



NEWSLETTER

“Kayak Fly Fishing”

with Michole Jensen



Calendar

October 4: Club outing to Medicine Lake

October 21: Club meeting with Micole Jensen

November 18: Club meeting with John Smeraglio

December 16: Club Christmas Party

On October 21, KCFC will be treated to great presentation by Michole Jensen. He sent me a wonderful letter of introduction, that I had to shorten to fit in the newsletter space. Come to the meeting to hear his whole story and tips for fly fishing in a way you might not have considered yet!

“I grew up fishing the streams, rivers and lakes of Northeastern Oregon. Raised by a bait angler, I transitioned to the fly rod and taught myself to fly fish and tie flies when I was ten. To fund my interest I had a fly tying business and sold my creations to the local fly shop.

My interests expanded into journalism and photography and my fishing took a back seat while I earned a degree from the University of Arizona. After graduation I returned to Oregon and rediscovered fishing. That year I made a goal to wet a line every weekend for a full year. I did, with the highlight being my first steelhead on a fly while fishing the Salmon River on Mount Hood.

After my son was born, I took an interest in fly fishing from boats. Along the way I picked up a used 9-foot Otter kayak and realized I could both fly fish from it and put it on top of my car. Within a couple years I was fishing exclusively from kayaks. I have caught as many steelhead, sturgeon, trout and panfish from the kayak, most with a fly rod, as I did from my boats.

I love kayak fly fishing because it provides challenges and a full range of fishing opportunities unlike almost any other craft. I can crab, fly fish, troll for salmon, anchor for sturgeon and fish big and small water. Last winter I took my Hobie ProAngler down the Clackamas River. I anchored up at the top of a hole and worked my way down the run while standing up and using my spey rod to fly fish for steelhead. This and many of my adventures are documented on my Kayakflyangler blog and YouTube Channel.”

OFFICERS AND BOARD

Dale Zemke

kcflycasters@gmail.com

President

Lois Krueger

lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com

Vice President/President Elect

Peg Edwards

edwrmed@aol.com

Treasurer

Terri Twyman

melterhowdy1@gmail.com

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gbulkley@wildblue.net

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John Hyde

yamsiranch@hughes.net

Board Member

Jim Ricks

mtnestinor@gmail.com

Board Member

Patrick Stroup

pastorstroup@aol.com

Board Member

Dick Siemens

resiemens@centurytel.net

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.

Regular KCFC meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, September through May, at Elmer's Restaurant, 3030 S. 6th 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

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Do you have a friend who would enjoy being a member of KCFC? Invite them to the next meeting! Tell them about the great speakers we have during the year, and encourage them to come visit, no strings attached. We would love to meet them!



COMMITTEES

Conservation: Greg Bulkley

Education: Patrick Stroup

FFF Liaison: Dale Zemke

Fly Casting Events: John Hyde

Fly Tying: Ralph Carestia

Membership: Mark Kelley

Mentoring: Dave Biddison

Monthly Raffle: Peg Edwards

Newsletter: Carol Ann Meadows

Nominating: Dick Siemens

Outings: Jim Ricks

Programs:

Social Events/Annual

Auction: Lois Krueger

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, by Dale Zemke



Earlier in the day, I was sweating over what the heck I would write about for this issue of the Newsletter. Then I opened a letter. It was the determination letter from the IRS regarding our request for a 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Status. I am pleased to report to the membership that we have been recognized by the IRS as a Tax Exempt Public Charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. And contributions to us are deductible under section 170 of the Code. We are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers, or gifts under section 2055, 2016 or 2522 of the Code. How is **that** for “**IRS speak?**” We also received this determination in a “short” 3 months and 20 days! Maybe someone remembered my name from my days in the IRS. I think **NOT**, but I am really pleased that it went through with no questions being asked nor a need to clarify anything. In addition to giving us the 501(c)(3) status, they also made it retroactive to the year 2010. That was totally unexpected. So now we can start serious fund raising efforts in order to fund our conservation and education programs from sources other than our membership’s pockets. Thank you Bob Kingzett for holding my hand through this process, and a special thanks to Peg Edwards for her support in providing financial information for the application.

OUTINGS: We sent a sign up sheet around at the September meeting, and in addition to my name, three others put their names on the line. I think we should be able to better than that! Doing an outing is not any more complicated than inviting some friends to go fishing someplace. You just need to pick a place, get some information about what is needed to fish that place, and give the membership a chance of going with you. It really is that simple. If you feel a need to have your hand held, Jim Ricks and myself and others will be glad to give some advice. We will also give you a set of guidelines that will probably be way far and beyond anything you need. The sign up sheet is going to come around again and probably again and maybe again. Get on board and commit to the club to go fishing – that is all you are doing, going fishing! It really is that simple, people!

