

Kelly Creek Flycasters



Riffles, Runs & Lies



February 9 Meeting Information

Sean Wilson, Sr. Fisheries Research Biologist, Idaho Dept. of Fish & Game

Dworshak Reservoir was formed by the construction of Dworshak Dam on the North Fork Clearwater River in 1972. This unique resource provides a multi-species fishery for kokanee, smallmouth bass and trout. It also provides important habitat for ESA listed bull trout. In a recent assessment, it was determined that both the productivity of the reservoir and the nitrogen to phosphorus (N:P) ratio were steadily declining. Dworshak becomes severely nitrogen limited by summer, leading to dominance of nitrogen fixing blue-green algae. A fertilization experiment was suggested as a way to restore the N:P ratios, improve the efficiency of the food web and provide more forage for fish. In 2007, the US Army Corps of Engineers began supplementing the reservoir with liquid ammonium nitrate on a weekly basis from May through October. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has been conducting limnological and fish surveys to monitor the effects of the fertilization. Through the first four years of the experiment we have seen some positive effects to the food chain. Sean will be presenting the results of this experiment at our February 9th meeting.

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KELLY CREEK FLYCASTERS “Unofficial” TREASURER’S REPORT

Certificate of Deposit was cashed and put in checking
Checking Account Total - \$9183.06

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

By Dale Mickelson - Kelly Creek Flycasters President

In but sixty days, the NIFFE 2012 will be history, most major snow storms will be over. We should have a fairly good idea of how much snow pack is on the west slope of the Bitterroots. Some will want to get on the Lochsa River before the runoff makes it only accessible to rafters and kayakers.

As I set here with my right foot in one of those fancy neoprene and Velcro walking cast I find myself looking at my fly tying table. If I turn my chair just right and pull up a stool I could do some tying.

I take a moment to check my email and am reminded “somebody” forgot to send out the January KCF snail mail newsletter. Oops! That was supposed to be me. I am quickly brought back to now. The club is still short one board member and I think I have called almost everyone. The 2012 NIFFE committee is now meeting twice a month and the level of activity is similar to the planning for the invasion of Normandy.

Winter will end, spring will come, the rivers will eventually be fishable but first there are things that need to get done. Kelly Creek Flycasters needs a board member for a one year term. The 2012 NIFFE committee is beginning to seek volunteers for this year’s expo. While we are waiting for the snow, weather and river flows to become stable please consider giving a bit of your time helping the club get through the next 60 days.

But for now I must get back to the computer and see what else I have left undone.

2012 EVENT SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| February 7, 2012 | 1st Tuesday, Board Meeting, 5:30pm; Jim's house. Members are welcome. |
| February 9, 2012 | General Meeting, 7:00; Quality Inn, dinner at 6:00 |
| March 6, 2012 | 1st Tuesday, Board Meeting, 5:30pm; Jim's house. Members are welcome. |
| March 8, 2012 | General Meeting, 7:00; Quality Inn, dinner at 6:00 |
| March 23-24, 2012 | NIFFE 2012, Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center |

NIFFE 2012 – March 23 and 24 with Charles Jardine

We **NEED** your **HELP!** If you are interested in assisting with NIFFE 2012 call/email our NIFFE Chair, Charlene Douglas, at 208.476.7405, charlene.douglas@desire2learn.com or any members of your NIFFE 2012 Committee (Peg Kingery, Bob Long, Joe Douglas, Will Godfrey, Dale and Lora Mickelson and Trisha Campbell). It takes a village to raise a child.....it takes an entire Club to put on a successful NIFFE!



Happy
Valentine's
Day

Kelly Creek Flycasters Board of Directors

| KCF Board Member | Positions | Term Exp | E-Mail Address | Phone Number |
|------------------|----------------|----------|--|----------------|
| James Lowther | Board Member | 2012 | jimlowther@yahoo.com | (509) 243-1775 |
| David Eberle | Secretary | 2014 | eberledave@cableone.net | |
| Skip Shaw | Board Member | 2014 | Skip_shaw@hotmail.com | |
| Bob Long | Vice President | 2014 | blong@spcpro.com | (208) 520-5055 |
| Trisha Campbell | Board Member | 2013 | 22seaotter@cableone.net | |
| Empty Position | Board Member | -- | -- | -- |
| Dale Mickelson | President | 2012 | skutch@g.com | (208) 743-9649 |
| Lora Mickelson | Treasurer | 2012 | Lorajm45@g.com | (208) 743-9649 |
| Will Godfrey | Board Member | 2013 | wgodfrey@cableone.net | (208) 798-5424 |

Fly Tying Class by LeRoy Hyatt

Lewiston Parks and Rec is sponsoring a beginning fly tying class by LeRoy Hyatt. Deadline for signup is Feb 9. Class will be each Thursday evening at 7:00 pm beginning Feb 17, and lasting 7 weeks. (Unfortunately it will conflict with our monthly meetings. LeRoy tried unsuccessfully to get it scheduled a different night.) Location is Lewiston Community Center on Main Street. Cost is \$35

Further information at 746-2313, or better still, <http://www.cityoflewiston.org/index.aspx?nid=902>

If there is sufficient interest, an intermediate class will follow for an additional 4 weeks. That class will include working with hair, including flies like the elk hair caddis, and hair spinning, as of muddlers.

Calling All Women!

By Jim Lowther

Despite the reputation of notable women flyfishers of the past, there remains today a widely accepted stereotype of a predominantly male dominated sport. Sandie just received a set of flyfishing themed stamps for her card making hobby. As expected, the stamp depicting a fisherperson landing a fish in an idyllic setting is a man. She was able to produce a card of a woman fly fisher by doing a little creative editing on the final product.



