

The Leader



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FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

Fishin' Tales

by Julia Bell

Though the memes floating in cyberspace about fall in Texas indicate that there really is no difference, fly fishers will begin to see one. Yes, we have been abused by summer's lack of rain and unfriendly high temperatures; however, our Indian Summer and the signs of fall bring about a treat for fly fishers. How do we know that fall is here? The topwater bite, and in my humble opinion, it is even better than the spring one.

One of my absolute favorite topwater flies was the Miss Prissy, a chartreuse-yellow popper that the fish devoured. Sadly, Miss Prissys are no longer produced, but Boogle Bug has come close, though I still like the original best or Harry Crofton's version of the Miss Prissy. I used to buy them at BreamBugs.com or sweet talk one from Harry at the Texas Fly Fishers of Houston's **Dr. Ed Rizzolo** Annual Fly Tying Festival in the early 2000s. I can't decide if the fish like the color, the legs, the unique plue-UMP it made, but whatever the combination, fish ate the Miss Prissy as if they had not eaten all year.

What makes the fall bite special is what is happening with nature. First, frogs are foraging pretty seriously on insects and spiders to prepare for their winter hibernation. They are out and about eating whatever they can wherever they can find them. These late hatches are perfect for fattening frogs and toads. Fish, not yet affected by the water

temps, because they aren't below 55°F, key in on this uptick in movement. Mice are also beginning to move more excitedly hunting for warmer places to live during the colder months, abandoning the fields and trees they called home during the summer. They too are migrating across water bodies and attracting big fish. Skating mice patterns and plopping frog patterns bring me some of the greatest joys in being a fly angler, and though it may take me an hour to spin that deer hair into a mouse or frog, the bass eat makes the time at the tying bench for just one fly worth every second.

Other flies worthy of your time investment and dollars are Sunfish and shad flies. As water temperatures cool, bass come out of their deep holes and move to shallower water, mainly because they are chasing the shad and Sunfish which have also moved to shallow waters. Those spring Sunfish have grown and are bigger and make for a tasty meal.

Fish movement in the fall relates more to column depth than surface area and keying in on water temperatures, not ambient air temperatures (remember in August's 100-teens, I was creek fishing in 88°F water temperatures), will give clues as to what flies as well as what lines might be more productive. With the first days of fall just occurring, we're really still fishing with a summer mindset, but it won't be long before

those water temperatures begin dropping due to shorter sunlight, cooler temperatures, and cooler rainfalls (yes, they will come), so enjoy the changes that Nature's signaling.

Lastly, another sign it's fall in Texas? the DFF will be in the TPWD booth the opening weekend of the Great State Fair of Texas. We will be in Poultry Barn, L7, across from Cotton Bowl Stadium to the NE on Nimitz Circle, which is the opposite side of the Midway. See the State Fair of Texas map for further details. We'll be tying flies, helping catch Catfish, talking about the Texas Council FFI and DFF. Come ask us about fall fly fishing in Texas!

Here's to bent tips and happy days!

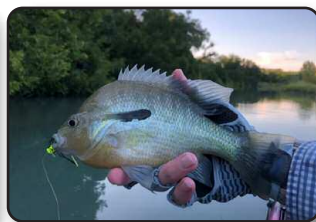
-Julia

President, Dallas FlyFishers

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DFE Board 2023

President

Julia Bell
214-980-9978
flyfishrgrl@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 Latschaw
214-808-6806
jimel312@hotmail.com

Trustee 2025

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

Auction Chair

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

Casting Chair

Ed Bowen
214-477-1423
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
406-600-6732
dan@dirtywaterflyco.com

DFE 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. Special fly drawing for attendees only (see article in this newsletter).

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 October. November we will meet in the Youth Fellowship Hall, NW side of building upstairs in the back. December is our Christmas/Holiday party.

Previous Meeting: 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.

Future Meetings: We have two presentation meeting remaining. Please join us for those as well as the Christmas/Holiday party in December.

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.** It doesn't look like Greg's book will be published in time for this presentation; however, he will reveal local fishing spots.

December 3: Sunday - Christmas/Holiday party.

Date: Sunday, December 3, 2023 **Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:30 PM

Cost: \$50/person

Location: TG Steakhouse - 518 W. Arapaho Rd, #133, Richardson, TX 75080

Activities: Dinner, Raffle, New Officer Induction, Awards Ceremony.

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!*

October 1st - Stream Team Water Watch monitoring, Branch Hollow Park, 9AM.

October 2nd - **Donavan 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 10th - Open tying at McNeals in Plano.

October 17th - **Dan Montayne's** Fly tying Class, Cabela's Conference Room, 6:30 PM

October 24th - Open tying at McNeals in Plano.

