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## Message From the President

**Reminder:** The April and May membership meetings are CANCELED due to municipal health rules. Stay Safe!

In recent weeks, many of us have experienced significant changes in our work, home, shopping and travel routines in response to COVID-19. These alterations in our normal lives often test our resilience and can escalate frustrations and anxiety.

While following current recommendations to practice social distancing and limit contacts can certainly feel restrictive at times, they are an important component in solving the transmission issues related to the spread of the virus.

I encourage each of you to spend time outdoors by going on walks, hikes, and of course fly fishing as appropriate. These activities are currently listed as generally safe as long as you limit contact with other individuals and practice safe hygiene procedures. This is also a great opportunity to repair and clean your gear, reorganize fly boxes, clean your bench and tie flies for the sunnier and reduced river flow days ahead.

Whether you decide to tie, reorganize, repair and restore, or fish, I urge you to patronize your local fly shops for replacement supplies and equipment when they reopen. The impact of the virus on local shops will be tremendous. We routinely look to these shops and vendors for donations, support and volunteers to enrich our programs. When we call, they respond. Please take this opportunity to express our gratitude and show our support by purchasing local when we can. We'll all be better off for it.

Be well,  
David Hooper, President  
Fort Worth Fly Fishers



**It's All About the Fishing**  
*Read more on page 4.*



**Fly of the Month**  
*Read more on page 10.*

## Special Letter to FWFF Members

Members of Fort Worth Fly Fishers,

On March 18 the board of directors of Fort Worth Fly Fishers met to address the implications of the ongoing issues related to the coronavirus threat. With the health and wellbeing of our membership as our primary guide, we made a number of decisions based on recommendations from The Centers for Disease Control as well as state and local municipalities. While we regret the interruption of programs and services for the immediate future, we feel it is best to take actions that align with regulatory requirements thus protecting our members. Our actions are as follows:

- The Nolan River outing scheduled for March 21, 2020, was canceled.
- We deferred the decision on the Bill Ward Ranch outing scheduled for April 17-19. However, as the virus situation worsened as the outing approached we decided to cancel.
- Both April and May general meetings at the University of North Texas Health Science Center have been canceled. We will defer the decision to meet in June until a later date. At this time, we anticipate the Summer Learning Series beginning in July will occur as planned.
- The kayak raffle drawing scheduled for May 5 was postponed until fall. Once we have a confirmed date, we will contact current raffle ticket holders to see if they are comfortable with the extension or would like a refund.
- The Fort Worth Fly Fishers 2020 Auction and Fundraiser scheduled for April 4 were postponed until fall. We anticipate the event will be held at Wild Acres Brewing as planned later in the fall.

We hope to have definitive new dates for the postponed activities in the near future. We will communicate any changes on the Fort Worth Fly Fishers Facebook pages, the FWFF Newsletter, and send emails notifications or updates as they occur. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact President David Hooper at [president@fortworthflyfishers.org](mailto:president@fortworthflyfishers.org).

## Security Notice to FWFF Members

In recent weeks, FWFF has experienced an uptick in the number of phishing attempts received by FWFF email accounts. These have been pretty much the garden variety attempts of which most of you are familiar, where an unknown sender asks you to click on a link that looks harmless but can download malicious software to your computer or send you to a phony website. We recently received a spear-phishing attempt, which is phishing with a much more targeted approach that uses individuals' names and specific requests. Below is an example:

*Hello Jim  
Are you available to assist? I am out of the State now and I've*

*got credence in you to take care of this .I would have called your phone but I presently do not have access to my mobile phone. Fort Worth Fly Fishers needs some gift cards for donation to Veterans at Hospice and Palliative care units for preventive items from Corona Disease (COVID 19). I am liable for reimbursement. Need more info?*

The email looked as if it was signed by Bryce Bezant. There were additional emails generated with the same text that looked like they were signed by me.

We are taking immediate actions to try and reduce the number of these phishing attempts.

Just a reminder that if you receive any email related to FWFF operations that you find suspicious, please take a moment to call the person (using a phone number you know is legitimate) or send an email (**not** using "Reply" in the phishing email) to confirm. These individuals can get pretty crafty, so please be diligent!

