



# *Fly Lines*

*The official publication of the British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers*  
**Summer 2006** **Volume 7, Number Two**



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## *Fly Lines*

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Members as well as guest writers are invited to submit articles, photographs and artwork related to the pursuit of fly fishing. Send unsolicited material, with a self addressed stamped envelope for return to:

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Chair – Art Lingren

Members – Peter Caverhill, Rob Way

On Our cover . . .



*Kami Kamizawa on the scenic Squamish River*

*Art Lingren photo*

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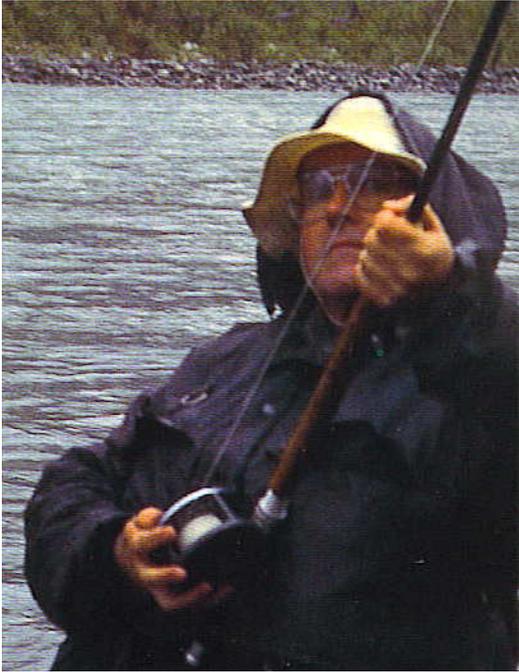
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by Vic Marchiel

*Spey Casting History: Part III: The Reintroduction of the Two-Handed Rod to British Columbia's Steelhead Waters and Its Spread Elsewhere. . . . . p. 24*

by Art Lingren

## President's Message



Another annual general meeting goes into history and I certainly want to thank the members of Haig-Brown Fly Fishers and the Cowichan Fly Fishers for putting on the show. A lot of work goes into arranging the program, facilities, auction and the Sunday festivities and the efforts of James Tepoorten and his volunteers from both clubs are greatly appreciated. Thank you all.

This year the AGM saw some changing of the guard with Peter Caverhill completing his two years as president. Under Peter's leadership your Federation continued to be a strong advocate on fisheries issues, strengthened communication lines with other sports fishing organizations such as the BC Wildlife Federation, Steelhead Society and BC Federation of Drift Fishers. Peter assumes the

role of immediate past president, however this does not mean retirement to a rocking chair in this organization. Past chairmen work whether they are immediate past or immediate past.

For the past seven years Ken Burgess has served as treasurer, attending the board meetings, keeping the books and filing the annual reports with Victoria, Ken has decided it is time to get in some extra fishing and has stepped down. Certainly we are sorry to see Ken retire and appreciate his years of dedication to the sport. Talking of retiring our 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president is retiring from the fire department and a new career opportunity prevented Keith MacDonald from remaining on the board. Art Lingren is stepping down as editor of *Fly Lines* certainly in his role of editor *Fly Lines* has continued to be a first class publication receiving accolades from across North America.

As I said the guard is changing and new blood (not mine but more about that latter) is stepping forward to continue the efforts of those that have gone before. An organization cannot continue unless individuals are willing to step forward and help; without new blood coming into an organization individuals become burned out; new faces not only bring new energy but new ideas and the Federation is fortunate that so many were willing to step up the plate at this year's AGM to fill the vacancies. I wish to welcome our newest board members: vice presidents-Pat Micek (direct member) and Dan Cahill (Osprey Fly Fishers and Totem Fly Fishers), treasurer Harold Tinling (Island Waters Fly Fishers), *Fly Lines* editor Terry Robinson (Osprey Fly Fishers) and director Kevin Reid (Comox Valley Fly Fishers).

