



KLAMATH COUNTRY FLY CASTERS

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



It is Fly Tying Season



Our Club is fortunate to have an abundance of talented fly tiers in our membership. What makes it even better is that so many of them truly enjoy sharing their abilities through demonstrating and teaching others how to tie flies for maximum effectiveness. In keeping with tradition, our January meeting will feature two of our own Club members discussing and demonstrating fly tying. Ralph Carestia, and John Krueger will present flies of their choosing to share with the Club. Be sure to make plans to attend the meeting on Tuesday, January 16th at Elmer's Restaurant. Dinner/Social hour will start at 6:00 PM, with the fly tying demonstrations to begin shortly after 7:00 PM.



CALENDAR

Jan 16: Club Meeting - Fly Tying Demonstration

Jan 20: P.L.A.Y. Outdoors

Feb 20: Club Meeting with Bob Wolfe - Why Chironomids

Mar 20: Club Meeting with Bill Tinniswood re: Fishing Prospects

Apr 17: Club Meeting - Annual Auction Fund Raiser

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

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Board Member

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Board Member

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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 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 &
IFFF Liaison: Dale B Zemke	Communications: Dale B Zemke
Fly Casting Events: John Hyde	Outings: Jim Ricks
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 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 MESSAGE from Carol Ann Meadows

The new year is fast approaching! In keeping with my motto of "accentuate the positive," I will use my presidential powers to absolve you from any guilt associated with that dreaded word... "resolutions." Resolutions just sound so... resolute. Instead of such an emotionally charged idea, I would encourage you to look for new ways to challenge yourself throughout the year. Learn something new, try something different, keep your mind open to ideas that might differ from the way you usually think.



2018 will start off busy for KCFC. Our program on January 16th will feature our own master fly tiers, Ralph Carestia and John Krueger. They will each show you two flies and the secrets required to tie them.

The next Saturday, January 20th, is the date of P.L.A.Y. Outdoors at the fairgrounds. This is a fun day to help the children and youth of the Klamath Basin learn some basics about our chosen sport. KCFC members work with the kids to tie a very basic fly and learn some casting techniques. I heartily encourage you to participate with your fellow Club members; it really is fun to see the children trying out fly fishing.

As 2018 dawns, let's enjoy the good times we are given, have the flexibility to weather the storms that will undoubtedly come, and always be open to those new ideas. I hope your new year brings you good health, good friends, and lots of good fishing!

— Carol



Why so much criticism of “Grip and Grin” Photos?

Written by: Phil Monahan



There's little doubt that the best trophy shots keep the fish in the water.
Photo by Sandy Hays

*[Editor's note: Here's something that, I think, bears reposting. I continue to see a lot of online criticism—some warranted, of course—of grip-and-grin photos, and I wonder if there's a right way and a wrong way to get the desired result, which is better fish-handling. Make sure you read though the comments below the post for lots more good information and tips, as well as some differing opinions. When all else fails, remember the **#keepemwet Principals**]*

Because I run a blog and Facebook page that often post “grip and grin” photos, I see a lot of negative comments about the way the person in a photograph is holding the fish. The two most common criticisms are that the person is squeezing the fish or holding the fish with dry hands. We don't post any images that show a fish on the ground or an angler with his fingers in the fish's gills or mouth, so I don't see those kinds of negative comments, which I generally agree with.



I am always amazed by the certainty with which the critic makes his assertions, and I wonder whence comes this absolute sense of rightness. Let's look at two examples:

1. Your hands must be wet when you handle a fish. This is one of the first things a trout angler learns, and you'd be hard-pressed to find someone who doesn't believe it. But how do we know this to be true? I put the question to Prof. Gary Grossman—distinguished research professor of animal ecology at the University of Georgia and author of the “Ask Dr. Trout” column in *American Magazine* magazine—and his response blew me away:

Conceptually, the idea is that dry hands dislodge the protective slime coating on the skin of trout and make it easier for infections to grow and penetrate the skin. Nonetheless, there is little scientific evidence that dry hands alone cause dislodgment of protective slime. It is clear that handling itself, regardless of how damp your hands are, is the major cause of stress for fish.

I assume that even with this knowledge, most of us will continue to wet our hands before we handle a fish, out of habit and because the rationale behind the practice makes sense, but Doctor Grossman's explanation makes criticizing someone else for dry hands less justifiable.

2. Squeezing a fish damages its organs and often kills it. Earlier this year, an [article from New Zealand's Bish & Fish website](#) made the rounds of fly-fishing sites. Author Tony Bishop coined the term “grip and kill,” and he offered scientific diagrams to show that “[a] fish subject to external pressure to the heart and other organs may swim away on release, but many die soon after.”

