Random Casts - Moving On!

The Central Oregon Flyfishers are moving to new quarters! Starting with the March 16 general meeting, we will be meeting in the new Bend Senior Center at 1600 SE Reed Market Road. The meeting time will remain the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM, with the social beginning at 6:30 PM. We ended the year at 220 members and our renewal numbers are ahead of last year at this time. Those who attended the excellent presentation by John Judy at the January meeting could see the problem. We were out of room and then some! The new location will give us room to expand, add new venues, have air conditioning in the summer months, plenty of lighted parking, and easy access from the Bend Parkway. There is also a full kitchen available if we need it. The Board of Realtors has been great to work with, but it is time to take the next step.

There are a number of volunteer opportunities described in the newsletter, plus a wide range of training classes. Please step forward and get involved. That effort is what makes COF prosper. Also, put down February 26 on your calendar, and plan to attend the banquet. Mike Bailey has rounded up a wide range of items and trips for the raffle and silent auction. We appreciate all of you who contribute to our fund raising banquet.

February Program

Born in Paris, France, Judith O'Keefe fished with her dad as a young girl growing up in Northern California. But it wasn't until she met her husband, Brian O'Keefe, in 1993 that her interest in the sport was rekindled. Brian and Judith have spent countless hours driving the back roads of the Northwest looking for the next interesting spot to fish. They have also explored the Bahamas and Nicaragua, stalking bonefish, permit and tarpon, and she has logged some serious time on the Baja's Pacific and Eastern coasts. She has also spent time in the backcountry of Alaska, fishing for giant trout and salmon, and most recently enjoyed fishing the beautiful chalk streams in England.

This month's program will be a wonderful pictorial essay on her recent trip to the Bahamas. Judith will be dazzling us with some great photos of this bonefish trip entitled "Hunting for Bonefish by Canoe".
Happy Anniversaries COF and KK!

On Saturday evening, February 26th, a special Anniversaries Banquet will be held to celebrate the 25th birthday of the COF and the 10th of Kokanee Karnival! Mark your calendar, send in your banquet registration (see attached form) and join your friends in Aspen Hall at Shevlin Park at 6:00 PM for an evening of celebration.

After a social hour, BYOB with set ups and an array of appetizers provided, a delicious dinner of BBQ tri-tip and chicken with all the fixings will be served at 7:15 PM. Gene Trump, a nationally recognized outdoor writer, photographer, illustrator and cartoonist will entertain us. After the annual awards presentation, bucket raffles and the famous COF silent auction will wrap up. Seating is limited to 96, so be sure to get your reservation in the mail for receipt by February 15th to qualify for the special "Early Bird" drawing.

To ensure that we have plenty of great items for the silent auction, please consider a donation to build our inventory. A box of flies you have tied, a nice fly rod you no longer use, an offer to take someone to your "secret" fishing spot, a handmade craft, etc. This banquet is important as it is the COF's major annual fund raising event.

Support the COF and the KK, enjoy a fun evening with friends, dine heartily, be the lucky bidder on those items you really have your eye on, and we will see you in Aspen Hall on the 26th.

Kid's Fish Pond Volunteers Needed!

March is fast approaching, and with that comes the Central Oregon Sportsman’s Show. Once again, COF has been ask to operate the Kid’s Fishing Pond, so volunteers are needed. But, there is even more than that this year! Along with the fishing pond, COF has committed to join with the American Fly Fishing Tackle Association (AFFTA) in manning a "Discover Fly Fishing" booth. AFFTA members will have primary responsibility for the booth, but we will be assisting in giving some basic fly casting and fly tying information to visitors. This joint program will be a national effort between the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), FFF affiliated clubs such as the COF, and members of AFFTA. We will also be promoting and selling COF and FFF memberships. That is all on top of the money To-Ro Enterprises donates to COF for operating the pond, and the free passes we get for volunteering. Last year we received $1200, all of which went to Kokanee Karnival.

