

The Oregon Whitewater Association brings private boaters together for the enjoyment of whitewater boating. Our vision is to promote whitewater safety and training for all of our membership in an effort to provide safety awareness and confidence when executing river rescue skills. OWA is the community of choice where fun and river adventures thrive and where people and rivers connect.



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## 2017 Rogue River Trip Report

*Submitted by Garth Garner*

The 2017 annual OWA/OKCC Veterans Day Weekend float took place November 10th-12th. Kevin Buck was an awesome trip leader. We floated the "Wild Section" from Graves Creek to Foster Bar, approximately 35 miles. The weather was mainly in the 40s and 50s.

Thursday night many of us stayed at Galice Lodge. We were the first to arrive, so we were the first to enjoy the hot tub. It was a fantastic way to begin the trip. The next morning there was an all you can eat breakfast. The food was excellent.

Friday morning, every one launched. Friday included some unexpected excitement. I was about a mile into the float when I saw an upside down kayak. However, the kayaker quickly flipped back over. The float continued smoothly until Rainie falls. At Rainie falls, I took the fish ladder. I decided to show off, so that the group could see how well I can park a raft in the middle of a float.

*Continued on page 4*

### December Club Meeting

#### *Lucky Labrador*

1945 NW Quimby  
 Portland, OR 97227

Wednesday,  
 December 13, 2016  
 from 6:00-8:30 PM

### Holiday Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange!

*Fun for all! Dress in an ugly holiday sweater, share and listen to river stories, and indulge in delicious food. See page 7 for more details!*

# Contact Information



## Your OWA Officers and Volunteers

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<http://www.OregonWhitewater.org>

### Do you have something you would like to submit to the OWA Newsletter?

Contact Michele Gila at  
[VicePresidentNewsletter@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:VicePresidentNewsletter@oregonwhitewater.org)

To show our appreciation and to encourage future contributions, the Oregon Whitewater Association will have an annual drawing for \$150 gift certificate to one of the OWA sponsors. Every member who submits written material that gets published in the newsletter will automatically be entered into the drawing.

## Newsletter Submissions

Contribute to the Newsletter and enter our annual drawing for \$150 gift certificate!

That's right, if you would like to submit an article to our club's newsletter, please contact our VP of Communications at [vicepresident-newsletter@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:vicepresident-newsletter@oregonwhitewater.org).

In fact we want you to! The more submissions from our members, the better.

Have you gone on a club trip or a private trip that you want to tell us about? 1-2 pages is great, accompanied by high resolution photo(s). It can be longer but it's always good to check in about length.

How about a recipe you created or a meal you encountered on a trip? We want to know about those too. Tips include serving size or how many people it feeds. Photo is always appreciated.

## Year in Review by Scott Ogren

Wow – we are at the end of another year already! I hope you all had plenty of chances to get out on multiple rivers this year. For me, I was able to go on five multi-day trips as well as several day trips on the Deschutes, North Santiam, Clackamas, and McKenzie rivers. Hopefully you were able to do more than I was this year; if you were then good for you.

OWA had a great year! There was a large group who participated in the pool training session in February. We raised a record amount of money at our safety auction in the spring and we filled the River Safety Training class in April. The Boater 101 class in May saw a huge crowd and got to experience a high water run on the North Santiam River. The Wilderness First Aid class in September was a huge success and we are ending the year with our annual Holiday Party at Lucky Lab in NW Portland. All of these activities along with the many trips run by OWA's many dedicated trip leaders all add up to a spectacular year for our club!

For many, summer plans seem so far away, but for us whitewater boaters we need to start planning now. It's permit application time for the summer boating season! One of the greatest things about being in OWA is the ability to pool resources and strategically apply for river permits as a group. If you plan to apply for a permitted river to run this summer, I recommend finding friends to run the river with now and organize your permit party soon. Most rivers take applications from December 1 to January 31, so you have time right now, but it'll disappear faster than you think it will.

