

# The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ December 2021  
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FLY FISHERS  
INTERNATIONAL

## Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

As we come to the end of another year fishing together, I enjoyed reviewing all that the Dallas Fly Fishers achieved in 2021. Behind the scenes, the DFF Board succeeded in accomplishing many goals and supported one another through some difficult challenges. When **Al Hillman**, our 2020-2021 president, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly in early January, we navigated leadership roles, which in turn led us to examine our by-laws and 501(c)(3) status. In updating our by-laws and nonprofit operations, we evaluated our banking experiences and how the club could be better served by a different banking group, so we moved to a new financial institution. In wanting to share in camaraderie and seeing friends we missed during 2020, we moved to holding hybrid meetings—keeping our Zoom platform while simultaneously returning to in-person meetings. We continued our beloved outings to the Gannons and South Fork, CO and helped sponsor the Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival and the wonderful charities that directly benefit from LAFFF. We joyfully returned to educating others about fly fishing and fly tying, attending the Texas Fly Fishing and Brew Festival, working with groups at Dallas Baptist University, the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, public outreach at Cabela's in Allen, and sponsoring New Member fishing events. We participated in **Dutch Baughman's** and **Barry Webster's Fly Fishing Skills Classes** via Zoom, and we fished together at monthly outings to destinations within and outside of the Metroplex. We also became an Amazon supported charity through <https://smile.amazon.com/>. It has been fun being active together!

Four of the biggest decisions the DFF Board made concerned our meeting locale, a 2022

auction, membership dues, and the annual Holiday Party. Typically, the DFF holds its fundraiser auction every even year in March or April. Due to the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, the DFF did not hold an auction in 2020, which meant our 2021 treasury operated from our 2018 auction fundraiser income and current membership dues. The immediate issue became our meeting locale. The hotel industry changed their business model and operating standards almost overnight, and new ownership meant new contracts at doubled price points. A search committee worked diligently to find a comparable hotel within the same geography and at our 2019 budget. Embassy Suites Park Central came the closest to achieving all our parameters. It didn't work for our needs, though, especially since it sold, and we had to rely on another new management to honor pricing from the previous management group. In the DFF's 49 years, we have met at the Filter Building on White Rock Lake, the Addison Conference Center, REI (old location at 635 and the Tollroad), the Wyndham/Sonesta Suites, and Embassy Suites. With membership dissatisfaction at Embassy Suites, we recognized it was time to abandon the hotel industry as our meeting locale, so we searched again. Implementing membership demographics, we chose the First United Methodist Church Richardson as our proposed new meeting locale for November and Monday 10 January 2022. When our Meeting Location Survey results are tabulated, we will know whether or not we will continue meeting at FUMCR in 2022 or continue searching for a new meeting locale.

We decided for 2022 we would hold our auction, but as COVID variants created spikes and new cases, we debated how to hold

the auction—in-person or on-line. As COVID vaccinations increased and cases declined, we made the decision to seek a venue and hold our auction fundraiser in person. We secured the Plano Event Center as our auction locale and want to see you and your friends at our auction fundraiser on Monday, March 7th beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Though we have been fiscally prudent while being active and serving our members and community, we examined our membership dues and our Holiday Party expenditures. We voted to maintain the 2022 membership dues at \$36.00 and asked the membership to cover more of the cost to attend the Holiday Party. Analyzing how the club subsidized the Holiday Party from 2017-2019, the increase in price to host this one event was becoming counterintuitive. Club expenditures were: 2017—\$4,662.57; 2018—\$4,166.03; and

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## DFE Board 2021

### President

Julia Bell  
flyfishrgrl@gmail.com

### Vice-President

Jack Gillis  
214-718-4910  
JackGillis@outlook.com

### Past President

Jack Janco  
C-214-542-1738 H-972-542-8692  
jackjanco@sbcglobal.net

### Treasurer

Steve Jackson  
steve@vantexholding.com

### Secretary

Jim Woodman  
lakebud002@gmail.com

### Trustee 2022

Dave Shatzer  
972-571-7622  
dshatz86@gmail.com

### Trustee 2023

Lajan Barnes  
nlbarnes@aol.com

### Trustee 2024

Jim Latschaw  
jimel312@hotmail.com

### Auction Chairman

Finny Khan  
finny76@gmail.com  
Dave Shatzer  
972-571-7622  
dshatz86@gmail.com

