

SOFF News

Vol. 25 No. 8 The Monthly Newsletter of The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Inc.

August, 2018



SOFF NEWS

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

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It is the summer months and as usual SOFF'ers see another season of fires and destruction. Here the Garner fire burns its way thru Taylor Canyon and decimates the area.



A ODF So/West Dist Photo

Smoke from the Garner Complex Fire rises skyward announcing yet again a run away fire ravishing the area of Taylor Creek and its environs. These fires decimate the trees and brush in the area, and destroy the wildlife and fisheries that reside there. We can only hope that some of the fish spawned there as well as wildlife living there will be able to escape.

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

SPECIAL MENTION

Bill Burns:

John Storfold:

Kevin Daniels:

Kevin Reiten:

John Storfold:

David Haight:

Sue Keeling:

Dave Roberts:

Ed/Sandy Michalski:

John Storfold

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FROM THE BOARD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

Dave Grosjacques

Fishing the Umpqua

In this month's column I will spotlight the fisheries of the Umpqua River. The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers sponsor three outings each year to different sections of the Umpqua system. Our Cow Creek outing in February for winter steelhead, our Lemolo Lake outing in May for trout and our main Umpqua outing for smallmouth in August are all trips to the Umpqua Basin.

The Umpqua River has three main sections: the Main River, the North Umpqua and the South Umpqua. The river runs into the ocean at Winchester Bay, near Reedsport. A large tributary is the Smith River, which enters the Umpqua just upstream from Reedsport. The North and South Umpqua combine to form the Main River at River Forks Park, a few miles northwest of Roseburg. Highway 38 follows the Main Umpqua upstream to Scottsburg and Elkton, where it heads northeast to join Interstate 5 near Drain. At Elkton, Highway 138 starts and follows the river upstream for a distance before it joins the freeway at Sutherlin. It then follows the North Umpqua all the way upstream from Roseburg to the Lemolo / Diamond Lake area.

The section of the Umpqua from Reedsport up through Scottsburg and Elkton is known for spring and fall Chinook fishing, as well as winter steelhead. Some anglers go after striped bass, sturgeon and shad as

well. The river here is pretty big, so a boat is needed to fish it. From Elkton up to River Forks Park there is also fishing for salmon and steelhead in the winter and spring, but the big fishery in the summer is for smallmouth bass. Access is good, with several day use areas and boat ramps. David Haight is leading our August outing to this part of the river for small-

mouth bass. Heading upstream the North Umpqua goes east, with Winchester Dam near the spot where Interstate 5 crosses it. The river

runs through the town of Glide, and the world famous fly fishing only section starts a few miles upstream at Deadline Falls, near Rock Creek. The fly only section has excellent access from Highway 138, with several campgrounds and day-use areas along the river. This part of the North is legendary for the summer steelhead fishery for fly anglers. The upper end of the fly only section is at Soda Springs. The river from Soda Springs up to Lemolo Dam is open for trout fishing, but access is difficult, because Highway 138 continues to Diamond Lake and gets away from the river. There are some logging roads that provide some access to this part of the river, but in most cases you are going to have to do some hiking to get to it. The outlet from Diamond Lake is called Lake Creek, and it runs into Lemolo Reservoir.

The South Umpqua goes from River Forks Park up through Roseburg, Winston, Myrtle Creek and Canyonville. The section from the forks up to Canyonville is known for an excellent run

of winter steelhead. It can also be good for smallmouth bass in the summer months. A large tributary of the South is Cow Creek, which has a run of wild, winter steelhead. The SOFF outing is to the upper section of Cow Creek, from the deadline at Middle Creek all the way down to Doe Creek, near Riddle. Heading upstream from Canyonville

the South Umpqua goes east, through the small communities of Days Creek and Tiller. This is also winter steelhead country, but access is poor

because the river runs through private land the entire way from Canyonville to Tiller along Highway 227. Above Tiller access is better, with the upper part near the deadline at Jackson Creek getting into the Umpqua National Forest. The river above Jackson Creek and all tributaries are closed to all angling the entire year. Trout fishing is allowed on the South and tributaries down-

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An angler spey casting for steelhead on the North Umpqua.

