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**RANDOM CAST**

The mission of The Central Oregon Flyfishers is to promote the preservation and conservation, for future generations, of Central Oregon’s watershed and its fisheries through education, the practice of stewardship and the art of fly fishing. Our goal is to provide an opportunity for the membership to participate in a community of fly fishing, fellowship and public service.

There are over 275 members in this fine organization, and I believe we are this large because we actually do follow our mission statement. When reviewing the specific purposes of the COF, found in Article III of the By-Laws, it is easy for us to reflect on real things that we do.

- **To broaden the public’s knowledge, understanding and enjoyment of the sport of fly fishing through instruction, events and service.** Our 275 members have an abundance of opportunities through outings, conservation activities, monthly programs and educational classes. The public participates in our winter seminar and youth events, and COF is well recognized throughout Central Oregon for its service.

- **To encourage, advocate and support conservation and protection of watersheds, fish habitat and wild fish populations.** We encourage through our classes and newsletter; we support by member participation in over 20 different conservation activities annually; we advocate by working with local state and federal organizations as well as through formal communications to Oregon state and federal representatives on the legislative level.

- **To provide educational opportunities for school children to learn about fish, fish habitat and related aspects of the environment, and to learn basic fishing skills, principles of stewardship, ethical conduct and safety around the water.** The Kokane Karnival Youth Education Program for fourth and fifth grade students started in 1996 and has grown from four schools and 120 students to 148 classes and 3,800 students. The Kokane Karnival program places COF in front of several thousand families a year. COF also offers other classes through the Bend Parks and Recreation program. In 2011 COF expanded

*continued on next page*
its educational offerings for youth. As of 2012, COF has formalized its commitment to youth by creating a Youth Program position on the Board.

- **To promote good sportsmanship and a code of ethics among all anglers.** It appears in almost every newsletter; it is a part of our educational classes; we practice a code of ethics on the water for others to emulate, and we share our knowledge with complete strangers to help them be part of the wonderful world of fly fishing.

- **To support other organizations that have purposes in common with COF.** Here is a short list of those we support and/or partner with: Sunriver Anglers, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Federal Fish and Wildlife Service, Deschutes National Forest, Deschutes River Conservancy, Deschutes Land Trust, Federation of Fly Fishers, Northwest Steelheaders, Trout Unlimited, and the list goes on.

I would like to say “thanks” to all those who make this happen, to all of the volunteers who support the myriad of COF activities and to the members of the BOD who help lead us and keep us on track with our mission. I see 2012 as another grand year for COF.

– Eric Steele, President

### GENERAL MEETING

Jan18 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

**Fly rod dynamics**

Matt Paluch, owner/operator of the Deschutes River Camp flyshop and guide business, and one of the founding members of the Bend Casting Club, will be our January speaker. Matt will talk about the dynamics of fly rods and line pairings for the best performance (casting results).

### OUTINGS

**New Year’s Day outing**

The first outing of 2012 will be the traditional New Year’s Day outing to the Crooked River. Meet at Jake’s Diner on the east side at 9 A.M., have breakfast with fellow COF members, and decide if the trip to the river is for you. There are always some of us crazy enough to go, regardless of weather or river flows. Be sure to get your 2012 license beforehand. Sometimes the fishing is even decent on New Year’s Day.

**Lead an outing in 2012**

The outing schedule is filling fast, but there’s still time to volunteer to lead an outing for fellow COF members. See the current dates and destinations. If you see an opportunity to add a new location, step right up and become an outing leader. The COF trailer, tent and camping supplies (used for the trip to British Columbia in previous years) have gotten little use recently. We need an outing leader to arrange a trip, possibly to Wickiup or Crane Prairie reservoir or Central Washington, to use this gear.

Bill Seitz has agreed to reschedule the annual Crooked River cleanup and outing. You may recall that the only snow storm this fall occurred on the date of the outing. Plans are in the works to have a representative of PGE lead a field trip to the Pelton Round Butte Dam fish passage facility. More information will be in the newsletter, as it becomes available.

– John Tackmier, Outings Coordinator

outings@coflyfishers.org or 541-549-6252

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**OUTINGS 2012**
John Day River – January or February

The John Day River is well known as a small mouth bass river in the summer and steelhead river in the winter. It has a much larger steelhead run than the Deschutes, there are no hatchery fish, and the fish are bigger. On the flip side, it is a difficult river to fish. Access is more limited than on the Deschutes and it is a “flashy” river since there are no dams.

