

# Rogue Flyfishers

JANUARY 2024

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
President	David Haight	541-855-9043	2024
V. President	Rex Thompson	907-723-7830	2023
Treasurer	Tim Bolling	541-500-1976	2024
Secretary	John Pogue	541-793-0722	2024
Board Member	Susan Labiste	541-531-0307	2024
Board Member	Jerry Haynes	541-494-1433	2023
Board Member	Bill Burns	541-680-7402	2024
Board Member	Dave McCants	541-973-3508	2023
Board Member	Dale Day	541-841-8038	2024
Board Member	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331	2023
Board Member	Tammy Dedrick	541-941-3285	2023

## Committee Heads

Auction Chair	Tammy Dedrick	541-941-3285
Blog Coordinator	Steve Day	661-742-5835
Casting Chair	John MacDiarmid	541-664-8391
Conservation	Dale Day	541-841-8038
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

### Sara Jo Royalty



Sara Jo is a commercial longliner turned fly fisherman from Ohio, where she first discovered her passion for fishing at the age of 4 at Grandpa's farm while fishing for bass and bluegill on her snoopy pole. She landed in Oregon in 2007 by way of North Carolina where she lived on her sailboat with her dog, Topsail, and long lined for tuna, swordfish, and shark for six years off of the Outer Banks. While in North Carolina, Sara Jo bottom fished with hydraulic reels for grouper, snapper, and trigger, clammed and oystered, and captained a shrimp boat. Once in Oregon, Sara Jo turned to fly fishing, and has been tying and fly fishing for 9 years. She travels nationally to demonstrate and teach flytying, and flycasting clinics with Healing Waters, Trout Unlimited, and the Oregon Council of Flyfishers International, all while representing her affiliate companies in the industry. She is the owner and operator of Steeliez Fly Shop on the Southern Oregon Coast, a licensed guide, and a board member on the Oregon Council of Flyfishers International, is a Daiichi Hook Pro Ambassador, and is also sponsored by Temple Fork Outfitters, Dr. Slick, Semperfli, Drop Jaw Flies, Aquaz Fishing, Korkers, and Loon Outdoors. Her local fishery consists of mainly salmon and steelhead, but she ties flies for fishermen in all parts of the world.

Sara Jo has 2 boys (Sol 18 and Cuyen 16), is a Senior professional caddy at Bandon Dunes golf resort, and guest caddies at Gozzer Ranch, The Madison Club, The Quarry, and The PGA Tour. She has an educational background in music, and chemistry, plays several instruments, and writes music. You can follow Sara Jo on Instagram at @sarajoflies or Steeliez Flyshop on Facebook.



**In partnership with**  
**Temple Fork Outfitters**

## President's Message from David Haight

This is my last President's Message. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as your President for the past two years. I am proud to be a member of this club and am proud of all the things this club has accomplished over the years.

In the 1970s, shortly after the club was founded, I attended several meetings of the Rogue Flyfishers with my father. I moved out of the area to attend college and to work in other parts of the state. I became a member of the club in 1990, shortly after I moved back to the Rogue Valley. I have been an active member of the club since. At first my involvement was primarily as a student: attending monthly meetings, outings, and workshops; and taking fly-tying and rod-building classes. After a couple of years, I started taking on more duties within the club: participating in habitat projects; helping teach classes; hosting outings; and helping in various ways at the meetings. I joined the Board of Directors in 1999, and subsequently, have served in a variety of roles in the club.

In the early years, the club was extremely vibrant and active. We participated in numerous habitat enhancement projects, provided testimony on issues that affected our sport or the environment, provided environmental education to school children, conducted classes on all aspects of fly fishing for members and the broader community, hosted outings and other activities, and raised money for various projects. Fly fishing was popular, and we had a steady supply of new members.

More recently, the club has been struggling. We are certainly not the only club in this situation. Younger people are less inclined to join traditional clubs, which is making it harder to attract new members and maintain an active membership. We don't have people teaching classes, leading outings, volunteering for projects, or taking on tasks as readily as we have in the past. For the first time that I am aware of in the club's history, we failed to recruit a single new member to the Board of Directors. We were forced to postpone the auction from next May to October in a large part due to a shortage of members willing to help organize and prepare for it.

While no individual is obligated to perform any tasks or duties for the Rogue Flyfishers, the club will be what the members make of it. If enough people are willing to contribute a little, we can have a successful, vibrant club. If we leave it up to a few individuals to carry the workload, we will struggle to even carry on the basic functions of the club.

For me, attending monthly meetings has been fun and educational, but getting involved in additional aspects of the club has made being a member of this club much more enjoyable and valuable. Many of my best friends and fishing partners are people I got to know through serving on the Board or working on various projects. I have a much deeper understanding of how the club works and what it does. My membership in the Rogue Flyfishers has been enhanced by getting more involved with the club, and I think most of the members of the Board of Directors, Committee Chairs, and other volunteers feel the same.

I hope everyone enjoys the holidays, and I look forward to see you all next year.



## **Letter from the Board of Directors regarding Killer Whales**

December 15, 2023

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE  
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Chair Wahl and Commission Members:

The Rogue Flyfishers is a nonprofit organization based in Medford, OR with over 160 members. We have been active in fishery and conservation issues for over 50 years. We, as an organization, are concerned about the declining population of Southern Resident Killer Whales, and we support their listing as an Endangered species under the Oregon Endangered Species Act. At present there are only seventy-three Southern Resident Killer Whales left, they face a variety of environmental hazards, a shortage of prey, and lack of genetic diversity.

The state of Oregon should follow suit with British Columbia and Washington to list the Southern Resident Killer Whales as Endangered. These government entities already have plans for the recovery of the killer whales' prime food source, the Spring Chinook Salmon.

The Rogue Flyfishers encourages the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to list the Southern Resident Killer Whales as Endangered under the Oregon Endangered Species Act to help ensure their survival and recovery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David R. Haight, President

Rogue Flyfishers

## **2024 Membership Renewal**

Thank you to all members that have renewed their 2024 membership!

For those who haven't paid, you have until March 31, 2024 to pay your 2024 dues. If dues are not paid by March 31, 2024, you will not be receiving the monthly newsletter and you will not be listed in the official 2024 RFF Directory. The membership directory will be published in April, 2024 and will be available to all members May 1, 2024.

You will be able to pay your 2024 membership dues, by cash or check,

At the January, February or March RFF meetings. If any information (phone number, home address and email) has changed, please complete the form, at the back of this newsletter and submit with your payment to the RFF meetings mail to the address indicated on the form.

Prices remain the same: \$35. for individual, \$45. for family and \$5. For an individual youth, under 18.

Thank you for being a member of the Rogue Flyfishers Club!

Don Dabney  
RFF Membership Chair

## Auction News & Financial Report – Tim Bolling

A decision was made by the Board to postpone the Auction next year from May until October. The new date is **October 12<sup>th</sup>**, so mark your calendars now and plan on attending! It will still be at the Centennial Golf Club, but with the delay, we have been able to procure the services of Rogue Oregon Auctioneers. This is the company we've used in the past and they do a great job. We were planning on having the catering done by Back Porch Bar & Grill but they may have a conflict with the date. If you have any suggestions for a caterer that we could have as a backup plan in case Back Porch can't make it, please let me or any other Board member know.

We need lots of help and support to make this another successful Auction. Steve Haskell, Bruce Barrow, Charlie Costner have volunteered to lead some of the groups to handle various functions and will be looking for some people to help! More information will follow in the coming months.

On the financial side of things, we have joined with SOFF and covered the cost of the fall session of Project Healing Waters which was held at the White City VA. We also paid our 2024 Affiliated Club dues to FFI. Our speaker in January will be from the Oregon Council of FFI so come on out and hear what they're up to!

### February Outing on the Upper Rogue

Saturday Feb 17, upper Rogue from hatchery hole to Casey Park, walk and wade. Meet at Casey Park@ 8:00 am. Mr. Mccants will have flies and map of areas to fish after brief discussion. Fishing nymphs from 8-noon, then switching over to dries from 12:30 to 2:30. Nymphs- pheasant tails (16-18), Duracell brown or brown olive uv ice dub 14-16, sno cones #12, march brown nymphs #13, squalla #10. Dries BWO 14-16, march brown #12, squalla #10, #18&20 black and white midges...

### FOR SALE

#### **CADDIS PREMIER Plus II FLOAT TUBE**

High-Viz Yellow  
Large capacity front pockets for flies w/ fly patches etc.  
Casting apron with measurement tape  
Back rest with zippered pocket  
Power Fin  
Can float up to 400 lbs. safely

**\$175.00 obo**

Contact:

Norm Rossignol  
normrossignol@yahoo.com  
541 301-2728  
Cash only

#### **Pontoon Boat**

108" Long, 56" wide assembled  
Fore & Aft storage areas  
Aluminum oars w/ locks  
Full Frame with oar locks & adjustable stirrups  
Folding / cushioned seat  
Easily handle in moving waters

**\$325.00**



## **Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting**

The next club meeting is Wednesday January 17th at Centennial Golf Club  
1900 N. Phoenix Rd. Medford, 97504

Wet fly 5:30 – 6:30pm  
Dinner and meeting at 7:15pm  
Raffle to follow Program

**BUFFET DINNER is \$25per person**

Spaghetti, Meat & Veggie Marinara, Caesar Salad, Roasted Veggies, Garlic Bread,  
Dessert

### **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

RSVP's need to be in by Friday ( January 12th ) preceding the meeting.

Please email your RSVP to [icrsrd303@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:icrsrd303@gmail.com) or  
call (661)742-5835 by Tuesday preceding the meeting

### **PROGRAM:**

**Sara Jo Royalty**

Fly Selection for Unfamiliar Waters

### **Upcoming Schedule**

Club Meeting 01/17/24, 02/21

Board Meeting 01/03/24, 02/07

SOFF meeting 01/09/24, 02/13

Outings:

Coastal Winter Steelhead Outing, January 20 - 21

Upper Rogue 02/17

**Check the Club Calendar for more information**

## Coastal Winter Steelhead Outing, January 20 - 21

Several of my favorite places to fish during the winter months are streams along the Southern-Oregon Coast. The Rogue River, Chetco River, Winchuck River, Hunter Creek, and others can offer great fishing for winter steelhead. These streams range from small creeks to large rivers, and offer fly fishers options from drifting flies through small pockets to swinging flies through broad runs.

The Rogue Flyfishers and the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers are planning a joint outing to the coast on January 20 and 21, to fish for winter steelhead. We will base the outing out of Brookings, which has a good variety of motels, RV parks, and restaurants. The specific streams we fish will depend on the conditions at the time. Participants should bring equipment for both swinging and dead-drifting flies. For swinging flies, a seven or eight-weight Spey rod with a Skagit head and a variety of sink tips would work well. A single-handed eight-weight rod would be ideal for fishing the smaller streams. Bring a variety of intruder-style flies, from bright to somber, for swinging, as well as egg patterns, large nymphs, and egg-sucking leeches for dead-drifting. The winter steelhead on the coastal streams can be large, so 10 to 15-pound leader would be appropriate. Be sure to bring waders, a wading staff, raingear, and warm clothing. You will need to have a Rogue-South Coast Steelhead Validation in addition to your Angling License and Combined Angling Tag. We will focus on areas that offer good opportunities for fishing from the bank; however, the lower Rogue and Chetco Rivers do offer good opportunities for those that want to fish from their driftboats or rafts.

People interested in attending the outing should email me at [tmdrhaight@infostructure.net](mailto:tmdrhaight@infostructure.net) by January 15 to get on the list. Just prior to the outing, I will make a decision about what streams we will fish and when and where we will meet, or if we need to postpone the outing due to weather or water conditions, and I will send out that information to the people who have signed up.

### David Haight, Outings Chair



**Jerry Haynes with a nice winter steelhead from the Oregon Coast**

## McBear's Fyre Flyes tm for Steelhead



The hooks I use are Daiichi 2161, in sizes 1 (larger flies for Oregon rivers) and 6 (smaller flies for Trinity and CA coastal streams), because I like the rounded bend, slightly curved up tapered eye and shorter profile for these flies without tails.

Recipe: My Original Design (McBear's Fyre Flyes tm for Steelhead)

Hook, as above, Daiichi 2161 in size 1 or 6

Thread - Uni 6.0 Black

Hot Butt - Uni Stretch in Chinese Red, Hot Orange, Chartreuse or Pumpkin

Body - Fyre Werks in purple, copper, teal blue or pearl,

Wing - 2-3 loops of the body material (cut, picked out with dubbing needle, and cut to 2/3s length of body)

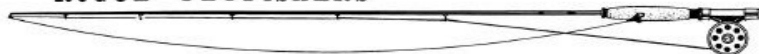
Hackle - Artic Fox in two sections (Black and some other color like salmon for the copper and purple or hot orange for the purple Fyre Werks)

Note - Both sections of Artic Fox are placed in a dubbing loop with base fibers cut short, spun into dubbing rope and wound on with a good stroke back after each wrap forward.

Head - Black Uni thread - double whip and head cement.

**Davetyer**

## 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
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**