

APRIL 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**

**Rogue Flyfishers  
PO Box 4637  
Medford, Oregon 97501  
[www.rogueflyfishers.org](http://www.rogueflyfishers.org)**

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term

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Outings	David Haight	541-855-9043
Program Coordinator	Will Johnson	541-488-6454
Raffle Chairman	Kirk Kowalke	541-531_0861
Roadside Cleanup Holy Water		
Roadside Cleanup Hwy 62	Paul Seymour	719-337-4459
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-772-0749



**In partnership with  
Temple Fork Outfitters**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from STEVE DAY**

### ***“Be Careful Out There!”***

As I write this, I am currently sitting alongside the banks of the Owhyee River, in Eastern Oregon. Doing a good job of keeping warm inside the RV of a fellow Club Member, shielded from the cold wind and occasional snow squalls that followed the rather enthusiastic sand storm from the previous day.

Slightly amused at this time, as I watch another good friend (and Club Member) searching frantically for a loaned, lanyard from which hung a loaned pair of line nippers. What by chance is so amusing about this conundrum one might ask?

Well, this adventure actually started a couple of days ago and after driving about seven hours to just short of our destination, my friend exclaimed, “Oh no!”, “Where is my orange bag!?” A quick scramble through the items in the back seat of the truck, soon revealed an expression on his face that can only be understood by anyone who has forgotten something critical to their stated mission. In this case, catching fish. An expression hinting at an utter moment of despair.

Having fished with my friend numerous times over several years, I knew this orange bag to mean almost everything, all of his fly fishing gear! At least everything short of his rods and items of clothing. That orange bag contains all of the essentials required to fool fish. Flies, leader material, essential tools and so on. The orange bag was nowhere to be found. This revelation was followed shortly by an “expletive” not suitable for print in this family friendly publication and a realization that this orange bag was upstairs in his residence, four hundred miles away. All of those things he found dearest to his fishing adventures were now absent from this trip.

But alas, all is not lost on this good friend. As is usual with this group of eight fellow fly fisherman, we ponied up and provided him with all of the items needed to have a wonderful trip. For this, he was grateful.

Enter the lanyard and nippers. Gone? Only lent to him yesterday and gone. He searched high and low, over and over. Inside and out, over and under and now two hours in and gone? At one point in the search for these items, it was more of a search party as several others enjoined in the search. Now two hours in and something resembling an OCD exercise was playing out as the search continues fruitlessly.

During this sort of scavenger hunt, one of his fellow fly fishers asked, “where do you remember them last”? The answer came quickly and it became clear that some sort of strange phenomena had overcome my friend as he stated, “I don’t remember anything from last night?!”

Well, that settles it! It could not have been more clear. Crystal clear in fact. My friend must have experienced some type of out of body experience that previous evening. It was even suggested that some of the strange behaviors exhibited the prior night could quite possibly have been caused by alien beings. An outside force of unexplained nature, shielded by an ominous sand storm leading to a permanent loss of short-term memory and the taking of a souvenir in the form lanyard and nippers.

I was told and it has been reported, that these extraterrestrial things happen from time to time and that they most often occur in remote areas of the country when friends gather for fly fishing and fellowship. Who would have believed it?

Many of these things cannot be explained with conventional wisdom. But in the end, no one was hurt during this adventure but most importantly, this fly fishing, phenomenon, can be explained. Fly fishing creates friendships and friendship in fly fishing creates fellowship. We as a group are blessed and for that I’m grateful.

Where did the lanyard and nippers go? Who knows? I’m just glad he forgot the orange bag, or they might have taken that too!

***“Be Careful Out There!”*** And good luck!

## **Outing to Bass Lake on the Shasta Valley Wildlife Area**

The Shasta Valley Wildlife Area, located just east of Montague, California, has a couple of small lakes that offer excellent fishing during the spring for both trout and a variety of warmwater species. Trout Lake is open only on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays from the last Saturday in April through the end of September, and is managed for trophy rainbow trout and largemouth bass fisheries. Bass Lake is open for fishing every day of the year. Since our outing will occur on Monday April 12, we will go to Bass Lake.

