The Federation of Fly Fishers

Annual Report

August 29, 2011
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Chairman/President’s Report
Phil Greenlee

This report is from June 2010 to 2011. One of the decisions that came out of the board meeting last year was to concentrate on finding a qualified person for the office manager position. The good news is that we found a very qualified person and her name is Rhonda Sellers who had worked for ATT some 31 years. Also we were lucky that she lives in Paradise Valley, which is very close to the FFF office. Rhonda started March of 2011. With her presence we have reviewed our staff and made adjustments to best utilize our staff based on their experience. Ruth has taken over as our bookkeeper with Judy now having new office duties. Angie resigned because she did not want to work a 40-hour week. Recently we hired a new person for the receptionist position and a second part time person who is from Montana State University. She is cataloguing items for the FFF museum.

This past spring I attended a very successful Fly Tiers convention in Idaho. I also visited the Washington Council event in Ellensburg in Washington State. People really appreciate someone from the FFF home office paying attention to our membership, which shows we care.

In September of this year quite a few members of the FFF will be visiting the FFF office to work in conjunction with the FFF staff to finally complete the cataloguing of the items with the museum so we can finish our procedures requirement from the executive committee to have Galusha, our independent accounting firm, review our operating procedures.

For the FFF to grow and maintain our income we have worked with other contractors to assists the FFF with other avenues of generating income. The first is the new FFF credit card. Every new credit card holder the FFF receives $50. We also have a link on our website which allows members to purchase fly tying material through Rivers Edge. All of the profit goes to conservation. In California alone over the last year and a half 55 fly shops have closed; hopefully we will help take care of a void. We support all fly shops. Since there are fewer shops it is harder for tiers to find material based upon geography and distance.

The financial condition of the FFF is upbeat, stabilized and growing. If we compare June of 2010 to June 2011, the June 2011 net income is $81,727.50--an increase of $23,770.54 over last year. As of June 2011 the total liabilities & equity is $456,052.07--an increase of $121,421.91 over 2010.

The rest of the year I will be visiting the Southern Council in early October and the Florida Council the later part of the year. On a constant basis I am always trying better ways to work with all of the FFF councils. I feel we need to re-address the role of the councils and how we can work together when it comes to information and efficiency.
Secretary’s Report
Herb Kettler

This year’s activities as secretary have been varied. Minutes were taken and published for Board of Director’s Executive Committee meetings and four Executive Board teleconferences. In addition there were minutes provided for 3 Council President’s calls. I had the pleasure of serving once again as Awards Committee Secretary. The opportunity to insure that many of our hardworking and deserving members receive the recognition they deserve is privilege.

The last of my duties for the year is producing this Annual Report. It can be very time consuming for those contributing but it provides a glimpse into what your Federation has been doing for the past year.

Although not a part of the Secretary’s duties, I was the workshop chairman for the 2011 conclave.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your Secretary for the past year and I look forward to my continuing service as Secretary and the opportunity to continue making other contributions to the Federation.

FFF Foundation, Inc. Annual Report
Earl Rettig-President of Board of Trustees

The FFF Foundation was incorporated in 1995 as a 501 (c) 3 public charitable foundation. All gifts to the Foundation are exempt from Federal Income taxes. The purpose for which the Foundation was established was to have available to supporters of the FFF an independent vehicle to which donors could make long term gifts to the FFF, its Councils, Clubs and other organizations in support of the objectives of the FFF to provide funding for conservation, restoration and education projects and programs. Gifts of cash, bequests under wills, proceeds of life insurance, securities, retirement plans and other income tax or estate tax advantage gifts are welcomed. These gifts are invested and managed as long-term endowment funds with only investment income earnings distributed as grants to worthy recipients’. No principal is distributed thereby building and providing a continuing source of grant funds.

The Foundation is managed by a Board of Trustees, nominated by the President of the FFF and approved by the FFF Board of Directors. The current Board of Trustees consists of the following: Earl Rettig, President, Keith Groty, Vice President, Ron Winn, Treasurer, Mike Stewart, Secretary, Tilda Evans and Bud Frasca.

As of July 1, 2010 the Foundation assets totaled $170,317.12 and at June 30, 2011 assets stood at $189,753.35, an increase of $19,436.23. Only $200.00 of donations were received during the past twelve months and were directed by two donors to the Ralph Moon Fund. Two grants were approved and distributed, $1,500.00 to a FFF club youth education program and $1,000.00 to a Montana fly fishing museum project. Over this period the Foundation earned interest and dividend income of $8,401.61 and had market value appreciation of $14,204.73. As of June 30, 2011 earned and undistributed income totaled $19,318.62.
Organizations similar to the FFF have long been successful in building substantial foundations over the years through dedicated Director and membership support. This has not yet happened with the FFF. Please do what you can to encourage meaningful gifting to the Foundation and to assist in long-term support of the FFF.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Ron Winn

Attached are the Balance Sheets for the two years ending December 31, 2009 and 2010. Also attached are Profit and Loss Statements for the two years 2009 and 2010 showing the Income and Expenses for each year along with the respective net income for each year.

**Comments concerning the attached financial reports follow:**

**Balance Sheet**

During 2010 the Federation’s current assets increased by $56,081 or about 20%. At the same time the liabilities were also reduced by $33,517. This puts us in a better financial position and should enable us to meet any necessary or unforeseen obligations.

**Profit and Loss**

Although our income is down over $94,000 from 2009, our expenses have been reduced by an even larger $233,000. When combined, this results in a net increase in income from 2009 to 2010 of over $139,000. With the hard economic environment currently, the magnitude of the net increase would have to be interpreted as positive for the FFF. At the same time the difficult economy coupled with our industry contraction will demand our continued conservative management, as well as diligence as we move forward.
### Federation of Fly Fishers
### Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison
### As of December 31, 2009/2010

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<tr>
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<th>Dec 31, 10</th>
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<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
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| **LIABILITIES & EQUITY** |                  |                  |
| Liabilities             |                  |                  |
| Current Liabilities     | 29,211.68        | 62,729.36        |
| Total Liabilities       | 29,211.68        | 62,729.36        |
| Equity                  |                  |                  |
| 39000 · *Retained Earnings | 244,320.34   | 296,571.04       |
| 39100 · Net Income      | 86,987.02        | -52,250.70       |
| Total Equity            | 331,307.36       | 244,320.34       |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** | 360,519.04 | 307,049.70 |
### Federation of Fly Fishers

*Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison*

*January through December 2009/2010*

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<tr>
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<th>Jan - Dec 10</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET INCOME</strong></td>
<td>86,987.02</td>
<td>-52,250.70</td>
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Membership
Howard Malpass - Chairman Membership Committee

The 2011 year has been very exciting and creative for the Membership Committee! During the past year there have been many obstacles to overcome, learning curves to maintain and procedures to follow. For the most part all has been rather eventful and informative to say the least!

During the past year three major functions have been accomplished and placed into the general membership for use.

1. **The 2 for 1 Membership Program:** We now have the opportunity to expand the membership with the help of others who already enjoy their membership within the Federation of Fly Fishing! When an existing member of the FFF brings in two (2) NEW Paid members within the ranks of the FFF, the members who enrolled them to the organization will receive the following year’s membership paid for!

   This is a way to increase the rolls of the Clubs as well as the Federation of Fly Fishers as well as enabling the existing member to have the following years dues paid for by the Association! This is a “Win – Win Situation”!

   Not to leave out the backbone of our Organization, we are also providing a similar benefit to the LIFE members of the Federation of Fly Fishers. When one of the Life Members brings in two (2) NEW Paid members within the ranks of the FFF, the Life Members who enrolled them to the organization will receive a gift coupon to provide to the existing member of his/her choice a certificate to give to another existing member, his/her following years membership paid for!

2. **The Disabled Veterans Life Membership Program:** Knowing full well we have many dedicated military men and women who are returning back from the conflicts abroad with injuries which left them with a Service-Connected Disability. If the disability is 70% or more, they are eligible for a Disabled Veterans Life Membership. The cost of $100.00 for the Life membership covers the paperwork and a special pin, which is sent to each and every member within this new and very limited membership. This is one way we are saying “thank you for your service”

3. **All New International Club Membership:** There has been an influx of individuals requesting information on forming Federation of Fly Fishers clubs in foreign countries.

   With this in mind, we have developed a completely new set of Procedures, Membership guidelines and Mission Statement! The all new program has been streamlined to make it much simpler to follow and with the growing love of Fly Fishing in countries such as Australia and Mexico we are working with them more than ever before!

   These are just three (3) new ways to say THANK YOU for your membership in the largest origination of its kind in the world!

Any suggestions you or anyone else may have to assist in moving the Federation of Fly Fishermen forward in membership are always welcome to contact us at any time necessary. We are always open to new suggestions and ideas, which will help foster and perpetrate our association and strive to maintain the sport we love so much!
National Governmental Affairs Committee
Howard Malpass – Chairman

The 2011 year has been very disturbing and hard fought year so far! We have been embroiled with many of the issues revolving around the 2011 Budget Short Fall!

Now with all the problems in the United States Congress and the heated debate over the Budget Short fall, we have taken a position with many of the matters and contacted individuals on Capitol Hill stating our position and how the loss of funds will affect our fellow fly fishermen and others in the fishing industry. What the loss of funding will cause to the various areas of the county.

During the past year, three major functions have been enacted:

1. Letter Writing Program ~ To State Congressmen and Congresswomen: We have been embroiled in setting to pen our feelings, although reserved, what the lessoning amount of funds will entail upon the Fly Fishing community as a whole!

2. Keeping Abreast off New Laws: Keeping updated regarding laws impacting our industry and how it will also affect other fly fishermen in the salt water, cold water and warm water.

3. Face-to-Face meetings with State Representatives: Within many regions of the States being affected by the reduction of funding for Fish Hatcheries. Meetings have been accomplished and help has been sought from various law makers over the issues of what the loss of funding will cost the industry. And of course the loss of thousands of jobs, bankruptcies and livelihoods of so many.

Faced with the loss of such a great amount of funds, and the devastating effect on so many of the people whose lives and livelihoods rely upon the Fly Fishing activities! We need all members help in contacting their Federal Representatives and asking to stop the ax on our fishing programs!
Conservation Report
Rick Williams – Conservation Advisor
Bob Tabbert, FFF Conservation Coordinator

Committee Members:

Bob Tabbert, FFF Conservation Coordinator
Rick Williams, FFF Conservation Advisor

Conservation VPs from FFF Councils
Dick Brown, ERMC        James Watkins, SEC
Terry Lyons, GLC        Tim Bartley, SWC
Chris Curran, GRC       Don Bolstad, Washington
John Brognard, MAC      Rick Williams, WRMC
Mike Hogue, NEC         Jim Schramm, Legal Counsel
Steve Rose, Ohio        Will Atlas, Osprey, Steelhead Committee
Marc Rockwell, NCC      Scott Hagan, Osprey, Steelhead Committee
John MacDiarmid, Oregon Guy “Doc” Harrison, Warmwater Committee
Paul Goodwin, SCC       Brandon Schuler, Saltwater Committee
Tom Logan, Florida      Bob Tabbert, Coldwater Committee
Kyle Moppert, GCC      Verne Lemberg, Conservation Advisor Emeritus

I. Conservation Small Grants Program

In the winter of 2011, the FFF BOD approved an increase in funding for FFF’s Conservation Small Grants (CSG) Program to $22,500, which approximately doubled past investment in the CSG program. This is planned to run for three years from 2011 – 2013. The increase in CSG funding is consistent with FFF’s increased commitment to conservation and to its member clubs and Councils. The funding provided a $1500 grant opportunity for each participating Council.

The CSG program solicitation went out in March 2011 and by early June, FFF’s Conservation Committee had received and reviewed Conservation Small Grant requests from 14 Clubs representing 7 of the 15 FFF Councils. Twelve of the CSG proposals were funded, allocating $9800 of the GSG annual budget to 7 Councils that participated in the first round of FFF’s Conservation Small Grants program (GLC, NEC, OC, SEC, SOC, SWC, and WAC).

In late July 2011, 50% of the requested funds for each project were sent to each of the sponsoring Clubs.

The 12 funded CSG proposals covered all phases of conservation issues that will impact our fisheries. Each of the funded proposals is listed below, which shows the sponsoring Council, Club, and funds requested. Each proposal is also briefly described.

The diverse array of projects supported in this first phase of our enhanced FFF Conservation Program is encouraging. We are also initiating a Fall 2011 CSG project proposal solicitation to encourage participation by Councils that were not able to participate in the Spring funding initiative. It is the goal of FFF’s Conservation Committee to provide conservation funds for Club-level projects to each of the FFF’s 15 Councils. The deadline for submission of project proposals to the Fall CSG program is Oct. 1, 2011.
1. **Council**: Great Lakes Council (GLC)  
   **Club**: Anglers of the AuSable  
   **Title**: AuSable Watershed Temperature Monitoring Project  
   **Amount requested**: $1,500  
   **Project Description**: The AuSable Watershed Monitoring Project is designed to assist the Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources Grayling office in collecting and maintaining a decade’s long dataset on water temperatures within the AuSable watershed. Funding cuts within the Michigan DNR have threatened the integrity of this dataset, which has been useful in managing coldwater fishes in the AuSable. The Anglers will purchase and install 20 HOBO Water Temperature Pro V2 Logger temperature sensors this year, while partners will purchase sensors for other reaches of the watershed. Sensors will be installed in the spring of each year and removed in the fall. All collected data will be shared among the participating groups and the DNR.

2. **Council**: Northeast Council (NEC)  
   **Club**: Wild Trout Fly Rodders  
   **Title**: Tomannex Trout Habitat Improvement Project  
   **Amount requested**: $1000  
   **Project Description**: The main purposes of the proposed Tomannex Trout Habitat Improvement Project is to increase overall trout abundance and size through habitat modification to a 2-mile section of the East Branch of the Delaware on the Tomannex State Forest. This will be accomplished by increasing the in stream and riparian cover and the number of feeding sites in order to create additional favorable habitat for aquatic insects that can be broadcast into the stream. To accomplish this, we propose several types of structures be placed in the stream to provide overhead bank cover where existing bank structure is appropriate, refuge cover in riffle, run, and pool areas, and felled tree cover to provide cover for trout as well as food resources for aquatic insects.

3. **Council**: Northeast Council (NEC)  
   **Club**: Wild Trout Fly Rodders  
   **Title**: Gannett River Conservation Access  
   **Amount requested**: $500  
   **Project Description**: The purpose of Gannett River Conservation Access project is to complete a fishing access easement on the East Branch of the Delaware River, in cooperation with a willing landowner and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Project will provide a 4’ wide footpath from the State Route 30 to the river along the easement for the general public in an area dominated by private lands and limited river access.

4. **Council**: Oregon Council (ORC)  
   **Club**: Rouge River Fly Fishers  
   **Title**: Bear Creek Watershed, Barrier Removal.  
   **Amount requested**: $800  
   **Project Description**: This is a collaborative effort between the Rouge River Fly Fishers and the Bear Creek Watershed Council following the removal of barrier to improve fish passage on Larson Creek in the urban area of Medford, Oregon. FFF’s funds will be used to support the barrier removal and provide signs at bridges and viewing areas to help the public understand the importance of Larson Creek in the spawning activities of native salmon and steelhead.
5. **Council**: Southeast Council (SEC)
   **Club**: Southeast Council (SEC)
   **Title**: Summer Internship Great Smoky National Park, Brook Trout Restoration
   **Amount requested**: $

   **Project Description**: This project will provide a high school or college student with experience in coldwater fisheries monitoring and restoration in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The experience will give highly motivated students hands-on experience so they can determine if this is the career path they wish to pursue. The student will work with fishery biologists as they sample native brook trout across the Park, learning stream sampling techniques, the collection of fisheries and water quality data and equipment repair. This intern position will allow fisheries staff of Great Smoky Mountains National Park to sample additional brook trout sites that have not been sampled in a few years and would not have been sampled if not for the additional personnel. This enables them to add valuable information to the long-term fisheries database.

6. **Council**: (SOC)
   **Club**: Flatland Fly Fishers Inc.
   **Title**: Slough Creek Restoration
   **Amount requested**: $1500

   **Project Description**: The Slough Creek Restoration project will reduce the chance of washout around the ends of 5 existing water control structures along 1 mile of fishable stream in the Sedgwick County Park, Wichita Kansas. This will allow for better control of water direction for the purpose of maintaining a plunge pool below each dam structure. Shot rock will be used to stabilize the ends of five existing low dam structures to prevent washout from around the ends of the structures. A representative of the Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks will direct all work. The Flatland Fly Fishers Club and its members will provide the planning and the personnel to pull together this project. The club will hire the required contractors and arrange for the required equipment to do the job.

7. **Council**: Southwest Council (SWC)
   **Club**: Wilderness Fly Fishers, Santa Monica, CA
   **Title**: Malibu Creek Steelhead Recovery, Crayfish Removal Project
   **Amount requested**: $125

   **Project Description**: The Malibu Creek Steelhead Recovery, Crayfish Removal Project involves removing nonnative invasive red swamp crayfish from Malibu Creek. Malibu Creek provides habitat for spawning and rearing of the endangered anadromous southern steelhead. Traps will be placed in strategic locations to capture nonnative red swamp crayfish. Volunteers from Wilderness Fly Fishers and the Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers will monitor the traps. Captured crayfish will be donated to local wildlife rehabilitation facilities as food for recovering wildlife.

8. **Council**: Southwest Council (SWC)
   **Club**: San Diego Fly Fishers
   **Title**: Bio-assessment Study, Nine Mile Creek, Golden Trout Wilderness
   **Amount requested**: $375

   **Project Description**: The survival of the California golden trout as a distinct species depends in part on the preservation and restoration of native habitat for the fish. The creation of the Golden Trout Wilderness represents an attempt to protect that habitat. For many years, San Diego Fly Fishers have supported various Golden Trout restoration projects. The USFS would now like us to expand our efforts by doing an annual bio-assessment at the upper meadow of the Golden Trout Wilderness area. The San Diego Fly Fishers have several members who are trained as team
leaders in performing stream bio-assessments using the California Surface Water Monitoring Program protocols. The water data collected will be processed by a professional laboratory and an Index of Bio-integrity (IBI) will be calculated. The IBI is an excellent long-term measure of the overall conditions of the stream.

9. **Council:** Southwest Council (SWC)  
   **Club:** Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers  
   **Title:** Golden Trout Climate Study  
   **Amount requested:** $250  
   **Project Description:** The California Golden Trout, the California state fish, is currently being considered for federal listing as a threatened species. This project is a collaborative effort between the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers, Dr. K. Matthews (USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station), water temperature studies, and Dr. Richard Mayden (St. Louis University), Golden Trout Genetic studies. The project seeks to build upon the work of Dr. Matthews by providing additional data on water temperatures and fin clips for genetic studies. The team from the Sierra Pacific Flyfishers will back pack into the Kern Plateau, placing water temperature sensors at strategic locations and collecting fin clips from approximately 20 Golden Trout. The funds will be used to purchase ten TidbiT waterproof Temperature Loggers.

10. **Council:** Southwest Council (SWC)  
    **Club:** Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers  
    **Title:** Malibu Creek Crayfish Removal Project  
    **Amount requested:** $125  
    **Project Description:** This is a collaborative project with the Wilderness Fly Fishers to remove the invasive red swamp crayfish from steelhead spawning areas of Malibu creek. Traps will be placed in strategic areas of the creek to capture crayfish. Members of the Sierra Pacific Fly Fishers will monitor the traps. The SPFF will work with local conservation organizations and schools to implement this project and build community awareness for the importance of preserving these waters for steelhead spawning.

11. **Council:** Southwest Council (SWC)  
    **Club:** Sespe Fly Fishers  
    **Title:** Steelhead Habitat Restoration, Ventura River  
    **Amount requested:** $188  
    **Project Description:** This project is designed to help the endangered Southern Steelhead population of the Ventura River by improving riparian habitat. The Sespe Fly Fishers, in partnership with the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy, proposes to use FFF’s grant to further the restoration of Ventura Creek riparian habitat by planting native trees and plants in the OVLC waters below the Matilija Dam. This project will contribute to restoring the riparian habitat and increasing the opportunity for steelhead survival in the Ventura River.

