President’s Message

Fishing season is here but no one told Mother Nature. I know we live in the High Desert of Central Oregon but I still can not believe that it can be 70 degrees on one day and snow the next. My guess is that the roads to East and Paulina will not be open April 22nd. The weather this year reminds me of living in South Dakota. South Dakota has two seasons winter and summer.

May is a big month for Central Oregon Fly Fishers (COF). We hold the banquet and fundraiser. At the end of April and fist of May, the Spring Angling Clinic is at Shevlin Pond. Thank you to all COF members who attended the banquet and volunteered to help with the Spring Angling Clinic.

The 3-Day Fly Fishing Camp will be on June 26th, 27th and 28th at the Metolius Pond out of Camp Sherman – See the article in this newsletter. The camp is conducted in cooperation with ODFW, Redmond Park and Recreation and Central Oregon Fly Fishers. As with all youth activities, COF success is a function of the engagement of volunteers.

COF is your organization and it’s success is a function of your engagement. At the Crooked River clean-up, a member told me that he thought the greatest benefit of being a COF member was the opportunity to engage in meaningful volunteer activities. I fully agree with his statement. As many of you know, my passion is working with youth to hopefully encourage them to become fly fishers and experience the outdoors. In the book “Good to Great” Jim Collins writes that to be great at anything you must be passionate about it. I’m not saying that I’m great at working with youth, but I’m passionate. I encourage you to identify an activity conducted by COF and then follow your passion. I also believe that no one has to do everything, but everyone should do something. One of my favorite sentences has 10 words and each word only has two letters: If it is to be it is up to me.

There is an excellent set of outings scheduled, and I recommend that you go on several. Six or 7 years ago Lee Ann lead an outing to Three Creeks. After fishing for several hours and not catching any fish, I saw that Tim Quinton was catching fish. I rowed over to him and asked what his secret was to catch fish. He gave me several tips and even a fly. By the time I left I had caught 10 or 12 fish. The lesson is that going on an outing will improve your fishing skills.

As always, thanx for being a part of this great Club, and feel free to let me (or any board member) know if you have ideas for improvement.

Congratulation to Danny Kara. He visited with the leadership of the Sportsman Show and they agreed to increase the donation to COF from $1,500 to $3,000. The increase was proactive, so rather $1,500 this year we will receive $3,000.

Tight line

Fred A. Cholick
fcholick@gmail.com
785-410-1866
The Significance of Insects to Life on Earth

Over the past 18 years I have had the pleasure of meeting many impressive and dedicated members of COF, none more so than John Anderson. After retiring from UC Berkeley where he was professor of entomology, John moved to Central Oregon and joined the club in 1995. John served on the board for many years as conservation chair, outings chair, at-large, and served on the library committee.

John was part of the 6-person group that started Kokanee Karnival, wrote parts of the original KK manual, and volunteered at KK events. John taught aquatic entomology classes for COF, gave other club presentations, volunteered at the Sportsman’s Show kid pond, and helped with Crooked River clean ups. John is an Honorary Life Member, has been Flyfisher of the Year, and is the recipient of our Conservation Award. John led research efforts on Crooked River aquatic insects which resulted his self-published book, “Fly Fishing Oregon’s Crooked River: Insect Drift and Seasonal Fish Diets as a Guide to Successful Fly Fishing”, which quickly sold out.

At 92, John is no longer as active as he once was, but he continues to speak about insects to various groups.
Here’s his description of his talk for this month:

“Everywhere we look we find insects. They destroy essential food crops and forests, and invade our homes, hotels and restaurants (termites, cockroaches, ants). Many suck blood from humans and livestock, and transmit parasites that cause serious diseases in both. Humans, and other animals, benefit from insect pollination of many food crops and beautiful flowers. Thank them for coffee, tea, honey, chocolate and spices, as well as silk, shellac, varnish and rubber – and for being the ONLY (or primary) food of bats, frogs, and 1,000’s of insectivorous birds, fish and mammals. Join Emeritus Prof. John Anderson as he discusses some of the many ways insect wildlife impacts the lives of humans and other animals.”

