

North Forty  
By: Bob Bryant (coptrainer@tds.net)

Betty is still out of town so here I go again.

As I mentioned last week, fishing is starting to pick up on the lake. Although I didn't have a chance to get out on the lake in the past week, I have heard reports that the fish are starting to bite. Steve at Dragonfly Outfitters told me about some folks who were catching nice smallmouth off the shore at Ballpark. He also showed me a picture of a smallmouth he caught. It looked to be about 5 pounds. I watched as a few smallies were caught at Bowerman on Friday. They were fooled by brown tube baits cast from the shore. Generally, when searching for smallies at this time of year, fish rocky (small rocks) shoreline with stumps. The fish should be in 10-15 feet of water and, maybe, shallower, if the weather warms up, which its supposed to do by the time you read this.

The catch and release water in Lewiston is open now. It opened on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The flows have been just below 300 cfs and there are lots of fish in the upper river. I fished it on Monday and stopped counting after two hours and 20 fish. I fished mainly dries and had fish trying to take the fly on almost every cast. The problem is the fish are all very small. I did throw a large stonefly nymph for a while but wasn't able to dredge up any larger fish with it. The largest fish I caught was just under 12 inches. They're all hatchery trout that have been released from the hatchery just below the dam. If you're interested in introducing a young person to fly fishing, this would be a good time to take him or her out and be assured of getting into some fish, albeit small ones. Just be sure to understand that this section of water is catch and release, barbless fly fishing only. If you want to catch some fish without having to worry about these restrictions, fish below the old bridge in Lewiston.

Betty wanted to pass on that the "Pot Party" will be put off until the third Friday of the month. She's had to extend her stay in Santa Rosa due to illness. Hope you're feeling better Betty!

The TCVFD Auxiliary is again active. They are in the process of filing for the IRS non-profit exemption **501C3**. The Auxiliary will be holding a General Meeting on May 16th at 11:00 a.m. at Pat Sprick's house. This will be a potluck event, so bring something yummy. Pat is the new membership chair and can be reached at 266-3500. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and help the fire department at the same time.

Regarding the 501C3 status, the filing fee is \$750.00. The Auxiliary needs to raise money to pay for the filing and are accepting donations. An anonymous donor will match any donations. The Auxiliary will also need a computer to run Quickbooks in order to properly document financial transactions. If you'd like to donate to this effort or would like more information, contact Chief Roger Chatterton at 266-3333. I emptied my change jar and found just under \$50.00. With the matching donor, that'll make a nice contribution. Do you have a few dollars you can spare?

One of the current fundraising efforts is the TCVFD Cookbook being prepared by Linda Baird. If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please send it to Linda at [tclakelady@tds.net](mailto:tclakelady@tds.net). I've already sent her a dessert recipe I think you'll enjoy. Another fundraiser will be a BBQ on June

14<sup>th</sup>. This replaces the barbecue previously held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend at KOA. Be sure to mark your calendar.

Pete Ulrich, Mike Mayo and I spent Saturday in Arcata taking our Firefighter's Class B driving test. We'd already taken the written tests, the pre-trip inspection test and the skills test. This was the last test we had to pass to become licensed to drive the equipment. Each of us drove for about 45 minutes around Arcata. Chief Dave Murphy of Salyer VFD was our DMV tester. We appreciate his taking the time to put us through our paces and complete the paperwork. We also owe our gratitude to Phil Dusen who was our licensed driver that day. Phil, thanks for helping us out. By-the-way, we all passed the tests.

Betty should be back home soon and feeling better. Look for her to return next week.