

The Federation of Fly Fishers

Annual Report

July 21, 2008

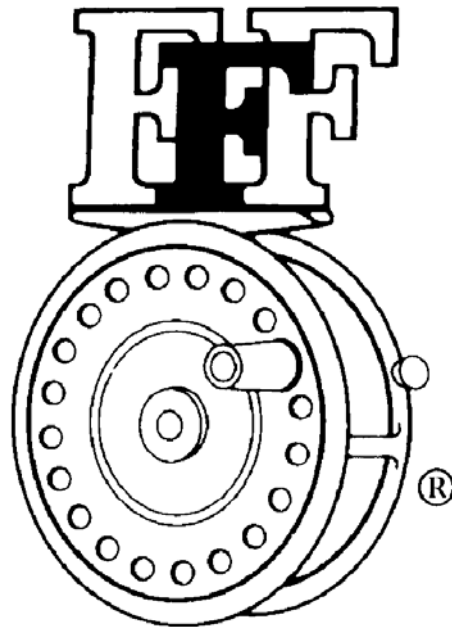


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Chairman's Report

Ron Cordes

It seems as though the efforts and accomplishments of each year generate new opportunities for the coming year, and this coming year will be no exception. A number of very interesting opportunities are already emerging as I write this report. Perhaps some will have reached fruition by the time of the '08 Conclave in Whitefish, and I'll have the pleasure of going public with them.

A potential move to the Loveland area in Colorado has, of course, been a topic of much conversation throughout the Federation for virtually all of the past year. And, of course, the fuel crisis has reinforced the need to be located near a major, centralized travel hub, one of the driving forces for relocation. The exploratory trip to Loveland left little doubt in the minds of the FFF representatives that such a move would clearly be of great benefit. But even that possibility has continued to morph into more and more separate and distinct scenarios with increasingly significant ramifications, all to the benefit of the FFF. One location that only materialized days ago would provide both office and museum space located across a beautiful expanse of lawn from a lovely lake. Casting certification, casting and fly fishing clinics, casting games and other related activities could all take place in this one very functional and very aesthetically pleasing location. Of course, as I write it's too early to determine whether or not this opportunity will be realized, but representatives of the state of Colorado are working hard to make it so.

Once again, only recently, Colin McKeown, the producer of **The New Fly Fisher TV** show, contacted me to announce that the show will be featured on the new World Fishing Network currently accessible through Dish Network and likely soon to be available via Direct TV. The number of households now being reached in the US alone by the show is as follows: Public Television (PBS) – 42 million, 52 week coverage on approximately 120 stations; The Sportsman Channel – 7 million households, 52 week coverage; Fox Sports NW – 9 million households; World Fishing Network – 13 million households; the Clear Channel Network – 7 million households and expected to grow to 24 million in 2009 thanks to a recent FCC designation of the series as E-Learning (Educational); and, the Variety Channel – 5.6 million households. All of the filming is done in high definition, and the 3-D graphics are outstanding. The FFF will continue to benefit greatly from this association. The new networks will enable us to do promotion that the guidelines of the PSA, our former major TV outlet, prohibited. This is a very significant distinction and opportunity.

It is anticipated that the FFF will substantially increase its focus on **Education** in the coming year. One significant element of this increased focus will be the effort to reach educational institutions such as high schools with an FFF Danish Fly Casting Games Program. This program will capitalize on the inherent nature of youth to engage in challenging, competitive activities where their skills can be pitted against each other. Hopefully this will ultimately get youth into the streams, back into nature and start preparing them to become stewards of the sport of fly fishing. A second key element of

this effort will be **The Complete Fly Fisher** website program, much of the material for which has already been prepared and posted but not yet made public.

This past year has demonstrated that while the FFF has meaningful opportunities, it needs to refocus and face the harsh realities of what it should and should not be doing and HOW we should be doing it if we expect to grow the organization and begin to achieve its full potential. At the '08 Conclave a Whitefish, a proposal to do so will be forthcoming.

CEO's Report

Pete Van Gytenbeek

Since the last Conclave our Federation has been active and very busy. We are larger than we have ever been and once again finished our last fiscal year within our budget and in the black. Frankly '08 is going to be a heck of a challenge with the slow economy and the increased cost of travel but somehow some way we will function within our budget.

Toward that end it has become apparent that some of the sources of income on which most organizations of our type depend were not producing for the FFF. Even though we have been able to increase our budget slightly we continue to operate hand to mouth and much that we would like to do, in all areas of our operations, is left undone due to a lack of funds.

As a first step toward addressing this situation I made the hard decision to terminate our operations lead and use much of that salary to hire a full time, experienced Development Director. Working together we will help not only the national organization but also councils and clubs in their fund raising efforts.

At that meeting of the Board last summer I was directed to further explore the subject of moving our headquarters, keep them informed in the process and report back with a firm recommendation. I am still in the process. I prefer the Loveland area of Colorado, want to keep the center and HQ together but have yet to put a package in place that I can recommend to the Board.

One thing I can confirm about Loveland is that we will hold our '09 Conclave there the last week of July and I fully expect it to be one of our best ever.

In other areas of this report you will find detail from our two main areas of endeavor, Conservation and education. I am especially pleased that we now have monthly meetings of our committees in each area that include the leads from each council. After Conclave we will add Development to that list. This is making each area more effective and drawing our Federation and it's activities closer together.

The Guides Assn continues to grow, and we can only hope that they someday can achieve the acclaim and international recognition that our CCI's have. The CCI's continue to grow both domestically and internationally and their contribution to all of our programs is truly impressive.

In closing...Our Federation is in good hands, is growing and is fortunate to have a small, dedicated hard working staff that has no "quit" in them.

As always I hope to see many of you at Conclave and during the year. If you have questions, concerns, ideas, etc please share them and I will always do my best to provide you with thoughtful, honest, answers.

Other Accomplishments

Provided over \$100,000 worth of tackle to clubs and councils.

Will be providing fly rod and reel sets to clubs again this year. We have over 600 rod and reel sets available.

Signed MOU with the scouts for conservation work in 2008-2009, scouts will provide over 1 million hours in labor.

Secretary's Report

Herb Kettler

This year's activities as secretary have been varied. Minutes were taken and published for the Board of Directors meeting, six Executive Board teleconferences and 4 Council President's calls. In addition, I have served as Awards Committee Chairman. The opportunity to insure that many of our hardworking and deserving members receive the recognition they deserve is always a special pleasure.

The last of my duties for the year is producing this Annual Report. It can be very time consuming for those contributing but I hope 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 2008 conclave.

And finally, I had the pleasure of serving on the temporary board of the new fly tiers group. While in that role I was fortunate to serve as the chairman of the nominating committee for the First Board of Directors of the Fly Tying Group. We selected a new board that represents a broad cross section of the membership. I encourage all members to contact board members in their area and find out what they can do to help. I believe the group has a great deal of energy and a lot of great ideas and will serve very ably to advance the contributions of the FFF in the areas of fly tying education.

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.

Treasurer's Report

Mike Stewart

Financial Report, Through 31 May FY 2008

The current year to date has shown a decline in financial performance. This decline was led by Operations, followed by slight reductions in performance in the FFF Foundation and FFF Investment Portfolios. On the positive side, all commitments are being met. No debt has been incurred.

The FFF is at risk to pursue new programs and expand existing ones until increased revenues are realized.

Financial Performance Fiscal Year 2007

The financial performance of the Federation for FY2007 (1 January 2007 – 31 December 2007) can be considered encouraging. Overall, our financial performance increased from the previous year.

As previously reported to the Board of Directors, the revenues generated during the year were \$897,274, which were offset by expenses of \$842,256, netting an increase of \$51,018. The previous year (FY2006) had revenues of \$773,216 and expenses of \$768,657.

Financial Performance Through 31 May, Fiscal Year 2008

Operations

The performance through May 31, 2008 can be considered disappointing. Our income for the period January 1, 2008 through May 31, 2008 was \$357,324. Expenses for the same period were \$395,620. This resulted in a net decrease in cash assets of \$38,296. Compared to same period last year our income was \$371,882 and expenses were \$315,127, a net increase in cash of \$56,755. Our situation is further degraded by an increase in Accounts Payable (current + 30 days) from \$10,054.87 to \$33,795.32, and a decrease in our Accounts Receivable from \$11,771.50 to \$2,500.00.

Statement of Operations (unaudited)

IN DOLLARS, ROUNDED TO THE DOLLAR	Thru 31 May 2008	Thru 31 May 2007*	Budget**	Annual Budget
Revenues				
Membership	\$182,661	\$182,217	177,292	425,500
Gift	42,107	78,866	114,042	273,700
Shows	68,323	55,610	52,292	125,500
General	63,332	53,363	52,917	127,000
Interest Groups	636	-	-	-
Investment / Interest	265	1,826	458	1,100
	357,324	371,882	397,001	952,800
Costs and Expenses				
Compensation	162,683	140,001	157,789	378,693
Volunteers	3254	490	1,771	4,250
Publications	57,301	52,553	54,792	131,500
Professional Services	18,764	16,154	21,042	50,500
Fundraising	3,320	1,423	12,292	29,500
Services – Member / Non-Member	62,018	35,270	53,542	128,500
Annual Shows	38,814	6,185	21,792	52,300
Office Management	44,237	56,022	57,088	137,010
Miscellaneous	5190	5390	6,083	14,600
	395,620	315,127	386,191	926,853
Net Income	(\$38,296)	\$56,755	\$10,810	\$25,947

*Period was 1 January through 31 May

**Plan through 31 May 2008 using straight-line method

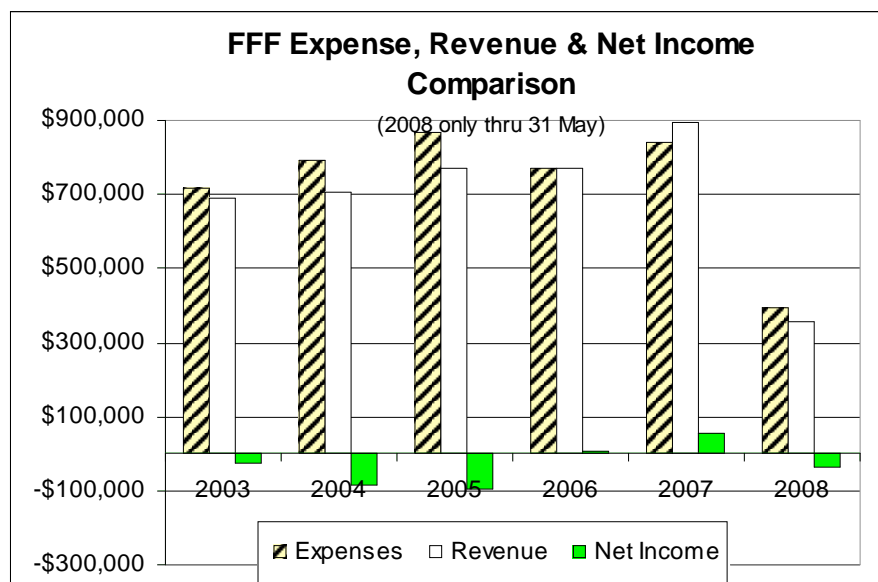
In 2008, we had an additional show (Florida). To date the show had revenues of \$28,212.75 and expenses of \$33,530.21 for a net loss of \$5,317.46. These numbers are included in the Statement of Operations above.

The performance through 31 May 2008 shows a negative cash flow.

The following pages detail the distribution of income and expenses from 1 January 2008 through 31 May 08 and provide balance sheets for 31 May 2007 & 2008.

Checking

Checking account balance for 31 May 2008 is \$10,813.92. This is a decrease as compared to the 31 May 2007 balance of \$23,989.66.



Investment Portfolio

The investment portfolio is managed by US Bancorp Piper Jaffray and overseen by the FFF Development Committee.

The FFF Portfolio ended 31 May 2008 with \$178,574.88, which consists of the following accounts.

