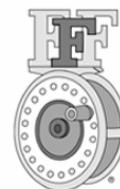




The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

Volume 26

Number 11

November 2004

TUESDAY FLYTYING

November 2, 9, 16 & 23

6:30-8:30PM

Bend Trap Club

61400 Brosterhous Road

GENERAL MEETING

STEPHEN SHUNK

EXPLORING NATURE IN

YOUR BACKYARD AND

BEYOND

November 17 6:30-8:30PM

Cent. Or. Board of Realtors

METOLIUS REDD

COUNTS

November 17

December 15, 29

January 12, 26

RANDOM CASTS

The COF Board of Directors will hold its' annual planning meeting in mid-November. The key planning issue will be "What do members want?"

During 2004, the club has grown over 25%, to 213 member families at last count. A similar growth rate occurred in 2003. This growth rate is far more than the general population growth rate in Bend and Redmond.

So what is the reason for this rapid growth rate of membership? My belief is that it is the programs we have emphasized over the last two years. We have initiated an active education program, with over 7 classes this year to date and more in the planning stages. Wild Women of the Water is a very active subgroup with separate educational programs and other activities for women only. A separate, semi-independent board of directors for Kokanee Karnival has been initiated to give more focus to these activities. Programs for the monthly meetings have brought in more local and outside experts. The monthly newsletter has been expanded. We have continued to highlight the ongoing Fly Tying Tuesdays and the monthly outings. For example, at the recent Metolius outing in October, Harry Harbin and John Judy gave on-the-river presentations on how to fish this difficult to fish river, and over 30 COF members attended.

Also, we are considering an additional overnight outing to supplement the Canadian trip in 2005. Perhaps we will try Yellowstone National Park for trout or Maupin for Steelhead in the fall. What do you think?

To make the planning secession a success, and to insure that we provide what COF members want, we need your input. And to make the plans a success, we need your help in organizing both the existing activities and any new programs for 2005. Please find or contact any of the board members and let us know your thoughts. - Neal Buxton

"FORGIVE ME...THERE'S MORE THEN JUST FISH OUT THERE"

O.K. Close your eyes and picture this. Well, then again...you better get someone to read it to you. There you are, along the bank of your favorite water. It's been a great day fishing, the sun is out, there's a slight breeze. You are finishing lunch, and maybe it's time for short moment of reflection. You carefully slide down and lean back against that rock you were sitting on. Your eyes close and you listen carefully to your surroundings. All right, you can open your eyes now. What did you hear? Maybe the leaves swaying in the trees or the bubbling of the small riffle you just fished. You might have heard any number of sounds you're fond of, but you most likely heard a chorus of birds.

In dry regions, lakes, springs and streams are magnets for wildlife. Only one percent of the land in arid regions of the Pacific Northwest is riparian, yet over 90 percent of the animals that live in these areas use them for food, nesting, resting, shelter, and/or water. For example, streamside habitats provide food for waterfowl such as Canada geese, mallards and merganser. The riparian zone also provides food and cover for flocks of dark-eyed junco, white-crown sparrow, American robin, and other species. Great blue heron, black-billed magpie, and Bullock's oriole all nest in riparian habitat, as do the Swainson's hawk, red-tailed hawk, and great horned owl. One bird, the bank swallow, is found in riparian areas so often it was given the scientific name *Riparia riparia*. In fact, many a fly fisher has followed this bird down the river knowing it usually means a hatch is on and the fish will be willing.

As an outdoor sport, birding can go hand and hand with fly fishing. Central Oregon Flyfishers would like to introduce you to the sport of bird watching to heighten you outdoor experiences. In

November, our guest speaker will be Stephen Shunk of Paradise Birding out of Sisters, Oregon.

Paradise Birding began in the South San Francisco Bay Area in 1990. Naturalist and founder Stephen Shunk wanted to share his infectious enthusiasm for birds with others. With a background in environmental education and natural history, Steve merged his teaching and birding skills to help bird watchers learn more about birds, birding, and habitat conservation. Steve has since reached hundreds of birders of all ages and ability levels. Now, with his spouse and partner Kris Falco, the two provide a leadership team that leaves students and tour participants with lifetimes of memories.

Steve will present a slideshow, "Exploring Nature in Your Backyard and Beyond." This will be a great presentation and one you sure won't want to miss. If you would like to know more about Steve and birding in Central Oregon, visit Paradise Birding's website at www.paradisebirding.com/sys.tmpl/door/ and join us November 17th.

COF FLY FISHING EQUIPMENT SWAP

Roll up those sleeves and don the gloves, it's time to clean the closets and the garage. COF will be having a small equipment swap for members of COF. If you have something related to fly fishing to sell or trade, bring it to the December meeting and we will have a corner of the room set aside for some good 'ol swapping. Find someone a Christmas present or make a little money to buy yourself one.

DECEMBER MEETING...CALLING ALL TYERS

As we have done the last couple years, this year's December meeting will be a casual tying show for our members. If you like to tie flies and would like sharing some information with your fellow members, let me know. We will have tables set up as tying stations throughout the room at the Assoc. of Realtors Building. No need to be a great tier just be willing. Contact Carl Sanders at 548-0870 or 4cesanders@earthlink.net if you would like to tie.

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER UPCOMING EVENTS

Wild Women celebrated their one-year anniversary in September, and the group is going strong. Here

The election of officers and directors for 2005 will take place at the November general membership meeting. Additional nominations from the floor are permitted.

COF President Neal Buxton will move to ex-officio status next year with the Board, and Earl Rettig, Lyle Kearns and Phil Havens will be completing their Board terms. Let's give our thanks to these four individuals who have provided many, many hours of service and leadership for COF.

For new members not familiar with the COF election process, which is similar to that of most nonprofit clubs, it is important to remember that this is not the California Governor's race (thank goodness!) with a selection of candidates for each position. Most of these folks have been asked by the nominating committee to give a great deal of their time in the upcoming years, and there are not large numbers of people willing or able to step up to these jobs. As stated above, nominations from the floor are welcome, but the person nominated, if any, should be willing to commit the time necessary to complete the duties of officers and directors of the club.

WILD WOMEN ON THE METOLIUS

Beautiful fall weather in early October prompted a few Wild Women of the Water to organize a spur-of-the-moment outing on the Metolius. Returning COF member, John Judy, joined the women unexpectedly.

To the unknowing, comments such as "I want the beefeater. Please hand over the white rabbit. Is this purple thing real fur? Wouldn't this make a great earring?" sound like preparations for a major social event in Bend. Actually, we were examining the boatload of bull trout flies that John brought along. None of us had ever fished for bull trout, and the flies were fascinating. It's a different matter to cast one of those lunkers. We decided to stick with October caddis and other dry flies for redbands.

John shared some of his fishing tips and favorite spots with us. (Sorry guys, we're not gonna tell. The

names of the women who attended this outing have been purposely omitted for their protection.)

FISH EGGS TO FRY FALL EGG DELIVERY

Another sure sign of fall is the site of Glacier chillers, aquariums, and fish eggs in local classrooms. On October 18, volunteers from COF delivered rainbow trout eggs to twelve local schools.

Fish Eggs to Fry is one of four Kokanee Karnival Classroom Projects in which schools can participate. By incubating fish eggs in the classroom, observing development of the eggs, and releasing the fry into an approved local water body, students learn about fish habitat, life cycles, and scientific technique. Many thanks to the following volunteers for delivering fish egg: Ron Anderson, Alex Page, Emil Seidel, Lyle Kearns, and Larry and Mary Thornburgh. A big thank you to Bob Griffin for picking up the eggs at Oak Springs Hatchery.

Bob and Tommie Speik made their ninth 1,000-mile roundtrip tour of eastern Oregon to deliver fish eggs to 16 classrooms. Tommie said this year would be their last for eastern Oregon egg deliveries. (She said that last year too.) The next fish egg delivery will occur in February 2005. To learn more about this project, contact Terri Grimm (sonata@teleport.com or 318-0567).

WE NEED MORE EGG TRAYS. If you have rudimentary woodworking skills and would like to build egg trays, please contact Terri.

TIME TO COUNT REDDS

How would you like to spend a whole day with an ODFW biologist spotting reddsides on the Metolius River, finding their redds, and helping to estimate the number of fish and their health? And at no cost to you for this valuable education! Starting this month, ODFW and the forest service is again looking for volunteers from COF to assist in the redd surveys. The chart below lists the dates and sponsors for the various surveys along with contacts for each. If you first want to talk to a COF member who has been very involved with these surveys, call Gene McMullen at 312-8939. Waders and some wading skills are a requirement for these

surveys. You don't have to be a fisherman to participate.

DAY	REACH	AGEN	AGENCY LEADER
NOV. 17	METOLIUS	ODFW	CALIBRATION FOR BROWN TROUT REDDS
DEC. 15	METOLIUS	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
DEC. 29	METOLIUS	USFS	SCOTT COTTER 549-7725 SACOTTER@FS.FED.US
JAN. 12	METOLIUS	USFS	NATE DACHTLER 383-5720 NDACHTLER@FS.FED.US
JAN. 26	METOLIUS	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
FEB. 9	METOLIUS	USFS	SCOTT COTTER 549-7725 SACOTTER@FS.FED.US
FEB. 23	METOLIUS	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
MAR. 9	METOLIUS	USFS	NATE DACHTLER 383-5720 NDACHTLER@FS.FED.US
MAR. 10	ABBOT CR.	USFS	SCOTT COTTER 549-7725 SACOTTER@FS.FED.US
MAR. 23	METOLIUS	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
MAR. 24	ABBOT CR.	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
APR. 7	METOLIUS	USFS	SCOTT COTTER 549-7725 SACOTTER@FS.FED.US
APR. 8	ABBOT CR.	USFS	NATE DACHTLER 383-5720 NDACHTLER@FS.FED.US
APR. 20	METOLIUS	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
APR. 21	ABBOT CR.	ODFW	TED WISE 388-6363 TED.G.WISE@STATE.OR.US
MAY. 5	METOLIUS	USFS	NATE DACHTLER 383-5720 NDACHTLER@FS.FED.US
MAY. 6	ABBOT CR.	USFS	SCOTT COTTER 549-7725 SACOTTER@FS.FED.US
MAY. 18	METOLIUS	ODFW/ USFS	ALL VOLUNTEER ROCK PICK-UP METOLIUS
MAY. 19	ABBOT CR.	ODFW/ USFS	ABBOT SURVEY AND ROCK PICK-UP

SO HOW WAS FISHING ON THE METOLIUS ANYWAY?

The October 23 outing on the Metolius River turned out to be great after a little snow on the windshield driving through Sisters; well over 30 members were in attendance for a discussion of the river and a tour of its well known landmarks followed by fishing for everyone. So how was the fishing, anyway? I can only speak for a few since everyone was scattered while fishing.

I finished conducting my tour, ate my lunch on the picnic table at Allen Springs, and then drove to the

fish hatchery and suited up. As I walked past the Idiot Hole above the hatchery about 12:50PM, I saw four fish at the tail out circling about taking nymphs and occasionally rising to the surface, but even though the nymphs were about, the mayflies were not hatching enough that I could see them from the shore.

I decided to walk upstream about 2 miles to a series of three big back eddies formed by some big logs. About half way up I met Max Johnson, who had had no success yet, and invited him to go along. We looked at the lower back eddy, but saw few fish. At the next eddy we found Frank McKim standing in the water changing flies, also with no success to report. As Max and I stood on the bank at 1:20PM facing the water and Frank turned to shore to talk to us, Max and I saw a fish rise in the foam line, and then another and another. Within 60 seconds there were 12-15 fish rising steadily and there were a substantial number of mayflies popping out on the surface. Frank was ready to move to a new spot, so I stepped into the water and Max went up to the third eddy.

I had a little buck fever, and hung my fly in the brush. After freeing it, I sampled the bugs with my aquarium net and found two sizes of blue winged olives. With a matching sparkle dun, I caught and landed one fish within 5 minutes, but it took a while before I caught a second one. After landing the fish, I sampled the bugs again and found a yellow mayfly with a dark grey wing, about size 16, and another with a yellow body and yellow wing, about the same size. Based on an earlier chat with Max, I matched it with a yellow spent wing dun pattern and managed to hook and land three more, for a total of five. If you drew a 25 foot circle in front of me a rod length away, it contained a slowly swirling broth of 15-20 fish and hundreds, maybe thousands of mayflies in the foam. It always amazes me that if you have the right fly and presentation, the fish will pick your fly from dozens of naturals! The landing took a lot of my fishing time, because, like a dummy, I left my net in the rig, and, following Murphy's law, two of the fish had the fly come loose from their lip during the fight and foul hook the fish, one in the dorsal fin and one in the tail.

By 3:00PM, everything had slowed down, and I had to get out of the water because I had not moved my feet for an hour and a half and my feet were frozen. Max was standing on the shore behind me, and in the same time period had landed three and broken off a big fish that he was trying to turn as it headed for a log. At the end of the hatch, I had averaged one good redbreast about every 20 minutes for 90 minutes, and had not wet a line before or after the hatch.

Frank McKim reported that he hooked one fish for a short period and had a few other rises. I also had a later report from Ron Anderson that he had good fishing. He had a strange encounter with his first fish - the biggest fish he had ever seen on the river. He was trailing a small nymph behind his dry fly, when suddenly the nymph caught on something. After feeling for a fish, he jerked it one way, then another and then stepped into the river on a ledge to free the fly. As he approached his fly, it started moving downstream and a huge (bull?) trout rolled on the surface. I guess the fish didn't even feel a little nymph on 6X, and needless to say Ron never saw his fly again. Fish 2 ran and then wrapped his line around a rock so he had to break him off. Fish 3 was 16-18", but he was missing half a gill plate and he had two sores on his mouth. Fish 4 was the same size and healthy. He missed three or four others that hit the dry fly but didn't stay. And then he went home to thaw out. Later that week, I had another report from Max that he had caught a number of trout a few days later, and on Thursday, Dave Dunahay landed three in a life changing outing as he finally broke the code on the Metolius.

All of the fishing reported herein was dry fly fishing on a very clear and tough spring creek. I know that many outing participants probably didn't catch fish, and are frustrated by the learning curve for this technical dry fly fishing. I was making casts across a back eddy current flowing upstream to a fast current seam flowing downstream - very difficult to get a good drift without really good technique. I am often asked "OK, I heard the presentation and took the tour, but *exactly* where should I fish, *exactly* how long should my tippet be, and *exactly* what fly should I use?" The answer to each of these questions can be very complex -

where you fish can depend on how well you wade, how far from the parking lot you are willing to walk, how well you can cast into the wind, how well you can mend etc. etc. For those of you still struggling, see the next article. - Harry Harbin

IN PRAISE OF THE GUIDE

The Central Oregon Flyfishers offer many educational opportunities for members, including the Beginning Fly Fishing course taught through Parks and Rec in the spring, casting and on water clinics and classes, classes offered by experts who provide programs at out meetings, endless advice (and BS) at Fly Tying Tuesdays, volunteer opportunities with KK and ODFW redd counts etc. However, in the life of each fly fisherman, there seems to come a time when reading books and taking clinics and short courses just isn't advancing his fishing ability any more. What that person needs is an expert standing by his shoulder offering advice for a whole day as he struggles with whatever fishing type he is pursuing. A lot of new members hope that COF can provide this service, but this type of instruction takes a whole day by a volunteer who can't really fish himself in a one on one situation while there are a dozen or more members who want the same help. It just isn't practical for a volunteer organization like COF to provide this.

Enter the professional fishing guide. Central Oregon has some of the best guides around, and they work hard. With years of experience teaching fly fishermen, once they size you up they know exactly where to have you fish and can teach you what you need to know about flies and presentation. Sure, they cost hundreds of dollars a day, but few would be even upper middle class based on their guide fees alone. If you can't paint your house or shingle your roof, you would pay a pro much more for a lot shorter work day than a guide. Ask around, get a guide recommendation that fishes the type of water with the technique you want to learn, and tell your guide exactly what you want to accomplish. If you tell your guide you want to "catch a lot of fish" you may wind up nymphing all day instead of learning how to get a good dry fly drift. If you learn to get a perfect dry fly drift, but don't catch any fish, you have had a great day. - Harry Harbin

New Membership

The following information is used in the roster. Include all contact data and other interests that you wish to have appear in the roster. Print legibly using block letters, all caps.

LAST NAME		FIRST NAME	OCCUPATION (PAST OR CURRENT)	
SPOUSE'S FIRST NAME		SPOUSE'S LAST NAME IF DIFFERENT		HOME PHONE
HOUSE NUMBER	STREET		WORK PHONE	EXT
CITY			STATE	ZIP CODE
EMAIL ADDRESS				

How do you want to receive the COF monthly newsletter? E-mail saves big \$\$ (Check one.) Email US Postal Service

Why did you join COF? (Check all that apply. List other interests on reverse.)

Acquire more knowledge Find fishing partner Volunteer for projects Improve technique Social functions

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

LIABILITY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

As a condition of membership or of participation in any activity encouraged or publicized by The Central Oregon Flyfishers, I voluntarily assume all risks of my participation. In acknowledgement that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility, I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators agree to remise, fully release, hold harmless, and forever discharge The Central Oregon Flyfishers, all its officers, board members and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury to me or my property that may occur from any cause whatsoever while participating in any such COF activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this hold harmless and release agreement, and fully understand that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waiving any right I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against The Central Oregon Flyfishers for its negligence.

I have read the above statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in The Central Oregon Flyfishers.

X _____
 SIGNED BY PRINT NAME MONTH DAY YEAR

X _____
 SIGNED BY PRINT NAME MONTH DAY YEAR

DUES SCHEDULE

Memberships are renewable on January 1 of each year. New members joining prior to June 1 shall pay a full year's dues of \$36. New members joining after June 1 shall pay a prorated amount according to the chart below. New members who reside outside Deschutes County shall pay \$12.

THE MONTH YOU ARE JOINING	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV
THE DUES YOU PAY (\$)	18	15	12	9	6	3

RETURN THIS FORM Mail or deliver this form and your check payable to The Central Oregon Flyfishers to the membership chairman. Forms unaccompanied by dues payment or that lack signature, name, or date on the liability release statement are considered invalid and will be returned to sender.

The Central Oregon Flyfishers
Membership Chairman
PO Box 1126
Bend, OR 97709

UPSTREAM EVENTS - 2004-2005			
	DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
NOV	13	Board Retreat & Board Meeting	Neal Buxton
	17	Metolius Redd Count	See List
	17	COF Gen. Mem. Meet. Steve Shunk, Riparian Hatches	Neal Buxton
	2,9,16, 23	Fly Tying	
DEC	2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
	15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Fly Tying	Neal Buxton
	15, 29	Metolius Redd Count	
	7,14,21	Fly Tying	
JAN	1	New Years Breakfast & Crooked River Outing	Gordon Chandler
	6	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Dave Dunahay
	12, 26	Metolius Redd Count	
	19	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting	Dave Dunahay
	4,11,18, 25	Fly Tying	
FEB	3	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Dave Dunahay
	9, 23	Metolius Redd Count	
	16	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting	Dave Dunahay
	26	COF Banquet	Earl Rettig
	1,8,15, 22	Fly Tying	