



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

January, 2018

FFNWF

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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

Happy New Year!!

We won't waste any time getting started in the new year – our meeting is **Tuesday, January 2** at 7:00 PM. New president Dave Handley will chair his first meeting and new veep Ed Hamkens will present the program – Land and Water Access across the Country. Then new Angler of the Year Matt Wegener will do the fly tying on **Thursday, January 11**.

Onward and upward into the new year, new official Casting Instructor in Residence, Jonas Magnusson, will be on duty at the clinic on **January 20** (onward on the forward cast and upward on the backcast). To highlight the first clinic of the new year, Russ Shields will provide his famous Seafood Chowder at the clinic – all ingredients fresh local seafood fare.

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE FOR 2018. SEE JAY. DO THE DUES

The Christmas Party That Was

The Best Ever. Fifty five strong attended the 2017 Christmas Party on the night of December 12th. It was a jubilee and historic total. Starting off with the attendance of Jon Williams, a charter member and one of the club's Honorary Life Members, and Kent Reagan, our newest Honorary Life Member. It was also great to see Bob Korose at the party. Hopefully we will see a lot more of Bob as he continues to recover. Get well, Tarpon Bob!

Raffle tickets sold like hot cakes and food and desserts were aplenty. Master of Ceremonies Cliff Newton did an amazing job of orchestrating the evening. Cliff presented the Angler of the Year award to a very surprised Matt Wegener. Congratulations to Matt. Pat Murphy made over 60 Christmas colored flies that were given to all of the attendees, Thank You, Pat. The winners of all the raffle prizes were smiling from ear to ear, especially Kiel and Holly, who were fortunate enough to win not one Yeti cooler but two!

All in all everyone had a wonderful time. Want to Thank the Christmas Committee for making this year's Christmas Party a huge success. See ya next year and let's try for Sixty! *Jay Brykczynski*

The Christmas Party That Was



Raffle Winners!! Bob Korose not only made it to the party but won the rod donated by Feather Craft! If some of these faces look familiar rest assured it was 2017. The people that win every year do look a bit older.



Honorary Member Kent Angler of the Year Matt Master of Ceremony Cliff New President Dave



But the last thing you need at the North Pole is a cooler. Or two coolers. New evidence of global warming

And a Good Time was had by All!!

From the New Pres

As we come into the New Year and the thirty-fourth year of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida (FFNWF) formation and we do so with a membership of seventy-three. We reflect on the club goals of education, activities to promote fly fishing, and fellowship. We continue to be blessed with skilled mentoring participant members. This is your club and is therefore a reflection of your interest in the organization. I personally sought out the club in my desire to learn the art of fly fishing. Although not as accomplished in that art as I wish, I have found a fellowship which has provided me a full sense of belonging.

My desire is to be of service to the club. As president I intend to continue the club agendas of education/awareness of the sport of fly fishing and support of Project Healing Waters for our veterans. This will only be possible with the support, input, and participation of our members, past board members, and club mentors. I wish to thank the Past President Oleta Webb for her contribution this past year, previous Board of Directors for their efforts, and additionally those officers who have stood again this year. I also wish to acknowledge our Newsletter publisher Paul Wargo, our Fly Master Matt Wegener, Casting Master Jonas Magnusson for their continuing work and contributions, and Russ Shields for his mentorship in the club education efforts and Project Healing Waters program.

In an effort to cover both the club business and general monthly meetings we will work from an agenda. The meeting minutes are posted in the monthly newsletter by the Secretary. Any open business will automatically be placed on the agenda. Board Members and Members are requested to provide items by email, text, or phone for inclusion into the agenda so time for discussion can be made.

Respectfully, I serve at your pleasure, tight lines. *Dave* (850) 417-9233

FYI -

2018 Membership Drive starts in January, see Jay at all the meetings or send to

Jay W Brykczynski 4983 Prieto Drive Pensacola FL 32506

Dues: \$30.00 regular members; \$10.00 associate members. Make checks out to FFNWF.

Grab bag Prizes Reminder to all attending the first Tuesday meetings to bring something related to Fly Fishing for the raffles (all free). Even an old Fly Fishing magazine will do or flies you know you will never use.

Clinic Lunches Want to cook a lunch for the club in 2018? See Joe Higgins to schedule.

Name Tags Want one of the sharp looking club gold name tags? See Joe Higgins to order. Money up front..

Big Fly Fishing Shows FFI sponsored Fly Fishing Shows: Atlanta GA Feb 2-3 2018 www.flyfishingshow.com

Crystal River FL Feb 9-10 2018 www.FFI Florida.org click on Expo

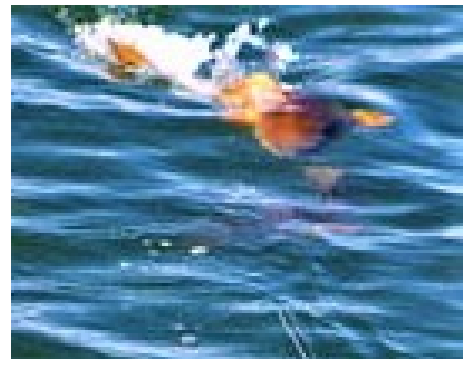
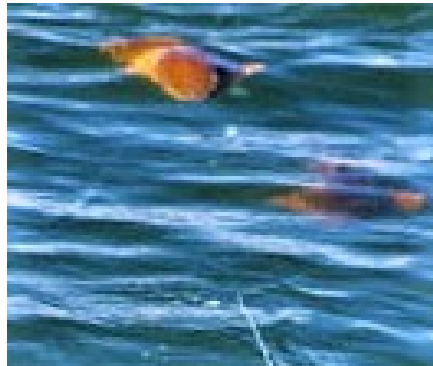
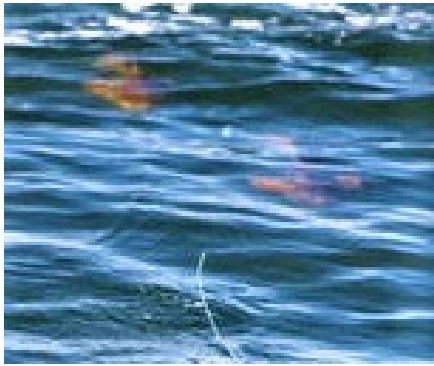
Project Healing Waters

Our January PHWFF meeting days are messed up because of the holidays so we are shifting everything ahead by one week. We will plan to meet on January 8, 15 and 29. *Russ Shields*

PS: **Don't forget the Russ' Famous Seafood Chowder** at the Clinic on Saturday, January 20

Fishing with Capt Baz Baz has no report this month due to a light fishing schedule and all the other things that make December so busy for everyone. He will be back next month, hopefully with bonus pictures from the Bahamas. However, Baz did ask us to include a report from our new member.....

Fishing with Capt Dan Snow, highs near 80, 20 mph winds, fog thicker than I have ever seen, etc. The December weather threw us just about every curveball it had and made fishing tough for the most part. We found some good days mixed in, but it was a month to "take what it gives you" and be happy about it. Had anyone asked me at the Christmas party about the "Running of the Bulls" I would have sworn it was done for the year. Sporadic at best through November and pretty much non-existent in December for me. Then the very next day on the 13th, we ran over an acre of them west of Deer Point and enjoyed the most cooperative fish we have had all year for a few hours before leaving to go do something else.



I had a new lens on my camera and was trying to get shots of the fish chasing and eating the fly. My buddy and future club member (if he knows what's good for him), Chad, was on the boat as usual, and I would only let him throw to the side of the boat that gave me the best light for the pictures. He caught plenty even though I was so cruel to limit him to half the school. One of them was a giant. I don't have anything on the boat to weigh or measure fish, but I'm sure this is the biggest I have seen in a long time. The fish ate a Mangum's dragon tail fly with a gray craft fur brush collar. I got a few pics of him chasing the fly I'll attach. Oddly enough, I noticed on that day that there was no banging on the bridge from the construction. Maybe Baz was on to something last month when he made that suggestion. I should really start to listen to that guy.



Other than that one day, we had to really work for the redfish. With winds and waves making the beach pretty much off limits for us, we have been spending time on the platform scanning our favorite inside flats in the Sound and close to the Pass. Earlier in the month the typical grass flats were loaded with fish but I have noticed fewer fish recently. The slack low tides in the middle of the day aren't helping matters either. When the water doesn't move, the fish really don't, either. They are much easier to see swimming across a flat that sitting on the bottom of a hole over grass. The good news is that the fish that are there are usually big. As always with the bigger ones this time of year, they are spooky jokers. Find a lane that they like to cruise and sneak the anchor over. You will be surprised how many shots you get just watching your favorite piece of water for a few hours. I used the "sit and wait" strategy on a solo trip mid month to catch this fish (attached) but didn't really have a way to take a picture being by myself. Maybe fish selfies will catch on and become a thing? I got three bites on three

different flies. This one ate at the boat when the leader was just at the tip top. Nice when they cooperate like that.

In other news there is no news, at least when it comes to false albacore. I haven't seen them this month and if they are out there no one called to invite me. Hopefully we will get a more predictable winter weather pattern and get to enjoy some beach run FA's. You really want a strong cold front followed by the typical blue bird days with light north winds and flat surf. I think we will have our chance soon so start tying up your favorite FA flies and get ready.

It was nice to chat with some of you at the Christmas party. I really want to thank everyone for the warm welcome we have received. I know I haven't met everyone just yet but hopefully that is short lived. You have a nice organization and I hope to contribute in whatever ways I can for you. It's an honor to type this report for you. I have learned a ton from the reports that Baz has provided over the years, so to have the chance to fill in for him is really something special for me. Thank you for thinking of me and hopefully we can start off 2018 right and see some backing! *Capt Dan Storey.*

Flash Fly...by Bob Korose and presented by Matt Wegener

It's a new year, which means it's time for a new fly of the month. Standard for the first fly of the year, this is a simple pattern...but that doesn't mean it doesn't catch fish! Bob Korose introduced this fly to the club a few years back and it has caught plenty of fish for me since then. Tie it on a #4 in white/pink and you have a fly that produces pompano and whiting in the surf. Tie it on a #1 or #2 and add some wire or 80# mono start catching Spanish mackerel or blue fish. This fly really catches them all, including the redfish in the picture that Tarpon Bob caught back in 2014.

Hot tip: red head with a white body and tail catches everything that swims.

Hook: Mustad 34007, #1-#4
Thread: White Danville Flat-waxed nylon
Eyes: Medium dumbbell eyes
Body: Flashy chenille (pearl chenille, cactus chenille, Estaz or others)
Tail: Fly Tyer's Dungeon Pearl Web

Tying Instructions



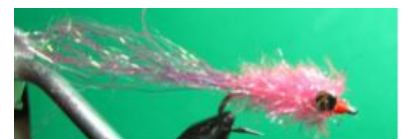
1. Lay down a simple thread base and attach the eyes an 1\8" behind the hook eye with figure 8 wraps.



2. Attach a good hunk of flash that is 2 times length of the hook behind the eyes. Leave the thread hanging by the bend of the hook.



3. Tie a 4" length of flash material at the bend of the hook. Take the thread forward to the eyes.



4. Wrap the flash material with touching wraps forward to the eyes and figure over the eyes and tie off in front of the eyes.

5. Wrap a nice head and whip finish. Apply epoxy or clear goo and your fly is ready for action!



Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida December 2017 Meeting December 5, 2017 George Norton, Secretary

Oleta Webb called meeting to order at 1900 hours. Minutes from November approved and accepted.

Treasurers' Report: A motion to accept the report was passed. Club finances are in good shape. The balance for the upcoming Christmas party is in good shape and the club will have a surplus at year end.

Old business: We reviewed the plans for the Christmas party and everything seems to be going great. There are always a few glitches but Jay has kept us updated and was ironing out the last minute wrinkles.

New Business/Committee Reports and discussions: A motion making Kent Reagan an honorary life member was proposed by Jerry Giles. Members approved the motion. George and Janie will bring him to the Christmas Party where Kent will be honored. We are happy to report that Bob Korose will attend the Christmas Party. Bob has been suffering from a serious illness but his ongoing prognosis has shown steady improvement.

Fishing Reports: George was surprised by a ladyfish wade fishing near the inter-coastal side at Johnson Beach in early December and there were a few trout in the canals. Ladyfish normally depart our waters in late October.

Terry gave an expansive report that the trout have not yet showed at their cool water locations which are bayous and canals. Terry commented the water has been still too warm but a hard cold front this week should send them to the deep holes in the bayous and canals. Terry recommended a tan and chartreuse Clouser minnow with "yellow eyes."

My observation is the bull red run is about over in the Bay as the boats are gone from the Bay. The run was not nearly as productive as in year's past. For one or two days they were on and then the bulls seemingly disappeared. I spent six days on the water in November hanging around the fleet and caught no bulls but when I went to grass flats near the Pass I picked up a nice 25 inch slot red. Hopefully next year the bulls will be back in force.

The warmer than normal weather may have given them lock jaw while some hypothesize it was the bridge pile drivers that upset the run. Some bulls have been recently caught off the beaches just outside the Pass. False Albacore should start to show up soon on the beaches and don't forget to fish the canals and bayous for trout.