



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

In memory of Lefty

April, 2018

FFNWF

PO Box 1041
Pensacola, FL 32591
www.ffenwf.org

PRESIDENT
David Handley
dmhandley@gmail.com
(850) 417-9233

VICE-PRESIDENT
Ed Hamkens
Gysgthamkens
@gmail.com

SECRETARY
George Norton
geonorton@gmail.com

TREASURER
Jay Brykczynski
(850) 232-7504
jaybryk@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER
Paul Wargo
586-943-3155
flyfishersnwf@gmail.com

MONTHLY MEETINGS
at Miraflores 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 May 1

The Auction is Coming! In April we gather up our donations – rods, reels, stuff and more stuff, trips and more trips. If possible, bring your donations the night of the auction. If not bring them to the club in April. Donating a trip on your boat? Write it up on a card and give it to Terry McCormick (who is doing the Auction again).

The doors open at 5:00 for drop off and browsing. Auction starts at 7:00. Come early, stay, late, bid early, bid often, spend some money and have a great time! Bring your checkbook! Remember this is our big fund raiser of the year so we need **You and Your donations.**



Club Freshwater Trip: Leon Brooks Hines State Lake in Wing, Alabama on Wednesday April 18th. Hines Lake is a small lake managed by the state just across the Florida border.

The lake has an abundance of largemouth bass, channel catfish and bluegill. There is a \$3 a day user fee plus a \$15 Alabama freshwater license. There are boats for rent with trolling motors for \$27. There is a small tackle shop where all these items along with drinks and snacks can be purchased the day of the trip. There is a pier and bank fishing if you do not want to fish in a boat. For more information see the minutes from March in this issue. **George Norton**



Club Meeting – Tuesday April 3 7:00 We will discuss plans for the auction, the trip, and there should finally be some fishing reports. The program will be by Russ Shields about making bamboo fly rods. You make think of bamboo rods as works of art (and they are) but you can build one. Really.

Fly Tying Bull Session – Thursday, April 12 6:30 We will be tying two new flies this month! See page 5.

Clinic – Saturday, April 21 9:00 AM The casting drill in April will be **Shooting Line - Finding the sweet spot - And shooting some more!**

Jonas.

The lunch will be Mesquite Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwiches. These are free range chickens that have never flown so they will be tender and juicy. Yummy. Yum Yum.

Since the March clinic was on St. Patrick's Day we had our own Leprechaun on hand. And that ain't no mularkey.

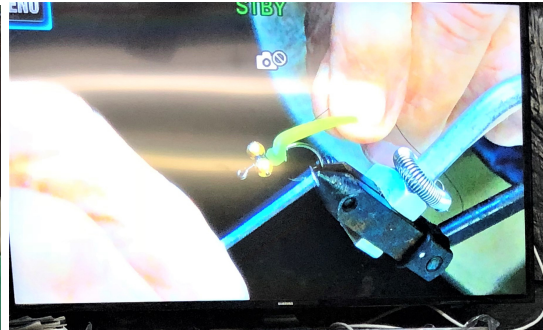


Jonas at the clinic demonstrating how to have a higher back cast (just kidding)



The casting lessons at the clinics

have been a great addition. We want to thank Jonas and Kent Gilliland. Kent has been making the trek from Huntsville for the clinic and the Monday classes to teach casting and has been a great help to Jonas. **Thank You!!!!**



Fly Tying at the Thursday Bull Sessions and the Saturday Clinics is greatly enhanced by the camera + TV set up we have. Come and watch – or even better, come and tie some flies.



Here is a Size #32 fly tied by Bill Locher at the clinic. Just what you need when you get tired of casting a big old heavy Clouser

Pat Murphy has been helping out, filling in for Matt on occasion and doing a great job!

My Fly Tying Life

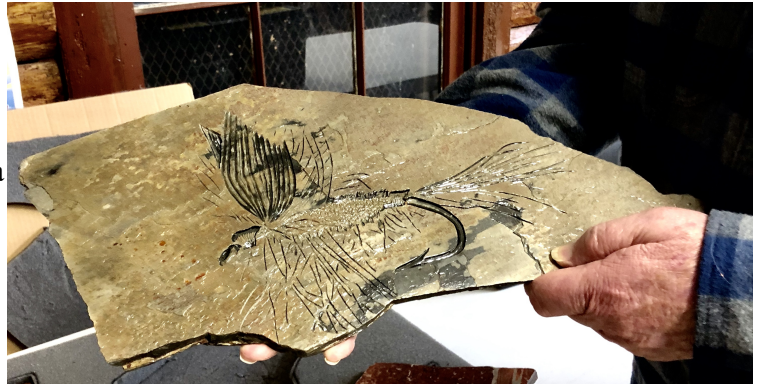


This old roll-top desk was a hand-me-down from the living room. It makes an ideal tying station for me. Drilled holes for the thread bobbins and a drawer to catch all the excess work well. The Montana “Mongoose” vise has served every purpose for tying and I highly recommend it. I have a Bass Pro basic rotary vise like the ones we have at the club for all my tying there. It cost \$20.00, and I have used it for 15 years without a problem. Gorilla Glue super glue, in the gel form is my favorite glue. But, I also use UV cure Loon, Zap-A-Gap, and Sally Hansen “Hard As Nails.” My favorite fly is the Woolly Bugger. It can be tied for fresh or salt water in variations without number. I have caught more fish on those than all other flies combined. Your creative imagination is your best asset in fly tying. It is, after all, an indisputable artistic endeavor.

Jerry Giles

Thou Shalt Not

Stone tablets – not the Ten Commandments but beautiful fly fishing images carved by Phil Feaster, a friend of Russ in Arizona (soon to move to Italy) and shipped here for us to enjoy. Thou Shalt Observe at an upcoming event at the club!



Fishing with Capt. Baz Baz has no report this month but his recovery is complete and he will be back on the water in April!! He was able to come for the first session of the Spring Class and delivered his usual inspiring presentation on local salt water fishing that made everyone there want to grab a rod and go fishing!!



FYI a Facebook link to a seminar in Ocean Springs on April 5: *Jeff Deuschle*

https://www.facebook.com/HOSSFly-993731957361424/?hc_ref=ART5r3m5p2jcCe7tQROYYNugEtoud0lnH_dAO4jUpplaHh68qw0DNjQrkvAb2iFGQiU&fref=nf

Fishing with Capt. Dan

March has been a great month even as Mother Nature decided to make one last effort to slow down the arrival of spring. Those 70 degree water temps I was so excited about last month dropped back to high 50's with our last run of north winds, but I think we are finally turning towards the right direction. My only complaint has been that the Jack Crevalles have started their way through, but the cold water has them hugging bottom and not interested in any fly I have put in front of them. Hopefully they will start riding high in the next few weeks as things warm up. The redfish have continued to be cooperative, and I have been lucky to have some good days this month. We started on March 1 with Chad Anderson on the boat. His casting lesson with Jonas last month paid off when he was able to lay out a beautiful 70 footer to this fish



A couple days later on March 3, I ran east to Destin to team up with commercial fly tier Kevin Doyle of Destination Flies. He is working on a proprietary pattern for me and we took the day to feed some of his local redfish. Look how clear the water is over there!



March 5 brought Andrew Anderson all the way from Scotland to try his hand at them. We worked hard all day and finally got this fish to eat a fly that I am going to forget to name in this report.



It was nice to finally get the payoff but I was a little bummed that this fish never put him into the backing. Most of the redfish we have been catching have been the big daddies, and this one weighed somewhere in the teens. Andrew told me after the release that he was "full of confidence" now that he had caught one, and he was ready to do it again. Sure enough 20 minutes later he hooked up again, and this time we had a bruiser. I asked him to hold it up for the photo, his response, "I can't, It's too big". Gotta love it when that happens.

Wil Sideman of Martha's Vineyard finishes off this month with his biggest redfish on fly caught March 22. Wil is a glass blower, and was in town to give a demonstration at First City Art's "Hot Glass, Cold Brew" event. Really interesting dude.



I enjoyed seeing some of you at the clinic last Saturday. If I don't have a charter or a honey-do list, I will try to continue to at least stop by for these. Several of you asked me about the Spanish mackerel, and although I haven't been looking for them, I would be willing to bet you can find some if you do. They have already caught a few kings on the pier, so the usual suspects will all be in town by mid April if they aren't already here. That brings me to your best bet to see backing this month: Mixed bag on the beaches with a big green fly. Enjoy that first whiff of sunscreen and stake out the sand bar with a meaty streamer. Redfish, Jacks, King Mackerel, Sharks and Cobia are all on the menu. **Capt. Dan**

Fly(s) of the Month – There will be TWO new flies this month.

On Thursday, April 12, George Norton will present a bluegill bead chain fly at the Bull Session – just in time for the freshwater fishing outing.



At the Clinic on Saturday, April 21, Matt will unveil an easy-to-tie anchovy pattern - just in time for the Spanish to show up in Pensacola Bay. The pattern features a neomaterial called Flyeye Foil.

Double your pleasure; double your fun. Two new flies for the price on one. What a deal!

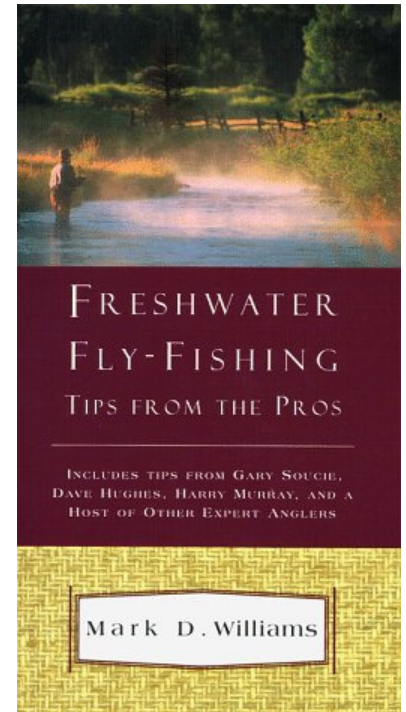
Book Review

“Fresh water Fly fishing Tips from the Pros” by Mark D. Williams

A concise little book I bought used at the Mobile Library Book Fare for 50 cents and well worth it. Each segment is written by a well-known expert fly fisherman.

Tips

1. Make shorter and more accurate casts and keep you line of the water for better control presentation and hook sets. Focus on the hard to get areas of the stream for larger fish.
2. For downstream casts learn the slack line wiggle cast.
3. For nymph and wet flies learn to use the tuck cast.
4. Castings into a head wind bring the line straight up and finish at nine o'clock.
5. Fishing wet flies use a ball and chain split shot which is 7-9 inch section of leader from the eye of the hook and split shot at the end held with an overhand knot.
6. Fish a dragon fly for largemouth bass they love them.
7. After cleaning your line with a cotton ball spray a little Armor All on the line.
8. In still water situations focus on getting the flies deep enough with either a long leader up to 25 feet on a floating line or an intermediate or slow sinking line.
9. For picky big Small mouth bass try a fast and erratic retrieve for reaction strikes with poppers or large streamers such as woolly buggers or white and chartreuse Clouser minnows.
10. Tips for backpackers focus on weight reduction and leave your waders, vest and rod case at home. Pack your four piece fly rod in the side of the back pack.
11. Don't hike with felt waders or you will wear out the soles fast.
12. Fish species in freshwater covered were bass, trout, and salmon. Nothing on pan fish. **George Norton**



From the Pres: Spring has sprung! Get out the gear, dust it off, ty some flies, and get to the water. If during your taking the equipment out remember our club auction is 1 May.

A club outing has been planned for **Leon Brooks Hines State Lake** in Wing, Alabama (917 Barney Rd.) on Wednesday April 18th. George Norton made two trips up there and has caught fish both trips, should be a good time.

A strong suggestion has been made that our club's presence on the web is desired. One method of that is to establish a Facebook for the club. I personally do not do Facebook by choice and the skills required to do so are not in my wheelhouse. In discussion with Kent Reagan and Cliff Newton it would appear that such an account can be established with several appointed "administrators." with these co-administrators, the load could be shared for the posting and monitoring for spam.

