

August 2005



We fish, therefore, we lie

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.

SANTIAM FLY CASTERS SEARCHING FOR BOARD MEMBERS

As has been mentioned at the last couple of monthly meetings, Santiam Fly Casters is actively recruiting new board members. You need not have previous experience – the only requirement is that you have an interest in supporting a great fly fishing club and help continue its growth. SFC is one of the most active clubs in Oregon with multiple interests including the adoption and maintenance of two miles of Hwy 22 on the North Santiam, river clean up from Green's Bridge to the confluence, participation in and support of the FFF Women's Seminars, the Fly Tyers Expo, the Sportmen's Show, the Youth Outdoor Day, the ODFW Salmon Carcass Placement project and our own very successful annual Fly Fishing Fair. **We need you, we need your input and we need your fresh ideas** to help with conservation, education, habitat restoration and membership growth. What would you like to see the club accomplish in the year to come, what speakers or topics would interest you, what can we do to promote our sport and the club? Please talk to Craig Knoll or Keith Burkhart if you would like to be involved.

Club Picnic

Saturday, July 23, 2005, was a perfect day for having a picnic and the Santiam Flycasters did it up in style! We had incredible weather, superb food, great camaraderie and some pretty amazing casting demonstrations to boot. (Special kudos to 14 year old siblings, Olga and Roman Koran, for showing us adults how it is supposed to be done!) We had at least 25 Santiam members and their families and about 20 North Santiam Spey Casters, who joined SFC for the occasion. It was great to have North Santiam Spey Casters there and we look forward to more joint outings in the future.

The SFC provided hot dogs, hamburgers and beverages and all attendees brought their specialties including salads, baked beans, cookies, cakes, brownies and some stellar shish kabobs (Thanks, Jana Knoll!) Also, thanks to Bob Willich for the monetary donation to the cause.

This Month's Activities:

Board Meeting:

Date: August 8, 2005

When: 7:00 pm

Where: The Valley Flyfisher

General Meeting:

Date: August 11, 2005

When: 7:00 pm

Where: Pringle Hall, 606 Church St., Salem

Outing:

Where: Umpqua River

When: August 13, 2005

Note: Fishing for small mouth bass

FLIES FOR THE SEASON

Ever been curious about what our fellow fly fishers are using? This month, Keith Burkhart suggests Elk Hair Caddis, size 12-14, on the Santiam, olives and tans. Dwight Klemin has had good results for steelhead with Green Butt Skunks on the rivers. Chuck Zemanek suggests olive soft hackles for the local lakes. Stan Steele thinks the "Sheriff", size 4-6, is working well for Steelhead on the Deschutes and "anything purple" size 2-4, for the Santiam. John Rodriguez suggests size 6-8 golden stimulators for the coastal streams & North Santiam and JR's Shrimp for Searun Cutthroat on the coast. Stephen Mock suggests Burgundy /Black mohair leeches for British Columbia Rainbows. Paul Johnston suggests A size 16 Elk Hair Caddis (most any color) works well on the Deschutes all summer long. Though in August it is better to use smaller flies like #18 E.H.Caddis or Griffith Gnat, or even #18 BWO.

Treasurer Report By Stephen Mock

The Santiam Flycasters started the year with a balance of \$4,691.85 in our bank account. As of 06/30/05 we have \$5,835.21. This is about average compared to the previous 2 years where we had \$6,304 and \$5,368 respectively.

On a side note: The Santiam Flycasters is not a corporate office somewhere with paid staff. The Santiam Flycasters is all of us, the membership, including you! The success of the club and its mission is dependent upon the members. The more active members we have, the greater the resources the club has to put towards bringing in excellent programs, raffles, conservation projects, outings, and (of course) food. All of us know someone that fly fishes, wants to learn more, but isn't part of the club. Invite them to a meeting. Don't like the way certain things are done in the club; come to a Board meeting, or better yet, be a Board member. We're always looking for help and new ideas on how to serve the membership better. Let's make this club strong and successful in its mission.

Fly Tyer's Bench

Green Butt Skunk



Recipe

HOOK: Tiemco 7989 #4-#10.

THREAD: Black 6/0.

TAIL: Red hackle fibers.

RIB: Silver oval tinsel.

BODY: Black chenille with a fluorescent green chenille butt.

WING: White calftail.

Casting Clinic

For the August general meeting we are having a casting clinic on the lawn outside of Pringle Hall. Bring your rod for a little practice and help from our many club members. There will also be a few FFF certified casting instructs there. The normal drinks, cookies, and conversations will be on hand.

August Outing

For August the club outing is on the Umpqua River near Elkton. For those of you who have attended this popular outing, it is a one of a kind treat. We will be fishing for Small Mouth Bass. These warm water fish put up a fight of a fish twice there size. There are bass of all sizes on the Umpqua, a couple in the 3 lbs range were landed by Jerry Gibb last year. Suggested fly for this outing is a root beer colored fly with dumb bell eyes and white rubber legs. Heavy brown colored flies are the key, and I mean HEAVY.