As the newly elected President I should provide you with a bit of my background. I am a food scientist having worked in the bakery supply business for thirty years and as I am presently unemployed (so if you know of any employment opportunities drop me a line) and thus have sometime on my hands. I have been a fly fisherman for some 40 years, I know I cast like it has been 40 days. I fish lakes, rivers, streams and salt and have managed a few trips to chase tarpon and bonefish. I first became involved with the BCFFF shortly after it was founded serving as a club delegate then various executive positions serving as president in 82, 83, 86 and 87. In the mid eighties I was Chairman of the BC sub-council of the Northwest Regional Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers; that is the US based Federation. I have seen the BCFFF evolve over the past 30 years. For most in the eighties the personal computer was unheard of and PC usually referred to plastic coating. Communication was slower back then as we struggled with type writers and postage stamps. Fax machines were just starting to make inroads into the office environment and while that did speed communication to some extent it still meant that communication was phone and the Royal Mail. Today communication is almost instantaneous, the computer makes writing a letter a snap, no white out, rubber eraser or carbon paper required and you can instantly send copies off to one or one thousand . Back in the eighties leaked information would appear in a brown envelope, now it comes as a blind cc. Instant communication means that we are all dealing with more information than ever before, organizations providing they have sufficient manpower can become extremely effective in addressing issues of concern, notifying its members and other organizations on issues and soliciting support. Instant communication means individuals are expecting instant responses and action based on short time frames. I have seen these changes occurring in the Federation, board members are dealing with more issues, attending more meetings, spending more time than ever before working on your behalf, but they cannot do it without your support the potential workload is too great.

As the BCFFF is under a thousand it has a limited pool from which to draw volunteers and therefore we have to be selective in the issues that we can address; we cannot tackle them all. Given our limited manpower it is imperative that we work with other conservation groups lending them our support on those issues which we find ourselves in mutual agreement. This has been BCFFF practice for many years and is certainly one that will continue.

We will continue to strive to improve our communication with our members. We need our clubs and direct members to keep us informed on issues of concern whether that is fisheries, environmental or communication. Good constructive communication is what makes us strong so don't hesitate to contact the board members.

That is it for now; I am going to practice my casting.

## **Reports, Upcoming Events, Notices and Items of Interest, Letters to Editor**

### **A Special thanks to those who supported our AGM 2006 fundraiser**

|               |               |                                |
|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Hermann       | Fischer       | Kamloops Fly Fishers           |
| Joe           | Gatien        | Kamloops Fly Fishers           |
| Gary          | Cutler        | Kamloops Fly Fishers           |
| Steve         | Jennings      | Kamloops Fly Shop              |
| Bob           | Bachus        | Totem Flyfishers               |
| Bill & Lori   | Jollymore     |                                |
| Scott         | Baker-McGarva | Angler's West Fly & Tackle     |
| Andre         | Stephen       | c/o Michael and Young          |
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| Art           | Lingren       | Totem Fly Fishers              |
| Ron           | Grantham      | Totem Fly Fishers              |
| Peter         | MacPherson    | Fred's Custom Tackle           |
| Joe           | Kambeitz      |                                |
| Penticton     | Fly Fishers   |                                |
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| Harold        | Lohr          | Redl Sports                    |
| Gary          | Eigear        | Riverside Fly & Tackle         |
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| Peter         | Huyghebaert   | Island Waters Fly Fishers      |
| Club donation |               | Island Waters Fly Fishers      |
| Barry         | Stokes        | Islander Reels                 |
| Matt          | King          | Robinson's Outdoor Store       |
| Ted           | Brookman      | Teddy's Tackle                 |
| Shawn         | Bennett       | Weigh West                     |
| Murray        | Whelan        | Tyee Marine & Fishing Supplies |
| Richard       | Kennett       | Bucky's Sports Shop            |

