



Organized in 1971, the Rogue Flyfishers seek to promote fellowship among individuals and groups to further interest in the sport, to improve angling techniques, and to educate members and the public in ways to preserve and improve natural resources, environment, and conditions for fishing in the Rogue Valley.

PROGRAM

ROGUE FLYFISHERS UPDATE

2020 AUCTION CANCELLED!

With the prohibition on gatherings of more than 100 people being enforced through September, the Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 auction. For a number of reasons, holding the auction later than September 12th would not be possible. With social distancing and additional solicitation of donations in doubt, it was decided it would be better to put our efforts towards an even bigger and more successful Auction in 2021. While this will substantially reduce the number and amount of grants we will be able to issue until the next auction, because of your past support we should be able to continue to fund the most critical of those requests.

To those individuals who have donated items to the auction for this year, I will be contacting you to find out if you would like us to hold them until the auction next year, or if you would like them returned.

To the Auction Committee, I want to express my thanks for your time and efforts. Hopefully you will want to participate in assisting the auction next year!

Tim Bolling
Auction Chairman

Rogue Flyfishers
PO Box 4637
Medford, Oregon 97501
www.rogueflyfishers.org

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE From Steve Day

“OTTERS REALLY DO LIKE POULTRY!” and the “Mutual of Omaha Moment”

The much, needed rain has been falling now for several hours. With it comes the aromas, sights and sounds that signal life will continue. For me it brings a sense of comfort and security that I truly embrace. It will cleanse much as it falls and saturates the landscape and for at least this moment it kidnaps my mind away from those current events that the world and this country have been facing that are less than joyous.

As I write this, the Robins in the yard are capitalizing on the conditions that bring up the earth worms and night crawlers. The epic, small scale, tug of war between bird and worm is fascinating and humorous, as is the process by which, a ten inch, long, bird, swallows in repeated efforts mind you, a six inch, long, worm and then goes to do it again and again.

The bird feeders are flush with activity as well. The various Redwings, Finches, Jays and Grosbeaks, some looking a little drenched, banter and squabble for feeding rights, while the Hummers, at least for today, are doing so without much conflict. This is life imitating entertainment at its’ best!

Life is full of these amazing moments. It only requires us to stop and watch. I think this is partly why I enjoy fishing. It puts one in a position to absorb life and witness amazing things that one might not ever experience.

When I was a kid, I waited impatiently to watch the weekly broadcast of Mutual of Omaha’s, Wild Kingdom hosted by Marlin Perkins. A wildlife documentary program that for whatever reason, I couldn’t get enough of. So as life goes on and I witness a unique event in nature, I refer to that as a “Mutual of Omaha Moment”. I have been fortunate to have been the observer of several of these events throughout my lifetime.

One of these first, remarkable episodes occurred when I was a teenager while at the Colorado River on Lake Mojave. While Bass fishing with my life long, fishing buddy, we witnessed a Peregrine Falcon dive and simply obliterate an American Coot in mid-air. The Coot was killed instantly in what was an explosion of feathers and fell to the water. The wind and wave action, was slowly pushing the Mudhen towards the shoreline. The Peregrine landed in the top of a large, Cottonwood Tree and patiently watched and waited as the Coot drifted closer and closer to the waters’ edge, soon to be within the Falcon’s reach. I recall wondering if the falcon simply just got lucky that the drift was headed toward land or did that bird actually have the intellect to plan for that? Regardless of the Falcon’s intellect or tactics, the Raptor could not have planned for the Coyote! As the lifeless Coot drifted to within feet of the shoreline, an ever watchful, or even luckier, Coyote, sprinted from the willows lining the beach, crashed into the swell and poached the Coot, only to run off, to the certain disappointment of the Falcon. Just witnessing the Falcon pummel the Coot was remarkable but then enter the Coyote! Wow! This was a once in a lifetime “Mutual of Omaha Moment”!

