The International Federation of Fly Fishers

Annual Report

September 23, 2013
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Chairman/President’s Report
Phil Greenlee

The International Federation of Fly Fishers now consists of sixteen councils which includes our newest Texas Council and our renamed Chesapeake Council. The IFFF is still expanding in foreign countries with 750 foreign members including Canada. Through our casting certification programs we are now in sixteen foreign countries and growing. When we add up our U.S. members plus Canada and our foreign membership and the electronic membership it totals approximately 14,000. We are partners with Cabela’s, Orvis, National Wild Turkey Federation and Project Healing Waters. The IFFF through the Northern California Council has created a new program for veterans in the San Francisco Bay area called “Veterans First” which works with the VA hospitals in California and hopefully will expand to other states.

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the 2012/2013 financial condition of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. The income for the operation of the IFFF is generated from donations, membership fees and grants plus interest from restricted accounts. We also generate income by selling items from our merchant store. The categories of the IFFF are composed of casting, fly tying, education and conservation. The motto of the IFFF is that we teach conservation through fly fishing. The following is an explanation and overview of the income from various sources that make up the IFFF. The IFFF has no debt and we pay all of our bills within thirty days.

Donations-Grants-Casting-Councils-Education-Presidents Club-Osprey-Fly Tying-Membership

Donations come from various sources such as the twice yearly conservation plea letter to the general membership of the IFFF, plus a separate general letter asking for a direct donation to the IFFF. Our casting certification program is now worldwide which brings in income from casting and IFFF membership fees. Councils give donations from income generated by giving education programs and fly tying classes throughout the U.S. Members also donate money to the Presidents club but our main source of income comes from membership dues and various donations.

The home office of the IFFF is located in Livingston, Montana. We currently have seven employees who have been cross-trained or are currently being cross-trained. The IFFF is a 501C-3 non-profit corporation. We file a U.S. income tax return annually. One current goal we have is trying to find new ways to expose our fly tiers to the world. The fly tiers have created a program called the fly tying group with their own board of directors. Fly tying is about individuals but can be brought to the forefront by sharing information through education programs and sharing knowledge. The IFFF currently has two issues of the FlyFisher magazine. We are considering putting out a new electronic magazine including the Osprey, Loop and Conservation. This will give the IFFF more exposure to the world. Because there is no one like us in the world we have become the fly-fishing voice of the world. The IFFF is financially sound and we are growing thanks to our casting certification programs and our fly tying programs.
Secretary’s Report

Herb Kettler

This year’s activities as secretary have been varied. Minutes were taken and published for the Board of Director’s Meeting, the Executive Committee meeting and eight Executive Committee teleconferences. In addition there were minutes provided for the council President’s meeting and 11 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 a 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 2013 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.

IFFF Foundation, Inc. Annual Report

Earl Rettig-President of Board of Trustees

The International Federation of Fly Fishers Foundation, Inc. was incorporated in 1995 as a 501(c)3 Charitable Public Foundation. All gifts to the care of the Foundation are exempt from Federal income taxes. The purpose of establishing the Foundation was to have available to members and supporters of the FFF an independent vehicle to which donors could make long term gifts to assist the IFFF, Councils and Clubs in the achievement of organizational goals and objectives. The Foundation provides funding grants for conservation, restoration and education projects and programs. Gifts of cash, securities, bequests under will, proceeds of life insurance policies, retirement plans and other tax advantaged gifts are welcomed. All gifts are professionally managed as long term endowment funds. Principal is retained and only investment income earnings are made available for distribution as grants to worthy recipients. The retention of principal are market value growth provides for a continuing source of grant funds.

A Board of Trustees, nominated and elected by the IFFF Board of Directors, manages the operation of the Foundation. The current Trustees are Earl Rettig, President, Mike Stewart, Vice President, Ron Winn, Treasurer, Tilda Evans, Secretary, Bud Frasca, David Lemke and Carl Zarelli. The annual election of officers will take place at the Annual Trustees meeting this September.

As of July 1, 2012 Foundation assets totaled $187,353.27 and at June 30, 2013 assets totaled $200,307.07, a net increase of $12,953.80. No gifts were received while four grants totaling $3,450.00 were distributed. Market value appreciation for the twelve months was $9,616.24 and investment income totaled $7,757.73. Investment management and custody fees were $970.17. As of June 30, 2013 the Foundation had $24,821.19 of undistributed investment income.
Grants for the last year (7/1/12 - 6/30/13) were:

- $1,200.00 to Suncoast Fly Fishers for exhibit at Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fly Fishing and Interactive Museum
- 1,000.00 to Cumberland Valley TU/FFF for environmental work on "The Run"
- 500.00 to winner of Bud Buszek Memorial Award for Life Membership
- 500.00 to help support NW Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy
- 250.00 to fly tier at 2012 Fair as designated by Fly Tying Chair

Many organizations similar to the IFFF have long-standing foundations and have been successful through generous member and donor support in building substantial pools of assets. These assets generate the income necessary to fund the numerous projects and programs to enable their parent organizations to fulfill their goals. Donor support of the IFFF Foundation has sadly been shortchanged. Our members and supporters are asked to think of this foundation when they consider their estate and tax planning objectives.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Ron Winn**

Following is the Balance Sheet for the two years ending December 31, 2011 and 2012. Also attached is a Profit and Loss Statement for the two years 2011 and 2012 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 2012 the Federation’s current assets decreased by $13,684 or about 3.6% and total assets were down $23,973. At the same time the liabilities were reduced by $5,382, resulting in a net asset decrease of $18,591.

**Profit and Loss**

During 2012 we operated at a net loss of $18,591. Much of the shortfall was a result of the annual show not reaching the expected revenues. Fortunately our recent string of successful years has allowed us to deal with this unfortunate situation.
### FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

**Balance Sheet - Previous Year Comparison**

As of December 31, 2011/2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Dec-31-2012</th>
<th>Dec-31-2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Checking/Savings</td>
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<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
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<td>Other Current Assets</td>
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<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
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<td>Fixed Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment/LH Improvements</td>
<td>51,835.43</td>
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<td>Accumulated Depreciation</td>
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<td><strong>Total Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,265.80</strong></td>
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<td>Other Assets</td>
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<td>Website Development</td>
<td>74,294.99</td>
<td>62,136.25</td>
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<td>Accumulated Amortization</td>
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<td>-24,000.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total Other Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>32,219.03</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,136.25</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td><strong>$410,578.11</strong></td>
<td><strong>$434,551.34</strong></td>
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<td><strong>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,801.49</strong></td>
<td><strong>20,183.11</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets</td>
<td>414,368.23</td>
<td>324,612.36</td>
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<td>Net Income</td>
<td>-18,591.61</td>
<td>89,755.87</td>
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<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>395,776.62</strong></td>
<td><strong>414,368.23</strong></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</strong></td>
<td><strong>$410,578.11</strong></td>
<td><strong>$434,551.34</strong></td>
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FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS  
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison  
January through December 2011/2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Dec-31-2012</th>
<th>Dec-31-2011</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>$294,839.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts</td>
<td>122,082.84</td>
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<tr>
<td>Show</td>
<td>130,425.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>General/Interest Groups</td>
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<td>Investment</td>
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<td>IN-Kind Contribution</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$729,814.58</strong></td>
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<td>Compensation</td>
<td>$247,894.95</td>
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<td>Volunteers</td>
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<td>Publications</td>
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<td>Professional Services</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>14,902.70</td>
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<td>Services - Member/Non-Member</td>
<td>115,019.54</td>
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<td>Interest Groups - Expense</td>
<td>6,096.73</td>
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<td>Show</td>
<td>98,694.25</td>
<td>64,305.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Management</td>
<td>87,012.83</td>
<td>89,375.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misc. Expenses</td>
<td>52,152.68</td>
<td>35,162.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>$748,406.19</strong></td>
<td><strong>$601,303.22</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NET INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>-18,591.61</strong></td>
<td><strong>89,779.37</strong></td>
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Finance Committee
Ron Winn & Carl Zarelli – Co-chairs
Members: Bud Frasca, Earl Rettig, Wolf Schray
While the financial stability of the IFFF has improved the overall climate of the economic market has made the Finance Committee cautious about any major changes to the payroll of Triple F. The committee has decided to keep the status quo with a small change. We have decided to consolidate staff operations in Livingston. This should increase the efficiency of our workforce.

Ron has spent much of his time reviewing the financials with Phil and with office manager Rhonda Sellers. Phil, Ron and I have felt the addition of Rhonda has been a very positive move for the organization and has helped the home office focus on efficiencies and cost cutting to help the bottom line.

Carl has spent much of his time working with the CICP and the International Committee to provide a framework for checks and balances for events both domestically and internationally.

While this is not without some additional work for all, it has worked well and the International efforts has shown a small profit or in many cases breakeven for events. While this is not ideal it continues to grow the International Program and the CICP as a whole. In addition Carl spent some time working with the CICP on the CICP finance committee.

The Finance Committee has not had its yearly call as there were no pending issues to deal with. Again a tribute to Rhonda’s management efforts IMO.

- The financial condition of the organization has stabilized even with the difficult times I think we all feel this is due for the most part Phil’s fiscal approach.
- This co-chair reminds the BOD that last year a discussion ensued on how often an audit should take place. It was the consensus of the FC in 2011 that an audit should occur every 5 years with a “review” at the mid-point of that time frame. The BOD should look at this requirement this year.

Membership
Phil Greenlee
The IFFF membership on February 1, 2013 had a total of 10,265 members plus approximately 2,000 electronic members for a total of 12,265. The electronic members consisted of members from Cabela’s Casting for Recovery, EWF from Germany and Orvis. As of July 1 the IFFF membership grew by 633 giving us a total paid membership 10,918 plus the electronic membership gaining 768 members to a total of 2,768. As of July 1, 2013 the combined membership is 13,686.

The councils are bringing in around a thousand new members a years but on the other end of their term we are losing a thousand members. Our challenge is to find a way keep people renewing. To that end we are doing some sample offers to entice members to stay connected with the IFFF. We have been talking with some professional marketing firms
for any suggestions. Right now we are in the exploration phase. We need to get the councils to do a better way of giving information about their procedures in marketing a membership to the IFFF.

National Governmental Affairs Committee
Howard Malpass – Chairman
During the previous year, several aspects of communications have been carried on with the National / State and Local Governments. Several individuals have been contacted by e-mail as well as letters. The following specific officials are in the mailing list:

Robert Bentley, Governor of Alabama
Rick Scott, Governor of Florida
Bobby Jindal, Governor of Louisiana
Phil Bryant, Governor of Mississippi
Rick Perry, Governor of Texas
John McHugh, Secretary, Department of the Army
Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
Janet Napolitano, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security
Kenneth L. Salazar, Secretary, Department of the Interior
Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary, Department of Agriculture

Operations Report
Rhonda Sellers – Office Manager
Overview
The operations of the International Federation of Fly Fishers continue to evolve as we work to meet the challenges of operating in today’s business environment. We continue to evaluate every process and procedure in order to become more efficient and productive for our organization.

