Random Casts

We just finished another great trip to Leighton Lake, B.C.! Gordon Chandler did his usual superb job as Wagon Master. There were 34 people in camp ranging in age from 13 to 90. Thanks to all of you who did their part in making everything go smoothly. The food was fantastic, and we all survived a major hail storm and a couple of days of rain. Notwithstanding the weather, several of us had our best day ever of fishing. The outing trailer worked perfectly, and, given the rain, it was needed. Carol and Wayne Wright, Logan Lake residents and friends of COF for several years, were initiated into the club after a mock election, and I think we had them worried for a few moments. For those who have not taken the opportunity to go on this trip, start planning ahead. For $80 it is a true “best value”.

Neal Buxton is organizing a trip in the Maupin area, and a similar camp set-up is planned.

Good fishing. Dave Dunahay

Bob Cooper, a Board Member Working Hard in BC

Twenty Inches of Mean Fish from Bose Lake, BC -Photo by Brandon Ladd
July Program

The July program will feature Kevin Payne. Kevin, along with his wife Jodi (a native Oregonian) and their two small children, own and run 'Back Country Trout' in the central south island of New Zealand. Kevin is an independent fly fishing guide and registered member of the New Zealand Professional Fishing Guides Association. He specializes in sight fishing for big brown and rainbow trout. Kevin and family come to Oregon each summer (which is the off season for New Zealand) to visit family, fish, and do a little business.

Kevin's presentation will be an overview of the country of New Zealand and the trout fishing opportunities to be had there. He will be showing us his methods of fishing and the different types of rivers and terrain New Zealand has to offer. Most of the presentation will be accompanied by beautiful slides of the countryside and, of course, some big trout!

-Chewaucan River Outing, July 22nd- 24th

I must be honest, I had never fished the Chewaucan (she-walkin’) River when I put it on the outing schedule last year. I have always wanted to. In preparation for the outing, I drove the 2.5 hours to the river from Redmond for some “investigation”. The drive was quiet and rather uneventful other than the few times I weaved around on the nearly empty road while staring at the open spaces and towering geological formations. This area is the definition of Central Oregon. It was 74 degrees that day under mostly sunny skies with a nice breeze. I drove into the town of Paisley at about 11:00 AM and headed up the river to Marster’s Spring Campground. The first stretch out of Paisley is BLM and a sage scrub mix, but after about 5 miles grasses, dogwoods, and ponderosa begin to dominate the drainage. Six miles from Paisley is Marster’s Spring Campground, and I passed many other camping “spots” along the way. I’ve read that the area gets pretty busy in the summer. Today, though, I came across 5 camping parties, mostly recreationalists, not one fisherperson and the campground was empty. After continuing up another 4 miles, I stopped to have lunch and hit the water with my 3-weight for a short period at a nice slow run. The adult caddis were out, and the fish were hungry. There is something to be said about a simple elk hair caddis dry set up, no indicators, no two-fly rigs, no fancy life-like fly. Just you, the fly on topwater and rising fish. I fished for an hour after and drove 2.5 hours back home. It was a wonderful day.

The Chewaucan River was stocked until 1999 when all stocking was halted to promote the propagation of the native redsides that are found only in this beautiful part of the country that COF calls our home waters. Rumor has it there are some big fish here, but most will find the average size about 8 inches. Most of the fishing is in the upper portions of the river above Paisley. Below Paisley, fish can run about 5 pounds, but much of the river runs through private land. Once ODFW caught these bigger fish below and transported them to the upper reaches. ODFW is currently placing passages for these fish in hopes they will distribute on their own throughout the system. For the more adventurous, continue further up the paved Forest Service road and dabble in the feeder creeks like Dairy Creek. This is really a special place in the open spaces of Central Oregon. If you haven’t been here, and many haven’t, now is your chance to enjoy some great fishing and great company. We have set this up as a 3 day outing, mostly
due to the distance and the fact that for many this will be new water. It is a great area for families with lot to do. There is hiking, biking, petroglyphs, hot springs etc. all within small a area. Not only all this, but we have a special treat for those that take the time and effort to join the outing. The district biologist has offered to give anyone interested a tour of the river and the improvements that are taking place. This is a great chance to really get to know a river quickly and see how your dollars are working for improvements to our sport.

Let’s all meet at Marster’s Spring Campground at 11:00 am on Friday the 22nd. The campground has ten sites. There are no reservations, so all the sites are first come first served. Hopefully, there will be enough space for all, but there are no guarantees. If the campground is full, a decision on where to camp along the river can be made by the folks there, and a sign will be posted for COF. If you are not camping, I have some options for you. Summer Lake Hot Springs (www.summerlakhotsprings.com) is about 4 miles before Paisley, and has full hookups and cabins with a natural mineral spring at a constant 104 degrees. There is also, although about 20 minutes from Paisley, Summer Lake Inn (www.summerlakeinn.com). This is nice. Luxurious cabins and a private catch and release trout lake with groomed casting stations for practicing your cast just feet from the cabins.- Carl Sanders

**September Outing Date Change**

The Gold Lake Outing to be led by Bob Cooper has been rescheduled for Saturday, September 10, 2005. Don’t forget to mark your calendar.

