

# SOFF News

Vol.30 No.11 The Monthly Newsletter of The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Inc.

Nov, 2023



## SOFF NEWS

A publication of  
**Southern Oregon Fly Fishers**  
P.O. Box 1144  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97528  
Web Site: [www.soff.org](http://www.soff.org)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Duane Chebul**  
Newsletter Editor  
E-Mail: [dchebul@centurylink.net](mailto:dchebul@centurylink.net)

**It's about time! Southern Oregon Fly Fishers have moved into the modern era. After years of trying, SOFF has finally worked out a deal in which Credit and Debit cards will be accepted using PayPal Credit**



No longer will you have to remember to bring a check or have enough cash with you when pay for your dinner at the monthly meetings as from now on the club has made arrangements through Paypal Credit to accept members Credit or Debit for payment. See more in the following pages.

**Dinner Reservations: E-mail - [info@soff.org](mailto: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:**  
**Vacant**  
**Dave Roberts:**  
**Vacant**  
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# FROM THE BOARD



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

**Robert Stafford**

### Making Dinner Reservations and Paying With Your Credit or Debit Card

The Club must provide the Wild River Pub a headcount for dinners by the Friday before the meeting. In the past our policy has been that payment for dinner is to be made in cash or a check at the meeting. Duane sends out an email meeting notice requesting you submit your reservation by phone, email or through our website. A couple of problems are ongoing. Some people do not make reservations and show up expecting to be able to pay for dinner. Other people make reservations and do not show up. Often the result is a wash – those without reservations cover the no shows, and the head count works out OK. The downside is if more people show up without reservations than do not show up there may not be enough food. The other side of the equation is that the no-shows outnumber the no-reservations, and we must pay for unserved meals that were guaranteed.

Interest in paying for dinner with either a credit card or debit card is increasing. We are becoming a cashless economy. A number of our members have asked for the capability to pay with their card.

To deal with these issues, we have made arrangements to provide you with a means of paying for your dinner reservation with your credit card or debit card. If you go to our website – [www.soff.org](http://www.soff.org) and click on the Click Here To Make Dinner Reservations!! You will be taken to the reservations page. Here you can click on the SOFF Credit/Debit Card Dinner Reservation link. You will then be taken to a page where you can select the number of reservations you would like to make and click on Add. You will then be asked to enter Your first and last names and your email address. Then you will be asked to proceed to Pay-Pal checkout. When you click on that button you are taken to the Pay-Pal site. Pay-Pal has been selected

*If you go to our website – [www.soff.org](http://www.soff.org) and click on the Click Here To Make Dinner Reservations!! You will be taken to the reservations page. Here you can click on the SOFF Credit/Debit Card Dinner Reservation link.*

to be our merchant services provider.

At the Pay-Pal site one of two things will happen. If you have a Pay-Pal account using the same email address, you just entered Pay-Pal will open your Pay-Pal wallet and show the cards you have set up for Pay-Pal payments. You can select which card you want to use, and the transaction will be processed. If you want to use a card not registered in Pay-Pal, you can select the option to use another card and complete the transaction. If you do not have a Pay-pal account using the email address, you entered on the previous screen Pay-Pal will treat you as a guest payee and will provide a screen where you can enter your card information and complete the transaction.

Shortly after your transaction is

processed you will receive an email invoice showing a paid transaction. Your card will have been charged at this point.

So why are we doing this? First to satisfy member demand for the capability. Second, to get a better handle on meal reservation count. Third, to reduce or eliminate the need to collect payment for dinner at the meeting reducing accounting and reconciliation work. Finally, to deal with the no-show problem. If you have skin in the game, you are more likely to show up.

We will continue to accept reservations by phone, email or through the webpage and accept payment at the door. If you show up at the door without a reservation, we have a policy in place to charge \$30 for the dinner. We will not be accepting payment by credit card or debit card at the door at this time. Check or cash only at the door.

We are working to provide the same type of card payment capability for paying your dues. The Board will be considering whether to use an invite or an invoice approach. As with dinner payment the cash or check option will continue.