I've said this before and I'll keep saying it over and over until it's not only common knowledge, but club members are taking advantage of it. OWA has an extensive Wilderness First Aid kit and an AED that goes on all club trips and is available for club members to take on private trips as well. I encourage you all to take both with you on your next private trip. You can check them out by sending an email to [firstaid@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:firstaid@oregonwhitewater.org).

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to you all!

### OWA 2017 Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who helped with our efforts in fundraising in 2017. Thanks to everyone's hard work, we were able to raise enough money to cover our expenses and add a little money to our coffers. The safety program costs about \$12,000 to run each year and we depend on our Safety Program partners like Hells Canyon Shuttle, the many sponsors who donate goods and services to our safety auction, and Zipline.com/Bungee.com for donating a day to us as well. As you can see it takes a lot to put it all together and thank you to everyone who had a hand in it! Also, please support our sponsors who support us by patronizing their businesses.

### DECEMBER MEETING

*Our next meeting will be at Lucky Lab in NW Portland. This meeting will be the annual Christmas Party with an ugly sweater contest and a White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a river related gift or a funny gift that someone else must have. See you at Lucky Lab!*

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**[www.oregonwhitewater.org/dues.html](http://www.oregonwhitewater.org/dues.html)**

# Rogue Trip Report



## **2017 Rogue Trip: Continued from page 1**

Next thing you know, we were parked on rock, close to the end of the fish ladder. I meant to do that...lol. The only problem was that boat was tipped sideways and this meant that I couldn't use one of my oars. Rather than get off the rock too quickly, I decided to provide a service to the next cataraft. You know, take one for the team. Sure enough a 16' cataraft came around the corner and smacked right into us and pushed us further up on the rock. After shielding the cataraft from the rock, we decided it was time to get free. Thankfully, we had a very helpful group. There were several people with a rope connected to the cataraft pulling while we pushed until the cataraft broke free. Finally, Bruce Ripley climbed around the back side of the raft and helped us push and shake the raft free. Next we went over the drop at the end of the fish ladder. Thank you everyone for all of your help!

After the drop we noticed there was another raft stuck on a rock slightly right of the center of Rainie falls. Danny and two people from Puerto Rico were on this raft. We pulled into an eddy until all of the boats were safe. The rest of the float went smoothly.

The first night we camped at Horseshoe Bend and the second night we camped at Tacoma. Both nights we had snacks and a hot dinner. The food was amazing. We also had live entertainment both nights with a guitar, hand drum, melodica and singing. The music was fantastic! To make things even better, we had a bar and bartender both nights!

*Continued on page 5*



**2017 Rogue Trip: Continued from page 4**

The first night we toasted in honor of Vic. Some members of the group took out on Saturday so they would be able to attend Vic's memorial. The rest of us honored Vic with the river trip. There were many small pumpkins on the rocks in the Rogue river and I think someone in our group ahead of me was leaving pumpkins to honor Vic. Vic was awesome. We will miss you Vic.

The second day was a long exciting day on the river with approximately 5200 cfs. Everyone made it through Blossom Bar without a problem. However, there was some excitement during the coffee pot rapid. A green kayak lost its paddler. Austin and Natalie grabbed the kayak and delivered it to the kayaker down river. That evening, I heard three kayakers swam that day.

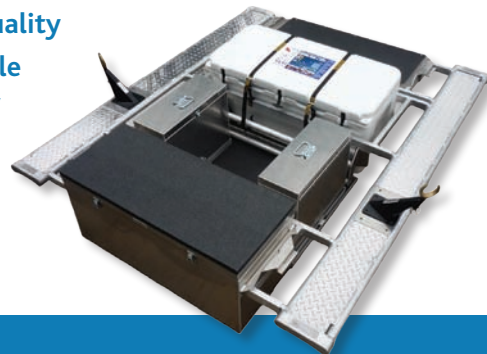
The last day went smooth. It was fairly flat 10 mile row to take out. Overall, I had a blast rafting, camping and meeting new people. The group is very helpful.



