



# Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

May, 2015

## FFNWF

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**MONTHLY MEETINGS at**  
Miraflares 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

# THE AUCTION

**Tuesday, May 5, at the club.**

Doors open at 5:00 for dropping off donations and browsing.

**Auction begins at 7:00**

Come early, stay late, bid early, bid often, spends some money and have a great time. Remember this is our big fund raiser of the year so

**We need You and Your Donations. You need Your Checkbook!**

Just a few of the items up for bid:

<b>Trip with Baz</b>	<b>New TFO Mangrove 8 wt rod</b>
<b>Trip with Bob Korose</b>	<b>New TFO BVK 8 wt rod w/case</b>
<b>Trip with Matt Wegener</b>	<b>New March Brown 7 pc 9 wt</b>
<b>Orvis Battenkill Multiplier reel</b>	<b>New Cowen Custom 9 wt</b>
<b>Renzetti Vise</b>	<b>Sage III 6 wt with aluminum case</b>
<b>Shadow Box – see page 2</b>	<b>Orvis 12 wt with case</b>
<b>Fly tying kit with vice</b>	<b>Fishable antique bamboo rod</b>
<b>Box of flies from South Africa</b>	<b>Custom cork grip</b>

And more..... **much** more



## Spring Fishing Outing – Saturday, May 9

Spring is here and it's a great time to fish. A spring club fishing outing is planned for May 9, 2015 from 7am to 12pm at **Naval Live Oaks** in East Gulf Breeze. The event is for club members only. We hope this year's fly fishing class members will make a strong showing. It will be a great opportunity to wet some lines with more experienced members to show you the ropes. Wade or launch a Kayak. Many prizes. Bring your own refreshments and enjoy the day.

### From the President

**Project Healing Waters** is expanding. The Pensacola group is adding a few new participants and Russ and I helped kick-off a group in Orange Beach. They had 12 veterans show up for this event. We will continue to support them until they are up and running. **There will not be a board meeting this month. Looking forward to seeing you at the auction at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>!**

## Looking ahead – Possible destination for a trip.

Some of our members are checking out the trout fishing below Lewis Smith Dam on the Sipsey River. The water is released at the bottom of the dam so it provides cold water fishery similar (but on a smaller scale) to the White River in Arkansas. Apparently the fishery is much improved from what it was years ago, and access to the river is much easier (and safer).

You would fish out of Riverside Fly Shop in Bremen; they have everything, even guide service, and they arrange float trips with shuttle service. The area is west of I-65 between Warrior and Cullman, definitely close enough for an overnight trip. Contact Jay Brykczynski if interested. Check out: [www.riversideflyshop.com](http://www.riversideflyshop.com).



Brandon and Mary Carole Jackson  
Owners of Riverside



Two more links: [www.outdooralabama.com/sipsey-fork-below-smith-lake](http://www.outdooralabama.com/sipsey-fork-below-smith-lake)

[www.tuscaloosaneews.com/article/20120702/news/120709988](http://www.tuscaloosaneews.com/article/20120702/news/120709988)

## From “Blasting for the Brave”

The story on the shadow box is that I asked Kent if he would “volunteer” to tie some flies that I could have mounted in a shadow Box for the *Blasting for the Brave* fund raiser.

Kent tied a bunch of flies, including some that he had not tied before and that were more in the line of presentation flies. Kent and I went over all the flies and selected those that wound up in the shadow box. I took the flies to Robert Mosher’s framing shop in Pace with whom I had worked before and does beautiful work. He personally did the mounting and framing.

I donated the box to the *Blasting for the Brave* raffle and thought “what the heck, I’ll buy \$20 worth of tickets for it”. Lo and behold I won it and hence the picture! I’ll put the shadow box in our auction so someone can win a beautifully mounted collection of Kent’s flies. *Russ Shields*



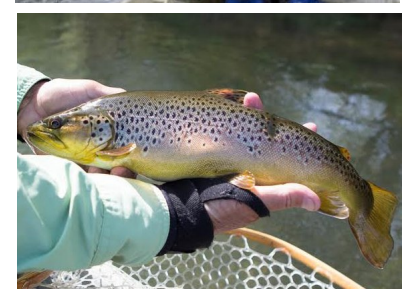
## Around the Bay – and Further Away



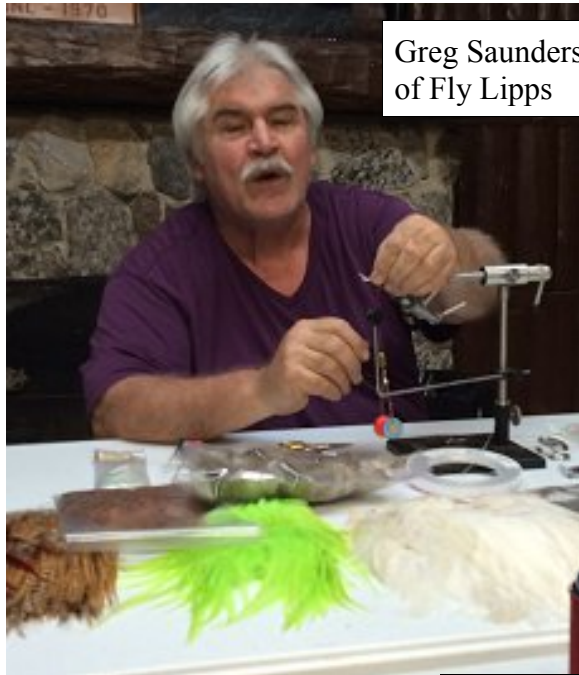
I recently camped and fished in northern Arkansas on the White and Norfolk Rivers.

Despite bad weather, we had several very good fishing days catching chunky rainbows, browns, and cutthroats on wet flies, streamers, and nymphs. The scenery was spectacular with dogwoods, red buds and other trees in full bloom. We saw a lot of wildlife too and I got a good picture of a bald eagle, one of many we saw.

*Bob Korose*



# The Way We Were..... in April. When We Were Where We Were At.



Greg Saunders, inventor of Fly Lipps



Kent Reagan and Russ at the Sporting Clays



Karen Brand teaching the class



The Students



Our club at Anglers' Night



Kent and his dad at Anglers' Night



Matt Wegener at the Clinic (full house in the rain)



Casting at the class



Chris Vescey from Sams Bait and Tackle (OB) at April meeting



Pensacola Pass during the sheephead season.

For those of you who think  
the **only** thing I like to do is  
go fishing...  
this is totally untrue.  
I also like  
talking about fishing, and,  
hanging out at tackle shops.  
respectthefish.com

## Gill Lice: Cause For Concern?

Gill lice attach themselves almost exclusively to brook trout. Brown and rainbows are presently not infected. The lice are parasites which inhibit breathing, slow growth, and will ultimately kill the host fish. Although the incidence of infection is epidemic mainly in Wisconsin, recently the lice were found in the upper regions of the Cullasaja River in western North Carolina. This should concern anyone who loves the brookie and fishes the beautiful rivers of the Smokies. To help: Do not transport fish from one stream to another. Clean all clothing and gear of all debris if moving from one stream to another. The fish are edible, so I think removing any infected ones would help. There are web sites for reporting findings of the critters.

Submitted by

*Jerry Giles*

**BFA – Panhandle Watershed Alliance** – *This is from Barbara Albrecht, president of the Bream Fishermen and director of the Panhandle Watershed Alliance (we share our building with them) in an email regarding logging and log jams on our local rivers. Barbara will be the speaker at our June meeting.*

The Bream Fishermen Association has been monitoring (Water Quality) in the Perdido River for many decades ([www.BreamFishermen.org](http://www.BreamFishermen.org)) and understand the connection between woody material, habitat, biodiversity, and the fishery it supports. Our organization shares an old log cabin built by the CCC during the WPA days with the **Northwest Florida Fly Fishermen** - who tie flies to mimic the aquatic invertebrates found in these systems - for the ultimate opportunity to catch a large fish! They know!

I hope by bringing this forward - we can learn how to protect our systems before they become impaired. Once impaired, they get on a list and then, there are all kinds of monies available to try to save them. BTW, what caused the log jam in the first place? Poor land use practices.

## Fishing Report from Capt. Baz



**April** completed the spring transition, and by the end of the month all of the species we dream about are available. For "big fish" enthusiasts the tarpon are arriving earlier than usual, jack crevalle are cruising the Gulf beaches with many schools coming up inside the bay to spend the summer, king mackerel are feeding on bait balls in the current line at Pensacola Pass, and there are still some bull redfish around both inside and out if you know where to look... If big fish aren't your game, how about Spanish mackerel, false albacore, bluefish and ladyfish? They are all showing up in bigger numbers daily. Just in the last week the water from the observation tower to the pass was loaded with a mixed bag of Spanish, ladyfish, and bluefish. And finally there's some very exciting (but technical) sight-fishing for redfish, big trout, and pompano.

