

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 From the President
- 3 Bud Priddy Trip Report
- 3 Homer Martin July Outing
- 7 Medina River and Coastal Paddling update
- 9 Silent Auction Donation Letter
- 10 Silent Auction Bid Sheet



TWFF Business Update

Nominating committee:

Homer Martin outing is one of our best attended outings. We will be putting together a nominating committee to nominate candidates for next year's board. The nominating committee will have a list of candidates to propose by the Bandera/Medina River Trip. The membership will vote by the Coastal Paddling outing (email and those present) so the new officers can be announced and ready to hit the ground running for the January 2005 outing. If you would like to be a part of any of this as a committee member or an officer please contact any of the present officers.

TWFF Member meeting at Homer Martin is scheduled for 9am Sunday morning, July 11th

Silent Auction at Homer Martin Outing:

We are looking for donations for the silent auction at our Homer Martin Outing. There is a letter for sponsors at the back of this issue. Please feel free to use it when asking for donations. There is a bid sheet at the back of this issue, as well, for you to use if you donate items. Please complete them and send to Frances Hamm at fhamm@austin.rr.com.

Welcome Our New Members!

Patricia Downing, Rockwall, TX
Glenna and Mike Noret
(Family Membership), San Angelo, TX
Cynthia Jose-Sudds and Willard Sudds
(Family Membership), San Antonio, TX



*Bud Priddy Outing May 2004
Barbara and Rick Booth*



From the President

Sherri Ray

The Bud Priddy was another TWFF outing success. Thanks to Sheila Anderson and Barbara Booth for being our trip coordinators and taking care of the details for us. The Alamo Flyfishers President noted that the women got "skunked" for the first time. One of the Alamo Flyfishers (who also guides on the Nueces) won the tournament with 193 fish, a new Bud Priddy record. The largest bass was 18 inches. The area had received a lot of rain so the Nueces was higher than it had been in a while which enabled some of us to take a drift trip from the Dam to the FM 412 crossing which a wonderful trip and great fishing. The dinner was held at Casa Falcone, as usual, and awards and door prizes were given. Congratulations to Angela Mendoza for winning the largest door prize, which was a \$100.00 gift certificate to Academy.

A meeting was held on Sunday morning and various things were discussed to include the silent auction at Homer Martin and the Homer Martin accommodations. The cabins are already booked but there is tent camping available on the grounds with the cabins. There is a bathhouse right by the camping area and main house for any tent campers. Other accommodations are available and are/will be listed on our website and in this newsletter. One of the main topics of discussion was the upcoming election for 2005-2006 officers. Since Homer Martin is one of our best attended outings we will be putting together a nominating committee. The nominating committee will have a list of candidates to propose by the Bandera/Medina River Trip. The membership will vote by the Coastal Paddling outing (email and those present) so the new officers can be announced and ready to hit the ground running for the January 2005 outing. If you would like to be a part of any of this as a committee member or an officer please contact any of the present officers.

We discussed the date for the Bandera, Texas, Medina River trip and they are September 10, 11 and 12, 2004. Mary Rohrer tells us the dates for the Coastal Paddling Trip with Dr. Bill Harvey is set for October 22, 23 & 24th. These dates were picked due to the falling tide, which should provide the best fishing. We also discussed the fly rod that we received from FFF. The rod will be the incentive for everyone to be a paid member of TWFF by March 1, 2005. All paid members will be entered into a drawing for the rod and we will be selling additional raffle tickets to those members who would like to increase their chances. With summer starting, and some great trips ahead, the rest of this year appears to be a busy and fun time for TWFF.

The Texas Flyfishers will be holding the Redfish Rodeo, August 14th in Rockport, Texas. The "Rodeo" is not an official TWFF outing but if you are interested in fishing it contact me and perhaps we can get a group together to go and fish for fun and a good cause.

