

# Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS  
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
JULY 2007

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**Casting and Fly Tying**...At the Thursday July 12 Bull Session, starting at 6:30 PM, curmudgeon Jerry Aldridge will teach us how to tie the Parachute Adams dry fly. This fly, in several sizes, should be given lots of space in every fly anglers bug box. The Parachute Adams is considered by many fly anglers as the single choice for a searching dry fly. The passive color of the Adams mimics a lot the natural insect's trout and pan fish feed on. If you want to catch (and release) many trout, come let Jerry teach you how to tie this "go to" fly.

Also at the July 12 Bull Session, starting at 6:30 PM, John Brand will continue to demonstrate and give instruction on a particular fly casting technique. John will also provide general casting instruction at the Saturday July 21 clinic starting at 9 AM. If you want to improve your fly casting skills, John is the one to help you.

Also at the Saturday July 21, 9 AM clinic, Tom Regina will lead us in tying the Sparkle Scud. Scuds are an effective pattern in still waters, rivers, spring creeks, and tail waters containing aquatic weed patches.

Your club will provide fly rods, reels, and all fly tying materials and tools at both the Bull Session and the Saturday clinic. If you have your own fly rod and tools please bring them. As always we welcome your guests and we have fly rods and tools for them to use. Your guest well be treated as we would want to be treated. We promise to make them welcome.

At the Saturday clinics, your club provides a "gourmet" lunch along with big and little people's beverages. And it is all free for both club members and our guests. At the July 21 clinic Russ Shields and Jerry Giles will feed us another mighty fine lunch. If you have partaken of their lunches in the past you need not be reminded of how great they are. If you haven't chewed down on Russ and Jerry's vittles, be there and fatten up... you won't be sorry.

## President's Message ....Karen Brand

Summer is well under way with all of the heat and humidity that comes with living in Pensacola. If it is too hot to go fishing why not attend one of our club meetings in July, the air conditioner in the clubhouse is working pretty well these days! We will have a guest speaker from the Marine Patrol at the July 3<sup>rd</sup> General Membership meeting; members Russ Shields and Terry McCormick coordinated this, thanks Guys!

We have a new member, Bill Cummins and I hope everyone will say Hi to Bill when they see him at one of our upcoming meetings! Your club has gained quite a few new members this year and all seem to have joined to learn more about fly-fishing. Right now the club is offering instruction in fly tying and casting but I would be interested getting your thoughts on other things our club can offer to better serve the members. So if you are a new member or have been around for years, I would still like to hear from you. We are only half way through the year so would like to see what kinds of activities you would like to see planned for the remainder of the year. I hope to see all of you on July 3<sup>rd</sup>!....Karen Brand

### General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, June 5th, 2007, President Karen Brand, presiding

**BOD**...Quorum present. Karen Brand presiding. Library's under budget status observed on treasurer's report. Proposed creation of sign out sheet covering the fly pattern notebooks, Parrish to implement. Treasure's report accepted on motion by Shields, properly seconded.

Karen reiterated policy of members obtaining free drinks only at Saturday clinic.

It was approved to reimburse Baz Yelverton for the \$200.00 Tillotson expense he expected due to our unclear policy on such matters. Motion by Shields and seconded. The money likely will come from unexpended educational funds.

The club rods are in need of repair and replacement to some degree. This will be assed more finitely. Funds could come from unexpended fishing trip and/or educational funds.

Approved expenditure of customary \$125.00 SE Conclave fee. Motion by Williams, seconded.

Approval of our continued affiliation with the FFF SE Council for the next year was passed, on motion by Regina, and seconded.

All the above actions were stated to the general meeting, following the BOD meeting, without objections.

A general discussion of providing rod building instruction and demonstration was held. Some interest is evident. Further thought is being given to the concept.

Scout camp merit badge assistance is needed by Vic and Klaus. Karen will memo the membership by e-mail, requesting more help.

Program regarding the second phase of Project Greenshores was given by Jim Lappert of the DEP, Project manager. There will be no significant restriction on public access and use, except oystering will not be permitted, and catch and release methodology is urged from the health standpoint.

Fishing reports were given following the program, and then the meeting closed. Respectfully submitted, Jay Williams

**PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOM REGINA. ASK HIM FOR THE "REST OF THE STORY"**



## *Sparkle Scud.... Tom Regina*

Scuds are fresh water crustaceans that live on aquatic vegetation in nearly every body of still water and moving water where the current is slow enough for aquatic vegetation to take root. Scuds can swim and are frequently found scurrying between weed beds where they are pursued by predatory trout. Because scuds reproduce year round they are available to trout in all seasons.

The most common hook sizes for tying scud imitations are 10 through 18, with sizes 14, 16, and 18 being preferred. Live scuds range in color shades of olive, gray, and tan. Dead scuds are imitated with pink and orange colors. Scuds at rest are crescent shaped, whereas swimming scuds stretch out and look like animated sticks.

Use nymphing methods to present scud imitations to visibly feeding trout in shallow aquatic plant areas and at the edges of weed beds. If trout are not visible, blind cast to the same areas. Scuds are often swept away from their habitat by water current when they are swimming or because of the action of feeding trout disturbing the vegetation. For this reason you should also present your scud imitations into faster water below vegetation areas,

### Materials

<b>Hook</b>	Mustad C49S, size 10
<b>Head</b>	7/64" or 3/32" gold bead
<b>Thread</b>	8/0 olive
<b>Rib</b>	Fine copper or gold wire
<b>Shellback</b>	Hareline Dubbing Inc., 1/8" dark olive Scud Back
<b>Body</b>	Wapsi Sow-Scud dark sow bug dubbing



### Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook. Slide a bead onto the hook and mount the hook in the vise. Tie on the thread directly behind the bead. Lay down a neat underbody thread base back to a point at the hook bend directly over the hook barb.

2. At the thread hang point tie on about a 6" length of copper rib wire. Bind the tag end of the wire to the top of the hook and return the thread back to the point directly over the hook barb.

3. Cut away the rib wire tag behind the bead. For the shellback, cut about a 2" piece of Scud Back from the skein and tie it onto the hook at the thread hang point. Bind the tag end of the shellback to the top of the hook forward to the bead. Return the thread to the tie on point at the rear of the hook.

4. Cut away the excess shellback tag behind the bead. Dub a full buggy body up to the back of the bead and leave the thread hang directly behind the bead.

## Sparkle Scud.... Tom Regina (continued)



5. Pull the shellback strip forward over the top of the dubbed body stretching the shellback only slightly. Tie off the shellback just behind the bead with several tight thread wraps.



6. Cut away the tag end of the shellback. Wrap the rib wire forward in about 5 to 7 evenly spaced turns. (Note: While wrapping the rib wire it may be necessary to manipulate the shellback to keep it on top of the body. It may also be necessary to manipulate the dubbing to keep it off the top of the body). Tie off the rib wire directly behind the bead. Cut away the wire tag. Half hitch or whip finish the thread behind the bead head. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement to the finished thread wraps.



7. Using a dubbing teaser, tease the dubbing, on both sides of the fly, out and down to imitate legs.

## Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Velverton



The big news since my last report has been the early arrival of the false albacore. In my humble opinion, there's just nothing better on a 7wt than the hard fighting "little tunny". These fish typically weigh 4-6 pounds, and every one takes you deep in the backing. We landed the first fish of the season on June 9, two weeks earlier than last year. I think the tropical storm in early June pushed them in along with the tiny, clear minnows (sz 6 or 8) that they feed on.

The albies can be spooky, especially when you're dealing with lots of sun and calm water. But it can be done, as my friend Tij from UC Berkeley proved on June 10 by landing fifteen albies in an afternoon. Here's a good shot of Tij with a six pounder.



The next photo is of Tony Woodward, Colorado Springs, with one of twenty-two albies he and his fishing buddy landed on June 20. We got the fly right that day (Umpqua's sz 6 Cowen's Albie Anchovy) along with a fast stripping routine that includes sweeping the rod tip.

But the biggest news I have is that we finally landed the first king mackerel on fly June 21. Brook Niemiec from Cardiff, CA, had the hot hand that day. Brook was throwing a big streamer at barracuda around the USS Massachusetts when the king grabbed the fly. Immediately the tip section of the three piece Sage RPLXi 10wt came off, and Brook was fighting a screaming king with the butt and center sections...the tip section being somewhere down the fly line. I was pretty interested in the outcome, since it was my rod. After a while Brook worked in enough fly line where I could grab and reattach the tip section, and he handily brought the king to the boat. Here's a photo. This is the first ever king mackerel landed on my boat, and we did it the proper way...no chum....Capt Baz



## Coosa River.... Tom Regina



Your image of an Alabama river is probably the same as mine before I ventured to the Coosa River just a few miles northeast of Montgomery, AL. I envisioned the Coosa as a typical Alabama River, a slow-moving, muddy, warm water catfish lair. I was pleasantly surprised. There is little development along the river above Wetumpka and the water stays clear even after heavy rain. The Coosa presents fly anglers with diverse fishing opportunities and scenery on par with any eastern U.S. river. The tailwater section below Jordan Dam, about 7 miles north of Wetumpka, AL, flows clear and cool and features a variety of

water types. Long deep pools, shallow riffles, rocky plunge pools, and even some class I, II, and III whitewater rapids. The low banks of the Coosa are lined with cypress knees, great stands of elephant ears, and trees wrapped in Spanish moss. The Coosa is a big river - 300 to 500 yards wide and too deep to wade. Parts of the river above Wetumpka flow through wide canyon landscape. Rocky, vegetated islands dot the river throughout the 7-mile drift from the put-in at Jordan Dam to the take-out in Wetumpka.

Many anglers consider the Coosa River the best spotted bass fishery in the United States. If one considers the doggedness of a smallmouth, the greedy appetite of the largemouth, and finds that fish in a trout river, one has the spotted bass. Spotted bass are a joy to catch. They are hard fighting and willing to obliterate a popper as well as a large nymph or dry fly. The Coosa has lots of "spots", and some big heavy ones that will put you and your flinging stick to the test.

I fished the Coosa for two days with fly-fishing guide Carl Warmouth. Carl is the first to guide on the Coosa and the only guide to float the river in a drift boat. Carl is also the head guide and fly shop manager at Calloway Gardens in Georgia.

After a four drive from Pensacola to Wetumpka, I meet Carl at the take-out in Wetumpka for our 11:00 AM start. Carl drove us the 7 miles up river to the put-in at Jordan Dam for the first day of fishing. After launching the boat and shoving off (Navy lingo) Carl held the boat below the dam long enough for me to catch, land, and release a gar about 3 feet long. (Actually I did not release the gar, Carl did).

Drifting down river, throwing solo poppers, large nymph droppers under poppers, and dry flies to the shaded bank brought many large sunfish to hand. Most larger than a man's hand. Spotted bass also surrendered to the same tactics. Casting streamers to slow water mid river brought white bass and shad to hook. Nymphing pocket water, pools, and fast water around large boulder in the rapids proved effective for connecting with many spotted bass.

The first day of catch and release fishing under Carl's guidance rewarded me with about 30 fish. After fishing for 9 hours, we reached the take out at dark. A few meat anglers were at the boat ramp catching large catfish from the bank, kayaks and small boats. Other than a few bait casters fishing from the bank near the dam, these were the only other anglers we encountered all day. There were however a few canoe and kayak paddlers on the river. At times we could hear them having fun jumping from the high rocks and cliffs into the river. However the Coosa is big enough that anglers, canoe, and kayakers can share without conflict.

Day 2 was an early start. At 6:00 AM Carl picked me up at the take out in Wetumpka. Launching at the dam we spent time catching seven gar, all over 40 inches long. The fly Carl provides for gar fishing is a piece of 5 inch long white, combed out nylon rope with a yellow marabou collar and no hook. When the gar takes the fly the rope fibers tangle in its teeth and the fish is "hooked". That is the easy part. The gar puts up a good fight but cannot throw the "hook". Once landed the hard part begins. Put your leather gloves on. Get out your wire brush. Pry the mouth open. Place something in the mouth so it cannot close. Use the



## Coosa River.... Tom Regina (continued)



wire brush to pick the rope fibers out of the teeth. This may take quite some time. Some of the gar we tangled with were out of the water perhaps 5 minutes. However, when released they swam away quite speedily and apparently no worse for wear.

On day two Carl also got me onto about 30 fish. The sunfish were smaller but just as feisty. During two days or 22 hours of fishing the Coosa River, Carl never "looked at the clock". His dedicated purpose was to find fish and get me hooked to them. The only reason day one was only a 9 hour float and day two 13 hours is because I gave up. Carl wore me out.

