



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 #72

September, 2006

September Chapter Meeting

Westbrook Club House

14255 S.W. 6th Street (one block east of S.W. Murray)

Beaverton, OR 97008

7:00 – 7:30	Introduction/start of meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Erica Stokes from Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition invites everyone to a "salmon bake."• Planning for September Deschutes steelhead outing• "Annual Auction" – when and where?
7:30 – 8:30	Entertainment: Scott Heppell, fisheries biologist from Oregon State, will talk about the importance of the grouper as a key species in our marine environment
8:30 – 9:00	Raffle, adjournment



Last month's BBQ was a great success. Plenty of food was available, and no one went home hungry. Nearly 90 attended.

Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition

You and your family are invited to a special event: Fishermen's Gathering and Salmon Bake. Join renowned fisherman, conservationist, and author David James Duncan and leaders of the Northwest fishing communities to stand up for wild salmon and steelhead. Protect your fish and your right to fish.

When: September 19, 2006

Where: Sellwood Park, 5:00 p.m.

Organizer: Erica Stokes (Wild Salmon Coalition)

Phone: 503-230-0421, ext 17

E-mail: erica@wildsalmon.org

Entertainment

"On the Wanderings of Grouper, and Why We Should Care"

Scott Heppell of Oregon State University's Department of Fish and Wildlife has been instrumental in helping us with our scholarship program. He has asked to provide a presentation regarding some of the research he has been doing as a way of keeping us informed of the kind of vital work that Oregon State is doing to protect not only our fishery but also the world's fishery. He plans to talk about the Nassau grouper:

Like salmon of the Pacific Northwest, Nassau grouper of the Caribbean are dual keystone species. In addition to their substantial role structuring the ecosystem, they have since historic times played a significant cultural role for communities throughout the Caribbean. Unfortunately, also like salmon, their very existence in some parts of their range is threatened. Doomed in many places because of a quirk in their natural history that makes them extremely vulnerable to fishing, adult populations throughout the Caribbean have been decimated. But, there is hope in some places, as Caribbean governments seek to protect spawning adults and rebuild populations critical to tourism, fishing, and the ecology of their coral reefs. This talk will start with an overview of this amazing fish and its life history, the status of Nassau populations throughout the Caribbean, and will then focus on conservation efforts and scientific studies currently underway in the Cayman Islands that seek to restore this beast to its former glory. A short movie will follow.

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September President's Message

Fly Tying Rendezvous/Club Auction As you know from previous newsletters, our club, along with the Northwest Flyfishers, the Clark Skamania Fly Fishers, the Mt. Hood Fly Club, Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited, Clackamas Flyfishers, and the Clackamas River Trout Unlimited, has been involved in the planning and production of the Annual Pacific Northwest Fly Tyers Rendezvous, which is scheduled for November 4th this year. Over thirty tyers will be on hand to demonstrate and share their skills with anyone who wants to attend. It is always a great event, and I encourage everyone in our club to attend if possible. All proceeds are earmarked for fish conservation and education projects. Not only will you learn a lot, but you will also be supporting some good causes.

This event also features some great prizes and products that will be raffled and auctioned throughout the day. Normally our club would also have an auction in November, but the board has decided to change our annual club auction to March so that it will not conflict with the Rendezvous. Our internal auction is vital to our club and our primary fund raiser, but everyone feels that having it just before the spring trout opener is a good idea, and it will not conflict with any other activities at that time.

Fly Donations Organizers of the Fly Tying Rendezvous have challenged the local clubs to donate hand-tied flies from their membership. Do you have some favorite patterns? Or perhaps a new fly of your own design? Tie up a half- or whole dozen and donate them to the Rendezvous. Display boxes will be provided. You will be given credit and may even gain a little notoriety. Let's show our fellow clubs that we have "the right stuff." If we start now, we could easily provide more flies than anyone else. If you have questions or have flies to contribute, please contact me (Pete Priepeke, 503-614-8115) or Hal Gordon (gordonhw@yahoo.com) Now is the time to tie. November 4th is sneaking up faster than you think.

Deschutes Outing On September 23rd and 24th we will gather at the "Beavertail" campground on the Deschutes in yet another attempt to conquer the wily and elusive summer run steelhead. The club will provide an evening dinner on Saturday night for those who are planning to camp over. Bring your own beverages and lunch materials. If you have a drift or pontoon boat we will arrange shuttles for you. Plenty of bank access is available for those who prefer to remain on foot. More details will be planned at this month's meeting.

Hal Gordon's Fall Adventure ...The week of Oct. 2-7 is approaching quickly. Now is the time to confirm whether or not you are planning to participate in this week-long event. The current plan is to start near French Glenn, fish the Donner and Blitzen, Krumbo Reservoir, and work our way west, ending on the Rogue fishing for half-pounders. These affordable "no host" trips are a wonderful way to learn new waters around our state. Talk to Hal at this month's meeting about the trip. Keep your loops tight.....Pete

Fly of the Month: “Blow Fly”



Submitted by Hal Gordon. Photo by John McNally

Hook	Standard Dry Fly #10-16
Thread	8/0 Black
Body	Blue Tinsel with Elk Hair pulled over the top
Hackle	Black
Wing	Elk Body Hair or White Calf Body Hair if needed for visibility
Tail	Moose Mane

History: This New Zealand pattern was developed to imitate the large horse flies that follow livestock (and fishermen) through the hot summer months. This fly style was developed by Jack Horner, from San Francisco, and made popular with the Humpy and Goofus Bug. If you want to fish in the middle of a hot, sunny, summer day when no bugs are on the water, and the fish have seen too many grasshopper imitations, this is your fly.

How to Fish: Fish the Blow Fly in streams where there are concentrations of horses or cattle that have access to the river. The blow fly needs manure to complete its life cycle, if your dodging “cow pies” along the stream, your in the right place. Do not fish this fly in a bull pasture! No fancy casting is required, throw it hard on the water to create a commotion. It can be dead drifted and skated at the end of the drift. Fish it in both rough water and clam back eddies, it works especially well in pocket-water. This bushy fly floats like a cork and dry fly floatant is not necessary.

Tying Instructions: Fix the hook in the vise and layer thread over the shank to the bend. Tie in the moose mane tail. Attach and separate the wings at the front third of the hook and lash the “tag-end” of the elk hair along the hook shank to the tail. Attach and wrap the blue tinsel up the shank to the wing posts. Pull the “tag-end” elk hair over the body and tie off and clip the excess elk hair. Attach and wrap the hackle (use a good quality hackle and make it bushy). The hackle should be slightly larger than the hook gap. Secure the hackle with several generous wraps of thread and add a drop of cement to the thread.

Upcoming Events

- September 6thMonthly Meeting
- September 20thBoard Meeting
- September 23rd-24th ...Deschutes Steelhead Outing
- October 4thMonthly Meeting
- October 18thBoard Meeting
- October 28th-29thCrooked River Outing
- November 1stMonthly Meeting
- November 15thBoard Meeting
- December 6thHoliday Banquet/Monthly Meeting

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

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