



NEWSLETTER

“Summer Steelheading on the Deschutes”

with John Smeraglio



Calendar

November 18: Club meeting with John Smeraglio

December 16: Club Christmas Party

January 17: P.L.A.Y. Outdoors

January 20: Club meeting

March 13-14: Expo in Albany

John Smeraglio will be the speaker at the November 18th KCFC meeting. This is a repeat visit; you will remember him and his engaging style from a few years ago, and you will not want to miss his “chalk-talk” presentation!

John is a native Oregonian, born and raised in Portland, and remembers catching his first Red Side Trout on the Deschutes River when he was six years old. He says it seems like it was just yesterday to him!

At age ten, a friend of the family introduced John to fly fishing when he showed him a rod he was building. With an instant spark of interest, John bought the components to build his own fly rod. After completing the project, John spent most of the remaining spring learning to cast. By late summer, he caught his first trout on the rod he built, a tapered leader he made, and a fly that he tied.

From that day forward John’s passion grew rapidly as he devoted himself to building better rods, tying better flies, and designing better hand tied tapered leaders. All of these elements gave him positive results by allowing him to achieve the best presentation possible.

A few years later, in late summer 1973, John landed his first Deschutes summer steelhead on a downstream swung Muddler Minnow. With eyes wide open, heart ready to pound out of his chest, he said to himself, “This opens up a whole new dimension to this sport, and I want to learn as much as possible about steelhead fishing with flies!”

In 1985, John moved from Portland to Maupin, Oregon, to open a fly shop and guide service, which is of course is on the Deschutes River. He has owned and operated the business for 29 years. Through the years, he has been quoted in books, featured in magazine articles, and has teamed up with Rick Hafele to produce a series of fly fishing DVD’s.

John has truly enjoyed teaching others to fly fish on this beautiful river, and he and his wife Roseann enjoy the benefits of living in a small community in the sun drenched climate of the Deschutes river canyon.

Come hear John at the November 18th meeting!

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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

We have new KCFC members! Make sure to look for them at our next meeting. Introduce yourself, and welcome them into our fly fishing family!

Please welcome: John and Julie MacDiarmid
Cleve Ochs



COMMITTEES

Conservation: Greg Bulkley	Membership: Mark Kelley	Outings: Jim Ricks
Education: Patrick Stroup	Mentoring: Dave Biddison	Programs: Bob Kingzett
FFF Liaison: Dale Zemke	Monthly Raffle: Peg Edwards	Social Events/Annual Auction: Lois Krueger
Fly Casting Events: John Hyde	Newsletter: Carol Ann Meadows	
Fly Tying: Ralph Carestia	Nominating: Dick Siemens	

PRESIDENT’S REPORT, by Dale Zemke

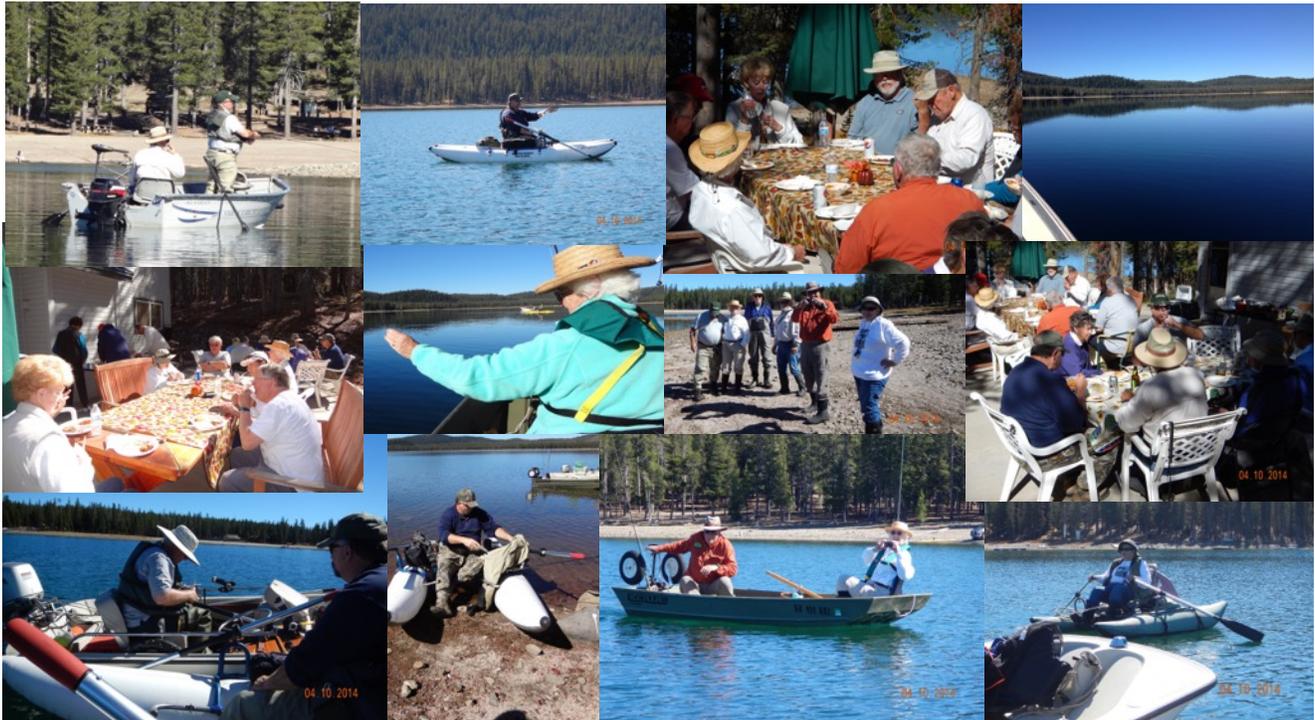
I cannot believe just how fast time is flying by this year. Maybe it is because I am on the downhill side of my tenure as Club President. It recently dawned on me that our Club Christmas party is coming up in a little over 6 weeks. So we are getting busy planning for it and will have information/particulars out by the November meeting. That will be quickly followed by two of our main Education events in January, Eggs to Fry and P.L.A.Y. Outdoors.



