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Message From the President

Now that the summer season has begun, the fishing really heats up (and so does the weather). It's a time when our members are travelling to fun places to fish such as Colorado and New Mexico. Some members are taking advantage of the auction trips they won last September at our annual auction fundraiser.

I want to highlight the importance of our annual auction fundraiser which will be in September. It takes money to run a club of our size and keep bringing great speakers from around the country and have great outings. But to keep up, we need volunteers to help solicit donations this summer.

It's simple to do. And it's easier to ask someone you know or from a place where you are a customer. Is there a guide you use a lot that could donate a trip? Is there a restaurant you frequent? If we could get 10-20 people to make ONE phone call, we'd have a record-breaking auction. Perhaps you have something to donate yourself? Please contact our auction chair Bill Hodges at 817-528-1157 if you can help contact businesses or if you have something to donate.

We kick off the club's summer programs with Pat Vanek of Bosque River Anglers. Pat is a favorite presenter and is very knowledgeable about fishing various segments of the Brazos and Bosque Rivers which we consider "home waters." This month, he's sharing information about saltwater fishing and access points at Rockport, near Port Aransas.

Summer is also a time when the club highlights the knowledge of many of our members through programming at our monthly meetings starting in July through September. Next month, we feature a program with a few members talking about safety when fishing – on and off the water. We'll also have roundtable discussions on the topics as well. It's great time to meet many of the members. In August, we'll have a hands-on program on fly tying. Whether you're a tyer or not, you will gain a lot of great info. Then, we have our annual casting clinic in September at Panther Pavilion in lieu of a club meeting at UNT Health Science Center. Be on the lookout for more information. Wishing everyone a fantastic summer!



Kay Jackson



Guest Speaker

June, Pat Vanek



Pat Vanek, a favorite presenter at FWFF, is presenting on the topic of Fishing Rockport. He'll be talking about access points, productive flies and how to plan a saltwater trip to this popular fishing destination near Port Aransas.

I have been fly fishing the Brazos river tailwater below Lake Whitney, as well as other central Texas and Hill Country rivers for over 30 years.

Over those years, I've learned, mostly the hard way, by spending countless hours on the water, how to successfully find and catch the bass, sunfish, and other species on the fly. In addition to largemouth, spotted, and smallmouth bass, there are carp, channel cats, drum, and some really big redbreast sunfish in the Brazos. They all make great targets to throw a fly at. This presentation will focus on tips and tactics to successfully fly fish the Brazos for bass, from Lake Whitney dam to downtown Waco.

Currently when not guiding, fishing, hunting, or tying flies, (or unfortunately at my regular job) I am at home near Crawford with my wife and 17 year old triplets. I also served as the past treasurer and president for the The Waco Fly Fishing Club.

I really enjoy sharing my knowledge of fly fishing and tying with others, and teaching this great sport both on the water and off. I enjoy giving fly fishing presentations to clubs and fly shops around the state and helping out with fly club or other local fly fishing and tying classes.

I currently own and operate my guide service, Bosque Valley Fly Fishing, guiding fly fishers on the rivers of central Texas and tying custom fly orders

Guest Speakers

Do you know someone who would make a great guest speaker for the club?

If so, contact our President@FortWorthFlyFishers.org.

FWFF CLUB ACTIVITIES

DATE	EVENT/DESTINATION/CONTACT
Saturday, June 8	Fly Fishing 101, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org
Saturday, July 13	Colorado Trip, questions reach out to Russell Husted via russellhusted@sbcglobal.net
Saturday, July 27	Grasslands 101, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org
Tuesday, September 3	FFI Fly Casting Skills and Development Program, Russell Husted via russellhusted@sbcglobal.net
Saturday, September 7	FWFF Auction, questions reach out to Bill Hodges via email bcolhodges@aol.com
Friday, October 18-20	Coast trip, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org
Friday, December 6	Blue River, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org

Fly Fishing 101, June 8

Saturday, June 8th will be a fly fishing 101 at Bailey Lake Park in Burleson. This is a great park with lots of space for bank fishing. No Kayaks or watercraft are allowed on the lake.

