President’s Message
Michael Golob

Greetings,

It’s hard to believe half of 2023 has gone by, so now seems a good time to reflect on how our club is doing and consider what we might do differently the rest of the year. I did a little research on what makes a good nonprofit organization and came up with the items below. I noted a grade and why I gave the specific grade.

Qualities that make a good nonprofit organization:

**A clear mission and purpose that guides its actions and decisions.**

Our mission is simple, easy to understand, and easy to link our activities to what we are doing that supports the mission statement. (A)

**Strong practices, procedures, and policies that ensure accountability, transparency, and efficiency.**

The club has solid procedures, policies, by-laws. However, these review and update, annually. (B+)

**Good people who staff and manage the organization with competence, integrity, and passion.**

I feel we have a very strong Board of Directors who work hard to make the club a success. (A)

**The ability to mobilize and inspire others, including donors, volunteers, partners, and beneficiaries.**

About 20% of members volunteer to support conservation events, our annual banquet, and attend outings. This is not unusual for a nonprofit organization, but I think we can do better. (C+)

**A culture of learning that embraces feedback, innovation, and improvement.**

Our club supports many learning opportunities including net building classes, rod building classes, fly tying classes, casting classes, and our premier beginning fly fishing school. Our mentorship program has received high marks from new members who have participated in the program. (A)

(Continued on Page 3)
2023 CSF OFFICERS & Directors

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The Clark Skamania FlyFishers
Next Meeting on
Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023
Wet Fly Hour @ 5:30  Meeting @ 6:30
Black Pearl on the Columbia
There is no meeting in July or August.
There will be Broken Barb publication.

Clark-Skamania FlyFishers (CSF) is a federally registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Washington.

Founded in 1975, CSF is dedicated to preservation of wild fish stocks and the natural resources that sustain them. CSF is further committed to the promotion of fly fishing as a method of angling and, through it, an understanding and appreciation for the diversity of nature.

Broken Barb is a publication of Clark-Skamania FlyFishers, published monthly and free to members.

CSF is a member club of Fly Fishers International (FFI).

For further information visit our website http://www.CSFLY.NET
A donor-centric approach that values and cultivates relationships with supporters. (B)

I based this grade on how we reach out to get sponsors for our annual conservation banquet. This coming year will be a test to see how many new sponsors we can get to support our banquet.

A diverse and sustainable funding base that supports its mission and goals. (C)

We basically have our annual banquet, proceeds from our Gillie sales, and member dues. I think we need to explore other funding, such as estate planning for our membership.

A digital-savvy mindset that leverages technology and data to enhance its impact and reach. (B-)

The new web site was a tremendous step forward this year, but we still lack solid social media experience for our members and the public.

I look forward to your comments on my grading and ideas you have to improve the club.

And, I look forward to seeing you at the annual picnic on August 12th.

Michael
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Organizer(s)</th>
<th>Contact Info</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 12</td>
<td>CSF Summer Picnic</td>
<td>Fallen Leaf Park, Camas</td>
<td>Carol Kohler, Organizer</td>
<td>(360) 600—6590</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>John Day River, OR</td>
<td>Cottonwood State Park, OR</td>
<td>FishMaster: Mark Meyer</td>
<td>(360) 713-7287 <a href="mailto:md.meyer@comcast.net">md.meyer@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Day trip, wade, Small Mouth bass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 15-17</td>
<td>Cowlitz River, WA</td>
<td></td>
<td>FishMasters: Al Wood &amp; Diane</td>
<td>(360) 904 -7797</td>
<td>Overnight or Day, float or Wade, Steelhead or Sea Run Cutts</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Schmitt</td>
<td>Dan Gauger (360) 984 –8127</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 22—24</td>
<td>Skagit River, WA</td>
<td>(Glacier Peak Resort,</td>
<td>Fishmaster: Steve Jones</td>
<td>(360) 606-5947 <a href="mailto:sjones022@comcast.net">sjones022@comcast.net</a></td>
<td>Overnight, float, Pink Salmon (Humpies)</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 6 - 8</td>
<td>Klickitat River, WA</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fishmaster: Don &amp; Sherri</td>
<td>(509) 637-4405 <a href="mailto:dstarkin@msn.com">dstarkin@msn.com</a></td>
<td>Overnight, wade, Steelhead</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>Merrill Lake Fish-in</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bieker, Yoshinaka, Hutchinson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marvyosh@gamil.com">marvyosh@gamil.com</a></td>
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**CSF SUMMER PICNIC**  
**August 12**  
*(see page)*

