

SOFF News

Vol.18 No.1 The Monthly Newsletter of The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Inc. January, 2011



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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E-Mail: dchebul@terragon.com

THE APPLGATE RIVER OPENS JAN. 1st AND SOFF MEMBERS LOOK FORWARD TO GOOD STEELHEAD ACTION



Every year the Applegate River can be counted on to give up some sizeable steelhead. Last year was no exception as Teresa Kasza proudly displays a large steelhead she took last February while working a nymph. This year with all the December rain the prospects are excellent for some large steelhead to be taken.

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

SPECIAL MENTION

Rich Hosley:
Ed Morphis:
Vacant
Vacant:
David Haight:
Jerry & Sue Keeling
Redge Heth

Membership
Fly Tying Instructor
Raffle Baskets
Auction Chair
Outings Chair
SOFF Wear
Historian



FROM THE BOARD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by
Dave Grosjacques

I hope the holiday season was a good one for all of you with lots of family, friends and fun. The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers is going strong thanks to the support of many of our hard-working members. I want to first mention the club events of the last two general meetings, for those of you who missed them.

The November meeting became, for the first time this year, our auction meeting. We also moved the event to a Saturday evening to encourage attendance. Our By-Laws state that the SOFF Board of Directors must make recommendations for the following year's Board members to be voted on and approved at the November general meeting. This was done and the membership voted unanimously to approve it. The Board members that were approved for 2011 are: John Storfold, Jesse Elliott, Lucky Leavitt, Duane Chebul, Gary Miller, Jim Simpson, Tom Morris and Dave Grosjacques. You will notice from this list that it is the same Board as last year, with the exception of Lucky Leavitt.

Our By-Laws also state that the four officers of the club are to be voted on by the Board at the December Board meeting. The board voted unanimously to elect the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for 2011. The board elected Dave Grosjacques as president, John Storfold as Vice Presi-

dent, Jesse Elliott as Secretary and Lucky Leavitt as Treasurer.

I am starting, then, my third year as president of SOFF. I had planned to follow previous presidents and only serve two years, but no one else wanted the job! I plan to continue to work hard to make our club the best it can be. The past year and a half has been a trying one for the Board and for me. We had been meeting at the Convention Center for many years, but rising prices started making our arrangements there too much for our budget. We then were told that they would no longer be able to provide dinners for us because they were closing the kitchen! We looked (for the third time since I have been on the Board) at other venues in Grants Pass and got

“The past year and a half has been a trying one for the Board and me”.

many suggestions from club members. We ended up using Aroma Café to come in and cater our meals at the Convention Center so that we could stay there. We continued to look for another meeting site because the cost of the catering and room rent at the Convention Center was something we could not continue. After 6 months or so we ended up moving to The Pub. We met here for 6 months, and it turned out to be a good choice for us as a temporary meeting site. We then were contacted by Taprock Restaurant, who had in the meantime taken over the Convention Center. I sat down with them several times, and we invited manager Terry Hopkins to come to a Board meeting and give us his proposal for costs and arrangements. We liked what they were proposing, so we moved back to the newly named Taprock Event Center.

I would like to encourage all members to attend our general meetings. Our program chair, Gary Miller, has a great

schedule of speakers lined up for the rest of the winter and spring. Dinners are now provided by Taprock for \$18 per person. The food is very good, and we usually have a fly tier to watch, lucky raffle tickets for sale, and lots of fish talk. We would like to see you there!

We have had many members who have stepped up to help the club in a big way in the last year. At the December general meeting, we gave the annual awards to these club members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty. The first award was for Volunteer of the Year. This went to Karen Redding. Karen has been very helpful to me, taking over the dinner gate duties at all of our general meetings and doing it with a smile! She also helped with the big dinner/potluck at our Lava Lake outing last summer, and volunteered to take over as host of that outing for next summer. The next award was for Member of the Year. This one was awarded to John Storfold. John has been club Vice President for two years, and is our Fly Tying Chair. In 2010 he volunteered to take the job of Auction Chair. With some excellent help from the Auction Committee, John put on a very successful auction in November. That is a lot for one person to do for the club in a year! John did it all and did it well. The last award I gave out at the December meeting was the Presi-

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ATTENTION! Board Meeting

The Board of Directors meet in the conference room of the Bank of the Cascades at 6th and Savage, Grants Pass.

