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A Message From the President *Constance Whiston*

It was tough missing the Bud Priddy One Fly this year but to all of you who did attend; I know you had a wonderful time. To those like me who could not make it to our last outing, you should know Texas Women Fly Fishers had a very good attendance for the Bud Priddy Contest in Camp Wood and our own newsletter editor, Debi Prather won the "Biggest Bass" award!

Coco and Sarah are busy working hard on our July outing on the Medina River. Look for all the information in this newsletter. This promises to be a very cool, new adventure. Sign up now!

Our officer group has undergone a few changes recently. Annette Blythe and Rudi Donaldson had to step down due to family illness. Annette served as our Treasurer and did an amazing job organizing our finances. Webmaster extraordinaire, Rudi Donaldson created our beautiful web site. Rudi worked her tiny little --- off designing what we feel is the best fly fishing club web site in Texas. We miss both Annette and Rudi very much! Please keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.

Good News! Please welcome Kathy Goodnight our new interim Vice President. Some of you met Kathy at the Tres Rios outing. Kathy is an avid fly fisher and comes to us with experience in fund raising and in volunteer service work, two great assets for her new position with Texas Women Fly Fishers. I have been impressed by Kathy's thoughtfulness toward others and her consistent easy going character. We look forward to her business expertise in our officer group.

Remember, all members are invited to attend our officer business meetings. We have business meetings at each of our six outings and each one is open to TWFF members.

Also, we invite husbands, boy friends, uncles, grandfathers and sons to attend our outings. If you are new to fly fishing and only have a spinning rod, bring it. We will give you a casting lesson with our fly rods or find a loaner for you. We want everyone to feel welcome.

Poppers & Hoppers: Welcoming Beginners and Visitors

If you are a long time member of Texas Women Fly Fishers, consider opening your cabin to the "newbie", think about introducing them to others and asking if they have any fly fishing questions. Many new-

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Carol Jean (CJ) Vaughn, Austin
Audry Prashad, Houston
Jodi Rector, San Angelo**

TEXAS WOMEN FLY FISHERS

Current Officers

President:

Constance Whiston
cwhiston@io.com

First Vice President

Kathy Goodlett
kgoodlett@mesquiteisd.org

Second Vice President

Sheila Hood
sheliahood@twff.net

Secretary

Sarah Valentine
secretary@twff.net

Historian

Coco Davenport
coco@twff.net

Conservation Chair

Joy Emshoff
jemshoff@austin.rr.com

Newsletter Editor

Debi Prather
editor@twff.net

Greeter

Mary Cole
marycole@webtv.net

Email all TWFF Officers

twffofficers@twff.net

TWFF Homepage

<http://www.twff.net>

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comers do not know they have a fly fishing club in the city where they live. Tell them about the Federation and how FFF has clubs all over the state. Some may not know about our website or helpful books like "The Roads of Texas" or "Rivers & Rapids". Any bit of friendly help you can offer makes an impression on the beginner.

FLY FISHING NEWS

Constance Whiston

The winter *Fly Fisher* magazine had one of the best casting articles every written. You can get back copies if you did not keep yours, by opening the Federation of Fly Fishers web site: <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/> clicking on "Back Issues of *The Fly Fisher* and looking for the article "Separating the Basics From Elements of Style" by Tom Jindra. Take time to cruise through the Federation web site, it has been updated and contains new information. You will find a tremendous amount of information on casting, flies, conservation, clubs in the US and a store with fly fishing merchandise. Try out the video and equipment rental or the Fly Fishing Glossary if you ever wondered what a "snack guide" was. The *Fly Fisher* magazine published by the Federation of Fly Fishers arrives in the mail *free* to every Federation of Fly Fishers member. Carol Oglesby recently became the new Vice President of Women's Education and has been writing informative and inspirational articles for fly fishing women in the Fly Fisher. Both the FFF web site and magazine are chock full of helpful news for the beginner and experienced.

Texas Women Fly Fishers is a chapter of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Take time to open the national web site: <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/> and our own Southern Council web site: <http://www.southerncouncilfff.org/> and

Your Help is Needed !

It takes a little work to have this much fun! TWFF needs your help. Currently we need a couple of good women for the vacant positions of **Treasurer** and **Webmaster/Web Coordinator**. The Treasurer is the chief financial officer of the club,

maintaining the club checkbook, keeping other board members apprised of TWFF's financial status, and filing annual tax returns as required. The **Webmaster/Web Coordinator** keeps the TWFF website up-to-date with new material. Rudi Donaldson created a fantastic site for TWFF— now someone is needed to maintain it. We have a great group of talented women in TWFF — please consider lending your time and talents to the club.

