

The Central Oregon Flyfisher

Vol. 32, Number 12, December 2009



RANDOM CAST

Congratulations! Thanks to you, Central Oregon Flyfishers has had a great year. Membership is growing and Kokanee Karnival is expanding; outings were well organized and varied; educational opportunities have been phenomenal; general meeting programs were some of the best; and the annual banquet was a record breaker. We are also working more closely with other organizations to expand our impact on several conservation projects around Central Oregon.

Membership is increasing. Last year, your board of directors met with members and asked what improvements were most important. Membership enhancement topped the list. We've been encouraging each member to get involved in some aspect of the club. By participating, many good things happen. Members get to know each other. Those relationships foster a sense of connectedness to the organization, which encourages more participation. More participation leads to more ideas to improve the club. Thank you for your involvement. Keep it up.

Kokanee Karnival continues to reach out to fourth and fifth grade students. This year, with the help of many COF volunteers, KK was able to expand the fall program even more.

Wild Women of the Water have had some great outings and get-togethers. Because of the efforts of our Wild Women, an increasing number of women have joined COF and become involved with our wonderful sport.

The 2009 Central Oregon Flyfishers Annual Banquet and Fund Raiser had the highest attendance and raised the most money of any COF banquet. Thank you. It was a blast. If you missed it this year, mark your calendar for 2010! Don't miss it again.

We had some phenomenal speakers and teachers for educational programs in 2009. The winter seminar with Jason Borger was fantastic. There were so many great classes, I'm not going to try to list them. From beginning casting to advanced fly tying, there was a smorgasbord of learning opportunities.

Programs at the monthly general meetings have been outstanding. Scott Robertson taught us about winter fishing in Central Oregon at the January meeting. Jason Borger and Dave Hughes entertained us with informative topics. What a year.

COF's greatest improvement in 2009 may have been our outings. The effort was distributed among a number of members who were willing to step up and volunteer to lead an outing. Each outing had its own unique flavor. Some of the outings even had lunch or dinner provided. How cool is that? Want to see a new outing next year? Step right up.

Conservation is important to fly fishing, and it is important to the members of this fly-fishing club. We all have a vested interest in the Metolius River, Wychus Creek, Upper Deschutes and Crooked River. The Central Oregon Flyfishers have been involved in several projects and have made a positive impact on riparian habitat. If conservation is important to you, there are lots of areas in which to make a difference. Get involved. *continued on page 2*

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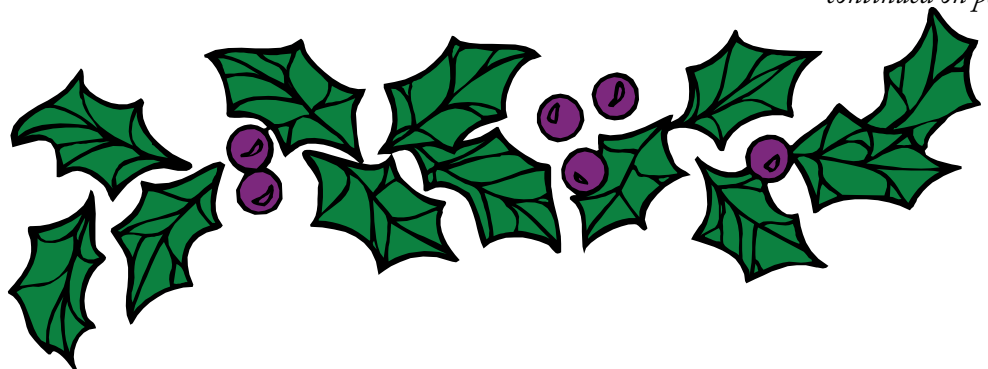
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I am honored to be the president of this fine club. I am humbled by the talent and commitment of so many members to so many projects. If you are new to the club or if you have been in the club for a while, but have not felt connected, make the choice right now to get to know someone. Go fishing. Join an outing. Take a class. Help to pick up trash during the Crooked River Clean-Up. Do something. You won't regret it. Have fun. Enjoy being a member of this wonderful group. I have had the pleasure to serve with an incredible Board of Directors this year. I know that next year they will be even stronger and will take this club to greater achievements. When you get a chance, thank them. Better yet, ask them what you can do to help. It is with a heart felt thanks to all of you that I close my last Random Cast.

