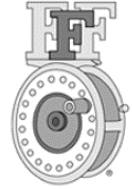




The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

Volume 25

Number 7

July 2003

JULY OUTING

July 25-27

Steen's Mountain South Steen's Campground
Gene McMullen 312-8939

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

July 16, 6:30PM- 8:30PM

Central Oregon Board Of Realtors
"Fly Casting"

JULY PROGRAM - FLY CASTING

Join us to view the Joan Wulff fly-casting video. Bring your fly rod and follow along with the correct casting motion. This program will help you cast easier, and help you recognize any faults in your casting. Fly-casting is an important part of fly-fishing, and effortless casting will make your fishing more enjoyable. Invite a friend, especially someone who thinks fly-casting is difficult and is reluctant to begin fly-fishing. Free is a very good price.

RANDOM CASTS

How I got addicted to fly-fishing is a tale that may help to get your significant other, in-law, or old time pal in the game. But, be warned, "Fly-fishing is very addictive". The adrenaline rush you get when you catch that first fish is the same as when you catch your one hundredth. Only it gets more intense when you catch that fellow on a fly that you have tied or when your cast is drag free and every thing is working and the fish takes and jumps two feet out of the water. There is simply no feeling quite like that, and you will want more and more.

Fly-fishing is viewed by many as a pastime that you might take up later in life like learning to knit or painting by numbers. But now is the time for you to try fly fishing because it will open a multitude of interests that you may have never thought of, such as the bug life in the water (entomology), making you own rods, or tying your own flies.

I had fished with my father for 25 years or more using bait and lures. I never really liked fishing - it seemed boring and not very sportsman like...more like meat harvesting. Then, at about age 36 (I won't tell you how long ago that was), I happened upon Lynn Nearpass, the owner of a fishing camp in Bridgeport California in the High Sierras, who was an avid fly fisherman capable of making a trout leap out of the water to take his fly. And that was the biggest WOW!! I had ever seen and I had to try this new and exciting sport. I still cannot make a trout leap to take my fly... but someday...and that is the addictive part of the sport because there is always a challenge to master a new technique, to accomplish, something that makes your mind work to solve a problem.

We, as members of COF, are fortunate to have fellow members who are able and willing to give you a hand with whatever problems you are having. If, at the next general membership meeting, you stand up and say: "I need help with my casting or reading the water - is there anyone available in the next week who can give me a hand?" You'll have three or four volunteers that will be there for you.

Getting started is sometimes the most difficult part because of all the unknowns. For example, how much will it cost me for my start-up outfit? The answer is around \$600.00, broken down as follows: \$240.00 for a 9 foot 5-weight rod, reel, and floating line, \$45.00 for a vest to hold all your tackle, \$149.00 for breathable Gore-Tex chest waders with a safety belt, \$80.00 for wading boots with felt-soles, and the balance of \$86.00 you will spend on such things as line clippers, hemostats (to release fish), flies, leaders, a broad brimmed hat, long sleeved shirt, sunscreen and polarized sunglasses. Note: the above budget prices are approximate, but reflect a selection of good quality items, which will make your beginning fishing experience much more pleasurable.

Now you might say, "that's a big investment", but when you consider other hobbies and sporting activities fly-fishing is, in comparison, very reasonable and one heck of a lot less than golf clubs, and you'll never pay green fees. Here again, ask at the next meeting for suggestions and help selecting your outfit and you may find you are not only able to save a few dollars but avoid making poor choices which will bite you in the end.

Fly fishing will provide you with moments you will never forget, and you will get to see one of the most beautiful of nature's creatures up close and personal. Why--- you will become addicted just like me, and won't that be fun?

Your Pal, Dan

Whispers From the Dustdevil Steen's Mountain Outing - July 25 - 27

It's time to head east from the shady ponderosa and lodgepole pine country into the sagebrush, junipers and aspen rim rocks of Steen's Mountain where the Donner und Blitzen River and its tributaries drop out of Ice-Age glacial cirques. Here aspen and cottonwoods provide shade on down through the alder and willow rim rock canyons into the willow and cottonwoods of the Blitzen Valley at Frenchglen.



Blitzen River - Bob Hooton

Besides viewing the scenery, those making the trek will want to fish for redband (native rainbow) trout. For those of you who haven't seen the water, a picture of the river above Page Springs Campground is shown above. The upper canyons and tributaries in the area of South Steen's Campground (base camp) are smaller (10-20 feet wide). All of the water, except the 5 miles from Page Dam to the mouth of Bridge Creek, is fast-dropping roily, boulder strewn mountain streams. Depending on elevation, streamside cover is willow, alder, juniper, aspen, and cottonwood with grass and sagebrush. Wildflowers will be in full bloom in the cirque basins and along the higher elevations of the Steen's Loop Road.

