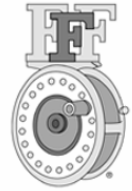




The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

Volume 25

Number 12

December 2003

TUESDAY FLY TYING

December 2, 9, & 16

Does Not Meet Dec. 23, 30

6:30-8:30PM

Bend Trap Club

61400 Brosterhouse Road

JANUARY FIRST

CROOKED RIVER

OUTING

January 1, 2004, 9:00AM

Jake's Truck Stop

GENERAL

MEMBERSHIP

MEETING

Dec. 17, 6:30-8:30PM

Central Oregon Board of
Realtors

FLY FISHING DAYDREAMS

Fly fishing can be a very strange experience, unlike any other activity that I can think of. For when fly fishing, I do not have to prove anything. I only catch the fish I want to catch, and it really doesn't matter if I catch anything at all. Personally, my reward is often just being where the fish are supposed to be.

So, I'm at it again---this time ankle deep in the stream on a bright morning here in Central Oregon (call it "your happy place"). I am holding my favorite rod with a floating line and about 11 feet of leader. The line lays out into the current and the fly rides the flow with a natural looking float. I am connected to that incomprehensible chance that a hungry fish will pass the very spot where my fly is swaying invitingly in the current, and bite. Most of the time, fish either don't show or don't bite. Who knows which? At my end of the line, the results are the same. Nothing. Still, I have angler optimism that, with each cast, I'll hook a big fish.

It is so quiet in the early morning, and so am I --- just listening. There is little wind, and the stream flows around my waders with no effort. The sun has been up long enough to take the coolness from the air, which now has a smell that is almost vanilla sweet, and the light is erasing the darker shadows. This could be the time for a hatch which could produce a feeding frenzy, and then the fish will bite anything. It would be an event that I could talk about for ever.

That could have happened today, but the stream and the hatch are drowsy and quite content to be calm. A large blue heron is standing 20 feet away, imperturbable and imperious. This fellow is unsure of my intentions, and so seems to

disapprove of my invasion of his territory. I always watch birds when fishing. Especially the little fellows who wade the shore line finding a meal here and there, and seem to be very happy as they play tag with the stream ripples.

My mind wanders, and I think about what COF has brought to my fishing. The knots to tie, casting without the "bull whip" thing, that fish don't bite in a northeast wind, and that any small fish caught are just as amazing as large fish that get away. Most importantly, I have had the opportunity to PARTICIPATE (which I recommend without reservation) with the great men and women of this club. They are the most generous and responsible community minded people I have ever had the privilege to know. I can only feel humbled by the opportunity to have been your President this past year. I have already received the best Christmas present that a fellow could want. For COF has given me the memories and the friendships that I will treasure for ever - THANK YOU---and I wish you Happy Holidays.

Your Pal, Dan

DECEMBER PROGRAM

The December program will be a fly tying demonstration by club members. The flies will be tiers' favorites, and tiers will tell where and how they fish the flies. We did this program last year, and had a great relaxing and informal evening.

If you have requests for flies to be tied, contact Dick or Jeanene Stentz at riverldg@bendnet.com or 923-4701. Tying stations will be set up around the meeting room. Some of the flies already on the list to be tied include: soft hackles, steelhead flies, chironomids, "two material" flies, and the Tricolor Hybrid. Perhaps our Fearless Leader will tie the K-Mart Special, an easy to tie and very effective lake fly.

REMEMBER to bring a favorite Holiday goody to share at this meeting. AND bring a friend, relative or spouse. No admission charge at this meeting! See you there.

!!!HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! - OUTING

New Year's Eve with a few adult beverages. Late to bed. Then up for a huge plate of greasy food, and then go stand in a freezing river with the wind blowing in your face! What a great way to spend New Years Day!

Although it probably speaks volumes about the mental health of COF members, the New Years Day Outing

draws more participants every year. Last year we had to go to several large tables at Jake's. And once again, Gordon Chandler is sponsoring our annual fine dining and fly fishing experience.

Seriously, for those of you who can't sit in a chair and watch the three hour pre-game show, much less the two hour pre-pre-game show, this is a chance for you to enjoy the fellowship of your fellow fly fishers, partake in a fine breakfast cooked to your liking at Jake's Truck Stop at the south end of town, and have a chance to catch the very first trout of the year on the Crooked River. Meet at Jake's at 9:00AM, January 1, 2004 and look for the crowd. During the breakfast, we will talk a little fishing followed by a trip out to the Crooked. Don't tell anyone, but one year we looked out into a blizzard and went home. Every other year fish have been caught, sometimes in fairly good numbers.

