

Monthly Publication of the Texas FlyFishers

Volume 37, Issue 4, April, 2018

It's Auction Time!

Not being from a literary background, there are times during the process of putting *Windknots* together that I smack the proverbial brick wall "writer's block" sets in. It's times like these when I have to go back to my fifth grade composition class where Ms. Schwarzkopf taught me about the "5 W's", What, Where, When, Why and Who.

The *What*, is the Texas FlyFishers Annual Club Auction; the *When*, is Saturday, May 5th, 2018 at 11:00 am; the *Where*, is the Bayou Sports Bar and Grill, 6011 Addicks Satsuma Rd, Houston 77084; the *Why*, is that this is our club's major fund raiser for the upcoming year and lastly and, most importantly, the *Who*, the club's members, their friends and, anyone who would like to pick up some quality merchandise, tackle and trips while helping to support our club and it's projects in the process.

To add to the *Who*, for all of this to come off in a timely and efficient manner, we will need some volunteers to assist in setting up, help with the auction and cleaning up...and, the more, the better.

For more detailed information on the auction, the location and the food, keep reading. I hope you will set aside a few hours on Saturday, May 5th to join your fellow fly fishers for a great afternoon.

April Monthly Meeting

The April monthly meeting of the Texas FlyFishers will take place on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, at the Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas 77074.

The scheduled speaker Kevin Hutchison will update us on fishing the San Marcos River.

Fly tying will begin at 6:00 pm and the meeting will kick off around 7:00 pm.

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It's Auction Time - Continued

Guided fly fishing trips on Texas Hill Country Rivers and coastal flats, bonefishing in the Bahamas, world class tarpon fishing in Costa Rica and Belize await the successful bidder this year at the Texas FlyFishers Annual Auction in Houston. Proceeds from the auction are used to support fly fishing education and outdoor conservation and scholarship programs.

Add dry fly fishing trips to blue ribbon trout streams in Montana and Colorado and there's a new adventure waiting for even the most well-traveled angler this year. The Cinco de Bayou edition of the annual event will be held May 5, 2018 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bayou Sports Bar and Grill, 6011 Addicks Satsuma Road.

Newcomers to fly fishing as well as fishing enthusiasts of all persuasions - fly, spin and plug - are welcome to join this celebration of Houston's fly fishing fraternity. It is an opportunity to pick up some tackle and tips to use this season and, in the process, perhaps line up a fishing trip of a lifetime.



In addition to the live auction's offerings of guided trips, original angling art and top of the line fly rods and reels, a host of other equipment and accessories appropriate for beginner to expert will be available - often at bargain prices - through a silent auction and raffle. Long rows of tables will display dozens of items with clipboards showing the latest high bids and bidder number.



The Silent Auction items will be on display and open for bids at 11 a.m. The Live Auction will begin at approximately 12:30 p.m. and, returning as auctioneer will be the Texas FlyFishers own Cory Rich. A handout listing all auction items will be made available to all attendees at the registration desk. Following the Live Auction, a Last Call notice for written bids on items in the Silent Auction and it will be closed at approximately 2 p.m.

The club's field trip leaders also will offer information on the wide variety of coastal, river and lake fly fishing outings available to

members throughout the year. Annual outings include fly fishing adventures on the Guadalupe and South Llano Rivers, Christmas Bay near Galveston, the Port O'Connor redfish flats and surf fishing on the Padre Island National Seashore.

Bayou Sports Bar and Grill is in the Savannah Estates neighborhood of northwest Houston at 6011 Addicks Satsuma Road. From I-10/Katy Freeway, turn north on Hwy. 6 and then turn east on Addicks Satsuma Road. From US 290, take Hwy. 6 southwest and then turn east on Addicks Satsuma Road.

The restaurant's spacious deck overlooks Langham Creek Bayou, offering visitors the opportunity to make a few casts for the carp, bass, catfish, sunfish and other species found in Houston's urban waterways. Certified fly casting instructors will be on hand to provide instruction for beginners or tune up casting skills for this season's action.



It's Auction Time - Continued

In addition to a crawfish bowl prepared specially for the event that includes potatoes, sausage and corn, lunch items offered by the restaurant include burgers and Philly cheese steak sandwiches as well as a variety of appetizers including hot wings and jalapeno poppers, mozzarella sticks and onion rings. Local beers, soft drinks, and BYOB setups also are available.

To inquire about the auction or, more importantly, to volunteer for help set up, assist with the auction and, to help clean up afterward, please contact Skip Donoval at (seven one three) 8 two two – double zero69 or, Mary Kay Donovan at (seven one three) 8 two 8 – forty four14.

The Texas FlyFishers of Houston is dedicated to the promotion of fly fishing education, conservation and outdoors ethics. The club, which has more than 500 members, meets the last Tuesday of every month at the Bayland



Community Center near the intersection of Bissonnet and Hilcroft. Thank you, Skip and Mary Kay!

Here's What's Coming Up!

Monthly Meeting:

Tuesday, April 24, 2018: The speaker for the April monthly meeting of the Texas Fly Fishers, is Kevin Hutchinson. http://hillcountryflyfishers.com. Kevin will speak about fishing the San Marcos River which, will lead into the upcoming Clarke Thornton Memorial outing on the San Marcos on May 19, 2018.

Kevin is an Orvis endorsed guide who has been guiding the rivers of the Texas Hill Country for 20+ years. He is also a Federation of Fly Fishers International Certified Casting Instructor and is the author of a book titled: *Fly Fishing the Texas Hill Country* which is considered by many to be the bible of regional fly fishing lore, lies and locations.

Also, now that Daylight Savings Time is back, beginning at 6:00 pm, Andy Payne, along with some of the Club's other casting instructors, will be on hand to help you out with your casting stroke until the meeting begins. Andy asks that you bring your rod along.

So, if you are interested in learning more about the fly fishing world and you are just interested in socializing with a friendly group of fly fishing men and



women come to the April 24th, 2018 monthly meeting. We would be glad to have you and look forward to seeing you at the meeting. There is no charge for admission and, visitors are as always welcome.

The monthly meetings for the Texas FlyFishers are held at the Community Center Building located in Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074. Set up, social hour and fly tying starts at 6:00 pm and the meeting kicks off about 7:00 pm.



Here's What's Coming Up! - Continued

Education:

The Spring Educational Activities for the Texas FlyFishers of Houston have culminated in the Flyfishing Academy which has just finished. It was an excellent group of students including Jack McNulty, Cliff Snyder, Pam Stadelman, Tim Stokley, Pam Faulk, Loura Scott, Chi An and Rudy Ackerman. They brought real dedication to the classes with great questions and a focus on learning about flyfishing and developing their casting skills.

Dr. John Slocomb was the lead instructor for the course. His instruction was well received as he introduced the course and brought a fresh emphasis on flyfishing techniques, aspects of information about rods, reels, fly lines and other key topics. His expertise in evaluation and mitigation of harmful impacts on the aquatic environments was evident as he led discussions with the students about where fish live and what they eat and how to be effective in catching them.

Dave Steffek did a yeoman's job of leading the group through learning to tie a number of knots and provided additional information about leaders and tippet materials and uses.

Marcos Enriquez our Club President covered accessories of various types for use in fishing situations that the students might encounter and gave some great advice on fishing techniques and tactics for cold water and saltwater fishing in the final session. His presentation was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all.

We look forward to making next years classes even more worthwhile for the students and welcome the input of our current class in seeking improvements in both content and delivery of the information which will enhance their ability to catch fish. *Joe Burton, TFF Education Director*

Reel Recovery:

This is the second years for the Reel Recovery Spring Navasota (NAV) Retreat. This new Reel Recovery Texas retreat held March 16-18, 2018 served three applicants from the Houston area and 6 from the Brazos Valley or other Texas areas. Nine Houston Area Reel Recovery Volunteers (mostly Texas Flyfishers Members) served at the retreat in both the retreat staff and as fishing buddies. Texas Flyfishers member Tom Strawther was the Assistant Retreat Coordinator. Steve Wiksea (Reel Recovery Volunteer from the Brazos Valley) was the Retreat Coordinator.