*Tight lines,
- Dennis Rockwell*

GENERAL MEETING

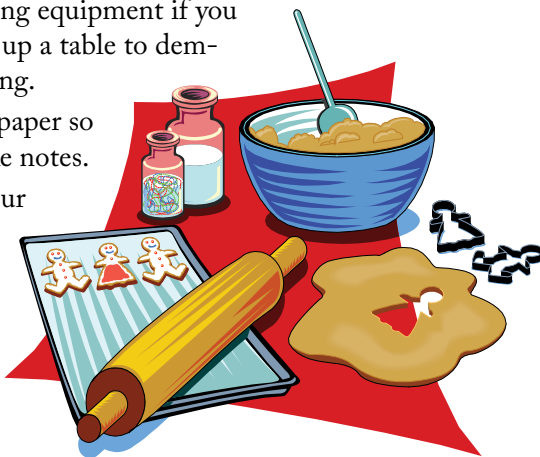
Annual fly-tying evening

December 16 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

The December meeting is the time to watch some great COF fly tiers in action. Jerry Criss, Sherry Steele and Bill Seitz will set up tying tables. Peter Bowers from The Patient Angler will also demonstrate several patterns.

What to bring:

- Your fly-tying equipment if you want to set up a table to demonstrate tying.
- Pencil and paper so you can take notes.
- Batch of your favorite holiday cookies to share and munch on.



Outings 2010			
Month	Day	Leader	Destination
Jan	1	Yancy Lind	Crooked River
Feb	6	Yancy Lind	Lower Metolius R. (below Bridge 99)
Feb	20	John Anderson	Crooked River
Mar	5	Yancy Lind	Upper Deschutes (between Bend & Benham Falls)
Mar	20-21	Lee Ann Ross	Owyhee River
Mar	27	Bill Seitz	Crooked River (mark spawning sites & outing)
Apr	17	Yancy Lind	Middle Deschutes (near Crooked River Ranch)
May	1	Dave Semich	Davis Lake (bass)
May	13	Mike Tripp	Lower Deschutes float trip (Warm Springs to Trout Creek)
May	13	Yancy Lind	Little Cultus Lake
Jun	5-6	Bob Mullong	Prineville Crappie Marathon
Jun	10-11	John Anderson	Diamond Lake
Jun	TBA	Dave Dunhay	British Columbia
Jun	29-30	Mike Tripp	Upper Williamson River
Jul	24-25	Bob Mullong	Cow Camp Dry Fly Challenge
Aug	TBA	Gordon Chandler	East Lake
Aug	27-29	Yancy Lind	Lower Williamson/Wood River
Sep	9	Jerry Criss	Fall River
Oct	7-10	Eric Steele	Deschutes steelhead
Nov	20	Bill Seitz	Crooked River Cleanup & Outing

OUTINGS

Outings for 2010

We have a good start for the 2010 outings calendar. Outings are oriented toward rivers rather than lakes, but we continue to offer a wide variety of quality fishing experiences. This calendar is subject to change, but the outing leaders will try to stick to the calendar as much as possible. A couple of trips do not have firm dates yet, but we know the month.

Let me know if there is a trip that you would like to lead. (We could use more outings in the fall.) Outings require a minimal amount of organizing, and I can give you some tips on how to make things go smoothly. I plan to lead six outings.

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I look at these outings as going to places I want to fish and bringing along a few friends. There's nothing more to it than that.

- Yancy Lind, Outings Coordinator
yancy_lind@ml.com or 788-5514

New Year's Day Outing

The first outing in 2010 will be the club's traditional New Year's Day outing to the Crooked River. As in years past, meet at Jake's Diner (off Highway 20, west of Costco) at 9 a.m. We'll have a big breakfast and wander out to the river when we feel like it. Some people come just for breakfast; others try their luck regardless of conditions (snow and high water are common) just to get out on the first day of the year. Make sure to get your 2010 fishing license beforehand.

- Yancy Lind, Outings Coordinator
yancy_lind@ml.com or 788-5514

EDUCATION

Winter seminar

Feb 17 and 18 | Aspen Hall

This year's winter seminar will feature Mike Lawson from Island Park, Idaho. Mike and his wife, Sheralee, started Henry's Fork Anglers in 1976. In addition to his duties with the fly shops, Mike also conducts fly-fishing seminars and writes articles for fly-fishing publications. He is currently a contributing editor for *Fly Fisherman Magazine*, and his latest book, *Spring Creeks*, is hot off the press. Mike also works as a consultant for several fly-fishing companies, including Sage, Scientific Anglers and Action Optics.

