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## President's Message

Happy April Flyfishers!

Ah, April - the Lower Deschutes opens, some of the lakes open (or become accessible after a winter's sleep under snow), bugs start getting more active, and the weather gets a lot more amenable for fishing. I hope you are all able to take advantage of the nicer weather and get out to enjoy our varied and excellent fishing here in Central Oregon. Since we will be getting out on the water more, I have reprinted a couple of articles in this issue that I feel are well worth repeating: Safety and Etiquette.

Our first in-person meeting since Feb 2020 was held at the Elks Lodge last month and was a big success. We had around 50 attendees to hear John Kreft give us a presentation on how to select flies when going into a fly shop. Good info for novice and expert alike! The Elks treated us very well; many of us took advantage of their bar and restaurant, and the large room fits our needs nicely. We are all looking forward to our next meeting there on April 20. And your Board of Directors held our first in-person at Deschutes Junction Pizza in Bend on March 24. It was well attended and we were able to have some chow and enjoy each other's company. The next Board meeting will be on April 28 at Pisanos Pizza in Tumalo. Any of our members are welcome to attend our Board meetings, just look on the calendar in the website for dates and locations.

We had a really good turnout at the casting clinic in March; Dean McNaught has written a nice summary of the day complete with photos. We intend to do this on a periodic basis, so if you weren't able to attend this one there will be more in the future.

Video of the month. This month's video is from Devin Olsen of the Tactical Fly Fisher, and he shows us how to make an easy and very strong super glue splice between your fly line and leader butt section. He uses it to join a leader to a Euro nymph line, but you can use it for most other lines as well. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLQbaYOQ2nA&t=3s>

Thanx for being a part of this great Club, and feel free to let me (or any Board member) know if you have ideas for improvement.

Get out and fish!

- *Tim Quinton*

Tim Quinton, President COF



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## GENERAL MEETING | APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>

NEW LOCATION! ELKS LODGE | 63120 BOYD ACRES ROAD, BEND, OR 97701



The Lower Deschutes is a complex river with hatches varying throughout the year and different techniques are required to be successful. This month, Vail Borne, owner of River Borne Outfitters and the Deschutes River Fly Shop & Camp, will share his experiences from 15 years guiding the Lower Deschutes River. He will explore the different fishing options including the "day stretch" from Warm Springs to Trout Creek, the closest opportunity for anglers coming from Bend, and the section that holds the largest trout in the river.

Vail and his team have guided single day and multi-day camp trips the length of the Lower Deschutes. They also offer walk and wade trips on the Crooked River and fly fishing lessons. Vail also operates the Deschutes River Fly Shop and Camp, a 10 acre RV park, campground, and destination fly shop on the river near the Warm Springs boat ramp and Mecca Flats.

Yes, that's Vail with a redfish, not a trout, but he just got back from Louisiana and wanted to share a recent photo.

- YANCY LIND  
PROGRAMS@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

2022 COF

# Outings Calendar

**APRIL 14-17**

**OWYHEE RIVER**

Meet at the Owyhee Dam camp ground.

**MAY 8**

**SOUTH TWIN LAKE**

Meet at launch at 8:00. Noon lunch at resort  
No motors allowed

**JUNE 16**

**CRANE PRAIRIE - QUINN RIVER**

Meet at Quinn Launch at 7:00am. On - Water Noon  
lunch at the Quinn Channel Buoy

**JULY 15-17**

**JOHN DAY**

More information to come

**AUGUST 15**

**THREE CREEK LAKE**

Launch at 7:00 Shore lunch - North side of lake - at noon

**SEPTEMBER 5**

**EAST LAKE**

Launch at 2:00 at the Hot Springs and fish the East shore.

**OCTOBER 8**

**CRANE PRAIRIE - NORTH END**

Meet at the Crane Prairie Resort launch at 9:00am.

Notes: Review the COF "How to" Crane Prairie - North End



## WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

### The Owens River Valley

The Owens River Valley lays between the Sierra Nevada's eastern slope on one side and the White Mountains on the other, just below Nevada border. There is an excellent fishery running along the eastern side of the valley, the Owens River. The headwaters of the Owens is in the Eastern Sierras and flows into Crowley Lake, another great fishery. The river meanders through the valley on its way to what was once Owens Lake until 1913 when water was diverted into the Los Angeles Aqueduct. Unfortunately, the once fertile valley and lake is now the largest source of dust pollution in the United States.

The Owens valley has an intriguing history in the establishment of the City of Los Angeles and was the location of the Japanese internment camp, Manzanar. If you drive through the area, I would encourage you to stop at Manzanar and learn the history along with an interesting side note: internees would sneak out of the camp at night and fish George Creek, unmissed, for days. Fishing with poles made of willow branches and hooks fashioned from paper clips.

The Owens River is a familiar fishing haunt for me and I recently returned for a bit of nostalgia and great fishing in mid-March. To anglers, the river is known as the Upper Owens and Lower Owens. I remember days long ago when you could park your VW Westphalia camper along the river, camp and fish for days on end. Those days are long gone! The area is owned by Los

Angeles Department of Water and Power and most areas are open for fishing and have easy public access. The City of Bishop is a great location for a home base to explore the Owens River, June Lakes, the Mammoth area, and Hot Creek.

There are large fish in the Upper Owens, wild rainbow and brown trout, native cutthroat and Kamloops trout. I would encourage the use of a guide on the Upper Owens. Nymphing, streamers and when the spring grasshoppers are out the dry fly action is amazing. In the pictures above, all 3 fish were caught on small nymph patterns.