There's no doubt that Bishop's article is full of great advice for the best way to handle fish, but many casual readers focused on the “kill” part. Soon thereafter, the number of comments arguing that a person in a photo was killing the fish seemed to skyrocket. Since I am skeptical of almost anything I see on the Internet, I emailed a fisheries biologist friend (who asked to remain anonymous), included a link to Bish's article, and just asked, “What do you think?” Here was his reply:

There is a bit of hyperbole and of course no data offered to support his assertions. On the other hand, I do think that some fish die from grip and grins, but mainly because they usually require multiple “takes,” and the fish is often dropped on rocks a time or two. If you hold the fish too lightly, you are more likely to drop it. Putting a bit of pressure on a trout's heart for a few seconds shouldn't hurt it. The best thing to do, of course, is not take the fish out of the water, i.e., a net shot.



My point in all of this is not that there aren't right and wrong ways to hold a fish. We would never show a photo of a person with his or her fingers in a fish's gills, for instance. But we need to remove some of the self-righteousness from the discussion because, frankly, there's not a lot scientific evidence to support these arguments that are used to batter other anglers.

So instead of telling someone that he's "killing" the fish by squeezing it or holding it with dry hands, why not offer helpful suggestions in your comment? For instance, "Since most of the trout's vital organs are right there, you might want to be careful of squeezing too hard" or "most anglers believe that you should wet your hands before handling a fish." And I think you'll find your suggestion is better received if it's accompanied by "great fish," "I love that river," or "nice job."

If someone is holding a fish incorrectly in a photo, it's most likely because they don't know better. Yelling at someone or accusing them of murder is not the best teaching method.

This was posted in [Fly Fishing](#) and tagged [conservation](#), [fly-fishing news](#), [fly-fishing photos](#) on [September 21, 2017](#) by [Phil Monahan](#). And then reposted on the Orvis web site at <https://news.orvis.com/fly-fishing/repost-why-so-much-criticism-of-grip-and-grin-photos/>

Check out the Club's new Public Facebook Page and Private Facebook Group (for members only). You are encouraged to "Like" the page and to make posts to it. Also, request admission to the Private Group for members only. Please try to keep postings related to the spirit of the club. They will be reviewed and deleted if inappropriate. You can access the Facebook Page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/KlamathCountryFlyCasters/>



Membership in the Klamath Country Fly Casters Entitles You to
a 10% Discount on Purchases at:
Parker's Rod & Gun Rack and The Ledge!

Present Your Club Membership Card to Secure the Discounts

We Also Want to Thank the Sportsman's Warehouse for Their
Donation to the Club of a \$20.00 Gift Certificate Every Other
Month!

Your Business with These Generous Stores is Greatly
Appreciated

Fishing with Club Members:

If you decide to go fishing and would like some company, take some club members fishing with you. Contact Jim Ricks at 541-205-3274 or mtnestinor@gmail.com and give about 4 days' notice of the fishing event to provide time to get the word out. Leave Jim your telephone number or email so that others can contact you about going fishing with you. Jim 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.



KCFC CLUB OUTINGS HAVE EXPERIENCED AN INGLORIOUS DEMISE

Club outings are an excellent opportunity for KCFC members to get out and fish together. The outings can be planned to appeal to all levels of fly fishers, from beginners to advanced. They can be one day or multi-day outings, cold and warm water fishing, free and low cost events. These outings will provide opportunities to learn new water and benefit from experience and mentoring from other members and, as always, a great opportunity to meet, socialize and fish with fellow KCFC fly fishers. Outings will also attract new members and retain existing members - without outings, there are few reasons to bother being a member of any club.

Outings can be scheduled each month of the year to take advantage of the excellent and varied fishing in the Klamath Basin. Although, most are scheduled from April thru October. Club outings can occur in the streams of the Basin and Northern California, and the lakes and reservoirs whenever weather and regulations permit. Excursions into neighboring States are also possible. Jim Ricks is the club's Outings Chairman and he will be happy to give you guidance in the form of our "Stream Keeper's Guide" that is a step by step how-to for outings. Jim can be reached at 541-205-3274 or mtnestinor@gmail.com.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTIONS FROM CLUB MEMBERS:

2017 KCFC Christmas Party





Upcoming Youth Education Events Volunteers Are Needed

P.L.A.Y. Outdoors, January 20, 2018 - 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM:

This program, held annually in the Event Center at the Klamath Fairgrounds, provides a variety of activities for children and young adults to expose them to outdoor activities that they can use all their lives.



Our Club participates by teaching kids to tie flies under the supervision of several experienced volunteers and a Fly-Casting venue that is supervised by our FFI Certified Fly Casting Instructor, John Hyde. This community outreach event has been well attended by our volunteers each year, and by participating children (as many as 1200 children attend the P.L.A.Y. Outdoors Event).

We will be there again, and we can use as many Club volunteers as we can get. A signup sheet will be available at the October thru January meetings. Sign up to participate with a great group of fellow Club members and a lot of terrific kids. You can also contact John Krueger, your Education Chairperson and Vice President, at jk@timefliesoutfitters.com



This Year's Club Special Raffle:

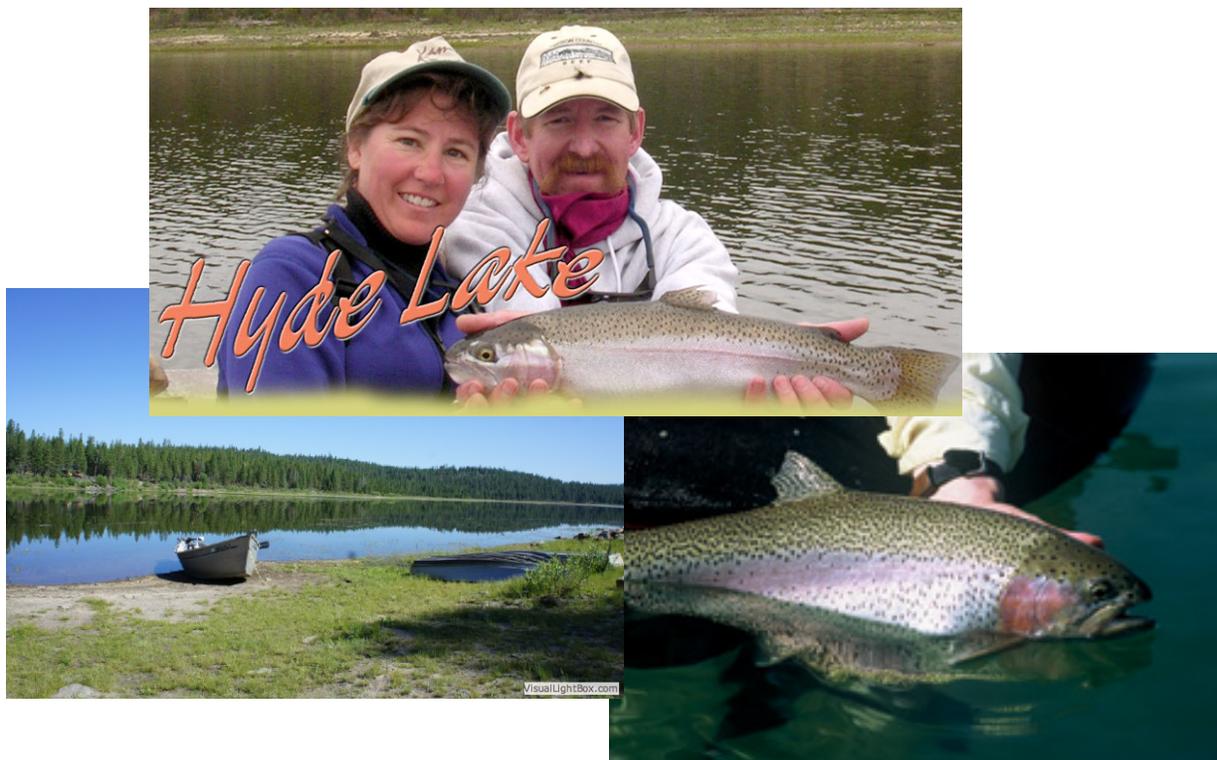
Win 10 - Count Them! - 10 Rod Days on Hyde Lake
For the 2018 Fishing Season
A \$1,500.00 Value

These Rod Days can be any combination - 1 Angler for 10 days, 2 Anglers for 5 Days, 10 Anglers for 1 Day or any combination of Anglers and Days that totals 10 Rod Days!

Hyde Lake, located 15 miles from the main house at Yamsi Ranch, is 300 acres and home of hard fighting, line stripping, knuckle busting Rainbow Trout reaching upwards of 33". The lake is stocked every spring with 7"-10" trout and the abundance of leaches, damsels, may flies, and other aquatic life help them to almost double their size in the first year.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and the winning ticket will be drawn at the May 15th 2018 Club Meeting. The winner does not need to be present to win.

These tickets can be sold to anyone, member or non-member of the Club. So, get friends to go in on this with you whether a club member or not. Sell tickets to family and friends. It is a terrific opportunity to win a package that has a retail value of \$1,500.00. A rare chance to win an awesome fishing opportunity. See Peg Edwards or any Board Member.



DUES ARE OVERDUE!

Per our KCFC bylaws, membership renewals and dues are due as of October 1st each year, and overdue on November 1st.

