



MAY 2009



# SANDY STEELHEADER NEWSLETTER

Published by the Sandy Chapter of the Association of Northwest Steelheaders.

Meetings are monthly the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 P.M. at the Sam Cox building in Glen Otto park 1106 E. Columbia River Hwy in Troutdale OR

**President:** Jay Burris (360) 798-9000  
**Vice Presidents:** Howard Berg (503) 665-8008  
Jeff Kirkman (503) 266-1504  
**Secretary:** Colonel Thomas (503) 666-5035

**Treasurer:** Mike Myrick (503) 281-6438  
**Directors:** Larry Palmer, Leslie Hinea,  
Larry Beaver, Jeff Stoeger  
**Membership:** Bill Beith (503) 252-8278

**Classroom Fishtanks:** Mike Myrick  
**Sales:** Eric Koellner  
**Newsletter:** Larry Palmer (503) 793-9225  
**Raffle Tickets:**

Our Website: <http://www.sandysteelheaders.org>

## Chapter Meeting

This month's guest speaker is Rod Brobeck of Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation. Rod is the New Director for the Fishing Camp that takes place at Camp Angelos. This date for this year's event is July 26th - July 30th. This fishing camp is a week long camp that is offered to both boys and girls, the age limit is 9 to 14 years of age. This camp offers scholarship to kids in need. The camp offers lessons on various techniques of fishing. They have instructors who are very skilled at the various techniques. You will learn to float fish, Fly fish, Drift fish and maybe learn to build your own rod. Rod will be sharing his ideas for this year's camp and will be looking for individuals who might want to offer their experience. So come and hear what Rod has to offer and see what other projects that OWHF has to offer, and how you can get involved and make a difference in some kids' lives and help in conservation for fishing for the future.

## President's message

It is with mixed emotions that I write my first President's Message. On one hand I am excited to start my term as President. On the other I am saddened by the passing of Gus Kriara. The Sandy Chapter and Gus have a history that goes way back. I don't know if Gus was more passionate about Camp Angelos or the kids that visited there every summer. Gus put on the Kids n Cancer Camp. When I volunteer to help the kids fish I always leave feeling I got more out of it than the kids I helped. There is just something about seeing a child light up when they hook into a fish. Gus always thanked us for helping out and I always thought I should be thank-

ing him for letting me help. Gus has given me some memories that I will have forever.

Last year the Sandy River Chapter accomplished quite a bit. Here is a list of some things we did in 2008 and 2009:

- ANWS banquet: Sandy River Club members provided 8 volunteers to help run the auction.
- Passport to Fishing: this year we had 12 volunteers to help
- ODFW's Salish pond kids fishing day: 5 members helped kids fish and cleaned up the area.
- Camp Angelos Children's camp: the club provided 28 volunteers for the 3 children's camp this year.
- New picture screen: Sandy River club purchased a picture screen for our meeting room.
- Dabney Park boat ramp: made an application for a new boat ramp location for the Sandy river.
- Sandy River summer Clean-up: 20 members helped clean up the river between I-84 Bridge and Dabney Park.
- Sandy River winter Clean-up: 16 members helped clean up the river between I-84 Bridge and Dabney Park.
- Salmon River STEP project: 5 Club members organized and cleaned out a new channel on the Salmon River along with local land owners, for spawning Salmon.
- ANWS raffle Ticket sales: Once again members of the Sandy River Chapter sold more Boat and trip tickets than any other club.
- Tillamook Fish-a-long: organizers came up with new lodgings and we had a successful event.

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## President's message cont.

- Ray's Frost Bite Follies: this was another successful year in organizing the river drift and lunch.
- Working with Sporting Goods retailers: Club members did several fishing Clinics at the area stores.
- Marmot Dam: 9 members removed the old acclamation pond liner at the Marmot dam site and gave it to ODFW to recycle.
- The Christmas auction and meeting: The results were down due to the Recession, but were better than expected do to the hard work of the auction team.
- Sports Salmon fishing: Several members attended meetings in Salem and Portland to lobby for Salmon Sports fishing. Members also contacted local Legislators.
- River access: This is a continuing legislative goal that we worked on this year.
- Chapter Picnic: After getting the location changed several times do to circumstances beyond our control, we finally ended up in Larry Beavers back yard and had a great time.
- Oxbow Salmon Festival: This event gave us the opportunity to get our environmental message out to the public and sell some raffle tickets for the Association.
- STEP conference: We were one of the lead organizations for this regional meeting here in Gresham. Unfortunately the conference was canceled for several reasons.

