

# The Hook



Lower Umpqua Flycasters  
Member, Federation of Fly Fishers

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## Meeting times

- General Club meetings held at Reedsport High School at 7:00 p.m. the 3rd Wednesday of each month. (except when they're not)
- Executive Board Meetings will be held on demand. They can be requested by any club member at a regular meeting to be held on a date printed in the next published newsletter (The Hook).

### The lucky winners of the December Meeting :

*Tommy Carlson won the rod and Linda Murray-Stang won the member's drawing!*

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 17,  
2010  
Reedsport Elementary  
School , 7:00 p.m.

## RAMBLINGS



*There comes a time when a person must go into the wilderness and face one of mankind's oldest, and most feared, enemies: The Trout.*

EXPO is fast approaching. We will meet at the school at 0700 Saturday the 27<sup>th</sup> for set up, if you would like to help, just show up. Any items you might have for the auctions or sale please bring them to the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Should be a good turnout judging from the amount of phone calls I have been getting. Somehow the date did not get into the South Coast Shopper ad and lots of folks have been asking. There are some really good programs this year and most of the fly tiers from the past will be there.

Patti Timothy has volunteered to be the web site coordinator, so any announcements of interest to the Club that you would like to see on the home page, please submit them to her rather than directly to the webmaster. The program the web-site uses for the Photo Gallery was hacked and over 7000 e-card spam mailings went out in a 8 day period. The webmaster had to shut down the gallery for a time, but has since restarted it and is keeping an eye on it. Sure glad we have some professionals taking care of our website.

If you have a favorite fly or two you wouldn't mind sharing with the Club members, please submit them to Wayne at [clubflies@live.com](mailto:clubflies@live.com) for inclusion in The Hook. A short description of the waters fished and a recipe should also be included. This should help some of the members new to the area learn the local waters and patterns.

Robert O'Bryan has volunteered to be the Outings Coordinator again, and is looking for suggestions for the high lakes outing this year, please contact him with any ideas you might have.

The Club was able to purchase some nice fly rods for the drawings at a very good price, so come to the meetings and take a chance, you never know.

Hope to see everyone at the EXPO, come on out and have a good time. Until then,

TIGHT LINES,

Tommy Carlson

## A Tough Day at Empire Lake's

By Tom Timothy

After the Fly Club meeting in February of last year, Don asked if I wanted to go fishing at Empire Lakes the next day. Before even letting the question run through my mind, I heard an instinctive, "No", come from my lips. I think I was excited that the steelhead were still running in the Coquille in February. It had been a good season for me and I was not quite ready to give it up for trout just yet. I was thinking I needed one more fish... just one more fish before calling it a season.

However, Don's idea was beginning to blossom in my head...I was warming up to it. Don had opened the flood gates on the old spring trout rush. I'm not sure if he noticed the smile that soon covered my face as I changed my response to "sounds like a lot of fun!". For some reason, the last several springs we had stopped the tradition of fishing Empire Lakes the week before ODF&W stocked them. I'm sure a lot of the older club members remember those "tough fly fisherman days at Empire". It was simply a group of us getting together the week before the lake was stocked to fish for holdover trout. We were never able to obtain double figures, but we always managed to bring at least a couple of fish to hand.

Anyway, noon Thursday found Don and I preparing to head out on Lower Empire Lake. Somehow, things did not strike me as right for February fishing. Instead of the windy and rainy day you'd expect, we found the lake to be calm and sunny. Not willing to press my luck, I went ahead and threw my jacket on the back of my water master. As I pushed out onto the water, I yelled to Don that I was on my way to see if I could get a bite. Don responded that he was counting on us catching ten fish today. I had to chuckle a little to myself. The thought that Don had no idea how tough Empire could be the week before the first stocking never entered my mind. However, you had to cut him a little slack, he was a rookie to this Tough Day fishing ritual on Empire.

To my surprise, it didn't take me long to find my first school of rising trout. However, getting a bite with that first group just didn't happen. Each of us took a different approach to solve the puzzle of getting the trout to show an interest in our flies. Don anchored on a rising fish with an indicator and a wet fly drifting, while I would cast to the trout and try different strips to try to induce a strike.

