

**Volunteers Raising Salmon**  
Curry Anadromous Fishermen

**Gold Beach, Oregon**

# ***THE RIFFLE***

*A Monthly Publication of Curry Anadromous Fishermen*  
P.O. Box 903  
Gold Beach, Oregon 97444



**May, 2013**

Issue # 74

**INDIAN CREEK HATCHERY IS RUN BY  
CURRY ANADROMOUS FISHERMEN,  
AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION.**

[www.rogueriversalmon.org](http://www.rogueriversalmon.org)

## **Next GENERAL MEETING**

**Thursday, May 9, 2013 – 10:00AM**

**JOT'S Resort (West Conf. Rm.)**

**Gold Beach, OR**

**(Come; join us for an interesting and  
informative meeting)**

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## **Next BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, May 2, 2013 – 10:00 AM**

**ODFW BUILDING**

**DUES \$20.00**

**RENEW NOW!**

**\$72.00 annual sponsorship**

**JOIN TODAY!**

## **Upcoming Events**

**National Resource Day – May 2nd**

**Fin Clipping – May 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Libby Pond Derby – June 1st**

**Hospice & CAF hold a fish feed – July 6th**

## **CHECK OUT OUR UPDATED WEBSITE**

"News and Events" - Keep up to date on the latest happenings at the hatchery. Go to

[www.rogueriversalmon.org](http://www.rogueriversalmon.org)

## **President's Corner**

By David Sophusson

I had a great time the other day teaching kids how to fish. Every year during the month of April ODFW stocks the pond at Arizona Beach with trout and then holds a four day event teaching local third graders how to fish. Volunteers from Indian Creek Hatchery, South Coast Fishermen, and ODFW team up with the kids and teach them how to tie a hook onto a line and how to cast a hook. After they learn those basic techniques each child is given a fishing pole with baited hook to fish the pond. This year the weather was great and we didn't need rain gear; in fact, what we needed was sun block. It was great. Twenty-five fish were caught by the fifty or so kids fishing that first day. The kids had fun and what they did catch was cleaned, and they were allowed to take their catch home for dinner. ODFW also put a few surprises in the pond such big lunkers. I saw one caught which was over twenty inches long! Yes, it sure was a great day but on the down side of it adults aren't allowed to fish the pond. Rats!

## **Treasurer's Corner**

Submitted by Barbara Jorge,  
CAF Treasurer

<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>Feb.</b>	<b>Mar.</b>
Operating Capital	\$23,849	\$23,257
Mar. Income		725
Mar. Expenses		1,318

## **CAF General Meeting**

April 11, 2013

**David Sophusson**, president, called the meeting to order at 10:05am. The minutes of last month's meeting were approved as printed in *The Riffle*.

**Treasurer's report-** Barbara Jorge reported a Mar. loss of \$592.40 and bank balance of \$23,256.55. The non-profit tax filing will be done in May.

**R&E Grant-** ODFW approved the cost for the stamped drawings and increased costs for construction, but we don't have the funding approval yet. We may need extra time to complete the reconstruction by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

**STAC-** Philip Dickson has the surveillance system assembled at home and is testing everything before installation at the hatchery.

**Fundraisers-** The planning is on track for the July 6<sup>th</sup> salmon dinner. Jim Freedman has been arranging fish, helpers and equipment. Mike Kopec said the plan is to hold the derby on the 5 days after Labor Day, but facility details are still in question.

**Hatchery-** Vice president, Gary Underhill, reported that all the fish are feeding well and more automatic feeders will be added when they are repaired. The volunteers need to be sure the timer clocks are running before loading food on the belts. Wayne Adams took measurements of the needed splash protectors and will begin construction. Almost all the parts have arrived for the bigger filter baskets for the vacuum system.

**Volunteer Coordinator-** Chris Underhill has been coordinating with John Weber for the Reel Fishing Days at Arizona Beach and will be calling volunteers to help out. Chris is impressed with the new angler education trailer that will belong to our local ODFW office. Chris has a contact for resurfacing the adult holding tank. Natural Resource Day for Riley Creek School will be held along Indian Creek on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Fin clipping will occur at the end of May.

**STEP Conference-** Chris and Gary represented CAF at the conference and they were awarded the "Volunteer Spirit Award". CAF is fortunate to have the Underhills as volunteers and we thank them for their dedication and abundance of spirit.

