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fishstories.....

A Message from Our President

by Dan (Grizzly Wulff) Sedergren, HSFC President

Summers drawing to a close, the kids are back in school, and thoughts of spawning Brown Trout begin to fill our heads. I think fall is my favorite time to be outdoors; the air has a crispness to it that isn't there during the summer months, the aspen are starting to turn colors, and the fish seem to be responding with an urgency to fill up before winter sets in. On the lakes, big fish start to return from the depths where they've spent the summer and they become better targets for the fly fisher as they cruise the shallower shorelines.

As a club, we've had a very successful summer. Your willingness to help support Casting for Recovery, Reel Kids, Reel Recovery, and Reel Escape for Women has enabled us to introduce a new set of people to the joy of fly fishing, while allowing them to forget for a while, the battles they are fighting in their war against cancer. Thanks to all of you who have been involved with these projects, whether by participating in the annual diner/fundraiser, being fishing buddies, or working in the background in support roles. I know that you've made a difference in people's lives.

One of the areas that received comments during our membership survey is the clubs involvement in conservation and habitat projects. The Board has heard you, and we are actively working to increase our participation in this area. As a start, Liz has taken the lead in setting up a river cleanup day on our section of the East Carson in the broken dam area. If any of you have been there recently, you couldn't help but notice the amount of trash that has accumulated. The workday will be sometime the around the first of October (after the snakes have retired). We'll let you know when the date has been set. The plan is to have other groups and organizations join us. There might be food involved.

Till next time,

Dan

The Black Butte Connection

by Steve Dexter, HSFC Member

The Black Butte connection started years before my wife and I were introduced to fly-fishing. Janet and I had bumped into a high school sweetheart of my daughters at Red's Old 395 Grill in Carson City. I had been drawn to the extensive list of micro brews on tap and asked what were his favorites. He replied, "Deschutes Mirror Pond" etc. etc. Later I also tried their Black Butte Porter when shopping at a local super market. When flying home from Portland from a job this spring, I noticed some white-capped peaks and didn't know what mountain range I was looking down upon. I thought to myself this looks like a terrific watershed and there must be some great fishing down there. Upon returning home and still wondering, I pulled up Google maps and using satellite view, I located these peaks. I identified these peaks as the Sisters near Bend Oregon. They are named Hope, Faith and Charity and after living in the Tahoe/Carson Valley area for over forty years this seemed to be a more than a coincidence. When first introduced to fly-fishing the first thing that seemed to make sense was to read some books on the subject. One of my selections was "Slack Line Strategies" by John Judy. Along with all the knowledge imparted in the book, stories were included about his home river. The stories and techniques described by John were on the Metolius River. Having never been short on words this is where the fishing part of the story begins.

In planning a travel week for the summer and having no idea where to go, I recalled memories of Oregon when I was 11 years old, on the first family camping trips after moving to California it was decided. Janet and I would to fish the Metolius. The Metolius

River is one of three rivers including the upper Deschutes and Crooked Rivers that flow into Lake Billy Chinook. It is located off highway 20 northwest of Bend, Oregon. 1996 was the last stocking that took place and it has been designated as a wild trout fishery. It is a spring fed river with constant temp and flows throughout the year with sections open all year. This is a technical and difficult river to fish and a good day consists of 3 or 4 fish. The reason for this being the crystal clear water with rocky bottom and a prolific food supply throughout the year. I was told this is a subsurface indicator rig type fishing river, as the fish don't have to come up to the surface for food. I never saw a rise in the three days of fishing in June. It is fly fishing only, catch and release with no guiding permitted on the upper stretch down to the lower bridge. Below lower bridge the regulations open up, but access is difficult.

The Metolius flows through ponderosa pines and has a number of runs, riffles and even a canyon area with some deep pools of azure blue and green and stretches for approx 11 miles of prime water. It is as pristine as anyone could find. There are numerous campgrounds on the river and offers easy access via a trail on both sides of the river from above Camp Sherman down to the hatchery and lower bridge. Camp Sherman is a small community of 250 and Camp Sherman Store is more than 90 years old and is the hub of all that happens on the river. The river holds Bull, Brown and Rainbow (known as redbands) trout not to mention Kokanee and Whitefish. Many Ponderosa pines have fallen over the years to form thick green islands of flora and fauna. The rivers origin is called the Head of the Metolius. It starts as 100cfs and in places runs at 1300cfs and is hard to believe what starts as a small spring generates this flow within the first 100 yards or so. The Head of the Metolius is located at the northern base of Black Butte and flows north looking right at Mt Jefferson. In the winter the road is plowed into Camp Sherman so it is a year around destination. In and around Camp Sherman there are numerous cabins on Forest Service land, which won't impede access to the river.

