

The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

Volume 25 Number 5 May 2003

MAY OUTING

May 15-18

Ana River/ Reservoir

Dan Driskill 388-1572

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 21, 6:30PM- 8:30PM
Central Oregon Board Of Realtors
"Dynamics of the Compound Rod"

MAY PROGRAM - THE HOW AND WHY OF THE COMPOUND FLY ROD

Have you wondered why your fly rod can cast a line so far? Or, perhaps, not so far? Have you given thought to the various claims of rod manufacturers extolling the greatness of their new products? Why does graphite work better than fiberglass in rod building? Why would anybody add another tip to a perfectly fine rod? Jerry Kollodge, of Sisters, is the originator and manufacturer of the unique compound fly fishing rod. Jerry knows rods. He builds rods for a wide range of fishermen and, of course, is a fly fisherman himself. Fishing rods have undergone many changes, and this may be the next important change. Casting Jerry's rods requires much less effort than conventional rods. You can cast so far with this rod that you won't need waders. Members should be sure to stay for the hands on casting demonstration. Remember to invite a friend to our meeting, Wednesday, May 21, 6:30 PM- 8:30 PM, Central Oregon Board of Realtors Building, no charge.

RANDOM CASTS

You may have "left your heart in San Francisco", but I have left mine in New Zealand. Though I had not been to the two-island nation for twenty years and much had changed, the people were as I remembered - kind, gentle, friendly and generous beyond all imagination. The topography is very similar to Central Oregon, and the weather is exactly the opposite of ours. (When it is winter here, it is summer there).

My wife Carol and I were able to swim with the dolphins, and I can tell you that was a breath taking experience. I would never have guessed that being in the water with some really big fish would have been such a moving experience. If you are ever given the opportunity to experience a dolphin swim, do not miss it.

Speaking about fish - yes, I was able to catch a couple of the big browns on the Matura River on the South Island. Fishing in New Zealand is a wonderful thing if you like sight fishing for some really serious fish in crystal clear water. The margin of error in your presentation and drag free drift is zero. So, I spent a lot of time waiting for the darlings to come back after I put them down. Most of my success was with a dry fly called Dad's

Favorite in sizes 16 and 18. The fly is made with a striped peacock herl for the body, moose mane tail, and a medium dun hackle, which I am dying to try on some of our local water.



DAD'S FAVORITE

Hook- Tiemco 100, sizes #14 thru #18

Thread- #6/0 Dark Brown

Tail- 6 to 8 Moose body hair or mane

Body- Stripped peacock herl (soak in dish of

water with 1 drop of dish soap until pliable)

Hackle- Medium Dun dry fly

Wing- Duck Quill

Start tying thread one eye width behind eye of hook and wrap to bend of hook. Tie on moose body hair at bend of hook. The length of the tail should be as long as the shank of the hook. Wrap pre-soaked peacock herl to a point 3 hook eyes behind eye of hook. Tie in wing, then hackle with curve of feather cupping forward, 4 to 5 wraps, tie off, and form small head. Fish fly in standard dry fly fashion with 6X tippet and 10 foot leader. The fly represents a wide range of critters.

I guess I could go on about the trip, but I'll save that for another time. But if you are considering a trip to New Zealand, please let me know and I'll tell you every thing I know, share a map with you (and maybe a Dad's Favorite or two).

Before I left on the trip, I helped work on the Outdoor Equipment Swap and Fly Tying Expo at Mountain View Mall. It was a great success, not only in raising funds, but also in interesting seven new folks in becoming COF members. I want to offer our thanks to the volunteers who priced all the items at the Expo. They did a great job. Also, a special thanks to Tom Ratcliffe who acted as Expo cashier and salesman.

Bob Griffin and Terry Grimm did a super job at the

refreshment booth, making money and creating a festive atmosphere. Bill Lundy organized the fly tiers from the club and the fly shops, and deserves a round of applause for his efforts. But the guy who really shined was Dave Dunahay, who organized, advertised and put the show together in an effortless fashion even though there were tons of things to coordinate and organize. The support from Mountain View Mall and GI Joe's was very generous and much appreciated. The amount of work that these events require is daunting, and we owe the folks who volunteered a standing ovation.

It is good to be home and I look forward to this years fishing. Your Pal, Dan



Dan Driskill Fishing in New Zealand

ANA RIVER OUTING

The Ana River outing on May 15 thru the 18th, 2003 is planned to appeal to the whole family and not just the fly fishermen. The Ana is approximately one and a half hours (100 miles), from Bend. Travel southeast on Hwy. 97, and turn off toward Silver Lake on Hwy. 31. Drive through Silver Lake toward Summer Lake, drive over Picture Rock Pass, and the reservoir and river will be on your left.

