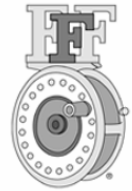




The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



www.coflyfishers.org

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

Volume 26

Number 9

September 2004

**MIDDLE DESCHUTES
OUTING
FOLEY WATERS
CROOKED RIVER RANCH
September 8, 9AM
Dave Dunahay 317-5843
Bring Lunch**

**GENERAL MEETING
SCOTT RICHMOND
STEELHEAD
September 15
6:30-8:30PM Central Oregon
Board of Realtors**

**KK STREAMSIDE
BROWN'S CREEK
September 21-24
Kurt Boettger
383-3480**

Random Casts

Great fun at the Picnic on Wednesday! Many thanks to Dick Stentz and Dan Driskill for a job well done.

It is getting close to the time of year when your Board of Directors (BOD) holds its' annual planning session. Typically, the BOD spends a day reviewing what it has done during the current year and sets objectives for the coming year. Your feedback and suggestions would be most welcome.

One of the items to be considered at the planning session is growth, and how we adjust to it. COF now has over 200 member families and it continues to grow. To adjust, we have tried to form separate interest groups to accommodate the focus of our diverse membership. Kokanee Karnival now has a separate board of directors plus an advisory group. COF maintains financial responsibility, but follows the KK BOD in most other matters. Wild Woman of the Water (WWW, note: some members shorten the acronym to just Wild Woman!) is also a separate subgroup under the direction of Delores Marsh. Both COF and WWW focus their activities on fly-fishing, but WWW is for woman fly fishers only. Fly tying Tuesdays and the conservation group are other groups to focus special interests.

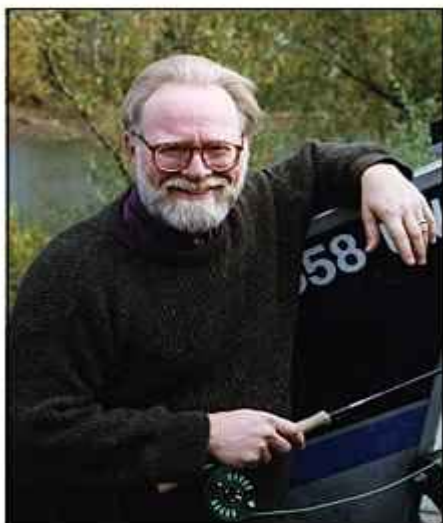
Another growth concern is the monthly meeting. Our current meeting location has lacked space to accommodate all of the attendees. Do we need a larger meeting room? Other areas for discussion at the planning session include programs. We increased the number of big name speakers this year.

These meetings were very well attended. Should we expand this again in 2005? Participants in the Canadian trip increased significantly this year. Should we set up a second trip, maybe to the Umpqua or to Maupin during steelhead season? And the education program was expanded this year. All of the sessions were very well attended. Should we expand these programs again in 2005? And last, but not all and certainly not least, is the FFF conclave, currently scheduled for Sept 2005.

To make the planning session a success we need your input. This is your club and the plans put into place will reflect your input. Please contact any of the board of directors with your ideas and suggestions to make the upcoming planning session a success. - Neal Buxton

SCOTT RICHMOND ON STEELHEAD

Ahhh..., the Deschutes River, hard fighting trout, steelhead, and salmon. Nothing says Central Oregon like the Deschutes River. As it flows South and then North through the very heart of this area, it gives fly fishers opportunities of size, species, scenery, and fish that is arguably one of the best in the country. So I must say, "What a treat we have this month." Our September 15th presenter is Scott Richmond. Scott knows the Deschutes River.



SCOTT RICHMOND

Scott Richmond operates Westfly, Inc. a 501(c) (3) corporation with the goal "to advance the quality of western fly fishing" through education and information with emphasis in on-the-ground projects. Scott is Westfly.com's editor, publisher, and web wonk. In addition to magazine work, he is the author of four books in the "Fishing in Oregon" series: "Best Fly Waters", "Deschutes River", "Cascade Lakes", and "Endless Season". He has just finished his fifth book "10 Tips for Better Trout Fishing on the Deschutes", and we have the opportunity to hear one of his first presentations after the publication of this new book.

