



February 2008
www.twff.net

“Our mission is to create opportunities and encourage, educate, and mentor women’s responsible participation in the recreational sport of fly fishing. We support the policies/goals of the Federation of Fly Fishers, are open to women, men, and children from beginner to experienced through programs sponsored by women from the Texas Women Fly Fishers.”



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TWFF Business Update

Submitted by Cynthia Jose-Sudds

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Presented by Gretchen Neubauer. Financial statement for Dec. 2007 was given out for review. The group has stayed well within budget. We still have \$5600 in bank with some expenses yet to be paid (CFR, Guadalupe Bass Fund). Thank you Glenna Noret for a great job in 2007 as treasurer and for heading up the Outing Committee.

Proposed budget for 2008 is almost the same as last year. We are looking at sponsoring a second person for CFR. The website (webmaster) budget is increased from last year to have more content available on the website. More discussion under new business.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Report was presented by Kerri Stephenson. Currently we are at 120 members. Twelve members from 2006 have not renewed their memberships yet and will be dropped from our listings next year. It is time for all to renew their membership! Great job Kerri!

WEBSITE:

There will be a new “Members Only” section added soon. Sort of a “message board” area. Question on whether or not we should also add “Pay Pal” for dues, etc. was addressed. If anyone has information on the pros and cons of using this please let us know. More investigation will be done to see if this is something worth doing.





From the President

By Mary Rohrer

Dear Anglers,

I'm excited about the upcoming 2008 TWFF Fishing Season and my second year as President. It is fun to be part of an organization which is growing, financially in great shape, and the membership is excited about doing new things and exploring new fishing venues. The 2007 Board of Directors was a great help and support to me. And, I'd like to express a sincere thank you to so many of you who shared your talents, helped out when needed, and just had fun participating at our events last year.

Our 2008 activities are off to a great start. Glenna Noret and the Outing Committee have done a fabulous job preparing a great schedule this year. They researched tons of places to go, new fishing spots to explore and places to visit. The list of the 2008 outings is published in this newsletter and is on the website. Mark them on your calendar! If you have a suggestion for an outing, please send an email to Glenna. The Committee is always looking for new fishing locations, particularly those in Texas that would be fun for our members. Also, they need a few more volunteers to organize an outing. If that seems like a lot, think about helping one of the coordinators, meeting some of the members, and having fun. That's not too hard!

One area I'd like the club to focus on for 2008 is improved communications within our membership. A part of our plan is to update the website to be more member-friendly. We'll increase content on the site to include some information on what we need for our fishing styles....warm water, saltwater, kayak fishing, basic "need to know" knot tying. More information on the club will be available including a list of officers and contact information. We've added a "Friends of TWFF" page, which lists our sponsors- people who have donated to our club or for our Casting for Recovery fundraising. Mention to these folks that you appreciate their support of TWFF. In the next few months, we'll rollout a "Members Only" message board. This would facilitate anglers getting together locally to fish, or ride together to an outing, even exchanging information on places to go. I'm looking forward to getting this implemented. Communication by sharing knowledge and helping all of us learn new skills- through the published word or on the water- strengthens the core of our club.

Our next outing is in Fredericksburg, my home waters. The outing is a set up to be a primer for everyone. We'll work on casting techniques, understand loops, and learn about rigging for warm water. Bring a friend or colleague that has been interested in fly fishing to the outing. This is a good way and great place to introduce the basics as well as learn new skills. If conditions are favorable, we'll head to one of my "favorite spots" on the Pedernales and do some wet wading to hook up a Guadalupe Bass or two. Then we head out Saturday evening for a great Bavarian meal at Friedhelm's Restaurant. Don't forget to keep some room for the apple strudel!

Happy Fishing!

Mary Rohrer



Upcoming TWFF Events

APRIL 4-6, 2008

Back 40, Fredericksburg

Coordinator(s): Shelia Anderson

sanderson2000@austin.rr.com

MAY 30-JUNE 1, 2008

Purtis Creek State Park

Contact TPWD at 512.389.8900 and make reservations asap if you are camping. Sites are \$16.00 and fill up quickly at this small park.

