



The Fly Line

Washington County Fly Fishers

Federation of Fly Fishers

"Cultivating the art of fly fishing through a spirit of fellowship and resource enhancement"

www.wcflyfishers-ore.com

Issue #94

August, 2008

August Chapter Meeting
 Westbrook Club House
 14255 S.W. 6th Street (one block east of S.W. Murray)
 Beaverton, OR 97005

Wednesday, August 6, 2008

6:00 – 6:15	Note: Meeting starts early this month, at 6:00 p.m. There will be a very brief meeting prior to the BBQ. Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timothy Lake outing – September 13th • Establishment of fly tying night
6:15 – 8:00	The feast begins. Line up for fish, ribs, and many side dishes and desserts
8:00 – 9:00	Raffle and informal casting games
9:00	Clean up and adjournment

Annual August BBQ

The time has come for our annual BBQ. It seems hard to believe, but this is the eighth year we have sponsored this event. It has proven to be one of our most popular activities – everyone loves food, so you can't go wrong! The club is providing the main dishes. With the help of Don Nelson the club is grilling fifty pounds of fish (25 pounds of sockeye and 25 pounds of halibut). Shane Stewart will be the fish chef. David Eisenhauer and Pete Priepke will do the honors with the ribs. All participating members are asked to bring their favorite side dish or



Yes, Don does get out fishing now and then. This is a nice typical searun from the Siletz. It is the time of year to search for these "harvest trout."

dessert. If you would like to bring your favorite wine or beer, please feel free to do so. The club will provide other beverages.

Don't forget that you are encouraged to **bring your friends and family**. **The BBQ is open and free to everyone as long as you are willing to bring a side dish for others to enjoy.**

After everyone has had their fill of food we will have a raffle and some informal casting games. Bring your favorite rod and reel if you like to share it with others, or you can try some of the equipment we will provide. The raffle prizes will prove to be especially nice for this event, so be prepared to buy a few tickets to improve your odds of winning. **PLAN ON COMING –YOU WON'T REGRET IT.**

Washington County Flyfishers
www.wcflyfishers-ore.com

President
Pete Priepeke
503-614-8115
ppriepeke@gmail.com

Vice President
Jerry Heppell
503-639-9408
gheppell5@verizon.net

Treasurer
Cary Maycumber
503-646-7743
tackle.net@gte.net

Newsletter Editor
Kathi Priepeke
oregonfishwife@yahoo.com

Board of Directors

David Wesley, **Outing Chair**
503-848-0812
dcwesley@comcast.net

David Eisenhauer, **Librarian**
503-649-3804
bluenoser@techsensei.com

Paul Skelton, **Awards Chair**
503-351-6182

Shane Stewart, **Conservation Chair**
503-640-8346
wetfly54@comcast.net

John McNally, **Education Chair**
503-591-1972
jackdog1948@verizon.net

Hal Gordon, **Entertainment Chair**
503-642-1135
gordonhw@yahoo.com

Rich Taylor, **Website Chair**
503-356-8731
rich.taylor2@gte.net

Tom Wideman, **Membership Chair**
503-579-3129
tgwideman@verizon.net

Don Nelson
503-579-5176
John Stalcup
503-538-0565
staljohn@earthlink.net

Lora Martinez
503-804-9024
lora.m@verizon.net

Ralph Brooks
503-524-6217
rebros@bv.com

Chuck Cooney
503-642-2186
cacjcooney@aol.com

Fred Rodley
northwestrods@aol.com

George Wilson
george_wilson@comcast.net
503-524-3781

August President's Message

The Annual BBQ: Don't miss this. The people and food are great!

Oregon State Fair Fly Tying Competition: The Oregon Council of FFF is sponsoring the Oregon State Fair Fly Tying Competition. The purpose of this sponsorship is to promote the art and craft of fly tying as well as to promote the activities and conservation efforts of FFF in the State of Oregon. Unfortunately it is too late to participate in this year's contest, but you may want to make a note to think about next year. You might gain a little notoriety and help further the cause of fly fishing as well. On Sunday, August 24th there will be volunteer fly tyers from around the state demonstrating the art of fly tying at the fair. There is still time to volunteer. If you are interested, contact Keith Burkhart (bluebackforme@comcast.net or 503-363-8324) or Jim Ferguson (j.ferguson@comcast.net or 503-390-5043).

Action Alert: Proposed regulations on the Umpqua and other rivers in southwest Oregon allow the harvest of wild winter steelhead. This is supported by ODFW, who argue that the run is healthy and should be harvested. The proposals are in reaction to regulations adopted last year banning the killing of wild winter steelhead. If you can, please support the "steamboaters" and our brothers and sisters in southwest Oregon. Prevent the harvesting of wild fish. We can overcome ODFW's bias toward harvesting wild steelhead only by showing the commission that the public cares passionately about protecting them. Keep in mind that releasing fish may or may not allow that fish to spawn again. One thing is for sure: one on the grill will never spawn or return. Send your thoughts to ODFW Angling Regulations, 3406 Cherry Avenue NE, Salem, OR 97303 or e-mail rhine.t.messmer@state.or.us.