12. **Council:** Washington Council (WAC)  
    **Club:** Clark-Skamnia Fly Fishers  
    **Title:** East Fork Lewis River Restoration  
    **Amount requested:** $1500  
    **Project Description:** This project is a collaborative effort between the Clark-Skamnia Fly Fishers and the Northwest Wild Fish Rescue to enhance the survival of native fish in Salmon Creek and the East Fork of the Lewis River in Clark County, Washington. FFF’s Grant funds will be used to enhance the water quality of the streams by purchasing water tanks for Aeration, DC Air Pumps and Analogues for nutrient enhancement for aquatic insects. The goal of this
II. Whitlock-Vibert Box Program Update

The Whitlock-Vibert box (WVB) program is one of FFF’s successful conservation programs based on participation and revenue it generates. The WVB is a small plastic box that is filled with trout or salmon eggs, planted in the stream, from which juvenile salmonids emerge, grow, and hopefully establish or augment an existing trout population and fishery.

WVBs are sold to Federal, State and International Fish Agencies for the restocking of trout & salmon. Sales of WVB average 2000 units per year. The last sale of 500 WVB went to the Finnish National Fish Agency for restocking salmon.

Dave Whitlock, FFF’s Conservation Director, and members of FFF & TU in the Mt. Home area of Arkansas are currently updating the WVB instructional manual into a DVD. The initial filming of classroom and on-the-water demonstration on the White River in Northern Arkansas was done in the winter of 2011. Filming will be competed, water levels cooperating, following the SOC’ Conclave in October 2011. The completed updating of the manual (and the DVD production) will be completed by the end of 2011 or early 2012.

III. Native Fish Conservation Areas

The Native Fish Committee celebrated two successes in 2011. First, our Native Fish Conservation Area concept was published as the lead scientific article in the June issues of Fisheries, the flagship journal of the American Fisheries Society. Rick Williams, FFF Conservation Advisor, and Jack Williams, Senior Scientist for Trout Unlimited wrote the article. Other authors also included Leah Elwell, FFF’s former Conservation Coordinator, and Dave Philipp, 2009 FFF Leopold Award recipient. A PDF of the article is available on the FFF conservation website section.

Second, in March 2011, Rick Williams applied for a research grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to identify potential Native Fish Conservation Areas in the Snake River Basin (Idaho Wyoming) above Hells Canyon Dam. The grant proposal was submitted with FFF as the sponsoring organization. Last week, we were notified that the proposal has been recommended for funding; pending resolution of budget issues in Washington DC. We are hopeful the grant will come through and work can begin this fall on that project.

IV. New FFF Conservation and Environmental Graduate Scholarship

We created a new and occasional Conservation and Environmental Graduate Scholarship. This award is designed to support students pursuing advanced degrees, (MSc, PhD, JD, LLD) that will have application to solving environmental issues relating to water quality, fisheries, aquatic biology, or other fields related to protecting native fish and their habitats.

Creation of the scholarship was in part due to an application from Lee Van Put, a pedigreed FFF member, who is currently in his 3rd year of law school, planning a career in environmental law practice, and with a proven track record of environmental and policy activism.
The scholarship will not be an annual award, but rather used occasionally to support qualified and exceptional candidates. Qualification criteria and application materials will be placed onto the FFF website. They include requests for the applicant to provide the following information:

- Graduate School program in which you are enrolled and expected year of completion.
- Write 500 word essay discussing what influenced your passion for environmental issues.
- List your activities, clubs, memberships, and activities relating to conservation.
- List your favorite books that influenced you to pursue an environmental/conservation career.
- Attach letters of support for your application from professional or academic workers in conservation/environment field. Include one letter from the undergraduate professor that influenced you to pursue a career in environmental work.

V. Advocacy Stances and Letters of Support

FFF continues to have an active role in advocating for sound conservation and environmental policies that are based on sound science. FFF has been involved in or written letters of support over the last year in several conservation issues including (but not limited to):

- Opposition to the Pebble Mine in the Lake Illiamma, Bristol Bay, Alaska area
- Letters to Florida Fish and Game Commission supporting designation of Permit as a game fish.

Flyfisher
Bill Toone - Editor in Chief

The Flyfisher magazine, despite the necessity to remain as a semi-annual publication continues to be the main media standard bearer for the Federation of Fly Fishers; highlighting and communicating the many activities of the Federation of Fly Fishers. As well as providing informative and well written feature articles. 2011 saw the implementation of a digital issue option for our membership in lieu of the traditional mailed hard copy. The majority of the membership at this point however has remained hard copy but we expect the number receiving digital issues to increase with time.

Communication flow from the clubs and councils to the magazine is still not what it could be or should be, even after direct personal appeals for content. This remains a disappointment and is a consistent struggle for the Home Waters section of the magazine each issue.

Keokee Publishing and their staff has continued to do an outstand job of handling the publishing chores and should get the lion’s share of any credit for the magazine. They have expanded their assistance to us this past year in both print and digital areas; proving to be a very good partner to the Federation.

As the financial situation hopefully improves, if not in 2012 then 2013, we will move towards a more timely 3 issues a year with the eventual goal of getting back to our quarterly publishing schedule. No one can predict when this will occur, only guess and hope. Regardless the Flyfisher will continue to do its part in supporting the FFF and its membership no matter how many issues are published a year.
FFF Fly Tying Group
David Nelson – Chair

The Fly Tying Group (FTG) is in its fourth year of existence. Started by the FFF leadership at the 2007 Conclave in Livingston, the FTG is charged with representing fly tiers within the FFF. The broad goals of the group are to represent tiers and to develop fly tying at the local, regional, council, national, and international levels. We were charged with five specific goals—to promote:

(1) Tying at the national Conclave.
(2) Tying at the international, council, and club levels.
(3) Continue the Tier as Teacher Initiative, started in 2005, which is designed to help the demonstration tier be a better teacher.
(4) Fly plate framing.
(5) Archiving - an online database of present (in the Museum) and future collections of donated flies.

Executive Summary
Highlights of accomplishments include:

(1) Finance: Our account balance as of December 31st was $8,856.07.
(2) Membership: there are 112 members, a 24% increase over 2009-2010.
(3) Promotion of Tying at Conclave (Charge #1, above) has operated smoothly and we believe prestige has improved.
(4) Websites: we have continued to develop our two websites, one for the organization, FlyTyingGroup.org, and one for a project, FTGFlyTyingInstructorResource.org/.
(5) Fly Plate Project (Charge #4, above) has continued with the production of 15 museum-quality plates and earned significant funds for the FFF, and a full-day workshop teaching fly plate construction is being given at Conclave.
(6) Fly Tying Instructors’ Resource is developing.
(7) Fly of the Month Project
(8) Elections were held for only the third time, with more nominees than open positions, for the first time, and orderly changing of officers is anticipated.
(9) Other projects will be listed in the body of this report.

Challenges:

(1) Board member participation could be improved
(2) FTG member participation could be improved
(3) Communication with members could be improved
Detailed Report

For 2010, we had income in the amount of $6,609.50 and expenses in the amount of $2,747.99. Our account in 2010 shows a net gain of $3,861.51. For 2011, up to June 22\textsuperscript{nd}, we have had income of $1,930 and expenses of $25. To date, for 2011, we have a net gain of $1,905.

Steve Jensen
Treasurer, FTG

(2) Membership
There are 112 members of the Fly Tying Group (FTG). This is an increase of 22 members since last year (90 members). This 24\% increase is very encouraging, considering that the FFF membership had dropped 5\% in the previous year. There are 11 people who have Life Memberships in the FTG.

The FFF Office is reminding members of their renewal date so that we do not lose members.

Mike Stewart
Fly Tying Group Membership Chair
13 July 2011

(3) Promotion of Tying at Conclave
The first charge given to the FTG by the FFF BOD was to promote fly tying in general, and specifically, to elevate the prestige and quality of fly tying at Conclave. Under the excellent leadership of Leslie Wrixon, Annual Meeting Fly Tying Chair, and the guidance and three prior years of work by Gene Kaczmarek, Standing Fly Tying Chair, we believe an outstanding group of tiers have been invited to tie this year. Leslie Wrixon was diligent in contacting all Council Presidents and/or Fly Tying Chairs for nominations for excellent tiers deserving of the honor of being invited to demonstrate their skills at Conclave. As noted in last year’s report, we have created a structure for continuity of leadership in this area, with a Standing Fly Tying Chair who has previously served as an Annual Meeting Fly Tying Chair, but who goes on to function for several years as a supervising entity. Gene has written a Fly Tying Chair Manual, which serves to guide the Annual Meeting Fly Tying Chair, and is updated on an ongoing basis. Such a Manual existed a decade or more ago, when the Fly Tying Group Chair was running the annual tying. It was passed from chair to chair, but somewhere along the line was lost. It is not being recreated and should serve us well in the future. Leslie has developed a database of tiers with input from all areas of the country, and this will continue to be expanded on an ongoing basis. We actively request Council Presidents to contact either Gene Kaczmarek or Leslie Wrixon with nominations for demonstration tiers. For further work related to this effort, see the Fly Tying Group’s BBQ, below.

Leslie Wrixon
Annual Meeting Fly Tying Chair
Gene Kaczmarek
Standing Fly Tying Chair
(4) Websites

One of our two main ways of communicating to our members is through our website, http://www.FlyTyingGroup.org/. We also own http://www.FlyTyingGroup.com and it redirects to .org. The ownership of the two URL’s and the hosting and billing contact information is being transferred to the FFF. We also own another URL, http://www.FTGFlyTyingInstructorResource.org/, which is the site for our main project, which is described below. We have revamped the style and structure of the entire site, with new CSS, improved navigation, etc. We have preserved our links to the FFF site, and it should be easy for site visitors to navigate from the FFF site to the FTG site and back again. We have separate sites so that our programming cannot affect the FFF site and vice versa, and so that we have complete programming freedom in creating our structure (the FFF site has been database-driven and we choose to be HTML-driven). There is complete integration between the sites, and no competition. Actually, having separate sites may drive more traffic to all of our sites. Our site is the place where members can read the minutes of all of our Board meetings, conference calls, and Board votes. It has our history, including all of the articles we have had published in the Flyfisher. The site has membership forms and instructions. It also has information about our activities at the Annual Conclave, including our BBQ.

