

SPRING EDITION



TEXAS COUNCIL



*Educating,
Conserving,
and Fly Fishing
the Waters of the
Great State of Texas*

The Texas Line & Leader

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A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Fly Fishing Enthusiasts,

I am thrilled to share with you the exciting accomplishments and upcoming events of our fly fishing community. We have had an incredible start to the year, filled with successful engagements and promising prospects for the future.

Firstly, our presence at the Dallas Safari Club convention was met with resounding success. We had the pleasure of meeting numerous new friends who share our passion for fly fishing, and I am delighted to announce that we signed several new members to our area clubs. This event not only expanded our network but also strengthened our community bonds.

Similarly, Troutfest was another fantastic opportunity for us to connect with fellow anglers and generate interest in joining our statewide fly fishing clubs. The enthusiasm and camaraderie displayed at Troutfest reaffirmed the vibrant spirit of our community.

Our casting program is taking off with the "Casting Matters" series of on-line zoom meetings being hosted by Cari Ray. These monthly series of presentations will have a special instructor covering a specific topic, that will enhance your casting technique. You don't want to miss these sessions.

Furthermore, our Texas Council proudly showcased our values and purpose at our traditional booth

at The Trinity Flyfest on the Trinity River in Fort Worth, engaging with attendees and promoting the essence of fly fishing. It is heartening to witness the ongoing support and dedication of our members towards our shared mission.

Looking ahead, I am thrilled to announce the rollout of our inaugural "Fly Fishing Fair," scheduled to take place in Waco on April 20th. This event promises something for everyone, from beginners to seasoned anglers. With fly fishing basics, casting demonstrations, fly tying tutorials, and engaging learning stations, the fair is set to be a day filled with excitement and education. Additionally, there will be youth activities, food trucks, and even a fly fishing tournament, ensuring fun for all ages.

As we eagerly anticipate the upcoming spring fly fishing season, I am confident that it will offer us the same fantastic experiences we have come to cherish. These experiences are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our clubs and volunteers, whose commitment continues to fuel the growth and vibrancy of our community.

In closing, I encourage each of you to seize the opportunities that lie ahead this spring and to immerse yourselves in the joy of fly fishing along with helping your fly fishing club. Remember to prioritize safety and conservation practices, and I look forward to seeing you all on the water. Please share your experiences with us.

Have a Great Spring,

Rick Haness

President, Texas Council Fly Fishers International

www.texascouncilffi.com

FIGHTING THAT SINKING FEELING: ALTERNATIVES TO SINKING FLY LINE

Article Featured on FisherOfZen.com - 3/11/22

I've had lots of questions about sinking lines since the White Bass have started running. Like, "Do I need a full sink or sink tip?" or, "Can I fish the floating line I already have?" The short answer is "yes," but like lots of things in fly fishing, it's a little more nuanced than that. But we like nuance, right? That's one of the reasons we choose fly fishing over conventional tackle. So, I thought I would offer a bit of info and some options if you want to get into some "Sandies" without investing in a sinking line. Again, these are just some high-level suggestions/options for those that might want a little guidance about rigging for targeting White Bass on the fly.

For those with a 9 foot 4, 5, or 6wt who want to try chasing white bass. These fish primarily hang out and feed on or near the bottom, so it is important to get the flies down to the fish in the feeding zone. I prefer to use full sinking or sink tip line in this scenario. But for the novice and even intermediate angler, it can not only be tough to justify the expense of additional line and reel or spool, it can be confusing to know what sink rate to choose, and they are a bit more difficult to cast than floating lines. Here are some viable options that will help you get the flies down without the additional complexity/investment of a new line. I've arranged them in order from easy to ideal. Also keep in mind that these options can, in many cases, be used together to get down faster and/or stay down more effectively as you retrieve the fly.

1. **HEAVY FLIES.** (no additional cost) The simplest way to get down is weighted flies...choose patterns with barbell eyes, for example.
2. **SPLIT SHOT.** (less than \$10) Add split shot about 12-14 inches ahead of your fly to help get it down faster. You can also slide a weighted cone on the tippet before tying on your lighter fly and just let it slide down.
3. **SINKING/POLY LEADERS:** (about \$10) Most of the major manufacturers make sinking leaders. I'd go with 1.5-3 Ips (inches per second) for water up to 4ft and 4-7ips for deeper or faster water.
4. **MICRO TIPS:** (\$\$\$) These are a relatively new option. The one I'm recommending for 9ft rods in the 4-6 wt range is the Sinking OPST Commando Micro Tip. These attach via loop-to-loop connection to your fly line on one end and your leader on the other, creating a sinking section between them (they can also be used with an intermediate sinking leader, if you like). It's important to remember that "mass moves mass," so you'll be most successful casting these heavy tips if you have a line that is at least weight forward, and even better if it's short-headed for streamers/poppers or if it's heavier than AFFTA spec like some of the "creek" lines or lines like SA MPX, Orvis Bank Shot, etc.

OPTIONS

Please note, these are just a few options I am suggesting to help

clarify what I'm talking about. There are other brands in most cases, and I have no attachment to these products nor do I benefit financially from you purchasing any of them.