Everyone pays for their own breakfast, and no reservations are required. Don't forget to buy a new 2004 fishing license (one of the benefits of this outing is that you won't forget to buy one in April!). Yes, you can bring the in-laws if you want to. See you at Jake's.



**REDSIDE FROM CROOKED RIVER
ELECTROSHOCK SURVEY**



**JOHN ANDERSON ASSISTS CROOKED RIVER
SURVEY**

**WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER
PRESENT
KNOT TYING MADE EASY**

Confused about which knot to use and how to tie it? Join us for our December meeting when Bob Griffin will present "Knot Tying Made Easy." We'll learn to tie the Surgeon's Knot, Clinch and Improved Clinch Knots, and the Nail Knot.

We'll start with rope and work our way down to fishing line. Bob will explain how and when to use each knot. Bring your magnifier!

When: Thursday, December 11
Time: 6:00 PM
Where: Central Oregon Environmental Center
16 NW Kansas, Bend, OR

Wild Women of the Water is a recently formed group of women who enjoy fly-fishing. We gather informally to share our knowledge and tips and tricks, and to learn more about fly-fishing. All levels of experience are welcome.

For more information about this program and Wild Women of the Water, contact Delores Marsh (382-7595 or ladyd@bendcable.com). Sorry guys, women only. Well, except Bob!

**UPPER DESCHUTES MANAGEMENT PLAN
UPDATE**

Our 2003 conservation chairman, Gene McMullen, recently attended a presentation by Steve Marx of ODFW in Bend. If fish passage plans over the Pelton/Round Butte Complex are realized, five species will have management plans incorporated: Summer Steelhead, Spring Chinook, Sockeye Salmon, Bull Trout and Pacific Lamprey. Since several pathogens (virus and Whirling Disease) are found below Round Butte, there is concern that passing fish from below may carry problems upstream. Because of this potential disease problem, two passage plans have been developed. "Selected passage" would use only pathogen free eggs and juveniles for release above the projects until know returns from these stocks are received at the collection point below Pelton. At that time, all of the returns would be released above the complex. (ODFW favors this approach). The second method would be to immediately allow all of the species mentioned above to be released above the complex. (ODFW does not prefer this method because of the disease potential). In both

cases, the waters both upstream and downstream would follow ODFW's wild fish policies.

**SOUTH FORK CROOKED RIVER
LANDHOLDER ASSISTANCE**

We have had a second land owner on the South Fork of the Crooked River ask for COF input and assistance in riparian improvements. This follows all the good work COF did on the Jake property this last year. Gene McMullen will keep everyone posted on new developments to protect this important reach of the river flowing through private land.

**MANAGEMENT PLAN - NORTH FORK
CROOKED**

The Ochoco National Forest has started a study for management of the North Fork of the Crooked River Watershed. Numerous public agencies, private owners, allotment holders and conservation and interest groups are being included, including the Central Oregon Flyfishers. The National Riparian Team will be fronting the study, and it is hoped fish will play an important role in this study. Remember, even if you don't care about the North Fork Crooked, its waters help fill Prineville Reservoir insuring ample water for the river below the dam.

COF PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED

Starbucks in Bend is starting a revolving exhibit of photographs in their store. COF is honored to have received the first slot for two weeks in December, 2004. Pictures are to be at least 8"x10", and are to be of the waters of Central Oregon. No pictures of fish or fishermen holding fish (Steve Sheldon, this means you!), but a person fly-fishing can be in the photograph as long as the main theme is some stream or lake in the Central Oregon area.

So sort through those old photos, or get out the camera and let's show the citizens of Bend why we care so much about the waters of Central Oregon and their preservation and enhancement. Stand by for further details on submitting the photographs.

**JOEL LAFOLLETTE
FLY TYING CLINIC**

Joel is returning January 17, 2004 to Deschutes River Lodge for another classic steelhead fly tying clinic.

