Random Cast

I hope you have been out fishing more than I have in the past month. It’s been cold, but many members have reported good success in the traditional spots for this time of year. I like to get out during the week when I can, but January is my busiest month at work. Recent weekends have been spent skiing and building up a reservoir of good will with my wife and family that I hope to soon start tapping into once again. I’ve blocked out a couple of days on the calendar to get on the water over the next couple of weeks; I hope they stick.

Your new 2008 board has already met a couple of times and we have hit the ground running. With all of our main activities going strong and some new items thrown into the mix, 2008 looks to be another good year for the club. While we’re fully staffed, we can always use help. Many activities require volunteers. Some board members have been volunteering time for many years now and hope to transition out at the end of the year.

This club has been a wonderful asset to many of us. If you’re not already involved with the club, think about volunteering for an activity mentioned in this newsletter. Also, think about coming to a board meeting; they’re always open. At board meetings, you can see how the club functions, and the meetings are a great way to get to know members.

As you all know, this newsletter is a wonderful asset of the club. If you have an idea for an article, or, better yet, want to submit an article, please contact Terri Grimm, the newsletter editor. Articles (and photos) about fishing and fishing- or club-related activities are welcome.

Our annual banquet is just two months away—March 29. Put this date on your calendars and plan to attend this fun evening. It’s the main fundraiser for the club, but most importantly, it’s a way to share a good meal and conversation with your fellow club members. You can also get some spectacular deals on fishing equipment. A couple of years ago, I put $20 worth of tickets into a raffle and walked out with a new, 6-weight, 9.5 foot Winston rod that is worth at least $600. It has become my favorite nymphing rod. A great deal is waiting for you too.

Yancy Lind
GENERAL MEETING

Digital Photography
February 20, 2008, 6:30 p.m.
Bend Senior Center, 1600 SE Reed Market Road, Bend

Eugene resident and photographer, Peter Patri-cell, will talk about the digital revolution in photography and what it means at the streamside. Patri-cell will compare digital and film photography.

June meeting
June 11, 2008, 6:30 p.m.
Bend Senior Center, 1600 SE Reed Market Road, Bend

To accommodate members who plan to attend the annual trip to British Columbia, the general meeting for June will be held on June 11 (the second Wednesday of the month), NOT June 18.

EDUCATION

Wondering what to do with those sticks?

I know that a lot of folks in the club ordered one of those incredibly inexpensive rod kits from the FFF. And if they have never assembled a rod before, it seems that even a giveaway price is a lot of money for a few shiny sticks in a plastic bag. If this is your situation, I have the solution for you!

The first of our club rod-building classes has already been filled, but for those of you who already own these kits, we will try to schedule an additional class or classes to turn these kits into real fishing rods. Several of the kits that I have seen actually contain blanks for rods that sold for $625 back in 2004 or 2005, so they are not “el cheapos”, and should be quality rods when completed.

We will be offering these classes in three lessons, and for a $25 fee we will furnish the epoxy, thread, thread-coating epoxy, use of the club rod turners, and miscellaneous supplies that you need to complete these rods. Rod assembly is a craft that almost anyone can learn, and after assembling one, you will know a lot more about shopping for fly rods even if you never assemble another one.

The first step is to see how much demand there will be for these classes, so if you are interested, please contact Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com). Give her your e-mail address and tell her what kind of rod kit you have. We will then try to set up classes that have similar types of rods and work out a schedule that everyone can make.

Harry Harbin

Winter seminar

We are taking a new spin on our Winter Seminar this year; we are going to take advantage of the talent that will be available at the Sportsmen’s Show February 28 to March 2. COF will coordinate with the show organizers to arrange a Winter Seminar at the show, with Arnie Gidlow from Missouri Riverside Outfitters in Montana and Kelly Laatsch of St. Mary’s Angler in British Columbia.

On Thursday and Friday afternoons, February 28 and 29, there will be a program that includes lectures, fly tying, casting demos, and a casting contest. Gidlow will give two lectures: Reading and Fishing Moving Waters and Improving Your Casting Skills. (The second lecture will include some very interesting time-lapse video of common casting problems.) Laatsch will discuss fishing in Southwest British Columbia, which will be relevant to anyone who fishes the high Cascade lakes and B.C.

Gidlow will discuss how to improve your fly-tying skills by covering areas such as how to select material, how much material to use, and how to hackle properly. Laatsch will show us how to tie flies for lake fishing. Local tiers, Jerry Criss, Paul Hansen from the Riffle, and Damien Nurre and Ken Clarke from Fly and Field, will also be available. They will focus on guide flies for the Deschutes and Fall rivers and the lakes.

The casting pond will be available each day. If you would like hints on how to improve your casting skills, just go to the pond and approach any one of the guides from the represented shops and they’ll gladly work with you free of charge.

The cost for all of this will simply be the cost of admission to the show. Remember, if you volunteer for the kids fishing pond or the FFF information booth, you’ll be able to get in free. For more details, watch for the Sportsmen’s Show insert that will be in the Bulletin during February.

Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com)

OUTINGS

A contingent of 10 of our hardier members made the trek to the Crooked River on January 1 to try their luck in the icy water on a very cold day. Delores Marsh mentioned that most everyone in the group caught some fish and nearly everyone landed a rainbow sometime during the day. Bill Seitz reported that his line froze, so he had to clear off the ice several times. He still got into
some fish despite the inclement conditions. Bill mentioned that the river was uncharacteristically clear, and he held an impromptu Czech nymphing clinic—a nice benefit to all members who attended. Two new members participated in the outing, and they both reportedly caught some nice rainbows. Thank you to everyone who reported on their memorable moment of the day. What a great way to start off 2008!

**Metolius River**

Feb 6, Allen Springs Campground, 9:00 a.m.

Meet at the Allen Springs Campground on the Metolius at 9 a.m. on February 6. At this time of year, we can fish the Metolius below the Allingham Bridge. This is a catch-and-release stream that is well known for its rainbows, bull trout, and kokanee. Midges hatch all year, and there are blue-winged olives and small caddis hatches even in the winter; pack your fly box accordingly (pinch the barbs).

To reach Allen Springs Campground, take U.S. Highway 20 east through Sisters. Turn right onto County Route 14 ten miles west of Sisters and stay to the right when you come to the first fork in the road. Allen Springs Campground is marked by a sign about eight to nine miles from U.S. Highway 20.

**Ana River**

Feb 23; Meet at Jake’s Diner at 8:00 a.m.

On February 23, meet at Jake’s Diner at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast before heading south on U.S. Highway 97 past La Pine to County Route 31. Turn left on County Route 31 toward Summer Lake and proceed until you see the sign to Ana Reservoir, about 5 miles north of Summer Lake. The reservoir is about 2 miles east on the gravel road. To get to the river, you’ll drive past the boat launch, go across the dam, and go about a quarter mile to the parking area.

The Ana River flows southeast between the Ana Reservoir and Summer Lake. Due to fairly constant water temperatures, the Ana supports year-round, productive hatches. Expect hatchery trout in the six-inch to five-pound range. Watch for pocket water, but be judicious about how you approach the riffles because the fish are wary. Look for rainbows hiding in the undercut banks. Best fishing this time of year is in the early afternoon when blue-winged olives and midges tend to hatch.

If you attend an outing, please call me afterward (619-606-7400 cell) and let me know about the fishing. I want to know about members who deserve recognition for their “angling exploits”; let me know about your buddies’ most embarrassing accomplishments and those inevitable stories about lunkers that somehow eluded capture.

I have some exciting plans for outings later in the year, including a couple of multiple-day events. Stay tuned for details.

Bob Evermore

bob@poesociety.com or 619-606-7400
Kid’s fishing pond call for volunteers

Volunteers are needed to assist at the Kid’s Pond at the Sportsmen’s Show. The show dates are Thursday, February 28 through Sunday, March 2. There are two shifts on Thursday and Friday (afternoon and evening), three on Saturday (morning, afternoon and evening), and two on Sunday (morning and afternoon).

The pond is one of the most popular exhibits at the show; many kids have their first fishing experience at this pond. Show management does the heavy-duty work and sets up the pond. COF members help kids with fishing (netting, releasing, and bagging some fish). One person per shift sits at the gate and controls the number of people who enter.

Many club members volunteered at the January monthly meeting, but there are still open slots that need to be filled for each shift. Several members have signed up for multiple shifts, which really helps with scheduling. If you are able to help with multiple shifts, please let me know. Also, if you have helped with the pond in the past and are able to take the lead for a shift, please let me know.

