



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

May, 2016

FFNWF

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MONTHLY MEETINGS at
Miraflares 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

THE AUCTION

Tuesday, May 3, at the club.

Doors open at 5:00 for dropping off donations and browsing.

Auction begins at 7:00

Come early, stay late, bid early, bid often, spends some money and have a great time. Remember this is our big fund raiser of the year so

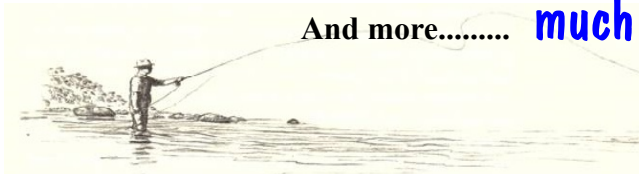
We need You and Your Donations. You need Your Checkbook!

Just a few of the items up for bid:

Trip with Capt. Baz
Trip with Bob Korose
Trip with Matt Wegener
Trip with Terry McCormick
Rod, Reel, and Line Combo
Fly Tying tools

New TFO BVK 8 wt rod
New 8wt rod handmade by
Russ Shields with switch option
Stained Glass artwork
(see picture below)
Flies. Flies. Flies. And Stuff

And more..... **much** more



Fly Tying takes a giant leap forward

The addition of a 'live' video camera and TV monitor has greatly enhanced fly tying and other instruction at the club. The various steps and materials can be seen in vivid detail by everyone in the room. Thanks to all who made the arrangements and the set up.

Matt Wegener demonstrating the Sand Crab fly at the Saturday clinic



Leon Brooks Hines public fishing lake.

A trip to LBH is under consideration as a club outing and/or an activity for the class. Watch for email announcements. This is from a newspaper article:

Located 23 miles east of Brewton, the 184-acre lake is home to trophy bass, bream, catfish and shellcrackers. There is fishing by boat or from the bank, there's also picnic pavilions, tables and stationary grills. Kayaking and canoeing are permitted.

There is a \$3.00 daily fee and Fishing licenses are required and are available for purchase on site, including a \$12.05 annual out-of-state resident license good for all of Alabama's 20 state lakes.

Coming in May:

Fly Tying Bull Session – Thursday, May 12 – 6:30. Topwater Seaducer (but don't be seduced by those sexy lips).

Clinic – Casting and Tying – Saturday, May 21- 9:00 AM Oh! Those seductive lips. And talk about seduction – **Lunch** by David Handley including Baked Chicken Spaghetti and salad. And it's free, so go ahead and spend all your money at the auction.

Fly Fishing Class – The last two sessions will be May 11 and 18 (no class on May 4, but students who attend the Auction will be given extra credit on the final exam, and if you buy anything you will get an **A**)

Project Healing Waters meetings on Mondays, May 2, 9, and 30 at 10:00 AM. PHW trip to Atlanta and the Chattahoochee River May 23-26.

Pictures from trout fishing trip club members and friends took to North Carolina



Fishing with Capt. Baz

April 20 was my first day on the water since returning from Providence Atoll, and it started with a bang. The usual spots were loaded with big Spanish up to 5 and 6 pounds. Capt Eddie found the fish in the middle of Santa

Rosa Sound just east of Shoreline Park around 8am and drifted in them for two hours. My trip started at 9, and we found them on the south side until around 10. Here's a poor photo of my client Wink

Winkleman with the first Spanish of the year. When the Spanish shut down we ran out to the Gulf and headed east of the Ranger Station in 3' slop. We anchored just outside the inner bar, and Wink landed the first pompano of the year on the yellow pompano fly. Later we anchored in the neighborhood of the "palm tree", and Wink fell out of the Mako while sight-fishing for jacks! First person in 26 years to fall overboard from the Mako...



Incredibly, the Spanish were gone the next day. Zero...nada. I had club member Bruce Trumbull on the boat with his son Greg. No Spanish, but Greg landed this 30 pound redfish sight-fishing by the Ranger Station. We tried, but Bruce never got one to eat the fly. However, Kent Gilliland was aboard



the following day...Friday, after the rain... and landed this monster plus 4 more redfish. Kent also brought a nice jack crevalle to the boat after a 30 minute battle on his 9wt, and I lost it at the net with my hands on the leader. A "caught" fish, but it sure would've been nice to get the photo...