It was a great retreat! Feedback from the participants was very heart warming. Here is a note sent to the Texas Reel Recovery State Coordinator from one of the participants:

"I'm just back from your March 16th Navasota, Texas retreat and wanted to thank you for running this and having me there.

Fly fishing is an interesting diversion but, what really made an impression on me is your organization's compassion in having those of us that know this scourge the opportunity to share amongst ourselves.

This isn't much but I would like to thank your and have at least a small part in allowing your mission to continue. You might call paying it forward.

Thanks again and, Fish On"



Here's What's Coming Up! - Continued

Reel Recovery - Continuted

Brazos Valley Reel Recovery Volunteers and **Houston Area Volunteers** work together to inform men living with cancer about the Reel Recovery retreats in Texas. These volunteers will help fill the Fall NAV retreat (Nov 2-4), and other Fall Reel Recovery retreats at other locations. Together, this large group of Reel Recovery Volunteers will continue serving many retreat participants from the Houston Area, College Station, Austin, Waco, many other TX cities and even out-of state participants living with cancer.

Reel Recovery Texas is very grateful to have the annual donation support from Texas Flyfisher, and the terrific group of Texas Flyfishers members serving as volunteers at these retreats. The Texas Flyfishers has provided the support foundation for the Texas Reel Recovery NAV retreat, and growth to two annual retreats! Be as proud as we are that Texas Reel Recovery now has two retreats in a serving up to 30 retreat participants annually! *Dave Steffek, Reel Recovery Texas*

Reminder - If you know someone or, have a relative living with cancer, please tell them about the Reel Recovery retreats available to them at no cost. They can apply by going to <u>reelrecovery.org</u>, or, contact Dave Steffek at (713) 202-0101 for answers to any questions they may have about the retreats."

Andy's Casting Notes:

Before the monthly meeting, beginning around 6:00 pm, Andy Payne, along with some of the Club's other casting instructors, will be on hand to help you out with your casting stroke until the meeting begins. Andy asks that you bring your rod along.

A Note To The Membership:

I received this note from Rich Strolis, the Featured Tyer at this year's Dr. Ed Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival. Thank you Rich and, we'd certainly enjoy having you return, anytime!

Chnz I Just wanted to extend a thruk you to you and the Texas Flykisher for inviting me to your tring fostul. I had such a great home with everyone and I look formed Lowing back again 50-4 1 Regards

Chris, I just wanted to extend a thank you to you and the Texas Flyfishers for inviting me to your tying festival. I has such a great time with everyone, and I look forward to coming back again soon!!

Regards, Rich Strolis



Mark Your Calendars:

The following is a list of activities currently scheduled by the Club for the first half of 2018. Please refer to the Club's website for more detailed information, **texasflyfishers.org**

Club Activities Calendar for April – August, 2018

<u>April:</u>

Saltwater Outing – Shoalwater Bay, Charlie's Bait Camp, located at 4194 Lane Rd, Seadrift, TX 77983, between Port O'Connor and Seadrift. Boats and kayaks can easily fish this area. We will meet at Charlie's Bait camp a few minutes after sunrise, about 7:00 am, to allow the vampires to go to bed. Then, we'll launch out and spend the day fishing 'til 4:00 pm, where we'll all meet back up at Charlie's to see who caught what. Contact "Puck" if you would like to lead this outing at doncpuckett (at) gee male (dot) com

Directions (From Port Lavaca): From Port Lavaca, take St. Highway 35 South, through town to US-87 S. Turn Left onto US-87 / W. Main Street and go about 0.1 miles to Alcoa Street (1st street to the Left). Turn Left onto Alcoa Street and go appx. 0.4 miles to W. Austin St. / TX 238 and turn **Right** and go appx. 3.5 miles and TX 238 veers to the **Right**. Follow TX 238 about 1.0 miles and turn Left onto FM1289 and, go about 11.2 miles. Turn **Right** on SH 185 and go about 4.8 miles to Lane Rd. Turn Left and go to the end of Lane Rd., about 4.2 miles. Charlie's Bait Camp is on the right.

