

Flyline

A Publication of the Flyfisher's Club of Oregon

F O U N D E D 1 9 6 1

Annual Picnic at Westmoreland Casting Pond - August 8th



Location is Westmoreland Park casting ponds – picnic area G.

Event starts at 6PM. The event is free to club members and guests but we still need a head count for catering. [Email us now.](#)

Menu is BBQ chicken, pulled pork, green salad, baked beans, potato salad, and dessert bars. BYOB beer & wine.

This will be a fun event with several of our local fly clubs attending to support the club. They are organizing casting competitions, a wader up challenge, and rod demos and instruction.

We will be awarding prizes to the winners, plus raffling off a few items. Fun, Fun, Fun!!

President's Message

I hope this warm weather provides the excuse for you to find time on a cool stream or lake. I am looking forward to our upcoming club event at the casting ponds. Ross has created the perfect summer evening event with games & gear testing. There is a Wader Up Cup Challenge and also some Casting Competitions. I know he promises prizes, great food and of course a fun opportunity for us to gather in a casual setting outdoors. If you haven't signed up please do so, as this is a hosted event from the club. Please bring your own beverages, permit allows beer and wine.

If you could take a moment to check the information we have for you on the club roster and verify that the information is accurate it would ensure that we are getting you all of the information about club activity and events each month. If you see a discrepancy please send an email to Joe Palanuk at joe@wolfpk.com.

I would also like to remind everyone that one of the new additions to our meeting last year that has been very popular is our Tyers Table at the Wet Fly Hour of our meetings. If you have a favorite fly or an evening of knots that you would like to share please let me know. I am trying to fill the calendar for Fall and 2018. All levels are encouraged and appreciated.

Stay cool! See you at the casting ponds.

My best to you,
Teri



Member Matters

It is literally the dog days of summer and this heat could put a damper on all the fun things you have planned for August. Of course, you have emailed your reservation for the Annual Club Picnic and Casting Clinic scheduled for August 8th. While you are at it, make sure you have next month's meeting on your schedule when we hear the informative State of the Deschutes Round Table on Tuesday September 12th. See you there!

Fishing Reports

From Steve Willhite, the perennial fisherman:

Well here's my latest.

I went out with Ethan Nickel (Orvis guide) on the middle fork of the Willamette last Friday, June 30, 2017. We floated about 13 river miles above the lake above Dexter dam and below Hill Creek dam. We floated through Oakridge and took out at Black Canyon campground. We were fishing a possebugger under a purple chubby Chernobyl. The fish preferred the nymph but many took the dry fly. Wow! Very cool to see them come up and just destroy the dry.



From Lisa Hansen:

We camped on the North Fork of the Middle Fork Willamette at the end of July before the heat wave hit. The trout are generally are not big but they are wild and feisty. Enthusiastic little guys unsuccessfully attacked the elk hair caddis but those that took the dropper were hooked. We caught a couple decent sized fish. The North Fork is a wild and scenic river that has lush mixed forest and a reference book full of northwest native plants. A picturesque and relaxing place to get away for sure.



Literary Angler

Editor's Note: This piece of FCO history comes to you by our dear senior member, Roger Bachman. He recounts the trials of tribulations of putting together the 1976 edition of The Creel. For those who are familiar with the characters in this story, it is sure to bring an affirmative smile. If you need some context, Pete Hidy was the first FCO president and founding member. Bob Wethern was an indefatigable writer and collector of all sorts of fly fishing history, lore, and stories. Doug Lynch was The Creel's art director and creator of all the great sketches we have the permission to use in our newsletters and FCO material. These men, along with many others, were responsible shaping and publishing The Creel that documents much of our Club's history.

Peace For The Creel

In 1975 I was president of the Flyfisher's and encountered a new problem. [Pete] Hidy had gone off to a new job in Boise. [Bob] Wethern and [Doug] Lynch were feuding. What to do?

The problem was that Wethern was famously irascible and had a running argument with Lynch about The Creel. The problem was made worse by the absence of Hidy, who behaved like the editor he was. He would take all of the material that Wethern had collected and shape it into an issue. So it came to Lynch as a sort of integrated issue.

But without Hidy, Wethern just dumped all of his reporting on Lynch's desk and walked away, like the newspaper reporter he once was. Lynch objected to being treated like that and argued with Wethern. And complained to me as a friend and president of the Club. But an issue of the Creel would not come out unless the two of them could cooperate.