Western Rivers Photo

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

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

Aug 21	No Meeting
Sep 18	Jeff Putnam
Oct 16	TBA
Nov 10	Annual Auction
Dec 18	John Shewey
Jan 15	TBA
Feb 19	TBA
Mar 19	TBA

President's Message Cont. From Pg. 2

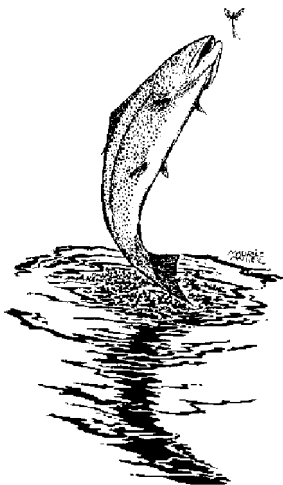
stream from Jackson Creek, with flies and lures only and catch and release rules. This part of the river gets pretty warm in the summer months, so trout fishing is not very good.

So get out and give the beautiful Umpqua a try. As I mentioned above, fly fishing for summer steelhead, smallmouth bass and winter steelhead can be a lot of fun on certain parts of the river if you hit it at the right time. Make sure to check the Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations for dates, dead-lines and fishing methods before you go.

Wanted

Mark Swanburg sends word that he is looking to purchase a Fishing Buddy portable fish finder and was wondering if any of our members are interested in selling one?

If so the best phone# for Mark is (541) 659-7116. Thanks.



WHEN:
Sept. 8, 2018



TIMES:
9:00AM
Steelhead Clinic
Spey
Casting & Fly Tying
Demonstrations and In-
structions
2:30 PM
Lunch is Served
First Annual Fall BBQ

WHERE:
Touvelle Park



ROGUE FLYFISHERS and SOUTHERN OREGON FLYFISHERS FIRST ANNUAL FALL BBQ SEPTEMBER 8TH, TOUVELLE PARK

The Event will begin at 9:00 a.m. with a riverside Steelhead Clinic presented by David Haight. This will be followed by a Casting Clinic and Instruction for single hand and two handed casting presented by John MacDairmid.

Fly Tying Demonstrations and Instruction will be provided throughout the Event by several Club Members.

The meal will be served around 2:30 and will include BBQ'd Tri-Tip, beans, salads, roasted jalapenos and tortillas.

Chilled bottled water will be included.

The cost for attending this event is only \$5.00 per person.

RSVP's must be made by September 4th to Steve Day by calling (661) 742-5835 (afternoons only) or by emailing to icrsrd303@gmail.com.

Come join the fun!

CASTING ABOUT

Tropical Depression Photo Potpourri

Photos by Rich & Jeannie Steed and Russ & Lucky Leavitt

Last month we had the adventures of Rich and Jeannie Steed, Russ and Lucky Leavitt and Joe and Jan Knapik as they visited Cuba both as tourists and fly fishers. As you may remember they went all that way to Cuba to have the fishing portion wiped out by a Tropical Depression that lashed the island as they tried to fish.

Although, unfortunately for them, they were affected by the weather, and still they were able to get in a couple of days of fishing.

Here then is a potpourri of some photos that didn't have room in the original article.

The Editor



Russ Leavitt with a nice Tarpon.



Not too be undone, Rich and Jeannie Steed have their own Tarpon.



It may not be big, but Rich Steed is making sure his barracuda isn't getting away.



Guest of honor at the group's last dinner



Lucky Leavitt with a Cuban Jack.



Something very little seen in Cuba - an American Flag. This one is aboard Ernest Hemmingway's boat which is part of the Hemmingway compound.

OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

August Outing to the Umpqua River

On August 25, the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will head north to the Umpqua River to fish for smallmouth bass. Bass are extremely abundant in the mainstem Umpqua and South Umpqua and can provide fast action for anglers. Many of the fish tend to be small, but big ones are not uncommon.

We will meet in the parking lot of the Diamond Home Improvement store on 7th Street near the north I-5 interchange in Grants Pass at 7:00 AM and carpool from there. We will float a section of the river just

west of Sutherland between the Umpqua and James Wood Boat Ramps. If you have a driftboat, pontoon boat, or other craft suitable for use on a river, bring it. This is generally a pretty easy float, but there are a few shallow, rocky

riffles that require some maneuvering. We will try to find a place in a boat for those who don't have one, but we will also have maps available of locations to fish from the bank. For those that don't feel comfortable or don't have a boat suitable for running through rapids, it is possible to fish the big pool at Umpqua with a float tube or small lake boat, entering and exiting the river at that one ramp.

