

Rogue Flyfishers

DECEMBER 2022

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

Board of Directors

			term
President	David Haight	541-855-9043	2022
V. President	Rex Thompson	907-723-7830	2023
Treasurer	Rex Thompson	907-723-7830	2024
Secretary	John Pogue	541-973-0722	2022
Board Member	Tim Bolling	541-500-1976	2022
Board Member	Susan Labiste	541-531-0307	2022
Board Member	Jerry Haynes	541-494-1433	2023
Board Member	Kirk Kowalke	514-531-0861	2022
Board Member	Dave McCants	541-973-3508	2023
Board Member	Steve Day	661-742-5835	2022
Board Member	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331	2023

Committee Heads

Auction Chair	Tim Bolling	541-500-1976
Blog Coordinator	Steve Day	661-742-5835
Casting Chair	John MacDiarmid	541-664-8391
Conservation		
Fly Tying Chair	Dave Roberts	541-601-5658
Membership	Don Dabney	541-855-9394
Newsletter Editor	Steve Ostrander	541-944-5482
Outings	Jerry Haynes	541-494-1433
Program Coordinator	Steve Day	661-742-5835
Raffle Chairman	Kirk Kowalke	541-531-0861
Roadside Cleanup Holy Water	Paul Seymour	719-337-4459
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-944-5482

MEETING

Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting

The next club meeting is Wednesday December 14th
at Centennial Golf Club
1900 N. Phoenix Rd. Medford, 97504

Wet Fly 5:45 to 6:45

Dinner and meeting at 6:45 pm

Program 7:45 – 8:45

Raffle to follow Program

BUFFET DINNER is \$25 per person

Menu

Smoked Tri-Tip, Red Potatoes, Roasted Veggies,
Salad, rolls, Dessert

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

RSVP's need to be in by Friday (December 9th)
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 Steve Day at
icrsrd303@gmail.com or call (661)742-5835

by Friday preceding the meeting



In partnership with
Temple Fork Outfitters

President's Message from David Haight

It was nice to see a number of members at our November meeting that we had not seen in a while. We had the best attendance yet since the pandemic disrupted our lives. Hopefully, attendance at meetings will continue to improve and get back to pre-pandemic levels. Congratulations to John MacDiarmid for being awarded the Dick Ruff Award a well-deserved honor! Remember that our December meeting will be on Wednesday December 14, one week earlier than usual to minimize conflicts with people's Christmas plans.

We had a fun outing to the Klamath River in early November. Twelve of us floated from Irongate Dam down to Klamathon. It was a pleasant fall day and not nearly as cold as forecasted. I know of nine steelhead landed and several more hooked and lost. Our next outing will be the annual chili feed at the Holy Water on New Year's Day. This is always a great event, so I encourage you to make plans to attend.

It is time to renew your RFF membership. You can do so at the December meeting, or you can fill out and mail in the form included in this newsletter along with your payment.

We had a lively discussion about a potential merger of the Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers at the November meeting. We also sent out a questionnaire concerning this subject to the members. While there was some support for the proposal, the majority of the members that commented were opposed to a merger. The results were similar for the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers. The primary reasons given in opposition were not wanting to lose the existing clubs' identities and histories and not wanting to travel to meetings in the other town. Consequently, the proposal to merge the clubs has been tabled by both clubs.

This, however, still leaves us with some issues that need to be resolved. The two most urgent being maintaining adequate attendance at our monthly meetings, and getting members to take on the essential jobs within the club. Attendance was better at our last two meetings. Hopefully, it will continue to improve. We need to maintain a minimum attendance of 50 people to keep meetings at Centennial viable. We are still having difficulty filling essential positions. We will be electing members to serve on the Board of Directors at the December meeting and could use additional volunteers. We also need people to serve on the auction committee and someone to take on the role of Auction Chair. Tim Bolling and his crew put on a great auction in October; however, after several years in the position, Tim is stepping down to spend some time traveling. We plan to have our next auction in May 2024. For that to happen, we will need to start working on it early next year. Beyond that, it would be great if the club could resume offering classes on various aspects of fly fishing, doing community outreach events, and participating in habitat and fisheries enhancement projects. We need to think about what sort of club we want to have going forward, and how we are going to attract new members.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our December meeting, and wish you all Happy Holidays!

