



## Spring is Sprung! (Or is it?)



March Program - David Paul Williams - "What Fish Eat"

### The Leader Line By Bob Jimerson



March always seems like a welcome turning point in the calendar to me. Days are getting notably longer, the sky is generally a lighter shade of grey, and the rain is a bit warmer than they were just a short time ago. Cabin fever is losing its grip on us and it is easy to get excited about plans for fishing trips just around the corner.

Now is the time to get ready for the season to come. Make a short list of things that you want to learn or get better at and start working on them now. Once the fish are biting and the weather is nicer it will be too tempting to just go fishing. If we work on improving our game now, we will enjoy the season to come more.

*(Continued on page 2)*

*(Continued from page 1)*

I am happy to share some good news on the administrative front. Several years ago we added a liability waiver to the membership application and asked that all members sign one each year when they renewed their memberships. This was done to comply with insurance company requirements, not out of some desire to create bureaucratic frustration for our members.

Earlier this year Dennis Beardsley was on the phone with the insurance company and asked about the requirement for the waivers. From that conversation came the good news that we no longer need to have signed waivers on file for members. The Board took this good news and voted quickly to remove the waivers from our applications.

We are glad to be able to remove this bit of administrative friction from our lives. The Board tries to find the right balance between ease of use for members and responsible policy to protect the Club and its members. We were delighted when we heard that the waivers were no longer required by the insurance company.

## PSFF NEWS

**Our Next Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 9th**  
**6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**Tower Lanes Entertainment Center**  
**6323 6th Ave.**  
**Tacoma WA 98406**

### March 2017 Program

#### Stuff Fish Eat

The big three—mayflies, caddisflies and stoneflies—get all the publicity, but it's all the other stuff that make up the trout diet on any given day. This presentation covers the food items that may only make up 10% of the drift but 80% of the diet. Knowing about chironomids, scuds, leeches, dragons and more will greatly improve every flyfisher's catch rate.

David Paul Williams caught his first trout while Ike was President and still admires these lovely fish. Author of *Fly Fishing for Western Smallmouth* (Stackpole Books), he has written for numerous magazines including *Fly Fisherman*, *American Angler*, *Northwest Fly Fishing*, *Fly Fusion*, *Flyfishing & Tying Journal*, *Bassmaster*, *Salmon-Trout-Steelheader*, *Salmon Steelhead Journal*, *Backpacker*, *Northwest Travel*, *Seattle Magazine*. He is a Department Editor of *Flyfishing & Tying Journal*, the "In The Field" editor for *Washington-Oregon Game & Fish* magazine and gives entertaining media presentations to fishing clubs and outdoor organizations. He is a demonstration fly tier and speaker

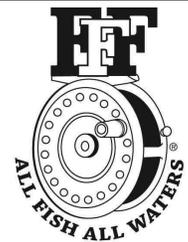
at numerous fly fishing expos and sportsmen's shows around the Northwest. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Federation of Fly Fishers and Editor-In-Chief of *Flyfisher* magazine as well as secretary of the Washington Council IFFF. To learn more, go to [www.thewriterealtor.com](http://www.thewriterealtor.com).

April teaser:

"Fishing Travel on the Cheap"

Learn how to travel, within your budget, to near by as well as distant fishing destinations from somebody who knows the ropes - Anil Srivastava. Most of us know him as owner of Puget Sound Fly Company here in Tacoma. This new program was well received at a recent South Sound Fly Fishers club meeting. Headed for Eastern Washington, Montana, Alaska, Oregon? He can help.

## FFF EVENTS



### Regional FFF Events in 2017

OCIFFF Fly Tyer Expo (<http://www.nwexpo.com>)  
Albany, Oregon March 10 & 11, 2017

WSCIFFF Fly Fishing Fair (<http://wsciff.org/index.php/fly-fishing-fair/fly-fishing-fair-welcome>)  
Ellensburg, WA Fairgrounds May 5 & 6, 2017

IFFF Fly Fishing Fair (<http://www.fedflyfishers.org/>)  
Livingston, MT - Park High School August 1 - 5, 2017

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## **Outings News and Updates**

By Joe Johnston

We are finally getting our computer act together! The web site is functioning and the calendar is up to date. We still need to post the outings documents.

### ***Recap:***

January had a very successful outing for Sea Runs and Coho at the Purdy Spit.

