

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
FEBRUARY 2012

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

PRESIDENT

Terry McCormick
(850) 968-5928,
flycastsgt@hotmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Jerry Giles
(850) 994-9946
flyfisherman1942@att.net

SECRETARY

John Fitzgerald
(850) 995-1412
jhfitzgerald@mchsi.com

TREASURER

Jay Brykczynski
(850) 232-7504
jaybryk@yahoo.com

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

President's Message... Terry McCormick

2012 has got off to a real good start. We've had good turn outs at both the Tuesday and Saturday meetings with both members and guest. The Thursday night "bull session" was fun thanks to Roy Turner's bream bugs. We also had a great turn out for the Project Healing Waters training at the VA clinic. It was attended by members of our club and members of the Destin flyfishing club. Kudos go out to Kevin Gorby for all his hard work for Project Healing Waters. Russ Shields has been putting in a lot of work getting ready for the up coming fly fishing school starting March 12. I understand it's nearly full. Get with Russ if you can or would like to help. We need to support this endeavor. Also it's never too early to start thinking about the annual auction. We need your donations. Most importantly, I hope you've had a chance to go fishing. I know the weather has been insane, but get out when you can. Please read the proposed changes to the bylaws so we can vote on them in March and get that behind us. There will be a Board of Directors meeting at 6:00 pm February 7 before the regular 7:00 pm meeting. The 2012 budget will be the main topic of discussion. Tight lines and the tug is the drug, Terry

Angler of the Year... A Note of Thanks

Though I didn't give much of a speech at the award ceremony during the Christmas Party I believe that I need to say something now.

I humbly wish to thank all the members of our little family for choosing me as the 2011 Fly Fisher of the Year. Though I struggle to understand the reasoning behind my selection, since there are others more deserving than myself, I very much appreciate the gesture from the bottom of my heart. I do not look for accolades for doing the small things I contribute because I enjoy doing them for the club and people that I like and admire. I will continue to support our club / family in whatever capacity that I am able.

Thank you. May all the fish you catch be record breakers and may you have a witness. Ed Wingfield

CLUB DUES

2012 dues were due in January, \$30 for regular membership, \$10 for associates. Pay any club officer at any of the February meetings. Or send payment to Treasurer **Jay Brykczynski**, 3917 N. 10th Ave, Pensacola, FL 32503. Make checks payable to Fly Fishers of N.W. Florida.

Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, January 3, 2012, President Terry McCormick, presiding

Past president Tom Birdwell relinquished the gavel to our new president Terry McCormick, who called the meeting to order at about 7:00 P.M. Approximately 24 members were present.

Karen Brand introduced Patty Arnold, from Washington State. Patty said that she is a fly-fisher of the Oregon area rivers. Hopefully, she will return and tell us of those areas. Also, Jerry Giles welcomed Walter Gross, of Milton, as our newest member.

Terry called for fishing reports, and varying successes were cited by the members. Most reported speckled sea trout and red fish were being taken in the bayous.

The minutes and treasurer's reports were approved as read or printed.

Kevin Gorby reported that much progress has been made in the "Project Healing Waters", effort. Special tools based on individual needs are being created to aid heroes to fish. Another training session for volunteers will be held Jan. 10, at 10:00 A.M. at Pensacola V.A.

In new business: Russ Shields said that the club fly fishing course will start March 12th., and run through April 30th. We need a volunteer to lead the fly casting instruction. Materials will be furnished to standardize instruction methods for all volunteers.

Members were advised of board approved changes to the by-laws, and told that they would be presented to members for vote at a future business meeting.

Karen & John Brand gave a great presentation on their fall trip to Wyoming. They braved bear and breeze to catch some of the most beautiful cutthroat, brown, and rainbow trout. A majority were in the 20", or better, range in size. Pictures showed the beauty and variety of scenery of Yellowstone and the Platte River region.

Respectfully submitted; Gerald (Jerry) Giles, Sub.Sec., V.P.

Board Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, January 3, 2012, President Terry McCormick, presiding

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. A majority of directors were present, constituting a quorum. Pres. McCormick initiated discussion of revisions to the FFNWF Charter and Bylaws, approved in January, 2005, and the proposed bylaws. Pursuant to that, the following three motions were made.

1. Dr. Tom Birdwell moved that under Article I-Membership (A), it be changed to read, "Regular members shall be 18 years old or older. Anyone under 18, must be accompanied by a responsible adult member to attend." Under Article I, (B-2), "Persons between 11 and 17 years of age and children of regular members."

