

The Central Oregon Flyfisher

Vol. 33, Number 11, November 2010

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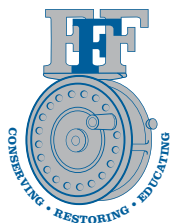
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RANDOM CAST

Hello everyone, and welcome, new members. I've been gone a lot during the past two months and didn't fish as often as I would have liked, but I did go on the club's steelhead outing on the Lower Deschutes. I did hook a nice one, but lost it after about five minutes. It was still a blast, and I heard some great stories about steelhead that didn't get away. I did manage to land a seven-pound rainbow while fishing with my son in Nevada. It was the biggest trout I've caught this year; I can't complain.

Bob Mullong (a.k.a. Capt. Caddis) submitted a \$2500 grant proposal to produce DVDs to help educators outside Central Oregon develop their own Kokanee Kar-nival kid's education programs. The Oregon Council of FFF awarded a \$1,000 grant in September, and the national FFF Foundation presented a check for the remaining \$1500 at the October COF general meeting. Thanks to FFF, many kids outside of Central Oregon will get to enjoy this program. Way to go, Captain! Now the real work begins.

Every year, some board members retire. In January, Craig Dennis and Dennis Rockwell will leave the board, and I personally thank them for their excellent service. Our nominating committee has worked hard to select replacements, but have not yet found a volunteer to chair the Raffles committee (temporarily staffed by Eric Steele). You can nominate someone to fill this position. There's still time before everyone votes on a proposed slate at the general meeting on November 17. If you would like to serve or want to nominate someone, please contact Lee Ann Ross (vice-president@coflyfishers.org) or me (president@coflyfishers.org). A proposed slate of directors for 2011 will be included in your Membership Renewal packet, which you'll receive soon.

Look over the proposed outings for 2011 (See page 2.), and don't be afraid to lead one yourself or suggest one you'd like to add. This club is all about participation.

Also in November, the board will meet on the first Saturday to reflect on the past year and plan the budget for next year. If you have any thoughts about things you would like to see your board consider, please let us know. One of our key goals is to satisfy our members.

I'll see you at the November meeting. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

— Dick Olson



GENERAL MEETING

Nov 17 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

Fly fishing for steelhead on the lower Deschutes River

Jet boat steelhead guide Jeff Hickman will present an illustrated talk and slide show about steelhead fishing on the lower 15 miles of the Deschutes River. Jeff will discuss locating and approaching steelhead water, casting with a two-handed rod, fishing techniques, using sink-tip spey lines, choosing flies, presenting your fly, and more. Follow Jeff's tips and become a better, more successful steelhead angler.

— John Anderson

Annual fly-tying evening and swap meet

Dec 15 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

The December meeting is the time to watch some great COF fly tiers (and guests) in action, learn new techniques, and ask questions. As usual, club members will help set up tables. What to bring:

- Your fly-tying equipment if you want to set up a table to demonstrate tying.
- Pencil and paper so you can take notes.
- Batch of your favorite holiday cookies or other "goodies" to share and munch on.

This year, we will also have a swap meet for gear and tying materials. If you have an unused fly rod or reel that's collecting dust, float tube, or other fly-fishing gear you no longer use, bring it along. Bring your unused or extra fly-tying materials to swap or sell with/to fellow club members. Gear will be displayed on separate tables.

Special raffle: All tiers will donate a minimum of two flies and winner takes all in the special drawing.

OUTINGS

Fourth Annual Crooked River Cleanup and Fishing Outing

Saturday | Nov 20 | Meet at Big Bend Campground at 9:00 a.m.

