



THE TROUT LINE

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

MIKE GENTRY

This is the season to reflect on the past year. Your chapter continues to be engaged in several projects although weather and scheduling conflicts kept our hands-on involvement at a lower level than in the previous year.

Most recently, a number of volunteers were able to plant willow starts at Thompson Creek in November, complementing the good work that the beavers were doing in that stream. The Neitzel Farm off-channel overwintering project on the Necanicum River continues to be a marvelous success; the chapter is in the process of paying out the remaining funds from the TU EAS grant for habitat and restoration work in planting additional willow starts and cottonwoods. An additional EAS grant proposal has been submitted to TU for a portion of the targeted endowment fund we hope to establish for ongoing monitoring and enhancement work on that site. The chapter will contribute \$2600 to that fund if the proposal is approved. The Grand Dame of the property, Ernestine Neitzel, is favorably enough impressed with the project conceived and masterminded by chapter member Doug Ray that she has agreed to place the property in a conservation easement under the aegis of project partner North Coast Land Conservancy. The hope is that the visible results of this innovative rehabilitation will spur similar projects in other



Northwest watersheds.

No holiday season is complete without a wish list. In this context, my wish list is short and simple: I'd like to see more of our members become involved in the various activities that define Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited. They include the ongoing Project Healing Waters outings and tying and instructions sessions at the local VA hospitals, hands-on work parties at some of our projects, joint functions with other TU chapters and other similar-minded organizations, and fishing outings throughout the year. A no-commitment way to ease into the flow is to attend the chapter meeting held every month; the schedules and program particulars are included in each TVTU newsletter. As a teaser, I'll tell you that all of you who did NOT attend this month's meeting missed the best presentation, in my humble opinion, of the "why" of stillwater fishing. Speaker Phil Hager delved deep into why fish react, or don't react, in myriad situations and settings, and I venture that no one left that meeting without markedly improving their understanding of fish behavior and how that understanding will substantially improve their success on the water. Your Board has committed itself to continue to try to book high-quality speakers on both fishing and resources topics, so please join us at the monthly meetings. And have a Happy Holiday!

In Case You Didn't Get What You Wanted for Christmas

For the fly tyer who has everything! Fish Central Oregon with confidence knowing that you have the flies made especially for Central Oregon waters. A CD complete with pictures and tying instructions for more than 75 flies of the month featured in the Central Oregon Flyfishers newsletter is now available. Included are Jerry Criss's TLF Emerger which slays fish on East Lake, Carl Sanders' Bead Head Estaz which "increased his average fish size by three inches" and Bill Seitz's Bling which is guaranteed to catch fish on the Crooked River. If you tie flies, this CD is a gold mine. If you don't tie, you still want this CD so you can identify the flies and know what to look for in the shops. Fifteen favorite Crooked River flies are included. The CDs are a mere \$6.00 including mailing. All proceeds go to the Central Oregon Flyfishers youth program supporting youth fly fishing. To order, your check made out to Central Oregon Flyfishers should be sent to Lee Ann Ross, 3062 NW Underhill, Bend, OR 97701.

Thanks to all of the many Tualatin Valley Chapter donors for your positive and generous response to our donation campaign. If you have not already donated, please consider sending your donation now to our chapter Treasurer:

Erle Norman

Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited

6152 SW Nevada Ct.

Portland, OR 97219

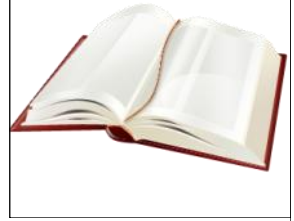
Your donations help the continuing activities of our chapter, including conservation projects in the Necanicum watershed near Seaside.

THE TROUT LINE

Book Review

by Ron Reinebach

The Fly Fishers' Craft, the art and history, Darrel Martin
The Lyons Press, Guilford, CT ,2006
266 pps. Plus bibliography & index, 8 ½ x 11



Darrel Martin has presented a workshop at the Federation of Fly Fishers annual Conclave entitled "The Antique Angler" several times. One of the necessary ingredients one was required to bring was an "extreme curiosity."