October 28th - Basic Flyfishing Class at LLELA is from 9AM to 2PM. Call **Richard** to sign up as either an Instructor or a Student.

October 29th - Stream Team Water Watch monitoring, Branch Hollow Park, 9AM.

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 14th - Open tying at McNeals in Plano.

November 19th - Stream team water monitoring, Branch Hollow Park. 10AM

November 21st - **Dan Montayne's** Fly tying Class, Cabela's Conference Room, 6:30 PM

November 28th - Open tying at McNeals in Plano.

December 3rd - Holiday/Christmas Party – 6pm – 8:30pm
T G Steakhouse, 518 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson
Dinner, Raffle, New Officer Induction, Awards Ceremony

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.

January 2nd-6th - DBU Outdoor Experiences Class.

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.

January 27th - Junior Ranger Fishing 101, Rosemeade Recreation Center.

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.

February 24th - Fly Fishing Class, 9 – 3, ages 12 and up. Rosemeade Recreation Center.

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-15th - Spring DBU Outdoor Experiences Class.

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

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.

April 13th - 8th Annual Gannon Ranch Outing.

May 3rd-4th - The Lake Fork Bass On a Fly contest.

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.

In-Person Attendance Incentive – Speaker Tied Fly Drawing for October and November – Drawing November Meeting

by LaJan Barnes



The flies tied by our speakers during the 3rd quarter (July, August, and September) were nestled in a new fly box and drawn during our September meeting. **Congratulations to our winner - Jeff Gannon!**

Donavan Clary's flies and **Greg DeMars** flies will be included in our 4th quarter drawing at the November meeting. I had previously mentioned that it would be at the

December Christmas/Holiday party; however, the drawing will be after Greg's presentation in November. Sorry for the confusion. Everyone who attends the November 6th meeting will receive a free ticket for the special drawing at the end of the meeting (you must be present to win).

Good Luck to the next winner! Stay tuned for the in-person attendance incentives during 2024.

DFE Fall Outings

by Julia Bell

Our October Outing will be on Saturday 7 October 2023 at Latham Springs Encampment in Aquilla, Texas from 8:00-2:30, leaving the grounds no later than 3:00 p.m.... The outing costs will be \$8.00 per person since we are renting this facility for the day. Please try to have the exact cash amount, if possible.

You will need to bring a sack lunch, non-alcoholic beverages only, and a lawn chair, and we will meet for lunch by the copse of trees near the picnic table and bocce area at noon (marked in orange on the map).

We have access to two ponds, a lake, and the Brazos River (marked with a purple check on map). A map of the facility has been included. Most prevalent species are: Largemouth Bass, Rock Bass, Crappie, Catfish, and Sunfish. Canoes, float tubes, kayaks, and non-motorized vessels can be used on the lake; the smaller ponds can accommodate a float tube, if desired. There is shore fishing available on all water bodies and wading on the Brazos. Monitor this water gauging station for accurate water flows near our outing: <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/08093100/#parameterCode=00065&period=P7D>

The address is:

Latham Springs Baptist Encampment
134 Private RD 223
Aquilla, Texas 76622-2582

Driving Directions:

Travel south on I-35 south of Hillsboro

Between Hillsboro and Abbott take the FM 1304 Exit

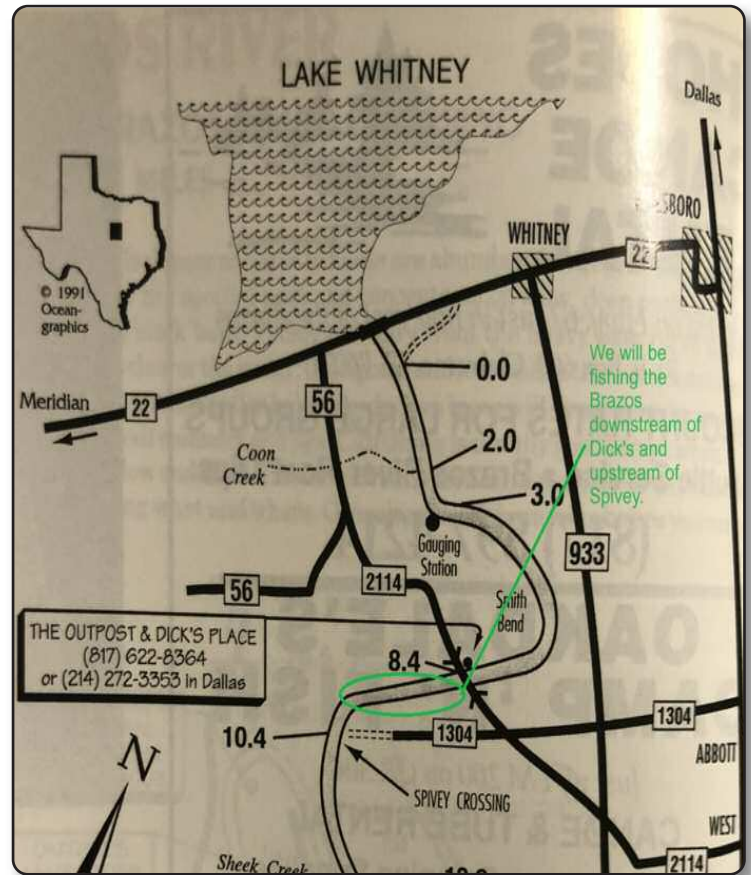
Travel west on FM 1304 approximately 12 miles to N. County Road 2202