SPIT SHOT:

Micro Split Shot (should cover most situations)

SINKING LEADERS:

AIRFLO BASS POLYLEADER (If using alone, choose fast or extra fast sink, in conjunction with a micro tip, use intermediate clear) Scientific Anglers also makes "Sonar" sinking leaders and Rio makes their "Versileader."

SINKING MICRO TIPS

OPST Pure Skagit Commando Micro Tips 7.5 ft. (Choose either Riffle (S2), Run (S4), or Bucket (S6) that sink at 2, 4 or 6 Ips, respectively). The deeper the hole, the faster sink I would choose.

Oh, and one more thing. If you're using a sinking line or tip, don't waste your hard-earned cash on a tapered leader. Cut off 3 feet or so of 12lb tippet, tie a perfection loop to attach it to your line or tip loop, tie the other end to your fly with a nonslip loop and let'r rip!

SAVE THE DATE!!!

TEXAS COUNCIL FLY FISHING FAIR AND FLY FISHING TOURNAMENT

FFI Texas Council is hosting a fly fishing fair on April 20th from 9am-4pm at Brazos Park East in Waco, Texas. The fair is centrally located for ALL of us to be able to attend. Located on the banks of the Bosque and Brazos Rivers, this beautiful park will be a great place to enjoy an amazing event. No matter your level of experience, this event will offer a little something for everyone. We'll have FREE classes and presentations on topics like casting, rigging, gear, tactics, and fly tying for beginners and advanced anglers alike. There will also be food trucks, beverages, vendors, and activities for the kiddos. Oh, and did we mention the Bass-on-the-Fly kayak tournament. Grab a friend or the whole family and make plans to join us for a fun day along the Brazos River in downtown Waco, TX!

Check back here at texascouncilffi.com for details as they become available. And follow us on Facebook, and share the fair with all of your friends, family, and fly fishing enthusiasts!!!





FLY FISHING FAIR

APRIL 20, 9AM-4PM
BRAZOS PARK EAST, WACO TEXAS

Food Trucks, Beverages, Vendors, Kids Activities
A day of fun for the whole family!

FREE PRESENTATIONS & CLASSES, BEGINNER & ADVANCED:
Fly Casting, Fly Tying, Rigging, Gearing Up & Finding Fish

FLY FISHING TOURNAMENT

Whether you are experienced, a "newbie," or just wanting to learn more about fly fishing, this event is for you. Bring the whole family for a fun day along the Brazos River! learn more at

TEXASCOUNCILFFI.COM



TROUTFEST 2024

After missing last years TroutFest, hosted by GRTU, I as excited to be able to attend this year. The Texas Council had two booths, which we used to promote FFI, and the 20 clubs in the state of Texas. In attendance was Rick Haness, and three of the best fly tiers in the state. Dutch Baughman, Barry Webster and Jack Gillis. Over the next two days, we spoke to so many people, and re-connected with even more friends. TroutFest 2024 was the most successful event GRTU has had, and it was great to see how it all came together. This year it was the most attended, had the most vendors, highest income brought in, and so much more! Pretty much covering all aspects of fly fishing, from conservation, to actually fishing, and all stops in between. Friday night they had an all star banquet, and dinner, then topped the event off Saturday night with more activities and a really impressive fund raiser. Job well done!

But TroutFest, to me, is more than just about the event. The event also happens to have a river, that runs through it. The Guadalupe River. The most southern trout body of water in the US! The GRTU program stocks some absolute beasts, that will test any equipment you may own! And having the opportunity to do that, is a no brainer! So, I went down a day earlier, and then decided to stay an additional day. Unfortunately due to low water conditions, most of the areas where the trout were holding, were on the GRTU access sites. Which made Friday's pursuit of monster trout, very difficult. Monday's trip was a different story. I was able to meet a new friend, and together we fished a different section of the river, and my luck changed dramatically. After landing five stocker trout, the fishing started to slow down, as the trout were hugging the bottom, because of the very sunny day. Some clouds started to roll in, and the bite turned on. Using a Landon Mayer olive bunny leech, a very large trout took interest in my fly, and gave it a run upstream! Violently shaking his head, while taking line off of the reel, he threw the fly, to go on about his day. As disappointing as this was, it was a chance I will never forget about wrestling with that trout.

TroutFest to me also means food, beverages, and fun with friends. Check that off the list. Highlight was stopping in at the Krause's Café and Beer Garden. With the largest tap wall in New Braunfels, serving classic Deutsche meals with a Texas flair, again this was a no brainer. After a few lagers, and a great meal, I reminisced about the good times we have had there, putting on the Texas Council Expo's in 2013 & 14. Those were a blast, and I will never pass up an opportunity to come down to New Braunfels again.

Till 2025! See you again then.

Russell Husted
Vice President / Conservation

SO WHY CHOOSE A BAMBOO ROD TO FISH WITH?

There are so many choices for the fly fishing angler, to chose from. But there is no other rod choice that has as much history and elegance than fishing with a bamboo rod. Bamboo rods were first crafted and used in the early 1800's in England, and were the rod of choice up till the 1950's, when manufacturers starting producing rods out of new materials. Which leads us to where we are today, with more choices, and technology than ever before. However, these times are changing, as many anglers are going back to using bamboo, for many reasons. The history, tradition, and simplicity are bringing anglers back. Yes, it's great to use fast action rods, slapping streamers to bring on vicious strikes! Who wouldn't like that? But there is also a time and place to use a rod that is relaxing, light weight, with a slow action, that presents a tiny dry fly ever so softly on still water. Truly a beautiful way to fly fish.

