

Santiam Flycasters

January 2012

Monthly Newsletter of the Santiam Flycasters



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Contact Us

Santiam Flycasters, Inc.
P.O. Box 691
Salem, Oregon
Email: santiamflycasters@yahoo.com
Web: www.santiamflycasters.com

January Meeting
Fly Fishing for Winter Steelhead
with
Rich Youngers
Steelhead Guide
&
Owner of Creekside Flyfishing
Salem, Oregon
Thursday, Jan. 12., 7:00 pm
Pringle Community Building



Oregon's coastal streams are well known for their winter steelhead. This month's meeting will provide you with an opportunity to learn firsthand how to pursue these sea-going members of the trout family.

Rich Youngers has been a licensed fly fishing guide for salmon, steelhead and trout the last 21 years with overall experience at 36 years on Northwest waters. Rich is recognized as one of Oregon's best fly fishing steelhead guides and was one of the first to bring salmon fishing with a fly to Oregon's central coast area. Rich along with his wife own and operate Creekside Flyfishing in Salem Oregon. The shop is on its 15th year of business.

Rich guides the North Santiam River, McKenzie River, Nestucca River and the Salmon River on the Central Coast. Rich is well

Calendar of Events
for more details go to
www.santiamflycasters.com

January 2012

Board Meeting

Monday, January 9, 7:00 p.m.
at Garibaldi Family Mexican
Restaurant, 1111 Edgewater St.
NW, West Salem.

General Meeting: Presentation
by Rich Youngers on “Fly
Fishing for Steelhead.”

Thursday, January 12, 7:00 pm
at the Pringle Community
Building in Salem.

Outing: Wi-Ne-Ma Lake at Wi-
Ne-Ma Christian Camp, located
between Neskowin and Pacific
City.

Saturday, January 28.

February 2012

Board Meeting

Monday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.
at Garibaldi Family Mexican
Restaurant, 1111 Edgewater St.
NW, West Salem.

General Meeting:

Annual Auction
Thursday, February 9 7:00 pm
at the Pringle Community
Building in Salem.

Outing: Middle Fork of the
Willamette River
Saturday, February 18



Search “Santiam Flycasters”

known for his fly tying skills and was recognized as the Oregon Council FFF Fly Tyer Of The Year in 2006 and his work has been seen in several books and magazines.

Rich teaches many of the fly tying classes at Creekside including the “Salmon Fly Saturday” classes for Classic Salmon. When Rich isn’t guiding you can find him behind the counter at Creekside Flyfishing in Salem Oregon where he enjoys chatting with the customers and telling tall tales.

Rich is a Pro-Staffer with Ross Reels, R.L. Winston Rod Company, a Simms Guide Ambassador, and Clackacraft drift boats.

Come to the January meeting early for a special treat! There will be a tying demonstration of Winter Steelhead Flies beginning at 6:30 pm. Come! See! Learn to tie the most popular winter fly you have **never** seen. It has **out-sold all other steelhead flies put together!**

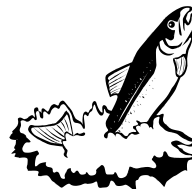
Also at the January meeting . . .

A new segment to our monthly meetings will be introduced titled “Bugology 101.” This month “Winter Hatches for Trout.” John Rodriguez will spearhead this session identifying what, where, and when these hatches appear. Representative flies to “match the hatch” will also be displayed.

A Look Back to December

Thanks to chef Craig Knoll and all our members who brought some really delectable side dishes. Our annual Christmas Dinner was a huge success. The presentation by Dave Carpenter provided some great information on fishing the waters of our very own Santiam Canyon. It was a most enjoyable evening with some great prizes being won by those in attendance.

David has provided us with the slides he used for his presentation on the North Santiam River. A link to these slides will soon be made available on the Santiam Flycasters website (www.santiamflycasters.com).



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Ken Karnosh

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Dwight Klemin

Vice President/Programs

Gary Caneva

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Tim Johnson

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Newsletter Layout/Design

Craig Knoll

Don Meyer

Board Members 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; please join us.

No experience needed, just your interest in fly fishing is all it takes to be a board member.

From the President

by Ken Karnosh

It's time for a changing of the guard as I take over as President of the Santiam Flycasters for 2012. Thanks so much to Howard Palmer for his leadership in 2011. I look forward to much more of his help when he returns from the Southland.

Thanks to Gary Caneva for volunteering to be Club Secretary! Thanks also to the members of the Board who have served in 2011 and to those who will serve in 2012. We can always use more Board members!

