



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

Craig Nelson

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

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term

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Craig Nielsen is the owner and operator of Shasta Trout. A Northern California native, he has been chasing trout with a fly rod for over 50 years and guiding professionally since 1992. Having fished all across the west, B.C. and Alaska he especially appreciates the angling diversity Mt. Shasta

offers. From presenting tiny dries to selective Fall River Rainbows, swinging streamers with switchrods for the Klamath's fabled steelhead, dry fly fishing on the McCloud, or nymphing the Upper and Lower Sac for trophy 'bows, Craig enjoys it all. Everyone appreciates his patience, angling versatility and local knowledge. A certified casting instructor, he has taught at Mel Krieger's school and was one of the first authors on switchrods. Craig has been a featured guide for Flywater Travel, The Ashland Flyshop, Leland, Ted Fay, Fish First, The Clearwater House and The Flyshop. He holds a Teaching Credential and a Master's degree from Chico State where he worked as an Instructor, Administrator and Counselor prior to following his passion to guide full time. Craig will be speaking about the many Fly Fishing opportunities in the Mount Shasta area!

Committee Heads

Conservation	John Ward	482-2859
E-mail Coordinator	Tom Collett	244-8030
Events Coordinator	Kellie Christensen	776-4094
Librarian	Dick Chambers	608-9686
Librarian (Assistant)	Jim Harleman	858-7159
Marketing Committee		
Membership	John Bjorkholm	857-6147
News Editor	Steve Ostrander	772-0749
Outings	David Haight	855-9043
Roadside Cleanup	Bill Ackermann	857-6154
Youth Programs Director		
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	772-0749

President's Message—April 2015

My first fishing “rod” was a long stick with a string tied around it, a hook tied at the bottom and a worm on said hook. I was just a young girl and it was my determination to land a fish with my homemade rod that got my Dad’s attention and perhaps admiration as well. Soon I had my own REAL rod and I was fishing alongside my father on the very occasional trips to pursue our outdoor time together. Had he not worked such long hard hours as an HVAC man in a very hot climate, I’m sure we would have gone more frequently. As a father of three and young homeowner he had plenty of things to keep him busy. Family time was time for all of us to be together and my mother never really got that excited watching us fish. She would much rather be hiking or beachcombing for interesting rocks or pieces of wood. When my sister and brother were old enough, we would head off on summer vacation to a relative’s home on a lake. That was the place where the catching was as good as the fishing. I don’t remember keeping any of the fish (I have never liked that taste of them anyway) but I do recall many hours in the summer sun on a pier in the lake catching fish and squealing with delight and pride at my success.

Every person has a “how I got hooked on fishing” story and many are much more fascinating than mine. I didn’t graduate to fly fishing until a September vacation in 2005 led me to a river with a friend who was trying out a new rod. I watched him catch trout with his floating fly and I was fascinated, almost hypnotically, watching the line swirl as he loaded and cast it. When at last he took a break, I pleaded for a chance to try my luck. BAM! I wasn’t on that little river for more than 5 minutes with that fly rod before I hooked a little trout and I was pumped! My poor friend didn’t see much action on his fly rod for the rest of the day, unless it was watching me doing the fishing and helping me release the fish without harm. It was fortuitous (from my perspective) that he enjoyed my excitement and happiness as much as he did the actual fishing. For that reason I succeeded in commandeering his fly rod with assurances that I need not feel guilty for doing so.

The following week I purchased my own fly rod, a Cortland 5/6 and I didn’t pick up my spinning rod again. That was ten summers ago, and although I have had less opportunities to fish than I would have liked, it still soothes me to be out in the water with fly rod in hand. When I do succeed at catching something the peace and contentment accelerates to exhilaration and crescendos to bliss as I watch the fish I have just released head healthfully back under the water. That feeling of reverence for life and spirit is not found in many other facets of life. If it were, most of the world’s problems would cease to exist. That, my fellow fishers, is what we as humans share. Our life and our spirit is precious to us and should be just as precious to others. Perhaps when all living things are revered we shall be as well.

— Kellie Christensen

Welcome New Members

Boe, Holly, and Josie Reed

SKUNKED

By Jim Harleman

10:00 A.M. Tied on a fly with great hope on this new piece of water.

10:20 A.M. A few fish rising but nothing after my fly. Just want to catch ONE fish. I don't want to tell the club members I was SKUNKED.

10:37 A.M. A weak strike but no hookup. I just want "A" fish.

11:04 A.M. Caught and released a nice fish. Now if I can catch one more I won't have to say I "JUST CAUGHT ONE".

11:16 A.M. Caught a second fish. Now I can say I "CAUGHT A COUPLE". That feels better.

11:28 A.M. A third fish, 16 inches plus. And now I can report I "CAUGHT A FEW" without stretching it.