The Lower Owens is a great fishery as well, with rainbow and brown trout. There is dry camping along the river in designated areas on a first come basis at the Pleasant Valley campground. I caught plenty of fish on the Lower Owens euro nymphing and using the same basic nymph patterns I would use on the Metolius. Take care to watch the setting of the sun behind the Sierras. Once the sun goes behind the mountain the temperature drops significantly. Watch for water flows and weather advisories, especially for winds. Check local fly shop reports.

You can also check out Brown's Owens River campgrounds. They have a few to choose from. Both the lower and upper areas are well monitored by Fish and Wildlife so be sure you are up to date on fishing licenses and barbless hooks.

In my opinion, the best local fly shop is the Sierra Trout Magnet ([sierratroutmagnet.com](http://sierratroutmagnet.com)). The owner, David D'Beaupre, has guided me on both the lower

and upper Owens. His web site is a source of excellent local information and fishing reports. David grew up in Montana and has been on the water fishing and guiding for years. His shop will have all you need for successful fishing on the Owens River.

- SUE COYLE  
WILDWOMEN@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

## CONSERVATION

### Groundwater Situation in Oregon

The following articles describe the problem in Oregon with groundwater flows. The first article shows where pumping exceeds rainfall in Oregon: [http://media.oregonlive.com/environment\\_impact/other/Draining\\_Oregon\\_0826d.pdf](http://media.oregonlive.com/environment_impact/other/Draining_Oregon_0826d.pdf)

The second article describes the current situation for the Summer Lake Area south east of Bend: <https://www.opb.org/article/2022/03/28/race-to-the-bottom-draining-summer-lake/>

The third article describes the situation in Cow Valley near Ontario, near the Idaho border in Southeast Oregon: <https://www.opb.org/article/2022/03/16/race-to-the-bottom-how-big-business-took-over-oregons-first-protected-aquifer/>

- TOM SHUMAN  
MADRASFISH@GMAIL.COM

## OUTINGS

### Central Oregon Flyfishers Crooked River Cleanup

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022**

**10:00 A.M., BIG BEND CAMPGROUND**

Announcing our bi-annual Crooked River Cleanup. We will meet at the Big Bend Campground at 10 a.m. Big Bend is the first BLM campground on State Highway 27 just below the Bowman Dam.

If you are new to our club, Welcome, and some background. In 2016 COF officially adopted a 7-mile section of the Crooked River Highway under Oregon Department's Adopt a Highway program. Unofficially

we've been picking up litter in this section at least since 1995. Under the adoption program ODOT provides safety vests, litter bags, litter grabbers, and "Litter Patrol Ahead" signs. We fill the bags, leave them along the highway shoulder and ODOT picks up the bags. Such a deal!

For our April cleanup we fan out to cover not only 7 miles of highway, but also the area between the river and the highway including all campground and picnic areas. We need a good turnout of volunteers to clean this large area.

Wear your hiking shoes, bring your work gloves and drinking water, and dress accordingly. We are usually done by noon so bring your fishing gear if you would like to fish the afternoon.

I will bring all the ODOT supplies and equipment for the cleanup. In pre-COVID years COF hosted a hot dog/hamburger BBQ. I am not able to plan a BBQ this year due to a conflict with a home improvement project.

Bring your own lunch.

- PETER MARTIN  
PCMARTIN@BENDBROADBAND.COM

### Owyhee River Outing

**APRIL 14 - 17, 2022 THURSDAY - SUNDAY**

The Owyhee River downstream from Lake Owyhee Dam is a gem. Think the Crooked River on steroids. Instead of rainbows and whitefish, think browns, big browns. A 15-incher is a small fish. The trip is timed to hopefully coincide with the skwala hatch. If we are lucky, there will be spectacular top water action as the fish smash your skwala pattern. Other than skwalas, use the same flies and rigs you use on the Crooked. Don't forget the small stuff either. Size 18-22 midges work well too. To get a better idea, watch Brian Huskey's video of the Owyhee at: <http://vimeo.com/5327229>.

It takes about five hours to get to the Owyhee. Travel on Hwy 20 from Bend, via Burns to Vale. Towards the end of town, turn right at the Cenex Gas Station onto Glenn Street. Glenn Street becomes Lytle Blvd. Go for about 14 miles. Turn right just behind the little store, then take the first left. Turn right on Klamath and then left on Norwood, right on Owyhee Ave and left on Owyhee Lake Road. Sound confusing? Not really; there are a lot of signs to Owyhee State Park. If you make a mistake, any of the roads will get you there. You

basically need to go southwest from the store. Check it out on Google maps.

Take Owyhee Lake Road up towards the dam. There is a bridge just below the dam with a sign to the irrigation department. Cross the bridge and you're at a campground with an outhouse and trash service. There is no cell service. There is WiFi at the museum on the irrigation department property. There is no password so you can just hangout on the bench outside the museum and use the wifi. Water is available.

You have the choice of camping at the campground, camping along the river, staying at a motel in Vale or Ontario or renting one of the two bungalows that the irrigation department manages that are next to the campground. To book one of these, go to [www.owyheedamcabins.com](http://www.owyheedamcabins.com) and click on the three bars in the upper left. Take a look at the cabins and then click on the cabins calendar button. If the bungalow is not booked, send an email request to [owyheedamcabins@gmail.com](mailto:owyheedamcabins@gmail.com) and request a booking.

Unlike the Crooked, there are no developed campgrounds along the river. If you choose not to stay in the campground, you can just pull over and set up camp anywhere you like. The 10 miles of fishing below the dam to Snively Hot Springs is the best fishing.

The Owyhee State Park offers camping with hookups and cabins. The drive is along the lake (above the river about a 15 minute drive) but the location is good and they also offer cabins <https://stateparks.oregon.gov/index.cfm?do=park.profile&parkId=10>

Dry Fly Innovations has an excellent blog at: <http://www.dryflyinnovations.com/blog>. There are tons of archived reports on the site. Unfortunately, it is now a paid site so you will have to decide if it is worth it to you to go back to last March to see how the hatch was a year ago. Their stoneflies are killer.

