



Sandy Steelheader

Sandy River Chapter of Northwest Steelheaders
Meets the First Wednesday of Every Month at 7:30 PM
Sam Cox Bldg., Glen Otto Park • 1106 E. Columbia River Hwy. • Troutdale 97060



May 2006

President's Notes

I personally want to thank everyone for their support over the past years. I'm very please that Rex McIntire stepped forward to become the new President of the Sandy Chapter. I'm also very pleased to see that Bill Beith and Colonel Thomas also stepped up to become new directors and Karen Kaiser has stepped up to become the chapters Secretary. I hope that in the next few years that we can get more involvement from other members to serve as Officers or Directors. We need to have as much involvement from our members so we can move forward and continue to push the issue of conservation and the enhancement of fish habitation and restoration. We need to also push fish and wildlife to make decisions that will allow us to fish the Sandy for the rest of our life as well as our grandkids and many more years to come.

Guest Speaker: Brandon Glass

Spring Chinook fishing is just getting started and May of course is the big month. Many anglers have had increasing success getting fish to bite as the temperature of the water has finally increased. The other thing is that spring chinook are notoriously quirky biting consistently one day and then changing their preferences the next. Brandon Glass, son of Jack Glass has started his own guide business and has a handle on the spring chinook runs on the Sandy and Willamette. He will be giving a clinic on some of the best techniques to get these fish to bite. Please stop by and listen to his advice and get an opportunity to book a trip with this excellent young guide

OFFICERS

President Rex McIntyre 503-720-7958	Co-President Jeff Stoeger 503-282-4830
Secretary Karen Kaiser 503-550-8844	Treasurer Mike Myrick 503-281-6438

DIRECTORS

Colonel Thomas 503-666-5035	Tim Brockhoff 360-828-5834
Dana Wood 503-760-6243	Jeff Kirkman 503-266-1504
Bill Beith 503-880-6183	Jay Burris 360-798-9000

COMMITTEES

Membership
Howard Berg
503-665-8008

Raffle & Auction
Open

Volunteers
Dana Wood 503-760-6243

Classroom Fishtanks
Mike Myrick 503-281-6438

Recreational Activities
Jeff Stoeger 503-282-4830

Sales (shirts and hats)
Roger Beal 503-695-6410

Newsletter
Eric Neiwert (503)408-0108

Six members to be grilled at picnic

Six Members to be Grilled At Picnic

This year's picnic will be at our traditional Roslyn Lake site on July 22nd. Mark your calendars now because you won't want to miss this one.

The Chapter family picnic will have a new feature this year. We won't have the traditional three wise men of the grills (Bill Beith on Hamburgers, Norm Ritchie on Salmon, and Larry Beaver on Brots) doing all the cooking. This year the chapter is inviting the first six grill masters who step forward, the chance to be voted the Salmon Grill Master of the Sandy River. Each cook will get a half of a salmon fillet and all picnic attendees will have the opportunity to taste and vote for their favorite recipe. Each diner judging will get a ballot to put down a first, second, & third place chef. Winning chefs will receive appropriate awards recognizing their culinary skills. In addition, those that are not into judging salmon need not worry. Our hot dog and burger chefs will be there to satisfy those who prefer these traditional picnic fares.

Yes, we will have all the kids' functions including the Piñata and there will be the traditional laid-back fellowship our member family as always. So again mark your calendars now and if you think you have what it takes (a good salmon grilling recipe) then call now to register as a cook. Contact Joli Ritchie at 503-760-5551 or sign up at the May or June chapter meeting.