**ATTENTION!**  
**Board Meeting**  
**The Board of Directors**  
**will meet in the conference room**  
**of the Tap Rock Restaurant**  
**The next meeting is scheduled:**  
**Nov 7th at 6:00pm or**  
**the first Tuesday**  
**of the month**  
**All members welcome**

# PROGRAMS

## Future Programs

Nov 21	David Paul Williams
Dec 19	30th Anniversary
Jan 16	Dale Burrier
Feb 20	Steve Day
Mar 19	Greg Hucko
Apr 16	Fly Tyers Night
May 21	Yancy Lind
Jun 18	Marc William

## Changes Are Coming

Changes are coming to the club! Among the many things that are changing is the annual auction. In the past the auction was always conducted in November, but after an absence of three years plus, the board has decided to change when the auction would be held. Not only has the date of the auction been changed from November to February, but the format has also been changed. No longer will we have the traditional oral and silent auctions, but we'll join the current trend of many non-profits and have an on-line form of auction. No longer would we have to find a venue large enough to house both the oral and silent auctions and before the auction was held, we would have to move all those items from storage and set them up prior to the event. Added to that was the cost of auction alone - \$1800 for the auctioneer, the cost of credit card payments incurred by the auctioneer and the free meals for the auctioneer and her staff. All together we were in the hole over \$2000 just to hold the auction.

By having an on-line auction, each item would be cataloged and photographed and uploaded on-line and thereby reaching those members that don't attend as well as non-members that would like to bid on items that they have viewed. A win-win situation for all those involved.

The auction mechanics may have changed regarding the auction; how-

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## WHEN:

Nov 21st, 2023



## TIMES:

5:30 PM

Social Hour and  
Fly Tying Demo.

6:30 PM

Meeting

7:00 PM

Dinner and Program

## WHERE:

Wild River Pub  
533 NE F St. G.P.



## David Paul Williams - Washington Fly Fishing



David Paul Williams caught his first trout while Ike was President and still admires these lovely fish. Author of Fly Fishing for Western Smallmouth (Stackpole Books), he has written about trout, salmon, bass, shad and carp for numerous magazines including Fly Fisherman, American Angler, Northwest Fly Fishing, Fly Fusion, Flyfishing & Tying Journal, Bassmaster, Salmon-Trout-Steelheader, Salmon Steelhead Journal, Backpacker, Northwest Travel, Seattle Magazine. He is a Department Editor of Flyfishing & Tying Journal, the "In The Field" editor for Washington-Oregon Game & Fish magazine and gives entertaining media presentations to fishing clubs and outdoor organizations. He is a demonstration fly tier and speaker at numerous fly fishing expos and sportsmen's shows. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Fly Fishers International and Editor-In-Chief of Flyfisher magazine as well as past secretary and former newsletter editor of the Washington Council FFI.

Williams will speak to us on "Washington Fly Fishing: From Desert to Salt." A lifetime of choices await fly anglers in Washington. Williams will begin with Desert Lakes and end with Puget Sound Beaches. He will cover the lakes and rivers between those two extremes. He will also include information about the Olympic Peninsula Rivers.

# CASTING ABOUT

## 2024 Auction

**S**outhern Oregon Fly Fishers has historically held a fund-raising auction whose receipts have been used to support various projects and charitable entities. The last auction was held in November of 2019. That event netted \$18,108.45. Covid arrived in December 2019. With limitations on group gatherings, we suspended meetings. It was the board's intent to have an auction in November 2022. A combination of reduced member activity and an economic turndown affecting our donor base led to a decision to defer the auction until November 2023. The Board has reduced expenses to a bare bones level, which has seriously impacted our programs and donations to our traditional recipients. We have essentially been operating on a cash flow basis. The intent of the November 2023 auction was to raise sufficient funds to permit return to our pre-covid level of operations.

Auctions are major undertakings requiring leadership, willing members to solicit donations, a venue and member participation in the event. Covid and ensuing situations put a dent in each of these components. As a result, the Board made a decision in our October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to not hold an auction in November, rescheduling it until February, 2024 and to abandon the live/silent auction format we have used for years in favor of an on-live format.

Many charitable organizations have relied on auctions and raffles for years as their primary

fund-raising mechanism. There has been a major shift from traditional live auction and raffle events to on-line events. The overhead costs are much lower, resulting in a higher net return on item sales. Our net return in 2019 was 65% of our gross receipts. Using a live auction format, the net receipts should approach 90% of the gross receipts.

This shift to on-line auctions has spawned a non-profit charitable fund-raising sector in the software industry. There are many programs available. Some are scaled to our operational size and are priced to be cost effective. Many claim to be free and focus on transferring the cost of using the software to the bidder by soliciting an additional donation to cover those costs. Some also transfer the merchant service fees for collecting payment using credit and debit cards to the bidder. There is no free lunch.

In deciding to go on-line we set some parameters. We did not want our bidders being solicited for additional money to cover the cost of their transactions. We did want to continue to offer credit and debit card payment options as well as cash and check. We wanted to be able to reach an audience beyond our immediate membership. We also wanted to automate the auction setup, bidding process and fulfillment functions as much as possible.

After researching several products, we selected biddingowl.com. There is no purchase price for this

product, no event fees, no monthly or annual subscription costs. There is a straight 5% of high bid price charge. Merchant Services will be provided by PayPal and we have set up a non-profit account with them wherein they charge 1.99% of the transaction plus \$0.49 per transaction. This compares to their 3.99% and \$0.49 per transaction fees for commercial accounts. Another condition we sought was that a bidder would not have to provide credit card information to a software company as a qualification to be a bidder. All exchange of credit and debit card numbers take place after the auction close and is between the successful bidder and PayPal.

At their October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the Board decided that a November auction date was not feasible for a variety of reasons. Their decision was to hold the Auction in February. One on-line auction attribute is that the open bidding period can cover several days.

The tentative auction dates are from 12 PM, Friday, February 16 until 11:59PM, Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our February meeting date is Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Our plan is to have Board members available with computers to assist in and encourage online bidding during the meeting. We will also be getting bidders registered at the January meeting so they can begin bidding when the auction opens.

An on-line auction is basically a

Continued on Pg. 7

# OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

## Frequently Asked Questions Regarding The New Credit and Debit Card System

As we put the new credit/debit card system into effect, there are probably many questions in the minds of the membership on how to use the new system. The following are a few questions and answers to make hopefully to make the implementation a little easier.

### The editor

Q. Do I need a PayPal account to pay with my credit or debit card using this feature?

A. You do not need a PayPal account. PayPal has a guest payment capability. If you do have a PayPal account and have a credit and/or debit card registered to make payments with, and you use the same email address that is registered in your PayPal account, when you click on check out with PayPal, PayPal will open your wallet page and permit you to select which card to use for the payment. This is a good reason to have a PayPal account.

Q. What happens if I do not have a credit card or debit card?

A. You will always have the option of paying at the door with cash or check.

Q. Will I be able to pay at the door for dinner with my credit or debit card?

A. Not immediately. It is possible

we can have a computer available at the door with an attendee to assist you in making your payment and will be considering this.

Q. Will I be able to pay my dues through Pay Pal?

A. We are working on this and hope to be able to announce it at the November meeting.

Q. What happens if I pay in advance with my credit or debit card and then am not able to make the meeting.

A. The Board will be considering how to handle refunds. It will consider if advance notification is required, or if an extenuating circumstance request will be considered. They will also determine the amount of the refund, which will be reduced by the merchant Services fees charged on the transaction.

Q. If I have prepaid my reservation and I cannot attend, can I transfer my reservation to another party?

A. You can but the transaction will be between you and that party. The Party will need to identify themselves as your replacement at the door.

Q. How safe am I in giving my credit or debit card information to PayPal?

A. The transaction will take place on an https:// secure server. Pay-Pal has a good reputation in the merchant services business. You are far more likely to have your credit or debit card information compromised by giving the information to a vendor or the phone or in an unencrypted email.

Q. How much is this service going

to cost us?

