

The Central Oregon Flyfisher

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RANDOM CAST

If you who missed the Winter Seminar...BUMMER! What a fantastic two days. The weather was cooperative. Lunches were great, and Jason Borger was terrific. Jason is an entertaining speaker and a good teacher; he shared an enormous amount of fly-fishing information. His knowledge of the mechanics of fly casting is incredible. In 500 frames per second slow motion, he showed exactly what a fly rod does in the casting stroke. He knows how to explain tips and tricks for fly casting. He also provided many suggestions to improve our fishing—from the view point of the fish. He has some great photos of the fish's field of vision. Jason's number one tip: BE THE HERON.

This seminar was made possible through the efforts of the following people: Lee Ann Ross, who put together this great seminar; members who helped set up Aspen Hall and cleaned up after the seminar; and Dave Dunahay and Mike Bishop for arranging tasty lunches. Be sure to thank these members for their efforts the next time you see them. And many thanks to everyone who attended. Without you, we could not bring this wonderful program to Bend.

Nearly 140 people attended the February general meeting to hear Jason share his experiences in working on the film *A River Runs Through It*. His presentation was excellent, well prepared and very entertaining. Thank you, Jason Borger.

March will be a busy month for COF. The first weekend in March is the Central Oregon Sportsmen's Show at the Deschutes County Fair Grounds. Each year, COF members set up fishing poles (yes, poles) and help the boys and girls catch what is often their very first fish. Before or after your volunteer shift, you can take in the show. There will be a casting contest, if you want to test your skill. There are also many great products on display, guide services and teaching seminars.

The second weekend is the Northwest Fly Tyers Expo in Albany. If you have never attended, don't miss this one. There will be hundreds of tyers, dozens of vendors and many teaching demonstrations and classes. It is a great way to spend the weekend, and it is free to Federation of Fly Fishers members. The Metolius River outing is also the second Saturday.

At our general meeting on March 18, Bill Myers will discuss fishing the Owyhee River. Bill is a resident of Prineville and has worked as a fly-fishing guide. He too, is a wealth of information. Don't miss it. Come early. We expect another full house. The third weekend of the month, there will be an outing on the Owyhee River and fish tagging on the Crooked River.

The COF Annual Banquet and fundraiser will be held March 28. The single, biggest check that COF writes each year is for Kokanee Karnival, and the banquet theme this year is Kokanee Karnival. Kids who participated in the program will give a brief presentation. Don't miss this important event. Contact Eric Steele and let him know you will be there.

— Dennis Rockwell



NEWSLETTER
Terri Grimm
Editor & Designer
Scott & Sarah Robertson
Distribution



GENERAL MEETING

The Owyhee River – a hidden gem

March 18 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

Dry-fly fishermen dream about rivers like the Owyhee. It's a river with active fish that rise to dry flies in the mid-day sun during July. Since 2001, Bill Myers has made the five-hour drive to the river an annual trip. March, April, May, September, October and November can be the best fishing months, depending on the weather and water levels. Every season offers something different.

The Owyhee has all the hatches you would expect in a tailwater fishery. The large numbers of insects make up for the lack of diversity. Expect a Callibeatis hatch in June and July and sqwalla stoneflies in late March. Riffles, pools and long glides provide ideal habitat for hungry fish. Experience the Owyhee through Bill's eyes (and photos) and learn about this relatively unknown gem of a river. If you plan to attend the outing to the Owyhee on March 20, you don't want to miss this meeting.

A native Oregonian, Bill Myers has been fishing since he was old enough to cast a fly rod. Bill is a representative for Daiichi hooks and an avid fly tyer who has participated in conclaves in Eugene and Albany for many years. (He has patterns in several fly-tying books.) Bill has guided for The Hook and Fly Box, taught fly-fishing classes and tied commercially. Bill and his family have lived in Prineville since 1996.

EDUCATION

Winter fly-tying classes

every Tuesday | 6:00 to 9:00 pm | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend | \$5 per class | COF members only

Winter fly-tying classes continue. For more information, contact Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com or 549-2072).