**John Day River, OR**  
**August 19**  
*(see page)*

**Cowlitz River, WA**  
**Sept 15-17**  
*(see page)*

**Skagit River, WA**  
**Sept. 22-24**  
*(see page)*

**Klickitat River, WA**  
**October 6-8**  
*(see page)*

**Merrill Lake Fish-in**  
**Oct 14**

**Grand Ronde River, OR**  
**October 20—22**
With no meeting during July and August and few club outings, this is your opportunity to see and socialize with fellow club members and families. There are always fishing and travel stories to share. Join us on **Saturday, August 12 at Fallen Leaf Lake Park in Camas at 11:00 a.m.** This is the same location as last year. The address is 2911 NE Everett St, Camas. A **club sign will be placed at the entrance to the park.** There is ample close parking for everyone and restrooms are located at the picnic area.

Plan on arriving any time after 11:00 ... or earlier if you would like to help set up. Our grill chefs will be cooking hamburgers and hot dogs to eat around 12:30. CSF will provide pop, water, and coffee, along with burgers and hot dogs with all the condiments. Since this is a potluck, members are encouraged to bring either a side dish or a dessert to share. The combination of foods brought to share is always amazing. There are electrical outlets available if you need one for heating.

Dan Green will set up a Gillie with excellent offerings. Rare, exotic and coveted fishing items will be for sale. Remember to bring cash or a check.

There will be a mini fly-casting area set up to test your accuracy skills on your own. If you want to practice your spey casting, bring your own rod and practice on the lake.

And, bring your appetite! We are under the trees and have covered picnic seating areas so there will be shade. We look forward to seeing you there.

Contact Carol Kohler at 360-600-6590 or at carolkohler98607@gmail if you have any questions.
This is a one-day outing based at the Cottonwood State Park on the John Day River. It’s about a two-hour drive east of Portland via I-84 and OR206. The plan is to meet near the Park Facilities/ Restroom just north of 206 at 9AM. Follow the paved road to this location.

Bring a 4 or 5 wt rod with floating and/or sinking line options. The floating line would be primarily used with poppers, and the sinking (intermediate or full) with wooly buggers/streamers. The fishing technique will be stripping the flies in to entice the bass to strike! I recommend wet wading to stay cool.

Please forward me an email if interested ASAP. There could be updates regarding river flow, hot weather, etc. that could affect the timing of this outing. I’ll post an update via google groups as well. If it’s a very hot day, an earlier meet-up may be needed.

At present the river looks to be in great shape. On July 24th the flow was 238 cfs – actually quite good. We can coordinate some carpooling as well. The drive goes by rapidly with a passenger. We can coordinate a late lunch or early dinner on the drive home.
COWLITZ RIVER FLOAT – September 15 -17

FISHMASTERS: Al Wood and Diane Schmitt, 360-904-7797. alanstanleywood@gmail.com
Dan Gauger (360) 984 8127 DBGauger@gmail.com

Float or Wade for steelhead, Coho or sea-run Cutts

Please RSVP via email if attending.

Cowlitz float is a seven-mile drift from Blue Creek Trout Hatchery to Mission Bar that takes 3 to 5 hours, depending on how much you stop to fish. Floating is optional as there is good wading water near the boat ramp. There are no hazardous waters on this float. We can self-shuttle or Mike Sturza of Lost Creek Fly Shop will provide service for a $20 fee per person on Saturday.

Expect jet boat traffic for the first third of the drift which is the most fished and is the most productive for steelhead and sea run cutthroats. Depressions on the bottom are particularly important in this stretch.

After a mile long straight stretch, the river makes a sharp left turn. A house and outbuildings on the left looks like a Cabela’s catalogue cover. Mission Bar take-out is 1/4 mile downstream, on the right side. A brown bulletin board can be seen from the water at the boat ramp.

7:30 AM Saturday— We will meet and set up gear at the Blue Creek Trout Hatchery boat ramp and shuttle cars will take floaters with vehicles to Mission Bar. Cowlitz Trout Hatchery, 165 Osprey Lane, Toledo, WA 98591

Driving Directions:
Take I-5 North’s exit 63 (WA 505), toward Winlock/Toledo. Go 0.3 miles -> Turn right onto WA-505. Follow for 2.4 miles
Turn left onto Jackson Hwy. Go 1.2 miles -> Turn right onto Spence Rd. Go 5.5 miles
Turn right at the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery sign (0.9 miles past Class Rd) -> Follow the road around the hatchery to its end

METHODS, TACKLE, & FLIES

FLY LINES: Floating & sinking tip lines, 5-8 weight (5 wt if after sea-run Cutts) (7/8 weight for steelhead and Coho). A fast action 6 wt. or medium action 7 wt. is a good compromise.

