

The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ **January 2026**
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On The Water

by Dave Smith

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE

The 2026 New Year is here with lots to look forward to in the months ahead.

Trout stockings are underway in local waters. Check Texas Parks & Wildlife site for the stocking schedule.

The Club Holiday Party at Besa's Italian Restaurant was enjoyed by those who came. A special thank you to the members who helped in planning the event. The new Board members were introduced at the Holiday Party thank you to them for being part in helping the Club in the year ahead. I would like to thank the members who are leaving the Board for your time and work in the past.

The 2026 year will be active with events and outings. Members

can check the calendar to find your interest like speakers for the monthly meetings as well outings, tying and casting events.

Angler education which is an area our club excels at had another great year teaching the skills needed to succeed to new fly fishing people.

A special event for the club will be the Club Auction, March 16th at the Plano Event Center. Make sure to mark this event on your calendar as it is a chance to raise money to help run the Club in the year ahead. If you have gear you are not using think about a donation to the club for the Auction.

Happy New Year to everyone!

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

Dave Smith
President, Dallas FlyFishers



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UFF Program Schedule

Happy New Year! We hope you have had an excellent start to the new year, a great finish to 2025, and a wonderful holiday season! The weather has been wonderful and hopefully you have been able to get outside and enjoy these winter conditions.

This Monday, we have a very special event and gathering on the planner. We are going to get together looking ahead to the fishing season, connect with other anglers, and offer info on a variety of topics. This will be a fun, informative atmosphere where everyone is invited! **The meeting is going to be at Spring Creek BBQ on 75 in Richardson at 630PM.** Food and drink is available and you can get whatever you want!

A number of local guides/experts including Danny Scarborough, Greg Welander, Colby Burke, Greg DeMars, Marshall McDougal, and many more will be on hand along with a bunch of other anglers set to help members and others get a game plan for their fishing season ahead. The goal is to get a number of outings planned and in the works both near and far. Topics and groups will be broken down into local/DFW anglers, noted Texas destinations, outside the region trips including Arkansas, the Rockies, Gulf Coast and a few others. So show up with questions and/or answers, and an appetite! Prepare to exchange information and have loads of fun.

DIRECTIONS TO SPRING CREEK BBQ

If you have a name tag, please wear it! Thank you very much and see y'all soon!

Sincerely,
The Dallas Fly Fishers

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

or use your mobile to scan the QR code here:



2026 Calendar

The 2026 Programs and events calendar. We are gearing up for another great year at the Dallas Flyfishers. **Danny Soltau** has been hard at work setting things up.

March 7, 2026 - Merit Badge University, Trevor Rees-Jones Scout Camp, 11217 FM 2970, Athens, TX 75751

March 14, 2026 - Trinity River Flyfest, Fort Worth, TX

March 26-28, 2026 - The Sowbug Roundup, Mountain Home, AR

March 28, 2026 - Beginner Fly Fishing Class run by Paul Locklear, The Core, 234 Parkway Blvd, Coppell, TX, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

April 11, 2026 - Beginner Fly Fishing Class run by Paul Locklear, Rosemeade Recreation Center, 1330 E Rosemeade Pkwy, Carrollton, TX, 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM

April 25, 2026 - Beginner Fly Fishing Class run by Paul Locklear, LLELA (Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area), 201 E Jones St, Lewisville, TX, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Holiday Party Recap

A Festive Evening to Close Out 2025

The Dallas Fly Fishers celebrated the close of the year with a wonderful Holiday Party in December, bringing together about 40 members and friends for an evening of camaraderie and fun. The gathering was held at Besa's Italian Restaurant, where guests enjoyed delicious food and lively conversation in a warm, festive atmosphere.

One of the highlights of the evening was the beautiful centerpieces crafted by Doris Montayne, which added a special touch to every table. In the spirit of the season, the centerpieces were gifted to the ladies in attendance, making for a memorable keepsake to bring home.

The night featured engaging presentations from several club members. Dr. Ray Galloway spoke about Dallas Baptist University's long relationship with the club, emphasizing the value of collaboration and community. Jeff Ziehm shared insights into his personal journey in fly fishing, inspiring both newcomers and seasoned anglers alike with his stories and experiences.

Dan Montayne served as the master of ceremonies, skillfully guiding the event and ensuring everyone had a fantastic time. The party was a wonderful way to wrap up the year, reminding us all of the friendships and shared passion that make the Dallas Fly Fishers so special.

We look forward to seeing you in 2026.





Stephenville Youth Flyfishing

by Paul Locklear

On December 10th we hosted 21 of the Stephenville High School Youth Flyfishing at Texas freshwater fishery in Athens. All the students caught one or more rainbow trout and an occasional tree fly. We had some great volunteers: Bill Slaughter, Robert Spangler and Johnny Martinez. I just wanted to thank them for taking time out of their schedule to assist in teaching and instructing students. Also, special thanks to Ms. Green for giving Dallas Flyfishers an opportunity to teach their students fundamentals of fly fishing.



