



Stonefly Maidens Women's Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

February 2004

PO Box 82412
Portland, OR 97282-0412

AN OREGON COUNCIL-FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS MEMBER CLUB

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OREGON COUNCIL, FFF REPRESENTATIVE

Laura Coblentz, kat5mom@aol.com

MEETING INFO:

Next meeting: WEDNESDAY February 11, 2004

Iron Horse Restaurant, 6034 SE Milwaukie Ave, Portland, Oregon, 503-232-1826

They prefer to create a tab for each table, rather than one for each person. It is also helpful if we can pay in cash rather than by credit or debit card. Let's look on this as an opportunity to meet new members and guests of the club and make them feel welcome.

The speaker will be our own President, Lisa Greber. She is a last minute fill in for Debra Virgovic, a fisheries biologist for the USDA. Lisa will be talking about fish habitat conservation and possible volunteer projects for the club.

This month's fish-a-long:

Salmonberry River, Coast Range, Saturday, February 14, 2004. Winter steelhead fishing uses 7 or 8 weight rods and big heavy flies on floating lines or sink tip lines. The most common techniques are nymphing or swinging. Countrysport has rental steelhead rods and reels with line for \$25. They have three on hand but you should call plenty of time in advance if you want to rent. This is not an early morning fishery, so we will probably leave the Portland area around 9:00am. Car-pooling and caravanning are strongly encouraged as there are railroad tracks along the river. Also plan on negotiating steep riverbanks.

The Salmonberry is a beautiful pristine river, which has been the focus of stream and fish habitat restoration. The results have been very good. Carmen has fished for steelhead here and enjoyed the scenery very much.

Come to the February meeting for more information.

We have hats, denim shirts and T-shirts with our Stonefly logo on them for sale at the meeting. Hats are \$15.00; denim shirts are \$25.00; T-shirts are \$10.00. What better way to advertise the club?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I thought for a little while winter was trying to get out of here, but like Punxsutawney Phil told us in the beginning of the month, 6 more weeks of winter. So, we better remember to wear our warm clothes under those waders! Don't forget your raincoats, but I know that all good Oregonians have one on hand at all times. February can be a fun month to try for some bigger fish, steelhead!

The February fish-a-long is to the Salmonberry River. The wild steelhead are particularly large and strong with the peak runs occurring in February and March. Steelhead in this river are all wild and must be released unharmed. The 18 mile long river enters the Nehalem River about 11 miles south of Elsie on the Lower Nehalem River Road.

This fish-a-long will be sweet for the sweethearts since it will be on Valentine's Day. Take your sweetie on a fish-a-long and then share your special fishing spot with them. That will tell them that they are loved. What better Valentine's Day present, then a big wild steelhead! So, be sweet this month and share your box of flies! You can always get a box of chocolates!

See you on the water,

Lisa

Club Announcements

Casting for Recovery, a non-profit organization that provides fly-fishing retreats for women who have or have had breast cancer. We were approached with the opportunity to donate flies tied by club members that will be raffled at the Eugene Expo in March to benefit CFR.

If you are interested in participating, please bring to the Wed., February 11 meeting a minimum of five flies you have tied yourself, including the name of the person who tied the fly, if it was tied right-handed or left-handed, the name of the fly and type of fish it's to be used for, to Laura Coblentz, who will mail them to Eugene the next day. The flies will either be put into a fly plate or in boxes and sold at raffle with all the proceeds going to CFR.

The annual **Portland Sportsman's Show** is this weekend. Several members are helping populate the Oregon Council – FFF booth. Come to the show and participate the some of the many free seminars that are part of the show. It's a great time to try out equipment and talk with the equipment representatives. Hope to see you there.

Oregon Council Youth and Women's Seminars are two seminars being held in March and April. We have an opportunity to assist as instructors at either or both of the seminars. The organizers are looking for women to help teach about fly fishing equipment, entomology, knots, casting, reading the water, and a variety of other topics. The Women's Seminar is Saturday, April 24 at the Roaring Springs Trout Camp in Scio, Oregon. Contact the Oregon Council – FFF for more information.

Our **Casting Clinic** is scheduled for Saturday, June 12, 2004 at Blue Lake Regional Park in Fairview, Oregon. This was a very successful event last year with about twenty women who were not members of the club participating in the free clinic. Katherine Hart has agreed to participate in the clinic again this year. If you are interested in being an assistant casting instructor, contact Carmen Smith or Tilda Runner.

