

The Hook



Lower Umpqua Fly casters
Member, Federation of Fly Fishers

APRIL 2011

Volume 22, Number 4

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Outing Schedule	3
Membership News	1 - 3
Dues/ application Form	3
Club Officers	3
Sponsors	4

Meeting times

- General Club meetings held at the **Reedsport Elementary 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 last meeting :

*Don Brown won the rod and
John Soper won the members
drawing of \$25.*

Next Meeting

**Wednesday, April 20, 2011
7:00 p.m.**

THE MONTHLY TRIPE, HE SAID!

Hello fellow Lower Umpqua Fly Casters,

I didn't realize how hard it was to come up with something to write each month. I am a man of few words when in conversation with someone and it seems, fewer words when seeking something to write about! Gonna touch on something that is close to my heart. ALWAYS BE READY!! I try to make it a point to pack a rod and a few flies when getting set to travel. Sometimes they get used and sometimes they don't. However, if you find yourself standing beside a stream with a pod of trout steadily rising and your nearest fly fishing gear is 600 miles away, in your den, the experience will definitely have you packing gear the next time you travel!

I am lucky enough to have a wife who is quite tolerant of my desire to fish. I was even fortunate enough to fly fish on Vancouver Island on my honeymoon. Eat your heart out guys! Another time, I took gear to Banff and was able to fish on the famous Bow River with a guide who took me to several nice browns. This was done on a trip that was ostensibly for my wife's birthday. On another occasion, I just happened to have my gear with me when we drove by the mouth of the Hamilton Branch of the Feather River where it enters Lake Almanor. Yep, got to stop and wet a line! Some trips we make are for fly fishing only and they are great, but the unplanned opportunities seem to be just as memorable.

My wife and I are leaving on the 16th to go to Colorado so, I will be missing the meeting on the 20th (BE GOOD TO MY BUDDY, JOHN). We will be spending a week visiting my daughter in Durango and I see by looking at a map that "a river runs through it". Guess what!! I'll be packing some tackle!!! See you in May and remember, "there is no such thing as a sloppy cast if you wind up fighting a fish". Russ

Just a Reminder:

Keep the 11th of June open to help Gary with the ODFW fly fishing class at Laverne Park! (Let him know if you'll be coming to help out)

A Bridge Uncrossed

By Tom Timothy

I'm sure everyone has heard the old saying, "You don't have to cross the bridge until you come to it." Well I'd come to this bridge over three hours ago and I still hadn't crossed it. As Don and I first approached the bridge, I was well motivated to get across it because that big silver tanker truck was on the other side. However, half way across, I started a conversation with a park ranger who was standing on the bridge. He informed me that they had just put three thousand trout into the lake and encouraged me to make a few casts at the rising fish before I went on over the bridge. I didn't need to be asked twice. Being fresh off the truck, the trout nipped lightly at our flies the first few casts. But soon Don and I were hooking up every couple of casts. The park ranger mentioned that he was surprised at how many fish we were hooking. Without thinking, I blurted out that we would be hooking more fish if we were using flashy flies instead of flies imitating real bugs. His response was, "You have got to be kidding!". I assured him that I was serious, but I could see the doubt in his eyes. To demonstrate my point, I put on a Saunders Lake special. At this point, the fishing became ridiculous. The trout attacked the fly so fast that it was hard to catch up to the fish if you missed the first strike.

At some point, while I was chasing fish from the middle of the bridge, Don went ahead and crossed over. The next thing I knew, he was standing in the water on the far side of the bridge. I was thinking of joining him when I noticed Chris from the ODF&W walking out onto the bridge. He asked if I was hooking any of the trout they had just put in the lake. I told him to just watch! As had been happening for the last half hour, a fish seemed to jump on the hook at nearly every cast. My conversation with Chris turned to what was happening with the steelhead spawning program and the "cormorant predation problem" with the stocked trout and smolt. Now, I had two people standing on my right side both within six feet. I must have been in the zone. During the entire conversation, I managed only to hook trout, missing the tree behind me and all three of us.

After Chris and the park ranger left, I told Don I was going to switch to a bright pink fly that hadn't worked the first time I'd tried it at Empire Lakes. Don thought that was such a good idea he switched to a bright orange fly. Our thought was that it might add a little more challenge to the fishing. We were seriously mistaken in our thinking as the fishing seemed to pick up, if that was even possible. Since the bright fly thing backfired, Don and I came up with another challenge. We started casting under a willow tree, seeing how close we could get without hanging up. If you could land your fly within a couple of inches of the willow a trout would jump on it as soon as the fly touched the water. So I'd have to say we were working on our casting skills as much as fishing at this point. Well maybe you should change fishing to catching in the last sentence. The willow game must have gone on for an hour before one of the park rangers came back with a spinning rod to catch a few trout for dinner. Seeing how easy the fishing was under the willow, he decided to flip his spinner in and get a quick limit. He soon learned it wasn't as easy as it appeared. He had to trade four spinners for three trout. The park ranger decided three trout were enough for dinner.

