



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

Fly Tyers Night

Rogue Flyfishers
PO Box 4637
Medford, Oregon 97504
www.rogueflyfishers.org

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This month's program will feature members of the Southern Oregon Fly Tyers (SOFT)
 SOFT club is made up of member tiers from Medford, Grants Pass, Northern California and Roseburg. There are tiers of all levels of skill.
 It includes hobbyist as well as commercial tiers. Both men and women are involved. They will be showing the results of the classes sponsored by the RFF, displaying the art and practical fishing side of fly tying.
 Sharing the art with any who choose to learn.

Committee Heads

President's Thoughts

If you didn't have a chance to attend the Feb. Dinner Meeting, you missed a good time. It was opening night for the Steelie Wheel Raffle. Grand Prize is a Bauer Model 4 reel. This is a top of the line reel and well worth a \$5 ticket or perhaps even more. After a brief introduction of how it was going work during dinner, the stage was set.

The beautiful reel was on display and was passed around to all to see and feel. It truly is a remarkable feeling reel, made right here in the Rogue Valley.

Just a reminder, all monies that "Your" club receives goes towards our efforts to help provide as much as we can in the fields of our Conservation Funds and other related endeavors. We believe in our abilities to really make a difference in our waterways and surrounding valleys.

Not only was there a chance at the reel, but we also included 2 separate \$25 Gift Cards to The Ashland Fly Shop and if the wheel should stop on an unmarked space, the spinner would at least walk away with a \$20 prize. All of this just for a \$5 chance to spin the wheel. Remember only one person gets a chance to spin it each dinner meeting. If you want to increase your chances to win – purchase more tickets at the next dinner meeting. For now all the tickets will remain in the container and as we sell more tickets you just might want to have more than just one ticket tumbling around inside of it.

We asked our guest speaker, Dave Hughes' to draw our first chance spinner. I don't think we could have gotten a bigger reaction than we did from "Mark Teeters". With both arms raised high in the air and a big whooping howl from him, he charged up to the wheel with a great big grin and still howling his pride as being the first to spin the wheel.

There was a lot of noise from those about to watch for the first time, the wheel spin around and around. I'm going to take a moment and let you all know that after I finished construction of this wheel, I had everyone who visited my home over the last 2 months come out to my work bench and give it a spin. I wanted to make sure that the spinner was functioning correctly and that it would work as I had planned. So the wheel had been spun over 100 times prior to this night. Never once could I or friends get it to stop on the slot with the reel's picture.

So here comes Mark up to take his chance to walk away with this magnificent reel. The crowd watching became very still and quiet. Mark didn't even hesitate. He grabbed hold and yanked the wheel down and it seemed like it spun forever. It did just what I wanted. Many times it circled the frame work. As it started to slow up, the crowd started getting anxious and louder. Standing right beside Mark, I watched his eyes explode with excitement. The sparkle reminded me of fireworks at Disneyland. Low and behold, as fate would have it, the Steelie Wheel, stopped on the slot for the first time ever, right on the slot for Mark to take home the reel. Those in attendance became very exuberant and joyous, everyone enjoying the moment. Mark had done it, something that I had tried over and over again and failed. He had out done me. The whole place erupted in a big cheer fest. I handed the reel to Mark, he took it, looked very closely at it, and then the biggest surprise of the evening came. Mark then spoke up, "I'll make you an offer". My mind raced around trying to figure out where he might be coming from. "I will give it back to the club if you provide me with another ticket each month". As I looked on in amazement and around the crowded room, my eyes made contact with another Steelie Wheel committee member, as I read his lips, it was a simple message, "Take the Offer". WOW!

If you don't know Mark real well, he is an extremely supportive soul for this club. What a kick off for this new raffle concept. Hollywood couldn't have scripted it better.

What a night to remember.....Thanks Mark

Plan ahead, bring a couple of extra bucks, and at the next Wet Fly hour get your own chance to try this out for yourself and help support this great club of ours.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Ken Johnson
Jim & Rachel Andras
Jack Kyman
John Graves & Violet Engebritson
Jim Eriser

Not About Catching Fish (but scientific conjecture)

By Otis D. Swisher

If you wish to read about catching fish, this isn't for you. But, a day fishing turned out to become the source for scientific conjecture. If that interests you, read on.

