

The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

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MARCH PROGRAM

Why is everyone always tying those big, crazy looking chironomid patterns? And what does "fishing naked," mean? We hope it is not what it sounds like, considering the physique of the fly fishermen doing the talking!

If you have always envied those fly fishermen who take "exotic" trips to fish in foreign countries, but couldn't afford to go yourself, you need to come to the March meeting and hear about an affordable trip that could answer the questions above and more. In June you could find yourself on the COF 10 day trip to fish still waters in British Columbia, Canada. Want to know how much it will cost, what it will be like, what to take, and how successful past trips have been? Well, Gordon Chandler and Bob Griffin will reveal all with slides and presentations about past years successes and this years upcoming trip. This is a great opportunity to learn about fishing the Kamloops region of British Columbia, and why we keep going back every year. Those who participated in past years are liable to find themselves and their fish among the slides. The club meeting is open to the public and is free of charge.

RANDOM CASTS

While going through some stored fishing equipment that I plan to take to the COF Expo/Fly tying event on the 5^{th} of April at the Mountain View Mall, I ran across some old business cards. The business cards were from fly shops that I had traded with in the past. Some of the shops are still in business, but quite a few are no longer with us. It made me think how very important our local fly shops are to the Bend/Redmond fly fishing community.

It seems that often we get caught up in the quest to save a few dollars on fishing materials, and buy from sources outside of our area. But the fact is, the profit in fishing equipment is not very large, and shop owners are not retiring as millionaires. The local shops provide us with current information about what is going on with local waters, and they are the best source of information about the flies, leaders and fly lines that work best in our local waters. The local shops support our club with various services, gifts and equipment for our banquet and other events, and we need to thank them and support them.

Central Oregon Flyfishers

March 2003

The next time you go to your favorite shop, wear your COF name badge or hat, introduce yourself, and let the shopkeeper know that you appreciate their support. I don't know about you, but it is very hard for me to go into a fly shop without finding something that I cannot live without. So the dollars we spend at the local shops are a way of voting to keep the shop open and prospering, thereby assuring their continuing support of our club and the availability of local knowledge. Equally important is assuring that we have the materials and equipment available to us so that we can put our hands on that new reel or rod and get the "feel". You just cannot do that out of a catalogue.

Ok, I'm off the soapbox, but I hope I have given you some food for thought. By the time you read this, I will be on my way to 28 days in New Zealand. I hope to do a little sightseeing, a little fishing, and to say hello to some friends I have not seen in a very long time. I promise to take a few pictures and bring back a story or two. Ron Anderson will hold down the fort while I'm gone, so give him your support.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Board of Directors has spent the last several months looking at the efforts of a number of the club members, what they have provided to the club, and what could be done to reduce the load that a few have carried for the many. This process has led to some changes in an effort to reduce the load and allow members to work on programs that require less effort and provide "special" benefits for others.

One of those changes involves the newsletter and Tommie Speik. Through her efforts over the past several years, the newsletter has become a major load and requires quite a bit of time and effort to produce. At the February board meeting, it was decided that Tommie needs a break from that load and has been "retired" from the demanding position of Editor/Publisher of the club

newsletter. That "retirement" doesn't mean Tommie won't have anything to do though!

The conservation committee is taking on a new direction, and has dedicated itself to providing the club members with more opportunities to take part in conservation projects. We have asked Tommie to assist the conservation committee in those undertakings. Over the past several years Tommie has worked with the ODFW on a number of "campouts" involving back country streams and waters, and Tommie has expressed her willingness to act as the liaison between the club and the various agencies to get early information on these efforts, coordinate the club efforts, and put together the "campouts".

Tommie, and Bob, we cannot thank you enough for all that you have been doing and will continue to do to assist the club in becoming a more vibrant and involved organization.

THE NEW EDITOR/PUBLISHER

He looks funny, he fishes funny, and he writes funny, but, heck, he agreed to take the job. Harry Harbin is the new editor/publisher of the "Central Oregon FLYFISHER" newsletter, and we ask for your patience and assistance as Harry settles into the job and makes it his own.

If you have articles or suggestions for the newsletter, or have subscription or delivery issues, please contact Harry directly by e-mail or phone at harryharbin@bendcable.com or 388-8841. The deadline for articles remains the 27th of each month for now.

Harry will continue the policy of sending a notice of the availability of the newsletter on the web site to those of you with an e-mail address, instead of sending a hard copy by US mail. Let him know early if you change your e-mail address so you will receive your newsletter uninterrupted.