We will have another sign-up sheet at the February meeting so you can get on the free pass list for the show or, if you cannot make the meeting, you can give Keith Davis a call at 322-6980 or e-mail him at kdavis@coinet.com. Here is the schedule that we will use for both the pond and the booth:

**COF 2005 Annual Fly Tying Expo**

Mark your calendars for this year’s Tying Expo on February 19th at the Bend River Mall. Tying starts at 10AM and will go to about 4PM. A big thank you goes to the Bend River Mall for allowing us to hold the event in their building free of charge and with supplying all the tiers with tables and chairs. As usual, G.I Joes has graciously agreed to be the sponsor for this event. Each year they donate a very nice item for public raffle and an item for the “Kids Table” while also printing the flyers, which should be out soon at all the local shops. Also, each year the local shops have come through in force to donate time and tiers in a big way. Take a look at the line up:

- Central Oregon Out.  Steve Light, David Merrick
- Fly and Field  Scott Cook, Russ Seaton
- G.I. Joes  Gil Muhleman
- The Hook Fly Shop  Fred Foisset, Jim Dexter
- The Patient Angler  Peter Bowers
- Riffle Fly Shop  Paul Hansen, Robb Sipler, Dyan Casaday
- Sunriver Fly Shop  Phil Brummet
- Jordan Behrens, Dan Driskill, Dave Dunahay, Earl Rettig, Wes Wada and Carl Sanders from our very own Central Oregon Flyfishers will be tying many of their own patterns.

www.coflyfishers.org
This has been a great event for us in the past, and is sure to please this year. Whether you want to learn to tie or get your kids tying, find that new local pattern, or get answers to any questions you may have about tying, this is your chance. Last year we had an estimated 200 people come through and watch the tiers in action. Very often you can get to see personal patterns of the tiers. Patterns that you can’t find in the shop’s bins and that are specific for fish you’ve been targeting whether it be Bones in Belize, Bulls on the Metolius or Redsides on the Deschutes. So gather your friends and family and make it a day of tying and shopping. See you there.

Welcome New Members!

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

Bill Mills
Andrew Wood
Jerry Criss

COF Fly of the Month

Trout to oneself in winter as insects drift by: “Burrrrr… BWO… BWO… midge… midge… what’s this, a meal worth moving for?!” On warmer days from about January until April, the little brown stonefly (AKA winter stone, black stone, early brown stonefly) can offer up some nice opportunities to take some hungry trout. These little stoneflies are the Big Macs of winter surface activity on many Central Oregon streams and rivers. They have a nymphal life similar to other more famous stoneflies. The nymphs are not that available to fish unless they are washed downstream while working their way to the edges for emergence. Unlike their cousins though, you will not find these stones in large swarms over the water. After mating on land, the females will sporadically lay eggs throughout the day. Dipping and fluttering on the surface of the water, they become very accessible to fish. Even though most of this activity takes place in slack water near the shore, they are not the most coordinated and often get stuck in the water surface and pulled under. That is why I like this fly. It is dual purpose. First, land it light for short drifts a couple of times fishing it as a dry, then with a little tug, fish as a wet just under the surface. Pick it up, make a few false casts, and start over. It is simple to tie. Tie it in colors ranging from brown to black.

Wet/Dry Winter Stone

Top View

Profile View

Hook: TMC 2312, #12-#14
Thread: brown 6/0
Butt: grey superfine dubbing (experiment)
Abdomen: STS Trilobal dubbing dark brown to black
Thorax: STS Trilobal dubbing to match abdomen
Overwing: Mottled grey Medallion Sheeting strip
Underwing: CDC puff (1-2)
Legs (optional): CDC fibers pulled to the sides from underwing

Directions: Lay some thread and form a small ball of super fine dubbing for a “hot butt.” Experiment with colors here – it is an attractor option. Dub the body ¾ of the hook length. Tie in, at the center of the strip, a ¼” wide strip of Medallion sheeting right behind the hook eye. You should have two even length pieces hanging over the eye of the hook. Tie in a CDC puff or two (depending on how much float you want) extending back. To form the legs, sweep a few CDC fibers from the underwing forward with your fingers and dub a ball in the front quarter of the fly. End your thread at the rear of this ball. One at a time, bring the sheeting strips back over the dubbed ball and tie them down. Try to form a flat overlapped crossing pattern as seen in the top
Cut to length and round off the edges. Tie off where you tied down the sheeting behind the ball.

**Wild Women of the Water**

**Wednesday - February 2 - 6:00 PM**

**The Hook Fly Shop, Sunriver, 57100 Mall Dr.**

The spring-fed Fall River offers year-round fishing opportunities, but the crystal clear water can present challenges. Fred Foisset, owner of The Hook Fly Shop, will give a slide presentation on fishing the Fall River. Join us at Fred’s shop, and learn about safe access points, tips and techniques.