WET FLIES: Black, blue, purple, red, and orange stinger/intruders; bright flies on sunny days and dark flies for cloudy skies. Smaller flies if the water is clear (6-14).

DRY FLIES: October caddis and muddlers. Swing fly with sink tip or skate fly on surface with dry flies for steelhead, Coho, and sea runs. Nymphing the drop offs has proven to be effective for both fish also. If you are fly fishing for cutthroats try targeting slower water and back eddies next to fast water.

ACCOMMODATIONS

CAMPING: Cowlitz Trout Hatchery parking lot. Outhouse only ... no running water or hookups
Motels: Castle Rock, Mossy Rock, Salkum

SOCIAL GATHERING:

Dinner on Saturday night will be a potluck buffet. CSF will provide the main course. Bring your own beverage of choice. Dutch oven treats are encouraged.

A-L provide salads or side dishes; M-Z provide hors d’oeuvres or desserts

WHAT TO BRING:

PFD and whistle for each person in a floating device
Fishing license  Discovery Pass for each vehicle
Bring snacks and drinks for the river trip.
Skagit River Outing, Sept. 22 – 24

Fishmaster: Steve Jones, 360 606-5947, sjones022@comcast.net
Glacier Peak Resort (360) 708-3005

In odd-numbered years, Puget Sound enjoys a run of pink salmon that is estimated to be about 4 million fish in 2023 and about 800,000 of those fish are headed to the Skagit River. You can target these 2 to 5 pound fish beginning in late August in waters in the Sound, but some of the best fly fishing for these feisty salmon is on the upper Skagit between Marblemount and Rockport in late September. Home base will be Glacier Peak Resort at 360 708-3005, Glacierpeakresortandwinery - Resort, Restaurant, Lunch a few miles upstream from Rockport. Tent sites start at $35, RV hookups at $45 and cabins around $150. It’s best to check the Web site for options then call for reservations. There are convenience stores in Rockport and Marblemount and restaurants, including a nice café at Clark’s (8:00 am to 8:00 pm). The nearest grocery is in Concrete about 30 miles west on the North Cascades Highway.

Fishing the pink run on the Skagit may be the closest thing to Alaska fishing in the lower 48. All species of Pacific salmon swim to the Skagit but Pinks dominate at this time of year. Coho, late-run summer chinook and bull trout are also in the river at this time. The Skagit is large but not dangerous. The day-long float from Clark’s to the take out at Rockport is calm water with no rapids.

This is Stop & Wade fishing but you will need a floatation device to get around the river to the best water. Pontoons are ideal but float tubes will not work. We will put in at the primitive boat ramp at the Glacier Peak Resort. From there down to Rockport we will cover some of the best holding water for pinks on the upper river and be able to fish the south bank away from walk-in anglers from the highway along the north bank. Nearly a dozen beaches and bars with schooling pools are en route.

**THE GEAR**

**Bring big equipment because of the big water, big flies and big fish.** I fish with 7wt. to 10 wt. rods as Pinks fight hard and long. After landing 8 or 10 of these brutes you’ll be glad you’ve got a strong rod. I fish a Rio clear, intermediate sink tip with a 4 ft. 8 lb. tippet. These are schooling fish. The key to consistent hook ups is to work the edges of the schools by quartering a cast downstream, aimed at the edge of the school and stripping the fly in with a quick, short, staggered retrieve. The flies imitate krill and the right presentation gives the fly a pulsing motion. Takes are sudden and strong. Flies are pink and my favorites include the humpy chaser and humpy special. Watch the Google group for postings when I’m tying and I can show you how to make these simple flies.

Getting to the Skagit isn’t easy. Seattle is in the way. Plan 5 hours and, if you’re lucky it, may make it in 5. Otherwise, anticipate 6 hours. You have your choice of bad roads: traffic in Tacoma, downtown Seattle and Everett can make I-5 problematic at any hour. The case is similar on I-405 with Bellevue and Redmond. I’ve found that leaving Portland around noon to time my arrival in downtown Seattle on I-5 around 2 to 2:30 works best. That way I can catch the northbound express lane that carries me through the heart of the city to Northgate with the least problem. There is no way to avoid Everett where shifts of Boeing workers come and go throughout the day building those 787s.
Merrill Lake Fish-In Outing Saturday, October 14, 2023

FishMasters:  Warren Bieker  ljbieker@comcast.net  360-687-5475
Marv Yoshinaka  marvyosh@gmail.com  541-728-7496
Jim Hutchison  wilandhutch@gmail.com

Saturday, October 14th is the 2023 “Fish-in” at Merrill Lake. This year in will be similar to past events where fishers will be asked to record catch by species, length and parasite observations to help Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife plan future fish management of the lake.

