



Cultivating the art of fly fishing through a spirit of fellowship and resource enhancement”

washingtoncountyyflyfishers.com

Issue 291

October 2025

Meeting Location

Westbrook Club House

14255 SW 6th Street (one block east of SW Murray)

Beaverton, OR 97005

Next Meeting Date and Time: Wednesday Oct. 1, 2025

October Agenda

7:00-7:15	Welcome and Club business
7:15-8:15	Entertainment – Guest speaker: Grant Richie, Minam Store Outfitters, Fly Fishing in Northeastern Oregon
8:15-8:30	Raffle and adjourn

President's Message

October 2025

Your club requires a lot of time and other contributions from numerous people to help find speakers, write the newsletter, organize outings, find and sell items in raffles, auctions and on eBay, keep the books, organize events and more. Over the years a number of people have contributed so much that without them, your club would not be the same and perhaps would not exist. At the September meeting we recognized three people who have contributed a lot of sweat equity and knowledge to your club. We are giving life memberships in recognition to their contributions to Chuck Cooney, Dave Eisenhower and Ron Reinebach. If you see them, please let them know how much they are appreciated.



Speaking of life memberships, the Board created this category not just to recognize notable contributors to the club, but to offer the opportunity for members to contribute funds to the club and receive a life time membership in return. If you would like to contribute to help pay for speakers, outings, events, contributions to conservation organizations and for scholarships, a life time membership can be had for \$300. If you are interested, reach out to John Gillingham and he can make arrangements. Obviously if you are a life time member you no longer pay annual dues.

The board is planning for the fall and winter. If you are interested in either casting clinics or fly tying, drop me a note to let me know which one and if we have enough people, we will put some classes together. Also, we have speakers set through January but are looking for topics for after that. If there is a particular topic or a particular speaker you would like to hear in 2026, also drop me a note and let me know. If you have a mind to lead an outing, particularly this spring, let me know as well. We do have an outing scheduled for Laurence Lake on October 2.

Our October meeting will be Grant Richie of the Minam Store Outfitters. He will share fishing opportunities in Northeastern Oregon along with an overview of significant conservation efforts in that area. As you may know, I fish the Grande Ronde for trout almost every year and it is outstanding. Grant will share lots of opportunities on that river as well as others in the area.

Tight Lines,

Rick Pay, President



Washington County Fly Fishers

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Club Calendar

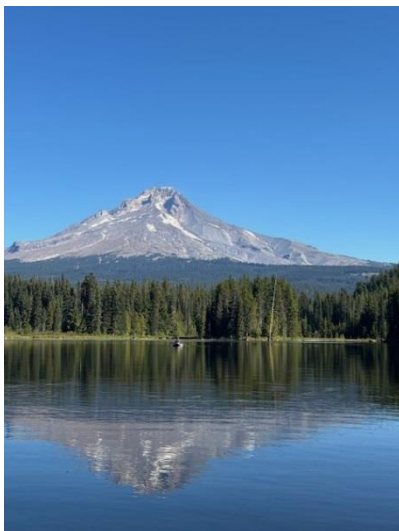
- October
 - 1st – Club Meeting – Speaker Grant Richie – Minam Store Outfitters
 - 2nd – Outing – Laurance Lake (Mt. Hood)
 - Week of 18th – Outing TBD
 - 25th – Southern Oregon Fly Tying and Fishing Expo - Roseburg
- November
 - 5th – Club Meeting – Jennifer La Follette – Cuba
- December
 - 3rd – Christmas Dinner
- January
 - 7th – Club Meeting – Garrett Lesko – Jetty Fishing for bottom fish
- February
 - 4 – Club Meeting – speaker TBD
- March
 - 4 – Club Meeting – speaker TBD
 - 13,14 – ORCFFI Fly Tying and Fly-Fishing Expo – Albany

- April
 - 1 – Club Meeting – speaker TBD
 - ?? – Outing – Lost Lake Coast
- May
 - 6 – Club Meeting – speaker TBD
- June
 - 3 – Club Meeting – speaker TBD



Ron Reinebach receives his certificate of lifetime membership to the Washington County Fly Fishers. It was presented to him by Chuck Cooney, also a recipient of the award. Chuck, Ron and David Eisenhower have been awarded lifetime memberships to the club by the Board of Directors for their years of service, support and leadership

Outings



Our most recent outing was to Trillium Lake. It's not clear how many fish were caught but the scenery made the entire trip worthwhile.