Introduction to Fly Fishing

March 25 | 7:00 to 9:00 pm | Fly & Field Outfitters

To help members who are new to COF and fly fishing, we will offer an introductory course on fly fishing, taught by Steve Light at Fly and Field Outfitters on Wednesday, March 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Fly and Field is located at 35 S.W. Century Drive. Class size is limited to the first 10 members who sign up, and the fee is \$10. To save your place, send a check (payable to COF) to Lee Ann Ross, 3062 NW Underhill Pl, Bend 97701.

– Lee Ann Ross
rossleann@yahoo.com or 312-2568

OUTINGS

Dates for the following outings have changed: Ana River (Mar 26 to Mar 31) and Middle Deschutes (May 9 to May 16). There will be three outings in March, so see the descriptions for the trips and get out and fish!

Want to lead a trip? Have questions or comments? Please contact me.

– Yancy Lind, Outings Coordinator
yancy_lind@ml.com or 788-5514

Outings 2009			
Month	Day	Leader	Destination
Feb	11	John Anderson Scott Robertson	Crooked River
Mar	14	Yancy Lind	Lower Metolius (below Bridge 99)
Mar	20-22	Lee Ann Ross	Owyhee River
Mar	31	Harry Harbin	Ana River
Apr	14	Wild Women	Metolius River
Apr	25	Dave Semich	Davis Lake
May	6	Bob Cooper	Wickiup Reservoir & Sheep's Bridge
May	16	Yancy Lind	Middle Deschutes
May	21-23	Bill Seitz	Krumbo Reservoir
Jun	5-7	Bob Mullong	Prineville Reservoir
Jun	12-14	Dave Semich	Diamond Lake
Jun	18-27	Daryl & Nancy Loveland	British Columbia
Jul	10-12	Yancy Lind	Williamson River
Jul	24-26	Bob Mullong	Upper Deschutes at Cow Camp
Aug	7-9	Don Schnack	Willamette River
Sep	8-13	Mark Reisinger	Cascades Lakes
Sep	25-27	Scott Robertson	Diamond Lake
Oct	8-11	Larry Godfrey	Lower Deschutes (steel-head)
Nov	21	Bill Seitz	Crooked R. cleanup & outing

The other Metolius

March 14

Below Bridge 99 the Metolius River has fast water, rapids and lots of brush. There is also excellent fishing if you are willing to do some exploring. These fish are relatively big and beautiful and have been strengthened by the fast current.

During one day on this part of the river in January, I landed nine redband trout between 10 and 17 inches. On another January day I had eight fish, including a 21-inch bull trout. (Both days the air temperature was in the 20s, but the water was much warmer).

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I'll lead a club outing to this part of the river on March 14. Be prepared to start with a 30 to 45-minute hike along an old dirt road heading downriver from Bridge 99. The initial hike is easy; getting down to and then wading in the river requires more effort. Open spots are limited. A wading staff is absolutely required; a machete is not outrageous.

A good roll cast or single-hand Spey cast will be best—no back casting here. And don't expect to use dry flies. Most of the water is moving much too quickly for anything but nymphing.

Recently I have been using a heavily-weighted size 6 to 8 October caddis nymph to get down to the bottom with size 12 to 20 droppers and catching fish with both flies. Droppers included pheasant tail nymphs, various scud imitations and little, tiny, green and black things that I've had in my box for years; I have no idea what they are supposed to imitate.

In exchange for your effort, you could hook up with fish that don't see many fishermen. I need to keep this trip small; most spots can handle only one or two anglers at a time, and we'll need to spread out. If you are interested in coming, contact me (yancy_lind@ml.com or on my cell at 788-5514), and we'll discuss logistics and how to keep warm.

— Yancy Lind

Owyhee River

Mar 20 to 22

The Owyhee River downstream from Lake Owyhee Dam is one of Oregon's best kept tailwater secrets. Fishing picks up in March as the ice eases off the river. My contacts tell me that it looks and fishes like the Crooked River, expect for the big brown trout. Use the same flies and rigs you use on the Crooked.

The best information I have found for the Owyhee is on the Clackamas Fly Fishers club Web site, available from: <http://clackamasflyfishers.org/CMS2/content/view/104/33/>. Within the article are two links to reports about their trip.

Directions: Take Highway 20 east to Burns and continue to Vale. In Vale, turn right on Glenn St. S, which becomes Lytle Blvd. Go for about 14 miles. Lytle becomes Janeta Avenue. Janeta Avenue becomes Jefferson Drive. Turn right

on Owyhee Avenue and then left on Owyhee Lake Road. On Owyhee Lake Road, there is a bridge just below the dam. When you cross the bridge, a campsite is on the right. Allow at least five hours of driving time from Bend to the campground. There are no amenities at the campground; be sure to bring all of your own food, gear, and supplies.

The campsite is rustic — outhouse ONLY, no water or other facilities. Camp here or stay at a motel in Vale or Ontario. The 10 miles of fishing below the dam to Snively Hot Spings is the best fishing.

Owyhee Lake Road is scenic, but the road is narrow and steep, and it twists and winds. Drive cautiously, especially if you are towing a trailer or driving an RV. Allow extra time to drive this stretch of road. Lake Owyhee State Park has a campground with full hookups and amenities, but it is closed until April 15.

This outing will be loosely organized, but that's half the fun. Bill Myers, who will speak about the Owyhee at the COF general meeting on March 18, will be available to help during this outing. I have maps of the area for those who wish to come on the trip. **If you are interested in going, contact Lee Ann Ross, 312-2568 or rossleeann@yahoo.com.**

Ana River Outing

Tuesday, March 31 | 8:00 a.m. departure from WalMart

I am always searching for good dry-fly fishing in March. The Ana River is one of those strange little gems of Oregon geography that almost always provides good fishing in March (sometimes in February too).

Located on Highway 31 about 100 miles from Bend, between Silver Lake and Summer Lake, the river arises at springs in the bottom of Ana Reservoir, a very small but deep reservoir known for its hybrid bass. The state record was caught here (18.5 pounds, the last of five records caught here!), but it is pretty much bottom fishing that doesn't lend itself to fly fishing. The overflow from the lake ignominiously flows through two big pipes through the earthen dam, and voila' – the Ana River. The river flows through a fairly deep earthen canyon for about three miles before it flows into the Summer Lake Wildlife Refuge and disappears in the desert.

The water starts out very clear, with a year-round temperature of about 52°F. Farther downstream, it picks up some color from the soil and eventually becomes very alkaline. Depending on the temperature and how clear the sky is, there is almost always a good midday hatch with rising fish starting right below the dam. Most of the bugs are fairly small this time of the year, with midges, blue wing olives and small caddis late in the day (and sometimes pale morning duns). The river is never over 20 to 30 feet wide, but it can be too deep to wade in places. You can usually fish most of the river by crossing it once on a thigh-deep gravel bar that I can show you. The shallow gravel bars are easy wading, but if you get into

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the soft silt in slow water, you may need a tractor to pull you out! If it is raining or wet, the soil on the bank can be muddy and slippery in places, so a wading staff is a must.

I like to start near the dam where there are lots of small fish. For bigger fish, I walk downstream high on the bank where you can sometimes spot larger, rising fish. Small fish (10 to 12 inches) abound, but 14 to 16 inchers are common, and really big ones are about. It's mostly dry-fly fishing, but before and after the hatch, nymphing works well also. There are chubs in the river, so big imitations can sometimes catch big fish. A four weight with a long, light leader is great for dry flies, a three or five would also be fine.

We will meet at the south end of the WalMart parking lot at 8:00 a.m. sharp; we can car pool and/or caravan. We should get to the Ana Reservoir parking lot between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. If you know the way and want to meet us there, just meet in the parking lot near the pit toilet. You need a full tank of gas, lunch and water; once we get south of La Pine, you will be in the middle of nowhere. There is gas in Summer Lake, but it is very expensive. The hatch usually fades at 3:00 p.m. or there about, so you can be home for a late dinner with no problem. Bring a walkie-talkie if you have one.