Be well,  
David Hooper  
President

## Upcoming Speakers

Month	Speaker	Presentation Title
April <b>CANCELLED</b>	Hilary Huteson, Montana	Turning Fly Fishing Passion into Purpose
May <b>CANCELLED</b>	Jeff Currier, Idaho	Fly Fishing Warm Water - Bass, Carp, Pike, and More
June	Greg Welander, Texas	Fly Fishing the Colorado River
July	Summer Learning Series	Education
August	Summer Learning Series	Fly Tying
September	Summer Learning Series	Casting
October	Craig Hayes, Belize	Turneffe Atoll
November	Ed Tamson, Florida	Fly Fishing in the Florida Everglades

## Coast Outing to Port O'Connor set for June 18–21

We are planning a coastal outing in June, assuming that we have moved past the Covid-19 problems. This outing will be to Port O'Connor and we will be staying in three condos that will sleep 15 people comfortably. Dr. Paul Bonner, a member of FFFF, owns two of the condos. The cost of the trip is \$170 (all in, taxes and cleaning fee) for lodging (\$56 a night per person. The condos have full kitchens with cooking and eating utensils. People generally bring their own food or set up sharing menus with others. The club will host a shrimp boil Saturday night. The condos also have boat slips.

Port O'Connor is a small fishing town with great access to some good spots for wade and kayak fishing (see maps). The subdivision where Paul's condos are located also has access to many spots that are within a short paddle. Jetty and pier fishing are also available. We will have a couple of boats that can also be used to take folks to wade spots or that can shuttle a limited number of kayaks.

Fishing is primarily for speckled trout and redfish. You are typically using 7- to 9-weight rods and sight-casting fish, stripping the fly past them. (The club has some 8-weight rod-reel-line rigs that you can check out for the trip if you need one.) It can be very exciting when you tie on to these big fish.

Here is the important thing: WE NEED TO KNOW EARLY if you are thinking about going so that we have a good count on the number of participations so we can justify reserving the three condos. There is no cancellation policy, but the leasing agent will attempt to rent the condos if we don't fill them. If they can, the club will not have to pay for that weekend. But, that is a big IF. So, we need to know by May 1 if we are not going to need a condo. Please contact Chris Patnode or Bryce Bezant if you plan to go (see contact info below). We would also like to know even if you are considering it!

Here are the details:

- **When:** June 18-21 (Sunday, June 21, is Father's Day. You can possibly be back home for an evening event. But what a great Father's Day gift.)
- **Where:** Pirates Cove, 462, 464, and 456 15th St. (units 1, 2 and 5), Port O'Connor, Texas.
- **What:** Kayak, boat or wade fishing. There is a jetty and surf fishing not too far away. Bring 7- to 9-weight outfits, along with streamers in baitfish, crab and shrimp patterns.
- **How much?:** \$170 a person for three nights. There is a \$75 non-refundable deposit. Please let us know if you are interested as soon as possible. Send a checks to FFFF, P.O. Box 1133, Fort Worth, Texas 76101, or bring payment to the June 2 club meeting (assuming that the Covid-19 is past).
- **Who to contact:** Outings Director Chris Patnode at (817) 819-5519 or [ChrisPatnode@benekeith.com](mailto:ChrisPatnode@benekeith.com); Host Bryce Bezant (817) 360-6672 or [rbbezant@outlook.com](mailto:rbbezant@outlook.com)

The club is not arranging guides. If you want one, here are several possibilities:

### FWF4 Donors:

Capt. Jeff Johnson's Guide Service  
361-420-3262, [preyingmantis5@gmail.com](mailto:preyingmantis5@gmail.com)

Capt. Mason Matejcek – 830-857-0405,  
[masonmatejcek@yahoo.com](mailto:masonmatejcek@yahoo.com)

