

Rogue Flyfishers

DECEMBER 2017

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

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term

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Board Member	Jon Iverson	541-292-1871	2018
Board Member	Will Johnson	541-488-6454	2017
Board Member	Stephen Day	661-742-5835	2017

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Newsletter Editor	Steve Ostrander	541-772-0749
Outings	David Haight	541-855-9043
Program Coordinator	Will Johnson	541-488-6454
Roadside Cleanup Holy Water	Bill Ackermann	541-857-6154
Roadside Cleanup Hwy 62	Greg Hart	530-643-3235
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-772-0749

“REFLECTIONS”
Our annual Christmas Dinner
on December 20th at

The Centennial Golf Club
1900 N. Phoenix Rd.
Medford, 97504

5:45 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

Hope to see you there

President's Message

I have to apologize for not making the last meeting. I had some medical problems that the VA jumped on and took care of right away. The Board members, as always, stepped in and covered for me. Thanks Keith.

With winter coming on hard, high water is making it harder to find fishable water on the rivers. I can't say I'm sorry because the Dr. is not turning me loose to row until late Feb, early March. But, then I will be back out there. Until then, I will be tying lots of flies and teaching classes.



That said, winter is a great time for all of us to learn more. There are lots of avenues open to you... books, shop clinics, fly fishing shows, other members of the club, and yes, I know, the new way to learn is the internet. But, for me, I can't ask the internet questions or ask it to expand on what was said or shown (OK, maybe you can, and I just don't know how). This club of ours is full of members that have libraries full of knowledge, some are great casters, some know the insects of our waters, some know our rivers, maybe only one or two stretch's, but know it better than anyone else. We have a lady that can teach us a lot about the Cascade Lakes. We have spey, single-hand, tenkara, nymphs and dry fly fishers. Fishers that fish steelhead, trout, and warm water. We have fly tyers that love to share their knowledge. So learn, help and have fun together!

David

Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting

The next club meeting is **Wednesday December 20th at**

Centennial Golf Club
1900 N. Phoenix Rd.
Medford, 97504

Wet fly 5:45 – 6:45 pm
Dinner and meeting at 6:45 pm
Raffle to follow
Program 7:45 – 8:45

BUFFET DINNER is \$22 per person

Menu: Prime Rib, garlic mashed potatoes and roasted vegetables, along with other fixings.

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

RSVP'S need to be in by Friday preceding the meeting.

Please email your RSVP to icrsrd303@gmail.com (give your name and how many for dinner)

For those who cannot do email call (661)742-5835 afternoons only.

Pay when you arrive. We take cash or checks only.

Special dietary requests: email Theresa at tms1910@icloud.com or call (541)702-2153 by Tuesday preceding the meeting.

PROGRAM:

In keeping with a long standing tradition, the presentations at the

December 20th General Meeting

will be done by any members who have a story to tell.

If you have had a fishing adventure, a story to tell, or an unusual situation you would like to share with other members, this is the meeting to do it.

Contact **Will Johnson, Presentation Chairman, at 541-488-6454 to get on the schedule.**

Black Magic

My favorite summer steelhead fly is the Black Magic, a pattern I first tied in 1974 while pursuing half-pounders on the Klamath River near Somes Bar. Like several flies in my box, it began as an experiment based on a broadly popular pattern. In this case, that popular pattern was the Silver Hilton, a Klamath original first tied by Jim Freeman in the 1940s.

The Black Magic is a simplified, buggier-looking Hilton that fishes well on the swing or as a dead-drifted nymph. I tie it using finely speckled guinea fowl feathers for the tail and collar, without the grizzly hackle-tip wings of the original fly. Known initially as “that black thing”, the Magic has caught steelhead on the Klamath, Rogue, and nearly a dozen other rivers, accounting for about half the summer-runs I’ve landed. It has been the most effective of multiple steelhead patterns I tie using exotic feathers first found in a grab bag of materials mail-ordered from a Herter’s catalog. Guinea hackle!

Ingredients:

- The fly looks good and fishes well when tied on a variety of hooks in sizes 8, 6, 4, or 2: Mustad 3906, 3908, and 23407; Daiichi 1530, 1550, and 2451; Partridge low-water salmon.
- 10/0 black fly tying thread (Veevus, Euro, or UNI-Thread).
- Heavy wire (0.025” diameter for sizes 8, 6, or 4; 0.030” diameter for size 2) if desired.
- Conventional black chenille (small for sizes 8, 6, or 4; medium for size 2).
- Oval tinsel in silver (Vernier if available; small for sizes 8, 6, or 4, and medium for size 2).
- Finely speckled guinea fowl feathers.