You have come to the gateway of the Fremont National Forest and the Gearhart Wilderness area, which you may have seen on a map, but most likely have not traveled. One of the reasons we have picked this area is that it is less traveled and the fishing pressure is low. Plus, the Summer Lake Basin is on the spring flight path of many migratory birds, such as the Sand Hill Cranes and Snow Geese, to name but a few of over 250 species of birds who stop at Summer Lake. There is an opportunity for the photographer, the bicyclist, and the hiker who would like to walk the spiritual "Medicine

Men" path of the Piaute Indians on Picture Rock Pass. And it is only a short distance from volcanic oddities like "Hole-in-the-Ground", "Crack-in-the-Ground" and the "Devil's Garden". I think you get the idea that there is a lot to do and see if fishing is not your bag.

But if fishing is your bag, then how about the Oregon record for hybrid bass that has been broken five times since 1996, all coming from the Ana Reservoir, the latest being 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. The Ana River flows from the reservoir at a fairly constant 52 degrees, and that means insect hatches are common and consistent all year. The river is stocked with the Deschutes River red band stock (20,000 to 30,000 per year) as fingerlings of 3 to 4 inches. So, to reach the size anglers are interested in means these fish have developed some survival instincts and require a stealthy approach. Fish in the 14 to 16 inch size are not unusual, and larger fish will be found in the deeper pools. By larger fish, I mean in the 4 and 5-pound size, and they will jump and fight like crazy when hooked. Flies to have in the area close to the reservoir include blue-winged olives or parachute Adams in sizes #16 thru #20 and Griffith gnats in sizes #18 and #20. Also, try some subsurface flies such as flashback pheasant tail or bead head hare's nymphs in sizes #16 and #18. The deeper sections require a black, brown or olive leach pattern dredged through the pools and deeper bends in order to accommodate the larger fellow's tastes.

A recent scouting party of club members including Doyle Goolsby, Bob Griffin, Dave Dunahay, Ron Anderson and Harry Harbin have filed the following report on the Ana: "We fished the river using dry egg laying caddis of $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch size with dun wings as well as bright green and black caddis in size #18 and caught dozens". They also fished the Thompson Reservoir, but the wind was blowing and the water temperature was 42 degrees and not the best conditions. But, at the time of this outing, a quick trip to the Thompson should be in your plan book. So a pram, float tube or craft of some sort would be handy. The scouting party also went to the Lake of the Dunes (reservations can be acquired thru Peter Bowers at the Patient Angler – 388-6208) and wore out their arms on some truly good fishing.

ODFW biologist for Lake County, Curtis Edwards (541-947-2950), suggests that Slide Lake, Withers Lake and Elder Creek may be spots worth throwing a line into. But a call to Curtis before you leave may get you the latest on conditions and further suggestions if you would like to do some exploring.

Accommodation choices are from primitive to a private spa in your room. Let's begin with the most reasonable, which would be to bring your camper or trailer and park it in the parking lot at Ana Reservoir, which has clean pit toilets. You are then able to walk to the river and reservoir. Next is the Ana River Trailer Park, which has 16 full hookup spaces and 8 with water and power only. Prices range from \$12 to \$18 per night, and there are showers and toilets. For more information call Robert Ward at (541) 451-2794.

There are some nice National Forest Camping spots along the Chewaucan River, which is just out of the little town of Paisley. Unfortunately, the river, until you get to the headwaters, is void of fish due to low flows, but what a beautiful spot. Another choice might be Summer Lake Hot Springs (541-943-3931) at milepost 92. Full hook-up sites are \$20, Tent sites \$6, Vintage Trailer Accommodations are \$45 and Guest House w/private tubs are \$100 per night.

Moving up is The Lodge at Summer Lake; phone 1-866-943-3993, with rates from \$51 to \$72 and Vacation Rentals – four people for \$82 and six people for \$92 per night. The Lodge has a great dining room and as a plus it has a largemouth bass pond for guests, with some real lunkers that might be big fun on a fly rod. At the top of the accommodations list is the Summer Lake Inn, which has 9 beautiful cabins, with kitchens, fireplaces and Jacuzzis. Here is that "romantic opportunity" that our significant others mention. Diner is American or Italian style served by candlelight and music, Breakfast is available in the mornings. Now that is what I call flyfishing! For rates call 541-943-3983.

