

The Leader



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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

*Water, water everywhere,
And all the boards did shrink;
Water, water, everywhere,
Nor any drop to drink.*

– Part II,

Rime of the Ancient Mariner,
Samuel Taylor Coleridge

As we head into the summer, we are seeing a wetter than normal spring. **Cody** has cut our grass more this year than he did in all of 2022. Texas recorded its 57th wettest year-to-date and the 33rd wettest May since record-keeping for the state began in 1895. May saw Texas' total rainfall increase by .83"; for the

year the surplus rainfall increased to .36"; and the number of Texas residents living in drought conditions dropped by 5%. Fannin County boasts Texas' newest lakes, which are making progress. Bois D'Arc Lake, which began impoundment on 14 April 2021 and whose future conservation pool elevation level is 534', has a current lake level of 529.54'; Lake Ralph Hall, which began construction in June 2021, is still under construction currently. With all this good news, sadly the truth is that 1/3 of Texas, including the southeast counties, are in some stage of drought ranging from Abnormally Dry to Exceptional Drought. These conditions do not bode well for anglers.

The current and anticipated population influx is having one positive effect on Texas' water resources, but it requires voter approval. In mid-May, with resounding bi-partisan support, the Texas Legislature overwhelmingly approved the Centennial Parks Conservation Fund which would be chartered as an amendment in the Texas Constitution with voter approval in the November 2023 election. The Fund appropriates \$1 billion for state park land acquisition, which has not happened on a large scale since 1967.

In the meantime, anglers will have new opportunities to fish three soon-to-open parks. Located in Strawn, Palo Pinto Mountain State Park will open at the end of this year or early 2024. Acquired in 2011 and required to raise private funding for all facilities' construction, the newest park already boasts some excellent fishing with the 91 acre Tucker Lake, which supplies Strawn with its drinking water and is owned by the city. (A good friend's husband was the ranch manager for the land owners who sold the park to TPWD, and he regaled me



with some good fishing stories.) The Dan Hughes Unit of the Devils River State Natural Area will provide river enthusiasts with new, unprecedented access to the Devils River. Located 13 miles downstream of the current North Unit, visitors can float the river between the two park units. Acquired in 2010, the Hughes Unit is also slated to open in early 2024. In the Hill Country, the 2011 acquisition of Kronkosky State Natural Area has unspoiled creeks, trails, and wildlife to entertain visitors. Its opening is slated by 2028.

While I am much appreciative of the quantity of rains we haven't had since fall 2010, it is not enough to compete with the influx of new residents and the new subdivision developments occurring throughout the Metroplex. The opportunity to vote on adding parks that will provide protected places to fish while endowing future anglers a conservation legacy is a privilege voters have not had previously. It is a gift I'm looking forward to giving and receiving.

Here's to bent tips and happy days!

–Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers

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DFF Program Schedule

by LaJan Barnes, Program Coordinator

UNLESS OTHERWISE SHOWN FOR EACH MEETING, FLY TYING WILL BEGIN AT 5:30 PM 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. We will be meeting in the Ogden Fellowship Hall on the NE side of the building for all meetings except for June (Zoom only) and November (Youth Fellowship Hall, NW side of building upstairs in the back).

Previous Meeting: June Bob Clouser! WOW!!! I hope you were able to ZOOM in to the meeting to see the infamous Bob Clouser tie his masterpieces. What a night. Bob certainly did not disappoint

Bob demonstrated his famous Clouser on his new hook design (AHREX™ SA210 Bob Clouser Signature), as well as two other flies and told some great stories, which will all be given away at our July in-person drawing, along with flies from April and May's meetings. If you missed it, not to worry he allowed us to record it and it is on our YouTube channel. Check your email for the link.

Future Meetings: July 10: Bill Sargeant's, 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.***

REGISTRATION and RSVP ARE REQUIRED IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE MATERIALS TO TIE: Please RSVP to Bill Sargeant at tyflyer@sbcglobal.net.

Please don't forget to register by **July 5th** (change of registration deadline because we have to let the church know how many tables to set up July 6th) to make sure there are enough materials. We will have two tyers at each table. Non-tyers can sit with advanced tyers to watch. If you are a beginner at tying, please sit with an experienced tyer so they can help you.

WHAT TO BRING: Vise, tools, including a hair stacker, tying light, and one spool of 140 denier white thread. All tying materials will be provided for the flies – no sneak peak about which flies we will tie – it's a surprise. We hope to have a similar set up as last year with enough power sources for lights.

PROGRAM: Advanced fly tyers tie along. Bill will demonstrate how to tie two advanced surprise flies. We won't know which ones until the event. Experienced tiers will enjoy tying these advanced patterns. If you are a beginner feel free to just watch and learn or come and sit next to advanced tyers. Please feel free to come to the meeting even if you are not going to tie along.

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). Nick will be covering changing topics and tactics for each of the sections. He will go in depth on certain aspects of each of the water ways that make them unique & differ from one another. He will cover key points that make these particular sections of river difficult to fish, and explain how to read and combat constantly changing conditions in order to have a successful catch.

September 11: Aaron Reed, award-winning outdoor writer and Army veteran. He currently splits his time between New York City, where he is a tugboat captain, and his home near the San Gabriel River in Georgetown, Texas. When he is not working, chances are you can find him knee-deep in a stream somewhere around Austin, often with one or more of his three boys, trying like heck to become a better fly fisherman. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall. FLY TYING WILL BEGIN AT 5:30 PM and end about 6:15.** Our break will be from 6:15 to 7 PM. Then our speaker presentation will begin at 7 PM. **Presentation Topic: Texas Gulf Coast or San Gabriel River Georgetown.** The general presentation is simply the title of the book: *Fly Fishing Austin & Central Texas*. There have been some recent issues -- private landowners damming a river, the state shutting down access at another popular site, and work-arounds to those. Aaron will highlight those in his presentation.

October 2: Donovan Clary, Oklahoma Fishing Guide. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall. FLY TYING WILL BEGIN AT 5:30 PM and end about 6:15.** Our break will be from 6:15 to 7 PM. Then our speaker presentation will begin at 7 PM. Donovan will tie a baitfish pattern that he designed called a belly dagger. It can be tied in different sizes and colors to imitate a number of native baitfish patterns in that area.

Presentation Topic: Fishing the Lower Illinois or the Lower Mountain Fork Rivers. Donovan plans to talk about the Illinois river system above and below Tenkiller lake, which is a Neosho bass and smallmouth destination that's becoming recognized around the world. He will also talk about the year round trout stream below the lake. If time permits, he would like to talk about the forage species of the bass above the lake and touch on the habits and feeding mannerisms of the most sought after fish. There are 5 species of bait that compile 98% of the smallmouth diet year round.

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 that will reveal local fishing spots.

December 3: Sunday - Holiday/Christmas Party - TBD - If you were not thrilled with our location the last two years, please make a recommendation. Remember that we need to accommodate all eating habits and still be cost effective. We have tried to keep the cost to \$50/person. Email LaJan at nlbarnes@aol.com with your recommendations after you have made a call to the place you propose to get an idea of the cost and menu options. LaJan will be glad to follow up and consider all options.

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.

2024 Program Schedule of the Speakers

by Danny Soltau, 2024 Programs Chairman

Still finalizing the speakers for the fall but have a number of "feelers" out and need to solidify who is going to be where. I am hoping to have a photography specialist, another two Texas or regional locals.

January 8th: Kelly Galloup - 1st segment on Dry Fly Tips and 2nd segment on Streamer Fishing, I will speak with membership on where they would like Kelly to delve into specifically. Kelly is a 20 year friend and has an incredible knowledge base and fun loving personality all things fly fishing.

February 5th: Rick Matney, operates Chrome Chasers Steelhead and Fishing Lodge in Alaska, Rick Matney outfitters out of Bozeman and a popular contributor to various hunting and fishing media outlets. He is an EXCEPTIONAL chef and we are planning to have Rick talk about cooking fish and game along with whatever questions folks have about different fisheries.

March 4th: No speaker due to Auction.

March 11th: Our major source of funds for the DFF, our Auction. It is in the Plano Center again.

April 1st: Brett Wedeking - Renowned fly tier, writer, and guide out of Seattle, WA. Brett is going to do half tying, and half fishing related topics.

May 6th: Lee Blanton, talking fly tying and deer hair techniques for 1st half, then discussing different bream fisheries and bass fisheries around Texas and Alabama

June 3rd: Phil Blackmar, casting expert and legendary golfer from Texas talking about simple drills and tricks to improve casting in tough conditions.

2023 CALENDAR:

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

July 10th - Bill Sargeant, Fly tying demonstration. **Meeting Location: Ogden Fellowship Hall.** Once again our DFF members share their expert fly tying prowess. The meeting will start at 6pm and go until about 8pm. Reservations required.