Fly Tying Night: I am working on establishing a fly tying night at the club in addition to our regular meeting. Think about what time of the month you may want to do this. We will probably start this monthly gathering in September or October. Chuck Cooney has volunteered to help host the meeting. We are ready to start – give us your thoughts.

Upcoming Events

August 6thMonthly Meeting: Annual BBQ, 6-9 PM
August 20thBoard Meeting
September 3rdMonthly Meeting
September 13thTimothy Lake Outing
September 17thBoard Meeting
October 2ndMonthly Meeting
October 11th – 12thCrooked River Outing
October 22ndBoard Meeting

Following is an article contributed to the newsletter by member Jack Cary Maycumber :

A NEW ALASKAN GUIDE

I have used guides from Captain Bruce Chard of the Florida Keys to Nikolai Bulikin of Russia's Kharlovka River. During April I was searching for an Alaskan fishing trip to book after doing some work in the Kasilof area during mid-June. I discovered that guides were willing to offer custom trips with aggressive pricing (for me...price is always a relevant concern). The range of prices went from \$7000 to \$2100 for 7 to 8 days of fishing. I selected the \$2100 trip but not solely because of price.

The guide (Mike Bianchi) was recommended to me by Paul Hansen of 'Alaskan Rainbow Adventures'. I had floated 65 miles of the Alagnak River with Paul a few years ago (Paul has also been featured on the Larry Czonka fishing TV show for a silver salmon trip). I have recommended Paul (and still do) as a very competent Alaskan outfitter.

The \$2100 price included a 55 mile float of the Deshka River system (starting at the top of Moose Creek), 7 nights, and 8 days with a float plane pickup. Mike offered to go the '2nd mile' and picked me up at the Anchorage airport with post trip return for my flight home. An average motel would cost well over \$150 but Mike put me up in his guest room (Bed, Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner) for \$70/night. Negating the need for rental car was a huge savings.

The price was excellent but the trip gets better....due to Mike just being Mike. After exchanging emails I decided to take a chance but was naturally concerned about the trip. After all, I was being picked up by a total stranger and spending 10 days with him – 8 of them on an isolated Alaska float. My worries disappeared after meeting Mike, his wife, and his beautiful 4-year-old daughter (who has her own fishing rod with frequent outings under her belt)

Mike proved to work as hard as any guide that I have ever had....with some of the work being performed with a substantial leg wound. He also knows how to cook (steak, pork chili, burritos, spaghetti, cheese burgers, Jambalaya with hardy sandwiches for mid day energy). I actually gained weight on the trip. Each night Mike put up camp tents, cots, camp kitchen, water purification system and would not let me do a thing....besides fish....he is actually a slave driver....he kept after me to keep throwing leeches for the chance to connect to trophy fish.

This brings me to the fishing facts: I planned to fish for large trout at the start of the trip but took a 9/10 weight for king salmon toward the end of the trips lower salmon area. If you want to just catch nice trout there is potential for 70 fish days but I concentrated on only fishing water that had potential for larger trout. There is so much excellent water we actually fished too slowly for the first three days....Mike paid dearly for this later.

I would actually try to lose fish that were less than 16 inches and quickly released all fish caught with only taking a few photos. The stark truth is the largest 'bow' actually landed and took time to measure was a little over 18 inches. I had chances for fish that were in the mid 20's but always lost them for reasons we all lose fish. One challenge of the Deshka River system is thousands of tree/shrub snags from annual spring run off.

The most productive fly was provided by our own Hal Gordon. I was low on leech imitations and Hal stepped up to the plate with 12 beautiful leeches....I made it back with one left in my box and Mike probably saved a dozens of flies each day by rowing back to the fly or stopping for me to retrieve it by walking back.

Mike's predatory guide instincts were exceptional. I joked with him that I felt he put me into position to fish 70% of the best pockets and I was really pissed about the other 30%.

A NEW ALASKAN GUIDE (continued)

On our second day, we came to a beaver dam (damn beavers) that stretched across Moose Creek. Mike had me get out of the raft and he began doing a portage maneuver with roping the raft over the dam. That was done successfully but the raft slipped into some heavy current, the rope tangled, pulling Mike into the river. I was on a log with camera ready and got some great shots of Mike getting wet.....he was in no danger but was over his waders and I did not want to miss this 'Kodak' moment. Mike simply stated, keep fishing and I will be back to you in a few minutes. I then witnessed the start of a very uncomfortable remaining days for Mike.....he had received a very deep puncture wound into his shin area with blood quickly soaking his fleece pants and wader socks. He had severed a vein and it took a half hour to bandage up I suggested that we might need to cut the trip short, but he would have nothing of that option.

All the above is complimentary but is not what made the trip so special.....Mike grew up in Alaska, knows most of the guys on 'Deadliest Catch', was emancipated at age 16 (with a Nissan 280 Z sports car....which was not thought out clearly by his generous mother). Mike is probably lucky to be alive and has hundreds of stories.....I need to book with him again to work further on a book about his history....actually I have suggested to him to consider writing a book....sample of one of his stories:

Fall fishing season had finished in September (late 90's) with crab season not starting until the next January. In November he and his roommates were running out of funds. Mike was reading the 'Seward Bulletin' and came across the 'Pet of the Week Adoption' program. Mike hit roomies up for the \$20 adoption fee and then made a call to some of his Samoan friends. The fun loving Samoan's jumped in, and the 'Seward Pet of the Week'....a very plump Pot Belly Pig..... was the honored guest at a Samoan traditional luau. The next week, Mike was paid a visit by the humane society, who was investigating a rumor.