The lake has bass, perch, crappie, catfish, and is stocked with trout in the winter. This is a great local outing for those who are new or interested in fly fishing, feel free to bring a friend. We will provide flyrods and flies to those who need them. It's also a great place to work on your casting. If you can be a fishing buddy or need a fishing buddy, please let us know when you get there.

A group of us are going to Miranda's Mexican Restaurant afterward. You are welcome to join.

What to bring: friends, flyrod and flies, sunblock, chair, and money for lunch.

[About the Park](#)

Colorado Trip, July 13-20

The Dallas Fly Fishers (DFF) and Fort Worth Fly Fishers (FWFF) will again be holding a joint outing to South Fork, Colorado this July. Dates for 2024 are July 13-20.

It is the responsibility of the attendees to make their own travel and hotel plans, and bring their own gear. There is fishing available that will satisfy most anglers; small creeks, large rivers, float trips, and high mountain lakes. Our home base will be the [Ute Bluff Lodge](#). If they are full, there are many other lodging options in South Fork.

We meet informally every morning to discuss the day, and spread out nicely. Every evening there is an informal "where did you go today and how did you do?" gathering. The Ute Bluff Lodge has a great community room that can be used for our gatherings if weather conditions are inclement. Remember to bring a camping chair, as we gather outside if the weather is nice.

Most of us will leave driving on Saturday mid-morning stopping somewhere between Amarillo, TX and Walsenburg, CO. to spend the night before heading onto South Fork Sunday morning. Fish Sunday afternoon, and next 5 days, and return home the following weekend. You can also fly to

Denver, Colorado Springs, or Albuquerque, and rent a car.

Monday night there will be a BBQ at Wolf Creek Anglers, and an informational session about fishing the area. Many of us used Wolf Creek Anglers for guide trips, with great success. We should see similar favorable conditions again this year, with the recent late snows, that blanketed Southern Colorado.

Please let me know if you are planning on attending. If you have any questions, contact Russell Husted at 682-261-1702 or russellhusted@sbcglobal.net.

For up-to-date information on these events, follow the Texas Council on Facebook and Instagram, or visit <https://tcfi.org/>

Club Annual Auction, September 7

With only a few months until our fundraising event, please be thinking about what you might be able to donate. Look through your garage and closets for those items that you really don't use any more. Maybe a rod, reel, framed picture, clothes, flyfishing vest, flies, etc. Anything will help.

As Fundraising Director and Auction Chairman, I want you to consider helping with this event as best you can. Fundraising is not fun, and is not a spectator sport. We need your help, especially all of you new members.

Bring any items you can to our June 4 club meeting. Or call me and I will come to your home to pick them up. Volunteer to call possible donors that might support our event, especially guide services for trips on the water.

Usually, each year we have only a few dozen individuals who help with our auction. As the largest flyfishing club in the nation, we should be better than that. Please step up to the plate and contact me if you are willing to help.

Thank you!

Bill Hodges

817-528-1157 (leave a text or message)

Or bcolhodges@aol.com

Wheeler Branch Park



On May 18th, the Fort Worth Fly Fishers had a great outing at Wheeler Branch Park Reservoir, Glen Rose, TX. Fifteen members showed up and experienced beautiful weather, a wonderful lake and excellent food. The water was a little murky due to two days of rain, however it was still very clear by North Texas standards.

Some members fished from kayaks or johnboats, while others fished from the shore. Most people caught something, either bass or perch. The bass were found deep in the rocks or grass and were caught on streamer flies. Rumor has it that the wacky worm was effective too.



Even though the fish didn't bite well, the fly fishers did. They were treated to home cooking by Liz Davis and Dan Tatum. They served a burrito bar with many choices including taco

meat, grilled chicken, grilled corn, fresh veggies and topped with a homemade Mango Salsa made by Liz Davis. Life was very good that day.

