

Flies & Lies

MAY 2003

The flies for May are Cowen's "Bone Fish Scampi" and Captain Lenny Moffo's "Utility Minnow". Kevin will tie the Scampi and I will tie the Utility Minnow at the May bull session. Here is what Kevin says about the scampi: "The scampi is a pattern which began as a bonefish fly. It proved to be a very good bonefish fly, fooling some very good sized bruisers. However, it's usefulness is not limited to just bonefish. It is proving to be a pattern which takes redfish and speckled trout. It can be tied in a variety of sizes, with 2 to 6 proving the most useful. You can make slight changes to modify the appearance of the fly. Try using a grizzly zonker wing, light gray over wing, and pearl krystal flash. Want it to sink slower? - use bead chain eyes; faster? - use heavier eyes. Take the opportunity to experiment with colors and sizes so you have in your box "exactly" what the fish are looking for. Tying instructions are on page 4.

I haven't fished the scampi yet but plan on tying and trying a few. Zonker strips come alive with motion in the water and should entice any fish in the area looking for a shrimp dinner.

I recently acquired a new fly pattern book aptly named "Inshore Flies" by Jim Schollmeyer and Ted Leeson. It does not give detailed step-by-step instructions but the photographs are superb, the material lists are specific and target species are identified. Try this fine book if you would like to expand your repertoire of salt water patterns. Moffo's Utility Minnow caught my eye as a really fishy looking pattern that I will try on my next trip. Tying instructions are on page 3.

My recipe takes a few liberties with Captain Moffo's recipe - I hope he and the fish don't mind. Moffo calls for a Gamakatsu SC-15 hook which I didn't have; the Mustad 34007 should work OK. He also specified a "brown grizzly neck hackle" for the lateral line. I didn't have that either so I tied some up with a dark ginger variant neck hackle and a cree saddle hackle; both looked pretty good. I could have "died" regular grizzly hackles with a dark brown marker pen to achieve similar results. So don't be stopped by an item you don't have - use your imagination and substitute.

This fly calls for several layers of materials in the wing and tail plus a belly of bucktail. If you overdress the fly, you will end up crowding the eye or building a too-large head, so be sparing of material when you apply each layer and don't use more thread wraps than necessary. Also, feel free to add a touch

AUCTION, AUCTION, AUCTION! DONATIONS NEEDED

Well, folks, it's that time again. On June 3rd at our regular business meeting we will hold our annual auction. The auction has been a great asset to the club. Many of the things that we continue to enjoy are a direct result of the generosity of our members at this event.

What we need now are your donations. We, of course, will accept practically anything (being the discriminating folks that we are) but a fly fishing theme is preferred. So, dig through that old gear and bring it with you to the meeting. We already have a couple of rods (from Reef Illusions), a gorgeous hand crafted portable fly tying cabinet, and various tools/gear.

Actually, I would like to know in advance (if possible) what you are bringing and have you bring it the night of the auction. You can email me at travisfly7@aol.com concerning your donations.

The club executive board has set some guidelines concerning minimum bid donations. Minimum bid means that you would donate an item and expect a certain amount of money in return for the sale of that item, anything more would go to the club. Even though these donations are very valuable to the auction, experience has taught us that we can sometimes end up with too many of those kinds of donations.

In order to make minimum bids work better, it was decided that we would limit the number of those items to fit the current auction and examine the amount of the minimum for each item to maximize the benefit to the club. This function will be performed by the auction committee who will also handle negotiations with the donor.

President's Report

We're blessed with some great weather, currently. I hope most of you are getting out on the water and catching some fish. Maybe we'll have a good *cobia caught on fly* story at the

May business meeting's show and tell session.

Kevin will be chairing that meeting as I'll be back at the Nantahala, with Skeet, Art, Tom, Russ and Bud. Looks like we'll get to fish in the rain again, but that can be productive.

The PJC course ends this week, and I hope we'll have some new members come out of the class. Thanks to Jerry and his gang for putting this course on, once again. The club takes great pride in helping provide this community service.

