

The Central Oregon Flyfisher

Vol. 31, Number 11, November 2008



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RANDOM CAST

The past few months have been some of the busiest of my working life. Twelve-hour days sitting in a chair in front of a computer are not good for anyone. So I came to my wits and got out to fish a couple of times last month.

One outing was a fun adventure with my two sons. I had heard whisper of a "secret" stream in a remote location east of Bend. According to rumors, the stream emerged from the side of a mountain, dropped over a cliff just a mile and a half later, then drained into the high desert. But in that short stretch, the stream was supposedly filled with decent-sized trout that had seen very few anglers.

A call to a Forest Service office seemed to confirm the story. Partial directions to the general area were offered, but it required a fair amount of travel on unmarked Forest Service roads. Google satellite maps seemed to show how to get there. We set off with high hopes early one Sunday morning.

"If it seems too good to be true, it probably is." After quite a bit of driving around, backtracking and trying different routes, I can confirm that there is a stream in the high desert that emerges from a lava flow in the middle of a high, steep ridge. It does indeed travel through a nice meadow before dropping off a cliff. But if there were ever any fish, they are not there now. The herds of cattle that range free in the meadow have destroyed the stream, and it could not support even the smallest trout at this point.

It was a wild goose chase, but a fun day of exploration. Perhaps we did not find the right stream and the fish are thriving. We spent a long time looking all over the area and found something that matched the description well. I think we found the correct stream.

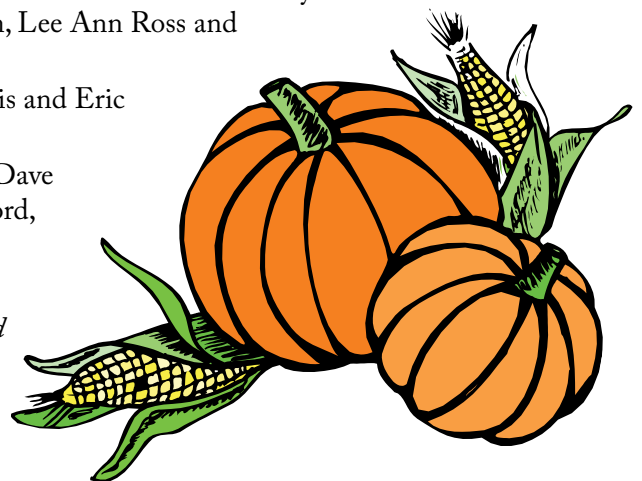
More productive was the club's steelhead trip on the lower Deschutes in Macks Canyon. Thanks to Larry Godfry who organized the trip. Along with Larry, Sherry and Eric Steele, Lee Ann Ross, Bill Seitz, Dave Semich and Gerald Inman had a fun time fishing. I made it down for part of the trip as well. Lee Ann and Bill landed fish over 30 inches. Bill had the advantage of having Dave nearby to take a photo.

At October's meeting, your 2009 board was elected. Congratulations to the following members:

- Dennis Rockwell, president
- Returning board members who were re-elected to new two-year terms: Delores Marsh, Dick Olson, Lee Ann Ross and Bill Seitz
- New board members: Craig Dennis and Eric Steele
- Other returning board members: Dave Dunahay, Earl Rettig, Susan Telford, and Bob Evermore

Happy Thanksgiving!

— Yancy Lind



GENERAL MEETING

November meeting

November 19 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

Scott Howell is a self-proclaimed “steelhead chaser” who has been guiding anglers for 19 years. Scott has guided on the Umpqua, Rogue and other coastal rivers. He spent several years guiding along rivers in Alaska. Scott helped pioneer the Kamchatka Steelhead Project in Russia.

Scott’s slideshow will showcase his adventures across the Pacific Rim, from Russia to Oregon. His stunning photos and exciting tales about his exploits are sure to entertain us. Scott will take us to familiar rivers and remote streams that most anglers experience only in their dreams.