The motion was seconded by Dr. Jay Williams, and approved by voice vote.

2. Russ Shields moved that under Article II: Dues and Fees, that the provision for pro-rated dues be dropped. The motion was seconded by Jerry Giles, and approved by voice vote.

3. Jerry Giles motioned that Article IX: Procedural Rules, regarding Robert's Rules of Order, be dropped entirely. After a second by Russ Shields, the motion was approved by voice vote.

The other proposed bylaws changes are in the draft to be sent to members for review. As stated in the 2005 Charter and Bylaws, All regular members will be notified of these proposed changes prior to voting. A three-quarter majority vote of regular members present is required for approval.

In other business, Larry Sisney said he had sent a letter of appreciation for the excellent service provided by Irene Beck and staff of the Holiday Inn, at our Christmas party. The board meeting was adjourned.

Backwoods Baitfish... Matt Wegener

The backwoods baitfish, designed by Ryan Miller was recently featured in the magazine *Fly Fishing in Saltwater*. When the author was creating this fly, he was striving for a wide-baitfish profile that could be fished slowly, but still had plenty of action. This is why he chose marabou for the tail, because it pulses and wiggles with the slightest movement. The EP Shrimp Dubbing Brush is also another natural choice for a realistic fly that is easy to tie. You don't have to look any further than Captain Baze's monthly fishing report to figure out how effective EP baitfish patterns are. They work on a wide variety of saltwater and freshwater fish in the area, including redbfish, speckled trout, and largemouth bass.

The problem is that standard EP fibers are difficult to work with. Tying just the right amount of fiber onto the hook shank to create a fly with the correct proportions, yet not overdressing it is nearly impossible for all but the most experienced fly tier. That's the beauty of the EP Shrimp Dubbing Brush. The brush comes pre-loaded with just the right amount of fiber and flash, so all you have to do is wrap into the hook shank.

I made a few modifications to the original pattern to make it more fishable in our region. First, I used Fish Eyes for the head of the fly. If you have never used these before, let me explain how they work. They are an adhesive fly eye that has a stem attached to the pupil. The stem is lashed onto the hook shank which provides perfect eye placement every time and creates a durable finish without the need for epoxy. Although, this fly becomes almost bullet proof if epoxy is used. I banged it off of almost every dock piling in Gulf Breeze last weekend, and both eyes stayed put. I also omitted the weed guard, which I don't think keeps grass from snagging the fly and may reduce the hook-up ratio.

Tying Materials

Hook:	Mustad 34007 or similar style, 1/0
Thread:	White flat waxed nylon
Body:	Grey <i>Enrico Puglisi Shrimp Dubbing Brush</i> (1 brush will make 3 flies)
Tail:	White marabou
Flash:	Pearl <i>Krystal Flash</i>
Eyes:	Fish eyes, 3/16+
Guard:	40# mono
Glue:	Clear five or thirty minute epoxy (optional)



Tying Instructions



1. Start by wrapping a thread base. Begin at the eye of the hook and work along the shank until directly above the hook point. To create a foul guard, tie in a short piece of 40# mono on one side of the hook, then fold over to the other side of the hook and tie off; effectively creating a loop.

2. To form the tail, select a full plume of marabou that is 1/8+ longer than the hook shank. Tie it in securely so that it doesn't spin on the hook shank. For flash, tie in 3 strands of pearl Krystal Flash on one side of the hook shank and then fold over to the opposite side of the hook shank and tie off. Cut the flash so that it is slightly longer than the marabou.



3. To form the body of the baitfish, tie in the EP shrimp brush at the base of the tail. Make 10 wraps forward and tie off just behind the hook eye. It is important to pull the fibers back towards the tail while wrapping the brush so that the fibers don't get caught under the wraps. Cut off the remaining brush and use a comb, bodkin, or your fingers to form a baitfish profile with the fibers.

4. Pull two eyes from the adhesive backing. Trim the stem of the eyes in half so that they fit the size of the head. Press the eyes into place and wrap thread around the stems to hold them secure. Whip finish and you're done. Adding epoxy to the eyes and head will make the fly more durable, but is optional.



Comments: Use different colors of EP shrimp dubbing and marabou to match the baitfish in your area. The darker fly in the picture is tied with a root beer+EP brush and grizzly marabou to imitate a small bluegill. To emulate gills or blood, try tying red marabou on the bottom of the hook shank during Step 2.

