



# Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

August, 2015

## FFNWF

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### NEWSLETTER

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MONTHLY MEETINGS at  
Miraflores Park  
17th Avenue between  
Belmont and LaRua

Business Meeting  
1ST Tuesday, 7 PM

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

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

## Sweetwater Trout Fishing

This will be the program at our Aug. 4 meeting (Tuesday, 7:00 PM).

There will be informal discussions of the methods and means of catching, and more importantly, releasing fresh water trout. We will present a video of a famous North Carolina trout pool, and discuss

the tactics found to be most successful. Questions and comments regarding knots, rigs, bugs, covering that spectrum will be welcomed.--- Keeping in mind that there are no dumb answers. (Or is that questions?)

*Jerry Giles - Picture is from Larry Sisney, but Larry is in this picture along with Russ Shields taken by Jerry Giles in North Carolina.*



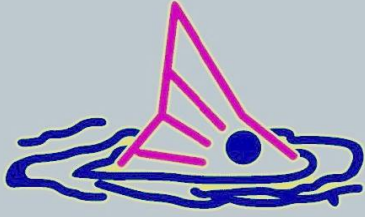
Russ "B.W" Shields and Larry Sisney Team Up to Net this Big Trout

**Meeting – Aug 4 7:00 Fly Tying – Aug 13 6:30 Clinic – Aug 15 9:00**

**The Pres Says:** As most of you know I had a total left knee replacement in early July. This kept me from attending any of the club's activities in the month of July. I am getting stronger and should be able to participate in most events during August. But missing the meetings in July made me think about all the reasons I am a member of this Fly Fishing Club: *I joined the club because I wanted to learn more about fly fishing and to have more opportunities to practice what I have learned. I have also found that my club membership led to my finding a cherished group of friends that share my love of fly fishing.* What I missed most this last month was seeing and sharing experiences with these friends. I did receive best wishes from many of those friends, and even from friends I knew from fly fishing clubs some ten years ago in another city. A major contributor to making friends was to become involved in the club's activities and volunteering to serve the club. If you are a new member or have been sitting on the sideline there are many ways you can get involved; just ask and we will be glad to help you.

There will not be a board meeting this month. The general membership meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, August 4th. *Cliff Newton*

## Gulf Coast Council



**Federation of Fly Fishers**

## Fly Fishing Fair

**September 18-19 Ocean Springs, MS**

**Friday – Vendor Set Up and Specialty Classes  
Friday Evening – Cajun Buffet, drinks, auctions**

**Saturday – GCRL Breakfast, Programs, Tying,  
Casting, Auctions and Raffles.**

**TFO Booth** – While they had a corporate schedule conflict last year, TFO has made arrangements to participate as a vendor this year. All their newest gear should be available for your inspection and we thank TFO for all the support they lend to fly fishing

**Room Arrangements** – are now confirmed and similar to last year's. Double occupancy, common bath, dormitory suites are available at the Gulf Coast Research Lab for \$15/double and \$22/single. Group rate hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn Express, Ocean Springs for \$77/bed/night.

**IFFF Bronze Tying Program** – classes are being organized by Fred Hannie (see the IFFF website for details.) This should be a really great specialty tying class for Friday afternoon, first come first served, with a possible second session on Saturday. More details to follow. It's shaping up to be another great Fair.

**Hope to see you there!** - contact Jeff Deuschle at [jeffcatfarms1@att.net](mailto:jeffcatfarms1@att.net).

**Note: Our club will not have a Clinic on Saturday, September 19, so we all can attend the Fair**



This is why we have a library, Read now. Fish later

R.I.P.



A funeral procession pulled into a cemetery. Several carloads of family members followed a black truck towing a boat with a coffin in it. A passer-by remarked, "That guy must have been a very avid fisherman."

"Oh, he still is," remarked one of the mourners. As a matter of fact, he's headed off to the lake as soon as we bury his wife."

## Fishing with Capt. Baz

The flats fishing got tough in July as always, so we spent most of our calm days in the Gulf. There weren't as many false albacore as there were in June, but we found them a couple times to the delight of my anglers. Local orthopedic surgeon Roger Ostrander was on the boat July 3 with his fishing buddy Brent Scott, and we ran east to the Liberty Ship before finding the fish. It was interesting. The FA were feeding on "snot bait" and wouldn't take the clear gummy minnows, so we switched to Henry Cowen's "albie anchovy" and did pretty well.



Here's a nice shot of Roger with his second albie and then there's Brent with his first. All the fish that day were "small" in the 4# range. A week or so later Greg Hawley, Birmingham, and I found the big fish in the neighborhood of the Oops Barge.

