

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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Roadside Cleanup Hwy 62		
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-772-0749



### **PROGRAM**

## **Lance Grey**



## Fly-Fishing Northern California's Lassen Park

The Lassen National Volcanic Park is a fly fishers dream. Concealed within its boundaries are legendary waters like Manzanita Lake and the headwaters of Hat Creek. There is no fish planting schedule for the park, only wild fish are found. The presentation will focus on a variety of fisheries including both still water and freestone streams. Both back packers to car top angling will be covered. Equipment and techniques, including Tenkara are highlighted and discussed during the presentation.

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from STEVE DAY

"MY LOSS IS MY GAIN"

It never fails as I close in to the submission deadline for Newsletter Articles, that I fall into the world of inspirational deadlock. There are so many topics to discuss and ponder but yet I struggle to create. This last Saturday afternoon was no different. I sat down to prepare this message and yet once again, the plague of mind freeze took over.

I could have written about all of the great things the Club has been doing. I could have written about upcoming outings or events or how grateful I am that many folks have stepped up and helped with various projects. Rather than fight with this opponent, I chose to go fishing. And then it dawned on me. Fishing has always been the solution!

Now keep in mind that I tend to avoid fishing on the weekend days. I often prefer to fish without much company. Just me, the river and whatever that might offer. This day was no different in mind, however the weather was stormy and I was hopeful the rain, wind and general nature of this particular afternoon would keep folks indoors and with a little luck I might find a willing Steelhead.

I traveled downstream of Grants Pass to a favorite swing run. This section of river doesn't generally hold many fish this early in the year but it's a place I find remarkable. It's beautiful, it produces fish consistently when they are around and It took me a couple of hours to fish it well. Fall Chinook Salmon regularly spawn in the tailout of the upstream run and I have caught many Steelhead in the downstream riffle in as little as a foot of water.

Although I didn't see any spawning salmon, I started at the top of the run, swinging with a light tip and a Silver Hilton. I caught several small Steelhead or resident rainbows. As the run deepened, I stayed in mid-river and opted for a heavier tip and chose to fish with a larger and heavier fly. This exercise while standing above knee deep, in a fast riffle can be challenging. The thought of wading forty yards through large river cobble back to dry ground just for this change seemed pointless, so I chose to make the switch where I stood. I carry with me a backpack that contains all of my swing necessities. Flies, a small case with tips, tippet, fishing license etc.

So, as I'm being pelted with rain as the squall blows from up river, I begin the adventure of changing all of this out for a setup that better suits the water I'm about to fish. Changing all of this mid-river can be complicated. I need to manage my rod, take off my backpack, open said backpack, remove the tip case, switch tips, rig up a new leader, remove a fly box from the pack, select and tie on a new fly and most importantly, remain vertical in the river.

The best part of all of this, is that I'm still alone on the river. Not a soul in sight. Wonderful! Until I dropped my fly as I'm tying it on. As I watch the fly speed away down river, never to be seen again, at least by me, I'm thinking, losing a fly is not that big of deal, however, when it's a Mini Intruder that requires way too many steps to tie and a good deal of time to do such tying, I'm not a happy camper. I then make the frustrating journey across the forty yards of large river cobble (that I previously thought was a pointless exercise) back to the solid ground, where if I drop a fly, it won't be gone forever.

As I set my rod and backpack onto the firm footing of this small island in the riffle, I notice an extremely large Mayfly emerging along the edge of the water. This insect is olive grey in color and is gargantuan by my Mayfly standards. I pick it up and place it into my hand. It is easily an inch long from its' head to the end of its' abdomen, not including the twin tails. Overall this dinosaur was a couple of inches long. I have seen many Hexagenia Mayflies that rival this beast in proportions, but never this species. I spent the next thirty minutes looking for more specimens and was lucky enough to find another Dun and one spent Spinner. Now I was on a mission to determine just what these bugs are.

I took a couple of bug pictures, finished rigging and went about fishing out the run. As darkness approached, I completed the run with a couple of additional small fish to hand and then It was homeward bound with a self-directive to identify the insect that had captured my curiosity.

