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Message From the President

As we continue to see pandemic numbers trending in the right direction, your board has been actively discussing how we can increase in-person activities and ease some of the restrictions on club meetings and social events. As always, the safety of our members and guests will remain our top priority.

The May and June membership meetings will be presented in our current online format. Beginning in July, we will start our Summer Learning Series, which runs through August. July through August will provide members with opportunities to learn new skills and hone existing skills through an outdoor casting clinic and other educational opportunities.

We are optimistic that beginning in September, we will be able to return to our pre-Covid, in-person, formats for the remainder of the year. Our ability to return to the UNT Health Science Center is uncertain at this point, although that location is our preferred choice. We are currently scouting meeting venues within the area that can meet our needs in the event we have to make a change.

On May 15, Outings Director Chris Patnode will host our monthly outing to the Brazos River near the Brazos Point Bridge. This is a good opportunity to get some late spring bass, drum, carp and crappie. Details can be found within this newsletter.

Don't forget the Texas Coast Outing hosted by Brett Morehead and Bryce Bezant on June 18-20. This annual event is a great opportunity to get some spring saltwater action and spend time with club members and guests. Check out the article in this newsletter for details.

Sincerely,
David Hooper, President
Fort Worth Fly Fishers



April Speaker: Chris Taylor
Read more on page 2.



Mexia Outing Report
Read more on page 3.

May Speaker: Chris Taylor, *Fisheads of the San Juan River*



Last September, 16 Fort Worth Fly Fishers members enjoyed a memorable visit to northwestern New Mexico's famed San Juan River below Navajo Dam, a stretch pictured below in a photo with member Frank Huneycutt and his guide from that trip. On May 4, **Chris Taylor**, owner of Fisheads of the San Juan River, will be FWFF's guest speaker via Zoom, offering his experiences and tips on fishing the Land of Enchantment.



In 1999 Chris started Fisheads guide service on the San Juan. Over the years business grew, and in 2006 Fisheads became an Orvis-endorsed guide service. It was named Orvis guide service of the year in 2008. In April of 2010 expansion continued, and in addition to its world-class guide service, Fisheads also became a full service lodge complete with guest suites, conference room, The Back Cast Café restaurant, catering and a fly shop.

Whether it is business or pleasure, novice or veteran, Fisheads' friendly and knowledgeable staff is pleased to serve all of your needs during your stay on the San Juan. Join us May 4 for a guided tour of the area by Chris.

Watch your inbox for the link to the online meeting in an email from FWFF President David Hooper. We will also make every effort to add the link to this story on the website.

June Speaker: Odom Wu *of San Antonio Tackles Carp*



Texas Hill Country fly fisherman Odom Wu caught his first fish, a carp, at the age of 13 when living in Tennessee. Since moving to Texas, he has fallen in love with the Hill Country and quickly adopted fly fishing as one of his passionate hobbies. Odom brings his experiences to Fort Worth Fly Fishers on June 1 via Zoom.

Odom is an avid fly fisherman and fly tyer. He enjoys fly fishing for all species of fish -- carp, bass, trout, cichlids and saltwater species. His passion is sight casting for carp from his kayak or standup-board and Euro-nymphing for trout.

His other passion includes photography, where he incorporates the love of fly fishing into his art. When you don't see him on the rivers, Odom spends time with his wife, two children and their two dogs in San Antonio. You can view some of his catches and photography on Instagram under [@odomonthefly](#).

Watch your inbox as June 1 approaches for an email from FWFF President David Hooper with the link to Odom's presentation.

May 15 Outing Heads to Brazos Point near Glen Rose



A freshwater drum caught at Brazos Point.

On Saturday May 15, Fort Worth Fly Fishers heads to the banks of the Brazos River near Glen Rose, Texas. Approximately an hour drive from Fort Worth, Brazos Point is located a few miles past Cleburne State Park off CR-1118 with easy roadside parking and an abundance of wet wading opportunities.

Members should park in front of the old bridge crossing and expect to walk down

the cement embankment to access the Brazos River. Outings Director Chris Patnode will host the event and can be contacted at chrispatnode@benekeith.com or 817-819-5519 to register. To further assist members locating Brazos Point, the GPS coordinates for this outing are: 32.205525, -97.605364.

Additionally, Fort Worth Fly Fishers will continue following CDC protocols for all club functions including use of masks and social distancing. Members should bring their own drinks and food for this event.

Here are the details:

Where/When: Brazos Point off CR-1118 – May 15 at 7 a.m.

Directions: Hwy 67 towards Glen Rose to FM 200 past Cleburne State Park to County Road 1118 river crossing.

