

Fishing serious business at mountain shop

by HANK EMRICH
Post Correspondent

It's not easy to catch all three owners of The Fly Fishing Shop at Welches in at the same time. If two are running the store, you can be certain the other is fishing.

Mark Bachman, Houston Fuller, and Mark Stensland don't just love their work, they live it.

Although Bachman is in his mid-30s and Fuller and Houston their mid-20s, they have combined more than 50 years of experience in fishing and fly-tying into what they hope will someday be "the largest fly-fishing shop in the world."

This is no small dream considering they will have to overtake an Oregon operation boasting sales of more than \$7 million annually.

"Everything we make we put right back in the business," said Stensland.

The store is a central spot for locals to share fish stories and exchange information. Fuller said they have had the opportunity to swap stories with television sportscaster Doug LaMear, singer John Denver, and other celebrities. It's hard to tell whether the trio would enjoy the profits of million dollar sales more than the increased opportunity it would provide to share fishing lore.

Stensland was the first of the group to take up tying flies, beginning nearly 15 years ago. Fuller, who said he and Stensland grew up fishing together, took an interest two years later and Stensland shared what he knew of the delicate craft.

Bachman and Fuller worked together at a sporting goods store before the trio began The Fly Fishing Shop. The store celebrates its second anniversary this Sunday. Their opening preceded the opening of fishing season by just a few days and things were "really hopping" the first few weeks in business.

Years in the craft enable them to tie some flies in as little as 30 seconds although some, such as special types for Atlantic Salmon take more than an hour. Even years of experience doesn't take away some discomforts, according to Fuller.

"I'm still poking my fingers with fishhooks," he said.

It seems at times that fly-tying is more science than craft, with as many materials in use as one can imagine.

"We use virtually any fur, feather, straw or yarn and so on," said Fuller.



Photo by Hank Emrich

Mark Stensland's interest in fly-tying rubbed off on his two partners at The Fly Fishing Shop at Welches. The flies can be created in minutes or take up to an hour to get just right.

Representational patterns, those resembling insects native to the area are generally used for trout and more colorful attracter patterns are generally used for steelhead.

The group fish and guide in a variety of streams and lakes. Variety seems to be the spice of their fishing life.

"It's just like eating something different for dinner," said Stensland. "You'd get awful tired of fishing the same place every time."

All their fish don't end up in the frying pan, according to Fuller. "I release

almost everything I catch," he said.

"There's a lot more to fishing than putting meat in the freezer," added Stensland.

The three owners share a concern for the future of sport fishing and fishing streams. Last year they instituted a policy of offering "deposit returns" for empty bait containers because they were disturbed at the amount left beside streams.

They have also banded with some other local residents in hopes of setting up a program to insure that the Sandy and

Salmon rivers remain two of the finest fishing streams in the state.

"If we don't do something soon, it will be the end of native fish in our streams," said Stensland, adding that although hatcheries can replenish streams as fast as they are emptied, "anyone who fishes sooner or later realizes the difference between native and hatchery fish."

As for having to watch the store while one of the others fish, none seem to mind, it just gives them more time to "talk fishing."

Brightwood artist schedules workshop

"Anybody can learn to draw and paint to a certain degree," says noted Brightwood artist Roger Cooke.

With that in mind, Cooke is offering a four-day workshop at Rippling River Resort beginning May 31. Cooke has gained national attention as a leading western artist and was recently featured in a cover story in Art West magazine.

"In most art workshops the instructor produces a painting and the students copy it," he said. This is a concept he hopes to differ from, preferring to help students develop their own style.

Cooke, who has taught at the Museum Art School in Portland, said the class is for both amateur and professional painters. The class will cover a broad range of drawing, composition, color and lighting.



Roger Cooke

Cooke says the class is beneficial for both the students and himself. "It's a good feeling to see someone produce worthwhile work after struggling in some areas," he said.

Information concerning the class is available by calling 622-4228.

Classified (667-6633) deadline
5 pm, Mon.... News (668-5548)
deadline noon, Tues.

Come to Church

COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Church 668-4543
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Father Carl Gimpel 668-4446

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(PASTOR) Ted Davis
CHURCH PHONE - 668-6083
HOME PHONE - 668-6261

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the Bahá'í Faith

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17175 New Circle Dr.
Sandy 668-6876
or 668-4933

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Worship service 10 a.m.
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Wed. eve. service 7:15 p.m.
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17275 Strauss
668-4949
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Worship 2:30 p.m.
oWednesday 7:30 p.m.
Pastor Ed Ray
38885 Proctor Blvd. (Theater)
253-1888 or 668-2975.

At chamber meeting

Timber sales report due

Two forest Service officials will report on the status of the Cool Creek and Enola timber sales on April 19, at the monthly breakfast meeting of the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber meets at 7:45 a.m. at Rippling River Resort.

Chuck Smay, Zigzag District ranger and Joel

Holtrop, timber management assistant, will be guest speakers at the meeting, which is open to the public.

Smay and Holtrop will update residents on the Forest Service's plans to harvest timber from the two areas. The forum is sponsored by the chamber to keep area residents informed on Forest Service

projects that might affect them.

The officials will answer questions concerning the District's five year timber sale plan.

The Cool Creek sale is located on the northeast slope of Hunchback Mountain and the Enola sale is on the west slope of Enola Hill. Both sale areas overlook Rhododendron.

Hood CPO meeting set

The Mt. Hood Corridor Citizens' Planning Organization will hold its monthly meeting to discuss topics of interests to citizens in the mountain area this Monday, April 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the multi-

purpose room of Welches School.

Chairman Dennis Tylka said the board will seek comments on the stop light at the intersection of Highway 26 and Welches

Road.

Neil Sullivan will also give a report on changes in the area's property zoning and the board will present a map defining new sub-areas for the CPO.

Family support cut back

Clackamas County District Attorney James O'Leary announced that beginning tomorrow, April 15, the Family Support Division, located at 906 Main St., Oregon City, will

be closed to the public each Friday.

The Division also recently began closing the office from noon to 1 p.m. daily. O'Leary said the reduced hours are a result of recent

layoffs within the Family Support Division, and limiting the hours this department is open to the public will allow the remaining staff to process the paperwork involved.

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