

SOFF News

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SOFF NEWS

A publication of
Southern Oregon Fly Fishers
P.O. Box 1144
Grants Pass, Oregon 97528
Web Site: www.soff.org

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Were Back!!!

After an almost two year absence due to the Covid Pandemic, in-person SOFF meetings have returned.



It was a long time in coming, almost two years since SOFF had an in-person meeting. Finally, in October the stars aligned had we had a meeting in a new venue - the Grants Pass Golf Course. The members responded accordingly with 50 reservations for dinner.

Dinner Reservations: E-mail - info@soff.org
or call the Club at (541) 955-4718

SPECIAL MENTION

Bill Burns:

John Storfold:

Kevin Daniels:

John Smith:

Dave Grosjacques:

David Haight:

Jennifer Mazingo:

Dave Roberts:

Ed/Sandy Michalski:

John Storfold

Membership

Fly Tying Chair

Fly Tying Instructor

Programs

Habitat Chair

Outings Chair

SOFF Wear

OR Council IFFF Rep

Raffles

Project Healing Waters & Auction Chair



FROM THE BOARD



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by

I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health and spirits. Hopefully we are reaching a point where we can start to hold regular meetings and can share stories and fellowship in person.

I also hope we can find some relief to our continuing record of yearly droughts and bad air quality.

With water levels so low and afternoon temperatures so high I find it hard to get motivated to hit the water. I find it harder still knowing the stress the fish are already under given the drought conditions with no end in sight. This got me to thinking about how the droughts adversely affect the fish and their habitat.

Drought impacts fish by reducing the amount of water available in lakes, reservoirs, and streams.

This smaller amount of water heats more quickly and warms to higher temperatures than when there isn't a drought, warm water also holds less oxygen than colder water. The combination of high temperatures and low oxygen can

stress fish, causing poor growth and disease. Fish can also die when temperatures are too warm, or the oxygen levels get too low.

Trout in low-elevation water bodies have the greatest likelihood of being impacted by the drought this year, but low water levels and high water temperatures can affect all fish species.

With safe catch and release practices we can limit the amount of additional stress we are placing on fish.

As a result of the droughts the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is implementing emergency regulations that began July 1st in several angling zones, as Oregon faces a severe drought this summer, putting the state's salmon, steelhead, trout and sturgeon at risk.

As always, the latest regulations are listed at the top of the Recreation Report on the ODFW APP and webpage for each zone. Always check your angling zone before you go fishing.

A summary of current emergency regulations follows:

Fishing will close for salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and trout from 2 p.m. until one hour before sunrise in some rivers and streams in the NW, SW, Willamette, Central, NE zones. ("Hoot owl" regulations to end fishing before water temperatures are at their warmest, which stresses fish.)

Nehalem River (NW Zone) will close to all angling. All other open streams in the NW Zone will be un-

der "hoot owl" regulations.

The Deschutes River from the mouth to Sherars Falls will be under "hoot owl" regulations to protect fish.

Angling closure within 200 feet of mouths of tributaries in portions of the Umpqua and North Umpqua Rivers, to allow fish to gather in these cooler areas without angling pressure.

Other targeted angling closures in portions of the Rogue and Illinois Rivers to allow for salmon and steelhead facing tough conditions to migrate without angling pressure.

Hyatt and Howard Prairie Reservoirs in SW Zone are lifting all bag limits on all species due to extremely low water conditions that are becoming unsuitable for fish.

These emergency regulations are in effect until Sept. 30, but may be lifted early or extended depending on conditions.

Fish will also be impacted during our winter fishing seasons and

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ATTENTION!
Board Meeting
The Board of Directors
will meet in the conference room
of the Tap Rock Restaurant
The next meeting is scheduled:
November 2nd at 6:00pm or
the first Tuesday
of the month
All members welcome

PROGRAMS

Future Programs

Dec 16	Dax Messett
Jan 20	Jon Hazlett
Feb 17	Mike McCoy
Mar 17	Roick Newton
Apr 21	Fly Tyers Meeting
May 19	Jim Cox
Jun 16	Chuck Huntington
Jul 21	No Meeting

great care will still be needed to ensure we don't over stress the fish. With reservoir levels being lower you will find yourself having to look at much deeper water where the temperatures are cooler and the water is much more oxygenated.