Please check out all details on outings in the newsletter and respond to the coordinators, if need be, information on how many people to accommodate is vital to provide a good trip for all. Please respond as quickly as you possibly can. Please don't forget to hit up your favorite shop for a donation to our auction and coordinate the information with Frances Hamm. Remember to thank your outing coordinators for the fine job(s) they do to make our trips enjoyable--they really work hard!!!.

FISH-ON,
Sherri





Bud Priddy One Fly Tournament – Trip Report

By Sheila Anderson

I arrived at Lost Canyon on Friday around 9:15pm Friday, and the mullet mixer was in full swing. Betty and Linda were on their way out to rejoin their husbands at the RV park, but Chama cabin was full of TWFF members looking forward to a weekend of fishing. As we always do at the mullet mixers, we discussed what fly to use, what worked best in the past, what the river conditions were like, who's floating, who's wading, where to put in, and what time to meet, among other topics of conversation. There was a feast on the table and everyone seemed happy once again to see each other and looked forward to the upcoming event.

Registration for the tournament started at 7am on Saturday. We all had decided to meet for a group photo at 7:30am near the registration spot. As we stood for the photo, a newspaper team of journalist and photographer got in the action. A photo was taken for the Camp Wood newspaper (I think), and the journalist interviewed us. As it turns out, the journalist worked for years with Sarah Valentine's father in Uvalde! What a small world. After registration and photos, we loaded up and went our separate ways only to see each other later at dinner.

The Nueces River is the most beautiful river I have fished on in Texas. Its waters are so very clear and clean. The sound of the river running over shallow rocky patches soothes the soul, and the beauty of the area brings relief to body and mind. At our spot, the five of us all were catching fish. My copper popper with sparkles was very popular with the perch. They eventually pecked off the eyes, and all the sparkles. The body of the popper was the last to go, leaving just a hook and tail. Next year I'll bring two or three of them.

Later at dinner, we learned the floaters had a very good trip. They recommended we all try it next year. The trip was about four hours long, and everyone caught fish – up to 30 or more. Once we were finished eating, the awards were presented. Most fish, largest bass and perch awards were all won by non-TWFF members. We did do very well with the door prizes, however, with the grand prize of a \$100 gift certificate to Academy going to Angela Mendoza. Way to go Angela! Have a great time shopping.

On Sunday morning we had our meeting. We talked about the next outing at the Homer Martin Ranch, the silent auction that will be held there, as well as the Medina outing and the Port Aransas outing. The website should be updated with more details shortly.

It was a great weekend for fishing. The weather couldn't have been better, and the camaraderie was at its best!



July 2003: Homer Martin Ranch On the Llano River

July 9 – 11, 2004

Coordinators: Sheila Anderson and Kerri Stephenson

We love Homer Martin Ranch so much we're going back in July!

Join TWFF at this historic 3500 acre ranch and hunting lodge in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. We'll have a variety of activities — including good food and friends, silent auction, wade fishing and kayak fishing — so there will be plenty to do regardless of the weather. In addition to scheduled activities, the ranch is a wonderful place for nature walks, hiking and bird watching.

Share your favorite pot-luck dishes at evening meals in the Lodge and join us around the fire (maybe not in July) or cooler to swap fish tales.

The ranch has nine cabins with air conditioning that have already booked up. Tent camping is still available. The rustic Lodge House provides a fully equipped kitchen, dining room, social room and game room.

SILENT AUCTION

Great items will be up for bid in the silent auction. The auction will be set up in the living area of the Lodge. Stop by any time from 8:30 – 5:30 on Saturday to look at the booty and bid on your favorite auction items. Silent auction winners will be announced after dinner on Saturday evening.

To contribute items to the auction, or to help with setup, etc., contact Lavene Jones, lavenejones@sbcglobal.net or Frances Hamm, fhamm@austin.rr.com.

