



# Rogue Flyfishers

September 2012

## PROGRAM

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.

### Columbia Steelhead

Lee Davison-Snake River Outfitters

**Rogue Flyfishers**  
**PO Box 4637**  
**Medford, Oregon 97504**  
**www.rogueflyfishers.org**

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#### Lee's program is on Columbia River steelhead

He is an FFF Certified Master Casting Instructor, FFF Certified Two-Hand Casting Instructor, and a licensed Idaho guide, Lee combines both a calming patience and an infectious enthusiasm for teaching fly fishing or Spey casting techniques aimed at building confidence in his angling students. Home water for Lee is the beautiful South Fork of the Snake River in Idaho. Lee is also the designer/owner of the Ballistic Speyline series, including the famous Vector; CEO of Snake River Outfitters - CND Spey Rod distributor for the USA and Canada; Snowbee UK, LLC distributor for the USA; and President of the Federation of Flyfishers Western Rocky Mountain Council.

## **President's Message—September 2012 by Kellie Christensen**

Traveling to and exploring a new river to a fly fisherperson is like going to Disneyland for a child. Rafting down this river with Bill's kids (visiting from out of state) made it feel like we were on a wild ride at an amusement park. Like most rafters, we were thrilled to go through the class 3's and 4's of this beautiful river. For me however, this day on the river left me in awe-thrilled and filled with wonder at the beauty and individuality of the mighty Umpqua.

We started our float (guided handily by Stu at High Country Adventures) in the wild and scenic portion of the Umpqua about 40 miles east and slightly north of Roseburg. The river is spectacular on so many levels and Stu, our guide, turned out to be an avid fly fisher as well as a college educated ecologist and anthropologist. As you might expect, I spent any time we weren't plunging and paddling through the rapids scanning the water for fish and checking out the holes as we went by them. Stu even let me man the oars for awhile, taking all of us through one set of rapids. Whew!

The geology of this river is comparable to the colors in a crayon box. Rocks of every color line various parts of the river bottom and the sides are rippled with gently sloping and leveling shelves. Below many of these shelves are nice little sandy pools. I would call out "Fish!" every few minutes and Stu would ask me what I saw and it's approximate size.

I have enjoyed many parts of the Rogue River for years but the Umpqua is a very different river. The water changes rapidly from calm and tranquil to crashing plumes and fans of white water and ripples. Wherever you are, the water is ALWAYS crystal clear and the area around it unspoiled by humans and their inevitable garbage. There are no trees hanging over the water here-strewn with lost line and spinning lures. You can see the bottom in all but the deepest parts, and so too, the MANY fish that live there.

If you asked the kids what their favorite part of the journey was they would say either this adrenaline pumping class 3 that filled the entire raft with water or jumping off a very tall cliff into a dark, clear and very deep pool on the north side.

The greatest part of the trip for me, was pulling both rafts over to watch a fly fisherman attempt to land a huge steelhead. His rod was literally an upside down "U" as the huge fish bucked and dove ferociously for the longest time. When the fisherman finally succeeded and lifted the fish for viewing we all broke into spontaneous applause. It was one of the largest and most beautiful steelhead I have ever seen-brilliant, healthy, long and heavy. I would estimate it's size to be over 3 feet in length.

Here's the best part-he landed it on a dry fly!

That's right people. He said he had been stalking that particular fish for two solid weeks in exactly that spot and it FINALLY took his little dry fly. His comment after lovingly setting it free was, "Guess I'll head home-nothing I do after this would make the weekend any better". His name was Dave and I promised to back him up when he headed home to tell this great fish story to his buddies.

With an invite from Stu to join him in fishing some of his favorite spots I cannot wait to do so. If you haven't been to the Umpqua, it is worth the drive. Just look for the gal in the pink fly vest with the huge grin on her face-that'll be me!

### **So Many Fish, So Little Time**

September

Steelhead are in the upper Rogue in sufficient numbers now to justify putting off for another day mowing the lawn or washing the car in favor of chasing salmonids in your favorite stretch. Excessive heat and family matters kept me off the river for several weeks, but last week I hooked two steelies and landed a bunch of trout, including a couple 12 to 15 inches. Things are looking up. Lower river flows expected in late September ought to improve action as we get into fall and winter. Elsewhere, this is an excellent time to visit the small high streams. Where to go? Study a copy of a Rogue River National Forest map where streams, roads, and trails are clearly marked. Then compare a promising looking site with the same area on a topographic map, which will tell you how steep and rugged the country is. Then go! Make a habit of checking at least one new stream each summer, and before long you may have difficulty making room for all the spots on your must-do list. In any case, wherever you go, tight lines! And be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, September 8, for Bob Shuck's small streams outing.