The camping area is now first come first serve – reservations are no longer available at the camping area and the fee is currently \$5 per night. Last year we had most of the camp to our self and enjoyed several happy hours between the camp sites.

All are welcome on this outing. There is no limit to how many can come, but please let me know if you plan to attend so I can get a rough head count.

- ERIC WHITE  
[WHITEHAUS692@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WHITEHAUS692@GMAIL.COM)

## EDUCATION

### FFI Corner

COF hosted a fly-casting clinic in March using FFI Master Certified Casting Instructor Mary Ann Dozer and 2 of her CCI student mentees (Dean McNaught and Lindsey Flexner). The 2 classes were for Beginners and Intermediate students, and followed the FFI skill levels that can be found in the FFI website. See this link for the FFI casting instruction resources. <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Learn/Learning-Center-Resources/Fly-Casting/Casting-Instruction>

FFI also has a Fly Tying Video Library on their website; it has over 1,000 fly tying videos from notable tiers featuring flies for cold water, warm water, saltwater and steelhead. You can also find videos on techniques and general instruction. Check it out and find something new to tie this spring! If you are already a member of FFI you'll get these periodically.

As your FFI rep, please let me know if you have any questions about this fine organization. <https://www.flyfishersinternational.org>

- TIM QUINTON  
[CGTIMQ@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CGTIMQ@GMAIL.COM)

### FFI Casting Classes A Big Hit!

On March 26, Beginner and Intermediate Casting Classes were held for COF members at Eagle Crest Resort. We had a great weather day for casting and the students took full advantage of the opportunity to develop their casting skills and up their fishing game. The instructors for the courses were Mary Ann Dozer (FFI Master Casting Instructor) and Lindsey Flexner/Dean McNaught (FFI Casting Instructor Candidates.) COF President Tim Quinton also provided great support for logistics and teaching...Thanks Tim!

The Beginner Class focused on helping students feel the fly line, improve loop formation, and cast accurately to targets...it was taught using FFI Foundation Level skills. The Intermediate Class helped students further develop casting efficiency and accuracy plus increase distance...and was taught using FFI Bronze Level skills. More information on the FFI Development Skills is available here: [https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Portals/0/LearningCenter/FCSD/FFI\\_FCSD\\_Program\\_Angler\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Portals/0/LearningCenter/FCSD/FFI_FCSD_Program_Angler_Guide.pdf)



The students and instructors worked hard, enjoyed the classes, and the students improved their casting. Learning new skills and how to practice will really pay dividends going into the prime fishing season! Going forward, the instructors agreed to work with club and develop additional classes based on member desires. The next wave of classes could be offered in the late summer/fall timeframe. Please watch for additional information in the newsletter, etc.

- DEAN MCNAUGHT

## Safety When Fishing Alone

*Since we are getting pretty close to our regular fishing season and we will start venturing out afield more often, I felt it would be good to republish this from last year. Still lots of good info here! Many thanks to Sue Coyle and the Wild Women for putting this together!*

### CLASSIC RECOMMENDED 10 ESSENTIALS FROM DESCHUTES COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE

Most important - Never start out an adventure thinking or saying this to yourself "I'm just going to do X (fill in the blank) so I'm going to be fine". And/or "I'm just going close and local". Even if you've done it before a thousand times, or it doesn't seem you could get into trouble due to location, over confidence has been the root of many mishaps and worse.

- First and foremost: Have a plan. Always let someone

know where you are going and planned ETA for returning. Text or call when you are off the water and on way home.

- Park in open area. Be aware of your surroundings. If the hair on the back of your neck stands up or something feels wrong – GET OUT
- Start out with a full tank of gas.
- Keep emergency items in your car: extra water, snacks, first aid, clothes. Well, just keep the 10 Essentials in your car at all times!
- Buddy System is always best especially if you are staying out late for that evening hatch. Consider walkie talkies to communicate.
- Wear emergency ID bracelet, such as those from the company: Road iD. They also have pet iD and medical iD bracelets.
- Get yourself a comfortable back pack to take on the water with you for all necessary items.
- Bear Spray - Pepper Spray - Bug Spray
- Loud Dog – if you take a dog with you be SURE your pet has an ID tag and is chipped. Consider a flotation vest for your dog. Remember, they get hungry and cold too.
- Gun (with permit and training) In some areas both 4 and 2 legged threats are out there.

- Phone – and phone charger.
- Whistle – tuck one into your wader pocket
- Tactical flashlight – use for safety and defense/J5 Tactical V1-Pro is good choice.
- Head Lamp – plus extra batteries.
- First Aid kit in car - small one in fishing pack. Remember those feet, moleskin is good to have in your pack.
- Carry what you may need to get you through a night out and alone.
- GPS tracking system: Garmin, Spot X, Life 360 or other similar device.
- Digital Apps: Here are a few: Avenza Map, Geospacial Maps, Gaia Maps, All Trails App, USGS Topo Maps & Quad maps, Huntstand App. Use your local sporting goods store to get information on Apps for your area. REI is a good source.
- Carry a navigation device, and a paper back up map and compass. In more remote areas, carry cell phone with app not only to track where you are so you don't get turned around (very easy to do in a forested area), but also to call for help. If no coverage, have off line maps on your cell, or use a gps. Make sure to carry battery backup for cell phone. In super remote areas with no coverage (e.g. wilderness), maybe think about carrying a Spot type of device for tracking, and to notify the need for help.
- For remote areas, it is recommended to carry a backup paper map, and compass. Learn how to use them.
- Dry Bag – keep a bag with dry clothes in your car, also keep emergency mylar solar blanket in car or with you, helpful if you fall in the water and are wet and cold.
- Wading Staff – you need 3 points of contact to wade safely. Have it attached to your wading belt. Also good for frightening snakes and letting them know you are there.
- When wading across a body of water: analyze the water flow, determine your path going in and getting out, look downstream for an exit strategy if you fall in. If you fall in, keep feet/legs in front of you. Keep wading staff up stream of your body when crossing a stream, when crossing stream walk at an angle and

direct yourself on an angle upstream when exiting. Are you below a dam? Then consider possibility of water level changes. Think Crooked River.

