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 linkedin.com/company/central-oregon-flyfishers

President's Message

Raffles Chairperson: Roger Vlach has graciously managed the raffles position for the past two years and is ready to hand over leadership to a successor. The job entails visiting the various fly shops and purchasing raffle items and then selling the raffle tickets at the



meetings. If you would be interested in volunteering for this position, please contact Lee Ann at rossleeann@yahoo.com.

New Years Day Outing: We will meet at Jake's diner at 8 A.M. (that's 8 A.M.) for our annual New Year's Day outing. Come on by and have breakfast with the group. If the weather permits, we will head out to the Crooked for a bit of fishing. Hopefully it will be warmer than last year when my fly line ended up looking like a rope with all the ice it had on it.


Winter Seminar: The winter seminar is coming up Jan 21 and 22 at the SHARC in Sunriver. Kelly Laastch from British Columbia will be our host. I spoke with him today and he is really excited about some new English fly patterns that he is going to tell us about for lake fishing. He says these patterns are so successful that they have been banned from competition fishing in England. He will cover the Blob, the Fab and Boobies. He will show us how to tie them and explain the materials that go into them. More importantly, he will go over how to fish them. He says these patterns are dominating fishing in BC and have taken over from chironomids and balanced leeches. When a hatch isn't on, this is what he is fishing with. Be sure to sign up for the Winter Seminar today so you won't miss out. The seminar will be appropriate for both beginners and advanced fisher folk. I know Bill Seitz is keen to hear what Kelly has to say on these new flies. See more details in the newsletter.

Intro To Flyfishing: Any beginners out there might want to take a look at the following web site for an idea on how to get geared up for flyfishing. One doesn't have to break the bank to get into this sport. <http://www.bumpywater.com/getting-started-fly-fishing/>

~Lee Ann Ross



An Active
Member Club

Scott Cook from Fly and Field will discuss all the aspects of fly lines from what's new for 2017 in fly lines, choosing the right fly line for my fishing application for single and two hand rods. .  Scott grew up in a fishing family. His first recall of fishing was casting dries to cutties on the South Fork of the Snake River. His experience fly fishing the Central Oregon waters was in the mid 80s vacationing and fishing on the Deschutes River and Metolious River. He began my career in the fly fishing industry during the summer of 1998 and quickly realized this was the life he would lead. He has owned Fly and Field Outfitters in Bend, Oregon since January of 2004. The greatest lesson that this sport has taught me is that it is all about the adventure. Fly fishing as a lifestyle that forces the angler to LIVE THE EXPERIENCE. **Pre-Meeting:** 6:15, To be determined.

OUTINGS

New Year's Day Outing-Crooked River

Jan 1 | Meet at Jake's Diner at 8:00 A.M.
Note the time, 8 A.M.

Start the New Year out with some fun! The first outing of 2017 will be the traditional New Year's Day outing to the Crooked River. Meet at 8 A.M. at Jake's Diner on the east side, 2210 US 20 right behind the East Side Liquor store. Jan.1 falls on a Sunday this year and the manager at Jake's says they will be full with a line out the door by 9 A.M. thus the time change to 8 A.M. We will meet in the back room to the left of the cash register.

We will have breakfast with fellow COF members, and decide if the trip to the river is for you. If there's minimal snow, temperatures are not too cold, and the roads are clear, this trip is on. Be sure to get your 2017 license before hand. You can buy one at the Alfalfa Store on the way to the Crooked if you forget. If you plan on fishing, bring your lunch. We can all meet up at Big Bend around 2 P.M. for lunch and swap stories.

~Lee Ann Ross

OUTINGS CALENDAR 2017

MONTH	DAY	DESTINATION	LEADER
March	22-25	Owyhee River	Lee Ann Ross
April	1st	Crooked River Cleanup	Peter Martin
April	15/29	Learn To Float Warm Springs	Yancy Lind
April	17th	Lake of the Dunes	Ron Kaye/Jeff Perin
April	27th	The "D" Tumalo Area	Ron Kaye
May	20th	"D" Warm Spring Float	Eric Steele
June	TBD	British Columbia Trip	Lee Ann Ross
July	7-9	East Lake, 2 nights, BBQ	Eric Steele
Sept/Oct	TBD	Yakima River	Allen Caudle
October	TBD	Beavertail Steel Head	Robert Gentry
Oct/Nov	TBD	Eagle Lake	Charlie Schillinsky



NEXT CAST FLYFISHERS

Update

The Next Cast Flyfishers program

provides opportunities and coordinates activities for young fly anglers in the area. We offer fly fishing instruction through *Continued on page 3*

Next Cast Flyfishers continued from page 2

classroom activities, fly fishing summer camps, ongoing COF events, and individually through mentorship and teaching.