Please let me know if you plan to go so I can notify you if we have to change the date due to weather. The Ana is five fish a day, with bait allowed, so you can bring your lead split shot. The river is stocked with Deschutes River redband stock. I hope to see you there.

– Harry Harbin (harryharbin@bendcable.com)

British Columbia

June 18 to 25

It's time to plan the annual BC trip. This year's trip includes a period of dark moon. For first timers, here's what you can expect:

TRAVEL TIME – Plan to drive 13 to 14 hours We will share the best routes at a planning meeting in May. You must have a passport to return to the United States.

EXPENSES – You will need approximately \$15 Canadian/night camping fee (**only cash will be accepted**). Previously, COF has assessed a \$70 (U.S.) fee to cover meals and other incidentals. (This fee is subject to change). An eight-day fishing license costs approximately \$53 Canadian. If you go to Trojan Pond, plan on a \$20 charitable contribution. Finally, we've usually had an optional meal in Logan Lake on the last day.

GEAR – Pontoon boats and belly boats seem to be the crafts of choice, but prams work well also. Bring a five or six-weight rod. These fish are athletic, and a few may be in the 24 to 25-inch range. A dry line and an intermediate sinking line work well. We'll discuss flies at our May meeting. Camping shelters include everything from RVs to tents.

RESPONSIBILITIES – Everyone will share in camping duties (cooking, cleaning up, making coffee, setting up and taking down). Everyone should be willing to plan and/or cook

a breakfast or dinner. COF will reimburse expenses. Everyone furnishes their own lunches.

If you would like to be on our mailing list, please contact us (darylloveland@hotmail.com or 20965 Via Bonita Ct., Bend 97702).

– Daryl and Nan Loveland

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

For our meeting on March 9, Bill Seitz will teach us how to set up a nymphing rig. Watch your e-mail for details about time, location, and gear to bring.

– Terri Grimm

OTHER NEWS

Northwest Fly Tyers & Fly Fishing Expo 2009

March 13 & 14, 2009 | Linn County Expo Center, Albany, OR

Plan to attend the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers premier Northwest event. The Expo will feature almost 200 of the Northwest's best fly tyers, 50 vendor booths, 62 classes covering all aspects of fly fishing, casting and tying plus 14 destination theater presentations. Raffles and silent auctions will be held throughout both days to be capped off by a banquet and live auction Saturday evening. Look at www.NWFlyTyerExpo.com for complete information, schedules, registration and banquet tickets. The COF is a member and a supporter of the Oregon Council.

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Crooked River – outing follow-up

The first COF outing of 2009 (February 11) was a success in spite of a snow-covered landscape, morning snow flurries, ice along the river bank and temperatures in the low thirties. After Scott Robertson and Bill Seitz aptly demonstrated rigging and nymph-fishing techniques, all 12 members who turned out for the outing caught at least a few mountain whitefish at various areas along the Palisades Campground. The “Turek nymphing method” seemed to produce the most fish in the morning. Several members ate lunch and warmed up around Bill’s propane-fueled fire ring, and those who fished in the afternoon found that the bite picked up for everyone who remained to complete the day.



Snowy weather didn't deter hearty anglers from fishing the Crooked River on February 11. Photos: John Anderson

four-hour shifts. For more information, contact Vivian (541-788-1105 or vivianrockwell@hotmail.com).

Team USA qualifying competitions

May 9 and 10 | East & Paulina lakes | Crooked & Metolius rivers

The Team USA fly-fishing team represents our country in international competitions. The popular Czech, Polish or European-style nymphing are a result of these competitions. COF member Scott Robertson is a past member of Team USA. Anglers qualify for the team by participating in a series of competitions held around the country. COF will help in organizing and hosting one of these qualifying competitions in May.

We need your help for these competitions to run smoothly. We will need up to 24 volunteers to measure fish as the anglers catch them and to man the boats on the lakes. The club helped with this event several years ago, and we all learned a great deal from the experience.

If you are interested in participating in this fun event, or if you can loan us a boat, wind sock or anchor, contact Lee Ann Ross (rossleann@yahoo.com or 312-2568).

Bend Parks and Rec youth fly-fishing camp

June 15 to 17 | Shevlin Park | 9 am to noon | ages 9 to 14

COF member Warren Snyder will coordinate this camp. To volunteer to assist or for more information, contact Warren (541-548-6520 or drifterwds@yahoo.com).

Kids will learn various casts, fishing techniques and strategies, fly tying, safe wading and basic insects that fish like to eat. Bend Parks and Rec will charge a fee of \$60 and enrollment will be through Bend Parks and Rec.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Kid's fishing pond

Vivian Rockwell is organizing volunteers for the kid's fishing pond at the Central Oregon Sportsmen's Show, March 5 through 8. Volunteers are still needed for several

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TYERS CORNER

As I looked through my fly boxes last spring, I realized that I did not have a good cased-caddis pattern. I browsed my pattern books and saw a cute one – the Green Peeking Caddis (not to be confused with Peking or Beijing). I followed the pattern instructions, but the fly did not look just right to me. The pattern called for a black ostrich herl head, which was not leggy enough for me, and the head cement matted the herl. I made some changes and included instructions for my version of the fly.

I like flies that are easy to tie and can stand up to fishie abuse. I fish this fly near or on the bottom; I like a fly that I don't mind losing because it is easy to replace. This pattern

sure meets all those criteria. I usually fish this as my attractor or anchor fly with a Happy Pulik as the dropper (COF May 2008 newsletter). This is a very effective combination on the Crooked, Fall and Metolius rivers. Sometimes this tandem is so effective I begin to feel sorry for the fish. Last fall at the COF Crooked River cleanup, John Anderson looked at the Peeking Caddis and said it was a little big for the river. If anyone in the club knows about invertebrate critters it is John. So I tied some on a #16 hook and used 0.10 lead. It is a little smaller and lighter, so it is effective in slower water. Have fun with this and good fishing.

– Frank Turek

Peeking Caddis



Hook: #14 nymph, 2x long

Thread: black

Lead: 0.15

Tinsel: oval, gold

Dubbing: Streamside Hare's Ear and Dubbin Dark Hare's Ear pre-mixed dubbing in black for the body; lime-green dubbing

Legs: Streamside English Grouse Soft Hackle (This type of hackle is dark and has some pattern.)

Wrap the hook with black thread to form the base. Then add about 12 to 15 turns of lead for weight. Tie in some small oval tinsel at the bend of the hook.

Wind the dubbing for the body about two-thirds of the length of the hook shank, starting at the bend and placing one wrap behind the tinsel on the bend side of the tinsel. Counter wrap the tinsel over the dubbed body and tie it off. Wrap lime-green dubbing over half the remaining hook shank.

Tie in legs on the underside of the fly. The legs should extend about the same distance as the hook gap. Add black dubbing for the head, whip finish and add head cement.

Attention Tyers

Jerry Criss needs to take a temporary break from Tyers Corner. Do you have a favorite fly? Or perhaps a fly that "works every time"? We want to hear from you. Tell us about one or more of your flies, and we may feature it in Tyers Corner. Contact Jerry Criss (541-536-3581 or tfly44@msn.com) or Terri Grimm. We can help you with the written description.

– Terri Grimm (cof@sonatainc.com)

For advertising information, call Mike Shadrach at 541-678-5717.

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CONSERVATION

Water, fish and fishing – know the flows

When fishery biologists evaluate the fish habitat in a stream or river, they consider three major components: food (abundance and diversity of aquatic macroinvertebrates), cover (abundance of boulders, spawning gravel and wood structures), and water (seasonal temperatures, timing and amounts of flows). Biologists learn how these components interact and relate to fish populations by conducting various inventory and monitoring activities on a variety of water bodies in combination with periodic surveys of fish populations (similar to the mark and recapture and radio telemetry studies now underway on the Crooked River). The knowledge they gain from these inventory and monitoring activities helps them monitor the “pulse” of the fisheries in a water body. As a fly fisher, you essentially do the same “evaluations.” By “putting your time in” on the water, your experiences gained from fishing different waters at different times with varying success hopefully makes you a better angler. Essentially, you choose a site to fish because your past experiences suggest that site has the proper combination of food, cover and water to produce some hook-ups. Every time you fish, you refine your “mental model” for site selection, proper fishing technique and fly selection.

What can you do to sharpen your mental model of where, when and how to fish? One of the easiest ways to improve your success is knowing the water flows. How much do you know about the source of water and flows on the streams and rivers you fish in Central Oregon? Biologists know that timing and amount of water flows are extremely important to maintaining healthy fish populations. This is a tip for us. As a fly fisher, it is extremely important to know the current and historic flows of your home waters and understand the source of the water for that water body. Why? Let me give you a practical example. Several years ago, I fished the Crooked River and did well (OK, not many trout but lots of willing whitefish), and the flows were a very fishable 120 cfs (cubic feet/second). Two days later, I went again and conditions were significantly different; the flows were over 500 cfs. Fishing conditions drastically changed – fishable flows to totally unfishable. I made a big mistake. I assumed the flows would stay constant. I did not check the flows and did not understand how the irrigation agencies managed the flows from Prineville Reservoir. The mistake cost me time to drive the 70 miles and money for gas in addition to not being able to fish. Sometimes the flow changes are subtle (e.g., an increase from 120 to 130 cfs). In all cases, changing flows will have a definite impact on fish behavior; it takes a few days for fish to adjust to the new conditions. When flows change, where you caught fish one day will likely be different the next day. Changing flows also can influence the timing and abundance of aquatic bugs (fish food) and therefore, influence your fly selection and method of fishing. Often, major increases in a river’s flow will

result in decreased water clarity and the fish’s ability to see certain fly patterns.

Knowing the source of water in a stream or river is extremely important to your understanding of flows. River flows controlled by dams are called tailwaters. The Crooked and Deschutes rivers are classic tailwater fisheries. The water collected in these reservoirs comes primarily from winter snows, rainfall, ground water and springs. (This is a simple explanation for a complex subject, because the hydrologic conditions in the Cascades are different than the Ochoco Mountains east of Bend.) The Metolius and Fall rivers are free-flowing rivers. Their flows come from springs, ground water and runoff from snow and rain and are not controlled by dams. In Central Oregon and most western states, irrigation has a major influence on how flows in our tailwater fisheries are managed. In Central Oregon, the irrigation season starts in mid April and ends in mid October. During the irrigation season, flows are predictable. For example, the stretch of Deschutes from Wickiup Reservoir (the upper Deschutes) usually runs about 1,900 cfs. The stretch of the Deschutes below Bend and above Lake Billy Chinook (middle Deschutes) generally runs about 100 cfs.

After the irrigation season, flows are more variable with the upper section running as low as 50 to 80 cfs and occasionally higher (currently 960 cfs at Benham Falls), and the middle section around 500 to 800 cfs (currently 574 cfs below Bend). Off-season flows are also influenced to a certain degree by the moisture the mountains receive the previous winter. For example, last winter the Cascades got above average snowfall and the reservoir levels were in good shape after the irrigation season. Flows in the upper sections of the Deschutes this winter are higher because most reservoirs are close to being full. During the off season, the irrigation companies periodically (usually monthly) recharge their clients’ stock ponds. To do this, the irrigation companies release water from Wickiup Reservoir and withdraw the water via canals located in Bend. Unless you closely monitor upper Deschutes flows, the wide margins between normal flows and those modified by withdrawals in Bend may make the difference between a good and bad fishing trip in the middle Deschutes.

Irrigation flows on the Crooked River below Bowman Dam typically run around 220 cfs. When irrigation stops in October, flows on the Crooked River usually drop below 70 cfs. As you would imagine, these big swings in flow really impact the fishery habitat and fishing conditions. Even though the Metolius and Fall rivers are free flowing, the flows do fluctuate due to spring snow melt, flows from springs and localized rain events. These fluctuations can cause localized changes in fishing conditions (high flows and off-color water). It pays to check the flows before you go.

It’s also important to know who controls the water releases from the reservoirs and the legislated mandates for

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the operation of the reservoir. For the most part, management of flows from upper Deschutes River reservoirs is controlled by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers and/or the local irrigation companies. For example, during the months of when irrigation stops (late October to mid April) flows from the Crooked River can fluctuate (sometimes widely) because water levels in Prineville Reservoir above Bowman Dam are managed for water supply and flood control, not fisheries. Flows reflect snow pack and anticipated timing and amounts of spring runoff and the current storage levels in the reservoir. By law, the minimum flow from the reservoir can be no lower than 10 cfs. Flows this low, while uncommon, can really impact a fishery.

With the Internet, it is relatively easy to check daily flows. The Web site www.westfly.com provides up-to-date flows on the most popular rivers in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. On the Web site, click *Oregon*, scroll to *Current Reports* and select a fishery. The site will provide current flows and historic flows. I like the Bureau of Reclamation Web site (<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/destea.html>) for flows in the upper Deschutes above Lake Billy Chinook. Go to the Web site and click an area to find a recent history of flows. For example, if you click *PRVO*, it will show recent flows for the Crooked River below Bowman Dam. You can also see the flow entering the Prineville Reservoir and the current storage level of the reservoir (currently 61% full). You can also check on the storage capacity of Wickiup and Crane Prairie reservoirs. To check flows for other water bodies in Oregon, go to the USGS site (<http://waterdata.usgs.gov/or/nwis/rt>). I bookmark my favorites and check them routinely to see how the flows fluctuate over time. Whenever possible, I always check the flows on the river I intend to fish before I leave the house and make a mental note of what the fishing conditions were like at those levels. For example, the flows on the Crooked River have been around 57 cfs all winter. If for some reason the flow increases to 200 cfs, it would pay to wait a few days and let the fish habitat conditions settle down a bit. Keeping a fishing journal would be a big help. For example, my fishing partners and I had a great smallmouth bass float trip on the John Day last year (Was it June or July?) at flows around 750 cfs. You can bet that I will be watching and waiting for those flows this year; I'll just have to rely on my fishing partners for the correct month.

Bottomline: Knowing the flows, the source of water and how those flows are managed on your home waters will make you a more successful angler and a better advocate for the state and federal resource agencies managing these flows for healthy fish populations. Spend some time surfing the net and check out the sites I've provided.

– Bill Seitz, Conservation Chair



VOLUNTEERS WE WANT YOU!

Angling Clinic

April 27 to May 1 and May 4 & 5

Angling Clinic is the spring field trip for Kokanee Carnival students. For most kids, it's their favorite event. This year's Angling Clinic will be held April 27 to May 1 and May 4 and 5 at Shevlin Park. That's seven days with 50 kids each day, so we need lots of help! Sunriver Anglers will provide lunch as well as assistance in the afternoon.

No experience is necessary, and there is a job for everyone. New volunteers are paired with experienced volunteers. Volunteers are needed to instruct or assist at learning stations. Stations are 25 minutes and include Water Safety, Care of the Catch, Knot-tying and Fishing Tackle and Methods. We especially need volunteers to help with fishing. We also need volunteers for set up and fishing pole preparation. Come join us for an afternoon or multiple days. Join the fun and make a difference.

Fish Eggs To Fry – rainbow and steelhead trout egg deliveries

Early April, date to be announced

We need volunteers to deliver trout eggs to classrooms. Deliveries will occur in early April (exact dates to be announced). Each classroom receives 200 trout eggs. Students raise the eggs to the fry stage while learning about the biological and habitat requirements of a trout. Thirty-eight elementary classes in Bend, Redmond, LaPine, Terrebonne, Sunriver, Sisters and Prineville are eagerly waiting to receive the eggs. You can't believe how excited the kids get about these eggs! Trout are released into local ponds and rivers.

If you would like to volunteer for either of these projects, please contact me.