COF and Sunriver Anglers will host this seminar. It will be held at Aspen Hall on Wednesday and Thursday, February 17 and 18. Look for more details in future newsletters.

- Lee Ann Ross

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Wild Women of the Water will hold their annual get-together and potluck in early December (details sent by email). Buy your 2010 fishing license and start the season early — join COF members for the annual Crooked River Outing on New Year's Day.

- Terri Grimm

OTHER NEWS

Special premiere viewing of RISE

Tower Theater | Dec 4 | Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Film begins at 7:00 p.m. | Tickets \$10



In 2008, Confluence Films debuted *DRIFT*, a highly acclaimed documentary that captivated the fly-fishing community. In 2009, riding on the success of *DRIFT*, director/cinematographer Chris Patterson of Warren Miller Entertainment and executive producer Jim Klug once again set out in search of new locations and the totally unique stories, characters, and species that epitomize the spirit and soul of fly fishing.

This new film is *RISE* – a six-segment collection of individual stories shot around the world; stories that together truly reflect the attraction that fly fishing has for all of us. Shot on location in the Florida Keys, Argentina, Idaho, New Orleans, Venezuela and Alaska. *RISE* is a stunning full-length film, photographed entirely on 16 mm film and mastered in HD.

Proceeds will benefit The Freshwater Trust and the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council.

Purchase tickets online: <http://thefreshwatertrust.org/rise-bend>

- Kolleen Yake, Education Coordinator

The Freshwater Trust
kolleen@thefreshwatertrust.org

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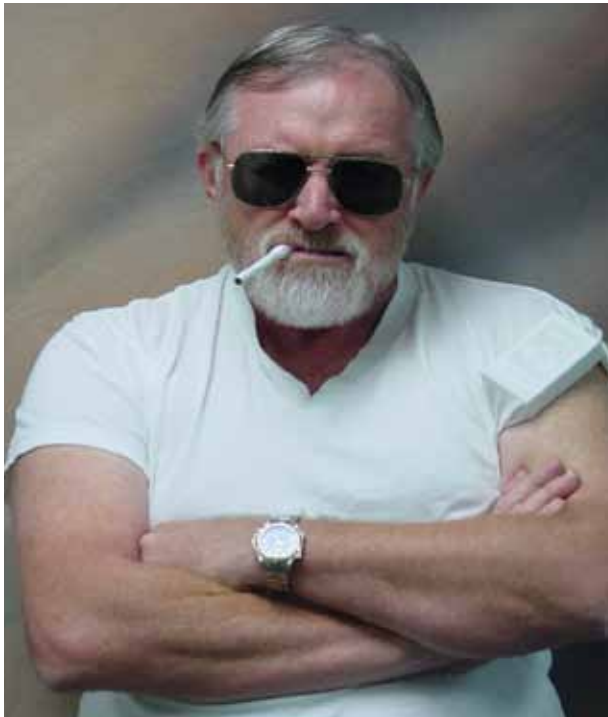
Classrooms receive fish eggs

Twelve classrooms that are participating in the Eggs to Fry program received fish eggs in late October. The students are monitoring development of the eggs as a science/environmental project. In late November, the fry will be released at a site designated by ODFW.

Classroom fish egg incubator. PHOTO: Frank Turek



I WANT YOU



Kokanee Karnival is seeking volunteers for the following areas:

- Board of Directors – The BOD provides leadership and direction for the program and volunteers. Generally, the board meets bimonthly and monthly before the spring and fall programs. We usually meet at Pappy's Pizza for lunch. We need new board members because several longtime board members want to scale back their effort and new members will bring new perspectives. Board members attend meetings if they are available and assist with projects. Your effort is based on your time and willingness to help. Being a board member does not require a major commitment of time.
- Spring angling clinic
- Fall streamside program

All new volunteers are paired with a seasoned volunteer who will help newbies learn about Kokanee Karnival. New volunteers are not assigned to work alone. You may volunteer for one day, multiple days or all week. And you may rotate among stations to learn about the entire program.

TO VOLUNTEER!

For more information or to volunteer, contact:

Frank Turek (318-7507 or waldo1ft@msn.com) **OR Dick Olson** (383-4412 or fishingfool.olson@gmail.com).