Providing these opportunities, young anglers will be exposed to fly fishing and increase their interest and level of involvement.

Upcoming events include:

- **Winter Fly Tying:** Tuesdays, January 3-March 28; Bend Sr. Center. John Kreft coordinates fly tying each week for COF members (see article on page 9). Different instructors teach each week. This is a great way to fill your fly boxes! Membership is required. Participation is for intermediate to advanced tyers, please check-in and confirm attendance prior to sessions.
- **Redmond Sportsmen's Show:** March 2-5; Deschutes County Fair & Expo, Redmond, Oregon. Lots of fishing and outdoor stuff to see, including a trout pond for kids under 12. Next Cast will run a shift of helpers at the trout pond on Thursday, March 2. Participation as a volunteer is open to advanced members and must be approved.
- **NW Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo:** March 10 & 11; Albany, Oregon. Next Cast is coordinating transportation for a field trip on Saturday, March 11. More information will be available after the first of the year. Class schedules and more Expo details are available at <http://www.nwexpo.com>. Space is limited, must be a member to participate.
- **Crooked River Clean-up:** April TBD. Next Cast members join the COF for a litter pick up, BBQ and fly fishing. This is a great

opportunity to get out on the river. Mentors are arranged to help the fly fishers; waders, boots and fly rods are all provided! All members welcome!

- **3-Day Fly Fishing Camp:** June 26, 27, 28, 2017 at Shevlin Pond. This camp is for all beginners and newer fly fishers, you don't have to be a Next Cast member to sign up! Registration is through Bend Parks & Recreation and

will be available online in March with the summer program catalog. This camp is limited to 12 participants and fills up fast! Membership is not required!

- **East Lake Overnight Camp:** July 7 & 8; East Lake. Details to follow. Membership required. Please contact me directly if you have questions.

~Karen Kreft, nextcast@coflyfishers.org, 503-409-0148



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CONSERVATION

Update

Here's a grab-bag of current conservation topic briefs. I hope you had a pleasant holiday season!

In the November newsletter I wrote about Central Oregon Irrigation District's System Improvement Plan, the water they say can be saved by piping their leaky canals, but the lack of specific commitment to use that conserved water to restore flows. In fact, the SIP alluded to using saved water for additional irrigation use. I am glad to report that COID made that commitment at a public talk hosted by City Club of Central Oregon on December 15. Water conserved from canal piping will be restored to the Deschutes. This is excellent news, although the \$400M+ price tag remains staggering from my perspective.

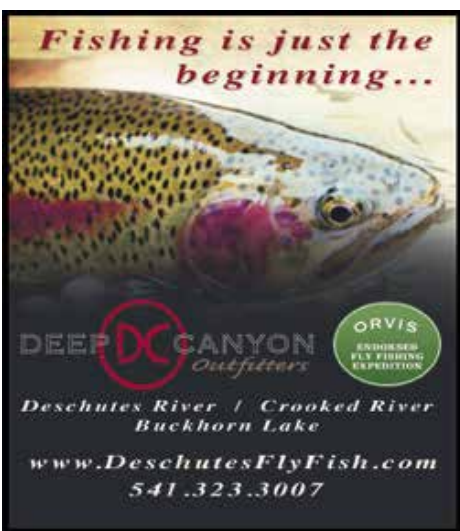
More positive news comes from the Bureau of Reclamation who has finally started the process to create a dry year management plan for the Crooked River as called for in the often discussed Crooked River bill. COF is among many groups that have been invited to participate in this process. The hope is to have a plan in place a year from now.