The next meeting is scheduled:

**Jan. 6th, 6:00pm or
the first Thursday
of the month**

All members welcome

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

Feb. 17th	John Shewey
Mar. 17th	Skip Morris
Apr. 21st	Fly Tyer Meeting
May 19th	Ken Hanley
June 16 th	Josh White
July 21st	No Meeting
Aug. 18th	No Meeting
Sep. 15th	Jeff Putnam

President's Message Cont. From Pg. 2

dent's Award. This one is given by the president to a member of the club who has, like Karen and John, worked very hard to accomplish something meaningful and useful for our club in the previous year. I was very happy to be able to give this award to my fishing buddy and first friend in the SOFF, Redge Heth. Last year Redge took over the position of club historian, which had been vacant for several years. He worked with Bob Roberts to produce an excellent brochure that outlined the formation and history of the club. He also took on the job of gathering all of the club records and the minutes of every Board meeting the club has had since it was formed in the early 90's. That was a big job!

I want to close with a reminder for all members, new and old. Get out and attend our winter and spring fishing outings! These outings are a lot of fun and the best way to get to know some of the members of our club a little better. I have learned something new at every outing I have attended, and have gotten the chance to fish with someone new and see some new water. Our outings chair, David Haight, has the outings for the coming year pretty much set. Check the newsletter for times and places to meet and contact information. Put these dates on your calendar, you will be rewarded with a good time and maybe even a fish or two!



WHEN:

Jan. 20, 2011



TIMES:

6:00 PM

Social Hour and
Fly Tying Demo.

7:00 PM

Meeting

7:30 PM

Dinner and Program

WHERE:

Taprock Event Center
955 S.E. 7th St. G.P.



Brian O'Keefe - Montana Road Trip to 8 Rivers



At my upcoming fly club presentation, you will see how I combine a lifetime of fly fishing photography and a lifetime of serious fly fishing. I sold my first fly fishing photo when I was 16. That was 40 years ago! In that time I was been very busy trying to fish and photograph as many interesting places as possible. My angling travels have taken me to distant destinations like Tonga, Bikini Atoll, New Zealand, Chile, Argentina, Kenya, Sierra Leone, Kashmir, England, Brazil, Nicaragua and many more. As much as I like trips to the Bahamas, Belize, the Yucatan, etc, I am just as much a home water fisherman. Near my home in Powell Butte, near Prineville, I enjoy the Deschutes, the Crooked, the John Day and many lakes in Central Oregon.

I have enjoyed a nice working relationship with many fly fishing magazines, plus Outdoor Life, Field & Stream, Outside Magazine and many tackle catalogs, books and websites.

Speaking of websites, my current project is Catch Magazine, a free, photo and video driven on-line fly fishing magazine. Catch Magazine is at www.catchmagazine.net and with Todd Moen, we produce a fly fishing visual experience I know you will enjoy. Some people call it their Virtual Vacation.

I hope you can come to the fly club and see my presentation. I will select my favorite photos and share a couple of stories, see you there.

CASTING ABOUT

Tree Planting on Fort Vannoy Creek

By Duane Chebul

On December 4th, 44 people comprised of SOFF members some with family, several members of the Rogue Steelheaders, one person from the Rogue Fly Fishers and several unattached individuals showed up to do some serious tree and shrub planting on a portion of Fort Vannoy Creek.



Dave Grojacques meets and greets all the work party participants before giving them their assignments.



Once the group arrived at the site, they were told that they would be planting 'from here to there' which worked out to be an area of 200-300 yards.

After a morning briefing by our fearless leader, Dave Grosjacques, we headed from the parking area to the planting area. We must remember that we had rain over several days prior to this outing; consequently, where we were to plant was a sea of mud, thick gooey mud somewhat akin to quicksand. I must say the sight of the 200-300 yards of mud gave one pause to

reconsider their spirit of volunteerism.



The thing that saved our bacon - some what was the thick fiber mat that had been laid down the day before by staff members of the Stream Restoration Alliance.



Here Janette and Rich Hosley brave the sea of mud and plant another tree.