- Multipurpose tool – handy to cut away waders if you fall into stream and they fill with water and just generally handy to have with you.

## THE 10 ESSENTIALS FOR SURVIVAL

*Don't leave home without them.....these can save your own life, or someone else's!*

- **NAVIGATION:** A USGS or equal topo map, a properly declinated (16 degrees locally) base plate compass, along with the knowledge of how to use them together. A simple GPS can also be quite useful as long as you're familiar with how to use it and the batteries aren't dead. A watch and cell phone should also be carried.
- **SUN PROTECTION:** Sunglasses, sunscreen, hat (for hot OR cold, summer or winter weather)
- **INSULATION:** The MOST important consideration: NO cotton clothing! Carry synthetic or wool layers, waterproof/windproof rain jacket/ pants; extra gloves/hat, and extra socks as required. Wear layers of clothing to adjust insulation to activity level and current weather. Stay dry to decrease the risk of hypothermia (which can be life-threatening).
- **ILLUMINATION:** Headlamp or flashlight, with extra batteries.
- **FIRST-AID SUPPLIES:** Basic supplies such as Band-aids, gauze pads, triangular and compression bandages, etc. Include any medications you may currently be taking and a bee sting kit if you are allergic.
- **FIRE:** Waterproof matches, butane lighter or candle stubs, plus fire-starting materials (paste, etc.). Do NOT depend on making a fire in bad weather!
- **REPAIR KIT/TOOLS:** Multi-tool (Gerber®, Leatherman®, Swiss Army knife, etc.), Duct tape. Don't carry what you don't need. Carry small mirror to use in emergency to reflect light for aviation search team.
- **NUTRITION:** High energy, no-cook foods, such as high-carb energy bars. Carry at least 200 calories for every hour you will be out.



- **HYDRATION:** Extra water; take at least (1) liter for short outings and at least 2.5 liters for all-day excursions. Remember that extra water will be needed for hot or cold weather, drink continuously during your outing. Don't wait until you are dehydrated!
- **EMERGENCY SHELTER:** Mylar Space blanket or bright plastic tarp (9' x 12') and a few large plastic trash bags. Bring something to insulate you from the ground, regardless of the time of year. You cannot dig a snow cave without a shovel, and you should not sit/sleep on snow without an insulating pad.

- TIM QUINTON

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## Blast From The Past!

*The COF Newsletter archives hold some excellent information that is factual, timely, and never gets old. This month's article, from August 2010, is another excellent Bill Seitz discussion of the manners and etiquette of our sport. This theme is always timely, and it goes a long way towards making our time on the water that much more enjoyable. Thanx again Bill for this excellent article! If any members have ideas for similar articles, please let me know. — Tim Q*

### **FLY FISHING AND THE GOLDEN RULE: A PRIMER ON THE ETHICS AND ETIQUETTE OF OUR SPORT**

When and how do fly fishers new to the sport develop a sense for the ethics and etiquette of fly fishing? As an example, I was 10 years old when I started fly fishing. I grew up in central Illinois in the 50s and 60s when hardly anyone in the area knew what fly fishing was all about. No one in my family fly fished; we were a family of "worm dunkers." It was hard to find flies in the local sporting goods stores.

It wasn't until many years later that I realized that fly fishing was steeped in tradition and had established ethics and etiquette. I had no one in my family or peers to provide the background of ethics and etiquette that the sport was founded upon. I'm sure many of us started out in a similar fashion. It seems that not a day goes by that I don't hear about some horror story from a fly fisherperson about some recent conflicts with other fisherpersons (many fly fishing) on the popular lakes, rivers, and streams of central Oregon. Last week, I witnessed several incidents on the Madison River in

Montana. During the spring and summer months, our favorite "fishing holes" become crowded. When crowded conditions occur, there is always a chance that tempers will flair and that common courtesies will go out the window. After some discussion with these unhappy folks, one common thread seems to surface – most fly fisherpersons new to the sport do not have a complete understanding of the ethics and etiquette of our sport. Like me in my early years, many did not have mentors to educate them. More on that later. When I read the many books and articles on fly fishing, some general and some specific to a type of fishing or a species such as steelhead, usually ethics and etiquette are the last subjects covered – almost as an afterthought. However, one book I often refer to is Scott Richmond's *Fishing Oregon's Deschutes River*. Up front, Scott addresses ethics and etiquette. He offers sound advice in two areas involving behavior on and around the river: Follow the Golden Rule – Do unto others as you would have them do unto you – where "others" include the entire ecosystem. The next advice is to "Be Patient." Most confrontations between anglers or boaters arise from ignorance. He offers a few specific guidelines for all to follow:

1. Communicate with other river and lake users – Positive and courteous communications go a long way.
2. Ask first – If someone is fishing near an area you want to fish, ask if you will disturb them.
3. Don't be a hole hog – Don't monopolize the water for long periods, move on and give someone else a shot.
4. Don't wade below an angler swinging flies – Usually someone fishing a steelhead run with a traditional wet-fly swing is probably working their way downstream. Don't wade in the river below them, or near them on the upstream side. If you are not sure, ask. If you enter downstream, you should stay at least 200 yards from an upstream angler.
5. Don't wade close to an angler nymph fishing with an indicator – They could be working up or downstream, so ask before wading in above or below them.
6. When floating, give bank anglers room – if possible, give wade fishermen a wide berth, staying at least 30 feet away from where they're fishing (not standing).
7. Don't pull your boat or a raft into a back eddy until you are sure no one is fishing it.
8. Clear out of launching/landing sites quickly.
9. Don't block the river when drifting the river in a large group with several boats.
10. Give room when passing through rapids, leaving

at least 50 yards between you and the craft in front of you.

