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Message From the President

Hello fellow Fly Fishers.

EXCITING NEWS! -- We are hoping to roll out our new Fort Worth Fly Fishers' web site soon. It will be a great resource for our members as well as make a very favorable presentation to those searching the web for a fly fishing club in Fort Worth. There will be a Members Only section that will include Fly of the Month archives, newsletter archives, casting tips, a membership roster and a lot of other useful information. If possible we will provide a preview at the June club meeting.

The Colorado trip to South Fork, Colo., is July 8 - 14. Please check out Russell Husted's article in this newsletter. It is going to be a great time, but we need to know if you are planning to attend prior to the end of June so we can get you the details on social gatherings and events throughout the week. The "base camp," as usual, will be **Foothills Lodge in South Fork**. This lodge will be where the social get-togethers will be held. You will need to make your own lodging reservations for the Colorado trip.

Foothills Lodge may have some cabins left. Other places to stay include Cottonwood Cove Guest Ranch, and Lazy Bear Lodge. Check around with other folks going, as there may be some bunks that need a body. Plus, there are some people that like to camp and there are opportunities for that as well. The trip is always great fishing and fellowship with other fly fishers.

The June Outing will be to the Paluxy River in Glen Rose. This is a day outing on June 16 and is within an hour drive from downtown Fort Worth. This tributary of the Brazos is a great wading stream and has many opportunities to catch perch and bass. Check out the article by Ken Bowers in this newsletter.

Fish on!

Bryce Bezan
President



June Speaker
Read more on page 2.



Outing Report
Read more on page 4.

June Speaker

Charlie Craven

Join us at the June monthly membership meeting for an opportunity to meet and learn from one of the best-known fly tyers today, Charlie Craven. Charlie tied his first fly from a gifted fly tying kit on his eighth birthday. In the days since (about 39 years' worth), he has commercially tied flies for most of the shops in the Denver area, as well as throughout the Rocky Mountain west.



A longtime South Platte River guide, Charlie cut his angling teeth on some of the toughest trout in the world. It was these tough fish that prompted him to develop some of his more popular patterns like the Jujubee Midge, Poison Tung and Charlie Boy Hopper.

Charlie has now been a commercial fly tyer for over 30 years, and in that time has tied flies for nearly every species of gamefish in every location on the planet, though he specializes in trout flies for the Rocky Mountain region. Charlie is a long time Signature Tyer for Umpqua Feather Merchants and is the originator of popular patterns like the Jujubaetis, Ragin' Craven, Two Bit Hooker, Dirty Hippy, Morningwood Special and the Double Gongga.

Charlie was the photographer and fly tyer for *Barr Flies* (Stackpole Books, 2007), was featured in Jay Nichols' *Tying Dry Flies* (Stackpole Books, 2009) and has now authored three books, *Charlie Craven's Basic Fly Tying* (Headwater Books, 2008) and *Charlie's Fly Box* (Stackpole Books, 2010), and his

latest book, *Tying Nymphs* (Stackpole/Headwater, 2016). He is also the *Fly Tyer's Bench* contributor to *Flyfisherman Magazine* and has authored the *Flyfisherman Foundation 40 Fly Patterns* DVD series as well as a saltwater and warm water tying DVD with *Flyfisherman*.

Charlie is a Colorado native and lives in Palmer Lake, Colorado with his wife, Lisa, two giant dogs and a half-dozen kids. Currently, he is the owner and president of Charlie's Fly Box fly shop in Arvada, Colorado.

charlie@charliesflyboxinc.com

303-403-8880

Summer Learning Series

July/Aug/Sept Meeting Presentations

Our club is starting its three part series of "hands on" club meetings this July. It is important for us to teach and give members a platform to learn what fly fishing is all about.

1) July 3rd Tying Club-

We will start our "hands on" series with our annual "Tying Club" - Bring your vise or use one of clubs! This night is designed to teach those wanting to learn the basics of fly tying, as well as those looking to improve their own skills. There is something for everyone: showcase your own flies and tie for all to see, walk around and gander at the flies being tied, sit down and learn the beginner 101 skills of fly tying, or be a part of the fly tying contest that will take place during our club meeting. It will be a great time for all! Come learn through our meeting full of tying events. Barry Webster our Tying Director and heading up this wonderful meeting.

2) August 7th Clinic Club-

We will continue our learning quarter and have break-out sessions to learn tangible fly fishing take aways. If you are new or just getting in to the sport or just want to learn new tips, this meeting is for you. You'll learn things such as the one knot you need to know, proper setup for your rod and reel, or how to connect leader to your fly line. The presenters will be there to answer more technical questions. Les Jackson our Education Director is heading up this great meeting.

3) September 4th Casting Clinic-

Our annual "Casting Clinic" will cap off this great three-part learning program. This will be a hands-on clinic for the beginner to advanced fly fisher. Come hone your skills with our instructors.

Cold Hole Bridge Update at Broken Bow

It has been three years since the devastating flood that literally changed the landscape at the Lower Mountain Fork River in Beaver's Bend State Park, otherwise known as Broken Bow. The flood took out a couple of bridges over the river that not only inhibited access around the park but also access to some of the best fishing spots, the Cold Hole and Evening Hole.

Bill Hodges sent this photo of the NEW Cold Hole bridge. Looks like it's open for traffic.



June Outing Paluxy River in Glen Rose



Texas Parks and Wildlife photo

For the first time in memory, Fort Worth Fly Fishers as a group outing will visit a relatively nearby body that some of you might have fished individually: the Paluxy River in Glen Rose on June 16. There are several places to fish in this great little town as well as locations and near Dinosaur State Park (just past the Tyrannosaurus rex). It is small water, but fun to explore. Don't mind the cemetery nearby.

This will be a day trip, since it's only about 52 miles and 58 minutes from the UNT Health Science Center where we hold our membership meetings. At 7 a.m. Saturday, there is an optional breakfast at Debbie's Restaurant in Glen Rose, 1107 West US 67. Debbie's is next to the Exxon station, Tiger Junction, and the turnoff for NE Barnard St. After breakfast, we will head down NE Barnard St., which becomes Texas 144, for Big Rocks Park, about a mile on the left on the river. Breakfast or not, plan on meeting at Big Rocks Park at 8 a.m. We will have a talk about access, and then split up. That way we can

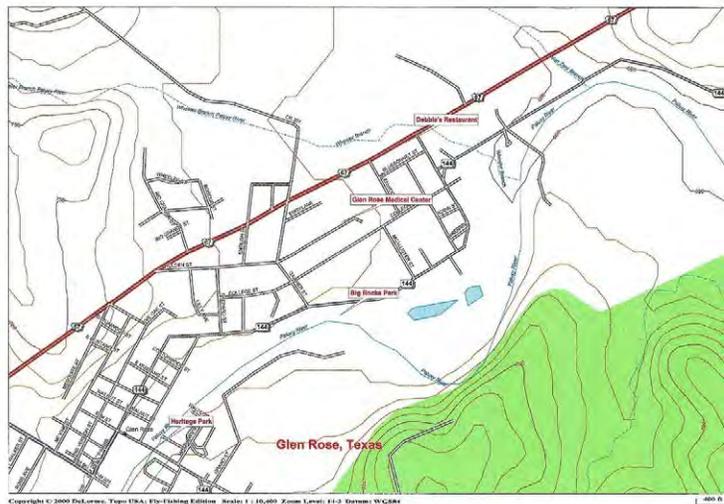
spread out and not stumble over one another and minimize the chances for extraneous body piercings.

Wading is recommended, and the weather should be good for wet wading -- that is, just wading boots and neoprene wading socks. Just above Big Rocks Park there is a low-water dam. This section can be accessed, by those that want to use a float tube, from Heritage Park. It is just across the bridge as Texas 144 crosses the Paluxy. (See the map.)

A 5-weight to 7-weight rod with a floating line will fit the bill. Good flies are poppers, Clousers, the all-purpose Woolly Buggler. Anything with a rabbit strip, beetles and deer hair bugs are also fine. Tippetts should be in the 0-3x range and leaders seven to nine feet.

