

# The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ October 2021  
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FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL

## Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

Whew! Cody and I have been active fly fishers lately. I really appreciate Jack Gillis conducting the September meeting for the club, and though I'm regretful we missed the September Fly Tying meeting and adding new fly patterns to our boxes, I'm making up for missing a year of fishing. When the Beckers' informal DFF outing to Mountain Home, Arkansas to fish the waters of the White and Norfolk Rivers and Crooked Creek presented itself, it was just too difficult to let the opportunity pass. I'm looking forward to the 2022 White River Caddis Hatch Outing and hope you will add this trip to your "must attend" list.

Did you see the October 2021 Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine? Even though hunting seasons have begun, the cover features fly fishing!! The original ShareLunker program began in the fall and ended in the spring. Fall fishing in Texas is an action-packed experience, and this is where many of the club's efforts culminate. Rex gave us great information on adding different casting techniques to our skill set. We've added quality flies for local waters to our fly boxes with Dan's monthly tying events and Jack's Fly Tying Meeting. The club has hosted many outings to target fish and improve our catching. Fall is the time to put all those skills together, because in the fall, Texas fish eat voraciously in order to prepare themselves to survive the winter. I love the autumn gorge-fest, but it fishes differently than the spring spawning glut. Unlike the spring where fish conglomerate, in autumn the fish spread out looking to fend and forage for themselves. This means B-I-C

flies—flies that move big water, pop loudly, undulate abundantly and broadly—anything to attract the fishes' attention. In the mornings and evenings, I love fishing topwater poppers and deer hair patterns, including skating a mouse pattern, with a slow retrieve, while the mid-day warm-up finds me switching to a sink tip line or a 135 or 150 grain sinking line (my ips sink rate choice depends upon the water body) and fishing flies that have color (you know the saying about chartreuse), rubber legs, rabbit/fox/squirrel fur, marabou/saddlehackle feathers, and palmered grizzly hackle. These materials move prodigiously in the water and attract the fish's interest. Since probably the only conscious thought a fish has is to eat or not eat, I want my fly to be THE tasty morsel that makes the fish commit to biting my fly.

Most of my biggest fish are caught during the fall feeding frenzy. With that said, I still haven't managed to tick a Top 5 Bucket List box, to catch an original ShareLunker, what I believe is now known as the Legend Class, which means a Largemouth Bass weighing at

minimum 13 pounds. I've often envisioned what hooking and landing a 13 lb. Largemouth from my kayak would feel like, and each fall, the opportunities to move that vision to a reality exist. Fall is a great time to be a warmwater fly fisher! Getting in on this action are the DFF's newest members. Please help me welcome to the club: Oliver Rippy, Rosie Kurtz, Lance Huckeba, Randall Hoover, David Watkins, Zachary Hamilton, and Andrew Golden. We are glad you are here and look forward to sharing the waters with you. Welcome!

**Here's to bent tips  
and happy days!**

- Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers



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## DFE Speaker Details

The Dallas Flyfishers regular meetings are on the first Monday of the month. We have moved to a new location. The DFE meetings 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.

### October Meeting, Robert Younghanz, Entomology on the River.

Robert's core passion can be summed up in one word, BUGS. As an aquatic entomologist, aka, "The Bug Guy," a day on the water is first and foremost about learning, and upping your game, with an emphasis on trout foods and their imitations. Robert has fished in over 60 countries, but trout streams are where his heart lives. He is the host of the top selling DVD, Entomology For The Fly Fisher, the co-owner/director of the Colorado Fly Fishing Guide Academy, and teaches classes on Aquatic Insects both here in Colorado and across the country.



October 4, 2021, Barry Webster will be doing a fly tying demonstration from 5:00-6:00 and meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

### November Meeting Speaker is Chris Johnson.

Chris is the owner and founder of Living Waters Fly Fishing, a fly shop and guide service based out of Round Rock, Texas. He has guided the Texas Hill Country for over a decade and has fly fished the heart of the state for 20 years. Chris has been a licensed guide in Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Alaska. Chris is an FFI Certified Casting Instructor, Umpqua Signature Fly Designer, Tenkara USA Guide, and TPWD Angler Educator. He is also a pro team member for Whiting Farms, Scott Fly Rods, and Scientific Anglers.



In addition, to fly fishing, Chris is passionate about film and photography. He co-produced the short film "Unspoken," to raise awareness for Rio Grande Cutthroat trout conservation. As a result, Living Waters is working with Trout Unlimited as a Gold Level endorsed TU Business to restore Rio Grande Cutthroat throughout their native range.

### DFE Holiday Party

Sunday 5 December 2021 • 5:30 – 8:30  
Locale announcement coming soon

— Jack Gillis

Program Chairman, Dallas FlyFishers

## 2022 Election of Officers Candidates

### Opportunities to Help the Club

The club is looking for assistance with the Newsletter, Programs, and Casting. If you would be interested in chairing or co-chairing any of these areas, please contact **Jeff Ziehm** (214-202-2826) or any club board member.

