

# Rogue Flyfishers

DECEMBER 2014

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.

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

## Board of Directors

			term
<b>President</b>	Mike Masters	261-2243	2014
<b>V. President</b>	Kellie Christensen	776-4094	2015
<b>Treasurer</b>	Jon Iverson	772-1762	2014
<b>Secretary</b>	Mike LeTourneau	622-5733	2015
<b>Board member</b>	Richard Phillips	535-9405	2014
<b>Board member</b>	David Haight	855-9043	2014
<b>Board member</b>	John Ward	482-2859	2014
<b>Board member</b>	Dave Roberts	826-7101	2015
<b>Board Member</b>	Jerry Haynes	494-1433	2015
<b>Board Member</b>	Theresa Schumacher	702-2153	2015
<b>Board Member</b>	John Bjorkholm	857-6147	2015

## Committee Heads

Conservation	John Ward	482-2859
E-mail Coordinator	Tom Collett	244-8030
Events Coordinator	Kellie Christensen	776-4094
Librarian	Dick Chambers	608-9686
Librarian (Assistant)		
Marketing Committee	Mike LeTourneau	622-5733
Membership	John Bjorkholm	857-6147
News Editor	Steve Ostrander	772-0749
Outings	David Haight	855-9043
Roadside Cleanup	Bill Ackermann	857-6154
Youth Programs Director		
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	772-0749

## PROGRAM

**DON'T MISS THIS!**  
**Our "REFLECTIONS"**  
**annual Christmas Dinner is**  
**on December 17th at the**  
**Rogue Regency**  
**6 to 9 PM**

*Please mark your calendars and plan on attending our annual "end of the year" dinner. Club members will share some of their personal stories and anecdotes and our festively decorated room will help to make your holiday. This is a wonderful festive evening of comradery and sharing.*

*Club Members will share highlights of the past year and there will be goodies for everyone.*

**PLEASE BRING YOUR SPOUSES/  
FAMILY MEMBERS**

*Awards for Outstanding Club Members will also be given out at this meeting.*

**Hope to see you there!**

## **My last President's Message – 2014**

It is really hard to believe that 2 years are over already. It has been an honor to have participated in the leadership of our club. We have participated in some significant ventures and now we are in the middle of helping to remove the 2 dams on Evans Creek. Look for more of our Conservation work coming soon in either this newsletter or the next. I know it will be a topic at the Reflections Night meeting in December. Kellie assured me it was on her agenda.

My work schedule will prohibit me once again from attending the December Dinner meeting. I want to state for the record my thanks go out with all my heart to everyone who has helped the club this year. Our Auction committee and Steelhead committee were marvelous to work with. We raised almost \$10,000 with these two events. This continues to give us an opportunity to really make a difference in our Conservation efforts.

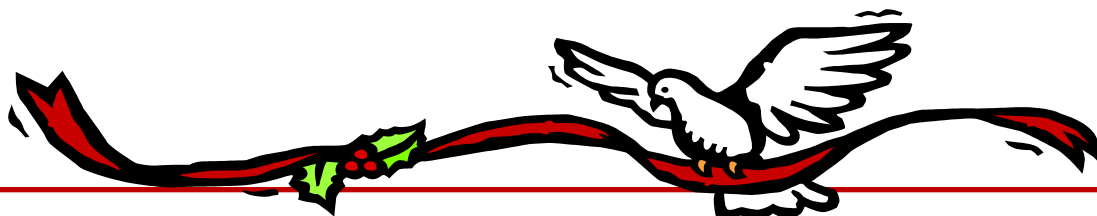
Thanks go out to all of our Board Members who have donated their time and really want to make a difference for the club. I was extremely happy to hear the voting for next year's Board members was affirmed by the membership. Not one of our members works harder than Kellie Christensen. Her devotion to RFF far supersedes all others. She will be a great leader once again. I knew there was a big reason why it was imperative to rescue Harry's boat and the 3 occupants during the Steelhead Tourney (our next President was on board). That will be a Reflection I won't forget.