February - Munn Lake for some really big Rainbows. Not a lot of fish, but big ones.

### ***Upcoming:***

March 18th & 19<sup>th</sup> – Yakima - Upper for trout. Normally this is the Skwala stonefly hatch. Many of the shops are offering guided trips for \$149 per person per day? Lower for Bass and Pan Fish. Great time of the year to fish the Yak!!!!

April 8<sup>th</sup> - Hood Canal Sea - Run Cuts- Twanoh State Park. 12190 WA RT 106, Union, WA

April 9th to 12th - Evergreen Reservoir with Gene Jackson Sunday to Wednesday

April 22. - Lowland Lake Opening. Carney Lake

May 5-6 - IFFF Fair in Ellensburg (and maybe a Yakima personal watercraft float on Sunday? Check with Dennis Ehlers.)

May 12th & 13th - Sandy River Spey Clave

### **AND THE BIG ONE!**

**May 19th to 21st. - Park Lake Outing - Make your reservations and mark your calendar.**

# HOT SCOOP

## Membership News

By Greg Shimek

First of all, thanks to all of you who have paid your 2017 dues. As our dues finance the operation of our organization it is vital that all members should be current with their 2017 dues.

As in the past we will soon be mailing out late notices to those who are delinquent, but would rather save the time and money necessary to do this. Let's see if we can get everyone paid up at our next meeting. Remember you can pay with cash, checks or credit cards at the meeting.

Thanks to those of you who have not yet paid for your attention on this matter.



## PJ's TIPS

Tying Tip -  
Claire Lilly's  
thread base trick

Many of you won't know Claire but he was a long time PSFF member, gentleman, tier, and fisherman. One tying trick he never failed to tell the newbies in one of his demos or classes was how to get an even thread base on your hook. After you have the first few wraps on over top of the thread and are ready to start winding back to the hook bend there will be several inches of tag end scrap thread hanging loose. Do not trim this off yet. Instead hold it up above the hook toward the rear at about a 45 degree angle under a slight tension. As you wrap back toward the bend lay the thread onto that angled thread slightly back from the previous wrap and the current wrap will slide nicely down close to the previous one. A bit of practice and you'll make perfect uniform thread bases. Trim that tag end when you get to the bend.

## A Conservation note

From Bob Triggs

The Gink & Gasoline blog has an important post about Olympic Peninsula wild steelhead. Take a look:

<http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-news/wild-steelhead-on-the-menu/>

## Fund Raising Actions and Events By Mike Koslosky

### FLY FISHING FAIR SILENT AUCTION

Over the past couple of years PSFF has, by request of members, increased the level of support provided to educational and conservation efforts of other organizations. That, combined with increases in operating costs has been a major topic of discussion by the Board of Directors. In order to meet rising costs and continue support of organizations without increasing dues PSFF will begin conducting renewed fund raising efforts.

Creel Donations at our general meeting have begun and are proving to be successful. In addition, we will be conducting a "Silent Auction" at our upcoming July 29<sup>th</sup> Fly Fishing Fair. Mike Saville has agreed to organize and conduct that effort.

To insure its success we will need the support of the membership in assisting him obtain auction items. We will be approaching local business in that regard, as well as requesting that members donate items.

It is anticipated that the event will attract a diverse attendance; to that end the auction will not only offer fly fishing equipment, flies and trip opportunities, but include an array of gift baskets, fishing and outdoor art items, dinners at local restaurants, and other items. More detailed information will be presented at our March general meeting as well as up-coming newsletters.

Please contact Mike with any questions you may have.  
Tel: 253-426-1029 or email: [msaville2011@hotmail.com](mailto:msaville2011@hotmail.com)