November is when we have our annual club elections. Here is the slate of candidates for the club officer positions for 2022.

**President – Julia Bell**  
**Vice President – Jack Gillis**  
**Past President – Jack Janco**  
**Secretary – Jim Woodman**  
**Treasurer – Steve Jackson**  
**2022 Trustee – Dave Shatzer**  
**2023 Trustee – LaJan Barnes**  
**2024 Trustee – Jim Latshaw**

If you wish to be added, let any officer or committee chair know about your interest.

The DFE Board also includes appointed committee chairs. The club has 10 major committee chairs.

**Auction – Dave Shatzer & Finny Kahn**

**Casting – Open**

**Conservation – Jere Anderson**

**Education – Richard Johnson**

**Fly Tying – Dan Montayne**

**IT – Jeff Ziehm**

**Membership – Mike Becker and Dave Shatzer.**

**Newsletter – Jere Anderson**

—(Jere is looking for a Newsletter Co-Chair)—

**Outings – Jim Woodman**

**Programs – Jack Gillis**

—(We are looking for a new Programs Chair)—

We will finalize this list in October, and then have the election as part of the November Meeting. We install our new Leaders for 2022 at the Christmas Party in December.



## 2021 CALENDAR:

**October 4th** - October DFF Meeting. **Robert Younghanz**, whose subject will be Entomology on the River.

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

**October 7th** - A Thursday, is an outing to the Lathram Church Camp. We were here last spring, and it was great. Lots of fishable water and lots of fish.

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

**October 19th** - Warm Water Fly Fishing, Cabela's conference Room, reserve your space with **Dan Montayne**.

**October 20th** - Steven Vile High School. We will meet at the TFFC.

**October 23th** - Teaching a Basic Fly Fishing Class at LLELA in the Pavilion. Stay after and be certified an Angler Education Instructor.

**November 1st** - November DFF Meeting is **Chris Johnson** whose subject will be fishing for Rio Grande Cichlids.

**November 5th-7th** - Traditional date for the Toledo Bend Rendezvous. We are canceled this year again.

**November 5th-7th** - The FFI Virtual Expo. This is a new event, and hopefully will be too good to miss. Hurry to Fly Fishers International [info@flyfishersinternational.org](mailto:info@flyfishersinternational.org) and sign up. The best classes may be already gone.

**November 16th** - Warm Water Fly Fishing, Cabela's conference Room, reserve your space with **Dan Montayne**.

**December 5th** - Our beloved Holiday Party. *See the announcement on page 2.*

## 2022

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

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

**January 22nd** - Carrollton BFF Class.

**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 18th-20th** - TU Troutfest, Lazy L&L Campground.

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

**March 7th** - DFF Fund raiser Auction.

**March 11th-12th** - Gulf Coast Sweetwater Classic.

**March 24th** - Sow Bug Roundup, Baxter County Fairgrounds, Mountain Home AR.

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

**April 11th-16th** - A spring repeat of the fall Trout Trip. White River, Chapter 4, Return to the Caddis Hatch. We have just completed another great trip to the White River in Cotter, Arkansas. Huge fish count with several large rainbows and browns We have decided to feed our trout addiction during the caddis hatch in early spring. Home base for the RV crowd will be Denton Ferry RV Park - [dentonferryrv.com](http://dentonferryrv.com). Home base for guides is Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher - [theoarkflyfisher.com](http://theoarkflyfisher.com). Book early. For more information contact **Mike Becker**, 214-288-3885, [kuduguy@verizon.net](mailto:kuduguy@verizon.net).

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

**May 22nd** - Carrollton Basic Fly Fishing Class.

**June 10th-11th** - For the Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival.

**July 18th-23rd** - Joint DFF / FWFF Colorado Outing probable date.

**September 29th-October 1st** - Southern Conclave, Mountain Home, AR.

## Roadkill Roundtable Zoom Fly Tying Demonstrations

by Jack Gillis

The Roadkill Roundtable will continue its fly tying demonstrations this Fall. The calls will be hosted by **Jack Gillis**, our programs chairman. The tying demonstrations will include several experienced and well-known fly tyers, including **Dutch Baughman, Fred DuPre', Dave Boyer, Eric Austin, Al & Gretchen Beatty**. If you are an experienced tyer, or just beginning your fly tying journey, you will not want to miss these excellent demonstrations. All calls will be held in ZOOM and will be at 7:00 PM Central Time on the following Tuesdays:

Here are the Roadkill Roundtable Fly Tying Group Fall 2021 demonstrations. The schedule is:

September 28	<b>Eric Austin</b>	Blue Bottle (Bergman style)
October 20	<b>Fred DuPre'</b>	Jack Gartside Sparrow
October 26	<b>Dave Boyer</b>	Hackle Stacker
November 9	<b>Al Beatty</b>	Rotating Stimulator
November 23	<b>Matt Bennett</b>	TBD
December 14	<b>Gretchen Beatty</b>	Royal Trude

Contact **Jack** at [jackgillis@outlook.com](mailto:jackgillis@outlook.com) to register without cost.

