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OUTINGS FOR 2015

- August** - Open
- September 25-27** - Bill Ward's - Perch and Bass Classic
- October 22-25**- Coast trip - Sea Trout, Redfish etc
- November 20-23** - Broken Bow
- December** - Open

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is still with us, the rains are gone for now but the HEAT is on! This is nothing new to us, we endure and we enjoy the opportunities we get to fish.

Our outing to Southfork, Colorado was a huge success (and COOL). Please read Russell's Report in this Newsletter. The event is among the best outings we have, please make plans to attend next year.

OUR MEETING on July 7th was very informative. Steve Soule had so much to say that we could have continued our meeting until Midnight. Steve guides in the Galveston area. The Galveston bay area is very close and a great way to get some "Salt Water" Fly Fishing in!!

Fall is not far away and there are MANY events we can take advantage of, not only what our club has to offer but several very popular activities our neighboring clubs and organizations have planned. Please look at our calendar of events, as well as, the "Texas Council's" calendar for the specifics. The Fort Worth Fly Fishers along with our adjacent and regional Fly Fishing Clubs continue to provide opportunities to fish, learn and assist us to enhance our knowledge and development in the skills of Fly Fishing.

Our next Board of Directors meeting will be held at B&B Barbeque in Fort Worth, directions will be sent in a future Email.

I know many of you have been fishing, please be prepared to report your

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Colorado Outing
Read more on page 4.



August Speaker-James Dillard
Read more on page 11.

Message from the President- *Contd.*

experiences, this IS part of our mission. Lets share our fishing experiences, not only how many fish you catch, but where you fished, what flies you used and the weather conditions you experienced. We encourage you to submit articles to be posted on our web site, as well published in our Newsletter.

I hope to see you all at our August 4th meeting.

Let's be a GREAT club and have FUN!

Rick Hanes
President, Fort Worth Fly Fishers

COME FLY WITH US!



FWFF AUCTION 2015 Donor List

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING LIST OF
CONTRIBUTORS WHO SUPPORTED OUR CLUB
THIS YEAR!

THANKS

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Trout Hollow Lodge
Three Rivers Flyshop
Bryan Nims
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Your continued support of our Retail and Guide contributors is what motivates their annual support of our Auction. Please show your appreciation by visiting these fine Retailers and Guides often and thank them for their support as well.

A thank you to our individual contributors would be a welcome gesture as well.

Outing Update

Bill Ward Ranch Outing and Perch & Bass Fishing Tournament 2015 Please Note Change of Date: SEPTEMBER 25TH, 26TH AND 27TH

Where: Bill Ward's beautiful gravel quarry lakes west of Mexia.

How to get there: 6 to 7 miles west of Mexia on HWY 84 (however you want to get there) to the intersection of 2681 and LCR 199/198. Take LCR 199/198 north. First opportunity take a left and then another left onto LCR 198 (sharp 90 degree curve). Go about .8 miles to the top of the hill. Look for 2 red gates and turn right. Follow this road about ¾ mile past 2 buildings and down to the water.

GPS: 31.6863 N, 96.5895 W at the water – You really should look it up on Google Earth.

Accommodations: This is a camping trip. There will be places for RV's but limited hook-ups. Other wise it will be tent camping or 4 door motel (car).

Reason to go: These gravel quarry lakes are filled with fish (big bass and perch). The water is amazingly clear and clean. Other reasons: 1) getting together with friends and the Fredericksburg Fly Fisher. 2) a great fish fry and 3) the Bass Classic and Perch-off where we weigh the 5 biggest perch and biggest bass –CASH PRIZE and club completion with the Fredericksburg Fly Fishers!!!!



IMPORTANT! BRING YOUR ELECTRIC FILLET KNIFE!!!!!!!

Rockport and Aransas Pass - October 22nd, 23rd, 24th and 25th

This is a great time to be going to fish Aransas Bay and Light House Lakes. The tides are right and the fish are moving around in their migration movements before winter. We will be staying at the Drifters Resort between Rockport and Aransas Pass. The club will reserve cabins/bungalows at the resort and as such we need to know as soon as possible if you plan to attend.

This is always a good time with Red Fish Willies on Friday night and a CAJUN SHRIMP BOIL on Saturday night. The Shimp Boil will be held at Drifters Resort.