Turn north on County Road 2202 approximately 3/4 of a mile

Country Road 2202 will become Private Road 223

Someone will be at the entrance helping you where you need to go.

There are alternative directions, and if you see a different route you would like to travel and need help, feel free to contact us, and we'll be glad to help. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask here or on our social media pages.



November Outings

Our first November outing is the Toledo Bend Rendezvous at North Toledo Bend State Park in Zwolle, Louisiana 3-5 November 2023. You can choose to stay in the park at one of the group camping cabins, reserve a campsite, a cabin, or a glamping site, or stay at the Driftwood Inn and Lodge by the Lake, 281-701-8591, or the Budget Inn & Lodge, 318-256-7281. This is a tying rendezvous on the east side of Toledo Bend Reservoir. Access to the lake and fishing is available by the campsites and by the Group Camp area. We bring our vises and setup in the Group Camp Room for the weekend tying whatever flies we choose. If the weather is nice, many choose to go fishing, and sometimes, casting demos and instruction are available, too. Cost is \$40 for the weekend, \$20 for one night, \$10 for one day. For further information, visit the TBR website: <https://flycasting.bravesites.com/>

Our second November outing is to target Rainbow and Brown Trout on the Blue River near Tishimingo, Oklahoma on 16 - 17 November 2023. There is primitive camping on the river, many Air B 'n B cabins on the river, Scotty's Blue River One Stop & RV Park (most of the reviews are for the eating and not the RV portion), and Lake Texoma State Park in Kingston, OK. Many make this a day trip from the Dallas area, as the Blue River forms the NE portions of Lake Texoma. Trout stockings begin 1 November 2023 and continue through 1 March 2024.

2024 DFF Board of Directors Election: Nominees

These members have been nominated to 2023 Ballot for the following positions upon which the membership must vote. Nominations are still open and will remain open through 31 October 2023. The ballot will be finalized on 1 November 2023. During the Business portion, we will vote for the 2024 DFF Board at the 6 November 2023 meeting. A term runs the calendar year with the exception of Trustee which runs three years.

President: Dave Smith

Vice-President: Art San Roman

Trustee 2026: Vaughn DuBose

We have one non-elected board position fulfilled for 2024:

Programs Chair: Danny Soltau, currently serving as Co-Programs Chair.

We have two non-elected board positions to fulfill for 2024:

Newsletter Editor: OPEN

Outings Chair: OPEN

Both **Jack Janco** and **LaJan Barnes** will be rolling off the Board of Directors for 2024. Jack has most recently served the club as the Past-President, which will be occupied by **Julia Bell**, and LaJan has served as the Trustee 2023 and Programs and Co-Programs Chair. **Jere Anderson** will be resigning his position as Newsletter Editor but staying on the Board as Conservation Chair.

To create a broad and diverse board, we are wanting to limit an individual's service to one position, so we are in need of volunteers. A board position does not have to be filled by a member of long-standing. **The Dallas Fly Fishers** graciously welcomes any individual with a willingness to serve. The board meetings are held via Zoom the Sunday evening before the Monday monthly meeting. The club cannot succeed without its members and their willingness to volunteer. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know who would enjoy helping the club, please email the nomination to dallasflyfishers@gmail.com or **Julia Bell** at flyshgrl@gmail.com.

South Llano River Outing

by Julia Bell

After a several-decades' absence, the DFF returned to the beautiful Hill Country to fly fish the South Llano River between Telegraph and Junction. Doing double-duty, for the time-being, as Outings Chair, I am never quite certain as to what are good dates for an outing, but after seeing the first day of fall's temperatures in Junction, I am glad we went the week earlier as the rains helped keep the temperatures down and increased the ft³/s. The Mayflies and Grasshoppers were plentiful and abounded everywhere, but the topwater bite typically seen at the past years' Oktoberfest Festivals was not yet happening. While we enjoyed the rains, I was ever-conscious of the 2018 floods and found some reminders in the Truss Bridge of just how quickly things can change on a river.

