



MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER

Fisheries of Klamath and Lake Counties with Bill Tinniswood



Calendar

March 10-11: Fly Tying Expo in Albany

March 21: Club meeting with Bill Tinniswood

March 28: Fly Tying Round Table at Lakeshore Landing

April 18: Club Meeting - Annual Auction

May 16: Club Meeting - Todd Moen

June 3: Club Annual Fly Casting Clinic at Moore Park with John Hyde

Have you paid your dues? Please do!

Get ready for KCFC's most well-attended program of the year! On March 17th, we will be treated again to Bill Tinniswood's annual talk on the fishing opportunities in Klamath and Lake Counties.

As a fish biologist with ODF&W, Bill has the inside scoop on which streams and lakes are set to fish well this year, and which might not be.

Bill welcomes your questions, and is always gracious about answering them. Be sure to bring your notepad and pen for taking notes; he will flood you with information!



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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.

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: Jared Bottcher
Education: John Krueger
IFFF Liaison: Dale B Zemke
Fly Casting Events: John Hyde
Fly Tying: Ralph Carestia
Membership: Mark Kelley
Mentoring: Dave Biddison

Monthly Raffle: Peg Edwards
Newsletter: Dale B Zemke
Nominating: John Hyde
Outings: Jim Ricks
Programs: Bob Kingzett
Social/Auction: Lois Krueger

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



PRESIDENT'S REPORT from Dick Siemens

The meeting this month is one many of us look forward to each year. Bill Tinniswood will be reporting on the fishing prospects for the coming year in the streams, lakes, and reservoirs in Klamath and Lake Counties. In addition to being a fish biologist, Bill is an avid fly fisherman and knows how to fish all of the waters that he will be talking about. He knows when the fishing is best, which flies to use, and how to fish them. Come out and share a fun evening.



A new general fishing season will be here soon. If you would like to lead a group of club members in a fishing outing at some lake or stream, please contact Jim Ricks, our outings chairman. Jim will help you organize the trip and sign up those who would like to go. From another perspective, if there is a stream or lake that you don't know much about but would like to fish, contact Jim or any board member and if there is enough interest, we will help find a "stream keeper" to lead a group to that fishery.

Remember the Fly Fishing/Tying expo sponsored by the Oregon Council of the IFFF is coming up soon—March 10-11 at the fairgrounds in Albany. To learn more about the expo, talk to Dale Zemke.

I have been having fun tying flies lately and completed tying a box of flies for the special raffle. I guarantee you that you will catch fish on the Yamsi ranch with the flies that I tied—especially with John Hyde as your guide. Lately, I have been experimenting on tying a black drake nymph. I have been using Polly Rosborough's version as a guide but have made some variations of my own. That by the way is one of the fun things about fly tying (putting your own ideas into a pattern). I will include a couple of these nymphs in the box for the special raffle.

I hope to see a big turn out this month for Bill's presentation. Come out and bring some friends too.

Dick

THANK YOU to all the wonderful Club members who have paid their dues! Even though dues are still only \$35.00 (and that's for a two-person family membership!), each member who pays helps so much toward the Club booking top-rate speakers for our programs, as well as helping our stated goals of education and conservation. Again, THANK YOU!

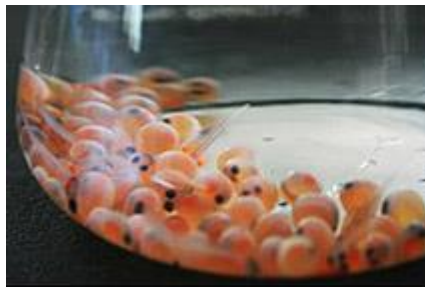
If you haven't paid your dues yet, please do! Our Club fiscal year runs September - August, so dues were due last October. We need YOUR help!





On February 14th, seven members of the club met at Elmer’s for breakfast and distribution of Trout eggs that they would deliver to 18 classrooms at 11 schools in the Klamath Basin and Ashland. Also, Eggs were delivered to the Klamath YMCA After School Program and the Klamath Library.

A thank you to Tom Essex, Carl Gurske, Marshal Moser, Bill Tamplen, Karen and Greg Williams and Dale Zemke from the teachers and from our club for making a valuable education effort possible. Also, a thank you to Jennifer Luke and Amy Baker of the ODF&W and Akimi King of the USF&W for their massive support.



Eyed eggs, and some newly hatched



Rainbow trout alevin



Rainbow trout fingerlings



Trophy-size rainbow trout

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

There will be great programs and outings for KCFC in 2017. Invite a friend to come to a meeting and introduce them to our fly fishing community!





FISHING CLUB OR CONSERVATION CLUB?

By Dale B Zemke

This is a question that has come to light from a variety of sources recently. Consequently, it needs to be addressed to our readers and club members.

Let us first address conservation. The question seems to be related to our conservation efforts done on private land within the Klamath Basin. The question has been raised about why we do this work and yet do not gain access to the fisheries on the private property.

These projects are part of a program that the U. S. Fish and Wildlife does in partnership with various State and Local organizations, like ours, and with land owners that have streams running through their property. The purpose is to undo damage that has been done to these waterways over the years by farming and ranching. These streams often are or were spawning areas and their deterioration has adversely impacted both the number and the quality of fish throughout the stream and connected waterways.

Requiring public access (i.e. our club) to the private property as a condition of this partnership is simply not possible if there is to be agreement from the land owner for the project. It is an unrealistic expectation. We as anglers benefit from the improved numbers of healthy fish in those areas that we can access. It is simple - fish move and migrate - the entire fishery benefits from the restoration of waters on private property. A side note, the Yamsi Ranch received support from our club and in turn has been periodically providing their \$175.00 Fly Fishing Package to Club members for \$75.00 - a 56% savings.

We offer work parties as the primary part of our contribution to the conservation projects. We also seek funding from the ORCIFF and the IFFF coupled with our club's donation of funds. These funds are then joined with major funding support from USF&W and, at times, the ODF&W. Occasionally other partners join the project as well and we end up with projects that can be at the 7-digit level of funding. We are a small part of the overall program, but we are also critical to its success. Our \$1,500 in seed money and volunteer labor explode into a massive restoration effort. In return, we gain recognition as a club, as we did in 2013 when the Club was named ORCIFFF Club of the Year. Our Conservation efforts are also a part of why we are categorized as a 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Organization, which makes us eligible for Grants and donations from other organizations.

We have also received compensation on some of the past projects in the form of "Management" or "Administration" fees. These have been amounts ranging from \$1,000.00 to \$8,000.00, depending on the scope and dollar value. So, we receive funds and we receive greater numbers of healthier fish for our efforts. (Continued)



FISHING CLUB OR CONSERVATION CLUB? (Continued)

Are we a fishing club? That is an excellent question. We are all anglers of varying skill levels; we gather once a month for a meeting and some comradery, not too much heartburn, and hopefully an interesting presentation about various aspects of our sport. So, what is the expectation of the Club when it comes to going fishing?

1. Perhaps the club could gather contact information together and publish a directory of club members so you can call someone, or several people, and make a fishing date?

Well, we do that! Use it!

2. It might be fun if the Club were to try to organize club outings to a location that we as members can gather and fish? That could be either a day or a multi-day outing. But, how does one do that? That might require instructions on how to organize various outings - pretty much a step by step guide on how to do it.

Oh, yeah, I forgot, we do that also. We even have a guide on how to do it!

The biggest problem about this is getting someone to step up and be the organizer of the outing - the "Stream Keeper." That is on you as members of the club. If you do not step up and volunteer to head up an outing, then it is simply not going to happen. We can give you the tools and the support to ensure that it is painless, however, **YOU** need to get off your duff and step up. That is the bottom line.

So, as a club, we can help you improve your skill levels through mentoring (yes we have that too), presentations and casting clinics. We give you the ability to communicate with like-minded anglers, and we give you the tools to enable you to put together a fishing trip for you and members of the club. We feel that should cover most anyone's expectations.

This probably means we are a fishing club that does conservation projects to improve the fisheries in the Klamath Basin where we like to fish. So, here is the question again:

ARE WE A FISHING CLUB OR A CONSERVATION CLUB?

THE ANSWER IS: YES, WE ARE!!!

CONTACT YOUR CLUB OUTINGS CHAIRMAN, JIM RICKS, AND TELL HIM YOU WANT TO BE A STREAM KEEPER AND DO AN OUTING! DO IT NOW SO WE CAN GET IT SET FOR THIS SEASON



Club Outings Message

from Jim Ricks, Outings Chairman

It is time to start planning fishing trips, where we fish together as a club. I would like to get a jump-start on getting people to think about leading a club fishing outing this summer and sign-up to do so.



If you have a lake or stream fishing adventure in mind that club members would enjoy, please send me an email at mtnestinor@gmail.com or call me at 541-205-3274 as soon as possible. Provide a short description of the outing, the location, the proposed date of the outing, and your name, phone number, and email address. Also, I will be at the March 21 meeting to solicit members to sign-up to lead an outing for the club members.