Fishing gear: 6-8 weight with weight-forward line for poppers and streamers; an 8-weight rig with a sink tip is useful for reaching deeper pools and runs. Good flies include crawfish patterns, like Ball Peen Craw, and baitfish patterns, like a small Clouser, Murdich Minnow and Bream Reaper

Helpful accessories:

Wading stick, felt-sole or rubber-and-cleat-sole boots, polarized sunglasses a cap with black visor to reduce glare, water or drinks for hydration, long-sleeve shirt and buff/mask for general protection and sunblock for exposed skin.



Mexia Outing Report



Fort Worth Fly Fishers had their much-anticipated outing at Bill Ward's ranch west of Mexia on April 24-25. A ceremony was held for the unveiling of a plaque posted near the lake, dedicated to the memory of member James Parker, who passed away Jan. 25 from complications of COVID. James loved this outing and always caught the most fish for the Saturday night fish fry. He always entertained us demonstrating his expertise with radio-controlled aircraft.



We were most happy to host seven members of James' family, including his wife, Becky. FWFF member and club photographer Mark Kolanowski captured the ceremony along with other outing pictures, some of which are reproduced here. Thank you, Mark!

As usual, the fishing was spectacular. Bill Ward drew a map indicating several previously unfished quarries on his property. These proved quite productive. While COVID liability restrictions ruled out a club fish fry, several campers cleaned and ate their catch with their own cooking equipment.

This year we dodged a meteorological bullet. The anticipated heavy rain, wind and hail expected on Friday passed with a whimper, as weather stayed to both the north and south of the ranch. Much different from the near tornado we experienced on an earlier outing! Saturday and Sunday, though windy, were cool, sunny and beautiful. The early morning mist over the mirror-still water, just at sunrise, was created to be a frameable picture.



Bill Ward always seems to enjoy our group more than anyone. He insisted we come back in September, and Outings Director Chris Patnode will be working on that. I will be happy to host. Don't pass up the opportunity to join your fellow members and several new friends that you will meet. Fishing with friends is what it's all about, even if you get skunked on the water. And at the Ward Ranch in particular, "It doesn't get any better than this."

Stay safe and tight lines!
Bill Hodges, FWFF Member

Release and Waiver of Liability Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. **COVID-19 is extremely contagious** and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies recommend social distancing and have, in many locations, prohibited the congregation of groups of people.

Fort Worth Fly Fishers, Inc. (“FWFFI”) has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the Club **cannot guarantee** that you will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, **attending FWFFI outings could increase** your risk of contracting COVID-19.

By signing this agreement, I agree to comply with preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19. I further acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that I may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by attending a FWFFI outing and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death. I understand that the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 at a FWFFI outing may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, FWFFI members, volunteers, agents, contractors, and outing participants.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the foregoing risks and accept sole responsibility for any injury to myself (including, but not limited to, personal injury, disability, and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability, or expense, of any kind, that I may experience or incur in connection with my attendance or participation in an FWFFI outing (“Claims”). On my behalf, and on behalf of anyone claiming by or through me, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, discharge, and hold harmless FWFFI, its members, agents, volunteers, contractors, and representatives, of and from the Claims, including all liabilities, demands, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to COVID-19. I understand and agree that this release includes any Claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of FWFFI, its members, agents, contractors, volunteers, and representatives, whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after participation in a FWFFI outing.

Signature of Participant	Date
Print Name of Participant	

Make Plans Now for Texas Coast Outing

June 17-20 in Port O'Connor



We are planning to have 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 FWFF, owns one of the condos. The cost of the trip is \$200 total (\$66.67/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 but it provides great access to some good spots for wading and kayak fishing. The subdivision, where Paul's condos are located, 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. This is not your mountain type of fly fishing as you are typically using 7-9 wt. rods, targeting fish, and stripping the fly past their nose. (The club has some 8-weight rigs that you can check out.) It can be very exciting when you tie on to these big fish.

WE NEED TO KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED EARLY

If you are thinking about going, **WE NEED TO KNOW ASAP** so we have a good count on the number of attendees and so we can justify reserving three condos. Port O'Connor Realty has a non-refundable deposit unless they can rent the condo. Therefore, we need to let them know as soon as possible if we are not going to need a condo. This means at least 30 days in advance or by May 17th. Please contact the outing host Bryce Bezant or co-host Brett Morehead 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 17- 20 (Yes, the 20th is Father's Day, but you can get back home in time. What a great Father's Day gift!)

Where: Port O'Connor, Pirates Cove Units 2,10 and 11 – 462, 446 and 444 15th St. Port O'Connor, Texas. Port O'Connor Rentals (361-983-4371).

What: Saltwater fishing via boat, kayak or wading. There is also the jetty at Port O'Connor and surf fishing not too far away. Appropriate gear is 7-weight to 9-weight rod and reel, with flies mostly streamers such as baitfish, crab and shrimp patterns.

