

The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ April 2022
Volume XLV ♦ Number 4 ♦ www.dallasflyfishers.org



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

I take great pride in being a member of the Dallas Fly Fishers. I love sharing about our club with others. I love the club's promotion of all things fly fishing. I love the dedication and activism of the DFF Board. I love the volunteerism of our club members. As the greeter at this year's fundraiser auction, I thoroughly enjoyed my bird's eye view to seeing all the things I love culminate in one, fantastic evening!

For that one evening, much time, planning, and people are needed, and I am so proud of the DFF auction committee, the volunteers, and the members who contributed in many different steps—the night of, the day of, weeks and months ahead of time, inviting friends, contributing items and ideas, and the follow-up thank you notes—our club is that much better because of our members.

However, there is another group of people, a behind-the-scenes group, who also help make and contribute to our club that deserve our thanks, as well. Our fanaticism for our hobby is supported by our spouses and partners. For this auction, when I surveyed the room, we received significant help from “non-members,” you know, the ones listed in parentheses in our bi-annual directory.

Our auction is a biennial event occurring every even year; except the pandemic cancelled our 2020 auction, so we were going on three plus years of accumulating items to sell-off. We don't rent storage space; instead, we use our homes to store items. To the wives who had to live with all our stuff for three years, thank you for your tolerance of “our invasion;” I hope your newfound space is something just for you! Thank you to the spouses who tolerated all the scouting missions, phone conversations, and months and months of auction prep that denied you time with our DFFer. Thank you, spouses, for attending the auction, though there may not have been one item which interested you in the least; it was a pleasure meeting you! Lastly, thank you to the spouses who came to work the auction—**Pat Becker, Doris Montayne, Judy Shatzer, and Judy Ziehm**. Your help, your attitude, and your willingness to see your spouse succeed was greatly appreciated and meaningful; thank you!

A part of the auction fundraising contributes to our speaker program. I am particularly chuffed about our April speakers, **Dave and Emily Whitlock**. While the omicron variant altered our plans, the club's very first

speaker is making another return visit to help us celebrate 50 years of the DFF. We last heard the Whitlocks share their Devils River Smallmouth Bass adventures, and at Dave's first presentation, he was a guide and tyer discussing fly fishing the White River—a late 1960s/early 1970s White River. Consummate fly fishers, fly tyers, speakers, and artist, what a privilege, honor, and tribute to all our past founders, board directors, and club members to have Dave and Emily Whitlock share their half-century of fly fishing knowledge! I am looking forward to sharing the evening with the Whitlocks and you!

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

—Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers

IN THE APRIL ISSUE

Page:

- 1 Fishin' Tales
- 2 DFF Board 2022
- 2 DFF 2022 Program Schedule
- 3 2022 Calendar
- 3 Guadalupe Bass Artwork by Our April Speaker
- 4 8th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival
- 4 Fort Worth Fly Fishers Fundraising Festival
- 4 2022 April Outings
- 4 Fly Box Online Auction
- 5 2022 Red River Rendezvous
- 6 “We Walk the Talk”
- 6 Surprise, Surprise!
- 7 The Activity Report
- 9 The Conservation Corner
- 10 Membership/Renewal Application



DFF Board 2022

President

Julia Bell
flyfshgrl@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 Latshaw
jimel312@hotmail.com

Auction Chair

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

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

DFF 2022 Program Schedule

by LaJan Barnes, Program Coordinator

We will resume our in-person meetings April 4th with our special guest Dave Whitlock. 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. This location has ample parking and easy access to food between the tying session and the meeting. Keep watch for the meetings that are in-person only (e.g., casting clinic in June).

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.

Future Meetings and Presentations:

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 story-telling, question and answer session during the meeting starting at 7 PM. Dave will bring some of his books, and hopefully some of his artwork, to sell. Dave will sign books 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! 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. Some of you may remember Robert from our meeting last October. This will be a hands-on workshop from his October presentation.

Robert will be conducting this in-stream entomology class for our DFF members only at LLELA Nature Preserve, Sunday May 1st from 1-3 PM.

This stream-side workshop will be limited to the first 20 to sign up. Registration is required and now open! Check your emails for the link to register and details.



Robert Younghanz,
aka the Bug Guy

May 2nd - Our May speaker will be **Robert Younghanz**. Robert's presentation begins at 7 PM. Our very own Barry

Webster will be demonstrating how to tie two nymphs at the 5-6 o'clock hour: the Polly Rosborough's Casual Dress and the Burrowing Mayfly Nymph. This will be an in-person and Zoom event.

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. Check out Robert's website: www.the-bug-guy.com.

June 6th - Rex Walker and others will provide an outdoor casting clinic. This will be an in-person only casting clinic from 6 PM - 8 PM. All skill levels are welcomed. There will be NO fly tying session at the 5 PM hour since this will be an outdoor event only. Location: Huffines Park, 300 N Plano Rd, Richardson, TX 75081.

July 11th - Bill Sargeant offers a fly tie-along evening. This will be an in-person and Zoom meeting at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC). In addition, since this is a fly tying event, we will start the tie-along at 6 PM, no 5 PM tying will be done. All tying materials will be provided for the surprise flies. Just bring your vise and tools. Experienced tiers will enjoy tying these advanced patterns. If you are a beginner feel free to tie along or just watch and learn.

August 1st - Dutch Baughman will provide his educational series. Tentatively, Dutch will show us how to read water. This will be an in-person and Zoom meeting at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC).

September 12th - Capt. Stacy Lynn will be making a presentation on fly fishing in a saltwater environment. This will be an in-person and Zoom meeting starting at 7 PM. In addition, instead of a fly tying demonstration the 5-6 PM hour, Stacy will demonstrate saltwater casting in the gymnasium at

(Continued on page 3)

DFF 2022 Program Schedule

(Continued from page 2)

the First United Methodist Church (FUMC), no Zoom for the casting demonstration. Stay tuned for additional details on Stacy's new topic.

October 3rd - Charlie Craven, tentative. Charlie is the owner and operator of Charlie's Fly Box in Arvada, Colorado, USA (www.charliesflyboxinc.com).

November 7th - TPWD Night at the Dallas Fly Fishers. Our very own **Keira Quam**, TPWD's Aquatic Education Training Specialist, will be our fly tying guest for the 5-6 PM. John Botros, TPWD River Access Coordinator, will kick off our TPWD presenters at 7 PM with highlights of the River Access Program. The River Access and Conservation Areas Program (RACA) lease 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 DFF that it may lead to opportunities to develop new or improved river access sites in the DFW area.

Tim Birdsong will wrap up the evening and be talking about targeting different species in Texas and will spotlight high quality river fisheries for a variety of species throughout the state (including Rainbow Trout, White Bass, Guadalupe Bass, Largemouth Bass, Chain Pickerel, and Alligator Gar).

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

2022 CALENDAR:

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 with the details on our DFF Facebook Page.

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.

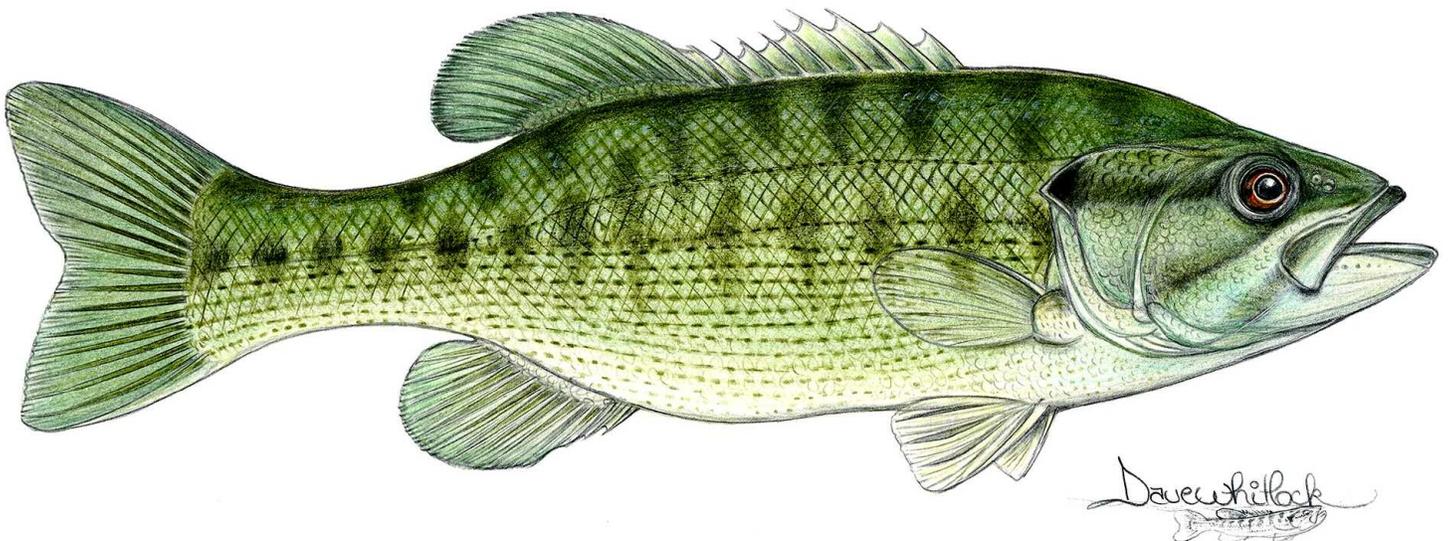
June 10th-11th - 9th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing. One of the great events in the DFF Year.

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

July 11th - The July Meeting featuring **Bill Sargeant** 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.



8th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival
 June 10th and 11th at Lake Athens Marina and RV Center

Featuring:

- Two Fly Fishing Challenges
- Casting Instruction
- Fly tying demos and instruction
- Casting contest
- Lots of prizes, food, fun and fellowship

Benefiting:

Project Healing Waters &
Casting for Recovery

Johnny - (972)-697-7096 - johnny2448@gmail.com - johnnyonthefly.com

**Fort Worth
Fly Fishers Fundraising Festival**

Wild Acre Brewing Company

Sat., April 2, 2022
5:00-9:00 PM

1734 E. El Paso St., Ft. Worth



**BIGGER
BETTER**

Beer and Wine,
Light Dinner,
Greater variety in
Raffle Prizes,
Larger Variety of
Live Auction Items, Expanded Raffle area, more chances to
win prizes in the "NEW AND ENHANCED" Raffle. Maybe
Even Something Different.

You can't afford to miss it!

2022 April Outings

by Jim Woodman, Outings Coordinator

April Outings: In addition to the outings on April 9th at Gannon's ponds and April 28th at Latham Springs, we have scheduled a third outing on Thursday April 14 at Woodman's ponds in McKinney.

There are three ponds with bass, crappie, bluegill, catfish and carp. Shore fishing only, but few obstructions. Location: 4201 Eider Drive, McKinney 75072. Time: 7:30 am - noon. RSVP to lakebud002@gmail.com or

text 651-226-7690. Private waters of a Homeowners Assoc., so we can accommodate 15 people only.

-Jim Woodman
Outings Coordinator

Fly Box Online Auction

by Julia Bell

For our March 2022 auction, **Rex Walker** wanted to donate a nice fly box filled with flies tied by some of the area's best tyers. Rex solicited six flies from each tyer and filled not one but two boxes, and **Jim Kelly** donated an entire box filled with 96 of Jim's midge patterns. I accidentally forgot to pack the boxes, so they didn't make it to the March auction. As a result, we decided to list the boxes in an online auction using the Better World platform for nonprofits. Jim Kelly's box is our current listing, which will end on Sunday 3 April 2022. We will be listing the other two boxes during April. For further information, contact **Jeff Ziehm**. To visit the auction, click here: [Jim Kelly Midge Fly Box Auction](#).



2022 Red River Rendezvous

by Julia Bell

Fly tying is as much fun as fly fishing! Creating and tying a fly pattern based upon knowledge of a fishing locale, a season, a species, or just good, old-fashioned curiosity, and then “testing” the pattern to see if it works is not only addictive, but quite fun actually. Before the field-testing fun, there is the fly-tying fun! Thankfully, the Red River Fly Fishers’ annual purlieu, the Red River Rendezvous, gives North Texas fly tyers a weekend of fly tying festivity. Personally, it’s one of my favorite events.

Originally planned for the first Friday and Saturday in February, Mother Nature’s misbehavior caused the 2022 Red River Rendezvous to be postponed to the first weekend in March. Eisenhower State Park played host to the event (as well as becoming the RRRF’s new meeting locale the first Tuesday of each month), which means tyers can easily make the trip up to Denison or chose to camp out.

Many attended and tied flies for all kinds of freshwater fish, and while 2021’s COVID pandemic cancelled the event, I enjoyed the return of tying flies, sharing meals, seeing familiar faces, partaking in the

camaraderie with one of our fellow clubs, and getting to camp for the weekend. The lagniappe? This is a free event, open to all, and we enjoy some delicious potluck meals. If you have not attended the Red River Rendezvous or had to miss this year’s event, mark your 2023 calendars for a must-attend weekend of all things fly fishing. Red River Fly Fishers

Here are some pictures:



Bill Sargeant and LaJan discussing fly tying.



Tyler Walker, Barry Webster and Dave Etgen



Peter Rea and Rex Walker



Jeff and Noah Garrett



Dave Etgen and Dutch Baughman



Bill Slaughter, Bob and Sue Spangler.



Bob and Sue Spangler tying a few warmwater Flies.

“We Walk the Talk”

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

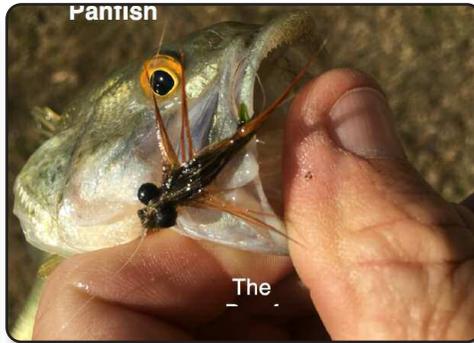
The March event featured tiers who presented “Go-To” patterns of the best kind, patterns that catch fish. Art San Roman introduced a warm water bass getter. The Panfish Wiggler proved, in short order, its ability to yield double digit bass counts. Last Saturday, a couple of DFF members tested the fly late in the day and were definitely pleased with the results. Bass counts for two anglers exceeded thirty (30) in 2 hours!

Next on deck was Jim Crump as the second featured tier. He presented a pattern named the Sugar Ridge Bass Buster. This pattern has

ALREADY accounted for many dozens of bass and gills caught last fall. This beauty is scheduled for another run at Jeff Gannon’s April event.

People who wish a make-up session on these two patterns, should contact Dan Montayne. Make up sessions, usually held on a Saturday morning, occur when interested tiers respond by text, and numbers warrant an additional session. Please text with name and interest.

The next tying event is April 19, 2022. Make plans now to attend.



Surprise, Surprise!

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

Not long ago, I had a discussion with a fishing partner who shared his waterside success and reasons for it. Surprise, surprise, his every day success and ability to catch large numbers of fish had little or nothing to do with pattern choice, pattern size, or casting. It was due to his observations and anticipation.

Fly fishing should be like the old, cranking Jack-in-the-Box. The excitement that anticipates the explosion of the lid and pop up of the clown is un-nerving. From the moment your fly reaches its destination, the Jack-in-the-Box anticipation mounts. As the fly begins its journey back to you, expectations that a fish will be there consume every muscle of your body. You want it to feed, but will it feed now? When the fish does strike, it’s like the spring door opens and the clown jumps up, making you gasp and strike back. Most fly fisherman I know express breathlessness followed by a quick declaration, “fish on.” However, if for some reason this moment is not registering heart stopping excitement, you might have chosen the wrong sport! Possibly, your profession as a freehand rock climber, bungee jumper, or cliff diver has numbed your senses. Hopefully, they will return and welcome you to fly fishing.

My colleague’s assessment of that moment of hook up, emulates a bolt of lightning shooting up the line, through the rod, and into your arms, all in an instant of Surprise, Surprise. Somehow fish have a way of heightening this surprise by a series of clues, thus creating tension. Maybe it’s the silhouette you spot, or a swirl, a flash or multiple bait fish running for cover. Anticipation begins to build as you try to outguess

that trophy and the timing of his actions. You momentarily hold your breath and brace for the strike. Here is the electricity. Your observation of rising fish is another foreshadowing of what might follow. Many fish announce their intent to eat by providing this clue. Now it becomes your task to offer something that looks edible.



I have noticed that my tension seems to build as my retrieve enters the last 10 feet or so. At this point, the fly is not yet visible, but the last bite

(Continued on page 7)

Surprise, Surprise!

(Continued from page 6)

is still possible. The tension of the last line jiggle or the lift for a new cast screams to the fish. It panics and takes the final second to capture its meal. How many of those last moment strikes have ended in a three-inch, fast flying, fish missile. You've just created a wingless flying fish destined for parts unknown, all in the blink of an eye. Hopefully, none of your fishing partners observed your flying trophy. If so, check out their smiles and grins mixed with respectful laughter. Even with this dramatic build-up of strike anticipation or hook set, the reward is Surprise, Surprise. The memory of when you last felt this jolt and the engagement with something unforeseen, conjure the excitement of the

Kodak moment to follow. How we prepare for that trapdoor springing open and the clown jumping out is what fly fishing is all about. Surprise, Surprise!

We as fly fisher persons are blessed with an electric experience every time we encounter water and the mysteries that lurk there.

I am solely responsible for these observations, my conclusions, and article opinions.

-Dan Montayne

The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

We have a 50th anniversary hat and pin for sale, so most of you got one at the March Auction Meeting if you didn't have one already.



March was full of high points and some cancelations. I doubt that anyone can recall a busier club month. We dove right in with a really fun group. The Stephenville High School that bring a bus load of their eager to learn outdoor youth to the TFFC and the energetic and generous with their time educators of the DFF teach. A little fly casting, then help them rig up and an afternoon of fly fishing. Here is the group picture.



And then they caught fish.

What a fun day on the water with some great youth fly fishers.

Then one of my very favorite events, the Red River Rendezvous was rescheduled, but happened. From back in the 1990's when Jere was the



President, I and several of our leaders in the club wanted to have a North Texas Version of the Toledo Bend Rendezvous. We never quite got it together, so I was overjoyed when the Red River Fly Fishers picked up the ball and ran with it. Thanks guys. This is such a great time with the fly tiers and casters of the Dallas Flyfishers, Fort Worth Fly Fishers and the Red River club. This is a well-organized event and always fun. Julia has written a great story about this event, elsewhere in the newsletter. Here is a picture of the group.



Once again, my personal thanks to the Red River Fly Fishers for organizing this super event.

Then everyone got a day off. On the Monday that is our regular meeting date, the DFF Fund Raiser Auction occurred. It was huge with about 3.5 years since the last one. There is an article by the Auction Team in this newsletter.

Then the Tuesday and Wednesday, March 8th and 9th, were or next chance to work with the super young adults of the Dallas Baptist University. Dan Montayne led the DFF Instructors. Jere appreciates the coverage we get from each other and this was a group of our usual great Angler Ed folks.

(Continued on page 8)

The Activity Report

(Continued from page 7)

Here is our famous class pictures on the front porch at DBU.



And here are the group at the TFFC.



Our family fun event to teach Basic Fly Fishing to the Coppell Biodiversity Learning Center went well and had pretty good weather to boot. Here is the class picture. ↘



All in all, not a bad month for most of us.

As I edit this, I am discouraged that more of our members will be missing from the multitudes at Sow Bug. Jere and his demonstration tying buddy, Dave Smith just to name two of us that usually go, but not this time. I hope many are going that I have not heard about. After missing the event for a while, it is my personal favorite of the big tying events. If you take some pictures be sure to send them to me for the May Newsletter.

But the April and the rest of the Spring are looking even better.

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. Most of the feeder streams into the Brazos from Possum Kingdom, through Lake Granbury, and my favorite to fish with Guide Charlie Cypert, Lake Whitney, all should be getting active. So you Fly Flingers who just live for the three week White Bass Spawning run... Its that time again.

Our Outings for April are focused on the spring spawn of our beloved Spiney Ray Family of fishes. I like big Bass and lots of good size Sunfishes, since they are everywhere. The Conservation Column talks about our huge Black Bass Awards for the ShareLunker Program. This was a huge year of even more huge fish. Any time you get 8 or 10 fish that go in the all-time top 50 list, the year can't be all bad.

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 there for you to go and enjoy the Springtime. 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

Its here!! After all the strange weather and even stranger restrictions on our Outdoor Life, springtime is upon us. Our planter Rainbows are still available, and probably will be part of the by-catch for a few more weeks. But the real Texas Sport Fishing Season is real, and we are glad.

Quite a few more State Lake Record Bass have been turned in to the 2022 Share-A-Lunker Program, and for us who just fish as an excuse to get out of the house and on the water, the warmth of the weather and fellowship of our fellow Fly Flingers does not need any more of an excuse. However, is there anyone who does not know about a great Texas program like Share-A-Lunker?

During the first three months of the season (Jan. 1 through March 31), anglers who reel in a 13+ pound bass can loan it to TPWD for the ShareLunker selective breeding and stocking program. These anglers can call the ShareLunker hotline at (903) 681-0550 to report their catch 24/7 until April 1. Anglers who catch and donate one of these 13+ lunkers earn Legacy Class status, receive a catch kit filled with merchandise, a 13+ pound Legacy decal for their vehicle or boat, VIP access to the Toyota ShareLunker Annual Awards event and a high-quality replica mount of their Lunker fish from Lake Fork Taxidermy. These anglers will also receive entries into two separate drawings – a Legacy Class Drawing and the year-end Grand Prize Drawing. Both drawings will award the winner a \$5,000 Bass Pro Shops shopping spree and an annual fishing license.

Here is a picture of the anglers in the Legacy Club from 2021.



These Legacy Class Monster Momma's are not likely to be fly rod caught. As early in the year as this program is, these fish are deep and getting ready to move to the spawning beds when the water warms. As they come out of the deep holes where they winter over and begin to migrate to the spawning level, a Fly Rod Fisher could get a really deep running minnow imitation to the fish.

I personally would so love to land one of these monster Legacy Black Bass that I might just be deep fishing with a plastic worm Texas Rigged on the fly rod. I realize that is heresy, but I will take my chances on that. I have an 8 WT that I built to take my youngest son salmon fishing on the Campbell River area of Vancouver Island, Canada. It got a lot of practice

with us limiting out daily for a week. So do I think I can handle one of these?? Probably, but in any case it would be a real adventure to try it.

The year-round Toyota ShareLunker program offers four levels of participation for catching bass over eight pounds and 24 inches in Texas. The 2022 season offers an opportunity to join the special club of premier anglers who have submitted one of these Legacy Class ShareLunkers. The big two class of ShareLunkers are these;

LUNKER LEGACY CLASS

Want to be part of the ShareLunker legacy for generations to come? If you catch a 13+ pound bass and loan it to us during the spawning period (January-March), you support our selective breeding program and will be recognized as a member of the Lunker Legacy Class.

LUNKER LEGEND CLASS

Out of the millions of bass anglers in Texas, only a select few have ever crossed the 13-pound threshold. We recognize these anglers as part of the Lunker Legend Class.

LUNKER ELITE CLASS

Anglers everywhere dream of catching a double-digit bass! When you reach that goal in Texas, you will be recognized in the Lunker Elite Class.

LUNKER CLASS

Catch a lunker that is at least 8 lbs. or 24 inches to become part of the ShareLunker program and be recognized in the Lunker Class.

So where do we go to catch one of these wall-hangers? A lot more places than you might think. The rumors are that if you are not fishing Lake Fork, you are limiting yourself. It is clear that this is not entirely true. This year in the early Legend Class, the entries come from a much larger list of water.

As I am writing this, O. V. Ivey is the leading supplier of these big fish for 2022, to the point that TPWD will not accept any more Lunkers from there for the breeding program.



(Continued on page 10)



This father son team caught this one in a tournament.

This next picture appeared on our FB pages. Great Job, Young Man.



During the first three months of the season (Jan. 1 through March 31), anglers who reel in a 13+ pound bass can loan it to TPWD for the ShareLunker selective breeding and stocking program. These anglers can call the ShareLunker hotline at (903) 681-0550 to report their catch 24/7 until April 1.

The year-round Toyota ShareLunker program offers four levels of participation for catching bass over eight pounds or 24 inches in Texas. ShareLunker entry classes include the Lunker Class (8lb+), Elite Class (10lb+), and Legend Class (13lb+). The 2022 season offers an opportunity to join the special club of premier anglers who have submitted a Legacy Class ShareLunker.

Once a lunker is reeled in, anglers need to enter the catch data on the Toyota ShareLunker online app at TexasSharelunker.com. In addition to providing basic catch information, anglers can also provide a DNA scale sample from their lunker bass to TPWD researchers for genetic analysis.

As a conservation project, this selective breeding program for exceptional Fish may be the most active in the USA. The only glitch I can see is this; What if the Florida Strain Black Bass is declared and individual species? There is a fair amount of energy looking into this in the Fisheries Biologists. In Texas we have been treating them as a unique variation of Largemouth, and hence mixing the Gene Pool is not contaminating it. However I hope everyone likes these results of the genetic wizardry that is producing these great memory's of the catch of a lifetime.

Thanks to The Inland Fisheries Program that created these great fish, we a lucky group of fishing nuts. I did not realize the large numbers of these trophy fish that are registered each year. All right you fly flingers. Let's us get a fly caught fish in the top 50.

We have a lot of guides in these Clubs that fish where these monsters live. This year one Lake had so many entries that they stopped taking the Big Mama Bass for spawning. But don't let your guard down. Be sure to keep these Legacy Fish from being overharvested. Our FFI motto, "All Fish, All Waters" is a good one.



-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 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 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