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## Message From the President

How can it already be JULY? That means Christmas is only 178 days or less away? Sorry—I couldn't resist!

July is the height of summer fishing! Don't let the hot Texas temps scare you away. It just means you need to adjust your schedule and fishing strategies. Getting up before dawn to be on the water at sunrise, while casting some poppers, is a great time as well as an hour before sunset...and even after dark (wear your headlamp). Both "golden hours" can reap fun benefits.

But for those who are fortunate to head to cooler areas out West or in the Northeast are the lucky ones. So are those members going on the South Fork, CO trip mid-month. I made that trip three years ago. What a beautiful and fun place with so many places to fish.

For those who aren't travelling this month, our July club meeting is THE place to be. We have some long-time members with years of fly fishing experience sharing their knowledge about how to keep you safe on and in the water. Our special speaker will be Ryan Husted, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service. He will be discussing of all things – the weather – which is VITALLY important to keep in mind when you're planning to go fishing for an hour, a day or a week. He will share what to look for in changing weather patterns and conditions.

I hope everyone's fishing adventures, whatever that might be, is your "Christmas in July"!

Kay Jackson



# SUMMER MONTHS ACTIVITIES

Club, hope your summer is off to a good start, and there are plans to go fishing in cooler environments!! But that doesn't mean you can't still attend our Educational Series of meetings we have planned for you. Yes we are taking a break from having our traditional meeting with having a speaker, but you won't want to miss what we have planned for you.

## July Meeting

Our topic is safety outdoors. With so many new members, and current members that could use a refresher, safety is such an important part in regards to the outdoor experience. Our club is so fortunate to have a safety first mentality, and we are excited to share this with you the member. Fly Fishers International has a very detailed safety document that is located in the Learning Center, that we will be using as the source of information. Due to a limited amount of time, we will be covering key topics, and will start the meeting with a special informative session about Weather and the Outdoors, which will be presented by Head Meteorologist from NOAA, Ryan Husted.

Download the [FFI Safety Document](#).

After hearing about weather, Liz Davis will cover First Aid and Being Prepared for the Outdoors Experience. Liz has covered this material before, and did so well in doing that, so you don't want to miss that. We will then break into groups and have more rotating sessions, led by additional experts, that will better prepare us for the adventures we will have in the future. Here is the outline for the meeting:

- Weather Conditions and Awareness – Ryan Husted, Warning Coordination Meteorologist
- First Aid and Preparedness and Staying Hydrated – Liz Davis

### Stations

- Potential Danger and Hook Safety – Les Jackson
- Watercraft Safety – Cody Weaver
- Wading Safely – Stephen Woodcock
- Fish Safety - Keira Quam

## August Meeting

Will be all about fly tying. You won't want to miss this one, especially if you are into tying flies. Michael Rios, the Fly Tying Director, will be leading us in tying up some patterns for the beginning tier, and also on some more advanced patterns, that will definitely help you in the pursuit of bass, and other game fish. Michael has only been tying for a few years, but is such a great tier, that you will be able to learn so much, in the time he shares with us.

## September Meeting

During this session, we will be covering the FFI's Casting Skills Development Program. There has been a group working through the program, and getting certified on specific levels, to help you become a better caster / angler. These sessions have been led by our own Casting Instructor Bob Garber, and he will be here to lead and assist us in this great program.

For more information, visit the [FFI Casting Skills Development Program](#).

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 drive through down to the pavilion.

See map for [Casting Clinic](#).

Look forward to seeing you at these meetings, and reach out if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Russell Husted  
Education Director Fort Worth Fly Fishers

## Guest Speakers

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

If so, contact our [president@fortworthflyfishers.org](mailto:president@fortworthflyfishers.org)

# FWFF CLUB ACTIVITIES

DATE	EVENT/DESTINATION/CONTACT
Saturday, July 13-20	Colorado Trip, questions reach out to Russell Husted via russellhusted@sbcglobal.net
Saturday, July 27	LBJ Grasslands 101, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org
Saturday, September 7	FWFF Auction, questions reach out to Bill Hodges via email bcolhodes@aol.com
Saturday, September 20-22	Central Texas Trip, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org
Friday, October 25-27	Bill Ward's, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org
Tuesday, December 3	Christmas Party
Friday, December 6	Blue River, questions reach out to Dan Tatum via Outings@FortWorthFlyFishers.org

## Colorado Trip, July 13-20

Colorado Trip Goers!!! While the trip to Colorado is not a club sanctioned event, there will still be an opportunity for you to enjoy a trip with participants from our and other clubs across the state. This year we will be going from July the 13th through the 20th of July. You can come and go as you please. Arrangements are to be made by you, but assistance is available. I will be hosting a zoom call on the 9th of July to discuss the trip. So if you plan on attending the trip, you might want to join in.

Topic: Colorado Trip Update

Time: July 9, 2024 07:00 PM CDT+

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 856 1435 0672

Passcode: ivs8GN

If you cannot make this trip, you still might want to join, and use this information on your own adventure.

Hope to see you on the call, Russell Husted.

## LBJ Grasslands, July 27

The club's July outing will be held at Black Creek Lake in the LBJ National Grasslands north of Decatur. The 20,313-acre LBJ Grasslands Unit is an under utilized nature area that is only an hour drive from downtown Fort Worth.

This area was once a "Dust Bowl" site during the Depression when people swept bushel baskets of sand from the floors of their homes and animals were suffocated or blinded by "black blizzard" sand storms.

Today this U.S. Forest Service-managed area has been restored with tall grass, heavily vegetated woods,

and multiple lakes that fish well. It is not unusual to spot wild turkey and deer when you visit the grasslands.

The 35-acre Black Creek Lake will be our destination. This is an outing where a kayak, canoe, boat or float tube will come in handy. There is limited bank fishing. The lake has a concrete boat ramp, restrooms, picnic area and camping sites. Day use is \$2 a day and camping is \$10 a day, though National Forest Golden Passports and America The Beautiful Passes are honored there. There is a self-pay station at the northeast corner of the lake, so bring correct cash and a ball point pen.

Targeted fish species will be largemouth bass and bream (blue gill & greenies), with catfish, carp and crappie also in the mix. Five-weight and six-weight rods and floating lines are sufficient, although you may want a sinking line to fish the dam area on the east side of the lake.

Suggested flies for bass are mouse patterns (Polk's Dirty Rat & deer hair mouse patterns), gurglers, olive & white Woolly Buggers, and Clouser Minnows. Productive bream flies include poppers (Boogle Bug & Miss Prissy), Jitter Bee, Briminator, Cap Spider and Carter's Rubber-Legged Dragon

If you are ambitious, you may also want to try Cottonwood Lake (40 acres), which is only about a 15-minute drive north of Black Creek Lake. Cottonwood has a concrete boat ramp, but no other amenities. There is no fee to use Cottonwood Lake as all lakes in the LBJ National Grasslands are free with the exception of Black Creek Lake.

Dan will be at the pay station by 7 a.m. to give directions and answer questions. Pack a lunch and come enjoy the fishing and scenery!

### DIRECTIONS

The GPS Coordinates are: 33.34268300, -97.59699500

1. From Fort Worth, take U.S. Hwy. 287 north to Decatur.
2. Go east on U.S. Hwy. 380 for less than a mile.
3. Go north on FM 730 (N. Trinity Street) and continue for 3.1 miles (you will pass the Decatur Municipal Airport).
4. Turn left (northwest) on County Road 2360 and continue



for 3.5 miles.

5. Turn left (west) on CR 2372 and continue for 0.3 miles.
6. Turn right (north) on CR 2461 and continue for 0.5 miles.
7. Turn left (west) on Forest Service Road 902 and continue 0.5 miles to the destination.

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/10158653>

## 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, fly-fishing 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 fly-fishing 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 or [bcolhodges@aol.com](mailto:bcolhodges@aol.com).

## Central Texas, September 20-22

The September outing will be in Central Texas. On September 20-22, the FWFF will be going to Round Rock Texas to fish the local rivers there. Living Waters Fly shop will help us with the event. On Friday evening we will meet at the Living Waters fly shop for a briefing and refreshments. Chris will give us locations and instructions for fishing over the weekend. The shop will be open so we can purchase things.

