

SOFF News

Vol.16 No.9 The Monthly Newsletter of The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Inc. September, 2009



SOFF NEWS

A publication of
Southern Oregon Fly Fishers
P.O. Box 1144
Grants Pass, Oregon 97528
Web Site: www.soff.org

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THE WILLIAMSON RIVER CONTINUES TO REWARD SOFF MEMBERS WITH SOME TRULY AWESOME FISH.



The Williamson River is one heck of a river to catch large sized fish as Teresa Kasza can attest to when she took a busman's holiday recently and landed this 8lb plus rainbow. Although generally working the oars when she's on the Williamson, she took some time off to do a little fishing on her own and this was the result.

Dinner Reservations: E-mail - wynniss@thelodgeatriverside.com
Phone - 955-1891

SPECIAL MENTION

Rich Hosley:

Ed Morphis:

Vacant

Pat Beveridge:

David Haight:

Jerry & Sue Keeling

Vacant

Membership

Fly Tying Instructor

Raffle Baskets

Auction Chair

Outings Chair

SOFF Wear

Historian



FROM THE BOARD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

Dave Grosjacques

This is the time of year when many members of the Southern Oregon Flyfishers are gearing up for steelhead. Those beautiful, clear, seventy to seventy-five degree fall days on the river will be here soon. I can't wait! I know many club members are starting to dig out those six to eight-weight rods and trying to find or tie some steelhead flies. Fall in Southern Oregon is a great time to be out fishing on the river or out for a trip to one of the high lakes to get at those trout that are going to start biting when the weather cools. The SOFF has some big events this fall that you will not want to miss. The general meeting in September will feature Mike Caranci on fishing Northern California. The club picnic will be on Sunday, September 20th, at Reinhart Park. The September outing to Diamond Lake will be on the weekend of September 25-27. And in October the annual SOFF auction will take place on the 15th.

The club picnic is always a lot of fun and Jerry and Sue Keeling are working hard to make this year's event even better than last year. They will be at the September general meeting, with signup sheets for people to help get things set up. They have tentatively scheduled some casting instruction, a swap meet and a raffle to go along with the barbeque and casting games. I think the club picnic is the best event of the year for some serious fish talk.

Members who are back from their summer fishing trips are anxious to tell their stories, and lots of plans will be made for fall fishing excursions to that favorite lake or section of the river.

The club auction on October 15th is our most important event of the year. Auction chair Pat Beveridge has been working all summer to get things organized. The auction committee is made up of Ed Morphis, John Storfold, Gary Miller, Tom Morris and Teresa Kasza. These members will be helping Pat get



Wayne Liska our perennial auctioneer will once again be at the helm at this year's annual auction.

ready for the big night. Club members can help by donating items for the silent auction and larger items for the oral auction. I cannot stress enough the importance of the auction to our club. The SOFF sponsors educational programs that help people learn to fly fish and to tie flies. We assist wildlife agencies in habitat protection and restoration on the streams in Southern Oregon. We sponsor scholarships to students in fisheries education at Oregon State University, and donate money to organizations that are active in watershed education, restoration and protection. None of these would be possible without the funds raised on our one big night in October each year. Besides being a lot of fun, the auction is vital to the stated purpose and goals of our club.

Our club has experienced increases in almost every one of our monthly operating costs. Because of this, and a desire to keep doing what we have been able to do financially, the SOFF Board

voted at the August board meeting to increase the membership dues from \$ 25 to \$ 35 per year. We also voted to increase the dinner cost at the October auction meeting from \$ 18 to \$ 20. The club dues have never been increased since the club was founded. A survey of other fly fishing clubs around the state found that many have increased their dues to \$ 35. With our increased costs, we feel that this increase was needed. The dinner cost increase is a result of the financial strain on the club treasury that has come about from paying for part of each member's dinner. We get charge \$ 22 per meal, and members pay \$18 at the door. The club pays the difference of \$ 4 per dinner. With our cost increases, we cannot afford to continue doing this. The dinner price increase applies only to the October auction dinner. Prices for dinner at meetings after that will be negotiated and will be announced in the Newsletter. There is a possibility that we may have to change the location of our monthly meetings because of increased costs. We do not want to take that step, but we may be forced to do it because of the financial picture we are facing as a club. The board is being forced to make some very important financial decisions in these times, and we are asking for the help and support of the membership in making these decisions. Our only hope is that things work out and we can continue to be one the biggest and best fly fishing clubs in the state.

ATTENTION!

Board Meeting

The Board of Directors meet in the conference room of the Bank of the Cascades at 6th and Savage, Grants Pass.