MEALS

Bring a favorite dish and join in on the fabulous potluck dinners on Friday and Saturday evening. Breakfast and lunch you'll be on your own. The lodge's full kitchen is available to use for all meals. The kitchen refrigerator and personal ice chests should be used for food storage only. Beer and wine can be kept icy cold in the deer locker. Our use of the kitchen and lodge is a community effort; please do your part to care for our shared space by picking up after yourself and sharing in area cleanup chores. It never hurts to bring some extra napkins, paper towels, and don't forget plastic wrap to put away all those great leftovers.

RESERVATIONS

Cabins rent for \$60 per night with a 2-night minimum. Tent spaces are \$15 per tent, per night. The cabins are completely booked, however tent camping is still available.

All reservations must be paid in advance by check payable to Homer Martin Ranch. Checks will be held until the outing – if you need to cancel before June 15th, we will return your check. Cancellations after June 15th will depend on our being able to fill your cabin reservation.

Please do not call the ranch to make reservations. Contact Kerri Stephenson to make your reservations. (kstephenson1@austin.rr.com)

An outside bathroom with shower is available for tent campers and Cabin 7 inhabitants.

Check this web site for additional lodging options:
<http://www.hill-country-visitor.com/default.asp/city/26/category/Lodging>

Please note that no pets are allowed.

TENTATIVE OUTING SCHEDULE **FRIDAY EVENING**

Check in and socializing at Lodge Dining Hall

SATURDAY

Silent Auction and Raffle, 8:30 – 5:30

Wade fishing

Guided River Trip (9 am - ?) Ronnie Ray will guide the trip. See additional details later in this newsletter

Hiking and bird watching

SUNDAY

9 am General membership meeting in lodge dining. Please plan to attend.

11 am Clean up Lodge, fishing/hiking/socializing etc.

WHAT TO BRING

Pot luck dinner contributions and personal breakfast/lunch food

Fly rod, flies (woolly buggers, poppers, clousers etc.) - 1x, 2x or 3x leaders or your own personal

preference
Sunscreen & hat
River shoes & or wading boots
Waders or other weather-suitable fishing attire
Camera
Sense of humor

If you plan to go on the river trip, don't forget:

Canoe or kayak, paddle, pfd, Dry bags for storage on your kayak or canoe, Insulated food bags/small cooler to carry lunch and snacks on river, Water/beverage containers
Neoprene waders or layered, water-resistant clothing recommended

DIRECTIONS TO HOMER MARTIN RANCH

From Austin: Take TX 71 to Llano then TX 29 to Mason. (From north Austin, take US 183 north then TX 29 west to Mason.) As you enter Mason on Hwy 29, you will turn left at the Courthouse Square and go south on Hwy 87. Watch for RR 1723 on your right on the south edge of town (1.3 miles from the 29/87 intersection). Follow Ranch Road 1723/Simonsville Road for 9 miles to the ranch entrance, which is on the right, 1/2 mile after crossing the river.

From Dallas: Take I-35 to Georgetown then TX 29 to Mason. As you enter Mason on Hwy 29, you will turn left at the Courthouse Square and go south on Hwy 87. Watch for RR 1723 on your right on the south edge of town (1.3 miles from the 29/87 intersection). Follow Ranch Road 1723/Simonsville Road for 9 miles to the ranch entrance, which is on the right, 1/2 mile after crossing the river.

From Houston or San Antonio: Take I-10 to Comfort, then US 87 toward Mason. Go 8.5 miles past the 87/Llano River Bridge to RR 1723 (on your left as you approach Mason). Follow RR1723/Simonsville Road for 9 miles to the ranch entrance, which is on the right, 1/2 mile after crossing the river. Upon entering Homer Martin Ranch, go past the ranch house and follow the signs to the camp. Please check the bulletin board outside the Lodge for information on cabin assignments, event schedules, and other information. See the Homer Martin Ranch website for a map and other detailed information about the ranch.

www.homermartinranch.com/

Homer Martin Ranch by Sherri and Ronnie Ray

TACKLE

Fishing the Llano River at Homer Martin Ranch is not a high tech endeavor and affords a relaxing chance to use fly tackle and catch some beautiful native Texas fish. Rods that can be used range from the smallest 0-1 weights up to a seven weight, with the smaller being more desirable because they match the fish and they are light, eliminating fatigue during a full day of casting. We use a 4, 5, or 6 weight most of the time. Plus catching small fish on light rods is just plain classic flyfishing. Floating lines that correspond with the rod is needed, along with matching leaders and tippet material. Leaders don't need to be excessively long, 7-9 ft. is fine, with a 4-7 lbs. Test tippet is just about right. Just about any reel will work, but again, the smaller reels on the smaller rods are a plus. There is no need for a large capacity of backing. Use of any line beyond the fly line itself is basically unheard of.

FLIES

Flies used are quite basic too. Think *bugs, minnows, and crawfish*. If it looks like one of those and is size 6 or smaller, it will probably catch fish in the Llano. The preferred fly is the ol' standby topwater poppers, like Spook and Miss Prissy, both available a just about any tackle shop and Walmart. It is easy to buy twenty dollars worth of these flies at the start of the season and fish all summer, catch hundreds of fish in hill country rivers, and maybe even have a fly or two left over come fall to start the next year with. Small clousers, wooly buggers, and other similar streamers are good minnow and crawfish imitations, especially with chartreuse, tan or white as their primary colors. Don't forget to carry a few larger dry flies on the Llano too. A Stimulator pattern on an 8-12 hook can be deadly along the grassy banks. Finally, Ronnie's favorite freshwater fly for Texas summers, grasshopper patterns in sizes 8-14. Fishing with grasshoppers during hot days, whether an imitation or the real critter, is as Texas as Barbecue and Willie. It doesn't get much better.

THE RIVER

The Llano is one of the most scenic rivers in our state. It isn't a very big river, but it is quite rugged. It can go from a shallow gentle run to a huge, deep pool, to a boulder strewn rapid, and back to a shallow gentle run in just a few hundred yards of river. In general, the river is a safe stream, but like all things in the outdoors, it is only as safe as the person on it is cautious. This is a fishing trip and not a race. If you remember that first and foremost, you will do well. Slow down, look things over, be aware of what is around you. If it looks dangerous or stretches your comfort level too much, find an alternative. Go around, not over. We plan to run the river before this trip and inspect for any extreme hazards. We will mark those and brief everyone about them on Friday.

The water in the Llano is generally very clear and that can make the fish spooky, especially the bigger bass in the bigger pools. Quiet, gentle presentations are preferred in these. Fish the banks and vegetation in the river. Don't overlook fishing the fast water either, the bottom of the river is often solid rock with fissures of various sizes scattered everywhere. These fissures are a wading hazard that you should be cautious of while in the water, but they also harbor bass that will dart out and pounce on a popper floating by.

KAYAKING

The kayaking and canoeing on the Llano should be pretty easy. Once again, go slow. Assess what is ahead of you, walk the bank if necessary to do the assessment. It's pretty hard to get a true picture of an area while sitting down on the water and moving downstream. If the run looks too tough, drag the boat around it. If a group of boaters are bunched up together and the river narrows and/or gets fast, but appears runnable, do it one at a time. Don't get a bunch of boats in the run together and have one get in a jam and the rest behind them do a "keystone cop" act. It is much better to take the time to get everyone through one at a time safely.

ONE IMPORTANT WORD OF CAUTION

This is rattlesnake country. Here is Ronnie's personal rule about rattlesnakes. **THEY WILL NOT COME LOOKING FOR YOU, THEY WILL NOT CHASE YOU, BUT THEY WILL NOT TOLERATE YOUR PERSON ON OR VERY NEAR THEM.** A rattlesnake at a kayak paddle or flyrod length away from you is as harmless as a bluebonnet. And that's how far we want them away from us at all times. Be aware of what is around you, whether on the river or in camp, as much as possible. Avoid weedy areas as much as possible, especially when you are exiting the river and while on the bank. If you have to get in or near weeds, use your paddle or a stick to check and disturb the area in front of you before walking into it. Do not step over things like large rocks or logs. Snakes like to lay up against these objects in the shade and an ankle coming down from above them is not welcome. It is better to step up on the object, look at what is on the other side, and step off as far away from the object as your leg will stretch. When you start to exit your vehicle, look at the ground before you step out.

We're not trying to scare anyone, but trying to just make everyone aware. If you see a snake, instead of thinking bad thoughts, you should think that it's good because you know where he is and both of you can go about your merry *separate* ways. Either go around them, or give them an escape route and allow them to leave. They won't want to be around you any more than you will want to be around them. I put this in the kayak section because the biggest probability of a snake encounter being a risk is while dragging a boat along the bank. You may be struggling with the drag and get careless about what is around you. Just go slow and clear the way before you move ahead.

FRIDAY FUN

Friday afternoon we will be in camp all afternoon to help with instructions on casting, fly presentation, gear, kayaks, etc. That evening at the Mullet Mixer, Ronnie will do a short presentation expanding on the information given here and having a Q&A session for as long as needed. We will also discuss launch time, river information and instructions, introduce the kayak wranglers (persons who have experience on this river and who will be on the float to assist the inexperienced), and various other details for the trip.



Medina River Bandera Texas

September 10, 11, and 12

Coordinators - Linda Love & Jo Schauf

<http://www.texashillcountrymall.com/riverfrontmotel/>

The River Front Motel has been reserved for TWFF for this weekend outing. They have 11 cabins, 10 of them are available for reservation at \$79 per night. Please contact the motel directly to reserve a cabin for this outing.

River Front Motel

P.O.Box 875

Bandera, Texas 78003

800-870-5671

Jellystone Park, across the street from the River Front, has RV sites for \$23 a night, as well as tent camping available. Contact Jellystone directly for reservations there.

Jellystone Park

P.O. Box 1687

Bandera, Texas 78003

(830)796-3751

We are arranging a guide for the trip and will publish kayak rental information in the next newsletter. Please contact a coordinator when you have made your reservation, we'd like to keep a head count.



Coastal Paddling Trails on the Texas Coast with Dr. Bill Harvey

TWFF Saltwater Trip to Aransas Pass

October 22, 23 and 24th

General info site <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/news/news/020617b.htm>

Coordinators Mary Rohrer (rohrer@fbg.net) and Julie Sieh (siehje@hotmail.com).

Come kayak fish the Lighthouse Lakes trails with Dr. Bill Harvey, TPWD and Dean Thomas of Slowride Guide Services for speckled trout and redfish. We have arranged for camping sites and hotel rooms for the TWFF group.

For campers- Please contact Fred at the Ransom Road RV Park 361-758-2715. The RV park is on the south side of Aransas Pass and is adjacent to the Hampton's Landing boat launch. The fee is \$25/day. Check out their web site www.ransomrdrvparkinc.com for any additional information.

For non-campers- We have a block of rooms set up at the Hawthorne Suites in Aransas Pass. The hotel is on Goodnight Street between Aransas Pass and Port Aransas and about 1.5 miles from the Ransom Rd RV park. The rooms are suites with full kitchens, as well as a breakfast bar in the morning. The rates are \$99/night for king bed with queen sofa bed, or \$79/night for queen bed with queen sofa bed. The rooms can hold 3 fishergals comfortably. To reserve a room, please call Hawthorne Suites directly at 361-758-1774, our "group code" is "1411", which has the rates identified for TWFF.

The Mullet Mixer on Friday night will be at the meeting room at the campground and additional information will be available for our plans for dinner on Saturday night. Kayaks are available from Dean at Slowride Guide Service (www.slowrideguide.com) Additional information will be available in the upcoming newsletters as well as at the Homer Marting outing. This should be a great trip for those interested in saltwater fly fishing.

If you have any questions, email Mary Rohrer (rohrer@fbg.net) or Julie Sieh (siehje@hotmail.com).



**Trimble
Fly Fishing**
Texas Fly Fishing Adventures

**Salt Water & Fresh Water
Instruction • Clinics • Guiding**

Capt. Billy Trimble
USCG Masters License #1027577
TPWD Licensed Guide
billytrimble@austin.rr.com
512-517-4902

Stacy Lynn Trimble
Professional Casting Instructor
TPWD Licensed Guide
stacytrimble@austin.rr.com
512-750-8661



Silent Auction Message from Frances Hamm

Hi!!!

Lavene and I had a great time last Saturday picking up some "loot" for our auction. We got \$350+ worth of items. WE NEED MORE! Thanks go out to Jim and Kerri for their contribution.

The letter for potential donors follows if you need it. And the bid sheets are available, too. Also if you need the IRS letter about our non-profit status and cannot find it on the website, let us know. We can fax as needed.

I don't have to have the bid sheets filled out, but I do need the information as shown on the bid sheets ASAP so we can have as few handwritten ones as possible (a neater "spread" makes more money).

Happy Hunting! Looking forward to seeing you in July!!! Let me know if you come up with anything.

Thanks,
Frances

| Texas Women Fly Fishers - 2003 Officers | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|---|
| President: | SherrI Ray, rsray@cvtv.net | Trustees | Kerri Stephenson, kstephenson1@austin.rr.com Julie Sieh, siehje@hotmail.com |
| First Vice President | Audrey Ambrose, kc1jc2@flash.net | | |
| Second Vice President | Becky Hand, rhand@austin.rr.com | Newsletter Editor | Sheila Anderson sjand1957@hotmail.com |
| Secretary | Lavene Jones, lavenejones@sbcglobal.net | Historian | Kerri Stephenson, kstephenson1@austin.rr.com |
| Treasurer | Mary Rohrer, rohrer@fbg.net | Immediate Past President | Constance Whiston, cwhiston@sbcglobal.net |
| Email all TWFF Officers: officers@twff.net | | | |

| TWFF Newsletter Advertising Rates | | |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|
| | One issue | Annual (6 issues) |
| Swap/sell items — members | Free | |
| Text Ads (non members) | \$5/ inch | |
| Business Cards, Members | \$5 | \$25 |
| Business Cards, Others | \$7.50 | \$40 |
| 1/4 Page Display | \$20 | \$100 |
| 1/3 Page Display | \$30 | \$150 |
| 1/2 Page Display | \$35 | \$200 |
| Full Page Display | \$50 | |

All ads must be prepaid. Ads with graphics should be submitted electronically as high resolution JPG or PNG files. Send to Newsletter Editor Sheila Anderson, sjand1957@hotmail.com.

Texas Women's Fly Fishers Serving Texas Women

June 1, 2004

Dear friends,

The Texas Women's Fly Fishers (TWFF) was founded in 2001 to establish a learning environment for members to go fly fishing, learn from each other and then talk about it around the evening meal. TWFF has tax-exempt status at the 501c3 level and solicits donations to further our purposes around education and service.

Key services include maintaining rods, reels, and tackle for newcomers to help them try fly fishing without investing large sums of money; we exhibit annually at the Texas Parks and Wildlife EXPO demonstrating fly tying techniques as well as other classes designed to teach the general public about fly fishing to promote their future involvement in this extremely satisfying sport.

In order to continue the work of TWFF, fundraising becomes an ever more important part of our agenda. We are asking for your support for the upcoming Silent Auction that is built around our trip to the Homer Martin Ranch south of Mason, Texas. We look forward to promoting your business as much as possible and hope to earn your trust and appreciation.

Texas Women's Fly Fishers has over 50 members and their families who bring strong economic resources to the marketplace. We appreciate our donors very much and hope to forge long and enduring relationships with those who help with our fundraising efforts.

Sincerely,

Sherry Ray, President
Texas Women's Fly Fishers