- YANCY LIND
PROGRAMS@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

CONSERVATION

This month I will be hosting a trip to Lake Billy Chinook to target some smallmouth bass on May 25. For all of you who are tired to fishing with #18 and #20 BWO on the crooked river this will give an opportunity to fish with larger flies. Attached is a picture of the materials I bought to make some new crawfish flies based on the club meeting on warm water fishing a couple months back. I have a large supply of pheasant tail feathers thanks on an uncle who raised bird dogs and also raised game birds for release and training purposes for the dogs. The following two pictures show the colors and sizes of hooks I plan on using this spring. I bought a package of both #1 and #1/0 jig hooks to go with the 3/16 and ¼ inch Barbell Eyes. I plan on using the smaller hooks and weights in the spring when fish are in the warm shallows. Later in the summer as more of the water warms and the fish move to deeper water to escape the bright sunlight, I may switch to the heavier weights and larger hooks. Note my three favorite colors of chenille. I also use gold wire used to make segments on half the fly near the bar bell eyes.

For my power point presentation on how to fish Lake Billy Chinook, check out the “Fishing Tips…. How To…. ” section of the COF website under the membership section after logging onto the site. This shows my favorite points and locations to find smallmouth bass in the reservoir. Hope to see you on the lake on May 25th.

- TOM SHUMAN
MADRASFISH@GMAIL.COM

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Wild Women of the Water celebrated the coming of spring and the arrival of fishing and camping season with a gathering at the home of Sue Coyle. Along with great food and beverages this year we included a fly swap. Each woman brought 3 fly patterns of their choice and included the name and how to fish the fly. This was a
great learning experience for each especially the women newer to the sport or returning after a long hiatus. Some women brought fly patterns they tied themselves and others sought the help of our local fly shops. Each shop was excited to support our women and assist in selecting fly patterns which work here in Central Oregon. Our women's group supports one another through education opportunities as well as on and off the water gatherings. We are looking forward to a summer of fishing together!

- SUE COYLE
WILDWOMEN@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

**NEXT CAST FLYFISHERS**

**Next Cast (COF’s Youth Program)**

June is the month for the 3-Day Fly Fishing Camp at the Metolius Pond. The pond is located just past Camp Sherman. The goal of the Camp is provide the kids with all the skills to become fly fishers. Helper are need to insure that the kids have a positive experience. To maximize the experience for the kids, 12 volunteers are needed. The following are the camp activities: fly fishing gear and equipment, water safety including having the kids put on waders and collect insects in Spring Creek, insect identification, practice overhead casting, Oregon Fishing Regulations, Knot tying, fly tying and fishing in Metolius Pond. On the last day the kids are handed a fly rod in it’s case and have to assemble the rod and tie on a fly before they can go fishing. If you now anyone between 10 and 16 , please go to:  https://redmondor.myrec.com/info/activities/search.aspx to register. The camp is held in cooperation with ODFW, Redmond Park and Recreation and COF volunteers. COF received 60% of the registration fee. The camp will be held on June 26th, 27th, and 28th, with the tent raising on June 25th. Please email: fcholick@gmail.com and plan on being a helper, our assisted will be greatly appropriated. Liz Jones has already agreed to lead the insect identification.

- FRED A. CHOLICK
(785) 410-1866, FCHOLICK@GMAIL.COM

**OTHER NEWS**

**Thank You Crooked River Cleanup Volunteers!**

We enjoyed a great turnout and beautiful weather on April 15 for the Crooked River Cleanup. Many thanks to everyone for a successful cleanup. The cleanup photographs are by Todd and Corol Ann Cary. An extra thank you goes to the lunch crew of Kathleen Martin, Terri Grimm, Delores Marsh, Dave Dunahay, and Dick Olson. Here is the list of participants as sent to Dick Olson. Dick keeps track of volunteer hours and mileage for the Central Oregon Flyfishers. Thank you Dick Olson.

