

The Leader



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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

August has been a particularly hard month this year. Until the 21st and 22nd, much of Texas' water bodies were struggling to maintain any kind of water level and land reclamation seemed to be on the rise. Located in an Exceptional Drought Zone, pictures of Lake Falcon below the dam were disheartening; discounting its impoundment, Lake Amistad NRA was said to be at its lowest water levels ever, which is mind-boggling to me, as Cody and I documented its-then low levels during the 2011 and '13 droughts. Local farmers were thinning their herds due to dry ponds and tanks. A local creek I love to fish in the evenings had shallow pools holding amoeba-carrying stagnate water with significantly dry limestone bedrock in between the holes. We knew the rains would come, it was just a matter of when and how much longer would our water resources hold water...and fish.

These particularly dry spells and droughts offer a unique opportunity to become better fly fishers. We all have spots and places we like to visit and usually because the fish catching is good in that area. During a drought, we are afforded the opportunity to understand the habitat in a viewpoint we can't see when water holds. We can see the depth of a pool, understand a cut bank, see a point bar, study points, and photograph the area aplenty. When the rains come and water returns, referring to the photographs enables us to know whether or not a weighted fly will work better or not, which side of a point will be conducive to holding fish, how the fish are feeding near a cutbank, and why eddies form at certain locales, giving us a better understanding of why fish are where they are when there are appropriate water levels. The drought really serves as an opportunity of and for discovery, as Dinosaur Valley State Park in Glen Rose discovered on the 19th. <https://www.dallasnews.com/news/environment/2022/08/24/new-dinosaur-tracks-emerge-in-texas-park-as-drought-causes-water-to-recede/>

Two days after the newly discovered tracks were observed, they disappeared; the rains came—a season's worth in half a day! Ground saturation struggled to absorb what the heavens offered and run-off produced significant flooding. Creeks and streams crested their banks, continued their rise, and covered roadways. Ponds, tanks, lakes, and the Trinity were recharged within 24 hours, relegating the drought levels to the record books. Lake Arlington began filling into its flood pool. Still low at almost 45 below pool level, Falcon's lake level rose three feet and Amistad is now 34.9% full. New cutbanks,

point bars, and pools have formed and existing ones are deeper and higher, and while waters are still too muddy to fish and the ground too mucky to navigate with relative ease, once a little late summer sunshine and gravity dry the surface, I am looking forward to fishing some favorite spots to discover what secrets they now possess.

In and amongst all the weather chaos, the DFF lost a dear friend. **Pat Becker**, wife of **Mike Becker**, the DFF's Membership Chair, passed away from complications of non-smokers lung cancer. Pat graciously volunteered her time with the DFF long before she became hooked on fly fishing. If you came to the 2022 auction, Pat was one of the ladies who helped greet attendees. One Christmas party, Pat was one of the ladies sewing the gifts for the non-fishing partners in attendance. Pat loved fishing the White River, and I enjoyed our trip with Pat and Mike Becker in September 2021. Pat's generosity, kindness, and adventuresome spirit will be dearly missed. Pat's Rosary and Funeral Mass information are available at [Pat Becker Obituary](#).

—Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers



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DFF 2022 Program Schedule

by LaJan Barnes, Program Coordinator

All of our remaining meetings will be at First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 503 N Central Expy, Richardson, TX 75080. Make note of the location of our meeting room. September and November we will meet in the Youth Worship room on the northwest side of the church on the 2nd floor. There is an elevator just as you enter the building to access that room and plenty of parking on that side of the building (see the church layout in this newsletter). In October, we will meet in our regular meeting room, the Ogden Fellowship Hall, on the northeast side of the church. December is our Holiday/Christmas party and will not be at the building, see below for location.

Previous Events: I was sorry that I missed Dutch's great fly tying demonstration but glad to see that it was recorded. His presentation was stellar. I finally understood what he means by knotless line-leader connection and then realized that one needs more than one line and knotless leader for use with different size leaders. Dutch never disappoints and this time was no exception. Thank you, Dutch for such a great presentation.

Future Meetings and Presentations: Please add these dates to your calendar and support our great club!

September 12th - Meeting Location: Youth Worship Center, NW side of building on the 2nd floor. This presentation will be available via Zoom and in-person.

Unfortunately, **Capt. Stacy Lynn** had to cancel the saltwater presentation due to circumstances beyond her control. Fortunately, **James Johnsey** from Tennessee has graciously consented to come to Dallas with his wife, **Amy** and tell us about his Tennessee waters. I am grateful to Julia for securing a replacement at the last minute. Folks, do you know what a great President we have at DFF?!

James loves to tie flies and will tie two or three flies starting at 5 PM, we will break for dinner at 6 PM as usual and begin again at 7 PM. James and his wife, Amy, own and operate Tennessee on the Fly, a fly fishing adventure company, in the heart of middle Tennessee. Check out their [website: www.tennesseeonthefly.com](http://www.tennesseeonthefly.com). Their mission is to create a professional and personalized experience for every client that balances the excitement of fly fishing with obtaining quality skill and understanding while sharing the beauty of the outdoors and the magnificent fish that inhabit the Middle Tennessee waterways.

James grew up in West Tennessee in the art of fly fishing. In his late teens he moved to the heart of the Rockies to chase the wild Trout of some of the most famed rivers in the West. After 15 years of experience guiding in Wyoming and Montana, he moved to Middle Tennessee with his wife and two children to share his knowledge and expertise in fly fishing a little closer to home. James has worked tirelessly to unlock the most successful techniques and fly patterns to fish all the exciting species that area has to offer.

