



The McKenzie Messenger

JULY 2015

Newsletter of the McKenzie Flyfishers
PO Box 10865, Eugene, Oregon.

www.mckenzieflyfishers.org

The club currently lacks a permanent Newsletter Editor.
We are publishing newsletters as best we can.
Thank you for your understanding and patience.

July Program

Program Committee

No July program!
**See you at our
annual picnic
MONDAY, JULY 20!**

(Details on page 3.)

IN THIS ISSUE:

- JULY PROGRAM - Annual Picnic, Pg 1.
- PRES SEZ - Jim Williams, Pg 2.
- SHAD FISHING AT SAWYER'S RAPIDS - Sparky Rice, Pg 2.
- CLUB PICNIC - Jeff DeVore, Pg 3.
- LENICE LAKE OUTING REPORT - Various, Pg 4-5.
- TOWN RUN OUTING - Gary McKenney, Pg 5.
- APPOLOGY TO NEW MEMBERS, Pg 5.
- REMAINING 2015 OUTINGS - Clint Brumitt, Pg 6.
- QUEST FOR NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Bob Rasmussen, Pg 6.
- FUTURE CLUB PROGRAMS - Program Committee, Pg 7.
- BOARD AND COMMITTEES - Pg 7.
- MFF Purpose/Invitation - Pg 8.

Calendar

- **BOARD MEETINGS** are held the first Wednesday of the month, 7-9 p.m., Market of Choice Conference Room, unless announced otherwise. **Next meeting: July 1, 2015.**
- **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP** Meetings are held the third Monday of the month, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at Willie's, 400 International Way, Springfield, OR. **Next meeting: *August 1, 2015**, then, September 21.
- ***ANNUAL PICNIC:** will held in lieu of our **July 20** General Membership Meeting.
- **ANNUAL AUCTION:** will be held in lieu of our **November 16** General Membership Meeting.
- **HOLIDAY PARTY:** will be held on Friday, **December 4.**

Prez Sez

JIM WILLIAMS



Random thoughts about a sport I love.

What do the sport of golf and the sport of fly-fishing have in common?

I know some of you golf and may have watched the last two days of the US Open held in Washington State. It was exciting right down to the last two golfers on the 18th hole. I own golf clubs

but I don't golf for good reason, I am terrible!!! With that said I was glued to the television, as the finish was high drama!

Before we get to the answer of my question above, I chortle when I listen to golfer friends go on and on as to how they love "being in nature" when on a golf course. Of course I may sound, and perhaps am, elitist. I consider "being one with nature" is when I'm on a stream miles from nowhere with a fly rod bent to a fish that took a fly I tied. In this circumstance, the only "birdies" involved are the osprey and heron, my witnesses!

Now, what do the sports of golf and flyfishing have in common? Both are faced with a predicted decline in participation. Younger people are not replacing the number of practitioners who are no longer able to play/fish or who have "passed". Many of us "senior citizens" had mentors who taught us not only how to fly fish but also instilled in us the ethics of the sport. In my case, my mentors were my Dad and my older brother, Bob, an early member of the McKenzie Flyfishers. There are fewer mentors today to teach fly fishing to our kids, grandkids, and young neighbors.

Information online supports this concern by those in the flyfishing industry; guides, equipment manufacturers, and fly shop owners. We should also be concerned as we come to the realization that there will be few to assume our advocacy for fish and the waters they inhabit? Flyfishing clubs have a long history of being conservation oriented with no better example than the 50+ years of the McKenzie Flyfishers' existence.

I have no immediate answer to the question nor what we need to do about it but I think it is our responsibility to make sure the sport we love has a future. Let's start the discussion.

Jim

SHAD FISHING AT SAWYER'S RAPIDS

Sparky Rice



My twin, Dwight, and I caught about 40 or 50 shad at Sawyers on Tuesday 6/9. We used chartreuse weighted shad darts and full sink lines fished deep mostly in the seams. In the photo below, you will notice the main secret to our outstanding success, was guide, Dan Taylor.