We obtained a grant of $2500 in 2009-10 for the support of the website, particularly the publication of fly patterns. Fly patterns have been added to our website (see also Fly of the Month, below), in fulfillment of the requirements of that grant.

The site has the history and the multiple Board votes on the issue of certification; this is the first year we have not had to revisit that issue. It is the position of the Board that that issue is closed.

David Nelson
Webmaster
Al Beatty and Russ Forney, Web Committee

(5) Fly Plate Project

One of the charges of the FTG is to advance the art of fly framing. The Fly Plate Project has been executed entirely by Steve Jensen. At the national level, he will be presenting a full day workshop at the National Fly Fishing Fair entitled “Design Strategy and Construction Tips for Building Museum Quality Fly Plates.” He has also been very active supporting the FFF financially and artistically by framing projects. In the past year 7 fly plates were produced by Steve Jensen that were either sold or raffled at the National Fly Fishing Fair in West Yellowstone, and this year 8 fly plates were built and will be auctioned at Conclave. Last year he produced 3 fly plates for the Tiers’ and Liars’ BBQ which featured Buszek Memorial Award recipients (included in the total above). This year he will again produce 3 fly plates for the BBQ again featuring Buszek Award recipients. In addition, he is building a demonstration fly tiers fly plate for the BBQ.

In addition to the National Fly Fishing Fair, the Fly Plate Project has been supporting many different Councils. Specifically, he produced Legends of Fly Tying fly plates for the North Eastern Council, Great Lakes Council, and Southern Council.

(Note: Steve is not bragging about his work, he is too modest; David Nelson wrote this up.)

Steve Jensen
Chair, Fly Plate Project
(6) Fly Tying Instructor’s Resource
This is the main project of the FTG, in the opinion of the Chair. It is intended to be a free, online collection of material that would assist anyone who is teaching a fly tying class, especially at the beginning or intermediate level, with organizational concepts, lesson plans, handouts, fly pattern write-ups, etc., in both HTML and PDF formats. It is called a Resource, not a Manual or Standards, to reflect the fact that the FTG is not telling anyone how to teach or what to teach. It is designed to be used as a resource such that the instructor can choose from the wide variety of material that is available; whatever suits their audience, goals, and style. One highlight includes the Beginning Fly Tying Sample Class, http://www.ftgflytyinginstructorresource.org/Designing%20A%20Class.html

Jim Ferguson
Fly Tying Instructor’s Resource Project Chair

(7) Fly of the Month Project
A new Fly of the Month article has been posted on the FFF website, a total of 12 new flies and accompanying articles. In addition, seven Fly of the Month articles and pictures from the IEFFC Club Newsletter to the Fly Tying Patterns on the Fly Tying Group website.

Bob Bates
Chair, Fly of the Month Project

(8) Elections
As the FFF BOD knows, elections are a vital element for the continued health of the Board and the growth of any organization. The FTG is no exception. A good leader is needed in the Chair position and the other Board members need to be actively involved in the weekly work of the group, both supporting the Chair and doing committee work. Failure in any of these positions can lead to stagnation with resulting loss of members of the group as a whole, and resignation of the productive Board members. In previous years, we have not had enough volunteers or nominations for the 21 Board positions, and by default, full elections could not be held, which are required by our Bylaws. The openings were filled as members could be found to fill them.

The Fly Tying Group is doing well on this front. This year, under the strong leadership of Sherry Steele, a Nominating Committee was formed and nominees for Board positions were solicited. A total of 15 nominees for 10 open positions allowed for some selective processing of nominees by the undersigned. Highly qualified nominees were identified by the Nominating Committee and elected by the membership. They will be installed at Conclave. In addition, in order to make room for new Board members and new blood in the officers leading the group, half of the officers are being replaced. David Nelson, Chair since 2007, is moving to the Senior Advisory Board (a non-voting position), and Gene Kaczmarek, Vice chair since 2007, is moving to the regular Board. (He is also Chair of the Northern California Council, so his time is being claimed by his Council duties.) We now have a Board with great depth of experience leading businesses as well as FFF Councils, FFF Clubs, and other organizations. There is a balance of experienced Board members as well as new blood, so we expect to be a very productive Board in the coming years. Board officers will be elected at Conclave. (The Nominating Committee would be too modest to take credit for their work in such strong terms, and David Nelson filed this report.)

Sherry Steele
Chair, Nominating Committee
Russ Forney, Peggy Brenner, and Mike Steward, members, Nominating Committee
Other Projects

Fly Archive
The goal of this project is three fold: (1) to inventory, and permanently archive at a museum quality level, the flies that we already have, (2) to create an online database that is remotely accessible so that fly tiers can access photos and information about the flies, and (3) to create a structure to increase the collection as well as to finance its preservation. Many FTG members have put in many hours on this project, under the able leadership of Leslie Wrixon. While much has been done, much more remains to be done.

Buz Buszek Award (tying excellence) and Dick Nelson Award (tying teaching excellence)
The FTG participated in reviewing the flies of the nominees for the Buszek Award for the second time, and recommended a tier to the Council of Presidents for their consideration. This was done with excellent confidentiality and on time. The Awards Committee has asked if we would like to be involved in selection of the Nelson Award next year, and certainly we would.

Fly Tying Group BBQ
The first charge to the FTG is to promote fly tying in general, and specifically to increase the prestige of the Conclave demonstration tying. The FTG has implemented, to further this goal, a Fly Tying Group BBQ. The event is held on the day and time assigned by the FFF so as not to interfere with other FFF activities. It is held early in the course of Conclave to allow the demonstration tiers, as well as the FTG members in general, to get to know each other at the beginning of Conclave, to promote a sense of identity and unity, and hopefully to promote networking and project development throughout the days of Conclave. Conclave is short and time is tight, but this is also the time of year when energies are highest and members’ willingness to conceive and volunteer to execute projects is greatest. It is important to maximize this once-a-year opportunity. The BBQ serves to bring all the demonstration tiers and FTG members together, with food, raffles, fly swaps, tying contests, and just good fun. The business part of it just happens spontaneously. Previous BBQ’s have been a success in performing these many functions, and it is expected that this BBQ will do the same.
David Nelson
BBQ Chair and Mystery Contest Chair
Steve Jensen
Raffle Chair
Bill Nelson
FlySwitch Chair
Frank Johnson and Gene Kaczmarek
Committee members

Other Projects
The Evergreen Hand Program for handicapped tiers continues but has lost some of its steam. We will work on this, it is too valuable an asset to our disabled tiers to let it die.
A quarterly newsletter was established, one of two ways of communicating with our members (the other is the websites). One newsletter went out. It is our goal to make this a regular and hopefully quarterly event. We also tried to establish a Mail List, under GoogleGroups, with some success. This needs to be examined, developed, and supported.

The Tier as Teacher Initiative, which was established two years prior to the Fly Tying Group, by essentially the same people who formed the first, unelected (appointed) FTG Board, has not developed beyond what was accomplished in prior years. The Chair, also Chair of the FTG itself, did not have time to devote to it. It will be worked on, and its output partly will contribute to the Fly Tying Instructors’ Resource.

The Stonefly Project, initiated last year with the goal of using fly fishermen to collect specimens and, via Ed DeWalt, PhD, and the Illinois Natural History Survey, to identify them to species, for the purposes of water quality preservation, has not progressed as much as its lofty goals need.

**Challenges**

As noted above, our challenges are rather typical for any organization or for any part of the FFF, namely,

1. Board member participation could be improved
2. FTG member participation could be improved
3. Communication with members could be improved

The FTG Board is aware of these challenges. The election of new Board members and upcoming election of new officers should help to inject new blood and new energy into the organization, without compromising the experience in our outgoing members. The main challenge to communication with members is to establish a regular newsletter and to keep the various websites current. We think the Board we have elected are up to these challenges.

**Respectfully submitted,**

David Nelson
Fly Tying Group Chair
FFF Casting Instructor Certification Program

2010/2011 was a good year for the FFF casting instructor program. At last count, we have over 1400 instructors worldwide, approximately 13% of FFF members are certified fly casting instructors. FFF membership renewal rate of this group is the highest in the FFF, except for Life Members, of course. We have 17 working committees dealing with issues ranging from continuous improvement of our tests, international certifications, strategic planning, recertification, and continuing education. Our ethics committee remains underutilized, thankfully, effectively dealing with only three issues in the past year.

Our international committee organized and administered several test events outside N. America and we sent several CBOG members to test events around the world. These events were self-supporting financially. We are experiencing an increase in interest from professional fly shops, a group we’ve struggled to gain ground with. Two years ago we reported that Silver Creek Outfitters, Ketchum, ID was requesting all their shop staff and guides to become certified, that is now mandatory and they have 33 certified instructors on staff! We will again be conducting exams during the August AFFTA trade show, another sign of our growing acceptance within the professional fly fishing community.

Our new financial agreement with the BOD is working well. We now get regular financial reports, which help us to make good decisions. Our first half report for 2011 shows that we’ve made about $20,000 so far this year.

While we are experiencing no significant problems related to our growth and success, we are aware that change is inevitable and our strategic planning committee is looking to the future to decide what we need to do to maintain our success. A plan for reorganization will be presented at this years meeting which will undoubtedly result in some spirited discussion.

I am glad to be able to report, respectfully, that the FFF CICP is strong and growing. I have decided to leave the chair position this year, but will remain on the CBOG. I am pleased to report that there are three highly qualified CBOG members who want to replace me, which we will do by election at the end of our meeting. The winner will be presented to the BOD for approval, per our by-laws.

Bruce Richards - Chair
Council Reports
 Eastern Rocky Mountain Council
 Pat Oglesby – President

The Eastern Rocky Mountain Council’s membership continues to remain about the same as it has been during previous years. Membership Chair, Don Gibbs, has a presence with an FFF booth at the two fly fishing shows held in Denver, CO each winter and gives away fly collections to new members that sign up during the show. New members are obtained but retention isn’t what it should be. Many clubs offer incentives such as, take a new member fishing, to encourage membership. Clubs are always looking for innovative ways to increase membership.

Individual clubs participate in a variety of projects. Pikes Peak Fly Fishers in Colorado Springs has a very active involvement with Project Healing Waters at Fort Carson. Grand Valley Anglers in Grand Junction, CO is very active with Project Healing Waters through the local VA hospital. Both clubs teach fly tying in the winter and participate in fishing outings during the summer. The clubs in Arizona continue to work with government agencies in recovery of their native Gila trout. Grand Valley Anglers of Grand Junction, Colorado sponsors the Western Colorado Fly Fishing Exposition each spring and Gunnison Gorge Anglers of Montrose, Colorado holds their Black Canyon Fly Fair annually. Both have youth programs that introduce several hundred young fly fishers to fly casting and fly tying. Grand Valley Anglers has a successful women’s fly-fishing program to introduce women to the outdoors.

Clubs in Wyoming and Colorado are involved in protecting our resources from threats due to widespread oil and gas exploration and development. Some clubs work with schools and organizations in youth education. Don Gibbs and his volunteers teach youth fly tying and fly casting at Furimsky’s Fly Fishing Show held in Denver, CO each January.

Outings to entertain members and introduce nonmembers to fly-fishing are being held each summer by most clubs. Individual clubs have discovered different ways of fund raising to finance their projects.

The Council’s ten clubs are spread from northern Wyoming to southern Arizona creating a geographical challenge to hold a Council event. Election of Council officers is scheduled for later this fall.

Florida Council
 Bill Gunn - President

Florida Council, its members and clubs, have been active in conservation, education and promotion of the ideals of FFF. We held our third conclave called the Fly Fishing Expo and attendance jumped to over 300. Clubs have developed youth programs to teach fly tying and fly casting presenting to such diverse groups and members children and grandchildren, established fly tying and fishing programs within school systems, and teamed up with 4 H.

Conservation Vice President in Tom Logan has worked to address local issues which have a tremendous effect on our fisheries. He continues to demonstrate to the fishing public that the FFF is a driving force in protecting and improving fisheries, habitat, and the environment. His scientific expertise is invaluable and with his leadership, Florida Council has commented and intervened in public hearings on changes in fishing regulations and worked with other private
groups on conservation projects and proposals including the Rybovich Foundation and the Cousteau Foundation.

Dusty Sprague continues to manage the council’s fly casting clinics and casting certification. He is in charge of our casting programs for the council and Dusty and his team of certified casting instructors provided numerous classes and workshops at the Expo and throughout the year. Casting for Recovery held its first retreat in Florida in 2010. Lilly Renzetti is Florida Chairman and member clubs and individual members of FFF supported her efforts both with manpower and financial backing. The council will assist the Renzetti’s and CFR with their efforts to have a program in Florida.

FFF members and clubs continue their support of Project Healing Waters. Board Member Pat Damico has worked tirelessly promoting the program and working with VA in bringing PHW to Florida Veterans.

Florida currently has 15 clubs affiliated with the council including two charter clubs. The council and clubs will strive to maintain and grow our membership.

The Florida Council will hold a conclave October 21-22, 2011 Kissimmee, Florida, All the normal activities of a large council conclave will take place including casting instructor certification, booths, pay per seminars, a banquet, auction and raffles. This will be our fourth conclave.

This year Florida Council has added some very high profile members to our Board of Directors. Flip Pallot, Andy Mill and Chico Fernandez are all active members of the Florida Council Board. Their ideas, efforts and stature in the fly fishing community are welcome assets that will help Florida Council promote FFF and membership for the foreseeable future. They have all given us permission to use their images and words in promoting membership in FFF. Additionally, legendary tarpon guide and angler Stu Apte has also given us permission use his words and images in promoting FFF.

The council goals are to increase membership, expand youth education programs and our influence with regulatory agencies throughout out the state. It is the hope of every member of the Federation in Florida that we demonstrate the tenets and high moral character associated with the Federation of Fly Fishers.

Great Lakes Council
James Schramm – President
Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition (MHRC)

The GLC is an active member of the MHRC along with the Anglers of the Au Sable, Michigan Council of TU and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs. The MHRC efforts resulted in a Settlement Agreement that lead to the surrender of the hydro licenses of three dams on the Boardman River. Feasibility studies for future disposition of the dams were completed at the end of 2008 and recommendations were submitted to Traverse City and Grand Traverse County in early January 2009. In April 2009, Traverse City and Grand Traverse County approved moving forward with the removal of the Boardman, Sabin and Brownbridge Dams. The Brownbridge Dam will be removed first in late 2011 or early 2012. The MHRC will be involved as part of the Implementation Team in removal of the dams.
2010 GLC Fly Tying Expo

The Council’s tenth annual Fly Tying Expo was held on December 4, 2010 at the Holt High School in Holt, Michigan. The event was a great success at the new location with substantial dollars raised for the education and conservation programs of the GLC. Plans are underway for the 2011 Expo scheduled for December 1, 2011.

2011 GLC Fly Fishing School & Conclave

The 2011 GLC Fly Fishing School & Conclave was a great success and plans are underway for 2012 event to be held June 15-17, 2012 at the Ralph MacMullen Conference Center in Roscommon, Michigan. Education programs will be offered for aspiring fly anglers as well as those experienced in the sport. Simultaneous programs and workshops for beginners, intermediate and advance anglers will be offered Friday starting at 1:00 p.m. and all-day Saturday. A complete beginning fly fishing course to include on-stream instruction will be offered this year. Fly tying workshops will be offered Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon. Programs and workshops on casting (including Spey Casting), warmwater fly fishing, saltwater fly fishing, beginning fly tying, FFF Casting Certification and fly fishing for trout will also be on the schedule. Visit the GLC website at www.fffglc.com for details.

Board Meetings for 2011 and 2012

The Board of Directors has scheduled board meetings for 2011 and 2012. The fall board meetings will be held by conference call in October, the winter board meeting will be by conference call in February and the spring meeting will be at our Fishing School and Conclave in June in Roscommon, Michigan following the Annual General Membership Meeting on that date.

Great River Council
Vacant – President
No report received.
Our focus for 2010/2011 has remained on better communication and involvement with our member clubs, increasing membership, youth programs and of course raising the funds to necessary support these activities.

**Council Events**

Again this year the major GCC event, the GCC EXPO-San Antonio, was held in the heart of the central Texas region where over 70% of the GCC’s Federation members reside. Following up on last year’s successful GCC EXPO in New Braunfels, TX, Brooks Bouldin, our EXPO Chair, and his crew again did a fantastic job! The financial success of the GCC EXPO-San Antonio was greatly enhanced by the generous contributions of our sponsors and vendors, every one of the living Buz Buszek Award recipients, the High Lonesome Ranch and the Deep Water Cay, Bahamas. Without such marvelous support, this Council would be still be struggling financially, but following this successful EXPO, this Council on firm financial footing for the first time since our inception and will now be able to fully participate at all levels of the Federation.

However, this large-scale show was again not overly successful in attracting as many participants as we would have hoped. As a result, the GCC’s Board has formed a committee to decide exactly how, where, and when future Council events will take place. At this point, in the upcoming year, rather than pursuing another large EXPO style event, the GCC is leaning to sponsor/support smaller, more regional events. One such action in that direction is the Council’s “adoption” of the gathering of fly tyers known as the “North Toledo Bend Rendezvous”,  [http://pages.suddenlink.net/w/Rendez/indexR.html](http://pages.suddenlink.net/w/Rendez/indexR.html), which has been held each fall for almost 25 years. Almost all of these tyers are members of the Federation and are regularly invited to tie at EXPO/Conclaves across the country. The Council will make no changes to this event, but will cover the event under our insurance and guarantee financial support, if needed.

**Club Involvement/Development**

The GCC continues working with member clubs and are endeavoring to keep them better informed about the workings and programs of the GCC and FFF. Bob Shirley and Marc Pinsel, both GCC Board members, are working in the area of club development, and we hope to have some currently non-Federation clubs affiliate with this Council in the coming year.

**Communications**

Again this year for registration for our EXPO, the GCC utilized our Interactive Registration Program on the GCC web site, [http://www.gulfcoastfff.org/](http://www.gulfcoastfff.org/). We are also pleased that the National Office and other Councils are now taking advantage of this registration program for their events.

For the last two years, rather than internally sending out our newsletters to the Federators in our Council, the GCC has utilized the resources of National Office to send out mass emails to the entire GCC membership and in promoting *The Gulf Streamer* in the Federation’s *E-NEWS*. These emails from the National Office listed the links to our newsletter on our web page. By utilizing National Office for these emailings, we hope to increase the awareness of the Federation to our Council members.
The vision for the GCC newsletter, *The Gulf Streamer*, is that of an e-magazine for the GCC’s Federators... one that they will anxiously anticipate. Our goal is to increase the number of issues to four issues per year, with an average minimum length of at least 30+ pages.

It is very important to the GCC’s Board that the newsletter’s content is always very inclusive of articles on the Federation, including benefits and membership information. The GCC’s Board feels that this Federation content in our newsletters is critically important, not only to our Federation members, but since links to each issue of *The Gulf Streamer* have been routinely placed on fly fishing forums across our region and our newsletters are read by large numbers of non-Federators, it is hoped that these non-Federators will also begin to better understand the role of the GCC/FFF and the need to join with the Federation.

The GCC Officers and Board continue to take advantage of the National Office’s conference call system to hold regular meetings.

**FFF Board of Directors**
Following the goal of full participation in the Federation at all levels and for the first time since our inception, Dave Lemke represents the GCC on the FFF BOD. Dave is president of the Texas FlyFishers (Houston) [http://www.texasflyfishers.org/](http://www.texasflyfishers.org/), a FFF Certified Instructor, and runs the Texas Fly Fishing School in Houston.

**Membership**
Since the inception of the GCC, membership has held relatively stable with slight growth yearly. The GCC Board and Officers strongly believe that successful GCC events, quality newsletters with targeted content, and increased communication from the Council Officers and Board plays a part in this Federation membership.

**Youth**
Many of our clubs and our EXPO have held successful youth programs throughout the last year.

**Mid-Atlantic Council**
**Jim Porter – President**
No Report Provided.
Northern California Council
Gene Kaczmarek - President

This report will outline the various activities and efforts of the Northern California Council (NCC) over the past year. Our focus has been on better communication with our member clubs, increasing FFF membership, youth programs, conservation, and the development of fund raising activities.