Kokanee Karnival Board of Directors meeting: December 11, 2009, 11:30 a.m., Pappy's Pizza (3rd Street, just south of Fred Meyer)

Board members will discuss the 2010 programs for the classrooms. If you are considering volunteering to serve on the board, come to the meeting and find out more about this great program!

CONSERVATION

Whirling Disease and Central Oregon's steelhead, Chinook salmon, and sockeye salmon reintroductions

Recently, biologists from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Portland General Electric (PGE) held a workshop in Bend to inform the public about whirling disease (WD) and ongoing efforts to reintroduce steelhead and Chinook salmon to the Upper Deschutes River basin.

What is WD and why is it important to trout, steelhead and salmon populations?

Whirling disease affects trout and salmon (whitefish also) and is caused by the microscopic parasite, *Myxobolus cerebralis*. The parasite attacks the cartilage of the head and spine. Fish with low numbers of the parasite's spores may not show any visible signs of the disease. If sufficiently affected by the parasite, young fish may become more susceptible to predation and less able to feed and survive disturbances in the environment. When infection is severe in young fish, they may "whirl" when startled due to pressure on the nervous system from inflammation around the damaged cartilage. Fish may also develop a "black tail". To date, biologists have not observed these symptoms in fish in Oregon streams.

The parasite's life cycle is complex and involves two hosts: fish (salmonid species) and tiny, aquatic worms called tubifex. Worms ingest the *Myxobolus* spores and become infected, then release a fragile, water-borne spore stage of the parasite (triacinomyxom stage) that must infect a fish within a few days or perish. Infected fish develop *Myxobolus* spores that are very persistent and can survive in most environments for many years. When an infected fish dies and decomposes, spores are released into the water, beginning the cycle again. Spores can also survive passing through the digestive tract of predators and can be transferred from place to place on muddy boots or other equipment.

Why are biologists concerned about WD in the Deschutes River?

When the proposal to introduce steelhead and Chinook salmon in the Upper Deschutes River Basin upstream of the Pelton Dam first surfaced, biologists were concerned that diseases such as WD could be transferred from the lower Deschutes to the upper Deschutes basin.

The presence of *Myxobolus cerebralis* was confirmed in northeast Oregon in 1986 at a private trout hatchery in the Grande Ronde watershed. Subsequent investigations found infected anadromous and resident fish in the hatchery's water supply. Statewide surveys of wild and hatchery fish from 1987 to 1989 found the infection was limited to fish in the Grande Ronde and Imnaha basins. Adult Chinook and steelhead returning to these same basins were also infected. In 1987, the

first documentation of *Myxobolus cerebralis* positive stray adult Snake River steelhead occurred in the Deschutes Basin at Warm Springs Hatchery on the lower Deschutes River. From 1997 to present, ODFW surveys, funded by PGE, found the WD parasite in stray adult steelhead, spring Chinook and sockeye in the river below Pelton Dam. Further surveys of naturally-reared and hatchery fish have found no evidence of the parasite in Deschutes fish populations.

What about the presence of tubiflex worms in the Deschutes drainage?

Biologists found the tubiflex worms throughout the entire drainage in places like Trout Creek (below Bowman Dam) and McKay Creek (above the dam).

What steps are biologists taking to ensure that WD does not impact introduced steelhead and Chinook salmon juveniles, and resident redband trout populations above the dam?

First, it is important to understand that Pelton Dam was in place before the WD parasite showed up in the Deschutes drainage. The steelhead and Chinook fish that have been introduced to the upper Deschutes basin are from the Warm Springs hatchery. Those fish have been certified as disease-free by ODFW. Additional precautions are in place when adult steelhead and Chinook return from the Pacific Ocean to their freshwater origins. The juvenile fish released in the upper basin do not have their adipose fins (the fleshy fin on the fish's back just in front of the tail) clipped like regular hatchery fish. Instead they have a maxillary mouth part clipped. When upper Deschutes River adult steelhead and Chinook salmon return to the fish trap below the Deschutes River dams in the future (four to six years), they will appear to be wild fish (and not available for legal harvest on the lower Deschutes) but will be identified as upper basin fish. Biologists will transport these adult fish above the dam to a special release facility west of the Pelton Dam on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation where they will be released to find their way to their origin of release. These fish will be disease free. With these precautions in place, biologists are confident that salmonid populations above the Deschutes dams will remain free of WD.