You may choose to book a guide from Living Waters on Friday or Saturday. They usually don't guide on Sundays. Each guide can take up to three people so you might go in with other fly fishers and reserve one. The guide service will be between you and them so please feel free to make your own arrangements. Right now they have openings but will be booked closer to

time, so they suggested go ahead and make your reservations. <http://livingwatersflyfishing.com/>

You are on your own for lodging, but there are many opportunities in the area. There are major chain hotels, bed and breakfasts, and camping nearby at Lake Georgetown Georgetown Lake, Texas - [Recreation.gov](http://Recreation.gov)

We will meet Saturday night at a local restaurant TBD to recap the day. This is an exciting trip for our club. There are different local rivers to choose from and different species of fish to mark of your list. FWFF contact is Dan Tatum, 682-201-6113 or [tatum.daniel@yahoo.com](mailto:tatum.daniel@yahoo.com).

## Christmas Party, December 3

We are looking for a volunteer to head up the Christmas Party!!! On the first Tuesday of December, rather than a traditional meeting we put on a celebration for our club members. This is a perfect chance to showcase your skills and earn VIP Points!!!

If you are interested, contact Kay Jackson, President of FWFF and let her know.

## In Loving Memory, James Parker

The late James Parker, who passed away from Covid in 2021. He was a great bass fisherman and friend. Our plaque to him at Bill Ward's ranch will remain there forever. He always caught the most bass for the fish fry and also entertained us there with his many different flying machines. R.I.P, John.



## FISHING REPORTS

### Bailey Lake

Earlier this month, we had a great fly-fishing 101 outing at Bailey Lake in Burleson. A total of 20 people showed up, with many of them being new to fly fishing. Russell Husted did an amazing job helping people with casting. He spent all morning in the sun teaching. Several people had never cast a fly rod so



he was able to instruct them from the beginning. Several more needed tips on improving casting.

A lot of people enjoyed fishing in the lake. Some fish were caught. Everyone who showed up had a good time.

Afterwards, a small group met at Miranda's restaurant and were treated to delicious Tex-mex. We had great food and great conversations.

### Clyde's Excellent Adventure

One of our younger members, Clyde Tindell, embarked this summer on his five-week fly fishing adventure and road trip of a lifetime.

His first stop were the wonderful rivers and streams of Northern New Mexico where he caught his first Rio Grand Cutthroat trout. After that, no looking back.

According to his mother, Aubree, he and his grandmother are on a road trip to Yellowstone National Park. His fishing itinerary along the way includes: San Juan River tailwaters, Chaco Canyon NHP, Hovenweep, the Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP, Flaming Gorge NRA, Fossil Butte, Kemmerer,

WY to fish the upper Green River and then Yellowstone.

On the way home, he is meeting his parents in South Fork, CO and the rest of the FWFF club members on the outing, beginning July 13.



### Mike Nelson, Gilbert Arkansas

New members, Lesa Blakey and Bill Huber, snatched up a guided fishing trip last year at the annual auction to raise money for the club. All enjoyed a perfect weekend of fly-fishing in Gilbert, Arkansas, population 26, with our gracious FWFF host, Mike Nelson who guided us down the Buffalo National River. We had a blast on kayaks & canoeing this beautiful river, a true





# Fly of the Month: Bluegill Underspin

Written, photographed, and created by: Michael Rios



- Ahrex PR378 size 2
- 3/16" Tungsten bead
- 1.5" section Senyo's Intruder Wire
- Size 2 Willow blade
- Size 10 barrel swivel
- 6mm split rings
- 6/0 Florescent Orange Thread
- Super glue or UV Resin
- Olive Copper Polar Chenille
- Carnivore Dubbing in Bluegill
- Predator Dubbing in Fat Cat Brown, Bluegill De Morris, Olive
- Senyos Laser Dubbing, Florescent Orange
- DeadMeat Customs Madtown Eyes 10mm or any 10mm Eye
- Black Permanent Marker
- Olive Permanent Marker
- Split ring pliers



1. Secure the hook into the vise hookpoint down.



2. On the angled section of the hook, start your thread and cover that angled section of hook shank.



3. Tie down your wire to the thread wraps you just made on the 3/16" bead.



4. Slide over your assembled spinner behind the bead. (split ring, willow blade, barrel swivel).



5. Thread the wire back through the hole of the bead and tie down the tag end with some super glue so that the wire is firmly secured. Switch your hook, hookpoint up now.