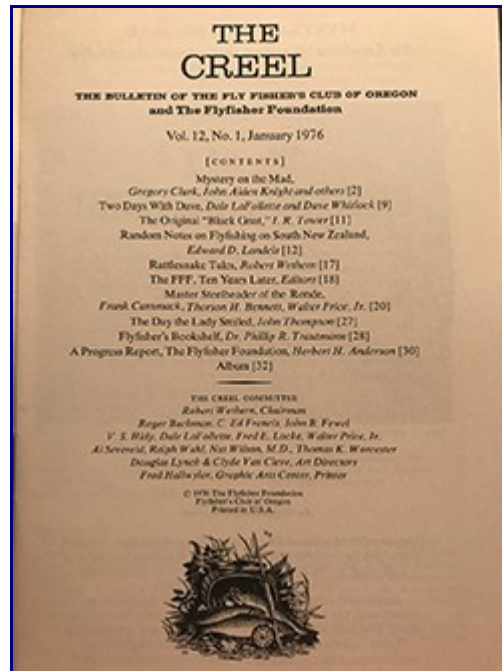
So I cooked up a fishing trip to my place on the Deschutes. I invited several of the most peaceable members I knew. Besides Lynch and Wethern they included Fred Locke (retired ODFW biologist), Herb Hardy, a senior lawyer and peace maker. I have a photo of this group sitting around our campfire with drinks.

Lynch liked to drink brandy but brought only a pint. He was so nervous about the meeting that the pint was soon gone. So he asked Locke if he could have a bit of Locke's fifth of Scotch. And generous Fred said sure, take all you want. But as Lynch was pouring the drink, Wethern saw him and assumed Lynch was stealing some of Locke's Scotch. Wethern broke into a scathing and loud denunciation of Lynch in front of all of us, paying no attention any explanation.

Lynch of course was embarrassed, and furious at Wethern's screaming accusations. Needless to say, that ruined the peaceful conversation I had hoped for. And I had to step in to sit down with Lynch and try to bring some order to the pending Creel issue.

Members never understood how much thought and attention went into each issue. And I tried to play the Hidy role in the next few issues.

Roger Bachman



Conservation Corner

The fight to protect and restore northwest fisheries never takes a vacation. If conservation groups are not faced with a harmful policy proposal, they are going all out to protect wild fish populations that are threatened by forces from humans or nature. Here are a few campaigns and actions going on right now.

Deschutes River Alliance continues to pressure agencies and Portland General Electric to address serious ecologic changes that have occurred on the lower Deschutes since the selective water withdrawal complex began operation in 2010. The latest bad news – walleye are now being caught in the lower river along with increasing numbers of small mouth bass. The D is trying to tell us – water is way too warm!

Native Fish Society's Homewaters campaign is raising funds to restore North Creek on the coast. An aging culvert is an impediment to anadromous fish and lamprey. They have started a crowdfunding campaign headed up by local groups and Siletz River steward, Matt Lund.

Oregon Wild has joined Molalla River Alliance and other partners to strength protection of the Molalla River. The Molalla is home to wild steelhead and salmon runs. Governor Kate Brown designated 23 miles of the Molalla as a State Scenic Waterway but a federal designation as Wild and Scenic will provide additional protection for wildlife, water quality, and recreational opportunity.

The Freshwater Trust is supporting the "restoration economy" in southern Oregon by managing projects along Rogue tributaries like Butte Creek. They have partnered with the Bureau of Reclamation and local contractors to remove invasive species, place large logs, and restore the riparian areas to prevent erosion, improve water quality and create a better environment for fish.

Waterwatch continues its track record of historical successes on the Rogue. Last year biologists documented spawning fall Chinook salmon for the first time in the upper reaches of Rogue trib, Evans Creek. Now that two dams that previously blocked salmon migration have been removed, more habitat is open to anadromous fish. Waterwatch has the ambitious goal of removing another 50 dams in the Rogue River basin over the next 10 years.

Western Rivers Conservancy purchased the Swiftwater Park property on the North Umpqua River last year. The park went up for sale when the county no longer had sufficient funds to maintain it. This spring WRC conveyed the land to the Bureau of Land Management so public access to the park and the westernmost trailhead to the 79 mile North Umpqua trail has been assured for the future.

Wild Fish Conservancy is taking a strong stance against a company that wants to establish aquaculture for Atlantic salmon in Puget Sound. They make the point that all other western states have banned the use of net pens for raising farmed fish and cite the environmental risks for going down this path.

Wild Salmon Center just announced that the proposal to build a huge liquid natural gas (LNG) terminal on the banks of the Skeena in British Columbia has been shelved. WSC celebrated their joint efforts with SkeenaWild and the international community of supporters who presented the scientific and ecologic evidence that helped prevent the complex from being built on this legendary river.

Tight lines, Lisa Hansen

