



December 2009 Issue

# Fish First NEWS

## Member Meetings Now at Woodland Grange

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### MEETING DATES 2009-2010

Dec. 17th, 2009 - Gary Loomis, presenter

Jan. 21, 2010 - Dave Brown, presenter

Feb. 18th, 2010 - Jerry Brown, presenter

March 18th, 2010

April 15th, 2010

May 20th, 2010

### NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Thursday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m.**  
**at the Woodland Grange**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> and Davidson in downtown**  
**December Program**  
Gary Loomis

On the Internet: [www.fishfirst.org](http://www.fishfirst.org)

#### Executive Board Members:

Gary Darley 360-567-7770  
Jim Malinowski 360-247-6404  
Jerry F. Brown 360-600-8559

Jerry Sauer, Membership Chairman, 360-607-1646  
Harry Bresnahan, Membership meetings 360-225-9836  
Jerry F. Brown, Newsletter Editor 360-600-8559  
Cindy Moss, Banquet Chair, 360-225-8476

### November Meeting Summary

Don Kinsey entertained the members at our last general meeting when he spoke about fishing the Olympic Peninsula. Contact Don at 253-670-8923 or visit his web site: [www.donkinsey.com](http://www.donkinsey.com).

### Jim Byrnes Retirement Party

After 33 years of service for WDFW Hatcheries Jim is retiring on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Thirty of those years have been spent working at the Lewis River Hatchery. Here are the details about how you can help honor Jim.

*When* – Saturday, January 9<sup>th</sup> 2010, 5:00 pm  
*Where* – Who Song & Larry's Mexican Restaurant  
111 East Columbia Way, Vancouver  
Upstairs in the "Tropical Room"

Taco Buffet available for \$16.95 each.

Please RSVP by calling Angie @ the Lewis River Hatchery, 360-225-7413.

**To receive this newsletter by email please forward your email address to Jerry at: [jerome1@cni.net](mailto:jerome1@cni.net)**

**Mark Your Calendar for Early May Banquet/Auction (more info to follow)**

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## **Fish First Wish List**

If you know of anyone that would like to donate any of the following items please tell a board member.

- Freezer
  - Trailer (to haul Fork Lift)
  - Bucket Dump
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### **NET PENS, NUTRIENTS & EGG BOXES**

**DAN BALCH**  
**Net Pen Chairman**



Due to weather, the fish transfer to the Echo net pens scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup>, was postponed to December 17<sup>th</sup>. We are still feeding fish at Speelyai. A huge thanks to Bob Schneider and Ray Pickner for feeding the fish on Fridays. Fish First is responsible for feeding the fish until January 4<sup>th</sup>. After January 4<sup>th</sup>, PP & L will hire an employee to feed them for the rest of the season.

Many thanks to Greg Glass and Don Lewis for cleaning and setting up the net pens at Echo. This two day job has the pens ready and waiting for the fish.

You can contact me, Dan Balch, at 360-225-7388

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### **Nutrients**

The contact for Nutrients is Alan Fulcer at 360-225-5690 if you are interested in this very important project. It looks like we will be getting a substantial amount of Analog nutrients this year for the first time. They are easier to handle, lighter and easier to carry.

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## **The Guide Corner**

Winter Steelhead Fishing by Jerry Brown

Here are a few tips that could help you hook a few more fish this winter. Fishing from the bank is a very affective method for winter steelies as these fish tend to run close to shore at times. When the water is running high you will find fish traveling close to shore looking to avoid the swifter currents. Fishing with a bobber and jig, bait, or pink worm is the best way to keep your offering in the zone. All too often fisherman are casting out to the center of the river when the fish are running right near their feet. Look for the softer flowing water to fish when facing these conditions. Keep your bait, jig, or pink worm within a foot or two off the bottom by adjusting the bobber accordingly. Fish in this cold water are not going to chase or move more than a couple feet to grab a bait. When the river drops and clears these fish will often hold in deeper slower pools and behind boulders. Down size your offering and be careful not to spook the fish. Try using a single Jensen Egg with a #2 bait hook in clear water, as these fish are in the rivers following the fall salmon that have spawned. You can run this on drift rig or under a bobber.

When fishing from a boat also fish close to shore in high water. Back trolling divers with sand shrimp or pink worm with a corkie/smile blade combo (Macks Lure) is very affective. Also various styles of plugs with your favorite shrimp or krill scent is very effective. Go down the river slowly to present the bait or plug right in the face of holding or moving fish. Target tailouts, boulder fields, slower current seams and eddie lines. Also using a bobber and jig, bait, or pink worm from an anchored position, you can cover a lot of water with a slow and natural presentation. Dress in layers and stay safe and warm. Good fishing and happy holidays to all.

**Kingfisher Adventures - Guide Service**

**360-518-1803**

**[www.jbkingfisher.com](http://www.jbkingfisher.com)**

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## **Fish First Sponsors La Center High School “Project Study” Class**

The FF Board approved the funding of the Field Trip budget for the La Center High School Project Study Class. The intention of this class is for students to work together to make positive change in our environment and our community. Some of their projects currently underway include cafeteria composting, worm boxes, rain gardens, a raised bed garden and even an egg box and water monitoring site along Breeze Creek.

These funds will be used to improve the students understanding of salmon habitat restoration and watersheds. Hopefully as these students grow they will pick up the baton and continue Fish First type projects.

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### **Feature Article: Executive Board Member Jerry F. Brown**

When John DiVittorio resigned as executive director the Fish First board decided to divide up his duties amongst three people. This month's newsletter highlights the first of these three members, Jerry Brown.

Jerry has been a member of FF since 2005. In late 2006 he volunteered to write the Newsletter for FF and was asked to be on the Board as part of that duty. Jerry has worked hard to upgrade the Newsletter while at the same time trying to keep costs of production in line. Part of that has been distribution via email of a color edition of the monthly Newsletter. Brown has missed only one issue in the 40 months or so that he has been doing the Newsletter and that was while he was fishing in Canada. Good excuse.

Jerry retired from the Health Care Industry in 2005 having worked for Legacy Health System a Portland and Vancouver hospital company for 20 years. He managed at a variety of levels but his favorite was being a co-founder of a multi-hospital innovative surgery project for the last 15 years of his career. On the way up to health care management Brown says he did anything and everything and has been a dishwasher in a restaurant, a short-order cook, a motorcycle mechanic, a tank mechanic while in the military, a television reporter, a public relations person for a State Health Department and the Program

manager for a State Lung Association to name just some. “I was always looking for the next thing that moved me up the ladder and provided an interesting and educational opportunity.” Jerry grew up in Boise Idaho as the second oldest in a family of 12 children. “We had to get out there and earn what we wanted. Nothing was handed out in a family that large.



Jerry sees his role with Fish First as doing not only the newsletter but the responsibilities of the behind the scenes administrative work that enables and supports the more visible activities of Fish First like habitat improvement, net pens, nutrients etc. As VP for Administration for FF Brown says it's his job to support the Banquet Chair Cindy Moss and her committee of volunteers and see they get what they need to operate. As well he says he is there to support and help the Treasurer in any way and to provide the information the Board needs to function from month to month. “We have good people in practically invisible jobs including membership, meetings, and treasurer. I see it as my responsibility to get them what they need to do the job they are so good at.”

Brown lives east of Woodland on a wooded acreage overlooking the North Fork of the Lewis with his wife Lori, a small herd of goats he refers to as “four footed brush whackers.” And a shop full of old cars he is busy making into “Street Rods”—his other passion in life. “You could hardly find two more different interests but the Street Rods cater to my need to be innovative and work with my hands while my work with Fish First is my way of contributing to the Community and helping keep this a special area to live,” he said.

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