

# ***Flies & Lies***

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS  
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
SEPTEMBER 2010

THE FLYFISHERS OF  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
PO BOX 1041  
PENSACOLA, FL 32591  
www.flyfishpensacola.  
com

## **PRESIDENT**

Larry Goodman  
(850) 433-5135  
trakr1@aol.com

## **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Jerry Giles  
(850) 994-9946,  
FlyFisherman1942@aol.com

## **SECRETARY**

Bob Willice  
(850) 934-6586  
lastboat3@msn.com

## **TREASURER**

Larry Sisney  
(850) 474-1433  
lsisney@cox.net

## **NEWSLETTER**

Jerry Aldridge  
(850) 478-9255  
jamayfly@yahoo.com

## **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**

## **NEW MEMBER INFORMATION PACKETS**

Anyone who has joined our club in 2010 may pick up a **NEW MEMBER INFORMATION PACKET** at any club meeting in September....Art deTonnancourt, Membership Chairman

Welcome to new members Michael Broughton and Fred Thronson

## **ELECTIONS**

Each Fall, our club elects, at the November business meeting, the officer slate for the coming year. A slate is proposed by the **Nominating Committee** for the positions of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer at the preceeding month's business meeting (October), at which time you'll be asked to consider offering yourselves or your nominee for any of these positions, as well as the two Member At Large board positions. All nominations are to be made at the November meeting and voted upon then. Those elected will take office at the January business meeting. Angler of the Year nominations will also be taken in November.

Please seriously consider offering yourself for one of these positions. This is an excellent way to learn how the club functions, and such service is very satisfying, not to mention greatly appreciated by the club membership....Jay Williams, Nominating Chair

## General Business & Auction, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, August 3rd, 2010, President Larry Goodman, presiding

President Larry Goodman called the **board** meeting to order at 6:30 pm with 8 board members present. Larry presented the July 2010 treasury report. The \$200 amount previously budgeted for beverage purchases had been exceeded with 5 months still remaining in the fiscal year. The board passed a motion to increase the amount budgeted from \$200 to \$300 in order to cover the deficit and the rest of the year. The checkbook balance for July was \$1 less than the bank statement balance and the error will be addressed by club treasurer Larry Sisney when he returns from vacation. The treasury report for July 2010 was approved by the board. The minutes of the July 6, 2010 board and membership meetings as published in the August 2010 newsletter were approved.

Larry announced that John Brand has formally resigned from the board as chairman of the educational committee for fly casting and that Jerry Aldridge has formally resigned from the board as chairman of the newsletter committee. Both John and Jerry will still remain active with the club. John will still be available to share his fly casting skills with club members at our Saturday clinics and Jerry will continue to work with the newsletter.

Tom Regina has notified the board that he wishes to be replaced as coordinator of the fly tying classes which will tentatively begin mid March 2011. He has served as coordinator for the past 5 years. He will gladly assist the new coordinator with the program and Tom will continue with the fly tying sessions at the Thursday night "Bull Session" and the Saturday clinics.

There being no further business for the **board** the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 pm.

President Larry Goodman called the **business** meeting to order at 7 pm with 18 members present. Fred Thronson and Mike Broughton were introduced as new members. Prentice Robinson was introduced by Tom Birdwell and welcomed as a guest.

The business conducted at the board meeting was presented to the general membership.

Jay Williams announced that the club should start thinking about club officers for the year 2011.

The possibility of a trip to Hurricane Lake in place of the fall picnic will be discussed at the next meeting.

Joe Higgins announced that name badges, hat and shirt logos can be obtained through him.

The call for volunteers to teach fly tying classes with the "Healing Waters" program still remains open. USAA has made a credit card available to its members. Use of the card will benefit project "Healing Waters."

Tom Birdwell reported on trout fishing trip he made recently to Colorado and Terry McCormick reported on a recent trip to Savannah, Georgia for redfish and triple tail.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm. Bob Willice secretary

### *Casting & Tying at the Club.... Tom Regina*

September 9 - Monthly Bull Session, 6:30 PM. We will tie the "San Juan Worm".

September 18 - Monthly Casting and Tying Clinic, 9 AM until about 1 PM. Casting instruction and practice with John Brand. Fly tying the "Chartreuse Woolly-Bugger" with Jerry Giles.

