



TIGHTLINES

Pace ramps up as Auction date nears.



Joe Conner's living room is beginning to look like a mini fly shop and gift boutique. Fly rods, reels, rod cases, custom tied flies, original paintings, clothing, gift baskets and other tempting items fill every corner.

"Everything is coming together well," says Joe. "It should be a lot of fun for everyone."

Joe can still use more flies from members. "Don't worry about putting them in boxes. We'll provide the boxes if you need them," he added. "And I'll be taking donations right up until the day of the Auction."

That day is Wednesday, December 13th. The evening will begin with the silent auction at 6 p.m., followed by a

...See "AUCTION" Page 4

What are Mike Bunney and Don Summers celebrating? You can find out on Page 3.

– Doug Pendleton Photo

Steelhead guide Thomas Larimer to speak.

Tom Larimer has guided for steelhead in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Michigan and Wisconsin but he calls the Columbia Gorge and its tributaries "home." He knows a bit about steelheading and will share some of that knowledge with us at our January 10th meeting.



Tom, a full-time fly fishing guide for eleven years, has focused on the Deschutes, Sandy, Klickitat, Hood and Clackamas Rivers. He's also an excellent spey caster and professional tier.

The Sandy is one of his favorites. "Most of the good fly water is classified as non-motorized, no fishing from the boat," he says. "It's an undisturbed, peaceful environment where wildlife still walks the bank." (*Where do we sign up, Tom?*)

December Calendar

Meetings:

DEC 13: Annual Club Auction. You still have time to get your tickets and join the fun at this special annual event. *More details on Page 4.*

DEC 27: Board Meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

JAN 10: Regular Meeting. Guest Speaker Tom Larimer.

Outings:

JAN 1: Start the New Year right. Join the **real men** of OFF for fishing at Pass Lake followed by chilli with Steve.

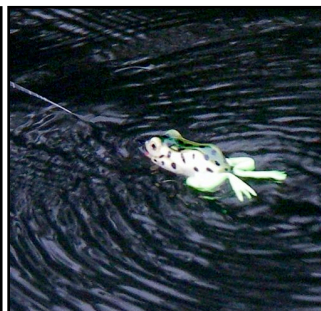
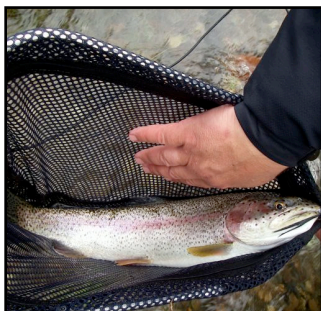
FEBRUARY Shohomish float with Eric. *Date TBD.*



Threatened by swift, swollen rivers and a gauntlet of sweepers and snags, this determined dozen survived and thrived in the bear-thick wilds of Southwest Alaska.



Weary rafters enjoy a rare moment of sunshine at final base camp after week long trip down Alaska's Chilikadrotna and Mulchatna Rivers. (Not shown: Doug Pendleton and Mike Bunney.) —Mike Bunney Photo



Left to right: A, fat "Chili" Bow falls to an Egg Sucking Leech, a nice Grayling taken by "Ham" Hazelhurst, and a vibrating plastic frog "fly" that proved less than successful at raising a Pike.

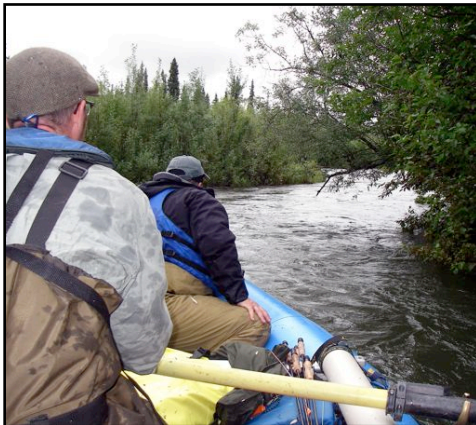
—Doug Pendleton photos



HAPPY BIRTHDAY DON! Don Summers strikes a relaxed pose as his son Dennis heads out into the



swollen river. Don celebrated his 80th birthday during the trip. **TOP RIGHT:** Mike Bunney is just "thrilled" to learn they won't be camping on this gravel bar tonight. It will be underwater by morning.



With propane tanks now empty, the night before reaching the take out the rafters find a meadow with dry firewood. Steve Murray used it to cook "the best meal of the trip." Don Summers tended the fire all night to discourage bears.



ABOVE CENTER: Chris Pendleton, on the "sticks," heads down a sweeper infested side channel. **ABOVE:** Rafters arrive at the take out just about the same time as the sun. **RIGHT:** Did we mention "fast" rising water? It took about ten or fifteen minutes for this tent and gear to go from dry land to water logged. — Doug Pendleton Photos





The OFF Beat

AUCTION

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fine dinner, your choice of prime rib or salmon, provided by Celebrations. The evening will wrap up with the live auction called by legendary auctioneer Don Bayes.

There's plenty to enjoy at this year's auction and there's still time to order your tickets. Call Mike Bunney at 425-672-3345 or Norm Primc at 425-481-1653.

SAVE THESE DATES

Norm also reminds us of three important dates for any fly angler who needs a mid-winter "fix" and a chance to drool over the latest fishing and/or hunting gear. Here are the three best shows to cure the Winter Blues:

Western Washington Sports Show, Puyallup, Jan 25-29

Fly Fishing Show, Bellevue, Feb 9-11

Evergreen Sportsmen Show, Monroe, Feb 21-25

OFFICERS ELECTED

At the November meeting the members elected the following slate of officers for 2007:

Joe Conner, President, Norm Primc, VP, Hal Rowe, Secretary, Mike Bunney, Treasurer, and Dick Simmons, Communications.

SPECIAL THANKS

In "A Streetcar Named Desire" Blanche DuBois reflected that she often depended on the kindness of strangers. And here at TIGHTLINES we absolutely depend on the kindness of OFF members to provide us with the great photos, quotes and stories that come your way eleven months a year.



This year we'd like to give a special thanks to Doug Pendleton (*Shown here dressed as a monk*). Doug, Mike Bunney and Steve Murray took some great shots on the Chilikadrotna trip and throughout the year, Doug has provided some nice photos, excellent input for captions and an adventure or two of his own. Thank you, Doug!

FLOOD DAMAGE

The WDFW reports that the recent flooding has done extensive damage to fish hatcheries and other facilities in 13 western Washington counties.

Heavy rains and flooding washed away fish weirs and inundated holding and rearing ponds at some hatcheries, releasing juvenile fish.

Flooding may also have affected wild fish populations by

scouring river channels and destroying salmon eggs. Juvenile salmon rearing in those streams could also have been killed. Full effect of the floods will not be known for years



General Information

The General meeting is held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the South County Senior Center, 220 Railroad Ave., Edmonds, WA. Social hour: 6:00 p.m.

The Board meeting is held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at Alf's on 196th Avenue, Lynnwood, WA. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Officers:

Joe Conner, President, 425-744-8085

Don Summers, Vice President, 206-935-1194

Bud Camandona, Secretary, 425-337-5840

Mike Bunney, Treasurer, 425-672-3345

Dick Simmons, Communications Dir. & TIGHTLINES Ed. 425-778-9804

Phil Sacks, Gillie 425-741-7311

Steve Murray, Trustee, 360-422-7335

Dan Reynolds, Outings, 425-673-7028

Chairs:

Eric Sauer, Education, 425-776-3811

Fran Fatigati, Conservation, 425-485-1975

E-mail Contacts:

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**Olympic Fly Fishers
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See you on the water. DS