



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

June, 2018

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

Club Meeting – Tuesday, June 5 7:00



We get back on our regular schedule in June, starting with a program by Terry McCormick on “*Fishing the Flats*”

We will also take up an offering so that we can purchase several of these signs to put around the club. **

Fly Tying - Thursday, June 14 6:30

We will be making the *Redfish Alien*

Note – Fly Tying and Clinic are the same week this month.

Clinic – Saturday, June 16 9:00 am

The roll cast. The most useful cast that people generally do not master. Most erroneously think that the roll cast isn't used in the salt. We will show the advantages, especially the pick up. *Jonas The Soup.* Mushroom, Chicken, and Sausage Soup. Go ahead and slurp.

** *Just Kidding. It's from Bob Korose's latest adventure. See Fishing Reports*

Club Project Teaching Casting and Fly Tying to youth ages 9-14 through Pensacola Parks and Recreation Summer Advance Fishing Program. Our involvement will be to provide 3 hours of instruction in fly tying and casting to four groups of twelve young people on June 6 and June 27. We will have one group in the morning then another the same afternoon. If you would like to help contact Pres. David Handley. Note – the first day is the day after our meeting.



Welcome Luke Wegener

who came in at 9 lbs 2 oz – a little larger than slot size but we will keep him anyway. You all have been saying all along that we need more young people at the club. Well, Matt has done his part. What about the rest of you???

Auction 2016

Thanks to all who donated and all who purchased



There was a lot of stuff.

Matt got something for the baby

Thanks to Benny Gaines for helping Terry. Both did great!

If you missed the auction here is some of what you missed:



Project Healing Waters will meet on regular schedule in June: Monday morning meetings at 10:00 on June 4, 11, and 25 and Wednesday evening June 20 at 6:00 PM.

Russ has received the following donations that are for sale to club members. Proceeds will go to PHW. Contact Russ and make an offer. 850-983-9515 <rkshields@bellsouth.net>

1. 6'-6" Shakespeare "Sturdy Stik" Med. Hvy. trolling rod, new never used. Cost new \$25.00
2. 7'-00" Shakespeare "Sturdy Stik" Med. Trolling rod, new never used. \$25.00
3. 2 Shakespeare "Tidewater" level wind reels with line. New never used. Each cost new \$50.00
4. Like new Motor Guide Model T34, 12V, transom mount trolling motor. New cost \$110.00
5. Berkley Fly Fishing Vest, 2XL new. Original cost \$27.50
6. Carhartt cold weather, Fly Fishing Vest, 2XL with quilted lining. Original cost \$65.00

Fly of the Month - **Redfish Alien** by Pat Murphy

This fly pattern originated for fly fishing 10,000 Islands for snook and redfish.

This fly has a side-to-side wiggle on the retrieve that fish can't resist. It is a great pattern to crawl along a dock, or put in front of a cruising red. It lands soft and is perfect for shallow water grass flats. The orange legs set this fly off and gives it that extra bit of movement that triggers strikes.



MATERIALS:

HOOK: #1-#2 MUSTAD 3407

TAIL: PEARL KRYSTAL FLASH

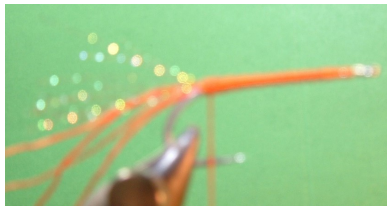
LEGS: MED. DEVIL DOG LEGS ORANGE

WING: REDFISH SF FLASH BLEND

BODY: MED ESTAZ TOBACCO (TRIM BODY IF GRANDE SIZE)

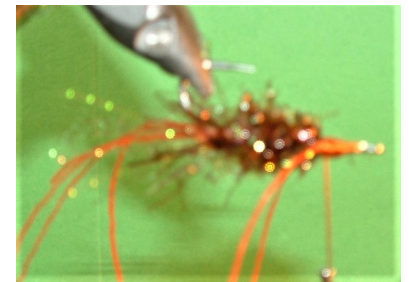
ACCENT TOPPING: ROOT BEER KRYSTAL FLASH

INSTRUCTIONS:



Debarb hook, lay thread base to hook bend, add two pair legs, and a sparse amount of Krystal flash about 3/4" to 1"

Attach estaz body at tail tie in and wrap to about 1/4" behind hook eye. Add pair legs in front of body wrap.