I am making this a very short President’s report, and just want to thank you all for your support of the various club events and activities. Especially the work parties that help us continue our Club’s conservation efforts. Without your contribution of time, sweat, and treasure, the Club would not be such a moving force in the fly fishing community. And you should all take pride in that distinction! So again, a job well done to all of you and until we meet at the November meeting, keep warm, stay dry and Tight Lines!

MEDICINE LAKE OUTING

Thank you to Joan and John Staunton for putting together a terrific KCFC outing to Medicine Lake on October 4th! Greg Williams offered this report: “It was a perfect day, especially for October, at Medicine Lake. The fishing was great with reports of catching on seal buggers, dries, droppers Everything was working. Peg took a break from her pontoon boat and was catching fish off the boat ramp. John and Joan shared the beautiful family cabin and served tri-tip, salad, rolls and beans. They, and others rounded off the lunch with wonderful cherry pie, brownies, and several different homemade cookies.” A great time was had by all!



CONSERVATION REPORT, submitted by Greg Bulkley

North Ditch Project: After more than a year of delay due to permitting issues, the KCFC-sponsored North Ditch Project has reached near completion, with only some fencing and site cleanup left on the agenda. The fish screen, the largest ever constructed by ODFW in the Klamath Basin, is completed, open, and operating, although at this time of year, only volumes sufficient for stock watering, not for crop irrigation are passing through. The cost of this component of the project alone approximates \$380,000. The fish passage itself, a \$60,000 sister project that was initiated by KCFC, with the invaluable help of our conservation partners,



USFWS (Sue Mattenberger) and KBRT (Jared Bottcher) is complete and functioning properly as well. The project was supported by generous grants from our own Conservation Fund, and by matching grants from the the Oregon Council and the National Conservation Committee of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. About 17 KCFC volunteers showed up this past Saturday morning to

plant willows and currants on the fish passage side of the North Fork Sprague River, and to seed very large areas of construction-bared ground on both sides with native riparian grasses. Despite heavy rains early on, and very strong, gusty winds all day long, the enthusiastic volunteers finished the work by 11:30 and enjoyed a lunch of gourmet beef barbecue and delicious side dishes provided by the volunteers on a pot luck basis. Several stayed on afterwards to fish the North Fork there, or on Black Drake Ranch nearby. The high winds knocked some anglers out of the running, but others had good days; For example, Bob Kingzett landed over 20 fish from Five Mile Creek that afternoon. Once again, we all had a lot of fun, and have accomplished a great deal for our fishery.



This is one of the most ambitious projects that your Club has undertaken to date, and one that I believe, will have one of the greatest positive impacts on our watershed. And it again highlights the great value of our conservation partners in helping us leverage relatively small financial contributions into major restoration projects. Without their



financial support, and the great expertise that they bring, these projects could not happen. And without the leadership of Sue Mattenberger, and now Jared Bottcher, none of this would be possible. This project has far reaching impacts, as other clubs are using this partnership model to leverage their relatively small financial resources to accomplish projects of substantial environmental impact.

In addition to Sue and Jared, I want to personally thank Lois Krueger for helping to organize this outing, even though she was unable to attend the event itself due to a preexisting commitment. And a special thanks to all those who so cheerfully volunteered their labor last Saturday.