Know the Members... Ed Wingfield

Roy E. Turner, better known to us simply as Roy, is one of our more colorful members and has been with us since October 2010. Roy is married to his lovely wife Harriette for, as he puts it, many wonderful years. They have 3 daughters, 6 grandkids and one great grand daughter.

Roy was raised in northern West Virginia but moved to Baltimore where in 1959 he joined the Naval Reserve. He was called to active duty in 1960 but stayed until 1981 when he retired as an E8 Yeoman. During his jaunt in the Navy he was stationed in Norfolk, in country Viet Nam, DC, Florida and some places he would rather forget. In 1974 he was transferred to Pensacola and has been here ever since. After the Navy he used his GI Bill to learn upholstery where eventually he had his own business specializing in church interiors traveling nation wide.

In 1992 he retired from the upholstery industry due to health issues but as therapy found the world of clowning. As a professional clown, Yo Yo D Clown, Roy has won many clown competitions. He is also a Shriner clown and has served in a number of offices in that organization locally. He says he gets a great joy in clowning and as he puts it: %ou get to be a kid for a while, play with the kids and when it's all over . they go home.+

Roy has fished ever since he can remember but in 1965 he decided he was tired of using a spinning rod when a friend was using a fly rod got him started fly fishing with popping bugs. Even though he's been fly fishing for some time now he joined the club to learn more about fly fishing, fly tying and how to do it right. Being in the club has given Roy the initiative to help his grandson, who's in the Scouts, learn and enjoy fly fishing.

On a sadder point, Roy revealed that he and his wife may be moving north this summer perhaps to Pennsylvania but he intends to maintain his membership in our club because he plans on coming back from time to time.

Monster Black Drum... Jeff Deuschle



A friend and I caught 5 monster pre-spawn black drum at a "secret spot" on New Year's Eve. We were sight fishing in 4 to 6 ft. of crystal clear water. They were all similar sized fish. Three were 27-28lbs. and the other two bottomed out a certified 30lb. bogarip! Heavily weighted ghost shrimp imitations on 8 and 9wt. rods with both sinking and floating (extra long leader) fly lines. Big Fun and all fish were released to fight another day.



February Events

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| February 3rd | Project Healing Waters Instruction, 12 noon. Pensacola VA |
| February 7th | Board and Business Meetings, 6 and 7 PM, Clubhouse |
| February 9th | Bull Session, 6:30 PM, Clubhouse |
| February 18th | Casting Clinic and Lunch, 9 AM-Noonish, Clubhouse |

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Veluerton



January 2012 will go down as one of the all-time best months for false albacore fishing from shore, and the good news is the fish are still here. It started January 2 with a "scouting" trip to the beach in front of Portofino with my friend Jonas Magnusson. I had had a client staying there the previous week who told me about lots of FA working close to shore, so Jonas and I went down the next morning to check it out. It was one of those perfect winter days with a N wind, flat surf, plenty of sun, and crystal-clear water. The fish were there in spades...singles, doubles, and pods of "black torpedos" feeding erratically in 1-3' of water. Jonas and I landed 8 and hooked a few more on gummy minnows. Here are a few pics. We fished for a couple hours and left when things slowed down.



The next morning I took Howell Raines (*Fly-fishing through the Mid-life Crisis*) to the same spot. In the parking lot as we were heading toward the beach Bruce Vail stopped us and said the fishing had been outrageous the afternoon before. Howell and I didn't find as many fish as the day before, but we still landed a couple each. Here's Howell with his first catch. I've got to talk to him about that jacket...

I haven't beach-fished since then, but Bruce told me he's had more great days this month on both calm and rough days. The thing about the FA is you can never be sure when they'll be there. The best time to go is when you CAN go. It's so easy to simply drive to your favorite spot, walk down to the beach, and watch for a while. If the fish show up put your waders on, and get after them. If not you've "wasted" a little time standing on one of the world's most beautiful beaches watching the water. How bad can that be?! For club members who haven't experienced it this is world-class fly rod action, and you really ought to give it a try. All you need are your waders and an 8wt. I'm sure Bruce would be happy to share his experiences and direct you to some appropriate beach parking areas.



The FA are still here as of January 29. Warren Jerrems from Gulf Breeze was on the boat sight-fishing for redfish with spinning gear along the beach east of the pass. After we had "tired" of catching about a dozen reds up to 25#, I anchored the boat and gave Warren a fly-casting lesson. He had never cast a fly rod but got the feel for it amazingly fast. There were a few fish coming along the beach, but we could see a huge bunch of birds working the current line off Pickens Point. When we got there the fish were frothing the surface, and Warren landed his first-ever fish on fly. Man, what a way to start!

