



The Lower Columbia Flyfisher

February 2017

Issue 228

Meeting: February 7, 2017

Time: 6:30 PM

Place: The Carriage, back room

Next board meeting - Tuesday, February 21, 6:30 PM at Masthead Backroom

PROGRAM: WDFW Enforcement Meet and Greet

Local WDFW Police officers will give us the opportunity to meet the officers assigned to our area. We are fortunate to currently have 3 officers and a sergeant patrolling locally.

Scheduled to be present are officers Tyler Bahrenburg, Patrick Anderson and Denis Budai as well as their supervisor, Sergeant Brad Rhoden. They will present a program about their current enforcement efforts and answer any questions we might have.

We always appreciate the efforts these officers make on all our behalf and will be good to hear how we can better support each other. Of course in Buchman's case he's coming to get familiar with their faces so he'll know when to run.

Coming Soon.....S Fork Toutle Outing

Can you taste it?.....can you smell it?????? Ohhh, BABY the season is starting to turn. Jeff's already caught the fever, out scouting the S Fork just the other day. Maybe two.

Limber those rods up, fishing poles, too....what you are waiting for is nigh upon us. At February meeting look for Jeff to give an early report on S Fork Toutle and what to expect at this year's LCFF annual opener.

Targeted for March 11 Jeff and Vance are serving up a helping certain to melt out your cholesterol clogged vessels and chase away the winter chill. Guaranteed to fix fits, farts, freckles, moles, shin splints, coughs, even sore or dry holes, yes it's Jeff's famous fire-belly chili and pickled beans. OK, so with enough of us at an age needing to keep a close eye on the bowel, Jeff has been toning down the fire lately. So you all should be good.

Actual date may vary pending river closure and weather so keep your ears tuned, you don't want to miss it.

Where in the world????

Congrats to those who recognized Rocky Ford Creek near Moses Lake as the mystery water in last month's newsletter. December newsletter had a holiday theme that, a clue the featured water was Christmas Island. Christmas Island is a bonefish paradise groups of our founding members visited several times. Congrats to those who got that one right as well.

With a couple easier ones out of the way, see the last page for a location many of us have visited several times.

Special Edition.....see page 4 for another Buchman adventure , courtesy of Brain Davern

ORC Northwest Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo, March 10-11, 2017

This is a great event if you get the chance to go, they offer classes of casting and seminars on different aspects of fly fishing, plus they have a huge number of fly tiers, informational and vender booths.

Linn County Expo Center, Albany, Oregon. <http://www.nwexpo.com>

LCFF Board has purchased a dozen safety vests with the club logo on them, along with approving the purchase of a 24" x 36" sandwich board with our logo and web address on it to be used at outings and other functions, such as club volunteer projects.

First use of vests and board maybe a cleanup day and trails work party at Kress Lake, Brian Davern and his wife are adoptive volunteer stewards of Kress Lake and he has approached the club with the idea of a day of cleanup and working on improving the trail around the lake. More to come.

LCFF Officers and Board - petition to consider serving

Soon we will start the process of appointing a nominating committee and getting a slate of nominees for next years officers and board members. Nomination of new board and officers candidates is to be announced at our April membership meeting with the election of new officer to be held during our May membership meeting.

Your LCFF board, while honored to continue service to the membership, encourages a healthy addition of new energy and ideas to the leadership of our swarthy band. Please consider contributing your talents to the club and let any board member know of your interest.

Serving on the board really isn't much of a demand on your time, adding only a couple hours per month to your schedule for the monthly board meeting, held 6:30 PM 3rd Tuesday each month at the Masthead. If you get active on one committee function or another, such as programs, outings, or conservation activities, you might add another few minutes to an hour or two every month. Or if you are like Hal, your contribution is already one of your passionate pursuits and really adds no time at all.

In any case, we would welcome your "new blood" to the team.

Speaking of meeting programs, here is a short list of what is being considered for coming months;

- Return of James Losee on status of the South Sound Sea-Run Cutthroat study we contributed to last year.
- Abernathy Research Center and their latest projects
- LCFEG (Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group) projects such as Toutle restoration
- Return of "That WDFW Lady" Stacey Kelsey, maybe an update on local spiny ray fishing opportunities

NW YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY 2017

There is no better opportunity for our girls and boys, 12-16, to learn the sport of fly fishing and the merits of conservation. The last full week of June 18-24, 2017. The Academy will be held again at The Gwinwood Conference Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The applicant must write an essay explaining why they would like to attend the Academy and a letter of recommendation is requested from their science teacher, school counselor or responsible person. Deadline for applications is April 15, 2017. Financial Aid is available.

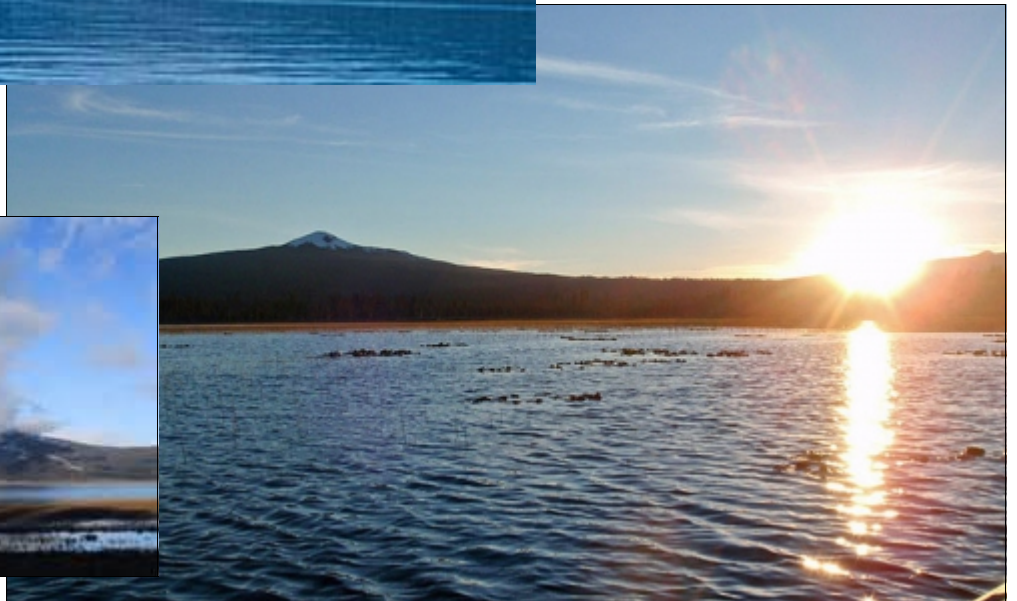
Jim Brosio is lining up the Academy instructors and we are very pleased to learn, most of the instructors from our 2016 event will be returning. We are very fortunate to have the most amazing, talented instructors in conservation, fly tying and casting, from our Pacific NW fly fishing clubs and organizations.

Applications may be downloaded from our website – www.nwycffa.com or you may contact Jim Brosio @ brosioj@q.com, Mike Clancy @ mtclancy39@comcast.net or Tom VanGelder @ TVG@comcast.net Our website – www.nwycffa.com. We also have a Facebook page displaying pictures from past events. Mike Clancy, Co-Director, NWYCFFAcademy

So.....where are we this month?



Hint - LCFF has had outings here in the past



Wretched Gift Demystified (using some Paul Harvey help)

Brain Davern

Our recent Christmas celebration via the annual Wretched Gift Exchange produced some decidedly wretched as well as some desirable gifts. One gift caused some quizzical looks, little more, and became one of a number of gifts not to get stuck with as the die rolling and absconding progressed.

Inasmuch as one of our club's luminaries' surname was printed on the (gift) plaque, it was expected that he might offer some useful explanation. But, no (never known to sit quietly, it was decidedly un-Buchman like of him not to speak up). The membership present due some sort of explanation, will receive it through the following fish report:

Last June, I received a fishing invitation from Bob. New to his invite protocols, I didn't know to ask how many, previous to me, declined his invite. Nonetheless, I accepted a day trip to Leech Lake. I am familiar with the lake but had not recently fished it. He said he had and done well. We'd use his floating conveyance dressed up like a Seahawk.

Enroute, we exchanged fishing reports. The many miles required small talk to replace silence. Sometimes, silence is preferable (because this time the small talk devolved into the inane, as Bob detailed his sure-fired means to fill the empty miles with chatter about crows, although he blamed its conception on someone else. For those familiar, I accept your condolences. For those not... take him up on an invite. You'll see (and receive my condolences).

Thankfully, we eventually crested White Pass and arrived lakeside shortly thereafter. A nearly empty campground and no one fishing under leaden skies was an ominous greeting. That overcast became off and on rain - more wet fly/nymph than hatch conditions. Undeterred, we launched and visited every 'hot spot' but even the slightest touch eluded us. We anchored and cast. We trolled. We wind drifted. We anchored and cast. We trolled... VERY SLOW DAY.

Early afternoon now and one not too big brookie took a stripped fly. I offered to spell Bob on the oars but he declined. Instead, he decided to anchor and eat a sandwich, while I continued to cast. There is a certain monotony that one experiences with poor fishing — where focused attention is replaced with visual glazing... we were firmly there. He munched, I cast. Neither of us looking at anything in particular.

He dropped a bit of sandwich, picked it up and flung it overboard. Our stupor was jostled by the sound of water splashing and turned to see rings, but no sandwich! We traded that lifted eyebrow look (you've seen Spock do it). A piece of crust is tossed... this time we see a huge rainbow come up and take that bread. Holy shit! He throws some white bread — same thing. Now we're both rummaging through our fly boxes. What looks like that? Elk hair caddis? Muddler?

While I'm still searching, Bob has tied on his best guess and casts it all of fifteen feet... AFTER chumming with a few bits of sandwich. Up it comes, takes some bread then returns for another, but this time gets Bob's fly instead. The fish fight begins to Bob's hooting and Brian's, 'I don't effing believe what I just saw!' comment... which prompts me to grab the camera. Dully recorded, fish landed and released, Bob allows that he's done something similar before. Considering the source, that would surprise no one.

High point for the day realized, and the next rain upon us, we agreed that there was no way to further improve on our day. With that, we made for shore and thereafter headed home.

That inane small talk was preceded by some pertinent fly tying discussion (how to tie bread patterns). Now take a close look at the plaque picture.

"And that, dear listeners

..... is the REST of the story".

Greased lines

.....Thanks to all of you that have submitted articles.....I really appreciate them and...If you have not seen your submitted articleI will be using them in future issues.....Thanks again and keep them coming.

.....If any of the rest of you have an article, editorial or fishing story for the newsletter, submit it to the Editor at least 10 days before the first of each month:

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