



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

June, 2021

FFNWF

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Business Meeting
1ST Tuesday, 7 PM

Bull Session - Tying
2ND Thursday, 6 PM

Clinic -Casting, Tying,
Lunch - 3RD Saturday
9 AM

We are Back! In Person!!

The pleasure of your company is requested at the clubhouse

of

The Fly Fishers of NW Florida....

Club Meeting – Tuesday, June 1 7:00 PM

Tarpon Bob Korose will present BIG Fish Fly Fishing.

Fly Tying Bull Session – Thursday, June 10 6:00 PM

Pat Murphy will show us his sexy legs (and that ain't no bull)

Clinic and Lunch – Saturday, June 19 9:00 AM

Luncheon will be served by Chef Joe

White and black bean soup with

shredded chicken and sausage,

garnished with baby spinach.

And there is beer in the frig

Lunch, as always, is free. Yes, there is such a thing as free lunch but only at our club, and only because you need to save every penny you have for the auction on Saturday, October 23. See the report from Mick. On second thought, forget the pennies and start saving the BIG bucks.

The Pres Says: May was a special month in the history of our club. For the first time in thirteen months, we were able to meet in person in the clubhouse at Miraflores Park. About a dozen members met on the 3rd Saturday, as we have been since January of this year, but this time we were able to be indoors and tie flies. We also were able for a lunch prepared by Joe Higgins and catch up on the past year. I hope that you all will be able to join us on Tuesday, June 1st, for the June meeting. VP Mick Milo has arranged for “Tarpon” Bob Korose to present on “BIG Fish Fly Fishing.”

Many, many thanks to those who have made it possible to stick together over this past year: past President Dave Handley for the leadership during the pandemic, Paul Wargo (newsletter), Kent Reagan (web page), Cliff Newton (Facebook), and Lou Orrie (ZOOM Master) and the club officers and committee chairs. VP Mick Milo was great getting people to present monthly programs in a less than ideal situation. I'm also very thankful for those Captains and members who have continued to provide monthly fishing reports. THANK YOU! Tight loops, knots, and lines! **Bob M**



Bryson City Fly Fish Trip During the last week of April club members; Steve and Ellen Hofmann ventured to Bryson City, NC to do some river fly fishing. We scheduled 2 days (April 27 and 29) of drift boat fly fishing with Bryson City local outfitter “**Fly Fishing the Smokies**”. Both days of fishing were done on the Tuckaseegee River. The Tuckaseegee was the only river available for



floating because of the river flows at that time of year. Both days mainly consisted of indicator fishing with 2 wet flies under the indicator. Most of the time the top fly was a “Girdle bug or Pat’s rubber legs” and a prince nymph type fly on the bottom. On the second day we used a San Juan worm or Squirmy Wormy on the bottom. Also, on occasion, we tossed a streamer on both days.

The fishing was a little slow the first day with 9 fish landed and many other missed. Most of the fish landed were beautiful colored rainbows in size range from 14” to 16”. The first day started fishing just up-stream of the “Delayed Harvest” section and through the DH area. The second day we started at upper end the DH area and fished ½ mile below. The second day we caught ~12 fish between us. “Ellen caught the most again”. I think she knows how to hook-Set better than me. We also hooked and played 3 large rainbows for quite a long time, but unfortunately were not able to land them for a famous “Grip and Grin” picture. After the 3rd fish lost I had to take a “**big swig**” out of the guides “moonshine” bottle. All and all it was a great trip and look forward to doing it again in the fall. We stayed in a little cabin on the outskirts of town. (Bryson City Cabins) **Steve Hofmann**



VEEP's Corner - Auction Preview As has been noted in previous newsletters, the club has been blessed by some VERY generous donations for our upcoming auction on October 23rd, most notably by the Gohrbandt family. A number of classic fly fishing items will be available for your purchase. So that we do these items justice, it is my mission to "highlight" some of the most special offerings in the coming newsletters between now and October.

