

The Flypaper

July/August 2017

NFA Summer Picnic- July 20, 2017

Members, their families, and guests are welcome to our annual NFA Picnic on Thursday, July 20th at the Good Shepherd Center/Meridian Play Field Park in Seattle.



Carleigh Romeis and Helen Bottcher

The park is located on the southwest side of Seattle's Good Shepherd Center just off of N 50th Street (between Sunnyside and Meridian Avenues N). The club provides burgers and hot dogs, members bring a potluck item. If your last name begins with:

- A-H, bring side dishes
- I-Q, bring desserts
- R-Z, bring appetizers

There will be ice water, so bring a non-alcoholic drink if so desired. Food and fun begin at 6 p.m. There will be lots of opportunities to socialize. BYOC (chairs). The picnic replaces the regular monthly membership meeting.

Please be sure to [register on the website](#) so that the organizers will know how much food to bring.



In this Issue...

- 2 Ideas to enjoy summer
- 3 Coffee Pot Lake Outing
- 5 May/June Membership Meeting
- 6 Fishots (your photos)
- 7 In memory of Les Johnson
- 8 In memory of Les Johnson
- 9 In memory Bill Johnston
- 10 Contact information



Great Ways to Enjoy Fly-Fishing in Summer

- Find a local lake and fish for warm water fish
- Hike to a high mountain lake and find some spunky fish
- Attend the NFA picnic on July 20
- Take a child fishing for the first time
- Turn your cell phone off
- Take a young teen to a park for fly casting lessons
- Go on a summer outing with NFA
- Read a fly fishing novel
- Call a friend a go fishing



Front Cover Masthead Art—Derek DeYoung

Upcoming Trips

John Day Summer Superfloat—June 26-July 2
John Day River

Clark Fork Outing—July 7-9
Superior, MT

Turner Chain of Lakes—July 16-22
Tweedsmuir Provincial Park, BC

Methow Valley—August 4-7, 2017
Lightning Pines Campground, Methow, WA

Middle Fork Snoqualmie River—August 19, 2017
Snoqualmie (Mentoring Day Trip)



Peter Maunsell on Coffee Pot Lake

Coffee Pot Lake Outing

Coffee Pot Lake proved itself to be like Forrest Gump's box of chocolate—you made the cast and you never knew what species of fish would show up on the end of your line. Sometimes it was a rainbow trout stretching all the way to 20 inches. Other times it was a feisty foot-long yellow perch, or a black crappie or a pesky bluegill. Still other times it was a largemouth bass; just ask Wayne Balsiger. Everyone who fished caught fish.



Nineteen club members, many visiting Coffee Pot for the first time, attended the outing hosted by Eric 'Meatball' Olson and David Paul 'Hamster' Williams. Given the size and numbers of fish caught, it likely won't be the last visit. Folks started arriving on a cool, overcast Wednesday, May 31. Williams arrived to see Bill Gibson and Jim Higgins already settled in. Thursday brought more club members including Peter Rubenstein, Meatball Olson and others. Thursday also brought rain, whitecaps and a calm evening.

By Friday the rest of the gang arrived with Matt Moore, Larry Belmont, Brett and Connie Schormann opting to stay in the funky-cool La Collage Inn. Fish were caught—mostly on a black or olive

Carey Special. That fly flat-out catches fish—that's why we teach it in the beginning tying class.

Saturday morning was a light breakfast of muffins, terrific coffee and way too much cantaloupe and honeydew melon. After lunches were made, the group launched and scattered throughout the lake. Marty Behnke's inflatable kayak featured a pastel parasol that shaded her while catching fish. Shirley Miller and Jimmy Kamada fished out of their power boat. Ron Bailey and Tamae Kikuchi-Bailey and their chow trolled in their Crestliner. Peter Maunsell, Meatball Olson and Hamster Williams rowed three miles to the outlet end of the lake. Fishing was great, catching was not so much. Jim Higgins proved counterpoint as he caught plenty of rainbows including five that were 20" each—all on that Carey Special.

Continued on page 4

Coffee Pot continued from pg 3

Saturday dinner, catered by Candlelight & Champagne Express, was a highlight of the black tie social season—oops, that was a different event. Actually dinner featured spinach and Parmesan dip, French bread and two kinds of great cheese, followed by spaghetti smothered in marinara sauce enhanced by orange sweet pepper, onion and garlic ably diced by Dirk Bartram and Ron Bailey. Ron also handled the cooking chore that included browning two pounds of ground beef. Meatball Olson brought out the bag of 18 meatballs only to discover that big bag held not 18 meatballs, but 140 meatballs. It was a meaty pasta sauce. Broccoli steamed with diced garlic completed the dinner, followed by cookies for dessert. More fish were caught after dinner with the last person off the lake by 10:30. Twas an early night by club standards.

Sunday morning was a lazy time fueled by more French Roast coffee, Jimmy Dean sausage, the rest of those “18” meatballs, rustic bread French toast and leftover melon. (Memo to self—next time go easy on the melon). Some folks saddled up and headed back home. Matt Moore and Larry Belmont headed down lake against the wind in Matt’s power boat. Peter Maunsell, Peter Rubenstein, Wayne Balsiger and Hamster Williams fished the bowl. Catching was slower than the day before as the weather pattern changed yet again. The day’s highlight was watching and listening to Wayne hoot, holler and whimper while battling a 19" largemouth bass—a singular event that earned him the nickname Bass Balsiger. The last person left at 5:30 and headed home braving the fire and wind at Vantage. All will be pleased to learn that no rattlesnakes were harmed during this outing.

- Written by David Paul Williams * Photos by Wayne Balsiger



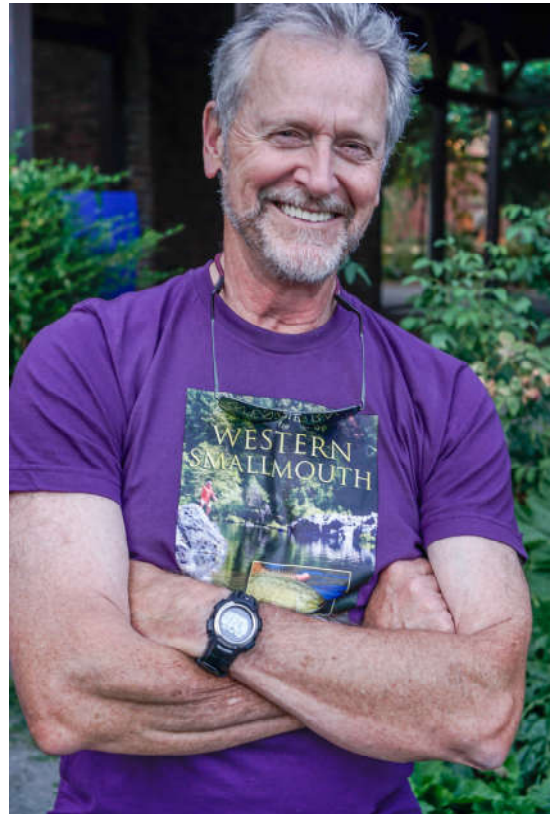
Kneeling: chow and Tamae Kikuchi-Bailey

Front Row (L to R): Jim Higgins, Mark Conner, Eric Olson, Tim Strand, Ron Bailey, Jimmy Kamada, Shirley Miller, Marti Behnke, Connie and Brett Schormann

Back Row (L to R): Matt Moore, Bill Gibson, Peter Rubenstein, Dirk Bartram, Wayne Balsiger, Peter Maunsell, David P. Williams, and Larry Belmont

May Membership Meeting

The club benefitted by hearing from our own NFA member, David Paul Williams. David spoke on stillwater strategies prior to NFA's outing to Coffee Pot Lake. David is the author of *Fly-Fishing for Western Smallmouth* and is a consummate lake fisherman.



