

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
APRIL 2010

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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 Outing, Ft. Pickens Jetties, March 28th



Twenty five members of the Flyfishers of NW Florida met at the Ft Pickens jetties for fishing (not much) socializing (a lot) and hot sausage sandwiches (wonderful) on March 28th.

Congratulations to Paul Lukkar and the Fishing Trip committee for an enjoyable outing!

General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, March 2, 2010, President Larry Goodman, presiding

President Larry Goodman called the **board** meeting to order at 6:30 pm with 5 board members present. The Saturday clinic scheduled for March 20, 2010 will be held as usual. Bob Korose and Joe Higgins will demonstrate their culinary skills to the club on that day. On March 27, 2010 a club fishing trip will be held at Fort Pickens. The club will not be cooking food that day and members can if they wish bring their own picnic lunch. Coffee and donuts will be served when the group assembles early that morning. Further details will be distributed to the club membership prior to the trip via e-mail. A tentative date of June 12, 2010 was selected for a club fishing trip to Hurricane Lake. Karen Brand volunteered to provide maps and more information to the club about fishing the lake. The board meeting ended at 6:58 pm.

The **business** meeting was called to order at 7 pm by President Larry Goodman. Seventeen members were present. Visitors David Burton and Brandon Pope were made welcome by the club. The minutes of the February 2, 2010 board and business meeting as published in the March, 2010 newsletter were approved. The Treasurer's report for February, 2010 was presented and approved. Art deTonnancourt reported that 40 members had at the time of the meeting submitted their dues for the year 2010. The membership committee will personally contact those who have not yet paid.

Jay Williams presented the idea of honoring Jon Williams, a charter member of our club and a member who represents our club so well, with a lifetime honorary membership. Dennis Majewski put the idea in the form of a motion and Jay Williams seconded it. The club voted unanimously to pass the motion.

Karen Brand reported the Southeast Conclave of the FFF will be held June 4th and 5th In Helen, Georgia. They are seeking volunteers to demonstrate fly tying. Numerous fishing trips have been donated to the conclave as prizes. She also reported that the GEORGIA FLYFISHING FOR VETS organization is seeking volunteers for their event to be held April 10, 2010.

Jerry Giles presented a very informative program on how to organize a group fishing trip to North Carolina.

Following a drawing for door prizes the meeting was adjourned at 8 pm. Bob Willice secretary

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

At the April 8 Bull Session, starting at 6:30 PM, we will tie the Buzzball dry fly. This is a fly Jerry Giles pointed out to me. It is a quick and simple tie using only thread and three hackle feathers. So come on out and tie the Buzzball or sit around and lie to your fishing buddies.

The April Casting and Tying Clinic will be held Saturday April 17 from 9:00 AM until about 1:00 PM. Starting at 9:00 AM we will tie the original Copper John nymph. The materials list and tying instructions for both flies are included in this newsletter. Your club will provide all materials needed for these ties. 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 April 17. John can teach you basic fly-casting or help you improve your more advanced casting skills. If you have a particular casting technique you would like to learn or improve, John will be happy to help you learn or improve the procedure or skill needed. John will start the casting clinic at 9:00 AM. Bring your long rod or use one of your club's sticks. Many club members attend the monthly casting clinics and bring one or more of their fly rods to practice. Most are happy to let others try their rods.

For the April 17 clinic, Jerry and Russ have promised something quite special for lunch.

If you do not want to tie flies or take advantage of the casting instruction, do still join us for a free lunch, adult beverages, and little peoples drinks.

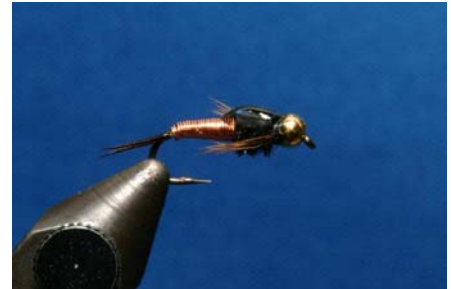
As always, you are encouraged to bring guests to all club functions. If you or your guest need fly rods or fly tying tools your club is ready to provide them for use during the clinics and guests are more than welcome to partake in our free food and drink.

John S. Barr's Original Copper John... Tom Regina

This original Copper John fly pattern/recipe comes from John Barr's book "Barr Flies" published by Stackpole Books. In his book, John goes into great detail and uses many high quality color photos to describe how to tie this and many other patterns he has designed.