**Club Support**
We have been working with member clubs to keep them better informed about the workings and programs of the NCC and FFF by conducting semi-annual club presidents meetings. Our club presidents e-mail list and having a Club Support section on the NCCFFF website has helped to give the club presidents an easy way to contact other clubs, post announcements and ask questions. The VP Club Support Dave Ford publishes a quarterly Club President’s Newsletter to keep all clubs informed on the latest projects and events the NCC is working on. Dave has done a tremendous job to enhance the presence of the NCC in Northern California and Nevada.

**Membership**
Vicki Fenner is our current Membership Chair. Vicki and Dave Ford developed a PowerPoint presentation to update our member clubs on NCCFFF programs as well as introduce unaffiliated clubs on the benefits of becoming an FFF member. Vicki along with Dave Ford has been conducting NCCFFF updates at club meetings this spring. They made presentations at two new unaffiliated clubs to introduce them the FFF, after which one became a charter club. The VP of membership and the VP of Club Support have continued to work together to increase membership in our council.

**Education**
The Fly Fishing Learning Center (FFLC) participated in at “The Fly Fishing Show” in Pleasanton, CA. on February 25 through the 27th. We will have the FFLC booth at the Sportsman’s Expo in Placerville September 30, through October 3rd, and our Fly Fishing Festival on Oct 7 & 8.
We continue to work in partnership with our clubs in youth education and Salmonid in the classroom. VP Education Larry Lack has done a great job of including local clubs in the education process.

**Fund Raising**
The NCC partnered with the El Dorado County Fairgrounds and participated in their first annual Sportsman’s Expo October 1-3. We provided the “Learning Center” as an education booth, providing casting and fly tying lessons. Our Saturday BBQ fundraiser proved to be a success raising $3,500.
On April 9 we honored Jim Adams becoming our 31st inductee into the NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame. The event was held at a new location “Silenus Vintners” in Napa. The event was well attended, raising $5,900.
Thanks to Bobbie Armor her group, Derrell Bridgman, and Anne-Marie Bakker for pulling together another class HoF dinner.

**Conservation**
Conservation continues as one of the main focuses of the NCC. We are involved in many different projects throughout the state and have many positive results. My VP’s Conservation Cindy Charles & Mark Rockwell are working tirelessly on project that effect all the fly fishes in California.
These are just a few of projects we are or continue to be involved in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merced River</td>
<td>MF American R. FERC relicensing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuolumne River</td>
<td>McCloud River</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Pedro Dam</td>
<td>Upper Yuba River FERC relicensing</td>
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<tr>
<td>SF Bay-Delta</td>
<td>California Forestry Practices</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCloud River</td>
<td>Lower American River</td>
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<tr>
<td>Klamath River</td>
<td>Smith River</td>
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<tr>
<td>Striped Bass Lawsuit</td>
<td>Lower American River</td>
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Grants Awarded:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuolumne River Conservation</td>
<td>$1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merced Fly Fishing Club/ Youth Fly Fishing Program</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Country Fly Fishers/Trout in the Classroom</td>
<td>$750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tahoe-Truckee Fly Fishers</td>
<td>$1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carson City Parks and Rec. Dept</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSPA for Striper Lawsuit</td>
<td>$6000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are many, many people whose names I haven’t mentioned that have done an outstanding job for their clubs, the NCC and the FFF. I know the hard work they all put in and the little recognition that they receive for their efforts. It is people like these that are the backbone of the Federation and I would like to say a BIG THANK YOU to all of the unsung workers out there, THANK YOU.

North Eastern Council  
Leslie Wrixon – President  

NEC Territory

United States of America  Canada  
Connecticut - New Jersey Ontario - New Brunswick  
Maine - New York Prince Edward Island  
Massachusetts - Rhode Island Newfoundland/Labrador  
New Hampshire – Vermont Nova Scotia - Quebec

2009 was an interesting & productive year for the North Eastern Council.

Communications

The NEC continues to forge ahead using technology to keep our members informed. Our newsletter continues to be a first class communications tool. However, we are in the process of updating it to even higher standards. I do, however, wish that our members would be more vigilant in keeping us informed of e-Mail address changes as well as submitting news items, such as club accomplishments, for our newsletter and the Flyfisher.

Likewise, our web page is also the focus of technology and improvements are always being made. We are confident that the new layout will allow us to better communicate with members, potential members and others who access our web page. http://www.fffnec.org.
Another premier communications tool is our newsletter exchange (we call it the Communications Tree) where our clubs send us their newsletters and we in turn act as a clearing house and forward it on to key club officers of all of our clubs as well as our Council directors. This is a great way to share what we are doing, providing ideas for the future.

**Finance**

We are holding our own getting by with the profits from our annual fly plate raffle, a few contributions and bequests. We are still actively working on having a conclave, while we are blessed with having two commercial fly fishing shows in our council area it also makes it challenging to plan a conclave that offers new and exciting exhibits that prospective show goers would travel to see. Our goal is to start small, in partnership with an NEC club (s) and see where grows from there.

**Membership**

I am pleased to note that the number of clubs in the NEC area continues to grow most of which are new charter clubs. I contribute this, in part, to our commitment to timely communications to our clubs and members. We continue to have increasing volunteerism from our clubs in staffing our show booth, which helps build a stronger bond.

**Conservation**

The NEC and our Clubs continue to do exceptional work in the stewardship of our recourses. Stocking programs (including float stocking,) stream cleanup and restoration projects continue to dominate the conservation efforts.

**Education**

The NEC continues to move forward in educational efforts. We continue to work with scouting contacts (BSA & GSA) educating local leaders of our existence and willingness to help. We also continue to put forward our First Fly & First Cast program at shows and events to reach those (from 7 to 70) who want to give it a try.

Last year, I reported that we have a new charter club, KIDS on the Fly (NY), whose purpose as expressed by its name is to introduce and mentor youth in the art of fly-fishing. They continue to be the most active club (having at least two activities a month) that I have ever run across. We are blessed to have such an organization in our council and I hope their success will be a catalyst for more youth oriented clubs. I know of a similar organization in New Jersey and hope they too soon join the Federation.

**Activities**

2010 Was another active year. The NEC participated in the following Venues:

- January - Fly Fishing Show MA - Youth/BSA Fly Tying & Casting
- January - Fly Fishing Show NJ - Youth/BSA Fly Tying & Casting
- February - Saltwater Edge RI - Information Booth
- February - Bears Den MA - Information Booth
- March - LL Bean - Fishing Expo ME and All LL Bean store locations Fly Tying-Demonstrations
- April - Canadian Fly Fishing Forum Ontario Canada - Information Booth
- May - West Point Military Academy BSA Innovational Camporee – Casting Lessons
- June - American Museum of Fly Fishing Fly Fishing Day VT – Information Booth
- October - BSA Jamboree NJ - Tying & Casting Lessons
- November - International Fly Tying Symposium NJ - Youth Tying Lessons
Ohio Council
David Snyder – President

The OHC had their 2nd annual Warm Water Conclave. The event was a major success for the council. We also had a booth at the Cleveland IX Center for “The Great Outdoor Sports Show”. This event had an area for tying, promotions, and a large casting area. The shows promoter, Erie Productions, donated all costs. This also will be an annual Event; the promoter has asked us back. The show is the largest in the Cleveland area.

As always the Mohican Fly Fishers are actively working on the cleanup of the Clear Fork River. Healing Waters continues to be a large part of the OHC. The OHC continues to find ways to due fundraising.

The OHC has changed from paid phone conferences to free videoconferences thru yahoo groups; this was a good move for the OHC and a good cost savings measure.

Oregon Council
Sherry Steele – President

ORCFFF 2nd Quarter Council Meeting July 2010 – Annual Membership Meeting, Election of Officers

New President: Sherry Steele
Re-Elected Secretary: Carol LaBranche
New Treasurer: Bim Gander

Overall Accomplishments & Activities July 2010 – July 2011

Council President Attended National Conclave. Following the conclave she traveled to FFF National Office in Livingston. Reviewed Computer Setup, returned to Oregon and finalized purchase of new computer hardware and software for the Livingston office. Completed FFF Computer upgrade project.

President Traveled to 4 Expo/Conclaves in Western US. Boise, ID - Sequim, WA - Idaho Falls, ID - Ellensburg, WA. Also traveled to Central Coast Fly Fishers, gave presentation on FFF National and fishing west of the Cascades.

Changing Steps to the Electronic World - Our Treasurer Bim Gander has moved all our accounting to QuickBooks. This will facilitate an easier way to give current reports to board members and membership. We also moved our main banking to US Bank to facilitate ease of access to banking statewide. US Bank will also be handling our new virtual merchant accounts so year round cash donations can be facilitated.

Main ORCFFF Fund Raiser

Re-organized Expo Committee format: Committee chairs and subcommittee member format lightened the load for each responsible Chair. Chairpersons have complete control of their own budget.

2011 NW Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo: March 11 & 12 Results: Total Expo Income was $57,610.00 Net Proceeds - 7,566.74, Attendees-2,000, Tyers-187, Booth Spaces sold- 54.

Oregon Clubs Bringing It Together: Expo Volunteer’s Participated-174 from 11 clubs.
Grants & Awards

- Designed and implemented a new Grant application program using our new grants form.
- Oregon State University Students – Funded 2 Grants 3,000.00 total
- Conservation Grant Program – FFF National $800.00 approved – Bear Creek Watershed Council. Rogue Fly Fishers Club Sponsor
- FFF National Foundation- ORCFFF Facilitated a grant request to for $5,000.00 for The Deschutes Land Trust - Results TBD.

Stepping Up Our Image - Council purchased a new booth for use at our Expo and other places that we want to show fly fisherman more about FFF and the Oregon Council.

Going By the Book (By-Laws) – New nominating committee chaired by Jim Boyd, a long time board member (McKenzie Fly Fishers) put together and implemented a by the book procedure for our board nominations and election of officers. Thank you, Jim.

National Fly Tyers Group – Jim Ferguson – Secretary of FTG. Jim has been very active in this group and produced a beginner fly tying document. He has also been adding content to the FTG web site.

FFF National Museum Project – Slated for Sept 26-30th 2011 an 8 member team will go to FFF Livingston office to organize and document the museum items previously housed at the old FFF office prior to the move to the current location.