### Local guides recommended by Paul Bonner

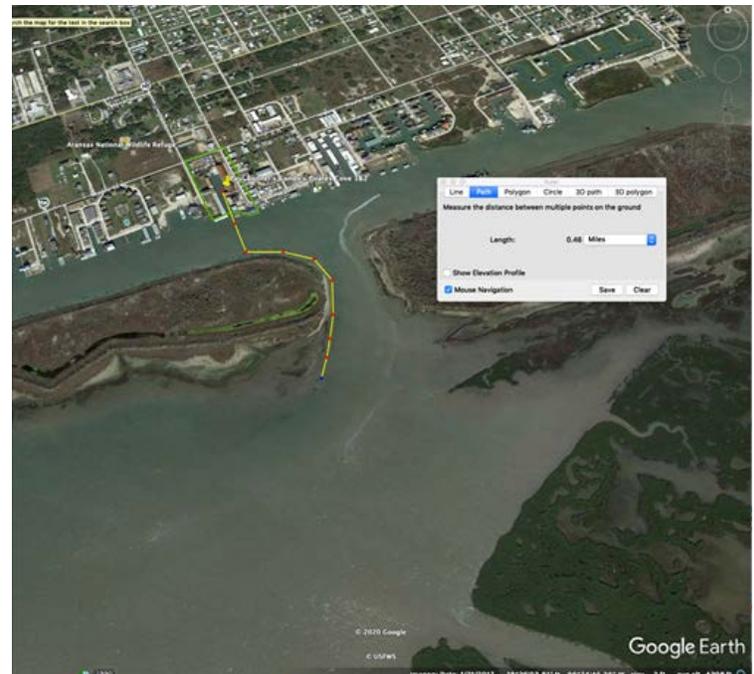
Capt. Tom Horbey – 361-983-2263, [saltlures@aol.com](mailto:saltlures@aol.com) - fly fishing guide

Capt. Ed Stracos – 361-935-9901 Conventional Fishing -

Capt. Thomas William – 970-708-7240, [redfishfly187@gmail.com](mailto:redfishfly187@gmail.com) - fly fishing guide

More information on fishing guides and fishing spots and access logistics will be provided to outing attendees via email.

Access to Barroom Bay- ½ mile across Intracoastal Waterway



## Fort Worth Fly Fishers head to New Mexico's San Juan River



*Photo courtesy of Fisheads of the San Juan*

Are you interested in fly fishing for trophy-sized rainbow and brown trout on the San Juan River in New Mexico? If so, participating in a planned trip as a group can mean an excellent price on an outstanding experience at Fisheads of the San Juan in Navajo Dam, N.M.

FWFF Outings Director Chris Patnode has put together a Sept. 28 - Oct. 1 package that needs to sign up 12 people for a four-day/three-night trip. Included are two 8-hour days of guided drift boat fishing on one of the nation's premier large trout waters. Lodging, plus breakfast and a four-course dinner, will be provided daily by the lodge, and lunch will be provided on the river during the guided float trips. The all-inclusive fee is \$742.38 a person, with the only additional cost the gratuity that you choose to pay.

Fisheads of the San Juan is the only Orvis-endorsed outfitter on the San Juan River. It is owned and operated by guide Chris Taylor. A deposit of \$400 is due by July 7, with the remaining \$343.38 due by Sept. 2. If you are interested in attending, please contact Chris at 817-819-5519.

Here are the details:

- Participants are responsible for their travel to and from the lodge. It's about an 800-mile drive from Fort Worth. The nearest airport is Durango, Colo., a little over two hours by air from Dallas/Fort Worth Airport and then about an hour's drive from the lodge.
- Participants will need a New Mexico fishing license. (A five-day non-resident license is \$24.)
- Cancellations must be made by Sept. 2 by contacting Chris. After that date there are no refunds, but another participant may take your place under mutually agreed terms.

**Fisheads of the San Juan River**  
 1796 State Highway 173  
 Navajo Dam, New Mexico 87419  
 (505) 634-0463  
[www.fisheadsofthesanjuan.com](http://www.fisheadsofthesanjuan.com)

## It's All About the Fishing

This is where we feature photos submitted by members from recent fishing trips. Remember, feel free to send in your photos and stories from your own adventures to share with fellow club members. Email them to Jim Fuquay at [jimfuquay@gmail.com](mailto:jimfuquay@gmail.com) or any other FWFF director.

### A Trip to the San Juan River



The San Juan River in New Mexico is known as one of the best tailwater streams in the United States. A couple of months ago, Steve Barclay, Bryce Bezant and I decided we would make the journey to this famous trout stream. Steve has been there before and his tales of sight fishing for large trout with small flies was intriguing to both Bryce and me. The three of us did research on flies, guides and places to stay. We booked two guide days -- one all-day wade trip and one all-day float trip. We planned to fish on our own the rest of the week. After tying size 22, 24, 26 and 28 midges and mayflies along with buying 5X, 6X and 7X tippet we were ready to take on the picky trout of the San Juan.

Our journey began early on Sunday March 15. Steve drove the entire 12 hours to the small town of Navajo Dam, N.M. We arrived in time to shop at Abe's Fly Shop and hear more stories about the fish and how and where to catch them. However, Monday morning as we were getting ready for our first day of fishing we received a phone call from the guide we had booked for Tuesday's wade trip. The New Mexico governor had just closed all the state parks in response to the COVID-19 virus pandemic. As some of you know, the quality water on the San Juan River is all located in a state park. Now what do we do?