The fish should be feeding heavily to store up fat for the coming desert winter. They will be feeding on mayflies, caddis, and various terrestrials (ants, bees, caterpillars, and hoppers) that drop off the vegetation. As in most areas, dries work best early and late before the sun is on the water. During the day nymphs produce best. Elk hair caddis in several sizes and colors is a good imitator of caddis and hoppers as well as some terrestrials. Prince nymphs, beaded and non, are good bets for getting down behind the boulders and under the brush. The water will be similar to the Deschutes in clarity unless thunderstorms muck it up.

There are few developed trails along the streams so plan on wet wading or a pair of hot weather waders. For those who will be hiking into the canyons, hiking boots are a good bet with your walking stick, wading shoes/waders tucked into a daypack along with your water bottle (also consider a water filter), fishing gear, munchies, sunscreen, bug dope, camera, and first aid kit.

Those of us familiar with the area will act as guides to get you started or lead some of the fishing trips as well as some of the sight-seeing drives. Plan some daylight hours for a drive up the mountain to enjoy the spectacular high desert panoramas. Maps of the area and sights to see will be available at base camp. For those who might want to go into the Riddle Ranch or Bridge Creek areas, a mountain bike will save you about 4 miles of hiking.

Directions from downtown Burns:

Fill the fuel tank at Burns. At the junction of Highways 20/395, and 78, follow Highway 78 (straight ahead) east for about 2 miles to the junction of Hwy 205. Turn right (south) on Hwy 205 to Frenchglen (56 miles). Pick up any last minute items at the mercantile. Proceed south on Hwy 205 up "P" Hill for 10 miles to a small green sign and information kiosk that marks the start of the South Steen's Loop Road.

Turn left onto the gravel road and proceed about 17 miles to South Steen's Campground. The road often has serious washboards, so use caution and drive slowly. Use the second entrance to the campground unless you are bringing horses. Find a nice spot and settle in. There is one handicap accessible campsite. It's a fee campground (\$7) with one drive-to water point and two handicap accessible outdoor privies. Contact Gene McMullen if you plan to go, or for further information.

See ya on the Mountain! - Patti Bowers

UPPER LITTLE BLITZEN

The Upper Little Blitzen canyon is a very hard area to do justice in a short article.

The trail is lightly traveled and, in some places, a little hard to follow, but it's not a real hard trail to travel. In places the trees and brush almost form a tunnel, but it's still worth the 2-hour effort, because as you reach the top end of the trail you step out of close quarters into a wide-open welcoming view of an unbelievably beautiful canyon.

As you continue along the trail that looks down into the small stream, you can't help but wonder how small the fish will be, how many there will be, and how the heck do you fish a stream that's so brushy? Those questions are answered as you look down into one of the holes in the stream and see a 20"+ Redside, with a steak down its side that looks like its bleeding it's so bright, hanging out under the rocks at the lower end of the hole. This is why you're here!

The Upper Little Blitzen canyon is one of those areas that is not visited by very many people, but can be an outstanding fishing area. You will be called on to do some "bow casting", some "flow drifts" and practice some of the "sneaky approaches" if you expect to catch anything, but it's worth it. When you finally get the line over that deeper hole and a BIG Redside hits hard enough to break a 4-pound tippet, the hike in becomes a short, easy walk. It only takes a few like that to make the trip in seem easy.

If you've never been there before, the July outing will provide the opportunity and Phil Hager is ready to "show you the way" into the canyon and how to work the stream. Make plans to be there! Phil Hager

HATS, HATS, COF HATS!

Seven new styles, all with COF "patch" monogram in various colors. COF member Bob Sandberg (Mr. Bend Advertising Specialties) passed on great pricing so we can offer these quality hats for \$13, long bills at \$15. Shop early for best selection.

MUGS, MUGS, COF TRAVEL MUGS!

Insulated travel mugs are now available. These quality COF monogrammed mugs are very special. Insert cold liquid, they keep it cold. Insert hot liquid they keep it hot. Pick up yours for \$4 at the next meeting.

Vests, Vests, COF Vests!

Those wishing to purchase a quality reversible Port Authority Vest with the COF "patch" on one side and "your name" on the other may again be ordered. You have seen these green vests at the meetings. Price for vest, patch and name embroidered is \$49.98. Elaine Smalley, at Simply the Best (548-2615) in Redmond can take your order.