Council Meetings – Saving $$ for council operations - We voted to have 2 face-to-face meetings and 2 by conference call. This will save the council time and $$ plus travel time. Another good result from the change is more clubs have decided to have representation on the board.

Special Thank You to Retiring Board Members – Keith Burkhart, Earl Rettig and Jim Boyd these 3 board members have been a main stay for the council in the past and will continue in the future to be a great source of information.

ORCFFF 3rd Quarter Council Meeting – July 23, 2011 – Annual Membership Meeting, Election of officers for 2011-2012 Meeting held at The Steele’s residence, 25 people attended. BBQ fun was had by all after the meeting. The following ORCFFF Board was elected:

2011-2012 (19 members)

- Re-Elected President: Sherry Steele - email: steelefly@msn.com
- Re-Elected Secretary: Carol LaBranche
- Re-Elected Treasurer: Bim Gander
- New Executive Board member – Jim Ferguson
- New Executive Board member – Lloyd Fryer

Additional Board members:

- Carl Ronk – ORCFFF Communications
- Greg Bulkey - Klamath Country Fly Casters.
- Dave Thomas - McKenzie Flyfishers.
- Pete Gustavson - Sunriver Anglers.
- Bob Gabler - Santiam Flycasters.
- Kathleen Schroeder - Central Oregon Flyfishers.
- Marv Clemons - Cascade Family Flyfishers.
- Cal Hudspeth - Mid-Willamette Fly Fishers.
- Rick Mac Farlane - Northwest Flyfishers
Chuck Cooney - Washington County Fly Fishers.
Robin Healy - Stonefly Maidens Fly Fishing Club.
Dwight Klemin - North Santiam Spey Casters.
Kim DeVries - Umpqua Valley Fly Fishers.
Mike Samples - Central Coast Fly Fishers.
Sherry Steele - Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guild

New General Committee Chairs for 2011-2012

a. Tying Committee - Tyer Chair – Jim Ferguson
b. Conservation Committee – Conservation Chair - Clint Brumitt
c. Education Committee - Education Chair – Dwight Klemin
d. Communication Committee - Communication Chair – Carl Ronk
e. Expo Committee - Expo Chair - Sherry Steele
f. Membership Committee - Membership Chair – Kathleen Schroeder (COF Rep)
g. Nominating Committee – Chair Dwight Klemin, Jim Ferguson, Marv Clemons, Chuck Cooney
h. Awards Committee- Chair Dwight Klemin

Total assets of the ORCFFF $26,654.58

South Eastern Council
Anthony Hipps – President

The Southeastern Council 2011 Fly Fishing Festival was held on June 2-4 at Unicoi State Park, Helen, GA. Ed Jaworoski, Jimmy Jacobs and Jim Casada were the celebrity presenters for the event. Many others contributed time as demonstration fly tiers, casting instructors, speakers/presenters, show volunteers and fly tying instructors. The programs presented were all of exceptional quality. Paid registrations/attendance was down by 35% from 2010. This is probably largely due to the economy and high fuel prices in January through April. Most people had made their plans to attend, on not, by April 1. As a result, after all receipts, debits, donations and credits we lost $1,300 for the fiscal year.

At the Saturday night auction and awards banquet we gave the following FFF-SEC awards for 2010-2011:

1. FFF-SEC Man of the Year Award to Mike Arnold
2. FFF-SEC Woman of the Year Award to Lindsay Long
3. FFF-SEC Fly Casting Instructor Award to Eric Cook
4. FFF-SEC Fly Tyer of the Year Award to Aaron McDaniel
5. FFF-SEC Conservationist of the Year Award to Steve Moore
6. FFF-SEC President’s Award to Bob Holliday
7. FFF-SEC Presidents Award to Bob Hansell
8. FFF-SEC President’s Award to Karen Brand
9. FFF-SEC Lifetime Achievement Award to Walt Holman
10. FFF-SEC Lifetime Achievement Award to Johnny Chamness

Nationally renowned fly fishing artist, Alan Folger (www.clearwatermemories.com), produced a beautiful brown trout print with the listed award for us to give each of our award recipients. See his website for an example.
Funds donated by the SEC for the 2010-2011 fiscal year are:
1. $3,600 to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park Brook Trout Restoration Summer Internship Program
2. $2,400 ($1,200 each) to Casting for Recovery in North Carolina and Tennessee
3. $500 to the Wounded Warriors/Handicapped Sportsman and Fly Fishing education/recreation programs conducted by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission at the John E. Pechmann Fishing Education Center in Fayetteville, NC. This money was used to purchase new fly tying equipment and fly reels for the fly-fishing classes. It was matched with $1,500 of funds from the National Wildlife Foundation.

Since we did not have a qualified Fred Stevenson Memorial Scholarship Recipient in 2010 we awarded two $1,000 scholarships in 2011.
1. Beth Slade, Fisheries Biologist/Stream Ecology Major

The 2012 FFF-SEC Fly Fishing Festival will be held on April 28-29, Saturday and Sunday, again at Unicoi State Park and Resort, Helen, GA. The local delayed harvest trout streams will be fully stocked and the trout ready to perform during our show weekend. We hope the April time slot, Saturday-Sunday format; cooler weather and potentially great trout fishing will bring many more attendees in 2012.

Southern Council
Michael Ames – President
Our focus this year has been to continue to promote the FFF Mission and the success of the national organization, our council, and the individual clubs. The success of these efforts is the direct result of devoted SOC board members, conclave chairs, and the Southern Council Regional Director Program started in 2009.

One new program that was conducted this year was the SOC Leadership Retreat. This program reinforced the concept that each of us, individually make up the SOC and FFF. The theme of the retreat was “There is NO FFF with out you.” A lot of networking and sharing of ‘best practice’ ideas was one result of the time spent. The retreat went over so well that we plan on holding one again this next December.

The Regional Director Program was initiated out of a desire to have a stronger relationship between the SOC and the clubs in our region. This program was started and is maintained by William “Howard” Malpass, VP of Development. Five Regional Directors of Development were appointed to better aid in communication, educational support, and fund raising throughout the council. Each Regional Director has a specific geographic territory within the SOC. The program has been steadily accomplishing its mission of increasing the awareness of the FFF by a higher level of communication between the Clubs and the Southern Council Board of Directors. As Clubs feel more ownership in the FFF the level of responsiveness and participation has increased.

In 2010 we provided a grant to improve public access & fish habitat designed by Dave Whitlock for Dry Run Creek. The creek is a special regulations fly-fishing area for anglers under the age of 16. This year we were able to watch the excitement generated by the redesigning of fish habitat and public access of Dry Run Creek. These improvements have resulted in much higher use of
the creek by young anglers. It is our hope that these young anglers will “catch” the fly fishing bug and be the FFF’s next wave of supporters.

We provided monetary grants for the following:

- The SOC in cooperation with two of our clubs supplied Good Samaritan Boys Ranch in MO with 20 new TFO 8’6”, 5 wt. rods, reels, line, backing & TFO caps to be given to students that successfully graduate from a 16 hour Fly Fishing Workshop conducted by volunteers from a couple of local clubs.
- A $1,424 grant to Casting for Recovery.
- **Friends of the Norfork National Fish Hatchery, Inc** was awarded $3,000 to help construct a boardwalk to expand handicapped access to Dry Run Creek. The Dry Run Creek (DRC) project is an ongoing project that includes both the handicap access and in-stream habitat work. FNNFH (supported by several SOC clubs) is very thankful to SOC for the funds provided towards the overall costs required to complete the entire DRC Enhancement Project. **SOC funds provided part of the costs to bring on board Dave Whitlock as the consultant for the DRC project.** A plan of action was needed that included work that Dave has undertaken to provide for the handicap access and the work needed for both in-stream habitat and bank-side erosion control.
- Through the use of our Wayne E. and Catherine Moore Trust fund we have monetarily supported several fly-fishing centered educational activities for young people.

Due to the slow economy in late 2008, 2009 and 2010 the SOC fundraising efforts have not been as strong as in past years. In response we have been extremely conservative in monetary funding of projects. To keep the FFF viewed as a viable & helpful resource we have doubled our efforts in areas that have not required money. We have lent our political support to many conservation issues faced by our clubs by the writing of emails and letters to state and local governments and private enterprise concerning environmental issues. A few of these are:

- Contacting local, state and federal elected representatives to lobby to restore 100% funding to the federal trout hatcheries of the southeastern U.S.
- Attendance by Paul Goodwin, VP of Conservation to the Ozark Waters Coalition Summit.
- Support of the expansion of the Catch & Release areas on the North Fork of the White River below Lake Norfork Dam.
- Sand mining on Mill & Piney Creeks in Izard County, AR
- Baxter & Marion County landfill leeching issues involving the White River in AR.
- Proposed partial lifting of tackle restrictions within Catch & Release areas of the White & North Fork Rivers.

The SOC helps make our Clubs fundraising or charitable events more successful by soliciting for SOC volunteers for these events via our database, and allowing these events to use FFF rods & reels as well as flies tied by volunteers when requested. The larger of these events were:

- SOC Conclave
- Sow Bug Round Up
- Smallmouth Rendezvous
- Reel Recovery events
• Casting for Recovery
• Project Healing Waters

In support of our education objectives the SOC willingly provides loaner rods and fly tying stations to our member clubs for any educational programs they schedule. We have assisted many members with casting classes held throughout the council with the help of FFF BOG member Chuck Easterling and SOC VP of Education Larry Wegmann.

GOD Bless & Tight~Lines,

Southwest Council
Michael Schweit – President

MEMBERSHIP – I wish I could say we found the magic bullet to make our membership increase. In spite of visiting clubs and meeting people, we have seen a small decline from last year at this time. We are about to start a campaign where we remind people every month (via e-mail), starting one month before they are due until 6 months past due. We are waiting for one club to complete their paperwork to go charter but we lost one that decided to become an affiliate. The reasons are varied from economy to “what have you done for me lately”. Nothing we can do about the first one but the second puzzles me. We send out tons of information and updates to the clubs about all that we’re doing, which in turn, makes it into their newsletters. National’s monthly e-mail is another reminder of what FFF does but for whatever reason, it does not stick. Perhaps there is simply confusion about the Council’s role in and around the clubs? Or the way we present ourselves, project, or market ourselves? Some things to think about.

