# Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA AUGUST 2009

THE FLYFISHERS OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA PO BOX 1041 PENSACOLA, FL 32591 www.flyfishpensacola. com

### **PRESIDENT**

Larry Goodman (850) 433-5135 trakr1@aol.com

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Jerry Giles (850) 994-9946, FlyFisherman1942@aol.com

#### **SECRETARY**

Bob Willice (850) 934-6586 lastboat3@msn.com

#### **TREASURER**

Larry Sisney (850) 474-1433 Isisney@cox.net

#### NEWSLETTER

Jerry Aldridge (850) 478-9255 jamayfly@yahoo.com

### **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.... Captain Baz Uelverton

July fly-fishing has been similar to June with lots of trout, Spanish mackerel, and ladyfish. The much anticipated tarpon run never happened, or if it did I missed it. We had a stretch of prime time days when the water was rough and dirty, and the bulk of the fish may have come through then. There are still reports of fish down around Panama City, so maybe there's still hope. Similarly, we've all been missing the summer false albacore. I've covered the water up to ten miles out from the SE to the SW and have not found the fish. But you never know about those guys; thousands of them could show up tomorrow. Maybe it will all come together in August.



There are slot-redfish to be found on the sand and grass flats, but you have to work hard for them. I've been spending the first couple hours of fly-fishing charters poling the flats, and we usually land a couple of reds either in the slot or just under. I never kill a redfish this time of year; they're just too precious. Here's a July 16 photo of Matt Wegener with a typical catch.

The most dependable Spanish mackerel action has been at the USS Massachusetts. The Spanish have been plentiful, big, and eager to take the fly. We've been using 6 and 7wt outfits, and my clients have been having a ball. This is another shot of Matt with a healthy fish caught and released. Every time we've fished "The Mass" at least one client has had a Spanish mackerel eaten by a barracuda. It's a bad deal for the Spanish but an incredible and unforgettable moment for a beginning saltwater fly-caster from the midwest.

There are lots of other species hanging around the Mass. We had a lot of fun a few days ago

with a school of about fifteen big sheepshead feeding on the surface inside the aft gun turret. The water was clear with an early outgoing tide, and the fish were rising into the current and eating something close to the top. Then they would sink down a few feet before coming to the top again. It was like casting to rising trout. I positioned the boat a short cast to the west and slightly upstream, and my client presented fly patterns from Clousers of various sizes to bonefish flies to small crabs. We got one fish very interested in a small, tan crab, but it finally refused the fly and sank back down in the water column. Maybe one of you guys can figure it out and let me know.



You never know what's going to take the fly out at the Mass, so you'd best be prepared. Imagine Bobby Lyon's surprise when this king mackerel ate his Clouser minnow! Bobby landed this fish July 9, and it's the all-species boat record on a 6wt.

Since the jack crevalle and tarpon have been hard to find in the gulf I've been taking "big fish" enthusiasts up Santa Rosa Sound looking for schools of menhaden. The "bait balls" have been there dependably somewhere between Range Point and the

Big Sabine. Beneath these wads of menhaden are bluefish, giant gaff-top catfish, sharks, and if you're lucky bull reds and jack crevalle. Not all the menhaden schools (continued page 2)

## General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, July 7th, 2009, President Larry Goodman, presiding

President Larry Goodman called the meeting to order at 7pm. Twenty members were present. The minutes of the June 2, 2009 business meeting as published in the July 2009 newsletter were approved. The Treasury report for the month of June 2009 was discussed and approved. Russ Shields and Larry Sisney will in the near future perform an audit of the 2008 club financial records. John Brand presented examples of business cards to the club. It was suggested by the club that the cards not show the names and phone numbers of individual contact people as the club had originally planned to do. Most felt the card should contain the club website address, location of our meetings and our meeting schedule. John will present a more finished product at our next business meeting. Larry Goodman made available to club members our new name tags. Our major spring clinic that was moved to October 17, 2009 will now be replaced on that date by our regular Saturday clinic at the clubhouse and our club picnic will be held October 24. 2009 at Shoreline Park. This was done because two major events were scheduled on adjacent weekends and during a month where people may be absent due to travel and fishing. The club moved to firm up the dates for our December 2, 2009 Xmas Party at the Holiday Inn. Auction chairman Terry McCormick announced that there had been a miscommunication at the June club auction. Basil Yelverton had donated a fishing trip for the auction as he so graciously has done every year but for some reason the trip was not confirmed in time for the auction. Terry auctioned the trip during the meeting and Jerry Aldridge became the lucky winner. Bob Holton and Jerry Aldridge have recently donated books to the club and Karen Brand is busy incorporating them into our library system. Tom Regina shared some of his fishing adventures with us. He recently fished for three days on the Toe, Nolichucky and Watauga rivers for small mouth bass and trout. He caught some really nice fish, enjoyed some beautiful scenery and hardly saw another fisherman while doing so. Tom felt the small mouth were terrific fighters on fly. A short raffle was held for door prizes and the meeting was adjourned at 8pm. Bob Willice, Secretary