The three of us decided to fish outside the park with our guide. The fishing was slow at best, though Steve and Bryce did manage to hook a few fish, I did not. I called the Taos Fly Shop to see if they had any suggestions for other locations to fish, and they suggested the Rio Chama outside of the town of Chama, N.M. The Cooper Ranch has cabins and private access to the Rio Chama. We enjoyed a great dinner at Fishhead's Back Cast Café in Navajo Dam Monday evening and decided to leave Tuesday morning for Cooper Ranch on the Rio Chama.

## It's All About the Fishing - Contd.



unrestricted section upstream from the quality water. This ended our long-anticipated fishing trip to the storied waters of New Mexico.

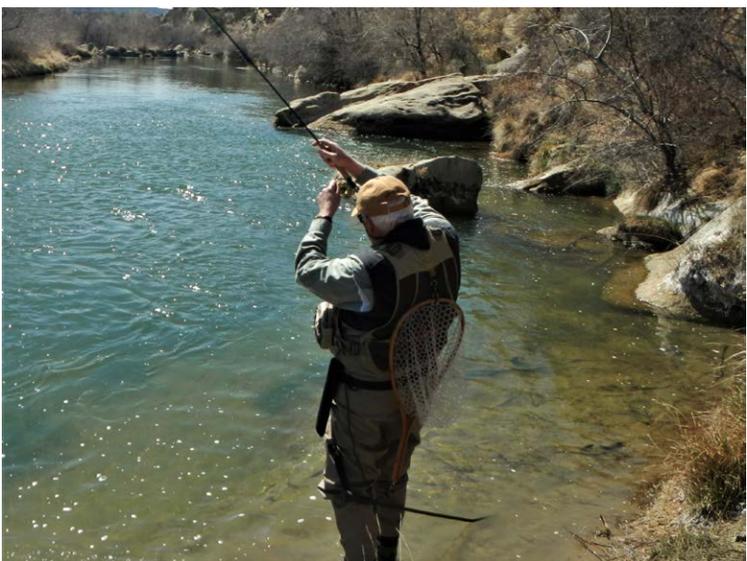
The rest of the day was spent driving to Santa Fe for dinner at Steve's favorite Mexican restaurant and on to a motel along famous Route 66 in Tucumcari, N.M. Wednesday, we drove home with plans to head back after the pandemic. Our trip was a bust as far as fishing goes but we did discover a new destination and made the best of a bad situation.

Stay safe during these trying times, tie some flies, make some plans for fishing later this year and remember to support your local fly shops and other businesses that are struggling.

By Greg Kohn  
FWFF Member



FWFF Conservation Director **Dr. Emily Craig** pulled out the PPE (personal protection equipment) to fish the Trinity River after Fly Fest was canceled. Says Emily: "I didn't catch any trout, but I don't think I caught any virus, either!"



It was a great three-hour drive through the mountains to the small town of Chama. Cooper Ranch is located just downstream from a reservoir, so it is also a tailwater much like the San Juan River. The Rio Chama is smaller and not managed the same as the San Juan River. There is a large section of quality water that starts on the Cooper Ranch. The river was a little off-color and the water temperature was early season cold. The fishing was also slow, in fact, we did not hook a fish during the three hours we fished. The river does hold some exceptional fish according to the locals we talked with. We did hear of a few large fish taken in the



## CLUB ACTIVITIES

2020 OUTINGS CALENDAR			
DATE	LOCATION	SPECIES	HOST
April 17-19 <b>CANCELED</b>	Bill Ward Ranch near Mexia, Texas	Bass and perch	
May 9	Eagle Mountain Lake kayak outing	Bass	Donna O'Toole
June 19-21	Texas Coast, kayaking and wading, near Sargent	Speckled trout, redfish, black drum	Bryce Bezant
July	South Fork, Colorado	Trout	Russell Husted
August 15, 2020	Loughridge Lake - Fort Worth, Texas	Crappie, Bass, Catfish	
Sept. 19	Hill Country joint club outing - TBD	Carp, catfish, bass, gar	
Sept. 28-Oct. 1	Fisheads of the San Juan River in New Mexico	Trout	
Oct. 16-18	Oktoberfisch - Llano River, South Llano River RV Park	Bass and perch	Fredricksburg Fly Fishers
Nov. 20-22	Lower Illinois River near Gore, Oklahoma	Trout, bass, catfish, carp	

### EVENTS AROUND TEXAS AND THE NATION

For many more events and detailed information, visit the [Events page at Fly Fishers International](#)  
and the Facebook page of the [FFI Texas Council](#).