Please remember, that this club can only be successful if *each* of us provides our unique talents and personalities. In Rotary, we talk about the importance of each member just as each tooth in a gear is vital to its operation.

If you have an idea or suggestion that you feel should be developed or implemented, come to the board and tell us about it. Similarly, if you have a complaint, seek us out and voice it. We're all here to help you develop your skills, and pleasures within your chosen sport. As is almost always the case, we tend to get more out of what we do, the more we put into it. We NEED you. Tight Lines, Jay

Around the Bay... and Further Away

April was a busy month close to home and further away. Locally, Pete Foster caught several small bass while canoeing Cold Water Creek. Later in the month, Pete caught and released 23 bass one day at Hurricane Lake including several nice ones.

Ray Lackaye was among several anglers braving the bad weather the last week of March in western North Carolina. Here are excerpts from his report. "Wanted to give a summary of Nantahala trip April 6-13 if no one else has. The weather was temperamental, to say the least. Greg George and I got rained on only a couple of times. On Tue. April 8, We found ourselves fishing the Tuck in a cold steady rain for hours . Not to mention the rather fast current. We caught 25-30 fish each of average size. We mostly used gold head green/flash wooly buggers on the Tuck. Water very murky and swift. We were catching enough to keep us fishing in the rain. There is a fine line between dedication and STUPIDITY!! Overcast and gray the rest of the trip. I did see the sun for about 30 seconds one day!"

"Greg and I fished the West fork of the Little Pigeon, south of Waynesville. Beautiful scenery. Very little delayed harvest stretches of river. Very productive nonetheless. Mostly Brookies of

continued on page 7

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Bill Locher Tom Regina**

MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

BUSINESS MEETING - 1ST TUESDAY, 7 PM
BULL SESSION - 2ND THURSDAY, 6:30 PM
CLINIC - 3RD SATURDAY, 9 AM
BOARD MEETING-4TH TUESDAY, 6:30PM
FISHING TRIPS - AS SCHEDULED

Meetings at Miraflores Park, 17th Avenue between Belmont and LaRua St

Newsletter Editor - Jerry Aldridge

The Utility Minnow... Original recipe by Captain Lenny Moffo

HOOK Salt water, size to suit prey

THREAD Chartreuse 3/0 except for head.

TAIL Chartreuse bucktail over gold flashabou over white bucktail..

LATERAL LINE Brown grizzly neck hackle.

WING 4 strands peacock herl over chartreuse bucktail over white bucktail.

BELLY White bucktail.

HEAD & EYES Orange flat-waxed thread with decal eyes coated with 5 minute epoxy.



1. Lay thread base from one hook eye behind the eye to the bend. Select and cut a 1/2 matchstick of white bucktail about two hooks long. Tie in to form a tail about a hook long. Trim bucktail in taper as shown. Tie in 6 strands of gold flashabou atop the bucktail. Select, cut and tie in a 1/2 matchstick of chartreuse bucktail to finish the tail.



2. Turn fly over in vise. Select a matchstick portion of white bucktail. Tie in 2 eye lengths behind eye to form belly. Note that the belly is a bit shorter than the tail - this will give the fly a more tapered appearance. Turn fly right side up.



3. Select a pair of grizzly hackles long enough to extend from eye to end of tail. Trim hackles to length and tie one on each side to form lateral line. Hackles should be shiny or dark side out. Select 1/2 matchstick of white bucktail and tie in to form first layer of wing. Tie in 6 strands of gold flashabou atop bucktail and trim it slightly longer than the bucktail. Secure tying thread with a short whip finish and cut thread.



4. Attach orange thread with jam knot. Select and cut 1/2 matchstick chartreuse bucktail to form next layer of wing. Select 4 full-bodied peacock herls and tie in atop bucktail to finish wing. Trim ends and form neat head with thread. Coat lightly with head cement. After cement dries, attach a silver/black decal or tape eye and coat head and eyes with 5 minute epoxy. Turn the fly by hand, rotary vise or electric fly turner until epoxy sets.