Election of Board of Directors

The bylaws of the Rogue Flyfishers specify that the business and affairs of the club be controlled by a Board of Directors, and that there be a minimum of nine and a maximum of eleven Directors. The Directors are elected to serve two-year terms by the members of the club. We typically hold elections for the Directors at the November general meeting; however, we delayed the vote until the decision about the merger with the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers was resolved. We will hold the vote to elect the Directors at the December 14 general meeting.

We currently have ten directors. Of those, six have terms that are expiring at the end of this year. Steve Day and Kirk Kowalke will be going off the Board (though they will continue to serve in other existing roles). David Haight, John Pogue, Tim Bolling, and Susan Labiste are willing to serve another term; thus, are running for reelection. This means we would like to have at least three additional members that would be willing to serve on the Board. So far, Bill Burns and Dale Day have expressed an interest in serving. Anyone else that is interested can contact a Board member to get more information or get on the ballot. We will also take nominations from the floor at the meeting.

Being a member of the Board of Directors is a great way to serve the club. It allows you to better understand the workings of the club and influence the decisions. It is also good way to get to know other club members better and become more connected to the club.



ROGUE FLYFISHERS PROGRAM DECEMBER 2022

Our presenters will speak to the importance of stewardship of the Rogue River watershed through restoration, education and community involvement.



Brian Barr has been the Executive Director of the Rogue River Watershed Council since 2015. He's a Chicagoan, a father, a Red Sox fan, and a Central Point Rotarian. Brian has a master's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Science from Virginia Tech and an undergraduate degree in Zoology from Miami University. He's worked on habitat restoration in the Rogue Basin since 2001 and has been involved in 28 dam removal projects over that time. He firmly believes that Chicago is a good place to be from and stands by the statement that if it's not too late to start a project, chances are it's too early.



Crystal Nichols started her career studying aquatic biology and fisheries at Ball State University and continued on to get a Master of Science in Environmental Education at Southern Oregon University. She brings those experiences together as the Community Engagement Project Manager for RRWC. She is responsible for telling the story of RRWC restoration work via social media, newsletters, engagement materials, event coordination, short films, partnership development, and community engagement. No matter what season, Crystal finds herself fly fishing on, submerged in, floating on, or immersed in the Rogue watersheds. Time and time again, she finds so much magic in the Rogue Basin and endless inspiration to steward this special place in any way she can.



In Memory of Dave Whitlock



On Thanksgiving evening, fly fishing lost one of the greats.

Fifty years ago, Dave Whitlock resigned his position as a research chemist and pooled his talents in painting, illustrating, writing, photography, fly fishing, fly tying, trout stream enhancement and lecturing, to embark on a career as a full time professional in the arts of fly fishing. All his works reflect his love and understanding of fly fishing and the natural world that continues to grow from his many, many years spent on and under the waters all around the world. He will be missed.

TOUVELLE STATE PARK CONSIDERING LONG TERM RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMERCIAL JET BOATS

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (ORPD) is hosting an Open House on Dec. 5th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the Jackson County Parks Office Auditorium,

7520 Table Rock Road, Central Point, OR 97502.

This Open House is your opportunity to tell the OPRD to keep this activity out of our parks!

For more information and instructions for written responses please see

<http://www.rogueflyfishers.org/jetboat.pdf>

Outfall Study Update

From Nina Bell NWEA

“Justice delayed is justice denied.” This phrase might resonate as you read about pollution in the Rogue River. Way back in 2012, the Rogue Flyfishers commissioned a report by Rick Hafele to look at the impacts of the Medford sewage treatment plant on the Rogue River. Rick is a former Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) staffer who set up their “biocriteria” program. Biocriteria measure stream health, looking at aquatic insects and answering questions such as: are there fewer pollution-sensitive and more pollution-tolerant species here? For the Rogue downstream of the Medford discharge, the answer to this question and others—about algal density and biovolume, species abundance and diversity—was a clear indication that pollutants in the sewage were having a measurable adverse effect. The following chart shows the impact of Medford’s discharge on mayflies in the Rogue River:

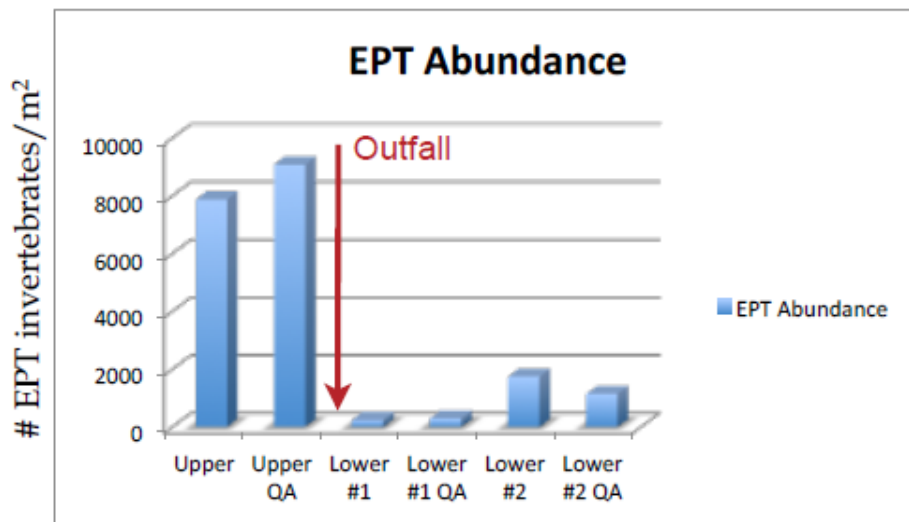


Figure 12. Abundance of mayfly, stonefly, and caddisfly taxa (EPT) for samples above and below the outfall.

After the Flyfishers asked DEQ to help and got the silent treatment, Northwest Environmental Advocates (NWEA) filed a federal lawsuit against the City of Medford in 2018 to enforce its discharge permit. An interim settlement a year later resulted in more studies and a 2020 NWEA expert report, led by the acclaimed Dr. JoAnn M. Burkholder, that demonstrated significant reductions in nutrient pollution—both nitrogen and phosphorus—are needed to clean up the Rogue River. (A book about her work, *And the Waters Turned to Blood* (1997) by Rodney Barker, reads like a page-turning John Grisham novel.) Notably, the 2011 DEQ permit did not have any limits on nutrient pollution.

Even though Medford admitted that its discharge is causing adverse impacts, it wanted to continue the litigation and, in 2021, the federal court ruled that Medford had violated its Clean Water Act discharge permit. The next stage of that litigation—what does Medford need to do?—is now on hold. In the meantime, DEQ issued a new permit that at long last does have nutrient limits but they are too little and too late. Specifically, NWEA’s experts say the limits will not clean up the Medford’s mess in the Rogue and the permit gives Medford a whopping 14 years in which to comply with those limits, far from the “as soon as possible” required by federal regulations. The trial in this permit appeal starts this month.

More information on the Medford challenge is available at the NWEA website:

<https://northwestenvironmentaladvocates.org/projects/protect-the-Rogue-River>.

Long Time Member Gary Graham has Passed away

Dear Rogue Flyfishers

I am sad to share that Gary Graham passed away in his home in Talent on October 12. His time in the club brought great satisfaction and long term friendships through the volunteer work, meetings, and most of all club outings. I hope to join a club outing this coming year and we can share our memories of Gary. My sister, Monya, and I would like to thank the club for providing this wonderful outlet for our Dad.

As Gary would wish you all,

Tight lines,

Kurstin Graham



New Year's Day Chili Feed

In keeping with tradition, the Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will gather at the Holy Water on New Year's Day for our annual chili feed. The event will take place at the picnic shelter in River's Edge Park on the south bank of the Holy Water. We should have a fire going by 10 AM and will eat around noon. We need people to bring chili, and will again have a contest where participants will select their favorite pot of chili. The competition has become intense in recent years, with entries ranging from traditional to rather eccentric. Those not bringing chili can help out by bringing cornbread, salads, desserts or other items to share. The clubs will provide coffee and tableware.