- Organizing Your Fly Box - Russ Seton (Fly and Field and The Hook), Dave Dunahay and Bob Griffin (both COF)
- Beginning Casting - Jeff Perrin (The Fly Fisher’s Place)
- How to Fish the Salmon Fly Hatch - Paul Hanson (The Riffle)
- Fishing Back Eddies - Damien Nurre (Fly and Field)
- Slack Line Presentation - John Judy (John Judy Fly Fishing)
- Single-Hand Spey - Damien Nurre (Fly and Field)
- Lake Fishing - Scott Cook (Fly and Field)
- Shallow Water Nymphing - Bill Myers, Prineville
- Two-Handed Spey Casting - John Judy (John Judy Fly Fishing)
- The Art of Float Tubing - Bill Myers, Prineville

– Lee Ann Ross

rossleeann@yahoo.com or 312-2568

EDUCATION

Winter fly-tying classes

Winter fly-tying classes will be our next educational event. Classes will be held at the Bend Senior Center every Tuesday starting January 6.

Winter seminar

I am in the process of arranging a winter seminar that features Jason Borger. The tentative date is February 10 to 12, 2009.

Education committee members needed

Currently, the education committee consists of one member (me). I’m looking for “a few good flyfishers” (of any experience level) to join the education committee. Committee members will work together to design and manage next year’s educational programs and classes. Anyone who is interested in joining the committee or has thoughts about classes that COF should offer next year, please contact me (Lee Ann Ross, rossleeann@yahoo.com or 312-2568).

I would like to thank everyone who helped conduct this year’s excellent educational events. I’d like to especially thank the guides who gave up a day from their busy schedules to teach COF classes. Our classes included:

- Fly Tying - Sherry Steele, Jerry Criss and Bill Seitz (all members of COF), as well as Peter Bowers (Patient Angler) and Scott Robertson (Sportsman’s Warehouse)
- Rod Building - Harry Harbin, Dave Dunahay and Bob Griffin (all members of COF)
- Furled Leaders - Dennis Rockwell, Bill Seitz and Yancy Lind (all members of COF)
- Understanding the Bugs You Fish With – Macroinvertebrates - John Anderson (COF)

OUTINGS

From November through February, COF will have only one outing each month. We’re starting to plan outings for 2009, and I’m excited about the changes we’re making for next year. Next year, teams will organize and conduct each outing. We want to publish the dates and locations for outings well in advance so everyone has time to add the outings to their schedules. I think the changes will benefit members and make outings more enjoyable.

– Bob Evermore

bob@poesociety.com or 541-728-0077)

If you have a suggestion for an outing, please contact Bob NOW so he can plan for next year.

Crooked River

Nov 15 | Meet at Big Bend Campground. The clean-up will begin between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. The outing will begin afterward, around 1:00 p.m.

We’ll coordinate this outing with our annual Crooked River Clean-up. (See page 3 for more information.) After the clean-up, we’ll fish for a few hours.

Directions: From Bend, take Neff Road east. Neff changes names a couple of times (Alfalfa Market Road, Willard Road, Reservoir Road) before it ends at SE Crooked River Highway (Route 27). Turn left on SE Crooked River Highway and proceed past the dam and down the hill. Big Bend Campground is the first campground on your left as you approach the bottom of the grade.

You can also get to Big Bend Campground via Prineville. Take SE Crooked River Highway south out of Prineville about 19 road miles. The campground will be on your right.



Several club members attended the October steelhead outing on the Deschutes. Lee Ann Ross and Bill Seitz (pictured with a 30-inch hatchery steelhead) fooled a few very large fish. Landing a steelhead of any size is an accomplishment. Photo: Dave Semich

CONSERVATION

Second annual Crooked River cleanup

The Central Oregon Flyfishers will hold the second annual Crooked River Cleanup on Saturday, November 15. Last year's cleanup effort along the 12 miles of river on public land below the Bowman Dam was a huge success due to a lot of volunteer effort by more than 20 COF members. Like last year, we'll meet at the Big Bend Campground (the campground just downstream from Bowman Dam) at 9:00 a.m. Around 1 p.m., we'll all meet at the campground for lunch. Dave Dunahay has agreed to cook hamburgers with all the fixings. After lunch, there will be a club fishing outing on the river. Members will be available to provide nymphing instruction. This event is a good opportunity to volunteer for a club conservation activity, get a free lunch, catch a few rainbows and lots of whitefish and do something good for the river. If you would like to help, email (wseitz@bendbroadband.com) me so we can get a head count for lunch.

