

# ***Flies & Lies***

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS  
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
FEBRUARY 2014

THE FLYFISHERS OF  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
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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

## *President's Message...Cliff Newton*

I hope everyone has thawed out after our run of cold weather. I wanted to talk about fishing etiquette a bit this month. I remember stories shared by members of locating a school of redfish; before they get a couple of casts in, the school is hammered by several boats charging in and the fish sounding. I remember fishing with my dad in the pass some 20 years ago and while we were casting to a school of fish crashing baitfish on the surface, a boat raced in between us and the school and completely cut us off from the school. This is in contrast to streamside etiquette that many of us that have fished a trout stream have learned.

To summarize streamside etiquette - when you come up to someone that is fishing a hole you give them room. You don't barge in and interfere with their fishing. You either bypass them and go to the next vacant fishing spot or you wait until that person moves on. If you are fishing in a good hole and someone is waiting, you fish for a reasonable amount of time and then you move on and give the waiting person a shot. I have found that almost all fly fisherman and most spin fisherman on a trout stream follow this practice.

Now do the same rules apply to fishing in the bay or gulf? Fishing "holes" are less defined and you can often get at them from several angles. I think that the overriding principal should be that we are courteous to others on the water and respect their fishing efforts. There are always jerks out on the water and there is not much we can do about them but try not to be one of them!

There will be no board meeting but the regular business meeting will start at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 4, 2014. A volunteer for Vice President would still be appreciated.

**Cliff Newton**

Okay Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida, it is that time of year. The 2014 membership drive kicks off this month. Renewing members \$30.00, Associate members \$10.00. Jay will gladly receive your dues in cash or check, in person or via snail mail.

See Jay at any of the January meetings or send check to: **Jay Brykczynski**  
**FFNWF, 4983 Prieto Drive., Pensacola, FL 32506. Make checks out to**  
**FFNWF**

## *FISHERMAN'S HOROSCOPE*

**Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb18) The Tackle Box** Born under the sign of the Water Carrier, you are still patiently waiting for your ship to come in. Have you noticed, through, that the tide is getting up over your hip waders?

## **Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, 7 January, 2014, President Cliff Newton, presiding**

Subject: Meeting minutes for 07 January 2014 Board and General Membership Meeting

Location: Miraflores Park, 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. Pensacola, FL

Time: 1800 Board Meeting, 1900 General Membership Meeting

For a list of participants in both meetings please refer to the attendance record dated 07 January 2014.

Board meeting was called to order at 1800 hours by Cliff Newton, President.

Jay Brykczynski made an announcement concerning the membership drive. Copies of new membership paperwork was passed out to the board. Jay gave the proposed budget to Cliff Newton and Russ Shields. Jay recommended a \$500 line item be added to the budget for Project Healing Waters. The line item Picnic Donation was deleted from the proposed budget due to lack of use. Money collected for the Beginners Class is split between line item 5 of the proposed budget and membership dues. Non-members are \$60.00 and members are \$30.00 to take the class. An increase to the budget for raffle items was approved. The proposed budget will be presented to the membership by Cliff Newton at the March meeting.

Larry S. proposed leaving the SE Fly Fishing Federation and joining the local Gulf Coast Fly Fishing Federation. Jay Brykczynski stated he would call for more information.

Volunteers are needed to provide food for the Fly Fishing Clinic on Saturdays when Joe Higgins will not be available. Interested parties should speak with Joe regarding this matter.

Russ Shields expressed thanks for support for Healing Waters. He will be contacting Navy Federal Credit Union to determine the amount of donation to support Healing Waters for the upcoming year. Russ asked that it be put to membership for any changes recommended for the Beginners Fly Fishing Course. Help is needed for marketing class and those interested in helping should contact Russ Shields.

Larry S. motioned to adjourn the Board Meeting and Jay Brykczynski seconded the motion. Motion passed and meeting was ended at 1845 hours.

General Membership Meeting was called to order at 1905 hours by Cliff Newton.

Members gave fishing reports. Russ Shields moved that meeting minutes from last month be approved and Jerry Giles seconded. Motion passed by membership.

Jay Brykczynski gave the Treasury Report to membership. Terry McCormick moved to approve Treasury Report and Russ Shields Seconded. Motion Passed by membership.

