

## Fly Fishing the Northwest September Show Update

by Dioniscio "Don" Abing  
VP Education, ORC FFF

Progress on our council's first special three day fly fishing show was halted for about a month due to your chair's sudden and serious illness. Happily, I now report that I'm back at the helm of things and progress continues to make this show a very memorable and special event for all fly fishers. We are providing an incentive price break at the gate and for our workshops at our show. This price break is being offered only to all current members of the Federation of Fly Fishers.

Current FFF members will receive the following price breaks: \$6 per FFF adult per show day, \$15 per FFF adult for three show days, \$3 per FFF student 12 to 17 years old per day and \$8 per FFF student 12 to 17 years old for three show days. Children and students 11 years old and under are admitted FREE when accompanied by an adult. If you are not a current member of the Federation of Fly Fishers and are reading this newsletter, now is a very good time to become a member.

You can seek out membership information by logging on to the Federation's website at [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org) or talk to your club's FFF contact and ask for a membership brochure.

A vital function of the Oregon Council is fundraising. Most, if not all Federation members should be aware of the extremely generous gift and raffle ticket item provided by Clackacraft boats. The drift boat comes complete with all of the "bells and

whistles." For the price of one raffle ticket (or the purchase of many tickets) someone is going to win by a lucky draw, this magnificent watercraft. Clackacraft is providing our council a very special oral auction item. We will be auctioning a 16 foot drift boat complete with trailer, oars, anchor, rope, tie down strap, level floors – front and rear and a rear knee brace. Clackacraft and your Oregon Council are asking for a minimum bid of \$4,900 dollars. Save some of your coins and bills for this oral auction item just in case, you're not the lucky raffle prize winner at the international conclave in Idaho Falls.

Your Oregon Council's new show has a unique venue on the Necanicum River at Quatat Park, next the convention center. Clackacraft is providing free boat rides in a similar 16 foot drift boat, on the Necanicum River during our show. The dandy looking craft will be moored at Quatat Marine Park. To the best of our knowledge our show in Seaside is the only one this year that is providing test runs (or "try outs") of a beautifully crafted drift boat before everyone in attendance places their bid for a Clackacraft boat.

Jeff Mac Lean, Co-Chair for our show, is preparing to mail out a large batch of invitations to FFF members who tie at or council's Tying Expo in Eugene, Oregon. All tyers who are tying in our show's exhibit hall are required to be members of the Federation. The exhibitors or vendors are signing up slowly but surely. Many new programs and a few clinics are being offered

at our show in Seaside, Oregon. One of the premier workshops deals with how to be an effective and efficient program chair for your fly club. Our show's workshops with pricing and downloadable registration forms will be posted and available from our council's website at [www.oregonfff.org](http://www.oregonfff.org). Hopefully, an updated tentative program will also be available from our council's website. A limited edition of special show pins are being made at this time for our Fly Fishing the Northwest Show. See you in Seaside this coming September!





The 15th Annual Fly Tyer's Expo, just concluded in March, was again a huge success for the Oregon Council. Expo 2003's financial page showed a net profit of \$1,000 larger than last year's event!! The Oregon Council expresses our gratitude and thanks to the Expo tyers and attendees, the donors and bidders, the ORC Board of Directors and the dedicated Council clubs and members who make this Event happen. The financial success of the Expo makes it possible for the Oregon Council to fund a vast array of fly fishing venues not only in Oregon but Federation of Fly Fisher's activities as well.

The Oregon Council held a two day Council Retreat in February in Waldport, Oregon that generated a slate of Council goals for 2003. Oregon Council goals proposed by Retreat attendees (Dick Bauer, Tony Brauner, Jim Boyd, Keith Burkhart, Tom Gilg, Phil Hager, Dick Hanson, Skip Hosfield, Barry Olson and Pete Priepeke) were:

1. Council membership to go up to 750 and three new fly fishing clubs to be created by the end of '03.
2. To have a representative of the Oregon Council present at hearings of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission.
3. To expand conservation committees from Council clubs.
4. To recruit a legislative liaison to the Oregon Legislature to keep track of possible laws that effect fly fishing.
5. To have the Council conduct educational seminars periodically.

