



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.

## SUMMER

No meeting this month.  
Go fishing, you never know what you might catch.

**Rogue Flyfishers**  
**PO Box 4637**  
**Medford, Oregon 97501**  
**[www.rogueflyfishers.org](http://www.rogueflyfishers.org)**

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term

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Roadside Cleanup Hwy 62	Greg Hart	530-643-3235
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-772-0749



## *3<sup>RD</sup> Annual WINE DINNER*

*Our annual Wine Dinner will be held Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>  
at Daisy Creek Vineyard in Jacksonville  
675 Shafer Lane*

*Come join us outside on the patio for a buffet dinner catered by  
Rosario's Italian Restaurant.*

*A complimentary bottle of red and white wine will be served at each table with  
dinner. Wine is also available for purchase by the glass or bottle from Daisy Creek Vine-  
yard throughout the evening.*

*~ Social Hour with Appetizer begins at 5:30 pm  
~ Dinner is served at 6:30 pm*

*Seating is limited and reservations are required.  
Payment is due in advance to reserve your seat. Cost is \$25 per person.  
Deadline to get your reservation in is August 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

*This Wine Dinner takes the place of the regular dinner meeting in August.  
No other meeting will be held.*

*Please mail your payments to:  
Rogue Flyfishers P.O. Box 4637 Medford, OR 97501  
Indicate "Wine Dinner" on your check memo.*

### DINNER MENU

Smoked Salmon Spread ( Appetizer )

Chicken Picatta

Cheese Ravioli

Roasted Vegetables

Caesar Salad & Garden Salad

Bread

Cookies

*\$25 per person*

## OTIS SWISHER

Thank you to all who were able to sign Otis' memorial card at our last meeting. His son, Mark, was very appreciative when I presented it to him and said the family would really enjoy reading it. Otis was able to make 2 last trips down the Rogue in the days preceding his passing. He caught a few fish both trips. Mark also said he would be staying in an RV camp in Gold Hill until he figures out what to do with the rest of his life. I have his phone number in case you need to reach him. Otis donated most of his rods, reels, flies, fly tying materials and equipment to next year's RFF auction. He wanted to share that with the club members, much as he shared his life with all of us. He will surely be missed. Please send any remembrances you want to share about Otis to Steve Ostrander and he'll try to get them in our newsletter. [ost247@charter.net](mailto:ost247@charter.net)

Dale Heath

## Club Member John Hamilton Retires

John Hamilton, a true fish champion in the Klamath Basin, retired from the US Fish and Wildlife Service after a 38yr career in fisheries , the last 12 yrs spent in the Yreka Fish and Wildlife Office diligently working to open the path for salmon and steelhead to find their way home in the upper Klamath River. He received his undergrad BS from Michigan State, and MS from Humboldt State, and will retire in Ashland OR.

You will find the story at the link below; Please recognize John Hamilton's amazing work and passion for our native fish.

[https://www.fws.gov/cno/newsroom/highlights/2017/john\\_hamilton/](https://www.fws.gov/cno/newsroom/highlights/2017/john_hamilton/)

**Here's to you Jim Harleman, we miss you**



## Upper Williamson Outing – 2017 Highlights

High water year, maybe a foot, put open water further from dry pastures so wading was a tiring struggle for anglers. Deeper holes surprised some, and we shifted camp down to Sand Creek fence line, avoiding camp road mud ponds.

Fourteen Fisherfolks had lots of hits, caught and released over 100 fish, mostly brookies but some rainbows.

Multi-site BLACK DRAKE hatches varied each day, afternoons or evenings at 7:00 pm, 1:00 pm, 2:00 pm throughout the 2-mile stretch of Forest Service water, generally lasted about an hour.

Sounds like a huge rain due to water jumping with trout, many of 12 to 14-inch size, says Bob Shuck. Actual Black Drakes seem much fatter than nearly all tied Black Drake flies.

Close to camp, cinnamon-coated Black Bear, 500 to 600 pounds, at Sand Creek Ranch corner on USFS #440 road.

USFS #4648 road blocked by good size Lodge Pole fallen across return road to Head of the River Campground by big thunderstorm; rains re-filled two mud ponds crossing USFS #440 road.

Steve Boyarsky likely took Most Fish honors, releasing 16 between Saturday and Sunday. Kurstin Graham received a special bottle of beer for traveling from Reno to fish with his Dad.

Bob Claypool distributed a special treat of Dick Bonamarte flies to several RFF fishermen.



## **FISH 2 RIVERS: North Sprague + Chewaucan July 14 – 17**

Looking for FISH plus Adventure away from July crowds? A handful of guys will start fishing BIG TROUT in North Fork Sprague's elbow about noon Friday, July 14. Later on we move to Sprague's Sandhill Crossing where we camp streamside. Steady flows from 8,365-foot Gearhart Mountain Wilderness give plenty of cold water at Sandhill. Downstream from camp is a rugged canyon with pocket water; up-stream offers 2-miles of wet-wading runs, glides, and riffles over nearly level ground with some brushy banks. Late arrivals can join us Saturday morning at Sandhill; this no-fee USFS camp at 6,090-foot gets mighty cold at night so bring a good sleeping bag and warm clothing.

If fishing looks promising we can stay another night and after breakfast Sunday move on to USFS's Happy Camp on Dairy Creek. After leaving the Sprague, it is best to have a **Fishing Trespass Permit** from J-Spear Ranch so you can fish their ranch land along Dairy Creek or the Chewaucan River. **Permits are free for catch and release fly fishing with barbless hooks only.** Prohibited activities are No OHV, No vehicles off main roads or on irrigated pastures, No Dogs, camping or fires, No artifact hunting, shooting or littering, and No obstructing gates. Request a permit by mail, include a photocopy of your driver's license, to Modoc Lumber Company, 404 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Klamath Falls, OR, 97601. Gary Graham, an expert with fish tips for the Chewaucan, expects to join us at Happy Camp.

We plan to return Monday. The plan is to meet Friday morning at the USFS Ranger District office on Hiway 140 in Bly, OR and convoy to where the North Fork Sprague River runs under the USFS 3411 Road in a narrow canyon. This is the "elbow" site where we start fishing. There should be a water pump at Sandhill Crossing with tested potable water so you may want to bring water container, there are toilet facilities at both Sandhill Crossing and Happy Camp. If this sounds interesting, and you have questions, call Outing Host John Ward at **541. 884. 2015.**



## Kid Event in August

RFF has been invited to a Nature Day Camp out at Pacifica Gardens in Williams this August. We will provide tying and fishing at Heron Pond on the Pacifica campus. The pond is full of bluegill and bass. They have yet to decide the final date for us but it will be at the end of the month 8/28 thru 8/31. They expect around 10 kids aging from 6-12. It will be roughly a two hour session starting at 9:30 AM on one of the mornings mentioned. We did this event in 2015 and it took about 6 folks to pull it off. You can take a look at the RFF September 2015 newsletter to get a visual including shots of our own Jim Harleman. You can also check out the Pacifica Gardens website for specifics on location.

In 2015 we fished with the famous yellow foam spider that Otis invented. The bluegill loved it !!! We will tie the usual woolly bugger for them to take home. There's a nice grassy bank to cast from. Our guys cast the fly especially with the younger kids then the youngster got to bring the fish in. Lots of smiles were had by all.

Hope you can make it this year, Ken Bonsi 541-899-9981, email address: kenbonsi@gmail.com

Please call or email me by the end of July if you want to help out. Include your contact info as well as which day of the week from the range stated might work better for you.

Jim and Otis obviously left a rich legacy of working with our youth. Let's continue to follow their tradition.

## July Outing—Smallmouth Bass on the Umpqua River

As fly anglers here in Southwest Oregon, we tend to focus our efforts on trout and steelhead, and for good reason—these are great gamefish. There are, however, a variety of other species in our region that offer wonderful sport on a fly rod. The smallmouth bass is one such species. While smallmouth bass are found in several local reservoirs, many fly fishers particularly enjoy pursuing them in streams, and the Umpqua River offers an excellent opportunity for that. Smallmouth are abundant throughout the Main Umpqua and in the South Umpqua up to Tiller. They are aggressive fish that will readily take a fly, and it is common for anglers to catch dozens of fish in a day. Plus, the fishery is at its best in the summer when the action is slower for many of our other local fisheries.

The Rogue Flyfishers will join the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers for an outing to the Umpqua River on July 29. We will meet at 7:00 AM in the Diamond Home Improvement Store parking lot, which is on 7th Street in Grants Pass near the North I-5 interchange. We will car pool to the Umpqua from there. We will float a section of the main Umpqua, so if you have a driftboat, pontoon boat, or other watercraft suitable for Class 2 rapids, please bring it. If you don't have a boat, we will try to find you a ride, or will provide a map identifying places to fish from the bank.

Smallmouth bass can be found in the pools and backwater areas, and even in the slower riffles. They will take poppers, Clouser minnows, woolly buggers, streamers, and large nymphs. Yellow, white, and olive are generally the best colors. Floating or slow-sinking lines fished on 5 or 6-weight rods are ideal. Be sure to also bring food, water, sun screen, polarized glasses, a hat, and your other usual fishing accessories. If it is hot, you may want to come prepared to get wet.

If you are interested in going, call me at 541-855-9043 or email me at [tmdrhaight@infostructure.net](mailto:tmdrhaight@infostructure.net). Please let me know if you will be bringing a boat, and if you have room for a passenger.

David Haight, Outings Chair



## Are you receiving our email notifications ?

If you are not receiving those, it's because you have not properly signed up on our BLOG.

To sign up for the Blog, go to our website [www.rogueflyfishers.org](http://www.rogueflyfishers.org) , 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 it 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.

## Regular Monday Casting Classes to End July 24

John MacDiarmid

Your casting instructor will be heading to Livingston, Montana for the annual International Fly Fishers' (formerly the Federation of Fly Fishers) annual Fishing Fair (formerly the Conclave) the last few days of July and a few days of August. Then I will be gone most of August for vacation. If 3 or more would like a casting class on either Sept. 11, 18, 25 I'd be happy to meet you at a park. Just call or email. Otherwise, I hope to see you on the river in September or October throwing perfect loops!

## The Annual Fishing Fair

John MacDiarmid

Each year the International Fly Fishers holds an annual gathering which is just really exciting for all of us in the sport. The top casting instructors in North America and sometimes ones from Australia and Europe gather to teach and cast. I will be taking teaching casting classes from some of the best. They also hang out with rods in hand and demonstrate cast very few can accomplish, very exciting. They will also help anyone that shows up with a casting problem. You only have to ask when you find the unorganized casting gathering called the casting rendezvous. They live to cast and instruct, don't be shy, they will be glad to help you, you only have to ask. One caster I really like to watch is a young fellow from Boise that regularly cast the full 5wt. line with his 5wt. rod.....his line is 120' long. He has a unique style. He changes his grip in the middle of the pause. On the forward cast he has his thumb on top, then while he is waiting for the line to straighten out for the back cast he rotates his hand on the cork to put his index finger on top for the back cast. The hand is so constructed you can apply more power to the back cast with the index finger up. On his longest cast his feet often come off the ground. He puts such a bend in the rod, he is a rod breaker. There is usually a 2 day or 3 day ladies' class that I have heard good reports about.

Then there are numerous fly tying classes and lecture programs. Once I attended a lecture on doing Chile on your own, my wife and I ended up going to Chile for a lodge trip and we added a few days of self guided also based on what we learned. At our last meeting I asked for a show of hands of who is going and only Dave Roberts and I raised our hands. It is on the other side of Yellowstone Park this year so that is a bit of a drive. It will be one day closer next year (2018), it is going to be in Boise. Think about it.



## FOR SALE

### MEYERS SPORTSPAL X-13 FISHING CANOE

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Tom Kopriva  
Eugene, OR [freeflyer123@comcast.net](mailto:freeflyer123@comcast.net)—I will  
send photos on request  
541-484-6048

## Review of The Biomechanics of Distance Casting

by G.T Moran & A.R. Kyte (1992)

Part 2: Differences in the Back Cast Between the Elite and Good Casters  
John MacDiarmid

Last month I reviewed the set up of this casting study. Twenty very good casters were brought into the Gym at U. C. Berkeley and cast while the cameras were rolling. All casters used the same 7wt. rod and line and they all held the line at the same place with their line hand so the same amount of line was aerialized. They then shot line on their distance cast. One half the casters with a mean average casting distance of 80 feet were called the Elite Casters and the other half with a mean distance of 71 feet were called the Good Casters. The investigators then played back the videos to determine the casting differences of the two groups; this Part 2 will look at the differences in the back cast, next month the forward cast differences will be discussed.

**SMALLER BACK LOOPS** Smaller loops are more aerodynamic than large loops and it is not surprising that the Elite Casters all had smaller loops than most of the Good Casters. A few Good Casters had small back loops. Big loops are a common problem of many casters and it often results from braking the wrist at the end of the back cast, driving the rod tip and line towards the ground. A firm wrist with the rod in a vertical position at the end of the back cast will result in small back cast loops. This is a difficult thing to self diagnose and is best done with a casting buddy or camera. Two apps used by casters are Coaches Eye and Hudle. Some casters practice casting in upscale horse riding barns with wall mirrors!

**STRAIGHTENED LINE IN BACKCAST** The Elite Casters sent their line straight back with no wobble left or right by the casting hand. This is another diagnosis we can make with a casting buddy. Have the observer stand at the end of your backcast to see if there is any left or right waiver of the line. Some casters have an oval pattern to their casting hand path. Another trick is to cast beside a wall to see if the line and rod are parallel to the building. This is called tracking and it is very important to incorporate this into the cast. Also, it is important to start forward before the line falls below the plane of the forward cast. How many times have you seen an angler tick the water on the back cast? There is a video on you tube of perennial casting champion Steve Rajeff giving a casting class to the Long Beach Casting Club. He modestly states small loops and straight lines in the back cast are responsible for his casting success.

**ABRUPT STOP** Most of the casters initiated the back cast stop at 10 degrees past vertical. The Elite Casters completed the stop in another 16.6 degrees while the Good Casters required 26.7 degrees to complete the stop. This means the rod tips of the Good Casters ended up in a wider arc, (more laid back) that opened the loop more. The loops of the Good Casters were larger than the loops of the Elite Casters. Also this slower stop reduced the spring effect of the rod. It can be compared to letting off of a drawn bow before the arrow is released.

As you can see there are only three interrelated things Moran and Kyte measured during the back cast. They are not difficult to comprehend or work on for a better cast. All good casters have a good back cast. As Casting Instructor George V. Roberts Jr. says in his casting book, Master the Cast: Fly Casting In Seven Lessons (2002), "If you've got no back cast, you've got no cast."



**Gary Lewellyn, DMD**



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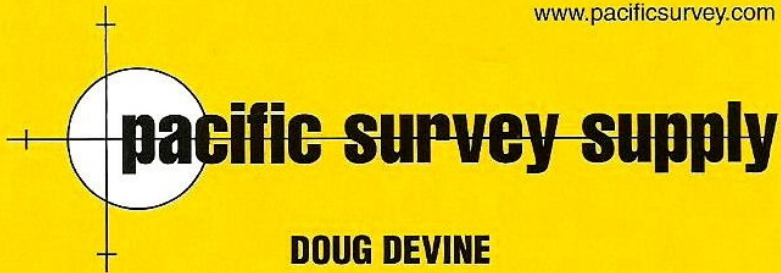
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The Flyway Shop	9349 Hwy. 97 South, Klamath Falls	541-884-3825
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### Rogue Fly Fishers membership **Application** and membership **Renewal Form**

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** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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If you do not want your e-mail address in the membership directory, check here \_\_\_

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

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