If you didn't make the trip, be sure to check out the lake on your own. It's a great place to kayak or bank fish. It's open all year except Christmas day. They have a great swimming area. Also, there are many picnic areas with BBQ grills available. There are many parking places close to the lake. There are public restrooms which are cleaned daily. So, it's a great place to bring your family.

If you missed this trip, no worries. Keep an eye on the calendar for more upcoming events at the link below:

[Wheeler Branch Reservoir](#)

Llano River

Well the May outing is winding down as we are beginning to return home, with some taking the long route home to enjoy more food and purchasing adult beverages!!

With a risky forecast, we trudged on not knowing how the weather and conditions would play out. Well, we were greeted with a rough night of storms with a tornado near by and tennis ball size hail near by as well. Sirens going off and heavy rain!! We weathered that storm to awake to high water and very muddy water. We met as a group trying to decide what our options were after driving around locally viewing conditions.



After reviewing the map one more time and seeing where the heavy rain fell the night before, a thought came to mind to go out past the rivers feeder creeks and search for clearer water. BINGO!! Clearer water was found so back to town to rent kayaks and gather up our gear, or at least most of us had gear!! And lunches!!!

We finally got on the water sometime after 10am, and the Guadalupe bass, Largemouth bass, Bluegill, Red Breast Sunfish, Green Sunfish and even catfish welcomed us!! Many, many fish were caught and rapids were run, sometimes successfully!!



Sometimes it just seems to workout and that's exactly what happened on this outing.

Till the next one and who knows how that one will turn out!!



The weather was actually fantastic!! Winds at our back and overcast all day with a few sprinkles. Very enjoyable!! A wonderful day of floating and fun with friends!!

After a quick cleanup it was off to eat some local pizza!! The food and service was great at Pizza Junction, and all of us enjoyed the time with each other.



FFI Fly Casting Skills and Development Program

Tuesday, September 3

Want to be a better fly caster? Improve your fly fishing experience and success? Want to be with a group all working together, to achieve new levels of experience? Then the FFI Fly Casting Skills and Development Program is for you!!

Then join the club for the KICKOFF of the Skills program for the club. Other clubs across the state are seeing great involvement from their members during the program, with good reviews. Members are improving their casting and catching more fish!! We will meet earlier in the day, to get in as much casting training during the daylight. We will have two sessions, with one beginning at **4:00 pm**, and the second session starting at **6:00 pm**. This will give us better engagement with the groups. Bring your own rod, or use one of the clubs. It's up to you. There will also be retail companies present to let us try the rods that are on the market for purchase.

The casting clinic will be near the Panther Pavilion area off of Peach Street. Once in the parking lot, go East under the N Henderson Street Bridge to the Heritage Park area. The gate will be open for us to enter into the park.

We will be discussing the Casting Program in the upcoming meetings, and highly suggest if you are interested, to begin reviewing the program on the FFI website. You will need to log in to access the material, and then access this page.

<https://www.flyfishersinternational.org/Learn/Learning-Center-Resources/Fly-Casting/Skills-Drills/Fly-Casting-Skills-Development>

There will be a group of more experienced casters meeting during the summer, to be able to get ready to be instructors for you the member. If you would like to be one of the initial instructors, please reach out to:

Russell Husted

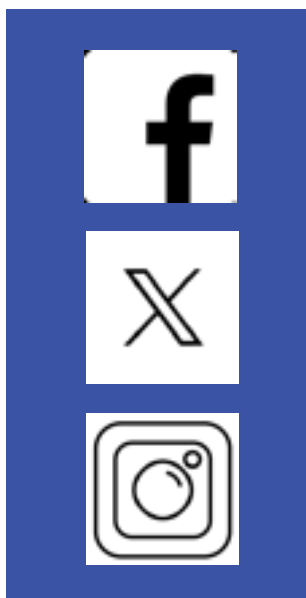
russellhusted@sbcglobal.net

682-261-1702

This is a chance for you the member, to become a better caster, fly fisher, and make some new friends along the way. We hope that many of you take advantage of the Casting Program, and take your level of experience to another level.

Welcome to our newest members to the club!

