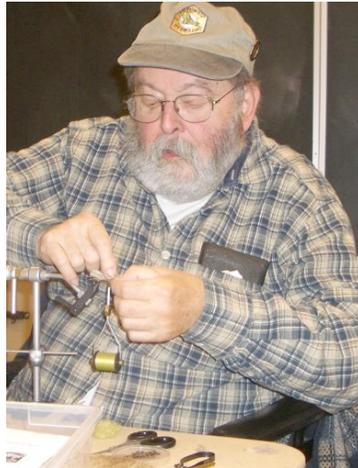




# TIGHTLINES



## **AUCTION UPDATE EDITION**

## Everyone's a winner at the Annual OFF Club Auction.

OFF's Annual Club Auction is always a bright spot on the wintertime agenda and our December 10, 2008 event promises to be as exciting as ever.

The Auction raises money for conservation, club activities, guest speakers and equipment. A full bar, dinner by Celebrations, and legendary auctioneering impresario Don Bayles make the evening fun for everyone.

**Dinner tickets this year will be only \$25 apiece. That's \$20 less than last year. You can find out why by reading the related story on Page 2.**

If you plan to attend the Auction, you can help the club out by letting us know how many tickets you'll need and confirming at our November 12th meeting.

*For a complete schedule of auction events and your dinner menu options, please see "AUCTION" on PAGE 2*



Trips on the Skagit (upper left) or Sauk with Keith Stamm; Premium tying tools left to the Club by Eli Perlman (upper right); Guided trips on the Yakima with Joe Conner and professional guide Doug Pendleton (lower right), and great new gear are just a few of the items at this year's Club Auction.

## ***Mike Lawson shares the lowdown on nymph fishing from "top to bottom."***



Mike Lawson international fly fishing guide, author, and expert on Idaho's renowned Henry's Fork, spoke on "Nymphing from Top to Bottom" at our October meeting.

"Some people make a big thing about the challenges in dry fly fishing," Lawson said. "Yes, presentation is important, but with the dry fly you have more advantages than when you're nymphing because you can see the fish and you can figure out what they're eating. But when you're nymphing, you...See "LAWSON" Page 4.

### **November Calendar**

**11/7:** Dan Reynolds and Norm Primc will lead a trip to Chico Creek for Chums. E-mail or call Dan (425) 673 7028 to sign-up and get the details.

**11/12: General meeting.** Guest speaker Bob Triggs will talk about sea run cutts. He's guided in New England, New York, Alaska, Kamchatka-Russia and on the Olympic Peninsula. His work has appeared in Fly Fisherman Magazine. He lives in Port Townsend.

**11/25: (TUESDAY) Business meeting** at Alf's.



## Our Annual Fund Raiser

This is it - the month before our annual Auction on December 10, 2008. This is our primary fund raiser. The money we raise goes into the general fund to be used for operating expenses - for example: publication of *Tightlines*; conservation activities, the speaker's fund and support of charitable organizations such as the FFF and WA Trout. All OFF Members are encouraged to come and bring their guests.

### Schedule of events:

- 5:30 pm Setup begins
- 5:45 pm Last minute donations need to be in place
- 6:00 pm Doors open
- 6:05 pm Men's Silent Auction begins
- 6:05 pm Women's Raffle tickets available for purchase
- 7:05 pm Dinner is served
- 7:35 pm Men's Silent Auction closes, results announced
- 7:45 pm The women's Raffle closes, results announced
- 7:50 pm Club Business
- 8:00 pm Auction begins

### This year we will have an outstanding assortment of fly fishing gear, trips and stuff:

- Join Joe Conner on a trip for two on the Yakima River. Transportation, flies and a gourmet lunch will be provided.
- Fish with Keith Stamm on the Sauk (steelhead) or the Skagit (dollys).
- Enjoy a day on the Yakima (trout) or the Wenatchee (steelhead) with Doug Pendelton. Doug will provide rods, reels (if needed) and flies.
- Large discounts from many major equipment manufacturers
- Rods, reels, books and fly tying stuff from our own Eli Perlman.
- Hand picked Tying materials by the Montana Fly people.
- A surprise box of fly tying materials that will be opened after the winning bid.