This flashy nature is the biggest issue. The John Day can go from 500 CFS to 20,000 CFS in a day or two. So, we can’t just pick a date and go. We have to watch the weather and go when the conditions are right. A rain storm must have recently gone through, the river must be dropping and at least somewhat clear, it can’t be too high, and it can’t be too cold. The John Day will occasionally freeze over.

If you can be flexible, it can be a very good steelhead river. I don’t know when we’ll be able to go, or what section we will fish, or if it will be a wade or drift trip. It all just depends on conditions. If you want to give it a try, send me your email address and I’ll put you on the notification list.

- Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com)

Owyhee River
Mar 22 to 26

The Owyhee River downstream from Lake Owyhee Dam is one of Oregon’s best-kept tailwater secrets. Fishing picks up in March as the ice eases off the river. It looks and fishes like the Crooked River, except for the big brown trout. To prepare, you can check out the Clackamas Fly-Fishers club website, available from: http://clackamasflyfishers.org/meetings-a-events-mainmenu-33/fish-alongs/104-owyhee-2008. Within the article are two links to reports about their trip. If you are interested in the trip, contact Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com).

EDUCATION

Fishing in and near Bend
Jan 11 | 6:00 P.M. | Fly and Field Outfitters

Dave Merrick, of Fly and Field, will discuss the how, when, and where of fly fishing near Bend. When you have only a few hours, why not try that stretch of river at your door? When a long drive on icy roads might keep you home, why not explore closer waters? But, where are the fish during different times of the year?

Dane will answer these questions and more. Fly and Field Outfitters is located at 35 S.W. Century Drive, #100, Bend.

Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Kathleen Schroeder (541-480-3185 or education@coflyfishers.org) so we’ll know how many chairs to set out.

It's here! COF winter fly-tying series!

Our first class begins January 3. Class will be held every Tuesday night through March 27. Meet at the Bend Senior Center at 6:00 P.M.

I will lead the first class; we’ll tie the RiverKeeper Soft Hackle Cripple and a classic Sparkle Dun. By changing the size and color, these styles of flies can represent any mayfly. Lee Ann is a believer in the RK Soft Hackle Cripple after using it on the Metolius; she asked me to teach this pattern.

Please let me know if you plan to attend to ensure enough materials are available. I will provide more details on the class structure and expectations of participants.

Cost is $5 per class to offset the cost of the room and materials.

- John Kreft (Cell: 503-559-3811 or jckreft@gmail.com)
Fly-tying classes

Local shops will offer fly-tying classes during the winter months. For details, see the December newsletter or contact the shops: Fly Fishers Place in Sisters (541-549-3474), Patient Angler in Bend (541-389-6208), Fin and Fire Fly Shop in Redmond (541-548-1503), Orvis in Bend (541-312-8200).

No winter seminar

There will be no Winter Seminar for 2012. COF and Sunriver Anglers host the seminar in alternate years. Given the difficulty in finding truly inspiring speakers, we will skip 2012. Sunriver Anglers is trying to line up Brian Chan for 2013. Timing might change to later in the spring when the lakes are open. We will keep you posted.

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

The Wild Women of the Water are seeking one or more women to organize meetings and outings. No experience is necessary — just some organizational skills and a desire to learn more about fly fishing. If interested, contact Eric Steele (president@coflyfishers.org).

YOUTH PROGRAM

Fly-fishing class for Redmond Proficiency Academy

Jan 9 to 13

The COF youth program will assist the Redmond Proficiency Academy during a weeklong fly-fishing class January 9 to 13. Twenty-five students from grades 9 to 11 will participate. Classes will include fly casting, fly tying, entomology and bug identification, Watercraft Inspection Training and certification for aquatic invasive species, an outing to assist ODFW with electro shocking fish for identification and collection on the Crooked River, and an outing to fish. If you would like to volunteer to help with these classes or other youth activities, please contact Karen Kreft, COF Youth Programs (youth@coflyfishers.org or 503-409-0148).

MEMBERSHIP

REMEMBER: Renewal notices for 2012 memberships HAVE BEEN mailed. If you have not received a renewal form please contact me at membership@coflyfishers.org.

To join, go to coflyfishers.org to print a form. New members qualify for the discounted renewal rate of $30.00 if they join before January 1, 2012. After Jan 1 the cost is $36.00.

Current rosters are available by request, so please contact me at the next meeting, or send email to membership@coflyfishers.org with ROSTER as the subject.