|              |             |                                  |
|--------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Jen          | den Hartog  | BC Outdoors Magazine             |
| Nick         | Pujic       | Cdn Fly Fishing Magazine         |
| Jill         | Smillie     | Oak Bay Marine Group             |
| Craig        | Gebicki     | Scotty Fishing & Marine Products |
| Charlie      | Comstock    | Pacific Bay                      |
| Todd         | Vivian      | Lamiglas                         |
| Darrin       | Hiem        | American Tackle                  |
| Nick         | Batistic    | Hook Set Innovations             |
| Chris        | Bird        | Fly Fusion                       |
| Doug         | Walker      | HBFFA                            |
| Ian Colin    | James       |                                  |
| Garry        | Bettridge   | Westcoast Fly Fishers            |
| Len          | Marshall    | Berry's Bait and Tackle          |
| Harry        | Lemire      |                                  |
| Peter        | Morrison    | Sage and Scientific Angler       |
| Ralph        | Shaw        |                                  |
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| Pat          | George      | HBFFA                            |
| Ron          | Hjorth      | Simms/Rio rep                    |

### **BCFFF Activities - May 2005 to May 2006**

This list is aimed at providing the BCFFF membership, and others, with a very brief indication of the activities that the Federation was involved with over this past year. It primarily identifies events that were attended by the BCFFF Executive members and some of the more major time consuming tasks that took volunteer time. If anyone wishes more information on any of these, please contact the BCFFF President or VPs.

#### **May/05**

- BCFFF AGM Penticton - all
- BCFFF board meeting (Penticton)- all
- BCWF annual convention (Nanaimo)- took part in the fisheries panel discussion -PC
- South Coast Steelhead Coalition meeting (Burnaby) – GS, PC
- Prepared draft position paper on proposed bait ban

#### **June/05**

- Thompson R. steelhead recovery meeting (WLAP, Surrey) - PC

#### **July/05**

#### **August/05**

- BCFFF executive meeting (Horseshoe Bay) PC, GS, KM

#### **September/05**

- Cutthroat trout symposium (Port Townsend WA) – DM

#### **October/05**

- Nicola/Coldwater Water Use Plan Meeting (Merritt)- GS

#### **November/05**

- Parks Canada open house on the proposed Georgia Strait National Marine Conservation Area (Vancouver) – GS, SH
- Haig Brown FF Assn Meeting (Victoria) - Presentation on BCFFF – PC
- BCFFF Board Meeting (Surrey) – all
- Letter to MOE regarding Northern Pike in East Kootenays

#### **December/05**

- Steelhead hatchery Forum held in Spences Bridge – GS, SH
- Angler Participation Workshop (Abbotsford) – by Fresh Water Fisheries Society of BC – PC
- Dean River advisory meeting (Williams Lake) – AL, SH

#### **January/06**

- South Coast Steelhead Coalition meeting North Vancouver – GS
- Family Fishing Society Board Meeting (Delta) – PC, DM
- Skeena Regional Quality Waters Management Committee Inaugural meeting -SR

#### **February/06**

- Squamish open house on the Cheakamus River spill – PC / GS
- Thompson River Steelhead workshop held in Richmond - GS
- Letter to MOE in support of a limited 2 year hatchery program for Cheakamus River
- Steelhead Society of BC –AGM (Langley) - PC
- Skeena Regional Quality Waters Management Committee meeting-SR

#### **March/06**

- Thompson River Steelhead workshop (Merritt) - PC
- Skagit Environmental Endowment Fund - workshop Skagit (Blaine) - GS
- Obtained update on Penticton Creek
- Discussed funding of fly fishing camp with Westcoast Flyfishers
- Quality Waters Strategy Meeting (2 days)- Richmond – AL
- Letter to BCWF regarding our position of a no kill fishery on wild steelhead in the Skeena watershed - PC
- Skeena Fisheries Management Advisory Committee Inaugural Meeting-SR