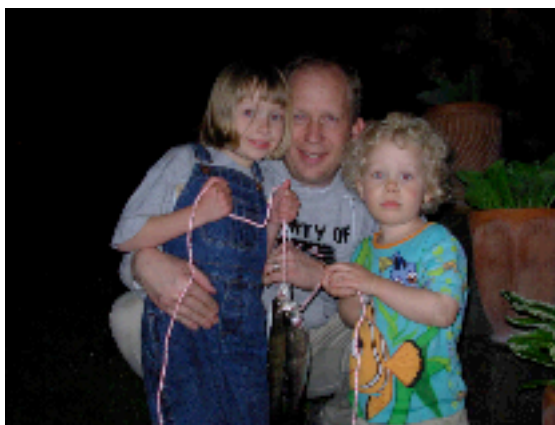
Small Fry lake help needed

Art Israelson is looking for your help on May 7th. Art is looking for volunteers to help out at Small Fry Lake with a free fishing event that is in co-operation with Rose Festival events. The River games of Oregon is going on this weekend and the Free fishing day is on Sunday the 7th. If you wish to help please call Art at 503-666-2599. He doesn't have any idea of how many kids will attend, but last year there were about 65-70 kids. Volunteers need to be at the Lake at 7:30 am and the kids will show up around 9:00 am. Lunch will be provided for the volunteers. So please call ASAP. Thanks, Art Israelson. Art will give direction on how to get there.



Free Fishing Day help needed

One of the greatest things about fishing is the smile it can put on a child's face. The chance to catch your first fish and to take it home to cook is an experience few can top. The steelheaders will be heading up the volunteer work to get kids into some fish at Bonneville hatchery this year. The date is June 10 from 8 to 3. We need willing and friendly hands to help youngsters catch their first fish or even a lunker. You don't even have to work all day to participate. If this sounds good to you please contact Karen Kaiser at rockingbark@aol.com 503-550-8844 evenings or sign up at the May and June meetings.



Monster fish! I decided to take the kids out to Mt. Hood CC. pond the other night after dinner and we picked up a few trout. The neat thing is that we also saw beavers, a momma duck and her brood, and bats. Coen, with his lucky Nemo shirt, could hardly sleep that night and Ella now asks every morning if we are going fishing today.

Who would have thought that a few dinky hatchery fish in a dirty little pond would add up to some of the best fishing I have ever had.

Eric Neiwert-newsletter editor

Join The Mailing List!

The Sandy Chapter email mailing list is back!

After a long hiatus the mailing list for the Sandy river chapter has been re-established. We can use this mailing list to send messages to other steelheaders in the chapter. Start a discussion, ask a question, make an announcement, or use it to hook up with fellow steelheaders to go fishing. To get subscribed simply send an email to

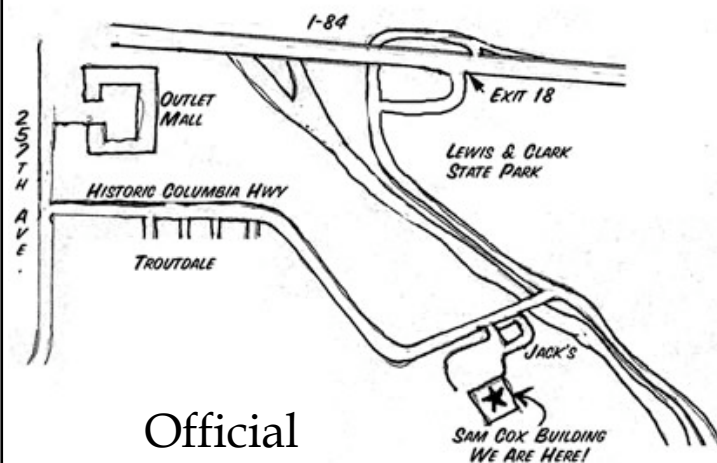
mailinglist-request@sandysteelheaders.org in the body of the message type the word "subscribe" without the quote marks. This mailing list is totally safe and moderated. Your email address won't end up on a spam list and it won't be given to anyone else so use it with confidence.

Help take a class of students fishing

Over the last two years Sally Kirkpatrick has used our fish tank in her classroom to enhance her science curriculum. She recently approached me about asking for help with a field trip to take her classes (58 eager 6th grade students) fishing for an afternoon. Since her students released the last group of fish in Mt. Hood Community College pond it was the natural place to take them. In addition this pond is in many of these kids' neighborhood and can give them a resource they can tap if they want to get out and enjoy some fishing on their own in the future. I have arranged to have enough rods on hand. Now we just willing and friendly hands to help with the variety of problems that come along with taking kids fishing. The field trip will be May 23rd at 10:30 and extending until after lunch which we will eat at the pond. If you would like to volunteer please contact Eric Neiwert at (503)669-2058 or sign up at the next meeting.