With more than 20 years of experience, they offer quality instruction combined with the best knowledge, experience, and

equipment to deliver the finest fly-fishing adventure. They strive to provide a trip that is flawless, informed, honest, and enjoyable. Whether you are a complete novice or an experienced angler, they are known for patience and kindness, and treating their customers like family. Along the way you'll have the excitement of catching beautiful Bass, Trout, Stripers, Musky, and many other species that inhabit some of the most beautiful and untapped waterways of Middle Tennessee.

James is new to the DFF roster, so come and see him tie some flies and hear about a new place to fish in middle Tennessee.

Presentation Description from James: Middle Tennessee offers an abundance of diversity of species for fly fisherman of all levels. With some of the most ecologically rich rivers in the country, our guides are not limited to one river or species. We are known for creating fly fishing opportunities for all species on all rivers year-round. James will break down the opportunities in this area by season, species, and technique. He will display pictures of their waterways and species as he presents the unique approaches to fly fish each one. He will highlight his hand-tied flies and specific rod sizes as he discusses each method. James is excited to share the knowledge he has acquired over the lifetime of his fly fishing experience.

October 3rd - Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall, on the northeast side of the building. It is my understanding that **Charlie** has no trouble projecting so this presentation will be available via Zoom and in-person. Since this is a fly tying and story-telling session we will begin the meeting at **6 PM**. Charlie will tie about six flies while he provides his story-telling adventures.

He is the owner and operator of Charlie's Fly Box in Arvada, Colorado, (www.charliesflyboxinc.com). The flies will be a mix of flies that can be used for bass and trout: Two Bit Hooker, Lucky B, Fat Angie, Swim Coach, Drunken Suzy, and the traditional Humpy pattern. Charlie describes himself and accomplishments below.

After mysteriously losing all of his dad's lures in a single day, Charlie was gifted a fly tying kit by his parents for his eighth birthday. He's tied flies pretty much every day for the forty-some years since then and has figured out a few things pertaining to fur, feathers, and fish along the way. At this point, it's becoming well known that he's opinionated, outspoken and sometimes brash when it comes to flies and techniques but his passion lies in sharing the skills he's developed. Over the years, Charlie has been a prolific commercial fly tyer and, for a time, a pretty mediocre fishing guide (Charlie's words not mine), due to his insistence on liverwurst and onion lunch sandwiches instead of grilled prawns like all the other sissy guides.

He's been an Umpqua Feather Merchants Signature Tyer for over 20 years with several fly box mainstays like the Jujubaetis, Two Bit Hooker and Baby Gongga among his over three dozen commercially available patterns.

(Continued on page 4)

Meeting Room Locations for 2022

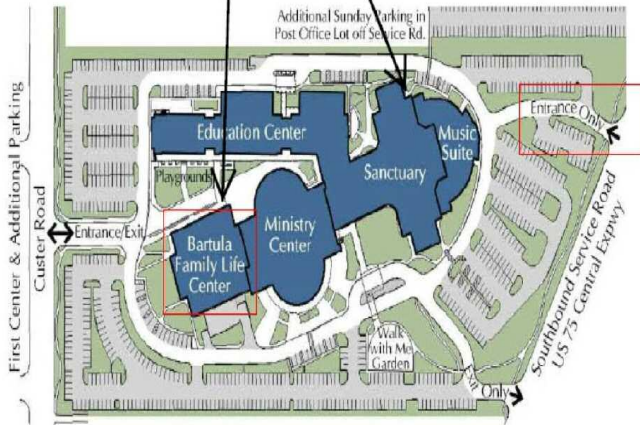
by Jere Anderson

Ogden Fellowship Hall has been our regular meeting location and we will meet there in **October only**. We will meet in the Youth Worship Center September and November. There is plenty of parking on both sides of the building. We will resume our normal meeting room location in the Ogden Fellowship Hall in 2023.

Youth worship entrance for September and November meetings

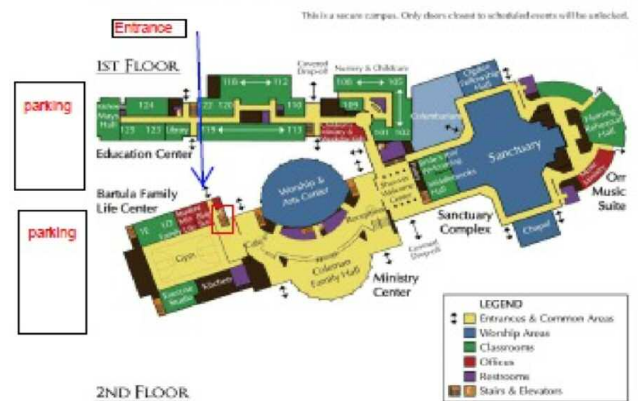
DFF meeting entrance to Ogden Fellowship Hall

Hwy 75 south bound

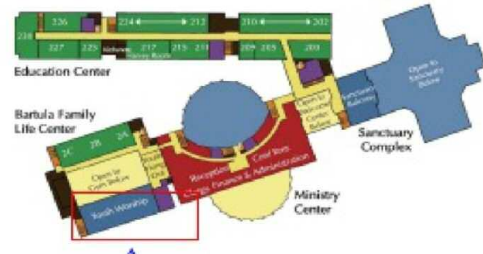


located between Arapaho (to the north) and Beltline (to the south) Rds
address: 503 N Central Expy, Richardson, TX 75080

Meeting location for September and November



2ND FLOOR



meeting room, 2nd floor

2022 CALENDAR:

September 12th - James Johnsey from Tennessee will come to Dallas with his wife, Amy and tell us about his Tennessee waters. James loves to tie flies and will tie two or three flies starting at 5 PM, we will break for dinner at 6 PM as usual and begin again at 7 PM. He owns and operates Tennessee on the Fly, a fly-fishing adventure company, in the heart of middle Tennessee. Check out their website: www.tennesseeonthefly.com.