A five or six-weight rod is ideal for the smallmouth bass in the Umpqua. An intermediate or slow-sinking line is most useful, but also bring a floating line if you want to fish surface

flies. Straight 8 to 10-pound monofilament is adequate for a leader. A wide variety of flies will work, but Woolly Buggers, Clouser Minnows, and small streamers are generally top producers. If conditions are right, small poppers can produce some exciting action. Olive, brown, and yellow are typically good colors. A small, brown over yellow Clouser Minnow is often a very effective fly. Be sure to bring food, plenty of water, sunscreen, a hat, and all your usual fishing and boating gear.

While many of our local fisheries slow down during the heat of summer, the smallmouth bass fishery in the Umpqua is going strong, making it a great

destination for fly fishers during July and August. If you have not fished the Umpqua for bass, come give it a try. If you have, come spend a fun day fishing with your fellow club members.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Howard Prairie Recap

By Kevin Reiten

Sadly only 4 of us turned out for the outing at Howard Prairie. There was a haze of smoke on the lake but not as bad as down here in the valley. Smallmouth bass were biting, and a couple of very small largemouth bass were also landed. I managed to land a



Dave Haight with a nice Smallmouth Bass taken on a recent outing to the Umpqua.



Kevin Reiten with a nice smallmouth bass taken at the recent Howard Prairie Outing.

pair of decent bass in the 14.5 to 15.5 inch range on my 2 weight which was crazy fun! Sailboats were having races in the afternoon which was fun to watch.

2018 Outings

Aug 25	Umpqua Smallmouth with Dave Haight
Sept 8	Steelhead Clinic with Dave Haight
Oct 20	Middle Rogue Steelhead with Dave Haight
Nov 3-4	Coastal Chinook with Dave Haight
Jan 1	Holy Water Chili



FLY TYING CORNER

Barber Pole Perdigon



- Hook:** Size 16-20 Standard Nymph Hook. You can use Jig hooks also.
- Bead:** Size 2.4/2.3mm brass copper or Gold Bead for Size 16, Size 2.0mm for Size 18 and 20 Hooks. Use Tungsten Beads if using weighted Flies or Slotted Tungsten if using a Jig Hook.
- Thread:** Burnt Orange Ultra (70 Denier).
- Tail:** Pearl Midge Krystal Flash.
- Rib:** Small White Wire.
- Body:** Burnt Orange Ultra Thread.
- Collar:** Fluorescent Orange Ultra Tread (70 Denier).

- Wing Case:** Wet and Wild Black Finger Nail Polish for Size 16 or blackFine Sharpie Permanent Marker for Size 18 and 20 Hooks.
- Option:** No Collar, Black Throdax Using Black Ultra Thread (70 Denier) and Medium Opal Mirage Tinsel.
- Coating:** UV Resin (Thin) or Sally Hansen's Hard as Nails Polish.

Tying Instructions:

Several years ago, perdigon fly patterns showed up on the international fly fishing competition scene. The National Fly Fishing Team from Spain (some say it was the French team) developed the patterns to be suggestive of many "aquatic bugs" and to sink quickly in the water column. Perdigon means "pellet" in Spanish. The patterns were quickly adopted by competitors from other countries. Why? They catch fish; a lot of fish. The main characteristics of the perdigon patterns include a straight shank hook or jig hook, copper or silver tungsten beads, Coq de leon tail fibers, a body of krystal flash, a hot spot collar, and a black wing case. In July 2017, I started experimenting with several perdigon patterns on the Crooked River and in Mon-

Continued on Pg. 7

John Storfold

Fly Tying Chair

541-660-6584

steelyjon@charter.net



Membership Form

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

- 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

8-7	Board Meeting.
8-21	No Meeting
8-25	Umpqua Smaill Bass with Dave Haight.
9-4	Board Meeting.
9-8	Club picnic with the Rogue Fly Fishers.
9-11	SOFF Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
9-18	Club Meeting - with Jeff Putnam.
10-2	Board Meeting.
10-9	SOFF Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
11-10	SOFF Annual Auction.

Editor's Notebook Cont. From Pg. 8

is no speaker, a mini meeting at best and a time to engage in meaningful conversations with other club members that may have fallen off the radar at the regular meetings.