Rod Building Class: We have eight individuals who want to participate in a rod building class. If there are others who want to do this, but were not at the last meeting to sign up, let Tom Whittemore know and he will put you on a “waiting list” in the event someone is not able to participate when the final schedule of class sessions is worked out.

January Education Events: Look for the sign up sheets to come around again for the “Eggs to Fry” trout egg delivery to the Elementary Schools (timing dictated by the eggs themselves), probably sometime in January. Also the P.L.A.Y. Outdoors event on Saturday January 17th. We help children of all ages tie a Wooly Worm and give them an opportunity to cast a fly line. It is manpower intensive, we need about 20-25 volunteers for this activity. Crappy time of year to fish – so come have some fun with fellow club members and great kids. Usually followed by a pizza and beer gathering (at your own cost!).

Do **NOT** forget to get your dues in for renewing your membership – these are NOT tax deductible by the way. Sorry about that.

Until the Oct. Meeting – Tight Lines, everyone

MEDICINE LAKE OUTING

John Staunton is putting together a KCFC outing to Medicine Lake in northern California on Saturday, October 4th. John is suggesting that everyone meet at the boat ramp at Medicine Lake at 9:00 that morning. Then, folks who wish to can meet at the Staunton cabin for lunch later in the day.

Please contact John at 541 884-9627 or jjstaunton@charter.net for further information!

CONSERVATION REPORT, submitted by Greg Bulkley

Fish Passage and Fish Screen at the North Ditch, North Fork Sprague River

Our Club's commitment to plant and cage riparian shrubs and grasses at the North Ditch site will be fulfilled on Saturday, Oct. 25, beginning at 9AM. The fish screen project runs about a half a million dollars; the fish passage is thanks to your KCFC grant, supported by KCFC, the ORCFFF, the National IFFF, and the Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust with generous technical and financial support for USFWS, thanks, as usual, to Sue Mattenberger, will cost over \$60K. This fish passage work has now begun, and should be completed by the date of our planting. We need as many volunteers as we can get, but the work should be readily accomplished by lunchtime that day.



Jared Botcher of KBRT will fund up to \$100 for steaks and drinks, and I have arranged for a barbecue on wheels and a guy to deliver it to the North Fork work site and cook the steaks for lunch for the volunteers on Saturday, October 25. We can do the rest pot luck. Please reserve this date on your calendar. Signup sheets and driving directions will be provided at our October meeting, but for those who are unable to attend the meeting, you can sign up by emailing Greg Bulkley at gregbulkley@gmail.com.

Driving directions(from Klamath Falls):

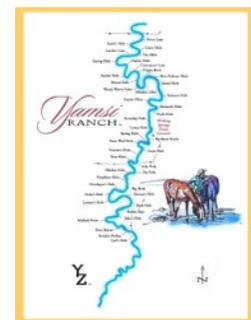
1. Take Rte. 140 East out of Klamath Falls through the town of Bly.
2. Just past Bly turn left on Campbell Road.
3. Follow Campbell Road several miles to the sign to road 3411. (3411 will go straight from Campbell Road, while Campbell Road itself will continue to the left. Take 3411 towards Lee Thomas Meadows (on sign).
4. Follow 3411 to the bridge across the North Fork Sprague at the "Elbow". (Note that along the way 3411 takes a sharp left turn; watch for the sign and do not continue straight on at that junction, but follow the sign to 3411 to the left.)
5. Turn left after crossing the bridge and look for the KCFC Banner for parking.

These sessions are a lot of fun and make substantial improvements to our fishery. Your Club is renowned across the state, and recognized nationally for its fine contributions to the restoration of our watershed. Once again we are asking for your help. Please join us for this very worthwhile project.

FLY FISH THE YAMSI RANCH!

The Hyde family is inviting KCFC members to come fish the Upper Williamson on the Yamsi Ranch on Friday, October 17th. Fishing will be from noon until dark, followed by one of Gerda's famous dinners at the ranch house!

The cost is \$75.00 per person and there is a **limit of ten people**, so please RSVP to the Yamsi Ranch as soon as possible to reserve your place! The email address is yamsiranch@hughes.net or you may call John at 541 783-3008. John says to expect Mahogany Duns and Fall Caddis to be the popular flies.



WILLIAMSON RIVER DELTA TOUR AND FISHING, submitted by Marshal Moser



The Club had a great field trip to The Nature Conservancy's Williamson River Delta on sun-shiny August 23rd about 22 miles north of Klamath Falls. It was a little different kind of outing with a large conservation/restoration education component; some members came only for that part and most stayed and fished the delta area of the

Williamson River from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) boat ramp. The ramp is about 2 miles below the Modoc Point Road bridge and normally not open to the public. We appreciate TNC for desiring to show us their program at the Preserve and allowing us the chance to use the ramp and more easily see the Preserve and the river in the vicinity of its mouth.