Welcome new members

Jim and Colleen Luntzel

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The next big volunteer opportunity

Plan now to volunteer to help with the kid’s fishing pond at the Sportsmen’s Show, coming to the Deschutes County fairgrounds March 8 to 11. COF will again manage the kid’s fishing pond, and we would love to have your help staffing this fun-filled weekend. This is one of the most rewarding volunteer opportunities of the year and a major fund raiser for COF. The club receives $1200 for managing the fish pond. Right now, we are looking for a volunteer to manage this
event. If you are interested, please contact Eric Steele (president@coflyfishers.org).

National Team USA competition coming to Bend

In 2007, 2009 and 2011, COF volunteers staffed the Team USA regional fly fishing trials in Central Oregon. We must have done a really good job because the National Team USA competition will be held in Bend, October 18 to 21, 2012. This will give all of us a chance to see the best fly fishers in the United States in action. Visit Bend will coordinate the event and will ask members of COF and Sunriver Anglers to volunteer. Please mark this awesome opportunity on your calendars now! More details will be available. If you’d like more information, please contact Lee Ann (rossleeann@yahoo.com). To volunteer, contact Kevney Dugan at Visit Bend (kevney@visitbend.com).

OTHER NEWS

It’s coming – 2012 Annual Banquet and Fundraiser

When: Saturday, March 31, 2012
Where: Seventh Mountain Resort
For more information, contact:
Chairman – Howard Olson (541-279-0982 or banquet@coflyfishers.org)
Donations/Raffle/Auction – Debbie Norton (503-510-2767 or donations@coflyfishers.org)

Parking permit required at Summer Lake Wildlife Area and Ana River beginning Jan 1

SUMMER LAKE, Ore.—As of Jan. 1, anglers and wildlife viewers headed for Summer Lake Wildlife Area and the Ana River need to have an ODFW parking permit. Daily permits cost $7. Annual permits are $22 and can be purchased online, at one of the ODFW offices that sells licenses or at a local license sales agent. Permits cannot be purchased at Summer Lake Wildlife Area.

“The Ana River is a popular fly fishing spot during the winter and most of the public access to the river is through Summer Lake Wildlife Area,” said Dave Banks, ODFW fish biologist in Lakeview. “We get a lot of visitors from throughout Central Oregon, and we want them to know that they need a parking permit before they get here.”

Anglers who purchase a combination fishing and hunting license or a Sports Pac will receive a free Parking Permit. This is because operation and maintenance of ODFW wildlife areas are primarily funded by hunters through federal excise taxes on sporting arms and ammunition and hunting license fees.

In addition to Summer Lake Wildlife Area, Denman, E.E. Wilson, Ladd Marsh and Sauvie Island Wildlife Areas will all require parking permits as of Jan. 1. Revenue from the Parking Permit program will be used to improve habitat and infrastructure and to enhance wildlife viewing opportunities at wildlife areas.

For more information visit ODFW’s website, http://www.dfw.state.or.us/online_license_sales/parking.asp

Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo

Mar 9 & 10 | Linn County Expo Center, Albany, OR


At the next general meeting, stop by the library cabinet and browse the material that is available to all COF members. Recent donations from members include new books and DVDs.

The library committee is considering adding new items on a regular basis. New items would be reviewed in the newsletter and displayed at the general meeting. What do you think? Should COF expand and update the contents of the library? Please contact me and let me know your thoughts.

– John Tackmier, Librarian (outings@coflyfishers.org)

At the January meeting, look for these recently-added titles: Fifty Places to Fly Fish Before You Die and Fifty Favorite Fly-Fishing Tales, both by Chris Santella.

Fishing Tales is a compilation of 50 fishing tales as told by many well-know fly fishermen. Very entertaining reading.

Places to Fish describes 50 world-wide places to put on your fishing list.
At the December 7, 2011 Council meeting, the City of Bend Council issued a proclamation recognizing the Ko-kanee Karnival Youth Education Program for its commitment to Bend youth. Counselor Kathy Eckman read the proclamation and presented it to Jennifer Luke, Central Oregon STEP coordinator for ODFW, and Frank Turek, chair of Kokanee Karnival. Jen and Frank thanked the council for their recognition of Kokanee Karnival on behalf of all our volunteers. This is a real testimonial to the efforts of our volunteers who work so hard all year donating their time to make this program such a success.

Frank Turek and Jen Luke receive a certificate of proclamation in recognition of Kokanee Karnival from Counselor Kathy Eckman (center).
PHOTO: Sandra Turek
CONSERVATION

Walden bill disregards value of Crooked River fisheries

Editor’s Note: The following article by Bill Merrill was published in the Bend Bulletin, December 18, 2011. Bill Merrill is a Sisters resident, former Sisters city councilor, past president of the Sunriver Anglers, and past member of the DRC board of directors. The article is available at: http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20111218/NEWS01/112180302/1032&nav_category=

The Crooked River provides many values to Crook County. These include the ranch culture lost in much of the western U.S., small-farm irrigation, and the close-knit community of Prineville. Recreation in Prineville Reservoir and a good tailwater fishery for native redband trout from Bowman Dam to the Ochoco Irrigation District diversion add economic values. New industrial facilities such as Facebook and hydropower at Bowman present important economic and job opportunities.

All of the existing and potential values depend on water, so how do they compare? The current political thinking as shown in U.S. Rep. Greg Walden’s HB 2060 ignores the exceptionally high economic values of stream fisheries.

Based on U.S. Bureau of Reclamation data from 1983 to 1992, the gross crop values of irrigating the Bowman-Ochoco-Crooked lands of 19,070 acres ranged from $5 to $10 million annually. The data is from the only period available and according to the Oregon State University Extension Service, “Those years (1983 to 1992), we grew more high value crops (mint, potatoes, sugar beets) than we grow today. Most of our crop values today come from lower value crops such as grass and alfalfa hay.” In a separate analysis, the BOR estimates the value of 575,000 reservoir recreation visits annually at $6.7 million.

The total storage capacity of Prineville Reservoir consists of 152,800 acre-feet, with 70,282 acre-feet committed to supply OID and other storage accounts with water. Over 82,000 acre-feet of uncommitted storage remains in the reservoir. The city of Prineville would like 5,100 acre-feet for flow mitigation. The OID would like “first-fill” storage priorities to get the same water from reservoir storage in dry years as in normal years.

Another important use would be for flows in the 12 to 14 miles of river from Bowman to the OID diversion that would elevate the reach from a good tailwater fishery to an outstanding, nationally prominent tailwater fishery with very high economic values. The values would be similar to the tailwater fisheries on New Mexico’s San Juan and Montana’s Big Horn rivers, which are in the range of $20 to $50 million annually.

The state of New Mexico says “anglers from around the world travel to fish the San Juan River. Surveys have estimated that anglers spend 45,000 days per year on the 4-mile section of the Special Trout Water (STW). Anglers generate 20-30 million dollars a year for the local economy.” The hatchery-dependent San Juan tailwater fishery below the BOR Navajo Dam is four river miles long.

According to a Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks report, the Bighorn River tailwater fishery is now estimated to have a total economic value of nearly $51 million dollars annually. Updated angler days and economic values adjusted for 2010 dollars caused the total value to rise some $17 million over the last five years.

Another factor is the currently evolving reintroduction of steelhead and Chinook salmon above the Pelton Round Butte dam complex. The Crooked River is a high priority destination for these species, which were blocked from the Crooked River for half a century. In addition, the 50-mile tailwater reach from the City of Prineville to Lake Billy Chinook will provide additional economic values to the area. Adequate flow

continued on next page
and water temperature are essential and can be provided from Prineville Reservoir with little impact on reservoir recreation.

The total storage needed for downstream fish flows is 70,000 acre-feet, not including Prineville’s 5,100. The value of such storage space for downstream fish flows would likely be $2 million per mile in the tailwater reach alone — or conservatively total at least $20 million annually.

This allocation would maintain storage for existing irrigation commitments. The “first fill” provision desired by irrigation interests could be worth only $1.5 to $3 million total in dry years, which doesn’t compete with the tailwater fishery economic values. Fish and irrigation should take proportional dry year reductions in their releases.

\[\text{COF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012}\]

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\[\text{Steve Sheldon}\
\text{Passing of a friend to fly fishing}\
\text{January 24, 1930 to December 9, 2011}\

A sad note to the holiday season is the passing of our fellow fly-fishing friend, Steve Sheldon. Steve was an active COF volunteer, fishing guide from the past and fun companion on steelhead trips. He was an ardent contributor to ethical fly fishing for Central Oregon. Steve will be missed.

A celebration of Steve’s life took place on Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 2:00 PM at 55339 Big River Drive, Bend, Oregon 97707.

Contributions may be made to:
Partners in Care Hospice, 2075 NE Wyatt Court, Bend, Oregon 97701, www.partnersbend.org or Central Oregon Flyfishers, PO Box 1126, Bend, Oregon 97709, www.coflyfishers.org
TYERS CORNER

Happy New Year to all! Seven years ago, I arrived in Central Oregon. A lot of water has passed under my feet, but I am still here going strong. COF is doing well with new members and some great new ideas. As we move ahead, let us all help when we can by volunteering whenever we can.

In 2012, Mike Telford, Bill Seitz and I will share the Tyers Corner once again. We plan to feature flies that catch fish and challenge you to become a better tier. You can help by letting us know when you come across a pattern that works.

The winter flying-tying series, lead by John Kreft, begins January 3. With John’s energy and enthusiasm, these classes will continue to be one of COF’s most popular.

This month’s pattern comes from Wholesale Sports. Yes, I do buy flies from time to time, and I could not resist this little beauty. It has all the things a good nymph pattern should have: correct size, shape, color and weight, and it GLITTERS. I fished it on the Deschutes River in town, and it catches fish. I should have featured this fly last month—it’s all in the name! I found fishing this fly deep was the best presentation for success. Good Luck and Good Hunting.

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

The Xmas Tree

Thread: red or orange 8/0 to 14/0
Hook: #12 to 18, heavy nymph hook
Bead: bright red, size to the match hook
Weight: six to eight wraps of .010 or .015 lead
Tail: five to six pheasant tail fibers
Body: caddis green Ice Dub
Rib: fine red wire
Back strap: butt ends of the pheasant tail material
Thorax: same as the body
Wing case: six to eight pheasant tail fibers
Legs: ends of the pheasant tail wing case material

1. Slip on the bead and wind the lead. Slide the lead into the back of the bead.
2. As you wind the thread to the rear, tie in the tail material. (Make the tail short and neat.) At the bend in the hook, tie in the wire for the rib.
3. Dub the body forward to about two-thirds up the hook shank.
4. Bring the butt ends of the pheasant tail fibers over the top of the body to form the back strap. Wrap the wire rib in neat, even turns stopping at the end of the body. Secure the tail fibers with the wire. Trim the ends of the pheasant tail.
5. Tie in the pheasant tail wing case by the butt ends; leave enough length facing forward to bend back into legs.
6. Dub the thorax. Pull the wing case over the top and tie in behind the bead.
7. Divide the tips of the pheasant tail wing case into two even sets of legs and pull down along the side of the thorax. Secure the legs as you finish right up against the bead.

Note: Save time by using the pheasant tail tailing material as the wing case. Also, just add partridge feather legs as you would with any other nymph.
Central Oregon Flyfishers Upstream Events 2012

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<td>Jan 5</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>monthly board mtg.</td>
<td>Environmental Center</td>
<td>Eric Steele (<a href="mailto:president@coflyfishers.org">president@coflyfishers.org</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 9-13</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>youth program</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Karen Kreft (<a href="mailto:youth@coflyfishers.org">youth@coflyfishers.org</a> or 503-409-0148)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 11</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>education - Fishing in &amp; near Bend</td>
<td>Fly &amp; Field Outfitters</td>
<td>Kathleen Schroeder (<a href="mailto:education@coflyfishers.org">education@coflyfishers.org</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 18</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>general meeting</td>
<td>Bend Senior Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IN THE FUTURE

Mar 8-11, Kid's Fishing Pond, Sportsmen's Show, Deschutes Co. Fairgrounds
Mar 22-26, Outing to Owyhee River, Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com)
Mar 31, Annual Banquet and Fundraiser, Howard Olson (banquet@coflyfishers.org)

NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES & FYI 2012

Mar 9,10, Northwest Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo, Albany, OR, Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com)
Jul 10 to 14, FFF National Fly Fishing Fair, Spokane, Washington, Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com)
Oct 18 to 21, National Team USA Competition, Bend, OR, Lee Ann (rossleeann@yahoo.com)

2012 COF Board Members: Eric Steele President  Dave Dunahay Vice President  Susan Telford Treasurer  Bill Raleigh Secretary  Mike Tripp Programs
Howard Olson Banquet  John Tackmier Outings  Karen Kreft Youth  Lee Ann Ross Past President  Gary Meyer Membership  Bill Seitz Conservation
Debbie Norton Raffle  Kathy Schroeder Education  Frank Turek Kokanee Karnival

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

Central Oregon Flyfishers
PO Box 1126 Bend, Oregon 97709

An active member club

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

NEWSLETTER - Terri Grimm