



September 2026

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

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

Board of Directors

			Term
President	John Pogue	541-973-0722	2026
Vice President	Dave Haight	541-855-9043	2027
Treasurer	Tim Bolling	541-500-1976	2026
Secretary	Open		
Board	Bill Burns	541-680-7402	2027
Board	Rick Graw	503-522-9477	2026
Board	Robbi DeBois	760-985-8630	2026
Board	Jim Ulm	541-973-6250	2026
Board	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331	2027
Board	Mike LeTorneau	541-622-5733	2027
Board	Bob Eury	707-498-5368	2027

Upcoming Meetings / Outings / Events

Board Meeting	9/2/26
Club Meeting	9/16/26
SOFT Meeting	9/8/26

Events

FFI Fly Fest, Redding CA	9/24/26-9/26/26
Southern Oregon Fishing Expo	10/24/26

Outings

Committee Heads

Auction Chair	Robbi Debois	760-985-8630
Blog Coordinator	Steve Day	641-742-5835
Casting Chair	John MacDiarmid	541-664-8391
Conservation	Rick Graw	503-522-9477
Fly Tying Chair	Dave Roberts	541-601-5658
Membership	Jim Ulm	541-973-6250
Newsletter Editor	Bob Eury	707-498-5368
Program Coordinator	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331
Raffle Chairman	OPEN	
Roadside Cleanup Holy Water	Rick Graw	503-522-9477
Webmaster	Bob Eury	707-498-5368

President's Message, September 2026

Well it's time to get back to business and meetings. We have some great speakers lined up this year, and I'm sure some good fishing opportunities. We will kick off in September with Garrett Lesko and a presentation on sea run cutthroat. If you haven't pursued these guys I highly recommend it. When I went to Vancouver Island a few years ago to fish for coho's I caught a lot of these in the lower oyster river. They're aggressive, fight hard, and in a lot of our coastal rivers and estuaries here in Oregon.

Hopefully your summer has been going well, and you've been getting some fishing in. I had some great days at Klamath, Agency, and Diamond lakes. I also had a very difficult day at Diamond recently. I managed to put some fish in the net, but it was tough. Now that the weather has cooled off some hopefully the fishing improves. The reports I have been getting from the Rogue have been decent but sporadic with some great days followed by some not so great. Fish counts haven't been good this year. The Deschutes has been closed due to low counts as has been the North Umpqua. Hopefully this next winter brings some much needed rain and snowpack to help correct this situation.

With the new year coming up the club needs to start thinking about some new blood on the board of directors. I stayed on an extra year as president but will be stepping down in January. There are also some other positions opening up on the board as well. We had someone step up to fill the treasurer position. A new member, David Fischer is going to take this important role in the club. Thank you, David, for doing this, we appreciate it.

I am going to head down to the FFI Flyfest in Redding at the end of the month. I will be attending some workshops on club membership and what is being done to keep the sport we love going strong into the future. If anyone else is attending Flyfest, please let me know. This looks like it will be a fairly big event. I was also approached by the new Oregon FFI chapter

president about joining their board, which I accepted. You never know what you're getting into until you really step in it!

Take care every one and hope to see you all at the upcoming meeting on September 16th at Centennial.

Thank you, John Pogue

Program

Sea Run Cutthroat

Garrett Lesko

Garrett fell in love with fly fishing during the summer after his freshman year of high school. He went camping with a few friends out at Odell Lake, Oregon. While he was there fishing for kokanee he had a friend that brought his fly rod long with him. He casted it a few times, never caught a fish. But later the same friend that brought the fly rod went out in his float tube and caught a monster rainbow trout. That sparked a fire in Garrett. That summer he found an old Thompson fly tying kit in the garage and set off to the local fly shop for a beginners kit. After that the rest is history. Garrett self taught himself everything he knows about fly tying. Using books, the internet, videos, and the constant picking of fellow fly tyer's brains he has amassed a great deal of knowledge that rivals most tyers twice his age. With a passion to learn and to teach his skill he has attended multiple fly tying expos and shows in Washington and Oregon, the biggest being the NW Expo that is in March every year in Albany, Oregon. He has also done demos and shared his knowledge of deer hair work and warm water fishing with local fly fishing club and project healing waters chapters. He now has tied flies for people going all over the world from Argentina to Mongolia to Christmas Island to Alaska to Montana and would love to tie more and share his knowledge with anyone who wants to learn. Please Reach out to him if you host a club or group that would like to learn more about a myriad of fly fishing and fly tying topics.



Garret Lesko

Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting

The next club meeting is:

Wednesday, September 16th
Centennial Golf Club
1900 N. Phoenix Rd. Medford, 97504.
Wet fly 5:30 – 6:30pm
Dinner and meeting at 7:00pm
Raffle prior to Program

BUFFET DINNER is \$25 per person

Menu: Chicken Alfredo with Caesar salad, roasted and seasoned broccoli and garlic bread, Desert is cookies and brownies. (The chicken will be on the side so the vegetarian option is covered.)

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

RSVP's need to be in by the Saturday preceding the meeting (September 12) . Please email your RSVP to jpogue2112@gmail.com (give your name and how many for dinner). For those who cannot do email call (541)973-0722.

Pay when you arrive. We take cash or checks only. Special dietary requests: email John Pogue at jpogue2112@gmail.com or call (541)973-0722 by Tuesday preceding the meeting.

Board Minutes

The Board Meetings are held at the Lion's Club on Holly Street in Medford the 1st Wednesday of every month. Club members are welcome to attend. The last meeting was held September 2. The minutes from Board Meetings are available on the Club website.

Treasurer's Report

Financial Report – Tim Bolling

After a quiet summer with very little happening with regard to our finances, it will be great to resume our monthly meetings! A Couple of reminders:

1. We take cash or checks only for the dinner. Sorry, we just don't have the capability of handling credit or debit cards. Centennial does not have an ATM, so please come prepared!
2. As in past years, we have a commitment of 50 paid dinners to Centennial for every dinner meeting. If we don't have 50 paid attendance, the Club still has to pay for 50 so that's money we don't have to spend on programs, grants, and other club activities so PLEASE, come on out for the terrific programs, seeing old and meeting new friends, and participating in our monthly raffle!

FFI FlyFest 2026



As an FFI member we know fly fishing plays a meaningful role in your life, so we hope you'll save the date and plan to join us for FlyFest 2026, taking place September 24–26, 2026, in Redding, California, at the Redding Civic Auditorium.

FlyFest is about bringing fly anglers together; to learn, to share knowledge, to spend time with people who care deeply about the sport and the waters that sustain it. Whether you're new to fly fishing or have spent a lifetime on the water, FlyFest is designed for anglers of every age and skill level.

The 2026 event will bring learning and community into the same space with a full schedule of educational presentations, fly tying and casting demonstrations, a consumer trade show, and time built in for fishing, food, fellowship, and fun. Everything takes place under one roof and is included with a single, accessible registration fee.

For members who want to go a step further, FlyFest will also offer small-group seminars that allow for closer learning and real conversation. A community dinner and fundraising auction will round out the weekend — an opportunity to connect, celebrate our shared passion, and support the mission of Fly Fishers International.

FLY FISHING VETERANS - "Serving All Who Served" - FLYFISHINGVETERANS.ORG

SOUTHERN OREGON FISHING EXPO

Presented by:    

FLY TYERS REGISTER NOW

OCTOBER 24, 2026 • 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM • DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS



From Our Rivers *To the Open Sea*

Fly Tying - Fishing Techniques - Vendors & Exhibitor Booths- Frank Moore Documentary "Mending the Line" - Quilts of Valor Presentation - Silent Auction - Live Auctions - Food Trucks on Site

Contact Doug Myers: dmyers@flyfishingveterans.org - 541-671-1080

Sponsored by:

 **NORTH RIVER** and **WILLIE**  **BOATS**

2026 Southern Oregon Fishing Expo Saturday 10/24/26, 9 am – 5 pm

"CALLING ALL FLY TYERS"

First and foremost, thank you for your incredible support of Fly Fishing Veterans over the past five years. Because of your dedication, encouragement, and participation, what began as a small Fly Tying Festival has grown into one of Southern Oregon's premier fishing events this year.

As our organization has grown, so has our vision. Beginning in 2026, our event will officially become the Southern Oregon Fishing Expo, reflecting not only the growth of our annual fundraiser, but also the evolution of our mission to better serve those who have served our country and communities.

Over the winter, the Fly Fishing Veterans Board of Directors spent considerable time evaluating our organization and asking ourselves one important question:

“How can we better fulfill our mission of Serving All Who Served”?

Since our founding in 2020, Fly Fishing Veterans has proudly become a Charter Club with Fly Fishers International, providing veterans, active-duty military, first responders, and healthcare professionals with opportunities to heal through the therapeutic outdoors.

Through fly fishing, mentorship, education, and camaraderie, we’ve witnessed firsthand how meaningful these experiences can be in helping individuals cope with stress, trauma, PTSD, anxiety, depression, and the challenges many face after years of service.

After countless conversations with participants, volunteers, community partners, and subject matter experts, we recognized an opportunity to broaden our impact while remaining true to our mission. As a result, our Board unanimously approved the expansion of Fly Fishing Veterans with the development of our new Ocean Program — “From Our Lakes and Rivers to the Open Sea.”

This exciting program will introduce participants to ocean fishing, crabbing, rod building, tackle manufacturing, fly tying, maritime safety, boating skills, and hands-on mentoring from experienced volunteers and industry experts. By expanding beyond traditional fly fishing, we will reach more veterans, first responders, and healthcare professionals while creating even more opportunities for healing, personal growth, lifelong friendships, and renewed purpose.

Our goal extends beyond simply offering programs. We are committed to building a self-sustaining organization that will continue serving future generations. Our long-term vision is to establish a permanent Fly Fishing Veterans Training and Community Center where participants and volunteers can gather year-round to learn, build, mentor, and heal together.

This facility will provide dedicated space for fly tying, rod building, tackle manufacturing, educational classes, maritime and fishing skills training,

support meetings, youth mentoring, and community events. It will also include a retail area offering products handcrafted by our participants and volunteers, along with carefully selected fishing equipment and apparel. Revenue generated through product sales, classes, memberships, and special events will help fund our programs, allowing us to expand our mission while becoming less dependent on grants and donations. Simply put, we want to build an organization that is sustainable for decades to come while continuing to serve those who have sacrificed so much for others.

Our planning team has been working tirelessly to make this year’s Southern Oregon Fishing Expo our biggest and most exciting event yet. With the addition of our Ocean Program and expanded fishing opportunities, we expect to attract an even broader audience of outdoor enthusiasts from throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The Expo will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at the Douglas County Fairgrounds in Roseburg, Oregon. The 12,000-square-foot Conference Center will showcase nationally recognized fly tyers, fly fishing demonstrations, vendors, seminars, and hands-on educational opportunities. The adjacent 24,000-square-foot Douglas Hall will feature ocean fishing, boats, marine products, tackle manufacturers, casting lanes, outdoor recreation exhibitors, and much more. Whether you’re a fly angler, bass fisherman, salmon or steelhead enthusiast, offshore angler, crabber, or simply someone who loves the outdoors, there will truly be something for everyone.

We hope you’ll join us in making the 2026 Southern Oregon Fishing Expo our most successful event to date. Your participation not only helps create an unforgettable experience for potential thousands of attendees, but also helps us build a sustainable future where veterans, first responders, and healthcare professionals will always have a place to heal, learn, connect, and belong. Thank you again for believing in our mission and for standing beside us as we continue striving to meet our mission “Serving All Who Served”.

RFF Members Fished the Umpqua River



Robbi Debois and his guest Mike Evenson on the Umpqua River during the July outing.

RFF Members Fished the Umpqua River

Ten anglers in five boats participated in the July outing to the Umpqua River to fish for smallmouth bass. One boat spent their day fishing in the big pool at Umpqua Landing. The other four boats floated seven miles from Umpqua Landing to the James Woods Boat Ramp, which required negotiating some shallow rapids and tight channels given the extremely low water levels this year. The fishing was good with everyone landing a decent number of bass. Though most of the fish were rather small, there were enough bigger bass to keep things interesting. The fun fishing combined with nice weather, pleasant scenery, an abundance of wildlife, and good company made for a very enjoyable day.

David Haight



David Haight with a smallmouth bass he caught during the outing to the Umpqua River.



Jan Rowe shows off a big redband trout she caught while fishing on the Williamson River in August during a trip hosted by David Haight that was purchased by Doug Foster at the last auction. Photo by Doug Foster.



Don Dabney with one of several rainbow and brown trout he caught during a July trip to Diamond Lake, hosted by David Haight, which he purchased at a RFF auction. Photo by Stephanie Dabney.



An example of some of Garrett Lesko's fly tying.

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
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	305 N. Bartlett, Medford	541-973-2988
Sportsman's Warehouse	1710 Delta Waters Road Medford	541-732-3700

Rogue Fly Fishers membership Application and membership Renewal Form

Applying ___ or renewing ___ as (check one): **Individual** ___ (\$40.00), **Family** ___ (\$50.00), 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 link, 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 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner with raffle, announcements and club business, and program until approximately 8:45 p.m.

Renew in December for the following year.

Name: _____. If a family membership,

List Family Member's Names _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Cell Telephone Number: Area Code _____ Number _____

Home Telephone Number: Area Code _____ Number _____

E-mail Address: _____

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

Member Fly Fishers international? 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