HOW TO FIND US



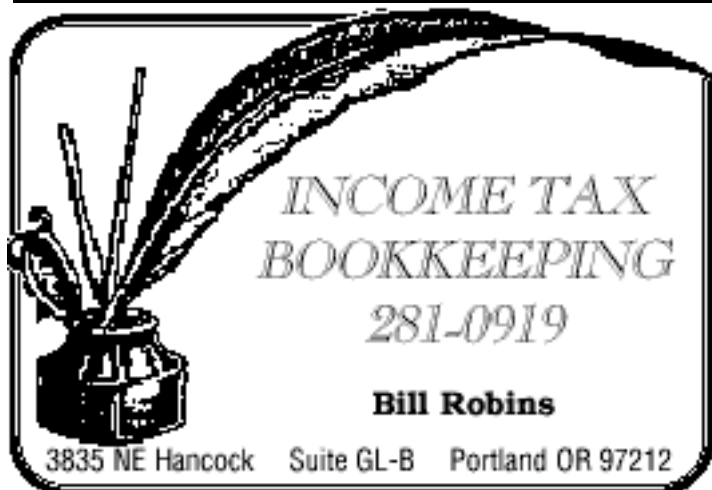
Official
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Map!

Sandy River Chapter Meeting Location.
You now know exactly where we meet
We need your attendance!

SANDY STEELHEADER'S CALENDAR

May	6th Association Meeting In Eugene.	June	28th Board Meeting
May	7th Small Fry Lake Kids free fishing event.	July	12th General Meeting.
May	13th River Clean up at Dabney and Glenn Otto Parks.	July	22nd Chapter Picnic at Roslyn Lake
May	23rd Gordon Russell MS field trip to Mt. Hood pond	July	26th Board Meeting
May	24th Board Meeting	August	No Chapter or General Meeting.
June	7th General Meeting	August	30th Board Meeting
June	10th Passport to Fishing Bonneville Dam.		

Note: The July meeting was moved to the 12th due to the proximity of the first Wednesday to July 4th. Board meetings are open to any and all members who wish to attend and express their ideas or to increase their involvement.



Pride

I joined the Sandy River chapter a little over two years ago. I joined because I felt it was my time to give back to the “river” that has given me pleasure for the last 25 years. I am honored to be a part of the Sandy River Chapter and the great service it provides the river and the community.

To show my pride in the Sandy River Chapter, last year I purchased and displayed two Chapter logos on the rear doors of my pick-up truck shell. What I didn’t realize, was that these logos not only show my pride, but come with a responsibility. That responsibility is to the Chapter and its members and it rides with the actions of the driver inside the truck.

In the past, when I was late for an appointment or to work, I would drive fast, or change lane without signaling, or cut other drivers off without looking first. It wasn’t long until it finally dawned on me that when I drove irresponsibly, the only thing the other

drivers would remember was a rude driver in a white pick-up truck with two big Sandy River Chapter logos staring them in the face. Therefore, I apologies if my past conduct has brought discredit of any kind to the Chapter and its members.

I know that whether it is the Northwest Steelhead Association logo or the Sandy River Chapter logo, we all display them with pride. But I feel that with this pride of membership, comes the responsibility of the lasting impressions we leave with the people we come into contact with on an off the river. First impressions are the most important.

Eric Koellner

PS: Congratulations and thank you for all the hard work and dedication from chapter members that won the Sandy River Chapter - “Chapter of the Year”.

Thank You Volunteers

Once again this year, Sandy River Chapter members stepped to the forefront to man the line of volunteers at the annual ANWS Hall of Fame Banquet/Auction. Our chapter provided thirteen volunteers to work at the auction tables, security, auctioneer podium and the pit crew. Members giving up a night to help at this event were: Howard Anderson, Linda Beith, Charlie Carbajal, Joy Gannet, Tom Gemelli, Art Israelson, Jeff Kirkman, Mike Lane, Mike Myrick, Larry Palmer, Brandon Rush, Steven Stewart and Jeff Stoeger. Many thanks to each of you for helping make the event more pleasant and enjoyable again this year.