## Fishing Report....Captain Baz Yelverton (continued)



are productive, and you have to go from school to school throwing both big poppers and deep-swimming Clousers. When you hit it right as we did on July 13 it's phenomenal. Josh England and I were sitting in the middle of a big ball of bait when the water exploded as a school of bull redfish and jack crevalle charged the surface. The water was literally boiling around the boat with depth charges going off and menhaden flying three feet in the air. I snapped this photo



during the melee which doesn't do it justice but will give you an idea of what was going on. Josh had the presence of mind to whip the 12wt into action and dropped the giant popper in the middle of it all, immediately hooked up and landed this rare summer bull redfish. The fish was over 40". We had two more redfish on but lost both at the boat, the action lasted for about twenty minutes, and then it was over. It was a once-in-a-lifetime event for Josh, and we got the picture to prove it.

Finally, I have to mention the sharks. I have never seen so many sharks on the shoal west of Pensacola Pass. They may be close to shore, or they might be all the way out toward the end of the shoal close to the Mass. These are mostly blacktips in the 3-5' range, and there are hundreds of them. I've also heard reports of large numbers of sharks at Fair Point (Town Point, Peake's Point). These fish will sometimes take big popper, or you can usually get them to eat Clouser minnows. One of my favorite Clousers for sharks is solid black with green flash. Take your 10wt, tie on some of that nice flexible wire, and hang on for the ride. To land a smaller shark put on your gloves and grab the tail and dorsal fin. When you lift by the dorsal fin the fish will go limp similar to a cat when you pick it up by the back of the neck. While you're holding the fish your partner can extract the fly. For a fish over about three feet you'll probably be better off with a lip gaff. I'll see you on the water....Capt Baz

## Crayfish.... 7om Regina

Crayfish, crawfish, or crawdads are fresh water crustaceans resembling small lobsters, to which they are probably closely related. They breathe through feather-like gills and are found in bodies of water that do not freeze to the bottom; they are also mostly found in brooks, streams, and rivers where there is fresh water running, and which have shelter against predators. Most crayfish cannot tolerate polluted water.

Crayfish like it dark and cool, and during much of the daylight they will be found alone, withdrawn under a rock or a clump of vegetation, waiting for dark, at which time they come out to forage for food. That's what crayfish mostly do: loaf all day and look for food all night. That's also what big brown trout do and why a crayfish imitation is a good choice for catching big brown trout in the evening and at night.

### **Tying Materials**

**Hook:** Mustad 9672 (R74)\*, 4XL, size 4

Thread: 6/0 brown

**Eyes:** Large (5/32-inch) brown bead chain

Weight: Size .020-inch lead free wire Shellback: Brown Polypropylene yarn Claws: Brown marabou blood plumes

**Body:** Medium, dark brown Rayon chenille

Gills: Brown rooster saddle hackle
Rib: Small copper Ultra Wire
Tail: Extended shellback yarn



\* 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 place it in the vise. Using a jam knot, start the thread at the hook eye and lay down a neat thread base back to a point directly above the hook barb. Take the thread forward to a position directly above the hook point.

2. At the thread hang point, tie in the bead chain eyes on

top of and perpendicular to the hook shank with several crisscross thread wraps. Cut about a 4-inch length of lead free wire from the spool. Start the wire 1/8-inch in front of the eyes tie-in point and wrap it forward in 15 neat touching turns. Cut or break away the wire tag ends.



3. Bind the lead free wire to the hook shank and build a shallow angled thread ramp from the front of the wire to a point on the hook shank equal to half the distance between the front of the wire and the hook eye.