Other than FA there is very good sight-fishing for redfish in the usual spots along the Gulf shoreline. You need to catch a day with a N wind when the water's clear. Shore break of a foot or less makes it even better. My crystal ball tells me the next good day is going to be next Sunday, February 5.

There continue to be decent quantities of slot redfish on the Santa Rosa Sound sand/grass flats. One day last week when we had some sun and light winds I went solo to a favorite spot and hooked two nice reds on a 1/0 gray/white Puglisi baitfish. The water was very clear, and the fish were incredibly spooky. I hooked a fish on the "dreaded first cast" and then didn't hook another one for about two hours. During that period I had about twenty good shots and went through 5 fly changes. My only other "follow" was on one of Matt Wegener's tan/white Puglisi clousers. Sure was nice to be out there in shirtsleeves on January 24! Capt Baz

Good fishing is just a matter of timing. You have to get there yesterday. (Milton Berle).

From "The World's Best Fishing Jokes"

Winter Fishing Fun... Bruce Vail



Got the winter doldrums? Sick of tying flies and wishing Spring was here? I may have just the solution you need.

False Albacore are found in our area all year long. The smallest member to the Tuna family, they will give you an adrenaline rush like few other fish can. Typically, they can be found offshore or in deeper water in the bays most of the year and are a favorite target of boaters. However, during the winter months, False Albacore or %Albies+ can provide the shore bound fly rod angler with hours of heart pounding excitement.



For the past month, I and many others have been enjoying sight casting to Albies in a foot of water as they cruise the beaches. Usually, they seem to run in pairs or singly but on occasion, schools of a dozen or more comb the shallows for baitfish.

Although these fish do run the shoreline in easy casting distance of even novice fly rod anglers, it's difficult to pin down *when* they will show up. To date, I've seen them at flood tide, ebb tide, neap tide, cold days, warm days, windless days and windy days. It doesn't seem to matter what the barometer is or the moon phase. In other words, you just have to show up at the beach and hope they'll be there.

Your tackle should be, in my opinion, a 7 or 8 weight rod and a reel with a good drag and plenty of backing. Every one of these fish will get a long way into your backing and some might take out all of your line. They can run at 40+ miles per hour and even the small ones are very, very strong.



I've been using a weight forward, floating 7 weight line with an aggressive front taper. It is bright orange, which helps me see it. Unfortunately, the Albies can see that bright orange as well. I've had more than a couple of fish spooked by it. A clear floating or intermediate line might be a better choice.

Leaders and tippets are a personal choice. Although I've been using fluorocarbon tippets, I don't think these fish are particularly leader shy as I've used tippets up to 20 pounds without refusals. Albies do have teeth. They are very tiny and conical but can wear through a tippet. I've been broken off numerous times because of that. My solution has been to use a 3 inch 25 or 30 lb. bite tippet attached to a 15 lb. fluorocarbon tippet. Since using that combination, I've lost no more fish.



These fish seem to be hunting. They are not just frolicking. As a result, they aggressively take almost any small fly. My two favorites are *Clouser Minnows* tied very sparsely with *Super Hair* or *Unique Hair* in tan over white with some silver flash down the sides or a *Surf Candy* tied with the same colors using *Craft Fur*. Frankly, just about any similar fly should work just fine.

So far as size is concerned, I would %guesstimate+ that most of these fish run in the 5 pound range though many are considerably larger. The world record False Albacore is a whopping 36 pounds! Of course, while chances of hooking a monster like that here in Pensacola in a foot or two of water are slim to none, it does pay to know that you might

hook a fish big enough to spool you. I had one smoking run from a big Albie that had the arbor knot on my spool in plain sight.

So, if you want some winter time fun, head down to the beach and look for dark, torpedo shaped fish. Cast in front of them, set the hook and hold on! You won't regret it.

Editors Note: The big smiles belong to Bruce Vail and Bill Locher

Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

CHARTER AND BY-LAWS

CHARTER

Article I The name of this organization shall be Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

Article II The purpose of this organization shall be to promote the sport of fly fishing in the Northwest Florida area, encourage and assist persons of all ages to learn, practice, and enjoy the sport of fly fishing, and to advocate and encourage conservation and the betterment of fishing waters.

BY-LAWS

Article I: Membership This organization will afford equal opportunity to any person who desires To apply for membership. There shall be no limit to the number of members. All memberships Shall be Regular, Associate, or Honorary.

Regular members shall be 18 years of age or older.