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 either bring it to the January meeting, along with your dues, or mail 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: _____



INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

Slumpbuster



Brown Slumpbuster



Black Slumpbuster



Olive Slumpbuster



Natural Grey Slumpbuster

John Barr's Slumpbuster is made to imitate a leech or small baitfish. Similar to the Zonker, the Slumpbuster uses finer Pine Squirrel Hair for the fly. The Pine Squirrel has less bulk and is super soft, so it moves very well in the water. The Slumpbuster can be tied much smaller. Slumpbusters can be very effective down in sizes 10 and 12. The Slumpbuster can be tied in any color. Olive, Black, Brown, Rust and Natural are the most commonly used colors.

Slumpbuster is just the kind of meaty offering that will cause a trout to take notice, even in high or off-color water. The squirrel collar pushes a lot of water, the tail exhibits lifelike motion, and the gold cone adds weight and flash. The fly is designed to be very streamline and heavy so that it gets down quick and stays down. A must have streamer for!

The Slumpbuster is heavily weighted at the front end to create a fish attracting jigging action in the water and its fur strip wing breathes seductively without fouling. I prefer this pattern to the Zonker because of its durability. I like to fish this fly with a floating line and eight foot leader. I cast it toward the bank and retrieve with erratic strips.



Materials Needed:

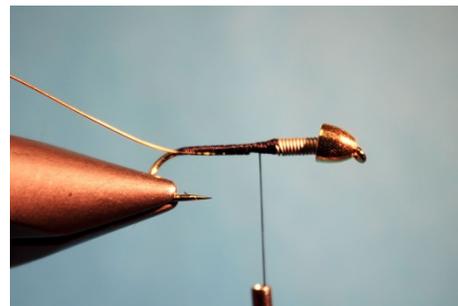
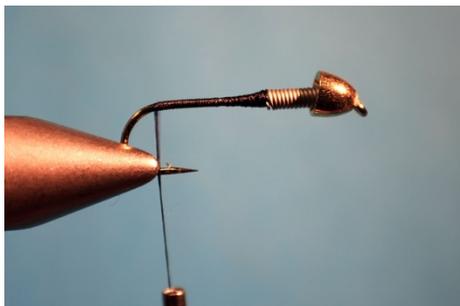
- Hook:** TMC 5263 - #2 - #12
- Thread:** Ultra-Thread, 70-denier to match fly color
- Cone:** Brass or tungsten, size 2–4 (large), size 6–8 (Small), size 10-12 (XSmall).
- Weight:** Lead wire, sized to hook
- Rib:** Brassie Sized Ultra-Wire, color of your choice, (Gold used here)
- Body:** Gold Mini-Diamond Braid
- Wing:** Dyed Pine Squirrel Zonker Strip, black
- Collar:** Dyed Pine Squirrel Strip wrapped like hackle

Instructions:

1. Slide cone onto hook and up to the eye. Wrap lead wire ten to twenty turns around the shank behind the cone.



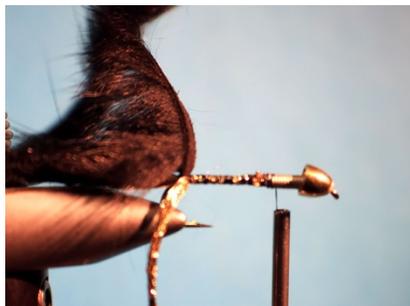
2. Start the thread at the rear edge of the lead wraps and cover the lead and the shank back to the bend. Return the thread to the bend and tie in an eight-inch length of gold wire and wrap forward over it to the rear edge of the lead wraps.



3. Tie in a two inch long piece of squirrel strip at the back of the hook above the eye and wrap the thread forward to the rear edge of the lead wraps.



4. Bring the thread to just behind the rear edge of the lead wraps and tie in a length of gold braid. Make one wrap with the braid behind the wire rib at the bend and continue wrapping the braid forward again to the back of the cone forming a smooth, Cigar shaped body. Tie the braid off at the back of the cone and clip the excess.



5. Tie in a two inch long piece of squirrel strip at the back of the cone by pushing the front end into the back of the cone and making a few firm wraps.



6. Wrap the wire over the squirrel strip through the part in the hair at the bend. Continue spiraling the wire forward through the hair strip by evenly separating the hair. Tie off the wire at the front of the body.



7. Tie in another piece of squirrel for the collar at the back of the cone with the skin side to the front and the fur pointing back toward the bend. Wrap the squirrel strip around the hook at the back of the cone two or three times. Tie the squirrel off at the back of the bead and clip the excess.



8. Make a few tight turns of thread to cinch everything down and whip finish behind the cone.





Top View



Bottom View



