

The Leader



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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

Two DFF events close out the 2022 spring season—our first hands-on casting class for our June meeting and the Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival. I'm excited for our Monday 6 June meeting at Huffines Park in Richardson, since this will be the first time we, as a club, have had a chance to apply **Rex's** instructions and receive feedback. I have always learned something new from Rex's casting presentations, but any time the opportunity is presented to immediately apply the instruction and receive knowledgeable feedback on my application and interpretation of the instruction, I am extremely grateful.

That weekend following the club meeting, we have the 8th annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival on Friday and Saturday 10 and 11 June 2022. I love this event, as it honors our beloved Sunfish species on Friday and our Largemouth Bass on Saturday. Johnny Martinez always secures quality prizes from vendors, the event allows fly fishers with boats, in kayaks, and on shore to participate in their own divisions, and 100% of the profits benefit two worthy charities—Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery. Fly tying, casting games, and CCI casting instruction are also provided for those who don't want to fish but still want to participate in the festival. Please register here:

https://secure.getmeregistered.com/get_information.php?event_id=135291

I am in several, on-line social media groups, and a trend I see happening is several fly fishers are suddenly struggling with their casting. Yes, they are new/relatively new to fly fishing, but they are now having problems that they have not had in the fall, winter, and cool spring. I have been experiencing the same problem, too. In the warm Texas days and waters, I have often relied on fly lines designed for our area—Bass Bug, Bluegill—are two

lines which I have used extensively in the past; however, Scientific Angler does not make that line any longer. My current 5# fly line gave up the ghost on the DFF September 2021 White River outing, and so I bought a Cortland 5# line for catching trout. Now, that I am fishing warm, freshwater, that trout line just doesn't turn over my flies—some are big, floating poppers, while most others are weighted significantly, and that cold water trout line, just dies like an al dente spaghetti noodle before my loop straightens. Several years ago, the fly line industry took a consumer hit, because they went nuts with every specialty line they could imagine. This resulted in a huge stock remaining on shelves. Now, they have oversimplified fly lines. I set out to replace my cold water line with a warm water 5#, and it wasn't happening. Cortland, Orvis, Rio, and Scientific Angler make no warm water line below a 6# rod. I have visited in-person and called fly shops all over the country, and everything they have for a 5# is cold water. I have a six weight rod I really enjoy, but if I'm creek hopping or small pond fishing, catching a 1½ pound bass on a 6# rod is just not enjoyable. I barely even know the fish is hooked, and I fish slow and medium action rods. Then, I tried exploring saltwater lines for a 5#, but it's not happening either, because a 5# rod is just not powerful enough to repeatedly and successfully turn a saltwater species. While responding to someone else who began struggling with turning their flies over with the last 10-12 feet of their line, I mentioned what I was experiencing. A kind soul shared that there was a warm water fly line being manufactured, and wouldn't you know, they were fly fishers first who saw and filled a need in the market—**Joan and Lee Wulff**. I bought a Royal Wulff Saltwater Triangle Taper Two-tone 5# line! I am so excited to have a warm water line on my rod. I have only practiced casting in the pool and the ability to turn over flies is wonderful. I put some



ridiculously heavy flies I would normally use on a 7# or 8# just to see if it will turn them over, and voila! success! I haven't had a chance to fish yet, because the few opportunities I have had, we received blessed rain; however, I'm looking at heading to the Brazos on Thursday 2 June near Smith Bend about three miles below Whitney Dam and four miles upstream of Dick's. If you'd like to join me, send me a message; I would love to fish with you.

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

—Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers

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DFE 2022 Program Schedule

by LaJan Barnes, Program Coordinator

Keep watch for the meetings that are in-person only (e.g., casting clinic in June) and some meetings that may not be available by zoom (e.g., 5 PM saltwater casting demo in September).