Here I am, anchored just below the shadow of Dodge Bridge. It has been slow fishing. Usually 30 or more trout to dry flies. Today, fewer than 10.

It's a gorgeous fall day. I'd say colorful. Red and yellow, as in streamside leaves; azure, as in the background sky; sparkling white, as in the puff ball clouds doing their slow scud upstream towards Crater Lake.

Then, a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence. Surrounding the boat, white spots, as if one half of the river had developed a severe case of white measles. Bits of cotton which had broken off the clouds? No. A late "snow storm" of cotton from the riverside Black Cottonwoods? No. What are they? And, what has been going on upstream at their source?

I reach down over the gunnel and pick one of the "spots" off the water. I examine it closely: "Down", that's what it is. "Down." The thing from which the old saw was created: "How do you get down from a horse?" Answer: "You can't. You get down from a duck, or a goose."

These are tiny pin-feathers. Pure white. And, they just keep floating by in a great profusion. A few are stuck together; but, mostly just singles about one-half inch to an inch long.

What had happened upstream to start and continue this snowstorm of white spots? Did a hunter pluck a goose at the water's edge? Why are there no primary or tail feathers? Had a raptor had a great feast from a barnyard fowl?

I was intrigued enough to start a count. I got to 689 of these tiny pin-feathers and conjectured that I had missed enough to have reached at least 1,000 if I had counted when they first started being seen. Then, the deluge was over.

Then came the scientific conjecture. I recalled an ornithology class at SOC, Ashland, where I had read that a Snow Goose had a total of 10,000 feathers. So, at least 1/10-th of the plumage of some white bird may have been plucked and floated by me as I sat and counted, not really caring that I was missing out on my fishing time.

I could not have cared less. This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. I could go fishing another day. This might not happen again, ever.

Conjecture: I can visualize a student carrying out a project of counting feathers from a Snow Goose of a lab specimen.

One...two...three...four...five...one thousand... six thousand...nine thousand nine hundred ninety nine...10,000. Done at last. Whew.

Will any student duplicate this in the future? If not, then I guess that we'll just have to say, "You really didn't prove that there were 10,000 because true science requires replication."

And there I have to leave it for myself. Do you have a conjecture? While you are thinking about it, I'm going to go fishing.

Fishing Trespass Permit

Gary Graham

Here is the Information for a Fishing Trespass Permit for the J-Spears Ranch area; which is located on the upper end of the Chewaucan River. Our club hosts an outing in August for the last 4-5 years and this permit allows you to fish more of the river, with out worrying about some the No Trespassing Signs. This permit does not include the M-Ranch Areas.

Club members planning on attending the Club Outing on the Chewaucan River during the summer of 2013 may wish to apply for a Fishing Trespass Permit from the J-Spears Ranch CO. Their office is located at 404 S 4th Street, K Falls, OR 97601-6168. The permit is free, good for a year and renewable.

Your request should contain a self address stamped envelope and a copy of your drivers license.

The following are Prohibited Activities:

- * off road Vehicles
- * dogs, camping, fires
- * artifact hunting, shooting
- *littering, obstructing gates

Catch and release, fly fishing with barbless hooks only.

Tenkara Basics by Dave Hughes

Introduction: Tenkara is a 400-year-old traditional Japanese method of fly fishing mountain streams for trout with a long rod, fixed line and leader, single damp fly, and no reel. Original rods were made from a light and slender bamboo culm, similar to crappie sticks used today in the mid-west.

Tenkara rods are now made of fiberglass or graphite, and are telescoping. Lines are typically furred, or of single-diameter fluorocarbon. Leader tippets are two to five feet of 5X or 6X; the idea is to break off an outsized fish just before the fish breaks your rod.

Must read: *Tenkara: Radically Simple, Ultralight Fly Fishing* by Kevin C. Kelleher, MD with Misako Ishimura. Lyons Press, 2011.