Check out this 7-8 pounder! Once again the fish ate Cowen's fly...size 6. The FA will be with us off and on for the rest of the summer. If you plan on going out looking for them give me a call, and I'll provide the most recent intelligence...



We had some major league hot action this month with amberjacks on poppers. For a couple weeks there were good numbers of AJ's on the Oops Barge. I went out there on a whim July 2, and we had a couple good explosions but no hookups. The following week Jonas and I gave them a try, and the fish were crushing the fly! We blind-casted big poppers and each landed two fish after missing a number of strikes and losing



others. I was using my Sage Xi2 12wt and a Tibor Gulfstream with the drag so tight you could hardly pull line off the reel. My biggest fish shown here was 31" to the fork...Jonas' was a little smaller. He landed his on a 10wt and one of his cool tube poppers. We left after an

hour, because I was taking a client Duke Goeddel there the next day. The fish weren't as active for Duke, but he did land his first AJ on fly. He took a break and asked me to take a few casts, which I did and hooked but lost a huge fish. Duke took this photo which shows the incredible bend in my 12wt. Exciting times with the AJ's, but you'd best be on top of your game to prevent losing a fly line... They'll be on most of the nearshore wrecks until winter.





Duke and I ran in to the beach after AJ fishing and cruised just outside the inner bar looking for redfish. I had seen a small school a few days before east of the pass and hoped to find them again. Instead we found a school of a couple hundred fish in water as shallow as 3', and most of them appeared to be the over 20 pound variety. I ran well past the fish, armed Duke with a 9wt and tan/white clouser, and poled quietly back to them. Duke started casting to the edge of the school and worked his way all around them. The fish

never spooked but weren't at all interested in the fly, so we tried everything else in the box with no luck. Finally Duke went back to the tan/white and coaxed this fish to eat using a long, fast strip. We kept after them hoping for another hookup, but never got a follow. Oh well, they shouldn't have been there in July anyway. That's Duke's wife Alena in the photo with him.

I mentioned the flats fishing being tough, and it is...extremely tough. We're seeing some redfish, but it's hard to get them to eat in the 90 degree water! Of course miracles happen, and on July 13 Greg Hawley cast an EP baitfish to this fish which charged it and ate the fly. I couldn't believe my eyes. That was almost two weeks ago...the last take we've had.



I took Greg tarpon fishing that morning, and we had light winds and perfect tides. The missing piece was sunshine. For two hours one cloud sat right on top of us while a dozen hundred pound tarpon rolled within casting distance. Each time Greg fired the fly in the general direction, but of course nothing happened. You really have to see the fish to get the fly in the strike zone. The wind picked up and blew us off the shoal just about the time the lights came on. That's tarpon fishing for you.

One closing comment. There are acres of nice Spanish mackerel about a half mile south of the Ranger Station. There are a few fish around Town Point, but your best bet is to run to the Gulf. Be careful out there, as it's dangerously hot. Drink lots of water and Gatorade or Powerade...

*Capt Baz*

## ***Around the Bay***



We had a good night fishing the dock lights around mid July. Three of us caught more than 30 speckled trout and released most of them, also some bluefish and huge ladyfish. The fly that worked for me was Bob's Bendback Glass Minnow, tied only a few weeks before at our Saturday clinic. It was chewed to nub! We kept a few fish for a pending fish fry - *Jeff Deuschle*

These are pictures from a trip taken by Jay Brykczynski and Terry McCormick. There is also extensive video of the trip available from Jay.

The fish aren't anything to write home about but the video proves beyond a shadow of a doubt that Terry can cast from the bow and still stay in the boat



## ***Fly of the Month – The Mysterious SURPRISE Fly***

Our intrepid fly tyer extraordinaire is away on vacation at the moment, but Matt promises to be back on August 13 with a surprise fly to tie that will be guaranteed to catch fish as long as you stay in the boat. Meanwhile.....

### **Tackle Report – The Ribbed Tungsten Body**

Why are Clousers the best flies ever? They don't look all that realistic compared to Bob Popovics or Drew Chicone's flies. They don't "push water" like all the new flies with big fancy heads. The "eyes" are in the wrong spot (at least most bait fish don't have their eyes in their bellies). But the Clouser swims with hook up. After experimenting with a variety of flies on local bass (I am in Michigan) and only catching them on Clousers, I decided the upright hook has a LOT to do with it. Consider that all effective single hook spinning lures have upright hooks including, of course, the jig.