Russ Shields presented to the General Membership the need for assistance in marketing the Beginners Fly Fishing Course. Jay Brykczynski offered to contact Channel 3 in regards to this matter.

Russ Shields ordered hats and is having the club logo put on them. The hats will sell for \$10.00 each with the proceeds going to Healing Waters. Healing Waters logo hats are also available for purchase for \$10.00 each.

Russ Shields motioned to adjourn meeting and Kent Reagan seconded. Motion passed and meeting was ended at 1940 hours. The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned.

Kent Reagan, Treasurer

Email: [kwreagan@msn.com](mailto:kwreagan@msn.com)

# Fishing Report... Captain Baz Yelverton

The only game in town this January has been sight-fishing for the biggest redfish of the year. Yes I know... it's been the coldest January in years, but there have also been a few spectacular days with plenty of sunshine and light winds. I've been fortunate to have clients in town on many of those days, and we've landed mind-blowing redfish on light-weight tackle in shallow water. One of the nice things in January is the lack of fishing pressure. On most days I've had it all to myself.

As always this time of year the best days have a wind of 15mph or less blowing from somewhere between NNW and ENE. Incoming tide is a plus because it brings the clear water to the beaches east of Pensacola Pass. I pole or drift westbound just outside the inner bar starting a little east of the Observation Tower. If the fish haven't been molested they'll be very close to the bar and sometimes inside the bar. As we ease down the beach my focus is 300-400 feet ahead. When I pick up the brownish color of redfish I prepare to drop anchor and slide it over when we're a couple hundred feet from the school. Then we just sit there and see which way the fish are moving. Many times they are coming in our direction, and we wait in ambush. I like to have my clients cast well ahead of the school and let the current swing the fly to the unsuspecting fish. If the fly is right we'll usually get a take.

For the past two weeks for a "softer" presentation I've dropped down to 8wt tackle with floating line and smaller flies. I've also extended my normal leader to 12' with the last two sections being 3' of 20# fluoro and finally 3' of 15# fluoro. The longer sections of light tippet help the fly get down a little faster. I started having refusals on the go-meaux and switched to either a tan/white bucktail clouser or a chartreuse/white "half and half" tied with white bucktail and long strands of chartreuse strung saddle. Gold eyes. Hook size should not be larger than 1/0 or smaller than #2. If you use #2 hooks keep your drag relatively loose or these big fish will straighten them out.

The results have been impressive as you'll see in the photos. First up is **Dr. Ramu Nallamala** from Huntsville, AL, with his first-ever redfish landed January 3.



Dr Ramu Nallamala

Next is **Glenn Perry**, Birmingham, with a monster redfish landed on his first cast January 16. Glenn overcame the "dreaded first-cast jinx" by landing two more fish.



Glenn Perry  
Red 1



Glenn Perry  
Red 2



# Fishing Report... Captain Baz Yelverton - Continued

Glenn Perry  
Red 3



Next up is Bob Jenkins who was a member of the FFNWF many years ago before he moved to Aspen. We had an epic day, and Bob also landed his best-ever redfish. The second fish weighed 30# on my bogagrip, and the third fish where Bob is smiling (and who could blame him) weighed over 31#.

Bob Jenkins  
Red 1



The next shot is of **Doug Arthur**, Orem, UT, who was in town January 20 visiting his son who's a flight instructor at Whiting. Doug is a life-long trout fisherman who had never fished the salt. He's a changed man.

Doug Arthur



Bob Jenkins  
Red 2



Fellow guide **Dave Marino** drove over from Louisiana on January 22 for the clear-water sight-fishing. This is his biggest redfish ever taken on fly.

Dave Marino



Bob Jenkins  
Red 3



# *Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Yelverton - Continued*

Finally, there's **Tom Stucker** from Northern California with a 28 pounder and then another 30 pound fish.

Tom Stucker  
Red 1



Tom Stucker  
Red 2



The big reds will be along the beaches for the next three months, but once we get into March all the spin-fishing guides will be hammering them. If I were you I'd find a way to get out there on a nice day in February a couple days after a big cold front blows through. You can bet I'll be out there with you.