The first strike I felt caught me completely by surprise. I was so late in my response that there was no need to even try to set the hook. Moments later, Don was into his first fish. It was a nice hold over from the fall planting. The trout had hit his fly while Don was beginning to slowly strip in his fly line. This was to be the turning point of our day. From that time on the fishing fell into a consistent pattern. Find some rising fish, then slowly strip your fly past them.

Although our fly fishing styles were very different, by the end of the day, we had chalked up about the same number of fish. We did note, however, that fish taking the fly behind an indicator seemed to hook up almost every time while they were more wary of striking the stripped fly. The stripped fly lead to a lot of short strikes.

Using Patti's fish counting system of losing count when you reach five fish, I have to admit that Don and I were not able to lose count. We were only one fish a piece away from that magic number which brings me back to just how close we came to making it to Don's goal of ten fish. One had to believe if we could have had either, Al along fishing dries or Chuck using that deep minnow pattern fly of his, we could have made it to double digits, but that will have to wait until next year. And what do you know? It is next year...Who's up for an annual Tough Day before the stocking begins?!

### MORE CLUB NEWS

ATTENTION FLYTYERS! Bring your flies for the "auction fish" to the next meeting so we can load it up.

V.P. Jerry is the EXPO coordinator so he can handle any questions. AND he will be taking over the Presidential duties in March. Tommy will be taking Jerry's place as V.P. All the other positions will be maintained by the people already in them. Nancy Brouhard will be the secretary when Linda needs her to fill in.

ALSO, if anyone would like to be the editor of THE HOOK for the next year starting in March...please speak up...just say the word and it's all yours!

### CAFÉ EXPO

On the day of the EXPO... Food will be available starting at 7 A.M. with sausage biscuits and gravy...there will also be more great home cookin' for lunch and snacks! GOOD FOOD available all day! Check it out!

**2010 OUTING SCHEDULE**

Coming soon!		We are waiting for the stocking schedule to be announced so as to plan events around abundant numbers of fish!
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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [lufc.us](http://lufc.us) for all the news that's fit to print and more!

Remember to **bring your empty printer ink cartridges** to the meetings to be used for Staples Rewards Credit toward the printing of the HOOK! So far, we have earned \$23.50 in credits to offset the charges of mailing and printing The Hook! Keep those ink cartridges coming in!

Any items for sale can be advertised here...just contact the editor.

CLUB OFFICERS	
<b>President</b>	Tommy Carlson lufc2tom@live.com 541.997-1770
<b>Vice President</b>	Jerry Brouhard 541.756-5081
<b>Secretary (temp)</b>	Linda Kinch resirodf@charter.net 541.759-2376
<b>Treasurer</b>	Bob Cline bobcline_31@hotmail.com 541.271.4689
<b>Outing Director</b>	Robert O'Bryan r.obryan@charter.net 541-759-2526
<b>Newsletter</b>	Alex Zenzuni lufchook@gmail.com 541.269.9575
<b>Web master</b>	Terri Grimm tgrimm@sonatainc.com

**Membership News**

Any member of the club who writes an article for the newsletter of 500 words or more, will receive 6 free raffle tickets at the next meeting that they attend after the article is published. The article can be about anything that would interest Fly Fishers, but needs to be original (not copied from another source). Send your article to the editor at [lufchook@gmail.com](mailto:lufchook@gmail.com) for publication.

**MEMBERSHIP DUES 2010**

*Annual Dues are \$20.00 within 50 Miles of Reedsport; \$10.00 if more than 50 miles*

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFO & RETURN ASAP—We need to update our roster so please send info with your dues**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ H-PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ W-PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE HOOK BY: EMAIL  or Regular mail  (please check one)

## Our Sponsors



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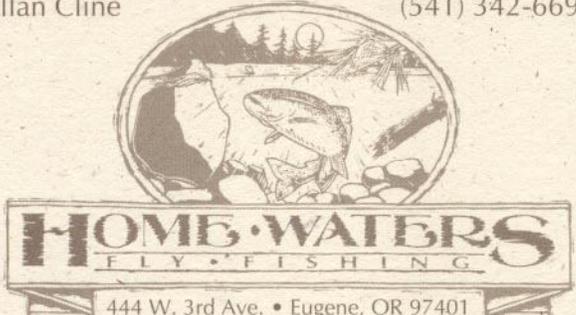
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**HOME WATERS**  
FLY FISHING

444 W. 3rd Ave. • Eugene, OR 97401

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