IFF – **Fort Worth Fly Fishers Outing:** Join the Texas Council and the Fort Worth Fly Fishers on Saturday, April 21, 2018 for a fun filled day on the Brazos River below Lake Whitney. *See Announcement for more information*

Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Speaker will be Hill Country Guide, Kevin Hutchinson. The monthly meetings are held at the Community Center Building located in Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074.

May:

Annual Club Auction – Saturday May 5, 2018. The Bayou Sports Bar and Grill, 6011 Addicks Satsuma Rd, Houston 77084.

9th World Championship Bass on the Fly Fishing Tournament - Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Lake Fork Marina, Lake Fork, Texas. Catch-Photo-Release, total length. Proceeds go to support Reel Recovery and FFI-Texas Council. Contact <u>tedwarren@peoplescom.net</u> with any questions or suggestions.

Saltwater Outing – Location, Date and Time TBA. Check the Club's website for additional information.

Freshwater Outing - Clarke Thornton Memorial San Marcos River Float trip with Kevin Hutchison, Saturday, May 19, 2018. Shady Grove Campground, Martindale, Texas. 78655. Outing Leader: TBA but, if you are interesting in leading this outing, Contact Don "Puck" Puckett. Check the Club's website for additional information. This outing will be discussed at the TFF Monthly Meeting, April 24th, 2018.

Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, May 29, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Speaker: *TBA* The monthly meetings are held at the Community Center Building located in Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074.



Calendar - Continuted

June:

Saltwater Outing – Kayak Fence Lake, Saturday, June 9, 2018, Fulton, Texas. Outing Leader: Chris Sumers. Check the Club's website for additional information.

Freshwater Outing - South Llano Float Trip, Friday, June 22 thru Sunday, June 24, 2018, Junction, Texas. Outing Leader: Don "Puck" Puckett. Check the Club's website for additional information.

Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, June 26, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Speaker: *TBA* The monthly meetings are held at the Community Center Building located in Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074.

July:

Saltwater Outing – Location, Date and Time TBA. Check the Club's website for additional information.

Freshwater Outing - Location, Date and Time *TBA*. Check the Club's website for additional information.

Monthly Meeting - Tuesday, July 31, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Speaker: *TBA* The monthly meetings are held at the Community Center Building located in Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074.

Note: Dates and times are subject to change or cancellation. Please check the website for the most current information.

Outings Report:

FlyFisher Phil Shook had to go to Guatemala to thaw out after forgetting to bring a jacket along to the John Scarborough Sunfish Spectacular. Thanks go out to Jim Richards who supplied the photo...along with a jacket at the Sunfish to keep Phil warm. Congratulations, Phil.



Been fishing lately? How'd it go? Please share your results and experiences with the club, E-mail your report and photos to me at csumers(at)Comcast(dot)com.



Conservation:



APRIL 30 DATE SET FOR ANWR PROJECT; VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Monday April 30th date set to repair the artificial channel on Black Jack Peninsula of the Aransas Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Seth Gambill, Naismith Marine, said the site plan is ready and we have been waiting on the Whooping Cranes to leave and for the Spring Tide for high water. Naismith Marine has donated it's time and materials to do the preliminary field work, prepare the site plan, obtain the required permits and will oversee the project! FlatsWorthy has been asked to provide volunteers for the project and will help cover the cost for the equipment and materials. The "project" calls for closing the Aransas Bay end of the artificial channel by building a "shell-hash" berm. There will be quite a bit of physical labor involved, bagging the shell-hash and hauling the bags to the site and placing them, so volunteers need to be in fair physical condition.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

16 people (8 at the bagging site & 8 at the project site)4 bay boats w/operators (boats should be 20'+) for hauling bags & people4 airboats w/operators to shuttle people and materials to site

TO VOLUNTEER CONTACT:

Chuck Naiser, (361) 230-9392; chucknaiser@yahoo.com Billy Trimble, (361) 205-1266; billytrimble@cableone.net Travis Glidden, (361) 649-1216; sightcastsafari@yahoo.com Kelly Herzog, (281) 989-4330; Kelly_Herzog@bmc.com David Hayward, (713) 204-1855; dhayward@swanpointlanding.net Swan Point Landing; (361) 729-7926

Volunteers will be notified about where and when to meet for the work day. Looking forward to getting this project completed and many thanks to all the time and effort that has been put into getting the project to this point!!