Cost: \$200/per person for all three nights, due at time of sign-up. Fee refundable until May 17; after this date up to 50% due to special circumstances approved by the Board. We need to know approximate numbers as soon as possible so please let us know if you are at all interested. Send checks to FWFF P.O. Box 1133, Fort Worth Texas 76101 or pay on line at fortworthflyfishers.org. (Sign in on the website and click on the Calendar icon. You'll find the outing on the May 18-20 dates. Click on the event and register.) Please let us know by email that you are going and you have sent your money.

Who to contact: Outings Director – Chris Patnode (817) 819-5519, ChrisPatnode@benekeith.com; Host Bryce Bezant (817) 360-6672 rbbezant@gmail.com; or Co-Host Brett Morehead -(817) 368-3808 brett.j.morehead@gmail.com

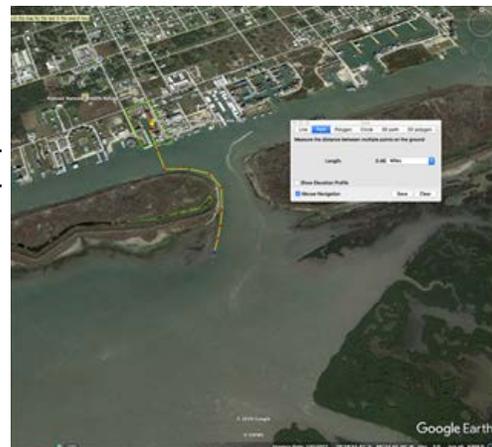
Guide/FWF4 Donor: Capt. Jeff Johnson's Guide Service, (361) 420-3262, preyingmantis5@gmail.com

Local Guides Recommended by Paul Bonner:

- Capt. KT Townsend -(832) 477-3810
- Capt. Tom Horbey -(361) 983-2263 saltlures@aol.com - fly fishing guide
- Capt. Ed Stracos -(361) 935-9901 - Conventional Fishing -
- Capt. Thomas William -(970) 708-7240 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.

From Hook & Line Fishing Maps: Matagorda Bay



Access to Barroom Bay- ½ mile across ICW

Bryce Bezant
FWFF Director

FORT WORTH FLY FISHERS

KAYAK/PONTOON RAFFLE 2021

***3 Chances to Win**

CONTACT BILL HODGES FOR TICKETS: bcolhodes@aol.com

1ST PRIZE

JACKSON "MAYFLY" 2019

Color: Color to Be Determined



The 2021 Mayfly is a fly fishing oriented sit-on-top, loaded with features to make kayak fly fishing more fun and user friendly. The MayFly has a versatile hull optimized for tracking, stability, and speed in popular fly fishing conditions and destinations, including tropical flats, slow-moving rivers, lakes and ponds. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by fly fisherman, particularly fly line management, the MayFly includes a myriad of design aspects to address the needs of fly fisherman creating the ultimate kayak fly fishing platform. Snag-free footrests and features, protected fly box storage, unique fly rod storage options, rod butt props for dealing with tangles, integrated and protected fly patches, and more cater to the high-performance features expert fly fisherman need while being versatile and stable enough to bring new anglers to the sport.



- NEW Elite Seating System
- Snag free wide open standing area
- Snag free one-piece foot brace system with line anchor to secure fly line while paddling
- Large stern well designed for JKooler or Orion 25 Cooler
- Snag free bungee flip down fly box holders lined with foam
- Storage for fly gear like nippers, forceps and tippet
- Bow hatch storage bin for fly vests, hip packs, or others items for easy access when wade fishing
- Hi-Lo, trimmable seating
- Aluminum accessory tracks
- Raymarine transducer scupper
- Standing pad
- Specialized fly rod storage with molded in reel pockets
- Rod butt props to help with line tangles

**SEE SAMPLE
AT
"FLYFEST"
MARCH 13**

2nd PRIZE

KI LAGOON 10XL

Color: To Be Determined



FEATURES OF LAGOON 10XL

Deck Pad, Skid Pad, Drain Plug, Cup Holder, Paddle Holder
Three Hatches, Perimeter Rope, Handles and Tracks,
Scuppers and Scupper Plugs, 2 Flush Mount Rod Holders
High/Low Metal Frame Seat, Removable Center Rod Holder

Length 10' Capacity 300 Lbs Width 33" Weight 55 Lbs

3RD PRIZE

CLASSIC ACCESSORIES -ROANOKE

8' Inflatable Pontoon

Color: Blue

features 2 armrest pockets,
this boat has room for all your gear.
With oars and a padded swivel seat, this
boat includes everything you need to get
out to the lake in comfort.

