

SOFF News

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April, 2019



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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Every So. Oregon Fly Fisher has a 'bucket list' of places and fish they want to catch at least one time in their lives. Some are local and some may be a little more exotic.



Ron Cremo displays a 14 lb peacock bass he took on a recent trip to the Amazon. Some of the challenges that he faced on the trip were having enough flies as the bass really tore them up and being able to land the fish before the crocodiles followed the fish into the boat to get it.

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

SPECIAL MENTION

Bill Burns:
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David Haight:
Jennifer Mazingo:
Dave Roberts:
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FROM THE BOARD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

Michael Mazingo

The Northwest Expo has come and gone once again. I have been attending

the expo for the past four years now and I'm amazed at how many people I actually know in the fly fishing community it that short time. The expo is a chance to reconnect with friends and acquaintances alike, it also serves to remind me that the world of fly fishing, although certainly big, is relatively small and close knit. The friends I have made since joining this community are rewarding and heartwarming and I find myself longing less for the comradery I had in the military and more for those I have made here in the Pacific Northwest.

This year was my first year tying at the expo and it certainly came with a learning curve. I am at heart a peo-

ple person and as such have no issues speaking to anyone. I did find however that it is a lot harder to do so while trying to make fly tying look effortless. I guess you could say I can't walk and chew bubble gum at the same time. I was not ready for a great many questions about my flies and at times seemed genuinely lost. I did not lose my composure however and even fell back on the three rules I live by; 1) Know where you are going 2) Know what you are doing 3) If you don't know 1&2 at least look cool doing it.

Those rules have gotten me through some hairy situations in my life and helped me yet again at the expo but how



Tom Collect receiving the new service award, a SOFF engraved pocket knife, from Vice President Bob Stafford.

long can I rely on looking cool while trying not to bumble too much? In truth, probably not much longer and that's ok. If I had done my due diligence with 1&2, number 3 would not be necessary. Thankfully my friends

within the community are a treasure trove of information and give it willingly and without hesitation. Fly fishers and tyers are the least selfish bunch of people I have ever met. Never have I been part of a group of people so willing to help each other be better at our craft, to share with each other techniques and tricks to conquer a specific cast, fly or body of water.

I realized while tying at this years expo that I need to once again take advantage of this knowledge and begin

to transition from a fly tyer/fisher to an avid student of the same. I already read a lot of material and find that each new book I read gives me some understanding or tidbit of information I did not already know. Books though cannot teach a lifetime of hands on knowledge. That is why belonging to a club like ours is so rewarding. I know that I only need to reach out and ask and will gain knowledge that would otherwise reside in the school of hard knocks.

Those who have ever had the pleasure of tying at the Sugar Pine fly shop know that friendship and knowledge are two things that are in abundance there. If one is willing to listen and ask questions I can assure you, you will learn more there than in any general book on the subject. I have learned more from my times there than I have from any other source. The Albany expo however is a close second.

This of course all goes back to why it is I love the expo and seeing friends from far and wide. It gives us the advantage of catching up and trading information learned throughout the year. It gives us the opportunity to seek out knowledge and pick each other's brains. Every year I am amazed to find that simply conversing with different people at the expo gives me more knowledge and a greater source for information in the future. A smarter man than me once said "the only stupid

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:

Apr. 2nd at 6:00pm or

the first Tuesday

of the month

All members welcome

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

May 21	Scott Richmond
June 18	Dr. Jerry Freilich
July 16	No Meeting
Aug 20	No Meeting
Sep 17	TBA
Oct 15	TBA
Nov 9	Annual Auction
Dec 17	TBA

WHEN:

Apr. 16, 2019



TIMES:

See times
for the event
below

WHERE:

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



Fly Tyers Night

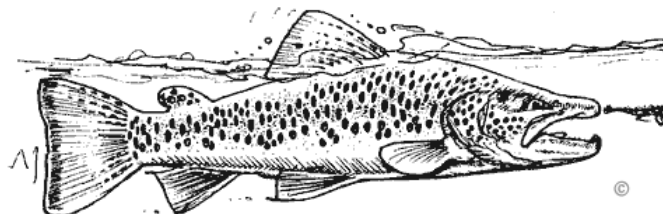
Well it is that time of year again where we celebrate the art of fly tying with SOFF's own Fly Tyer's Dinner. You will have the opportunity to watch and learn from some of the best tyers in Oregon. The tyers, for the most part are from right here in our Rogue Valley. Amongst these great tyers we have the 2015 Oregon Council Fly Fisher International Fly tyer of the year, our own Cathy Hamilton, and Dave Roberts: 2013 Oregon Council Fly Fisher International Fly tyer of the year and 2018 Darwin Atkin Memorial Fly Tying Achievement Award Recipient and other great tyers from Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, and Rogue Fly Tyers.

