

JUNE 2021

Rogue Flyfishers

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

Goodbye 2020
Looking forward to a
better 2021

SAVE THE DATE!

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

Board of Directors

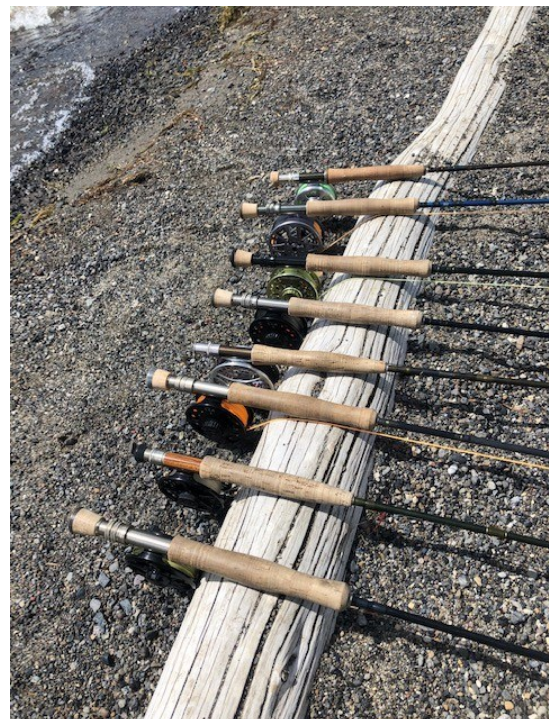
			term
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Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-772-0749



In partnership with
Temple Fork Outfitters



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from Steve Day

"I Don't Do Bears!"

It wasn't until a warm August day several years ago, while fly fishing and standing waist deep in the Flathead River, that I realized I had an issue with bears. For years I've seen bears, had close encounters with bears, observed what a bear can do to the interior of a vehicle when accidentally trapped inside and so forth.

Generally, my experience has been that when encountering a bear, the bear either runs off scared or really doesn't care that you are there. I always had a healthy respect for the creatures but my experiences were missing the part where the bear, might be pissed off. I would later learn, as a result of this experience, that I had developed a condition specifically known as Arkoudaphobia. Yes, there is actually a name for it and trust me, in the right circumstances you can be afflicted by it in about three second's flat. And furthermore, I'm pretty sure, there is no cure.

The day started early. It was a beautiful summer morning with thunderstorms forecast for the afternoon and evening. I traveled fifteen or so miles upstream along the Flathead River, east from Whitefish, Montana. I had fished this section of river previously and found the dry fly fishing for Cutthroat to be supreme and the beauty of the area was breathtaking.

The river was running low and clear, similar in size to the upper Rogue during very low flows. I saw numerous fish rising as I was getting rigged up. In this area when facing upstream, to my left is Glacier National Park and to my right is the dry, cobbled river bed, a half a mile wide, littered with large timber deposited during the high flows of spring runoff.

At this location the river made an abrupt left turn as it ran hard into a low ridge on which grew, tall, lush, green grass. The spring floods had left piles of trees and logs stacked upon each other, trapped by the hillside in the apex of the corner. It was here that the river deepened and dozens of trout were surface feeding along the edge of the river debris.

I caught numerous fish as I worked my way upstream through the corner. Beautiful Cutthroat, unable to resist the dry fly. Among other things, I remember fishing with a red, Tarantula, dry fly. Doesn't look like anything natural but those unmolested Cutthroat didn't care. They hit it with vigor.

That day's fishing adventure was perfect however, it was about to change dramatically. As I continued casting upstream, a movement to my left, at the top of the ridge caught my eye. As I looked up the hill, I saw nothing but the tall grass rippling in the breeze? A few moments later I once again saw movement. On this occasion, my gaze was met with the face of a large Black Bear peering down the hill toward me. It appeared to be a mature female.

The steely gaze of the bear was soon followed by its' thirty-yard charge from the top of the hill, only stopping when it crashed through the debris directly across the river, forty feet to my left. This jet black, bear, immediately began doing violent push up type moves atop a large log, along the deepest part of the corner. These violent bear push-ups were accompanied with cracking of its jaw and vocalizing some truly frightening snarling sounds.

