



DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Lois Krueger

I sure hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and got to spend time with family and friends, eat too much and relax a little. We did get to see a few of you and that is always great.

Christmas is right around the corner and on the top of my Christmas wish list, is that we get to start meeting again and start planning some great outings for the upcoming year. Peter Calvo went to a Medford fly fishing meeting and they like the idea of us joining in some of their outings. So stay tuned for locations and dates in upcoming newsletters.



I hope everyone has a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year.

Until next year, stay safe and well....and if you haven't paid your club dues, please get in touch with Marie Ganong. We need your support.

Sincerely,

Lois Krueger
KCFC President

We are sorry to report that a former member of our Club, Doug Barnes, passed away on September 13th.



CALENDAR

Dec 21, 2021 – Club Christmas Party – **Cancelled**

Jan 18, 2022 – Monthly Club Meeting – **Tentative**

Feb 15, 2022 – Monthly Club Meeting – **Tentative**

Mar 15, 2022 – Monthly Club Meeting - **Tentative**

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.

OFFICERS AND BOARD

Lois Krueger

lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com
President

Peter Calvo

nogndr@petercalvo.com
Vice President/President Elect

Marie Ganong

<http://mganong@aol.com>
Treasurer

Carl Gurske

<http://carlgurske@gmail.com>
Secretary

John Krueger

jk@timefliesoutfitters.com
Past President

Jim Eiman

jimeiman@gmail.com
Board Member

Bob Kingzett

bobk@wendtff.org
Board Member

Kevin Westfall

kevincwestfall@gmail.com
Board Member

Greg Williams

greg.williams@charter.net
Board Member

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 to be willing to promote well-being amongst fellow members of the Klamath Country Fly Casters and our community."

COMMITTEES

Conservation: Vacant

Education: Greg Williams

Fly Tying: Ralph Carestia

Membership: Mark Kelley

Outings Coordinator: Kris Henry

Programs: Bob Kingzett

Social Events & Auction: Lois Krueger

Monthly Raffle: Marie Ganong

ORCFFI Club Representative, Newsletter Editor,

Budget and Communications: Dale Zemke

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





Hooked on Fish by Dale B Zemke

Cod with Pancetta, Artichokes, and Olives

By Christine Burns Rudalevige

Servings: 4

Despite the ease of preparation the fish, sauce, and side dish all cook in one skillet - this is a restaurant-worthy dinner. Serve it with good crusty bread to mop up the sauce.

A good Winter dish!

Ingredients

- 4 6-oz. pieces fresh cod loin fillet
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 Tbs. extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 oz. pancetta, cut into 1/4-inch dice (about 1/4 cup)
- 1 medium yellow onion, cut into 1/4-inch dice
- 1 tsp. fresh thyme leaves
- 1/8 to 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1 15-oz. can diced fire-roasted tomatoes in juice
- 1 cup marinated artichoke hearts, drained and chopped
- 1/2 cup large green olives, such as Castelvetrano, pitted and halved



Preparation

- Pat the cod dry and season with salt and pepper.
- Heat the oil in a 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add the pancetta and cook, stirring, until crisp and golden, 2 to 4 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the pancetta to a paper-towel-lined plate, leaving the fat behind in the pan.
- Add the fish to the skillet and cook until slightly golden, about 3 minutes. Flip and transfer to a plate, seared side up.
- Add the onion, thyme, and pepper flakes to the skillet; cook, stirring, until the onion is soft, about 4 minutes. Add the wine and cook until the pan is almost dry, about 1 minute. Add the tomatoes and their juice, artichokes, and olives. Simmer, stirring occasionally, to meld the flavors, about 2 minutes.
- Lower the heat to medium and nestle the fish into the sauce, keeping the seared side exposed. Cover and cook until the fish is opaque and just cooked through, about 3 minutes. Sprinkle with the pancetta, divide among rimmed plates or wide, shallow bowls, and serve.