The latest episode of a “Mutual of Omaha Moment” happened recently during a beautiful, Spring day on Upper Klamath Lake. We were fishing a small inlet in Pelican Bay. The flooded marshland directly in front of us was teeming with Herons, Canada Geese, Coots and a variety of other waterfowl. Swallows and Terns cruised the airwaves picking off hapless insects. Bitterns called close by and the sounds of Sandhill Cranes could be heard off in the distance. As we continued to fish, a very large, North American River Otter was sighted swimming downstream towards us. And when I say large, I mean really large. In the salt it could have easily been mistaken for a small seal, kind of large! As the Otter approached to within approximately 30 yards, it submerged while continuing to swim in our direction. We continued to watch for the Otter and remarked it wouldn’t likely help the fishing. The Otter seemingly vanished and we refocused on our strike indicators. We watched as Coots swam along the marshes edge just outside of our indicators. It was at that moment, just outside our indicators, when the water exploded as if a depth charge had been deployed! Panic stricken Coots, scattering in every direction, some running in preparation of flight, some hurriedly swimming and others diving, most clucking like a bunch of nervous chickens. It was then, we again saw the Otter. But now, head above water, the Otter had a firm grip on an American Coot! A Coot, that only moments earlier, was oblivious to the approaching threat from beneath the surface. A remarkable moment indeed! A certain “Mutual of Omaha Moment”! These encounters are quite likely a once in a lifetime experience for most folks. And I thought Otters preferred fish, crawdads and clams. Who would have thought? “OTTERS REALLY DO LIKE POULTRY”.

Get out there. Have your “Mutual of Omaha Moment”, and perhaps remember the moral of the story. “Don’t be a Coot”.

“I am who I am and what I am, largely as the result of someone taking me fishing”

Bob Hunter: WaterWatch and Its Singular Role in Oregon's Conservation Movement



Bob Hunter has been an emotional, programmatic and moral compass for WaterWatch since its inception

Bob Hunter Interview

Dear WaterWatch Supporters:

As WaterWatch turns 35 years-old and celebrates, albeit quietly, its singular and determined presence in Oregon's water conservation movement, we thought it would be appropriate to turn to someone well known for wisdom and perspective: Bob Hunter.

Hunter has been a leading force in this, one of Oregon's most muscular, tough-minded environmental bodies. A WaterWatch founding board member, Hunter co-drafted Oregon's landmark Instream Water Rights Act and was the organization's lead voice in the Free the Rogue Campaign, ultimately one of the most successful river restoration campaigns in the nation. The Campaign removed three main stem dams from the Rogue, including Savage Rapids and Gold Ray Dams. It also protected streamflows of 800 cubic feet per second in the Rogue when Savage Rapids Dam was removed. Those achievements demonstrated to the public WaterWatch's gritty, unrelenting and powerful soul: It took 21 years to achieve these removals.

We spoke with Hunter recently, both to touch base during these strange and difficult times, and to reflect on WaterWatch's beginnings, our role as a changemaker in Oregon's water conservation movement, and much more.

To read the interview click on the link below.\

<https://waterwatch.org/bob-hunter-waterwatch-and-its-singular-role-in-oregons-conservation-movement/?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=bbbb570a-3f90-4439-9189-cd6a478f89ff>

On The Fly

Rickard's Callibaetis Nymph - East Lake

Hook: 1or 2 XL nymph hook. Try #12 in May, #14 in June, #16 in July/August, then #18s, if at all.

Thread: Veevus rusty brown or Danville #47 brown are good shades for East Lake callibaetis.

Tail: lemon wood duck (or mallard flank feather dyed wood duck). Teal also good. Most important is distinct barring.

Shellback: lemon wood duck or mallard dyed wood duck again

Rib: small or extra small copper wire at bend.

Abdomen: UV Ice Dub - Callibaetis. This is the perfect color for East Lake. Dub thread or form a dubbing loop with. Ice dub is hard to dub - you can snip the fibers to be shorter which makes it a little easier.

Legs/hackle: grizzly or cree hackle

Shellback: wood duck or mallard or teal flank



Start the thread about 2 eye widths back from eye and wrap back to bend and then back up to tie-in point.

