

MARCH 2021

Rogue Flyfishers

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

**Goodbye 2020
Looking forward to a
better 2021**

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

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term

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**In partnership with
Temple Fork Outfitters**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from STEVE DAY

“Ya Gotta Go Big or Go Home!”



I am really bummed that I'll miss the Cow Creek Outing this coming Tuesday but life sometimes gets in the way. This time it's for a doctors' appointment. How much fun is that? I rather not have the need to see the Doc, although he is a nice guy, but sometimes ones just got to give in and go. No worries, all is good.

With regard to Cow Creek, I've only been up there once and when I went, I knew full well that the Creek was unfishable due to high water. It was a sort of a reconnaissance mission for future trips and I'm glad I went. Beautiful place, no phone service throughout much of it, really big, wild, Steelhead when they're around and what appeared to be some very technical fishing water in many areas. Although the water was high, I could sense that even at fishable flows, many of the holding lies were insidiously close to water that might present a real challenge to landing that hypothetical, big, fish, if one were to hook one.

In some places it reminded me of some of the small creeks I fished as a kid. Rocky, steep and brushy. Wiggle your way through the rocks and willows so you could water load an upstream cast to get a few drifts through some attractive holding water in an attempt to catch a trout. This often works very well as long as the trout you manage to hook is not of the larger variety. Once you are hostage to the terrain, unable to move upstream or down, an unhappy, large, trout, can turn things into a hot mess in a hurry. It usually results in a score of Fish 1, Angler 0 and now you're talking Winter Steelhead. Sounds like a yard sale of sorts to me.

So, while snooping around like a Ninja, (doing my best Chuck Huntington imitation, sans the Ghillie Suit) I did run into a nice, fella, spin fishing. local guy, who claimed to fish Cow Creek a lot, and just happens to manufacture spinners for trout and Steelhead. And of course, he wanted to show me his rig and some spinners.

He was excited to catch a Steelhead on his spanking, new, composite, spinning rod and reel, on which hung, a very worn, blue and silver, willow blade, spinner about three inches long and likely weighed a half an ounce or more. He told me that was his go to spinner for Winter Steelhead during high water events. Attaching this large spinner directly to the reel, was what appeared to be rather heavy, brown, braided line of the gel spun variety.

I remarked about the heavy braid tied off directly to the spinner and he told me during high water he doesn't use a leader and the fish don't seem to care about the heavy braid. He remarked that 50lb braid is his line of choice when the Creek is high. He went on to say that the nature of the Creek and a hooked, pissed off, twenty pound, Steelhead, steam rolling downstream, aren't a good recipe for anything lighter than 50lb. He stated, *“Ya Gotta Go Big or Go Home!”* Besides, who wants to lose a great fish or their favorite spinner.

With all this in mind, I felt validated that my previous observation of some tough fishing situations could emerge when fishing this Creek. The 1X tippet on my swing setup might get challenged. But what the heck, for me it's as much about the fishing experience as it is about catching and after all, it could translate into some really great fishing stories.

Fast forward to the Outing and any future Outings. I hope the fishing is good and the experience is even better. I'm anticipating the Spring and the opening of many other beautiful places to fish. We are so blessed to live in this Country and able to participate as we do, in the things that we love. Good Luck!

“I am who I am and what I am, largely as the result of someone taking me fishing”

CRANE PRAIRIE OUTING

JUNE 25th thru 27th, 2021



If you've ever wanted to fish Crane Prairie, or fished it and struggled with figuring it out, this will be a great opportunity! Crane can be tough but with a little direction with timely information, it can be a blast.

Keith Hardcastle and Steve Day are hosting this Outing and will be there to help. The Official Base Camp for this adventure will be in the Rock Creek Campground at Space 10. Rock Creek Campground is located at the south west corner of the Lake and close to some great fishing locations. There is a boat ramp in the Campground and the shoreline there is such that personal watercraft can be launched with ease. Your Hosts will be at the Lake all week and with a little luck will have things dialed in by the Outing Weekend.