For the outing you will need your own floatation craft, in the past people have floated the river in float tubes and pontoon boats. There are some small rapids, where you might bump you bottom in a float tube, but the rest of the drift is slow moving water. You would think you are on a lake at times. We will be camping at a some to be disclosed location as the campground we normal stay at has changed to RVs only. We will be checking to see if they can make an exception for us for this outing. More information (direction and camping location) will be at the August Casting Clinic (just ask Craig Knoll) and information will also be e-mail out as soon as we make arrangements.

Road Side Clean up

Bright and early Saturday morning, before the mist had cleared the trees, a group of hearty SFC members met at Fisherman's Bend to car pool up to our adopted section of Hwy 22 for our thrice yearly "roadside clean up." We have been cleaning this stretch of the road for the last several years and extend thanks to all who helped, including Dan Shimek, Craig Knoll, Richard Newell, Bob Main, Ken Karnosh, Ron Henderson, Jerry Gibb, Hillary Votaw, Dell Schomburg, Michael and Chris Miller, Stephen John, and Keith Burkhart (yes, KEITH was there!!!) This is one of the many worthwhile outdoor activities that our club is involved in during the year, the participants all get a little exercise, we get to know each other a bit better and sometimes a REAL treasure is found.

FIVE CASTING TIPS: STAN STEELE

Stan Steele is an FFF Certified Casting Instructor, a member of the Santiam Fly Casters, the North Santiam Spey Casters and the Federation of Fly Fishers. He is also the FFF-OR Council VP of Marketing/Development. Stan's casting tips include:

1. Keep a firm wrist when casting
2. Remember that the back cast sets up the front cast
3. Minimize slack
4. Cast the rod tip in a straight line
5. Finish the cast with a firm stop



Understanding Fly Casting Took Years by Dwight Klemin

Looking back over my 40 years of fly-fishing, I have noticed a progression in my casting skills and abilities. I was a freshman in high school when my journey began. My budget allowed for an old fiberglass rod, a level line and level leader with poorly self-tied buzz hackle flies. Happy as a clam, I fished small, brushy streams. My casting was more like cracking the whip exercise than presenting a fly. I did catch a lot of fish but I think I was beating them into submission. Over the years I came to understand that double taper and weight forward lines are better than level lines for fly-casting. No casting instruction, other than outdoor life articles, I started to strive for better casting techniques. Self taught skills gave me some understanding but it wasn't until I started down the certification road did I realize what principles are involved in making a fly move through the air with efficient, effective movement. Three key things I discovered about my own casting that has made a BIG difference: a firm stop (BOTH back and fore), accelerate smoothly and understanding the phases of the casting stroke. Understanding the phases of fly-casting is probably the biggest improvement for me. Understanding each individual element of the stroke gives a smoother connection between the different stages of my stroke. The part I came to realize the most is the initial lift to get the line off the water BEFORE the power element begins. The rod tip is in the water and you lift the line off the water until the rod tip is @10ish then begin to apply power. The lift move will get the rod tip up onto the casting plane so the tip can travel in a STRAIGHT LINE PATH during the power portion of the stroke. The second is smooth application of power through the casting stroke. It is not how fast you go but rather how smoothly you apply power. Slow to faster is the key here. Think, how can I move this big boulder; hit hard, no. Easy up to it and slowly start to shove the boulder. The same with your casting power stroke, easy into it. The third thing is the stop. I can see the front stop but the back-stop seems to give me a problem over the years. I would drive the tip downward thinking I was making a good stop; in reality I was forcing the line down to the water on my back cast. My cure was to have someone watch my back cast and tell me if I stopped the rod at 1ish so the "straight-line-path" was not violated.

To improve your casting work on the "stop" on your back cast, think slow to faster during the power application and lift (pick-up move) before you add power to you back cast. Have a friend observe your casting and let them help you gain better loops control. May your loop control improve.

Santiam Flycasters
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A monthly publication of the
Santiam Flycasters

Club Officers & Board:

President: Craig Knoll

Vice President: Keith Burkhart

Secretary: Hillary Votaw

Treasurer: Steve Mock

Board

Bill Allen-Librarian

Joe Hussion- Membership

Dan Shimek-Conservation/Newsletter

Richard Newell- Concessions/
Auction

Keith Whisenhunt- Raffle

Bob Gabler- FFF representative

Lee Erickson

Next Month Meeting and Events:

General Meeting: September 8, 2005
Presenter: TBA

Outing: When: September 10, 2005
Where: Hosmer Lake

Membership Application

Santiam Flycasters, Inc. * PO Box 691, Salem Oregon 97308
www.santiamflycasters.com

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

Phone: () _____

Email address: _____

Type of Membership (check box)

- Regular.....\$20.00
- Junior.....\$5.00
- Family.....\$27.50