



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

March, 2020

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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

March Madness

Club Meeting – Tuesday, March 3 7:00

Hugh Smith presents “Fishing Montana’s Famous Rivers”. There is still time to pay your dues. Don't make Jay mad in March.

Fly Tying – Thursday, February 12 6:30

Tie the *LING-A-MARI* with Pat Murphy. Then get the boat in front of a cobia for some real madness!



Clinic – Saturday, February 21 9:00 AM

Jonas will be back with casting instruction: “Tracking and Its Fundamental Importance.” So get on track, and make tracks to lunch – Joe's Never Before and Never Again Chili Hot Dogs.



At the Fly Fishing Show

Terry met a Mr. Robert Clouser. Terry told him about his fly, the McCormick Minnow – a weighted bucktail, usually two colors, with hook riding up and dumbbell eyes – always yellow and black.

Mr. Clouser said it was an interesting idea and he would try making the fly himself. Then maybe he will finally catch something on the fly rod.

(Please forward this newsletter or print this page and give to friends who might take the class:)

Fly Fishers of NW Florida 2020 Fly Fishing Class

Fly Casting (with a professional instructor)

Fly Tying (flies for saltwater and local freshwater)

Equipment Selection (try our rods before you buy)

Knots and setting up your tackle

Every Monday starting March 16 to May 4 6:00 to 8:00 PM

At the club - 1600 E. Belmont Street at 17th Street (Miraflores Park)

March 16: Introduction to **Local Salt Water Fly Fishing** by Capt. Baz Yelverton

March 23, 30, and April 6: Professional Casting Class by Jonas Magnusson

And:

23 March **Introduction to Fly Rods, Reels & Lines**

30 March **Introduction to Fly Fishing Knots and Tackle Rigging**

6 April **Introduction to Fly Tying Tools and Materials**

13 April **Fly Tying – The Woolly Bugger** and casting instruction by our members

20 April **Fly Tying – The Clouser Minnow** and casting instruction by our members

27 April **Fly Tying – The Elk Hair Caddis** and casting instruction by our members

4 May **Introduction to Local Fresh Water Fishing** with Matt Wegener

Registration is \$60, which includes all course materials and the use of club equipment for fly tying and fly casting. Also included is club membership dues for the remainder of 2020.

Call Don Smith at 850-384-7272 or send email to dksmith497@yahoo.com for more information and to register for the course.

Class size is limited to 15 so register early!

March is also the time for Lent, therefore:

One day while driving home from his fishing trip in the pouring rain, a man got a flat tire outside a monastery. A monk came out and invited him inside to have dinner and spend the night. The motorist accepted. That night he had a wonderful dinner of fish and chips. He decided to compliment the chef. Entering the kitchen, he asked the cook, "Are you the fish friar?" "No," the man replied, "I'm the chip monk." *Tarpon Bob*

February Pictures:



PHW Veteran
Aaron Davis
and Tango



I know we were tying
crawdads but did we
have to have hot
sauce on the table?



Joe's chili. Hot dog!!

FFI Gulf Coast Conclave Percy Quin State Park March 13-14

The "Sweetwater Classic" is scheduled for Friday-Saturday March 13-14 at Percy Quin State Park in Southern Mississippi. The park is off I 55 due north of New Orleans just north of the Louisiana – Mississippi state borders. The Park features a five-hundred-acre lake, rental cabins and a campground. My wife and I plan to attend and have already reserved our cabin.

The lake was recently drained and stocked with bluegill, largemouth bass and black crappie. Spawning beds, fish attractions, and habitat were added. The Park also features an excellent 18-hole golf course. A three-day fishing license is \$15.

The event will feature fly tying demos, a casting skills challenge, a master casting instructor, and two fly fishing tournaments for bass and pan fish. A top of the line kayak will also be raffled off and the proceeds will benefit GCC's education and conservation initiatives.