Enter the RTB – ribbed tungsten body – from Feather Craft (F-C # TL043). Wrap it on the outside of the shank, turn the fly over and tie a streamer that will ride with the hook up. The large RTB weighs 1/40 oz, just a little lighter than the regular Clouser medium lead dumbbell eyes (1/30 oz). I did find out right away that there can be NO hair below the RTB (which, I believe, is why Bob Clouser wraps the white hairs tight to the shank). To get rid of that lump, I wrap the RTB with body braid, and put a layer of white hair above that, then the color... tan, of course, or maybe chartreuse. And eyes – nice big shiny eyes. Will try them out when I get back to saltwater. (But will have Clousers ready just in case.....)

*Paul Wargo*



## ***July Meeting Program***

Jungle Bob Korose (aka Tarpon Bob), fresh from the Amazon jungles, got everyone ready to fish for Peacock Bass (when do we leave?). After the presentation we got into an impromptu discussion of knots, and Tarzan Bob showed us that they use the same knots to swing from trees on vines that we use to rig up for fishing. The Brazil Twist. (Twenty turns, not 19 and not 21).

Seriously, **Thank You, Bob**. It is inspiring to know people who actually live the dream, and are willing to share the dream with us. What a benefit to our club!!!!



## ***Healing Waters Update***

Jack Bauknecht reports:

Headed toward 12,000 total reached, 2,000 likes as of this week and 7,500 active followers. On our Facebook page PHWFFNWF.

## **A SAD SIGHT AT LAKE STONE**

July 19 I took my grandson fly fishing to Lake Stone. The day was great - a few clouds and very little breeze; it was quite hot I will tell you, but it was still perfect for doing what we wanted to do.

I have fished a number of times at Lake Stone just so I could wet a line. There was always an ample supply of Bluegill and Bass to make the trip worthwhile. The lake always had a bit of weed along the bank, usually a grass and some Lilly Pad, but nothing out of the ordinary. Just a nice little pond for a bit of quiet fishing with at least 2 monsters that could send the blood pumping in any angler.

Anyway, when we saw the lake it became evident that fishing was impossible from the shore. Fish were rising and jumping, but there wasn't a single person on the water. All I could see was a Waterweed that extended from shore to 12 -16 feet into open water. It was thick, so thick a person would not be able to wade through it to get to a point where they could fish, and it followed the entire shoreline around the lake. I picked a bit of the weed from the water and immediately saw that it was an aquarium weed that I had seen quite often.

Well, to say the least. my grandson and I didn't get to go fishing, the 'Check Engine' light on my truck came on and the sites on the Predido River (the Pipes and Fillingum's Landing) were so crowded with swimmers that there wouldn't have been any fish for a mile in either direction, but we did have a nice conversation and pleasant drive through the countryside.

My only conclusion is that some unthinking person had dumped their aquarium into Lake Stone instead of disposing of their fish and plants properly. This is just another example of invasive species in our water. Why don't people put something in the water that would do some good instead of destroying our fisheries???

*Ed Wingfield*

### **Memorandum for Record**

**Subject:** Minutes for 07 July, 2015 General Membership Meeting **Location:** Miraflores Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Time:** 1900 General Membership Meeting

For a list of participants for the meeting please refer to the attendance record dated 07 July 2015

Rex Straughn called the general membership meeting to order at 1902 hours.

Jay Brykczynski gave the treasury report.

**Committee reports.** Russ Shields is working with Capt. Baz to plan a late summer Healing Waters fishing trip. Fly Tying committee, Matt Wegener has delegated fly tying for the month to Bob and Sam because he will be out of town. Healing Waters now has 8,000 likes and almost 1,600 following the local chapter Facebook page. Nomination committee needs to be established. Chair and members are needed. Jack Bauknecht has been doing new member packets and Russ Shields did a membership directory. Nomination committee needs should be mentioned at all meetings until the positions are filled. Publicity chairman is needed. Russ Shields recommended the position be filled by Jack Bauknecht. Rex Straughn appointed Jack to the position. Jack accepted the appointment.

**New Business:** Received a thank you from Scott Stillman for the clubs participation in Angler's Night. It was noted that there is a conflict in scheduling between the conclave for the Gulf Coast Council and the club's Saturday clinic. Russ Shields motioned that we cancel the September Clinic to support the conclave and ask that members attend. Bob Korose seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Jack Bauknecht recommended coming up with a generic thank you card from the club for donations and events. Larry Sisney said he would work on providing the photography for the cards. They will collaborate on examples to present to the club for approval. Jack Bauknecht requested members to please email him fishing pictures so he could use them to post to the PHW Facebook page. Fishing Reports given.

**Bob Korose** gave a presentation on fishing for Peacock Bass.

Kent Reagan motioned to adjourn the meeting and Russ Shields seconded the motion. Motion passed and Rex Straughn adjourned the meeting at 2056 hours.

The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned.

Kent Reagan, Secretary Email: [usmcflyguy@outlook.com](mailto:usmcflyguy@outlook.com)