Tie in the tail. 5 or 6 fibers is enough. Pull them straight out from the feather stem before snipping them to align the barring. Tie in near eye to be almost shank length and wrap back to bend. Snip xs feather. Make sure the tail extends straight back as flank feathers have a curve to them. OK to point up but not sideways, which would distort movement. Helps to roll the fibers between your thumb and forefinger to mix up the curvatures. I usually start with an excess of fibers and trim off the strays after tying them on.

Select another bunch of wood duck or teal fibers, about 1 -2 times the hook gape width. Again, pull the fibers out before cutting them off the stem. Barring is important on this pattern. Double it over to give the shellback more bulk. Tie in by tips but wait to pull it over. [If you want a slim profile, just use a long feather for the tail, tie it down with one wrap atop the other and later pull it forward to be the shellback.]

Tie in the rib wire but don't wrap yet.

For the abdomen dub the thread with the ice dub or form a dubbing loop. Either way, ice dub is hard to work with, so it is a challenge to keep the abdomen skinny. Wrap almost to the eye, being sure to leave enough space to tie in the hackle and then the rib wire and shellback.

Select a grizzly or cree feather with barbs about as long as the hook gape. Or a bit longer if you wish. Tie in by the butt end at the original tie-in point near the eye. Make 3 or 4 wide wraps back to the tail. Tie down the hackle with the waiting wire and wrap the wire forward to the eye area. Tie down the wire and snip off the excess wire. Snip off the feather tip. Note that the wire crosses the hackle: counter-wrapping adds durability.

Pull the shellback forward, tie it down and snip the excess. Form a small head, whip finish and lacquer.

The peacock callibaetis nymph is tied the same, but the body is 3 peacock herls and the hackle is burnt orange. The thread is olive.

Fish these flies with a slow hand twist or a longer slow pull and wait. Use intermediate line with a long leader.

Outing to the Umpqua River

With the easing of Coronavirus restrictions, the Board has decided to go ahead with the outing on June 20 to the Umpqua River to fish for smallmouth bass. Obviously, anyone not feeling well should stay home, and participants should follow CDC guidelines to keep everyone safe.

We will meet in the parking lot of the Diamond Home Improvement store on 7th Street near the north I-5 interchange in Grants Pass at 7:00 AM and caravan from there. Bass are extremely abundant in the mainstem Umpqua and South Umpqua and can provide fast action for anglers. Many of the fish tend to be small, but big ones are not uncommon.

We will float a section of the river just west of Sutherland between the Umpqua Landing and James Wood Boat Ramps. This is generally a pretty easy float, but there are a few shallow, rocky riffles that require some maneuvering. Due to the Coronavirus, the club will not be arranging for places in boats, so participants should bring a driftboat, pontoon boat, raft, or other craft suitable for use on a river; or make their own arrangements for a ride. For those that don't feel comfortable or don't have a boat suitable for running through rapids, it is possible to fish the big pool at Umpqua Landing with a float tube or small lake boat, entering and exiting the river at that one ramp.



A five or six-weight rod is ideal for the smallmouth bass in the Umpqua. An intermediate or slow-sinking line is most useful, but also bring a floating line if you want to fish surface flies. Straight 8 to 10-pound monofilament is adequate for a leader. A wide variety of flies will work, but Woolly Buggers, Clouser Minnows, and small streamers are generally top producers. If conditions are right, small poppers can produce some exciting action. Olive, brown, and yellow are typically good colors. Small, brown over yellow or olive over white Clouser Minnows are often a very effective.

In addition to the bass, there will be shad in the river during our trip. If you are interested in trying for them, bring a seven or eight-weight outfit with a fast-sinking shooting head and some shad flies. Be sure to also bring food, plenty of water, sunscreen, a hat, life vest and all your usual fishing and boating gear.

The smallmouth bass fishery in the Umpqua River can be a great destination for fly fishers during the summer. If you have not fished the Umpqua for bass, come give it a try. If you have, come spend a fun day fishing with your fellow club members.