So if you are even slightly interested in casting, feeling or possibly purchasing a hand crafted, specially designed for you bamboo rod, come see Skip King of King Fly Rods at the Scarborough Fair in Waxahachie. April the 6th through May the 27th. Saturdays, Sundays and Memorial Day.

Skip can be contacted at: <https://kingflyrods.com/>

VIDEO ANALYSIS OF YOUR FLY CASTS

Using "OnForm" Coaching Tool

iPad required



Andy Payne

FFI Certified Casting Instructor

Send a text to phone # below to express your interest

(832) 250 6739

Casting for Recovery

A pink fly fishing lure with a starburst-like head and a segmented body is positioned to the right of the title text.

Enhancing the lives of women with breast cancer by connecting them to each other and nature through the therapeutic sport of fly fishing.

Learn more at castingforrecovery.org

GUADALUPE BASS ZOOM MEETING

For the past couple of years, the Texas Council has been hosting seasonal zoom meetings, focusing on a certain species of fish, to help educate fly fishing anglers across the state. Past species that were highlighted, were trout, carp, panfish, white bass and have plans for more. This season's focus will be on Guadalupe Bass, and we have surrounded ourselves with some experts on the topic, of which we are excited to hear from them.

Join us as the Texas Council will have our next seasonal zoom presentation on March the 27th, and it will be all about Guadalupe Bass. Speakers and topics will be:

- History and Restoration of Guadalupe Bass presented by Timothy Birdsong from TPWD
- Kayak Lease Access Program presented by John Botros from TPWD
- The Flies and Where by Jim Gray
- The Casts and Techniques by Cari Ray

Here is the link to the call:

President Texas Council FFI is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Texas Council FFI Quarterly Meeting "Guadalupe Bass"

Time: Mar 27, 2024 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86973991412?pwd=U2l1cGl4L2pUSXQ3VEF4aE91MVcxdz09>

Meeting ID: 869 7399 1412

Passcode: 054833

This year we succeeded in getting 130 miles of the Trinity River designated as a National Water Trail
We fought to protect Mary's Creek
We helped hundreds of people discover social distancing on the water
But we cannot continue without your help!
Join Trinity Coalition and make a donation today.

Help us help our river!

TrinityCoalition.org



**TRINITY
COALITION**

Providing Conservation through Recreation



FLY TYING – THE 31ST DR. ED RIZZOLO FLY TYING FESTIVAL; FLY TYERS ENJOY A DAY OF TYING AND SOCIALIZING

The 31st Texas Fly Fishers Dr. Ed Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival was held Saturday, January 27th 2024 and provided a great time for fly tyers from around the State to get together to socialize and tie flies. With Lester Lehman serving as the featured tyer, an Ironfly Competition, families in attendance and lunch, all seemed to have a fine day. Thanks to all who attended, all who participated and in particular thanks to Texas Fly Fishers Event Chairman, Chris Summers who put together such a fine fun day for so many to enjoy the fly fishing environment. A few pictures are below:



THE CASE FOR TUBE FLIES



First of all, what is a tube fly?:

Simply put, tube flies differ from traditional artificial flies tied on hooks in that they are tied on small diameter hollow metal or plastic tubes. There is some discussion on where and who developed tube flies.

The more popular historical account is that tube flies were first developed in 1945 by a female fly dresser, Minnie Morawski, of the Charles Playfair and Company in Aberdeen, Scotland. However, in 1932, a British angler named Alexander Wanless, author of *The Angler and the Thread Line*, described in his book why anglers should be using his system:

“It has been observed that the first type of fly is designed so that when a fish is hooked, the fly will slide up the line out of harm’s way or rather to prevent it from levering the small hook out of the salmon’s jaw”.

Still yet a third source, Thomas Clegg, suggested in his book, *Modern Tube Making* 1965, “tube flies came to Britain from America where natives used hollow bird bone lures that emitted a string of bubbles”. A strong case could probably be made that the more popular version of the historical account is the first, in that Minnie was a “fly dresser of fine salmon flies” and Alexander Wanless was a mere “spin fisherman”. Regardless of which version you prefer, the advantages of tube flies still remain to this day. While tube flies were designed to improve and maintain hookups and prevent damage to complex and expensive salmon flies, most of the flies that will be discussed here have been adapted to cold and warm water species in our region.

The cons of tube flies are somewhat obvious:

- *There is a slight learning curve to tying on a tube
- *Small flies are not feasible on a tube
- *A tube fly vise or an adapter to hold the tube is required

In my opinion, the pros far outweigh the cons:

- **More Hook-ups** - Because a hook can be presented at

the tail of a fly using stiff hook retaining material, tail bites can be turned into hook-ups.