- Supports up to 350 lbs. (person and gear)
- Suitable for Class 1 river use
- 96 in. Long x 55 in. Wide x 27.5 in. High (to top of seat)
- Weight 39 Lbs



**1 TICKET \$ 20
6 TICKETS \$ 100**

Drawing WILL occur at Sept. 18, 2021, Wild Acre Brewery Company

Attendance not required to WIN.

www.jacksonkayak.com

www.kayakinstruction.com

www.fortworthflyfishers.org

It's All About the Fishing

This is where we feature photos and stories from members. If you have a fish tale to tell, email it to newsletter editor Jim Fuquay at jimfuquay@gmail.com.

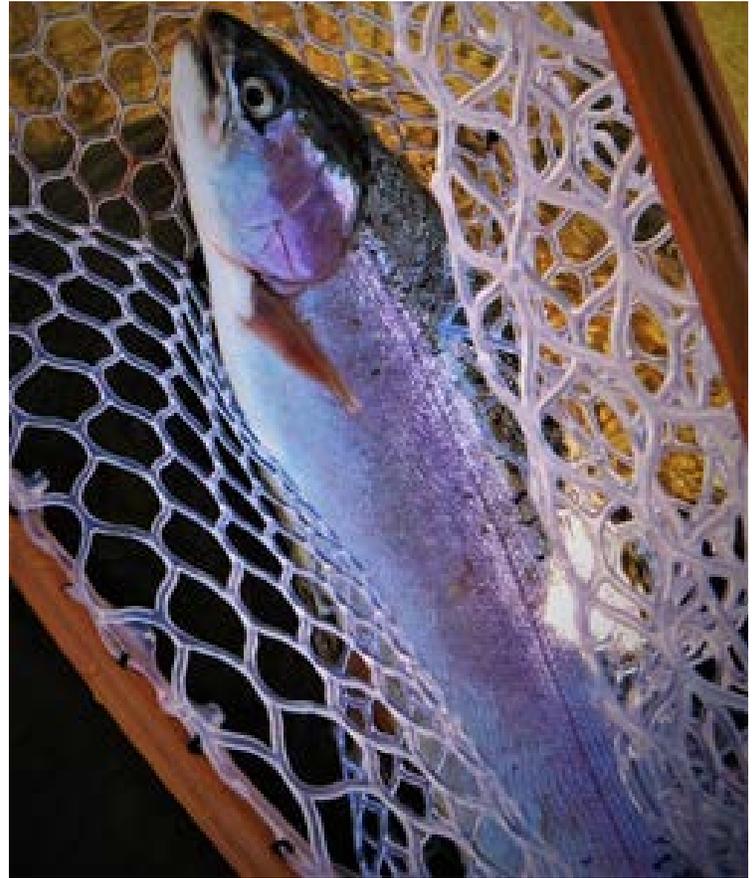
FWFF members Greg Kohn and Steve Barclay traveled to New Mexico and Colorado for a nice week of fishing. Here is Greg's report and photos.



Steve and I spent three days fishing the San Juan River the last week of March. We stayed at Fisheads of the San Juan and hired one of their guides, Conner, for a float trip on day two. It was a fun trip with plenty of wind and trout. We also spent two days wade fishing on our own.



The fish of the "Juan" are well conditioned to the presence of anglers. One will often find them tucked in behind you taking advantage of your current break. Small flies are the key with presentation just as or more important.



The second part of our trip was a day with Solitary Angler on Culebra Creek, near the small town of San Luis, Colo. The stream is narrow and clear and the fish are spooky, very different from the trout from the San Juan.

Steve and I were able to fool a number of trout using a dry/dropper rig with a zebra midge or BWO as a point fly. It was a good trip especially since we were denied access to the State Park last year.

Greg Kohn

2021 Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival



7th Annual LAFF 2021

June 11th and 12th

at Lake Athens Marina/RV center

Join us for the 7th Annual Lake Athens Fly Fishing Festival - benefitting Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery. Learn more and Get Registered at Johnnyonthefly.com

*Two Fly Fishing Challenges * casting contest * casting instructions * fly tying demos * fly fishing instructions * food * fun * and friends.*

Event Schedule:

Friday June 11th

3pm: Check in opens for Sunfish Challenge

5-7pm: Sunfish Challenge

7:15pm: Food, drinks, and entertainment

Saturday June 12th

5:30am: Check in opens for Big Bass Challenge

7am-1pm: Big Bass Challenge (Benefiting Project Healing Waters)

Casting and fly tying available throughout the day

2pm: Lunch

3pm: Casting Contest

4pm: Awards Presentation

Thank you to all of Sponsors for helping make this year's event possible!