Once at home, I spent until early in morning scouring the internet in an effort to identify this Mayfly. Nothing seemed to fit. All of the criteria needed to make a reasonable identification was eluding me. Wasn't a Hex? Right size, wrong color, plus I don't think they live in the Rogue. Must be a Green Drake? Nope not enough tails, three versus two. Maybe a Black Drake? Nope, strike three. Not many species of Mayflies are this large. The elimination process seemed like it should be simple.

#### (President's Message continued)

At two in the morning, I surrendered my quest and thought, I know, I'll e-mail our friend, Rick Hafele, world renowned Bug Guy. He certainly would know! So, an e-mail with a description and a couple of photos went on it's way

The next morning, I received an e-mail back from Rick. He stated, "I'm 95 percent sure what you saw was *isonychia velma*" or commonly known as Slate Drake. They are large (like an inch long, minus the tails) and crawl out on rocks to emerge, have two tales and are found in the Rogue River. He ended his dialogue with "Bugs Rule"

What a great guy! I could have saved several hours of effort and searching for an answer if I had gone directly to the Man. Although I learned a little more about Mayflies in the process, it turned out "MY LOSS IS MY GAIN". I lost a fly but I learned some things along the way. And maybe I should more often take that path through forty yards of large river cobble.



#### **Outings in October and Early November**

The Rogue Flyfishers have two outings coming up in October and early November—a trip to Fourmile Lake to fish for several species of trout on October 5 and a trip to target coho salmon on the upper Rogue River on November 2.

#### Fourmile Lake—October 5

Fourmile Lake is well stocked with rainbow trout and has several other species of naturally produced trout; however, what makes it unique in our area, is that is has lake trout. As the water cools in the fall, the lake trout move out of the depths and into the shallow water along the shore, putting them within the range of fly anglers. The lake trout don't seem to be as large here, on average, as in some of the other lakes in Oregon; however, I think Fourmile Lake offers one of the best opportunities to catch a lake trout on a fly. We will meet at 8:00 AM in the Dollar Tree parking lot at the intersection of Hwys 62 and 140 in White City. Six to seven-weight rods should work well, and bring lines that range from slow to fast sinking. The flies and techniques that you typically use for trout in lakes, will work. You should also bring a few larger streamer pattern for the lake trout; however, most of the ones I have caught at Fourmile Lake have been on the flies I typically use for rainbow. You can fish from shore, but your chances for success will increase if you have some sort of floating device. You can use float tubes, but Fourmile is a large lake and can get quite windy. It can be cold at Fourmile in October, so bring warm clothes and raingear.

#### Coho—November 2

By early November, we should have a decent number of coho holding in the pools in the river, where stripping streamers could produce some exciting action. We will meet in the parking lot across the road from the Shady Cove boat ramp at 8:00 AM. For this outing, an eight-weight rod with a fast sinking line or shooting-head system would work well. To that, add a 10 to 15 lb leader and a bright streamer. Popular flies include Egg-sucking Leeches, Comets, Clouser Minnows, and rabbit-strip flies. Pink and purple are popular colors for coho flies, but chartreuse, orange, olive, and black patterns will also work well at times. Having a driftboat, raft, or pontoon boat will provide more access to good water; however, there are several areas that provide good access to the river for those without a boat. Since we will be on the river most of the day, bring food and water, waders, rain gear, polarized glasses, and your typical fishing accessories. You should also bring your steelhead equipment since we will pass through a lot of good steelhead water between the areas where we will fish for coho.

#### Summer Steelhead—October 3

In addition to the above, I will be leading an outing for the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers on October 3 to target steelhead, and members of the Rogue Flyfishers are welcome to attend. We will meet in the large parking lot across the road from the Shady Cove boat ramp at 8:00 AM. As with the coho outing, having some sort of boat would be beneficial but not necessary. This outing is a good opportunity to introduce new members to the river, so I encourage members with driftboats to come and take some new anglers out for the day. Participants should bring a six or seven -weight rod with a floating line, 3X leader, and flies. The Chinook salmon should be spawning, and since the steelhead should be feeding on the eggs and nymphs dislodged by the salmon's spawning activity, dead-drifting imitative patterns should be productive. Effective patterns include egg imitations, Hare's Ears, Pheasant Tails, Prince Nymphs, Copper Johns, and stonefly nymphs. Flies should be lightly weighted to get down near the bottom. (Weight added to the line is not allowed.) Those that prefer to swing flies can bring the equipment and flies for that. Remember to bring the other items mentioned above for the day on the river.

