

Flyline

A Publication of the Flyfisher's Club of Oregon

F O U N D E D 1 9 6 1

2016 FCO Elections Coming! - Tuesday, February 16 at the monthly meeting (yes, the February meeting is being held on the 3rd Tuesday!)

Come join the Flyfishers Club of Oregon for the Monthly Dinner Meeting January 12th

Come meet Jeff and Kathryn Hickman and watch their presentation that takes us along on their search for the perfect year-round steelhead season. Their slideshow features beautiful photos and will take us throughout the northwest over the course of 12 months and give us a glimpse into what they feel is the best steelhead fishing in the world. The most fascinating part is hearing their personal story intertwined and how they created a life together migrating with the steelhead seasons.



Bio:

Jeff Hickman has been a notable local steelhead guide for 14 years. As a way to live together year-round Jeff and his wife Kathryn joined forces two years ago when they bought Kimsquit Bay Lodge (KBL) on the lower Dean River in British Columbia. Now Kathryn and Jeff live happily with the steelhead seasons running three separate world class guided steelhead

programs. Their Summers are spent on the central coast of BC at KBL. Their Oregon based Fish The Swing, in the Winter/Spring offers guided jet boat trips on the Clackamas and Santiam Rivers as well as float trips on Oregon's north coast rivers. In the Fall they offer guided overnight steelhead jet boat camp trips on the roadless lowest 15 miles of the Deschutes River.

Auction Donations Needed

It is time to begin assembling items for the 2016 FCO/FFF dinner/auction.

If you have any quality fly fishing gear, float trips, guided fishing adventures, overnight stays at cabins, good wine, fine art, rare books, gourmet dinners/food items or any other desirable items you would like to donate to this year's auction, please contact John Pyrch (jgpyrch1@msn.com) or Dave Moskowitz (moskosalmo@gmail.com). They will be happy to collect the donations and provide you with a tax receipt for your contributions. Also, please mark your calendars now and plan to join the festivities on May 10th from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Multnomah Athletic Club.

[Make your dinner reservations here.](#)
(pay ahead or at the door)

President's Message

New Board for 2016

This letter serves as official notice of the upcoming annual election of your Flyfishers Club Board and Officers for the 2016 – 17 year. **The election will occur at the Annual Meeting, February 16, 2016 at the University Club at 7 pm.** Your club is run by a dedicated group of volunteers that monitor the health of the club while trying to increase membership and providing world-class programs. Each year at this time, the officers are elected to one-year terms along with two at large board members that serve three-year terms. For 2016, the proposed slate of officers is:

- President – Teri Beatty
- Vice President – Paul Franklin
- Secretary – Janet Arenz
- Treasurer – Open
- Past President – Rick Pay

The two Board members entering into new three-year terms ending in Feb 2019 are:

- Harold Weight
- Jim Hillas
- 2018 slot – Steve Willhite

There are three other board members whose terms are continuing and thus are not up for election:

- Lisa Hansen
- Sarah Lonigro
- Brian Light

We will call for nominations from the floor at the February meeting if anyone is so inclined.

If you have any interest in serving your club in the future, please contact me at payclan@earthlink.net. We potentially need officers and one or two new board members for the future. We need you!

I want to thank all of the above for their dedication and hard work. I especially want to thank Jerry Brown who has served as Treasurer and is leaving the FCO board.

Happy New Year,
Rick Pay



Member Matters

Dear Members,

The following slate of candidates are proposed for The Flyfisher Foundation Board of Directors for 2016.

Janet Arenz
Mike Collins
Mark Metzdorff
David Moskowitz
Rick Pay
John Pyrch
Susan Safford

The Flyfisher's Club of Oregon Board of Directors votes on the Flyfisher Foundation slate after the FCO Board elections by the membership at the Members Meeting on February 16, 2016.

December 2015 Celebration of Past Presidents

Holiday spirit was shining bright when 15 past FCO Presidents joined members, spouses and family to celebrate the [legacies of the 48 Presidents](#) who have shaped the history of our Club. The University Club was adorned in its holiday finest. The eyes of the attendees shined just as brightly as the ornaments on the glorious tree. Our evening started out with old friends catching up and newer members meeting the past movers and shakers of the FCO. New member, Dr. Steve Aguilu, started out the program by reading his poem with a unique "angle" on the holiday. He left no fishing tackle behind in "The Night Before Fishtmas." Our featured speaker, Dr. Mark Metzdorff, took us on a delightful and honorable review of each FCO President, his/her contributions to the Club, and what made that president unique. He culled his information by reviewing past Club documents, Creels, and Flylines. He interviewed long-time members like Roger Bachman and Tom McAllister to collect trivia and Club accomplishments. Dr. Metzdorff also recognized several non-presidents who made substantial contributions over the years. It was truly a labor of love and dedication to the Club! His presentation was one of the most enjoyable that I have ever attended! A huge thanks go out to Sarah Lonigro for her work planning the event, contacting past presidents, creating and sending the invitations, and making sure all went smoothly. Dave Moskowitz and Janet Arenz deserve a hearty thank you for [capturing the event in many photos](#).