For more information contact: Johnny Martinez (972) 697 - 7096

Fly of the Month: Understanding Thread Sizing, Construction, and Materials

(This story originally appeared with the title “A Tangled Mess” in the February/March 2017 issue of Fly Fisherman. Reprinted with permission.)

There is a lot of good information about fly tying out there. Between books, magazines, and the Internet, there is no shortage of adequate instruction and advice on almost all aspects of fly tying. Except for the apparent stepchild of fly tying: thread. Much of what’s been written about this important tool is false or misleading.

Note that I used the word “tool” rather than material. In my mind, thread is a tool chosen to perform a specific task. I own no less than 1,000 spools of thread in a huge range of sizes, colors, and configurations, and while every one of them is good for something, none are good for everything. A large selection lets me choose the right tool for the job in every instance. You don’t need 1,000 spools of thread, but hopefully I can help clear up the details of why threads are different, and what those differences mean to you.

Keeping it Together

Before I get started on thread differences, let’s talk wax. Almost all tying thread comes from the factory waxed, and if you want unwaxed thread you’ll have to use silk, GSP, Kevlar, or a specialty thread like unwaxed 3/0 Danville’s Monocord. Waxed thread is not a substitute for dubbing wax and is applied to the thread in the manufacturing process merely to keep the thread from fraying and unwinding wildly when it breaks.

Size is another major source of confusion for many consumers. Historically, fly-tying thread was sized using the archaic aught system that came originally from sizing silk surgical sutures and is still used today for that purpose. Using a zero as a baseline and additional zeros to denote smaller sizes, the aught number described relative size based on a range of diameters and worked nicely in an age of organic materials where exactness was not always possible. Many tying threads are still measured this way today, as an example, 000000 or 6/0 (six aught) being smaller than 000 or 3/0 (three aught) thread.



The Danville Chenille Company used this system for tying thread for 50 years with no issues, but in the 1990s, UNI Products

entered the tying market. While UNI also used the aught system to distinguish its larger and smaller threads, the company used a different baseline diameter, and that’s where everything went to hell. Using the aught system, tiers assumed that the new 8/0 UNI-Thread was smaller than 6/0 Danville’s. And 6/0 UNI-Thread seemed much stronger than 6/0 Danville’s. Despite the numbers on the spool, those comparisons weren’t fair because the two threads aren’t the same size at all.

Wapsi Fly Company moved away from the confusing and archaic aught system when it introduced UTC Ultra Thread and used the thread industry denier standard of measurement. Denier is the weight, in grams, of 9,000 meters of thread. It’s a physical actual weight for a length of thread. It says nothing of the thread configuration, material, or strength. UTC Ultra Thread comes in 70, 140, 210, and 280 deniers, and simplified thread sizing to a significant degree. It’s pretty simple math to figure out that 140-denier thread is twice as heavy as 70-denier thread, 210 is three times as heavy, and so on. Using the denier system retroactively tells us that 8/0 UNI-Thread is 72 denier, 6/0 Danville’s Flymaster is exactly 70 denier and surprisingly, 6/0 UNI-Thread is 135 denier—no wonder it seemed so much stronger; it’s almost twice as heavy!

There is no constant baseline used by all manufacturers to clearly and accurately label their threads. As tiers, we should all know that 70-denier UTC Ultra Thread, 6/0 Danville’s Flymaster, and 8/0 UNI-Thread are all about the same weight, but we should also know that these three threads are still very different because of both the materials used to make them, and the configuration (round or flat when viewed in cross section).

Most fly-tying threads are made of nylon or polyester. Polyester is slightly heavier than nylon and has a higher denier for a length of the same diameter. Polyester is also a bit stronger. There are also threads made of other materials like gel-spun polyethylene (GSP), Kevlar, silk, and monofilament, but those are for very specific uses—most general-purpose threads are nylon or polyester.

Danville’s and UTC Ultra Thread are both made of nylon. Nylon has a fair amount of stretch, (25 to 30 percent), naturally lies flat, and has a silky smooth finish and a glossy sheen. Nylon threads allow dubbing to slide more than polyester threads and while still perfectly usable for dubbing, you should expect poorer adhesion to a slicker thread.

Both of these threads are flat and wrap on the hook like a ribbon. They are configured with multiple strands held together with a binder strand twisted around the center strands to hold the thread together. UTC Ultra Thread lies flatter on the hook because it is held together with a binder strand that twists around the main core at a rate of only one



Fly of the Month: *Contd.*

revolution per inch. This open twist allows the thread to spread out and lie flat on the hook shank. Danville's has a binder strand with more revolutions than UTC Ultra Thread, so it doesn't lie quite as flat.