It is recommended that you call and make reservations in advance for all accommodations, but don't forget to let them know that you are a part of the Central Oregon Flyfishers.

A few of the additional activities that may be of interest are: a evening looking at the stars with some of the folks from the nearby observatory, a talk by the Summer Lake wildlife biologist about the birds, an evening with the local Cowboy Poet, dinner at the Cowboy Dinner Tree in Silver Lake, or a group dinner at the Lodge at Summer Lake. If you have an interest in any or all of these activities or are unsure of which to sign-up for, please call Dan Driskill at 388-1572.

SPRING 2003 KK KID'S ANGLING CLINIC

Eight schools, over 200 4th and 5th grade students, lots of helpful parents, 54 volunteers doing 96 volunteer days, with a total of 567 hours and 1953 miles driven over a four day period. That's a brief report, but now "The rest of the story".

Doing 8 schools over 4 days is a tiring but easily acceptable task. Just ask Dave Dunahay about the blind girl he was helping that hooked one of the trophy fish supplied by Fall River Hatchery, but was unable to land it. It was big enough that it broke the line! A very intense young lady when it came to fishing, she took the loss in stride.

Or ask Bob Mullong about the opportunity to make a couple of students more aware of the regulations when one asked which type of rod was best used for "snagging". Another student was brought up to speed when he said that the right way to use corn for bait is to poke holes in the can, let it settle to the bottom, then fish around the can. He was surprised to learn that that is chumming, and very illegal! Or ask Bob Griffin and Harry Harbin about convincing the kids that landing your line in a tree is not a place to catch a fish, or their reactions to the cold-water safety program experiment.

Or ask Bill Lundy about how well some of the kids retain what they learned earlier in class about fish anatomy. Or ask Phil Hager about all of the compliments that he received from students, Teachers and parents about the efforts put in by the volunteers to share knowledge, and wanting to know more about volunteering for agencies like the ODF&W.

Better yet, mark your calendars for Sept. 23-26 this year to get involved with the Fall Streamside, and April 27-30, 2004 for the Kid's Angling Clinic. You'll soon see why many of the members of COF, the Sun River Anglers, Central Oregon Llama Association and others are there every year. - Phil Hager

A DAY ON THE METOLIUS

The day on the river began about 10:00 am with cold, clouds, wind and showers. When I pulled on the waders, boots, and raingear, I couldn't see any sign of life. No hatches, no fish rising, nothing. I fished my usual nymph and a dropper for the first hour with no luck. I drank coffee, changed flies, and then fished for another hour, again with no fish. I changed flies again to no avail.

Finally I sat down on the bank to contemplate my future in fly-fishing and to eat lunch. There, stuck in a tree branch, was a wayward nymph left by a previous fisherman. I had never seen this nymph before - goose biot tail and wings with a blue/black body. What the heck I thought, nothing else is working.

I worked upstream with my mystery nymph and not long afterward hooked and landed a nice 14-inch rainbow. I released the fish and hooked, released, and landed an even larger fish. Fly-fishing was fun again, and I forgot about the miserable weather.

Sometimes dumb luck is better than too much analysis I decided as I left for home, cold but happy. - Ron Anderson

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.

Dennis & Vivian Rochwell Dave Black
Melinda Howell Joseph Moritz
Michael Avila Max Johnson

SCREW TRAP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ODFW/STEP is looking for volunteers to check a screw trap on the Deschutes River above Crane Prairie. The trap will be running between April 30 and Aug. 15. The project objective is to identify and quantify timing of Cranebow emigration into the reservoir. The district will provide training and a vehicle if necessary. Volunteers would monitor the trap, and identify, count and measure fish caught in screw trap. I haven't seen the trap setup so I'm not sure if it's a one or two man job, but it's always better to have two for safety. If you know anyone who might be interested let me know. - Gene McMullen

STOCK WITH LLAMAS

On Saturday, June 21st at 8:00AM come help load and pack fish to remote, high elevation lakes. Meet at the Six Lakes Trailhead near Elk Lake. Contact Jeri Welbourn at 388-4687 or welbournllamas@coinet.com.

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA??????

The Education Committee is looking for ideas for programs that can be brought to the membership to improve our fishing skills. Advanced casting and streamside entomology have been suggested for future programs. What is your reaction and interest in these two skills? If you have any "better" ideas, let Dave Dunahay (317-5843; dunahay@teleport.com), or a board member know. We NEED and WANT your input.