**April/06**

- Letter to Main Board Sports Fishery Advisory Board outlining BCFFF opposition to any wild steelhead retention for the Skeena
- Co –signed letter to MOE outlining BCFFF opposition to any wild steelhead retention for the Skeena
- Skeena Regional Quality Waters Management Committee proposal submission to the Provincial QWS Committee-SR
- Cheakamus Ecosystem Restoration Stakeholder meeting in Squamish GS, SH
- Steelhead Hatchery forum (BCIT in Burnaby) – GS, PC, RW, SH
- Quality Waters Strategy Meeting (Victoria) - AL

**May/06**

- Trout Unlimited Canada (Vancouver Chapter) AGM (Vancouver) – PC

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Key: PC (Pete Caverhill); GS (Gil Sage); AL (Art Lingren); DM (Denise Maxwell); RW (Rob Way); KM (Keith McDonald); SR (Sharon Robertson); SH (Steve Hanson)

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***Notice regarding the 2007 AGM***

The 2007 AGM and associated fundraising festivities will be hosted by the Osprey Fly Fishers of BC, in the Lower Mainland, and the tentative date is the weekend of May 25, 26 and 27, 2007.

*Scenes from the May 26, 27 and 28 A.G.M., hosted by the Haig-Brown Fly Fishing Association in Victoria and the Sunday fishing, barbeque and casting competition hosted by the Cowichan Fly Fishers*

Friday May 26 Wine and Cheese Gathering at Uvic



**From left to right: Lori Jollymore, Janette George, Beverley Lingren, Marsha McDermid and Willi Huyghebaert. I am not so sure that this conversation is fish related but I do know the Lori and Bev both spent time on the water this past year and perhaps they were telling tales of those adventures! But somehow because of the smiles on the ladies' faces I doubt it.**



**From L to R: Rich Ronyecz, Van Egan, Sam Saponoff, Barry Stokes and Doug Pollard reminiscing.**

*Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> AGM*



**The meeting Saturday was attended by the faithful.**

**Ralph Shaw gave an overview of the Jack Shaw diary project, which the BCFFF is the main funder.**



*Saturday Evening Dinner and Auction*



**A good crowd attended the Saturday night dinner and auction**



**Past President Peter Caverhill and Andy Sneddon, Andy MC'd the evening's festivities**

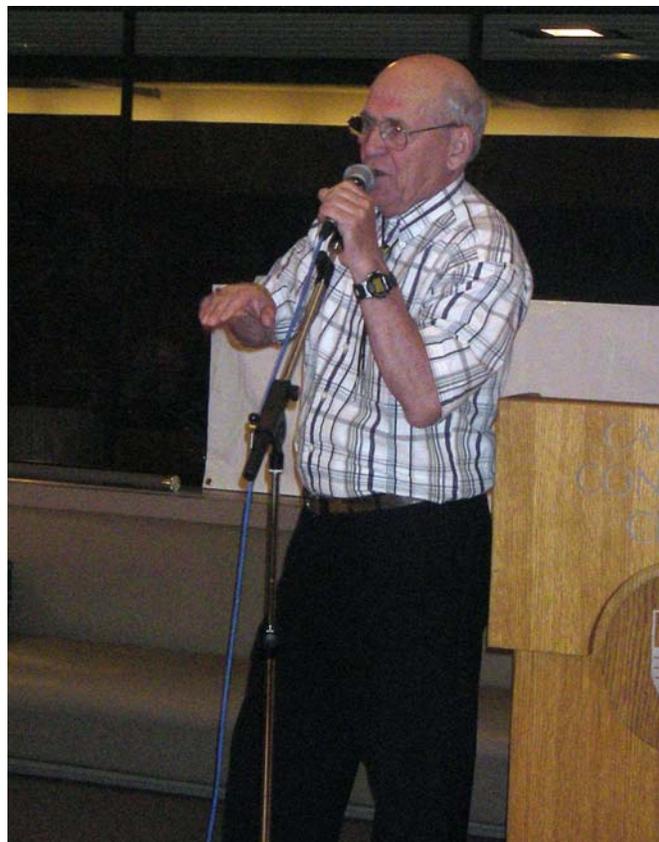


**Both Albert Sawchuk and Alf Davy had some wise words to say about the organization and the fishery**





**On a lighter note James Tepoorten, accompanied by Wolf Alex on the guitar, sang for the crowd and auctioneer Colin Day coaxed the folks at the dinner to part with some money.**