Please welcome our newest members: Phil Brewer, Vincent Brown, Drew Chumley, David Conn, David Hanson, Britton Dow, Robert Dow, Dwayne Thompson, Micheal Elling, David Flurry, Charlee Hagan, Steve Hardman, Glenn Ralin Hardy, Phil, Theresa and Clair Kauffman, James Lough, Diana McClure, Kelly Jo Smith, Roger and Melissa Smith, Yancy Smith, Bill Stewart, David Tovar, and Philip Youngblood.



Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to keep up-to-date on all our activities.

As a member of Fort Worth Fly Fishers you are part of Fly Fishers International and have access to exclusive features and content.

- The New Learning Center
- The Flyfisher magazine
- The Tying Times newsletter and Fly of the Month
- The Loop - The Journal of Fly Casting Professionals
- The Fly Tying Video Library (over 300 videos)!
- Exclusive Discounts on Hotels, Car Rentals and Insurance
- Searchable Casting, Fly Tyingm Guide and Club Directories
- Fun Fly Tying and Casting Challenges
- Discounted entry into FFI events
- FFI Decals and Patch

Fly of the Month: Cyclops Minnow Gurgler

Written, photographed, and created by: Michael Rios



- 3x long streamer hook size 2
- 6/0 or 136D thread
- Hedron Wing N' Flash
- Senyos laser dub, 3 clumps of white and 3 clumps of tan
- Medium Palmer Chenille, pearl
- 2mm foam
- 8mm eye
- super glue

Fly of the Month: Do you know someone who you think should be featured in the Fly of the Month? If so, feel free to refer them.

For questions contact Michael at coolimanjaro217@gmail.com.



1. Secure hook in the vise and cut off a sparse pinch of the Wing n Flash. Tie it in level with the hook point and tie rearwards until you hit the bend of the hook. Bring your thread back to the hook point.



4. This fly will require 6 clumps of laser dubbing. You will pull out a clump, hold it firmly in your fingers. Then you will brush it out to get all your fibers straight. This fly can be made in any color you'd like.



2. Cut a 2" x 1/2" strip of foam and cut a taper on one of the ends.



5. Rotate your vise so the bend of the hook is facing you. Tie in a tan clump of dubbing from the end of the clump, rearwards, just shy of the foam.



3. Secure the foam to the hook with the tapered end.



6. Repeat step 5 with a clump of white laser dubbing on the opposite side of the shank.

Fly of the Month: Cyclops Minnow Gurgler - continued



7. Tie in the palmer chenille and make 6 loose wraps up the shank.



12. Bring your thread in front of the clumps and build a thread dam. This will keep the fibers rearward.



8. Rotate the hook again where the bend is facing you and tie another clump of tan in front of the palmer chenille.



13. Bring your foam strip forward and secure down right in front of where you tied off your dubbing.



9. Repeat step 8 with the white dubbing.



14. Fold the tag end of the foam and fold it back over itself and secure down.



10. With your final clump of tan dubbing, you will tie immediately in front of the previous set, however you will tie this clump in from about 1/3 way up the clump.



15. Bring the thread under the foam and build a thread dam. From there you can whip finish your fly.



11. Repeat this step with the white dubbing.



16. Rotate the fly so that the hook bend is facing you once again and glue your eye. Your fly is finished.

Fort Worth Fly Fishers Board Members

Position	Name	Term
President	Kay Jackson	2024-25
VP Programs	Open	
Vice President	Brett Morehead	2024-25
Auctions/Raffles	Bill Hodges	2024-25
At-Large	Don Irwin	2024-25
Communications	Laura Durden	2024-25
Conservation	Alan Phillips	2024-25
Education	Russell Husted	2024-25
Fly Tying	Michael Rios	2024-25
Legal	Mike Nelson	2023-24
Membership	Barry Clark	2023-24
Outings	Daniel Tatum	2024-25
Secretary	George Prochaska	2023-24
Social media	Cody Weaver	2024-25
Treasurer	Liz Davis	2024-25



FWFF
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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