Don then did the unthinkable. He switched to a dark fly. It worked brilliantly as his catching definitely dropped off. I quickly followed suit and put on a black fly. Sure enough, the catching got much more challenging for me as well. However, we soon figured out that a fly placed close to the willow would still be rewarded with a strike on nearly every cast. I was still standing in the middle of the bridge when I looked at the watch on my fishing vest. It was hard to believe that four hours had passed. Normally, it wouldn't have been a big deal to stay and fish longer, but Patti was coming home from New Mexico around five that afternoon...and Don was more than happy to call it a day. As Don and I walked back to his truck, I thought about how I had really tried not to be a numbers guy. I had made a real effort. But today, there was just no way that was going to happen. Maybe I should give it a try some other day. But then again, maybe some bridges are better left uncrossed. I just really like to catch fish!

2011 OUTING SCHEDULE

Sat	Apr 23	Powers Pond	100 big ones! Pot Luck lunch!
Sat	May 8	Middle Empire Lake	Meet at 9 AM in the parking lot. Bring your own lunch.
Sat/ Sun	June 25/26	Crane Prairie Lake	High lake adventure! Camping is available at he RV Park (541-383-3939) for full hook up; wilderness camping can be had at Rock Creek Campground. Potluck dinner Sat night 6 PM at Rock Creek Campground.
Sat/ Sun	July 9/10	Tube-a-rama at the Umpqua River	Biggest event of the year...camping at the Umpqua RV Park. Sites 11-20 have been held for July 5-11. Call 541-459-2665 or email normsrv@gmail.com to make your reservations. We'll meet in the park at 9 AM each day prior to the float. Potluck dinner Sat at 6 PM!
Sat	Aug 6	Charleston	Meet 8 AM at the boat launch. Make your own arrangements for a boat and fishing partner. We'll be setting crab traps & fishing for rock fish. Start cooking crabs at noon & Pot luck.
Sat/ Sun	Sept 10/11	Rogue River	We'll be fishing for half pounders. Potluck dinner Sat at 1 PM with club providing and cooking the steaks. Agnes RV Park 541-247-2813 or 866-729-9043. Make your own reservation.
Sun	Oct 1	Saunders Lake	This is the 1500 2lb. Trophy Trout plant. Let's go get 'em! Plan to bring your lunch and have a great day.

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Russ Wright
randmwright@charter.net	541-269-2638
Vice President	John Soper
soapydeal@yahoo.com	541-756-4103
Secretary	Linda Kinch
res1rodff@charter.net	541-759-2376
Treasurer	Monty Stewart
smontystewart@yahoo.com	541-999-9673
Outing Director	Robert O'Bryan
r.obryan@charter.net	541-759-2526
Newsletter	We need a new
lufchook@gmail.com	Editor!!!
Web master	Terri Grimm
tgrimm@sonatainc.com	541-318-0567

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT lufc.us for all the news that's fit to print and more!

Remember to bring your empty printer ink cartridges to the meetings for Staples Rewards Credit toward the printing of the HOOK!

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 for publication.

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2011

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 _____

TO RECEIVE THE HOOK, email address please: _____

*****PLEASE TEAR OFF THIS SECTION & MAIL With YOUR DUES TO: L UFC; P.O.BOX 521, REEDSPORT 97467*****

Our Sponsors

HELP US PROMOTE FLY FISHING AND YOUR BUSINESS FOR ONLY \$10 PER YEAR!



DAYS CREEK FLY SHOP
LES GRAHAM, OWNER
Phone 541-825-3605
E-mail us at
DaysCreekFlyShop
@frontier.com
Pat Harnish, Assistant Fly Tyer
541-637-6082

GOIN' FISHIN'
Fly Fishing Supplies
Sue & Butch
P.O. Box 95
9461 N.W. Kimberly Way
Seal Rock, OR 97376
(541) 563-6176
(see other side for location information)

Websites

- design, host & maintain sites
- repair sites that don't work
- programming for client-specific features: slideshows, photo galleries, maps & directions, etc.

Publications

- graphic design, writing, editing
- specialize in newsletters, reports, catalogs, brochures, how-to manuals & books
- from concept to completion for print or online

Sonata, Inc.
unusual name
exceptional results

Theresa & Jeff Grimm
www.sonatainc.com
541-318-0567
tgrimm@sonatainc.com

Hats and shirts with our LUFCA logo can be purchased at SIGNS UNLIMITED in Reedsport, 1311 HWY 101S, 541-271-0929

Lower Umpqua Fly casters

P. O. Box 521

Reedsport, OR 97467