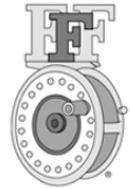




The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

Volume 26

Number 5

May 2004

HOSMER LAKE OUTING

May 21, 9:00 AM
Hosmer Lake Ramp
Dave Dunahay

GENERAL MEETING

Denny Rickards
May 19, 6:30-8:30PM
Central Oregon Board of
Realtors

WILD WOMEN

Fishing Tales and Trivia
May 5, 6:00-7:30PM
Kavu Coffeehouse

RANDOM CASTS

I am sure many of you have noticed the number of new people that are joining the club. We have grown to about 200 members. Besides the new membership applications that come to the club's mail box, every one of our club meetings and outings has seen a steady flow of new members showing up. Our most recent gains have included the number of women who are participating in both the regular activities and the Wild Women of Water. Like any newcomer, they arrive not knowing what to expect. Please take the time to introduce yourselves, answer their questions, and make them feel welcome.

We are always looking for volunteers to assist in the various club activities. Direct them to the right person so they can get involved. Ron Anderson has put together a number of fishing skill classes if that is their interest. The outings offer a variety of fishing challenges, and a great opportunity to find new fishing buddies. If steam restoration is of interest, Phil Havens and Gene McMullen are the go-to guys. The Kokanee Karnival is the signature event for the club, and Mark Reisinger and Phil Hager will put them to work. The list goes on with a variety of choices. Membership in COF will be more meaningful and rewarding if all of the members feel involved and have the opportunity to contribute. Our members contributed thousands of volunteer hours last year. Congratulations and thank you. That says a lot about our club and its membership.
Dave Dunahay-Vice President

MAY MEANS BIG WATER AND BIG FISH

As Central Oregonians, we are fortunate to have some of the best stillwater fisheries in the state right at our doorstep. Think of East Lake, Wickiup, Crane Prairie, Davis, and Hosmer. Whether you want to cast for browns, rainbows, brookies, bulls, kokanee, or even Atlantic salmon, it's all here. Casting is the easy

part when it comes to fishing lakes - finding the fish and catching them is a bit more difficult.

When one thinks of big water and fly fishing for big fish, the name Denny Rickards, is one of the best. For over thirty years, Denny has been helping anglers find trophy fish in Western lakes. As a full time guide on Upper Klamath Lake, his simple approach has landed some of the biggest trout. When he is not guiding, Denny Rickards can be found writing, tying, teaching, and field testing and developing tackle. Denny has written "Fly Fishing Stillwaters for Trophy Trout" and "Fly Fishing the West's Best Trophy Lakes", both of which serve as manuals for how to fish local lakes in Central Oregon. This will be one of the highlight programs of the year for COF. Plan to come early as Denny will be tying some patterns before the program and will be available to answer questions.

Also, the weather is warming up so you have no excuse anymore not get involved in some of the many volunteer opportunities COF has to offer. Whether you like conservation work, administrative work, working with kids and future fly fishers, or just being available to answer member's questions, we have a volunteer place for you. May's meeting will be highlighted with some sincere convictions about the Kokanee Karnival, COF's largest community volunteer program, from some faces who have been on the receiving side of the program. Don't miss May's program, and bring your friends.

-Carl Sanders, COF Program Coordinator

JUNE PROGRAM REVISED

Our June program will now be presented by Lawrence Edwards on behalf of Citizens for Oregon's River Rights. This organization was featured in last month's Oregon Council of the Federation of Flyfishers newsletter. The group is a non-profit established in 2003 to educate users of Oregon's rivers on their legal rights to public use of waterways for recreation. For more information, go to their website at <http://www.riverrights.org>.

JUNE BRITISH COLUMBIA TRIP UPDATE

We are making plans for the annual COF trip to British Columbia, and there is one important new

detail that needs to be addressed. We have recently heard that there has been a significant winter-kill on Leighton Lake. Leighton has been the site of our campsite in the past, and was to be our destination this year. Assuming future feedback from our Canadian friends does not alter this assessment, are now looking at moving the destination to Tunqua Lake. Tunqua is right next to Leighton, but is larger and does not appear to have suffered any noticeable fish loss over the winter.