FFCSI (Fly Fishing Crime Scene Investigation)

One wonders if there is any sense of criminality in the natural world. Fauna on this planet (and presumably elsewhere) seem to survive the best by tricks of the trade. No one raises questions of morality when a trapdoor spider leaps out at its intended victim or when the European Common Cuckoo sneaks its egg into another species' nest. We think of these tiny acts of violence and fraud as clever manifestations of the survival instinct.

In fact, when dissected to its ethical roots, our game of fly fishing is really one of fooling a poor trout with a brain about the size of one of our spinal ganglia who was just looking for a square meal. It makes one a little sheepish just thinking about it. But life is not really that simple, is it? What about the hundreds of insects that will survive to complete their life cycle just because we put a trout off his feed for a few hours that day. It really just depends on who you ask.

Well I am here to say that indeed there are animal criminals... at least from the standpoint of the gang at Dry Falls Lake.



Facts of the Case:

May 20, 2006

09:45 am: Resident Piscogastroentemologist (that's entomologist NOT enterologist) Gary Anderson PGED has gathered a comprehensive collection of wet creatures including damsel, caddis and mayfly nymphs. He also has managed to find two darting, fat dragonfly nymphs, a pinguid mud-brown leech, happily accordioning him/herself (they are hermaphroditic) around the plastic bucket. He also corralled a few scuds, two of which where spinning around the bucket locked in the ecstasy of crustacean love (thank god there were no kids at the outing). He topped it off with special guest stars: a gaggle of red-orange freshwater mites that looked like bits of Cheetos some sloppy-lunching angler had driveled into the water that subsequently sprouted legs! Ech! Pardon, I am losing my investigative objectivity here!

To my mind, this is an amazing feat. When I try similar samplings, I wind up with a lot of mud,

sand, barely visible creatures and untold amounts of vegetable detritus. In short, if Gary were a fish he would not be one of the long snakes pulled out of the stony Westside rivers but rather, he would be one of those prediabetic balloons that can be found in most of our rich interior lakes. Fortunately for us, he is neither; he is scientist.

10:00 am: The drizzle settles on face, hands and necks. We can see our breath in the thick air. Gary has collected another set of wet creatures, including several bipeds, supposedly *Homo sapiens* (but turning out on a day like this makes "thinking man" a serious misnomer) and one quadruped: *Canis saturatus*, common name: wet dog. This happy creature took no notice of the rain but continued to pursue any fun it could find by (much to John Murio's chagrin) bringing me rocks to play fetch with (there are just not many good sticks at Dry Falls, but that's another story). If you are going to be stupid and wet, at least find some way to enjoy yourself: the well-known Third Law of Dogmatism.

There we stood like human dish mops, gawking with delight at the antics of these oblivious aquatic creatures. I am not sure if it indicates evolution to a higher plane or another sad loss of our youth, that forty years ago, it would have been a *Playboy* magazine. In any case, our fascination was real and we could all feel our learning curves headed for another of the many steep parts that we endure through life. Someone asked Gary where he got such a diverse collection. Gary looked at him and the first sign of the day's malfeasance became apparent:

"If I told you where I got these, I would have to kill you..." After a moment of stunned silence, we again commenced the oohing and ahing over the cute little zippy dragon fly nymphs careful not to ask any more invasive questions.

As any good crime scene investigator would know, this should have been a clue. Many offenses are piggy-backed onto others. Think of drug deals gone bad or the greedy investor who loses thousands (or his life) by pursuing several million in "commissions" for a Nigerian "banker" or the robber-robbing-the-robber theme of *Ocean's Eleven*.

10:45 am: It is apparent that no one else is stupid enough to come out on a day like this so the five odd fellows tramp down to the launch site to meet the famous Ed Engle (*Fishing Small Flies, Tying Small Flies; Stackpole Books*), Gary's advance-man-to-collect-stomach-samples-from-fish-he-didn't-catch. That's right, no fish, and this guy just gave us a great presentation on catching difficult fish. Tells you how bad the fishing was that day. Ed did manage to collect two or three damsel fly nymphs that crawled out of the water looking for a stick (he is actually quite tall and thin) to molt on. In his talk, he made reference to the importance of blending into the scenery, but I am not sure that is what he meant to convey here.

