

No Fisherman Left Behind
Art de Tonnancourt



FEBRUARY 2004

The club will have a winter fishing trip on Sunday, February 22 on the Blackwater river in Milton. The quarry will be bass, brim, speckled trout, redbfish, whatever brackish waters will bring.

We will all meet at the NAS Whiting Field fish camp in Milton, Florida, at 10 AM on Sunday February 22nd. Driving directions are to downtown Milton, go east across the bridge over the Blackwater river and take a left right after the Copper Possum Antique shop on to Johnson Road and proceed about 1 mile to left on Hay Lo Rd which will have a sign to the NAS Whiting fish camp.

The camp has a ramp for those who bring a boat, and choices of boats will be available for those who do not have a boat, a pontoon boat that can carry 12 people for \$15.00 per hour to a jon boats with 8 h.p. motors at \$10.00 a day. Fuel etc. is available. As a Navy retiree I will be the sponsor that day for the club.

Hot coffee and doughnuts will be provided by the club for all. We will have charts and a briefing for the river fishing at 10 a.m. and attempt to launch by 10:30 a.m.. Plan to fish until 1:30 p.m. whereupon we will return to the camp for club furnished chili hot dogs and fixings and liquid refreshments to be served at 1:45 with a bull session, fish stories and fellowship. Those who wish to fish longer after the lunch may do so but must be off the premises by 5 p.m..

This is the first of 4 planned local fishing trips for the year for the club and everyone is urged to participate. In case of a bad weather forecast (cold or precipitation) the trip will be postponed until Sunday the 29th, same place, same time.

Request that all participants send e-mail to artdetonnancourt1@cox.net (preferably) or call him at 492 3833 or cell 516 4076 stating your intention to be there. Cancellation of the trip due to weather will be made not later than Saturday at 4 p.m. by email to those who have replied. There is a clinic scheduled for Saturday the 21st where this will also be announced.

Here is a chance for everyone, employed members as well as retirees, with or without boats..... **"no fisherman left behind"**A great chance for some real fishing, and casting on the water, to use those flies that have been tied and to recover from the winter cabin fever epidemic. Y'all come!!!!!!!!!!

2004 MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE

PLEASE PAY YOUR RENEWAL FEE OF \$30 TO DON LUPONE OR KAREN BRAND AT ANY OF THE FEBRUARY MEETINGS. IF UNABLE TO ATTEND, MAIL YOUR RENEWAL TO DON LUPONE. WHERE ELSE COULD YOU FISH WITH SOME PRETTY GOOD ANGLERS, CHECK OUT BOOKS AND TAPES FROM A COMPREHENSIVE FISHING LIBRARY, TAKE TRIPS TO EXOTIC FISHING HOLES, POLISH YOUR CASTING AND TYING SKILLS WITH THE HELP OF EXPERTS, EAT A GOURMET LUNCH EVERY MONTH AND SHARE THE FELLOWSHIP OF SOME FINE FOLKS AND PURVEYORS OF TALL TALES FOR SUCH A LOW PRICE?

DRAFTS OF THE 2004 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL THE FEBRUARY MEETINGS, PLEASE CORRECT ANY ERRORS. IF YOUR ENTRY WAS INCORRECT IN LAST YEAR'S EDITION, PLEASE MAKE SURE IT GETS CORRECTED FOR THIS YEAR. THE 2004 DIRECTORY WILL BE READY IN EARLY MARCH.

President's Report

Ladies and Gents, By the time you read this, you will have been notified that we will have a special drawing from those present at the Feb. general business meeting of the club, for one member to replace Bill Parrish on the fabled

zoo hunting trip, Feb. 7th. Before you place your name in the pot, remember there is a wildebeest, yak, or some dam creature haunting the areas around the lakes. So, don't worry about having to outrun the animal, just outrun your slowest compadre.

I also want to alert you to Art's "No Fisherman left Behind" trip on the Blackwater River, near Milton, Feb. 22nd. Complete info will be in the Feb. newsletter.

On the administrative side, I've appointed an ad hoc committee, chaired by VP Russ Shields, to establish some minimal, consistently utilized, criteria upon which to select the recipient for the Fisherman of the Year award. The members are Kevin Cohenour, Art deTonnancourt, and John Brand.