July 11th - Open Tie Night @ McNeals in Plano, begins at 7PM. Contact the Dirty Water Fly Shop for details.

July 15th-22nd - The joint DFF/FWFF Colorado Outing. This is coordinated by **Jeff Ziehm** from our side. The stories from this outing are legends.

July 18th - Dan's warm water fly tying at Cabela's at 6:30.

July 25th - Open tying at McNeals in Plano.

July 31st - Stream team water monitoring, Branch Hollow Park. 9AM.

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

August 8th - Open Tie Night @ McNeals in Plano. Begins at 7 PM.

August 20th - Stream team water monitoring, Branch Hollow Park. 9AM.

August 26th - 8 to noon. Castle Hills basic Fly Fishing skills and some fishing. Call Richard.

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

September 23rd - Rosemeade Recreation Center basic fly fishing class 9AM. 1PM

September 24th - Stream team water monitoring, Branch Hollow Park. 9AM.

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

October 2nd-6th - DBU Outdoor Experiences Class. Great fall fishing and fun to teach.

October 13th-15th - Is Oktoberfisch, more details later.

October 28th - Basic Fly Fishing Class at LLELA, 9am – Noon.

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

November 6th - 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.

November 19th - Stream team water monitoring, Branch Hollow Park. 9AM.

December 3rd - Holiday/Christmas Party – TBD.

DFF CALENDAR ITEMS FOR THE 2024 SCHEDULE

The beginning of the 2024 Programs and major events calendar. We are getting ready for another great year at the Dalla Flyfishers. **Danny Soltau** is hard at work setting things up.

Jan 2nd – Jan 6th - DBU Outdoor Experiences Class.

Jan 8th - Kelly Galloup - 1st segment on Dry Fly Tips and 2nd segment on Streamer Fishing, I will speak with membership on where they would like Kelly to delve into specifically. Kelly is a 20 year friend and has an incredible knowledge base and fun loving personality all things fly fishing.

Feb 5th - Rick Matney, operates Chrome Chasers Steelhead and Fishing Lodge in Alaska, Rick Matney outfitters out of Bozeman and a popular contributor to various hunting and fishing media outlets. He is an EXCEPTIONAL chef and we are planning to have Rick talk about cooking fish and game along with whatever questions folks have about different fisheries.

February 24th-25th - Fly Fishing and Brew Festival, Mesquite, TX.

March 4th - No Regular Meeting. This is the month of our Fund Raiser Auction.

March 11th - our Auction and Fund Raiser, located in the Plano Conference Center This is a very fun, exciting and important event. **PLAN TO BE THERE.**

March 11th – Mar 15th - Spring DBU Outdoor Experiences Class.

March 21st-23rd - Sow Bug Roundup in Mountain Home AR.

In-Person Attendance Incentive – Speaker Tied Fly Drawing for April, May, and June – Drawing July 10th Meeting

by LaJan Barnes

The flies tied by our speakers in April, May, and June will be nestled in a new fly box for an in-person attendance only drawing. Everyone who attends the July 10th tie-along meeting will receive a free ticket for the special drawing at the end of the meeting (must be present to win). If you leave early and your ticket is drawn, we will draw another ticket. One lucky winner who is present at the time of the drawing will win all the flies tied by our speakers for the second quarter. Board members are not eligible for the drawing since they are usually at the meetings. Plus I would win it if I got a ticket 😊. In addition, ZOOM attendees are excluded from the drawing (sorry) because it's an in-person incentive. We hope to see more of our members at the meetings.

The **April** fly was tied by **Meredith McCord**. She demonstrated how to tie the Spunky Bunny fly, which she caught a 40 lb 14 oz Red Drum

(Redfish) on 8 lb tippet November 2018, an IGFA world record!

May's flies were tied by **Peter Rea**. Peter tied the Shannon's Fly for Lake Texoma fishing and the black mamba fly, a bass fly. We have 3 flies from the May fly tying demonstration.

Our **June** ZOOM only meeting fly tying demonstration was done by **Bob Clouser**. He demonstrated how to tie his famous Clousers on his new hook design (AHREX™ SA210 Bob Clouser Signature), and two other Clouser-type flies.

You will need to attend the July 10th meeting for a chance to win all of these flies in a nice new fly box.

Hope to see you there.