Previous Event:

THIS EVENT WAS SOLD OUT! May 1 (Sunday) **Streamside Entomology Class by entomologist Robert Younghanz, aka, The Bug Guy!** We had a great time in the water and learned what bugs were in the Elm Fork of the Trinity River at LLELA just below the Lake Lewisville Dam. The Bug Guy was pleasantly surprised by the findings in the river. We found caddis emergers, leeches, prehistoric looking bugs (hellgrammites), damselfly nymphs, leeches, mosquito and other fly larvae, crawfish, and some unidentified bugs even to The Bug Guy!



As a follow up to our seining in the river, The Bug Guy presented the many findings in the river from the day before and explained how important seining is before fishing. If you don't know what the fish are eating how do you pick a fly? As usual, Robert was his fun-filled self using quips and antics at the expense of some members. He apologized if anyone was offended. What a fun night. In addition, we were honored to have our very own Barry Webster demonstrate tying the Polly Rosborough's Casual Dress and the Burrowing Mayfly Nymph during the 5 o'clock hour.

Future Meetings and Presentations:

Please add these dates to your calendar and support our great club! Please read the details for each meeting because not all of them have the regular start time and/or location.

June 6th - CASTING CLINIC LEAD BY REX WALKER. This will be an **in-person ONLY** casting clinic from **6 PM - 8 PM**. 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.

DO NOT go to the church where we normally meet. **NO ZOOM!**



The following description was written by Rex, with a few edits:

What are we doing for this month's meeting? Many of the area's fly casting instructors will be offering fly casting sessions. Currently, we are expecting five Fly Fishers International (FFI) certified casting instructors, one FFI certified master instructor, several additional experienced casting instructors, multiple assistant instructors, and we're still recruiting more help. The participants will be divided among the instructors and each instructor will lead their own casting lesson. The goal is to have as low student to instructor ratio as possible.

It is very rare to have this many instructors available at one time. All skill levels are encouraged to come out and take advantage of this opportunity.

The Dallas Fly Fisher's board of directors asked us to host these hands-on casting classes as a benefit for the club's members and potential members. The Board has extended an invitation to the other local clubs to come join us and not for the general public, but this session is specifically targeted for those active in the fly fishing clubs.

If there is a specific casting topic that would like to be covered on June 6, please respond to Rex's email sent May 21st and tell him what you are interested in discussing. We will be offering sessions on Critical Casting Skills, but if you would like something else, let him know.

Some possible casting topics include: information and/or testing for the FFI Casting Challenge program, improving accuracy, an introduction to the double haul, roll casting (water is available), presentation casting skills (i.e., curve casts, reach cast, pile cast, etc.), tips for adding distance to your casting, or something else that you are interested in learning.

Note: Some casting topics require limited class sizes and the people that request a topic will be given the first opportunity to join a class they requested.

Additional details and what to bring: Bring your own rod, recommend mid range rod/line (i.e., 5, 6, or 7 wt) rigged with a leader. Meet near the parking lot on east side of the park off of Plano Rd unless there is a large sporting event. If that parking lot is crowded, then we will move to the one on the east side of the park.

July 11th - Bill Sargeant is offering an advanced fly tie-along evening. This will be an in-person and Zoom (hopefully) meeting at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC). **This meeting will begin at 6 PM NOT 5 PM, since this is a fly tying event only.** All tying materials will be provided for the surprise flies. The only things that you will need are your vise, tools, a light, if you wish, and a spool of 70 denier black thread. All other materials for tying the flies will be furnished. We may not have enough power sources for lights, so if you have to have one, then it will need to be battery operated. The room is short on outlets.

You will need to pre-register for this meeting to make sure that we have enough materials. Watch for an email in June to RSVP.



Experienced tiers will enjoy tying these advanced patterns. If you are a beginner feel free to tie along or just watch and learn, or sit next to an experienced tyer for help. Please feel free to come to the meeting even if you are not going to tie along.

Please RSVP to Bill Sargeant at tyflyer@sbcglobal.net.