NEW PROGRAMS!

Our intrepid programs chairman, Dick "Middle Deschutes" Stentz, has some new programs for later this year. In July, we will have a fly-casting program including some FFF videos. In October, Doyle Goolsby will hold forth with "Basic Entomology for Fly Fishers" followed in November by Larry Timchak, Supervisor, Ochoco National Forest, and our beloved December Member Fly Tying Demonstration.

KID'S FLY TYING WINNER



Driskill presents the first place fly-fishing outfit from GI Joe's to Ross Christiano, the winner of the kid's fly tying contest at the Fly Tying Expo.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE AT WORK

The COF Conservation Committee met on April 17 and agreed to bring the kinds of volunteer activities to club members that it has in the past. It also decided to expand it's focus to include a pro-active role with Federal, State and Local Agencies so COF can help bring issues to light, rather than just jumping on after policies and programs have been determined.

At future membership meetings, you can look for a new volunteer project board that will list the activities available for membership participation. We hope that this board will be a way for members to learn about the things the club is doing on the practical conservation front, and a great way to see activities in which they can participate. The same information will be shared in the monthly newsletter.

If you want to get out and help with any of the projects, or if you know of any projects that might be a good fit for COF, please contact Gene McMullen at 312-8939, or send him an email at: Moongm37@aol.com. Likewise, if you are aware of any issues or events that may warrant our attention, please let Gene know. - Lyle Kearns

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The conservation committee is seeking volunteers for the projects listed in the Conservation Calendar. The dates are quickly approaching and the busy season is upon us. Next month, look for a list of COF sponsored projects and projects that can be done by individuals without COF sponsorship. Contact Gene McMullen at 312-8939.

Advertisement

FLY FISH THE ALAGNAK RIVER IN ALASKA FOR UNDER \$2000!

A 45 mile guided float trip - June 12th to June 24th **OR** Aug 30th to Sept 7th. We will float and fish the Alagnak River from Nonvianuk Lake down to and through the braids, fishing for the river's aggressive and large rainbows at the top, and the incoming kings, sockeye and chum in the braids. We will get into Silvers during the fall trip as well. This is a world-renowned river for large rainbows, and it has one of the largest runs of sockeye salmon on the planet!

We'll fish till we drop, eat well, and we won't have to lie about the size of our fish. We'll take pictures and leave footprints, and be dazzled by the beauty of our surroundings and the fish we catch.

Total cost from Seattle will be just under \$2000, including airfare! We supply the rafts, guides, food and transportation. You bring your tent, sleeping bag, fly rods and flies.

For more information, contact: Member Ben Lindner at (541) 383-3100 or ben@in-a-nutshell.com

<u>Advertisement</u>

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PRELIMINARY CONSERVATION CALENDAR - 2003

	DATE		EVENT/LOCATION	CONTACT
M A Y	May 7-9 May 14, 15 May 15, 16 May 5,7,19 & 23		Gill Net Antelope Flat Gill Net Walton Lake (Bullhead Reduction) Gill Net Ochoco Reservoir Gill net Prineville Reservoir Trout Creek and Tributaries Steelhead Redd Counts John Day Tributaries Redd Counts Crane Prairie Trout Redd Counts	Gene McMullen
J U N	June 5, 6 June 9-13 June 12, 13 June 25-27		Electro fish Crooked River Below Bowman Dam Steelhead Inventory, South Fork John Day River - CAMPING Snorkel Lower Crooked River Electro fish Deep Creek & Tributaries -CAMPING Trapper Creek Weir Building and Bull Trout Relocations	Gene McMullen Tommie Speik Gene McMullen Tommie Speik Gene McMullen
JUL			Tumalo Creek, Sampling of Redbands Above Falls Sampling of Trapper Creek and Basin Lakes for Brook Trout	Gene McMullen Gene McMullen
A U G			Tumalo Creek, Sampling of Redbands Above Falls Sampling of Trapper Creek and Basin Lakes for Brook Trout	Gene McMullen Gene McMullen
	Sept. 11, 12 Sept. 15-19		Gill Net Ochoco Reservoir Bull Trout Spawning Surveys, N. Fork Malheur & Headwaters, Stay at Crane Prairie Guard Station, Malheur N.F CAMPING	Gene McMullen Tommie Speik
S	Sept. 15 Sept. 18, 19		Deschutes Basin Bull Trout Spawning Surveys Rotenone Walton Lake (Bullhead Eradication)	Gene McMullen Gene McMullen
P T	Sept. 24, 25		Electro Fish South Fork Crooked River Tumalo Creek, Sampling of Redbands Above Falls	Gene McMullen Gene McMullen
			Trapper Creek Brook Trout Removal to Protect Bull Trout Sampling of Trapper Creek and Basin Lakes for Brook Trout	Gene McMullen Gene McMullen
	October 1, 2		Gill Net Haystack Reservoir	Gene McMullen
0	October 2, 3		Gill Net Prineville Reservoir	Gene McMullen
C	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

Notes: 1. Electro shocking will first be attempted by angling and only then will electro shocking be done.