- Breakfast Meetings: We had several breakfast get together, but there just wasn't enough interest to continue.

Thanks Howard Berg for the list of accomplishments and all the effort you have put and continue to put into the Chapter.

There are going to be some challenges this coming year. Most of them will have to do with finances. ODFW will probably have some budget challenges. The Association is always in need of more money. Some of our auction contributors will most certainly have some challenges just trying to stay in business. As this is being written Joe's is in process of liquidating all of their inventory. We will have to work harder, look for new sponsors, and try not let budget issues get in the way of our job. I am certain that the Sandy River Chapter will step up to meet these challenges and I expect another successful year of fulfilling our mission. I took the following from the Association by-laws:

*The Association shall be incorporated and operate as a non-profit, non-sectarian organization dedicated to the conservation and preservation of trout, salmon, and steelhead as game fish. Its purpose shall be to work with and encourage constituted authorities and other conservation organizations to promote sport-fishing in a sportsmanlike manner; to provide scientific and practical assistance to fisheries management of land and water resources, to assist management of watershed to provide a viable aquatic habitat; to preserve and enhance the fisheries through wise angling regulations, to provide our members and the general public accurate information on sport fisheries.*

And, don't forget to go fishing!

Jay Burris

# SANDY STEELHEADER CALENDAR

Date	Event
April 29	Chapter Board meeting Parkrose round table pizza 6-8:30 pm members welcome
May 6	General Chapter meeting guest speaker; Rod Brobeck Sam Cox Building Glen Otto park 7:00 pm
May 16	Salish Pond Kid's fishing event Salish Ponds Fairview OR
June 3	General Chapter meeting guest speaker TBA Sam Cox Building Glen Otto park 7:00 pm
June 6	Passport to fishing Bonneville dam hatchery

## SANDY STEELHEADER



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## Membership Drive!

The Association will reward members who recruit new members in the 2009/2010 Membership Drive Incentive Program.

Valuable prizes will be awarded to those members who help us achieve our goal of recruiting 750 new members which would equal a 50% increase in membership.

Every new member signed up is good for one chance in quarterly drawings beginning in May.

Membership Drive Awards

Guided Fishing Trips

Rods

Reels

Tackle

Limited Edition Art Prints

Other Gear

Additional ways to gain chances to win.

Recruit a new Business or Life Membership and receive 10 chances to win.

Recruit 10 new members, and receive an additional 10 chances.

Top recruiters will also be recognized for their efforts.

Rules

The Membership Drive will begin Feb. 14th 2009 and end Feb. 10th 2010.

Awards will be awarded to those who have recruited new members during the drive and have their name or ticket drawn in a random quarterly drawing. Write your name on the back of the mem-

bership application or provide a list of who you have recruited so you will receive credit well prior of the drawings.

Each new membership received at the association office by Feb. 10, 2010 will be good for one chance at the awards. Please send them in as soon as possible to be eligible for each drawing and so we can track our progress.

## Gus

One of the first things I learned working with Gus was telling the difference between regular time and Greek time. When I asked him why a camp event was late he explained to me that the event wasn't late by Greek time and the important thing was that it would eventually happen.

I became concerned when I heard the Greek cooks shouting at each other out at the camp barbeque pit. Gus explained to me that just how they cook and that each one was just passionate about their way of preparing the lamb.

Working at the camp with Gus opened up a whole new perspective on interacting with people. In my family everything was to be done on time and you didn't show emotion. My first projects at the camp drove me nuts, but I soon learned to go with the Greek flow, realizing that things will eventually get done.

I was a real pleasure to work with Gus and my wife and I will miss him.

Howard



# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Auction Volunteers and Willamette trip

I want to take a moment to thank all the members of the Sandy River Chapter who once again volunteered at the big Association Auction April 4th. Simply put, the event can't be done without you! Each year many of "the same old gang" volunteer to do the essential tasks that make it all go smoothly. I promised you each an Association art print, but forgot to distribute them at the end of the event... "Duh Oh!". If you want one, an regular edition art print, any years edition we have in quantity, is yours. Let me know OK? And thanks again guys!