4. For the shellback, cut a 4-inch length of Polypropylene yarn from the skein and tie it onto the top of the hook at the thread hang point. Pull the poly yarn over the top of the hook, between the eyes, and onto the hook bend. Bind the yarn to the top of the



hook, over and between the eyes, to the position directly above the hook barb. Take the thread forward to a position in back of and adjacent to the eyes.



5. Select two marabou blood plumes for the claws. Strip plumage from the quills so each plume is of equal or near equal density or bulk. After sizing the plumes, it will be easier to accomplish the claw tie-in and separation if you first wet the marabou. Measure the first claw so its length will be equal to the distance from the hook eye to the bead chain eyes. Tie on the first claw in back of the eyes, on the side of the hook away from you, in the space between the back of the eyes and the last thread wraps used to bind the shellback in step 4. Tie the claws in closer to the back of the eyes than the back of the last shellback binding thread wraps. Wet and measure the second claw so its length is the same as the

first claw. In the same manner as was the first claw, tie the second claw to the side of the hook facing you. When tied in properly, the claws should extend out about 30 to 45 degrees from the hook on both sides. Pull the tag ends of the mara-

## Crayfish.... Tom Regina (continued)



bou plumes over and between the eyes and bind them to the top of the hook to a position just short of the last lead free wire wraps toward the front of the hook. At this point make two or three tight thread wraps and let the bobbin hang. At a shallow angle, so as to produce a neatly tapered body, cut away the rest of the marabou tag so its slope extends from the front of the wire to a point on the hook shank half way between the front of the wire and the hook eye. Wet the sloped marabou and continue to bind it to the top of the hook to where the slope ends. Wrap the thread forward half the distance to the hook eye.



6. Cut a 6-inch length of chenille from the skein and expose about 1/8-inch of core. Tie the exposed chenille core to the top of the hook at the thread hang point. Bind the chenille to the top of the hook shank to a point directly in front of and adjacent to the bead chain eyes. Take several wraps of chenille behind and around the eyes then tie off the chenille in front of and adjacent to the eyes but do not cut away the "excess" chenille.



7. Cut about a 6-inch length of rib wire from the spool. At the thread hang point, tie the wire onto the side of the hook facing you. Select an appropriate size rooster saddle hackle and tie it, convex side out, onto the side of the hook directly over the rib wire tie on thread wraps. Take the thread forward to the chenille tie-on point at the front of the hook. Wrap the chenille forward in neat touching turns to the thread hang point. Tie off the chenille and cut away the excess.



8. Palmer the hackle forward into the area between adjacent chenille wraps and tie it off at the thread hang point. Cut away the excess hackle.



9. Pull the shellback forward between the claws and the eyes and tie it off at the thread hang point. To form the tail cut away the poly yarn "tag" so the tail extends about ½-inch forward of the hook eye. Clip or cut away the hackle barbs on top of the body. In about 10 evenly spaced spiral turns wrap the rib wire forward and tie it off at the base of the tail. Cut away the rib wire tag. Cover the cut end of the rib wire with a few thread wraps. Whip finish the thread at the base of the tail and cut away the thread. Apply head cement to the finish thread wraps.

Note: When the marabou claws dry they will "fluff" up. When fishing the fly, the soft marabou claws will come together in front of the head of the fly when it is retrieved with short twitches of the rod tip. When the retrieve is halted the claws will spread out into the defensive posture of a natural crayfish.

### The Tree.... Jerry Giles

If a tree falls into your favorite fishing hole in the river and you are not there to hear it, does it still make a noise? Well, you sure make a noise when you see it!

That tree was so big that it ripped up part of the road above the river when it fell down the embankment. It covered the bottom third of the run above and half of the hole below. Over several years, I had learned every rock, hang-up and depths of every seam of that two hundred feet of stream.

Now, silt slowed by the tree has filled the hole to the point where the bottom is visible throughout. The rocks are covered with sand. The fish have abandoned it. It is difficult to explain my emotion upon seeing that devastation. It was as if I had suffered a great personal loss.

O.K. Maybe I am too deeply involved with fly-fishing and nature's fickle fate. But, as in life, a tree will surely fall in your favorite hole at an unexpected time. Wade on as best you can, and count on friends to guide and help you. Once again, I quote from a favorite song, "Life goes and goes like a river flows, and time just rolls right on. Sometimes the good gets a little bit better, and sometimes the bad gets gone." Good fishing!--Jerry Giles

## Fishing Report....Captain Bob Zuarles

July has been fantastic.....the pics say it all...

20 lb. Amberjack....we have had a hard time getting to the Amberjack because of all the snapper and the kings....crazy stuff....

6 lb. red snapper on fly.....on an amberjack fly.....

More King Mackerel than I have ever seen....we have been catching them on lures and flies....

Don't forget millions of huge ladyfish, thousands of Spanish.....the time is now.....and clear water.....

Next year I will be available for three straight weeks for booking trips at the middle of June, the end of June and the first week of July for trips....it's too good not to be out there... Capt. Bob Quarles, 850 501-1530, 850 437-3169, www.blueheronguideservice.com











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

How many times have you been nymphing, the fish are hitting your strike indicator and you wish you had a hook in the indicator? Come to the Bull Session in August and your wish can be realized. At the August 13 Bull Session we will tie a Strike Indicator Fly, simple to tie with hook, closed cell foam for the body, poly yarn for the wings, and rubber legs. The fly can serve double duty as a searching fly. Fly tying starts at 6:30 PM. bring your fly tying tools and tie along with other club members and guests.

The August Casting and Tying Clinic will be held Saturday August 22 from 9:00 AM until about 1:00 PM. Starting at 9:00 AM we will tie a crayfish fly.

The materials list and tying instructions for the Strike Indicator Fly and the crayfish 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 August 22. 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 a mighty fine lunch at the Saturday clinic. The menu this month is Mesquite Grilled Chicken Breast. But with a twist, you will make your own "Chicken Breast Chef's Salad" from the cooked, sliced chicken and other salad fixing's. Because of the cost to the club of providing the free lunch and Russ and Jerry wanting to make sure everyone gets their fill without wasteful leftovers, Russ and Jerry ask that you let them know if you will join them for lunch. Contact Russ or Jerry at <a href="mailto:rkshields@bellsouth.net">rkshields@bellsouth.net</a> or <a href="mailto:flyfisherman1942@att.net">flyfisherman1942@att.net</a>. If you don't want to tie flies; don't 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.

## Strike Indicator Fly.... Tom Regina

How many times have you been nymphing and the trout seem more interested in the strike indicator than your nymph? And you thought, "%#&\*, I wish I had a hook imbedded in that indicator." Well with the high floating Strike Indicator Fly you can have the hook and the fish can eat it too.

### **Tying Materials**

**Hook:** Mustad dry fly R43, 2XF, 2XL, size 8

Thread: 6/0 orange

Body: 2mm orange closed cell foam sheet strip
Adhesive: Cyanoacrylate, i.e. Zap-A-Gap or Super Glue
Wing: Orange and yellow Polypropylene floating yarn
Legs: Orange, size medium, round rubber leg material



### **Tying Instructions**



1. Debarb and fit the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread on the hook at the hook eye. Let the bobbin hang at the thread tie-on point and spin it counterclockwise to untwist and flatten the thread. In neat touching turns, wrap the thread back to a point directly above the hook barb. In touching wraps take the thread forward to a position halfway between the hook barb and the hook point. Spin the bobbin counterclockwise to flatten the thread.



2. Cut a 1  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch length strip from a sheet of 2mm closed cell foam. The width of the strip should be equal to the hook gap. Trim the strip to the shape pictured.



3. At the rear thread hang point tie the foam body to the top of the hook with the "U" shaped body segment extending over the back of the hook bend. *Note:* To prevent the thread from cutting through the foam, flatten the thread and use several light overlapping thread wraps to start the body tie-on. Finish the foam tie-on with several tight overlapping thread wraps. Lift the front of the foam strip and take one or two thread wraps around the hook directly in front of and adjacent to the foam tie-on point. Spin the bobbin counterclockwise to flatten the thread. Wrap the thread forward in neat touching turns to a distance about 1/4-inch back from the hook eye. Flatten the thread again.



4. At the forward thread hang point tie the front of the thorax segment to the top of the hook in the same manner as was the "U" shaped segment. Lift the tag end of the foam strip and take one or two thread wraps around the hook in front of and adjacent to the thorax tie-down thread wraps. Whip finish or half hitch the thread and cut the thread away.



5. Apply a small amount of Zap-A-Gap to the underside of the body segment tie-on thread wraps and to the thread wraps and foam of the underside of the thorax. Allow the adhesive to dry.

## Strike Indicator Fly.... Tom Regina (continued)



- 6. Being careful not to cut the thread wraps cut the tag end of the foam strip into a short arrow point.
- 7. Directly over the thorax tie-down thread wraps, tie the thread back onto the fly and bind the "arrow" point to the hook forming a neat evenly tapered under-head.





