

SOFF News

Vol.25 No.10 The Monthly Newsletter of The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Inc. October, 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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The summer months are over and as Fall begins, SOFF's attention turns away from trout and focuses on the elusive steelhead - the fish of a 'thousand casts'.



Early Fall and as the leaves color and fall, all attention is directed first towards the summer steelhead and later in the year to the winter run. Steelhead, known as the fish of a thousand casts, can be just that or if the stars are aligned just right, can be the fish of the first cast. This trait is what makes steelhead such a much sought after prize.

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

SPECIAL MENTION

Bill Burns:
John Storfold:
Kevin Daniels:
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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

A MOUNTAIN LAKE AND IT'S FISH

This month's column comes to you from Poole Creek Campground at Lemolo Reservoir. I have been fishing this lake since 1980. I have caught a few fish here over the years, and have heard stories about

fish and fishing at Lemolo from other fishermen. The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers and yours truly host an outing to this lake each spring. Good fishing has been the result most years, with larger fish in the 16 to 18-inch range.

Lemolo is a Native American word meaning "wild" or "untamed". The section of the North Umpqua downstream from the dam is certainly wild country. The river has made a steep and deep canyon here, from Lemolo all the way down past Tokatee Falls. The dam was built across an extremely narrow part of the canyon with a very large, flat area just upstream. The large flat

area is now the bottom and middle of the reservoir, where Lake Creek ran into the North Umpqua. The lake is formed from the water coming from these two streams, with its shape coming from the contour and topography of each. There is one arm of the lake that runs straight south from the center, where Lake Creek comes in. The other arm, which is wider and longer heading straight east, is where the North Umpqua comes in. The lake also has several small inlets that change the contour of the bottom, with shallow areas adjacent to deeper water.

Anadromous fish like the famous North Umpqua summer steelhead could not ever reach the Lemolo area because of two waterfalls downstream: Lemolo



President Dave while surveying his surroundings at Lemolo Lake looks for the perfect place to fish.

Falls and Tokatee Falls. Both are about 100 feet high, stopping all fish passage. Brown trout and rainbows were stocked in the lake shortly after the dam was

built in the early 60s. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife stopped planting browns in Lemolo in the 60s, but continued to stock rainbow trout. I don't know where the occasional kokanee come from. I usually catch one or two a summer. The deepest part of Lemolo at full pool is more than 100 feet deep. Most of the fishing I do there is in waters that are less than 25 feet deep. The level of the lake goes way down in the fall and winter, producing more storage space for the large, spring runoff. At full pool the elevation is 4300 feet above sea level, or roughly a thousand feet lower than Diamond Lake. In

a good snow year, the lake will reach full pool in June, with water running through the dam's overflow channel.

The poisoning and tui chub removal project at Diamond Lake in 2006 affected Lemolo in a very bad way. The problem is that Lake Creek, which is the outflow from Diamond, runs into Lemolo about 10 miles downstream. The poisoning plan for Diamond called for a fish screen at the point where the Diamond Lake water enters and forms Lake Creek. The screen was only in for a short time, so masses of the tui chub from Diamond swam down into Lemolo. There were so many in Lemolo that they ate most of the zooplankton that keeps the algae in the lake in check. The result was an explosion of algae in Lemolo like no one had ever seen. The water was green and opaque, making fishing a challenge and swimming downright dangerous because of the blue-green algae. I put my boat into the lake in 2008 and the water was so green that you could not see more than a foot or two into it. The blue-green algae warning signs went up and people stopped coming to Lemolo for camping or fishing. The lodge lost a great deal of income for a couple of summers while this was going on. No one wanted to visit Lemolo and be near that green water. Poisoning Lemolo to get rid of the tui chub was not possible because of the effect it would have on

Continued on Pg. 3

ATTENTION!
Board Meeting
The Board of Directors meet in the conference room of the Tap Rock Restaurant
The next meeting is scheduled:
Oct. 2nd at 6:00pm or the first Tuesday of the month
All members welcome

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

Nov 10	Annual Auction
Dec 18	John Shewey
Jan 15	TBA
Feb 19	TBA
Mar 19	TBA
Apr 16	TBA
May 21	TBA
June 18	TBA

WHEN:

Oct. 16, 2018



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.



