

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
DECEMBER 2008

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NEWSLETTER

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MONTHLY MEETINGS

Meetings at Miraflores Park
17th Avenue between
Belmont and LaRua

BUSINESS MEETING
1ST TUESDAY, 7 PM

BULL SESSION
2ND THURSDAY, 6:30
PM

CASTING & TYING
CLINIC
3RD SATURDAY, 9 AM

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Christmas Party

Dec 16 Holiday Inn Davis Hwy

Social hr 6:00 Dinner 7:00

\$25 Tickets must be purchased
in advance

Call Karen for details 516-1852

General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, November 4, 2008, President Karen Brand, presiding

President Brand called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. About 25 members attended the meeting. Minutes of the Oct., meeting and Treasurer's Report were approved as submitted.

Jay Williams presented the proposed slate of officers for 2009, and ballots were completed by attendees. Those proposed were: President--Larry Goodman, Vice-Pres.--Jerry Giles, Secretary--Bob Willice, Treasurer--Larry Sisney, Directors At Large--Bob Holton, Terry McCormick, and Jay Williams. Those elected will be installed at the Christmas Party on December 16th. John Brand, Bill Parrish, and Bob Willice were also nominated and a vote was taken for the club's "Fly Fisher Of The Year".

Gratitude was expressed to Bill Parrish for his three years of excellent service as club librarian. Bill will no longer perform that duty and a volunteer is needed for the position.

Jerry Aldridge said that Kevin Cohenour has once again obtained some great prizes for the Christmas party drawings. Among those are an Orvis T-3, 4 piece, 4 weight rod, an Orvis 4 pc., 7wt., an Orvis mid-arbor Battenkill reel, an Orvis Tackle Pack Vest, a rubber landing net, and a folding wading staff. Purchase tickets for the drawing at the Christmas party or at club meetings.

Due to a tie in the vote for Director's At Large, Travis Akins moved to have all three serve. After a second, the vote was unanimous for approval.

Bill Locher volunteered to prepare the gourmet lunch for the Saturday, Nov. 15th., Fly Tying & Casting Clinic. Head Chef Russ Shields & Chief Bottle Washer Jerry Giles will be trout fishing in No. Carolina that week-end.

Respectfully submitted: Jerry Giles, Secretary

President's Message ...Karen Brand

I will be stepping down as president the end of this year and I wanted to thank all of the people that have helped make the past two years a success. Thanks to; Joe Higgins who was up to the task and served as president when I was off fishing, Jerry Giles and Russ Shields who took the Clinic lunch and raised it to a whole new level with their gourmet cooking, Larry Sisney for managing the club's finances, Bill Parrish for coordinating the library, Tom Regina for managing the PJC Class and tying sessions, Jerry Aldridge for the excellent club newsletters that we all enjoy, Terry McCormick, Don Lupone and the other folks that hosted tying sessions for the club, Bob Holton for managing the club website, Art for arranging club fishing outings, Jay Williams and Bob Willice for serving as Directors at Large and last, but in no way least, my husband John for taking me fishing in the most beautiful places and for always being available to help club members improve their casting skills.

December 2 is the General Membership meeting and we will be showcasing the club's *NEW* PowerPoint projector. John, Jerry A and Larry G have helped me put together a powerpoint slide presentation of our 2008 western trip to the Big Horn, Yellowstone, other destinations in WY and the Green River in Dutch John UT. Other important dates include the Bull Session, Dec 11, and the Saturday Clinic on Dec 20th.

The last two years have been great fun and I look forward to fishing with all of you in 2009!....Karen

Christmas Party



Dec 16 Holiday Inn Davis Hwy

Social hr 6:00 Dinner 7:00



\$25 Tickets must be purchased in advance

Call Karen for details 516-1852

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Yelverton



November fly-fishing has been in a word *sporadic*. The first week of November provided the best shallow water false albacore fishing since last January. The fish were right up on the beach and very happy to take the fly. Jack Stringfellow landed this fish November 5 on a Cowen's Albie Anchovy, size 6. Then the albies disappeared, and we didn't find them again in quantity until November 28. I think the Cowen's Anchovy pattern is going to be the "go to" fly for the FA's this winter. If you haven't fished for these guys along the beach you're missing out on some of our very best fly-fishing. We still haven't caught one *from* the beach, but it's for sure possible. Just got to slide into the waders on a day with flat seas and lots of sun.



We found the bull redfish on the surface November 22 for the first time since October. This time the fish were out in the middle of the bay around Buoy 26, and my spin-fishing clients landed twenty-five fish averaging twenty-five pounds....over 600 pounds of redfish in one afternoon. This photo from that trip showcases the fabulous spawning colors of these wonderful fish. The next day the fish were gone, and we haven't found them since. They're due to hit the gulf west of Pensacola Pass any day.



For the last few days we've been finding schools of redfish in the 26-30" range along the shore in the gulf. The schools are large ranging in size from 25-100 fish. A good tactic is to run at plane along the outside of the inner bar looking for the fish. When you run over a school continue running until you're well past them. Then make a wide circle to reposition yourself well in front of the school, kill the engine, and either pole or use a trolling motor to sneak up on them. That's how we did it on November 26, and Glenn Perry from Birmingham landed both of these beauties on a tan/white, size 2 "deep eyed minnow" (Clouser) from Fly H2O.