Tying Materials

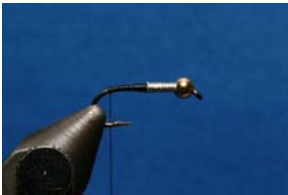
Hook:	Mustad R72, 2XH, 2XL, Size 14
Bead:	7/64-inch gold
Weight:	.015 lead free wire
Thread:	8/0 (72 Denier) black
Tail:	Brown goose biots
Abdomen:	Copper Ultra Wire, size brassie
Wing Case:	Pearl Flashabou and black Wapsi Thin Skin covered with epoxy
Thorax:	Peacock herl
Legs:	Speckled brown soft hackle hen saddle patch barbs



Tying Instructions



1. Weight the hook. Place a bead on the hook so the small bead hole is up against the hook eye. Fix the hook in the vise. From the rear of the hook shank, wrap the lead free wire forward in thirteen neat touching turns. Cut or break away the wire tag ends. With your thumbnail, push the wire forward so the front wire wraps go into the large rear bead hole.



2. Build a tapered thread underbody. Using a jam knot, start the thread on the hook directly behind and adjacent to the lead free wire. Form a neat, evenly tapered thread underbody back to a position on the hook directly above the hook barb. *(Note: A neat, evenly tapered thread underbody is essential to the appearance of the finished fly. Keep this in mind while tying-in all the materials.)*



3. Tie on the tail biots. Select and pull two biots that are next to each other from the quill; thus ensuring they are the same width and length. At the thread hang point tie one biot to each *side* of the hook so they curve away from the hook. The biot tail length should be equal to about one-half the hook shank length.

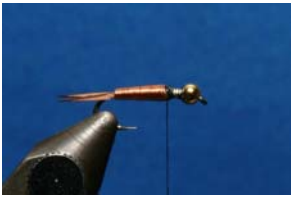


4. Bind the biots to the hook. Bind the butt ends of the biots to the sides of the hook with neat, touching thread wraps forward and onto the lead free wire wraps. Cut away the excess biot butts.



5. Tie on the copper abdomen wire. Cut about a ten-inch length of copper wire from the spool. Tie the wire to the top of the hook. Bind the wire to the top of the hook back to the biot tie on point directly above the hook barb. Bring the thread forward to the front end of the underbody.

John S. Barr's Original Copper John... Tom Regina (continued)



6. Form the abdomen. In tight, touching turns wrap the copper abdomen wire forward to the end of the thread underbody. (*Note: Tilting the wire back slightly with each consecutive turn will allow the next wrap to "roll off" the previous wrap, thus butting the wraps together. If a space occurs between adjacent turns of wire, unwrap the forward turn and redo it. You may also be able to push a wrap back against an adjacent turn with your fingernail.*) Tie-off and cut away

the tag end of the copper wire. Cover the wire stub and the remaining lead free wire wraps with a few turns of thread.



7. Tie in the wing case. Cut about a three-inch length of Flashabou from the skein. Tie the single strand of flash to the top of the hook with a few thread wraps from directly behind the bead to the front end of the copper abdomen making sure the flash is centered on top of the hook. Cut about a two-inch by 3/32-inch wide strip of Thin Skin from the card. Remove the Thin Skin backing. Tie the Thin Skin over the flash and secure it in the same manner as was the

Flashabou. Take the thread to the back of the bead.



8. Tie in the thorax. Select four or five dense peacock herls, even their tips and tie them in on top of the hook directly over the wing case materials. Take the thread to behind the bead.



9. Form the thorax. Using hackle pliers or electronic test-lead clip, twist the peacock herls into a loose rope. In touching but not overlapping turns, wrap the herl forward to the back of the bead. Tie off the herl and cut away the tag ends.



10. Tie in the legs. Select and remove a good quality feather from the hen saddle patch. Stroke the feather barbs so they are perpendicular to the feather quill to even their tips. Pull a small tuft of barbs from the quill. Hold the tuft of barbs along the far side of the hook with their tips extending back even with the hook point. Take two turns of thread over the barbs directly behind the bead. Ready another like-sized tuft of barbs and tie them to the near side of the hook in the same manner.