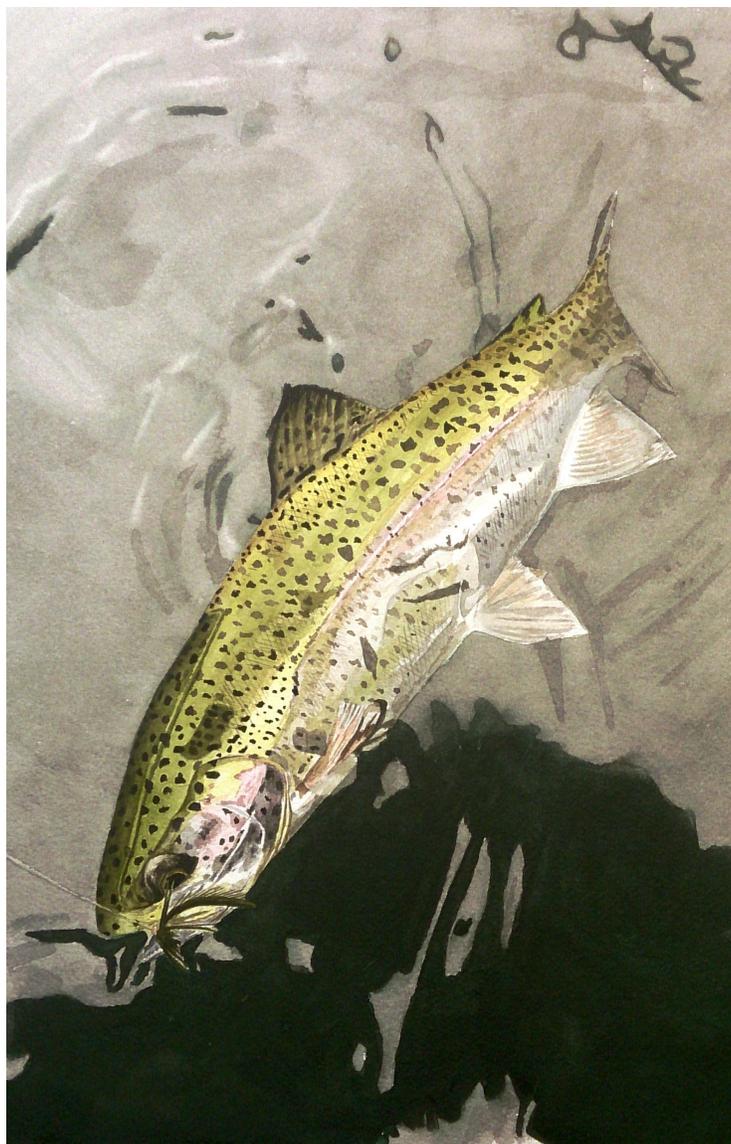
## To the past, present and future...

By Jason Bordash

It is now March, a month of transition; "the Northern Hemisphere marks the spring equinox on Monday, March 20, 2017, at exactly 6:29 A.M. EDT." (Farmers Almanac) and daylight savings time on March 12. I do not know about you but, that reminds me that the lake opener is not too far away. It's time to start thinking about making sure the pontoon is still sea worthy after sitting all winter long... is this the year I



should replace my battery for my trolling motor?



I look forward to the lake opener. There are few things better than sitting on the water and it's about 9:00am and the sun is starting to crest over the tops of the ever-greens that circle the lake and you feel the welcoming warmth of the lamp in the sky... not too hot, nor too cold, a pleasant 60 degrees. You have already hooked a few fish to make your day successful, but now you are fishing that fly pattern that you spent 4000 hours at the bench trying to get perfect. The peace and quiet that you cannot get any where else. The only sound to be heard is the occasional breeze traveling across the water and the bald eagle up high in the tree tops chirping to all the fisherman scattered over the lake to give him an easy meal.



*JB*

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It's the time of year, reminds me of my childhood growing up in Michigan, sitting all day at the bank of any lake I could get to. Waiting for my bobber to plunge under the surface from a Bass with my Aunt Connie. It reminds me of fishing for Bass with my friend Tom at Indian lake. It reminds me of fishing for catfish in Kansas cruising the lake all day long checking the trot lines for a catch with my old Army buddy Bennet.



It reminds me of fishing with my son at Alder lake and catching more fish than we could count.



I hope you enjoy lake fishing as much as I do...we are lucky to live in an area with so much opportunity.



## Fly Fishing Academy News

Applications are now being accepted for the June 18-24, 2017 Academy. Up to 20 lucky boys and girls may attend the 2017 Academy at Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The applicant must submit an essay, explaining why "*they*" would like to attend The Academy and a letter of recommendation is to be submitted by their school counselor or science teacher. Both items may be emailed to me. Enrollment fee is \$300, however there are sponsorships available, so no applicant will be turned away because of funding. Again we are very fortunate to receive financial support from the fly fishing clubs, the TU chapters, individuals and corporate organizations. The event is supported by WSCIFFF and WCTU and the SSFF, PSFF & Olympia TU.