Retreat attendees strongly recommended that the Council be prepared to add the Office of Development/Fundraising to the structure of the Council and to look for potential candidates to fill this new post. This Retreat also produced a draft of job descriptions for Oregon Council officers, Board Members, National Directors, Vice Presidents and Club representatives.

The Oregon Council wants to take this opportunity to thank Dick Hanson and his wife for the use of their cabin. Dick Hanson has just tendered his resignation as Saltwater chair and all of us in the Oregon Council want to sincerely thank Dick for his long tenure and service to the Oregon Council.

Lastly, the Oregon Council clubs are reminded to plan now to have your club apply for funds from the Council for habitat and conservation projects; the Oregon Council has funds it will award to these endeavors.

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The *Oregon Flyfisher* is published by the Oregon Council of the Federation of Flyfishers, 2120 Robins Lane SE #101, Salem, Oregon 97306. It is distributed to all members of the Federation of Flyfishers within the Oregon Council and all members of the affiliated clubs as a benefit of membership. Address all editorial correspondence to: Keith Burkhart, *Oregon Fly Fisher*, 2120 Robins Lane SE #101, Salem, Oregon 97306. Deadline for submittals is one month prior to the month of publication. Articles for publication can be submitted as computer files (MS DOS text or rich text format) as long as they are accompanied by "hard copy." Articles may be submitted as typed, double spaced, copy. Black and white line art, cartoons and photos (either B&W or color) are welcomed and will be returned. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for style and length. Letters to the editor are welcome.

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# Success in Eugene at the Northwest Fly Tyer's Expo

by Al Brunell

The 15th annual Northwest Fly Tyer's Expo was held in Eugene, Oregon on Saturday, March 22, 2003. Approximately 185 talented fly tyer's from the west and as far as Washington, D.C. made this annual event another great success.

This year festivities included an excellent line-up of tyer's, which included Oregon Council Fly tyer's of the Year winners, professional tyer's, authors and promising up and coming amateurs. Every form of the fly tying art was demonstrated, from Atlantic salmon patterns to good old fishing flies by these talented individuals that gave so freely of their time and abilities.

The material tables and silent auction tables were loaded throughout the day with a wealth of excellent materials, books and flies. There were so many quality items it became a dilemma of just what to bid on or what materials to buy.

A great day of tying culminated with a sit-down banquet, awards ceremony and oral auction.

Special thanks go out to the clubs and club members who staffed the event. The gate was capably handled by members of the Cascade Family Fly Fishers. The material sale was organized and staffed by members of the McKenzie Flyfishers. The Silent Auction was organized and staffed by members of the Santiam Flycasters and the youth tying area was manned by members of the Mid-Willamette Flyfishers and Linn-Benton Family Flyfishers. Our council treasurer, Mary Jo Pitts, did her usual outstanding job

enticing people to buy tickets for the bucket raffle. Vera Edwards and Cathy Tronquet did a wonderful job selling memberships and merchandise from the FFF Booth.

One would have to say the Northwest Fly Tyer's Expo was a success, whereas; we had the best fly tyer's in the west, great fellowship, fabulous auction items and excellent foods. Plus, if you want to evaluate the event in the good old American way, we realized a sizeable increase in revenue over preceding years.

## Oregon Council Discussion Forum

Our council webmaster, Garren Wood, has added a discussion forum section to the council website, [oregonfff.org](http://oregonfff.org). Just go to the home page for the instructions on how to sign up. The discussion topics include:

- Fly Fishing – General fly fishing questions, comments and hints.
- Fly Tying – Fly tying questions and comments. Can post patterns and tips.
- Fishing Reports – Have you been fishing lately? Post your report here.
- Events – Does your club have an event coming up? – Post it here. Or discuss the latest Oregon FFF event.
- Conservation – General discussion of conservation issues and projects.
- Education – Discussion area for ideas on education.

Take a look at the discussion forum and join in for a lively debate.