For further information on Percy Quin State Park and cabin rentals see their website or call 601-684-3938 or go to the FFI Gulf Coast Council web site for further details. *George Norton*



Capt Baz is taking a break this month. It's been a long winter. Baz will be with us for the opening night of the fly fishing class for his annual presentation of local saltwater fishing.

Fly of the Month: **LING-A-MARI** by Pat Murphy

As the seasonal migration of Cobia or Ling (as locally referred to) approaches, members might like a fly pattern for cobia to use as they search for the brown bombers cruising along the outer sand bars. I have inquired with local bait shops as to the most favorite color and successful jigs for cobia fishing. The result was all of them, any color combination works well any given day of searching. So use your color choices that you have used successfully in the past. Good Luck.

MATERIALS:

HOOK: Kona Stinger #3/0 or Gamakatsu B10S 3/0

THREAD: Chartruese 140d or match your fiber colors

TAIL FLASH: Saltwater Pearl Flash-A- Bou

TAIL FIBERS: Large Devil Dog Rubber Legs pink, Peacock Krystal Flash Pink Bucktail

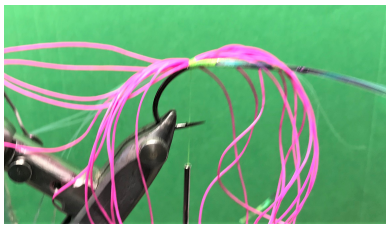
EYES: Large / x-tra Dumbbell **SKIRT:** Cross-cut Rabbit Zonker Fl orange or Palmer Chenille

WING: Rabbit Fur Fl Blue

BODY WRAP: Flat Diamond Braid Chartreuse

SQUID WINGS: Round Toothpick tips

INSTRUCTION:



1. Debarb hook, thread base hook eye to bend. Tie in Flash a bou 4 strands and 10 strands rubber leg in center of each clump @ hook bend.



2. Fold over tag ends of rubber legs and flash, Secure, Head Cement.



3. Add buck tail clump in front of flash tie-in. Surround shank w/even amounts of buck tail. Add dumbbell eyes front of skirt. Secure, Head Cement.



4. Add krystal flash, 10-12 strands ea side of buck tail skirt.



5. Wrap in rabbit hair wing just in front of d/b eyes. Tie in dia braid and leave. Cut tip of round toothpick, long enough to match bare shank to hook eye. Wrap in tips each side shank.



6. Wrap dia braid in a taper from wing to start of toothpicks. Cover remaining shank w/ touching wraps to hook eye. Over coat diamond braid w/ uv resin or multi coats **head cement and Hard As Nails**.

From the VP: Still digesting Cap'n Dan Storey's excellent presentation on "Fishing the Okefenokee" there are many interesting programs on the agenda in the near future.

Mar – Hugh Smith presents "Fishing Montana's Famous Rivers"

Apr – Tarpon Bob Korose presents "Catching Monster Pike in Canada"

May – FFNWF Auction!

Jun – Oleta Webb presents "Fishing in Montana" *

Jul – Steve Hofmann presents "Fly Fishing Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado"

Aug – Jim White presents "The History of Fly Fishing"

Sep – Terry McCormack presents "Fishing From the Shore"

Oct – TBD Nov – TBD Dec – TBD

Thanks again for your willingness to share your knowledge and experiences. Please contact Bob Myers at (850)207-2070 to schedule your presentation. *Bob*

Project Healing Waters – Plans for March:

Monday, March 2 - Rod Building

Monday, March 9 - Elk Hair Caddis

Saturday, March 21 - Rod Building

Wednesday, March 25 - Adams Dry Fly

Thursday, March 26 - At the VA



Note: the Saturday, March 21 PHW meeting will follow the Clinic *Jim White*

FFNWF MEETING MINUTES February 2020

Board Meeting: The President called the meeting to order at 1801.