Here's some outings that club members have volunteered to lead in the past – hopefully they will repeat again this year! Dale Zemke led a group to Juanita Lake in May. Bob Gregory lead an outing to Pyramid Lake in April. John Hyde has offered several fishing opportunities on the Upper Williamson at Yamsi Ranch. Doug Barnes lead a group to Diamond Lake in June. Marshal Moser led a group to Miller Lake in September. Our dear departed friend John Staunton led an outing to Medicine Lake in September.

Lake Juanita Outing - Saturday June 24th

Stream Keeper - Dale B. Zemke - dale_zemke@yahoo.com



Lake Juanita is located approximately 4 miles south and 4 miles west of Macdoel, CA. It is a small, high altitude lake that is not heavily visited or fished. It is stocked with trout and has a population of small, feisty, largemouth bass. The Lake fishes well. Excellent facilities. There is a concrete boat launch. No motors of any sort, fuel or electric, are allowed, but the size of the lake makes it excellent for row boats, float tubes, pontoon boats, canoes, or kayaks. The water stays cold all through the summer. Dress accordingly if float tubing. This will be a day trip. Please bring your own food and beverage. Drinking water and vault toilets are available. There is no day use fee at this USFS campground, only a fee if you are overnighing in the well-maintained campground. We have had club outings at this lake in the past and it has been a very successful location. A one day California license is \$15.12 or a two day for \$23.50 for both residents and non-residents alike and can be obtained online at www.wildlife.ca.gov/Licensing. Sign up for this outing at the March 21st Club meeting.



2017 NW Fly Tyer's and Fly Fisher's Exposition Albany March 10th & 11th

The NW Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo, organized and presented by the Oregon Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers, is just around the corner. Scheduled for March 10th and 11th, in Albany, Oregon, the Expo has been heralded as the "largest fly tying event west of the Mississippi." At the Expo you will be part of a crowd of fly tyers and fly fishers who are building their knowledge and seeing old friends.

Please visit the web site at nwexpo.com to register for the classroom and casting classes now, before they are sold out.

You can also volunteer for specific tasks and time slots at the Expo through the same web site. Take a look at it and see what you might like to get involved in at the Expo - especially if you plan to attend anyway. All volunteers will receive Free Entrance to the Expo for both days, an Expo Pin, 2 Beverage Tickets & 2 Raffle Tickets, a \$30.00 value.

The Oregon Council of IFFF supports our Club with funds for conservation projects. We need to support them with volunteers!

The Fly Tyer Schedule has also been posted on the website. There are many great tyers that will be attending this year.

A reception dinner will be held on Friday night this year. This special dinner only costs \$5.00 to attend and has a limited number of tickets. You can purchase your ticket on the web site. The Friday reception dinner will replace the Saturday banquet. There will be an auction at the reception dinner. Additionally, there will be a special fly box raffle.

There are options to purchase packages that include raffle tickets and reception dinner tickets at a discount on the web site.

If you have not attended in the past - I think you would find it to be a great way to spend a weekend. And if you go, volunteer or not, contact Lois Krueger at lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com or Dale Zemke at dale_zemke@yahoo.com to let them know so they can advise you of any gatherings for dinners.



INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia



Birchell's hatching midge is a beautiful little emerging midge with a parachute wing, so you can see it amid the others.

Midges are aquatic insects related to mosquitos and very in size from very small (size 22) to larger sizes (size 14). Often a midge hatch can be a prolific to the point when it's difficult to determine your fly from the rest on the water, especially in the Klamath basin. This midge fly pattern can solve the problem.

Midges rise to the surface as pupae and struggle slowly through the surface film while the pupa's body dangles vertically below. This is the most common stage for trout to take, though the adults may be useful at times too. Midge pupae account for much of the mystifying midsummer spring creek action on evenings when no bugs seem to be in the air or on the water, yet trout are rising everywhere and ignoring one's flies.

Despite the tiny size of Chironomidae midges, trout can be very selective to their size and color. Remember that a difference of a single hook size in the tiny sizes is a very large percentage difference and very noticeable by the trout. Netting some of the real insects before choosing a fly is surely a good idea, but it's easier said than done.

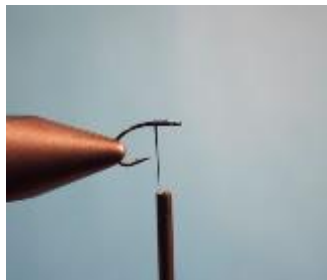


Recipe:

HOOK: TMC 2488 Size #16 - # 20
THREAD: Black 70 Denier (match fly body color)
WING: Post White Calf Body hair
TAIL: Grey Z-Ion for Black
BODY: Black Thread
Rib: Small Silver wire
HACKLE: Medium Dun
Thorax: Dun superfine Dubbing
WING: Post White Calf Body hair

Instructions

1. Attach the thread at the eye of the hook and wrap a smooth thread base to the midpoint on the hook. Return the thread to about the ¼ point from the eye.