Aside from the location of our campsite, all plans for this trip remain the same as has been mentioned in the COF newsletter previously. The official start of the trip is Thursday, June 17th (a travel day from Bend to BC) and the last day is Saturday, June 26th (a travel day from BC to Bend). We will fish June 18th through June 25th. We will share cooking and cleanup duties for the group breakfasts and dinners that are served every day. We will ask that everyone attending this trip pay \$80 to cover the cost of food and equipment. Everyone that volunteers to cook a meal should keep all receipts for the ingredients purchased for that meal so that they can be reimbursed in full for those expenses.

For those who are not familiar with this trip, it is a great opportunity to fish some world class lakes. The camaraderie between participants has always been outstanding and the meals have always been wonderful. There is still time to sign-up to go on this trip. The preferred way to make it known that you want to go is to send an email to Gordon Chandler at gordon@coinet.com. For those without access to email, please phone Gordon at 385-1793.

A web site has been established at <http://www.coflyfishers.org/bc2004/> to provide updates on the trip to participants. Take a look at this more detailed information if you think you might be interested in the trip. Thirty-six members are currently on the list of potential participants!

-Gordon Chandler

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Float Tubes and Pontoon Boats

Bob Pengra from Deschutes River Outfitters will tell us about float tubes, V-tubes, and pontoon boats. He'll cover the advantages of each type and maintenance issues. Bob will also explain how to transport your floating device, inflate it, and use it SAFELY on popular lakes and high lakes in Central Oregon. Thursday, May 13, 6:00 PM, Deschutes River Outfitters, 61115 S. Hwy 97, Bend.

Fishing Tales and Trivia

Join Wild Women on Wednesday, May 5, 6:00 to 7:30 PM, at Kavu Coffeehouse for a relaxing and fun evening. Be prepared to share your favorite fishing tale or outdoor adventure. Be sure to bring (or wear) your "must-have" fishing gear for show and tell. If you're new to fly-fishing and you don't have a tall tale, come anyway and ask questions about where to fish and what to use. This meeting might be a great opportunity to find a fishing partner and plan your summer fishing trips. Bring a dessert or snack (the more exotic, the better). We will provide plates and utensils. Kavu will have coffee, tea, and other beverages available for sale. (Kavu is a new coffeehouse located on the corner of College Way and Newport Avenue.) This social hour and the meeting on May 13 will be the last monthly meetings for Wild Women until October. We will have outings from June to the end of September or October, depending on the weather.
-Delores Marsh

COF CASTING CLINIC MAY 10TH

The COF Education Committee would like to announce the first in a series of casting clinics for COF members. The May 10th clinic, taught by Greg Price, will focus on improving casting skills for the intermediate and advanced caster. Greg is a certified casting instructor with many years of experience teaching casting classes for beginning to experienced fly fishers.

Greg will cover these topics during the 1 ½ to 2-hour session:

Intermediate topics:

Loop control, Tailing loops
Line speed, Real fishing situations

Advanced topics:

Double haul, The drift

Clinic specifics:

Skill level: Intermediate to Advanced
Date/time: Monday, May 10th, 6:00 to 7:30PM. (We will reschedule if weather is inclement.)
Location: Athletic Club of Bend
Cost: \$10 check payable to COF
Equipment: Fly rod, and dress appropriate for the weather

To register, participants will need to complete a COF class registration form and pay the \$10 registration fee. We can only accept a maximum of 12 participants, and the first 12 to register and pay will be accepted. The registration form and information is available via email from Ron Anderson at rlanderson@bendcable.com or call 312-0013.

This class will be a great way to start the season with some new and improved casting skills, so don't delay in registering because space is limited. And, thanks to Greg's generosity the price is right. (Trophy fish are likely, but not guaranteed for graduates.)

The Education Committee is also completing arrangements for two more casting clinics, and we'll be providing further information on these clinics during May and June. The June 14th class will be for beginning casters with Jeff from Fly and Field instructing. Details will follow.

The August spey casting class with Peter Bowers instructing is still on, although I only received emails expressing interest in learning spey casting from 3 or 4 COF members. We'll probably have to do the clinic on local waters instead of going to Mecca Flats if we do not have a larger class. All of you steelheaders need to get in touch.

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.

