



Flyline

A Publication of the Flyfisher's Club of Oregon

F O U N D E D 1 9 6 1

Guest Speaker Jeff Currier will be presenting "Streamer Tricks for more & Larger Trout" - October 10th, 2017

When Jeff arrived on the scene in Jackson Hole, Wyoming back in 1987 he was a dry fly fishing purist. He nymphed and tossed streamers on occasion but he spent most of his time at places like the Henry's Fork targeting the best hatches. As Jeff made friends and found older mentors he picked up on the fact that they often caught bigger trout with streamers so he began learning the art of streamer fishing for himself.

It didn't take long for Jeff to become proficient with the streamers and soon he was tweaking techniques. Some of his tricks worked so well that other anglers came to him with their questions – especially after he won the famous Jackson Hole One Fly with a streamer!

Join Jeff as he talks about the equipment he likes from rods to lines to picking the right fly, how to rig multiple flies, stripping speeds and overall methods.

Jeff Currier resides in Victor, Idaho with his wife Yvonne where he bases his globe-trotting career in fly fishing. He is an active member of the R.L. Winston Rod Co Professional Advisory Team as well as Simms, Scientific Anglers, Costa Sunglasses, Yeti, Bauer Reels and Kate's Real Foods. Jeff is also a "Fishing Ambassador" for Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures hosting exotic trips and exploring new destinations. Jeff is a fly fishing lecturer and well known fish artist. He has taught the skills of fly fishing, guided fly fishers throughout Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park and escorted fly fishers on six continents. Jeff has fished in over fifty-five countries and caught over 375 species of fish on the fly!

Jeff's articles, photographs and artwork have graced the pages of magazines, catalogs, brochures and books. He is the acclaimed author of Currier's Quick and Easy Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing and Currier's Quick and Easy Guide to Warmwater Fly Fishing guide books. Jeff is also a well sought after expert for television, radio and numerous fly fishing films.

Jeff has won numerous fly casting competitions and the Jackson Hole One Fly. He also led Team USA to its first ever top-ten finish in the World Flyfishing Championships in Jaca, Spain. During the competition Jeff managed to fool fish on every venue and placed third in the individual standings, becoming the first American ever to take home a medal in the thirty year history of the Championships.

Jeff lectures throughout the United States and Canada on nearly every aspect of fly fishing. He demonstrates fly casting, teaches seminars on the basics to the advanced skills of fly fishing and presents many fly fishing destination programs ranging from his home waters to the most remote corners of the globe. Some of his shows take you to destinations you've never heard of and will leave you in awe that such creatures can be enticed to eat a fly!

Jeff brings a sense of humor, enthusiasm, approachability and more than forty years of fly fishing wherever he goes.

You can follow Jeff's fly fishing adventures, exploits, tips, advice, photography and story-telling on his expanding blog and informative web site. <http://www.jeffcurrier.com>



President's Message

Fall is my favorite season in the Pacific Northwest. The beauty of the changing leaves, a roaring fire in the fireplace and a nice glass of red wine. I am looking forward to hosting a good number of you at Moccasin Lake Ranch next weekend. We should have nice weather and good fishing. Please drive safely.

A few club reminders. We have agreed with The University Club to start paying for our meeting meals on line. When you make your reservation you check the **Pay Button**. It will take you to a page that says Paypal. You do not need to pay via Paypal if you don't have a Paypal account. You can easily pay with your credit card by clicking the Credit Card Button. This process allows for an easier and more accurate check in process. It is much appreciated if you would please use this process.

Calling all Tyers! I would love to have a Fly Tyer at each meeting. You don't have to be a master and you don't have to have an arsenal of a million patterns. You can focus on one fly to demonstrate. I need someone for the upcoming meeting. Please contact me if you can help out.

My best to you,
Teri



Member Matters

Did you know you can get a sneak peek at upcoming FCO speakers and meetings? Just go to the Calendar link on the FCO website and you can see in to the future! Or at least until spring of 2018! Our program chair, Ross Beatty, has a terrific line up for the next 6 months. Check it out and invite some friends to enjoy our top notch speakers!

Have you been out on a gorgeous northwest river this summer or early fall? Think about sharing your trip with the Club by writing a brief (or not so brief) fishing report to share with fellow members. Send your favorite photo along with your catching or just fishing report to your newsletter editor, Lisa Hansen at kwaterbuff@comcast.net. If you have a tale to tell or poem to honor the gift of your favorite river, the Literary Angler has a page for you! And if writing isn't your thing, let Lisa know and you can give her the report over the cell or send a recording.