Virginia Buscek Perry Account	\$15,621.32
J. Stanley Lloyd Account	31,413.87
FFF Account	131,539.69

This compares with the start of the fiscal year (1 January 2008) at \$178,630.01, distributed as follows:

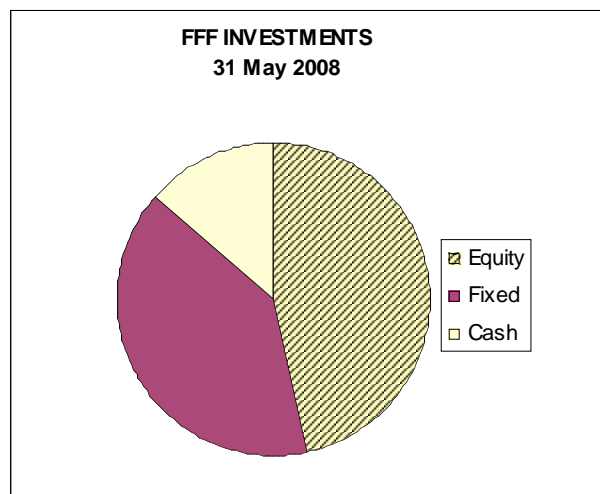
Virginia Buscek Perry Account	\$15,429.62
J. Stanley Lloyd Account	30,607.30
FFF Account	132,593.09

The overall results show a net decrease of \$ 55.13 (0.03%) in the total amount of our investments since 31 December 2007. This return reflects the low return year from the bond portion of our portfolio and negative return from the equity portion. This is in line with the performance of the bond and equity markets as a whole since the start of 2008. On an annual basis the portfolio would be at a loss of about 0.07%. This is unfavorable to FFF's long-term investment objective of 8% per year.

Investment Asset Allocation

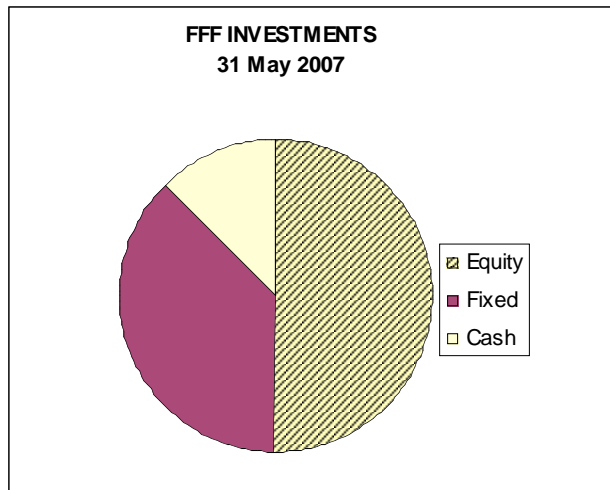
The investment asset allocation of 31 May 2008, compared to FFF Investment Policy, is shown below.

	Equity	Fixed	Cash	Total
FFF	\$83,287.32	\$70,983.51	\$24,304.05	\$ 178,574.88
Investment Allocation	46.64 %	39.75 %	13.61 %	100%
FFF Policy Asset Mix Range	35 – 65%	20 – 50%	10 – 20%	100%



For comparison the investment asset allocation of 31 May 2007 is shown below.

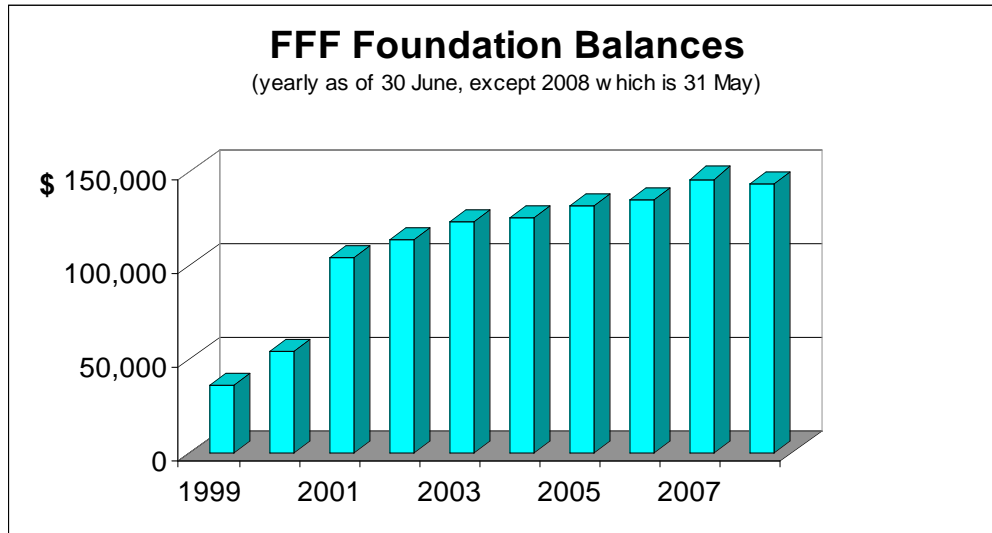
	Equity	Fixed	Cash	Total
FFF	\$88,756.25	\$65,450.01	\$21,890.01	\$ 176,096.27
Investment Allocation	50.40 %	37.17 %	12.43 %	100%
FFF Policy Asset Mix Range	35 – 65%	20 – 50%	10 – 20%	100%



The financial performance given market performance is reviewed annually with the objective of adjusting the investment allocation to align with the FFF Investment Policy.

FFF Foundation

The following chart shows the 30 June yearly balances (except for 2008 which is for 31 May) of the FFF Foundation since 1999. The 31 May 2008 Foundation balance was \$142,952.80, which was a decrease (1.8%) over the 30 June 2007 balance of \$145,577. This decline reflects the market's bond/equity performance as previously mentioned.



Federation of Fly Fishers Balance Sheet

Unaudited

	Accrual Basis May 31, 08	Accrual Basis May 31, 07
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
10005 · FFF PETTY CASH	100.00	62.23
10015 · Sterling - Regional Shows	4,162.01	
10025 · Sterling - Complete Angler Fund	22,888.52	
10030 · Sterling - PR Fund	14,706.10	
10035 · Sterling - Conservation Account	2,500.00	
10050 · MONEY MKT CHECKING	10,813.92	68,641.49
10055 · First Security - Wire Transfer	25.00	
10100 · Osprey Checking - WA	500.00	181.84
10140 · UBS Financial Services, Inc.		
10141 · Investments - Life Member	92,334.40	83,263.99
10142 · Money Market - Investments	5,738.90	6,800.28
10143 · Allow for Market Loss/Gain	7,529.79	14,954.61
10144 · A. Gingrich Investment	6,250.00	6,250.00
10145 · D Harger Investment	5,000.00	5,000.00
10146 · Lew Jewett Investment	11,572.39	11,572.39
10147 · C Brooks Investment	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total 10140 · UBS Financial Services, Inc.	133,425.48	132,841.27
10500 · Patronage Capital - Fall River	7,740.74	8,444.60
10600 · UBS Fin Serv - Virginia Buszek		
10601 · V Perry-Buszek Investment	10,443.38	10,089.73
10602 · B Buszek Invesment	5,000.00	5,000.00
Total 10600 · UBS Fin Serv - Virginia Buszek	15,443.38	15,089.73
10650 · J Stanley Lloyd Invesment		
10651 · J Stanley Lloyd - Mutual Funds	29,952.86	28,827.74
10652 · J. Stanley Lloyd Money Market	71.33	-37.73
10653 · J. Stanley Lloyd - Market adj	696.55	-624.75
Total 10650 · J Stanley Lloyd Invesment	30,720.74	28,165.26
Total Checking/Savings	243,025.89	253,426.42
Other Current Assets		
12500 · Pledges Receivable	121,146.65	129,794.62
12550 · Pledges Receivable Discount	-18,120.13	-20,428.62
12600 · Lifetime Memberships Receivable	14,660.00	13,120.00
12700 · Grants Receivable	60,179.00	40,000.00
13300 · Inventory - Whitlock Vibert Box	695.25	695.25
13400 · Inventory - General Mdse	20,037.87	25,389.49
Total Other Current Assets	198,598.64	188,570.74
Total Current Assets	441,624.53	441,997.16

Federation of Fly Fishers
Balance Sheet
Unaudited

	<u>Accrual Basis</u>	<u>Accrual Basis</u>
	<u>May 31, 08</u>	<u>May 31, 07</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
20020 - Accounts Payable	49,892.76	14,300.15
Total Accounts Payable	<u>49,892.76</u>	<u>14,300.15</u>
Credit Cards		
20033 - Platinum Plus - Wilhelm	45.99	690.75
Total Credit Cards	<u>45.99</u>	<u>690.75</u>
Other Current Liabilities		
20080 - Accrued Payroll	4,740.07	4,289.47
20130 - Accrued Compensated Absences	57,859.64	37,797.90
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>62,599.71</u>	<u>42,087.37</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>112,538.46</u>	<u>57,078.27</u>
Total Liabilities	112,538.46	57,078.27
Equity		
32000 - Net Assets	53,672.51	53,672.51
32100 - Prior Period Adjustments	-55,491.19	-55,491.19
33000 - Life Member Fullfillment Obliga	373,053.00	373,053.00
34000 - Temporarily Restricted Net Asse	23,556.00	23,556.00
35000 - Permanently Restricted Net Asse	57,082.00	57,082.00
39000 - *Retained Earnings	-12,092.24	-59,969.69
Net Income	-38,776.65	67,575.72
Total Equity	<u>401,003.43</u>	<u>459,478.35</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>513,541.89</u>	<u>516,556.62</u>

Federation of Fly Fishers
Profit & Loss by Class
 January through May 2008

	<u>Florida Show</u>	<u>Office Mgmt</u>	<u>Edu- cation</u>	<u>Conser- vation</u>	<u>Annual Show</u>	<u>Communi- cation</u>	<u>Mem- bership</u>	<u>FFDC</u>	<u>Fund Raising</u>	<u>Cash Basis TOTAL</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense										
Income										
41000 · MEMBERSHIP										
41100 · Individual	0	0	0	0	0	0	70,544	0	0	70,544
41110 · 3 Year Individual	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,990	0	0	24,990
41200 · Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,590	0	0	10,590
41210 · 3 Year Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,000	0	0	7,000
41300 · Individual Life	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,670	0	0	8,670
41310 · Couple Life	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,700	0	0	1,700
41400 · International	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,620	0	0	5,620
41410 · Canadian	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,380	0	0	2,380
41500 · Senior	0	0	0	0	0	0	20,929	0	0	20,929
41600 · Youth (16 And Under)	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	0	0	150
41800 · Retail / Outfitter	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,000	0	0	3,000
41810 · Sustaining	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,200	0	0	2,200
41820 · Guides Association	0	0	0	0	0	0	745	0	0	745
41900 · Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	24,073	0	0	24,073
41000 · MEMBERSHIP - Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	0	0	70
Total 41000 · MEMBERSHIP	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>182,661</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>182,661</u>
42000 · GIFT										
42400 · Foundation	0	0	0	2,500	0	0	0	0	0	2,500
42500 · Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	0	10,000
42600 · Annual	0	5,875	3,390	553	0	4,205	0	96	0	14,120
42800 · Other	0	0	549	0	0	0	0	0	0	549
42830 · Other Gifts - Education	0	0	-5	0	0	0	0	0	0	-5
42850 · Other Gifts - Presidents Club	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,093	4,093
42865 · PR Fund	0	0	0	0	0	10,850	0	0	0	10,850
Total 42000 · GIFT	<u>0</u>	<u>5,875</u>	<u>3,934</u>	<u>3,053</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,055</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>10,096</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>42,107</u>

Federation of Fly Fishers
Profit & Loss by Class
 January through May 2008

	<u>Florida</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Edu-</u>	<u>Conser-</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Commu-</u>	<u>Mem-</u>		<u>Fund</u>	<u>Cash Basis</u>
	<u>Show</u>	<u>Mgmt</u>	<u>cation</u>	<u>vation</u>	<u>Show</u>	<u>nication</u>	<u>bership</u>	<u>FFDC</u>	<u>Raising</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
43000 · SHOW										
43100 · Registration - Individual	0	0	0	0	1,130	0	0	0	0	1,130
43101 · Registration - Family	0	0	0	0	1,160	0	0	0	0	1,160
43104 · Registration - Day Passes	6,610	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,610
43200 · Workshops	3,293	0	0	0	26,745	0	0	0	0	30,038
43201 · Workshops - Youth Camp	0	0	0	0	25	0	0	0	0	25
43202 · Workshops - Women's Program	0	0	0	0	3,145	0	0	0	0	3,145
43300 · Meals - Misc	2,905	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,905
43301 · Meals - Awards	0	0	0	0	2,240	0	0	0	0	2,240
43304 · Meals - BBQ	0	0	0	0	1,600	0	0	0	0	1,600
43400 · Exhibitors	9,695	0	0	0	3,620	0	0	0	0	13,315
43500 · Other	5,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,000
43520 · Silent Auction	710	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	710
43530 · Raffle Tickets	0	0	0	0	445	0	0	0	0	445
Total 43000 · SHOW	28,213	0	0	0	40,110	0	0	0	0	68,323
44000 · GENERAL										
44100 · Merchandise Sales	0	10,605	4,206	8,833	0	2,666	319	105	0	26,734
44200 · FFDC Entrance Fees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	0	86
44400 · Royalties	0	2,887	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,887
44500 · Casting Certification	0	0	25,770	0	0	0	80	0	0	25,850
44510 · Casting - International Wkshop	0	0	3,438	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,438
44600 · Other	0	3,668	450	0	0	0	-180	400	0	4,338
Total 44000 · GENERAL	0	17,160	33,864	8,833	0	2,666	219	591	0	63,332
44900 · INTEREST GROUPS - INCOME										
44910 · Fly Tying Group	0	0	382	0	0	0	254	0	0	636
Total 44900 · INTEREST GROUPS - INCOME	0	0	382	0	0	0	254	0	0	636
45000 · INVESTMENT										
45100 · Interest	0	148	0	0	0	77	0	0	0	225
45400 · Other	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
Total 45000 · INVESTMENT	0	188	0	0	0	77	0	0	0	265
Total Income	28,213	23,223	38,180	11,885	40,110	17,798	183,134	10,687	4,093	357,324