Add small clump of SF Blend, in front of estaz body. Add pair legs in front of wing tie in.

Cut sparse clump of wing material, fold over cut in half, taper cut end. Tie in so wing is just past hook bend, trim. Tie in 2nd clump from same

clump of material, so tip of tapered wing is just past 1st wing material, trim. Repeat 3rd clump as previous tie in, just past 2nd clump.

Trim. Remove from hook and trim staggered wing for a neat even taper. Add accent flash. Add 3d dome eyes and glue thread head.



STRIP-----STRIKE



Fishing Report

We are happy to report that Tarpon Bob (Korose) is not only up and about but also fishing again!

Far far away, again. This time the Western Caribbean. He caught 3 small bonefish and had one eaten by a barracuda. He also saw the sign on page 1.

We are so happy Bob has his strength back and can hold his own fish even if it takes both hands.

Just Kidding!



Fishing Report #2

You don't have to go to the Caribbean to have a cuda (or a shark) eat your fish. Just ask George Norton. This was in the bay.

Just try cutting a ladyfish in half and you will appreciate the power of a cuda (or shark). Don't go near the water.

Fishing Report #3 Jerry Giles, Larry Sisney, Art deTonnancourt, and Jay Brykczynski ventured to the Bitterroot River in Missoula Montana. The skwala hatch was very active. Fish were everywhere and we were all smiles. *Jay*



At least Jay kept his hands warm and dry



Good to have warm dry hands

Fishing with Capt. Dan

May was a slow month with only one fly charter on the books. I will try to dazzle you with some late April stuff that didn't make the last issue.

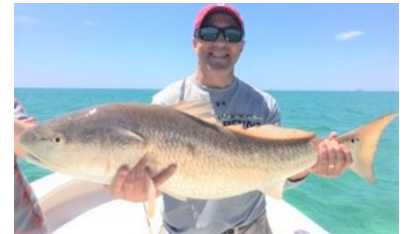
The beach run jack crevalle's are for the most part over and done with as I write this, but we had a good stretch with them and should have enough fish in the bays to keep us busy this fall. First photo is a Handsel Reid on April 27. We chased fish all day and had a ton of great eats on the popper and the big green fly.



May 7 brought Rick Schafer to the boat and he fought 3 of these beasts to the boat with his 9 wt. Here he is with his last of the day:

We caught redfish this month too. Mostly on the beach side while we had calm mornings and clean water. We made it this

far without a huge spring rain, so I guess we can't complain about our fast start to hurricane season. This fish was John Menges biggest ever, but full disclosure, we caught him on the spinning rod. His son Drew tried all day to poke one in the mouth with a fly but it never pieced together.



My buddy Kevin Doyle of Destination Flies came over to wet test some new flies he and I have been tinkering with. 5 of them found the inside of redfish mouths. Here is the one we actually got our hands on:

The beach is going to be a mess for a while so it was nice to enjoy the fishing that we had earlier in the month while it lasted. In other news, the flats to the inside are producing fish but it has not been as good for us as it was in April. The water is getting hot fast. We are seeing more trout and fewer redfish compared to a month ago. Most of the redfish are smaller in size. You will also notice more catfish roaming the shallows. Your first impression is probably one of disgust when I recommend you throw at them, but once you see one shun the fly, you kinda take offense to him. How dare those little trash fish turn me down! Next thing you know you're rummaging through the fly box, tying on smaller fluorocarbon and on a mission to settle the score.

False albacore made an appearance but my most recent intel is from May 17 when I found as many as I wanted southeast of Portofino. We also found them at the Oops barge and Tex Edwards barge throughout the month, and Chad said he was walking Johnson's beach one evening and they were crashing within range from him right up on the sand. Just gotta get out there and cover water. I wish I could tell you about the fly that they like, but unless you are one of our club president's 3 best bud's then....

