

Stonefly Maidens  
Ladies Fly Fishing  
Club Newsletter  
May 2002

AN OREGON COUNCIL-FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS MEMBER CLUB

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**MEETING INFO:**

Next meeting: TUESDAY May 14, 2002

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

6 PM, dinner and social hour

7 PM, presentation

Rob Crandall will be joining us to talk about how to catch a trout. He will be talking about casting, reading water, entomology. Rob is a great speaker and a great teacher. Experienced and inexperienced anglers will learn something new from him. The teaching doesn't end at the meeting. Check out this month's fish-a-long. First the classroom, and then on the water.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** Make sure you ask at the front desk for the Stonefly Maidens meeting. If for some reason the restaurant books the meeting room out from under us, the meeting will be moved down the street to Who Song and Larry's (4850 SW Macadam Ave, 503-223-8845. The person at the reception desk will know where we are.

**This month's fish-a-long:**

May 25, 2002

How to Catch a Trout Clinic with Rob Crandall

Deschutes River, meet at Henry's Market (on the right just before you cross the bridge) at 9:00 am. Cost is \$75 a person with a minimum of 4 people required.

This is a great opportunity to learn how to cast better on moving water, how to read water, what bugs to look for, and anything else you want to know about trout fishing. Sign up no later than the May 14 meeting.

We will also have the hats, denim shirts and T-shirts for sale at the meeting with our Stonefly logo on them. Hats are \$15.00 and the heavy weight tees are \$18.00. The denim shirts are new and will be \$25.00 each.

**FLY LINES**

Last month's fish-a-long didn't happen. It seems that Mother Nature was against us from the very beginning. When I looked at the river levels after the meeting, the graph showed a sudden rise in level almost at the exact time we decided to go to the Nestucca. Oh well, sometimes you just have to stay home and work in the yard.

This year I decided to keep a fishing journal to help me learn more about the fishing that I do. Jeff was giving me a bad time a few weeks back, because I frequently ask him where he thinks the fishing will be best for the weekend. He said I need to start learning and remembering that on my own. The best way I can think to do that is to keep a journal that includes river levels, weather patterns, hatches, holes, numbers of fish and whatever other information I want to keep. Who knows, maybe 50 years down the road, someone else might even be interested in what fishing was like back in the old days.

I am really looking forward to this month's speaker and fish-a-long. Rob taught me a lot about fishing when I was first learning, and I frequently recall bits of information from him as I am trying to find a fish. I hope that quite a few of you will take advantage of his clinic on the 25th. Since we are going to learn about how to catch a trout, I thought you might be interested in how to choose trout tackle. Check out the article of the month from The Fly Fishing Shop.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

Tilda

## **Fish-a-long Schedule**

May 25	How to Catch a Trout Clinic with Rob Crandall Deschutes River, meet at Henry's Market (on the right just before you cross the bridge) at 9:00 am. Cost is \$75 a person with a minimum of 4 people required. This is a great opportunity to learn how to cast better on moving water, how to read water, what bugs to look for, and anything else you want to know about trout fishing. Sign up no later than the May 14 meeting.
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 [www.flyfishusa.com](http://www.flyfishusa.com)**

Call or visit the web site for more info.

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.

Sunday, May 25, 2002, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. - Fly Fisher's Round Table & Casting Clinic

Brian O'Keefe - Scott Fly Rod Day

Scott makes a full array of fly rod models to fit every fly fishing situation from tiny spring creeks and mountain streams to expansive saltwater flats and blue water. Brian O'Keefe, the manufacturer's representative will be at our store with rods from each series in the Scott line-up. You will be able to cast all of them. He will have the most popular models. A free barbeque will be served all day starting with breakfast! Win an S3 Fly Rod worth \$530 !!!

**Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop --           Maupin 541.395.2565**

Casting Classes

90 minute streamside individual lesson with John Smeraglio, \$60 per session.

Entomology Seminar -- Understanding Western Hatches

Day long classroom/streamside study of aquatic insects with Rick Hafele, co-author of Western Hatches. By reservation only. \$75 per person. 50 percent non-refundable deposit required.

- May 18, 2002
- July 13, 2002
- August 24, 2002

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

Aquatic Entomology with Jeff Morgan. May 10 06:00 a.m. to May 11 7:00 p.m. at River City Fly Shop/Eagle Creek.

Author and professional tier Jeff Morgan will lead a 2-part class on aquatic entomology and trout. Learn about all the insects that trout eat, where they live, how they behave, and how to imitate them. Class is 2 hours in-class, and 5 hours on the stream. Free materials and flies included. Class size limited to 7 people. When: In class 5/10 (6:00pm-8:00pm; On River 5/11 (2:00-7:00pm) Cost: \$60

Creative Tying with Jeff Morgan. May 14 06:00 a.m. to May 16 8:00 p.m. at River City Fly Shop. This 2-session class is for intermediate and advanced tiers looking to expand their repertoire, as well as increase their tying speed and quality. Instructor is professional tier and author Jeff Morgan. All materials provided, including 15 free model flies. Limit first 6. Cost: \$50.

