



The Sunriver Angler

The Official Publication of the Sunriver Anglers Club

Volume 36 Issue 3

March 2009

P.O. Box 4273
Sunriver, OR 97707

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Doug Vakoc

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Pete Reed

Presidents Message:

March is here. Now we should get a few nice days to build our spirits and make the fishermen happy; then it will snow again and the skiers will get excited. But I know it will get warmer and we will be fishing again soon, and often. Have hope. Meanwhile, the Fly Tying seminar is going on, and please read the announcement in this issue regarding the upcoming Fly Fishing Class at the end of this month. And continue sipping that vintage whiskey!

We had a very enjoyable presentation by Jason Borger last month on the filming of "A River Runs Through It" with a great turnout. Those that attended his seminar found it very much worth the time. We have more great speakers coming up this spring. Next up for March meeting is Dennis Kried to talk about fishing for Bass in Brazil. In addition, Shivonne Nesbit (our 2008 scholarship recipient) will give us an update on findings thus far with the Crooked River Telemetry project. March 19th - mark you calendars!

At the February meeting, the general membership approved the following: Donation of \$5,000 to Kokanee Karnival through Central Oregon Flyfishers, Donation of \$7,600 to the Deschutes River Conservancy, and the approval of \$4,000 for 2 2009 Fred Baker OSU scholarships.

The SRA Board has approved moving Free Fishing Day (June 6th this year) to Caldera Springs. This venue offers many advantages. Our Free Fishing Day Next Generation Committee (Bruce Cockrell, Paul Oles, Dave Jendro, and Gary Gehlert) have been researching this and discussing the opportunity with Sunriver Resort. Change can be good and we think this will be a good change, and allow us to handle a larger crowd. Thank you to the Resort for initiating this, and for your great support for this event.

Last week I was invited to a luncheon at the American Fisheries Society Oregon Chapter Workshop in Bend. This is a group of fisheries professionals both in practice (ODFW) and from the academic side (OSU among others).

Continued on next page.

The Sunriver Anglers Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, education and promotion of responsible angling in the high desert region of Central Oregon. More information can be obtained by writing to P. O. Box 4273, Sunriver, OR 97707.



Here's to you, flyfishers!

Who We Are:



Presidents Message: Continued



I was there to receive an Award of Merit presented to Sunriver Anglers by that group. It was very nice to be recognized outside our immediate community for some of the excellent work we do; cited were the Interpretive Trail, Tui Chub removal, Crooked River Telemetry, the OSU scholarships, willow planting, Kokanee Karnival, and more. I wish you all could have been there as I felt it was a proud moment for the club. At times we forget how much we do along our stated mission goals. Great Job!

Since we got snowed out on our planned outing in February (we are such pansies!) our March outing will be on the Crooked River. Our club manly-manliness is at stake here, so plan on the date - March 24th. Other clubs at staring to make fun of us!

Three brief reminders for you: 1) Central Oregon Sportsmen Show March 5-8 in Redmond; 2) Federation of Fly Fishers Fly Tying Convention in Albany March 13-14; and 3) for an entertaining evening - the Pat McManus "A Fine and Pleasant Misery" at the Tower Theater March 13.

Upcoming Sunriver Angler Events:

Mar 19	General Meeting Fire Hall 7:00 PM: Speaker: Dennis Kried - Fly Fishing the Rio Negro (Brazil) for Peacock Bass
Mar 24	Outing TBD
Mar 30-Apr 2	Learn to Fly Fish/Improve your Fly Casting Seminar Three Rivers School
Apr 6	Board Meeting Trout House 8:00 AM
Apr 15—WED	General Meeting Fire Hall 7:00 PM: <u>Get Ready for Fishing Season Seminar</u>
APR 21	Outing TBD
Apr 27-May 5	Kokanee Karnival - Spring
May 21	General Meeting Fire Hall 7:00 PM: Speaker: Trout Fishing in Europe - John Ingram
June 6	Free Fishing Day at Caldera Springs
June 18	David Hughes Seminar in Sunriver:
June 18	General Meeting Fire Hall 7:00 PM: Speaker David Hughes
July 18	Fish Fry Fort Rock Park
Aug 20	Sunriver Anglers Picnic
Sep 28-Oct 2	Fall Kokanee Karnival
Dec 9	Christmas Dinner

Fascinating Fishing Facts: Borrowed From ESPN.com

Biggest Fly Rod and Reel: On June 12, 1999, Tiney Mitchell of Port Isabel, TX, finished constructing the world's largest fly fishing rod and reel. The rod is a whopping 71 feet, 4.5 inches long and the reel measures 4 feet in diameter and 10 inches in width. **Biggest Wooden Fishing Lure:** Most anglers keep their lures in tackle boxes. Ron Mirabile of New Port Richey, FL, lugs his on a 14 foot trailer. Mirabile, a collector and carver of fishing lures, has built what may be the largest wooden lure in the world, an 8-foot long, 200 pound torpedo called, "Bassmonger", which has two 9-inch hooks, two 2-inch glass eyes and a sleek coat of green paint with black spots.

March Meeting Speaker: Dennis Kreid



This month's speaker is none other than one of our own—Dennis Kreid from Richland, WA. He will be speaking on fly fishing for peacock bass on the Rio Negro River in Brazil. Below is a report on that trip that should whet your appetite to attend our meeting on the 19th:

During the first week of February, 2008 I was part of a group of twelve that completed 6 ½ days fly fishing for peacock bass on the Rio Negro river in Brazil. The Rio Negro is the largest tributary of the Amazon, which in turn, is the largest river system in the world. During our week on the river, we lived on a 95 ft luxury cruise ship, which provided all the amenities including air conditioning and an excellent chef. Our group of fly fishers, which fully occupied the boat, included dentists, lawyers, financial planners and one engineer (yours truly) drawn primarily from the Bend Oregon area. John Holpuch of Bend was the trip organizer and also acted as host for the outfitter, Larry Schoenborn. The charter operator goes by Captain Peacock.

Our fishing days began with wakeup at 5:00 AM, followed by breakfast, and boarding of the fishing skiffs by 6:00 AM. The fishing days were spent flogging the brush at the margins of the submerged forest where the peacocks live. Hooked fish always tried to head back into the forest, frequently ending in a limp line and occasionally, no fly. This was hard work, with 9-weight rods/lines and heavy flies. Anybody that did not have a sore shoulder at the start of the trip generally had one by the time we completed the last fishing day. Most days we were back on the mother ship for drinks and snacks at 5:00 PM followed by a great dinner at 7:00 PM. The weather was hot and humid with showers most days, and capped by a huge tropical storm our last night on the river.

There were two fishermen and a guide on each boat. The guides were local natives who were born and raised on the section of the Rio Negro that we fished, and they knew the water very well. The guides spoke Portugese and very little English, but they worked very hard and found the fish for us in places you would not believe. In the week of fishing, our group of 12 fishermen landed and released about 700 peacock bass of three different types, a pretty rainbow colored fish called a jacaranda, several species of piranha, and some fresh water barracuda. Some boats had 50 fish days, but the daily averages were modest. I personally landed and released about 50 peacocks in the week, but my partner Dave Duncombe caught about twice that number. We all caught several fish in the 5-9 lb range, and a few at 10 - 12 lb. The biggest fish were two at 16 lb, and one at 17 lb. I managed to get bragging rights with the 17 lb fish, which I caught on a fly (see attached photo) and Dave caught one of the two 16 lb fish on a huge musky lure.

The beauty of the Amazon rain forest and the associated wild life were wonderful bonuses of the trip. You cannot conceive of the immensity and complexity of the Amazon river until you see it from the air and up close on the river. Although we saw no land animals, virtually every day we saw two types of fresh water dolphins, an occasional alligator, and on a couple of days some of us were honored by the presence of the huge Amazon river otters. The birds were spectacular, but most often not close enough to see in detail. All in all, this was truly a once in a life time trip!

March 19th Meeting Raffle Items:



Our Raffle Committee (Bob Kempf and Mal Murphy) have again been scouring the world, traveling at their own expense to distant unheard of locales, searching for just the right items to entice you to purchase raffle tickets at our next meeting.

This month they have located the following:

A BW Sports Travel'N'Tackle Fly Tying bag - Value ~ \$60

A Scientific Anglers C&F Design Fly Box filled with an assortment of 2 ½ dozen flies, carefully selected specifically for Central Oregon Value ~\$100.

Please try to have the correct change for the purpose of purchasing your raffle tickets. Thank you.

SRA's Institute of Higher Learning:

SUNRIVER ANGLERS CLUB PRESENTS

Learn to Fly Fish

Improve Your Fly Casting Skills

March 30-April 2, 2009

If you are new to fly fishing or simply have an interest in getting started in the sport that consumes many of us, the Sunriver Anglers Club will present a series of classes to get you started or improve your skills and knowledge. The focus will be on fly casting technique, but we will also cover the basics of knots, leaders, flies and other gear. This class is designed to get you ready to fish this summer!

The classes are free and are open to residents of the Sunriver area. Membership in the Sunriver Anglers Club is not required, but we hope you get interested enough to follow up by joining.

The classes will be held in the gym at the Three Rivers School at 7 to 9 PM on the four evenings of March 30 thorough April 2. We have had a number of inquiries about the possibility of having a "women's" class so we are reserving the 3rd and 4th nights of the series for women only. Consequently, the first two nights are open to all who sign up, but the evenings of April 1 and 2 are for women only. Instruction will be provided by local fly shop owners, Bob Gaviglio and Fred Foisset, assisted by members of our club.

Fly rods for the casting instruction will be provided or you may bring your own gear. Space is limited, so please sign up soon. To participate in the classes, or for more information, call Chuck Devine (593 1539), Ron Angell (593 3242), or Marv Yoshinaka (593 5461).

More Fascinating Fishing Facts:

On Wednesday, March 26th, 2008, a very large yellow rubber raft was found floating in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with about 23 fly fishermen all from the Sunriver Anglers Fishing Club in Sunriver, OR. Each fisherman had his own rod and reel and each was desperately trying to catch at least 25 pounds of fish. When asked by the Coast Guard (wearing heavy-duty nose masks as the stench was horrific) why they needed to catch 25 pounds of fish, they answered that because they didn't pay their dues on time, they were kidnapped by dues paying members and were told that they could work off their dues by donating 25 pounds of fish to the nearest soup kitchen. They were given a cell phone and were asked to call when they had 575 pounds of fish and then they would be rescued. When checking this story out I was told that the treasurer was unavailable for comment as he was in an undisclosed area with his bicycle pump, pumping up something very large and yellow in color. I sure am glad I paid my dues. Have you paid yours yet?

Important SRA Reminder: 2009 Dues

There are several members of SRA who were paid members in 2008 who have not renewed their membership for 2009. We are asking that those members who have not paid to send in their \$25 dues and/or let us know you are no longer interested in being a member. It sure would help us out with our book-keeping. For your utmost convenience, a membership form is located just below this message. If you are not sure if you have paid your 2009 dues, please contact Jack McDonnell at 593-7680 or jackmcd@chamberscable.com.

Sunriver Anglers Membership Form

Please mail this form with your \$25 check to:

Sunriver Anglers, PO Box 4273, Sunriver, OR 97707

Name _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Email Address _____

Phone(SR) _____ **Phone(Other)** _____

New Member__ **Renewal**__ **Name/Address/Phone/Email Change Only**__

March Board Meeting Highlights: March 2, 2009

Free Fishing Day: Bruce Cockrell reported that the Free Fishing Day on June 6th will be moved to Caldera Springs. The Resort will continue to supply the food, chairs, tables, etc. Lots of volunteers will be needed, as in the past, with traffic directors and parking attendants added from past years. We will have someone at the Great Hall to redirect folks who did not get the word about the change in location. Dave Jendro provided an inventory of the rods, reels, etc. Discussion ensued. It was moved, seconded and approved that Dave Jendro and Bruce Cockrell be authorized spend up to \$400 to purchase 10 new reels and 3 new rods, or combinations, at their discretion. A limit of 2 fish per child under 15 years of age will be enforced this year.

Member Rosters: Jack McDonnell reported that member rosters will be distributed to the membership with the next newsletter. The roster will be distributed only once each year. President Vakoc will begin the practice of welcoming each new member with a letter, enclosing a copy of the newsletter and the member roster.

Member Badges: Discussion ensued on the provision of badges to members. It was moved, seconded and approved that \$7.00 will be collected in advance for new badges, and, if not picked up at the first meeting after they are received by Jack McDonnell, he will mail them to the purchasing members.

Sharing a Dream: Ed Tank provided a brief report on the Sharing a Dream program to provide fishing opportunities to those with disabilities. The Bend Chamber of Commerce will organize and run the program, and provide insurance. Potential club participation in the program is still a work in progress. Ed will provide written summary and status report to Doug Vakoc.

Fly Fishing Classes Doug Vakoc has ordered 5 "yarn rods" for use in the classes. They will be available for use by the members after the classes.

Outings: The February outing on the Crooked River was canceled due to lack of interest. The March outing will be on the Crooked River on Tuesday, March 24. Rod Juranek has volunteered to organize an outing to Diamond Lake sometime in June. More information will be forthcoming on that. The annual summer camp-out will be in July, probably at the Paulina Lake Group Campground. We have been contacted by members of the Clark-Skamania Fly-fishers club in Vancouver, Washington, and they will be invited to participate in this event with us.

New Business: President Vakoc reported that the club has received an award from the American Fisheries Society, Oregon Chapter, for its volunteer efforts over the years. Doug will provide information on the award to the Sunriver Scene, and will look into our establishing a closer relationship with the AFS.

Shivone Nesbit, who is running the Crooked River fish tagging study, would like to have some volunteers to catch fish on Friday, March 21. She will be camping at the Chimney Rock campground on March 20-22 and will be conducting the last round of radio tagging on Saturday, March 21. Anyone who has participated in this study is encouraged to be at the campground at 9:30 on that day for a photo opportunity. Shivone will also attend the membership meeting on March 19 to give the club a report on the study.

President Vakoc has purchased 2 \$100 gift cards for the Resort (cost \$80 per) to give to speakers at the membership meetings.

On March 13 and 14 the Federation of Fly Fishers convention will be held in Albany, Oregon.

Next meeting: Monday, April 6, at 8:00 AM at the Trout House.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40