

The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ March 2022
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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

The last stages of winter provide fly fishers some great opportunities. While our ground-water table receives some much-needed replenishing with unique, even if quite chilly, precipitation forms, we can tie flies to begin prepping our boxes for spring fishing. The odd, unseasonably warm days allows us the opportunity to field test our concoctions and patterns, and the return to the cold grants us a little more time to tweak and enhance our patterns. How very opportunistic of Mother Nature and fly fishing clubs!

While I was disappointed Mother Nature postponed the Red River Fly Fishers' **Red River Rendezvous**, I'm glad to see the rescheduled dates for March 4th and 5th at Eisenhower State Park. Weather didn't interfere with Texas' other winter fly tying festival hosted by the Texas Flyfishers of

Houston, the **Annual Dr. Ed Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival**. This was the last event Cody and I attended in 2020 before the pandemic shuttered and cancelled many beloved gatherings, and while 2021 saw its cancellation, for 2022 the festival was back on and at new location. Cody and I choose to spend our Valentine's at this event, arriving in town early so we can visit all the Houston-area fly shops on Friday collecting any materials we might "need," and on Saturday, we gather to tie flies, learn new-to-us patterns and tips, and visit with friends who we only see at this event. This year's headline speaker was **Jerry Coviello**, the FFI Fly Tying Chairman, whose quill session was outstanding! We enjoyed visiting with former DFF member **Jonathan Gonzalez**, **Guide Kevin Hutchison**, and San Antonio friends **Rita and Skip**. During the day, I was able to add three of **Pat Vanek's** suggested White Bass patterns in multiple numbers, and I'll be completing my White Bass fly collection at the Red River Rendezvous—just in time for our White Bass outing! I really appreciate the fly tying rendezvous because there is always something new to learn from some of the most generous people in our community.

The **DFF's Biennial Auction** presents another great opportunity to prepare for future fishing events, tying sessions, and fishing destination vacations while reinvesting in the club's education, conservation, and charitable

donation activities and mission. The pandemic cancelled our 2020 auction, but the Auction Chairs and their committees have been working enthusiastically to host a first-rate auction filled with trips, equipment, books, and supplies. Invite your friends and other fishy folk to attend our March meeting Auction at the Plano Event Center!

Our Board Members have been quite busy! If clicking the auction link was your first visit to the DFF website in a while, you may have noticed some changes. Our IT Chair, **Jeff Ziehm**, spent several weeks overhauling and updating our **DFF website**, and what a refined look Jeff achieved! Vice-President **Jack Gillis** compiled and e-mailed our 2022 survey to the membership. The survey is your voice to the Board and effects the decisions we make on behalf of the membership, so please take the time to submit your preferences. We have also begun a new member mentorship program to assist new members with aspects of the club that interest them. If anyone has any questions about the club, its programs or education, please reach out to any board member. We love to help you with your fly fishing obsession!

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

—Julia

President, Dallas Flyfishers

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DFF 2022 Program Schedule

by LaJan Barnes, Program Coordinator

We continue to have a great line up of speakers this year, as usual, so I hope that you will all plan to attend in-person meetings when you can and when they are possible. We will resume our in-person meetings April 4th. Please join us at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC) located along the access road between Arapaho and Beltline at 503 N US Central Expressway 1000 (Highway 75), Richardson, 75080, just north of Barlow's Tackle Shop on the east side of HWY 75. This location has ample parking and easy access to food between the tying session and the meeting.

Please add these dates to your calendar and support our great club! Reminder: fly tying begins at 5 PM, dinner break 6-7 PM for those that would like to get a bite to eat, and speaker presentation starts at 7 PM.

Recap of February's meeting:

Landon Mayer Fly Tying Workshop was a zoom only tying session. Although he had a small audience one of our members (Joan Swartz) said that it was it might have been some of the best money she's spent on a fly tying class. She said she learned so much and had the opportunity to ask lots of questions and discuss some other aspects of his book since there were only a few people that attended.