I was encouraged to hear from PGE that they plan nighttime releases of all smolts outmigrating from the PRB complex into the lower Deschutes next spring. As I have written about in the past, a study from earlier this year conclusively showed that smolts released at night have far higher survival rates than those released during the day. Keep in mind that the need for power generation is mostly during the day in the spring and summer, so opening the top gates to generate strong, attracting surface flow at night is not to PGE's economic benefit. To their credit, PGE continues to study the issues and are trying to do the right thing when it comes to successful anadromous fish reintroduction (although there was a serious setback to reintroduction last month as well, see below).

It was also a relief to see the Oregon Secretary of State agree with a critique I made earlier this year of the Oregon Water Resources Department. OWRD is tasked with providing a statewide "integrated" water plan that balances municipal, agricultural, industrial, and recreational/environmental needs. As discussed in a prior column, OWRD has accounted for other uses in their planning but not

recreational/environmental needs. When I asked why in a meeting earlier this year they responded, "that would require us to work with other state agencies". A plainly unsatisfactory response. The Secretary of State agrees that OWRD needs to more properly do their job and restore and protect streamflows, watersheds, and groundwater. <http://sos.oregon.gov/audits/Documents/2016-33.pdf>

Unfortunately, December also had some bad news. Most distressing to me was a vote by the board of Deschutes Valley Water District, the owners of Opal Springs Dam, to suspend their application to add a fish ladder. I have written extensively on the critical need to provide passage at Opal Springs if there is any hope of successful anadromous fish reintroduction into the upper Deschutes basin. COF was one of many groups that worked to raise money for fish passage. We collectively met our goal for half the cost (\$4M), but the final construction bids came in around double the \$8M estimate. DVWD has told me they want to provide passage but planned for \$4M - \$5M and can't afford \$10M - \$12M. There is a brainstorming meeting scheduled for early January for a "Plan B", but *Continued on page 5*



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Conservation continued from page 4

years of effort were put into “Plan A”. As I write this in late December, fish reintroduction looks to be in serious jeopardy.

Finally, any of you who fish the Columbia or any local rivers like the Deschutes, Metolius, Fall, or Crooked “that ultimately empty into the Columbia River” are required to obtain a Columbia River Endorsement along with your fishing license. This \$9.75 fee is designed to help compensate commercial gillnet fishermen who were to be slowly restricted (although not eliminated) in their access to salmon on the Columbia. Gillnet fishing results in the lethal “by-catch” of endangered species like steelhead. The ODFW Commission is considering easing the previously negotiated agreement for the benefit of gillnet fishermen. This is a complex issue, I encourage you to learn more by visiting the NW Steelheaders website (www.nwsteelheaders.org) or the Coastal Conservation Association of Oregon website (www.ccaoregon.org). The ODFW Commission is set to vote on the issue January 20. You can write to them at: odfw.commission@state.or.us.

~Yancy Lind, conservation@coflyfishers.org



WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

The Wild Women of the Water had such a fun holiday party this last month! Great food, great gifts, great friends, great camaraderie...what could be better! Thank you to Lee Ann for hosting. And thanks to all you wonderful ladies for a superb year! We're all looking forward to more fun in 2017!!

~Kari Schoessler, wildwomen@coflyfishers.org

EDUCATION

Update

A big thanks to Tom Wideman for showing folks at the December meeting how to do regular winter maintenance on their waders, boots, fly line, reel and other equipment. He developed a list of helpful products to complete the job:

1. Boots: “Boa Repair

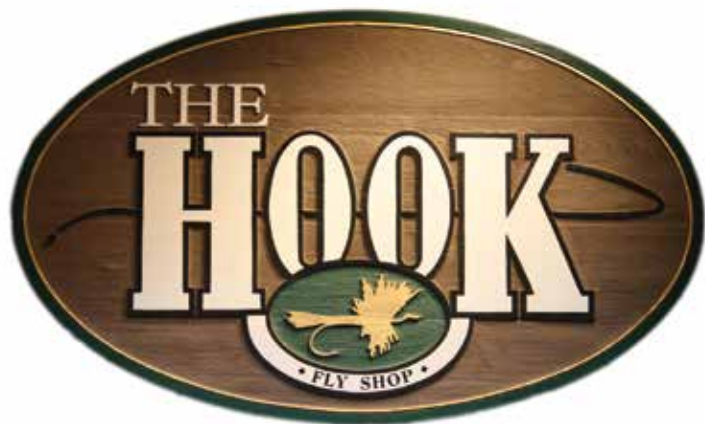
Instructions” on YouTube

2. Waders: Gear Aid – Aqua Seal U.V. to patch holes
3. Rods: Baking Soda and water rubbed on micro fleece on rod, or Scratch-Dini Scratch Repair
4. Reels: Break-free CLP, Liquid Bearings (eBay), Slick 50 (BiMart). This is a little tricky so you might ask Tom or check out YouTube
5. Lines: Cortland (or other) Line Cleaner, Cleaning box and Guide Line Dressing

Also a big thanks goes to Mary Ann Dozer for bringing her guide pack and boxes of fly's showing her great organization.

Another Big thanks goes to Cliff Price and Dave Dunahay who held a net building class in December. They will also be leading a rod building class in January/February.

Continued on page 8





MIDGE CLUSTER DRY FLY, BY: JIM CRAMER

Well, winter sure has come in with a white coating on everything. Hope you are warm and the thread is spinning around the hook. It is time to refill your fly boxes, for next year. Searching the web makes that fun as new patterns show up daily and there are some that I just have to try. Let me know when you find some that I might like or that you might need help tying. Just drop me a line and lets keep the thread moving.

The fly this month is one from Jim Cramer, a very innovative tyer from Calif. He showed me this fly many years ago and it is one that I used a little this year and it saved the day more than once. The Midge Cluster is just that, It imitates a cluster of midges like those that become entangled in back eddies and slow edges of streams or lakes. The takes of these clusters can be very subtle so you need to pay attention to nose rises. Your

presentation is dry with, NO Drag and you need a little pause before setting the hook.

Materials:

Hook: Standard dry fly hook #18 to # 12, Note: short shanked or curved light wire hooks can also be used.

Thread: Black 14/0

Body: Tying thread and winging material, optional Black super fine dubbing.

Wing/Post: Antron, yarn, Z-lon or EP fibers in a clump acting as a post for the hackle.

Hackle: Lt. Dun, Grizzly or Badger, hackle is over sized by at least 2 sizes.

Head: Tying thread

Tying Instructions:

1. Lock in the thread about eye width from the eye and wind rearward laying down a thread base about half down the hook shank.
2. Tye in the wing/post material, on top of the hook shank,

keep the wraps tight and close to the hook. Then add a couple of figure 8's, and small amount of head cement on the thread wraps, too help keep the wing/post from spinning around the hook.

3. Tye in the dry fly hackle at the base and forward of the wing/post and then dub a very small amount dubbing, over the wing tye in wraps, ending with the thread between the wing and the hook eye. Now wind the hackle around the wing/post keeping the wraps as close to the hook as you can. Tye off the hackle by winding the thread through the hackle like a normal posted dry fly, and tye off behind the hook eye.
4. Finish with a nice neat head of tying thread.

“Good Luck and Good Hunting”.

~ Jerry Criss, 541-536-3581,
tiffly44@msn.com

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- ~ Dalton Miller-Jones, *Director*
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- ~ Raffle: Roger Vlach
- ~ Newsletter Design & Production: Darius Whitten,
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MEMBERSHIP

Update

This is my last month as the Membership Director. I've been doing it for three years, during the roll-out of our mostly automated membership management system (Wild Apricot). I couldn't have done it without the support of Gary Meyer. I'm pleased to pass the baton to Sue Coyle, who will be managing Membership beginning in January. I will still be in the background assisting her. Introduce yourself to Sue when you come through the front door at a monthly meeting. We end the year with 390 active members, a record, although some will not renew at the cutoff.

Welcome New Members

Sally Davis
Steven Goldberg
Isaac Korman - Youth
Peter Manley
Mark Morzov
Molly and Julie O'Neal
Joey Pattee - Youth
Robert and Sharla Purnell
Peter Shepherd
Dan Steelhammer

~Tim Schindele, membership@coflyfishers.org

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members: Got a fishing related item to sell? Ads run one month then can be resubmitted if not sold to classifieds@coflyfishers.org.

LIBRARY

Update

Thanks to everyone who donated books to the COF library this year.

Our latest donations are: Trout Madness, from Lou Duncan, and Fish Flies, Vol 1 and Vol 2, from Steve Nakawatase.

~Kathleen Schroeder

Education continued from page 5

(Sorry the class is full).

It has been a fantastic year with many ideas and education sessions presented to club members. We are all a group of enthusiasts with many diverse skills, so if any of you have a skill or talent to share, please let us know. If there were any classes, you would like the club to offer, please contact education@coflyfishers.org. Thanks!

Deschutes River Floating Permits

The BLM recently announced changes to their online permit system for purchasing a Lower Deschutes River boating pass. A permit is required for everyone floating the river between Warm Springs and the Columbia River. No earlier than January 4, 2017, the BLM will start using Recreation.gov to issue the boater passes. Once at recreation.gov, type in lower Deschutes river boater passes.

For those of you able to plan ahead, 50% of the permits for the season will be issued January 4th. You can find full details at <https://www.blm.gov/programs/recreation/permits-and-passes/lotteries-and-permit-systems/oregon-washington/lower-deschutes>.

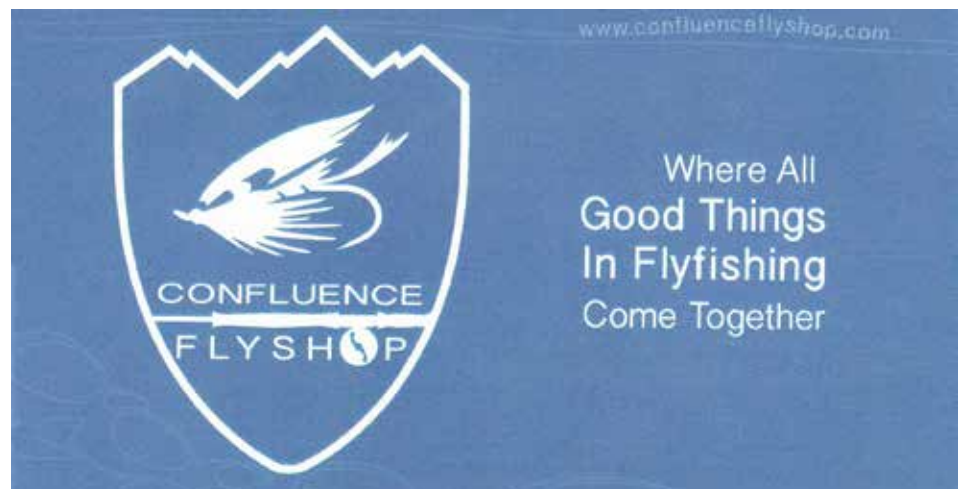
~Debbie Norton and Dalton Miller-Jones

Sunriver Anglers and Central Oregon Fly Fishers present: Fly Fishing Seminar at Sunriver "Fishing Area Rivers and Lakes"

With renowned Fly Fishing Expert
Kelly Laatsch

Perfect for the beginner to advanced fly angler, the seminar will cover all aspects of fly-fishing rivers and lakes. It will include proper terminology, gear, fly patterns, effective strategy, tips, and techniques for each type of water and season. With numerous fly patterns to his credit, Kelly will also provide a brief demonstration of newer fly tying concepts for improved results in almost any freshwater fishing condition.

The seminar is open to all and will be held at Benham Hall at the SHARC from 9:00am to 4:00pm both days (Jan. 21 & 22). The total cost for the two days is \$95 (\$85 if you are a member of the Sunriver Anglers Club or Central Oregon Flyfishers Club). Snacks, refreshments, and catered lunches are included in the cost. Register by 1/15/17! You can register online at sunriveranglers.org. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Breault at SunriverFlyFishing@gmail.com, or by calling 541-593-0355.