Dave Semich
flyfshndave@webformixair.com or 382-1969

Membership renewal – don’t forget!

As of February 1, more than 150 members had paid their dues for 2008, but about 90 had not. To participate in club outings and the many other activities, including meetings, you must sign a 2008 Membership Form and pay your dues ($36.00). To help members contact each other, COF makes copies of the membership roster available for members in March. The roster includes only the names of those who have paid their dues. And, to get the early-bird price discount on COF Banquet tickets, you must be a member. So, please renew soon. You can download a membership form from the COF Web site or contact Dick Olson (383-4412).

How to send COF email notices

If you need to distribute a message to all club members, compose your message and send it by email or postal mail to Sherry Steele first. If you get a vacation notice message from Sherry, forward a copy of your email request to the next person on the list below. (To avoid duplicate mailings, copy Sherry so she knows that somebody else sent your notice.)

1. Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com)
2. Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com)
3. Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com)
4. Dick Olson (richardolson@bendbroadband.com)

News from the Oregon Council of the FFF

I attended my first Oregon Council meeting as the newly-appointed liaison to the Federation of Fly Fishers. It was interesting to experience the process first hand. Having a voice at the Council will benefit all of Central Oregon and COF. I felt more than welcome, and it was good to see some familiar faces. I believe I made some good contributions. As time goes by, the Council will realize COF is here to help, and we are a club they can depend on for help.

Tilda Runner, President, conducted the meeting and kept things moving along. It’s good to see COF headed in the same direction as the Oregon Council—renewed determination to preserve the fishing areas we have and save and expand those we have allowed to get away from us. Both organizations approach operating and attracting new members in a contemporary manner. The demographics are changing; younger members are getting involved, which will be great for both groups. We’re not operating in the dark ages; we’re just catching up with the light. We can’t allow ourselves to be overshadowed by what has always worked. If you’re my age, you know what I’m talking about. Get ready for the future; it’s here right now. Here are some highlights of the meeting:

1. Report on the NW Tyers Expo and its budget along with some discussion of its future as a Fly-Fishing Expo – Until last year, it was a fly-tyer only show.
2. Report on the dam removal project on Bear Creek in Medford, Oregon – The fish smolt are doing well, and they are traveling farther up the creek than expected.
3. Money will be available for clubs that wish to purchase a digital projector for their club events. The projector must be made available for the Expo classes.
4. Conservation will be high on the Council’s list this year. They think it is time to step it up a little.
5. On April 3 through 5, Portland will host the Dental Convention for Oregon Dentists. They have asked the Oregon Council of the FFF to
man a booth at the convention. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact me. The Council believes that this convention will be a good opportunity to recruit new FFF members and promote the Federation; they want to impress these folks.

6. Remember to keep track of the hours for any volunteer or conservation work that you do, including travel time. Also keep track of your mileage and any material that you donate. The hour totals are used as political leverage when applying for Federal or State grants for many of the Council projects.

7. East Lake has Eurasian watermilfoil. Remember to clean equipment (all floating toys, boats, and everything you put into the water, including nets) thoroughly after each trip to prevent the transfer of invasive species.

8. Casting for Recovery and Project Healing Waters need our continued support and help. The Veterans Hospital in the valley is doing great work with returning veterans.

There are many things to do, and it doesn’t take much time to make a difference in another person’s life. I used to sit back and let others do the little things; I would enjoy the big, fun stuff. Through getting involved, I have found renewed energy in myself and my commitment to the sport. It’s not just something I do; it is something I live. Get involved and you too may rediscover that lost energy of your younger days.

Jerry Criss (tlfly44@msn.com)

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**FFF new member drive**

COF is a Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) member club. COF pays about $500 in dues to FFF every year. This amount may seem excessive, but COF receives many benefits in return. FFF was the initial funding source for Kokanee Karnival, and FFF has donated thousands of dollars to Kokanee Karnival.

Last year, FFF donated $600 to purchase equipment for COF fly-tying classes. COF also obtained a large amount of fly-tying materials. FFF provided the massively-discounted kits many members purchased to use in the upcoming rod-building class. The list goes on.