Evenings schedule of events:

- 4:30 PM tyer can set up
- 5:00 PM Tyers start tying
- 6:45 PM Short Business Meeting
- 7:10 PM Dinner
- 7:45 approximate, after dinner: Tyer return to tie
- 9:00 PM Raffle and the evening is over.

List Of Tyers In Alphabetical Order

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Bruce Bochman | Michael Mazingo |
| Tom Corbiere | Dave McCants |
| Kevin Daniels | Gordy Prudencio |
| David Grosjacques | Dave Roberts |
| David Haight | John Smith |
| Cathy Hamilton | John Storfold |
| Keith Hardcastle | Mark Teeters |
| Joe Knapik | Rex Thompson |
| Dan Kellogg | Paul Wolflick |



President's Message Cont. From Pg. 2

question is the one we don't ask". No truer statement could be made when it comes to fly fishing/tying.

Don't be afraid to seek those out who are more knowledgeable or experienced than yourself. Don't be afraid to ask the "dumb" questions. Don't be afraid to be the student. Most importantly, don't be afraid to make new friendships or rekindle those of the past. We can all can knowledge but without friends to share it with we are no better than just books on a shelf collecting dust.



Feb 10, 2019

Dear Members,

Your ongoing generosity to support our retreats is very much appreciated!

Thank you for the \$1500 donation from your Dec raffle.

Sincerely yours,
Ruth Klaus
Casting for Recovery

CASTING ABOUT



Women's Casting Clinic With Rachel Connery Andras April 20, 2019 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers (SOFF) is sponsoring a Women's Casting Clinic on April 20th at Reinhart Volunteer Park. Rachel Connery Andras, the highly regarded local guide and flyfishing teacher, is our instructor for this event. When not guiding, she runs summer flyfishing camps for kids and also helps anglers book their fishing adventures all over the world through her and her husband's company, Andras Outfitters. Cheerful and highly skilled, Rachel is the perfect instructor for beginning flyfishers and those wanting to improve their craft. She will review gear and teach casting on the lawn.

Reservations are to be made through Grants Pass Recreation Dept. 1750 NW Hawthorne Ave, Grants Pass, OR 97526, (541-471-6435) The fee is \$10.

So grab your rod, bring a lunch and join us for a fun, informative day. SOFF will have some loaner rods available.

If you still have questions, contact Jan Knapik at jankfish99@gmail.com



OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Just Drifting Down the River 2019 Rogue Fly Fishers Auction and Dinner

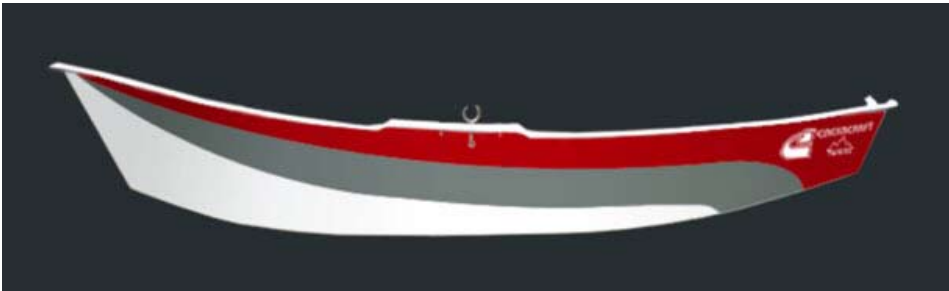
When: May 18, 2019

Time: Doors open at 4:30

Where: Centennial Golf Club

Cost: \$ 25.00 per person

Get ready for the fun and excitement of our annual fundraiser featuring our main auction item this



year, a NEW CLACKACRAFT DRIFT BOAT & TRAILER!

Other items include drift trips, stillwater trips, fly rods and reels, wine baskets, golf packages, hand-tied flies, and more!

Put together some friends and neighbors and fill a table of 10. Reservations are now being tak-

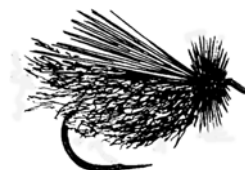
en. Email Tim Bolling at timbolling328@gmail.com and then mail a check made out to the Rogue Fly-fishers at PO Box 4637 Medford, OR 97501. Can't make the dinner? Consider making a cash donation for the cost of the dinner instead. All money raised goes towards our education and conservation efforts.