Sincerely,

Billy Trimble, Vice President, FlatsWorthy, Inc. (361) 205-1266 <u>billytrimble@cableone.net</u>



Conservation: - Continued

Note to Texas FlyFisher Members - Currently, the Texas FlyFishers is without a Conservation Chair. If you are interested or, would like to volunteer for this position, please visit with Club President Marcos Enriquez at the next monthly meeting.

Special Events:



Brazos River Multi-Club Outing April 21, 2018

Join the Texas Council and the Fort Worth Fly Fishers for a fun filled day on the Brazos River below Lake Whitney. The outing will take place at Spivey Crossing RV Park on Saturday, April 21, 2018. Many of us will be there on Friday and stay until Sunday. There are 14 RV sites there with water and electric hookups as well as an unlimited number of tent sites. The access to the river is very friendly and can be waded or you can fish from a kayak or canoe.

There are numerous species of fish in this section of the river so you can expect to catch bass, sand bass, stripers, several species of sunfish, catfish, carp, buffalo, and drum.

Burger and hot dogs will be provided for lunch on Saturday. Bring your own drinks, chips, and deserts.

This outing is open to any member of a Texas Fly Fishing Club. Please RSVP to president@texascouncilffi.com so we know how many burgers and hot dogs to bring. Also note how many tent or RV sites needed so we can let the land owner know.





<u>Special Events</u> - Continued

2018 Bud Priddy ANY Fly Contest – Brought to you by the Alamo Fly Fishers



Use ANY fly, or flies, you desire.

Join the Alamo Fly Fishers on Saturday, May 5, 2018 and, fish the miles of gin clear Nueces River waters near Camp Wood Texas, for Guadalupe Bass, largemouth bass, one of several varieties of sunfish, catfish, gar and, anything else that might take your fly, for fun and, prizes.

Register online, at www.alamoflyfishers.org, by April 21 to guarantee your entry into the *ANY* Fly Contest, along with your place at the BBQ Awards Dinner and, a commemorative t-shirt. The entry fee is \$20.00 *plus*, one donated fly of your choice until April 21. Onsite Registration is Friday, May 5th, 8:00-10:00 pm at Big Oak River Park, (5 miles south of Camp Wood, Tx [www.bigoakrivercamp.com]).

Contest hours are from sunrise until 5:00 pm. Results are due at Big Oak at 5:30 pm and, the award presentation and dinner will commence at 6:00 pm.

The 2018 Bud Priddy ANY Fly Contest is sponsored by the Hill Country River Region [www.hillcountryrivers.com]

Register early so you don't get left out of this great day of fly fishing, fun and fellowship. For more information, log on to the Alamo Fly Fishers website at <u>www.alamoflyfishers.org</u> or, contact Walter Ross at (210) 324-I359 or, Lefty Ray Chapa (210) 260-6I54.



Fly of the Month:

The Steve Soulé Fly

By Steve Soulé Tied By Chris Sumers



For a video demonstration of Captain Steve Soulé tying this pattern, check out Don "Puck" Puckett's Vimeo site and search for the video "Steve Soule's Fly", <u>https://vimeo.com/search?q=steve+soule+fly</u>

Materials:

Hook:	Gamakatsu SL12-S or B10-S
Thread:	210 Denier - Chartreuse
Tail:	Pearl Krystal Flash
Eyes:	Mono Eyes, Black, Medium
Head:	Estaz / Crystal Chenille - Orange
Under Wing:	Flash-A-Bou – Purple
Wing:	Craft Fur, Extra Select, Fluorescent Chartreuse
Over Wing 1:	Flash-A-Bou – Copper
Over Wing 2:	Flash-A-Bou – Purple
Flash:	EP 3" Sparkle Brush – Copper
Collar:	Estaz – Root Beer
Weed Guard:	Stiff Mono, 20# - 30# (Hard Mason works good)



Step 1:

With hook in vise, tie in thread over the hook point and wind back to the hook bend. Tie in 6-8 strands of K-Flash about 1.5 times the hook length.