The Central Oregon Flyfishers (COF) will hold its fourth annual Crooked River Cleanup on Saturday, November 20. Last year's cleanup effort on the 12 miles of river on public land below the Bowman Dam was a big success due to a lot of volunteer effort by more than 50 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 noon, we'll meet back at the campground for lunch. We'll have hot dogs and all the fixings. After lunch, there will be a club fishing outing on the river. Members will be avail-

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OUTINGS 2010			
Month	Day	Leader	Destination
Nov	20	Bill Seitz	Crooked River Cleanup & Outing

OUTINGS 2011 - PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE			
Month	Date	Leader	Destination
Jan	1	Yancy Lind	Crooked River
Feb	19	Yancy Lind	Metolius River
		Yancy Lind	John Day Float for Steelhead
Mar	19	Yancy Lind	Upper Middle Deschutes (above Bend)
		Lee Ann Ross	Owyhee River
	26	Bill Seitz	Crooked River Spawning Site Marking & Outing
Apr	23	Yancy Lind	Lower Middle Deschutes (Steelhead Falls)
May		Dave Semich	Davis Lake Bass
		Mike Tripp	Lower Deschutes Float (Warm Springs to Trout Creek)
Jun		John Anderson	Diamond Lake
		Chuck Burley	Chewaucan River
		Mike Tripp	Upper Williamson River
			British Columbia
July			
Aug	18-21	Yancy Lind	Lower Williamson River / Wood River
Sep			
Oct		Eric Steele	Lower Deschutes Steelhead
	10	Frank Turek	Hosmer Lake
Nov	19	Bill Seitz	Crooked River Cleanup

able to provide instruction on nymphing techniques discussed at the October monthly meeting. This outing is good opportunity to volunteer for a club conservation activity, get a free lunch, and catch a few rainbows and lots of whitefish. **If you would like to help out, email me so we can we can get a head count for lunch.**

— Bill Seitz (wseitz@bendbroadband.com)

Outings for 2011

The 2010 outings season is rapidly coming to a close. Only the Crooked River Cleanup (and outing) remains on November 20. Of course, that does not mean fishing season is coming to an end. Personally, my favorite time of year to fish is October through May. There are plenty of winter steelhead and trout to be had and few anglers on the water.

If you are interested in a November or December float for steelhead on the Deschutes, let me know. November and December can be cold, but I usually do a half dozen or so steelhead trips during these months. Trips are dependent on

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water flows and temperatures, so the trips are hard to plan too far in advance. Let me know if you want to be on my email contact list for these trips.

The 2011 outings calendar is starting to take shape. Dates have not been finalized, and we need more outings and outings leaders. I am happy to give you some guidelines and tips on organizing and running an outing. It takes a little effort, but you can have a good time with it.

Think of a trip you want to go on with a few friends. You don't have to be an expert. Leading an outing is a great excuse to learn a river that you have always wanted to explore.

We need an outings leader for the June trip to British Columbia. Without a leader, this trip will not occur. Let me or Dave Dunahay (Dunahay@bendbroadband.com or 541-317-5843) know if you are interested in organizing this trip.

– Yancy Lind, Outings Coordinator
(yancy_lind@ml.com or 541-788-5514)

EDUCATION

Beginning Single-handed Spey casting

Sunday, Nov 21 | 10:00 am to noon | \$15 | Farewell Bend Park | Instructor: Matt Paluch (Matt Paluch's School of Fly Fishing)

Matt will teach single-handed spey casting. Bring your rod, reel, leader, waders, and boots. Meet Sunday, November 21, 10:00 a.m. to noon, at Farewell Bend Park. (The park is located south of the Bill Healy bridge on the Deschutes River. Parking can be difficult, so car pool if possible.)

We must have a minimum of five students (maximum of ten) for this class. Checks must be received by November 17.

Cost: \$15.00

Payable to: COF (Write "11/21/2010 Single-handed Spey casting" in the memo field.)

Mail to: Gary Meyer, P.O. Box 1396, Bend, OR 97709

– Gary Meyer (education@coflyfishers.org 514.633.0934)

Building blocks for successful fly-pattern design

Dec 4 | All-day fly-tying workshop | Central Oregon Environmental Center

Kick off the fly-tying season with creative ideas and new techniques from Bend fly tyer and COF member, Wes Wada.

Wes is noted for creating innovative and productive new patterns. Participants will learn approaches to fly tying that are definitely off the beaten path.

Topics include: Google-powered fly tying; Keys to color in tying and fishing; New flash materials: when and how; How to test flies; Tying Wes's best-performing new patterns from last season: Snake Eyes and Juice Bug Damselfly.

The workshop will feature lots of discussion, demonstrations, coached tying, live Internet, digital slides, and lots of handouts.