Advantages of Tenkara: It's light, simple, compact when telescoped, yet highly efficient for covering water and presenting flies on water that is suited to the method. It's perfect for backpacking, for carrying along on casual hikes, for having available when a more complex set of gear might be left home. It's also a very delightful way to fish, and to catch fish...remember those stick-and-string days when you had that most direct connection to the thrashing trout? That's an advantage of Tenkara. It's largest advantage is that you go fishing unburdened. It can, in certain circumstances, be more productive than 'western fly fishing', which, when it happens, is an advantage.

Disadvantages of Tenkara: The distance you can cast limits your range to +/- 20 feet with furred lines, +/- 35 feet with fluorocarbon lines. The fragile rod limits the size trout you might catch to a recommended 15- or 16-inches, though of course larger trout are possible, and smaller trout might break you off. The delicate rod discourages you from fishing heavily-weighted nymphs and large strike indicators. In many circumstances, it can be far less productive than western fly fishing, which is a disadvantage in those circumstances.

What you need to get started:

Outfit 1. Fountainhead 330 (+/- 11 feet) Caddis rod; Fountainhead 10.5-foot braided leader; spool of 5X tippet; traditional Tenkara flies if you're a traditionalist, an assortment of your favorite dry flies, wets, and beadheaded or lightly-weighted nymphs, plus a few Muddlers. Cost: +/- \$100.

Outfit 2. TenkaraUSA Iwana rod (+/-12 feet); 13-foot furred leader and 30-meter spool level line (cut to 15-18 feet); spool of 5X tippet; set of traditional Tenkara flies plus a selection of favorites you already use. Cost: +/- \$200.

To remember: It's what Charles Cotton did with his unwieldy greenheart rods; it's what Juan de Bergara did in Spain, and probably what Dame Julianna Berners did in England, so many years, decades, and centuries ago. It's what kids fishing crappie do now with a cane pole; it's what kids on docks in Oregon and Japan do with sticks and strings. It's what I do when I want to cast aside my cares, toss off my heavy burdens, and go have some fun catching trout in one of those beautiful places called trout streams.

Is Tenkara a fad: Lefty Kreh said it is. It's 400 years old in Japan, but not many folks do it there now. Is it a fad here? It's possible its swiftly-rising popularity will peak, level off, possibly decline. It might have a similar curve to that of a book after publication: rise, peak, decline, and one hopes, level off at some substantial level.

Does it need to be a fad in your life? If you use it wrong, and in the wrong places, it will be. I've been Tenkara fishing for about twenty years, and do it far more now than I did when I started. I enjoy being unburdened more often.

How when and where to use Tenkara right: Don't become a purist; integrate it into your own fishing, with flies and tactics you use now, at times when trout are plentiful and eager, in places where you can cover the water with a fixed length of line, where there is little overhead obstruction--trees!--and where the trout are not monsters.

Where it works best: On a small to medium trout stream, ideally with broken benches and pocket water as opposed to long pools; on water with an open canopy as opposed to overhanging shrubs and tree branches; on water that is somewhat shallow, so trout are willing to poke up for floating or shallow flies; on water where you can wade up the middle, hit water from bank to bank; on water where trout are abundant and hungry as opposed to scant and reluctant to bite; on the parts of big rivers that can be fished as if they were small water: riffles, pocket water, the banks.

Where it works worst: On small brushed-in streams; on big water, especially where it's deep; on lakes and ponds; on cold water when trout are glued to the bottom and need to be nymphed; on flat water over selective rising trout, where you'd like to go 'fine and far off'--with Tenkara it's easy to go fine but difficult to go far off.

Where I haven't tried it yet and am a bit afraid to: The banks of the Deschutes; I think it would work well to hook trout; I think one of those hot 12- to 14-inchers might break my rod or pull me in.

Favorite methods: Standard dry fly; dry fly and nymph dropper; traditional Tenkara damp fly or soft-hackle; beadhead nymph and yarn indicator; floating Muddler dropper with submerged Muddler point (this last method should be outlawed; it can be too much fun).

Websites: Google/Yahoo Tenkara Fishing for lots of articles/reviews/blogs. .

tekarausa.com

tenkarabum.com

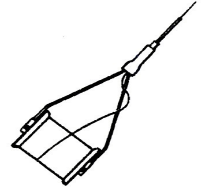
tenkaraflyfish.webs.com (Fountainhead)

cutthroatleader.com

On The Fly

march 2013

"Fly tying is a school from which we never graduate"



Tying News

The Southern Oregon Fly Tyers invite you to attend their meetings the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is March 12, 2013. The meetings start at 6:00 PM, at the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park community building near Gold Hill. Bring a friend, come early so you don't miss anything, and stay late. Tyers need not be experienced, and those with all levels of skill are welcome. Each meeting a member is encouraged to demonstrate a new or different skill, from simple to difficult. For more information, call Dan Kellogg at 773-4724.

DIRECTIONS: Take Gold Hill Exit #40, off of I-5 and go west, toward Jacksonville, 1.3 miles, until you reach the brick entrance way to the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park on the right. You'll pass a golf course parking lot on your left shortly after leaving the freeway. After you turn right into the mobile home park, proceed to the community building which is located about 100 yards ahead on the left. The address is 8401 Old Stage Rd. Please park your vehicle on the bare dirt in the parking lot to avoid the wooden septic covers in the grass.

PATTERN OF THE MONTH – Adams

Hook – Daiichi 1310 or your favorite dry fly hook size 10-24 (pinch barb down)

Thread – white & black

Wings – Grizzly hen wing tips

Tail – Mixed brown & grizzly spaded hackle barbs

Body – Original – 50/50 mix of gray fox & muskrat belly fur,
a mid gray muskrat, beaver or synthetic will work

Hackle – mix of brown & grizzly hackle



Pinch barb down if your hook has one.

Start with white thread 3 eye lengths back from the eye of hook.

Make thread base - on a size 12 it will be about 1/8 in.

Set wings back to back, take thread to point of hook.

Put on tail & dub fur body, set wings upright.

Switch to black thread and tie in 2 hackles, wrap two turns of both hackles behind wings and one turn in front.

NOTE: Most Catskill style have 3 in back & 2 in front.

This month will not be a particular pattern, but a style, a discipline or for many (myself included), a lifelong passion. Names like Cross, Darbee, Dette, Bergman, Flick, to name a very few, are tyers that I grew up studying their styles. My Grandfather was very adamant that I know every detail of their techniques. All have the same characteristics – upright wings, fine tapered bodies (of either quills, fur or floss) and full hackle. Most all of you have heard of or have used the Royal Coachman, Light Cahill and the Adams. These flies are all tied Catskill style. I will tell the proper way to tie the Adams but if you want to see and learn how to tie more come to the March Club meeting. I would also encourage you to come to the Northwest Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo in Albany, March 8 & 9. At Albany you will have the opportunity to see and learn from over 300 tyers in action, tying every fly imaginable to man and then some.

Keep your thread tight!

David

ARE FREE RAFFLE TICKETS WAITING FOR YOU?

All members who paid their dues by February 28th will be receiving 5 free raffle tickets at either the March or April dinner meeting— your choice depending on which meeting you attend.

BE SURE TO COME TO THE DINNER MEETINGS AND

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WIN GREAT PRIZES FOR FREE!

Thanks to everyone who paid their dues and for those of you who haven't, NOW IS THE TIME!

