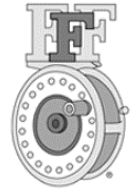




# The Central Oregon FLYFISHER



[www.coflyfishers.org](http://www.coflyfishers.org)

AN ACTIVE MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

---

Volume 25

Number 9

September 2003

---

## SEPTEMBER OUTING

September 10  
9:00AM  
Middle Deschutes  
Twin Bridges  
See Map

## KOKANEE KARNIVAL

STREAMSIDE  
September 23-26  
Brown's Creek  
Come Take a Look!

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sept. 17, 6:30-8:30PM  
Central Oregon Board of  
Realtors

---

## RANDOM CASTS

This fly-fishing business can be such a challenge- picking the right reel and line for some particular water, identifying the hatch, and a hundred other factors - that at times I feel overwhelmed. But the fly fishing learning curve, though difficult, can be very exciting and rewarding. Such was the case when I observed a flock of birds flitting across the water picking off insects while in flight. What sort of birds were they? How did they know that a hatch was coming off? Then my line tightened and I had a fish on. I recalled that this had happened before, and that there seemed to be a direct relationship between the birds and my fishing success. I needed to find out more about birds! And that is the way this fly-fishing hobby is, you always have another element that keeps the sport challenging and interesting.

I contacted Steve Shunk of Paradise Birding (<http://www.paradisebirding.com>), a Sisters birding organization. He was very helpful, providing some basic information about the birds that frequent river corridors and lakes here in Central Oregon. The birds that I had observed were most probably swallows or larks. There are eight varieties that have been observed in Central Oregon: the Horned Lark, Purple Martin (very rare), Tree Swallow, Violet-Green Swallow, Northern Rough-Winged Swallow, Bank Swallow (uncommon), Cliff Swallow, and the Barn Swallow. These fellows fly with their mouths open catching insects on the wing, and concentrate on the smaller insects such as caddis, mayflies and midges. But there are also the Fly Catchers, who prefer the larger insects and perch on trees or bushes, then pick out a specific insect and swoop down and capture their prey. They like the larger insects like the salmon fly, which has a spectacular hatch on the Deschutes. I hope to have Steve give our club a slide presentation in the near future about the birds that relate to our fly-fishing passion.

Another fact that I did not know was that people spend more money on bird watching than is spent on golf or fly-fishing. That is a factor I had not figured on as part of my fly-fishing expenses, but I can see there is the need for

a budget review. The days when a dollar's worth of worms and a jar of Power Bait did the trick are over forever, as I am now totally addicted to fly-fishing because it is so much more interesting, stimulating and multifaceted. When you add picnicking, hiking or birding to your day on the water, you can get others, who might not be interested in "wetting a line", to tag along. I hope you are finding your fly fishing experience as enjoyable as I do. I'm off to the store to look at binoculars and a beginner's guide to birds. Your Pal, Dan

### SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

The program for September is about our affiliation with the Federation of Fly Fishers, our club's relationship with them, and the mission of FFF. Phil Hager, Secretary, Oregon Council FFF, and Earl Rettig, Vice President, All Fish All Waters Foundation, FFF, will present the information and detail the benefits of membership and how individual memberships strengthen FFF.

There are many issues today that impact on our hobby of fishing. FFF is an organization determined to promote fly-fishing. Learn why and how from these two members who hold important leadership positions in FFF.

## IN MEMORIUM CLYDE "THE GUIDE" KELLER 1915-2003



Many of the COF members who joined in the last few years may know Clyde Keller only as the fellow who sold raffle tickets at the meetings, or perhaps not at all. However, among those who are long-term members and the true stalwarts of the club, an amazing number are members, and perhaps fly fishermen, only because of

Clyde Keller. With his death on August 20, 2003, we all lost a connection with the early days of Oregon Fly-fishing, with the heroes of World War II, and with a little bit of the heart and soul of our club. Please do not make any memorial contributions yet; our Board of Directors will be considering a possible memorial at the next board meeting. Following below are some remembrances from some of our long-term members:

*When I became interested in fly-fishing, one of the first things I did was to take a class offered by Bend Parks and Rec. At that time, the class was held in an old building that at one time was a fish hatchery. The building stood in the same location as what is now Aspen Hall. The lead instructor for the classes introduced himself to us as "Clyde the Guide" (AKA Clyde Keller). This was my first introduction to Central Oregon Flyfishers. It is in part because of the friendly enthusiasm of Clyde that I accepted the invitation to attend the next COF meeting. The meeting place for the monthly COF program was that old hatchery building. The lessons that Clyde and other volunteers gave through parks and recreation were in exchange for the use of the building. In the course of years as a member of COF, I have met many wonderful people, formed lasting friendships, and have memories of many good times. I remember arriving at camp on my first trip to British Columbia and Clyde telling me how glad he was that I could make it. I remember Clyde telling stories around the campfire, scotch in hand. I remember how supportive Clyde was when I took over the position of casting instructor for the club. Clyde's enthusiasm for our sport and his willingness to share his knowledge and his stories will be missed. Whether it was at a meeting or on a fishing trip, Clyde always greeted me with an enthusiastic hello. It is with sadness that I bid him a warm goodbye. - Gordon Chandler*

*I first met Clyde Keller at the COF Fly Fishing Lessons at Shevlin Pond in 1991, and I had the fortune to benefit from his casting instruction. Clyde was a cornerstone of Central Oregon Flyfishers. I don't know if he was one of the very first members, but he was always there, it seemed, at every club meeting, for as long as I can remember. There was always that gleam in his eyes for*

*the girls. I remember his stories about the world*



*casting competitions, and his hilarious jokes. He was often the official "greeter" of visitors at club meetings, when no one else was interested in doing it. I think I still have a gauge for silk leaders that was once his, and I helped him sell some fly rods when Dick Schwenk died. There are many members of the club that we are missing now, as time passes. But I picture Clyde together with the others, the deep B.S., the eternal competition, and the heavenly fly-fishing they are having. -Raven Wing*

*My first day at Crane Prairie in 1987 found me walking down the launch ramp. I met what looked like a serious fisherman, and he had stopped to rest. I stopped and asked him what general direction he would suggest that I try; a question that I assumed at best would result in some brief pointing. To my great amazement this stranger (Clyde) took over an hour to very generously tell me much more than I could remember about the lake, locations, and how to fish some specific patterns. I have never encountered a more generous individual, and he was talking to a complete stranger, new in town! You have also heard how he vouched for me, and I was able to adopt my dog Shadow. We have lost a giant. -Bob Griffin*

---

### **CLYDE KELLER'S STORY**

*In 1998, The COF newsletter ran a series of articles on individual members of COF. As was fitting, the first member covered was Clyde "The Guide" Keller. The story of Clyde the Guide was also told around many a COF campfire. So, for the last time, here is the story of Clyde the Guide as told by Clyde Keller Jr. himself in that newsletter:*

"When the Board asked me to be the first to start this column, and just tell a little about myself, they didn't know that "Old Clyde the Guide" couldn't tell just a little.

I've already told many of you the story of the kind old guy on Tanner Creek that runs into the Columbia at Bonneville. In 1931, he changed my life by giving me a fly-fishing lesson on the spot. After we had lunched together, and discussed my pleasure at catching that first 10" trout on a fly, I was hooked. That started it all! Clyde Keller's fly-fishing career had been launched.

In the 1930's when I was about 15 or 16, the depression was in full swing. Men were working for a dollar a day. There was an ad in the paper for young men of my age to try out for a summer job paying 50 cents an hour. Well, about 250 guys my age showed up. I got selected for the crew of twelve boys. We delivered Wheaties samples all over Portland for the entire summer. I had more money than I had ever dreamed I would have.

The first thing I did was to go talk with the Bunnell girls; two sisters who were the principle fly tiers in the State of Oregon. I went to class on Saturday mornings to learn all about fly tying. They sold me all the equipment I needed so that I could practice at home.

