



SANTIAM FLYCASTERS

SANTIAMFLYCASTERS.COM

November 2021

November SFC Meeting (In Person or by "Zoom")

Thursday, November 11 7:00 pm—Pringle Hall Community Center

"Euronymphing From the Bottom Up"

With Kent Toomb



Kent started flyfishing in 1988 when his father took him back packing and fishing in the Steens Mountain Range in South East Oregon.

Shortly after that first experience he started tying his own flies and building rods. Kent started Euronymphing eight years ago and it has transformed his fishing tenfold.

He has fished in 11 states and this past summer completed the Wyoming Cutthroat Slam and the expert casting portion of the Western Native Trout Challenge.

Please join us in welcoming Kent in person at Pringle Hall Thursday the 11th of November!"



How to join the November meeting. We have rented Pringle Hall (606 Church St SE, Salem). The doors will open around 6:30 pm. To comply with Oregon Health Authority guidelines, face masks or face shields will be required inside the hall.

As an alternative, the program presentation can also be viewed via Zoom. Watch your email for the Zoom Link or [CLICK HERE](#) to view the presentation. The link will activate around 6:45 pm on the night of the program. Preregistration is not required. Please let me know if you have any related questions. Tim Johnson, tim.the.fisherman@gmail.com, 503-507-8552

Board Meeting

By Zoom

November 8

6:30 pm

General Meeting

November 11

In Person

Pringle Hall Community Center

Or by "Zoom"

7:00 pm

In This Issue

- President's Corner by Scott Vaslev
- SFC Officers and Board Members
- November Officer/Board Election
- Crooked River Outing Report by Ricky Love
- Willamette River Outing Report by Ken Karnosh
- Deschutes River Outing Report by Tim Johnson
- UPCOMING: Detroit Lake Outing November 6
- New Members in October
- Selecting Outing Locations for 2022
- Pyramid in the Fall by Beth Jappay
- 2021 November Fly of the Month "Orange Woolly Bugger" by Dell Swearingen

Santiam Flycasters
BOARD AND OFFICERS

Scott Vaslev - President

Shandy Hart Danford - Vice
 President/Programs

Dennis Burnett - Secretary

Tim Johnson - Treasurer/
 Membership

Board Members

Will and Reenie Satak -
 Concessions

Matt Neznanski - Webmaster

Leroy Shepherd - Newsletter
 Editor

Bob LeClerc - FFI
 Representative

George Hingston

Beth Jappay

Ken Karnosh

Ricky Love

Don Meyer

Kent Toomb

Donnie Weninger

President's Corner
By Scott Vaslev

Elections are coming up this month. I have volunteered to run for president for one more year. Shandi is running for VP and has already hit the ground running as she has set up speakers for the next three months. Dennis hesitantly volunteered to run for secretary and Tim "bless his heart" will run for treasurer as usual.



The board voted last November to increase membership from six to six plus, meaning board membership is open ended. For the near future and beyond, board meetings are going to be held via zoom. This is much more convenient for the board and if you have ever debated about joining the board but didn't want to drive someplace to do it, presto! Meetings usually last 30 to 45 minutes.

If you haven't heard we are now meeting at our old stomping grounds, Pringle Community Center. Our October meeting was a hybrid where the speaker was on Zoom at the hall and also available on a device of your choosing to enjoy at home. We still will have an occasional speaker do a live presentation but having the ability to "zoom" a speaker means we can get anybody from around the world if we want and we don't have to feed them or put them up for the night.

As Thanksgiving is almost upon us I thought I'd give a shout out to some of the people who make this club work. Tim as you know wears multiple hats: treasurer, zoom master, and world's expert on tying and fishing the orange partridge. Ken, does a little of everything, if a request for some deed or function that needs to be done and no one else raises his hand he'll volunteer. You guys ROCK! Matt is responsible for our website and Leroy produces the newsletter. Thanks fellas. Beth for in depth columns and Bob L. for being our FFI rep. To all the members of the board and of course all you members. Thanks y'all!

November Officer/Board Election

All club members are welcome to participate in nomination of our club officers for 2022 at the November 8, 6:30 p.m., Board meeting, which will be held via Zoom. Send Tim an e-mail at santiamflycasters@yahoo.com if you can participate.

Club members will vote on the Board's nominations at the November 11 club meeting.