**July Fly of the Month**

**Greenbutt Skunk**

It is summer, and this means warmer days, warmer water, bigger hatches, bigger bugs, and summer steelhead. We are fortunate to have one of the premier steelhead rivers in our backyard…the Lower Deschutes River. Now I will be forthcoming in letting all know I am new to steelhead fishing, only at it two years now, and have yet to land one on a fly. For this reason, I will spare you any patterns that I have developed as I have yet to figure out if my zero count is my selection of water, selection of flies or technique, although I am leaning toward the latter.

Most summer steelhead flies are designed to be fished on the wet fly swing within the top 5 inches of water. They usually incorporate a tail, body, wing, and some softer wet hackle. If you ask around for the best steelhead fly, you’ll probably get an answer to the effect, “use the one you’re most confident in”. Why is this? Probably because the fly pattern plays a minute roll in catching steelhead. The shade of the fly (lighter, darker), however, can be crucial. Knowing this makes tying steelhead flies all the more exciting. There is freedom in color, material, and design choices that will make any avid tier drool. Steelhead flies are fun to tie.

Be it you are new to steelhead fishing or a weathered expert, you should or most likely have one of this month’s flies in your fly selection. The Greenbutt Skunk is arguably the most widely fished and best known summer steelhead fly. It is simple to tie and lends itself to many variations. Also, remember…for any steelhead fly (as John Shewey mentioned at our meeting) if you are going to fish it, make it pretty - these fish deserve the best.- Carl Sanders

**Hook:** Black steelhead sizes 2-6

**Thread:** Black

**Tail:** Red hackle fibers

**Wing:** White calf tail (this originally was white skunk...hence the fly’s name)

**Butt:** Green chenille

**Rib:** Fine oval silver tinsel

**Body:** Black chenille

**Hackle:** Black

**Variations:** Most of the variations listed let you adjust the fly’s shade to better match the weather and water levels. A different color butt or tail, no butt, wire ribbing, matched thorax and butt while keeping the body black, a little crystal flash for underwing, or dyed ostrich for body and butt (I like this one).
Wild Women of the Water Strike Again!

Wild Women of the Water staked their claim to Lone Pine Campground on the Crooked River on June 4 and 5 as they hosted the second Ladies Fly Fishing School for beginning and intermediate fly fishers. Delores and I barely had time to brew the coffee and put the muffins on the table before 21 beginners arrived promptly at 7:30 AM for Saturday’s class. Sunday’s clouds and cool temperatures did not deter 17 eager women from plunging into new techniques. (LeeAnn took plunging in quite literally. Fortunately, she was prepared with a set of dry clothes.)

While women moved among stations in knot tying, casting, gear, and aquatic entomology, LeeAnn and I slaved over a 3-burner propane stove and midget-sized oven in my travel trailer to prepare Saturday’s lunch menu. Hot German potato salad, teriyaki chicken, spinach/mandarin salad, home-baked brownies and chocolate chip cookies rounded out the menu. Delores “gear lady” Marsh demonstrated how to fill two picnic tables with “essential” fishing gear and then cram it all into the back of a Subaru.

Think things are quiet on the Crooked in the evening? No so. Delores witnessed an owl swoop overhead into the lone pine and raid a bird’s nest. There’s something you don’t get to see everyday.

Many thanks to Steve Light and his crew of instructors, Ron Anderson, John Anderson, Frank McKim, and LeeAnn Ross for helping with this event.

Special thanks to Eva Schmidt and Tommie Speik for providing mouth-watering, lip smackin’ recipes (There were very few leftovers!) and to Jeff Grimm for doing the grocery shopping. Thanks to the fly-tying efforts of the following people, we were able to provide every participant with 6 flies designed for the Crooked River: Tom Shuman, Dick Stentz, Jerry Criss, Phil Havens, Dave Dunahay, Emil Seidel and Spirit River

Metolius River Fly Fishing & Bamboo Rod Fair

The Fourth Annual Metolius Bamboo Rod and Fly Fishing Fair will be held on Saturday, July 16, 2005 from 10:00AM. to 5:00 P.M. on the grounds of Black Butte School in Camp Sherman. The day-long event will be hosted by Roger and Kathy White of the Camp Sherman Store and Don Chen of Quiet Reed Fly Fishing. Visitors may talk with contemporary Northwest bamboo rod builders, view examples of their work, and have a rare opportunity to cast these wonderful rods.