The Holy Water can offer good trout fishing during the winter, and there will be opportunities to fish both before and after we eat. Swinging or drifting small marabou leeches, woolly buggers, micro intruders, or nymphs along the bottom can be productive. If conditions are favorable, we could have a blue-winged olive or midge hatch. If you are going to fish, remember to get your 2023 fishing license.

We always have a great time no matter the weather, so make up a pot of your favorite chili, break out your trout rod, and come help us celebrate the new year and the joy of fly fishing!

David Haight

John MacDiarmid Given the Dick Ruff Award

At the November meeting, John MacDiarmid was presented with the Dick Ruff award, the highest honor the Rogue Flyfishers can bestow on a member. This award is granted only as warranted to a club member who through their time, effort, and resources has helped promote the purposes of the club to the highest levels. This includes the protection and enhancement of natural resources, and facilitating and improving the knowledge of fly fishing.

Through his long history with the club, John has excelled in these areas. He has been a leader and a driving force in the club for decades, including serving as the club's President in 1989 and 1990. John has frequently taught beginning fly-fishing classes and fly-casting classes. He has been involved with numerous community outreach and educational events. John has regularly participated in habitat enhancement projects over the years, and works with several conservation organizations focused on the protection of natural resources. Recently, John led the club's efforts to compel the State of Oregon and City of Medford to bring the City's wastewater treatment plant into compliance with water-quality standards.

The Rogue Flyfishers thank John for all he has done to promote fly fishing and the protection of natural resources

SOUTH UMPQUA RIVER OUTING

February 23, 2023



Come join us for an opportunity to hook some of Southern Oregon's largest winter steelhead on the South Umpqua River. The South Umpqua is known not only for its chrome wild fish but also for its enormous hatchery fish. And it's only a 45 minute drive from Grants Pass.

There is limited bank access and best fishing can be from a boat. For those who don't have watercraft to float the river, we have arranged for a limited number of spots for guided fishing by Zack Hancock Outfitters out of Sutherlin <https://www.hancockoutfitters.com/#gallery>. The cost of the guided trip is **\$250 per angler** and includes all fishing gear and files.

If you would like to fish with a guide or otherwise attend the outing, please contact Jerry Haynes at jerry.haynes2021@gmail.com. **Guided fishing spots are extremely limited so don't delay in reserving a trip.** Updates and additional information will be emailed to those on the list as we get closer to the outing date.

2023 MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

It is time to renew your RFF Membership for 2023. In order for the Board of Directors to determine the club's budget for 2023, it is important and helpful that your dues are paid by December 31st. As an extra incentive for meeting the December 31st deadline, there will be a special raffle at the January meeting for all members who pay their dues by December 31, 2022. In order to be listed in the official club directory, dues must be paid by March 31, 2023. Our new club directories will be available the end of April, 2023.

To renew your membership go to rogueflyfishers.org and look to the right, under Electronic Membership application or renewal, and click on pay with PayPal. Complete the form and then press Submit to continue to payment. Or, if you prefer, please print and fill out the form below and US mail the form and a check to:

Rogue Flyfishers, PO Box
4637, Medford, Oregon 97501.

If you have any questions please contact the RFF Membership Chairman, Don Dabney. Email address: drdabney49@gmail.com.

We look forward to another successful year for the Rogue Flyfishers and thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Your RFF Board of Directors

Rogue Flyfishers Membership Renewal - 2023

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Should you NOT want your email address in the club directory, check here: _____

If this is a family membership, list family member's names, and email if different:

Best Contact Number: _____

Monthly Newsletter - *please indicate your preference by circling one*: Mailed Electronically

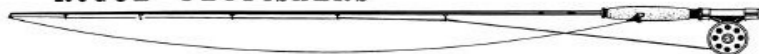
Are you a member of the **Fly Fishers International**? (circle one): Yes No

(Circle one) Individual: \$35 Family: \$45 Junior (under 18): \$5 Honorary Life Member \$0

Dues Amount Enclosed: \$_____ (*Please make check payable to Rogue Flyfishers*)

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

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
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