



April 2024

2024 OFFICERS

President:

Guy Reisenauer
509-730-9438

[Guy's email](#)

1st VP-Membership:

Rich Holten

2nd VP-Programs:

Craig Anderson

Treasurer:

Sheldon Coleman

Secretary:

Jeff Drowley

Directors at large:

Bruce Hewitt

Elver Robbins

Jan Jackson

Newsletter Editor:

Kyle Kneese

Past President:

Ray Williams

MEETINGS

Second Tuesday of every month except Mar, Jul, and Aug

5:30pm - Wet Fly - no host

6:00pm - Dinner - \$26

6:45pm - Program - free

MEMBERSHIP DUES

\$35/yr Indiv&Family

\$50/yr Business

To update personal info please contact

Rich Holten:

509 521-4291 or

[Rich's email](#)

[CBFC CLUB WEBSITE](#)

[Submit Article for Newsletter](#)

CLUB PURPOSE: Promote fly fishing, conserve regional fishing resources, encourage friendship & cooperation among all anglers.

NEXT MEETING: April 9, 2024, at CG Public House and Catering on Clearwater Ave. in Kennewick, WA.

PROGRAM: April 2024 Speaker—Skip Morris

Our Zoom speaker this month is Skip Morris, fly fisher, author, musician, and tier. A Washington State resident, Skip fishes all over North America and overseas. He is the author of many books including Trout Flies for Rivers, Fly Tying Made Clear and Simple, Western River Hatches, Tying Flies, The Art of Tying the Bass Fly, and with other fishers including Rick Hafele, Brian Chan or Dave Hughes has co-authored numerous other books. Skip has talked to us many times in the past.

Soft-hackles and wet flies are very old flies and the techniques by which they are fished were for a long time all but forgotten—but they really do catch trout in rivers. And they catch them sometimes when other flies and methods won't. Soft-hackles and wets can drum up trout that are in a sour mood and aren't rising, but they can also be deadly during a hatch of mayflies or caddis, even midges. Skip came to his understanding of these flies and the ways they are fished through a lot of experimentation and practice and research. Also, by studying the works of, and fishing with, soft hackle/wet fly fanatic and authority (and fishing partner) Dave Hughes. Skip has also learned a lot, both directly and indirectly, from wet fly master Davy Wotton. You'll learn to bounce a wet atop the water to drive trout a little mad, how to solidly hook a high proportion of the trout that take both your wets and soft-hackles (an area where many fly fishers have trouble), the rigs, the flies, and more. Join us for our April 9th meeting with Skip Morris.



Club President Message

by Guy Reisenauer

The month of March is behind us, and we are now moving forward into spring fishing. Many of the lakes have been stocked with trout and the carryovers are starting to wake up and feed. I have been to a couple of the nearby lakes and ponds; fishing was hit and miss. The insects are starting to emerge as the weather warms up. My one task for the summer is to teach my granddaughter how to fly fish.

I would like to thank Craig Anderson for organizing the spring banquet and being the MC. He did a great job again this year. The banquet was a huge success. All the volunteer fly tyers did a great job of presenting great value for the fly auction. Congratulations to the winners, you have some excellent flies. The donated auction items were also very popular with many great items. Thank you to all the donors. Sun Lakes outing is coming up very soon. The dates are May 1st to 5th. I just checked the availability of camp sites in the park, there are still some left. They are going fast. Rich Holden is the contact for the trip. More on the Sun Lakes trip and activities at the meeting on April 9th.

Tie-a-thon flies are due to Dave Myers at the general meeting on April 9th. Dave is looking to increase the number of donated flies from the 1,700 that were submitted last year. The donations always go to a great cause and help to increase the availability of fly fishing to disadvantaged groups.

Kid's fishing day(s) are scheduled for April 19th and 20th. There will be a signup sheet

at the meeting for anyone who wants to participate. They request the signup to plan for food and ball caps. This is a good time to interact with the youth in the community and get them interested in fishing. There will be more information at the meeting.

May the wind be at your back and the flies drift true.