Crane is famous for the large, robust Rainbows, affectionately known as "Cranebows". Brook Trout, Kokanee and Largemouth Bass call Crane home as well. Crane Prairie is a shallow lake over flooded timber with Damsels, Leeches and Chironomids dominating the food chain.

Reservations for Rock Creek Campground are now available through [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). Quinn River Campground and Cultus Lake Campground are very close and only a short drive to Rock Creek. I would strongly recommend getting reservations as soon as possible if you plan on going.

Currently we are keeping our fingers crossed so that we can have our famous Pot Luck BBQ on Saturday evening the 26th. We'll keep you posted on that and we will follow up on fishing techniques, fly patterns and more as we get closer to the Outing.

So, come on out, fish, fellowship and enjoy. For more information contact Steve Day at icrsrd303@gmail.com or (661) 742-5835.

CONGRATULATIONS !

EARLY BIRD MEMBERSHIP DRAWING WINNERS

First and foremost, thank you to everyone who has continued to support the Club by renewing their Memberships. These Memberships will help keep us solvent during these trying times and hopefully we will get back to normal business soon and now for the big winners!

JERRY KIME of Grants Pass, is the Grand Prize Winner of the Temple Fork Outfitter's, 4WT Finesse Rod and BVK SD Reel.

HARRY FOSTER of Medford, is the Runner Up Winner of a box of flies handcrafted with care by our skilled local tyers.

And again, a big thank you to everyone!



Mr. Dan Kellogg, June 8, 1946 – February 5, 2021



Mr. Kellogg was a kind, giving and humble gentleman. He began life on a family farm in South Dakota and enjoyed a hobby of building repairing clocks with his father. He spent some time in the San Francisco Bay Area and eventually moved into Southern Oregon working with Brothers in Medford, Oregon.

He loved fly fishing and especially fly tying becoming an incredible teacher of tying techniques and methods. Dan started Southern Oregon Fly Tyers (SOFT) with Mr. Dave Roberts, some twenty years ago and served as its President for over seventeen years. He also had a disarming and engaging smile and employed it well while presenting his Tying Techniques corner after the SOFT meetings.

Dan attended and tied at Western based fly tying shows with his good friend Dave Roberts. He earnestly enjoyed sharing his tying knowledge and ideas with anyone who wanted to learn the fine art of fly tying.

Mr. Kellogg was a member of the FFI and the FFI Fly Tyers Group. He completed his FFI Fly Tyers Group certifications at both the Bronze and Silver levels. Dan owned a small cabin on Fish Lake and he really liked spending his time there surrounded by all the Southern Oregon beauty.

Dan also started his own local framing company. With his company, Stillwater Custom Fly Plates, he has created many plates for the following organization using many of the original tyers flies (Bob Quigley/Al Brunell /Dick Bonamarte / ORCFFI Legends Plates:

Southern Oregon Fly Fishers

Rogue Fly Fishers

Oregon Council FFI

Rogue River Watershed Council

Water Watch

Flies and plates for SOFT and many FFI individuals who wanted his help





Mr. Kellogg also had a keen mechanical engineering eye and designed a special fly photo box that was custom made so that one could slip their phone (like my iPhone SE) into a cradle and all other adjustments (including lighting and focus) could be made with another piece of handheld equipment. I am proud to have the last one he made before his passing.



We will miss Dan, with his disarming smile, eager to teach attitude and his warm and inviting discourse. I hope he is tying in his afterlife and sitting at his cabin at Fish Lake waiting for the fish to rise.

Mr. Kellogg is survived by his daughter Kris and his son Jason.

David P. McCants, President Southern Oregon Fly Tyers
Stephen Day, President Rogueflyfishers

Outings—March through June

March Outing

On March 20, the Rogue Flyfishers will have an outing to the Rogue River near Galice to fish for steelhead. There are a lot of fresh winter steelhead passing through this area in March on their way to the Applegate River and other spawning tributaries. This section of the Rogue River flows through a beautiful canyon and has water well suited to both swinging flies and nymphing. This area has several good drifts for boaters, but also has plenty of opportunities for bank anglers.