2003 Officers

It's time to start planning for next year. The initial 2-year terms of our **President** and **Second Vice President** (Membership Officer) will be up in December. A Nominating Committee will be formed to create a slate of officers for election. If you are interested in holding an elected position, or would like to serve on the Nominating Committee, please contact any of the current officers.

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

	One issue	Annual
Swap/sell items — members	Free	
Text Ads (non-members)	\$5/ inch	--
Business Cards, Members	\$5	\$50
Business Cards, Others	\$7.50	\$75
1/4 Page Display	\$20	\$200
1/3 Page Display	\$30	\$300
1/2 Page Display	\$35	\$350
Full Page Display	\$50	--

All ads must be prepaid. Ads with graphics should be submitted as low resolution GIF or JPG files. Send to Newsletter Editor Debi Prather, dprather1@austin.rr.com

**MEDINA RIVER OUTING
JULY 12 –14, 2002
BANDERA, TEXAS**

Last Call !!!

Coordinators: Coco Davenport and Sarah Valentine

Join TWFF for an outing on the Medina River in Bandera, Texas. We will be staying at the River Front Motel in Bandera on Friday and Saturday, July 12-13 and returning home Sunday July 14. Camping is available at nearby Jelly Stone Campground for those who prefer tent or RV camping.

River Front Motel is located at 1004 Maple St. at the Medina River Bridge, just one block from downtown Bandera. The motel is very easy to find, lots of signs, it is just before the bridge that crosses the Medina River. One and two bedroom cottages are \$79.00 a night per couple plus \$5 per person for additional persons. **Some but not all rooms have small refrigerators and microwaves.** Bandera City Park and the Medina River are just across the street. For more information about River Front Motel, go to their web site at <http://www.texashillcountrymall.com/riverfrontmotel/index.htm>. The toll-free number for reservations is 1/800-870-5671, local number 830- 460-3690.

Jelly Stone Campgrounds (<http://www.gocampingamerica.com/yogibandera/>) is across Highway 173 on the right of the Medina River bridge. Telephone 830/796-3751.

River Front Motel requests that we make our reservations by telephone with a credit card and a list of who will be staying in the cabin. Your credit card will not be charged until you arrive. Important: the cut off date for holding cabins is June 15, and there are only 11 cabins – make your reservations **NOW!!!!**

After you have made your lodging reservations, **please let Coco know who will be coming with you, and where you will be staying, so that we will have a complete roster of TWFF participants.**

Meals.

Plan to eat in town or bring your own and cook out at motel grill or the park in front of the motel. Downtown Bandera is just a short walk away. The night life in Bandera is lively!

Outing Plans. **Outing Headquarters will be Cabin 11 of River Front Motel.**

Friday evening Join Sarah, Coco, Sheila and Audrey at River Front Motel Cabin 11 for refreshments early Friday evening. We will try to have casting classes at the park or in front of the motel Friday evening also, then head to a local eatery for dinner.

Saturday - All day fishing -- at City Park (across from the motel), kayak fishing down the river, or wade fishing with Coco. Dinner will be on your own.

Kayak fishers will depart for the kayak outfitter at 9 AM to pick up rental kayaks (see information below) and shuttle to a put-in spot, leaving vehicles at the outfitters, which will be our take-out. If you will be bringing your own kayak and need only a shuttle, please inform Coco Davenport and she will let the outfitter know. If you prefer to leave your car at the put-in and arrange with another member for a ride back to your vehicle, that is fine too.

Wade fishing. If you would prefer to wade fish, please contact Coco Davenport. coco@n-link.com We have 2 possible places to wade and it would be helpful to know how many to plan on. Wade fishers can rent a tube at the cabins to float and wade in shallow water for \$5.00 a day . Sarah has tried it and says it tons of fun.

Bank fishing. You may also fish from the bank in front of the cabins at the Bandera City Park, but there is a lot of tree coverage and lots of people.

Remember to pack a lunch and plenty of water for your day on the river. Coolers come on the rented kayaks. We wade fishers and kayak owners need to have our own cooler or buddy with someone.

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Sunday - TWFF officers will hold a brief business meeting in the morning in Cabin 11 -- everyone is invited to attend. Spend the rest of the day fishing, relaxing, or head home as you need to.