2. Cut, clean and stack a large clump of calf hair. Be sure to remove all the short fibers and stack the bunch into a nice even clump. Measure this clump of hair against the shank so it is about a shank length long. Tie the calf body hair and cut the butt ends from the calf hair at an angle and form a smooth thread base over the tapered butts.



3. Tie in a sparse clump of grey Z-lon at the base of the wing and wrap back over it to the bend so it sticks out the back of the hook like a tail.



4. Tie in a small section of BR size silver wire extending off of the back of the hook shank to be used to rib the lower body of the fly later. Wrap the thread forward to just behind the calf hair wing creating a somewhat smooth tapered underbody.



5. Wrap the Silver wire forward up the tapered body in the same direction that you wrapped the thread for the body.



6. Select a medium dun saddle hackle that has barbs about equal to one and a half hook gaps. Peel the hackle fibers from the bottom of the feather, leaving the bare stem exposed for about half a hook shank length. Tie the feather in right behind the wing, by this bare stem, and wrap back over it tightly to the base of the wing. Wrap the thread around the wing post and the hackle stem from the base of the wing post up to the top of the wing post.



7. Apply a strand of dun superfine dubbing to the thread. Begin wrapping this dubbing immediately behind the hook eye, and wrap back, crossing to the backside of the wing, and building an elongated oval-shaped thorax.



8. Grab the tip of the hackle feather with your hackle pliers and pull the feather out over the hook eye. You want to bend the feather over backwards so the inside of the feather will face up as you wrap. Wrap the feather from the top of the post to the bottom, one turn under the last for a total of about 5 turns and tie off.



- Whip-finish the thread by setting up the whip finisher and working the knot in around the hook shank but under the hackle fibers.



Top View

**Have a Fly Rod that needs some TLC?
Peg Edwards found that Parker's Rod
and Gun now can make rod repairs.**



Klamath Country Fly Casters Raffle

This incredible fly fishing package could be yours!

Echo 3 Fly Rod, 10 foot, 5 weight

Reel and line

Hand-tied flies

Yamsi
RANCH PLUS

One full day of guided fly fishing on the famous Upper Williamson River followed by dinner at the Yamsi Ranch House hosted by John and Jerri Hyde

Tickets are only \$5.00 each for your chance to win this \$925.00 value!

Proceeds benefit local conservation efforts

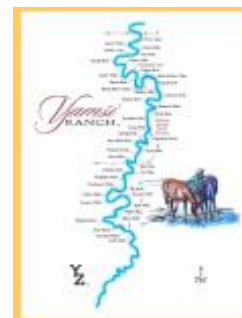


MEMBERS ONLY BUSINESS ADVERTISING

KCFC members may now advertise in our Club newsletter! You may have your business card or a brief statement published for a fee of \$25.00 per calendar year. Please give your \$25.00 to Treasurer Peg Edwards.

YAMSI RANCH

- ~ IFFF certified fly casting instructor
- ~ the Upper Williamson River
- ~ Hyde Lake
- ~ Echo fly rods
- ~ AirFlo fly lines, leaders
- ~ Award winning silver and leather
- ~ wildlife/bird watching
- ~ working cattle ranch



BLACK DRAKE RANCH offers 420 acres of privacy with miles of two year-round flowing streams, teeming with wild native redband and brown trout that thrive on prolific insect hatches, a unique opportunity for the fly fishing enthusiast! On a rock point overlooking the stream step pools, Gearhart Mt, pine timber, meadows and sage sits the Ranch House; uniquely one of a kind, floor length windows, Southern pine beam ceiling, hickory, granite, historic barn wood, rock fireplace, wrap around deck & 3 car garage. In addition; the Fish Camp log cabin and the bunk house plus 3/2 MF home tucked in the pines by a water fall and 75 acre pasture. Well priced at \$1,760,000.



Insert: cover of May/June 2012 issue.

Linda Long, Principal Broker/Owner 541-891-5562
33550 Hwy 97 N Chiloquin, Oregon 97624 541-783-2759

Hand Carved Fly Fishing Screen - \$2000.00



Created by artist William Herrick for Big Sky Carvers, this screen features 3 24" panels and stands about 7' tall. The panels depict a bookcase with fly rods, reels and a creel. The frame is quarter-sawn oak and the panels are likely maple.

Contact Jerry Robillard at
541-783-0932
425-359-1005

or
jerryrobillard@me.com



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