Check out the trail maps for Light House Lakes (just off the Port Aransas Causeway) at this website:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fishboat/boat/paddlingtrails/coastal/lighthouse_lakes/

**Contact: FWFF Outings Director -Bryce Bezant
(817-360-6672) • rbbezant@gmail.com
Sign-ups will also be at the meeting in August and September.**



Colorado

For the past 4 years, 20+ fellow anglers from our club have journeyed off to Colorado for a week of fly fishing. The offer has always been out there for other clubs to join the Fort Worth Fly Fishers. And this year many clubs did just that.

This year, we were joined by the Texas Women's Fly Fishers, and a few from the Piney Woods Fly Fishers, and Dallas Fly Fishers. A great time was had by all. Stories of fishing trips were shared, along with some great food.

Once settled in and after a day of fishing, we were treated with a wonderful evening with the Women's fly fishers in a remote cabin overlooking the Rio Grande Valley. An amazing spread of food and beverages were served. This was just the beginning, as the next night was catered BBQ, and then Thursday night ended the week, with a HUGE fish fry, with my famous Dr. Pepper onion rings!!! Recipe not included, but can be had.

We were met with some difficult fishing conditions, as there was still plenty of water rolling down the creeks and rivers. High water means not so good drifts, and limited chances for the excellent dry fishing this area has to offer. But perseverance is evident with these groups, and trout were caught. So many that 40+ hungry anglers were treated to some delicious brook trout!!

Trout were caught many different ways. Streams, rivers, and high mountain streams. Dry fly action was still the most popular way of catching the feisty trout. Parachute Adams, Royal Wolf's, Stimulators and more. But rumor had it that someone was really good at throwing streamers.

No water was safe, as the group hit the area with rented guides, float tubes, and wading experts!! No creek was safe, as everyone shared their favorite fishing spots with each other. No local shop went without extra business, as we lost flies at an alarming rate!!!! No road was safe as our city vehicles were all up in the mountains!!!! Good thing was we all made it back safely and had a great time. If you missed it, you will have to go next year!! Fun time for all.

Special Thanks to all who helped prepare the food and catch the fish. Job well done.

Russell Husted
President of the Texas Council IFFF



Giving. Learning. Living.

Founded in 1996, Casting for Recovery provides free retreats for women with breast cancer with a focus on improving quality of life through the therapeutic sport of fly fishing.

Supported entirely by donations and a team of over 1600 volunteers nationwide, CfR currently offers 42 retreats across the country, serving nearly 600 women each year. **Your generous help makes it possible to enrich the lives of women with breast cancer.**

Casting for Recovery

802.362.9181

info@castingforrecovery.org



Casting for Recovery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Photo: loriromneyphotography.com





Reel Recovery is a national non-profit organization that conducts **free fly-fishing retreats for men recovering from all forms of cancer.** Combining expert fly-fishing instruction with directed “courageous conversations”, the organization offers a unique experience for men coping with cancer, a time to share their stories; learn a new skill, form friendships and gain renewed hope as they confront the challenges of their recovery.

“This was the best time of my life! It’s by far the best thing out there for men with cancer.”

Retreat Participant

Retreats are conducted over a two-and-a-half day period at a fly-fishing facility/lodge with onsite or nearby fishing access.

All meals, lodging and fly-fishing equipment are provided at no cost to the participants. Retreats are led by professional facilitators and expert fly-fishing instructors. A maximum of 12-14 men are invited to participate, to ensure the quality of the instruction and to create a powerful small-group dynamic.



“I discovered that while fly-fishing, I was in another place. In this place there was no cancer, no pain and no fear.”

Retreat Participant

“This retreat was so much more than fishing; this was a life-changing experience.”

Retreat Participant

“Reel Recovery is a gift. Being here has given me the strength and courage to move forward with my life.”

Retreat Participant

GOALS

- **Provide a safe, reflective environment** for the participants to discuss their disease and recovery with other men with shared experiences, thereby providing support and information to help them in their recovery.
- **Provide expert fly-fishing instruction** that enables the participants to learn a new skill, form a healing connection with nature, and participate in a sport they can continue throughout their recovery and lifetime.
- **Provide participants information about cancer-related resources**, both in the local community and nationally to facilitate networking and enhanced management of their recovery.

If you would like to be a participant, volunteer, or make a donation please contact us.