Nutritional Information

- Calories (kcal) : 340
- Fat Calories (kcal): 140
- Fat (g): 16
- Saturated Fat (g): 2.5
- Polyunsaturated Fat (g): 1.5
- Monounsaturated Fat (g): 9
- Cholesterol (mg): 75
- Sodium (mg): 1110
- Carbohydrates (g): 13
- Fiber (g): 3
- Protein (g): 32



ANNUAL CLUB DUES ARE DUE!

Following our KCFC bylaws, membership renewals and dues were due as of October 1st each year. As of November 1st, the membership fees were considered **Past Due!**

In an era of ever-rising prices, our Club dues are still **\$35.00** per family!
And, that includes two adult voting members!

Please print and fill out this form and mail it to:

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

First voting member:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Telephone:

Second voting member:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Telephone:



10 Tips to be a Better Fly Fisher by Clint Losee

One of the best parts of learning how to fly fish is that you can never stop learning and becoming a better fly fisherman. There's always something new to figure out and something out there to help you become a better angler. It may be something to help you spot fish easier in your local river or even something to simply enjoy your time on the water more. The fact is that there is always something you can learn no matter how long you have been at this fine sport. Here is a short list of **10 Tips to be a Better Fly Fisher**.



1. Fish Upstream in Small Waters. Always try to work upstream on small waters. These types of streams don't usually allow you the options of larger bodies of waters where you can fish down, across and pretty much any other way without spooking fish. By fishing upstream it gives you the advantage of approaching trout from the rear where they are less likely to see you. You can take extreme levels of stealth and crawl on your hands and knees, but if you simply crouch down and avoid jerky movements and keep you shadows off from pools as you approach them, you'll be just fine. Try to plan your progress up these smaller streams and you increase your odds tremendously.



2. Dead-Drifting a Streamer. Many anglers fish streamers the typical way. Cast it out and strip it back in. It's very effective and it's a way that I fish them 90% of the time. One other great tactic is to try dead-drifting a streamer along a bank so the profile is perpendicular to the current. You can use your line to control the fly in the same way as you would tight-line nymphing. Many times you will induce a strike that is far from subtle with this technique and you can fish two techniques with one style of fly. Go from standard streamer fishing to tight-line nymph/streamer fishing in one go when you see a likely holding spot. Try this one out next time and you just might be surprised how effective it can be.
3. Casting in Dangerous Crosswinds. We've all been there. The wind is howling and it's blowing directly into your casting arm. It's a recipe for disaster in the form of massive tangles or worse, a hook in the head. You can overcome this though. Simply turn around and face the other way. Sounds odd at first, but this solves the problem of the wind blowing the line into you and now blows it away from you. the trick now is to just cast normally, but instead you will lay out your presentation on your backcast instead. Basically you just reverse things. It may take a little practice to get fully stop the rod tip on the final backcast and get things to unroll correctly, but this works perfectly on those horribly windy days on the water.
4. Use Bigger Flies in High Water. High, murky waters are not the time to try and match the hatch. Fish will be opportunistic and snatch up things that are moving quickly by them in the dark waters. The chances of them seeing something larger moving quickly by them are far greater than size 20 hare's ear nymph. Larger flies also tend to move a lot of water which can also attract attention and bring fish to your fly. Look to flies like conehead streamers, big stonefly nymphs, larger copper johns, and other flies in the larger than normal sizes. Also, while white and other flashy colors work great, don't overlook black in dark and off-colored waters.
5. Making a Delicate Presentation. The simple secret to making a delicate presentation is all in controlling the rod tip. Dropping the rod tip too early in your presentation and your fly line won't roll out completely and will crash into the water. The rod tip should stop at about eye level to let the loop roll out. At that point is when you should lower your rod tip. This will help let your line roll out and prevent that crash into the water.
6. How to Fish Thick Lily Pads for Bass. Here's one for the bass fisherman out there since I don't have too many tips for them. Bass are known to be able to see through translucent lily pads and will wait in ambush below them where they see food. This is why you see so many early morning TV shows where bass fisherman are pulling rubber worms and other lures over lily pads that cause some pretty vicious strikes. This will work for flies as well. Tie on a dragonfly, grasshopper, frog, or your other favorite bass topwater pattern and cast that onto a lily pad. Let it sit there for a few seconds and then jerk it off the pad into and open hole of water. Hold on as those strikes can be pretty exciting! You may even see the bass nudge the pad from the bottom in an attempt to knock whatever is on top of the pad off. Sounds like pretty exciting topwater fishing to me.
7. Use the Slip Strike to Prevent Breaking Light Tippet. This is a technique to help if you find yourself breaking fish off on the hookset and when using lighter tippets. Some of us can be somewhat heavy-handed when setting the hook when a fish strikes. I'm guilty of this myself sometimes. We all do it.



