

# The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ July 2021  
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FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL

## Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

As we prepare to celebrate the 255th anniversary of our nation, my second favorite holiday, I often think about the committee of Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Livingston, and Sherman and their sheer brilliance in drafting the Declaration of Independence, with particular appreciation for the “pursuit of Happiness” coinage. Invariably, this leads me to thinking about Henry David Thoreau’s quote, “Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after.” One of my most passionate pursuits is chasing fish, and though I have thought about Thoreau’s sentiment often, I do not agree with him. I go fishing to chase fish. I might be fishing in a creek, a pond, a river, or on a specific fishing destination vacation, but I am

definitely after fish for any number of reasons—species or numbers or records or contests or field testing flies—but definitively, I am after fish; the beautiful scenery is the lagniappe, lucky us!

Regrettably, hindering our pursuit of fishing happiness is procuring access to fishing spots, not always an easy task, especially if local knowledge is incomplete. Working many summers for the National Park Service found me in many different states, and something that made it easier to chase fish was that state’s parks and wildlife department fishing access program. Signage, public information, access improvement made navigating where to fish legally easier. TPWD announced recently that it would be adopting a similar program, the Habitat and Angler Program, to improve and support inland fishing access for anglers. Having experimented successfully with landowners in expanding public access points on the Brazos River below Lake Whitney Dam, TPWD’s new program allows for groups interested in fishing and conservation to participate in developing these access projects. TPWD’s HAAP press release can be found here: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/newsmedia/releases/?req=20210617a>. I am excited to see the new projects that develop from this initiative.

In addition to celebrating Independence Day, July finds the DFF and other North Texas clubs chasing cold-water species in our annual outing to South Fork, Colorado. We are excited to see many members attending the event for the first time and hope you enjoy the Rio Grande National Forest, and the best grocery store a fly fisher could experience!

For me this year, I fully intend to maximize my Colorado fishing license, unlike last year’s license, and I have a date with one particular rock in Pass Creek. Cody and I hope to explore some new-to-us waters, as well as visiting some enjoyable spots—Poage Lake, Big Meadows, and Beaver Creek to name a few. This is our annual July outing, and if South Fork is not on your calendar this year, know that we always plan the third week for this outing. It is truly a special event to share with family and friends.

Happy Independence Day to you and your families, and to America’s Service Personnel, a heart-felt “Thank you” for your sacrifices and service, so that we may continue to pursue happiness in a free republic.

- Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers

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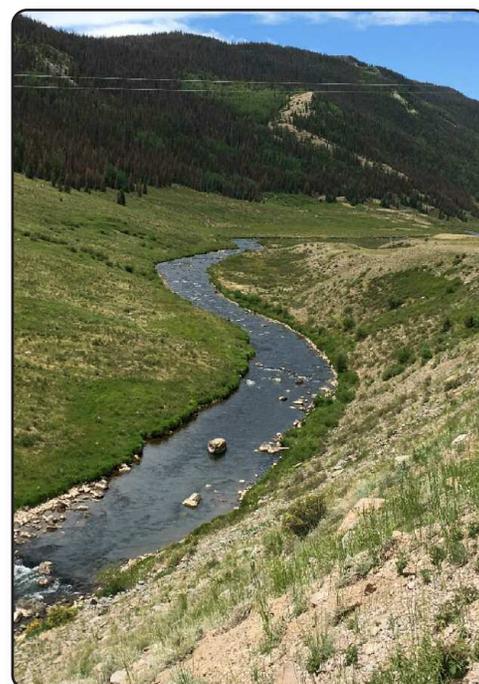
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## DFE Speaker Details

The Dallas Flyfishers regular meetings normally are on the first Monday of the month. We are moving to a new location for the July meeting! The July meeting will be held at the "Embassy Suites by Hilton Dallas Park Central", 13131 North Central Expressway, Dallas, Texas 75243. This hotel is located across Hwy 75 from Texas Instruments near the NW corner of 75 and 635. This hotel is located within spitting distance of our prior meeting location.

### July Meeting Speaker, Rex Walker.



Hello Everyone, Monday, July 12, will have a return to in person meetings for the Dallas Fly Fishers with presentations on both Fly Casting and Fly Tying. For 15 years Dallas-based casting instructor, fly fisher, and fly tyer Rex Walker has been helping people improve their fly casting skills. He has worked with many of the region's fly fishing clubs, at fly fishing events across Texas, and with both Reel Recovery and Project Healing Waters.

Walker is a Fly Fishers International-certified casting instructor and the fly casting coordinator for the Dallas Fly Fishers. When not helping other fly fishers, Walker can often be found on Lake Texoma chasing black bass and striped bass on the fly.

The meeting presentation will be a fly casting discussion about "Useful Fishing Casts". There are fishing situations where making a straight cast may not be as effective as doing something different. There are some extremely effective casting techniques that we never seem to find time to discuss. So, we are going to talk about how to make these casts and when to use them. The presentation will be appropriate for all skill levels. The meeting will begin at 7:00 pm.

At 5:00 pm, we will return to hosting a pre-meeting fly tying presentation. This month, Rex plans to stay with the "effective when fishing" theme and will discuss using spinning blades on bass flies. Obviously, this will not be a traditional fly tying discussion, but Texas

bass are not the same as fishing for Rocky Mountain trout. Many of us have been adding blades to bass flies for over 20 years and Rex will discuss and demonstrate some of the things we have learned.

