

The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ **October 2026**
Volume XLIX ♦ *Number 7* ♦ www.dallasflyfishers.org



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

On The Water

by Dave Smith

The Fall season is here but with our hot summer days it just doesn't feel that way yet. The days will soon start to cool and nature's family will begin to prepare for our winter season. The fish will also be looking for that big meal and that is the time to bring out your mouse and frog patterns to target those big bass.

THE TIME FOR NOMINATIONS TO FILL BOARD POSITIONS FOR 2027 IS THIS MONTH AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THIS MONTH'S

LEADER. THE VOTE TO FILL THE OPEN POSITIONS WILL BE HELD AT OUR NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING. THE 2027 BOARD WILL BE INSTALLED AT THE HOLIDAY PARTY DECEMBER 6, 2026.

Be sure to check the calendar in The Leader for coming events.

Till next time hope to see you on the water or at the tying bench.

Dave Smith
President, Dallas FlyFishers



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DFF Board 2026

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dave_maxsmith@yahoo.com

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alpalmer451@gmail.com

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flyfshrg1@gmail.com

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972-571-7622
dshatz86@gmail.com

Casting Chair • Bill Slaughter
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IT Specialist • Jeff Ziehm
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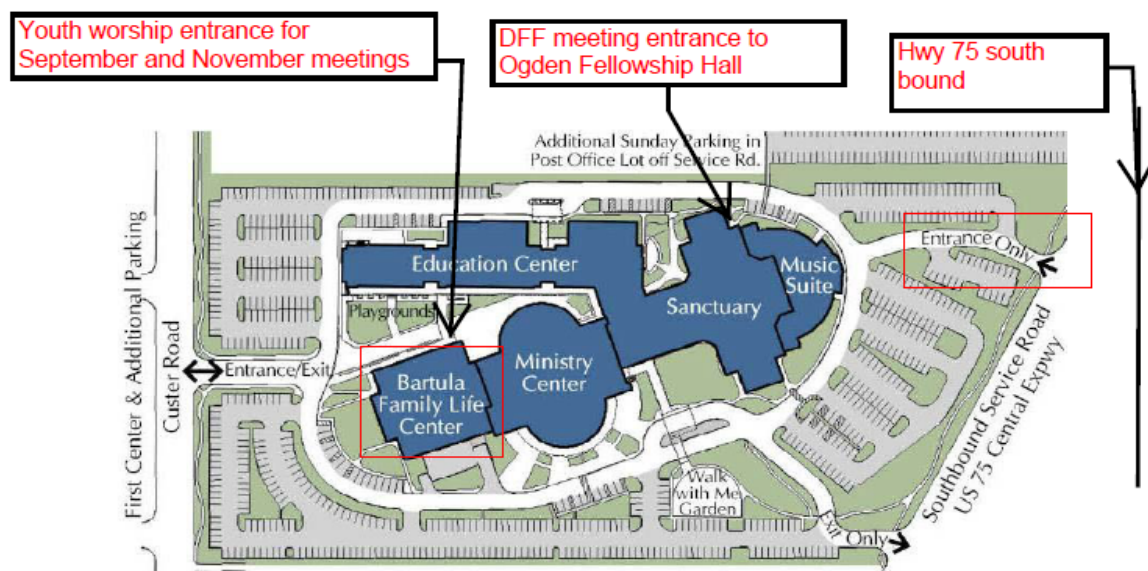
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406-600-6732
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DFF Program Schedule



located between Arapaho (to the north) and Beltline (to the south) Rds
address: 503 N Central Expy, Richardson, TX 75080

This month's meeting will be **October 5th**, at our regular meeting location at First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 503 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080.

Location: Youth Room • **Time:** 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Casting Practice: Gym, 6:00 PM – 6:45 PM (unless noted)

October 5th—DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room, Jim Klug & Bryan Gregson of Yellow Dog Fly Fishing

November 2nd—DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room

December 6th—DFF Holiday Party, Doubletree Inn, Richardson

January 11th – DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room

February 1st – DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room

March 1st – DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room

Happy October Fly Anglers!

