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President's Message

The COF picnic/barbecue was a tremendous success. Mark and Nancy Hamilton did a great job organizing the picnic/barbecue. When you see them, please thank them for all their efforts. I had great time and visited with most of the 60 individuals who attended. Everyone I talked to told me that they enjoyed visiting and the food. If you missed it, you missed a great opportunity for fellowship. Finally, thank you to all the picnic helpers: Tim Quinton, Dick Olsen, Danny Kara, Bill Raleigh, Kari Schoessler, Yancy Lind and a special thank you to Mary Barron.

The COF Board of Directors will hold their annual retreat in October. We will be determining the budget for 2024, discussing ideas to enhance the membership experience and developing a slate of officers and directors. If you have any ideas to enhance membership's experience, budgetary items or are interested in serving on the COF board, please contact me (fcholick@gmail.com). As I have said in the past, COF is your organization and any and all ideas would be appreciated. Everyone does not have to do everything, but everyone should do something to help make COF a great organization. All organizations need leadership at all levels.

Please read the Kokanee Karnival article in this newsletter. The Fall Streamside Program will be held on September 25, 26, 28, and 29. As with all youth events, volunteers are needed to insure that the youth have a positive experience. Thanks in advance for volunteering.

Once again this month, I did not catch a picture worthy fish. As in the last several months, I fished with Vinny Detweller and above are pictures of his picture worthy fish. The fish were caught on the Crooked River. Vinny caught about 25 fish, with 3 Rainbow's over 16 inches. Vinny out fished me again; I managed to land 2 fish. My only comment: it is great when the student surpasses to teacher, but maybe not by 23 fish!

Tight line,

Fred A. Cholick
fcholick@gmail.com
785-410-1866



2023 COF

Outings Calendar

SEPTEMBER 21-23

JOHN DAY RIVER

Leader Tim Schindele

May be postponed until October



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Education

OPEN

Outings

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Kokanee Karnival

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Winter Fly Tying

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Banquet / Auction

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Past President

TIM QUINTON

GENERAL MEETING | SEPTEMBER 20TH

ELKS LODGE | 63120 BOYD ACRES ROAD, BEND, OR 97701



Klamath River Dam Removal

I believe the Klamath Basin offers some of the best fishing in Oregon, which should get even better when four impassable dams on the Klamath River are breached, the largest dam removal project in US history. The elimination of these dams will provide resident and anadromous fish access to hundreds of miles of habitat that have been blocked for over 100 years. The first dam came out earlier this year, the rest will be removed in 2024. I had a great time steelhead fishing on the Klamath River last year, have two trips planned for this fall, and am hopeful that this productive fishery will get even better in the years to come.

This month, Mark Hereford, ODFW's Klamath Fisheries Reintroduction Biologist, will discuss the history of the project, preparation for dam removal, schedule, habitat restoration activities, and ongoing monitoring. I saw multiple presentations on this project at the American Fisheries Society meeting in Eugene last spring and was impressed by how complicated it is. New access roads must be built, dams carefully removed, debris hauled away, habitat must be restored at a very large scale, etc. Really interesting stuff.

Mark Hereford has a B.S. in Conservation Biology and a M.S. in Biology. He began his career in fisheries biology working for the U.S. Geological Survey on research projects throughout the Great Basin and Klamath Basin. He has been at ODFW since 2016

where he has developed the implementation plan to reintroduce and monitor the repopulation of anadromous fish into the upper Klamath Basin and led pre-dam removal studies.

- YANCY LIND
PROGRAMS@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

OUTINGS

Smallmouth Bass Walk & Wade ON THE JOHN DAY RIVER AT COTTONWOOD CANYON STATE PARK | SEPT. 21- 23, 2023

Outing Coordinator: Tim Schindele, tjsfishes@bendbroadband.com, 206-819-5396

Outing Fee: \$25.00 (covers costs for campsites, extra vehicle parking and two meals)



We like to go to the John Day River in late summer/fall when the river flows are really low, down to less than 100 cfs. Then, you can walk and wade and easily cross the river for long distances above and below the campground at Cottonwood Canyon State Park. This is not a float trip, although you can float if you want to arrange that. The fish are in the deeper pools and runs. It can seem like you'll get a strike on every cast and it is too much fun! A rig with two flies—two fish hooked is not uncommon. Most of the fish you'll land are 4-7 inches but you'll catch larger ones. Bigger fish are in the deeper water and are usually caught when

the sun is off the water, so early in the morning and before dark. There are also channel catfish, carp, trout and steelhead in the river but rarely caught, especially that time of the year. We're limiting this outing to 12 members total; that means 10 others, plus Renee and me. The smaller number will allow us enough room to spread out and fish and not be on top of one another. You need to contact Tim soon to reserve a spot if you want to attend this outing. Don't just show up.

Directions: Get yourself to Cottonwood Canyon State Park, which is north on Hwy 97 and southeast of Wasco, OR, on Highway 206, about 140 miles from Bend. In the park, follow the signage to Lone Tree campground at the northeasterly end of the park next to the river. We have reserved sites 10,12 and 16. This is dry camping with no hookups or running water at the campsites. Renee and I will leave for the park on the morning of the 21st and should be there by noon. Look for our dark blue Chevy Silverado pickup with the Adventurer truck camper on it in one of the sites. Each site can accommodate several vehicles/RVs and several tents, although each additional vehicle, after the first one, pays an additional charge. Each campsite is \$14 per night and we reserved them for 2 nights. Four persons per campsite. Your outing fee will cover these costs.

Recommended Gear: Seems like just about any fly will draw strikes. We use dries, terrestrials, wet flies, soft hackles, steamers, small poppers and other bass flies. Rods that are 3 wt up to 6 wt are suitable in your preferred length. The smallmouth aren't leader-shy and a 6 foot length of leader/tippet is plenty. You need a current Oregon fishing license.

Additional Info: Renee and I are planning to feed you one dinner (21st) and one breakfast (23rd), so we have some carved-out social time together. You may be asked to help with meal preparation. We aren't vegans. Your outing fee will cover the cost of food for these two meals.

It can still be really warm there during the daytime, there isn't a lot of shade, but this is wet wading and the sun goes behind the hills and it cools off in the evening.

Bring your bicycle if you want to ride up or down river further than you may want to walk. Don't ride over goathead aka puncture vine.

The park has a nice shower house, a restroom with flush toilets and other well-kept pit toilets.

We have to vacate the campsites by noonish on the 23rd, but you can stay in the park and fish on

Saturday, you just have to move out of the campground. If you think you'll want to stay more days, reserve a site sooner, rather than later, as the park has been discovered, is popular in the fall, and the campground can be filled with reservations made months in advance.

Any leftover outing fees will be donated to COF.

- TIM SCHINDELE

TJSFISHES@BENDBROADBAND.COM, 206-819-5396

CONSERVATION



The early acclimation facilities at McKay Creek.

Two salmon hatcheries are currently operated in the Deschutes Basin. One hatchery is operated by Federal FWS and the Confederated Tribes at Warm Springs on the Warm Springs river. The other hatchery is located below Lake Simtustus by PGW and ODFW. In 2010 20,000 chinook smolts were released. Now in 2023 the Chinook smolt releases total 100,000 fish.

The hatchery located on the Warm Springs river allows wild salmon to spawn naturally above the facility in the Warm Springs River.

The hatchery operated by PGW and ODFW (Round Butte Hatchery) is attempting to restore a naturally spawning salmon population in the three rivers (Metolius, Deschutes and Crooked) above Lake Billy Chinook. Smolts are now reared at The Round Butte Hatchery, Wizard Falls Hatchery and Fall River Hatchery. Last month I talked about a study that released a small number of steelhead and Chinook smolts near Prineville on the Crooked River. Survival of these small number of smolts was poor. Most of the smolts released by the PGE hatchery are released from the Round Butte Hatchery into the Deschutes River. Some of the smolts reared by the PGE hatchery are acclimated to the three rivers above Lake Billy Chinook in the hopes of re-establishing a naturally spawning population of Chinook in the rivers above

Lake Billy Chinook.