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WHEN? Wednesday, May 3rd from 10 AM to 12 PM

Meet at 9:30 AM on the courthouse steps

WHERE? Mark O. Hatfield U.S. Courthouse (Judge Redden's Courtroom)

1000 SW 3rd Avenue in downtown Portland (between Salmon and Main)

There is metered parking on adjacent streets and a Smart Park on the corner of Yamhill and 4th.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? On May 3rd, fishing businesses, conservationists and salmon and steelhead advocates will be in court asking Judge James Redden to protect endangered salmon and steelhead by ruling a federal plan on the Upper Snake River illegal. In order to protect and recover endangered salmon throughout the Columbia River basin, plaintiffs will ask that more water be left in the river system to ensure the salmon's survival as they swim to the ocean and return home to spawn. Last December, the judge ruled in favor of a request for more spill over the dams, which will aid juvenile fish migration later this year, but a long-term solution is still necessary. We need to send the message that fishing jobs and our Northwest heritage are just as important as upriver farming. **As long as the four lower Snake River dams are in place, we need to make sure that the fish are getting the water they need. Please join us to show that the fishing and conservation communities care about this issue!**

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY: Please plan to arrive between 9:15 and 9:30 AM as seats may fill up quickly. Find a Save Our Wild Salmon staffer in front of the courthouse (they will be wearing blue pins that say "Protect Our Salmon, Protect Our Jobs"), so they can give you any information you need. **If you have clothing that reflects your fishing organization affiliation or business, please wear it. Photo ID is required to enter.**

For More Information or for talking points:

Jane Steadman, Save Our Wild Salmon

office: 503.230.0421 x 15

cell: 206.650.9903 (use morning of hearing)

outreach@wildsalmon.org

958 NE Kelly, Suite B
Gresham, OR 97030
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Portland Area S.T.E.P. opportunities

Portland Area STEP Projects

To volunteer for either of the following two projects, contact Jeff Fulop, STEP Biologist, at 503-657-2000 x256 or email jeff.s.fulop@state.or.us.

Fishing Gear Recycling Program

Year-round

This program provides used fishing tackle collection stations along popular fishing sites all around Oregon. There are already recycling stations in place on the Sandy River and funding has been approved to add several more stations along other rivers in the Portland area.

As we increase the number of stations, we will need volunteers to help with constructing the sites and maintaining them on a regular basis. Construction is fairly basic and would be done with the assistance of ODFW employees. The initial construction of each station will take about 3-4 hours including travel.

Monitoring the stations will involve driving from site-to-site and removing any gear, line, or garbage that has been deposited in the stations. Information on what was found at each station is then recorded on any easy-to-use form. The stations will need to be monitored twice monthly, more or less, depending on the level of use at the location.

This is an ongoing project with stations permanently in place. It's a great project for a volunteer group because duties can be rotated between several volunteers with a minimal commitment. This volunteer opportunity will be available this spring as the supplies for new stations have already been ordered.

Youth Angling Events

Spring 2006

The Youth Angling Enhancement Program is designed to provide fishing opportunities for kids throughout the state of Oregon. Funding for this project has been provided in partnership with the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation and this will be the third year for the program.

Selected lakes and ponds will receive special stockings of rainbow trout prior to the events and ODFW will be onsite with fishing gear and bait available for loan to any youth who come and participate. This is an excellent opportunity for kids to try their hand at fishing without making any investment in equipment.

Since these events are well attended, volunteer help is always needed to sign-in participants, distribute gear and bait, and help kids learn how to fish. Volunteers for these events should have experience fishing and enjoy working with kids.

There are five events scheduled for the Portland area this spring from April into June. Event hours will run from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on selected Saturdays, but volunteer help will be welcomed for any amount of time during the events.

Halibut Season could be best in a decade

NEWPORT – Ocean sport anglers are gearing up for one of the best Pacific halibut opportunities off the Oregon coast in the last decade.

Halibut season will open May 1 in near-shore waters (waters less than 40 fathoms). The all-depth halibut fishery for Oregon's central coast, between Cape Falcon and Humbug Mountain, opens May 11.

"This year's sport halibut quota is more than 276,400 pounds for Oregon," said Don Bodenmiller, sport halibut project leader for ODFW. "That's up about 4 percent from last year and is more than twice as much halibut as 10 years ago."

The fishery north of Cape Falcon (north coast) to Leadbetter Point, Wash., also will open May 1 in all-depth waters, seven days a week until July 16 or until the quota of 14,819 pounds is met. The area

reopens on Aug. 4 and continues on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until Sept. 30, or until the combined quota for the spring and summer season of 21,170 is reached.

The area south of Humbug Mountain runs from May 1 through Oct. 31, seven days a week.

The central coast, from Cape Falcon (30 miles south of the Columbia River) south to Humbug Mountain (south of Port Orford) spring all-depth season dates are May 11-13, 18-20, 25-27 and June 1-3 and 8-10. If quota remains, the fishery may continue on June 22-24, July 6-8 and 20-22 until the 175,474-pound quota is taken. Open dates will be announced on the National Marine Fisheries Service hotline (1-800-662-9825) and posted on the ODFW Marine Resources Program Web site at: www.dfw.state.or.us/MRP/.

The high-relief area of Stonewall Bank is closed to halibut fishing to reduce incidental catch of yelloweye rockfish and canary rockfish. Both species are considered over-fished and must be released immediately. The closed area is defined by latitude and longitude waypoints, which are available on the Marine Resources Program Web site.

There is no minimum length for Pacific halibut. Sport anglers do not have to keep the first fish they catch.

The central coast all-depth fishery also will be open on the following dates until the combined quota for the spring and summer season of 233,965 is taken: Aug. 4-6, 18-20, 25-27 and Sept. 1-3, 15-17, 29-30 and Oct. 1, 13-15 and 27-29. More days and possibly a second fish to the bag limit will be added if the catch is low, Bodenmiller said.

Sport anglers are reminded possession of groundfish is not allowed north of Humbug Mountain when a Pacific halibut is in possession on the vessel during all-depth Pacific halibut dates. The exception is sablefish (black cod), which may be retained with halibut between Humbug Mountain and Cape Falcon. Both sablefish and Pacific cod may be retained north of Cape Falcon. Other non-groundfish species, such as tuna and salmon during authorized seasons, may be possessed with halibut on open all-depth Pacific halibut days.

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Membership Report

ANWS/Sandy Chapter Membership Report:

By Howard Berg, Membership Director 503-665-8008 bergate@teleport.com

Welcome New Members:

Thanks mainly to our new \$10 promotional program there were 17 new members who joined the club in March. and April.

Craig Kirtley Washougal Wa

John Barker Vancouver Wa.

John Eddy Portland Or.

Craig Glasson Gresham Or.

Mike Landers Portland Or.

Marc Lewis Portland Or.

John Lundgren Vancouver Wa

Jeff McCrary Battle Ground Wa.

Ruth Meyers Portland Or.

Don Miller

R.Wade Radke

Dale Richardson

Gary Rulifson

Brandon Rush

John Sherwood

Mike Stanislawski

David Tarshis

Boring Or.

Troutdale Or.

Camas Wa

Troutdale Or.

Gresham Or.

Woodland Wa

Portland Or.

Happy Valley Or.

Please welcome our new members when you see them at the next meeting.

I have placed brochure stands with Association and chapter information and membership materials at fishing counters in the various sport shops around the area. I try to make the rounds of the fishing departments on a regular basis, but it also helps to have others check too. The next time you are by the fishing counter check, let me know if you see that the brochures are running low or out.

If you're like me you have a hard time remembering all the renewal dates for all your magazines and club memberships, so from now on I will yellow highlight the renewal dates for those members with past due memberships. When you get your next news letter check the date on the address label, that is your membership renewal date.

Sandy River Recreation report

SANDY RIVER : The Sandy River water conditions have improved from last week with the flows on Monday running at 2,370 cfs (9.89') and the temperature at 48°. The visibility is good. The catch rate for broodstock hatchery fish has continued to be slow, with some native fish showing in the catch reports. Anglers should remember that these wild fish are catch and release only and need to be released unharmed. The hatchery at Cedar Creek has had 350 winter steelhead return so far. The summer steelhead are starting to make a stronger showing with fish being caught from above Dodge Park all the way down to Troutdale. Look for this fishery to improve going into the month of May. Along with the summers come the spring chinook. Many anglers are reporting hooking into springers in the Sandy, some as far up as the Cedar Creek area.

The Sandy Hatchery has also been placing surplus steelhead into Roslyn Lake, with nearly 70 fish transferred to the lake so far this spring.

The Sandy winter steelhead are now a later returning stock versus what anglers were used to a few years ago. This is a result of the wild broodstock program that is part of the current Sandy River fish management plan. These steelhead should create a mid-to-late winter fishery that should go well into spring.

