

Stonefly Maidens
Ladies Fly Fishing
Club Newsletter
November 2002

AN OREGON COUNCIL-FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS MEMBER CLUB

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MEETING INFO:

**IMPORTANT—The meeting place has changed to the East Bank Saloon.
See the address below.**

This month's speaker is Dave Greaves of Cascade Guides & Outfitters in Sunriver. He will be speaking about fishing Oregon's High Cascade lakes. He does most of his guiding on East Lake, Crane Prairie Reservoir and Big Lava Lake. He also has quite a bit of experience on Davis Lake. Come and learn some secrets to catching lots of fish and big fish .

Next meeting: TUESDAY November 12, 2002

East Bank Saloon, Buffalo Room, 727 S.E. Grand (east end of the Morrison Bridge), Portland, Oregon, (503) 231-1659. Location map: <http://www.mapquest.com/EastBankSaloon>

6 PM, dinner and social hour

7 PM, presentation

If we have enough people at the meeting, we will raffle off a pair of women's wading boots and some casting lessons.

This month's fish-a-long:

No fish-a-long scheduled this month. Contact another member and invite her to go fishing with you.

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 \$18.00.

Fly Lines

The board is soliciting your input. We want to know how to increase membership and meeting attendance. Please take a few minutes and answer the question below. Your input is important to the direction of the club. You can bring this to the meeting with you or reply to this email and send it back to me.

What do you like about the meetings?

If you do not regularly attend, what is keeping you from attendance?

What do you want to get out of the meetings and club membership?

What night of the month is good for you to attend meetings?

Where would you prefer to have the club meetings? (Please be specific)

What type(s) of programs would you like to see?

Do you think the club should continue to exist?

Your input is very important to us. Please take a few moments to reply.

For all you who have been patiently listening to my steelhead trials and tribulations, good news! I finally caught my first steelhead. I caught a nice wild buck on the Deschutes. He wasn't a huge fish, but he was definitely a steelhead and now the dry spell is over—now for a winter steelhead.

Last month's fish-a-long didn't produce any fish, but Tracy, Terry, Jeff and I did have some do quite a bit of walking. We had an interesting conversation with the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad police. We got a reminder that "a person may not walk, ride, or travel across, along or upon railroad yards, tracks, bridges or rights of way at any location other than public crossings." (ORS 164.255) What this means for us is that anglers cannot cross or walk along railroad tracks to access fishing areas unless you cross at public crossings. When we talked to the BNSF police, we had parked at the railroad yard in Maupin and crossed the tracks to fish. We were trespassing which is a Class A misdemeanor. We didn't get tickets, just warnings—so I'm passing the warning on to you. If you want to fish the west bank of the Deschutes, get a boat.

The Deschutes River is not the only river that has railroad access. The Clackamas River has a few places where the railroad right of way is the only access, as do the Mackenzie and Willamette Rivers. So be careful out there.

I hope that all of you will attend the next meeting. Meetings are much more fun when we see lots of faces with whom we can share our fishing stories and learn new things with.

See you on the water and at the meeting,
Tilda

Fish-a-long Schedule

November None Scheduled

December None Scheduled

Goings on: Fly Shops and Events

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

December 1, 2002, Sunday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Fly Tying 101 - Basic Fly Tying

Learn the basics about fly tying materials and tools. Tie some flies that you can keep. **All materials and tools are provided free for this event. Instruction is free. So are the coffee and snacks. Bring snacks to share if you want to. Group Leader: Mark Meriwether**

December 8, 2002, Sunday, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Learn all about [Tying Tube Flies](#) for Winter Steelhead.

The program starts with a short slide presentation featuring productive methods for fishing tube flies for steelhead. All of the latest tubes, tube fly tying vises and materials used in the production of the local favorites will be available for sale. **The program and instruction are free. So are the coffee and snacks. Bring snacks to share if you want to. Bring your own tools, and materials. Group Leader: Mark Bachmann**

Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop – Maupin 541.395.2565

Call or visit the web site for more info. Give the shop a call to find out about their fall sales. We want to thank John Smeraglio for his generous donation of an Orvis Battenkill large arbor reel. We will be raffling it at the December meeting.

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.

Central Oregon Outfitters – Redmond

November 15, 16, 17, 2002 Deschutes River Clean-Up

Central Oregon Outfitters are sponsoring their annual Deschutes River clean-up and fishing trip from Trout Creek to Maupin. Donations are being taken for the float trip. Contact Central Oregon Outfitters for more information.

BOW

For next year's schedule, contact Nancy Smogor, BOW Program Coordinator, 503-827-5264 x 5358, email nancy.e.smogor@state.or.us, or Liz Kraitter, Registrar, 503-590-4240, email lizkraitter@aol.com for more information and registration or check out their website at www.dfw.state.or.us/outdoor_skills/bow.html

Tactics: Wind Drifting

by Scott Richmond , WestFly.com

On a big lake like Crane Prairie Reservoir, there's not much to stop the wind. On this cold late September day, it blew fitfully from a gray sky that held the threat of snow. I was wearing all the clothes in my bag, which kept the wind from stealing what warmth my body could generate.

But while the wind might be a thermal pick-pocket, it also provided a benefit: I was wind drifting with a fly rod, and it was never too long before I'd feel a little "stickiness" at the end of my line, followed by a strong pull and a hard-charging Crane Prairie rainbow ripping line off the reel.

Done right, wind drifting feels like cheating. To do it, use a full sinking line--on Crane Prairie, an intermediate line is usually the right choice--and a Woolly Bugger, damselfly nymph, or similar fly. Cast into the wind at about a 45 degree angle to your direction of travel. Now don't do anything. Just let the wind push you across the lake, dragging your fly behind you. Sometimes, trout will

slam the fly, but more often the takes feel like slight hesitations, like you just stuck a weed (often, of course, you have stuck a weed).

Wind drifting lets you cover an expanse of water, which is why it works well on large lakes like Crane Prairie and Davis. The last few years, Crane has had so much water that trout have seldom concentrated in the channels, where anglers are used to finding them. Instead, they have spread out in the main part of the lake, closer to the dam area. Wind drifting is a great tactic for covering more water and finding these fish.

The reason for casting at a 45 degree angle is so your fly will be presented in water that your boat or float tube has not passed over, so the fish are less likely to be spooked. After awhile, though, the fly will be trolling through water that your boat has drifted through. When that starts happening, retrieve the fly and make another cast. Some boat anglers will leave the fly in the water and use an electric motor to push themselves a few feet out of the way.

Sometimes the wind is blowing too strongly, and your fly will be moving unnaturally fast. If you're in a boat, you can slow your drift by using a small drogue, or sea anchor. Just toss it over the side (after tying it to the boat!), and the extra drag will slow you down.