Recipe:

Put the hook in your vise and, if added weight is desired, wrap wire along the forward two-thirds of the hook shank, excluding that portion within about 0.15” of the eye. Now secure the tying thread to the shank about one eye length behind the eye and wrap back toward the bend until reaching the rear third of the shank. Next, tie in a clump of about 12-15 speckled guinea hackle barbules that will form a tail about the length of the hook shank. Secure the tail along the top of the shank with thread wraps back to the bend of the hook, then use two wraps to cock the tail up at about 30° above horizontal before using a few additional wraps to bring the thread forward on the shank to establish a tie-in point for your tinsel and chenille. Clip off the butt ends of the barbules. Next, tie in the tinsel along the near side of the shank using tight thread wraps back to the bend of the hook and then return the thread to the tie-in point. Now tie the chenille in along the top of the shank in a similar fashion before returning the thread to its initial tie-in position about an eye length behind the eye. Next, use overhand wraps of chenille to form a black body, tying this off when finished. Remove any excess chenille. Then counter-wrap the body with ribs of silver tinsel, secure the tinsel with a few thread wraps, and trim.

Now select a guinea feather with finely speckled barbules that are 1.5 to 2 times the length of the hook gap. Strip off the fluff and over-long barbules, then shorten the feather’s bare stem to about 0.1 inch. Next, use thread wraps to secure the feather’s bare stem to the near side of the hook shank with the butt-end of the feather initially angling downward and then doubled-back on itself before being “locked in” with a few more wraps. Trim away any excess stem. Now grasp the feather’s tip and use overhand wraps to create a collar, stroking the barbules rearward during each wrap. Check the collar when the feather passes behind the shank as the second full wrap is completed, and make a third wrap if desired. Then pull downward on the feather from the backside of the hook, secure it with several tight thread wraps, and remove the feather’s tip. Finish the fly using thread wraps to help set the angle of the collar (at 30-45°), construct a smoothly tapered head, and whip finish. Cut the thread and add head cement.

Chuck Huntington
Shady Cove, Oregon

Holy Water Committee Update

For several years there have been concerns expressed about the health of the fishery in the Holy Water by members who fish it a lot. As a result, approximately two years ago a loose knit committee was formed to explore things that might be done to improve the fishing. Jim Harleman, a long time club member and Holy Water advocate, volunteered to head the committee. But, before the committee could be formalized and develop a strategic plan, Jim passed away. With Jim's passing, the committee somewhat lost momentum and little was done.

About two months ago, President Dave Roberts, sensing a need and desire to continue the work Jim had begun on the Holy Water, asked me to assume chairmanship of the committee and get it restarted. I accepted the position on the condition that there be a co-chairman to help with the workload. I am pleased to report that board member Will Johnson has agreed to assume that position. It was decided that a committee of eight people would provide an ideal size working group and a notice was sent out for volunteers. Within a day or so, six members volunteered and the committee was complete. The following members are now on the committee:

Will Johnson - Co-chairman
Jack Patterson - Co-chairman
John Bjorkholm
Steve Boyarsky
Harry Foster
Kirk Kowalke
Jack Schlotter
Peter Ware

Oversight of the committee will be provided by President Dave Roberts and the board

Our first order of business was to meet with Ryan Battleson, STEPS biologist for ODFW, to discuss a plan of action. That meeting took place on Friday, November 17th at the ODFW meeting room with all committee members present. In my opinion, the meeting was very productive as Ryan presented data that has been collected so far from the information left by anglers in the collection boxes that were placed at the Holy Water some months ago. One of the most interesting things is that so far it appears that four wild fish are being caught for each one hatchery fish. It was agreed that more data needs to be collected, not only through the self-reporting, but by other means. Those means will include more fish tagging, on the ground "creel sampling", seining nets, and possibly electro-shocking next fall.

Besides data collection, the plan of action calls for putting 200-300 more adult hatchery fish in the water (please note that 2000 fingerlings were planted in October), adding spawning gravel in strategic places where fish are historically known to spawn, and possibly adding some large boulders to the water to provide more diverse habitat. Ryan will work with both ODFW and the Corp of Engineers to determine the feasibility and costs associated with such projects.