WANTED TO BUY

May 1989 issue of Fly Fisherman Magazine. If you have this issue around and would be willing to sell it, please contact Tim Bolloing at timbolloing328@gmail.com or ntny773tcb@aol.com.

Virtual Festival on the Rogue 2020

The local organizers of Festival on the Rogue 2020 have shifted their annual event from outdoors to the internet because of the covid-19 situation. We Rogue Flyfishers have been sponsors, exhibitors, and visitors to the festival when it has been held outdoors in Shady Cove. Some of our members are now working with the organizers to assemble digital content that will help them share the wonder and importance of our river and watershed with the public during their first-ever virtual event on Saturday, June 13th. As the event approaches, club members are helping by contributing photographs, fly tying videos, and fly-casting videos.

Club members who do Facebook are encouraged to visit the festival's Facebook page (Festival on the Rogue) and share with friends some of the information being posted to encourage visits to Virtual Festival on the Rogue 2020.

The June 13th virtual festival will begin at 7 am and end at 10 pm. As has been the case when the festival has been outdoors, visitors will not have to worry about parking charges or entrance fees because there will not be any. They will simply be able to enter the event via a portal at the festival's Facebook page or website (www.festivalontherogue.net). This year's festival is going to be different from those of the past. However, it should be interesting and will be yet another opportunity to let folks know how much we have to appreciate about the natural wonders and recreational opportunities of our area, and the importance of good stewardship in passing them forward.

Club members with questions about Virtual Festival on the Rogue 2020 should contact Chuck Huntington at cwbio7@gmail.com.

SALT WATER FLIES

The club has had a large collection of salt water flies donated to it and they need to go to somebody that can use them. Prices are very reasonable and geared towards moving them out of our inventory. This lockdown won't last forever and places are starting to open up! So if you're looking at fishing anything from surf perch to marlin, contact Tim Bolling at timbolling328@gmail.com to arrange to inspect what we have.

Club member Danny Laviolette is selling his boat and wants to give club members the first chance at it.



For Sale: 1994 18-foot Alumaweld Intruder with a 150 hp Black Max Jet Outboard, which gives out 105 hp at the jet, and a matching 15 hp kicker. Comes with fill canvas, electric motor, depth finder/GPS unit and trailer. The boat, motors, and trailer have all recently been refurbished. Boat is not new but it does look good and is good on the water. The boat is going to be listed for \$17,000 on Craigs List, but will sell to a club member for \$13,500. For more information, contact Danny Laviolette at 541-414-7729 or dannyboy4562008@charter.net.