If you have any content that you would like featured in the newsletter, please reach out to Chris Wegmann, bensdad87@msn.com

Sincerely, The Dallas Fly Fishers

Reach us: <https://dot.cards/dallasflyfishers>

or use your mobile to scan the QR code here:



2026 / 2027 Calendar

October 3rd, 9:30am – 1:30pm — Beginner Fly Fishing Class, Rosemeade Recreation Center, 1330 East Rosemeade PKWY, Carrollton, TX 75007; bring water and lunch or snack

October 5th — DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room, Yellow Dog Fly Fishing

October 17th — Monthly outing, Latham Springs, 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM \$12.00 per person

November 2nd — DFF Monthly Meeting, Youth Room

November 6th – 8th — Toledo Bend Rendezvous, North Toledo Bend State Park, Zwolle, LA 71486

November 7th, 9am – 2pm — Beginner Fly Fishing Class, The Core, 267 Parkway BLVD, Coppell, TX 75019; bring water and lunch or snack

December 6th — DFF Holiday Party, Doubletree by Hilton, 1981 North Central Expwy., Richardson, TX 75080, 6:00 – 9:00pm

February 19th – 21st — Troutfest TX at Lazy L & L Campground, Andy Mill featured speaker

2027 Board Vacancies

As noted in the September Leader, The Dallas Fly Fishers declares the following Board vacancies for the 2027 calendar year: President, Dave Smith's term is expiring; Vice-President; Trustee 2028; Trustee 2029; and Programs Chair. Any member in good standing is eligible to fill the vacancy, and nominations can be made on any member's behalf as well as self-nominations.

The nominated candidates are:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • President – Al Palmer | • Vice President – Chris Wegmann |
| • Past President – Dave Smith | • Treasurer – Steve Jackson |
| • Secretary – Terri White | • Trustee 2027 – Shawn Henderson |
| • Trustee Thru 2028 – Lance Huckaby | • TrusteeThru 2029 – Pat Kennedy |
-
- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| • Programs – Julia Bell | • Auction - Dave Shatzer |
| • Casting - Bill Slaughter | • Fly Tying - Dan Montayne |
| • Conservation - Shawn Henderson | • Outreach - Paul Locklear |
| • IT - Jeff Ziehm | • Membership - Mike Becker, Dave Shatzer |
| • Outings - Joel Williams | • Newsletter - Chris Wegmann |

The elected Board positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Trustees, as well as any appointed positions where there are more than one name put forward for a position, are voted into office at our in-person, November general meeting. The 2027 Board will be installed at the Holiday Party, December 6, 2026.

The Board meets monthly via Zoom at 7:00 PM on the Sunday evening before the monthly General Meeting. The Secretary takes notes of the Board Meetings, types the meeting minutes, and emails a copy to all Board Members. The Treasurer submits monthly accounting of the club's finances and emails a copy to all Board Members. All Board positions are equal voting positions.

DALLAS FLY FISHERS ANNUAL

HOLIDAY PARTY

Come celebrate the holidays with the DFF
at Doubletree by Hilton Hotel

1981 North Central Expwy • Richardson, TX 75080 • Sunday, Dec 6, 2026 • 6-9pm

Tickets \$50 / person

Upcoming DFF Outings

Latham Springs Outing

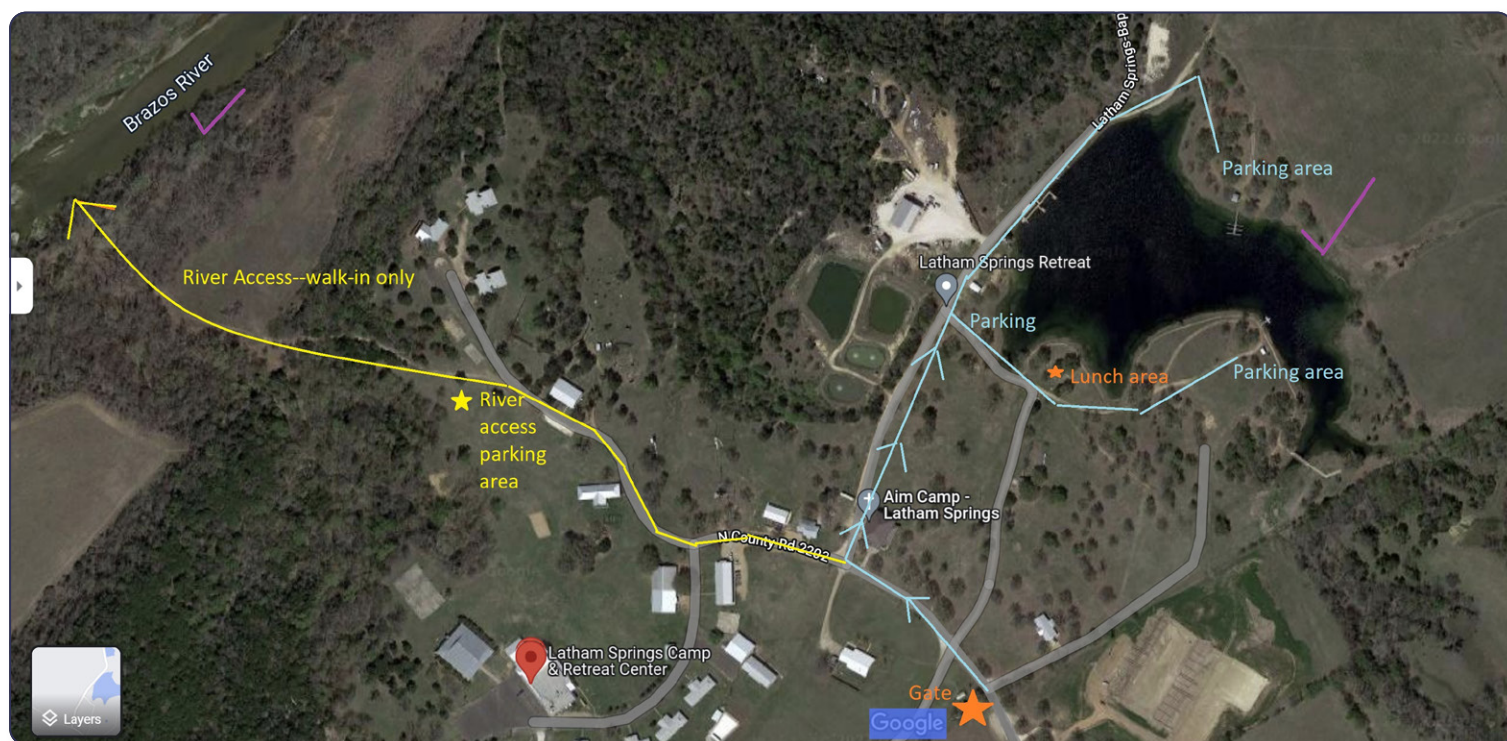
Our October outing will be at the Latham Springs Camp and Retreat Center. This is one of my favorite outings. Easy bank/wade fishing. Lots of fish.

The outing will take place on Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 8:00 - 2:30. Outing cost is \$12.00 per person. You pay the day of the outing. If you would like to attend, sign up with Jeff Ziehm. 214-202-2826. jziehm55@gmail.com.

The camp requires we provide them with a list of attendees names, so please contact Jeff if you would like to attend.

We will meet for lunch at 1pm by the trees near the picnic tables (marked in orange on the map). Bring a sack lunch, non-alcoholic beverages, and a lawn chair.

We have access to two ponds (marked with a purple



check on map) and the Brazos River. Most prevalent species are: Largemouth Bass, Crappie, Catfish, and Sunfish. There is shore fishing available on all water bodies and wading on the Brazos. For the Brazos, [monitor this water gauging station for accurate water flows near our outing:](#)

I normally fish topwater for the first few hours, and then switch to streamers after the topwater bite slows.

The address is:

Latham Springs Camp and Retreat Center
134 Private RD 223
Aquilla, Texas 76622-2582

Driving Directions:

Travel south on I-35 south of Hillsboro. Between Hillsboro and Abbott take the FM 1304 Exit. Travel west on FM 1304 approximately 12 miles to N. County Road 2202. Turn north (right) on County Road 2202, go approximately 3/4 of a mile. At the camp, Country Road 2202 will become Private Road 223



Beginner Fly Fishing Classes

Sixteen (16) students eagerly braved the brutal Texas heat at 9:00 am on a Saturday morning to attend a Fly-Casting Class. TPWD instructors taught the essential casting techniques including the pickup and lay down cast and the roll cast. They also instructed effective management through proper stripping techniques. Encouragement was given to all students that the way to success is practice, practice and more practice to learn consistence.

The students were able to tie Wooly Booger fly by the end of the class. This is one of the most effective fly patterns ever created and is a great place to start for beginners. Instruction continued by demonstrating three things needed to tie a fly- material, a hook and thread.

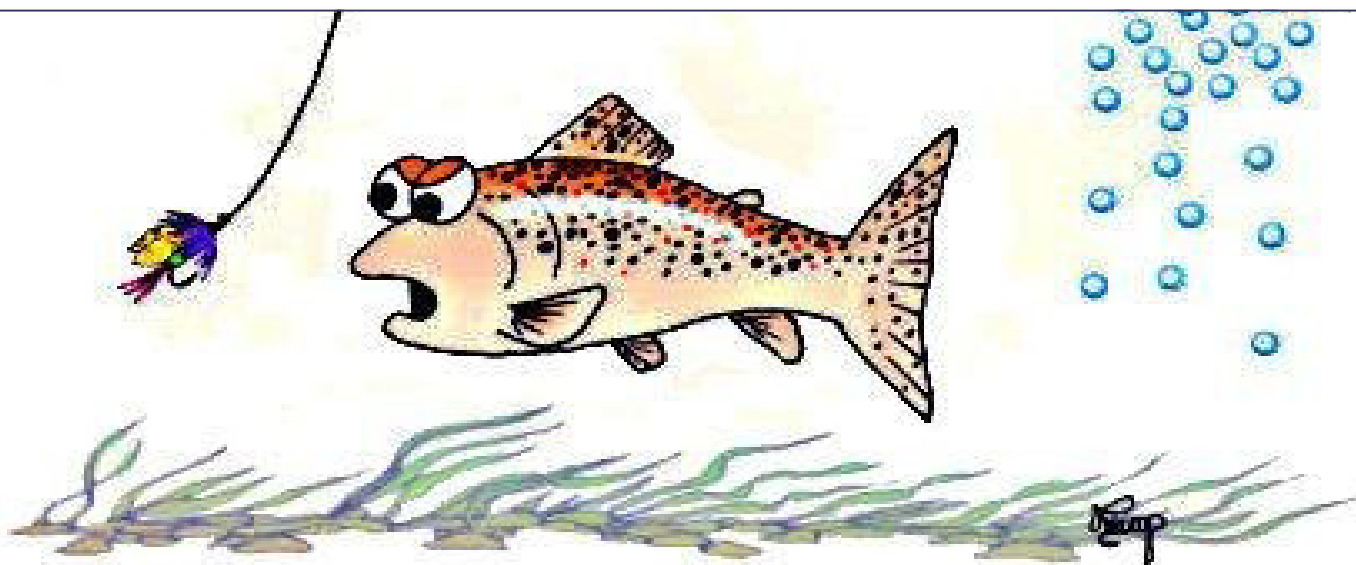
As a tyer, complexity increases as your progress in your experience. Intricate fly patterns with precise proportions but the fundamental skill of thread control, tying materials and finishing the head remains the same

throughout. They were excited to see their finished product and felt the accomplishment of applying their new skills.

Additional classes will be necessary to fine tune their new skills for fly fishing and will help continue to build the sport of fly fishing overall.



Monthly Cartoon



**"Oh for cry'n out loud! We're brown trout
we're too smart to eat something like that.
Aren't we Fred? Fred...?"**

Colorado Fall Fishing

by *Larry Abrams*

No better way to beat the Texas heat then to head to the mountains of Colorado for some hiking and fishing.

My girlfriend , Karen and I drove up through the dry and dusty Texas panhandle and through the volcano fields of New Mexico and spent the night in Clayton NM. We had dinner at the historic Eklund hotel. Surprisingly, I highly recommend the French Onion soup prepared by the hotel owner

The next day we made it to Avon Colorado. We find it a small, friendly and unpretentious tourist town at the base of Beaver Creek Mountain. We spent a great two weeks there (Sept. 11-25th) with just a few days of spotty rain showers (except a couple of overnight heavy rains) and temps from 40-70 deg.

Karen doesn't fish so I split time between fishing and hiking on some well maintained trails along the ridge on Vail, and in the hills on the north side of Avon (Overlook Trail, , and up in the Gore Mountains (Lost Lake Tr, Gore Cr Tr), a couple of guided nature walks as well as an Oktoberfest in Vail and a Blue Grass Festival in Breckenridge.

Ah and then there was fishing. Eagle River and Gore Creek in CO were fishing great. I also spent one day on the dream stream section of the South Platt. I fished the Gold Medal Section of the Gore with browns and Rainbows and way upstream in small shallow pockets and caught brookies.

The Platt River held some large Rainbows and Browns and a few too many fingerlings. Sometimes it was hard to waterload cast without hooking one (reminded me of bluegills in Texas). This trip was guided with trip I won at auction.

While there had been a voluntary fishing restriction downstream of Edwards (about 4

mi west of Avon) due to the lack of snowmelt resulting in high water temps, morning water temps there were about 62 degrees and by the second week even the water temps downstream were under 60. The second week I was there I went downstream of I fished and area called Red Canyon. The scenery matched the fishing. Hooked about 10 trout and even landed some rainbows that didn't get hung in the rocks.

While I have fished that area for several years, I always avoided fishing the city limits. I was surprised to discover how good the fishing was within a mile or so walk up and



down the trail through town.

Fishing was mostly pocket water using various emergers. Hatches were primarily BWO's, but the only dry I used and caught a fish on was a hopper in quieter water. I got tired of the pocket water drowning my hoppers so went to indicators. Most bites were on the various colored WD40's, RS2's and occasionally the top fly with a beaded pheasant tail with some flash, a two bit hooker or a jujubaetis. Hooked lots fish, lost a bunch in the rocks , dunked only once (removed and drained

my waders on the bank and started over. Waded out to middle of river once to remove my tippet from around a rock, still had the fish on, got him to within about 3 feet from the bank and 10 feet form the net and managed to lose him. Don't know whether to blame it on 20-22 barbless hooks or lack of skill (well actually I do know).

September is a great month to fish up there, even if it ain't 90+ here in Texas. Most summer tourists are gone, plenty river access along Hwy 6 and the Aspens are turning. I highly recommend it.



To Join DFF, complete the form below and mail along with your check to:

Dallas Fly Fishers
8349 Club Meadows Dr.
Dallas, Tx 75243

You can also join or renew online at

<http://www.dallasflyfishers.org/membership.html>

MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL

New Member ☐ or Renewing My Membership ☐ (Check one) Date _____

Name: _____ Spouse's name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Are you a current member of the Federation of Fly Fishers? Yes ☐ No ☐ (check one)

New Members:

Annual membership dues: \$36 per year
After July 1st, pay \$18 for half year
After Oct 1st, just pay for the following year

Renewing Members:

Annual membership dues: \$36 per year