The workshop demonstrated many of the skills carefully and clearly explained in this book, and he came to class as well prepared as he did to the book. Both in the class and book, he obviously spent a great deal of effort researching and experimenting with the crafting of hooks, lines, loop rod replicas and often, the tools required to make them, in the manner they were made up through the early 17th century and since.

Those who have attempted to read Dame Juliana Berners' Treatyse of Fysshynge Wyth an Angle have universally found it nearly impossible to decipher unless they have studied old English academically. Darrel brings it to life in this book, and makes the instructions on making hooks, horse-hair lines and the loop rods of that day understandable in such manner that one can actually try each of these skills with a reasonable expectation of success.

Both the pictures and text are clear, and it is far simpler to accomplish than one expects, if the text is followed.

For the fly tyer, he presents both the historic and his own interpretations of the classics with clarity and an almost encyclopedic knowledge and understanding of the literature from Aelian on down through today.

For the extremely curious, this book is a delight. Perhaps Darrel sums it up best when he says "...the process – creating new tools, studying the insects, exploring past methods, developing new techniques, and discovering the perfect materials – is far more important than the pattern. The theories and solutions, the thinking process itself, is the greatest pleasure of tying. This pleasure may even exceed the satisfaction of tying flies or even catching fish. The power of these patterns is the tales they reveal: the imitative theories, the false solutions, the successful answers, the ingenious tyers, and the historical passages. Their true worth, if they possess any, must lie in their intellectual provenance."

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to make your own hooks, line and rod from materials used in the distant past, and would like to try it, get this book and get started. You will indeed find that Darrel Martin has made available a great pleasure.

The Annual Joint Meeting with The Stonefly Maidens will Feature Jason Borger on February 8

"The Making of *A River Runs Through It*" — Join Jason Borger for a relaxed evening presentation of "The Making of *A River Runs Through It*." Suitable for a mixed fishing and non-fishing audience, this talk looks at the 'behind-the-fishing-scenes' in the film, as well as the more general aspects of the movie, including conservation issues. If you've seen *River*, and want to know more about how the fly-fishing portions were brought to life, plan to attend the meeting on the evening of February 8th. See the box at the end of this newsletter for place and time.



Jason Borger grew up in the world of fly fishing, and has been involved in fly-fishing education and the industry in general for much of his life. His work in the study and teaching of fly casting has led to his involvement as a fly-fishing consultant and double for commercials and movies, including *A River Runs Through It* and *The River Why*. Since his teens, Jason has been teaching, shooting videos, and writing articles and books on fly fishing. His book, *Nature of Fly Casting*, is considered one of the key modern works on the subject. He also co-founded the Fly Casting Institute, which is dedicated to advancing the science, medicine and art of fly casting. In addition to his angling background, Jason has a professional history with illustration and layout, as well as a degree in film and television production and theory. For more information visit fishfliesandwater.com

GAME OF POLITICAL DEFENSE CONTINUES FOR ANGLERS

by Bob Oleson

These are difficult times at the statehouse in Salem—working there sometimes feels like being stuck in an endless game of defense. Maybe this has to do with spending time killing bad bills. It could also come from the closed in feeling of struggling against countless special interest organizations. These powerful entities have an increased ability to maintain or enhance their status quo positions. In this recessionary economy the agendas of many corporations and politicians seem to further zero in on short term benefits and survival. Our narrowly focused opponents continue to attack important conservation protections, attempt to roll back key regulations that are in the public interest, and strive to redirect funding that supports needed natural resource programs. At this point a large part of our success should be measured by how well we play defense and help others kill many of the harmful anti-conservation bills that come forward every year. We need to be politically vigilant and stand up for the great outdoor legacy of our state. I would suggest that fishing community activists might be equated with the all important canaries kept in the mines of yesteryear - a late night thought worth pondering.

Back to the raw daylight of the current legislative cycle, with its beleaguered politicians and the ongoing budget crisis at the state and federal levels. We continue to be concerned about the ODFW and other natural resource budgets, but it is harder than ever for such agencies to fiscally compete against program needs involving the frayed social safety nets for large numbers of urban voters. Soon to be released budget forecasts are expected to show that in the February short session legislative leaders in both parties will have to come together to cut almost another billion dollars from the state budget. This happens while the Governor's staff is talking about implementing an entirely new budgeting process. These things will dominate the attention and activity of our state officials. In the short run only a few major policy measures in the legislature are likely to advance, ones that can show super majority type support.

Regarding the state conservation policy menu and priorities for Oregon anglers, it does not seem that things will change much during the 2012 short session. Along with our hard work to reform Columbia River salmon allocation and to help develop a comprehensive river users proposal, you can expect association officials to continue to promote the establishment of improved watershed conservation areas in the state forests and work to restore a first rate modern hatchery system.

In the fishing community we also need to be available to periodically weigh in on "secondary" issues that are important to us. Our efforts on such issues can be helpful even though they normally do not create a burden for us. This role involves having effective voices that policy mak-

ers can consult with and count on for input. Keep in mind that our legislators are the ones driving the policy bus. Here are some of the issues which we can expect to surface at the statehouse during the next eighteen months:

- *Protect fishing license revenues for programs that are important to anglers.

- *Oppose current effort to undercut Oregon's important fish screening laws.

- *Help advance strategies to reduce fish predation problems.

- *Implement woody debris and improved removal-fill provisions for the protection of streams and rivers.

- *Assist in efforts to further crack down on the illegal taking of fish and wildlife.

- *Help keep copper and other poisonous substances out of our waterways.

- *Participate in fine tuning the state's marine reserves program that is now being finalized.

- *Support efforts to deal with agricultural runoff pollution and other unacceptable destructions of our streams and special places.

Our state is now going further into a challenging cycle of increased political uncertainty. Musical chairs will be occurring among legislators and numerous delayed policy decisions will come into play before 2013 long session. After next year's elections, one way or the other, dozens of legislators will either be giving up their seats or receiving different committee assignments. Moreover, annual sessions of the legislature are now occurring and that means there will be no long off season for lawmakers. (Personally I agreed with the voters' decision to make legislators busier and keep them more connected to the state bureaucracy; hopefully, providing more assistance and agency oversight for their constituents.) You can count on your angling reps and the Fish Conservation Coalition to work with you to stay engaged with the state's relevant public policy processes. Hopefully playing less defense and more offense in future.

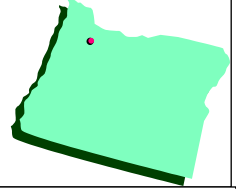
More good news: You are not yet being recruited to relocate and toil in the treacherous "mineshfts" of the state capitol. From home you can serve as a proactive canary that helps protect our watersheds and fisheries programs. Please follow the outdoor conservation issues that are important to you, and from time-to-time communicate with you local legislators. (Their voting records on key habitat, pollution and fisheries issues can now be easily obtained via OLCV.) Cultivating political relationships at the local level is how you can help combat the large excessive political contributions and influence now marshaled by certain

GAME OF POLICAL DEFENSE CONTINUES FOR ANGLERS

by Bob Oleson

From previous page.

powerful special interest groups. It is important to educate and work with legislators in both political parties. This is especially true during these days when our state government is close to being split down the middle between conservatives and progressives. Please become more involved. We want to hear from you. You'll continue to hear from us.

**Tout Your Tying Talent for TVTU**

Show off your skills at a socially acceptable vise. Each year, a few TVTU members donate flies to the Fly Tying Rendezvous held in November and sponsored by the Fly Fishing Arts and Conservation Society, a coalition of Portland and Vancouver FFF and TU chapters. The flies are auctioned during the event along with other fly fishing equipment, and the proceeds are then distributed to the participating organizations. Past events have been very successful, and your TU chapter has received substantial funds which it has used to help support its projects and activities.

This year, we would like to avoid the thirteenth hour rush to collect our array of flies, so we are reaching out to those TVTU members who may not have known about or participated in this worthwhile event, and are asking them to tie one or more dozen flies of their choice to contribute. They will be displayed in donated fly boxes, and always do well at the auctions. And if you are not a tyer but have a few nice flies you're willing to part with from your vest, do not let that deter you; no one will be the wiser.

If you are willing to participate, please contact Jerry Lorang at jerrylorang@aol.com or (971) 404-5154 or Mike Gentry at michaelgentry04@comcast.net or (503) 636-0061 for details. We appreciate your help.

“Many men go *fishing* all of their lives without knowing it is not *fish* they are after.” Henry David Thoreau

Charity Auction to Feature Cool Stuff for Anglers Benefits Youth Fly Fishing

The Backcountry Film Festival featuring award-winning outdoor adventure films is coming to Keen Shoe Company in Portland on Thursday, January 12, 2012, 6:00 pm-10:00 pm. The evening also including a silent auction, and raffle will benefit Educational Recreational Adventures' fly fishing camps for youth and its *Habitat Restoration Crew* that helps to restore riparian and wetland environments. New Belgium Beer, a film Festival Sponsor, will be providing the drinks.

Jeff Gottfried, Executive Director of ERA and a TVTU Board Member invites all TU members to come to the Backcountry Film Festival and bid on beautifully-tied flies from Ron Reinebach, Pete Donahower, Andrew Marshall and Mike Gentry. The Lands-End Motel in Cannon Beach is offering a 2-night stay, as are the Pater family at their cabin in Rhododendron, and the Hannah Family at their cabin on the Century Drive near Bend. Otto Keller, owner of the Jake Place Ranch on the S. Fork of The Crooked River and fly fishing legend, Gene McMullen, are offering guided fly fishing trips to the S.Fork/Jake Place including lodging in the bunkhouse. The auction will also feature an Advanced Technologies kayak and a variety of fish/fishing art and limited-edition prints of trout stamps.

Proceeds of the auction and raffle and beer donations will benefit ERA's outdoor skills and adventure programs for kids. Keen Shoes is located at 926 NW 13th Ave (upstairs), Portland, OR 97209. Purchase tickets in advance at www.BrownPaperTickets.com For more information or to make a donation to the auction call Jeff at 503-750-2416.

THE TROUT LINE

Fly of the Month – Flying Ant by Mike Gentry



4. Take a small bunch of z-lon and tie on top of the foam body. Clip the z-lon as close as possible in front of the thread wrap, and clip the back of the z-lon to form a wing as long as the back of the body.
5. Tie in a hackle by the butt and wind four or five times; tie off with several turns of thread and clip the excess.
6. Lift the front of the fly body so that you can wrap the thread several turns right behind the eye of the hook underneath the head of the fly. Finish with several half-hitches and clip. Reposition the fly in the vise belly-up and put a small drop of head cement on the half hitches, taking care not to cover the hook eye.
This fly also can be tied in a red body with brown hackle and a tan body with brown hackle.

Materials:

Hook:	Tiemco 100 BL, size 12-16
Body:	2 mm. black foam
Hackle:	Black
Wing:	White z-lon

Terrestrials form a large part of a trout's diet. Some are seasonal, such as hoppers; some are around many more months. Ants seem to be present around a wide variety of rivers and streams and can be found in many months. In early October on the Madison this year, the flying ant hatch came close to inciting the same frenzy usually seen in the peak of hopper season. Here is a basic pattern that should serve you well.

1. Wind the hook with several-deep winds of thread the entire length of the hook shank.
2. Cut a rectangle of black foam as wide as the foam is deep (i.e., 2 mm. both dimensions) and as long as from the eye to the back of the hook. Taper the back end and round off the front (head) end.
3. Position the thread about one-third of the way behind the eye (leaving twice that distance from the thread to the back of the bend of the hook) and tie on the foam on top of the hook (rounded "head" forward) securely with six or seven turns of thread.

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A Day of Work on Thompson Creek with TVTU

by Jeffrey Gottfried

On November 19, volunteers from TVTU and the North Coast Land Trust met at Thompson Creek near Seaside for a day of stream rehabilitation. Thompson Creek, a small tributary of the Necanicum, is a waterway heavily impacted by development. As I drove to the work site, located within a recently-developed community of homes, I noticed what appeared to be a ditch flowing through the backyards of a number of homes. Little did I know that this was a coho salmon spawning stream.