Council Support
During this past year, the Federation has seen some changes at the Council level of the organization. The IFFF now has a new Council in Texas with newly-elected leadership. In addition, the Chesapeake Council (formerly Mid-Atlantic Council) has been re-established and has new leadership in place as well.

The staff has provided support to both of these Councils during this transition process by sending out e-mails to Council members, overseeing the Texas election and helping the new leadership understand the policies and procedures of the IFFF.

The staff continues to provide support to all Councils as requested. Examples of supports provided include promotion of their events through the IFFF website and social media outlets, providing membership reports, membership materials and assistance with the Conservation Small Grants Program.
Website
The website has become the major tool in membership administration. It has allowed our organization to take advantage of the technological advancements in maintaining members’ accounts and managing our public presence on the Internet.

The website is actually a content management system (CMS) that provides tools to manage the business. It gives the organization the ability to provide member benefits, secure data that only certain members should be allowed to access and provides our membership the opportunity to manage their own account.

The migration of member records to the new system has been completed. We are now implementing a new portal for the Councils so they can access their designated-member information on a real-time basis as opposed to waiting for the office to issue monthly reports. The portal is being tested by a few Council presidents at this time and will be available to all Councils in the next few months.

We have implemented a new Fly Tiers’ directory during this past year. Through the diligent work of Frank Johnson in Wyoming, we have identified the fly tiers who want to be listed. The new directory provides the public a vehicle to find a fly tying instructor or demonstrator for their events or personal education. While we only have approximately 85 tiers listed today, we believe the directory will grow over time. This is just another example of how we are using the website to connect with our members and the public, building value for the organization.

Staff Changes
During this year, staff changes have occurred and the following employees support the various programs of the IFFF:
- Phil Greenlee - President
- Rhonda Sellers - Office Manager & Conservation
- Gay Penney - Membership
- Holly Sandbo - Casting & Museum
- Judy Snyder - Clubs/Councils, Loaner Program, Social Media, Guides
- Association & Donations
- Jessica Atherton - Fly Fishing Fair & Evergreen Hand Program
- Nikki Loy – Receptionist & Merchandise
- Sharon Cebulla - Bookkeeper

The staff is always willing to assist IFFF members, Councils, clubs and the general public as requested. If any of our stakeholder groups have questions we encourage them to contact one of the staff members for assistance.

Conclusion
The operations of the Federation have continued to change in the past year. Office Manager, Rhonda Sellers, will continue to evaluate the operations and make changes necessary to increase efficiency of the operations, while trying to improve services to our members.
Conservation Report
Rick Williams – Senior Conservation Advisor

Committee Members:
Glenn Erikson PhD, IFFF Conservation Coordinator
Rick Williams PhD, IFFF Senior Conservation Advisor

Conservation VPs from FFF Councils.
Bruce Brown, ERMC James Watkins, SEC
Terry Lyons, GLC Debbie Sharpton, SWC
Chuck Fisk, GCC Ben Dennis, Washington
John Brognard, MAC Duane Marler, WRMC
Brad Eaton, UMCC Jim Schramm, Legal Counsel
Glenn Erikson, NEC Scott Hagan, Osprey, Steelhead Committee
Steve Rose, Ohio Will Atlas, Osprey, Steelhead Committee
Kevin Hutchison, TCC Robert Groskin, Salt Water Committee
Cindy Charles, NCC Bob Tabbert, Coldwater Committee
Clint Brumitt, Oregon Guy “Doc” Harrison, Warmwater Committee
Paul Goodwin, SCC Verne Lemberg PhD, Cons. Advisor Emeritus
Tom Logan, Florida

Emeritus
Kyle Moppert, GCC

I. Conservation Small Grants Program - 2013

IFFF currently funds the Conservation Committee’s Conservation Small Grants (CSG) Program at a $22,500/annum level. The funding provides a $1500 grant opportunity for each participating Council per year. In addition, the Conservation Committee sends out an email solicitation for Conservation funds from a select group of IFFF members. This solicitation generated $20,711 in 2012 and $12,129 to date in 2013.

In calendar year 2012, the Conservation Committee awarded 14 Conservation Small Grants to 10 of the 15 FFF Councils through both a spring and fall grants solicitation totaling $17,827 support. The funded CSG proposals covered all phases of conservation issues that will impact our fisheries. The diverse array of projects, fisheries and locales supported by the FFF Conservation Program has been encouraging.

In the spring CSG solicitation of 2013, we funded eight habitat, access, and education projects in five of the 15 councils, as well as Europe, supporting trout, steelhead, salmon, native salmonids, striped bass, and tarpon fisheries.

The IFFF Spring 2013 Conservation Small Grants awards included:

1) FLC- Florida Big Bend Flyfishers-Piney Lake $1,500
   Piney Z Lake Fish Habitat Restoration
2) NEC- Joan Wulff & Virginia Inst. Of Marine Sciences $1,500
   Striped Bass Disease Research
3) NEC- Wild Trout Flyrodders & Friends Up. Delaware Rvr $1,500
Calendar year 2013’s spring solicitation brought nine proposals (eight were actually awarded), a doubling of 2012’s four grant proposals. We believe that the fall solicitation will again result in an increase in proposals, as previously occurred.

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 and to continue supporting international projects as well. In order to encourage that, Rick Williams and Glenn Erikson will be personally contacting each Council President and Conservation VP to encourage their support in funding a project in each Council in 2013.

II. Whitlock-Vibert Box Program Update

The Whitlock-Vibert box (WVB) program is one of FFF’s successful conservation programs based on participation and the revenue it generates. The WVB instructional manual is currently being updated into a DVD by Dave and Emily Whitlock and local members of FFF and TU in the Mt. Home, Arkansas area.

The final updating of the manual (and the DVD production) was delayed from last year’s proposed completion to later this year due to two factors: 1) the desire to include data from this past June’s plantings of over 100 WVB’s, and 2) the need to identify a committed IFFF leader to guide the final DVD filming and editing to completion. We have $11,000 available to finalize the WVB update and Rick and Glenn are in the process of reaching out to potential candidates who might help bring the project to completion.

III. Native Fish Conservation Areas

The Native Fish Committee is in the final stages of completing a 3-year project in the Upper Snake River Basin in Idaho Wyoming, identifying potential Native Fish Conservation Areas. The project is funded primarily by a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, awarded to Rick and the Federation of Fly Fishers in October 2011 and a Wild Trout Fund Initiative from Patagonia. The project will run through 2013. Results of the project will be presented at the Wild Trout XI Symposium in Yellowstone National Park in October 2013 and at the national annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society in September 2013.

IV. Grants from Patagonia’s Wild Trout Initiative

IFFF has received two grants from Patagonia’s World Trout Initiative (WTI) in support of IFFF initiated projects. The World Trout Initiative funds only groups and efforts working to restore and protect wild, self-sustainable trout, salmon, and other fish species within their native range. WTI looks for innovative groups that produce measurable
results and work on long term solutions to root causes of the problem. World Trout Initiative was formed by Yvon Chouinard of Patagonia (IFFF 2011 Conservation Award) and artist James Prosek (IFFF 2013 Roderick Haig Brown Award).

As mentioned above, in 2011 Rick Williams received a $7,000 grant from the World Trout Initiative to support the identification of native fish conservation areas in Upper Snake River Basin in Idaho and Wyoming.

In 2013, Glenn Erikson and the Wild Trout Flyrodders of the NEC, received another $7,000 grant from the World Trout Initiative for habitat restoration in the upper Delaware River.

IV. 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 Illiamna, Bristol Bay, Alaska area
- Participant in successful lawsuit through the Steelhead Committee to stop the planting of hatchery steelhead in the Elwha River, to protect remnant native steelhead runs as the removal of two outdated dams occurs.
- Sign on to the Interstate Council on Water Policy’s 2013 Streamgage Letters to Congress to maintain funding levels.
- Support to the Florida Council’s letter to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission for Bonefish and Tarpon Catch and Release designation.
- Sign on to the TU Sportsmen Letter for the Public Lands Renewable Energy Development Act.
- Sign on to the Pew Charitable Trust letter to the EPA regarding pollution runoff from concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), requesting Clean Water Act permitting.

V. Miscellaneous

- **Invasive Species.**
  - Glenn Erikson attended the *Didymo* Conference in Providence, RI this past year and is participating in writing the report summary.

- **Press Releases.**
  - All CSG sponsors are now required to prepare press releases prior to their proposal’s funding by IFFF.

- **CSG Rating System.**
  - The Committee is in discussions on the creation of a formal Rating System to better inform Councils of how to prepare for applying for a CSG.

- **CSG Tracking Sheet.**
  - With the assistance of Rhonda the Committee now maintains a Tracking Sheet of all CSG approved proposals, their funding, progress and completion.

- **Adopt-A-Stream.**
  - Four Clubs have now applied for the Adopt-A-Stream program. We are preparing a sign design, which will be paid by a $500 grant from Ted Rogowski.

VI. Goals

We believe the Conservation Committee should focus in the following areas in 2013/4:
• Increase Council participation by funding CSG’s all 15 Councils.
• Increase conservation funding support through collaborative grant writing.
• Support published research on the benefits of the Whitlock Vibert Box to evaluate its use.
• Review, modify as necessary with Board approval, and publish FFF Conservation Committee Policies through the IFFF website to support Clubs and Councils on Legislative issues.
• Enhance IFFF visibility through joining other National Fish Habitat Partnerships.

Flyfisher
Bill Toone - Editor in Chief

The Flyfisher magazine continues to remain as a semi-annual publication due to the financial constraints upon the IFFF. It is clearly the goal of the magazine to get back to its quarterly issue format but the hope is soon to be published in at least a more timely 3 issues a year format.

The digital issue option for our regular membership in lieu of the traditional mailed hard copy continues to lag behind the hard copy option. Currently, of our regular membership we have 1145 members signed up for the electronic magazine delivery. As the numbers show, the majority of the membership continues to receive a hard copy of the magazine. However the digital option has allowed us to offer a free electronic membership (which currently stands at 3068 subscriptions) through Cabelas, Orvis and a few charitable fly fishing related organizations with hopes of growing the exposure to the IFFF.

Communication flow from the clubs and councils to the magazine remains poor at best. This continues to be a disappointment and a consistent struggle for the Home Waters section of the magazine. I am considering dropping the I am a Member section from the magazine due to lack of submissions by the councils. Frequently what profiles we have had in the magazine needed to be done by me which was not the intent.

Keokee Publishing and their staff has continued to do their typical outstanding job of handling the publishing chores and along with the tireless work of Al Beatty deserve all the credit for our excellent magazine.