We need a couple more Board members. Board meetings are held monthly and last about an hour, often less. Please join us!

Crooked River Outing Report

By Ricky Love

The water levels for the Crooked River were not favorable at 57 Cubic Feet Per Second (CFS) and 2.18 Feet on the river gauge, however 17 members still accepted the challenge to fish in these difficult conditions. The water was also somewhat muddy and several members agreed these were the toughest conditions we've faced on any of our outings on the Crooked River.

The weather during the day was very pleasant and at night very cold. Despite the tough conditions all members caught fish albeit some only caught white fish. The key to success was using small flies in size 18 and 20 and fishing pocket water. Those that found good pocket water had success at times but it was not consistent. There was a small caddis fly hatch on Friday but nothing significant after that.

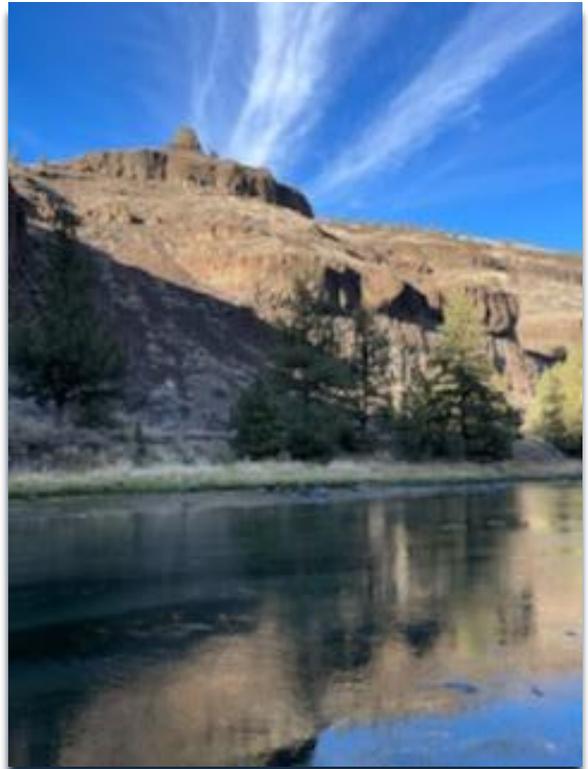
Kent Toomb's friend Mike, netted the biggest fish of the trip – a nice 18-inch red side rainbow using a size 18 bead headed pheasant tail nymph. The bead headed pheasant tail brought fish to the net for several anglers. A good number of fish were caught by members but, other than Mike's nice fish, all the rainbow were generally in the 6–12-inch range - the white fish were larger.

Kent Toomb had success Euro Nymphing as usual and caught several fish during the Caddis Hatch with a size 16 Mercer's Missing Link (Caddis Dry Fly). He also netted several fish with a size 16-18 Red Arse CDC Pheasant Tail nymph and a Tasmanian Devil (Euro nymph). Other members used a Bead Headed Pheasant Tail, Zebra Midge, and Partridge and Orange Soft Hackle and caught fish.

I had my best success on Saturday afternoon in some good pocket water and netted about 15 fish in an hour and a half. I was also Euro Nymphing and used a size 16 Bead Headed Pheasant Tail on the tag and a size 18 Silver Bullet Baetis on the point.

Although fishing conditions were not optimal, everyone had a great time and it was nice to see some members who had either never attended an outing or had a few years pass since they attended one. John Barratt, a member who lives in the Bend area, shared some great local knowledge and patterns with us during lunch. We enjoyed some brats and delicious side dishes that members provided and a nice campfire and dessert Saturday evening.

Based on my discussions with numerous members, the big take-away from this trip is when conditions are tough you have to find the right flies in the right size. Don't be afraid to keep changing flies to find the right one or to think "outside of the box". Kent Toomb went through about 30 flies before he found the right combination.



***Crooked River Gallery
October 2021***



Willamette River Outing Report ***By Ken Karnosh***

It was great weather for fishing when six of us floated from Marshall Island to Harrisburg on October 13, with partly cloudy skies, cool but pleasant temperatures, and just a bit of rain as we hit the takeout.

The low water level also made it easy to fish all of our favorite spots.

The fish were fairly cooperative, with some catch rates into double-digits. Most were cutthroats into the 13" range, but we also caught some rainbows, whitefish, pikeminnows, and a carp.