Coordinator(s):

Rozlynn Orr & Kathy Goodlett

mzfishin@yahoo.com

JULY 18-21, 2008

Bastrop, Colorado River

Coordinator(s) needed

SEPTEMBER 12-14, 2008

Muller's Ark Ranch, Bandera

Coordinator(s):

Glenna Noret & Kelley Kazura

michael.noret@suddenlink.net

Welcome New Members

Susan K. Brown
Live Oak, TX

Sharon Corley
Grandbury, TX

Gilley Griffith
Lubbock, TX

Kelly Lovelady
Longview, TX

Debbie Williams
Santo, TX

NEXT OUTING: Fly Fishing at the Back 40 of Fredericksburg, B & B Ranch

APRIL 4 - 6, 2008

Sheila Anderson, Coordinator; RSVP to sanderson2000@austin.rr.com

Welcome to a weekend in the Heart of the Texas Hill Country, at the beautiful Back 40 B & B Ranch of Fredericksburg. You will find forty acres of serene settings with lakes, trees, and great fly fishing on a private lake surrounding the property. We can bank fish, wade, or kayak on the lake.

<http://www.back40-fredericksburg.com>

We have reserved this beautiful setting exclusively for the Texas Women Fly Fishers for the entire weekend. There is a spa and massage therapist on site available to us by reservation. The sauna is ours to use once it's fired up on Saturday.

This is an outing to improve your skills for the season and it is a great outing to bring a friend who has been interested in learning to fly fish; all are welcome. We have equipment available even for a day trip for women close to Austin and SA. When you are not fishing from the bank or on a kayak, you may attend any of the classes available on Saturday.

Mullet Mixer is Friday evening at 6:30 at the Back 40.

We will plan for good weather and have the mullet mixer outside. Bring a snack to share, and your favorite beverage. If it is wet or cold, we can move it inside to the Texas Size Suite.

9:00 am - Warm Water Rigging:

Take the trout leaders and tippetts off and learn how to rig your line for warm water fishing. Martin Pursch will instruct us in rigging for warm water bass fishing. Bring your 3x leader and 4x tippet and learn what types of flies to use and how to fish them for the various warm water fish in Texas.

10:00 am - Improve your Casting Skills:

In the morning, learn the four stages of the cast, including the pickup, back cast, pause, and forward cast. Find plenty of room to practice, then take it to the water.

11:00 am - Class on Loops:

Loops are defined, and examples of different types and sizes of loops are demonstrated and learned. Diagnosis of individual casting techniques to identify where improvements can be made for a more effective cast.

Lunch at the Back 40 on Saturday will be offered and the \$7 for burger, chips, soft drink, and dessert will be collected as a Casting for Recovery fund raiser.

The Back 40 is completely booked up, so please make reservations quickly at any of the following places:

Additional accommodations in Fredericksburg

Other lodging may be found at the Fredericksburg Chamber of Commerce: www.FredTexLodging.com or 888-997-3600



The Dietzel Motel

141 W. Hwy 290
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-997-3330
from \$75 - \$89/night
<http://www.dietzelmotel.com/>

Holiday Inn Express

1220 N. US 87
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-990-4200
\$119/night - breakfast included

Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park

RV grounds
432 Lady Bird Dr.
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-997-4202 \$20/day
<http://www.fbgtx.org/other/rvpark.htm>

Sunset Inn

900 S. Adams
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830-997-9581
Single \$49 Double \$59/night

We will make dinner reservations for Saturday evening at 6:30 at the Freidhelm Bavarian Restaurant.



Fly Fishing at the Back 40 *continued*

GUIDELINES & SUGGESTIONS

Fly Fishing at the Back 40 of Fredericksburg, B & B Ranch

April 4 - 6, 2008

Bring your fly rod, reel, flies and extra equipment for those who may be new and need help. If you want to bring a spinning rod, that's fine too. **Bring 3x leader and 4x tippet to rig for warm water fishing.**

Suggested Flies: Woolly Buggers, Jig Head Nymphs, Clousers, Sponge Bugs, Zonkers, Tarantulas, Miss Prissy, Spider Legs, #10 Bloody Muddler and a #10 Golden Muddler, orange microjig, or use your imagination. Martin Pursch will advise other flies for fishing the warm Texas waters.

Bring your kayak or kick boat and fish the entire lake. I'm sure there will be boats available to try out if you do not have one.

We will hopefully have beautiful spring weather, so bring sun-screen, camera, polarized sun glasses, and waders in case the water may be a little chilly. Remember your hat too!

RSVP to Sheila Anderson when you have made your reservations, sanderson2000@austin.rr.com, or 512-771-4909.



On the following page is a map to Key Locations around Fredericksburg.



KEY MAP TO LOCATIONS AROUND FREDERICKSBURG

TWFF Outing Location

- 1. Back 40 B&B
457 Bob Moritz Drive
830-997-1702

TWFF Lodging and Meals

- 2. The Dietzel Motel
1141 West Main
830-997-3330
- 3. Holiday Inn Express
1220 North US 87
830-990-4200
- 4. Sunset Inn
900 South Adams
830-997-9581
- 5. Friedhelm's Bavarian Restaurant
(Saturday Night Dinner at 6:30)
905 West Main
830-997-6300

- 7. Lady Bird Johnson RV Park
SH 16 South at 432 Lady Bird Drive
830-997-4202

Fly Fishing Information and Places to Fish

- 6. Hill Country Outfitters
115 East Main Street
830-997-3761
- 8. Martin Pursch
Country Fly Fisher
1974 Goehmann Lane
830-990-9453
- 9. Fishing Spot
Low Water Crossing at
SH 16 and Albert Petsch Road
- 10. Fishing Spot
Low Water Crossing at
Boos Lane

Hill Country Specialties:

- 11. Pick Your Own Strawberries
Marburger Orchards
559 Kuhlmann Road
830-997-9433
- 12. Fredericksburg Herb Farm
405 Whitney
830-997-8615
- 13. Wildseed Farm
US 290 East (7 miles)
830-990-1393



2008 TWFF Coordinated Outings		
Month	2008 TWFF Coordinated outings	Coordinators
January 18 - 20	The Summit, Guadalupe, Trout Fishing	Shelia Hood
April 4 - 6	Back 40, Fredericksburg	Shelia Anderson
May 30 - Jun 1	Purtis Creek	Rozlynn Orr & Kathy Goodlett
July 18 - 21	Bastrop, Colorado River	Coordinator needed
September 12 - 14	Muller's Ark Ranch, Bandera	Glenna Noret & Kelley Kazura
October 31 - November 2	Aransas Pass	Gretchen Neubauer
December 5 - 7	Texoma, Striper fishing	Rozlynn Orr

2008 Optional Outings without Coordinator		
Month	2008 Optional outings - no coordinator	Point of Contact
Mar 7 - 9	Fly Fish TX, Athens	Mickie Campbell 903-670-2232
May 2 - 4	Bud Priddy, Alamo Fly Fishers	http://www.alamoflyfishers.org/
May 16 - 18	FFF Gulf Coast Council, Lake Charles	www.gulfcoastfff.org
Jun 20 - 22	Port Aransas, Alamo FF	http://www.alamoflyfishers.org/
Jul 18 - 20	Port Aransas, Alamo FF	http://www.alamoflyfishers.org/
Oct	Oktoberfish, Junction	

Outings Update

Submitted by Glenna Noret

Mission: To boldly explore and establish new and exciting outings for the TWFF that will incorporate new waters and offer reasonable samplings from across the wonderful state of Texas!

The club's first outing committee was formed in November 2007 at the Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Those volunteering to help on the committee were Shelia Anderson, Kathy Goodlett, Linda Love, Betty Burleson, Rozlynn Orr, and Frances Estes. It is chaired by Glenna Noret. Our first tasking was to line up the 2008 outings and then to focus on the 2009. We also wanted to find new waters and places to go and to test the locations before the club actually ventured there. We have been making contracts all over the state and more. Some of our committee members have been working with other fly fishing clubs to get locations or even pair up with them on their outings. We are also trying to maintain some stability to the schedule by continuing to have one trout fishing trip and one saltwater trip each year. The 2009 schedule is getting exciting - we are even looking at one major trip to fish for trout in Arkansas!

If the amount of emails being sent between the committee members are any indication, the committee has been working hard. Five of us ventured to Broken Bow to see how a trip in February might pan out. We all took the Advance Fly Fishing class offered by Jesse King of the Three Rivers Fly Shop. The fishing was very good, and we all learned a lot. We have mixed feelings about going to Broken Bow in February. There's none of the fall foliage to see, the weather is not very dependable, but the fishing is great. We were looking at moving the trout fishing trip normally held in November to February 2009. We may still do this, but with a warning to come prepared to fish in cold weather and even rain. It may be a trip for die-hard TWFF members, but I think we could talk Jesse into having three of these classes - one on Friday, one on Saturday and one on Sunday. The classes are all day long and can only hold five students. We each paid \$75 which was a real deal!