Sparky



2015 McKenzie Flyfishers Picnic

Jeff DeVore

TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A GREAT EVENING: YOUR ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC IS FINALLY AT HAND

Here is the final reminder that the McKenzie Flyfishers' Annual Picnic will take place on

Monday, July 20th

starting at 5:30 PM. As is our tradition, this picnic will be a pot luck affair and thanks to the generous support of our board of directors, there will be no cost to members and their families. Some of your fellow club members will grill hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fix'ns for your dining pleasure and a sumptuous wild salmon will be grilled by chefs Bob Bumstead, Gail Campbell, and Tom Fauria. These chefs are not necessarily listed in order of their fantastic and renowned cooking ability.

In addition to the main dishes, the club will provide soft drinks, condiments, plates, and flatware.

We ask each of you to bring the appetizer, side dish, or desert of your choice to compliment our entres. Be prepared to enjoy extra treats and surprises, but you will have to attend to discover and enjoy these.

You will not have to bring camp chairs or tables; seating and tables are provided.

In addition to the fine eating fare, there will be spey casting instruction and practice put on by club two-handed specialists. The same folks will provide necessary spey rods/reels/lines for interested members. If you have longed to try out this fun way to sling a long line, this will be your chance.

If your desire is the trout and occasional steelhead hanging along the riverbanks, a more traditional single-handed rig or two will be available for your use or you are welcome to bring your own with which to compete for a prize that will be awarded at 9:00 PM for the biggest fish caught at the picnic.

If you plan to float to the picnic from Pengra landing and park your boat at the picnic site, the Jasper take out is but 200 yards downstream.

The site of this year's picnic is in Pleasant Hill, just upstream of the Jasper Bridge, on the left side of the Middle Fork Willamette River (that's "river left"). **Dinner**

will be served starting at 6:30 PM. Detailed directions to the picnic are published below.

Please RSVP and tell us how many people from your family will attend. Call (541) 343-3109 or (541) 505-2692 or email oakcrk@aol.com.

We encourage all members to remind your club friends of the details to insure that you see them at what is shaping up to be another memorable club picnic.

We hope to see you there.

The Picnic Committee

DIRECTIONS TO THE PICNIC

The McKenzie Flyfishers Annual Picnic is being held on Monday, July 20th as described above.

You can get to the picnic site by traveling south from Eugene on I-5 and turning east on Highway 58 toward Willamette Pass and Oakridge. About 5 miles east of I-5 and just past the Pleasant Hill School, turn left onto the Jasper-Springfield Parkway. Travel 2.6 miles and look for a "45 MPH" sign. Just past the sign turn right.

There will be a stone block wall to your left. Turn left through the opening in the wall and right into the third driveway on your right. You have arrived.

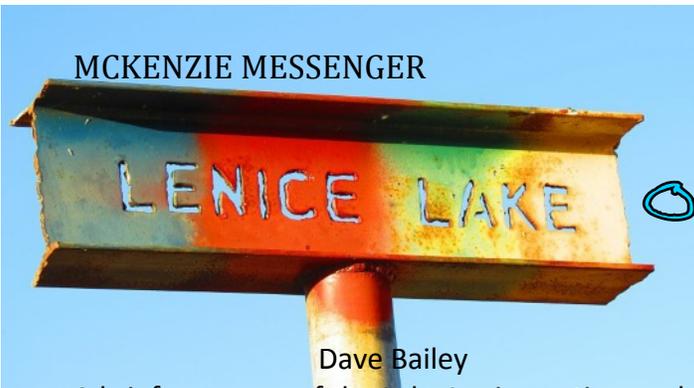
If you reach Jasper Bridge before turning off Jasper-Springfield Parkway, turn around and take the first left and follow the directions in the bold paragraph above.

