

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 2009

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.... Jim Eanes



Here are some photos that may have interest for the membership. The trout were taken from "Monster Lake", a private 900 acre lake near Cody, Wyoming in early July. Rules on the lake are 10 rods/day max, single, barbless-hooks & all catch 'n release. Pictured are Mike Craig, Fort Smith MT who is the former owner of the Big Horn Angler guide shop, Steve Bassett, manager of the lake & ranch at Monster Lake, and Jim Eanes, NWFF member & Pensacola resident.

PS....I should also have said that all these trout were in the 20" to 26" range and weighed 5lbs+. Over the course of 2 days, we took 60+ fish.

Logos, Shirts and Caps.... Bob Korose

Art mentioned to me at the last meeting that my new cap and shirt embroidered with the club logo and my name looked nice and that I should send you something for the newsletter about how and where I got them so other club members could get them to wear at club functions and out fishing. Here is the info I used:

I bought the cap at Wal-Mart for about \$3. The fishing shirt can be purchased at lots of places. In addition, I also had a patch made with the club logo for my vest. Lynne Metzger of "Stitches Galore" in Pensacola has the club logo in her computer embroiderer machine and does the embroidery for a reasonable price. I had the shirt and cap with club logo and my name, and the club logo patch done for less than \$25. She works out of her home at 7340 Klondike Road. Her phone is (850) 944-4286 and her cell is (850)450-6396....Bob Korose

General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, August 4th, 2009, President Larry Goodman, presiding

President Larry Goodman called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm by introducing Bill and Shannon Oyster and their two little Oysters to the 21 members in attendance. Bill informed the club about their home in Blue Ridge Georgia and the fabulous fishing to be found in the area. He told us how he got started building bamboo fly rods, developed a bamboo fly rod building business in Blue Ridge and a reputation for his teaching of the craft and quality workmanship. His step by step description of how these rods are made was fascinating.

Lindsey Simpson was welcomed into the club as a new member. The minutes of the July 7, 2009 business meeting as published in the August 2009 newsletter were approved. The treasury report for July 2009 was approved. Art deTonnancourt has agreed to chair the membership committee. Members will now be greeted at the entrance and their name badges given to them as they enter the meeting room. The badges will be returned as the meeting adjourns. The purpose is to allow members to become more easily acquainted and to integrate new members into the club more readily. Larry Sisney brought up the idea that every club officer should have a full set of keys so that items such as the refrigerator and the library can be opened without delay. It will be determined which officers do not have a full set of keys and the situation corrected. Larry Goodman will form a group to investigate the purchase of a pedestal fan for the club.

The Rotary Club of Perdido Key has invited the FFWF to participate in their WET AND WILD FESTIVAL Sept 19 at Big Lagoon State Park. Whether to move our September 19, 2009 Saturday clinic from the clubhouse to Big Lagoon State Park in order to participate in the festival will be decided at the September business meeting.

A drawing for door prizes was held and the meeting then adjourned at 8:33 pm. Bob Willice secretary

San Miguel River Fly Fishing... Tom Birdwell

The San Miguel River starts in the mountains east of Telluride Colorado. (elevation 8,500') Telluride is in a box canyon and is the town where Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid pulled their first robbery. It's a small, but delightful town with much history and character. Judy and I fished with Pancho Winter, a great guide, out of Tom Craddock's Telluride Angler fly shop. The river flows through the town of Telluride where it is just a medium sized creek. There are small rainbows and browns to be caught within the city limits on dries and nymphs.

Pancho took us down stream about 15 miles near the small town of Placerville. Off to the left is small parking area and put-in. The river there is about 30-40 feet wide and flows swiftly over the free stone bottom. It is only 2-3' deep and easily waded, Where we fished there was mainly pocket water and small runs, We didn't wade too deep and rigged with a bead head nymph under a small "bobber". I waded wet.

Not being an accomplished "nympher" I lost About a dozen trout by setting too late. Judy and I both caught rainbows up to 18". We had some nice aerial displays and much line taken out. We both fished Mike Shiozawa's 7', six piece rods, a 3wt and a 5wt. Really a pleasure on a small stream. We only fished 2-3 hrs. and caught a dozen or so beautiful trout between us. This river could be fished without a guide, but experience shows that guides know their home rivers best .

We stayed in a cottage at "The Peaks" in Mountain Village at 9500'. The views were unbelievable with 14,000' peaks all around. There is a free gondola that goes from Mountain Village down to Telluride. There are some less expensive places to stay in Telluride. There is an airport outside Telluride, but I don't think I'd like to land there. Montrose has an airport and is an hour away. The Black Canyon of the Gunnison is in the area and is well worth seeing; compares to the Grand Canyon in beauty. Before you go I would suggest contacting Tom at 1-800-831-6230.

Elk Hair Caddis

Al Troth's Elk Hair Caddis is the standard imitation for the caddis fly. It can be tied with or without a hackle or wire rib. When fished in riffles and runs of freestone streams or rivers the use of a hackle helps the fly "stand" on the water and helps prevent the fly from being swamped. When fished on smoother waters, omitting the hackle will allow the fly to sit lower in the water yet the fly still floats well. A rib wire adds durability to the fly, especially to the fragile hackle quill which is subject to being cut by the fishes teeth. With or without the hackle and rib wire, Al's Elk Hair Caddis catches trout (and pan fish) amazingly well. The Elk Hair Caddis is normally tied in sizes 18-12.

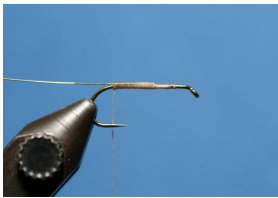
Tying Materials

Hook: Mustad 94840 (R50)*, size 14
Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 tan
Rib: Fine gold wire
Body: Tan Super Fine dry fly dubbing
Hackle: Ginger rooster saddle
Wing: Light elk hair



* O. Mustad & Son (USA), Inc. is in the process of changing the design and/or numbering system or designation of hooks. In this and future recipes published in *Flies & Lies* the number of the "Mustad Signature" hook that is replacing the specified "Classic" hook will be included in parentheses when it is known by the author.

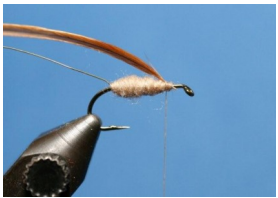
Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook and secure it in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread on the hook one hook eye length back from the hook eye. In neat touching turns lay down a thread base back to a point directly above the hook barb. Cut a 4-inch length of fine gold wire from the spool and tie it to the top of the hook directly above the hook spear with tight thread wraps.



2. Dub a body that is somewhat thick at the back and tapers to a point two hook eye lengths back from the hook eye. Do not crowd the hook eye.



3. Select an appropriate size hackle, one with barb lengths just a bit longer than the hook gap. Strip away the fuzzy fibers from the base of the hackle quill. Tie the stripped part of the quill in front of and adjacent to the tapered body. Cut away the excess stripped quill.



4. Palmer the hackle in about six to eight evenly spaced turns to the back of the body. Capture the last turn of hackle under two tight turns of the rib wire.



5. Cut away the excess hackle behind the capture wire and wrap the wire forward through the body hackle in about five or six evenly spaced turns to the hook eye. Tie off the rib wire with several tight thread wraps and cut away the excess wire.



6. *Note: With experience you will be able to determine how much hair or fur to cut from hides for various size flies. When cutting hair or fur from any hide, always cut right down to the hide. When hair or fur is cut from above the hide, the hide quickly becomes hard to work with and much waste will occur. Cut to the skin and keep your hide ship-shape.*

Cut a fair amount of elk hair from the hide. Remove the fuzz, or under hair, from the cut hair and align the tips in a hair stacker. Measure the hair wing (minus the hair butts) the length of the hook. The back of the wing should stand up above the end of the hook and extend a bit beyond the hook bend. Pinch the hair between the thumb and forefinger of your off hand at the wing/butt division point. Hold the hair against the top of the hook in the space between the front of the body and hook eye. While pinching the hair to prevent it from migrating too far down the sides or under the hook, take several tight thread wraps round the hair and hook between your fingers and the hook eye. Continue to pinch the hair and finish tying the wing to the top of the hook with tight thread wraps beginning just behind the hook eye and working back onto the wing forming a distinct segmentation between the wing and hair butts. Lift the hair butts and make three or four half hitch or whip finish thread wraps behind the hook eye and under the hair butts. Cut away the thread.



7. Gather the hair butts between the thumb and forefinger of your off hand, pull the hair tight, and cut it straight across and even with the front of the hook eye to form the head. Apply a small amount of head cement to the half hitch/whip finish thread wraps and to the head/wing segmentation thread wraps.

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

At the September 10 Bull Session we will tie an Elk Hair Caddis with Tom Regina. Fly tying starts at 6:30 PM. Bring your fly tying tools and tie along with other club members and guests.

The September Casting and Tying Clinic will be held Saturday September 19 from 9:00 AM until about 1:00 PM. Starting at 9:00 AM we will tie a Stealth Bomber with Jerry Aldridge. The Bomber is a popping/diving fly for bass that also works well in salt water. Bring your fly tying tools and tie along with other club members and guests.

The materials list and tying instructions for the Stealth Bomber and the caddis are included in this newsletter. Your club will provide all materials needed to tie both flies. If you have them, bring your fly tying tools. If you need, your club has tools for both you and your guest.

John Brand will conduct the casting clinic on Saturday September 19. John can teach you basic fly-casting or help you improve your more advanced casting skills. Bring your long rod or use one of your club's sticks.

Russ Shields and Jerry Giles will fix us another great lunch at the Saturday clinic. The menu this month is hot dogs... but not just any old dogs. Russ and Jerry will grill us some mighty fine Hebrew National quarter pound all beef premium taste franks with Gundelsheim original German recipe barrel sauerkraut served on a soft hoagie bun with hot sauce and mustard. Other dog fixin's will be available for you girlie types. If you do not want to tie flies, do not want to take advantage of the casting instruction, at least join us for lunch.

As always, you are encouraged to bring guests to all club functions. If you or your guest need fly rods or fly tying tools your club is ready to provide them for use during the clinics and guests are more than welcome to partake in our free food and drink.

KUDOS TO LARRY SISNEY

I would like to have a short note put in the newsletter regarding our Treasurer and the great job he does:

I recently completed an audit of our 2008 financial records. Every expenditure was verified against receipts and income verified on monthly reports. It is obvious that our Treasurer expends a good deal of effort to detail each transaction and report it in logical sequence. There were no errors found and in my opinion our finances are accurately reported and in good shape. Our Club owes a debt of gratitude to Larry Sisney for the excellent job he does. He takes pride in being 100 percent accurate in his accounting of our finances and spends a lot of time in doing so.

Thanks, Larry....Russ Shields

Stealth Bomber... Original Recipe by Kent Edmonds

One of my favorite top water flies is the Dahlberg Diver, a deer hair fly with head sloped up from the hook eye to a diving collar. When stripped the Dahlberg fly dives under the water as much as several inches and then pops quickly back to the surface. All this action and noise attracts fish from near and far. Unfortunately, my attempts at spinning deer hair results in something a cat might cough up and the going price at a fly shop is 5-6 bucks, minimum. Being both inept and cheap, I started experimenting with sheet foam to develop a head that looked and acted like the Dahlberg Diver. After a few hours at the vise with scissors and foam, I came up with the fly in the first photo. It did not look much like the original but it dived and sputtered and the speckled trout loved it. Naturally, I was quite proud of my originality.



But then I started reading and googling. Tom Regina lent me his copy of "Tying Foam Flies" by Skip Morris. One of Skip's flies looked suspiciously like mine but how could he have copied mine since his book was written 16 years earlier? And I found dozens of recipes on the internet all with that familiar sloping face and diving collar. Even Cabela's and Feathercraft had the flies for sale. So much for my originality. One of the internet flies I found is the Stealth Bomber tied by Kent Edmonds, a full time flyfishing guide in LaGrange, Georgia, website www.flyfishga.com/stealth/htm. The recipe here is Kent's fly with a few variations.

MATERIALS

Hook	Mustad 34011, Size 4
Thread	White, then red, prefer Danville flat-waxed nylon, 3/0 will do
Tail	White marabou, tied full, topped with crystal flash, copper and root beer, 4-6 strands each, doubled, optionally a dyed grizzly hackle on each side of the marabou
Head	White 3mm foam in the shape and dimensions shown
Body	Ice chenille, medium clear or white
Legs	Tarantu-legs, medium black and white tipped with orange marker, two pairs each side

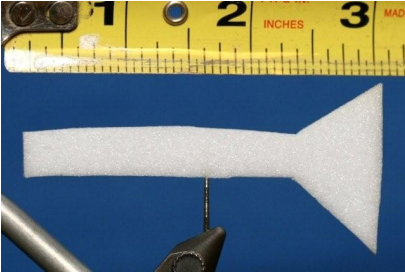


TYING INSTRUCTIONS



1. Place hook in vise. Attach thread and lay thread base from hook eye to bend finishing above barb. Select a full marabou plume and a second if required for a full tail. Position the marabou atop hook and tie in so tail is one hook in length. Wrap thread over butts of marabou forward to 1/4" or so behind eye. Return thread to rear. Select 4-6 strands root beer and copper crystal flash, double around tying thread and tie in atop marabou. Trim crystal flash 1/4-1/2" longer than marabou. Optionally, tie in a died (red, orange, purple, etc.) grizzly hackle on each side of marabou. Tie in 6" length of crystal chenille and bring thread forward to hook eye.

Stealth Bomber... Original Recipe by Kent Edmonds (continued)



2. Cut a piece of white 3mm foam in the shape shown. The long part is a hook gape wide and two hooks long. The triangle top is 3 hook gapes wide. My original had a circle instead of a triangle; the triangle is easier.