June Membership Meeting

Steve Temple spoke to the club on "Secrets of the Clark Fork". Steve and his wife, Jenny, own Clark Fork Trout Outfitters (www.clarkforktrout.com). Steve gave us valuable information about each section of the river and even gave away some highly classified locations! Steve said that the river fishes best at 12,000 CFS and should have dropped perfectly for the club's visit in early July.

NFA members also voted to begin a revision of our bylaws. More info in coming months.



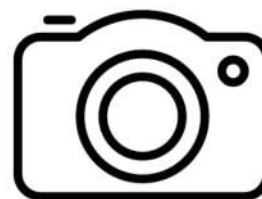
Golden Stonefly



Steve Temple, Clark Fork Trout



FISHOTS



Submit your fishots to Brian at
stauroo@gmail.com. Include your name,
fish caught, and location.



Phil Friend, 17" Rainbow on Green Lake



Thomas Haensly, Steelhead , April, Skeena River System



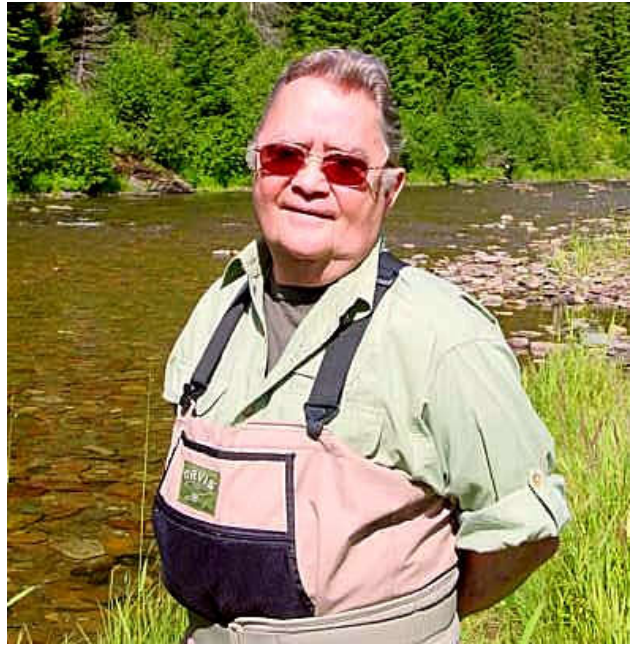
Alan Pilkington, Metolius River, Oregon, early May 2017

In Memory

Les Johnson

NFA member Les Johnson passed away on May 14, 2017 at the age of 84. Les joined Northwest Fly Anglers (NFA) in July 1999. Carol Ferrera, his wife, was also a member of NFA.

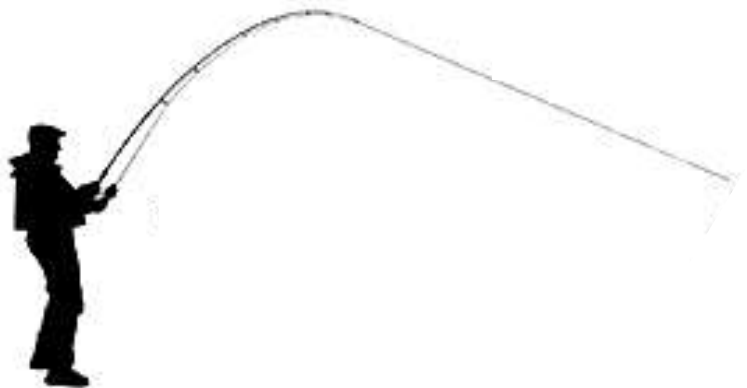
Les was an accomplished fly fisher, fly tier and writer who readily shared his knowledge and talents with others. He wrote many articles for magazines (Field and Stream, Saltwater Sportsman, Fly Rod and Reel) and was the founding editor of the magazine Western Fly Tying. Les also authored or co-authored several fly-fishing books including Sea Run, Fly-Fishing Coastal Cutthroat Trout, and Fly Fishing for Pacific Salmon II. As a talented fly tier, Les developed a number of saltwater fly patterns that anglers use to this day.



In addition to the above activities, Les was a passionate advocate for the protection of salmon, steelhead, and coastal cutthroat trout. He joined with others to found the Wild Steelhead Coalition. In 2002, in recognition of his service to the fly fishing community, Les was awarded the Dawn Holbrook Award by NFA. Les was also a member of the FFI and received the Arnold Gingrich award in 2010 for his writing. In May 2017, Les was a recipient of the Washington State Council of the FFI Fly Tying Hall of Fame Award.

Les was an enthusiastic member of NFA and a mentor to many of our club's members. He always had good stories to tell and a great sense of humor. Les will be missed.

-written by Susanne Staats



In Memory

Bill Johnston

Consummate outdoorsman, friend, multi-day river rafter and accomplished fly fisherman, Bill Johnston joined the NFA in January 1977 and passed away at 91 on January 1st of this year, marking 40 full years of membership. In just 4 short years Bill Johnston and I together logged more than 360 miles of fishing on Pacific Northwest wilderness rivers. What makes this so remarkable is that I did not meet Bill and start these excursions with him until he was 84 years old! To say he was tough and “that they don’t make ‘em like that anymore” is certainly an understatement.

Let me tell you a couple of stories about fishing with Bill, who always caught more and bigger fish than I could even contemplate. Before one trip I had just finished reading “Down the Great Unknown: John Wesley Powell’s 1869 Journey of Discovery and Tragedy Through the Grand Canyon” chronicling the first ever recorded trip down that wild and at the time, undammed river. I was full of the account and Bill lent his ear to my re-telling. After a while I asked my ever patient listener if he had ever gotten a hankering to go down the “Grand” and Bill responded that indeed he had and with his brother negotiated its length back in the 1960’s in World War 2 Army rubber surplus rafts before Glen Canyon Dam was even finished! And yes, he did know that book, quite well, for, you see, back then there were no guide books so they had used Powell’s story as their guide! That was Bill, humble but always one or two times better.

And the other story: I was rowing, Bill trout fishing on the continuously swift Grande Ronde. Bill was fishing with a sinking line, catching them every 3rd cast or so and then losing his rig hung up on the bottom. I got bored waiting for Bill to re-rig and asked him to use my rod rigged with a dry fly. Well, I was following his fly with the raft, prolonging a perfect drift and didn’t see the rock that we hit broadside above a rapid. Bill went in; I lost it – turbulent water cold enough to hold trout. Rowing like mad to get to him before we went into the riffle, I caught up to Bill, extended the oar blade and yanked him over to the oar stands, yelling at Bill to move to the front of the raft so I could pull him back in all the while dropping the anchor to slow our descent. That’s when Bill gently interrupted me and said that before I did another thing, please, take my rod. That was Bill, that is Bill, the most remarkable fishing partner I will ever know.

- written by Mark Conner

- photo by Mark Conner





Eric Olson and David Paul Williams at Coffee Pot Lakes



SERVING

OFFICERS

Matt Moore, President

Jim Morrison, Vice President

Peter Maunsell, Treasurer

David Arms, Secretary

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Alan Pilkington, Maura Johnson, Wytold Lebing,
Nominations

Susanne Staats, Membership

Peter Rubenstein, Outings

Wytold Lebing, Conservation

Russ Shropshire, Librarian

Kim Kreidler & Helsa Petersen, Fly Box

Maura Johnson, Hospitality

Brett Schormann, Webmaster

Art and Candee Alton, Raffle Coordinator

Open Position, Education

Brian Boone, Flypaper Editor

stauroo@gmail.com

Please send stories, photos, edits, and updates to the editor.

Quote of the Month

*"The great charm of fly-fishing is that we are
always learning."*

~Theodore Gordon

Northwest Fly Anglers
PO Box 75212
Seattle, WA 98175

northwestflyanglers.org