Federation of Fly Fishers
Profit & Loss by Class
 January through May 2008

	<u>Florida Show</u>	<u>Office Mgmt</u>	<u>Edu- cation</u>	<u>Conser- vation</u>	<u>Annual Show</u>	<u>Communi- cation</u>	<u>Mem- bership</u>	<u>FFDC</u>	<u>Fund Raising</u>	<u>Cash Basis TOTAL</u>
Expense										
50000 · COMPENSATION										
50100 · Staff Salaries / Wages	0	39,852	21,955	21,573	9,936	9,290	20,003	1,743	17,345	141,697
50200 · Staff Benefits - Payroll Tax	0	11,063	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,063
50205 · Staff Benefits - Other	0	5,817	0	0	0	0	0	2,800	0	8,617
50210 · Staff Benefits - HSA	<u>0</u>	<u>1,305</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,305</u>
Total 50000 · COMPENSATION	0	58,037	21,955	21,573	9,936	9,290	20,003	4,543	17,345	162,683
51000 · VOLUNTEERS										
51200 · EXCOM Phone	0	717	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	717
51300 · Committees	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,536</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,536</u>
Total 51000 · VOLUNTEERS	0	717	0	2,536	0	0	0	0	0	3,254
52000 · PUBLICATIONS										
52100 · Fly Fisher Publication	0	0	0	0	0	39,532	0	0	0	39,532
52110 · Fly Fisher Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	12,787	0	0	0	12,787
52200 · Osprey Publication	0	0	0	0	0	2,613	0	0	0	2,613
52210 · Osprey Distribution	0	0	0	0	0	347	0	0	0	347
52500 · Web Site	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,989</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,021</u>
Total 52000 · PUBLICATIONS	0	0	0	32	0	57,269	0	0	0	57,301
53000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES										
53100 · Legal	0	1,250	0	373	0	0	0	0	0	1,623
53200 · Tax / Audit / Payroll	0	10,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,000
53400 · Telecommunications	210	818	0	0	333	0	0	0	0	1,360
53500 · Insurance	0	5,032	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,032
53600 · Advertising	<u>0</u>	<u>750</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>750</u>
Total 53000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	210	17,849	0	373	333	0	0	0	0	18,764
54000 · FUNDRAISING										
54800 · Raffles - General	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	200
54900 · Other	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,170</u>	<u>3,120</u>
Total 54000 · FUNDRAISING	0	0	0	0	200	0	1,950	0	1,170	3,320

Federation of Fly Fishers
Profit & Loss by Class
 January through May 2008

	<u>Florida Show</u>	<u>Office Mgmt</u>	<u>Edu- cation</u>	<u>Conser- vation</u>	<u>Annual Show</u>	<u>Commu- nication</u>	<u>Mem- bership</u>	<u>FFDC</u>	<u>Fund Raising</u>	<u>Cash Basis TOTAL</u>
55000 · SERVICES - MEMBER / NON-MEMBER										
55100 · Recruitment / Retention	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,997	0	0	10,997
55200 · Merchandise	0	4,041	1,142	8,128	0	0	0	0	0	13,311
55300 · Casting Certification	0	0	4,518	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,518
55310 · Casting - International Wkshop	0	0	10,938	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,938
55400 · Grants	0	0	0	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	1,500
55600 · Education	0	0	138	0	0	0	0	0	0	138
55900 · Other	0	0	4	20,000	0	0	611	0	0	20,615
Total 55000 · SERVICES - MEMBER / NON-MEMBER	0	4,041	16,741	29,628	0	0	11,607	0	0	62,018
56000 · ANNUAL SHOW										
56100 · Facilities	10,482	0	0	0	675	0	0	0	0	11,157
56200 · Staff	2,783	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,783
56500 · Logistics (includes Meals)	19,944	0	0	0	4,930	0	0	0	0	24,874
Total 56000 · ANNUAL SHOW	33,209	0	0	0	5,605	0	0	0	0	38,814
57000 · OFFICE MANAGEMENT										
57100 · Rent	0	1,500	3,276	1,517	0	0	0	3,794	0	10,087
57200 · Postage / Shipping	111	4,852	1,907	282	0	0	2,526	0	1,940	11,618
57300 · Communications	0	3,417	179	232	0	0	0	0	0	3,828
57400 · Printing	0	1,570	0	23	0	0	711	0	0	2,304
57500 · Supplies	0	1,534	22	0	0	0	0	50	0	1,606
57600 · Equipment	0	1,571	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,571
57700 · Staff Travel	0	6,981	2,767	1,139	0	0	388	0	0	11,275
57900 · Other	0	1,706	0	283	0	0	0	0	0	1,989
Total 57000 · OFFICE MANAGEMENT	111	23,131	8,150	3,476	0	0	3,625	3,843	1,940	44,277
58000 · MISC. EXPENSES										
58100 · Bank Fees / Discounts	0	4,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,800
58200 · Dues / Subscriptions	0	390	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	390
Total 58000 · MISC. EXPENSES	0	5,190	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,190
Total Expense	33,530	108,966	46,846	57,618	16,074	66,559	37,186	8,387	20,455	395,620
Net Ordinary Income	-5,317	-85,743	-8,666	-45,733	24,036	-48,761	145,948	2,300	-16,361	-38,296

FFF Foundation, Inc. Annual Report

Earl Rettig – Chairman FFF Foundation

The FFF Foundation was established in 1995 as a 501 (c) (3) public charitable foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to have available to supporters of the FFF an independent vehicle to which donors could make gifts of cash, bequests under will, life insurance and other income tax and/or estate tax advantaged gifts which would be managed as a long term endowment, the earnings of which could provide a source of continuing financial support to specific FFF programs and projects. The original amount of all gifts will remain in the Foundation.

The Foundation is managed by a Board of Trustees, nominated by the FFF President and approved by the FFF Board of Directors. There shall be no fewer than seven Trustees. The current Board of Trustees consists of the following: Earl Rettig, President, Keith Groty, Vice President, Mike Stewart, Treasurer, Mike Mumford, Secretary, John Bailey, Richard Diamond and David James.

As of July 1, 2007 Foundation assets were \$151,156.00 and at May 31, 2008 assets totaled \$141,857.64, a decline of \$9,298.36 or 6.15% due to the difficult investment environment since late 2007. There have been no grants distributed during the past two years and as of May 31, 2008 a total \$17,986.03 of earned interest and dividend income was available for grants. During the past eleven months only one donation in the amount of \$100.00 was made to the Foundation.

Comparable organizations to the FFF have been successful in building substantial foundations through committed director and membership support. The FFF has far to go to achieve the potential of generating a significant asset base in the Foundation that would provide a constant and continuing source of needed resources to the FFF.

Membership

Bob Shirley Chairman Education Committee

Membership in the FFF has topped 13,000 for the first time in our history. We believe the policy of reducing rates for first time members and new club members has been the key to this success. Our experience has always been that our retention percentages are excellent and well above average for non-profit organizations. If retention rates remain at traditional levels, and recruitment of new members remains high, we should see improving results through next year. We also had a very successful Life Membership drive and would like to congratulate those who took advantage of the offer.

We would like to congratulate the Florida Council and the Gulf Coast Council on their success with membership recruitment in their areas. These are our newest Councils and are proving the idea that we gain focus when we reduce the size of some of our Councils. These newer Councils can more nimbly respond to regional opportunities, and are better positioned to promote fly fishing at the local level.

The ‘old’ Councils are to be congratulated too because they took up the offers for first time members and new members of clubs and ran with them! Thank you all for your efforts and we look forward to your continued success. If you have any suggestions for future recruiting programs, let me know.

I would like to address the leaders of the various Council and the volunteers who make the Councils effective tools in bringing fly fishing to new members each day. Please, remember we are the only organization to represent fly fishing. Our actions and attitudes as seen by new

members make lasting impressions on them. If we try to welcome new young people we will help insure the continuation of fly fishing. If we encourage more women to try fly fishing, we will be rewarded in hundreds of ways. If we treat donated items and donations of funds with respect and conscience, they will multiply.

Government Affairs

Tom Sadler Chairman Government Affairs Committee

The committee relies on Tom Sadler to be the Federations presence in Washington DC. He provides guidance and to the staff and board on federal policy that directly affects the mission and work of the federation.

As Leah has notes in the conservation committee report the federation communicated to congress and the federal agencies expressing the federations position on following issues:

- Provided comments to National Marine Fisheries Service on the Columbia River Biological Opinion with the goal of offering useful guidance for avoiding jeopardy and destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead affected by the federal dams in the Columbia and Snake River Basin.
- Letter to Senators Bingaman and Domenici to consider reform of the General Mining Law of 1872 that will provide sensible reform and protect fish and wildlife resources on America's public lands.
- Joined a coalition statement regarding Marine Protected Areas – an excerpt of the content is as follows: The undersigned organizations strongly support scientifically based management of our marine and freshwater resources. They also support public access to marine and freshwater fishery resources for consumptive recreational activities where appropriate and under management systems for resource sustainability. We understand the concept of marine protected areas (MPAs) as a means to protect specific areas of sensitive habitat but believe that MPAs – especially no-take MPAs – should be just one tool among the suite of resources available for effective fisheries management.
- Letter to Senator Boxer (CA) as chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee to request that the committee hold an oversight hearing to investigate the manipulation of science under the Bush Administrations implementation of the Endangered Species Act.
- Letters to the US House and Senate Appropriations committees supporting stream gage funding programs of Cooperative Water Program and the National Streamflow Information Program of the US Geological Survey.
- Letter to US House and Senate Appropriations committees in support of the Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program (GLFER), a program with enormous potential to advance Great Lakes restoration.
- Letter to Montana US legislative representatives in support of an appropriation of \$4 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which will enable the Forest Service to complete the first phase of a two-year project aimed at permanently protecting almost 1,500 acres of patented mining claims near Cooke City, within the Gallatin and Custer National Forests just outside of Yellowstone National Park.
- Letter to Senators Wyden and Smith, Representatives Blumenauer, DeFazio, Hooley, Walden and Wu in support of increased protections for the Rogue River and its tributaries with the proposed Wild Rogue Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River additions.

- Letter to members of the US Senate Committee of Environment and Public Works encouraging the support of The Clean Boating Act that would fully and permanently restore a longstanding regulation that excludes recreational boaters and anglers from the federal and state permitting requirements under the Clean Water Act designed for land-based industrial facilities and ocean-going commercial ships. Supported National Marine Manufacturers Association's campaign to clarify EPA regulations on recreational boat discharges in contrast to commercial ballast water. Additional permitting would lump recreational boats with ocean tankers and cruise ships for ballast discharge.
- Letter to all US senators in support of S. 2191, the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act. The act outlines fish and wildlife conservation funding provisions of this climate change legislation and will help ensure the long-term survival of fish and wildlife by providing important new resources to address the unprecedented impacts that climate change will have on fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

Van, Leah and Bob Wiltshire met with the Montana congressional delegation to discuss the need for direct support for aquatic nuisance species.

Tom represented the federation at a meeting held by the U.S. Senate Democratic Steering Committee. Tom provided the steering committee members with information on the federation and its education and conservation efforts.

Tom was part of the team that was charged by the National Fish Habitat Action Plan Board with drafting the authorization legislation for the National Fish Habitat Action Plan. The legislation provides statutory authority for the plan, the board and the partnerships; funding for projects and guidance on partnership creation and governance. The legislation is expected to be introduced late in this congress or early in the next one.

Education

Matt Wilhelm - FFF Education Coordinator

FFF Education Committee

This year Jon Lyman (FFF Education VP) and Matt Wilhelm re-instituted the FFF Education Committee. Nearly all FFF councils have an education VP that is enthusiastic about growing FFF education programs in their regions. They will also be part of the FFF Education Committee, which will shape, assess, and help to implement FFF programs. All education programs, and materials will come under review of the committee to make sure the FFF remains the leader in fly fishing education. One of the goals of the committee is to gain an accurate accounting of the number of people being served by FFF education programs every year. The committee has taken part in several conference calls so far and has started to build a relationship with the clubs in their councils. The group is enthusiastic and ready to take on this responsibility.