Since then the Spanish have been AWOL, but we're seeing lots of redfish and trout on the flats. Water temperature in the sound was 77.5 degrees today...a good sign. Plus, it's clear enough to see fish. Yesterday there was green water at Pensacola Pass just before high tide...again, a good sign. If we can just get the dirty out of the system the spring fishing should turn on big time.



Here are a few photos from my trip to Providence Atoll, Seychelles. Our mothership anchored about 150 miles NE of Madagascar for six days, and we ventured out daily in small skiffs to different parts of the atoll where we waded the flats. Indian Ocean flats fishing at its finest with the guides from FlyCastaway! A typical day consisted of wading the coral and turtle grass flats in water from thigh to armpit depth for 8 hours armed with a 12wt. There was one guide for three anglers, and the guide carried 9wt gear for triggerfish and bumphead parrotfish. This was extreme fly-fishing with no safety net... Our primary targets were the giant trevallies up to 50 and 60 pounds, plus, there were all sorts of other exotic species in the mix. I had a good week landing 8 GTs, my first milkfish (a vegetarian that took an algae fly), and a bumphead parrotfish that weighed 40-50 pounds on my 9wt, a crab pattern, and 20# fluorocarbon with a wind knot!



It was a killer trip (36 hours travel time portal-to-portal), and I'm happy to be home dirty water and all... There's no place like home, Auntie Em.

Fly of the Month Simplified Topwater Seaducer...by Matt Wegener

A topwater fly is a great way to target fish feeding near the surface and I can't stress to all of you enough how great this pattern is for doing just that. So much so that I'm bringing it back from the Fly of the Month archives to tie again. It has all of the attributes that make a great topwater fly pattern. It makes a lot of commotion on the surface, has plenty of wiggling action, and most importantly, casts extremely well. Some other topwater fly patterns, such as a Bob's Banger or a Crease Fly make plenty of surface commotion, but are difficult to cast. Others, such as a gurgler, are easy to cast but don't make a lot of noise.



The secret to making a fly that's easy to cast and one that creates lots of splashing, popping action, is the addition of a Fly Lip. Greg Saunders, a Pensacola native, created the Fly lip and this pattern. In addition to being a master fly tyer, Greg also teaches Art at the University of West Florida. He brings those artistic talents to the tying bench and creates beautiful flies with all the bells and whistles of a brand new Cadillac. But all of these extras add time required to tie each fly, and with a fly that catches lots of fish, I want a pattern that I can tie quickly to reload my fly box between trips. Therefore, I created this strip-down version of Greg's classic Topwater Seaducer that still catches tons of speckled trout and red fish.

Tying Materials

Hook: Mustad #1 34007

Lip: Fly Lip

Tail: 4 saddle hackles (2 on each side), White

Throat: Fire Fly Tye, Red

Thread: Danville's flat-waxed nylon, Red.

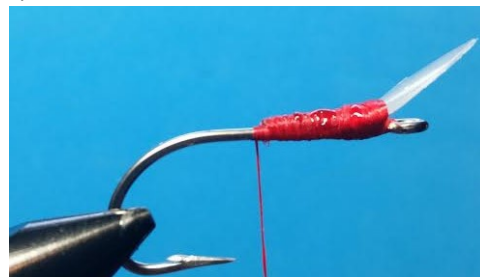
Hackle: Saddle hackle, Red

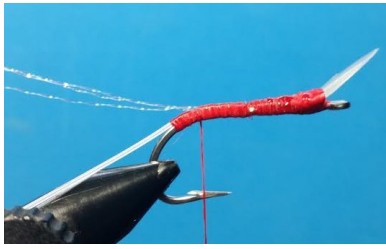
Flash: Krystal Flash, Pearl

Weed guard (optional): 30# monofilament or fluorocarbon

Tying Instructions

Flatten the barb and secure hook in vice. Tie the Fly Lip on top of the hook shank with extremely tight wraps and super glue.





Tie weed guard and 3-4 strands of flash.

Add two matching saddle hackles one side of the hook shank.



Repeat step 3 on the other side of the hook shank, resulting in 2 pairs of hackle on each side.

Add flash on the bottom of the hook shank to form the throat.



Tie in red saddle hackle by the base of the feather. Move thread to the midpoint of the hook shank. Wrap the hackle clockwise or counter clockwise to the awaiting thread.



Tie in a second saddle hackle. Move thread to just behind the fly lip and wrap the hackle in the opposite direction you did in step 6. This keeps the fly from spinning on the water.



