



# NEWSLETTER

## “Fly Fishing Freestones”

*with Craig Nielsen*



**Calendar**

February 16: Club meeting with Craig Nielson

March 11-12: NW Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo in Albany, Oregon

March 15: Club meeting with Bill Tinniswood

April 19: Club Auction

May 17: Club meeting with instructional topics

June 4: Club casting tune-up at Moore Park

Craig Nielsen is the owner and operator of Shasta Trout. A Northern California native, he has been chasing trout and steelhead with a fly rod for over 50 years and has guided professionally since 1992. Having fished all across the western states, B.C. and Alaska, he especially appreciates the beauty and angling diversity Mt. Shasta offers. From casting Spey and switchrods for the Klamath’s fabled steelhead, dry fly fishing and nymphing on the McCloud and Upper Sac for trophy trout, to presenting tiny dries on local creeks, Craig enjoys it all. Most everyone appreciates his patience, angling versatility and local knowledge. A certified casting instructor, Craig has taught at Mel Krueger’s school, instructed two handed casting with Simon Gawesworth, and was one of the first authors on switchrods. Craig has been a featured guide for Flywater Travel, the Ashland Flyshop, Leland, Ted Fay, Fish First, the Clearwater House and the Flyshop. He holds a Teaching Credential and a Master’s degree from Chico State where he worked as an Instructor, Administrator and Counselor before following his passion to guide full time.

"Fly Fishing Freestones" is a multimedia presentation surveying successful techniques, tactics and tips refined on freestones in the shadow of Mt. Shasta, including the McCloud, Upper Sac and Pit Rivers, fishing for some of the most famous trout in the world, including the McCloud Rainbow, McCloud Redband and the Shasta Rainbow, along with some outlandishly large Brown Trout. "Fly Fishing Freestones" is designed for novice and seasoned anglers alike with concepts offered in a light and spirited informative manner. Audience participation is encouraged and expected. Craig uses humor and down to earth descriptions to demystify successful strategies and tactics that will both increase an angler's catch as well as their enjoyment of the sport of fly fishing.

Join your KCFC friends at Elmer’s on February 16th for this great program!

**OFFICERS AND BOARD**

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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**

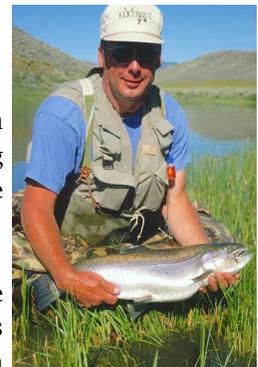
Conservation: Jared Bottcher  
Education: John Krueger  
FFF Liaison: Dale Zemke  
Fly Casting Events: John Hyde  
Fly Tying: Ralph Carestia  
Membership: Mark Kelley  
Mentoring: Dave Biddison

Monthly Raffle: Peg Edwards  
Newsletter: Carol Ann Meadows  
Nominating: Dick Siemens  
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](http://www.klamathcountryflycasters.com)

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT, submitted by Dick Siemens**



Be sure to come to our February meeting. The Board wanted to provide a program on streams in northern California that are not too far away. We are fortunate to have Craig Nielsen speak to us on techniques, tactics, and tips on fly fishing the Upper Sac, the McCloud, and the Pit Rivers. Craig is an experienced guide who lives in the area.

Have any of you taken advantage of the new fishing regulations? Remember that the Sprague and its tributaries are now open year around. I heard some of our members talking at our last meeting about giving it a try. Hopefully we will hear a fishing report on their fishing at the Feb. meeting.

As I mentioned in an earlier message, a good place to fish in the winter is the Ana River. The exciting thing about fishing there is that you can fish dry flies there in the winter. I have had good results with a size 18 olive comparadun(BWO). I would think another choice would be a Griffith’s gnat. Also very effective are BWO and midge emergers, prince nymphs, and small muddlers. At one of our Club outings there a number of years ago, John Hyde caught a 22” fish with a Tommy’s Zonker.

Hope to see all of you at our February meeting.

Dick

**MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!**

Please welcome our newest KCFC member, Ronald Pierce! Be sure to seek him out at the next meeting and introduce yourself.

Thanks, too, to all you loyal members who have paid your dues and “re-upped!”