The ladies will also be running a raffle for the items that they have been shopping for all year long. This is a new activity so let your wives and/or girlfriends know about this. Raffle tickets will be purchased at the front door.

This is our club's main fund raising event. I stress **our club's** because all of the money goes into improving the quality and enjoyment of our club. Speaking for myself, I feel good knowing we can sponsor conservation efforts. I feel great when I can enjoy the company of other club members during our outings. I feel proud when I see what our club has accomplished.

My personal thanks to all of the club members that have volunteered to help with the auction. The Auction Committee has been working hard to make sure that everything goes smoothly. We will contact each of you who volunteered at the October meeting to coordinate the activities.

Please join me, and your fellow club members, at **our Auction** on December 10.

**Jim Melnick, Auction Chairman**

## Auction dinner tickets go on sale November 12th.

Auction goers will be treated to a gourmet feast at bargain prices this year because of a Club decision this past Spring.

**As you may recall, we had a lively debate regarding the Club's assets and how a portion of any budget surpluses should be spent. (The number of opinions on the subject easily equaled or exceeded the number of dollars under discussion.)**

In the end, it was resolved that the officers should come up with a plan that would "spread the wealth" (similar to the "Redistribution Plans" advocated at the highest levels of our government).

The result is that the Club is chipping in \$20 on each auction dinner ticket. Instead of the \$45 per plate you paid last year, you'll be paying only \$25 this year. You won't be disappointed. Here's the menu:

### Salad Course

*Winter Greens with Sliced Pears, Gorgonzola, Red Onions & Candied Pecans with a champagne Pomegranate Vinaigrette*

*Artisan French Rolls with Butter*

### Plated Dinner

*Slow Roasted Prime Rib with a Horseradish Cream Sauce*

*King Salmon with a Champagne Sauce*

*Whipped Yukon Gold Potatoes & Yams*

*Chef's Choice Fresh Seasoned Vegetables*

### Dessert Course

*Chocolate Tuxedo Cake with Chocolate Ganache*

*Fresh Roasted Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee Service*

*Sign up for a table of eight and receive a free bottle of wine.*

*Special Note: If you have items to donate to the Auction, please bring them to the November Meeting. We can accept them on Auction night but it makes setting up more confusing at a time when we're all pretty confused anyway.*



# The Fly Fishing Life

## Haven't we seen these guys somewhere before?

Fresh from their recent bass exploits down around Bend, Oregon, the fearless foursome of Ken Martin, Norm Prime, Mike Bunney (*Clockwise right*) and Steve Murray (*Taking the pictures*) headed North to British Columbia's fabled Harrison River in search of some friendly chums.

Despite the fact there were plenty of fish in the water, the Harrison turned out to be more "fabled" than fabulous. **"We caught some fish," Norm said, "But basically, the fishing was terrible."**

However, the weather was nice, the beer was cold and they got to race around in a big boat with a big motor and fish from the bank. And, as you can see, they did hook up with some older and quite respectable examples of *Oncorhynchus keta*. Not so bad when you also consider the U.S. dollar is now fairing better than its Canadian counterpart.

**On the other hand, the Club's Blue Lake outing and side trip to Chopaka was nothing short of amazing.** Eleven club members turned out for a couple of days fishing on Blue Lake and an optional third day trip to Chopaka.

Mike Truax hosted the trip as well as a cocktail party on the first day. And Capt. Larry and Toni Roxby, who set up a lodge at Blue Lake for a month each year, invited everyone to dinner one night. This wasn't camp grub. The meal started with crab cakes over fettuccine for hors d'oeuvres and moved on from there. But wait, there's more.

The weather was spectacular, and the fishing trumped everything. Jim Hagy tried fishing a normally overlooked "pond" at the far end of the lake and stopped counting after 45 fish. The rest of the crew had great fishing as well with most rainbows running 17 to 20 inches and weighing up to four pounds

"Everywhere we'd go we were the only people there," said Mike Truax. "It was the best fishing I can remember."



**Bud Camandona enjoying his new "ride."**

"Mike Bunney seconded that comment. "I get excited when I'm catching fish this big on a six weight rod. I didn't want to get off the water."

