



P.O. Box 3687  
Wenatchee, WA 98807-3687  
An FFF Affiliated Club



"RELEASE 'EM ALIVE"



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FLY PAPER — December 2007

## Fly Paper Catch and Release



## Fly Tying Sessions

Please join us for our monthly fly tying sessions at Fred Kunzmann's.

We meet every **second** Thursday evening in Fred's garage.

Come any time after 6:00-ish.

This year we plan to "match the outing." Check John Murio's great outing sheets for the month and come ready to tie what you'll need for the next outing.

2524 North Astor Court  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802  
(509) 886-1321



<http://www.wvff.net>

Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers

# FLY PAPER

An Affiliate of the Federation of Fly Fishers

December 2007

Volume 20

No. 97

## Looking Upstream

**December 20, 2007**

General Meeting  
**Red Lion Inn**  
Cascade Room

Wet Fly **with appetizer trays** 6:00  
Meeting 7:00  
Program 8:00

**January 3, 2008**  
Board Meeting

**Our Annual Banquet**  
**January 26, 2008**  
Saturday!

**Get your banquet tickets now!**

**Annual Dues?!?!?!?**

## December Fish Tales at the Red Lion Cascade Room

Happy Holidays from your board members.

Our program for December is us. Bring your tall tales and your fish pictures (or scenery shots or falling in pictures or whatever can make your tale even better).

This year we will celebrate the holidays at the Red Lion in the Cascade room with wet fly (no host) and appetizer trays (on the club). We will not have dinner available. Beverages will be no host.

The club's laptop and projector will be available. And we have the projector we use for fly tying too—so if you want to project prints, bring them along. Otherwise, bring your media electronically (CD, Travel Drive).



Gary B's story should be a good one!

## 2007 OFFICERS AND BOARD

**President — Steve DeJong**  
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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL IS THE FIRST OF THE MONTH OF PUBLICATION.

## WVFF Board Meeting Minutes, December 6, 2007

Attendees: Steve DeJong, Don Bolstad, Gary Anderson, Al Smith, Eric Rainbolt, John Murio, Nancy Howard, and Dick Nicklas.

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:20.

Al reported that the Club has a total of \$15.8K in savings, and that 2007 expenditures remain within budget.

Eric distributed an updated membership list. The list contains the names of a number of members who have not paid their 2007 dues. Unpaid members names will be dropped from the mailing list.

Gary said that the December program will include the annual member's presentations as well as a presentation by Don Adams on Project Healing Waters. The Annual Banquet is scheduled for January 26. Gary will try to arrange a program by the regional WDFW biologists for February.

John distributed a draft 2008 outing schedule for Board review and comment.

Nancy announced that Don Bolstad will be writing a new "serial" column for the Fly Paper. She is also busily involved with arrangements for the Annual Banquet, which will be held at Wenatchee Valley College, and catered by the Alley Café (buffet format with prime rib and salmon).

Don will represent the Club at a meeting next week gathering public input on the Stemilt Land Swap. He said that the Irrigation District is very upset about littering and vandalism of their property and equipment in this area, and he is concerned that they could limit use of the lakes as a result. Don is also procuring materials for fly tying at the 2008 Salmon Festival.

Don mentioned that there may be some opportunities for member participation with the County in monitoring the condition of culverts on Wenatchee River tributaries. Also, the Forest Service will again need volunteers for bull trout surveys next fall.

The Board discussed locations for monthly meetings, and decided to continue with the Applewood Grill buffet dinner format.

The Nominating Committee (Gordi Northrup and Bruce Campbell) are busily working on a slate of candidates for the 2008 Board.

Steve adjourned the meeting at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted, Dick Nicklas, Secretary.



## WVFF General Meeting Minutes, November 15, 2007

The meeting as called to order by President Steve DeJong at 7:40.

Good fishing was reported at Rufus Woods reservoir and at Lake Lenice.

Al Smith stated that Club savings total \$15.8K.

Eric Rainbolt said that no new members joined the Club in the past month.

John Murio discussed the November outing, which will be a steelhead expedition to the Methow River on Saturday, the 17<sup>th</sup>. The group will meet at the Herdt residence near Carlton on Saturday morning. Pat Herdt mentioned that the river is low and clear, with little fishing pressure during the week and considerably more activity on weekends.

Our Editor, Nancy Howard, could use some articles for the next few issues of the Fly Paper. Volunteers please contact Nancy at 663-1063, or rlogan@nwi.net.

Joe Roy represented the Club at a meeting on Columbia River riverbank riparian rights in Douglas County. Joe said that there were many differing opinions, and that there was lots of lobbying by the real estate community.

Don Bolstad announced that Don Adams from Leavenworth will give a presentation on the Healing Waters Program at the December meeting. There will also be the traditional December program featuring stories of member's fishing exploits during the past year (complete with photographs, to keep the exaggeration under control).

The Club has been asked to send a fly to the State FFF for possible inclusion in a fly plate to be auctioned as a fundraiser at the FFF National Conclave in 2008. Tie up your favorite fly and bring it to the December meeting, where the attendees will decide which fly will be our entry. The remaining flies will be auctioned at the WVFF banquet in January to raise funds for our Club.