Meet at 5:00 PM in the Southeast corner of the Albertson’s parking lot to carpool (Albertson’s on Highway 97 South, across from WalMart). We will leave promptly at 5:15 PM.

Please RSVP to Delores at ladyd@bendcable.com or Terri at sonata@teleport.com.

(If we need to cancel this meeting because of nasty weather and hazardous driving conditions, we need to know who to call.).

**Single Hand Spey Casting Class**

As spey casting grows in popularity among steelheaders, more fishermen are discovering the advantages of using these same techniques with smaller, single hand rods for trout. Central Oregon Fly Fishing member John Judy is writing a book about this cutting edge subject, and will teach you how to use these one handed spey techniques during a full day class on the Crooked River. Here is the scoop:

- **Class:** Spey Casting with small rods for trout
- **Class level:** A knowledge of basic casts is preferred (no complete novices)
- **Date/Time:** Friday, March 25, 2005 between 9 AM and 3 PM.
- **Location:** At a site, to be determined on the Deschutes River
- **Content:** Learn basic Spey casts and how to use them to fish difficult situations and places where back casts are limited.
- **Cost:** $25.00, to be paid when you enroll in the class.
- **Class size:** Maximum 8 members.
- **Equipment:** Trout rods you would normally use for small river trout (1 to 5 weight rods), double taper preferred, but you may use a weight forward floating line. You should bring your own lunch, sunglasses, warm clothing, tippet material and flies.

**Enrollment:** Call Steve Iverson at 548-4788 or send your email to: lounstev@msn.com. You will be officially enrolled when we receive payment.

**OCFFF VP of Conservation (Projects) Sought!**

Mike Beagle has recently tendered his resignation as the VP of Conservation (Projects) for the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fisher. If you feel you would have the zeal to coordinate habitat and conservation projects for the Council and the Council clubs, and are ready to serve the FFF, contact Phil Hager at flyfishingphil@yahoo.com and he will put you in touch with the right folks.

**Volunteers Needed!**

**Blitzen Restoration Planting Project**

- **Who:** Malheur Wildlife Associates, ODFW-STEP Volunteers and other volunteers, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
- **What:** Blitzen Restoration Tree/Shrub Planting Project
- **When:** March 10 – 15, 2005
- **Where:** Along lower Blitzen River on north end of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge
- **Why:** Read on ………

In the fall of 2002, Alice Elshoff presented a restoration project proposal to the Central Oregon Flyfishers on behalf of the Malheur Wildlife Associates (MWA), the “friends” group for the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. This proposal was to initiate a long-term riparian tree/shrub restoration effort, complementing previous improvements to restore natural stream function along the Blitzen River channel. The goal was to “put the system back together” by stabilizing the Blitzen River’s streambanks, improving the riparian condition and its related watershed values, and increasing habitat diversity for all wildlife species.

The Blitzen River is famous for the uniquely adapted redband trout that rear in Malheur Lake and spawn in the upper headwaters of the Blitzen, Little Blitzen, Bridge, and Mud creeks. COF members are well aware of these beautiful fish, the angling challenges they represent, and were supportive of the proposed restoration efforts. The organization committed a number of volunteer hours to
assist with the tree/shrub planting efforts scheduled for March of 2003.

For a number of reasons, the project did not move forward as expected, and COF heard no more from MWA about dates for the project. Chief among these reasons was a rethinking about which plant stocks to use for the project. Refuge staff and MWA decided to delay the project long enough to develop a line of in-basin native plant materials.

Several years ago, MWA volunteers created a clone bed of trees and shrubs from the refuge and nearby areas. The idea was to create a source of native plant material from which cuttings are taken and planted. To provide enough cuttings for the proposed restoration effort, more time was needed for the parent stock to produce sufficient growth. The clone bed has enjoyed considerable success in growing native cottonwoods, red-osier dogwood, and willows. Experimental plantings of native blue elderberry were added to the clone bed in 2004.

Early efforts to outplant the whips were not as successful as hoped because those planted close enough to the river to get their roots into the water table tended to wash out in the spring, and those planted far enough back from the edge to survive high flows didn’t survive the lowered water table of late summer.

To remedy this problem the whips were allowed to grow for at least 2 years, reaching lengths of 6 – 10 feet. And, instead of using planting rods or shovels, the refuge invested in several water jet stingers to drill deeper holes for planting the whips along the river. The stinger uses a water jet to make a deep, small diameter hole to plant the whips, getting them deep enough so developing roots reach water during summer low flow conditions.