The release point for the the Chinook smolts are #1 Opal Springs and #2 Mc Kay Creek on the Crooked River, #3 Camp Polk in the Deschutes River Drainage and at the #4 Wizard Falls Hatchery on the Metolius River. Some smolts are also released near the SWW facility near the Roun Butte Dam in Lake Billy Chinook. A small number of smolts were acclimated and released into the head of the three rivers in Lake Billy Chinook. The naturally spawning fish are exposed to predators for their entire life from egg to smolt. It is hoped the instincts learned by these fish help them to avoid predators on the trip from smolt to ocean and back to spawning locations. The presence of these “wild” fish in the Warm Springs system is part of the reason for the success of this hatchery in the past. Establishing this naturally spawning population is important to managers of the PGE hatchery.

This is a summary of the first presentation at the PGE fish conference by Rebekah Burchell.

Next month I will talk about the plans to expand the PGE and ODFW hatchery below Lake Simtustus.

- TOM SHUMAN
CONSERVATION@COFLYFISHERS.ORG



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WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Fishing East Lake

Wild Women hosted an outing to East Lake in August, right in the middle of our smoke invasion. We were lucky and hit a decent day. The smoke lifted and we had blue sky! Everyone caught fish, some more than others. Tim Quinton's strategy was to walk the shore and he was successful on terrestrials and a purple haze. Purple was a hit, Liz Jones caught on purple leech pattern and the Jeff Perin beetle. A good callibaetis hatch happened in the morning and fish were rising. While it may be smoky in town often it can be clear up on the lakes. Be sure to look at your favorite fly shop fishing reports or call the shop to get the latest information. Hope to see y'all on the water sometime soon.

- SUE COYLE
WILDWOMEN@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

EDUCATION

Winter Fly Tying, 2024

Starting to lay out the groundwork for In Person COF WFT-2024. Tuesday evenings, January - March at Larkspur Community Center (the updated Senior Center) in Bend. Lining up the venue, starting to think about flies and Presenters. And what worked, and didn't work, last year.

Sherry Steele is doing the same for her hybrid Zoom/in person classes from COFTG (Central Oregon Fly Tyers Guide), with her hybrid portion begun Saturdays in August and continuing through September, out of Sisters. coflytyersguild@gmail.com

What did work last Winter was approx. 10 people attending the Basic Skills classes in January, and the 25 people who registered for the regular Winter Fly Tying classes in February and March. We had a strong slate of Presenters with a good range of solid fishing flies, fine volunteer support (especially Bob

Shimane and Doug Cronin, but several others as well), and a good supply of materials. We also got a very generous boost from Oregon Council of FFI, with their substantial financial support of our efforts. Their \$1500 donation covered the Larkspur room rental costs, sparing that hit on COF coffers, freeing up money for our other projects. Unfortunately, we can't just keep up the drain on ORCFFI.

What did not work was 1) only a few of the Basic Skills attendees got enough tying practice (most tying only during the actual classes, not at home) to enable them to participate in WFT. Learning to tie flies requires real time commitment, and lots of practice. 2) About half of those registered for WFT actually showed up for classes, leading to mismatches in materials, venue, and showing a lack of participation to the Presenters who donated their valuable time.

The problems are being worked on. To encourage stronger commitment, it seems it's going to be necessary for a \$30 fee for the four Basic Skills classes, and a \$60 fee for the 8 Winter Fly Tying classes. It's pretty straightforward, if there aren't enough Members interested in tying, we can't justify the expenses to COF. Not to the membership, the volunteers, the finances required to provide it, or to the Presenters. Just straightforward choices of resource allocation. More details to follow.

- JOHN HOWARD
WINTERFLYTYING@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

Kokanee Karnival

We still need several more volunteers at each site for the Fall Streamside program. Another excellent opportunity to volunteer to engage with youth. The program is scheduled for September 25, 26, 28 & 29, 2023. The Fall Streamside program will be conducted at two locations: Sheep Bridge and Metolius Pond. We are expecting twelve 5th grade classes to participate. At each site, the students engage in aquatic insect collection/identification, water quality and fish life cycle. They also have the opportunity to see Kokanee spawning and observe Redds. Each site needs 7 to 10 helpers to assist the students (no experience necessary). As I have indicated in the past, one of the critical missions of

COF is to engage with youth. The Fall Streamside program provides COF members the opportunity to ensure that the next generation understands the importance of our natural resources.

Please contact me at fcholick@gmail.com if you are available to volunteer.

