

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
JUNE 2014

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

PRESIDENT
Cliff Newton
(850) 637-3367
ccnewton@gmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT
W. (Rex) Straughn
(850) 261-7811
crew679584@att.net

SECRETARY
Kent Reagan
(850) 696-2862
kwReagan@msn.com

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

NEWSLETTER
Roy Turner
(850) 516-2607
yoyodclown@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....Cliff Newton

May has been a good month for our club. Our annual beginners course completed and by all accounts it was very successful. Much thanks goes to **Russ Shields** for overall organization and supervision and to all the club members who pitched in to assist in casting and classroom presentations. We had one of our most successful auctions ever. Thanks to **Terry McCormick** our auctioneer and to all the people that donated items. Special thanks to **Jack Bauknecht** who really beat the bushes to get some donated items. It was a good time and FFNWF and Project Healing Waters profited from everyone's participation.

Our Project Healing Waters group took a float trip down the Chattahoochee River just North of Atlanta. Please see the article in this newsletter on the trip. It was a blast and we all caught fish. Program on Tuesday night with more photos and details.

We have a new Website. Please checkout www.FFNWF.org. It is a new address as we move away from the previous webhost. Many thanks to **Kent Regan** for getting this together. **Kent** needs our help if you have digital photos of fishing or fishing related please send to Kent so we can populate the photos page on the website.

There will be a business meeting at 6:00 PM with the membership meeting to follow at 7:00 PM on Tuesday June 3rd.

Cliff Newton

Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, May 6, 2014, President Cliff Newton, presiding

No business meeting was held.

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Yelverton



The heavy rains of early-May put a major dampener on the inshore sight-fishing. May is always the best month of the year for big trout on the flats, but this year we're having to blind-cast for them which is a lot less productive. The only decent photo I

have is of **Cooper Adams**



Even though the water's dirty there have been some big Spanish around Town Point. We landed and released a 7 pounder last week on a Sidewinder spoon. A couple days later I was there with fly-fishermen, and all we could catch were small trout and ladyfish. None were picture-worthy, but it was solid action and a lot of fun. As usual the tan/white clouser was the ticket, and don't forget the wire or heavy mono tippet.

on May 13 with a fine trout landed on an EP baitfish pattern. Yesterday while fishing around the EPA my fly-angler fought a fish in the 23-24" range to the boat, but we (that would be I) lost it at the net. The fish slammed a crease fly the client tied, but of course I insisted on mashing down the barb... The last thing I want to do is kill a big female full of roe; however, it sure would've been nice to land that fish and get the photo. You have to be careful getting photos of big trout. A couple weeks ago a client dropped a 4# trout on the deck, and the fish died. Morale of the story: When you want a photo hold the fish over the water... If you get a chance in the next week or so try your favorite grass flats with poppers, crease flies, and gurglers. If it's rainy or overcast the fish will hit all day. If it's clear and sunny go early. In the off-colored water the fish like a lot of noise on the surface. Be aggressive with your strips, and hang on. There are some monsters out there.

A fellow guide landed a ten pound trout this week at Range Point just east of Portofino.

The redfish are on the flats, too. Once again here's **Cooper** with a beauty on May 13. In the last couple days the water has been clear enough to spot fish, but I've had spin fishermen on the boat. We've landed and released a few slot-reds each day.

The jack crevalle have been here all month, but we haven't landed one on fly. As was the case last month we've had fish take the fly but missed the hookset. The water in the Gulf has been too dirty the last couple weeks, but I'm hoping for better conditions in June. There have been regular reports of giant schools of jacks coming by the pier, so there are plenty of fish here. Bodes well for sight-fishing in the bay and Santa Rosa Sound later in the summer.

Speaking of missing the hookset... we had an outrageous time on May 27 amberjack fishing at the Tex Edwards. I ran all the way east of the pass to the pink condos looking for green water. The water was trashed, so I took my clients 4 miles south to the "Tex" hoping for some AJ action. I had a big spinning outfit on the boat with a Creek Chub "Super Knucklehead" top-water plug and no hooks. For two hours we had pods of jacks crashing and boiling all over that plug but never switched one to the fly. We just couldn't get the cast right at the right time or ended up with too much slack in the line to put any action on the fly until it was too late. It was incredibly exciting though, and I highly recommend it especially since AJ season closes on June 1. There will be a lot of fish out there

Fishing Report... Continue

ready to play. If you try it take your 12wt and the biggest popper in your arsenal. I've converted to RIO's "Outbound Short" floating 12wt line which really helps when throwing heavy flies.