- **More Fish Landed** - Fishing with a tube enables a greater number of hookups: as the tube slides away from the hook on a take, so the fish has less leverage to throw the hook compared to longer hooks.
- **Rapid hooks for Changing Conditions** - A single tube can be adapted to situations that would normally require different flies or lures on different sizes and styles of hooks.
- **Better Baitfish Replication** - The long thin profile of a tube better replicates baitfish, using wing and body material that flows back to give the appearance of a bulky head and slimmer body.
- **Shorter Hooks** - Crucially, a longer tube means that there is no need to use large “ironmongery butcher hooks” for your flies.
- **Simplifying Tackle** - Tubes take up little space and that space does not have to cater for sharp hooks which damage flies and everything around them. Indeed you can carry a range of separate hooks in a separate small container and swap hooks from fly to fly.
- **Longer Lasting** - Because the tube slides up the line on a take this means there is less damage than with conventional lures on a take. Tube Flies last twice as long on average to a standard fly!
- **Easier Catch and Release Fishing** - With a deeply hooked fish, the fly can be slid up the leader and cut off the hook without further injury to a fish. It is also practical to use hooks that will rapidly corrode in salt or fresh water.
- **Barbed or Barbless** - Hooks can be used according to fishery rules on the same tube fly, as the hook is separate from the tube fly.
- **Hooks can be swapped** - when dull, rather than sharpening them at the water’s edge, old rusted hooks can be replaced without discarding the fly.

THE TUBE: The Foundation of the Tube Fly

Almost any cylindrical hollow tube can be used to attach tying material, from Q-tips to a coffee stirrer. After all, some of the first tube flies were tied on hollow bird wing bones. I would recommend purchasing tubing material that is specifically designed for tube flies. There are several companies that specialize in tube fly materials, The Canadian Tube Fly Company, Pro Tube, Tubeology and HMH (more of HMH Company later) to name a few. Most of these products have standardized inside/outside diameters that fit other components.

THE VISE: Adapter or Dedicated Vise

There are several companies that make adapters that fit in the standard jaws of almost any standard vise (just

THE CASE FOR TUBE FLIES- CONTD.

as you would a large hook). These adapters are a great way to start tying tube flies. Most of these use a tapered mandrel where the tube is held in place with friction. The exception to these is the HMH adapter that also has a small eye ring that holds the tube by crimping it in place. If you go, the adapter I would recommend is the HMH style.

Many major vise companies (Nor-vise, Peak, Stonflo, Renzetti and HMH) make inserts for their vises that use a drill chuck to hold the mandrels. As far as I am aware, there is only one vise company that makes a dedicated vise just for tube flies-the HMH Tube Spinner Vise. This is a top of the line vise that is worth every cent if you really get into tying tubes.

This article is only intended to be a brief introduction to the world of tube flies. For more information, there are several Facebook pages-and YouTube has a lot of tube fly recipes that can be adapted to flies that can be used for bass and bluegill.

If you are a beginner interested in getting started tying some tube flies, feel free to contact me:

Mike Hawkins, Tying Chairman Texas Council
flyfishhawk@yahoo.com
903.353.3357



INTRODUCING THE CASTING MATTERS SERIES

by Cari Ray, Casting Director: Angler Development

It's no secret by now that I'm on a personal mission to shine a light on the value of fly casting skill in Texas and beyond. I know, from my own experience and by watching countless students, the enhanced enjoyment and increased success that come with getting control of your line and cast are indisputable. As part of that mission, among other initiatives, we've launched the "CASTING MATTERS" virtual presentation series. These casting-skills-related presentations, given exclusively by FFI Certified Instructors, are free and open to everyone. The first two, one on "Mapping Your Casting Journey," and another on "The Magic of the Curve Cast," were recorded and are now available for viewing on your schedule.

We will be offering these throughout the year. Please see below for upcoming topics and stay tuned for an announcement about the second half of 2024. Links to both live presentations and recordings have/will be made available both on the FB event pages and via email to club leadership to share with members.

Gratitude to those who have attended so far, and to those of you who haven't, I invite you to join us. Your cast will thank you!

April 10: Fighting The Wind with Austin Orr

May 8: Minding Your Loop with Jim Richards

June 12: The Building Blocks of Accuracy with Bill Campbell

Cari Ray
Casting Director - Angler Education, Texas Council FFI
FFI Certified Casting Instructor
TPWD Certified Fly Fishing Instructor

cariray@texascouncilffi.com
@fisherofzen • 317-828-1565

INTRODUCING TO YOU THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2024!!

The Texas Council is extremely excited to share with you the Board of Directors for 2024. We are off to a great start, and have so much to offer you the member this year. Starting off with the “Casting Matters” series of presentations, the Fly Fishing Fair, and the Fly Fishing Tournament. We thought it was important to show you the fun side of who we are and that we do in fact have loads of fun, mixed in with our desire to serve. This group of amazing talent, is set to take the Council to a whole, different level. So here we are!!



President Richard Haness



Communications / Social Media Katie Cowen



Women’s Director Beth Beirman



Vice President/ Conservation Russell Husted



TPWD Club Liaison Keira Quam



Membership Brett Morehead



Education Dani Rose

BOARD OF DIRECTORS- CONTD.



Casting Cari Ray



Webmaster Tim Gikas



Casting Jim Hund



Tying Mike Hawkins



Treasurer Michael Quigley



Director At Large David Hudnall



Youth Director Austin Orr



Secretary Laura Durden

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

The Texas Council hosted a Pickleball Tournament on January the 20th. That's right. You heard it here! Pickleball is the hottest sport, sweeping across the nation, that we can benefit from. This charity event was hosted to raise money for the Council, which in turns supports the clubs in Texas. This trial run and format, will be used across the state, as a model for other fund raising tournaments. There was two levels of play. Social, and Competitive, that participants gave it their all in. 36 players played in the tournament paying \$50 each, and the Council had a table of raffle items, which combined brought in \$2800!! A nice boost to positive side of thebudget. Prizes and shirts were awarded the 1st and 2nd place winners, which really left a very positive impression on our first tournament.