# THANK YOU, Donors to the 2019 Fort Worth Fly Fishers Fundraising Festival

MEMBERS AND FRIENDS, PLEASE SUPPORT THE MANY CONTRIBUTORS AND SPONSORS LISTED BELOW. IF YOU NEED HELP LOCATING ANYONE ON THE LIST, PLEASE CONTACT KEVIN MARLOW OR RICK HANESS.

## Merchants

**Action Anglers**, 830-708-3474,  
[www.actionanglers.com](http://www.actionanglers.com)

**Angler Sports Group**, Cristine Howard, 585-757-9958,  
[www.anglersportsgroup.com](http://www.anglersportsgroup.com)

**Backwoods**, Tim Martin and Stephen Woodcock, 817-332-2423

**Big Y Fly Company**, Hood River, OR, 866-660-5758,  
[www.bigyflyco.com](http://www.bigyflyco.com)

**BreamBugs**, 800-513-7041, [www.breambugs.com](http://www.breambugs.com)

**Cattlemen's Steak House**, 817-624-3945,  
[CattlemansSteakhouse.com](http://CattlemansSteakhouse.com)

**Charlies Fly Box**, Charlie Craven, 303-403-8886,  
[www.charliesflyboxinc.com](http://www.charliesflyboxinc.com)

**Climate Ski and Sports**, 817-570-7151,  
[www.cdskisports.com](http://www.cdskisports.com)

**Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse**, 812 Main Street, Fort Worth, 817-877-3999,  
[www.delfroscos.com](http://www.delfroscos.com)

**Daiichi Hooks**

**Dr. Slick**, [www.drslick.com](http://www.drslick.com)

**Fatties on the Fly**, 817-776-7550,  
info@fattiesonthefly.com, [www.fattiesonthefly.com](http://www.fattiesonthefly.com)

**"Fly Geek"**, Matt Bennett; Austin, TX,  
[www.flygeek.com](http://www.flygeek.com)

**Fly Shack**, Gloverville, NY; [info@flyshack.com](mailto:info@flyshack.com)

**Gruene Outfitters**, 830-625-4440,  
[info@grueneoutfitters.com](mailto:info@grueneoutfitters.com)

**Kayak Instructions**, 972-412-7691

**Little Caesars Pizza**, DFW, Eric Sorensen

**Loon Outdoors**, Ashland, OR;  
[service@loonoutdoors.com](mailto:service@loonoutdoors.com)

**Montana Fly Company**, [www.montanafly.com](http://www.montanafly.com)

**Mageyes, Inc.**, Kerrville, TX, 800-210-6662,  
[www.mageyes.com](http://www.mageyes.com)

**Mark Kolanowski**, Photography

**Mellow's Johnny's**, 817-821-4780,  
[www.fortworth.mellowjohnnys.com](http://www.fortworth.mellowjohnnys.com)

**Murphy's Fly Shop**

**North Face**, Ft. Worth,

**Orvis Southlake**, 817-251-0262,  
[www.orvis.com/southlake](http://www.orvis.com/southlake)

**Press Café**, Ft. Worth 817-570-6002,  
[www.presscafeftworth.com](http://www.presscafeftworth.com)

**Reddington**

**St. Peters Fly Shop**; Ft. Collins, CO; [www.stpeters.com](http://www.stpeters.com)

**Sportsman Finest**, Greg Welander, 512-263-1888,  
[www.sportsmanfinest.com](http://www.sportsmanfinest.com)

**Tailwaters – Dallas**, [www.tailwatersflyfishing.com](http://www.tailwatersflyfishing.com)

**The Fly Shop**, Terry Jepsen, Redding, CA;  
[terry@theflyshop.com](mailto:terry@theflyshop.com)

**Wingo Outdoors**, 339-707-3017,  
[www.wingooutdoors.com](http://www.wingooutdoors.com)

**Lodging**

**Broken Bow Nature Cabins**, 903-366-3134  
Ashley Hammons; [www.brokenbownaturecabins.com](http://www.brokenbownaturecabins.com)

**Brace Lake Outfitters**;807-329-1116,  
[bracelakeoutfitters@bell.net](mailto:bracelakeoutfitters@bell.net)

**Breakfast on the Brazos**, Bryce and Micki Bezant (Lake  
Granbury) 817-360-6672

**Eagle Nest Fly Shack**, Tim Urtiaga, 505-485-8328,  
[www.eaglenestflyshack.com](http://www.eaglenestflyshack.com)

**Buffalo River in Gilbert, Ark.**, Mike Nelson;  
cootpole1@verizon.net 817-488-1164

**Condos on Port O'Conner**, Paul Bonner, 940-642-2568;  
[psbonner@yahoo.com](mailto:psbonner@yahoo.com)

**Teton Valley Lodge**, 208-354-2386,  
[www.TetonValleyLodge.com](http://www.TetonValleyLodge.com)

**Guides**

**Capt. Billy Trimble**, [billytrimble@cablone.com](mailto:billytrimble@cablone.com)

**Conejos River Anglers**, 719-376-5660, Bill Blankenship,  
[www.conejosriveranglers.com](http://www.conejosriveranglers.com)

**Danny Scarborough**, 832-257-9578,  
[Houstonflyfishing@gmail.com](mailto:Houstonflyfishing@gmail.com)

**High Country Anglers**, Doc Thompson, Ute Park, N.M.;;  
[doct@flyfishnewmexico.com](mailto:doct@flyfishnewmexico.com);  
[www.flyfishnewmexico.com](http://www.flyfishnewmexico.com)

**Dos Amigos Anglers**, 575-377-6226,  
[info@dosamigosanglers.net](mailto:info@dosamigosanglers.net)

**FlyFish Arizona**, 480-217-5089,  
[cinda@flyfisharizona.com](mailto:cinda@flyfisharizona.com)

**Frank Huneycutt**, 214-796-7473  
[frankhuneycutt@att.net](mailto:frankhuneycutt@att.net)

**Grand Teton Fly Fishing**, Scott Smith,307-690-4347;  
[www.grandtetonflyfishing.com](http://www.grandtetonflyfishing.com)

**Hogs on the Fly**, Larry, 870-321-2792,  
larry@hogsonthefly.com

**Indigo Guide Service**, 231-898-4320,  
[www.indigoguideservice.com](http://www.indigoguideservice.com)

**Fly Fish Rockport**, Capt. Jeff  
Johnson,[jeff@flyfishrockport.com](mailto:jeff@flyfishrockport.com);  
[www.flyfishrockport.com](http://www.flyfishrockport.com)

**Jack Johnson**, "Alaska, Bemidji, MN;  
[fishjack@paulbunyan.net](mailto:fishjack@paulbunyan.net)

**John Sappington**, Branson, Mo;  
[www.johnsappington.com](http://www.johnsappington.com)

**Jerry Hamon**; [revtcf@gmail.com](mailto:revtcf@gmail.com)

**Sasquatch Fly Fishing**, Joe Croteau, 303-601-8617;  
[www.sasquatchflyfishing.com](http://www.sasquatchflyfishing.com)

**Johnny "On the fly" Martinez**, Lake Athens;  
johnny2448@gmail.com 972-697-7096

**Johnny Walker Lake Fork Guided Trip**, 817-480-0340,  
[jwred@att.net](mailto:jwred@att.net)

**Les Jackson** Local Trip 817 253-0943,  
[keebranch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:keebranch@sbcglobal.net)

**San Juan Fly Fishers**, Mark Nesbit, 505-634-0582,  
[mark@skyblueflyfishing.com](mailto:mark@skyblueflyfishing.com)

**Capt. Mason Matejcek**, Port O'Connor 830-857-0405;  
[masonmatejcek@yahoo.com](mailto:masonmatejcek@yahoo.com);  
[www.captainmasonm.com](http://www.captainmasonm.com)

**River Hills Outfitters**, Greg Hill;  
[www.riverhilloutfitters.com](http://www.riverhilloutfitters.com)

**River Run Outfitters**, Branson, Mo., 417-322-0460;  
[rverrunoutf@aol.com](mailto:rverrunoutf@aol.com)

**Russell Husted Brazos Trip**, 972-567-4155,  
[russellhusted@sbcglobal.net](mailto:russellhusted@sbcglobal.net)

**High Country Charters**, Scott Taylor, Pagosa Springs,  
Colo.; 970-946-5229; [www.highcountrycharters.com](http://www.highcountrycharters.com)

**Solitary Angler**, Van Beacham, New Mexico; 866-502-  
1700; [www.thesolitaryangler.com](http://www.thesolitaryangler.com)

**Ted Warren**; [tedwarren@peoplecom.net](mailto:tedwarren@peoplecom.net)

**Wolf Creek Anglers**, Southfork, Colo; Trish, 928-640-  
1839; [info@wolfcreekanglers.com](mailto:info@wolfcreekanglers.com)

**ZIA Fly**, Spencer Seim, Taos, N.M.; 575-779-3000, N.M.;  
[spencer@ziafly.com](mailto:spencer@ziafly.com)

## Instructors

**Bob Garber**, Casting, 817-863-8190,  
[garberrobt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:garberrobt@sbcglobal.net)

**Jim Bass**, Casting, 682-429-8418, [jbass3223@att.net](mailto:jbass3223@att.net)

## Tyers

Barry Webster  
Dave Etgen  
Dutch Baughman  
Fred Du'Pre  
Greg Kohn  
Matt Bennett "Fly Geek", Austin  
Mike Morphew, La Grange  
Bruce Sublett, Lufkin

## Trips

**FlyFish Arizona**, 480-217-5089,  
[cinda@flyfisharizona.com](mailto:cinda@flyfisharizona.com)

**Buffalo River in Gilbert**, Ark., Mike Nelson, 817-488-  
1164; [cootpole1@verizon.net](mailto:cootpole1@verizon.net)

## Individuals

Adam Tate	Anna Wadsworth
Barry and Teresa Webster	Bill Hodges
Bill Sargaent	Cecil Hash
Chad Koppenhafer	Chip May
Dale Wilkinson	Donna & Steve O'Toole
Don and Glenda Sorensen	Dutch Baughman
Guy Groulx	Harold Hilley
Ken Bowers	Norm Tremblay
Jacob and Amanda Sherwood	
Joe Underwood	Jon Schreyach
Kay Jackson	Ken Prehoditch
Liz Davis	Chad Blakeman
Phil Harris	Phillip Bressinck
Rick Haness	Sharon Leissner
Susan Fuquay	

**Thanks  
Again,  
Donors!**

## Fly of the Month: *Flip-Flop Bass Fly*



This month's featured fly tyer is our very own Carlos Crespo, Director of Fly-Tying. Carlos will show us one of his favorite flies to tie, the Flip-flop Bass Fly. This fly is a simple popper that has proven to be very effective in the Trinity River here in Fort Worth. Carlos won a big bass tournament a few years ago using this same fly. Honorable mention to Stephen Woodcock at Orvis Fort Worth for teaching Carlos how to tie it.

### Materials

**Hook:** Size 2 streamer

**Tail:** magnum cut rabbit Zonker

**Body:** strung rooster saddle hackle

**Head:** any piece of 3/4-inch thick foam will do; you can cut a piece of foam from a \$3 pair of flip-flops

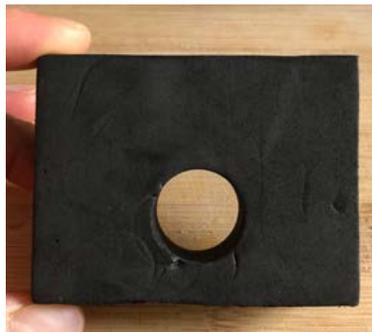
**Weed guards:** 25- to 30-lb. test nylon monofilament

**Eyes:** A pair of googly eyes

**Tools:** cutting board, knife, Zap-a-Gap glue, bodkin

### STEPS:

**Step 1:** Start with any piece of foam you can find. If you don't have any at home, go to Wal-Mart and buy a \$3 pair of flip-flops, any color you want. From the foam, cut a cube with the knife. My preferred size is 3/4 in x 3/4 in x 3/4 in. You can play with the size depending on your target bass.



**Step 2:** Once you have the cube, make three angled cuts as shown in the pictures. The result should be a big front (head) with a tapered body and a flat underside.



**Step 3:** Make an incision in the underside. Don't cut too deep.

**Step 4:** Using a bodkin, poke a hole in the foam from top to bottom on each side of the incision and near the front. The weed guards will go thru these holes. Set aside the foam.



**Step 5:** Place the hook in the vise. Starting just behind the eye and extending back to the hook bend, tie in the thread making uneven wraps all over the shank. The uneven wraps will help the foam grip the hook.



**Step 6:** Cut two pieces of monofilament three to five inches long each. Tie them in on both sides of the hook shank extending back along the bend. It is important that each monofilament remains on the side of the hook for a better performance as a weed guard. You can skip the weed guard if you prefer, but I can guarantee you will lose many of these flies.