Benefactor Program Announced

by Craig Anderson

At the suggestion of one of our members, the Board of Directors has initiated a Benefactor Program to encourage additional funding for the Casters. We are not in financial duress, but significant revenue was lost when we (and the Rod and Gun Club) were forced to discontinue running the Salmon Booth. This loss forced us to reduce funding for some organizations we had been supporting. The Benefactor program, simply put, is a recognition program for members who opt to provide \$100 to the Casters beyond their annual membership. Benefactors will be listed in the newsletter for the calendar year in which they make this donation. To become a Benefactor simply provide your donation to Sheldon Coleman at a monthly meeting and indicate that you wish to be recognized as a Benefactor. If you do not want your name to be listed in the newsletter, indicate to Sheldon that you wish to be listed as "Anonymous." Please consider becoming a Benefactor of Columbia Basin Fly Casters.

East Side Lakes Opening (Lenice, Nunally & Bobby Lakes)

From Dennis Dauble

(Photo of Ken Gano landing his 12th trout on
a 65F windless afternoon)



March Madness

From Kyle Kneese

Instead of watching/betting on college basketball, some die hard fishermen refer to the madness in March as the peak of the winter steelhead run. Here are a couple opportunities not too far from the Tri Cities for those willing to brave the elements for a chance at steelhead in the late winter and early spring doldrums.

I've mentioned Hood River before, and I finally got a chance to swing a fly or two, and teach my son the double spey over spring break. The opportunity is right at the mouth of Hood River. There could not be easier access and a more perfect walking pace, gentle run to swing flies than right in front of the Hampton Inn and the bridge. There is parking right at the marina, and the bridge offers access on either side of the river right and left.

The other option I recently discovered is the Sandy River east of Portland. I stopped there on the way back to Tri Cities from PDX airport. The Big Y Fly shop, out of Hood River, recommended access at the Oxbow State Park. What a discovery! It's got miles of access for the bank fly fisherman. I imagine the oxbow name comes from the shape of the river as it meanders through an ancient rain forest.

In any event, if you want to wet a fly during March, and don't want to venture the long drive to the Olympic Peninsula, I recommend calling the Big Y Fly shop in Hood River for closer options, which really are worth a try, especially in March.

Leach Lake Picture below from Jeff Drowley:
"It's still too early to fish Leach Lake"



easier to catch fish when you restrict their ability to hide.

Having never hiked into this lake I had to make some assumptions, like maybe it was 1/2 mile when it turned out to be probably 2 1/2 miles. Second assumption: there would be fish when we got there. Wrong. It took us 45 minutes to hike in and we fished for a couple of hours and then bailed. The water was clear, the bugs were hatching, and we didn't see any sign of any fish. I also didn't see any sign of a truck backing up to the lake in the past decade or so. After climbing back up the top of the hill I was panting but managed to comment to Rod that a hike like this would make our hearts stronger. Rod replied, "True, unless we have a heart attack."

We drove over to another Pothole lake that Tom Klein, Rod and I fished a couple times last year and I caught a 20"+ Rainbow that was fat as a pig. Probably the largest trout I've caught in a lake. Rod caught a nice trout and I hauled in a second before we decided to head for home. It was a long hike into Chukar that I must admit was a bit grueling. The next day I took a two hour nap. My wife said, "You're not 20 anymore." Hey, look at this; they planted 2,200 fingerlings in Widgeon Lake. It couldn't be more than a two mile hike!

Sucker for Chukar

By Jan Jackson

March 20th, Rod Gilge and I drove out to the Potholes and found the trailhead to Chukar Lake. I've been looking at the WDFW stocking report and their plan was to stock Chukar last March (and every March back to 2020) with 1,950 fingerlings. I look for lakes that require a short hike to lose the bait fishermen and this lake fit the requirement of being maybe a 1/2 mile hike. Chukar is only 13 acres and it's a lot



Sun Lakes Outing

Rich Holten

The 2024 CBFC Sun Lakes outing is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1 through Sunday May 5. Some of CBFC, mainly us retired folk, will be there from Wednesday night through Sunday morning. Others may wish to arrive later in the week. The electrical hookup sites in the State campground are usually all reserved by this time, but there is plenty of dry camping in the State Park. The Sun Lakes Resort next to the park also has camping sites and has some cabins for rent. Remember that if you are not camping at the State Park, a State Park Access Pass is required to fish most of the lakes.