Dave G the task master watches over the operations of the planters. In all fairness, Dave not only supervised, but planted, drilled planting holes, carried trees and did whatever else was necessary to insure a successful planting.

Fortunately, for the planters, staff members of the Stream Restoration Alliance had been there the day before and laid out a thick fibrous mat over the entire planting area. Even with the mat in place, this thick clay grasped at everything in which it came in contact. It was so bad that a lot of us had to commandeer shovels, not for digging, but for support as we walked in and over the mud.



After planting over 400 trees, the SOFF club members muddy and tired pose for a picture before hitting the coffee, pastries and other goodies.

Even though the conditions might not have been ideal, the work party was unfazed and took to the task at hand. After two and a half hours the group had planted 422 trees and 75 willows which spanned the entire area set out to be planted and were rewarded with hot coffee, rolls and muffins. Not only that, but we all had the knowledge that in a few years, Fort Vannoy creek would once again become a viable habitat for spawning salmon and steelhead. A job well done by one and all!



OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Outings Set For 2011

The Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will offer its members the opportunity to participate in a number of fun fly fishing outings in 2011. Once again, we will try to cover the wide variety of fishing opportunities available in our area. We have outings planned that will take us to several of the local rivers, lakes, and ponds, where we will target steelhead, trout, and warmwater fish. Most of our outings will be on public waters where participants can return at will to put into practice what they learned. We will also have several outings to private waters, where club members will have the opportunity experience some truly outstanding fisheries. The club outings not only offer the opportunity to get out and enjoy some time on the water in the company friends, they also offer the opportunity to learn some new places to fish or new techniques that could improve your success and make your time on the water more enjoyable.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Editor's Note:

Originally Dave had included a complete listing for all the outings, their dates and locations. Unfortunately, due to space constraints they were not printed. For the complete listing see outings on the Club's web-site.

2011 Outings

Jan 15	Coastal Winter Steelhead
Feb 11 & 12	Cow Creek Steelhead
Mar 19	Applegate Steelhead
Apr 16	Copeland's Pond
May 21	Yamsi Ranch
Jun 1-4	Lemolo Lake
Jun 11	Pronghorn Lake

Coastal Winter Steelhead Outing

During the winter months, angling opportunities for us fly fishers in the Rogue Valley get a little sparse. Some people spend this time of year at the tying bench, but for those looking to get out on the water, opportunities do exist. Mid-day hatches can bring trout to the surface on the upper Rogue and in the Holy Water. Some of the lower elevation lakes can provide good fishing as well. For those interested in a bigger quarry, the winter months offer some excellent steelhead fishing on many of the coastal steams. If you would like to give this a try, plan to attend our club outing on January 15, when I will lead a trip to the Chetco River.

We will meet for breakfast at 8:00 am in the Apple Peddler Restaurant in the town of Harbor. It is located on the west side of Hwy 101 south of the Chetco River. Those not wanting to eat there should join us by 9:00 am, when we will leave for the river.



Tom Morris sends a cast over some nice water on the Chetco River.

The Chetco has plenty of good bank access, and there are several good drifts for boaters. It is a big river during the winter and is well suited for spey rods. Because the Chetco produces some large steelhead, heavier rods are desirable--8 or 9 weights are ideal. Fish can be caught by swinging or dead-drifted flies near the bottom. Leech, shrimp, marabou, spey, intruder, and traditional steelhead patterns in sizes 4 to 2/0 are all good choices for swinging, while

egg, shrimp, and nymph patterns are suitable for dead-drifted. If conditions are right, a floating line can be used with weighted flies, but having sink-tip lines and/or shooting heads in various densities will help you cover the water effectively. Be sure to bring your lunch, waders, and rain gear.



The Orange and Yellow Marabou can be a productive winter steelhead fly.

If you plan to attend, please sign-up at the December meeting or email me at tmdrhaight@peoplepc.com. Due to the uncertainty of winter conditions, be sure to check the club's web site for updates prior to leaving for the outing. If you have questions, contact me.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Class Cancellation

The fly tying class originally scheduled to begin on January 12th has been cancelled. Unfortunately, Ed Morphis, the head instructor of the class has suffered serious complications from a recent surgery which necessitated the postponement.

