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TWFF Business Update

Nominating committee:

Linda Love, Pam Vestal and Betty Bureson volunteered to form the nominating committee. They will have a slate of nominees by the next meeting in September. The officer positions that need to be filled are President (two year term), 2nd Vice President (two year term), and two Trustees (one year terms). Angela Mendoza volunteered to be nominated for 2nd Vice-President (in charge of membership). Voting for the positions will be opened prior to and during the October outing. If you are interested in serving as an officer, or if you have any questions about these positions, please contact Sherri Ray.

TWFF Member meeting at Medina River Outing is scheduled for 9am Sunday morning, Sep. 12th.

Silent Auction at Homer Martin Outing:

Thank you to Frances Hamm and Lavene Jones for coordinating the Annual Silent Auction at Homer Martin Ranch, and to all members that solicited donations for the auction. A big thanks go to the various businesses that donated items for us to bid on. A list of donors will be available at all upcoming outings, please visit them and give a personal thanks. We raised \$798.50 on auction items and \$185 on raffle tickets.

Welcome Our New Members!

Eva Sevick-Muraca and Paul Muraca
(Family Membership), College Station, TX



The TWFF at Homer Martin Ranch



From the President

With another Homer Martin trip behind us we have more memories to add to our mental scrapbooks. It was a good trip with a healthy fishery, great scenery, enough water and lots of sun. It seems TWFF can always bring the rain when we have an outing but we fooled the gods this time and it was lovely. We enjoyed the company of two new couples, Mrs. & Mr. Cynthia Neusenblatt (Steve) from Galveston and Mrs. & Mr. Glenna Norret (Mike) from San Angelo 😊.

I feel the need to make a confession. I never expected TWFF to be such an enjoyable group. You ladies, past and present, have surpassed all expectations I have ever had about women's clubs. My dad thought I was the boy of the family and raised me accordingly. When other girls were learning to cook I was digging water lines and patching roofs. Most of my dealings in life, by vocation and avocation, have been on turf normally trod by men. This has been the first time I have ever set out to be totally in the company of women (no offense to the men in attendance- we love you). I expected to hear, "I broke my nail", and any number of things that a man couldn't get away with saying about us without being called a chauvinist. I put on a little base on my face at Homer Martin and had to defend it from several people. I had to explain that it was for sunscreen purposes not my vanity. I LOVE IT! As if that wasn't enough lets talk about the auction. I was really thinking we would have a few little items to give us a little excitement during our communing with nature time. I never imagined so much wonderful stuff. It is not an easy or comfortable thing to ask for donations for most people and you girls really outdid yourselves. Many thanks to all who worked like Linda Love and Pam Vestal in the Houston area, Audrey Ambrose in the San Antonio Area, Frances, Lavene, Sheila and Kerri in the Austin area and all others that made contributions. For those of you not in attendance, both rooms were full. All the tables were covered, the walls had things taped on them, the fireplace hearth had items and the deer head horns had things hanging from them— it was everywhere. You all missed some of the best deals of your life and I must make another confession-we chuckled about it. Several others and myself mentioned fondly the names of people that we missed on this outing and how they would have loved to bid on one thing or another. Frances and Lavene pulled off yet another fine and wonderful job setting up the auction. A donator page will be attached with this newsletter. Please patronize our donators and be sure to tell them you are there because they help support us. On that note, I should mention that the Austin Angler is closing and slipping into past history. The Angler did a wonderful job passing on the fly fishing tradition and doing it with style. The Angler was the first fly shop I ever visited. They will be missed.

Our meeting at Homer Martin on Sunday was one of the best yet. Thanks to all the attendees and contributors to discussions and decisions. You all made it actually enjoyable in a "chore you have to do sort of way". We took care of business had some fun and were out of there in an hour. Be sure and read the minutes from Lavene on the meeting and Mary's treasurer report on the auction proceeds. Don't forget to check out the pictures from the trip on image event.

Note from the editor: Apologies are due for not getting the newsletter published in time for the Red Fish Rodeo. The following information should have gone out sooner, but is noteworthy nonetheless.

The Redfish Rodeo is NOT a scheduled TWFF outing but some have expressed an interest. This marks the Eighteenth year of the event. It is the brainchild of the Texas Fly Fishers. Please visit their site at www.texasflyfishers.org. Our own Ellen Matthews and Kimberly Guido won 1st place Grand Slam last year. Ronnie and I will be fishing the Rodeo for the fourth year and will be staying at Goose Island State Park. If you can fish the Rodeo let us know you will be in the area (rsray@cvtv.net). The Redfish Rodeo will be held Saturday, August 14, 2004. Entry Fee is \$40.00 per person prepaid. You may register for \$50.00 Friday, August 13 (6:30pm to 9:30pm) or Saturday August 14 (5:30 to 7 PM). Headquarters (HQ) is the Rockport Beach Park Pavilion in

Rockport, TX. Prizes will be awarded for the longest Redfish, speckled trout, and slam. A slam is two to five fish, one fish from each of the five categories, speckled trout, Redfish, flounder, black drum, or sheephead. Lengths are measured to the nearest 1/8 inch. Fishing begins at first light on August 14th and ends at 4:00 PM. A catered dinner will be served at 7 PM, followed by awards, introductions, casting contest, raffles and storytelling. The event ends at 9 PM with the "everybody wins something" door prize drawing. The Redfish Rodeo is sponsored and supported by fly fishing clubs, fly shops, fishing guides and vendors. The tradition of the eighteenth annual Redfish Rodeo continues. The primary goal is to promote "catch & release", while generating a donation to the CCA for use in their conservation efforts on the Texas Coast. A two-person team event, this honor system tournament is open to anyone. To qualify for a prize, fish must be caught on a fly cast with a fly rod & reel. Each participant must catch, land, measure and release their own fish. Team partners should witness each catch. Individual entry cards must be signed and attested with two signatures and submitted no later than 6:30 PM at HQ.

Just as a little enticement here is a picture of 4 Reds, 5 flounder and 2 Specks caught on the coast. Ronnie "Sting" Ray and Daniel AKA "Nemo" (son) fished from kayaks and waded Sunday July 18th.



Best Fishes,
Sherri "Shark Attack" Ray

P.S. A Shark Attack seems to be the fastest and most exciting way to explain all of the scars I have collected. The truth is just boring and long.



Homer Martin Ranch – Trip Report

By Kerri Stephenson

Homer Martin Ranch was great this year, with the exception of the ANTS!!! Some people had them worse than others, but everyone it seemed had to deal with them sometime. The weather was hot, but the river seemed to be up a bit from last year which was good for the float trip.

The Mullet Mixer was held Friday night, and as always it was a great success. We welcomed two new members and their spouses, Glenna and Mike Noret from San Angelo and Cynthia and Steve Nussenblatt from outside of Houston. They are wonderful people and we enjoyed meeting them.

Ronnie and Sherri Ray made the float trip on Friday so they knew what to expect on Saturday when the whole group went. Ronnie and Sherri learned that Kayla has greatly improved her kayaking skills and Ronnie bragged about her when he gave us his talk at the mullet mixer. Ronnie's talk included tips on how to read the water, which "lane" to choose when entering the rapids and basic river and water safety. Ronnie also mentioned a little bit about the snakes, mainly to stay away from them, but also how to look for where they may be.

We also set up for the silent auction and the raffle to be held on Saturday evening. The items were put on display for viewing and entering bids. Frances and Lavene did an outstanding job with the auction and raffle. A multitude of thanks go out to them and to everyone who solicited or donated items for the auction and raffle.

Saturday dawned bright and early with the kayakers leaving by 8 am for the river float. Everyone except Frances, Lavene, Sheila and Kerri went on the float trip. Frances and Lavene waded fished the river early and Kerri and Sheila went down and set up shade. The kayakers started arriving at the ranch (the pull out spot) about 3 pm and were very grateful for the shade and cold drinks.

High fives and much applause go to Linda Love and Betty B. who for the first time went down the big rapids on the river and made it through with their kayaks. This was something neither of them had attempted before and they were very proud of themselves for trying and succeeding. Great job Betty and Linda!

Upon completion of the float trip, shuttling back and forth for cars and pot luck dinner it was time for the auction items to be sold and the raffle to be held. Some of the auction items were wanted by many people and bidding was frenzied. Betty ended up with 3 or 4 fishing shirts and the 3 Austin Angler shirts went to Audrey, Sherri and Kerri. The three of them posed for a picture in their new camel hunting attire. The picture is on the web site along with the other photos taken. Kerri ended up with an armload of loot and was very excited about all the tiny flies she bought for Jim (who can't see to tie them that tiny).

The raffle was also a huge success. We raffled off a krill basket, fly fishing vest, kayak paddle and a Sportsman's Finest gift certificate with a value of \$200.00. The big prize, the gift certificate, was won by Betty Burleson. She promptly asked for directions to the store as she does not live in Austin. Congratulations Betty! I think that most of the people who bid on items got something. Thank you again Frances and Lavene for the outstanding job you did with the auction and raffle.

All in all, I think everyone had a good time and we are looking forward to next year's outing at Homer Martin Ranch which will be held again during the second weekend in July.



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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




Linda Love with an 11" Bass

TPWD EXPO 2004

October 2nd and 3rd

It's time to volunteer for the Texas Parks and Wildlife EXPO 2004. Sherri Ray is the volunteer coordinator this year and can be reached at rsray@cvtv.net. The EXPO will be October 2nd and 3rd at the TPWD Headquarters on Smith School Rd. in Austin. You can get additional information at <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/expo/>

We are looking for a fly tying coordinator. If anyone is interested in demonstrating fly tying, please let Sherri Ray know as soon as possible so she may reserve the table. We will use TPWD tying kits as we have done in the past.

Last year we demonstrated fly tying and gave a lot of people the opportunity to try it. It was a terrific opportunity to give a little something to future fly fishers. What is needed is for you to bring your equipment (and any extra that the kids can use) and materials to tie easy flies that can be easily taught. Typical flies are wooly buggers and clousers.

We also need volunteers to greet people at our display table.

We need volunteer name, t-shirt size and whether or not you will attend the dinner Saturday night. All this information is needed before September 7th, so please give Sherri an answer soon.

Medina River Bandera, Texas

September 10, 11, and 12

Coordinators - Linda Love & Jo Schauf

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

The River Front Motel has cabins 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

Additional lodging has been scouted out by Jo and Linda. The Riverside RV Park has two large indoor meeting spaces for our use.

Bandera Lodge

700 State Hwy 16 South
Bandera, TX 78003
800-796-3093

Next to Bandera Lodge:

Riverside RV Park (sign says Clarks)

760 State Hwy 16 South
Bandera, TX 78003
830-796-3636
888-826-3636 Toll Free

Full Hook Up \$18 per night.

WHAT TO BRING

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

WHAT TO DO

We are pleased to have Kevin Hutchison as our guide for the trip. He will join us at the Mullet Mixer on Friday night at the Riverside RV Park in the large meeting space. Kevin will advise us on where we will fish, as well as other items of information. Please contact a coordinator when you have made your reservation, we need to provide a head count for Kevin.



THIS CONSERVATION ARTICLE WAS IN THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE MAGAZINE ON THE TRINITY RIVER BY GARY CARTWRIGHT.

"This river hasn't had any poems written about it and in the 1940's the upper Trinity was a dirty joke. Arlington dumped its sewage directly into it but Fort Worth and Dallas at least treated their sewage before sending it down river. In the 1950's the US Public Health Service described the 100 miles of river below Dallas as "septic". As recently as in the 1980's, sewage from Dallas was killing fish downstream in historic numbers. Alarmed by fish kills and what they called "black-water rises" -- the welling-up from the river bottom of masses of oil, grease, copper, chlorine, pesticides, and toxic industrial and agricultural wastes-- citizens of Johnson's district in Anderson and Freestone counties filed a lawsuit in 1985. The suit thwarted Dallas' plan to dump tens of millions of gallons of raw sewage in the Trinity, and more than that, it called statewide attention to this outrage. Since that time improvements have been made on the Trinity. The upper area is cleaner and more attractive, an 8 mile jogging and bike trail now connects Arlington's River Legacy park to Fort Worth and Grand Prairie.

There are many land owners along the river that made wetlands and swamps in order to maintain wildlife and to attempt to restore the land to what it was a century ago. There are co-op's called, "The Big Woods", many pipelines, energy and utility companies- the very corporations that whacked up and polluted the environment in the first place - are helping to foot the bill as required by law now. Corporations are needing "credit " for acres they develop and are knocking on doors of landowners eager to pay them to restore wetlands(which drain the land) or replant oak forest (which turn carbon waste into oxygen).

For a one time fee, landowners agree to create and maintain the mitigated projects in perpetuity. Virtually useless for farming and ranching, land in the flood plain is cheap, a good buy for those who intend to use it for recreational purposes. The waste-water Dallas is so eager to get rid of is helping to refurbish bottomland hardwoods. "Every time someone in Dallas flushes his toilet," one landowner jokes, "I get a new oak tree." Huge pumps transfer the Trinity's water into wetlands that filter the water and support a range of habitat.

The Trinity is the longest river totally with the state borders, 550 river miles, and it drains an incredible 17,969 square miles from Cooke County into the northern border of Trinity Bay where it becomes the main source for Galveston Bay. The river begins its course in the states two great urban areas, Dallas -Fort Worth, and ends in the Houston area.

The Trinity flows through 300,000 acres of East Texas bottomland, one of the loveliest hardwood forests in Texas. Texas is vanishing, at least in its natural parts. Our state led the nation during the last decade in the loss of underdeveloped land: every two minutes another acre of Texas farmland or open space becomes a subdivision or mall or road.

Izaak Walton wrote these words in the 1600's, "Rivers and the inhabitants of the watery elements were made for wise men to contemplate and fools to pass by."



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 redbfish. 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).

Texas Women Fly Fishers - 2003 Officers			
President:	Sherrri 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
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Treasurer	Mary Rohrer, rohrer@fbg.net	Immediate Past President	Constance Whiston, cwhiston@sbcglobal.net
Email all TWFF Officers: officers@twff.net			

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