I haven't fished the inshore sand flats, but they should be holding slot-sized reds, nice trout, and some sheepshead. This is also the best time of year to take migrating flounder on fly around Ft Pickens. And of course all the speckled trout in this hemisphere are available in our local bayous and canals.

One final comment, be sure to change out your summer fly lines to ones that perform well in cooler temperatures. I've tried numerous "winter" lines and have standardized for the moment on "The Clouser" line from Rio. If you're in the market for a new line I think you'll like it.

Capt Baz

Christmas Party Raffle Prizes Bucket Auction

**6 weight, 4 piece rod 2 weight, 4 piece rod Mid-arbor reel, 5-7 wt
Trout reel, titanium finish, 1-3 wt Premium folding wading staff
Brodin catch & release net**

Tickets \$5, 6 for \$25

Buy Tickets at Party

Call Karen for tickets if you can't come to party

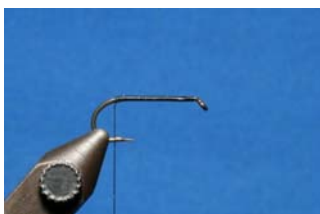
Parachute Cricket...Karen Brand

Materials

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Hook: | Mustad 94831 size 8 or 10, dry fly |
| Thread: | 6/0 black |
| Tail: | Dyed black deer body hair |
| Body: | Tying thread |
| Underwing: | Pearl Krystal Flash |
| Wing: | Dyed black deer body hair |
| Parachute post: | White Polypropylene floating yarn |
| Legs: | Medium size black round rubber |
| Thorax: | Peacock herl |
| Parachute: | Black rooster saddle hackle |



Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook and place it in the vise. Using a jam knot, tie the thread onto the hook. Lay down a neat thread base on the hook shank to a point directly above the hook barb.



2. Cut a small bunch of deer hair from the hide. Clean out the under hair and stack or even the hair tips. Tie these tail hairs' to the top of the hook shank so the tail extends about one-half hook shank length distance beyond the back of the hook. Bind the hair butts to the top of the hook shank with closely spaced spiral thread wraps to a point about one-fourth hook shank distance back from the hook eye. Cut away the excess hair butts at about a 45 degree angle. With the tying thread, form a neat tapered body *being careful not to crowd the hook eye*.



3. Cut 6 to 8 strands of Krystal Flash from the skein and tie them onto the top front of the thread body. Cut the flash underwing even with the back of the tail.



4. Cut a small bunch of deer hair from the hide. Clean out the under hair and stack or even the hair tips. Tie the wing onto the top of the thread body and flash tie-on thread wraps. The wing should extend back and be even with the tail and underwing. At a 45 degree angle, cut away the excess wing butts. Bind the butts down to form a neat thread ramp. *Caution: Do not crowd the hook eye*.



5. Cut a 2-inch piece of poly yarn from the skein. Split the cut of yarn into thirds lengthwise. Tie one of the yarn thirds onto the top of the underwing tie-on thread wraps.



6. Lift the two ends of yarn vertically, and take several tight, horizontal thread wraps around and up the base of the fibers to consolidate the yarn halves and build a foundation on which the parachute hackle will be wrapped.

Parachute Cricket... Karen Brand (continued)



7. Cut two 2-inch lengths of round rubber leg material from the skein. Tie one leg onto each side of the body over the underwing/wing/post tie-on thread wraps. *Caution: Do not crowd the hook eye.*



8. Select an appropriate size hackle feather from the rooster saddle. Strip barbs from the base of the feather to expose about one-half inch of quill. Bind the exposed quill to the hook shank and post foundation with horizontal thread wraps up the post to the very top of the thread foundation. *Notice there should be a small section of bare quill left between the uppermost post thread wraps and the lowermost feather barbs.* Cut away any excess quill.



9. Select two or three peacock herls and align their tips. As a group, stroke the herls from tip to butt between your thumb and forefinger. Tie the herls, by their tips, onto the hook shank directly in back of and adjacent to the back legs. Cut away excess herl tips. Wrap the herls forward between the back legs and the post, up to and forward of the post, between the post and front legs to in front of and adjacent to the front legs to form the thorax. Tie-off and cut away the excess herl butts. In one or two wraps, return the thread to the base of the post, working it between the front legs and imbedding it into the thorax.



10. Starting at the top of the post thread base, wrap the parachute hackle in a clockwise direction down the thread base in about 4 to 6 turns. Be sure to take each consecutive turn below the proceeding wrap. Be careful to avoid binding down hackle barbs from the previous wrap. Tie-off the parachute hackle by taking several horizontal clockwise thread wraps around the base of the post and over the bottom turn of the hackle feather. In one or two light wraps, take the thread forward, working it onto the herl thorax. Continue to take the thread forward to the hook eye. Build a neat thread head. Half hitch or whip finish the thread and cut it away. Cut away the excess parachute hackle feather. Apply a small drop of head cement to the point where the topmost hackle wrap meets the post. Apply a small amount of cement to the thread head. Cut the post to the desired height.