- FRED CHOLICK
FCHOLICK@GMAIL.COM

- JEN LUKE
JENNIFER.A.LUKE@ODFW.OREGON.GOV

NEXT CAST FLYFISHERS

Central Oregon Daily News: 'Age of Kage': Bend Teen Helps Us Win Fly Fishing Gold, Takes 2nd Individually

A Bend teenager is home from Europe after helping Team USA win the gold medal in the International Youth Fly Fishing Competition.

Kage Kossler has two medals hanging around his neck — one team gold medal and one silver medal for his individual second place finish in the toughest fly fishing competition in the world.

How does a young man who just returned from five days of intense competition against the best youth fly fishers in the world wind down?

He goes fishing.

"Everything was working. It felt like nothing could go wrong. We had the right patterns. We had the good beats. Within an hour of my first session I had enough fish to win," Kage said. "It felt freeing. There was no pressure. We knew we had won. It was just individual."

In competitive fishing, each fish an angler catches, regardless of species, is measured and released. The total length of all the fish caught is tallied and that determines the winner.

Kage came within three centimeters of winning the individual competition.

"It was cool to go like that with one of my best friends and teammate, Drew. In three different sessions if I had one more fish, it would have been me. But I'm sure it would have been the same thing for him. He lost plenty of fish as well. It's just good the way it

went down.”

Kage’s father, Ian, traveled with the team to Bosnia to support the anglers during the five day competition. He describes the experience as an extended proud dad moment.

“I’ve been watching him competition fish for a long time,” Ian said. “To see the maturity that’s come with it... he was never nervous or flurried. He was calm, cool, collected. When he’s like that he’s dangerous and he proved it.”

Kage has one more year of eligibility with the U.S. Youth Fly Fishing Team and is looking forward to competing next year in the Czech Republic. After that he’s thinking about competing in the adult division.

“I definitely want to work in the fly fishing industry moving forward. I think this will be a great thing to be on my resume as far as places I’ve been and things I’ve seen,” Kage said.

Kage encourages other young anglers to consider competitive fly fishing for the learning opportunities and the friendships.

He invites those who are curious to know more to contact him on his Instagram page, appropriately titled “The Age of Kage.” He credits his grandmother for the title.

Check out the video [HERE](#).

- BROOKE SNAVELY
CENTRAL OREGON DAILY NEWS

OTHER NEWS

BBQ Recap

Hello Members, this year, it was my pleasure to lead the COF Annual BBQ; I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I wish to thank everyone who attended the event, brought their delicious side dishes and desserts, and helped with the set-up, take-down, and worked to ensure the event was a success.

If you were not able to attend, we missed you! I hope you will consider attending the event next year. This year, we added smoked, grilled pork loin, roasted corn-on-the-cob, salmon filets, grilled vegetable kabobs, sliced iced Hermiston watermelons, and the usual hamburgers and hot dogs. Next year, by default, we will have hot dogs and hamburgers, but we will also expand the grilled seafood, chicken, and vegetarian options, so stay tuned.

In closing, with the Board of Director’s permission,

I look forward to presenting the event next year.

- MARK J. HAMILTON
AUGUSTBBQ@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Our New Members

Bill Ballard - Bend

Victoria Gettel - Bend

Central Oregon Flyfishers counts 277 members.

- ROBERT SHIMANE
MEMBERSHIP@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

COF CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: NEARLY BRAND-NEW SIMMS FREESTONE STOCKINGFOOT WADER. Men’s XL short. \$200 OBO, Worn just 3 days! call Debbie. 503-510-2767



FOR SALE: WENONAH SPIRIT STANDARD SLIDER 17’ CANOE. Great condition! Stored in garage. Includes two paddles. \$1750 cash only. (503) 780-2014



FOR SALE: 12' FLYCRAFT STEALTH BOAT WITH GEAR RACK, 12' RAFT TRAILER \$3500.