Juan Cavillo - A Road Trip to Central Oregon Rivers



Juan Calvillo has spent the last 25 years photographing for clients from Nikon USA to Sage to Dansk International Designs. Now he's turning his cameras on trout, the magnificent rivers in which they swim and wild America. Juan's quest is to produce books that do justice to the sport of fly-fishing. Come with him as he takes you on road trips to some of the most beautiful trout streams on earth! Juan founded Dancing Redband Publications in 2015, and has published Redband Trout Waters: A Fly-Fishing Road Trip to Oregon's Crooked, Deschutes & Metolius Rivers, and Fishing Montana's Westslope Waters: A Fly-Fishing Road trip to Missoula's Bitterroot, Blackfoot, Clark Fork and Rock Creek. He is currently at work on a third "road-trip" book and expects to publish that in 2019. His presentation is entitled Redband Trout Waters: a fly-fishing road trip to Oregon's Crooked, Deschutes and Metolius Rivers.

President's Message Cont. From Pg. 2
 the North Umpqua for miles below the dam. A program was started by the lodge owner to physically catch and remove as many tui chub from Lemolo as possible.
 (TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER)

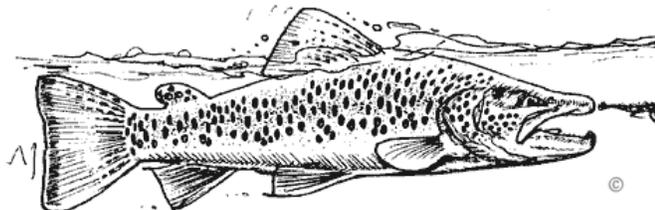
Passing of a Club Member

It is with sincere sadness and sorrow, that I announce the death of long time club member, Doctor Mitchell 'Mitch' Moos. Mitch passed away on October 3rd at Rogue Valley Hospital from complications of pneumonia.

According to his wife, Ann, there will be a private interment at Hillcrest Memorial Park in Grants Pass and that Hull and Hull Funeral Directors are in charge of arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Mitchell's name to
 St Anne Catholic Church
 1131 NE 10th ST.
 Grants Pass, OR 97526.

May he always have a warm sun on his face, a gentle breeze at his back and the right fly for all of haven's streams.
 Tight lines old friend.



CASTING ABOUT

SAVE THE DATE & RESERVE EARLY FOR THE SOFF AUCTION

OUR ONE AND ONLY FUNDRAISER FOR THE YEAR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2018

GRANTS PASS GOLF CLUB

WANTED: Donation for the auction. IF you have things in the back room or the garage that you are not using and can be repurposed, we have open arm. Our auction committee and volunteers have been hard at work preparing to make this our most fun auction yet, but we still need you help with items for the silent and bucket raffles.

***WE ARE TAKING RESERVATIONS NOW. RESERVE YOUR SEAT(S) EARLY (ONLY 49 SEATS LEFT):** A terrific buffet dinner, featuring a carving station for Prime Rib, chicken, and vegetarian options will be served, and all will get a drink ticket for your choice of beverage at the Bar. All that fun for only \$25.00. You can pay by check or cash at the October meeting. If for some reason you won't be at the meeting contact me at 541-660-6584 or John Smith, 801-710-2515 (we will also have information for mailing checks). Payment is required at the time of reservation.

If you like to sit with your "bidding buddies", your best bet is to sign up **ASAP**. This year, just like last, we have already sold over 70% of the seats available. And we expect to sell out just like last year. So please contact us early. You can request "group" seating with your payment (8 per table max). Reserve a whole table if you like. Requests will be honored in the order they are received.

The evening will start with the silent auction and cup raffle beginning at 4PM and as last year table closures will be staggered starting at 5:15 PM Oral auction will start about 7 PM after dinner. We plan to be done at 9 PM.