I was truly saddened to hear about the passing our club member Jack Rowe. His smile will be an every lasting memory for me, especially when he and Jan would announce to the winners of auction items the exact amount they owed. He really liked taking their money. Our Auction Committee will certainly miss his involvement.

Final note: We do not send out billing notices for Dues Renewals. Every December marks the time we remind members to update their membership. Fees are listed on the website and or newsletter. If you see another member out on the water, maybe pass along a little reminder as well.

**WE WISH YOU  
A VERY  
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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 In Memoriam-  
 It is with great sadness, that we announce the passing of beloved club member Jack Rowe. Jack was diagnosed with myelodysplastic syndrome and chose to utilize the Death with Dignity act on November 11th with his beautiful wife Jan and other family members at his side. Aside from being an avid fly fisher, Jack was a wonderful and talented human being. He was a compassionate physician, sailor, lover of books and music and always willing to lend a hand where needed. He gave so much to our club and was always a great fishing partner as well. Jack volunteered yearly on the night of our conservation fundraising auction, and although it was a grueling and thankless job, we could always count on his cheerful participation. Jack will be missed by many. The Rogue Fly Fishers offers its sympathy and support to his wife, club member Jan Rowe, and hope the good wishes and love of her fishing "family" will offer some measure of comfort. Cards may be sent to her in care of Rogue Flyfishers at P O Box 4637, Medford Or 97501. Jack leaves a legacy of a life well lived.  
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Menu: Baked Turkey and Pan Gravy  
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes  
Seasonal Sautéed Vegetables  
Tossed Green Salad with Dressing  
Warm Rolls and Butter  
Chef's Special Dessert  
Coffee, Tea or Decaf

If you desire a Vegan, Gluten Free or Lactose Free Meal, please let Kellie know by the 15th if possible, Children's meals are also available. Email Kellie at [kclmbr@msn.com](mailto:kclmbr@msn.com) or Call Her at 541-776-4094

Club Members will share highlights of the past year and there will be goodies for everyone

**Awards for Outstanding Club Members will also be given out at this meeting**





## Here is an early Christmas for someone

Bill Childress has a couple slightly used tarpon lines that are free for the asking. First come first served.

Rio Tarpon Camo Tip WF 12 F

SA Tarpon WF 10 I (clear line)

### **ELECTION RESULTS for the term of 2015-2016**

Your membership voted at the November dinner meeting to re-instate to the board the following members who are willing to continue to serve:

**JON IVERSON      RICHARD PHILLIPS      DAVE HAIGHT      JOHN WARD**  
**ADAM WRIGHT** was also elected to the board as was **KELLIE CHRISTENSEN**

Officers will be sworn in at the January 7th board meeting.

Your board is actively doing its best to represent the members and goals of this club in the best possible way. Your input is welcome and we are always striving to improve. If you have suggestions or questions you are welcome to attend a board meeting. They are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the

Lion's Sight and Hearing Center at 228 North Holly Street in downtown Medford and begin at 6 PM sharp.

Parking is in the back of the building and accessible from the alley.

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WILLING TO SERVE ON THE BOARD!**

## What's Different About SkyOak?

What's different about SkyOak Wealth Management? In a freefalling stock market, we preserve our client's assets by moving into cash. This limits loss as we minimize market exposure. In most cases, mutual funds cannot move to cash in a freefalling market which is why big losses occur. This is one of the reasons we believe we have the upper hand on our competition. Come see why we believe we are one of the most actively managed investment advisory firms in Oregon.

Adam Wright is an avid fly fisherman, husband, and father of two. He is an MBA graduate from Southern Oregon University. Adam can be found on local waters during most weekends as he enjoys introducing others in the area to this sport. He teaches fly fishing for the city of Medford Parks and Recreation. He also teaches Dave Ramsey's Core Financial Wellness for Medford which teaches investments and other financial concepts.



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# Etched in Stone

(Or, What Does Flycasting Have to do With the Code of Hammurabi, c1750 BC?)

By Otis D. Swisher

Anyone who has been to school has probably heard of the Code of Hammurabi; that code of laws etched in cuneiform on that giant seven and a half foot tall stone "stele" for his Kingdom of Babylon during the second millennia BC. It is referred to often as one of the earliest codes of social law to be "set in stone."