RANDOM THOUGHTS ABOUT FLY FISHING IN TODAY'S WORLD

We here in Central Oregon, "a fly fishing Mecca", are drawn closer to our sport because of the serenity and spiritual quantities of our hobby. And this quality is especially true in times of trouble. Our President tells us that the "war is over", but the world is just beginning to assess the consequences of the war on Iraq. Some experts feel that terrorism may intensify and not just overseas. We all have an uneasy feeling that gives us an edge we normally don't have.

Now on our TV's we are given a lot of reality shows, which are distracting, but more often than not, we are watching people deride, demean, and judge each other.

American entertainment has become a gladiator sport with millions tuning in for the chance to give thumbs up or thumbs down. "Survivor", "Joe Millionaire", "The Bachelor", "America's Next Top Model", and "America's Most Talented Kid" are staffed by celebrity judges who coach us on how to attack, humiliate, and shame the contestants all the while claiming to be looking for talent and excellence, but negative comments receive the most audience response.

What does this really have to do with fly-fishing? First, we need to recognize what we are confronted with for what it is, and realize that if we participate in practices of judging and not accepting the differences found in others that we end up demeaning ourselves. Second, although we, like many other people, are tired of talking about conflict and war, the truth is, our world is still characterized by heightened separations. The political and economic conditions, the cultural attitudes, and the atmosphere of distrust, fear and hate that led to the American invasion and before that, the terrorist attacks, are unchanged. But we have hope, trust and faith that those roots of division will eventually reach the deep river of healing that runs through all the world's cultural and spiritual traditions.

We as fly fishermen have an opportunity to take our loved ones, friends and neighbors with us to our local lakes and rivers here in central Oregon where serenity and spiritual qualities abound. Hopefully, they will experience the feeling we talk about as fly fishermen and their hearts will be lighter. It is said, "every hour you spend where the fish live adds two days to your life". I believe that is not only true but also a reality that many others and I have experienced. There is something special that happens when you are fishing, especially in the company of good friends, that makes the world a better place. My suggestion is that we all make it our mission to share our love of fly-fishing and the beauty of the "places where the fish live" with as many people as we can.

I hope this "soap box" moment has given you some food for thought. It was intended to give a different perspective on what is going on and what we might do about it from the fly fisherman's point of view. Your Pal, Dan

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE COF BOARD MEETING JULY 3RD.

Many questions arise about what the COF board of directors does to earn their keep (all board members

volunteer their time). And what are we really doing about the environment? Many of the things that go on in our organization are originated and developed in the board meetings the first Thursday of every month at the Environmental Center, 16 N.W. Kansas Ave. in downtown Bend starting at 7:00 PM and lasting until 9:00 PM.

Please join us for our meeting and you will see how the club works and get a real insight in to the operations of this great club. The meeting is interesting and informative, and you will not be disappointed. Who knows, you may want to get involved and take part in the many activities of the best fly fishing club in the whole world. Don't be shy; don't be afraid, the board is great group of fellows who love fly-fishing. We will be looking for you. Your Pal, Dan

METOLIUS RIVER BAMBOO ROD AND FLY FISHING EVENT

The Metolius River Bamboo Rod and Fly Fishing Event will be held on Saturday, July 26th at the Camp Sherman Community Center, Camp Sherman Oregon. The Camp Sherman Store (Roger and Kathy White, Camp Sherman) and Quiet Reed Fly Fishing (Don Chen, Corvallis) are presenting this event. The event will take place from 10AM-4PM.

The focus will be on contemporary Northwest bamboo rod makers as well as modern fly fishing tools and fly tying techniques. The event allows visitors to examine and cast a vast range of bamboo, fiberglass and graphite fly rods built for trout, bass, steelhead and salmon. Last year, there were about 15 rod makers from all over the Northwest and California who brought along the fruits of their labors and allowed visitors to cast their rods and learn about the steps in their creation. A special booth sponsored by Dan and Kelley Brock (D&K Sporting Collectibles, Lowell) will be set up for visitors to have their older antique rods and reels appraised. Dan and Kelley will also have some of their own special collectible rods and reels.

We have asked those companies and individuals who provide the raw materials and tools for rod building (bamboo culms, planes, forms, etc) to bring along examples of their wares. We will have representatives from the fly fishing industry who will display their wares. These include Scientific Anglers, Lamiglass, Thomas & Thomas and Hardy. There will be special presentations and demonstrations by these experts.