The next meeting is scheduled:

**Sept. 3rd, 6:00pm or
the first Thursday
of the month.**

All members welcome.

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

Oct. 15th	Annual Auction
Nov. 19th	Brian O'Keefe
Dec. 17th	Wendy & Terry Gunn
Jan. 21st	TBA
Feb. 18th	TBA
Mar. 18th	Ken Helfrich
Apr. 15th	Fly Tiers Night

Annual Auction

The date for our annual auction is getting closer than you think, October 15th.

Some of this year's highlights include a special item for the ladies, a Dooney & Bourke handbag. In addition to that we have Eagle Cap Fishing Guides who has offered a one day guided fishing trip for two anglers with the purchase of second day. We also have a very nice Winston Boron 10' 7wt. rod w/case. These are just a few of the many fantastic things in this years auction, with more auction items arriving daily.

Although the auction committee has done a yeoman's job of soliciting donations, we still need your help with donations for Oral and Silent auction. Start looking around the house and check with relatives and friends and if nothing else start tying a dozen flies for the silent auction. Just remember every little bit helps. Any and all help will be appreciated.

Please fill out the donations forms, available at the meeting or contact Pat and let her know what you'll be bringing for the auction or if you have any questions about an auction item.

Mark October 15th in RED to remember to invite friends and neighbors to the auction. Lets make this the best year yet!

Good friends, good food and bargains does it get any better than that?

Thanks and let's get going.

Pat Beveridge 541-582-1721.

WHEN:
Sep. 17, 2009



TIMES:
6:00 PM
Social Hour and
Fly Tying Demo.
7:00 PM
Meeting
7:30 PM
Dinner and Program

WHERE:
The Lodge At Riverside - Grants Pass



Michael Caranci - The Best of Northern California



Michael Caranci has been chasing trout and steelhead on California's rivers since before he could drive a car, and started guiding for The Fly Shop in 2001, where he now manages The Fly Shop's Guide Service and Fly Fishing Schools. Michael is an FFF certified Master Instructor, as well as an outdoor writer and photographer.

Caranci program "The Best of Northern California" highlights many of the different fantastic fly fishing options available in the region centered around Redding, California. Throughout the course of a year-round season, there are numerous streams, rivers, and stillwaters – both public and private – that provide fly fishing opportunities for a variety of species, using a variety of techniques.

CASTING ABOUT

Annual Club Picnic

Come join the fun at this year's SOFF Annual Picnic on Sunday, September 20th, 2009 at Reinhart Volunteer Park (ALL Sports Park) beginning at 1:00. Cost is \$5.00 per adult (children free). The club will provide the main course (Tri Tip and Chicken) and sodas/water. Also available beginning at 11:00 am will be the SOFF Swap Meet. Bring your extra fly fishing equipment ready to sell, or come early and see what is available. We will also enjoy a raffle and the casting game. For last names beginning with A - L please bring a side dish/salad, and for M - Z please bring a dessert.



Master chefs at work at last year's picnic grilling tri-tips and chicken to perfection.

We still need some volunteers. Please consider helping with cooking, setup, cleanup, and collecting the \$5.00 picnic fee. If interested please email Jerry and Sue at jerrykeeling@msn.com

msn.com



Several club members took advantage of the swap meet at the picnic last year to reduce their unneeded fly fishing gear.

If you are planning on attending this year's picnic please email Jerry and Sue at jerrykeeling@msn.com with the number of adults in your party and their choice of main dish (Tri Tip or Chicken), or you may sign up at the August dinner meeting.

As an added feature, on Sunday, September 20th (Club picnic day), John MacDiarmid (a certified Casting Instructor) will be offering a casting clinic entitled **How to Effectively Load your Rod**. This casting clinic will be free to club members and will begin at 11:30. We are very grateful that John has volunteered to share his skills and expertise in casting.

There is no need to sign up, just

show up with your rod.



President Dave prepares the Club's stream simulator at last year's picnic.



Teresa Kasza wins a rod at last year's picnic.

Updated Agenda for the annual picnic:
 11:00 - Swap Meet begins
 11:30 - Casting Clinic begins
 1:00 - Picnic begins

Casting games will begin following the picnic

Thanks,

Jerry and Sue Keeling

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Southern Oregon Fly Tiers

Tying and demonstrations, free raffle and more. The second Tuesday of every month at the Madrone Mobile Home Park Community Center, 8401 Old Stage Road in Gold Hill. For more info. contact member Dan Kellog, 773-4724



OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

September Outing To Diamond Lake September 26th

Since being treated in 2006 to get rid of illegally introduced chubs, Diamond Lake has reestablished itself as one of Oregon's best trout fisheries. The lake is extremely productive, and has an abundance of fat, healthy rainbow trout in the 12 to 20-inch range, along with a decent number of fish up to five pounds.

On September 26, the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will have a long overdue outing to Diamond Lake. We will meet in the parking lot at the South Shore boat ramp at 9 AM for coffee and doughnuts, and to share information about where and how to fish the lake.

Fly rods from three to six weight are suitable for Diamond Lake. A clear intermediate fly line will likely be the most useful, but also bring a floating line to fish dries or midge patterns, and a faster sinking line in case the fish go deep during the middle of the day. Bring leaders tapering to 3X or 4X, and the usual assortment of stillwater patterns. Stripping woolly buggers or leeches normally works well, as does suspending midge patterns just off the bottom. Also be prepared with patterns to imitate callibaetis, damselflies, caddisflies, and terrestrials. Diamond Lake is a big lake, and a floating device will help you reach the fish. A float tube is adequate to cover the water at the south end of the lake; however, a larger boat will allow you to fish more of the lake.

For those that want to spend the night at the lake, there are several For-

est Service campgrounds and a private RV park, and the Diamond Lake Resort has rooms and cabins for rent.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Club Members Enjoy Wilderness Outing

A small group of anglers from the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers and the Rogue Flyfishers made the trek into the Sky Lakes Wilderness to fish for brook trout in the beautiful Blue Lake Basin. The participants were treated to the incredible scenery, nice weather,



Jerry Haynes, Russ Leavitt, Tanya Haight and Lucky Burchett are packed up and ready to start the hike into the Sky Lakes Wilderness.

good company, and even a few fish. The fishing at Blue Lake on Saturday was a little slow, but several fish were caught. Lucky Burchett and Tanya Haight both landed their first brook

trout. On Sunday, Horseshoe Lake produced a couple more trout, including one 15 incher.



Tanya Haight lands her first brook trout.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Photo Potpourri



Jerry Keeling displays a nice brown trout taken from the Madison River on his vacation to Yellowstone Park.



A beautiful Blue Lake brook trout ready for release.



Not be outdone, Sue Keeling is seen landing her first Madison River trout from Yellowstone Park.

2009 Outings

Sep. 26th	Diamond Lake.
Oct. 24th	Middle Rogue Steelhead.
Nov. 21st	Coastal Chinook 2010
Jan 1st	Annual Chili Feed
Jan 23rd	TBA
Feb 20th	TBA

FLY TYING CORNER

Dennis Potter's Fat Head Beetle



- Hook:** TMC 9300, #12-16 1X Heavy Dry Fly Hook.
- Thread:** 8/0 Black.
- Body:** Peacock Herl, 5-6.
- Overbody:** 3mm Black Fly Foam, 1/4 wide.
- Head:** 3mm Black Fly Foam, 1/4 wide.
- Wing:** EP Fiber (Enrico Pugliosi), Slate Color (Salt and Pepper).
- Legs :** Mini Round Rubber Legs, Black or Olive, 1-1 1/2".
- Indicator:** Fluorescent Orange Egg Yarn, 1-1 1/2".

Tying Instructions:

Just back from FFF Conclave, where I had a great workshop with Dennis Potter and learned to tie this pattern. First, tie thread down bend 8-10 wraps past barb. Cut foam to a triangle point and tie in just where foam is full width and wrap forward to foam point. Tie on and wrap a herl rope, beginning at the full foam, and tie off and trim 3/32" from eye. Stretch foam forward to end of herl with tension to form round butt, and hold over thread with left thumb and index finger, pinching in at that point to form beetle body. Tie off, lift foam and wrap in front half way between foam and eye. Pull foam forward and fold it backward, pushing fold over the eye. Holding at the tie-in point, tie it in 1/8" from the eye to form the head(control the proportion of the head). Now, trim the foam and wrap down the end, making a neck of about 1/16." Tie in the wings, using two pieces (don't try to use one piece). Tie one on each side, beginning in the middle of the neck and trapping the material to the front of the neck. Take one full wrap around each wing, then around neck. Tie in leg material in middle on each side, forming two legs on each side. Be sure to tie in at middle of neck, wrapping each wrap directly over the one before. Place 1/3 of the strand of egg yarn on top of the neck and **wrap right over** the center of the legs, then, bring thread forward under head and half hitch multiple times. Trim the wings, placing scissors against bend of hook, back legs same length as wings, front legs 1/4" in front of eye, indicator rather full at first.

Fly Tied By: **Ed Morphis**

John Storfold

Fly Tying Chair

Ph. 660-6584

E-mail: steelyjon@q.com



Please make checks payable to:
SOFF and mail to: PO Box 1144,
Grants Pass, Oregon 97528

Membership Form

- Regular.....\$25.00
- Family.....\$35.00
- Youth.....\$5.00
- Contributing.....\$50.00
- Lifetime (Individual).....\$250.00
- Lifetime (Couple).....\$350.00

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Home () _____ Work: () _____

Email: _____

Personal interests: _____

Renewal: _____ New: _____



CHANGING LINES

COMING EVENTS

9-3	Board Meeting
9-8	SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
9-17	Club Meeting - Michael Caranci.
9-20	Annual Club Picnic.
9-26	Club Outing - Diamond Lake.
10-1	Board Meeting
10-13	SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
10-15	Annual Auction.

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speakers and their fees.

Our annual auction occurs in October, what would happen if because of the times we aren't as successful as it had been in the past? Last year for example we realized after all expenses somewhere around \$18,000, what if we only netted \$9,000 this year? This would certainly cause the club to re-think its priorities as to the spending it would do in the following year.

Have I presented a doomsday scenario? I don't think so, but I have presented a picture that is in drastic need of change. One thing for certain that will change is that dues are going up by \$10 on the first of the year, while final decisions are still on tap for subsidizing dinners and a new meeting location.

Change, unfortunately is in the wind and with it a possibility that a number of members will choose to no longer associate themselves with the club. I would hope that those that will remain will see these changes as maintaining the fiscal health and viability of the club and embrace them accordingly.



Celebrate the Removal of Savage Rapids Dam with WaterWatch of Oregon

Join us for music, an outdoor dinner and silent auction to celebrate the culmination of decades of great work! Tickets are \$25, including dinner.

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, 5:30 – 10:00
Eden Valley Orchards
2310 Voorhies Road, Medford, Oregon



Reserve your tickets now:

503.295.4039x207 or info@waterwatch.org

RSVP by September 25, 2009

Optional dam site activities, including:

- 9:00-12:00: Float-through of the dam site.

(Let us know if you have extra space on a boat or if you need a seat on a boat.)

- 1:30-2:30: Tour of the dam site.

Details to follow at www.waterwatch.org

Thanks to our Sponsors:

Rogue Flyfishers, Fly Water Travel, McGinnis Fly Fishing,
Rod Badger, Ousterhout Vineyards, Bryan Sohl,
Law Offices of Karl G. Anuta, P.C.



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Editor's Notebook

Did we have a contentious time at the August board meeting or what? Whenever you talk money and the possibility of an increase in dues, the cost of dinners and other financial matters there are disagreements. And this board meeting was no exception.

One of the things that the board realizes is that the club continues to bleed money on every dinner meeting. Some of the costs are \$450 for the cost of the room, subsidizing each meal at \$4.00 each and some of the raffles that don't break even. In the event that we don't meet our minimum guarantee of 40 dinners, the club has to make up the difference for anything under 40.

Some nine years ago when I became a member, dinners were \$13 and that amount included the room fee and tip. Although there was a minimum guarantee it was never en-

forced. Now the price has risen to \$22 for each dinner paid to the independent caterer Aroma Café, and a \$450 room rent paid to the Lodge. The club charges \$18 for each dinner and subsidizes \$4.00. Let's say we average 60 dinners each month, given the high and low over the year that equates to \$2880 per year. Now add the \$450 each month for room rent for a yearly total of \$5400 that adds up to \$8280. Then add in the monthly cost of each speaker, both fee and expenses and the losing months of the raffle and we're at a figure reaching \$12,000 per year.

How can the club cope with such a yearly liability? I don't think it can nor should it. Unfortunately the club either needs to find a source for additional funds or realize savings on what it currently spends. One of the means considered was the raising of club dues. If we raise dues by \$10, discounting life memberships and other factors the club

should average at least two hundred members which would equate to an additional \$2000 per year. If the club stops subsidizing the meals we could save an additional \$2800 per year and finally if the club decided to relocate to another meeting location that could save another \$5000 dollars a year.

Here's another idea, should we have meetings during July and August? The last two months attendance at the club's monthly dinner meeting was 28 and 33 respectively, not including the few 'sideliners' that also attended. When you consider that the total number of members (including family memberships) tops the three hundred mark that means that less than and slightly more than 10% of the membership actually attended the last two dinner meetings. We could save on dinners not served, but paid for to meet our minimum and the cost of the

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