**Miscellaneous-** Jim Atherton gave a short presentation about the need for local citizens to begin organizing a 'bottom up' plan for control of Curry County government and natural resources. Fishing in and management of the Rogue River are of definite concern locally. There is a group that has started meeting the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month at 2pm at the Senior Center. Jim mentioned that Siskiyou County has a group started. Jim offered an 11min. DVD about the successful program undertaken in Apache County, Arizona.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:04am  
Submitted by Glenn Kral, CAF Secretary

## **Hatchery Happenings**

Submitted by Chris Underhill,  
CAF Volunteer Coordinator 541-247-0396

This month I'll be short but sweet. We've had 2 sunny days out at Arizona Beach teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> graders how to fish. So far, we had 25 fish caught the 1<sup>st</sup> day and 37 fish caught the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, and I fixed some really good treats for the volunteers. I want to thank everyone who has helped out at Arizona Beach with Reel Days. It's become an annual event and I know the students love it and the volunteers have been having fun too!

We have National Resource Day coming up on May 2<sup>nd</sup>; all the 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Gold Beach & Pt. Orford will be out at the hatchery. 4H Youth Development Assistant, Margie House, sets up 7 stations from the mouth of Indian Creek up to the vault. I'm set up at the hatchery and show each group the hatchery picture board. Then the students get to feed the fish. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders learn about the hatchery, followed by lunch at the hatchery, and then they're off to the jet boats.

We will be getting the clipping trailer around the 20<sup>th</sup> of May till the 30<sup>th</sup>, so expect the phones to ring. If anyone has any friends who are interested in helping, please call me with their numbers.

The fish are eating great. Fetzer weighed them April 19<sup>th</sup>; Rwy. #1 is at 116 to a pound, #2 & #3 are at 151 to a pound. Daily feeders, it's vacuum time, so please check the calendar for your assigned raceway. If you are unable to

vacuum, please notify me. I'm trying really hard to pair up some of the single feeders so it's a little easier on you all. Thank you for all you do!!!



## **Volunteer of the Month Profile**

### **John Wilson**

*Interview by Hassie Taylor*

John, a native of Santa Cruz, CA was born in 1950 and had a great childhood growing up in California. He graduated from Soquel High School in 1968 and, subsequently, graduated from Humboldt State University in 1973 with a major in geography. Working for CA Fish and Game during the summers, John landed a job on a fishing boat in 1971 and later bought his own first boat in 1973. He was fortunate to meet his wife, Debbie, at Humboldt. They married in 1977 and moved to Curry County where they purchased a small ranch in Squaw Valley, now called Cedar Valley. Debbie worked for Curry County Human Services; John fished, a love he acquired at an early age. John and Debbie have two children; both attended Ophir Elementary and Gold Beach High. His son went on to become a PHD with a specialty in bio-medical engineering. His daughter received a master's degree in social work. Now they are all grown up and on their own and the grandparents are just waiting for grandkids!

John continued commercial fishing. Brookings was the closest working port, but because the bar at Gold Beach was bad, he kept the boat in Brookings. The 1980's were a struggle with major fishing restrictions and El Nino.

Fortunately, crabbing kept the business going while the salmon fishing was curtailed. It was in response to the regulations that John became involved with salmon enhancement, getting involved with Northwest Steelheaders. The local chapter became CAF sometime in the early 1980's. According to John, there were good years and there were not so good years, but John's love for fishing never diminished. John has had the opportunity to watch Indian Creek Hatchery grow from a couple of Dough Boy swimming pools and an earth pond to the present state-of-the-art small hatchery. During that period there were critical points that could have ended the program, but the CAF volunteers always managed to deal with the bureaucrats and keep things going. Gene Rizzi got the original grant to build the hatchery. Immediately after construction, major landslides almost ended the hatchery. Once again, the dedication of its members and help from R & E program kept things going. The R & E Program funded a lot of programs in the mid '80's. Then came the change of broodstock mandated by ODFW. Indian Creek Hatchery was informed that it couldn't use any fish returning to the hatchery for our program because they had to be local fish. It was the volunteers that captured the late returning salmon from Lobster Creek and the Rogue River that kept things going. Now we have a great broodstock and lots of wild genes.

CAF had a lot of hatchbox activity at Pistol River and Hunter Creek. It was believed by some that the hatcheries were destroying fish genetics. The Pistol River run and Hunter Creek run almost became extinct at the time of the 1985 El Nino. Today it can be affirmed that the techniques in all aspects of the raising of hatchery fish have been improved throughout the years.