6. Cover your thread wraps with super glue or UV Resin.

## Fly of the Month: Bluegill Underspin - continued



7. You need FOUR sparse clumps of dubbing, one clump of each of the colors.



11. On top of the shank, in front of the Polar Chenille, you will tie down the clump of olive in the middle of the clump. Repeat this with the Fat Cat Brown right below it.



8. The first clump is the Bluegill Carnivore dubbing, it goes on top of the hook shank.



12. Fold 2 clumps of dubbing rearward making 4 thread wraps. Straighten a small clump of Florescent Orange laser dub and tie it in the same way you tied in the last 2 clumps of dubbing. You want the orange Dubbing directly in front of the Fat Cat Brown Dubbing as this will act as the throat of the fly.



9. The 2nd clump of dubbing is the chartreuse looking, Bluegill de Morris tied directly under the first clump.



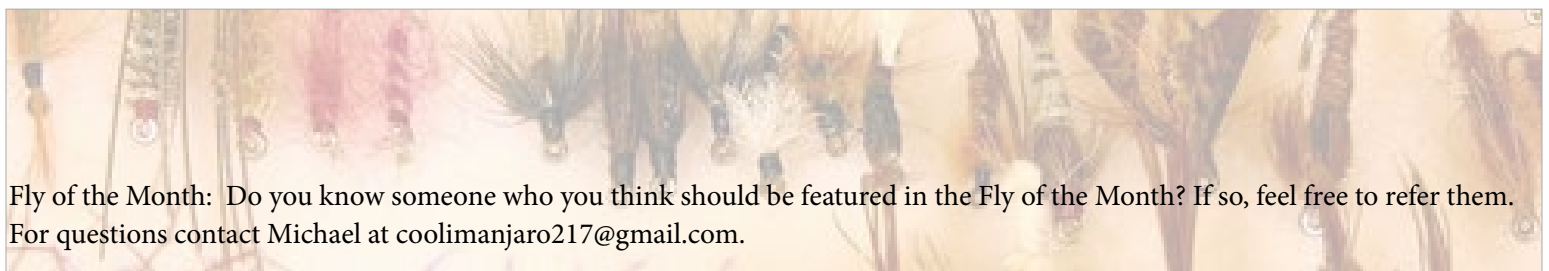
13. Secure the eye to the fly with superglue or UV resin.



10. In front of the dubbing, secure the Polar Chenille and make 2 full touching wraps. Tie down and cut off the excess.



14. Use your black Marker to make the ear flap right behind the eye. Use the Olive Marker to make vertical barring. I like to make 4 bars about 1/2" from each other starting through the ear flap. Your fly is done.



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](mailto:coolimanjaro217@gmail.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

*Orvis Fort Worth*  
4601 West Freeway #310  
682-703-7675

Open fly tying at 6 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month. Bring your own vise and materials. Also, in June only, Fly Fishing 101, Saturdays 9 -11 a.m. Must register online. Free.

### Grapevine

*Hop & Stink Brewery*  
906 Jean Street, Grapvine, TX 76051

The second Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. Michael Tulowitski leads a fly tying class for all levels. All materials will be supplied.

### Arlington

*Arlington Vise Squad, Mixed Up Burgers*  
510 East Avenue K, Grand Prairie  
972-606-6700

Thursday nights, with dinner and drinks starting at about 5:30 p.m. and tying about 6:30 p.m. This event is usually led by a rotating cast of FWFF members who provide materials, but participants should bring their own vise and tools. It meets in a semi-private room, pictured above.

### Online

*The Roadkill Roundtable via Zoom*

Free ZOOM demonstrations are hosted by Jack Gillis, FWFF president, and include experienced and well-known fly tyers, including Dutch Baughman, Fred DuPre', Dave Boyer, Eric Austin, Al and Gretchen Beatty. Meetings start at 7 p.m. Contact Jack at [jackgillis@outlook.com](mailto:jackgillis@outlook.com) to register without cost.



## 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  
 P.O. Box 1133  
 Fort 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