If you feel that you must have a hard copy, pick one up at the meeting or contact Harry directly. The annual cost of printing and mailing 12 issues of

the newsletter is currently \$10.20, a little over one third of your annual membership renewal. Monies spent on the newsletter cannot support the other fine programs of the club.

MARCH TYING MADNESS

Take a look at the upcoming outings described below. Dry flies, wet flies, streamers, little flies, big flies, Oregon flies, Canadian flies- you will need them all. That long cold winter that we use to fill our fly boxes is rapidly coming to an end. Are your fly boxes complete?

Fly tying continues at the Bend Trap Club, 6:30 until 8:30PM on Tuesday nights, through March giving you a little chance to catch up. The last meeting will be March 25, 2003, and we will begin again next November.

APRIL TUNE UP

The snow is falling outside my window, but it won't be long until we see the first hints of spring. On April 19, Phil Hager and Gene McMullen will be leading the spring "tune up" outing to the Crooked River. This will be a great time to string up those rods and check your waders for leaks. It is always great to start the year with a successful trip with lots of fish. The Crooked is already fishing well with lots of hatching bugs, so April should be great.

A number of our club members fish the Crooked one or more days a week all through the winter, and they will be on hand to give you tips on location, flies and technique.

"GREEN" EGGS AND CRIMM

"I need more Eggs to Fry" was the request from Terry Grimm, who is an extremely hard working Kokanee Karnival volunteer. I thought she wanted me to bring bacon and toast, but what she really needed were twenty-four more displays to be used in schools, which show the development of trout from Green Eggs, Eyed Eggs, and Alevins to Fry.

A call to COF's genius wood worker, Frank McKim, and the 2 1/2-inch by $8\frac{3}{4}$ - inch by $3\frac{1}{4}$ -inch displays arrived in three plastic bags a few days later, ready to be painted. Then I made a call to Bill Bancroft, painter extraordinaire, and the displays were ready to turn over to Jen Brock, ODFW Step Coordinator. Jen needed help with assembling the displays. A call went out at the January general membership meeting for volunteers. Emil Seidel, John Hoey, Jim Moore, Tommie Speik, Terry Grimm, Lyle Kearns and Greg Luke made short work of putting the specimens into bottles and into the displays. And now children in the classrooms of many schools here in central Oregon will be amazed by the process Mother Nature has devised to replenish rivers, lakes and streams with fish.

One of the points to this article is that COF is truly blessed by a group of people who, when joined together within the club to accomplish a goal, are rewarded with the knowledge that their gift of volunteer time has benefited countless children and parents. I would guess that you are thinking that it would be a "good thing" to give COF a little of your time, and I can assure you that you will be rewarded far beyond your expectations. So the next time we ask for volunteers, raise you hand. You will not be sorryjust ask any of the folks mentioned in this article.

ANA RIVER SPECTACULAR

After the April tune up, it will be time to push the envelope in May. There will be a multi-day COF outing on May 15, 16,17 and 18 (Th, Fr, Sat and Su) in the Summer Lake, Oregon area. Most of us know this area for the Ana River, a great little early season dry fly river, and the spring fed Ana Reservoir that is the source for the river. The reservoir is home to some good rainbow trout, but is known most for it hybrid stripers, big fish that run to many pounds, but are seldom targeted by fly fishers. The river picks up at the discharge of the lake, and runs for about three miles before it disappears into the sands of the desert.

Other waters within an easy drive are the Thompson Valley Reservoir near Silver Lake and the Sycan River that starts atop Winter Ridge in the Freemont National Forest and flows as a small river through meadows until it expands into a marsh and eventually flows to the Sprague River.

In addition to many varied fishing options, this area offers spectacular desert scenery, and, for the non-fishing partner, the Great Summer Lake Basin Wildlife Refuge. The refuge is heavily used by ducks and assorted sea birds in the Western Flyway, and features a huge barn owl that swivels its head and opens one saucer-sized eye when you walk in the old barn. The area also sports a large collection of petroglyphs.

Lodging options include a large parking lot at the reservoir that can be used for "dry camping" RV.s and tents, a nearby full hookup campground, and The Lodge at Summer Lake which features rooms similar to a motel, \$62.00 for a double, \$72.00 for four, along with a restaurant. There is also a café and bar in Silver Lake, and the famous Cowboy Dinner Tree Restaurant is nearby. Join us for a day trip or as many nights as you can manage. Look the area up in your maps and guide books, consider making your reservations, and stand by for more details. Dan Driskill will be our leader for this adventure.

ARE YOU JUST BEGINNING?