National Physical Education Teachers Grants Initiative

This will be the fifth year of involvement the FFF has with this program. This year the grants program was expanded to include all teachers including PE. This grants initiative enables teachers from across the country to install boating and fishing programs at their schools. PE teachers can obtain direct grants of up to \$2,500 to start and maintain such a program. Grant dollars are used to purchase equipment for the program. Dollars are made available from the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation. The Future Fisherman Foundation administers the grant process.

The FFF is involved on several fronts. Matt Wilhelm, FFF Education Coordinator serves as the fly fishing instructor for the PE teachers at the national training program every July. During the training session teachers learn how to apply fly fishing to their PE program in a way that is fun and easy for the teachers to implement. Over the past four years Matt has worked with 340 different PE teachers these training sessions. Close to 20,000 kids from all corners of the country have learned fly fishing through this program.

FFF Clubs have assisted this program as well. Many of the teachers rely on local experts to help them with this program and several FFF clubs have answered the call. FFF volunteers at the request of the teachers and national office have provided instruction and assistance to the teachers in their area helping to further the success of the program.

The future of the PE grants initiative is secure and the FFF will continue to be the fly fishing education resource for this program.

FFF Equipment Loan Program

The FFF equipment program continues to grow every year. Last year the loaner program served close to 11,300 people. This gear was distributed to FFF clubs/councils who provided angling education to their members. Aside from use from FFF clubs/councils, the following groups used FFF loaner gear: Project Healing Waters, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of America, 4H, Casting for Recovery, Reel Recovery, American Lung Assoc., National PE Teachers Grants Initiative, NPRA, Boys and Girls Clubs of America, Make-A-Wish Foundation, State Fish and Game Agencies, plus many more.

This program continues to be one of the most popular, and most used in the FFF.

The program has grown steadily over the past 9 years. A continuing need is new gear to replace broken or damaged equipment.

FFF Fly Fishing Instructors Handbook

This handbook is a wonderful resource for the fly fishing educator. Those inside and outside the FFF have received it very positively. The handbook is heaping with information to assist instructors on a very wide range of fly fishing topics. It contains 12 chapters of tactics and methods that apply to all different types of game fish. So far over 267 copies of the binder have been distributed to FFF members and non-members alike.

The handbook continues to be a popular item. We look forward to increasing the fly fishing community's awareness of this resource. There has been increased interest of having the handbook available electronically via the FFF website. Many feel that this would benefit the FFF in several ways. Primary would be the ease and efficiency in which FFF members and others could obtain this information. Also, to be able to download specific chapters needed for various programs. By putting the handbook on line would also be a "greener" way to go. Advantages include: Less paper, less fuel used by shipping companies, less fuel and time used by staff.

National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA)

Matt Wilhelm the FFF's Education Coordinator serves as the fly fishing resource and lead instructor for the NRPA community-fishing program. For this program NRPA brings fishing to their summer parks and recreation (P@R) education programs. P@R representatives from all over the country come to a training session to learn how to implement fly fishing into their community recreation programs. This program is just starting but plans are in the works to offer several different training sessions in different regions of the country. These sessions will train hundreds of P@R representatives which will lead to thousands of men, women, and children learning about the sport of fly fishing from the pilot program alone. With growth of the program it's not unreasonable to see student numbers per year reach 20 to 30 thousand.

FFF Education

One of the challenges of monitoring FFF education programs is the autonomy of our clubs. It is difficult to say exactly how many people are being served by FFF clubs and councils. However the FFF education committee has been charged with obtaining these numbers from clubs within their councils. With the advent of new councils, and the additions of new clubs FFF education is growing and is definitely on the upswing. With exciting programs like Healing Waters, the BSA fly fishing merit badge, Growing Together, and casting for recovery FFF members have some great programs to be involved with and feel good about volunteering for.

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Fly Fishing Merit Badge

The BSA fly fishing merit badge is continuing. No exact participant numbers have been reported.

Education Programs Administered by the Fly Fishing Discovery Center

FFDC Education Programs

The FFDC continues to be integral to the success of FFF education programs. 2007-2008 was our biggest year on record so far as student numbers. On site visits for school groups and adult classes numbered 197 individual programs. During those 197 visits 2,967 youth and adults received various classes in aquatic and angling education. The FFDC continues to impress and is a vital resource for teachers across Montana who wish to share fly fishing with their students and the world that fish live in. All rooms in the FFDC are used for education programs that feature a variety of topics including warm water fishes, endangered fishes, fish form and function, fishes of Lewis and Clark, coldwater fishes, flies and what they imitate, tackle, and aquatic macro invertebrates. A vital part of the community, the FFDC continues to educate and impress.

Future plans include a teacher mailing with the hope of boosting already high FFDC student visits.

Another popular is the FFDC community casting program. This program takes place every Tuesday and Thursday night June through August. Close to 350 per summer take part in these free lessons...a community favorite.

FFDC Classroom/On Site Education Programs

Last year FFF education coordinator Matt Wilhelm planned, and taught 246 individual aquatic/angling education programs to 6,569 students in Montana. He also worked with 386 teachers and instructors across the state helping them to set up their own fly fishing education programs. Future plans include trying to serve more people during the summer months when the FFDC has interns available.

FFDC Loaner Program in Montana

Last year 1,790 people utilized the FFF equipment loan program in Montana. Participants included PE teachers, outdoor clubs, boy scouts, FFF, and the Montana Dept. of Fish Wildlife and Parks. Groups borrowed fly tying tools, rod/reel combos, hooks, fly tying materials, and instructional aides.

Conservation Report

Leah Elwell – Conservation Coordinator

Introduction

The Federation of Fly Fishers is committed to increasing its role and effectiveness on local, regional, and national conservation issues. We're enhancing the ongoing efforts that make FFF great, providing better support to our clubs and councils, and leading high profile conservation projects around the country.

Currently, FFF Conservation Coordinator Leah Elwell works directly with BOD members Rick Williams (*WRMC Conservation VP, Conservation Chair - BOD*), Tom Sadler (*Governmental Affairs Chair – BOD*), and Jim Schramm (*Legal Counsel – BOD*) to address conservation issues at regional and national levels. This also provides effective communication links between Councils, FFF staff and the FFF Board of Directors on conservation issues.

There are currently 13 conservation related programs under the direction of the Conservation Coordinator. During the 2008 Conclave, each program will undergo a complete analysis by members of the Conservation Committee for success, future continuation and how each matches an overall goal for conservation within the FFF.

The following is submitted as the Conservation Annual Report to the FFF Board of Directors for the 2008 Conclave.

Conservation Committee

Name	Affiliation	Email	Telephone
Dick Brown	Eastern Rocky Mountain Council Conservation VP (WY, CO, NM, AZ)	rjmabrown@aol.com	928-525-1579
Terry Lyons	Great Lakes Council Conservation VP (MI, OH, IN)	telyons@usol.com	517-625-0348
VACANT	Great River Council Conservation VP (ND, SD, NE, MN, IA, IL, MB)		
John Brognard	Mid-Atlantic Council Conservation VP (PA, MD, DE, VA, WV, DC)	bffishing@adelphia.net	301-371-5617
Mike Hogue	Northeastern Council (ME, NH, VT, NY, CT, MA, NJ, RI, ON, PQ, VI, PR)	mhogue@tweny.rr.com	607-347-4946
Steve Rose	Ohio Council Conservation VP	rarebook@richnet.net	419-589-9502
Mark Rockwell	Northern California Council Conservation VP (Northern CA, Northern NV)	summerhillfarmvp@aol.com	530-432-9198
Phil Hagar	Oregon Council Conservation VP (OR)	flyfishingphil@ffpc-rods.com	541-664-2591
Robert Bays	Southern Council Conservation VP (KS, MO, OK, AR, TX, West LA)	baysrr@aristotle.net	501-225-6437
Tom Logan	Florida Council Conservation VP	tomlogan@comcast.net	850-212-5396
Brandon Shuler	Gulf Coast Council Conservation VP	brandon@getawayadventureslodge.com	832-603-3787
VACANT	Southeastern Council Conservation VP (KY, TN, MS, East LA, GA, AL, NC, SC)		
Steve Kopp	Southwest Council Conservation VP (Southern CA, Southern NV)	skopp@esri.com	
Kevin Ryan	Washington State Council Conservation VP (WA)	kevdryan@comcast.net	360-456-3168
Rick Williams	Western Rocky Mountain Council Conservation VP (MT, UT, ID, AB, SK) & Chair, Native Fish Committee	troutdna@cableone.net	208-888-5668
Jim Schramm	FFF Legal Counsel & Great Lakes Council President	jdschramm@oceana.net	231-869-5487
Bill Redman	Chair, Steelhead Committee	wrredman@comcast.net	206-236-5912
Bob Tabbert	Chair, Coldwater Committee	rtab@msn.com	Winter 337-989-0815 Summer 715-588-2395
Verne Lehmborg	FFF Conservation Advisor	vernelehmborg@yahoo.com	281-425-6334
Tom Sadler	Government Affairs Advisor	tom@tdtc.biz	202-543-7552

Conservation Program Reports

Adopt A Stream

The Adopt a Stream program provides support for FFF clubs who watch over their local waters. By adopting a local stretch of water, clubs can foster a sense of ownership amongst their members by holding regular clean-ups, habitat projects, conducting water quality monitoring or biological monitoring. With the sense of ownership created through these activities comes a sense of pride and stewardship over our home waters. The FFF will fund \$100 towards the cost of a sign to be placed at the site, announcing the club's adoption and urging "Respect these waters".

In 2008, there have been no new clubs who have adopted this program.

Aquatic Invasive Species

The FFF continues to provide leadership in this much-needed area. We are involved in many activities across the country to help educate anglers in preventing the spread of invasive species. Some of these activities include national sign on letters, educational visits with Congressional staff, and collaboration with universities and organizations to create cleaning stations at fishing access sites.

The Clean Angling and Clean Boating Pledges: In early Spring 2007, we kicked off this campaign to engage individual anglers and boaters in the simple pledge to inspect clean and dry their gear. Pledges have been collected on an online pledge sign up from almost every state, and from countries such as New Zealand and England. We continue to provide education to anglers and general public, collaborate with various partners and outreach materials.

Basscatch

Launched in Summer 2004, the Basscatch project enhances angler knowledge of native black bass, their habitats and conservation needs. Through this knowledge an increased appreciation is sparked, which secures and improves the recreational opportunities and enjoyment associated with these warmwater species for future generations. Six of the more specialized species of black bass and their native warmwaters have been selected for focus. Any fly fisher may participate by catching and releasing four of the selected species to qualify for certification as an awarded BassCatch Member.

To date, we have had no entries or recipients for BassCatch. A broad outreach campaign is needed to initiate entries and interest in the program.

Mangrove Recovery Initiative

The Mangrove Recovery Initiative is a cooperative venture between the Federation of Fly Fishers, the US Fish and Wildlife Service at the J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge Complex, and local partners to recover and restore Florida's mangrove forests to support strong populations of fish and wildlife. The Initiative was launched in spring 2005 to address the impacts of human development and hurricane damage.

In 2007-2008, the continuation of the Initiative requires additional grant funding. In June 2008, we received a grant from the USFWS Coastal Program to remove exotic plant species and re-plant with native mangroves in a lagoon area at J. N. Ding Darling NWR with the help of volunteers from FFF clubs.

Endangered Fisheries Initiative

Recognizing that many of our nation's fisheries are in danger of decline, the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) annually identifies our most endangered fisheries and advocates for their protection. Since 1999, the FFF's Endangered Fisheries Initiative (EFI) has listed a spectrum of fisheries including rivers, streams, gulfs and lakes. By highlighting these waters and telling their stories we raise awareness of their plights and enlist others to help us make a difference.

In 2007, the FFF listed the Koktuli and Talarik Rivers in AK with the proposed gold-copper Pebble Mine that threatens the best salmon population in the world and the Green River in WA again with a proposed mine in the shadow of Mount Saint Helens where a number of ESA listed species live. In May 2008, the Bureau of Land Management rejected a lease application from the Colorado-based company that wants to mine for copper about 12 miles northeast of the Mount St. Helens crater, just outside the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument.

The FFF currently collaborates with many organizations to protect and improve unique ecosystems and fisheries at risk.