3. Place foam atop hook with small end of triangle just behind eye. Center the foam and pinch quite securely to prevent slipping as you wrap (readjust foam as necessary throughout tying process). Wrap 3-4 turns just behind eye, then 6-8 firm spiral turns back to the bend. The foam will have a segmented appearance. Now take the same number of turns forward in the tracks of the previous wraps stopping just behind eye.



4. Wrap ice chenille forward in the tracks of the thread wraps stopping at the eye. Secure chenille with 3-4 thread wraps and trim excess chenille. Return thread to center following tracks of ice chenille. Bring the tail foam piece forward to secure at the hook center. The foam forms a hump; the higher the hump, the more bubbles will form in the water when your bomber pops to the surface. You can experiment later; for now try to approximate the hump in the photo. Secure foam at center with 3-4 firm wraps and cut off excess.



5. Bring the triangle foam piece backward and secure with several firm wraps at hook center. Whip finish or take 3-4 half hitches all in the same place. Cut thread and remove fly from vise. Trim foam to form a roughly circular or oval collar as shown in the photo.



6. Remount fly in vise upside down. Tie in red thread atop white thread wraps. Tie in two pairs of legs each side as shown in photo. Remove fly from vise. Color the tips of each leg with orange marker. Apply head cement to all thread wraps.

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Velverton

August 2009 will go down as the month of the whale sharks. I think it has been the biggest month for whale shark sightings in the last 50 years. These magnificent creatures are the largest living fish species and can grow up to 60 feet in length. On August 6 I had the good fortune to find this 25-28 footer feeding on the surface 3.5 miles SW of the #1 buoy. There were cobia swimming all over it, and we caught them up to 32" long on spinning tackle. How I wished for a fly rod!



Then on August 14 Jerry Aldridge and family were with me when we found another whale shark, but this time we were loaded with fly gear. After hooking and "long distance releasing" numerous fish Jerry finally brought this one to the net. Jerry's son-in-law Paul Elischer followed suit a few minutes later with another beautiful juvenile cobia.



It has been an unusual August in the Gulf of Mexico for other reasons, too. The big schools of ladyfish have been harder to find than normal, and the false albacore are elsewhere. A guide buddy of mine hit a school of albies six miles SSW of the pass yesterday, but that was the only school he found. I haven't found any in over a month. The hottest and most dependable action is on big bluefish a couple miles W of the pass. These are nice four pound fish feeding in 3-4' of water S of the first and second tall condos on Gulf Beach Highway. We've been dropping down to 6wt tackle and having a ball with these bruisers. Here's Peter Petruzzi from Knoxville on August 24 with a typical bluefish. You'll want to have a 10 or 12wt ready with a big popper and wire leader for the sharks that are feeding with and on the bluefish. We had a four foot blacktip on for 20 minutes, and I even had the lip gaff ready when the fish finally cut through the 40# wire. I was hoping for a photo for this fishing report... The other dependable action in the gulf is on ladyfish and Spanish mackerel around the USS Massachusetts.



The inside flats are clear and beautiful, and there are more trout and redfish on them than usual. Peter and I worked a glassy-calm flat last Monday and saw 15-20 individual redfish and two VERY nice trout. Peter hooked the smaller 23-24" trout on a tan/white clouser about fifteen feet from the boat, and we watched it shake its head throwing the barbless hook. The redfish were wary in the shallow water and were spooking from the sound of the fly and fly line hitting the water. Twelve to fourteen foot leaders and size 4 or 6 clouser minnows are probably the



ticket, although Peter and I didn't think of that until later. He managed to land two reds like this one on my standard 10' leader and a size 2 clouser. Here's another shot of a typical August flats redfish landed August 10 by Jason Cloete from the UK.

Don't forget about the huge schools of menhaden on the S side of the Intracoastal channel between Portofino and the Big Sabine. You'll find the fish in 12-16' of water, and there are redfish, bluefish, catfish, and sharks beneath them. We had a big redfish cut in half by a bull shark on August 21, and Capt Eddie Woodall landed five bull reds there a couple days ago. I think Bob Willice landed a big king mackerel on fly under the menhaden schools last year. I like to throw big poppers to bring the fish to the surface, but heavy clouser minnows are probably more productive...just not as much fun.

See you on the water....Capt Baz

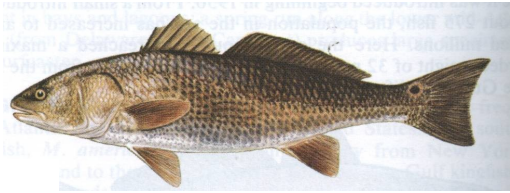
Editor's note: Capt. Baz usually doesn't report or show photos of quarry taken on gear other than fly rods. However my grandson Victor would never forgive me if I didn't show his amberjack taken with Baz on a little heavier tackle.



FLY FISHERS

OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

**PO BOX 1041
 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



SEPTEMBER 2009

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