**More good stuff for the volunteers...A special Willamette River "Float and camp" event.**

A few years ago I helped orchestrate a trout fishing event for this chapter on the Willamette River. It worked like this:

After figuring out how many can go given available boats, we sign up as many who have volunteered for chapter projects as we can.

We meet early (6:30 AM) Saturday morning at a highway rest stop off I-5 near Canby.

Drive to Harrisburg and leave a shuttle car. Then drive to put in at Armitage Park on the Mckenzie.

Flyfishing and ultralight spin rods with small "Rooster tail" type spinners are the norm. Please fish barbless..this is a catch and release trip. A more detailed "how to" will be given out at the next chapter meeting.

We'll tent camp on an island in the Willamette. I'll cook dinner in a dutch oven. There will be a \$20 per person charge which will cover your dinner, breakfast, some fattening snacks, fruit snacks, park launch and parking fees and all jokes. Ok, the jokes are old...they'll be free.

You'll need a fishing rod of your choice, sleeping pad and bag, a tent (or share with your buddy) waders and spinners and/or flies. Light raingear is also a good idea.

We'll aim to take out Sunday at about 3 PM, get shuttled and head home.

This a pretty section of the Willamette, very different than the river in Portland. You'll see birds and wildlife, and very few people.

So have you volunteered this year? Well, get your name in the hat!



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## SAFE for salmon recognized by Oregon's two leading papers

The Oregonian Editorial Board did a great piece on SAFE for Salmon in early April. They reported that past ODFW management practices should have been changed long ago and SAFE For Salmon is the best first step. It also pointed out to legislators that our bill is not competing with the CCA bill but is complementary and both bills could pass.

The following is the Eugene Register Guard editorial published Sunday, Apr 19, 2009 on page G2

Selective fishing is best

Time to move gill nets off the Columbia's main stem

Sport and commercial salmon fishermen on the Columbia River have been fighting for years over allocation of an increasingly limited resource. The argument has traditionally been couched in monetary terms, with each side claiming to represent a vital sector of the Oregon economy. It has also been seen as a zero-sum contest in which one side can gain only at the expense of the other.

It's time for a fresh look. Oregonians should stop fighting over how to allocate fish, and begin working together to strengthen the fishery. More robust salmon runs in the Columbia and its tributaries, and greater confidence that endangered salmon species will recover, would benefit sport and commercial fishermen alike. A key step is to favor selective fishing methods, so that fewer threatened fish are accidentally caught along with more abundant species. That means getting gill-net fishermen off the main channel of the Columbia River.

The gill-net fleet has about 135 boats, two-thirds of them based in Oregon. This part of the commercial fishery is a mainstay of the economy of communities on the lower Columbia River. Though the mesh of gill nets can be sized to target particular fish species, the targeting is imprecise — other types of fish, particularly sturgeon and steelhead, get caught in gill nets and die before they can be released.

An even bigger problem is that gill nets can't distinguish between wild and hatchery-raised salmon. Sport fishermen can: The fins of hatchery salmon are clipped, so wild fish that are caught can be readily identified and released. The entire fishery is managed to protect wild fish stocks, so even if hatchery salmon are abundant, fishing seasons may need to be restricted to ensure the survival of wild fish.

House Bill 2734 in the state Legislature would address both problems — bycatch and the intermingling of wild and hatchery fish. It's called the SAFE for salmon plan. The acronym stands for Select Area Fisheries Enhancement. The proposal calls for hatchery salmon to be penned in Columbia River bays or side channels for a few weeks before being allowed to migrate to the ocean. Upon their return migration, their instinct would lead them back to the bays and channels they

would regard as their home waters. Gill-net fishermen would be restricted to those areas, which would be chosen for the fact that wild and bycatch fish are seldom found in them.

The result would be improved survival rates for every type of fish except hatchery salmon. Seasons for both the sport and commercial fishery could eventually be expanded as fishing pressure on wild stocks subsided. Upriver sport fisheries such as those of the Willamette and Mc-Kenzie rivers would improve.

A second proposal, House Bill 2579, would allow commercial fishermen to use seines and fish traps on the lower Columbia. Such gear has long been banned because it is highly efficient. But fishermen using seines or traps could release wild and bycatch fish without harming them. The sponsors believe gill-netters would adopt the more efficient and selective gear, improving the fishery for everyone.

