

# ***Flies & Lies***

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS  
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
JULY 2014

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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

## *President's Message...Cliff Newton*

This month's message is not about fly fishing but is about cyber-security. This is a subject I am not well versed on but bear with me. At the June business meeting it was proposed that the club distribute an electronic copy of our membership with contact information to members. This was voted and approved by the members present. Since then I have had a number of people let me know that this may not be a good idea. The point being that if all members have a copy of all our members' information, if any one of the members has their computers compromised it puts all of us at risk to have our computers invaded with spam email or worse, damaging malware.

It is an advantage to have a list of members so that we can contact our fellow club members. We need to think about how we can accomplish this. One possibility is to have a paper list of members with contact information that could be requested with members having the option of opting out of having their names on the list. This could be difficult to manage and requires some thought on how best to organize. Let's discuss this at the July meeting and try to come up with a solution we can vote on at the August meeting.

It is a shame that we now live in a world where we have to be so very careful with our information,

There will be a business meeting at 6:00 PM with the membership meeting to follow at 7:00 PM on Tuesday July 1st.

## *Drying Wheel*

I will be building more motor driven Drying wheels this Summer. I was given quite a bit of stainless steel sheet metal for the stands and will build them to order. The motors come from China (where else?) and take approximately 8 weeks to get here. In order to minimize shipping costs I plan on only making one order (by June 15th) for the motors so please let me know if you want a drying wheel as soon as you can. Depending on motor, shipping and parts cost I expect that the drying wheels will sell for between \$25 and \$30. As before, any profit will go into our Healing Waters Program here in Pensacola.

**Russ Shields**

## *Lunch Saturday—19 July*

Head Chef is going to provide hamburgers & hotdogs New York style for July's clinic.

**Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida,  
3 June, 2014, President Cliff Newton, presiding**

Subject: Meeting minutes for 03 June 2014 Board and General Membership Meeting  
Location: Miraflores Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pensacola, FL  
Time: 1800 Board Meeting, 1900 General Membership Meeting

For a list of participants in both meetings please refer to the attendance record dated 03 June 2014. Board meeting was called to order at 1808 hours by **Cliff Newton**, President. Website, [www.ffnwf.org](http://www.ffnwf.org), is up and running. Third party links to site need to be changed and **Cliff Newton** stated he would address that issue. **Kent Reagan** asked for a digital copy of the club logo and **Matt Wegner** volunteered to snip one off the old site.

Committees were clarified for the website. Fly Tying is ran by **Matt Wegener** and **Russ Shields** is the Education chair. Outing committee chair is needed and is brought up at the General Membership Meeting. **Jay Brykczynski** gave the monthly financial report. FFNWF checking balance at time of meeting was \$8,458.55. Project Healing Waters previous balance was \$1,914.00 with May expenses of \$160.00 for guide, \$40.90 for gas and \$786.74 for fishing outing including hotel, food and miscellaneous expenses. Total was \$987.64 and the Project Healing Waters balance as of 03 June 2014 was \$926.36. **Russ Shields** has a \$102.00 deposit for Project Healing Waters.

Item for discussion was if **Paul Wargo's** membership directory should be published in a roster. Matter will be brought up at General Membership Meeting.

**Jerry Giles** motioned to adjourn the meeting and **Russ Shields** seconded. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 1836 hours.

**Cliff Newton** called the General Membership meeting to order at 1903 hours.

Fishing stories were shared and then Project Healing Waters gave a presentation on their recent trip. Program was given by **Cliff Newton**.

New website, [www.ffnwf.org](http://www.ffnwf.org), is up and running. **Kent Reagan** requested a digital copy of the club logo and for photos of members fishing for the website.

Treasury report was given by **Jay Brykczynski**. Over \$2,500.00 was taken in by the auction this year. Committees: Healing Waters is back to monthly meetings. A truncated membership roster including members name, phone and email will be developed to be disseminated by email. **Paul Wargo** is tasked in completing this task.

It was put to membership asking for a chair for the Outing Committee. **Ralph Newton** volunteered to chair this committee.

Need to get new business cards and Jerry Giles stated he would look into a standard order of 500 cards. **Kent Reagan** motioned to adjourn and Russ Shields seconded. The motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 2002 hours.

**Kent Reagan**  
Secretary

The exciting news of the month is the start of the annual tarpon migration. I was afraid the water would be too dirty to see the fish, but it has cleared up nicely both east and west of the pass. The cleanest water is on days with a strong incoming tide, and the water will remain clear until a couple hours after the tide change. I've been seeing strings of fish moving west-bound both outside the outer bar east of the pass and in various areas of the Caucas Shoal. It takes patience to tarpon fish around here, but it's all worth it when you spot a dozen hundred pounders heading in your direction! The key is to anchor in a likely spot and wait for the fish to come. In the neighborhood of Battery Langdon I prefer anchoring in 15-16' of water outside the outer bar. On the Caucas Shoal the fish could be anywhere from 100' from the beach to a tenth of a mile out. Just pick a spot, drop the anchor, and wait. Generally the schools will be travelling along "freeways" which are like game trails. Keep your eyes peeled until you see fish moving, and then reposition the boat to take advantage of the next group that comes along.

Finding the fish is only part of the challenge. Next you have to pick a fly they'll eat. I prefer lightly dressed baitfish imitations that are about 4" long. Deceivers, large clousers, and EP baitfish on 2/0 hooks are all patterns that can work. Colors that have worked go from dark brown to chartreuse. Everything changes day-to-day and fish-to fish. I like floating lines because the fish are usually in the top 3' of water. Drop the fly far enough in front of a particular fish so it will have time to sink to the fish's depth, and then "swim" it right across its face. If two fish shows no interest it's time to change flies. When you put the right fly in the right place a tarpon will "light up" and charge it. After it opens that huge mouth and the fly disappears continue stripping until you come tight to the fish. Then and only then do you strip set and hang on for the fireworks. The heart of our tarpon season is only a few weeks long; by the end of July we're done. Do your best to get out there on a day with good sunshine, light winds, and a high tide around noon. It'll be like the Florida Keys but right outside your door. Like a trip to the Keys you probably won't catch a tarpon, but think of all the money you'll save by not going south 14 hours...

The doggone false albacore have been a disappointment so far this year. We landed and released 20-30 fish on spinning tackle 8 miles SE of the pass on June 20. These were very nice fish up to 8 pounds. Four days later I ran 10 miles to the SE with eager fly-fishermen on board, and we never saw a FA! But they are out there *somewhere*, and July is the month that they should be moving into the pass. Capt Eddie Woodall found them between Pickens Point and the Ft Pickens Pier yesterday, June 29. Bottom line: be on the lookout for them around the pass for the next few weeks.

There continues to be reliable action on nice speckled trout on all the usual grass/sand flats. It's still hard to see them in the stained water, but there are a lot of them around. I'm having the best success on the EP baitfish but with a new stripping pattern. Try long (5-6') fast strips with a pause just long enough to reach out to the first stripping guide for your next strip. The trout can't stand seeing the baitfish scurrying away! Here are a couple nice specimens from June: **Matt Wemple** on June 11, and yours truly with a fish taken while I was showing a client how to strip the fly. Sure made for an impressive demo!



**Matt Wemple**  
trout



**Baz and**  
trout

## *Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Yelverton . . .continue*

The redfish are also on the flats even though the water's warmed up a lot. For the reds we've been having the most success with the tan/white EP clouser minnow using the usual strip/pause/strip technique. We're finding the fish in 2-3' of water, and be sure to let the fly sink to the bottom before making your first strip. Here's a nice shot of **Bob Willice** with a beauty landed and released on June 12.

**Bob Willice**  
red fish



Finally, I'm pleased to report that the big Spanish mackerel are finally starting to appear around Town Point, at the USS Massachusetts, and along the shore in the Gulf west of the shoal. If you need proof here's another shot of **Bob Willice** taken June 12.



As the water continues to clear up the Spanish mackerel fishing will just get better and better.

Montana's **Matt Wemple** also caught his first redfish June 11 on the tan/white EP clouser.

**Capt Baz**



**Matt Wemple**  
red fish



***The charms of angling; Gentle breezes.***



# Foxy Clouser...by Matt Wegener



One of the most enjoyable things about fly tying is how creative it is. Finding new uses for old materials to create new renditions of an old fly patterns goes hand-in-hand with this creativity. It's a wonderful feeling when that old hank of fur taking up space and collecting dust on the edge of your fly tying bench fits the bill perfectly for sprucing up an old pattern. Most recently for me, this material has been red fox tail. If you remember a few months ago, we used this material for tying the "Disco Shrimp". It has lots of movement and a nice "mottled" color which is extremely

natural looking under water. **Capt. Baz**, of Gulf Breeze Guide Service, has been after me for a while now to come up with a small, #4 or #6 clouser minnow to tempt heavily pressured fish on the flats. During this time of year, these redfish and trout have seen plenty of offerings from fisherman and the water has a tendency to be extremely clear, thus reducing the fisherman's odds even more. A old fashioned #2 clouser minnow plopping down loudly will often be ignored by these skittish fish. That's when you need to switch to a smaller, more subtle fly pattern. The trouble with small flies is getting the movement needed to entice fish into biting, while at the same time being sparse enough to not spook the fish. This is where the Foxy Clouser comes in. It takes very little material to create this fly, while the natural coloration and lively fibers do what it takes to extract a bite from these wary, late season bruisers of the flats.

## Tying Materials

- Hook: Mustad 34007, Size #4 or #6
- Thread: *Brown* flat waxed nylon
- Wing & tail: Red fox tail
- Flash: 2 strands of *copper* Flashabou and 1 strand *rootbeer* Krystal Flash
- Eyes: Size small *gold* or *red* dumbbell eyes



Step 2

Return the thread to the eye of the hook and rotate the hook in the vise. Tie in the flash material, making it slightly longer than 2".



Step 1

Start by wrapping a thread base and attaching dumbbell eyes 1/3 of the way back from the eye of the hook. Then tie in a small 2" bunch of red fox tail (with underfur remove) behind the eye of the hook. Bring the thread behind the eyes and finish lashing the hair down on the hook shank.



Step 3

Tie in another 2" bunch of red fox tail on top of the flash material.

## *Foxy Clouser...by Matt Wegener . . .continue*



Finally, add some of the darker tips of fur to give it the “mottled” look. Make a neat thread head and whip finish to complete the fly.

Finished fly

## *Around the Bay...and Further Away*

I did some traveling in June. Went fishing in the Keys for tarpon. I learned that I needed more work on my casting in the wind.

Despite that we did manage to get a few tarpon. We fly fished Florida Bay for specks, ladyfish, jacks and mangrove snapper.

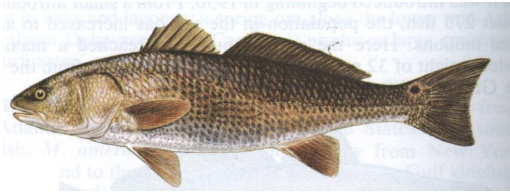
Kept enough for a fish fry. Then we also went to Belize for bonefish. We got several, including the smallest bonefish I have ever seen.

**Bob Korose**



**FLY FISHERS**  
  
**OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA**

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 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



# JULY 2014

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