### Casting Instructor

OPEN

### Conservation

Jere Anderson  
972-618-6714  
jaand75023@cs.com

### Education Coordinator

Richard Johnson  
469-877-0695  
rljgj@hotmail.com

### Event Photographer

Bob Bender  
rebender\_1@verizon.net

### Fly Tying Coordinator

Dan Montayne  
montayne@verizon.net

### IT Specialist

Jeff Ziehm  
214-202-2826  
jziehm55@gmail.com

### Membership

Mike Becker  
kuduguy@verizon.net  
Dave Shatzer  
972-571-7622  
dshatz86@gmail.com

### Newsletter Editor

Jere Anderson  
972-618-6714  
jaand75023@cs.com

### Outings Coordinator

Jim Woodman  
lakebud002@gmail.com

### Programs

Lajan Barnes  
nlbarnes@aol.com

## DFE Speaker Details

### New Meeting Location.

The Dallas Flyfishers regular meetings are on the first Monday of the month. We have moved to a new location. Starting with this November, our meetings will be at the First United Methodist Church Richardson, at 503 N. Central EXPY, Richardson, TX. The Tying will be at 5 PM, with the General Meeting at 7PM.

### January Meeting is our 50th Anniversary Meeting

featuring Dave Whitlock who spoke at our first Meeting. Due to New Years, the meeting will be January 10th.

While it is hard to believe anyone does not know and respect the Whitlock Family, Dave is going to speak at our 50th Anniversary Meeting. He also was the program for the first formal meeting of the club, so this is quite a milestone. Dave Whitlock books and art work is too good to not own some of it. His beautiful coffee mugs and paintings are some of the best anywhere. Be sure to be at this one.



### February Meeting Speaker is Landan Meyer.

Landon Meyer's angling success is fueled by an addiction to pursuing selective quality trout on the fly. Mayer

enthusiastically teaches and demonstrates his techniques and on-river knowledge to fellow anglers and has developed innovative strategies for sighting, hooking, and landing selective trout. He shares these tips and secrets in his books *101 Trout Tips: A Guide's Secrets, Tactics and Techniques (new for 2015)*, *Colorado's Best Fly Fishing, Sight Fishing for Trout (Second Edition)*, and *The Hunt for Giant Trout: 25 Top Locations in the US to Catch a Trophy*, in addition to a new instructional video *Mastering the Short Game (www.mastertheshortgame.com)*.



Mayer is a contributing writer for *Fly Fisherman* and *High Country Angler* magazines. His contributions also have been featured in publications such as *Fly Fusion* and *American Angler* magazines.

Mayer has been guiding in Colorado full time on the South Platte River for the last 21 years, and one full season on the Nak Nek River in AK. He resides with his wife, Michelle, and their four children in Florissant, Colorado.

— Jack Gillis

Program Chairman, Dallas FlyFishers

## Fishin' Tales

(Continued from page 1)

2019—\$5,151.51. COVID cancelled the 2020 Holiday Party. This year, the Sonesta Suites base room rate for the ballroom was \$4,000.00, and the meal rate increased while the menu options and quality were significantly reduced. The Board felt that moving the party out of the hotel industry and raising the member cost to attend were responsible and necessary for the overall club operation and treasury. We look forward to sharing festivities with you at this year's Holiday Party on Sunday the 5th of

December at 6:00 p.m. at Vila Brazil Steakhouse.

It has been our pleasure to serve you, and we are excited about 2022, our 50th year! Our calendar already contains many events and activities, and we look forward to meeting your fly fishing needs with quality programs, outings, and volunteer opportunities.

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

—Your DFE Board

# Save the Date!

Finger foods, Cash bar

50 Years 50 Years

Live Auction, Buy It Now, Silent Auction, Raffle

## Dallas Fly Fishers Fundraiser Auction

Monday, March 7, 2022, 5:30–8:30 pm

Plano Event Center

2000 E Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano, TX 75074

\$10 Admission (Free, if you bring a friend)

Orvis 5 wt. H3 Rod

Fishing Kayak

Full-day Guided Trips to: Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Texas Gulf Coast

Lifetime DFE Membership

## 2021 CALENDAR:

**December 5th** - Our beloved Holiday Party. *See below.*

### 2022

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

**January 10th** - The meeting to celebrate our 50th year as a Fly Fishing Club. This Historical Meeting will feature Dave Whitlock, our speaker at the first meeting.