I hope to see you all soon and until then be safe and stay cool.

February Special Raffle

By William Burns
Membership Chair

There will be a special raffle at our February meeting. Participation will be limited to those members who have paid their 2022 membership dues. The winner will receive an as yet undetermined prize, most likely a flyrod. To be eligible, your dues must be paid before January 1st, 2022. If you mail your check to the club's P.O. Box, it must be postmarked earlier than January 1st, 2022 dues can also be paid at the November and December club meetings held at the Grants Pass Country Club.

This raffle has been approved by the club's board of directors to motivate members to renew their dues in a timely manner. The club's
Special Raffle Cont. on Pg.7

WHEN:

Nov. 18, 2021



TIMES:

5:30 PM

Social Hour and
Fly Tying Demo.

6:30 PM

Meeting

7:00 PM

Dinner and Program

WHERE:

GP Golf Course
230 Espey Rd GP



Gary Weber - Fly Fishing the Sky Lakes Wilderness



Gary Weber is an award-winning photojournalist with over 30 years of professional experience working as a staff photographer for United Press International, Agence France-Presse, and the Houston Post, and as a team photographer for the Milwaukee Brewers, Milwaukee Bucks, and Portland Trail Blazers. In Oregon, Weber was also employed as the Information Services staff photographer at Oregon State University and as an aerial photographer with the Oregon Department of Transportation.

A native of Wisconsin but a proud Oregonian for the past quarter of a century, Weber has been documenting, exploring, and fly-fishing the Beaver State's lakes, rivers, and streams for the past 25 years chronicling his angling adventures by regularly contributing to *American Fly Fishing* magazine and he's also the author of the *Flyfisher's Guide to Oregon* and the *Flyfisher's Guide to Oregon's Mountain Lakes*.

CASTING ABOUT

Rogue FlyFishers invites the members of the So. Oregon Fly Fishers to join them at their return to In-person meetings

ROGUE FLYFISHERS MEETING

COME ON BACK

**Our first meeting back will be Wednesday, November 17th.
(Not Monday the 15th as previously announced!)**

Centennial Golf Club
1900 North Phoenix Road
Medford, Oregon 97504

Wet Fly 5:45 – 6:45
Dinner and Meeting at 6:45
Raffle to follow

Buffet Dinner is \$25.00 per person

Menu:

Turkey Breast, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Roasted Veggies, Rolls and Dessert

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

RSVP's need to be in by the Friday preceding the Meeting.
Please e-mail your RSVP to icrsrd303@gmail.com or call (661) 742-5835.
Please leave your name, how many are attending and any special dietary requests.

PAYMENTS AT THE DOOR

Current COVID 19 requirements apply

OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Klamath Outing Recap

The final outing for the year was to the Klamath River in Northern California to fish for summer steelhead. Like the Rogue River, the

summer steelhead in the Klamath make a half-pounder run, so they tend to be small; however, they will readily take a fly, and



A first for Kevan Reiten who landed his very first steelhead on the Klamath Outing.

offer better catch rates than steelhead in many other rivers. The forecast for our late October trip called for wind and rain, however, the weather was much better than expected, with a little bit of rain and no wind. That, along with the beautiful fall foliage along the river, made for a pleasant day. There seemed to be a good number of steelhead in the river based on the number of fish we saw rolling and the number jumping at the entrance to the Iron Gate Fish Hatchery. Most of the people that planned to attend the outing dropped

out for various reasons, so only three of us made the trip. Of the three, two hooked steelhead. The biggest thrill of the day was when Kevan Reiten

landed his first-ever steelhead. Though Kevan is an avid fly fisher, he has mostly fished for trout and warmwater fish. He acquired a trout Spey just prior to the trip. After a quick lesson on how to make a couple basic Spey casts, Kevin was doing a pretty good job of casting and swinging his fly. His steelhead took a Skunk, and put up a good fight on the trout Spey.

We are beginning to put together the outing schedule for 2022. If anyone has suggestions of places you would like to go or if you are willing host an outing to one of your favorite fishing spots, please let me know.