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DFF 2022 Program Schedule

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August 1st - Dutch Baughman will tie two of his favorite flies during the 5 to 6 PM hour. Then at 7 PM Dutch will talk about how and where to fish these two flies, which will include the fly rod wt, the line type, the leader, etc. You don't want to miss this gem! 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 during the 5-6 PM hour, Stacy will demonstrate saltwater casting in the gymnasium at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC). There will be **NO** Zoom for the casting demonstration at 5 PM. Capt Stacy Lynn is owner of @wowflyfishing and store manager of a new fly fishing shop - Galveston Fishing Company. Stacy has 20+ years as a professional fly fishing coach, is a Fly Fishers Intl. Certified Instructor and a graduate of Joan Wulff's Fly Fishing Instructor's School. She is also a USCG Captain and a TPWD Licensed Saltwater Fly Fishing Guide in the Rockport/Corpus Christi area.

Stacy's new topic: 7 Skills of Highly Successful Saltwater Fly Fishers!

Written by Capt. Stacy: This information is compiled from observations I am making from my perspective on the poling platform as I went from guiding and fishing with anglers of varying skill levels - and started making comparisons. As a novice, you often don't know what you don't know - until you encounter someone that knows what you

don't know: the "Huh, I never thought of that" moment. In my musings from the platform I started trying to figure out how I can give insight to a novice on what an expert does when they're fishing. So, I started with a list of skills and behaviors. And as I pondered it with clients, one of them suggested to base it on Stephen R. Covey's book, *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*®. It is a collection of observations that I feel I am uniquely qualified to compile and share. I'm pulling back the curtain on what expert anglers do. Please use this information to expand your thinking and drive your skills development. I will be presenting these points in a combination of "order of importance" and order that they happen in the fishing process.

October 3rd - Charlie Craven confirmed. Charlie is the owner and operator of Charlie's Fly Box in Arvada, Colorado, USA (www.charliesflyboxinc.com). This will be a fly tying demonstration and storytelling session.

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:

June 4th - Texas Free Fishing day. Take a friend fishing, no license required anywhere usually on this day.

June 4th - Carrollton Kid Fish Day. Lots of fun but lots of volunteers needed.

June 6th - June Meeting featuring our **Rex Walker** on the subject of a Fly Casting Clinic. This will be at Huffines Park in Richardson from 6 to 8. **Do not go to the Church.**

June 10th-11th - 8th 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. This is planned for the Church, from 6 to 8. Reservations needed, call Bill Sargent.

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

August 1st - Dutch Baughman, the chairman of the FFI Learning Center and a great teacher of fishing skills will tie a few flies and then teach us how to use them to the best advantage.

September 12th - Captain Stacy Lynn will teach a bit about Salt Water Fly Fishing to our group of fresh water fly rod users.

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

October 3rd - Charlie Craven, owner of Charlie's Fly Box in Colorado. We will tie a few flies and then have a group discussion.

October 3rd-7th - DBU Fall Outdoor Experience on two of these days.

November 7th - TPWD Night at the Dallas Flyfishers.

December 4th - The Holiday Party, location TBD.



8th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival

by Johnny Martinez

Well, Spring is upon us and the Big ones are biting just in time for the **8th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival** on **June 10th and 11th** at Lake Athens Marina and RV center. Benefitting our Friends at Project Healing Waters And Casting for Recovery.

This year we have a great line up of supporters and sponsors, as noted in the attached poster. We'll also have two CCI casting instructors from the Texas Federation of Fly Fisher. We'll have Fly Fishing Angler Ed lead by DFF's own **Jim Woodman**. And there will be a cast of tiers headed by **Dan Montayne**. Of Course, there will be Fly Fishing.

Friday joins us for the Sunfish Challenge where the goal is to catch and correctly Identify your

Sunfish species. The Angler who catches and correctly ID's the most wins.

Then on Saturday we host the Big Bass Challenge. The contestants hunt in hopes of hooking and landing the Biggest Largemouth of the day, plus Anglers continue to fish and add up their catch for the longest stringer. Anglers compete for some great prizes and 100% of fees go to our benefactors. This is a Catch , photo and release event and rulers provided. See the rules and Johnnyonthefly.com

Let's not forget the casting contest sponsored by my good friend **John Brindley** of Tyler Weather Makers. Casters get to show they're skills in distance and accuracy.