11. Follow the “Rules of the Road” when drifting – Down-river-bound traffic has the right-of-way, and boats should bear right when passing.
12. Don’t target or harass spawning fish.
13. Don’t abuse the riparian zone, the thin strip of vegetation along the river.
14. Dispose of human waste properly.
15. Don’t litter.
16. Leave an area looking better than you found it.
17. Keep dogs and other pets under control.
18. Know the rules – Understand the fishing regulations and follow them.
19. Manners are contagious!

I would add the following two additional guidelines:

1. Show respect for the fish – See the article in the July (2020) newsletter on how to release a fish and other newsletter articles that discussed how to catch and release a fish and handling fish in warm water conditions.
2. Space boats/float tubes/pontoon boats in lakes – do not get closer than two casting distances to other boats.

As members of the Central Oregon Flyfishers (COF), we need to set a good example for others to follow.

I urge those members new to the sport to ask the club’s “old timers” at meetings and outings about the ethics and etiquette of fly fishing. On the flip side, the experienced members should be willing to share their beliefs about the ethics and etiquette of the sport with new members. Our collective willingness to follow the ethics and etiquette that I have discussed in this article and past newsletters will help us ensure that fly fishing continues to thrive and be enjoyable for us and future generations. A strong foundation of ethics and etiquette will be increasingly necessary as the number of anglers increases while populations of wild fish, such as steelhead, redbands, and mountain whitefish, and their habitats decrease. As individuals, we are responsible for our actions on the waters of Central Oregon and elsewhere. Let’s practice the Golden Rule, show patience, and provide the leadership and mentorship for which COF is known. — Bill Seitz, Conservation Chair

- TIM QUINTON

CGTIMQ@GMAIL.COM

## NEXT CAST FLYFISHERS

Daryl and Nan Loveland donated a 3rd float tube to Next Cast. Thank you Daryl and Nan. Hopefully this summer Next Cast members will have a chance to use the float tubes.

The 3-Day Fly Fishing Camp is planned for June 20, 21, & 22, with the tent raising on June 19. There may be an issue with the Metolius pond. I visited with Jen Luke and she said the springs are not flowing into the pond. The pond is full but not sure if it will have water in June. I visited with Redmond Park and Rec and we decided to wait until May to determine if the Camp will be held.

Mary Barron is assisting me in contacting past Next Cast members to determine if they want to renew their membership.

- FRED A. CHOLICK

NEXTCAST@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

## OTHER NEWS

### Kokanee Karnival Needs Volunteers

Kokanee Karnival needs some volunteers to help at our Spring Angling Clinic on Thursday May 5 and Friday May 6. The Redmond School District is allowing field trips and Kokanee Karnival will hold a modified Spring Angling Clinic for our four classes in that District; two classes from John Tuck Elementary and two from Terrebonne Elementary. Two classes will attend each day. The Clinic will be held at the Youth Fishing Pond in Camp Sherman.

The plan is to have the students rotate through three stations; Casting, Care of the Catch and Water Safety. Then they will have lunch on their own and after lunch they will be fishing in the Camp Sherman Pond. We need volunteers to help at the three stations and especially while fishing to assist with baiting the hooks, unhooking fish and undoing the inevitable tangles. The Camp Sherman Pond has a much more fishable perimeter than Shevlin Pond so the students can spread out more and that is why we need volunteers to work around the perimeter to help the students. We will be providing the First Fish Certificates and cleaning the trout for the students. We will need to be at the site at 8:30 for setting up and should be done with the cleanup by 2:30.

This is a great opportunity to get out and meet with other COF members but mostly to help the students learn about fishing. If you would like to volunteer or need

some additional information please contact me by email [waldo1ft@msn.com](mailto:waldo1ft@msn.com) or phone (541) 318-7507.

- FRANK TUREK  
[KK@COFLYFISHERS.ORG](mailto:KK@COFLYFISHERS.ORG)

## ODFW's Restoration & Enhancement Board

For over 6 years, I have been a member of ODFW's Restoration & Enhancement Board (<https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/re/>). Most people have never heard of R&E, but it plays an important role funding projects that benefit anglers all over the state. A small portion of every fishing license is set aside to fund projects selected by the R&E board.

Prior to my joining the board it had been a very long time since there had been a R&E member from Central Oregon. Being able to advocate for local projects can make a significant impact. For instance, at our last meeting we allocated funds to continue invasive species removal (tui chub and brown bullhead catfish) in some local high lakes as well as contributed to a significant habitat restoration project on the Crooked River. I don't believe these projects would have been funded if I had not explained their importance to my fellow board members.

My term on the R&E board expires October 13, 2023, and it would be great if I was replaced with someone from Central Oregon. R&E board membership is a coveted and competitive position and is not easy to obtain. I had to apply 3 times before being accepted. So, if you have any interest, it is time to prepare.

Board members are expected to have a history of related volunteerism in Oregon. It is especially useful if that volunteer work has been with ODFW. The easiest way to accomplish that is to work with ODFW's STEP program (<https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/step/>), locally known as Kokanee Karnival. Kokanee Karnival is a worthwhile place to help in its own right but is almost a requirement for an R&E role. Serving on the COF board and on local ODFW projects would also be helpful. If you are interested in applying for the R&E board now is the time to get your resume in order. Feel free to contact me with any questions.

- YANCY LIND  
[YANCY.LIND@GMAIL.COM](mailto:YANCY.LIND@GMAIL.COM)

## COF's 2021 End of Year Profit and Loss

COF's 2021 End of Year Profit and Loss (P&L): \$13,525.17

We have three things to thank for a positive Central Oregon Flyfishers P&L:

- Dan Driskoll's bequeathment ~ \$10K
- Summer Picnic fundraiser ~ \$3600. Thank you Frank Turek for the ~\$2800 catering donation.
- FFI's Liability Insurance Coverage was ~\$2885 less than our previous insurance coverage.

Also, we were also able to donate \$1500 in 2021 to ODFW for the Chub Removal project on East Lake.

KK's 2021 End of Year P&L: \$-4,040.43

Part of this loss (\$1,750) is due to a timing issue of paying deposits to Bend Parks and Recreation at the end of year for the Aspen Hall rental. All of this amount has been refunded to us in 2022 as Frank T. was able to get KK correctly classified with BPR as a school sanctioned event. Since we are a cash basis organization, we report income and expenses when transactions post to the bank account. Without this timing issue, KK's 2021 P&L is ~ \$-2290.

## BOARD BITS

### A SYNOPSIS OF THE MARCH 2022 CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The March in person meeting went very well at the Elks Club. Having food available was appreciated. There was ample parking. Around 50 members attended. Carol Ann ran a raffle with 6 offerings and made \$145. The club has lots of raffle items and it was decided that 6 was a good number for each meeting.

Tim recently attended a fantastic presentation led by Jeff Currier. It would cost \$400 for a ZOOM presentation to COF. Because there is money in the education budget, Tim will coordinate a free ZOOM class for our members.

Library – those that checked out books before the pandemic need to return them to the library at our next meeting. Several boxes of books have been donated to COF lately. We are overloaded! We will offer them to our members at the next in person meetings. Helen will try to update our online list of books.

Awards – we have not awarded “volunteer hour” fly boxes in 2 years. We have many boxes in storage. Tim will contact Dick Olson and gather the appropriate info.

We have received a \$1000 check from FFI. It can go towards any project. Any ideas?

We need an Education lead and a Banquet lead. A discussion ensued about perhaps reinventing the banquet. Any ideas?

Membership – Bob – membership is at 273.

Outings – Eric – our 1st outing of the year is at Lake Billy Chinook. The popular Owyhee River outing is next.

Wild Women of the Water – our Flyfishing 101 women’s class is April 3 and it is full...12 ladies with a waiting list. Sue will be attending a sea run cutthroat outing in Washington. She hopes to offer a class or outing in the future.

Conservation – Tom –The Metolius arm of Lake Billy Chinook is producing fish the best.

Kokanee Karnival – Frank – We will be holding an abbreviated version of the Spring Angling Clinic. Frank needs volunteers. He will instruct 50 students each day. Dates of the clinic...May 5 & 6. Contact Frank (waldo1ft@msn.com) if you can help.

Crooked River Clean-up – April 9 – No one has stepped up to run the Crooked River Clean-Up BBQ, unfortunately. Volunteers should bring their own lunch if they are going to attend.

COF casting classes at Eagle Crest are full.

Our next COF BOD meeting will be at Pisano’s in Tumalo at 6pm. Arrive early if you are going to eat.

- KARI SCHOESSLER  
SCHOESSLER.KARIVAN@GMAIL.COM

## MEMBERSHIP

### Welcome to Our New Members

**Austin Boster - Bend**

**John Graham - Bend**

**John Houlihan - Bend**

**Phil Mitchell - Redmond**

**Bruce Wiegman - Paisley**

Central Oregon Flyfishers has 273 members as of March 28, 2022.

- ROBERT SHIMANE  
MEMBERSHIP@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

## LIBRARY

COF library services have resumed now that we are meeting at the Bend Elks Lodge. Please return any books or DVDs that you may have. Thanks for keeping them throughout our shutdown.

Our DVD collection and a select number of books are available for checkout. If you are a club member and would like to peruse the library and/or check out one of our books, just look for the rolling bookcase at the club’s general meeting. The librarian arrives at the meeting early to give members extra time to look for books before the meeting starts. Sign in on our website <https://coflyfishers.wildapricot.org>, click on Members Area and select Library to see a list of our holdings. If you have any questions, comments, or new book suggestions, email Helen, the club librarian.

## FREE BOOKS.

COF has received quite a few books related to fly fishing over the past couple of years. Many more than we have room for in our Library cabinet (available at the Elks during our in person meetings). We're trying out a Free Books box at the next meeting or two, to see if we can get the duplicates or extra books out to some members that would enjoy them. Donors have paid full price for these, think there just might be something worth taking home?

- HELEN GUERRERO-RANDALL  
LIBRARY@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

## COF CLASSIFIEDS

**FREE IS A VERY GOOD PRICE!** I have an extra rear frame piece and basket that attaches behind the seat of the Classic Accessories 9' Wilderness pontoon boat that probably several people in the club bought at Costco. I would give it to someone if they needed it. Mike Coughlin, 541 306 0685, [prmike1953@gmail.com](mailto:prmike1953@gmail.com)



**FOR SALE:** 12' Flycraft Inflatable Drift Boat with gear rack and 2.3 HP Honda outboard motor, \$3000. Call John Butler, 541-588-2124 or 619-241-1589.