Special THANKS go out to the Chicken N Pickle team at the Grand Prairie location. Their community program of supporting non-profit organizations is simply awesome. They were great hosts, and the event would not have had happened without them and this program.

Texas Council Pickleball Recap

Tournament Winners

Social

1st Mathew Brown and Katie Brown

2nd Scott Evans and Tylene Di Sciallo

Competitive

1st Nick Alvors and Brett Barker

2nd Bobby Ennis and Chris Robinett

Six Zero Pickleball Racket Winner

- Patti Haness

TFO Rod and Reel Combo Winner

- Chris Robinett

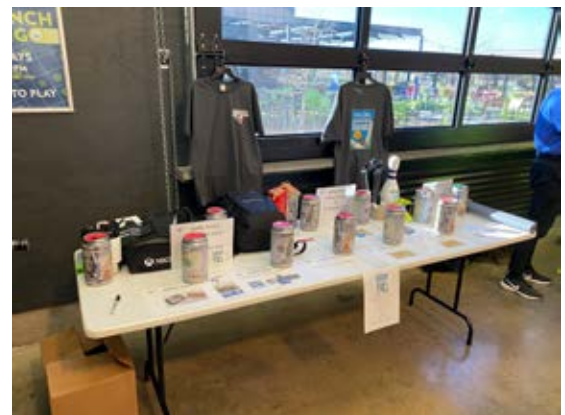
Silent Auction Winner

- Randall Hoover

So get that paddle, lace up those sneakers, and join us for our next Pickleball Tournament coming to a location near you!!

Russell Husted

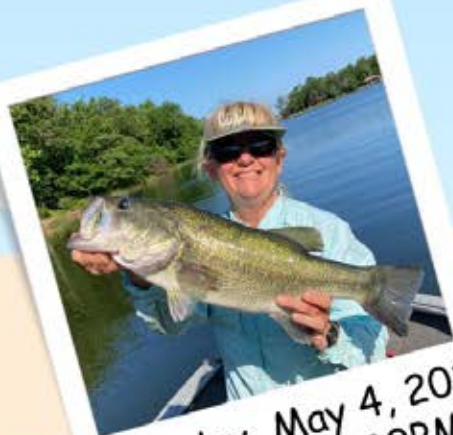
Vice President / Conservation



BEST LAKE FORK CHARITY EVENT FOR 2024



15th Annual Bass on the Fly Fishing Tournament



Saturday, May 4, 2024
6:00 AM - 2:00 PM



Registration - Friday
May 3rd, 2024 - 10-7pm

**Your Entry Fee: \$70 per person
Includes Entry in Big Bass Pot.**

Optional Big Sunfish Tourney Friday 3-6PM - \$10 buy-in.

Register online before April 15th to be eligible for a Sage Bass II fly rod draw.

text

reelrecovery.org - patriotanglers.org - castingforrecovery.org

LOTS OF GREAT PRIZES

- Free Casting Clinic
- Boaters & Kayaker Divisions
- Free Meals from Patriots Grill
- Special, fun activities

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Lake Fork, TX

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Online @ www.ianglertournament.com



Jerry Walker (214) 864-9443
Jerry.walker2544@gmail.com
www.bassonthefly.org

FLYFEST 2024



Well FlyFest 2024 is now behind us. Again, this event was so well done and attended. After dodging hot days, rain, wind, muddy water, and then turning colder, the day turned out to be a great one. So great to see people of all kinds enjoying the river, as one. All of the activities were so well done and enjoyed by all. The Trout Derby for many is the highlight, and while the fishing was slower this year, due to the water conditions, that did not deter some great catches seen by the gallery. Sitting on the banks, with a cold beverage, while watching the derby is so cool, for many. The presenters this year were spot on, and well attended as well. Cari Ray was the Keynote Speaker, and she put a very inspiring and twist in how we as anglers can enjoy the sport even more, if we just as I call it, get into the zone. Julie Mattson, Nick Streit, Chris Johnson, Donovan Clary and Stephen Woodcock also gave amazing presentations for the event goers. And the fly tying tent, held hourly tying sessions, led by Michael Rios, Dani Rose, Sean Polk, Chris Johnson, and Lindy Reese were very well done. They even let me have a slot, of which we went through the basic steps of tying Clouser Minnows. Food trucks, cooking demonstrations, educational and fun activities for the kids, tying presentations, music, casting instructions from some of the best, and more, makes this event a premier event!!



You may remember that last year, we were blessed to meet a young man named Cline. Cline's wish was to attend FlyFest, knowing that this may be his last one he could ever attend. He touched our hearts, and spirit with his enthusiasm, charm, and passion for the sport of fishing. He made his rounds through the event, and watched me tie some flies, of

which he really enjoyed doing. He would attend fly tying sessions around the Fort Worth area, when he could, and really enjoyed that time. Unfortunately, this was the last FlyFest he would attend. We wanted to pay tribute to Cline, and FlyFest did that in a special way. Dedicating the youth activities, in his name, remembering him for what made this young man so special. Great job FlyFest, and Cline we will meet up again.