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## OWA SAFETY ARTICLE: SAFE DOWN RIVER TRAVEL

*Submitted by Julie Munger, Sierra Rescue/Rescue 3 West*

As we all know, there are many elements that go into keeping our river trips safe. We start with extensive pre-planning that includes assessing water level and levels of experience and boating skills within the group, bringing proper equipment and gear for the river, buying food, setting shuttles, and all the other fun details that we get to daydream and plan for before we even get in our cars to drive to the river.

Once we launch, there are some very important safety tips that will remind us to pay attention, keep track of our group, and act in a constantly safety conscious manner. Being that I truly do love acronyms to use as a “check list”; I personally love one that I learned from the Brits! **CLAP!**

**C-Communication.** This is a reminder to constantly communicate. How is everyone? Are you comfortable with the run? Do you have the right gear? What signals are we using for downriver travel? Do we have a cell phone, InReach, or other for emergency communication if necessary. Constant check ins with others in the group can also help prevent things such as hypothermia, getting in over our heads, etc. Yes, we preplan, and have gone over most of this before; but constant communication during the trip is also exceptionally important.

**L- Line of Sight.** Everyone needs to stay within line of sight all of the time. We generally keep track of each other by watching the boat behind us to avoid losing line of sight. This works great, but we also must pay attention to our overall group spacing. The higher the water, the closer we need to stay together to be able to assist each other, and keep from getting too spread out.

**A - Avoidance of Hazards:** This reminds us of not only of the importance of staying on line, scouting when necessary, and taking responsibility for staying in our boats; but should also be a reminder that hazards are going to change depending on the weather, and other factors. A big breaking wave that might be fun to crash through on a warm sunny day could become a hazard to avoid on a cold, wet day with folks in the front of your boat that are already struggling to stay warm.

**P- Position of Most Usefulness:** This is actually one of my favorites! It is brilliant, and what we should all be striving to do. It is going to be different for each participant and paddler. This is the concept of ALWAYS being attentive to where things may go wrong, and then being in a position to help prevent a mishap, or in a good position for rescue. This could be the paddler that points positive and away from a strainer, or the paddler that foresees a potential swim, and is right there in the closest eddy to assist from. It is a dynamic, constantly changing way of thinking. For a beginning boater, this position may be simply paying attention to not becoming a swimmer themselves. For a more experienced boater, it is knowing the exact place to be if something does go wrong.

**CLAP** is one of those simple acronyms that helps remind us of some of the most important components of keeping our downriver travel safe.

# OWA White Elephant Gift Exchange AND UGLY SWEATER CONTEST

Come join our Christmas Party on WED, December 13<sup>th</sup>

6:00-8:30 p.m.

At the Lucky Labrador Beer Hall

1945 NW Quimby St. Portland OR 97209



## How to play the game

1. Everyone brings an inexpensive gift to the party. *Bring a river or camping related item or something hilarious that someone "other than you" MUST HAVE*". Preferably it is something you already own laying around the house or garage.
2. All gifts should be wrapped with no outside markings. You shouldn't know who the gifts are from or what they are.
3. Everyone puts their gift in a pile on the table and will draw a number.
4. Number 1 goes first, picks and unwraps a gift.
5. Number 2 can pick a gift off the table or "steal" an unwrapped gift from another person. If an unwrapped gift is "stolen" the person it is stolen from can then steal or pick a wrapped gift.
6. A gift cannot be "stolen" more than twice. So whoever steals it second gets the gift.