FFF Fly Tying Group
Jim Ferguson – Chair

The Fly Tying Group (FTG) is in its 6th year as a sub-group of the IFFF charged with representing fly tiers within the IFFF. Our broad goals are to represent tiers and actively participate in a leadership role in fly tying at the local, regional, council, national, and international levels. The FTG was charged with five specific goals: to promote

1) Tying at the national conclave (IFFF International Fly Fishing Fair.)
2) Tying at the international, national, council, and club levels.
3) The continuance of the Tier as Teacher Initiative designed to help the demonstration tier to be a better teacher.
4) Quality fly plate framing.
5) Archiving - an online data base of present and future collections of flies donated to our Museum of Fly Fishing in Livingston, MT.
Summary of Accomplishments for 2013

a) Finance - Our account balance as of July 29, 2013 was $22,540.00. $900 of this balance has been donated in the name of the Evergreen Hand Project for the purpose of helping wounded veterans tie fishing flies.

b) Membership - Present membership in FTG = 235 (compare with 112 in 2011) - Present life FTG members = 16 (compare with 11 in 2011)

c) FTG provides a "Standing Chair" (Gene Kaczmarek) and the Fly Fishing Fair chair (Leslie Wrixon) to work with Jessica Atherton (Fly Fishing Fair Coordinator) to select and schedule tiers for the National Fair.

d) Website presence - FTG, with the help of member Kit Seaton, is now part of the IFFF website and is providing fly tying information thru appropriate tabs and links for FFF members. Kit has also set us up a Fly Tying Group Facebook page. The FTGFlyTyingInstructorResource.org website has been renewed for two years and is growing (project of Jim Ferguson et al.) A link to the site is in the IFFF web site.

e) Fly Plate Framing Project - This project, under the leadership of Steve Jensen, is involved in production of museum-grade fly plates. These plates have earned funds for the IFFF National, IFFF Councils, and IFFF clubs. We sponsor a full-day workshop teaching fly plate construction every-other-year (if possible) at the Fly Fishing Fair.

f) Fly of the Month Project - This project, headed by Bob Bates, has been added to the IFFF website as well as links to other sites where it is available. Not only does this site provide a step-by-step tying instruction component, complete with pictures, viewers can also research the previous patterns chosen for this project.

g) Bylaws - The FTG Board of Governors (BOG) adopted their bylaws and had them approved by IFFF legal department and the IFFF Executive Council. This was a major milestone for the FTG since that document guides all activities of the FTG. Our Bylaws Committee, headed by Tom Logan, is actively helping to make is a workable document to guide our efforts.

h) The FTG BOG reviewed materials relating to the nominations for the Buz Buszek Award and the Dick Nelson Award. The FTG BOG recommended a recipient for the "Buszek" award to be forwarded to the Council of Presidents for their consideration. The FTG BOG recommended a recipient for the "Nelson" award. Recommendations were forwarded through Herb Kettler.

i) The FTG BOG created a "Fly Tying Achievement Award" to recognize an IFFF member whose long-term contributions to fly tying is widely recognized and respected. The award is for outstanding achievement and "demonstrated commitment" of the person in significantly advancing the craft and art of fly tying. Any FTG member may nominate an IFFF member for this award. Selection will be by the FTG BOG and a successful nomination will require a 2/3 majority vote by the IFFF FTG BOG.

j) The FTG has been developing a list of fly tying instructors to help those councils, clubs, etc., find instructors in their area to teach fly tying. This list is one of
the outcomes of the questionnaire resulting from our FTG vision statement inspired by Frank Johnson. His project has resulted in a lot of data relating to the status of fly tying instruction both at the national level and the international level. The instructor list has become part of our IFFF website.

k) The Fly Archive Project is continuing. Part I involving the inventory of the flies already in possession of IFFF has been pretty much completed. Leslie Wrixon, chair of this committee, was hoping to eventually have a web data base presence for these flies. After the International Fly Fair, several FTG members of the IFFF Museum Committee are planning to go to Livingston to continue with the project.

l) We changed the name of the FTG BBQ from "Liars and Tiers BBQ" to the "FTG Rendezvous". This event was well attended in Spokane and has enhanced the sense of identity and unity among FTG members. Participation in the Rendezvous is now open to all, limited only to a maximum number determined by the facility. This was done by allowing registration and ticket sale for the event on the IFFF Fair website.

m) The Evergreen Hand Project has continued to be supported by the FTG BOG. We set up a fund section within our account to receive donations for the Evergreen Hand Project. This project is led by Jesse Scott and Dean Childs. They have moved into a "manufacturing" stage and are distributing the devices.

n) Communications with our members has been accomplished with our quarterly newsletter, "The Dubbing Loop." This newsletter is available on the IFFF website.

o) Two workshops (Fly Tying Instructor's Workshop, How To Be A Better Demonstration Tier) were presented in Spokane as part of our attempt to further the Tier as Teacher Initiative. We also offered two "Introductory (beginning) Fly Tying" classes, one for women, at the Spokane Fair. Attendance was unfortunately very low (0,1) and we realized most attendees are not beginners. A major effort needs to be made in class recruitment and advertisement if the IFFF decides to move to an expo like presence involving the general public in class offerings.

**FFF Casting Instructor Certification Program**

David Diaz - Chair

This year the Casting Instructor Certification Program (CICP) reaches its majority, officially a grown-up at 21 years old. While it is not entirely logical to think of the CICP as an adolescent approaching maturity, it is nearly inevitable to ask if the CICP is actually a mature program, and if so, how? And it is equally inevitable to ask if the program founders, especially Mel Krieger who is usually credited with the originator’s impulse, would approve of what he sees and would he recognize the program?

The Casting Instructor Program is in the best health and has the best prospects in the entire life of the casting education group of the IFFF. Instead of the customary chest beating and tables of impressive statistics that are commonplace in annual reports, the report for this landmark year is going to emphasize two qualitative achievements rather than quantitative increases. There is more important matter to emphasize than that
among the organizations in the world that certify fly casting instructors, ours has the largest population. Population size is not the sole indicator of significance. More important than the dimensions of the Casting Instructor Certification Program is what the program has contributed to the IFFF. The IFFF has established its importance to the fly tackle industry, and that status is the result of the industry’s interest in the Casting Instructor Certification Program and its potential as an essential service provider to the industry. Both Orvis and Cabela’s have featured the services of the IFFF casting instructors in their programs to introduce fly fishing as a satisfying outdoor recreation. The Orvis Fly Fishing 101 program is aimed at providing an introductory fly fishing experience with casting, knot tying, and insect recognition at all of the Orvis company owned stores and some the privately owned stores. www.orvis.com/flyfishing101

The Cabela’s program, Cabela’s Fly Fishing University, is much broader. The program has two components both of which have IFFF casting instruction connections. First is the set of on-line training modules that were originated with the IFFF as a special project cover fly casting hardware, rods, lines, reels, flies, leaders and tippets, basic casting, and other topics. www.cabelas.com/category/Fly-Fishing-University.

The other portion of the Cabela’s program, and a very exciting prospect, centers on providing both year round and seasonal, in-store instructional services from IFFF instructors who will have a regular presence in individual Cabela’s store with a unique status. The CICP instructor will be an enriched information resource who is neither an employee nor a fly tackle industry representative. That arrangement will entail Cabela’s stores developing relationships with individual IFFF casting instructors as regular, visiting professionals on-site at Cabela’s stores nationwide.

Casting Instructors working in the fly tackle industry have produced a substantial and beneficial response directly for the IFFF not previously available. The IFFF office in Livingston has seen and processed nearly 2000 requests for the free one-years’ electronic subscription the IFFF offered to those who participate in the Cabela’s and Orvis programs. The population of new prospects for IFFF membership has expanded directly as a consequence of industry interest in services from IFFF casting instructors. Just what the conversion rate of free to fee-paying members has not been determined.

Both fly fishing industry companies sought the participation of the IFFF; they came to us. Other tackle companies who were interested in an alliance with the IFFF to use skilled casting instructors to showcase fly fishing have checked in with the CICP about availability. The fly tackle industry clearly has a need that it thinks our instructors can meet. Discussions with fly tackle industry sales executives produced a uniform view that what the industry needs most is a flood of new enthusiasts. And to generate them, the industry has to rely on the cooperative resources that are available.

Viewing the IFFF as a resource for the industry and one to be courted is a poignant change from the parochial attitude once frequent among many in the fly tackle industry that the FFF was a dependent always in need of a handout, wise guidance, and a booster seat. The CICP made effective fly casting instruction - knowledge that used to be very hard to come by - very easy to find. Our casting instructors are the perfect resource to connect at the personal level with those new to outdoor recreation looking for guidance
and assistance to select a segment of it to concentrate on. What prospective outdoor recreation enthusiasts have learned from CICP instructors is that fly fishing does not require exceptional strength, height, coordination, or several years of apprentice fumbling. The insider’s secret is that although learning to cast a fly line is not difficult, it is difficult to teach it to oneself quickly. A quick success is what casting instructors can provide those with a consumer’s perspective on outdoor recreation. And those successes are especially attractive for an industry in need of thousands of converts.

Now matured, the CICP mainly provides certification services “out in the provinces” where it does the most good for the IFFF, the Regional Councils, the clubs and members. The contrast between how certification services were acquired by those who desired them in the 1990s and today is remarkable. In 1992 a group of the members from a Texas club set out to Montana in the summer “to get our certifications” like pilgrims on the way to a shrine in Spain or Saudi Arabia. One passed; the rest failed. Certification as a casting instructor used to be a service only available at the IFFF Fair once a year. Now, more candidates are examined and more approvals for certification are written at Regional Council Fairs, at International events, at professional development events that conclude guide certification projects, and some private examinations than takes place at the annual Fly Fishing Fair.

To be specific, the IFFF Fly Fishing Fair sees twenty or less candidates. But annually the CICP certifies one hundred to one hundred and fifty CIs alone, exclusive of MCI and THCI certifications. What has happened in twenty years is that the CICP has distributed certification services out to examiners in the Pacific West, to the South and Southeast, to the Midwest, to the Northeast, to Florida, and overseas. By that action the CICP enabled access to certification closer to where the members live. To accomplish the distributed pattern of certification, the CICP instituted communication and training conduits to all those places initially at the individual level but increasingly to instructor groups in Councils that came to think of casting and testing events as a major part of the offering at their Regional Fly Fishing Fair.

Councils stand to be the strongest direct beneficiaries from certification. Certification testing attracts casting instructors. And in that group the Council can find capable and enthusiastic cadre to present casting classes at the annual Regional fair—for a fee. Casting classes are engaging prospects at fairs. Ticket buyers are hungry for competent casting instruction, and a broad choice of casting education choices appeals to the consumer perspective. Instructors showcase their skills, connect with each other, and promote themselves as instructors. And the Council collects the fees. It is a wining economy of needs and abilities. As a result of just such an arrangement two Councils now generate half or more of the income at the Regional Fair from casting events.

In contrast, when the CICP was instituted over twenty years ago, the sole beneficiary focused on was the potential student. Then, the CICP aimed at a service for the individual. He deserved to know in advance that those who said that they were fly casting instructors were competent. And early on, the CI program met the quality assurance goal for the customers who wanted to hire a reliable teacher. If the instructor carried a CICP membership card, it assured the student that he could expect to get his money’s worth during the lesson. The goal of assured value for the individual has long since been surpassed.
More significant than the thousands of requests for memberships and the industry need for casting instructors is a new awareness from the fly tackle industry that the IFFF and its certification program have a significant and regular role in the industry. In the past fly tackle industry members were likely to look to individuals connected to the IFFF because of social or business connections or because they both thought of themselves as celebrities. In contrast now it is for its capacity for valuable services that the IFFF organization is specifically the object of interest from the tackle industry.