Landon's presentation during our February meeting was well attended. I think total count at one point was 52! He presented details from his new book: **Guide Flies: How to Fish Simple Patterns for Tough Trout**. Landon tied two flies, which he designed for Umpqua using step-by-step instruction and illustrations. We could not record this session because of the proprietary nature of the flies. Umpqua will release these flies to the public soon.

Future Meetings and Presentations:

March 7th 5:30-9:00 PM - Our In-person Auction is upon us! This is our biggest fundraising event of the year. The funds that we raise at this auction are paramount to the many charitable organizations, educational opportunities, scientific efforts, and opportunities associated with the sport of fly fishing. Without the generous support and donations of time and materials, and this auction, we as a club would be limited in our efforts. Come support the club with your generous bidding at the Auction! We will have live auctions, silent auctions, and bucket raffles. There will be light fair served while you mingle and bid, in addition to adult beverages beginning at 5:30 PM. Our auction this year will be held at the Plano Event Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano 75074.

April 4th - We continue to celebrate the DFF 50th anniversary. The very first speaker at the newly formed Dallas Fly Fishers in 1972 will be our featured speaker - **Dave Whitlock** accompanied by his wife **Emily**. Come at 5 PM to watch Dave tie a set of caddis emergers presented in the Trout Magazine. He will talk briefly about those flies and how to fish them and then have a storytelling, question and answer session during the meeting starting at 7 PM. Dave will bring some of his books, etc. to sell, and will sign them during the 6 to 7 PM break. Come and enjoy this auspicious occasion! Go to Dave and Emily's website to learn more: <https://davewhitlock.com>.

May 1 (Sunday) - Streamside Entomology Class by **Robert Younghanz**, an entomologist, aka, **The Bug Guy!** This streamside workshop will be limited to the first 20 to sign up. Arguably, the most common blind spot for the fly fisher is an understanding of aquatic insects, their lifecycles and habitat, which is the key to fly selection, catching more fish and having more confidence on the water. Robert will be conducting this on-stream entomology class for our DFF members at a nearby stream, on Sunday May 1st. The class will be about 2 hours long, and there will be time to fish after if you want.

Registration will be available soon on the DFF website. The fee is \$50/person, which includes the stream-side kit (needed to collect bugs) and it will be yours to keep. The kit includes 5-6 tools needed for hands-on collecting, which includes vials to store and keep your bugs, trays, scissors, etc.



Robert Younghanz, aka the Bug Guy

May 2nd - Our May speaker will be **Robert Younghanz**, a.k.a **The Bug Guy**. Robert is an internationally known Aquatic Entomologist, Fly Fishing Guide and Instructor. Robert has been involved in the Fly Fishing industry for close to 20 years. Having traveled to over 60 countries, he is an accomplished angler, teacher, and guide for fresh, salt, tropical and warm water species. His passion and expertise in the field of Aquatic Entomology has enabled him to travel the world collecting Insects, as well as studying, researching, curating, and teaching at Colorado State University, Front Range Community College, Pikes Peak Community College, and the Florissant Fossil Beds Seminar Series through Adams State University. Robert has been a guest lecturer across the Western United States on the topic of Aquatic Entomology and is a Master Fly Fishing Instructor. As a contributing writer to Field and Stream's **"Fly Talk"** with **"The Bug Guy"** Robert offers helpful advice on entomology and fly selection to fly fishers all over the globe. Also look for Robert's regular article: Hatch Happening: With The Bug Guy featured in Trout Magazine in every issue. Robert is a Simms Ambassador and Orvis Endorsed Guide and has conducted entomology classes for both Simms and Orvis guides at their national gatherings, as well as for Trout Unlimited and other local organizations across the country. Look for Robert on World Fishing Network, The Fishful Thinker, on Altitude Sports, on ESPN Radio and in **Rick Takahashi's, Modern Terrestrials**. Be sure and check out Robert's nationally bestselling 2 set DVD: The Bug Guy: Entomology For The Fly Fisher. Additionally, Robert is the owner and lead instructor of the Colorado Fly Fishing Guide Academy, www.cffga.com. For more information go to Robert's website: www.the-bug-guy.com.

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DFF 2022 Program Schedule

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June 6th - Rex Walker will provide an outdoor casting clinic. Location will likely be in a park in Richardson or nearby.

July 11th - Bill Sargent offers a fly tie-along evening.

August 1st - Dutch Baughman will provide his educational series.

September 12th - Capt. Stacy Lynn will be making a presentation on fly fishing in a saltwater environment. We hope to be able to offer a fee-based saltwater fly fishing workshop the weekend before. Stay tuned for details.

October 3rd - Charlie Craven, tentative.

November 7th - TPWD Night at the Dallas Fly Fishers. One of the topics will be the River Access Program given by TPWD staff **John Bostros**. We are in the process of securing our other TPWD speakers.

The TPWD's River Access and Conservation Areas Program (RACA) leases private streamside properties for public river access for fishing and paddling opportunities. Although currently there are no RACA sites established in the DFW area, there are sites on the Brazos and in East Texas. TPWD hopes by providing this talk to the Dallas Fly Fishers that it may lead to opportunities to develop new or improved river access sites in the DFW area. John will cover the highlights of the RACA Program.

December 4th - Christmas/holiday party. Location TBD.

2022 CALENDAR:

March 2nd - Stephenville High School at the TFFC. We need lots of help with this one, so come out and fish while helping a young person fish.

March 4th-5th - Red River Fly Fishers host the Red River Rendezvous, Eisenhower State Park. This is rescheduled from February.

March 7th - DFF Fund raiser Auction. At the Plano Center in Plano, a great location.

March 8th-9th - DBU Outdoor Experiences class, we teach the basic Fly Fishing Certificate and then take them fishing.

March 12th - TRWD Flyfest on the Trinity River in Fort Worth. This one is always a great time with lots to do.

March 19th - Coppell Basic Fly Fishing Class.

March 15th - Dan Montayne's warm water fishing and fly tying seminar.

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.

March 29th - A Sunday Basic Fly Fishing Class led by Johnny Martinez and Kiera Quam. Go to TPWD website, go to the calendar find fly fishing events. There you will find this event and a link to get registered. Attendees need to register on line in advance.

April 4th - The April DFF Meeting. **The Whitlock's** have agreed to give their Trout Fly Program, and have a question and answer session. What a great opportunity to interact with the great **Dave Whitlock**.

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. Home base for guides is Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher - theoarkflyfisher.com. Book early. For more information contact **Mike Becker**, 214-288-3885, kuduguy@verizon.net.

April 19th - Dan Montayne's warm water fishing and fly tying seminar.

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 2nd - 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 17th - Dan Montayne's warm water fishing and fly tying seminar.

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 - 9th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing. One of the great events in the DFF Year.

June 21st - Dan Montayne's warm water fishing and fly tying seminar.

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.

Our Annual Member Preferences Survey is available and Electronically Sent to You. Please Take the Time of submit your Opinions.

DFF Members,

Last year at this time your DFF Board conducted a membership survey to assist in improving the club. We are doing a follow up survey now to see how much we improved. Please click on the following link and complete the survey for this year no later than March 1, 2022:

FOLLOW UP SURVEY 2022:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeFIHnvUPkXWdf_JsoY7dGq1HcGphxnZ7sWNxlznHnlyS6zpw/viewform

*-Jack R. Gillis
Vice President*

2022 DFF Auction

It's almost here! The 2022 DFF Fundraiser Auction, which will be held Monday, March 7, 2022, 5:30-9:00 PM. Our new auction site is the Plano Event Center, 2000 E Spring Creek Parkway. Entrance fee is \$10, unless you bring a friend. If you bring a friend, it's FREE for both of you! Finger foods will be served along with a cash bar.

For those members new to DFF, let me describe how the Auction is set up. Tables are filled with lots of fly rods, reels, flies, fly tying material, books, and accessories. The Live Auction has 44 items and the Silent Auction has 180 items. Plus the Buy It Now table and Bucket Raffle have even more things. If you want a guided trip, this is a must-attend event, as we have trips in Colorado, New Mexico, Texas Gulf and White River, to name a few. All items, for both the Silent and Live Auctions, can be viewed starting at 5:30. Bidding on Silent Auction #1 ends at 6:45 and bidding for the Silent Auction #2 ends at 7:45.

Live Auction #1 is held from 7:00-7:30. Live Auction #2 will be from 8:00-8:30.

The Auction is so important for the club's overall revenues and this is amplified by the fact that we have not held the Auction for three years. We hope every DFF member will come and bring someone else. We want as much bidding competition as possible. For those of us, DFF members, the Auction should not be viewed as just a place to get a bargain. Every extra dollar that these items bring, goes directly to the club to augment all our activities and fund our outreach programs. So we need lots of fly fishers spending lots of money.

We have sent out the Auction Flyer and Auction Schedule, so share these with anyone you know who might be interested. There will be something there for everyone, so come at 5:30 and scout out your desired items and trips.

The Red River Rendezvous has been Rescheduled for March 4th and 5th, 2022.

The Red River Fly Fishers will be hosting their annual Red River Rendezvous fly tying Extravaganza on March 4th and 5th, 2022 at Eisenhower State Park on Lake Texoma.

Setup is 2:00 PM to 7:00 PM on March 4th. Dinner will be provided, bring your own drinks.

Activities 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM on March 5th. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided, bring your own drinks.

This event is a great way to kick off the year, tie a good inventory of flies, visit with old friends and make new friends. There is always a wide range of fly tying experience levels from beginners to FFI Silver Award tiers. It's a casual group with no set agenda, tie as much as you want, practice casting, or take your newest fly creation out on Lake Texoma, a World class striper fishery.

The fly tying is held in the Recreation Hall/Group Building inside the State park. Eisenhower State Park Map.

It is a nice facility with a full kitchen, heat, and restrooms. The state park has nice campsites including some full hookups for RV's. There are also several hotels in Sherman & Denison if you want to make a weekend of it.

If you have questions please contact us at rrflyfishers@yahoo.com.

Come on up and tie one on!

—Red River Fly Fishers



Our Website Has Been Completely Redone, and it looks GREAT!

Our Web Master, **Jeff Ziehm**, has been hard at work making our web site into a real work of art.

If you haven't visited the DFF website lately, check out the new design Jeff Ziehm created!



DALLASFLYFISHERS.ORG

—Dallas Fly Fishers



SAVE THE DATE • MARCH 12, 2022



TRWD
FLYFEST

EST 2016

FLY • WINE • DINE

25th Annual International Sowbug Roundup

March 24, 25 & 26, 2022

9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Mountain Home, AR
Baxter County Fairgrounds

Admission \$10.00 for all three days
Adults with kids 12 and under admitted free

Guests of Honor

Dave & Emily Whitlock

More than 150 Fly Tyers
Vast Variety of Vendors
Great Auctions and Raffles
Free Fly Fishing Seminars
Free Fly Tying Classes
Free Prizes for Kids

www.sowbugroundup.org
Sowbugroundup@sowbugroundup.org

Many of the Dallas Flyfishers go to this one. Dave Smith and I get there early and set up at the table across from the Whitlock Booth. Dave has won a prize in the fly tying contest and we all win stuff in the endless bucket raffles. Don't miss this one. Lots of reasonably prices Hotels in town, and some pretty good food.

-Jere

6th Annual DFF Fly Fishing Outing at Sunset Ridge Ranch

April 9, 2022

7:30 am to 1 pm

In rural Ellis County at the properties of
Jeff & Catherine Gannon & Family
1234 Sugar Ridge Rd
Ennis, TX 75119

Sign up with name and number of fisherpersons
via email to gannon.jeff@gmail.com or text 214-608-7507 or DFF
FB page

Bring your own camping chair and beverages. Bottled water will
be available. Social distancing will be observed by sitting apart
with your chairs. Wear a mask when appropriate.

Menu

Pastries and Coffee in the morning

A Chick-fil-A box lunch at noon will be provided.
Bottled water available or BYOB if you wish

Fishing Info

Easy fishing for beginners and as fish are close to shore so casting
expertise is not required.

3 Ponds totaling ~10-15 acres stocked with Bass(some 6# or more),
Panfish(some > 1#), and Catfish of ? weight.

Onsite transportation to/from ponds provided as needed.

Contact Jeff for directions if needed. Google Maps has proper location

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BASS ON THE FLY

TWO DIVISIONS

- *Boaters Division
- *Kayak Division



Catch & Release

\$70 per person

Saturday, May 7, 2022
6:00am-2:00pm

Jerry Walker (214)864-9443
www.bassonthefly.org

Bass Fishing
Tournament

Lake Fork Marina
275 Co Rd 1558,
Alba, TX 75410
(903) 765-2764

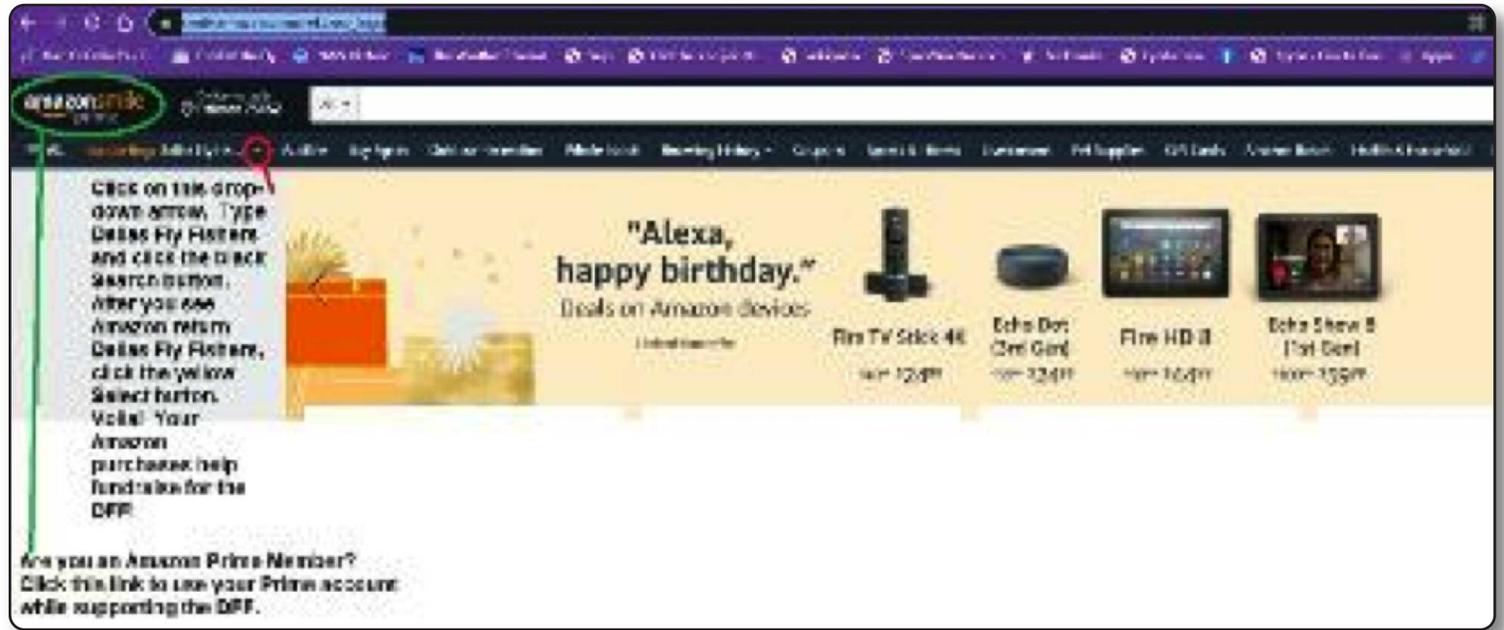
Benefits Reel Recovery &
Patriot Anglers of N. Texas

Registration & Payment:
ONLINE at www.lanjlertournament.com

Amazon DFF Fundraiser

One of the easiest ways members can volunteer with the DFF is through Amazon. If you shop on Amazon, either as a Prime Member or not, you can help the DFF fundraise. By designating the Dallas Fly Fishers as your favorite charity, when you shop on Amazon, Amazon donates .05% of your eligible purchases at no extra cost to you. To begin, you must shop Amazon at: <https://smile.amazon.com/>. It is easier to setup your supporting charity on a desktop or laptop than on your mobile device. (If you are a Prime Member, click on the amazon smile prime logo in the top left corner, circled in green on the photo.) In the menu bar, the second item listed is “Supporting.” Click the

drop-down arrow to the right of “Supporting,” and a new menu will appear that allows you to select your charity. Type Dallas Fly Fishers in the search bar and click the black Search button. Amazon will return a new page acknowledging your charity choice as the Dallas Fly Fishers. Click the yellow Select button to confirm your choice. Once you’ve established your charity, you can shop Amazon from any device, and every time you shop on Amazon at <https://smile.amazon.com/>, you are supporting the Dallas Fly Fishers fundraising efforts.



True Fly Size?

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

The following is my summation of numerous conversations covering the subject of dry fly hackle and how easily distorted the actual size can be when used for the classic and modern fly.

As the popularity of fly fishing continues to grow, so grows fly tying. This is expressed in the number of patterns, the swelling list of materials used, and the ever increasing number of tiers dressing flies. While news of new flies and new materials, natural and synthetic, arrives almost daily, many classic patterns still account for a fair share of fooled fish. That group could be labeled “Dry Flies.”

As with many so-called classics, tradition is a compelling force in the design, construction, and even the visual appreciation of the final replica. For generations, we have observed proportion, components, and application standards that demanded strict adherence in their construction.

One outstanding breach of these traditional steps has been the disregard for accuracy in the hackle size or diameter. Historically, this diameter has been related to hook measurements. Hook areas were measured in

shank length or hook gape, plus or minus the number of hook eyes, etcetera, etcetera. The published, long standing doctrine suggests that this diameter is to be 1 ½ x the shaft length or 3 x the gape.

Conversely, there are many cases of deliberate hackle size changes to the traditional sizing rules as with spiders, variants, and Wulffs. These are not considered here. Also, the un-ending number of expanded hook shapes, sizes, and weights has contributed to a broadening of excepted tolerances to long standing classic measurements. My question to you is this. Should we as tiers, invoke new standards or better define the application of modern hackle to achieve a near enough proportional pattern size? I feel the latter is a proper action toward answering the challenge.

What we don't think about when we dress dry flies is that the hackle winding application must start with the feather being applied around a bare hook shank. Simply stated, deviating from a bare hook thickness changes the finished hackle diameter and the true finished fly size. A further example of this is demonstrated by applying hackle over a thread

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True Fly Size?

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base or dubbed thorax. These layers of materials and windings will increase the hackle diameter by as much as a full pattern size or even two. Therefore, a size 14 fly just increased to a size 12, maybe a 10. Why is this important? If the fish are feeding on a size 18 and are offered a 16 or 14, the angler could experience a total refusal.

There is some light at the end of the tunnel. Try this. Acquire a standard hackle gauge. Measure the hackle for the selected hook size. Next, place the tailed and bodied hook with the hackle ready area on the same post.

Count the covered lines. Decrease the hackle size by the same number of lines. Now, the fly is as close as possible to a true size.

One last comment: When finished, a size 16 Cahill has mysteriously grown to a size 10 fly, tie it to a tippet and go fish. It's really not the size that matters. It's all about the fun and the academics acquired getting there.

My article reflects conversations and thoughts shared with Master Fly Tier Dave Brandt during our lifelong friendship.



The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

We have a 50th anniversary hat and pin for sale. Get one at the March Auction Meeting if you didn't get one already.



February had some high points and some cancellations.

My favorite, the Red River Rendezvous was moved from February and is now scheduled for March 4th and 5th.

The **Dr. Ed Rizzolo** Annual Fly Tying Festival in Houston was attended by a full house of North

Texas fly tiers. **Charlie Ducote** and I would go to this one, and Charlie would get us to a great Cajun Food Place. The posting on Facebook shows a good group of famous fly fishers from our Texas Council, and **Jerry Coviello**, the FFI's Chairman of the Fly Tying Group, was there as an invited and honored guest.



*Jerry Coviello
Chairman, FFI Fly Tying
Board of Governors*

I don't know how much about the history of Dr. Ed Rizzolo you know, but I am fascinated to learn that he and Jerry Coviello were both from the same New Jersey Fly Fishing Club at one time long ago.

Our very active **President Julia** was in Houston, and here is a picture of her tying at the Dr. Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival.



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The Activity Report

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Right after that, **Dan Montayne's** Warm Water Wisdom Class, that meets every third Tuesday of the Month had the wisdom of **Dutch Baughman**, the creator of the FFI Learning Center. He taught a good fly, and a lot of wisdom about tying.



As usual, it was a nearly full house.

The month closed out with the Trout Unlimited Troutfest at a campgrounds near New Braunfels. This is usually a well attended event, but the very erratic weather we were having may have scared off a few that would have liked to be there. Here is the Texas Council Both, thanks to **Russ Husted** for the picture. This is a big event for the national fishing conservation group.



The Fly Fishing and Brew Festival in Mesquite once again should have drawn a huge crowd. This one is my personal best hope for a really big National Level Fly Fishing show in Texas. Since this is on the weekend we format your Newsletter, I have no pictures.

So WOW, what a month. But you haven't seen anything yet. Our March Calendar has EVERY weekend with something in it, and a lot of weekdays as well. Go back to the Calendar page and pick a few you want to go to. March has such a long list of 14 days of good events. Help us get back in the groove again. Turn out for our events, and bring a friend or two.

The Stephenville High School trip to the TFFC that I wanted to be more like a club outing was moved to March 2nd. Here is a good chance to

get in some Trout Fishing. Just show up and help out where you can. What a deal, a fishing trip and a teaching opportunity.

The 4th and 5th of March are the reschedule dates for the Red River Rendezvous. A write-up is available on page three or so. Lots of fun folks from North Texas eating and fly tying and having a great time together.

The most important event is the Fund Raising Auction that is our March Meeting. It will be at the Plano Center, and everyone is invited. Never miss one of these. Too much good stuff is available. Our club has been careful with funds, but we have missed this event which is our usual major source of the funds to run the club with for a few years now. The pandemic canceled our last scheduled Auction, March, 2020, so that means our club has not had the vital Auction revenues for over three and a half years since the last Auction, August, 2018. Bring a friend and you both get in free. This will be huge and you will probably never see such a collection of things that need you to buy them ever again.

Then that Tuesday and Wednesday, the 8th and 9th, is teaching at Dallas Baptist University. The Wednesday part is planned as a Fly Fishing Trip to the TFFC. I love these, and the young adults that we get to work with are really great.

Now there are several things that you can go to and have a great time. The TRWD Fly Fest with wine and a fishing contest is next on March 12th. This is a great day in the warm sun of Springtime, if this crazy weather cooperates.

The biggest of the Southern Council's events, the Sow Bug Roundup in Mountain Home, AR, is on March 24th through the 26th. Contests and a big dinner party with prizes galore. Here is a picture from a prior one, and **Dave Smith** has won fly tying prizes here.



Two more chances to teach, on March 19th in Coppell, we again teach the Basic Fly Fishing Class. Then on March 29th, **Johnny Martinez** and **Kiera** are teaching a Sunday Fly Fishing Class. Go to the TPWD web site and find the calendar of fly fishing events. This is a must sign-up Class.

Another chance to go fishing in the TFFC is on March 26th, teaching the Boy Scout Merit Badge.

WOW, 14 days of Fly Fishing Events in the same month.

My personal hope is for our belligerent Spiny Ray Fishes to be nesting about the time you get this Newsletter. If every lake and pond you see has the round brown nest sites being guarded by a male fish, then for sure the spawn is in progress.

The migratory White Bass that we chased up the Nolan River last year will happen any time as well. Do not forget to fish the area where a spawning river and the lake it feeds meet. The White Bass cluster there for a short time waiting for the best opportunity to make their up-river spawning run.



You get the idea. In addition, opportunities abound to get involved in Angler Education. That is a big mission of the DFF and FFI. Spread the word, teach the skills, and create more active fly fishers. And many events are thee for you to go and enjoy the Springtime, if it comes again. Our fish are ready to challenge you and your fishing skills.

**Let's try to get 2022
off to a good start.**

-Jere



The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

Perhaps one of the top events in Conservation this Winter is the final filling of Lake Bois D'arc. The Dam is complete and with a little more rain, will begin to pump water to the Leonard Water Treatment Plant, which is also nearing final touches.

Here is the Lake.



Notice that the green dots are the boat ramps, which I think are still closed.

While the water level needs about 25 more feet, here is a good picture of the Dam Area. Do be aware that the last few feet will take as much water as the first 90% or so because the Lake will be spreading out over a much larger area. Note also that the Lake backs up to the Dam on Lake Bonham. Currently, as I write this, the new lake is at 509.51 feet above sea level. The planned Conservation Pool height is 534 feet. So we have a ways to go.



The attached Project Plan has a goal of completing the pipelines and being in the water business by summer. Full construction, and the transition to ongoing maintenance will occur in early 2023 if the schedule holds up. While it took from 2003 to 2018 to get the

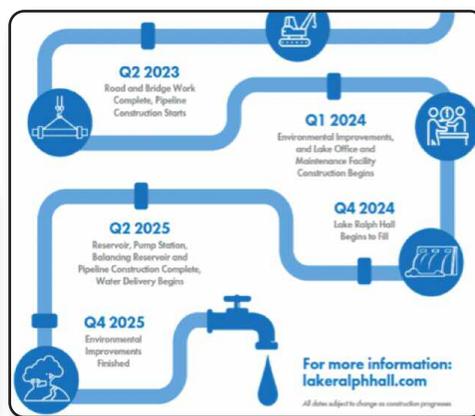
permit, just 4 years later we are close to pumping water. Very impressive.



In the meanwhile, the second new lake, Lake Ralph Hall is just getting started with the construction phase. This one just broke ground for the buildings and pipelines.



Here is the detailed project schedule. Note that capturing the water from the North Sulphur River will begin in 2024. So this is a long way off.



The big X-Factor in both of these projects is getting enough rain to fill them. While our part of Texas is not so dangerously dry as the parts to the North and West of us, we still are totally dependent on rainfall.

This is the water planet. About 2/3 of its surface area is covered in water. Paradoxically,

nearly all plants and animals need fresh water, and less than 2% of all that water is fresh. So man with his networks of Lakes, Rivers and water storage structures is still dependent upon these Lakes and the water pipelines and water treatment plants.

We conservationists are facing the challenges of managing to not run out of fresh water in locations where that we wish to settle, live and farm. In the planets geological history, the early tribes had to migrate from the drier zones to locations with abundant water. Modern man seems to prefer to have massive Engineering Projects to capture and manage this precious resource.

North Texas is one of the fastest growing regions in the USA in terms of population growth, and hence is one of the most critical regions to have good plans and projects to meet this need. In general, I am optimistic about our ability to rise to the occasion and meet these challenges. However I wish that I felt better about our leaders keeping their eye on the ball, and meeting the needs with some time to spare.

As a Fly Fishing activist, I am even more concerned about the plans of the leaders to keep having water for our fish and other recreational purposes in the plans. Too often these considerations get what's left over rather than being a prime element in the plans. We are a small part of the monitoring and hence input to the management issues in our part of Texas. I am very pleased to be part of this effort and want our FFI Conservation Group to be active everywhere that we find a need not being met. Whether it is pollution damaged water, or not enough of it in dry years, we need to be alert to the needs, and if they are not being met, to get more active as an alarm bell for our cause.

Be a part of these efforts. We monitor a small urban waterway and help more than many groups. But don't let your guard down. Our FFI motto, "All Fish, All Waters" is a good one.



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 www.dallasflyfishers.org/membership

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

