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Message From the President

While it's November heading on into December, the board is busy planning year-end activities.

Holiday Party

Our annual holiday party is on Tuesday, December 2, at the Levitt Pavilion Party Room in Arlington (same place as last year). We are creating a special presentation to mark our club's 40th anniversary, featuring photos submitted by our members.

If you have photos from outings or club events over the past years, please send them to Russell (RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net) by November 20 at the latest. We're also accepting any photos from your 2025 fishing adventures. Is there a memorable trip or fish you want to share with the club? Please send.

I'd also like to hear from all of you past presidents. Please email me at president@fortworthflyfishers.org with the years you served.

We will have a gift exchange for those who want to participate. Bring a gift worth \$25 and exchange it for another! No gag gifts—something you'd like to receive is what to give.

Membership

It's time to renew your club membership for 2026. You can do so on the website. Please note, there is an option to auto-renew your membership so you don't have to think about it in the future. Club dues will remain the same.

Programs

Please let George Prochaska or me know if you have ideas for speakers in 2026. Perhaps you've been to an area and fished with a guide service that you think other club members would like to know about? Is there a fly-fishing author or YouTube personality that we can learn from? Are there other related topics of interest, such as photography or conservation? Let us know!

We have a strong club, and we always want to hear from our members how we can continue providing the services you want and appreciate.

Thank you!
Kay Jackson, [President](#)



Guest Speakers

January, Ryan Rogers



Join us for the January Club Meeting on January 6 at 7 PM, where Ryan Rogers from Texas Parks and Wildlife will share insights into the trout stocking process. It's a tough job, and we're grateful for the work they do to keep our waters thriving.

Ryan is a Texas native who has

spent most of his life living somewhere along the Brazos River. After graduating from Tarleton State University with a B.S. in Freshwater Ecology, he has spent the last 18 years working for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Inland Fisheries helping make fishing better for all Texans. He's bringing that knowledge of fish, water, aquatic systems, and commercial scale animal production to help you find the right land, ranch, or recreational property. Whether your goal is cattle production, a trophy bass pond, or relaxing by a fire at night and enjoying the sound of Texas nature, he'll help you find your place.

Ryan is an active member of the American Fisheries Society and serves as a board member of the Brazos Cleanup Project, an all-volunteer nonprofit whose mission is to keep the Brazos River clean and beautiful for future generations. If he's not producing fish or hunting around Texas for beautiful ranches, you can probably find Ryan at a local livestock show with his wife, daughter and one of her show Brahms.



February, Kelly Gallup

From a young age, Kelly was drawn to the art of fly fishing, and his enthusiasm only deepened over the years. His journey in the world of fly fishing has been marked by a commitment to mastering the craft

and a dedication to sharing his expertise with fellow enthusiasts.

In 1988, Kelly Galloup took a significant step in his career by becoming the owner and proprietor of Galloup's Slide Inn, a renowned fly fishing lodge located in Montana. The Slide Inn has become a haven for fly fishing enthusiasts, attracting people from all over the world who seek not only the thrill of the catch but also the immersive experience of being surrounded by nature.

Apart from his entrepreneurial ventures, Kelly has left an indelible mark as an author. His books, filled with insights, tips, and anecdotes from his own experiences, have become invaluable resources for both novice and seasoned anglers. Kelly's ability to articulate the intricacies of fly fishing has earned him a reputation as a leading authority in the field.

March, Doc Thompson



Doc started High Country Anglers in 1995 thinking he could make a living as a fly fishing guide in New Mexico. Thousands of guide trips later he is still alive and guiding. Doc worked many summers at the Philmont Scout Ranch in the 1980s and early 1990s then

moved to New Mexico after graduating from the University of Missouri. He started HCA based on his passion for fly fishing, trout, and New Mexico; all with customer service.

Doc's patience, calm demeanor, fun nature and professionalism are reasons he has many returning customers to fly fish in New Mexico. He loves to boost the learning curve, share new tricks with "old dogs" and expand fly fishing horizons. It is often the experience and the journey of fishing that leads to the most memorable days. As Doc says, "All guides love to fish, but I also love to guide."

Doc is the longest operating Orvis Endorsed Fly Fishing Guide in New Mexico and is an Orvis Fly Tier-Designer. He has been honored as the Orvis Fly Fishing Guide of the Year and Orvis Fly Tier of the Year. He's been a finalist for the Orvis Fly Fishing Guide of the Year in 2012, 2014 and 2017. Doc

Guest Speakers cont.

presents seminars on fly fishing, fly selection and other programs to fly shops and fly fishing clubs throughout the country. Doc currently serves as President of the local Enchanted Circle Trout Unlimited and is Program Lead for Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Taos, NM.