. They reminded Mike that he had signed a document stating that he would take good care of the pet.....Mike, said we did, we took great care of it (complete with an apple...its last apple). I quickly came to the realization I was isolated in the Alaskan 'bush' with a 260 pound Alaskan native that had ate the 'Seward's Pet of the Week'.

I mentioned that we spent too much time trying to hit all the hot spots.....we reached the King boundary on the 6th day and the game commission had just closed the river for salmon due to low fish counts.....on the last day before take out....we found our selves in over 10 miles of -0- current water....the Deshka River had seemed to become Deshka Lake. I offered to help row.....but Mike would have nothing to do with that....Mike is now in great shape for the rest of the season.

Mike has openings for great silver fishing in August/September. Let me know if you would like to have his contact information.

Safe wading, Jack Cary Maycumber 503-646-7746/
tackle.net@comcast.net



I can help you land the home you want!

Tom & Cindy
WIDEMAN
Real Estate Team
Real people. Real results.
CALL 503-579-3129
KELLER WILLIAMS
CENTRAL OREGON

We're never too busy to take excellent care of your referrals!



Fly of the Month: Dickson's Crystal Caddis
Courtesy of Dennis Dickson

Category	Steelhead
Hooks	#4-#6 salmon hook
Thread	3/0 for body
Tail	None
Tag	4 strands of Krystal Flash, orange
Body	Orange poly yarn
Rib	Orange Krystal Flash, wrapped forward
Wing	Orange grizzly hackle tips (optional)
Over Wing	12 strands orange Krystal Flash
Collar	Spun deer hair, or elk
Head	Spun deer hair or elk Muddler style

History: Dennis Dickson is a fisheries biologist and respected guide from northern Washington. He is well known for his expertise on the Skagit, Sauk, and Stillaguamish, as well as most other rivers in Washington. In the early 1990s he developed this fly on the Wenatchee River after one of his customers used a similar fly and Dennis discovered how effective it was. His client was not an experienced fisherman, but he managed to catch three nice steelhead. Since the 1990s Dennis has been fishing the Grand Ronde River and this has proven to be his “go-to” fly for surface fishing. It is an excellent pattern and there is no reason it should not work well on the Deschutes, John Day, and other Columbia River tributaries.

How to Fish: This fly can be fished with a wet fly swing, but its main purpose is to be fished as a waking or skating dry fly. Dickson ruffle hitches it in order to keep it on the surface but that is probably not necessary. Just swing it on top of the water through a “glassy” run or tailout and wait for a steelhead to crash on it! When Dickson’s customer was using the fly he was unable to cast, so they actually caught fish by “hot-shotting” the fly on the surface from a drift boat! The lesson here is that the fly will work if you can wake it slowly through a good hole.

How To Tie:

1. Tie in four strands of orange Krystal Flash as a tag. Leave a long tag end to use later as a rib.
2. Wrap orange poly yarn as a body on approximately two-thirds of the hook. Wrap Krystal Flash forward as rib.
3. Tie two orange grizzly hackle tips as wings.
4. Add ten to twelve orange Krystal Flash strands as an overwing.
5. Spin deer or elk hair up to hook eye. Tips should be pointed back to the rear of the fly.
6. Trim head in round or pointed triangular shape. Leave some tips of hair as a collar. This is the same technique you would use on a Muddler minnow.
7. Whip finish and treat head with floatant.
8. Go fishing.

For Sale

8'-9' 4 wt TFO Finesse Series Fly Rod with Galvan OB-3 Reel and Wolfe Triangle Taper TT5FN (Nymph) Line. The rod's been fished once, the reel half a dozen times with a different rod. All look like new. Retail \$510, asking \$350 OBO.

Call Tom @ (503) 579-3129

Imagine a trout stream in late summer, spooky fish, low clear water. Situation requires a delicate and accurate presentation. THIS is the outfit you need. Come to the BBQ and see for yourself.

HELP SAVE OUR NATIVE CUTTHROAT. LET ODFW KNOW WE WANT TO RETAIN CATCH & RELEASE REGULATIONS.



RIVER CITY FLY SHOP

“The Friendly Place for Fly Fishermen to Meet”

- The finest in fly fishing equipment at fair prices*
- Large selection of fly tying materials and supplies*
- Huge assortment of flies*
- Guide services*
- Fly tying classes*
- Fly casting lessons*
- Personalized service and help for the expert and novice alike*

11429 S.W. Scholls Ferry Road
Beaverton, Oregon 97008

Phone (503) 579-5176

Fax (503) 579-4935

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 5 pm Sunday
Monday: “Gone Fishing”

Washington County Fly Fishers
19720 N.W. Metolius Drive
Portland, OR 97229