Step 2:

Wrap thread back to a point just ahead of the hook point. Tie in Mono Eyes.



Step 3:

Tie in Orange Estaz just behind the eyes. Wrap thread back to a point ahead of the eyes. Palmer Estaz to hook bend then, back to the eyes. Wrap Estaz over and around the eyes. Take one wrap pf Estaz ahead of the eyes. Tie off the Estaz and cut.





Step 4:

Cut a bunch of Purple - Flash-A-Bou, 5-6 strands, and tie in on top of the hook shank, just ahead of the Estaz.



Step 5:

Cut a pencil size bunch of Craft Fur. Clean out fluff from the butt end. Cut to same length as the Flash-A-Bou and tie in on top of the Flash-A-Bou.



Step 6:

Using a black Sharpie, draw vertical bars along the length of the Craft Fur





Step 7:

Cut a bunch of Copper - Flash-A-Bou, 5-6 strands, and tie in on top of the Craft Fur.



Step 8:

Cut a bunch of Purple - Flash-A-Bou, 5-6 strands, and tie in on top of the Copper - Flash-A-Bou



Step 9:

Tie in the EP Sparkle Brush. Palmer the brush, 6 or 7 wraps, sweeping the fibers back toward the bend of the hook, making sure you don't wrap over the fibers. Tie off and cut brush. Note: Using a brush or a bodkin, comb or pick the fibers out, making sure there are no fibers wrapped under the brush.





Step 10:

Tie in the Root beer colored Estaz and, palmer toward the eye, leaving just enough room to tie in a double mono weed guard. Brush out the Estaz.



Step 11:

Cut a piece of stiff mono, about 2 inches long and bend in half. Tie in weed guard. Whip finish and cut the thread. Apply a drop or two of head cement. Trim weed guard at hook point.



Now, go catch some redfish!

Tight loops and tight lines!



The Texas FlyFishers Executive Committee:

Marcos Enriquez President

Raymond Lindeen Treasurer

Mike Graham Communications

Andy Payne Casting / FFI Director

Chris Sumers Dr. Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival John Purcell Vice President / Programs

Jim Richards Secretary / Programs

Open Conservation Chair

Don Puckett Outings Chair / FFI Director

Mary Kay & Skip Donovan Auction Chairs **Bob Brill** Secretary / Membership

Dave Lemke Webmaster

Joe Burton Education Chair

Alex Blacque Registration / Door Prizes

Dave Steffek Reel Recovery

For additional information, check out the Texas FlyFishers website at www.texasflyfishers.org

Texas Flyfishers Membership Application

Please Check One: New Application	Renewal		
To join the Texas Flyfishers or, renew your membership, please complete this form and mail it with your check to the address below or, bring it with you to one of our monthly meetings. All memberships expire June 30 th of each year and, renewals are due by July 1 st . Please pro-rate your payment for the number of months between now and the end of June, inclusive, if you are joining for the first time. Our monthly meetings are held at the Harris County District 3 Bayland Park Community Center, located at 6400 Bissonnet Street, Houston, Texas 77074 on the last Tuesday of every month (except December) beginning at 7:00 pm.			
Dues are for (check one): Individual at \$24.00/year; Family at \$32.00/year; Student at \$16.00/year			
Name:			
Address:			
City: State	: Zip:		
Home Phone: () Work / Ce	ll Phone: ()		
E-Mail:			
TEXAS FLYFISH			
P.O. BOX 57113 Houston, TX 77257			

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