National: Toll Free 800-699-4490 www.reelrecovery.org info@reelrecovery.org

Texas: 817-894-7832 Mike Emerson mgemerson1944@gmail.com www.texasreelrecovery.org

Oklahoma: 405-808-7116 Martin Weaver okieflier@att.net

2015 TEXAS and OKLAHOMA SCHEDULED RETREATS :

2015 Spring: Glen Rose, TX (April 10-12); Boerne, TX (April 24-26); Broken Bow, OK (May 3-5)

2015 Fall: Broken Bow, OK (Sept. 27-29); Navasota, TX (Oct. 9-11) ; Glen Rose, TX (Oct. 23-25)

Casting Tip- *Casting Big Flies and Heavy Stuff*

When casting big flies, sink tips, sinking lines, tandem fly rigs more than likely we will need to consider how we will do this. When we teach fly casting we always seem to focus on narrow loops and this is okay. This is because narrow loops are aerodynamic, take less energy to cast and are more efficient. Narrow loops are perfect for weight forward and double taper lines but not so much for sinking lines and heavy flies.

It takes more force to cast these heavy lines and flies and when cast with a fast, tight loop bad things can happen. When casting a sinking line or heavy fly there can be too much energy at the end of the cast causing the line or fly to “kick over” resulting in poor accuracy and often times tangles. What you need to do is slow down and cast wider loops.

Imagine that casting a floating weight forward line is like driving a Corvette. It's fast and can take sharp turns easily. Then imagine casting a sinking line or heavy fly. It's like driving a school bus. It's slow and needs to take wide turns. Slowing down your cast and widening your loops will reduce the kick and keep your line from tangling and improve accuracy. Constant tension casts such as the Belgian or Oval casts are an option for these situations as they eliminate the abrupt stop at the end of the cast

Don't forget that leader and fly line taper will also determine how much energy is left when the line and leader straighten. Remember Newton's Second Law of Motion? Try casting a fly line with no leader and see what happens. Even a line and leader with short taper length and little change in leader diameter will deliver a dry fly with authority. While a line and leader with a longer taper length and greater decrease in leader diameter will deliver a fly more delicately.

What does it all mean? Alright, here we go! As a fly line or leader is unrolling the diameter is decreasing due to the taper and the speed is increasing. While the speed is increasing the air resistance is also increasing resulting in a gentle presentation. A taper with little decrease in diameter will turn over a heavy fly better than a longer taper with significant decrease in diameter.

Taking the time to make adjustments in your line or leader will payoff in better control of your casting. So don't try to hang a big ol' bass popper on the line and most especially the leader that you were dry fly fishing with last week or expect to get a gentle dry fly presentation with a level line and straight length of monofilament for a leader!

Bob Garber



A Couple of Tips by Mark Kolanowski

Approaching Water



When confronted with a body of water whether lake, pond, stream, or river consider what direction and side of the bank you will travel to fish it most effectively. The factors you should consider. Do you cast primarily left or right handed? Are you on foot, kayak, float tube, pontoon boat? Upstream or downstream presentation?

Basically you want to put yourself in a position that keeps your rod and fly line out over the water. This will make your casting easier with more room for a back cast and donating less flies to decorating trees and bushes. Of course be careful not to line the fish and keep your movements subtle as not to alert or spook fish. Some scenarios that I have applied for myself being a right handed caster. Small ponds and lakes on foot or kayak. Travel in a clockwise direction. If moving backwards in a float tube with fins or pontoon boat with oars I will fish the pond in a counter clockwise direction. Stream or river on foot. Tossing streamers or swinging wet flies I will travel in a downstream direction with the current moving from my right to left. Reverse this for dry fly or nymphing situations. Travel upstream on the left side bank with the current moving from my left to right. There is one situation where I have applied a technique that involves paddling my kayak backwards. I'm chasing schooling sand bass, stripers or largemouths that are erupting in pods slamming baitfish. You have to get a line and fly to the feeding frenzy quickly before they disappear only to reappear 100 yards away minutes later. By paddling in a backwards direction I can keep 40-50 ft of fly line out in front of me and slack free so I can pick up and cast immediately to the boil of fish without stripping and false casting when seconds matter. This has made a crazy game of chase more productive and it's a great work out!

As with all things fishing some of these scenarios may not be practical or possible depending on factors of wind, current, steep banks, ability to cross the stream or river, a bad tempered bull staking out his side of the farm pond. This is when your

other casting skills will be needed. Cross body, reverse direction, roll cast, etc. By giving your direction of approach a little fore thought before making that first cast can make you a more effective fly angler.

Black



Under certain sky and lighting conditions the contrast that black provides has helped me to be able to see my fly or indicator better. When fishing foamy pocket water during low light Rob Woodruff shared this trick with me. He took a black marker and colored the round foam indicator we were using to nymph with. I was amazed at how easy it was to pick out the black indicator and see the subtle tics of a strike in the bubbling churning water in the gloomy evening light. My hook up percentage increased as did my confidence and attention by being able to see where my black indicator rode in the bubble trail.

Fishing for Cutthroats at Poage lake in Colorado this July I encountered high hazy cloud cover. The clear still water mirrored the clouds and made seeing my dry flies with white or yellow posts or wings challenging to see and I was missing some takes. I pulled out my fly box and the black # 16 Elk Hair Duck Butt Weenie fly that Mandy Mendez had tied and loaned me to do some photos of whispered " Pick Me ! ". The black pattern was easy to see on the silver sheen of water and the trout eagerly ate the buggy looking CDC fly. It made for an epic day for me. 30 plus trout on the DBW many in the 16-18 inch range. Don't overlook black as a fly or indicator color under tough lighting conditions.

Mark Kolanowski
FWFF Tying Coordinator

Fishing the South Texas Coast

The May meeting of the FFFF was a series of teaching and learning sessions presented by different members of our club. One of the sessions was presented by Tony Kirk, who spends between 40-50 days on the water at the coast. For those that might have missed the presentation, or just would like to have a copy of it, here it is...



The Laguna Madre is approximately 100 miles of shallow flats bordered on one side by the Texas mainland and on the other by the barrier island known as Padre Island. Because

of its limited water flow its water is extremely saline. Although I've been fortunate enough to fish in many locations around the world, from Patagonia in Argentina to the Seychelles Islands in the middle of the Indian Ocean, I rank the Laguna Madre as one of my favorite fishing locations. In the bay there is an abundance of redfish, snook, and saltwater trout. In addition, the jetties creates a natural holding spot for resident and migrating Tarpon. Although it is possible to find several areas to wade fish, the most effective way of covering the large areas of the Laguna Madre is from a shallow water skiff. While the fisherman positions himself in the front of the boat in order to see his target, another person positioned on an elevated polling platform pushes the boat around in search of a visible target. This method can apply to all of the four species that I have mentioned. In addition you can blind cast in deeper water for the Tarpon, snook, and trout.

The unique requirements for each species of fish.

Redfish

The most common way to fish for redfish in the Laguna Madre is sight fishing. This is normally done in 6 to 24 inches of water. With this approach you not only have a good visual of your target before you cast to it, but once the fly has landed within the fishes strike zone and the fly has sunk to the bottom, you make a slow 4 to 8 inch strip with your fly line and



have the opportunity to see your target redfish come over to the fly, flare its gills and inhale your fly. The next step is a gentle set motion by pulling the fly line towards you as you gently raise the fly rod tip. The most common fly rod size used for redfish is an eight weight. My preference is a nine weight to compensate for the wind that you have to occasionally contend with as the morning goes on. I have caught redfish on a three weight rod, and although that may be good for the ego of the fisherman, I don't recommend it for a quick healthy release of the fish. The fly line of course should match the rod weight unless you're one of those who likes to overweight his rod. The reel should be designed to handle the fly line as well as several hundred yards of backing, and remember unlike freshwater trout, you are normally going to play the fish directly from the reel. The leader of choice is a 9 foot nylon tapered leader of approximately 15 pounds at the tippet with an 18 inch 12 pound fluorocarbon tippet attached to the tapered leader. This enables you to have your leader in a relatively floating position while the fluorocarbon tippet will sink down with the fly to the bottom. Although the redfish's diet primarily consists of shrimp, baitfish, and crabs, the most common fly used when site fishing for redfish is a crab pattern in either a size 6 or 4 stainless steel hook.

Saltwater trout



There seems to have been an increase of larger Trout in the Laguna Madre since the bag limit has been decreased to 5 trout per person per day. With this in mind, it is not unusual to see a Trout of 30" cruising in front of

your boat. In sight fishing for saltwater trout in skinny water, your approach is quite often the same as if you were fishing for redfish. The one difference is that although saltwater trout have the same general diet as redfish, they show a slight preference to shrimp or baitfish over crabs. For this reason although we catch many trout on crab flies if someone is specifically targeting saltwater trout, you might find them using a Whistler or other bait fish type fly in shallow water. Trout are also caught in deeper channels by blind casting a bait fish type fly such as a Clouser.

Snook

When fishing for Snook in the Lower Laguna Madre, you are at the approximate northern limits of the snooks range. Severely cold winters, whether in Southern Florida or far South Texas will occasionally kill off a percentage of the population. Although it is very enjoyable to catch snook cruising around the mangrove

Fishing The South Texas Coast- *Contd.*

bushes in shallow water, it is more common to blind cast around structure such as docks, oyster clumps, and creek mouths. Again, the rod, reel and line recommendations for snook are pretty much the



same as it would be for redfish and saltwater trout. Although a crab might occasionally be taken by a snook, their preference seems to be more towards the baitfish as well as shrimp. The normal preference for flies is a finger mullet pattern in size 4 to 2. One interesting point to remember when fishing for snook, is that they have characteristics very similar to a black bass. They are structure oriented and love to jump.

Tarpon



Fishing for Tarpon around the Jetties is more of a matter of being at the right place at the right time. One of the major issues that you need to make note of, is that it is difficult to specifically say you are going strictly Tarpon fishing on any given day until you know exactly what the weather is like. Because you are out in the surf in a boat that is normally the same size as the skiff you use in the bay to fish for redfish, it needs to be fairly calm with seas of less than 2 feet to make the fishing practical

and for that matter comfortable. On those special days when the seas are fairly calm, the opportunity exist to feel a sudden tug at the end of your line and watch a fantastic explosion as the silver King catapults out of the water and gives you a magnificent display of acrobatics. Because you're dealing with larger flies in size 2 to 2/0 and the fish you are pursuing weighs anywhere from 30 to 150+ pounds, your equipment has to be adjusted accordingly. A good fast action 12 weight 9 foot rod with a floating line and a specially tied Tarpon leader are a must. The Tarpon's diet consists of an occasional swimming crab, shrimp and various baitfish. The flies of choice come with names such as Black Death, Chartreuse Toad, and a various assortment of other flies.

General Information

Access to the Lower Laguna Madre is available from three primary locations Port Mansfield which is at the northern end of the Lower Laguna Madre, Arroyo City, and at the southern end South Padre Island. The approximate distance from the Dallas-Fort Worth area is 450 miles or an 8 ½ to 9 hour drive. You can also fly on Southwest airlines to Harlingen which is approximately 45 minutes away or American Eagle into Brownsville which is about 20 minutes from South Padre Island. The accommodations vary depending upon which of the three locations you operate out of. South Padre Island has the most accommodations, eating establishments and nighttime entertainment. The other two locations are quite remote.

In fishing a new location it is always recommended that you enlist the services of a local fishing guide. Below is a list of local fly fishing guides for the Lower Laguna Madre.

Eric Glass 956-434-1422 captainericg@msn.com

Bill Hagen 956-792-8482 billhagenjr@yahoo.com

Dale Fridy 956-345-5173 captfridy@aol.com

Ben Paschal 214-704-3158 lagunamadreoutfitters@gmail.com

Skipper Ray 956-433-9935 sray@islandoutfittersspi.com

The approximate cost of a fly fishing guide that can be shared by two anglers is between \$400 to \$450 for a half day and \$450 to \$525 for a full day. This is for bay fishing only and should you be fortunate enough to be able to go for Tarpon there is usually a slight up charge.

If you have further questions regarding fly fishing the South Texas coast feel free to contact me at;

tdk104@sbcglobal.net
214 - 674 - 4440

Tony Kirk

August Speaker- *James Dillard*

Our August meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 4th at 7PM. We are glad to have James Dillard come and speak to us about trout fishing on the Little Red River in Arkansas.

James Dillard (owner/guide) caught his first trout out of the Little Red River when he was just four years old; from that day forward he was hooked. Born and raised in Searcy, AR James enjoyed some of the world's best trout fishing just 20 minutes away from his door step. Growing up he never considered guiding as something that he could actually do. Over time he realized it was possible. James started guiding in 2010 and he fell in love with it immediately. He continued guiding while attending college and started, Tailwater Fishing Company, in the process. In 2014 he graduated from Harding University with a degree in Social Science Education, but has never stopped guiding full time. James has been able to fish many streams out west and has also spent a summer guiding clients on the world famous Kenai River in Alaska, but deep down it is always Arkansas trout fishing that gets him fired up. If he is not guiding on the Little Red you will find him water skiing on Greers Ferry Lake with his family, duck hunting, or bow hunting for deer. James still lives in Searcy, AR with his wife, Amanda, and their golden retriever, River.



Check out this video featuring Tailwater Fishing Co.:
<https://vimeo.com/65684839>

Local Fly Tying Events

One of the best ways to improve and learn new tying skills as well as make new friends is to attend one of the tying events held in our area on a weekly basis. If you are a seasoned and experienced tyer, many of us would be glad to learn a new pattern or technique from you. If you are new to the whole mystifying ordeal of putting thread and feathers on a hook, do not be intimidated. Come and watch, enjoy a cold one, and catch up on recent fishing reports. If you would like to try your hands at fly tying, no investment is needed, plenty of our club members have an extra vise and necessary tools to get you started. Try before you buy....