#### **David Haight, Outings Chair**

## **Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting**

The next club meeting is Wednesday October 16th 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

PIT ROASTED PORK RIBS, PASTA, GREEN SALAD, GARLIC BREAD, BROWNIES & COOKIES

#### **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

RSVP'S need to be in by Friday preceding the meeting. Please email your RSVP to <a href="icrsrd303@gmail.com">icrsrd303@gmail.com</a>(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 <u>icrsrd303@gmail.com</u> or call (661)742-5835 by Tuesday preceding the meeting

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## SOUTHERN OREGON FLY FISHERS ANNUAL AUCTION & DINNER NOVEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> GRANTS PASS GOLF CLUB

Live Auction, Guided Trips, Hosted Trips, Hand Tied Flies, Gear, Getaways to name a few.

Silent Auction

Dinner, Prime Rib or Chicken Marsala

RSVP by NOVEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>

For Reservations or Additional Details Contact

John Storfold (541) 660-6584 or steelyjohn@charter.net

John Smith (541) 710-2515 or ilsutah@gmail.com

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED BEAR CREEK FALL FESTIVAL

RFF Board Member, Kirk Kowalke is leading an effort to tie flies with kids at this great event. For more information contact Kirk at (541) 531-0861 or kicakow@icloud.com.



#### **Celebrate The Rogue**

Join the Rogue River Watershed Council to "Celebrate the Rogue" on October 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 9:00 at Inn at the Commons for a fabulous dinner, entertainment and a Silent Auction. Dinner tickets can be obtained thru the RRWC Website or by calling (541) 423-6158.



Purchase Tickets

If Friend us on Facebook
 Send Email to a Friend



#### **NEW Club Members**

We would like to recognize and welcome the following new members:

Lloyd Cook, Len Dickson, Alec Stier, Calem Heiser, Snow White Charpentier, Kaityln and John Abbott, Jill Hunter and Larry Albright.

Welcome! Thanks for being a part of the Rogue Flyfishers!! Your support and participation is appreciated. We hope to meet you and see you at our monthly dinner meetings held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except May, July & Aug).

Be sure and sign up on our BLOG so you can receive our email notifications.

To sign up for the Blog, go to our website <u>www.rogueflyfishers.org</u>, scroll down the page.

Click on Rogue Flyfishers Blog on the bottom right corner.

On the right-hand column you will see a box that says:

"Enter your email and the newest post will automatically appear in your email"

Type your email address in that box and click "Submit"

You will now be kept up to date with the latest announcements, changes, and reminders that take place through-out the month that you need to be aware of.

Thank you to those who have renewed your membership! Your loyalty is appreciated.

Don Dabney Membership Chair

## **Casting For Recovery Fundraiser**

At the October meeting, there will be an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for a quilt for a Casting for Recovery fundraiser. The quilt is a beautiful oversize lap quilt crafted and donated by the Material Girls of Shady Cove. Tickets are \$5.00 a piece and 100% of the money raised goes towards Casting for Recovery.

Thank you,

Tanya Haight

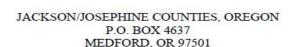
## **Great Work on the Trinity River**

https://lostcoastoutpost.com/2019/sep/26/yuroks-trinity-river-restoration-project/

# "RAFFLE A FISHERMAN" JOHN SCHWENDENER

Take a chance this next Meeting for a chance to fish with John!





## 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 941 SE 6th St, 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 **Member Federation of Fly Fishers?** Yes No Prefer using the **Online Newsletter** \_\_ or by **US Mail** \_\_?

Rogue Fly Fishers, PO Box 4637, Medford, Oregon 97501

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_\_. Mail completed form and payment to: