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TWFF Business Update—Minutes from the January Board Meeting

Submitted by Kerri Stephenson

Mary Rohrer called the meeting to order after a day of fly tying at the Summit's clubhouse.

2007 Officers present:

Mary Rohrer, President
 Kerri Stephenson, Second Vice President
 Glenna Noret, Treasurer
 Betty Burleson, TWFF Trustee
 Sheila Anderson, Historian and immediate Past President

September's minutes were reviewed and approved.

- Budgets—current (about \$1400 to the good at year end) and 2007 (larger due to two CFR sponsorships) were reviewed and approved.
- Huge thanks went out to Kyle Hand for coming to the outing, bringing a large collection of flies to display, and teaching us how to tie certain flies. He made the weekend both educational and fun.
- The club presented the out-going president, Sheila Anderson with a gift. It was a "Fly Hive," and she loved it.

Upcoming TWFF Events

Mar 30–Apr 1:	Pedernales River at Johnson City Coordinator: Karen Gebhardt (ktgeb@satx.rr.com)
May 18–20:	Bud Priddy One Fly Contest on the Nueces River. Camp Wood Coordinator: Betty Burleson (gabbb@hotmail.net)
July 20–22:	South Llano River, Junction Coordinators: Kelly Kazura and Cindy Bentfield (rhwfane@aol.com)
Sep 14–16:	Salt Water Outing, Galveston Coordinator: Cynthia Leigh-Nussenblatt (cnussenb@utmb.edu)
Nov 2–4:	Beaver's Bend State Park, Broken Bow, OK. Coordinators: Sheila Anderson (sanderson2000@austin.rr.com) and Linda Love (lovelncc2000@yahoo.com)

- Stacy Trimble suggested that we do more with other clubs, such as inviting the Alamo Fly Fishers to join in on outings, and to bring in new members.
- We looked at new T-shirt styles, and we'll make a decision at the next outing.
- Sheila Anderson will be doing TWFF presentations throughout the year in Dallas at the Orvis store and for the Austin T.O.W.N. group in March. We will once again sell flies for CFR donations at Fly Fish Texas in Athens.
- Nametags will be issued in the coming months. A bid is out to compare vendors.
- Feedback sheets were used for the first time at this outing. The responses will be used in planning future outings.
- We agreed to share our membership list with members only—no sharing with outside organizations.

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Welcome Our New Members!

Jolene Buford, Alvin, TX
 Rosalee Coleman, George West, TX
 Kelley Kazura, San Angelo, TX
 Sharon McWhorter, Houston, TX
 Barbara Reilley, Houston, TX
 Christi Shore, Austin, TX
 Joan Young, Humble, TX



Photo by Sheila Anderson
 Brown Trout, caught by Sheila Anderson (but held by Jesse, the guide) at [Broken Bow, Oklahoma](#), November 2006.

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From the President

By Mary Rohrer

To the Membership of TWFF,

Welcome to our 2007 Fly Fishing Season. In this newsletter and on our website we have information on the great outings scheduled for this year. We have lots of opportunities for all of our membership—from newbie's to casting experts—to enjoy. Pull out your 2007 calendar and start blocking out time for the sport of fly fishing, increase your knowledge and skills, and enjoy the fellowship of the club and shared experiences at our outings.

I'd like to point out a couple of additions to this newsletter, which I hope all of you will enjoy. First, our TWFF fly tying friend, Kyle Hand, has volunteered to provide us with step-by-step instructions for tying flies to be published in our newsletters. This newsletter, Kyle has provided us with instructions to tie a micro jig. At January's outing at The Summit, Kyle did a fabulous job of teaching us new fly-tying

techniques and greatly improving our fly-tying skills. Also in this issue, Sheila Setter has a great interview with Kyle, so we all can get to know him better. He is a great supporter of TWFF, and we are pleased to have him help us increase our skills of fly tying!

Second, we have added a TWFF Outreach section that lists various fly-fishing events in our region, where our TWFF members will be attending or may find the event of interest. Since our club is statewide, we need to support our TWFF activities to the fly-fishing community at large. If you are at one of the larger conclaves or fly-fishing shows, stop by and visit our outreach table. If you have some time, volunteer to help with our outreach program. Sheila Anderson did a fabulous job increasing our membership during her term as President. Help us share information about TWFF with others in our community.

Third, if you have creative juices and would like to submit articles, photos, or artwork on fly fishing for publication in the newsletter, your ideas are welcome! Towards the end of the newsletter, we have listed the submittal and publication dates for your reference. Sharing knowledge and helping all of us learn new skills—through the published word or on the water—strengthens the core of our club.