Our popular fly fishing instructor, Gordon Chandler, will once again be teaching a beginning fly fishing class for COF under the sponsorship of Bend Parks and Rec. If you joined the club as a beginner hoping to learn how to fly fish, this is definitely the place to start. The classes will meet in the evenings on April 28 and 30 and again on May 5 and 7. There will then be an all day outing on the Crooked River on Saturday, May 10th. You do not need equipment for the first class, but be prepared to purchase your equipment by the second class. There will be suggestions for any budget. Watch for the Spring Parks and Rec. flyer to sign up. Experienced members who would like to

volunteer to help with the class should also mark their calendars.

CANADA IN JUNE

This year we will revert to our former annual schedule for the club trip to British Columbia, Canada. The trip will depart early on June 19 and return June 28 or 29.

If you have not been, you need to imagine a two hour drive over very rough roads to a beautiful, clear blue/green lake full of trout over 20 inches, populated only by you and a loon. If this sounds good to you, come see the slides at the March meeting and get all of the details.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

A special welcome to this month's 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 and Harry Teel's "Guide to Fly Fishing Central & Southeastern Oregon".

Daryl & Nancy Loveland Roger & Mary Sanders
Steve & Lou Iverson Sweet Medicine Nation
Ron Cochran & Julie Kennedy Charles & Jean Kern

FOR SALE

Scientific Anglers Mastery Series Quad Tip Fly Line, Green, 8 Wt. Paid \$89.95, Asking \$50.00 Call Steve Sheldon 541-593-1546

EXPO/FLY TYING EVENT

The annual COF EXPO/FLY TYING event will be held at the Mountain View Mall on April 5 from 10am to 3pm. This event is now the primary fundraiser for COF, and we need all hands on deck to find or contribute outdoor and fishing equipment, and volunteer for one day to make this program a success.

This event is the opportunity for you to volunteer to help with our fund raising efforts and education programs. For those of us who collect various treasures, we can clear out our old fishing, camping, and outdoor equipment by making a donation to the "garage sale". Contact Tom Ratcliffe (318-5146) to help with the "garage sale" or make donations. Bob Griffin (389-5146) can use some help with beverages and food sales. Bill Lundy has again lined up the local fly shops to assist with the fly tying.

The Mountain View Mall has donated two shop areas plus the area in front of J.C. Penny's. And, G.I. Joe's once again is helping to sponsor the event. There is a lot going on, and we need help from everyone to make this event a success. Dave & Sandy Dunahay, dunahay@teleport.com

REDBAND TROUT RADIO TAGGING

Deep Creek is the major tributary of the North Fork Crooked River, often making up nearly all the water in the late summer and early fall months. This stream enters the North Fork Crooked several miles below Big Summit Prairie, in the center of the Ochoco Mountains. This stream is the nursery for most of the redband survival in the Upper Crooked River, and may supply up to 85% of the total population of redband trout. The Deep Creek watershed comprises 55,000 acres, of which the United States Forest Service (USFS) administers 98%. It has the most intact and interconnected watershed left in the Ochocos for redband propagation, survival and out-migration.

Road building, timber harvest and livestock grazing have impacted the quality of the aquatic environment. Concerns about this aquatic habitat have prompted fisheries biologists from the USFS and ODFW to do further investigation of the migration patterns of redbands residing in both Deep Creek and the North Fork Crooked River. The data collected should help in determining what habitats to protect, prioritize where stream restoration needs to occur, influence angling

harvest regulations and display the number of fish out-migrating from Deep Creek to the North Fork Crooked.

In April of 2002, 12 redbands were radio tagged in Deep Creek and its tributaries Little Summit Creek and Double Corral Creek with the assistance of COF. In November of 2002, an additional 10 redbands were tagged in Deep Creek. These fish will be tracked using a radio receiver adjusted to the frequency of each fish's radio transmitter. Actual tracking will either be done along the stream from the ground or by aerial surveillance from an airplane. Individual fish, when located, are plotted on maps and then compared to where they were tagged and released.

In addition, during the spring of 2003, a screw trap will be placed in the lower end of Deep Creek. This trap should capture out-migrants on their way to the North Fork Crooked. Some of these redbands will have transmitters implanted, and will be monitored by ground and air through the 2003 spring and summer. Early results from the study indicate that there is a high number of fish out-migrating from Deep Creek to the North Fork Crooked. It also appears that adult fish living in the tributaries of Deep Creek tend to stay in those tributaries. This study is expected to continue until tagged fish samples are satisfactory in a given season to assure logical conclusions can be made.