You can also reach the picnic site by traveling East from Eugene on Highway 126/I-105, the McKenzie Highway to where the highway intersects with Main Street in East Springfield. Continue south across Main Street onto the Bob Straub Parkway, which will bend to the left at the Middle Fork Willamette and become the Jasper-Springfield Road. Four more miles from Springfield you will find the Jasper Bridge on your right. Turn right and cross the bridge. Turn left at the first opportunity. Look for the block wall to your left, and follow the directions in the bold paragraph above.

Or find your directions using Google Map. The address is:

85816 Parklane Circle
Pleasant Hill, OR 97455.

If you need assistance, call 541.343.3109 or 541.505.2692.



Dave Bailey

OUTING

Various

A brief summary of the Lake Lenice outing could be called "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly".

THE GOOD:

The lake lived up to its reputation as a big trout lake. We all did a good amount of catching 14 to 20 inch fish. And we had the lake to ourselves. We were the only RV camper's there.

Each morning saw very calm water with big fish sipping insects at the surface. Green Woolly Worms, Zug Bugs, purple rabbit fur thing's, and variations on possie buggers all seemed to work at the end of a fast sink line.

The most pleasant surprise was that the dread, fabled Lenice white caps did not put in a showing.

The good advice and coaching from Jim Williams on the "how to's" of the lake paid great dividends.

And finally, the Evening Happy Hours at the cooling of the day and a good variety of libations over which to discuss the catches of the day.

Thanks, Tom !

THE BAD:

Hot, hot days, 100+ temperatures!

The 1/2 mile walk to the lake from the camp and back.

The 6 hour drive from Eugene to the camp and back!

Listening to Phil brag about his 24 trout day!

THE UGLY:

The hot, well used, pit toilets!

The mosquitoes!

The graveled, treeless, camping area!

MY CONCLUSION:

I'd sign up again in a heart-beat!

* * *

John Ranstad

We had three vehicles drive the 346 miles to Lenice Lake on Thursday morning June 4, 2015 containing 6 fly fishers - David Bailey; new member, Phil Johnson;

Tom Fauria; Tom's, friend Randy Hill; president, Jim Williams; and John Ranstad. We stopped in Yakima to purchase fishing licenses (1 day, 4 day, and full season) and parking permits.

Jim and I usually make this trip twice a year, timing our fall trip between Duck football games. This trip was two weeks earlier than our normal first annual trip and we had hopes that the weeds would be stunted by last winter's cold winter. We were in luck, though the weeds seemed to have minimal effect on the fishing.

Lenice Lake is northeast of Yakima, WA, near the town of Beverly. It is one of four seep lakes along Lower Crab Creek Rd all of which ultimately drain into the Columbia River about 5 miles to the west.

We'd made plans to dine at the Crab Creek Country Club but, upon arrival, found that the club had mysteriously morphed into a gravel parking.

The Lenice Lake area is dry and is oft plagued with "nuclear winds", most often, blowing from the west. During our stay, we saw only saw a couple of other fishers on the lake. Maybe Washington fly fishers believed that hot weather would put the fish "off the bite". That could not have been more wrong!

Lenice was at its best for our 4-5 day visit. Winds were calm with gusts to 8 mph. The sky was generally clear with bright sunshine all but one day. The temperatures reached 105 on Friday and Saturday, normally a sign for poor fishing, but not this time. We experienced good to great fishing every day; that meaning, one or more fishers caught 20 or more fish. That being said, each fisher also had his tough day as Lenice can be quite fickle!

Fish were generally in the 15" to 18" range with a couple topping 20". They seemed to prefer trolled or stripped Woolly Buggers (inch-long in various greens), green Sparkle Nymphs, Carey Specials, Posse Buggers, and a chironomid or two.