The Dallas Baptist University / Dallas Fly Fishers Experience!

by Dan Montaye, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

As eye opening as it is, together we have experienced 18 years and 864 students at the campus of Dallas Baptist University. Four times per year our club, now 52 years old, continues a comprehensive, two-day introduction to our sport. The principles of fly tying and fly fishing are a unique course designed to give these students a glimpse into the lifetime sport of fly fishing. The DBU course is offered through the Kinesiology Department which is headed by Doctor Ray Galloway. He challenges students to acquire the knowledge, skills, and tactics that they will use to solve problems in the constantly changing, outdoor, natural environment. Some of these topics include:

Part 1

- on campus and local fishing opportunities,
- water quality, conservation techniques,
- equipment,
- angling ethics,
- entomology,
- knots,
- basic fish biology,
- basic fly-tying skills,
- basic fly fishing and fly-casting principles.

Part 2

The second day features a field trip to a campus lake or to the Texas Parks and

Wildlife Fresh Water Fisheries in Athens, TX. Both areas offer trout and/or warm water species, which makes catching a memorable part of this unique course. After all fly-fishing equipment and students arrive, we begin with whole group casting instruction. Then students participate in a live entomology class where they explore what lives in the water and identify what fish eat. Following that, a one-on-one instructor refines individual casting techniques. Finally, they reach the water where a DFF volunteer works with 2-3 students to help them catch fish.

The Final Note: The instructional staff for these yearly classes need you! As indicated above, the outline is well established, but we need assistants to help students get the most from this course. All training, materials,

and equipment are provided by DFF, DBU, and Texas Parks and Wildlife. However, you take care of your own transportation. So...All we need is you! Please consider volunteering for an upcoming class. It is a highly rewarding experience. Call or text Dan Montayne at 214-693-4643.



Upcoming DFF Outings

South Fork, Colorado

The Dallas Fly Fishers (DFF) and Fort Worth Fly Fishers (FWFF) will again be holding a joint outing to South Fork, Colorado this July. Dates for 2025 are July 11-18. It is the responsibility of the attendees to make their own travel and hotel plans, and bring their own gear. There is fishing available that will satisfy most anglers; small creeks, large rivers, and high mountain lakes.

Our home base will be the The LOGE - Wolfcreek.

<https://logecamps.com/property/wolfcreek>

You can make your reservations using the link below. This link provides a 12% discount over the standard internet rate.

LOGE Reservations

We meet informally every morning to discuss the day, and spread out nicely. Every evening there is an informal “where did you go today and how did you do?” gathering. The LOGE has a great community room that can be used for our gatherings if weather conditions are inclement. Remember to bring a camping chair, as we gather outside if the weather is nice.

Most will leave on Saturday mid-morning and drive most of the way there, stopping somewhere between Amarillo, Tx and Walsenburg, Colorado. Spend the night and head on into South Fork Sunday morning. Fish Sunday afternoon, and next 5 days, and return home the following weekend.

You can also fly to Denver, Colorado Springs, Albuquerque or Durango and rent a car. Please let me know if you are thinking of attending. If you have any questions, contact Jeff Ziehm, 214-202-2826, jziehm55@gmail.com.



Dallas Fly Fishers



AUCTION

**Live Auction, Silent Auction
Buy It Now & Raffle**

Guided trips, rods, reels, flies, fly tying materials, and more.

Finger Foods will be served.

**Date: Monday, March 16, 2026
5:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

**Place: Plano Event Center
2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy
Plano, Tx 75074**

**Admission: \$15
FREE for Both Attendees if you bring a non-DFF Member**

**Questions: Call Dave Shatzer 972-571-7622 or
Jeff Ziehm 214-202-2826**

The 2026 DFF Fundraiser Auction is little over two months away. The Auction will be held Monday, March 16, 2026 at the Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. Doors open at 5 PM.

The Auction has lots of rods, reels, fly boxes plus guide trips (to such places as Rio Chama, N Mx. and S. Platte River, Colorado), so no one should leave empty-handed. Besides hundreds of items in the Silent and Live Auctions, you can find other things that you need in the Raffle Baskets and Buy-It-Now booth. For you new DFF members, please put the Auction on your calendar, it is a great way to stock on flies, rods, and everything related to fly fishing. It is the largest social event of the year for Dallas Fly Fishers. The Auction is a great social evening and our main club fundraiser so everybody wins.

Dallas Fly Fishers has over 220 members and a successful Auction depends on great attendance. Please put March 16 on your calendars and do not come alone? Think of someone outside the DFF club who you can bring to the Auction? You both get in free. Auction success depends on DFF member support.

We will still be collecting Hardgoods donations, so bring those old rods, reels, flies, and equipment to the January 5 meeting.

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>

M E M B E R S H I P / R E N E W A L

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