Randall Davis
Harry Harbin
Fred Cholick
Deschutes Steelhead Outlook

If you are a fellow steelhead junkie, then you are already thinking about the upcoming season. Unfortunately, according to ODFW, the outlook remains grim. On April 18th ODFW hosted an excellent webinar on Columbia Basin steelhead forecasts and anticipated fishing regulations. You can learn more and watch the presentation by going to MyODFW.com and searching for “Steelhead management in Columbia & Snake River basins”.

There was a ton of good information in the hour long talk, but here’s a very brief summary. ODFW is currently working with forecasted returns for the upcoming season, which are the lowest ever. Of course, actual returns will be monitored and regulations will be updated as needed.
The current plan is to open the Deschutes for steelhead fishing on May 1 but to close it on August 15, prior to most fish getting above Sherars Falls. This is the opposite of what happened last year when the river was initially closed but opened on August 15 when actual returns exceeded the forecast. The John Day River is most likely to remain closed for a third straight year. Further east, the Grande Ronde and Imnaha rivers are projected to be open, although fish counts will be very low and they expect correspondingly low angler effort.

Sidebar: there has been a lot of misinformation and outright disinformation around why Deschutes steelhead are declining. There is overwhelming scientific consensus on this topic.

All anadromous fish, not just steelhead, throughout the entire Columbia Basin and most of the West Coast up into Canada are in peril. The reasons are clear and are listed here in rough order of current importance. A warming ocean is disrupting the food web that anadromous fish rely on. Dams, agriculture, and other developments have degraded, blocked, and otherwise eliminated spawning and rearing habitat. Genetically inferior hatchery fish compete and breed with wild fish reducing wild fish robustness. Harvest occurs at unsustainable levels. Waters are polluted from agricultural, municipal, and industrial sources. Again, these problems are being experienced in most Pacific Coast steelhead rivers and populations are in dramatic decline. This is not simply a Deschutes River issue.

- Yancy Lind
Yancy.Lind@gmail.com

Kokanee Karnival
The Spring Angling Clinic was held on April 24th, 25th, 27th, 28th and May 1st and 2nd. This article was written before the end of the clinic but wanted get it in the newsletter timely. As in the past the clinic was a sounding success. Three hundred 5th graders (yes 300), 11 teachers and at least 40 volunteers had a great time. The clinic was a success because the volunteers did a supper job. A BIR Thanks to the followig Volunteers: Fred A. Cholick, Jen Luke, Frank Turek, Jim and Teerrie Carmack, Danny Kara, Yancy Lind, Randall Davis, Bill
Raleigh, Bill Lincoln, Terry Shrader, Quentin Stanko, Louisa Hooten, Tim Quinton, Herb Blank, Tom Shuman, Tom Schnell and Rhonna Schnell, Kathleen Schroeder, Dick Olson, Jack Paterson, Mark Hamilton, Debbie Norton, Terri Grimm, Sam Rath, Herb Blank, Mike Trip, and Phil Martin. Hope that we did not miss someone.

Thanks to Sunriver Anglers for cooking the hot dogs. It truly takes a village to have a successful Spring Angling Clinic.

-FRED CHOLICK (COF) FCHOLICK@GMAIL.COM
-JEN LUKE (ODFW) JENNIFER.A.LUKE@ODFW.OREGON.GOV

BOARD BITS

A SUMMARY OF THE MAY COF BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING

BBQ – Mark Hamilton led a discussion on whether to expand the BBQ to include fly shops and their guests/customers. The shops would also host a table. The consensus was to continue with the traditional BBQ. The BOD approved Mark’s budget for a traditional BBQ.

Grant – a grant request was received from ODFW to help perform Benthic Macroinvertebrate Sampling in the Deschutes River Basin. After discussion, the BOD tentatively approved giving $1500 to Jessie Ben Stout with ODFW for the sampling. Allen will ask Jessie about a few technicalities.

