

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
SEPTEMBER 2006

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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

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Tom Regina



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Saturday, September 16....Gourmet Lunch at the Clinic with Chefs Jerry G and Russ....Grilled Tilapia Po' Boys with coleslaw / potato salad

September fly tying at the club....At the September 14 bull session starting at 6:30 PM Russ Shields will lead us in tying a quill-wing caddis. On Saturday September 16 at 9:00 AM Tom Regina will teach us to tie Kelly Galloup's Stacked Blonde Streamer.

Your club will provide all the materials for both flies. If you have a vise and tools please bring them. If not the club will furnish them. And do bring a guest or two. We have a vise and tools for them also.

At the Saturday tying and casting clinic, Russ Shields and Jerry Giles will fix you a mighty fine lunch and provide adult and little peoples beverages. Bring a guest. Russ feels because he is doing the fly tying at the bull session and fixing you lunch Saturday he ought to get a tip. Don't indulge him it will just spoil him....Tom Regina

President's MessageJay Williams

Jerry Giles has written a short, fictional story about a near fatal slip and fall accident while fly fishing alone. This was prompted by several actual immersions of some of us although suffering no injuries as serious as those suffered by his protagonist. Yet, his fictional account illustrates very well what a thin line exists between our joyous well being and death, or a possible lifetime of impairment, not only physical but that of our ability to care and provide for our loved ones.

Every year, I understand, there are drownings of even able bodied fly fishermen who fail to know enough about where they are fishing, certain external influences able to be exerted on those waters by generating plants and dam operators, etc. Additionally, it is reasonable to suggest that there are many deaths and serious threats to life and health of fishermen who are older and less physically capable of protecting themselves from harm by unexpected, sudden environmental changes, and minor health developments that would remain minor, save for the location and circumstances in which they occur.

Our pride in self sufficiency and our macho self image make us all vulnerable to an escalating series of adverse factors that can compound to cause high risk of injury and even death.. Many of us have heard the adage promulgated by the FAA that flying accidents generally occur when a minimum of two things go wrong. It is a truism, proven by thousands of aviation accident investigations. Seems also highly likely regarding accidents occurring to those practicing our beloved sport.

I submit to you that the first incident underlying physical threats to the fly fisherman is fishing alone or at best, not agreeing with his fellows to practice some sort of a buddy system. I'm not speaking of a tight system such as those used by divers, but one of simply being aware of where your buddy is, maintaining a reasonable distance under the then current circumstances, being alert for a call or whistle, and visually maintaining occasional contact. Rapids and runs make noise. A human voice doesn't carry well over such, so it makes sense to have a whistle on a lanyard in your vest. If you fish a lot with someone who is so self absorbed that he/she is unwilling to acknowledge that we all have a measure of responsibility to those we fish with, consider getting a true buddy, one who is concerned with prevention of serious mishaps and their consequences. First aid and other treatment information are subjects for another day.

In closing, I'll relate an incident that occurred on our "home" waters of the Tuckaseegee River near Dillsboro, N.C. Three or so of our group were in the water wading and fishing. Two of us, self included, parked on a bank fairly high above the stream, dressed out and proceeded to go down to the water. The man in front of me was in his 80's but an unusually spry, fit, and a very experienced fly fisher. The water flow seemed, from the bank, to be unusually fast and this was an area we had never fished. Just as I made my decision not to follow him in, the man ahead stepped in. His feet went out from under him and he started to flow downstream. Fortunately one of the guys who were in the water though startled, was able to move a short distance and grab the fallen fisherman. They made it back to the bank and got out. That incident occurred and was favorably resolved very fast with no untoward results save a little embarrassment, and a very strong sense of relief on the part of all of us. The outcome could have been otherwise, given all the factors that were operative. Think about safety. Tight Lines....Jay

Fall on the Nan....Jerry Giles

My face was maybe three inches from the water. Trying to raise my head didn't work. Neither did turning it at all. What the hell was I doing here? The water was moving, so it had to be a stream. What the blazes was wrong with me? Was this a dream?

Slowly, through the epoxy over my brain, it came back to me. Cleats on frosty rock, wild wind milling to regain balance, look at fleecy clouds, and then flat back landing on a mortuary slab granite boulder. Then sparks and lightning as the synapses objected. There must have been a bounce after that for me to be in this position, but no memory of a flip.

Wow! Peaceful feeling. No pain. How weird. Hey, there's my squirrel nymph about eight inches to the right, swimming just like I built it to do. Oh, crap. The cold is going to kill me and I won't even feel it. If I could move my foot, I'd kick myself in the ass for coming up here alone! An hour, two, I don't know. Did I hear a vehicle? I don't feel like I am dying, but still can't move anything but my eyes. Whoa! It's a brownie, twenty inches easy. He swam up, slowed, looked me in the eyes, and ate the nymph. (continued next page)

(continued) . . . Fall on the Nan . . . Jerry Giles

Oh, God, let me die now! What a final scene this would make! The biggest irony of my life and I can't even laugh! When he realized what he had, he spun a 180, and took off downstream like a rocket! The drag screamed that sweet string symphony in my ears, but I couldn't see my rod.

The warden had seen my vehicle on the road and went down the easy access path about forty yards below where I had fallen. Not seeing anyone, he squatted on his haunches and studied the river. He saw the trout streak past, jump and twist. He looked quickly upstream but couldn't see the angler who had to be attached to the other end of that trout. Well, he'd chew out the dude who was trying to kill this beauty with all that line out.

Yes, he found me, and I heard the helicopter come, then the crew fussing over me as they put me on the board. And yes, I am returning to normal after back surgery and rehab. Doctors said that my backpack with my rain jacket in it had kept the boulder from breaking my neck and bounced me over onto my face. The warden visited, brought me my rod, and said he had watched as the brownie swam away.

I'll go back there soon, throw a box of worms in as an offering, thanking that beautiful trout personally for my life. There will be fishing with friends again on the Nan. But no, I'll never fish that stretch again.

(This fictional story was inspired by the personal experience of one of our club members, who was very fortunate not to have suffered this serious an injury. Look hard; there is a lesson or two in there somewhere.)

General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, August 1, 2006, President Jay Williams, Jr. presiding

President **Jay Williams** called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M. The minutes of the July meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. The treasurer's report, presented by **Larry Sisney**, was reviewed by the membership and approved.

Joe Morgan, age 31, who was one of our members, died unexpectedly this past week at his home in Pace. His wife and two small children survive him. Following several suggestions as to the amount for a donation, **Jerry Aldridge** made a motion that \$250.00, be donated by the club to a memorial fund established at Bank of America. The motion was seconded by **Travis Akins**, and unanimously approved by the members. The fund is in the name of Jamie Morgan FBO The Children, and the number is #898000883905. President Williams will write a letter of condolence to Mrs. Morgan and inform her of the memorial gift.

President Williams presented a letter to our club from Spencer Page of the Boy Scouts, expressing appreciation for our 16th year of participation in their fly fishing program. Special kudos go to **Vic Vickery** and **Klaus Gohrbandt** for their traveling to teach the scouts. A letter of thanks from Jay Williams was sent to Mr. Page.

Fly tying for troops in Iraq, was further discussed. **Russ Shields** related that there were difficulties in identifying specific soldiers to whom we could send items. Further efforts are being made to learn of convalescing troops already back in the US, who would benefit from kits we might send.

In committee reports, **Larry Goodman** said that the Fly Fishers Federation had been recognized by the International Gamefish Federation of America, as the conservationist group of the year. Check out those organizations on their respective web sites.

There was a discussion regarding our club supporting fishing in North Carolina. One possibility was to assist Trout Unlimited in that area. President Williams asked for volunteers to an ad-hoc committee to consider the matter. **Doc Birdwell**, **Gregg Saunders** and **Vic Vickery** readily offered and were appointed. Birdwell will be vice chairman. **Skeet Lores** is the chairman.

Greg Saunders gave an interesting hands-on demonstration of how to tie furred leaders. The process results in a leader far superior to the single strand we generally use.

It was announced that the "kitty" for purchasing drinks was getting quite low. Please remember that drinks are free only for the Saturday Casting/Tying Clinic, and all other times are one dollar. This reminder will be placed in the newsletter.

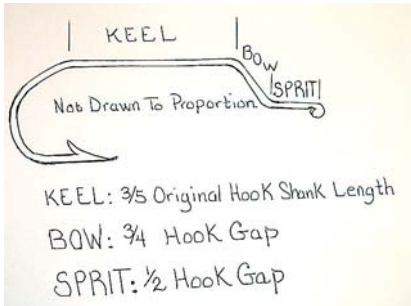
After proper motion, President Williams adjourned the meeting. Respectfully submitted; **Jerry Giles**, Club Secretary

The Stacked Blonds (Original Recipe by Kelly Galloup).... Tom Regina

The Stacked Blonde by Kelly Galloup, coauthor of the book "Modern Streamers for Trophy Trout", is a hybrid of the Joe Brooks pattern known as the Blonde. The Stacked Blonde's most distinguishing feature is its high profile. Kelly ties this streamer on a keel hook which if still in production is difficult to find. We will bend a streamer hook into the shape of a keel hook thereby maintaining the flies high feature and likeness to a small brim or broad minnow. Keel hooks are intended to swim the fly hook-point-up. Kelly however designed the Stacked Blonde to swim hook-point-down. He uses a keel type hook to give the fly a broad profile not to make it weedless. Kelly ties this streamer in three colors: white, yellow, or chartreuse. In the club library we have Kelly Galloup's DVD, "Streamer Flies for Trophy Trout". The Stacked Blonde is one of five streamer ties Kelly teaches in the DVD.

Materials

Hook	Mustad streamer 79580, 4XL, size 4
Thread	Gudebrod GX2
Tail	White bucktail
Body	White bucktail
Overwing	White marabou strung blood quill plumes
Head	GX2 thread or optional; Gudebrod 8/0 black BCS118, craft enamel paint: yellow and black, and epoxy



1. Debarb the hook and bend it into the shape of a keel hook as shown in the illustration. Mount the hook in your vise and wrap a thread base from two hook eyes distance back from the hook eye to the middle of the keel.



2. Cut a small bunch of long hair from the bucktail. Clean and stack the hair and cut the hair butts at a 45 degree angle. Tie the hair in on top of and toward the front of the keel with the 45 degree cut butts against the hook. The tip of the butts should extend and be thread wrapped half-way-down the hook bow.



3. From the bucktail cut a second bunch of hair equal to the first. Clean and stack the hair. Cut the hair butts at a 45 degree angle. Tie this second bunch of hair onto the *underside* of the hook bow. The tip of the butts should extend and be thread wrapped onto the sprit of the hook.

(continued).... The Stacked Blonds Tom Regina



4. Cut a third and longer bunch of hair from the bucktail. Clean and stack the hair. Cut the hair butts at a 45 degree angle. Tie this third bunch of hair to the *underside* of the sprit with thread wraps ending about 3/16" back from the hook eye.



5. Cut, clean, and stack a fourth bunch of hair. Cut the butts at a 45 degree angle so the length of this hair bunch is only about 1/3 the length of the other hair bunches. Tie this hair in on *top* of the sprit. Do not encroach the hook eye. The purpose of this fourth hair bunch is to "hide" the hook shank.



6. Select two long high-quality marabou blood quill plumes and use only the tips. Tie the feathers in one at a time on top of the fourth bunch of hair on top of the sprit. The marabou plumes should extend back (but probably won't) **to the end** of the tail. Also manipulate the plumes so they "tent" or "flow" over the sides of the fly. At this point, Galloup completes the fly by building a neat, tapered, whip finish, cemented GX2 thread head.

7. As an optional head, and instead of building a GX2 head, tie off and cut away the GX2 thread. Tie on the 8/0 black thread and build a neat tapered 8/0 thread head. Whip finish and cut away the black thread. Apply a thin coat of epoxy to the head. After the epoxy has cured apply yellow (eyes) and black (iris) paint for eyes. After the painted eyes cure apply a second layer of epoxy.



Thanks to all of you who sent in your fishing reports, articles, recipes, and photos so I could finish the September issue early! Westward Ho! See you when we return from old and new fishing holes in Colorado, California, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Montana and all points west....Jerry Aldridge

King's River Caddis (Original Recipe by Buz Buszek) . . . Russ Shields

Originated by Buz Buszek, the King's River Caddis dry fly has a rough, buggy dubbed body, a tent style down-wing of mottled turkey tail feather section and a front hackle collar for flotation. The King's River Caddis is well suited for fishing fairly smooth water while an Elk Hair Caddis is more suited for rough water situations.

Materials

Hook	Mustad 94840, size 8-18
Thread	6/0 brown
Body	Coarse brown dry fly dubbing
Wing	Mottled turkey tail feather section treated with Fixatif*
Hackle	Brown roster cape or saddle



Tying Steps

1. Build a body of rough buggy dubbing from the hook bend to a point one-fourth the length of the hook shank behind the hook eye.
2. Cut about a 1/4-inch wide section of barbs from the turkey tail feather quill. Fold the section over the top of the dubbed body and tie it in just in front of the body to form a tent style down-wing. The wing should cover the upper one-half circumference of the body and extend a distance equal to one hook shank length past the back of the hook.
3. Cut the back of the wing at a 45-degree angle to the hook shank so the finished wing extends in back of the hook a distance equal to about half a hook shank.
4. Select a hackle with barbs about two times the hook gap. Tie the hackle in over the wing tie on thread wraps. Wrap the hackle forward to a point one hook eye distance in back of the hook eye. Tie off and cut away the excess hackle. Form a neat tapered thread head. Whip finish the head and cut away the thread. Cement the head.

* Fixatif is the trade name for a clear spray on material used by artists. Fly dressers use it to bind or "glue" feather barbs together. Fixatif, manufactured by the Krylon Co. can be purchased at arts and crafts shops.

From Jerry Giles....I have a collection of old Reader's Digests. Sometimes I go back to them and read articles from the thirties and forties. As an example, the November 1941, issue has an article entitled, "Japan Risks Destruction." Pretty interesting.

I ran across this old joke submitted by Lowell Thomas in the May, 1939, issue: "A Virginia fisherman, arriving at a creek after a bumpy ride, found his can of bait had fallen out of his fliv ver. Looking down, he saw a water moccasin lying by a log, with a frog in its mouth. He clamped a forked stick over the snake's head, and took the frog for use as bait. The reptile looked so sorrowful at having its meal taken away that the fisherman opened up his jug and gave the snake a drink of moonshine, whereupon it went wriggling away.

After fishing for 15 minutes, the man's attention was attracted by a gentle, insistent thumping on his leg. He looked down, and there was that same water moccasin. He was looking up at the man, and he had another frog in his mouth."

Fishing Report.... Captain Bob Quarles



There were more tarpon this year than ever and they were hungry. We have a new fly that the fish will spin out of a pod and turn around to eat. Here's a monster that I caught in beginning of July down around Apalachicola/Carrabelle that took almost two hours to land on my 11 weight rod. Twice during the fight a seven foot hammerhead came up to the fish, but I guess the shark decided the tarpon was a little big. This is the best pic I have, I wish I had taken length and girth measurements on it. I'm 6' 2", I stuck my leg out for some scale for the photo. It almost pulled me out of the boat twice, there was no way to hold it up... We snapped a few pics and she swam away just fine....

We also had a heck of a run of bonita in the Pensacola area, they were everywhere. Here is my good friend, Skeet Lores, with a fat 6 lb fish on my fly and his favorite rod he built. For those of you who don't know Skeet, he has quietly worked diligently over the years for our local CCA chapter, fishing clubs, the Escambia County Marine Committee and other groups dedicated to fishing and the environment. I love this picture, he even has his CCA hat on. Richard Montgomery, flyfishing rep from Leland Flyfishing Outfitters also made it down for a visit and a couple of Bo-bos..

Richard is an excellent caster and very knowledgeable about the sport.

As for other species, here is Kenner Patton from Birmingham, Al and Southern Living magazine with his first fish saltwater flyfishing. This big spanish hit a popper and now he's hooked. I think Kenner will come back for the bull reds on fly.



Last week, my good friends Malcolm and Todd from Texas were over on Pensacola Beach. These guys have fished with me for the last three years and we always have a good time. We

caught lots of small specks, large ladyfish and a couple of bluefish here and there. The bonita were nowhere to be found for us on Wednesday, we looked all over the Gulf. The specks were absolutely destroying a small orange gurgler fly, even just laying on the water.... Trust me, try orange. No pics, but we caught about 15 specks in Santa Rosa Sound on Friday and five were keepers. We also missed a couple of blowups that I think were redfish around the docks....Captain Bob



Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Yelverton

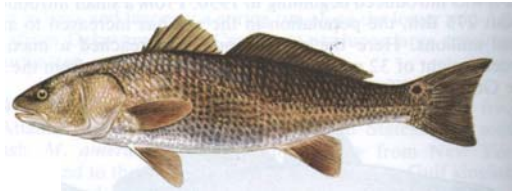


The false albacore fishing has slowed since the last newsletter, but you can still find a few schools out there...just have to get lucky. Here are a couple clients from Kentucky who hit it just right.

Had a client on July 14 who hooked a nice king mackerel on a big deceiver pattern under bay anchovies inside the pass on the east end of the channel heading into the Big Lagoon. Fluorocarbon tippet: lost it at the boat.

We're still seeing a few tarpon outside, but the word is there are lots of fish in the early morning between the "turning basin" and Fair Point (Town Point, Peake's Point, whatever). I haven't looked for them, but my guide buddies say to "just look for the birds".

Think these guys would lie to me? The darn Spanish mackerel haven't shown up in the bay yet, but they're due anytime....Capt Baz



SEPTEMBER 2006

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