Edna and Michael Redhead
Colleen Lynch Sue and Mike Carter
Gary and Diane Ross Ann Laferriere
And a welcome back to:
Art and Jane McEldowney

CROOKED RIVER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you believe it? - Only 2 more weeks until the next sampling on the Crooked River. It is therefore time to begin signing up volunteers for Friday, May 14th and Saturday the 15th. The experimental design will remain the same - with drift net samples being taken at 9:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. Volunteers will be holding the net in place in the river for a 30-minute sampling period at each of the above times. We then take the nets to the nearest river bank and transfer the contents to a large container of water, which we then filter to obtain everything caught in the drift nets.

After the 9 a.m. sampling period, we take 5 replicate bottom samples with a Hess quantitative sampler and process these for transfer to collecting jars with preservative. After this and between about 3:00 PM and 8:30PM., we fish. We try to obtain 10 trout and 10 white fish that are taken for an analysis of their stomach contents to compare with what we catch in drift nets.

For each day we need a minimum of 5 volunteers for each sampling period. We need a minimum of 4 more people for each day (and a few more would be even better). Please let me know which of these two dates you might be able to help.

-John Anderson - jranderson@bendbroadband.com

PONTOON BOATS FOR SALE

Used about a half-dozen times; like-new condition. The package includes oars, stripping apron, cargo pockets, fins, and pump. These are suitable for lake fishing, but are not large enough to run rapids. Inflated size is 48"X 84"; weight 41 lbs; 300 lb capacity. Outcast is now a division of Aire; together, they are the largest manufacturer of inflatable watercraft in the world. See their website for more information about Outcast: www.outcastboats.com. These were purchased in 2002 at the Fly Box here in Bend; I'm selling them

to buy a kayak. I paid \$1,100 for these two quality pontoon boats. I'm selling each for \$350. Call 541-388-7175, or reply with questions to mosborn@bendcable.com.

STATE OF THE DESCHUTES 2004

Representatives of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs welcomed participants to the fifth State of the Deschutes conference held at Kah-Nee-Ta resort on April 13 and 14. Conference attendees, including representatives from tribal, federal, state and local agencies as well as non-profit organizations (including COF), farmers and regular citizens, discussed the state of the Deschutes River and "visioned the future" of the basin over the next twenty five years.

Central Oregon Flyfishers was represented by Phil Hager, Herb Blank and Lyle Kearns. Phil presented a dynamite talk on COF's conservation activities including the Kokanee Karnival. COF displayed a story board prepared by Mark Reisinger which generated a lot of interest, so look for a few new members as a result.

COF members will be happy to hear that efforts to restore flow in a number of local streams are starting to pay off. Flows are expected to increase in Tumalo Creek, Squaw Creek and the Middle Deschutes below Bend this summer due to efforts of irrigation districts, the Deschutes Resource Conservancy and other partners. Due to conservation and leasing programs, we can look forward to flow in the Middle Deschutes reaching at least 60 cfs this summer, double that of just two years ago.

It was confirmed that parties have come to agreement on the relicensing of the Pelton complex and plans to reintroduce anadromous fish above Lake Billy Chinook. Also discussed was the need to increase winter flows below Wickiup dam, summer flows in the lower Crooked and increase flows and improve habitat in other streams in the region. Although we are quite a way from achieving flow and water quality targets, particularly temperature targets, parties seem to be moving in the right direction to restore flow and riparian habitat. Problems with introduced species, such as the

stickleback in Crane Prairie Reservoir and the high cost of eradication were discussed. The scientific, restoration and educational work of COF was mentioned positively a number of times during the course of the meeting.

Bobby Brunoe, head of the Warm Springs Tribes' natural resources department, discussed projects completed on the reservation to improve fisheries and wildlife, including improving riparian habitat, fencing streams, juniper eradication, providing livestock watering points away from streams and range restoration. Elizabeth Furse, former US Congress member and authority on Native American legal affairs, presented her very informative views on the historical and legal role of the tribes in Central Oregon.

A comprehensive plan to restore fisheries in the Deschutes Basin is being prepared for submission to the Northwest Power Planning Council, which oversees funding from the Bonneville Power Authority. Lynne Polansky of NWPC presented the scenario for the review of the sub-basin plans, which are presently being prepared in all sub-basins of the Columbia River. Several team members presented the technical inputs and preliminary assessment findings which will be incorporated into the plan which is to be submitted in draft for public and peer review by the end of May.

The vision for the future was discussed by all participants in a facilitated setting. Everyone presented his or her own vision of the Deschutes Basin in twenty five years. There was general consensus on the need to continue moving to more efficient water use, maintaining quality of life, improving public access, and preserving mountain, desert and river ecosystems: the crown jewels of Central Oregon.