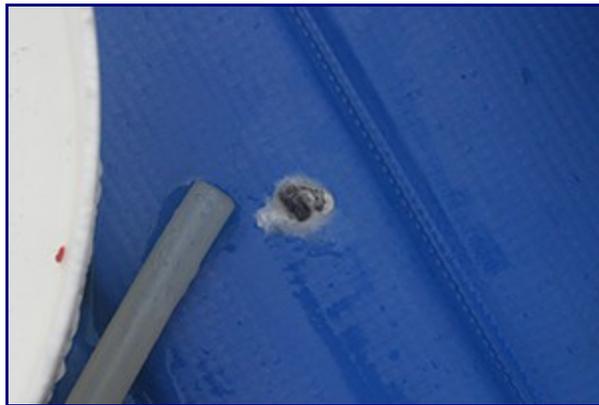


10:55 am: The wet dogs (two legged as well), troop back up to the display table to show Ed what

we had. Gary was the first to notice.

“Darn, the dragons got away. They can jump out of the pans if they get enough speed.” Everyone started scanning the ground around the table. No bugs. Finally, with a twinge of dread we started checking the soles of our boots. No flat bugs. Looking back at the table brought the sordid answer. One by one we checked the other plastic pans and buckets. The only insects left were the water boatmen and backswimmers (in a deep plastic jar) and the caddis flies in the open pan but still in their presumably protective rough cases. Miraculously, the leech continued to inch his way around the pan looking for a girlfriend/boyfriend and something dead to eat.

No one spoke for a minute as the questions began to juggle themselves into a pattern. Something had happened here. This was a crime scene. The yellow tape went up. The interviews began. Someone started checking for clues and taking water samples. Another recounted everything, the animals, the weather, the human traffic observed that day. Then we found it. It wasn't large but clearly, there on the table was the smoking, or I should say steaming gun... one small spot of that concoction of uric acid and colonic waste known as bird poop. I checked my references (Poop-ology courtesy: the American Cockatiel Society) and concluded that this was the product of one healthy, if small and probably very smart bird.



11:00 am: A witness recalls clearly seeing a fat redwing blackbird sitting on a nearby auto roof rack watching us from a very bold distance, much closer than most are willing to come. The chilling truth hit home...he was casing the joint. DNA samples were taken, evidence sealed and the indictment sworn out. There was some mention of bringing a shotgun on the next trip to Dry Falls but most felt that without an incriminating feather DNA match that we could not take such drastic action. Sometimes crime does pay.

11:05 am: It was a sad moment. No one said a word. We all stared blankly at the empty pans. And Gary wept. What had begun as a lesson in lake aquatic entomology had ended as a lesson on life and yes, death. There was just one thing left to do. We went fishing... case closed.

Dr. Steve Aguilu

Conservation Corner

A Cutthroat by Any Other Name?

Editor's Note: Your Foundation has supported several worthy causes this year. One of the recipients was the American Fisheries Society, Western Division. The email below describes the scientific workshop on Cutthroat Trout that your Foundation helped support. A report on the workshop can be found by following the link below. The "bottom line" summary can be found on pages 6 and 7 of the report. LKH

[WDAFS Special Workshop Report](#)

Email to Flyfisher Foundation President, David Moskowitz, dated December 13, 2015.

On August 18 and 19, 2015, at its joint annual meeting with the American Fisheries Society (AFS) in Portland, Oregon, the AFS Western Division convened a Special Workshop of scientific experts to address and try to resolve a number of concerns being raised about the validity of currently recognized subspecies of Cutthroat Trout. This was done because recent uncertainty about which are valid subspecies and which should be either lumped together or split apart has already been having effects on state and federal watershed restoration and management programs, as well as ESA recovery and fishery management plans for these subspecies. The Workshop, formally titled "The Evolutionary Biology and Taxonomy of Cutthroat Trout," received generous financial support from the Flyfisher Foundation and Flyfishers Club of Oregon, for which we are truly grateful.

Attached is the Workshop planning committee's report on the proceedings and findings of the Special Workshop. As one of its generous co-sponsors, please feel free to use whatever you can from this report in your newsletter and other publicity releases from your organization. However, as you will read, the Workshop panel's work is not yet completed, so please treat the information as preliminary and subject to revision during forthcoming panel deliberations.

For the Special Cutthroat Workshop planning committee, thanks again for your support,

Patrick Trotter



Coastal cutthroat (Sea-run)

Photo retrieved from:
http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/salmon/graphics/cutthroat_sea-run.jpg