The sport fishery would be a primary beneficiary of either proposal. That would be good news for Oregon. The sport fishing industry supports 11,000 jobs in the state, with payrolls totaling \$330 million. The industry could be even bigger if there were more fish to catch during longer seasons. A salmon caught by a sports fisherman generates five times as much economic activity as the same fish caught in a gill net. But if the fishery were more robust, the gill-netter and the angler wouldn't have to fight over that one fish — there would be more fish for both.

Either bill would bring progress. The SAFE plan, however, does not depend on gill-netters' willingness to buy new equipment, and may offer the best promise of keeping the main stem of the Columbia open for wild salmon migration. The river's commercial fishery would survive, and the sports fishing industry would thrive. It's time for Oregon to resolve the long-running argument over fishing methods in the fishery's favor, understanding that what's good for fish is good for fishermen.

Contributed by Norm Ritchie *'thank you'.*

-editor

## Notify us if you move please!

We are getting an average of 10 returned newsletters a month  
Please let Bill Beith, (503-252-8278) The membership chairman know when you change your address.

We can no longer remail your newsletter due to cost and time

# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Tom Gemelli takes over as cleanup coordinator

Longtime dedicated volunteer and all round swell guy Larry Beaver has turned over the river cleanup leader position to another longtime volunteer and swell guy Tom Gemelli. Tom will be coordinating our SOLV river cleanups and related tasks now, so look to volunteer with him soon. We thank Larry for his many years of service in this and other jobs.

## I Learned

Chapter members:

I'm going to start a new feature as newsletter editor that will utilize your knowledge and experiences in fishing called "I learned about fishing from..." which will be intended to run monthly in each newsletter. A typical story might involve a technique, location, or useful fishing practice that someone showed you. It doesn't have to be earth-shaking...most will be small ideas in fact. It could also be conservation oriented. I'll write the first story to give you an idea of what I'm looking for. The next one's up to you.

Submit your stories for this to me in MS Word readable format at [palmerlarryd@yahoo.com](mailto:palmerlarryd@yahoo.com).

Thanks!

### "I learned about fishing from..."

A grandfatherly gentleman on the shore of the Deschutes River. I gone there fly fishing, and was pretty new to it all. I think the bushes and trees claimed more of my flies than the fish took notice of. Then I saw him.

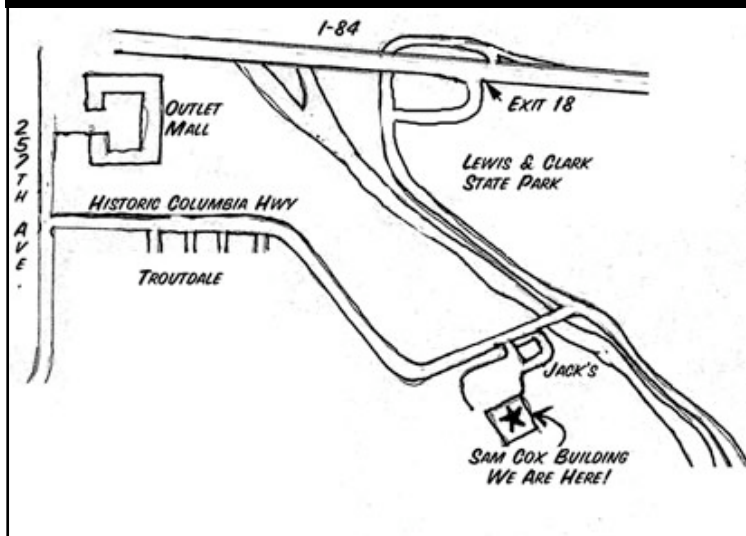
His stance was unusual. He stood almost sideways to the river, pretty much facing upstream. He cast in an almost cross-body motion, his fly rod held in a very upright manner. When he cast, he could easily watch his fly line extend flat at the backwards motion of its travel, then flick it forward. Timing was easy. His posture also limited the natural tendency to use lots of "arm". It was all in the wrist.

It seemed to work. His casts were precise...right under the edges of the trees hanging low over the water, where the salmon flies had crawled out. I had begun to avoid this area, and its hungry, fly eating branches. He caught several fish as I watched.