June Outing Report

by Julia Bell

We gathered at the Lake Lewisville Tailrace at LLELA to fish for Buffalo, Carp, and any other species that would bite a fly. The Buffalo were stacked below that first riffle, and while a bit finicky, they did take a fly. Several were hooked while two were landed. Downstream where the river splits, fishing between the island and the sandy bluffs, many carp slowly meandered through the area. However, they were very stubborn and would only chase a fly for a short strip or twitch, and then they lost interest. Farther downstream, fishing the middle of the bend near the bench, **Cody** hooked a hefty fish that fought hard and in slow-motion all subsurface. We never had the opportunity to see what the fish was, but it put a terrific bend in his fly rod.

Check out the calendar for our future outings, and for those traveling to Colorado for our Southfork outing, safe travels and many fish. I hope the Salmon Fly Hatch is happening late this year for you.



July Through December Outings

by Julia Bell

The **July Outing** is a combined Dallas Fly Fishers (DFF) and Fort Worth Fly Fishers (FWFF) joint outing to South Fork, Colorado. Dates 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. 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.

We have not planned an **August Outing** but are considering a trip to Oklahoma. If you have a suggestion, we would love to hear from you!

Our **September Outing** is to the Texas Hill Country on the South Llano River in Junction, TX on September 14th – 17th. This is an all-access trip appealing to wade fishers, float tubers, and kayakers/canoers. You can pick short stretches or long floats; fish one, two, or three days. There are three hotels in Junction, South Llano River SP, and several RV parks (Shady Morgan Campground no longer exists). A 4# or 5# rod with warm water floating line is a good rig setup. We will be targeting Guadalupe Bass, Rio Grande Cichlid, five different Sunfish species, Bass, Crappie, and Catfish.

Our **October Outing** will be our fall trip to the Brazos and the ponds at Latham Springs Encampment on Saturday 7 October 2023 from 8 am – 3 pm. Cost is \$8; please have exact change.

November: TBA

December: TBA



Annddd.....

by Danny Soltau

We hope it is only short term, however it looks like we are into summer and with it, true Texas heat. Many local anglers are beginning their summer travels and getting ready for those adventures. Otherwise, things shift to that first light start until it get too darned hot. That being said, water levels are very good in most fisheries so we are hearing of great fishing across the board. Water conditions out west are ideal all over the Rockies, so make this your year to see what some of the worlds finest trout fishing is all about.

Lee and I are tying some quality stuff this weekend. He is working on big and little stuff for an upcoming trip to his home state of Alabama. From big shad, to little creek bugs, this is a fun assortment to check out. I am cruising through a variety of orders ranging from big streamers, to big foam dries, to the infamous woolly bugger. Stop by and pull up a chair for some great tying this weekend! We have donuts, coffee, and a variety of beverages to keep you happy and comfortable.

Our programs are set for summer Open Tying Nights at **McNeals**, check the info poster below for the basics and feel free to holler with any questions or to reserve tool sets. These are an absolute blast if you haven't made it already! Next Tuesday, we are tying the Panhandler. This little fly is absolutely deadly for pond and creek hopping, and is an underrated trout fly.

Starting next weekend, we are offering Dog Days Tying Classes from 8:30-9:45AM on both Saturday and Sunday.

- \$30 per person
- 3 Spots per session
- Includes any tools needed, materials for the class, plus a take home packet of tips and materials
- Additional spots available for a later day in the session

After Ole Mr. Wiggles was such a hit and has been requested again by a few folks, we are going to tie that for next weekends sessions.

- July 1st & 2nd - Ole Mr. Wiggles
- July 8th & 9th - Muddler Minnow/Hoppe
- July 15th & 16th - Sheep Shad Baitfish
- July 22nd & 23rd - Panhandler Streamer Nymph Hybrid

Lastly, we are offering a consignment gear program at the shop to offer both great used gear and helps folks looking to move on from gear they are not using. We have a nice lineup currently at the shop and will also have it listed on the webstore soon. Stop by and check it out, or bring down unused gear of yours that you would like to move on from. There are a couple programs we use to make it easy for everyone.

Thanks everyone for the support and we look forward to having folks in the shop, browsing the site, and on the phone this summer.

- Danny, Lee, Tanya, Mama, Leo, Ron, and Delilah



RSVP at Dirty Water Fly Co or drop an email to dan@dirtywaterflyco.com 469-573-5040

Join us for Open Tying Nights twice a month on the 2nd & last Tuesdays @ 7 PM in the south room!

All materials provided, please RSVP to reserve tools if needed!

GIVEAWAYS EVERY NIGHT!