More updates to follow!

"We also wanted to find new waters and places to go and to test the locations before the club actually ventured there."

~Glenna Noret

"The 2009 schedule is getting exciting - we are even looking at one major trip to fish for trout in Arkansas!"

~Glenna Noret



Purtis Creek State Park

MAY 30, 2008 – June 1, 2008

Purtis Creek State Park – 903.425.2332 – Regina for general questions
TPWD – 512.389.8900 – for reservations

Location: Purtis Creek is 80 miles southeast of Dallas.

Angling Opportunities

Purtis Creek State Park is best known for its largemouth bass fishery. This species has been subject to a special catch-and-release-only rule since the lake opened to the public in 1988. Channel catfish are stocked annually and grow rapidly, providing an excellent fishery from both fishing piers. Crappie anglers frequently catch daily limits of these popular fish.

Species	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Largemouth Bass				
Catfish				
Crappie				
Sunfish				

Fishing Cover/Structure

This state park lake was designed specifically for fishing. Much of the inundated timber is still standing in the upper half of the lake and in the back of most coves. Native aquatic vegetation (coontail and pondweed) is abundant. Hydrilla is occasionally a problem, but the park staff currently has this invasive plant under control.

This is a great small lake for kayaking, canoeing and kick boating. There are two lighted fishing piers, a dam with a concrete ledge walkway and bank accessibility for land bound fishers.

Fees

\$2.00 entrance fee to park or free with Texas State Park Pass (up 15 free in a car load).

\$16.00 sites with water and electric – camping and RV. They reserve a site for you but not a specific one. A group member/host can arrive as early as 8 a.m. and get the TWFF sites together.

There are 59 camping sites. This is a small park and books quickly. Reservations should be made as far in advance as possible.

Cancellation Policy

If notification is made within 48 hours of reservation, all money is returned except for a \$5.00 reservation fee. Any later notification results in a forfeit of all money.

Please RSVP to coordinators if you are planning on attending:

Rozlynn Orr/Frances Estes at: mzfishin@yahoo

Kathy Goodlett at: kgoodusav@yahoo.com

Fly Recommendations

(similar to Fredericksburg outing)

- Deer Hair Bass Bugs
- Bunny Streamers
- Poppers
- Wooly Bugger & Clousers

Equipment Recommendations

- 6 wt. - 8 wt. rod with floating line for bass with
- 1X, 2X or 3X Leader and matched Tippet
- 5 wt. - 6 wt. rod with floating line for sunfish with
- 3X or 4X Leader and matched Tippet

Canoe/Kayak/Paddle Boat Rental - thru PCSP in person

- \$11.00 – 1 hour
- \$14.00 – 2 hours
- \$17.00 – 3 hours
- \$21.00 – 4 hours
- \$28.00 – all day - This would be ideal for a small group to rent and share

Lodging

Lodging in Athens 14 miles from the State Park: (more info to come regarding where we get best rates and a facility room)

- **Best Western-On The Hill** – 903.675.9214, 2050 Highway 31 East, Athens, TX
- **Super 8** – 903.675.7511, 205 US Highway 175 West, Athens, TX
- **Spanish Trace Inn** – 903.675.5173, 716 E. Tyler St., Athens, TX

Calendar

TWFF event will be added to TPWD, Purtis Creek calendar once we make camping reservations.

There is a Jr. Angling event (ages 6-13) on May 31st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This should not affect our outing.



Trip Report: Guadalupe River Trout Outing

JANUARY 18-20, 2008

By Sheila Anderson



Mary Roher and Mary Cain



Lavene and her "only" vise

"To successfully catch trout in the Guadalupe, you must use weight to get your attractor and dropper flies down to the fish quickly. The fish lay in the in the deep pools and runs and rarely see the flies if they drift too high above them."

~Greg and Gretchen Neubauer

At last, a year with weather worthy of fishing! We did not get "stormed" out, nor was the flow too high at ~200cfs. That's not to say it wasn't a little chilly. We planned to tie flies, as usual, with the option to fish if weather and flow permitted. Kyle Hand generously offered his time, materials, and talents to us again, for a day of fly tying and learning. What a wonderful teacher. Along with his wife, Susan, Kyle braved the cold North Texas weather to make the trip down to the Summit. Coco helped while Kyle taught us to tie a couple of flies. With the attention of many women new to tying, Kyle and Coco successfully taught the use of tools and materials for tying the flies.