What can anglers do to prevent the spread of WD to the upper Deschutes Basin?

Do not transport live fish between bodies of water without a permit. It is prohibited and illegal. If you observe signs of whirling disease in fish, contact ODFW. Do not dispose of fish heads, skeletons or entrails in any body of water. Fish parts should be disposed of in the garbage, by deep-burying, or by total burning. Rinse mud from wading boots and boats to reduce the risk of spreading the parasite spores to other waters. For more information on WD in Oregon, check out: <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/diseases/whirling/>

— Bill Seitz, Conservation Chair

TYERS CORNER

It is that time of year again; the mountains show the sure signs of winter with new snow and the closed gates block access to the lakes highway in both directions. It is time for me to fish the Fall River. No crowds, just the afternoon hatch of BWOs and some beautiful fish. The trout are showing the winter coloring, with their deep green backs, silver sides and crimson stripe down the lateral line. It is also time to visit the Crooked River, which by all accounts is fishing real well, also with a hatch of BWOs during the day.

I was disappointed that I could not make the Crooked River clean-up this year. A skiing accident a week earlier finally caught up to me and put me down on Saturday. Hope you all had a great time. The next great event for COF is fly tying at the December general meeting. After retiring to Bend in 2004, the first COF meeting I attended was the December general meeting. So much has happened since then. And the future looks even brighter. HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU ALL!

The fly this month is a simple, but effective BWO parachute pattern. It is one that comes from the past when the Cock of Leon hackle was more readily available. This hackle, which is used for the tailing of the fly, is one of the only hackling feathers that are harvested without killing the bird. The birds are native to Spain, and that's where the real good stuff comes from. The coloring of the barbs is mottled browns and blacks, with the lighter coloring almost clear. The parachute post is CDC, which gives the fly a great look and good floating properties. Fish this fly in the slower water with no drag and the results will speak for themselves. Happy Hunting.

—Jerry Criss (541-536-3581 or tlfly44@msn.com)

Blue Wing Olive



Hook: Tiemco 206 BL #14 to #20

Thread: dun, 8/0 or 14/0

Tail: cock of Leon barbs; three to six, depending on the size of fly

Body: light to dark olive dry-fly dubbing (match the hatch)

Parachute Post: light to dark dun CDC

Hackle: dun or grizzly dry-fly hackle

Start the thread back from the hook eye and tie in one CDC feather using barbs only as the post material. Tie in the tailing material while taking the thread back to the hook bend; stop just at the beginning of the bend of the hook. Too keep the tails high, take one wrap of thread under the tailing material and pull toward the eye to lift the tail so it will not lie down. Dub the body material and wind forward, stopping just in back of the parachute post. After tying in the hackle feather, wrap in a slim thorax using as little dubbing as possible. Finish wrapping in the hackle and tie it off. Finish with a nice neat head. Good luck.

2010 Board of Directors

I want to thank the retiring members of the Central Oregon Flyfishers Board of Directors. Earl Rettig is stepping down as Secretary. However, Earl will continue to be involved with the FFF on a state and national level. Dave Dunahay is stepping down after years of service to the club and Kokanee Karnival. Dave is also a past president of the club. Delores Marsh has been an asset to COF for many years. As membership chair, Delores was instrumental in the largest growth period in the club's history. As Wild Women of the Water chair, she has encouraged, promoted and expanded our membership among women flyfishers. Dave Magaret has done a great job

as programs chair. Over the past two years, Dave has brought in some wonderful speakers that have made our monthly meetings so informative. When you see these members, be sure to thank them for their contributions to COF.

The new Board of Directors was elected at the November general meeting and will take office in January. Each of the board members has a large role to play in the club's future. The board members cannot do their jobs alone. If you have any comments or suggestion or would like to help out, contact a board member and let them know.

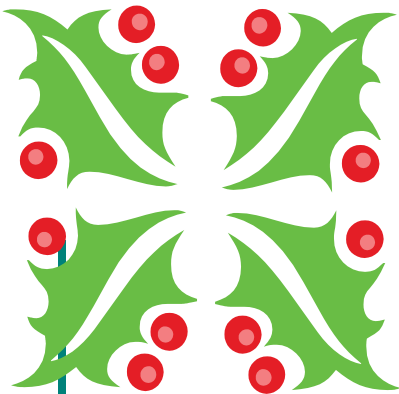
—Dennis Rockwell

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Central Oregon Flyfishers Up-Stream Events 2009

Date	Time	Activity	Location	Contact
DECEMBER				
Dec 3		monthly board mtg.	Environmental Center	Dennis Rockwell (rockwell@bendcable.com)
Dec 16	6:30 pm	general meeting	Bend Senior Center	
IN THE FUTURE				
Jan 1	9:00 am	OUTING - Crooked R.	Meet at Jake's Diner.	Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com)
Feb 17 & 18	TBA	WINTER SEMINAR	Aspen Hall,	Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com)
Apr 10	Bend Senior Cntr.	ANNUAL BANQUET	Eric Steele	(steelefly2@msn.com or 549-2072)
NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES & FYI				
Dec 4	7:00 pm	Premiere viewing of RISE at the Tower Theater. Tickets: \$10		

2009 COF Board Members: Dennis Rockwell PRESIDENT Dick Olson VICE PRESIDENT Susan Telford TREASURER Earl Rettig SECRETARY Dave Magaret Programs Eric Steele Banquet, Fund raising Yancy Lind Past President/Outings Craig Dennis Membership Bill Seitz Conservation Lee Ann Ross Education Dave Dunahay Kokanee Karnival Delores Marsh Wild Women of the Water/Membership



Welcome New Members

**John Coltman, Dave & Merrily Cook,
Rob & Kristin Lambson, Fred & Tami Wendsenk**

COF currently has 244 members, which exceeds the final membership total for 2008.

As of November 20, 80 members have renewed their membership and COF raised \$1,990 for Kokanee Karnival.

Reminder: The \$30.00 renewal rate is good only until December 31, 2009! After this date, membership will cost \$36.00. New members in 2010 must pay \$1.00 in postage each month to receive the newsletter by mail. Free copies will be available at the monthly meeting and at local fly shops. **THIS POSTAL CHARGE DOES NOT AFFECT CURRENT MEMBERS.**

Contact membership@coflyfishers.org if you need a renewal form. Forms and KK donations can be returned by mail or turned in at the December meeting.

If your name, address, email or phone number changes, please notify the Membership chair (membership@coflyfishers.org).

If you catch a FLOY-tagged fish

Please report the following information:

1. FLOY tag number (5-digit number) if readable, otherwise please report the tag without number
2. Species captured
3. Location of capture
4. Approximate size of fish

Please report FLOY tag information to: Shivonne Nesbit (Shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu or 541-805-530) **OR Mike Harrington** (ODFW Prineville Fish Biologist, Michael.R.Harrington@state.or.us or 541-447-5111).

Report your volunteer hours!

Your volunteer hours help COF to acquire funding and grants for additional projects. Please report your volunteer hours to Delores Marsh. Be sure to include your name, name of the event, month, number of hours and number of miles.

To report your volunteer hours, click **here** or send email to ladyd@bendcable.com.



*It's
Coming*

**Annual COF Banquet
and Fundraiser**

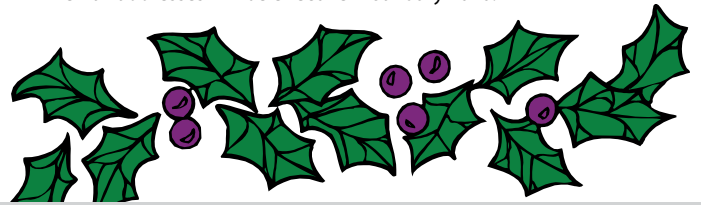
Saturday • April 10, 2010

For more information, contact Eric Steele
(steelefly2@msn.com or 549-2072).

2010 COF Board of Directors*

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Vice President:	Lee Ann Ross	vicepresident@coflyfishers.org
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Banquet:	Eric Steel	banquet@coflyfishers.org
Raffles:	Donna Hatheway	donations@coflyfishers.org
Kokanee Karnival:	Frank Turek	kk@coflyfishers.org
Past President:	Dennis Rockwell	pastpresident@coflyfishers.org

* All email addresses will be effective in January 2010.



Membership application available from: <http://www.coflyfishers.org>
For advertising information, call Mike Shadrach at 541-678-5717.



Central Oregon Flyfishers
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An active
member club

Happy Holidays

For advertising information, call Mike Shadrach (541-678-5717).

NEWSLETTER - Terri Grimm Editor & Designer, Scott & Sarah Robertson Distribution