Kayak rentals - Call Fred Collins at The Medina River Company, 1/ 830- 796- 3553. Be sure to tell him you are with the TWFF group. **You need to call NOW to reserve kayaks for July 13.** Rental fees are \$25 for single kayaks and \$35 for tandems. Shuttle fee is \$12.00.

Equipment - Poppers and woolly buggers, beaded and not beaded in assorted sizes for fishing. Pack a cooler with frozen water and a lunch to eat on the river. Note: No glass or styrofoam is allowed on the river. Bring sunscreen, dark glasses, water shoes, waterproof camera , fly rod and flies. Don't forget your paddles and pfd if you are bringing your own kayak.

Coordinator Contact Info:

Coco Davenport
coco@n-link.com
Phone: 512/752-3503

Sarah Valentine
sval@flash.net
Phone: 210/637-0486



OUTING REPORT: BUD PRIDDY ONE FLY CONTEST

MAY 17TH – 19TH

by Sarah Valentine

The return to Nueces Canyon and its member towns of Camp Wood and Barksdale for the annual Bud Priddy One Fly Contest was a wonderful homecoming for me. I began my trek from San Antonio late Thursday evening and stopped in my hometown of Uvalde for a visit with my mom. I had arranged for her to help TWFF with some homemade candy for our welcome bags at Lost Canyon. Mom is legendary in Uvalde for her cooking, but as usual she apologized for the "quality" of the candy. "This batch is a bit too brown" and "these pralines aren't as pretty as usual" were her disclaimers of the day. No disclaimers were needed for me; I promptly helped myself to one of each!

We had quite a storm in Uvalde Thursday night and I prayed that no flash flooding would occur up the Canyon. Luckily, by all reports all crossings were just fine. After gathering together the goodies, I made a quick trip to pick up the local newspaper. My friend Craig Garnett is the owner/editor of Leader News and he had promised to write an article about the Bud Priddy. Bud was my doctor and a native of the Canyon with great friends in Uvalde. Craig did a great job and I've heard that some of the locals were pleased to see the article. My next stop was at Evett's Barbeque in Uvalde to pick up some of the best pork ribs in Texas and then I was on my way up Highway 55 toward the Canyon. I was thrilled with the idea that I was skipping school to go fishing at one of my favorite places in Texas. Surely my students and colleagues would understand! I stopped at every crossing of the Nueces beginning at the 19-mile crossing and drove down all of the dirt roads leading to the crossings. I wanted to check it all out before I arrived at Lost Canyon. The river was definitely lower than last year and most of the holes we fished last year had meandered a bit, but the water clarity was simply spectacular, even after the hard rain of the night before. Such is the nature of Texas Hill Country streams.

In Barksdale I met up with Audrey Ambrose and she helped me post signs on telephone poles pointing the way to Lost Canyon. Our drive up the asphalt/dirt/ road was just as beautiful as it was last year. We stopped to say hello to the Taylors and they gave us the info on all of the TWFF members who would be arriving. We delivered the goodie bags which contained the candy and several flies known to work on the Nueces (tied by one of Audrey's former students at Madison) and then settled in on the front porch of Chama to await the arrival of all of our TWFF friends. The members and their families and friends began arriving that afternoon. It was great to see everyone.

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BUD PRIDDY OUTING REPORT

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Later in the evening we all "tied up" and headed down to the pond on the Taylor's property. It is actually a dammed up part of a Nueces feeder creek. Annette Blythe, Linda Love and Betty Butler beat us all down to the pond and promptly began catching fish. Annette caught quite a large bass even before I had my first fly tied to my tippet! After fishing a bit longer, we all headed down to the river a few miles away. We kept watching the thunderheads build in the late evening sky and eventually a loud thunder boom sent us scurrying out of the water. We all made it safely back to our cabins but we did spend a bit of time without power. It was great fun talking in the dark, listening to the evening birds, hearing the turkeys gobble down by the creek and watching the night begin to settle down around us. I thought of the many Hill Country nights my family and I had spent together and gave a quick wink up to heaven, knowing my dad was wishing he were with me. He taught me how to tie knots, bait hooks, fish the cover and tell a few tales in between.

We all left Lost Canyon the next morning and met up with the other contestants in Camp Wood. We were pleased to see quite a few other TWFF members, including Frances Carr and Ann Hamm who had stayed at the motel in Camp Wood. At last count I believe 24 TWFF members fished the One Fly. It was fun bantering with the men while we entered the contest. I do think they were glad we were there. After entering the contest and checking out our options we decided to head south toward Montell and Witt Crossing. Some of us had done quite well there last year and so we wanted to check it out. Several men beat us to the spot but we waded in anyway! Sheila Hood, Coco Davenport, Becky Hand, Annette Blythe and Audrey Ambrose and I took off in quite a few different directions but eventually met up on the a sandbar for a river-side lunch. Life is so good! Most of us were out of the contest by that time and were having great fun trying out our flies and enjoying the scenery.