These flat threads are particularly useful for thread-body flies or flies requiring a smooth underbody, as they create silky, seamless tapers and bases. I like both of these threads for Black Beauties, Copper Johns, and Humpys. In the case of the Black Beauty and Copper John, this is because the smooth texture and low bulk allow me to build smooth bodies and underbodies without ridges. Conversely, my friend Jay Zimmerman prefers 8/0 UNI-Thread for the Black Beauty, as he believes the ridged thread body holds the wire rib in place more securely.

In the case of the Humpy, I find these threads to be perfect for building both the upright divided wings with flattened thread to keep them from flaring, and then building the thread hump to create a vibrantly colored, smooth underbody. I twist both of these threads into a cord (by spinning the bobbin) when I first attach the hair to a hook, as I find round thread grabs, cinches, and compresses hard hair better than flat thread.

I like larger thread — 140-denier UTC Ultra Thread, 6/0 UNI-Thread, and good old 3/0 Danville's Monocord (rated at 140, 135, and 116 denier, respectively)—for streamers and saltwater flies. I find the slightly narrower nature of 3/0 Danville's to be particularly useful for streamers like the Baby Gongga and Dirty Hippy, but again, the colors here are somewhat limited and muddy.

UNI-Thread 6/0 is similar to Danville's 3/0 and I use it in many of the same instances. It is one of my favorite threads for flies like Crazy Charlies, as the round shape bites into the D-Rib overbody as well as the hard calf tail wing for a more secure tie-down. Medium saltwater flies like my Ragin' Craven and Flip Flop use 140-denier UTC Ultra Thread as there is space for extra bulk on larger patterns, and this flatter thread creates a smooth, clean profile around the weighted eyes.

I only use the largest sized UTC threads, 210 and 280 denier, on flies that require quick and heavy thread coverage like the Pigsticker, or for the hot head on Cliff Watts's Kilowatt. In these cases, thread that builds and covers quickly and smoothly is paramount, but otherwise these threads are, quite frankly, overkill.

Polyester UNI-Thread has less stretch (15 percent), is more roughly textured, and sits more rounded or corded on the hook. The rougher texture holds dubbing particularly well. Colors are

typically a bit more muted and subtle in polyester than they are in nylon, with more of a matte and less shiny finish.

UNI-Thread can be flattened slightly by diligently unwinding it or wrapping the thread

left-handed. Yes, you read that right. Most threads are twisted such that as a right-hand tier wraps them around the hook, they contribute to the factory twist in the thread. Left-hand tiers enjoy an unintended advantage in that as we wrap these threads, we unwind them . . . causing them to lie much flatter than when wound by our right-handed friends.

UNI-Thread is a bonded thread that is reinforced with multiple binder strands that twist around the core strands at a much higher rate to produce the rounded shape. Because of that shape, UNI-Thread tends to build bulk vertically on the hook shank rather than horizontally as nylon threads do. The round cross section coupled with less stretch and a more textured surface—of this polyester thread allows for a bit more “bite” and “grab” to the thread in tying applications. Round thread bites into and flares hard hairs like deer, elk, and moose better than flattened thread does.

The rougher texture of polyester threads also holds dubbing better than the slicker nylon. Because of this and my inherent left-handedness, I like 8/0 UNI-Thread and use it on many of my trout patterns. Its ability to be flattened or twisted into a cord and the harder nature of polyester versus nylon make it a great choice for smaller flared hairwing flies like a Compara-dun or X-Caddis or anything made predominantly out of dubbing. My biggest gripe with UNI-Thread is the colors are not as vibrant as the nylon threads, but that's simply a matter of my preferences . . . the fish don't seem to care. I should mention here that 14/0 Gordon Griffith's Sheer (72 denier) thread is made of polyester as well, but is constructed more like 6/0 Danville's, striking a nice compromise between a hard, round polyester thread and a flatter nylon.

Veevus is a new brand that has recently come on the scene and become quite popular. It is the only modern era thread that is unwaxed. All of the Veevus middle-sized threads (8/0, 10 /0, 12/0 and 14/0) are built in a conventional fashion with a bit of twist but with the ability to be flattened beautifully by unwinding, while both their largest and smallest sizes (6/0 and 16/0) are built of just two intertwined strands in a counterclockwise twist. These threads also flatten or cord up nicely and in the case of the 16/0, create negligible bulk when tying. Both of these two sizes lend themselves wonderfully to split-thread dubbing, in case you're into that sort of thing. Oddly, a little bit of online research shows that Veevus 6/0, 8/0 and 10 /0 threads are all rated at 110 denier, and the 12/0 and 14/0 are rated at 70 denier with the 16/0 rated at a fine 50 denier. I cannot for the life of me figure out how they have managed to make distinctly different sized threads

out of a material of the same denier, but they have. The 12/0 and 14/0 threads are clearly different sizes. They lie flat or cord up at the tier's whim, they have surprisingly good strength, and the colors are more than adequate for all the tying I do.