**FOR SALE:** Scadden Outlaw Renegade Frameless Pontoon Boat in excellent condition, Signature Series, asking \$600 or best offer. Includes two side storage bags and two oars. Bladderless. Great for lakes and rivers, easily travels in the back of my F-150 pickup with topper. Approx. 9' x 4', weight 26 lbs., carrying capacity 800 lbs., Dave Scadden lifetime warranty. Location: Bend OR. Call Ted Fowler, 541-408-1174



**FOR SALE: SPRING CREEK PRAMS STILLWATER CLASSIC.** 7'10" long and 4' wide (fits in the bed of a truck). Fiberglass w/wood gunnel. Front and rear anchor pulleys (stable for indicator fishing!). Composite 6 1/2 ft oars, motor mounts, front and rear handles. **\$500**



**FOR SALE: 8' BUCK'S BAG'S SOUTHFORK PONTOON BOAT.** Stainless steel frame, Carlisle oars with bronze oar locks, two pontoon mounted bags plus an extra for the anchor rope, under seat anchor system, stripping apron, mesh rear platform, two Scotty fly rod holders, two Scotty oar holders. Tough boat, navigates the day trip on the lower Deschutes just fine. Still sold by Buck's Bags for \$900.00, but they are sold out of everything. Still big shortages, if you want a boat for the lakes this spring, you better buy this one or get to searching soon! \$495.00. Harry Harbin in Bend, [harryharbin@gmail.com](mailto:harryharbin@gmail.com), 541-410-5010.



**FOR SALE: BRAND NEW UMPQUA ZS2 WADER CHEST PACK**, \$30, clips to your wader harness, holds two standard fly boxes, features include two hemostat grab tabs, retractor station, foam fly patch, tippet holder, attachment station for ZS2 accessories, retail \$49.95, Peter Martin, call 541-388-8956, or [pcmartin@bendbroadband.com](mailto:pcmartin@bendbroadband.com). I use Version 1.0 in my float tube where my vest would get wet. I bought the pictured Version 2.0 but decided I liked my old setup.



*COF MEMBERS: Got a "fishy item," (broadly defined), to sell, find, or giveaway? Ads are free and run for one newsletter. If the item is not sold please resubmit your ad for the next month's newsletter. Submit ads to [classifieds@coflyfishers.org](mailto:classifieds@coflyfishers.org) by the end of the third week of each month. JPEG photos are useful.*

**- CLASSIFIEDS@COFLYFISHERS.ORG**



## SPARKLE DUN, MATHEWS & JURACEK

This month's pattern, the Sparkle Dun, is one you'll often find on the end of my tippet or in my tying vise. You can take away all my mayfly dun patterns but please do not touch my Sparkle Duns. Randall Kaufmann writes in *Tying Dry Flies*, 1991, that Sparkle Duns have become standard equipment in western angler fly boxes.

According to Kaufmann, Craig Mathews and John Juracek, owners of Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone, developed the Sparkle Dun in 1985 to imitate PMDs on the Henry's Fork. Mathews and Juracek write in their 1987 *Fly Patterns of Yellowstone*, the "sparkle" comes from the sparkle poly yarn (not Antron) used for the shuck. Twenty-one years later, in *Fly Patterns of Yellowstone Volume Two*, their poly yarn shuck had evolved into Zelon. Kaufmann tells us the Sparkle Dun emerged from Al Caucci's Comparadun which is tied with a split tail. Caucci's split tail Comparadun was adapted from Fran Better's Haystack which has a deer hair tail. All three patterns are similar and have only three parts; a tail, a body and a wing.

During my 30 years with a Maupin address I tied Deschutes River patterns; steelhead flies, elk hair

caddis, and weighted nymphs. When I expanded my fishing to Yellowstone Country, I was buying flies and my tying had to evolve. I spent most of one winter tying Comparaduns. I bought Orvis Coastal Deer hair, painstakingly split micro fibbertails, and filled an entire box. I remember opening my box on an April opening day to find all the wings lying forward and flat as a pancake. Perhaps you've had the same experience?

In 2010 I managed to get a seat in the eight-person Craig Mathews and John Juracek's tying class at the FFF Conclave in West Yellowstone. We tied a variety of BRF patterns that day including sparkle duns. The next day I visited Blue Ribbon Flies and Bucky McCormick helped me select zelon and sparkle dun deer hair.

**You have to have the right kind of deer hair.** Mathews and Juracek write, "*the hair must be hollow, but not course. Hollow hair flares easily, forming a nice wing and effectively floating the fly. Using coarse hair in sufficient quantities to form a full wing results in a bulky tie-down area that disrupts the fly's slender profile. Proper deer hair should also have the shortest black tips possible. The black tips are useless for winging Sparkle Duns, because they're solid and extremely fine in diameter. Finally, the hair should be long enough to handle easily. Don't make the common mistake of thinking that hair for small flies must be very short. It can be, but it doesn't have to be.*"

## Materials:

**Hook:** TMC 100 or equivalent dry fly hook, size to match the mayfly

**Thread:** 8/0 Uni-thread, color to match the mayfly

**Shuck:** Crinkled Zelon about 2/3 the body length

**Body:** Superfine dubbing, color to match the mayfly

**Wing:** Sparkle dun or Comparadun deer hair

I often watch Craig Mathews tie a sparkle dun before I begin tying sparkle duns. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2XVegTjNS8&t=29s>

## Tying directions:

1. It is important to coat the hook with thread. The thread helps prevent the deer hair from spinning around the hook shank and it keeps the slippery zelon shuck in place. Begin by crimping the barb, coat the hook shank with thread and return the thread to the wing position.
2. Cut the desired amount of hair for the wing. The amount will vary with how dense you like your wing for the water you are fishing. I like to start tying larger sized flies working into the smaller sizes. For instance, I begin with size 20 Baetis and work down to #24.
3. Clean and stack the deer hair. Point the tips towards the front of the fly as you remove them from the stacker. If you pass the hair bundle between hands like Craig does in the video you will most likely have to restack. If I have broken tips in the hair bundle, I remove them and restack if necessary.
4. Take two loose thread wraps around the hair then pull tight. With the right kind of deer hair the fibers should compress and flair. Keeping the hair on top of the hook take additional tight wraps. Do not let go of the deer hair butts, then trim the butts.
5. Tie in the zelon right behind the butts of the deer hair. Generally, I use a full strand for #16 and larger, I split the strand in half for #18 and #20, and split it again for #22 and 24.
6. Wrap over the zelon keeping it on top of the hook to the rear then forward back to the wing.

Craig trims the zelon to length at this time. I like to leave the zelon untrimmed using it as a “handle” when I dub, then trim it after dubbing. The zelon is crinkled so if you pull the zelon to length and trim it, the shuck will be too short as the zelon crinkles back to its original shape.

7. To keep your wing upright divide the wing into thirds. Pull back a third, take a thread wrap, pull back another third, take another wrap, pull back the remainder of the wing, and take wraps in front of the wing. At this time, you want the wing in a 180-degree fan around the hook.
8. Apply a sparse amount of superfine to the thread and wind back to the shuck. By this time the bare thread is gone and I can begin creating the dubbed body. I grab the shuck which helps me see exactly where I want my dubbing wraps to begin. See the sparkle dun pattern sheet on John Kreff's Riverkeeper Flies website for sizes, colors and additional information on hair and sparkle duns.
9. Leave a gap behind the wing and figure eight dubbing in front and behind the wing. If you wrap the dubbing right behind the wing it will push the wing forward. I make my dubbing tight to the thread for the last wraps in front of the wing to help stand up the wing. Whip finish.
10. I like the profile of a thin body and a thicker thorax area around the wing. I apply a drop of Watershed to the fly and let it dry 24 hours. On the stream, when the fly needs drying, I cover the body and shuck with my fingers and apply a desiccant like Frogs Fanny to the deer hair.

## Material Notes:

**Zelon**—If you only buy one color of zelon it should be Mayfly Brown. Remember the first sparkle duns were tied using poly yarn if you don't have any zelon. **Wing**—Deer hair is graded and packaged for best suggested use. Good sparkle dun hair can be difficult to find for small sparkle duns. Patches often work better for #12-14 or #16-18 so I write the best size on the back of each patch. **Body**—As an alternative to superfine try Nature's Spirit beaver dry fly dubbing. Superfine dubbing fibers are long while beaver dubbing fibers are short. I find sparse beaver



easier for dubbing small Baetis and Trico duns after I remove the guard hairs. **EP Trigger Point fibers** is an alternate wing material on small sparkle duns. Bucky at Blue Ribbon tells me he has success using EP BWO Trigger Point on Baetis, but only for sizes #18 and smaller.

### More on Fran Betters Haystack

My friend Matt drives out from Pennsylvania each September for the month to fish Silver Creek. Matt took tying lessons from Fran Betters and I can't resist including some photographs and notes from Matt.

Here is a Haystack tied by Fran Betters. Matt points out that Betters tied it with a flat wing! I think Betters might have liked my early attempts at comparaduns.



Pictured is Fran Betters Adirondack Sport Shop which Betters operated for 45 years passing away in 2009.



On the West Branch of the AuSable River in Wilmington's Bridge Park are metal sculptures of Betters famous flies, from left to right, Ausable Bomber, Haystack, and Ausable Wulff.



Betters may be more known for The Usual (not shown). Of The Usual Matts says, "The Usual also has the advantage of when you have caught fish in front of other fisherman and they ask what you were using, you can smugly say, The Usual, and walk away. Fran's other famous patterns are the Ausable Wulff and Ausable Bomber. Most of the tyers who have tying videos tie these too sparsely. Fran loaded his with mixed brown and grizzly hackle and Australian possum dubbing and fished them in only the heaviest pocket water. I showed him (Betters) my ties and he gave me high praise that they were heavily hackled."

- PETER MARTIN  
PCMARTIN@BENDBROADBAND.COM

*Deschutes River Opening  
Day Celebration!*

*Saturday  
April 23th 2022*

*Deschutes River  
Fly Shop & Camp*

- River Clean Up*
- BBQ & Brew*
- Raffle*
- Games & Give Aways!*

*Years past river clean ups were a great success, lets do it again!  
Stop into the fly shop to get your garbage bag in the Am,  
We will have a dumpster onsite! Bring back after fishing we will dispose!  
BBQ & Festivities Apres Fish...starting at 5:00 PM ish...*



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## APRIL 2022 UPSTREAM EVENTS

DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
April 9th	Crooked River Cleanup, 10am	Pete, pcmartin@bendbroadband.com
April 14-17th	Owyhee River Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com
April 20th	General Meeting, Elks Lodge @ 7:00 PM	
April 28th	Board of Directors Meeting, @ 6:00 PM, Pisano's in Tumalo	

## In the Future

DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
May 8th	South Twin Lake Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com
June 11th – 18th	East Lake Outing, Wild Women only	wildwomen@coflyfishers.org
June 16th	Crane Prairie - Quinn River Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com
June 20th – 23rd	3 Day Youth Flyfishing Camp	Fred, nextcast@coflyfishers.org
June 22nd – 24th	Grand Ronde Float Trip (full), Wild Women only	wildwomen@coflyfishers.org
July 15-17	John Day Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com
August 15	Three Creek Lake Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com
September 5	East Lake Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com
October 8	Crane Prairie - North End Outing	Eric's Mail, whitehaus692@gmail.com



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