Cowen's Bone Fish Scampi

Hook	Standard length stainless, sizes 2 to 6
Thread	Pink 3/0
Weight	Small or medium dumbbell eyes
Body	Pearl tubing or body braid
Rib	Brown thread or copper wire
Wing	Tan zonker strip
Over wing	Pink polar fibre or similar, with 3 strands pink krystal flash



1. Secure hook in vise. Start thread and wind to 1/3 back from hook eye position. Attach dumbbell eyes at that point using 10 diagonal wraps each direction. Tighten with 5-8 horizontal wraps below eyes and above shank. Stop thread behind eyes.

2. Attach pearl tubing and rib behind eyes. Secure tubing/rib down length of shank to bend. Wind thread forward to behind dumbbell eyes. Wrap body in neat, tight wraps and secure behind dumbbell eyes. Cut excess tubing.



3. Measure a zonker strip from immediately behind dumbbell eyes so wing extends one hook shank beyond bend. Hold front tip of zonker at dumbbell eyes (hair pointing to rear), and measure the point at which the bend will protrude up through zonker. With bodkin poke a hole in center of zonker and slide onto hook and down bend with fur pointing up and to the rear. Attach front of zonker at point directly behind eyes. Wind rib two wraps at bend and then forward to eyes in evenly spaced open wraps. Secure rib at eyes and cut excess.

4. Cut a small clump of over wing material and attach immediately in front of dumbbell eyes. Length should extend back to end of zonker "leather". Attach three strands of krystal flash on top of over wing, extending slightly longer. Wind a neat tapered head, whip, cut and cement.



You will be seeing some new faces in the Exhibit Hall this year, plus, we are happy to be welcoming back many of the Commercial Exhibitors who have supported the SE FFF Council in past Conclaves.

We have **four local shops** participating this year, so if you are interested in doing a little saltwater angling while visiting the Gulf Coast, these Fly Shops and Outfitters would be happy to provide information on local waters and guided trips.

Capt. Rick Haag from **Southern Waters Outfitters** is located in Orange Beach/Gulf Shores, AL. Call Rick to explore your local fly fishing options. Southern Waters are a full service Fly Shop and Rick is an Orvis Endorsed guide. Contact Rick at 251-974-5569 or flyfish@gulftel.com.

Middle Bay Outfitters is a great fly shop to see while visiting the Gulf Coast. Located in beautiful downtown Fairhope, AL, owner, Jack West, can provide a full range of guided fly fishing trips from the Mobile Delta out to the Gulf of Mexico. Middle Bay Outfitters is Eastern Shore's Orvis dealer and also carries kayaks, canoes and all the necessary equipment for the Fly Fisherman. Contact Jack at 251-928-2231 or visit www.middlebayoutfitters.com.

Fairhope Fly Shop/The Church Mouse is located in downtown Fairhope, AL. Spencer Johnson runs a great little Fly Shop and his wife, Mary Ann has a unique British Gift Shop. Spencer carries fly rods and reels from House of Hardy, G-Loomis, St. Croix, Bauer Reels, Old Florida and is a Cortland dealer. You can reach Spencer by calling 251-928-1619.

Reef Illusions is your Fly Fishing and inshore headquarters for the Greater Pensacola, FL area. They have a full line of rods, reels and fly tying material, plus, a wonderful selection of artwork, both originals and prints by Guy Harvey and others. Lines represented include Abel, Tibor, Penn, Van Staal, Old Florida, St Croix, G-Loomis, Scientific Angler and Temple Fork. They are also your headquarters for guided trips all along the Florida Gulf Coast. You can reach Bill at Reef Illusions by visiting www.reefillusions.com.

Other Fly Shops, Outfitters and individuals supporting the 2003 Conclave are:

Davidson River Outfitters, Brevard North Carolina. Davidson River Outfitters is located at the entrance to Pisgah Forest and is the local expert for great trout fishing on the Davidson River and other streams in Western North Carolina. Davidson River Outfitters stocks over 250 fly patters including traditional South Appalachian Patterns. They carry many of the top lines including St Croix, Ross, House of Hardy, Scientific Angler, Simms and Columbia. You can also reach owner, Kevin Howell and his staff at 888-861-0111 or www.davidsonflyfishing.com.

Callaway Gardens is a 4 Star Resort and Botanical Garden but it is also a fisherman's paradise, offering some of the South's finest fishing for Largemouth Bass and Bream all year long. For Coldwater Anglers they also offer guided stillwater fly fishing for rainbow, brown and brook trout from November to April. Beginner level and intermediate/advanced fly fishing schools and individual instruction is available year-round. They have several FFF Certified Casting Instructors on staff and a number of those instructors will be attending the Conclave. For more information, call (706)773-5142, or call 1-800-CALLAWAY.

Quality Reels of Shalimar owners **Capt. Paul Darby and Paula Darby** will again be joining us for the 2003 Show. Capt. Paul is a shallow water fly fishing guide specializing, in the waters surrounding Shalimar, FL. Paula has been building *Custom Rods* for over 25 years. Her rods have been popular items at the Auction for years!

The Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida completed another flyfishing class at PJC on April 30th.

We cordially invite graduates to join our club to learn more about casting and tying.

Thanks to all club members who assisted in teaching our new friends.

See you all on the water!

Joy Dunlap, Destin Fly Shop Joy Dunlap has been a long time supporter of the SE FFF Council experience as an outdoorsman and rod-maker dating back to the 1930's. He has taught over thirty rod-building seminars, authored forty articles on the subject, and has developed numerous rod designs, trim patterns and tools. He has build in all rod media, from split cane through current space-age materials. His most recent development is a short fly rod, named the Joystick, for feeder streams and canals with limited casting space.

Riverside Outfitters and Fly Shop Riverside Fly Shop is owned by John and Elizabeth Eisenbarth of Jasper, AL. Riverside is located on the banks of the Sipse Fork of the Black Warrior River just below Lewis Smith Lake Dam. This is Alabama's *only* cold water trout river. John and Elizabeth are both avid fly fishers and fly tyers. Elizabeth is Co-Chair of the Ladies Fly Fishing Program and she will also be offering a Fly Tying class during the 2003 Show.

Angling Innovations No Conclave would be complete without Jim Doyle and his selection of "Fly Safe" single and double boxes. Angling Innovations was founded in 1997, out of Jim's need for a better storage system for his precious flies. The first "Fly Safe" box became an early success with fly fisherperson's around the globe.

Tom Landreth, watercolor artist Tom is a wildlife artist and avid Fly Fisher. Many of Tom's paintings portray the fisherman on the stream in some quiet place in the mountains. Fishing is not his only subject, wildflowers, birds and rural mountain landscapes are all subjects you will find hanging in his studio in the beautiful Wolfork Valley just off US 441 in Rabun Gap, GA. 706-746-2295.
www.tom_landreth.com.

Tom Trippi, avid Fly Fishing enthusiast and Fly Tyer from New Orleans will also returning to the 2003 Conclave. He is a FFF Certified casting Instructor, as well as master level fly dresser. Although a professional fly tier and fly designer, his expertise is in exact imitation insect and aquatic flies for exhibits and collectors. Tom is also an avid collector and restorer off bamboo fly rods and is actively involved in teaching the *Art of Fly Fishing* seminars, presentations, writing and wildlife illustration.

Judy Lehmborg has participated in numerous FFF Conclaves and International Fly Shows and we are pleased to welcome her back to the Southeastern Council Conclave. She is nationally known for her Salmon Flies so you definitely want to stop by see her glorious creations!

LeLand Outfitters has been serving the West Coast's Fly Fishing needs since 1985, but now they are going national. Richard Montgomery will be bringing a great selection of Sage, Winston and Powell rods as well as a full line of reels. You can also access their Online Fly Shop at www.flyfishingoutfitters.com.

Marsh Maddness, Capt.Marty Authement

Capt. Marty Authement has fished the marshes of SE Louisiana for 30 Years. In the early 90's he was introduced to fly fishing and it has become his passion! His fly fishing and fly tying skills are practiced in the saltwater marshes of Terrebonne Parish where he pursues redfish, speckled trout, black drum and flounder with the long rod. His personal favorite is sight fishing for the Bull Reds! Marty offers both full and half day guided trips. For more information visit his informative web site at www.marshmaddness.net.