Fly of the Month: *Contd.*

I just wish I could give you a straight answer as to how they make the stuff but, after an extensively long e-mail string with the head of the company, they either don't know, or don't want us to know! Their advice was not to concentrate so much on the technical aspects of the thread but to instead buy a few different sizes and see what works best for your own tying. This isn't bad advice, although I must say it wasn't very helpful in writing an article about these technical differences.

Specialty Threads

GSP (gel-spun polyethylene) threads are super slick, strong for their size, have very little stretch (3 percent), and lie flat on the hook. They are typically used for spinning deer hair or for synthetic materials that call for an abnormally strong yet small-diameter thread. GSP thread holds up well to toothy fish and creates durable flies. The slickness can be a liability in other applications however, particularly dubbing retention, and the dye used to color them is not as stable on GSP thread as it is on other materials, so I only use white.

Kevlar was sort of a precursor to GSP. It lies quite flat, is incredibly strong, and comes in just one size (200 denier). It is most often used in larger spun deer-hair patterns like bass bugs. Dye is not stable in this material either and can run when you apply head cement, so I only use this thread in its natural color of pale yellow. There's nothing worse than tying a perfect white bass bug and watching the thread leach dye into it when you add a final drop of head cement.

These two specialty threads are basically interchangeable. GSP thread is much slicker, and both can be hard to cut with your tying scissors. I've heard horror stories about the abrasiveness of both these threads eating bobbin tubes, but after almost 40 years of tying I've never seen it. GSP thread does come in a wider range of sizes, from 30 denier up to 200.



Monofilament threads are just what they sound like: fine, round, single-strand nylon monofilament—just like tippet material. Use mono threads when you want the thread to disappear under a coat of epoxy or head cement when you are tying Surf Candies or

EP Minnows. The single-strand construction leads to excessive twisting in the tying process and they must be managed to control and unwind this twist while you use them. Mono threads are not particularly strong either.

Silk was the first thread used to tie flies and is still wonderful stuff. Two twisted strands are used to create this thread and silk can easily be untwisted to flatten or twisted as you see fit. It has fallen by the wayside for many reasons, mostly because it's not very strong and doesn't hold its true color when wet. It's still useful in historic applications and I use it for soft-hackled patterns as well as ribbing in some cases, but as a general tying thread it has been surpassed.

After all this guidance, it's still useful to buy several different kinds of threads and sizes and see what suits you and your tying best. While a more consistent and understandable and consistent sizing system would be a lovely advancement, it's not likely to happen.

If you're now a true "thread nerd" and want an even deeper understanding of thread sizing, materials, and breaking strength, check out Martin Joergensen's fantastic thread table on the Global Flyfisher website (globalflyfisher.com/tie-better/fly-tying-thread-table). I use this chart for a reference to the denier sizes and diameters of all thread brands and find it invaluable.

Charlie Craven co-owns Charlie's Fly Box in Arvada, Colo., and is the featured tier in two Fly Fisherman DVDs: *Warmwater Fly Tying* and *Saltwater Fly Tying*. His latest book is *Tying Nymphs: Essential Flies and Techniques for the Top Patterns*, available from Stackpole Books/Headwater Books (2016).

CLUB ACTIVITIES

2021 OUTINGS CALENDAR			
DATE	LOCATION	SPECIES	HOST
May 15th, 2021	Brazos River near Glen Rose, Texas	Bass, Drum, Carp, Crappie	Chris Patnode
June 18-20,2021	Texas Coast on the Fly	Speckled trout, redfish, black drum	Bryce Bezant and Brett Morehead
July	South Fork, Colorado	Trout	Russell Husted
August	Way too Hot!!		
Sept. 24th-26th	Bill Ward Ranch near Mexia, Texas	Bass and panfish	Bill Hodges
Oct. 15-17,2021	Oktoberfisch - Edgewater Resort Complex on the Pedernales River	Bass	Fredericksburg Fly Fishers
Nov. 19-21,2021	Lower Illinois River near Gore, Oklahoma	Trout,bass,catfish,drum	Chris Patnode

Volunteer Incentive Program Deadline Extended to June 31, 2021

The Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP) is now in its third year of recognizing and rewarding members who give time and experience to help others enjoy our great sport. Unfortunately, there have not been a lot of opportunities to jump in and help in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. That being the case, we are extending the 2020 program to June 30, 2021. A new VIP session starts July 1, 2021, and will run through 2022.

