



# Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

March, 2023

## FFNWF

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### NEWSLETTER

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Business Meeting  
1ST Tuesday, 6:30 PM

Bull Session - Tying  
2ND Thursday, 6:30 PM

Clinic -Casting, Tying,  
Lunch - 3RD Saturday  
9 AM

## MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

the membership voted to increase dues slightly to continue all the great things our club is doing.

No, we didn't forget about you. The board struggled with inflation just like everyone else and finally

**2023 Dues: \$35.00** renewal (check payable to FFNWF) to  
**Larry Sisney - 3610 Baisden Rd. -Pensacola, FL 32503**

You can pay your dues by credit card via our website: [www.ffenwf.org](http://www.ffenwf.org)  
(\$2 extra)

**New Members : \$42.00** (cost includes a member nametag)

## Club Meeting: Tuesday, March 7. 6:30

The program will be by George Norton about Warm Water Fishing Opportunities in Arkansas.

## Fly Tying: Thursday, March 9. 6:30 (same week as meeting)

Get down to business and tie the **DOWN AND DIRTY**

## Clinic: Saturday, March 18 9:00 am

The lunch will be a combination of white bean, black bean, chicken, sausage, maybe some shrimp or other seafood delight, and vegetable soup with Joe's secret combination of stuff in his pantry. And look for the Mardi Gras baby from my King Cake. It will be in the mix. **Joe**

## "Introduction to Fly Fishing Class" Begins Monday, March 13 at 6:00 and runs for 8 weeks.

A downloadable membership form can be found at [ffenwf.org/membership](http://ffenwf.org/membership). Fill out the membership application and include a check to FFNWF for \$95.00 (which covers the tuition and membership dues) and mail both to Larry Sisney, Treasurer, 3610 Baisden Rd, Pensacola, FL 32503. Upon receipt you will be notified of enrollment. For questions, you may email [ffnwfeducation@gmail.com](mailto:ffnwfeducation@gmail.com).

IT'S TIME!



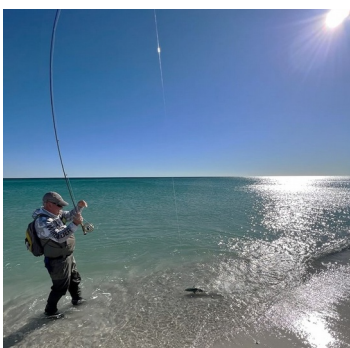
DON'T DELAY, RENEW  
YOUR MEMBERSHIP

## Fishing with Capt. Baz

February has lived up to its reputation for both unpredictable weather and excellent fishing. My Wyoming client, Carl Huhnke, had a ten-redfish day on February 14. Excluding the *Running of the Bulls*, that's my best ever day of redfish sight-fishing. These weren't "rat" reds either... biggest fish weighed 31# in the net. The day before Carl landed six. There are more redfish on the flats than I can remember. Maybe it's the rapidly rising water temperature combined with very little fishing pressure. I don't know, but it sure has been nice.



Speaking of warming water temps, for the last week or so we've been wading without waders. I'm not sure how warm the water is, but Carl says it feels just like the rivers he fishes out west in August. On sunny days it's been downright pleasant. Check out this shot of him from earlier in the month when waders were necessary. Looks like a magazine cover! The redfish took a little shrimp imitation in a foot of water.



Ken Smith from Oklahoma City was here for a nice mid-month run of false albacore on the beach. This was his first saltwater fish landed from shore, and it blew his mind. A few days later we found them down by the pier, and Carl landed his first albie. My brother Capt Dave found acres of them boiling on the surface a few hundred yards out in front of the Observation Tower on Sunday, February 26. It was a warm, calm, sunny day and I



stayed home afraid there would be too many boats. Bad decision. The Gulf is building now and will be 10' by the weekend. Missed an opportunity...

The pompano are arriving early. I saw some swimming with a school of redfish in the sound a few days ago. When the Gulf flattens out it will be a great time to anchor outside the inner sandbar and watch for them. The jacks crevalle ought to be right behind them. If we can get a break on the weather March might be an explosive month.



Here are a few photos of Carl and some of his redfish. The last shot is of new-to-the-salt Steve Cobb who was fishing with his buddy Ken Smith on February 20. This was Steve's first redfish on fly, and I'm not sure who was more thrilled...him or Ken. When Ken finally got the bow he quickly hooked up a bigger fish, but after about five minutes the 16# tippet broke. Wind knot.



**Capt Baz**

**The Prez Sez** We've all heard the saying that March...."comes in like a lion and out like a lamb". Well, let's hope that's true for 2023. Thus far , the weather has been uncooperative. When the temperature reaches a balmy 70, the winds are 15 -20. Hopefully that will change soon.

Coming up this month is our annual FF101 fly fishing course which begins on Monday, March 13th. As usual, the program will be kicked off by Cap'n Baz's famous opening presentation. Members are encouraged to attend.