I need to start with an apology. For our December dinner meeting, we had inadvertently shown in the newsletter and reminder e-mail that we would have a Sage rod in the raffle, rather than the one that we raffled. I completely missed that, so we did not send out a correction. I apologize, but it probably won't be my last oversight.

We have a variety of outings scheduled for 2012. We scheduled most for a week after the general meeting as had been suggested to allow some planning time. We will probably add a few more informal outings, including one or two during the week to escape the weekend crowds for those of us who can get away from work. Please join us if you haven't done so and enjoy some good fishing spots and good company.

For presentations, since the fishing experience/knowledge of our members ranges from expert to novice, we are striving to have a mix of presentations and information at the meetings that serves the needs of all of us and the costs stay within our budget. If you have an idea for a presenter or topic, please let us know. At the next meeting, I will have a notepad at the raffle table where you can write your ideas if you wish.

In addition to your volunteer help in setting up and putting away the chairs and tables at each meeting, we also will need some help for events during the year, including people to help run the silent auction at the Expo in March and people to teach young people to tie Woolly Buggers at Youth Outdoor Day in June. Your help is appreciated!

Our Club auction on February 9 is our primary fundraiser other than member dues. Please plan to attend to support our Club. Also, if you have items to donate for the auction or would like to help, please let Tim Johnson know.

With guidance from the Board and participation by you club members, I think that 2012 will be a good year for the Santiam Flycasters. Give us your thoughts for improvement



ODFW INITIATES
PARKING FEE SYSTEM
AT SELECTED WILDLIFE
REFUGES

Beginning January 1st, ODFW will be enforcing a recently approved parking permit system at the following state wildlife areas:

Summer Lake Wildlife Area, Denman, E.E. Wilson, Ladd Marsh and Sauvie Island Wildlife Areas

Daily permits cost \$7. Annual permits are \$22 and can be purchased online, at one of the ODFW offices that sells licenses or at a local license sales agent. Permits cannot be purchased at the individual wildlife areas. Revenue from the Parking Permit program will be used to improve habitat and infrastructure and to enhance wildlife viewing opportunities at wildlife areas. Anglers who purchase a combination fishing and hunting license or a Sports Pac will receive a free Parking Permit. This is because operation and maintenance of ODFW wildlife areas are primarily funded by hunters through federal excise taxes on sporting arms and ammunition and hunting license fees. For more information visit ODFW's website, http://www.dfw.state.or.us/online_license_sales/parking.asp

KNOTTY-KNOTTY

Loc Vetter recently taught us to tie several knots in his presentation. If you are like a lot of us, though, you probably forgot most of it by now! John Esbenshade found the website www.netknots.com that clearly and actively illustrates how to tie many knots, including the ip mono loop knot that Loc recommended to tie the fly onto the leader. Check out the website.

2012 Santiam Flycasters

Annual Auction

February 6 - 7:00 pm

Make sure to mark your calendar for this important date. The Santiam Flycasters Annual Auction is a win-win for our club. It raises critical funds to cover speaker fees, Pringle Hall rental fees, outing costs, and a myriad of other expenses. Membership fees are not enough to cover all of these costs. The auction also benefits club members by providing fishing and camping items at a great value.

We receive some of the auction items from fly fishing equipment manufacturers, sporting goods stores, outfitters, and fly shops. However, many of the items come from our own members in the form of hand-tied flies and donated fly fishing equipment and camping supplies. So, please consider tying a dozen or so flies for the auction. If you have the skills, mounted display flies are popular items at the auction. Also, consider donating one of your surplus fly rods, reels, fly lines, fly tying tools and materials, or camping equipment. Donated items should be clean and in good condition (one flyfisher's surplus is another's treasure).

For more information, please contact Tim Johnson, this year's auction manager, at tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com or 503-363-8435.

Howard Palmer sends us this reminder about the auction. Notice the fishing trip he is donating!

"So OK. We know that Santa Clause has left his load in your living room and Grandma sent some green backs that are burning a hole in your new Nike jeans. Santiam Flycasters is here to help. February's meeting is our long awaited annual fundraising auction and we are here to help you find that new reel and line that is a perfect match for that Winston & Winston rod that the fat man brought you. You say the jolly guy in the red suit didn't bring you that new Winston that you be pining for. Well, fret not my fly fishing friends. There may not be one at the auction either, but we will have a whole lot of other goodies that you really need. And, it is the perfect opportunity to be the first person on your block to finish next year's Christmas shopping early. The board is working hard to gather lots of great gear that we know you really need; including a fabulous fly fishing trip for two to the waters of your dreams. OK, waters of your dreams might be stretching it some, but I will be donating a three day trip to one of Oregon's great fly fishing destinations. Transportation, lodging, and meals included. But, you won't get to go if you don't come and bid for it. Come early, stay late, and be sure to invite your friends, their ends, and be sure you all bring your checkbooks (we will also be taking plastic)."