COF is an associate sponsor of this workshop. COF members can register for \$24, a discount from the \$28 workshop fee. Reservations reserved exclusively for COF members until October 15.

Details and registration information available from: www.info-fx.com/workshop.

Tuesday night fly-tying

Tuesday night fly-tying classes will begin January 4 and will be held every Tuesday night for 13 weeks. Come to class, tie the flies, and fill your fly box with patterns taught by some of the best guides and tyers Central Oregon has to offer. If you have suggestions for flies you would like to see in class, or if you would like to present and teach one of your favorite fly patterns, contact me.

Remember: Fly-tying will be the theme at the December COF general meeting, in addition to the swap meet.

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



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Winter seminar: Mastering western rivers and lakes

Feb 12 and 13 | Aspen Hall

The 2011 winter seminar will feature Rick Hafele and Skip Morris. This workshop brings together entomology, pattern selection, presentation, and fly tying. Skip and Rick, with their characteristic easy-going manner, will teach you how to fish trout rivers (day one) and trout lakes (day two). Information will concentrate on the Pacific Northwest and will cover how to recognize critical hatches, select and fish the patterns that match the hatches, and tie a variety of effective nymphs, emergers, and dries.

COF and Sunriver Anglers will host this seminar. Look for more details in future newsletters.

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Holiday potluck

The Holidays are just around the corner and so is the annual Wild Women of the Water Holiday Potluck. This is a fabulous opportunity to share fish stories and good food with the ladies you've met throughout the year and see some new faces too. Much fun and laughter is always in store. Watch your email for a special invitation including date, time, and party details. Hope to see you all there!

— Kristin Lambson

New Wild Women of the Water hats (totally cute) are now available for the low cost of \$18.00. If you are interested in purchasing one, contact Kristin (wildwomen@coflyfishers.org).

BOOK REVIEW

The Bug Book: A Guide to the Identification of Common Aquatic Benthic Macroinvertebrate Families of California and Western North America

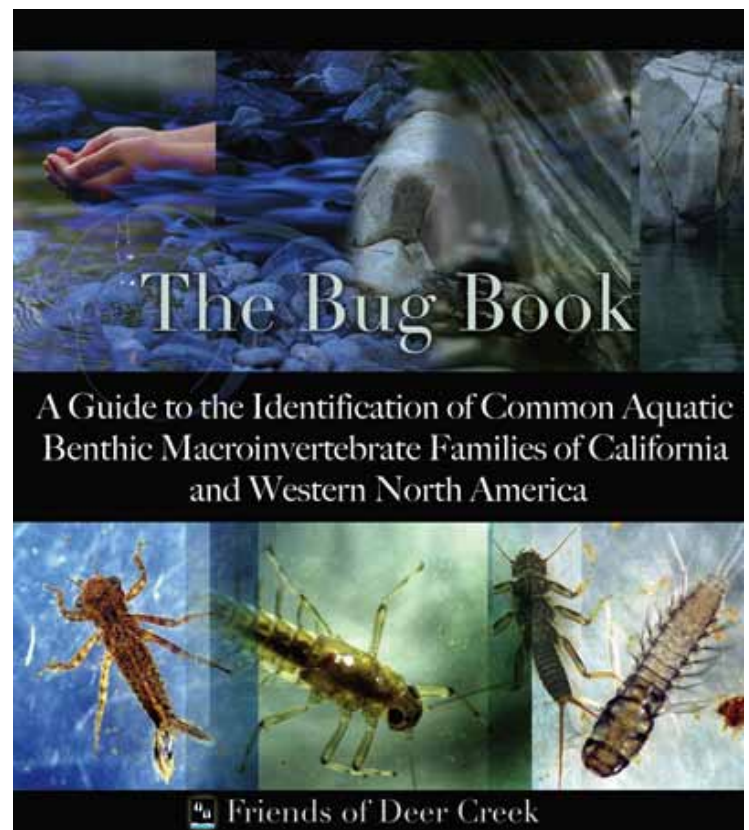
This book uses photographs and drawings to make identifications to the family level, and it is an outgrowth of an on-going aquatic monitoring program associated with Deer Creek, California. As the authors note, "this guide is intended to be used by people who have never tried to identify a single bug, insect, or larvae as well as those with some experience who would like to improve their skills." The book is especially designed for use by people with little or no knowledge of macroinvertebrates and is most useful for individuals who monitor streams by using the presence/absence of various macroinvertebrate groups to provide information used in assessing the overall "health" of a stream. Its broad scope covers many macroinvertebrate groups that are not of key interest to fly fishers.

