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"all good things - trout as well as eternal salvation - come by grace and grace comes by art and art does not come easy."

- Norman Maclean, A River Runs Through It -1976.

19TH ANNUAL WAS ANOTHER WINNER !!!

After having the chance to see A River Runs Through It recently, it just didn't seem natural to wait another moment to start "primin' the pump" for the Fishin' Mission!! Before I start harpin' about the 20th Annual - said by many to be the upcoming event of this century - let me remind you of the action at the 19th!!

The weather was outstanding again, providing blue skies, clear water, and good fishin'!! We had a small "monsoon" on Monday afternoon, but that didn't seem to deter anyone from the work at hand.....

We had a total attendance of 29!! Not bad for the year preceding the grand-daddy 20th!! That doesn't count Sperm or Juan who reportedly flew in the NEXT WEEK, although reports have surfaced that Sperm was just afraid to defend his derby title from the 18th!!

Some made a short trip - Lewd, LTR, and Spanky left on Sunday - saving their vacation time for the 20th right? And there was a rumor that John Davis and Sons were in town...anyone see them?

While some folks, like Walkbucks and Oregonism, re-discovered cookin' in camp....others, like BT and Bucket, found the microwave Burritos at the BP station fine dining !!

We saw some new faces....Chett came over with Stubby, Dave Covert came up with Omar, John Marston came up with his big brother Pukie, and Matt Van Buskirk came down with Here for the Beer.

We gave out three new nicknames....Matt inherited "Oregonism", our good buddy Jon Runley is "Bucket o' Scotch" or "Bucket" for short, and John Marston ended up with "Incoming". Ya had to be there!!

There were several INSPIRATIONAL moves; CR, comin' in from Arizona, had car trouble, but rented a Van so that he could still attend..., Woody, in the pital (first name hos) on Thursday, yanked out the life support stuff and said "I'll be there" - and was...., Here for the Beer and Oregonism, leaving Oregon at 3:00AM Friday morning after work, and driving through to get in Friday afternoon....shit, my eyes are waterin'!!!

... more about the 19th on the back,

THE MAYOR WINS AWARD !!

Well, in this election year, that headline is no big deal, right? Well, in this case you're wrong. This year the derby was hard-fought, with some serious dedication to the objective....BIGGEST FISH by Monday at Noon!!

Lot's of 'bows were taken (and due to our concern for the future, lot's of 'bows were released too!!) and the lead position changed hands several times. CR and Dago led on Friday, with 1 lb 3 oz'ers apiece, but knew they wouldn't hold. Walkbucks went to 2 lb 10 oz on Saturday, but that lead was snatched by LTR with a 2 lb 14 oz'er. That was beat by BT's 3 lb'er.... but the Mayor came in with the 3 lb 5 oz'er on Saturday which HELD for the victory!!

In the traditional celebration, the Mayor bought scoops for all who were still in attendance....and references to the previous year when Sperm moved to "take the loot - and scoot" were mumbled under the breath of many.

Please also take note, however, that several people this year just scooted, not botherin' (rememberin'?) to cough up their donation for the derby. Omar, Covert, Lewd, Country, Woody, Fast Eddy, and Rick all skipped on their obligation - but it was LTR that really insulted the process. He actually had one in contention, and STILL skipped on his donation !! You guys all need to set \$5.00 aside for the Mayor on the 20th !! Otherwise the Commish may have to add incremental fines !!

Thanks to Rick Rockel at Ken's for the donation of a terrific Browning Float Tube as the derby prize !! We always appreciate your participation and will try to continue living up to your expectations, in our fishing - and in our lives !!

OTHER NEWS FROM THE 19TH....

Rumors are floatin' about the MonoVillage Gladiator !! Apparently OB, in one of his "roles" (after all, he IS a Thespian) decided to do some head-buttin' with Nitro - nice stiches dude !!

BT, known now to some as "W-Deep 40", is pushin' the envelope by trying some WD40 on his line. We've known for some time about BT's habits with WD-40, but c'mon...putting it on your line?

Jean at Sportsmen's dealt a heavy blow to our credibility one evening when seven of us were in for dinner. She came up and said, "aren't you guys on the construction team?" C'mon Jean, after 19 years? See ya on the 20th.....again

We had some NO-SHOWS too....and we want to mention them here to let them know thay were missed, and we expect them back for the 20th !! Where was the Brady Bunch afterall? And was the new Togo's too much for Boone? And we all wanted to see Bade's new tatoo! What about T and Twiddle T? Joe Bueno must have has too many acquisitions? What about Silver Bullet and Tony? And did Chinny have to much fun at FNBO? Wailin' and his Dad were also missing. Next year, right Carm-Boy? Moondoggie? We'll see....

20TH ANNUAL WILL BE FESTIVAL UNTO ITSELF !!

Well guys, this is where the rubber meets the road !! This is where the Commish will ask, plead, beg, and borrow - to get your COMMITMENT to the 20th Annual !!! But he won't do that until a later issue !!

As Garth would say, "you've got to listen to your heart. Nothin' ventured, nothin' gained. Sometimes you gotta go against the grain!!" You are forewarned - the 20th Annual Fishin' Mission Extravaganza will be from June 4th to June 12th in the same place it's been for the last 19 years !!

Some of you have assignments - that is, personal responsibility for the attendance of others. BT - you've got Dave and Rob. Bucket - you've got Doylie and Chuckie. Hands - you've got Deits, his brother Roots, and Speed Limit, by association. Country - you've got Carm-Boy. OD - you've got Chinny. Chinny - you've got Les Hilton (paybacks). Lewd - you've got Lopes, Silver Bullet, Tony, and Joe. CR/LTR - you've got Moon-doggie. Red - you've got Mighty Joe. Fast Eddy - you've got Bubba. Rick - you've got Big Al.

There have been some "rumors" about changes at BUMCO. That may prove to be of interest to our group, so we'll stay close to the rumors in the event they are self-fulfilling. Well Jim, what's this about BUMCO BELL?

We have had some discussions about a "Roast" out at 44-D. I mean a real roast, where you do pit BBQ !! Tom Gieser from Ken's has made the offer to help, and we will be following up - be sure of that!

A new Planning Commission was formed after that last KamiKaze last trip. BT and Hands have both volunteered. Sometime during that same series of shots BT and Bucket volunteered to find us a new Casino Tent too! Gotta love those Kaze's....they give people strength in COMMITMENT!!

The Planning Commission will be discussing alternatives for promotional items, but since we are revising our logo to commemorate the 20th, pins will surely be on the list. We will probably also talk about travel bags, knives, shirts, jackets....but we promise, NO HATS !!!

Please review the attached mailing list now !! Let the Commish know if you have an address update !! Make sure those not on the list receive a copy of this letter, and then respond with their address for future issues !! We have added back several people who have not attended in the past, hoping they choose the 20th to pop their cherry !!

Look for more news in the future....Go see A River Runs Through It !! Read the book !! Join CalTrout !! Buy Trout Stamps !! Get Psyched !!

THE 20TH ANNUAL FISHIN MISSION EXTRAVAGANZA WILL BE HELD IN TWIN LAKES AND BRIDGEPORT FROM FRIDAY JUNE 4TH UNTIL SUNDAY JUNE 12TH - AND ANYTIME IN-BETWEEN !! PLAN YOUR ATTENDANCE NOW !! START NEGOTIATING THE HALL PASS WITH MOMMA !! WE PLAN ON RECORD BREAKING ATTENDANCE - HOW ABOUT 70 ??!!!