Sitting out in the evening with old and new friends trying various bourbons and scotches after a cold beer or two was a great way to cool down. An alternative method was to remain on the lake as long as possible

LENICE LAKE OUTING

(cont'd)

until dark in our float tubes; our light waders keeping our core body temperature under control. However, the 1/3 mile hike back to the "parking area/camp ground" would easily eliminate the benefit. Running the generator to power the air conditioner was the ultimate blessing.

We hope that more club members will be able to attend next year.

Reliable advice: "bring your bug spray". Mosquitoes are rampant during low wind . . . luckily, we had just enough breeze to keep the mosquitoes at bay most of the time!

Tight Lines

Town Run Outing

Gary McKenney

On, Friday, June 19, John Ranstad, Bob Howell, Dave Bailey, Bob Rasmussen, and John Rhoten joined Gary McKenney for a morning of summer steelhead fishing on the Eugene Town Run. After coffee and muffins at 6:30 AM, we hit the water and worked it hard for four hours.

Alas! This year's run is terribly low, about 25% of a typical "low" year, and our results reflected that sad fact. Not even a grab!

However, it was a fine morning to be on the water. The low water level gave us a good opportunity to see bottom structure and mentally catalog steelhead holding locations for future use.

We concluded the morning by offering outings participants an opportunity to cast with the three different two-handed rods on hand and discuss the challenges of line selection.

Thanks to all who turned out.

NEW CLUB MEMBER APPOLOGY

PHIL JOHNSON

Editor

My appologies to new member Phil Johnson for naming him Bill. Phil, of course, knows that his name was not really changed as do his acquaintences. It is only old and forgetful "newsletter editor stand-ins" who might "screw-up" in this manner.

My similar appologies to his sponsor John Fauria whose real name is Tom.

(I seems I was on a "roll" for June. Does that make me some sort of a sandwich?)

Outings Schedule

Clint Brumitt

Fellow club members:

Mark the following outings on your calendars. The next outing, the Town Run Steelhead Outing is scheduled following the June general club meeting. Your fishing club is going fishing.

Two outings, that our members voted for, have yet to collect FishMasters. Any soul brave enough to herd cats and to fish either Davis Lake or the

North Fork of the Middle Fork of the Willamette is who we are looking for. There is no outing scheduled for July and August. The "un-Mastered" outings would fit well into those months, wouldn't they?

SEE ME ON JUNE 15, AT WILLIE'S TO VOLUNTEER.

Clint Brumitt

Remaining 2015 Outings

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Target Species</u>	<u>FishMaster</u>
Davis Lake	?TBD?	Trout/Bass	VACANT
N Fk M Fk Willamette	?TBD?	Trout	VACANT
Miller Lake	9/19-20/2015	Trout	Bruce Anderson
Gold Lake	10/2-4/2015	Brook Trout	McKF Board
Kalama Cup Methow R, WA	10/15/2015	Steelhead	Evergreen Flyfishing Club
Crooked R	10-11/TBD/2015	Trout	Bob Howell (?)

COULD YOU . . . WOULD YOU . . . BE OUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR?
Bob Rasmussen

One of the great assets of our Club are our volunteer Officers and Committees. This year, we have been fortunate to fill all Club Officer and Committee positions, save **Newsletter Editor**.

Bob Howell served as an exemplary Editor for four years. He had to step down for family reasons. I fill Bob H's vacated position temporarily.

BOTH BOB H AND I STAND READY TO HELP anyone willing to step up. Talk to either of us regarding the demands of the position.

Contact Bob H:

bobhowell05@gmail.com or 541-505-7623

Or Bob R:

bobras1940@gmail.com or 541-687-9562.

CONSIDER THIS:

Become "TEMPORARY Newsletter Editor" for a period you choose (1 mo., 3 mo., etc.). At the end of THAT PERIOD, decide whether to continue or to step down.

I promise to be your safety net. *Bob Rasmussen*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **McKenzie River Cleanup** will take place on **Saturday, 7/11**. Mark your calendar and plan to help keep the banks of our namesake river clean.

Future Club Programs

Here's a brief announcement of coming attractions from your program committee.