CONSERVATION – 4 clubs took advantage of the National Matching Grant program. We will be involved with everything from stream temperature sensors to eradication of crawfish from a local stream in preparation of a (hopefully) steelhead run in the future.

Our new conservation chair has been working with us since January and he is a breath of fresh air. A retired biochemist, he dissects materials sent to him and really looks at all sides of the issues. He is also working with the Northern California Council.

OUTREACH – We are finally back at the local fishing shows. This allows us to spread the word about the clubs and in turn, the Federation. In this way, we are giving the clubs what they want and it makes it easier for them to answer the age-old question “what does the Federation do for us”. We become the answer.

So far, since the beginning of 2011, we have been at 4 different events with a club/Federation booth. We demonstrate and teach tying (mostly to children) and give casting lessons to anyone who wants to try. The hard part about some of the shows is we rely on local clubs to populate them. We missed one show because one club could not pull it all together in time. We are working with them to get back to that show in 2012.

One of the biggest shows (Fred Hall) agreed to let us get a fly caster on top of the bass tank. This was an outstanding idea and attracted a lot of audience members. The hardcore bass people loved to see him work that fly and what it could do for them. The Hall people also put up a lovely mountain/tree/forest backdrop (20’x100’) behind the casting area so it was a real attraction. In fact, the casters were swamped teaching people the basics.

Trout in the Classroom continues to struggle. We have set up a joint monetary fund with CalTrout to help defray some of the costs of tanks and chillers. This year, we have two teacher orientation classes scheduled so we hope to have more classes involved next year. We need more funding and more promotion for this valuable project.
The Orvis/FFF/TU Fly Fishing 101 had high hopes but there was a lack of coordination. We hope to make that better next year as the potential is there to bring in lots of new people that love the outdoors but do not know about fly fishing.

We were just approved for a Casting For Recovery program. This weekend retreat uses fly-fishing as a therapy in the recovery process of breast cancer. Marguerite Duncan-Abrams volunteered to be the lead and is doing a great job in a short period of time. We hope to have a retreat in place in late 2012.

In November 2010, we participated in the Boy Scout Camporee, in honor of their 100th anniversary. We were inundated with youth for the FF merit badge and lots of parents asked us to do the same program on a club level. As BSA does not have a central means of communicating to its troops, we are not sure how to make this happen but will keep after it.

EDUCATION – Last year, we did a tournament at a well-known trout stream. Turns out that because it is an area with large boulders and deep runs, Czech nymphing was in order and most did not know how to do that! This year’s tournament will have an orientation/lesson the day before, put on by the local retailer/guide shop. We hope that by offering a way to learn about a method of fishing, we can increase participation.

Monofilament Recycling Tubes – More have been placed at various locations. I wish we could get a count of how much line was mailed in but we are happy enough that the tubes get emptied. Nibco generously donated enough fittings to create 24. We hope that as the economy improves, we can make Nibco available to the councils on a National basis.

FUNDRAISING – With the renewal of the council, we are still concentrating on the re-build. We are working with the Northern California Council on a Fly Fishing Festival for 2012. The town and county where this will happen is very interested in making this happen so we are working with them on incentives and other plans that we would not be able to do on our own. Stay tuned for details.

Joan Wulff is coming to dinner in October! One of our members is a friend of hers and convinced her to come to the West Coast. Ticket sales have been slow but steady and we finally crossed over the breakeven point so one less line item to sweat. We are all looking forward to that weekend.

Once again, we did the FlyBuy in February. Clubs and members donated lightly used gear, our Casting Instructors gave lessons for $1 per minute and the clubs donated flies for their areas. Add in some artwork, a BBQ and we raised around 3000.00. Since we are not spending much at this time, it gave us some much-needed breathing room.

We also did a tournament on the Kern River. One of our clubs, (Southern Sierra) along with Guy Jeans, the local guide and retailer, put together this one-day event with all the rules and beats set up ahead of time. 8 of our clubs participated and we had over 70 people at the awards dinner. First prize is the club name on a perpetual trophy. Runner-ups got Velveeta cheese, anchovies and other fish related food items. This fun event raised around 1200.00 and will be repeated this year.

RETAILERS AND GUIDES – We aggressively pursued the fly fishing retailers in our district. The majority signed up with National and we are giving them free access to our e-mail blasts to publicize their events and sales. Most are now using our calendar and allowing us to use their email blasts for Council announcements. They now have their own page on our website.

We also signed up individual guides and are pushing their services and are in the process of setting up a dedicated web page. As many of them are saltwater, we are finally in a position to emphasize that part of our sport at shows next year.
The Future
We had a great year with respect to Board members. As mentioned, we added a Conservation Chair AND a VP to ensure succession of what we are building. We also added an Education Chair and are working on the duties for that position. And as mentioned, we are starting a chapter on Casting For Recovery. The SWC suffers with the same malady that faces all of us…a dearth of volunteers that can make the time and follow through on the work. Again, extra tough in this economy. However, on the bright side, the clubs have been stepping up and so it is up to us, the SWC, to provide venues and opportunities to expand the outreach of the FFF and the members clubs. We will be back at the fishing shows (Fred Hall has asked us to do more than last year and is giving us our own casting pond) and hopefully adding the Fly Fishing Festival. And, all of us are still fishing.

Washington Council
Carl Johnson – President

Membership
Over the past year WSC membership decreased by almost 6% going from 843 members in 2009 to 797 in June of this year. While the council still participated in all of the Sportsman Shows in Washington, continued club visits, and had another successful Washington Fly Fishing Fair. The poor retention of people who signed up for the $15 membership is believed to be the major portion of the loss since we are still higher that we were in April of 2008. The other major portion of the lack of renewals has to be the current state of the economy in Washington. The WSC participated in 4 shows this past year; the Western Washington Sportsman Show in Puyallup, the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show in Pasco, Central Washington Sportsman Show in Yakima, and the Olympic Peninsula Fly Fishing Show in Sequim. At the shows we were able to increase the visibility of the FFF and WSC. We also sold FFF memberships and promoted our Fly Fishing Fair at the shows. In addition it allows us to direct them to fly fishing clubs close to them.

The Board of the Council made a concerted effort to visit the clubs during the past year. The visits allowed us to get the word out to the members. Although communication to the clubs via written or electronic methods is maintained the information does not seem to make it to the individual members on a regular basis. Visitations to clubs by Board members have helped get the message of the FFF and WSC to the club members.

On April 29th and April 30th, the WSC conducted our fifth regional Fly Fishing Fair in many years. In spite of the economy we had a successful event. WSC sold a number of FFF memberships at the event. In part due to the fact that FFF members got into the event for free.

Education
WSC participated in a number of educational events during the year. These included the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival sponsored by the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery where we gave over 100 free casting lessons to anyone who wanted including approximately 30 kids. Don Simonson, WSC Board Member and a member of the CBG gave fly casting demonstrations at the Western Washington Sportsman Show. In spite of some bad weather at the show (it was January) his outdoor demonstrations were well attended and many came into the FFF booth afterward to inquire about casting classes and clubs. At our Fly Fishing Fair we held a number of fly fishing classes, including an introduction to fly fishing for women taught by women, beginning fly casting and casting in wind conditions. In addition, we also offered free fly tying
lessons to both kids and adults during the day. Prior to the start of our fair we invited the local school districts to participate in fly tying, casting and entomology classes. Approximately 50 middle school and high school students from local school districts received a lot of excellent instruction. Many of the clubs in the council participate in local kids fishing events throughout the state. The clubs also offer fly tying and casting classes for members and as a method to increase their membership.

The WSC along with Trout Unlimited sponsor the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy held in Lacy, WA in late June. The Academy hosts up to 25 youth, both boys and girls, for an extensive week of conservation and fly fishing lessons at this overnight camp.

**Conservation**

WSC became more active in local conservation activities during the year including supporting many of local proposals and proposed regulations throughout the state during the year. In addition, the clubs worked on local conservation projects where they got out and got “their hands dirty” on things such as picking up trash from our rivers, restoring and protecting riparian zones including installing large woody debris and fencing and on working to remove invasive weeds. The FFF members within the Council are proud of the contributions made by WSC in the fields of fly fishing education and resource conservation, and are growing in number due to the recruiting efforts of the WSC members and clubs and it’s BOD.

**Western Rocky Mountain Council**

**Lee Davison – President**

The Western Rocky Mountain Council in 2010 - 2011 has progressed well and we have increased in membership slightly and added a few new clubs as well. Naturally, this growth is caused by our shows around the council and the exposure of the Federation to new people at these shows. This growth with our current economic conditions across the country has been slow but steady. Our Council Board has a new slate of officers with much enthusiasm and we are looking to more rapid growth in the coming year.

Because of the size of our Council and the strong clubs scattered around the council we have quite a few Expo's and shows each year. These shows have been holding their own through this past year and the shows in Boise; Idaho Falls; Salt Lake City Lewiston and Billings all had good turnout and were profitable. The Council itself did not hold an Expo but helped with the shows around the Council.

There is a positive feeling about the Federation throughout the Council and the Board has plans to start a traveling Road Show to make contact with the different clubs in the area and give them the help that they might need with local club operations and also show them what the Federation can do for them. This was done in our Council many years ago and was very successful.

Our clubs in the Council have been doing well and working with Project Healing Waters and casting for Recovery and the Boy Scouts of America along with many great conservation projects around the council. Many Youth Education projects have been done this past year in the different clubs. The Kelly Creek Fly Fishers along with the North Idaho Fly Casters will be holding a Fund Raising Banquet for Casting for Recovery in October 2011 and have a Casting For Recovery seminar scheduled for the summer of 2012 on the Coeur d'Alene River.
The future of the Council for the coming year looks good with Expo's planned throughout the Winter & Spring. The Council has finally gotten a Newsletter Editor and we are going to an E-Newsletter for the next issue. Our Council Board now has members and Officers and 2012 should be a bright year for the WRMC.

Next Year's FFF Fly Fair and Expo is scheduled for Spokane, Washington and our Council will have a great number of participants. We are hoping to be able to add many new members at the Spokane Expo and will probably have a Council Booth there.