Cuttcatch

The Cuttcatch project is part of an effort by the FFF to increase appreciation for species diversity in fisheries. The project is designed to help fly fishers appreciate diversity of native subspecies of cutthroat trout. Learning to value these cutthroats in their native range is a critical first step for their recovery and protection. Cuttcatch encourages the fly fisher to collect photographs of the different species caught and released in their native waters. Those FFF members who successfully catch four subspecies of cutthroat trout and fulfill all reporting requirements will receive a patch, pin and certificate in recognition of their accomplishment. Since 2001, 22 anglers have been awarded their Cuttcatch certificate.

During 2007-2008, two Cuttcatch recipients were named: Mike McWethy of Richland, WA and Gregg Whitley of Ripon, CA. We continue to feature this program in our magazine periodically, but continue to have spotty participation. This program could benefit from a focused outreach campaign.

Conservation Grants Program

Through the Conservation Grants Program, the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) is proud to offer conservation grants to clubs, agencies, organizations and individuals who are working to preserve and restore the waters we cherish. Projects to assure healthy aquatic habitats and involve FFF members are eligible for funding.

In 2007-2008, the FFF had the opportunity to support a number of important conservation projects around the country. These are listed below.

2007-2008 Conservation Grant Awards

Access Easement: Badger Fly Fishers of Dane County, Madison WI were awarded \$1,000 to help fund the purchase of permanent public access to fishing waters in the state.

Riparian Stream Enclosures: Grand Valley Anglers of Grand Junction, CO were awarded \$2,000 to help fund building fences to exclude livestock from riparian areas on Trapper Creek.

Handicapped and Youth Fishing Access: Friends of the Norfolk Hatchery of Arkansas were awarded \$2,000 to build boardwalk access and stream bank improvement for handicapped and youth access to the Norfolk of the White River.

Guadalupe Bass Restoration: The Upper Guadalupe River Authority of Kerrville, Texas was awarded \$2,000 for the continued operation to restore native Guadalupe bass to the Hill Country of Texas.

Trout in the Classroom: Potomac Valley Fly Fishers of Ijamsville, MD were awarded a \$1,000 grant to support trout in the classroom programs in their local schools.

TOTAL AWARDS:	\$ 8,000
Paid Out:	\$ none has been requested to date
Remaining Due:	\$ 8,000

Whitlock-Vibert Box Program

The patented Whitlock-Vibert Box is a valuable tool available only through the FFF that can be used for egg planting and sediment studies. They are available to fisheries professionals, cooperating organizations and individuals as a tool to enhance fish stocks in the wild through egg planting. Whitlock-Vibert boxes are also used for research purposes, including sediment studies, and for educational purposes like classroom presentations.

In 2008 to date, we have filled orders for a total of 3,262 boxes

In 2007, we have filled orders for a total of 2,288 boxes.

In 2006, we filled orders for a total of 2,068 boxes.

In 2005, we filled orders for a total of 1,640 total boxes.

Other Conservation Efforts

- Leah Elwell is now the co-chair on the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Fish, Wildlife and Energy working group. Elwell remains on the TRCP Policy Council.
- Leah Elwell remains on the Steering Committee for the Endangered Species Coalition.
- We are an active participant in the campaign against the proposed Pebble Mine in Bristol Bay Alaska. Primarily, we have educated anglers on this threat to the greatest salmon fishery in the world, ran articles in the Flyfisher, web content online, popularized the film 'Equilibrium', and worked with various partners to further this issue.
- We are a supporting partner in the Salmon Road Show to help bring attention to the plight of salmon and steelhead in the lower 48. This is put on by Save our Wild Salmon. We have provided press quotes, informed our members and encouraged involvement.
- Joined the Sportsmen's For Responsible Energy Development to protect our fisheries resources from unnecessary harm from rapid oil and gas development projects on our public lands.

FFF Conservation in Press and Communications

Some highlights:

The Conservation Coordinator created a monthly Conservation Update in 2007. The update includes monthly activities from the National office and is distributed electronically to the Board of Directors, Council Presidents and Conservation VPs, interested club leaders and a variety of non-FFF interested groups or individuals. The update is still available each month - Anyone can sign up to receive this update.

In two magazines Salmon Trout Steelheader and Fly Fish America, FFF contributes an article on conservation or education related topic in every issue.

Additional FFF Conservation Actions & Advocacy (a complete list of sign on letters and actions can be found in every Conservation Update)

- ❖ Provided comments to National Marine Fisheries Service on the Columbia River Biological Opinion with the goal of offering useful guidance for avoiding jeopardy and destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead affected by the federal dams in the Columbia and Snake River Basin.
- ❖ Letter to Senators Bingaman and Domenici to considered reform of the General Mining Law of 1872 that will provide sensible reform and protect fish and wildlife resources on America's public lands.
- ❖ Joined a coalition statement regarding Marine Protected Areas – an excerpt of the content is as follows: The undersigned organizations strongly support scientifically based management of our marine and freshwater resources. They also support public access to marine and freshwater fishery resources for consumptive recreational activities where appropriate and under management systems for resource sustainability. We understand the concept of marine protected areas (MPAs) as a means to protect specific areas of sensitive habitat but believe that MPAs – especially no-take MPAs – should be just one tool among the suite of resources available for effective fisheries management.
- ❖ Letter to Senator Boxer (CA) as chair of the Environment and Public Works Committee to request that the committee hold an oversight hearing to investigate the manipulation of science under the Bush Administrations implementation of the Endangered Species Act.
- ❖ Letter to Gov. Bill Richardson of Santa Fe, NM supporting his concern and position on encouraging responsible development of New Mexico's energy resources balanced with sensible management of our public lands.
- ❖ Letters to the US House and Senate Appropriations committees supporting stream gage funding programs of Cooperative Water Program and the National Streamflow Information Program of the US Geological Survey.
- ❖ Letter to Gov. Manchin of West Virginia opposing the proposed Slatyfork sewage treatment plant that threatens the fishery of the Elk River.
- ❖ Letter to US House and Senate Appropriations committees in support of the Great Lakes Fishery and Ecosystem Restoration Program (GLFER), a program with enormous potential to advance Great Lakes restoration.
- ❖ Letter to Montana US legislative representatives in support of an appropriation of \$4 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which will enable the Forest Service to complete the first phase of a two-year project aimed at permanently protecting almost 1,500 acres of patented mining claims near Cooke City, within the Gallatin and Custer National Forests just outside of Yellowstone National Park.
- ❖ Letter to Senators Wyden and Smith, Representatives Blumenauer, DeFazio, Hooley, Walden and Wu in support of increased protections for the Rogue River and its tributaries with the proposed Wild Rogue Wilderness and Wild and Scenic River additions.

- ❖ Letter to members of the US Senate Committee of Environment and Public Works encouraging the support of The Clean Boating Act that would fully and permanently restore a longstanding regulation that excludes recreational boaters and anglers from the federal and state permitting requirements under the Clean Water Act designed for land-based industrial facilities and ocean-going commercial ships. Supported National Marine Manufactures Association's campaign to clarify EPA regulations on recreational boat discharges in contrast to commercial ballast water. Additional permitting would lump recreational boats with ocean tankers and cruise ships for ballast discharge.
- ❖ Letter to all US senators in support of S. 2191, the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act. The act outlines fish and wildlife conservation funding provisions of this climate change legislation and will help ensure the long-term survival of fish and wildlife by providing important new resources to address the unprecedented impacts that climate change will have on fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

Conservation Subcommittees

Conservation Subcommittees active now or in the past include the following:

- ❖ Warmwater Committee
- ❖ Saltwater Committee
- ❖ Coldwater Committee
- ❖ Native Fish Conservation Committee
- ❖ Steelhead Committee
- ❖ Quality Fishing Committee

Many of the sub-committees serve an advisory role and function to bring issues to the Conservation Coordinator's attention for review.

Native Fish Conservation Committee

The committee developed a policy statement on the Native Fish Refuge Concept – Native Fish Refuges Policy (posted online) that was ratified by the Board in January of 2008.

In April 2008, the FFF collaborated with Trout Unlimited and Fisheries Conservation Foundation to orchestrate a meeting that brought together managers, scientists, policy experts and outreach leaders to develop the policy of refuges into an executable project. Currently we are writing a prospectus, and journal articles for science and management that will be submitted by years end.

Steelhead Committee

The Steelhead Committee continues to publish *The Osprey* three times per year. The Steelhead Committee has also kept the FFF on the forefront of the issues on the Columbia and Snake Rivers concerning salmon and steelhead.

Warmwater Committee

A commitment to complete the BassCatch challenge has been undertaken by warmwater committee members to help bring visibility to this program.

No reports from the remaining committees. However, with an increasing need to address issues of access to fishing opportunities, addressing this issue of access may fall most appropriately under the work of the Quality Fishing Committee.

Flyfisher

Bill Toone - Editor in Chief

The *Flyfisher* magazine continues to be the main media standard bearer for the Federation of Fly Fishers; highlighting and communicating the many activities of the Federation of Fly Fishers.

Not only in the areas of education, restoration and conservation but in other areas including facilitating open debates regarding the potential headquarters move to Loveland CO.

While communication flow from the clubs and councils to the magazine still is not what it could be or should be, this past year did see some improvement in this area. Hopefully this trend will continue.

Keokee Publishing has continued to do an outstanding job of handling the publishing chores and should get the lion's share of any credit for the magazine. Al Beatty who replaced Dick Wentz as editor has also done a very good job.

The magazine is a reflection on every member of the FFF and as such, it is the membership's opinion of the *Flyfisher* that is truly the report that matters.

FFF Fly Tying Group

David Nelson – Interim Chair

2007-8 was the inaugural year for the Fly Tying Group. Started by the FFF leadership at the 2007 Conclave in Livingston, the Fly Tying Group is charged with representing fly tiers within the FFF. The broad goals of the group are to develop fly tying at the local, regional, council, national, and international levels. Bob Wiltshire outlined five specific goals for the group:

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

Further information about our history and the goals given to us by the FFF leadership is contained in the August 2007, issue of the *Flyfisher* (for an online version, see http://www.davidlnelson.md/FFF_FlyTyingGroup/FlyFisher_Article.htm).

An Interim Board was appointed, consisting of Al Beatty, Gene Kazcmarek, Steve Jensen, Judy Lehmborg, Bruce Staples, Herb Kettler, and, as chair, David Nelson. This group has been working consistently to get the Fly Tying Group organized and off to a start. A membership structure and dues levels were decided and implemented. Two articles describing the Group were published in the *Flyfisher*. Under the leadership of Gene Kazcmarek, all Council Presidents were contacted and asked to nominate a tier's representative to the Group to foster better communication with each Council and to recommend tiers for the Whitefish Conclave. Most of the Presidents responded and we feel we have a broader representation of tiers from around the country. Demonstration tiers this year will be providing improved educational displays as well as fly pattern handouts in Whitefish. Judy Lehmborg has been in charge of developing international contacts. Steve Jensen has taken on the task of fly plate framing, and is working on an online resource for learning fly plate framing. A workshop on framing is also set for Whitefish. Workshops on how to be a better demonstration tier and how to organize a fly tying class will be presented at Whitefish. A website has been set up (temporarily on my website, at

http://www.davidnelson.md/FFF_FlyTyingGroup/). The website has a variety of resources for tiers and will continue to be developed.

An elected Board will replace the Interim Board. The nominating committee, headed by Herb Kettler, has proposed a slate for the approval of the members and the Board will be elected prior to the Whitefish Conclave and will have their first meeting at that time.

FFF Casting Instructor Certification Program

Bruce Richards - Chair

The FFF casting instructor certification program continues to be a strong, dynamic, growing program. Demand remains strong for instructor testing and we held two of our biggest U.S. test events in the last few months. We have 1157 instructors worldwide, 175 of them being Master Certified. International demand is very strong. In the last 12 months, we have conducted test events in Australia, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, and the UK. 117 tests were administered which resulted in 82 new FFF instructors. We have events being planned in 14 countries and are in discussion with groups in 6 others. We currently have 207 instructors outside the U.S.

Nearly all other international instructor certification groups have approached us looking for ways to work cooperatively. While we intend to remain strictly independent, we are looking for ways to cooperate with these other groups for mutual benefit.

We currently have 16 active committees staffed by our 30 CBOG members and selected Master level instructors. We have committees dedicated to things as broad as developing a rolling 5 yr. plan, and as specific as dealing with students with disabilities. We are blessed with a very hard working board; nearly every member is very active in committee work, testing, or providing continuing education services.

In the past we have struggled to get respect from fly shop staff and guides, but that is changing. This past year we conducted big test events for two of the largest and most respected fly shop/guide operations in the country. Our examiners and program got rave reviews from both and one of the shops is anxious to certify the rest of their 40 guides. Many shops have FFF certified instructors, but now the shop owners are starting to realize that FFF certification can really help their business. We will be working with more fly shops in the coming year.

The future appears very bright for the CICIP program. We are growing at a rapid, but controlled rate. We have a talented and hard working board and are by far the biggest fly casting instructor certification program in the world. Many other instructor groups want to cooperate with us, and many are now basing their testing programs on ours, realizing the quality.

On a sad note, Mel Krieger has decided to retire from the board. It was almost 20 years ago now that Mel had the original idea to develop this program and recruit the charter board to help with its formation. While the program has been improved continuously since its inception, Mel's original vision of the program is still at its heart and we have him to thank for the FFF CICIP program being what it is today.

FFF Guides Association

Angie Gill

There are 175 current Guides Association (GA) members

Affiliation with 'Guided Away' is still current. Our guides are listed on Guided Away as soon as they turn in their bio information.

Website issues for the GA have been worked out as of May 2007 – services were delayed during website construction

Highlights from the last annual GA meeting in Livingston:

- We Adopted the GA mission statement:
“Promoting and improving professional guiding and outfitting services through education and communication”
- We discussed Newsletter possibilities and brainstorming
- We discussed the future direction of the GA – how to professionalize guiding

It has come to our attention that the Guide's Association policy of advertising for its members may be in conflict with the laws of certain states (i.e. Idaho and Montana) Outfitting and Guide Licensing Boards. Basically the conflict revolves around the right of a guide to advertise his/her services. Idaho and Montana have laws, or recent interpretations of the laws, which state that guides may not both advertise and guide. They may do one or the other but not both. This didn't make a lot of sense to us either. Ron Cordes and Jim Schramm are researching the legality of this issue and what the Federation's Guide Association's position should be.

Lee Davison will be resigning as Chair for the Guide Association. His efforts for the FFF Guide Association have been severely hampered by the legal issue mentioned above. If he proceeded with his plans for advertising for the Guide Association (news letters, brochures, publications, Guided Away, etc.) he would be putting the FFF Guide Association at legal risk in Idaho and Montana. As it stands, his Guide Assoc. activities have already come under scrutiny by the great state of Idaho's Outfitting and Guide Licensing Board. Lee is stepping down in the hopes that someone not residing in Idaho or Montana will take his place and assist Ron & Jim Schramm with resolving this issue. Lee will chair the Conclave meeting in Whitefish, MT.

Conclave

Jessica Atherton

The FFF's annual Conclave is the Federation of Fly Fishers motto all wrapped up into one week of fly fishing activities for all. The Conclave hosts our annual meetings and gives our membership and the general public the opportunity to take part in and learn about our goals of conserving, restoring and educating through fly fishing. It truly is a gathering of those who love the sport and are enthusiastic and excited to share it.

The 2007 Conclave was held in Livingston, MT and had a high level of enthusiasm. Livingston seems to be a favorite spot to host the Conclave, so it is well attended and is a successful fundraiser for the FFF. The 2007 show was to include a new on-line reservation system that due to many circumstances was an utter failure. I would recommend that in the future much more pre-planning and a committee be assigned to take on this task. There was not enough time and the system that was to deliver the product did not meet all the requirements that were necessary. This cost the FFF many dollars in staff time. To have a productive on-line registration system

should be a goal of the organization. However, there is much involved and staff is not able to commit the time it takes to produce and oversee such a big project. I have a number of on-line registration companies that I am looking at that would meet most of our needs, but initial cost would be a factor. If it is decided that I be directed to look into another registration system for Conclave I would report on those systems and their costs to you. It is true that with a more effective registration system, in the long run it would save money, mostly in staff time.

The "Auction Buck" in 2007 helped to bring a buzz to our annual auction. These "bucks" were a tool to use for advertising dollars and to try and increase the dollars spent in the auction. However, it was difficult to track. If this were used in the future we would need to come up with a way to track its effectiveness. Casting activities and games went on without a hitch; casting demos and tying demos are always a favorite of attendees. The 2007 show held a forum for Conservation and a forum for Education; we will continue to offer these each year. The overall consensus of 2007 was success!

The 2008 Conclave has had its challenges. The idea was to try a new location. Whitefish Montana was the *ONLY* community who sent in a bid for 2008. If the FFF were to pick a different location than Whitefish, the FFF would have had to do the research and the legwork to accomplish this due only one bid submitted. Whitefish was selected based on several reasons: they were the only community to submit a bid, they offered a great local committee, the opportunity to fish for Bass, Northern Pike and Grayling as well as trout, they had ample resources for lodging, and the school was very willing to work with our needs. The challenges have been: organizing from a distant location, the host lodging giving away our rooms that we had reserved so we had to find other lodging accommodations, and the fact that Whitefish is at least another day trip away from anyone traveling from the east of Livingston Montana. Not to mention over \$4.00 per gallon gas.

It goes without saying that the economy is a big factor in our numbers. Registration is down in numbers by at least 1/3 and many have said it is due to the extra day travel and the fact that gas prices have caused a pinch on wallets. Given that I am writing this before the show takes place all I can say is that those who attend will not be disappointed. The location and the line-up of workshops is top quality and the people there are excited to have us gather in their town.

The decision has been made to have the 2009 Conclave in Loveland, CO. The dates set are July 21-25.

In conclusion I would like to recommend that there be a Conclave meeting with the entire committee right after each year's show. This would include discussions about the next year – who will be chairing each activity, new ideas, and a review of the good and bad of the show that just took place. I would like to walk away from that meeting with a set committee for the next year and a base time line to follow including a committee phone conference schedule. Given my experience the past several years that I have coordinated the show I would like to see a more formal approach to setting the committees, their roles and 'job descriptions' based off a staff/volunteer run show. By doing this the committee will have a better understanding of their roles in the upcoming year. I have requested that my current committee give me an outline of their job description and give recommendations.

Council Reports

Eastern Rocky Mountain Council

John Marvin – President

There are a number of aquatic and fisheries conservation projects in various stages of progress within the Council. Of special note are the ERM projects that are aligned with the reintroduction, restoration, and enhancement of our most precious and endangered resource - native trout. One of the most enduring and frustrating scenarios can be found in northern Arizona where efforts to reestablish Gila trout into the West Fork of Oak Creek have been stymied by a lack of interest and performance associated with a certain federal agency. Although 'partnerships' appear to offer a good, and maybe the best, approach when dealing with complex conservation issues, sometimes it only takes one 'partner' to muddy the waters. Reflecting on a recent and positive observation, wild trout (undoubtedly descendants of introduced Rainbow) have been observed in drainages of the remote Chiricahua Mountains bordering the far, southeastern corner of sunny Arizona and its neighbor, New Mexico. A research project will soon be generated by the AZ Game & Fish Department to determine if any remnant native trout species existed and were documented in past, historical times. If history is exposed and it reveals a qualified prospective of an indigenous trout residing in the Chiricahua's, then we can assume the species in question was a rainbow trout of subtropical origin: RIO YAQUI (an *Oncorhynchus mykiss* subspecies whose former range must have extended northward out of Mexico's Sierra Madre Occidental). The thought of restoring this species back into its former U.S.A. headwaters is indeed inspirational.

The Council could be directly affected by the recent and unfortunate economic downturn that has enveloped our county. For those fly fishers who exist and rely upon a limited or fixed income, the rising cost of living could change the financial well-being of some folks who then would undoubtedly attempt to shrink their spending arena by instigating a note of refrain on certain activities and associated costs. This phenomenon might be labeled as a temporary event but the current economic shortcomings just might generate a negative mark upon FFF membership, conclave attendance, and a raft of Council and Federation functions. Nevertheless, the ERM has generated a modest increase in member numbers over the past year while our Federation (overall) produced a very respectable 13 percent gain. Perhaps we are dealing with a little hesitation in the dynamics of 'Trickle-Down Economics.' If this were the case, we might expect the year of 2009 to more accurately reflect today's economic mood.

On another note of interest and concern revolves around the impact of human population dynamics within our Council. Southwest U.S.A. has experienced significant growth and population expansion throughout recent history. During the past year, Tucson, Arizona, reached new heights by proclaiming a million inhabitants. Looking down the road a bit (Let's say within ten years), we can project to witness an additional multitude of some three or four million humanoids residing within the boundaries of the ERM. These figures are rather alarming for certain fly-fishing folks who relish a little elbowroom on the stream. Now, numerical statistics get especially interesting when you consider and examine population projections for the entire country: the United States of American is expected to increase its numbers by one-third within the next thirty years. We have 300 million now – so, we can expect another 100 million by the year 2037. All of these new, bright and shiny individuals will not be denied their rightful share of the bounties of nature including, of course, our nations' liquid resources. In retrospect, it was a gentleman by the name of E. Abby who made an apropos literary contribution and futuristic projection when he wrote:

... Enjoy it while you can, while it's still there. ..."

Florida Council

Pete Greenan President

The Florida Council wishes to note progress in four categories.

The Conservation effort by South Florida Fly Fishing Club relative to the protection of Cherry Creek in southeast Florida was an outstanding display of cooperation between the council, a local club and the Federation.

Several clubs in the council are involved in education projects, but one stands out dramatically.

The council stages regular fly fishing classes and fully support the work of Dusty Sprague in certifying instructors.

Membership growth has been outstanding.

Participation in and support of the FFF National Fly Fishing Exposition at Lakeland by Florida Council members turned a near disaster into a resounding success.

Great Lakes Council

James Schramm – President

Michigan Fisheries Resource Conservation Coalition (MFRCC)

In 2003 the GLC joined the Board of Directors of the Michigan Fisheries Resource Conservation Coalition (MFRCC) as a Class A member. The Coalition was formed to provide a strong voice for the fair and reasonable management of Michigan's fisheries. The Coalition brings together recreational and business interests for a common purpose, to protect the fishery resources of Michigan.

The concern of the Coalition is that five of Michigan's Indian tribes and the United States Department of Justice challenge the State's inland lakes, streams, and public lands, by seeking to free Michigan tribal members from any State regulation of the tribes' fishing activities. If successful, tribal members would not be subject to State regulation on inland lakes or streams, or on public lands as to bag or catch limits, season, species, gear used, or in any other manner. They would also gain free access to every lake or stream and all lands open to the public north of a line roughly from Grand Haven to Grand Rapids to Alpena and in the eastern half of the Upper Peninsula.

The State of Michigan filed a motion in Federal District Court in Kalamazoo which states: "This action seeks a declaration that Plaintiffs-Counter-Defendants do not retain any off-reservation hunting and/or fishing rights in inland areas under the 1836 Treaty of Washington." The Coalition has sought intervener status to be involved in the events that will be triggered by this motion.

Negotiations between the tribes, State of Michigan and the Coalition were intense in 2007. In the fall of 2007 agreement was reached on all issues and a Consent Decree was entered by the court. Visit the GLC website at www.fffglc.org and view the article in the November issue of the GLC FLYLINE for details.

Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition (MHRC)

The GLC is an active member of the MHRC along with the Anglers of the Au Sable, Michigan Council of TU and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs. The MHRC efforts resulted in a Settlement Agreement that led to the surrender of the hydro licenses of three dams on the

Boardman River. Feasibility studies for future disposition of the dams are expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

2007 GLC Fly Tying Expo

The Council's eighth annual Fly Tying Expo was held on December 1, 2007 at the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason, 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 2008 Expo scheduled for December 6, 2008

2008 GLC Fly Fishing School & Conclave

The 2008 GLC Fly Fishing School & Conclave was a great success and plans are underway for 2009 event to be held June 19-21, 2009 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 2008 and 2009

The Board of Directors has scheduled board meetings for 2008 and 2009. The fall board meetings will be at our Steelhead Outing held in October in Wellston, Michigan and the spring meeting will be at our Fishing School and Conclave in June in Roscommon, Michigan following the Annual General Membership Meeting on that date.

Great River Council

Vacant – President

No report received due to lack of activity.

Gulf Coast Council

Glen Cormier – President

No report provided.

Mid-Atlantic Council

Mary Ann Lewis – President

No report provided.

Northern California Council

Roger Miller - President

This report will outline the various activities and efforts of the Northern California Council (NCC) during the period June 1, 2007 to May 31, 2008. Our focus for this period has been on better communication and involvement with our member clubs, increase membership, youth programs, and conservation of the environment, and of course raising the funds to support these activities.

Club Involvement - To better involve the various clubs and keep them better informed as to the workings of the NCC we created a new position, Vice President of Club Support, and appointed past President of the NCC Dave Ford to fill it.

Membership - Membership was increased by 31% over the previous year, and welcomed two new charter clubs into the fold due to a number of factors. One factor was the new dues incentives, but the main reason for our increase was our V.P. Membership, Jim Peterson, who gave unselfishly of his own time to visit as many clubs as possible to spread the message of the FFF. Unfortunately for us, and the FFF, Jim has had to resign this position due to personal reasons. He will be sorely missed.

Youth - The NCC and many of its clubs have sponsored youth fishing days to introduce many young people to the sport and the outdoors. To name a just a few of the activities; the NCC co-sponsored a youth fly fishing day with Wilderness Unlimited, which we hope will become an annual event, the Merced Fly Fishing Club took a number of honor students from a local Junior High Bass fishing with a fly rod (this is an annual event), Fly Fishers For Conservation co-sponsored with the San Joaquin Parkway Trust and the California Department of Fish and Game, a *No Child Left Inside* day that included fishing as a component, this too is planned to be an annual event.

Conservation – The NCC budgeted over \$20,000 in conservation grants and used every cent in either club grants or support of some worthwhile project (State of the Salmonids, Smith River etc). Fly Fishers For Conservation finished their four restoration project of Big Meadow Creek in Sequoia National Forest with major contributions from the NC and SW Councils. V.P. Conservation Mark Rockwell continues to be a force in conservation efforts throughout Northern California and is currently deeply involved in the Klamath River negotiations

Fund Raising – The NCC holds two major fundraisers each year The Festival of Fly Fishing (FoFF) and the Northern California Hall of Fame (HoF). For the fourth year the FoFF was held in Redding and even though we were afraid we were wearing out our welcome it turned into one of the most successful events we have held. Much of the credit must go to the co-chairs Mark Rockwell and Suzanne Poetzsch who poured their hearts and souls into the event. This year we will be holding the FoFF in Lodi, a new venue that is more centrally located.

The HoF this year was again held in conjunction with The Fly Fishing Show in Pleasanton, this continues to be a successful partnership that helps out both parties. This year's honoree was Ed Rice who was inducted into the Hall of Fame in front of a sold out house. This was a class event that was co-chaired by John Ryzanych, Derrell Bridgeman and Bobbie Armor.

We look forward to the next year and the continuing challenges of spreading the word of the Federation.

Northeastern Council

Rodney E. Priddle Sr. – President

USA

Connecticut - New Jersey
Maine - New York
Massachusetts - Rhode Island
New Hampshire - Vermont

Canada

Ontario - New Brunswick
Prince Edward Island
Newfoundland/Labrador
Nova Scotia - Quebec

2007 / 2008 was a busy year for the North Eastern Council.

Communications

Due to the rising cost of printing and postage of our newsletter, we were forced to switch an electronic distribution of our newsletter. To say the least, the electronic newsletter has been well received and responses to articles and special request have been great! On a similar note, the NEC did a special project to update bad or missing e-mail addresses on FFF membership roster.

Our web page continues to be a great investment, allowing our membership to stay informed and contact council directors and officers via our contact page. Another primer communications tool we use is our Communications Tree. The Tree is a vehicle where our clubs send the council their newsletter via the Internet. In turn the newsletters are sent to four key members of each club, their president, 1st vice president, newsletter editor, web master plus any other club member who should be in on this great information sharing tool.

Finance

On the negative side, we were forced (for the first time ever) go to our membership and ask for help in replenishing our treasury. On the positive side our members came thru with many generous contributions. Each and every contributor received a personal Thank You from the North Eastern Council.

Membership

FFF Membership in the NEC territory is on the up swing. I contribute this in part to our commitment to timely communications to our members as well as a concerted effort by those working our show booths, to improve how we engage the public as well as a change in our booth layout & seating allowing us to get better represent the Federation.

Conservation

In 2007 the NEC was first to endorse and contribute financially to fund the first ever science grants to help fund basic scientific research. For several years, Dr. James Liao has studied fish behavior by watching fish move and how they responded to various geometric objects placed in the flow. He used sensors attached to live fish to measure the muscle activity of their behavior. He eventually was able to show that fish could shut down most of their muscles and "surf" on eddies created by objects in the flow.

The next step in this research is to understand the neurobiology of how fish used hair cells on the surface of their skin to detect eddies. The eventual goal is to understand how fish can exploit turbulent flows and how to recreate the hydrodynamics of favorable flow environments for stream restoration purposes. Dr. Liao's research combines neurobiology, hydrodynamics and biology with strong implications for anyone interested in stream restoration and conservation habitat work.

The NEC and FFF grants enabled Dr. Liao to purchase a specialized underwater camera to continue his research while at Cornell University. By funding his research, the FFF and the NEC are participating in leading edge scientific research that will provide all sorts of exciting

outcomes for years to come. When Dr. Liao completes his research, he will be preparing a paper for publication in the Fly Fisher (the FFF National magazine) and we hope to have him as a guest speaker at one of the National FFF Conclaves.

Education

The NEC continues to move forward in educational efforts. To this end we will have been honing our BSA contacts educating local BSA leaders of our existence and willingness to help. We are also in planning stages of putting together a First Fly & First Cast program to reach those who want to try their hand at the sport of fly fishing.

Activities

2007	Venue	State	Activity
October	BSA Jamboree	NH	Tying & Casting Lessons
November	International Fly Tying Symposium	NJ	Tying Lessons
2008	Venue	State	Activity
January	Fly Fishing Show	MA	Youth/BSA Fly Tying
January	Fly Fishing Show	NJ	Youth/BSA Fly Tying
February	Saltwater Edge	RI	Information Booth
February	Bears Den	MA	Information Booth
March	LL Bean – Fishing Expo	ME	Tying Demonstrations
March	Kittery Trading Post - Fishing Fest	ME	Information Booth
April	Canadian Fly Fishing Forum	Ont	Information Booth
May	West Point Military Academy – BSA – Innovational Camporee	NY	Casting Lessons

Ohio Council

Donald Van Buren President

The Ohio Council (OHC) is into its second year of existence. We became a full Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) full Council on 01/01/07.

Our agenda/purpose for the remainder of this year and into 2009 is to solidify our operations and outreach including but not limited to:

1. Continue to develop self-sustaining financial programs for OHC project funding and operations.
 - a. A warm water expo type event is tentatively schedule for 2009 with the work being done during 2008.
 - b. Various educational programs are being investigated for development.
2. A specific person/ad hoc committee was appointed to pursue and coordinate seeking grants from Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) for educational programs related to fishing.
3. The OHC accepted responsibility and accountability for the “Healing Waters Fly Fishing” (HWFF) program in Ohio. A specific person/ad hoc committee was appointed to pursue and coordinate this program.
4. The OHC set up and conducted a training session for the “Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs” (HOFNOD) program. The OHC was well represented as well as several fishing clubs.

- a. Part of the HOFNOD program was devoted to the ODNR “Passport to Fishing” (PPF) program.
 - b. Dialogue was established with the ONDR with the express purpose of add a “Fly Fishing” segment to the PPF program.
 - c. Dialogue and initial contacts were established on the availability of grants for educational programs via the ODNR. A specific person/ad hoc committee was appointed to pursue and coordinate this resource.
5. Conservation continues to be a high priority for the OHC and is ongoing.
 6. We continue to improve internal operations based on OHC requirements.
 7. Establishing an Identity for the OHC is a work in progress.
 8. Establishing an Ohio FFF Agenda is a work in progress.
 9. The OHC has a continuing goal to increase The FFF presence in Ohio by continuing to:
 - a. Increase FFF membership.
 - b. Increase both FFF Affiliated and Charter clubs.
 - c. Continue to improve working knowledge and communications between Clubs, Councils and FFF.
 10. Continue to improve our Club collaboration/relationships among current FFF clubs in Ohio.
 11. Continue to improve our Club collaboration/relationships with non-FFF clubs that have similar objectives as the OHC/FFF.
 12. Continue to improve our OHC electronic media communication tools, i.e., OHC website, an electronic newsletter and expand our “Communications Tree” program with Ohio Clubs. The continued use of these tools is focused on furthering Club Collaboration within Ohio.
 13. We continued to improve our treasury due to the generosity of several member clubs.
 14. We continue to make steady progress with the normal operational areas that come with being a full council.

Oregon Council

Tilda Runner – President

This Annual Report of the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers is an overview of some of the Council’s yearly activities that meet the Federation of Fly Fishers’ Business Plan and Core Challenges and Goals.

The Oregon Council continues to sponsor its major event, the Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo. Next year’s event will be March 13 and 14, 2009, at the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany, Oregon. This has become the premier fly fishing event in Oregon.

In starting the year as the new President of the Oregon Council, my first goal was to increase membership. This goal was reached this year by showing a 24% increase in membership over last year. This will continue to be an emphasis of the ORC.

My second goal was to visit as many clubs in the state as I could. Many of the clubs have not had the Council President let alone a Council officer visit in many years. I was able to visit four clubs this year. This is an ongoing goal. These visits put a face to the Oregon Council, something that is needed in the state.

Core Challenge #1 Develop a Stronger Identity throughout the Fly Fishing Community

The 20th Annual Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo was another resounding success.

There were 200 tyers signed up to tie over the two days making this the largest fly tying event in

the United States. There were 63 classes. The youth classes served approximately 140 kids. We also added a casting tournament to the Expo that proved to be fun for all of the people involved. One of the reasons for the success of the Expo is the involvement of the clubs. There were over 100 volunteers helping in all phases of the planning and implementation of the Expo. We asked clubs to be in charge of specific areas of the Expo. Our goal for next year is to get more clubs involved.

One of the challenges facing the Council and the FFF is continuing to develop a strong identity in Oregon. Visits to some of the clubs and talking with members shows that there is a disconnect between National and the clubs. The Council is making strides in showing the benefits of being a part of the FFF, but it is not something that we can do by ourselves. It was good to see Pete Van Gytenbeek and Bob Shirley come to the NW Fly Tyer Rendezvous in November. Washington Council President, Carl Johnson, and Northern California Council President, Roger Miller, came the Council's Expo in March and were able to sit in on our Club Presidents' meeting. We would have liked to see someone from National or the Board of Directors. National cannot be just a place where the clubs send dues, it needs to show something more tangible than news articles about programs in other parts of the country. We need to see the leadership in our state.

Core Challenge #2 Develop Organizational Capacity to Achieve Mission & Challenges
With 22 clubs in Oregon, we have the organizational capacity to achieve the mission of the FFF. Our clubs are variously involved with conservation and education projects throughout the state. Each club has chosen their niche in their area. The Council is working to strengthen our relationship with our clubs by helping to support their projects either as a liaison with other organizations and National or monetarily. A portion of the money that is earned at the Fly Tyer Expo is set aside for conservation and/or education projects with the clubs' projects being the top priority.

Club activities created too many conflicts for a Spring Leadership Conference in 2008, but plans are in the works for one in January 2009. The last one in 2007, helped to point out areas where the Council needs to improve with our relations with the clubs. We still have a ways to go, but we are progressing forward.

Core Challenge #3 Increase FFF Membership and Develop a Larger, More Stable Funding Base
The Council continues to meet this core challenge through the NW Fly Tyer Expo. While our gross revenue was more this year, so were our expenses due to the increase in size of the programs. This caused our net revenue to be less--\$19332. Once again, 95% of the exhibitors have signed up to attend next year. There are over 450 names of tyers who would like to attend the Expo creating a waiting list. There is a good possibility of having a waiting for vendors as well.

ORC started the year in July with 600 members. As of May, we have gained in membership to 774. We showed a gain every month of the year, with our greatest gain being in March and April, at the time of our Expo. This always seems to be the best time to gain new members. The special promotional dues program was a benefit to getting new members. I think it is a good program to have during the show season, maybe January through April.

For the coming year, my goals include encouraging more people to get involved in the leadership of the Council. We have several officer openings. It is my hope to get leaders from parts of the state, which are underrepresented on the Council Board. My continued visits to clubs should help with this effort.

This year, I would like to emphasize conservation more within the Council. We need to do a better job of showcasing the conservation efforts of the clubs both within the state and on a

National level. Many of the clubs have extensive projects, but do not get the recognition and support that they deserve.

The Oregon Council has some great leaders. I feel very fortunate to work with them within the Council. Jim and Jan Fisher have continued to be unselfish contributors to the Council. Dwight Klemin is wonderful Vice President of Education. His passion for teaching shows through in the educational part of the Expo and the CCI training program he has developed in Oregon. I am looking forward to working with more such leaders in the future.

Southeast Council

Lynn Scott – President

This Annual Report is a summary of activities by which the South Eastern Council (the “Council”) worked to meet the FFF’s business plan core challenges, objectives, strategies and goals as follows:

Core Challenge 1: Improve FFF Organizational Identity

- The Council Board of Directors voted to provide \$3,600 in funding for an internship in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The internship is used to provide a summer work experience to a Fisheries Biology Student and to help gather data to support the brook trout restoration efforts in the Park. The FFF and the Council garnered favorable impressions from the park service, area residents and interested parties.
- The Council also funded the Casting For Recovery Program in Georgia in the amount of \$1,500.
- The Council conducted its annual Conclave and Fly Fishing Show at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia with Steve Rajeff and Jon Cave as headliners. The event was a success with approximately 200 participants and 34 vendors and resulted in a profit to the Council.
- The Council awarded the annual fisheries scholarship of \$1,000 to a student at Austin Peay State University in Tennessee to assist this graduate student in his work in Fisheries Biology.

Core Challenge 2: Increase FFF Membership

- The Council membership efforts have been rewarded with an increase of 84 new members for an increase in membership of 11.04% this year. The Council had a booth presence at the Fly Fishing Show in Atlanta, Georgia and Charlotte, North Carolina. These events contributed to a successful campaign to increase membership and contributions for, and recognition of, the Healing Waters project.
- The Council has formed a fly fishing club in Tennessee and had inquiries from several other locations. Interested fly fishers will be put together to form clubs in these areas. The Carolina Fly Fishers, a Charter Club in Charlotte, North Carolina is the result of a successful recruiting effort.

Core Challenge 3: Develop a Larger Funding Base

- The Council had an improvement with its annual fund raising event at the Conclave with gross revenue up substantially from previous years.
- The Council is exploring additional opportunities for fund raising.

Core Challenge 4: Improve Working Relationship Between Clubs, Councils and the Federation of Fly Fishers

- The Council has supported local clubs and events through the provision of fly rods and fly tying materials.
- The FFF has supported local clubs through the fly rod program.
- The Council worked to link clubs in the Council to share information regarding speakers, and other matters.
- The Council President attended annual events and banquets for the Georgia Women Fly Fishers and Atlanta Fly Fishing Club and participated in periodic conference calls with other council presidents.
- Various Board members participated in events and banquets of local clubs in their areas.

Southern Council

Sheryl Knight – President

We have had another successful year and continue to promote the FFF Mission and the success of the national organization, our council and the individual clubs. The success of these efforts is the direct result of the dozens of devoted board members, conclave chairs and committees.

The clubs in the Southern Council (“SOC”) vary as much geographically as their homewaters... including warm, cool, cold and salt water. These clubs independently bring the FFF to the doorstep of our membership and communities. We maintain a club-centric focus with an emphasis on fly fishing events, education programs and conservation efforts.

Our Council and clubs have seemingly inexhaustible supply of outstanding volunteers. Throughout the year constant exchanges of information, consulting and ideas are passed from council to the clubs and club-to-club. This interaction produces 30-50 FFF events each year at the club level. One of our biggest problems is coordinating delivery of the FFF booth for the events, a very nice problem to have.

The larger of these events are:

- SOC Conclave
- Sow Bug Round Up
- Smallmouth Rendezvous
- Mid-South Fly Expo

Our Council and member clubs continue to support organizations like Casting for Recovery (CFR), Boy Scouts of America and most recently, Project Healing Waters. The SOC Outreach continues to support regional CFR events. Additionally, the North Texas FFF clubs are in the planning stages of a 2009 Expo.

We continue the Ambassadors Speakers Bureau providing free/low cost (expenses only) speakers to clubs in our council. These individuals promote the general and specific goals of the Federation as they provide educational programs to our clubs.

Likewise, we were financially able to pay the National membership rebates to our clubs. And continue to see new member growth at Council events and club events.

In support of our education objectives the SOC is providing a copy of the FFF Fly Fishing Instructors Handbook to any club in the council that is in good standing with FFF. Twenty-eight have been distributed to date. This along with our loaner rod and fly tying stations round out our educational program.

Our conservation efforts are perhaps the crown jewel of the SOC. Over the last 3 years between 22-25% of the Council budget has been designated for conservation. This year grants were given to support:

Dry Run Creek Project: \$3,000

The Friends of the Norfork National Fish Hatchery, supported by several SOC clubs along with the US Fish and Wildlife Service requested \$3,000 to provide better ingress and egress to the Dry Run Creek Area. The construction of this boardwalk will allow for handicap access to 125 feet of Dry Run Creek currently not accessible.

Crane Creek Bank Stabilization and Erosion/Sedimentation: \$1,500

The Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers requested funds to stabilize creek banks that are highly susceptible to undercutting and erosion due to removal of natural riparian vegetation by mowing of grassy areas up to the stream bank in the Crane City Park. The project will also remediate erosion and consequent siltation caused by bridge deck downspouts under the Missouri Highway 413 Bridge over Crane Creek.

Lower Illinois River Stream Improvements: \$1,000

The Tulsa Fly Fishers requested funds for the purpose of constructing stream habitat consisting of adjustments to channel dimensions installation of J-hooks and rock weirs to raise water levels and increase oxygen content of the water. The funds will be donated to the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation that can obtain three-to-one matching funds for each donated dollar.

Kanopolis Reservoir in Central Kansas – Smokey Hill River: \$1,000

Two FFF Southern Council clubs are jointly sponsoring this project. The Flatlanders Fly Fishers and the Free State Fly Fishers have joined with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to conduct this project. In the first part of June, the two clubs will do a campout, work fishing trip to the seep stream and help plant willow stakes and cottonwood cuttings in the Dam's keys. In October the two clubs will join to plant the required trees and shrubs.

To further enhance the profile of FFF, SOC and affiliated clubs partnerships are being developed with national retailers to provide public education opportunities. Throughout the year local clubs have partnered with local and national retailers to provide informational and educational programs, supporting both educational opportunities and membership recruitment goals.

Effective January 1, 2008 the Gulf Coast Council became a fully recognized council within the Federation. While communications and coordination of activities can be challenges within any large regional volunteer organization the process to develop this sub-council was exceptionally challenging. The Federation must provide more guidance and a clear path for the formation of sub-councils and the criteria required to meet full council status.

To round out 2008 the SOC will be electing a new board at their General Membership meeting held during the SOC Conclave in October. There will be significant changes on the board as both the Managing Director, Pat Smith and our longest serving board member, Dennis Slane are stepping down. The roles that Pat and Dennis have played in the SOC cannot be measured and their breadth of knowledge is unequalled. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize both of them for their years of service.

Southwest Council

Greg Stumpf – President

The Council continues to reestablish itself. We have gone thru a complete change in officers. This has had both pluses and minuses, and we continue to work thru them.

Our main goal this past year was to establish *organizational identity*. The SWCFFF is working to change the “what do you do for me?” image just as National is doing. To help change this perception among the clubs and non-affiliated fly fishers, we have expanded our efforts in conservation and education. In March we held a meeting with Cal DFG, Cal Trout, NFS, three clubs, and local citizenry to establish a better understanding and direction for the restoration of the Kern River Rainbow. The Rush Creek Clean-up was expanded this year with the installation of Monofilament recovery tubes. We now have another local sponsor at Convict Lake Resort and a clean up of Convict Creek will be done over the 2008 Labor Day weekend. This gives the SWCFFF another area to work with local residents and businesses, where the primary income is derived from fishing. The Council has also entered a partnership with guides in the eastern Sierra, and working to establish 4 new TIC programs in the area.

We are working to get all the guides in the eastern Sierra as Certified Casting Instructors and, expanding the numbers of CCI's in the San Diego area. We are also working to find and, obtain 125 Chillers from LAUSD that are no longer in use.

Membership has improved to some extent, which is amazing with the tough economic times. The Fly Fishing Show did attract new members, yet we had the best gain through the Club member incentive program. We have also added another new Charter club.

Due to tough economic times we are looking outside the normal areas for fund raising. The clubs in this area are struggling themselves, and with the misfortune happening to LBCC, most fly fishers are donating their money to them.

The Council believes that by establishing organizational identity, primarily in the eastern Sierras, this will bring about greater membership, a stronger funding base, and a better working relationship with all.

Washington Council

Carl Johnson – President

Membership

Over the past year WSC increased our membership by almost 17% growing to 860 members from 736. In my opinion, there are four main reasons for the growth of the WSC; participation in Sportsman Shows, club visits, WSC conclave, and the \$15 membership incentive program.

The WSC participated in 5 shows this past year; the Western Washington Sportsman Show in Puyallup, the Evergreen Sportsman Show in Monroe, the Great Western Sport fishing Show in Spokane, The Fly Fishing Show in Bellevue, and the Olympic Peninsula Fly fishing Show in Port Townsend. At the shows we were able to increase the visibility of the FFF and WSC. We also sold FFF memberships and promoted our Conclave at the shows. In addition it allows us to direct them to fly fishing clubs close to them.

The Board of the Council made a concerted effort to visit the clubs during the past year. The visits allowed us to get the word out to the members. Although communication to the clubs via written or electronic methods is maintained the information does not seem to make it to the individual members on a regular basis. Visitations to clubs by Board members have helped get the message of the FFF and WSC to the club members. This, along with the \$15 membership offer was very successful in increasing membership this past year.

On May 3rd, the WSC conducted our first regional Conclave in many years. In spite of the high gas prices and the economy we had a successful event. WSC sold approximately 30 FFF memberships at the event. In part due to the fact that FFF members got into the event for free. In addition we ran a members raffle. We raffled off a \$600 fly rod to a FFF member who attended the event, including new members.

Finally, the \$15 membership incentive that was conducted this past year for members of affiliated clubs was very successful in bringing in a portion of those members.

Education

WSC participated in a number of educational events during the year. These included the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival sponsored by the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery where we gave over 100 free casting lessons to anyone who wanted including approximately 30 kids. Members of the Council gave free casting lessons at the two O'Laughlin Shows in Washington, The Western Washington Sportsman Show and the Evergreen Sportsman Show. In spite of some bad weather at one of the shows approximately 150 free fly-casting lessons were given at the two shows. At our Conclave we held a number of fly fishing classes, including an introduction to fly fishing for women taught by women, spey casting instruction, beginning fly casting and casting in wind conditions. In addition, we also offered free fly tying lessons to both kids and adults during the day. 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.

Conservation

WSC became more active in local conservation activities during the year including supporting many of local proposals and proposed regulations throughout the state during the year. In addition, the clubs worked on local conservation projects where they got out and got "their hands dirty" on things such as picking up trash from our rivers, restoring and protecting riparian zones including installing large woody debris and fencing and on working to remove invasive weeds.

The FFF members within the Council are proud of the contributions made by WSC in the fields of fly fishing education and resource conservation, and are growing in number due to the recruiting efforts of the WSC members and clubs and it's BOD.

Western Rocky Mountain Council Bud Frasca – President

The Western Rocky Mountain Council has managed to continue in a good direction throughout the 2007/2008 year and we have had 5 Fly Tying/Fishing Expos throughout the council this past year with the Council having one in West Yellowstone last June and another one scheduled for June 27, 28 of 2008. The clubs in Boise; Idaho Falls; Lewiston and Billings have all put on shows that were successful and naturally the Council's Show in West was also successful. These shows have been done across the council for many years and this year saw a decline in profits mostly due to the economy and the ability of people to travel to them. I think that this has been the trend across the country also. The Clubs use these monies to forward their conservation efforts locally and also to fund the programs that they perform during the year.

This year has found many of our members complaining about many of the proposals from national and the year as a whole has brought much conversation about the national board of directors and the direction they are taking the organization. This has taken much time away from efforts in a positive direction. Our Council has added two new Charter Clubs and recently just lost one club in Bozeman, Montana as they have dissolved the club just this month. As a council

we are now much more solvent than last year and are able to fund some projects of our own locally throughout the council. Our membership has grown slightly over the past year and we have added some new members to our board.

I think that one of the problems this past year has been the talk of a move of the national office from Livingston, Montana to Loveland, Colorado and naturally since the office is in this council, this has upset many members and caused dissention in the ranks of the council. I think we have rectified this problem at present by informing members of all the nuances of the move and making them better informed of the actual situation regarding the move. I hope that all of this has shown the national board of the need to keep members better informed?

The future of the council for the coming year I think is bright with more members getting involved in council functions and our ability as a council to put on programs that benefit members and also the fisheries that abound locally. We are one of the largest councils in land mass but not in members and we are active in trying to add members all the time. We have been very fortunate to add Dave Duffy to our council as membership chairman and Dave has actively solicited areas for new clubs to add to the council's members. We look forward to this coming year being one of growth and of course fun.

The clubs in the council have done many great things toward the benefit of Conservation this year. One being the installation of Catch & Release for Cutthroat Trout in the whole Coeur d'Alene River Basin that was pushed forward by the North Idaho Fly Casters in Coeur d'Alene. This was a monumental step and was worked on for over 10 years by the club. The Snake River Cutthroats every year donate many monies to Conservation efforts from the monies they raise at their show and other clubs across the council perform much needed work on their local rivers and lakes both with free labor and donations.