A. We have a non-profit account with Pay-Pal where we pay them 1.99% of the transaction value plus \$0.49 per transaction. On your meal purchase this amounts to \$0.99. This is compared to a commercial account rate of 3.49% and \$0.49 per transaction. At this point in time, we are not considering raising the price of the meal to account for it. Just buy another \$5 worth of raffle tickets.

Q. Will the amount we earn in the auction be reduced by these merchant service fees?

A. Yes. However, in the past we have reimbursed the auctioneer at her commercial account rate of 3.49% on all credit card transactions so our turn on a credit card auction transaction will be improved by 1.5%. By going to an on-line auction, we are hoping to reduce our auction overhead costs from 35% to around 10%.

Q. When will I have to start paying for my dinner reservation with my credit or debit card?

A. It is the board's intent to continue to provide cash or check payment at the door for dinner reservations. It is also the board's intent to begin to enforce the \$30 meal cost for payment at the door with no reservation.



### 2023 Outings

Nov 4 Four Mile Lake -  
Lake Trout

### 2024 Outings

Has yet to be published

# FLY TYING CORNER

## October Caddis



- Hook:** Streamer Hook Size 8.
- Thread:** Vevvus 8/0 in Orange or Your Favorite Brand.
- Tail:** Burnt Orange Marabou.
- Abdomen:** Burnt Orange Marabou.
- Thorax:** Diamond Brite Rootbeer Dubbing.
- Rib:** I used Silver Holographic Tinsel.
- Collar:** Burnt Orange Tyed Guinea.

### Tying Instructions:

I have watched a few other people tie this fly but I did not have all the same material that was demonstrated but here is the fun part of fly tying, you don't have to follow the recipe exactly to fool the fish or the fisherman.

Thus the recipe above is my version. Hope you like it. This is a wet streamer version of the caddis intended to be swung or stripped.

After de-barbing the hook and placing it in the vice, dress the hook with your thread and with the bobbin at or near the midpoint of the hook tie in your tinsel and secure it on the shank ending up with the bobbin just in front of the bend of the hook. Take your marabou, wet it to make it mor manageable. Now tie it in making a tail about a hook gap past the end of the hook. With a few good tight wraps lift the remaining feather up and wrap the thread in front of the tie in point and up to where we want to make our thorax, about 2/3 the way up the hook. Now twist the stem of the marabou making a marabou rope and wrap up the shank with touching wraps to the 2/3 point and secure. Now take the tinsel and counter wrap the abdomen with about 3-4 open wraps and secure. Make a dubbing noodle or use a dubbing loop and dub your thorax, leaving space behind the eye for the collar. Make a fair size dubbing ball that will help hold the collar from collapsing on the hook in the water. Take a guinea feather with barbules that will reach back, no longer than to bend of the hook. Tie it in by the tips and make 2-3 wraps and secure taking care not to trap more hackle as you tie it down. Tie off and using the thread, make a few wraps to make a nice but fairly small head. Whip finish and cut off your thread. Use head cement or UV resin to finish the fly. This is up to the tier. I do it to ensure all my work does not prematurely come unraveled on the first fish.

Enjoy!

Fly Tyed By: John Storfold

**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

- 11-4 Club Outing - Four Mile Lake
- 11-7 Board Meeting
- 11-13 SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 11-21 Club Meeting - David Paul Williams
- 12-5 Board Meeting
- 12-12 SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 12-19 Club Meeting - Club's 30th Anniversary.
- 1-1 Club Outing - Holy Water Chili Feed.
- 1-2 Board Meeting.

### Editor's Notebook Cont. From Pg. 8

surcharge for dinner. Also, before their dinner payment is accepted, a determination will be made by the person collecting for dinner as to whether that person will exceed our 10% overage of prepared meals. This is necessary to ensure that those members making reservations are not shortened on their meal portions.

Let's see, is there anything else? Yes, there is! Dues will be going up in January. The club's dues have been the same for the last 20 years and costs have risen considerably in that time. So, beginning in January, dues for a single person will be going up 5 dollars from \$35 to \$40 and family dues are going up \$5 dollars from \$45 to \$50.