Best bet to see backing in June would be near shore wrecks with a sinking line and the big green fly. I like Rio's "leviathan" on a 12 wt with plenty of backing.

Amberjack, snapper, king mackerels and albacore are all a possibility weather permitting.

The big news of the month for me is my daughter Sam's first fish on fly! The ladyfish are just about everywhere you look right now and she had a blast wrestling this fish to the boat.

Capt. Dan



Fishing with Capt. Baz

May was a very nice month weather-wise, and there's been lots of action both inside and out. It's been a mixed bag in the Gulf with everything from ladyfish to amberjacks. The ladyfish are thick along shore and in the "draw" between the inner and outer bars. You can usually find them on incoming water in the vicinity of the "Palm Tree" east of the pass, and on outgoing water you just can't beat the inner edge of the Caucas Shoal. It sure is fun for beginning fly casters using poppers or sliders. I like to use a straight shot of 40# mono but always have some wire ready in case the Spanish mackerel and bluefish join in the mix. 6wt tackle is perfect!



We had success early in the month with schools of big redfish on the shoal. Here are



Bob Jenkins and Carlos Cantu with some nice fish landed in late April. Intermediate lines and the tan/white clouser minnow did the trick all three times. During the second week of May good numbers of false albacore showed up a few miles SE of the pass. Capt Dan told me about them, but I didn't



have a fly trip until May 17. Bob Jenkins was on the boat, the FA were eating "snot bait", and at first we couldn't get them to take anything in the box. The breakthrough came when I downsized from 20# fluoro to 15# tippet. Once we made that change the fish ate anything we threw at them. As I thought about it later it made a lot of sense. Capt Dan the Ichthyologist figured out that snot bait is about the same diameter as 60# mono. I

imagine a 4' section of 20# leader looked to them like a REALLY long baby snot bait, and who's going to eat that! The 15# was small enough to disappear... There were schools of fish everywhere between the Three Barges and Tex Edwards, and at one time we found a school of mahi mahi half the size of a football field! We switched back to 20# and a little larger fly, and Jenkins landed fish after fish. They were just "chicken dolphin" but a heckuva lot of fun.



Jenkins was on the boat earlier in the month on May 6 and landed this cute little pompano...first of the year. Later, on the 22nd he had three bona fide shots at eastbound tarpon and hooked (and lost) two amberjacks on poppers. He fought the first AJ for about 10 minutes and had the fish beaten when the darn hook pulled out. The second fish was a monster that crushed the popper and bolted to the wreck. Jenkins had a 10 weight and Hardy reel with the drag cranked down to the max, and the

fish smoked him in about 10 seconds. Quite a thrill but unfortunately no AJ photos...

The inside flats were also very active all month. Check out this trout Greg Hawley landed and released on May 4. There were lots of fish swimming with mullet on the flat, but I couldn't get the boat close enough for a shot.



We got out and waded after them, and that made the difference. This magnificent 6-7# fish charged Greg's gray/white baitfish twenty feet in front of him and tailwalked with the fly in its mouth like a tarpon for 4-5 feet! It was an incredible visual that Greg won't soon forget.



A little later he landed this fine redfish. At the end of the day at another spot he landed two more trout over 20" but they seemed like babies after the big one... There continue to be lots of fish on the flats, but I can't get them to eat. I think the rapid rise in water temp has changed them over to their summer menu. If anybody figures it out let me know.

We had good luck with the big Spanish mackerel in the usual inside spots until about the middle of the month. Here are Ronnie Johnson and Jon Keary with impressive Spanish on May 6 and 8. Just like every year the big Spanish moved off the grass beds by the end of May, and we won't catch them in good numbers again until September. The "schoolie" Spanish are out there in good numbers; however, and you can catch them all day between Ft Pickens and the Turning Basin. Those fish and the huge schools of ladyfish in Santa Rosa Sound will keep everybody but the "purists" happy for the next few months. **Capt Baz**



Clinic Pictures:



Meeting Minutes: There was no meeting in May because of the auction.