In closing, as I prepared handing off financial information to Glenna Noret, our new treasurer, I was going through a file box of old TWFF paperwork that was given to me when I started as TWFF treasurer in 2003. I found the papers that were filed with the State of Texas in 2001, making us an official club. Many of you were there "in the beginning," volunteering your time and experience when our club was still in its infancy. You worked hard with, as I understand, long board meetings and some lively discussions about how to set up the infrastructure of TWFF. After six years, I think that those who attended those early organizational meetings would be extremely pleased and proud, as I am, with the state of Texas Women Fly Fishers at the start of 2007. Kerri Stephenson, our Second VP in charge of membership sent me a membership roster with over 100 names on it. I'm handing over a bank account statement to Glenna with an account balance well over \$5000. We stayed within our 2006 annual budget (actually, our 2006 income exceeded our 2006 expenses). We approved our 2007 budget at the January outing, which includes sponsoring two women at this year's Casting for Recovery retreat. Pretty neat stuff!

To all of the previous officers and charter members of TWFF, thank you. Your early and continuing efforts in forming and sustaining this club was a success. We have a great organization that we all are proud to support! We thank you for your hard work and vision.

Great Fishing in 2007!
Mary Rohrer
President

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TWFF Outreach—Upcoming Events

Please join TWFF members at the following various activities:

Saturday, March 3, [Fly Fish Texas](#), Athens, TX—Sheila Anderson, Kerri Stephenson, Lavene Jones, and Frances Estes will represent TWFF at this show. Like last year, they will sell flies for Casting for Recovery. Drop by if you are at the event, or contact Sheila if you have flies to donate.

Tuesday, March 27, [Austin T.O.W.N. group](#), 6:00 P.M Austin, TX—Sheila Anderson and Mary Rohrer will be at the T.O.W.N. meeting to share TWFF's fly-fishing experiences with this group. Austin members—come by and show your support of TWFF with our T.O.W.N. colleagues.

Other Events

Feb 20: [Captain Sally Moffet](#)

[Alamo Fly Fishers](#)

San Antonio, TX

Apr 14: [Dave and Emily Whitlock](#)

[Sportsman's Finest](#)

Austin, TX

Friday May 18 to Sunday May 20, [FFF Gulf Coast Expo 2007](#), Lake Charles, LA—Mary Rohrer and Mike and Glenna Noret will be at the first Gulf Coast FFF Conclave. Like Fly Fish Texas, TWFF will sell flies for Casting for Recovery and providing information on TWFF to attendees. Contact [Mary Rohrer](#) for information on sharing accommodations in Lake Charles.

Monday, June 18, [Dallas Fly Fishers](#) monthly meeting—Sheila Anderson will present information about TWFF and talk about fly fishing in the Hill Country. Following her talk, Sheila will do a fly-tying demonstration. If you are in the DFW area, please join her at the meeting. DFF meets at the Addison Conference Center.

If you'd like to add an activity to the Outreach list, please e-mail the information to Mary Rohrer at mary_l_rohrer@yahoo.com. If you are a member of a club or organization that that would like us to make a presentation, please let us know, and we'll see if we can accommodate your request!

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Guadalupe River Trout Outing—Trip Report

January 12–14, 2007

By Sheila Anderson



Christmas Fly created by
Kyle Hand



Photo by Sheila Anderson

Winners Barbara Booth, Greg Neubauer, and Mary Rohrer celebrate their winnings following the Casting for Recovery fundraising raffle.

The “dry” spell has finally been broken—in part because of the knowledge shared by local fly fishers, Karen Gebhardt and Greg Neubauer, and in part due to the persistence of a few women anglers trying different flies and retrieving techniques. *We have finally caught trout on the Guadalupe River.* Of course, this was for those lucky enough to get there by Friday. The release was at an all-time TWFF outing low: 97 cfs, very pleasant and fishable.

Karen and Greg shared their experiences and insights with us at the Mullet Mixer on Friday evening, and Mary Rohrer provided maps for everyone to note the best locations for fishing. In addition to their presentations and the wonderful assortment of food and beverages, we welcomed Kyle Hand, our guest artist and feature fly tier for the weekend. For display, Kyle brought a generous supply

of materials and equipment and a beautiful assortment of his famous North Atlantic salmon flies, along with some Texas bass flies, which he tied from vintage pattern descriptions.



Photo by Betty Burleson.

Kyle assists Glenna Noret as Rozlynn Orr looks on.

Kyle Hand joined our outing at my request. I met him at a Glen Rose casting clinic last August, and I was hopeful he wouldn't mind teaching us a few things. Kyle and his wife, Sue, drove down from Fort Worth for their first visit to the Guadalupe River and the Texas Hill Country. They both had an enjoyable time: Sue studying for her RN degree, and Kyle doing what he loves to do best. Kyle and Sue are both very generous people, and we benefited from their kindness.

Our Casting for Recovery fundraiser happened in the form of a raffle at the Mullet Mixer. Three prizes were displayed, each with its own bucket for raffle tickets. The first was a solid oak storage box with hinged lid and felt-lined drawers that was admired by many. In keeping with the trout fishing/fly tying weekend theme, another prize was an Orvis book about reading trout streams, coupled with a Sportsman's Finest grab bag of fly tying materials. The other coveted prize, donated by Greg and Gretchen Neubauer, was a pair of GRTU guest passes for a day of fishing the exclusive GRTU sites. The twenty-plus people in attendance purchased enough tickets to send us well on our way to meeting our CFR goal for this year. You all made this the second highest fundraiser in our history with \$410. Outstanding!

With extremely wet weather arriving late Friday night, we were fortunate to have made alternative plans. Saturday morning, the river was chocolate brown with debris floating perilously down stream. The storms that had come through sent some of our members packing and heading home, while others we had expected didn't make it at all. The next weather threat was the announcement of an arctic front spreading slowly from north Texas and heading our way. A few folks tried to fish, but they were chased back inside by lightening, so we tied flies. Kyle instructed us on the finer points of tying wooly buggers, micro jigs, dry flies, nymphs, and foam bugs. We spent a full day in the Summit clubhouse with our materials and tying tools, and beginners as well as experienced fly tiers all enjoyed a great time.

Later Saturday evening, we had dinner and our annual membership meeting. We scheduled outings for the balance of the year, and several members volunteered to coordinate them. Check the [TWFF Web site](#) for details of all our 2007 outings. Even though we couldn't fish on Saturday, we still had a wonderful outing enjoying each other's company. For more pictures of this outing, check out the TWFF [picture album](#).



Photo by Sheila Anderson

New member, Janice Togal, tries her hand at fly tying.

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Pedernales River Outing at Johnson City

March 30–April 1, 2007



Photo by Karen Gebhardt

By Karen Gebhardt, Outing Coordinator

ktgeb@satx.rr.com

Please join us for an educational weekend of fishing, aquatics, and casting instruction on the Pedernales River in Johnson City. Karen Gebhardt has invited us to fish the river from her beautiful waterfront property just minutes north of town. Bring a friend who has expressed interest in fly fishing and share your knowledge. This is a great outing for all experience levels.

Federation of Fly Fishers Master Casting Instructor, Al Crise, and Texas Master Naturalist, Gene Smith will join TWFF for the weekend and provide all levels of instruction to our members and guests.

This is a great outing for beginning fly fishers as well as those who want to improve their casting technique and knowledge of entomology. Al Crise is a great instructor; he will help all of us understand the mechanics of casting, tightening up our casting loops so that we can improve our accuracy and distance, and troubleshooting. Equipment will be available for those who need it. Gene will be streamside to help us identify various invertebrates so that we can match the flies in our fly boxes with the naturals that fish find in the local streams.

Of course, there is fishing, too. The Pedernales by Karen's home is an easy stream to wade and fish for bass and perch. The river has large boulders and limestone cuts; so wading boots and a wading staff are recommended because the streambed can be slippery.

Downstream from Karen's, the river widens and is deeper. Depending on the river water levels, consider bringing a float tube or kayak to fish the deeper pools. In addition, for those who want a more challenging fishing experience, if this cold, wet weather holds out, the white bass may still be running at Reimer's Ranch, which is about 30 minutes away.

TWFF members in the Austin and San Antonio areas should consider coming up for the day on Saturday if a long weekend doesn't fit into your schedule. Karen's home is an easy one-hour drive from either Austin or San Antonio.

Please send an e-mail to Karen at ktgeb@satx.rr.com if you plan to attend.

SCHEDULE

Friday Evening— Karen is hosting the Mullet Mixer along the banks of the Pedernales River in front of her home (currently under construction), starting at 6:00 P.M. Bring an appetizer to share, chairs, lanterns, and your favorite drink and enjoy the evening streamside. For our Casting for Recovery fundraiser, we'll do a CFR grab bag. Bring a \$10 dollar item to place in the grab bag and \$10 cash to participate in the fun!

Saturday Morning—

8:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M.—Breakfast tacos at Karen's (by donation for CFR)

9:00 A.M.—Al Crise will provide casting lessons, including basic casting, casting in windy conditions, soft casting, and double haul techniques. Classes will be based on participants' skill levels and number of participants.

Gene Smith will have entomology classes in the morning. He'll have seines, identification books, and other equipment to use for examining bugs. Bring some glass jars to start your species collections.

Saturday...Anytime—If you're not learning to improve your casting skills or identifying bugs, the river is right there! Go catch some fish! The riverbed is wide and easy to walk upstream to find that perfect hole full of fish. Bring a picnic lunch.

Saturday Afternoon at 5:00 P.M.—We will conduct a short, informal TWFF business meeting streamside.

Saturday Evening at 6:00 P.M.—We'll head for dinner at [Buddy's Feed Mill](#) in Johnson City. They have put together a nice dinner menu for the TWFF participants and guests, with your choice of spaghetti, lasagna, chicken fried chicken, or chicken fried steak. Cost for dinner, including salad bar, is \$7 to \$10 per person—good food and fellowship after a day on the water!

NOTE: Per Karen Gebhardt, this information may be updated as we get closer to the event.

Sunday—Fishing on your own

HOW TO GET THERE

(Please refer to the [map](#) below for additional information. Karen's house, lodging, and the restaurant are keyed on the [map](#).)

NOTE: *US 281 (running north and south) and US 290 (running east and west) intersect in Johnson City. Karen's place is just north of Johnson City. **The following directions are from the intersection of US 281 and US 290 in Johnson City.** If you need additional assistance with directions, you can reach Karen on her cell phone at (210) 414-7301.*

Head north on US 281.

Turn left on Spur 365. The Odiorne Feed & Supply is on the right, just before you cross the bridge over the Pedernales River.

Turn right on the first paved road, Old River Access Road, immediately after the row of mailboxes.

Follow north across a low-water crossing; then the road turns west and becomes Trail Rock Road.

Continue to the end of the road. Karen's home is on the right; the address is 844 Trail Rock Road.

Parking: Parking is limited at Karen's house. We've arranged to use the Community Pool parking lot on Nugent Avenue (see [Location K](#) on the [map](#) below) for our participants. Please come to Karen's place and drop off your fishing gear, and we'll shuttle you between Karen's house and the offsite parking lot.

WHERE TO STAY

Following are some suggestions for motels, cabins, RV parks, and camp areas. These locations are generally shown on the [map](#) below. [Google](#) for more if you'd like, or contact the Johnson City Visitors Center at (830) 868-7684.

MOTELS and CABINS:		
<p>Best Western Hotel 2 Queen beds per room, with microwave, fridge, coffee. Continental bkfst included, located in town</p>	<p>107 Hwy. 281 S. P.O. Box 352 Johnson City, TX 78636</p>	<p>(830) 868-4044</p>
<p>Hill Kuntry Kabins cabin rentals in a natural setting with lots of wildlife. Centrally located in the beautiful Texas Hill Country, just 1.5 miles from the Pedernales Falls State Park. "The Great Escape."</p>	<p>Paul Serur 1712 Highway 3232 Johnson City, Texas 78636</p>	<p>Phone: (830) 868-2096 E-mail: pserur@intergate.com</p>
CAMPING AND RV PARKS		
<p>Roadrunner RV Park RV Park. Full hookup, shade, pull thru sites available, city utilities, paved roads, central modem hook-up, cabin available. RV park is located in town near restaurants, bank, and grocery. Features ten new wide 50 amp site. Free Wi-Fi. Furnished exercise facility available for use.</p>	<p>Carol and Chuck Birmingham P.O. Box 161 501 Hwy 281-290 South Johnson City, TX 78636</p>	<p>Phone: (830) 868-7449 Fax: (830) 868-2882 E-mail: rvpark@moment.net</p>
<p>Miller Creek RV Park Large sites, pull-thrus. FHU with 30/50 AMP. Free Instant Phone. Modem friendly. Tents welcome. A/C Cabins with bath. Separate Horse & RV camping area. Catch/release fishing, canoes, paddleboats, and swimming on a scenic spring-fed creek! Horseshoes and croquet, rally room, laundry, and bathhouse.</p>	<p>Mark Baize 5618 Hwy 281 S Johnson City, TX 78636 (About 7 miles south of Johnson City)</p>	<p>Phone: (830) 868-2655 E-mail: millercrk@aol.com</p>
<p>Pedernales Falls State Park Tent Camping approximately 14 miles east of Johnson City on FM 2766.</p>	<p>2585 Park Road 6026 Johnson City TX 78636</p>	<p>(830) 868-7304</p>
B & B's		
<p>The Pickett House Bed & Breakfast</p>	<p>103 Live Oak Johnson City, TX 78636</p>	<p>(281) 344-9646 home, (281) 250-2151 cell, or (832) 660-2208 cell E-mail: barbillpickett@sbcglobal.net</p>
<p>Chantilly Lace Country Inn Bed & Breakfast & Restaurant Country B and B with restaurant and gardens in country setting</p>	<p>Porter and Sylvia Dunnaway P.O. Box 1716 625 Nugent Avenue Johnson City, Texas 78636</p>	<p>(830) 868-7450 E-mail: clsops@tstar.net</p>

WHAT TO BRING

-  Community dish or appetizer and CFR grab bag item for Mullet Mixer on Friday night
-  Personal breakfast/lunch food and cooler with ice for Saturday and Sunday
-  3 to 4 wt. fly rod (or 5 to 6 wt. rod if you don't have smaller) The Guadalupe bass are small in size.
-  4x or 5x tippets
-  Flies: woolly buggers, poppers, Clouser's minnows, streamers, micro jigs, etc.
-  Sunscreen and hat
-  River shoes or wading boots (Waders are not necessary, but if you prefer them, bring them.)
-  Wading staff
-  Camera and binoculars (There are lots of birds on the river!)
-  Sense of humor and desire to learn new skills
-  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
-  Quick-dry or water-resistant clothing recommended
-  Current fishing license and TWFF name tag

NOTE: For those of you who do not have nametags, we will be placing orders for them. Contact [Kerri Stephenson](#) to order your nametag.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Activity

Level of Difficulty

Casting lessons with Al Crise at Karen's place



Entomology lessons with Gene Smith on Saturday morning



Fishing at your leisure (no trees to hang up your lines!)



Maneuvering the river: There are huge boulders and many limestone cuts, and it is slippery. However, with a wading stick for stability and slow, steady don't-lift-one-foot-before-the-other-is-set wading, it should be manageable for the novice. There are no rapid-slow steady drifts.



NOTE:



= easy



= moderate

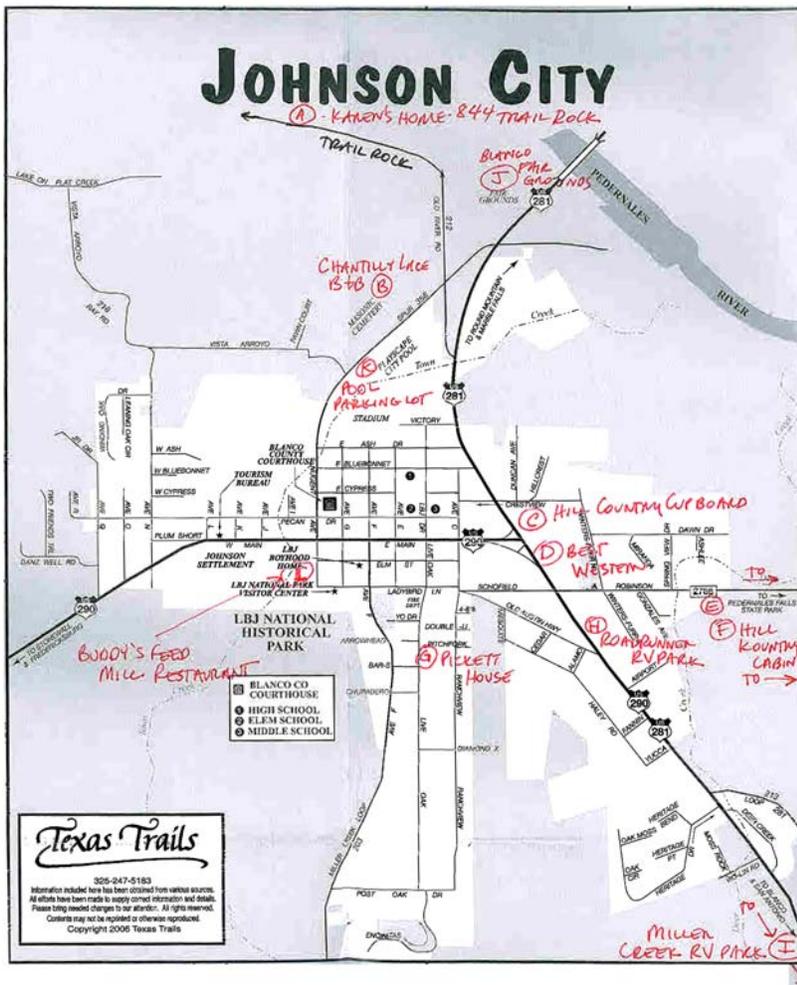


= advanced

OTHER THINGS TO DO IN THE AREA

- 🦋 [LBJ Ranch](#) Visitor's Center in Johnson City and tours in Stonewall—(830) 868-7128
- 🦋 [Whittington's Jerky and General Store](#), 602 Highway 281 South, Johnson City
- 🦋 Shopping in Fredericksburg—antiques/gifts/fly shops ([Hill Country Outfitters](#) and Martin Pursch's Country Fly Fisher)
- 🦋 The best chicken fried steak (nearly 3 dozen sold) café at 281 and 290W in Johnson City.
- 🦋 [Wildseed Farms](#)® flower center between Stonewall and Fredericksburg (They charge to walk the gardens, but the place is wonderful.)
- 🦋 See also: [In the Footsteps of LBJ—Destination: Johnson City](#)

MAPS TO JOHNSON CITY AND KAREN'S HOUSE



Index to Johnson City Map:

- A. Karen Gebhardt's Home – 844 Trail Rock
- B. Chantilly Lace Country Inn – 625 Nugent Street
- C. Hill Country Cupboard – Intersection US 281 and US 290
- D. Best Western – Intersection US 281 and US 290
- E. Pedernales Falls State Park – 2585 Park Road
- F. Hill Country Cabins – 1712 FM 3232
- G. Pickett House 103 Live Oak
- H. Roadrunner RV Park 501 US 281 South
- I. Miller Creek RV Park
- J. Blanco County Fairgrounds
- K. Community Pool Parking Lot
- L. Buddy's Feed Mill Restaurant

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Artists Series—A Visit with Kyle Hand

NOTE: Kyle Hand is an exceedingly accomplished fly tier who has created flies for Larry Walker, A.K. Best, Westbank Anglers, and the Orvis Company, among others. He was the guest artist at the Guadalupe River outing in January, and he has graciously offered to write a [column](#) about fly tying for the TWFF newsletters (see below). Following is a conversation with Kyle about his interests and his passion: tying flies.

Q: *How did you get started with fly tying?*

Kyle: I got started tying flies in 1981 when we were expecting Kyla. I talked Susie into buying me a beginning fly tying kit, and I started tying flies in our living room.

Q: *Tell us a little bit about your experiences in Colorado, Arizona, and Texas.*

Kyle: I got my start tying flies and fly fishing in Colorado so it has very special memories. I tied commercially for shops in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Arizona, Texas, and the Orvis Company in Vermont. My fishing escapades have been wonderful wherever I have been. Arizona was the one place that I played more golf, worked way too much, and barely got to tie any flies and fish. Actually, in Arizona, my last boss got me back into tying and told me to work less, so I took him up on it.

Q: *What was the greatest number of flies you tied in one year...I heard it was a phenomenal number—was it really 250,000?*

Kyle: I don't have the numbers in front of me anymore, but there were years I tied in vicinity of 200,000 to 250,000 flies. That is a lot of head cement to sniff.

Q: *Can you give us some names of the companies and individuals in the fly tying business for which you've worked?*

Kyle: I tied for Larry Walker (Colorado), A.K. Best (Colorado), Westbank Anglers (Wyoming and Texas), the Orvis Company and lots of other shops in Colorado, Texas, and Arizona.

Q: *You mentioned once that you had a fly tying mentor. I'm sorry, I've forgotten his name. Can you tell us why you consider him an influence in your work and what you do?*

Kyle: I have a number of mentors. Actually, I have two sets of mentors if you will. When I first got started, they were Larry Walker and A.K. Best. With the new style of tying I am involved in, it would be John McLain, although the support group is large, and they are a wonderful group of people. John has been very supportive of my transition from regular fishing flies to the Classics, both in critiquing my work and helping to obtain materials. He has been a fly-tying instructor for over 40 years and is one of the most knowledgeable people I have encountered when it comes to materials and techniques. He lives in Michigan, but I still try to get together with him once a year for a lesson or two.

Q: *Please tell us about your fly-fishing experiences, and why it is the tying that has become your addiction.*

Kyle: I love to fly fish for trout. There is nothing better than standing in a mountain stream, smelling the fresh mountain air, listening to the bugling elk, and trying to fool a wild, native trout with a fly that you have tied, preferably, one of your own design. It is an experience everyone who enjoys fly fishing should experience. My best experience was a week of fishing in the Jackson Hole area many years ago when we caught and released well over 700 trout on many of the area rivers and streams. It is one of those trips you compare all other trips to; unfortunately, they do not measure up. I really enjoy sharing the water with Susan, although it is rare anymore for both of us to get away at the same time to drown a fly or two. To that end, being able to sit down and tie a few dozen flies has become a release for me. I tied so many when I was tying commercially, and now I just tie for fun and demonstration purposes. If we go on a trip and I don't take my vise, I feel like I've left one of the family at home.

John Shewey wrote a wonderful article about me in the Summer 2004 issue of Southwest Fly Fishing. He did not have a lot to work with, but he did a very nice job. I have flies that will be published in Fly Tyer (hopefully this spring) in an article written by Stack Scoville, and I am working on some articles of my own that I will get sent off before too long. I have had one of my flies utilized in a national ad for an RV supply company, and that was a nice surprise.

Q: *Tell us about some of the awards you've received and competitions in which you've participated.*

Kyle: I don't normally enter competitions and have not garnered any awards per se. For many years, I was one of those people working behind the scenes turning out quality product for other people to enjoy. In the past few years, I decided, with Susan's urging, to get my name out there and share some of my limited knowledge and experiences.

It may seem trite, but when people buy one of my framed flies or come by my table at a show and want to watch, that is reward and "award" enough. It is also a pretty neat way to get out and meet lots of good people, like the ladies and gentlemen of TWFF, and create new experiences.

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Tight Threads

The first in a series by Kyle Hand

Hello TWFF members and guests. I would like to start our inaugural column by talking about a problem that we have all encountered at one time or another: tying thread slack.

I can think of only three situations when you might have slack in your thread that ends with positive results: when you are using a "soft loop" to attach materials to the hook, when you are using the "pinch" method of attaching materials to the hook, and after you put a half-hitch on your hook and put your thread over the bobbin holder. In most instances, slack in your tying thread is going to lead to disastrous results. If you allow slack in your thread, previously tied-in materials can fall off the hook or slide around out of position, and dubbing will not attach properly to the thread.

The most egregious culprit of tying thread slack has to be the vise with a stem that is too short. What happens here is that your bobbin or hand bangs on the base of your vise or the tabletop each time you make a pass under the vise.

There are a couple of ways to fix this. The most obvious solution is to work with less thread out of the bobbin. You should be able to do your tying with only an inch or so of working thread hanging out of the bobbin. Another solution is to use a shorter shank bobbin. This is not a big improvement, but it might be enough to avoid slack. As a last resort, if you are still hitting the tabletop or vise base and have tried the strategies I've mentioned here, change the angle of your vise and your body in relation to the tabletop so your hand clears each time you pass under the vise.

Pedestal model vises usually come with a shorter shank than the C-clamp versions; so when you purchase a vise, you should be aware of this difference.

Keep your thread tight and enjoy the process.

Kyle

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How to Tie a Micro-Jig Fly

The following instructions were provided by Kyle Hand at the Guadalupe River outing.

According to Mary Rohrer, this fly is particularly attractive to fish in the rivers of Central Texas.

Materials:

Jig head hook, size 10
Thread, size 140 (color should match the fly)
Crystal flash
Rubber legs
Chenille

Technique:

1. Attach the thread behind the jig head with a jam knot.

2. Wrap the thread securely down the length of the hook to the midway point while holding the tag end of the thread.

Cut off the tag end of the thread. Then continue wrapping until the thread reaches the back end of the hook (where it starts to bend).

Tip: Angle wrap as you reach the area above the hook point to avoid snagging and breaking your thread.

3. Next, add the crystal flash for the tail.

To measure the flash, pinch it between your thumb and index finger; then lay it along the length of jig head hook. The tail should be shorter than the hook shank. Trim to the appropriate length.

While still holding the flash between your thumb and index finger, pull the thread bobbin toward you and center the flash material on top of the thread.

Fold the flash in half (away from you) over the thread and slide it up on top to the back end of the hook. Pinch wrap the flash into place with several wraps. Trim the flash ends so they are even.

4. Measure the chenille to a length that is at least one and one half times the length of the hook shank. Pull some of the chenille material away from one end to expose the central threads of the chenille.

Using four to five quick thread wraps, tie in the chenille above the hook end where the flash was attached.

Then wrap the thread to the center point (mid-body area) on the hook.

5. To tie in the legs, measure and cut two strips of rubber leg material to a length of approximately 2.5".

Fold the two rubber legs evenly over the thread using the same procedure you used to add the flash, then slide the legs up the thread to the top, center of the hook shank and attach with three quick wraps. The legs should be splayed (from the top of the hook, they will look like an X).

6. Wrap the thread up to just behind the jig head.

Next, securely wrap the chenille forward to the rear set of legs. Pulling back the rear legs, wrap the chenille once between the rear and front sets of legs.

Then pull the front set of legs back and make two to three more wraps with the chenille until you reach the jig head.

Hold the material up at a 45-degree angle with your right hand (right-handed tier) and make 2 to 3 wraps of thread with your left hand on the bobbin. Snip the chenille close to the jig head (without cutting your thread!).

Whip finish the thread to secure the wraps and adjust the legs.

Tip: Don't leave the legs so long that they can foul around your hook tip and lose their action. If you need to trim the legs, hold all four up and trim them evenly. Then pull them back down along the sides of the fly and readjust them.



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An Open Letter from Kyle Hand

Ft. Worth, TX
January 13, 2007

To Mary Rohrer, Sheila Anderson, and Ladies of the TWFF:

Susan and I want to thank you ladies (and gentlemen) for a wonderful weekend. You do not know how much fun we had. It was an opportunity for Susan to get out of town and do a little uninterrupted studying and thinking prior to starting her last four months of college, and I had a great time tying flies.

I enjoy the opportunity to teach folks who are attentive, ask great questions, and enjoy fly tying. Granted, I pretty much had a captive audience (though I did feel bad about the rain and the opportunity you missed to fish). I hope you enjoyed the session as much as I did. I have an addiction, and it is called fly tying. I believe it was Marvin Nolte who answered a question about deciding whether to give up fly tying or fly fishing with the response, "I would sure miss my fly rods." I concur totally.

Please understand also that I will do my utmost to promote your organization. Every opportunity I have had to spend with you ladies has been a wonderful experience, and I know it will continue. If ever you need a "filler" or "dog and pony show," please remember me and invite me back. I do have a few more tricks up my sleeve.

Susan was very impressed with your club and the camaraderie you ladies share. She was also impressed with the way the men "lurked" in the background and lent their support. By the way, Susan is threatening to join the TWFF when she graduates. You are not ready for that, but I would love it.

Again, thank you, and God bless all of you.

Tight lines and tight threads,

Kyle and Susan Hand

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TWFF Presents at Orvis in Dallas

January 20, 2007

By Sheila Anderson

TWFF is asked from time to time to give a presentation at the Orvis store in Dallas. This quarter, Sheila Anderson was joined by Roz Orr and Frances Estes for a morning speaking about our organization, our support of Casting for Recovery, and fly fishing the Nueces and Llano Rivers. There was a fly tying demonstration set up at an adjoining table in the presentation room with examples of many of the flies we use to fish these rivers.

Kerri Stephenson generously loans her notebook computer for such events, and a projector was rented for the presentation. While the turn out was not as large as expected due to the cold, rainy weather, the content of the presentation was better than ever. Beautiful photos from our website showed us fishing the crystal clear waters of the Nueces at Bud Priddy, while the magnificent bluffs of Llano River at Homer Martin's Ranch dwarf a lone kayaker.



Photo by Sheila Anderson
Linda Love on the Nueces.



Photo by Sheila Anderson
Sheila Hood kayaks the Llano.

We were well received by the Orvis staff, and we are invited back in late April to join them for Orvis Days. Many groups are represented at Orvis Days, each with a table and small display area used to promote themselves while also recruiting new members.

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Mark Your Calendar for These Upcoming Events

More to Come!!!

Federation of Fly Fishers Gulf Coast Expo 2007

When: Friday through Sunday, May 18-20, 2007
Where: Lakefront Civic Center
Lake Charles, LA
Show Times: Friday: 12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday and Sunday: 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

What: This is the largest exposition ever dedicated to fly fishing, fly tying, and kayak fishing on the northern Gulf Coast. This inaugural event, sponsored by the newly formed Gulf Coast Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, offers something for everyone: from beginners to advanced fly fishers, for all ages, and for every member of the family.

Special Events: The Expo will feature two of the greatest names in the sport of fly fishing: **Lefty Kreh** and **Nick Curcione**. Fly tying demonstrations, presentations on casting, tactics for salt and fresh water fishing, outdoor photography, canoeing, kayaking, paddle craft, push poling, and more. Other activities include a CFR fundraiser, exhibits, workshops, and cooking classes.

For more information, see www.gulfcoastfff.org.

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More to Come!!!

Bud Priddy Memorial One Fly Contest!

Join us for a fun-filled weekend of fly fishing and friendly competition with the [Alamo Fly Fishers](#) at the "One Fly," and enjoy the crystal clear waters of the Nueces River!

When: Friday through Sunday, May 18-20, 2007

Where: Camp Wood, TX

Coordinator: Betty Burleson – gabbb@hotmail.net

The Nueces River is a wade-fishing dream; it is home to Guadalupe and largemouth bass, catfish, and numerous varieties of bluegill, sunfish, and the lovely Rio Grande perch.

Make your reservations with Terri at the BIG OAK CAMP:

Telephone: (830) 597-5280

E-mail: bigoak@hilconet.com

Web site: www.bigoakrivercamp.com

Then e-mail Betty to let her know you are coming! Some of us go three to five days early. If you have some free time, make your reservations and come early!

For more information on the Bud Priddy Memorial One-Fly Contest, see an [article written by David Sikes](#) for the Corpus Christi News.

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Spotlight

We want to acknowledge one of our members for her outstanding efforts in raising funds for CFR.

The weekend of February 3–4, Stacy Trimble appeared at the Fly Tying Festival in Houston, TX. The following weekend, she had a CFR booth at the Fly Fishing Show in Arlington, TX. At both of these events, Stacy sold CFR hats and pins. For her efforts, she raised a total of \$820.00. Additionally, at the Arlington show, Stacy accepted a Scott A2 905/4 fly rod from a generous donor: [Gary Hanson](#) of [Mountain River Fly Shop](#) in Cotter, AK. The rod will be auctioned off at a TWFF outing later this year, with proceeds going towards CFR.

Stacy single-handedly raised enough money to sponsor a woman for the CFR-Texas outing this year.

We applaud your efforts, Stacy, and we appreciate your commitment and support! THANK-YOU!

When one of our members does something special, we'd like to know about it so we can acknowledge it! If you have an accomplishment you'd like to share, or if you know someone who deserves our recognition, please submit your information to Mary Rohrer at mary_l_rohrer@yahoo.com

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Photo by Sheila Anderson
Stacy Trimble concentrates on her fly tying at the Guadalupe River outing.



Texas Women Fly Fishers—2007 Officers

President:	Mary Rohrer	mary_l_rohrer@yahoo.com
First Vice President:	Lavene Jones	lavenejones@sbcglobal.net
Second Vice President of Membership:	Kerri Stephenson	kstephenson1@austin.rr.com
Secretary:	Cynthia Suds	wilcin12@aol.com
Treasurer:	Glenna Noret	michael.noret@cox.net
Trustees:	Sheila Hood	sahood1@earthlink.net
	Betty Burelson	gabbb@hotmail.net
Historian:	Sheila Anderson	sanderson2000@austin.rr.com
Immediate Past President:	Sheila Anderson	sanderson2000@austin.rr.com
Newsletter Coordinator:	Sheila Setter	sheilasetter@gmail.com

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TWFF Newsletter Publication Dates

Calling all writers, photographers, and artists! We are looking for stories, articles, photographs, and illustrations. If you'd like to submit something for an upcoming newsletter, please send it to sheilasetter@gmail.com at least three (3) weeks prior to the upcoming publication date.

Following are the 2007 TWFF Newsletter publication dates:

April 19, 2007	(Deadline for submission is April 5, 2007.)
June 14, 2007	(Deadline for submission is May 24, 2007.)
August 16, 2007	(Deadline for submission is July 26, 2007.)
October 4, 2007	(Deadline for submission is September 13, 2007.)
December 13, 2007	(Deadline for submission is November 22, 2007.)

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TWFF Newsletter Advertising Rates

	One issue	Annual (6 issues)	All ads must be prepaid. Ads with graphics should be submitted electronically as high-resolution JPG files. Please send your ad requests to Sheila Setter at sheilasetter@gmail.com Thank-you!
Swap/sell items — Members	Free		
Text Ads (Nonmembers)	\$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		

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