He motioned me to come near, with a twinkling eye he asked about my fishing that day. I confessed my newness to the sport, and bemoaned my lost flies. A pretty penny for a college student like me, for I didn't know how to tie flies then.

He looked at my flies. "Nice !" he said " real professional. Where's ya get 'em" "Kaufmans " I said. "Top notch!" He showed me his. Not

## Meeting Map



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quite as nice, but good. "I tie these myself" he said. "Not so pretty, but in this moving water they'll work fine. As long as you put 'em where the fish are. I saw you earlier, casting out towards the center of the river....lots more fish under those trees."

I explained about my fly loses...and asked about his casting posture. "My grandfather showed me that after I lost too many flies in the bushes behind me. It worked, so I just never changed. I face pretty much down stream when fishing nymphs. Watch your line, cast where the fish are, loose less flies, save time. "And flies", I offered. "Yeah, those too" he chuckled. "Your flies are better than mine, but mine floated over hundreds of trout. Yours, aw maybe a dozen. Which odds are better?" "Yours for sure..." I said. He took pity on me. "Here's a few more flies" he said reaching into his box "now watch that back cast, and fish under the trees. You'll be fine".

He was right.



# SANDY STEELHEADER

## Salish ponds kids fishing event Passport to fishing 2009

Saturday May 16 the Oregon department of Fish and Wildlife will be putting on its 6th annual Youth Angling Enhancement Program. They need volunteers to help provide fishing assistance for the kids. West Salish Pond will receive special stocking of rainbow trout prior to Saturday's event. ODFW will provide gear and bait to loan to any youth who come and participate. At 8:30 Am volunteers will help set-up and sign-in participants, rig gear and help the kids learn how to fish. Prizes will be given out. The event goes until 4Pm, but most of the fishing is done by noon. SOLV bags will be provided for those members who want to pick up trash.

Last year I had a great time, two boys about 11 came up to me and said that they lived in nearby apartments and weren't having any luck catching fish. They were using old salmon spinning gear. I offered to let them use ODFW gear, but they wanted to use theirs. I didn't have any lighter line with me, but I changed the leader and hooks, gave them some bait, found a place for them to fish and showed them how to cast. The fish started hitting their bait, but the heavy line acted like a long coiled spring, I didn't see them landing any fish, but they were having a great time.

Any Questions Call: Howard Berg 503-665-8008

It's that time again, when Passport to Fishing, one of the largest and most successful youth fishing events in the state, occurs. This year's event happens on Saturday, June 6. The Sandy River Chapter provides volunteers at the measuring, icing and prize station, and we are looking for volunteers. We will have a volunteer work sheet at the May and June membership meetings, Due to the fact the event follows our June meeting by only 3 days, we will be looking for a large sign-up at the May 6 meeting. This your chance to get involved in a great teaching experience for kids, so please consider joining us.

Mike Myrick is always involved in this worthy effort. Look for Mike at the chapter meeting and get yourself signed up. If you miss him and still want to volunteer, call him at 503-281-6438. Thanks! (LP)

### Income Tax Bookkeeping



Bill Robins

(503)281-0919

3825 NE Hancock Suite GL-B Portland OR 97212

## Sandy River Chapter Volunteer Hours Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Hours \_\_\_\_\_

Fill this form out and return it at a general meeting.

Please mark your time as beginning when you left your home until you returned home from the volunteer event.

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STEELHEADERS

SANDY CHAPTER NW



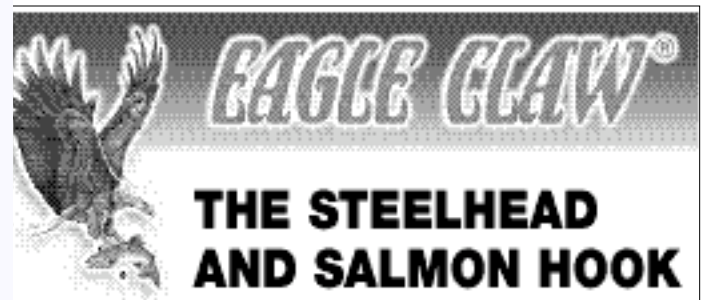
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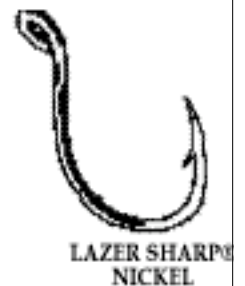
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