"Joel's 'Royal Treatment' steelhead fly is sufficiently individual to be featured in the latest Kaufmann's Streamborn catalogue; Lafollette works at the company's Tigard store. On his days off, he guides fly-

fishing tours on the Deschutes River."
Portland Tribune

"I will be doing some new patterns as well as trying to get the students to be creative at the end of the class . . . I hope to send everyone home with material samples from different suppliers."- Joel

WHEN: Saturday, January 17th, 1 to 5 p.m.
WHERE: Deschutes River Lodge - 923-4701 or riverldg@bendnet.com

COST: \$50 per student includes class tying materials, handouts & samples.

AVAILABILITY: Class limited to 6

THIS IS A HANDS-ON TYING CLINIC

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

A special welcome to new members! Look for board members with their green and white nameplates at the next meeting if you have any questions or special interests, and look up Delores Marsh, our Member Services committee chairperson at the back of the room if you have any membership issues, and to pick up your membership packet.

Joe & Lee Audia
Walter Hensey
Herb Blank and Lee Ann Ross
Rick VanPelt
Bill Rhoads
John O'Brien
Ken & Roberta Dyer
Mark Walsh

MEMBERSHIP GROWING BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS!

Near the end of November 2003, COF has 182 member families on the membership roles. With another month to go, this will easily be a record year!

NEED A HOLIDAY GIFT FOR A FLYFISHERMAN?

Do you have a fly-fisherman on your shopping list this holiday season? Why not support some of the products produced by members of COF? The following products should fill the bill for any fly-fisherman!

CUSTOM-TYED STEELHEAD FLIES

Displayed inside

CHRISTMAS BALL ORNAMENTS

Jeanene Stentz got hooked last winter after Joel LaFollette's fly tying clinic, and began tying steelhead

flies. This led to an idea to display them inside clear glass ball Christmas ornaments. They would make a nice gift for that special fly-fishing person.

There are eight patterns available for purchase, including standard steelhead patterns as well as ones she has developed; the Red-White-& Blue, the Quack Attack (U of O) and the Beaver Believer (OSU). \$15.00 each.

The sale display will be at the December 17th COF meeting. Contact Jeanene at 923-4701 or riverldg@bendnet.com for more information.

THE FLY CREEL

Once in a while, along comes a fly fishing device that is so simple yet so helpful in organizing our vests. With the advent of barbless hooks, the sheepskin or foam fly patches that all of us have become pretty worthless since about half of the flies that we hooked onto them brushed off and didn't make it home. Your editor fished until recently with an aluminum "flytrap" on his vest. It has foam inside a closed lid, and works well, but is very heavy and expensive. At the last COF meeting I picked up a plastic "Fly Creel" developed by member Michael Tripp and two of his friends, and this looks like the solution! It is a lightweight plastic device into which you drop your flies to dry, and then open the lid and dump them out when you get home. Go to the website www.flycreel.com to see additional photographs, endorsements and product info. The web site also suggests a Fly Creel for the insects that you pick up while fishing. I think this is a great idea, since I am always digging in my vest for something to hold a collected insect.

To order one as a gift for someone (including yourself!) contact your local fly shop and tell them it is available thru Hareline Dubbin, or you can order one directly on the website or from Michael. Web site price is \$9.99.

THE NEW CAPT. CADDIS REVUE

It's been another year and now is the time for the 19th annual Capt. Caddis, gettin' cold, snow kickin', slippin', sliddin', potluck,

CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTIN' PARTY!

WHEN: Sat, Dec. 13, 2003
Where: Sisters Ranger District Office, Sisters, OR (We will meet there and depart for areas unknown)
TIME: 10:45 A.M. SHARP!

Those who have attended in the past know that this is a very "bio-diverse" crowd, so come join the fun! Dress warm, be prepared for winter travel, and bring a side dish or munchies to share. Usually, the district ranger office is open, but you might want to obtain tree permits ahead of time. Join us! (You don't even have to cut a tree!!!!) Any questions? Call Capt or Betsy at (541)389-4372 or email <capt@bendnet.com> See you there!
Capt Caddis

RICK HAFELE ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP

On May 1, 2004, COF will sponsor an entomology workshop by noted entomologist and fly fisherman Rick Hafele. The class will meet the morning of Saturday, May 1st, from 9AM to noon at Lake Creek Lodge in Camp Sherman for a lecture and slide show. After the lunch break, we'll move to the Metolius River for an afternoon of catching and identifying insects coupled with a discussion of the flies to use for imitation, plus presentation methods.

The class is limited to 13 participants, and the tuition will be \$52, which basically reflects the total cost divided by thirteen. Lunch is not included. If we get more than thirteen interested, then we will see if Rick wants to do a second class.