Granted we are a flyfishing club and our interests lay in that pursuit, but the social interaction sometimes is as important. It's too bad that we are limited to one social event a year to get to know some of the other club members. Maybe in the future there will be opportunities to change that to the benefit of both the club as well as the membership.

Although not a social gathering per se, some of the club outings, particularly the overnights or longer could also fall in the category of social activity. Granted the days are filled with fishing but the nights especially around a roaring camp fire is another great way to elicit conversation and get to know our newer or for that matter some of our long time members.

Find the opportunity to meet and make the effort to learn about someone and I'm sure find the time will be well spent making a new friend and even a new fishing partner.

Perdigons Continued From Page 6

tana. I finally settled on four variants. Because I use the "drop shot" method of nymphing, I use brass beads. Coq de leon feathers are relatively expensive and not totally durable so I substitute tails made with midge krystal flash or fluorofibre material (Many of you know that I don't use much natural material in my nymph patterns). Also, I incorporated some of the triggers from well known nymph patterns in my variants. So, here are my top 4 "go to" perdigon patterns. For more patterns, search perdigon fly patterns on the internet.

General Directions

1. Place bead on a de-barbed hook
2. Start thread on hook behind the bead.
3. Attach 2 pieces of midge krystal flash behind the bead. Advance thread over the krystal flash to the hook bend to form the 4-strand tail. Now advance the thread back to bead and attach wire rib. Stick the wire rib under the bead and secure.
4. Advance the thread back to tail to secure the rib then make a tapered body. See photo.
5. Spiral wrap the rib forward and secure rib behind the bead. Make 2 half hitches and cut thread.
6. Attach the fluorescent thread and wrap a narrow collar then whip finish and cut thread.
7. Using the black finger nail polish, paint a black wing case on the thorax area. On size 18 and 20 hooks, use the fine Sharpie marker. I coat my fly with UV thin resin, cure the resin, then make wing case with the fine Sharpie marker. This keeps the ink from soaking into the thread.
8. Let the wing case dry then coat the fly with a UV resin or clear finger nail polish.

Option: After wrapping the rib forward, secure rib and use 2 half hitches to secure thread. Attach black thread then attach a 1" piece of medium opal

mirage tinsel for the wing case. Finish wrapping the thorax and pull the tinsel over the top and secure with a whip finish. Coat the fly as above. This creates a very effective pattern for a Baetis (BWO) and Pale Morning Dun (PMD) nymph.

Fly Tied By: William Seitz Central Oregon Fly Fishers

William Seitz was kind enough to give SOFF four variations of this pattern. Unfortunately, due to space limitations, I was unable to include them in this issue of the newsletter. Look for them in future newsletters.

The Editor

For Sale



Rogue Marine 18'x54" Jet Stealth with electric start 40/30 Yamaha Jet with custom trailer.

Complete with cover, oars, anchor, tiller extender, and fish finder.

Asking \$12,950

This boat has a unique tunnel hull making it the perfect answer for fall steelhead fishing on the Rogue.

For additional information call Rich Hosley, 541-218-6684





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Editor's Notebook

On July 21st we had our annual wine dinner at the Plaisance Ranch.

We had over 50 club members and guest attending the event in which we were treated to some fine wines produced at Plaisance as well as great food prepared by Chef James Daw and believe it or not the heat of the day was only moderate with a slight breeze.

Now to the real benefit of the event and that was the social portion of the outing. There was about a 10 minute mini meeting conducted by President Dave and the time prior to and after was devoted to socialization.

In addition to my wife and club member Jay Prouty, we had club members Paul and Allie Scott join us. Although I heard of the Scotts

through interactions with the club's website, I never had the opportunity to meet them and to find out a little about



Some of the attendees reacting to President Dave's mini meeting message.

them. Such things as they were recent transplants from North Carolina, having first checked out Portland area be-

fore deciding that Grants Pass was the place to relocate. Paul, who is retired is looking forward to becoming more active in flyfishing. Small talk continued through dinner and after and I was able to gain information on club members up to that time were only names without a face to go along with the names.

Too often, new people join the club and remain in a semi-state of anonymity only receiving a casual nod or the briefest of hellos. More times than not, we come to the club's regular meetings to briefly socialize with friends, have dinner, take in the night's speaker and then hurry out at the conclusion of the meeting.

The wine dinner is different; there

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