– Jen Luke, ODFW,
388-6350 x225 or Jennifer.a.Luke@state.or.us

Central Oregon Flyfishers Up-Stream Events 2009

Date	Time	Activity	Location	Contact
MARCH				
Mar 5		monthly board mtg.	Environmental Center	Dennis Rockwell (rockwell@bendcable.com)
Mar 5-8		Sportsmen's Show	Deschutes Co. Fairgrounds	Vivian Rockwell (rockwell@bendcable.com)
Mar 9		Wild Women		Terri Grimm (tgrimm@sonatainc.com)
Mar 14		OUTING - Metolius		Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com or 788-5514)
Mar 18	6:30 pm	general meeting	Bend Senior Center	
Mar 20-22		OUTING - Owyhee R.		Lee Ann Ross (rossleeann@yahoo.com)
Mar 20-22		fish tagging	Crooked River	Shivonne Nesbit (shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu)
Mar 28	5:30	annual banquet	Bend Senior Center	Eric Steele (549-2072 or steeefly2@msn.com)
Mar 31		OUTING - Ana River	meet at WalMart	Harry Harbin (harryharbin@bendcable.com)

IN THE FUTURE

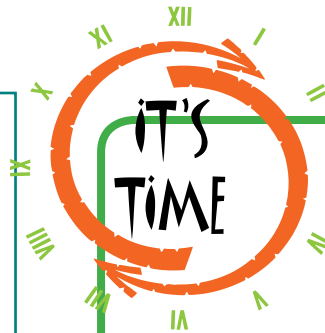
Apr	TBA	KK egg deliveries	Jen Luke, ODFW (388-6350 x225 or Jennifer.a.Luke@state.or.us)
Apr 27	TBA	KK Angling Clinic	Jen Luke, ODFW (388-6350 x225 or Jennifer.a.Luke@state.or.us)

Non-Club Activities & FYI

ongoing	Metolius redd counts. For more information, contact Nate Dachtler (549-7725 or ndachtler@fs.fed.us).		
Mar 13,14	NW Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo, Albany, OR. Contact Sherry Steele (steeefly@msn.com).		
May 15	Sandy River Spey Clave, ladies day, Oxbow State Park, http://www.flyfishusa.com/spey-clave.htm		
Jul 28 - Aug 1	FFF International Show and Conclave, Loveland, CO		

Welcome New Members

Chuck & Linda Burley
 Joe Cornett & Karen Monson
 Clyde Dildine & Ann Richardson
 Richard & Sheree Gillaspie
 Loy & Ann Helmly
 Don & Carol Lang
 Robert Sawyer
 David & Teresa Schneiderman
 Mark Smeltzer & Wendy Von Kalinowski
 Jim & Cammy Taylor
 Ed & Katherine Weiser



To pay your 2009 dues!

In late March, a printed copy of the current membership list will be available to members who have paid their dues by March 31.

Many members use this list to call fishing partners. COF uses the list to distribute e-mail notices, mail newsletters and stay in touch with members. Renew your membership now to ensure all the benefits of membership, plus uninterrupted delivery of the COF newsletter and up-to-the-minute notifications about club events and outings. Don't become the big fish that got away!

2009 COF Board Members: Dennis Rockwell PRESIDENT Dick Olson VICE PRESIDENT Susan Telford TREASURER Earl Rettig SECRETARY Dave Magaret Programs Eric Steele
 Banquet, Fund raising Yancy Lind Past President/Outings Craig Dennis Membership Bill Seitz Conservation Lee Ann Ross Education Dave Dunahay Kokanee Carnival
 Delores Marsh Wild Women of the Water/Membership



Crooked River outing, February 11, 2009. Photos: Delores Marsh



COF Annual Banquet

Saturday, March 28, 2009 • 5:30 p.m.
Bend Senior Center

Get your reservations in **NOW**. You still have time.

The deadline for the Early Bird Fly Rod Drawing was February 28th, but there will be chances to bid for and win other great prizes.

For a registration form, go to the COF Web site at http://www.coflyfishers.org/cof/pdfs/banquet_flyer.pdf

Good food, good friends, good deals, good cause, good stories and a darn good time

Membership application available from: <http://www.coflyfishers.org>

For advertising information, call Mike Shadrach at 541-678-5717.



Central Oregon Flyfishers

PO Box 1126 Bend, Oregon 97709



An active member club