Subject: AUGUST 2016 Flylines

Date: Monday, December 12, 2016 at 10:04:20 PM Hawaii-Aleutian Standard Time

From: Alaska Fly Fishers

To: Casey Andrysiak

With news about the Spey Clave & Fly Fishing Festival, the Willow Creek Cleanup, and the Kenai River Cleanup!

FLYLINES

Official Newsletter of the Alaska Fly Fishers

AUGUST 2016

President's Hook

August 2016 President's Hook

I sure hope everyone is getting to fish more this summer than I am, as every day you get to wet a line is one more day of opportunity. There is always a prospect to catch a big fish, a chance to learn something about presentation of a fly, figure out fish behavior in a certain situation, the excuse to get out and take a breath of fresh air at one of your favorite fishing holes, or introduce the sport to someone. Too often we get wrapped up in things not fishing related. Work,errands, personal obligations, the list can be extensive), can all keep us from fishing. It's much too easy to find an excuse to not hit the water. Most of the time, it boils down to priorities. In some situations, there really is no choice or option. But if there is – even just a slim chance to get out…go do it! And if possible, take someone with you, perhaps someone who hasn't gone fishing in a while, or even someone who has never been (fly) fishing before. In order to keep the sport of fly fishing alive, well, and growing, it's important to get out there, as well as to pass along your knowledge to someone who may not have had the chance to learn this fine sport. There are many folks who introduce new anglers to the waters on a regular basis. If we were to all make an effort to reach out to even just one person,imagine the possibilities by taking a first step. The culture, the attitudes, and perspectives of the majority of fly fishers are some of the most unique and distinctive I am aware of or can even imagine. So let's all do our part and spread the wealth, knowledge, and opportunity whenever possible to promote the sport we love. I look forward to hearing about all the new experiences.

Something upcoming to possibly help add to your fishing gear or

AFF Board

President: Pat Malone

Vice President: Pat Dougherty

Secretary: Bob Pawlowski

Treasurer: Ben Rowell

Ghillie: Josh Shearer

Past President: Bill Huber

Tying Clinic Coordinator: Leslie Holland-Bartels

Board members at large:

Kory Murdoch

Brenda Brown

Mike Malone

Tom Reuter

(click on names for email links)

AFF Board Meeting Notes

something to entice a newcomer to the sport is our *Fall Raffle*. Prizes are still being acquired, but will definitely be worth the participation. Tickets will be available at the *Speyclave and Fly Fishing Fair* (in Eagle River this year), the *Willow Creek Cleanup*, the annual *Kenai River Cleanup*, from any AFF board member, and at the October General Membership Meeting, where the winner will be drawn (need not be present to win).

The executive board has decided to bring back the August general membership program – which has historically been the annual club picnic/potluck and outing. Please see the description from Bob Pawlowski below, followed by invitations for *the Speyclave, Willow Creek Cleanup, and Kenai River Cleanup,* all happening in August and into September.

Finally, we are looking for members who might be interested in helping to lead the club to even greater things next year. Please contact a current board member if you are interested in taking an active role in the progress of our club.

Time to get out on the water!

Patrick Malone - President, Alaska Fly Fishers

August Meeting

Alaska Fly Fishers Annual Picnic

The Alaska Flyfishers Annual Picnic will be held on Monday, August 1 at the Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area beginning at 5:00 PM and going well into the evening. The Annual Picnic is held as the August General Membership meeting, in lieu of meeting at the Elks Lodge that night. This family event will allow members and their family to mingle during the picnic and to enjoy the fishing opportunities offered by this state park's lakes stocked by the ADF&G.

The Annual Picnic is a pot-luck and members are encouraged to bring something to share and any beverages other than water. Alaska Fly Fishers will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, bratwurst from the grill with buns, cheese and condiments for each. Bottled water and chips will also be available as will all paper products and utensils.