Membership chair Rick Pay has been spending a lot of time in his waders lately. He sent me a brief report of a recent day fishing on the lower Deschutes from Mack's to the mouth. Hooked 8 and landed 6. Talk about steelhead mojo! Rick sends the report below from the chilly northern latitudes where he explored the rivers of Iceland!

Rick Pay's Incredible Fishing Report

Fly Fishing Iceland

If you take a combination of Alaska boggy tundra, Deschutes afternoon winds, eastern Oregon lakes and streams, very small flies and active fighting fish, you have fly fishing in Iceland. I had the opportunity recently to combine a business with pleasure trip to Iceland in early September. I spent two days walking along Icelandic streams exploring slots and runs for Artic Char, German Browns and Sea Trout.

Iceland is a large island a little less than half the size of Oregon with a total population of about 330,000. It has a strong and long heritage having been settled by the Vikings in the 800's. The people are very Scandinavian, with a little Irish mixed in when the Viking stopped in Ireland on their way bringing some of the local females with them. The Icelandic language is the original Norwegian although everyone speaks fluent English. The food is good, comprised mostly of seafood and lamb. Salty Icelandic Cod and Artic Char are the mainstays, with lamb as the meat choice. There is little to no beef. For the adventurous, there is also horse, whale and puffin.

The country is roughly at the same latitude as Fairbanks Alaska and geologically sits on the spot where the American and European plates meet. Actually, they are pulling apart at the rate of 2 cm per year, which causes a very active geothermal environment. Steam rises everywhere and you have to be careful when you step into a stream to be sure the water is not hot, often near boiling. Interestingly it doesn't

seem to affect the fish as they have figured out how to avoid it. The general landscape looks like eastern Oregon (rolling grass lands) except that instead of grass, the countryside is lava with a moss overlay. There are no trees as the last one was cut over 300 years ago for firewood. The weather is generally bad; rainy and windy with temperatures in the 30's to 50's. We did get lucky and had a very pleasant, sunny two days for fishing.

There are four species of game fish in Iceland – Artic Char, German Brown, Atlantic Salmon and Sea Trout. A Sea Trout is actually a sea run German Brown that can grow to epic size (20 lb plus). While you can fish both lakes and streams, I pursued Artic Char, German Brown and Sea Trout in small streams. There are no Mayflies in Iceland and very few Caddis. Midges are everywhere and at times make it difficult to breath. Thus the flies of choice tend to be very small midge nymph patterns size 18 – 20. They use a dropper, split shot and an indicator and drift the combination through slots, seams and pools. Sea Trout aggressively chase a San Juan Worm pattern tied with red rubber tubing. They take like a steelhead and jump a lot! We usually fished just below a falls or riffle break in water often only a foot or two deep. It is amazing the size of fish that can hide there. The water is gin clear so you have to be stealthy.

Be prepared for financial shock in Iceland. The country barely survived the 2008 financial crisis but the Krona is now very strong. Guides ran \$370 - \$800 per day per person depending on the species and location. If you want to fish Atlantic Salmon you need permits that can run as high as \$1500 per day depending on the river. That does not include the guide. Restaurant dinners run \$50 - \$80 for one glass of wine, salad and main course. I paid \$34 for a beer and a hamburger. There is no tipping.

I am glad I had the opportunity to go to Iceland and pursue especially Sea Trout and would consider it a bucket list place.

Rick Pay



Literary Angler

Editor's Note: At the August FCO Casting Party and Picnic, member Geoff Roach and I talked casting and memorable situations where the fly did not find its mark in the current. Being the creative author he is, Geoff sent along one recent memory that will remain sharp in his mind for many casts to come!! LKH

Fishhook

"A device for catching either by impaling in the mouth or, more rarely, by snagging the body."

Barb

"A sharp projection near the end of a fishhook angled away from the main point to make extraction difficult."