This should be an excellent opportunity to learn from one of the top people in the entomology world. Contact Ron Anderson for reservations or further information.

TUESDAY FLY TYING A SUCCESS!

The Tuesday Fly Tying sessions in November have been a great success. The last gathering drew seven beginning tiers and nine veterans. Why don't you join us for the December gatherings, and watch the number of flies in your box grow?

We will not meet December 23 or 30 because of the holidays, but will be there every other Tuesday evening from 6:30PM to 8:30PM at the Bend Trap Club.

To get to the Trap Club, drive south on 3rd until you cross Reed Market and come to Brosterhouse at the next light. Turn left (east) on Brosterhouse, follow the road as it curves slowly right and then takes a hard left. The Trap Club is on the left in about 300 yards. Since the members are more interested in trap shooting than watching the road, the building faces away from the road and is not too well lit in the rear, but you can find it. It is a simple one-story building with white siding. Contact Phil Havens for information.

COW MEADOW SCREW TRAP

On October 30, 2003, COF received a letter from Terry Shrader with ODFW thanking the club for our participation in monitoring a screw trap near Cow Meadow on the Deschutes above Crane Prairie. The trap was part of a multi-faceted study of the fish community in Crane Prairie, and was vital to the investigation of the timing and composition of fry migration into the reservoir. A complete report of the results will be available after the middle of next year, but Gene McMullen has a preliminary report dealing with the screw trap information.

The findings are far too complex to report here, but during the period that the trap operated, the trap collected 1,638 brook trout (515 fry), 8,498 redband (6,930 fry), and 12,607 stickleback. We look forward to the final results detailing what is really going on with one of Central Oregon's favorite reservoirs.



**RON ANDERSON AND PHIL HAVENS
MONITOR SCREW TRAP**

LITTLE LAVA LAKE OUTINGS

While shopping one day at one of our local fly shops, I overheard talk about how good Little Lava Lake was fishing. I phoned Steve Marx at ODFW because I recalled that Little Lava was so full of chubs that I had given up on it about five years ago. Marx explained that a severe winter kill a few years ago killed a lot of the chubs, at which time ODFW started putting Cranebows into the lake.

Well, I gave it a try, and my first day was a fifteen fish day with the smallest 16" and the largest 19½". During the next ten days, I fished it eight times with more or less the same results. If there was surface action in the morning, dries were successful, and then emerging callibaetis won out, followed by green bead head wooly buggers.

I phoned COF members Dave Semich, Phil Hager, Jim King and neighbor Walter Seaborne and we all met at the ramp at 9AM. The bite had slowed up a bit, but everyone stuck a few fish. The Cranebows are beautiful, jump a lot, and are good fighters. There are also some nice leftover brookies in the lake. I have a feeling that Little Lava will be good on chironomids right after ice off next spring.

Steve Sheldon

MORE BIG SALMON ON THE FLY

On October 27, 2003, I went to Pacific City on the Oregon coast to again try my luck at fly fishing for Chinook King Salmon on the Nestucca River. My friend Jack Harrell, an excellent fly tier and fisherman, had invited me to stay at their home so he could take me out in his drift boat. On Saturday morning, we put in amongst 75 to 100 "bobber" fishermen casting from shore and 10 to 12 boats anchored around the "holding holes", also bobber fishing. Jack double anchored the boat in a not too crowded spot, and we began fly fishing. This is the same river where I landed an unofficial world record 50 pounder on 20 pound tippet two years earlier, but we were anchored further down river this time. I was using a much heavier sinking line outfit than the one Jack used, and a large Bomber fly.

In about half an hour, as the incoming tide was starting, I hooked what felt like a big snag, but when the snag started moving away, I yelled "fish on". You yell this so other boats in the area will be ready to pull their anchors if the fish heads their way.

This fish headed straight for one of the anchor lines after about a ten minute fight. Jack rowed over to the other boat, and luckily I got the line cleared from the anchor line, at which time the fish wrapped me around a second anchor line. Though it is hard to believe, I eventually freed the fish again and later netted it with a borrowed net from another boat. The fish was 24 pounds! I asked Jack why he didn't have a net aboard, and he explained that he usually fishes alone and enjoys working the fish to shore, where he gets out of his boat and lands the fish like he would a steelhead. I said "Jack, that is really interesting, but tomorrow would you please bring a net?"

