Fly Fishing the Upper Sac and the Pit Rivers

With Chris King

Chris King started guiding in Colorado in 1996 and then became a sales rep for Hardy and attained all the available fly casting certifications and then later worked part and full time with The Fly Shop in Redding starting in 1998.

Chris will focus on his experience guiding and fishing the Upper Sacramento River and the Pit River.

The upper Sac has about 30 miles of free stone fishing between Shasta and Siskiyou Lakes that allows you to explore the full range of fly fishing options from March through November. Per Chris you can readily play to your fancy and fish the upper Sac with dries, soft hackle, nymphs and if you are one of those folks that gets your jollies in swinging streamers all day you can do that too! The fish are rainbows that commonly run 8 to 16 inches but will have some migraters from the lake that will run up to 20 inches.

Chris calls the Pit River one of the true gems of Northern California. A wading staff is a must on several of the Pit sections, and he says that those sections amount to some of the most difficult wading in Northern California streams. There are 7 dams on various sections of the Pit and Chris likes to fish three of those the most. Nymphing is better generally on the Pit because the water has some color to it.
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 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
WOW! It’s the beginning of February already…. time to start breaking out the fly fishing rods. Fly fishing in Klamath will be open before we know it. Now is a good time to inspect your fishing equipment. Below is a list of items that should be done before you hit the water.

- Inspect your rod for broken guides cracked ferrules.
- Inspect and clean the reel.
- Inspect and clean the fly line, also remove line and stretch the it to remove memory.
- Replace old leader and tippet with new.
- Go through your flies and reorganize if necessary.
- Inspect all equipment: net, vest, waders, boots, tools, first aid kit, sun blocker etc.

The last and most important of all is get out there and tune up your casting, this is a must. Practice on the lawn or even better on the water. Let’s all get the kinks out; it’s been awhile since most of us have had a rod in our hand. If anyone needs any assistance getting ready for the 2020 season don’t hesitate to ask for help, our KCFC members like to help each other out.
EGGS TO FRY DELIVERY DAY - JANUARY 29TH, 2020

On January 29th, a group of 8 volunteers representing the Klamath Country Fly Casters and the U.S Fish and Wildlife organizations were out delivering trout eggs to 13 Classrooms, the YMCA and a Public Library. The planning for this starts about the end of September and comes to a head on a day dictated by the Trout and their eggs. The driving force behind this program is the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife. We work closely with Jennifer Luke, a S.T.E.P. Biologist working out of Bend OR ODF&W. She and the staffs of the Fish Hatchery’s make this day a happening event. The approximately 3,000 Trout Eggs are from the Roaring River Hatchery in Scio, OR. They were shipped overnight to the Hatchery in Fort Klamath OR, where they were packaged into individual packets of 100-150 eggs by the Klamath Hatchery staff and picked up by Marshal Moser. He transported them to the Waffle Hut for a breakfast meeting of the volunteers. These volunteers then dispersed to the various locations that would receive the eggs. Now the eggs are in the care of the teachers and their students, who will nurture the eggs until they hatch and then raise them to the "fry" stage, at which time they will be released into local ponds.

A special thanks to the people that made this event possible again this year. Jennifer Luke & the hatchery staffs of ODF&W, Akimi King of USDF&W in Klamath Falls, Club members Jim Eiman, Marie Gnong, Carl Gurske, Marshal Moser, Jim Ricks, Karen & Greg Williams, and Dale Zemke, the club eggs to fry coordinator.

Look for next year’s event and join in on what is a very fun activity.
While Getting Your Gear Ready for a New Season  
Start Planning and Organizing Club Outings:

Kris Henry, Outings Chairman, can be reached at  
541-880-8105 or kj9henry@gmail.com

As John said, it is time to get your gear ready for the upcoming fishing season. It is also a great time to plan and schedule outings for the Spring and Summer months. The more lead time, the easier to plan and advertise the outing for potential participants. You 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. Contact Kris Henry to get the outing scheduled and if you feel a need for assistance, Kris and others will be glad to give some advice and help. Step up and commit to the club to go fishing – that is all you are doing, going fishing! It is that simple! If you only want to provide a suggestion of a place for an outing, contact Kris Henry, your Outings Chairman, and put forward your suggestion. Outings are fun and a good way to get to know other members.

Watch the Newsletter and the Klamath Country Flycasters web site https://www.klamathcountryflycasters.com/ for updates and additional information and watch for outings signup sheets for future outings that are circulated at meetings.
MEMBER’S PHOTO GALLERY:

P.L.A.Y Outdoors - 01/18/2020
Teaching Fly Tying
P.L.A.Y Outdoors - 01/18/2020
Teaching Fly Tying (Cont’d)
January Club Meeting - Fly Tying Demonstrations by Ralph Carestia and Harry Craggs
Fishing with Club Members:

If you decide to go fishing and would like some company, take some club members fishing with you. Contact Kris Henry at 541-880-8105 or http://kj9henry@gmail.com and give about 4 days’ notice of the fishing event to provide time to get the word out. Leave Kris your telephone number or email so that others can contact you about going fishing with you. Kris 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 have those interested contact you directly.

Reminder - the following offer PAID MEMBERS of the Klamath Country Fly Casters Club discounts when making a purchase

Parker’s Rod & Gun Rack at 7364 S 6th St offers a 10% discount on purchases when a current club membership card is presented.

The Ledge at 369 S 6th St provides a 10% discount on purchases when a current club membership card is presented.

Timeflies Outfitters at 541-539-1505 or jk@timefliesoutfitters.com offers up to a 15% discount on fly tying materials & tools as well as all fly fishing gear & flies, to current members of the Club.
Hooked on Fish by Dale Zemke

Spicy Seafood Cioppino


Makes: 8 servings (3 quarts)

Ingredients

- 5 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 jar (24 ounces) tomato basil pasta sauce
- 1 bottle (8 ounces) clam juice
- 1 cup dry white wine or chicken broth
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh basil
- 1 teaspoon minced fresh thyme
- 1 pound fresh littleneck clams
- 1 pound fresh mussels, scrubbed and beards removed
- 1 pound uncooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1 pound bay scallops
- 1 package (6 ounces) fresh baby spinach

Instructions:

1. In a Dutch oven, sauté garlic in oil until tender. Add the pasta sauce, clam juice, wine, water and seasonings. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 10 minutes.

2. Add the clams, mussels and shrimp. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.

3. Stir in scallops and spinach; cook 5 to 7 minutes longer or until clams and mussels open, shrimp turn pink and scallops are opaque. Discard any unopened clams or mussels.

Nutrition Facts: 1-1/2 cups serving: 259 calories, 7g fat (1g saturated fat), 108mg cholesterol, 1057mg sodium, 15g carbohydrate (7g sugars, 3g fiber), 29g protein.
INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

Egan's Red Dart

Lance Egan is a well-known competition angler and fly tier from Utah. His well-known patterns include the Frenchie, the Rainbow Warrior, and the Red Dart featured here. You might notice that all of these patterns are designed to sink quickly into a trout’s strike zone, which Lance feels is an important feature.

The Red Dart is an attractor pattern that is a combination of the Prince Nymph and other successful flies utilizing red tags. It doesn’t represent anything in nature. The Red Dart is a design combining the best parts of a couple of old favorite fly patterns and applying current materials. The result is a fishy attractor. I have a lot of success fishing the prince nymphs tied with red thread (hotspot collar). Anyway, the last piece of material, the UV pink hotspot is added right behind the bead. I have no idea why fish eat this fly. Though it certainly isn't imitative, it is effective. The Browns, Rainbows, and Brook trout liked it, as do fish everywhere I've tried the Red Dart.

Materials

- **Hook:** Hanak H 400 BL Jig Hook - #12 - #16
- **Bead:** UTC Ultra thread 70 Denier - Red
- **Bead:** Slotted Tungsten Beads - Gold – Sized to Hook
- **Weight:** Lead Wire Spool - .015
- **Tail:** Soft Hackle Feathers – Red
- **Abdomen:** Peacock herl (3-4 strands twisted)
- **Ribbing:** Metallic Tinsel - Opalescent
- **Hackle:** Hen Cape - brown
- **Hot Spot:** Ice Dub - UV Pink
Instructions:

1) Place the slotted tungsten bead on the hook by inserting the hook point into the smaller hole on the front of the bead. Slide the bead up to the hook – Twist the bead as necessary so the slotted portion of the bead navigates around the angled shank so the bead pushes tight against the hook eye. Wrap ten turns of .015” non-lead wire onto the hook shank from the back of the hook to the front. Shove the lead wraps up into the back of the bead.

2) Build a thread ramp directly behind the wire bead to lock it into place. Cover the balance of the shank with thread. Select 8-10 red hackle fibers and strip them from the quill. Measure the hackle fibers against the shank so they are equal to one half of a shank length and tie them in at the bend. Wrap forward over the butt ends to the sixty percent point on the shank and clip the remainder.
3) Tie in a piece of Opalescent Tinsel along the near side of the shank and wrap back over it to the bend of the hook.

4) 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 the 75% point between the point of the hook and the eye of the bead. You should have a relatively smooth thread underbody at this point. Wrap the peacock forward from the bend forming a bushy body.

5) Spiral wrap the opalescent tinsel ribbing material forward over the body in five or six evenly spaced turns. Tie the ribbing off at the front of the body and clip the excess.
6) Select a nicely brown hen feather that has barbs slight bit shorter than the hook shank. Strip the fibers from the base of the feather, and stroke the fibers back along the stem exposing the tip. Tie the tip of the feather in at the front of the bead with the concave side of the feather toward the hook shank. Strip the barbs of the far side of the feather.

7) Wrap the feather two to three turns, right in front the peacock tie it off. Don't overdo the hackle! Clip the excess feather stem.

8) Dub some shrimp pink ice dubbing onto the thread. Wind the dubbed shrimp pink ice dubbing directly behind the bead. Stroke the Ice dub fibers back after each wrap. The finished shrimp pink dub should form a small ball just behind the bead.
9) Wind the red thread directly behind the bead to form a hot spot. Whip finish to complete the fly.

Completed Fly

Top View

Bottom View