Directions from Fort Worth:

- Go south on Interstate 35 West or on the Chisolm Trail Parkway toll road, to US 67
- Turn west on US 67 to N.E. Barnard St. in Glen Rose, which becomes Texas 144 South, next to the Exxon Station
- Another mile and you are at Glen Rose's Big Rocks Park, on the left where the big rocks are.



If you have any questions, feel free to contact Ken Bowers at: bowersrk@aol.com or, call at (817) 723-8056

Wanted:
Conservation Director for FWWF
Great benefits and compensation (non-monetary). Making good friends by being on the Board of Directors is a given. Please apply to any Board Member or to Bryce Bezant (817-360-6672).

Bill Ward Ranch Outing Report

The fishing did not disappoint at this year's outing at the Ward Ranch near Mexia. For those who aren't familiar with this legendary outing, the Ward Ranch has old limestone quarries that filled with water over the years and has become a great bass fishing chain of ponds.

Thanks to Dale Middleton for hosting and Roshan Ali for coordinating the food.

Here's a few photos and color commentary from the weekend.

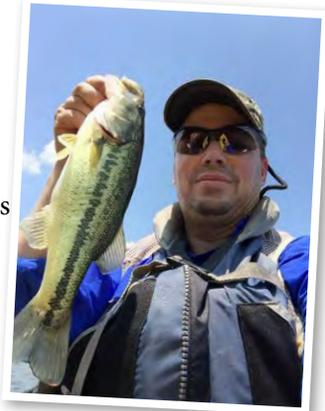
From New Member Donna O'Toole:



Steve and I wanted to thank everyone from FFFF that helped make this weekend so special for our great nephew, Brandon Scalf. Special thanks to Mike Nelson who helped him catch his first bass on a fly rod. Brandon is 22 year old and has not had an interest in fishing since the age of 12. He and his Dad were out fishing on their boat when his Dad suddenly died of a massive heart attack. Brandon managed to get back to the shore but has never been able to fish again until recently. He took an interest in our love for fly fishing and started watching videos and ask if he could go with us to Bill's ranch.

Mike offered to let him use his float and guided us across the street where they were really biting. Brandon ended up catching five bass on the fly. He was on top of the world. First time to ever use a fly rod!!! Thank you Mike. You're awesome!

Daniel Tatum with a big ranch bass

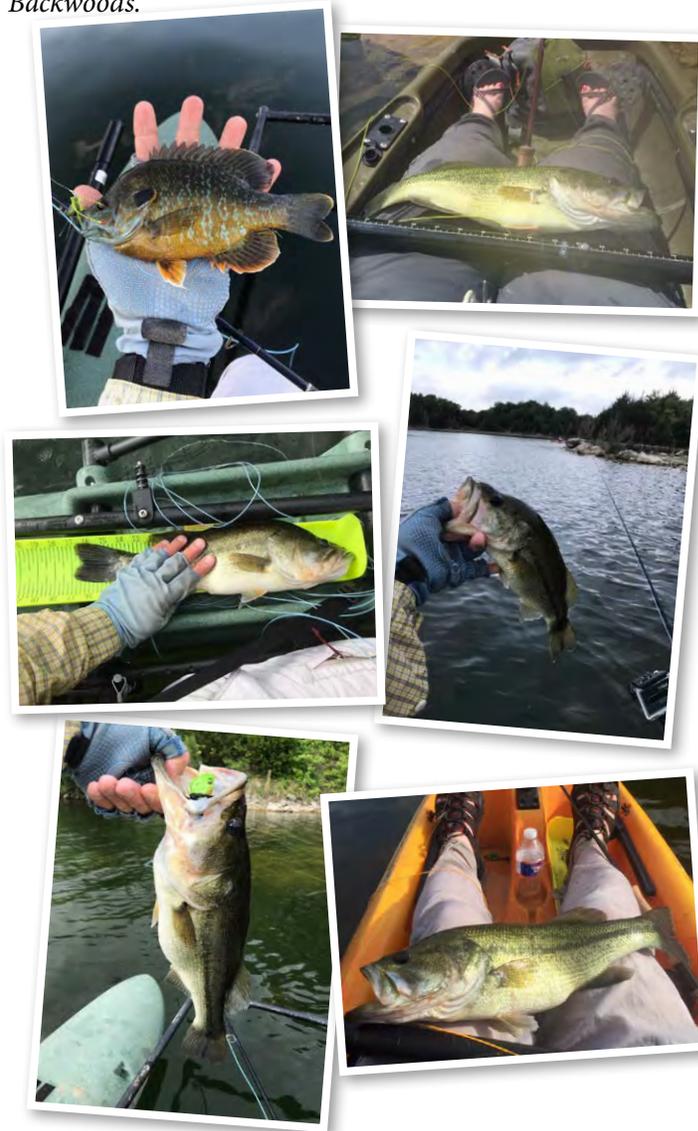


From Kay Jackson:

Les and I joined Stephen Woodcock at the pond across the road the ranch for a Sunday morning fish. The fishing was Off.The.Chain! Between the three of us, we easily caught more than 100 fish, most of the bass and ALL ON TOP WATER. For me, it was the best day of bass fishing I ever had. We only got to fish until 11:45 when a huge thunderstorm chased us off the water.

Thanks to Stephen for teaching me two techniques that changed everything. Until then, I had only caught four sunfish. One technique is to keep my rod tip IN the water (not just low and on top of the water). When you strip, it makes the popper really POP in the water and it is easier to set the hook. The second technique is using the loop knot when tying on the fly. This allows the popper to move even more which doesn't happen when you tie a clinch knot.

The hot fly was the Double Barrel—a lime green foam popper with lots of legs. If you want to learn how to tie it, go see Stephen at Backwoods.



June Quick Clinic

Sharpening Your Hooks

Come learn from Stephen Woodcock of Backwoods about the importance of keeping your hooks sharpened and the correct way to do it. Have you ever been fishing with a hot fly for a while, and then when that ONE BIG FISH gets on, all of a sudden the fish comes off the hook? It might be that you haven't checked the sharpness of your hook which can become dull as it drifts over the rocks and gravel. Don't miss this one—starts at 6:40 p.m. before the meeting begins.

Want to Learn to Fly Fish From a Kayak? Come to Our Free Kayak Clinic

As part of our club's Fly Fishing 101 educational series, we're doing a special clinic in July called Kayak 101 that will incorporate learning skills for fishing from a kayak. This event will take place beginning at 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 7 at the Panther Pavilion boathouse that is operated by Backwoods. It is located on the banks of the Trinity River at 480 North Taylor.

The instruction will be on the water and taught by instructors who are certified kayak instructors by the American Canoe Association. They will teach basic paddling techniques and getting in and out of the kayak. There will be kayaks available for those who don't own one. You must contact Les Jackson, keebranch@sbcglobal.net to reserve a kayak. First come, first serve.

Our club volunteers will also be hand to teach basic casting skills for those who need entry level casting help, as well as folks to teach warm water techniques for sunfish and largemouth bass. If you have your own equipment and waders/boots, please bring them. If you are new to the sport or a beginner, the club has some rods and reels to use for the clinic.

Everyone who plans to fish will need a valid Texas fishing license.

A special thanks to Backwoods for helping the club with this event.

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/'/'/@32.759079,-97.4077553,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m8!4m7!1m0!1m5!1m1!1s0x864e71445c4c9965:0x343dbc44a4763dfc!2m2!1d-97.3377151!2d32.7590985>

Colorado Trip Update

The Official Non-Outing

By now, most of you have already made your summer plans, want to make plans, or are joining us for the annual trip to SouthFork, Colorado. If you are planning on going on the trip, I will be available at the next club gatherings, or can be reached by phone or email. Both will be listed below. If you would like to join us, there is still plenty of time to make it happen. Simply contact me, make your own arrangements, and plan on having a lot of fun, in a beautiful place.

We will be leaving on the 7th of July, and will return on the 14th. Most of us will stay in Raton, New Mexico on the 7th, and will arrive in SouthFork on the 8th. This will provide us 5 and a half days of fishing, or whatever else you may want to do. Besides fishing, one could rent a jeep, go hiking, play golf, take a nap, or whatever floats your boat. That reminds me, there are many great float trips available in the area.

I also want to update you on the current conditions, and what I think we will see in July. There was not a great snow event this year. And the area is experiencing a drought, which will increase the possibility of wild fires. Something we will watch very closely. Without the great snow event, runoff will start earlier, not be as bad, and will be well gone by the time we arrive. Water levels will be low, and the water will be clear. This will mean great wading conditions, and awesome dry fly fishing!!! I also think it will be hotter than normal. Plan on dressing light, and carrying plenty of water, and sun protection. Now I am not a weatherman, but my son is.

For a complete list of items to bring, I'll see if I can find Bill Hodges Top 200 items to bring to Colorado list. Otherwise, I suggest only bringing what you need.

I can be reached at:
russellhusted@sbcglobal.net
972-567-4155

Hope to see you on the trip.
Russell

Fly of the Month: *Hybrid Baby Craw*

The June 2018 Fly of the Month, the Hybrid Baby Craw, comes to us from Suresh Venugopal. Suresh is an active fly fisher, so any fly that has his attention is sure to be a winner. I hear it's had lots of field testing by both Suresh and other club members.



Materials:

Hook: Carp Hook (Size 4 to 6) Gamakatsu and Allen hooks

Thread: 70 Denier, Olive

Tail: Pheasant Tail, Natural

Body: Dubbing, Cohen Carp, Hareline Hare and FlyTyer Brown Crab dubbing

Eye: Extra-large Bead Chain eye or Small

Pattern Synopsis:

This pattern was created to replicate baby craw fish, which is one of the main food source for Carp and Buffalo! This pattern can be tied with various colors to replicate conditions. I have tested this fly and been productive on Buffalo! The key is teasing all the dubbing to be buggy, so it has a great motion in the water to attract the fresh water bonefish.

Step-by-Step Instructions:



1. Attach the thread behind the hook eye and create a base

length using the figure eight method. Use super glue to secure the eye



2. Tie in a bead chain eye, behind one hook-eye



the bend of the hook to make the tail, stopping at mid-section of the bend of the hook, as shown in the second photo. Make the tail half the hook shank length. Trim fibers at the eye.



3. Cut a few pheasant tail fibers and tie in as shown in the first photo. Wrap thread toward the

4. Move the thread forward to the eye and get another clump of pheasant tail fibers. Measure one shank length to create the Claw.

5. Tie in the thinner section of the pheasant tail closer to the head and start wrapping the thread to bend of hook to secure the fibers.



6. Split the fibers in two to create a split tail and then using a figure eight tying method, to hold the shape of split tail.

7. Blend the mixture of various dubbing as listed above and set aside (first photo). With the thread



positioned by the tail, create a 4.5-inch dubbing loop and attach the loop to a dubbing spinner. Wax the thread (second photo).



8. Insert the elongated dubbing mixture into loop sparsely about 2.5"

in length, twist the dubbing spinner to create a spikey looking dubbing rope. Tease all fibers/legs that are caught inside the rope.

9. Wrap the dubbing loop from the tail forward to the eye. Wrap the rope around the bead chain eye to form a nice buggy head



10. Use a Velcro stick or bodkin to tease all the fibers/legs around the body/head to expose a buggy look.

Fishing Method:

The key is to use a long leader with a 12-lb. fluorocarbon tippet in clear water. Cast the fly gently in the feeding zone and trigger very slight variations of the bug's movements in the water. When the fish takes the Baby Craw, set the hook. Tight Line and have fun!

Barry Webster
Tying Director



Reel Recovery is a national non-profit organization that conducts **free fly-fishing retreats for men recovering from all forms of cancer.** Combining introductory 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. Retreats are conducted over a two-and-a-half-day period at a comfortable facility with onsite or nearby fishing access.