September 20th - Dan Montayne's warm water fly fishing workshops.

September 24th - Basic FF Class at LLELA from 9am to 2 pm. There is an option for attending a certification class for 1 hour from 2pm to 3pm. After the BFF class. Prior registration is required for the certification class. Call **Richard** to register.

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

October 1st - Fly Fishing Roundup in College Station, TX.

October 3rd - Charlie Craven, owner of Charlies Fly Box in Colorado. This meeting will tie a few flies and have a group discussion beginning at 6 pm.

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

October 18th - Dan Montayne's warm water fly fishing workshops.

October 21st-23rd - OKTOBERFISCH 2022

October 22nd - Basic FF Class at LLELA from 9am to 2 pm. – There is an option for attending a certification class for 1 hour from 2pm to 3pm. After the BFF class. Prior registration is required for the certification class. Call **Richard** to register.

October 28th-30th - Our beloved Toledo Bend Rendezvous is back on. Watch for more posting about this.

November 4th-6th - The FFI Virtual Expo Weekend. Do NOT miss this one.

November 7th - TPWD Night at the Dallas Flyfishers.

November 15th - Dan Montayne's fly fishing workshops.

November 30th - Fishing event with the Stephenville kids at the fisheries center, 9am to 3pm. Call Richard at cell 469-877-0695 if you can come have fun with the kids. They should have just planted trout.

December 4th - The Holiday Party, location TBD.

DFE 2022 Program Schedule

(Continued from page 2)

All this experience finally culminated in 2004 with the opening of his own fly shop: Charlie's Fly Box, in Arvada, Colorado, where he is the head bookkeeper, order taker and fry cook in addition to president and CEO. He's now written four books: Charlie Craven's Basic Fly Tying, Charlie's Fly Box, Tying Nymphs, and Tying Streamers with plans for several more when he gets around to them.

After beating **Ross Purnell** in a prolonged and brutal arm wrestling match, he became the Fly Tyer's Bench columnist for Fly Fisherman Magazine and still maintains this title to this day. He was recently named to that magazine's 50 Most Influential People in fly fishing, and it is thought that his number 45 ranking was specifically chosen to keep his head from growing any larger.

Charlie lives in the hills of Palmer Lake, Colorado with his lucky, patient and loving wife, Lisa, a gigantic white dog and somewhere between three and six young adult children. He still likes quiet time, the Parachute Adams, Colorado whiskey, and dry-dropper fishing from a boat. His favorite number is five and his favorite color is red and he doesn't care what yours are.

"It's not simply enough that a fly catches fish, it has to do all that's asked of it, well...and style matters" ~Charlie Craven

November 7th - Meeting Location: Youth Worship Center, NW side of building on the 2nd floor. This presentation will be available via Zoom and in-person.

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 Sunday - Christmas/Holiday party. Once again we will experience the fine cuisine at the TG Brazilian Steakhouse in Richardson. Festivities begin at 5 PM: 518 W Arapaho Rd #133, Richardson, TX 75080, <https://www.tgsteakhouse.com>. Details to follow soon.

2023 Speaker Line Up to Date

Thanks to our great DFF President, **Julia Bell**, for helping me out while I am on vacation we have a full 2023 lineup of speakers. Set your calendar dates now so you don't miss anything.

January 9: Danny Soltau, Owner of Dirty Water Fly Shop, Plano. Topic: Streamer patterns that are designed to be anatomical in silhouette yet easy to cast all the while acting like the prey species during its presentation to the target species.

February 6: Alan King and **Stephen Weaver**, co-founders of Good Fly Organization. Topic: casting clinic or how to practice cast on your own.

The Good Fly Organization is a non-profit organization co-founded by Stephen Weaver, Alan King, and **George "Rusty" Dunn**, all three of which are graduates of Texas A&M.

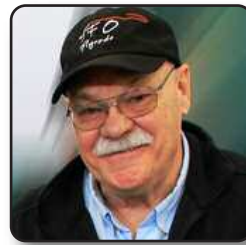
The purpose of Good Fly: "In a world of chaos and stress, Good Fly uses fly-casting to renew the mind and refresh the spirit." They are certified fly-casting instructors. What a treat.

March 6: Meredith McCord, Winner Ladies Tarpon Fishing 2022, Saltwater Fishing. Topic - TBD.

April 3: Robert Younghanz, The Bug Guy. I am glad to say that we will once again enjoy the antics of The Bug Guy at our evening meeting and the bugs that we try to imitate when we fish. We will also host another streamside bug collecting event on Sunday April 2nd.

May 1: Dale Harris, DFF member. Topic: How to stay dry camping using a kayak or canoe. Dale is retired from his job as a telecom worker, but has been camping since the 1980's - so he has many years of camping experience. Dale has been on more than 20 weeklong wilderness camping trips. Eight of those weeklong trips were camping out of a canoe. Also, over the last 20 years, he has gone canoe camping 10 to 12 times a year on weekend canoe camping trips. He is the president of the Dallas Downriver Club and this is what they do. Dale is looking forward to sharing his learned camping experiences and to share his expertise with other paddlers who want to go camping on a river. He wants to make sure that campers obtain the correct gear for on-the-river camping trips for safety purposes and fun.

June 5: I am pleased to announce that it has been confirmed - we will have a very special guest speaker for this meeting. The one, the only **Bob Clouser!** Yes, that's correct. This will be a ZOOM meeting only due to the travel distance and Bob's age (which he is only 84 his next birthday). Bob now lives in Florida and doesn't travel far from home these days. Bob will tie his famous clouser on a new hook design (AHREX™ SA210 Bob Clouser Signature) and present a program about bass. I told him that is right up our alley in Texas.



July 10: Bill Sargeant, Fly tying demonstration. Once again our DFF members share their expert fly tying prowess.