Tom Regina will lead the fly tying for the Bull Session. Jerry Giles will lead the Saturday tying clinic in September. Your club will provide all tying materials to tie both flies. If you have them, bring your vise and tools. The club can also provide a vise and tools for you and your guests. Bring your long rod to the Saturday casting clinic. Club fly rods/reels are available for you and your guests also.

Free lunch and beverages will be provided at the Saturday Casting and Tying Clinic. Free beverages are available for all club bull sessions, clinics, and meetings.

# San Juan Worm... Tom Regina

Just getting started in fly tying? Then the San Juan Worm will help you get off to a good start. The basic SJW is a quick easy tie and consists of only a hook, thread, and a small snippet of standard size Ultra Chenille. Don't get the idea however, because of its ease and simplicity that the SJW is for beginning fly fishers only. To the contrary, San Juan worms are used by some of the most advanced fly anglers to take many trout and other species of game fish.

The San Juan Worm is a style of fly that imitates a group of aquatic and earth worms. I have found the San Juan Worm, in its many forms, to be very effective during or soon after a heavy rain or downpour as dirt and mud and earth worms are washed into the river or stream and the water has not been completely muddied. I fish the worm along the seam of clean and muddied water where the fish still have reasonable visibility. Don't misinterpret this as saying the SJW is only effective in muddied or less than clear or clean water. Far from that, the SJW is a mighty fine subsurface searching fly for many occasions. Fish SJWs in a dead drift as you would a nymph.

The following recipe and tying instructions are for a basic San Juan Worm. Included after the instructions for this basic SJW are several different adaptations of SJWs with a short explanation of how to tie them.

## Tying Materials

**Hook:** Curved caddis larva such as Mustad C49S, size 10  
**Thread:** 6/0 brown  
**Body:** Worm brown, standard size Ultra Chenille



## Tying Instructions



1. **Lay down a thread base.** Fix the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread at the hook eye. In neat touching turns lay down a thread base along the hook shank to a point half-way down the hook bend. Leave the thread hang at this point.



2. **Tie on the body.** Cut about a two inch length of Ultra Chenille from the skein. At the thread hang point tie in the chenille so the "tail" extends about one hook length beyond the back of the hook.



3. **Bind the "body" to the hook.** Bind the "body" segment of the chenille to the top of the hook shank with several tight, evenly spaced, spiral thread wraps to a point one hook eye distance back from the hook eye. Lift the "head" chenille out of the way and whip finish or half hitch the thread behind the hook eye while tucking the thread up under the chenille. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement to the whip/half hitch finish thread wraps. Cut the "head" chenille segment to a length that it extends about one hook length in front of the hook eye.



4. **Singe the worm ends.** To keep the chenille core from unraveling, lightly singe both ends of the SJW with a cigarette lighter. *Caution: Do not actually touch the flame to the chenille. Just hold the flame close enough to the chenille that the heat from the flame, and not the flame itself singes the tips.*



**Variations.** San Juan Worms can be tied in several colors other than worm brown. Red, pink, orange, olive, and insect green are but a few suggestions.

Other variations include incorporating a clitellum made with either thread wraps or a bead. For a thread clitellum, simply apply contrasting color thread wraps over a small portion of the chenille and hook close to the front of the fly. To make a bead clitellum, slide a bead onto the chenille then slide the hook through the bead and follow the tying instructions above.

## *San Juan Worm... Tom Regina (continued)*

For a SJW cluster tie in two or more pieces of chenille at the bend of the hook, bind only one piece to the top of the hook then tie all the pieces down at the front, varying their lengths and positions.

A loop SJW is made by tying in the chenille at the bend, forming a loop in the "body" segment of the chenille, forgoing binding the chenille to the top of the hook and tying down the front.

For a thicker body, palmer the "body" segment of the chenille.



**Joe Higgins has a source for members who want to put the clubs logo on their shirts, jackets and hats. Cost \$4.50 per logo. Bring garments to the monthly club meeting or Saturday clinic. Also club name tags are available for \$7.00. Thanks....Joe Higgins**



**Terry McCormick with a nice Savannah Georgia redfish. Perhaps he will tell "the rest of the story" at a September meeting**

## Chartreuse Woolly Bugger... Gerald Giles

The Chartreuse Woolly-Bugger is by far the best streamer fly I have ever used for bass or bream. It works especially well in ponds and lakes. The extra weight in my recipe, by adding sticky-back lead tape, gets the fly down deep quickly. Many times the hit comes before the fly reaches bottom. An effective tactic is to work this fly in foot-long strips. I like three strips, pause, then let the fly fall back toward the bottom and repeat. Most bass will take it on the fall.