Associate members shall be

Persons 18 years of age or older who are not permanent residents of Escambia or Santa Rosa counties, Florida and will not attend one half or more of any organization functions during any calendar year.

Minors from 11 through 17 years of age and who are children of regular members.

Honorary membership may be offered to other persons for special considerations, as recommended by the board of directors, and approved by majority vote of the general membership present at a regular meeting.

Article II: Dues and Fees

Annual dues shall be collected from all members on a calendar year basis, payable in January.

Dues for members joining or renewing in January of each year must be paid by the last day of February. Dues delinquency shall be defined for all as failure to pay by the end of February. Failure to do so shall render that person ineligible to participate in any organization function, to be counted toward a quorum, or to vote at any meeting. Upon full payment of delinquent dues the membership and rights will be reinstated.

Anyone joining initially, will pay the annual fee set by the Board specifically for that purpose.

Regular and Associate member dues shall be set by the board of directors and approved by a majority vote of regular members present at a regular meeting.

Article III: Officers

This organization shall elect all officers annually by nomination from the floor and by secret ballot at the regular meeting in November or December, as announced by the president at the previous regular meeting.

Only regular members shall be eligible for nomination and election as officers.

Election shall be by a simple majority vote of regular members present.

New officers and two At-Large members shall be installed at the first regular meeting of the new year and shall serve, unless replaced, for the remainder of that calendar year.

There shall be six elected individuals, four serving as officers (see 1. through 4. below), such having the duties and responsibilities identified below.

President: Presides at all meetings, appoints all committee chairmen, calls any special meetings, and is responsible for all organizational affairs.

Vice-president: Acts in the absence of the president and is responsible for regular meeting programs.

Secretary: Is responsible for keeping minutes and attendance records of regular and board of directors meetings, maintaining rosters of general and committee memberships, and for all organizational correspondence, records and files.

Treasurer: Is responsible for collection and banking of all funds, paying all disbursements, keeping accurate books of account showing all sums collected and paid, and reporting current financial condition at each regular meeting.

Directors At-Large: Act as members of the board of directors.

Article IV: Board of Directors

The Board of directors shall consist of the four elected officers, the two elected At-Large members, the immediate past president, and the chairmen of the Standing Committees.

The Standing Committees shall be: Auction, Nominating, Newsletter, Education/Casting, Education/School, Education/Tying, FFF Representative, Library, Membership, Publicity, Fishing Trips, Clinic lunch, Web Master.

The Board of Directors shall:

Develop a proposed budget for the current year by the end of February.

Establish or discontinue Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees.

Address matters of urgency arising between regular meetings.

A simple majority of the Board's membership constitutes a quorum, such being required to conduct business at Board meetings.

Board of Directors meetings shall be called by the president with a minimum 48 hours of advance written notice to all regular members of the club, stating the time and place where the meeting will be held. E-mail, ortelephone texting when necessary, may satisfy this requirement

Article V: Budget

By the regular March meeting, at the latest, the president shall present the budget proposed by the board of directors, to the regular membership, for approval. A simple majority vote by those present shall be required for approval.

During the year, no expenditures for any unbudgeted amount in excess of one hundred and twenty-five dollars shall be incurred by the Directors or paid by the Treasurer without prior approval of the regular membership.

Article VI: meetings

Regular meetings shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month at the time and place of those regularly published in the Newsletter, unless a change is announced by the President at the prior meeting.

The regular members present at a regular meeting shall constitute a quorum, except for the requirement of a supermajority, below.

Article VII: Amendments

Should revision of these By-Laws become necessary, the Board of Directors may propose a change, or the change may be proposed by a regular member from the floor. A three quarter majority vote of regular members present is required to approve any proposed change. Before a proposed change may be made and voted upon, it must have been published in the newsletter the preceding month, along with Notice that it will be brought for a vote at the next regular meeting.

Article VIII: Voting

Only regular members shall have voting privileges.

Proxy voting is not allowed.

APPROVED by the Membership on this date: _____

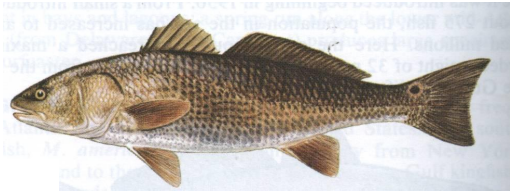
Certified by: _____

Secretary

FLY FISHERS

of NORTHWEST FLORIDA

**PO BOX 1041
 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



FEBRUARY 2012

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