

SOFF News

Vol.30 No.4 The Monthly Newsletter of The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Inc.

April 2023



SOFF NEWS

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Stafford
President

Dan Egleston
Vice- President

Rich Steed
Treasurer

Jan Knapik
Secretary

**Board Members
At Large**

Ken Heindsmann

Joe Knapik

Bill Burns

Damian McLean

Duane Chebul
Newsletter Editor
E-Mail: dchebul@centurylink.net

Members of the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers assist members of the State Fish and Wildlife in planting live steelhead in a local Stream.



Club members Hugo Godoy and Ken Heindsmann along with a dozen members of the 'Steelheaders' assist Ryan Battleson Fish and Game Biologist in planting live steelhead in Ewe Creek a tributary of Jumpoff Joe Creek.

**Dinner Reservations: E-mail - info@soff.org
or call the Club at (541) 955-4718**

SPECIAL MENTION

Bill Burns:
John Storfold:
Kevin Daniels:
John Smith:
Dave Grosjacques:
David Haight:
Brady Keister:
Dave Roberts:
Ed/Sandy Michalski:
John Storfold

Membership
Fly Tying Chair
Fly Tying Instructor
Programs
Habitat Chair
Outings Chair
SOFF Wear
OR Council IFFF Rep
Raffles
Project Healing Waters & Auction Chair



FROM THE BOARD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

Robert Stafford

Nothing of Note This Month

This 'n That On Habitat

by Ken Heindsmann

Tree Planting

SOFF volunteers have been busy supporting habitat projects in our area over the last few weeks. SOFF club President Bob Stafford, Habitat Chair

Dave Grosjacques, and seven other club members participated in a tree planting day on Cheney Creek. This work was one



Members of SOFF who came out for the annual fish toss on Taylor Creek.

component of a much more extensive effort being lead by Nathan Gehres, Habitat Restoration Manager for the Applegate Watershed Council (AWC). Four hundred plants/trees were planted by SOFF club members. Trees used were included Oregon Ash, Big Leaf Maple and Black Hawthorne; shrubs used were Snowberry, Nine bark, and Douglas Spirea.

One of the two planting areas club members worked on has been degraded by ATV users running their vehicles through prime spawning habitat, restoration of those areas has proved to be trying to say the least. In an earlier phase of the project, numerous earthen blockades “tank traps” were constructed and very large Volkswagen size boulders were brought in at great expense to block access points. Beyond those impediments,



More steelhead being placed in Ewe Creek by club members

AWC had a truckload of larger diameter trees strategically placed into Cheney Creek to build instream structure to support spawning. After those steps were completed the ATV users came in with chainsaws and other equipment and tore apart the stream work that had already been completed.

Annual Fish Toss

On the final Friday in February, SOFF volunteers met ODFW Fisheries STEP Biologist, Ryan Battleson for the annual fish-toss. Historically this in-

stream work has been focused on the east fork of Taylor Creek, given that the roads were icy in the Taylor Creek Canyon area, the decision was made to focus on the lower elevation areas of Quartz Creek. Ryan arrived with

a trailer load of semi-frozen “dead & stinky” steelhead carcasses. Our brave SOFF volunteers donned their protective clothing and proceeded to pry apart and distribute three large totes of fish cadavers along a 1.5 mile of Quartz Creek which required trooping through the snow down into the creek areas. Many of the volunteers were the same folks from the tree planting.

