

# Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS OF  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
DECEMBER 2007

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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

Super Weevil....Tom Regina



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## Super Weevil...Tom Regina

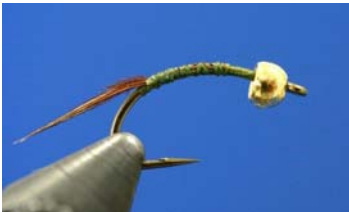
The Super Weevil is the newest addition to the group of "Weevil" flies designed by Canadian fly tyer and angler Jeremy Davis. Davis designed the Super Weevil to sink fast and stay deep longer. To achieve a quick sink rate and to keep the fly deep throughout the drift in fast, broken water, Davis incorporated a lot of iron in his design. For starters, Davis uses a tungsten bead that is much heavier than a standard brass bead. The thorax under area is wrapped with weighting wire and the body is also wire instead of lighter materials such as dubbing or Latex skin, etc. "All this weight" says Davis, "makes this nymph very effective when fished on its own under a small indicator".

### Materials

|           |                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Hook      | Mustad C49S, size 10             |
| Bead head | 1/8-inch gold tungsten           |
| Thread    | 6/0 olive                        |
| Tail      | Ringneck pheasant tail fibers    |
| Body      | Small chartreuse UTC Ultra Wire* |
| Flashback | Pearl Mylar                      |
| Weight    | .015 lead free wire              |
| Legs      | Brown stripped goose biots       |
| Thorax    | Arizona natural peacock dubbing  |
| Wing case | Pearl Mylar                      |



### Tying Instructions



1. Remove the hook barb and place the bead on the hook. Mount the hook in the vise and slide the bead forward to the hook eye. Tie on the thread directly in back of the bead and lay down a neat thread base of touching thread wraps back to the point directly over the hook barb. Align the tips of 4 to 6 pheasant tail fibers and cut them away close to the feather quill. Measure and tie on the tail to be 2/3 the length of the hook shank. Establish the rear thread hang point directly over the hook barb and at the base of the tail.

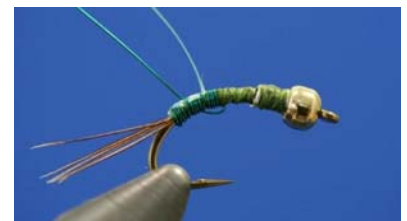


2. At the rear thread hang point, tie on about a 6-inch length of flashback and body wire. Tie the wire on top of the flashback. Bind the tag ends of the flashback and body wire to the top of the hook shank to a point 1/3 hook shank distance back from the hook eye to establish the 1/3 thread hang point. Cut away the excess wire and flashback tag ends. Starting at the 1/3 thread hang point, wrap the lead free wire forward to the bead head. Cut or break away the tag ends of the weight wire and with your thumbnail or a tool, press the wire ends down to conform to the hook shank.

3. Start the body weave by wrapping the body wire forward with three tight touching turns. Pull the flashback forward over the top of the three body wire wraps and lock it down with one turn of body wire. Repeat the body weave process until you reach the 1/3 thread hang point at the back of the lead free wire wraps. CAUTION: Cut away only the excess tag end body wire at this time. Do not cut away the flashback as it will be used for the wing case. Make several back and forth spiral thread wraps over the lead free wire to lock it to the hook shank and provide a smooth base for tying on the butts of the goose biot legs.



4. Remove two biots from the stripped goose quill. Measure the biots so their tips, when tied on, will be even with the back of the body. Orientate the biots so they will splay out (concave side out) when tied on. Tie one biot on each side of the lead free wire thorax area. Cut away the excess biot butt ends.



## Super Weevil....Tom Regina (continued)



5. Dub a buggy thorax over the leg (biot) butts and the lead free wire thorax area.



6. Pull the flashback forward over the dubbed thorax and tie it off directly in back of and adjacent to the bead head with two or three thread wraps. At this tie off point, whip finish or half hitch the thread. Cut away the thread. It is not necessary to apply head cement as the thread is locked between the bead and thorax.

\* Also tie the Super Weevil with black, brown, olive, or other nymph body colors and in smaller sizes.