In addition, Scott has written and published "The Pocket Gillie" for fly anglers, and is the author of "River Journal: Crane Prairie" and "River Journal: Rogue River"; the latter two books were published by Frank Amato Publications. For four years he was editor of "The Riverkeeper", the newsletter of Oregon Trout, Oregon's largest fish conservation group; he recently relinquished that post. Scott lives in an unincorporated part of Clackamas County with his wife Barbara. They have two grown daughters, five horses, two cats, one dog, and more boats than seems reasonable to Barbara.

On September 16th (the morning after the meeting) Scott Richmond in partnership with John Smeraglio of Deschutes Canyon Flyshop will provide an, exclusive to COF, on-the-stream workshop which will add to the information in Scott's presentation on the 15th. There is a fee for the workshop, and information can be obtained from Ron Anderson, COF's Education Coordinator. (See article below.) As always the membership meeting is free and open to the public. Bring your friends, and don't miss this one!

SEPTEMBER OUTING - MIDDLE DESCHUTES

Go fish the Middle Deschutes on Wednesday September 8. It is not an area a lot of fishermen go. Why? It is not easy to find, but worth the effort. At Foley Waters in Crooked River Ranch,

you will need to walk about .5 miles before descending to the river on an old cat road. There are other routes to the river, but they require some scrambling over large rocks. Riffle Hole is close and is not a strenuous hike, which opens another beautiful area. Steve Light, Central Oregon Outdoors, suggests flashback pheasant tails #18 or # 20 and October caddis pupa #8 for those using a strike indicator. PMD mayflies #16 are good choices for dry flies. Copper Johns #14 and #16 have also worked well. Meet at the Foley Waters gate entrance at 9am. Those who want to try Riffle Hole can go an additional 1.1 miles and turn right. Park at the end and descend.

Directions: North on HW 97 past Terrebonne .5 M; turn left on Lower Bridge Rd; go 2.2 M.; turn right on 43rd; go 1.8 M, then left on Chinook; go 1.1M then left on Badger; Badger will become Blacktail at bottom of hill; go 1.7 M. to Quail; turn right 1.1 M to River Road; left on River Road .4 M; left on Foley Waters; the trail head is .6 M. I said it was hard to find! Bring lunch and water. Dave Dunahay

A NEW COF CLASS: FISHING THE DESCHUTES

If you enjoy fishing the Deschutes, and if you want to improve your fishing skill and knowledge of this beautiful river then COF has a new class on the river for you.

On Thursday, September 16th, Scott Richmond and John Smeraglio will conduct an on-stream seminar for a small group of COF members. Scott is the featured presenter for the Wednesday evening COF meeting, and he has agreed to stay over an extra day to conduct this class for us.

Scott and John will cover these topics: Deschutes River hatches, fishing back eddies, fishing bank water, prime places to find trout, two-fly rigs, getting nymphs deep enough, and fly selection.

John Smeraglio, a recognized expert on fishing the Deschutes, is the owner of Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop in Maupin, and he has 20 years of guiding

experience on the Deschutes. John is featured on the four-video series "Fly Fishing Large Western Rivers", and he is an expert on the aquatic entomology of the Deschutes.

Class specifics:

Date: Thursday, September 16th
Location: Maupin
Duration: 4 hours
Class size: 6 minimum, 12 maximum
Cost: \$75 by September 1st, \$85 after that
Registration: Pre-registration required. Contact Ron Anderson 312-0013 or rlanderson@bendcable.com

So by all means attend the September 15th COF membership meeting to hear Scott. But if you want to spend more time with Scott and John in a small group setting on the river, then register for this September 16th seminar. Car pooling will be arranged.