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For the most part, this book is organized in a series of one-page informational pages for each macroinvertebrate family. Each page has a series of photographs (and sometimes an illustration or two) of a representative species typical of a different macroinvertebrate family. Pages also include three "boxes" that provide basic information on Taxonomic Characteristics, Biological Information, and Taxa Tips. Page XV lists the various families of aquatic insects found in California and four other western states, but contrary to the information on this page, aquatic snipe flies do occur in many Oregon rivers.

Perhaps the most useful content of this book for fly fishers is the biological information presented. The photographs range from excellent to poor (e.g. those too dark to see critical identification features). However, most photos should help non-biologists identify specimens to order and family. The downside for most fly fishers is that a microscope will be needed to see many important identification characters that need to be seen for identification.

— John R. Anderson



OTHER NEWS

Deschutes Chapter Trout Unlimited, General Membership meeting

Nov 11 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center

Don Ratliff, Senior Aquatic Biologist for PGE, will present *Bull Trout in the Deschutes Basin; Potential Impact on the Salmon and Steelhead Reintroduction Project*.

Presentations now available on COF website

The presentation, *Flyfishing the Crooked River*, that Bill Seitz gave at the October general meeting is now available on the COF website in the following formats:

- PDF – Choose this format (smallest file) to view the presentation as a PDF file and print the information.
- Web page – Choose this format to view the presentation as a slideshow in your web browser.
- PowerPoint – Choose this format to view a PowerPoint presentation. MS PowerPoint must be available on your computer to use this format.

Go to the COF website (coflyfishers.org), click Presentations, and click the format you prefer.

– Terri Grimm, Editor

COF now a member of Facebook and MySpace

Remember, you can share your fishing experiences on MySpace or Facebook. Join either site and become a “Friend” to COF.

MySpace

- Find COF at www.myspace.com/541268546.
- Find Wild Women of the Water at www.myspace.com/541038740.

Facebook

To find COF on Facebook, type “Central Oregon Flyfishers” in the search bar. To find Wild Women of the Water, type “Trout Fishing.”

Adding photos

If you have photos of outings that you would like to add to our pages, please email them to wildwomen@coflyfishers.org. (No names will be used when posting photos.)

Help COF to involve more youth and young adults. Visit and add photos to our pages.

– Kristin Lambson

MEMBERSHIP

Welcome new members

Welcome to new members Terry Dahlquist, Matt Paluch, Ralph Grunst, and Brad and Danelle Emery! We now have 256 members.

REMEMBER: Renewal notices for 2011 memberships will be mailed after November 1. **Renew your membership before January 1 and save \$6!** Please check the information we have for you and update, as needed. Also, please be sure that each family member who will participate signs the liability release before returning the form.

To join, go to coflyfishers.org to copy a form. New members qualify for the discounted renewal rate for 2011 if they join before January 1, 2011.

Current rosters are available by request, so please contact me at the next meeting, or send email to membership@coflyfishers.org with ROSTER as the subject, or mail me a card at Membership Services, PO BOX 1126, Bend, OR 97709. (Please indicate if you want a PDF file or printed copy.) Printed copies will be available at the next meeting for those who request them by November 15.

Matt Paluch will be the incoming chair for the membership services committee as of January 1, 2011. Karen Spradling has indicated an interest in helping out, with an eye on serving in the future. Other volunteer opportunities in membership services are available. Contact membership@coflyfishers.org if you are interested in helping out on small tasks.

– Craig Dennis, Membership Chair

CONSERVATION

Deschutes River steelhead

The annual Central Oregon Flyfishers’ steelhead outing was a great success! More steelhead were hooked and/or landed during this year’s outing than all past outings. In the evenings, outing participants sat around the table (no fires allowed) and told some impressive fish stories and a few jokes. I heard a lot of questions about the biology of the Deschutes River steelhead, so I thought I would dedicate this month’s conservation article to the steelhead of the Lower Deschutes (LD).

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This popular fishery (an average of over 12,000 sport anglers annually from July to the end of October) is primarily driven by the catch of wild steelhead, Deschutes Basin hatchery fish from the Round Butte Hatchery, and out of basin stray hatchery steelhead from programs located throughout the Columbia River Basin. Population monitoring by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) indicates that hatchery stocks outnumber wild steelhead. However, angler catch surveys show that wild fish make up an unusually large component of the total number of fish caught.

The steelhead of the LD are summer steelhead. The adults enter the Deschutes from the Columbia starting in June and continue to enter the river throughout the winter months. Many anglers don't know it, but the Middle Columbia River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment (DPS) is a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The status and viability of the wild steelhead in the Deschutes are critical to the recovery of the Middle Columbia River DPS. Because of its threatened status, all wild steelhead caught on the LD must be released immediately. Steelhead in the Deschutes remain in the river in the summer, fall, and winter months and then spawn in early spring. Winter steelhead, found mostly in coastal rivers and streams, enter the rivers in winter and spawn in early spring.

Since 1977, the ODFW has conducted angler surveys at Heritage Landing near the Columbia and the Macks Canyon Road. Wild steelhead typically represent the highest propor-

tion of the total estimated angler catch even though they were the lowest proportion of the total steelhead sampled at the Sherars Falls fish trap. For most years since 1990, the proportion of wild steelhead caught by anglers was over 60%, while the proportion of wild steelhead in the total catch at the Sherars Falls fish trap was well below 30%. Why wild fish are caught at higher rates is unknown. The data certainly suggest that wild fish are more aggressive biters than hatchery fish.

Spawning habitat for wild steelhead in the LD is primarily limited to a few tributaries, including Buck Hollow Creek, Bakeoven Creek, Trout Creek, Shitike Creek, Warm Springs River, and a few other smaller tributaries. Some fish also spawn in the main stem, especially in low-water years when tributary access is poor. The amount of spawning in the main stem is unknown due to the river's large size and the difficulty of observing redds in spring flows. ODFW electrofishing studies have demonstrated wild fish hold in the lower 43 miles of river longer than hatchery fish. In recent years, Trout Creek has supported as many as 600-800 redds while Buck Hollow Creek had 300-400 redds. Some stray hatchery fish spawn in the lower basin. After the fry hatch, they usually spend two years in freshwater before they migrate back to the ocean. Most of the returning adults are called 1-salt fish (they spend a year in the ocean); however, the larger fish are 2-salt fish. A 1-salt fish usually weighs four to six pounds; the 2-salt fish run six to nine pounds.

See Conservation on page 7.



At the end of September, I was fishing at the falls on the Fall River. I had a great day, and a guy took a photo of me landing a 20-inch brown. – Frank Turek

TYERS CORNER

For some anglers, fall colors and colder weather trigger an itch to get into layered clothing and head to favorite steelhead waters. I don't have a favorite place yet. I do have a strange feeling in my right arm; maybe it's missing casting the 7-weight rod that was built for steelhead. It's not because of the cold, because you can find me on the Fall River even with two feet of snow on the ground and an air temperature of 18 degrees, with blowing snow.

I have hooked only three steelhead and came close to landing only one of those. On the same day, I experienced hyperthermia by staying in the cold water up to my waist for too long. What can I say, I was excited. I recovered, but I hope no one else has this experience, especially if you are fishing alone. Remember, as the days and the water get colder, pay attention to your surroundings and how you feel.

This month's fly is the Madison Special. It is from the daughter of Rock Hedding, who lives in Eastern Oregon and guides mainly the Grande Ronde. Fish this fly about two to three feet under an indicator. With good, clean drifts it is supposed to be a killer. See this fly in action on *The Seasons of the Fly*, which airs on *Versus*. The fly is also available on the Internet.

Happy hunting.