14 attendees spread out along the river's public access points wading and fishing from kayaks, while some fished with guides, and met at dinner each night to hear of one another's adventures in the rain and on the water. While the drought has not been kind to the area, we caught fish—Largemouth Bass, Catfish, five Sunfish species with many adding Guadalupe Bass and Rio Grande Cichlids to their species' lists. I'm hoping we return to the South Llano in 2024 but will probably look for dates at the end of September or beginning of October to give the area more time to recover from any summer drought that might occur.



Fly Tying Page

by Jere Anderson

It gives me great pleasure to note that we now have three really fun and informative DFF fly tying opportunities in any month.

The second Tuesday and the last Tuesday of the month is a fun fly tying gathering by our 2024 Program Chairman, Danny Soltau. They are held at McNeal's Tavern and Eatery on the Southeast corner of Avenue K in Plano. Bring your own tools, or call him to borrow some. It is a good relaxing couple of hours with some fun fly tiers. Skill levels from beginner up to award winner will be there.

Then on the third Tuesday the long-time Fly-Tying Coordinator, Dan Montayne is the leader of an event known as the Warm Water Go-To Flies and Fishing Skills Group. This group meets in Allen Cabela's Conference Room. Teaching support and mentoring skills of a lot of the talented people in the DFF are available. Dan has an announcement he sends out. Call him to get on the list.

So now we have supervised fly tying on the second, third and last Tuesday of the month.

This page will attempt to keep all of you informed who are interested in attending some of these opportunities. Dan and Danny will contribute the words of wisdom for this page.

DO NOT MISS these chances to learn or to just join in the comradery of some fun and talented DFF folks.



Another great pair of tying nights at McNeal's - big thanks to all who attended!

The Second Tuesday, September August 12th, there was a fantastic turnout at McNeal's for Open Tying Night where the Gartside Gurgler was a hit. Many new fly tyers were present and thanks to all who helped lend a hand to our new tyers entering the fray.

The fly on September 26th, the Ray Charles was also a hit. Many of the attendees tied a few of their own. **Dan Montayne** tied some very exciting Nymphs.

I was the guest fly demonstrator at **Dan's** third Tuesday, and it was great fun to have the two groups work together.



I look forward to seeing folks in and around The Fly Shop in the future and greatly appreciate the support!

Thank you!!!

-Danny and the crew



FALL SERIES

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!

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

- 9/12 - Gartside Gurgler**
- 9/26 - Ray Charles**
- 10/10 - Gluten Free**
- 10/31 - Halloween Bugger**
- 11/14 - Squimp**
- 11/28 - Stripper's Glitter**

Quarterback Sneak, Observations

by Doris Montayne

Danny Soltau kicked-off our third year of fly tying at Cabela's as he presented a deceptively simplistic fly called The Spittin' Image Gurgler. All tiers, including four novices, reached a first down as they loaded thread on their hooks. Everything moved smoothly until suddenly Danny was sacked as he presented participants with a different way to trim marabou. Like all seasoned teams with an experienced coach, he got up, brushed himself off, and advanced his team forward. Then, voila, second down! Tiers produced an even, trimmed tail and attached it to the hook shank.

Wrapping chenille bodies pushed our team over the fifty yard line. Quite an accomplishment after two months away from training! Then, despite resistance from uncooperative pieces of foam, applying the back and head brought them to within inches of putting points on the scoreboard. A few final threads wraps and a couple of secure knots solicited cheers from the crowd. Tiers raised hands high in the air as they hollered, "Touchdown!" Smiles filled the room, even when Danny pulled a quarterback sneak as he commanded, "Now tie it one more time!"

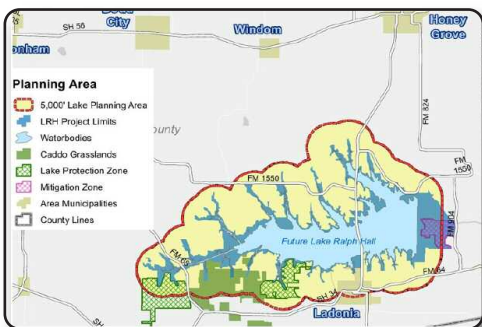
So...the next time you decide to go out for Monday night football, wait one day and come to Third Tuesday fly tying instead. You'll find snacks, friends, and just as much excitement.



The New Lakes in North Texas are Full of Surprises

by Jere Anderson

Water utilities are working to finish two big Northeast Texas lake projects: Bois d' Arc Lake and Lake Ralph Hall. The Bois d' Arc Lake project – the first reservoir built in Texas in 30 years — is filling with water and the North Texas Municipal Water District, which has the rights to that massive project, says it will open soon to the public to enjoy the myriad recreational activities it will provide.



More than that, though, Lake Ralph Hall – which has some distance to go before it starts to fill with water – also has a unique exhibit to offer, according to the Upper Trinity Municipal Water District. The exhibit is a fossil park, where tourists can dig up fossilized remains of prehistoric creatures that once roamed throughout Northeast Texas.

For now, UTRWD has opened a temporary fossil park. The temporary park is located immediately east of Farm to Market Road 2990, on the north side of the river, just west of the old park site. This temporary fossil park will remain open until construction of Lake Ralph Hall is finished, according to UTRWD. The fossils became exposed thanks to rapid erosion along the shores of the North Sulphur, an unintended consequence of the waterway having been channeled in the late 1920s.

A new permanent fossil park can be created downstream of the lake's dam, UTRWD said. UTRWD and the city of Ladonia "are working to select another spot where fossil hunters can continue to easily access the river bottom after the reservoir is built. By offering access to different locations on the Sulphur River, the park relocation will provide opportunities for additional untapped fossil discoveries," UTRWD said in a statement on its website.

He predicted that "inundation" of the lakebed will begin "sometime in 2025" but added that construction of a new permanent fossil bed will start "in 12 to 15 months from now."

The fossil park, Motley contended, will continue to be a huge draw for tourists looking for prehistoric artifacts washed away by water that removes sediment from the fossil beds. The largest piece recovered so far, he said, is a six-foot section of jawbone from a mosasaurus, an "underwater lizard" that used to swim in the region "millions of years ago, back when it was a sea," Motley said. The jawbone is being kept at the Ross Perot Museum of Science in downtown Dallas.



"Tourists are able to find all kinds of creatures in the area," said Jason Pierce, a public affairs specialist with the UTRWD. The new fossil bed will be along Farm to Market Road 904, which will be considerably downstream from the Hulse Dam spillway. "We'll be providing new access for the fossil park and will give visitors to the lake plenty of opportunity to hunt for fossils," according to Pierce.

September 23 Angler Education Session

by Jere Anderson

One of our more traditional opportunities to bring our sport to the public is when the Rosemeade Recreation Center invites us to teach the details of our sport. We happen to have a very large group of highly skilled instructors and it is fun for us to bring some fun to the public.

Rain or shine this event happens, but this time it was totally rain free, and not excessively hot by Texas Summer Standards. About a 8 of us were there to teach upwards of 30 customers, though the actual attendance was a bit less than that.



Here is our famous Group Picture.



The fly tying had a trio of our experienced demonstration tiers.



Jere's group of students in group 1. We had two groups each.

The third group was very ably coached by **Jim Woodman**.

Here are the flies we tied in Jere's group.



A very good group of DFF's fly casting Instructors working out skills of our students.

Then to finish it, we did our conversations about fly fishing and attempted to get our students comfortable with trying out their new skill on the water.



Logical Fish Catching in Still Water

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

The question continually arises, “How can I catch more fish on our local lakes and ponds?” The answer starts with an understanding of where fish gather to feed. The food line for fish requires several very important factors, so this brief read should increase your chances for better catch days.

Let me begin with an introduction to planktons, which are undoubtedly the most important organisms in the aquatic food web for the planet.

Phytoplanktons and Zooplanktons top the list for fly fishing success.

Phytoplanktons, plants like green algae and micro-diatoms, create an oxygen-filled environment or “cafeteria” for fish to actively feed. Sadly, these areas are not everywhere we cast a fly line. Only certain locations around each pond harbor these perfect conditions. Our task as fly fishers is to keep moving in order to find them. To compound the search, these locations change frequently and seasonally.

The ideal feeding area also sustains Zooplanktons, animals such as larval, crustaceans, and krills. Therefore, midges, damselflies, dragonflies, bait fish, scuds, and regular flies fill out the cafeteria food line for fish. For this reason, they also highlight the monthly patterns taught at our Third Tuesday gatherings.

Important considerations for any still water on the planet, including reservoirs, lakes, and ponds, are found in two places: shorelines and the first two feet of the water column. These two environments concentrate the entire food

chain. Find the food chain; find the majority of fish species.



Shorelines featuring inch deep shallows to two-foot slopes form multi-size nurseries and hold the attention of larger predators. When fishing from the shore, casting left and right provides the best fly profile as an edible food choice for multiple size fish. Our GO-TO patterns all work well here, because they replicate a variety of food sizes.

The second place to fish, preferably early and late in the day, is just under the surface with a comfortable cast from shore. When light is diminished or diminishing, aquatic larva, pupa, and emergers make their way to the surface where they become adult versions and fly off. However, before they break the surface tension, a feverish charge for a meal erupts. This happens on every warm water lake and pond we fish.

This just-under-the-surface feeding frenzy forms hundreds of circles, which are not what they appear. Many fishermen think that it's dry fly time; however, pause to think. Most of the activity is actually subsurface. A much better choice is a soft hackle fly that stays in the top

two feet of water. The fish know that surface film creates a barrier that stalls the aquatic animals from getting to the surface. This slowdown means they have to punch through the film, giving fish time to eat, eat, and eat.



Another important consideration lies in the feeding area a fish is willing to cover to obtain food. Most fish seem to have a three-foot feeding circle around them. A fly entering that area has a good chance of being eaten, assuming the fish identifies your pattern as a food choice. Casting left and right on the shoreline positions your pattern sideways, and thus, presents a more identifiable food imitation. In addition, casting a rod length from the shoreline and retrieving has the potential of covering many “three-foot feeding circles.”

Find the cafeteria. Fish the three-foot feeding circles. Retrieve toward the shoreline and left/right along the bank. Oh, I almost forgot another important point.....MOVE. Don't cast in one spot too long. There you have my understanding and methodology of catching more fish each time I gear up and go fly fishing. Try it, and you should experience more opportunities for hookups, too.

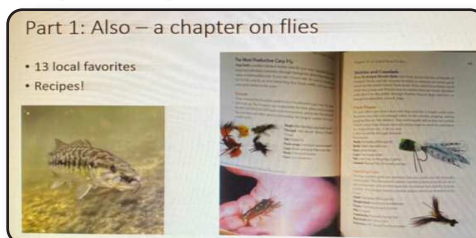
The Activity Report

by Jere Anderson

September was an active month. It is somewhat like the new school year. There was a lot to do. Be a part of one of the most active FFI clubs and join in on what interests you. The Labor Day Holiday delayed our September Meeting until September 11th. So the DFF Newsletter was a bit later than usual. but the Club activities are worth the wait.

September 11th, the speaker was an Outdoor Writer who is an expert on Fly Fishing Texas in

the Austin area. He has a very well done book that was for sale at the meeting. Here is an example of the quality of the book.



It looks like a great addition to any DFF Fly Fisher's Library.

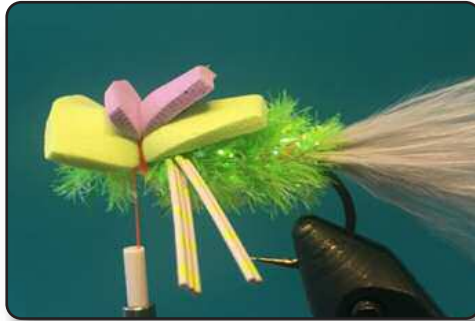


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Activity Report

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September 12th, Open Tying Night at McNeal's. Activity began at 7PM. The fly of the night was one.



September 23rd, The DFF and our excellent Outreach team were Teaching the Basic Fly Fishing Certificate at Rosemead Recreation Center. There is an article about this in this newsletter. **Jere** taught fly tying and I had two groups of enthusiastic students who learned quickly. Here is a picture of the three fly tying tables.



And an additional one of my students.



September 26th, 4th Tuesday Open Tying night at McNeal's. While the turnout was not our best, many of our top tiers were there. Don't miss the next one.

That does it for September. It was a good month. The excessive heat from El Nino faded a bit and a few rain showers were very welcome in my yard. October is going to be a riot. Lots to do on every weekend and the early peak of the fall fishing indicates to me that if you are not busy doing fly fishing things, you may be missing the point. In

any case I hope to see you in a few of these. If anything do NOT miss the October Meeting and the great guide who puts his pictures on our FB page, **Donavan Clary**. This has to be a good one.

October 1st, Stream Team Water Monitoring. Branch Hollow Park, 9 am. This is a great conservation project, and can be valuable. It is fun and relatively easy as well.

October 2nd, Donovan Clary, OK Fishing Guide. His great trips are often pictured in the DFF FB pages. It is impossible to speak too highly of this Guide who posts to our FB pages. Do not miss this presentation.

October 2nd-6th, Dallas Baptist University Outdoor Experiences Class by **Dr. Ray Galloway**. Probably Monday and Tuesday. This will be led by **Dan Montayne** and is something we of the DFF have been doing since about 2006.

October 10th, Open Tying at McNeals, bring your own tools or call Danny at the Dirty Water Fly Shop. Tying begins at 7PM.

October 17th, **Dan Montaine's** Fly Tying Class at Cabela's, call Dan to attend.

October 24th, Open Tying a McNeals, 7PM.

October 28th, Basic Fly fishing Class at LLELA, contact **Richard** to attend. If the weather holds off from the fall rainy season, this is a really fun event. We can use a lot of help here. The site is the great area between Lake Lewisville and Highway 121. A great project preserving the ecology of the Blackland Prairie region.

October 29th, Stream Team Water Monitoring. Branch Hollow Park, 9 am. Another chance to help the Stream Team.

October 31st, Halloween Night.

November 3rd-5th, The famous Toledo Bend Rendezvous, Toledo Bend State Park, Near Zwolle LA.

We have late summer bugs so big the pilots of these bugs need a multi-engine rating on their pilots license. 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.

And it is easy to tie. We also had some tiers like **Dan Montayne** that tied their own flies like this one.

If you don't go to these, even if just to eat and watch the group, you are missing something. Contact **Danny** at his fly shop if you have questions, and bring your own tools if you have them.

September 14th-17th, South Llano Outing Trip, Junction, TX, sounds like a success. The report is that nearly everyone caught fish and even added to their personal species list. There were 14 people who enjoyed this opportunity. I asked about the rain we needed but they got. That is good for them too. I should have an article about this great trip.

September 19th, Dan's Warm Water Wisdom Meeting. An excellent article by **Doris Montayne** is in this newsletter. It looks like the two "Dans" are combining their considerable talent to give us some serious fly tying opportunities. Here is what they tied.



The Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson

The transition to our Texas Winter is just around the corner. With the high pressure centered over Texas, the wind was below normal. That resulted in the wind power that ERCOT expected to be below expectations according to an article in the Dallas Morning News. We were nearly faced with the rolling blackouts like we had in the storm of February 2021 to get through the summer A/C season. With all the projects that have been funded why are we still dangerously close to out of power during certain spells both in the winter and in the summer?

Last winter two European Nations that depend on green power, England and Germany, were so far below the needed Electric Energy that they had to fire up the polluting Coal Fired Generators that they had shut down. As we should expect, the weather can impact Green Energy negatively.

In Europe, offshore wind output has been less than promised, while operating costs have been much higher than advertised. Offshore wind developers in Europe and the US are canceling projects because of higher materials and construction costs. And Ørsted, the Danish company that is developing the Southfork Wind and Sunrise Wind projects off Long Island and the Ocean Wind project off the New Jersey coast announced that due to higher contract prices, it will have to write-off billions of dollars in potential losses.



So it seems that green power is not quite ready to be our prime source, or at least not quite ready to turn off the tried and true systems that we have learned to depend upon.

The Green Project for electric vehicles (EV's) has challenges also. Ford, which has bet heavily on its electric Lightning pickup and Mustang, received a \$9.2 billion government-subsidized loan in January. But they revealed that it has lost \$60,000 for every EV it sold in the first half of this year. Rivian, another EV company, managed to reduce losses per EV to around \$33,000, a big improvement over the \$67,000 loss per EV in the first quarter of the year. Proterra, a Bay Area-based manufacturer of electric buses and batteries had to file for bankruptcy.

EV's are not selling. Is it due to a much higher cost to purchase? Could it be the difficulty in finding convenient charging stations? Is it

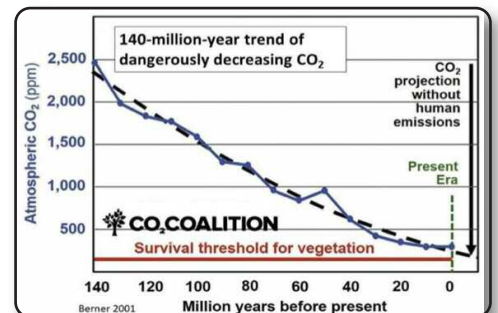
the fire danger from the battery packs that they use? Does the short range between charges limit the sales? Too many questions with too few good answers.

So where do we go from here? As a minimum, I think it is a bad idea to shut down our petroleum based thermal power plants until quite a few questions about the shortcomings of Green Power get answers. Why are the latest ever larger wind turbines having maintenance problems, to the point of even some of the towers are falling over? With the turbine blades approaching football field lengths, how can we service these things in remote areas where the roads will not allow such a long cargo to be moved readily? The rush to build more of these Green Energy things is not only hugely more expensive than planned, but they are also insufficiently reliable in adverse weather, and have shockingly high maintenance costs.

Most of these issues are well known, so why are we not aware of them in the general public? I am sure all of our readers are aware that Solar Power is a non-performer on dark, stormy days. Dr. John Clauser, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics, and about 1600 other research level Physics Scientists signed a document stating that there is a missing piece in all the Climate Change models. None of them take into account the impact of clouds. On a cloudy day not only is the surface of the Earth cooler, but also that Solar Collectors have only about half as much electrical output. Wind farms are equally sensitive to weather issues. If we had a huge winter storms again like the one we had in February 2021, can I depend on there being enough available energy in North Texas to protect my family?