David Haight, Outings Chair



Rogue Fly Fishers November Program

NOVEMBER'S PRESENTERS

If you have any interest in the dam removal and restoration efforts on the Klamath River, this is your chance to learn more. Join us November 17th when we will welcome Gwen Santos and Daniel Chase.

Gwen Santos

Senior Wetland Ecologist with Resource Environmental Solutions and the lead ecologist for the Klamath River Renewal Project. Gwen has extensive experience with wetlands and subtidal ecology (including Eel Grass restoration), riparian and vernal pool restoration. Gwen has been working for over 15 years with threatened and endangered species and critical habitat throughout California, Southern Oregon and Washington. Her experience includes state and federal permitting, mitigation, restoration design and implementation.

Daniel Chase

Senior Fisheries Biologist with Resource Environmental Solutions for the Western Region. Dan has extensive experience with fish ecology, biology, and fresh water and estuarine aquatic habitat, and has been working for over 16 years with threatened and endangered fish and wildlife species throughout California and Southern Oregon. His experience includes state

Continued on Page 7

2021 Outings

Jan 1	Chili Feed at the Holy Water.
Feb. 19	TBA
Mar 19	TBA
Apr 16	TBA
May 21	TBA
Jun 18	TBA
Jul 16	TBA
All dates are tentative	

FLY TYING CORNER

Al Brunell's Rogue Flashback



- Hook:** Nymph Hook Size 6-8 2x Long.
- Thread:** 6/0 Black. I used Vevvus 10/0.
- Bead:** 5/32 Gold, Optional Black or Copper.
- Lead Wraps:** Optional.
- Tail:** Pheasant Tail Fibers, Approx. 5-7 Strands about a Hook Gap in Length.
- Ribbing:** Red Wire, Medium.
- Shell Back:** Pearl Tinsel, Medium
- Body:** Peacock Fibers, Approx. 6.
- Hackle:** Three or Four Turns of Badger or Natural Brown.

Tying Instructions:

Mash the barb and put the bead on the hook with the small hole towards the eye. You may choose to add lead or lead free wraps behind the bead depending on your need. If you add weight, secure with thread and glue as necessary. You might want to do these ahead and allow them to dry. Secure a good thread base back to the barb. Tie on the tail about a hook gap in length using the pinch method and wrap forward. Tie in the ribbing on the near side. Tie in the shellback keeping it along the top. Tie in the peacock starting up at the bead and tie back to the barb. Then simply twist the peacock around the thread and wrap forward with touching turns up to the bead. Pull the shellback up over the top being careful to keep it on top and secure. Counter wrap the wire rib and secure. Behind the bead tie in your hackle and make 3-4 turns and secure. Whip finish and add head cement or UV resin (your choice).

This fly is one of many flies that our late Al Brunell designed and tied for half pounders and adult steelhead alike. I even caught one of the large trout in the pay to play lake, Pronghorn.

I tie this fly because it is one of my favorite and in memory of our late Al Brunell. May we always remember those that have paved the way for us to follow.

Here is a quote from Al when he put it in the newsletter back in 2006.

” This fly is absolutely my best producer for half pounders, as well as summer steelhead I have taken many summers with it on the Illinois River and the Rogue in the 8-to-12-pound class. It fishes well with the downstream swing it also does well when dead drifted.”

Fly Tied By: John Storfold

John Storfold

Fly Tying Chair

541-660-6584

steelyjohn@charter.net



Please make checks payable to:
SOFF and mail to: PO Box 1144,
Grants Pass, Oregon 97528

Membership Form

- Regular.....\$35.00
- Family.....\$45.00
- Youth.....\$10.00
- Contributing.....\$50.00
- Lifetime (Individual).....\$350.00
- Lifetime (Couple).....\$450.00

Name(s): _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: Home () _____ Work: () _____
 Email: _____
 Personal interests: _____

Renewal: _____ New: _____



CHANGING LINES

COMING EVENTS

- 11-18 Club Meeting with Gary Weber.
- 12-7 Board Meeting.
- 12-16 Club Meeting with Dax Messett.
- 1-1 Club Outing - Chili Tasting At The Holy Water.
- 1-20 Club Meeting with Jon Hazlett
- 2-1 Board Meeting.
- 2-17 Club Meeting with Mike McCoy
- 3-1 Board Meeting
- 3-17 Club Meeting Rick Newton
- 4-5 Board Meeting.
- 4-21 Club Meeting - Fly Tyers Night.

