

Flycasters

Can Trout Guffaw?

Chip O'Brien

I keep telling myself "fly fishing is serious business," and trying to believe it for even one minute. Yet most of the time we take ourselves way too seriously and fail to see the humor in some of the things we do. Fly fishing is an undiscovered bonanza of slapstick comedy in rubber pants! Usually the trick is in *not* laughing.

It's common knowledge that I sometimes enjoy a fine imported cigar or two while fishing or guiding. I once had a client whose stated goal it was to land a fish in northern California's Pit River with a cigar in his teeth without falling in. You need to understand that the Pit is the slipperiest, con-founded river in the world not to fall into. It's renowned for difficult wading and pugnacious wild rainbow trout.

Well, he did it. He was grinning ear to ear when he hoisted that trout for the inevitable hero shot, the smoke from his stogie creating a merry wreath around his head. That was just before it touched the fly line dangling off the end of his fly rod severing it neatly in half.

There was also the overweight guy in waders who dropped his car keys. Problem was he had an ego to match his considerable girth and he was really shaping up to be a challenging client to spend a whole day with. While he had no trouble with the flexibility of bending over to get his keys, his waders certainly did. There came a short, sharp rasping sound as seams parted company forever. We wasted half the day running down alternate waders that fit, and by the time we hit the water his ego was far less inflated than his waders.

Naked people and fly fishing go together about as well as oil and water, and that is the essence of Chip's Rule #28. And yet there seems to be a mysterious attraction of one for the other. Perhaps it's because trout are usually found in beautiful places, and such places also evoke feelings of romance and, well, you know. Never, never, never try to fish around naked people. Take it from me, No matter how much you *don't* want to see those particular people sans clothing, you just can't help gawking and summarily ignoring the business at hand. Maybe it's because the Christian God hung around with fishermen that shapely, scantily-clad su-



not fly fishing

permodels aren't really ever seen fly fishing.

I was to be the star of the six o'clock news. The local sportscaster had contacted me wanting to do a segment on fly fishing. We hiked into a lake I know, but somehow I had forgotten my rod. The one he brought would do the trick, so he set up his tripod on the shore and I launched my float tube. It took about ten minutes for me to get a grab, but when I lifted his rod to set the hook, a sickening crack pealed through the air like a shot as his rod broke in half. Film still rolling, I hauled in that trout hand-over-hand, while my sportscaster chum was laughing so hard he could not stand. In the end he edited out the incriminating footage, but swore he would keep it in case he ever needed some extra cash.

Part 2: NORTHWEST FLY TYER AND FLY FISHING EXPO 2007

MARCH 9TH AND 10TH, 2007
LINN COUNTY EXPO CENTER, ALBANY, OREGON
www.nwflytyersexpo.com

Because the Oregon Council of FFF is a nonprofit organization, we are maintaining the operational costs to a minimum therefore allowing the entry fees to be free for all youth and FFF members. The general public will be charged only \$5.00 per person per day. We will still have the silent auctions and raffle each day, as in the past, as well as the silent and oral auction at the banquet Saturday night. The revenues generated by Expo are used by the Oregon Council to provide educational programs on fly tying, casting and fishing throughout the year within the state of Oregon. We sponsor several conservation projects through different water shed groups and provide two \$1500.00 scholarships yearly to Oregon State University for students majoring in fishery management. We have made substantial contributions to the ladies "Casting for Recovery" programs over the last two years.

The committee has been contacting and encouraging as many clubs as possible to become involved either through chairing sections or volunteering members to assist. The committee has selected the Green Butt Skunk fly for the pin in honor of Mr. Dan Callaghan. We would also like to use one of Mr. Callaghan's photos as the back ground for a poster. If anyone has a photo that we could use to scan, please contact Jim Fisher at: flytierfisher@hughes.net

Chum Run

Fishing was a bit slow due to heavy rains and high water conditions at this year's annual "Chum Run" outing on the Miami River. Fish were caught, just not in the numbers that had been experienced in years past. That is, with the exception of Steve Mock, who had some kind of mojo goin' on. After lunch, it seemed like every third cast he'd hook up with a chum. The weather cleared up nicely in the afternoon, which made for a pleasant dinner break. Thanks to Dan and Rich for cooking brats & burgers, and to Keith for making up a tasty pot of chili.



Roaring Springs

Egg patterns worked exceptionally well at the Roaring Springs promotional outing on November 18th. The Shelter pond proved to be a productive spot and allowed several novice anglers to land their first fish. Classic Northwest scenery combined with abundant numbers of stocked trout in every pond made the special offer of \$385.00 for an annual '07 membership seem very appealing. Thanks to John Rodriguez for acting as guide/host and to Keith for cooking a nice lunch of BBQ Pork.



Santiam Flycasters
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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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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

December Presentation

• Brian O'Keefe "Fly Fisher's World"

Brian will be presenting a well rounded program suited for both die-hard and less-serious fly fishermen alike. More than a dozen destinations, ranging from the familiar Pacific Northwest to the exotic Bahamas and South America will be represented by Brian's eloquent narration and world class photography. Steelhead, Trout, Tarpon and Bonefish will all be touched upon with budget conscious "do it yourselfers" and "full-service" accommodation folks in mind. Don't miss this great opportunity to witness a presentation by one of the world's most high profile fly-fishing aficionados.



Club Banquet (December 14th)

The Club will be providing Turkey, Ham and Drinks. Please bring a **Side Dish** or **Dessert** (with serving utensils) along with personal eating utensils.

Raffle Items Will Include: several fly boxes and shadow boxes prepared and tied by Jim Ferguson, a 5wt fly rod, a float tube, and more.

2007 Membership: Anyone who renews their membership at the banquet will receive 5 free raffle tickets.

For Sale

"Rod & Reel Combo" 9' 10wt St Croix Legend Ultra 3 piece, Teton Trinity Reel to match, Rio 10wt multi-tip fly line \$475.00

Pontoon Boat (fully equipped) JW Outfitters Renegade 8' Includes fins, 2 anchors (10 & 15#), spare rod holder and pump \$350.00

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.

Up Coming Events

December

Board Meeting

When: December 11th, 2006 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Rock-N-Roger Restaurant
3135 Commercial SE

Club Banquet

Presenter: Brian O'Keefe "Fly Fisher's World"

When: December 14th, 2006 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Pringle Community Building

Outing: No outing this month

January

General Meeting

Presenter: Joe Warren "Omak Lake in North Central Washington"

When: January 11th, 2007 @ 7:00 pm

Where: Pringle Community Building

Outing: Town Lake or Metolius (weather decides)

2007 Club Outings

January 13th: Town Lake or Metolius (Depends on Weather)

February 10th: Central Coast Lakes

March 17th: Lower Deschutes River (Pine Tree to Beavertail)

April 21st: Willamette River (Hayes to Harrisburg)

May 18th, 19th & 20th: Metolius River (HWY 22 Road-side Cleanup on Sunday the 20th)

June 22nd, 23rd & 24th: Northern California Rivers (Chip O'Brien Outing Leader)

June 23rd: Miller Lake

July 14th: SFC Picnic (Fisherman's Bend State Park)

August 11th: East Lake

September 15th: Klamath Basin (Wood River and/or Pelican Bay-Rocky Point Area)

October 20th: Deschutes River (Warm Springs to Trout Creek)

November 10th: Miami River (Chum Run)

December: No Outing

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