I hold an Engineering Degree, and most of these issues are within the realm of normal Engineering Problems, but how many of these have you been aware were being handled? Will we get them solved and the solutions implemented before our Fossil Fuel Thermal power gets shut off for good? Will we even get an honest appraisal of the extent of the problems with these new technologies?

While I am a supporter of projects to clean up our environment, the momentum to blame everything on the CO2 levels baffles me. Here is a graphic that documents what is the best belief of CO2 levels for the last almost 150 million years, since the beginning of the Dinosaur Era.



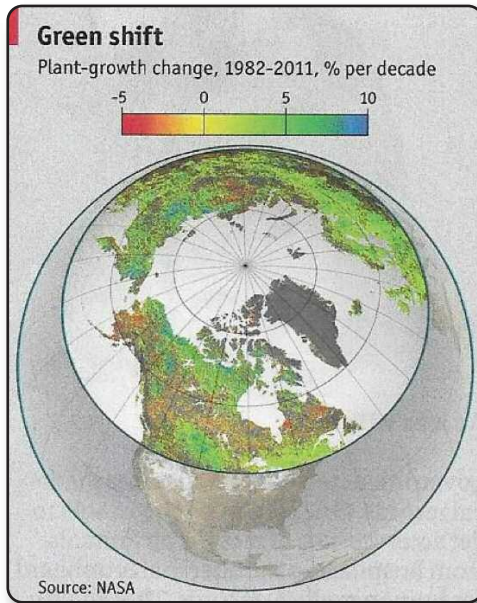
In the lower right corner, it suggests that without Human Pollution we might be facing too little CO2 for plants to survive. That is certainly contrary to the party line of the Climate Alarmists who are trying to tell us that we are drowning in CO2. The point they are missing IMO is that CO2 is a natural part of the life cycle of every living thing, both plant and animal. I am not sure of the source of the dashed line, but the solid line connecting the dots purports to be based on analysis of fossil evidence.

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The Conservation Corner

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In any case it casts doubt on the claims that the current CO2 levels are higher than they have ever been, and that they are approaching a disaster level. I suggest that even if the line is incorrect for your part of the planet, it has been roughly the current level for 20 million years



or so. The Climate Alarmists suggest that all that CO2 is dangerous due to plant life expansions. I agree that yes plants are expanding. Here is a Graphic from NASA derived from orbiting satellite data.

With the widespread famine in many parts of our planet, I am glad to see that more of the planet can sustain plant growth. Plants are both a food in themselves and are the food for our protein

base. So while many seem to be worried about these issues, I submit that there is a beneficial side as well. For example, plants release the Oxygen that we need. Unfortunately, few seem to be publishing information about these possibly beneficial sides to the CO2 issue. They insist on suggesting that while we do not yet have a stable and sufficient alternative energy base, to save ourselves from the horrors of CO2 we should immediately stop using our Energy Base that uses fossil fuels.

My take is that perhaps the time will come to do that, but for now, the CO2 "problem" seems manageable and survivable, and the alternatives are not quite ready for prime time. In fact, ever more credible Scientists are actively going on record as stating that the

Climate Crisis is not remotely a crisis, and perhaps is not much more than normal weather variations.

Let's be careful of creating unnecessary reductions in vital parts of our life cycle, and to clean up where it is practical in today's world. I am still a Conservationist, and support doing all reasonable activities to protect our planet. Stay tuned for future news.

The Fall Fishing season is here.

With our Outings getting better and all the great fly tying opportunities, we are ready to hit the water and exercise those actively feeding fish who are building a fat reserve for the winter. Texas has a mild winter compared to most of the USA and so our fish have a good chance of being survivors next spring and get busy nesting and incubating those little fish. We can help them with careful catch and release tactics.

- Always use barbless hooks or at least the ones with the tiny barbs.
- Always practice "Keep them Wet" by not lifting them out of the water except for a short picture before a careful release.
- Move around to keep from catching and releasing the same population of fish. This reduces the stress on any single group of our finny friends.

With the El Nino warmth, it could be a fairly mild winter, so we may find active fish all winter long. That would be fun but be careful to not overwork any specific population of our finny friends. Write the Newsletter a good fishing story. Anything from a short paragraph with a picture or two to the great multi-page stories that we have been getting is great. If you can't get out to fish for them at least enjoy the experience through the tales of our Fishing Wizards. We have many of those.

Have a great Fall Fishing Season and best wishes for the Holidays.



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)

<p>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</p>	<p>Renewing Members: Annual membership dues: \$36 per year</p>
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