To reach Wetumpka, AL., in Alabama from I-65 take Exit 6 to US-231N. Follow US-231N to Wetumpka and turn left onto AL-111N (S. Main Street). Then turn left onto Ready Street and you are at the 7 mile take-out. There are many first class motels/hotels 0-p there is a nice, clean, motel, =-the Key West Inn, which is closer to Wetumpka.



For more information about Coosa River fly fishing and fly-fishing guide Carl Warmouth, contact Carl at 334-444-9583 or visit his web site [www.coosariverdrifters.com](http://www.coosariverdrifters.com). For those of you that prefer to *go it alone* you can contact Coosa River Adventures. They rent both canoes and sit-on kayaks and provide shuttle service if you have your own canoe or kayak. Call them at 334-514-0279. Or see there web site [www.coosariveradventures.com](http://www.coosariveradventures.com). If you enjoy camping, you are in luck. In Wetumpka, at the confluence of the Coosa and Tallapoosa Rivers, is Fort Toulouse-Jackson Park. The park has 39 RV and tent sites with hook-ups. Contact the park headquarters at 334-567-3002 or see there web site [www.wetumpka.al.us](http://www.wetumpka.al.us).

## Fishing Report.... Captain Bob Quarles



Ben Boys has been fishing with me for a couple of years now....we always have a good time.... Brian Boys and father Ben Boys with one of several slot reds we caught.

This jack crevalle weighed over 30 pounds! Anew boat record! Ben did a great job with this fish but it wore us all out!



Tony Woodward from Colorado with a nice jack we sightfished on a topwater plug!

Tony caught fish on fly all afternoon.. I think it was four or five species and we ended the day at Portofino with a cigar and a margarita.. Thanks Tony for a great day.....

John Vaughn had a beautiful day, the weather was perfect and the fish were everywhere

After I dropped John off to catch his flight, I found this 29" red in about 12" of water and it gulped down a bait...reds are all over the flats.



## *Fishing Report... Captain Bob Quarles (continued)*



Russ Shields and his grandson had another perfect day and we caught this jack on topwater..

His grandson had two great quotes I'll always remember ..

"My face hurts from smiling so much" and "this is the best fishing trip of my life."

I spent a little time with Brian and he soon caught his very first fish on fly, he was stoked.... and so was Russ...but I think I was thrilled the most.....



This is special trip.... John Miller and his son.. we started off with bluefish on topwater.. the action was nonstop  
We moved out into the Gulf and the flyfishing was on fire for Ladyfish and Spanish.. Look at the water and those big smiles



As you can see, May was a very, very good month for fishing and flyfishing.... but the best part is still the people and the experience...It just keeps getting better and better

## *Around the Bay... and Further Away*

**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**  
1ST TUESDAY, 6:15PM

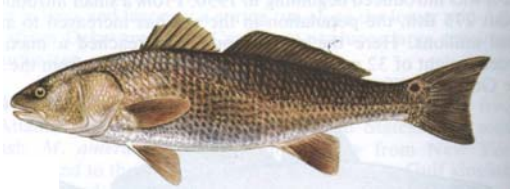


Our office went out on the "Reel Easy" June 8th for a day of bottom fishing. Not a bad haul of snapper! I landed one of the many barracuda that hang around the reefs waiting for the unfortunate snapper that doesn't recover fast enough when released. I think an orange deceiver on a 4/0 hook and wire leader could be just the ticket....**Mark Essert**

The 2007 Club project with The Boy Scouts was a great success. Over 30 youth members participated in the classes for Fishing and Fly fishing Merit badges at Camp Euchee. Special sessions were conducted to teach fly casting and fly tying. Our club furnished instructors, casting outfits and tying materials and tools. Klaus Gohrbandt and Vick Vickery eaded up the project. Bass Pro Shop loaned several smaller rods for teaching casting to the younger Scouts....**Vick Vickery**

Recent material added to the club library: "Snook on a Fly", Book #76 By Norm Zeigler "Bob Jacklin's Yellowstone Flies", DVD #91 By Bob Jacklin....**Bill Parrish**

FREE...HP Deskjet 5700 series color/B&W printer and a separate flat bed scanner/copier. Both are like new and work the same. The scanner is not compatible with Windows Vista operation system. Contact **Tom Regina**; 458-2978 or tom-regina@bellsouth.net.



# JULY 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Business Meeting 7 PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<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>	<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>				