Financial report: The Treasurer reported current and future expenditures and projected future income. 41 members are current in their dues compared to 48 members paid at this time last year. The budget item concerning the website host was discussed and approved to proceed with the new format and increased cost. The 2020 budget was presented by the Treasurer and approved by the Board and membership. (Russ Shields motion to approve, Pat Murphy 2nd)

Minutes of 7 January were approved. (Jim White motion to approve, Russ Shields 2nd)

Old Business: Cliff and Kent have been working the plan for website renewal. The Go Daddy hosted site will change from an http to an https site with enhanced security.

President's Comments: Kudos to members pitching in to help clean the facility after the January clinic. The building was swept, swabbed, and vacuumed. Additionally, the basement now has a clearly marked path to the electrical panel.

New Business: FFNWF and PHWFF Pensacola have been invited back to the NAS Whiting Field MWR Leisure and Travel Show. The date is Friday, 17 April from 1000-1300.

The Christmas Committee has executed the agreement with the Scenic Hills Country Club for the 2020 Christmas Party to occur 8 December. This year the club will offer early Christmas Party ticket sales.

The 2020 Fly Fishing Course starts 16 March and runs for 8 consecutive Monday classes. A more extensive syllabus, developed by Jim White and Don Smith is ready for press. There is a limited opportunity (until the order number of 30 is reached) for members to preorder a copy of the book for the price of \$15.

PHWFF Program Lead Jim White reports that the club sponsored program currently supports 21 participants with the help of 9 volunteers.

Clinic Open dates for providing the lunch for Saturday clinic are April, May, July, and September. Please see Joe Higgins if you can cover one of those dates.

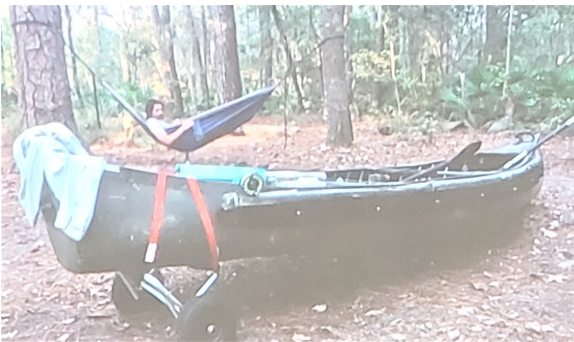
Auction Donations for the FFNWF Annual Auction can be brought to the club now. As the Pres sez, "bring it in now, buy it back later."

Dates to remember: 17 April, NASWF Travel Show, 1 May, Fly Fishing Film Show in Destin, 5 May, FFNWF Annual Auction.

Fishing reports: Cap'n Dan reported some success with redfish and black drum. Looking for 65 degree temps to offer an improved outlook.

Presentation: Cap'n Dan Storey on "Fishing the Okefenokee."

Dan introduced the area with a video, "One Man's Trash." <https://vimeo.com/225926195>



Dan and a fly fishing friend headed to Georgia in October of last year in a van with a canoe lashed to the top. Their destination was the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge. It is a uniquely wild and remote area of Georgia. Located about 325 miles east of the clubhouse, it's about a 5 ½ hour drive, unless you pause at the Chipley River to pursue shoal bass as they did. They continued on to Stephen C. Foster State Park, near Fargo, GA, and their target species was the bowfin. Fly fishing and the pursuit of bowfin are a rarity in the swamp. Many locals reject the

bowfin because they are considered inedible.

The Okefenokee is North America's largest blackwater swamp and according to the State Park website, home to 12,000 of the country's largest reptile, the American Alligator. Atypically to us, they fished for bowfin not off of structure but in the middle of the waterway, away from structure in 6-8 feet of water. They used a 6 foot length of 20# Mason Hard Mono for leader. A fly that brought them success was Redfish Ritalin. Stephen C. Foster State Park offers 9 cottages, 66 tent and RV campsites, 1 Pioneer Campground, 3 Picnic Shelters, and boat rentals. All in all, it seems like a unique opportunity for a great budget warmwater trip.