-Herb Blank, COF Representative, Upper Deschutes Water Enhancement Board

PERIL AWAITS THOSE WITH BANANAS

Go back as far as 300 years, and you'll find someone who insists that there are great odds, even insurmountable odds, that peril awaits those with bananas on board any boat.

The stigma is traced to the early 1700s when Spanish galleons traveled to the Caribbean, usually stopping last in Cuba to fill their hulls with bananas. The fleets would then pick up the Gulf Stream in the Florida Straits and zip home. After a few fleets perished in Gulf Stream hurricanes, the fruit became suspect. Boats that didn't sink suffered from disease, insects, snakes and other vermin that came in the banana crates. The banana became taboo. And bananas carry enzymes that cause other fruit around it to spoil faster. Bananas essentially ruin everything on a boat, including mine.

There are charter boat captains who inspect everyone's lunches. Any bananas get tossed into the harbor. Some go as far as to send ashore anyone who ate banana-based products for breakfast, since — technically — they're still bringing bananas on board. Some of the more chronic abusers ban Banana Boat sunscreen or Banana Republic clothing. It is just a superstition, sure, but if you plan to bring a banana aboard my boat - don't even think about it!

-Edited from materials provided by Capt. Caddis

IN MEMORIUM KEENAN FOISSET

Most of you have seen the recent articles in the Bend Bulletin regarding the tragic death on April 11 of 10 year old Keenan Foisset, a 5th grader at Three Rivers Elementary, as a result of a tragic skiing accident at Mt. Bachelor. You may not have realized, however, that Keenan was the son of Fred Foisset, owner of The Hook fly shop in Sunriver, a staunch supporter of COF as well as a close friend of many of our members. Memorial contributions may be made to the Keenan Foisset Memorial Fund at the Bank of the Cascades.

FINAL CHANCE AT THE BLACKWATER

This may be it! Bend's own Ron Thompson who guides trips on the Blackwater River in British Columbia is looking to retire from guiding these trips. If no one steps up to purchase his license, it will be vacated by the BC Provincial government and - no more guided trips - ever.

The Blackwater (shown as the West Road on many maps) remains a pristine river full of the

Blackwater strain rainbows noted by fly fishermen as foolish for the dry fly. Four COF members are planning a trip with Ron on August 1-6, 2004, and might add a few more to their number. The fishing will be all dry fly for rainbows averaging 14" with wet wading during the middle of the day. Catches of 100 per day or more are frequent. The trip will be fully supported, and will depart and return from Quesnel, B.C., a long days drive from Bend.

Ron has given us a special price for COF members of \$2,200.00 for the six days of fishing, which is a substantial discount of over 30% from the usual \$3200 price. If you are interested, see his web site at www.theblackwater.com. LADIES, if you are fairly new to fly fishing or just love dry fly fishing, this would be a great trip for you to join our other female member. If you have been putting off taking this trip, this could be your last chance. -Contact Harry Harbin, harryharbin@bendcable.com or Marilyn Forestell at mforest@bendcable.com

ANGLER'S ED A SUCCESS!

A large gathering of COF volunteers and ODFW workers assisted by parent volunteers successfully conducted the Kokonee Karnival Angler's Ed program for eight classes from local middle schools on April 27, 28, 29 and 30. Good weather (for a change) helped our local young anglers land a good number of fish after their classes. Our thanks to all volunteers!



Capt. Caddis and Kurt Boettger Confuse Small Children at Angler's Ed.

EDITOR'S CHOICE CHIRONOMID

Now that the Central Oregon high lakes are becoming clear of ice and we are preparing for fishing in BC, thoughts turn to one of the stranger aspects of fly fishing - chironomids. My typical arsenal of chironomids patterns ranges from size 10, 12, 14 and sometimes 16 for lakes, to size 16, 18, 20 and sometimes smaller for rivers. I have a huge variation of patterns and materials making up the flies in my box. But what happens on that day when I catch a fish, pump its throat, and find a size 12 dark brown chironomid? The following is my take on the "best" all around fly to use when I am quickly trying to match size and color.