Tentative Program and Fish-a-long Schedule

Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic	Fish-a-Long Date	Fish-a-Long Location
January 14, 2004	Brian O'Keefe	Photography	January 17, 2004	Crooked River (trout)
February 11, 2004	Debra Virgovic (biologist)	Conservation	February 14, 2004	Salmonberry (winter steelhead)
March 10, 2004	Don Nelson, Hal Gordon, Ralph Brooks	Fly tying and fishing the Metolius	March 13, 2004	Metolius (trout)
April 14, 2004	Judith O'Keefe	Float tubing	April 17, 2004	TBA: Coastal lake? Or McKenzie River?
May 12, 2004	John Smeraglio	Deschutes	May 15, 2004	Deschutes (trout)
MAIN EVENT	CASTING CLINIC		June 12, 2004	Blue Lake Park
June 9, 2004	Members roundtable led by (Kathi Williams)	Social hour and video ("wading safety")	June 13, 2004	Clackamas River
July 14, 2004	Andy Pibal	Possibly fishing opportunities in nearby Portland	July 17, 2004	Umpqua River (smallmouth bass @ Big K- \$25 ea, reserved for 8
August 11, 2004	Henry Hoffman	Possibly the evolution of fly tying materials	August 14, 2004	East & Hosmer Lakes (trout, etc.)
September 8, 2004	Phil Hager of Central Oregon Fly Fishers	Fishing in Steens Mtn area	September 17-20, 2004*	Steens Outing; Donner & Blitzen Riv., Mann Lake; Krumbo Res.
October 13, 2004	Pete Priepeke	Sea run cutthroat	October 16, 2004 *	Nehalem River (sea run cutthroat trout)
November 10, 2004	members roundtable	Winter cleaning/ equipment swap	None	None
December 8, 2004	None	Xmas party	None	None

Denotes outing is open to all members and family and friends.

All speakers and fish-a-longs are subject to change without notice.

GOINGS ON

Oregon FFF Events

March 20, 2004 NW Fly Tyer's Expo – Wheeler Pavilion, LCCC, Eugene

March 21, 2004 Oregon Council Youth Fly-Fishing Seminar – Eugene

April 3, 2004 Santiam Flycasters – Fly Fishing Fair – Willamette University – Salem

April 24, 2004 Oregon Council Women's Fly Fishing Seminar – Scio, OR

September 17-19, 2004 Casting for Recovery – Big K Guest Ranch, Elkton, OR

BOW



Winter Sports Clinic , Mar. 13, La Pine State Park, La Pine Registrations are currently being taken. To register, download the Jan.- Apr. 2004 Workshop Schedule PDF at the website below and complete the application form.

Skijoring Clinic , Mar. 13, La Pine State Park, La Pine Registrations are currently being taken. To register, download the Jan.- Apr. 2004 Workshop Schedule PDF (above) and complete the application form.

Clamming at Coos Bay, Apr. 10, Tugman State Park, Coos Bay Registrations are currently being taken. To register, download the Jan.- Apr. 2004 Workshop Schedule PDF (above) and complete the application form.

Scootering/Carting Clinic, April 16-18 Crystalwood Lodge, Klamath Falls (training your dog for skijoring and sledding)

Kayaking and Hiking, May 8-9, at The Cove Palisades State Park

Birding, May 15 at Summer Lake Wildlife Area

May 22 A Day at the Range, Snake River Sportsmen's Club, Vale

Fly Fishing Clinic, May 22-23, at Wizard Falls Hatchery

Clamming, June 5, near Tillamook

June 5 Camp Cookin' at Emigrant Springs State Park

Basic BOW, June 12-13, at La Pine State Park

BOW weekend, August 20-22, at Camp Tadmor in Lebanon

A Day at the Range, September 18, Emerald Empire Gun Club, Eugene

Fly Fishing for Steelhead, October 30, Valley of the Rogue State Park near Grants Pass

Information on 2004 workshops is available at www.dfw.state.or.us/outdoor_skills/bow.html. If you would like to put your name on the mailing list to receive registration materials, please contact Nancy Smogor, Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Program Coordinator, at (503) 947-6016 or nancy.e.smogor@state.or.us.



The Fly Fishing Shop at Welches 503.622.4607 www.flyfishusa.com

Call or visit the web site for more info on sales and upcoming events.

February 7, 2004, Saturday, 10:00am - 1:00pm Jim Teeny. On The Water Demonstration. A wizard at watersmanship with the sunk fly. Uses a single hand rod. His unique approach is deadly productive on all local runs of steelhead and salmon. See him in action.

This presentation will be at Dodge Park on the Sandy River (Fun & educational)! Be prepared for rain.

2/4/2004



February 08, 2004, Sunday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm Fly Tier's Round Table "Learn how to tie Sardina Imitations"



If the Sea of Cortez is an engine, Sardinas would be the fuel. All of these game fish eat them: Dorado, Rooster Fish, Bonito & Jacks grow up eating Sardinas. If you are planning on fishing the Mexican Pacific Coast this class is for you. The program and instructions are free. So are the coffee and snacks. Bring snacks to share if you want to.

Bring your own tools, and materials and tie along. Beginners are welcome. Group Leader: Mark Bachmann

Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop – Maupin 541.395.2565 www.flyfishingdeschutes.com

Call or visit their new web site for more info. Give the shop a call to find out about their specials and classes.