This is a tip to help combat that feeling of loss when you set that hook just a little too hard, which is called the slip strike. What it does is uses the friction of the fly line against the rod guides to set the hook. As you raise the rod tip, don't pinch the fly line as you normally would, but instead make an O with your thumb and forefinger of your line hand and let the line slip through as you raise the rod tip. The tippet can't break because the tension on the line now is so light compared to actually gripping the line as you normally would.

8. Think About Your Approach To The Water. Before you wade in and start casting away, stop a ways back from the water's edge and glance over the water. Take note of where any fish are that you can see, where any fish might be holding, where you might want to try casting, and any other likely holding spots. You may see fish right up next to the bank that you would have spooked had you just walked right on into the water. It can pay off to take a minute and scout out the water and plan your approach. Sometimes you'll see some of the biggest fish feeding right where you would have walked into.
9. Use Longer Tippet Than You Would Think. I get many questions about fly fishing leader and tippet. Many of them revolve around the tippet section. A good rule of thumb is that it's always better too much tippet than too little tippet. When you have less than 20 inches of tippet, you have very little room left for changing flies and it doesn't help with drag reduction or improving the delicacy of your presentation. Try to use around three to four feet of tippet material on a 9-12 foot leader. This will give you plenty of length to tie on new flies, help with micro-drag in the water and also help with your presentation. If you're increasing your leader length beyond 12 feet, increase your tippet length as well.
10. Have a Quick On-The-Water Checklist. There are a lot of moving parts when you're out fly fishing your favorite lake or river. From there multiple different pieces of gear that are used to the hundreds of different flies we all accumulate and then all of the different tips, tricks, knots, and other techniques, it can get hard to remember everything. That's where having a quick on-the-water checklist can help you out. This is just a quick mental rundown of things to help you remember to check some of the things that we tend to forget about far too often and only remember when it's too late, like after your tippet breaks unexpectedly. Here's a quick sample list of things you can check periodically throughout the day
 - Hook Point (Before you start, every 20 casts, after a snag, after landing a fish)
 - Is it Sharp? Did you crimp the barb? Is the point still there?
 - Fly (Every 20 casts, after landing a fish, after a snag)
 - Is it still floating? Is it still intact? Are there weeds or other items stuck to it? Is it performing as it should?
 - Tippet (Every 20 casts or after landing a fish)
 - Are there any nicks that would weaken it? Any wind-knots in it? Any abrasion that would weaken it?



- Knots (Every 20 casts or after landing a fish)
 - Are they well-tied and smooth? Are they tight? Give them a tug to check they are holding still.
- Ferrules (Every 50 casts)
 - Are they properly seated? Are they aligned correctly?
- Wading Position (After changing positions)
 - Are you in a safe position? Can you get back to shore safely? Is the water rising? Are there any obstacles you need to avoid? Be aware of your surroundings.
- Personal Health (Hourly)
 - Are you drinking enough water? Do you have enough sunblock? Are you warm/cool enough? Are you too weak to be wading in fast water? Be aware of your condition.

These are just **10 Tips to be a Better Fly Fisher** but there are far more out there. Pursuing this sport is an ongoing passion for many of us that lasts a lifetime. Each day and year we learn something new that we can then pass on to the next generation. That's part of what makes it so great.

**The Krueger's 10 new additions to their household
One Male & One Female are still available for Christmas
contact Lois & John for details**



INDESPENSIBLE FLIES

By Ralph Carestia

Semi Seal Leach



One pattern that has worked for me consistently is a bead head simi seal leech. I will swing it, strip it, drift it or suspend it under an indicator. Whether you are on a river systems, smaller creeks or lake, a leech will take fish.

Arizona Simi Seal is one of my favorite products and came about as a quality material to tie leeches. This material has several different flashy materials blended to give the fly life like qualities. John Rohmer Materials are a brand of fly-tying materials including Simi Seal and Mega Simi Seal in many different colors that has the right texture, quality and flash to produce quality leeches. I utilize a wide variety of color combos and have fun tying these patterns with dubbing blends, tail mixes, and various bead colors.

My go to pattern is the black/red Semi seal Leech (for Brown trout I like the Canadian Brown leech). This is one of the best producing leech patterns for Stillwater fishing lakes and rivers and streams. This pattern can be fished suspended under an indicator or fished on a slow retrieve. The key component of this fly is the Arizona Simi Seal dubbing for the body.

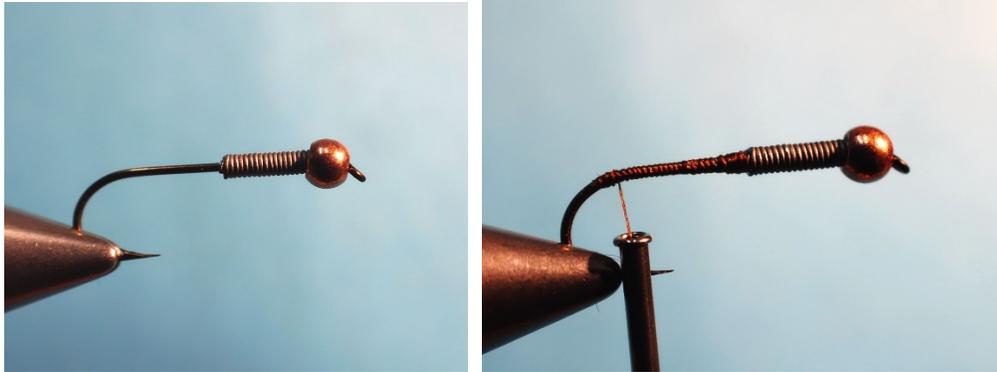
Recipe:

Hook: 2x-3x long, 1x heavy Nymph (TMC 5262 or TMC 5263) - Size 6-14
Beed: Tungsten bead and 15 wraps of 0.020 Non-Toxic Solder (sized to hook)
Thread: 6/0 – (black, red, rust, brown, etc.)
Tail: Arizona Mega Simi Seal Dubbing (Black/Red - Black/Blue - Black/Purple – etc.)
Body: Arizona Simi Seal Dubbing (Black/Red - Black/Blue - Black/Purple – etc.)



Instructions:

1. Place a tungsten bead on a TMC 5263 hook. Wrap non-toxic solder shoved up into the bead for added weight. Start your thread and wrap back to just before the hook bend. Start your thread and wrap back to just before the hook bend.



2. Pull out a small clump of mega simi seal (here Canadian Brown). Roughly align the fibers and tie it in the middle of the material with two 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. A great way to make a buggy body for this pattern is to apply the dubbing with a dubbing loop. Created the dubbing loop by bringing the tying thread around the hook shank to create a loop into which you can place the Arizona Simi Seal dubbing. Twist the loop, to create a dubbing rope much like manufactured chenille, with the fibers protruding from the strand at all angles.



4. Wrap the loop around the shank to create buggy body. Dubbing a very shaggy body all the way to the bead. Brush shaggy body back toward the tail. Whip-finish and trim the thread and apply head cement.



5. Take a dubbing brush (tooth brush, gun cleaning brush or wire brush) and brush out some fibers back and out to give it an even more shaggy look.



Top View



Bottom View



Black Semi Seal Leach



Black/Purple Semi Seal Leach