The most successful patterns were soft hackles or pheasant tails, swung either by themselves or behind a beadhead nymph or Perdigon. The lower water level didn't seem suited to Euronymphing techniques. Although the swallows were taking some bugs off the water, dry flies were not productive.

Another successful river outing!



Deschutes River Outing Report ***By Tim Johnson***

Seven members and one guest showed up for the Deschutes outing. The weather forecast was for serious rain and wind, so there were some initial concerns. Even the shuttle operator contacted us, warning us of the weather asking us if we really wanted to do this. There was in fact some serious rain Thursday night, but it ended Friday morning and we had decent weather for the weekend.

The Deschutes can be challenging to fish. To fish the areas where the fish are holding requires some deep and aggressive wading in a swift current. But for those who are strong and brave enough to do that, the rewards can be great. Everyone caught fish, but some caught many.

The technique that worked the best was Euro-nymphing. Most reported doing well with an orange Perdigon, a green rock worm pattern or a Prince Nymph. I even hooked several fish swinging an unweighted orange and partridge, my preferred way to fish but not the best technique for the Deschutes.

During the outing the river level rose from 3,150 to 4,400 cfs. Normally a change like that can make it difficult to catch fish. It certainly makes wading even more challenging than normal. But the consensus was that fishing was outstanding. Many big fish were hooked.

Mostly we hooked redbreasted darters and mountain whitefish, some were very large. There were also some salmon in the river, both Coho and Chinook. I saw several Chinook porpoising or swimming under my boat. Herb Harry landed a Coho. A great time was had by all.



Fly-Tying Challenge

<https://news.orvis.com/fly-fishing/tie-steve-cobbs-thanksgiving-turkey-fly>

Hope you and yours have a great Thanksgiving.



***Deschutes River Gallery
October 2021***

November 6 Detroit Lake Outing

Weather permitting, we will fish Detroit Lake on November 6. Some of us have fished it recently and have found decent numbers of trout. A floating device is best on this lake.

To get there, drive Highway 22 east and turn right at Mongold Boat Ramp a few miles above Detroit Dam. You will need to either have a State Parks pass or purchase a daily pass there for \$5 with your credit card. I recommend launching at the new ramp to the right at the bottom of the parking lot, since the low water has left mud on the old ramp to the left and you would need to carry your boat a couple of hundred yards to the water.

Suggested gear is 4-6 weight rods with either intermediate or sinking line. Flies would include the normal stillwater selection of leeches, woolly buggers, and other attractor patterns, including colors green, chartreuse, and white.

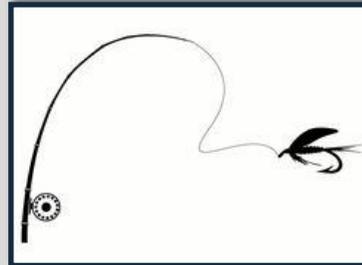
The club will not provide a meal, so remember your lunch and other essentials.

Welcome New Member in October

Charles VanDelicht, Sisters

Bob Karau, Keizer

Jon Subenvoll, Portland



At its December 6 meeting, the Board will select the slate of club outings for 2022. If you have any input for those selections, whether it is a comment about any of our 2021 outings or want to recommend a different outing, please contact any Board member or send your comments to santiamflycasters@yahoo.com.

Or, just participate in that Board meeting! We **value** any and all input.

Quotable

Something to think about:

**“If you fish the wrong fly long and hard enough,
It will sooner or later become the right fly.”**

-John Gierach-

Pyramid in the Fall

By Beth Jappay

Pyramid Lake is a destination fishery, known for Lahontan cutthroat that are often over 10 lbs and occasionally over 20 lbs. Ladder fishing Pyramid lake was on my bucket list, and I spent a week there this past March (here is my [first article](#)) and again in April (here is my [second article](#)). At the time I learned that Pyramid Lake closes to fishing over the summer and reopens again on October 1st. I also learned that the fall fishing is quite different--instead of fishing from a ladder for fish cruising the shore line, in the fall the giant Lahontan cutthroat are cruising at depths of 20 to 100', looking for bait balls to jump on. Fall fishing is with streamers at deep depths from a pontoon or boat, something I have never done before. I also learned that fall is when the biggest fish are caught. Count me in! I scheduled 10 days off the 3rd week of October.