# RFF Steelhead Tournament 2012...

...is on October 6, barely a month away! We expect to have 12 boats with 12 first rate oarsmen, each with two anglers. Four anglers will be veterans sponsored by local businesses including The Ashland Fly Shop and The Fishin' Hole in Shady Cove, and also two by Eugene Meyerding and Tony Brauner. The remaining 20 anglers will be RFF members and other local fly fishers. Entry fee is unchanged from previous years, \$150 per angler, and includes breakfast in TouVelle Park, a drift down the river, and barbecue banquet dinner in TouVelle after the tournament. Each angler will start the day with a complimentary fly box embossed with "RFF Steelhead Tournament 2012" and containing about a dozen flies of assorted patterns all of which are proven fish getters on the upper Rogue, tied by Dick Bonamarte, Dan Kellogg, Dave Roberts, and Otis Swisher, among several other fine tiers. Bob Claypool will build a custom rod according to specifications from the winning angler. Other prizes yet to be determined.

This year's tournament promises to be a fine day of camaraderie and fun for all. Space is limited. Entrants must notify Lee Wedberg soon, and pay the entry fee by September 19 at our monthly RFF meeting at Red Lion. Entrants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

## Swivel Tips

Some anglers like to use swivels as a convenience when changing terminal gear, but the legality of swivels in fly-only waters is open to question. For example, Mark Freeman in his fishing report says, "...no added weights or attachments, including swivels or lead are allowed" on fly-only waters. Also, on page 43 of the Sport Fishing Regulations it says, "...no metal core lines and no added weights or attachments except a bubble or similar floating device may be used Sept. 1-Oct. 31." Swivels are not mentioned explicitly. And finally, one guide working the upper Rogue might use a small snap swivel attached to a Thingamabobber November through August, with the leader and fly attached to and extending beyond the Thingamabobber. Since the swivel is small and attached directly to the Thingamabobber and not being used as additional weight, it would seem to be legal when used in this manner.

Our view is that a small snap swivel attached to and above a strike indicator such as a Thingamabobber might be a problem above the Gold Ray Dam site during September through October, particularly with an unsympathetic law enforcement officer. However below a floating strike indicator any and all swivels are strictly prohibited in waters restricted to fly angling only. Our best advice is to read the Regulations for yourself and hope for the best.

Below Gold Ray Dam site, of course, swivels and split shot as well as other added weights are permitted at all times.

**Oh, and good luck in the tournament!**

-Tom Collett and Lee Wedberg

## Swinging for steelhead

If you ask a steelheader about how to swing flies for steelhead, oh boy will you get answers. If other steelheaders hear the question and join the discussion, put your seat belt on or start looking for the exit. The line, leader and fly are all subjects for a lively discussion. The lines might be full sink, sink tip, or floating. The leaders might be anything you can find in your fly shop. And the flies might be wet fly, streamer, or a nymph and colors bright, dull, and everything in between. And then should you use one or two flies. Wow! Do the fish ever get as confused as I do? So far we haven't mentioned the rod, reel, or method of presentation. If I have to ask about any of those items, I think the best thing to do is follow the advice of the oarsman because he/she has fished this water before and has a store of experience upon which to draw. Wish me luck in the **Steelhead Tournament** coming up on October 6<sup>th</sup>, because I am sure to need it.

The anonymous angler

## Fourmile Lake Outing Postponed

For those planning ahead, we have an outing to Fourmile Lake scheduled for September 15. I am the host for that outing and now have a conflict. I have been unable to find anyone to take over the outing, so it will be postponed (unless someone contacts me and offers to be the host). Due to other activities on our calendar, it will be rescheduled to a date October.

David Haight

## SOFT

The Southern Oregon Fly Tyers invite you to attend their meetings the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is September 11, 2012. The meetings start at 6:00 PM, at the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park community building near Gold Hill. Bring a friend, come early so you don't miss anything, and stay late. Tyers need not be experienced, and those with all levels of skill are welcome. Each meeting a member is encouraged to demonstrate a new or different skill, from simple to difficult. For more information, call Dan Kellogg at 773-4724.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take Gold Hill Exit #40, off of I-5 and go west, toward Jacksonville, 1.3 miles, until you reach the brick entrance way to the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park on the right. You'll pass a golf course parking lot on your left shortly after leaving the freeway. After you turn right into the mobile home park, proceed to the community building which is located about 100 yards ahead on the left. The address is 8401 Old Stage Rd. Please park your vehicle on the bare dirt in the parking lot to avoid the wooden septic covers in the grass

### A Note from RFF Scholarship Recipient Megan McKim

Those who attended the August RFF meeting had the pleasure of meeting Megan McKim, this year's recipient of the Rogue Flyfishers Scholarship. Megan is a remarkable young woman who has excelled academically, taken on leadership rolls in several organizations, and already has spent three summers working in fisheries management. After graduating from Oregon State University, she plans to pursue a career in fisheries management here in the Pacific Northwest.

