

Flies & Lies

NEWSLETTER OF THE FLYFISHERS
OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA
MAY 2007

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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

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President's MessageKaren Brand

The Club is wrapping up the **Spring PJC Class** and I wanted to thank all of you that helped with the class; Tom Regina, who coordinated with PJC and put together the tying kits, Bill Parrish and Klaus Gohrbandt who took care of all the equipment, tying instructors Travis Akins, Jerry Aldridge, Bruce Vail and casting instructors, John Brand, Bill Locher and Terry McCormick. I also want to thank Capt Baz Yelverton and Capt Bob Quarles who impressed the class with their great pictures and knowledge of the local waters.

May is a busy month starting with the **Annual Auction** May 1 during the business meeting and the **Spring Picnic**, Sunday May 27th at Shoreline Park. Other activities for members: Saturday, May 12th is Pensacola's 10th **Annual Kids' Fishing Clinic** held at the new Plaza De Luna (former site of the Bayfront Auditorium). The club has participated in the past with casting and fly tying demonstrations and we need volunteers. The FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Pensacola Recreational Fishermen's Association, FL Dept of Environmental Protection and Wal-Mart sponsor the event. The goal is to teach fundamental saltwater fishing skills and give kids a positive fishing experience!

The Gulf Coast Council of the FFF will hold the **Gulf Coast Fly Fishing Expo** in Lake Charles, LA May 18-20. General Admission is only \$10 per family and there will be lots of free seminars including, Fishing the Texas Hill Country, Kayak Fishing SE Louisiana, Trout Fishing in SE Oklahoma, Fly Fishing Coastal LA, and Fly Fishing the Texas Coast for Redfish. If you want to learn more about fishing other areas of the gulf coast this is an Expo you do not want to miss. For additional information go to www.gulfcoastfff.org. See you at the Auction, Karen Brand

General Business Meeting, Fly Fishers Of Northwest Florida, April 3, 2007, President Karen Brand, presiding

Before the business meeting, Pat Poloski and Ted Gorder, two members of a local kayak club, provided a fishing kayak display. The kayaks were fully outfitted for fishing and incorporated many interesting ideas. Ted's kayak had outriggers, a sail, rudder, depth finder, live bait box, and many other innovations. Ted fishes his kayak in the bays, Pensacola Pass, and also offshore. Ted had pictures of some very large fish caught from a kayak, and provided much useful information on this unique method. Many thanks to Pat and Ted for a great presentation. Ted may be contacted at www.gulfcoastkayakfishing.com

The business meeting was called to order by President Brand at about 7:15 P.M. The minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer's report were approved.

Members were asked to consider providing boat/fishing trips for auction May 1st. Art de Tonnancourt and Jerry Aldridge have signed up to do that. Also, Capt. Bob Quarles has offered a guided fishing trip for auction.

In committee reports, Conservation Chair, Skeet Lores said that the "Green Shores" project is progressing nicely. The fish habitat improvement is seeking oyster shells to add at the breakwater area. Area restaurants are happy to provide shells and if you get some, you can deliver them or arrangements can be made to have them picked up from you. The project is west of Muscogee Pier toward Bartram Park. It was suggested that our club could offer help in establishing this breakwater and shoreline improvement. Skeet also said that the CCA won an important lawsuit against National Marine Fisheries over their failure to enforce shrimp net laws to improve snapper mortality rates. The agency must submit a plan by November to reduce the snapper kill to 40% in net loads.

Our representative to the Fly Fishers Federation said that the Federation Conclave is from May 18th through the 20th at Lake Charles, La.

A reminder was given about the fish/float, canoe/kayak trip on Coldwater River, near Milton. We will meet at Bob's Canoe rental on Munson Hwy., at 8 A.M., May 2nd. Call Jerry Giles, at 994-9946, or Russ Shields, at 983-9515 for more info. If you have subjects or people you would like to have present programs at our business meetings, please contact one of your club officers. In June, we will have an extensive update report on "Project Green Shores".

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SCOUT CAMP....This will be the 16th consecutive year that the Flyfishers of NW Florida have taught scouts how to fish and tie flies at camp near Defuniak Springs. Contact Vick Vickery at 478-3584 to help from June 11-14 or June 18-21.

Larva Lace Caddis Larva with Tom Regina

Fly fishing. Bring up the subject and most anglers and non anglers envision trout rising to the surface to slurp a small dry fly. But the fact is subsurface flies - nymphs, wets, and streamers - account for the great majority of fly-caught trout.

Trout react so well to subsurface flies because the imitations mimic the preponderance of the food forms present in every trout stream and river throughout the year. Dry flies on the other hand imitate adult insects that are available to trout for comparatively brief periods. In other words, trout see and eat more subsurface natural food forms than they do surface food forms because subsurface foods are more abundant and more available to trout.

One of the most familiar aquatic insect species imitated by fly tiers are caddis flies. Caddis flies have a true metamorphosis - egg, larva, pupa, and adult. The tiny eggs are of no interest (except for the perpetuation of the bug) to the fly dresser or angler. And it is doubtful the eggs are of interest to catchable size trout. In keeping with our 2007 Saturday fly tying clinic focus we will tie a caddis nymph. Specifically, a Larva Lace Caddis Larva Nymph. So named because of the material used to fashion the abdomen of the imitation - Larva Lace.

Larva Lace Body Material is a hollow, tubular vinyl substance. It is soft and pliable, has a high stretch factor, is translucent, and comes in an assortment of colors from clear to black. Materials such as wire, thread, and flash may be threaded through the hollow lace for a realistic exoskeleton appearance. Liquid can also be sucked into the tubing for a wet appearance.

Larva Lace Body Material is available from fly shops, through catalog sales, or directly from the distributor at www.larvalace.com. The Larva Lace web site also has fly tying recipes and instructions for using Larva Lace. Nymph lace is the generic name for products with the same properties as Larva Lace. A good information source for tying with Larva Lace and/or nymph lace is the book by Phil Camera, "Fly Tying with Synthetics - Patterns & Techniques", Swan Hill Press, ISBN 1 85310 338 1.

Materials

Hook	Mustad C53S size 8
Thread	6/0 brown and olive
Head	Brown glass bead and brown thread
Abdomen	Olive Larva Lace Body Material or nymph lace
Thorax	Brown nymph dubbing
Legs	Brown mottled hen hackle fibers



Tying Instructions



1. Debarb the hook and slide a glass bead of the appropriate size onto the hook. Mount the hook in the vise. Start the brown thread on the hook directly behind the hook eye and form a small thread bump behind the eye. Wrap a thread base rearward two bead widths.



2. Wrap the thread forward to the thread bump. Slide the bead forward onto the thread base up to the thread bump; if the bead is loose or slides over the thread bump, add more thread wraps until the bead slips snugly over the thread base and is tight against the thread bump. Tie off the brown thread in front of the thread bump with a half hitch or whip finish knot. Cut away the brown thread and apply cement to the thread wraps. Push the bead up against the thread bump. Start the olive thread directly behind the bead and form a small thread dam against the back of the bead to lock it in place.



3. Wrap the olive thread rearward in touching turns to form a thread base back to a point directly above the hook barb. Spiral wrap the thread forward to a point equal to one bead width back from the bead. Cut about a 4-inch piece of lace from the skein. Mount the lace with several tight overlapping thread wraps to the top of the hook at the thread hang point. The long end should extend over the back of the hook. Cut away the front tag end.

Larva Lace Caddis Larva with Tom Regina (continued)



5. Use tight touching thread wraps to bind the lace to the top of the hook as you scratch the lace rearward. Bind the lace down to a point directly above the hook barb. Spiral wrap the thread forward to the lace tie-on point



6. Stretch the lace and palmer it forward in tight touching but not overlapping turns. As you wrap the lace forward lessen the stretching force applied to the lace so the body segments of the abdomen get larger with each turn. Tie-off the lace at the lace tie-on point. Cut away the lace tag end.



7. Form a buggy thorax over the last body segment and forward to just short of the bead.



8. For the legs, strip 10 - 15 hen hackle fibers from a chicken feather and mount them to the bottom of the hook between the thorax and the bead. Whip finish or half hitch the thread between the legs and the bead. Cut away the thread and apply a small amount of head cement using caution not to get cement on the thorax or legs.

Annual Auction....Art de Tonnancourt, Chairman

The club will hold its annual auction on Tuesday evening, May 1st at 7 PM. Because this date would normally be our business meeting night, there may be a short business meeting before the auction begins.

All members are requested to bring anything of value to be auctioned that evening. In the past fly fishing related objects, outdoor sports equipment, books and other articles of value have been sold at the auction. Many of our club members historically have tied flies or crafted objects especially for the event. There are usually many very useful articles that are auctioned at bargain prices making this annual auction a win-win evening for the club as well as for the buyers. The auction evening has always been a good time for all to participate in fellowship plus it an opportunity to contribute to the club's financial success. The auction committee is asking boat owners to let Art know if they are willing to "donate" their companionship and boat for a day of fishing in the local waters with a successful bidder for the local fishing trip. The time and date would be arranged by mutual consent between the donor and the winning bidder. This is a great way for members to get to know each other better and to give those of us who do not own a boat an opportunity to fish for a day.

Art and some of the other members who have volunteered to help on the auction committee will be at the club by 5 pm to accommodate anyone who wishes to bring their articles early. The earlier the stuff gets to the club the better it will be to organize the merchandise for the auction. If this time is not suitable for anyone, please call Art at 516-4076 for other arrangements.

Fishing Report.... Captain Bob Quarles

The pictures say it all, the fishing has been great....all of the usual suspects have shown up right on time for spring fishing....Variety is the spice of life. Pensacola lighthouse redfish!



My new duck hunting buddy, Dr. Gary Miller caught six different species with me... I think he's hooked. Huge Bluefish! Spanish on extremely light tackle!



Sunday's trip.. flounder and pompano!



Charlie Jackson with a nice flounder... Charlie wanted to learn a little more about inshore fishing and some new techniques. He was a fast learner on flounder and circle hooks.

John Babb with a couple of pompano caught with my hand-tied special jigs....Good job John.. it was rough out there...



Spring Clinic Photos.... Joe Higgins



Fishing Report.... Captain Baz Velverton



The end of March and April have been outstanding both on the inside flats and in the Gulf of Mexico. We've had the best spring pompano run in two years, with more fish and bigger fish than I have ever seen on the flats of Santa Rosa Sound. The fish in the attached photograph landed and released by John Vaughan, Newtown, CT, weighed over 4 pounds. The gulf pompano fishing has been equally good. Dick Johnson, Redding, CA, is holding one of a dozen landed on April 16.



Water temp on the flats reached 75 degrees on April 3 when Kelly Hadlich, Ceresco, MI, landed the boat record 27 inch trout on fly. We "wet waded" that day and had many good shots at trout, pompano and redfish. One week later the water temp was in the low 60's after a major cold front, and the flats were empty.



The jack crevalle are here, but we haven't landed one yet on fly. We've had numerous shots, but to date I haven't had an angler on the boat who could comfortably throw a 2/0 popper sixty feet into the wind with a 10wt. Some day soon we'll have a down-wind shot... Last Thursday we saw a school of at least 500 and possibly 1000 jacks. It was one of the largest schools I have ever seen, but of course we were poling the shoreline looking for pompano and redfish when the school passed us by heading west.



The Spanish mackerel have been here a few weeks now, and there are large schools of bluefish close to shore in the gulf and around the jetties. Plus, we've been throwing poppers at sharks in the surf and even had a "Hail Mary" shot at a cobia on April 7. At least I think it might have been a cobia... Capt Baz

ps: I forgot to mention there are still a few huge redfish along the beach. We landed the beauty in the attached photo April 16 on an 8wt.

More Spring Clinic Photos.... Joe Higgins



Milt's Fishing Report... Milt Mays



Hi all, Well it's Easter and we're getting the traditional snow so it's harder for the kids to find eggs. Went fishing yesterday with my son in law, and we caught some fish, but the rocks on the side of the river were glazed with ice and access was hard. I think I even got colder than when I went to the Green when it was 14 degrees and 15-20 mph winds, and then Grey Reef ten days later at 30 degrees and 30-40 mph.



I included some pics of those places as well. I hope to go back to Grey Reef next couple of weeks, and the Green is coming up at the end of April.



Finished with the second year of the guide course and learned a few other things, but I'm feeling a lot more confident and even able to teach some of the other new guides coming up. I usually fish the Big T about 2-3 times per week, last week was five. I'm going to hit the Poudre sometime this next week.

If any of you have a good contact that works for the CIA, I would be grateful if you gave them my name. I need to talk to them about some areas of my novel that need tweaking.



I have tentatively blocked off the first two weeks of September for vacation, the first one for the upper Green then to Yellowstone. I may not make it back to the lower Green this summer. Bye for now. Milt



LIBRARY....The following books and DVDs have recently been added to the club library.

"At the Grave of the Unknown Fisherman" by John Gierach, Book 73

"Curtis Creek Manifesto" by Sheridan Anderson, Book 74

"Modern Streamers for Trophy Trout" by Bob Linsenman, Book 75

"Streamer Flies for Trophy Trout" by Kelly Galloup, DVD 86

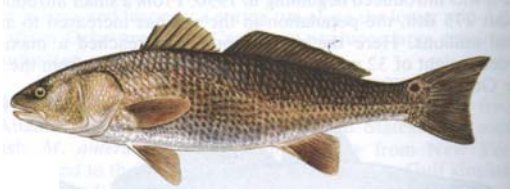
"Streamer Fishing for Trophy Trout" by Kelly Galloup, DVD 87

"Basic Fly Casting" by Doug Swisher, DVD 88

"Rotary Fly Tying Techniques" by Mike Holt, DVD 89

"Saltwater Fly Casting" by George Roberts, DVD 90

The PJC Flyfishing class will finish Wednesday, May 2nd. We hope the grads will join with us in club activities !



MAY 2007

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1 2 3 4 5

Auction! Auction! Auction! May 1st, 7 PM, Club House

6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Bull Session-Tying & Tall Tales 6:30 PM

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

Clinic - Casting, tying gourmet lunch 9 AM

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

27 28 29 30 31