Special THANKS go out to Streams and Valleys, TRWD, Fort Worth Fly Fishers, Texas Council, TPWD, the sponsors, the vendors, the volunteers, and to all who help put this amazing event together. And to ACME Brick, for letting us use your facilities to host FlyFest!! United, we can do great things, and will continue to do so.

See you in 2025!!! Already looking forward to it.





Be Well! Fish On!

To find out more on how you can participate,
call or check out our website:

800 699 4490

www.reelrecovery.org - info@reelrecovery.org



Reel Recovery is a national non-profit organization that conducts **free fly-fishing retreats for men recovering from all forms of cancer.** Combining introductory fly-fishing instruction with directed “courageous conversations”, the organization offers a unique experience for men living with cancer, a time to share their stories; learn a new skill, form friendships and gain renewed hope as they confront the challenges of their recovery.

All meals, lodging and fly-fishing equipment are provided at no cost to the participants. Retreats are led by professional facilitators, trained retreat coordinators and fly-fishing instructors. A maximum of 12-14 men are invited to participate, to ensure the quality of the instruction and to create a powerful small-group dynamic.



Contact our fantastic volunteers and join us for Reel Recovery's 2024 Texas Retreats

Waring, TX - 4/12 - 4/14 & 9/20 - 9/22

Tony Smith 210 232 2623 - smith.reelrecovery@gmail.com

Rafael Torres 512 560 4380 - torres.reelrecovery@gmail.com

Navasota, TX - 5/03 - 5/05 & 10/25 - 10/27

Dave Steffek 713 202 0101 - dst8ff8k@att.net

Rusty Dunn 337 344 4385 - dunn.reelrecovery@gmail.com

Glen Rose, TX - 4/26 - 4/28 & 10/04 - 10/06

Mike Tabor 817 894 0018 - tabor.reelrecovery@gmail.com

Bill Shaw 817 925 2046 - shaw.reelrecovery@gmail.com



TEXAS COUNCIL SUPPORT LETTER



Thank you for your support of the Texas Council and Fly Fishers International. Just as the Texas Council focus is on the member clubs, the larger FFI focus is to ensure the legacy of fly fishing for all fish in all waters continues by focusing on conservation, education and a sense of community.

To align ourselves with this national strategy, the Texas Council is focusing on our local clubs. Our goal is to provide a source of community feedback, support, direction and funding to assist local clubs with the grassroots movement and avocation that is fly fishing.

To this end, our council is seeking funding to help. We will always be grateful for donations we receive, but in 2020 we will also focus on raising funds through our newsletter. We will promote the FFI Texas Council and our newsletter through the Texas Council website, social media, through our clubs across the state, and through the National FFI website.

The Texas Council newsletter has been in place for many years now, and has successfully promoted both commercial and non-profit activities both across the state and nationally. With our growing group of over 1,000 members throughout the state, our newsletter is uniquely positioned to reach niche market customers for your business.

Please consider advertising in our Council's newsletter. We have a very affordable advertising rate for the reach you will receive with your ad, which includes placement in all four newsletters.

Prices for advertising with the Texas Council newsletter's four issues are:

- Business Card - \$50 a year
- 1/4 page color ad - \$100 a year
- 1/2 page color ad - \$200 a year
- FULL page color ad - \$300 a year (That's only \$75 a season!)

The newsletter will be published four times a year. Each edition will publish at the beginning of each season, as follows:

Deadline for content and advertising

Spring Deadline: **March 1st**

Newsletter sent out **March 20th**

Summer Deadline: **June 1st**

Newsletter sent out **June 21st**

Fall Deadline: **September 1st**

Newsletter sent out **September 22nd**

Winter Deadline: **December 1st**

Newsletter sent out **December 21st**

Thank you for your support in the past, and we look forward to your future involvement with the Texas Council to promote fly fishing across Texas.

Contact us at: president@texascouncilffi.com

or

communications@texascouncilffi.com

Thanks,

Your Texas Council

TEXAS COUNCIL SPONSORS



The Texas Council wants to thank you for your support. Our goal has always been to promote fly fishing in Texas, and help the organizations that do just that. We are fortunate for these businesses and individuals, and will highlight them in the newsletter, and on social media as well. If you are interested in advertising your business or service with the Texas Council, please contact Russell at communications@texascouncilffi.com



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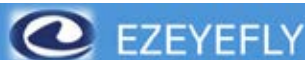


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My name is Michael Rios and I'm a lifetime angler. I started Panther City Flies as a way to bring people to high quality, well-tied flies that actually...catch fish! From trout to redfish I can get it done. I specialize in bass streamers for our local rivers and lakes in North Texas. I am the creator of the Golden Ticket, and Dive Bomber, two flies that have been making waves (pun intended) in the fly fishing community. I am the current Fly Tying Chairman for the Fort Worth Fly Fishers. Panther City Flies, Always on the Hunt!

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INTERNATIONAL

GUIDES & OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION

CONSERVATION / EDUCATION / COMMUNITY

THE FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL **GUIDES & OUTFITTERS ASSOCIATION** IS A COMMUNITY OF MEN AND WOMEN DEDICATED TO PROMOTING AND ENHANCING AN ANGLER'S FLY FISHING EXPERIENCE.