OUTFALL STUDY

John MacDiarmid

Most of the sewage in our valley is collected, and treated at a regional plant before it is discharged to the Rogue River about a mile down from the TouVelle Bridge. The flow to the plant in the summer is 17 million gallons a day. Those of us that fish that stretch of the river have noticed the foamy discharge sometimes stretching to High Banks 0.4 miles below the outfall. High Banks has an exposed gravel island in low water. October and Salmon spawn on both sides of the Island, it is a wonderful place to stop and swing the fly in the green water below the salmon. Only the memory of yesterday's hook up in a down stream riffle will keep you in the boat. Immediately upon stepping out of the boat at High Banks you notice a carpet of algae on the undisturbed gravel and upstream of the riffle the river bottom is covered in long flowing aquatic plants all fed by the nutrient rich outflow from the treatment plant. For several years it was understood the outfall was going to come out of the river for some type of land disposal or reuse. The effluent was just too warm to meet the temperature standards in the River set by DEQ. But then DEQ shuffled the standard and decided the discharge could meet the temperature requirements in all but a few days of the year. The Regional Facility was given permission to offset or trade this degradation by planting 30 miles of trees on the south bank of the river, up to 60 miles downstream of the discharge. The obvious problem with this "solution" is it does nothing for the millions of Salmon eggs in the gravel downstream of the outfall. Warm water has them hatch out earlier than normal with a reduced survival rate. BUT, that is a different issue for a different day. The important thing for this study is, the discharge is now going to stay in the river and the tremendous algae growth and impacts to the aquatic insect population will continue. There will be no removal of the discharge from the river. We responded by raising \$5400 to have Rick Hafele conduct a scientific study to measure some of the outfall impacts. You can read more background, the study itself, and the latest action at our RFF web site on the Conservation page. In summary, the impacts are very significant and it confirms the discharge is in violation of the Oregon Bio criteria Standard and the NPDES permit. To solve the nutrient problem, it appears the outfall will have to come out of the river or the treatment plant will have to go to a higher level of treatment. Both are costly and will take time. Thanks to the action of your club, the process has started.

This study with its extensive lab work by two labs would not have been possible without the generous support from the International Federation of Fly Fishers and the Oregon Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. Together they contributed \$3,000. We also received financial support from the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers and the Klamath Country Casters. We could not have done this alone. If you are a member of the IFFF, thank you; if you are not a member, you may wish to consider joining.

North Umpqua Outing

On April 6, I will lead an outing to the North Umpqua River. The North Umpqua, famous among fly fishers for its summer steelhead fishery, is a great destination for winter steelhead anglers as well. It is a beautiful river, and its steelhead tend to be larger and more challenging than those on the Rogue. It's a great river for those that like to wade and enjoy swinging flies.

We will meet at Swiftwater Park (just a little below Rock Creek and the lower boundary of the fly water) at 9:00 AM. After a brief discussion about the river and how to fish it, we will tour access points and fishing holes in the lower half of the fly water. We will then spread out along the river to fish. At that time, I will be happy to help anyone looking for additional instruction about fishing the North Umpqua or about steelhead fishing in general.

During the winter season, Spey rods can be an asset on the North Umpqua, but single-handed rods of about 8-weight will also work. Sink-tip lines or shooting heads will help you get your flies down to the fish. A wide variety of flies will work--from the traditional steelhead patterns to large intruder-style flies. The North Umpqua can be difficult to wade, so bring your waders, wading boots with good traction, a wading belt, and a wading staff. Be sure to pack your rain jacket, polarized glasses, sun screen, food, water, and the rest of your normal fishing accessories.

Unfortunately, most of the Forest Service and BLM campgrounds will still be closed for the season. The Dogwood Motel (dogwood-motel.com, 541-496-3403), located near the lower end of the fly water, is a decent place to stay at a reasonable price. For those on a more generous budget, the Steamboat Inn (thesteamboatinn.com, 800-840-8825) is a great place to stay, and it overlooks some of the best water on the river. There are also numerous lodging and dining options in Roseburg.

David Haight, Outings Chair

ADC DENTAL AND DENTURE CLINIC 541-772-8280

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



T H E O R E G O N

Fly Fisher


Winter 2013 Volume 26 Issue 1

The Newsletter of the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers

Northwest Fly Tyer & Fly Fishing Expo

MARCH 8-9, 2013

Linn County Expo Center • Albany, Oregon




Tyer Demonstrations
Classes
Casting Demonstrations
Vendor Booths
Auctions and Raffles Daily
Benefit Banquet & Auction

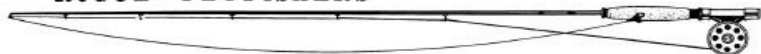
Admission:
FFF members, Vets
and youth under 18 - FREE
Non FFF members \$7.00

Show hours: Friday & Saturday
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www.nwexpo.com

 OREGON COUNCIL
FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

ROGUE FLYFISHERS



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

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