Ranger Anthony Sander will be there representing the Army Corps of Engineers covering water and boat safety and **Glen Catch Cormier** will present on tactics for warm water Fly fishing.

If you plan to fish in the Challenges please get registered asap at Johnnyonthefly.com

We also still have openings for tiers and volunteers if you are interested or just come and hang out with some really cool Fly Anglers.

Tight lines

— **Johnny**
Johnnyonthefly.com
972 697 7096

Three Cheers for the Tyers

by Dave Shatzer

I have been a DFF member for 9 years and a member of the Permian Fly Fishers out in West Texas before that. I have a confession to make, I do not regularly tie flies. However, I do have a wonderful resource for acquiring many of my flies, the fantastic fly tyers of the Dallas Fly Fishers. I buy raffle tickets for flies at the regular, monthly meetings and I always buy several boxes of flies at the auction.

All types of flies, warm water, cold water, and some saltwater flies, are tied by our members and donated to the Club as fundraiser at either each meeting's raffle or the annual Auction. Here are pictures from a recent Hill Country trip where I used some of my purchased 2022 Auction flies.



An 11' bluegill on a bass fly, Auction Item 3002, tied by **Dave Smith**



A bass on a bluegill fly, Auction Item 3018, tied by **Mark Eskew**

Many thanks to the donating Tyers to our Auction in March: **Bob Johnson, Dave Smith, Jim Woodman, Bill Sargeant, Mark Eskew, Richard Komar, Jim Kelly, Dutch Baughman, Bob Cappallo, Dave Etgen, Jack Gillis, Dan Montayne, Bob Spangler, Rex Walker, Barry Webster, Jeff Ziehm, and Urban Fly Fishing**. So keep buying the raffle tickets and fly boxes at the Auction. If you want to increase your fly tying skills, there is no better place than **Dan Montayne's** fly tying sessions, held each 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Cabela's in Allen. **Thanks again to all the DFF Fly Tyers.**

— **Dave Shatzer**

Nostalgia Hour, or An Old Dude Reminiscences

by Jere Anderson

Before our May Meeting, which was a good one about one of Jere's favorite things, our Aquatic Insect Life, one of our great tiers had the floor. The DFF has had some really great tiers, but Jere had tied with a few going back to the 1980's. Our very talented **Barry Webster** chose to tie some of the historically significant Nymph Patterns, several of which Jere has tied with the originators.

Polly Rosborough's Casual Dress Nymph was Barry's first fly that Monday.

It is basically a fly hook, a pinch of muskrat fur... and a lot of life. It might be casual dressed – but will stop any trout in its tracks. There are so many ways you can dress up a trout fly. Some flies are classic, some are beautiful and then some are... well just plain



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Nostalgia Hour, or An Old Dude Reminiscences

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fishy looking. Polly Rosborough's Casual Dress Nymph definitely drops right into the latter category. It's a fuzzy pile of fur, but it looks like something that just might creep out of your fly box and go fishing on its own – if you don't take it out. It might not look like anything, but it suggests just about anything a hungry trout loves. Polly himself was a man who liked to keep things simple. He fished most of his life on the Williamson, a river that he rated to be: "As good as any fly stream in North America." He is probably best known for his nymphs. His reason for choosing the nymph as his favorite weapon was that nymph fishing produced larger fish than dry fly fishing. In 1965 he wrote his first book, "Tying and Fishing the Fuzzy Nymphs".

Having grown up in Western Washington and Oregon, I was introduced to these flies early in my tying education. I regret that I never tied with the originator, but most of the tiers I did tie with knew quite a few of his patterns.

Another of the greats of the west coast was Andre Puyans, the owner of Creative Sports in Pleasant Hills CA. It was always full of fly fishers, and I bought my first Rod Blank from him, and built it in his classes. An originator of the AP Nymph, Andre Puyans tied these and other Nymph patterns.



Andre had a night, I think it was Tuesday, where at closing time he ran off the customers that were not part of the Diablo Valley Fly Fishers and would set up the vices in the back room. We would tie and he would break out a bottle of amber liquid. A bit like doing rod building with Norm Goheen, if you liked water glass size Martini's. I lived close by so it was easy to get home.

I do so miss these tiers, but we have so many great ones in our club, there is no reason not to have the skills like Barry available to teach, except for the time and focus. But it still takes me back to my early days in this hobby to see one of the modern great tiers, attack and skillfully tie some of the classics. The best two Nymph Books about these fly patterns are in Barry's Library and his dedication to doing a great job of interpreting the pattern are his contributions to the program. It was heartwarming to see so excellent a job of building these classic patterns from my early days in this game.

I have tied with some of the really great ones, and though I would never be likely to be seen as one of these artisans, I have fun, and I get fish. Thanks Barry, for the chance to see some of the classics tied so well and so smoothly. The great artists really make it look easy, but I know it isn't, at least not the first few times with a new technique. Here are Barry's flies.



Now I am looking forward to learning from Bill Sargeant this summer. He is a great spinner of deer hair and almost any other skill you can name. I am an older guy with fingers that lock up on me from time to time, so I love seeing a real artist perform.

Don't miss the July fly tying meeting with Bill. He will be great too.

The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

I hope you all got outside some of this Month. It was hot, but livable, and not yet so hot we are limited to only fishing early mornings or late evenings like it can get in August.



A left over event that missed the May Newsletter was our fun Lathram Springs Outing in April. I do not have a good story about it. The FB pages have **Julia** with a

great Bass she credits to **Jeff Ziehm**. Was that on the Brazos where it passes beside the lakes and ponds of Lathram Springs?

Then **LaJan** had arranged a bug picking outing Sunday afternoon led by our May Speaker, **Robert Younghanz**. It was a good one from what I hear. The May meeting was super. **Barry Webster** taught a pair of great fur nymphs. **Jere** knew of these patterns from my early days of fly tying, and I wrote an article called the Nostalgia Hour about it. Then the bug guy had a lot of good pictures of important bugs to our fishing.

World Championship Bass on The Fly Event on Lake Fork the 7th of May. We usually score in these events but this was the East Texas Fly Fishers year to shine. They won

everything that wasn't nailed down, it seems like. But that is great, and my most enthusiastic congratulations to the Longview TX Club. We need to hit this one more in 2023, the date for which is already working toward the first Saturday in May. The turnout seems a little small, with 11 teams in the Boater Division, and 14 in the Kayak Division.

The Kayak Division was won again by **Glen "Catch" Cormier** with 83.5 inches of fish. WOW. The Boater Division was dominated by the ETFF with the Team Trophy, and who won two of the three prizes and biggest fish. **Kimberly** of the DFF had biggest fish last year.

This seems to be a well-run event, so let's get more DFF and FWFF Fly Fishers in the

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The Activity Report

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winner's circle. The complete story is on www.bassonthefly.org so mark that site in your online service and don't miss next year's opportunity.

After that was the Bud Priddy Any Fly Event in the Austin area on May 14th. I expected our Top Gun family to go there. However, this is a laugh, and I am glad that the guy in Angler Ed, **Steve**, that was so livid about the word Perch is not going to see this.



But that is a million dollar grin if ever I saw one. Pictures of both **Julia** and **Cody** are on the FB page.

Monday and Tuesday, May 16th and 17th, saw the DFF Teaching Fly Fishing to the Outdoor Recreations Class at Dallas Baptist University. The class as usual was young women and one young man that knew where he should be. They were taught a ton of fly tying, and thanks to the great support from the DFF we had enough instructors to allow us to have five tables, each with an Instructor and two students. This was a great way to do it and the personal attention led to a lot of really fishable flies.

For conservation, **Jere** spoke about how endangered our fisheries can be, and how hard it is to recover it. I used the example of the Guadalupe Bass recovery, and they were fascinated. It is an inspiring story, and **one that Tim Birdsong** might cover when he is our speaker this fall. Mr. Birdsong and I also have presented the Texas River Access program to the Council of Presidents at the FFI annual Meeting. They loved it and asked us to be sure to keep them informed.



Dan explained equipment and then we got out the fly tying tool boxes and got to tying.

The grinning gals tying flies tells it all. They were having fun and our 6 instructors were doing well also.

Here are the tying trio's.



Dan's team include a young woman from near my hometown. The smiley gal in the pastel sweatshirt is from a small Washington town less than 15 miles from our family ranch.



Here is **Jim Crump**, who also is a great fishing coach.



This is **Jim Woodman's** team. The girl on the right caught the best Bass I saw taken with a green marabou fly that Jim taught them.



This young couple had a great time and worked very hard on fishing day and caught quite a few very good size Sunfishes.

And we then did safety in the woods and streams and equipment. The emphasis was on things like hats and sunglasses for protection from the elements and from an errant fly. We then called it a day.

And on Tuesday, the second day, we went fishing. The on-campus ponds have fish, but they seem to be well fed and cared for, and often are very much NOT INTERESTED in our offerings. This time was different. This gal with a fly taught by **Jim Woodman** got the first Bass, and the largest one I saw all day.



As usual, **Dan** taught fly casting and the four of us helped.



And a warm, sunny day was so much better than the Winter Session with the near freezing temps and 40 knot winds.... My thanks to the 5 volunteers that worked very hard with this group of fun filled new Fly Fishers.

That same Tuesday was **Dan Montayne's** Warm Water Wisdom event at the Allen Cabela's. Two flies were tied, an Adult Dragon Fly by **Dave Smith** and **Dan** tying a winged Adult Damsel Fly. Full feather winged topwater flies are not the easiest, but it went well.



Dave taught the Winged Dragon Fly.

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The Activity Report

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Dan taught the Damsel Fly. Both of these were well designed and tieable by a good intermediate tier.



Here are the flies.

Jere needs to remind everyone that as usual we had a full room of reservations, but due to some last minute cancelations, we had some open seats. Please let us know if you are conflicted for that day, so we can call someone who is wait-listed. These seats seem to be in good demand, so help us fill them.

May 21st was the public Event at the Rosemead Recreation Center in Carrollton. This is one of our regular places to teach, and we have quite a variation in the numbers of students. Richard got a great team together, and we had enough instructors to have tables with two fly tying students per instructor.

Quite a few were family groups. Here is a father and daughter working through the

wonderful though somewhat confusing world of fly tying.



We taught safety and equipment in the outdoors, and got lots of good questions..

Here is the entire class.



And so the May Day (isn't that a distress call?) activity ran down. I was glad to have been able to be a part of it all.

June is going to begin with a bang. The June 7th Meeting is a fly casting teaching event led by Rex Walker. It is in a park near the Church, but not at the Church. We have been posting in our FB pages and in many E-mails that the Monday 6 June 2022 Meeting is an outdoors Casting Class at:

Huffines Park
300 N Plano RD
Richardson, TX 75081

Bring your own rod and reel.... The class runs from 6 pm to 8 pm. Be there or miss a good one. Details are available in the Meeting Notes on page 2.

And then, the Biggy of the year, the 8th Annual LAFFF, Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival, will be Friday June Tenth and Eleventh. This event is headquartered at the Lake Athens Marina, and organized by Johnny Martinez of Johnnyonthefly.com who can also be reached at Johnny2448@gmail.com or 972-697-7096. There is an announcement posted elsewhere in this Leader. This is an event to be proud of, as it donates to two very important charities.

Our July meeting is a fly tying event, led by one of our long time really great teachers of the classis arts of fly tying, Mr. Bill Sargeant. Details are also available on Page 2 in the Meeting Notes. The only things that you will need to bring are a vise, tools, a light if you wish, and a spool of 70 denier black thread. All other materials will be furnished.

July is also the month of the joint Colorado Outing with the DFF and the FWFF. Jeff Ziehm is coordinating the DFF participation. The stories from this outing are legends.

So summer is here at last and the fishing seems to be good, based on the pictures members are posting in the DFF Facebook pages. Get out there and enjoy the summer of 2022. We have been cheated out of a couple of good summers and I am ready to hit the water.



**Best Wishes for many fishes.
May they be bigger
and more full of fight.**

— Jere



The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

The January 2022 issue of our Newsletter talked at length about the Glasgow, Scotland, Climate Conference, more accurately known as The Conference of The Parties (COP26). This meeting was to cement the agreements made at COP25, known as the Paris Accords.

I had observed that I expected a great deal more to be said than done, and when they did close, and the 190 Diplomats who were chastising us for our high pollution footprint all got back in their 400 Private Jets to go home, not only had virtually nothing new come out of it, but in many ways it was a great leap backwards. So they announced that COP27 will really be an accomplish-

ment. Pardon me for having some concerns about that.

The 27th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP27) to the UNFCCC will take place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. COP27 was originally expected to take place from 8-20 November 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, COP26 was rescheduled from

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November 2020 to November 2021. As a result, COP27 will take place from 7-18 November 2022.

One of the major accomplishments of these meetings is that first there are three groups that research three different major groups of physical science areas. Then that becomes the input to a largely political report called An Assessment Report. The IPCC has released the first part of the sixth Assessment Report 2021 (AR6). The report is titled 'Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis'. The remaining parts of the report will be released in 2022. This report is significant because for the first time, it acknowledged the role played by multiple climate change drivers operating in tandem to amplify disaster impacts all over the globe.

The AR6 report has many suggestions. Some are actually doable. Not many, just some of them.

My two favorites are;

- New coal plants and fossil fuel exploration and development should be ended.
- Technology should be developed for bringing about negative emissions, which means, the planet should be cooled down. This can be done by:
 - o sucking out or sequestering the carbon from the atmosphere
 - o stopping the use of fossil fuels and stopping deforestation

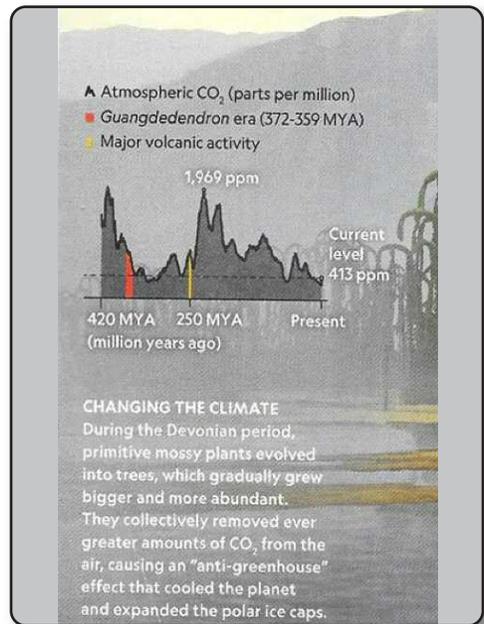
With the largest increase in pollution being China and India, at least in part due to kick starting their industry with abundant Electric power, provided by Coal Fired Thermal Generators, I think this is very unlikely. Even in America that two years ago was a net exporter of fossil fuel, we are now looking to go all out on Oil Exploration. So the news is the exact opposite of this wish. *OOPS*.

The second of these I am all aboard on. Saving our forests and rebuilding the damaged ones is one of my real hot buttons. The planting of trees all over the planet to

absorb the CO2 and turn it into wood fiber is a great idea, though scarcely a new one.

As mentioned in my article about COP26 in the January Newsletter, one of the results that I agree with was their impassioned pleas to fight deforestation. As a young person raised in or near the woods, and an Outdoor Person who went on a Deer Hunting Campout with my Dad and a family friend when I was around ten years old, I respect and treasure the forested lands of the American West. This month The National Geographic did almost an entire issue about Saving Forests, their importance and their survival. I was ecstatic. There are several paragraphs I would like to include in our newsletter, but it is a copyrighted Document, and I do not want to get us in trouble. So I will reword some good thoughts, but I must give National Geographic credit for the original work.

This article goes all the way back to the beginning of forests. Back to when mossy ground cover evolved into trees. This has been dated better by the discovery in China of some very early trees. As they grew and spread out over the largest of the Continents, a climatic variation that was almost a reverse Green-House Effect occurred. As the plants absorbed the CO2, the planet cooled, and the polar Ice Caps expanded. This transition is thought of have occurred about the time of the red band in this graphic.



The Red Band is the time in millions of years ago that the rudimentary Tree Fossils were dated from China. Note that the CO2 in PPM is about what it is today. Then the yellow band is a time that was a period of great volcanos, and the CO2 went up to almost 5 times what it is today. From then to now is the time when all the plants and animals evolved that exist today, during this hugely hot and CO2 rich atmosphere. It has been coming down steadily for the last 250 million Years. Makes you wonder if it really is such a catastrophe if we go back up by the tiny amount that the climate Alarmists are worried about. That it will make us do some changes is possible, but a lot of species including Humans, were evolving when conditions were a lot worse than today, if this data is correct.

It is also true, however, that the forests are in grave danger. We have lost a third of our planet's forests in the last 10,000 years, as much as half of that since 1900. Mankind has cut the forest for wood to build with. They have been cut and harvested for the land they stood on. Our crops, our cities and our rich farms have taken land that the forests will never see again. And then much of that wood has been burned for many different reasons, contributing to the Greenhouse Gasses. The planet now sustains a balance with about third of its land surface, about 15.6 million Square Miles, still in forest in various states ranging from disrepair to protected parklands.

Now we come to the crux of the matter. How to utilize our forests for all the options we can think of, without doing this one....



This is called Clear Cutting, and in the last century, it was quite common. Large forest product companies owned millions of acres of this beautiful dense forest in Oregon and

The Conservation Corner

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Washington, and would just come in and do this to it. The residual value of the land was still greater than zero, so the land did sell from time to time, and in most cases it was held as an investment.

At this point, this becomes personal. My father worked for a forest product firm and in the 1950's was involved in the early days of planning to do some tree farming on this prime clear cut forest land. The company had a forest research unit, and had a hybrid Cottonwood Tree that would grow from seedling to harvestable tree in 5 to 10 years. He and I argued about this monoculture not being reforestation, since a forest is a heck of a lot more complex than just a huge number of trees. These tree farms were not suitable for the forest animals, since they lacked the undergrowth for food, shelter and weather protection. And IMO, they were ugly.

In present days, these monoculture tree farms are called "plantations", meant as a derogatory term. He and I never did have much of a real agreement about this, and to this day you can see why. Along Highway 84 going east along the Columbia River out of

Portland Oregon are some of these tree farming operations. A square of land, as much as 10 miles by 10 miles, covered with trees in arrow straight rows as far as the eye can see, with each tree being 20 feet to its neighbor. With bare dirt between the trees, it looks more like a giant vegetable garden. I can't call that a forest.

So I am more in favor of the smaller but more careful tree planting operations. It was just Earth Day this last month, and the Earth Day Network had a world-wide commitment by its many organizations to a project of huge scope. The various nations would make a commitment to plant a certain number of trees between 5 years ago the this year's 50th anniversary. They were trying to plant 7.4 Billion Trees. That is one for every man, woman and child on the planet. A noble adventure.

As a Fly Fishing activist, I am even more concerned about having water for our fish and other recreational purposes. The forests that let a torrential rainstorm run to our waterways more gradually is good. Stream Bank forests help control erosion that muddies up the

spawning gravels and beds. Forests help that, and by shading the water help control the temperature surges of the shallow stream edges. 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 fishery that is enhanced by the dedication of the Inland Fisheries Division is in great shape compared to where it was when I returned to Texas in '92. Good water management is a big part of Fisheries management. Water everywhere needs our help and attention. Our FFI motto, "All Fish, All Waters" is a good one.



- Jere

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