

KLAMATH COUNTRY FLY CASTERS

APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Exploring the Techniques of Stillwater Fishing with Steve Day

South central Oregon has some of the finest Stillwater fishing in the country. A fly fisherman can choose from numerous lakes that are nutrient rich and boast healthy populations of trout. Some of these fisheries are World Class.



Stillwater fly fishing can be unnecessarily frustrating. Learning how to approach lakes with a systematic strategy can often turn a poor fishing day into a great one.

Steve will share his knowledge of Stillwater fly fishing and demonstrate a common-sense system to improve Stillwater success.

Steve had the good fortune of growing up in a fishing family. From childhood, fishing the Pacific Ocean to the Colorado River, the Eastern Sierra to Pyramid Lake, waters of the intermountain west, and the rivers of the Pacific Northwest, all were part of life.

Fly fishing became a passion while living for almost forty years in Bishop, California. the “Heart of the Eastern Sierra”. The Owens River, Crowley Lake, Bridgeport Reservoir, the Walker Rivers and countless lakes and streams all unique and captivating.

Steve’s experiences, passion and knowledge, has provided an opportunity for him to give back. He serves as a volunteer with ODFW on fisheries studies and projects and provides input to ODFW as one of the Applegate River Keepers. He provides education through club presentations, fly tying instruction and outings.

“I am who I am and what I am, largely as the result, of someone taking me fishing.” Steve Day



CALENDAR

Mar 19th - Club Meeting at the Waffle Hut Restaurant - Speaker: Bill Tinniswood
 Apr 21st - Club Meeting at the Waffle Hut Restaurant - Speaker: Steve Day
 May 21st - Annual Club Fundraising Auction at Running Y Ranch
 JUN 8th - Club Annual Casting Clinic at Moore Park
 Labor Day Weekend - Club BBQ at Medicine Lake, CA

OFFICERS AND BOARD

Carol Ann Meadows
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 President

John Krueger
jk@timefliesoutfitters.com
 Vice President/President Elect

Peg Edwards
edwrmed@aol.com
 Treasurer

Peter Calvo
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 Secretary

Dick Siemens
resiemens@centurytel.net
 Past President

John Hyde
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 Board Member

Bob Kingzett
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 Board Member

Lois Krueger
lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com
 Board Member

Jim Ricks
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 Board Member

THE KCFC MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Klamath Country Fly Casters, out of a vital interest in the sport of fly fishing, do hereby join to promote fly fishing as a method of angling, to encourage youth to learn this method of angling, and to promote and participate in meetings to educate all persons in the many aspects of fly fishing as a sport. We agree to make every effort to protect and improve fishing resources in our area by encouraging the practice of catch and release fishing of wild, native fish and by supporting fly fishing organizations in other areas in the overall quest for improvement and perpetuity of fishing resources.

The members of the board of Klamath Country Fly Casters put forth this statement:

“We invite people to become board members of the Klamath Country Fly Casters who wish to promote a healthy and harmonious sense of collegial spirit within the environmental milieu of our board. We on the board choose to care for the well-being of board members, Club members, and for our fly fishing community. We ask those who want to be board members to practice positive intervention, to work harmoniously with other board members, and be willing to promote well-being amongst fellow members of the Klamath Country Fly Casters and our community.”

COMMITTEES

Conservation: Mark Hereford	Monthly Raffle: Peg Edwards
Education Events: John Krueger	Newsletter, Budget &
FFI Liaison: Dale B Zemke	Communications: Dale B Zemke
Fly Casting Events: John Hyde	Outings: Kris Henry
Fly Tying Events: Ralph Carestia	Programs: Bob Kingzett
Membership: Mark Kelley	Social Events & Auction: Lois Krueger
Mentoring: Dave Biddison	

Regular KCFC meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, September through May, at the Waffle Hut 106 Main Street, Klamath Falls. Dinner starts at 6:00 with the meeting beginning at 7:00. Board members, please be there at 5:00.

The KCFC website is: www.klamathcountryflycasters.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Carol Ann Meadows

As I write this message... yep... it's snowing again. March came in like a lion, and it seems to be going out... yep... like a lion. That just doesn't seem fair. When you read this report, however, it will be April, and no matter what the weather, more fisheries will open this month. We'll soon be back streamside, the best place for an angler to recuperate from Cabin Fever.



In March, 2015, KCFC created the “Richard Winter Distinguished Service Award.” Named after one of our Founders, this award is given to a club member who has risen far above the normal level of club participation. It is not an annual award, but is only given when such a person is recognized. Last fall, the Board unanimously chose the next recipient of the Richard Winter Distinguished Service Award: Dale Zemke. Dale has served our club as vice president, president, past president, liaison to the Oregon Council FFI, budget guru, keeper of the membership roster, editor of the newsletter, and all-around IT wizard. Be sure to thank Dale for his service the next time you see him!

I am very happy to report that a group of KCFC members are partnering with Project Healing Waters to help veterans in the Klamath Falls area through the great pastime of fly fishing. John Hyde, John Krueger, Peter Calvo and Dick Siemens are in the process of making this happen. If you would like to join their group, please just contact any one of them for pertinent information.

Our club bylaws call for the election of officers at the May meeting in odd numbered years. That means elections are right around the corner! Because the bylaws state that the Vice President will become President, we have that office filled; John Krueger will be your next President. Aside from that, however, all other offices and Board positions have openings! KCFC is a great group, and being a club leader is fun and rewarding. I encourage any of you, who have been longing for a chance to step up, to contact our nominating committee; Dick Siemens, John Hyde, or Marshal Moser, or contact club Secretary, Peter Calvo. Nominations remain open until Tuesday, May 7th. We do not take nominations from the floor at the time of elections. Think about nominating yourself. (If you wish to nominate a friend, please be sure to check with them first!) I am positive we will have a great slate of officers and Board members!

Carol



Election Of Club Officers and Board Members



The election of Officers and Board Members will occur at the May Meeting/Auction

Nominations must be into the Board by May 7th and no nominations will be taken from the Floor at the meeting.

Submit nominations to Dick Siemens, John Hyde Peter Calvo or Marshal Moser.

The Current Vice President, John Krueger, assumes the position of President. The following are the positions that will be elected at the May meeting:

Vice President/President Elect

Board Member #1

Secretary

Board Member #2

Treasurer

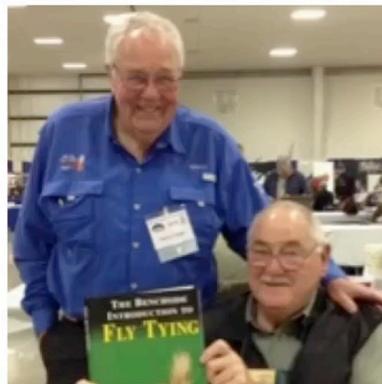
Board member #3

Board Member #4

A lovely fish brought to us by Club Member Marie Ganong. It was caught in the marls off Great Abaco Island in the Sea of Abaco. The smile on her face says it all!



Club Members at the ORCFFI Annual NW Fly Tyers & Fly Fishers Expo in Albany, OR



Our Club Member Harry Craggs was a Featured Tyer



Planned Club Outings:

Kris Henry, Outings Chairman,
can be reached at 541-880-8105
or kj9henry@gmail.com



- ✚ May 29 & 30 Frain Ranch camp-out Klamath River
- ✚ June 6-8 Quartz Mt. camp-out Lofton/Holbrook/Heart Lake
- ✚ June 27-29 Gearheart camp-out Deadhorse/Campbell/side trip to Withers
- ✚ July 10 & 11 Lake backpack/float tube Blue Lake
- ✚ July 17-19 Marsters Springs camp-out Chewaucan
- ✚ Aug 30 & 31 Club BBQ Medicine Lake Schonchin overflow campground
- ✚ Others TBA: Juanita, Black Drake Ranch (limited), Upper Williamson

Watch the Newsletter and the Klamath Country Flycasters
web site <https://www.klamathcountryflycasters.com/> for updates
and additional information



Places to Fish Within an Easy Commute of Klamath Falls
Provided by Bill Tinniswood

LAKES:

Agency Lake (Mouth of Wood June-July)
Diamond Lake
Fourmile Lake (July-October)
Klamath Lake (Pelican Bay June-July)
Miller Lake (October-November)

STREAMS:

Cherry Creek
Fivemile Creek
Jenny Creek
Klamath River (Keno Reach)
Klamath River (Bypass (Coldwater) Reach)
Klamath River (Peaking Reach)
Long Creek
Sevenmile Creek
Spencer Creek
Sprague River
NF Sprague River
SF Sprague River
Upper Sycan River
Lower Williamson River
Upper Williamson River
Wood River



Hooked on Fish! by Dale Zemke

There's just something about the grill and seafood that go so well together! When the weather gets warm throwing some fish on the grill only feels natural. Today I wanted to share a recipe for simple grilled salmon that's great for a dinner served outside! Getting the proper grilling temperature for salmon can be tricky. The proper temperature is about medium-high to brown the salmon perfectly without over-cooking or drying it out. One of the best ways to detect doneness for the salmon is to pull the salmon from the grill and squeeze the sides of the fillet gently between your fingertips. The fillet should be firm but not hard. Under cooked salmon will feel squishy by comparison. We are waiting until after cooking the salmon to properly flavor it. Adding too much of a marinade hurts the grilling process. Instead, after cooking, we will melt just a little bit of a basil lemon compound butter right on the still-hot fillets. This makes the fish perfectly light and mixes wonderfully with the flavor from the grill. Keep reading below for this great recipe...



SIMPLE GRILLED SALMON

- 4 salmon fillets (center cut) each about 1/2 lb. and 1 1/2" thick
- canola oil for the grill
- 8oz unsalted butter, softened
- 8 leaves fresh basil
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest
- 2 whole cloves garlic, minced
- salt and pepper to taste

1. To make the butter, place the butter in a mixing bowl. Layer the basil leaves one on top of another and roll tightly, like a cigar. Thinly slice, creating slivers of basil. Place the basil in the bowl. Add the lemon zest, lemon juice, and garlic and mix the ingredients to incorporate. Add the salt to taste.

2. Place the compound butter on one end of a 10" square piece of parchment paper. Roll the butter in the paper, creating a cylinder, about 5" long. Twist the ends and freeze for about an hour before using.

3. Heat the grill over medium-high heat. Rub the grill grate with an oil-dipped paper towel wad. Brush the salmon on both sides with oil. Sear skin-side down for 2 to 3 minutes. Flip gently with long-handled tongs or a spatula, and cook an additional 3 to 4 minutes longer.

4. Remove the salmon from the grill and pull the butter from the freezer. Thinly slice one or two small pieces of butter and place right on top of the hot salmon. Garnish with basil or lemon on the plate.

5. Enjoy!

Recipe adapted from Whole Foods



TIPS AND TRICKS, from John Hyde

Off Hand Casting



I have found through years of fishing and casting instruction, that it is very useful to be able to cast and fish with both hands. I have even tried fishing with both hands at the same time with two rods! It is not only illegal but very dangerous.

A lot of times when fishing in a drift boat with a guide and fishing buddy the wind or situations make it very difficult to safely and effectively present your fly using only your right or left hand. Also, by the end of a long day of fishing if you are casting big flies with big rods, or just doing a lot of casting, your arm, elbow, or shoulder could give out when you still have fish to catch.

I taught myself to cast and fish left handed. It has taken some practice, but is well worth the effort. The casting part is easy but the line control, stripping, hauling, and landing fish is a bit harder and it takes a little time to build those motor skills.

Something that made the casting easier was to get two similar rods (weight, line, speed etc.) and have 30-40 feet of line outside your rod tip. Hold one rod in each hand and make a back and forward cast with both rods at the same time. It sounds kind of funny, but it is much easier to follow your dominate hand motion with your off hand if they are doing the same thing. If you try it for a little while it will become a lot easier to do.

A lot of us are becoming older and a little more prone to aches and pains, injuries, arthritis, torn rotator, etc., etc., so give it a try, then get on the river and try to fish off handed.

If you are just starting the life-long learning process of fly fishing, do not try this at home. Become proficient at casting with your good hand and get some good instruction.



AUCTION

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!
Members! Members! Members!
We need your help....**

Please start thinking about items for the club auction on May 21st. If you have an item to donate, which could be gently used or new fly fishing items and equipment you no longer use, gift certificates from your favorite store or restaurant, gift baskets, gift cards, (example; car wash gift cards, movie tickets etc.) a monetary donation (used to purchase items for the auction) please get them to Lois Krueger or one of the other auction committee members.

It's right around the corner and we are planning another exciting auction this year!

Thank you for your continued support



Fishing with Club Members:

If you decide to go fishing and would like some company, take some club members fishing with you. Contact Kris Henry at 541-880-8105 or kj9henry@gmail.com and give about 4 days' notice of the fishing event to provide time to get the word out. Leave Kris your telephone number or email so that others can contact you about going fishing with you. Kris will then see that the word of the event gets out in a club-wide email to announce your invitation to go fishing, and he will tell those interested to contact you directly.

Reminder - the following offer PAID MEMBERS of the Klamath Country Fly Casters Club discounts when making a purchase

Parker's Rod & Gun Rack at 7364 S 6th St offers a 10% discount on purchases when a current club membership card is presented

The Ledge at 369 S 6th St offers a 10% discount on purchases when a current club membership card is presented.