- June 27th - The Panhandler
- July 11th - Jewel Thief Minnow
- July 25th - Gotcha
- August 8th - Karen's Minnow
- August 29th - Captain

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 27th - Open Tying at McNeals

July 10th - Dallas Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting with local legend Bill Sargeant

July 11th - Open Tying at McNeals

July 18th - 3rd Tuesday Tying @ Cabelas Allen with Dallas Fly Fishers

July 22nd - TPWD Angler Education & Fly Fishing Instructor Workshop

July 25th - Open Tying at McNeals

Third Tuesday Fly Tying with Dan Montayne

by Jere Anderson

June's session emphasizes the main purpose for **Dan's** Third Tuesday events, becoming a better fly tier. To move to a higher level, we must be able to identify the numerous types of feathers found on common upland game birds and ducks. Dan showed feather placement on two widely used birds, the pheasant and the wood duck. We will also compare substitutions for some of the primary feathers that are not always available. Hopefully, you'll become an informed feather merchant. Here are the feathers we worked with.



The second part of our tying session will zoom-in on various tail materials and what makes them difficult to apply. This segment will go hands-on to address material length, amount, and techniques for placing those materials on top of the hook shank while keeping a smooth abdomen for your flies.

It was a good turnout, and informative. Here is about half the class.



Dan will have a July Third Tuesday Class but will not in August. Cabela's fills the conference room doing Hunter Education Classes just before the Hunting Season.

Mysterious Plastic Rocks Discovered on a Remote Island

by Rachel McGlasson



Plastic rocks in Turtle nesting spot© Provided by The Cool Down

Geologists have found rocks made from plastic debris on Brazil's remote Trindade Island. The island, which serves as an important refuge for green turtles, is more than 700 miles from land. The plastic rocks are evidence of how human pollution has now influenced Earth's geological cycles. The geology team discovered that melted plastic had become intertwined with the rocks on the volcanic island, forming what they call "plastiglomerates." By definition, a plastiglomerate is made up of rock fragments, sand grains, debris, and other organic materials welded together with once-molten plastic.

"The pollution, the garbage in the sea, and plastic dumped incorrectly in the oceans is becoming geological material ... preserved in

the earth's geological records," Fernanda Avelar Santos, a geologist at the Federal University of Parana, told Reuters.

The plastic rocks were found on a part of Trindade Island that is permanently preserved for green turtles to lay their eggs. In fact, the only inhabitants of the island are members of the Brazilian Navy, specifically there to protect the nesting turtles. The pollution mainly comes from fishing nets, which are very common debris on Trindade Island's beaches. When the temperature rises, this melting plastic becomes embedded with the beach's natural material.

Fishing nets and other gear pose a huge threat to marine wildlife and the ocean's ecosystem. In fact, an estimated 100 million pounds of

plastic enter the ocean each year as a result of lost fishing gear. The discovery of plastiglomerates may be a sign that the Earth is entering a new geological era — one where humans are leaving a significant and long-lasting impact on our planet. This era, as reported by the New York Times, is referred to as the Anthropocene epoch. "Plastics and plastiglomerates might well survive as future fossils," Jan Zalasiewicz, a geologist at the University of Leicester in England, told the New York Times. "If they are buried within the layers of rock in Earth, I don't see why they can't persist in some form for millions of years.

This is a big issue, and making a positive change can seem like an insurmountable feat. But everyone can help. Cutting down on your own plastic use can help. Make the swap to reusable, durable items like reusable water bottles, shampoo bars, dissolvable dishwasher/laundry pods, and more. And for the plastic you do use, make sure you know how to recycle it properly.

As Patricia Corcoran, a geologist at the University of Western Ontario, told The Huffington Post, "Even small things make a difference."

Editor's Note: *This is the kind of damage that careless people are doing to our planet. Please try to avoid leaving rubble like fishing line where you fish. Some future Geologist will puzzle over what this is.*

2023 July Water Watch Bug Inventory

by Jere Anderson

Once again the DFF worked with the Master Naturalists to do the monthly stream survey of the stream that runs beside the Carrollton Blue Line Bike Trail. This is a huge project of which our Stream Team has only a small part. What we do is get some of the silt from the river and then pour it into shallow trays. Here are **Ed** and **Jere** carefully scanning for little life forms.



This team was my Grandson **Matthew, Jere, Ed Bowen, Roger Rohrbeck** and **Richard Johnson**. We are sifting the tray and moving the bugs into lab dishes for Roger to examine under his Microscope. We also often use Ed's cell phone with a magnifying lens to evaluate the samples. Here are a few pictures of his.



I was surprised to get lots of Damselfly Nymphs, but almost no Mayfly Nymphs. But the water is very healthy and the ecology of our North Texas Streams seem to be in good shape. This bodes well for the fish. Our bug tally was 7 damselfly nymphs, 4 scud, 2 aquatic worms and one mayfly.

In fact, on July 1st a kid fish event will try to catch a few of the little fish in this stream starting right where we do our water watch. That may be interesting.

Youth Fishing Event in Carrollton

by Richard

On June 3rd we returned to the Josey Lane Park Complex, and fished the same lake that fished so well in May. The City brought the rods and a great group of DFF Mentors helped about 109 young people get what in many cases was their first fish ever. Great weather and we even had time to certify a new Angler Education Instructor.

These are the kind of Community Service Events that I like so well. **Great Job folks.**



The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

Right after I got the Newsletter out, the Carrollton Youth Fishing Events had another one. This Youth Fishing Event was on Texas Free Fishing Day, which is the first Saturday in June. It was a bright sunny day, and the 109 kids and their families looked happy. They also caught a lot of fish. An article with pictures is in this newsletter.



The June DFF Meeting was a ZOOM Meeting, due to our speaker wishing to present his Program from his Home. We have been doing ZOOM coverage of our meetings for some time now and it seems to be going well. But this was the best ever.

The speaker was **Bob Clouser**, of Clouser Minnow fame. The camera was set up across from his tying vice and so you get a view that was as good as sitting in front of him while he tied and spoke. It was creative and very informative. We have raised the bar on innovative programs and we can be proud of the results. Since we all know the Clouser Minnow Fly, seeing his three favorite variants of it and how to tie each of them and how you would present each of them to our beloved warm water fish was a wonderful experience.

If you wish to see the video, it is at <https://youtu.be/wAATPI8AXX8> Mr. Clousers fly tying and information site is <https://clousersflyshop.com> and it is a good one.

Here is the great man out fishing.



June 11th Outing to LLELA. The Buffaloes were a hungry bunch, today. When I was goofing off at the tying bench with materials **Kevin Hutchison** tossed into my “waste basket,” I never dreamed the simple concoction would be an effective Buffalo fly, but it has turned out to be true. **Cody** named it the Buffalo Gal.



June 13th Is the Second Tuesday Open fly tying night. It is held at McNeal’s, a neat food place in Plano on the SE corner of 15th and Avenue K. An article about these is in this newsletter. Contact **Danny** at 469-573-5040 for details. Don’t miss the next one. Here is a picture.



This is a new group and it is just getting going. It is a recreational fly tying group for all skill levels.

The evening of June 20th was **Dan’s** Third Tuesday Class at Cabela’s. These two fly tying nights per month are a great addition to our Programs and Outings. Dan’s Sessions are more related to Warm Water Fly Fishing knowledge. We usually do tie a challenging fly or two.

The **June 20th** session was an in depth study of feathers. Dan had quite a few feathers to discuss and analyze how they were best used.

June 25th, For the last and most fun event for June, our Water Watch Team once again tested the water and sought animal life in an urban stream. We also have an article in this Newsletter about this water watch.

June 27th, Fourth Tuesday open fly tying at McNeal’s at 7 pm in Plano. Contact **Danny** at 469-573-5040 for details. Don’t miss the next one.

July starts with a bang, so don’t relax too much. There is a lot to do. Be a part of one of the most active FFI clubs, and join in on what interests you.

July 1st, Kid Fish Event on Freneau Creek. The hours are 9 to Noon.

July 11th, Second Tuesday open fly tying at McNeal’s at 7 pm in Plano. Contact **Danny** at 469-573-5040 for details. Don’t miss this next one.

July 15th-22nd, is the big event for July, the joint Colorado Outing with the FWFF to South Fork. This classic DFF Adventure is famous for fish, fun, and evening relaxation. Call **Jeff** if you want to go.

July 18th, **Dan’s** Third Tuesday Warm Water Wisdom Class. He sends out a flyer to those who are interested. Since Dan takes August off, this is the last Third Tuesday Event until the Fall.

July 25th, Fourth Tuesday open fly tying at McNeal’s at 7 pm in Plano. Contact **Danny** at 469-573-5040 for details. Don’t miss the next one.

July 30th, Stream Team water quality evaluation.

At the time of this newsletter going to press, that is all I have.

June seems to have relaxed a bit, but July is our first really HOT month. Get that fly rod out and hit the water. Be careful to drink lots of water and avoid heat stroke or any other heat caused exhaustion problem.



The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

This month started off with a huge Environmental Problem. A combination of the wind direction and some forest fires in Quebec blanketed our New England area with lots of smoke. Just how dangerous is this? If you have respiratory issues, it can be very dangerous. In this wildfire year we have seen over 400 wildfires in Canada so we need to be careful. We are very concerned about planting enough trees to make up for the forest needs. Trees moderate the climate, shelter the animals, and best of all sequester the CO2. So what is the price we would have to pay if these fires keep multiplying? We know a great deal about that kind of catastrophe. We have had an event that destroyed our forests once in Earth's history and have researched it extensively. The damage done to all the lifeforms on Planet Earth was profound, and well researched.

About 65 million years ago, Geologists believe that a large meteor hit the earth at tens of thousands of miles per hour in what is probably an unmatched energy level. The impact point is now known as the Chicxulub Crater in Mexico. As this piece of space junk came in through our atmosphere, it was heated to the point of being like a molten mass. The flaming debris of the space rocks on impact flew up and out of the lower atmosphere. As all this burning rubble fell back to Earth it set fires all over the planet. These fires would light others, and for a period that was thought to have been as much as a million years, the Earth was blanketed in smoke from endless raging wildfires.

This period is considered to have been the Fifth Extinction Event in Planet Earth's History. The scientists that studied the fossils and rock evidence suggest that as many as 90% of all the species from bacteria to the huge Dinosaurs were wiped out. The fires kept the planet in a deep fog of choking smoke and flaming debris. The life forms could not adjust to so radical a change in the environment and just expired.

As the fires in one area burned out, they would spread. Then as the vegetation grew back, the fire could return. The lifeforms on the planet really had nowhere to go when this happened. The endless night due to the smoke dropped the temperature and prevented the sunlight needed by plants for photosynthesis from reaching the ground. Billions of tons of carbon bound up in all those plants became CO2, and possibly the oxygen percentage dropped.

While our situation is not even slightly as dangerous, try to tell that to an Asthma Sufferer in New York. I am very alarmed by the huge number of forest fires annually in our Western Forests from Montana to the Alaskan Yukon River Drainage. This region has much of the large animal habitat on the North American Continent. Our beloved species of grazing animals and carnivores are in danger as this continues to spread. Here is this year's graphic as of early June.

Note the huge number of fires in our British Columbia and Alberta provinces. This is the region that we are worried about in the battle to protect our Western Wildlife and help them recover from the years of neglect in the early 1900's. Do you remember Jere's information about



a Project known as the Yellowstone to Yukon Project, or Y2Y for short? The Western Canada fires are on the valley complex that is very critical to this project.

The main thrust of this project is to protect our precious wildlife from a man-made extinction. With civilization moving in on the grazing Animals range, they became more vulnerable to ordinary natural events like a longer and colder winter. They must be able to move to lower elevation to find shelter and grazing forage. As more roads are built and people who love the outdoors migrate further into the summer range of these species, the stress of finding survival habitat is greater.

So the goal of Y2Y is to protect access to migration corridors that the animals can use to spread out and hence have a better chance of survival. As these fires burn, not only are the animals at risk where they are, but further the migration corridors are cut off.



So, what can we do to mitigate the dangers? In a broader sense, why are these forests so valuable to civilization? Science has had a difficult time getting a big picture view of the planet's forests. However there has been a breakthrough. A comprehensive body of data now exists and is being evaluated to improve our understanding of how forests fit in to the big picture of our Environment.

This study used the highly accurate forest height, structure and surface elevation data produced by NASA's Global Ecosystem Dynamics Investigation. The team of researchers compared protected areas' ability to avoid emissions to the atmosphere with unprotected areas' ability to do the same and tested the assumption that protected areas provide disproportionately more ecosystem services—including carbon storage and sequestration—than non-protected areas.

A study recently published in Nature Communications has found that worldwide protected forests have an additional 9.65 billion metric tons of carbon stored in their aboveground biomass compared to

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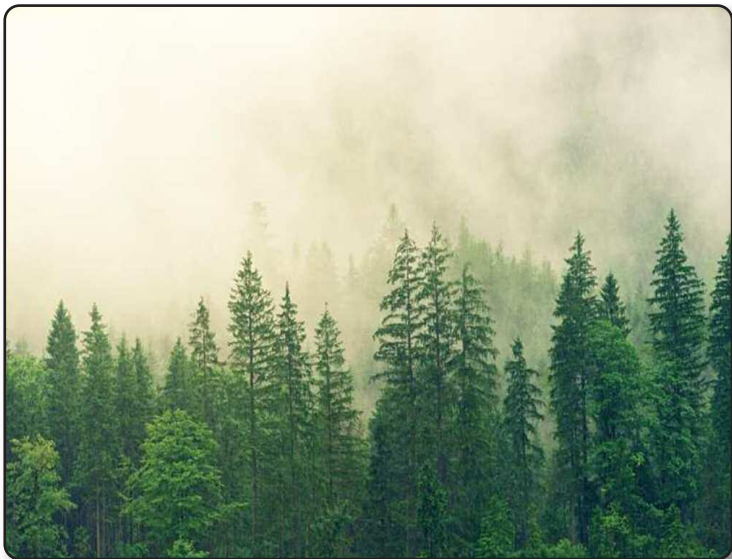
The Conservation Corner

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ecologically similar unprotected areas—a finding that quantifies just how important protected areas are in our continued climate mitigation efforts. We have never had these 3D satellite datasets before, so we have never been able to map forest carbon accurately at this scale. Analyzing the data to discover the magnitude of avoided emissions in protected areas shines yet another light on the global importance of forest conservation.

These results are the first, long-anticipated evidence that protected areas are effectively sequestering a lot of CO₂ from the atmosphere. The similar degraded areas that surround them do only a fraction as good a job of air pollution cleaning. These results are only possible with the systematic spaceborne measurements of canopy structure and aboveground biomass from the GEDI mission. The researchers' study highlights the urgency of protection and restoration for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation, as emphasized by the latest report by the **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)**. The IPCC found that nature-based solutions such as reducing the destruction of forests and other ecosystems, restoring them and improving the management of working lands, such as farms, are among the **top five most effective strategies** for mitigating carbon emissions by 2030.

Protected areas are an essential part of the conservation toolkit. They confer enormous benefits in the form of living carbon. This research reflects the importance of the target—of achieving 30 percent protection of all ecosystems—as an effective strategy to address more of the biggest environmental crises we face. While acknowledging the importance of climate and other factors, the studies focused on the critically important role played by human activities in shaping forest structural density at a near-global scale across all protected and intact forests. The researchers found that human impacts are the second-most important driver after climate in shaping forest structure both globally and regionally. They further showed that human degradation is extensive even in forest areas that are formally protected or perceived to be intact.



Given the ways in which forests support overall function of the biosphere and serve as major repositories of biodiversity and the more fragile condition we find them in, the more it represents a considerable and unperceived ecological and climatic—and therefore human—risk.

Unfortunately, the loss of forests to fires is not inevitable. When CA was having huge burns a decade or so ago, a mitigation that the Native Americans had used was found to still be effective. These native tribes had used small fires in the wet seasons to manage the volume of fuel on the forest floor.

With our ethic of letting the underlayer of flammable materials get so thick, when a fire got started it really flared up. The fires were burning so hot that instead of staying on the ground and leaving the trees to recover, the fires were going up and running through the upper forest destroying the seed trees that are a big part of the recovery efforts. CA started having controlled burns when the rainy season protected against a run-away fire, and for that and other measures, the CA fire season seems to have become less tragic.

There are news articles about how Canada was planning to do a similar forest thinning with controlled burns, but for some reason that did not happen in time. So it is PLAN B time, replanting our damaged forests and being more active in the management of the valuable resource. Any reforestation project will be apriority. We might even need to donate some of our abundant grazing wildlife to rebuild the loss of animal life that must be going on.

On our local front, the spring fishing has been great, if the pictures in our FB page are representative. The rainwater and warming temperatures are making our bugs rush to reproduce, which in turn make abundant food available to our Aquatic Lifeforms that we love to pursue.

It is also a great opportunity to take some youth fishing. Our club has members that are organizing and supporting these kinds of programs all over the state, and that is a huge undertaking. Your Conservation Chief is very proud of all the work going into getting the youth of Texas introduced to fishing as a great reason to be outdoors in our lovely spring weather. Congratulate yourselves, you have very much earned it.

Take part in our renewed Outings Programs and consider joining one of the trips that get talked up on our FB page. July is the famous DFF/FWFF Colorado Trip, a winner if there ever was one. Anything you do to get more citizens enthused about the wonderful world of Fishing is a big plus.

Have a great summer, with lots of bigger fish and happy times. As the real summer weather comes, be sure to get out of the sun for the middle of the day. Even if you are not inclined to be dizzy in the heat, it is a good idea to take that mid-day break.

Best wishes for more and 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: _____

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