Another reminder to take a minute to dig through your old fishing gear and look for items you'd like to offer up for the annual fundraising auction. The auction is May 20 and we rely on members' contributions to help keep the club running throughout the year. Hope to see you all there. **Mick**

## Auction Donations

**Thank You** to Don Lupone, Bob Korose, and the family of Corbett Davis Senior for your recent donations to the club. Don for his donation of fly tying equipment, fly tying feathers, and 37 boxes of flies (total of 535 elegantly tied flies). In addition, Don donated seven rods and reels to the Healing Waters program. We thank Bob Korose for his generous donation of fly rods, fly reels and miscellaneous gear. And a big Thank You to the Davis family for the donation of Corbett, Sr's quality fly tying feathers. *The Auction will be Saturday, May 20.*

**Steve Hofmann, Auction Chair**



## The Clinic February 18



Chef Joe with a culinary masterpiece. Another one coming March 18



## Fly of the Month: **DOWN AND DIRTY** by Curtis Reed

### Materials

Hooks: Fulling Mill 51 25 Jig Force Short size 14

Bead: Fulling Mill Matte Black 2.8mm

Thread: Black 70 Denier

Wire: Black SM or Brassie

Tail: Whiting Farms Euro Jig

Collar: Dubbing

### Tying Instructions

1. Put bead on hook, set hook in vise jaws.
2. Start thread behind bead and build thread dam to seat bead.
3. Once bead is set pull off about 6-8 tailing fibers, pinch wrap fibers in place behind bead.
4. After about 4-5 wraps pull forward fibers until tail is about half the length of the hook shank. While holding the aft portion of the fibers up, wrap back to just about the bend.
5. Run thread back up to bead and tie in wire using same method as tailing fibers. Stop about an eye width before the bend and then wrap wire forward to bead. Tie off wire and break off wire.
6. Collar the fly with a very sparse amount of dubbing, whip finish and go fish it!

## The Minutes - Club Meeting Feb 2, 2023

1830 Meeting Called to Order  
January Minutes accepted.

### Treasurer's Report:

Our balance sheet is very healthy. We had monthly expenses for fly tying materials, binders, pastries for Saturday clinic, food and the framing of the FFI certificate for outstanding club, along with state fees for non-profit, and the down payment for the Christmas Party. Monthly income was from membership dues and class fees. Report was approved.



### Committee Reports:

**The 101 Class** has enrolled two participants, with at least 3 or 4 more showing strong interest. Classes begin March 13. Flyers were posted at sporting goods stores and with Pensacola Parks and Recreation. Dave is confident we will fill the class with 10-12 students. Advertising the class is on-going. Capt. Baz will give a presentation on fishing our local waters at the first session and all members are invited.

**Website:** Cindy: Reported the website is up to date.

**May Auction:** Steve H said we lack "top dollar" donations. It was decided to divide a heritage donation of fly tying materials to be auctioned off. A collection of used bait casting reels will be offered at \$5 each at the monthly meeting. The President will beat the drum for donations for the auction at future meetings. The auction is very important for the club's finances, so bring in some nice items at a future meeting. **Do not bring donations on the day of the auction!**

**2023 Budget:** The budget was slightly modified since our January meeting based on additional input. Larry compared the 2023 budget with the 2022 budget. Most items were increased due to inflation. The budget was approved; motion by Russ, second by Bob

**Membership Dues:** Renewal dues are \$35 (cash or check); new members will be \$42 which includes a name tag. For online payments add two dollars. Last year we grew to 84 members including associates. Don't forget to pay your dues.



**Fishing reports:** The action has been slow with lots of small trout caught in the canals while Capt. Baz did well sight fishing big reds and black drum in shallow water.

### **Presentation by Steve Hoffmann on “Fly Fishing Etiquette and Safety”**

Steve gave an excellent presentation on the topic. He said our streams, lakes and rivers are more crowded than ever. Don't trespass and know the state access laws for the rivers as each state has different laws. Don't bring a dog unless it is a service animal. Boating etiquette and rules of the road include: maintain a good distance from other boats, be safe, and wear a life jacket. Steve also covered the importance of skin protection and staying hydrated. He also told what to do

if you get swept of your feet in a fast flowing river and how to remove an embedded hook. Further pointers were: always use the buddy system and don't take chances with storms and lightening. Additional tips about boat launches and CPR were valuable. Much of the information is on go boating florida.com. Thanks, Steve.

### **Future events:**

**The Gulf Coast Council** consists of twelve clubs from Lake Charles to Destin. They will host a **Fly Fishing Conclave at Gulf Shores State Park the first weekend of May**. The park has a 200 seat auditorium, three classrooms for seminars with fly tying and casting instruction. Fly fishing films will be shown. A fly-fishing tournament will be held on Friday details TBA. Don't miss it.

- Seminars
- Fly tying demonstrations
- Fly Tying Theatre
- Exhibitors and vendors
- Beginner fly casting instruction (free with admission)
- Beginner fly tying instruction (free with admission)
- Fly tying workshops (registration required)
- Casting workshops (registration required)
- Fishing Tournament (registration required)
- Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) (ticket purchase required, limited seating)
- “Lunch & Listen” conservation roundtable
- Raffles & silent auction for great items

**Meeting adjourned at 1935**