KOKANEE KARNIVAL FALL STREAMSIDE EXPERIENCE

The ninth year of Kokanee Karnival activities commences soon after the children are back in the classroom with the Fall Streamside Experience on September 21-24. This field trip includes eight classrooms (fourth and fifth grades) over a four day period, and takes place at Brown's Creek and the Fall River Fish Hatchery. The children are put in small groups and rotated among three streamside stations to learn about and observe naturally spawning Kokanee (landlocked sockeye salmon) and other fish species. These stations include a) **Nature's Restaurant**, where children learn about aquatic insects and other sources of food, b) **Comforts of Home**, where students learn about the requirements of good fish habitat and how to conserve them, and c) **The Incredible Journey**, which describes the life cycle of the Kokanee. Students also visit nearby Fall River Fish Hatchery, where they learn about hatchery operations, fish rearing, fish stocking, and hear Native American storytelling from local Native Americans who pass on their knowledge of early fishing in our area.

If you have an interest in joining us, please let us know because all volunteers, visitors, observers, etc. are always welcome, (and we serve lunch!) We just barely have enough trained instructors, so we are always interested in finding more for the future. It would be a great time to come out and watch and see if you want to help. If you are interested or want additional information please contact Kurt Boettger at 383-3480 or Mark Reisinger at 389-4124.

THANK YOU KOKANEE KARNIVAL DONORS!

During the first half of this year the Kokanee Karnival Youth Education Program received donations of almost \$31,000 from local contributors. COF and our program producing partners (Sunriver Anglers, Central Oregon Llama Association, ODF&W, and U. S. Forest Service/Deschutes National Forest) want to thank each and every one of them for their generosity. Our "spawnors" include:

Brooks Resources
Hap Taylor & Sons/MDU
Central Oregon Environmental Center
ODF&W Fish Restoration & Enhancement Board
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

In addition to the above, the program received another \$6,000 from our producing partners, from club members and community businesses, bringing the total year-to-date to \$37,000.

Since we have so many classrooms waiting to participate in Kokanee Karnival, we have embarked on a capacity building program that will allow the program to grow by 40% or an additional 400 students. Therefore, we are grateful for the continued support of all of our "spawnors".

FEDERATION OF FLYFISHERS CONCLAVE 2004

West Yellowstone, MT. Just a short drive to the Madison River, Hebgen Lake, Quake Lake, and too many more to list. A chance to watch, and talk to, casting experts like Joan Wulff and Jason Borger

as they show you the easy ways to really improve your ability. Or attend a free workshop on casting that includes a chance to have your cast electronically analyzed. Hard to argue with that on any improvements you may need.

Maybe you want to learn more about trout, how they live and feed, and what you can do to improve your knowledge and results. How about nymphing for steelhead? How not to take photos of fish? Wild fish research regarding whirling disease and wild fish habitat research?

These are just a few of the free classes and presentations available. Add to that casting competition, a chance to chat with world recognized fly tiers, ask different manufacturers about their products, or just meet some great people from across the country and other parts of the world that have the same interests you do.

There are also a large number of workshops with a fee. These range from getting started at tying flies with experts like Bob Trowbridge to fishing lakes in the European style with Sir Charles Jardine. Add to that bonuses like being invited on free trips with guides from other states, or maybe even up into the NW Territories. You might even be out on the casting pond working a rod, and have an expert come up and ask how you do that cast you're doing and ask you to teach them the maneuver.

For more information, on everything offered, there will be an FFF program guide for the 2004 Conclave at the September meeting. Take the time now to mark your calendar for the 2nd week in August, 2005, Livingston, MT, for the 40th Anniversary Conclave, and be there! - Phil Hager

REMEMBER THE UNDER WADER WEAR!

At 6500 feet with a cool rain, August 4 felt more like October 4 at Three Creeks Lake. Gather the gear, head to the lake, cast three times, and swiftly retreat to the car before getting drenched. Four Wild Women of the Water squeezed into the car before the hail pelted us.