The nice weather couldn't hold us in this year. Several people drove into Gruene for lunch and shopping, while others headed to the river to wet their lines. Lavene and Cindi Sudds were two that caught fish, while others gave a great effort. Greg and Gretchen Neubauer imparted local fishing knowledge to us. To successfully catch trout in the Guadalupe, they said, you must use weight to get your attractor and dropper flies down to the fish quickly. The fish lay in the in the deep pools and runs and rarely see the flies if they drift too high above them. Evidently, Lavene and Cindy had the right amount of weight on their lines.

Saturday evening after catered BarBQue dinner, we had our annual membership meeting. Mary Rohrer, our president, started off the meeting with a question, "If you could fish with anyone, past or present, who would you choose?" Some people chosen were Brad Pitt, John Travolta, and other celebrities. Yet, other women, if given the opportunity, would fish with present or departed family members. My favorite was person was chosen by Betty Burleson. She would like to fish with Cindy Sudds. Most of us know that Cindy is the best fisher person in all of TWFF.

I believe this was our most well attended January outing at the Summit with over 30 people participating this year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable time, and may we continue to have great fishing experiences as we go through this year. See you in Fredericksburg in April!

Left to right:
Getting ready 'round the table.

Frances Hamm
and Ma'Joyce
Swope



TWFF Outreach



TWFF is sponsoring a special fundraiser for CFR: **“Guess the Number of Flies in the Bottle.”** The person guessing closest to the number will win ALL THE FLIES.

Tail Waters Fly Fishing Co. in Dallas has allowed us to place a bottle of flies in their store. We will bring the bottle to the Back 40 at the Fredericksburg outing for our membership to participate in the game. The money raised by the chances will benefit CFR.



We will do this same fundraiser (with a second bottle of flies) at Fly Fish Texas in Athens, TX on March 8, 2008 along with our regular individual fly sales at the TWFF/CFR table.

Tickets are \$5 each or five tickets for \$20. If you have flies you would like to donate flies for the bottles, or if you would like to purchase tickets and guess the number of flies, please contact:

Roz Orr
mzfishin@yahoo.com

The Talent Within

As I was looking through our great scrapbooks put together by Sheila Anderson, I was amazed at the talent and artistic beauty in so many of our club photos. I was even more amazed by the consistency of the artistic eye of our photographers. I dreamed of having these pictures of my favorite fishing spots on my walls at home. As I pondered these artistic achievements in their own rights, I wanted to see more expressions of art from our members. Like good fish art! With this idea, I would like to have a special auction dedicated to our membership and entitled ‘The Talent Within’ to showcase our member’s talent. I am inviting our membership to donate fish art for the auction. I would like framed photographs, drawings, watercolors, paintings, needlework and stitchery, fish prose and poetry, calligraphy, whatever your creative vein will give you. Can you teach your talent to someone? Consider donating a lesson for the auction. The theme simply needs to be fish and/or water. Let’s not be shy about our donations as beauty is in the eye of the beholder.....and what is more beautiful than a stream, a fish and the lush outdoors? Or a jar of canned preserves.....make the most of your imaginations!

Please contact me for further details. I would like to hold this auction in the next couple of months.

Rozlynn Orr
TWFF Fundraiser
mzfishin@yahoo.com



“ I dreamed of having these pictures of my favorite fishing spots on my walls at home. “

~Roz Orr



Put on Your Hat and Support TWFF!

*“Look at me!
 Look at me!
 Look at me NOW!
 It is fun to have fun
 But you have to know
 how.”*

~The Cat in the Hat

Time to order you new fishing hats for the season, Ladies!
 The photos below and left illustrate the hats we have available this year.
 The two hats on the left (khaki and stone) have dark green underbills. They are \$20.00 each. (A)

The two hats in the middle have long brims with retainer clips for your collar. They are \$22.00 each. (B)

The cap on the right has two LED lights in the brim. It is \$28.00. (C)

All hats will have the TWFF logo in the front and your name on the back.

The Breast Cancer Awareness hat is a ladies fit. It comes in pink or white with a rhinestone ribbon design. This hat is \$22.00 with the TWFF logo and your name on the back. (D)

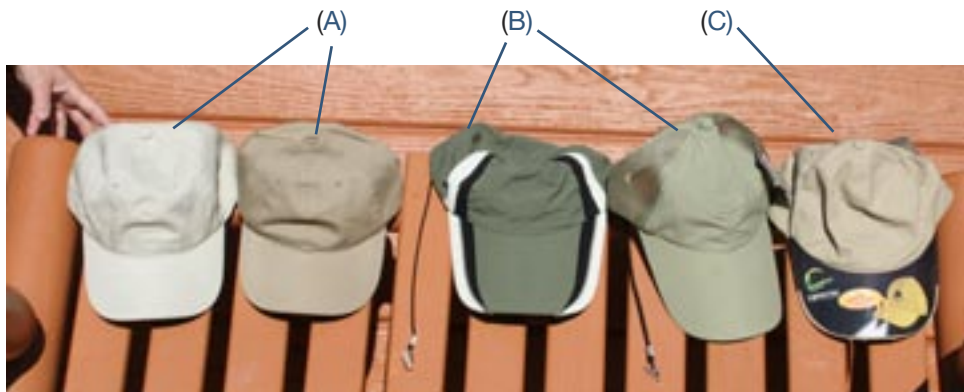
We also have caps cut in a ladies fit that come in various colors: fuchsia, sky blue, medium blue, aqua, lavender, lime, pink and white. These are \$20.00 each and include TWFF logo and your name on the back.

Orders will be taken for hats until March 14th. We will have them for you at the April outing.

The club will order 10 additional hats for future sales. These will not be personalized. They will be the same price as the personalized hats. Order now and take advantage of having a personalized TWFF hat! Contact Rozlynn Orr at mzfishin@yahoo.com. Hats will need to be paid for upon delivery.

For more information about these hats, you can visit www.outdoorcap.com and click the OC caps (or hats). There is a link to ladies styles. The two hats that are recommended are styles LPC600 and SLV220.

To order your hat(s), contact Roz Orr at mzfishin@yahoo.com.



Show Season!

By Kyle Hand

This is one of my favorite times of the year, Show Season. It is our opportunity to teach, learn, meet new friends and get reacquainted with old ones. I thought I might talk this month about preparing for a show, both as a presenter and a visitor.

As a visitor to a show, depending on the size of the show and what type of show it is, when you first walk through the doors it can be overwhelming. So many things to see and so little time to do it all. I have had friends that have had to go back to the motel and take a break because they were so overwhelmed by the information they were getting. If you run into this, and you know you are going to be there for the entire day or a couple of days, what I like to do is walk through the show and make mental notes of things I might see that I want to check out later, whether it be flies, a vendor or a buddy I have not seen in awhile. After I make my first walk-through, I will go get a refreshment of some type and attempt to make a game plan. When I walk back through the doors, I will start at one end of the show and slowly work my way through the event. I will stop and talk to a vendor or tier, comment on their work and if it is something I already feel confident in doing, I will move on. I always carry a small notebook with me to take notes. Then when I get to someone that I really want to watch tie a fly, I will stand there and ask questions and jot down some notes as they are tying. Trust me, the tiers do not mind and if they get snippy they probably don't need to be there demonstrating their craft. Some shows have rickety tables so the tiers might ask you not to lean on the table as it is very wobbly and makes tying anything tough. Anyway, this is my second pass through the show and I might not spend too much time with any one individual again. Probably by this time, it is time for lunch so I will go sit down, have a bite and make another plan. Now I will go back into the show and go to specific tiers and definitely get after the learning part of my visit. If you are going to visit just one or two tiers, you can cut out with a lot of what I have said above and just go watch the tiers you are interested in, but I think you miss so much of the show. If you are at a show that has vendors, you probably better visit them as quickly as possible if you are there to buy materials. You are already second in line because I usually visit them when I walk in the door first thing in the morning. If you are fortunate enough to be at a multi-day event and you are going to be there for more than one day, hang around at the end of the show and a lot of the tiers, vendors and corporate reps will be gathering at their favorite watering hole to talk, have dinner and perhaps a refreshment or two. This might also be a great time to approach one of them and ask specific questions.

I will approach the second part of this as a tier or presenter at the show. Make a list before you leave home and check it prior to packing. You might think you have something that you left on the wall at home and none of the vendors probably has what you are looking for to tie that show stopping fly. In addition, always carry an extension cord, multi outlet and a light. Trust me, you will be glad you did.



Kyle and Mary Cain working on wrapping.



If you are new at tying at shows, pick easy patterns that you are comfortable tying. As your confidence grows, you can experiment with other more exotic flies and try to wow people. Think of as many questions as you can prior to going and how you are going to answer them. I guarantee you that you cannot think of everything someone will ask you. When I first started doing shows, I would sit down and break my thread within the first couple of minutes of tying. I did it strategically so it did not ruin my presentation. This did a couple of things. It broke the ice and took the edge off my nerves, and probably got a chuckle from the audience. The other thing this does is show your audience that you are just another tier with the same problems they have. Remember, the audience has you on a pedestal up there and when you do something like that, it brings you back to their world. I will also try to sit next to someone I feel comfortable with the first time or two. This does a couple things, it gets me in a comfort zone and I might be able to pick their brain while I am tying and perhaps get a small lesson while I am at it. Now that I have been doing these shows for awhile, I try to walk around and look at all the other tiers work. I understand that most of them do look up to me and like my work so if I walk around and talk to them, especially the younger tiers, it might make their day. (Please don't take that as me being an overconfident boor.) One of the greatest things that happened to me was a day a long time ago when Lefty Kreh and Dave Whitlock both stopped by my table and complimented me on my flies. It did wonders for my confidence and I think helped push me to get better. I also try to have what I call a Show Stopper fly. Tying salmon flies or spey flies makes this pretty easy, but you would be surprised what people want to see.

Next, be prepared to have vise problems. I always carry a spare. I also carry a pedestal base and a C-Clamp. Some shows have plastic tables and the C-Clamps do not work very well on plastic tables. I also have two or three bobbins laid out in front of me in case I break one off, I do not have to rethread and try to start again, I simply pick the other one up and take right off. If you need cheater cards for a pattern, take them or take the book. There is nothing wrong with looking at a pattern as you tie it. I know many patterns and as I get older they all start running together in my head and it is scary what actually comes out of the vise at times.

Let's talk about personal space. I know that I take up a lot of space. I have framed flies and such that I lay out in front of me to demonstrate what I do. I try to only take half a table, but sometimes it just doesn't work that way and I have to herd materials or flies or whatever. Some venues have tile floors and some have carpeting. If I drop a hook in the carpeting I do stop what I am doing and attempt to round it up because I will probably step on it later.

Finally, you are there to teach the art of fly tying. Expect questions and answer them as honestly and as openly as you can. If you do not know the answer, perhaps refer them to someone who does know. If you have assigned tying times, get there early and stay as long as you can without delaying the next group of tiers. Finally, police your area as best you can prior to leaving.

This might not all work, but hopefully this is a little information to help you get through some of these shows and have a lot more fun.



Mary K. Janco, Kyle Hand, Ma'Joyce Swope, and Lavene Jones learning tying techniques.

Visit my website at
<http://www.handsfly.com>.



Mark Your Calendars for These Upcoming Events



Fly Fish Texas

Texas Women Fly Fishers will be represented again this year at Fly Fish Texas in Athens at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center on March 8, 2008. Volunteering for the event are Jan Bates, Betty Burleson, Frances Estes, Mary K Janco and Rozlynn Orr. We will be selling flies and sunglass retainers with the proceeds going to Casting for Recovery. The flies were tied by members and some received through donation. Chums donated the sunglass retainers to us. We will also be selling guesses for “Guess the Number of Flies” in a water bottle. The guess closest to the number of flies wins the water bottle and all the flies. In addition to our fund raising for CRF we will have a presence on the trout fishing docks where we will be teaching children the proper release techniques for the fish they land.

When: Saturday, March 8, 2008

Where: Athens Freshwater Fishery
Athens, TX

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department describes the event as follows: “At Fly Fish Texas you can learn to cast, tie flies and even build your own fly rod. And you can do it all under the supervision of expert fly fishers from Texas and beyond. Fly fishers converge on Athens for the eighth annual Fly Fish Texas event to share tips and techniques during seminars and hands-on demonstrations. Seminars will cover fly fishing for redfish, trout, tuna, stripers, bass and carp; kayak fishing; teaching youngsters to fly fish and choosing a guide. Demonstrations and classes will teach building a fly rod, knot tying, salt water fly tying, dry fly tying, spinning deer hair, casting long spey rods, accuracy casting and Dutch oven cooking.” A little something for everyone! For more information and a schedule of events and seminars, visit <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/visitorcenters/tffc/> and click on Fly Fish Texas in the Quick Links box or call (903) 670-2222 or (903) 676-2277.