11:36 A.M. Fishing pretty good. A fourth fish. Club members should be impressed with "SOME FISH"

Am releasing fish but I could say "caught a limit" if I get one more.

12:10 P.M. Aha, caught another one. "CAUGHT A LIMIT" and I can say fishing was "PRETTY GOOD".

12:26 P.M. Sixth fish. This is fun. "CAUGHT OVER A LIMIT" has a better ring to it.

12:38 P.M. Fish number seven and I am thinking about the limit of 10 when I was a kid. Fish are rising pretty good and I am optimistic.

1:15 P.M. Break for some lunch. Have nine fish and this should really impress the club members when I report.

1:44 P.M. Fish still rising. Now I have an "OLD LIMIT" plus two. I can safely say "FISHING WAS VERY GOOD"

2:38 P.M. Wow, fishing is really great. This is amazing. This could be a place for a club outing after I report about the "GREAT FISHING". One more and I will have a twenty fish day.

4:02 P.M. Time to quit. My arm is tired. I lost track of the number of fish I caught somewhere after the 25th fish. I am going to the club meeting this evening. I am going to tell the club members I was "SKUNKED". Too good to share ☺

Bob Shuck fishing the Yuba River

"Not many fishing opportunities near here in San Jose, although I did go with the local club on one of their Fishouts, as they call them. We drove three hours to the Lower Yuba. The guides spent the morning with us showing us the good spots on the river and some of their favorite rigs and flies. They were quite excited when they seined out a Stone Fly Nymph. They have a Skwala hatch in early March."

He hooked his only fish that day at about 4pm on a size 16 bead head nymph below an indicator. The guide measured the fish at 23 inches..."might be a little generous."



North Umpqua Outing

The North Umpqua is famous among fly fishers for its summer steelhead fishery, but it is also a great destination for winter steelhead. The river is beautiful, and its steelhead tend to be larger and more challenging than those on the Rogue. On April 4, I will lead an outing to the North Umpqua River where we will try to tempt some of its incredible steelhead into taking our 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 discuss about the river and how to fish it, we will tour access points and fishing holes along 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 equipped with Skagit heads can be an asset, but single-handed rods of about 8-weight will also work. Sink-tip lines or sinking heads will help get your flies down to the fish. A wide variety of flies can be used--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. Wearing an inflatable PFD would offer an extra level of safety. Be sure to pack your rain jacket, polarized glasses, sun screen, food, water, and the rest of your normal fishing accessories.

Most of the Forest Service and BLM campgrounds will still be closed for the season; however, Horseshoe Bend and Boulder Flat Campgrounds, both on the upper half of the fly water, should be open. The Dogwood Motel (dogwoodmotel.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 with a bigger 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.

One of the great things about living in Southwest Oregon is the diversity of angling opportunities we can enjoy relatively close to home. While we have excellent opportunities for winter steelhead right here in the Rogue River, the North Umpqua offers a different experience that can add a little variety to your winter steelhead season.

David Haight, Outings Chair

ATTENTION ALL RFF MEMBERS

The annual fundraiser auction set for Saturday, May 16th has been CANCELLED.

We will have an auction in 2016 and look forward to your donations, participation and attendance at that event.

**THE REGULAR DINNER MEETING FOR MAY WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
MAY 20TH from 6 to 9 PM at the Rogue Regency**

An Introduction To The Art, Science and Joy of Fly Fishing

In this one day class for beginners and novices you will learn everything you need to get started fishing the Rogue for steel head and trout. The class will cover wadding equipment, rods, reels, lines, leaders and flies. Basic knots will be taught and there will be a section on entomology, aquatic insects, and the flies that imitate them. The final lesson will be on presenting the fly and casting. If you have a rod, reel and line, bring it but do not go out and buy one for the class. We will cover what rod to buy in the class. The club has rods for the class, let the instructor know if you will need one. Each year in late May and early June a large stone fly hatch occurs in the upper Rogue River above Shady Cove. The class will cover how to fish this hatch. We will also pick an evening to visit the "Holy Water" and cast our stone flies over feeding rainbows.

We would like for you to be a current member of the Rogue Flyfishers to take this class. There will be an optional \$10 charge to cover the cost of a small book, The Curtis Creek Manifesto.

The class will be held on May 9 from 9 to 3:30 at the club house for the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park. The park is located at 8401 Old Stage Road not far from Gold Hill. Traveling North on I-5 take Exit 40 at Gold Hill and proceed South on the Old Stage Road towards Jacksonville, the park is well identified on the right.

John MacDiarmid an FFF Certified Casting Instructor is the class instructor. Email him at jmacd@jeffnet.org to register for the class. There will be a limit of 12 students, you must be preregistered to attend. Last year we had a follow up fish on the fly only Holy Water section of the Rogue in late May and we will try to do this again this year.