### August Meeting Speaker, Dutch Baughman.



To most of us, Dutch Baughman requires no introduction. An avid and experienced fly fisherman, Steelheader and fly tier for over 60 years, a sport he truly loves. Dutch is heavily involved with Fly Fishers International. He is a Vice President, member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Chairs the Education Committee and the Fly Fishing Skills, Learning Center. He was the 2019 Fly Fisher of the Year, awarded the 2019 President's Medal, and the 2020 Darwin Atkins Fly Tying Award. Dutch is also on the Board of Directors of the Texas Council FFI, a Member of both the Dallas and Ft. Worth Fly Fishers clubs, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Certified Angler Education Instructor and Area Chief, as well as an instructor for fly fishing, 2-hand casting and fly tying. Dutch is a demonstration fly tyer for the FFI National Expo, Roadkill Roundtable, Northwest Fly Tyers Expo, Sow Bug Rendezvous, Fly Fest, Texas Fly Fishing and Brew Fest, and too many others to list. Dutch teaches two courses through Tarrant County Community College for Fly Fishing Skills I & II. A more talented instructor and fly tyer does not exist.

### September Meeting, Fly Tying Demonstration and Tie-Along.

The September fly tying meeting event will be taught by Barry Webster and Dave Etgen, both very talented fly tiers. The flies have not been selected as yet but each tyer will demonstrate how to tie at least 2 flies each.

— Jack Gillis

Program Chairman, Dallas FlyFishers

## LEAPS and BOUNDS

by Dan Montayne, Fly Tying Coordinator

The COVID era has everyone reaching out for new human contact. With that being said, The Dallas Fly Fishers Club is once again on the leading edge of fly tying interaction. A recent agreement with our friends at Cabela's has provided us with an opportunity to teach our skills through a monthly tying event at the Allen, TX facility. We will teach fly tying and fly fishing introduction to customers, staff, and our DFE membership on the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Classes featuring "Go To" patterns for warm water fly fishing are marching toward the second event on July 20th. These sessions differ from former, on-the-floor demonstrations and momentary customer stop byes. Now, we have a convenient conference area where we will feature events focused on fly tying introductions. All customers reaching out through the Cabela's

Customer Service area will be contacted by a DFE representative and scheduled to attend. Each session will accommodate all levels of fly fishing and tying abilities. Beginners through skilled level individuals will tie the same patterns, with all materials supplied. Information heralding this event model will be posted weekly in Cabela's Event Facebook page and other publications. WOW!

The benefits to both organizations are apparent. DFE will promote new member prospects and will proudly display our level of fly fishing expertise and outreach



Dave Whitlock's Damselfly Larva



Black Boudreaux

(Continued on page 3)

## 2021 CALENDAR:

**July 12th** - Our speaker will be none other than Rex Walker, who will share with us the secrets of Casting Accuracy.

**July 17th** - Teaching fly tying to the Diva's with Kimberly.

**July 17th** - TPWD basic FF Class at the Rosemeade Rec. Ctr. in Carrollton. The class runs from 9 to 2 pm. Qualified individuals can train an additional hour to become a certified TPWD instructor. Contact Richard Johnson if you are interested in becoming certified.

**July 17th-24th** - The joint DFF/FWFF Colorado Trout Outing to Southfork, CO

**July 20th** - Warm Water Fly Fishing, Cabela's conference Room, reserve your space with Dan Montayne.

**August 2nd** - DFF Meeting features Dutch Baughman. His topic is Reading and Understanding the Water Column.

**August 14th** - TPWD basic FF Class at the Biodiversity Center in Coppell. The class runs from 9 to 2 pm. Qualified individuals can train an additional hour to become a certified TPWD instructor. Contact Richard Johnson if you are interested in becoming certified.

**August 21st, 28th** - Teaching fly tying to the Diva's with Kimberly.

**September 13th** - September DFF Meeting. The September fly tying meeting event will be taught by Barry Webster and Dave Etgen, both very talented fly tiers. The flies have not been selected as yet but each tier will demonstrate how to tie at least 2 flies each.

**September 11th-18th** - Third Annual White River Trip. Contact Mike Becker for Details.

**September 18th** - Teaching a Basic Fly Fishing Class at LLELA.

**September 17th-18th** - Southern Conclave, Baxter County Fairgrounds, Mountain Home, AR

**October 4th** - October DFF Meeting.

**October 4th-5th** - Outdoor Recreation at DBU, two days of fly fishing and Outdoor Activity.

**October 13th** - Teaching a Basic Fly Fishing Class at LLELA.

**October 15-17** - Oktoberfisch, at Edgewater Springs Resort and Event Center, Fredericksburg Texas.

**November 1st** - November DFF Meeting.

**November 5th-7th** - Traditional date for the Toledo Bend Rendezvous. It is up in the air right now, but I hope it gets resolved.

**November 5th-7th** - The FFI Virtual Expo. Details in July. This is a new event, and hopefully will be too good to miss.

**December 5th** - Planning date for our Holiday Party. This is back on and I am glad.

## 2022

**January 4th-5th** - DBU Outdoor Experiences Class.

**January 10th** - The meeting to celebrate our 50th year as a Fly Fishing Club.

**January 29th** - Red River Fly Fishers host the Red River Rendezvous, Eisenhower State Park.

**February 12th** - Dr. Ed Rizzolo Annual Fly Tying Festival, Houston.

**February 26th-27th** - 5th Annual Fly Fishing and Brew Festival, Mesquite TX

**March 1st** - DFF Fund raiser Auction.

**March 24th** - Sow Bug

**April 9th** - Gannon Ranch spring wildflowers and fishing.

**May 7th** - Bud Priddy any Fly Event, led by Alamo Fly Fishers.

## LEAPS and BOUNDS

*(Continued from page 2)*

generosities. Cabela's customers and DFF staff will offer and be introduced to the vast selection of purchasable products from the Bass Pro Family Fly Fishing Department. A win-win benefit for both organizations.