Advertising in the newsletter – How should the BOD address advertising requests from those organizations outside of COF? The discussion was tabled until we research our Board Book to see what is there.

Monthly raffle – we have a tentative volunteer.

Winter Fly Tying – John reported on the numbers for Winter Fly Tying…beg and int classes. Numbers were down as compared to previous years’ classes. Is it worth the club’s money to continue the classes next year? The discussion was tabled until later in the year, after we can assess club participation in other activities.

Awards – Tim Q – Tim has contacted fly box recipients to accept or decline their awarded boxes. As such, he will be giving out 29 fly boxes to the appropriate volunteers, but commending all of them.

Banquet/Auction – Tim S – we have 76 paid attendees so far. We have met our break-even point. We have many great donations including from 5 fly shops. The auction list was sent in an email blast.

Membership – Bob – 265 members including 10 new members this last month.

Programs – Yancy – the year is booked.

Kokanee Karnival and Next Cast – Fred – We are in the midst of a successful Spring Angling Clinic. When it is completed, 300 kids will have participated. June 25, 26, 27, 28 – Next Cast Youth Fishing Camp…We need 12 volunteers per day. Please contact Fred.

Conservation – Tom – Stephen Williams will be conducting casting classes at Discovery Park on May 10 & 16. BPR approved the use of Tom’s targets for the casting class. Looks like there will be good participation. The targets have not yet been approved by BPR to be left there continually. Tom is hosting a smallmouth bass trip to Bill Chinook on May 25.

Outings – Allen – Yancy had the first outing this last week…Warm Springs/Trout Creek day trip on the Deschutes. Great trip, many fish and SUN! Allen has scheduled at least one outing/month. He would love to see more. Please contact Allen with your ideas.

Webmaster – Mary – Mary has instituted a spreadsheet for anyone wanting their event to be posted on the website and calendar. Contact Mary for details. The new Kokanee Karnival website will be up in another week.

COF BOD members – will you be continuing on the BOD or not? Please let Fred know.

New COF members – we, as a board, need to make a more conscious effort to connect with our newest members at meetings. We need to encourage participation with all new and old members.

Next COF BOD meeting – May 25

-KARI SCHOESSLER
SCHOESSLER.KARIVAN@GMAIL.COM

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to Our New Members

Lisa Amato Craig - Portland
Christopher Centers - Bend
Ray Flood - Bend
Jack Gibbons - Bend
Sami Godlove - Bend
Tom Hill - Bend
Jeff Johnson - Bend
Kevin Sansom - Redmond (Eagle Crest)
Patricia Stout - Bend
Bob Williams - Chico, CA

Central Oregon Flyfishers counts 265 currently active members. Ten new members joined in the month of April.

- ROBERT SHIMANE
MEMBERSHIP@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

COF CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: TWO ORVIS LARGE ARBOR THREE SPOKE EXTRA SPOOLS FOR A 5/6 LINE. Make offer. (Reel is attached to a fly rod in about 30’ of water at East Lake). Jack Patterson, 541-941-4156, Jfpat44@gmail.com

FREE: CORTLAND MAGNUM 200 D SPOOL for a salmon reel. Line size unknown. Free. Jack Patterson, 541-941-4156, Jfpat44@gmail.com

FOR SALE: KORKERS DEVIL’S CANYON WADING BOOTS, SIZE 12 - $75. These boots have been worn quite a bit but have plenty of life left in them. The cable one of the boots was replaced last year, and both cables are in good shape. Comes with 1 pr of Studded Kling-On Soles and 1 pr of Kling-On Sticky Soles. Check out the Korkers website for the details: https://korkers.com/collections/fishing-footwear/products/devils-canyon?variant=24521933848676. Call or email if you have questions or want to look at them in person, Tim Quinton, cgtimq@gmail.com, 509-392-3516