None of these projects will get done without club members volunteering to work on these various projects. To that end, we are putting **an invitation to all members**. We need to develop a group of volunteers who can be called upon to help on a situational basis. If you are interested and willing to help, please contact me or Will Johnson.

Our most immediate need is for people willing to fish the Holy Water. As part of the action plan involving data collection, we are going to have two days a month where a minimum of 4 teams of two people each to fish together. They will record, measure and tag the fish they catch. There will be a training session provided on how to tag the fish. It is hoped that we can start this phase of the project in January. Will Johnson will be coordinating the teams of fishermen. If this is something you would be willing to do, please contact Will at 541-488-6454. Please understand that you would not be required to commit to fishing every session, unless you want to. We hope to have enough members sign up to get a large pool of volunteers. The best possible situation would be for two members to "partner up" on a permanent basis and agree to fish a certain number of days. The times to fish would be from 11:00 AM -2:00 PM. The days to fish will most likely be Tuesday and Saturdays.

If you have questions, suggestions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact any member of the committee.

Please volunteer.

Submitted by Jack Patterson

New Year's Day Chili Feed

As we do every New Year's Day, Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will meet at the Holy Water to celebrate the start of a new year and the joy of fly fishing. We will also enjoy hot chili, a warm fire, great company, and hopefully, a beautiful winter day.

We will meet 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.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife recently stocked additional trout in the Holy Water, so if conditions are favorable, we should enjoy some good fishing. Swinging or drifting small marabou leeches, woolly buggers, or nymphs along the bottom can be productive during the colder months. If the weather and flows cooperate, we could have a blue-winged olive or midge hatch. If you are going to fish, remember to get your **2018 fishing license**.

To have a successful chili feed, we need people to bring chili. To that end, we will again have a contest where participants select their favorite pot of chili. Competition has been fierce in recent years. The winner will take home the coveted trophy, and have bragging rights for the year. Others can help out by bringing cornbread, salads, desserts, or other items to share. The clubs will provide hot drinks and table service.

No matter the weather or how good the fishing, we always have a great time celebrating the new year at the Holy Water. Make up a pot of your favorite chili, and come join us!

David Haight, Outings Chair

Fish Lake Outing

Initially, there was a lot of interest in the November 4th outing to Fish Lake. A lot of club members were excited to try for tiger trout, a variety of fish most people have not caught. Unfortunately, a prediction of stormy weather caused most people to cancel. Still, we had seven hearty members who braved the cold and attended the outing. The day started off beautifully—we had fresh snow on the ground, sun, and no wind. The scenery was spectacular, and it was a great morning to be on the lake. Fishing, however, was slow. Most everyone had at least one hit, but we landed only three trout—two rainbows and one chinook--no tigers. We all ate lunch together in the resort. After lunch, we went back out, but the wind and snow started. With cold fingers and poor prospects for catching our first tiger trout, at about 2 PM, we all decided to head to some place warmer.

David Haight, Outings Chair



Gary Lewellyn, DMD



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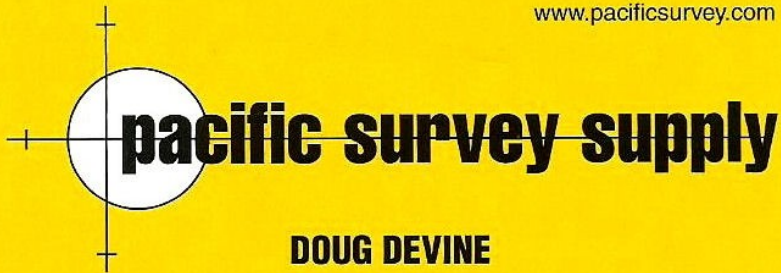
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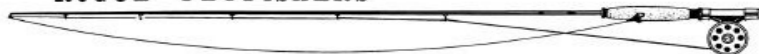
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ROGUE FLYFISHERS



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

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FLY SHOP

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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
Rogue Valley Anglers	218 E. Main St., Medford	541-973-2988
The Flyway Shop	9349 Hwy. 97 South, Klamath Falls	541-884-3825
Shasta Trout Guide Service	www.shastatrout.com	(530) 926-5763

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 _____

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 ____

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