11. Complete the wing case. Pull the Thin Skin forward over the top of the thorax. Tie the Thin Skin off with two turns of thread behind the bead. Pull the single strand of Flashabou over the Thin Skin wing case, being careful to make sure the flash is centered over the Thin Skin. Tie off the flash in the same manner as the Thin Skin.



12. Finish the fly. Cut away the Thin Skin and flash tags. Tie off and cut away the thread. Apply head cement to the finish thread wraps. Apply several thin coats of head cement to the top of the wing case to add luster to it. As an alternative, apply epoxy to the top of the wing case for even more fish attracting sparkle and durability. Allow a small amount of epoxy to migrate back onto about the two forward exposed abdomen wire wraps.

The Buzzball.... Tom Regina

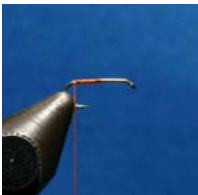
The Buzzball was brought to my attention by Jerry Giles and was featured in a YouTube video. The Buzzball is a prospecting dry fly representing many bugs, especially dead bugs. It is a very simple yet fun tie. It is ugly and looks sloppy with hackle barbs randomly sticking out here-and-there. Do not let your fishing buddy have a look at your Buzzballs for fear he will think you know nothing of fly tying. Show it to him only after you have filled your creel with fish taken on the Buzzball. Try it, I don't think you will be disappointed.

Tying Materials

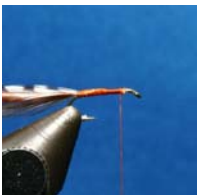
Hook: Tiemco 100, 1XF, wide gape, size 16
Thread: 8/0 rusty brown
Body: Brown, light dun, and grizzly rooster saddle hackles



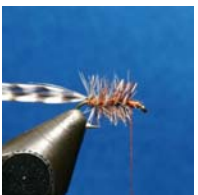
Tying Instructions



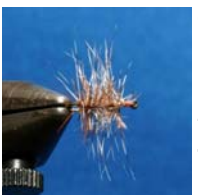
1. Lay down a thread base. Start the thread at the mid point of the hook shank and wrap a neat thread base back to a point directly above the hook barb.



2. Tie on the hackle. Select one brown and one light dun hackle feather. The length of the barbs on the brown and light dun hackle is of little consequence. Tie on the brown and light dun hackle feathers at the rear thread hang point. Take the thread back to the point directly above the hook barb. Select a grizzly hackle with barbs equal in length to 1 ½ to 2 times the hook gape width. Tie on the grizzly hackle also at the rear thread hang point. Take the thread forward to a point on the hook shank 1 ½ hook eye width distance in back of the hook eye.



3. Together, palmer the brown and light dun hackles forward in 4 ½ to 5 ½ evenly spaced spiral turns stopping at the front thread hang point. Tie off the brown and light dun hackles and cut away the excess tag ends. In the round, cut/trim the brown and light dun hackle barbs to a length equal to the hook gape width.



4. Palmer the grizzly hackle forward in 4 ½ to 5 ½ spiral turns stopping at the thread hang point. Tie off and cut away the excess grizzly feather. Form a neat thread head. Half-hitch or whip finish the thread and cut it away. Cut/trim the grizzly hackle barbs on the top and bottom of the fly to a length equal to the hook gape width. **DO NOT CUT/TRIM THE SIDE HACKLE BARBS.** Apply a small amount of head cement to the thread head being careful not to get cement on the hackle barbs or in the hook eye.

Remove the Buzzball from the vise and examine it. If it's not the ugliest, sloppiest fly you ever tied throw it away... you didn't tie it right. Now try it again. This time with your eyes closed perhaps.

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Veluerton

Fly-fishing in the Gulf of Mexico is running like clockwork. Singles, doubles, and schools of redfish have been cruising the beach all month, and the pompano arrived right on schedule. I've been finding most of the redfish between Battery Langdon and Ft Pickens Point...both inside and outside the inner bar. There are some excellent spots for wade-fishing along the bar to the west of the palm tree, and the water's finally warmed up into the 60's. Even though I've been seeing some hearty souls out there "wet wading", I'd still recommend the neoprene waders.

The pompano have arrived, and these are mostly "big" fish in the 3 pound range. We landed seven fish in the last few days...all on spinning tackle. I can't wait to get the first one on fly! Yesterday we had two fish after the fly, but they just wouldn't eat it! I tried tan/white then switched to my "old faithful" yellow, but we ran out of time and fish. If I'd had a little more time we would've tried Capt Bob Quarles' pink clouser, but we had to go.



These two photos were taken March 5. Chris Windram, owner of Saltwaterflies.com, Housatonic, MA, made a perfect cast to the first fish in about three feet of clear water, and the bull red hammered my "Go-meaux" imitation. You can see from the photo how close we were to the inner bar. If you haven't heard of Chris' company, check out www.saltwaterflies.com. They've been in business fifteen years and are an excellent source for flies and tying materials. Chris even hand picks the bucktails depending on what you're planning to tie.



Chris' fishing buddy Scott Patterson from Martha's Vineyard picked the second redfish out of a school of about a hundred that were milling around just outside the bar in about eight feet of water. These guys could throw the fly accurately 80-90'; it almost made it easy fishing with them.



On the inside flats everything's happening about a month late. Water temperature two days ago was finally up in the high 60's and we found plenty of redfish, a few trout, and even caught a flounder. The darn redfish were very wary, but fifteen year old Daniel Roberts from Little Rock finally got this one to eat a tan/white clouser. Too bad the photographer cut off the top of Daniel's head... I did a little

better with the camera on the flounder photo. Daniel's big trout was the fish of the day, measuring over 22". It slammed Daniel's clouser minnow and made two nice runs before coming to the net. I'm excited about spring finally arriving on the flats. There should be fish showing up in good quantities in all the usual places for the next month. It's time to get out there and get after them....Capt Baz

Hold the Press! Late Addition... Jerry Aldridge



Travis and Jerry got the first fly-caught pompano of the season on Captain Baz's boat the morning of the 30th. A medium length cast could have reached them from the beach. Both took Baz's tiny yellow and red Clouser.

Travis got the first red, a nice 40incher, his personal best on the fly with Baz's go-meaux imitation. Jerry followed up with another big red also caught on a go-meaux modified with a gold cone-head,



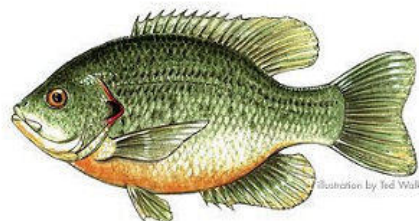
What a great day! Perfect conditions, fine compadres and even a fish or two!

Upcoming Events.... Flyers by Bob Holton



Hurricane Lake Season-June 12

- 7 AM till Noon
- Coffee and Donuts provided
- Fishing & Casting from shore or
- Boat Launch (No gas motors allowed)
- Restrooms
- Large shaded picnic areas
- Bring your lunch, drinks & camping/lawn chairs
- Overnight Camping Area
- Family , Guests and Slime Slingers (worm fishermen) are welcome
- Fresh Water License Required
- Contact: Paul Lukkar, 572-3006, flash729542@yahoo.com



FFNWF Spring Auction, June 1



- Clubhouse opens @ 5 PM for donations and browsing
- Auction starts @ 7 PM, come early and stay late
- Refreshments are free, but you are allowed to spend money
- Fly Rods, Reels, Flies, Tying Equipment, Fishing Trips(sometimes)
- Estate items and all things fly fishing
- Everything is donated, if you no longer use it, donate it
- Early donation can be arranged
- For Donations & Information: Terry McCormack, Head Auctioneer, flycastsgt@hotmail.com

