

# Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS  
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
JANUARY 2006

THE FLYFISHERS OF  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
PO BOX 1041  
PENSACOLA, FL 32591

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## NEWSLETTER

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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

BOARD MEETING  
4TH TUESDAY, 6:30PM

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## Dues are due!

Please pay your annual membership dues of \$30 to  
Karen Brand at any of the January meetings or mail  
your check to her at 5870 Country Club Rd, Milton,  
FL 32570

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**AUCTION - Vacant**

**CONSERVATION - Skeet Lores**

**DIRECTORY/NEWSLETTER - Jerry Aldridge**

**EDUCATION/CASTING - John Brand**

**EDUCATION/TYING - Tom Regina**

**TRIPS & OUTINGS - Art de Tonnancourt**

**FFF REPRESENTATIVE - Larry Goodman**

**LIBRARY - Bill Parrish**

**MEMBERSHIP - Karen Brand**

## President's Message ....Jay Williams

Here we are, already, at the New Year. Let's give thanks for our being here to start it and also, remember our brethren who are no longer with us. We'll miss Kevin and Milt, now of Colorado; and David, now in North Georgia moonshine country. We have missed Vance Cook for quite some time and lament his passing. He was a master fly tyer and served the club long and well. Vance's pipe smoke kept many of us alert during some of the meetings.

Santa Claus brought VP Russ a computer, and Russ is being drug screaming into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Santa also brought us new members like Gerry Giles and Larry Sisney who are stand up guys, and who are our new Secretary and Treasurer, respectfully.

Our former Treasurer, Don "Kneecap Breaker" Lu-pone was turned out to pasture at his request. Don did a superb job as treasurer for us, and deserves a solid pat on the back for his quality service to our organization for the past several years. He will stay an active member, happily. Rumors that he is an IRS prisoner in a secret Baltic country are unfounded.

The last regular business meeting was in November, as the annual Christmas party always replaces it in December, so there's no fishing news to report from that month, However I'm sure there will be some tall tales brought out toward the end of the January meeting.

We have what should be an excellent program at that meeting, so please come help us start the New Year off with a bang. You will have an opportunity to propose two general members to sit on the board as Members At Large, so be thinking about who you would like to see elected to those positions. See you there: 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The board will meet at 6:00 PM. Board meetings are always open to members. Tight lines, Jay.

### *2006 Fishing Trips.... Art de Tonnancourt*

**January 3th:** Pete Barrett, an outfitter for western, Canadian, and Alaskan fishing expeditions for several years, will give a presentation at the first 2006 business meeting on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Pete offers a very unique way to fish the western rivers with the use of his equipment & accommodations on wheels which consist of a large camping trailer (referred to as the "Sheepwagon", a 4 wheel drive ATV, pontoon boat, etc. He will give all the details in his presentation that night.

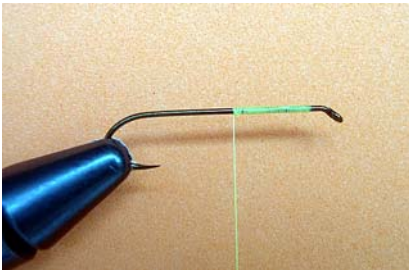
**April & May:** As mentioned in previous editions of Flies and Lies, I organize several North Carolina fishing trips each year. This spring I have reserved the beautiful Black Bear lodge outside of Bryson City for the following periods: April 9-15, April 23-29 and May 7-13. Black Bear lodge comfortably accommodates 6 people with the prorated cost at \$170 per person. Participants will also be required to prepare and furnish one evening meal for six hungry fishermen. Due to the limited openings, members interested in getting an invitation should communicate with me at 492-3833 or ardetonnancourt1@cox.net as soon as possible. Invitations will be made in January/February.

## January Streamer Ties with Tom Regina.... Edson Dark Tiger

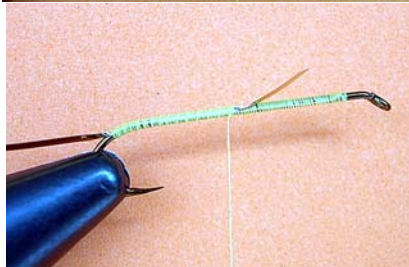
The first fly in our streamer ties series is the Edson Dark Tiger, a famous pattern developed by William R. Edson from Maine's Rangely Lakes area in the early 1900's. We could however change the name to Edson Blind Dark Tiger. The original Edson Dark Tiger had cheeks of jungle cock feather to represent baitfish eyes. Because of the high cost of a jungle cock cape (a prime quality jungle cock cape may sell for \$200 or more) we will forgo the cheeks or eyes; thus Edson Blind Dark Tiger. As an option to jungle cock eyes I have used golden pheasant tippets on some streamers.

### Tying Instructions

<b>Hook</b>	Mustad 3665A, size 8
<b>Thread</b>	Yellow 3/0
<b>Tag</b>	Flat gold Mylar tinsel
<b>Tail</b>	Two yellow hackle tips
<b>Body</b>	Fine yellow chenille
<b>Throat</b>	Two red hackle tips
<b>Wing</b>	Brown bucktail dyed yellow
<b>Head</b>	Yellow 8/0 thread and epoxy

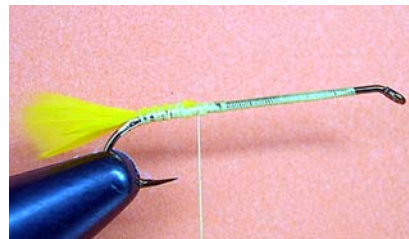


1. Debarb and mount the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot, start the thread two hook eyes distance back from the hook eye. In touching tight turns lay down a smooth neat thread base along the hook shank to about the mid point on the hook shank.



2. Cut about a five inch long piece of Mylar tinsel from the spool and tie it on top of and parallel to the hook shank. Continue tying down the Mylar with touching thread turns along the top of the hook shank and down the hook bend to a point opposite the hook barb. In quick spiral turns return the thread forward to a distance about one-half inch from the hook bend.

3. To form the tag wrap the Mylar tinsel forward in slightly overlapping turns to where the thread bobbin is hanging from the hook. Tie off the tinsel and cut away the tag ends.



4. For the tail tie in two yellow hackle tips on top of the hook shank so they extend about one hook gap distance behind the hook bend.



5. Cut about a six inch piece of chenille from the skein. Tie it in on top of the tail tie in thread wraps with about five inches of the chenille extending in back of the hook. Cut away the chenille tag end. In quick spiral turns return the thread to the thread tie on point at the front of the hook. Make several whip or half hitch wraps of thread.



## *January Streamer Ties with Tom Regina.... Edson Dark Tiger*



6. In touching turns wrap the chenille forward to the thread tie on point. Tie off the chenille and cut away the tag end.

7. Invert the hook in the vise and tie in the two red hackle tips for the throat. The throat hackle tips should extend about one quarter inch back over the chenille body along the bottom of the hook shank. Trim the hackle tip butts as close to the front thread wraps as possible. Cover the hackle butt ends with thread wraps and wrap thread up to the eye then back two hook eyes distance.



8. For the wing cut a portion of hair from the bucktail. Remove any under hair. Stack the hair and tie it in on top of the hook at the head of the fly. The length of the wing should be even with the back of the tail. At a shallow angle cut away the butt ends of the bucktail wing.

9. Make several whip or half hitch wraps. Cut away the thread. Using a jam knot tie on the 8/0 thread and form a neat thread head. Whip finish or half hitch the thread to finish tying the head. Cut away the thread. Epoxy the thread head.

## *Pete & Cheryl at Roland Cooper State Park....Pete Foster*



**C**heryl and I went to Miller's Ferry in Camden, Alabama from November 7 to 10. We stayed in a cabin at Roland Cooper State Park. Accommodations at the Alabama state park were first class. The cabins were two bedrooms with a private dock, grills, and a wraparound porch. They were fully furnished. Fishing on the river was slow, but locals mentioned that it picks up when they pull or generate water. We caught a dozen bass (mostly caught by Cheryl).



## **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)

## Colorado River at Lee's Ferry... Tom Regina



In northwest Arizona 110 miles north of Flagstaff, the outflow of Lake Powell from the bottom of Glenn Canyon Dam forms the Lee's Ferry tailwater fishery. Some anglers describe the Colorado River at Lee's Ferry as "the worlds largest spring creek". In reality it is a big clear-flowing tailwater trout fishery running 15.5 miles from the Glenn Canyon Dam to the



upper end of the Grand Canyon.

The Lee's Ferry portion through Glenn Canyon is a year-round fishery with predominantly wild rainbow trout and a few brook and cutthroats. Some publications boast of 16 - 20 inch fish being the norm. From my experience angling this fishery on three different occasions, I find the "normal" or average size closer to 11 - 14 inches. But there are lots of them.

The Colorado River carved an extraordinary landscape with intricate mazes and massive rock monoliths within Glenn Canyon. Glenn Canyon is a stunning place to be, as *John Gierach* would say, "standing in a river waving a stick". The Glenn Canyon Cliffs are millions of years old, 1000-foot high, fossilized sand dunes sculptured by the Colorado. As you wade the crystal clear waters casting for trout, you can't help but pause time and time again to take in the sights of your surroundings. Not only will you see the fish you are stalking but chances are you will see great blue herons, golden eagles, wild ducks, beaver, and even a condor soaring on a thermal updraft - did you miss that strike? Pay attention to the task at hand.

There is little access for walk-in fishing within Glenn Canyon. Most anglers hire a guide with a boat, rent a jet boat, or motor up river in their own boat to anchor at gravel bars and wade. The National Park Service operates a full hook-up campground at Glenn Canyon National Recreation Area and several primitive camp sights along the river in Glenn Canyon. Other accommodations are available on highway 89A in Marble Canyon, AZ.

Karen Brand and I recently fished Lee's Ferry. Karen was in Las Vegas on business. I flew out to Las Vegas several days after Karen and met her at the Hertz get-a-car place the next morning. We got- a- car- for the 277 mile 6 hour drive to Marble Canyon. Karen had road maps to show the way. With Karen driving I navigated. But of course I don't need no girly maps to find my way across the high Arizona desert. No sir - I don't need no sissy maps to get from here-to-there. (I still can't figure out why Karen drove 330 miles and 8 hours to get us from where we were to where we went).

We booked the fishing part of the trip through Bob Marriott's Flyfishing Store Travel Center and made our headquarters at Lee's Ferry Anglers Cliff Dwellers Lodge, Restaurant, and Fly Shop complex at Marble Canyon about seven miles from Lee's Ferry. The fly shop, lodge, and restaurant are located at the base of Vermillion Cliffs National Monument and centrally located for Lee's Ferry fishing, Colorado River raft trips, Grand Canyon National Park visits, and wildlife viewing and photography. Lee's Ferry Anglers is owned and operated by Terry and Wendy Gunn. Terry and Wendy have been featured in many fly fishing magazines and fly fishing instruction and destination videos.

By the time Karen *finelly* got us to Lee's Ferry Anglers and we checked into our rooms it was

time for supper. We met in the restaurant and had a mighty fine meal. The food was outstanding. The service was the same. The servings were so large I could never finish my meals. However Karen scoffed down all of her fajitas and beer (as she did at every meal).

The first day of fishing, Karen and I met in the restaurant for breakfast at 6:30 AM, an





English Muffin for me, a bucket of oatmeal, raisins, brown sugar, and milk for her. While I sat waiting for Karen to finish her cereal our guide Skip Dixon came in and gave us a briefing on fishing tactics and what to expect for the next two days. Skip doesn't think of himself as a guide. He's a fly fishing coach. And as it turned out Skip is a top notch guide - I mean coach.



Our two days of guided fishing with Skip Dixon started after breakfast each day when we met Skip at 8 AM at Lee's Ferry boat ramp. Skip would launch the 20-foot shallow draft, covered, and heated, jet boat. We would stow our gear and head up river where we were soon wade fishing from gravel bars or grass flats with Skip at our side giving direction, tying knots, and releasing fish.

The air temperature in the mornings was well below freezing and the rod guides stayed iced. By about 10 AM it started to warm up and by lunch time it was close to a 46 degree heat wave. The ham and cheese sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, pasta salad, apples, and raisin oatmeal cookies Skip provided stayed frozen. As did my beer. The chips however were just right. The water temperature stayed a constant 52 degrees throughout the day. In the afternoon the air temperatures start back down - a signal for Skip to head back to the boat ramp, pull the boat before dark, and get us back to the restaurant before Karen starved.

In two days of angling we landed about 17 rainbows each. However as much as she tried, the Crackleback Queen caught no fish on her cracklebacks. What did she do? I can't tell. However the word going around is the Queen resorted to egg patterns as a dropper with split shot on her string to get the eggs down. I could confirm Karen did these sins, however because I promised her I would never tell anyone of her transgressions, I won't confirm that she used eggs and lead. After all a man has to stick to his word or fish alone.



The drive back to Las Vegas went better. Karen didn't get us lost. She followed my directions. We stopped at Hoover Dam. Took the tour. Put a look wrench on the whole thing. Drove on to the Las Vegas airport. Turned the car in. Bussed to the terminal. Separated. Checked in with our respective airlines at 3:45 PM and departed LAS to PNS after 12 AM. If you don't ask how much each fish cost we won't have to figure it out.

## Military Gold Sportsman's License Available

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is providing service men and women a new hunting/fishing license.

The Military Gold Sportsman's License is available to active duty and retired military who are stationed in Florida or have lived in Florida for six months and claim Florida as their primary residence. The reduced-fee annual license (\$20) includes hunting, salt and fresh water fishing, wildlife management area, archery, muzzle loading gun, turkey, Florida waterfowl, snook and crawfish permits.

The Military Gold Sportsman's Licenses are only available at tax collectors' offices. Those wishing to purchase one must show their military ID card plus a Florida driver's license or orders showing they are stationed in Florida.

## *Snake River Cutthroat Sets State Record.... Colorado Division of Wildlife*

To call this trout a lunker would be an understatement: 33 inches long, 17 pounds, 2.6 ounces. That's the size of the Snake River cutthroat trout caught Aug. 28, 2005, in the Blue River by Rob Peckham, 48, of Oak Creek, CO. The fish set a state record for that species. The size of the fish was confirmed by Bill Atkinson, aquatic biologist for the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) in Steamboat Springs.

Peckham, who has been fishing all his life, caught the fish while floating the river below Green Mountain Dam. He was using a rainbow-colored Rapala on spin-casting gear. Peckham explained that he has fished that section several times and had seen big trout there. Normally a fly fisherman, Peckham said he switched to spinning gear because he didn't think he'd be able to bring in a giant trout on a fly rod. "I knew there were big fish in there, but I was surprised when I caught one," Peckham said.

Because the fish is not native to Colorado, the DOW has established Peckham's catch as the record for the Snake River cutthroat category. The DOW maintains a separate category for native cutthroat species - Colorado River, Greenback and Rio Grande. The largest native cutthroat recorded in the state was a 16-pounder taken from Twin Lakes in 1964. The exact species is not known; but it was caught before the DOW started stocking the Snake River variety, said Robin Knox, the agency's sport fish coordinator. "The size of the fish gives evidence that the Blue River continues to be a high-quality fishery", Knox said.



**FOR SALE – LOTS OF FLYFISHING TACKLE, MUCH ALMOST NEW, PRICED AT FRACTION OF ORIGINAL COST. CONTACT FORMER MEMBER JOE JUDD AT JUDDTROUT@AOL.COM OR 478-6213**

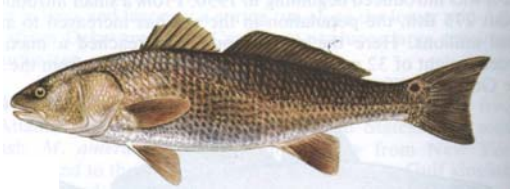
**RODS** (\$125, Orvis Trident TL, 6 weight, 9', 2 piece, mid-flex, with case, like new)  
(\$100, LL Bean Double L, 8 weight, 8'9", 2 piece, with case, excellent condition )  
(\$75, Penn Gold Medal, 3 weight, 7'9", 2 piece, with case, used very little)

**REELS & SPOOLS** (\$100, Orvis CFO III, spare spool and case, 4-6 weight)  
(\$75, LL Bean Maine Guide 8910, spare spool and cases, 8-9 weight)  
(\$15, Shakespeare 300 spinning reel)

**TYING TABLE** \$125, All hand made, tying station in hardwood carrying case with tools, superb craftsmanship

**VESTS** (\$10, No-name vest, medium, fair condition) (\$10, BW Sports chest fishing pack, good condition (rusty snaps due to salt water)

**ACCESSORIES** (\$25, LL Bean rod travel case, canvas, holds 6 rods and 4-6 reels, good condition) (\$20, Back pack by Trail Marker)



# JANUARY 2006

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>
		Business Meeting 7 PM				
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
				Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30 PM		
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
						Clinic - Casting, tying gourmet lunch 9 AM
<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>				