In two prominent ways CICP maturation has contributed to the IFFF. Our organization has the interest of the fly tackle as an equal because we can provide a needed service. And the CICP utility to the Regional Councils can be measured every year in dollars. Neither of the contributions was envisioned by the founders because they were solving different problem. Both contributions are the result of widely held confidence in the quality and reliability of the CICP instructors.

That trust is based on delivered performance, exclusively. And the measure of quality remains the essence of what Mel Kreiger instituted. He saw it wasn’t enough to talk to people about casting or to entertain them with demonstrations. Nobody learned to cast watching entertainers and listening to their patter any more than they learned to play tennis or golf from watching matches on television. What the CICP founders knew was that success in fly casting instruction was the consequence of a teacher who was willing to accept the responsibility for student success. Student success defined instructor priority when the CICP began, and it does so now. That vision has been the signed charter over which the IFFF Casting Instructor Program has prospered for the benefit of the students, the Councils, and the IFFF.

Status in the fly tackle industry and utility to the Councils are quiet benefits not noisy ones. They are the direct consequence of the principles of assured quality and instructor commitment that Mel Kreiger and the other founders instituted. Mel would be amazed at the technical authority and influence of the Casting Instructor Certification Program, and he would be dazzled by what the matured organization had achieved.

**Museum Committee**

**Sherry Steele – Chair**

**Project Proposed October 2010 – Now in it’s 3rd year and going strong.**

The IFFF Museum has grown a bit this year, adding some Bamboo Rods and other items. Holly Sandbo and members of the IFFF staff have done a superb job in displaying and tracking the items being donated. We want to thank Kuni Masuda and the Clark-Skamania Flyfishers for their grant that made it possible to purchase more museum shelving.

A big thank you to Judy Snyder for her work to create the museum introduction video for the web. It is well done. Visit here to see IFFF Museum Mini Tour video.

[http://vimeo.com/55523928](http://vimeo.com/55523928)

**2011 – Phase 1** The museum collection was cataloged and photographed by the committee members. Thanks to John Kimura for the long hours of photographing all the items.
2012 – Phase 2 The Museum Committee joined forces in September 2012 for 2 weeks to catalog the Library Collection. We were successful in cataloging hundreds of books and were able to estimate the value of the book collection. We now have a database that lists the books. Thanks to all committee members that helped with this effort.

2013- Phase 3 of this museum project is to tackle the flies that have been collected over the years. These are the ones that are in boxes and binders and not framed into a plate.

The committee will be arriving at the Museum in Livingston immediately after the fair this year September 30-October 11th. Our purpose this time is to see what flies we have, figure out how we want to catalog and display the flies. If you have flies that are part of this collection or should be, please send them to the IFFF Office.

2013 Committee Members: Sherry Steele-Chair, Jim Crislip, Jim Ferguson, Tom Johnson, John Kimura, Carl Ronk, Kuni Masuda, George Sinelnik, Al Beatty, Gretchen Beatty. Staff support: Holly Sandbo, Rhonda Sellers.

Anyone that is interested in joining the committee, please contact me at steelelfy@msn.com
Council Reports

Chesapeake Council
Marty Laksbergs – President
A new IFFF Council has been formed to represent the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, and Washington, DC. The Chesapeake Council will reach out to all IFFF Members and Clubs -"From Headwaters to Bluewater".

Eastern Rocky Mountain Council
Pat Oglesby – President
The Eastern Rocky Mountain Council’s membership has seen an increase this past year. 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 twelve clubs are spread from northern Wyoming to southern Arizona creating a geographical challenge to hold a Council event.
Florida Council

Thomas Gadacz President

We had our FL Council meeting at the Plantation is Crystal River, FL. The following officers and board were elected.

President Thomas Gadacz
1st VP Tom H. Logan
2nd VP Roger Maler
Secretary Joanna Williams
Treasurer Gerald Bell

Directors Ron Whiteley also Newsletter Editor
David Olsen
Pat Damico
M.E. DePalma also Webmaster
Roger Williams
Dave Lambert
Jack Neely

Directors at Large Andy Mill
Chico Fernandez
Flip Pallot

The Expo for 2012 was not held because of venue problems. The Expo for 2013 is planned for October 18-19, 2013 at the Plantation in Crystal River. Tom Logan, chair, and Tom Gadacz, co-chair, are directing the Expo event. Roger Maler and the Tarpon Coast Fly Fishers are coordinating the local events and publicity. Dave Olson and Brad Lowman are responsible for vendors and Dave Lambert for programs. Pete Greenan is responsible for the casting certifications and Kirk Burton for the auction and raffle.

Gerald Bell, treasurer, has transferred our assets to a more convenient bank and credit cards are accepted at the Expo. M. E. DePalma has updated the web site and put us on Facebook. Ron Whiteley will publicize the Expo in the newsletter. Responsibility has been assigned to several members and subsequent teleconferences have been used to track progress. A meeting was held at Crystal River on July 13 to review assignments, plan casting courses, and room assignments. In addition the presidents of the Florida fly fishing clubs were invited to a luncheon. Six presidents attended and we review the goals of the FL Council and the need to support the FL Council Expo. We discussed what the Council can do for local clubs and what the clubs can do for the Council.

We are working with Rhonda Sellers and Gay Penny on the membership list and will be putting more effort into contacting new members and the e-members.

The FL Council has 8 Charter Clubs, 4 Affiliated Clubs and 6 other fly fishing clubs. Several e-mails have been sent to Charter, Affiliated and others fly fishing clubs announcing the FL Council Expo and offering help to clubs regarding membership, programs and casting clinics. Several of the clubs have posted the FL Council Expo flier in their newsletter and web site.

The list of presidents in all the clubs has been updated and we have sent several e-mails about our activities.
The FL Council gave testimony on the FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission on the bone fish and tarpon catch and release policy. This included written and personal testimony by Tom Logan, Tom Gadacz and Pete Greenan. SFF received a grant from IFFF Foundation of $1,200 for a fly fishing exhibit at the Florida Gulf Coast Center for Fishing and Interactive Museum. Phil Greenlee attended the SFF annual banquet and toured the museum and exhibit. Tom Logan received a $1,500 conservation grant from IFFF with matching $500 from the FL Council for the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge and Nature Center for a conservation project in the Hobe Sound area. The project will develop a model curriculum and teach a two-day, hands-on conservation ethics clinic for young fly fishers (ages 10-17). A conservation plan for the FL Council was developed by Tom Logan. Several fly casting clinics have been held including one by the Florida Big Bend Flyfishers and the Suncoast Fly Fishers. Both have resulted in new memberships. Another clinic is being planned for this fall by the Tampa Fly Fishing Club and the Suncoast Fly Fishers. The FL Council has very good attendance at meetings and several great initiatives have been proposed not only to have a successful Expo but also for a very active and supportive FL Council. The FL Council greatly appreciates the support we have received from IFFF. The monthly teleconferences with other IFFF Council Presidents have been very helpful with great ideas for promoting the goals of IFFF and the FL Council.

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 continues to be involved in the implementation of hydro dam settlement agreements on the Muskegon, Manistee, Au Sable, Thunderbay, Menominee and Ontonagon Rivers. The MHRC efforts resulted in a Settlement Agreement that lead to the surrender of the hydro licenses of three dams on the Boardman River. 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 removal was completed in the fall of 2012. Plans are moving forward for the removal of the Brownbridge and Sabin dams. The MHRC will be involved as part of the Implementation Team in removal of the dams.

2012 GLC Fly Tying Expo
The Council’s twelfth annual Fly Tying Expo was held on December 1, 2012 at the Holt High School in Holt, Michigan. The event was a great success with substantial dollars raised for the education and conservation programs of the GLC. Plans are underway for the 2013 Expo scheduled for December 7, 2013

2013 GLC Fly Fishing School & Fair
The 2013 GLC Fly Fishing School & Fair held on June 14-16, 2013 was a great success and plans are underway for 2014 event to be held June 13-15, 2014 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 2013 and 2014**
The Board of Directors has scheduled board meetings for 2013 and 2014. The fall board meeting will be held by conference call in October, the winter board meeting will be by conference call in February and the spring meeting which is the annual board meeting will be at our Fly Fishing School & Fair in June in Roscommon, Michigan. The Annual General Membership Meeting will also be held on Saturday of the Fly Fishing School & Fair.

**Michigan DNR License Change/Governors Budget**
In February the Governor submitted a budget proposal that included a new license package. If approved by the legislature this proposed package would provide millions of dollars of new revenue for the DNR and Fisheries Division. The Conservation Community immediately responded with support for this proposal. The legislature approved the bill this spring.

**Fisheries Division Strategic Plan**
In February Fisheries Division released a Draft Strategic Plan. This plan provided a little history and laid out options for the DNR website. The plan also discussed how additional revenue would be utilized. The GLC provided comments on the draft plan.

**Oil and Gas Development in Northern Michigan**
Mineral extraction development is on the increase in Northern Michigan. We are working closely with the Anglers of the Au Sable’s Oil and Gas Committee on this issue. Most of this committee’s members are also GLC Directors. Our primary concern (but not only) is the high volumes of water required for this drilling. New permit applications have been submitted for wells requiring over 15,000,000 gallons of water. The majority of this water will be lost for future use forever. It will be heavily polluted and re-injected into deep wells for disposal. There is much opposition from the Conservation/Environmental Community. There is much discussion ongoing about how best to deal with this issue.

**United States Geological Survey Gauging Station on the South Branch of the Au Sable**
The USGS informed us earlier this year that the gauging station on the South Branch of the Au Sable at Smith Bridge would be shut down on October 1st due to the high cost of operation. This website is one of the most popular among anglers and guides that fish the lower South Branch and mainstream of the Au Sable River. An online petition was circulated for the purpose of sending a message to the USGS about the popularity of this site. Soon after the petition was sent to USGS officials we were informed that the site would be operational for another year.
Atlantic Salmon Planting in Lake Huron Tributaries
The DNR Fisheries Division has been exploring the possibility of expanding the planting of Atlantic Salmon in Lake Huron Tributaries. Historically Atlantics have been planted in the St. Mary’s River and a few other sites around the state. The Anglers of the Au Sable have promoted planting Atlantics in the lower Au Sable with the hopes that this will create a river fishery for these fish. This could lead to more people utilizing the lower river. This summer Fisheries personnel have been surveying possible stocking sites to determine which are best suited for the planting. The results of this work have just been released. The lower Au Sable River is the highest rated site of those reviewed. The Lake Huron Citizens Fishery Advisory Committee was presented the Fisheries Division’s plan to plant 30,000 yearling Atlantics below Foote Dam if they are available. The proposal also includes stocking Atlantics in the Thunder Bay system. The Committee voted to endorse this proposal.