## *Special thanks to the following businesses and individuals for their contributions to the Fly Tyer's Expo and their help in making this year's program a success.*

### **Commercial Donors**

3M/Scientific Anglers  
Action Optics  
Adventure Sun Valley  
Amity Vineyards  
Angler's Book Supply  
BT's Fly Fishing  
Cascade Family Flyfishers  
Chota Outdoor Gear  
Countryman Press  
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Flying Pencil Publications  
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R. B. Meiser Rods  
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Oregon Council - FFF

### **"Oregon Council Fly tyer's of the Year"**

Rio Products Intl., Inc.  
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Salmo Guide Service  
Santiam Flycasters  
"Spey Fly tyer's"  
Spontoon Press  
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### **Individual Donors**

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Jackson Leong  
John Lindsey  
Ronn Lucas, Sr.  
Skip Lynch  
Harry Mason  
John Mathews  
Bob May  
Mark McGinnis  
Chad McPartland

*continued on page 4*



by Skip Hosfield

For only the third time since its creation in 1990 the Polly Rosborough Lifetime Achievement Award was presented during the 2003 Fly Tyer's Expo Dinner and Auction. For over twenty years Keith Burkhart's life has defined the concept of service to the FFF and to fly fishing in general. I first met Keith about 1979 when the late Jim Eriser (FFF President 1972-73) recruited me to be his replacement as an FFF Director for Oregon. In those days Oregon was a sub-council of the Northwest Council of the FFF which was centered in Seattle. I don't remember how many clubs we had in Oregon then, probably six or seven. That is about the

## Burkhart Recognized for Lifetime Achievement

number of people who would show up for a meeting of the Oregon officers and directors.

As sub-council president Keith was untiring in his recruitment of individuals to fill positions necessary for the sub-council to function and to help organize new clubs around the state. If not for his energetic and unrelenting efforts, the Oregon sub-council would never have developed to the point where we could form our own regional council in 1988. But

of equal importance to his leadership are his many material contributions. When a display booth was needed for outdoor shows Keith not only designed and built it but trucked it to the site, assembled it, manned it, knocked it down and stored it until the next time. When display structures were needed for the new IFFC building in West Yellowstone Keith again built them and trucked them to the site.

While building the Oregon sub-council Keith held down a key position in a machine shop, was a leader in the Santiam Flycasters and a frequent volunteer for any conservation project or fisheries management committee looking for help. His participation in the council conclaves and quarterly council meetings won him widespread

respect and admiration beyond the borders of Oregon. I am convinced that were it not for Keith's strong leadership the Washington delegation would not have supported our petition to form a separate Oregon Council.

Keith was co-founder of the NW Fly Tyer's Expo and chaired the event in its ninth and tenth years. By the time he turned over the presidency of the Oregon Council to Greg Pitts Oregon was recognized as one of the strongest councils in the Federation and continued that growth under Greg's leadership. In order to induce Greg to run for FFF President Keith offered to serve a second term as Oregon Council President. One might expect that after serving his second term as council president Keith would take a well-earned rest. But he presently serves as national FFF Secretary while continuing his many years as FFF Awards Chairman and editor of *The Oregon Flyfisher*. Even having stepped down from council presidency for the second time, there is hardly anything which takes place in the Oregon Council without involving Keith in some way.

It may be a long time before another such obvious choice for this award may appear and the selection of Keith Burkhart can only enhance its prestige.

*continued from page 3*

W.R. Meier  
Chris Mihulka  
Sara Mihulka  
Frank Moore  
Ed Morphus  
Bill Nelson  
Bob Newman  
Larry Nicholas  
Jamie Nicholson  
John Olschewsky  
Mark Ortloff  
Harold Patterson  
Pete Patricelli

Deanna Peffer  
Jim Peterson  
Tracy Peterson  
Ray Phelps  
Britt Phillips  
John Pomplin  
John "Rusty" Price  
Ray Radley  
Rusty Randall  
Bob Rasmussen  
Ron Reinebach  
Bob Reynolds  
Greg Richards

