President’s Message

Kokanee Karnival: September 21 through 25, Kokanee Karnival Streamside will be held at Sheep Bridge or Browns Creek, Fall River Hatchery and Spring Creek. Twelve classes will participate. Kids will observe spawning kokanee and learn about stream habitat, entomology, kokanee life cycle and fish hatcheries. This program is a great opportunity to see the kids in action and learn more about fish. For more detail and to volunteer, see the article on page 2.

IFFF: I hope everyone enjoyed the IFFF fair last month as much as I did. Again, the COF volunteer base was a huge help to that effort. Of special note is of course Sherry Steele, our very own head of the Oregon Council who orchestrated much of the event, her trusty side kick Mr. Eric Steele, Karen Kreft to managed the Women’s University and the amazing tournament at the casting course and all the rest of us who helped out in our own way. I think this was the most successful rendezvous in IFFF history.

August Picnic: A huge thanks to all of you who helped make the August Picnic a huge success. We have almost 90 attendees and almost everyone helped out. A special thanks to Herb Blank for organizing the event. Our featured cooks were Dick Christensen, Kate Elliott, John Kreft and Larry Godfrey. Charlie Schillinsky carved the perfectly cooked tri tip. Herb was overwhelmed with volunteer offers to help in all aspects of the picnic. It’s great to see everyone pitch in.

Pete and Kathy Martin outdid themselves selling tickets to the raffle for a gorgeous spey rod package which was generously donated by Dick Christensen. We raised over $400 with the raffle. Thanks to all who bought tickets.

~ Lee Ann Ross
At the September meeting, COF member John Kreft will present a program about a secret river west of Sisters…the Metolius. While his famous quote is “there are no fish in the Metolius,” some fly fishers know better. His presentation will include fishing access points, the fish available, bug life, and a few tips about his method of catching the elusive Redsides, Brown Trout, and Bull Trout in the river. John is renowned for his famous “John Kreft flies” of which he has graciously donated dozens and dozens to the COF monthly raffle and annual banquet. He has managed the COF Winter Fly Tying since 2012 and contributes to the Fly of the Month column in the COF newsletter. John is the treasurer for the Oregon Council—IFFF, and Chair of the NW Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo in Albany. He has been an exhibition fly tyer in Albany, Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo (Boise), Northern California Fly Tying Expo (Redding), and several national IFFF Fairs. John started the website RiverKeeper Flies (www.johnkreft.com) in March 2014, which is a great resource to novice and experienced anglers. His weekly posts include a variety of topics including fly fishing, fly tying, and volunteer work. John and his wife Karen (a noted fly fisher in her own right) live in Sisters. Pre-Meeting: Create your own chironomid depth finder tool at our education pre-meeting starting at 6:15. All supplies will be provided. Bring a buck to put in the kitty to cover costs. With this tool you will be able to determine the exact depth you need to fish your chironomids effectively.

OUTINGS

Deschutes River Steelhead Trip

When? Late Sept/Oct | Beavertail campground

The COF annual steelhead trip to the lower Deschutes River will be coming in late September/October. As soon as we have a good understanding of the water temperatures and flows and state of the steelhead migration up the Deschutes we will set a date. Plan to camp at the large camping area at Beavertail campground. To ensure space at the campground and have shuttle support for your boat, you must sign up in advance.

There is a $25 per night camping fee for the group campground, and the cost will be shared among campers. Everyone is responsible for their own meals, although a group potluck on one of the nights will be in the works. If you will be floating the stretch down to Mack’s Canyon, please plan to help car pool shuttle (14 miles round trip) each night. This is a great opportunity for folks with a boat or pontoon. If you want to fish off the road, there is great access!

For more information or to sign up, please contact Trip Leader Robert Gentry driftboater1@gmail.com or 541-233-6111.

EVENTS

Kokanee Karnival Fall Streamside Program

☛ Second Call For Volunteers

Kokanee Karnival will hold our Fall Streamside program on September 21, 22, 24 & 25 2015. We do not hold the program on Wed. September 23. We are working on preparing the schedule of volunteers to help at both Spring Creek and Sheep Bridge. Several COF members have contacted me about volunteering but we do not have...
enough volunteers to adequately staff the program. We need COF members with experience to lead a station and several to assist the leaders. Fall Streamside is rapidly approaching.

We published descriptions of the stations and programs at both Spring Creek and Sheep Bridge in the August COF newsletter. New volunteers are welcome and will be teamed with a volunteer with experience at Sheep Bridge and Spring Creek. The programs we teach the students are not complicated and easy to learn. We can provide an outline of the program used at each Sheep Bridge station and at Spring Creek.