Last month you nominated and elected Allan Heilig and Milt Mays to the BOD as At Large members. As a result of this and Tom Regina's taking over the facilities chair as a collateral duty, both founding member Jon Williams and Bill Locher have gone off the board. Both these guys have served the club in various capacities, long and well, on the board and off. We continue to value their advice, and will continue to rely on them in the future. See you on the 3rd, Jay.

Around the Bay... and Further Away

Bruce and Alex Vail, Bill Locher, Tom Finkle and John Brand went to the "Hump" south of Venice, LA searching for yellowfin last week. Tom came away with a 170 pound trophy on conventional gear while the rest of the guys had to be satisfied with blackfin and kings. Pictures are on page 5 and tall tales forthcoming.

And speaking of tall tales, Karen and John Brand and I will have photos and fishing reports on last summer's trip to the Green, San Juan and other points west at the business meeting on February 3rd.

This year's flyfishing class at Pensacola Junior College will run Wednesday evenings 6-8 PM, from March 3 to April 28. If you are new to flyfishing or tying, this is a great chance to learn from some of our best tyers and casters. Check with Tom Regina for details.

Don't miss the February clinic where Travis Akins will lead us in tying with rotary vises. The quill bodies he ties are exquisite. Learn some advanced techniques from one of our most artistic tyers.

May all your drifts be drag free....Jerry Aldridge

The Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

PRESIDENT - Jay Williams Jr.
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VICE-PRESIDENT - Russ Shields
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SECRETARY - Skeet Lores
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AT LARGE - Allan Heilig, Milt Mays

PAST PRESIDENT - Tom Regina

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

AUCTION - Travis Akins

CONSERVATION - Doug Kemper

DIRECTORY/NEWSLETTER - Jerry Aldridge

EDUCATION/CASTING - John Brand

EDUCATION/TYING - Tom Regina

TRIPS & OUTINGS - Art de Tonnancourt

FFF REPRESENTATIVE - Larry Goodman

LIBRARY - Kevin Cohenour

MEMBERSHIP - Karen Brand

MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

BUSINESS MEETING - 1ST TUESDAY, 7 PM

BULL SESSION - 2ND THURSDAY, 6:30 PM

CLINIC - 3RD SATURDAY, 9 AM

BOARD MEETING - 4TH TUESDAY, 6:30 PM

FISHING TRIPS - AS SCHEDULED

Meetings at Miraflores Park, 17th Avenue between Belmont and LaRue

Newsletter Editor - Jerry Aldridge
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jamayfly@yahoo.com

Put it where you want it..... Travis Akins

One of the many decisions a young fly tier faces (by young I mean new to tying) is whether or not to buy a rotary vice. I can tell you with great honesty that I don't know what I would do without the rotary function, because the rotary vice allows you to do many things that you just can't do with a stationary vice. Whether you are wrapping a rib, palmering a hackle, dubbing a body, or trimming deerhair (to name a few), you can do it faster and much more accurately with a rotary.

As an illustration for the use of the rotary vice, let's tie a BWO Parachute with a biot body.

HOOK	Standard dry fly, size 14
THREAD	Olive 6/0
WINGPOST	White poly yarn
TAIL	Medium dun hackle
ABDOMEN	Olive turkey biot
THORAX	Olive dubbing
HACKLE	Medium dun

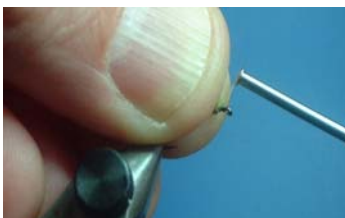


Go ahead and begin a normal parachute tie, that is a wing post and tailing hackles. With the thread at the rear of the tie in, tie in the turkey biot by the tip, with the cupped side of the biot facing you. Wrap thread forward to just behind the hook eye, then put in a half hitch. Hang the thread over the bobbin cradle.

Now grab the biot with the hackle pliers and wrap forward by rotating the vise, just covering the dark area on the front of each previous wrap. Stop as close to the wing post as you can. Tie off and trim the biot. Dub over this tie off, stopping up against the back of the wing.



With the vise rotated to 90 degrees, make one thread wrap around the wing post. Place the trimmed hackle along the wing post and secure it. Secure remaining hackle stem to the hook shank, wrapping to the eye. Now dub back to the wing post. Hackle 3 or 4 wraps starting at the wing post and finishing up against the body of the fly. Secure with 3 thread wraps at the bottom of the hackling and the feather pulled toward you and angled down.



Pull thread straight towards the eye on the far side of the hook. Build up a small head and finish with 5 half hitches. Apply head cement.



Bead Head Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear... Originator Unknown

HOOK	Mustad 9671 or equivalent
THREAD	Tan 6/0
TAIL	Partridge hackle barbs
ABDOMEN	Light hare's ear dubbing
RIB	Medium gold wire
THORAX	Dark hare's ear dubbing
WINGCASE	Dark turkey quill
LEGS	Partridge hackle barbs



1. Bend down hook barb. Place bead on hook, smaller hole first. Place hook in vise and lay thread base from bead back to hook bend. Place wire atop shank with end half way towards hook eye and other end of wire extending to rear of hook. Tie in wire from forward end back to hook bend.

2. Push wire down and away to make room for tail. Select 15-20 hackle barbs and tie in at bend with barbs extending no more than 1/2" to the rear. Clip excess. Dub a full abdomen. Wrap 4-5 turns forward with wire to form rib. Cut off excess (but not with your good scissors).



3. Cut a 1/4" segment of barbs from turkey quill. Tie in near bottom of barbs about 1/4 shank length back from bead with shiny side up. Dub thorax slightly fuller than abdomen.

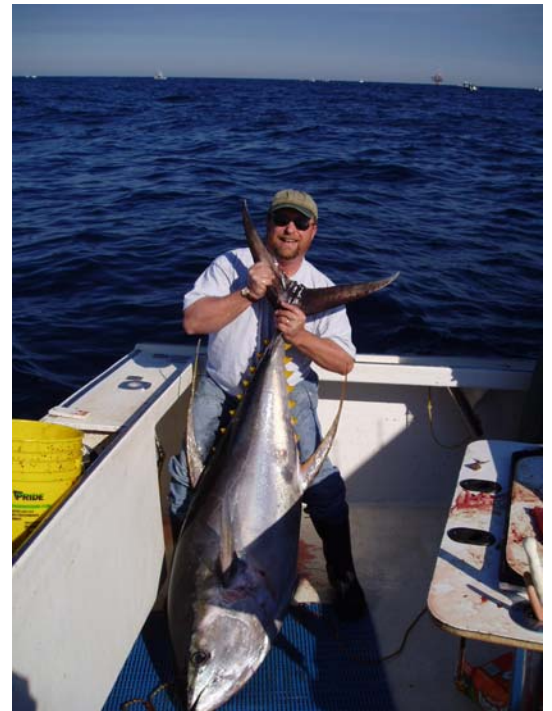
4. Select 15-20 hackle barbs and tie in as legs on far side. Legs should point down at roughly a 60 degree angle extending no further than hook point. Repeat on near side. Trim excess. Bring turkey quill forward and tie in just behind the bead. Whip finish and cut thread. Apply head cement to thread wraps and entire wing case.



NOTES: The hare's ear nymph, in its basic form, precedes us all by centuries. Variations abound and all catch fish. The tail can be duck flank, guard hairs from the hare's mask or even squirrel tail. The rib can be wire or tinsel or crystal flash, The dubbing for abdomen and thorax may have flash mixed in the hare's ear. The wingcase may be made of other dark quills or flash material or entirely absent, especially in small sizes. The legs could be any variegated hackle or simply the guard hairs of the thorax picked out. Rubber hackle might be added to or substituted for the tail and legs. In any of its forms it is deadly, one of the very best. See you at the Bull Session...Jerry



171.3 pounds? Holy Cow, Tom!



Come on, Tom, lift!

Bill with a nice blackfin caught on the fly. Did Tom really say that it looked like bait?



171.6? It grew?



FLY FISHERS

OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA

PO BOX 1041
PENSACOLA, FL 32591



FEBRUARY 2004



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Business Meeting 7 PM	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Clinic - Casting, tying gourmet lunch 9 AM
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29						