I planned on leaving early on Thursday morning, but my RV was in the shop and not ready until late Thursday morning. I finally hit the road mid afternoon, and a stop-over in Roseburg in an (unsuccessful) attempt to Zoom the October meeting put me further behind schedule. I had planned on refueling in Medford (I only use ethanol-free gas, after having ruined 2 carburetors and experiencing an engine fire from ethanol in the past) but by the time I arrived in Medford it was after 10pm and the four ethanol-free stations were closed. I checked my list for my best options to refuel between Medford and Reno, and the only option I came up with was in Redding, about 30 min out of my way. I got back on the road, stopping at a packed rest stop just north of Redding for the night.

Sleep-deprived, I got an early start. Arriving at the Redding location I expected a gas station, but instead found a multi-fuel business. I asked if I could pull into their yard so they could put the gas in my tank, but I was informed that California didn't like ethanol-free gas, and it was against state law to put this gas directly into a gas tank. They would be happy to fill a



gas can though. I ended up spending \$45 for a 5 gallon gas can, then making four trips to hand-fill my tank with the 20 gallons I calculated I needed to reach Reno. They charged me \$7.75 a gallon.

With tired arms and a lighter wallet I decided to get some breakfast before heading down the road. I stopped at a McDonald's, and ordered some breakfast sandwiches. Eating while checking in at work on my laptop, I heard the sounds of a police radio. Looking out my window I saw four Redding Police officers approaching the car next to me. They told the occupants that they received a call about "that thing" (pointing at my rig) but had observed suspicious behavior in their car instead. I closed up my laptop and got back on the road immediately.

The rest of the drive to Reno was tedious but uneventful. I stopped at the Reno fly shop to get some advice and buy some flies (none of which caught a single fish). Benson had recommended fishing at Warrior Point beach this time of year, and the guys at the shop agreed. The Warrior site is undeveloped, and with trepidation I drove my RV off the dirt road onto the grass-covered sand, just yards from the water.



The next morning I set up my pontoon and attached my fish finder, which over the next week I found very useful for identifying the depth, finding the drop-offs and occasional bait ball, and for distinguishing fish-heavy vs fish-free areas. I decided to start with my 8 weight rod and the type 6 sink tip I had used in the spring. I started with the flies I had bought at the shop, heavily-weighted intruder style flies tied with olive and white rabbit. After a couple of hours of trolling I spotted a patch of foam, and paddling over found myself in water that though fairly close to shore was 100 feet deep. My fish finder identified a huge bait ball at a depth of 60 feet. Winging it, I switched to the 7 weight I had strung up with a type 7 full sinking line. I attached a size #6 purple booby bugger, and after casting stripped out the entire line, waiting until it hung vertically. Stripping in line quickly, on the second attempt I hooked a very nice Lahontan that I measured to be 30 inches. It took me 20

minutes to land, and I was glad that my rod was an 8 weight and for the folding salmon/steelhead net I brought along.

I caught another smaller fish an hour later, and then called it a day.

That night I met my new neighbor, Jaime, who is a retired cop, and a local guide on the Truckee (a euro-nymphing specialist). She reported catching 14 fish that day trolling a jig fly using a type 3 full sinking line. She gave me a fly that she had tied; it incorporated grey over white marabou on a size #4 jig hook and was heavily weighted.



By the end of the week I had come to appreciate how much the wind determines the fishing. I eventually was checking the wind forecast multiple times a day. I discovered that my 10lb pyramid anchor wasn't enough to hold my boat on a windy day. At least 25% of the time the wind was too much to use the pontoon at all, and I ended up fishing from shore with my switch rod. I wished I had brought my ladder chair.