## Casting and Fly Tying at the Club....Tom Regina

At the Saturday December 15 clinic, starting at 9:00 AM, Tom Regina will lead interested fly dressers in tying a Super Weevil nymph. The Super Weevil nymph is a new addition to a group of "Weevil" flies designed by Canadian fly tier and angler Jeremy Davis. The Super Weevil sinks fast and stays deep throughout the drift in fast, broken water. All fly tying materials are provided by your club. If you have them, bring your vise and tying tools... or use the club's vises and tools.

3/0 Brand will give casting instruction and casting tips at the Saturday clinic. Bring your long rod or use one of the clubs sticks.

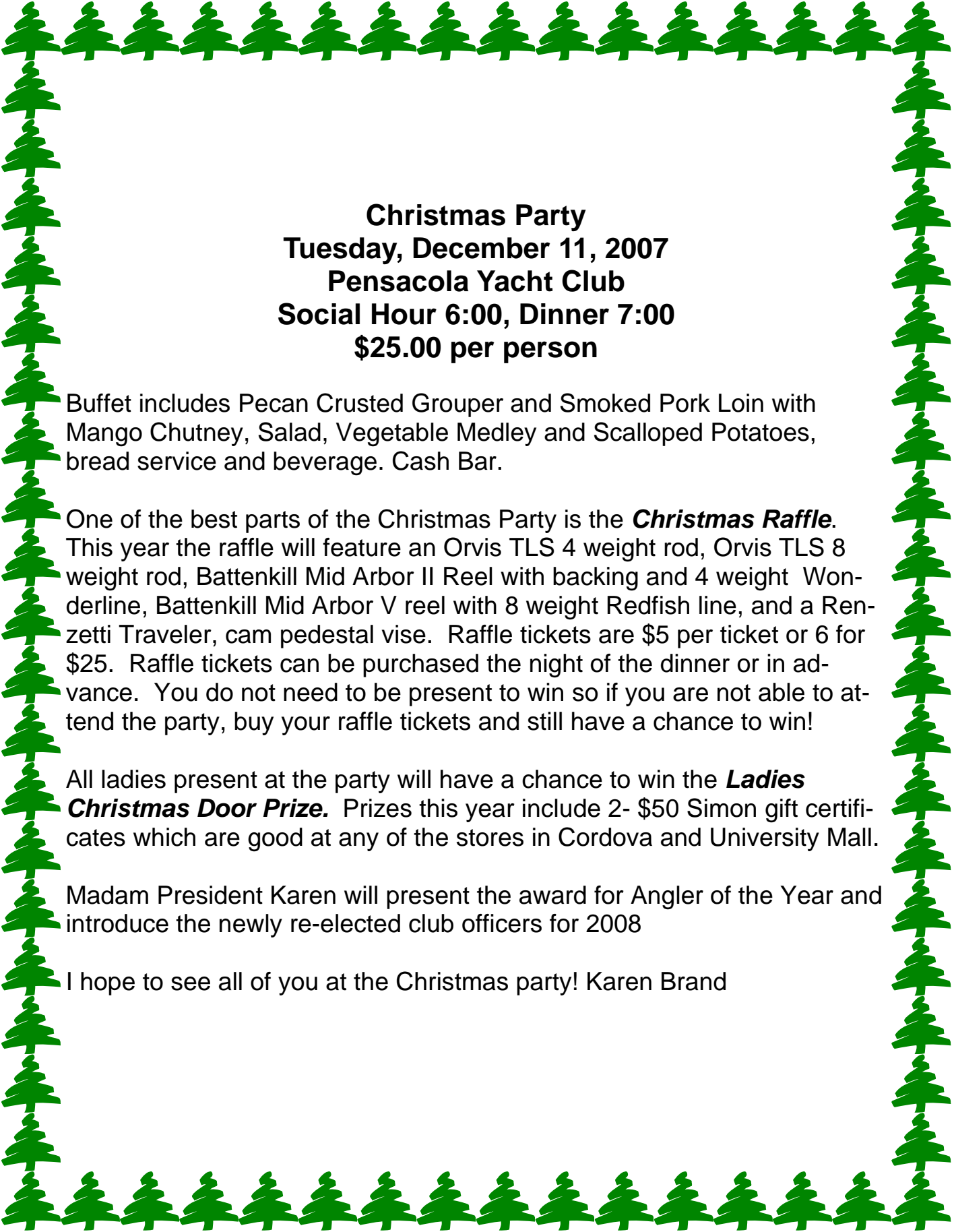
As usual, Russ and Jerry G. will feed us a mighty fine free lunch at the Saturday clinic. Drinks are also on the house. (*Remember however drinks should be paid for at the bull sessions and regular meetings.*)

As always guests are welcome at all our meetings, bull sessions, and clinics.