The “Fish-in” is a one-day event that starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. However, you can start fishing earlier and fish later. Please return catch data at the boat launch by 5:00 p.m..

Remember to bring a lunch, beverages, PFD and your Discover Pass. Also, internal combustion engines are not allowed on boats when you are fishing on Merrill Lake, but electric motors are legal.

DIRECTIONS TO MERRILL LAKE

From I-5: Take Woodland exit 21 for WA Highway 503 toward Woodland/Cougar] for 27 miles. One mile before the town of Cougar, turn left onto USFS Road 81 (Kalama Recreation Area sigh). Travel north 3.5 miles to the lake access road on your left.

From Battle Ground: Take WA-503 N (NW 10th Avenue) north past Lewisville Park, through Amboy and toward Cougar. This reaches the I-5 route 3 miles west of USFS Road 81. There, turn Left to Merrill Lake.

We are especially looking for CSF members with boats that can carry two anglers. Those who wish to fish alone are welcome to participate and report their catches.

Tell FishMasters Warren Bieker (360-687-5475, ljbieker@comcast.net) or Marv Yoshinaka (541-728-7496, marvyosh@gmail.com) or Jim Hutchison wilandhutch@gmail.com if you plan to attend. We may need to contact you if the outing is postponed because of bad weather.

We’ll meet at Merrill Lake parking lot at 9:00 am on Saturday, Oct. 14 for a short orientation. Those trailering boats might come early to avoid congestion at the boat launch. Anglers will be provided a fish length measuring board, a catch record form and pencil.

October is one of the prime times to fish Merrill Lake. Weather can be pleasant or rainy and cool so bring your rain gear and warm clothes. Despite the ‘iffy’ weather, this activity is in October because the lake’s trout usually bite particularly well then.

Most summer techniques also work well in the autumn. CSF members catch fish by trolling or wind drifting in open water, still fishing with nymphs or chironomids, casting dry flies at rising fish, and stripping nymphs on floating, intermediate or sinking lines. Various fly patterns will catch fish including small caddis and mayflies, terrestrials, nymphs, streamers, attractors and wooly buggers.

If lacking a boat, you can fish Merrill Lake from shore. The lake is low enough in October that you can walk along the shoreline, below the brush. Feeding fish are often in fairly shallow water, especially near weed beds, logs and other structure and drop offs.
August’s Broken Barb seems a long way from October but it won't be long before the Klickitat River Outing comes up on your calendar. CSF's first outing there was in 1986, over 35 years ago.

As usual, we'll be staying at Stinson's Flat campground, set in the spectacular Klickitat Canyon, about a 32-mile drive from Hwy 14 at Lyle, WA. You can also come in on the west side via Glenwood.

Plan on low visibility conditions in the river due to silt and mud entering from the appropriately named Muddy Creek. Steelhead, resident rainbow trout, whitefish and “residualized” smolts will be on tap. The 2022 outing had 5-6 steelhead landed by the group.

As usual, Sherri and I will do a lasagna dinner Saturday evening. More info in future Barbs.

Don and Sherri Starkin
The Grande Ronde is an ideal fall steelhead destination and Oct. 20-22 the Ebsen Campground on the Ronde will welcome Clark-Skamania Flyfishers as well. Location is on Oregon-Idaho border below Hells Canyon.

In 2020, CSF members donated to help purchase the Ebsen Fishing Access site on the Grande Ronde. CSF was one of 10 Washington fly clubs that helped to raise $38,000 to purchase the 8-acre site for WDFW to manage as public fishing access. Ebsen is now complete with two vault toilets and a gravel parking pad big enough for trailers to 30 feet. There are also several level tent sites. It’s a dry camp without water or trash removal.

Remote location means visitors must plan ahead. It’s 375 miles to Ebsen, about 6 hours on the road. Top off your fuel and your water in Asotin before driving 25 miles south on the Snake River Road to reach Ebsen. All camping is first come first served, without fees but you need a Discover Pass. Plan on driving 20 miles a day between Grand Ronde fishing holes. There is a sparsely stocked store near Heller Bar. No fuel.

