John conducted an outdoor fly casting session, Rob and Bruce had the boy tie their first flies. The obligatory wooly bugger as well as a canoe fly.

During a six-hour session, thirteen scouts between 12 & 16 worked on their fly-fishing and fishing merit badges. With the exception of one lucky scout who completed all components, the group accomplished 9 of the 10 badge requirements, except one – TO CATCH A FISH USING THE “FLY-FISHING METHOD”. We spent an hour or so at the camp’s Lake Opaque after the session, but the “lake” hadn’t been stocking in some time so we were all surprised when Braydon from Troop 1 in Cashmere caught his trout using the wooly bugger that he had just made minutes before. All other scouts had opportunities to complete the final requirement this year at summer camp and at other outings. So, this fall at the district’s Courts of Honor, 26 merit badges should be awarded.

In this way, WVFF is working to introduce young men to the sport of fly-fishing. Some of them will surely become future members of our club.

Oh, one final note, it seems that our President’s dog “Flo”, loves Power Bait. She ate a heaping helping at the camp’s pond. She gobbled it up like she knew what it was. Just say’n. Rob?

## **SALMONFEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We need fly tying instructors for this year's Salmonfest Sept. 20th at the Leavenworth hatchery. Unfortunately Pat Herdt will not be able to help with the project this year so volunteers are very much needed. This is a good opportunity to show kids and adults that tying is something they too can do and the WVFF tying program has always been a popular part of the festival. Please let me know if you can help with the project. Rob Winters WVFF President [r.s.winters@gmail.com](mailto:r.s.winters@gmail.com)

# NEXT WVFF Meeting

**September 18, 2014**

**WVFF General Meeting  
Wenatchee Eagles Lodge**

**BRING A GUEST  
AND  
YOUR NAME TAG !**

Wet Fly Hour                      5:45 pm  
Dinner                                6:30 pm  
Brian O'Keefe Program    8:00 pm



Craig Garver Photo - Blue Lake

## Board Meeting Minutes June 5, 2014

Present: Rob Winters, JoAnn Lane, Al Smith, Tom Whiteside

Absent: Gary Anderson, Steve Harvey, Danny Horan, Bruce Merighi, Eric Rainbolt, Tom Rowe

President Rob Winters called the meeting to order at 5:41 p.m. Minutes of the May Board and General meetings were approved as submitted.

President, Conservation & Education Report: Rob Winters

- Reported he and Jack Squires have completed their plans for the WVFF-Boy Scout workshop scheduled for Saturday, June 14 at Scout-a-Vista near Beehive Reservoir. Additional help is welcome.
- Reported he spoke with Pat Herdt concerning the Pateros fly tying event on July 19 and a possible Conconully event on July 14 & 15.
- Submitted a request from Travis Maitland for an Upper Wheeler replacement sign. Cost per sign is \$112. The Board approved the purchase of two signs.

Treasurer Report:

- Al Smith reported a balance of \$19,900 with one outstanding item to be paid.

Outings Report:

- Tom Whiteside reported that the Big Twin outing "went very well." There are no upcoming outings scheduled. Activities will resume in the fall.

Old Business:

- ALEA Grant: Rob Winters reported his conversation about the grant with Fred Kunzmann. The first ALEA Grant has been completed. It is his understanding that the second phase was not approved. Fred is working on a method to deliver grant information to interested parties.
- Eagle's dinner arrangements were again discussed. Rob reported that the club did not meet the guaranteed 25 purchased dinners in May. He paid for those remaining and will submit a bill. He will request a 15 dinner guarantee for June as several members have already indicated that they will not be attending.
- Stemilt purchase: Rob Winters reported he is awaiting Mike Kaputa's instructions for delivering the WVFF's donation toward the purchase.

- Rob has delivered the previously-approved letter supporting Cascade Columbia Fisheries Advancement Group's nutrient program.
- The Board approved Rob's request to provide a letter of support for Travis Maitland's request to increase the Entiat Brookie limit from 10-20. He will send the letter "when appropriate."

New Business:

- The Board discussed asking WVFF members for their cell phone numbers as well as their landline information. The Board agreed to make that request on an opt-in basis.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m. JoAnn A. Lane WVFF Secretary June 8, 2014

## General Meeting Minutes June 19, 2014

President Rob Winters called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm. Guests: John Tullius was introduced to members.

**General Reports:**

President: Rob Winters reported that several members had operated a merit badge program for local Boy Scouts including training in fly fishing.

Vice President: Steve Harvey said he is working to improve signage at Upper Wheeler.

Publications: Bruce Merighi reported on progress made to improve the club's web site. He also suggested members consider taking the newsletter electronic to reduce the large cost of the printed version.

Program: Gary Anderson introduced Sean Visintainer of the Silver Bow Fly Shop in Spokane. Visintainer briefed attendees on trout and smallmouth bass fishing on the Spokane River, including information on flies, technique, hatches and river access.

President Rob Winters adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

## 2014 WVFF BOARD

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**A FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS AFFILIATED CLUB**



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**E-MAIL YOUR SUBMISSION TO [BRUCE401@NWI.NET](mailto:BRUCE401@NWI.NET) BEFORE THE 1<sup>ST</sup> OF THE MONTH.**

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