Admission to the daylong event is included with regular admission to TFFC: \$5.50 for adults, \$4.50 for seniors and \$3.50 for children ages 4-12. TFFC is open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is located at 5550 F.M. 2495, three miles east of Athens. Athens is 75 miles southeast of Dallas.

TWFF looks forward to participation in this high volume, well-received event and the opportunity to contribute to the fly fishing community. Hope to see you there!

The Sowbug - Mountain Home, AR

When: March 13-15, 2008

Where: Mountain Home, AR

More than 100 fly-tyers will be attending. Kyle Hand says, “It is the one tying show that I will not miss.” Go to <http://www.northarkansasflyfisher.org/> to learn more.



Upcoming Events *continued*

When:	March 29, 2008; 1 pm
Where:	Corpus Christi, TX



SPORTSMAN'S WAREHOUSE and Sarge Upchurch, Store Manager of the Round Rock store, have been very generous sponsors of TWFF and our fundraising efforts for Casting for Recovery. If you attend one of the fly tying classes, please let them know how much we appreciate their efforts.

Fly Tying with Chris Johnson

www.sportsmanswarehouse.com

LEARN THE BASICS AND GET STRATEGIES FOR OUR LOCAL LAKES AND RIVERS AS WELL AS OUR COASTAL WATERS

Chris Johnson grew up fly fishing the Texas Hill Country and began tying flies even before he learned to fly fish! Chris has fished in many different bodies of water across the country but has also fished several different countries pursuing everything from permit and bonefish to browns, brooks, and bows – all of which he has caught on his own patterns. He has created many patterns specifically for local waters but has spent plenty of time at the fly tying vise designing saltwater patterns for the Texas coast and Caribbean. Chris has worked at Sportsman's Warehouse since the store opened but is also a local fly fishing guide. He guides on local rivers using many of his own patterns and also gives fly casting lessons on a regular basis. You can read more about the rivers he fishes and his guide service at www.livingwatersflyfishing.com.

Gulf Coast Federation of Fly Fishers

When:	May 16, 2008
Where:	Gulf Coast Conclave Lake Charles, LA

The Winter 2008 quarterly newsletter of the Gulf coast Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers, 'Sea to Stream' has information on the upcoming FFF Conclave in Lake Charles in May, news on other local clubs and some fly tying techniques.

Since the newsletter is quite large, we thought it would be better to have a link to it in this and our next newsletter, rather than sending it out to the membership list. The newsletter can be found at

<http://www.gulfcoastfff.org/index.php?page=communications>.



When:	June 7, 2008
Where:	Lake Texoma, TX

Texoma on the Fly

This event is hosted jointly by Red River Fly Fishers in Sherman and Texas Parks and Wildlife at Eisenhower State Park at Lake Texoma. There is free fishing in the Park that day and the morning is filled with lots of fly tiers and the afternoon session is full of seminars for fishing and tying the area waters. It is a great little

What: Ongoing opportunities to volunteer!



Contact Your TWFF Officers



Calling all writers, photographers, and artists!

We are looking for stories, articles, photographs, and illustrations. If you'd like to submit something for the newsletter, please send it at least three (3) weeks prior to the upcoming publishing date.

E-mail:
newsletter@twff.net

We're on the Web!
See us at:
www.twff.net

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TWFF Publishing Dates

Following are the 2008 TWFF Newsletter publication dates

May 1, 2008	(Deadline for submission is April 11, 2008.)
June 12, 2008	(Deadline for submission is May 23, 2008.)
August 7, 2008	(Deadline for submission is July 18, 2008)
September 25, 2008	(Deadline for submission is September 5, 2008)
November 6, 2008	(Deadline for submission is October 17, 2008)

TWFF Advertising Rates

	One Issue	Annual (6 issues)	
Swap/sell items--(members):	Free		All ads must be pre-paid. Ads with graphics should be submitted electronically as high-resolution JPG files. Please send your ad requests to Leslie Davis at newsletter@twff.net
Text Ads (nonmembers):	\$5/inch		
Business Cards (members):	\$5.00	\$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		Thank-you!