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

## **THOUGHTS ON TROUT TACKLE**

Mark Bachmann, The Fly Fishing Shop, Welches, Oregon

Trout live in diverse habitats from tiny mountain streams and spring creeks to huge windy rivers and lakes. Trout range in size from tiny Brookies to monster Kamloops. The food they will consume varies from nearly microscopic insects to chunky crayfish and baitfish. Obviously your tackle should match the conditions.

### ***Rods***

The selection of a fly rod doesn't have to be confusing to the beginner or laborious to the angler who just wants to keep things simple. Your first rod should be a nine foot #5 or #6 weight. You can cover the widest range of situations with this rod. You will find, however, as your curiosity about fly fishing for trout grows, that the least specialized tackle is not always the most appropriate.

We believe that the second, third and fourth generation graphite rods from Sage, G. Loomis and Winston have proven reliability and are very easy to cast with. St. Croix rods deliver great quality for anglers on a budget.

The following can be used as a general reference for size and use selection:

#### **#2 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered to be ultra, ultra light
- Highly specialized for fishing tiny flies and very light tippets
- Great for spooky fish where delicate presentation is the most important factor
- Makes little fish seem bigger
- Works best at short to medium ranges with flies under size #16

#### **#3 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered ultra light
- Generally fits all the specifications of #2 weight rods for delicate presentation but the larger line mass is easier to time while casting and allows longer casts
- Comfortable with flies up to size #14

#### **#4 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered light
- Very popular size for spring creeks and mountain streams
- Works well with 2
- 6 pound tippets, and fly sizes #12 to #20
- Casts comfortably to ranges of 45 feet

#### **#5 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered medium light
- One of the most popular sizes for general trout fishing
- Fishes tippets down to 2 pound test
- Works well with tippets of 3 to 10 pound test
- Works well with bushy dries up to size #6 or tiny emergers down to size #20
- Casts comfortably to ranges of 60 feet with a size #12 fly
- Feels good with mountain cutthroats or Alaska rainbows

#### **#6 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered medium weight
- The most versatile size
- Works well with tippets of 3 to 10 pound test
- Casts bushy #4 dries to 35 feet easily and is delicate enough to fish flies down to size #18 effectively
- Will throw #4 cork poppers or deer hair mice
- Has enough line mass to deliver large weighted nymphs to 60 feet and #10 unweighted flies to 90 feet

#### **#7 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered medium heavy
- Useful where windy conditions prevail
- Useful where exceptionally large flies are used
- Useful where trout over five pounds are normal
- Works poorly with tippets under 5 pound test
- Works best with tippets of 6 to 12 pound test
- Works best with flies #2 to #14
- Has enough line mass to deliver #6 fly to the length of the fly line

#### **#8 Weight Fly Rods**

- Considered heavy
- Very useful where trout average 6 to 15 pounds

- Will cast the largest trout flies
- Compatible with the heaviest trout tippets
- The best choice for very windy conditions
- Will cast to the longest ranges

### **Nymph Rods**

- Long rods are best for line control
- Lightweight rods are best for sensitivity
- 10' - #4 to #6 weight (our choice)

### **Dry Fly Rods**

- Casting accuracy prime factor
- Smooth fast action
- Delicate presentation

### **Reels**

The reel should balance in weight with the fly rod and make the whole outfit feel comfortable. Reels that are too heavy or too light are a distraction that can affect your casting and add to fatigue. Generally short rods balance better with lighter weight reels and longer rods with heavier ones.

Big trout love to backlash "first-cousin-to-the-tomato-can" fly reels. A backlash will end every fight in the trout's favor. Reels must be backlash-free at the lowest drag setting you will use. Disk drags are useful when using tippet sizes above the 4 pound test. However most disk type drags have too much inertial startup pressure at the lowest setting for fine tippets. Click-pawl type drag systems usually have the lowest inertial startup pressures.

Every reel should hold a minimum of 75 yards of backing. You won't need it for the average fish but you will need it for every fish of over 4 pounds. All of the appropriate size reels listed in [www.flyfishusa.com](http://www.flyfishusa.com) have passed the brute trout test many times.

Well made, machined fly reels can be fine examples of craftsmanship. Some are functional art work. The best are functional jewelry.

### **Fly Lines**

A clean fly line in good repair is essential to good line handling and performance. All Cortland LazerLines, 444 and 444SL fly lines, as well as Scientific Anglers Ultra III and Mastery Series and Wulff fly lines are great. Bright colored fly lines are great for fishing nymphs but can hinder your presentation to spooky fish in clear water. Be sure to select the right weight line to balance your rod.

Check out [Choosing the Right Fly Line](#)

### **Leaders and Tippet Material**

If you carry a complete selection of tapered leaders and fresh tippet material and have learned to tie good knots, your guide will have more time to spot fish for you. Knotless tapered leaders from Climax, Scientific Anglers and Umpqua are all proven.

If you would like to learn about different brands of leaders, go to - [Fly Leaders](#).  
If you would like to build your own leaders or have a better understanding of tapered leader design, check out - [About Fly Leaders](#).