Scott Richmond  
Denny Rickards  
Bob Roberts  
Marc Rocha  
John Rodriguez  
Hank Rogers  
Mike Rogers  
Jim Saunders  
Jack Schlotter  
Mark Sagaser  
Ron Sohn  
Chuck Scott  
John Shewey

Preston Singletary  
Ed Smith  
Jeff Smith  
Monte Smith  
Bob Staysa  
Stan Steele  
R. L. Stewart  
Cliff Sullivan  
Roger Swengel  
Fred Thieme  
Hal Tolman  
Gene Trump  
Steven Ward

Joe Warren  
Windy Way  
Lee Wedberg  
Greg Weisgerber  
Shawn West  
Marc Williamson  
Michael T. Williams  
Glenn Wilson  
Jack Wood  
Garren Wood  
Dorothy Zinky





## 2003 Oregon Council "Fly Tyer of the Year"

pleasant fly tying ambassador. Harry has been a fly tyer for the past 12 years.

During that short time, an incredible resume evolved. He has been an invited tyer at the 2001 FFF Conclave; recruited and coordinated his fellow fly tyer's to demonstrate fly tying at the State Fair, introducing fly tying to hundreds of Oregonians; worked with members of the Santiam Flycasters on numerous conservation projects; taught fly tying classes at Silverton High School.

And, last but not least, for the past five years Harry has generously

contributed his magnificent flies to: The International Fly Tyer's Fly Plate series, The Legends of Fly Tying series and The 2001 Atlantic Salmon Fly tyer's Symposium.

Harry is second-to-none in tying the beautiful and complicated streamers made famous by Mrs. Carrie Stevens. He is surely the best tyer of this intricate and beautiful fly style west of the Connecticut River! Not only can he create beauty and function on a 6 XL # 4 hook – any of his midge patterns on a # 24 hook are just as elegant and efficient. They catch fish. Can't beat that. Congratulations Harry.

by Richard Twarog

Mr. Harry Gross of Silverton, Oregon, a member of the Santiam Flycasters, richly deserves to be named the 2003 Fly Tyer of the Year.

"Innovative" is an overused accolade applied to almost anyone that ties flies well. "Innovative," in Harry's case, does not begin to describe the talents of this

## Oregon Council Awards

By Tony Brauner, President

The Oregon Council gave out its annual awards to persons and a Council club who have helped promote the mission of the ORC and the FFF.

One of the most prestigious awards given out by the Oregon Council – FFF is the Polly Rosborough Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is presented to an individual who has shown unusual devotion and has made outstanding contributions to the Council, its member clubs and fly-fishing in general. This individual must be a member of the Oregon Council in good standing and have a minimum of ten years of service to the Council. The Council Board of Directors votes on the nominees for this award and a two-thirds vote is needed for an individual to win this Award. This award has been presented only one other time and Skip Hosfield of Eugene was the recipient of the first Rosborough Award.



Tom Glig

Keith Burkhart of Salem was voted by the Board of Directors to be the winner of the Polly Rosborough Award for 2003. FFF National President Greg Pitts presented this Award to Keith at the Expo Banquet. FFF President Pitts in giving this award stated "Keith Burkhart has nursed the Oregon Council thru its early growth years, has co-founded (with Skip Hosfield) the Northwest Fly Tyer's Expo and if it had not been for all of the work, effort and financial contribution of Keith Burkhart, there would be no Oregon Council of the FFF."

The Oregon Council also gives out an award to the Federator of the Year and this year the award went to two members of the Oregon Council. Tom Gilg of the Mid Willamette club received this award for his long tenured work on fish conservation issues not only



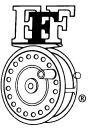
Al Brunell

in Oregon but on a national level as well. Al Brunell of Southern Oregon Fly Fishers and the Mid Willamette club also received the Federator of the Year award for his planning, work and leadership with the 2003 NW Fly Tyer's Expo.

The Club of the Year was awarded to the Santiam Fly Casters of Salem for their work on bringing in new Federation members to their club and for their habitat and conservation projects this past year.