– Bill Seitz

Climate Change is Trouble for Trout

Are you interested in how future climate change may impact trout populations in the interior West? Many of us fish rivers and lakes in the Rocky Mountain West. Check out the recent report *Trout in Trouble: The Impacts of Global Warming on Trout in the Interior West* on the Montana Trout Unlimited web site (www.montanatu.org). The report,

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authored by the Montana TU and the Natural Resources Defense Council, states that if steps aren't taken to stem the causes of climate change, trout populations in the interior West could decline by 50 percent or more by the end of the century. Harsher environmental conditions, caused by changing climate patterns, may affect native fish and result in unprecedented fishing closures on many Western rivers. This report offers ways anglers can play their part to offset climate change impacts: reduce water and energy use in our homes and encourage policy makers to support measures such as the bipartisan Lieberman-Warner bill. The Web site has a good summary of the report that will bring you up to speed quickly.

– Bill Seitz

Crooked River FLOY-tagged fish

In June 2008, ODFW FLOY tagged hundreds of fish to explore the possibilities of using FLOY tags to:

- Compliment the radio-tracking data by involving anglers who fish all sections of the Crooked River
- Investigate if growth rates can be determined from recaptured FLOY-tagged fish

If you capture a FLOY-tagged fish, please report the following information:

1. FLOY tag number (5-digit number)
2. species captured
3. location of capture
4. approximate size of fish

Please report FLOY tag information to:

Shivonne Nesbit, OSU graduate student
Shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu or 541.805.530

OR

Mike Harrington, ODFW Prineville Fish Biologist
Michael.R.Harrington@state.or.us or 541.447.5111

Radio-tagged fish update

Thank you to COF anglers for assisting with the radio tagging effort on the Crooked River in October! Dedicated anglers endured frigid temperatures, gale-force winds and nonstop rain to successfully complete the radio tagging goals for this fall. We landed and tagged an additional 18 redband trout and 8 mountain whitefish. Weekly, typically Friday, you will see Shivonne Nesbit, ODFW personnel, COF volunteers and OSU students tracking fish on the Crooked River. The radio-tagged fish are distributed from Castle Rock campground to Big Bend campground. The radio tracking data will provide information on the distribution of redband trout and mountain whitefish within the study area, timing and extent of seasonal migrations

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and home ranges of individual fish. If you are interested in assisting with the radio tracking, contact Shivonne Nesbit (shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu).

Thank you COF for your continued support and commitment to the Crooked River project!

– Shivonne Nesbit



Jayme Schriker, ODFW John Day, releasing a radio-tagged redband trout that Steve Williams (in background) landed — above Poison Butte campground. Photo: Shivonne Nesbit



Bill Seitz fishing for mountain whitefish at Castle Rock campground. Photo: Shivonne Nesbit



Jon Anderson fishing for mountain whitefish. Photo: Shivonne Nesbit

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

There's still time for some good fishing this year. For our November outing, Wild Women will join other members of COF for the second annual Crooked River cleanup. (See page 3 for details.) Join us on November 15 and do something good for the river. After the cleanup, there will be a BBQ and fishing! Members will be available to provide instruction in nymphing techniques.

We'll have a holiday get-together in December. In late January, we may have chocolate-tasting party! (Chocolate goes with everything, even fish. Right?)

– Terri Grimm

OTHER NEWS

Emil Seidel receives award

Emil Seidel received an outstanding volunteer award from Kokanee Karnival and ODFW's Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program. Emil has volunteered for Kokanee Karnival for 13 years, and he has volunteered for ODFW for over 30 years. Emil has built dozens of egg to fry displays, prepared field trip activities and mentored many students. Special thanks to Emil for his years of dedication as a Kokanee Karnival volunteer.



Emil Seidel received an award in recognition of his many years as a volunteer for Kokanee Karnival. Photo: Frank Turek





Kokanee Karnival begins a new year

During the last week of September, 13 classrooms from local elementary schools attended the first Kokanee Karnival activities of the new school year — the hatchery and streamside experiences. Two classrooms per day toured the Fall River Hatchery for half a day and then spent the other half of the day at Brown's Creek where students rotated through learning stations for Incredible Journey, Comforts of Home and Nature's Restaurant.