The good news is the fish are here; the bad news has been the unpredictable weather. Planning a trip in advance has been difficult. I've been getting tackle ready for all species and then doing what the weather allows us to do. Basically you need two big rods on the boat. One should have a floating line rigged with a popper for jacks. If you're in the Gulf and start seeing tarpon make a change to a large baitfish imitation or a fly you'd throw at the bull reds in November. The other 10wt should have a sinking line, wire tippet, and a similar baitfish imitation to drag under bait balls in the pass. You'll need a mid-sized rod (7-9wt) with the usual 10' leader coming down to 15# fluorocarbon for the albies, pompano, redfish, and trout. It's a good idea to have another mid-sized rod with a sinking line on the boat for Spanish mackerel fishing at the USS Massachusetts. And finally I like to have a 6 or 7wt rod rigged with a good bite tippet for ladyfish and bluefish. Whew, that's a lot of gear! It's a good thing the auction is coming up...



The "Hero of the Month" for April goes to club member Jonas Magnusson for landing the first jack crevalle on fly since 2013! Last year we had the fly in the mouths of three jacks, but my inexperienced anglers weren't able to keep tight to the fish. Jonas handled this fish like a pro on March 31 in the neighborhood of the observation tower. The fish took one of Ben Walters' big white poppers and accelerated away from the boat. Then it spun around and charged the boat. This happens often with jacks usually before they get into the backing, and it's absolutely paramount to stop

reeling and strip like crazy to keep the line tight. Once the fish turns away from the boat you can clear the line ...again...and get the fish back on the reel. Jonas was up to the task and boated his first-ever jack crevalle in about 30 minutes on a TFO "Professional Series" 10wt.

The bull redfish have been available both east and west of the pass, but we didn't land one on fly all month. There are a few schools just inside the pass; however, and Steve Lindeman landed this 24 pounder April 3 on a #2 EP Clouser minnow. This was Steve's first redfish, and he landed it on an 8wt.





We found a nice school of false albacore in the vicinity of the Oops Barge on April 22, and club member Bruce Trumbull landed the first FA of the year! These weren't big fish (3-4#), but they certainly gave Bruce a battle on his 7wt. They were very willing to eat a clear, sz 6 gummy minnow.

Here's another shot of Bruce taken April 24 with a nice trout. Bruce had to settle for this fish after hooking what might have been the boat record trout



earlier in the morning. We were anchored very close to shore between Deer Point and Town Point waiting for the fish to show up when a giant trout came into range directly upwind (of course). Bruce was using his 7wt Sage Xi2 and punched a nice 70' cast into the wind dropping the EP gray/white baitfish soft as a feather in front of the fish. Two or three long, quick "fleeing baitfish" strips enticed the trout to crush the fly. Problem was it ran hard straight at the boat... Bruce stripped as fast as he could but missed the line once, and the fish came unbuttoned. It was a "Wide World of Sports" moment that was unfortunately over in a few seconds. This was a seriously big trout in the 28-30" range, and it's nice to know where it lives. I hope to get another shot at it in the next week or so.



The slot redfish are as spooky as ever, but a couple of my clients succeeded in landing fish this month. Paul Legge landed one on April 8 on a sand flat on the north side of the island, and Jay Lanier landed this beauty by the Ranger Station on April 14. Paul's fish took an EP Clouser minnow, and Jay got his on a tan baitfish imitation. Jay

got five takes that morning, hooked and lost two fish, and finally landed this one. We found a school of about fifty redfish feeding in 2-3' of water. At times they were so close to the boat we couldn't move... It was quite an experience for both Jay and me.

*Capt Baz*



## Introducing: Picture(s) of the Month



Morning on the Oconaluftee River  
Great Smokey Mountains, North Carolina

© Larry Sisney

Larry Sisney is not only an accomplished fly fisher but also a photographer extraordinaire. In his words:

*My primary interest is fly fishing photography capturing images on the many rivers in the United States. I especially enjoy photographing my friends on our fly fishing adventures.*

*Additionally, I have enjoyed documenting the seasonal mating and nesting of Osprey in our area. I included the Osprey photo to share the beauty of these majestic birds. They are quite adept at fishing and would make any fisherman green with envy.*

Each month we will feature one or two of Larry's photos. The fisherman in this picture is Joe Higgins. The Osprey picture is for Mothers' Day.

Please note: These pictures are copy written.

## Coming Events

**May 4 – Last class.** Welcome, graduates, to our club. Your dues for the rest of this year were included in your registration.