## Fly Fishing Skills Classes via Zoom

by Dutch Baughman

The next Fly Fishing Skills classes have begun. Once again, we will conduct classes via Zoom. Here's the line-up.

- **Fly Fishing Skills I** -- begins at 5:30p.m. and adjourns by 6:45
- **Fly Fishing Skills II** -- begins at 7:00p.m. and adjourns around 8:30

- Both classes last 10 weeks, concluding on Nov. 18

Fly Fishing Skills classes are offered through the Fort Worth Fly Fishers education program and are available to paid members of Fort Worth Fly Fishers and Dallas Fly Fishers. If you attended the classes last semester, you

are approved for attendance this semester. New members to either club are welcome, but please contact David Hooper at Fort Worth Fly Fishers or Jack Gillis at Dallas Fly Fishers.

Both classes have been enhanced since last semester. Students for each class will receive

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## Fly Fishing Skills Classes via Zoom

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an updated version of the entire slide presentation prior to the first class. Slide decks now have a complete Table of Contents so you can find specific topics by using the slide number as a reference. The entire curriculum from last semester has been critiqued and updated. We are also planning to have in-person casting sessions during the semester. If possible, we might also have in-person lab sessions for fly fishing knots.

The curriculum will include a complete array of the comprehensive topics presented last semester, but with some additional enhancements.

### Fly Fishing Skills I:

- More fly fishing video
- Expanded sections on fly fishing history, fly fishing equipment, rigging, reading the water and water column, stream anatomy, entomology and fly fishing trips

- NEW topics on “Search Image” and feeding behavior
- Slide decks for Fly Fishing History, Reading Water and the Water Column, Fly Fishing History, Entomology, Fly Fishing Safety, and Fly Fishing Etiquette

### Fly Fishing Skills II:

- More fly fishing video
- Identify This Fish
- Identify This Fly
- Identify This Knot
- Expanded sections on casting, fly fishing trips, fish species, knots, stream anatomy, safety and etiquette
- More emphasis on the catching (set the hook, play the fish, handle the fish, revive the fish, release the fish)
- Revised sections on fly selection, fish behavior and fish habitat
- NEW topic on “Search Image”

- Slide decks for Line Management, Reading Water and the Water Column, Fly Fishing History, Entomology, Fly Fishing Safety, and Fly Fishing Etiquette

If you attended the Fly Fishing Skills classes last semester and want to attend the classes again this semester, just send an email to [dutch.baughman@gmail.com](mailto:dutch.baughman@gmail.com) so he can build the class email list for the weekly Zoom access link. In your email to Dutch, be sure to indicate which class you want to attend. If you did not attend the classes last semester, please contact David Hooper if you are a member of the Fort Worth Fly Fishers or contact Jack Gillis if you are a member of the Dallas Fly Fishers. Please contact Dutch if you have any questions.

Dutch Baughman, FWFF & DFF Member  
[dutch.baughman@gmail.com](mailto:dutch.baughman@gmail.com)

## Soft Hackle Classics for Warm Water?

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

Like many others, my fly tying resembles a train trip. At some point it returns to where it started. My first attempts were wet flies and progressed to dry flies and beyond. After reading countless pattern books and articles, it dawned on me that with slight modifications, those highly productive, cold water masterpieces work wonderfully well for warm water species. Aside from being fun to experiment with and create, those old, borrowed, British patterns are reliable fish producers in any water. My train is moving to my next stop. Read on please.

Take the flies taught at our last DFF Cabela's 3rd Tuesday Tying event. One pattern presented was The Partridge and Orange (soft hackle). Enlarged to a size #10 hook, the pattern boasts a classic silhouette, easy cast ability, prolific hackle movement, and soft landings for calm water. This pattern is also a silent producer in the fast water of tail races. Just hold on!



Another fly tied that evening was The Red Ass, a long time trout pattern that is said to imitate a clump of midges emerging toward the surface. Again, this pattern is size increased for hard

mouthed, warm water species and matches the same attributes of the P & O pattern. The visible difference is the Hot Spot at the back of the body that acts as a trigger for inducing strikes. Lastly, it is a highly productive dropper from any first fly choice. Fish it alone, with, or without a strike indicator.



The 3rd pattern tied at Cabela's was a Skittle Variant. No, not the candy! This fly has a clear advantage over the first two. It takes less than 10 minutes to complete and only uses two materials, not including the thread. Color seems to be optional, so experiment away. When completed, the Skittle imitates all the comparisons attributed to the famous Woolly Bugger, and we all know the successes it has racked up. This fly can be additionally enhanced with a collar or visible top wing. This is where your creative tying



comes into play. There are no mistakes with this pattern. Perfect every time!