Catch and Release Mortality – Something to Think About

Recently I spoke with some guides and other fisherman about catch and release mortality. Many thought the numbers ranged from 5 to 15% of fish that were hooked and released end up dying either due to the severity of their injury or the mishandling of the fish during release, photo taking or just admiring the fish.

Below is a link to one study of this phenomenon conducted along the Platte River in Wyoming. It suggests that injury rates can be pretty high and that they result in more than death. For example, injured fish many not reproduce as well. This could result in populations of fish not growing, a decline in larger fish in an area, and other results not healthy to fish populations.

<https://wgfd.wyo.gov/wyoming-wildlife/wyoming-wildlife-magazine/being-loved-death>

Some of the guides I spoke to are concerned about anglers that catch a lot of fish, especially using techniques such as Euro Nymphing that are very popular and extremely effective at catching fish. They suggested that some fisherman might catch 5 – 15 trout a day on the Deschutes using standard fly fishing techniques, yet the same fisherman might catch 30 – 40 fish a day using Euro Nymphing and other tight line nymphing techniques. These guides and regular fishers of the river are seeing not only more dead fish around, but have noticed that after they follow Euro nymph style fishers through a hole, the fish are down and don't bite as well if at all. That hole might not fish well again for at least a day. If you consider the number of fisher days on the river using this technique, the impacts and hook mortality rates really get large.

One simple resolution suggested by conservation minded people is to limit your catch. Once you get to your limit, or even to 10 or 15 fish, stop fishing to take the pressure off the resource. This could be considered an ethical issue and could preclude regulation changes, stream closures or limited access that is being proposed in other states to help control hook mortality and catch and release injury.

Next time you are out enjoying our resources, consider limiting your catch so the resource will last for our and our grandchildren's life times.



Fly of the Month: Thompson River Caddis by Steve Szelgia – Swing Magazine



Background

This fly was recently listed in *Swing* by Steve Szeligia. It is an old pattern designed for surface fishing, skating or wading in the film. The dubbed body allows for easy changing of colors and you can use different colored hair for spinning as well. The author likes green for the body. My preference is claret. Some of the classic fly tiers such as Harry Lemire tied these in hand (no vise) which would provide a nice challenge. One of the unique elements of this fly is the “church window” pheasant feathers, two of which are tied stacked flat on top of the body. Those are normally tan or brown as in the photo below, but I have a pheasant cape died purple and the feathers are purple with black accents. I plan to try those next time I am on the river. The original recipe calls for spun moose hair for both the collar and head, but you can use the deer that you normally would use for muddlers as well.

Category	Trout
Hook	Partridge black size 6
Thread	Danville 140 black
Body	STS Trilobal Dub
Under wing	2 pheasant back “church window” feathers
Head.Wing	Spun moose or deer

How to Tie

- 1) Put hook in vise
- 2) Attach the thread to the hook shank and wrap to the hook bend – leave the front 1/3 bare
- 3) Dub body, make it a bit fuzzy and swept back. It is preferred to use a dubbing loop. Dub forward to 1/3 behind the eye.
- 4) Select two pheasant back “church

window” feathers, one shorter than the other. Clean off the fuzzy part leaving the stem. Mount them flat on the top of the hook tying in right where the dubbing stops 1/3 behind the eye. The short feather should be on the bottom of the stack and should extend to the end of the dubbing while the longer feather is on top of the stack and extends just to the hook bend. Cut off the stems.



- 5) Select moose or deer hair. You will need about a pencil size clump, 12 to 15 hairs, with the hairs extending the length of the body or just a bit longer. You also need enough length to create the head. Place the clump near where you tied in the two pheasant feathers with enough of the hair forward to make a head (1/4 to 3/8 inch) and the rest going back to the end of the body or a bit further. Trim as needed to the correct length. Lay on top of the hook and take two soft loops around the hair and hook, and spin the hair. Continue to tighten while wrapping so it spins evenly and flairs out. Wrap forward toward the eye, through the head a few wraps. Use your thumb and finger to push the head stack back a bit so the hook eye is clear and wrap two or three wraps just behind the eye of the hook.
- 6) Whip finish and add a drop of glue.
- 7) Trim the head. The TRC has a uniquely shaped head. Trim using four cuts, a flat cut on top of the head, flat on the bottom, and then angled cuts flaring out on each side.

Washington County Flyfishers

President
Rick Pay
503-626-7225

Vice President
David Eisenhower
503-649-3804

Secretary
Chris Wilson
971-330-9393

Treasurer
John Gillingham
503-646-2492

Newsletter Editor
Bob Pryor
503-941-5306

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Deschutes Redside Rainbow