On the third day of my trip the prediction was for a strong offshore wind in the afternoon. Sticking close to shore I caught two fish between 18 and 22", both on Jaime's fly. She caught a half dozen, and she and her friend Darrel treated me to chicken tacos that night. I hit the sack about 10pm but about 1 am, deeply asleep, I was awakened by a vigorous



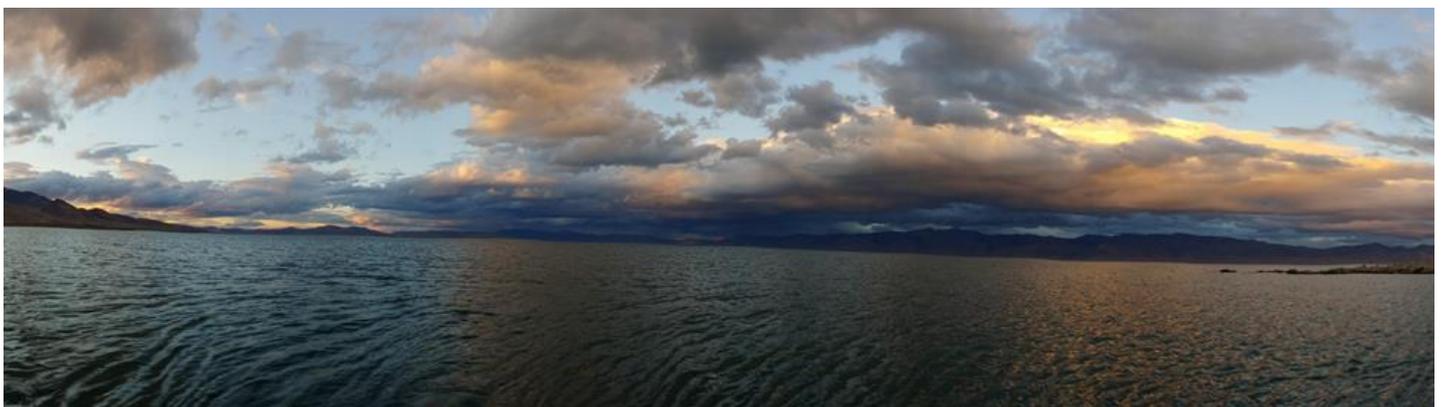
offshore wind rocking my RV. I immediately worried about my pontoon. I had pulled it out of the water and dropped the anchor when I quit for the evening, but had not dragged it far from the water. Checking on it I quickly realized that it was gone, blown out onto the lake. Unable to do anything about it, I tried to go back to sleep, but was constantly shaken awake by the RV being rocked by wind gusts.

I was awake at 6am, and using my binoculars I unsuccessfully scanned the lake and shoreline for my pontoon. I observed that now the wind had shifted 180 degrees. I estimated that my pontoon had traveled at least halfway across the lake before the wind had changed direction, but decided there was a possibility that the new wind direction would send the pontoon back to the west shore of the lake. I decided to wait at least 2 hours and then drive up and down the west shore and look for the pontoon. I didn't hold out much hope, and tried to come up with a plan B and plan C to salvage the week. While researching alternative inflatables in the Reno area I kept a dulsatory watch with my binoculars.

About 8 am a pickup truck passed my RV on the dirt road. Several minutes later I again scanned the lake and shore with my binoculars, and was startled to see my pontoon was pulled up on the shoreline, about 200 feet south of me. I put on my boots and walked over, and the driver, who looked to be getting ready to transport my pontoon to his pickup, asked if that was mine. When I answered in the affirmative and thanked him, he skedaddled. Initially grateful, that evening I was furious when I realized he had snagged a reel and two spare spools out of my side bags.

I was now left with only one full-sinking line--my parabolic line.

The rest of the week was all about getting as much fishing time in when the wind wasn't blowing too hard, and enjoying the scenery.





day a father-daughter pair be successful with midges under an indicator. The next day I tried the same and had a couple of bites and a fish on. My hypothesis is that midge patterns are more successful after a storm has stirred up the lake floor, but my trip was over before I could come to a conclusion. Overall for the week I was skunked one day, but the rest of the days I caught as few as 2 fish to as many as 10. None were under 18", and a handful were over 25".

Oh, and I also rescued a kayaker who flipped his kayak and who, wearing rubber waders sans lifejacket and wading belt, almost drowned.

So overall, it was a more eventful week than even I am used to. I had a great time, and if I was already retired, I would plan on coming back for another week next month. Maybe next year.