August 7: Nick Gallegos, Los Pinos Fly Shop, Albuquerque, NM. Topic: Fishing the Chama River & Northern NM Rivers.

September 11: Aaron Reed, award-winning outdoor writer and Army veteran. Topic: Texas Gulf Coast or San Gabriel River Georgetown.

October 2: Donovan Clary, Oklahoma Fishing Guide. Topic: Fishing the Lower Illinois or the Lower Mountain Fork Rivers.

November 6: Greg DeMars, DFF member. DFW local waters fishing. Greg hopes to have his book published in time for this presentation.

December 3: Holiday/Christmas Party - TBD

New Name Badges

by Julia Bell

In March of this year, our name badge supply company, McCartney, Inc., decided it was time for them to retire. The Board spent some time trying to find a quality supplier at the same price; regrettably, we discovered no one was producing the badges at McCartney Inc.'s price point. We ultimately found a new supplier, Blue Ribbon Awards in Plano. At the new price point, the Board realized we needed to make a change in how name badges were ordered and distributed. Beginning in August, members have the option to purchase their name badge using the Dallas Fly Fishers website, <https://dallasflyfishers.org/merchandise>. **Mike**, our Membership Chair, will time the order so the badges are ready in time for the next meeting. If you prefer to have yours mailed to you, please let Mike know at the time of ordering. If you were caught in that limbo period from March – July, or had never attended a meeting in-person to pick up your name badge, the DFF will be mailing all of the name badges we have in our possession. Any replacement badges or additionally desired badges are up to the discretion of individual members and will need to be ordered via the link on our website. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact **Julia Bell**.

Note: Our name badges have a magnet backing and are not advised to be used by individuals wearing a pacemaker.



The Fall Fly Fishing Round-Up 2022 – Benefiting Good Fly

Date: Saturday, October 1, 9:00 AM – 6PM CDT

Location: Millican Reserve, 3792 High Prairie Rd, College Station, TX 77845

Sponsor: Aggieland Fly Fishers

Ticket Price: \$10 (13 yr+), Children under the age of 12 are free.

Event Information and tickets: <https://www.aggielandff.org/roundup>

The Aggieland Fly Fishers (AFF) is holding a Festival at the Millican Reserve in College Station to benefit Good Fly. This will be a family-centric event that is all things fly fishing and will feature live music, food trucks, casting, tying, fly fishing, a raffle, and silent auction. You are invited to bring your family and friends out for a day of fun.

Presenters Include:

Jerry Hamon - Fly Fishing from a Kayak

Capt. Stacy Lynn, CI - Coastal Texas Fly Fishing

Chris Johnson, CI - Fly Fishing Texas

Texas Women Fly Fishers - Impactful Women in Fly Fishing

The Texas Council FFI - Conserving Texas Waters

Jeff Ferguson, MCI - The Value of Instruction

Texas Casting Instructor Gathering 2022

Date: Sunday, October 2, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM CDT

Location: Millican Reserve, 3792 High Prairie Rd, College Station, TX 77845

Sponsors: Good Fly and Texas Council FFI

Ticket Prices: Instructors attending: \$50; Candidates wanting evaluation: \$100; and Candidates for Pre-test Examination: \$200. See the AFF's website: <https://www.aggielandff.org/gathering>.

Event Information

The goal of this gathering is to offer a day of community casting instructors (CIs). The gathering is an opportunity for CIs, MCIs (Master Casting Instructors), and those interested in becoming Certified Casting Instructors to spend a day getting to know the CI family, fishing together, challenging themselves to become better instructors, and gauging candidate's progress on their journey. In addition, this is an opportunity for CIs or MCIs wanting to test in March 2023 to take a pretest administered by FFI's MCI **Jeff Ferguson** with a staff of his choosing. Those wanting to gauge their progress on the journey to CI but do not wish to pretest, will be offered video and eyes-on evaluation with CIs from around the state. This is a great chance to mingle with the best CIs in the country.

CI Gathering Schedule – Breakfast and lunch will be served

8:00a - 9:30a: Breakfast and MCI Round Table in the Boathouse

9:30a -12:00p: Morning Session Pre-Test, Video, and Candidate Evaluations, Fishing

12:15p-1:15p: State of the Union Address (Video or Live TBD) and Catered Lunch with **Patrick Berry**, President of FFI

1:30p-3:00p: Afternoon Session MCI Pre-Test, Video, and Candidate Evaluations, Fishing

3:00p: Good Fly Call to Arms and Send Off



Fishing Licenses

by Julia Bell

With the ending of the fiscal year, it is once again time to buy your 2022-23 fishing license or refresh your lifetime license. Persons aged 17-91 must have a license to fish Texas' public waters. Senior pricing is available in each package to Texas residents aged 65-91.

There are seven types of fishing licenses available to Texas residents: a Freshwater Package, a Saltwater Package, an All-Water Package, a Year-From-Purchase All-Water Package, a Combo Hunting & Fishing Package declaring either the Fresh or Saltwater endorsement, the Super Combo Hunting & Fishing Package which includes both Fresh and Saltwater endorsements, and the Disabled Veteran Super Combo Package, also including both Fresh and Saltwater endorsements.

Licenses can be purchased from a retailer, online at <https://www.txfgsales.com/>, and by phone Monday-Friday 8am - 5pm CT at 1-800-895-4248.

There are exceptions as to when a fishing license is not needed, and they are: the annual Free Fishing Day set by TPWD, fishing in state parks, and when fishing on private property. Other exceptions when a fishing license is not required to fish public waters are:

- a person under 17 years of age.
- a person born before January 1, 1931.
- a person with an intellectual disability fishing as part of medically approved therapy, under the immediate supervision of personnel approved or employed by a hospital, residence, or school for persons with an intellectual disability. The person with an intellectual disability must carry an authorization identifying the entity supplying the service. This authorization may be in the form of an identification card that contains the name of the sponsoring entity; or
- a person with an intellectual disability fishing under the direct supervision of a licensed angler who is either a family

member or has permission from the family to take the person fishing. While fishing, the person with an intellectual disability needs a note from a doctor stating the person has been diagnosed as having an intellectual disability.

In 2020, TPWD ceased printing of the Outdoor Annual rules and regulations booklets; however, the free TPWD Outdoor Annual app, available on iPhones and Androids, contains all license regulations, as well as regulation changes made throughout the season.



Fly Fish Hopping Across the Mid-Rocky Mountains

by Julia Bell

“The mountains are calling & I must go & I will work on while I can, studying incessantly,” wrote **John Muir** in a letter to his sister **Sarah Muir Galloway**. Muir desired for people to do more than just enjoy nature but to seek to understand and protect nature. With our annual outing to South Fork, Colorado, we do just that.

Cody and I decided to spend a day west of South Fork in the San Juan National Forest. We booked a trip with **Scott Taylor** of High Country Fishing out of the Let It Fly fly shop in Pagosa Springs. Driving ATVs over 9,000' in elevation up forest roads, we sought streams to chase wild Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout. Gorgeous scenery and some technical casting yielded fun catches of beautiful fish.

Scott donates this trip to our biennial auction, and even though Cody and I were not the 2022 winners of this trip, we believed it would be a fun experience. We enjoyed the day

tremendously and have it booked for our 2023 South Fork club outing.

One of my other hobbies is needlepoint, and the national seminar was being held in Tucson starting the end of July. I thought we would come home from South Fork, regroup, and travel to Arizona. Cody had other plans in mind, and we ended up fishing our way from South Fork to Tucson. In a 2013 solo astrophotography trip to Moab, Utah, Cody discovered the Quiet Fly Fisher out of Loa, Utah. Cody really enjoyed his day with **Mike James**, so he decided to book another trip with Mike for us, so Cody and I headed to Loa from South Fork.

Mike took us to several places in the Fishlake National Forest. When Cody shared his 2013 trip details with me, he kept talking about Tiger Trout and Splake. (A Tiger Trout is a cross between a female Brown Trout and a male Brook Trout, and a Splake is a cross

between a female Lake Trout and a male Brook Trout; Tiger Trout are sterile while Splake are fertile.) I am always seeking to add to my species list, so I definitely wanted to target and catch Splake, having added the Tiger Trout in September 2021. We fished a tailrace enjoying a nice, morning PMD hatch. Filled with many species, I was fortunate enough to add the Splake and Colorado Cutthroat Trout to my list.



Cody with a Splake. (Continued on page 7)



A Tiger Trout.



A Colorado Cutthroat.

While Cody and Mike were farther downstream catching fish, and the pressure was off me, I decided to do a little empirical study, informally, of course. The tailrace narrowed slightly at a 25° bend, so bigger trout were upstream of the bend, while smaller fish were at the bend. Having often heard over many, many years that a stuck fish won't eat again, I decided it was time to learn for myself, as it seems the only conscious thought a fish has is to eat or not. I began targeting a fish in the middle of the stream; hooked, landed, photographed, and released him. I watched only that fish, which was a little difficult considering the plethora of fish feeding in this section. Upon its release, it did not move into the faster moving water it occupied when I first hooked it but moved a little farther downstream staging to the outside bend section where the water was still moving, just not as voluminously. My third drift of the

same fly he ate earlier, he greedily ate again, and again, I landed, photographed, and released him. Upon his release this time, the fish staged at the bend on the slower, calmer inside bank. For the 20 minutes I observed him, he continued to feed, rising to take some fallen PMDs topwater and moving slightly off his lie to eat some morsels off the bottom. Without changing the fly, I started casting to this fish again. The current kept swinging my fly out to the middle, but I had a white, stick-on indicator on my leader. This fish ate my indicator, thrashing its head. With that, I had enough information to know that a stuck fish will actively eat again. What did put this fish in peril, was his staging location. By choosing to return once more to the slower, calmer, and shallower water to rest, he made himself an easy target for birds.

After lunch, we decided to target Brook Trout. It was very technical fishing and reminded me of **Barb Fullerton** and her ability to repeatedly cast a fly into a whiskey shot glass. Devoting casting time to technical fishing does have its rewards, and catching these hungry, active fish was the reward for this day.

We left Loa for Page, Arizona to fish the Colorado River's Lees Ferry, another first for me. The night before we were to fish with **Kevin Campbell** of Lees Ferry Anglers, we visited the Horseshoe Bend Overlook. Even from the cliffs, we could spot fish in the water. At first, I thought it was moss, but when the moss turned and moved upstream, I knew they were fish. I did a thorough reconnaissance of the area, as we would be fishing Horseshoe Bend the next day.

I enjoyed Kevin's guiding and people skills. We fished from the boat; we wade fished in the middle of the river and just below the Glen Canyon Dam; we used floating lines and sinking lines, topwater flies and nymph rigs with all outfits catching gorgeous Rainbow Trout throughout the day. Having read **Kevin Fedarko's** book *The Emerald Mile* earlier this year about the 1933 Colorado River floods, Glen Canyon Dam failure, and the fastest boat ride down the Colorado through the Grand Canyon, I had many questions, which Kevin patiently answered and highlighted aspects from the book, such as the

boulders pulled from spillway tunnels and where scenes from "The Greatest Story Ever Told" were filmed. There were few kayakers and no other fly fishers on the water, so that added to the epicness of the day. Fly Fishing Lee's Ferry is a must-do for any angler.



Julia below Glen Canyon Dam on the Colorado River.



A Colorado Rainbow from the Lee's Ferry Region.

When we arrived in Tucson, we visited Dry Creek Outfitters and contemplated hiking into the mountains in the Coronado National Forest to fish the Santa Catalina Ranger District, but there were just too many activities we wanted to see and do, coupled with my seminar classes of "pointing the needle," so we stowed our rods and ended the fly fishing excursion knowing we will return, because, yes, John Muir, the mountains are calling and I must go.

Furneaux Creek Biotic Sampling

by Roger Rohrbeck

Furneaux Creek is a tributary of the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. The creek runs through Branch Hollow Park in Carrollton TX. In conjunction with Friends of Furneaux Creek, we three amigos (**Richard Johnson, Jere Anderson, and Roger Rohrbeck**) meet at the park once a month to sample of the aquatic invertebrates present in the creek. So, why would we want to do that? Well, our goal is to ensure that clean unpolluted water flows in the creek. This can be reliably measured by the presence (in it) of macroinvertebrates requiring unpolluted water, like mayfly nymphs, caddisfly larvae, etc.

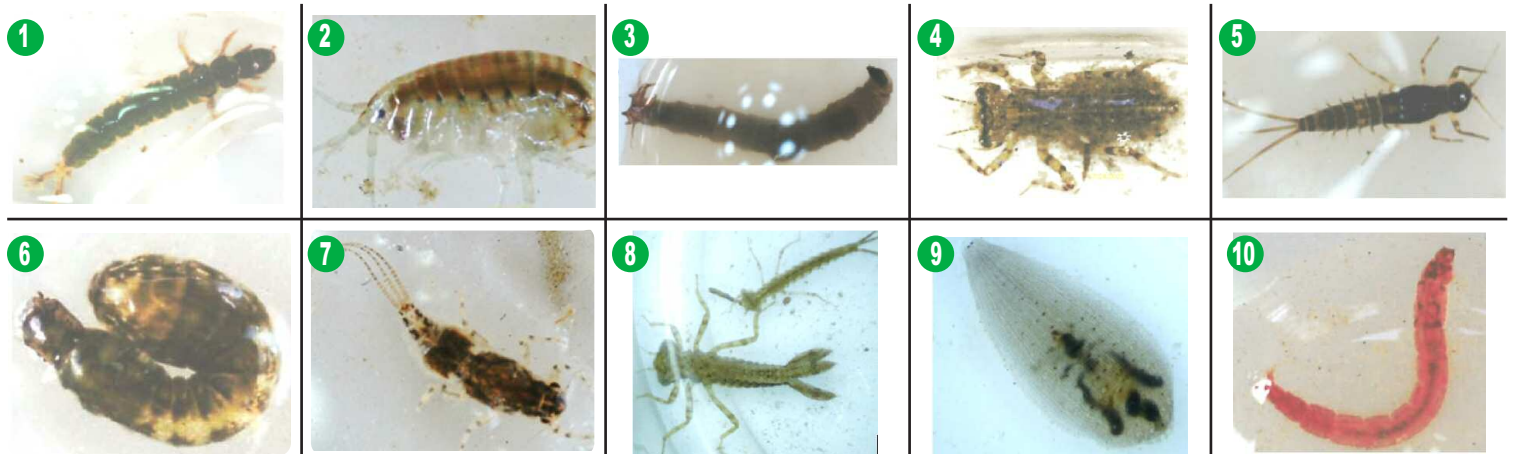
Richard starts off our process by collecting samples of soil, rocks, and aquatic vegetation from the creek, and placing the samples in a bucket, along with some water from the creek. The bucket gets emptied into the two large picking trays. Once the sediment in the trays has cleared sufficiently, Jere and Richard begin searching for any movement in their respective trays.

When movement is spotted, the invertebrate is captured in a plastic spoon, and passed to Roger for microscopic identification and image capture.

Richard also keeps a running of tally of invertebrates found. This process takes approximately two hours, including cleanup and return of the invertebrates to the stream, unharmed by our process for recording their presence. Once back home, Roger annotates the photos, and prepares a summary sheet, which tallies the number of captured invertebrates by their likelihood of being found in unpolluted water.

This is the microscope we use to identify and photograph the macro-invertebrates that we find.

And, here below are some of the macro-invertebrates that we have identified and photographed. See which of them you can identify to Order level, which can be viewed on the Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Taxonomic Structure pages of my FlyfishingEntomology.com website. Their identity will be revealed in next month's edition of The Leader.



A Memorable Fishing Trip

by Jere Anderson

We lived for a long time in Northern California and were members of the Diablo Valley Fly Fishers. We fished a lot of lowland lakes for stripers and hatchery Trout. We fished the Sierra's for Mountain Trout. So the summer of 1992, our youngest son and the family decided to fish the Ocean Water between Vancouver Island and the British Columbia mainland.

Having been raised not far from Puget Sound in the State of Washington, I had been salmon fishing often, though not often with a fly rod. It was decided to try to go to the Campbell River Country on the eastern side of

Vancouver Island. Painters Lodge had some all-inclusive packages that included food lodging and guided fishing. So it was decided..... Painters Lodge it was.

The drive from the Bay Area to Canada was long, but we passed through many towns in the Western part of the USA that had family in it, so we were sure to allow a lot of time. Both **Judy** and I wanted to see the forests of the Olympic Peninsula which ended at the Washington State Ferry Dock to meet the boat to Vancouver Island. I have not scoped out the drive very well, so even though we caught the boat we had planned on taking,

we still did not get to Painters Lodge until nearly dark. However, they were ready for us and told us when to be on the dock to meet our guide.

Since we had a party of three, we had a larger boat than the other customers, and a guide who went by the name of Dirty Harry. **Fred** was given a rod to watch. The rigs were interesting. The fishing style is called Mooching, and the rod looks like a very stiff fly rod, with a single action reel that resembles a fly reel. I worried about Fred getting hooked up to too big a fish to handle on that kind of a rig, but he got help from the

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A Memorable Fishing Trip

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guide until we were all fairly sure he was unlikely to lose a rod. No matter whose rod got the hit, we let Fred play and land the fish. He was so busy and so happy, the trip was worth it right there.

The prime fish running was the Silver Salmon, now called the Coho. It was easy to catch a fish per drift through the pack of fish waiting to run up the river and spawn. **Harry** wanted us to get more fishing in so he took us place the other boats were not going. We boated Chinook, Silvers, Pinks, Sockeye and Dog salmon. Fred had a blast. We were fishing deep, and some foot long brown sharks would get on our lines often. The locals did not want them so they killed them all that came into the boat. Fred did not like

to kill a fish that he did not want to keep, but Harry got him calmed down about that. Harry also had a shirt made up for him using one of Harry's pictures.



All in all it was a great vacation and I find Dirty Harry Guide Service of Campbell River still advertised. Fred and I had fished together some, but this was the high point of our West Coast Fishing.

When we got back to our California Home, the company decided I was going to go to Dallas, and that is how I met all of you. This was a great trip for my 8 year old son and I, and he has kept this shirt. I will not forget it either. That was almost exactly 30 years ago, and until we lost him last December to Covid Complications, we had been more than a Father/Son relationship. He was like my best man buddy since my University Days. I hope everyone has an experience like this with the kids, and that the memory of it lasts like mine has.

The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

The August Meeting featured **Dutch Baughman** and was a fly tying demonstration at 5pm and a program at 7pm. As expected, he had some very interesting flies. They were not too difficult for most of our tiers, and they looked fishy. Here they are:



Dutch had built a powerpoint presentation containing how to fish these flies and more good hints and tips on fly fishing than I think I have ever seen in one presentation. How to rig them, how to use a lot of little gadgets that most of us do not use very often. It was a huge amount of good information. Thank You Dutch, it was everything I expected and more.

Then the month was empty of club activities, however some great trips were taken by some of our members. These are written up in this newsletter by several members. One of the most fun was on Saturday, 25 August, about a

dozen DFF instructors had an open call for the public and others with specific questions to meet at the pond in Castle Hills. About a dozen came, and we all had a good time, I believe. They assembled their rods and did a little basic casting. Then each one got a mentor, and the casting was in most cases really getting good. We even sold a membership in the DFF to one family.



The day was warm and beautiful. The lawn was fresh and green and it was great to be outdoors in Texas.



Then we went fishing in that great looking lake. I have seen the fishing be better, but the new fly fishers had a great time trying.

The new club year will start with out September Meeting, The Meetings for the rest of 2022 will still be at the Methodist Church, but the room has changed. See the meeting announcements for where in the Church is our room. Signs will be posted, and the parking ample.

We will be teaching a lot this fall, and so watch the calendar for opportunities to teach. You do NOT need to be a certified Angler Education Instructor to help out with these things. But you must be to lead them, so take advantage of the many chances to get your own Instructor Ratings and the LLELA classes and the like.

Dan Montayne's Warm Water Fly Fishing group meetings every third Tuesday of the month will begin again in September, and they are too much fun to miss. Several of our group were teaching at Castle Hills, and a lot of wisdom was demonstrated. Don't miss these. Dan will post them in the Club Communications, so be sure your E-Mail is correct. If you are getting this newsletter by E-mail it is right.

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The Activity Report

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The Holiday Party Plans are coming together. It will be December 4th, and an old guy you all know will also be having a Birthday on that day. Keep up the great work everyone. The club is as active as at any time I can remember in the 30 years I have been a member.

The fall programs are set to be some real prizes and going on into 2023 it looks like our

wonderful classic events are coming back. Best Wishes for many fishes. May they be bigger and fuller of fight. This year marks my 30th year as Conservation Chairman for the DFF. I am very happy to serve and having the Newsletter Editor position is a plus. Thank you all for the support. We have lots of stories from members, and lots of postings from our Board Members about each of their activities. An election is coming up, so you

who have wondered what we do can take part. **Jeff Ziehm** is handling the nominations. Talk to him about a job in the Club Board.

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

— Jere



The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

There is some reason to hope for rain. After 67 days with NO measurable precipitation, we got a trace on the eleventh. Then it all broke loose. By the time you read this we will have had the wettest August in History of Texas. This will refill some lakes that we need badly, but it is not yet a solution for our drought. This part of Texas is an Ecological Zone called Blackland Prairie. It is mostly clay in the surface layer. Clay has very small pores, so the water is more likely to run off than to soak in. With the long dry spell, all the clay topsoil is even less porous. But the two weeks of relatively light rain we will have had by the time you read this will have loosened it up quite a bit. As a minimum, our reservoirs will be closer to full, and the soil will be absorbing moisture again.

The hurricane season is beginning to form, and that adds to the chances of rain in a big way in some years. We are a bit late in getting started with the Hurricane season, but the weather pattern looks better. Our long dry spell was due largely to a High-Pressure center over Southern Oklahoma blocking the rainstorms from coming down the middle of the USA to Texas. There normally is a high center over the North Atlantic, called the Bermuda High, and another one just north of Hawaii, called the Hawaiian High. These blocking pressure patterns steer the rain coming off the Pacific Ocean down to Texas. The gulf moisture we depend on is also affected by this blocking pattern. It looks better now, so we can hope for a warm wet fall and good soil moisture for next year's growing season. I am working with the Inland Fisheries Scientists at TPWD to get a reading

on the damage this drought may be having on our beloved fish. A few good conservation projects my yet come out of this.