Unicoi Outfitters is North Georgia's Fly Fishing Specialists. They offer a Full Service Fly Shop, and Guide Service including fly fishing for trophy rainbow and brown trout on an exclusive 1.5 mile section of the Chattahoochee River at Nacoochee Bend. The shop carries a full line of Orvis, Thomas & Thomas, Winston, Sage and St Croix rods and Abel, Ross, and Lamson Reels. For additional information on the flyshop and guide service go to their web site at www.unicoioutfitters.com.

Pockit Sports and Larry Notley will be returning to the Conclave and we are pleased to have him back. For those that have not seen his work, you are in for a treat. Larry makes all kinds of wooded fly tying accessories, tying benches, vise caddies, and leader stretchers.

Alabama Fish and Game Commission

Around the Bay...continued

“Mostly Brookies of average size. We did meet a local whose family has lived in that area (Bethel Community) since the early 1800's. Very friendly individual. Name escapes me. He just wanted to be sure we weren't keeping the fish we caught. They keep a very close and protective eye on that stretch of river. Understandably so.”

“While fishing the Nan I did manage to land my largest Brook trout. 16 inches. Seems like the Nantahala River and surrounding roads had more trash than usual. There was quite a bit of debris along roadsides and river banks. When able to use dry flies, #18 Para Adams seemed to be the ticket. I did fish nymphs quite a bit. #14-#16 gold head prince and pheasant tail seemed to produce well. Other than that, the comraderie and meals were top notch.

By Thursday, the weather looked to be rainy. It was snowing in Asheville so we headed back a day early, on Friday.” Thanks for the report, Ray.

Another group of us (Mitch Abernethy, Travis Akins, John and Karen Brand, Larry Goodman, Bill Locher, me) arrived in North Carolina the following week to much better weather (sort of) and greatly improved fishing. We did wake up one morning to 4” of new snow and 28 degrees. Naturally, Bill built 2 snowmen (the first toppled quickly). I tied flies that day but several braved the weather and were rewarded with great dry fly fishing as more snow fell on them.

The rest of the week except for the last day we had great weather and even better fishing on a wide variety of flies. Travis, Karen and John stuck with their dry flies and caught lots of fish. The rest of us fished mostly with dries but added nymphs and streamers and had good success, too. All of us had days when we caught and released 30-50 trout, mostly on the Nantahala although Bill and I did about the same on the Tuckaseegee fishing wooly buggers. One or more of us also fished the Little River, Nolan Creek, Deep Creek, Little Pigeon River, Collins Creek and Bradley Fork, all in Smoky Mt. National Park, with some success and great appreciation for the natural

Some of the flies that worked well were #12 cracklebacks, #14-18 elk hair and downwing caddis, #14-20 parachute adams, #14-18 blue wing olive dries, a variety of bead head nymphs in sizes 14-18 plus olive or black bead head wooly buggers.

We didn't catch any huge fish although Travis caught a beautiful, highly colored, 20” brookie. The rest of us each caught trout in the 16-18” range. All in all, a great trip!

Kevin Cohenour and I were out the morning of the 29th searching for speckled trout that we did not find in great numbers. We got a half dozen or so with a couple in the 18” range. Later in the morning, I showed Kevin place in shallow water where we might find a red fish or two. Sure enough, Kevin hooked one followed a few seconds later by the sickening sound of a tippet snapping. A minute or so later, I hooked up with another which came to the boat after several minutes of gentle persuasion, a coppery, 27”, 6-7 pound red....Jerry Aldridge



One of Pete's Hurricane Lake bass

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May



2003

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				1	2	3
4	5	6 Business Meeting 7 PM	7	8 Bull Session Fly tying & tall tales 6:30 PM	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
May 15, 16 and 17 Gulf Shores , Alabama FFF Southeastern Region Conclave Details inside NO CASTING CLINIC THIS MONTH						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 Board Meeting 6:30 PM	28	29	30	31