

# Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

December, 2017

# **FFNWF**

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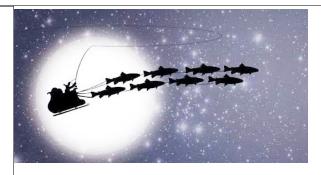
NEWSLETTER
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MONTHLY MEETINGS at Miraflores Park 17th Avenue between Belmont and LaRua

Business Meeting 1ST Tuesday, 7 PM

Bull Session - Tying 2ND Thursday, 6:30 PM

Clinic -Casting, Tying, Lunch 3RD Saturday, 9 AM



# Christmas Party

Tuesday, December 12

Holiday Inn – Ninth Ave at I10

Hors'deuvres 6:00

Cash Bar 
Country Buffet Dinner 7:00

LAST CHANCE TO BUY TICKETS – Tuesday, Dec 5 at the Meeting Raffle Tickets – on sale at the party. Buy Lots Win Lots

\$5 or 6 for \$25 Raffle Prizes are Extraordinary!!!!

Trip with Capt. Baz Trip with Capt. Chip Smith Trip with Capt. Dan Storey (see page 2)

5 wt Orvis rod Orvis Battenkill Reel 8 wt Orvis rod Orvis Hydros Reel 10 wt TFO BVK rod TFO BVK 3.5 Reel

8 wt St. Croix Legend Rod donated by Bob Story of F-C

YETI Cooler YETI Hopper

Separate raffles for each item.

Lots of Prizes. Buy lots of tickets!

Door Prizes and Gifts for the Ladies

ANNUAL GRAND PRIZE
The Fish

VETI-TURNEA TURNEA TUR

Club Meeting – Tuesday December 5 – 7:00

NOTE: There is NO Fly Tying or Clinic in December

Gives you more time to shop for presents for your wife. This

year get her a GOOD rod!

#### **Good News - Bob Korose**

I had lunch with Bob on Friday at the Subway shop in the West Florida hospital and he is doing remarkably well! His therapy is going better than anyone expected. I believe the plans right now are for him to go home by the December 8. We hope he can come to the party. Bob will be using a folding walker with a seat in it rather than a wheel chair so he is really pretty mobile. His doctor told him that it looks like he will make a complete recovery if he stays on the same trajectory of healing so Bob is in great spirits and really looking forward to the party and seeing everyone and buying lots of raffle tickets. He has a ways to go so let's all keep him In our prayers. *Cheers, Russ* 

## **New Member – Welcome Capt Dan Storey**

I am from Pensacola and have lived here my entire life. I started flyfishing in 1998 when I was 14 years old, and transitioned to saltwater in 2001. I have had many boats over the years but these days I can be seen in a 19' Panga with pale green hull sides and a poling platform. I live in Navy Point and frequent the ramp there as it is a few blocks from the house. Thanks to my wonderful wife I have the opportunity to live my dream and transition into guiding full time, leaving my job as an Escambia County EMT that I have held for the past 5 years.

As a "Do No Harm" fly fishing guide, the conservation of our marine resources is at the forefront of our business model. We practice catch and release exclusively, donate a portion of revenue to local conservation efforts, and

support grassroots organizations that help to grow the sport such as your **Project Healing Waters**. We have also pledged with Costa Del Mar to "kick plastic" in an effort to raise awareness to the 200 billion disposable bottles that are tossed aside each year, only to eventually find their way into our oceans. I'm sure the opportunity to introduce some of these ideas will come in the future, as for now you can follow me on various social media platforms where I am at @flyfishingpcola, or on my website at flyfishingpensacola.com.

**Santa's Little Helpers** at the workshop (Clinic) in November seriously at work making toys for all the little girls and boys. How do you know this is serious work??

Note there are no beer bottles on the table. That is serious.



# Fishing with Capt. Baz

As expected November has been all about the *Running* of the *Bulls* which started early this year. Here's a shot of



Pam Hatcher Loveless on November 1 with the first big fish of the season "lit up" in full spawning colors. The fish were active for a few days, disappeared for a week,

and then started up again around November 10. The big schools have been feeding on the surface since then, but it's been sporadic and downright undependable. I think the bridge construction has relocated the menhaden



from their usual holding spots, and millions of them have already made their move to the Gulf. There are giant schools of menhaden to the west all the way to the Perdido Key condos, and the redfish have followed them. Our best day of the season was west of the Caucas Shoal on Thanksgiving morning when my client from London, Mike Youkee, landed a dozen on fly, and we were back home for Thanksgiving dinner. There are still big schools of bull redfish in the bay, but I don't think there are as many as in normal years. We'll see how it plays out over the next couple weeks.







Here are pics from the last two weeks of happy anglers who experienced the rush of the bulls: Feather-craft store manager Evan Muskopf on Nov 17, Ted Calcaterra from St Louis on Nov 17, San Francisco's Robert Spotswood on Nov 18, another Californian Tom Stucker on Nov 22, and a terrific shot of Dave Walters on November 27.





While everyone has been focused on the bulls the smaller redfish on the flats have been left alone. There are decent numbers of "slot-sized" fish around, and they are hungry for the EP gray/white baitfish. Of course the conditions have to be right and

you're giving up on the bulls for a little while, but I think it's worth it... especially since the water's crystal-clear. Here's a nice fish landed and released yesterday by Dave Walters and one from earlier in the month caught by Clay Bush.





I hated to miss a week during "prime time"

but Jonas and I snuck off to Water Cay, Bahamas, for five days of R&R. We each caught a dozen or so bonefish averaging about 4 pounds and hooked twice that many. Jonas landed a 7 1/2 pounder and we estimated my biggest at around 6#. Here's a shot of a typical-sized fish. (top of page 3) Water Cay is a little-known lodge off of Grand Bahama Island an hour east of Freeport. It's a family operation with just three guest rooms in the heart of bonefish heaven. It's my second trip, and I plan to go back every fall. Here's a link: <a href="http://www.anglingdestinations.com/Destinations.php?REGION\_ID=5&DEST\_ID=91">http://www.anglingdestinations.com/Destinations.php?REGION\_ID=5&DEST\_ID=91</a>

Don't give up on the bulls. They'll be around in the bay for the next couple weeks and with a little luck will continue to feed on the menhaden in the Gulf until January. Capt Baz





## **Chandeleur Islands**

Every year Jeff sends a report like this and every year I say, "Why don't we go?"

Here are some photos from our early
November trip to Chandeleur - we had a
big time - I had a stringer of 5 pomps, 2
nice specks and a nice red one morning I'm going to call that a 'barrier islands slam'
- Mike had some big specks - Rod had a
red, speck, flounder slam and the flounder
was huge - lots of fish caught and personal
bests - the huge bulls and drum were
released, but the pompano and specks



# **Around the Bay**

Kyle Finkle (Tom's son) with a good grip on a redfish

**From our Friends: The Bream Fishermen** The BFA in conjunction with Pensacola Bay Oyster Co. is sponsoring an education through enrichment program to encourage improvement of local water quality. The workshop will take place Saturday December 9th from 9-11:30 at the Miraflores Park Activity Building (17th & La Rua) in Pensacola. (Editor's note: If you are not familiar with that address come to the clubhouse and ask directions). Registration is required and you may do so by email. <thebreamfishermen@gmail.com>

This project involves growing oysters in a cage at a dock. You buy the cage for \$50 and the oysters are released after one year. This is a conservation project. (Sorry, you don't eat the oysters.) There is more information attached to this link:

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#inbox/160046b71adab5c0?projector=1

# Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida Minutes November 7, 201

Meeting Started: 1900 hours 12 Members Present

President Oleta Webb called meeting to order. Minutes of October meeting approved

**Old Business:** Discussion of the Christmas Party:

- 1. buy your tickets at a club meeting
- 2. donate boxes of flies for door prizes
- 3. email your photos to Paul Wargo for the slide show.
- 4. **Prizes:** We will have a 5 wt and 8 wt Orvis rod and reel, a 10 wt TFO BVK rod and reel, and an 8 wt St. Croix Legend rod donated by Bob Story from Feather Craft. We also will have the trip with Baz and a large Yeti cooler a total of 9 different raffles. Tickets have to be purchased at the party \$5 each or 6 for \$25.

**Treasurers' Report:** Russ presented since Jay was out of town. Russ's report was accepted and approved. Club finances are in good shape with a surplus for the Christmas party.

**New Business:** Jonas Magnuson will help with the Saturday casting clinics and with the casting instructional classes next year. Jonas will be Chairman of the Casting Committee.

There will be no fly tying or clinic in December as per usual.

The Bream Fishing Association has invited us to their annual picnic on 11-11-17 and asked if we could send a fly tier to demo and this would be a good opportunity to promote our club.

Officers for 2018 were voted in. Dave Handley will be our new President. We thank Oleta for her time and leadership as our President in 2017. Ed Hamkens will be our new Vice President. We really appreciate current Vice President, Bob "Tarpon" Korose, for putting on good programs. Jay and George were reelected as Club Treasurer and Club Secretary for 2018. Two Directors at Large were elected: Gerry Giles, a long term club member, and new member of the club, Jim White offered to fill the positions which fill our lineup for club officers in 2018.

Angler of the Year was voted on and will be announced at our Christmas Party.

**Program:** Oleta gave a spirited report on False Albacore fishing in North Carolina. Boats all around the school, sort of like the bull red run in our bay, but the FA run so far so fast lines get cut off by other boats. Their FA are bigger but they also have to deal with much bigger sharks that go after their fish. Lots of excitement leads to spirited reporting.

#### **Fishing Report:**

The Bay is loaded with bait but the birds haven't been diving which is a sign of the lack of feeding frenzies. Russ and Jim had a good time hauling in big sail cats on the white Goux Meux fly we tied at PHW on a trip with Baz. The bull reds are expected to come storming into the Bay at any moment.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.