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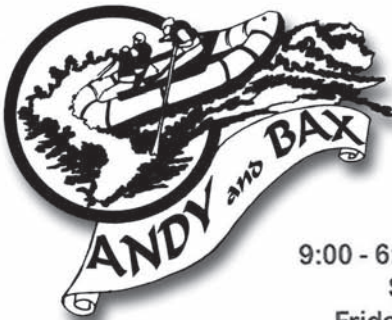
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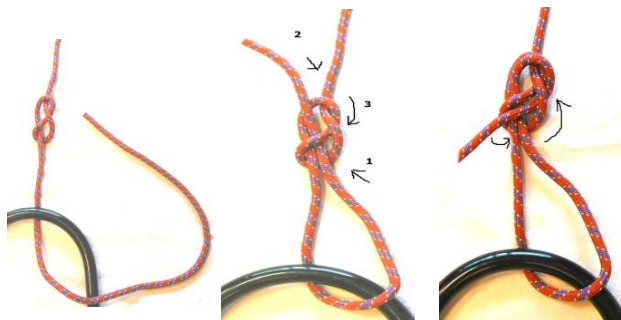
## Figure 8 Follow Through

### Overview

- It is a very strong knot & easy to tie
- Great for tying into a fixed anchor point, or around a frame or D-ring which you cannot pass a loop over/through

### Use

- At the end of a rope as an anchor point, attach to a tree or raft frame or any other closed attach point
- To form a permanent loop



The key is to retrace the existing 8.

[Click for Step by step directions](#)

(Scroll to top of page)

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Steve K 2012



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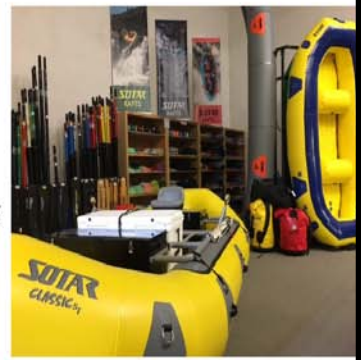
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# Upcoming Trips

Submitted by Cheryl Ford,  
Trip Editor



## PAST OWA TRIPS

| TRIP   | DATES                 | TRIP LEADER   | CONTACT INFO   |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| 2017 Veteran's Day, Rogue, Class III/IV                | November 10-12, 2017  | Kevin Buck    | <a href="mailto:buckriverman@gmail.com">buckriverman@gmail.com</a> ,<br>360-890-6776 |
| 2017 Fall Colors, North Santiam, Class II/III          | October 8, 2017       | Matt Saucy    | <a href="mailto:sawdusty9@yahoo.com">sawdusty9@yahoo.com</a> ,<br>971-241-5396       |
| 2017 -Tieton River, Class II/III                       | September 16-17, 2017 | David Elliott | <a href="mailto:dce@dcell.com">dce@dcell.com</a>                                     |
| 2017 McKenzie River, Class II/III                      | June 22-25, 2017      | Brenda Bunce  | <a href="mailto:brenda.bunce@gmail.com">brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a> ,                 |
| 2017 Women's Trip on the Lower Deschutes, Class II/III | June 16-18, 2017      | Carol Beatty  | Stacey Strausberg,<br><a href="mailto:scs@scs1024.com">scs@scs1024.com</a>           |
| 2017 Upper N Umpqua                                    | June 2, 2017          | Bill Goss     | <a href="mailto:zanng@msn.com">zanng@msn.com</a> , 503-757-4659                      |
| Annual Upper Clackamas Whitewater Festival             | May 20-21, 2017       |               | <a href="http://www.upperclackamasfestival.org">www.upperclackamasfestival.org</a>   |
| 2017 Rogue River Lodge Trip, Class III/IV              | May 19-22, 2017       | Van McKay     | <a href="mailto:vanm1@yahoo.com">vanm1@yahoo.com</a> ,<br>360-737-3148               |

For additional details on upcoming trips or to view past OWA trips go to <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar>

### New Year's Day Float

1/1/18, Sandy River, Dodge to Oxbow

"First of the Year Float" is on again this year. Meet and be ready to shuttle from Dodge Park at 10 am. We will then warm up & eat at Alder Campground in Oxbow Park (used to be Campground A) afterwards. DAV is bringing pulled pork again, you bring the side dishes. If anyone has firewood please bring it. Val will have a 5 burner stove as well.



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