The evening will include our silent auction, cup raffle, and oral auction. This year, our auction falls the day before Veterans Day, giving us an opportunity to honor our veterans in attendance. Invite your friends and be prepared to have a great time!

Seating is limited to 130 guests. We were sold out last year so please get your reservations in early. Reservations are required so they have enough food for everyone.

If you have special dietary requirements, please let us know ahead of time and we will make it happen.

See you all there.

John Storfold
Auction Chair
541-660-6584
steelyjohn@charter.net

OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

October Outing: Summer Steelhead on the Middle Rogue

This year is shaping up to be another good year for steelhead fishing here on the Rogue River. The seining by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on the lower Rogue is showing above average returns for both adult and half-pounder steelhead. By the middle of October, good numbers of these



SOFF members enjoying a beautiful fall day during a previous outing as they try for a 'Fall Steelhead'.

fish should be in the Rogue near Grants Pass. With the potential for great fishing, the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will hold an outing to fish for steelhead in the middle Rogue on Saturday October 20.

We will meet for breakfast at 7:00 AM at the Shari's Restaurant (on the corner of Agness Avenue and the Grants Pass Parkway), have a brief strategy session at about 8:00, and leave for the river shortly thereafter. In the past, we have usually have fished from Chinook Park to Schroeder Park; however, during the last couple of years, we have not found as many fish in this section. Consequently, we will wait to decide where

to fish, so we can go where the fishing is best. We hope to get enough boats so that all the participants that want to float the river will have the opportunity. If we don't have boat space for everyone, there is plenty of good bank access available.

The Chinook salmon should be actively spawning, and steelhead

should be feeding on the nymphs the salmon kick up and the eggs that escape the redds; thus, dead-drifting nymph and egg patterns should be productive. Participants should bring a six to eight-weight rod, a floating line, 3X

attached to the leader to get the flies down near the bottom. Those that prefer to swing flies, can bring the flies and equipment for that. Since we will be on the river most of the day, bring food and water, rain gear, waders, polarized glasses, and your typical fishing accessories. If you have a driftboat, whitewater raft, or pontoon boat, please bring it.

Since we usually have several of our new members looking for the opportunity to float the river and learn the basics of fishing for steelhead, **it would be great if those members with a driftboat would attend the outing and take a fellow club member or two out for the day.** This outing is usually a lot of fun, and with a good number of steelhead present in the river, we should have a productive day.

If you have questions, would like additional information, or are willing to take someone in your boat, please contact David Haight at tmdrhaight@infostructure.net.

David Haight, Outings Chair



Gary Brauer lands a nice summer steelhead during a previous club outing on the Rogue River.

leader, and flies. Effective patterns include Globugs, Hare's Ears, Pheasant Tails, Prince Nymphs, Copper Johns, and Stonefly Nymphs. The flies should be lightly weighted or weight should be



2018 Outings

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
Jan 19	TBA

FLY TYING CORNER

October Caddis Pupa



Hook: Scud Hook Size 10-14
Thread: Pale Orange or Light Tan
Body: Not having the Same Material that many of the U-Tube Videos used looking at the Pictures, I blended some Lite UV Enhances, Red Fox and Light Burnt Orange Dubbing. (In other words, I used what I had)
Ribbing: Small Silve Wire.
Hackle: I used Brown Pheasant (some use Partridge.)
Head: I used some more of the same Dubbing that I used for the body and left it a little ragged

Tying Instructions:

This is a fairly easy fly to tie. Pinch the barb, place the hook in the vise leaving enough room to wrap down the curve of the hook and lay a thread base to half way down the bend of the hook. Tie in your ribbing and start dubbing and form a tapered body 2/3 the way up the hook, leaving enough room for the hackle and the head. Make Spiral wraps of the ribbing up the hook to where you stopped the dubbing and tie off. Pick a hackle long enough to extend just beyond the end of the hook. Make 2-3 wraps and tie off and form flat area to place a small dubbed head. Make this a little buggy. Tie off and form a small head. Whip finish, and use head cement at your discretion.