The latest opportunity from FFF is membership for new members at the discounted rate of only $15. I encourage all COF members who are not FFF members to take advantage of this great offer. I did in December, and I’ve already received my first FFF member magazine. (Now I just have to find the time to read it.)

The offer ends April 15. Membership applications will be available at club meetings. So bring $15 and sign up. I have to submit all the applications to qualify for the $15 discount; please don’t take an application and send it in on your own.

If you need even more motivation, here’s another great deal: for every 12 new FFF members who join through COF, COF will receive a new fly rod that we can use in a raffle.

Yancy Lind
Fly of the month

It is cold! There are some 18-inch mounds of snow around my place, and more is on the way. The lakes should get their fill this year, based on early reports, and the rivers will benefit from the snowfall too.

This year’s winter fly-tying classes are going very well, with lots of interested tyers wanting to expand their skills and the choices in their fly boxes. I must admit, last month’s fly is not what is in the Crooked River. I tried to imitate a roly-poly type sow bug. John Anderson quickly corrected me and explained what they are supposed to look like. It’s back to the vise. Watch for a corrected version later in the year. If someone has a good sow bug, please give it up, and I will feature it here.

Emerger and parachute-style flies are the fly of choice for a lot of dry-fly fishermen these days. Why? According to most of the magazines, they are a good imitation of an emerging insect from its underwater stage into its adult stage. The next time you are on the water, you will benefit from taking time to watch for awhile during a hatch. When a hatch is on, we all want to go after the prey, but you will gain a wealth of knowledge in presentation and bug identification if you observe for just a few minutes. You will see some insects emerge and fly off to find the mate that will fulfill their destiny. Others struggle just to break through the surface film. Then there are those that break through and are unable to get their beautiful wings fully extended. The emerger and parachute patterns represent each of these scenarios; that is why they work so well during almost any hatch. They sit low in the water, and some actually break the surface film and hang below it.

This month’s pattern is a good emerger pattern; it’s simple and it floats well (using CDC makes it possible). Fish it with Frogs Fanny, which is a drying material that works very well on CDC. I use it on all my dry flies.

Jerry Criss
541-536-3581 or tlfly44@msn.com
Happy hunting and have a great NEW YEAR.

CDC Emerger

Hook: any light-wire scud hook, #12 to #16
Thread: tan or rusty dun, 8/0
Tailing shuck: 2 to 4 strands of flash material or 4 to 6 wood duck fibers
Thorax: dubbing to match the hatch
Shellback: 2 CDC feathers placed back to back (natural, which is medium, dun, light olive, or tan, to match the hatch)
Wing: Use the CDC that you pull forward.
Head: same color as the thread

The most difficult part of this simple fly is getting the wing the right length without cutting it. Attach the thread about 1/16-inch behind the eye. Wrap back toward the bend about ¼ inch and stop. Attach the tailing material; leave a good 2 inches of length out the back. Take 2 CDC feathers, the same size and shape, and put them together (concave sides away from each other). The tie-in length of the wing will be a little longer than the length of the hook used. Tie in the 2 CDC feathers with the tips facing to the rear; cut off the butt ends even with the starting point of the thread. Tie the butt ends down and have the thread stop at the point where the CDC was tied in. Dub the thorax forward, shaping it into a little ball as you go forward. Stop just after you cover the butt ends of the CDC. Bring the wing forward over the top of the thorax and tie it down just in back of the hook eye. As you grab the CDC to pull it forward, you will find the tailing material wants to go with you. That's why we left the tailing long, so you can hold the ends and keep them from getting caught up in the wing material. If you used feather barbs for the tailing, take care not too take them with the wing material when you bring it forward. Tie off the wing with at least 4 tight wraps and then hold the wing up and finish with 5 whipped wraps under the front of the wing, between the wing and hook eye. In the construction of this fly there are some good techniques that you should remember.
Central Oregon Flyfishers Up-Stream Events 2008