Santiam Fly Casters



# ORC FFF Education Report

*Dioniscio "Don" Abing  
VP Education, ORC FFF*

A fortune writer from a famous fortune cookie company wrote the following, "gracious volunteers from all over the world make success stories happen." Once again, the success our council enjoyed from last February's Portland Sports Expo was made possible by volunteers from Oregon Council clubs. Our volunteers, who manned our Oregon Council's information booth, provided valuable information about the sport of fly fishing, the FFF's Angling Code of Ethics, the art of fly tying and promoted their respective fly clubs to many visitors, over a five day show period.

The next time you see your Portland Sports Show volunteers at a club function, please give each one an appreciative thank you for their dedicated efforts. They met thousands of show visitors and provided a strong fly fishing presence within the angling public. Thanks go to Bob Gabler, Rick Mac Farland, Cal Hudspeth, Lisa Wassgren, Tilda Runner, Kathi Williams, Laura Coblenz, Carmen Smith, Dick Bauer, Paul Bellfanti, Chuck Scott, Bob Larsell, Harry Gross, Jerry Gibb, Ron Henderson, Roger Stephen, Richard Mast, Kizzie Abing and Tony Brauner.

Thanks largely to membership incentives, graciously provided by Keith A. Burkhart and Steve Godshall, our Oregon Council collected 15 new memberships for our Federation of Fly Fishers. Keith, owner of the Valley Fly Fisher's Shop, donated a huge collection of fly patterns. Steve, a member of the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers provided an assortment of colorful Zinger Release Aids. We received an inquiry for a new fly club for our council – The Azalea Fly

Fishers from Brookings Middle School, Brookings, Oregon. Our council president, Tony Brauner, informed everyone who attended our council's last board meeting that he is working on establishing an adult mentor fly fishing club at a location as near as possible to the Azalea Fly Fishers.

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife's education and information coordinator, Gail Campbell from Lane County reports that their first Boy Scout Merit Badge program was a great success story. Gail spearheaded the campaign to assist their area Scouts in attaining their fly fishing merit badges. With the diligent and ever so patient, help from the following McKenzie Fly Fishers; Skip Hosfield, Cliff Adams, Bill Nelson, Hal Legard, Warren Hyner, Tani Gibson and Jim Dougher, their first batch of Scouts were introduced to a more comprehensive yet simple execution of fly tying skills.

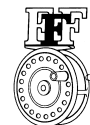
Showing their appreciation, their area Scouts conducted an honor guard presentation (in front of the McKenzie club at a general meeting) and handed out hats with their own tied flies and Boy Scout insignias to all of the above mentioned instructors. Their Scouts also constructed an incredible 20 x 30 framed collage of many pictures of the instructors, the boys and the activities which was presented to the volunteers. Gail also reports that they received many eloquent thank you letters from their Scouts.

Gail and I agree that it would be wonderful if their Scouts could be provided a table next year at our council's Fly Tying Expo. An impressive picture it would be of their Scouts, in uniform, tying before the crowd of visitors. Also impressive and worthy of many thanks,

were the donations to the Oregon Council and its traveling kits from Chris Daughters and Skip Hosfield. Chris, from the Caddis Fly Angling Shop, donated a batch of half-hitch tools to our council's fly tying tools kit and Skip, from the McKenzie club, donated a large quantity of quality tying materials to our council's fly tying materials kit. Their donations make the two kits very valuable supplies for any Oregon Council club wishing to use them for successfully teaching fly tying to beginners.

Is your Oregon Council club interested in helping your area Scouts attain their fly fishing merit badges? Secure the criteria for the fly fishing merit badge program from your area Scout leaders. Also, you can secure more information about the program and the Federation's involvement by logging on to the Federation's web site, [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org). Additionally, your club can reach the McKenzie club at their e-mail address, [info@mckenzieflyfishers.org](mailto:info@mckenzieflyfishers.org) for background information from their involvement with the Scouts.

As of May 1, 2003, Colleen Foster has been promoted as the new Angling/Aquatic Program Assistant for the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife. Colleen came from another state agency with an education background that includes a degree in Fisheries Science. Members from many of the Oregon Council's fly clubs are "card carrying" instructors under this wonderful program. Please feel free to contact Colleen via her e-mail address at [colleen.e.foster@state.or.us](mailto:colleen.e.foster@state.or.us) or via telephone at (503) 872-5264, ext 5366. She is looking forward to working with all Oregon Council fly clubs.



## Oregon Council Clubs

**Angler's Club of Portland**  
P.O. Box 9235  
Portland, OR 97207

**Blue Mountain Flycasters**  
1847 Westgate  
Pendleton, OR 97801

**Cascade Family Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 5384  
Eugene, OR 97405

**Central Oregon Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 1126  
Bend, OR 97701

**Clackamas Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 268  
West Linn, OR 97068

**Columbia Gorge Flyfishers**  
220 Methodist Rd.  
Hood River, OR 97031

**Klamath Country Flycasters**  
P.O. Box 324  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

**Knot-Me-Leaders**  
153 Alice Ave. S  
Salem, OR 97302

**Linn Benton Family Flyfishers**  
1524 S. Main  
Lebanon, OR 97355

**Lower Umpqua Flycasters**  
P.O. Box 521  
Reedsport, OR 97467

**McKenzie Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 10865  
Eugene, OR 97440

**Mid-Willamette Fly Fishers**  
P.O. Box 22  
Corvallis, OR 97330

**North Coast Jr. Flycasters**  
92513 G Road  
Astoria, OR 97103

**Northwest Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 656  
Troutdale, OR 97060

**Rainland Flycasters**  
P.O. Box 1045  
Astoria, OR 97103

**Rogue Flyfishers**  
P.O. Box 4637  
Medford, OR 97501

**Santiam Flycasters**  
P.O. Box 691  
Salem, OR 97308

**Southern Oregon Fly Fishers**  
P.O. Box 1144  
Grants Pass, OR 97456

**Steamboaters**  
P.O. Box 176  
Idlewild Park, OR 97447

**Stone Fly Maidens**  
14145 SE Sieban Parkway  
Clackamas, OR 97105

**Sunriver Anglers**  
P.O. Box 4273  
Sunriver, OR 97707

**Washington County Fly Fishers**  
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E-mail: garren@rgbquest.com

## Calendar of Events – 2003

June 7-8	Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife free fishing weekend
June 29	Oregon Council's Summer Meeting in Eugene, OR
July 25	Articles due for September issue of Oregon Fly Fisher
August 4-9	Federation of Fly Fisher's International Conclave in Idaho Falls, ID
Sept. 14	Oregon Council Executive Board Conference
Sept. 20	Washington Council Casting Tournament in Port Orchard, WA
Sept. 26-28	"Fly Fishing the Northwest" Show in Seaside, OR
Sept. 26-28	NCCFFF Conclave – Kings Beach, CA
Oct. 12	Oregon Council's Fall meeting in Eugene, OR
Nov. 1	Articles due for January edition of Oregon Fly Fisher

*Please visit our new website at [www.oregonfff.org](http://www.oregonfff.org)*

Please take a moment to review your name and address as shown on the outside of this newsletter. The council has recently completed the new address database from information provided by the club rosters and the national FFF office database. If any errors have been made, or there are any changes that you wish made, please let me know. It was our intent to only mail one copy of the newsletter to each household address. If this is not satisfactory, please let me know.

As revised club rosters are available, please forward them to me so that I can keep the database current. My email address is: [pittsmj@aol.com](mailto:pittsmj@aol.com). Hardcopies can be mailed to 987 Travis Ave., Eugene, OR 97404. Mary Jo Pitts, Treasurer and Database Manager.

## Request for Club Membership Rosters

The Council Database Manager, Mary Jo Pitts, is requesting that all of the Council affiliated clubs send here a current club roster as of December 31, 2002 for use in updating the database for mailing of the Oregon Flyfisher. This is the only use of these rosters and they are not shared with anyone else. Mary Jo can accept the rosters in Microsoft Word, Access, Excel or hard copies. Please send the rosters to her at 987 Travis, Eugene, OR 97404. You can contact her at 541-689-4812 or at [pittsmj@aol.com](mailto:pittsmj@aol.com).

## The Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers

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