Dallas Fly Fishers, if you missed the first event on June 15th, we encourage you to register early for all upcoming events, because space is limited. So far, all events feature two prominent tiers presenting their best fish-catching patterns for warm water. Handouts featuring

step-by-step photo instructions and take home recipes make the process simple and easy to follow.

To all our tiers with successful tried and true patterns, choose a month to present and share your "Go To" favorite. Your ideas, suggestions, and participation are welcomed. They are important for making these events a success. My contact information is:

[montayne@verizon.net](mailto:montayne@verizon.net) Text: 214-693-4643

Date	July 20, 2021
Time	6:30-8:30
Location	Cabela's Meeting Room, Allen, TX (as you enter the store, to the left of check-out)
Tiers / Their "Go To" Warm Water Flies	Jere Anderson - Foam Surface Fly with Nymph Dropper Dan Montayne - Calf Hair Sedge
<b>Contact Dan Montayne by July 19 if you're planning to attend.</b>	

# White River Three Peat

by Mike Becker

September 11 - 18, 2021

I seem to recall one of our guest speakers asking "Would you like to catch a fish like this?" The pictures indicate that we did. But, even better yet, we want to do it again and so can you.

DFF will be returning to the White River this fall in pursuit of large browns and rainbows. Last year, five DFF members made the trip. We would certainly like to see that number increase in 2021. This is a wonderful Fishery as you can see from the pictures of last year's trip.

Attendees are responsible for their own arrangements. We generally get together in the evening hours to exchange fish stories, maybe fish some more, and enjoy some socially responsible community. Last year, we had a group dinner at Gaston's one evening, and a Dutch oven cobbler prepared by Jeff E on another evening.

Pat and I have reserved an RV site for the week at the Denton Ferry RV park in Cotter

and booked 3 guided days with Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher ([www.theozarkflyfisher.com](http://www.theozarkflyfisher.com)). We will probably wade fish, rent a boat or generally goof off on the other days. Denton Ferry RV Park has wade access to the river (if the water level cooperates); and, the Wildcat Shoals access is a short drive down the road.. There are also smallmouth opportunities on Crooked Creek.

Dally's is a regular contributor to DFF's auction and has a roster of experienced guides. I have a helpful North Fork and White River fishing map that identifies wade access areas on the rivers, depending on the water level. Boats are available to rent at Bull Shoals park and several other facilities. There are several campgrounds, cabins and lodges along the river. Hotels are available in Mountain Home.

Please plan to come for all or part of the week.

If you have an interest in going, please contact Mike Becker at 214-288-3885 or [kuduguy@verizon.net](mailto:kuduguy@verizon.net).



# Fly Tying Column

by Jack Gillis

## The Dubbing Loop by Gretchen & Al Beatty

Like all applications throughout this book, our goal is to position multiple fibers of fur on the hook with the expectation they will remain in place and still look like something the fish will find attractive. In this chapter we will use a loop of thread (the Dubbing Loop) to anchor and hold the unruly bunch of fur in place prior to wrapping it around the hook. A dubbing loop of thread is so versatile that this chapter will also be one of the longest in the book AND what we present here will barely scratch the surface of what you can do with this simple but effective process.

Many fly tiers view this technique to use fur cut directly from a hide (see Chapter 3) to construct a fly with a wild, "buggy" appearance in one part or another of its body. It is in fact a great way to tie that body style but is also a great way to produce a beautiful fur collar that looks like the feather-

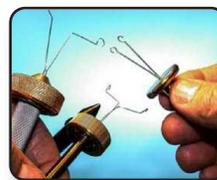
wrapped collar on the fly at the end of the of Chapter 3. Also don't think incorrectly your only source of fibers for this method will come from a snip of fur taken directly from an animal hide. A "pinch of fur" from a package of dubbing will work just fine with this "loop process" and can produce some very interesting results.

Wild and woolly fly bodies are not the only option for this dubbing style. The technique is also great for rendering a smooth, slender body. What we are trying to tell you is this technique is much more versatile than many fly tiers realize. The result is often not any different from others we'll demonstrate in these pages with one small exception.

Did the word "exception" get your attention? We hope so because that exception is the purpose of this chapter. In the next few paragraphs, we'll use a tool (or multiple tools) to twist the **fur and thread**

**together** to make a fly tying material rather than twisting the **fur around a thread** core to produce a material similar in appearance.

**Using The Whirl Style Tool:** Let's start with a simple dubbing whirl like the one Al is holding in his right hand. He is also holding two ball-bearing dubbing whirrs in his left hand. Any one of the three tools will work the same. Their only difference is cost. The whirl in his right hand cost around \$10.00 while the other two are north of \$30.00. You'll have to decide which fits your needs in relation to your pocketbook.