Once on-site, I was impressed to learn that Neal Maine, founder of the North Coast Land Conservancy, had negotiated with the developer who had agreed to construct fewer homes on his land than originally planned, and to donate or sell riparian lands to the Conservancy for protection of fish spawning habitat.

Upon arrival, volunteers went to work with project number one: feeding the beaver! When the North Coast Land Conservancy obtained the property, they planned an elaborate project that would raise water levels, drown out invasive species and provide slack-water habitat for juvenile coho. Because they had spent all their money on paying for land, they put these plans on hold for a year. During this time, the beaver set up shop in the riparian strip on the Conservancy's new property and managed to accomplish all of the goals set forth in the restoration plan - and without a permit or a licensed civil engineer on staff! According to Doug Ray, who led the day's work, the current problem was the fact that the beaver were eating themselves out of house and home and this stretch of Thompson Creek was in danger of losing its stream rehab team (i.e. the beavers). Doug and other volunteers provided truckloads of willow cuttings (aka beaver French fries). TVTU volunteers and others tossed armloads of cuttings into the pond behind the dam. It appeared to be the makings of a winter-long beaver feast as well as great dam building and maintenance stuff.

Project number two was designed with a mind to the future, beyond this winter. We planted more than a thousand additional willow cuttings in a nearby wet meadow, behind beaver-proof fences so that future populations of beaver and coho salmon that depend upon them will hang around and prosper for years to come.



To inspire us in our work, Doug took us on a short walk up Thompson Creek where we viewed gatherings of spawning salmon that reminded me of trips to Alaska. It was truly spectacular. I ended the day tired but very proud TVTU's focus on the enhancement of the Necanicum watershed and my association with TVTU. I went home and made a donation to the North Coast Land Conservancy as well as to TVTU.

ECOCYCLE Your Christmas Tree

Yes folks, you too can join the elite group of beaver believers and North Coast Land Conservancy advocates in helping to create habitat for young Coho Salmon smolts at our projects on the Necanicum River and its tributaries.

Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited, in conjunction with Northwest Flyfishing Outfitters are offering a drop-off site for your old christmas tree. For a suggested donation of \$10.00, you can drop off your tree Saturday January 7 or Saturday January 14th at Northwest Flyfishing Outfitters, 10910 N.E. Halsey, Portland, Oregon, between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm. We will be in front with a trailer. Instead of chipping the trees into mulch we will transport them to the coast for placement in the streams to provide habitat



for the young smolts. The donations will be used to further our restoration projects on the Necanicum and its tributaries.

For an excellent article on the conservation aspects of this project please see the OPB Ecotrope blog: <http://ecotrope.opb.org/2011/12/how-to-turn-your-christmas-tree-into-salmon-habitat/>.

We are also looking for volunteers to staff the pick up site in two hour shifts for both days. If you are interested please let me know what day and hours you would like to volunteer for at TVTURestoration@gmail.com.

What a great opportunity to help out our habitat and also have an excuse to visit a fly shop! I hope you can all take this opportunity to get rid of your tree with us.

Michael Ellis

Conservation Director

Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited

In the next issue look for the schedule of outings for 2012 in this space

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ONLINE: <http://tvtroutunlimited.blogspot.com/>

Meeting Schedule: Regular chapter meetings are held at the **LUCKY LABRADOR PUBLIC HOUSE** on the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM with a social get-together and the formal meeting at **7:00 PM** unless otherwise noted in the newsletter or website. Lucky Labrador Public House, Multnomah Village, 7675 SW Capitol Hwy. Portland, (503) 244-2537. Food and beverages available.

January 11: Dick Rohrbaugh, a long-time Tualatin Valley chapter member, has split his time for many years between Portland and his house in Montana on the Madison River near Three Dollar Bridge. Dick has an admirable knowledge of the rivers, fishing seasons and hatches, and will present a program on fishing opportunities and tactics in his area. Prepare to be green with envy.

February 8: The annual Joint Meeting with the Stonefly Maidens. See notice on page 2

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The Trout Line
Tualatin Valley Trout Unlimited Chapter
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Conserving, protecting and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.