July: Club Annual Picnic!

August: We hope to have Steve Mealey, president of the McKenzie River Guides Association report on the McKenzie River Interpretive Center. Located at the old Fish Hatchery site on Leaburg Lake the Interpretive Center is a monumental undertaking with the vision of becoming a regional tourist attraction. The Center will highlight the McKenzie River valley, the geography, and the unique geology & hydrology of the McKenzie River watershed. With displays featuring the native fish & wildlife and early inhabitants along the river. The Center will include a history and development of the McKenzie River style drift boat and the pioneers of white water boating.

September: Our speakers will be Andrew Dutterer and Greg McMillan. Andrew is Executive Director of the Deschutes River Alliance and Greg is the Director of Science and Conservation for the Alliance. They will discuss current down river problems in water quality and diminished insect life resulting from upriver changes in water flow and temperature created by manipulating the outflow from Pelton Dam. This should be an interesting presentation. Many of the Deschutes problems are similar to the McKenzie River Cougar Dam problems.

2015 Board of Directors & Committees

Officers:

President:.....Jim Williams
President-Elect:.....John O'Conner
Secretary:.....Dave Thomas
Treasurer:.....Mike Layne

At-large Board:

Carolyn Mason
Clint Brumitt
Mark Campbell
Sparky Rice

Committees:

Auction:.....Lee Lashway
Conservation:.....Arlen Thomason
.....Dave Thomas
Holiday Party:.....Paul Kaplan
House/Raffle:.....Tom Fauria
.....John Ranstad
IFFF Representative.....Greg Pitts
Library:.....Ted Taylor
Membership:.....Al Eckardt
.....Eban Dobson
Newsletter:.....**VACANT** (Bob R, standing in)
ODFW Lawsuit:.....Arlen Thomason
.....Dave Thomas
.....Bob Rasmussen
Outings:.....Clint Brumitt
Programs:.....Dan Robinhold, Sr
Website:.....Liz Yocom

McKenzie Fly Fishers
P.O. Box 10865
Eugene, Oregon 97440
Club President: Jim Williams



MFF Club Statement of Purpose

The McKenzie Fly Fishers comprise a group of people who share an interest in fly fishing and water conservation. The Club was conceived and organized in April of 1964 to:

1. **Enjoy social contact**
with others interested in fly fishing.
2. **Encourage fly fishing**
as a method of angling, and
3. **Protect and increase the fishery resources.**

Membership is open to any person over 21 years of age who is interested in fly fishing. General club membership meetings, board meetings, and fishing outing are open to the public.

An Invitation to Join

You do not have to be an expert fisher to join our group. We have a monthly meeting to share tall tales of fish caught and lost, eat a fine buffet meal, and listen to a expert guide or practitioner of our sport teach us a few of the finer points of the art. There is a cash bar and many of us arrive around 5:30 pm to sip a beverage and chew the fat.

Joining our club gives you access to the expertise and insight of its membership. Many of us have years of experience and knowledge about fly casting, fly tying, and fly fishing in general. Some may even be persuaded to share the location of their "secret" fishing hole. There are occasional clinics in tying, rod building, and casting, as well as a chance to understand insects and their role in our fishing experience from well known biologists in the club.

Campouts and day trips are also arranged every month or so at nearby fishing locations and the camaraderie and social interaction on and off the water is thoroughly enjoyed by the members.

Interested? Call our **Membership Chair, Al Eckerdt**, 541-683-4265.

A light blue rectangular sticky note is pinned to the right side of the page with a silver pushpin. The note is tilted slightly to the right. It contains the text "See you for The Picnic at DeVore's July 20" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is arranged in five lines, with "See you for" on the first line, "The Picnic" on the second, "at" on the third, "DeVore's" on the fourth, and "July 20" on the fifth.

Trying to Sink My Boat

Sparky Rice

Bending A Rod on the Soca and Bohinkja (cont'd)