



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

October, 2018

FFNWF

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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

Day of Play Pensacola - This Saturday

from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Our club will participate with fly tying demos and a casting area. Call Dave if you would like to help!

Christmas Party

Fall is here so Christmas can't be far behind. Time to get your tickets for the Christmas Party. Tuesday, December 11. \$30



Buy your tickets from Jay at any October club event. If you can't make it to the club mail your check payable to FFNWF to:

Jay Brykczynski
4983 Prieto Drive
Pensacola FL 32506

Club Meeting Tuesday, Oct 2 7:00

It's been a while. We didn't have a meeting in September due to Gordon (Gordon came before Florence? But that's another story) Kent Reagan will be at the meeting to report on his PHW trip to Montana.

Fly Tying Thursday, Oct 11 6:30

We will be making the Scud. It's a bug. (Not a fly fishing bug but a creepy crawly bug). Also a good time to share fishing stories. That's no bull.....

Clinic Saturday, Oct 20 9:00 AM

Casting instruction will be back at the clubhouse as Jonas shows us how to deal with the wind. No, you don't stay home. No, you don't take a spinning rod. You cast. And catch.

Lunch will be our annual Oktoberfest feast hosted by Jerry Giles. This is a special event. Beverages will be Kool Aid and coffee
(Just Kidding!!!!)



Fishing in the Keys by Matt Wegener



I just got back from my annual pilgrimage to the Florida Keys for some fishing, diving and lobstering. We always do the trip in early September because condos are cheaper, the water is less crowded, and the winds are normally the calmest of the season. The one problem with this time of the year, other than the heat, is the chance of a hurricane ruining the whole trip. This was the case last year, when Hurricane Irma made landfall just 5 miles away from the island we stay at, Sugarloaf Key, and cut our trip short. But all was not lost, literally.

Yes, the island had some damage, but I was amazed to see how quickly the people and the island rebounded following the destruction from a category 4 storm. You wouldn't even know anything happened when talking to the locals, unless you asked them about it. The water looked great, the fishing was outstanding, and plenty of lobster to go around. Truly resilient people and landscape make the Florida Keys a very special place.

So how was the fishing? Well, for the first time, we chartered a guide to take us bonefishing. We've caught bonefish on our own in the past, but our tactics involved staking out on the flat during a falling tide for hours and hours waiting for the fish to show up. Talk about boring! The guide showed us a few tricks to help increase the action and decrease the waiting time. Ask me about it sometime and I'll be glad to share them with you. Our guide, Tim Carlisle, has been guiding around Sugarloaf Key for his whole life. Besides having an extremely foul mouth, he also previously held the 8# test line record for bonefish for many years with an impressive 14 pound 11 ounce fish. He shared the story of this catch with many choice words that I probably shouldn't include in this report. But I digress.



The first thing he did was look in my fly box and pick out a fly. What one did he pick? Well none other than a small tan & white clouser that we use to fool trout and redfish around here. I couldn't believe it. Out of all the spawning shrimp and crab patterns I tied specifically for this moment and the guide picked old trusty rust, the tan & white dynamite. But the guide was right, I quickly landed a mangrove snapper and then shortly thereafter, our first bonefish of the trip. We ended up catching 6 bonefish that day during a 5 hour trip, two of which were on the fly rod. We also saw permit too, but they weren't interested in our offerings. We used the tips from Captain Tim to fool several more bonefish during the trip, including two fish around 5 pounds.

A little fishing in the morning, some spearfishing and lobstering around lunch, culminating with some cold drinks on a sandbar makes for a great time and vacation that ended all too soon. I guess it's time to tie on that tan & white clouser and fool some fish around here!

Fishing Close By with Close Friends

It just so happened that several members happened to be fishing close by and close to each other. In their own words:

Look what showed up for me today on the 8wt and a tan and olive yellow-eyed flash fly. 28# on the Boga.

I went out again today and took out Ed Hamkens. We had quite a day getting 11 different species. These were Ed's first fish on a fly in the salt today and included specks, Spanish, bluefish, big ladyfish, pompanos, pinfish, pigfish, and a big hardtail. I added a lizardfish, gag grouper and the bull red for the 11 species. *Bob Korose*



Lots of action today. George and I were catching Lady Fish and Blue Fish at the Ft Pickens gate. I caught a huge Lady fish..Went out to the pass and I caught a baby Jack... we had lots of Lady fish action and Spanish... I had a big Spanish and had him close to the boat and he shook his head and bit through my leader...Anyway it was a good day all around..

Jay Brykczynski



Jerry Giles and Jim White same day. Jerry with an iridescent green Bluefish.

(He has his fingers tucked in but keep in mind bluefish that size are called Choppers.)



PHW There will be a change in our PHWFF meeting dates in October. We will meet on Monday the 1st, then skip a week and meet on the 15th and 22nd.

There will be Healing Waters fishing trips with Capt. Baz and Capt Dan on the 10th and 31st. Cheers, Russ

Fly Fishing Expo Asheville N.C. Nov 30- Dec 1

http://www.southerntrout.com/blog/2018/9/23/western-north-carolina-fly-fishing-expo?mc_cid=f01bfd21aa&mc_eid=45b1260020

Fishing with Capt. Dan

September got off to a tough start with our first real dirty water event of the year. It's a shame too, because I was on the fish!

We first got tough conditions the week before Gordon came to shore with local rains, and then to get a tropical storm on top of it really took the first part of the month off the table for us. My first day back on the water with reasonable conditions was September 10. The inside was dirty, so we ran offshore just to see what we could see and lucked up on a plastic section of a



floating dock. Being eight miles offshore, we knew that it would hold fish. Anything in the water out that far that has a barnacle on it is going to hold fish. We found it loaded with triple tails! Nothing too big, but a cool species when things get tough.



Jim White got this picture of Capt. Dan and a 35 lb Jack while wading at Johnson Beach

There are also a lot of mahi out there. The weather window to get to them may have passed us by but if it lays down in the next week or so it is worth burning some gas to look for them. The weediness are within 20 miles in some places and there are even some spinning guys catching fish in state waters.

Finishing off the "outside the pass", I'll mention the new cuts and bars along our stretch of beach.

All the surf kicked up from Gordon has changed the bottom structure quite a bit. There are some real nice deep pockets and draws close to shore that will make pompano fishing real interesting if we can get the clean water before it gets too cold. Until then, larger ladyfish and bluefish can be found both east and west of the pass in the draw. The bad news is that all the beach redfish are gone. Well, at least the ones I knew about anyway. Something tells me we will see them soon on the inside giving the menhaden the business. As a matter of fact, I would expect the bulls to be on the surface by the time you get my next report, if they haven't been up already.....



The inside fishing has been hot! The flats are the place to be. We have had one of those magical windows where the fish are just charging the fly. It helps to have the right fly, and the right retrieve. We have been catching all of our fish on my new fly, the "one cast love affair". I have an interesting habit of naming all of my flies after guilty pleasure 80's songs. I'd be happy to share it at a clinic or tying night if interested. The fish are clobbering it, and we are having 8-10 bites some days. Not many bigger fish, most are 14-18", but a lot of fun on the 7 weights.

Here is Jordan Case releasing his first (and second) redfish on fly on Sept. 13:



Handsel Reid taking a break from making magic with his camera to catch a few on the 20th: Handsel is the mastermind behind the pictures you have been seeing on the clubs facebook page. If you don't know what I'm talking about, go take a look. Truly a talented dude.

The big trout that we were seeing last month have thinned out quite a bit and were quickly replaced by all these redfish. We did manage a good fish on Sept 19th and I posted it to the facebook page. Probably a 4 pound trout or so? I never carry a scale or measuring tape on the boat, but he was a beauty. We even crimped down the barbs that day!



The big Spanish are in the bay, and that is my "best bet to see backing" for this month. I know that many of you love these fish so get after it. I saw them every morning last week just west of the ranger station along the drop off from that grass flat. I'm sure your usual spots that have been posted in Baz's reports through the years are good too. Don't be surprised to see a wall of showering mullet in the area though, and don't you dare get caught unprepared! Leaving the house without a 10wt popper rod is a big no-no right now, and it will be through about December 10th. The Jacks are still in the bay and as I mentioned before, surface feeding redfish are a possibility any day now. *Capt. Dan Storey*

Fly of the Month **Olive Scud**... by Matt Wegener

Scuds are everywhere. And fish everywhere eat scuds. Therefore, you need some scuds in your box before your next trout trip. This is a simple, yet reliable recipe. Gerry Giles showed me this pattern tied by one of his favorite tyers, Tim Cammisa, with a little twist I added. If you want to see Tim tie this fly, simply search for "olive scud nymph" on Youtube. The twist involves a new tying material; Semperfli Quick Dub. It's like dubbing twisted into a rope and loaded onto a spool, and it makes tying a buggy nymph body very quick and easy.

Hook: Scud hook (like a DAI-RIKI #135), #14-#18

Thread: 6/0 or 8/0 Olive thread

Weight: .020 lead wire **Shell:** 1/8" clear scud back or zip lock bag **Ribbing:** Fine mono

Body: Light olive Semperfli Quick Dub **Antennae:** Fox squirrel hair

Tying Instructions



1. Tie in several fox squirrel hairs at the eye of the hook, about 2/3 the length of the hook shank. Make sure to leave and 1/8" spacing between the hairs and the eye of the hook for the final whip finish. Make a few wraps around the hair to get it to stand semi-up and over the eye of the hook. Wrap the lead wire around the hook shank to add weight and form the heavy-body shape of a scud.



2. Move the thread to the bend of the hook and tie in the mono, then the scud back, then the quick dub.



3. Move the thread to the eye of the hook. Wrap the quick dub towards the eye of the hook, forming the scud body.



4. Lay the shell back over the body and tie in place.

Tease out fibers on the bottom of the hook shank to make the legs. Add Clear Goo Thin on the shell back to add a touch of realism and to make the fly bomb proof.

5. Wrap the mono rib to form a segmented body and do a whip finish before cutting the thread.



It creeps and crawls

Club Minutes

There are no minutes because there was no meeting in September due to rain, wind, and weather. Mostly weather.