We started out on simple hackle flies like the Grey Hackle Yellow Lady, and worked up to the more complicated double wing flies like the Red & Blue Upright and the Royal Coachman. I paid them \$2.50 each week for three months, and by the end of summer I could tie flies so nice that my father's friends began to give me orders for two & three dozen. I sold the flies for \$2.50 per dozen. I tied and sold flies all through my high school years. Upon entering the University of Oregon after graduation, I had no more time to tie. Studies came first, you know.

In 1936 my father's store failed. Due to the Depression no one wanted, nor could they afford, artwork or picture framing, so I left school and came home to help the folks out of a hole. My next-door neighbor was very high at Wonder Bread Bakery. He got me the job of sacking buns at the bakery. At this time I also purchased a nice little Plymouth convertible so when I got off work at 4:00 in the morning, I could get in the car and go fishing.

Then I discovered the Clackamas River. Mom and I would drive to Estacada at Cazadero. P.G.E. (Portland General

Electric) had a speeder that ran on railway tracks. Mom, I, and about eight other people would put all of our camping gear in the center of the open speeder and go up the Clackamas for the weekend. We would ask everyone where their destination was, and if they weren't going to Big Eddy, that's where we told the speeder operator to drop us off. Then on Sunday afternoon about 4 PM, we would be standing by the tracks waiting for him to pick us up. The round trip cost us 85 cents each, and it was well worth it. This was, of course, before the road was put in, so the total number of fishermen on the upper Clackamas was on that speeder. After the road was put in, thousands of fishermen were on the river every weekend.

P.G.E. had cable car crossings about every two miles along the Clackamas River. I bought a pulley that I could use to cross the river. I would hide the pulley in the brush until I returned with a limit of 30 fish. Then I would put the pulley back on the cable and re cross the river. My Mom loved to camp out. We would sleep under 600 year old firs, which, even if it rained, kept us dry in camp. Later when I worked at Norris Beggs & Simpson as the Assistant Operations Manager, I would go down to Chown Hardware on Fourth Street where many sportsmen met at lunchtime. I was so successful on the Clackamas that the guys started to give me a nickname of "Clack".

I ultimately met "Bromo" Seltzer, who was a driving force in the Portland Casting Club. He was a national titleholder in the National Casting Association, and was also Chown Hardware's rod maker. "Bromo" sold me my first Tournament stick for \$38.00, and also began teaching me how to cast properly. After a shaky start, in two years I won four Oregon State Championships in either Dry Fly Accuracy or Distance Casting. Then, in 1941, after winning the State of Oregon Dry Fly Championship, the club decided that I should go down to Turlock, California to cast in the Western Association of Scientific Anglers & Casters Tournament. The day of the tournament was hot -110° and puffy winds. I scored a 97 in that wind, and that great dry fly expert, Henry Fujita, cast a 96. I won the tournament!

At the banquet that weekend, the President of the Western Association gave out the medals. After he gave me my gold medal, he also gave me a little gold box. I opened it up and there was a McGinty fly, The Western Bee. He said, "From now on that's your personal fly, and all those who see it will know that you are a Western Dry Fly Champion". I looked over at Henry Fujita. He was

nodding and smiling. I then noticed that he had five Western Bees on his casting cap.

In 1942 I volunteered for the Corps of Engineers. After Basic Training, I was sent to O.C.S. (Officer's Candidate School) in Brisbane, Australia. There I was trained in Combat Engineering and as a B.C.O. (Beach Control Officer) for amphibious landings. My job was to go in on the 3rd wave and organize the beach so incoming supplies would be safely stored away from enemy fire. The Second Amphibious Brigade made a total of 81 landings in 3 years in the South Pacific, and I was in on many of those landings.

After the war, I returned to my old job at Norris Beggs & Simpson, got married, and raised two wonderful kids. After 17 years at Norris Beggs & Simpson, I left and joined Dave Johnson at Johnson Acoustical & Supply Co. as Vice President of Sales.

Twenty-two years later I retired and returned to my old loves, fly fishing and my artwork. Regards as always.  
Clyde Keller"

---

### REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

Club finances are divided into two entirely separate accounts, one for the fishing club activities of COF, and a second for Kokanee Karnival. First, lets examine the COF financials.

As of August 1, revenues year to date for COF total \$9,374. Of this, \$2,625 is member dues, \$1,985 is donations and the remainder is from fund raising activities such as the banquet, meeting raffles and hat sales. It is estimated that COF will receive an additional \$2,500 by year-end, mostly from member dues.

Total expenses year to date for COF are \$6,212. Of this, \$1,479 is for the newsletter, \$1,722 is for hats, cups and materials for new members and \$2,243 for program activities. The remainder, \$768, is for insurance, storage and miscellaneous items. Program activities include speaker fees for monthly meetings (\$443), conservation (\$977) and other activities. Currently COF has \$11,880 cash on hand.

Now lets look at the Kokanee Karnival financials. Revenues received year-to-date are \$1,119, essentially all from donations from companies, non-profit institutions and government entities. The total received, however, is misleading. Most of the donors do not send us the check until the money is actually spent and we give them a full

accounting of where and for what the money was spent. We do have commitments from the donors to cover all of our expenses year-to-date, plus projected expenses for the rest of the year.

Total expenses year-to-date as of August 1 are \$11,180. Of this, \$4,116 was for our contract activities coordinator, \$2,954 for equipment (aquariums, a projector for presentations and other equipment, repairs and supplies), and \$4,110 for other activities such as transportation (buses) for school kids, lunches for kids and volunteers, a Native American storyteller, facility rental and an annual audit of our books. The annual audit is required by most of our corporate, non-profit and governmental donors. As of August 1, the Kokanee Karnival account had \$13,005 cash on hand.

Any member wishing to view a more detailed accounting of COF and Kokanee Karnival financial activities should contact our Treasurer, Neal Buxton.

---

### **WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER**

The Wild Women of the Water decided to tackle the Crooked River for their first outing. While the veterans had no success, novice fly fisher Terri Grimm was thrilled to land her first rainbow trout! During a leisurely dinner of grilled burgers and salads, an eagle gliding back and forth in the canyon entertained us.

The Wild Women try to meet once a month, and several exciting outings are in the works for this autumn. If you would like to know about the next outing, contact Delores Marsh (382-7595 or ladyd@bendcable.com). Let her know if you want to be notified by phone or email.

---

### **MOUNTING A CATCH & RELEASE FISH**

When I first looked at the fish that were on display in a booth at the FFF Conclave, I was a bit upset. One of the three areas addressed in the FFF logo is conservation, and this seemed to be in direct conflict with that practice.

As I stood there viewing the fish, with all of the right bumps and characteristics of a real fish, I decided there was either false advertising about his C&R practice or someone had come up with a really sneaky way to keep the skin but release the fish. It was about that time that the owner of the display, Ray Barlow, owner of The Fish Maker Taxidermy shop in Cedar City, Utah, came walking up and introduced himself. I introduced myself and immediately questioned his claims about catch and release. When he finished laughing he told me the story.

Ray said that a few years ago he had caught a really nice brook trout, took a picture of it, wrote down the measurements and sent them in to someone else to "build" him a mounted display. The problem was what came back had a girth measurement about half the size of what he sent in. At that time he learned that most of the "models" are made from prefabricated fiberglass bodies so you got what is available in size, not actual size.

This incident got him started. He now works on building each fish individually out of a special type of foam, painting it with a realistic color pattern and covering it with an epoxy that is textured to look very real. The interesting side on this was the price of \$11 an inch. (Check other prices to get a comparison.)

I'll have one of his flyers available, and a low quality digital photo or two, or you can stop by his web site at (he's building it now): [www.thefishmaker.com](http://www.thefishmaker.com) or email him at [fishmaker@accesswest.com](mailto:fishmaker@accesswest.com). If you don't have the Internet but want more info, you can call him at 435-586-2621. If you want to catch and release, but would like a mounted display of a really great fish you need to check this out. Phil Hager

*Editors Note: Texas is, of course, mostly bass fishing territory. However, the Texas Department of Fish and Wildlife uses replica mounts in one of their excellent programs. If you catch a bass over 13 pounds, TDFW will pick it up in a hatchery truck, spawn the fish at a hatchery, and return it to its native water the next spring at no charge, while providing the fisherman with one of these replica mounts free. With programs like this, it is easy to understand why Texas is such a popular fishing destination on the bass circuit!*

---

### **FALL STREAMSIDE 2003**

It's that time of year again, when a young persons thoughts turn from "there's nothing to do" to "do I hafta go to school?" and our thoughts turn to things like getting the yard ready for winter, local fishing waters shutting down for the season and "there's nothing to do". Ah, but there is.

The Kokanee Karnival Fall Streamside is rapidly approaching and, although a good group of COF members, SRA members, Forest Service personnel and ODFW folks have stepped forward, we could always use a little more help.

Don't worry, you probably know a lot more than you realize and, even if you don't, those of us that have done this before will gladly teach you so you can teach others. Ask anyone that has worked this before and they'll tell you that it is worth every minute they have spent there when they see the affect it has on the students. You have to try it to really understand the amount of pleasure you get from being there. Or, even better yet, when you're out and about you may hear a young voice calling to you that wants to introduce you to their parents because they remember you from Kokanee Karnival.

This year it will be from the 23rd thru the 26th of September on Browns Creek, and anyone wanting more information can call the KK Chairperson, Phil Hager, for more info, or to volunteer to help out. If you just want to learn more about it all, you're free to stop by the streamside and the hatchery to really see what happens, it's a great opportunity to learn more about fish and fisheries, and it's a chance to have a real impact on what we have today, and tomorrow, in fish and fisheries. You can call Phil at 317-1075 or email him at [flyfishingphil@bendcable.com](mailto:flyfishingphil@bendcable.com).

---

### OCFFF CONCLAVE

#### SEPT. 26, 27, 28 @ SEASIDE, OREGON

This is the first year of what, hopefully, will become an annual event sponsored by the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, and it has a lot to offer. There will be fly tying by some of the best, displays by a number of shops and suppliers, new products to see, and classes in several different aspects of fly-fishing.

More reasons? How about chances to meet other fly fishers from around the northwest, and further, and get invitations to fish with them in their area? Chances to have a dinner with others to discuss the great fishing in both areas and the problems both areas are seeing? The possibilities go on and on in furthering your fly fishing awareness and knowledge.

You don't have to be a member of the FFF to attend, but it's a good idea, especially if you want to take some of the classes available. You will save most of the cost of an annual membership on the difference in price of many of the classes. Examples; **#4 Improve Your Fly Casting through Video Analysis with Floyd Dean; \$60 non-members, \$40 members.** Or, how about; **#7 Tying the "Smallmouth Spey" and other small mouth bass patterns with Charles Barton; \$50 non-member, & \$30 members.** These are just a few samples of the classes

available there are more listed on the website at [www.oregonfff.org](http://www.oregonfff.org). Printed info will be available at the September meeting.

It would be great to see a strong turnout by COF at this event. You'll be pleasantly surprised by the compliments you get for being part of a great club, and you'll get asked lots of questions about the Central Oregon area. Make plans today to attend this conclave.

If you need more information, contact Phil at [flyfishingphil@bendcable.com](mailto:flyfishingphil@bendcable.com) or give him a call at 541-317-1075 and leave a message. (He's probably out fishing.)

---

### AN INCIDENT IN CANADA

A series of events occurred on the June COF Logan Lake trip, which I would like to relate.

The first occurred while Mark Reisinger was fishing with Harry Harbin at Community Lake. Two Canadians were discussing the unfortunate invasion of Americans of their productive fishing lakes, and that these Americans did not know how to fish well. In Canada, you can use two rods, while in the U.S. you can use two flies on a single rod. Harry shouted to Mark that he had a fish. Mark lifted one rod and shouted "no fish!", then noticed his other rod and realized he did indeed have a fish. While playing the fish, Mark's reel fell off the rod; he re-attached the reel, realized he had put it on backwards, took it off and again reattached the reel. He landed the fish. The Canadians chuckled.

Canadians: No fish      COF: One fish

Somewhat later, on a different lake, I heard a radio call from Max Johnson. While trolling, he hooked a rod and reel someone had lost. A minute or two later, he reported that there was a fish still hooked on the rod he had landed. He netted the fish. Later, Mark Reisinger and I were talking with the owner of the Logan Lake Fly Shop, Neil Abbott. Mark related the incident of the rod and reel, and Neil admitted it was his! Apparently, he was out with a photographer and he set his rod down for a picture. Zing, a fish hit and dragged his rod out into the lake!

Canadians: No fish      COF: Two fish

---

### ODFW/STEP VOLUNTEER PROJECT

Join COF and ODFW for the bull trout spawning surveys on the North Fork Malheur, Malheur River headwater tributaries located approximately 30 miles south of Prairie City, September 15-19 and/or October 20-24. We



will determine time, location and numbers of spawning bull trout and brook trout. Information will build on previous surveys and strategies will be developed to manage the landscape to recover this federally listed species. If you have not spent an extended trip camping and surveying with ODFW personnel, there is a big gap in your education as a fly fisherman.

Volunteers will accompany experienced surveyors from ODFW, Prairie City Ranger District and Burns Piute Tribe in teams of 2 to count redds and spawning fish. We will be hiking most of the day in scenic but rough terrain along spawning streams. Some of the streams are in wilderness areas. We also could use a camp cook or two to help prepare meals and watch camp. Base camp will be at the scenic Crane Prairie Guard Station located in the Malheur N.F. Meals and transportation to survey sites will be provided.

Surveyors will hike 2-4 miles a day, so they need to be in fair physical condition. They will need hiking/wet-wading boots or knee high ankle fit rubber boots, polarized glasses, daypacks, tents and sleeping gear for car camping. Meals will be provided by ODFW/STEP. Some wading gear may be available depending on sizes. Contact: Jen Bock 388-6350 X25, Jennifer.A.Bock@state.or.us or Tommie Speik 385-0445, tspeik@bendcable.com

## SEPTEMBER OUTING ON THE MIDDLE DESCHUTES

The September outing will be at Twin Bridges on the Middle Deschutes. The area where we will be fishing is on a section of river designated as State Scenic Waterway. The area, formerly a surface mining area, is now subject to a Conservation Easement held by the Deschutes Basin Land Trust. In June 2002, the Land Trust approached the board of COF about a possible partnering for restoration and stewardship of this easement land. Come join us at Twin Bridges September 10 at 9:00 AM for a short clean up followed by a day of fishing. Let us know your ideas and opinions as to how COF might participate in making this an excellent stretch of publicly accessible fly water. The water is fairly shallow and riffled, making it a great spot for hoppers and other fall terrestrials. Bring your own lunch. Contact Tom Philiben 389-5829

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

A special welcome to new members! Look for board members with their green and white nameplates at the next meeting if you have any questions or special interests, and look up Delores Marsh, our Member Services committee chairperson at the back of the room if you have any membership issues, and to pick up your membership packet.

Tom Tattam                      Gary Farnsworth



**Map to Outing**

## JOIN THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS

Mail this completed application and check to:  
THE CENTRAL OREGON FLYFISHERS • P.O. BOX 1126, BEND, OREGON 97709  
and receive Club Logo Patch, Decal and Monthly Newsletter

FULL NAME (S): \_\_\_\_\_  
member and partner

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: H: \_\_\_\_\_ W: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

New 2003 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: \_\_\_\_\_

---

The Central Oregon Flyfishers  
PO Box 1126  
Bend, Oregon 97709