### Tying Materials

<b>Hook:</b>	Eagle Claw 214-4, size 4, Aberdeen
<b>Thread:</b>	6/0 chartreuse
<b>Eyes:</b>	Small bead chain
<b>Adhesive:</b>	Super glue and head cement
<b>Weight:</b>	1/16-inch wide flat sticky-back lead tape
<b>Tail:</b>	Chartreuse marabou and pearl Kristal Flash
<b>Hackle:</b>	Chartreuse hackle feather



### Tying Instructions



1. **Lay down a neat thread base.** Crush the hook barb and secure the hook in the vise. Start the thread directly behind the hook eye. In tight touching turns wrap the thread back to the hook bend. Take the thread forward to a position 3/16-inch behind the hook eye.



2. **Apply the eyes and weight.** Mount the bead chain eyes at the forward thread hang point with tight figure-eight thread wraps. Apply a tiny drop of super glue to the eye thread wraps. Cut a piece of lead tape about 1 x 1/6-inch from the skein. Starting in back of the eyes, wrap the lead, sticky side down, in neat touching but not overlapping turns back to a point directly above the hook point. Cover the lead with thread wraps ending with the thread at the hook bend.



3. **Tie on the tail.** Strip the barbs from one side of a marabou feather. Measure the striped tail barbs to equal one hook shank length when tied in. Just forward of the hook bend tie the butt of the barb bundle to the top of the hook with about eight tight thread wraps. Trim away the excess butts. Take three strands of flash from the skein. Bring the three strands around the hanging thread. Grasping the six strand ends, bring the strands and thread to the top of the marabou tie-in point and secure it with several tight turns of thread. In a like manner strip the marabou barbs from the other side of the feather and tie them in on top of the flash and trim away the excess butts.



4. **Build the underbody.** Tie in a hackle feather by its tip directly above the tail at the hook bend. Apply a small amount of head cement to the feather tie-in thread wraps and allow the cement to dry. Dub the underbody from the hook bend forward to the back of the eyes.



5. **Complete the body.** Wrap the hackle feather forward in 10 to 12 evenly spaced turns to the back of the eyes. Tie off the feather and cut away the excess feather butt. Dub around, under, between, and in front of the eyes. Build a small neat thread head. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement to the finish thread wraps being careful not to get any cement on the hackle fibers.

## **Is Your Fly Pattern More Important Than How You Present It?**

By Pat Damico – Taken from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishers Club Newsletter

A book that should be in every saltwater fly fisherman's library is, "Fisherman's Coast," by Aaron J. Adams, Ph.D. Described as, "An angler's guide to marine warm-water gamefish and their habits," this book has been a revelation on how to fish different fly patterns. The author spends a lot of time discussing different types of prey found in every type of shallow saltwater environment. Color and size, as well as movements are presented in detail. Aaron's most recent book, "Fly Fisherman's Guide to Saltwater Prey," continues his quest and not only describes and contains photos of prey, but has detailed tying instructions and patterns that closely duplicate each life form.

Freshwater trout fishermen frequently wear a wool patch on their vests to dry fly patterns used that day. Did you ever notice that the most successful fisherman usually only have a couple flies present, while others may have a dozen or more? What does this tell us? Can we apply this information to improve our saltwater success? Could it be that the way a fly is presented is more important than the pattern itself? If you "match the hatch," exactly, why aren't you having as much success as you should? Think about how many times your beautiful fly improved as fish after fish destroyed the fly until only half of it was left.

With crabs, for instance, most fisherman fish a good pattern ineffectively. When discussing snook, the author reveals that stomach contents in colder weather show a very high number of crab parts. This finding was reinforced when our Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club had an outing close to Cockroach bay. Dressed for a cold windy morning with water temperatures below sixty degrees, we were all wading and fly fishing except for one person nearby who was using live shrimp with spinning tackle. During the first fifteen minutes, he caught two redfish and a snook casting into a deeper hole and just letting his bait sit on the bottom. None of us fly fishing had a strike. I switched to a weighted crab pattern and with a sinking tip line cast into the deepest part of the water in front of me. After waiting until I was sure the fly was on the bottom, I made short, one inch slow strips. My third cast stopped abruptly, almost like being snagged, and when I strip set the hook, I felt some head shaking. I thought I had a redfish on because the fish just, "Bulldogged," along the bottom. When he tired and came to the surface, much to my surprise, it was a decent snook. I told my companions what I was using, and continues to fish. Soon, another snook took my bottom-hugging crab pattern. After releasing the fish, I again shouted, "Put on a crab pattern!" Two more larger snook were later released. Every fish caught that morning fell to the same technique. Others fishing the same pattern were not fishing slow or deep enough to duplicate natural bait. Instead of changing to multiple patterns, presentation was the key.

Our spin fishing friends who use a DOA shrimp successfully follow my friend Capt. Mel's advice, "If you think you are fishing it too slow, slow it down even more." This will tell you how to fish shrimp patterns.

Size and color of these patterns should not be underestimated. Use a shrimp or crab pattern that closely matches the bottom you are fishing.

## Fishing Report... Captain Baz Velverton

When the Gulf of Mexico waters finally cleared up at the end of July the pompano arrived in unusually large numbers. I found the fish by accident on a scorching-hot July 31 when we pulled into the beach just east of the pass so my clients could take a swim. While they were in the water I was amazed to see a steady stream of pompano cruising the beach in shallow water. A few days later on August 5 Art deTonnancourt and Russ Shields joined me for the morning, and Art landed this pompano on my standard yellow pompano fly. The best pompano action is always around the full moon when the fish come to shore to escape night-feeding predators. Armed with that information and without a charter, I ventured out solo on Aug 23 and had my best day ever. It was a cloudless day with glassy, clear water...absolutely perfect conditions for sight-fishing. At



first the pompano were mixed in with ladyfish, but when the tide turned out the ladyfish disappeared leaving just me and the pompano. I landed 9 with the largest fish weighing around 4#. There were so many fish I was able to try numerous flies including various sand flea imitations, but I never got a fish to take anything other than the newest version of my yellow pompano fly. I kept going back to it and ended up catching all nine fish on the same fly.

The biggest fish of the day (which I lost) actually yanked the rod out of my hand when it slammed the fly! Fortunately I had the fly line in my other hand and was able to keep the rod from going overboard. I took some video which I'm going to

try to attach to this report. Also, check out this shot of a "lit up" pompano. It's easy to see why pompano are my favorite sight-fishing targets. Matthew Vann landed the final August pompano on fly August 26th. Matthew's been trying to catch a pompano for years and got this one on his first cast... a very sweet moment. I'm expecting the pompano fishing to be good through the end of summer and possibly into December.



Twice during the month we found schools of false albacore a few miles from shore. Art deTonnancourt used his excellent casting skills August 5 to land the first FA on fly since January. The fish were as spooky that day as I've ever seen them, and we finally gave up and moved to shore to look for pompano. Later in the month we found large schools of albies about five miles S of the pass, and this time they were ready to eat. We landed numerous fish up to 10#, but it was all on spinning gear... With the clean water and lots of bait, things are looking up for a solid fall run.

If you like ladyfish, now's the time for incredible shallow-water action. You'll find large schools of fish right up on the beach in as little as 6" of water on the north side of the island from Pickens Pier all the way east 5 miles to the entrance of the park. You don't even have to get your feet wet! I like to drop down to a 6wt with a straight 6' shot of 40# mono and your favorite gurgler with synthetic fibers. There are a lot of big fish in the mix up to 4 pounds. This is great fly-fishing for beginners and experts alike.

Don't forget about the redfish on the flats. Since there was virtually no fishing pressure during June and July there are more redfish and big trout than usual on the flats. Here's David Butler with a redfish in the 25" range, one of two landed August 26 on my new tan/white Clouser minnow tied with Puglisi fibers. The fish are fat, hungry, and willing to take the fly...

Capt Baz



**FLY FISHERS**  
  
**OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA**

**PO BOX 1041  
 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



# SEPTEMBER 2010

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