To volunteer contact Frank Turek at waldo1ft@msn.com or 541-318-7507 or sign up at the COF general meeting.
You can also contact Jen Luke at Jennifer.a.luke@state.or.us or 541-388-6366.

Fly Fishing Festival Hosted by the Hook Fly Shop

September 19 and 20 | The Village at Sunriver

The Hook Fly Shop will hold its third annual fly fishing festival September 19 & 20. Saturday 10:00 am–6:00 pm and Sunday 10:00 am–3:00 pm at the Sunriver Mall. (sunriverflyfishingfestival.com). We are looking for volunteers to staff a COF table to chat with the public about our club and hopefully to recruit some new members. It’s two fun filled days of making contact with like-minded fisher folks. If you would like to volunteer, please email Lee Ann Ross at rossleeann@yahoo.com. If you would like to tie flies while you are volunteering, bring your vise and teach a kid how to tie your favorite fly.

IFFF RENDEZVOUS RECAP

COF Members Take Honors At 9-Hole Fly Casting Tournament

At a special contest held during the IFFF Fair, several COF members joined teams and brought their best! The tournament featured nine of the twelve casting holes at the Old Mill Casting Course. The course is the only one of its type in North America and this was the first IFFF contest on the course.

The wind blew and the holes provided plenty of challenge! But, it was fun!

Teams consisted of IFFF Certified Casting Instructors, professional guides and fishing instructors, amateur fly casters, and an under 18 youth classification.

The Next Cast Flyfishers Team, made up of our local youth fly fishers—John Runco, Max Cota, Branson Broderick, Coe Williams, and Jenevieve Richmond (guest from Salem)—recorded the low average TEAM SCORE! They had some great performances, and Coe Williams had the only score on hole #11, where all other casters took a maximum number of strokes on the hole!

In the amateur classification, Lee Ann Ross (COF President) recorded the low individual score.

And in the pro class, on an all-pro team from the Fly Fishers Place in Sisters, John Kreft had the low individual score! The Fly Fisher’s Place also scored the low team score in the pro classification.

Thank you to our local sponsors Camp Sherman Store, Tye Krueger, 10 Barrel Brewing, Stanley Thermos, Brian O’Keefe, Lee Ann Ross, RiverKeeper Flies, and Next Cast Flyfishers (they provided the rootbeer)!

And thank you to the volunteers serving as monitors Cliff Price, Eric Steele, Pete Martin, Allen Caudle, Steve Armentrout, Bill Raleigh, Kari Schoessler, Tina Perin, and Joyce McKenney (guest for Colorado).

~Karen Kreft, 503-409-0148, dancingtrout@gmail.com
CONSERVATION

Mermaid Fish

Club member Erik Jensen forwarded me this photo of what he called a “Mermaid Fish” that he caught on East Lake. I forwarded it to biologists at ODFW who said they had never seen a trout like it. Brett Hodgson, our local district fish biologist, tongue in check named it Ariel and said, “That’s a “fancy” rainbow. Sell ’em at Petco for $5.00. Apparently our hatchery staff decided they needed to diversify their program.”

Metolius River Regulation Changes

As reported in prior columns, ODFW is in the process of simplifying regulations on many rivers and lakes here in Central Oregon and around the state. One of their proposed changes was to eliminate the seasonal closure on the Metolius above Allingham Bridge. ODFW believes that redbands in the Metolius are robust and as abundant as can be hoped for given the nature of that cold, spring fed river. The US Forest Service office in Sisters objected, however, and pointed out that the majority of spawning habitat and activity occurs in the winter above Allingham Bridge. USFS reached out to me and I brought their concerns to the COF board who voted to ask ODFW to maintain the seasonal closure. The reasoning is that while we all value expanded angling opportunities, we would rather err on the side of caution. There seems to be little reason to open areas with many spawning beds to angling during spawning season when the majority of the river remains open year round. In response, ODFW has withdrawn the proposed regulation change. We thank ODFW for being good partners and responding to our concerns.

Lower Deschutes

As you know, controversy surrounding Portland General Electric’s operation of its Selective Water Withdrawal facility continues unabated. (The SWW is the “fish tower” in Lake Billy Chinook that allows for the reintroduction of steelhead and salmon into the upper Deschutes basin.) Critics of the SWW have been quite vocal this summer. In response, PGE has updated their website with information on lower Deschutes temperatures, water quality, fisheries health, etc. www.portlandgeneral.com/deschutespassage

Recreation & Enhancement Board

Last month I was appointed to ODFW’s Recreation and Enhancement Board. This board controls a pool of ODFW funds used statewide for habitat restoration and hatchery improvement projects. It has been some time since someone from Central Oregon was on the R&E board, the last one was Bob Mullong, aka “Captain Caddis”. http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/RE/

~Yancy Lind, Conservation Chair, conservation@coflyfishers.org

White Sturgeon in Lake Billy Chinook

Here’s a photo of a white sturgeon captured at the SWW on July 24. This fish was transported and released into the Deschutes below Maupin. I don’t recall previously hearing of white sturgeon in Lake Billy Chinook.
LIBRARY

Update

Central Oregon Flyfishers owns books, CDs and DVDs that club members can check out. The collection includes most subjects interesting to fly fishers, including tying and entomology, rigging, reading waters, fishing still waters, how to fish for trout, salmon and steelhead and so on. The collection even includes a little literature and travel advice. New books are added regularly.