Asian Carp
Earlier this year EDNA samples have indicated that there is evidence of the existence of Asian Carp in both Lake Michigan and Lake Erie. There have been no Asian Carp found in the sampling that followed. A recent Corps of Engineers Study of 18 waterways leading to Lake Michigan near Chicago found that there is little likelihood of the Carp entering the Great Lakes through these waterways. If this study is correct we should be encouraged. If it is not the Corps may be moving in the wrong direction and allow these aggressive fish into Lake Michigan. Many biologists have stated that the question is no longer if the Carp will enter the Great Lakes but when.

The 70-degree Pledge
This project was created by Tom Buhr of the ASBWPA to protect the fishery below Mio and has been endorsed by both the GLC and the Anglers. The project asks fishers who release their fish to voluntarily not fish when the morning water temperature of the river below the Mio Dam is 70 degrees or greater. For more information or to sign on to the pledge go to the GLC website and use the link to the ASBWPA website. We have recommended that our members apply this logic to all Catch and Release fishing below any of Michigan’s dams where summer water temperature is a problem.

Mason Tract Drilling
On September 6th Savoy Energy withdrew its application to drill on USFS land adjacent to the Mason Tract, bringing this ongoing battle to an end. This is truly a great victory for the Anglers of The Au Sable, Sierra Club, the Mason Family and all of the sportsmen and women that have worked so hard on this issue. The statement that we received was merely a short memo to the BLM Milwaukee office that indicated that Savoy would no longer be pursuing their application to drill beneath the Mason Tract.

UP Brook Trout:
At the October NRC meeting Fisheries Division presented a proposal to leave the Brook Trout Bag Limit in the Upper Peninsula at five fish per day. This decision came after Fish Division collected data from its field personnel, held public meetings and received a recommendation of the proposal from the Cold Water Resources Steering Committee. Soon after this meeting DNR Director Creagh instructed Fisheries Division to prepare a new proposal that will change the bag limit on 10 streams to 10 fish per day and to develop studies that will determine the impact of this regulation change. The GLC, the Anglers of the Au Sable and Au Sable Big Water Preservation Association have sent a
letter to Director Creagh objecting to this new proposal and asking him reconsider this decision. At the November NRC meeting a different proposal that includes only 5 streams with 3 more to be determined later was presented. Information about the new proposal can be found on the DNR=s website.

**Gulf Coast Council**  
**Kyle Moppert – President**

2012/13 was a year of great changes for the Gulf Coast Council. Stretching some 1200 plus miles from the western edge of Florida to the Rio Grande, the GCC’s geographic boundaries had proven to have too many inherent problems. We in the GCC saw the need for more compact councils with people whose cultural ties, history, and geography were a more natural fit.

When the five clubs in northern Texas, were approached with the idea of joining with the Federation clubs in central and southern Texas to form a Texas Council, strong support for this idea quickly grew. The GCC BOD then requested the division of the council by the IFFF BOD. On November 26, 2012, the IFFF BOD voted to “revise” the boundaries of the GCC to form the Federation’s newest council, The Texas Council, and the “revised” Gulf Coast Council.

**GCC Board of Directors**

With the exception of the President, Treasurer, and VP Development, upon the division of the GCC, the previous BOD resigned, but only after two Federation members representing each active, and some non-active, Federation clubs were ratified as an acting or “temporary” BOD. Subsequently, this BOD elected a slate of officers. These members of the Board and Officers will serve the Council until such time that the council holds an open election at our next Fly Fair.

**Communications**

The GCC is currently looking for a new web master, and we expect revise our website and to publish our first newsletter prior to the release of this report.

**Finance**

The previous GCC BOD voted to spit the Council’s treasury evenly between the two councils giving each approximate $13,500.

**Membership**

Although the “revised” GCC is currently the smallest council in Federation membership, at the time of our restructuring, greater than one in six Federation members of the GCC was a Life Member, and since our “re-founding”, growth in Federation membership has occurred at a steady pace. This growth has happened prior to holding any council wide events, and therefore, as this council has more interactions between members and clubs, we expect continued growth.

Upon revising our council boundaries, the “revised” GCC was comprised of just six active, Federation clubs: Eastern Shore FF, Magnolia FF, Historic Ocean Springs Saltwater FF, Mississippi Coast FF, Red Stick FF, and Acadiana Fly Rodders and commitment to the Federation was weak in many of these clubs. Since this re-organization, support for the Federation has grown within all of these clubs; the North Louisiana FF has voted to join the GCC; and the Cane Country Fly Casters (a charter club) has joined the Federation and the GCC. Currently, the Contraband Fly Casters and
the New Orleans FF are filing paper work to rejoin the Federation as members of the GCC.

As we moved through this revision process, we have worked with the presidents of the GCC, TXC, FLC, and SEC, who have all agreed not to recruit, nor to accept clubs, from within the geographic boundaries of bordering councils. Honoring this agreement, the GCC has already informed at least two such out-of-council clubs that while we will be glad for them to participate in all GCC events, we would prefer that they remain affiliated with their current councils.

**Conservation**
The GCC and our clubs continue to work in the stewardship of our resources. The GCC BOD has voted to donate half of the profits from our upcoming show early 2013 in Historic Ocean Springs, MS to the University of Mississippi Gulf Coast Research Lab for fisheries research.

**Education**
The GCC is breaking new ground in educational efforts, by working with a new, regional Boy Scouts of America “High Adventure” Camp, BSA Swamp Base, [www.BSASwampbase.org](http://www.BSASwampbase.org).

This is a 65 mile kayaking adventure through the Louisiana’s famed Atchafalaya Basin. In April, the GCC committed to supply Swamp Base with 50 TFO Educational Fly Rod Sets this year (the majority of these rods came as donations from our member clubs); a fly box including six flies with Swamp Base imprinted on one side and FFF logo and website imprinted on the reverse side was given to each attendee; GCC MCI’s held trainings for Swamp Base staff, so that all staff members would be qualified to teach the overhead and roll cast to any participating scout; and tying equipment and materials are being solicited for the next Swamp Base term. In their first year, Swamp Base hosted 160+ participating scouts from Minneapolis, Chicago, Atlanta and several cities in Texas and Louisiana (UMWC, SEC, TXC and GCC). In the coming years, Swamp Base plans on marketing this High Adventure Camp nationally as the BSA’s “Premier Fly Fishing Destination”. In 2014, they expect 4-500 participants from across the country, and the GCC will ask for assistance from the IFFF National and other Councils to assist us to supply an adequate number of educational fly rods to this program, as well as, flies for each scout/leader, to allow for every scout who attends Swamp Base to catch the abundant, trophy-sized fish in this, the country’s largest river-driven swamp. It is our goal for scout troops to be referred to their “local” Federation clubs/councils prior to attending Swamp Base. Such referrals will allow for Federation clubs and councils across the USA to work with, train, and form associations with “their” participating scout troops.

The clubs in the GCC have long history of holding successful events, such as the annual shows put on yearly by the Acadiana Fly Rodders, Red Stick FF, Contraband Fly Casters, and the Cane Country Fly Casters; the casting events held by the Historic Ocean Springs Saltwater FF; the Boy Scout Leader Trainings held by the Eastern Shore FF, the New Orleans FF Rio Rodeo, the Gulf Coast Council MCI’s will hold two casting events this coming year, one in Mississippi and one in Louisiana, for those wishing to take CCI and MCI certification, and as previously stated, the GCC will hold a Fly Fair in Historic Ocean Springs, MS in early 2013.
Red Stick FF Annual Grand Isle Trip (with participants from eight or nine area clubs), the North Louisiana FF annually participation with two east Texas clubs to co-sponsor the Caddo Conclave, and the Acadiana Fly Rodders continuing work with Reel Recovery. In addition, in November, the GCC and Texas Councils will work together to co-sponsor the 25th North Toledo Bend Rendezvous, the oldest, non-show related gathering of fly tiers in the South. http://pages.suddenlink.net/w/Rendez/indexR.html

**Northern California Council**  
**Ken Brunskill- President**

**Club Support**
NCC has a quarterly Club President’s Newsletter and Facebook page to keep our clubs and membership better informed as to what we do, within the NCC and FFF. More clubs are now using our “Club President List Serve” to keep in touch with other club events. Thanks to our new VP Outreach & Marketing Bob Shoberg and Dave Ford for all their hard work.

**Membership**
We continue to see very spotty increase of new members. We are asking the IFFF and other councils for the crucial information on what value the federation provides; we believe that message is not getting across.

**Education**
The Fly Fishing Learning Center (FFLC) participated in at “The Fly Fishing Show” in Pleasanton, CA.
This year the NCC received an award from the Aquatic Resource Educators Association (AREA), who chose our Aquatic Classroom Education program from the rest of the nation for this award.
The “Veterans First Fly Fishing” has grown to (6) sites – it is not intended to be a local program, anyone interested in beginning a program should contact Ken Brunskill, founder & chairman.

**Fund Raising**
December 2012 we conducted the 1st Veterans First Fly Fishing dinner, where the 100% of the net would be utilized for the Veterans events, raising $8,000+ for that worthy endeavor.  
February 2013 we honored 30 years of past recipients of the NCCFFF Fly Fishing Hall of Fame,. The event was held at a new location: Fremont, Elks Club in Fremont, CA, the event was well attended, raising $8,000+ for conservation.  
Our Development VP, Harold Whitmore has been a dynamo (he plans these events & does the cooking too!)

**Conservation**
NCC is actively involved in the fight against the ‘Tunnels’ being proposed to divert water from the Sacramento River, with more Sacramento River water going south to water lands that never saw crops before. Our Conservation VP, Cindy Charles continues to advise us on issues affecting the Merced River, Tuolumne River, McCloud River, Lower American River, Klamath River & Smith Rivers.  
As well as continued involvement with Dam Relicensing and removal at: Don Pedro Dam, MF American R. FERC relicensing, Upper Yuba River FERC relicensing  
Our Striper Fest team works tirelessly on the Striped Bass Lawsuits and regulations.
Being new to the presidency, and having little to zero council background I am sorry this is a skimpy report, let’s hope that our board becomes more engaged and we have more to report next year.

**North Eastern Council**

**Leslie Wrixon – President**

**NEC Territory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United States of America</th>
<th>Canada</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut - New Jersey</td>
<td>Ontario - New Brunswick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine - New York</td>
<td>Prince Edward Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts - Rhode Island</td>
<td>Newfoundland/Labrador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire – Vermont</td>
<td>Nova Scotia – Quebec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 was a 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 which is distributed 4 times per year. Our website is in the process of updating it to even higher standards as a part of the FFF National website. We continually seek input from clubs and members for content such as events and accomplishments for the newsletter and website.

Another premier communications tool is our Communications Tree which is a newsletter exchange 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.

The NEC uses Constant Contact to distribute electronic media. This technology allows the NEC to also deliver timely information on breaking news (such as environmental issues, legislative action and gatherings) to our membership.

