



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

July, 2019

FFNWF

PO Box 1041
Pensacola, FL 32591
www.ffnwf.org

PRESIDENT
David Handley
dmhandley@gmail.com
(850) 417-9233

VICE-PRESIDENT
Jim White
Jrwhite55@aol.com

SECRETARY
George Norton
geonorton@gmail.com

TREASURER
Jay Brykczynski
(850) 232-7504
jaybryk@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER
Paul Wargo
586-943-3155
flyfishersnwf@gmail.com

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

CELEBRATE FREEDOM!



and

**Thank those who
preserve and
protect our
freedom!**

Club Meeting – Tuesday, July 2 7:00

The program will be by Steve Hofmann on how modern fly rods and reels are made. See also Steve's fishing report in this issue.

Fly Tying Bull Session – Thursday, July 11 6:30

We will be tying the **Green Eye Lady**



Clinic – Saturday, July 20 9:00

Lunch will be served by our President and First Lady – David and Sharon Handley, who are cooking up a delicious Chicken and Rice dish.

Project Healing Waters

will meet on Mondays, July 1, July 8, and July 22.

There will also be a **PHW Fishing Trip on Friday July 19** with Capt. Baz and Capt Dan Storey. See also pictures from the PHW trip to Tennessee in this issue.



June Clinic

Lunch was Cyndi and Bob Myers' Gumbo – Yum Yum Yumbo.

Jonas taught how to cast from a kayak. He had us out there surrounded by dolphins and sharks but everyone stayed dry. Of course, the chair was sitting still. Bob Myers demonstrating proper form.



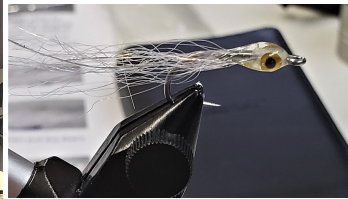
Jonas will be taking some time off in July and August.

See you in the fall!



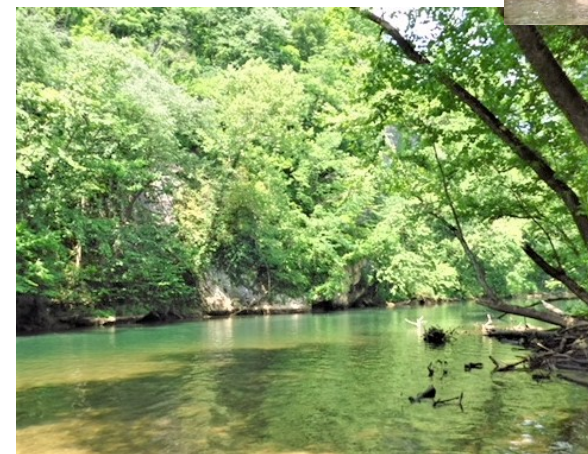
(Editor's note: You should still wear a life jacket)

Matt had us tying the Slinky Anchovy. Try some next time in your gumbo.



PHW Tennessee Trip

Several club members and PHW participants ventured out to fish the Watauga River outside of Elizabethton, TN. It was a very successful three day drift boating event.



The trout weren't real big but they got bigger at the end

The beautiful Watauga River



Fishing with Capt. Baz We had some terrific action with the fly rods since my last report. Schools of 5-6# false albacore came into the bay the last week of May...a few weeks earlier than normal. We couldn't get them to eat the fly, and I finally resorted to spinning tackle to put one in



the boat. The fish regurgitated juvenile bay anchovies slightly more mature than the snot bait imitations we were throwing. Instead of being opaque the tiny minnows had a definite tan stripe the same color as the craft fur in Henry Cowen's *Albie Anchovy* pattern. We changed to Cowen's fly in sz 6 and started catching fish. Here are photos of Anna and Casey Culp, Birmingham, AL, with false albacore on



May 29. The fish stayed in the bay for three days before disappearing. May 29 was quite a day for Casey Culp. Check out the rest of his "mixed bag"...



On the day before we found some big redfish on the flats along the north side of the island. The fish were on the bottom in 3+ feet of water, and Tim English, New Orleans, was having a tough time leading the targets enough to get the fly down to them. Out of nowhere a nice "floater" came at the boat, and Tim laid the fly in it's path. Imagine our surprise when the fish hammered the fly and went airborne! Turned out to be this 3-4# pompano which we released unharmed.

Speaking of redfish seven hours into a six hour trip on June 3 Patrick Pedano landed this nice slot red in the vicinity of Chicken Bone Beach. Saved the day.



And finally, Steve Greife landed this jack crevalle west of the Caucas Shoal on June 4. We were killing time catching ladyfish waiting for the Blue Angels to fly when we spotted the dark mass heading straight at us. There was barely time to pull out the 10wt, but Steve got it done.