Tie off weed guard and whip finish to complete the fly.

Sam Main directing the Sand Crab fly last month



Despite the gloom and doom (wind and dirty water) there are fish to be caught. Just ask Terry.....

Osprey Fishing...

Osprey's are the only raptors that dive fully into the water to catch their prey. Try to imagine the physical sensation. To skim across the sky, above the ocean, peering down with eyes that can see into the shallows from forty, sixty, even a hundred feet up. To catch a glint or the shallows of a movement and know it to be a fish, the one thing that keeps you alive. To hover, adjust, beating your wings so that you stay in place, like a giant kingfisher or hummingbird. Then to dive, to commit, to tuck with folded wings and plunge downward at over forty miles an hour while still keeping your eyes on the prey, calculating its size and movement. To adjust in midair, redirecting, considering even the

refraction of the fish's image in the water, before pulling pulling in your wings and diving again. And then, at the last second before hitting the water, to throw your wings back and your talons forward, striking feet first. To plunge in, splash, immerse, and make contact at the same time, trapping, piercing, clutching a slippery, scaled, cold-blooded creature.



Now imagine what comes next. Securing the fish, aided by the sharp, horny scales on the pads beneath your toes. For a moment being out of your element and in your prey's, feeling wet, awkward, ungainly. Then lifting off from the water with a great thrust of exertion, soaked and heavy, hefting and animal that may weigh half of what you do. Beating your wings furiously and rising, shaking the water off like a wet dog, already using your reversible outer talon to adjust the squirming fish, turning the fish so that it faces forward to reduce drag as you lift into the air, triumphant (or at the very least very successful), shaking off silver flecks of spray.

David Gessner, *Return of the Osprey*, Pub. Ballantine Books, p 62,63

Photos by Larry Sisney.
Copywritten

FFNWF Minutes April 5, 2016, 6:30 P.M.

Board Meeting was called to order by President Rex Straughn

A quorum was established.

Jay Brkczynski presented the treasurer's report. No corrections or additions were proposed and it was approved by the board.

Jay also reported good attendance and enthusiasm by members of this years fly fishing course participants.

Terry McCormick said that the upcoming club auction had received a donation of a guided fishing trip from Baz Yelverton. Also, Bob Story, executive of Feather Craft had donated an 8wt.,TFO fly rod. Joe Higgins' brother Dick is donating a stained glass sculpture for the auction.

Russ Shields reported on efforts to get city response to needed repairs of the club house windows and other defects. President Straughn will contact Barbara Albrecht in that regard.

A decision was made to allocate up to \$600.00, for the purchase of a television to augment our video capabilities at club functions. Russ Shields made the formal motion, and after a second by Roy Turner, it was approved.

Joe Higgins asked that Paul Wargo e-mail requests for volunteer cooks for the May and June Saturday clinics.

The meeting was adjourned after a motion by Russ Shields and second by Cliff Newton.

General Membership Meeting

President Rex Straughn called the meeting to order at 7:23 P.M. Fifteen members were present.

Rex related the board approved proposal to buy a television to augment our fly tying demonstrations and presentations. Russ Shields made a motion, seconded by Oleta Webb, to spend up to \$600.00, for the television and accessories. It was unanimously approved. Dave Handley will make the purchase.

Building repair requests made by Russ Shields and Oleta Webb will be submitted to Barbara Albrecht by president Straughn. Barbara is our liaison with the city of Pensacola. It was mentioned that we should inquire as to having the building declared a "Historical Site".

Joe Higgins, chief cook, asked that Paul Wargo e-mail a request to members for volunteer Saturday clinic cooks for May and June.

Cliff Newton suggested we have a digital logo for general purpose use. Gary Phoebus will prepare and propose his suggestions.

Gary and Terry McCormick reported on their attendance at "Anglers Night", at the fair grounds. The purpose of that night is to provide rods and instruction to young people to generate interest in fishing.

Gary provided info regarding fishing at Leon, Brooks, Hines Lake, in South Alabama. It is about 45 minutes from Pensacola. A license to fish all the state lakes is only \$12.00, with a daily fee of \$3.00. Boat rental is \$5.00. This beautiful 184 acre lake is isolated, serene, and full of bream, crappie, and bass. It is at 917 Barney Rd., Wing, AL., 36433. PH: 251-8090068.

After requests for further business, the meeting was adjourned. Jerry Giles, acting secretary