Notification will be made when the class is rescheduled.



FLY TYING CORNER

Royal Wulff, Coachman



- Hook:** Dry Fly 2X Long Size 12 to 16 (14 suggested).
- Thread:** Black, Uni and Uni-Stretch, Chinese Red.
- Wing:** (Split - Figure 8) Calf Tail, White Calf Belly, Other White....
- Tail:** Brown Bucktail, Golden Pheasant Tail and Black Hair or Other.
- Body:** Peacock Hurl, Red Stretch Floss, Peacock Hurl.
- Hackle:** Dark Brown or Mix Brown and Grizzly.

Tying Instructions:

De-barb and place hook in vice. Start thread near eye and wrap back to 1/3rd of shank (Wing). Cut hair and stack, pull out any large hair, you only want the "fine". Pinch and hold hair forward toward eye, use several wraps to tie down. (Do Not Trim) wrap a few turns in front and divide for the split wing, figure 8 style. Wrap up the wing away from you first with 4 or 5 wraps. Then do the same to other one. Now trim off the butts at a sharp angle toward the bend (Tail). Tie in (I like) the Golden pheasant fibers about 4 of them. The Tail length should be about the same as hook shank (between eye and bend).

(Body) Clean Peacock, 1/8th inch at end of quill, tie down and run thread back to hold peacock right where tail starts, Wrap the peacock 3-4 turns, then slip the red stretch floss under the tying thread and pull up to shorten the excess. Wrap a smooth red body (note you let the thread hang and as you wrap the peacock, red thread and peacock this helps keep them tight. hopefully the thread is now about 1/16th" from the wing.

(Hackle) Prepare a Grizzly and a Brown # 14 hackle. Tie in the Brown hackle first and then the Grizzly hackle. Wrap the Grizzly first 3-4 times in back of the wing and pull down and under and make 2-3 wraps in front of the wing (depending on the head space.) Wrap the Brown Hackle 2-3 times in back and 1-2 in front. Whip finish and head cement.

You may want to clip the hackle at an angle on the bottom to make it float better. I tie the wing first because most tiers

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John Storfold

Fly Tying Chair

Ph. 660-6584

E-mail: steelyjon@q.com



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

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 1-6 | Board Meeting |
| 1-8 | Conservation Work Party. |
| 1-11 | SOFT Fly Tyers, Madrone
Mobile Home Park in
Gold Hill. |
| 1-15 | Club Outing - Coastal
Steelhead |
| 1-20 | Club Meeting with Brian
O'Keefe. |
| 2-3 | Board Meeting |
| 2-4 | Conservation Work Party |
| 2-8 | OFT Fly Tyers, Madrone
Mobile Home Park in
Gold Hill. |
| 2-11/12 | Club Outing - Cow Creek |
| 2-17 | Club Meeting with John
Shewey |

Editor's Notes Cont. from Pg. 8

TV program "Who wants to be 'a millionaire'". No, that wouldn't work as I would probably last as long as 'spit on a hot rock'. Then there is always the lottery, a money taker disguised as a money maker. As realization sets in another resolution fades.

Lastly, I resolve as I always do that I will do more fly fishing this year either alone or on club outings. As a fly fisherman this is a great resolution, but as a pragmatist I realize sad to say, that time has shown me the calendar of a person in the 'winter season of his life' and with it, the dwindling abilities to do or even want to do the things that were important in one's younger years.

Maybe just maybe as one ages, we tend to take life a little more seriously and instead of dwelling on things (resolutions) that may have once been important, but are now diminished by time, we concentrate on the here and now. We should enjoy each moment we are granted, as we only share this earth for a short time - why waste it on remembering how it was; instead we should pursue life as there is so much joy and happiness yet to be discovered without the need of resolutions.

2011 Dues

As your membership chairman I live with two fantasies, both unfulfilled to this date. The first is that I will be able to present to the membership a directory that is free of any errors. The second is that the membership will pay their dues in a timely matter. Timely is defined in our By-Laws as "prior to January 1 of each year."

So I ask for your assistance this year in helping me live out these fantasies by sending your dues check, \$35.00 for an individual and \$45.00 for a family, to our club mailbox (P.O. Box 1144, Grants Pass, 97528) or paying me directly at the November or December meeting. Make sure you include any changes in your address, telephone number or e-mail address.

Thank you.

Rich Hosley, Membership Chairman

Royal Wulff Continued From Pg. 6
tend to stay away a "split wing.

Fly Tied by: Loren Black

Note: Many variations: Royal Coachman, Royal Trude, Royal Renegade, Royal Coachman Fanwing, Royal Humpty, Wrights Royal, Western Coachman and many more. Original tied around 1820 in England by: Tom Bosworth who was Coachman to King George IV. The Royal Coachman was first made in 1878 by John Haily in New York.

If anyone would be interested, Loren has offered to give a class on tying the split wing. If you are interested please contact John Storfold, steelyjon@q.com or 541-660-6584.

Huge Inventory Reduction Sale

HUGE INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE - I have way too many fly rods, reels and fly lines to possibly use. I have single hand rods ranging from 4wt. to 12wt., five spey & one switch rod. Two of the spey outfits are premium Gary Anderson rods with top of the line reels & lines. One is a 6wt., the other an 8wt.. I've two Hardy Marquis, a 7 & a 10 both with spare spools. Also, a Billy Pate Bone Fish and a Saracione Monarch M40/AR for large saltwater. The single hand rods are the older G series 9ft two piece by Scott. I also have a 10ft 8wt & a 9'-6" 9wt. Scott. For more detailed info call John Edwards at 541-479-8026.

No reasonable offer refused.

In Memoriam

After a long and gallant fight from a brain tumor, Jay O'Brien, long time club member and immediate past treasurer passed away on December 22, 2010 at his home.

Dave Grosjacques succinctly said "I have lost a good friend and the club has lost a great member. I will always remember Jay as one of the first people who introduced himself when I joined the SOFF. His smile and totally positive outlook on life was a joy to all who knew him. He gave me a compliment one time when I was golfing with him and I asked him why he decided to take on the SOFF treasurer's job and he told me that as long as I was president he would glad to do it, we could tell fish stories at Board meetings."

Jay may you always have a warm sun on your face, a cool breeze at your back and the right fly to match the hatch on all the heavenly streams.

Tight lines, old friend.



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Editor's Notebook

Here it is the start of a new year and a time for resolutions – resolutions depending on how and when they were made will generally last no longer than a week at best. Intentions are great, but we all know what the road to hell is paved with and rest assured that you and I have many cobblestones scattered along that byway. Still infused with this knowledge, I continue to squander valuable time at the beginning of each year on a series of resolutions, albeit seemingly smaller and less important each succeeding year.

This year as in the past is the ever popular 'I'm going to lose weight'. I take this resolution very serious for the first couple of days and in fact somewhat starve myself as the 'kick-off gesture' to this pursuit. After a few days of deprivation, I weighed myself and noted that after several days I

haven't gained any additional weight. I then apply the US Government's budgeting rationalizing that if they haven't put additional monies in a budget category than they must of lost money. Only in my case if I haven't gained any weight then I must have lost weight. I feel better already – completion of my first resolution within the first week.

Here's another popular one – I'm going to start an exercise regimen. Used to be just to get back into shape, but as the years pass by now I'm concerned with just my continued use of all my body parts. The hard part is deciding what it is that I really want to do. Join a gym that's the ticket, maybe not, because probably they're too far away and cost too much to join. Maybe if I don't go to the gym, I can bring the gym to me. A good idea until I remember the stair-stepper, exercise bike and a sundry array of other exercise equipment that lay unused and

gathered dust before their departure to the Good Will or Salvation Army. When all else fails, a walking program is what is needed. This is simple no special equipment required, just a good pair of walking shoes and I'm off 'to the races'. The first day of the walking program it's snowing or raining, I can't go out in that I would be risking my health; I'll have to wait for good weather. By the time good weather arrives, the walking shoes are in the closet gathering dust. Nah, I don't have to go out and walk – I get up each morning walk to the kitchen for coffee, than it's off to the computer and finally a walk to my recliner for a nap and a little television. Exercise resolution accomplished!

Then there is the resolution to make more money only to realize that I'm on a pension and that isn't going to change. Maybe I could get on the

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