Look for Bill Burns article in this newsletter for further details.

And now for a little housekeeping. Not only do I write the newsletter, I am also in charge of the club's email list and am responsible for all club emails that are sent out. I have been noting of late that I am receiving a lot of kick backs on undeliverable email with the return being recipient unknown at the email address that was used. I would ask you to help me and if you have changed email addresses, to let me know so that I can correct my email address book.

Dues Continued From Pg. 3

life members are not included in this raffle even though their commitment to SOFF is significant and appreciated.

Article II, Section 3 of the club's by-laws reads: All dues shall be due and payable prior to January 1 of each year.

Editor's Note:

Membership Chair Bill Burns wanted to advise the membership that he has a new email address. The new address is williameburns@charter.net.

Bill also wanted to remind the membership that he will be contacting each and every member by email to update the Club's Directory. So if you receive an email from Bill, please take the time to respond back so that he can gather the information needed for the new directory.

Editor's Notebook Cont. From Pg. 8

vinced that coming together in a group is the right thing to do at this time and for whatever their reasoning, I can't blame them. Still at some, point life goes on and can we all continue to be captives in our own homes? I hope not and with that I want to encourage the membership to 'come on back' for fellowship, dinner, and a little entertainment.

Now for a little bit of business. Because we didn't meet for almost two years and our expenses were minimal, the Board decided that we wouldn't access club dues as we were unable to do anything that would warrant the collection of dues. Now that we have resumed in-person meetings, SOFF will once again start accessing club dues beginning January 1, 2022.

As we normally do to encourage timely submission of dues, Membership Chairman, Bill Burns, will procure a prize to be drawn from those members who have paid their dues before February 1, 2022.



For Sale

7 older, very heavy double ring crab rings (30") with lg. floats and 50' rope. Most rings have bait boxes. Netting on some rings need repair (replacement netting available from Walmart on-line for \$10 plus shipping). These are \$20/each

All stainless-steel crab pot, 30" diameter, with rope and large float. \$75

Bruce Bockman 541-471-1985

Rogue Club's Program Cont. From Pg 5

and federal permitting, mitigation and restoration design and implementation, and the development of environmental DNA sampling programs. On the Klamath River Renewal Project he serves as RES' lead fisheries biologist, assisting with technical and regulatory elements of restoration and implementation.





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Editor's Notebook

It has been so long since I sat down to write the club's monthly newsletter, that I must refresh my memory on the use of the program that I use for the newsletter. The last newsletter that I published was dated the April/May issue. So, for better than six months there has not been a newsletter. Why? Because, unfortunately, there was nothing to write about. It was so bad that I have been squirreling away cartoons to be used as fill for the lack of normal newsletter content.

I do want to thank some of the members that have kept your old editor in the loop with photos of fish taken, but without any narrative on where the fish was taken and on what fly was used. I appreciate the photos, but without a

narrative the photo merely becomes a filler piece without context. Once again, coupled with everything else, there wasn't enough material to produce a newsletter.

Although the board has been meeting monthly, in this time of the Covid we really didn't do anything that would warrant writing an article about. We did continue to have outings, which included the announcement in the form of a general email, as there was not enough other material to warrant the publishing the newsletter.

Regarding what happened at the outing, people attending, catches if any - there was nothing. What other events such as the recent 'Rogue on the Fly' that just occurred, it was also announced by use of general email. You cannot fill eight pages if

you don't have the material to do so.

Well, that's behind us now – at least let's hope so. The big news now is that we will be changing meeting places again with the October meeting. Good-bye brew pub and hello Grants Pass Country Club. Preliminary discussions have produced not only a location for our meetings, but the first meeting's menu and the cost for dinner. So, if this all comes through without a hitch, we will be meeting October 19th at the Country Club after almost two years of no in-person meetings. Now the next thing is we need to encourage the membership to return.

I have talked to some of the members and because of the Delta version of Covid, they are not con-

Continued on Pg. 7