Megan writes:

*Dear Rogue FlyFishers,*

*I would like to first express my deep gratitude and sincerely thank you all for your gracious gift and the opportunity to receive the Rogue FlyFishers Scholarship. This scholarship is a significant financial contribution to my goal of completing my college degree and to my dream of obtaining a fishery career. It also means a great deal to me since fishing is deeply intertwined into my family's tradition, and this scholarship signifies an honorable recognition of being associated with an impressive fly fishing association, such as yours.*

*I greatly appreciate your belief and support in my future fishery career; which I plan to not only pursue the science aspect of fishing, but also do my part to preserve the recreation, family values, and bonding associated with fishing and this amazing resource. So that future generations may come to know the magical experience of setting the hook on their first fish and the excitement and thrill of reeling in and landing their first bright chrome steelhead or wild and brilliantly spotted cutthroat trout. Again, I truly thank all of you for your generous contribution to my education and goals. I look forward to attending one of your meetings to thank you all in person!*

*Sincerely,  
Megan McKim*



## Spey Clave 2012

### Announcing

**Gary Anderson's Annual Spey Clave at TouVelle Park**

**September 22nd, 9 am to 4 pm**

**No Cost plus Free Beer and Brat Lunch**

**Top Notch Instructors: Lee Davidson, Jeff Puttnam,  
John Hazlett, Jack Cook plus several others**

**Here is your chance to get started in Spey Casting**



# On The Fly

## September 2012

“Fly tying is a school from which we never graduate”

### PATTERN OF THE MONTH – Glimmer Bug

Hook: Daiichi 1120, heavy scud, size 6  
Head: 3/16 gold bead.  
Thread: 6-0 black  
Weight: 6-8 wraps .035 lead  
Body: Glimmer flash short or substitute.  
Hackle: Brown partridge.  
Collar: Black dubbing.



### Tying Instructions

Step 1: Mash the barb and mount the hook in the vise.

Step 2: Slide the gold bead onto the hook shank, small hole first.

Step 3: Take 6-8 wraps of lead wire around the hook shank, trim both tags, and slide the wraps forward into the recess of the bead.

Step 4: Start the thread just behind the lead and lay down a thread base rearward to the point halfway down the bend, then forward and back over the lead wraps to bind them down securely. Make a thread ramp from the shank to the lead for a smooth transition.

Step 5: Tie in the Glimmer Flash just behind the bead and bind it down on top of the shank rearward to the end of the thread base. Wrap the flash material forward in touching turns to just behind the bead. Tie off and trim excess.

Step 6: Select a brown partridge feather with barbs long enough to reach the bend of the hook. Prepare the feather and tie on by the tip behind the bead. Wind the feather forward two turns, tie off and trim excess.

Step 7: Twist a small amount of black dubbing onto the thread and make a couple turns just in front of the hackle to form a small collar.

Step 8: Whip finish and cement.

The Glimmer Bug was developed by the late Al Brunell of Corvallis, OR for steelhead on the Rogue River. That alone is enough creditability to tie and fish this pattern with confidence. Al field tested his flies first hand before he would ever put his name on them. This was one of his latest patterns before his death. I suppose it could be called a caddis imitation, although who knows what the steelhead takes it for. The bead and the lead will get it down in front of the fish, the flashy body material should get their attention, and the soft hackle adds life and movement. Those of us who knew Al personally know that his flies were as good as the person that invented them.

### Tying Tips

There are many other body materials that can be substituted for the brand name Glimmer Flash. You can use Estaz or Cactus Chenille just to name a few. These materials usually come in long or short shuck and come in a nice variety of colors any of which can be effective. I have used the peacock color on the fly pictured above. Use the short on this pattern. Be sure to stroke the fibers to the rear on each half turn while winding the body material forward. This will prevent clumping and ensure an even flowing body. The Glimmer Bug is as effective as it is easy to tie. The materials are easy to come by and inexpensive. So tie some up, give them a test flight, and let me know how you do.

**Tie One On,**  
**Dan Kellogg, (you can contact me at: [flyguy@eznorthwest.com](mailto:flyguy@eznorthwest.com))**  
**[www.tyerstoolshop.com](http://www.tyerstoolshop.com)**

## **URGENT NEWS TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE ROGUE FLYFISHERS:**

The end of 2012 marks the end of my Presidency as well as the end of the term for our wonderful treasurer, Bill Brock and several of our board members.

### **IF WE DO NOT SUCCEED IN GETTING PEOPLE TO FILL THESE POSITIONS OUR CLUB WILL CEASE TO EXIST!**

As a 501C non profit, and as recorded in our bylaws, we MUST have at least 9 people serving on the board in order to continue being The Rogue Flyfishers. We are also required to have ALL officer positions filled so we will need to elect a new President, Vice President and Treasurer.