Anglers can access the river from many parks including Lewis and Clark, Dabney, Oxbow, and Dodge. Access is also available to the Cedar Creek area at the Sandy Hatchery. When fishing the Oxbow Park area, remember that there is no angling from a floating device upstream from a point that is 200 feet below the Oxbow Park boat ramp.

Association Page

Banquet/Auction a Winner after Tribulations

The Association Banquet/Auction was taken up a notch this year with a video presentation and projected images of auction items as they were bid upon. The problems were a bad video disc and no-show auctioneer. However, Steelheaders are prepared and adaptable. Mark Davis introduced the video while his wife Carol ran for a backup disc. Jeff Stoeger and Gary Benson were drafted into auctioneer duty. Many people said this was the best event ever with auctioneers who knew the crowd and the items and were easier to understand. The Board extends their thanks and gratitude to event chairman, Gary Benson and all those volunteers who worked for months to make this a success. Those who didn't attend missed a great event.

Banquet Honors Those Who Make a Difference

The Steelheaders have several annual awards, all of which have one thing in common. They recognize and honor those who give of themselves toward the Steelheaders and its mission to protect fisheries and habitats. This year's recipients were:

- President's Award (1): Bruce Belles
- President's Award (2): John Ward
- President's Award (3): Greg Harlow
- Member of the Year: Tom Smoot
- Chapter of the year: Sandy River (followed very closely by SW Oregon and McLoughlin chapters.)
- Hall of Fame Foot Soldier (1): Don Heintzman
- Hall of Fame Foot Soldier (2): Gus Kriara
- Hall of Fame Celebrity : Liz Hamilton

River Event Publicizes Salmon, Steelhead Plight

Bill Erickson will take on a "Salmon to Sea" Expedition, kayaking from a point 240 miles above Lewiston Idaho on the Snake River in early August through to Astoria in late September. Chapters can host an outing to paddle, row, troll (and fish?) along with him for a given stretch from below Bonneville Dam to a chosen point down stream. This can include camping on the river's islands and riverbanks. This will get great media attention, allowing us to publicize the Steelheaders mission. Greg Harlow will coordinate this effort and provide details to chapter leadership and interested individual members.

ODFW's Budget Taking Shape

The good news is no new or increased fees at least until 2009. The bad news is a limited reduction in services to get there. Norm Ritchie and Phil Donovan are both on the External Budget Advisory Committee to insure that the available funds fairly address the needs of sport anglers. The committee was in general agreement that the legislature has stripped too much general fund from ODFW's income, forcing sportsmen to pay for some services that benefit landowner and other groups or the state at large. Many EBAC members will be asking legislators to correct this situation in the next biennium.

Chapter Training at May Board Meeting

April chapter elections find most chapters with new leaders. There is a lot to know about running a non-profit organization such as ours in order to keep in good standing with the IRS and Department of Justice. Unintentional mistakes made in ignorance by officers of one chapter can threaten the tax status for all chapters. That is one of the reasons all chapter presidents and new chapter officers should attend the May 6th meeting in Eugene. All members are welcome.

ODFW Addressing Seal Predation Issue

The Steelheaders presented a position on managing seal predation on fish last year to ODFW and Oregon's federal legislators. ODFW is now taking action along those lines in a two-pronged approach. First is to work within the existing Marine Mammal Protection Act process for "taking" specific animals, which will require an estimated three years and \$1,000,000. The second effort is what we have been proposing - to amend the act to give state and federal fish and wildlife management the authority to do their job without the above waste of time and expense.

Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

Introductory Membership Rate has generated over 560 new members in the last few months. The committee will suggest to the board (in May) to continue the program until at least the November board meeting.

Special Session of Oregon's Legislature starts next week. We are not anticipating any of our issues to be impacted, but our lobbyist, Phil Donovan will be there as our watchdog.

Marc Davis Attends National Wildlife Federation convention. Last year's event was in Washington DC and was attended by Co-President, Norm Ritchie. This year Marc Davis, President of the Tualatin Valley Chapter, attended the late March meeting in New Orleans. Marc presented a profile of the Steelheaders and our values for consideration in establishing NWF's Oregon affiliate.



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