

**STONEFLY MAIDENS**  
**Ladies Fly Fishing Club Newsletter**  
February 2002

AN OREGON COUNCIL-FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS MEMBER CLUB

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**MEETING INFO:**

Next meeting: TUESDAY February 12, 2002

**Old Spaghetti Factory**, 0715 SW Bancroft St, Portland, OR 97201, 503-222-5375

6 PM, dinner and social hour

7 PM, meeting

**Agenda:**

Club Business

Fish-a-long plans

Presentation: Basics of Fly Tying and Fly Fishing with Martha Stewart

Raffle

This month's fish-a-long:

February 16, 2002

Winter fishing on the Metolius River

We will also have the hats and T-shirts ready for sale at the meeting with our new Stonefly logo on them. Hats will be \$15.00 and the heavy weight tees will be \$18.00.

**FLY LINES**

Welcome to a new year for the Stonefly Maidens. The board has lots of plans for the upcoming year as you can see from the fish-a-long schedule. We even have a new meeting place. Hopefully we will see more of you at the meetings. Remember that now is the time to pay your dues. Your \$25 goes to pay for speakers and other club essentials.

This month's presentation is going to be an entertaining one. Learn to fly fish and tie flies with Martha Stewart. The video shows Martha being Martha learning our sport including how to catch and release. We will also be discussing this month's fish-a-long on the Metolius. Be prepared to catch rainbows, bull trout and mountain white fish.

This weekend members of the board will be manning the Oregon Council's booth at the Sportsman Show. Stop by and say hello and learn more about the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Also take advantage of the many opportunities to meet new people

and learn more about fly fishing and the great outdoors at the show. If your casting is in fine form, you might enter the casting competition. See how you measure up to others in the West.

The board is always interested in knowing what you want the club to be and do. Let any of us know your ideas, after all this is your club, not ours.

See you at the meeting and on the water.

Tilda

## **FISH-A-LONG SCHEDULE** (subject to change)

February 16	Metolius River
March 16	Santiam River – Steelhead
April 13	Coastal Rivers
May 18	Trout Fishing Clinic with Rob Crandall
June 15	Deschutes River – Stonefly Hatch (of course)
July 13	Davis Lake Summer Meeting and Camp-Out
August 10	Roslyn Lake
September 14	Umpqua River – Big K Ranch
October 12	Deschutes River – October Caddis Hatch

## **Goings on: Fly Shops and Events**

**The Fly Fishing Shop at Welches, 503.622.4607, <http://www.flyfishusa.com/>**

Call or visit the web site for more info.

Sunday, February 10, 2002, 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Fly Fisher's Round Table  
Tyler Thomas, a guide's favorite trout flies.

Sunday, February 17, 2002, 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Fly Fisher's Round Table  
Featuring Central Oregon Lake Flies by Jim Dexter.

Sunday, February 24, 2002, 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Fly Fisher's Round Table  
Featuring Rabbit Strip Flies by Mark Bachmann

May 18 - 19, 2002, Sandy River Spey Clave 2002

At Oxbow Park on the Sandy River

What is the Sandy River Spey Clave? It is a gathering of anglers interested in two-hand fly rod fishing. It is a place to exchange information and fish together. This year there will be (7) fly tackle rep groups to put on a show specifically for the spey casting fraternity.

**Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop -- Maupin 541.395.2565, <http://www.flyfishingdeschutes.com>**

**River City Fly Shop – 11429 SW Scholls Ferry Rd, Beaverton 503.579.5176**

Fly tying every Tuesday evening starting at 6:30pm. \$50 for 4 sessions; you can join at any time.

## **BULL TROUT**

By Mark Bachmann, The Fly Fishing Shop

Technically they are not trout, but char, a closely related family that has very fine scales and exhibits light dots on a darker background. Bull Trout are some of the largest naturally occurring resident salmonids in the Pacific Northwest. They fill the same niche in their environment as barracuda do on a warm saltwater reef. They are the top of the piscatorial food chain.

Bull trout start their lives feeding on insects and have a similar life style to rainbows and cutthroats until they reach a length of about 18". Then, their diet switches almost entirely to fish. Now they are taking food in much larger bites and can attain a larger average size than the other fish around them. While the diet of an adult bull trout consists largely of other fish, they have been known to eat frogs, snakes, mice and ducklings when provided a suitable opportunity.

Where they are confined to a stream environment, larger individuals rarely exceed 10 pounds, but where they can winter-over in a large lake, some fish can exceed 30 pounds. Lake Pend O'reille in the Idaho Pan Handle currently holds the world record of 32 pounds, 6 ounces. Specimens caught from Lake Billy Chinook, a man made impoundment in Central Oregon, have attained weights in the high 20's.

Bull Trout are one of three very closely related west coast chars and where their ranges overlap they are hard to distinguish from Dolly Varden or Arctic Chars. Both of the latter species are sea-run. Bull Trout do not ordinarily go to salt water. However, Bull Trout are highly migratory and may move from one part of a watershed to another. For instance, Bull Trout may move between tributaries of large watersheds such as the Columbia River. This makes population numbers difficult to count. Bull Trout spawn in November and require very cold, oxygenated, silt-free water for spawning. Thirty-six degrees is considered ideal. These requirements make them very sensitive to man-made changes in their habitat, and they are considered to be an indicator specie.

Of the several Bull Trout populations in Oregon, only two, those in the Deschutes and McKenzie basins are considered to be on the increase. There are many more Bull Trout in the lower 100 miles of the Deschutes River than most anglers realize. That is because in order to catch them, you have to fish specifically for them. Even small Bull Trout exhibit a preference for fish in their diet. Very few Bull Trout are caught on nymphs and even fewer on dry flies. However, a large streamer fished very fast on a sinking line will get a strike in nearly every riffle. The Metolius River is open year round and has a great winter population of Bull Trout, some of which will exceed twenty pounds. Try fishing 8" to 12" streamers in some of the larger holes. You might catch a real trophy.

To learn more about Bull Trout, try going to one of the following links:

[Status of Oregon's Bull Trout](#)

[Ecology of Bull Trout](#)

[The Bull Trout Foundation](#)

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