Enjoy your time with us and be an active member. Start by buying something at the Auction. And catch a fish on Saturday.

**May 5 – Auction**

**May 9 – Fishing at Naval Oaks**

**May 14 – Fly Tying**

**May 16 – Clinic** - Bob Willice is providing Pulled Pork sandwiches for lunch



Mother and Child Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)  
Pensacola Beach, Florida

© Larry Szalay

## Fly of the Month: Glass Minnow and Bendback Glass Minnow by Bob Korose

I was taught this fly by Carl Hansen of St Petersburg, Fl. in 1991. He created the glass minnow fly by snelling mono on the hook to create the body and then used bucktail for the wing. He later tied it on a bent back hook to have it fish with the hook point up. By the time he taught me the fly he had added bead chain eyes and was using “poly duster” fibers instead of bucktail and he also added krystal flash. He tied it on a size 2 Mustad 3407 hook but also used size 4 and 6 to match the size of the bait fish. I later tied some on 34011 size 2 hooks to give it a longer profile. Since I started using these flies I have caught 40 different species of salt water fish on them, from pinfish to tarpon. Depending on its size, color, and how it is retrieved, this fly can imitate small baitfish (glass minnows) or shrimp or just be an attractor fly. Being semi-weedless, it is a great fly on grass flats and when floating grass is present.

### Materials:

**Hooks:** 34011 size 2 or 3407 sizes 2, 4 or 6

**Eyes:** Bead chain or hourglass eyes

**Body:** Aluminum foil covered by clear stretch cord (.8mm)

**Threads:** Clear 6/0 Mono thread for tying on the stretch body material.

Flat wax nylon (210 Denier) Color: red or orange for the head

**Flash:** Krystal flash (pearl or copper)

**Wing:** Kent's Semper- fibers (two colors) tied sparse.



### Instructions:



Bend back the hook then debarb and place it in the vice with the hook point down.

Wrap the hook with aluminum foil (shiny side out) from the bend to above the hook barb.

Start the clear mono thread at the bend and go back to above the hook barb. Tie on the stretch cord and wind the thread forward over the stretch cord to the bend.



Wind the stretch cord forward to the bend with touching wraps. Tie off the stretch cord and double whip finish at the bend. Cut off the excess cord and the thread.



Start the red thread behind the eye and wrap back to the bend. Tie on the eyes in the bend with figure 8 wraps.

Take the hook out of the vice and turn it upside down with the hook point up in the vice. Tie in the light colored fibers first. Then tie on a couple of strands of crystal flash.



Finally tie on the dark colored fibers. Form a nice head and whip finish. Cover the head with clear nail polish, head cement or epoxy as desired.

## **Meeting minutes** for 07 April, 2015 Board & General Membership Meetings

**Time:** 1830 Board Meeting, 1900 General Membership Meeting

For a list of participants for both meetings please refer to the attendance record dated 07 April 2015

Cliff Newton called the Board Meeting to order at 1833 hours.

Jay Brykczynski motioned to accept last month's meeting minutes as printed in the newsletter and Ralph Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jay Brykczynski gave the treasury report.

Gulf Coast Council wants 1 or 2 people to serve on the board. They meet via phone conference a couple times a year. Karen has resigned as the IFFF representative for the club. Looking for a volunteer for position. Gives you the opportunity to network with fly fishermen across the nation.

Auction coming up on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May. Some of the items already donated are a TFO Mangrove Rod, Orvis Multiplier Reel, Sage series 3 graphite 8.5ft 6 weight and a 9 foot 12 weight Orvis Trident Rod.

"Mission Fishin" has an Angler's night on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April. Point of contact is Scott Stillman (Founder) 850-384-9649 or 850-384-9041, [moveoutofthebox@gmail.com](mailto:moveoutofthebox@gmail.com). Show FFNWF support.

Membership Chair. Due to health reasons Jack is stepping down for the time being. Need an interim chairperson.

Possible fishing opportunities in Jasper Alabama with the Fair Hope Yacht Club Eastern Shore Fly Fishers. Kent Reagan motioned to adjourn the meeting and Oleta Webb seconded the motion. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 1855 hours.

### **Cliff Newton called General Membership Meeting to order at 1900 hours.**

Speaker Chris Vecsey from Sam's Bait & Tackle gave a presentation on offshore fly fishing.

Fishing Reports given.