We quickly returned the drift boat to the same spot where I had caught the 24 pound fish, and 20 minutes later I had another big hit. Fortunately, this fish ran upriver away from all the boats and eventually Jack got us to shore, whereupon he got out of the boat preparing

to land the fish as I worked it through the shore grass. At that moment, my line broke, and as the fish was slipping back into deeper water, Jack saw and grabbed the line on the ground, and landed a beautiful, bright 25 pounder for me. These were fish no fisherman has a right to land after one goes around two anchor lines and the other breaks off. What luck I had. We then fished until about 1:00PM.

Sunday, same time, same spot, we were back on the river. Fishing was a lot slower, but after an hour I hooked and landed a 31 pound fish in about 27 minutes, using the net that I had asked Jack to bring. Overall, fishing half a day Saturday and the same on Sunday, I had landed a 24, 25, and 31 pound king salmon on 15 pound tippet! Well, my heart is still pounding with excitement.

Steve Sheldon

Editor's Note: Our thanks to Steve for his continuing fishing stories. Tired of Steve getting all the glory? All you have to do is take pen in hand (or keyboard as many of us do these days), and send your story to Harry Harbin, Editor. Your article will be edited for grammar and space available.



STEVE AND HIS FISH

YOU SNOOZE-YOU LOSE!

Don't forget to pay those 2004 dues before the end of December! It is only \$30.00 until then, \$36.00 after the first of the year. Send your check to Central Oregon Flyfishers. PO Box 1126, Bend, OR 97709.

UPSTREAM EVENTS- 2004

	DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
JAN	1	Jake's/Crooked River Outing	Gordon Chandler
	8	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	21	COF Gen. Mem. Meet. Larry Timchak, Sup Ochoco NF	Neal Buxton
FEB	5	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	7	COF Banquet	
	18	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Ben Lindner, Rafting in Alaska	Neal Buxton
	TBD	Fly Tying Expo	
MAR	4	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	4-7	CO Sportsmen's Show	
	17	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Dave Holloman, Payne Rod Co.	Neal Buxton
	20	FFF Northwest Fly Tiers, Eugene	
APR	1	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	17	Crooked River Outing	
	20-23	KK Angling Clinic	
	21	COF Gen. Mem. Meet Brad Cackler, Ent. For Fly Fishers	Neal Buxton
MAY	1	Rick Hafele Entomology Class	
	6	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	19	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Denny Rickards, Stillwaters	Neal Buxton
	21	Hosmer Lake Outing	
JUNE	3	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	16	COF General Membership Meeting TBA	Neal Buxton
	17-26	British Columbia Canada Outing	Gordon Chandler
JULY	1	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	21	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Jeff Perrin, Metolius	Neal Buxton
	23-25	Steen's Mountain Outing	
AUG	5	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	13-22	National Fly Fishing Week	
	16-21	FFF Conclave, West Yellowstone	
	26	COF Picnic	
	27	East Lake Outing	
SEP	2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	8	Middle Deschutes Outing	
	15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Scott Richmond, Steelhead	Neal Buxton
	21-24	KK Streamside, Brown's Creek	
OCT	7	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	20	COF Gen. Mem. Meet. Central Or. Out. Winter Fishing	Neal Buxton
	23	Metolius River Outing	
NOV	4	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	17	COF Gen. Mem. Meet. Steve Shunk, Riparian Hatches	Neal Buxton
DEC	2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Fly Tying	Neal Buxton

JOIN THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS

Mail this completed application and check to:
THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS • P.O. BOX 1126, BEND, OREGON 97709
and receive Club Logo Patch and Monthly Newsletter

FULL NAME (S): _____
member and partner

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: H: _____ W: _____ OCCUPATION: _____

FORMER OCCUPATION IF RETIRED: _____

E-MAIL: _____

New 2004 Family or Single- \$36 Renewal by 12/31-\$30 Renewal After 12/31- \$36 Associate Member \$12.50
(Associate Membership Available Outside of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson Counties.)

Former Member Address Change Only Check if You Do NOT Wish to Receive The Newsletter On the Web
But Want the Print Version Instead

Please check Interests: Acquire More Knowledge Find Fishing Partner Volunteer For Projects

Improve Fishing Techniques Social Functions List Other Interests on Back

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ DATE: _____

The Central Oregon Flyfishers
PO Box 1126
Bend, Oregon 97709