Information on the Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area is at (http://dnr.alaska.gov/parks/aspunits/matsu/keplerbradlksra.htm). Directions to the recreation area are on the website and relatively simple given its proximity to the junction of the Glenn and Parks highway. As this is a State Recreation Area, there is a state required $7.00 parking fee for each vehicle. A new set of stairs, installed in early June by both Alaska Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited volunteers offers access to Matanuska Lake.

Thanks for venturing out to the Matanuska Lakes State Recreation Area and joining in the clubs annual picnic. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Pawlowski by e-mail at cptbob@gci.net.

Bob Pawlowski - AFF Secretary

- March
- April
- May
- June
- July

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Calendar of Events

Most General Meetings: First Monday of most months, 7:00 pm at the Elks Lodge, Northway Mall, 3101 Penland Parkway, Suite A14, Anchorage, 99508.

All Tying Clinics: Third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the WJ Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery at the corner of Post Road and Reeve Blvd.

All dates are subject to change!

August:

- 1st - AFF Picnic - Matanuska Lake Rec Site:5:00 pm
- 9th - Board meeting
- 20th - Fly Fishing Fair & Spey Clave
- 20th - Tying clinic

September: ***No general meeting***

- 10th - Kenai River Cleanup
- 13th - Board Meeting
- 17th - Tying clinic

October:

- 3rd - General meeting
- 11th - Board meeting
- 15th - Tying clinic

November:

- 7th - General meeting

SPEY CLAVE & FLY FISHING FESTIVAL

the 3rd Annual!

The public is invited to attend this all-day fishing event and evening barbecue at Eagle River Campground in Eagle River on Saturday, August 20. The event will offer fly fishing instruction to everyone from beginners to advanced anglers and will feature some of the world's top fly fishing instructors as well as experienced local guides.

This is the third annual Alaska Fly Fishing Fair & Spey Clave. Last year more than 150 people attended. Our goal is to simply get people excited about fly fishing.

Presentations will begin at 10:00 AM and continue until 3:00 PM with a break for a hosted BBQ lunch. From 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM, the public can try out equipment, work with the experts and instructors on fly casting techniques, and participate in a distance casting contest.

Eagle River Campground is located 12 miles north of Anchorage. Take the Highland Road exit off the Glenn Highway and follow the signs.

Additional information is available on Facebook.

Sponsors for this event include Alaska Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited, Mossy's Fly Shop, Mountain View Sports, Tony Weaver Fly Fishing School, G. Loomis, R.L. Winston Rod Co., Scientific Anglers, and Fish Alaska Magazine.

See you on the 20th!

Mark Huber - Spey Clave Co-organizer

Willow Creek Cleanup

- 15th - Board meeting
- 19th - Tying clinic

December:

- 5th - General meeting
- 13th - Board meeting
- 17th - Tying clinic

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We have email addresses for about 80% of our active members. If this newsletter was forwarded to you, please help us get your correct email address into the system. If you know of anyone who is a member and is not getting their newsletter, please have them check their spam filter, or let us know so we can work together to fix it!

Contact the editor for any corrections. Thanks!

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Thank you to all 2016 AFF Fundraising Donors!

- 6th Avenue Outfitters
- Alagnak Lodge
- Alaska Fly Fishers
- Alaska Fly Fishing Goods
- Alaska on the Fly

We'd like to invite you to Willow Creek Resort for a fun day of trash picking and fishing on Willow Creek. Our effort will be focused on the six miles of water below the Parks Highway, from Willow Creek Resort to Willow Creek State Recreation Area and Campground, and creek access points above the highway. Members who'd like to float the river will work below the highway while those on foot will work the access points above the highway.

Following the cleanup, please join us for a potluck dinner and socializing at Willow Creek Resort. Willow Creek Resort graciously waived the camping fee on Saturday night for cleanup participants. Tent and RV camping is available. More information about Willow Creek Resort can be found at willowcreekresortalaska.com.

See you on the 27th!