Fly fishing guides and outfitters provide valuable services to members of the fly fishing community around the world each year. Many Fly Fishers International (FFI) members are guides who provide fresh or salt water fishing experiences to their clients. However, many fly fishing guides are not members of the current Guides & Outfitters Association or FFI.

The expanded Guides & Outfitters Association is an effective way to establish a program that provides its members substantial benefits that include the best industry liability insurance and assist them in developing new clients.

It is the mission of FFI to support and protect fly fishing opportunities around the world for "all fish – all waters." It further is our intent to support members of the Guides & Outfitters Association as ambassadors who assist in the achievement of the FFI mission.

BENEFITS:

- » Insurance (United States only)
- » Travel and business programs
- » Access to FFI Learning Center materials
- » Promotion of services through FFI social media and publications

VISIT FLYFISHERSINTERNATIONAL.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION.



THANK YOU!

Club Leaders

The 22 active FFI clubs (including 3 Project Healing Waters Affiliates) that make up the Texas Council require a commitment of time and effort from approximately 200 dedicated, unselfish men and women who provide leadership to these clubs. Each club (except PHW Affiliates) elects the following positions, at a minimum: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Conservation Chair, Education Chair, and Outings Director. Most clubs would also designate leaders in Casting, Fly Tying, Womens Programs, Youth Programs a Webmaster/Social Media Director and a Fundraising Chair.

This effort amounts to thousands of hours of personal time and talent committed to the success of the broad mission of FFI; *Preserving the Legacy of Fly Fishing for All Fish, All Waters®*

Members of the Texas Council Board and the leadership and staff of FFI thank all of you for the hard work and dedication you apply everyday toward our pillars of Conservation, Education and Community.

Here are your current Clubs and their Presidents for 2024:

Club	President	City
Abilene	Rick Meyers	Abilene
Aggieland Fly Fishing Club	Hurshell Sullivan	College Station
Alamo	Karson Foster	San Antonio
Austin	Vacant	Austin
Collin	Kevin Grogan	Plano
Conroe	Zach Griffin	Conroe
Corpus Christi	Reese Hunt	Corpus Christi
Dallas	Dave Smith	Dallas
Fort Worth	Kay Jackson	Fort Worth
Kekoa	Chris Gorman	Melissa
Lonestar	David Hudnall	Tyler
Lubbock	David Crawford	Lubbock
New Braunfels	Dan Cone	New Braunfels
Pineywoods	Walter Mclendon	Lufkin
Red River	Jim Kelly (temp)	Sherman
Rowlett	Derrick Meis	Rowlett
San Gabriel	Rene Salas	Georgetown
Texas Fly Fishers	Don Pucket	Houston
Texas Hill Country	Jeff Schroeder	Fredericksburg
TWFF	Joan Swartz	Texas

Volunteers

Your Council Board is composed of 16 directors serving in various capacities very similar to the structure of Club Leadership. Since the members of the Council Board come from eight different clubs within the Council, with rare exception we must meet electronically. In 2020, along with millions of other people we upped our game and now use Zoom for our meetings. Being able to see the director who is speaking improves understanding and meeting efficiency.

The Council is an extension of FFI with the primary purpose of assisting in the delivery to our Clubs and Members the benefits and opportunities provided by FFI. All of the Directors are fully dedicated to the same mission and objectives as our Clubs. We will focus heavily on enhancing the flow of communication in both directions between the Members of our Clubs, FFI and the Council by sharing knowledge across the entire organization.

The Council will be seating new board members in early January and we are always looking for volunteers to serve on our Board. If you are interested please contact any of the directors to start a conversation. Email addresses of the entire board can be found at <https://tcffi.org/>

Texas Council President	Rick Haness
First Vice President / Conservation	Russell Husted
Education	Dani Rose
Membership	Brett Morehead
Communications / Social Media	Katie Cowen
Treasurer	Michael Quigley
Secretary	Laura Durden
Women's Outreach	Beth Bierman
Webmaster	Tim Gikas
Casting	Cari Ray
Casting	Jim Hund
Tying	Mike Hawkins
Youth Outreach	Austin Orr
TPWD Liaison	Keira Quam, FFI
At - Large	David Hudnall

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Texas Council Clubs

Club	City	Website/Email
Abilene Fly Fishers	Abilene	www.facebook.com/abileneflyfishers
Aggieland Fly Fishing Club	College Station	https://www.aggielandff.org/
Alamo Fly Fishers	San Antonio	www.alamoflyfishers.org
Austin Fly Fishers	Austin	www.austinflyfishers.com
Collin County Fly Fishing Club	Wylie	www.collincountyflyfishing.org
Conroe Fly Fishers (PHWFF)	Conroe	txfritz4134@suddenlink.net
Corpus Christi Fly Fishers Inc	Corpus Christi	www.lmflyfishers.com
Dallas Flyfishers	Dallas	www.dallasflyfishers.org
Fort Worth Fly Fishers	Fort Worth	www.fortworthflyfishers.org
Kekoa Outdoors	Melissa	www.kekoaoutdoors.org
Lone Star Fly Fishers	Tyler	www.lonestarflyfishers.com
Lubbock Fly Fishers	Lubbock	www.lubbockflyfishers.org
New Braunfels Fly Fishers	New Braunfels	www.facebook.com/newbraunfelsflyfishers
Pineywoods Fly Fishers	Lufkin	www.pwff.org
Red River Fly Fishers	Sherman	www.rrff.org
Rowlett Fishers (PHWFF)	Royse City	derrick.meis@projecthealingwaters.org
San Gabriel Fly Fishers	Georgetown	www.sgflyfishers.com
Texas Fly Fishers	Houston	www.texasflyfishers.org
Texas Hill Country Fly Fishers	Fredericksburg	thcff.org
Texas Women Fly Fishers	Statewide	www.twff.net

Note: PHWFF clubs serve only disabled veterans.



PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN FFI

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Access to exclusive features and content on our website including:

- The New Learning Center
- The *Flyfisher* magazine
- The Tying Times newsletter and Fly of the Month
- The Loop - The Journal of Fly Casting Professionals
- The Fly Tying Video Library (over 300 videos!)
- Exclusive Discounts on Hotels, Car Rentals and Insurance
- Searchable Casting, Fly Tying, Guide and Club Directories
- Fun Fly Tying and Casting Challenges

Discounted entry into FFI events

FFI Decals and Patch

Most importantly, the knowledge that you are helping to preserve fish habitats, the education of our next generation of fly fishers and our on-going conservation efforts.

AT THE FFI HEADQUARTERS IN LIVINGSTON, MONTANA


- The 2018 FFI Annual Fair held in Boise, ID, was jam packed with hundreds of workshops, seminars, famous authors and over 100 expert tiers and casters sharing their skills.

- FFI just launched the Learning Center with online classes in Fly Casting, Fly Tying, Fly Fishing Skills, and Conservation Education for the benefit of FFI members and the fly fishing community.

- Our ever-growing fly fishing museum includes the 7th fiber-glass rod ever made, the Fritz Gerds collection that includes over 150 fly plates, and an impressive collection of Lee Wulff memorabilia.

- FFI has provided grants and joined our partners in fighting mining proposals on the Menominee River in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, in the pristine Boundary Waters Wilderness in Minnesota, in Alaska's Bristol Bay and the Yellowstone Park watershed in Montana. These efforts will protect thousands of river and stream miles that impact our opportunities to fly fish.

**PLEASE RENEW
TODAY!**



**Please join us in our fight to
preserve and protect our fly
fishing heritage, so future
generations can enjoy it too.**

FFI TEXAS COUNCIL IS AT WORK IN YOUR REGION!



We now have 19 clubs throughout the state!

*Visit www.texascouncilfff.com
to learn all the happenings in your council*

Llano River Flood:

With YOUR help, the Texas Council (TxC) is partnering with Texas Parks and Wildlife to create a strategic plan to help restore the storm ravaged Llano River in Texas. The long-term outlook for fish populations depends on how riverside landowners and communities respond to the aftermath of downed trees and other debris deposited along the river.



Hill Country Youth Ranch:

The TxC awarded Hill Country Fly Fishers (one of its local clubs) an educational grant to purchase fly rods for the Hill Country Youth Ranch of Leakey, Texas. The youth ranch is a non-profit organization that helps abused and orphaned children.

YOUR support helps provide therapy for these kids through fly fishing!



Fairs/Shows/Clinic:

YOUR membership dollars allow the TxC and its clubs to be committed to offering tying, casting demos, and Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badges throughout the year. The council and its clubs are also very involved in Casting for Recovery and Project Healing Waters.



**YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
HELPS US CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THESE PROJECTS
AND
SO MUCH MORE!**



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NEW MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL APPLICATION

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General 1-Year \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying Group 1-Year \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General 3-Years \$90 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying Group 3-Years \$48.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior - (65+) \$25 * | <input type="checkbox"/> Fly Tying Group Lifetime \$285 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran - \$25 * | <input type="checkbox"/> Guides Association 1-Year \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth/Student - (22 and under) \$20 * | <input type="checkbox"/> Guides Association 3-Years \$70 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business - \$100 * | <input type="checkbox"/> Casting Renewal 1-Year \$45 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime - \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Casting Renewal 3-Years \$120 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Premium - \$1500 ** | (Casting Renewal is for certified instructors only) |

Printed Copy of the *Flyfisher* Magazine ☐ US residents - \$10/yr ☐ International residents - \$20/yr

(All members have access to our magazine by logging into www.flyfishersinternational.org)

NOTE: -General memberships include spouses, cohabitating partners and children under 18 years of age.
-Lifetime memberships include spouses and cohabitating partners.
-In order to join a specialty group (Guide, Fly Tying, Casting) you must also maintain an FFI membership.

*Membership eligible for up to 3-year purchase (multiply price by number of years)

**Includes custom built TFO rod. Refer to: <http://www.tforods.com/fly-fishing/custom-fly-rods.html>

Membership Number (renewals) _____ New Member

Name _____

Business Name (for Business memberships only) _____

Business Website _____

Street Address / PO Box _____

City/State/Zip/ _____ Country _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Club Affiliation _____

If you are a new member, is there an FFI Club or Council that you would like to receive credit for the Rod Credit Program? _____

Total Charge \$ _____ Auto Renew? ☐ Yes, I want to save time & resources!

Credit Card or check # _____ Exp. Date _____

☐ Please do not share my information with organizations outside of FFI.