**Finance**

We are holding our own getting by with the profits from our annual fly plate raffle, a rod outfit raffle and a few contributions and bequests. While we are blessed with having three commercial fly fishing shows in our council area, it also makes it challenging to plan a council-wide gathering that offers new and exciting exhibits that prospective show goers would travel to see and provide a revenue generator. In 2012 the NEC partnered with a local fly shop (The Bears Den, Taunton, MA) for a one-day event. The show featured an event featured casting instruction, fly tying, gear preparation, knot tying and some entomology. The goal for 2013 is to find other fly fishing shops within the Council in different geographic locations to co-sponsors more of these events.

NEC is seeking to find a VP of Fund-raising and is working on strategic planning in 2012-2013.

**Membership**

The number of clubs in the NEC area remains stable. Overall membership declined by 6% in 2012. We continue to have increasing volunteerism from our clubs in staffing our show booths, which helps build a stronger bond. There are several new clubs that may be coming into the FFF/NEC in 2013.
**Conservation**
The NEC and our Clubs continue to do exceptional work in the stewardship of our resources. Stocking programs (including float stocking,) stream cleanup and restoration projects continue to dominate the conservation efforts.

With the assistance of FFF small grant monies we have begun two projects in the Catskills: the Tomannex (NY) Boulder Placement Project and improvements in the Gannet Parcel Project in Downsville (NY).

The NEC continues to monitor the hydro-fracking issues in our Council. The legalities of such practices and the pollution of ground water are key concerns. We seek to keep our membership informed about fracking developments.

**Education**
The NEC continues to move forward in educational efforts. We continue to work with scouting contacts (BSA) educating local leaders of our existence and willingness to help. We also continue to put forward our FFF Learning Center - a program at shows and events to reach those of all ages who want to give it a try fly tying or receive casting instruction from a CCI. Our clubs are very involved with local efforts germane to their areas.

The number of CCIs in the NEC continues to grow dramatically.

**Activities**
- **January** - Fly Fishing Show MA - Youth/BSA Fly Tying & Casting, FFF Learning Center, BOD Meeting
- **January** - Fly Fishing Show NJ - Youth/BSA Fly Tying & Casting, FFF Learning Center, BOD Meeting
- **February** - Bears Den MA - Information Booth
- **March** - LL Bean - Fishing Expo ME and 5/7 LL Bean store locations Fly Tying Demonstrations and Information Booth
- **March** - One day event co-sponsored with The Bears Den, Taunton, MA
- **May** - West Point Military Academy BSA Invitational Camporee – Casting Lessons
- **May** - BOD Meeting, Narragansett, RI
- **June** - Directors’ Nominating Committee Formed
- **June** - American Museum of Fly Fishing Fly Fishing Day VT – Information Booth
- **September** - BOD Meeting via conference call, Directors’ Ballots Sent To NEC Membership for 2011 Election
- **October** – Election of BOD by Membership
- **November** - Arts of The Angler Show, CT
- **November** - International Fly Tying Symposium, NJ - Youth Tying Lessons, BOD Meeting and Election of Officers
Ohio Council
Jim Stone – President

The OHC is still working its way back to being a more active council. The board of directors is still shy of a good operating number of directors, but two new directors have joined the board in the past couple of months. We now have 6 board members representing four clubs. It was discovered that the OHC has lost its non-profit status in 2012 and a recent vote at our last board meeting gave the go-ahead to regain the non-profit status. Contact will be made soon with Jim Schramm to start the process.

The council attended five of its usual annual events during the past year that were hosted by some of the council’s fly fishing clubs and other outdoor organizations. Selling raffle tickets and other items at these events helped boost the council’s financial state for the year. The “Ohio Council Warm Water Conclave”, which is the main money making event was cancelled this year for various reasons.

Membership in the state has been slowly declining, but plans are for members of the BOD to visit the clubs to answer any questions asked about the IFFF and to gain some insight of what is expected or needed from the council and the IFFF.

Oregon Council
Sherry Steele – President

Who we are
Oregon Fly Fishing Clubs are the Oregon Council. Each FFF club in Oregon has the opportunity to hold a seat on the Oregon Council Board of Directors. These board members are the decision makers that represent the 571 FFF Members in the state of Oregon.

What we do
The Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers continues to host/sponsor The Northwest Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo every year, on the 2nd weekend in March. It is deemed the largest fly tying and fly fishing only expo in North America. This widely successful event generates funds to give back to clubs and other non-profit groups for their conservation and education projects. We are focused on conservation projects and youth education programs. We fund 2 education grants to our up and coming graduate students at OSU.

Mission: to cultivate and advance the art, science and sport of fly fishing as the most sporting and enjoyable method of angling and the way of fishing most consistent with the preservation and use of game fish resources.

ORCFFF Annual Report 2013:

- Hosted the 25th Anniversary of The Northwest Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo March 8th & 9th, 2013. We do this to encourage networking, education and creative thinking among anglers, fly-fishing industry retailers, suppliers, services, conservation groups, support groups and friends. The results of the 2013 Expo are as follows: Attendees-2000+, Demonstration Fly Tiers-206, Exhibitors-56, and Classes-116. Revenue-$17,887.00
- Conservation Grants Funded:
- Clamath Country Fly Fishers ($1,000) – Provide funding to plant willows and alders along a newly constructed 1.3 mile section of the South Fork Sprague River in securely anchored cages that will protect the new seedlings from foraging wildlife and withstand normally expected high levels of spring runoff.
- Cascade Family Fly Fishers ($1,303) – Provide funding for two projects: 1) purchase trees, shrubs, and grasses to augment ongoing habitat improvement to reestablish hydrological conditions between the Willamette River and Delta Ponds as well as improve in-stream and riparian habitat for Chinook salmon, American Beaver, Western Pond Turtle, River Otter and neo-tropical migratory birds; 2) purchase hand tools for middle school students to repair riparian zone of Cedar Creek, removal on invasive species, clearing the channel of unnatural obstructions, and removing trash deposited by runoff.

- Club Grants Funded:
  - Central Coast Fly Fishers ($1,000) – Provide funding to purchase fly tying tools and materials for member and youth-oriented fly tying. The Club projects helping 180 participants in the next year.

- Scholarships Awarded:
  - Provided two Oregon State University scholarships in the amount of $1,500 each for advanced degrees in fisheries.

- Clubs in Oregon – Our clubs are very active doing great conservation projects and youth education programs. They are the backbone of the success of the Expo.

- Our budget for the council and expo have been finalized in this summary below:

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### 2013 – 14 Budget (Rev 3) 7/20/2013 – COUNCIL APPROVED

by John Kreft

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013-14 Budget Detail</th>
<th>2013-14 Budget Summary</th>
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<td>Other expenses (data base development, meetings)</td>
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<td>Newsletter printing &amp; postage</td>
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<td>Council brochures</td>
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<td>Storage costs ($87/month)</td>
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Newly Elected Oregon Council Board and Expo Committee July 20, 2013 - July 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>OCRFF Board</th>
<th>2014 Expo Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sherry Steele</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steelefly@msn.com">steelefly@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Council President</td>
<td>Expo &amp; Vendor Chair. Temporary Promotion, Volunteers, Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol LaBranche</td>
<td><a href="mailto:labranche1@yahoo.com">labranche1@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Expo Merchandise &amp; Expo Booth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Kreft</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jckreft@gmail.com">jckreft@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Ferguson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.ferguson@comcast.net">j.ferguson@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Exec Director</td>
<td>Advisor to Tier Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Bulkley</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gbulkley@wildblue.net">gbulkley@wildblue.net</a></td>
<td>Exec Director</td>
<td>Conservation Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. D. &quot;Skip&quot; Hosfield</td>
<td><a href="mailto:skiphos@comcast.net">skiphos@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Senior Advisor - Non voting</td>
<td>Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Blount</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wasatchangling@flytyingtools.com">wasatchangling@flytyingtools.com</a></td>
<td>Communications Chair (Council Newsletter)</td>
<td>Facilities Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clint Brumitt</td>
<td><a href="mailto:clintorfff@gmail.com">clintorfff@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Conservation Chair</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marv Clemons</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mclemons1@mindspring.com">mclemons1@mindspring.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Cascade Family</td>
<td>Auction/Raffle Assist - Operating Raffle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Crislip</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jacrislip4x4@comcast.net">jacrislip4x4@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Club Rep Washington County Fly Fishers</td>
<td>Expo Vice Chair &amp; Auction/Raffle Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim DeVries</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kddflyfishing@aol.com">kddflyfishing@aol.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Umpqua Valley Fly Fishers</td>
<td>Operation of ORCFFF - merchandise booth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Email</td>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hal Gordon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gordonhw@yahoo.com">gordonhw@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Tier Chair</td>
<td>Tier Chair - Tier Invitation Coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pete Gustavson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:peter@prgustavson.com">peter@prgustavson.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Sunriver Anglers</td>
<td>(Affiliate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cal Hudspeth</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Calhud625@msn.com">Calhud625@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Mid-Willamette Fly</td>
<td>Casting Chair + Club Rep - North Santiam Casters &amp; Santiam Fly Fishers (Affiliate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dwight Klemmin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgklemmin@msn.com">dgklemmin@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Casting Certification Classes</td>
<td>- Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Mac</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ruairidh@juno.com">ruairidh@juno.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Northwest Fly Fishers</td>
<td>Facilities Assist-Sound/presentation systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farlane</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pete Gustavson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Peter@prgustavson.com">Peter@prgustavson.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Rogue Fly Fishers</td>
<td>Merchandise Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Roberts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oretroub@msn.com">oretroub@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Central Oregon Fly Fishers</td>
<td>Facilities Assist/setup/cleanup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Steele</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steelifly2@msn.com">steelifly2@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - Stonefly Maidens</td>
<td>Auction/Raffle Assist- Operating Silent/Live Auction@ banquet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bunnie Steiner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annetteka@comcast.net">annetteka@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Club Rep - McKenzie Flyfishers</td>
<td>Website Chair design- Web banners-Facebook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butch Minich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:goinfishin@peak.org">goinfishin@peak.org</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Roberts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oretroub@msn.com">oretroub@msn.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Steele</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steelifly2@msn.com">steelifly2@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bunnie Steiner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annetteka@comcast.net">annetteka@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:oretroub@msn.com">oretroub@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Steele</td>
<td><a href="mailto:steelifly2@msn.com">steelifly2@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bunnie Steiner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annetteka@comcast.net">annetteka@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Roberts</td>
<td><a href="mailto:oretroub@msn.com">oretroub@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Steele</td>
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<td>Council Membership</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:leslie@amatobooks.com">leslie@amatobooks.com</a></td>
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**South Eastern Council**  
**Marvin Cash – President**

The South Eastern Council 2013 Fly Fishing Festival was held on May 17–18 at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina. Ian and Charity Rutter, Al Buhr 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.

We partnered with Little River TU and hosted a BBQ to benefit brook trout restoration in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. We also shared our auction platform with our local Casting For Recovery and Project Healing Waters programs to help them raise additional funds.

At the Saturday night auction and awards banquet, we gave the following FFF-SEC
awards for 2012–2013:
1. FFF-SEC Man of the Year Award to Marvin Cash
2. FFF-SEC Woman of the Year Award to Deb Bowen
3. FFF-SEC Fly Casting Instructor Award to Kent Edmonds
4. FFF-SEC Fly Tier of the Year Award to Gene Barrington
5. FFF-SEC Conservationist of the Year Award to Triangle Fly Fishers
6. FFF-SEC President's Award to Gary Jones
7. FFF-SEC President’s Award to Karen Brand
8. FFF-SEC President’s Award to Ross Schweinforth

Nationally renowned fly fishing artist, Alan Folger (www.clearwatermemories.com) produced a beautiful smallmouth print with the listed award for us to give to each of our award recipients.

We awarded a $1,000 Fred Stevenson Memorial Scholarship in 2013 to Jacob Fose of Western Kentucky University.

**Southern Council**
**Michael Ames – President**

Our focus this year has been to continue to promote the IFFF Mission and the success of the national organization, our council, and the individual clubs. The successes of these efforts are the direct result a small core group of dedicated individuals.

The 2nd and 3rd SOC Fly Fishing Schools were held in 2013 in March and April. The school was focused on the beginner/intermediate fly fisher and was comprehensive in nature covering reading water, fishing techniques using streamers, wet flies, drys and nymphs. Casting instruction was handled by CCI’s, and guides handled the on the water fishing time. Both schools were at maximum capacity and were successful fundraisers.

We provided monetary grants for the following:

To the **Big Mac Fly Fishing Club** in Ogallala, NE - $1,500 for the reconstruction of a private pond to improve the fishery. Humphrey's Pond, is listed with Nebraska Game and Parks as part of the public access waters program. This fishery will be available to the public. It will also be used for fly fishing and other non-profit fundraising efforts.

To **Ozark Fly Fishers** of St. Louis, MO - $500 - Improvements of the Mill Creek Watershed.

Mill Creek is a 7-mile long, spring fed, self-reproducing "Blue Ribbon" trout stream. It contains only wild trout; one of only four in the state. Fish habit, water quantity, and stream morphology are altered due to landscape scale changes. Fish species populations vary greatly between wet and dry years. Previous attempts to construct fish habitat structures have worked but success has been variable to gravel load movement during flooding events filling in pools created by skyhooks or boulders. Multiple partners are working together on a long-term landscape conservation effort. The need is to execute a much more permanent pool-riffle sequence to sustain fish populations during all water quantity conditions. The solution has been identified as a technique pioneered by the U.S. Forest Service. Bob Gubernick, USFS Region 9 Watershed Restoration Geologist, will design multiple engineered large wood structures in a one-mile section of Mill Creek on U.S. Forest Service lands. There are three design types for engineered large wood
structures. One is a logjam using whole trees and root wads keyed deeply into stream banks (i.e. the root wad and 60' of corresponding tree truck is anchored in perpendicular fashion to the stream bank). These engineered log jams protect banks, create pool habitat, provide cover, and are long lived self-sustaining structures. Another design is in an apex jam, which is created within the stream channel using whole trees and root wads. Apex jams are used to divide flow (typical in a larger stream complex), protect or form islands for complex habitat, store sediment, provide cover, and nice crescent shaped pool occurs on the upstream side of the structure. The third design is a "bar buddy" constructed on gravel bars and similar in design to an apex jam. The bar buddy is placed along the stream edges to decrease the stream width (in sections where stream is wide and shallow) and increase bar size by storing more gravel. These structures have been successfully implemented in areas of salmon habitat restoration, including Alaska, where Bob previously worked.

The first official phase (design) of the project will begin in late January 2013 with a visit from Bob Gubernick (from Minneapolis) to perform the detailed stream survey work. The actual construction work would be completed in 2014. The trees for this project will be obtained through a stewardship agreement between U.S. Forest Service and Mill Creek Watershed Coalition. Kelly Whitsett (Mark Twain National Forest Hydrologist) will be the lead and work directly with Nick Girondo (Missouri Department of Conservation, Fisheries Biologist) and the Mill Creek Watershed Coalition and their collaborators. The final report will be submitted in Q1 2015.

The installation of the woody debris anchors fit into a MUCH larger and comprehensive vision for the Mill Creek watershed. A total watershed planning approach will be used to restore/improve the entire Mill Creek watershed. This will benefit the natural communities and the people who pursue recreational activities therein. Key outputs include:

1) Extensive habitat improvement - Including habitat for federally listed endangered species including the Hine's emerald dragonfly, the Gray bat, the Indiana bat, two state listed fish species (plain's top minnow and least darter), and vegetation improvements including open woodland habitat and glade restoration

2) Enhanced recreational opportunities and

3) Innovative educational opportunities including "The Clean Water Experience" field trip, which is to be executed in conjunction with the Missouri Master Naturalists program.

Importantly, the large woody anchors are part of a longer term solution to fundamentally significantly improve the hydrologic function, water quantity and quality, aquatic habitat, and foraging for terrestrial habitat (including bats), and in the watershed overall including plan and animal habitat improvements.

The funds will be used to help cover the cost of the official stream survey work and design. Survey work is required to identify the location for the habitat improvements and to determine type and size of engineered large wood structure.

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. 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.

Southwest Council
Michael Schweit – President

2012-2013 saw continued improvement for the Southwest Council in areas of outreach with the general public and our clubs, the conversion of two clubs to Charter Status and closer ties to the retailer/manufacturing side of our industry.

Outreach

SWC continues to improve on our planning and execution in bringing fly fishing to the general public through the Fred Hall Show in Long Beach. This 5 day show caters to those that fish and hunt and remains a ripe source for our Council. In the four years that we have been at this show, we have continued to expand our casting lessons and tying, along with a smaller general audience outreach through speakers. Next year, we are setting up to have panel discussions, guest speakers (guides, retailer, industry), advertising at the show (before we have waited for people to come by our booth) and raffle prizes to those that take a casting lesson or otherwise interact with us. This will also allow us to capture e-mail addresses to invite them to future events.

We have started a partnership with Sport Chalet, a sporting goods chain in California, Nevada and Arizona. Our clubs are teaching Learn to Fly Fish in their stores approximately once a quarter. This has not been without its kinks but we believe, in the long term, that this will allow us to introduce fly fishing to a more general audience. Sport Chalet is also allowing clubs to use their meeting rooms at no charge.

Finally, the Council has stepped into a new role of coordinating fly fishing events throughout SoCal. In May of this year, we hosted a gathering of IFFF retailers, some of our club presidents, a fishing guide who also manages restaurants, Bird Marketing (IF4 Film Festival), Fred Hall Show representative and some of the manufacturers that we know. The discussions were centered around What are we doing to increase outreach and bring new people into the sport. We will be working with IFFF retailers to have a more organized plan of events that are available to the fly fishing public and the general outdoor and conventional fishing public. One example is fishing events. Some areas have lots of fresh water fishing but the biggest venue in SoCal is Surf Fishing. We need to
utilize this to show the public how to fly fish AND catch fish. We have agreed to share the cost of a Social Media professional with Marriott’s Fly Fishing in Fullerton, CA and the Fishermen’s Spot in Van Nuys, CA and this will allow us to list any and all events on many of the different social media platforms that exist. We will also be conducting IF4 screenings in multiple locations in California and any profits from these events will be pooled to create a marketing fund to use for print and radio advertising.

Respectfully submitted, August, 2013
Michael Schweit, President

Listed below are reports from various chairs of our Council in their specific areas.

Fly tying
The years 2012 and 2013 to date have seen a push to increase the involvement of the fly tying community in local, regional and national events. In an era where it has become increasingly hard to convince anglers to take up fly tying due to the steady reduction of cost over the last two decades of commercially available flies (in GDP terms), the SWCFFF has tried to increase the presence of fly tiers at our shows, and at club and outreach levels. Getting more people interested in coming to events to watch fly tiers demonstrate and take workshops to improve their skills is a priority; especially with the rise of internet how-to videos, which although welcome, and have shown ability to share ideas far and wide, are no substitute to sitting down with masters of the craft, and learning nuances that are not available in any other way. We have seen growing fly tying participation in our Fly Buy, held early each year at the Long Beach Casting Clubhouse, the great success of our first regional "conclave" in a long time, held at Mammoth Lakes, California, with anticipation of greater attendance this year; our attendance at the Fred Hall Show, Bass Pro events, local club meetings, and at various fly fishing retail stores, such as The Fishermen's Spot, Marriott's Fly Fishing Store, and now at some of the Sport Chalet stores. We need to continue this increased involvement to bring fly tying and fly fishing in southern California to the potential it has in this region.

Steven Fernandez
Naomi Okamoto
Fly Tying Co Chairs, SWCFFF

PR/Marketing/Communications

Bennett Mintz

Membership
If the numbers are correct, July 2012 we had 709 members. The latest numbers posted July 28 2013 we had 786 members. That was an increase of 77 new members this last year. Our gains came from the Fly Fishing Faire, The Fly Buy and the Fred Hall show and club activities.

Joe Lemire
Fly Fishing Faire
Some of the things that I can think of that we have been working on for the Faire are:

- We realigned the Faire process and added committees for specific tasks
- Developed a schedule for monthly calls for updates with the Operation Committee and Subcommittees
- Secured a headliner speaker for the Saturday night dinner
- Streamlined the movies and location with the most popular films from 2012
- Set up lodging
- Expanded the amount of vendors
- With the help of a committee member, we were able secure a more varied line of merchandise to help with proceeds. Also providing more women's wear as that was a big request in 2012.
- With the help of another committee member, we were able to introduce a Merit Badge program for the Boy Scout to help promote fly fishing in our youth.
- Introducing classes on Spey and Switch Casting
- We increased classes by 15% (it appears 2012 had 59 classes and so far this year we have 69)
- Advertisement has been a key activity with Faire displays in Inyo Register, Mammoth Times, Mammoth Sheet, San Diego Union, LA Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Orange County Register, LA Daily News, www.395.com web site, Western Outdoors, KMMT-KRHV Radio spots, KIBS-KBOV Radio spots
- Designing a better program with more daily information as well as maps to locations
- Developing a better registration process for ease to attendees for adds, moves and changes

Connie Bullock

Website
This year we have been working to integrate and use social media more. We are continuing our efforts to get other members to contribute content. We are also working on redesigning the website using responsive layout so that our site will be compatible with all devices. The new design will also integrate more with social media sites such as Facebook and Google+. Our hopes are to attract more of the younger crowd.

Greg LaPolla

Youth
We are planning to personally reach out to the clubs this year and offer the council's assistance helping the clubs organize youth days, seminars, outings, etc. As you and I talked earlier, this is probably not a summer thing, being that many members are on vacation, fishing, or have other summer commitments. After the Mammoth Faire may be a very good time, as folks are settling back from vacation trips and summer is coming to a close.