This club can be justifiably proud of our efforts and progress in nullifying that stereotype. Largely through the vehicle of our women's fly fishing seminar and fishout once a year a large number of women have been introduced to the sport. Many have become dedicated and accomplished practitioners of fly casting and fly fishing. Several have accepted leadership roles in our club.

Now there is one additional step to drive the final nail in the coffin of a false stereotype. So far, no woman member of Kelly Creek Flycasters has volunteered a Fly of the Month. I challenge you to demonstrate your complete equality. Who will be the first? I know there are fly tiers among you. Call me so we can record the result.

TYING CORNER – KILOWATT

By Lyle Parks (recorded by Jim Lowther)

Late in the steelhead season when the water is low and cold the fly needs to flirt with the bottom, which is an open invitation to lose that fly. Hook and weight geometry that causes the fly to ride point up reduces, but does not eliminate that possibility. Our December fly, the Jarvis Bug, accomplished that by using a down eye hook and barbell tied opposite the eye. In this example which uses a jig hook, the down eye is more extreme, with a 60 degree angle neck, and the barbell is tied into the angle. There is always a problem with barbells getting banged around and loosening, and this looks to me to be a little more secure geometry.

Lyle uses several different size barbells, for differing sink characteristics. He quoted me the exact milligram weight of each size, but I think the rule is, if the river you are fishing grabs your fly and won't let go, change to a fly with a smaller barbell. If the one you're fishing never touches bottom, change to a larger. Late in the season, when the water is cold, and the fish are sluggish he fishes this with ten feet of type 4 sink tip and four or five feet of fluorocarbon leader in slower water.

Talking with Lyle about other color combinations brought to mind the candy apple metallic red Magnum Wiggle Wart I used to depend on prior to my fly fishing conversion. I just happened to have some Flashabou in that exact same color, so I tied a few. Sadly I must report that my great idea is a washout so far.

It is a real privilege and an education to visit the tying benches of KCF members for the purpose of recording their flies. I am struck by the variety of setups you all have. I share a craft and laundry room with my wife, one has his own entire room and another has the tying bench as the focal point of his home. Lyle's is a small bench tucked away in a closet. If I have not directly approached you with a request to record one of your favorite flies, and you have one to share, please call me. We can

complete the process in thirty minutes unless we digress to some other topic, which often happens. Also note that we have no flies as yet from women tiers. Who among you would be the first?



- Hook:** Jig hook Size 2 (TFS 5444 from The Fly Shop, Gamakatsu Jig60 Round Bend, Daiichi 4630)
- Eye:** Silver Barbell 5/32" (use several sizes for different sink rates -- 1/8", 5/32", 3/16", 11/64")
- Thread:** 140 Denier (about 6/0) Hot Pink
- Tail:** Electric Blue Flashabou and Black Marabou
- Body:** Green Estaz yarn (he prefers silver, but was temporarily out, so used green)
- Hackle:** Black Schlappen
- Wing:** Electric Blue Flashabou

Tying Directions:

1. Pinch the barb. With the hook point up, tie the barbell eye into the crook of the bent neck and super glue it in place. It is most efficient to prepare several at a time, allowing plenty of time to for the glue to harden.
2. Turn the hook over to "normal" orientation, begin wrapping near the bend of the hook, and tie in a thick bunch of Flashabou on top of the hook, about the length of the hook shank. Even though this fly rides point up, for ease of description I will refer to tying it with point down as "normal". There are several re-orientations involved in tying. They can be accomplished in a rotary vise by simply rotating the vise, or you can take it out of the vise and re-clamp as needed.
3. On top of the Flashabou tie in a tip of black Marabou the same length as the Flashabou.



4. At the base of the tail, tie in a strand of Estaz Yarn, your color choice. Lyle prefers silver, but you can vary the color scheme as you see fit. Wrap the thread forward to just behind the barbell, wrap Estaz to that point, leaving room for a hackle collar, and tie it off.



5. Tie in a Schlappen hackle, wrap 3 or 4 wraps, and tie it off.



6. Turn the fly to point up orientation, tie in a generous bunch of Flashabou on the underside of the hook. Begin tying with 2 or 3 soft loops before tightening, to avoid pulling it around to the side. This flashabou should extend backward to be about even with the tail. After several wraps, fold the Flashabou back, doubling it, and tie down securely.
7. With the Hot Pink tying thread, wrap generously around the barbells, and the head. Secure the thread (Lyle uses several half hitches instead of a whip tie). Treat the head wraps with head cement. Like many nowadays, Lyle uses Sally's Hard As Nails nailpolish for head cement.

Alspach Award Nominations Now Open

We are soliciting nominations for the Kelly Creek Flycaster of the Year 2011 Bill Alspach Memorial Trophy. Who will receive and keep the Bill Alspach Memorial Trophy during the 2012 year?

Please submit nominations before February 7, 2012 by email to wgodfrey@cableone.net and please use the Subject: Nominations OR by regular mail to:

Kelly Creek Flycaster Award
P.O. Box 2131
Lewiston, Idaho 83501

Corporate Members (be sure to visit our corporate members)

Red Shed Fly Shop

Mike and Linda Cummins

20652 Big Canyon Road

Peck, Idaho 83545 USA

208-486-6098 shop phone; 208-486-7023 Fax

www.redshedflyshop.com

Riffles, Runs & Lies is edited by Charlene Douglas on behalf of the Kelly Creek Flycasters. All club members are welcome to submit articles for inclusion into the club newsletter by contacting Charlene at kcfnewsletter@gmail.com or by phone at (208) 476-7405.