The evening's program was presented by Mike Kaputa, Director of the Chelan County Natural Resources Dept., with the assistance of Cam Thomas. Mike first discussed the history and current status of the Stemilt Basin land swap, and the future challenges associated with land ownership and management. He then summarized some of the many ongoing Wenatchee watershed improvement activities, with particular emphasis on projects implemented in 2007. Mike mentioned that restoration projects are generally developed under the guidance of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan, and require extensive coordination with federal and local agencies. Some of 2007's successes include the Nason Creek side channel reconnection project; Alder Creek, Clear Creek, and Beaver Creek culvert replacements (Chiwawa River tributaries); Gagnon property pond expansion near Cashmere; and various irrigation diversion improvements and riparian habitat restoration projects. In 2008, a large side channel restoration project is planned for the Entiat River. Mike also mentioned some opportunities for Club participation in assisting watershed improvement, including participation in project planning as well as hands on activities.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted, Dick Nicklas, Secretary.

## This month starts a serial mystery.

Look for the next three installments over the next three months.

Your ever-adventuresome vice president, **Don Bolstad**, is "new" to the area and still exploring. Perhaps you know these areas. Perhaps you, too, find some of these secret spots to be a bit too secret. Stay tuned!

## POTHOLES COULEE WALK-IN-LAKES

By Don Bolstad

### Background

This is the chronicle of Larry McCracken's and my (Don Bolstad's) search for that unknown (to us) secret lake in the Quincy WMA walk-in lakes, the one with legendary big fish. I have always enjoyed fishing walk-in lakes and streams. The extra walk usually eliminates the fishermen that cannot be bothered by a hike, leaving more for the rest of us.

Jeff Korth's write-up for the 2007 season had a section on the walk-in lakes in the Quincy Wildlife Area. This got me thinking of small lakes with big fish, and those tales I had heard. The first priority on this search was to get good maps. The lakes were too small to show up in the county gazette type maps.

The tales of those big fish in small walk-in lakes were enough for me to spend time sleuthing that I had planned to spend enticing fish with my latest fly. So I finally cut short a trip to Rocky Ford to stop at the WDFW district office. A very nice lady gave me their map of the Quincy WMA. The map showed the 'general' location of each lake and lake name. After our first trip to the area (see Trip 1 below), I knew we needed better maps. Using the Internet, we printed out satellite pictures of the area through Google and Microsoft. We now had our maps. However, there are no lake names to match up to the individual lakes. We had been cautioned to watch out for the shadows on the satellite maps caused by the rugged terrain around the WMA. We learned later that some of the lakes have white posts with the lake names. We still are missing some posts to confirm all the lake's names.

What really whet our appetite was the very persistent WVFF Club rumor about a secret lake near Quincy Lake with hungry fish up to 18". Funny how the directions to that lake were mumbled, vague—fuzzy—incomplete, and ever-changing depending on the tale teller. Hmmm. One rumor even claimed that you could drive to the secret lake. So much for the walk-in lakes from the WVFF Club stories. But we were not deterred. We had a goal. We wanted to find those big fish in a small pond. We wanted to find all those little lakes—walk in or not—and fish them. (The secret lake was Quincy, or was it Burke, or was it...?)

### Trip No.1

We drove past the parking area for the Dusty Lake trailhead. Before reaching the west gate of the Quincy WMA, we parked at a small parking area on the west side of the road across from the Evergreen Reservoir. Using the sun's location is the only way to know directions without a compass or GPS unit.

From the parking area, we headed west following an obvious trail. To trace our route, look ahead to a high point overlooking a canyon. When you reach the canyon edge, you will be looking down at one of the three spring lakes. Our guess it is called the Upper Spring Lake since it is downhill to the other lakes. A well used trail drops down to the lake, very similar to the hike into Dusty Lake only shorter and

easier walk. The upper lake is shallow at both the inlet and outlet areas. Like Dusty, the lake level is several feet below the high water marks. We fished the outlet area without success. We did see a rise on the lake.

We continued hiking 'downstream'. Within a few minutes, we could see a lake off to our left (west?). We visually marked the lake to the west for our next trip. Soon the middle Spring Lake was ahead to our right. The lake was large and did not look as deep as the upper lake. It was easy to fish the lake on the foottrail side. No strikes for us. A re-reading of the WDFW stocking schedule indicated that middle Spring Lake is not stocked. Just below the middle lake outlet, was lake number three.

A slight trickle of water runs from the middle lake into the third lake. Lake number three (lower Spring Lake?) looked very 'fishy'. The water was clearer, and looked deeper. But several casts near the inlet were unsuccessful. The shallower water was full of large pollywogs. We also noted snail shells in the water and scattered along the adjacent shore. Great fish food! There is easy access along the west shore. The eastside has large rocks and a steep cliff with no access. Lots of footprints indicate that lots of fishermen visit this lake. As I walked part way along the west side, I had my first hook-up. However, my surgeons knot separated. Still, I could tell the one I had lost was a good size fish. I was using a Jim Beam nymph (red body, white beadhead). I hooked and landed the next two strikes. Both were beautiful rainbows 16" or bigger, with a 'football' body. My fourth hookup pulled off after a short time. That ended any action at those lakes. A cold wind and threat of rain sent us back to the truck.

On the drive out, close to our parking area, we saw a series of ponds below the road with a larger lake at the bottom of a canyon. Was this the secret lake?



The Quincy Wildlife Management Area  
Do you know the secret lake?