New Books:
The American Fly Tying Manual, by Dave Hughes, graciously donated by Lou Duncan!

New in September:
What Fish See, by Colin J. Kageyama
Redband Trout Waters, by Juan J Calvillo
The Boomer’s Guide to Lightweight Backpacking, New Gear for Old People, by Carol Corbridge
Handcrafting a Graphite Fly Rod, by L.A. Garcia
From Field to Fly, The Fly Tier’s Guide to Skinning and Preserving Wild Game, by Scott J. Seymour
Productive Trout Flies for Unorthodox Prey, by Jeff Morgan
Matching Mayflies, by Dave Hughes
The Fly-Fisher’s Illustrated Dictionary, by Darrel Martin
The Fly-Fisher’s Companion, by Darrel Martin
From Dry Fly Innovations: Tie Magic: Volume 1 (Two CDs)

and/or check out one of our books, just look for the rolling bookcase at the club’s general meeting. The librarian arrives at the meeting early to give members extra time to look for books before the meeting starts.

If you have any questions feel free to email.
~Kathleen Schroeder, COF Librarian, kathleen.s.schroeder@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Those of you residing within the new Bend zip code should update your mailing address with COF. You can do this yourself by going to https://coflyfishers.wildapricot.org and logging in, going to your member profile and making the zip code correction. If you have never logged into Wild Apricot, your 10 digit phone number, including the hyphens (xxx-xxx-xxxx), was set as your password. If that doesn’t work, click on “Forgot Password” and follow the steps. You can also send me an email and request that I change your zip code.

~Tim Schindele, membership@cofflyfishers.org

Welcome New Members

Jill and Tom Bazemore
John Howard
Ann Leferrerie
Anne Tully

~Tim Schindele, membership@cofflyfishers.org
Next Cast Flyfishers Update

The Next Cast Flyfishers program provides opportunities and coordinates activities for young fly anglers in the area. We are able to help provide fly fishing instruction through classroom activities, our fly fishing summer camp, ongoing COF events, and individually through mentorship and teaching.

We hope that by providing these opportunities, young anglers will be exposed to fly fishing and increase their interest and level of involvement.

Our young fly fishers had a busy month getting ready for the 9-Hole Fly Casting Tournament held during the IFFF Fair. We had several practice sessions and there were additional sightings of the Next Cast Flyfishers with their fly rods in hand practicing on their own!

It all paid off—their casting improved and they posted the lowest team score in the contest! They also had some great individual scores and awesome performances! The course offered a lot of challenges, but did focus on fishing casts that will help when we get to the water. See article: 9-Hole Fly Casting Tournament, page 3.

~Karen Kreft, nextcast@coflyfishers.org, 503-409-0148

Wild Women of the Water

The Women’s University component of the International Fly Fishing Federation Fair in August was a fantastic success! It was such fun to see passionate women working on their fishing skills together. We learned so much on both the Crooked River and East Lake. Next year, the Fly Fishing Fair is in Livingston, Montana, August 2–6. Wouldn’t it be fun to attend together? Put it on your calendar and maybe we can pull it off. KTVZ did a wonderful piece on one of our classes. Our own Karen Kreft was highlighted. Check it out: http://www.ktvz.com/news/fly-fishers-from-around-globe-cast-a-line-in-co/34664936.

~Kari Schoessler, wildwomen@coflyfishers.org

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Denny’s Stillwater Nymph

One inch long and green. That’s the description of this month’s Tyer’s Corner fly. It’s called Denny’s Stillwater Nymph. This fly is one of many Denny Rickard’s effective trout flies. I like and fish his Callibaetis Nymph and AP Nymph as well.

Callibaetis mayflies are still hatching in the high lakes of Central Oregon, but it won’t be long and they’ll be gone till next year.

What does this fly imitate? I think fish take the fly as a damsel nymph, leech, or perhaps a small dragon fly nymph. All three of these insects are an important source of food for a trout.

