



Santiam Flycasters

www.santiamflycasters.com

AUGUST 2011

July Equals Summer

July, aside from being the first month in the second half of the year, usually ushers in the beginning of real summer weather, great fishing, and warm evenings around a campfire during one of our finer monthly outings. Our trip to East Lake was no different, as the weather could not have been better, the fly fishing outstanding; and, our nightly campfire burned bright and warm in the clear mountain air. Well, at least for some folks.

I invited a good friend to join me for our sojourn to the heart of Newberry Crater. His name is Frank, and although I have spent many hours trying to convert him to the benefits of our fine sport, he has reluctantly, and stodgily held his ground, which ultimately forced me to cross over to "The Dark Side", while I entertained him in dragging "hardware" and "garden hackle" (worms) around the entire surface of our destination for the weekend. Needless to say, our lack of success was well deserved, while those true to our cause caught fish. Many kokanee and other fine finned fishes fell to the prowess of our bug bashers, while I scored one Brown, one Rainbow, and a couple of "Tui's" in our endless circles around this fine lake.

Frank's saving graces are the fact that he and I have the same taste in wine, and he is very good at keeping the fire going. *(as long as I furnish the firewood and the wine)*

That being said, any one who would prefer to drag hardware around a lake filled with fly friendly fishes, deserves to have the horrible catch record that the boy has demonstrated.

Still, whenever you can spend a few days around a camp fire with a friend like Frank, fishing is just the frosting on the cake. It is the epitome of Theroux's declaration that "far too many men spend far too many years on the water before they understand that it wasn't really the fish they were after". *(or words to that effect)* If you came to the outing, I hope your weekend was as enjoyable as mine.

Donated Trip Fulfilled

This February, I offered a two day, all expenses paid, Fly Fishing Trip to the upper McKenzie River area for our annual auction. I'm pleased to report that this past week, I was finally able to fulfill this obligation. We traveled to Trail Bridge Reservoir where we camped for two nights while fishing Carmen Reservoir, Clear Lake, Trail Bridge Reservoir, and the McKenzie River. The Weather was great, but alas, the fishing sucked. We did catch fish at each of the lakes, but nothing like I have experienced during my past excursions to each of them. The biggest fish we encountered were only 6-8 inches, where they had always been 10, 12, and 14. Warm water temps had simply driven the fishes far deeper than our lines could go.

Santiam Flycasters

Hot August Nights

There will not be a meeting this month. In its place, Santiam Flycasters will be conducting its annual Casting Clinic on the lawn outside Pringle Hall. This clinic should be a “must do” for each of our members and it is a great place to improve your casting skills, and learn some great new techniques. Dwight Klemin, our very own casting guru has prepared a great evening for us, and I encourage you to attend.

August Casting Clinic

Which came first the chicken or the egg is the question that has driven many a debate: Well fly fishing has the same debate but it is between which came first the tying of flies or the presentation [casting] of the flies. Each facet has value and has great depth of importance. The Santiam Flycasters club is rich in resources in both tying flies and presenting flies. This meeting we share casting tip, skill building and just plain fun of casting

August is the month we focus on fly casting. The meeting is outdoors and focuses on hands-on fly casting. Whether you are a beginner looking to get started or immediate looking for more accuracy, distance and control option, this meeting is a great time to develop your casting skills.

We will have single and two-hand clinics in both individual and group settings. Also a fun game for everyone.

Tip of the Month

For extra distance, make an “O” ring with your first finger and thumb of the line hand. This help the line shoot through the stripping guide.

Thought of the Month

When it comes down to it, how you fish a piece of water really depends on your mood more than anything else.

Down the Lazy River

Our outing for August will be an overnighter to the small town of Elkton, which is located on the South Umpqua River. This is a Small Mouth fishery that if you have not participated in should be a top priority, especially if you are new to the world of river floating. It is an extremely easy float through about 6-8 miles of “Frog Water” where if the wind is blowing “up river” you can easily violate the principle of water flowing down hill (mostly because there ain’t no hill). If you need a boat to participate in this float, please call me as I have an extra one. It is also a float trip that could be done in a float tube. We will be staying at the *Elkton RV Park* which is located right on the river adjacent to town. They have lots of full hook up sites, but they also have a large tent area that I have tentatively reserved for our use. We normally have breakfast on Saturday morning at the local restaurant on main street, followed by a self shuttle up river. We will then drift the river in pursuit of the local Small Mouth Bass that are prolific in the river.

A couple of words on safety. It was 107 degrees the last time we did this float. Carry plenty of water, and use lots of Sun Screen. And, leave the beer on the beach.

Any manor of fly can be used to tempt these denizens of the Umpqua, from Wholly Buggers and other streamers, to top water “poppers” that can entice a strike so violent that it will take your breath away. The Clacasiu Pig Boat is a classic Bass Fly that I have personally caught Small Mouth Bass on. Olive or Light Green work well.

FLY OF THE MONTH



The CALCASIEU PIG BOAT

- Hook:** Size 2/0 Mustad 3366 (Or Tiemco 8089 #2)
Thread: Black Size A (I used 3/0 Monocord)
Skirt: Black rubber hackle or rubber thread that has not been separated
Hackle: Two or Three wide and long black saddle hackles
Body: Large black chenille for one pass or medium chenille with two passes
Eyes: Painted
Weight: Optional, this depends on how fast and how deep you want the fly to go

Note: you can use a variety of color rubber hackle, chenille and saddle hackle (I use silly legs)

"The Calcasieu Pig Boat saw the light of day in early in 1951 on the Calcasieu River in southwest Louisiana. At the time the Hawaiian Wiggler was one of the prime under water casting rod Bass lures. It had action, color, enticement and was easy to cast and maneuver. It was a good bass bait. to digress for a moment; way wouldn't it be a good bait today?"

The Bass did not see enough of it for their instincts to indicate fear of it. The fish that fell for it were in a skillet and unable to pass a word of caution to the others. Would the Wiggler be good today?"

The Hawaiian Wiggler skirt with its maxi action formed the main attraction and the depth the lure could operate in presented this maxi action at its very best to the vast majority of the available fish.....

The Calcasieu Pig Boat either bare or with one of the variety of weed guards is a good Bass fly. It has size, bulk, and action, three prerequisites needed to be classify as a Good Bass Fly. Its active rubber shirt will react enticingly to most any input generated by the rod hand. With a fast retrieve or holding in fast water it is a slim tail weaving minnow. No retrieve in still or slow moving water it is a slow sinking mass moving, undulating appendages that are not quite susceptible to the slightest twitch of the rod tip.

Retrieving rather quickly with a high held rod makes the Pig Boat a skittering surface lure. Adding pauses to this retrieve allows the fly to sink a bit and then struggle to regain the surface. A sinking tip line, short heavy leader and a pause of varying lengths will put the fly at most any hunting depth desired. An upstream presentation with the same rig can mean a bottom bumping pattern that can run cruising smallmouth nuts.

Added weight as lead wire under the chenille body or a small split shot on the leader will make this predominately shallow hunting fly into a prober of the depths. Carefully lowered into submerged tree tops, heavy brush or weeds and jiggled up and down can many times be the answer to a slow or boring outing. The Calcasieu Pig Boat can go wherever your imagination, experience or whims will send it. It is worth your time and attention."

Santiam Flycasters

NEXT MONTH

September brings a return to our regularly meeting schedule. Our featured speaker will be Mr. George Douglas, who will be speaking to us about Steelhead Fishing. This promises to be a most informative presentation. Be sure to join us

Our September outing will be to Three Creeks Lake which is located on the north slope of the Three Sisters. If you haven't had the opportunity to fish this picturesque high mountain lake, you are missing a great chance for some very fine fly fishing. It is chocked full of feisty Brook and Rainbow trout that just can't wait to sample your fur and feather offering. We will also be doing something a little different for our club during our evening meal.

Our illustrious treasurer and chef extraordinaire, Tim Johnson, has suggested that we forego our normal "*Catch and Release*" practices for this outing so that we can enjoy a group "**FISH FRY**". We are encouraging you to "keep" a fish or two (***please remember those of us who do not always catch fish***) for the evening meal. Chef Tim will be demonstrating the classic French style of "*cook it whole*" type grilling, where you may well learn that cleaning your fish is just a waist of time.