For our demonstration Al is using one of the more expensive ball-bearing tools to work on the fly body that was formed at the end of Chapter 2. In this illustration he has formed a thread-dubbing loop by first slipping the strand through the tool's hooks

(Continued on page 5)

then anchoring the other end at his starting point on the shank. Notice he has advanced the bobbin



forward on the hook out of his way so he can put dubbing wax on ONE SIDE of his dubbing loop to help hold the fur in place in the next step.

After waxing the side of the dubbing loop Al has clipped a small section of Hare's Ear mask fur from the hide and placed it in the thread loop.

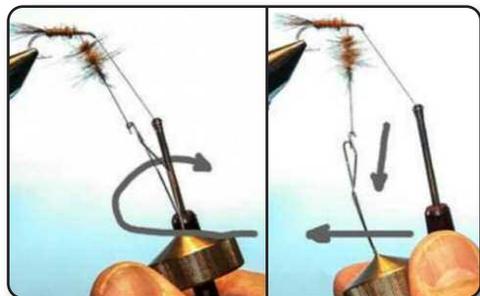


The waxed thread's tacky nature helps hold the "clump" of fur in place illustrated here.

In next illustration Al has spread the clump of fur out to evenly distribute it along the length of the dubbing loop and has trimmed it to length.

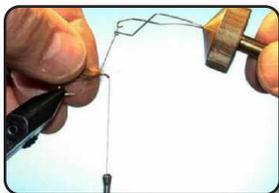


With the fur trimmed and evenly distributed in the dubbing loop, Al is rotating the ball-bearing wheel from right to left using his thumb to push it like the arrows in the pictures below. This rotates the dubbing loop (and tool) in a clockwise direction when looking down on it from above as indicated in the right hand picture.



After multiple rotations of the tool (about 30) the fur brush is ready to wrap around the hook.

In next illustration, Al is "stroking" back the fibers in the fur brush after each turn around the hook. This

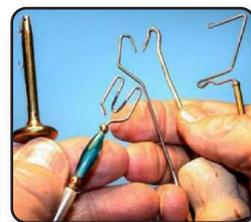


stroking action determines the direction the fibers will lay in the collar on this Muddler Nymph.

With the collar application completed, Al has advanced the thread to a position behind the hook eye. He used the Pull and Twist dubbing method to apply a small amount of excess Hare's Ear fur around the hook to form the Muddler-style head of the fly. In the photograph he is applying a whip-finish to complete the fly.



**Using the Twister-style tool:** We used one of the "whirl" type tools to apply the dubbing loop in the



previous illustrations above but the twister or hook type tools will also accomplish the same task. The picture here illustrates just a few of those we like to use.

Notice we included a whip-finish tool in the assortment. Why? Because that tool not only finishes a fly but it can also be used with a dubbing loop.

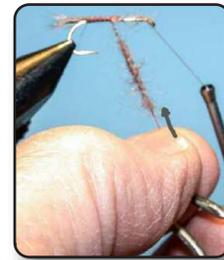
In the previous demonstration we used the whirl-type tool to apply "direct rotation" to the dubbing loop to form the fur brush. In this set of instructions we'll be using a **hook-style tool** to apply **delayed rotation** to the dubbing loop. For this demonstration we'll be using a favorite tool, the homemade dubbing hook. Let's start by applying a short tail to the shank. Next we are placing several small bundles of dubbing into an extra-long loop that is waxed on the **top 1/3 only**.



Next we'll grasp the TOP of the LOOP and the DUBBING very TIGHT with the left hand while rotating the hook tool clockwise numerous times thus placing multiple twists



(30 or more) in the bottom 2/3s of the loop. Be sure to maintain TIGHT control of the top 1/3 of the dubbing loop during this part of the process.

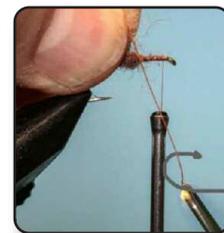


Now position the tool **straight below** the hook shank and release the upper part of the dubbing loop you had been holding with the left hand. The pent up energy in the lower 2/3 of the loop is immediately transferred to the top 1/3. This transfer instantly forms a tight application that looks similar to a twisted rope. If you wish you may use your thumbnail and forefinger to "push" the last few twists up to the top of the loop like Al is doing in the illustration.

Off camera, Al has applied the dubbing to the back of the hook to form the thorax. Now we'll use the same technique to render a totally different look to the front part of our in-progress fly. Just as before let's form an extra-long dubbing loop. This time we'll wax the upper 1/3 over BOTH strands. Here



Al has placed hackle fibers and dubbing into the loop and is trimming them to length because they were too long for the hook size in use.



Just like we did before, grasp the upper 1/3 of the loop TIGHT with the left hand and apply multiple clockwise twists (30 or more) to the bottom 2/3 of the dubbing loop.

In the next photograph after completing the pent-up-energy transfer, Al is again using his thumbnail and forefinger to "push" the last of its oomph



into the top of the loop.

Wrap the thorax on the fly, apply a whip-finish and



trim the waste thread from the hook. Now wasn't that a fast, easy and WILD LOOKING nymph to tie?

**Multiple Color Loops:** Up to this point we've applied MULTIPLE clockwise twists to our dubbing loop to produce the desired appearance. The next short demonstration will best illustrate how the "twister" type tool works. With this tool, it is very easy to apply a **LIMITED number of twists** to the dubbing loop. You'll soon see why we only want six or eight turns in our loop. We'll start by going back to Chapter 2 and using the Pull and



Twist method to apply two different colors of dubbing on one strand of thread like the one in the illustration. Here Al is attaching the "twister" tool in the center of the strand between the two colors.

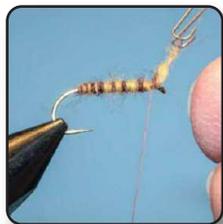


In the illustration here, Al has wrapped the thread forward on the hook to get it out of the way after anchoring it at the end of the shank.

In the next illustration Al has twisted the tool 8 turns in a clockwise direction. At this point the two-color application is ready to wrap on the hook.



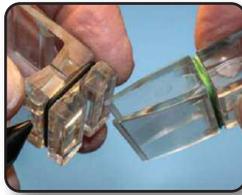
Notice the cool, variegated appearance of the wrapped body in the illustration below. It is ready to combine with other materials to produce a number of different patterns. Remember Al only



used 8 turns to produce the effect you see here; think of the many variations you could produce by just changing the colors or the number of twists in the dubbing loop.

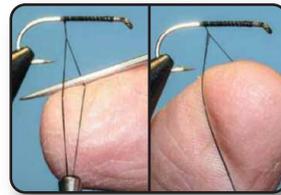
**Marc Petitjean Magic Tool Set With Split-Thread Loops**

In this section we are briefly bringing this interesting tool set to your attention. The "pinch block" and the "pinch clamp" are illustrated here. Note: For those of you interested in the Petitjean tools and how to use them go to YouTube and type



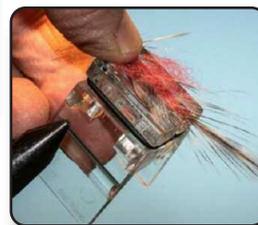
the above subject in the search engine. You'll soon see we do not come close to "scratching the surface" with our minor presentation here. We think a whole book could be written about this great tool set.

Though interesting, the tools are not the focus of this section. Instead the lesson in this chapter is the type of loop we'll be using. It's called a "split-thread" dubbing loop. So what is a split-thread loop? The answer is very simple. It is nothing more than a loop made by using a bodkin (or needle) to split the thread lengthwise into two strands attached at the top and bottom of the loop by the original thread. The next two pictures demonstrate that process (on the left Al has used the point



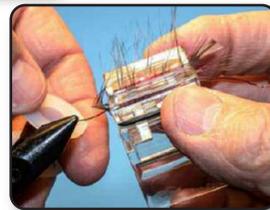
of a bodkin to split the thread and on the right he is using his forefinger to keep the loop from closing).

Below Al is using the "pinch block" to fold a section of hackle AROUND a few tufts of dubbing.

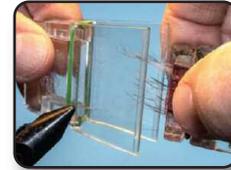
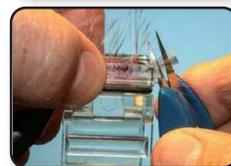
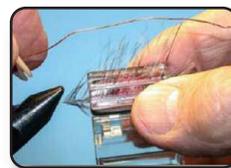


First he places the feather (curved side UP) with the stem over the "pinch slot" and several small tufts of dubbing directly on top of the stem.

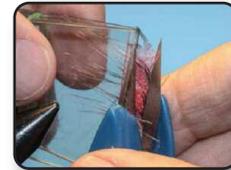
Next he is using a section of fine wire to jam the feather and dubbing combination DOWN into the pinch slot.



After jamming the feather and dubbing combination down into the slot as far as he wants, Al then pulls the wire out of the left side of the pinch-block tool (first picture here). He then trims the excess feather off each side of the block (second picture).

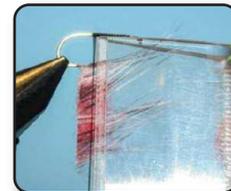


In the picture here Al is using the "clamp tool" to grasp the part of the fibers sticking out of the top of the pinch block.



Here Al has removed the pinch block and is using a pair of scissors to trim off the waste stem of the feather.

In the next illustration Al is slipping the trimmed feather ends into the split-thread dubbing loop.



Notice there is a short section of feather stem he missed. He'll have to trim that off before he can continue with the process.

After removing the clamp tool from the combination feather and dubbing unit it is ready to



receive multiple thread twists to anchor them in place. Notice: Off camera Al did TRIM off the errant section of hackle stem.

From this point in the process, you can use either the direct or indirect rotation method of twisting the



fur and fibers in the split-thread loop. This illustration is the resulting fur and feather fiber "brush" ready to wrap around the hook.



After wrapping the twisted unit around the hook, the application will produce a fly part that looks and acts buggy in or under the water's surface.

**Dubbing Pickers**

Sometimes after wrapping dubbing on a hook especially after using a dubbing loop to do so, we find picking some of the fibers out of the fly will make it appear a lot more "buggy" to the fish. In addition, the picker will rescue those fibers

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accidentally trapped in the “dubbing loop process.” Here Al is using his favorite dubbing picker (a gun cleaning bore brush) to pick out the thorax on a fly while holding several other dubbing picker tools in his left hand. Which picker style to use is a tiers choice; they all do a good job.



Closing Thoughts

As we stated in this chapter’s first paragraph, it is one of the longest and still we have barely scratched the surface of what can be done with a dubbing loop. Yes, it can be used to apply dubbing but is equally functional to apply or strengthen other materials. One thought that comes to mind is using a dubbing loop to strengthen peacock herl. The addition of a dubbing loop to a fragile peacock body changes it into one that is bulletproof. You

can check out our YouTube Channel for more information if interested.

Reprinted from *A Dozen Dubbing Techniques: How to Tie!!* with permission of the authors.

For more information and further techniques, I recommend purchasing a copy of Gretchen & Al’s book.

—Jack Gillis  
Fly Tying Director

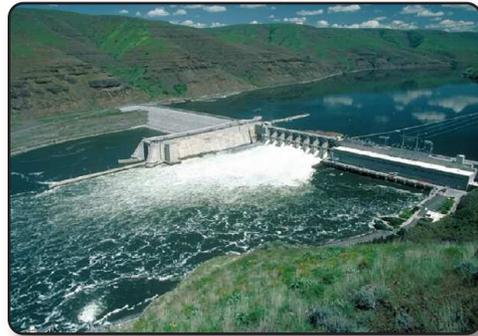
The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

Jere grew up along the Columbia River System, and has long been a supporter of efforts to preserve and conserve our migratory Salmon and Steelhead populations. These are the fish I learned to fish for with my father. This article is extracted with minor edits from the FFI News Page. I have the permission of FFI Board Member and Conservation Chairman Tom Logan to use this important information. I have further comment at the end of the article. Read and believe that this is almost too little, too late for our migratory fishes on the Pacific North West Coast.

stakeholders...native tribes, farmers and ranchers, energy producers and consumers, fly fishers and others who enjoy the out of doors... to make feasible the removal of the four hydroelectric dams from the Lower Snake River. Fishery scientists have long recommended that removal of these dams is essential to achieve recovery of salmon and steelhead in the Snake and Columbia River Systems. Our endorsement was sent to members of the Northwest House and Senate Delegations, asking for their support for the proposal and eventual legislation. [Click here to read the letter.](#)

values to the many stakeholders who depend in some way upon these natural systems.



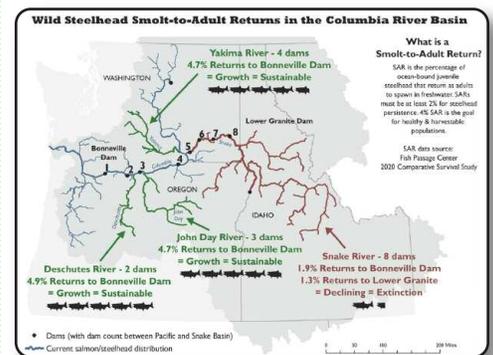
This is not a new conservation issue to Fly Fishers International. Our organization has for decades advocated recovery of wild salmon and steelhead in the Pacific Northwest with removal of the four hydroelectric dams from the Lower Snake River essential to restoration of the migratory pathways for these species. These fishes historically migrate between where they spawn in the upper reaches of the Snake River System and return to the Pacific Ocean through the Columbia River System where they grow to adulthood and return to continue their lifecycles. The four dams no longer effectively produce the energy for which they were designed but they have since their construction prevented sufficient adult Salmon and Steelhead from returning upstream to spawn and sustain these populations. Other recovery strategies have failed to date. The comprehensive Simpson Proposal is achievable and offers a realistic future for recovery of wild Salmon and Steelhead while providing social and economic

The purpose of this message is to keep you informed of the conservation work we do to preserve the legacy of fly fishing for “All Fish, All Waters” for our members and the fly fishing community. You may find more information regarding this issue by [clicking this link](#) and we ask that you support the Simpson Proposal when you have an opportunity. This graphic should make the situation clearer. If you now understand the role that dams 5 through 8 play in isolating the fertile waters of the Snake River System preventing the west coast fishes from being able to sustain their species, you now have the basics.

FFI Supports Snake River Proposal

Fly Fishers International is pleased to announce that we have joined Trout Unlimited, the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership and our many other Conservation Partners to endorse a long-needed proposal to restore wild Salmon and Steelhead populations in the Pacific Northwest.

The proposal, three years in design, is comprehensive in that it proposes to provide social and economic incentives to all



Editor’s Notes:

The parameter “Smolt-to-Adult Return”, called SAR in most of the literature is simply the percentage of the newly hatched fish, the smolts, that come back in the appropriate number of years as adults to spawn. The graphic shown here is for Steelhead, but the Salmon numbers are

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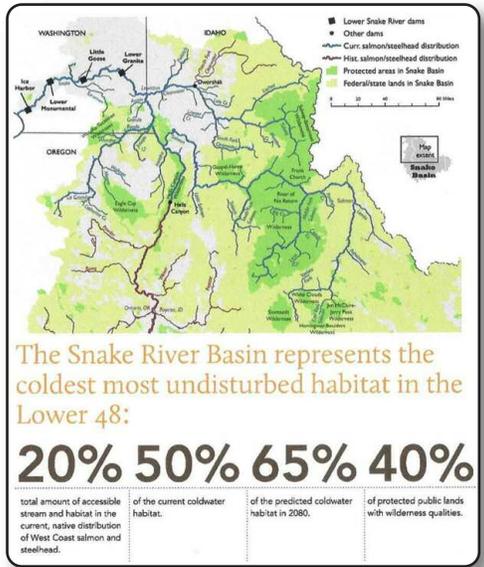
# The Conservation Corner

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very similar. It is logical that if too few of the newly hatched fish return to spawn that the population of the entire species is going down. Note that for the river systems in green, the SAR numbers are in the range that fisheries scientists believe will sustain the species.

In this graphic the river system in red, the snake river with its 4 dams just above where it leaves the Columbia River at about Walla Walla, WA, has returns of only a bit over 1%. However on the three rivers that branch off without the hinderance of the four low head dams that are in the Snake River, the SAR is just a bit under 5%.

The question left to be explored and is quite well handled in a TU Document that is also on our FFI Web Site is to evaluate the benefit of having the fish able to reach the extensive wild and protected areas in Idaho that are the tributaries of the Snake River system.



Note the light green and darker green areas on this graphic. The light green is land that is owned by the Government, and hence less likely to be developed. The Dark Green is land that is already designated wilderness areas, state parks, or other areas protected by law. The point is this... If we can get the fish to Idaho by opening the low dams that now make it almost impossible, a huge amount of beautiful and protected wilderness awaits them.

I have river rafted the Middle Fork of the Salmon, and it is incredible. Great Trout, and abundantly available. I was the lone fly fisher on one trip and was being pushed every time we

parked for the night to catch some trout for dinner. I am not a good Trout Guy, but it was fun and easy to get a few.

We must fix this and make this huge area open to our Salmon and Steelhead Spawners. If we can finally get this done it will be a gift to generations of back country adventurers. The FFI and TU are working this awfully hard. Support this effort however you can. Write letters, attend rally's, whatever comes up, be there.

### Our New Lake is filling fast.

The new lake in Fannin County is filling. The dam is closed, and now that we are finally getting our spring rains, it will get a lot bigger. Just the one big rain after April 14th raised the lake about 16 feet. If the rainy season stays with us, this one could come online as a fishing lake for sure in 2022. Here is the mid-June view from the FM Road 897 bridge.



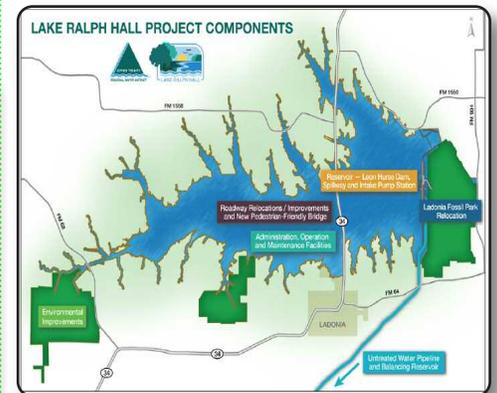
Here is another picture taken from the FM897 Bridge Area. The lake is almost up to the boat ramps.



These big rains are filling the puddle fast.

Do you remember my Conservation Corner Article about a year or so ago talking about the plans for three new Dams? I said then which two were most likely, and which one was having political problems that seem challenging. Well, on June 17th, they dug the symbolic shovel of dirt to announce the beginning of Lake number 2, Lake Ralph Hall. Located on the North Sulphur River, this lake will drown a branch of a river that is often just a meandering erosion project. However, a group is already hunting for fossils and artifacts which will be lost if they are not recovered now and housed in a projected new exhibit in the Perot Museum in Dallas.

This new lake will not be ready until the middle of the 2020's, but it will certainly help the crisis we have with hundreds of thousands of new citizens moving into North Texas. And, of



course, it does not hurt our chances to have another quality Bass Lake for fly rod fishing. Here is the project plan from Lake Ralph Hall on the web. The plans and status letters should be the quality and completeness of the Lake Bois D'Arc pages when the project gets going.

Things are looking good for we fly fishers. And with the growth of the population in the area North of Dallas, this water will be arriving just in time. We north Texas Fly Flingers need to be ready to exercise these fish.

**Tight lines and great fishing to you all.**





# The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

June was a good Month for the DFF. Active Fish were everywhere, and we were out and after them in a big way. Great moves, DFF. Lots of great fishing reports and our regular projects were also making progress. Mother Nature still cannot get over how much fun it is for her to give us rain in 5 inch bundles. Friday night, June 4th, was a 5.4 incher in Plano. Then we had a youth fishing event that Saturday, and followed that with another 5+ inches of rain on Monday morning before the Club Meeting. WOW.

The Saturday event, with some mixed showers was the City of Carrollton has asked the DFF to help once again with their Kid Fish. About 75 kids, many of whom were catching their first fish had a great time, with our volunteers showing them about fly tying and helping them fish. Thanks, you volunteers.



Then the Zoom club meeting on Monday featured Chris Taylor. He guides the San Juan and several other streams in that part of Colorado. It was an exceptionally good meeting with lots of questions and lots of information.

The following weekend, Friday 11th and Saturday 12th of June, was the Lake Athens Fly Fishing Fair. With almost a full month of record setting rains, many of us were nervous for this event. Last year we called an end to the Saturday Bass Event a bit early in the interest of safety. This is just about the most important event that the DFF leads. It is a charity fund raiser, a fishing contest, a picnic, and a whole lot else. Johnny Martinez puts a lot of time and effort into this one. Many



of us have needed a good group event for over a year, and this was certainly it. Here he is checking everyone in and getting their cell phones set up to report their catch to the mission control. He is being assisted by Cathy Case and Doris Montayne.

The side events were fun too. The casting event for distance and accuracy was won by Cody Bell, who took first in Accuracy Casting and 2nd in Distance with 89 feet.



The fly tyers had fun and here are a couple of pictures.



And now to the real important stuff. Friday was the Sunfish Challenge. It was won by no other than our President, Julia. She had a lot of 8- and 9-inch sunfish.

Then the Sunday Bass Event went off in a light rain, but it got better. The real work of being sure everyone got credit for their fish was done by this team.



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## The Activity Report

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This team took the phone calls as the fish were registered, were sure to match the incoming phone number to the master list, and then record the time and length of the Bass. A very exacting task and they at times were VERY busy when a cluster of Bass became active the anglers got a lot of fish in a short time. Candy Martinez, Doris Montayne and Cathy Case check and verified it all. Great work Ladies.

Organizing and running this event is not a small thing. The 74 anglers who took part in the two Fly Fishing Challenges were a lot to keep track of and keep the records straight, it is only a little easier than running an election. The anglers were 44 male anglers and 30 women and the 62 that took part in the Big Bass Challenge caught 44 bass.

Everyone who took part was a winner IMO. This was really a lot of fun. The contest winners were:

### Sunfish Challenge Winners—

1st place - **Julia Bell (President of the Dallas Fly Fishers Club)**  
2nd Place - **Will Youngblood (no club)** ( 10 years old)

### Big Bass Challenge Winners—

#### Boat Division—

Big Bass - **Robert Hand**  
20.25 inches

#### Longest Stringer

**Mark Yarbrough (DFF)**  
5 fish = 83.25 inches

#### Small Craft Division—

Big Bass - **James Ott**  
Lonestar Fly Fishers Tyler Texas. 17.5 inches

#### Longest Stringer

**Catch Cormier (Louisiana)** 6 fish = 80.5 inches

#### Bank Division—

Big Fish - **Joy Summers**  
(Texas Womens Fly Fishers). 16.5 inches.

Here is Cody's Bass that was in second place, I think.



No matter how you look at it, it was a huge success and more fun than anything legal. If you did not go for this one I would be of the opinion that you made a mistake.

Richard and Jere stopped at the TFFC and had a long talk with Zoe about future plans. They have redecorated a lot, and you really need to go there and fish, and while you are there go through the redone exhibits in the front building. The fish were slow, but when Ricard caught one, the noise of the fight brought out dozens of other fish. So the fish are still there and abundant

A new monthly event, the Fly Tying Seminar organized by Dan Montayne, our new fly tying coordinator, and it looks like a winning idea. This is a seminar to expand your knowledge on Warm Water Fly Fishing. Some of our more expert fly fishers will cover a few flies each time. The information about what does it represent, how to tie it in various variations, how to rig the rod and how to fish in in various water and various seasons will make this a great place for our members to expand their knowledge and to learn to tie some of the more productive flies for our water.

The first meeting of the group had 14 attendees and was fun. Dave Smith, my tying buddy, taught us a fly called the Black Boudreaux. It is a dry fly tied on a scud hook. Jim Woodman taught us to tie Dave Whitlock's Damsel Fly Larva. It is an easy tie and looks good to me.

The next meeting for the members will be in July, on the third Tuesday, July 20th. Bring your tying gear, and we will have some tying gear for those without it. The details are in another article in this Newsletter.

The last weekend before we had to put the newsletter together had a couple of surprise events. The biggest was an Outdoor Show sponsored by Ducks Unlimited that invites all the various conservation-oriented groups to get a booth. Kiera got us to help with the TPWD Booth and a lot of other good stuff.



Since this was the last weekend in June, Richard, Roger Rohrbeck and Jere did our water watch stream monitoring. The bugs were harder to find, but it is certain that the Texas Spring and summer is here.

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The next water watch is July 18th. You can join us and see what a great shape Texas Outdoor Conservation is in.

So after all that what could we possibly do for an encore? Hang on, the ride is just beginning.

We are planning to teach three Saturday's of fly tying to Kimberly and the Diva's. I personally love to teach this group. They have great food and even a little wine too. Kimberly is our contact, but we already have enough tiers. The dates are in the calendar, and Jere is coordinating tiers.

The summer joint trip to Colorado with the Fort Worth Fly Fishers is as usual being coordinated from the DFF side by Jeff Ziehm. Jeff said that the signup is huge, so it could be the best ever. Our June speaker talked a lot about what to fish and how in this area. Great timing.

The Southern Council is planning to hold the Southern Conclave in Mountain Home, AR on September 17th-18th. It will be back in the

Baxter County Fairgrounds. This one was hosted for three years in the late 1990's by the FWFF and the DFF before we split the Texas Council off from the Southern Council. Dave Smith and I have been invited to come and tie. Of course, over a dozen DFF Members go to this one and Sowbug to tie for the crowd.

October 15th - 17th, the Oktoberfische Event at the Edgewater Springs Resort and Event Center, in Fredericksburg is way too good to miss. Consider going up early and fishing some Guadalupe Bass.

There is a cluster of opportunities in September to do some family outings to the Cotter AR area. To sign-up, contact Mike Becker, the trip planner. Read the three-peat article in this newsletter for details. This trip has a trip report each year for our Newsletter, and great pictures.

Last, but never least, is the Historic Toledo Bend Rendezvous at The North Toledo Bend State Park, near Zwolle, LA, is on for November 5th to 7th. The location for this is a magnificent group camp, and hopefully the fall colors will be brilliant and beautiful.

So from the looks of our calendar, we have about one event a month or less coming up. The club can continue to help with the list of on-going projects. I will miss our distinct menu of outdoor events being thought about and scheduled, but small group fishing outings are still going on.

It is a tough life, but someone gets to live it. It might as well be us. Life is returning to the land of Oz..

**Best wishes for big fish and lots of them....**



- Jere

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