The week we have chosen is the week following the opening of fishing in the area lakes, except for Dry Falls and Lenore which open earlier. The week following the season opener offers plenty of fish, many uneducated fish, and thinner crowds. The one negative of fishing this time of year is the wind which usually blows fairly hard in the afternoon and early evening. But mornings and late evenings were very fishable last year. There is still plenty to do in the afternoon -- visit Dry Falls, Grand Coulee, and wineries in the area, walk or bike along paths in the park, and golfing.

We fish mostly at Deep Lake although there can be some good fishing in Perch Lake and Park Lake. Dry Falls is nearby but we have not had much success there in recent years. The lakes are best fished with pontoon boats or float tubes. There is a very limited amount of shore fishing. Leeches work very well at all of the lakes and often chironomid patterns can be very productive.

Friday morning there is a potluck at Dave Meyer's campsite - Site E-12 in the upper camping area in the State Park. On Friday evening, there will be a potluck that usually starts about 5pm at the upper camping area in the State Park. I will be camping at Site E-5. If you have any questions, call or text Rich Holten at 509-521-4291.

2024 Dues and Intro to Fly Fishing Class

Rich Holten

2024 Dues

If you haven't already done so, please renew your membership by paying 2024 dues, \$35 for single individuals or families and \$50 for a business membership. You can pay your dues at the next meeting on April 9th or mail dues with a completed membership form to:

Columbia Basin Fly Casters
Post Office Box 791
Richland, Washington 99352

A membership application form is included in the monthly newsletter. If you are unsure if you have paid your dues, text or call Rich Holten at 509-521-4291 or see Rich at the April meeting.

Introduction to Fly-Fishing Class

Eight people attended the 2024 Introduction to Fly-Fishing class at Sportsman's Warehouse in March. The class included information on equipment selection, places to fly-fish nearby, basic knots, and casting. Thanks to Russ Brown for his expert casting instruction and to Craig Anderson, Bruce Hewitt, and Jeff Drowley who helped the attendees with knots and casting. The next class will likely be in spring of 2025, but if CBFC members would like help with any of the class training, contact Rich Holten at 509-521-4291 or specifically for casting, contact Russ Brown at 509-942-8164.

March 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

by Jeff Drowley

Meeting was called to order by President Guy Reisenauer at 1900 hours on March 26, 2024.

Attendees: Guy Reisenauer, Craig Anderson, Jeff Drowley, Sheldon Coleman, Kyle Kneese, Elver Robbins, Bruce Hewitt, and Ray Williams. Not Attending: Rich Holten, and Jan Jackson.

Conflicts of interest: None noted

Secretary's Report: Meeting minutes for the February 24 Board Meeting were taken by Ray Williams, comments were incorporated and the final version of the meeting minutes was published in the March newsletter. The only significant error noted was that Elver Robbins was in attendance. Also, the meeting minutes were not taken by Jeff Drowley as shown in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurers report was sent out to all board members prior to the meeting by Sheldon Coleman. The non-profit registration is due in May and tax postcard due is due in June. The storage area fees are also due, and March and April will be paid this week. The report was approved.

Membership Report: Rich Holten was not available. However, one new member from the Sportsman's Show and two new members from the Fly tying class were noted.

Programs Report: Craig Anderson noted the following speakers and topics for upcoming meetings:

April 9 General meeting will have Skip Morris speaking on subject TBD (it will be in the newsletter).

May 14 General Meeting will have Jake Campbell of Western River Conservatory speaking on their conservation program.

June 11 General Meeting speaker is not yet determined.

May 1-5 Sun Lakes

August 13 CBFC Picnic (tentative)

August 15-18 Anthony Lakes, OR group camp

September 5-8, Lochsa River, ID

September 10 General Meeting will have George Krumm as speaker, topic TBD

Newsletter Report - due date for articles is April 2 to allow publishing before the April 9 meeting.

Conservation Report: Ringgold signage/walking path is currently dead. Anyone aware any conservation efforts that may be made, please notify Dennis Dauble.

Old Business

March Banquet Report - Zoom presentation went well

Fly tying class is now done, with anywhere from 4 to 9 per night

Fly Fishing Introduction Class had 11 people

Tie-A-Thon flies due to Dave Myers at the April 9 General Meeting

Finalize "benefactor" language and get wording published in the newsletter. Craig took the action.

