



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

April, 2020

FFNWF

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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

**Due to the virus crisis -
All Club Activities in
APRIL
are canceled.**

**Future plans, including
The Fly Fishing Class
and the
Auction
will be announced via email
when more information is available**

Meanwhile, if you have fishing reports, pictures of flies you are tying, equipment reviews and recommendations, or memories of days gone by that you would like to share – send them in. The Newsletter carries on!

From the VP: It's been an unprecedented month in the club's history and at this writing, the future is still very murky. We were treated in our most recent meeting with a presentation by Hugh Smith reporting on an excursion to the American West with Captain Chip Smith. Enlightening as the fishing info was the report of the runaway drift boat seems the most memorable story as I look back. Meetings at the Boy Scout Hut are presently closed by the city and this schedule is presented as if all returns to normal. Unfortunately, we're not sure what normal will look like just yet.

Apr – Tarpon Bob Korose presents “Catching Monster Pike in Canada” - **Postponed**

May – FFNWF Auction! **To be Determined**

Jun – Oleta Webb presents “Fishing in Montana” *

Jul – Steve Hofmann presents “Fly Fishing Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado”

Aug – Cap'n Dan Storey presents "Fly Fishing the Tamiami Trail"

Sep -Jim White presents "The History of Fly Fishing"

Oct– Terry McCormack presents "Fishing From the Shore"

Nov – TBD Dec – TBD

Thanks again for your willingness to share your knowledge and experiences.
Please contact Bob Myers at (850)207-2070 to schedule your presentation

Fishing! Report!! by Steve & Ellen Hofmann

FFI Gulf Coast Conclave “Sweetwater Classic” Fly Fish Outing Mar 13-14.

On March 13 and 14 FFNWF club members Steve Hofmann, George Norton and their wives attended the 2 day outing of **FFI Gulf Coast Conclave** at **Percy Quin State Park**, Mississippi. On the first day there were some fly tying demos and Fly casting instruction by a level 3 certified caster. There were also 2 ladies present from the local “**Casting for Recovery**” chapter to promote their cause and flies they tie. They had some very nicely tied damsel flies. Of course I had to purchase a few.

All in all, the outing was lightly attended, probably because to the Corona Virus Scare. On the first day I fished for 2-3 hours in the afternoon from the bank near the south side of the lake where the main conclave was held. I ended up with no fish and lots encounters with lake side brush and flies in the trees. The second day I fished off the dam for a while then went to the ‘rough camping’ area on the north side of the lake. It was there I found a nice arm with lots of downed trees and branches to supply cover for fish. I ended up catching 3 small bluegill and 2 nice sized black crappie. (Note: the lake is noted for big bass and a beautiful golf course). All my fish were caught on a black and yellow beadhead bumblebee fly. I also fished below the dam for an hour in the late afternoon and caught a couple “mush mouth” type perch. (See enclosed pics). George won a new fly reel at the Raffle on Saturday afternoon. Just what you need George . . . a new Fly reel!!

On the last evening we ended up enjoying a fantastic sunset dinner, wine, and fish stories with George and his lovely wife Janie at their cabin overlooking the lake!!





It was later determined this handsome fish was: a "Small-mouth Buffalo".



Minutes of March 3 meeting

Board Meeting The President Called Meeting to order at 1800.

Financial Report: Finances are on track. We have 58 paid members YTD. The May Auction is the big fund raiser for our budget. Treasurer's report approved (Russ motioned and Bob M seconded.)

Minutes from Feb 4 meeting were accepted (Jim W motioned and Russ seconded.)

Old Business:

- 1 The Go-Daddy Web site will be more secure and enhanced.
- 2 The syllabus for the upcoming course is in the third proof and 35 copies will be printed.
- 3 Don Smith said we have sixteen paid for the Fly Fishing class of twenty that registered.

New Business:

- 1 Jonas and his wife will move to Tampa due to a career opportunity for his wife but he planned on teaching his three casting classes (now delayed indefinitely due to the Corona Virus) A Casting Committee is needed to continue his fundamental instruction method.
- 2 The Travel and Leisure Event in April in Milton has also been postponed.
- 3 We need an Auction Committee to catalog all the items.
- 4 Oleta brought up Casting For Recovery in Australia and sent out an email asking for financial support for women recovering from breast cancer.
- 5The Bands on The Blackwater River scheduled for May 8th will likely be canceled. Danny reported he needs to add new members and phone numbers to the roster.

General Meeting We had 22 members and 2 guests attend.

Presentation: Capt Unk Smith presented on his 2019 trip to Bozeman, Montana to attend the FFI Expo. He focused on a Spring Creek in Rapid City, hopper fishing on the Madison, the North Platte River below the Miracle Mile and dry flies on the Green River in Utah. Thank you, Unk! Those interested in tarpon fishing should contact Captain Chip Smith.

Fishing Reports: In February not much. March should bring better freshwater opportunities for bass. If they close the golf courses due to the Corona Virus try the golf course ponds. George picked up some small trout (8-14 inches) off his condo pier both under the lights and early in the morning March 19-20th. Normally the trout don't show up until tax day but with the warm weather they are early.

The Meeting adjourned.