## Fly of the Month: *Flip-Flop Bass Fly - Contd.*



**Step 7:** Cut a piece of the Zonker strip, about the length of the shank or longer. Tie the Zonker strip right before the bend of the hook.



**Step 8:** Take the saddle hackle and separate the barbs as shown. Cut the hackle at that point and tie in, next to the Zonker.



**Step 9:** Place the foam on the hook along the incision, but do NOT use glue yet. You are doing this as a reference to show how far to palmer the hackle. Advance the thread to the back of the foam and remove the foam from the hook.



**Step 10:** Palmer the hackle forward up the shank to the thread and tie it in. Trim the excess and advance the thread forward to just behind the eye. Whip finish and cut the thread.

**Step 11:** Apply just a bit of Zap-a-Gap or glue to the shank and push shank into the foam. Squeeze the foam against the shank with your fingers for better attachment. Hold for 30 seconds or so.



**Step 12:** Note: In the photo on the left below, the hook has been rotated to show the bottom of the fly. Feed a piece of monofilament through each hole, going from the bottom up. Adjust the weed guards to your preferred length and secure them with glue at each of the four holes in the foam.



**Step 13:** Glue a googly eye to each side of the foam. Lightly press with your fingers for a few seconds. Once all the glue has dried, you can cut the excess monofilament sticking through the top of the foam. You are ready to catch some big bass!



You can play with the colors you want. The ones that have worked best for Carlos are:

- All black (as shown here)
- Purple Zonker, black saddle and foam
- Chartreuse foam and Zonker with red or black saddle

Carlos Crespo  
Fly Tying Director



*"Fishing can heal the mind. Talking and sharing can ease the pain."* Retreat Participant



Reel Recovery is a national non-profit organization that conducts **FREE** fly-fishing retreats for men living with all forms of cancer. The organization offers a unique experience for these men: introductory fly-fishing instruction to learn a new skill, "Courageous Conversations" a time to share their stories, form friendships, and gain renewed hope as they confront the challenges of their recovery. A maximum of 12-14 men are invited to participate in each retreat to ensure a quality experience and to create a powerful, small group dynamic.

#### **Texas 2020 Retreat Schedule**

**Waring:** April 3-5 (Veterans & Active Military Only). Sept.18-20 All Participants.

**Glen Rose:** April 17-19. October 9-11.

**Navasota:** May 1-3. October 30-November 1.

If you would like to be a participant, volunteer, or make a donation contact us at:  
Toll Free 800.699.4490      [info@reelrecovery.org](mailto:info@reelrecovery.org)      [www.reelrecovery.org](http://www.reelrecovery.org)

# 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](mailto:info@castingforrecovery.org)



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



## 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:

441 Carroll Street

Montgomery Plaza

Fort Worth, TX

817-332-2423

Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m.

Call ahead for details and information.

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

Orvis Fort Worth

4601 West Freeway, No. 310

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Second Tuesday of the month

682-703-7675

Stephen Woodcock, fly fishing manager of the Fort Worth Orvis store, leads a monthly fly-tying session that starts Feb. 18 and after that continues on the second Tuesday of the month. Materials are provided, but bring your own vice, tools and thread.

### Arlington

El Fenix Mexican Restaurant

4608 S Cooper St.

Arlington TX 76017

817-557-4309

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, which meets in a space in the rear of the restaurant. Mexican cuisine and cold drinks 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

### Board of Directors

Position	Name	Term
President	David Hooper	2020-2021
Vice-President	Bryce Bezant	2020-2021
Treasurer	Liz Davis	2020-2021
Secretary	Joy Summers	2019-2020
Membership	Donna O'Toole	2019-2020
Speakers	Glenn Guminski	2019-2020
Outings	Chris Patnode	2019-2020
Fly Tying	Carlos Crespo	2019-2020
Communications	Jim Fuquay	2020-2021
Conservation	Emily Craig	2020-2021
Education	Jacob Sherwood	2020-2021
Social Relations	Amanda Sherwood	2020-2021
Auctions/Raffles	Kevin Marlow	2019-2020
Legal	Mike Nelson	2020-2021
At-Large	Jim Bass	2020-2021



**FWFF**  
**P.O. Box 1133**  
**Forth Worth, TX 76101**  
[WWW.FORTWORTHFLYFISHERS.ORG](http://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*