Finally, there are plenty of bull redfish along the beaches both east and west of the pass. It takes a calm day, because the fish are inside or just outside the inner bar. Plus, we have to wait until the water clears up. The interesting thing is the fish are looking for big, dark baitfish patterns. They have no interest in the usual tan/white clousers, go-meaux, chartreuse half-and-half patterns, or pompano rockets. Here's an example of the size fish we're going after. This is one of two fish I landed on my day off May 15.



Both fish charged and inhaled a 5" tarpon fly! Just when you think you have them figured out the big redfish come up with something new...

Capt Baz





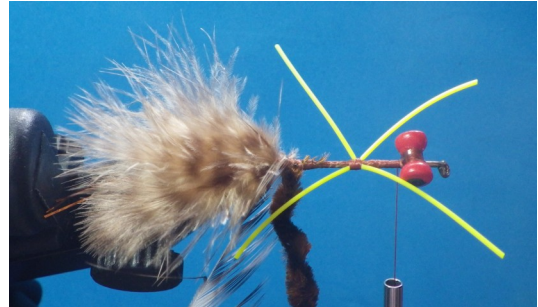
HOLSCHAL HACKLE FLY...by Matt Wegener



Crawfish are a favorite food for many freshwater fish species that swim in our nearby waters. I don't need to tell you that smallmouth bass enjoy this crunchy crustacean, but largemouth bass, as well as the newest black bass species, the Choctaw bass (the Florida version of the spotted bass) also enjoy munching on freshwater lobsters. The Holschlag Hackle Fly (designed by smallmouth bass fly fishing-guru Tim Holschlag) is a great imitator of a crawfish. It is designed to be hopped along the bottom with short strips to imitate a scurrying mudbug (ask me about doing the "crawfish hop", an out-of-the-ordinary way to fish a fly using a strike indicator that works well for many species of freshwater fish). I've successfully caught largemouth, smallmouth, Choctaw, and Kentucky spotted bass on this pattern. It's also the most best fly I have found for channel catfish in ponds and small streams. We are going to tie this fly in the traditional brown color, but dark green or olive can be an effective color when fishing in the Midwest, especially in Missouri, where crawfish tend to have a greenish tint.

Tying Materials

- Hook: #4 streamer hook
- Thread: Brown flat waxed nylon
- Eye: Red lead eyes
- Tail: Tan grizzly marabou
- Body: Brown chenille- size large
Grizzly saddle hackle
- Flash: Copper flashbou
- Legs: Yellow medium rubber legs



Tie in a 2" strand of rubber on each side of the hook shank at the midpoint of the rubber, effectively forming 2- 1" legs on each side of the hook (4 legs overall, 2 on each side of the hook shank).



First, tie in lead eyes 1/8 behind the hook eye. Then tie in 4 strands of 2" long flashbou above the hook point to imitate antennae. Next, tie in a 1.5" piece of marabou on top of the flashbou.



Create the body by wrapping chenille forward and tying off behind the eyes. Then palmer-wrap the hackle forward and also tying off behind the eyes.



Tie in webby piece of hackle at the hackle tip as well as a 4" long piece of chenille.

Project Healing Waters Trip to the Chattahoochee River

On May 12th Project Healing Waters participants, **Jack Bauknacht**, **Kent Regan** and **Oleta Webb** with volunteer **Cliff Newton** left Pensacola to drive to Atlanta. After spending the night they met their guides, **John McCloskey** and **John Scalley** from River through Atlanta at the launch site on the Chattahoochee River North of Atlanta. Once on the river and getting rigged up it was not long before the first fish was on and landed. Every one caught Rainbow Trout. **Jack** caught his first fish on a fly rod on a fly he tied. **Kent** caught the most fish 20 or more. **Oleta** caught the only Brown Trout. After eight hours on the water with only a break for lunch, everyone was exhausted but happy with the day's activities. After breakfast the next morning we drove back to Pensacola in a downpour. It was a very successful trip. This is a wonderful fishing opportunity, fairly close to Pensacola and reasonably priced.



Around the Bay...and Further Away

Following the completion of our Spring Fly Fishing course and the auction, our normal Project Healing Waters activities will resume on Monday June 2nd at the Bayview Senior Citizens Center.

We will also meet on the first Friday at the VA Clinic. If you have any suggestions of flies to tie or other things to make please let me know.

Russ Shields




Rex Straughn with his nice small mouth bass caught and released on Fall Lake, Winton, Minnesota, May 2014.



Rex Straughn with his 37 & 1/2 inch Northern Pike caught and released on White Iron Lake, Ely, Minnesota, May, 24, 2014.



Rex Straughn with his 4 lb 3 oz small mouth bass, caught and released on Fall Lake, Winton, Minnesota, May 28, 2014

FLY FISHERS

OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

**PO BOX 1041
 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



JUNE 2014

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