Looking out of the train window, I started to visualize what the soft hackle fly brings to warm water presentations. Facts: Soft hackle enhances movement to any pattern. It lands like a feather even with imperfect casts. It opens and closes to expose the body shape and visible color. Best of all, its materials are easy on the wallet. Simply put, a hen neck, waterfowl cape, or upland game bird feathers are considerably less expensive than top grade, dry fly cape selections. These soft capes are usually more uniform as to individual feathers and mottling features and will produce a lot of flies in usable sizes and styles.

One last thought as I return to my starting station; hackle size? As long as I can remember, fly tiers have been fixated on proper hackle length. My experience is simple. Use what you have. The warm water fish in my area prefer a more bulbous and full hackled fly. On the other hand, if you have to measure; try 1 ½ to 2 times the hook gap. Again, consider Spey flies and “overly long” hackled patterns that have been known to produce prolific catches.

These comments are all mine and are a culmination of over 60 years of loving and producing this art form. Thanks for riding along.  
**ALL ABOARD!!!!**

# Rex's Ramblings

by Rex Walker, FFI CI

## Use your cell phone to improve your casting.

One of the best tools for learning to fly cast better is to use video. Watching yourself cast is a great way to identify casting faults that you may not realize you are making.

These days it is incredibly easy to both take and review the video of someone casting. Most "smart phone" style cell phone have excellent video cameras. So, you may have your own personal casting instructor sitting in your pocket.

Cell phones have the advantage over traditional video cameras because they have a built in screen. You can video a cast and then

watch it right there in the field. This immediate feedback is a great learning tool.

Connecting a cell phone to tripod is easy and relatively cheap to do. The local Best Buy recently had a half dozen or so, options of brackets for cell phones on their shelves. The one I got was less than \$20 and can be mounted to a tripod to hold a phone in either landscape or portrait orientation. I'm sure that you can find cheaper options online.

You can video from the side to view your loops, stroke, rotation, stops, etc. You can also place the camera in front of you to check your tracking.



The photos show the type of bracket that I am talking about and the other is an example screen shot taken from a recent casting video.

## Why an FFI Fly Tying Skills Award Program

The FFI Fly Tying Skills Awards Program provides FFI members with the opportunity to develop or reinforce their fly tying skills and test their progress against a consistent, standard at three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold.

The goal of the Awards Program is to encourage FFI members to develop and improve their fly tying skills at their own pace through a structured learning plan with progressive goals. The Program is meant to be informative, enjoyable and encourage camaraderie and co-operation among those taking part. In addition, it can also assist Clubs and instructors in the planning and delivering of fly tying courses.

We are beginning with the first fly in the Bronze Award level, the Grey Goose Midge Emerger.

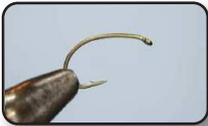


**Hook:** #10 Scud hook  
**Thread:** 8/0 Black Uni-Thread or equivalent  
**Rib:** Fine silver wire  
**Body:** Goose wing fibers, Natural or Grey  
**Wing Case:** Goose wing fibers, Natural or Grey  
**Thorax:** Peacock herl  
**Head:** Whip-finish and head cement

**TIERS TAKE NOTE:** For those tiers who do not have goose wing fibers, substitute turkey tail fibers per the below recipe and use the Grey Goose video for your tying instructions.

**Hook:** #10 Scud hook  
**Thread:** 8/0 Black Uni-Thread or equivalent  
**Rib:** Fine silver wire  
**Body:** Turkey Tail, Natural or Grey  
**Wing Case:** Turkey Tail, Natural or Grey  
**Thorax:** Peacock herl  
**Head:** Whip-finish and head cement

### Step-By-Step Tying Instructions

1. Insert the hook into the vise which is a size 10 scud hook. 
2. Attach the thread just behind the eye of the hook and form a neat underbody of tying thread extending to half way around the bend of the hook (the thread was moved to the half shank position to keep thread from sliding). 
3. Tie in the rib at the end of the underbody. 

4. Tie in 4 fibers of Goose (or Turkey) by the tips, on top of the rib. Take the thread to the thorax tie in position. Note: more fibers may be needed for larger hooks. 
5. Wrap the Goose (or Turkey) fibers forward to form an even body, stopping half way along the hook shank and remove waste. 
6. Reverse wrap the rib forward in even turns to provide segmentation and strength. Break or "worry off" the excess wire (this technique is also referred to as a helicopter twisting maneuver). 
7. Tie in 6 strands of Goose (or Turkey) fibers. 
8. Tie in two strands of peacock herl. Wrap the thread forward to a position right behind the eye of the hook. 

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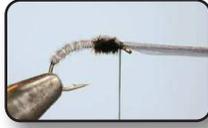
## Why an FFI Fly Tying Skills Award Program

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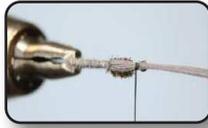
9. Wrap the peacock herls forward in touching turns and tie off just short of the eye. Trim off the excess.



10. Carefully bring the Goose (or Turkey) fibers up and over the top of the peacock herl to form a Wingcase and tie down the fibers.



11. Be sure the fibers stay together on top of the hook and then trim the Goose (or Turkey) fibers.



12. Form a neat head, whip-finish and apply head cement.

### Tying Tips

- When choosing the Goose (or Turkey) feathers, look for the longest possible herls. Cut off a short amount of the tips and tie in tightly at the end of the thread underbody. Avoid letting any thread show. Use enough fibers to reach the head. If you find that 4 strands comes up short, redo with 5 or 6 strands.

- Take care with the ribbing: ensure that the turns are evenly spaced and parallel to each other, on both sides of the fly.
- The peacock herls may be twisted together after tying in for extra strength if desired or a thread loop can be used to reinforce the herls by twisting them into chenille like rope.
- When trimming the excess off the wing case, ensure sharp scissors are used. A neater head can be obtained by cutting the fibers individually and at slightly different lengths to avoid a sharp, bulky edge.

**Notes:** This pattern represents a large midge but is often taken by fish feeding on UN pupae and small fry.

## White River Three-Peat, September 12 - 17, 2021

by Mike Becker

Six DFF members (Pat and Mike Becker, Julia and Cody Bell, Jeff Ziehm and Dave Shatzer) made the trip to Arkansas to fish the Bull Shoals area. When I was preparing for the trip, I was tempering my expectations because of the success we all enjoyed last year. When Pat and I met with Steve Dally before our first day of fishing, he made a point of reminding us that our last trip with him was a banner success and not to expect a repeat. Boy, was everybody wrong.

Generally, water conditions were low; and, you could not rely on the generation schedule. We saw gravel bars in the water that we never had seen before. It was difficult to plan until the morning because you could not rely on the generation schedule. Also, low water conditions made the browns more difficult to attract.

On day 1, we put in at Wildcat Shoals and crossed the river to begin fishing. We floated and re-floated segments almost to the Cotter dock. Pat was rigged with a girdle bug and a #18 Dally's tailwater jig. I was rigged with two Dally's tailwater jigs #14 and #18. We immediately started catching fish; and, continued to catch them all morning. Steve commented that we did not float 100 yds.

without a fish. Except for two nice browns that Pat landed, everything was rainbows. After lunch, we headed up to the dam area. It was starting to get really hot; and, activity was slowing. I did get a good hook set on a large fish that we thought was a brown. It turned out to be a 23" rainbow with an enormous girth. All in all a great day with 50 or so fish caught.

On day 2, we returned to Wildcat Shoals and had a repeat of day 1, without the huge rainbow. The fish were consistently in the 12-18" range and very acrobatic. I had one that actually jumped over the bow of the boat. At lunch, we ran into Jeff and Dave (being guided by Chad Johnson). They had put in at the Cotter dock and were working their way up river. They were also doing quite well; and, Jeff landed an outstanding brown. Julia and Cody were on the river with Gabe Levin; and, when asked about their day we got a two thumbs up. After lunch, I did manage to break my brown drought. All in all, another 50 fish day with 4 browns caught.

On day 3, we decided to change it up a bit and head to Rim Shoals. We worked various drifts almost to the Cotter dock. Again, no shortage of rainbows and browns were very scarce.

Another day of 50 or so fish. Dave and Jeff went chasing smallmouth in Crooked Creek and Julia and Cody were fishing from their kayaks. We finished the day by ordering pizza and getting together at Jeff and Dave's cabin for a party.

Because the action was so good, I decided to book another guided day. Steve was guiding Jeff and Dave; and, Pat and I were guided by Mike Sexton. Julia and Cody were being guided by Larry McNair; and, Julia managed to get one on a dry fly despite the absence of bugs on the water. We put in at Cranor's and consistently worked the area between Cranor's and Wildcat Shoals. We were rigged with two tungsten headed nymphs on jig hooks; and the fish loved them. Although we managed to find where the browns were hiding, they were greatly outnumbered by the rainbows. The fish were hitting both the upper and lower nymphs all day and, we saw several fish chasing fish we had hooked. It was not uncommon for both of us to have fish on at the same time. We landed several nice browns in the 18" range; and I also managed a 20" and almost 21" brown (this one needed to stretch to the tail a little). Pat had a fish on when my largest brown struck; and, then it got really interesting. We were headed into the

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## White River Three-Peat, September 12 - 17, 2021

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rapids; and Mike was unable to net for us because he needed to control the boat. Consequently, we both had fish quickly swimming upstream while we were riding the rapids in the opposite direction. Both fish were landed; and, we have a great story to tell. When we packed it in, we had another 50 fish day. The week ended with a nice group dinner at a restaurant near the Norfolk dam.

This was an incredible trip for the six of us; and we are already booked for next year between April 11-16. You may be asking why we would change seasons if the fishing was so good. Very simple - caddis, caddis, caddis and hungry browns. This is a great river system to fish. If you are looking for large fish as well as large numbers of fish, this is the place.

Many thanks to Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher and guides Steve Dally, Chad Johnson, Mike Sexton, Gabe Levin and Larry McNair. Also, thanks to Denton Ferry RV which where we stayed.

*If you want information, please contact Mike Becker.*

*—Mike Becker*



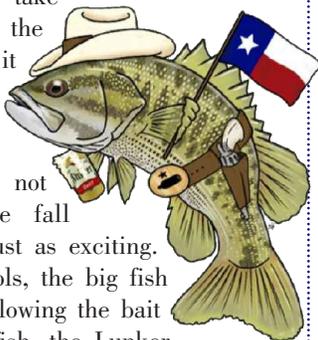
## The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

While we did not really have much of a summer compared to either the very hot or the very wet portions of the Lower 48, it is good to feel that Fall is upon us. This is one of my favorite fly fishing times of year. Not only because the oppressive heat of summer is fading, but it is also the second Top Water Season.

Most of us love the spring top water season with the pre-spawn males making nests and as the water warms the heavy with eggs Females come in and fill the nests. Some pretty amazing moments happen as you are expecting the hit from a 3-pound to 5-pound male and instead get slammed by a ten pound plus Female Black Bass. If you recover from the rod bending take and get to play the fish for a while, it can make your spring time.

Many of you do not realize that the fall season can be just as exciting. As the water cools, the big fish come shallow following the bait fish. The bait fish, the Lunker Bass main food, are shallow and feeding to get ready for winter. This is a progressive activity. As the water cools, the bait fish



migrate from the deep cooler water of the main lake structure to the shallows of the main-lake flats and feeder streams.

As fly Rod specialists, we are best equipped to fish the shallow water with streamers and such delivered in horizontal presentations. Since the bass are migrating, you need to have a more searching approach, rather than hammering the points where the feeding Bass have been in the mornings since April. Shallow running and noisy flies like Dahlberg Divers, as well as classic minnow imitations like Clouser Minnows will do it for you. If you come on some minnows jumping and stirring up a fuss, you are in luck. It is probably caused by Bucket-Mouth pinning a school of minnows to the ceiling and then attacking them.

As the water continues to cool, the minnows go more shallow and more up the feeder creeks and streams. The Bass will follow. So should you. Our Texas Bass are unique, strong and numerous. Don't forget to fish for them in this best time of the year.

So fish those points and watch the temperature on those flats. As you see the numbers dropping more towards the 70's, it is time to do some searching. Work those flats with a high spot in it. Watch for signs of

feeding in shady areas. By the time that you are seeing a lot of 60 morning temperatures, you also should be catching big Bass in big numbers.

So your season is on and you are into good fish. What more can you ask? Well, I might have a great deal for you. How many of you know about the TPWD Angler Recognition Program?

An elaborate set of options is available. In the TPWD Fishing Awards page at [Fish Records and Awards \(texas.gov\)](http://Texas.gov) a smartly written downloadable brochure can be found and downloaded into your web browser page. It has everything you need. The awards range from recognition of a Junior Angler's First Fish to Texas Statewide Records. The awards are by water body, with the best of the best being the State-wide Record by species. We will concentrate on Fly Rod Records, but I have no objection if your spouse or youth angler in the family fishes with other tackle.

So, working up from the most basic, there is an application for a First Fish Award, for your junior angler's first catch to get an award. This



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does not require a picture of the fish, but it would be nice to have on your application. You just fill out the Award Application Page from the TPWD Brochure that I mentioned above. Mail it in, and in a few weeks, your young angler will have a great looking certificate to frame for his wall.

The next level up in complexity are a series of awards that just need a picture of the fish on a measuring device and a completed application. They are;

**Records by Length**

**State Catch and Release Records** for the catch and live release of the longest fish of a qualifying species from Texas public waters.

**Catch and Release Water Body Records** for the catch and live release of the longest fish of a qualifying species from a public water body.

- Rod & Reel - longest fish of a species caught by any method of rod & reel fishing.
- Fly Fishing - longest fish of a species caught by fly fishing methods using artificial flies.

**Elite Angler Award** - a lifetime achievement award for catching five different trophy class fish in the freshwater or saltwater divisions

**Big Fish Award** - for catching a trophy class fish of a qualifying species.

The Big Fish Award is for a fish of a particular species that exceeds a certain length. This is the list of fish species and the required lengths for Big Fish.

**FRESHWATER SPECIES**

Species	Min. Length	Species	Min. Length
Bass, Guadalupe	14 inches	Catfish, Blue	36 inches
Bass, Hybrid Striped	25 inches	Catfish, Channel	30 inches
Bass, Largemouth	21 inches	Catfish, Flathead	45 inches
Bass, Smallmouth	18 inches	Cichlid, Rio Grande	9 inches
Bass, Spotted	16 inches	Crappie, Black	15 inches
Bass, Striped	35 inches	Crappie, White	15 inches
Bass, White	15 inches	Gar, Alligator	72 inches
Bluegill	10 inches	Gar, Longnose	50 inches
Buffalo, Bigmouth	30 inches	Gar, Spotted	42 inches
Buffalo, Black	30 inches	Sunfish	10 inches
Buffalo, Smallmouth	32 inches	Trout, Rainbow	15 inches
Carp, Common	30 inches	Walleye	25 inches

So far, so good, right? Just catch the fish, take a picture that is clear and shows both the

length and the species clearly. Fill out the application and mail it in.

I suggest that this level of records by length are simple to document, and plentiful. With record level all the way up to The Elite Angler Award, you have quite a range of accomplishments. It is unnecessary to get involved in the length and weight records unless you want to. The Bell Family who have over a dozen IGFA records can tell you how challenging that can be, so if you want to go there, be my guest.

Next up in complexity are the records shown above, with the added complexity of;

**Records by Weight**

**State Records** for Public Waters

- Rod & Reel - largest fish of a species from Texas public waters by any method of rod & reel fishing.
- Fly Fishing - largest fish of a species from Texas public waters by fly fishing methods using artificial flies.

**State Records** for Private Waters

- Rod & Reel - largest fish of a species from Texas private waters by any method of rod & reel fishing.
- Fly Fishing - largest fish of a species from Texas private waters by fly fishing methods using artificial flies.

**Water Body Records** (public waters only)

- Rod & Reel - largest fish of a species from a particular Texas public water body by any method of rod & reel fishing.
- Fly Fishing - largest fish of a species from a particular Texas public water body by fly fishing methods using artificial lures.
- All-Tackle - largest fish of a species from a particular Texas public water body caught by any legal method, excluding nets.

These last sets of records require access to a certified scale. This makes them more difficult to document, but the nice thing about this program is that so many records can be applied for with just a clear picture of the fish on a measuring device and a completed application form. Below is a direct copy of the

brochure on how to be part of this great program.

**How To Participate**

1. Be prepared. Review the program rules, check the current records, and secure an official application form. Page 3 of our [downloadable brochure](#) (PDF 587.4 KB) is an application form that anglers can fill out electronically, print, sign and send. The blank form can also be printed and filled in by hand.
2. Locate certified scales before the trip, especially for larger species of fish. A [list of official weigh stations](#) is available on this website if you are going for a record that is by weight.
3. Catch your trophy!
4. **Measure** the fish.
5. **Take several photos.** Photos are required for Catch and Release Record, State Record by Weight, Water Body Record and Big Fish Award applications. Photos of other outstanding catches are welcome. Digital photos [submitted by e-mail](#) are preferred, but applicants may also send prints by mail. We cannot accept photos on physical media such as thumb drives, CDs or DVDs. Video recordings will not be accepted in lieu of photographs.
6. Submitted photos become the property of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. High-quality photos may be chosen for display on the Angler Recognition website and at TPWD locations and events.
7. If weight is required for your award category, [weigh the fish](#) on certifiable or legal-for-trade scales within three days of the catch date. If the scale is not currently certified by the Texas Department of Agriculture, the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) or a commercial scales calibration company, the applicant will have 30 days from the weigh date to have the scale certified.
8. Complete the Angler Recognition Award application and submit within 60 days of the catch date. Applications for State Catch and Release Records and State Records by weight require the signature of

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a notary public. The 60-day limit will be waived for catches recognized as world records by the IGFA.

9. Allow 6 to 8 weeks to receive your certificate.

### General Rules for All Award Categories

1. The fish must be legally caught in Texas waters.
  - Exception: For Gulf of Mexico water body records, eligible catches may be taken from both state and federal waters. Please note **game fishes** in state waters may be taken only by pole and line. In federal water, legal means for these species include spear guns.
  - Anglers submitting spear gun records from federal water must include GPS coordinates (latitude/longitude) of the location where the catch was made.
2. An Angler Recognition Award Application form (PWD BR T3200-349B) completed by the angler must be received by TPWD within 60 days of the date of

catch. The 60-day limit will be waived for catches recognized as world records by the International Game Fish Association.

3. The fish must be caught while obeying all laws or regulations governing the fish species and the waters in which it was caught. Check **license requirements and fishing regulations** before going fishing.
4. Only one person may catch the fish (except for netting or gaffing the fish to bring it into the boat or onto shore).
5. The fish must not have contained anything (including electronics or other tagging devices) to assist in locating the fish.
6. Deliberate falsification of any application will result in disqualification. All existing records will be removed and future applications from the angler will not be considered.
7. TPWD reserves the right to review, investigate, reject, disqualify, or accept any application submitted or any award granted. In case of disputes, the decision of the Angler Recognition Awards Program Committee will be final.

### For more information, contact:

Inland Fisheries • (512) 389-4444 • [anglers@tpwd.texas.gov](mailto:anglers@tpwd.texas.gov)

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department • 4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744.

So here you are with an easy program to get a Texas Fly Fishing Record that will take a lot less effort than most of the records. You can do records that only require the length and a clear enough picture to be certain of the species. Since these are for the most part Catch and Release Record by water body, there are literally hundreds of available slots in the state record book. Go get me a few of them.

Things are looking good for we fly fishers. There are literally hundreds of records that at this writing are blank slots. We north Texas Fly Flingers need to be ready to exercise our big fish, document them and enjoy the records.

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

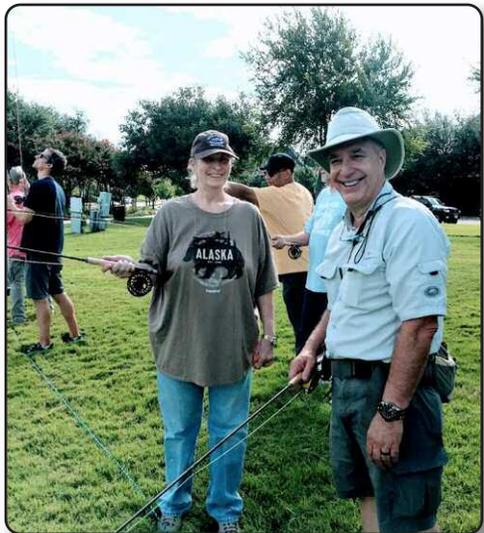
— Jere



## The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

Dr. Lou was teaching fly fishing skills on his development's ponds. His generosity and hard work have introduced many to our sport. Here are some of the most recent ones.



The instructors taking a break. We usually tie a few flies while we are here. It goes over well with the public.

Then we got an opportunity to fly tie with Kimberly and the DIVA-WOW group. Jere was not there, due to self-isolation with the second round of that nasty COVID thing. Dan Montayne covered for me very well, as expected.

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True beginners, using DFF gear and learning fast while having fun.



This is the experienced side of the room, all good and all valuable to the club.



I include this one just because I am the picture of concentration. We two are in the instructor ranks for these, and if not enough beginners show up we get to just relax and tie flies.



Here is Jim Crump on the left and Dave Smith working with a fly tier that I instructed on a prior Tuesday. I got to teach him the first session, and I would judge that he is quite skilled in basic techniques, and just needs the practice and instruction on details. In any case he is having fun.

We had a slightly slower day than usual, so more of you need to come to these. A notice gets E-mailed so you won't miss that the next one is October 19th.

We also had an outdoor class at LLELA. It was a bit smaller than we like, but good students got a lot of personal attention from our highly motivated staff of Instructors. Here is the class picture.



October promises to be busy and fun.

The first weekend leads us to the two-day class with DBU. Both days will be on campus, and while we are looking forward to some outdoor time, it is not yet safe enough in Jere's opinion to go to an off-campus outdoor adventure. So Monday and Tuesday we will meet in the Halliday Classroom. Talk to Jere about being one of the instructors on Tuesday for the Casting and Fishing.

On Monday is the club October Meeting and there will be fly tying at 5 PM followed by the meeting at 7 PM.

Then on Thursday, October 7th, will be a repeat of the Latham Youth Camp Fishing trip that was so much fun this last spring.

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.

October 19th, a Tuesday, will be the next Dan Montayne Warm Water Fishing Technology at the Cabelas in Allen.

On Wednesday the 20th is the Stevenville High School Youth fly fishing at the TFFC. We will need quite a few helpers for this one. See Richard Johnson about helping here.

Then Saturday, the 23rd of October is another LLELA fly fishing class, and a chance to be a certified Angler Education Instructor if you wish. See Richard about this one as well.

The fly tying follow-up meeting at Dan's on August 28th also was fun. No pictures though.

The week from September 11th to 18th some family outings to the Cotter AR area had a dozen or more all over from the Tailwaters of Lake Tanycomo to the Mountain Home AR area. This trip has a trip report in our Newsletter, and great pictures. It was such great fun that the 2022 version is already tentatively set for April 11th to 16th, 2022. I received an e-mail that they had so much fun, they want to go again, but this time in the spring trout spawn.

That same week kicked off a huge array of classes and fun events. The Tuesday fly tying is led by The Roadkill Roundtable on second and fourth Tuesdays and by Den Montayne on the third Tuesday. Every Thursday up to early November is a Fly Fishing Learning Class taught by Dutch and his materials from the FFI Learning Center. These classes are great.

Dan's Fly Fishing Seminar on the third Tuesday went very well again. Here are the pictures from September 21st.



This is Jim Woodman teaching three students that have been to every fly-tying session so far.

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## The Activity Report

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After all that, I am ready to hope that we are getting the outdoor world going again. Wouldn't that be great?

Do not miss out on the FFI Virtual Expo November 5th-7th. Sign up now to get anything you like in the best classes. There are well over 100 classes and sessions with a huge percentage of them free with your registration. Look in the Calendar for the Internet Link.

This is what the FFI wants to do instead of a big face to face convention in Montana. I agree, so go to the link and see what there is available still.

From the looks of our calendar, we still have a few events coming up. The club can continue to help with the list of these on-going projects. I will miss the many canceled items on our menu of outdoor events, some of which we had

been doing for a decade. However small group fishing outings are still going on.

It is a tough life, but someone gets to live it. Best wishes for big fish and lots of them....

**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