Based on discussions, I would like to appoint Cliff Newton, Kent Reagan and Jonas Magnusson as the FFNWF IT/Web Committee. The groups first function will be to establish a club Facebook presence. This committee will report to the FFNWF Board-of-Directors as to progress, and provide copies of all user name's and passwords to be held by the club's treasurer. This requirement is to prevent single point failures for the club.

The Club has seen a growth in participation of activities, tying and Saturday Clinics. We have had new members sign up at the two past weekend's. Our course offering filled up and is looking like a good bunch. Club Members should come out and support the course. Tight Lines, **Dave**

Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida Minutes March 6, 2018

President Dave Handley called the meeting to order at 1903 hours. 18 members present.

The minutes were amended to include the missing flash drive. This flash drive includes pictures of the pages from our historical photo albums. If you find it please return to Oleta.

Treasures Report: Our finances are in good shape. We have 46 paid members vs. 44 last year at this time. Russ moved to accept the treasurer's report and Paul Wargo seconded.

Old Business: The club purchased fifteen new fly tying kits.

New Business/Committee Reports and discussions:

The Class: We have 15 enrolled. Capt. Baz will put on a presentation at the first class on March 12 He will cover what flies to use and the different species in saltwater for all four seasons of the year. Members are encouraged to attend the first several classes to assist newcomers and welcome them, but please respect the presenter and do not have side discussions.

The Christmas Party: Jim White is looking at options for a new venue to improve our annual Christmas party.

Newsletter: Paul Wargo asked we send him the input for the newsletter by March 20th.

Club freshwater trip: George Norton gave an update on **Leon Brooks Hines State Lake** in Wing, Alabama (917 Barney Rd.) on **Wednesday April 18th**. Hines Lake is a small lake managed by the state just across the Florida border. The fishy looking habitat has tree lined shoreline, coves and blow downs. Water clarity is good. The lake has an abundance of largemouth bass, channel catfish and bluegill. He reported seeing large spawning beds on a recent but very windblown trip in mid-February. On March 8th George landed a nice sized bass after a cold front. The lake has bateaus for rent with trolling motors for \$27 a day (bring a seat cushion) and there is a \$3 a day user fee for the lake plus a \$15 annual Ala. freshwater license. There is a small tackle shop and office where all these items along with the usual drinks and snacks can be purchased on the day of the trip. There is a large pier and bank fishing opportunities if you do not want to fish in a boat. Bring

your lunch and plenty of water. For further information or the latest conditions, call the lake office at 251-809-0068. Let's have a great day catching some big bluegill and bass which should be on the beds ready to take your flies.

We will gather at the picnic tables at noon for a lunch break and to exchange results. In the meantime if anyone has access to a private lake that is lightly fished, full of bass and bluegill, and preferably is an hour or less from Pensacola let George know so we can plan a club trip there.

Annual Auction May 1, the night after the last class. Everyone is asked to **bring their donations that night**. If you need to bring it sooner, bring it to a club gathering in April. The auction is the major fund raiser for the club. We do not advertise to the public. But members are welcome to bring friends.

Program: Our traveling fisherman, Bob Korose gave an outstanding presentation about trophy rainbow trout in southern Argentina. Lake Stroebel or Jurassic Lake is the probably the best spot on the planet to catch rainbows that average 5-10 pounds and run over 20 pounds. The itinerary was Pensacola/ Miami/ Buenos Aires/El Calafate and a five hour four wheel drive to the lodge. Total travel time door to door was about 24 hours!



Bob and a buddy from Louisiana sight fished from shore with an eight weight! He said to expect huge trout and very strong winds. Typical flies were large scuds, leaches, bead head Prince Nymphs, Girdle Bugs and Woolly Buggers. Leaders were a stout 0X and the fish were shallow picking up scuds dislodged from the wave action on the shoreline. For anyone who wants to look into the trip Bob uses a service called FishingwithLarry.com. Thanks Bob. It was great to have Bob back at the club after a long illness. He is getting better and hope to be fishing again soon. At a future program Bob will take us to Campeche, Mexico for baby tarpon on the fly.

And, in Conclusion:

