

The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ February 2023
Volume XLVI ♦ Number 2 ♦ www.dallasflyfishers.org



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

Long before the Internet and television ads, the fondness of receiving toy catalogs in the mail was an exquisite treat that occupied many hours of perusing and discussions between my brother and me. I think it delighted our parents just as much as we discussed our lists, what we originally chose, and how we paired those lists down to final choices. While 21st century children may never know the sheer joy of receiving catalogs in the mail, fly fishers have not been cheated. For me, receiving The Fly Shop catalog in the mail in January brings about the same joy as the annual toy catalogs did. Though it is smaller than the near-200 pages it once was, and some product lines have changed, The Fly Shop catalog expanded my knowledge and helped me as a novice fly fisher learn “what was out there.” My second fly rod, also a gift from my parents, was a two piece 6# St. Croix rod that I had selected from all the other rods in The Fly Shop catalog. I phoned them many times trying to narrow down what would be my birthday gift in 2000, and they patiently answered my many phone calls and questions and guided me toward rods based upon our numerous conversations. I still have that rod and love to fish it, though it only travels well to Alaska, being a two-piece. In 2003, I attended my first FlyFishers of Texas Fly Tying Festival where Joan Wulff was the featured speaker. I learned all about the world of fly tying, and though I had seen the myriad of tying stuff in the catalog, I never really put it together as to what a fly fisher does with all that stuff. Now, I knew. I lived with my parents then, and they knew I was literally picking up roadkill for my fly tying material, not that it was much because armadillo and skunk just never quite had enough appeal, but I think some of their pillow talk was how to get me to stop seeking roadkill. I didn't tye on a bench or with a vise then, because I didn't know if I'd really be interested in tying. Having seen the catalog come in the mail, Momma called The Fly Shop, and they again graciously helped an utter non-fly fisher make fly tying selections. I received my tying bench and a Wapsi complete starter tying kit from my parents, who continued for a while to add to my obsession of tying stuff. Before I purchased books on flies, I would study the flies in the catalog and try my best to mimic what I saw, hand scribbling fly recipes on

old food recipe cards, and coming up with some of the ugliest flies known to fly fishers. In 2008, my first serious saltwater reel, a Ross CLA III, came from The Fly Shop catalog. In 2014, Cody and I fished on one of The Fly Shop's guided trips to Kamchatka, Russia. To say The Fly Shop catalog has been an influence in my fly fishing career is such an understatement. Even Momma knows that the catalog arrives in January, and when she phones and inquires as to what I'm doing and my reply is I'm reading The Fly Shop catalog, she just hangs up the phone; no goodbye; no enjoy; no see you later, because she knows I'll be pouring over it for hours.

In September 2019 on a trip chasing Peacock Bass in the Brazilian Amazon, **Cody** and **I** had the opportunity to meet **Mike Michalak** and his wife **Bertha**, owners of The Fly Shop. On destination trips, the plane that brings a group to the destination is also taking another group away. It happened that Mike was leaving the Amazon when we arrived, so our overlap was several hours. We asked the outbound guests about the fishery, flies that were successful for them, and other fishing habitats. When I travel, I always have a book and a needlepoint project for entertainment. Mike saw my book, and we struck up a conversation. At the start of it, I had no idea I was speaking to fly fishing royalty, nor that Mike was the owner of The Fly Shop, and I didn't know it until a friend pointed it out to me when Mike stepped away. Checking the veracity of our friend's claim, Mike confirmed that he was indeed The Fly Shop's owner. I told him about the great customer service we had received over the years, especially with the fiasco of getting out of Russia, but the fishing conversation didn't last long. Instead, Mike and I ended up discussing books, really good, classic books. Mike was reading Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, a book that was required reading for me in high school and college. Mike was so passionate and excited about the story, he ripped out the first page of the book, handed it to me, and said, “Now, how can anyone not be spellbound with an opening like this?” We shared some amazing conversation about books, but what was clearly apparent to me was the sheer passion Mike possessed for things he loved.



The success of The Fly Shop and joy I have always received from them stems from an owner who is passionate about fly fishing and sharing that excitement and devotion to fly fishing with others. It is my hope and with a similar exuberance Mike radiates that the DFF and its board exhibits the same kind of passion and service for its members and guests. We are here to serve the membership and help grow your knowledge and love for this most beautiful sport.

Here's to bent tips and happy days!

—Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers

IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

Page:

- 1 Fishin' Tales
- 2 DFF Board 2023
- 2 DFF Program Schedule
- 3 2023 Calendar
- 3 In-Person Attendance Incentive
- Speaker Tied Fly Drawing
- 4 2022 Annual Financial Statement
- 4 DFF / FWFF Joint Colorado Outing for 2023
- 4 DFF Annual Survey
- 5 What in the World is a Woolly Bugger?
- 5 7th Annual DFF Fly Fishing Nature Outing at
Sunset Ridge Ranch
- 6 White River Outing April 18-22, 2023
- 6 DBU Magic
- 7 A Full House Starts 2023
- 7 The Activity Report
- 9 The Conservation Corner
- 11 Bass On The Fly Fishing Tournament
- 11 Membership/Renewal Application

DFF Board 2023

President

Julia Bell
214-980-9978
flyshrgl@gmail.com

Vice-President

Dave Smith
214-918-7171
dave_maxsmith@yahoo.com

Past President

Jack Janco
C-214-542-1738 H-972-542-8692
jackjanco@icloud.com

Treasurer

Steve Jackson
214-356-2184
steve@vantexholding.com

Secretary

Jim Woodman
651-226-7690
lakebud002@gmail.com

Trustee 2023

LaJan Barnes
410-925-9858
nlbarnes@aol.com

Trustee 2024

Jim Latshaw
214-808-6806
jimel312@hotmail.com

Trustee 2025

Dani Rose
281-460-0645
dani@thedanirose.com

Auction Chair

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

Casting Chair

Ed Bowen
213-377-1423
ed.26936@gmail.com

Conservation

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

Education Coordinator

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

Fly Tying Coordinator

Dan Montayne
214-693-4643
montayne@verizon.net

IT Specialist

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

Membership

Mike Becker
214-288-3885
kuduguy@verizon.net
Dave Shatzer
972-571-7622
dshatz86@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

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

Outings Coordinator

OPEN

Programs

LaJan Barnes
410-925-9858
nlbarnes@aol.com
Danny Soltau

DFF Program Schedule

by LaJan Barnes, Program Coordinator

Previous Events: Our January meeting featuring Danny Soltau, Owner of Dirty Water Fly Shop, did not disappoint. Danny showed us a great streamer pattern (Strippers Delight), which was 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. The fly that he tied will be one of the flies that will be included in our quarterly drawing for attendees. More about the quarterly fly give away in this newsletter.

2023 Speaker Line Up

Please add these dates to your calendar and support our great club! See each meeting for details regarding fly tying and presentation times.

MAKE A NOTE: THE START TIME OF THE FLY TYING HAS CHANGED FOR 2023!

FLY TYING WILL BEGIN AT 5:30 PM instead of 5 and end about 6:15 to give those working until 5 PM a chance to join us. Our break will be from 6:15 to 7 PM. Then our speaker presentation will begin at 7 PM, which has not changed, followed by our brief business meeting and fly drawings.

We continue to meet at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 503 N Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080. Please note that there are two locations for our meeting rooms at the First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 503 N Central Expy, Richardson, TX 75080. Make note of the location of our meeting room for each meeting. Most of our 2023 meetings will be in the Ogden Fellowship Hall on the NE side of the building.

February 6: Alan King and Bryan McMurray of Good Fly Organization will provide casting instruction. The Good Fly Organization is a non-profit organization 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." The founders are certified fly-casting instructors. Bryan is working on his Cl.

February Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall, NE side of building. **Topic:** They will be teaching us how to cast on our own. We will have our fly tying demonstration as usual at 5:30 by our new VP, Dave Smith. Dave will demonstrate how to tie the Guide's Choice Hare's Ear Nymph and the Black Boudreaux, which will be included in our quarterly fly give away in March. We will begin the casting instruction at 7 PM followed by our regular business meeting and fly drawings.

March 6: Meredith McCord, Co-Winner of the Ladies Tarpon Fishing in 2022 on a fly.

Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall, NE side of building. **opic:** "The Redfish of Louisiana". Meredith holds 241 records (IGFA). Her topic will be "The Redfish of Louisiana." Meredith will demonstrate how to tie the Funky Bunny at 5:30, which she caught a 40 lb 14 oz Red Drum (Redfish) on 8 lb tippet November 2018, an IGFA world record! Meredith travels around the world to fly fish, lead guided fishing trips, and lectures throughout the USA on the many

aspects of fly fishing. We are honored to have her for our March meeting. Check out her website (<https://meredithmccord.com>) and the IGFA website for Meredith's world records (https://igfa.org/igfa-world-records-search/?search_type=AnglerNameDetail&search_term_1=132761)

Pending April 2nd (Sunday): Streamside bug collecting is pending due to unforeseen circumstances (see below).

Pending April 3: Robert Younghanz, The Bug Guy. **Meeting Location:** Ogden Fellowship Hall. Robert has a new and exciting job opportunity and he may not be able to make it this year. We are searching for another entomologist presentation to fill in. We will update everyone as soon as we know.

May 1: Dale Harris, and Peter Rea, DFF members. **Meeting Location:** Ogden Fellowship Hall. **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. Dale and Peter are looking forward to sharing their experiences on the Buffalo River in Arkansas and what it would be like to camp and fish on that river.

Fly tying demonstration at 5:30: Peter will be tying the flies that you would want to use on the Buffalo followed by a short break from 6:15-7 PM. Their presentation will begin at 7 PM, followed by our short business meeting and fly drawings.

June 5: Bob Clouser! This will be a **ZOOM meeting only beginning at 6 PM**. Bob does not travel much these days but is still active locally in Florida where he lives in Florida. He will demonstrate how to tie his famous clouser on his new hook design (AHREX™ SA210 Bob Clouser Signature) and present a program about small mouth bass. **The ZOOM meeting will begin at 6 PM (CDT) and last for a couple of hours, followed by our short business meeting.** We will not have a fly drawing since we are not meeting in person. I hope to obtain the flies that Bob ties for our quarterly drawing.

July 10: Bill Sargeant, tie-along meeting. **Meeting Location:** Ogden Fellowship Hall. Once again Bill will show us how to tie some great flies. Since this is a tie-along meeting, tying will be from 6 to 8 PM followed by our short business meeting. There will be no tying demonstration at 5:30 PM.

August 7: Nick Gallegos, Los Pinos Fly Shop, Albuquerque, NM. **Meeting Location:** Ogden Fellowship Hall. **Topic:** Fishing the Chama River & Northern NM Rivers (Rio Los Brazos, Rio de Los Pinos, and possibly the Chavez Creek). Nick will also tie specific fly patterns that would be used in those areas. He will dissect the Chama River into 3 large sections: headwaters/freestone section, the tail water section (El Vado), and finishing at its last tail water section (Abiquiu).

Dear Members,

If you have been around someone who is ill, and exposure is 10 days or less from a DFF event, we are asking that you please enjoy the event via Zoom from home. We are trying to limit exposures to others, whether it is COVID-19, the Flu, the common cold, or any other communicable disease. We appreciate your help in working together to keep everyone healthy.

2023 CALENDAR:

***** 2023 meetings will begin at 5:30 *****
***** Third Tuesday Fly Tying at Cabela's at 6:30 *****

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2023 SCHEDULE.

LaJan's Programs Overview has most of the 2023 Speakers listed, as well. It's looking to be another grand year with the DFF!

February 3rd-4th: The Red River Rendezvous in Eisenhower State Park. Friday dinner and Saturday Lunch are provided. This is a great event.

February 4th: Texas FlyFishers of Houston's 30th **Dr. Ed Rizzolo** Fly Tying Festival Featuring Charlie Crave.

February 6th: **Alan King and Bryan McMurray**, co-founders of Good Fly Organization. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** **Topic:** casting clinic or how to practice cast on your own. Tying demonstration will be Dave Smith, with some good ones.

February 17th,19th: TU Troutfest at the Lazy L & L Campgrounds.

February 22nd: Stephenville High School fly fishing at the TFFC. Volunteers needed.

February 25th: Coppell Biodiversity Center basic fly fishing class. You can be certified as an Instructor at this event also. **Call Richard.**

February 25th-26th: The Fly Fishing and Brew Festival in Mesquite.

March 6th: **Meredith McCord**, Winner Ladies Tarpon Fishing 2022, Saltwater Fishing, **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** Details to follow.

March 11th: Trinity River TRWD Fly Fest. Details at trwdflyfest.com.

March 23rd-25th: Sow Bug, Baxter County Fairgrounds, Mt. Home, AR.

March 25th: BSA University, from 8am to 4 pm at the TFFC. Need about a dozen Helpers, call Bill Slaughter.

March 30th: The Spring Outing at Lathram Springs. There is an \$8 fee, but it fishes great.

April 1st: Basic Angler Class, 9-12 at Watterworth Park 13000 William Dodsen Pkwy. Farmers Branch, TX. Volunteers needed for this event. Hours are 8-12 Contact **Paul Locklear,318-518-8945 Bill Slaughter 972-342-9630** for sign up.

April 2nd: A repeat of the very successful bug gathering and identification outing.

April 3rd: The Bug Guy at our evening meeting and the bugs that we try to imitate when we fish. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** We will also host another streamside bug collecting event on Sunday April 2nd.

April 15th: The beautiful Texas Spring Outing at the Sunset Ridge Ranch.

April 29th: Basic Fly Fishing Class at the Rosemeade Recreation Center. You can stay after and get certified as an Instructor. **Call Richard.**

May 1: **Dale Harris**, DFF member. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** **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.

May 6th, 14th: World Championship Bass on The Fly, Lake Fork Marina.

June 5: **Bob Clouser!** 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 small mouth bass.



July 10: **Bill Sargeant**, Fly tying demonstration. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** Once again our DFF members share their expert fly tying prowess.

August 7: **Nick Gallegos**, Los Pinos Fly Shop, Albuquerque, NM. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** **Topic:** Fishing the Chama River & Northern NM Rivers.

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

October 2: **Donavan Clary**, Oklahoma Fishing Guide. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** **Topic:** Fishing the Lower Illinois or the Lower Mountain Fork Rivers.

November 3rd-5th: Toledo Bend Rendezvous, at Toledo Bend State Park, Zwolle, LA.

November 6: **Greg DeMars**, DFF member. **Meeting Location: Youth Worship Center.** **Topic:** DFW local waters fishing. Greg hopes to have his book published in time for this presentation.

December 3: Holiday/Christmas Party - TBD

In-Person Attendance Incentive – Speaker Tied Fly Drawing

by LaJan Barnes

In our discussion about how to incentivize DFF members to attend in person meetings, **Jim Latsaw** suggested that we give away the flies tied by our speakers. We usually have a drawing for those flies at the end of the meeting in which they were tied. However, what we will do is save the flies tied by our speakers for a special drawing at the end of each quarter. Our first drawing will be at the March for those in attendance. Sorry zoom folks we cannot give you a ticket if you are not there in person. The flies tied by our speakers in January, February, and March will be nestled in a fly box. Everyone who attends the March meeting will receive a free ticket for the special drawing at the end of the meeting.

One lucky winner will receive those flies in a fly box. Board members are excluded from the drawings since they are usually at the meetings. We will do the same at the end of each quarter. We hope to see more of our members at the meetings.

Our first fly box will be files from: January - Stripper's Delight by Danny Soltau, February - Guide's Choice Hare's Ear Nymph and the Black Boudreaux by Dave Smith, and March – Funky Bunny (produced record winning fish) by **Meredith McCord**. Only those in attendance in March will be eligible for the drawing.

The second quarter fly box will be flies from our April, May, and June (hopefully, **Bob Clouser** will send me the flies he ties on zoom) meetings, which will be drawn during the July meeting. Since June is a Zoom only meeting, we will have to determine the eligibility of members for the 2nd quarter fly drawing to make it fair for all members, excluding board members.

The 3rd quarter drawing will include flies from July, August, and September meeting, drawn in September. Finally, stay tuned for 4th quarter drawing details since the 4th quarter only includes two meetings, October and November.

2022 Annual Financial Statement

In the interest of keeping our members informed, attached is the Financial Statement for the 12 months of 2022. Any questions should be referred to Steve Jackson, our Treasurer.

<u>Income</u>	
Membership income	\$ 7,049
Auction income	17,903
Holiday party income	2,870
Raffle income	517
Athens Fly Fishing Festival income	3,619
Contributions income	364
Merchandise income	962
Miscellaneous income	232
Total income	\$ 33,516

<u>Expenses</u>	
Newsletter expense	\$ 2,268
Speaker expense	7,251
Auction expense	3,355
FFI Dues	478
Liability insurance	450
Meeting room rental	1,400
Athens Fly Fishing Festival expense	5,242
Holiday party expense	2,259
Administrative expense	1,939
Internet expense & website	181
Outing expense	476
Merchandise expense	621
Donations	1,006
Total Expense	\$ 26,926
Net Income	\$ 6,590
Ending Cash Balance	\$ 22,374

DFE / FWFF Joint Colorado Outing for 2023

by Jeff Ziehm

The Dallas Fly Fishers (DFE) and Fort Worth Fly Fishers (FWFF) will again be holding a joint outing to South Fork, Colorado this July. Dates for 2023 are July 15th to the 22nd.

It is the responsibility of the attendees to make their own travel and hotel plans, and bring their own gear. There is fishing available that will satisfy most anglers; small creeks, large rivers, and high mountain lakes.

Our home base will be the Ute Bluff Lodge.
<https://www.utablufflodge.com>

If they are full, there are many other lodging options in South Fork.

We meet informally every morning to discuss the day, and spread out nicely. Every evening there is an informal “where did you go today and how did you do?” gathering. The Ute Bluff Lodge has a great community room that can be used for our gatherings if weather conditions are inclement. Remember to bring a camping chair, as we gather outside if the weather is nice.

Most will leave on Saturday the 15th mid-morning and drive most of the way there, stopping somewhere between Amarillo, TX and Walsenburg, Colorado. Spend the night and head on into South Fork Sunday morning. Fishing in the afternoon, and next 5 days, returning home on the 22nd or 23rd.

You can also fly to Denver, Colorado Springs, or Albuquerque, and rent a car.

If you have any questions, contact **Jeff Ziehm**, 214-202-2826, jziehm55@gmail.com.

DFE Annual Survey

The annual survey should have arrived in your email inbox. We know you are asked by every entity to take a survey, but what makes this one different is that we aren't asking you to evaluate us. Instead, we are asking you for your voice to tell the Board what directions you would like to see the club take in 2023. The survey should take

about 7-11 minutes to complete, so we would really appreciate your help and direction. If you did not receive the survey, please let us know. In the meantime, you can click the link below to take the survey. Please, only take the survey once.

Disclaimer: When you click on the link and are taken to the survey,

please ignore the instruction to login. It's a “Google thang” and not necessary to take the survey. Just begin answering the questions and when finished, click on “submit” at the end and you'll be done.

<https://forms.gle/PikDAcRpJjA6v4EE6>

What in the World is a Woolly Bugger?

by Dan Montayne, Dallas Fly Fishers Fly Tying Coordinator

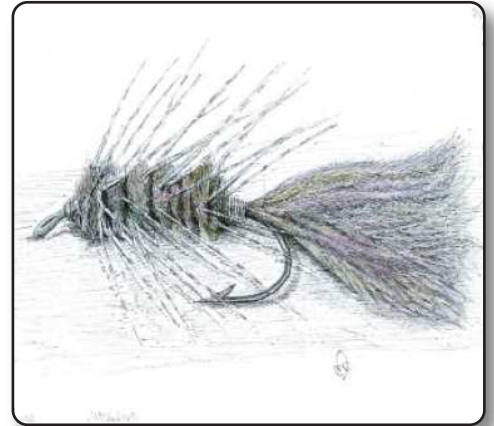
According to numerous research articles, active fly fishing forums, and fly fishing books, the origin of the Woolly Bugger fly pattern varies greatly. Some say this world famous fly can be traced back to an Old English pattern called the Woolly Worm, which is also very effective. Another opinion states that it is a variation of the Black Martinez, which was popularized in the West. Still others believe that it was originally a bass imitation developed in the late 1800's in Missouri. However, it seems that the majority of experts credit a Pennsylvanian named Russell Blessing with the actual invention of the Woolly Bugger in the early 1970's. Whatever its origins, the popularity of this pattern remains unquestioned.

The Bugger's popularity can be attributed to its versatility and ability to attract all game

fish. It can be tied in almost every color and material imaginable. In fact, different color combinations are often used on the same fly. With that being said, the most popular colors are black, brown and olive, with purple and white right behind. Another characteristic that makes the bugger so popular is that you can't fish it wrong. Choosing the best size and variant style increases your chances of attracting any and all size fish species. So, if you are searching water columns for any kind of fish, in any kind of water, you could do a lot worse than selecting the Woolly Bugger as your Number #1 Go To Fly.

How fish determine what food source the bugger represents is a total mystery. To human eyes it could be a bait fish, leech, grub, cricket, stonefly, dragonfly nymph, or a

damselfly nymph. The list is endless. Perhaps that is what makes it such a popular, all-purpose pattern. It might represent a nymph, a streamer, a caterpillar, a pile of midges, or an all in one solution to a fish's eating requirements. We'll let the fish classify it. Just create it and fish it. You can't go wrong.



The Dallas Fly Fishers are excited to announce that for all new and renewal memberships submitted no later than Tuesday 31 January 2023 11:59 pm, your name will be entered in a drawing for a new TFO 4# fly rod. If you have not done so, please renew your 2023 DFF membership.

Online Renewal:

<https://dallasflyfishers.org/renewing-member>.

Online New Member:

<https://dallasflyfishers.org/new-member>.

By USPS:

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

Envelopes must be postmarked 31 January 2023. 

7th Annual DFF Fly Fishing and Nature Outing at Sunset Ridge Ranch

April 15, 2023

7:30 am to 1 pm

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

Sign up with name and number attending via email to gannon.jeff@gmail.com or text 214-608-7507

Menu

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

Fishing and Nature Info

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

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

100-200+ acres are available for nature hikes for those that do not plan to fish. Bluebonnets season will be in full swing and we should have many acres of them this spring.

Onsite transportation to/from ponds provided as needed.

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



Texas Fly Fishing
& BREW FESTIVAL
February 25-26, 2023
Mesquite, Texas

White River Outing April 18 - 22, 2023

by Mike Becker

If you haven't fished the White River near Bull Shoals Reservoir in Arkansas, it should be a bucket list must. Several club members have landed personal best browns and rainbows on the White.

DFF will be returning to the White River this spring in pursuit of those large browns and rainbows. If I guessed correctly, we will be on the river during the caddis hatch. The White River is a great year round fishery. We were a little early last year, so I pushed the trip back about 10 days in hopes of hitting it right. If I'm correct, we will encounter a perfect storm of caddis hatching in dynamic numbers

and hungry, large browns coming out of their winter holes to feast.

Attendees are responsible for their own arrangements. We generally get together in the evening hours to have a meal, exchange fish stories, maybe fish some more, and enjoy some socially responsible community.

Dave Shatzer and I have reserved an vbro in Cotter and booked 3 guided days beginning on 4/19 with Steve Dally at Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher (www.theozarkflyfisher.com). Denton Ferry RV (www.dentonrv.com) is a great spot if you intend to RV and a short drive to the Wildcat Shoals access.

Dally's is a regular contributor to DFF's auction and has a roster of experienced guides. I have a helpful North Fork and White River fishing map that identifies wade access areas on the rivers, depending on the water level. Boats are available to rent at Bull Shoals park and several other facilities. There are several campgrounds, cabins and lodges along the river. Hotels are available in Mountain Home.

Please plan to come for all or part of the week.

If you have an interest in going, please contact **Mike Becker at 214-288-3885** or kuduguy@verizon.net.

DBU Magic

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

There is something almost magical about catching a fish on an artificial fly, especially when the person has tied that fly for the first time. At Dallas Baptist University, that magic came true for 12 students in January, 2023. The

first day finished with an afternoon of fly tying to get ready for the fly fishing. The chosen location for our casting and fishing day was the Texas Fresh Water Fisheries in Athens, TX. Beautiful weather and mild winds made for a

wonderful fish catching event. The day offered up many fish in the 10 in. to 12 in. category, with a couple reaching 20 plus inches. One catfish brought outcries of joy, demonstrating all species will hit a fly. *Nice going, students!*



A Full House Starts 2023

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

Our 2023 tying events opened with a class on creating a warm water nymph. This special pattern continues in February as we transition it to a size 4, soft hackle bass nymph. This fly will add a Dragonfly emerger imitation to your “go-to” box that is highly successful in our local waters.



January’s session also welcomed three brand new tiers to the 27 in attendance. **Jim Woodman** led their introductory lesson, which focused on equipment and on tying a

soft hackle Woolly Bugger. They tied this fly on two different size hooks, and the results of their first attempts were impressive. By the way, this popular fly is featured in the Autumn 2022 Fly Tye Magazine. Also, two additional novice tiers have already committed for February, so we’re excited about the prospect of five more people joining our tying group.

If you missed January’s Third Tuesday tying event, gear up now for February 21, 6:30 to 8:00 PM (Cabela’s winter hours). It promises to be a fun evening.



The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

Happy 2023, and best wishes for many more great fly fishing experiences. Our year is off to a great start. Fishing, teaching and skill enhancement activities abound. Our plethora of interesting meeting for 2023 will be in the First Methodist Church just a bit North of Barlow’s Tackle Shop. They will begin at 5:30 to allow for members that have work hours to get to the meetings. See the information on page 2 about the meetings.

Our first success of 2023 was a club favorite, teaching Outdoor Experiences for **Dr. Ray Galloway** at Dallas Baptist University. A great group of out Instructors led the students. On fishing day, Trout Stocking was on again and the TFFC was full of really good trout and other critters. There is an article about the fun in this Leader. Here is an example of the kind of fish we caught.



Our January Meeting was a great kickoff for the 2023 Meeting Schedule, with Danny Soltau of the Dirty Water Fly Shop. He tied and explained a really great looking streamer pattern shown below.



He then explained how to present these artistic creations to be most likely to be taken by a good fish. An interesting evening and a good pattern.

(Continued on page 8)

Activity Report

(Continued from page 7)



Coming up on February 3rd and 4th, the Red River Rendezvous at Eisenhower State Park. The event starts Friday afternoon, and then goes all day Saturday. This is a great event, and if you always wanted to go to the Toledo Bend Rendezvous, this is a lot closer and a lot of fun. Food is provided for Friday Dinner and Saturday Lunch. Here are pictures from a prior event.



On that same weekend is a great one in Houston, the Texas Fly Fishers will present the 30th Annual Dr. Ed Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival. A long drive for a one day fly tying event, but I have gone to it and it is a real treat to either tie with or just watch the great ones

who come to it. It is unfortunate that these two events are 5 hours drive apart and on the same Saturday, but either one is worth the time.



The program on February 6th is **Alan King** and **Brian McMurray** of the Good Fly Organization. They will present how we can be part of the Good Fly Organization and talk about casting skills. Unfortunately, we will not have enough open space for all of us to practice. The fly tying demonstration will be Dave Smith tying Nymph pattern(s) and discussing their use. **Dave** and **I** have tied at Sow Bug and nearly everywhere else, so I know he is a great tyer and teacher.

Texas in the spring has a cluster of great Outdoor Shows and Events, and February is no exception. February 17th-19th is the TU Troutfest at the Lazy L & L Campgrounds. This is a really big event, and one you should try not to miss. The Trout Unlimited Organization makes this as special as they can, and it is really a great one.

Following that on February 25th-26th, the Fly Fishing and Brew Festival in Mesquite is really big. There may still be some slots open to demonstration tie at this one.

Then our March Speaker is **Meredith McCord**, a champion Tarpon Fisher. This has to be a good one. She is a World Record Holder, and highly respected.

A real classic, The Sow Bug Roundup, is March 23rd-25th. I have tied there with a dozen of our best tiers. Most of us have already been invited to tie if we were on the list of prior tyers. **Dave Smith** has won a prize for his tying at this one. It is in the Baxter

County Fair Grounds Building in Mountain Home AR. Lots of tiers, raffles and fun.



On March 30th, is our spring outing to Lathram Springs. There is an admission to this outing, but the fishing is worth it. There are lots of ponds and river access to the Brazos. More about this one as it gets closer.

In April, we are hoping to repeat a very successful 2022 Event. An entomologist known and **The Bug Guy** is leading a bug picking and identification outing on Sunday, April 2nd, and then is the speaker at our meeting on Monday, April 3rd. This was a real treat last year, so if you want to know a lot more about the fish food in our waters, this is your chance.

Jere's personal Highlight of the Year is the April 15th outing to Sunset Ridge Ranch. This private property is being managed as a great conservation project. It has lakes to fish. It has huge fields of Texas Native Wildflowers, that if we are in luck will be at or near their prime for the year. They even have free swimming Swans, something I haven't seen since France in the 1950's. There is a poster for this outing in this Newsletter.

That's enough for one month. Two of the biggest events which are fishing trips are the Joint Colorado South Fork Outing with the FWFF in July. A sign-up poster is in this Newsletter. The other one is a spring Outing to the White River in the Mountain Home Area, also written up in this Newsletter. So stay busy, and when this cold lets up in about three weeks, lets all get out there.

- Jere



The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

Our fall and winter rains are greening up my yard nicely, so perhaps a warm wet winter will break the grip that the current drought has on so many people. I hope so, since a lot of unintended consequences of the drought are impacting our economy and our outdoors. Best wishes for a warm and wet winter. We need one. I just spent three weeks with our California Relatives, and the empty reservoirs were a sad sight. Then the huge rains of December hit and rivers overflowed, but most of the lakes remained low. Too much water in too short a time does not do as much good as the simple arithmetic of rainfall amount would make you believe. It is too early to declare victory over the 20-year drought out West, or our problems west of I-35, but I am encouraged. With the huge rains in CA, the smaller reservoirs are getting full. However the big ones like Lake Shasta, Folsom and Oroville as well as the Lakes along the Colorado River are still a long way down to the water.



What I am ready to see is for Texas to have another Lunker Season like last year. If I am correct, the top 50 of all time big Largemouth Bass from Texas Water had 8 members of the list bumped by Black Bass caught in 2022's Lunker Season. WOW!! What a year. So, get out there and go for it. Do be cautious. With our sport becoming so popular, we are reducing the sport fish populations even with careful catch and release. Many of us have noted that while our warm water fish do not seem to be in too much danger of being fished out, it is getting harder to catch a big one in a lot of water bodies. I have been working with the FFI Conservation

Committee and we as an organization are very much concerned. This year, please be extra careful, especially this summer, with releasing the fish wet and without bringing it clear of the water if possible. Here in the Southeast States, we are fortunate to have most of the sport fish in America close by. Let's all do our part to keep it that way. There is a need for us to stop fishing after a few good ones and let them recover. If you want to catch a mess of Sunfish for a fish chowder, go for it. They will still be abundant. But if you are fishing just for fun like most of us, do go totally barbless, keep them wet, and consider that after you have caught a few, it may be time to let them rest.

Some of my favorite Natural Phenomena are how the science of physics keeps our Earth's Crust and the plates like the North American Continent very active. Considering the size of the forces (the energy required) needed to make things happen that involve movement of these huge masses sufficient to be detected is astounding. Earthquakes and Volcanoes are huge outbursts of energy, and with my family farm getting well dusted with several inches of volcanic ash from Mount St. Helens in May of 1980, I have been up close and personal with one of the most impressive of Nature's bag of surprises. The Pacific Ocean is enclosed in a series of land masses that are very active. Known as the Ring of Fire, Geologists believe they are the location of roughly 90% of the planets Earthquakes and home to about 75% of the active Volcanoes. Massive quakes and the resulting Tidal Waves are frequent enough that we are likely to remember a few of them, though thankfully enough, they seldom hit our West Coast.

The islands of the Pacific are a rich and beautiful collection of thriving tropical nature. We have traveled to many locations from the Islands around Tahiti to the Hawaiian Islands, and never cease to see a lot of incredible nature rising from the ocean. Considering the instability that has on several occasions driven populations from their home islands, and occasionally has the entire island destroyed in a cosmic blast, makes the beauty even more

exciting. The ability of nature to heal and in some cases to start again from scratch dazzles my mind. So even though we were there in a series of pretty good storms, we made sure to explore.

Number one on our list was to visit the Big Island in the Hawaiian Chain, Hawaii. The first stop was in the port of Hilo. It is very active volcanos, and **Judy** and **I** were there before during the long eruption of Kilauea that ran almost continuously from January of 1983 to about September of 2018. This very unstable region has in it the Volcano National Park. Our party did not want the canned tours, so we rented an auto and were our own tour guides.



Kilauea is a low volcano lava bowl about 4000 feet high that builds up slowly and then the lava runs off to the ocean. It had decided to remain silent until the Anderson's left, but on January 5th it began to leak lava. I was kidding a Polynesian Guide about could we just donate some money to them so Pele would get the lava flowing again? He seemed skeptical.

The crater during its quiet times is still somewhat active. Note the steam or other vapor rising from the edges of the frozen Lava plug. This active edge was where the current eruption started. Now the lava is flowing outside the crater. In fact, hundreds of acres of black lava real estate has been created over the years by this exciting magna leak.

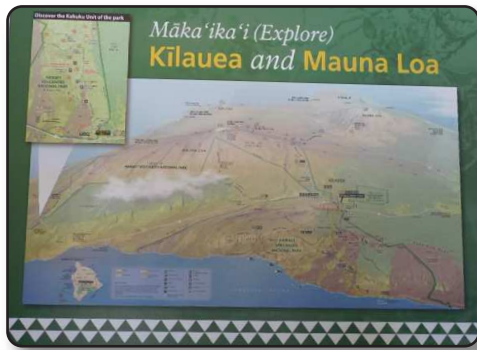


(Continued on page 10)

The Conservation Corner

(Continued from page 9)

The ecology of this very young earth deposit is very interesting. The island has three volcanoes, two of which have been active in the last 2 months or so. The Snow covered summit of Mauna Kea, a dormant peak of over 14,000, and the more recently active 14,000+ peak of Mauna Loa that just quieted down after having a wild few weeks of threatening to cut the Island Highway that connects Hilo and Kona. Without this connection, it means the only way from one side of the Big Island to the other is a long coastal route that adds hours to the trip.