To say I was intimidated was an understatement. I immediately took on a submissive posture by looking down and away while trying to slowly back out of the river while negotiating bowling ball sized cobble. The rush of adrenalin taught me that fear actually has a flavor and not a good one. But as quickly as this large sow came down the hill, she retreated up and over the hill out of sight, with the same motivation she had used descending it.

Still backing away and now only calf deep in the river, I took what seemed like my first breath in several minutes. I felt a sense of great relief. But just when I felt I had been given a pass, the sow reappeared again charging from the other side of the ridge. This time she hit the same log but with greater velocity. Apparently practice makes perfect and I was certain this time, she would keep coming.

My mind raced. It's amazing the things you think of when faced with lethal adversity. My first thought was that I had dallied in moving out and her patience was challenged. Maybe I should have moved quicker? Why did I leave my handgun in the truck? It was in this moment that I realized no one really knew exactly where I had gone fishing. I was hoping that my body would be recovered quickly and that my family could be spared the pain of my disappearance.

President's Message Continued

But the bear gave me a break and once again, she retreated back over the hill. This time I did not loiter. I moved briskly away from the river, dragging my fly line behind me as I traveled and continually looking back. At least if I'm going to be mauled, I want to see it coming.

And the bear did reappear. This time from a safe distance and just upstream from the encounter along a gravel bar. She had with her two cubs. Small cubs, maybe fifty pounders. Given the height of the grass upon the riverside hill, I could have never seen them

But I am thankful for the river. It may have created just enough of a buffer to cause the sow to pause? I don't know? But I do know that, *"I Don't Do Bears!"*

And with this, I will leave you with some sick humor below. And please continue to fish. I will.

Not everyday you are
lucky enough to find a
free fly rod laying
around!



OREGON LEGISLATURE HB 3150

If you think you may be opposed to the installation of Salmon Hatch Boxes on our southern Oregon rivers, now is your chance to act and make your voice heard. Click the link below for more information.

<https://wildsalmoncenter.org/2021/05/10/stop-hatcheries-in-a-box/>

Saint Mary's School and Fly Fishing



Last month, seven members of the Rogue Flyfishers were honored to participate in a Fly Fishing, Class, for fifteen high school students at Saint Mary's School in Medford. The students that participated in the class signed up through the Art Department, led by Instructor, Betsy Moore.

Four days of instruction included an Introduction to Fly Fishing that covered fishing history, fishing equipment and techniques, the flies, the aquatic environment, conservation and the art associated with fly fishing. Fly Tying Classes and Casting Classes were enjoyed by all. A fishing day on a private pond is scheduled for the first week of June.



CRANE PRAIRIE OUTING

JUNE 25th thru 27th, 2021



If you've ever wanted to fish Crane Prairie, or fished it and struggled with figuring it out, this will be a great opportunity! Crane can be tough but with a little direction with timely information, it can be a blast.

Keith Hardcastle and Steve Day are hosting this Outing and will be there to help. The Official Base Camp for this adventure will be in the Rock Creek Campground at Space 10. Rock Creek Campground is located at the south west corner of the Lake and close to some great fishing locations. There is a boat ramp in the Campground and the shoreline there is such that personal watercraft can be launched with ease. Your Hosts will be at the Lake all week and with a little luck will have things dialed in by the Outing Weekend.



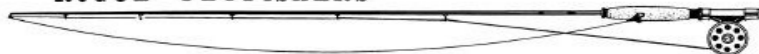
Crane is famous for the large, robust Rainbows, affectionately known as "Cranebows". Brook Trout, Kokanee and Largemouth Bass call Crane home as well. Crane Prairie is a shallow lake over flooded timber with Damsels, Leeches and Chironomids dominating the food chain.

Reservations for Rock Creek Campground are now available through [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). Quinn River Campground and Cultus Lake Campground are very close and only a short drive to Rock Creek. I would strongly recommend getting reservations as soon as possible if you plan on going.

Currently we are keeping our fingers crossed so that we can have our famous Pot Luck BBQ on Saturday evening the 26th. We'll keep you posted on that and we will follow up on fishing techniques, fly patterns and more as we get closer to the Outing.

So, come on out, fish, fellowship and enjoy. For more information contact Steve Day at icrsrd303@gmail.com or (661) 742-5835.

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