Live Fish Placement

Lastly, on March 3rd SOFF volunteers Hugo Godoy and Ken Heindsmann teamed up with a dozen members of the Middle Rogue Steelheaders

Continued on Pg. 3

ATTENTION!
Board Meeting
The Board of Directors
will meet in the conference room
of the Tap Rock Restaurant
The next meeting is scheduled:
April. 4th at 6:00pm or
the first Tuesday
of the month
All members welcome

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

May 18	Denny Richards
Jun 15	Marc Williamson
Jul 20	No Meeting
Aug 17	No Meeting
Sept 21	TBA
Oct 19	TBA
Nov 11	Club Auction
Dec 21	TBA

AuctionEleven Tips Cont. From Pg. 2

(MRS) to support Ryan Battleson's ongoing work to increase/improve steelhead numbers in the middle Rogue. Ryan arrived with a large truck carrying a state of the art "fish tank". Club members used cut-off wader legs (from old waders) to gently transport the fish down into three different areas on Ewe Creek, a tributary of Jumpoff Joe Creek. Ryan selectively netted buck/hen pairs to be introduced into three different spawning habitat areas to give these four year old hatchery stock the best opportunity for propagation. As Hugo and I drove away, we swore we heard the MRS club members playing guitars and gently singing to the newly placed fish to romantically enhance the spawning efforts.

Many thanks to all of the club volunteers who came out to build habitat in our area!



WHEN:

Apr. 20th, 2023



TIMES:

5:00 PM
Tying Begins
7:30 PM
Dinner
8:00 PM
Tying Resumes
Raffle

WHERE:

GP Golf Course
230 Espey Rd GP



Fly Tyer's Night

For your edification and enjoyment, John Storfold SOFF Fly Tying Chair, presents some of SOFF's, as well as Rogue Fly Fishers premier tyers demonstrating the art of fly tying. Many of these tyers have just returned from a successful engagement at the recently held Fly Tyers and Fly-Fishing extravaganza at the Linn County Fair Grounds in Albany where they demonstrated not only the classics, but also new patterns using new and unique materials and techniques. So, if you missed these tyers in Albany, not to worry as they will be encoring a repeat performance of their most successful patterns that are practically guaranteed to catch fish.

Tyers in Alphabetical Order

Tom Corbiere
Dave Grosjacques
Chuck Huntington
Tom McElhinny
Sha Orton
Dave Roberts
Mark Teeters
Bob Wolfe

Kevin Daniels
Cathy Hamilton
Dave Haight
Dave McCants
Gordy Prudencio
Randy Taylor
Rex Thompson



CASTING ABOUT

The poster features a central illustration of two golden beer mugs with thick white foam overflowing from the tops. Above the mugs are two stalks of wheat. The background consists of light grey diagonal rays emanating from behind the text. At the bottom, there are three white rectangular boxes containing event information.

SOUTHERN OREGON WOMEN ON THE FLY

PINT NIGHT

A FUNDRAISING EVENT

BEER - FOOD - RAFFLE

APRIL 13 HRL BREWERY & PUBBERY 5-8 PM

Continued on Page 7

OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Lake Selmac Outing April 12

The Lake Selmac Outing / Clinic, will be held on Wednesday, April 12th. We will meet at the south pavilion located near the Lake Selmac Disc Golf Course at 9:00.

We will meet and talk about basic Stillwater Tactics, equipment, and techniques, and provide some guidance for success when fishing Stillwaters.

Lake Selmac is located approximately 18 miles west of Grants Pass via Hwy 199. Once thru Selma you will turn left at Lakeshore Drive and travel south to the lake. Stay left and circle the east side of the lake. There are signs directing you to the Disc Golf Course.

Lake Selmac can be fished effectively from almost any fishing platform. Boats, personal pontoons, and float tubes will all work well. The lake is stocked in Spring and Fall with Rainbow Trout and has a well-established population of Largemouth Bass, Crappie and Bluegill. Fishing in the Spring can often be very good.

Fly rods from 3wt to 6wt are appropriate. Floating lines for indicator fishing and hover or intermediate lines are

best for stripping. Small Woolly Buggers and Soft Hackle flies work well stripping and Chironomid patterns and small

ny mphs such as Hare's Ears or Pheasant Tails and Balanced Leeches are very effective under an indica-



This Outing will be weather and conditions dependent. If you're going to attend, Please RSVP to Steve Day by calling (661) 742-5835 or emailing, icrsrd303@gmail.com. Outing updates will be provided.

Just received a note from Steve Day who advised that the outing to Selmac had been cancelled due to low waters in the lake and the anticipation of rain up to the day of the event. Steve said that he would try and reschedule the outing for a little later in the spring

Get Ready For Copeland Pond Outing

One of the club's most popular outings is the outing to Copeland's Pond. This year the outing is scheduled for May 6th and once again a large crowd is expected to take part.

Since this an outing where SOFF buys the food (hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks and all the condiments that go with it) the outings coordinator for this outing (Dan Egleston) needs to know how many are coming. So he asks that everyone planning on attending, contact him so he know how much water he needs to add to the soup.

Dan can be reached at 541 -659-78/90 or danegleston7@gmail.com.

Nor-Vise For Sale



I bought my GEN 2 Nor-Vise brass hub in 1998. It comes with a matching thread post and the smaller wheel jaws, and I've since added shank jaws. It should accommodate the current standard large and fine point jaws with no problem. I've been told it is a quick and easy fix to upgrade to a front hub that will except new components if desired. This vise comes with a base/storage box that is especially nice to have and the original VHS instruction tape. I've also included an original version of the auto bobbin which is still compatible with the current version of spools.

A dubbing table is an additional plus along with a hair stacker. I'm asking \$300 for the whole set up.

Also for sale is a box of materials including hooks, a large selection of hair, dubbing materials etc. for \$30.

Margie Brandon
541-601-2428



2023 Outings

May 6	Copeland Pond
May 17-20	Owyhee River Brown Trout
Jun 2-3	Lemolo Lake
Jun 9	Rogue Salmon Fly
Jun 17-18	Diamond Lake
Jul 12	Upper Klamath Lake
Aug 12-13	N. Umpqua Steelhead
Sep 8-10	Lava Lake

FLY TYING CORNER

Whitlock's Red Squirrel Nymph



- Hook:** TMC 5262 (this is a 2x long heavy nymph hook) in size 12 (can be tied in size 10-18)
- Thread:** Danville 6/0 in Orange.
- Tail:** Hareline Red Fox Squirrel Tail.
- Abdomen:** Whitlock's Red Fox Squirrel Abdomen Dubbing.
- Thorax:** Whitlock's Red Fox Squirrel Thorax Dubbing.
- Rib:** UNI French Oval in Small Gold (I Used Silver).
- Collar:** Hareline Partridge4 SWkin Feather.
- Weight:** .015 Lead Wire (or Lead Free).

Tying Instructions:

After you place the hook in the vice, wrap about 12 wraps of wire on the hook in the middle. Start your thread in front of the wraps and make a damn in front and behind the wire to secure it and keep it from sliding on the hook. Wrap more thread over the wire for added security. Now tie in the tail, it should be about 2/3 the hook shank. I did not have red fox squirrel so I used red fox. Move your thread to in front of the wire and tie in the ovel tinsel. Tie it down back to just in front of the tail. Now dub the abdomen up to the approximately 2/3 point and tie it off. Now spiral wrap the tinsel with open wraps up to the tie off point and tie off. Now Dub the thorax leaving room for the collar and tie off. Find a nice feather from the partridge and remove the fluff and tie in by the tip. Make about 1 1/2 to 2 wraps and tie off leaving room for a fair size head. Whip finish and use head cement or UV resin to finish. Your choice.

This fly was originally tied by Dave Whitlock in the early 60's. Get it wet and go catch one. Not having used this fly yet I don't have first hand knowledge but it looks like a great fly for more than on species. I would not be surprised to see it work on trout, pan fish and bass.

Enjoy

Fly Tied by John Storfold

Correction: Last month's fly, The Amitie, was wrongly credited to John Storfold. Credit should have gone to Tom Corbiere who was the actually tyer of the fly.

John Storfold

Fly Tying Chair

541-660-6584

steelyjohn@charter.net



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

Membership Form

- Regular.....\$35.00
- Family.....\$45.00
- Youth.....\$10.00
- Contributing.....\$50.00
- Lifetime (Individual).....\$350.00
- Lifetime (Couple).....\$450.00

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: Home () _____ Work: () _____
 Email: _____
 Personal interests: _____

Renewal: _____ New: _____



CHANGING LINES

COMING EVENTS

- 4-11 SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 4-20 Club Meeting - Fly Tyers Night.
- 5-2 Board Meeting
- 5-6 Club Outing - Copeland's Pond
- 5-6 Beginning Fly Fishing Clinic at Reinhart Park
- 5-9 SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 5-18 Club Meeting - Danny Rickards
- 5-17-20 Club Outing - Owyhee River

Editor's Notebook Cont. From Pg. 8



Tom Corbiere at the vise at the Expo



Dave Grosjacques also at the vise at Albany

your dinner reservation, you can do so by calling the club's answering machine at 541 955-4718 and leaving your information.



It is with great sadness that I report on the death of a club member as well as the passing of the wife of a club member.

The club member who passed was James (Jim) Mahaffie. Jim, a long-time club member died on March 17th. There will be a memorial service for Jim on Saturday, April 15th at 2:00 pm at Calvary Lutheran Church in Grants Pass.

Jim, may you have a warm sun on your face, a gentle breeze at your back and the right fly for all of heaven's streams. Tight lines old friend.

The wife of the club member that passed was Gayle Archuleta, the wife of Bill Archuleta. Gayle passed away on Saturday, April 8th. As of this time it is unknown if there are any services planned.

Gayle, may your trials and tribulations of this life be replaced by the well being and joy of heaven's eternal garden.

Pint Night Continued from Pg 4

Pint Night Fundraiser

Southern Oregon Women on the Fly is overwhelmingly excited to announce our first fundraising event!

Please join us in community as we raise funds to expand our gear closet.

When: Thursday, April 13th, 5-8pm

Where: HRL Brewery & Pubbery - 1100 N. Central Ave, Medford.

5:00 - 8:00pm Eats & Drinks
8:00pm Raffle Drawing

Our mission of SOWOTF is to reduce barriers to entry and we have identified gear as one of the biggest barriers. We hope to help women get started in fly fishing without the large financial investment. Raising funds to expand our gear closet will help us fulfill this mission.

Drop by anytime between 5-8pm on Thursday, April 13th to chat, enjoy a drink, and purchase raffle tickets! Raffle drawing will start at 8pm, but you do not need to be present to win. Raffle prizes for local pickup only. We have some amazing donors and sweet prizes - stay tuned for more info.





P.O. Box 1144
Grants Pass, Oregon
97528
E-Mail: www.soff.org

NON PROFIT ORG
U.S POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 420
Medford, OR



Editor's Notebook

March 10th and 11th was truly a momentous occasion for me as the 2023 Fly Tying and Fly-Fishing exhibition held forth after a hiatus of three years. How grand it was to walk the aisles looking at fly tyers of every stripe and discipline. If you're a fly tyer or just someone who enjoys seeing the end results of these tyers then the event was something not to be missed. Just imagine being able to view and talk to some 200 tyers over the two days that were all artists.

From the smallest dry fly or nymph to warm water bass bugs, to steelhead and Atlantic salmon patterns, they were all represented. How fantastic It was to walk

down the rows of tyers and like a bee, flit from tyer to tyer stopping



2023 Expo memorabilia

to watch the construction of patterns that really struck your fancy and then moving on to yet another tyer. For a fly tying junky, it doesn't get much better than that.

If you didn't attend that show in Albany, you certainly missed a

lot, but not to despair. As some of the same tyers who were tying at the Fly-tying show will be reprising their efforts at the annual fly tyers night club meeting. John Storfold, the club's fly-tying chair, has enlisted some of our club members as well as the Rogue club members to come on out and show us their expertise at the vise. It should be a fun and educational night and one not to be missed.

Reservations for the April dinner meeting are due by Noon, Monday, April 17th. Dinner reservations can be made by going to the club's website www.soff.org and clicking on the dinner reservations button or if you'd rather call in

Continued on Pg. 7