P.L.A.Y. OUTDOORS

P.L.A.Y. (Providing Lifelong Activities for Youth) Outdoors is just around the corner. On Saturday, January 17, from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM, a team of volunteers from our Club will be providing hands-on instruction to the children of the Klamath Basin in both fly tying and fly casting at the Event Center in the Klamath County Fairgrounds. We have done this for the past three years, and it has been a very enjoyable and rewarding event for members and children alike. If you have not already signed up to be a volunteer for this upcoming event, look for the sign up sheet coming around at the upcoming meeting. You may also contact Patrick Stroup at pastorstroup@aol.com or 541-591-1421 and he will be more than happy to add you to the list of volunteers as either a fly tying or fly casting instructor. Remember, the fly we tie is a very simple Woolly Worm, so you do not need to be an expert. “Ugly” flies are quite acceptable in a child’s eye! Go for a fun day and help a kid get interested in fly fishing.

EGGS TO FRY

Fish in a classroom is one of those magical activities that . . .

- catches kids' interest in the real world,
- facilitates learning in science and math, and
- can be the nucleus of learning activities in language arts, social studies, and fine arts at any grade level.



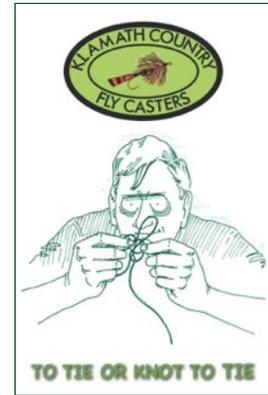
Caring daily for the fish as they develop from egg to fry fosters a sense of stewardship for wild things — and where wild things live. And best of all, it's fun.

Sometime in January, the Club will again be assisting the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and local schools by delivering trout eggs to classrooms. This is a program that exists under a variety of names throughout the country, often called Trout in the Classroom. Here in Oregon it is “Eggs to Fry.” The children learn how trout grow from eggs to fry in a special aquarium in the classroom and when the fry are ready, they are released into local ponds. Last year KCFC delivered eggs to 13 classrooms in 9 schools. Jennifer Luke, a STEP Biologist with ODFW, High Desert Region, will be driving down from Bend and meeting Dale Zemke in Chemult to transfer eggs for transport to Klamath Falls. We plan to meet at about 8:00 AM, on the morning of the scheduled delivery date, for breakfast at Elmer’s, at which time we will divvy up the delivery assignments and provide the eggs and any other materials that a particular classroom may need. The feedback from the volunteers after delivery last year was delightful to read - it was a great experience for all involved. We can always use more assistance in activities like this, especially if there are conflicts that keep some volunteers from participating due to the nature of the last minute notice of the date.

If you would like to help out on this, please sign up on the volunteer sheet circulated at meetings, or advise our Education Chairman, Patrick Stroup at pastorstroup@aol.com or 541-591-1421.

NORTHWEST FLY TYING AND FLY FISHING EXPO

KCFC staffs the ‘Knot Tying Table’ at the Oregon Council of the IFFF’s Northwest Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo in Albany Oregon. The Expo will be held March 13 - 14, 2015. We need volunteers who would like to attend the Expo and spend some time helping at our knot tying table. As a volunteer, you get free admission to the Expo for both days. We would ask that volunteers do one shift per day, based on the number of volunteers, and that should leave ample free time to enjoy the Expo. This has proven to be a great way to give exposure and status to our Club to other clubs and FFF members.



The event is very relaxed and does not require you to be a knot expert. Usually, with a gathering of fly anglers, there is knowledge of the basic knots, and we get an opportunity to learn from each other as well as from people who stop by the table. In a nutshell, the thing ends up being just a bunch of fishermen, hosts, and visitors, getting together to share knot skills in a very low key environment.

The basic knots we will be covering are the Arbor, Nail, Perfection Loop, Surgeons Loop, Kreh Loop, Duncan Loop, Surgeons Knot, Blood Knot (both versions), and Improved Clinch Knot. Materials and knot diagrams are prepared and will be available along with supplies - you just need to bring you. If any of the volunteers has a favorite knot they would like to share and feature, that is great but not essential.

The more volunteers we have the more free time everyone will have. Please contact Patrick Stroup at pastorstroup@aol.com if you can help out. There will be a sign-up sheet at the January and February Club meetings also. Please mark your calendars now! Sign up as a volunteer and join us for a fun weekend!

TIPS AND TRICKS from John Hyde

[Editor's note: This "tip" is written from first-hand experience!]

