

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
OCTOBER 2014

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NORTHWEST FLORIDA
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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

I am sad to report that Jerry Aldridge recently passed away. Jerry had been dealing with several health issues the past year or so. Jerry has been one of our longest serving members. He has served the club in many capacities, he has been President, Newsletter Editor, has been very active in leading fly tying sessions and a mainstay in our annual training course. Back in 1999/2000 when I first became active in the club, Jerry was instrumental in me learning to tie flies and improve my casting. I am sure there are many members who can attest to Jerry's service during the nine years I was away from the club. Details on a memorial service will be forthcoming.

Roy Turner has indicated that he needs to step aside as Newsletter Editor. Roy has served us well in this capacity and his efforts are appreciated. If you are looking for a way to become active in the club this is a great opportunity. Please contact Roy or myself if you are interested. Roy can fill you in on the details of what's required.

There will be a board meeting at 6:00 PM prior to the membership meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, October 7th.

The 2014 FFNWF Club Christmas Party is schedule for December 9, 2014. Mark your calendars. More info to follow in November 's newsletter.



My personal farewell to Jerry Aldridge

In late 2001 my wife Irene, noticed an ad in the newspaper about a fly fishing course that was going to be offered at then PJC in the Spring of 2002 and suggested that I sign up for it.

I showed up for the course in March of 2002 and one of the first people that I met was Jerry Aldridge. He was a quiet authority that everyone respected and he freely gave advice when asked, but only when asked. He was certainly not overbearing like so many “experts” can be. With the help of other members of the FFNWF including Karen and John Brand, Kevin Cohenour and others all lead by Tom Regina, I began on the journey to learn to tie flies, cast a fly rod and eventually catch some fish!

Jerry was an eager teacher and mentor; his encouragement and occasional invitations for fishing outings kept me at the bench and in my back yard improving my casting. His lectures about “Chicken Feathers” were wonderful and have yet to be duplicated in our annual fly fishing course. Although his health was deteriorating in the last few years, he made every effort to continue to teach at least one session in our annual classes. His participation in the last two years has been missed by all of us who make the class possible.

In watching Jerry cast a line from his boat I used to marvel that he could through 100 feet of line in a very unorthodox manner with very few hang-ups and he always out fished me and I think most of his other lucky fishing partners.

As I got to know Jerry a little better, I discovered that we had several mutual friends from our Navy careers. Everyone I met had a very high regard for Jerry for his honesty, directness and integrity, I share that perspective. I only wish that we had more opportunities to spend some time on the water and in the streams together: He taught me a great deal of what I know today about our wonderful pastime.

I can only wish him Fair Winds and Following Seas. Good by my friend.

Russ Shields

**Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida,
September 2, 2014, President Cliff Newton, presiding**

Subject: Meeting minutes for 02 September 2014 General Membership Meeting

Location: Miraflores Park, 17th Ave. Pensacola, FL

Time: 1900 General Membership Meeting

For a list of participants of the meeting please refer to the attendance record dated 02 September 2014.

There was no Board Meeting held for the month of September.

Cliff Newton, President, called the General Membership Meeting to order at 1900 hours.

Fishing reports were given by members.

Rex Straughn motioned that the previous month's minutes be accepted as printed and Russ Shields seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jay Brykczynski gave the treasury report for the month of September, 2014. Report was accepted as given.

Old Business:

Rex Straughn is still looking for more members to give presentations at the Tuesday night business meetings. Those interested should contact Rex.

25 of the 30th anniversary hats with "est 1984" have been purchased.

For the 30th anniversary Paul Wargo is putting together a Power Point presentation for the Christmas banquet. Still need someone to volunteer to interview senior members for the presentation. Those interested should contact Paul Wargo and Cliff Newton.

Membership committee. Need a volunteer to put together new member packets and keep everything up to date.

Ralph Newton gave presentation on trip taken in August, 2014 to see the viability of having a deep sea fishing club outing.

Terry McCormick gave a presentation on beach fly fishing.

Date for Christmas banquet has been finalized for the second Tuesday of December, the 9th.

Need 2-3 people to volunteer for nomination committee. If interested please contact Cliff Newton.

Door prizes were drawn for.

Russ Shields motioned to adjourn the meeting with Kent Reagan seconding the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 2029 hours.

The point of contact for this memorandum is the undersigned.

Kent Reagan, Secretary

Fishing Report... Captain Baz Yelverton



September started off strong. **Mike Youkee** from London was in town for four days starting September 2, and we spent a lot of time poling the flats on the north side of the island. I hadn't fished those areas in a month and was surprised at the numbers of both redfish and trout. We got a late start on the first day and only landed a couple fish, but the next day we started early and hit it hard. There were fish all along the beach from Peglegs to the old Coast Guard Station, and Mike had a field day landing six slot-sized and larger redfish and the all-time boat record trout. He used the gray/white EP baitfish and a long, fast strip both days and the fish charged and ate the fly without hesitation. Mike's biggest redfish was about 30", and it crushed a small popper stripped aggressively just off the drop off. Here are some of the redfish photos starting with the first fish from September 2.

Youkee - Red 1



Youkee - Red 2



Youkee - Red



Youkee - Red

The sad thing is that since September 3 the redfish have had "lockjaw". We've had a lot of follows but no takes. I've tried everything I can think of including swimming along the flats in mask and snorkel looking for something...*anything*...the redfish might be eating. The only fly I've been able to interest them in has been a popper. Hopefully it'll all turn back on as the water cools.

But let's go back to September 3 for a moment. The most spectacular fish that day was the big trout which weighed over 8# in the net. It was mid-afternoon, and we were poling to the east into the outgoing current with the sun at our backs. Way down the beach...250-300' away... I spotted what looked like a big fish just a few feet from shore. The fish was darkish-brown and appeared to be moving in our direction. As we got a little closer I could see it was actually two fish...a huge one and a big one. Because of their size I thought they were redfish, but the brownish color made me think trout. We were still a couple hundred feet from the fish, and I pushed us out 40' from shore so our shadow from the setting sun wouldn't spook them. It was a thrill planning the strategy from our point of ambush as the two fish drifted slowly with the current in our direction. The fish were five feet from shore and a hundred feet away when Mike made the cast. The fly landed undetected about 20' short and left of the fish and sank to the bottom. The potential energy on the boat was like a coiled spring for the next few seconds as we both froze and watched our prey move into the trap. There was additional drama because the outgoing current was slowly drifting the fly toward the boat, and a large belly was forming in the floating line. But the drama ended when the trout closed to about ten feet from the fly, and Mike gave it a long smooth strip. The larger fish saw the fly move and simply swam over and ate it! The

Fishing Report... Continue

fish bolted and hit the surface as big trout will do, but Mike had no trouble bringing it to the boat. I wet the neoprene net, gently brought the fish into the boat, and removed the barbless hook. We made sure the fish settled down before Mike wet his hands and held her up for the photo. What a beautiful fish! She was full of eggs, and I estimated her weight at 7 pounds...the new all-time boat record!

Mike wasn't quite finished on September 3. After the trout and redfish experience we decided to finish off the day blind-casting for Spanish mackerel and Mike landed this beauty on a tan/white clouser minnow.



Youkee -
Spanish
Mackerel

We slid it into the cooler, and the Aegean Breeze prepared it for us that evening. It was the perfect end to a very memorable day. Since then the Spanish have continued to be undependable. The best day I had all month on the inside was on September 17 when we landed five. Even the USS Massachusetts hasn't been holding many fish. If that's not bad enough, we were out there September 22 and the wreck was literally covered up with remoras! There were hundreds of them in schools of 20-30 fish. In a word...*disgusting*. I'm hoping the big Spanish will turn on in October as the water temperatures drop.

There are some nice bluefish and large ladyfish showing up in the usual spots including Town Point. Mike landed this bluefish early in the month, and we've caught several more plus some 2-3# ladyfish in the last couple weeks. I suggest going with poppers with short tie-able wire leaders, and be sure to strip aggressively making lots of commotion to attract the fish.



Youkee - bluefish

The most exciting news at the moment is the cool, clear Gulf of Mexico water that's pushed in from the SE. Water temp in the Gulf dropped *ten degrees* last week, and there are schools and schools of ballyhoo that came with it all the way to the beach. Guess what's following the ballyhoo... blackfin tunas and sailfish! Both species are being hooked off the Navarre and Pensacola Beach piers. Interesting to note it was exactly two years ago that the same thing happened, and Mike **Youkee** landed a 25# blackfin on a 9wt less than a mile off shore. The Gulf seas are dropping down to a foot by next Tuesday, and you can bet your bottom dollar my angler and I will be out there looking for them.

Capt Baz





Bob's Flash Fly



This is a very effective fly that is very easy to tie and catches lots of fish. It is a fly type that can be tied in many color combinations and materials. It is a durable fly but any fly will succumb to the mouths of mackerel, bluefish, ladyfish, etc. (just cut off what is left of the old material and tie it up again for the next trip). Tied in all pink, it has caught redfish and specks plus all the above listed fish. All pearl or pearl with a red head has also been very successful. I am sure many other color combinations will also work under various conditions so use your imagination.



This fly should be effective for many other types of fish in salt and fresh water especially when tied in appropriate sizes. I know the all pink version and also one tied in purple with a pink head works great on salmon and trout in Alaska.

Materials:

- Hooks: Mustad 3407 or Eagle claw 413 size 2.
- Eyes: Dumbbell eyes size medium.
- Thread: Flat waxed nylon (white or as desired)
- Tail: Flash material of your choice (I like FT Dungeon's Pearl Web or Northern Lights in various colors)
- Body: Flashy type chenille (pearl chenille, cactus chenille, Estaz or others).



Take some tail material about twice the length of the hook and tie in behind the eyes, wrapping the thread to the bend of the hook then returning it to behind the eyes.



Start the thread behind the hook eye and wrap to the hook bend then back to 2 eye-widths behind the hook eye and tie in the dumbbell eyes with figure 8 wraps. Move the thread to behind the eyes.



Take a length of flash chenille of choice and tie it on top of the tail material and to the bend of the hook. Take the thread forward to in front of the eyes.

Bob's Flash Fly—Continue



Wrap the chenille around hook in touching wraps forward to the eyes and figure 8 the chenille over the eyes and tie off in front of the eyes.



Wrap a nice head and whip finish. Apply head cement or epoxy and your fly is ready for action.



FOR SALE

1995 Hewes 18' Red fisher ; Power- 1995 Yamaha Pro V Saltwater Series outboard; Polling Platform and Pole; Boat has installed 5 fly rod storage tubes; conventional rod holders; 82 lb Saltwater Motor Guide 24 volt trolling motor; 3 new batteries; power trim/tilt; power trim tabs; 3 circulating live wells/bait; additional large dry storage compartments; life vests; anchor and rope; VHF radio; Gps/Fish finder; compass; picture in Pensacola Craigs list- Contact Bill at 850-515-0727; 850-777-6146 (cell) or bseacrest@seacrestlaw.com.

For sale

Pflueger Trion 1990. \$80

Orvis access mid arbor II \$95

This reel was won at the party.

Like new

Paul Wargo. 586-943-3155

Around the Bay...and Further Away



Jeff Deuschle and Todd Thomas (ESFF) had a good night fishing the lights on October 2-3. We caught dozens of white trout and a few specks. Nothing huge, but lots of action. One huge red came ghosting up out of the shadows to investigate and hit my floating line about 15ft. in front of my fly! Nothing I could do but cry!... kept just a few for the pan.

OCEANS SPRINGS



Kent Reagan, his mother and Kevin Gorby were at the Ocean Springs conclave. I had a great time and am looking to the next event. I learned a lot.

Around the Bay...and Further Away

LEATHER-4-U

Jack ran across a place that is a great source for fox tails in all colors and price. They have two locations. One located at T&W flea market open only on Saturday and Sunday—8:00 to 2:30. The second location is in Milton, 6422 E, Hwy 90, Milton, FL open Tuesday—Friday 10:30 to 5:30, Saturday 10:30 to 2:00. When you go be sure to take your wife. They have in addition to fox tails a fine selection of leather hand bags as well as some great hand made jewelry. Christmas is just around the corner. My wife was with me when I was there and found a nice bracelet and informed me her birthday was this month. For the record she has 12 birthdays a year and some months two. I got a roll of sinew which I will use to make a spider fly. I saw one made at the conclave in Ocean Springs and plan to try and make one. Make a day of it and visit the shop in Milton.

SCAM NOTICE

I received this by e-mail and feel it might be of interest.

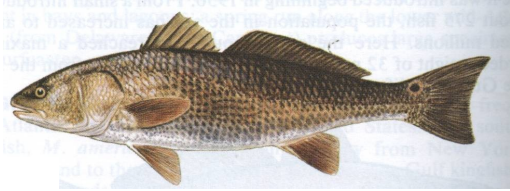
Computer Scan Notice!

Over the past few months I have notice the up tick of Computer related Scams, The latest scam is someone calls you on the Telephone, they have a heavy accent The caller says your computer has a virus and he is from Windows, They will be happy to remove the virus and they ask you to go the a website. and down load some software.

Once they gain access to your laptop or desktop, they down load malware or they just lock you out of the system and demand \$200.00 or more to unlock your computer.

This is a total Scam do not fall for it.

Frank Bowden
Bowden's Computers
850-933-5222



OCTOBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 VA tying clinic	4
5	6 Healing Waters	7 Business Meeting	8	9 Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30 PM	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Clinic - Casting, tying, gourmet lunch 9 AM
19	20 Healing Waters	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	