After lunch we decided to head north toward Barksdale and try out Pulliam Creek. Constance fished it last year and we knew it was supposed to be beautiful. We eventually translated the map the guys had given us and found our way to a spectacular fishing hole full of deep pools, slow stretches and few rapids. There were no other fly fishers on the water. We launched three kayaks; Audrey and Becky jumped on one and quickly began their own contest. I think Audrey ended up "winning" with 20 fish, but Becky was close behind with 19. I have my own fishin' story, but I'll save that for another day. Sheila and I were content to quietly paddle and quietly fish. Coco and Annette had great fun wade fishing the area.

Saturday evening dinner was held at Casa Falcon in Camp Wood and we gathered with all of the other fly fishers from around the state. The Alamo Fly Fishers hosted the contest and gave away several nice prizes. Steve Prather, Debi's husband, won a \$100 gift certificate to Gruene Outfitters. I sat at a table with a gentleman from Houston who ended winning the contest with 138 fish! Ladies, I still haven't figured out how those guys catch that many fish in a day. Constance's winning number of 84 a few years back is definitely much more believable! We were so proud of our own Debi Prather who caught the biggest bass of the day, measuring 18 inches (on a #10 beadhead wooly bugger). I think TWFF and their families were well represented at the contest. I know we all had an exciting day fishing. We all learned a great deal that day and had great fun. Most of the ladies in my group fished black flies with most success and we're all going to try to find that fly Audrey lost on Pulliam Creek!

The next morning several TWFF members went fishing again while we held the business meeting. After the meeting most people had to leave and head home. Becky Hand and I launched kayaks at the Nueces Crossing on the road to Lost Canyon. We lazed our way upstream telling stories, occasionally casting a line, but mostly skipping rocks, telling stories about our dads and laughing quite a bit. My homecoming was complete and I felt ready to head back to the city to "teach those kids." I feel so lucky to be part of a group of ladies (and wonderful husbands, mothers, aunts, sons and daughters!) who love to fish and who simply love our great state. Thank you TWFF!



**TEXAS WOMEN FLY FISHERS
ON THE LLANO RIVER
SEPTEMBER 13, 14 & 15**

Coordinator: Constance Whiston (512-916-4393, cwhiston@io.com)

Join TWFF for a fun weekend on the Llano River at the Homer Martin Ranch.

Come float/fish with a Llano River fly fishing guide, drift past the home of Fred Gibson – author of *Old Yeller*, share a picnic lunch on a fossil covered rock beach next to the river and gaze up at the 150 foot cliffs, home to swallows, bobcat and other wild creatures. The rapids are small, the clarity of the water inviting to wade or swim, and the fishing is great!

The Homer Martin Ranch is located south of Mason on Ranch Road 1723 (Simonsville Road). See the ranch web site for detailed information, map and directions: <http://www.homermartinranch.com/>.

The ranch has nine cabins with heat/air conditioning and bathrooms, except as noted below. Tent camping is also available. A historic, rustic Lodge House provides a fully equipped kitchen, dining room, social room and game room. Outside firepits provide a great place for evening socializing around a fire.

Reservations:

Cabins rent for \$60 per night with a 2 night minimum. Tent spaces are \$15 per person, per night.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE RANCH TO MAKE RESERVATIONS.

For cabin or camping reservations, contact coordinator Constance Whiston (email: cwhiston@io.com or telephone 512-916-4393).

All reservations must be paid in advance.

- Cabin one: 2 single beds
- Cabin two: 2 double beds
- Cabin three: 1 queen and 1 bunk bed
- Cabin four: 1 double and 1 single bed
- Cabin five: 2 single beds
- Cabin six: 1 queen, 1 double, 1 single
- Cabin seven: 2 single beds - ***no bathroom***
- Cabin eight: 2 double beds
- Cabin nine: 2 double beds

One outside bathroom with shower is available for tent campers and cabin number 7 inhabitants.

Food

Friday night: POT LUCK (everyone will pitch in to help lay out the food and clean up)

Saturday night: Group dinner, details to be announced

Breakfasts & lunches are on your own.

The lodge dining hall is available for our use for all meals. The kitchen refrigerator and personal ice chests should be used for food storage. Beer and wine can be kept cold in the deer locker.

Please remember to wash dishes and clean up after yourself.

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LLANO RIVER / HOMER MARTIN RANCH OUTING

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What to Bring

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
Wading or swimming suits
Plenty of drinking water
Canoe or kayak, paddle, pfd
Dry bags for storage on your kayak or canoe
Insulated food bags/small cooler to carry lunch on river
Camera, regular and digital for our web site
Food for yourself and to share
Sense of humor !!!

River Trip

We will paddle and fish a 5-mile stretch of the Llano on Saturday, departing at 9:00am and getting off the water in time for dinner at 7:00 pm. Wade fishing is available for those who do not wish to do the river trip.

River Rules

Each paddler is required by law to have a life jacket in her boat. Paddlers who cannot swim must wear their life jackets while on the water.

STAY BEHIND YOUR GUIDE! To ensure the safety of the group, all paddling fly fishers **MUST** stay behind the guide during the float trip. The guide will scout the rapids and show you how to paddle safely down the river.

Canoe/kayak rentals: If you need to rent a canoe or kayak, I suggest you call to reserve your boat at least a month in advance. You will need to pick up and return all rental equipment. Do not have it delivered to the ranch. Pay your outfitter prior to the trip and be responsible for returning all rented equipment to your outfitter promptly.

Austin Outdoor Gear & Guidance/Austin: 512/473-2644
Southwest Paddle Sports/Houston 281-292-5600
Buck Burckle, Castell TX 512-247-3115

For more information, call or write: Constance Whiston at 512-916-4393 or cwhiston@io.com



JUNE IS NATIONAL RIVERS MONTH — CELEBRATE YOUR RIVERS!

Every June, Americans celebrate National Rivers Month by turning to their rivers for recreation, relaxation and activism.

River groups, local governments, state agencies and riverfront businesses work together to create events and activities that commemorate the special month and get communities back in touch with their rivers.

Take some time this month to remember your river! You can...

- [Volunteer](#) with a restoration project in your community
- [Get involved](#) with your local river group
- [Take action](#) on decisions affecting the health of rivers

Visit the American Rivers website <http://www.amrivers.org/> for more information on what you can do to celebrate and protect our rivers.



Fairfield Lake State Park November Outing Update

Dates have been set: November 9-11

Join TWFF at this joint outing with other Texas fly fishing clubs and the Lone Star Dutch Oven Society. Mark your calendars and watch for details in upcoming newsletters.

TEXAS RIVERS NEED YOUR HELP.

Texas rivers have always flowed through the land and lives of the people who depended on them for food, agriculture, recreation and transportation. But now, most of our rivers have been dammed, diverted, polluted, or channelized.

The members of the Texas Rivers Protection Association are concerned about the quality of our remaining natural rivers and we invite you to join in our efforts...

Several years ago, a coalition of Texas conservation and recreation groups began to work to protect the diverse natural rivers of Texas.

During these efforts, Texas rivers have gained a broad and diverse band of supporters. In 1989, the coalition decided the time had arrived to incorporate formally and apply for non-profit, 501(c)4 status. Memberships are available for both groups and individuals. TRPA leadership is made up of pro-river activists from across the state representing landowner coalitions, conservationists, canoe clubs, and fishing associations.

To learn more about Texas River Protection Association, visit their website at <http://www.down-river.org/trpa/> or contact TRPA president Tom Goynes, email goynes@centurytel.net, telephone (Martindale, TX) 512-392-6171 .



USGS TEXAS WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR SOUTH-CENTRAL TEXAS

In 1991, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) implemented the National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program to describe the status and trends in water quality of a large, representative part of the Nation's surface- and ground-water resources. According to their report,

The major water-quality issue in the South-Central Texas is the potential for contamination of the Edwards aquifer. The Edwards aquifer is the main aquifer in the study unit and is the sole source of water for the greater San Antonio area and for ranchers and farmers in the region. The intensive fixed-site assessment was designed to determine the effects of agriculture and urbanization on surface-water quality within the SCTX study unit that ultimately could affect the water quality of the Edwards aquifer. The Medina River watershed just west of San Antonio was used as an agricultural land use indicator, and the Salado Creek watershed within the San Antonio city limits was used as an urban land use indicator. The San Antonio River downstream of the San Antonio city limits, which is downstream of the inflows of the Medina River and Salado Creek, was used as an integrator of agricultural and urban land uses.

See the full report online at <http://water.usgs.gov/pubs/wri/wri994155/>.

