

# Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS  
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
MAY 2006

THE FLYFISHERS OF  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA  
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**MONTHLY MEETINGS**  
Meetings at Miraflores Park  
17th Avenue between  
Belmont and LaRua

**BUSINESS MEETING**  
1ST TUESDAY, 7 PM

**BULL SESSION**  
2ND THURSDAY, 6:30  
PM

**CASTING & TYING  
CLINIC**  
3RD SATURDAY, 9 AM

**BOARD MEETING**  
1ST TUESDAY, 6:15PM

Minutes, April meeting....Jerry Giles	2
President's Message....Jay Williams	2
What's Happening?....Jerry Aldridge	3
Streamer Ties with Tom Regina Bunny Baitfish	4
Photo Gallery	5
Calendar	6
<i>Conclave Special....Included with e-mail version of newsletter. Not included with paper version. Paper copies will be available at auction.</i>	1-7



## Annual Club Auction

**Circle the Date! Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, is the day starting at 7 PM sharp. Here is a chance for you to support our club by looking around the house and garage for your spare sporting gear that has value. Collect all your stuff in a box to be auctioned and bring it to the club as early as 4 PM that day.**

**Here is a chance for anyone to be able to buy some good fishing equipment, books, fly tying materials, fantastic fresh and salt water flies beautifully tied by our top fly tiers in the club.**

**Contact Art de Tonnancourt, Auction Chairman, should you need any additional information ([artdetonnancourt1@cox.net](mailto:artdetonnancourt1@cox.net) or call him at 492-3833).**

## **General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, April 4th, 2006, President Jay Williams, Jr. presiding**

The meeting was called to order by President Williams at approximately 7:00 P.M.

The attendance list was passed around with the request that anyone interested in helping with the "Kids Clinic", so indicate by placing a check mark by their name. The "Kids Clinic" is sponsored by Gulf Coast Outdoors Magazine and The Pensacola Recreational Fishing Association. Karen Brand gave a briefing on the positive aspects of assisting with the program. Volunteers are needed to help with fly tying, fly and other rod instruction, and assisting generally with the kids.

Our special guest Carl Warmouth from Callaway Gardens gave a presentation on the special fishing opportunities at Callaway. He covered the aspects of bass, bream, and other recreational fishing available to guests and visitors to Callaway. Special rates were offered to members who attend the Fly Fishers Federation Conclave.

Art de Tonnancourt asked that members keep in mind that we will have the annual auction on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006, and requested that everyone consider furnishing items for the auction and bidding.

A replacement volunteer to serve as trip chairman was requested. Art discussed the "duties". There were no volunteers at this time. Art is relieved as trip chairman. No trips, as such, are planned, pending needed assistance in this important club function.

President Williams said that Pete Barrett, "The Sheep Wagon Man", had requested we contribute fly tying materials for a program, which sends the materials to troops in Iraq. Russ Shields was asked to contact Pete for details on that matter.

The possibility of establishing a club web site was discussed. Tom Birdwell explained that he could make that happen with little or no expense to the club. The idea was enthusiastically accepted and Tom was asked to pursue the project.

Karen Brand reported that the club had six new members and commended Travis Akins for his recruiting efforts through the casting clinic "Temple Fork Day."

There was a discussion regarding the continuation of our club affiliation with the Fly Fishers Federation. Travis Akins moved that we continue our membership. The motion was seconded, and the vote was affirmative.

Subsequent to proper motion and second, President Williams adjourned the meeting....Gerald Giles, Club Secretary

## **President's Message ....Jay Williams**

Six of our club went to Bryson City April 9th for six days. The weather was consistently the best I've seen over many trips there the past several years. Everyone was successful in their angling. Russ caught a 30" Rainbow, and I caught my best one up there, at 21". He fought like a salmon. My wrist got tired and I thought he was staying on so long his life might be jeopardized. Then I took a close look at my rod and found I had picked up my 3 weight, not my 5 weight. I did get him in and used my ketch and release tool to unhook him from the Prince nymph.

This trip, also on other grounds, turned out to be one of the best I've seen from the standpoint of fellowship. One of the main reasons for that, I feel, was the exuberant atmosphere created by our "newbie", George Bennett. Art and others gave George priceless opportunities and instruction to improve his skills. By the time Art released "his" hole to George for a day, George was ready and pulled a bunch out. In view of his new found prowess, George became a recipient of the prestigious Klaus Gohrbandt Award at dinner on our last night.

Jerry Giles had a very productive fishing experience and as before, helped me with my German vocabulary. My second accomplishment was to go swimming unexpectedly, on the Nantahala, the single day we all fished it. It had been a long time since i had taken a dip, so I didn't have a change of clothing in the car. That will be corrected from this time on. Can't be over confident.

On the way home, two cars of us stopped at the Georgia Aquarium in south Atlanta. This was a very worthwhile experience that favorably impressed the four of us, and I heartily recommend it to you. For details, ask Klaus who made the arrangements. See you at the auction and the picnic....Jay

## *What's Happening.... Jerry Aldridge*

Welcome to new members Win Davis, Frank Greskovich, Paul Lukkar, Robert Mahan, Joe Morgan and Pat Patterson.

**Kids Fishing Rodeo....**The Fly Fishers of NW FL will be participating in the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Kids Fishing Clinic, which will be held Saturday morning, May 20. We will be doing tying and casting demonstrations and are looking for volunteers. The FL Fish and Wildlife Commission, Pensacola Recreational Fisherman's Assoc, FL Department of Environmental Protection and Wal-Mart are sponsoring the event. The event in 2005 was rained out but the 2004 Clinic had over 750 kids participating!!

Event goals: To create responsible marine resources stewards by teaching children the vulnerability of Florida's marine ecosystems; to teach fundamental saltwater fishing skills and give kids a positive fishing experience; to get families out and spending time together while enjoying the outdoors; to provide the opportunity for community members to become active in promoting resource conservation and participation in aquatic education activities. The event will be held at Commendancia Slip by the former site of the Bayfront Auditorium. Volunteers should arrive between 6-6:30 AM, if you have any questions please call **Karen Brand, 516-1852.**

**Scout Camp....**For the 16th year The Flyfishers of NW Florida will be teaching the fishing and fly fishing merit badges plus fly tying and casting at Camp Euchee near Defuniak Springs. We need instructors and helpers for the weeks of June 12-15 and June 18-22. Please contact **Vick Vickery at 478-3584.**

**Fly Tyers....**The Southeastern Council Conclave is slated for June 8 - 10, 2006 and there is always room for the dressers of flies. All the tiers on our list have gotten an invitation. What we are looking for now is the new tier in your clubs. The requirements for the tiers are very simple.

1) be a proficient tier meaning be willing to tie your favorite fly in front of a folks that want to know how you tie it and how you fish it. 2) Be a member of the Federation of Fly Fishers. This can be done on line and in the comments section of the membership form be sure to request the Grab bag for either Salt or fresh water. It has \$50 worth of stuff from scientific Anglers or Cortland in it - a perty good deal for a \$35 membership. Contact Dave Duffy, 180 Meadowlark Drive, Spruce Pine, NC 28777 or [dduffy@mtnarea.net](mailto:dduffy@mtnarea.net). Thanks for your help and support ....**Dave Duffy, President SEC FFF.**

**Free....**Are you planning on buying a new GM car/truck before November 13, 2006? I have and will give away, for free, a class action settlement consumer certificate worth \$250 toward the purchase of a new GM car/truck. The certificate is the result of the problem GM had with the gas tank on the 1974 pickup truck. The certificate is transferable.... **See Tom Regina.**

**Thanks to Carl Warmouth** from Callaway Gardens for a fine program at the April business meeting. I can hardly wait to tackle those big bluegills! Unfortunately, the speckled trout didn't cooperate the next morning but Carl did get a boat tour off the area....**Jerry Aldridge.**

**Flyfishing and Tying Books....**I had to reduce my flyfishing literature book-shelf space when we rebuilt and remodeled our home following its destruction by hurricane Ivan. Therefore, I had two boxes of literature stored in the attic. When I recently saw the boxes again I thought, that another flyfisher might possibly be interested in some of the books.

I offer the books to club members for purchase. They are all in very good condition and deal with fly tying (21), fly fishing techniques (10) and fly fishing destinations (8); collected when I learned to fly fish and fished in and around northern California. I leave it up to the purchaser to pay me what he/she thinks is a fair price; somewhere in a window from \$1.-- to \$10.--. As a guide, I have listed on an inventory the original prices as far as I found them printed on the book.

I will carry the books, and copies of my inventory, with me at the next few monthly general meetings, and at the bull sessions and casting clinics when I attend them....**Klaus Gohrbandt**

**SPRING PICNIC....****Don't forget the picnic, May 14th , noon at Shoreline Park.**  
\$5 per person. Bring a "potluck" dish. Entrée provide by your club. Games, fish stories and other tall tales. Call Karen at 516-1833 for additional info.

## Streamer Ties with Tom Regina . . . Bunny Baitfish

The Bunny Baitfish was originally tied as a tube fly by Alberto Jimeno. However I have chosen to tie it as a standard streamer and have made some modifications to the original to better adapt the fly to a streamer hook. (You can see Jimeno's original pattern at [www.flyanglersonline.com](http://www.flyanglersonline.com)). Because this streamer has a relatively long rabbit fur zonker strip wing I have added a monofilament non-fouling guard at the hook bend to prevent the wing from fouling the hook gap or point when the fly is cast.

My version, as well as Jimeno's is tied without added weight. I normally fish streamers on a sink tip line with a short heavy leader (2X or 3X). The weight of the sink tip and the wet fur and hide of the rabbit strips are weighty enough to quickly submerge the fly in all but the fastest currents. You can dress the Bunny Baitfish streamer with added weight if you will be fishing it with a full floating line and/or in fast currents. This weight can be in the form of non-toxic wire wrapped as an underbody or as a beadhead or conehead.

The Bunny Baitfish is speedy and easy to tie and can be tied in many colors or color combinations. The narrow, supple strips of rabbit fur give it a fluid swimming action that is highly mobile underwater like marabou. Rabbit fur hide strips maintain wing and tail shape much better than limper marabou. And as a bonus, rabbit fur hide strips are easy to work with. For a more in-depth schooling on the uses of and techniques of tying with crosscut and zonker rabbit fur hide strips consult "*The Fly Tier's Benchside Reference to Techniques and Dressing Styles*" by Ted Leeson and Jim Schollmeyer". This book is available in our club library.

Alberto Jimeno originally designed his Bunny Baitfish as a tube fly for river smallmouth bass fishing. I have used my interpretation of the streamer to catch and release many trout on rivers and streams of western North Carolina. Art and I will give the bunny a try on the Little Tennessee River in North Carolina in hopes of enticing some bronzebacks to hand. I mostly cast the Bunny Baitfish quartering upstream, give it time to sink then retrieve it with quick short strips through good trout holding water and feeding lanes. I will also cast it quartering upstream, allow the fly to sink.... and keeping connected with the fly let it swing downstream while twitching the rod tip to impart action to the bunny. When the streamer starts to rise at the end of the swing I will retrieve it with intermittent short and long strips and pauses through a current seam.

### Tying Instructions

Hook	Mustad 9672, 3XL, size 4
Thread	Gudebrod GX2, white 107
Non-Fouling Guard	30-Lb. Clear monofilament
Tail/Wing	Olive rabbit zonker strip
Body	White crosscut rabbit strip
Head	Gudebrod 8/0 black 118 thread, painted eyes, epoxy



*Note: Rabbit strips are cut from the pelt longitudinal (zonker) or latitudinal (crosscut). In either case the fur flows in a natural direction. With the rabbit strip in front of you and the fur flowing or pointing to your left the front of the strip is to your right.*



1. Debarb the hook and fix it in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread 3/16" back from the hook eye. In neat touching turns wrap the thread back to the hook bend. Cut about a 2" piece of monofilament from the spool. (*Note: Red monofilament is used here for illustration purposes*). Bind one tag end of the mono to the far side of the hook for a distance of about 3/8" forward from the hook bend. Form a loop in the monofilament that extends past the end of the hook about one hook gap. Secure the other tag end of the mono to the near side of the hook.

2. From the front of an olive rabbit or zonker strip cut the hide so the total length of the hide portion of the wing is equal to the hook length plus the mono guard loop. (*Note: When cutting the hide work your scissors through the fur so when you cut the hide you will not cut the fur*). From the back of the wing hide measure a distance equal to the length of the mono loop plus 1/4". Work your scissors or bodkin through the fur at this point and separate the fur down to the hide. Where the fur is separated and without trapping fur with thread wraps, tie the strip onto the top of the hook at the hook bend so the hide extends over and 1/4" beyond the mono loop.

3. From the front of a white crosscut rabbit strip, strip away about 1/8" of fur and cut the hide to a point. Lift the front of the olive wing back out of the way. Just in front of the olive strip tie in the white rabbit strip by the point, hide side up with the fur flowing back. In quick spiral wraps return the thread forward to the thread tie on point.



## Streamer Ties with Tom Regina...continued



4. In tight touching, but not overlapping wraps, palmer the crosscut strip forward to just past the thread tie on point. With each wrap stroke the fur to the rear so as not to trap any fur under successive wraps. End the last wrap at the top of the hook. Separate the fur down to the hide and tie off the crosscut strip with several tight thread wraps. At a shallow angle cut away the tag end of the crosscut strip.

5. Separate the palmered fur from the top of the fly body to the sides. Pull the front of the olive strip tightly over the top of the fly and tie it off just in back of the hook eye with several tight thread wraps that can be allowed to trap some fur. At a shallow angle cut away the tag end of the olive rabbit strip. Bind down the strip tag end. Whip finish the thread wraps and cut away the tying thread.

6. For a neat head change to the 8/0 black thread and build a relatively large thread head.

7. Epoxy the head. (See "Keeping Epoxy in its Place" in the September 2005 issue of *Flies & Lies*). After the epoxy cures paint on the eyes. Allow the paint to dry and re-epoxy the head.

### A PAIR THAT WILL BEAT A FULL HOUSE



**JOHN BRAND WITH A NICE ONE FROM THE TUKESEGEE**



**KAREN BRAND WITH A NICER ONE - SAME PLACE**



## PHOTO GALLERY



**A FATHER & DAUGHTER WITH A PAIR OF NICE MARCH REDS.... PHOTO BY CAPT BOB QUARLES**

### A WILD BROOKIE CAUGHT BY TRAVIS ON BRADLEY FORK



**SNOW COVERED FERN ON A COLD MORNING**

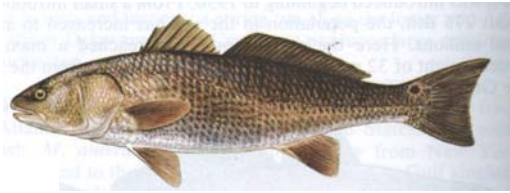


**KEVIN, WE FOUND YOUR HAT!**



**FLY FISHERS**  
  
**OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA**

**PO BOX 1041  
 PENSACOLA, FL 32591**



# MAY 2006

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

**1      2      3      4      5      6**  
**AUCTION! DETAILS FRONT PAGE**

**7      8      9      10      11      12      13**

**Bull Session-Tying &  
 Tall Tales 6:30 PM**

**14      15      16      17      18**  
**SPRING PICNIC! DETAILS PAGE 3**

**Clinic - Casting, tying  
 gourmet lunch 9 AM**

**21      22      23      24      25      26      27**

**28      29      30      31**