John worked for Curry Soil and Water Conservation Dist. as Watershed Coordinator in the 1990's. This was a great opportunity to move salmon enhancement forward and avoid any more endangered species listings such as spotter owls. When salmon prices fell to an intolerable level and aquaculture was about to bury the industry, John and his two fishing partners decided to start a fish company to assure a market for our high quality wild seafood. They started Fishermen Direct

Seafood on the ground floor the Norwester Restaurant and eventually moved to the cannery building where they work hard to get the best seafood directly to their customers. Nowadays, John doesn't do too much commercial fishing but enjoys traveling to Mexico, Polynesia or Alaska. John is impressed with the great group of volunteers at CAF and today the organization is stronger than ever.

## **Sponsor's Corner**

Submitted by Hassie Taylor

Gold Beach Lumber Yard was established in Gold Beach back in 1959 by Clarence and Pearl Ringer. From a mom and pop beginning, Gold Beach Lumber now employs a staff of around thirty. In 2008 the company expanded to a second location, Harbor, OR (Brookings). From its beginning, the company has evolved fifty-four years of home improvement services ranging from selling lumber and plywood to LED lighting. The company prides itself in offering a diverse selection of home improvement products in a rural community. Gold Beach Lumber has endured and thrived through the years because of its ability to fulfill the ever changing needs of all customers in a timely and economical way. Their employees are dedicated to helping customers.

Gold Beach Lumber has supported CAF and been a sponsor since 2003. Its staff has always been helpful when our volunteers are solving maintenance or enhancement projects at the aging hatchery. The company has supported our raffles and advertising our events. CAF appreciates all that Gold Beach Lumber does for the community. As Ryan Ringer states, "CAF has multiple community benefits ranging from local economics to habitat and species continuance."

Today, standing four generations strong, "Gold Beach Lumber" and "Ringer" have come to be recognized as one and the same and, according to Ryan Ringer, "that legacy will last for a long time."

Gold Beach Lumber is open seven days a week to serve you. Look them up on the web:

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[info@goldbeachlumber.com](mailto:info@goldbeachlumber.com)

Their locations:

28680 Hunter Creek Loop, Gold Beach, OR (541-247-6617) and 16016 Hwy. 101 South Brookings, OR (541-469-6617).



## **A quote from *River Gods*, written by Richard Bangs:**

"Wild rivers are earth's renegades, defying gravity, dancing to their own tunes, resisting the authority of humans, always chipping away, and eventually always winning..."

Submitted by Mary Duncan

## ***Support those who support the Indian Creek Hatchery.***

*CAF welcomes new members Don & Cathy Wood*

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## **2013 Officers & Board**

President	David Sophusson
Vice President	Gary Underhill
Secretary	Glenn Kral
Treasurer	Barbara Jorge
Board Members	Jack Sheehan
	John Epps
	Jim Freedman
	Randy Waters
	Tom Tostenson
O.D.F. W. Biologist	John Weber
Membership Coordinator	Hassie Taylor
Volunteer Coordinator	Chris Underhill
Meeting Raffle	Gene Trinkler
Raffle Editor	Hassie Taylor
	541-247-0733

Curry Anadromous Fishermen

P.O. Box 903

Gold Beach, OR 97444

date: \_\_\_\_\_

INDIAN CREEK HATCHERY

Volunteer Information Sheet

last name

first name

phone

mailing address

email address

cell #

<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Seining for broodstock	<input type="checkbox"/> Manage clothing inventory
	<input type="checkbox"/> Spawning	<input type="checkbox"/> Manage hatchery supplies
	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor incubation trays	<input type="checkbox"/> Manage Website activities
	<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor raceways, feed fish, vacuum	<input type="checkbox"/> Help with monthly meeting raffles
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fin clipping	<input type="checkbox"/> Help with fundraiser raffles
	<input type="checkbox"/> Smolt release	<input type="checkbox"/> Work at Fundraisers
		- August Dinner
	<input type="checkbox"/> General work parties	- Fireworks Stand
	<input type="checkbox"/> Help with daily tours May -> August	- Pizza Night
		<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative activities
		- phone calling
	<input type="checkbox"/> Help with group tours	- updating contact lists
		- maintain ODFW release forms
		- maintain DO & feeding schedules

☐ Call with INFO only - I would like to be informed about activities like spawning in order to watch and bring visitors

Suggestions for **Fundraisers**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for **clothing** inventory

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

preferred sizes

MEN's

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

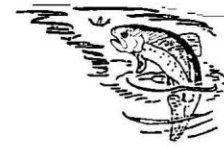
WOMEN's

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Comments / Suggestions:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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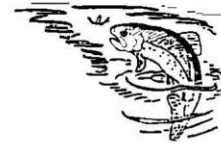
Daryl Bigley





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Curry Anadromous Fishermen

**Gold Beach, Oregon**

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