

Flycasters

Northern California

The first thing I would like to say about the Santiam Flycasters' Northern California Outing is that the scenery was spectacular. There is something about the light in that region that is different from just about anyplace I've ever been, and this seems to give the landscape an almost surreal appearance. Every single day we were there, while driving to and fishing at another location, we were presented with postcard quality panoramas.

That being said, the fishing was a bit on the technical side—not that fish weren't caught, and by almost everyone in each river system or lake we encountered. It was just that, as with any new piece of water, there turned out to be a bit of a learning curve. Perhaps a reasonable comparison would be to look at the time needed to understand the nuances that are essential in order to successfully fish the Metolius River here in Oregon.

All three rivers; the Pitt, the McCloud, and the Upper Sacramento are primarily wild trout fisheries and nymphing seems to be the most reliable method of catching fish in them. Our outing keeper, Chip O'Brien, has guided these waters for over fifteen years. His understanding of the pocket water in these systems was readily apparent, as he caught fish after fish in each location. But we did not be-



Photo by Chip O'Brien

grudge him this success. In fact, it was encouraging to see someone hooking up time after time when it seemed there was nothing there. I'm not saying that it's not a bit frustrating for the onlookers, it is just that if you know fish are around, then you have a chance of figuring out how to make things work. One thing I noticed about Chip was that he was constantly adjusting the amount of weight he had on. Getting down to the bottom seemed to be of the utmost importance. But then, that is the tricky part isn't it? How do you do that without losing your rig on every cast? Chip was also wading very aggressively, moving from pocket to pocket and covering as much water as possible. We did get into some great dry fly fishing on the Pitt River one evening, but I've gotten the idea that surface action like that is just not that common in Northern California.

Heather Miller got a bit of a shock on the McCloud when she attempted to (unknowingly) sit down on a rock that was already occupied by a rattlesnake. Fortunately, she was warned off in time by its trademark "buzz". There is also **A LOT** of poison oak in this area, so if you ever go there be careful! All in all, it was a great trip, and I would do it again. Thanks Chip!

Youth Outdoor Day

Youth Outdoor Day on Saturday June 2nd, 2007 was a tremendous success. The event, held at the E. E. Wilson Wildlife Area between Monmouth and Corvallis, saw in the neighborhood of 576 kids. The weather was nice and a good time was had by all. The Santiam Flycasters volunteers who helped with both fly tying and casting instruction were kept busy for most of the day. We would like to thank the following people for donating their time, and whose efforts have made a valuable contribution in "planting seeds" for the future of fly-fishing: Daniel Shimek, Dwight Klemin, Stan Steele, Rick Campbell, Keith Burkhart, Hillary Votaw-Burkhart, Richard Newell, Steve John, Lee Erickson, Bob & Beatriz Gabler, and Jerry & Pat Newell.



Photo by Keith Burkhart

Miller Lake Outing



The Miller Lake Outing on Saturday, June 30th turned out to be on the windy side, which limited the parts of the lake that could be fished. The big brown trout were hitting frequently but short, and few were landed. The mosquitoes were not as

bad as had been experienced in the past, but were still present and something of an annoyance. Attendance was light with only four people making the drive. Still, a day on the lake fishing is better than any day at work.

Free Fish Day at Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery

Free Fish Day at the Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery (Metolius River) on Saturday, June 9th had a turnout of over 500 young people. Given the distance parents have to travel, this annual event really demonstrates its popularity by drawing such a large crowd. The biggest fish caught overall weighed eight pounds, while the heaviest in the fly-fishing only area was four pounds. A huge thank you goes out to volunteers: Richard Newell, Ken Karnosh, as well as Jerry and Pat Newell.

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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Terry Lawrence

Publisher/Editor

Lee Erickson

Craig Knoll

Please contact us at:

Santiam Flycasters, Inc.

PO Box 691

Salem, Oregon 97308

E-mail us at:

santiamflycasters@yahoo.com

And visit us on the web at:

www.santiamflycasters.com



Casting Corner

This is a commentary geared towards newcomers and includes some very basic information

about fly-casting while fishing.

In General:

1. Don't have more line out than you can comfortably cast.
2. Be conscious of which way the wind is blowing (helps avoid hooking one's self).
3. Always begin your cast with the rod tip in the water (minimizes slack & helps with line control).
4. Learn the roll cast (the most useful cast when fishing). Can be executed in places where there is no room behind you, you need to set up for another cast, or you just want to eliminate slack from the line.
5. When casting weighted nymphs or double fly rigs, be sure to open your loops a bit so that the heavier gear doesn't tangle.
6. Avoid unnecessary false casting (can spook wary fish or result in tangles).
7. Periodically stop and check your rig.



Annual Santiam Flycasters Club Picnic

This year we are doing something new! We have arranged for a group campsite for July 13 -15, 2007 at John Neal Memorial Park in Lyons, Oregon along the North Santiam River. We have a total of 12 campsites, so reserve your spot now. Cost is \$5 per site. Along with the Annual Club Picnic Saturday evening about 5:30, we will be floating the North Santiam River on Saturday. The weekend will conclude with the roadside cleanup of our adopted section of Hwy 22. To reserve your spot please contact Dan Shimek at 503-302-3920 or santiamflycasters@yahoo.com. Note that you may be asked to share your site, if there is room. Example one RV to share with a tent camper. Dan will be there by noon on Friday for people that want to check in.

Up Coming Events

July

Board Meeting

NO BOARD MEETING THIS MONTH

General Meeting

NO MEETING THIS MONTH!

ANNUAL SANTIAM FLYCASTERS CLUB PICNIC

When: July 13th, 14th & 15th, 2007

Where: John Neal Memorial Park (Lyons, OR)

***The Potluck Dinner** is scheduled for Saturday, July 14th at 5:30 PM. Please bring a side dish or dessert (plus your own eating utensils). The Club will provide hamburgers and hotdogs.

***North Santiam Pontoon Boat Float:** Earlier in the day on Saturday, July 14th, we will be floating a section of the North Santiam River (either above or below John Neal Memorial Park). Because the river levels can be extremely low at this time of year, we are suggesting that people use their pontoon boats (rather than their drift boats).

***Roadside Cleanup:** Sunday, July 15th. Leave from John Neal Memorial Park at 9:00 AM.

August

Board Meeting

When: August 6th, 2007 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Rock-N-Roger Restaurant
3135 Commercial SE

General Meeting (Outdoors)

When: August 9th, 2007 @ 7:00pm

Where: Pringle Community Building

***Informal get together with a focus on casting.**

Outing: August 11th, 2007

East Lake (Cider Hill Campground)

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 outing please join us. Just want to find out what goes on during the board meeting, or just 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
PO Box 691
Salem, Oregon 97308



2007 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