Fort Worth

Backwoods:
 2727 W. 7th St.
 Fort Worth TX 76107
 817-332-2423
 Wednesday nights @ 6:30pm
 Call ahead for details and information.

Stephen Woodcock is the Backwoods fly fishing manager and go to guy for all your fly fishing needs. Stephen was instrumental in getting my fly tying off to a good start a few years ago. He was kind enough to loan me a vise and tools at a Wednesday night tie session. He didn't laugh or loud when I put my dumbbell eyes on the wrong side of the hook and then had to show me how to whip finish at least a dozen times ! Backwoods fly tie nights are well attended with lots of knowledgeable tyers that are willing to help and share.

Arlington

Cafe Acapulco :
 4001W. Green Oaks Blvd. Suite 121
 Arlington TX 76016
 817-483-4171
 Thursday nights : Dinner and drinks @ 5:15-5:30 pm
 Tying starts @ 6:30 pm

This group is growing in attendance. Usually headed up by FWFF members Les Jackson and Mike McCorkhill . We enjoy the Mexican cuisine and cold drinks served by Lynda before making the fur, feathers and lies fly. If you don't mind a bit of rabbit fur in your salsa or peacock herl in your PBR come join us !

Our Local Cabela's 817-337-2400 and Bass Pro Shops 972-724-2018 have in the past hosted fly tying sessions . Contact their fly fishing departments for details.

Flies of the Month

“Bob’s Banger”

Original Pattern by Bob Popovics



Hook: 1/0 Mustad # 34011 2XH/4XL Streamer

Thread: 140 UTC Ultra Thread / White blends easily with any pearl or cactus chenille used to form rear body of fly.

Body: Wapsi 1/2 inch diameter foam cylinder cut to 3/4 inch. This material is available in several colors. White is easily colored with markers. Hook hole is made with a hot dubbing needle.

Body Wrap & Eyes : Witchcraft Prismatic Decorator Tape & Eyes. This durable adhesive material is available in many colors. Cuts easily with a metal strait edge ruler and X-Acto knife or razor. For added durability seal eyes and taped edge with Sally Hansen’s.

Tail: Buck tail in color of choice. Consider mixing two colors for contrast. A bit of Krystal Flash never hurts.

Rear Body: Pearl or Cactus Chenille to match or

contrast either prismatic body or tail. Double wrap for a fuller body if desired.

Additional items needed: Cutting matt , strait edge metal ruler, X-Acto knife or razor blade, lighter or candle , Sally Hansen’s Hard as Nails.

Witchcraft Tape products are available @: www.shopwtp-inc.com

Tim Flagler’s Tying Tutorial @ www.vimeo.com/38726194

The Banger pattern was developed by New Jersey angler Bob Popovics. He is an avid saltwater fly fisherman and also the originator of the Surf Candy fly. Bob’s approach to fly tying is to keep it simple and make the pattern durable . Fish more and tie less. The bluefish he pursued are aggressive toothy predators that can destroy a fly. The Banger has great popping action that is easy to cast and holds up to repeated vicious attacks. The Banger also features the ability to swap out the prismatic taped foam head and rear buck tail portion of the fly. Color combinations can be fine tuned based on bait fish in the area or the preference of the targeted species.

Bob’s Banger is my fly rod version of the classic Pop R that I fished successfully with for years using conventional tackle. The Banger has been effective on our local freshwater bass species.

Largemouth , white bass , and stripers. I can’t wait to try it in the salt. It can also be down sized to a pan fish popper by using smaller diameter foam and hooks. To get the most action out of this pattern use a loop knot for your fly to tippet connection and animate the Banger by using a combination of both line stripping and rod tip twitches. The top water strikes can be explosive.

I plan to demonstrate this pattern at the August 4th FWFF meeting. Please stop by the fly bench !

Mark Kolanowski
FWFF Tying Coordinator



FWFF
P.O. Box 1133
Forth Worth, TX 76101
WWW.FORTWORTHFLYFISHERS.ORG

Our Purpose

“The purpose of our local club is to provide a forum for the meeting and exchange of ideas among members concerning the art of fly fishing.”
Federation of Fly Fishers, Southern Council 2002 and 2003 Club of the Year, Texas Council 2014 Club of the Year