It rained for the next few days cancelling the Project Healing Waters trip, and then I shifted gears and ran three weeks of red snapper trips. Pleased to report that I'm about done with all that and am looking forward to getting back out there on fly. **Capt Baz**

Fly of the Month **GREEN EYE LADY** by Pat Murphy

MATERIALS:

HOOK: MUSTAD 68Z #2, #4

EYES: CHARTREUSE DUMBBELL SMALL, X-SMALL

FLASH: ROOT BEER CRYSTAL FLASH

BODY: EP TARANTULA BRUSH 1" TAN

LEGS: LT BLUE/PUMPKIN ENHANCER LEGS

THREAD: CHARTREUSE 210d

TAIL: TAN CRAFT FUR

SKIRT: TAN RABBIT FUR

MARKER: BROWN & RED SHARPIE

DIRECTIONS:

Debarb hook, thread base to bend, add d/b eyes 1/8" behind hook eye.

Tie tail at bend approx. 1-1/2 X length of hook shank.

At tail tie in point, mark three brown bars skip to tip and mark 1 brown bar. Mark red bar in center of brown bar gap.



Add 2 pcs, K/flash over top of tail, same length.

Invert fly, add small patch of rabbit fur skirt at bend, top of shank do not surround shank.



Invert fly again, tie in EP brush, front of skirt, make open wraps to D/B eyes and secure. 4-5 wraps, pick out trapper fibers, trim fibers at bottom of fly.



Add pair legs, each side of fly, behind eyes. Try not to trim blue band off legs when trimming to length

Whip finish , apply head cement.

Fishing Report- Another Watauga Trip

The May 2019 Hofmann Family Watauga River Fly Fishing Experience

On May 6 & 7 FFNWF members Steve and Ellen Hofmann fished the Watauga River near Johnson City TN. We fished 2 trophy sections of the Watauga River below Wilbur dam.

On May 6th we fished the trophy section below the Bristol highway bridge. We were supposed to fish the South Holston River that day, but it was blown out from rain. Therefore, we ended up on the middle section of the Watauga River. On



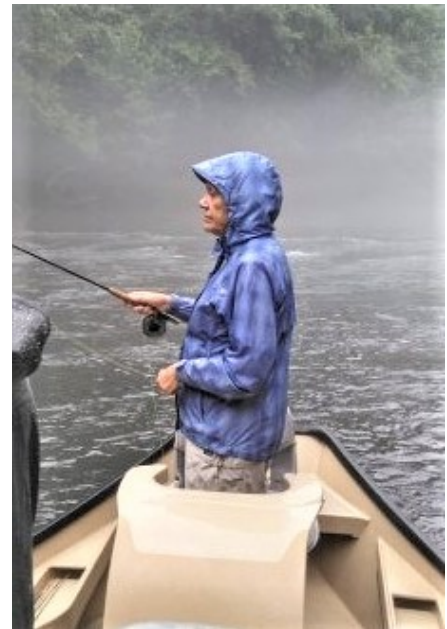
May 7th we fished the 4 miles of the upper section below Wilbur Dam. This section is very rugged with many short water drops and beautiful runs of faster water. On both days the method of fishing was nymph fishing with 1 or 2 wet flies below an indicator or a grasshopper type dry fly. There was a minor Sulfur hatch on the first day, but not big enough to change to dry flies.

It rained the first day for ~ ½ hour at lunch time. We had to stop and find cover under trees!! On the second day it drizzled rain and there was lots of fog in the morning. The

second day we stopped fishing at lunch time because the weatherman had predicted rain. We landed 20 to 25 fish each day between the two of us, with many opportunities for more. The fish were all smallish, between 12-16 inches. The fish we caught were an equal mix of rainbows and browns. The browns were very healthy and very colorful.

We stayed for 3 days at the **Watauga River Lodge** and used their Guides. (Watauga River Lodge/ Outfitters; East of Johnson City, TN)

Steve Hofmann



Typical Flies used:



(Steve will be presenting program about the manufacture of fly fishing rods and reels at our July meeting)

Fishing Report – Flaming Gorge, Utah

Art deTonnancourt and I had a terrific day on the Green River out of Dutch John, UT. The day started out ominous in that they had a “control burn” the previous two days and smoke was everywhere in the Flaming Gorge Dam area. Meanwhile, the dam had a release going on, shooting two jets with a 9000 cfs and the water was high. But our guide had a plan. We started catching rainbows and browns after about 30 minutes traveling down the river.



We were high casting using a six wt and a 12 foot leader with split shot at the end of leader then two scuds and one red worm.. a casting challenge for sure. Our guide, Dalton, pumped the stomach of one brown and it had worms and scuds in its digestive tract, thus the set up was working. *Jay Brykczynski*



This fly probably would be better in saltwater



Don't you just hate it when you get a barb caught in your good shirt?!?!

Jay's 20" rainbow...caught on a #20 scud
Art's 18" rainbow



And that's why they call it *Catching* and not *Fishing*

The Pres Says Still enjoying the after glow of the record auction. With our new storage area in the club house basement we can accept donations when ever they become available. We have had several groups travel away from Pensacola in search of fishing adventures. Their return has increased fish stories at all our gatherings. Our first two sessions of advance fishing youth were canceled due to weather. However we are still tracking for a morning and afternoon session on 26 June. Hope to see you in the club soon. *Dave*

June 2, 2019 Minutes George Norton Club Secretary

Board Meeting The President called the board meeting to order at 1818 hours. Officers and Committees present: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President, Member at Large, Membership Chair, PHW and Education Chairman.