At the hatchery, students learned about hatchery practices and their importance to our Central Oregon fishery. Students also learned about the use of llamas to transport fish to the high Cascade Lakes.

Two classrooms traveled to Spring Creek, a tributary of the Metolius; two others went to Cline Falls State Park. The kids enjoyed climbing into new waders that Fred and Carol Foisset (The Hook Fly Shop) helped us obtain. They collected and identified insects, took water samples to determine its quality and suitability for fish and observed migrating Kokanee. We are still evaluating the success of these locations and will determine whether to supplement the current program.

It was an outstanding week of learning for all students. I sincerely appreciate the support from the large number of volunteers from all six program partners. A special thanks goes to Mark Reisinger (COF), Jen Luke (OFFW), Gary Gelhert and George Pagan (Sunriver Anglers), Jeri Welbourne (Central Oregon Llama Association) and Blake Lowery (Wolfree) for organizing and leading their respective activities.

— Dave Dunahay

Kokanee Karnival seeks new board members

The Kokanee Karnival is seeking new board members to help plan, organize and evaluate the program. Some 1300 Central Oregon students will benefit from this volunteer program each year. This is your opportunity to be a part of this award-winning program. Contact Dave Dunahay (317-5843 or Dunahay@bendbroadband.com).



Students observe the flow of flourisine dye to understand water flow patterns on Brown's Creek. Photo: Frank Turek



The fish ponds at the Fall River Hatchery always fascinate students. Photo: Frank Turek



Getting a close-up view of insect samples at Nature's Restaurant. Photo: Delores Marsh

TYERS CORNER

I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather. It was a great fishing season. I didn't take as many trips as in the past, but the ones I had were great. I spent a very strange day on East Lake. I was the only boat, and there was only one bank fisherman. Fishing was slow, with no bugs on top, but I managed to hook some nice fish just under the surface using some new wet flies. I had the new boat out for the third time — this time armed with my Oregon Boater Card. The final test run with the new weight distribution was a success, and it was great to see the Whaler operating at full tilt. What a ride for next season!

This month's fly is an old standard. Doug Stewart of Gresham, Oregon developed the Max Canyon in 1972 on the Deschutes River. From what the old timers say, this pattern still does well today. It can be weighted. With the new spey rods, it should be a productive fly.

The word on the river is that the steelhead season should be a good one. Some big fish have been caught already. I haven't fished much for steelhead in the past few years, but with the reports that are being bantered about, this might be a good year to give it a try again.

When chasing steelhead in the Deschutes, use the buddy system; this river has a reputation for taking fishermen for a ride. With a buddy, you have a better chance of surviving a dunking. I know a few fishermen who use an inflatable vest when fishing the Deschutes. Good luck and happy hunting.

— Jerry Criss
(541-536-3581 or tlfly44@msn.com)

Max Canyon



Hook: any heavy-wire steelhead hook with a straight shank

Thread: 6/0 black

Tail: orange and white calf tail, mixed

Body: rear 1/3 orange wool, front 2/3 black wool

Rib: oval tinsel, gold

Collar: black hackle

Wing: white calf tail with orange over the top

Head: same as tying thread

Lead: optional

Start your thread and run it to the rear. Tie in the tail and ribbing. Dub a small amount of orange dubbing and bring it forward one-third of the way. Now dub again using the black dubbing and bring it forward; remember to leave plenty of room for the collar and wing. Bring the rib forward in even wraps and tie off in front of the black body material. Select a black hackle (stiff), with a barb length about 1½ times the hook gap. As you wind in this hackle, force it to lay back just a little. The wing material should reach back just to the end of the body with the orange just a bit longer than the white. Finish with a nice clean head and cover with multiple coats of head cement.



Time to Renew Your Membership

Early membership renewal for 2009

Within a week, you should receive your 2009 Early Membership Renewal packet by mail. Please take advantage of the early renewal savings and return your signed form with a dues check as soon as possible. Retaining members is very important to our club, hence the \$6.00 savings offer if you renew before January 1 (\$30 vs. \$36).

And when you renew your membership, please consider choosing email delivery (rather than postal) to help us keep club operating costs in check. The cost of printing and mailing a monthly COF newsletter to a single member has risen to more than \$12 per year. Seventy-five percent of our members have switched to online newsletter delivery. If everyone who currently has an email account switched, the club would save about \$700 each year in newsletter costs.