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

**February 1st** - February DFF Meeting. Our speaker will be Landon Mayer.

**February 4th-5th** - 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. At the Plano Center in Plano, a great location.

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

**March 24th-26th** - Sow Bug Roundup, Baxter County Fairgrounds, Mountain Home AR.

**March 26th** - Instructing the Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge at the TFFC. Lots of help needed.

**April 5th** - The April DFF Meeting.

**April 9th** - Gannon Ranch spring wildflowers and fishing. If Spring occurs on schedule, this is the greatest outdoor event of the year. Sign-ups required.

**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).

**April 28th** - Third outing to the Latham Springs Encampment in Aquilla, Texas. The outing costs will be \$8.00 per person, since we are renting this facility for the day. The two previous trips fished well.

**May 3rd** - The May Meeting of the DFF. Robert Younghanz is our speaker, and a possible on the water weekend entomology class may get planned.

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

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

**June 6th** - June Meeting featuring our Rex Walker on the subject of a Fly Casting Clinic.

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

**July 11th** - The July Meeting featuring Bill Sargent and a Fly-Tying tie-along.

**July 16th-23rd** - Joint DFF / FWFF Colorado Outing. The DFF part is coordinated by Jeff Ziehm.

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

# 2021 DFF Holiday Party

**Date:** *Sunday December 5, 2021*

**Where:**

**Time:** *6:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.*

**Activities:** *Dinner, Raffle,*

*Silent Auction, Officer Induction*

**Cost:** *\$50 per person, **Pre-pay only!** Pay on -line via the [DFF website](http://DFF website), by check, or in-person at November meeting*

**Registration deadline:** *November 30th; no day-of sales will be made*

**Contact:** [dallasflyfishers@gmail.com](mailto:dallasflyfishers@gmail.com); Jeff Ziehm 214-202-2826;  
Julia Bell 214-980-9978

Vila Brazil Steak House  
518 Arapaho RD, Ste. 133  
Richardson, TX 75080



Keep Top portion; mail in bottom portion with check

## 2021 Dallas Fly Fishers Holiday Party Registration

**Attendee Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to:**  
DFF Holiday Party

**Mail form and check to:**

**DFF Holiday Party**  
8349 Club Meadows DR  
Dallas, TX 75243

# Letters From the Editor

by Jere Anderson

## The year in review.

This is our 50th year as an organization of Fly Fishers, and we have had a very full year in the Dallas Flyfishers. It had gotten very full this fall as our usual opportunities to teach and to fish seem to be returning. In this Newsletter, each of the Project Leaders is encouraged to expound on their program, and to encourage the many of you that are not as active to take part in more of our Club's very full plate of knowledge, fun, and comradery. You do not need to take on the burden of a committee chairmanship or an elected officer to be an active part of our programs. The more than 50 of us will be glad to have you join us as the ranks of the active members. About half of us take part actively in Education, Fishing, Fly Tying, Outings and Community Service. That is great and your Board is proud of you.

We have a lot of club members who volunteer to be part of worthwhile Community activities other than the ones we sponsor. Veterans support groups, Women's Groups, Youth Outdoor Experiences groups, and the like. Conservation is big on our agenda as well and has been for the entire roughly 30 years I have been the Conservation Officer in this Club. Look at the Calendar and you will find more than an event a month for you to be part of. With the return of our historically great events like Sow Bug, Scouts, and DFF Outings there are too many great things going on to totally miss such an opportunity.

An important item coming back in 2022 is our great Fund Raiser Auction. It has silent and bidding auction items, raffles, and some food. **DO NOT MISS THIS ONE.** A flyer for this is in this Newsletter. It is held as our March Meeting. With it being canceled for health and safety reasons for two years, we really need your support. Fun, food, and some great items you need to have. Don't miss it.

Talk to other club members at the meetings, or FB post to any of the Board Members or call us. My phone number in the Newsletter is an old-fashioned land line and it has a secure recorder on it. Leave me any kind of message you wish about getting involved. Please state your name and what you are interested in, so I can figure out who and how to answer.

## Education

This is a big one for the DFF. Combined with Outreach, **Richard Johnson** and about 80 other DFF Members who are Certified Angler Education Instructors are keeping busy. If you have not volunteered to teach something in one of these courses, you should take that as a goal for 2022. When life is not being inhibited by various restrictions due to the medical issues, we teach two or three times a month. There is plenty to do, so be a joiner and take part. At most of these we figure out how to add certifying you as an Angler Education Instructor, but that is not required to take part. Becoming a Certified Angling Instructor, the Boy Scout Instructor, is also easy.

Just look at the Calendar, and you can see that we need a lot of volunteers for Education. Contact Ricard Jonson whose contact information is on the sidebar on page 2, and he will get you involved.

## Fly Tying

When I joined the DFF roughly 30 years ago, we had some of the best fly tiers on the planet teaching and enjoying hanging out together on weekends. A lot of the momentum in fly tying has been lost in the last couple of years as stores would no longer let us gather there. This year **Dan Montayne** thought up a once a month seminar where our fly tying enthusiasts could gather and learn from each other. On the third Tuesday the group meets in the Cabela's Conference Room in Allen TX, and two members of the group explain their favorite warm water fly, how to tie it and how to fish it. The group is for everyone from beginner to expert, and an article is available in this newsletter.

This group is growing, so reserve a place in it. We have gone from two rows of tying tables to three rows. If we keep growing, we may need to come early and knock out a wall to seat everyone. If you have a place reserved and can't be there, please call Dan, as we may have someone else that wants to attend but there isn't room for them. This is a unique idea, and **Jere** is very glad to be one of the ground floor fly tiers in this event. Give it a try. Even if you are intimidated by tying in a crowd of experienced tiers, please come and see what fun it is. We have some of the Club's

tying equipment, so don't worry about tool kits and the like.

We just had our last session of Dan's Warm Water Information Exchange. I am fully behind us getting this going again in 2022. In fact I have already been asked about a couple of flies that I wanted to do. Don't miss the chance when signups begin in January.

## Outings

Our adventures in the great Outdoors are getting going again. They seem to be in three flavors.

First on our FB page are lots of notes with questions about how and where to fish for certain species in certain times of the year. Keep this up and add your adventures as well. Many of these posts are obviously from relative novices, and we have lots of experienced members who seem ready and able to help the less experienced fly fishers with the question to find an answer.

Secondly, and my favorites, are the posts and E-mails about group activity. They typically are a dozen or so Fly Fishers going to meet at some good fishing spot to fish and then to have their sack lunch and tell stories about the fishing. Whether the club organizes these or someone just posts that they are going and I will see you there, phone if you have questions. This is a great outdoor opportunity. Some of these are fly fishing contests where lots of great Fly Fishers compete, and they offer lots of prizes and frequent DFF winners at some level. Others like Sow Bug, Trout Fest, and many more are an easy way to get some fishing in with a lot of really fun club members.

The most elaborate outings are when a group of families camp some where and then fish the local waters. We have a couple of these going to AR. We have a joint Outing with the FWFF going to Southfork CO that is an old established tradition.

These are the top of the ladder, and if you can go, be thinking about it. Each of these are in the Calendar and the name(s) of the host family that will answer your questions.

**Jim Woodman** and **Julia** seem to be the momentum behind this, though the turnouts

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## Letters From the Editor

(Continued from page 4)

are not very big yet. In this Newsletter is an article by **Jeff Ziehm** about the return to Samuell Farms Park. It wasn't that long ago that we taught Scouts there. My Employer had a company picnic there as well, but then it dropped off the Dallas City Budget. Perhaps we can get this location back to being supported in the city budget.

Jim also has a fishing site near his home in McKinney and offers to have a fishing event there. Watch for them.

### Conservation

We are at a high point in Conservation. The plans I was involved in as part of the Water Board have resulted in two Dams going in and forming two new lakes that promise to be possible fly-fishing locations. One Dam is filling. I hope to be able to work with Inland Fisheries as they become operational and ready for the public.

The world of warm water fisheries in our end of the USA is reputed to be the biggest in the country. An almost endless array of projects and opportunities to support this abundance

is open to all the Clubs in the Texas Council of the FFI, as well as the DFF.

With major new lakes going in, and the Inland Fisheries people expanding the number of Hill Country Streams populated with reproducing populations of our State Fish, there is just too much going on in Texas to not be able to find something that excites you.

Of course, the stream team water monitors, the Earth Day trash pickups, and an abundance of projects are available that are part of our national Efforts to protect the planet. I would very much like to have a lot more information available on Urban Fishing waters. How about finding some good spots and then letting me put them in The Leader? Don't forget that Trout Stockings are beginning soon. I was raised in the West with wild trout, natural spawn, and all the great scenic locations. But these Trout are still fun to play with.

### In Summary

While we have been hampered by the dangerous new virus, we are getting our

momentum up again. Take steps to be safe, do not endanger anyone else, and get back in the game. The Outdoor Life is returning but being safe is more important.

The plans for 2022 are many, and a full slate of the great programs like we had in 2021 is coming along well. With big events returning, lots of fish to catch as the planter trout get going, and all the chances to pass our skills along to others in our Education Programs, we have a busy and important 2022 coming up.

Please finds something that you want to do, and I am sure that it will be there. Talk to your friends in the club and get one planned for yourself and others if you don't see the one you want. I personally want to see more Urban Fly Fishing. Have you got a favorite piece of water that you like and can fish it well? How about talking it over with a board Member. More fishing never hurt anyone.

**Have a great and active 2022.  
Best wishes for many Fishes.**

— Jere

## Outings in Review

by Jim Woodman

DFF members were able to get together for many enjoyable fishing outings in 2021, always taking care to heed COVID 19 protocols. Locally, members fished private and public ponds in the greater Dallas area. Several of these outings were part of fly-fishing education events for the students and the general public. These opportunities are a good way to share your knowledge of techniques while enjoying a day of fishing. Nothing more fun than watching a beginner catch their first fish on a fly. Outside of Dallas, there were the annual outings at Lake Athens (TX), White River (AK), South Fork (CO) and Hill Country (TX). For the coming year, we expect these and many more outing opportunities, please join us. Better yet, we encourage you to invite DFF members to join you at your favorite spot.



2021-2022 Trout Stocking Schedule:

[https://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/management/stocking/trout\\_stocking.phtml](https://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/management/stocking/trout_stocking.phtml)



## Rainbow Trout

### When to Catch

Rainbow trout prefer cold water and they survive only during winter in most parts of Texas. Trout stocking begins in late November or early December and continues until March.

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## Tying the FFI Award Flies with Jack Gillis

**Jack Gillis**, holder of the FFI Gold Level Fly Tying Award, is offering an online class learning to tie the flies needed to achieve the FFI Bronze Level Fly Tying Award, starting January 2022. Online classes will occur every 2 weeks. The first week will be instruction, with tie-along during the class, of a Bronze Level Fly. Each attendee will be able to tie

the fly, along with the instructor in class, and then practice for two weeks until the next class. During the second class each month, all attendees will again tie the same fly to measure improvement since tying the fly in the first class. This also provides an opportunity to tie the fly, formulate questions or challenges incurred, and to discuss during

the class. The online class will continue until all flies in the Bronze Level are tied. If interested in attending this free online class, please email [JackGillis@outlook.com](mailto:JackGillis@outlook.com) as soon as possible so you may be enrolled and placed on the distribution list.



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## Rex's Ramblings

by Rex Walker, FFI CI

Hello Everyone, this is my last newsletter article as DFF's casting coordinator, but I will continue to help people with their casting skills. I am just taking a break from the DFF board after being on it for the past seven years. I've enjoyed serving in this role and we've hosted a wide variety of casting events ranging from individual casting lessons to large group presentations covering both basic and advanced casting skills. With the help of the club's other casting instructors, we've tried to prioritize the people that are active in the club in our casting classes. I want to add a special thank you to **Rick Brown, FFI CI**, and **Jim Bass, FFI CI**, for their help. Without Rick's and Jim's support many of the club's casting events would not have happened.

So, what's next? As of this writing the club's casting role is open if you're interested in it. For me, I plan to continue teaching. I was offering small group casting lessons before I joined the DFF board and plan to continue offering them. The format will be similar with the sessions announced through email and the classes will be filled on a first response basis. If you are not on my email list (the one from

my Hotmail email address) and want to be added, just let me know and I'll add you. Unfortunately, the schedule will continue to be random and based solely on when I have a free Saturday and the weather cooperates.

I will continue to help at fly fishing events across the region including the Texas Fly Fishing and Brew Fest in Mesquite in February. This event is different than the more common local club and FFI sponsored fly fishing event formats, but I enjoy it. Multiple nationally known speakers attend this event. While some classes require an extra fee, you can get your money's worth from the included options and from the presentations at the casting pond. There is a lot of fly fishing information is available at this event. Some other upcoming events with casting opportunities include the Red River Fly Fisher's event at Eisenhower state park on Lake Texoma in January, TU's Troutfest in the hill country in February will have a large number of casting options, the Trinity River event in Fort Worth even offers a chance to fish in downtown during March, and Oktoberfisch just finished and will move to Kerrville in October. If you never been to a

fly fishing event, I encourage you to give it a try and attend one. They are great opportunities to meet other local fly fishers, learn a new skill, and maybe event learn a new fishing spot or two.

So, what is a good fly cast anyway? Personally, I don't think there is a "one size fits all" answer that defines a "good" cast. To me, a good cast is one that puts the fly in the right orientation and location needed for the spot you are fishing. Let's be honest, if the Stripers are surfacing on Lake Texoma 50 feet from the boat, a 30 foot cast will not catch any fish. But, a nice doubled hauled 80 foot cast will not catch anything either if the trout are 15 feet from your toes. Adjust your casting technique to match the conditions you are fishing. Learning additional casting skills will help you to become a more versatile fly fisher.

I encourage you to learn some of the non-standard casting styles such as the Belgium cast, the Reach cast, the Curve cast, the Pile cast, and there are many others. Then experiment with them on the water and I'll bet you'll have a successful day.

**Have fun!**



# A Force Awakens

by Dan Montayne, Fly Tying Coordinator

For the past fifty years, DFF has produced a host of fly tying legends that hang in mental portraits and emerge on the tongue tips of we who continue the tradition. DFF members proudly remember such pioneers as **Richard Blair, John Peteric, Malcolm Duke, Joe Myer, Harvey Stahl, Charlie Ducote, Clem and Barb Fullerton, Norm Goheen, Al Hillman, and Caroline Hill.** Thus, we hang their brocade hats on our club wall of artistic honor.

These people ushered in a movement and awakened a force to follow -- until the past two years. During 2020-2021 we swam around with masks, stood in line for vaccinations, and stayed at home for COVID safety. Many experienced cabin fever and personal mental stability -- or instability. Despite the restrictions, a few ventured out to meet in small, diverse groups to pursue their fly tying passion. Finally, group gatherings became a reality, and monthly events reemerged.







Cabela's Outfitters in Allen, TX offered a tying sanctuary on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Thankfully, that was a force awakening.

In June of this year, the concept of DFF fly tying artistry began again with the event "Go To Patterns" for warm water lakes and ponds. At each session, we introduced two patterns that were tied and tested by the artist. Participants received handouts with step-by-step photographs and a recipe list. A materials kit and instructions that explained "How to Fish It" were also provided.

The Force continued with a customer interest card designed and supplied by DFF and distributed at Cabela's. The fly fishing department offered both fly tying and introductory casting instruction sessions that were and are taught by DFF members. Wow! The leads started coming in and continue to this day. We have collected 18 requests for casting instruction. Fly tying numbers

continue to grow from 14 participants to 21, which is now near the conference room capacity.

Read what others have noted about these events.

-  "Renewed focus on fly tying for local waters"
-  "Open to all ages and experience levels"
-  "Usable Solutions - new tools, new waters, and new enthusiasm"
-  "Free Mentorships - seasoned teachers with valuable experience"
-  "Participation with conversations around: What to; How to; and When To"
-  "Thankfully, instruction that goes at my pace and not on YouTube"



## 2021 Education Report for the Dallas Fly Fishers (Texas Parks and Wildlife Angler Education Programs)

After a screeching halt to education activities in 2020 we learned how to zoom, wear masks, get shots and to kick start the education program into full swing in 2021. Volunteers were ready to get out of their houses to participate in the education of new fly fishers and remove the knots from our mothballed minds and equipment. We had some great classes in Coppell, Carrollton, Farmers

Branch, Castle Hills, DBU, and with the Stephenville HS kids at the Fisheries Center. We introduced 269 students to the wonderful sport of fly fishing in 9 scheduled events. Volunteer instructors provided 529 instructional hours to make the classes happen. We had fun and enjoyed the comradery with our great members.

-----**Richard Johnson**

The overall education program included many more classes and contributors. **Dutch Bachman, Barry Webster, Jack Gillis, Bill Slaughter, Paul Locklear, Dan Montayne, Jim Woodman, Rex Walker, Jere Anderson** and others conducted many hours of training during the year.



# Programs 2021

by Jack R. Gillis

2021 was a spectacular year with Dallas Fly Fishers for Programs and Speakers. We were fortunate, especially with Covid, to have the lineup that we did. Here's the roundup:

January was **Jeff Currier** presenting his topic Fly Fishing Warm Water - Bass, Carp, Pike, and More. Jeff is an "Ambassador" for Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures hosting exotic trips and exploring new destinations throughout the world. He has guided throughout Wyoming, Idaho and Yellowstone National Park and escorted fly fishers on six continents. Jeff has fished in sixty-two countries and caught over 420 species of fish on the fly!

February was the renowned **Landon Mayer** presenting Proven Trout Tips: Secrets, Tactics and Techniques for Quality Trout. Landon's angling success is fueled by an addiction to pursuing large trout with small flies and lightweight fly-fishing equipment. Landon shares these tips and secrets in his many books, including The Hunt for Giant Trout: 25 Top Locations in the US to Catch a Trophy, Trout Tips: A Guide's Secrets, Tactics and Techniques, Colorado's Best Fly Fishing, Sight Fishing for Trout, and How to Catch the Biggest Trout of Your Life.

March, **Pat Dorsey** with Fishing Western Waters. Pat Dorsey has been guiding for 30 years and spends well over two hundred days a year on the water. Pat authored the books, A Fly Fishing Guide to the South Platte River, Fly Fishing Tailwaters, Tying and Fishing Tailwater Flies

April, **Kevin Hutchison** Fly Fishing for Bass. He is the author of many articles on fly fishing in the Texas Hill Country, including the book Fly Fishing the Texas Hill Country, Fourth Edition, and frequently speaks on the subject to fly fishing groups across the state and country. He has introduced hundreds to the joys of fly fishing using the innovative casting instructional techniques he has developed. Kevin is a FFI certified casting instructor and former "Teacher of The Year" for the Southern Council of FFI.

May, **Jen Ripple's** partner, **Kurt Kopala** presented Fishing the Mighty White River. In 2010, he combined his passions of programming and fly fishing by programming a 'web based, page turning' app to display an online magazine called a Tight Loop Magazine. Today Kurt is the lead developer for DUN Magazine, an International digital/print fly fishing magazine.

June, **Chris Taylor** Secrets of Fishing the San Juan River. Chris has fished all over the world, and guided throughout the West, from Alaska to Colorado. Fisheads is recognized as an Orvis Guide Service of the Year.

July began our Summer Education Series with **Rex Walker** Useful Fishing Casts. 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.

August, **Dutch Baughman** Reading & Understanding the Water Column. Dutch is an avid and experienced fly fisher, Steelheader, and fly tier for over 60 years, a sport he genuinely loves. Dutch is heavily involved with Fly Fishers International as Vice President, member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Chairs the Education Committee, and the Learning Center. He was the 2019 FFI Fly Fisher of the Year, awarded the 2019 FFI President's Medal, and the 2020 Darwin Atkins Fly Tying Award. Dutch is a demonstration fly tyer for the FFI National Expo, Roadkill Roundtable, Northwest Fly Tyers Expo, Sow Bug Rendezvous, Fly Fest, and too many others to list. Dutch teaches Fly Fishing Skills I & II, at Tarrant Community College.

September was the last month of the Summer Education Series and featured **Barry Webster & Dave Etgen's** Fly Tying

Demonstration and Tie-Along. Dave Etgen is a renowned fly tyer with over 60-years tying and flyfishing experience and has tied at such places as the Sow Bug Rendezvous, among others. Barry holds the Bronze Award from FFI and has tied at national demonstrations including FFI National Expo, Sow Bug Rendezvous, and others.

October was **Robert Younghanz a/k/a The Bug Guy** presenting an outstanding entomology course. As an aquatic entomologist, a day on the water is primarily about learning. He is the host of the top-selling DVD, Entomology for the Fly Fisher, co-owner/director of the Colorado Fly Fishing Guide Academy and teaches classes on aquatic insects in Colorado and across the country.

November, the infamous **Chris Johnson**, owner/guide of Living waters Fly Fishing, probably the best fly fishing shop in all of Texas, presented his favorite subject Rio Grande Cichlids. Chris has been a licensed guide in Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, and Alaska, and has guided the Texas Hill Country for over a decade. He's an FFI Certified Casting Instructor, Umpqua Signature Fly Designer, pro team member for Whiting Farms, Scott Fly Rods, and Scientific Anglers. Chris is enthusiastic about film and photography and co-produced the short film "Unspoken," to raise awareness for Rio Grande Cutthroat trout conservation.

It was an outstanding year and 2021 will be hard to beat but I cannot wait to see what 2022 programs are in store for us!

*-Jack R. Gillis*  
Programs Director





# Samuell Farm Park Outing – November 13, 2021

by Jeff Ziehm

Our November outing was held on Saturday, November 13 at Samuell Farm Park. Samuell Farm Park is a City of Dallas Park in Mesquite, Tx on US 80, just east of I-635.

We had six attendees: **Julia Bell, Mike Becker, Bill Hutinsky, Jeff Ziehm,** and new member **Carolyn Craft.** Another member left early, and I did not get his name.



Historically, I have not had great luck warm water fly fishing in November, but everyone caught fish, including Bill catching his first fish on a new rod. Fish were a mixture of sunfish and small LMB. Some of the ponds provided casting room, while others allowed you to practice your roll cast.

There are 11 ponds on the property, 7 or 8 of which are fishable. A couple took a bit of bushwhacking to get to. We fished the western ponds in the morning, took a break for a community lunch on a picnic table under a tree, and then fished the eastern ponds in the afternoon. Overall, a fine outing.



The big lakes were clean.



And the fish reasonable.



## The Annual Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

This year saw the DFF continue to support the Stream Team that was keeping tabs on the health of Furnaux Creek in the nature area that is rapidly expanding along the Blue Line Bike Trail in Carrollton. I have been very pleased with the data. The DFF was the stream team for White Rock Creek in the early 1990's, and it is a lot to do.

We also taught the Entomology and fish health parts of the Angler Education Classes for TPWD. Our Outings have been good for keeping a handle on the state of the Spring Spawn, and the effects of the summer heat on our fishes.

I am still one of the recipients of the FFI Conservation Plan, updates four times a year.

It is 9 pages long and has a lot that we can help with. The Texas Council also has good suggestions for conservation activities.

My favorites are related to water issues and warm water fisheries. Our November Speaker was very interesting with his in depth analysis of the Rio Grande Cichlid, a native fishery that I had very little information about. Living in the Southeastern United States, we are in the area with the greatest variety and greatest numbers of fly rod sport fish in the nation.

Our TPWD Inland Fisheries Staff was awarded the Henshall Warm Water Fisheries Award in 2016. Their work since 1992 to save and recover the Guadalupe Bass, our state fish had been huge. Lots of opportunity to help with stream surveys, stream Clean-up

and restoration projects. I get asked by the FFI Conservation Committee for information on how these projects, and for that matter how the big picture is going.

I am now focused on warm water projects like getting more people involved in Black Bass Fly Rod Fishing for the 17 recognized species in conjunction with the FFI Conservation Group. This and the complete structure of big fish records in Texas is a good place for you to start. Catch them and enter them and then release them. The FFI calls it part of the Keep Fish Wet Program.

That and some Earth Day Projects are fun and good for our Outdoors. Another opportunity to get involved will come as Lake Bois d'Arc fills and the fish get up to a population where

*(Continued on page 10)*

## The Annual Conservation Corner

(Continued from page 9)

TPWD needs some experienced fly fishers to evaluate how it is coming along. The second new lake, Lake Ralph Hall, formed by Leon Hurse Dam on the North Sulphur River is also going to need monitoring. So far they have just broken ground for this second lake.

We are most worried about some of the invasive fish that would ruin the water recreation. The Hard Head Catfish that

jump as your boat goes by are in the Red River and a couple of others. We can help by calling in any sightings of strange fish either in the water or in boats live wells. We must NOT let these get to be widespread. Keep up with the Invasive Species page on the TPWD Web Site.

There is so much we can do without forming a big project, and even more if we find some

partners and offer to help Inland Fisheries with some project or another.

*Watch the Conservation Column for opportunities to help keep our Texas Natural World in good shape.*

 - Jere

# Happy Holidays!

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 Fly Fishers International? 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