Ten of us were greeted at the Preserve at 10 a.m. by Heather Hendrixson, Klamath Basin Program Manager for TNC. Heather explained the history, purpose, biology, research, plans, etc., of the preserve. She had maps and handouts, showed us around a large section of the Preserve, and escorted us to the boat launch and kiosk where more discussions occurred with Q & A and those staying could have their lunches and go fishing.



The Nature Conservancy's Williamson River Delta Preserve is 7,509 acres. Farming is still conducted on about 750 acres with about 5,800 acres of restored wetland with some other areas of upland and other habitats and uses. Up until about WWII most of the Preserve area was a vast expanse of wetland full of fish and wildlife. By the 1950's levees had been constructed and the area was used as cropland. A variety of important and free wetland functions were lost. One of the most important functions is expressed in the phrase that "wetlands are the kidneys of the land." Through a variety of physical, chemical, and biological means wetlands purify the water and groundwater associated with them. This was of great benefit to the water of the lakes, groundwater, fish, wildlife, and people of the upper Klamath Basin and below.

Combined, as it was originally was and is again, Upper Klamath Lake and Agency Lake is the largest natural freshwater lake west of the Rocky Mountains. Of the 17 native species of fish in the Klamath Basin, eight are found nowhere else on earth. Special attention to two of those species, the Shortnose and Longnose Suckers, is a large part of the reasons for restoration efforts on the lakes and along the Williamson and other rivers in the Basin. The suckers went from incredibly abundant numbers within the lifetimes of people living in the Basin to being federally listed in 1988. The restoration efforts have been and continue to be of benefit to water quality, the suckers, and other species in the Basin.

One of the other species receiving benefit is the unique Williamson River – Upper Klamath Lake Redband Trout which is genetically adapted to the Lake, its parasites, rivers, flows, seasons, etc. According to Robert Behnke's "Trout and Salmon of North America" it is the largest river-running, non-ocean running Rainbow in the world. Its lifespan is only 6-7 years and the population, though it has declined, still exists in appreciable numbers and is wild, not requiring stocking. The suckers live somewhere to or above 40 years. If it wasn't for the suckers' long life span, they would probably have gone extinct in the time period since WWII.

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Actual restoration work began at the delta in 1996 when TNC started phased purchasing of parcels of the delta. The project involves many other any private and public organizations. The planning, restoration, research, etc., has also continued in phases through the present. Much has yet to be done and will take years; the marshes were greatly degraded, the farmed areas sank to as much as 15 feet below lake level (equal to or below the average lake depths and too deep for most aquatic plants), as well as other negative impacts. However, improvements are occurring such as use of the restored wetlands by tens of thousands of larval and juvenile endangered suckers (and other fish and wildlife), regrowth of wetland vegetation, buildup of the lake bottom, and improvements in water chemistry, temperatures, and other qualities.



I polled those who attended the tour. Here is a brief summary of the comments they returned: Several thanked Heather for the fine job of presenting an informative overview of the restoration. Another repeated comment was how impressive the riparian growth in the delta is, the amount of recovery work that has already been accomplished, and the number of agencies involved that are dedicating time and resources to the effort. It was very interesting and a great first-hand look at what has been done with the property and we learned some details on how it is progressing.

Finally, regarding those that stayed to participate to fish, it was different than fishing the Williamson in the stronger currents above the Modoc Point Road bridge. It took some getting used to but fish were caught from shortly above the TNC boat ramp to just under a half mile above the lake which was about 3 miles downstream. The water clarity of the river was around 4 feet visibility at the boat ramp and the surface temperatures ran from 54 to 59 degrees down to where the wind was blowing water into the mouth of the river; there visibility dropped to barely a foot (lots of suspended algae) and temperatures were as high as 65 degrees. Stan Swerdloff's grandson topped us all by hooking and releasing a 21 in Redband Trout!



TIPS AND TRICKS from John Hyde

Ok, you are streamside, setting up your rig to begin fishing. You have the perfect fly tied to your tippet and as you try to cast it out into the water, the knot that holds your leader to your line catches in the end guide on your rod. This is one of those frustrating scenarios that happens to all of us.

But John has a trick for you to try! Turn your rod upside down so that the guides are all facing up. Then pull on your line or make a couple casts, and your line should slide out slick as a whistle! Try it!



REPORT FROM OUR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

John Hyde recently received this letter from Davis Hernandez-Alvarez who received a KCFC scholarship while studying at OIT:

“Hi John,

How are you? I hope all is well on Yamsi Ranch and related holdings. Please say hello to Gerda and Jerri for me.