Gene McMullen

Ref. Vacirca, USFS Hodgson, ODFW

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Who doesn't enjoy helping a kid learn to fish? April 22 through 25 we will be conducting the annual Angler's Ed program at Aspen Hall in Shevlin Park. If you have helped out in the past, we have reduced the time commitment from three days for two weeks to four days in one week. For new volunteers, we will find a good place for you and make sure you experience the joy of teaching eager kids. Contact Phil Hager.

Our conservation committee chairmen Gene McMullen (left) and Phil Havens attempt to "bonk" redbands at the Head of the Metolius for ODFW, February 12, 2003. By Ted Wise.



(Did Gene pay real money for that hat? -ed.)

TREES FOR THE METOLIUS

Annually, dead and dying trees are identified as hazards to users of Forest Service developed recreation sites along the Metolius River. Rather than remove all of the trees identified, the fishery biologist from the Sisters Ranger District has identified those trees that may be felled into the river and left to benefit river life and stream function. So far this year, eight such trees have been identified. These trees will be felled in ways that will allow for safe boating passage, provide for trail access, provide fish habitat, and maintain stability against high flows. Only one of the trees, in the vicinity of Pine Rest Campground, may extend 2/3 of the way across, while others may extend 1/3 of the way across, or only the very tips of others will touch the river. Most of these trees are located in the vicinity of Camp Sherman. Exact placement of these trees will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Upstream from Bridge 99, natural in-falls presenting boating hazards may be managed to varying degrees. In accordance with the Metolius Wild and Scenic River Plan, however, the Forest Service does not manage boating hazards downstream from Bridge 99.

Large trees that are placed in the river or that fall in naturally provide cover and food for stream organisms ranging from minute aquatic invertebrates to bull trout. If properly felled into the river and onto the floodplain, and of sufficient size, the large trees usually remain stable for many years as they slowly break down into organic matter that can be used by stream organisms. Unfortunately, after major floods in the past, the Metolius River has been cleared of large wood, and historically had much more large wood than it currently does. This project is part of an ongoing effort to recruit more large wood into the Metolius River so that it is more in line with historic levels.

These are only the trees that have been identified thus far this year. It is possible that several more trees may be identified as potential "river" trees this year. We are especially interested in comments from those who recreate on the Metolius River. Please, focus your responses to the scope of this project. Please note that if cable is used to secure large wood it will be hidden so that it will not be visible. Comments should be addressed to: Sisters Ranger District, Attn: Scott Cotter, P.O. Box 249, Sisters, OR 97759 or e-mail: sacotter@fs.fed.us It will be ok to receive comments by COF members in March. Thanks, Scott.

COF Tuesday fly tiers were featured on the sports page of The Bend Bulletin, February 6, 2003.



Steve Sheldon with

a Canadian rainbow, cropped to delete the Canadian who caught most of the fish.

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Fish Dissection Fish Eggs to Fry

Fall Streamside

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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FLY SHOPS BEND:

Deschutes River Outfitters • 388-8191 61115 S Hwy 97, Bend OR 97702

The Fly Box • 388-3330 1293 NE 3rd Street, Bend OR 97701

The Patient Angler • 389-6208 55 NW Wall Street, Bend OR 97701

G.I. Joe's • 388-3773 63455 N Hwy 97, Bend OR 97701

Fly and Field Outfitters • 318-1616 143 SW Century Drive, Ste A, Bend, OR 97702

CAMP SHERMAN:

Camp Sherman Store • 595-6711 Camp Sherman OR 97730

MADRAS:

Numb-Butt Fly Company • 541-325-5515 308 N. Hwy 26, Madras OR 97741

REDMOND:

Central Oregon Outdoors • 504-0372 1502 SW Odem, Redmond, OR 97756

Centwise Sporting Goods • 548-4422 498 SW 6th Street, Redmond OR 97754

SISTERS:

The Fly Fishers Place • 549-3474 151 W. Main Avenue, Sisters OR 97759

SUNRIVER:

The Hook Fly Shop • 593-2358 Sunriver Village Mall, Bldg. 21, Sunriver OR97707

Sunriver Fly Shop • 593-8814 56805 Venture Lane, Sunriver OR 97707

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

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Dues	Please check those that apply					
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Associate Membership (Outsi	de Crook, Deschutes	& Jefferson Coun	ties) \$12.50			
How did you find us?						
Please check Interests	Acquire	Find	Volunteer For	Improve	Social	
Other Interests: Please List On Back Of Application	More Knowledge	Fishing Partner	Projects	Fishing Techniques	Functi	ons
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$		<u>_</u>			

The Central Oregon Flyfishers PO Box 1126 Bend, Oregon 97709