The break gave Delores enough time to rip open the packaging on her new set of 2-way radios. During a brief lull, she dashed outside for a quick "Can you hear me now?" test. The rain finally stopped, but the skies never really cleared. Gather the gear again and head back to the lake. No one wanted to be the subject of a "Woman struck by lightning while in float tube" headline, so we left the float tubes in the cars. The rainstorm activated the fish. They started jumping everywhere.

After a couple hours of fishing, I headed back to the car for a break and more clothes. I was lulled into complacency by the blue skies and 80+ degree temperatures in Bend. I brought extra clothing but no under wader wear, and my legs were cold. While I was deciding on the best way to layer my turtleneck, fleece vest, jacket, and windbreaker, the rest of the gang appeared. One flash of lightning was enough to get them away from the water. We huddled in a dry spot under the trees, munched snacks, and talked about fishing. Lindsey rummaged through the cold food in her cooler, rejected it all, and asked who brought the hot coffee. By now everyone felt chilled, we had no more extra clothing, and the rain came down harder. Time to call it a day! At home, my husband greeted me with a steaming bowl of his homemade chili and fresh baked brownies. We don't fish together, but he can still read my mind.-Terri Grimm

ODFW & USFS

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

The 2004 Metolius Bull Trout Redd Survey dates are as follows:

September 15 (Wednesday)
October 14 (Thursday)

Those who would like to participate in these surveys should be in good physical condition. The survey entails a good deal of hiking, crawling, wading and climbing through brush, downed logs and rocks. This is true for all the survey sections.

For those who are able to manage it, the rewards are great. It is an opportunity to see many bull trout redds and potentially see a fair number of bull trout pairs actively spawning, especially during in the September survey. And of course it is an opportunity to spend quality time with other quality folks in a quality setting.

If you are so inclined, and not otherwise occupied, please join myself and others on one or both of these dates for a day on a Metolius River tributary in search of the elusive bull trout and their redds. Participants will meet at the Bend ODFW office at 8:15 am or the Sisters Forest Service parking lot at 8:45 am. You will need a lunch, water or other liquid supplement, waders, polarized glasses, wading staff, sunscreen and hat. Please RSVP if you plan to participate...Ph 388-6363, ted.g.wise@state.or.us Thanks-Ted Wise

PICNIC THANKS

Thanks to all the members who helped with the BIG PICNIC. REALLY BIG thanks to the cooks: Don Boller and John Champion. Additional thanks to kitchen guys and gals Bob Griffin, Mark Reisinger, Lolly Champion, Dan and Carol Driskill. "Many hands make light work." So goes COF. -Dick Stentz

Editors Note: Threatening weather reduced this year's crowd a little, but all was warm and dry inside Aspen Hall. Actually, that made more door prizes and raffle items available for the rest of us - I won a fly box and Judy won some strike indicators, even with our poor luck!



DAVE SEMIC WITH A BONEFISH IN THE FLORIDA KEYS

BLACKWATER RIVER BRITISH COLUMBIA

Well, it is true. The river is almost just like it was a century and a half ago. COF member Chris Kerber and I spent six days floating the Blackwater River near Quesnel, BC with Bend guide Ron Thompson during the first week of August. On the first day we passed under a logging road bridge with a few people (it was a Sunday) and saw three kayakers. For the rest of the time, we saw no people, no roads, no pastures, no power lines, no buildings, no paths along the river, and no signs of civilization at all. And the fish were willing. Being a Central Oregon tail water or spring creek fisherman, I started with tiny flies in an attempt to match the hatch. It wasn't long before I was ripping through my biggest elk hair caddis and pulling the biggest flies out of my stonefly box. The bigger and bushier they were, the better they liked them. I guess the majority had never seen an artificial fly. The first day at the head of a pool right above camp, I landed 21 without moving my feet, and probably lost another 25 in the swift current.