2. Gill net surveys are non-lethal to trout in most instances and are done to determine the ratio of wild to hatchery trout and numbers of non-trout species.

BC! - BC! GET YOUR INFO HERE!

Do you want to go fishing? There is so much information on the British Columbia outing that an entire web site has been created! The June 19-28 trip is a "don't miss" outing. To get an approximate head count for the BC outing, we are asking everyone who is thinking of attending to please send an email to Gordon Chandler at gordon@coinet.com. At this time, all you need to do is notify Gordon that you want to be on the mailing list.

If you want further details concerning the 2003 trip please visit: http://www.coflyfishers.org/bc2003/ or see the link on the COF web site, www.coflyfishers.org.

IS IT A STRIKE INDICATOR OR BOBBER?















There is a highly innovative device used by many fly fishermen when they are nymph fishing on a stream or stillwater fishing with chironomids, micro leeches or some damsel fly patterns. This clever device helps the fly fishermen know when there is interest in the fly they are presenting to the devious, intelligent aquatic vertebrates. The device can be made of many different types of material including: soft spongy material, Styrofoam, yarn, wood or any material that is highly resistant to sinking. It can be round, oval, short, long and is usually painted in a bright fluorescent color that is highly visible to the fly fishermen. So, you ask-What is the point of this article?

There is a developing discussion between some members of our club as to whether this device is a Strike Indicator or a Bobber. The debate is huge, creating a chasm and controversy within the club that has the potential of making the Hatfield/McCoy feud like an insignificant family spat. After a few toddies at camp, heated, name-calling discussions about the question have deteriorated into insults thrown back and forth like ping-pong balls. There seems to be no end to the controversy. So, this writer, who admits to having a sound, well-reasoned bias, decided to look further into the subject. I went to Webster's Dictionary to determine what the device should be called.

In a carefully worded paraphrase, here is how Webster defines a bobber – "a device used as a float on a fishing line by many bait fishermen or other lazy rednecks, who choose to sit in a chair on shore while downing a six-

pack of beer, dipping an entire canister of smokeless tobacco, and taking an occasional snooze. The "float or bobber" is usually so large that the fish hook themselves without waking the inebriated, unsuspecting fisherman. The "bobber" is made of cheap plastic, and is painted red and white. It has a spring loaded prong that holds on to the fishing line because this type of fisherman doesn't generally know how to tie a proper knot."

In contrast, an indicator is defined as - "a very innovative, clever device used by most capable, experienced fly fishermen that indicates the presence of a certain constituent (for you uninitiated, this means a fish!). Proper use of this device requires considerable skills that most redneck fishermen don't possess. Years of experience are required to use the device in the proper manner. More than a third grade education is required - thus leaving out most people from the hills of Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, and California. (Ed. Note - After having all of his relatives and former friends insulted, the editor wishes to note that you can buy a red and white bobber the size of a grapefruit at GI Joe's in Bend, Oregon!)

Thus, after careful study, this writer concluded that all self-respecting, self-assured, capable fly fishermen know that this highly technical, innovative, invaluable tool is a "Strike Indicator". Only those individuals who deep down are really redneck bait fishermen would slander the name of this valuable fly fishing creation. - Anonymous

(Ed. Note - Please send rebuttals or comments to editor, harryharbin@bendcable.com).

DON"T GET MAD - GET MAIL!

Are you one of those poor souls who have e-mail, but never look at the darn thing? Do you live in the sticks where the Internet is sloooow? Do you just hate downloading your newsletter from the web after an e-mail notification? Don't get mad! Just notify the editor that you want the newsletter by US mail instead of the web. Remember, though, that receiving the newsletter on the web is the same as a \$10.00 contribution to COF. Harry Harbin, 388-8841, harryharbin@bendcable.com.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Give a person a fish and you will feed him for a day. Teach that person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks."- FFF Clubwire

JOIN THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS

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