2012 OUTINGS SCHEDULE
The Board has selected the following schedule of
Outings for 2012

January 28: Wi-Ne-Ma Lake, Oregon Coast

February 18: Middle Fork Willamette

March 17: Deschutes River

(Pine Tree-Beavertail)

April 21: Haystack Reservoir

May 19: Crane Prairie Reservoir

(Rock Creek Campground)

June 23: East Lake

(Cinder Hill Campground)

July 14: John Day River

(Service Creek)

** July 28: Three Creek Lake

August 11: Umpqua River

(Elkton RV Park)

September 15: Lava Lake

October 20: Deschutes River

(Warm Springs—Trout Creek CG)

November 10: Miami River

December: None

** Informal outing. The Board will look at adding other such outings at future meetings. Please do not hesitate to add your favorite fishing destination to our list of possible informal outings. We will also be working with the Central Oregon Flyfishers on a joint venture to co-host their annual trip to British Columbia. Please remember that all scheduled outings are subject to water and weather conditions



JANUARY OUTING TO WI-NE-MA LAKE

You can make a day of it for the January outing planned for Saturday January 28 at Wi-Ne-Ma Lake located in south Tillamook County between Pacific City and Neskowin. Wi-Ne-Ma Lake is part of Wi-Ne-Ma Christian Camp where Leroy Shepherd (a member of Santiam Flycasters) is manager.

The lake offers an excellent opportunity to try your luck in catching the small but feisty Coastal Cutthroat trout that inhabit this private impoundment. Lunch will be available for \$5 at the Camp Dining Hall at 12:30.

Arrive as early as 7:00 am when the coffee will be on in the dining hall. There is easy access to the lake for float tubes, pontoon boats, or even to row around in your drift boat. Other options include a fishing dock and a handicap access platform. The lake has a good population of cutthroat trout. Leroy's favorite fly is called a —Virginia Redneck; basically a bead head wooly bugger with red floss wrapped just behind the bead. See <http://www.roanoketu.org/Stories/Redneck.htm> for how to tie this pattern.

Other possible activities (especially if the weather turns nasty) could involve bringing your fly tying gear and setting up around a table with other Santiam Flycaster friends.

Other fishing opportunities in the area include the “big” Nestucca River, the Little Nestucca River, and Three Rivers if you want to pursue those big steelhead that Rich Youngers will be talking about at the meeting.

Those wishing to carpool should meet at the West Salem Safeway parking lot at 7:00 am.

February Outing to the Middle Fork of the Willamette River

Our outing for February is a day trip to the Middle Fork of the Willamette River near Oakridge, Oregon on Saturday, February 18. This is a great river fishery that you really need to experience.

Here is some information about the Middle Fork from the website www.gofishn.com.

The Middle Fork of the Willamette originates from several small lakes and tributaries high in the Cascades south of Diamond Peak Wilderness. Then, as it makes its westward journey to the main stem of the Willamette, it passes through three reservoirs, Hills Creek near Oakridge and Lookout Point and Dexter east of Springfield. Between Hills Creek Reservoir and Lookout Point Reservoir there are approximately 14 miles of river managed as a good wild trout stream for rainbows and cutthroat. These are not big fish, but they are plentiful. Fishing is open year-round and permitted with artificial flies and lures only; all wild fish must be returned to the river unharmed. Average fish is 9-14 inches with a few bigger fish up to 18 inches possible.

Starting in May and throughout the summer, there are good hatches of caddis, stone flies, and assorted mayflies. Winter hatches keep the action

Hooks for Sale

I recently purchased a supply of size 2, 1, 1/0, and 2/0 7999 style hooks from China. However, the minimum order was for 1000 each and I would be glad to resell some of them I also have 1000 each size 6, 10 and 12 that I would be happy to part with. If you are interested give me a call . I'll be snowbirding until April, but I would be happy to mail them to you. Howard Palmer— 503-507-8003

going with blue-wing olives and midges. The river is followed closely by Highway 58 on the south bank and Forest Road 5821 on the north bank to the confluence with the North Fork Middle Fork. Above the North Fork confluence, follow Highway 58 on the north bank and Forest Road 5852 on the south bank to Hills Creek Reservoir. All of this water is available from roadside turnouts or from Black Canyon Shady Dell campgrounds or Greenwater and Ferrin Parks near Oakridge.

Trip to Devil's Lake

by
Tim Johnson

If you're looking for a new hole to fish this winter, consider Devils Lake, near Lincoln City (not to be confused with the Devils Lake on the Cascade Lakes Highway). The Lincoln City Devils Lake is around 1/3 of a mile wide, three miles long, and up to 21 feet deep in places. The D River flows from the lake westward to the Pacific Ocean. At only 120 feet in length, the D River is the world's shortest river, but I digress.

Devils Lake is stocked annually with rainbow trout, but also has a population of native cutthroat trout. Coho and steelhead can also be found in the lake. According to current ODFW regulations; it is legal to take up to 5 fin-clipped trout per day with a minimum length of 8 inches. Only 1 trout over 20 inches in length may be taken per day. However, it is illegal to take the cutthroat from Devils Lake. The salmon, steelhead and cutthroat in Devils Lake are native and must be released. Also of interest, in the late 80's and early 90's Devils Lake was stocked with Chinese grass carp and are protected.

Ken Karnosh and I did a scouting trip to Devils Lake recently. We only had around 4 hours to fish, so we concentrated our efforts in the west end of the lake. This portion of the lake is quite shallow, averaging around 4 feet. There is a deeper channel on the north side of the lake, where the depth is around 10 feet. This channel is probably the historic river channel.



I concentrated on the channel, fishing with a type 3 line and fishing with a rubber-leg woolly bugger. I had several hits and hooked one rainbow which was around 14". Ken stayed on the south side of the lake in the shallows. He found a nice population of cutthroats which were actively working an area around the size half a football field. His stripping technique was very successful, enabling him to hook around a dozen cutthroat in the size of 12-14". He thinks he may have also hooked a small Coho. I joined him, switched to floating line and began stripping the same rubber-legs that I had been using earlier. I started catching cutthroat but not as many as Ken. The fish were very active, surfacing all around us. However, as the sun and temperature began to fall, we decided to call it a day, declaring the scouting trip a success.

Devils Lake is a little over an hour from Salem. There is a well maintained boat ramp located at East Devils Lake Recreation Area, near the west end of East Devils Lake Road. There's no fee for the launch or the parking lot.



According to West Fly, (www.west-fly-fishing.com) December is the month to be chasing steelhead and several of our coastal rivers are currently offering up some nice hatchery raised fish that are available for your dining pleasure. Ask 10 river guides which fly to use and you will get 100 different suggestions of the best fly to swing. One fly that continues to produce however is the Purple Peril.

Hook: 7999, sizes 2-6

Thread: Black

Tail: Purple Hackle Fibers

Wing: Squirrel Tail

Rib: Fine Silver Tinsel

Body: Purple Yarn

Hackle: Purple

The Streetwalker Fly Pattern

This fly is a variation of the traditional Purple Peril, with a Flashabou wing instead of squirrel tail. Under the low light of dawn, dusk, or an overcast day in fall, it suggests a presence in the water, with just enough flash to be attractive but not so much that it puts the fish off. An excellent pattern for western steelhead, it also has been used as attractor pattern for trout. Eight-pound rainbows have been known to gobble it up with confidence.

Hook: 7999, sizes 2-6

Thread: Black

Tail: Purple Hackle Fibers

Wing: Pearl Flashabou

Rib: Fine Silver Tinsel

Body: Purple Chenille

Hackle: Purple

Fly of the Month for December "Purple Peril"



Uses

A traditional northwest steelhead fly.

Variations

The **Streetwalker** (below) is a Purple Peril with a Flashabou wing and a chenille body.

How to Fish

Traditional wet-fly swing. If the water temperature is below 52 degrees, consider using a sink-tip line with a 4-6 foot leader.





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, guardianship of proper regulations and support, affiliation, and cooperation with other like-minded organizations.



Don't Let Me Get Away! Join the Club Now!



2012 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: _____

Please tell us why you want to be a member (please check all that apply): hear presentations on various flyfishing topics, improve my fly tying skills, improve my fly casting skills, participate in fishing stream and lake improvement projects, go on fishing trips with other club members, learn more about fishing in the area, other, please specify: _____

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 waiving 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