May Program.... Steelheading with David Burton

Bamboo Boot Camp... Russ Shields

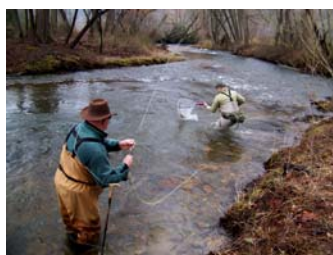
Recently three of our members, Tom Regina, Bob Korose and Russ Shields spend an interesting and very successful week at a bamboo rod building school. Hosted and taught by Bill Oyster and now known as "Bamboo Boot Camp", the class is held at Bill's shop in Blue Ridge Georgia, just a short seven hour drive from Pensacola. We started with a 12 ft long stalk, called a culm, of Tonkin Cane cut into a top and bottom section and flamed to the color we desired. From those parts of the culm, we split the cane into quarter inch wide strips. We straightened those strips at each node using an alcohol burner and then ran the strips through a beveling machine. From that point on all the work to plane the strips in to a taper to form a butt section and a tip section was done by hand. The individual triangular strips are glued up to form a hexagonal rod blank using a modern space-age epoxy that is then heat cured after the blank sections are carefully straightened (usually with a good bit of help from Bill Oyster). We sanded the blanks, fitted the ferrules and tip-top, glued up and shaped the cork grips, wound on the guides and then Bill varnished the rods in his special dip and extraction process. The last step was choosing the wood inserts for the reel seats and fitting them to the finished rods. All in all, it was an intensive and wonderfully satisfying week with each of us ending up with an heirloom quality, beautiful bamboo fly rod. There were six members in our class with widely differing backgrounds. We had a lot of fun joshing, exchanging stories and taunts, and most importantly, working together, always with Bill's patient instruction and oversight. Many of us want to do it again sometime. Perhaps we can get class of four together from our club and do it next year.

Photos by Russ Shields and Bob Korose of Russ's new rod and class members



Fishing Report... Bob Korose

I'll be off the computer till after the 1st so I'll send you some photos I have of Tom Regina and me from our trip to Noon-tootla Creek Farms with Unicoi after our rod building class in Blue Ridge Ga. Use them in the newsletter if you like. The one photo of me is showing my new bamboo fly rod and the first fish I caught with it. The other of me is with the male rainbow that I caught 3 times on the same fly in about a dozen casts. The photos of Tom show 2 of the several beautiful rainbows he caught that day.



From the Membership Committee... Art de Tonnancourt, Chair

Our committee is happy to report that as of March 21st we have 50 members paid up for 2010. We expect to have our 2010 Membership Directory out early in April. There are several members still unpaid at this date and hope that they will send a check for \$30 to our treasurer Larry Sisney at 700 College Blvd H-106, Pensacola, FL 32504.

The following members are new to the club since January 1st:

David Burton....David hails originally from Maine and is a retired independent consultant. David has had extensive fresh water fly fishing experience and is especially well versed in fishing west coast steelhead. He is proficient with a spey rod. He's looking to learn more about our local salt water fly fishing as well. I think there are a lot of us who could learn about steelhead fishing and spey rods from David. Welcome aboard David.

Paul Staton....Paul is a well versed salt water fisherman. I think Paul would really enjoy working with the fishing trips committee. Paul is a project manager road work. Welcome aboard Paul.
Brandon Pope.....Brandon is an active duty Marine Corps officer, going through flight training and is very interested in all aspects of fly fishing. He is looking forward to rod building, Tarpon fishing, bone fishing, shark fishing....Brandon may be our only active duty military member and hopefully not our last. His active duty buddy is going to join our club at our next meeting. If Paul Lukar doesn't recruit him for his fishing committee, I'm going to ask him to join our membership committee and spearhead an active duty military membership drive for the club.....Welcome aboard Brandon

David Falvey.....David's application indicates that he is an experienced fly fisherman, interested in both fresh and salt water fishing. I look forward to talking more to David soon.

I hope that the four of you will stay about 15 minutes after we adjourn the business meeting Tuesday, April 6, when the board members and others can all get to know each other better.

Joe Higgins initiated the design and purchase arrangements for some great name tags, and business is booming. Joe is selling them at cost price of \$7.

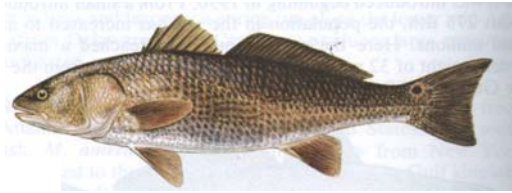
Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc.... Tom Regina

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. (PHWFFI) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active duty personnel and veterans through fly fishing and fly tying education and outings.

In fulfilling this mission, PHWFF works with active duty personnel and veterans in military, and Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals, and Warrior Transition Units (WTUs) nationwide.

Several of our club members have expressed interest in establishing a club connection or affiliation with PHWFF. At the April 6 business meeting we will have a presentation about PHWFF's organization, mission and affiliation requirements.

All club members are encouraged to attend the April 6 meeting so your opinions and comments with regard to affiliating with PHWFF can be heard, and to determine if there is sufficient club interest and support for such an undertaking.



APRIL 2010

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