**EGGS TO FRY**

Sometime in February, the Club will again be assisting the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and local schools by delivering trout eggs to classrooms where the students observe trout eggs growing to fry in special aquariums. 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.

There may still be time to help out with this fun event! Please contact our Club coordinator, Dale Zemke, at 714 349-5129 or [dale\\_zemke@yahoo.com](mailto:dale_zemke@yahoo.com).



The Northwest Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Expo is an annual event put on by the Oregon Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. The 2016 Expo will be held March 11th and 12th at the Linn County Fair Grounds in Albany, Oregon. The doors open each morning at 9:00am.

The main attraction is over 200 demonstration tyers who rotate every 2 ½ hours over the two days. There are 70 tyers tying at individual tables with chairs provided to sit and watch the tyer. All of the fly genres are covered including nymphs, dry, steelhead, classic salmon, streamers, and realistic flies. If you are not sure who to watch, the best thing to do is to walk around the tyer tables and find an open seat. Even if you are not interested in a specific type of fly, a lot can be learned by sitting down and watching a tyer demonstrate different techniques. Tyers will have tips on material selection, tying tips, and sometimes fishing tips for the patterns. They are also able to answer questions during the demonstration. It is one of the best ways to learn and improve tying skills.

Classes are offered each day for fly tying, casting, and fly fishing. Classes are limited in size, so it is a great opportunity to learn in a classroom environment. There are some casting classes that are 1 on 1, which provide excellent opportunities to work on specific casting problems. There are casting classes that cover both single and double handed casting. The fly fishing classes will help prepare you to go to a specific location. You can sign-up for classes on the Expo website – <http://nwexpo.com>, starting in January 2016. The classes change each year, so make sure you check out what is being offered this year.

Over 50 exhibitors attend the Expo and offer great deals on everything from fly tying materials, fly rods and reels, fly fishing art, and boats. The Expo presents an opportunity to see a wide variety of items in once place. Exhibitors often offer special show discounts and will also have new items available for purchase. There are many art items that are one of a kind and make special gifts.

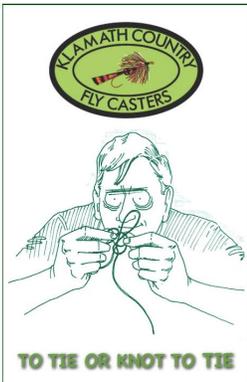
Throughout both days there are silent auctions and raffles. Exhibitors and participants make wonderful donations that are used for these purposes. The event concludes with a live auction and banquet Saturday evening. The live auction offers one of a kind framed flies along fly rods and other special items. During the banquet two college students who are majoring in fishery management are awarded scholarships. The students give a short talk one what they are studying and it provides a look at the research that is being done on the behalf of fly fishers.

The Expo is put on by the Oregon Council to provide education to the general public on fly fishing and fly tying. The revenues generated by the Expo are also used by the Oregon Council to provide educational programs on fly tying, casting, and fishing throughout the state of Oregon. The Council also supports conservation projects with the proceeds.

We hope to see you at the 2016 Expo!

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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 11 and 12, 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 <http://nwexpo.com> for all the details. Seminar listings have been posted on the web site and you can register to attend now before they are sold out.



But even more important is the need for volunteers to go to the Expo as Club representatives at the Knot Tying Table for the days of March 11 and 12. We have had a number of members volunteer the last two years, and it is amazing just how much fun everyone has at this event. It is a great way to spend time with friends. There is no need to be a knot tying expert; it is just a bunch of fly anglers getting together and sharing knots and BS around a table. It is a hoot and very relaxed; great times in the evening as well. In addition, we get to work with youth who may well be future fly fishers. Remember - the more who volunteer, the more free time is available to enjoy the Expo.

A sign-up sheet will be at the next Club meeting, and you can contact Dale Zemke by email ([dale\\_zemke@yahoo.com](mailto:dale_zemke@yahoo.com)) or telephone at 714-349-5129.

### AUCTION DEADLINE COMING

The annual KCFC fundraising auction will be held at the April 19th meeting. We need items! Please let Lois Krueger know by April 1st what you intend to donate. Remember the items that you donate are tax deductible. We also need some volunteers to help set up and clean up.

You may reach Lois at 541 539-1555 or email her at [lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com](mailto:lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com).

### MAY MEETING IDEAS?

The May 17th Club meeting will be instructional tips on all facets of fly fishing. What are you interested in? Casting? Tying? Bob Kingzett, Program Chair, would be happy to take your suggestions! He will pass them on to the appropriate experts!

You may contact Bob at 541 704-7676 or email him at [bobk@wendtff.org](mailto:bobk@wendtff.org).

### PLAY OUTDOORS FUN..... and ..... THE KCFC HAIR CLUB FOR MEN?



## INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

### CALLIBAETIS EMERGER

Callibaetis are delicate, beautiful flies that inhabit many different kinds of lakes and spring creeks. When Callibaetis hatch, the nymph rises to the surface where it bumps into the meniscus. Here it hangs with only the hump of the thorax breaking through the surface. Normally within seconds the thorax splits and the adult emerges, leaving the nymph shuck behind.



Hatches can start in early April on low elevations and continue through October at high elevations. Normal hatch time is a two hour period, mid to late morning.

I developed this emerger fly pattern to represent when it hangs with the hump of the thorax breaking through the surface and the dun slips out of the nymph shuck. Z-lon represents the shuck, while the body is dubbed with tightly wrapped fine dubbing. The thorax is dubbed with the emergence dubbing to give the buggy appearance of the fly emerging.

#### Materials:

Hook: TMC 2488 size #12 - #16  
 Thread: Iron Grey 8/0  
 Shuck: Grey Z-lon  
 Wing: Grey Calf Body Hair  
 Thorax: Callibaetis Emergence Dubbing  
 Hackle: Dun Saddle Hackle  
 Body: UV2 Callibaetis Fine Dubbing

#### Instructions:



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 two eye lengths behind from the hook eye.

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  $\frac{3}{4}$  the length of the hook. 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.





Bring the thread to the rear of the hook. Tie in a sparse clump of Z-lon and tie forward tapering it to 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.

Bring the thread to the front of the wing and build a thread dam against the front edge of the hair to stand it up vertically. Post the wing by wrapping the thread clockwise around the base of the wing. Build a thread post at the bottom of the wing that is about one to one and a half eye lengths tall. Bring the thread to the front of the wing and anchor the post wraps.



Return the thread to the bend of the hook and twist the UV2 Callibaetis Fine Dubbing to form a fine even taper. Start wrapping the dubbing with the first turn at the base of the tail/bend of the hook and work forward forming a pronounced taper to the  $\frac{3}{4}$  point just back of the wing.

Select a dun saddle hackle with matching barb lengths (about the gap width). Prepare their bases by stripping a few fibers from the quill exposing the stem for a length of about two to three eye lengths. 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.



Return the thread to end of the previous wrapped dubbing and create loop and twist in the Callibaetis Emergence Dubbing to form a fine even taper.(note, since this is a course dubbing it will be buggy looking). Start wrapping the dubbing with the first turn at the base of the previous dubbed section and work forward, crossing the dubbing to the front of the wing and creating the thorax of the fly.





Grasp the tips of the hackle feathers in a pair of good hackle pliers and begin wrapping the feathers at the top of the thread post. Make the first turn of hackle at the top of the post with each successive turn under the last, working down to the base of the post (about 4 to 6 turns).

Tie off the hackle tips immediately behind the hook eye. Whip finish the thread by setting up the whip finisher and working the knot in around the hook shank but under the hackle fibers.



SIDE VIEW



BOTTOM VIEW



TOP VIEW

### PICNIC SUGGESTIONS?

The Board is looking for ideas for this summer's KCFC picnic. Do you know of a good location? Would you be able to host? Please let Lois Krueger, Social Chair, know your suggestions. You may telephone her at 541-539-1555 or email her at [lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com](mailto:lk.timefliesoutfitters@yahoo.com). Thanks!

### MISSING DVDs



KCFC has a great library, located in the wooden cabinet at Elmer's. It is open during every meeting for Club members to peruse the shelves and choose something of interest. No librarian is needed; we go on the Honor System!

It was noted recently that ALL of the Club DVDs are gone and have been gone for some time. KCFC has quite a financial investment in these DVDs, and they are for all to share. Please look around your shelves at home.... If you find a DVD or book that belongs to the Club, please return it soon so that others may enjoy it, too!

Thanks!



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