The new “crop” of native Blitzen willow whips will be ready to plant soon. A concerted effort to accomplish this task is scheduled for March 10-15, 2005. The timeline is tied to getting the whips in the ground while they are still dormant.

MWA has joined forces with ODFW’s STEP program for this effort, and it is hoped COF’s commitment to help with the project can be rekindled.

The March 10 – 15 time span, Thursday through Tuesday, allows a variety of date possibilities for potential volunteers. You can pick and choose the day or days you wish to help. Planting sites are close to Refuge headquarters where housing options are available for up to 10 –15 people in the bunkhouses. Showers and a full kitchen for cooking are also part of the bunkhouse amenities. A few RV sites with hook-ups are available and there is room for RV dry camping without hookups. Plans to provide at least part of the meals are underway. More information will follow as it becomes available.

And for super hard workers, how does a tour "behind locked gates" on the refuge sound?

Since the original work was planned, the scope of the restoration effort has expanded. Appropriate varieties of rooted fruit-bearing shrubs like serviceberry, silverleaf buffaloberry, snowberry, black hawthorn, chokecherry, and Wood’s rose will be planted with the willows along the river and in some of the meadow and upland areas. In addition, MWA has purchased 100 rooted snowberry bushes for planting along the river. Although the root stock species were not cultivated in the clone bed, appropriate varieties were carefully chosen for their suitability to the area.

Willow and dogwood whips will be planted during the March planting while the root stock plantings will occur in April. Plan on using the water jet stingers to plant the willow and dogwood whips but the root stock must be planted the old-fashioned way with shovels. Volunteers are needed for both efforts.

Consider gathering some friends together or come alone for the entire time or only a day. Plans are to run at least four teams each day …. cutting, hauling, drilling, placing poles, and closing the holes. PLEASE let us know by phone or e-mail so we can schedule full crews for the entire time.

March weather in the Harney Basin can vary from warm and balmy to cold and windy. Plan layered clothing options. Although not usually a problem, the stinger operation has the potential to be a wet, messy business and navigating parts of the Refuge in March can be a damp affair. Rain gear and hip boots or waders are suggested for your comfort, although it is probably not a good idea to bring your best gear. Some hip boots in a variety of sizes will be available for loan.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Alice Elshoff, 541-495-2322 or calice@highdesertair.com. We’ll look forward to seeing you on the Blitzen in March, and maybe in April, too.
Fish Eggs to Fry

On February 15, volunteers will deliver fish eggs to 23 local classrooms at 19 different schools. Three of these classrooms are receiving eggs and participating in this activity for the first time. Teachers have found this project to be so helpful for students that several classrooms within the same school now participate in the project.

Volunteers can step into a classroom with confidence thanks to Jen Bock’s volunteer training session. The session covered topics such as setting up the aquarium and chiller, answering questions that students frequently ask, and much more. Jen also displayed some of the items that will become part of the new Kokanee Karnival Traveling Trunk that teachers and volunteers can use.

We can still use a couple additional volunteers with cars who are willing to help deliver eggs to classrooms. Contact Terri Grimm at 318-0567.

Classroom Fish Dissection

Tom Walker of the US Forest Service/Deschutes National Forest heads up the classroom Fish Dissection Project and needs additional volunteers in order to support the 18-20 participating classrooms. Dissections are scheduled in April and May so please contact Tom Walker at 383-4787 if you are interested. Tom will put together a training session for new volunteers.

Aquatic and Angler Ed. Instructor Training

For the Kokanee Karnival Angler Education classroom project, Certified Angler Education Instructors visit classrooms and conduct angler education training for students. This training session is your opportunity to become a Certified Angler Education Instructor! It’s easy, it’s great fun, it’s free, and it’s one way to make a difference for our local children. The training will take place at Aspen Hall in Shevlin Park on March 26 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Lunch and beverages will be provided. Contact Bob Mullong (aka Capt. Caddis) at 389-4372.

Angling Clinic Experience

This event scheduled for April 26-29 is designed for the fourth and fifth grade classrooms enrolled in KK at the Comprehensive Level. A total of eight classrooms will participate over a four-day period and will spend the morning learning about such topics as Fish Biology/Care of the Catch, Angling Equipment, Water Safety, Knot Tying, Casting and more. After a hearty lunch, served by the Sunriver Anglers, the kids will fish in a well-stocked Shevlin Pond. This activity is the highlight and culmination of the program for the year, and it is great fun, but we need many volunteers, especially to help coach the kids while they fish in the afternoon. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available so you can come and help supervise the fishing or come and learn how to teach one of the many classes. It’s easy and all on-the-job training. Contact Terri Grimm at 318-0567 with your interests.