First, let's talk hooks. Like almost everyone I started with heavy wire scud hooks (like a Tiemco 2457) in the complete size range. As I tied more flies, I found that slender patterns seemed to work better, so I switched to a light wire hook (2487) in the same sizes, and added tungsten beads to get the flies down quickly. However, I found that as I fished smaller patterns, my percentage of hookups went way down. One day last winter on the Crooked I got steady takes on a size 20 chironomid tied behind a blue wing olive dry, but I was averaging one hook up for eight takes! I now use a 2499 for size 14 and a 2488 for sizes 16, 18 and 20, all of which are 3X wide and have a good hook up rate. I retained the 2487 for size 12 and up.

There are great numbers of potential body materials including Frostbite, acetate floss, Stretch Flex and similar materials. However, I found the best is Super Floss and almost identical materials like Flex-Floss, Super Stretch Floss and Spanflex. Each of these materials looks like a thin, extremely strong rubber band dyed various colors. One benefit is that as you scale down in size, the material can be split to accommodate very tiny flies. The stretch flex can be stretched more or less, and thin layers built up, which lets me control taper and body thickness to match the natural while only carrying one material in each color. For size 20 and sometimes 18 flies, I just build the body from tying thread.

For gills at the front of the fly, I use spooled white Antron yarn or Zelon tied on first behind the eye, after which I cut the thread, slide a black tungsten bead over the yarn, and tie the thread on again. For sizes 18 and 20, and sometimes 16, I abandon the yarn altogether and use a white metal or glass bead, which seems to work as well in small sizes.

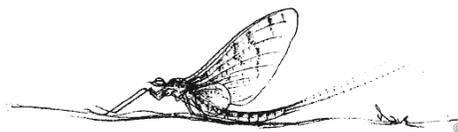
For ribs, wire or thread works well, but for small 18 and 20 flies, I prefer pearl Flashabou, which is

very thin and has good shine without bulk or build up. I coat the entire fly with Loctite QuickTite super glue which builds up better and dries shinier and harder than nail polish. I buy it at Wal-Mart or Albertson's.

So there you have it, my conclusions after three years on the continuing path to the perfect chironomid. I hope this gets you there a little faster.

UPSTREAM EVENTS - 2004

	DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
MAY	1	Rick Hafele Entomology Class	Ron Anderson
	5	Wild Women Fish Tales and Trivia	Delores Marsh
	6	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	13	Wild Women Tubes and Pontoon Boats	Delores Marsh
	19	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Denny Rickards, Stillwaters	Neal Buxton
	21	Hosmer Lake Outing	Dave Dunahay
JUNE	3	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	5	Fly Fishing School For Women	Delores Marsh
	16	COF General Membership Meeting, Lawrence Edwards on behalf of Citizens for Oregon's River Rights	Neal Buxton
	17-26	British Columbia Canada Outing	Gordon Chandler
JULY	1	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	21	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Jeff Perrin, Metolius	Neal Buxton
	23-25	Steen's Mountain Outing	Gene McMullen
AUG	5	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	13-22	National Fly Fishing Week	FFF
	16-21	FFF Conclave, West Yellowstone	Phil Hager
	26	COF Picnic	John Burns
	27	East Lake Outing	Dave Dunahay
SEP	2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	8	Middle Deschutes Outing	Dave Dunahay
	15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Scott Richmond, Steelhead	Neal Buxton
	21-24	KK Streamside, Brown's Creek	Kurt Boettger
OCT	7	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	20	COF Gen. Mem. Meet. Central Or. Out. Winter Fishing	Neal Buxton
	23	Metolius River Outing	Dave Dunahay
NOV	4	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	17	COF Gen. Mem. Meet. Steve Shunk, Riparian Hatches	Neal Buxton
DEC	2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Fly Tying	Neal Buxton



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 and Monthly Newsletter

FULL NAME (S): _____
member and partner

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: H: _____ W: _____ OCCUPATION: _____

FORMER OCCUPATION IF RETIRED: _____

E-MAIL: _____

New 2004 Family or Single- \$36 Renewal by 12/31-\$30 Renewal After 12/31- \$36 Associate Member \$12.50
(Associate Membership Available Outside of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson Counties.)

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

Please check Interests: Acquire More Knowledge Find Fishing Partner Volunteer For Projects

Improve Fishing Techniques Social Functions List Other Interests on Back

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ DATE: _____

The Central Oregon Flyfishers
PO Box 1126
Bend, Oregon 97709