**Jim Traner nets a Blue Lake Bow.**

*—Mike Truax Photos*

If Blue Lake was a fly fisherman's dream, imagine what it's like to go to one of the most crowded and heavily fished lakes in the Okanogan on a beautiful day and having it all to yourself?

That's what happened on the last day when five of the guys stayed an extra day to fish Chopaka.

"We were it," said Mike Truax, "We only had a few hours to fish and among the five of us we caught more than 20 fish. Big ones."

A few included some of the big triploids planted recently. "They were as strong as any Canadian fish I've caught," added Mike.



# The OFF Beat

## NEW MEMBERS



Welcome Randy Butler

### OFFICER ELECTIONS TO BE HELD AT NOVEMBER MEETING

Officers for 2009 will be elected at our general meeting November 12th. Here are the candidates:

**PRESIDENT**, Mike Bunney, Don Summers (*NIA Nominated in absentia*)

**VICE-PRESIDENT**, Rolf Mogster, Don Summers (*NIA*)

**TREASURER**, Jim Gauntt, Don Summers (*NIA*)

**SECRETARY**, Keith Stamm, Don Summer (*NIA*)

**COMMUNICATIONS**, Dick Simmons, (*Don Summers was not nominated for this post*)

**GILLIE**, Phil Sacks, Don Summers (*NIA*)

**TRUSTEE**, Joe Conner, Don Summers (*NIA*)

*We're also seeking a new Outings Chairman. We thank Dan Reynolds for his fine work in 2008.*

### KEITH STAMM WILL LEAD FLY TYING CLASSES IN '09.

Keith Stamm has agreed to head up the *Beginning Fly Tying Classes* at Anderson Center in Edmonds next year and has asked for help from other club members who have volunteered in the past or taken the classes themselves.

"We need people who can fill in occasionally," Keith says. "It won't be every session."

Keith can be reached at 206-368-5596.

### MIKE LAWSON Continued...

you don't know where the fish is and you don't know what it's eating. Blind fishing is the kind of fishing I like least. But it intrigues me because I don't know what's down there."

Lawson's "go to" set up when he's fishing blind near the surface is an EZ Caddis with a post and a caddis pupa on a dropper off the hook bend. If he's fishing deeper he'll probably tie on a bead head Prince Nymph.

But he definitely prefers "sight" fishing to "blind" and encourages everyone to learn how to see fish through the water.

He recalled fishing in New Zealand and "getting a major butt kicking" until one of the guides took him aside a gave him some pointers.

"You need to move slowly and work up stream. Look for shadows on the bottom, look for any movement. It takes time, but spotting fish is often as much fun as fishing.

"When you do see a fish, you need to get in position. Get as close as you can. You'll probably have one shot. Watch the fish. When it moves out of position, then starts to move back into position, just tighten. If you feel resistance, tighten more."

### OTHER TIPS

- If you see fish moving, cast to the side they're moving to.
- In fast water most people use too much weight. Rather, stay close to the bank, make short casts and use a high stick technique to guide the fly with your rod.

nique to guide the fly with your rod.

• Lawson is a fan of stonefly nymphs because they're available year 'round. He likes simple patterns because the fly is moving fast and the fish has one shot. He suggests a weighted Wolley Worm with legs.

—See you on the river. DS



### General Information

The General meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the South County Senior Center, 220 Railroad Ave., Edmonds, WA. Social hour: 6:00 p.m.

The Business meeting is held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Alf's 4820 196th SW, Lynnwood, WA. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

### Officers:

Mike Bunney, President, 425-672-3345

Dick Hedges, Vice President, 425-337-9070

Jim Gauntt, Treasurer, 425-776-1017

Keith Stamm, Secretary, 206-368-5596

Dick Simmons, Communications. & TIGHTLINES Ed. 425-778-9804

Phil Sacks, Gillie 425-741-7311

Joe Conner, Trustee, 425-744-8085

### Chairs:

Outings, Dan Reynolds, 425-673-7028

Education, Eric Sauer, 425-776-3811, Doug Pendleton 206-282-5366

Conservation, Mike Truax, 425-672-6963

### E-mail Contacts:

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