Organizations such as Trout Unlimited, the Federation of Fly Fishers, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will be presenting their materials. The ODFW will also have a special section to teach youngsters the art of casting fly rods.

For more information, please contact either Roger (roger@campshermanstore.com) or Don (quiet_reed@hotmail.com). There is also a listing at the Sisters, Oregon Summer Calendar (<http://www.sistersoregonguide.com/events/calendar.html>).



The recently developed hybrid for the Wet Hackle Pheasant Tail Hare's Ear Antelope fly. Ask for it at your local fly shop.

PICNIC DELAYED.... DO COME ON AUGUST 27TH!

Please plan to attend the great Annual Picnic at Aspen Hall on the 27th of August. There will not be a regular meeting at the Board of Realtors on our regular meeting night of the 20th. Aspen Hall was not available on the 20th due to a Parks and Recreation continuing program.

COF will provide all the basics including hamburgers, hot dogs, sodas, condiments, plates, plastic and napkins. **PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH** (chips/dips, salad, dessert, or?) for 5-6 people. The lake provides fishing for youngsters and casting opportunities for everyone. Do you have an old, new, or an unidentified piece of equipment? Bring it to the picnic; chances are that someone will know what it is or how to make it work. There is a great lawn for games if you bring them.

WET HACKLE TECHNIQUES

This month's fly tying article is not about a specific fly, but rather about a technique that applies to a large class of flies. Many of our members tie classic wet hackle flies such as the Partridge and Orange and the Partridge and Yellow as well as some wet hackle flies

more specific to the club's fishing such as the Roxie's Rainbow, Blue Death and K-Mart. All of these flies share a wet hackle collar of partridge or similar soft, webby hackle.

The soft hackle appears to be critical to the success of all of these flies. Perhaps it represents all of the legs, antennas and other appendages of a dead or dying drowned insect as the fibers sweep through the water. The more motion these fibers have, the better the fly looks in the water.

The typical way to apply the soft hackle, as shown in the first photo, is to wind a single feather hackle collar similar to a dry fly hackle, and then bind it down such that the fibers lay closely along the body.



To me, this has two problems- first it is hard to achieve a really sparse hackle as even two or three turns can be quite thick, and second, the motion of the fibers in the water is much less than if the fibers were to poke out at a 90-degree angle to the body and were pulled all the way back by the force of the water on the fly each time it was stripped.



An alternative method of attaching the wet hackle is shown in photos two and three. The fibers are stripped

completely away from one side of the feather stem, which is then tied in by the tip with the shiny side toward the tier. As the hackle feather is turned around the hook, half the number of fibers is applied per turn, making a very sparse hackle, and all of the fibers are curved neatly toward the rear of the fly. It is not necessary to "tie down" the fibers to get them all heading in one direction, and the fibers can be left sticking out at almost a 90-degree angle, making for a much "livelier" fly.



Dave Hughes covers the technique described in this article in detail in his book "Wet Flies", Stackpole Books, 1995, an excellent book on the entire topic of wet flies.

CONSERVATION CALENDAR - JULY 2003

	DATE	EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
J U L		Tumalo Creek, Sampling of Redbands Above Falls	Gene McMullen
		Sampling of Trapper Creek and Basin Lakes for Brook Trout	Gene McMullen
A U G		Tumalo Creek, Sampling of Redbands Above Falls	Gene McMullen
		Sampling of Trapper Creek and Basin Lakes for Brook Trout	Gene McMullen
S E P T	Sept. 11, 12	Gill Net Ochoco Reservoir	Gene McMullen
	Sept. 15-19	Bull Trout Spawning Surveys, N. Fork Malheur & Headwaters, Stay at Crane Prairie Guard Station, Malheur N.F. - <u>CAMPING</u>	Tommie Speik
	Sept. 15	Deschutes Basin Bull Trout Spawning Surveys	Gene McMullen
	Sept. 18, 19	Rotenone Walton Lake (Bullhead Eradication)	Gene McMullen
	Sept. 24, 25	Electro Fish South Fork Crooked River	Gene McMullen
		Tumalo Creek, Sampling of Redbands Above Falls	Gene McMullen
		Trapper Creek Brook Trout Removal to Protect Bull Trout	Gene McMullen
		Sampling of Trapper Creek and Basin Lakes for Brook Trout	Gene McMullen
O C T	October 1, 2	Gill Net Haystack Reservoir	Gene McMullen
	October 2, 3	Gill Net Prineville Reservoir	Gene McMullen
	October 15	Deschutes Basin Bull Trout Spawning Surveys	Gene McMullen
		Bull Trout Spawning Surveys, N. Fork Malheur & Headwaters, Stay at Crane Prairie Guard Station, Malheur N.F. - <u>CAMPING</u>	Tommie Speik

UPSTREAM EVENTS -JULY 2003

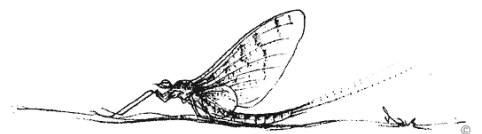
	DATE	EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
J U L	July 3	COF Board Meeting, 7:00PM, Environmental Center	Dan Driskill
	July 16	Membership Meeting, Central Oregon Board of Realtors, Fly-casting Videos	Dan Driskill
	July 25-27	Blitzen & Steen's Mountain Outing	Gene McMullen
	July 25	Articles Due for News Letter	Harry Harbin
A U G	August 7	COF Board Meeting, 7:00PM, Environmental Center	Dan Driskill
	August 25	Articles Due for News Letter	Harry Harbin
	August 27	COF Annual Picnic in Lieu of Membership Meeting, Shevlin Park	John Burns
	August 28	East Lake Outing	Phil Hager, Earl Rettig
S E P T	Sept 3	Editors Birthday	Harry Harbin
	Sept 4	COF Board Meeting, 7:00PM, Environmental Center	Dan Driskill
	Sept 10	Middle Deschutes Outing	Tom Philiben
	Sept 17	Membership Meeting, Central Oregon Board of Realtors	Dan Driskill
	Sept 23-26	Kokanee Karnival Streamside	Phil Hager
	Sept 25	Articles Due for News Letter	Harry Harbin
Sept 26-28	Federation of Fly Fishers Fishing Enclave, Seaside Oregon	Phil Hager, Earl Rettig	
O C T	October 4	COF Board Retreat and Meeting	Dan Driskill
	October 15	Membership Meeting, Central Oregon Board of Realtors	Dan Driskill
	October 18	Metolius River Outing	Ron Anderson, Harry Harbin
	October 25	Articles Due for News Letter	Harry Harbin
	October 27	COF Budget Committee Meeting	Neal Buxton
N O V	November 6	COF Board Meeting, 7:00PM Environmental Center	Dan Driskill
	November 19	Membership Meeting and Election of Officers, Central Oregon Board of Realtors, Larry Timchak, Supervisor, Ochoco National Forest	Dan Driskill
	November 25	Articles Due for News Letter	Harry Harbin
D E C	December 2,9,16	Tuesday Night Fly Tying, Bend Trap Club	Harry Harbin
	December 4	COF Board Meeting and New Board Member Orientation, 7:00PM, Environmental Center	Dan Driskill
	December 19	Kokanee Karnival Steering Committee Meeting	Phil Hager
	December 17	Membership Meeting, Central Oregon Board of Realtors, COF Fly-tying Demonstration	Dan Driskill
	December 22	Articles Due for News Letter	Harry Harbin

"The great charm of fly-fishing is that we are always learning; no matter how long we have been at it, we are constantly making some fresh discovery, picking up some new wrinkle. If we become conceited through great success, some day the trout will take us down a peg."

-Theodore Gordon 1907 - from the FFF Clubwire

CLUB MEMBER SETS BC LAKE RECORD!

COF club member Mr. Doyle Wayne Goolsby recently set the lake record for the largest (and only) turtle ever caught on a fly on a British Columbia Lake near Oliver, BC. When asked about the epic battle, Goolsby replied, "It wasn't much."



JOIN THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS

Mail this completed application and check to:
THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS • P.O. BOX 1126, BEND, OREGON 97709
and receive Club Logo Patch, Decal and Monthly Newsletter

FULL NAME (S): _____
member and partner

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: H: _____ W: _____ Occupation: _____

E-MAIL: _____

New 2003 Family or Single- \$36 Renewal by 12/31-\$30 Renewal After 12/31- \$36 Associate Member \$12.50

(Associate Membership Available Outside of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson Counties.)

Former Member Address Change Only Check if You Do NOT Wish to Receive The Newsletter On the Web
But Want the Print Version Instead

Please check Interests: Acquire More Knowledge Find Fishing Partner Volunteer For Projects
 Improve Fishing Techniques Social Functions List Other Interests on Back

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ DATE: _____

The Central Oregon Flyfishers
PO Box 1126
Bend, Oregon 97709