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.



Northwest Flyfishing Outfitters – 10910 NE Halsey St., Portland 503.252.1529 or 888.292.1137 www.flyshopnw.com

Call or visit their web site for more information about classes, trips and special events.



Kaufmann's Streamborn – 8861 SW Commercial, Tigard 800-442-4359 or 503-639-6400 www.kman.com

Call or visit their web site for more information about classes, trips and special events.

Siuslaw River (used by permission of the USDA)

The Siuslaw River Basin on the Central Oregon Coast drains to the Pacific Ocean, supports 20 miles of estuary habitat and was once one of the most productive aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems in the world. However, American 'homesteaders' in the late 1800s cleared the land, drained wetlands and channeled streams to maximize pasture - exactly as their Australian counterparts did at this time in recent history.

By 1996, canneries had harvested the iconic Coho salmon almost to extinction, the clear cutting of forests had led to increased landslides and the catchment's streams lost the structural complexity needed to support aquatic life. The Siuslaw River Basin Restoration Project was established subsequently to repair the environmental damage.

Four major partners working with the community

The Siuslaw River Basin Restoration Project has accomplished its successful on-ground achievements by building tight partnerships between four main organizations:

- The Siuslaw Watershed Council
- Siuslaw National Forest
- Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District, and

- The Siuslaw Institute.

All four work together with government agencies, scientific technical panels, landholders and local citizens under the umbrella of the Siuslaw Watershed Council, which is a wholly community based non-profit organization and provides a forum to review the progress of restoration in the catchment.

The Siuslaw Watershed Council

A three-pronged approach

The Siuslaw Watershed Council is the peak representative body for all the local stakeholders with a vital interest in the health of their rivers, streams and aquatic life. There are three significant and separate sub-watershed projects within the Siuslaw River Basin, which are pivotal to the Siuslaw River Basin Restoration Project's progress. They each contain innovative ways of engaging people in caring for their local environment.

Building a base of knowledge:

Knowles Creek Restoration Project

This project began in the mid-1980's, when watershed and fisheries professionals realized that Knowles Creek was a stream system in trouble and out of balance. The aim of the Knowles Creek project was to understand the reasons for and rectify the events that altered the formerly healthy waterway into its current degraded form.

Among the achievements of significant on-ground work at Knowles Creek are:

- Studies monitoring natural processes such as landslides, logjams, and channel changes by torrents containing debris
- Learning that these processes help develop deep pools that become 'hot spots' for concentrations of young Coho salmon
- Design and engineering programs that removed and reconstructed roads, returned wood structures to the stream channels and initiated riparian forest.
- Spurring the formation of public / private partnerships including universities, timber companies, the Siuslaw National Forest, the salmon and trout programs from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife plus the nonprofit Pacific Rivers Foundation.

Knowles Creek is now a true 'living laboratory' with local 7th grade science classes monitoring fish population and size and resource professionals regularly making field trips to observe its progress. In 2002, the number of Coho salmon spawning exceeded the population of the entire basin during an historic population low of 1998.

Encouraging local participation:

Deadwood Enhancement Project

This project is a partnership between the non-profit Siuslaw Institute and the Siuslaw Soil and Water Conservation District, which agreed on the need for a Coordinated Resource Management Plan to improve the health of streams and rivers in the catchment. By gathering new funding and using existing resources such as the Siuslaw National Forest and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the partners were able to:

- Help landholders plant riparian areas and fence stock
- Improve fish habitat and channel restoration works
- Position in-stream structures to assist the development of complex stream channels.

High flood events now connect floodplains and the in-stream structures installed have already begun to store an abundance of spawning gravels and create rearing habitats. Riparian cover will continue to grow and provide healthy fish habitats.

Integrating activities and feedback:
Karnowsky Creek Restoration Project

The Karnowsky Creek Valley's ecology was significantly altered by the impact of European settlement, with channelised and downcut streams, truncated tidal influences and non-native vegetation having a marked effect. With guidance from the Siuslaw National Forest and under the supervision of the Siuslaw Watershed Council, an interdisciplinary team of Oregon State University undergraduate and postgraduate students was brought in to develop a holistic restoration plan. This project already shows great promise. In only a short time it appears evident that Chum salmon habitat will be extended and formerly endangered Coho salmon will rear successfully in the slower moving waters of the newly constructed channel, adjacent ponds and now connected floodplains.

Progress - one step at a time

The Siuslaw River Basin Restoration Project strategy is innovative in that high priority restoration areas agreed upon by the Siuslaw Watershed Council technical team are approached on a 'whole of watershed' basis. Multiple groups of people with specialist skills and the local community are involved to accomplish the immediate task of restoration. Ultimately the whole Siuslaw Basin will be restored, progressively, one sub-watershed at a time, with measurable outcomes in each individual watershed.