The applications can be obtained by contacting me or go to our website and download the forms at [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com). We now have a Facebook page with loads of pictures from last year's Academy. Just put in NW Youth and it will pop right up.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [nwycffa@comcast.net](mailto:nwycffa@comcast.net). Phone: 253-278-0061.

Looking forward to another great year –

Mike Clancy, Co-Director, Jim Brosio, Co-Director & Tom VanGelder, Co-Director

## "A False Spring"

By Bob Triggs

[www.searuns.com](http://www.searuns.com)

***It's not unusual for February to fool you sometimes.*** You get through the long slog of early winter; darkness, interminable rain, howling Pacific storms, black ice on the roads, and weeks of deep freezing cold, any way you can. And one trick of the mind is to hold out for February, and the return of slightly longer days, more sunshine, moderating temperatures, milder storms. And we can get some pretty nice beach fly fishing days by then too. And sometimes in February we can get a very mild spell of balmy, dry weather. Bring on the blue sky days, the sunny warm glow, the smells of the gardens and beaches, birds feeding, plants and trees budding, frogs trilling, and the cutthroat are out on the beaches, in the shallows, feeding and taking your fly. You might even get some rosy pink color to your face after a day of this fishing. No wonder that it is all too easy to assume that we're having an early spring.



*Early Crocus in a False Spring*

***This February did not disappoint,*** as we shifted from bitter cold winter conditions, to that warming trend of tropical air and balmy weather. And suddenly we were walking around in shirtsleeves, leaving the rain gear home, and the sea-run coastal cutthroat trout were out, with some of the best fishing reports coming in from almost everywhere around Puget Sound country. It's so seductive. Then by the end of February, the colder lightly freezing nights have returned, daytime temperatures are wintry again, along with the frequent chances of snow, rain, and grey skies. And in many areas the trout will be absent. They're up in the creeks and smaller waters, way up in the big rivers, spawning. Cutthroat fishing on the north Puget Sound saltchuck can be kind of quiet through later February and early March. You central and south Puget Sound anglers usually enjoy a few weeks of great fishing before we get going up here. But by April it will be another story entirely here, as millions of juvenile salmon become forage for the hungry, lean, post-spawn Cutthroat trout. ***And then it really will be spring!***

***Happy Fishing!***

## Gig Harbor Fly Shop – Fishing Report

### Saltwater:

Puget Sound is starting to look like a resident coho/black mouth fish tank. We are seeing huge numbers of resident salmon south of the Narrows Bridge and up near the Southworth ferry terminal and around Vashon Island. Cutthroat seem to be a little more finicky this past week, and its honestly been a challenge to get past all of the coho and black mouth to get a solid shot at fishing for cutthroat. However, there are quite a few sea runs around. Hood Canal however is fishing fantastic for cutthroat, and today my clients found some bigger schools of chum fry and a lot of big happy cutthroat along with a full inch of snow in the boat while we were fishing. I would say we are in a full swing fishing season on the canal and a couple weeks away in Puget Sound still for cutthroat fishing, though there have been some big cutthroat around the sound as well.

### Rivers:

The Olympic Peninsula has been fishing pretty well when the rivers have been in shape. I have seen some really nice fish getting swung up the past couple weeks and an awful lot of folks out chasing them. Gray Struznik has been on top of it out there swinging up quite a few nice fish this past week for his clients and putting up some great photos.

### Still Water:

I will be honest, the reports have been few and far between, however I have had a hand full of people telling me that the fishing has been great on some "top secret" lakes in the area... I would say that secret has a lot to do with the local fly club supported stocking programs on the lake. (Subtle hint at how to solve the secret).

Captain Justin Waters



# *Fly of The Month (flashback)*

Credit to FFF Website

Federation of Fly Fishers Fly of the Month  
**March, 2001- The Henryville Special**



## **The Henryville Special: A fly with special connections** **By Jim Abbs**

Some folks believe that fly anglers are so obsessively focused on their sport that nothing in the "real world" is of interest to them. Of course this is not true. Most fly fishers are very concerned with a much wider variety of issues, including new developments in science and medicine (as these relate to the physics of fly rods and medications to reduce pain from a casting elbow), politics (how the new Washington administration is going to regulate hydroelectric dam operation on western tailwaters), and finance (dividends on stocks influence cash available for fishing gear). Seriously, fly fishing often is connected, one way or another, to many important human events, past and present. As an example, this FFF March, 2001 fly of the month has a very rich romantic history, with connections to some of the world's greatest authors and several famously beautiful women.