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

Madison Special



Thread: white or red 8/0

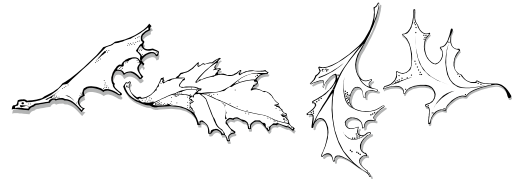
Hook: stainless steel #6 to #10 straight-eyed saltwater hook

Body: medium chenille, fluorescent cerise

Wing: glow bug yarn, light pink (Change the body and wing colors as you prefer. Try combinations that you use in your favorite egg patterns.)

1. Wrap a base of thread from the hook eye to just beyond the barb of the hook.
2. Tie in the chenille and bring the tying thread forward to the hook eye, leaving just enough room to tie in the wing and head.
3. Wrap the chenille forward and tie at the thread's stopping point.
4. Using just enough of the glow bug yarn (wing material) to cover the top of the body, make a clean cut at one end of the wing material. Add a drop of lacquer to the cut end and tie this end in right behind the hook eye. (When done correctly, material will never hang over the hook eye. This technique helps to make a very neat head on any fly that uses hair or a hair-like material.)

5. Cut the wing to just a little longer than the body. Finish the head with a good coating of lacquer.



Conservation

One of the biggest wild steelhead management issues in the LD is the extent of reproductive impact that out of basin stray hatchery steelhead have on wild summer fish. The spawning interactions between wild and stray hatchery fish pose a serious conservation risk to wild Deschutes steelhead. To that end, ODFW has placed fish traps at most of the spawning tributaries to trap stray fish and prevent them from spawning with wild fish. The ODFW also recognizes the importance of hatchery fish to the angling public. About 10,000 steelhead are harvested annually, approximately 75% from the sport fishery and 25% from the Indian subsistence fishery using traditional dip nets at Sherars Falls. All sport fish caught are hatchery origin; wild fish must be released. Hatchery fish out number wild fish about two to one in the Indian dip net fishery. When the thousand or so wild fish are subtracted from the above total, it leaves 9,000 hatchery-killed fish annually. These numbers add up to an escapement (fish returning from salt water) of 18,000 to 19,000 hatchery steelhead.

A recent article in the Bend *Bulletin* highlighted steelhead fishing on the LD. According to the article, this has been a good year for steelhead numbers in the LD. The *Bulletin* daily reports the escapement of steelhead and salmon in the second page of the Sports section. Check it out. There is still time to get out there and fish for these magnificent fish.

— Bill Seitz, *Conservation Chair*

Central Oregon Flyfishers Upstream Events 2010

Date	Time	Activity	Location	Contact
NOVEMBER				
Nov 4	6:30 pm	monthly board mtg.	Environmental Center	Dick Olson (president@coflyfishers.org)
Nov 17	6:30 pm	general meeting	Bend Senior Center	
Nov 20		OUTING - Crooked River Cleanup	Big Bend Campground	Bill Seitz (conservation@coflyfishers.org)
Nov 21	10:00 am	CLASS - Beginning Single-handed Spey casting	Farewell Bend park	Gary Meyer (education@coflyfishers.org)
IN THE FUTURE				
Dec 15	General meeting - Evening of fly typing and SWAP MEET!			
Dec 4	Building blocks for successful fly-pattern design (www.info-fx.com/workshop)			
Jan 4	Tuesday night fly tying (Jerry Criss, tlfly44@msn.com)			
Feb 12	Winter seminar (details to be announced)			
NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES & FYI				
Nov 11, 6:30 pm, Bend Senior Center, Deschutes Chapter Trout Unlimited general membership meeting				

2010 COF Board Members: Dick Olson PRESIDENT Lee Ann Ross VICE PRESIDENT Susan Telford TREASURER Bill Raleigh SECRETARY John Anderson Programs Eric Steele Banquet, Fund raising Yancy Lind Outings Dennis Rockwell Past President Craig Dennis Membership Bill Seitz Conservation Gary Meyer Education Frank Turek Kokanee Karnival Kristin Lambson Wild Women of the Water

Membership application available from: <http://www.coflyfishers.org>
 For advertising information, call Mike Shadrach at 541-678-5717.



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NEWSLETTER - Terri Grimm Editor & Designer