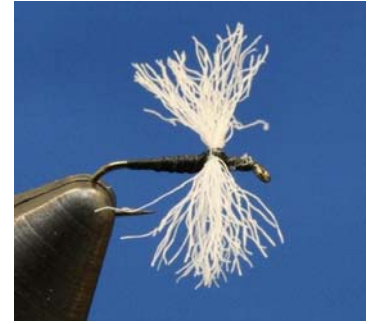
Our Guys in North Carolina... Again!



Poly Trico... Jerry Giles

Tying Materials

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Hook | Mustad 94840, size 18, dry fly |
| Thread | 8/0 black |
| Body | Tying thread |
| Wing | White Polypropylene (poly) yarn |



Tying Instructions



1. Mount the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot, start the thread at the hook eye and lay down a neat, smooth thread base back to a point on the hook bend directly over the hook barb. Use the attached tying thread to build a neat, slim, tapered, carrot shaped body. The body should be slightly larger at the front with a short taper down to the hook eye. *Note: This dry fly should be dressed very sparsely, with as few thread wraps as needed to produce an appropriate imitation of this tiny mayfly.*



2. Cut a 2-inch length of poly yarn from the skein. Split this cut of yarn lengthwise into four equal pieces. With figure 8 thread wraps attach one piece of the split poly yarn, perpendicular to the hook shank, to the top of the body at the thorax area. With only two or three half-hitch knots or two or three whip-finish wraps, move the standing thread down the front taper to tie off the thread. Cut away the thread.



3. Lift the two wing sections and cut them so each section equals the length of the hook. Manipulate the wing sections so they stand perpendicular to the hook. Fan out the poly fibers. Apply a small amount of head cement to the half-hitch/whip-finish thread wraps.

This recipe is very basic in black and in size 18, mainly for instruction purposes. Although black works great in dim light (early & late), other colors should be tied to match the spinner fall at that time. After becoming proficient at size 18, you should also then tie in 20's-24's.

Our Guys in North Carolina... Again!



Casting & Tying at the Club.... Tom Regina

The December Bull Session will be held Thursday December 11 at 6:30 PM. Jerry Giles will lead us in tying his Poly Trico. The Poly Trico materials list and tying instructions are included in this newsletter. Bring your fly tying gear and tie this simple yet effective dry fly. Learn some new tying techniques and join in for some good hearted jawing and lying.

The December Casting and Tying Clinic will be held Saturday December 20 from 9:00 AM until about 12:00 or 1:00 PM. Starting at 9:00 AM Karen Brand will lead us in tying a parachute cricket. The Parachute Cricket materials list and tying instructions are also included in this newsletter. Your club will provide all the materials and tools needed to tie both flies. Bring a guest, or more, we will have tools for them to use.

Special note for Don "Big Wolf" Lupone: Don, Poly Trico - Thursday 11, December. Parachute Cricket - Saturday 20, December.

3/0 John Brand will continue his casting instruction for accuracy, distance, presentation, and fun at the Saturday clinic. Again guests are welcome and if you or your guest need, your club will be happy to provide fly rods for use during the casting clinic.

Jerry Giles will provide us with a mighty fine tube-steak lunch at the Saturday clinic. Jerry will also provide free big and little people drinks for club members and our guests.

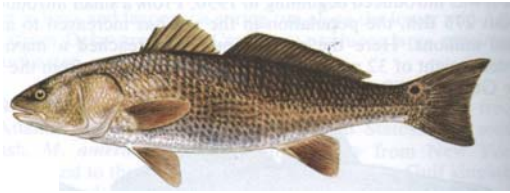
For the past three years at the Saturday tying clinics we have tied the flies I chose. In 2006 we tied twelve streamers, in 2007 twelve nymphs, and in 2008 a dozen terrestrials. From the foregoing one could logically conclude that for 2009 I would choose to tie dry flies or perhaps even saltwater flies. However for 2009 we will only tie flies of my choice when I have no other choice. And that *other choice* can be your choice. If you have a favorite go-to-fly, or other fly, you would like to learn to tie or if you would like to teach others how to tie the fly, please let me know. Some types of flies to think about are streamers, nymphs, dries, soft hackle wets, midges, tricos, feather wing, hair wing, poppers, freshwater: warm or cold, and saltwater files, etc.

Whether you lead the tying session or another tier leads the session, I can write the tying instructions (With input from the session leader.) and do the photography for submission to Jerry Aldridge for publication in the Flies & Lies Newsletter. I will also obtain the materials you will need.

Let me know what fly you would like to see tied or what fly you would like to tie in 2009. Contact me at tomregina@bellsouth.net or 458-2978 or see me at a club function.

Our Guys in North Carolina.... Again!





DECEMBER 2008

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|--|-----------|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | Business Meeting 7 PM | | | | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | | | Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30 PM | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Christmas Party....December 16....Details pages 2 and 3 | | | | | | Clinic - Casting, tying, gourmet lunch 9 AM |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |