

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
AUGUST 2005

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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

BOARD MEETING
4TH TUESDAY, 6:30PM

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A pod of "Two-Eyed Poachers". Recipe and tying instructions from David Klausmeyer's book "Tying Classic Freshwater Streamers: An Illustrated Step-by-Step Guide".



President's MessageJerry Aldridge

Howdy all. I keep turning up like your favorite in-laws but just for a short while until we elect a new slate of officers for the coming year. Thanks to Milt Mays for a job well done. We hope the Colorado green-back cutthroat look favorably on his offerings. Don't be too surprised Milt, to find some of your FFNWF compadres knocking on your door looking for bed and board and guided fishing.

One of the most frustrating things for a new fly tyer is figuring out how and where to start. What materials should I buy? Where do I get the materials? What tools do I need and where can I get them? Where can I find recipes for the flies I want to tie? How do I choose the best flies to tie for the kind of fishing I want to do? Most of us find answers to these questions in a haphazard, trial-and-error way, fumbling along the best we can. **Perhaps, one of the functions of our club should be to provide those answers in a systematic way.**

So enough with the words - let's do it. **The program for the August 2nd Business Meeting is "Trout Flies - How Do I Get Started?" presented by Jerry Aldridge.** The article on the next page is on the same subject broken down as follows: 15 flies to fill your first fly box. Material list. Material sources and costs. Where to find recipes and detailed tying instructions.

This is just one of many subjects appropriate for newcomers (us old guys can learn a thing or too, also). "Inshore Flies", "Choosing a Fly Rod" (Reel, Line, Waders, Boots, etc).

Does this idea have merit? If so, what subjects should be addressed? Will you volunteer to present a program or write an article on a subject of interest? Let me know what you think....Jerry

Minutes of the Meeting of July 5, 2005. Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida. President Milt Mays presiding

General Meeting: Called to order at 7:00 pm. Previous meeting was the auction, brief minutes were read and approved. New Member Larry Sisney introduced himself. He is from Little Rock Arkansas and getting back in fly fishing, he wants to learn about saltwater fly fishing.

Old Business: Milt provided a report on the June meeting of the Board of Directors with approval of change in bylaws to allow the Board to select and approve new officers for unfinished terms greater than 90 days. This was Milt's last general meeting as president—he will be moving to Colorado.

Larry Goodman gave a report on the FFF Conclave. It was a success with lots of members catching large bream in the ponds at Calloway Gardens. Larry was recognized as the recipient of FFF's President Award for service to FFF.

Don Lupone gave the Treasurer's Report—we made \$1384 on the auction. Balance was \$ 3157.41 Report was approved.

New Business: Vick Vickers reported on the scout camp and thanked Kevin and Jerry for their help.

Fishing Reports: Numerous reports of specks in the sound, Travis reported on bonita in the pass, several members reported on freshwater trips catching bream and bass. Jerry Aldridge reported catching a wide variety of fish in the sound, including redfish, blues, Spanish and specks.

Door Prizes: Prizes including flies and tying supplies were raffled.

Emile Lores, Secretary

Tying Trout Flies - Where Do I Start?.... Jerry Aldridge

The hardest part of starting to tie trout flies is picking the flies to tie. There are literally thousands upon thousands of different flies, many touted with words such as "the only fly you will ever need" or "the silver bullet has finally arrived" or some such nonsense. There is no perfect fly but there are some that have been proven to catch trout consistently under a wide variety of conditions. So I too, will come up with a short list. These work for me and others and will serve you well as a good starting point. The flies are not listed in order of preference.



1. **Crackleback.** Size 12. Does not look like any insect in particular. Easy to tie. Fish as a dry fly without drag, skittered with small strips or dragged under the water and retrieved as a wet fly or streamer.

2. **Parachute Adams.** Sizes 12-18. Dry fly that suggests many mayfly duns and spinners. Was my "go to" dry until I discovered the crackleback. Now it's a toss-up.



3. **Elk Hair Caddis.** Sizes 12-18. Dry fly that resembles many of the common caddis, especially when tied in a variety of body colors. Tan or olive work well.

4. **Griffith's Gnat.** Sizes 16-18 (and smaller, too). Dry fly that resembles a cluster of midges (tiny fly-like insects).



5. **Bead Head Pheasant Tail Nymph.** Sizes 12-18. Resembles many mayfly nymphs, especially olives. As with most nymphs, fished with drag-free drift along stream bottom. A very good general "attractor", this is my "go to" nymph.

6. **Bead Head Hare's Ear Nymph.** Sizes 12-18. Resembles some mayfly nymph, probably some caddis larva and pupa and even looks a bit like a scud or sowbug. This may be the most popular general attractor nymph. I tie it in gray or olive.



7. **Whitlock's Fox Squirrel Nymph.** Sizes 12-18. Another very good general attractor. May even suggest a small crawdad with its cinnamon body.

8. **Bead Head Woolly Buzzer.** Size 8 or 12. Generally fished as a streamer but may be fished dead drift as a nymph. Looks like any number of underwater critters (leeches, crawdads, stoneflies, hellgrammites, minnows). I tie most often in black or olive but other colors are effective, too.



9. **Ant.** Sizes 12-18. I tie foam or parachute dry flies and thread bodied wet flies in black, brown or red. You would be surprised how many ants end up in the stream as trout food. Trout love them.

10. **Beetle.** Sizes 12-18. I tie as foam dry flies, black or brown. Trout like them just as much as ants.



(continued page 7)

Foam Bream Popper... Anthony Hopkins Fly

HOOK: Mustad 3366, size 8 to 12
THREAD: 6/0
POPPER: White sticky back foam
COLOR: Fabric paint, desired colors; top coat of water based poly urethane.
TAIL: As desired
COLLAR: Hackle of desired color
LEGS: Small rubber legs, optional



1. Attach thread behind eye and wind to just short of midshank. Cut a small piece of foam, size such that when folded around shank ends just meet. Apply superglue lightly to thread covered shank. Peel paper back and secure foam to shank with open wraps (not too tight). End with thread at midshank.

2. Cut a second piece of foam as for the first. Peel paper backing and secure to shank with front edge even with first piece, rear edge about one hook wrap in back. Secure with open spiral wraps, making the rear end taper down.



3. Repeat with a third piece, attaching so the front edge is slightly ahead of the previous pieces, and rear edge even. The last piece may meet below belly (makes a round popper) or end at the bottom of the sides (makes a flat bottom popper). Whip finish at rear of body and cut thread.

4. Paint popper body top and bottom desired color. Paint the front face red.



5. Let paint dry about an hour, then add additional details such as markings, eyes, etc. Let dry 24 hours and coat with the polyurethane.

6. Secure tail as desired. Wind desired hackle collar. Add legs if desired.

NOTE: Pattern sheet by Kevin Cohenour

July Quick Ties with Tom Regina... Caddis Larva

Staying with the Quick-Ties theme of quick and easy ties using a “new” material we will tie a bead head Caddis Larva. Materials include hook, bead, thread, non-lead wire, antron yarn, dubbing wax, fox squirrel fur and head cement. Tools are vise, bobbin, bodkin, and scissors. Other tools that will make tying this caddis larva easier and quicker are tweezers, electrical test lead clip, dubbing loop twister, dubbing teaser and a whip finish tool.

Tying Instructions

Hook	Mustad C49S, size 10
Bead	Gold 1/8"
Weight	.020 non-lead wire (Lead wire is heavier than non-lead wire, however in some national parks, California and some other places, lead is not allowed).
Thread	6/0 olive
Abdomen	Olive antron yarn
Thorax	Natural fox squirrel fur



1. Crush the hook barb and place a bead onto the hook. Secure the hook in the vise. Wrap 4 to 6 turns of wire on the hook shank. Cut away the wire tag ends. Slide the first few wraps of wire into the back of the bead with the bead up against the hook eye. Using a jam knot start the thread in back of and up against the wire. Build a small thread dam to prevent the wire and bead from sliding back on the



shank. Wrap a few turns of thread over the wire then cover the hook shank with touching turns of thread back to the hook bend. From the skein of yarn cut about a 3" piece of yarn and separate it into two strand segments. At the hook bend tie in two strands of yarn and tie it down to the hook shank with thread wraps going forward to the back of the wire. Cut away the yarn tag end.



2. To produce a neat segmented abdomen, use the electrical test lead clip to tightly twist the yarn. Wrap the twisted yarn in touching turns forward to the back of the wire. (*Twisting the yarn after each wrap keeps the yarn from untwisting and produces a neat segmented abdomen*). Tie off the yarn with several thread wraps and cut away the yarn tag end.



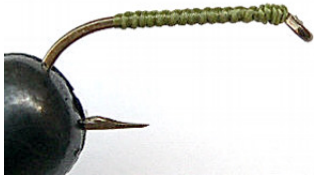
3. Apply a small amount of dubbing wax to the first 1 to 2" of thread just below the hook. Cut a small pinch of fur from the squirrel hide. (*Tying tip: When cutting fur or hair from a hide or tail, always cut the material as close to the hide as possible. This serves two purposes - the hide stays neat so you can see where to cut the material from the hide with subsequent cuts and it reduces material waste.*) Remove



the short underfur from the clipping leaving the long fur and guard hairs. In the palm of your hand, mix the fur and apply the fur to the waxed portion of the thread in the usual manner. Leave the dubbing “buggy”. Form and twist a dubbing loop. Wrap the dubbing loop forward over the wire to the bead. Catch any excess dubbing loop under several thread wraps just in back of the bead and cut away the loop tag end. Form a whip finish between the dubbing and bead. Cut away the thread. Apply a small amount of cement. Do not get cement on the dubbing. Tease out the dubbing.

August Quick Ties with Russ Shields... Bead Caddis Larva

Hook	Mustad 3906, size 14
Thread	6/0 Olive
Head	1/8" gold bead
Body	Silver lined chartreuse glass beads
Beard/Legs	Brown partridge fibers
Thorax	Peacock herl



1. Tie on a thread base and cut the thread. Remove hook from vise and put on gold head and glass body beads. Remount hook in vise.



2. Make a small, neat thread dam at bend of hook to keep beads on hook. Apply a small drop of head cement. Adjust location of last body bead to allow a 3/16" gap between head and first body bead.



3. Insert hook in vise and tie in thread behind gold bead. Tie in a small batch of partridge fibers for a beard.



4. Tie in a single peacock herl in front of beard and wind forward to form the thorax. Whip finish behind bead head and apply a small drop of head cement.

You are finished. Stop and admire your fly.



**WHO IS KISSING
WHOM, TERRY?**



Trout Flies - How Do I Start?... Jerry Aldridge (continued)



11. **Grasshopper.** Size 8 or 12. Tied in many styles. Foam bodied and parachute are shown. Fished as dry fly but often banged near the bank with gusto the way a real hopper might land. Often attacked with serious harmful intent.

Material list. The materials required to tie our flies is listed below. No tools are listed (perhaps a separate topic?). Substitute materials are sometimes used to keep costs down. For example, black thread is used instead of olive in the olive wooly bugger and partridge feather fibers are used for the tail of the Hare's Ear nymph instead of guard hairs from the face or ears of a hare. You can certainly

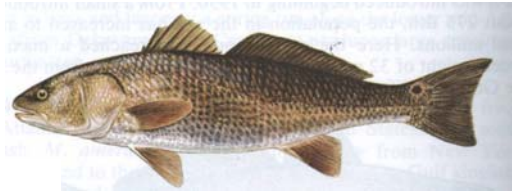
use the original materials if you want to spend a little more.

The total material cost is about \$170. Costs were taken from the catalogue of a single supplier. Other suppliers might be cheaper on individual items. The two most expensive items on the list are hooks and hackle. Nine boxes of 50 hooks, roughly \$5 per box are included, four boxes of dry fly hooks (Mustad 94840, sizes 12-18) and five boxes of nymph/streamer hooks (Mustad 9671, sizes 8 and 12-16). Each hook costs about a nickel. The hackle is a Whiting, bronze grade combination cape (actually, half a grizzly cape and half a brown one) priced at \$49. The two half capes will tie about 500 flies so hackle for each fly costs about a dime. Metz has a similar quality combo priced at \$45.

1. Hooks, Mustad 9671 nymph, sizes 8 and 12-18, 5 boxes of 50 at \$5.25 per box, \$26.25.
2. Hooks, Mustad 94840 dry fly, sizes 12-18, 4 boxes of 50 at \$4.95 per box, \$19.80.
3. Hackle, Whiting rooster combo-cape, grizzly/brown, bronze grade, \$49.
4. Thread, Danville Flymaster 6/0, black, dark brown, beige, \$1.25 per 200 yard spool, \$3.75.
5. Dubbing, SLF Whitlock, redfox squirrel thorax and abdomen, \$2.50 per pack, \$5
6. Dubbing, Hare's Ear Plus, natural, dark natural, olive, red brown, \$1.50 per pack, \$6.
7. Dubbing, Antron, golden tan, medium olive, \$0.85 per pack, \$1.70.
8. Dubbing, Superfine, Adams gray, black, \$1.25 per pack, \$2.50.
9. Beads, Spirit River Brite, gold, 3/32, 1/8, 5/32, 3/16, \$2.25 per 25 pack, \$9.
10. Squirrel tail, red fox natural, \$1.95.
11. Wire, Wapsi Ultra, copper and gold, sizes brassie and small, 4 spools at \$1.25, \$5.
12. Lead wire, .015, spool, \$2.25.
13. Ringneck pheasant tail, whole, \$3.75.
14. Peacock herl, small package, \$1.50.
15. Hungarian partridge feathers, loose, package, \$1.50.
16. Chenille, ultra medium, dark olive, black, \$1 per pack, \$2.
17. Marabou, Hareline bloods, black, dark olive, \$1.50 per 1/8 oz. pack, \$3.
18. Neck hackle, black, sculpin olive, \$1.85 per 1/4 oz. pack, \$3.70.
19. Turkey biot quills, Hareline, pale morning dun color, \$1.95.
20. Krystal flash, black, pearl, \$3.50 per pack, \$7.
21. Yarn, polypropylene, white, tan, \$0.85 per pack, \$1.70.
22. Elk hair, select light, \$1.95.
23. Foam, Hareline 2mm, black, brown, tan, \$1.75 per pack, \$5.25.
24. Rubber legs, round medium, yellow, black, brown, \$1.65 per pack, \$4.95.

Total Material Cost = \$170.45

A fly box or two filled with these flies, a few of each size and color listed will catch trout on any stream I have ever fished. You cannot match every hatch with these but it's a helluva start!



AUGUST 2005

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