This month, it is my pleasure to highlight (4) fly reels manufactured by Tibor Fly Reels based out of Del Ray Beach. The company was founded by Tibor (Ted) Juracsik, a Hungarian immigrant and master machinist. Today, Tibor reels are considered amongst the most notable, top-of-the-line reels made, especially by those in pursuit of the largest and most difficult saltwater species to catch. Tibor reels are known for their bullet-proof durability and maintenance-free performance. Tibor reels account for more than 950 world record catches on the fly!

First, we will be offering (3) "Billy Pate" signature-series reels, designed by renowned saltwater fly angler, world record holder and owner of *Worldwide Sports* equipment, Billy Pate, and crafted and built by Ted Juracsik. Billy Pate reels, alone, account for 350 of the 950 records credited to Tibor reels. THE MOST UNIQUE feature of the Billy Pate reel is its double-clutch, anti-reverse operation which means that when that monster Jack Crevalle, Bull Red or Tarpon is peeling line off your spool at 100 mph, the spool's retrieve handle remains stationary which eliminates potential "knuckle-busting" when you start your retrieve. The three models that will be offered in the auction are:

The *Salmon* for line weights 6-7-8. **MSRP: \$560.00**



And finally, we will be offering the Tibor *Riptide*, one of Tibor's flagship models. This is not of the Billy Pate design but rather one of Ted Juracsik's own patented designs. It is a beautifully crafted reel (and pretty to look at).

The *Riptide* for line weights 9, 10, 11
MSRP: \$726

The *Bonefish* for line weights 7-8-9. **MSRP: \$595.00**



The *Tarpon* for line weights 10, 11, 12 **MSRP \$635.00**



Fishing with Capt. Baz The fishing in May has been **Red Hot**...as in the hottest redfish fishing of the year by far. There are schools of the bigger fish along the gulf beaches both east and west of the pass. We've been catching them using 16# tippet and the usual tan/white clousers. Our favorite inside flats from Opal Beach to the Big Lagoon are also holding plenty of fish, plus there are more schools of smaller redfish this year than I can remember seeing in years past. The inside fish are usually more difficult than the gulf fish, and we're using 12# tippet with mostly EP baitfish. Wading has been the most productive approach.



Let's start the photo gallery with our own Steve Hofmann who landed his first-ever redfish on fly today, May 26. We were wading the north side of the island in the neighborhood of Billy Creek. Steve made the cast, stripped the fly just right as this beauty ran it down, strip-set, and fought it like a pro. It was fun to watch. Ellen was right there to witness the whole thing. Good job, Steve! I'm not listing the names of all other clients who caught redfish this month. We'll let the photos tell their stories.



There's plenty of other action going on. Schools of jacks are running the beaches... inside and out. Spanish mackerel are everywhere, although the only big ones I've seen are at the Town Point spot. Tim France from Tulsa, OK, caught the 5 1/2 pound Spanish in the photo. We've been catching pompano as bycatch while casting clousers at the redfish in the gulf. Ladyfish, bluefish...you name it. It's all happening.



Of course the key is the weather. That big blow last week shut everything down, but this week has been a little slice of heaven. Time to get out there and have some fun before the hot weather gets here.

Capt Baz

Fly of the Month: **LEGGY FLATS** **CREATURE**



MATERIALS:

HOOK: GAMA KATSU SL11-13 #4-#2
WEIGHT: X-SM., SM DUMBELL EYES
SKIRT/BODY: BROWN KRYSTAL HACKLE

THREAD: BROWN 140d
LEGS: BROWN BARRED W/ ORANGE TIP
FLASH: GOLD KRYSTAL FLASH

INSTRUCTION:



1. De-barb hook and lay smooth thread base to hook bend. Wrap in lead eyes aligned with hook barb or point.

2. Take two rubber legs and double, wrap in behind lead eyes. As legs are secured make sure tips are exposed enough to allow for length to be trimmed rather long and not trimmed away.

3. Secure krystal hackle at bend, behind eyes and palmer to form skirt and continue wrapping around eyes to hook eye. Wrap with touching wraps.



4. At hook eye, wrap in doubled legs each side and trim legs 1/2" +/- forward of hook eye. Also trim leg tips just past hook bend.



5. After legs are secured, tie in 4 pieces of krystal flash doubled back over top hook point. Trim flash past hook point to equal length of nose legs.