Honda 2.3 hp motor \$1000. Easy launch at shallow lakes, drift WS to TC. 541-588-214, 619-241-1589



FOR SALE: FISH CAT COUGAR PONTOON BOAT. \$450. This pontoon boat is in excellent condition and has been used very little. One of the main features of the Cougar boat is that it features a quad pontoon design

which increases load capacity, stability, tracking and offers less wind resistance than other pontoon boats. This feature allows it to float in as little as 3" of water. The pontoons are 8 feet in length and it has 7'4" oars. It has a 10 piece aluminum frame which makes for compact storage and easy transport. It has saddle bags on each side of the seat for lots of storage. Jack Patterson, jfpat44@gmail.com, 541-941-4156



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 by the end of the third week of each month. - CLASSIFIEDS@COFLYFISHERS.ORG



TLF CADDIS DEER HAIR EMERGER

BY JERRY CRISS

As I write this the smoke again is moving in and out as the winds change, and the weather is predicted to still be on the warmer side, so be careful when on the water. Sunscreen and even a mask might be in order. The water conditions are still good the bug life is still out there and the fish are still hungry, so go have fun.

The fly this month is an emerging Caddis, it is one of those flies that can bring fish up even without much a hatch going on. It rides deep in the surface, but with the deer hair wing it floats very well. The pattern I have tied has light green mono eyes and antennae; these are not required to have the pattern work. I like the look and in some case like still water, they can make a difference.

The flies are fished on dry lines, Stillwater; I like long leaders, (12 to 18 feet) and lite (5X and 6X) tippets. In the Rivers; I like a leader no longer than (10 to 12 feet). Use a paste or liquid floatant on the wing, we want this fly to just lie in the surface film. On Stillwater use very slow strips, 2 to 3 inches, also let the fly drift with the wind currents, when the wind is up. On Rivers look for those slow seams just outside the main currents, a quick 2-inch strip can bring up a fish or two.

MATERIALS

Hook: #10 to #16 curved light wire hook, Fullingmill FM50 65 hook. Note: I like the Fullingmill hooks, great hook gaps and they are sharp.

Eyes: Green mono with burnt ends.

Thread: 8/0 to 14/0 color to match the hatch.

Body: Tan, light green, to light orange Seal fur or substitute to match the hatch.

Ribbing: Brown thread or brown stretch floss.

Wing case: Pheasant tail, natural, burnt orange or yellow

Wing: Deer Hair light in color. Note: shorter the wing imitates the emerger, the longer the wing imitates more of the egg layer.

Legs: Mallard, natural or tan in color.

Thorax: Dark brown sea fur or substitute to match the hatch.

Antennae: Teal or brown mallard barbs.

Head: Thread

TYING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Start the thread just behind the hook eye with a few wraps towards the hook bend, tie in the eyes leaving a good hook eye width between the eyes and hook eye. Need the room to tie off the wing case.
2. Wrap thread back to the bend of the hook tying in the ribbing material as you go and stop a third of the way down the back of the bend of the hook.
3. Now dub the thread and wrap the body material forward leaving a gap behind the eyes for the wing and thorax. Bring the ribbing forward and tie off at the end of the body.
4. Tie in the wing case just in front of the body and take thread wraps back to put the wing case against the body.

5. Take a small amount of deer hair and stack it, then cut it to length, (with the butt ends just reaching the back of the eyes. Tye it in keeping the stack on the top of the hook shank. Bring the thread back to land the wing in front of the wing case.

6. Take a mallard feather and cut out the tip, spread open the V and use maybe 4 to 5 fibers each side, lay the V on top against the wings and tye it in pulling the legs down just a bit. Length of legs to the end of the body.

7. Dud the thread tight with the thorax material and wrap forward covering the thread wraps of the wing, legs and the eyes stopping with two wraps in front of the eyes.

8. Spread the wings apart and bring the wing

case forward between them and the eyes and tye off in front of the eyes. Note: you can protect the wing case with resin or hard as nails, your choice.

9. Tye in the antennae laying them back over the wings and spreading them out just a little to the middle of the wings. Finish with a neat head.

- JERRY CRISS
541-536-3581, TLFY44@MSN.COM



SEPTEMBER 2023 UPSTREAM EVENTS

DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
Septemb11	WWW at Confluence Fly Shop, Old Mill District	
September 20	COF General Meeting @ 6:00pm	
September 21-23	John Day River Outing	tjsfishes@bendbroadband.com
September 25, 26, 28 & 29	Fall Streamside Program	
September 28th	COF Board meeting @ 6:00, Abbey's.	

In the Future

DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
October 23rd	COF Board Retreat at 1:00 at Fred Cholick's house 2252 NW Fernie Ct, Bend.	
April 22, 23, 25, 26, 29, & 30, 2024	Spring Clinic	



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