

Flies and Lies



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NEWSLETTER

The Presidents Corner

I hope you're all beating the heat and rain this summer, and hoping you've been able to get on the water at least a little. If not it's the perfect opportunity to stay in the A/C and tie some flies.

Thank you to our guides and members for sharing their fishing experiences. Those who aren't able to get on the water share in your joy.

Christmas Party tickets will be available soon. Save the date, Tuesday, December 10th.

Cyndi Myers

PHW News

September brings a couple of major events to the PHWFF program. The first is our annual PHW family cookout lunch which features Russ Shields famous Low Country Boil. The "boil" is a Carolinas/Georgia regional delicacy consisting of shrimp, Cajun sausage, potatoes, onions, and corn-on-the-cob, all cooked in a single boiling pot.

Also, September marks the start of our annual flyrod building workshop(s). We have 8 participants who have opted to build their own flyrods this year. It should prove to be a rewarding experience for all the participants and volunteers involved. **Mick**

From Russ

August has been a busy month for our club and our PHWFF group where we tied Lefty's Deceiver and the next meeting we tied Bob's One Bug Popper, discovered by Bob Myers while he was recovering in the UAB hospital!. That popper is a simple tie and a cool fly. I think we should introduce it to the whole club in the near future.

The August Clinic lunch, was lightly attended so we all had as much of Jay's Polish Stew as we wanted and then some. Those members who didn't come missed out on a really good lunch.

Speaking of clinic lunches, Don Smith and his wife Karen have prepared Chicken Brunswick Stew for this month even though they are moving to South Carolina by the time of the clinic.

They froze it and Joe Higgins will bring it to the September clinic.

Thawed and heated, I hope! Don has been a stalwart member of our both club and Healing Waters group for many years. He has been ready to help whenever and wherever he was needed without asking. His steady, calm attitude will be sorely missed. They will be living in Savana Lakes close to one of the lakes that form the border between Georgia and South Carolina. I suspect he will be in his boat on the water a lot this fall. We wish him all the best. Our program this month will be by one of our most successful fly fishers. Terry McCormick will be giving us a run down on his techniques and tricks for shore casting in our area. If pressed, I bet we can get him to give us info on fishing from a boat as well. Our intrepid travelling fly fisher Bob Korose was in Alaska fishing for salmon and rainbows in August. It sounds like he had a great time. See his report below.

As the weather cools down a bit in September I hope you can get out on the water catching some nice fish. I guess we should also be busy tying some flies for the big Spanish and Bull Reds that show up in October and November.

We are still desperately looking for a newsletter writer/editor. The pay isn't much but our club needs you desperately and there is the satisfaction of getting it done for all our members benefit! Not only that but I am getting old(er) and wobbly.

Please remember to keep Bob Myers in your thoughts and prayers as he fights acute leukemia. As I write this, he is seeing his oncology team and we should know more about his condition in the near future. Also keep Dave Handley in your prayers as he is recovering from his heart and back surgeries. It has been a very long haul for him.

Let's all enjoy life and our friends, **Russ**

Club Meeting Tuesday, September 3 6:30

Terry McCormick will be giving the presentation on "Shore Casting-Fishing".

Fly Tying Thursday, September 12 6:30

Tarpon Bob Korose will lead the tying of the **Neon Icon Pompano Fly**

Clinic - Saturday, September 21 9:00 AM

Lunch will be Chicken Brunswick Stew, prepared by Karen and Don Smith. Even though they had to leave us for South Carolina they left their delicious stew for us to enjoy!

Fishing Tackle

Buddy Lewis (an old FFNWF member) has numerous fly rods and reels (8-10) he would like to sell. He would like to come to the Clinic on Sept 21 at 0930hrs to offer them to anyone who would like to buy. All of the equipment is in very good condition, some collector's items.

Rex Green

August Clinic



Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Event

October 11-12 0900-1600 (9am-4pm) is a PHWFF event on none other than Pensacola Beach... Langdon Beach and Ft Pickens to be specific. No reimbursements will be made. This event is for the locals only. We need 8 Pensacola participants, and 8 Pensacola volunteers to help showcase the beauty of our area (and hopefully catch some fish). I'd love to have our club fill the "volunteer" seats, but understand if that's not doable, and I know there's many who are dual hatted, FFNWF and PHWFF. Please respond to me which seat you'd like to fill. Volunteers have a 0830 showtime, Participants have a 0900 showtime. Participants and volunteers please be prepared to stay through the entire event. Don't let the time commitment keep you from volunteering/participating though, it's completely understandable if you need to cut out for one reason or another. We want to have a big showing for National Parks Trust (NPT) when they give us the grand tour of Ft Pickens. A simple way to say 'Thank you' for their support for PHWFF.

The 11th is a meet and greet, with surf fly fishing to occur on the 12th. The NPT has funds committed for 2025 to PHWFF events. NPT will have media present, so don't be afraid of the cameras when a good one takes your fly. **Aaron Davis**

Fishing Report

Capt. Richard Montgomery

August was a mean month for me! A broke engine (now fixed) and recurring shoulder issue has kept me off the water since the second week of August. That doesn't mean I haven't stayed in the game. The bluefish were still thick west of the Pass with some pushing 10 #s. You have to get through the "snapper" blues but there are some bruisers mixed in. The bigger fish have become tippet shy so 16-20 # bite tippet might be necessary. That small of tippet means quick hook sets so you have to be tight to your fly with your cast, no pile casts with these guys. Speaking of the westside of the Pass, the ladyfish are on Caucus Shoal during the outgoing tide.

Spanish and small blues are back on the flats. Once again bait fish patterns/Clouser minnows in the standard colors. The key to the bigger fish is long casts, the more water you can cover the better off you'll be (think double hauling).

The hot water temps seem to have given shallow water reds and specks even more lockjaw, so sight fishing has been tough. The few hookups that have happened have been with EP minnow patterns.

Bluefish Pictures from Capt. Dan Storey



Fishing Report Tarpon (Sheefish) Bob Korose

This August my friend Jim and I went on a trip to the Aniak River Lodge in Alaska. The lodge is a tent camp an hour upstream by boat from the nearest town. Despite the cool (40s and 50s) and at times rainy and windy weather the fishing was excellent. In



addition to catching all 5 Pacific Salmon species, Rainbow



trout, Dolly Varden Char, Grayling, and Northern Pike, we also caught our first ever Sheefish. Sheefish (Inconnu) are in the whitefish family and are sometimes called "The Tarpon of the North" and are only found in arctic and subarctic North America and Asia.

Fly of the Month **Neon Icon Pompano Fly** by Bob Korose

I was introduced to the Neon Icon at the 2024 Gulf Coast Classic Fly Fishing Festival during a seminar about surf fly fishing. It is a fly that the presenter from Space Coast Flies described as loud and unavoidable to fish and was in his box 100% of the time as he walked the beach casting to pompano and other surf species. After the seminar he tied the fly for me and said that their web site described the fly and how to tie it. It is a quick and easy tie so you can tie several for when the Spanish mackerel, bluefish and ladyfish tear them up. There are two color options for the fly, the creamsicle and the electric chicken. Both will work well but his preference was the electric chicken for the beaches in Pensacola.



Materials:

Hooks: Gamakatsu SC15 or Mustad C47SD Size #1

Thread: Danville 210 Flat Waxed Nylon: White

Eyes: Painted lead dumbbell: Size medium

Tail: Craft Fur or FTD Water Silk or other similar synthetic fibers

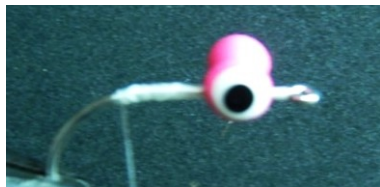
Hot spot: Micro chenille (Hot Orange) or Estaz petite (opal Orange)

Flash: Krystal Flash (Pearl or yellow pearl)

Legs: Sili Legs Fire Tip (clear/fire orange)

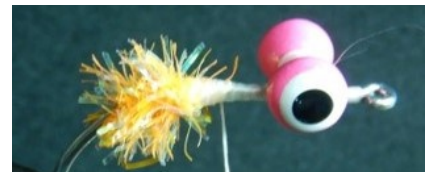
Body: Hareline Wire Free Foxy Brush Orange

Tying Instructions



Start the thread wrap at the hook eye and put a thread base to the bend of the hook then return to 2 eye widths behind the eye and tie in the dumbbell eyes. Return the thread back to the bend of the hook.

Tie on the hot spot with 3 wraps and tie off.



Measure 2 ½ inches of tail material and tie it on top of the hook. Tie 2 strands of krystal flash on top of the tail then put the legs on each side.

Tie on the body material at the tail and palmer it forward to the eyes making sure to keep the fibers going back. Tie it down at the eyes.



Bring the thread forward of the eye and make a nice head. Whip finish. With a marker, make the head red. Apply head cement or UV and your fly is ready for action.

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/hPjZMaTiR-I?app=desktop>

FFNWFL Minutes August 6, 2024 by George Norton

1830: Pledge of allegiance. Rex introduced three new members and guests: Dave, Chase, from PHW and Paul a church friend of Rex's. Welcome guys! He also mentioned that Bob and Dave H are continuing to recover from health issues. Keep them along with Cindy in your thoughts and prayers.

Treasurer's report: Income from beverage sales less expenses for the club's annual insurance, beverages, cleaning supplies, clinic food and pastries and fly tying materials still left our checking account balance in excellent shape. The report was approved

Old business: Our fly tying materials are disorganized and Russ and Mick offered to build a moveable storage bin with labeled trays which will maintain the materials for long term use for the club. Russ estimated a cost of \$350 and Russ and Mick approved the expenditure along with all attendees. Thank you Russ and Mick for taking this needed project on.

Fishing Reports: George reported on his trip to Lake Lure NC. He fished in Riverbed's small lake out of an inner tube and waded the Rocky Broad River and caught bluegill, pumpkinseed sunfish and small bass. Trout fishing on the Davidson was shut down due to high water temperatures. He had an outstanding trip was with his daughter on Lake Lure where he had good success with some beautiful smallmouth fishing a popper off rocky shorelines. He also got a largemouth in the middle of the lake early chasing shad but they were difficult to keep up with. Terry reported that conditions in the bay were mixed with trout and ladyfish due to the extreme heat.



Presentation by Mick Milo: "PHW Feb. 2024 Trip to the South Holston River in Tenn."

Mick and Terry led a group from our PHW chapter and two members from the Johnson City, Tenn. chapter for two days of fly fishing and three nights at the Orvis endorsed Lodge. The group used Orvis Helio fly rods and fished with five guides.

Everyone caught fish. Mick's highlights were a video of shooting the rapids and missing a huge tree in the middle of the river, Gary's wild turkey call and Brian's special recognition for catching his first trout.

The group fished two flies under indicators. The typical rig was an egg pattern and small zebra midges in different colors. They caught both rainbows and browns.

Everyone enjoyed the food. Every day the group started out about eight in the morning which was a cold 27 degrees but it warmed up quickly. PHW looks forward to their next trip which will be to Montana .

1925 The meeting adjourned