All those who reserve a place and pay by 4/6 will be entered into a spe-

cial Early Bird Drawing for a TFO Axiom 2 Switch 11'0" 6 wgt fly rod, case, and TFO Power 2 reel. Seating is limited so get your reservations in soon!

Email Tim Bolling for specifications on the drift boat.

Dinner menu: Roasted Tri-tip, roasted chicken quarters, potatoes, vegetables, house salad, rolls and desert. Special diets can be accommodated.



Outing to Copeland's Pond

Copeland's Pond is owned by club members Bob and Valerie Copeland, and offers some of the best fishing in the area for largemouth bass, crappie, and other warm-water fish. The private pond is not open to the public; however, Bob and Valerie graciously allow the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers to hold an outing on their pond each spring. Because of the special opportunity to enjoy this outstanding fishery, many club members consider this to be their favorite outing each year.

The outing to Copeland's Pond will be Saturday May 4. You can arrive any time after 8:30 AM. At noon, the club will provide hamburgers, chips, and drinks. Those attending are requested to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share.

To get to Copeland's Pond, take Redwood Highway west from town. Turn north off the highway onto Applegate Avenue then look for the club signs where Applegate Avenue turns right and becomes Leonard Road.

Bob requires that fish caught from the pond be released, so the fish have the opportunity to grow to impressive sizes. During previous outings, club members have landed largemouth bass over 20 inches and crappie over 15 inches. You



Mark Swanberg with a nice bass taken at a recent Copeland Pond Outing.

can catch fish right from the bank; however, a float tube, pontoon boat, drift-Copeland Pond Cont. on Pg. 7

2019 Outings

Apr 13	Hyde Lake (\$100 ea.).
May 4	Copeland Pond.
May31-Jun 1	Lemolo Lake.
Jun 21-23	Cascade Lakes.
Jul 18-20	East Lake
Aug 24	TBA
Sept 7	Clinic/Picnic
Oct 19	Rogue Steelhead
Nov 2	Rogue Coho

FLY TYING CORNER

DAMSEL NYMPH



- Hook:** Size 8-12.
- Eyes:** Two Glass Beads on 40 LB Mono with the Ends Burnt to Keep the Eyes On.
- Thread:** Olive 8/0 or Equivalent.
- Tail:** Marabou (Color can vary, Brown, Rust, Green or Olive) Depending on the Water You're Fishing..
- Body:** Marabou.
- Ribbing:** Copper or Gold Wire (Medium or Fine, Hook Dependant).
- Thorax:** Marabou.

Tying Instructions:

De-barb the hook and place in the vice.

Lay down a thread base to the rear of the hook just above where the barb used to be. Tie in your eyes that you should have already assembled one eye length behind the eye.

Tie in your ribbing above where the barb used to be and leave out of the way while you tie in your tail.

Make the tail equal to the length of the hook to allow for movement. It can be shortened while you are fishing (you can pinch it off if you find that you are getting short strikes).

Now with the rest of the marabou make a rope with your thread and wrap up to just behind the eyes. Tie off.

Take a couple of small bundles of marabou and tie in one at the top and one at the bottom. Before you tighten them down take your thumbnail and spread them out around the hook and take a couple of firm wraps and tie off.

Move the thread in front of the eyes and form a head and whip finish.

This is a great lake fly. The damsel wiggles quit a bit but does not move very fast so make you retrieve short and very them.

Good luck and tight lines.

Fly Tied 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

- 4-9 SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 4-13 Club Outing - Hyde Lake (\$100)
- 4-16 Club Meeting - Fly Tyers Night
- 5-4 Club Outing to Copeland's Pond
- 5-6 Board Meeting.
- 5-14 SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone Mobile Home Park in Gold Hill.
- 5-18 Beginning Fly Fishing Clinic
- 5-21 Club Meeting - with Scott Richmond

Editor's Notebook Cont. From Pg. 8

boxes or whatever container that would serve my needs.

Today, my fly tying room, which also includes my desk and computer, is akin to one of those hoarder programs one sees on television. Path ways enable me to reach each station in the room, but only if I walk sideways. Still I watch more tyers tie and collect more patterns which necessitate more material purchased and then places for its storage. It's a vicious circle, but I love it.