Some club members have expressed an interest in tying more warm water and saltwater flies. If you would like to share your knowledge of fly tying let Tom Regina know what flies you would be willing to teach members to tie at either the bull sessions and/or the Saturday clinics. Tom will order any materials you need and do the photography if you desire.

## Flies & Lies

If you still get your copy of the newsletter by regular mail, please consider receiving it by e-mail only. This will save your club money for mailing costs and your editor lots of time that he could use for fishing! Contact Jerry at [jamayfly@yahoo.com](mailto:jamayfly@yahoo.com)



**Christmas Party**  
**Tuesday, December 11, 2007**  
**Pensacola Yacht Club**  
**Social Hour 6:00, Dinner 7:00**  
**\$25.00 per person**

Buffet includes Pecan Crusted Grouper and Smoked Pork Loin with Mango Chutney, Salad, Vegetable Medley and Scalloped Potatoes, bread service and beverage. Cash Bar.

One of the best parts of the Christmas Party is the **Christmas Raffle**. This year the raffle will feature an Orvis TLS 4 weight rod, Orvis TLS 8 weight rod, Battenkill Mid Arbor II Reel with backing and 4 weight Wonderline, Battenkill Mid Arbor V reel with 8 weight Redfish line, and a Renzetti Traveler, cam pedestal vise. Raffle tickets are \$5 per ticket or 6 for \$25. Raffle tickets can be purchased the night of the dinner or in advance. You do not need to be present to win so if you are not able to attend the party, buy your raffle tickets and still have a chance to win!

All ladies present at the party will have a chance to win the **Ladies Christmas Door Prize**. Prizes this year include 2- \$50 Simon gift certificates which are good at any of the stores in Cordova and University Mall.

Madam President Karen will present the award for Angler of the Year and introduce the newly re-elected club officers for 2008

I hope to see all of you at the Christmas party! Karen Brand

## *Fishing Report... Captain Baz Velverton*

The bull redfish action started early this year. We found big schools of fish crashing bay anchovies on the surface during the first week of November a couple weeks earlier than usual, and the action has continued sporadically all month. Most of the fish are in the 15-25 pound range, and each one is "lit up" in bright copper spawning colors. At times we have had hundreds of fish swimming all around the boat looking for something, anything, to eat. It's breathtaking...you've got to see it to believe it! I prefer big, bar-  
less poppers which produce explosive strikes and quick releases. Here's a November 5 shot of Ohio's Lyman Kerkhof, my first fly caster this fall to experience the phenomenon.



There are still a few pompano around, but you either have to work hard for them or just get lucky. The fish in the photo was landed on Nov 5. We were fishing for bluefish using one of Travis' Clouser minnows with a wire tippet when this fish charged in front of a school of blues and ate the fly. I couldn't believe it. Who ever heard of a pompano being more aggressive than a school of bluefish? Plus, I've never before seen a pompano caught on a wire leader. Go figure. We've been doing most of our pompano "hunting" east of the pass because my favorite fall pompano waters west of the pass have been too discolored for sight fishing. I hope to have a shot at those waters during the next few weeks before the fish disappear.



Speaking of Travis, this is a photo of our favorite gypsy taken during his "break" between gigs at Yellowstone and the Grand Canyon. Way to go, Trav!

The slot redfish have been abundant on the inshore flats for the last few weeks. Now that the water temperature has fallen into the mid to high 60's, you will find them on sand flats around structure or grass beds. I am always amazed at how shallow these fish feed...sometimes in water less than a foot deep. This shot was taken last week of Wes Marshall from Virginia with a nice fish caught and released in two feet of water.



The other action at the moment involves bluefish and false albacore. We've been finding the blues in cuts along the beach mostly east of the pass. The bigger fish (up to 6 pounds) are close to the beach, and the smaller 1-2 pounders are in large schools along the edge of the dropoff in 6-8 feet of water. I prefer poling the edge of the cuts looking for the bigger fish. They are surprisingly spooky in the shallow water. Sixty foot casts are a must. Here's a shot of our own Jerry Aldridge with a fine specimen landed on Nov 3.

## *Around the Bay...and Further Away...Jerry Aldridge*

From **Bill Locher**: "My son and I went to Hoffman on Sunday morning (Nov 18th) and did quite well. We fished from 10:00AM till about 1:30PM. Bill, my son, landed 15 trout, fishing a D.O.A. shrimp on a spinning rig and I caught 52 trout using a 6wt and Clousers. We were in kayaks and had a great time. About 20-30% were keeper size!

From **Jerry Giles**: "If you read sporting magazines such as Fly Tyer, the repeating dream of the trout fisherman is a 20+ incher. No one knows how long into the future such an opportunity will be possible, due to man made and natural problems in America's streams. Here is one fact you can rely on in present times: Your club and it's members will share the where, when, and how for you to realize the dream. We will tie the flies with you, give you the location of the best streams, accomodations, and times of year to go. All you have to do is show up at the club meetings and clinics. This is your club. Come out, enjoy, and support it. The trout in the pics. were returned to the river unharmed."

From **Milt Mays**: "Well things have wound down again with the water getting cold. I am very lucky to be near several tail waters, including the Big Thompson, that allow fishing most of the winter. You just have to be willing to brave the cold.

One of the biggest things I miss about Pensacola is the big reds of the winter. They should be starting up about now, I would think, and take you through February or March. I don't know if you remember the poem I wrote about the big reds, but I included it as an attachment to this e-mail, in case you might want to put it in the next newsletter. I'd also like to hear how the reds are doing if you have any information. Maybe I'll pop down for a few days this winter to chase them around again.

Give my best to all. I hope to fish with John for awhile when he's in Denver. I was going to meet them at the San Juan, but the flows are dropping from 750 to 250 the day I would be fishing, so I'll pass and save it for another time. Hope to see you again this summer. Maybe you could stop by Colorado and hit the Frying Pan or the Big T."



Speaking of the big reds that Milt misses so much, take a look at these! **Capt Baz Yelverton** and I ventured into the gulf on the 29th of November, a perfect autumn day. The gulf was flat thanks to a light northerly breeze, not a cloud in the sky, 70 degrees or so, the water beautifully clear and good company. What more could a guy ask?

And then the reds surfaced, literally hundreds of square yards of copper backs, thrashing and flashing with a din akin to Nantahala Gorge rapids. What a way to break in my brand new Christmas 10 weight and a purple and white "Yak Attack" Clouser. For the next 2 or 3 hours, they went down, then surfaced again, only to be attacked by a small armada of boats. Alas, we were first but not last; the fleet grew to six before the reds sounded for the last time.



Baz got some too but I couldn't operate his camera. What a grand day!

## *From the Federation of Flyfishers November Club Wire*

### DVD / Book Reviews

reviewed by Bruce E. Harang

#### **Pools of Memory** by Charlie Kroll

Frank Amato Publications, Inc. - Portland, OR, 1994

168 pages, hardbound - illustrated, B&W - suggested price \$21.95

Charlie Kroll grew up in a frontier Idaho and went on to become one of the county's best outdoor writers. Along the way he spent his working career with Bear Archery Company and fished and hunted with the legendary Fred Bear. This wonderful book is a collection of fishing adventures covering 60 years of fly fishing. Charlie fished some of the most famous water's throughout the world before the era of destination travel lodges. During a time when getting there was as much of an adventure as the actual fishing. Hear about fishing in Chile, Russia, Norway when the fishing was truly outstanding. And during his life of fly fishing Charlie also got the opportunity to fish with people who have become icons in fly fishing. Fly fishing icons such as, the Wulfs on the Laxa, and John Voelker on his Frenchman's Pond for example. For anyone who would like to see how fly fishing was during most of the past century this book will give you a wonderful window into the past. If you want a good book for a winter's day this book is well worth the time to locate now that it is out of print.