**Capt Baz**







# Disco Shrimp...by Matt Wegener



In his new book, *Feather Brain*, the author Drew Chicone stresses the importance of selecting fly tying materials that appeal to each sensory organ of a fish. The Disco Shrimp does exactly that. First, it accurately impersonates the favorite food item of most inshore predators... shrimp. Second, the sequins and foam lip makes a commotion on the surface similar to a Gurgler, and truly emulates an escaping, popping shrimp. Finally, the rattle picks on the curiosity of nearby predators. The only modification I made to this fly was use Estaz for the body instead of the Ice Dub that the author suggests. Estaz makes for a quick and “buggy” looking shrimp body, and doesn’t have to be dubbed on to the thread like Ice Dub, making this fly easy to tie and just a hoot to fish.



## Tying Materials

- Hook: #2 Mustad 34011 or long shank hook
- Thread: Brown Danville flat waxed nylon
- Eye: Hareline mono crustacean eyes
- Tail: Two 8 mm sequins
- Body: Olive Opalescent Estaz (regular)  
Red fox tail
- Legs: Perfectly-barred silli legs
- Flash: Two 3-inch pieces of pearl Krystal Flash
- Rattle: Mini 3mm glass rattle
- Shellback: Tan 2 mm closed-cell foam; 2 ½' long, ¼" wide, & tapered to a point at one end



Tie in mono eyes and splay them out slightly by making a few wraps between them.



Tie in the next three materials in this order:

1. Rattle
2. Krystal Flash
3. Red fox tail.



Pinch down the barb and slide on the two sequins, convex side toward the eye of the hook. Place hook in vise and start thread above the hook point. Tie in a small tuft of fox tail fur about 1 inch long extending toward the bend of the hook. Then tie in 4 silli legs on each side of the hook.



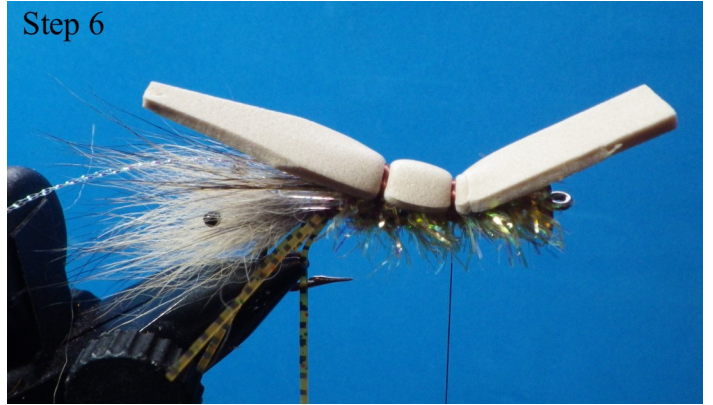
# Disco Shrimp...by Matt Wegener—Continue

Step 4



Tie in Estaz and wrap over rattle, wrap towards eye of the hook and then back to the rattle where the thread will be waiting and tie off. Notice the size and shape of foam used for the shellback.

Step 6



Bring the thread forward under the foam another 1/4" and lash down foam to make the 1<sup>st</sup> segment.

Step 5



Tie the foam on top of the rattle with several firm wraps of thread.

Step 7



Repeat this process to create the 2<sup>nd</sup> segment. Trim the excess foam and whip finish behind the sequin.



# Around the Bay...and Further Away



## THREE KAYAKERS



Three kayakers hit the water about 9:00 A.M. At times, the fog/mist was so thick you couldn't see 50 yards. A couple of us paddled over to Gilmore Bayou from the foot of the three mile bridge. Drifting back and forth for reds produced not a strike. Not a bird was flying or on the water and there was no evidence of bait fish. We tried inside the bayou channel, down to the "Y", along the docks, and didn't get a strike. Back at Hoffman Bayou, we got no takers in the usual good areas. The fog stayed. We gave up and left about noon thirty. The dense fog lent an unusual and twilight zone feeling out there. Every day on the water has its reward.

When I got home and was cleaning up my equipment, I had a slight mishap. I had left a heavy tippet on a fly I cut off. As I was rinsing the salt off all the flies, I managed to pull that tippet some way and drove the hook through the middle finger of my right hand. I was happy to see that I had crushed the barb, and worked it back out. No real harm done.

I know a couple of you are not feeling well, or tending relatives with problems. I wish you a speedy recovery.