The bugs?? Well this had to be a lesson in entomology for me as there were multiple hatches consistently during the time spent on the river. Bwo's , pmd's, caddis, stoneflies and the green drakes were starting to come off while we were there. In Oregon it is not legal to use weight to get the fly down so I was forced to use a heavily weighted stone's with a double dropper of a birds nest followed by a rainbow warrior size 18 or 20. The rainbow warrior is a very easy fly to tie and step by step tying instructions can be found at Charlie's Flybox on the web just Google it or email me and I can send you the link.

One would think with my affection for finely crafted micro brews I would have stopped into the Deschutes Brew Pub when so close to Bend but my mind was on the Metolius. Some weeks after returning home I was shopping and saw a six pack of Black Butte Porter and that's when it hit me, I know where they came up with that name as I have been there and I would return even without a rod as it is truly unspoiled and pristine still.

And using a line by Mark Morical's, article in the Bend Bulletin interviewing Jay Boucher of The Patient Angler in Bend said:

"But the fish that come out of there look like they've never touched a fly in their life."

I would have to agree!

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Don Stockman	Fund Raising	775-265-7164
Liz Weirauch	Fish Master	775-782-4734
Mike Phillips	Newsletter Editor	775-265-4610

TENTATIVE FISH OUT SCHEDULE FOR 2009

Feb. 22	Sunday	Hinkson Slough
March 29	Sunday	Rosaschi Ranch
April 26	Sunday	Pyramid Lake
May 31	Sunday	Upper Twin Lake
June 28	Sunday	Frenchmen's Reservoir
July 26	Sunday	West Walker River
August 23	Sunday	Spooner Lake
Sept. 27	Sunday	Heenan Lake
Oct. 25	Sunday	Owens or East Carson River
Nov. 15	Sunday	Indian Creek Reservoir

September Meeting Presentation

by Dan (Grizzly Wulff) Sedergren, HSFC President

Bill Hammons of Carson City will be our September 16th guest speaker . Bill will be giving a presentation on float tubes and tubing. With fall fishing on our local stillwaters about to get underway, this will be a timely presentation. Remember the meeting starts at 7:00 P.M. and to bring money for our raffle.

The Internet Fly Fisherman

by Dan (Grizzly Wulff) Sedergren, HSFC President

September 2009 –

This month's site is for those of you who are interested in history. Developed and maintained by Dr. Andrew Herd, the site exists in order to entertain and inform about the history of fly fishing. Check it out at: <http://www.flyfishinghistory.com/>

This month's blog site is Rob Dee's – A Bad Backcast and Other Inane Musings. Rob describes his site as containing stories about life, the outdoors, and stupidity. His latest post is titled, How to – Saltwater Fly Fishing for Beginners. Check him out at: <http://robabadbackcastandotherinaneMusings.blogspot.com/>

August Fish Out Results– Spooner Lake

by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

Last weekend the HSFC fish out was held at Spooner Lake. Want a fish? Put on a zugbug... want a trout? Take off the zugbug! Tui Chubs abounded, but rainbow and Tiger trout were caught. The weather rained on the way up, but within 5 minutes of launching the flotilla upon the lake, the rain stopped. Club member Dave Ryniec came in from Arnold, CA to join in and Linda Gronski learned the hassle of trying to land a fish with a 9 foot rod and a net. Congrats to all who got fish and a special thanks to Bob and Cye Haynes who made it possible for the club to eat some fantastic food, and to those who brought dishes to pass. See you next month at Heenan!!!

September Fish Out- Heenan Reservoir

by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

The fish out for September is a water that the HSFC hasn't fished for quite awhile. Heenan Reservoir. Open only in the months of September and October and on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, from sunrise to sunset, **catch and release, barbless**. This lake is one of the waters that houses the contemporary strains of Lahontan Cutthroats for the California stocking and recovery programs. Early in 2000 and 2001 the HSFC members helped put up an informational sign at the lake to inform visitors and fishermen about the lake and the cutts. It still remains standing today, thanks to the good work of our members and others.

A note from your fish master: We all have our nemesis water; this one is mine.

The lake has been weedy and unless there are a lot of freezing nights before our fish out, we'll see that the lake has an algae bloom suspended in the entire water column. You'll want to fish this water in a float tube. You'll also want either a intermediate sink line or a sink tip. Tippet would be a 4X and the bugs traditionally are: White, Black or purple buggers. Prince nymphs, zug bugs and damsels are also good to use. Now untraditionally, these are cutts, they act the same as Pyramid, we've had reports of fishermen using the lavender colored nymph and beetle patterns. Hopefully by meeting time, we'll have a better idea of what they're wanting. We've asked Barry Jobe to be fish master; however, he cannot attend (though you might want to tell him Happy 30th Anniversary, because he's been told he has other things to do). So, we plan on asking Jason Hart, who enjoys and fishes and is successful at Heenan.

Dress for warmth and be able to peel off the layers if need be. We'll meet at 8 am at the lake. To get there: Take Hwy 89 through Markleeville, turn left onto Hwy 89/Monitor pass. and then a right hand turn into the parking area. See you there!

A Special Trip to Knott Creek in the fall

by Mike Phillips, HSFC Newsletter Editor

Many members have asked me if I am planning an unofficial club trip to Knott Creek Reservoir this fall, since I have mentioned it several times last year. It looks like it is on for October. Knott Creek can fish well in the fall. It is a trophy fishery with a limit of one fish a day and that fish has to be at least 18". It has large cutbows, rainbows, and tiger trout. The Knott is one of my favorite stillwater fisheries. Two tentative time periods are– Oct. 15-18 or Oct. 22-25. Our trip will depend on the weather. Precipitation can make the road pretty slippery. It is located northwest of Winnemucca and is a six hour drive from Gardnerville. It is four wheel drive the last six miles and tent or truck camping only. I prefer a pontoon boat to fish it, but a float tube will do the job. I plan on a gathering of interested fisherpersons at my house for specific information on how to get there, a map of the lake and its hot spots, flies to use, and rod setups. Some of you may only be able to fish Saturday and part of Sunday, but that's okay. Thursday and Friday will give me and other early arrivals a chance to dial it in for the rest of you. The Truckee River Fly Club had a successful fish out there this July. Feel free to call me for more details. My phone number is 775-265-4610. I have four people that want to go so far.

Reel Escape for Women with Cancer

by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

On August 15th the High Sierra Fly Casters hosted it's first Reel Escape for Women. This program was developed to introduce women battling all types of cancer to the serenity and excitement of fly fishing here in the Eastern Sierra. This program was privately funded by donations of local businesses and a very wonderful benefactor. We had over 25 members come out and help at Pleasant Valley Fly Fishing Preserve for a full day of "Escape" A lovely lunch and a marvelous dinner was prepared by Lira's Market (leftovers were sampled by members who attended the Spooner fish out) and I would personally like to thank the members who came out and helped. Special thank you's to two members and their families for their organizational skills and over all help doing this program. Mickey Kriethe and Bonnie Koster, this program would not have come to fruition if not for both of you. large thanks and kudos to Bob and Cy Hanes for running back and forth to town getting food and then setting it all up. The entire day ran smoothly and it's because of all of the skill that the members of HSFC have. Thank you.

From participant Teri Moore: "Thank you, to all that helped pull together the Reel for Women Retreat. I have found a new passion."

It's what it's all about. Thank you all again - Liz Weirauch



Photos of club members helping women with cancer learn to fly fish

HSFC Cleaning up the Carson River

by Liz Weirauch, HSFC Fish Master

If you fish our local section of the river, then you should be interested in this. Members, a result of the recent survey was that members wanted to see more conservation works. Well here's the chance. Our local area of the East Carson River near Rhuenstroth dam has not had a clean up since 1986, when our club did it in conjunction with Western Nevada Water Conservancy. We will be doing this again, since they have offered to fund the trash pick up and other things like food and water!



On October 4th, at 8:00 A.M. we will be meeting at the bathroom area (rafting take-out) to pick-up trash along the river corridor from just above the restrooms then down river to near the Riverview Mobile Home Park. Participants are encouraged to wear long pants, sturdy shoes, sunscreen, hat, leather gloves, and bring a rake or pitch fork. We will be picking up a lot of broken glass. We hope to also have access to the Washoe tribe land to make sure it's cleaned up well, and we have invited them to help on this day.

Please call if you will be coming or if you have any questions, call Liz at 782-4734.

Pictures from Our Spooner Fish Out



Eastern Sierra Fishing Report

by CJ Webb, Virginia Lakes Resort

ROCK CREEK LAKE has been good to fair, and most of the fish are in deeper water, so use full sink with dark burgundy woolly buggers, and damselfly. Some dries are working, Elk Hair Caddis and Hornbergs. Mosquito Flats is running fair and there are a few mosquitoes still on the hunt.

CROWLEY LAKE algae is finally gone and weeds are multiplying like rabbits. Fishing is excellent, catching even better at about 14 feet in McGee Bay, but has had some off days. Crystal midges, zebra midges in grey/black, red/gold, and black foam-back spotlight emerger, and Captain Kent says use only ONE fly, and let it sit and lift on occasionally to entice Moby-trout. Perch are hanging in the 18 foot +/- area so get your arsenal ready.

UPPER OWENS – Water is slightly off color and the flow is low due to Edison not releasing water from Grant Lake. Try some large bushy dries, stimulators, humpy's, parachute Adams, even some hoppers and large foam Ants, but best action is sub-surface.

CONVICT LAKE always produces on large woolly buggers in black and purple #6 or 8, and the Marvel wonder fly in grizzly and olive. The Marvel is the same as a Pistol Pete. Hardware is good and gets action. Also try some emergers by the south west bank under a bushy dry or streamer.

MAMMOTH LAKES BASIN - Lake Mary is still producing on some small midges and large streamers. George and Mamie are also doing well on Matukas, black leaches, and purple or dark rust woolly buggers.

HOT CREEK (149cfs) is fishing well; water level is down and will present a challenge to the novice. Weed beds are showing; early and late on dries, WD40's, PT flashback size 20-24, gray or brown baetis patterns #22-24, dry-drop with scuds, and small olive caddis emergers. Large foam ant patterns like Madam X, Fuzzy Wuzzy etc. Have you seen this fly! Constant afternoon breezes so show your stuff and you'll get into some nice fish.

SAN JOAQUIN – Access with your own vehicle is before 7am and after 7pm. You'll have to do some walking to get into good spots as the water level is dropping, so look for side water and pools and use stimulators, Humpies yellow and red, Royal Wulffs, Parachute Adams and definitely Olive elk hair caddis #16. Shuttle ends after Labor Day.

JUNE LOOP – Silver and Gull have been doing the best on grey ghosts, and Hornbergs. Also try some stones, mayflies, ants and caddis near Rush Creek for best results, but water is low. June has been doing well since everyone located the level where fish were feeding. Go Deeeeeeeeeeeeeep!

LUNDY LAKE has been doing well from boats and tubes and is seeing some really nice fish on various colored woolly buggers #6 or 8, and their famous Pistol Pete. Ponds behind the resort are full and hitting very small midges and dries in sizes #18 to 20, but use stealth. Griffith Gnats, parachute Adams, small hoppers, fur body black and cinnamon ants.

VIRGINIA LAKES has been good but not great and the early am air temp has been cool. Try small parachute black gnats and parachute Adams all #18-20. Some emergers have worked well and will start to produce with the increase in daytime temps. Try some Rickard's stillwater nymphs, AP emergers and seal buggers and hold on.

EAST WALKER – Flow currently is at 154cfs and the bite is terrific. Early am and late pm are the best times to use a dry/dropper in the 1st mile down from the dam. Elkhair Caddis, yellow sallies, and Cahills over any zebra, crystal, WD40, or tiger nymphs. Fish only when temp is below 67 degrees, it's healthier for the trout.

WEST WALKER – Water is at approx 63cfs, so look for flat water and fish the bottom and curves, and use a two fly rig with large attractor and tiger, crystal or flashback Zug as the bottom fly with a shorter distance between flies.

SADDLEBAG LAKE - The lakes basin has slowed due to the water temp and you will have to work for them. The stream is running good and there are still some nice brooks, browns and bows in deeper pools on the curves. Park by the walk-in campground and stay out of sight of the stream as the browns spook.

See you on the water....cj 9.8

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