Program Manual

The KK Program Manual has been completed, and special thanks go to Terri Grimm for driving this difficult project to completion and to all the program volunteers who provided their input. Funding for this effort was provided by the Juan Young Trust in Portland, and we sincerely appreciate their support. We also want to thank the Bend-La Pine Public School Print Shop for providing their printing services for such a nominal fee.

Banquet Reservation

Please complete the following, attach your check for $20 per person, and mail to COF at PO Box 1126, Bend, Oregon 97709. We need a headcount for the caterer, and those who pay by February 15th will be entered in a special “early bird” prize drawing.

Name ____________________________________________________________

Spouse/Guest(s) ________________________________________________

Mailing Address _________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ___________________________________________________

Telephone ________________________ Amount enclosed @ $20 per person ________
The following information is used in the roster. Include all contact data and other interests that you wish to have appear in the roster. Print legibly using block letters, all caps.

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EMAIL ADDRESS

How do you want to receive the COF monthly newsletter? E-mail saves big $$ (Check one.)

____ Email    ____ US Postal Service

Why did you join COF? (Check all that apply. List other interests on reverse.)

____ Acquire more knowledge   ____ Find fishing partner   ____ Volunteer for projects   ____ Improve technique   ____ Social functions

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

SIGNED BY  ... NAME  MONTH    DAY    YEAR

X

SIGNATURE

LIABILITY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

As a condition of membership or of participation in any activity encouraged or publicized by The Central Oregon Flyfishers, I voluntarily assume all risks of my participation. In acknowledgement that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility, I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators agree to remise, fully release, hold harmless, and forever discharge The Central Oregon Flyfishers, all its officers, board members and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury to me or my property that may occur from any cause whatsoever while participating in any such COF activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this hold harmless and release agreement, and fully understand that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waiving any right I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against The Central Oregon Flyfishers for its negligence.

I have read the above statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in The Central Oregon Flyfishers.

X

SIGNATURE

DUES SCHEDULE

Memberships are renewable on January 1 of each year. New members joining prior to June 1 shall pay a full year’s dues of $36. New members joining after June 1 shall pay a prorated amount according to the chart below. New members who reside outside Deschutes County shall pay $12.

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RETURN THIS FORM Mail or deliver this form and your check payable to The Central Oregon Flyfishers to the membership chairman. Forms unaccompanied by dues payment or that lack signature, name, or date on the liability release statement are considered invalid and will be returned to sender.

The Central Oregon Flyfishers
Membership Chairman
PO Box 1126
Bend, OR 97709
UPSTREAM EVENTS – 2005

February:
2  Wild Women of the Water, The Hook Fly Shop, Delores Marsh
3  COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay
9, 23  Metolius Redd Counts
16  COF General Membership Meeting, Judith O’Keefe Slideshow, Bone Fishing in Baja
19  KK Fish Eggs to Fry, Terri Grimm
19  COF Fly Tying Expo, Bend River Mall, Carl Sanders
26  COF Banquet, Earl Rettig
1, 8, 15, 22  Tuesday Fly Tying, Carl Sanders

March:
3  COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay
3-6  Central Oregon Sportsmen’s Show, Kid’s Fishing Pond, Keith Davis
10-15  Blitzen River Restoration Planting Project
16  COF General Membership Meeting, What KK Means to Me / The Good Gear Guide
19  Outing, Metolius River, Harry Harbin
26  Class, Single Handed Spey Casting by John Judy, Steve Iverson
26  FFF Fly Tying Expo, Eugene

April:
7  COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay
11  Class, Solving Common Casting Problems, Jeff Perrin, Carl Cavallo
18  Class, Solving Common Casting Problems for Women Only, Jeff Perrin, Carl Cavallo
20  COF General Membership Meeting, Scott Cook, Bass on the Fly in Central Oregon
21  Outing, Haystack Reservoir
23  Class, Advanced Casting Instruction, Fred Foisset, Ron Anderson
26-29  Kokanee Karnival Spring Angling Clinic
30  Class, Stillwater Fishing Clinic, Fred Foisset, Ron Anderson

Note: For a complete calendar for the year, see Upstream Events on www.coflyfishers.org