The Henryville Special was developed about 80 or so years ago by anglers from the Henryville section of Brodhead Creek. Knowledgeable fly anglers know that Brodhead Creek is in Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. The Poconos hold the distinction of having perhaps the greatest concentration of cute little honeymoon hotels of anywhere in the lower 48 states... hence the obvious connection to romance. It may even be that the Brodhead waters are such excellent fishing because most of the visiting tourists are not focused on the streams or the fish. But what about the connection to some of the world's greatest celebrities and authors? As it turns out, a variation of this fly was a favorite of none other than **Jack Hemingway**, son of the legendary author (and fly angler) **Ernst Hemingway**. Jack apparently made trips each year to the Henry's Fork of Idaho and had a version of the Henryville called the Sooty Sedge..subsequently called the Hemingway Caddis. The connection of this fly to famous authors is not limited to Ernst Hemingway, but includes others, among them the late 19<sup>th</sup> century author **Henry Van Dyke**, author of a famous little book, *Fisherman's Luck* (1899). Van Dyke wrote a ditty that mentions the famous water:

Over the hill to Henryville  
Tis oft the fisherman's cry  
For I'll catch a 14 inch  
On an artificial fly!

Let us not forget the connection to beautiful women... Jack Hemingway was, after all, the father of **Margo** and **Maribel Hemingway**. But I don't know if they ever fly fished. Obviously the connection of this fly to accomplished and beautiful people is a bit whimsical. However, the Henryville Special should be taken seriously. This fly, developed by a Mr. Hiram Brobst of Palmertown, PA gets the following accolades by modern fly experts "...the best caddis imitation every created." Or "our most effective dry caddis pattern"... or "This pattern is now universally accepted as *the* caddis pattern."

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Why is it not more popular? In my experience, there are two reasons. First, it is a little difficult to tie (especially the wings...yes there are two sets of wings). Second, when the fish are going wild on a caddis hatch, the Henryville is a little fragile. Nevertheless, for a search pattern in smooth water and/or for selective fish, this fly is a must to have in your box.

## **MATERIALS**

**Hook:** Mustad 94840, Tiemco 100 #10-20

**Thread:** Olive, or green

**Ribbing:** Dry fly quality grizzly hackle palmered

**Body:** Olive or green floss (poly dubbing is also an alternative - Red or reddish brown is used as well)

**Underwing:** Lemon barred wood duck flank fibers

**Wing:** Two duck quill sections tied down

**Hackle:** Medium brown dry fly hackle

## **TYING STEPS**

1. Tie in thread about 2/3s up from the bend of the hook and lay down a layer of thread to the bend.
2. At the bend of the hook, tie in the grizzly hackle (at the stem) to be used for the ribbing.
3. Wrap the thread forward and tie in the strand of floss for the body.
4. Wrap the floss over the tie in point (backward) and then forward to a point about 30% of the shank length, back from the eye of the hook and tie off.
5. Wrap the grizzly hackle forward over the floss body and trim excess.
6. Trim the top of the grizzly palmered hackle so it is flush with the floss body.
7. Tie in a small bunch of wood duck flank fibers on top of the hook, with the tips extending about 1/3 the length of the shank beyond the hook bend.
8. Select two perfectly matched sections from a duck's wing feather (one section from the right wing feather, one section from the corresponding left wing feather). These sections will be the mirror image of one another. These sections should be about ¼ inch for a #16 and larger for larger hooks, and conversely.
9. Hold the two sections in the right thumb and forefinger with the convex sides opposing so the wings flare out. Hold the feathers so one feather is on one side of the hook and the other feather is on the opposite side, with the thumb and finger below the tie in point. The tips of these quill sections should extend the same distance as the wood duck flank underwing.
10. Pinch the feather sections over the top of the hook shank, just forward of the grizzly palmered hackle and bring the thread up, locking the quill sections in place. Make 3-4 additional wraps and snug down. If necessary adjust these quill sections to make them symmetrical.
11. Trim the butts of the quill sections and wrap over them and back to the point where they are tied in.
12. Choose and tie in a single brown (or ginger) hackle in front of the wing and make a couple of wraps forward leaving some room to finish the head. Tie off and trim.
13. Finish the head and cement.