8. Cut a 2-inch length of yellow and orange Polypropylene yarn from the skeins. Note: The cut lengths of yarn are tied on extending forward over the hook eye, then folded back and tied down bullet-head-style to form the head and wings. Tie one length of yarn to each side of the hook directly over the under-head. Caution: Do not allow the yarn to "creep" under the hook as you tie it on. Bind the yarn down all the way to the hook eye. Take the thread back to the front of the thorax.



9. Fold the yarns back over the fly body and tie them down directly in front of and adjacent to the thorax. You way find it advantageous to fold and tie down each bunch of yarn separately. Again, do not allow the yarn to creep under the hook. Flatten the thread.



10. Cut two 3-inch lengths of round rubber from the skein for the legs. Directly over the head/wing tie-down thread wraps, tie one set of legs to each <u>side</u> of the hook. Whip finish or half hitch the leg tie-on thread wraps and cut away the thread. Apply a small amount of head cement to the leg tie-on thread wraps. Cut each of the four legs to equal the length of the fly, or cut them to desired length at the river.

Note: Treating the Strike Indicator Fly with a floatant such as Hareline Dubbing's Water Shed or Loon's Hydrostop at least 24 hours before using the fly will ensure it floats high-and-dry and supports moderately heavy nymphs.

### Fishing The Everglades National Park

Submitted by By Brandon Simmons – member of the Arkansas Fly Fishers

Fishing the Everglades National Park at the southern tip of Florida begins well before dawn. A daisy chain of skiff boats headed south converges in Homestead and makes a sharp turn towards the Park- the largest sub-tropical wilderness park in the US. But not without a pit stop at Diane's gas station, a fueling grounds for fishing guides and their sports. We admire each others skiff boats under the fluorescent lights.

Once at the park entrance, you can't help but read the 'Mosquito Level: High' sign and quixotically wonder at the system for calibrating such lethal metrics. Your guide offers a practical means of defense: spray DEET (40%) before you step out of the vehicle. Another suggestion: Don't open the windows.

The drive from the park entrance to the sea-side marina is longer than anticipated, and straight as an arrow. That is, until a sharp 90-degree curve wakes you from your eerie surroundings. The angular curve has historic meaningit is the namesake which gave Flip Pallot his moniker after rolling his tailored skiff there over 30 years ago. The thick vegetation swallows the two-lane blacktop which leads to the only Marina in the park: Flamingo Bay Marina. The marina is similar to a golf course club-house. And, like a golf course, the park is divided into two sections: a front (nine) and a back (nine). Today we choose the open flats surrounding the front of the park.

As the sun ascends from below the Atlantic we glide onto the flats of Florida Bay. A flat is an expanse of shallow water, generally between ankle and knee deep. Our arrival coincides with an incoming tide. The influence of fresh water is to our advantage. The aquarium-clear water is full of abrupt noises: Lemon Sharks hunt in splashy 'S' curves, mulllet

### Fishing The Everglades National Park (continued)

constantly torpedo out of the water, an alligator submerges into the drink. Birds of all sizes roam the sky. The distractions are constant and dramatic.

There are no empty moments; spotting fish is a full time pursuit. Redfish reveal their location by exposing their tails above the waterline, a reflex caused by poking their noses into the turtle grass in an effort to dine on crabs. To witness a postcard-size tail off the bow is a suspenseful event. Red fish, which are more of a copper color, are not easy prey. The goal is to place the fly accurately below their snout. Because, as my guide reminded me, "they don't eat with their ass".

Sight fishing is the name of the game. Standing on a raised platform on the bow of the skiff, you remain attentive and ready to cast by holding the fly and leader in your left hand with as much line as you can cast coiled on the deck next to you. You are a statue carrying an 8#- abrupt movements are discouraged in this skinny water, as the fish spook easily. The guide is poised atop the rear platform fixed above the engine, considerably higher than you, exploiting an excellent vantage point. He is poling the 16' skiff with a 25' graphite push-pole as quietly as the sting rays glide ten inches below your toes. Dialog is reduced to directions and distance – sometimes species identification - and nothing else. The ideal target (for a right-handed caster) is 11 o'clock, and the guide will swing the skiff in position to give you a favorable casting position, often times with a trigger statement, "...Now".