I fish the fly on an intermediate line attached to a fluorocarbon leader. Using the count-down method, I’ll cast a long line, count to 15, and begin a slow retrieve. I’ll re-cast several times, but if I don’t get a hit, I’ll count to 20 the next few casts. Nothing? Try counting to 25 and 30 before moving spots. You might get a tug at a certain depth. Stay with it as I find the fish are generally in the same zone or depth of water.

For more information about Denny’s Stillwater Nymph, check out the post on RiverKeeper Flies entitled Lake Flies (www.johnkreft.com/lake-flies1).

Enjoy…go fish!

~John Kreft, RiverKeeper Flies, www.johnkreft.com

Directions

Hook: Dai Riki 730 or TMC 5262 2xl, size 12–14
Thread: Black or olive
Weight: .010 or .015 lead—6 to 8 wraps
Tail: Olive marabou
Hackle: Burnt orange
Body: Olive seal substitute
Rib: Copper wire—brassie size
Wing Case: Olive or burnt orange marabou tied down full length over the hook
Optional: Use a burnt orange tail and/or wing case
Other News

Book Announcement
The book: Fly Fishing Oregon’s Crooked River will be available for purchase at the September COF Meeting. For people who wish to purchase the book prior to the meeting, please call or email John Anderson to arrange an earlier pick up date. Contact John at 541-385-8693 or jranderson@bendbroadband.com.

ODFW Issues Fishing Closure Regulations
Due to the hot weather, beginning Saturday, July 18, 2015 until further notice, all water bodies defined as ‘streams’ in the 2015 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations will be closed to angling for trout, salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon from 2:00 p.m. daily until one hour before sunrise the following day. In the Central Zone, angling hours in the following water bodies remain unchanged from the 2015 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations: (a) Hood River and tributaries, and White River and tributaries. (b) Deschutes River upstream from Macks Canyon, Metolius River, Fall River, Crooked River upstream to Bowman Dam, and Tumalo Creek.

With the hot weather, there are a few things anglers can do to reduce the stress on the fish we catch. 1) Fish in the cooler hours of the day. 2) Measure the water temperature. If it’s too hot, don’t fish. 3). Use barbless hooks. 4). Put your 3wt away. Use a heavier rod. 5). Use heavier tippet to bring the fish in faster. Don’t “play” the fish. Bring it in as FAST as you can. 6). Leave the fish in the water. Fish do not breathe out of water. 7). Make sure the fish is fully revived before releasing it. A guide I talked to said that he had a fish on Crane that took 40 minutes to revive. Leave the fish in the net until it is fully revived. Take your time.

Memorial
Steve Stevens, our education director, died on Monday, August 10, 2015.
You may have seen him at our COF meetings, a guy with a white beard and sparkling blue eyes. If you arrived early, you may have seen him at a table with nets, explaining how they’re made and signing up members for a class.
He moved to Oregon to be close to the rivers where he could fish.

He joined COF right away, and not long after, volunteered to take the daunting job of education director. As a natural and patient teacher, he generously shared his techniques and skills. He helped with rod building classes, taught net building in his garage, taught fly tying and casting. He held beginner tying classes at his kitchen table (that’s where the patience was needed) and even wrote out the instructions and recipes with hand-drawn diagrams for everyone. His talents were extensive and included making guitars and fine furniture with exotic woods and inlays. His tying bench was a work of art.
He gladly shared his knowledge and expertise, and would have continued to share it…but, though he was 78 years old, his life was cut short.
If you didn’t know him, it’s because he wasn’t here long and didn’t have time to meet you.
Steve was a huge asset to our club, and to our sport, and because of his willingness to share his expertise and knowledge, he leaves us all quite a bit richer.
Tight Lines, Steve!
Update

Summer is slowly winding down—have you made the most of the summer fishing here in Central Oregon? Please feel free to email me any fishing reports you have from the local area so that I may pass it along on the COF Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/CentralOregonFlyfishersClub). Don’t forget that we are also have a COF LinkedIn Page (https://www.linkedin.com/company/central-oregon-flyfishers) so make sure you are connecting with us on this great social platform. Don’t forget to update your LinkedIn profile to show your membership to the club!

Thank you to everyone who has sent me updates, reports, photos and links for the COF Facebook Page. I appreciate and welcome the collaboration and help. It’s a great way to show the community just how active and involved we really are.

Best,

~ Molly Vernarecci, COF Social Media Coordinator, socialmedia@coflyfishers.org
UPSTREAM EVENTS  September 2015

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<td>Environmental Center</td>
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<td>COF Directors Meeting</td>
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<td>The Village at Sunriver</td>
<td>Lee Ann Ross</td>
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In the Future

Central Oregon Flyfishers
PO Box 1126
Bend, Oregon 97709

An Active Member Club