You don't need to be an accountant to be a treasurer-just someone who knows basic math, how to write a check, make a deposit and balance the checkbook.

You don't need any experience to be a board member. You will learn as you attend the board meetings. The only requirement is that you care enough to serve and show up for as many meetings as possible.

All it takes is 2 hours on the first Wednesday of each month in a very relaxed atmosphere to serve your club by being on the Board of Directors. We meet at 6 PM and usually leave around 8 PM.

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING—WE DON'T WANT THE IMPORTANT CONSERVATION WORK WE DO TO STOP BECAUSE NO ONE WAS WILLING TO SERVE!

If you are interested in learning more or wish to volunteer, PLEASE contact Kellie at [kclmbr@msn.com](mailto:kclmbr@msn.com) or call her at 541-776-4094. You may also email Mike Masters at [mmasters2243@charter.net](mailto:mmasters2243@charter.net).

**THE FUTURE OF OUR CLUB IS IN YOUR HANDS!**

## **Steelhead Clinic**

A small group gathered at TouVelle State Park on Saturday, August 25, for our annual steelhead clinic around a picnic table with coffee. Jim Ulm and Lee Wedberg discussed strategy, tactics, and equipment for catching steelhead in the upper Rogue using nymphs and swinging steelhead flies, complete with audio-visual aids. Following a late morning break for snacks they demonstrated casting and presentation on the river. One of those in attendance could catch the winning fish at the tournament next month!

## **North Umpqua Fall Fly Tying Festival in Glide, Oregon.**

It is a free event featuring tyers from the West Coast. It will run from 9:00-4:30pm on Saturday, September 22, 2012. We have guest speakers discussing how to get started in fly fishing as well as presentations on fishing Central Oregon. We'll also have raffles, casting demos by Frank Moore, vendors, displays and food. The event will be held at the Glide Community Center near the Umpqua River. Why not turn it into a fun camping/fishing weekend?

For more information please contact Umpqua Valley Fly Fishers at [www.uvff.org](http://www.uvff.org)

## **Lending Library**

Our librarian, Curt, will be in Alaska for the September meeting but assistant Librarian Dick Chambers will be at the meeting with Library materials for issue and return. So please bring any due or overdue materials so they can be available to other members..

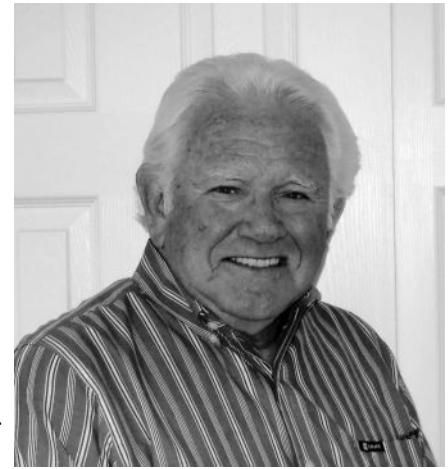
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**Gary Lewellyn, DMD** (over 50 years of experience)

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**Call today and mention your affiliation with The Rogue Flyfishers for a member discount.**

## **Wild Trout ONLY on the Chewaucan**

A dozen members and guests had a great outing Aug. 3 to 5 catching and releasing **WILD** trout on the Chewaucan River. Warm days and cool nights slowed mid-day action but early morning and late evening fishers clearly had better results. Member participants included Gary and Pauline Graham, Jim Harleman, Joe McGlothlan, Robert Parker, Dennis Remick, Bob Shuck, and John Ward.

The upper Chewaucan off the 3509 road was the big producer but the lower Chewaucan from Marster Spring down thru the BLM about 6-miles below camp possibly had more fish in the 14-inch range. Several members received permits to fish on J-Spear Ranch through the meadows above camp but generally were teased by small fish. This was Jim Harleman's 50th year fishing the Chewaucan and everybody benefitted from his suggestions. Jim bought his first fly rod after early success here with a borrowed fly on a spin rod.







JACKSON/JOSEPHINE COUNTIES, OREGON  
P.O. BOX 4637  
MEDFORD, OR 97501

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## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FLY SHOP

The Ashland Fly Shop	399 E. Main Street at Third, Ashland	541-488-6454
Gary Anderson Custom Rods	1976 Footh 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

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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. There is also a \$10 new member processing fee.) **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  Are you interested in, or want help in (check all as appropriate): **Casting**  **Fly tying**  **Fishing Techniques**  **Water Knowledge**  **Conservation Activities**  **Fishing Partner**  **Organizing Social Activity and Group Outings** ? **Do you have a drift boat?** Yes  No  **lake boat?** Yes  No  other interests?

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**