Who: AFF members, friends, and family

When: Saturday, August 27 at 10am. Potluck dinner around 6:30pm

Where: Willow Creek Resort – Mile 71.5 Parks Highway

What to Bring: Your raft, fishing gear, waders, PFD, gloves, lunch, drinks, dish to share at potluck.

Contact: Ben Rowell (306-7851) or Chad Gage (748-5920)

Ben Rowell - AFF Treasurer

Kenai River Cleanup

The Alaska Fly Fishers have been involved with the Kenai system for many years. Our members selected the Upper Kenai River under the State's "Adopt a Stream" Program in 1997. Now it is officially our "home water" left behind by others in an area extending from the bridge at Cooper Landing twelve miles downstream to Jim's Landing. So Far we have picked up hundreds of pounds of trash!

Join us September 9-11 at Jim's Landing/Russian River Ferry Parking area for the 24th annual Kenai River Cleanup. We start gathering later in the afternoon on Friday for a potluck dinner, bonfire and visiting. Early Saturday morning, as more families gather from Anchorage, and the Cooper Landing area, assignments are handed out to collect debris left behind from a season of fishing and travelers passing through. Many board boats to clean the river banks, while others pick up trash along our section of road. Lunch makings are available and about 6 pm dinner will be ready, featuring grilled hamburgers, fixin's, hot drinks, and more. We close the day with a raffle, and live music.

And Sunday we fish!

Mark your calendars for September 9-11 and come join in the fun. Families are especially welcome!

See you September 9th-11th!

- Alaska Railroad
- Alert Stamping
- Arti-Cicle Custom Framing
- Bristol Bay Guide Academy
- Cheryl Cline
- Copper River Fleece
- Kory Murdoch
- Deneki and Rapid Camps Lodge
- Elks Lodge
- FisheWear
- Fishtales Guide Service
- G. Loomis
- Galvan Fly Reels, Inc.
- GCI
- Inlet Tower Hotel & Suites
- Jan Schnorr
- Jim Teeny
- Jitters
- Katmailand's Kulik Lodge
- Kelly Cannon
- Lake Clark Air & The Farm Lodge
- Lakefront Hotel Anchorage
- Maclaren River Lodge
- Mark Huber
- Martha Peck
- Orca Adventure Lodge
- PenAir
- Picture This
- Rapids Camp Lodge
- Regal Vise
- REI Recreational Equipment, Inc
- Renee Behrendt
- Ross Reels
- Salven Studios
- Scientific Anglers
- Sea Hawk Air
- Sportsman's Bear Trail Lodge
- Susan Winton (RIP)
- Temple Fork Outfitters
- The Folstaf Company
- Women's Flyfishing

2015 Kenai River Cleanup

There is no general meeting the first Monday in September at the Anchorage Elks Lodge.

From *Mariann Malone*

Tying Clinic News

Youngsters to summer visitors to seasoned AK fly tiers joined AFF at our June and July tying clinics, both learning and sharing. It's nearly August and still plenty of fishing in our futures. Come join the *Fly Tying Clinic* on Saturday, August 20, to finish up some new flies or just catch up with what others are up to! The clinic is at its usual place the William Jack Hernandez Fish Hatchery 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Saturday August 20.

Leslie Holland-Bartels - AFF Tying Clinic Coordinator

Survey Results

In last month's issue of *Flylines*, we asked, "How do you like the new meeting place?" By clicking on the survey button, you could take the one-question survey and tell us what you think. And it was FREE!

Here are the results of the survey, read comments here.

- 25% of the respondents like the Elks as our meeting place
- 70.83% of the respondents do not like Elks as our meeting place
- 4.17% had never been there, so they had no opinion

New newsletter format. Like it? Don't like it? Take our free survey and share your thoughts. Click the button below.

Fish Talk by Bill Hauser

The King is dead. Long live the King!

Sponsors

- Alaska Heavenly Lodge
- Alaska River Adventures
- Alaska Rivers Company
- Alaska Troutfitters
- Alpine Inn Motel
- Bass Pro Shops
- Bending Branches Guide Service
- British Petroleum
- Cast Alaska
- ConocoPhillips
- Cooper Landing Fish Camp
- Cooper Landing Grocery
- Drifter's Lodge
- Eagle Landing Resort
- Great Harvest Bread Co.
- Grizzly Ridge
- Gwin's Lodge & Restaurant\
- Kaladi Brothers Coffee
- Kenai Cache Outfitters
- Kenai Lake Escape
- Kenai Princess Wilderness Lodge
- Kenai River Float-n-Fish
- Kenai River Watershed Foundation
- Kingfisher Roadhouse
- Mystic Waters Fly Fishing
- Pioneer
- Publix Self Storage
- Repsol
- Riverhaven Cabins on the River
- Russian River House
- Sackett's Kenai Grill
- Salmon Run Lodge
- Stream Watch

“The King is dead, long live the King!” You have heard this proclamation, haven’t you? And you know what it means, right? Although a monarch has died, the monarchy will continue on indefinitely in the line of succession. What does this have to do with fish? Several things, actually. For example, in the grand scheme of things, the survival of one king or one fish is not important; but rather, overall, it is the species – or a royal lineage - that survives. In other words, if one fish in a school is caught and killed by a predator, others will survive because of the sacrifice. Continuance of the species is paramount - just as with a monarchy.

What else? Here is where the story begins. I used to take a daily walk during my lunch time and I was fortunate that my path meandered along an anadromous stream. One July day, I paused in my walk to look down from a bridge into the tail of a small pool. There, I saw a time-worn, spawned-out Chinook or king salmon. It was pathetic to watch its feeble attempts to orient into the current and try to hold its position. Nevertheless, it appeared that this fish had done all it could do to perpetuate the species.

Two days later, I retraced that route. I looked down into the same pool and I saw the same king salmon. It was still there, but its immobile carcass was enfolded around a small boulder. Large white blotches corrupted the once trim, once magnificent sleek body. The spawned-out, dead hulk was already beginning to deteriorate. As I thought about what I saw, that simple phrase flowed through my mind.

“The King is dead. Long live the King!”

This once mighty king salmon - a powerful member of the stream - had spawned and died. The individual had made its contribution to the survival of the species. But also, uniquely, in its death, it will continue to “live” and make an important contribution to the “kingdom” of this stream.

This king salmon and its cohorts return from the ocean to spawn in a freshwater stream. Then they die. Their spawn assures continuation of the monarchy, but their carcasses also contribute to the kingdom. The carcass deteriorates and decomposes. Nutrients are released and dissolved into the water. These dissolved nutrients stimulate and drive the entire food chain. Diatoms, algae and other microscopic plants use the nutrients (chemicals) directly to grow and multiply. Small animals and aquatic insects feed on the plants.

Even before the salmon dies, it begins to contribute to the longevity of this little ecosystem-kingdom of a stream. During spawning, eggs that drift from the redd or nest will be eaten by some other creature. A trout or a sculpin, a stonefly nymph or a leech; or, the egg may simply decompose and release the stored nutrients that were intended for a salmon embryo. Fungus has already begun to attack the king through lesions and cuts and then organisms begin to live on the fungus.

But, the greatest legacy that this once-mighty fish gives to the stream is its own flesh. After the king is dead, all sorts of microbes and insects, small fish and other organisms begin to feed on the carcass. These, in turn, are eaten by other insects, birds, fish and even animals. Meanwhile, the flesh decomposes, washes away, and dissolves to add fertilizer directly into the water. These nutrients, particularly nitrogen and carbon, may drift far downstream to stimulate the very base of the huge food chain that will eventually nourish another generation of young salmon. In fact, the nutrient-laden water leaches through the stream bottom and into the water

- Sunrise Inn
- The Hutch B & B
- The Seward House
- The Shrew's Nest
- Totem Ocean Trailer Express
- Trout Unlimited
- Wildman's

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Quote of the Month:

"Fishing is not an escape from life, but a deeper immersion into it."
~ Harry Middleton

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Members' Corner

Have something to sell or a story to tell? A picture to show or something to share? Respond to this email with your ideas!

If you are interested in volunteering with the Alaska Fly Fishers, we would love to have your help! We have several committees and events in which your time, experience, and passion is needed. Simply reply to this email and we will connect you to a volunteer position to fit your desires.

table where it is captured by the rootlets of the streamside vegetation and the carbon and nitrogen even becomes incorporated into the foliage. Dead salmon are exceedingly important for the health and longevity of the species, the anadromous stream, and the entire watershed.

Some may argue that though the king salmon is dead, it continues to live because parts of it are incorporated in the tissue of other organisms. I prefer to say that the king has completed its life cycle for the benefit of the species and the entire ecosystem.

The king is dead. Long live the king.

Do you have a question for FISH TALK? Contact Bill at karelbill@gci.net.

Bill has published ***Fishes of the Last Frontier****, Life Histories, Biology, Ecology, and Management of Alaska Fishes* and ***Letters from Alaska****, The Inside to the Outside.*

Read sample chapters – and more - at www.billhauserbooks.com.

Project Healing Waters News

Lowe's Employees Support Project Healing Waters

During the first week of July, Lowe's employees at the Tudor store in Anchorage conducted a fund-raiser as part of their commitment to support local non-profits in Alaska. Their employees routinely donate to non-profits who promote education for children and organizations that serve military families. On July 12th, they donated their profits to Project Healing Waters Alaska. Our thanks go out to all the employees. We truly appreciate their support and commitment to improve the quality of life in Anchorage. (below - Matt, the store manager, handing a check to Jan for Project Healing Waters.)

Summer Change to PHW Anchorage Tying Clinics

We know that many individuals are enjoying the summer by going fishing, which is what everyone loves. Due to the busy schedule of families and participants we have changed the tying clinic schedule in Anchorage. During July and August we will host tying clinics in Anchorage on the first and third Thursday of the month from 5:30 to

7:30 PM at the William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery. We will resume our weekly tying schedule in September.

Enjoy your summer fishing season!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at PHWAlaska@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

August 1 – *AFF Family Picnic* at Matanuska Lake State Park. Contact us by July 28th at PHWAlaska@gmail.com if you need gear.

August 20 – *Spey Clave and Fly Fishing Fair* - for details, check the AFF website or Facebook page.

September 9 – 11 – *AFF Kenai River Clean Up Trip* lead by Bob Pawlowski. There are still spaces available for this trip so contact PHWAlaska@gmail.com to sign up for it or see Bob at one of the upcoming tying clinics.

September 10. *AFF Kenai River Clean Up* Event. For details, check the AFF website or AFF Facebook page.

September 17 – 18 – *Middle Kenai River Trip* for rainbows with Damond Blankenship lead by Jan Schnorr. This trip is filled but anyone may sign up as a back up in case someone is unable to participate.

September 24 – 25 – *Upper Kenai River Trip* for rainbows with Bob Rima lead by Jan Schnorr. There are still some open slots available for this trip, contact PHWAlaska@gmail.com if interested.

from Jan Schnorr

Mailing address: PO Box 3211 / Anchorage Alaska 99503-3211
Facebook

http://www.alaskaflyfishers.net/Sys/Unsubscribe?et=GU1%2frfhurCVBwGexqdO%2fEcru%2fiFGtvwqIxuCtobUjGtdcKQG3WvDrftUhEyExPkoBhooc%2bB57AvaN2jznYxQ5fiBZyYRejjfY2Lj9%2fjWztPGDt5ywkOOv6fJEkcN5dAqcv3D2c7DgrdWynnMsm6p1hzQhArlS2kGtDZhKIXYOl%2bUdKWs">Unsubscribe