By mid morning the heat has intensified. A cool-down boat tide towards a series of keys is in order; Hold on to your hat. Each small island is a veritable bird sanctuary, and their songs sound like packs of monkeys. Snook, an aggressive predator fish with a classy pin-stripe running down its lateral line, live in the mangrove roots which tangle the shore-line. They feast in the perimeter channels surrounding the islands, which, thanks to the tides, flow with a uniform direction not unlike a stream. The pace of the current reminds me of the Lazy River at Wild River Country Water Park. The afternoon agenda is much the same, only the glare comes from the other direction. Continuing to explore the area, we visit Clive Key, Pelican Key, and Murray Key. Each has its own underwater composition, bird-life, and personality. Our final hours are spent back on the flats at Snake Bight. The day-long underwater feast has taken its toll on the water quality which is now milky. But you can still see clouds caused by redfish and even blind-casting produces hook-ups.

A large manatee rolling in the evening light at the marina puts a smile on my sun-burnt face as the guide trailers his skiff. Exhaustion sets in the instant we begin the drive home. A key-lime milkshake from the famous south-Florida fruit stand with the funny name "Robert is Here" reinvigorates us into a frenzy of chatter. We have been together for fifteen hours.

## Fishing Report....Dane Law, Southeastern Anglers

<u>Hiwassee River</u> – We have been spending most of our time here the last two months. Flows have been predictable daily to drift the upper river from the powerhouse, through the gorge, to Reliance. The water temp coming through the turbines is very cold and the lake is at full pool. I expect good late season and fall fishing this year. Most trips are averaging good fish numbers and a few holdovers. The fishing actually seems to be getting better each week. Nymphs and sometimes small streamers are most productive in the mornings, with the dry fly action best after mid afternoon. Bug activity is sparse with a few Isonychias and caddis coming off as well as some olives. The fish are coming up to well presented Isonychia imitations. There are some stripers from the stairsteps down river and we can try for them too if anyone is interested. We have caught a few.

<u>Clinch River</u> – Excellent trout fishing. Flows have been good for several weeks now. We like to start very early and fish until mid afternoon. Fish numbers have been outstanding on all but a trip or two. Mostly light nymphing with shallow rigs under small indicators. Streamer fishing will show some of the larger fish, but less numbers. With the new slot limit, the river is holding more and more fish over 16". A trip usually yields bows, browns, and brookies. This is one of our top picks for the next two months.

<u>Holston River</u> – As usual, TVA has generated too much in June and July for us to fish here much. We are starting to see lower flows now. The spring fishing through May was probably the best trout fishing we have seen so far this year anywhere, with a great caddis hatch. As the flow rates are reduced we should see a return of good fishing the next few months. The upper stretch will be the best water for trout and the lower stretch will produce a mix of trout and small-mouth. The Holston and Clinch are in good proximity to one another to make a two day trip or switch between the two as flows vary.

<u>Cumberland River</u> – Everybody is wondering about the Cumberland. We are too. Here is what I know. We have seen very few fishable days so far this year due to heavy spring rains and high release volume. The flow rates have now dropped to 2000 cfs achieved through a sluice from a depth below the turbines. The water temps at the dam are in the upper 50's, and mid 60's at Burkesville. These are actually better temps and flows for this time of year than we have seen in the past two years, but the water clarity is poor. We are hoping that the water will clear soon as the rains have diminished and the lake settles. The latest report from the state coldwater biologists indicate better trout populations than last year and coldwater reserves for the remainder of the year, provided rainfall amounts are low for the next few months. We are starting to fish the river and offer trips. The fall fishing could be great as it has been for the past few years....Dane Law, 770-655-9210

## July Clinic Photos....Joe Higgins



















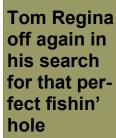














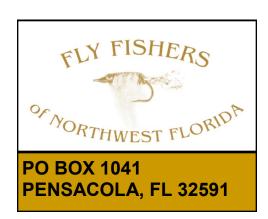


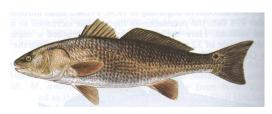
New River West Virginia











# **AUGUST 2009**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						I
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
•	F 7	Business Meeting PM				
9	10	H	12	13	14	15
			B <sub>U</sub>	III Session-Tying & II Tales 6:30 PM	Clini gour	c - Casting, tying, met lunch 9 AM
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/	24/	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					
			10			