As usual, membership chair, Bill Burns advice that those members paying their dues before January 1<sup>st</sup> will be entered into a raffle for a new rod. Those members paying their dues with PayPal before February 1st will also be entered into a separate raffle for a prize yet to be determined. There you go get those dues in early for a chance of winning a new rod and by February 1<sup>st</sup> using PayPal for a chance at another prize.

### Changes Continued from Pg. 3

ever, the need for items to be auctioned off remains the same. The auction committee has done an outstanding job soliciting items both new and gently used, but they can't do it all. This is where the membership comes in. In the past, one of the things the membership could be justly proud of was the way they responded to our annual fund-raising auction. Whether it was the silent or oral auction, they could be counted on for either soliciting items from business acquaintances, friends, or other sources. This combination of auction committee and membership always ensured that there would a diverse group of items that would almost guarantee a successful fund-raiser.

The auction is in February which is little more than four months off and will be here before we know it. So, this is why it is essential that donations be solicited and returned to the auction committee as soon as possible. If you have something, contact President Bob Stafford or one of the other board members and advise them you have an item(s) for the auction and arrangements will be made to pick the item up.

Help us to help the club and we'll all benefit!



### 2024 Auction Continued

computerized silent auction. There is no auctioneer soliciting bids. One significant difference is the ability to place proxy bids. You can place an initial bid and set a maximum bid. When someone outbids you, the system will raise your bid by the minimum bid increment. If that runs the other bidder off you will get the item for less than your maximum bid. If a bid exceeds your maximum bid, you will be notified by email and text message. You will also be notified any time you are outbid. The successful bidder will also be notified by text message and email. The successful bidder will be invoiced by biddingowl and directed to the PayPal site to pay with credit or debit card. If you want to pay with cash or check you will be directed to call the Auction Manager to arrange payment and pickup or delivery of the item.

There will be some biddable/buy it now items, including club shirts and hats. There will probably be some cup raffles. Items will be available for local pickup, delivery or mailing/shipment, depending on the nature of the item shortly following the auction close.

The Board is excited about this move. It had become apparent that we would probably never be able to put on another live auction. We cannot continue to function on dues, raffle revenue and donations. We have avoided tapping our reserves, but we need to get back to raising discretionary funds. Your support and participation in this on-line auction will be appreciated.



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Grants Pass, Oregon  
97528  
E-Mail: [www.soff.org](http://www.soff.org)

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## Editor's Notebook

Over the years, the club operated on a strictly cash basis, except for the annual auction when we accepted credit/debit cards and that was by using the auctioneer's account. Too many times members and potential members asked if we accepted credit/debit cards for routine matters such as paying dues or dinner costs and we had to decline because of the costs involved to accept such cards.

Well things are changing. After an absence of almost four years, due to the Covid bug, the club was preparing for its annual auction only to learn that the costs to conduct a live auction would be almost \$2000. When no other options seemed available, it was decided that we would conduct our own auction, only this would be an online auction. Checking around, we found an app. called Bidding Owl. One of the benefits of this app. is that it would accept Pay-

Pal and that as an added benefit PayPal could be used for routine matters.

So, beginning with the last club meeting, the club is now accepting PayPal credit for paying for dinners and the payment of dues and any other routine matters in which payment is required.

To see how to sign up to use PayPal, I refer you other articles in this newsletter.

Now on to other matters. Over the last several months, we have had members making a reservation for dinner and then not attending. For whatever reason, since moving back to the Wild River Pub, this has become even more troublesome.

Several days before each meeting, we are required to give a head count to the restaurant which is a firm guarantee of the number of people to prepare for. Regardless of the number attending dinner if it is less than the guaran-

tee, the club is responsible for making up the difference.

At the October meeting, there were 32 reservations, but only 28 of those making a reservation showed up which in effect made the club responsible for those four dinners which cost the club \$100.

It was decided by the board that due to a lack of funds we could no longer subsidize the cost of the no shows. A decision was made to allow for one no show for cause, but after that the member would either be charged for the missed dinner or required to use the PayPal option to pay for future dinners.

Another thing, we are experiencing an increasing number of walk-ins for dinner at the meetings. So, beginning with the November meeting all those wanting dinner without a reservation will be charged an extra \$5.00

Continued on Pg. 7