I am finally getting around to delivering to you, a copy of my sophomore project. I apologize for the great length of time it has taken me to get it to you. I wanted to "clean it up" and make sure that I was correct in my results. Attached you will find a PDF copy of the entire report.

As you know, I was measuring for phosphorus levels in the water at the spring heads, in the main channel of the river, and at the point just before the water exited the ranch to the adjacent property. What I found was that the levels of phosphorus at the springs were higher than the water leaving the ranch. I believe that the low level of phosphorus leaving the ranch are because of the series of impoundments along the main channel. They allow for the growth of wetland vegetation which filters out and reduces the amount of phosphorus leaving the ranch. I can't say for sure without actually conducting a study looking specifically at that, but that is my best guess for now.

These findings are actually a big deal. The way you manage your land could prove to show that you can run cattle and reduce nutrient loads going into the river. I believe that the suite of plants that are growing in the northern most impoundment can tell us a great deal about which plants process phosphorus and nitrogen the best. It's just a guess but I'd love to be able to prove it.

I'm back in Oregon now. Just arrived with my wife Crystal and son Oisin, the first of this month. We are in the Corvallis area and I will be attending graduate school this fall. I received a STEM scholarship to attend classes here and am grateful for this opportunity. I feel like I have a lot of unfinished business in the Upper Klamath Basin. I'd love an opportunity to personally thank the Klamath Country Fly Casters for the scholarship. It made a huge contribution to my ability to focus on my studies.

When I first went back to school I had no idea I would want to become a hydrologist. Spending time out on Yamsi and later on Deming help solidify my resolve to work with water and help solve some of the many problems we all face in regards to such a precious resource. So, thank you. Thank you and your family for being the people that you are and making me feel so welcome and at ease on your land. That one kind act set the stage for where I am today.

Blessings to you and all your relations,

--

Davis Hernandez-Alvarez
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
Ventura, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Located at the NRCS Service Center
Salinas, California
Davis_Hernandez-Alvarez@fws.gov
[831 / 424 - 1036 Ext 114](tel:8314241036)

Reminder - Membership renewal time of the year!

Membership renewals
are **DUE** as of Oct. 1st 2014

Mark Kelley will be at the door at the Oct. 21st meeting to receive membership renewals. Please print and fill this out and give it to Mark with your payment. Or mail to KCFC, P.O. Box 324, Klamath Falls, OR 97601. Dues are still \$35.00 per family. Two adult voting members per household. Thank you!

1st Voting Member:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

2nd Voting Member:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

COACHMAN TRUDE

At times an “attractor” pattern is more effective than a specific pattern. The reason for this is that a generic pattern can play a variety of roles and match a variety of different items on a trout’s menu, rather than representing only one stage of a particular insect’s life cycle. Such a pattern lets a trout see what it wants to. One of my favorite attractor pattern is the Coachman Trude, in sizes 10 through 16. While this pattern is now most commonly fished dry as an attractor or as a rough-water caddis fly, its uses are almost endless. As a down-wing dry, it can be fished on the swing as a deeply submerged wet fly without modification. The Trude can even work as a mayfly emerger or cripple. I much prefer the standard Coachman Trude to the more popular Royal Trude.



RECIPE:

Hook sizes: 10, 12, 14, 16
 Hook: Tiemco 100, Mustad 94840
 Thread: Black 6/0
 Wing: White Calf Body Hair, stacked
 Tail: Golden Pheasant Tippetts
 Body: Peacock Herl
 Hackle: Coachman Brown

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Attach the thread and wrap a base to the barb of the hook.
2. Tie in 8-12 Golden Pheasant tippetts at hook point and set above barb to make the tail. Wrap forward to a point half-way between the point of the hook and the eye of the hook.



3. Tie in 3 or 4 strands of peacock herl. For durability, twist the peacock around tying thread. Wrap back over the peacock to the bend of the hook and return the thread to a point half-way between the point of the hook and the eye of the hook. You should have a relatively smooth thread underbody at this point. Wrap the peacock forward from the bend forming a bushy body.



4. Cut, clean and stack a medium sized clump of white calf body hair. Stack the tips of the hair perfectly even. Measure the hair so it reaches to the rear edge of the bend of the hook. Tie in white calf body hair to build the wing of the fly. Draw the butt ends of the hair above the hook in your fingertips and clip them as close as possible.



5. Prepare and tie in a coachman brown hackle feather by its butt end at the base of the wing. Wrap the coachman brown feather forward six to eight evenly spaced turns to the hook eye. Whip finish and cement.



BOTTOM VIEW



SIDE VIEW



TOP VIEW



Klamath Country Fly Casters
PO Box 324
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601