As you know, one of my favorite aspects of the sport is "figuring out what works". Initially it seemed like jigging was the way to go, but after a dead morning I switched to fishing with boobies on my parabolic line and on that day and the next 2 days found this worked much better. My most successful combo was using a #6 booby wooly bugger as the point fly, and my favorite foam pull-over black leech as the dropper (see my [booby article](#)), I had little luck with balanced leeches under an indicator, but observed after a windy



November Fly of the Month

Orange Woolly Bugger

by Dell Swearingen



Materials List:

Bead: Large gold or black
Hook: Firehole 811 size # 6, 8 or 10
Thread: 6/0, 8/0, or 10/0 orange
Body: Arizona simi seal Canada Orange or Hairline UV Rust
Wire: Ultra wire BR copper or gold
Hackle: Medium UV Polar orange chenille
Tail: Hot orange marabou with one strand of Mirage tinsel on either side

Background:

The Canadian border is now open for vaccinated tourists with a 72-hour negative Covid test, so a fishing trip to Quesnel Lake in British Columbia is on the agenda for next week. Kokanee spawn from mid-October to mid-November. During the spawn large rainbows and lake trout feed on kokanee eggs and on dead and dying Kokanee. Historically, orange woolly buggers with both orange or black tails and red or orange Estaz chenille wrapped around an egg hook has also been effective.

Type 3, 6, or 7 full sink fly lines work well. Rio full sink lines have a tendency of tangling after a several casts in the cold weather; however, Scientific Angler fly lines seem to work better. Navigating along the shoreline, alternate casting towards the bank and stripping back to the pontoon boat and then casting out into the Lake and stripping back seems to work best. When casting out, count down to the level of the fish to allow the flies to sink to their level before stripping.

Directions:

1. Place the bead on the fly hook, insert the barbless hook in the vise, secure thread on hook using about six or seven touching turns and then insert wire in the back of the bead and continue wrapping the thread to the bend of the hook.



Figure 1

2. Measure several fibers of marabou so they protrude about the length of the hook shank behind the fly and secure them to the hook. Also, secure a strip of Mirage tinsel on either side of the tail.



Figure 2

3. Secure a strip of orange polar chenille to the hook shank directly in front of the tail and wrap the chenille to the back of the bead. As you wrap the chenille forward, use your thumb and forefinger to force the fibers toward the back of the fly.



Figure 3

4. Use UV glue on the back of the bead and UV light to cure the glue. Brush the fibers back until they flatten against the hook. Phil Rowley suggests to dip the fly in hot water to eliminate the memory out of the fibers to help flatten them.



Figure 4



Santiam Flycasters

2021 Membership Form

The Santiam Flycasters, Inc. is a group of men, women, and youths in the Salem area who have a common interest in fly fishing and have joined together to share their experiences and knowledge of the sport since 1975. The club was incorporated as an Oregon non-profit organization in March of 1977. The Santiam Flycasters, Inc. is affiliated with the Fly Fishers International.

The mission of the Santiam Flycasters is to promote the sport of fly fishing for all interested individuals of every generation now and into the future. Through fellowship, education, conservation practices, promoting research, guardianship of proper regulations and support, the Santiam Flycasters can succeed in this mission.

We meet in Salem the second Thursday of each month (no meeting in July)
at the Pringle Park Community Building
606 Church Street at 7:00 pm.
www.santiamflycasters.com

Mail the completed signed form to: *The Santiam Flycasters, P.O. Box 691, Salem, OR 97308*, or drop it off in person at our next meeting. *Memberships are from January 1st through December 31st. For new members, there is a 50% reduction after July 1st. There is no midyear discount for Life Membership.

Life membership -- \$300 Regular -- \$30 Family -- \$35

NAME: _____

ADDRESS/CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE : _____

EMAIL: _____

FAMILY MEMBERS: _____

Are you an FFF Member? Yes No

Are you interested in obtaining an SFC Name Tag? Yes No

You must sign this release each year when you renew to participate in club activities.

LIABILITY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

As a condition of membership or of participation in any activity encouraged or publicized by the Santiam Flycasters, I voluntarily assume all risks of my participation. In acknowledgment that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators agree to remise, fully release, hold harmless, and forever discharge the Santiam Flycasters, all its officers, board members and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury to me or my property that may occur from any cause whatsoever while participating in any such Santiam Flycasters activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this hold harmless and release agreement, and fully understand that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waving any rights that I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against the Santiam Flycasters for its negligence.

I have read the above statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in the Santiam Flycasters.

X _____

Signature

Print Name

Date