Exploring the National Park is a full day of walking, boulder scrambling, and exploring things like Lava Tube Caves and the incredible middle Pacific Tropical Ecology. Huge fields of new Island created in the long eruption of the lower volcano are hard to believe, but it makes it clear how these rock formations rising from a sea floor over two miles down came to be such a study in tropical Pacific Ocean Ecology.



The beautiful tropical flora of this Mid-Pacific paradise is hard to describe, so a couple of our pictures will have to suffice.



Almost too good to be true.



An amazing sight is to see plants growing out of the fields of black lava. The molten rock is free of organic material as the lava hardens. Then some hardy plants with the ability to grow almost without any organic medium struggle to get a start. To get these dense tropical jungles growing on a relatively young Island is a great testimony to nature's persistence.



There is a huge amount of seismic activity in the Ring of Fire including a volcano in Mexico and lots of tremors in California and in the Tetons. The Yellowstone thermal field is believed to be a place where a huge volcano is possible. While it has not erupted in tens of thousands of years, the Geologists believe there is motion in the Volcanic Magma that heats the geysers. At my age avoiding being there when it blows is comforting.

Even though this is a tropical paradise, the weather can get wet and windy. The storms were so strong that our ship could not get into it planned moorage near Kona in so high a surf, so the vacation rerouted itself. I have never had that happen before. The idea that a monster ship could be stopped by weather like that was amazing. We moved the ship to another island that was a great nature study that I will report on next month.

It is another centennial year for an Enterprise we all depend upon. We are proud to be part of the Outdoors Enthusiasts that support the Texas State Parks System which is 100 years old this year. Americans recognized the value of resource conservation with the creation of a national park system; and gained access to the parks by the automobile and road networks. Suddenly people had cars, paved roads to drive on, and destinations to explore. In 1923, Pat Neff, the governor of Texas, appointed a Texas State Parks Board to begin locating sites for the establishment of a state parks system.

Since 1923, Texas State Parks has been dedicated to protecting the best parts of Texas' vast natural and cultural beauty. Originally envisioned as a series of roadside stops for highway travelers, today the Texas State Park system has grown to a network of parks, historic sites and natural areas that welcome millions of visitors every year. Discover the story of the first 100 years of the state park system and learn about what's on the horizon as we enter a new century of outdoor adventures.

The DFF has camped and fished in a lot of the State Parks, and it was always a great chance to get away from the rest of your life, and to relax a bit. Most of us went to fish, but if you just wanted to be in the Outdoors and relax, that too is a valid use for your state parks. They are historically significant as well in many cases.

Have a great Springtime and get that fly rod limbered up. Between the planter trout and the Spring Spawn of our native warm water friends, it is NOT time to be stuck in the house. Jere is going to try to get in a lot more fishing and write a few stories.

Go for it.

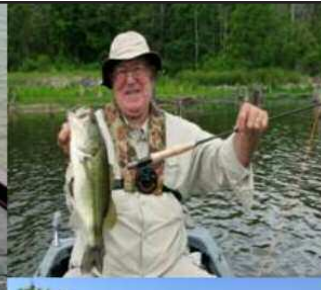
-Jere



**14th ANNIVERSARY
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**



**BASS ON THE FLY
FISHING TOURNAMENT**



Lake Fork
Marina
275 Co. Rd. 1558
Alba, TX 75410
(903) 7652764
(Lake Fork, TX)

RODS, REELS AND FLIES MUST BE EXCLUSIVELY FOR FLY FISHING.
THIS IS A CATCH-PHOTO-RELEASE TOURNAMENT

TWO DIVISIONS : *Boaters Division *Kayak Division

Entry Fee: \$70 per person, includes \$5 Big Bass Pot. Optional Big Sunfish Tourney Friday 3-6PM - \$10 buy-in. Register online before April 15th to be eligible for a Sage Bass II fly rod draw. Rules and Registration on www.bassonthefly.org

SPONSORS: Sage Rods, Skeeter Boats, Umpqua Flies, Tailwaters fly shop, Simms, Temple Fork Rods, Redington, Rio Lines, Bass Pro/Cabela's, Lake Fork Marina, Lone Star Fly Fishers, Ranger Boats, Gypsy Jack Lures, East Texas Fly Fishers, Gray Wolf Fly Shop, Living Waters Fly shop, Wood County Economic Development Commission.

FREE CASTING CLINICS | PRODUCT DEMOS | CASTING CONTESTS |
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFITS REEL RECOVERY & PATRIOT ANGLERS OF N.TX.

➡ Catch & Release
\$70 per person
Saturday May 6, 2023
6:00 AM - 2:00PM

➡ RULES, REGISTRATION & PAYMENT:
Online @
www.ianglertournament.com

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

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

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

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

MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL

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

Name: _____ Spouse's name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Are you a current member of the Federation of Fly Fishers? Yes No (check one)

New Members:

Annual membership dues: \$36 per year
After July 1st, pay \$18 for half year
After Oct 1st, just pay for the following year

Renewing Members:

Annual membership dues: \$36 per year