#### **One More Cast** by Albert Haas, Jr.

Frank Amato Publications, Inc. - Portland, OR, 2001

150 pages, hardbound - not illustrated - suggested price \$24.00

The author provides the reader with a book of wit and humor with a fly fishing backdrop. This isn't about fly fishing so much as about author's views of both fly fishing and those, past and present, which participate in this great sport. The reader will learn of fishing on streams both famous and unknown where the discoveries about self, fishing and the outdoors in general are the topics of remembrance. In addition, you will learn some secrets like the Dot.Com fly guaranteed to catch more and bigger fish for high pressure executives requiring "quality time productivity". This is a wonderful read when fishing conditions are so bad even a steelheader will not venture forth. This is another out of print book that is worth the effort to track down and spend time with.

### Fall Overhaul

By Lee Weil - taken from the Long Island Flyrodders Newsletter

As November approaches, most of the fresh water fly fishing aficionados are putting away their rods and reels, with the saltwater casters not far behind. We stow our equipment in cases and tubes, to await the start of next year's season, so far away, with plenty of time to clean lines and check leaders during the winter months ahead. So why then is it that we end up scurrying around like rats in a pickle barrel the night before opening day? If we're lucky we will remember to replace worn leaders before we arrive at the stream, and not have to attempt nail knots with frost-bitten fingers. That's providing we have remembered to purchase new leaders and tippet material.

I have come to a realization that all this aggravation can be easily avoided with just a little time spent at the end of the season. Instead of putting my reels away (out of sight, out of mind), I leave them out on my fly tying table. I tie every morning, so it is impossible for me to not see them and after about 3 days they annoy me so much I am forced to address the situation. It only takes a matter of minutes to clean and dress a fly line, and replace the leader if needed. Wipe out the housing and put a dab of lube on the spindle and you're set to go next spring.

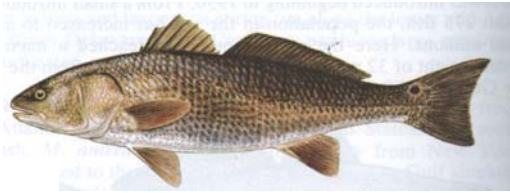
Rods are even easier to put into hibernation. Just as long as they're clean and dry, you only need to check the guides and the grips. If there is a hole in the cork that needs attention you can easily patch it with a mixture of Elmer's glue and cork dust, made by filling a wine cork (we always seem to have plenty of those around.) Allow it to dry thoroughly before storing the rod in its sock and tube.

Waders can be turned inside out to air, and at the same time check the places that wear out first; the back of the heel and seams on stocking foot models, and knees, if you do a lot of stealth fishing. You don't want to find out about a leak on your first day out in February. This is also a good time to replace your laces and do any felt repair that's needed.

If you rinse your net with soapy water (Dawn is excellent) and let it dry it won't have that wonderful aroma when you pull it out of the closet next spring, unless you like that smell, in which case you can seal it in a plastic bag while it's damp. (Which reminds me, if you store gear for a friend, check his wader bag before you put it away; nuff said!)

Finally, don't forget your flies! Rust is contagious, and the foam bed of the average fly box can harbor enough moisture to ruin hooks on the whole batch. I let my boxes air out and while I'm in front of the idiot box I sort through them, remove the chewed up flies and if the hooks are not rusty they go to the "fly hospital". It's rarely necessary to add more flies, since I have far too many in each box to begin with.

After you've accomplished all of the above, you can rest assured knowing that on Opening Day your gear will be in good shape and ready to fish. Then, when you get home from the stream you can start putting away your skis and hunting gear.



# DECEMBER 2007

| Sun       | Mon       | Tue                             | Wed       | Thu       | Fri       | Sat   |  |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---|--|
|           |           |                                 |           |           |           | <b>1</b>                                      |  |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>                        | <b>5</b>  | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                      |  |
|           |           | Business Meeting<br>7 PM        |           |           |           |   |  |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b>                       | <b>12</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>                                     |  |
|           |           | DEC 11 CHRISTMAS PARTY - PAGE 4 |           |           |           | Clinic - Casting, tying<br>gourmet lunch 9 AM |  |
| <b>16</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b>                       | <b>19</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>                                     |  |
| <b>23</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                       | <b>26</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                     |  |
| <b>30</b> | <b>31</b> |                                 |           |           |           |   |  |