Please Credit FFF Website or FFF Clubwire with any use of the pattern.  
You can direct any questions or comments to FOM at [flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:flyofthemonth@fedflyfishers.org)

# PSFF Calendar

SUN	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT
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			March 1 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	9 PSFF General Mtg 6:00	10 Albany Fly Tying Show	11 Albany Fly Tying Show
12	13	14	15 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	16 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	17	18 Outing - Yakima River
19 Outing - Yakima River	20	21	22 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	23	24 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM	25
26	27	28	29 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	30	31	

						April 1
21	3	4	5 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	6	7	8 Outing - Sea Runs/ Twanoh State Park
9	10	11	12 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	13 PSFF General Mtg 6:00	14	15
16	17	18	19 Seven Seas Fly Tying 6:00	20 PSFF Board Mtg 6:00	21	22 Outing - Carney Lake
23/30 Newsletter Deadline 5 PM (23rd)	24	25	26 PSFC Fly Ty- ing 6:00	27	28	29

**Check for Newsletter Article Deadline Date.  
Remember articles can always be submitted early.**

## ***Puget Sound Flyfishers***

Club was founded in 1956 and has a long and proud history of involvement, action, camaraderie, and fun. The club's website is located at [www.psff.org](http://www.psff.org)

### **Aims and Purposes of the Club are:**

1. To improve and encourage the sport of flyfishing by social, educational and political means.
2. To encourage flyfishing as a means of conservation and increasing fishing opportunity.
3. To encourage the conservation, enhancement and quality of sport fishing.
4. To promote both "Fellowship" and "Sportsmanship" in all aspects of club and individual activity.
5. To actively assist and encourage the public to become flyfishers, and to adopt the club's mission and philosophies.

**General Membership Meetings** are held on the second Thursday of each month (except August). These meetings are for social, entertainment and educational purposes.

**Educational Activities:** The club offers classes and instruction in fly fishing, fly-tying, fly-casting and rod building. The club has an extensive library of books and videos. The club sponsors an annual Spring Clinic to promote flyfishing.

**Outings:** The club organizes monthly outings to various lakes, rivers, and estuaries. Experienced gillies provide expert information and instruction on how, when and where to fish.

**Conservation Activities:** The club has a long and proud history of encouraging flyfishing (and other selective fishing techniques) as a means of conserving and increasing fishing opportunities. The club is active in many of the important conservation issues of the day and in helping to fund local conservation projects.

**Membership / Dues:** Membership is open to anyone 18 or over. Dues are \$40 per household per year plus a one time (\$10 Initiation Fee) per member nametag.

**Affiliations:** The club is an active member of the Washington State Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers

## **HOW TO JOIN THE PSFF YAHOO GROUP.**

To receive and post to the PSFF Yahoo group you must first sign up as a member of Yahoo if you're not already signed up.

In your browser search for or go to Yahoo.com and look for the button asking if you want to join Yahoo. Click on the button and follow the instructions to join Yahoo. You will need an email address, a user name and a password. Remember these as periodically Yahoo will ask you to use them to resign in.

Once you are a member of Yahoo look at the top of the Yahoo page and find the search box. Enter PSFF in the box and press the 'Search' button. There will be a number of results as PSFF is used by several entities.

Scroll down though the list until you find Puget Sound Fly Fishers. Select the Puget Sound Fly Fishers and Yahoo will take you to the group site. You will notice a small box that asks you if you want to join the PSFF group. Select (yes.)

Another page will open up seeking your sign in information for the PSFF group. This information is separate from the information you entered for Yahoo itself. There will be a box for you to enter a short message telling the moderators why you want to join and basically who you are. Again you will be asked to select an email address where the PSFF group messages are sent.

You will need to select whether you receive individual messages or a Daily Digest. I suggest a daily digest but you can change this selection at any time later. At the bottom of the page you will have to enter, repeat, a displayed code of mixed letters and numbers. When you have done this go down to the bottom right and select 'Join'. You are done.

All new members are on a moderated basis and unable to post until approved by a moderator to help prevent SPAM and malicious posting. One of the moderators will handle your status usually within 24 hours.