I like to compare those laws to some of the ideas that have been carried down through the years as "How to's" for beginners to the art of fly casting. Ideas which have had a similar exalted place...if you will, as though "set in stone." But which have failed the test of time.

For example: Code of H, Law No.1 "If a man has accused another of laying a NERTU (death spell) upon him, but has not proved it, he shall be put to death"

So, too, how many fly casters follow the early admonition, to "Tuck the elbow firmly against your side, as if holding a book in place against your rib cage?" That may have been good advice for small Eastern streams, in the time of the Pilgrims, or for 30 foot casts today. How about for general casting today?

Also, Code of H, Law No. 200: "If a patrician knocked out the tooth of a man that is his equal, his tooth shall be knocked out."

So, today, what about that often quoted maxim "Stop the rod at 10 and 2 on the face of a clock?" Is that a rule etched in stone? Is there no place for Lefty Kreh's "give the rod full extension behind you and parallel to the water to really make the rod load when you come forward for that 60 and 70 foot cast?"

Code of H, Law No. 239: "If a man has hired a boatman, he shall pay him six GUR of corn yearly."

And today, when I cast, should I feel as though my back is against a wall, as illustrated by Joan Wulff in her great series about fly casting, making it necessary for the rod tip to be high in the air, and the back cast always to "punch the sky?"

Again, Code of H, Law No.195: "If a boy struck his father, they should cut off his hand (or fingers, translations vary)."

And today, what if I am facing the wind, casting into it, so the line is being thrown about not where I want it, but where the wind dictates? Is it o.k. for me to use a "side arm cast" which lets me drive the line and the fly along/near the water's surface where drag has slowed the wind's force?

Code of H, Law No 236: If a man has lent his boat to a boatman, and the boatman has been careless and the boat has been sunk (as mine was at Savage Rapids dam removal site) and lost (but, mine wasn't lost) the boatman shall restore a boat to the owner."

And, again in today's post Hammurabi's world) when I am casting, if I want to put my fly UNDER the overhanging tree branches close to the river's edge? Do I have to do my best overhand cast even if it puts the fly into the branches? Or, may I use a side arm cast, parallel to the water so I can slip the fly under those pesky branches to that soft water where the fish are holding waiting for terrestrials to fall on the water and join them for a meal.

Code of H, Law No. 234 "If a boatman has built a boat of sixty GUR for a man, he shall pay him a fee of two shekels of silver."

And in today's world of aches and pains, if I have developed a rotator cuff problem so I can't raise my casting hand and arm in the usual manner, is it written in stone that I can't find a "comfort spot" such as a side arm (as mentioned above) or a three-quarters angle so I don't have to live with the pain in my shoulder?

If anything is "set in stone" for the caster, it has to be "find your comfort spot". And even more important, learn to "shock stop" on both forward and backward casts. MAKE THE ROD DO THE WORK. I have seen a fly line "HURLED" for 30 feet by some one who didn't even have a rod in hand, just by flicking the line. It was tough, tiring work hurling by muscle power alone. It goes without saying, the rod, as a lever of 7 to 15 feet, makes casting easier, more graceful, and more satisfying. Make it do the work.

PS At the suggestion of my editor, my son Mark the retired fly fishing guide, that this heavy tome needs a little lightening, I add here a personal observation: I wish that Hammurabi had been a fly fisher so he could have included another 7-foot stele illustrating the flies he used. Think of how great an addition to historical archaeology it would be if he had commanded his skilled artisans to etch the fishing flies he was accustomed to using onto such a stele. Then we could compare our Rogue River's Pteronarcus Californicus with his Tigris - Euphrates Rivers' "Giant Stone" Fly.

7 November, 2014

## **New Year's Day Chili Feed**

The Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will continue our tradition of celebrating the New Year with a chili feed at the Holy Water. This annual event was started over 20 years ago; thus, is one of our club's longest running traditions.

We will meet on New Year's Day at the picnic shelter near the parking lot on the south side of the Holy Water. The fire should be going by 10 AM, and the chili will be served about noon. There will be opportunities to fish both before and after we eat.

