



# Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

August, 2017

## FFNWF

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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

**Back to our regular schedule – three events in three weeks.  
Enjoy the whole month.....**

## **Club Meeting – Tuesday, Aug 1 – 7:00**

Jerry Giles will do the program: "Reading The River and What Fish See". The Fly Fishing Fair in Ocean Springs will be on the agenda and plans will be made.

## **Fly Tying Bull Session – Thursday, Aug 10 – 6:30**

The Damzel Fly. The damzel will be in distress with that bluegill about to kiss

## **Clinic – Saturday, Aug 19 - 9:00 AM**

Lunch will be Polish Stew. You can guess who the chef will be.....

## Coming to a Clubhouse Near You:

**Wednesday, Aug 2 – BFA Dinner Meeting.** Doors open at 5:30 PM.  
Dinner at 6:00. Dinner will be provided by the Metro Deli & BBQ. \$10  
At the Bream Fishing Association Clubhouse (also our clubhouse)

The program will be by Don McMahon, owner of the Pensacola Bay Oyster Company. Magnolia Bluff Farm occupies roughly five acres of Pensacola Bay and is easily viewable from the bluffs atop Scenic Highway. The East Bay Farm is roughly five acres as well. Pensacola Bay Oysters went on the market and became locally available in March 2017. Another feather in Don's cap is his recent award as an "Innovation Coast Award for a shellfish hatchery & nursery."

Enjoy fellowship with our bream and bluegill friends. Newsletter link  
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?shva=1#inbox/15d759c648963c7e?projector=1>

## **September 15-16** **2017 Gulf Coast Council Fly Fishing Fair** **Ocean Springs, Mississippi.**

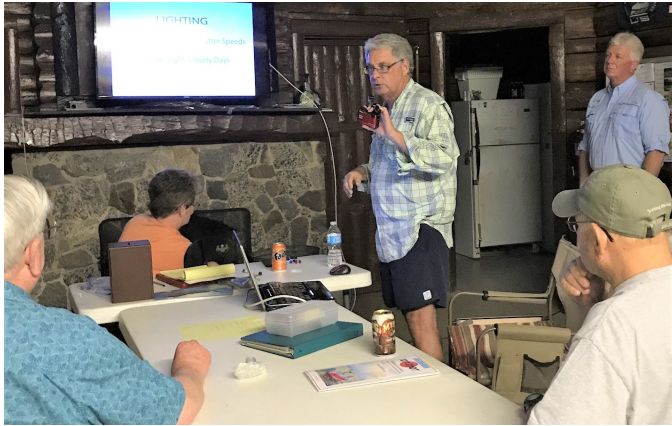
There will be a dinner on Friday night and all sorts of events – casting, tying, seminars, raffles, and auctions on Saturday.

Find out about car pooling at the August meeting. No admission charge. No cost except meals, raffle tickets, etc.



## Get the Picture?

You will if you attended the July meeting. Larry Sisney presented an outstanding program on photography, including a nostalgic remembrance of the days real men took pictures with real film and carried real heavy cameras and called their wives from phone booths at gas stations on the way home from fishing. And they had the pictures to prove it!!! Once they were developed at the drug store.....

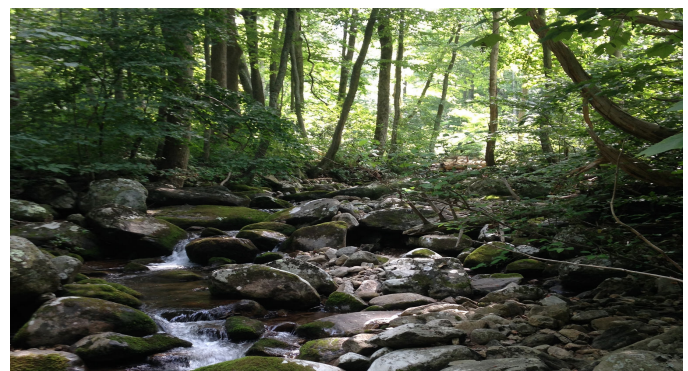


*From Jay: You brought back memories of my past shutterbug life when you mentioned ASA. I use to shoot PlusX asa100 and TriX asa400 black and white film. Then spend hours in the dark room developing and cropping my pictures. Once again thank you for sharing the very informative and interesting presentation. I felt like I earned 3 college credits by attending your session last night. You are very fortunate to have such an incredible talent and more so fortunate to have such friends like Russ, Jerry, and Joe as subjects.*

## Speaking of Pictures.....

Member of our club Wallace West posted these pictures and an article on the Pensacola Fishing Forum fly fishing page about a trip to Virginia. Link to the article:

<http://www.pensacolafishingforum.com/f56/virginia-trip-844994/#post7308610>





## Fishing with Capt Baz

Most of July was washed out (or muddied out) due to the runoff from Tropical Storm Cindy. It took a week for the dirty water to make it down the Escambia and Blackwater rivers, but it finally did and trashed Pensacola Bay and Santa Rosa Sound all the way to the east past Navarre. I was afraid the sight-fishing was over until September, but we gave it a try on July 20 and were able to see some trout...and actually caught some nice ones. This first shot is of Mike Youkee on June 30 after the rain but before the runoff.