Russ Shields motioned to approve previous month's meeting minutes as printed in the newsletter and Matt Wagener seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jay Brykczynski gave the treasury report. Russ Shields moved to accept and Ralph Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Okaloosa County Duck's Unlimited banquet is the following Saturday.

Jim Morris announced the library is open. Please make sure you sign out material when you take it.

The Gulf Coast Council wants 1 to 2 members to serve on the board. They conduct a couple conference calls a year. Great opportunity to network with other fly fishermen.

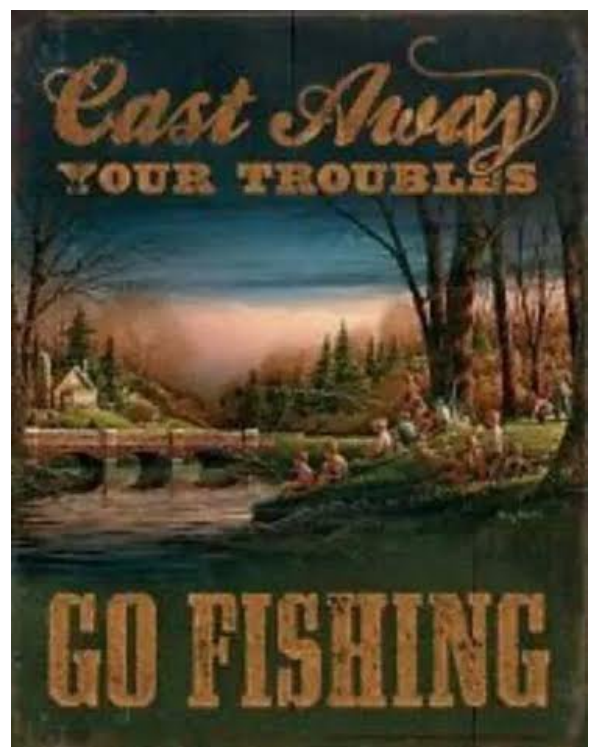
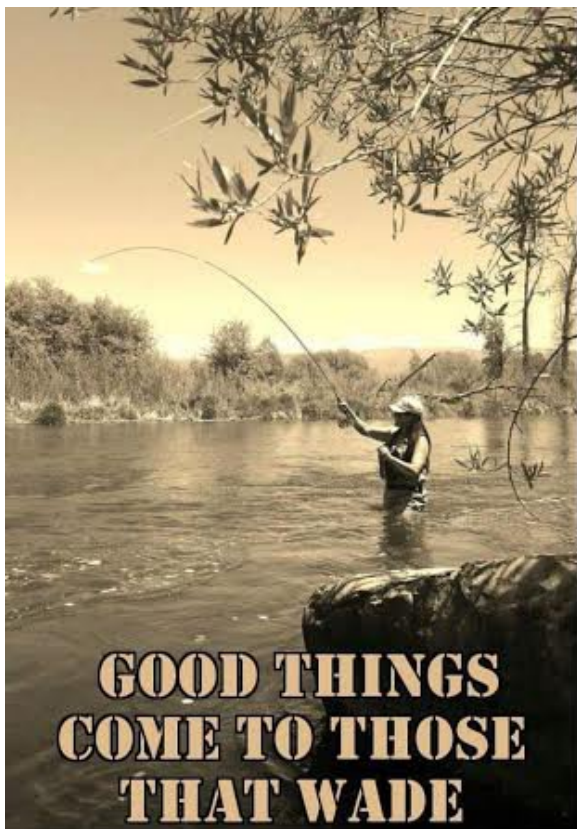
Auction is next month on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May in lieu of the business meeting.

Door Prizes given. Kent Reagan motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ralph Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 2029 hours.

The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned.

Kent Reagan, Secretary

Email: [usmcflyguy@outlook.com](mailto:usmcflyguy@outlook.com)



**The IRS** suspected a fishing boat owner wasn't paying proper wages to his deckhand and sent an agent to investigate him.

**IRS Auditor:** "I need a list of your employees and how much you pay them".

**Boat Owner:** "Well, there's Clarence, my deckhand, he's been with me for 3 years. I pay him \$1,000 a week plus free room and board. Then there's the mentally challenged guy. He works about 18 hours every day and does about 90% of the work around here. He makes about \$10 per week, pays his own room and board, and I buy him a bottle of Bacardi rum and a dozen Budweisers every Saturday night so he can cope with life. He also gets to sleep with my wife occasionally".

**IRS Auditor:** "That's the guy I want to talk to - the mentally challenged one".

**Boat Owner:** "That would be me. What would you like to know"?