April, Aaron Gordon



Aaron and Rachel's love of fly fishing and the beauty of the outdoors was engrained in them as children. Aaron's outdoor adventures began in childhood and continued as he pursued guiding Colorado rivers at age eighteen. Rachel learned to tie flies on her father's lap before

kindergarten and started managing his fly-fishing business before she graduated college. Aaron and Rachel spent their honeymoon floating and fishing the Flaming Gorge of the Green River, then they settled into a mountaintop fire lookout cabin for their first "home." They made Sandpoint, Idaho, home twenty years ago

and have fallen in love with the mountains and rivers of this beautiful region. Aaron has extensive experience guiding on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and the Main Salmon, the Kootenai, the Clark Fork as well as the Lochsa and Coeur d'Alene Rivers. Much of his free time is spent floating and fishing rivers closer to home, such as the Clark Fork and the Kootenai.

Aaron and Rachel have more recently focused on leading their own daughters, Addy and Emi, to love the outdoors as well. They take joy in skiing, hiking, fishing, and biking as a family. In 2017 Aaron and Rachel stumbled upon a McKenzie River wooden drift boat in need of major repair. They knew it would be the perfect boat to get their young family fishing together on the river. After restoring this boat and experiencing its beautiful craftsmanship and smoothness on the water, they dreamed of sharing the adventure beyond their family, and that dream blossomed into Long Drift Outfitters. The beauty and elegance of a classic wooden drift boat is the perfect match for fly fishing on the Kootenai River.

The Kootenai River is our main river that we enjoy fly fishing on in the northern Panhandle of Idaho. The Kootenai is often described as a hidden gem, which means you won't be crowded by other anglers while fishing the river. The Kootenai holds Redband Rainbow Trout, Cutthroat Trout, and Bull Trout. The river also holds Kokanee, Burbot and Sturgeon. The river is a classic dry-fly fishery that is best fished from a drift boat due to its size.

Fort Worth Fly Fishers Volunteers Needed

Fly Fishers could use your help in keeping our great club going strong. Volunteering is an enriching experience, especially when you do it while enjoying something you really like. If you are passionate about our club and have a special talent that could benefit us, please let us know. We are currently working to fill key positions vital to our success.

If interested, please get in touch with any of us on the nominating committee.

Russell Husted | russellhusted@sbcglobal.net | (682) 261-1702

Brett Morehead | brett.j.morehead@gmail.com | (817) 368-3808

Cynthia Casados | ckcasados@yahoo.com | (302) 690-1129

We would really appreciate your service and time. Thanks, Fort Worth Fly Fishers

FWFF CLUB ACTIVITIES

DATE	ACTIVITY / CONTACT INFORMATION
Saturday, November 29	Casting Clinic / Russell Husted / RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net or 682-261-1702
Tuesday, December 2	Christmas Party / Kay Jackson / President@FortWorthFlyFishers.org or 817-658-3004
Saturday, December 6	River Access Clean Up / Paul Lund /
Saturday, January 17	Trout 101 Outing / Russell Husted / RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net or 682-261-1702
Saturday, March 14	Trinity Fly Fest

Casting Clinic, November 29

The Fort Worth Fly Fishers will continue our increasingly popular casting clinics on November 29th, starting at 10 am at High Oak Park. The club members who have been participating in the program have benefited from the expert assistance provided by many FFI Casting Instructors. Not only have they become better casters, but also better anglers, which is the basis of the program.

The club will continue the casting clinics this year and into 2026. There is still time to join the fun and expand your casting journey!!! No better way to start than to review the entire program when visiting the FFI's website. Learn about the program. See videos on ALL of the programs' casting techniques, and more!!

[Fly Fishers International Casting Education](#)

Russell Husted, Education Director

682-261-1702 | RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net

Trout Time in Texas!, January 17

Winter is here, and that means one thing for fly fishing enthusiasts—it's Trout Time! The Texas Parks and Wildlife trout stocking schedule has been released, and we couldn't be more excited to hit the water.

Stocking Details:

The Possum Kingdom tailrace area near the Highway 16 Bridge offers one of the most natural trout fishing experiences in Texas. This spot has been a favorite for the Fort Worth Fly Fishers for years, and we'll be back again this season.

First Stocking: December 4

Frequency: Every two weeks (mostly Thursdays)

Total Trout: Approximately 9,000 will be stocked this season!

Mark your calendars for these NO CHORES DAYS and get ready for some incredible fishing.

Kickoff Event:

Join us for the January Club Meeting on January 6 at 7 PM, where Ryan Rogers from Texas Parks and Wildlife will share insights into the trout stocking process. It's a tough job, and we're grateful for the work they do to keep our waters thriving.

Trout 101 Outing:

On January 17, meet us at the Highway 16 Bridge for Trout 101—a hands-on session to help you start your trout fishing journey.

Time: Lunch begins at 12 PM

What to Bring: Your rod and reel (or we'll help you out!)

Enjoy a quick bite, mingle with fellow anglers, and spend the day fishing. Stay tuned for more activities that may be added!

Volunteer Incentive Program (VIP)

It's time to take advantage of all the hard earned hours that you've accrued over the year, and turn in your VIP cards. If you didn't get some hours signed off, contact the board member or host that was leading the project/outing, and have them sign off The card.

Project leads, please let me know what you have been in charge of, so that you can get credit also. And, if it involved a few people, send me a List of volunteer's names and hours worked.

A photo of the card itself, or a screen shot works.

Either give them to me in person, or send them to the number below.

Don Irwin, VIP Coordinator

817-680-6421 | donirwin@mac.com

Annual Brazos River Cleanup

Saturday, November 15th was a fun and productive day at 6th Annual Brazos River Cleanup. Several club members arrived early at Hwy 16 bridge and took the opportunity to fish this beautiful section of the Brazos. We then transitioned to the cleanup event that started at 12:00. Hats off to Brazos Cleanup Project for hosting an excellent well run event. Conservation events on a favorite section of the Brazos river makes it easy for FWFF to support. Special thanks to Jim Smith, Keith McCorkie, Dick Quigley, Tom Parr, Don Irwin, Don Newport, Russell Husted and Paul Lund. SEE YOU ALL THERE NEXT YEAR!



TRWD Texas Arbor Day

Don Irwin recently represented our club at the TRWD Texas Arbor Day events on November 7th and 14th.

During these volunteer days, Don helped plant new trees that will support the health of our local waterways, improve habitat, and enhance the natural beauty of Fort Worth.

We appreciate Don's commitment to conservation and his willingness to give back to the community on behalf of the club. Thank you, Don, for your time, energy, and continued support of our mission.



Coastal Outing, Follow Up



We had an amazing trip to the coast. Port Aransas has beautiful inland fisheries. The wildlife you can see is incredible.

Several of the members hired Ron Livingston as a guide on Thursday and did very well. Friday was spent at the lighthouse lakes where many fish were caught. Saturday the group went to Wilson's Cut where everyone caught fish. It was an amazing day.

Saturday evening our trip host, Brian Loria, treated us to a Louisiana style shrimp boil. He's a great cook and the food was amazing. It was a great time for everyone there. We all hung out and shared our favorite parts of the trip.

The weather was good. It was a bit windy on Thursday and Friday but Saturday morning was perfect. Light wind and warm sun made fishing enjoyable. By Sunday morning the front has blown down there and the wind on the water was probably 40 miles per hour, so there was no fishing on Sunday.

If you've never caught a redfish on a fly rod, add the coast trip to your calendar in 2026. You'll be happy you did.

Colorado Trip, July 11-18, 2026 NEW LOCATION!!!!

Club, it is NOT TOO early to start making your plans for the annual summer Colorado trip, July 11-18 in South Fork, Colorado. After unfavorable lodging circumstances we have had the last few years, WE ARE NOW STAYING AT A NEW LOCATION!!! Rooms have been reserved for us, so we kindly request that you start booking for next year. If we DO NOT fill up the allotment of rooms, a charge will be made for the rooms that were not reserved, and we DO NOT want that. Trust me on this. We have been going to South Fork and lodging there for quite a few years now. This is not a club-sponsored event, but we always have a wonderful time. As your host, I will provide assistance with lodging, address your trip needs, and offer information on the best fishing locations for you and your group. We will be staying at the [LOGE](#), which is located just across from our favorite place, Rachel's Food Truck. The place to be in South Fork. LOL. There, you can reserve a lodge room or bring your RV. It's best to travel and lodge as a group. It's not a bad idea to start arranging your travel now by sharing a ride. It's a long day if you choose to drive it in one go, or you can split it up with stops in Amarillo, Dumas, or Raton, N.M. This is a come-and-go trip. You can pretty much make your schedule. This year, there was a below-average amount of snowfall, and river flows were low; temperatures did exceed a trout-friendly range. Hoping for much better conditions, and an end to the drought in 2026!!

South Fork is not the only area we fish. Creede, to the north, and Pagosa Springs to the southwest across the scenic Wolf Creek Pass, are great options as well. Within reach are the San Juan and Arkansas rivers, which are great destinations as well. The Rio Grande is one of the favorite spots, but there are so many small creeks around, with small trout waiting for your tiny dry flies! There are many other things to do besides fishing if you wish. I suggest checking the Chamber of Commerce for any questions you may have. There are also several professional guides serving the area. Let me know if you'd like to attend. Please RSVP to me if you haven't already and are making plans to do so.

Russell Husted, Education Director

682-261-1702 | RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net

Casting for Recovery: A Day of Healing and Hope on the Water

There's something truly special about volunteering—the sense that, in some small way, you've made a difference. On Sunday, November 16th, that feeling was alive and well as we joined Casting for Recovery for the closing day of their Fall Retreat.

For those unfamiliar, Casting for Recovery is a remarkable non-profit organization that introduces women affected by breast cancer to the art of fly fishing. It's more than just fishing—it's about healing, connection, and rediscovering joy in nature. You can learn more about their mission [here](#).

This retreat culminated in a day on the water, and I had the privilege of joining fellow volunteers Don Irwin and Zane Moore as fishing buddies. We were paired with three incredible women whose enthusiasm was contagious. After a warm welcome and quick introductions, we geared up for what promised to be an unforgettable experience.

The weather couldn't have been better—sunny and warm for mid-November—perfect for wading into the water and casting lines. The ladies were eager to learn, laugh, and, of course, catch some fish! Watching their excitement as they mastered the rhythm of casting and felt the tug of a fish on the line was inspiring. It wasn't just about fishing; it was about empowerment, resilience, and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

As the day wound down, it was clear that this retreat was more than an event—it was a celebration of strength and hope. We left the water with full hearts, grateful for the opportunity to share in such a meaningful experience.

Interested in getting involved? Visit Casting for Recovery to learn how you can volunteer, donate, or spread the word about this incredible organization.

It's Time to Renew Your Membership—Don't Forget to Log In and Pay Your Dues!

As we prepare for another great year of fishing, learning, and community, we want to remind all Fort Worth Fly Fishers members to **log in to your account and renew your membership for the upcoming year**. Your support keeps our programs strong—from monthly speakers and education classes to conservation projects and outings across Texas and beyond.

How to Renew:

1. Visit the club website and **log in to your member account**.
2. Go to the **My Account** section.
3. Follow the prompt **Renew, Upgrade or Update Billing** to pay your annual dues.

Renewing only takes a minute, and it ensures you continue receiving all member benefits, including newsletters, events, and outings.

Make Renewals Even Easier: Select Auto Renew

This year, members can also choose to **enable auto renew** during checkout. Auto renew keeps your membership active automatically each year—no reminders, no missed deadlines, and no interruptions in your access to club activities.

You remain in full control and can turn it off anytime through your account.

Why Your Renewal Matters

Your dues directly support:

- Conservation and education programs
- Guest speakers and monthly meetings
- Local and destination outings
- Club operations run entirely by volunteers

We appreciate your continued involvement and support. Let's make the upcoming year our best yet!

If you need help logging in or updating your membership, email membership@fortworthflyfishers.org or reach out to any board member.

Fly of the Month: Balanced Bass Leech

Written and photographed by: Russell Husted

We all know Bass love Leeches and Worms. Especially when the Leech is in a swimming motion. The Balanced Bass Leech will do just that!!



Materials:

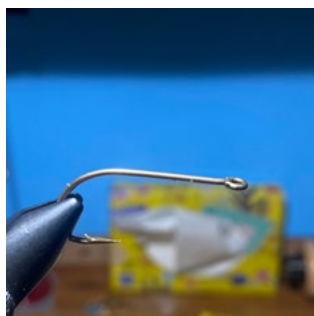
- Eagle Claw Plain Shank Hook Size 1
- Picture Frame Nails Size 3/4 Inch
- Small Black Thread
- Black Bead Head
- Black Rabbit Strip
- Black Rubber Legs
- Black EP Fiber Wire Brush
- Super Glue



1. No need to use expensive hooks. I use Eagle Claw hooks. Rumor has it they only cost 10 cents a hook!! That's 50 for \$5!! A TRUE Bargain!!



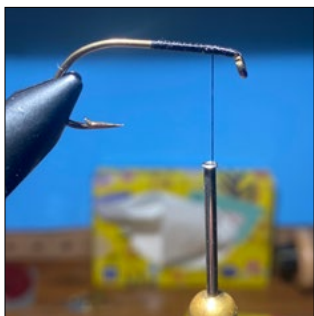
4. Have some picture frame nails readily available. Use the 3/4-inch nails.



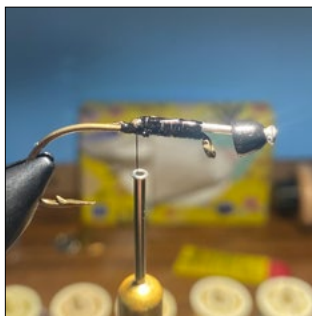
2. Put the hook in the vice, and then give it a bend at the eye, with a set of pliers. Now you have a jig hook.



5. Insert the nail through a black bead head. Wrap the nail onto the hook with the thread. Secure well. Leave a 1/4 gap from the bead head, to the eye of the hook.

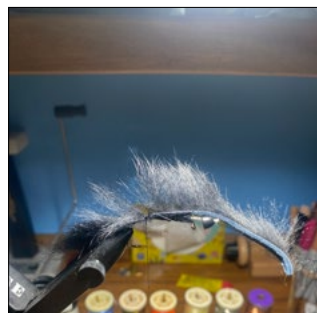


3. Wrap some thread on the hook.



6. Put super glue on the wraps of thread over the nail.

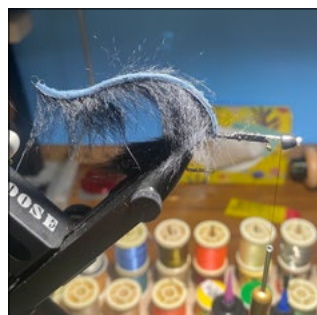
Fly of the Month: Balanced Bass Leech - continued



7. Wrap the thread back to the bend of the hook, and tie in a long strip of black rabbit.



11. Palmer the wire brush onto the hook, between the bead head, and the eye of the hook, and secure. Pull the wire brush fibers back, and then whip finish the fly.



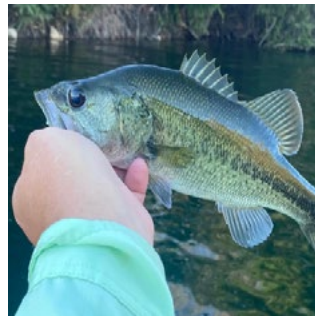
8. Pull the rabbit strip back, and wrap thread up to the gap between the bead head, and the eye of the hook.



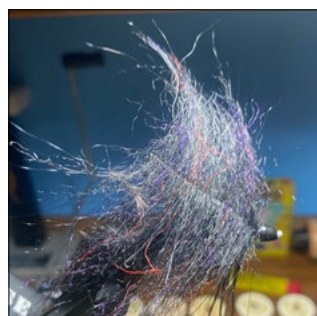
12. Tie on some tippet and check to see that it is indeed finished.



9. Palmer the rabbit strip up along the hook, and up in between the bead head, and eye of the hook, and secure with thread. Then tie in two black rubber legs on both sides of the hook.



13. Then tie the fly behind a BIG popper, and GO FISH IT!!!!



10. Tie in a black EP Fiber wire brush.

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.



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.

Grapevine

Hop & Stink Brewery
906 Jean Street, Grapevine, 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.

Fort Worth Fly Fishers Board Members

Position	Name	Term
President	Kay Jackson	2024-25
VP Programs	George Prochaska	2025-26
Vice President	Brett Morehead	2024-25
Auctions/Raffles	Bill Hodges	2024-25
At-Large	Don Irwin	2024-25
Communications	Laura Durden	2024-25
Conservation	Paul Lund	2025-26
Education	Russell Husted	2024-25
Fly Tying	Michael Rios	2024-25
Legal	Mike Nelson	2023-24
Membership	Barry Clark	2024-25
Outings	Daniel Tatum	2024-25
Secretary	Jerri Meaux	2025-26
Social media	Cody Weaver	2024-25
Treasurer	Liz Davis	2024-25

Welcome our newest members!

James Bratton & Jennifer Gibbs



New here? Stay connected! We're always excited to have our members—especially new ones—join our events and outings.

Here's what to keep in mind: safety is our top priority, and everyone plays a part in it.

As the event or outing gets closer, watch your email for last-minute updates (and don't forget to check your spam folder just in case). Follow us on social media for news and reminders, and be sure to know who the host is and how to reach them.



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