Central Oregon Flyfishers Up-Stream Events 2008

Date	Time	Activity	Location	Contact
NOVEMBER				
Nov 6	6:30 pm	monthly Board meeting	Environmental Center, Bend	Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com)
Nov 15	9:00 am	OUTING & CLEANUP	Crooked River, Big Bend Camp-ground	Bill Seitz (wseitz@bendbroadband.com)
Nov 19	6:30 pm	general meeting	Bend Senior Center	
IN THE FUTURE				
Jan 6	TBA	winter fly tying	Bend Senior Center	Lee Ann Ross
Feb 10	TBA	winter seminar	TBA	Lee Ann Ross
Non-Club Activities & FYI				
Nov 1	8:30 am	Meeting of TU Deschutes chapter		
Nov 5	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board meeting			
Nov 13	Premier of DRIFT			

*Welcome
New Members*

Chad Brown
Gary Kutz
Jean Ohr

Special Meeting of TU Deschutes Chapter members and friends


Nov 1 | 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, snacks provided | Central OR Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas Ave | Free |

The upper Deschutes watershed has been selected as the newest TU (Trout Unlimited) Home Rivers Initiative (HRI) site. The Deschutes River will be the 20th watershed to become a HRI since its inception in 1994. Take a morning to learn about TU's new Home Rivers Initiative beginning in your backyard. Please RSVP to Beverly Lane (blane@tu.org).

DRIFT premier: A benefit for Oregon Trout and Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

Thursday, November 13 | McMenam's Old St. Francis School, 700 NW Bond | Doors open at 5:30 p.m. | Showing begins at 6 p.m. | Purchase tickets online at: <http://www.ortrout.org:80/drift.html>

Join us for the premier of the much-anticipated full-length flyfishing film DRIFT. As the screen lights up, you will be taken on a cinematic adventure across the flats of Belize and the Bahamas, down the tailwaters of the Green, Frying Pan and the Big Horn, spey casting on the Deschutes, throughout the foothills of the Himalayas and exotic rivers of Kashmir, India. You will meet the passionate individuals who dedicate their lives to the sport - including Oregon's own John and Amy Hazel!



Working for Healthy Watersheds
Climate Change and Watershed Resilience

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
10th Biennial Conference
November 5 - 7, 2008
Eugene Hilton and Conference Center

Workshops on:

- climate change impact to watersheds
- community engagement
- effective natural resource organizations
- restoration project management
- invasive species

Special half-day offering for citizen board members.
More information available from:
http://oregon.gov/OWEB/biennialconference_08.shtml

2008 COF Board Members: Yancy Lind PRESIDENT Dennis Rockwell VICE PRESIDENT, Raffle Susan Telford TREASURER Earl Rettig SECRETARY Dave Magaret Programs
Bob Griffin Historian Emil Seidel Larry Godfrey Banquet Dave Semich Past President Dick Olson Membership Bill Seitz Conservation Lee Ann Ross Education
Bob Evermore Outings Dave Dunahay Kokanee Carnival Delores Marsh Wild Women of the Water

Planning Ahead

Annual COF Banquet

March 28, 2009

Bend Senior Center

For more information, contact

Eric Steele

(549-2072 or steelfly2@msn.com).

Enter to win a fly rod!

Remember to wear your COF name tag for each monthly meeting and fill out the raffle ticket at the welcome table. If you attend every meeting, you'll have 12 tickets entered in the drawing that takes place at the annual banquet. That's 12 chances to win!

"This Sage rod is wonderful! Thank you COF."

– Terri Grimm
winner of last year's drawing

food • fun • friends • prizes • raffle • good stuff

Poaching: Don't let them get away with it

– Report Poaching –

When you see poaching on your favorite lake or river, call the State Police poaching hotline at 800-452-7888. If your timing is lucky, they can send someone up. If not, give them the license plate number of the bait fisherman keeping fish in that catch and release, fly-fishing only water, and they will deal with it later.

– Lee Ann Ross



Membership application available from: <http://www.coflyfishers.org>
Mail all newsworthy items to cof@sonatainc.com by the 22nd of the month.



Central Oregon Flyfishers

PO Box 1126 Bend, Oregon 97709



An active
member club