And now on to other things! At the April meeting, twenty of the SOFF's premier tyers will be in house for our annual fly tyer's night. For you who might have missed the Albany show, not to worry as the majority of the tyers for that night were tying at the Fly Tyers Fair. All though I stopped to watch all the club tyers at Albany, it usually meant a photograph for a later newsletter and a reminder of the editor's hospitality room and a word or two. Now with these tyers are in house as to speak, I can spend some quality time watching them weave their magic at the vise. Just goes to prove, one can never get enough of a good thing!

Although I didn't take any of the classes at the tying fair, those that did

said that the classes were interesting and they learned a lot by taking them.

As usual the were a 'ton' of vendors, displaying all types of fly tying material, rods and reels, and other fly fishing equipment. There were boats and pontoon boats displayed for sale as well as trip destinations. If you were interested in something that dealt with fly fishing it was there.

And lastly there was the editor's hospitality room. After the show closed Friday night some 30 to 40 people, both club members and non club members alike showed up to take part in the event. There were several hot hors d'oeuvres, along with the cheese and crackers and other dips to be enjoyed. Added to this was all the wine one wanted to drink as well as beer and soft drinks. A great time was had by all.

I was later told by a couple of the attendees, that this was the first time that they had the opportunity to talk to fellow club members in a casual setting which to some conversations until then hadn't happened.



Bob Stafford and the Editor doing a little volunteer work passing out Fly Tyer's Packets at the Fly Tyers Fair.

I close this meme with the thought that I may be some kind of 'whacko' in my enjoyment of fly tying, but as my wife says at least it keeps me out of the bars and that is a good thing!!



Copeland's Pond Continued from Pg. 5

boat, or other small watercraft will give you better access to the fish. If you plan to target crappie or panfish, 3 to 5-weight rods work well, but if you hook into a big bass or carp, you may wish you had something heavier. For bass or carp, a 6 to 8-weight rod would be a good choice. Slow sinking lines will likely be the most useful, but bring your floating lines as well. Your fly box should contain bass bugs, rabbit-strip flies, woolly buggers, leeches, streamers, and nymphs. Olive or white woolly buggers have worked well for both crappie and bass in past years. Large, olive rabbit-strip flies or leeches have been effective for the bigger bass.

The outing to Copeland's Pond is one of the club's most popular events—both for the great fishing and the opportunity to enjoy the company of fellow



Every now and then something takes your fly at Copeland's and the battle is on. Here Mark Swanberg shows off what took his fly and didn't want to stop - a big old carp.

club members. We greatly appreciate Bob and Valerie's generosity in allowing us to enjoy their property. If you plan to go, call or e-mail me by May 1, so I know how much food to purchase.

David Haight, Outings Chair
541-855-9043, tmdrhaight@infostructure.net





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Editor's Notebook

Well it has come and gone and now I must await a year to go by before I can be regaled once again by 200 fly tyers, tying all sorts of patterns. What I'm talking about is the recently concluded Fly Tying Fair and Fly Fishing show.

As usual it was a combined fantasy and wonderland to a fly tying junkie. There were young and old, men and women alike displaying their talents at the vise. From simple dry fly patterns, to nymphs, to streamers and to complicated works of art like the Atlantic Salmon Fly patterns, they were all to be had. As I walked the aisles and rows of tyers, I would stop and watch what was being tied. I continued to marvel at the ease and dexterity of each individual tyer. If I was really interested, I'd stop and sit awhile watching the fly being constructed from bare hook to final full dressed

version. Each time I did, I would pay particular attention to not only the construction, but to the materials used for the fly. Too many times, I realized that even though I have a 'ton' of fly tying material at home, the chances of having what was needed for the fly I



was watching being tied was probably slim to none. How does it happen that way – new fly, new material?

Over the years, being a constant attendee at these types of affairs as well

as collecting patterns from a library of fly tying magazines collected over forty years as well as tying videos and u-tubes, I would conservatively say that I probably have two to three thousand patterns, if not more. I have collected these patterns because they appealed to me and some more than others. Those with the most appeal would be deemed ready to be tried and tied, that is until I realized that I didn't have the material necessary to tie the fly. This resulted in either a trip to the local fly shop, or a trip through the numerous fly fishing catalogs that I receive each year. Once a purchase has been made for the needed materials, I would tie two or three copies of the fly and that would be that. Interest in the pattern would wane, but I would have all the material for the fly to be accounted for which usually would be stashed away in totes, cabinet drawers, plastic shoe

Continued on Pg. 7