OTHER NEWS

COF Winter Fly Tying

January is finally here and it's time for our first COF Winter Fly Tying session on January 3. Plan on coming to the Bend Senior Center every Tuesday night through March 28. We begin at 6:00 pm. This is an opportunity to re-stock your fly box with effective, fishy flies. Each session will be led by an experienced fly tyer who will teach a couple of flies. There will be enough materials available to tie several of each pattern. If you haven't renewed your membership to COF, now is a good time to complete that task. COF Winter Fly Tying is a benefit for our members and not open to the general public. Guests are welcome their first night and must join COF to participate further.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I've started a new mailing list this year. Please contact me to be sure you receive the weekly fly pattern sheets. Many have already responded to the earlier email I sent to last year's participants.

Bring your vise, tools, thread and \$5 per session to offset the room and materials. This is not a beginning fly tying class so you will need to know the basics of fly tying. Hope to see you in January!

~ John Kreft, 503-559-3811, jckreft@gmail.com

Save The Date 2017 COF Annual Banquet

Where: Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center
When: Saturday April 8, 2016 5:30 - 9:00

The COF banquet serves as our primary fundraising event. Last year's banquet was a fundraising success due to local business donations, and the attendance and generosity of COF members.

As always we are asking for your donations of good fishing equipment, flies, hand-crafted creations, just plain good stuff, or hosted fishing trips as raffle and auction items.

Join us. You will find the evening to be fun and the food excellent.

The registration flyer will appear in the February and March COF newsletters.

~ Tom Wideman, 503-330-5505;
banquet@coflyfishers.org

January Raffle

The January Rod of the month will be built on a Forecast IM6 blank. It is a two piece, nine foot rod and is rated as a six weight. I have built several of these rods in the past with good results and no complaints. This rod would be very good for fishing indicators in the local lakes, large streamers or large dry flies. It is a moderate action rod that allows a relaxed casting stroke but has plenty of butt to handle long casts and large fish.

You should enjoy fishing this rod if you are fortunate enough to win this month's raffle. Buy several tickets and remember all funds go towards supporting the COFF's activities, events and projects.

~ Charlie Schillinsky

2017 Season for East Lake Campgrounds

One of our members tried to book the Cinder Hill campground at East Lake only to find this message:

From the May 2017 opening until August 1st this campground will only be available on weekends for camping. Campers can arrive on Friday but must depart on or before Sunday. The facility is closed during the week (Monday AM - Thursday PM) so we can work with the Forest Service to complete hazard tree

projects. We anticipate this work to be completed by August 1st 2017, which is when we expect to open up the facility for weekday camping. Please check back for updates. This applies to both Cinder Hill and East Lake campgrounds.

~ Lee Ann Ross

Volunteers needed for Outdoor Show Trout Pond March 2-5

Mark your calendars for March 2nd (Thursday) through March 5th (Sunday). COFF provides the volunteers for the Central Oregon Outdoor Show annual Kid's Trout Pond. This event is held at the Deschutes County Expo Center in Redmond near the airport.

This is the second largest fundraiser of the year for our club. Baxter Auto Parts sponsors the pond but provides COFF with a nice check to man the event!

We need between 6-10 volunteers for each of several shifts on these days. They range from about 9:00 AM through 8:00PM. Each shift is about 4 hours long.

This is an excellent way for new members to meet other members, as well as a fun way to help a young boy or girl catch their first trout! In addition, volunteers get free admission to the Outdoor Show as well!

We are especially in need of Saturday and Sunday shifts. These are the busy days and require 8-10 volunteers each shift.

Sign up sheets will be available at the January and February club meetings as well.

Please contact Allen Caudle at ascaudle@gmail.com or 541-749-0333 for information or to volunteer.

~ Allen Caudle

UPSTREAM EVENTS January 2017

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	CONTACT
5th	6:30 PM	COF Board Meeting	Environmental Center	-
18th	7:00 PM	COF Meeting	Bend Senior Center	-

In the Future

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; 6:00 PM; Winter Fly Tying at the Bend Senior Center; Contact: John Kreft
January 21–22; Kelly Laatch; Winter Seminar; Sunriver SHARC
March 2–5 Redmond Sportsman Show, Deschutes County Fair and Expo Center
March 10–11 NW Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Expo, Albany Fairgrounds http://www.nwexpo.com
April 8th; 2017 COF Annual Banquet & Fundraiser; Riverhouse Convention Center



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