

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
OCTOBER 2011

THE FLYFISHERS OF
NORTHWEST FLORIDA
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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

Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Velverton

The good news about September is we dodged the "H" bullet. The tropical storm around the beginning of the month didn't produce enough rain to trash the water, plus all the wave action carved some beautiful cuts along the Gulf shoreline. It's been calm enough to spend a little time there during the past week, and I've been pleased with the numbers of pompano running the beach (although we haven't *hooked* one). It bodes well for a terrific fall pompano season.

The most exciting action this month has been with the really huge Spanish mackerel. The USS Massachusetts has been our most dependable spot, and the big fish are showing up more-and-more on the grass beds from Deer Point to Town Point. These fish are over six pounds and bite through 60# monofilament leader about half the time. Sometimes I'll step up to 80# bite tippet and even wire, although the wire leader reduces the number of strikes. For flies you can't beat the old faithful size 2 tan/white Clouser when fishing the grass beds. For the "Mass" the fish want a green weenie, and I've been upsizing them to 1/0. At the end of the trip a couple days ago I was trying out my client's 6wt, and the Spanish in the photo hammered my fly on the second cast. The reel didn't have much drag so I had to palm the spool to slow the fish down as it ran deep into the backing...twice. If that wasn't exciting enough I had to crank from the right which is for me like trying to wipe your butt with the wrong hand...



There continue to be decent numbers of redfish on the inside flats, and they're not too spooky if you are close enough to shore. Most of the other guides and anglers stay a little farther out, so the fish are close to the beach...like within 100'...don't get hit too hard. Look for areas with sand pockets close to shore surrounded by patches of grass. Usually the single redfish will be lying still in the deeper sandy areas. The schools will be milling around mostly in the sand. The schools are relatively easy to spot, but the singles can be very hard to see since they've lightened their colors to match the bottom. If you're not seeing any fish but the area looks productive try getting out of the boat and wading. Blind cast to all the sand areas as you ease along the beach. I'd stay in water between knee and waist deep. My fly of choice these days is the tan/white size 2 or 4 Clouser made from EP fibers. The size 1/0 EP gray/white baitfish is also a good choice. Third choice is Travis Akins' green weenie. Here's a nice shot of Paul Davenport on September 19 with his first-ever redfish on fly. This fish took the EP Clouser minnow.



We've been seeing some big trout on the flats but haven't landed one lately. There are large numbers of smaller trout on the grass beds in 4-5' of water, and they're a lot of fun in the early-morning on poppers and later in the day on Clouser minnows...but you guys already know all about that.

I'll see you out there....Capt Baz

Casting & Tying at the Club.... Tom Regina

October 13 - Bull session 6:30 PM. Bring your tying materials and tools to the bull session and tie the fly of your choice while telling fish stories or just come and tell lies and drink an adult beverage or two. Teach someone a tying tip or two or pick up some tips.

October 15 - Casting and tying clinic. Casting practice and instruction with John Brand starts promptly at 9:00 AM. Bring your long rod or use one of your club's fly rods. Fly tying instruction also starts at 9:00 AM. We will be tying an Egg Sucking Leech. Your club will provide all materials needed to tie this streamer fly. If you have them, please bring a vise and tying tools. If you don't have them your club will provide them for your use.

Free lunch will be provided at the Saturday casting and tying clinic. Beverages are available for \$1 at all club bull sessions, clinics, and meetings. And remember, guests are always welcome at all club functions. We will even feed your guests for free at the Saturday clinics.

Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, September 6, 2011, President Tom Birdwell, presiding

There was no board business and no board of directors meeting was held.

BUSINESS MEETING: The September business meeting was called to order by President Tom Birdwell. August minutes and treasurers reports were presented and approved.

Russ reported that with the addition of the 10 new rod and reel combos recently purchased the surplus rods would be sold in our annual auction.

Kevin Gorby asked that the club reconsider involvement in the Wounded Warrior program. There was some discussion about budgeting for the project and whether we would need to be insured. Russ made the motion to adopt the program and support it with donations, active participation, or both, with Kevin Gorby to be the chairman. Motion passed.

New Business: Russ brought up the Christmas banquet and suggested the club subsidize the cost so members don't have to pay so much. He and Larry Sisney will work on the dinner and report to the club.

Committee Report: Fishing trips Chairman John LeGrande suggested a Backwater kayak trip for Sept 25. He is also looking into a charter fishing trip with Capt. Baz. Russ reported that he would be teaching the technique of building top water poppers at the October clinic. Bob Korose reported on his recent fishing trip to Canada and Terry McCormick reported on fishing for specs and reds.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

From Jay Williams, Nominating Committee Chairman....Each year, at the November business meeting, a panel of recommended persons for the four club officer positions is made by the Nominating Committee, to the membership present. At that time, nominations from the floor for additional candidates for election to those positions will be accepted by the chair. Voting then takes place by sealed ballot.

From Tom Birdwell, President....There will be a BOD meeting for board members on Tuesday, October 4, 6PM at the club house. Please send agenda items to Tom Birdwell, birdwell4321@att.net or 456-6073 ASAP

Egg Sucking Leech... Tom Regina

Tying Materials

Hook:	Standard length size 6 streamer
Weight:	.20 inch round lead-free wire
Body thread:	6/0 black
Tail:	Black marabou bloods and pearl Krystal Flash
Body:	Black size medium Rayon chenille
Hackle:	Black rooster saddle feather
Egg (head):	6/0 orange thread and orange size fine Rayon chenille



Tying Instructions



1. **Weight the hook.** With the hook in the vise, make 12 wraps of lead-free wire around the center of the hook.



2. **Bind the lead-free wire to the hook.** Start the thread on the hook directly in front of the lead-free wire. Using a number of thread wraps bind the wire to the hook. Build a tapered thread ramp at each end of the wire. Do not crowd the hook eye. Take the thread back to a position directly above the hook point.



3. **Tie on the tail.** Select a bunch of marabou tips from a marabou blood feather. Measure the tips so they overhang the back of the hook one hook length when tied in at the rear thread hang point. Tie on the tail. Take the thread to the position directly above the hook point. Cut four strands of Krystal Flash from the skein and tie them in directly over the tail tie-on thread wraps. Trim the Krystal Flash a bit longer than the marabou tail.



4. **Tie on the body chenille and hackle feather.** Cut about a 5-inch length of body chenille from the skein and tie it on directly over the tail/flash thread wraps. From the saddle, select a hackle feather with usable base barbs about equal in length to the hook shank. At the tail/flash/chenille tie-on point, tie on the tip of the hackle feather. Take the thread forward to a point 1/4-inch back from the hook eye.



5. **Build the chenille body.** In touching turns, wrap the chenille forward to a point 5/16-inch back from the hook eye. Tie off the chenille and cut away the tag end.



6. **Palmer the hackle.** In about 5 to 7 evenly spaced turns wrap the hackle feather forward. Tie the feather off at the chenille tie-off point. Cut away the feather tag end and the black thread.

Egg Sucking Leech... Tom Regina (continued)



7. Tie on the egg chenille. Start the orange thread on the hook directly in back of the hook eye. Build a non-tapered thread base that will about double the diameter of the hook shank in the ¼-inch space between the hook eye and the front of the body. Cut about a 5-inch length of egg chenille from the skein. Tie the egg chenille to the hook directly over the orange thread base.



8. Form the egg. In tight touching, and if necessary, overlapping turns, wrap the chenille forward to the hook eye to form a neat egg. Tie off and whip finish or half hitch the orange thread directly in back of the hook eye. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement to the finish thread wraps being careful not to get cement on the egg.

Clinic Food Committee... Art de Tonnancourt, Chairman

The more we involve ourselves into the functions of our club, the more enjoyment we receive from our club. I am inviting five members at large who are interested in joining the generous food committee members who already are instrumental in making our Saturday clinics the most enjoyable of all our monthly meetings.

Here is how it works: the food committee meets twice a year with the first meeting being in the fall socializing over food and organizing the yearly schedule. Each member accepts responsibility only for one Saturday clinic food preparation, including the menu plan, purchase and preparation of the lunch. All expenses are reimbursed by the club. The second meeting is in the spring, which is the food committee members big perk. Next April (7th through 14th) all the food committee members will be invited to participate in a week of camaraderie and mountain stream trout fishing in North Carolina. The costs of the trip is very moderate with accommodations in a spacious, comfortable vacation home near favorite catch and release streams located in the vicinity of the eastern entrance to the Smokey Mountain National park.

Our fall organizational meeting will be held this year during our club's October (15th) clinic, at 10 AM in the clubhouse immediately after the fly tying instructions are finished and before lunch is served. The committee will have a hail and farewell agenda as well as a quick organizational agenda to schedule the 2012 responsibilities. Two members who have served us well and faithfully are leaving us and we sadly will say so long . . . and welcome our newest member(s) along with any of you who wish to join the committee for 2012.

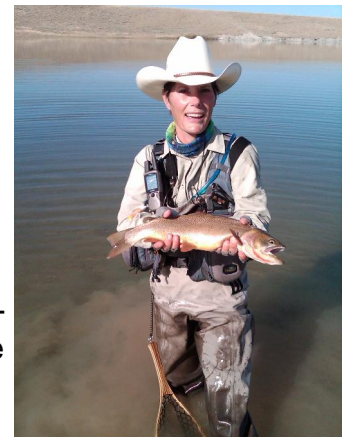
I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge 2011 participants who all have performed in an outstanding manner by providing this great service to our club this past year. Here is the list of participants and the 2011 schedule we agreed on last Fall:

1. I (Art de Tonnancourt), chairman, monitored the schedule as well as being responsible for maintaining adequate supplies of liquid refreshments in the refrigerator, utensils, plates, cups, etc. needed for the meals.
2. JanuaryRuss Shields.....seafood menu
3. February.....Joe Higgins.....Chili
4. March.....George Bennett.....Pizza
5. AprilMike Rowan.....
6. May.....Joe Beyer.....
7. June..... Jeff Deuchle.....shrimp scampi pasta salad
8. July.....Bob Korose.....Grilled Chicken
9. August.....Bob Willice.....BBQ pork sandwiches, beans
10. September.....Jerry Giles.....Gumbo
11. October.....Oliver McKinney.....Octoberfest, Brockworst, hot potato salad
12. November.....Ed Wingfield.....baked potatoes, seafood salad
13. December.....Larry Sisney.....to be announced
14. January 2012 ..Don Smith, new member since 8/20/11

Our committee would like to invite 5 additional members to replace those who are leaving, and some standby reserves are needed. Please come to the October 15th clinic and to join our Food Committee.

Around the Bay... and Further Away

From Bob Koroseō .Had a great trip to Alaska this Aug-Sept. We fished the Togiac River in western Alaska , the Kenai River south of Anchorage and the saltwater out of Seward. We caught lots of silver and chum salmon, rainbow and dolly varden trout, and halibut. Didn't get the halibut on the fly, they were 260 feet down, but on the boat ride we saw lots of wildlife and the fresh halibut are hard to beat on the table. Here are some pictures:



From John Brandō .We are alive and well in Wyoming. Karen got stuck fishing in the wind on her birthday and caught well over 50 cutthroats like the one in the photo, and all were explosive takes on hoppers. We have had several very good days. Yesterday the wind laid down so we used ants and beetles

From Terry McCormick....From somewhere in Santa Rosa Sound. Even the newsletter guy catches big spanish mackerel and a pompano once in a while. Jerry let me take the pompano since I had never eaten one - it may have been the best fish Alicia and I had ever eaten!



Know the Members

David Burton has been in the club for 2 years, having joined in 2009 and is on the Board of Directors and the Chairman of Membership Committee.

David comes to us by way of; Maine, Connecticut, Montana, Washington, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas then Florida in 2001 settling in Pensacola. He's married to the lovely lady, Reta and together they have two sons and three grandchildren. When he was 12 he said his grandfather would take him fly fishing for Atlantic salmon; having fond memories on the water he plans to carry on the tradition with his grandchildren.

David is semiretired as a consultant in labor relations and a developer of a database that interprets labor contracts. Work took priority over fishing and in 2004 he had a serious bout with cancer causing him to reflect on work and family so he backed off from work and took a good look at life. Then during a trip to the northwest he saw some people spey casting and thought how graceful it looked. After many years idle from fly fishing he was hooked again. He joined the club to reconnect with other fishermen and regain and hone his skills in fly fishing. David said that fly fishing is a truly relaxing pastime that allows him to connect with his inner self. A fisherman possesses much faith and hope or he would not fish. He gains even in charity when he listens to other fisherman. Now he's building a cabin up in Maine.

Jay Williams is a long time member who, when he originally volunteered to sweep the floors after the meetings, was told that wasn't the position he was wanted to serve in. Instead, he was elected club president, subsequently served as such on two other occasions. He has been Chairman of the Nominations Committee since Travis Akins left Pensacola.

Jay originally comes from Atlanta, Georgia where he attended Emory University, earning his baccalaureate and medical degrees. Following his internship he was a Navy Medical Officer for a Destroyer Squadron. Afterward, he returned to Emory for his Internal Medicine and Pulmonary training, then settled in Pensacola in 1965 as a partner in the Medical Center Clinic. In 1985 he went to law school and earned his Jurist Doctorate in 1988.

Jay became interested in fly fishing in 1994 when a medical partner introduced him to the sport. He has fished in Alaska, the High Sierras, Yellowstone and the San Juan River, as well as North Carolina and Georgia.. He joined the club in 1995 after he retired from his medical practice. He's tried to assist the club with occasional legal issues. He is an inactive pilot who his brother is now trying to get him back into the sky so they can fly together on fishing trips in his brother's airplane.

Dear Project Healing Waters Volunteers of Pensacola Fly Fishers,

First a grateful Thank you for your support and signing up to volunteer with Project Healing Waters. New and positive information on our local Healing Waters Program, as September 16th, 2011 our program has been accepted by our local VA hospital.

By chance, the VA has openings in their Volunteer Training Class on Wednesday 28th September, 2011 at 9.00am. This class is not offered often, and at this time, there are no other known scheduled dates in 2011. So it is important that we have as many volunteers attend this class as possible. If other members of our club or spouses would like to attend this class please do so, the more volunteers we have, the deeper our pool of which to help our local veterans. Please schedule for this class to run between 30 minutes to 3 hours. Please also contact me at the available information below to let me know if you can attend this class.

After attending this training Project Healing Waters name badges etc. will be ordered. Do to costs, these items they can only be ordered for members that have attended the VA volunteer training. Pensacola Project Healing Waters is working closely with the VA hospital to have a media covered event with trained volunteers. Our target date is the third week in November. With your help and support this date should be possible. This event is referred to as a "kick off" event, wherein staff, patients, veterans and volunteers come together to present, discuss and demonstrate the merits of our Pensacola program. The event will include fly tying demos, casting demos and discussion for opportunities.

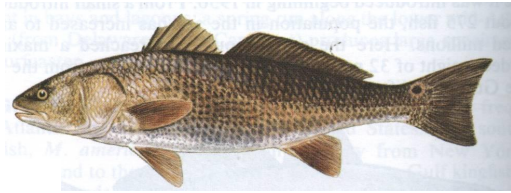
Once again, I sincerely thank you for your support. Kevin Gorby

Please contact Kevin Gorby at :
Tel : (850) 218-4235 or E mail at krgorby@att.net

FLY FISHERS

OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

**PO BOX 1041
 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



OCTOBER 2011

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