*Sunday May 27, Cowichan River Wilderness Lodge*



**Hosted by the Cowichan Fly Fishers at Kenzie Cuthbert's lodge, some fly fishers enjoyed a day on the river, while others tested their skills in a fly casting competition and others enjoyed socializing at the barbeque**





**Pauline Loos and James Tepooten discussing the results of the casting competition**



**Every contestant in the casting contest was given a ticket for the Loop rod draw. James Tepooten presenting the rod to the lucky winner Harold Tinling of Nanaimo.**

## Presentation of Awards 2006 (Victoria May 27, 2006)

By Peter Caverhill

BCFFF “Permanent Awards” are presented at the annual Dinner/Auction. Not all of these awards are presented every year. Recipients are chosen by an “awards committee” and the Board, after canvassing the membership for recommendations. In addition to the permanent awards, the BCFFF tradition has been to recognize the many members who, over the year, have rolled up their sleeves and contributed. These folks are presented with BCFFF’s “Appreciation Awards”.

### Permanent Awards 2006

#### The Gilly Award

This award is: **Given in recognition to that BCFFF member who has continuously given exceptional service to BC's Fishery, the Sport of Fly Fishing, and the BC Federation of Fly Fishers.**

This year’s recipient of the Gilly Award will have the award presented by Ron Schiefke

The BCFFF Gilley Award  
2006 Recipient- Albert (Ab) Sawchuk  
Presentation remarks by Ron Schiefke

This is long overdue. I can't go into great detail here, but I must outline this person's great contributions to our sport. Over the years he has given over 30,000 hours of his time, sometimes to the detriment of his employment and health. He served as



president of this association from 1992 to 1994 – a time at which great change was needed and achieved in the BCFFF. He spearheaded the large AGM, banquet and fund raising auction that still exists today. The BCFFF achieved its largest membership under his tutelage. A new *Flylines* – a quality newsletter format- was also initiated during his time as president. He established good formal links with Provincial and other government agencies. He established a system of regional representatives for local issues pertinent to the BCFFF. Our fly logo was designed by him. He and his team at the time, of which I was proud to be a part, also established links to organizations such as SSBC, ORC, and the BCWF.

He also was heavily involved in Trout Unlimited in this province. In 1998 he served as both president of TUC-BC Vancouver Chapter and Executive Director of TUC-BC. This was no small undertaking as TU had never been here before. He spent a great deal of time co-coordinating projects and provincial infrastructure as well as two fairly large fund raising dinners in Vancouver. Many of his earlier BCFFF team were there to assist him.

In 1987 he was the founder and founding president of the Loons Flyfishing Club in Vancouver. This club has always been a member club of the BCFFF.

He has also served as a Director of the Steelhead Society.

He always put his full energy behind any endeavor he took on to help this flyfishing sport of ours.

This year's recipient of the Gilly Award is my good friend, Ab (Albert) Sawchuk.

## The Angul Award

**This award is: Given to that individual, who is not necessarily a BCFFF member, for their outstanding contribution to the heritage of the Arte & Science of fly fishing in British Columbia.**

(“angul” = old English term meaning to deceive by sly and artful means)

This year's recipient is the editor/author of that world famous, and very long-lived, BC fly fishing book, *The Gilly*. Rumor has it that **Alf Davy** conceived the Gilly book project while being thoroughly skunked one day on some miserly interior lake during the early 80's. After Alf had exhausted all the thought topics that a lone male angler goes through while fishing alone, the crazy book idea popped up.



**Peter Caverhill presenting Alf with his award**

Well, it certainly was a good spark of brilliance and with a little help from a dozen other volunteer authors, and an artist, the tome took shape. I remember getting a couple of chapters to review and chewing them up for awhile and thinking - "God, this'll never work". Well, all of a sudden, in 1985 there was the book (just in time for Christmas) - and work it did! The Gilly became a Canadian best seller for non-fiction several times over. And it ran through 11 printings, taking it all the way to 2005, when Alf made the decision not to undertake more printings. That's a run of 20 years! Some of us skeptics figured on 1500 books and it would be over. Did we ever lack vision!

Best of all, though, the Gilly book project has generated over \$120,000 into The Gilly Fund. This loot is to being used by BCFFF clubs and their friends to do good deeds for the fisheries of this Province.

While we have patted Alf on the back on a number of occasions, we felt that now, as The Gilly goes off into the sunset, that it was appropriate to honor Alf with our BCFFF ANGUL AWARD.

### **Appreciation Awards 2006**

Every year BCFFF likes to thank those folks who are leaving positions in the organization and those that have gone to some effort to host our annual fund raiser. These are our “appreciation awards” – a small pat on the back in lieu of pay because we are all volunteers and we work for real cheap.

Or- maybe we just feel like telling someone that we appreciate what they’ve done – for whatever reason.

### **Long Service Appreciation Award – Ken Burgess (BCFFF Treasurer)**



**Peter Caverhill presenting Ken with his award for longtime service**

We have a special Appreciation Award to give out tonight. Ken Burgess, our Treasurer, is retiring from this role. He has been doing this rather thankless job for seven years! How time does fly eh Ken?!

Ken has kept BCFFF's financial books and looked after the dollars and cents of the Gilly Fund.

We'd like to wish Ken all the best from BCFFF! May you have many angling adventures, good health and a hell of a lot of happy times!

### **Appreciation Award – Keith MacDonald, BCFFF second Vice President**

Keith, who resides in Nanaimo and is with the Island Waters Fly Fishers, has taken a job that will require a lot of travel away and little time for continuing in his role.

### **Appreciation Award – Art Lingren, Fly Lines editor**

Art has been doing the BCFFF newsletter for the past two years (after he finished his stint as Pres.). He will be doing one more issue (June) and then will retire from the role.

We felt that Art should have a small token of thanks from BCFFF for a job really well done!

### **Appreciation Awards – the 2006 AGM crew**

First I'd like to thank the Haig Brown Fly Fishers Assn. for hosting this wonderful event. James Teeporten could you please accept this token for your club.



**James Teeporten with a box of awards for the HBFFA AGM crew**

Now I have a list of 25 individuals in the HBFFA, The Cowichan Fly Fishers and the Comox Fly Fishers who worked on putting this year's event together. I'll read out each of their names and the role that they performed. I'd like someone from each group to come up and accept on behalf of the group (we trust that the award will get to those folks on the list that weren't able to be here tonight!?)



**Barry Aldred  
accepted the  
appreciation  
awards on behalf of  
the Cowichan Fly  
Fishers**

### **Appreciation Award – Ruddicks Fly Shop**

Ruddicks closed its doors permanently earlier this year after being a Lower Mainland and BC fly fishing icon for over 30 years. Many of us had our early fly fishing education enhanced by in-shop chit chat with **Ken, Malcolm** and **Kathy**. BCFFF wanted to say thanks to Ken, Malcolm and Kathy and wish them “all the best!” now that the shop is gone.

**Book Review**  
**By Vic Marchiel**

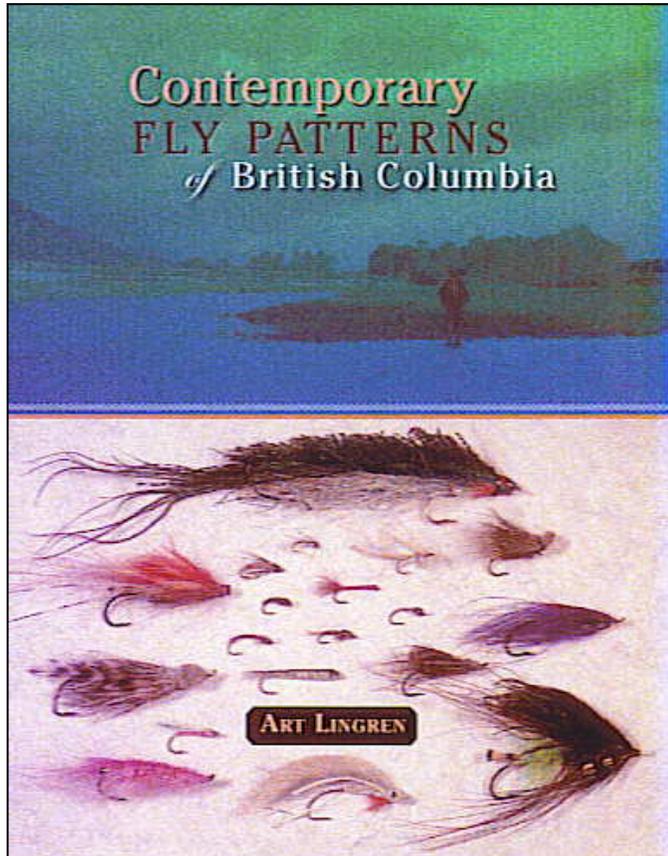
***Contemporary Fly Patterns of British Columbia***  
**By Art Lingren**

Frank Amato Publications, Inc. P.O. BOX 82112, Portland, Oregon 97282  
2006, 104 Pages, Softcover \$25 US  
Hardcover, \$35 US  
Limited Edition \$100 US

Art Lingren has been participating in and writing about the pursuance of game fish in the province of British Columbia for decades. In this, his most recent publication, Art has opened up the personal fly boxes of many of the provinces fly fishers and made their contents available to the angling public. In researching this latest project Art solicited and received fly patterns developed for the various regions of BC. It would take an angler (with permission!) years “nosing” through the fly boxes of countless fly fishers to acquire the spectrum of specialized patterns and information this volume offers.

While this is a book about fly patterns and not fly tying per say, it features quality colour plates and reasonably detailed ‘recipes’ for the flies developed and fished by the contributing tiers. The book divides the province into 8 angling regions. The detailed narratives supplied by each tier and compiled by the author give the reader much information about the fly’s origins, their target species and how the originators/adaptors fish them. Of special interest to the reader will be the recognition the tier receives through colour plate and supporting narrative. This is a useful book that is thoughtfully organized, well referenced and easy to read. It will be as comfortable at the tying bench as it will be at fireside.

This selection is a testimony to the generosity and openness of the fly fishers of BC. There are many anglers and tiers in this book who have finally been recognized in print. Some of them are well known, others about to be. They are resources whose experience and expertise could very easily have fallen by the way side had it not been for this endeavour.



An angler on a river is as much a part of BC's natural image as its mountains, fjords, and wildlife. This book is ground zero in the process of recording the *living* history of a pastime that has become firmly entrenched in this province's picture. *Contemporary Fly Patterns of British Columbia* will spark or reawaken the desire to head to the tying bench for very practical reasons. A second volume is not an option, it is a must.

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***The Spey Cast or Welsh Throw: History in Great Britain, Roots in British Columbia and Popularity in North America***

**Part III: The Reintroduction of the Two-Handed Rod to British Columbia's Steelhead Waters and Its Spread Elsewhere**

Because of the length of Part III and to keep the electronic file size reasonable, the complete Spey casting history has been put on the BCFFF website. See the Update Page on [www.bcfff.bc.ca](http://www.bcfff.bc.ca)