**Gerald Gillis**



# The Tip Jar....

**NOTE**—While doing some surfing I ran across this item. I know it does not apply to fly fishing but some folks still use bobbers and other types of rods. I thought it would be of interest. Hope you agree.

Roy Turner, Editor

## How To Make Your Own Bobber Stops

**A great way to repurpose old, spent braid and build bobber stops.**



If there's one thing the Green Movement has right, it's the mantra "Reuse, Reduce, Recycle." But in some way or another, anglers have been living by this slogan long before it appeared on a bumper sticker.

Years ago I discovered a great way to repurpose old, spent braid and build my own bobber stops. For anglers who fish slip float rigs for catfish, panfish and walleyes, it's a trick that can save time and a little bit of money.

Any angler who fishes slip floats is familiar with the various bobber stops sold at tackle shops. The small, spherical stops have the tendency to loose their grip when adjusted up and down the line a few times, requiring re-rigging—a time-consuming chore when you're on the water.

The best bobber stops are those made of line wrapped around a small plastic tube. You simply pass your line through the tube, push the knot onto your main line and pull tight. And, that's precisely the kind of bobber stop we're going to create.

It's ideal to make them ahead of time so you always have them available for quick rigging—or, in a pinch, fashion one on the water with nothing more than a small piece of braid tied directly to your main line.

### What You'll Need

- Small 5-inch cocktail straws
- Braid scissors
- A dozen 8- to 10-inch lengths of old braid

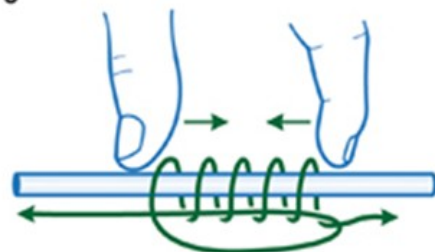
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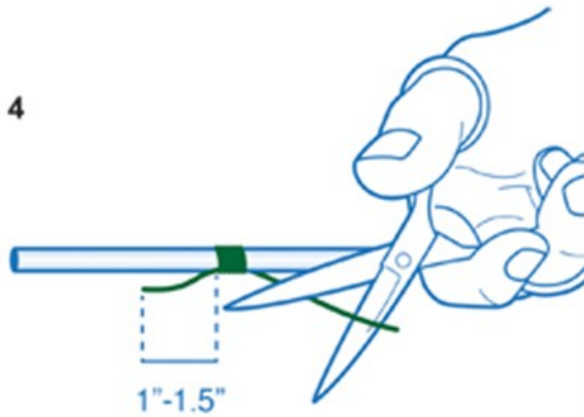
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## The Tip Jar.... Continue



Making your own bobber stops out of discarded braid tag ends is easy and will save money. Follow these simple steps to tie your own "green" bobber stop knots

1. Thread your line parallel to the straw and form a loop. Perform four to six wraps over the braid and straw and cinch the knot. Go with five or six more wraps with lighter braid; heavier braid may only require four.
2. Cut the tag ends to one inch per side.
3. Slide the completed bobber stop to the end of the straw, but do not slide it off.

Repeat steps 1-3 until the straw has several stops on it with approximately 1/16-inch between each. Cut the straw into as many sections as you have knots. Or leave all knots on the straw and simply slide a single stop onto the line as needed.

It's essential to become confident in tying the uni knot, which is the basis for the DIY bobber stop. I suggest downloading the Knot Wars app to your smartphone as it is designed to demonstrate literally dozens of different fishing knots, including this one.

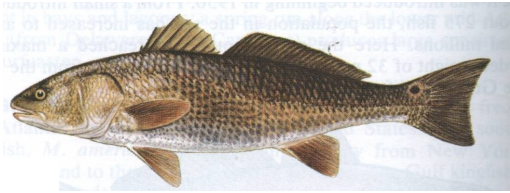
**One caveat:** Don't forget to use a small bead to separate the top of the bobber from your stop. Otherwise, the knot could slide into the bobber shaft.





## *FISHERMAN'S HOROSCOPE*

**Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb18) The Tackle Box** Born under the sign of the Water Carrier, you are still patiently waiting for your ship to come in. Have you noticed, through, that the tide is getting up over your hip waders?



# FEBRUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Healing Waters	<b>4</b> Business Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> VA tying clinic	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Clinic - Casting, tying, gourmet lunch 9 AM
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Healing Waters	<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>	