While I am inclined to talk about local issues in this column, the issues of Conservation are worldwide, and often very similar. We outdoor people have saved some species in my lifetime. The Bison, the Guadalupe Bass, the Bald Eagles, and most of the Pacific Salmon except for the ones in the rivers in CA. In fact, 23 species have been taken off the endangered species list recently. Sounds good, right? Unfortunately, they came off the list because now they are officially extinct. Not so good. We need to be more aware of the species teetering on the edge of extinction and act where possible.

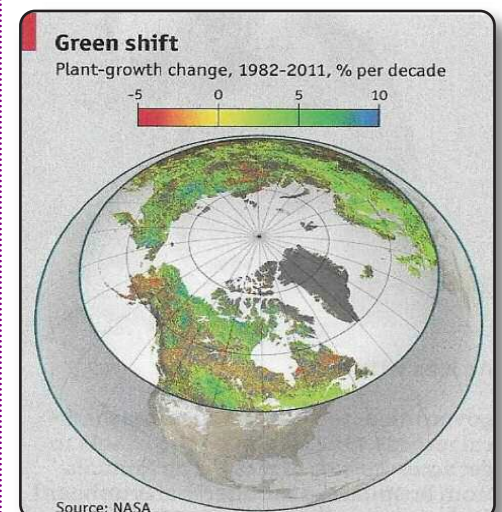
So many species in so many climate zones adapt, adjust, and survive. We Humans used to do that a few million years ago. We started as cave dwelling Hunter-Gatherers. We would be living off nature in any way we could. A long winter was probably a disaster with lots of loss of life. Then we began to plant the seeds we needed to get bigger yields, and to protect certain animals. We learned how to store supplies in time of plenty so when times were tough, our tribes survived with less loss. As the climate changed and the weather got less reliable, we moved.

The Plains Native Americans were nomadic, and followed the grazing Bison as recently as the 1800's. But modern man seems to be less wise and adaptable than our ancestors. Tens of thousands of years ago, if the rain belt moves North and our crops were not doing well, the village packed up and moved. If we were hunters and another group of early

humans were farmers, we traded. You get the idea. Work together for the common good.

Now we have folks building where they are not safe and making it someone else's fault if it doesn't work out well. An example is cities like the housing developments on the New Jersey Shore that got wiped out in a storm surge over a decade ago. Other areas are like West Palm Beach, Florida, where the most extreme tides that happen about two times a year put a few inches of sea water in the streets. What would it be like to have a Hurricane Storm Surge on the days of the highest tides of the year? Yet these educated modern members of our society don't wonder for a moment if they are making a big mistake.

We in conservation are aware that the planet is changing. With the warming and more CO2 the planet is growing a more garden like nature in new areas. Here is the NASA composite picture of the greening up of the Earth. Note the Canadian Prairies are becoming less Arctic and more Temperate.



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The Conservation Corner

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So, to absolutely nobodies surprise, the increase in warmth and CO2, two major things needed by plants, results in more food growing areas on our planet. That in turn could make problems of extreme world hunger easier to deal with. Now if the modern humans were as smart as our tree and cave dwelling forefathers, we might be on to something here.

The same needs exist for our wild kingdom partners in this planet. More access to allow the natural species to move with the changes in the environment will perhaps save a few more of them from human mistakes. The leading cause of environmental stress is habitat destruction. For any other strategy to work, there must be a suitable environment. Early in his presidency, President Biden signed an executive order to have 30% of the environment protected and/or managed by 2030. A noble objective, but a bit thin on strategy to implement it. This objective is the USA's part in a similar objective for the entire planet being coordinated by a group called "The Campaign for Nature".

Large public protected areas were a common strategy last century and it created many of our great National Parks and wilderness

areas. They are still important to the big picture. But much needs to be done to have this concept become a plan that includes areas with no access to the great outdoors like in the cities. There are some good points. For example, if we take care of the forests we have, they can capture and sequester nearly as much CO2 as all the automobiles in the USA turn out in a year. It sounds like there is a project in here somewhere.

On the political front, the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change will hold COP27, its 27th conference in Egypt this November. The last one did some good, but not what they wanted to achieve. There actually was some science in the results, unlike many political Governmental Actions. There are three major science groups, each of which takes a specific part of the Science involved in the Climate Situation and write a comprehensive report on their findings. These reports are quite deep and very solid science. The last COP produced a document titled Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation & Vulnerability, the second part of the Sixth Assessment Report. This was a compendium of the results of the three science groups. Then these are the input to the Council Of the Parties (COP) who are not

science oriented in the slightest. This is a gathering of about 190 nations political representatives. They arrive in about 400 private jets and immediately chastise everyone except themselves for being wasteful and guilty of excessive pollution. Like many Governmental groups, a good sense of humor makes their output more readable.

Summer is here and the city folks are out there mingling with our wildlife. This is good from the standpoint of making them appreciate our wildlife and to admire nature as it really exists. The Downside is that many of them have no concept of how to enjoy our wild world without either disturbing it or worse, without being attacked by it. Every year a cluster of injuries make the news due to unsuccessful interactions between wildlife and tourists. We fishing outdoor folks explore the back country looking for likely fishing spots, and in so doing get to see a lot of animals that the city folks seldom see and yet we are safer due to being more cautious. Take the time to observe and enjoy all animals, great and small.

Best wishes for bigger fishes.

- Jere

To Join DFF, complete the form below and mail along with your check to:

**Dallas Fly Fishers
8349 Club Meadows Dr.
Dallas, Tx 75243**

You can also join or renew online at <http://www.dallasflyfishers.org/membership.html>

MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL

New Member or Renewing My Membership (Check one) Date _____

Name: _____ Spouse's name: _____

E-mail address: _____

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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