TMC 5262 - Size 4

"A Tiemco hook with a shank 2x long and made of 2x heavy wire for added strength"

Fly Fishing is a Contact Sport

My wife and I stuck Drifty in a local mountain lake one hot Saturday afternoon recently for a swim, picnic and evening fish. What a nice place - no motors, catch & release, wonderful summer water temps (for people anyway) and very limited access. Once away from the boat ramp this lake is a gem. We did have some company, including a loaded down canoe with three who smoked bowls and quietly shared esoteric music off a phone device with us whether we cared for that experience or not. And while the sun was coming down there were handsome people upright on paddle boards, some with dogs and in bikinis - in perfect setting sunlight. This was all good enough for a Saturday afternoon. Once the sun left the water, all we heard were the insects, oh... and a barred owl. Not many frogs and I wonder what this means.

After a swim and while the sun was high I took a 15 foot length of T14; ran it off a swivel attached to my backing. I trolled around with it and a few cans of Everybody's IPA while Tam enjoyed the sun from shore. I sported a fresh, alluring brown seal bugger I had tied that morning on a size 4 straight shank TMC5262 fishhook. I tied two of these that morning and just for our afternoon outing. I had not crimped the barbs. There are nice browns here and I figured they'd hang at considerable depth that time of day.

A very light breeze was moving the boat along just about right. I could pick up the T14 and huck it a bit upwind to get my drift going. I was doing well at this - retrieving the backing until swivel and rod tip were close and then using a little haul on the forward cast and a high arc lob. At one point I shot the assembly upwind and did not get what I wanted. So, quickly and before it sank, I picked the whole thing up to shot again, retrieving no line. There was a rod's length plus of backing beyond the rod tip. As I completed the cast something was very wrong. All 15 feet of the T14 were coming forward right around the level of my rib cage. I could feel it grazing past, even tickling

the hairs of my casting arm. Pretty odd cast and not recommended, at all.

Then the line's forward motion abruptly stopped. After a bit of recoil, most of the T14 plopped in the water and was loosely coiling and sinking right in front of me just off the side of the boat. I thought this quite strange, looking at the coils sink, processing, and noticing some serious discomfort. After using my left hand to feel about a bit on my right tricep, it rudely dawned on me that all forward momentum of my line had been stopped with the delivery of the TMC 5262, size 4 straight shank seal bugger directly to me. It impaled the thick part of the back side of my upper arm, 3-4 inches above the elbow. It was an impressively deep hook set - by far the stupidest, largest, meatiest animal I have hooked all season! Take my word on it, T14 can really drive the point home, especially with a slight haul on the forward cast!

It was some work pushing the point and that stupid barb back through meat and skin with that region of my arm getting very angry. Who the hell maintains a barb when there is absolutely zero intention of keeping a fish and it's a catch and release body of water, anyway? This one was deserved, well-earned. Fortunately, I had the Leatherman and once I got the hook and barb to break skin a second time, Tam was able to get under both points and give it a good snip. But, skin is amazingly puncture proof, Lordy!

The rest of the evening, as the sun light went completely out and the near full moon poured in, we got the occasional tug while trolling, Tam stayed on the oars and me? I switched over to a proper lake line! The hex came off reasonably well for a few minutes right at dark and it brought some fish up, a few bats down and the vibrations of a nighthawk or two, but I did not fool a riser all evening.

Fun outing, even with the reminder - fly fishing is a contact sport. club member: geoff roach august 2017



Conservation Corner

Editor's Note: I was sorry to miss the annual State of the Deschutes Panel that our Club features at the September meeting. Thankfully, our program chair, Ross Beatty, was there and shares this brief report. You can find out more about what these groups are doing to help reverse the negative ecologic changes on the lower Deschutes by going to their websites or contacting their dedicated staff. LKH

Synopsis of the State of the Deschutes Panel

The Deschutes panel discussion went pretty well. We had the following panelists:

Jonah Sanford – [Deschutes River Alliance](#)

Mark Sherwood – [Native Fish Society](#)

Chandra Ferrari – [Trout Unlimited](#)

John DeVoe – [Water Watch of Oregon](#)

David Moryc – [American Rivers](#)

The discussion started out with a brief introduction from each panelist about their respective organizations and a high level view of their involvement in the Deschutes. This was followed by several moderated questions and then opened up to questions from the audience. I think it was very educational for the members to learn about a very complicated situation that has led to the decline of the trout fishery in the Lower Deschutes. The panel addressed issues of water quality, upper watershed degradation, reintroduction efforts for anadromous native species, dam removal, role of the "fish committee", etc. Some of the answers were more satisfying than others, but it was a balanced discussion that I think was enlightening to a lot of the members.

Ross Beatty