Here's a quick reminder of how the program works:

- Encourages and rewards volunteerism on behalf of the club and its programs
- Recognizes volunteers who work at club-sponsored events, help on an outing or host an outing
- Tracks volunteer hours by an initialed square on a VIP card
- Awards a minimum of 12 hours for hosting an outing

Here are the 2020 prizes:

- First Place: 600 VIP Bucks for most volunteer hours
- Second Place: 500 VIP Bucks for second-most volunteer hours
- Third Place: 300 VIP Bucks for third-most volunteer hours

- Three prizes of 150 VIP Bucks to qualifying members whose names are drawn at random
- Only one prize per participant. Only the winners can redeem their VIP Bucks for prizes

There are several things that members participating in VIP need to do:

- Turn in cards as you earn hours or once a card is full (12 hours). Give cards to Bryce Bezant or place them in the VIP bucket at meetings. Photos or scans of cards can also be emailed to rbbezant@outlook.com or texted to 817-360-6672.
- All VIP cards MUST have the member's name on the card to get credit.
- Members are responsible for their own cards and getting hours signed off.
- The club is not responsible for lost or stolen VIP cards
- Lost cards cannot be "re-created."

To keep up with the club's volunteer opportunities and events, please visit the website at fortworthflyfishers.org. It is a great program. Please participate!

2021 Membership Renewals Start Nov. 1

Our Fort Worth Fly Fishing memberships run for a calendar year. November marks the beginning of our renewal season. This year our goal is to have all members renewed by Jan. 1, 2021. This will assure members continue, without delay, to receive all the benefits of our local club plus the many educational benefits we earn from being a charter club to Fly Fishers International.

Remember! When you join FWFF the automatically receive membership in FFI. If you go through FFI, you do NOT get a new membership in FWFF. So always go through FWFF for your annual membership renewal.

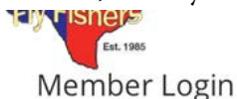
The easiest way to sign up or renew membership is online . A step-by-step guide to using our website is on Page 7 of this newsletter. A printable form is also in this newsletter.

How to renew online:

1. Go to the website at www.fortworthflyfishers.org, and click on Member Login.



2. Log in with the email address you used when you last renewed. If you haven't logged in to the new website, click "Request Password." Your email address will receive a randomly generated password, which you can later change.



Sign In
with your email and password.

Email

Password

Request Password
We will email you a new password so you can access your account.

3. Click on "My Account" button on the Membership Welcome! page.

[Newsletter Archives](#)

[Fly of the Month Archives](#)

[Casting Archi](#)



[Club Business](#)



[My Account](#)

4. First, this is a good time to update your personal information, such as address and contact number listed under the "About" tab. You can also add as much or as little as you wish under the "Profile" tab. Now click on the "Renew, Upgrade or Update Billing" button.

Password
[Change](#)

Single Member

Membership expires on Jan 01 2020

5. Click on the type of membership you want: Family, Single or Student. The Yearly Fee will be automatically displayed to match your selection. Then fill in your name, home address and credit card data. Click the "Save & Continue" button.

Single Member

Student Membership

Yearly Fee

\$35 / year

\$70 payment due today for period through Jan 01 2020

Name on card

Billing address

Credit/debit card number

That's it! You're good for another year of membership in Fort Worth Fly Fishers.

Printable membership form



FORT WORTH FLY FISHERS
Membership Form

Name:

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ (Alternate): _____

Email Address: _____

Membership type (circle one): Current member New member

DUES: Individual \$35; Family \$40; Student \$25

Total Paid: _____ Received By: _____ Date: _____

ALL MEMBERS NEW AND OLD!

Please fill out this form and mail or bring it to the next membership meeting. Be sure to fill it in completely

In order to be enrolled for membership. Please provide all information to allow us to keep our records up to date.

Questions? Email us at president@fortworthflyfishers.org

Mail address: Fort Worth Fly Fishers, P.O. Box 1133, Fort Worth, TX 76101

Visit our website for more info: www.fortworthflyfishers.org

FORT WORTH FLY FISHERS Board of Directors

<u>Position</u>	<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Term</u>
President	David Hooper	2020-21
Vice President	Bryce Bezant	2020-21
Treasurer	Liz Davis	2020-21
Secretary	Joy Summers	2020-21
Membership	Brett Morehead	2021-22
Speaker Director	Reid Winger	2021-22
Outings Director	Chris Patnode	2021-22
Tying Director	Jack Gillis	2021-22
Communications	Jim Fuquay	2020-21
Conservation	Emily Craig	2020-21
Social Relations	Vacant	2021-22
Education	Brad Dodson	2021-22
Legal	Mike Nelson	2020-21
Auction/Raffles	Vacant	2021-22
Director at Large	Jim Bass	2020-21



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*