“This retreat was the most uplifting and rewarding experience of my life.” -- retreat participant

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

In 2017 Texas held six retreats serving 70 courageous men living with cancer. We held 2 retreats each in Glen Rose, Navasota and Waring. We hosted our 2nd retreat in partnership with Project Healing Waters to serve only Veterans and Active Military men living with cancer.

2018 SCHEDULED TEXAS RETREATS:

Navasota, TX (Mar 16-18); Waring (April 6-8); Glen Rose (April 13-15) Waring (Sept. 21-23)

Veterans Only: Glen Rose, (Oct 12-14); Navasota (Nov. 2-4)

If you would like to be a Participant please apply on-line or contact us:

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

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

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

CLUB ACTIVITIES

JUNE

June 5

Club meeting

June 16

Outing to Paluxy River, Glen Rose

JULY

July 3

Club meeting

July 7

Kayak 101, Panther Island, 480 N. Taylor St., Fort Worth

July 8-15

Colorado “non-outing” trip, South Fork, Colo.

AUGUST

August 7

Club meeting

August 18

Outing to Lake Texoma

SEPTEMBER

September 4

Club meeting

September 8

Fly Fish 101 at Camp Carter, 6200 Sand Springs Road, Fort Worth

OCTOBER

October 2

Club meeting

Oct. 19-21

Outing to Texas coast

NOVEMBER

November 3

Fly Fish 101 at Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA)

November 6

Club meeting

November 17

Outing to area urban fishing sites

OUTINGS 2018

In 2018, our club plans to provide more organized fishing trips that members can take advantage of. Once a quarter we will have an overnight trip that will also serve as an education session for new fishers. On these trips, the Club will pay for guides to explain the area and take the attending members to locations where they can actually catch fish. This was done at our Broken Bow trip in November and was quite a success. It's also a great membership benefit.

We welcome anyone to volunteer as hosts for any of the 2018 outings. This also offers you the opportunity to take part in our VIP Volunteer Program that offers numerous prizes and incentives.

Outings will be set for the 3rd weekend of the month and may be changed in any extraordinary circumstances.

Roshan Ali

Outings Director

DATE (2018)	LOCATION	SPECIES
June 16 th	Paluxy River at Glen Rose	Large Mouth Bass
July 8 th – 15 th	Weeklong Trip: Colorado High Country	Trout
August 18 th	Lake Texoma	Stripers
Sept 15 th	To be determined	
Oct 19 th – 21 st	Overnight: Coast Trip - guide provided; kayak fishing	Redfish, Speckled Trout, Drum
Nov 17 th	Urban Wilderness	Panfish
Dec 15 th	LLELA, Elm Fork of the Trinity	Buffalo, Trout

Fly Tying Groups Around Town

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.

Fort Worth

Backwoods:

1013 Foch Street

Fort Worth TX 76107

817-332-2423

Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m.

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 many club members into fly tying. Backwoods fly tying nights are well attended with lots of knowledgeable tyers that are willing to help and share.

Arlington

Cafe Acapulco

4001 W. Green Oaks Blvd., Suite 121

Arlington TX 76016

817-483-4171

Thursday nights: Dinner and drinks start at 5:15-5:30 p.m.

Tying starts at 6:30 p.m.

This event is usually headed by FWFF members who rotate in leading the class. The Mexican cuisine and cold drinks served by Lynda get the program rolling before tyers start 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!

Grapevine

Bass Pro Shop: Fly Fishing Department

2501 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, TX 76051

Wednesday Night: 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning: 10:00 a.m.

Led by "The Roadkill Round Table", this group has been tying for 35 years but welcomes new members.

FORT WORTH FLY FISHERS

2018 Board of Directors

Position	Board Member
President	Bryce Bezant
Vice President	Rick Hanes
Treasurer	Harold Hilley
Membership	Sharon Leissner
Secretary	Jan Bates
Speaker Director	Adam Tate
Outings Director	Roshan Ali
Tying Director	Barry Webster
Communications	Jim Fuquay
Conservation	Open
Social Relations	Jim Bass
Education	Les Jackson
Legal	Mike Nelson
Auction/Raffles	Anna Wadsworth
Director at Large	Kay Jackson



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