The Grande Ronde above Lewiston ID and Clarkston WA is not a monster river. It’s bigger than the Kalama but smaller than the Cowlitz. It’s a classic free stone river with long glassy tail-outs for swinging flies and concentrated slots for nymphing. 12# Maxima Ultragreen or 10# fluorocarbon are minimum tippets on the GR. Anything lighter and these adults will give you a lesson. You will need to go heavier if you head to the Clearwater River in Idaho. (If interested in that, drop Steve a line.)

Grand Ronde steelhead have a liking for dry flies so pack your October Caddis, Crystal Caddis, Lemire’s Greased Liner, Bombers, Muddlers and your Lady Caroline’s. Pack floatant.

Let us know if you can make it. Fishmaster Steve Jones sjones022@comcast.net.

Lodgings Options:

Snake River Canyon Lodge, 90 Second St., Asotin, 509 243-4214......Small city hotel 25 miles from Ebsen.

Snake River Rendezvous, 25484 Snake River Rd, Asotin, 509 243-3620........lodge on the river that has rooms for small groups and positive online reviews. It’s about 12 miles from Ebsen on the Snake River.

Victor and Dawna’s Hells Canyon Resort, 35909 Snake River Rd, Asotin, 509 243-4865......lodge on the river that is closest to Ebsen. Nice rooms and positive reviews.

This photo is a B-run fish landed in 2022 on a Lady Caroline. Foam body Bombers in tan and yellow were working well 2021.

The “A-run” fish, or those that spend one year in the ocean, are the most common in late September and early October. These fish run 4-6 pounds.

There are more “B-run”, or two years in the salt, fish that run later in October. They can weigh 10 to 15 pounds and are common enough to keep it interesting.
Greetings & Welcome to July’s THREE New Members!

New members continue to discover CSF for access to education, recreation and conservation activities, on and off the water. It is with pleasure that we welcome:

Simon Lamb of North Bonneville, WA
Mike Howard of Vancouver, WA
Louis Hunt of Portland, OR

As a tip to new members about how to “fit in” and make the most of CSF membership, it’s simple:

Become Active: follow communications, join into organized outings & activities and volunteer for whatever needs doing. Attend monthly meetings to become known.

All members were new once, themselves, and offer fellowship in many forms.

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No Host BREW TIE at Feral Pub
IS SUSPENDED UNTIL SEPTEMBER
No gatherings in July or August. —— Stand By for re-start news.

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News from NW Fly Fishing Outfitters
(courtesy of Paul Smith)

Some of you may be aware but for those of you who aren't, Jack Hagan from Northwest Fly-fishing Outfitters sold the business early this month to a longtime friend of his family (David Golobay). The Shop’s weekly newsletter from July 5th is posted on Google Groups for Jack’s own explanation of events. He says: “Cause for sale was nothing radical or urgent .. just time for a change after 37 years in retail.” He's now looking for a new CFO job as “Chief Fishing Officer”, somewhere.

NWFFO has been a long-time contributor to CSF's Annual Banquets over the years and hopefully the new owners can continue that tradition.

Jack looks to be still doing his online business selling and buying used flyfishing gear website "boneyard" [boneyardflyfishing@gmail.com], Ph. 503-252-1529.

If you feel the urge, reach out to him to let him know how he, his father John and others at the shop over the years has been so beneficial to the flyfishing community in our area and of course to CSF as well.
Clark-Skamania Flyfishers’ Membership and Dues

Attached below is CSF’s 2023 membership application form which all paying members need to complete, sign and return. The form will allow us to update contact information for club records. It also has a liability waiver statement required by our new insurance carrier.

Please return the application with your dues if you have not paid them yet. For those who have paid their dues please fill out the form and return it. The application needs to be signed (first and last name).

The return address is:

Clark-Skamania Flyfishers’ PO Box 644 Vancouver, WA 98666

Annual Dues are $45.00 payable by March 31

New Membership (Y/N) ______ Renewal (Y/N) ______ Date _____________

Print Name ______________________ Signature: ________________________________

(see Liability Waiver below)

2nd Member: (no Charge) ________________ Signature: ________________________________

(see Liability Waiver below)

Address: ______________________________ (Street) ____________________________

(City) (State) (Zip)

Home Phone: __________________________ 2nd Member Phone: __________________________

Email: ________________________________ 2nd Member Email: __________________________

By signing above, I/we waive all claims and release Clark-Skamania Flyfishers (CSF) and all its members from any and all liability arising from CSF-sponsored activities.

(rev. 2021)