Pat Murphy

Minutes BOD and General Club Meeting - May 4, 2021 Call to order: 1900.

President's Comments: Thankfully, a return to in person gatherings, in the clubhouse, will resume with fly tying and lunch provided by Joe Higgins with the May 15th clinic, and continue with the June calendar. Contact Joe H. with your offer of providing a 3rd Saturday lunch. The clubhouse will get a spring clean-up tomorrow, 5 May. Stop by and bear a hand with general cleanup as you are able. The June schedule will see a return to normalcy. Going forward the meeting schedule is General Meeting – 1st Tuesday, 7 pm, Fly Tying – 2nd Thursday, 6:30 pm, Clinic – 3rd Saturday, 9-12 am, Board/Committee Chairs Meeting – Last Thursday of the month via ZOOM, 7 pm.

Fishing is warming up as migratory species make their annual trek around the Gulf and freshwater fish make their pre- and post-spawn moves in area lakes and rivers. If you are able, please meet up at Johnson Beach on May 12. The May newsletter includes info to help you plan your trip. Hope everyone has an opportunity to wet a line so tight knots, tight loops, and tight lines. Bob M

Presentation: FFNWF Board Member and Auction chair Steve Hofmann presented "*Fly Fishing One of the Seven Wonders of the World...The Colorado River at Lee's Ferry, Arizona*". Steve gave an informative and interesting presentation on fly-fishing in "One of the Seven Wonders of the World." The trout are native rainbows and thrive in the nutrient rich Colorado River which flows for sixteen miles below a hydro dam. Steve and his friends from the Arizona FF Club fished with guides in jet boats. The flies were midges, scuds and egg patterns. There is a cicada fly hatch in the summer but the heat is brutal and Steve prefers spring or fall. A nine foot five weight rod is typical and tippetts are very fine, 5X or smaller. Flies are fished under an indicator with split shot. Steve recommended a neutral colored fly line to avoid spooking the trout. Walk in access is limited. Rainbows average 12-16 inches. Brown trout have been illegally stocked and there is a \$25 reward for any browns caught and killed. Steve said "trout fishing improved after efforts to reintroduce the "hump back chub" with controlled flooding pushed out the scuds, the rainbows main food, but the scuds returned after the flooding to save the chub was scaled back. Thanks Steve.

Fishing reports: Steve and his wife made a quick trip to North Carolina and float fished two days on the Tuckasegee River around Bryson City. They reported good fishing for rainbows and browns up to twenty inches and used a guide service called "Fishing the Smokies." Steve confessed. "Ellen out fished me but I lost three big trout that broke my tippet!!" Glad he saved he save a few big ones for the rest of us.

Bob K gave a presentation to the Destin FF Club on pike fishing trip to the NW Territories. In Destin, fishing has turned on for pompano and even bonito on the beach and trout are under the lights at night. Bob has had good action on SM in the Bay and expects trout to turn on soon in the flats.

George caught ladyfish and SM around the big sand dune on the Perdido side near the Pass. The wade fishing trip to Johnson Beach (inshore side) was canceled due to lightning and thunderstorms. The makeup date is Wednesday June 9th.

Financial report: Treasurer's update. Our numbers and financial forecast are in good shape. Our club's insurance is \$450 every year and will be renewed with FFI in June. Membership dues are important to our finances and as the fear of the virus subsides, we expect our club will continue to grow and bring in revenue.

Old Business: The spring cleanup on 5 May was a success. To celebrate the participants enjoyed a Mexican dip by Cindi, Corona beer and donuts.

New Business:

FF101 class dates are set as follows: Class begins at 6 pm, 13 September and runs 8 consecutive Mondays, last class being 1 November.

Auction date is set for Saturday, 23 October. (Rain dates are 30 October and 6 November)

Website administrator position turnover from Kent Reagan to Cyndi Myers is in work. Thanks, Kent, for your incredible work these past few years. Much appreciated. And thanks, Cyndi, for stepping up and taking on this important task.

A motion to adjourn at 2025 Hrs by David H and seconded by Cindi M