We were fishing in beautifully clear water around Opal Beach and saw this 5# plus trout on a sandbar in a foot of water. Mike presented the EP gray/white baitfish, and the trout crushed it. I went back to the same spot a week later and you couldn't see the bottom in a foot of water. Tragic! The next two shots are of Bob Kelly and Cindy Bennett three weeks later on July 20. We were fishing on the west side of the Gulf Breeze peninsula, and even though the water was iced tea-colored we could see the trout. We hooked 5 and landed 3 all in the 3-4# range. Guess what fly?? The EP baitfish strikes again.



The water in Santa Rosa Sound has cleared enough that the Spanish mackerel, ladyfish, and bluefish are showing up in the usual spots. I've been seeing jack crevalle in the neighborhood of Town Point but haven't yet gotten a take. Problem is with the dark water you can't see the fish until they're on top of you. It's getting a little better day by day, and I'm hopeful for some good sight-fishing on the inside in a couple weeks.

The Gulf is beautiful. Most of the "June grass" is gone, and the water is green and clear. There's a big school of redfish along the beach near the "palm tree" but I haven't been able to figure out the right fly. If we catch a calm day you ought to get out there and try everything in the arsenal. I think Orvis' new sandflea fly might be the ticket, but I left mine on the tying bench today.

I'd heard the false albacore were schooled up a couple miles SSE of the pass, and we ran out there today to check it out. Not only were they there but they were willing to eat the #6 gummy minnow. It was a big day for Bryan Miller who landed his first FA on fly. As a matter of fact it was the first time he'd ever been in the backing on his Loomis 8wt. Pretty darn cool.



If the tropical weather will leave us alone for another month things ought to get back to normal. Let's drink to THAT! **Capt Baz**

## Fly of the Month - Damzel Fly...by Matt Wegener

This is a great, wiggly fly that utilizes pre-made tails made of super tough rubber called Kiley's Damzel Tails. It worked great on big bluegill and longear sunfish on my trip back home to Illinois over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July a few weeks ago and I would like to share it with the club. The foam back makes the fly sit in the surface film, but can be omitted if you need a faster sinking fly.

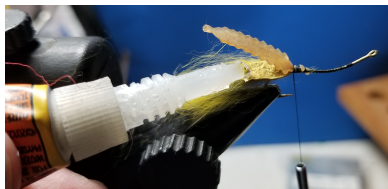
Hook: #8 Daiichi wet/nymph hook style 1170  
Thread: 6/0 Black  
Tail: Kiley's Damzel Tail, Tan  
Tail backing: 1/8" Zonker Strip  
Shell back: 1/4" Scud Bak, Tan and Brown foam (optional)  
Body: Cohen's Carp Dub, Cray-Zee Olive  
Eyes: Mono nymph eyes  
Shell back coating: Clear Goo, thick



### Tying Steps:



1. Attach thread with a jam knot after pinching down the barb. Tie in a short piece of zonker strip that will be glued to the Damzel Tail.



2. Tie in the Damzel Tail at the same place the zonker strip was tied in at.



3. Lay a thin layer of super glue to attach the Damzel Tail to the zonker strip.



4. Tie in the scud back and foam (optional) at the rear of the hook.



4. Tie in the eyes 1/8" behind the eye of the hook and then move the thread back to the rear of the hook and make a dubbing loop. Add a large amount of Cohen's Carp Dub and wrap the middle of the hook shank.

5. Fold over the foam and scud back over the dubbing and tie down to form the abdomen and tie down with several strong thread wraps. Make another dubbing loop and add a medium bunch of Cohen's Carp Dub. Wrap the dubbing forward to form the Thorax and Head of the fly.



6. Whip finish and use a butane lighter to burn back any excess material that may cover the hook eye. Add Clear Goo finish on the shell back and over thread wraps.

## Club Minutes - July 11, 2017 By George Norton Secretary

The meeting was started at 1700. Ten members were present and the President called the meeting to order. Last month's meeting was reviewed and accepted. No old business was brought up.



The Treasurer reported that club finances are in good shape. We have 59 paid members versus 70 for last year.

The upcoming Ocean Springs Fly Fishing Conclave is coming up in September and we have to vote in August at our next meeting on whether to change the dates of our clinic which is in conflict with the Ocean Springs event. Some of our members enjoy attending the event in Ocean Springs.

A push was made by our President to increase our club's profile online through Facebook. We want to help and attract new members in the area. Jerry Barkley will come up with some proposals on how to go forward with Facebook.

Fishing Reports were generally negative in the Bay due to the recent heavy rains and very low salinity levels which has dispersed inshore fish like ladyfish and Spanish out into the Gulf. Some of our members have been doing well out at the Massachusetts for big Spanish mackerel.

We had an excellent presentation by Larry Sisney on how to take pictures of fish. Thank you Larry for an excellent program. Please see Bob Korose if you would like to put on a program for our club.

The meeting adjourned at 1850.



*I am your father*