Timeflies Outfitters at 541-539-1505 or jk@timefliesoutfitters.com offers up to a 15% discount on fly tying materials & tools as well as all fly fishing gear & flies, to current members of the Club

Heads Up! Peg Edwards has Cabella's catalogs available and has the ability to order our logo embroidered on clothing, etc. If interested in getting any clothing with the club logo - contact Peg at edwrmed@aol.com



INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

Ruby Eyed Leech



The Ruby Eyed Leech is a fantastic fly for fishing lakes, developed by Brian Chan. An easy fly pattern to tie, you can quickly load your Stillwater fly boxes with these in a variety of different colors. This black and red version has performed particularly well. You're sure to tempt a few hungry rainbows with this excellent fly!

I knew I wanted a bit of weight up front to make the fly swim in an up-and-down motion but not sink like a rock, so I decided a gold brass cone followed by a silver metallic glass red bead would be perfect.

I took John Rohmer Simi Seal leach (red/black) material and tied it in for a tail. Simi Seal is the exclusive material in many color combinations that can also be used in a variety of dubbing applications, from nymph/scud patterns to medium-sized streamers. The coarse fibers produce a bushy dubbing that can be used to build large bodies, or it can be vigorously brushed out and trimmed or left long.



I thought if I put that material in a dubbing loop and wrapped it around the shank. I proceeded with the dubbing and examined the finished fly, but there was just something about it that didn't look right. I took my wire brush and began vigorously brushing it down the shank to the back of the tail.

The Ruby Eyed Leech will definitely be one of my go-to patterns on lakes.

Fish it with a 3x or 4x fluorocarbon tippet and a floating or slow-sink line. Leeches swim with a side-to-side motion. Try a long series of 1-inch twitches or strips and then pause to let the fly sink on a tight line. I have also been successful fishing it on a floating line beneath an indicator.

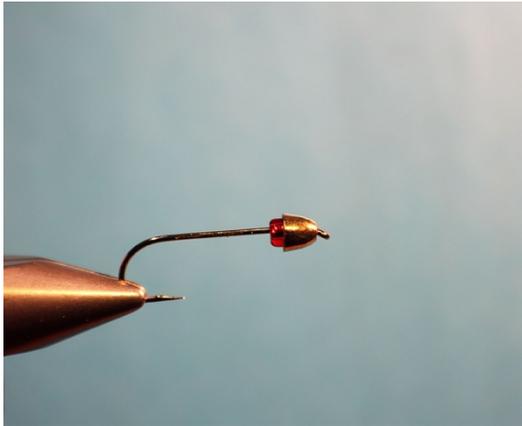
Material List

Hook:	Tiemco 5263 Daiichi 1720 Size #6 - #12
Thread:	6/0 Black Uni-Thread
Beads:	1/8" Gold Cone Head 7/64" Red Glass Bead or Red/Silver Glass Bead
Tail:	Black/Red Arizona Simi-Seal Dub
Body:	Black/Red Arizona Simi-Seal Dub



Instructions

- 1) Start by placing the gold cone head at the eye of the hook, followed by the red glass bead. Get your thread tied onto the hook and really snug so that the bead and cone are tightly together by using some forward tension on your thread wraps.



- 2) Pull out a small clump of simi seal (here Black/Red). Roughly align the fibers and tie it in the middle of the material with five nice tight wraps. Pull back the material that is pointing toward the eye so that it is now one even tail. Wrap back over the material to bind it down.



- 3) Probably the most technical part of the fly, creating the dubbing loop for the body. When placing your dubbing fibers in the loop, you want to tease out any stray fibers and place your clumps perpendicular to the direction of the loop. Spin your dubbing loop until things are looking nice and even, then get out your trusty tooth or wire brush and get those trapped fibers out. This is so when we wrap the body we can pull the strands back and create that nice, slender tapered look that we want our leech patterns to possess.



- 4) As your wrapping the dubbing loop forward to create the body, use your thumb and index finger to pull the fibers back after each wrap. This will help orientate the fibers back towards the tail. Continue your wraps one in front of each other until you reach the red glass bead. Another little trick for securing the finishing area is applying a little head cement to your thread before making those last few wraps. This technique negates the matting or clumping of your dubbing while trying to dab your finish with head cement.



- 5) Whip-finish and the fly is done! Before I load it into one of my fly boxes, I like to take my wire brush and get those last few fibers orientating back towards the tail. You're left with a nicely tapered, slender leech pattern that is sure to trick a few hungry trout.



Tip: If there's some memory left in your dubbing fibers and they just aren't laying nicely, get a cup of hot water (near boiling) and dip your fly into it briefly. This will take out any memory left in the fibers!



Top View



Bottom View