You are streamside, standing with tall grasses all around you. A fish rises ... you lift your fly to cast to it, and, in your excitement, you drop your backcast, landing your fly in those lovely grasses behind you! Sound familiar? The next time this happens, don't walk back to pluck your fly out of the grass. Instead, reel in quite a bit of line, point your rod tip toward where the fly is stuck and flick your rod straight up. The fly should pull right out! If you are lucky, you can even turn that maneuver into a cast back out over the stream! Try it!



INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

TELLICO NYMPH

Tellico Nymphs are absolutely necessary for many anglers. If they are not in your fly box, go home and tie some. The Tellico Nymph is a fly that has been around for so long that no one is really sure anymore exactly how it got started. There is some speculation that it was developed around 1927 by a priest along the Tellico River in Tennessee and North Carolina. It is very popular fly and fished on many west coast rivers, in large sizes (Size # 8 to #12). Fly fishers across the west have great success with the Tellico Nymph – the version I tie is highly successful on many rivers that I have fished in Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.



Recipe:

Thread: Veenues Yellow or White for base then Veenues Black 10/0 for rest
 Hook: Tiemco TMC 3761
 Back: Turkey tail quill section
 Body: Yellow Floss
 Rib: Peacock Herl
 Tail: Guinea, pheasant or brown hen feather
 Legs: Pheasant body feather or Brown Hen Fibers

Instructions:

Wrap about ten to twelve turns of .025 lead free solder beginning just forward of the center of the hook. Start the thread in front of the lead wraps and build up a small thread dam tapering from the bare shank up to the lead. Cross the thread back over the lead wraps and build another thread dam tapering back down to the bare shank.



Peel a clump of fibers from a pheasant body from the stem. Tie the fibers beginning in at the bend forming the tail. Secure the fibers at the bend with several tight turns, then wrap forward over the butt ends of the fibers to the front of the lead wraps.



Cut a section of the turkey feather that is just a bit narrower than the hook gap. Tie the turkey slip in at about the center of the shank on top of the lead wraps with the inside of the feather facing up.

Build a thread loop just in front of the tail. Select about 2-3 peacock herls from the eye of the feather. Tie the peacock herl in and wrap back over it to the bend of the hook.



Tie in a strand of yellow floss at the front of the body. Begin wrapping the flattened strand toward the bend of the hook from the front. Ultimately, we will make a two layer floss body. Continue wrapping the floss back to the bend of the hook and then return it with smooth even wraps to the starting point. Trim the tag ends of the floss flush and make a couple more turns over their ends to smooth them off.



Bring the peacock herls and the thread loop together on your near side of the hook. Twist the peacock herls in the thread loop. Spiral wrap the peacock herl/wire brush forward with about four evenly spaced turns to the front of the body and tie it off. Clip the excess.

Prepare a pheasant body or hen feather for the legs of the fly. Peel and even the sides of the clump and tie them in. Now you have little legs sticking out both sides of the fly. Trim the butt ends as close to the shank as you can.



Use your fingers to part the collar on the top of the fly and pull the shellback forward over the top. Bring the thread up and over the front of the shellback at the back edge of the index point using your material hand to work the thread.

Clip the excess turkey quill as closely as you can and build a short, neat thread head over the stubs. Whip finish the black thread.



Coat entire shell back with Loon UV Knot Sense and set using UV light. This will immediately harden, but may have a slightly matt finish, so coat with thin layer of head cement



TOP VIEW



BOTTOM VIEW



SIDE VIEW

Reminder - Membership renewal time of the year!

Membership renewals are
overdue as of November 1, 2014

Mark Kelley will be at the door at the November 18 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, with two adult voting members per household. Thank you!

1st Voting Member:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

2nd Voting Member:

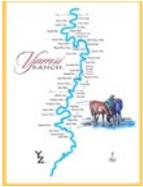
Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

HALLOWE'EN, BLUEBIRDS, AND FISHING THE YAMSI RANCH



October 31st was the last day for fishing most local streams. About ten KCFC members met at the Yamsi Ranch to see the season out on the Upper Williamson with John and Jerri Hyde. The weather was chilly with occasional rain showers, but the fishing was great, with everyone catching rainbows or brookies.

An unexpected highlight occurred mid-afternoon when a flock of western bluebirds flew in to join our group. Jack Meadows was tying on a fly when he felt a slight weight on his rod. He looked up to see two bluebirds perched about halfway down the rod. And then Bill Tamplen had a bluebird land right on his cap!

As dark approached, we all made our way back to the ranch house where Gerda had a lasagna dinner waiting. There was plenty of talk and laughter around the table, too. Memories of Hallowe'en fishing at the Yamsi will certainly help see us through the winter!



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