Medford Outfall Suit: An Update

John MacDiarmid

Our club initiated a study on the negative water quality impacts of the Medford Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge to the Rogue River in 2012. We paid for half the study with the Oregon Council of the International Fly Fishers contributing \$2,000 and a few hundred from the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers and the Klamath Country Fly Casters. We retained Rick Hafele to design and conduct the study. In addition to writing fly fishing books and giving programs to fly fishing clubs, Rick had recently retired as the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Chief Aquatic Entomologist. DEQ is responsible for the water quality regulations in the state. The resultant study, Medford Regional Reclamation Facility Outfall Assessment Study, was filed in January, 2013. The report can be found on the Rogue Fly Fishers web site. For 2 days Rick and his helper sampled flora and fauna in the riffle .3 of a mile above the outfall and the two riffles .4 mile (High Banks) and 1 mile (Willows) below the outfall. Samples were then sent to a lab to identify and count species. Several water quality metrics were recorded in the study. One measurement is the change in aquatic species diversity upstream and downstream of the discharge. In the riffle above the outfall, nine species of stone flies were found. At the first riffle below the out fall (.4 mile) one stonefly was found. One stonefly representing one species; four species were found at the riffle 1 mile below the outfall. Medford's initial response was to deny they had anything to do with the degradation. However they did hire a consultant to study the impacts and similar results were found. DEQ also did a similar study with similar results. In spite of the obvious, DEQ and Medford did not start a corrective program until they found themselves in court over the matter. On our end, we were fortunate that the Northwest Environmental Advocates (NWEA) took up the cause. They have an excellent track record in successfully suing DEQ and a major discharger in the state, Portland, to clean up our waters. NWEA enlisted the Lewis and Clark College, Earthrise Law Center to do the court room work. Accordingly, Earthrise filed a suit against Medford in May, 2018. This initially produced more studies but no agreement on the level of degradation and the appropriate increase in treatment necessary to protect the river. An agreement of sorts was reached on the anniversary date of the suit in May, 2019. HOWEVER, the parties agreed to a one year gag rule while they continued to work on a solution. It has been a long year but the gag period is now over and we now know what they agreed to! In summary, Medford agreed they have to increase their treatment level to protect the river. They also paid all plaintiff's cost to date. DEQ is now involved as they will revise Medford's discharge permit to include the yet to be determined limitations. As you may expect, the parties are having difficulty deciding just what the new levels should be. Medford hired a consultant that recently submitted a study recommending a treatment level to DEQ. The NWEA's special consultant recently submitted a rebuttal arguing the proposed treatment level is not adequate. While the negotiations continue, they are now on the right track. Parties are negotiating wastewater treatment levels necessary to protect the beneficial uses in the river. This is a very technical decision with substantial cost ramifications. The treatment plant will have substantial construction cost upgrades and probably higher operation cost proportionate to the reduced waste loads in the new discharge permit. . Our team is committed to getting it right. We will report developments as they occur. Two other RFF articles reporting on this subject can be found in the RFF Newsletters: June and November, 2018.

For Sale Scadden Excalliber XX with frame and trailer \$3950

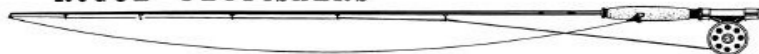


Scadden 2 person fishing craft with frame, hard seats on swivels, Sawyer oars, and 2018 Iron Eagle Versa Max Raft Addition Trailer.

Overall length 12' like new condition mfg 2017

Email: jbprints@gmail.com
Phone: 415-990-2032

ROGUE FLYFISHERS



JACKSON/JOSEPHINE COUNTIES, OREGON
P.O. BOX 4637
MEDFORD, OR 97501

Support Your Local Fly Fishing Resources

The Ashland Fly Shop	399 E. Main Street at Third, Ashland	541-488-6454
Field & Stream	293 Rossanley Drive Medford	541-930-3254
The Fishin' Hole	21873 Hwy 62, Shady Cove	541-878-4000
Rogue Fly Shop	941 SE 6th St, Grants Pass	541-476-0552
Rogue Valley Anglers	218 E. Main St., Medford	541-973-2988
Sportsman's Warehouse	1710 Delta Waters Road Medford	541-732-3700

Jim Ulm, Rogue River Steelhead and Trout Guide, (541) 973-6250 jimulm9@msn.com

Rogue Fly Fishers membership **Application** and membership Renewal Form

Applying ___ or renewing ___ as (check one): **Individual** ___ (\$35.00), **Family** ___ (\$45.00), or **Junior** ___ (under 18, \$5.00) Member.
(Note: New members joining Rogue Fly Fishers before June 30th pay a full year dues; **new** members joining after June 30th pay half dues.
Dues accompany your application. With membership, you will receive a member's patch, membership directory, name badge, and letter of further information and welcome. Monthly dinner meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month with a social Wet Fly from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner with raffle, announcements and club business, and program until approximately 9:00 p.m.

Renew in December for the following year.

Name: _____. If a family membership,

List Family Member's Names _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip code** _____

Best Contact Telephone Numbers: Area Code _____ **Number** _____

(2nd best) **Number** _____

E-mail Address: _____

If you do not want your e-mail address in the membership directory, check here ____

Member Federation of Fly Fishers? Yes ___ No ___

Prefer using the **Online Newsletter** ___ or by **US Mail** ___?

Amount enclosed _____. Mail completed form and payment to:

Rogue Fly Fishers, PO Box 4637, Medford, Oregon 97501