New Business

Need volunteers to assemble fishing poles and reels for the upcoming fishing day (April 6, 2024 at 9:00 AM at Griggs Ace Hardware Pasco)

Kid's Fishing Day volunteers for April 19 and April 20 at the kids fishing pond in Columbia Park.

Open Microphone:

Raffle Replacement - do an auction of donated items once or twice a year, or find someone to run the raffle. Could get one tyer (tier?) to tie a dozen flies for each raffle on a rotating basis.

Proposed local guided trip.

Discussed with Red's, could get something in the Yakima canyon. Other ideas from club members would be appreciated.

Meeting was adjourned at 1948 hours on 26 March 2024

Volunteer Help Needed

by Bruce Hewitt

Volunteer help is needed to assemble 1200 fishing rod/reel combinations plus rig ready to fish for the upcoming Kids Outdoor experience slated for April 19 and 20th . The workshop is April 6 from 9:00 AM until early afternoon. BBQ lunch will be provided to all volunteers at noon by Sausage Daddy. Drinks provided by KOE. RSVP to momhoops46@gmail.com (Marilyn Steele)

Those wishing to assemble rods at home may pick up Rods/Reels at Griggs Warehouse across the street from Griggs freight entry. Contact Gene VanLiew - e.van-liew@hotmail.com

CBFC Volunteers for actual fishing days please register at April 9 CBFC general meeting. Fishing and non-fishing volunteers are needed Friday April 19 and Saturday April 20.

April 19

1PM Volunteers to fish Special needs

2 flight of special needs : 1:30 to 3:30 and 4 to 6 PM

6 Pm - Complimentary Volunteer Dinner

April 20th

7:00 AM Volunteers arrive by
7:00 Fishing AND Non fishing tasks needed

7:30 AM Six flights of 150 Youths (ages 5-14)

Final flight ends at 4 PM

Note: all kids must pre-register ahead of this event.

Hours count on all events for Master Hunters



**KNOW ANY PROSPECTIVE
CBFC MEMBERS?**

Please forward a copy of this newsletter to them, and bring them to the next meeting.

Tight lines and BIG fish.

DISCLAIMER

The opinions or endorsements of products or services expressed or implied in this Newsletter are solely the responsibility of the author, or the Editor if no author is listed; and do not necessarily reflect the consensus of CBFC members.

Likewise, website links are only for reader convenience and information.

**WEB HOT-LINKS
to FISHING STUFF**

FLY TYING

[Fly Tying Forum](#) -Free access to over 6,000 patterns

[Tightline Productions](#) – Excellent videos of patterns and tips

[In the Riffle](#) - Fly tying videos and tips

OTHER FISHING CLUBS

[Fly Fishing Clubs](#) in Washington

[Fly Fishing Clubs](#) in Washington that belong to Fly Fishers International

REGULATIONS

[Idaho Fishing Seasons & Rules](#)

[Oregon Fishing Regulations](#)

[Washington Fishing Regulations & Seasons](#)

[Washington Emergency Rule Updates](#)

[Links to Regs & Licenses for all 50 States](#)

FISHING INFORMATION

[Idaho Fish & Game Fishing Information](#)

[Oregon Fishing Resources and Information](#)

[Washington Fishing & Shellfishing Information](#)

[Columbia Basin Bulletin's](#) Significant developments related to salmon and steelhead recovery and other important Columbia/Snake River Basin fish and wildlife issues.

[River and stream data](#) USGS current and historical data for Washington State.

CONSERVATION

[Coastal Conservation Association's](#) purpose is to advise and educate the public on conservation of marine resources. CCA's objective is to conserve, promote, and enhance present and future availability of coastal resources.

[Wild Fish Conservancy](#)

[Native Fish Society](#)

[Wild Salmon Center](#)

[Trout Unlimited](#)

[Western Rivers Conservancy](#)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Columbia Basin Fly Casters

Post Office Box 791

Richland, WA 99352 2015

Date: _____

Name _____

Renewal, no change in address/phones/ email

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZipCode: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name(s) of Family Member(s) or Business

ANNUAL DUES:(Please Check One)

Please **make checks payable to CBFC**

Family Membership (\$35)

Business Membership (\$50) Includes business-card size, fishing-related advert in newsletters. Send artwork as xxx.jpg digital file to editor

Who can we thank for referring you to our Club?

To be completed by Treasurer:

___ Cash ___ Check # _____

Membership Database updated: _____