Financial Report: Jay gave a very upbeat report that our finances and club membership has increased. We now have 66 paid members which is a 20% increase over last year. We also have a budget surplus and PHW will not need their subsidy this year due to a banner auction. The club put \$500 back in the general budget as receipts. Motion to approve by Russ, Oleata seconded. Report approved.

Old Business: Jay reported work continues to change our club's status to a Non-profit to save on future taxes. Last year the club paid \$312 in taxes to the IRS. The Auction Committee did a great job and raised record revenues. Our recent FF class had sixteen attendees and many will become active in the club. Russ and Tom led the class assisted by other club members.

Danny has finalized our Membership roster. Thanks to Bob Grey who is taking on the position as chair of PR for the club. An Eagle Scout plans to fix up our basement and will get the graffiti removed and put an overlay on the ceiling along with removing two heating units. A future car wash will be announced to support the project. The Scout will not work alone.

Club Wade Fishing Trip is the morning of Wednesday June 19th to Johnson Beach at Gulf Islands National Seashore on Perdido Key. We will park at the last walkover. You can fish either the bay or the surf side but with prevailing southerly winds, I recommend the Bay side's grass flats. (George Norton)

New Business: The Pensacola Youth Program kicks off June 4th and June 26th. At this time, volunteers are needed to assist with casting and fly tying. The schedule is from 9-12 AM and a second group comes in at 1-4 PM for an hour and half of casting and the same for fly tying. The city is paying for the materials.

It became clear during our Fly Fishing Class that we needed new lines on the rods/reels the students use. We purchased 15 new fly lines for \$312. We also had 3 rods without reels. We also will purchase three inexpensive reels to go with those rods so we will be all ready for the class next year. This was approved by the members during the Auction.

Cliff has a new web site. Our sympathies and prayers go out to life member Kent Regan. In the last seven months, Kent lost both his parents.

We have 114 members on Facebook.

The board meeting adjourned at 1845.

The General Meeting was called to order by the president at 1900

Presentation: Jim White put on an excellent report about his trout-fishing trip with fellow members Russ, Larry and Jerry to the South Holston and Watauga Rivers in Tennessee. They rented a 1918 refurbished farmhouse called the Meredith Valley Farm near Elizabeth, which is in the northeast corner of the state. The group spent four relaxing nights and each cooked supper. They fished three days with guides that provided shore side gourmet lunches and all the tackle. After fishing the first day with bobbers or an indicator with a three-nymph rig they were not pleased and decided to stage "a bobber revolt" led by Jim. The next morning they told their guides, "no more watching bobbers bobbing downstream. We're going to streamer fish or a double dry or dry and dropper rig" which made fly-casting pleasurable. Jerry and Larry targeted larger trout with streamers while Russ and

Jim fished predominately with a dry and a dropper. On the last afternoon, there was a hatch of Blue Winged Olives and Sulfurs. The dry fly fishing was so good that Russ stopped fishing and just watched Jim fight one trout after another on dries. Jerry landed the biggest fish of the trip, a twenty-inch brown, caught on a western streamer he tied called the "Peanut Envy." Their all-inclusive trip (gas, guides, food, tips and housing) was \$1200 per man, which is much more economical than a trout trip out west. In conclusion, fly fish how you enjoy it and don't necessarily follow a guides set notions. Bobber fishing with three nymphs is effective for novices but not enjoyable fly-fishing for the experienced anglers on this trip. Thanks, Jim.

Salt Water Fly Fishing Safety: Russ made a short presentation on the importance of fly-casting safety in saltwater especially when fishing with guides. He said, "Pay attention to the wind direction and where the boat is drifting. If you are in the bow, cast to preferably the left side and never over the top of the boat or you likely will hook the guide or the person in the stern." Obviously look before you cast and use barbless hooks in case you do hook someone. Salt-water fly-fishing in Pensacola presents safety challenges not found so much in freshwater. We have stronger winds, use larger flies and longer casting distances are necessary making salt-water fly-casting much more dangerous than fly-fishing in fresh water where small flies, less wind and not fishing in a boat are the norm. Thanks Russ for this important reminder.

Treasurer's Report: see Board meeting minutes. We put down a deposit of \$750 for our annual Christmas Party at the same venue. Motion to approve by George and second by Cliff. Treasurer's report approved.

Fishing Reports: George recently caught some 17-18-inch trout at night under the lights at his condominium dock. Trout hanging around dock lights are very selective. It seems they just mill around the baitfish as if they are bored and then go on brief little feeding sprees characterized by popping noises as they go on the attack. Stripping your fly out of the darkness into the light is where most takes occur. The trout appear to feed better on windier nights with oncoming southerly breezes versus the calmer nights. He also caught Bluefish on Deceivers and Clouser Minnows on the east end of Gulf Breeze. Blues fight hard and have some serious teeth.

Other club members told of sight casting to big selective reds in shallow water. Jay reported on PHW's recent trip to the South Holston and Watauga where they all did well on trout. The rookie on the trip, Bob Myers, showed up the pros and broke the ice with the first fish of the trip.

The Meeting Adjourned at 2020