For those of you who are somewhat less adventuresome, we will be providing a fish cleaning area, foil, and seasonings to prepare and demonstrate your very own personal recipe for your favorite fish fantasy.

Not into filet of fish? Dead cow and pig parts will also be welcome on the grill.

Three Creek Lake

By Ken Karnosh

Yes, the USFS name for the lake is Three Creek, not Three Creeks, Lake. Anyway, Tim and I remembered our fun outing there, South of Sisters, last Summer and spent a couple of days there in late July. Don Meyer joined us for a day as well as we did a pre-outing before our regular outing there in September.

Even in late July this year, the campgrounds were not officially open due to lingering snowdrifts. The mosquitoes must have been upset about that because they were vicious in the camp area! The north campground still has a deep snowdrift completely across the entrance road.

Fishing was quite good in morning and evening when the trout fed on thick midge hatches. It was not uncommon to look across the lake surface and see up to a dozen or more trout completely airborne. Fishing during the day was generally slow. The Brookies and Rainbows generally were 11-13", but some were up to 16" long as the picture shows. Successful flies were Carey Specials, Callibaetis nymphs, and pheasant tails, using floating lines during the midge hatches and sinking lines during the day.

On Friday, we walked the 1 ½ miles or so to Little Three Creek Lake. The trail has some blow down trees across it, but is not too difficult. It may be a place to take your float tube during the day and catch some of the Brookies alleged to be there. Bank access appears to be very limited.

We are looking forward to our September 10 outing there and hope to have a good turnout for that event.



Three Creek Lake Rainbow

Santiam Flycasters

Upcoming Events

This Month:

Board Meeting --

When: Monday, August 15 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Rock-N-Roger Restaurant, 3135 Commercial SE

General Meeting --

Activity: Annual Casting Clinic on the lawn

When: Thursday, August 11 @ 7:00pm

Where: Pringle Community Building Lawn

Outing: Saturday, August 20th, Umpqua River float for Smallmouth Bass

Next Month:

Board Meeting --

When: Tuesday, September 6 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Rock-N-Roger Restaurant, 3135 Commercial SE

General Meeting --

Presenter: George Douglas on Steelhead Fishing

When: Thursday, September 8 @ 7:00pm

Where: Pringle Community Building

Outing: Saturday, September 10th, Three Creek Lake for Rainbows and Brookies

Board Member Wanted

The Santiam Flycasters want you! We are looking for a few good men and women. If you are interested in helping decide who our presenters are and where we go for our outings, please join us. Or if you just want to find out what goes on during the board meetings, or want to share your opinion, join us. No experience needed, just your interest in fly fishing is all it takes to be a board member.

Santiam Flycasters Newsletter

is published monthly by the
Santiam Flycasters

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Santiam Flycasters to promote the sport of fly fishing for all interested individuals of all generations now and into the future by fellowship, education, conservation practices, promoting research, guardian-ship of proper regulations and support, affiliation and cooperation with other like minded organizations.

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Member of the



2011 Membership Application

The Santiam Flycasters, P.O. Box 691, Salem, OR 97308

www.santiamflycasters.com

Type of Membership (circle one) Regular \$25 Family \$30

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone: _____

Email _____

Family Members: _____

Are you an FFF Member? (circle one) Yes No

You must sign this release each year when you renew to participate in club activities.

**Note: Dues are from January 1st to December 31st. There is a 50% reduction after July 1st.*

Liability Release and Hold Harmless Agreement

As a condition of membership or of participation in any activity encouraged or publicized by the Santiam Flycasters, I voluntarily assume all risks of my participation. In acknowledgment that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators agree to remise, fully release, hold harmless, and forever discharge the Santiam Flycasters, all its officers, board members and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury to me or my property that may occur from any cause whatsoever while participating in any such Santiam Flycasters activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this hold harmless and release agreement, and fully understand that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waving any rights that I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against the Santiam Flycasters for its negligence.

I have read the above statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in the Santiam Flycasters.

X _____
Signature Print Name Date

X _____ Signature
Print Name Date