We need volunteers to bring pots of chili. In recent years, the number of people bringing chili has declined; therefore, we have not enjoyed the variety we have in the past, and have even run short. To counter this trend, last year, Mike challenged people to a competition for the best pot of chili. It was a lot of fun, so we will compete for bragging rights and possibly a small prize again this year. We also need a person or two to bring fire wood. Others can help out by bringing cornbread, salads, desserts, or other items to share. The clubs will provide hot drinks and table service.

While catch rates are not what they were in the good ol' days, the Holy Water has been producing some really large fish this year. During the winter, drifting midge patterns under an indicator is normally a productive technique. Stripping or drifting small marabou leeches, woolly buggers, or nymphs along the bottom can also be productive during the colder months. If the weather and flows cooperate, we could even have a blue-winged olive or midge hatch. If you are going to fish, remember to get your 2015 fishing license.

The Holy Water Chili Feed is a fun way to celebrate New Year's Day. The food is good, the company is great, and you might even catch your first fish of 2015. Bring a pot of your favorite chili, and you could take home top honors from the chili contest.

David Haight, Outings Chair

**Anyone wishing to comment on the LNG pipeline, here is your contact information.  
Even a sample letter if you can't think for yourself**

### **CONTACT THE GOVERNOR**

#### **Phone**

Governor's Citizens' Representative Office  
(503) 378-4582

#### **Mail**

Governor Kitzhaber  
Attn: Citizens' Representative  
160 State Capitol  
900 Court Street  
Salem, Oregon 97301-4047

Esteemed Governor Kitzhaber



I want you to see what an anti LNG pipeline citizen looks like so I have included my photo. Please do what you can to stop the proposed Pacific Connector Pipeline.

I would be very pleased to discuss it with you or one of your designees.

Thomas Collett  
( include all contact info)





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**Call today and mention your affiliation with The Rogue Flyfishers for a member discount.**



## BOAT FOR SALE



The boat is probably 30 years old but it is in very good condition: it was built by Larry Westfall, a local boat builder (who died several yrs ago) and is heavier gauge aluminum than new boats are built of. We bought it from Steve Godshall, who bought it from The Fishin' Hole in Shade Cove when he guided for them.

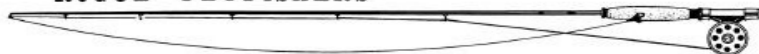
It is 15 1/2 feet long, 48" bottom width and 76" wide at the gunnels. It has 3 wooden Sawyer oars, 2 of which were re-finished with new Kevlar edges by Sawyer last year. Jack put new epoxy bottom paint on it this spring, put in a new rower's seat, bought 2 new tires, had the wheel bearings repacked and put in new carpeting. It has space for 2 seats in front and one in back with stand up stanchions front and back. Of course, sale includes life jackets, anchor and roping, a small ice chest.

The boat is easy to row, easy to handle---I became very comfortable rowing it with Jack and even a 3rd person in it. Anyone interested can call

**Jan Rowe 541-941-1740 or email is [jvr1945@gmail.com](mailto:jvr1945@gmail.com). We're asking \$3,500.**



## ROGUE FLYFISHERS



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

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# SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FLY SHOP

The Ashland Fly Shop	399 E. Main Street at Third, Ashland	541-488-6454
Gary Anderson Custom Rods	1976 Foots Creek Road, Gold Hill	541-582-4318
The Fishin' Hole	21873 Hwy 62, Shady Cove	541-878-4000
Rogue Fly Shop	310 NW Morgan Lane, Grants Pass	541-476-0552
The Flyway Shop	9349 Hwy. 97 South, Klamath Falls	541-884-3825

Shasta Trout Guide Service	www.shastatrout.com	(530) 926-5763
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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. There is also a \$10 new member processing fee.) **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** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_  
Are you **retired?** Yes \_\_ No \_\_ **Do you have a drift boat?** Yes \_\_ No \_\_ **lake boat?** Yes \_\_ No \_\_

Prefer using the **Online Newsletter** \_\_ (quickest receipt and saves the club money for other activities and uses, or by **US Mail** \_\_?  
Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_. Mail completed form and payment to:

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