



P.O. Box 4273
Sunriver, OR 97707

The Sunriver Anglers

<https://www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers>
The Official Publication of the Sunriver Anglers Club
www.SunriverAnglers.org

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The Sunriver Anglers Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation 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, or by looking at our website:
<http://www.sunriveranglers.org>



December 14, 2023

President's Message

Hello Fellow Anglers!

This is my last official "President's Message"! Oh sure, you'll still hear from me as the meeting and outing coordinator but as of Dec 11th at the Holiday Party, I will be passing the baton on to Mal Murphy. Mal has been a steadfast Anglers volunteer, board member and vice-president during my term, but he's also a former President, so running the club won't be anything new to him. I hope you will all show him the support and enthusiasm that you have shown me.

When Mike and I retired to Central Oregon 12 years ago, we were suddenly faced with having to spend much more time together than we ever had. We didn't know anyone here, but we knew we loved the area and wanted to hike, bike, fish and ski, like so many of you. One thing that we decided was we had to go fishing on our first opening day here. As new Oregonians, we got our licenses and headed off to Wickiup. I baited my hook with Rainbow Power bait, (or was it a "Christmas Tree"? for those who know what that is!) I caught a 22-inch rainbow, WOW! to make a long story short., we met Fred and John at the Hook and Bob at the Sunriver Fly Shop, joined the Sunriver Anglers and decided to learn to fly fish, the rest is history.

We attended many Anglers meetings but it took a while before we got involved with the board and volunteering with different projects. We met so many interesting and inspiring people! Tyers, casters, people who could tell you the history of places or stories about what the fishing was like years ago, we have met many people and made many friends over the years. I encourage anyone reading this to get involved, a little or a lot.

Over the past years the club has backpacked brook trout fingerlings to the high lakes, and salmon to the Crooked River, we've taken part in the Kokanee Karnival- giving tours of the hatchery, teaching Angler Ed in classes, cooking hot dogs, pond duty at Shevlin Park-, we've had special fishing events for Three Rivers and La Pine Elementary fifth graders (at and with the help of Caldera Springs), we've entertained veterans from Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, helped with the US Fly Fishing Team, we've supported our local waters with donations to the ODF&W for interns and tui chub eradication as well as giving our support to local conservancy groups.

For all of this and more, I'd like to say thanks to each and every one of you! Have a great holiday season and a wonderful new year!

Your Past President,
rynie



Angler's Holiday Festivities



The Sunriver Anglers hosted its annual Christmas Holiday party on December 11th at the Great Hall at the Sunriver Resort. The event for members, guests and supporters returns after a COVID-driven hiatus of several years and to a venue that is highly cherished by the club.

A highlight of the evening was the children's serenade in which the choir will ring in the Holidays for the Anglers with familiar carols and sing-alongs.



The event featured a no-host bar, social hour with cocktails, a beef, fish, or vegetarian dinner menu, a 50-50 raffle and the auction.

The Anglers' conservation activities include improving sport fishing in Central Oregon, supporting organizations focused on stabilizing water flows on the Middle and Upper Deschutes River, removing evasive fish from local lakes, providing scholarships to local students pursuing degrees in Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Sciences as well as partnering with Federal, State, and County representatives to preserve and improve the environment.

The club's next meeting will occur on January 3rd at 5:15 pm in the Crescent Room of the SHARC in Sunriver. Val Wadsworth and Phil Fischer will report on the Project Healing Waters veteran support event the Anglers held in June of this year.

People interested in learning more about the Anglers should visit our website, www.SunriverAnglers.org or contact us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers

January 3, 2024 Meeting

Sunriver Anglers welcome the New Year with a Presentation from Project Healing Waters



The first meeting of the new year for the Sunriver Anglers will be on Wednesday January 3, 2024. The topic will be our Project Healing Waters event that took place last June. Members and the public are welcome to attend at the SHARC from 5:30pm until 7pm. Military and Veterans interested in fly-fishing or tying are encouraged to attend.

Speakers will include Phil Fischer, Vice President of the Sunriver Anglers, professional fly tyer and photographer who will have images and stories from the event, and Val Wadsworth, Program Lead of the Bend Chapter of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing who will give a short presentation on Project Healing Waters.