Matt Casada

Conservation
A handful of SWC clubs have joined forces to help make a difference in the multi-agency Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Recovery Effort. Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (LCT) were listed
as an endangered species, later downgraded to threaten to allow certain management
techniques to proceed. Over 10 years ago California Dept of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)
prepared upper Silver Creek in the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains as a LCT refuge,
but several years after stocking someone degraded the habitat by placing brook trout in
the creek. Sierra Pacific Fly fishers of Van Nuys, CA generously donated $5000.00 to
fund a paid intern for this project. We have also gained assistance from Deep Creek Fly
Fishing of Redlands, CA and especially their president, Gary Applebee and his efforts in
coordinating volunteer schedules during the time we are on the creek and also his
outreach to the clubs by presenting PowerPoint presentation on the progress. These
efforts greatly assist CDFW in the removal of the brook trout. July 15th was the start of
the 2013 work effort scheduled to last 6 weeks. Fly fishers from two clubs volunteered to
assist two interns place a weir in the stream to provide a safe haven for the LCT during
the electrofishing effort. The SWC clubs are already planning the 2014 effort, and expect
to keep the work going for the next 6-10 years.
Debbie Sharpton

Casting
1). Most clubs are offering beginners casting classes? Some are also offering advanced
casting techniques.
2). January 2013 - "Teach the Teachers" - 20 attendees from multiple clubs learned
teaching and casting techniques that will help them diagnose and correct casting faults (4
Saturdays from 9-12 noon). 100% of the attendees were Federation members.
3). February and May 2013 - Conducted basic casting program for Project Healing
Waters (four Mondays from 9-12 noon each date)
4). FlyBuy fund raiser - conducted one-on-one casting classes for a small fee to benefit
the SWC coffers
5). March 2013 - Fred Hall Sportsmans' Show in Long Beach and San Diego (4 days each
show) - conducted free one-on-one casting lessons to show attendees
6). September 2013 - Organized and conducted casting demonstrations and workshops
for the Fly Fishing Faire in Mammoth, CA (3 days)

Tim Lawson

Project Healing Waters
Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing has had a terrific first two quarters of 2013. We have
four programs operated by clubs within the Southwest Council FFF: Sierra Pacific Fly
Fishers, San Diego Fly Fishers, Santa Barbara Fly Fishers and Long Beach Casting Club.
During the first six months of this year, fifty-seven dedicated volunteers donated 3,632
hours of their time in order to teach fly fishing skills to 49 disabled veterans. Our classes
include fly fishing basics, fly casting, fly tying and rod building, as well as fishing
outings.
It was a banner year for fundraising for us, allowing us to expand the fishing
opportunities. Participants from the Southwest Council club programs fished the San
Gabriel River, Jess Ranch Lakes, Bighorn River, Los Willows Resort, several rivers from
Missoula, several locations in the Eastern Sierras, several rivers out of Redding, and surf
fishing in Ventura. We started the year with the national rod building program, won a
couple of the top prizes again, and are looking forward to the inaugural fly tying program and contest, and fall fishing.

Carol Katz

**Texas Council**

**Russell Husted**

After many months of discussion and planning, The Texas Council was approved on 11/26/12, with a formal announcement being sent out on December the 4th of 2012, asking for volunteers to form a temporary Board of Directors. A tremendous response came from that letter, and on January the 26th of 2013, a temporary BOD’s was in place. More discussions were had along with several conference calls, which led to a Leadership weekend that was held on the 8th and 9th of March. At this meeting was the temporary BOD’s, and any Texas Council President that could attend. The so called leadership retreat, was held in Athens, Texas, after the Fly Fish Texas event. At the retreat, we discussed the future of the Texas Council and how we formed, heard an awesome presentation from Bob Shirley the Memberships Chairman on how to grow and recruit members, and laid our plans out for what we wanted to accomplish during the 2nd Quarter of the year.

These plans included building a website, which we did. [http://texascouncilifff.com/](http://texascouncilifff.com/). On this website, we included a page that listed speakers that clubs could use to help get speakers for their club. This has been extremely helpful, as clubs have used the list to get new speakers to come to their club. Many of the clubs were having issues finding new speakers, and I highly suggest that any council do this. The website also includes the IFFF Calendar, which clubs are posting their events on, which helps members look at what is going on across the state. Also helps with the short and long term planning of events. The site also includes an education and conservation page, which highlights the activities that the new council is working on.

The New Council was also divided into 5 Regional Territories, and each Region had a Regional Director. The new directors will be the point of contact for the following regions in Texas, North, South, East, West, and Central. The Directors were appointed by the temporary BOD’s, and began to work soon there after, going out and introducing themselves to the clubs across the state. Clubs were placed into the 5 regions, and each region has a large metropolitan area within that region, which will draw more interest and hopefully funds into that region.

Other tasks that were followed up were that Regional Directors received a recruiting package that included a banner, and membership brochures. A letter was also sent out to all Texas members that wished to run against the temporary BOD’s. From that letter came some additional individuals that wanted to help, and an election was had, and the NEW BOD’s were elected and then announced on July the 25th, by a vote of 98 for and 5 against.

Our first big event was the Caddo Conclave that was held on the 17th, 18th, and 19th of May in beautiful East Texas on Lake Caddo. Many clubs from East Texas and Louisiana attended. Tying and casting demonstrations were held, along with group meals, and time fishing on one of the most scenic lakes in America!!

The New council has also seen a significant increase in membership, growing to over 600
with the addition of two NEW Charter Clubs, the New Braunfels Fly Fishers, and the Rio Grande Valley Fly Tiers, with talks going on with another possible charter club.

The BIG news of the year will be the Texas Council Expo which will be held in New Braunfels, Texas on June 12, 13, and 14 in 2014. This will be our first expo, and New Braunfels was selected as the location due to the accelerated growth in membership, and success from a previous event which was held by the GCC in 2010.

Upper Midwest Council
Todd Heggestad – President

The last year for the Upper Midwest Council has seen gradual steps towards becoming an active council. In 2012 the UMC was established out of the inactive Great Rivers Council. The UMC board of directors has meet twice in 2013 and finalized the bylaws and begun scheduling council events for fly tying and casting for 2013 and 2014. At present there are three active clubs in Minnesota, one in Wisconsin, and two in Illinois. In Minnesota a new charter club was added in the west central area of the state.

Highlights for the year include the UMC being involved again in the annual Great Water Expo in Minneapolis in March. Fly casting instruction and fly tying was provided to the general public. The UMC sponsored a conservation grant for the study of native brook trout in the Wisconsin area. The challenge over the last year has been creating a regional identity. This will gradually occur with the events planned for members to become involved. However, there exist hard feelings from the past that have served as an obstacle for developing interest in the council. It is hoped that over time with a new board of directors and activities that are of interest of IFFF members and clubs in the region that the UMC can become a viable and energetic council.

The UMC in the last year has had minimal expenses and carries a modest amount of funds in a bank account. Fund raising ideas are an important priority over the next year.

Washington Council
Carl Johnson – President

Membership

Over the past year WSC membership increased by almost 10% going from 784 members in April of 2012 to 862 in July of this year. The council had a successful year with new memberships at the Sportsman Shows in Washington, continued club visits, and had another successful Washington Fly Fishing Fair. We believe major portion of the increase is the fact that last year’s International Fly Fishing Fair was held in Spokane, Washington and a lot of new members joined at the event. This year we hope to increase our membership by another 10%.

The WSC participated in 32 shows this past year; the Western Washington Sportsman Show in Puyallup, the Tri-Cities Sportsmen Show in Pasco and The Fly Fishing Show in Lynnwood. 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 fly fishers and prospective fly fishers to fly fishing clubs close to them.
The Board of the Council continues to make a concerted effort to visit the clubs during the 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 May 3rd and 4th, the WSC conducted our seventh regional Fly Fishing Fair in as 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 our “I’m a Member” rod raffle. The Council took advantage of the fly rod incentive program and received one of the TFO rods and held a raffle for members and new members. Every FFF member received one ticket in the raffle and new members received 2 tickets. In addition, every member was given an “I’m a member” badge to wear.

Education

WSC participated in a number of educational events during the year. The highlight of our education efforts are the Friday morning prior to the start of our fair we invited the local school districts to participate in an introduction to fly-fishing and our sponsorship if the Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy. This year we had approximately 40 students on Friday morning, most from local middle schools. We broke the students down into three groups and rotated them through three stations; fly tying, fly-casting and entomology classes.

Other events included the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival sponsored by the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery where we gave over 50 free casting lessons to anyone who wanted including approximately 35 kids. Attendance was down this year due to many wildfires in the area.

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. In addition, WSC gave demonstrations at the local Cabela’s stores in Washington.

At our Fly Fishing Fair we held a number of fly fishing workshops, including beginning fly casting for women taught by women, how to improve your distance casting, casts for difficult places, single spey cast, beginning fly casting, intermediate fly casting and a CI prep workshop. In addition, we also offered free fly tying lessons to both kids and adults during the day.

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 the Washington Council of 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 local proposals and proposed regulations throughout the state during the year. This year the Council helped fund an insert in local publications about the conservation efforts on the North Fork of the Lewis River. In addition we pledged funds towards the installation on a lake in the north central portion of the state to install an aerator. Unfortunately this project did not make it past the planning efforts and was cancelled.

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.

Other
Many members of the WSC have been actively involved in International Fly Fishing Fair in Spokane last July. We especially want to thank the efforts of the local clubs in Spokane area for volunteering and the many members of the WSC who volunteered their time at the Fair.

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
Summary
The Western Rocky Mountain Council produces E-Newsletters, which are now sent to all council members via direct e-mailing rather than depend upon the clubs to forward the newsletter to their membership. The Council in 2012 - 2013 has been actively participating in most of the numerous expositions/shows (8) held by our affiliated clubs and this included manning and/or hosting the FFF booth during several events. The Western Rocky Mountain Council also held the first regional “Fly Fishing Rendezvous” event in July, which was well received by all those participating. We have maintained membership in the council which has been ranging from approximately 620 to 650.

Education Projects
The WRMC Council contributed $500 to assist in the Evergreen Hand Project, which has developed new tools for those fly tiers with the use of only one hand. This is mainly directed to assist wounded warriors from mid-east warzones.

“Fly Fishing Rendezvous” Event
The Western Rocky Mountain Council first regional “Fly Fishing Rendezvous” event was held on July 12th and 13th at the 7N Ranch near the South Fork of the Snake River in eastern Idaho. The format of the show was more casual and outdoor oriented with a focus on reaching out to the general public and promoting the fun aspects of fly fishing. The venue was low budget and managed to provide a small profit after expenses. The free admission event included fly tiers, vendors, casting instruction, casting certification testing, casting games, fish and game exhibits, silent auctions, bucket drawings, and evening social programs. Overall, the event was appreciated by those attending and the volunteers manning
the booths and exhibits. The venue did not include a formal banquet or a live auction. Based upon the response of participants, this type of venue and format is more enjoyable than the typical “Expo” and likely to become an annual council event.

**Council Election**
The WRMC Council officers and directors terms lapse at the end of this September. A nomination committee has been established and submissions for key nominees have been made. Ballots are expected to be published via E-newsletter in September and received prior to the end of the month.