We will meet at 9:00 AM in the parking lot for the Hog Creek Boat Ramp. We will head downstream from there stopping to fish on several of the large gravel bars common along this stretch of the river.

You should bring a Spey rod with a Skagit head and various densities of sinking tips or a single-handed rod with a sink-tip line or sinking shooting head for swinging flies. Also bring a single-handed rod with a floating line for dead-drifting nymph, egg, or leech patterns. You should have an assortment of standard steelhead flies and intruder style flies in both bright and dark colors, 2X to 0X leader material, waders and wading boots, layered clothing, food and water, and your usual fishing accessories.

Future Outings

With the Coronavirus situation improving, we have scheduled outings through June. The following is a brief summary of what we have planned. We will provide details about these outing as we get closer to each one. We will plan outings and activities for later in the year based on how the virus recommendations and restriction evolve.

For April, we will hold the outings that were cancelled last year. We will make the trip to fish the Sugar Creek Ranch—a private trophy-trout fishery—on the 13th and 14th. This trip is already fully booked, but anyone interested in this trip can send me an email to be placed on an alternate list in the event that someone wants to cancel. The price would be \$255. For those that are not (and for those who are) so fortunate to be able to go to Sugar Creek Ranch, we will fish Bass Lake on the Shasta Valley Wildlife Area near Yreka, CA on April 12. This small lake has a good mix of warmwater fish and trout, and typically offers good fishing for big largemouth bass.

On May 1st, we will have an outing to Galesville Reservoir—another lake that offers good fishing for both trout and warmwater fish.

From June 25th through 27th, Steve Day will host the outing to Crane Prairie reservoir as described in last month's newsletter. As Steve noted, if you want to camp at Rock Creek or one of the other Forest Service Campgrounds in the area, you should make reservations soon as these campgrounds fill up fast.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Chetco River Outing

Kirk Kowalke

Brookings Or. 2/6/21 was the gathering place for our most recent club outing. David and Tanya were on hand to lead us up the Chetco river to the various access spots to try our hand at casting for a winter steelhead. Our mini caravan stopped first at the most popular bait casting bars and since it was the first Saturday after a major river blow out the banks were lined with bait fishers . No room for a fly caster so we proceeded moving up river until we got to Redwood bar and launch site. water levels were looking good and river color was a shade of green that could only have been caused by runoff from the huge fires that burned through last summer. It reminded me of a glacial run off river similar to the color of the Kenai. We found a place that looked good for swinging a fly and by late morning were rigging up rods and putting on waders ready to get serious about hooking a nice bright silver Chetco steelhead. Seemed like most each of the 8 or so people who ventured with us got in some fishing time though didn't hear of any takes throughout the afternoon.

Next morning arrived cool and foggy and I wasn't in a hurry to get out on the river but when the first drift boats started showing up I knew I better get after it before more came through. I had the bank to myself and proceeded to cast away in hopes of my first Chetco fish. The fog gradually lifted in an hour or so and the parade of boats had begun. Most boats must have launched at the next put in above where the south fork meets up. And by the time a couple dozen had passed by I got an idea most but not all had hooked at least one fish so far. As for me I just kept changing flies and sink tip and casting practice to some nice looking water. Just felt like it could happen any time and fish on. Alas, it wasn't to be for me and I left late afternoon without my first Chetco fish on. I could blame it on how nice a day it was both days being sunny , but I'll just say I was glad for the opportunity to fish such a great river at a time when flows were right and fish were passing through. So my Chetco winter Steelhead is still out there for another trip. So glad for our club and the outings and friends it provides. Big thanks to David for sharing his knowledge with all .

Kirk



Dear RFF Member:

It is time to renew your RFF Membership for 2021. In order to be listed in the official club directory, dues must be paid by March 31, 2021. Our new club directories will be available the end of April, 2021.

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 your 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 - 2021

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

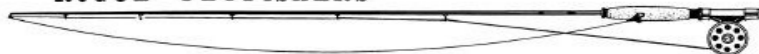
Are you a member of the **Fly Fishers International**? (circle one): Yes No

(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
Field & Stream	293 Rossanley Drive Medford	541-930-3254
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