FOR SALE: SCIENTIFIC ANGLERS SYSTEM 2 89 REEL - $50, Excellent condition, reel for 8 -9 weight lines. Comes with ~200 yds of 30 lb braided Dacron backing in good condition. Call or email if you have questions or want to look at them in person. Tim Quinton, cgtimq@gmail.com, 509-392-3516
FOR SALE: SAGE MODEL ONE 7116-4 TWO HANDED SWITCH ROD, 11’ 6” , 7 WT., 4-PIECE, SOCK AND TUBE, $500, comes with Rio Scandi Shooting Head, 420 gr. and Rio Powerflex Shooting Line, Like new, rod and line fished perhaps twice, retail; rod-$860, shooting line-$40, scandi line-$55, total cost $955, Peter Martin, landline, 541-388-8956, pcmartin@bendbroadband.com

COF MEMBERS: Got a “fishy item,” (broadly defined), to sell, find, or giveaway? Ads are free and run for one newsletter. If the item is not sold, please resubmit your ad for the next month’s newsletter. Submit ads to classifieds@coflyfishers.org by the end of the third week of each month. JPEG photos are useful.

- CLASSIFIEDS@COFLYFISHERS.ORG
Is there water? Well, we have to wait and see, the snow on the mountain was good but the snow in the low land areas was again lite compared to what is needed to gain on the drought conditions. So again, be we will need to take care of the fish we do catch. This month’s fly old school, “Shipmans Buzzer” developed in the UK by: Dave Shipman in the mid-70’s. It imitates a hatching buzzer (the UK’s name for midges or what we call Chironomid’s). It is called a damp dry fly because it hangs in the surface film and will drop just below the surface just in enough to make it an easy meal for the fish. It can be tyed in claret, (my favorite) bright red, burnt orange, lite olive, tan and black. Take samples off the water you fish and match the hatch. Learn to take throat samples from the fish you catch and there are videos of this on line. The sample will show you exactly the colors and size of the bugs you need.

The flies are fished on dry lines, long leaders, (12 to 18 feet) and lite (5X and 6X) tippets. Use your dry fly dressing lightly, we want this fly to just lie in the surface film. Very slow strips, 2 to 3 inches, also you let the fly drift with the wind currents on the lake’s you fish. The fly can be fished on river back eddies and slower water where there are signs of midges.

**MATERIALS**

**Hook:** #12 to #16 Dry fly hook, Try the TMC 103BL, 900bl they are lite wire and wide gape.

**Thread:** Black 8/0

**Breathes and tail:** Poly-yarn or EP-Trigger white or light tan.

**Body:** Seal fur or substitute to match the hatch (the Canadian mohair dubbing is great substitute).

**Ribbing:** Pearl mylar small or medium

**TYING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Start the thread just behind the hook eye and tye in a piece of poly yarn that extends over each end of the hook, this will be cut to length at the end of the tye. While wrapping the thread back, tye in the ribbing material and stop just above the barb point of the hook.

2. Dub the thread and keep the noodle even and a little spikey. Wrap the dubbed thread forward and stop just behind the wing material.

3. Now bring the ribbing forward in 5 even wraps and stop with two wraps in front of the wing and tye off with the thread. Take a few more wraps of thread over the ribbing and tight against the bottom of the wing driving it up just a little. Finish with a clean small head.

“Good Luck and Good Hunting”

- JERRY CRISS
TLFLY44@MSN.COM
## MAY 2023 UPSTREAM EVENTS

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<th>ACTIVITY</th>
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<td>May 6</td>
<td>Banquet/auction, 5:30 @ Bend Elks Lodge</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tjsfishes@bendbroadband.com">tjsfishes@bendbroadband.com</a>, <a href="mailto:reneeschindele@gmail.com">reneeschindele@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>May 17</td>
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<td>May 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 25</td>
<td>BOD Meeting</td>
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## In the Future

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<td>Crane Prairie Outing</td>
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<td>June</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:cgtimbq@gmail.com">cgtimbq@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>August</td>
<td>East Lake Outing</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>John Day River Outing</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tjsfishes@bendbroadband.com">tjsfishes@bendbroadband.com</a></td>
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