Summer Casting

Beginning May 4, we will gather to cast on Monday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00P.M. at Hedrick Middle School on East Jackson in Medford. Otis Swisher, Tom Collett, Bob Pierce and John MacDiarmid look forward to casting with you and giving you pointers to improve your casting. If you just want to "warm up" and tighten up your loops before the season starts, then come on out. If you are wondering what tightening up your loops means, then you definitely would benefit from some time with the casting instructors. If you are having trouble with a particular cast or casting situation, we may be able to help. As always we really enjoy starting beginners correctly. In addition to beginners and open casting every session, we are also going to have specific lessons on specific cast or parts of the cast. The first specific classes will be on May 18 & 25 and deal with improving your back cast. Far and away this is the part of the cast that most of us need to improve. A good back cast is imperative to have a good forward cast. And since we can not see it like the forward cast, the timing and hard stop is more difficult to implement than the forward cast. Very simply, "If you got no back cast, you got no forward cast." Subsequent sessions will deal with presentation cast, the cast we use to present the fly to the trout and set it up for a dead drift.

In case you missed it, here are the winners for the Casting for Recovery

Thank you to all the club members who supported the Casting for Recovery raffle. Your support is much appreciated! The drawing was held at the SOFF meeting on March 19th and the winners were:

Winston Fly Rod--Don Roberts
Burkheimer Switch Rod--Bruce Bartow
Etched Fly Box--Sonja Nieson

Tanya Haight

20th Annual Bear Creek Watershed Symposium

Our clubs have chosen to participate in this year's event to be held at Santo Community Center, 701 N. Columbus Ave, Medford. The date is May 22nd (Friday) from 9:30 to 1:30. This symposium offers many different agencies providing students with hands-on activities highlighting conservation and watershed health. Our clubs, RFF & SOFF in Grants Pass are partnering to pull this off. We need about 10-12 fly tyers plus an equal number of casters to work with about 200 students. Last year we had about 20 volunteers to help make this a success. It would be great to have a few more to allow for breaks. Expert skills are NOT necessary just a willingness to have a positive experience with the kids. We can also use a couple "herders" to get the kids cycled to the activity areas in an efficient manner. More ladies are welcome and greatly admired by the young female students. A lunch will be provided as well as all tying materials, rods and vices although if you have a favorite vice for demo purposes bring it along. To the folks that helped out last year, thank you. Please help us again if you can and bring along your fishing buddies to join us. To those that are new to this activity, please, please come join the party, it really is a positive encounter with our youth. Contact Ken Bonsi (kenbonsi@gmail.com or 541-899-9981) to sign up or find out more details. Give me your contact info (email and phone) along with what your participation preference might be (casting, tying or herding). We need to have a committed group of 20 by the middle of April or we may need to cancel.

The RFF Blog

As most members already know the blog is replacing the bulk email program we were previously using. There are several advantages to the change. The blog can be bookmarked for quick reference and can be accessed from any connected device. If a posting has an error, it can be corrected without having to send additional corrected emails. The new postings can be delivered direct into your email. To get the emails just sign yourself up on the right hand side of the blog. After you sign up you will receive a verification by email. When you receive the verification, be sure to click the link that activates the automatic emails. If you change your email, just sign yourself up again.
rogueflyfishers.blogspot.com.

MENU for April 15th, 2015 Rouge Fly fishers Dinner Meeting

Champagne Mustard Chicken	Tossed Green Salad with Dressing	Roasted Red Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables	Dinner Rolls and Butter	Coffee, Iced Tea or Decaf
<u>VEGETARIAN ENTREE</u>		
Spinach Herb Pesto Pasta		

If you wish to order a vegetarian, gluten free or lactose free meal, please contact Kellie at kclmbr@msn.com or 541-776-4094 to reserve your meal. Please try to let her know by Monday, April 13th.

NAME BADGES ARE YOU MISSING YOURS??

If you do not have a name badge to wear at the dinner meetings, please contact Kellie at kclmbr@msn.com or 541-776-4094 so that she can order one for you. All members who have paid their dues for 2015 should have a name badge. Any members who has NOT paid their dues will not be eligible for name badges.

If you have lost your badge, a replacement can be ordered for \$5.

PLEASE LET KELLIE KNOW IF YOU NEED A NEW NAME BADGE! Thank you!

Gary Lewellyn, DMD



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Adam Wright is an avid fly fisherman, husband, and father of two. He is an MBA graduate from Southern Oregon University. Adam can be found on local waters during most weekends as he enjoys introducing others in the area to this sport. He teaches fly fishing for the city of Medford Parks and Recreation. He also teaches Dave Ramsey's Core Financial Wellness for Medford which teaches investments and other financial concepts.



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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.shastatrou.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
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