Features and Events:
*Cane Rods-Buy, Sell, Trade, Show & Tell
*Fish Stories & Tall Tales
*Meet some of Oregon's finest rod builders
*Learn to tie the best Metolius River fly patterns
*Free appraisals for your old antique cane rods and tackle
*Lee Clark - Creator of the Clark Stonefly
*Fishing Legend Jim Teeny
*Food & Beverages Available
*John Judy, Single handed Spey casting clinic
*In addition to many Hall of Fame Fly tyers, come watch Jackson Leong tie some of the most amazing flies you have ever seen!

Contact: Camp Sherman Store, (541) 595-6711 or email: Roger and Kathy or quiet_reed @ hotmail.com

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.

Marla Nelson & Allan Polenz, Mark Beardsley, Adam Apalategui, Bill Raleigh, Parker Madigan, Jim Perko, Brain Benson, Cindi & Don Dunn, Melanie McCall, Bart & Ashleigh Mitchell, Roger & Irene
Bob Griffin and I were off to the small town of Paulina to meet 30 school kids who reside in the area. We gave a lesson in fishing safety and how to be a courteous angler. They really enjoyed Bob’s demonstration of removing a barbed hook from skin (or a lemon in this case). Younger students practiced spin casting and Bob coached fly-casting for the older students. Habitat was the theme of the day, and students visited three other stations to learn about wildlife, forest fires and the salmon life cycle. At the end of the day, kids fished in Cottonwood Pit that was stocked with rainbows earlier in the year.- Jennifer Bock, STEP Biologist, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife and COF member.

History of the COF British Columbia Outing

June 1997 – Preface trip; Dave McNall and Don Johnston visited Pass lake where Dave had visited in 1988 with a buddy from Boise.

1998 – 1st Announced Trip; Don Johnston, Bob Griffin, Doyle Goolsby, Dave and a buddy from Colorado Springs. We stayed at Roche Lake with side trips to Earnest, Bullman, Peterhope & Black Lakes. This was a very good trip with excellent weather, fishing and company (Aqua Velva man included! – another story). I was the monthly guest speaker coordinator at this time, and in contact with Brian Chan (trying to get him here cheaply, which we finally managed some time later). Anyway, in planning for the next year’s outing with the understanding that we would have a greater turnout, Brian suggested Leighton Lake near the town of Logan Lake on the Highland Plateau. I had been to Tunkwa (adjacent to Leighton) in ’88, and knew it to be frustratingly difficult, this being my first experience with midges (chironomids).

1999 – Leighton Lake; 14 of us, including all the above plus Clyde Keller, Gordon, Raven, Mark Reisinger, Ken Stringer, Dick Mayer, Dan Driskill & John Burns. We had a $5 “big fish pot”, and Clyde “the Guide” held the 20” mark the first 4 days on Leighton while fishing out of Doyle’s boat. Mark from Boise, Doyle and I decided to head to Gump (managed for big fish) to displace “the Guide”, and realized quickly that we made the correct decision. I landed a 23”, and as I was releasing it Mark’s reel screamed with a 24”er. Not 10 minutes later, Doyle took honors with a 27” acrobatic monster. A local was slow trolling by us, and I asked him “how big do the fish get in Gump?” He said “I don’t know how big the biggest is, but I landed a 36” fish the previous year on a dry sedge pattern.”

2000 – Leighton Lake; 21 of us (and since it was getting too big for me, Gordon and I collaborated and all had a good time). This was also the first year we met up with a kind hearted local (and new member) Wayne Wright, who took us under his wing and was extremely helpful with tips regarding local water, hatches and methods. Neil & Georgi of the Logan Lake Flyshop were also very helpful (as they still are today.)

2001 thru 2005 – Leighton Lake: 24 to 37 members with Gordon and Bob doing most of the heavy lifting. I took my son Sean in ’01 (he was 11 years old) my son Dylan in ’02 (likewise 11) and my ex in ’03 (insert flattering age here _). The trips have evolved into an extremely efficient and rewarding experience since Gordon has done a masterful job of accessorizing with needed equipment. The meals are always top notch, as everyone brings their best game. This year’s trip ran me around $700 for the boys and I, but that included new rain gear all around and a night’s stay in town to dry out! Figure $450 – a deal!

Why go to Canada when we have all this “good” fishing right here in Central Oregon? First off the fish – after being chased around by loons from a young age, the Kamloops trout are absolute water missiles; I’ve
many times said “this is a 20”er” before seeing it only to land a 14” silver fatty. The scenery up and back is beautiful (on 97 anyway). The kids have seen bear, moose, deer, eagles and the sound of a loon alone is worth going up. Lastly the fish – I’m sure 6 of my top 10 trout came in 11 trips, with double 20”ers on Sawmill and a 30” (fat!) behemoth on Kidd (yes, I have photos!). We had unsettled weather this year with nary a hatch where I was, but I’d still do it again. A “thank you” to all who went, as everyone contributed to make it another successful year! - Dave McNall

Canyon Creek Brook Trout Eradication

Who: Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program, US Forest Service, Volunteers

Dates: July 15th - 19th (Arrive Friday afternoon and depart Tuesday noon). Volunteers may assist with all or fewer days

Location: Upper Canyon Creek (John Day River), 15 miles SE of John Day. Base Camp will be at Canyon Meadows campground on Canyon Creek.

Background: Brook trout, was introduced early in the century and established in many rivers including Canyon Creek, a tributary of the John Day River. Unfortunately, brook trout often compete and/or hybridize with Oregon’s native trout. Presently residing in Upper Canyon Creek are cutthroat, redband and brook trout. Canyon Creek runs approximately 35 miles. There is a barrier (dam) approximately 30 miles from the mouth. Upper Canyon Creek is a small creek, approximately 5’ wide and 3’ deep.

Project Objective: To protect cutthroat and redband trout, ODFW is removing brook trout in Upper Canyon Creek. Brook trout are removed by electrofishing and netting.

Volunteer Responsibility: Volunteers are needed to assist with set up of electrofishing stations, net trout, observe condition of cutthroat and redband trout, identify trout species and assist with camp chores. This is a campout project.

STEP provides: Meals, some gear is available to borrow: hip boots, polarized glasses

Campsite amenities: Restrooms, picnic tables. Water is brought to the site.

COORDINATOR: Jen Bock (ODFW/STEP biologist) 388-6350 x25 jennifer.a.bock@state.or.us

Combat Fly Fishing

Stay tuned! To be continued next month!

KOKANEE KORNER

KK Recruiting Development Specialist

As part of a strategic partnership with Wolftree and COF, Kokanee Karnival (KK) is in the process of recruiting and hiring a Development Specialist (DS) who will plan and implement a comprehensive development program to meet the fundraising and staffing goals of the two organizations. The DS will conduct outreach in the Central Oregon community through relationship building with individuals, foundations and corporations.

The DS is responsible for implementation of a portion of a development strategy that includes the organizations: annual and program funds; fundraising events; planned giving; and donor recognition projects. In addition, the DS works in concert with other Development Team Members on staffing and volunteer coordination, marketing, communications, and database management.

Qualifications for this new position include:

   Baccalaureate degree minimum, Masters degree preferred
   Senior development experience including face-to-face donor relations
   Excellent oral and written communication skills
   Special events and volunteer management skills
   Creative and resourceful approaches toward all tasks
   Ability to work a flexible schedule as required for events and meetings
   Passion for youth education, science and the environment
   Willingness to become immersed in the culture and mission of COF and Wolftree

   The salary for this position is commensurate with experience and qualifications.

   If you are interested or know of anyone who might be interested and qualified for this position please contact Mark Reisinger at 389-4124 or mreisinger@bendcable.com.
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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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

You must sign this release EACH year when you renew to attend or participate in club activities.

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
SIGNED BY  PRINT NAME  MONTH DAY YEAR

X
SIGNED BY  PRINT NAME  MONTH DAY YEAR

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

| July       | 7                  | COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 9                  | Fish Stocking with Llamas, Jeri Welbourn    |
|           | 15-19              | Canyon Creek Brook Trout Eradication Campout, Jennifer Bock |
|           | 16                 | Metolius Fly Fishing and Bamboo Rod Fair    |
|           | 20                 | COF General Membership Meeting, Kevin Payne, New Zealand, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 22-24              | Outing, Chewaucan River                     |
| August    | 4                  | COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 17                 | COF Picnic in Lieu of Meeting, Dick Stentz   |
| September | 1                  | COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 1                  | Class, Two Handed Spey Casting by John Judy, Ron Anderson |
|           | 10                 | Outing, Gold Lake, Rainbows and Brookes, Bob Cooper |
|           | 15-18              | Outing, Lower Deschutes, Steelhead and Trout, Neal Buxton |
|           | 20-23              | Kokanee Karnival Fall Streamside            |
|           | 21                 | COF General Membership Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
| October   | 6                  | COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 15                 | Outing, East Lake                          |
|           | 19                 | COF General Membership Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
| November  | 3                  | COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 16                 | COF General Membership Meeting, Jessica Maxwell, Dave Dunahay |
| December  | 1                  | COF Board of Directors Meeting, Dave Dunahay |
|           | 21                 | COF General Membership Meeting, Fly Tying, Dave Dunahay |