A lot of times we have the opportunity to tie flies but you just don't have all the items listed in the recipe. This is the time to look in your existing material and see if we can improvise. Have fun tying. This fly is a good fly especially in October, thus the name.

Tight lines.

Fly Tied By John Storfold

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

- 10-9 SOFF Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 10-16 Club Meeting - Juan Cavillo
- 10-20 Club Outing - Middle Rogue Steelhead.
- 11-3-4 Club Outing -Coastal Chinook with Dave Haight.
- 11-6 Board Meeting.
- 11-10 SOFF Annual Auction.
- 11-13 SOFF Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 12-4 Board Meeting.
- 12-18 Club Meeting with John Shewey.

Editor's Notebook Cont. From Pg. 8
person was infinitesimally small.

I think of all the people that I have fished with and how much I really know about them. I guess it is all that time between fish that you have the opportunity to explore sometimes in depth what that person is all about.

I can't fish with everyone that I know, but if I could, I'd like to think that when they passed I wouldn't be sitting here writing about someone I purported to know and really didn't, but rather include some insights of that person's life.

As we are all becoming older and the years pass more quickly by, more of us will be called to that great 'pond in the sky', so time is of the essence. Get to know your friends and acquaintances even better so when the time comes, you won't be like me wondering what that person was really like.

Now let me changed topics. Due to the fact that I was out of town for the past two weeks, one of which was the result of a breakdown of my motor home, I'm a little late in getting this month's newsletter out and there are a couple of things I wish to bring up.

First, the club auction is just about four weeks away and the din-

ner tickets are flying out the door. We are allotted only 130 tickets to attend the event. At this time there only approximately 50 tickets available. You don't want to miss out on this event. This year chairman John Storfold and his crew have really been beating the bushes and have got some really top notch prizes that we will go to the highest bidder in both the oral auction as well as the silent auction. As usual there will be many baskets in the can raffle. And if this isn't enough, there is the dinner itself. Prime Rib cooked to perfection along with a chicken dish and if you tastes goes towards the vegan side, if you let Storfold know he can order up a special meal. Consider all this for only \$25 per person. Get your reservation in to me as usual and if there is someone you wish to sit with then follow that up with a check for the number attending with you at \$25 person to our P.O. Box and you're good to go.

Second, because I'm late in getting the newsletter out I want to remind you that our October regular meeting is on October 16th. And this month we will Having as our guest speaker, the renown photographer and naturalist Juan Calvillo who will be presenting a program on a "Road trip to the Crooked, Deschutes and Metolius River". I need all of your reservations in for this interesting program no later than October 12th. So get those reservations in right away.



Canadian Adventure

Recently President Dave, Russ Leavitt and Kevin O'Malley spent a week in British Columbia, Canada in early September chasing down the trout in that region. Although this was the second trip for the trio to go there, fishing wasn't 'red hot' this time, but enough were caught to make it interesting.



President Dave displays a fine bull trout he took on his recent Canadian Trip.



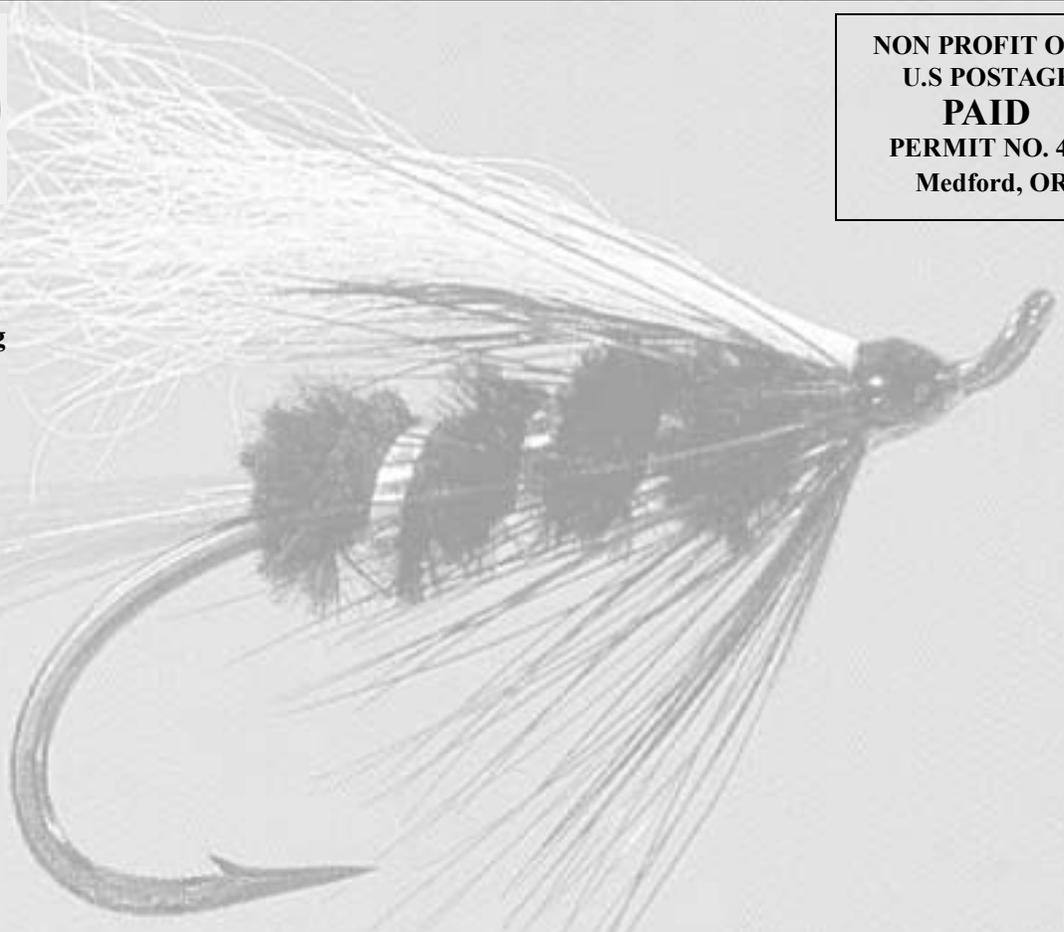
Yet another bull trout being released to fight yet another day.





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Editor's Notebook

Every time there is a death of a club member, my Editor's Notes will usually reflect that death. And with the death of Doctor Mitchell 'Mitch' Moos, my usual discourse will reflect on my lack of knowledge of the person. Although I have talked to Mitch at club meetings as well as the same church that we both attended, I didn't know him. Although I knew he was a doctor, I never learned what type of doctor he was. Was he a general practitioner, an internist, or did he specialize in some other field of medicine? I don't know, I never thought to ask him.

When did he take up flyfishing? I never thought to ask. What was his favorite species to fish for? I never thought to ask. Where was his favorite place to fish? I never asked. When was the last time he was out flyfishing? I have no idea because I never bothered to ask. Why did he come to

the meeting each month? Again I never asked. Had he gone on any club outings? I'll never know because I didn't ask.



Clip art courtesy of World Arts Me

Once again someone who shared a common interest as I in flyfishing, I'll never know why or what he got out of it.

It is sad a commentary on my part

because I apparently didn't have the right questions in mind to ask. Only in death does my mind, like a laser, focus on all those unanswered questions.

One of the few things I really remember about Mitch is when he would send in his reservation for the monthly club dinner, he would very succinctly state "Mitch will eat". Not much to remember a person by!

How many of the rest of you share these same feelings now that the person has passed, not knowing who he really was?

Unfortunately, I don't know how old Mitch was, but I'm sure a lot of water has passed under the bridge over his lifetime. Too many times we don't really learn about a person until after their death. I have been amazed numerous times at memorial services I attended of someone I thought I knew, only to find out my knowledge of that

Continued on Pg. 7