APPROACHING THE BLACKWATER "SLOT"



The fish were not huge, but the run of the mill fish was probably a 13-14 inch rainbow, with the big ones approaching 19-20 inches. Not bad in large quantities. The camping was pleasant and pristine. The cooking fire was fueled by the wood that you picked up within a ten foot radius of the fire. The one day that we had a downpour, we set up camp under a grove of Spruce trees after breaking off a few low dead limbs, and slept in our

bags without a tent. I was hit by only one drop of water right as I went to bed. The river has some challenging rapids in the class three and four range. In one spot the river flows into a rock canyon. As the wall of the canyon rise on either side, you turn a corner and see the river reduce down to a 42" wide "slot"! The gear has to be unloaded from the raft to a convenient rock, the raft is tipped on its side and walked through the slot, and then you reload all the gear.

For years I have heard Central Oregon fly fishers complain that fishing will never again be like the good old days. But I now know that the "good old days" are just a long day's drive away if you are willing to make the effort to go. This is a "Classified" river in BC which requires a "Classified Waters Angling License" in addition to a fishing



CHRIS HELPS PULL THE RAFT THROUGH THE "SLOT" license, and cost us \$128.40 Canadian. This is also not a river that I would recommend for a first trip without a guide, but I would be happy to put anyone who wants in touch with Ron Thompson for a guided trip with all the comforts. - Harry Harbin

A BELATED THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Bob Griffin and Capt. Caddis for their assistance at the Sisters Bamboo Rod Fair last month. Their names were inadvertently left off of the list.

ARE YOU A WANNABE ROD ASSEMBLER?

I had never seriously considered assembling my own fly rod until this summer. I have a bone fishing trip planned in late February 2005, and

although I wanted an eight weight rod that was four piece and faster action than my steelhead rod, it was hard to justify the expense for a good one. My main concern was that I would purchase a good blank and high quality components, but then foul it up in assembly. When I saw a COCC class in rod assembly, I decided to try it since I would have an instructor looking over my shoulder to keep me out of trouble.

During the class it became clear to me that there are two approaches to rod building. Some folks approach it as art, with decorative wraps, bright colors, patterns in the cork grip and inlets. Others, (and I am in this camp) view it only as a craft, basically duplicating a factory assembled rod at a lower cost and perhaps with a little fine tuning. I personally prefer a stripping guide a size larger than those on a factory rod, plus I added some single contrasting wraps at 20" and 24" from

the butt to help me measure fish, and added my name and the assembly date by application of a decal. But I could have duplicated a factory rod perfectly.

It took a while to complete the rod, mostly waiting for epoxy and rod wrapping finish to dry. But the final rod came out great at a considerable savings and with a minimal amount of labor. I doubt that I will ever buy a factory assembled rod again. If you have the dexterity to tie flies, sew or do a little woodworking, you have plenty of ability to assemble a rod. I do recommend a class with an instructor for your first rod, mostly to help with component and finish selection. If you would be interested in taking a rod assembly class through COF, contact Ron Anderson, our education program chairman 312-0013, randerson@bendcable.com and we will see if there is enough interest to form a class. - Harry Harbin

UPSTREAM EVENTS - 2004				
	H	DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
SEP		2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
		8	Middle Deschutes Outing	Dave Dunahay
		13-19	Bull Trout Spawning Survey, Camping	Jenn Bock
		15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Scott Richmond, Steelhead	Neal Buxton
		15	Metolius Bull Trout Redd Survey	Ted Wise
		16	Class: Fishing the Deschutes River	Ron Anderson
		20-26	Lahontan Trout Genetics Sampling, Camping	Jenn Bock
		21-24	KK Streamside, Brown's Creek	Kurt Boettger
OCT		7	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
		11-17	Bull Trout Spawning Survey, Camping	Jenn Bock
		14	Metolius Bull Trout Redd Survey	Ted Wise
		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
		Tues.	Fly Tying	Phil Havens
DEC		2	COF Board of Directors Meeting	Neal Buxton
		15	COF Gen. Mem. Meeting, Fly Tying	Neal Buxton
		Tues.	Fly Tying	Phil Havens

JOIN THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS!

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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: _____

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