Bass Lake is stocked with rainbow trout during the spring and has an interesting assortment of warmwater species. In addition to bass and crappie, which are found in many of the lakes and ponds in our area, Bass Lake has walleye and white bass—two excellent gamefish we don't usually find in our area. There are opportunities to fish from the bank, but emergent vegetation along much of the shoreline makes fishing from a floating device a better option. The lake is small and has a gravel launching area, making float tubes and pontoon boats great options. Small boats can also be launched. Electric motors are allowed, but gas engines are prohibited. The equipment and techniques that you typically use to fish for trout, bass, and panfish in lakes and ponds around here will work: Five or six-weight outfits with floating and slow-sinking lines should be suitable for any of the species in the lake. Stripping Woolly Buggers is usually a great technique in these multi-species fisheries, but you could also fish nymphs, streamers, poppers and balanced leeches.

The Shasta Valley Wildlife Area is about an hour drive from Medford. Take I-5 south to Yreka, CA, then take Hwy 3 east to Montague. From Montague, take E Webb Street, which becomes Ball Mountain Little Shasta Road, east to the Wildlife Area. I plan to be there by 8:00 AM, but you can arrive when you like. (It will be easy to find us on the small lake.) In addition to your usual fishing gear, bring food and water, sun and weather protection, and a PFD for your floating device. You will, of course, need a California fishing license. One-day licenses are available, and can be purchased online or at the Blackbird in Medford, as well as at vendors in California. Anyone going along that does not have a fishing license will need a California Department of Fish and Game Lands Pass to enter the Wildlife Area. It will be best to purchase licenses or passes ahead of time since it will not be convenient to do so the day of the outing.

I have listened to quite a few anglers here in the Rogue Valley talk about the great fishing in Bass and Trout Lakes and have wanted to give them a try. This outing will be a great opportunity to try something new.

## **Outing to Sugar Creek Ranch**

The outing to Sugar Creek Ranch, scheduled for April 13 and 14, is fully booked.

David Haight, Outings Chair

**“SPEY CASTING A LITTLE TESTY ? ”**

**Having difficulty with that two handed, rod?**

**Club Member, Tom Wilson can help!**

**Free Casting Coaching for single and two handed, Spey Techniques!**

**BRING YOUR GEAR AND LET'S GET THE KINKS OUT!**

**Call or text Tom Wilson at (530) 305-1591**

# Outings—April through June

## Future Outings

With the Coronavirus situation improving, we have scheduled outings through June. The following is a brief summary of what we have planned. We will provide details about these outing as we get closer to each one. We will plan outings and activities for later in the year based on how the virus recommendations and restriction evolve. \

For April, we will hold the outings that were cancelled last year. We will make the trip to fish the Sugar Creek Ranch a private trophy-trout fishery—on the 13th and 14th. This is trip is already fully booked, but anyone interested in this trip can send me an email to be placed on an alternate list in the event that someone wants to cancel. The price would be \$255. For those that are not (and for those who are) so fortunate to be able to go to Sugar Creek Ranch, we will fish Bass Lake on the Shasta Valley Wildlife Area near Yreka, CA on April 12. This small lake has a good mix of warmwater fish and trout, and typically offers good fishing for big largemouth bass.

On May 1st, we will have an outing to Galesville Reservoir—another lake that offers good fishing for both trout and warmwater fish.

From June 25th through 27th, Steve Day will host the outing to Crane Prairie reservoir as described in last month's newsletter. As Steve noted, if you want to camp at Rock Creek or one of the other Forest Service Campgrounds in the area, you should make reservations soon as these campgrounds fill up fast.

David Haight, Outings Chair

## Cow Creek Outing

Here are a couple photos that Tim Bolling took of Roger Schnoes during the Cow Creek outing in February. Roger and Tim ended up fishing the Corner Bar, but with no success unfortunately.





# CRANE PRAIRIE OUTING

## JUNE 25<sup>th</sup> thru 27<sup>th</sup>, 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.



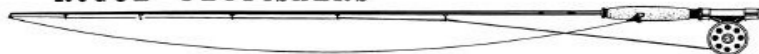
Crane is famous for the large, robust Rainbows, affectionately known as "Cranebows". Brook Trout, Kokanee and Largemouth Bass call Crane home as well. Crane Prairie is a shallow lake over flooded timber with Damsels, Leeches and Chironomids dominating the food chain.

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 26<sup>th</sup>. 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](mailto:icrsrd303@gmail.com) or (661) 742-5835.

## ROGUE FLYFISHERS



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

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## 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](mailto:jimulm9@msn.com)

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### 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**