Last summer, for the second time, the Sunriver Anglers and Project Healing Waters sponsored a three-day, all-inclusive fishing trip for six members of Project Healing Waters from the SF Bay Area as well as Central Oregon.

The Project Healing Waters guests, three men and three women, were treated to outings at the Crooked River, the Fall River, and Crane Prairie Reservoir. Volunteers from the Anglers Club, the local Fly Shops and Project Healing Waters provided meals, lodging, camaraderie, and fishing knowledge.

Please come to our meeting and see and hear about the event and learn about Project Healing Waters. Doors open at 5:15 for fish stories.

Speakers: Val Wadsworth



In 2017, after a nearly 40-year hiatus from the hunting and fishing of his youth, Val discovered Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF). As a participant he learned the basics of fly fishing, fly tying and rod building. In his first year with PHWFF he was fortunate to go to the Freedom Ranch for Heroes in Montana and enjoy several days of guided fishing and fellowship. By this time, Val was obsessed with fly fishing and was already sharing what he had learned with the new veterans in the Program. By 2019 he was officially a volunteer with PHWFF, teaching rod building. In 2020 he became the Assistant Program Lead of the La Plata, MD program and kept the veterans actively involved through the COVID pandemic. In 2021, after 30 years in the DC Metro area, it was time to move back home to the Pacific Northwest. Val and Sandy chose Bend Oregon for the outdoor lifestyle and being near family, as well as the prospect of volunteering with the local PHWFF Program.

Unfortunately, the Bend Program shut down during COVID and was inactive. After talking to PHWFF regional and HQ staff, Val accepted the responsibility of Program Lead for Bend and has restarted the program. After checking with local fly shops and veteran groups to find participants, Bend PHWFF held its first meeting in May of 2022 with 12 veterans and 2 volunteers. After only a year and a half in operation, Val has grown the Bend Program to 36 veterans and 20 volunteers. In 2017, after a nearly 40-year hiatus from the hunting and fishing of his youth, Val discovered Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF). As a participant he learned the basics of fly fishing, fly tying and rod building. In his first year with PHWFF he was fortunate to go to the Freedom Ranch for Heroes in Montana and enjoy several days of guided fishing and

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Speaker Phil Fischer



Phil Fischer is an avid fly tier, fly fisherman, photographer and author. He lives in Sunriver, Oregon and spends time fly fishing the fabulous still waters in Central Oregon. He was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area and has fly fished extensively throughout the Western United States and numerous international destinations. He has been a regular demonstrator at several West Coast fly shows and often speaks at fly clubs in the Northwest and California.

When Phil was 10 years old, his dad bought him a fly-tying kit for his birthday. He has never been far from a vise since that day and now has over 50 years of fly fishing and fly-tying experience. He was tutored by Andre Puyans and taught fly tying classes at Creative Sports in Pleasant Hill, California, for a number of years. He owns Phil's

Custom Trout Flies, and has fly customers throughout the United States who count on his expertise in solving fly fishing puzzles on their own home waters. He has been a long-time ProTeam member for Whiting Farms.

Phil specializes in patterns for still waters in Central Oregon. His Callibaetis Life Cycle patterns consistently catch fish and are in high demand. These flies have been featured in several publications and tying instructions can be viewed online at his YouTube page. He publishes a monthly fly-tying column for the Sunriver Anglers, which is carried by local newspapers in Central Oregon. Phil has also published numerous articles and photography on fly fishing and fly tying. In 2019, his work was featured in a Catch Magazine photo essay, "Three Perfect Days Healing". This essay followed six veterans with Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing on a visit to Central Oregon fly fishing East Lake, the Crooked River, and the Upper Deschutes.

Lake in the Dunes 2024 – Russ Scott

Our 2024 season has some pretty major changes moving forward for Lake in The Dunes.

We have gone through and updated the Cabin inside and out. We have decided to try and make the ranch a premium fly fishery but limiting the amount of fishing pressure by making sure we limit group size and giving the place ample time to rest.

That's being said everything we are doing make the place a premium fishery will be on par for new pricing

Our new program is:

3-day 2-night trip \$1000 per person. 4 persons minimum, 6 persons maximum

4-day 3-night trip is \$1250 per person. 4 persons minimum, 6 persons maximum

If this is still of interest to anyone in your group let me know and we can work on putting a trip together

Thanks

Russ Scott

Russell Scott <russandtm@gmail.com>

Water Restoration – Deschute River Conservancy

[We've been busy! Check out our latest happenings. \(salsalabs.org\)](https://salsalabs.org)

Oregon Water Conditions Report:

Food Court Midge

Sunriver Angler's Fly-Tying Corner

By: Phil Fischer



A few weeks ago, the seasons began to signal that inevitable change as we march toward winter. Slowly early fall and warmer weather turned to a nice crisp nip in the air. This change brings about a shift in hatches on our local rivers. Gone are terrestrials, and mayflies are waning. But a steady hatch to be counted upon, especially on warmer mid-winter days are midges. From now till springtime, midges will provide the most reliable dry fly opportunity on our local streams. It was this very situation that sent me back to the vice to create a new pattern that would imitate midge hatches.

I had been fishing one of our local spring creeks and observed a bunch of fish feeding on a profuse, but exceedingly small midge. The fish were lined up, almost as if they were at the food court of a local mall. I did not have a good imitation in my box, so I sat down and got creative. Onstream, I had noticed numerous midge shucks floating by, apparently being left behind by the emerging midges. I decided to try and imitate this with a trailing shuck on the imitation. I settled on some UV Krystal Flash. For the abdomen, I chose a stripped peacock barb off a tailfeather. For the thorax, I used a very sparse peacock barb wound

to add profile to the thorax. I used deer hair for the lay-down wing. Lastly, I used A Whiting Midge Grizzly saddle hackle to help with flotation. Each of these materials are rather delicate and break easily in trout teeth, so I used a bit of super glue before winding each material around the hook. This pattern is tied on a size 18 short shank barbless hook. But don't hesitate to tie down to size 20's and even 22's.

After tying a half dozen of this new midge creation, I was anxious to give it a try. The first time out, I eased in above a pod of feeding rainbows and delicately presented this pattern. It did not take long for the fish to pass judgement. The second cast I hooked into a nice 16" rainbow, and over the next hour and a half, I hooked and released about a dozen fish on this pattern. I remembered the analogy of observing the trout lined up to the food court, and so, the Food Court Midge was borne. Give this pattern a try this winter on the Fall, Crooked, Metolius or other favorite waters.

Food Court Midge Materials List:

Hook:	Firehole 609 Barbless, Size 18 - 20
Thread:	Veevus 14/0, Black
Trailing Shuck:	UV Krystal Flash
Abdomen:	Polish Quill, Natural
Thorax:	Peacock
Wing:	Natural Deer Hair
Hackle:	Whiting Dry Fly Midge Saddle, Grizzly

Tying instructions and steps are published in video form, and can be found on the Sunriver Anglers Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/SunriverAnglers/>, or at the following YouTube URL: <https://youtu.be/53qSiehfGW8>.

Give the Food Court Midge a try during the midge hatch on one of our local rivers. If you have questions or would like additional information about this pattern, please email me. Or if you have suggestions on future patterns to feature in this column, I welcome your input. I can be reached at philfischer@sbcglobal.net.

Check out the Sunriver Anglers Web Page.

We continue to add new content:

<https://sunriveranglers.org/>

We will continue updating the website to contain valuable resources for Sunriver Anglers members.

SR Anglers New Educational Tool

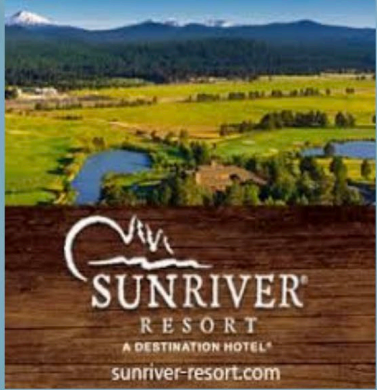
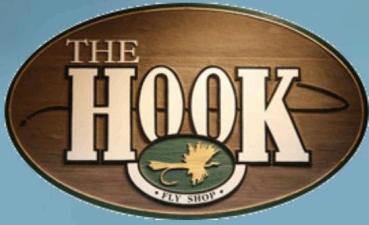
SRA published the following YouTube page for Sunriver Anglers.

[Sunriver Anglers - YouTube](#)

And if you want to be amongst the first to be notified of new content, please subscribe to this YouTube page. You will receive a notification when new content is available.

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