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Activity/Meeting</th>
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<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 7</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>monthly Board meeting</td>
<td>Environmental Center, Bend</td>
<td>Yancy Lind</td>
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<td>Feb 6, 20</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>redd counts</td>
<td>Sisters Ranger District</td>
<td>Ted Wise, Nate Dachtler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 6</td>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>outing</td>
<td>Metolius River</td>
<td>Bob Evermore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 7, 14, 21, 28</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>weekly fly tying</td>
<td>Bend Senior Center</td>
<td>Sherry Steele</td>
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<td>Feb 12, 19, 26</td>
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<td>rod-building class</td>
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<td>Feb 20</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>general meeting</td>
<td>Bend Senior Center</td>
<td>Lee Ann Ross</td>
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<td>Feb 23</td>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>outing</td>
<td>Ana River</td>
<td>Bob Evermore</td>
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<td>Feb 28 - Mar 2</td>
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<td>winter seminar</td>
<td>Deschutes Co. Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Lee Ann Ross</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 28 - Mar 2</td>
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<td>Sportsmen's Show</td>
<td>Deschutes Co. Fairgrounds</td>
<td>Dave Semich</td>
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IN THE FUTURE

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar 29</td>
<td>Annual Banquet</td>
<td>Bend Senior Center</td>
<td>Larry Godfrey</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>riparian planting, habitat</td>
<td>tributaries to the John Day River</td>
<td>Scott Cotter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>restoration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 19 - 22</td>
<td>trip to B.C.</td>
<td>Leighton Lakes, BC</td>
<td>Gordon Chandler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 22</td>
<td>Hermann Fischer</td>
<td>Leighton Lakes, BC</td>
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Non-Club Activities & FYI

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<tr>
<td>Feb 6-10</td>
<td>Pacific NW Sportsman's Show</td>
<td>Portland Expo Center</td>
<td><a href="http://www.OTShows.com">www.OTShows.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 7-8</td>
<td>Northwest tyers and fly-fishing expo</td>
<td>Albany, OR</td>
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Gordon Chandler
cofbctrip@gmail.com
Bob Evermore
bob@poesociety.com
Nate Dachtler
Jim Fisher
ndachtler@fs.fed.us
Larry Godfrey
lgodfrey@bendbroadband.com
Delores Marsh
ladyd@bendcable.com
Lee Ann Ross
rossleeann@yahoo.com
Dave Semich
flyfishndave@webinformix.com
Sherry Steele
steelfly@msn.com
Ted Wise
ted.g.wise@state.or.us

The fish eggs are coming! Volunteers Wanted for Trout Egg Deliveries to Classrooms

Fourth and fifth grade students can’t wait to receive rainbow trout eggs this February. Eggs will be ready for delivery February 25. This project allows students to watch trout develop from egg to alevin to fry. Students monitor water quality and release fry into local fishing ponds. Please contact Jen Luke if you are interested in delivering eggs and introducing the students to the project.

Jen Luke, ODFW-STEP 541-388-6350 x 225 or Jennifer.a.luke@state.or.us

Kokanee Karnival receives grant

Kokanee Karnival received a $750 grant from the Salmon-Trout Advisory Committee. The money will be used to purchase kid-size waders that students may use during the Streamside Experience at Spring Creek or a similar location. The money will also allow one additional classroom to participate at the Comprehensive level. Wolftree, a KK partner, prepared the grant request.

Many thanks to Emil Seidel for building 20 more egg-display holders. The egg displays are in demand among classrooms.

Dave Dunahay

2007 COF Board Members: Yancy Lind President Dennis Rockwell Vice President, Raffle Susan Telford Treasurer Earl Rettilg Secretary Dave Magaret Programs Bob Griffin Historian Emil Seidel Larry Godfrey Banquet Dave Semich Past President Dick Olson Membership Bill Seitz Conservation Lee Ann Ross Education Bob Evermore Outings Dave Dunahay Kokanee Karnival Delores Marsh Wild Women of the Water
Annual Banquet & Fundraiser

March 29, 2008, 5:30 p.m.  
Bend Senior Center

Cost

BEFORE March 1:  $25 per person and qualify to enter the early-bird drawing
March 1 to 26:  $30 per person
After March 26:  $35 per person

Complete the form below. Mail the form and your check ($25/person BEFORE March 1 or $30/person March 1 to 26) to COF, P.O. Box 1126, Bend, OR 97709.

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<tr>
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Membership application available from: http://www.coflyfishers.org
Mail all newsworthy items to cof@sonatainc.com

Central Oregon Flyfishers
PO Box 1126, Bend, Oregon 97709

An active member club

Information about the club’s annual trip to British Columbia (June 19 to 22) is available from: http://www.coflyfishers.org/bc