



*...to introduce and educate the sporting public to the sport of fly fishing*

**CORRECTED COPY OF APRIL NEWSLETTER**

**April, 2017 Newsletter of Derby City Fly Fishers**

**Special Invitation**

This is not really a DCFF item. But a nearby club, Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers, is celebrating their 30th anniversary on April 6, 2017. They have invited members of DCFF as well as other nearby clubs to attend. The speaker is very distinguished and knowledgeable about the sport we all care for, namely fly-fishing. He is Bob DeMott, a lifetime member of Trout Unlimited, an International Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Casting Instructor, a graduate of Western Rivers Professional Guide School, and member of the American Museum of Fly Fishing and the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum, the Theodore Gordon Fly Fishers, and the Angler's Club of New York.

He has written many on fly fishing in such publications as Trout, Yale Angler's Journal, Gray's Sporting Journal, American Angler and the Bulletin of Angler's Club of New York, where he is a member of the editorial board.

It sounds very likely that this would be an interesting evening, one not to be missed! The meeting will be at **Boone Links Golf Course, 19 Clubhouse Drive, Florence, KY 41042. It starts at 5:30.**

## **Letter from our DCFF President**



**George Tipker**

Spring has sprung and I am pleased to see so many of our members participating in the club's monthly meetings, fly tying sessions, and trips. It is a testament to the club's founding premise of promoting interest in fly fishing through education.

Derby City Fly Fishers has been extremely fortunate in having so many dedicated volunteers both past and present willing to take the time to provide programs to reach out to others with like interests. I think everyone will agree that their efforts have given us all an opportunity to enjoy the sport more fully and expand our circle of friends.

Please let me or any of our board members know of your special interests, flies you'd like to tie, places you'd like to go, or topics we could address at our meetings.

George Tipker

## **Upcoming This Month**

**Saturday, April 1 - Three Rivers Fly Fishing and Tying Show** - This is a very nice show in Fort Wayne, Indiana. We have a few members heading up to tie some flies there, namely George Tipker, Gerry McDaniel, Mike Norris or Roy Been if you are interested. They are heading out on Friday the 31st.

**Wednesday, April 5** - At 6:30 is the Board of Directors meeting at the Cardinal Hall of Fame Cafe, 2745 Crittenden Drive in Louisville. Board members will attend to discuss matters listed on the agenda and any other items needing discussions or decisions. The meeting is in the Freedom Hall Room. We moved there because it is very spacious, which allows attendance of guests. We invite guests who are DCFF members but not on the Board of Directors. This is so you can see what we do and how we do it. You are welcome to express your thoughts and ask questions at the meeting! The meeting is interrupted for an evening meal, paid for individually. It is then continued and wraps up about 8 or 8:30. Please consider joining us.

**Wednesday, April 12** - Eat and Talk Shop at Golden Corral, 1402 Cedar Street, Clarksville, Indiana. You will enjoy fine buffet dining in a large private room the restaurant holds for Derby City Fly Fishers. Come and enjoy, and learn how to fish, how to tie knots, how to cast, all of that and lots more and camaraderie as well. Time is 6 PM until 8 or so.

**Thursday April 6 through Sunday April 9** - DCFF trip to Waynesville, North Carolina to fish the many fine streams there. Most stay at the Oak Park Inn. Sign up on the DCFF web site.

**Wednesday, April 19** - At 6:30 come to Bass Pro Shops in Clarksville, Indiana for our monthly meeting of the members of Derby City Fly Fishers. We meet in the auditorium on the second floor, near the Camping displays.

Our speaker is Brad Redmon. He was heavily involved in building Hatchery Creek, which is the wonderful catch and release stream built at Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River. He now offers a guide service to help anglers fish Hatchery Creek. Brad will be our speaker at the April members meeting. This beautiful stream is such a success that his presentation is sure to be fascinating.

Our Raffle Director, Jack McGuire will have some very nice raffle items as well. The raffle and its prizes adds interest and excitement to the meeting!

**Saturday April 22** - Floyd Forks Park Cleanup - Not the whole park. We will be assigned a particular area or areas of the park. Mike Norris is in charge. Our work will last from 10 AM to 1 PM. Angling, canoeing, kayaking and just chatter may follow..

**Wednesday April 26 and Thursday April 27** - Our fly tying lessons begin at 6:00 on Wednesday the 26th at Cabela's at 5100 Norton Healthcare Boulevard, Louisville, Kentucky. The teacher will be George Tipker, our club President. He will teach us to tie a Black and Blue, a Catalpa Worm, and a Zebra Midge. The following night, Thursday, the same fly-tying lessons will be taught by George at Bass Pro Shops in Clarksville, Indiana also at 6:00 PM.

It is good to get there a little early to either of these places to give you time to get your tools and tying materials and be ready for class. There is no need for you to bring your own tools or materials. They will be supplied at no-charge, as is the instruction.

The class is set up so you see the instructor on a screen so you can watch and listen as he ties his own fly. There will also be experienced tiers floating around to aid those who need help. Also, membership in Derby City Fly Fishers is not necessary in order to attend class and receive the treatment described above.

## **Two Kinds of Trips**

There are lots of fly fishers in DCFF, and, naturally, lots of trips are taken. What newcomers need to understand is that only club members who have paid their dues are allowed to go on trips sponsored by Derby City Fly Fishers. We strictly enforce that rule because if we do not we jeopardize our insurance coverage.

There are other trips organized by individuals who would like to go someplace together and fish. The rule stated above does not apply to that sort of trip. You will see that we cover either kind of trip in this newsletter.

## Otter Creek Instructional Outing - March 2017

Wes Krupiczewicz



Derby City Fly Fishers hosted its first instructional outing of the year on Saturday March 11, 2017. The day was cold and dry and, fortunately, the creek conditions were very conducive to catching fish with water level at the discharge of the stocking tube and visibility to about 3 feet!

We had a total of 7 new or nearly new fly fishers and a nearly equal number of instructors available so we got in some very good one-on-one instruction. As is the case for all our instructional outings, we catered the instruction to the student. We had four who wanted general casting instruction in the grass. We taught Jack's leader system and talked about what flies to fish. We did a little two handed spey casting with one student. We got people on the water fishing. And most important, 6 of the 7 caught fish, some into double digits!

We ended the day with a gourmet lunch of hotdogs, chips, pickles and apples provided courtesy of the club. All in all, a good time was had by all. A few of us decided to stick around after lunch and fish the creek since it was in such good shape. We had it virtually all to ourselves and I'm happy to report that you should have been there Saturday!





Thank you Wes. A GREAT REPORT!

## **Florida Fishing**

Member Bob Sawtelle, or Ranger Bob as you may know him, was good enough to send this tale describing his recent outing to hotspots he has grown to love in Florida. There is a great deal of information here that should benefit you. Enjoy!! Thank you, Bob!

**February 18- 24th . Florida Fly Fishing Trip Report: Boca Grande, Gasparilla Island.**

**By Ranger Bob**

I have had the delightful and fortunate experience of fly fishing and just fishing Florida's backcountry and near shore saltwater of Florida. I have owned a flats boat since 2005. I trailer it from Indiana to our Florida fishing destinations. My angling partner John and I fish from the Florida Panhandle, St. Joe Harbor, Tampa, Sarasota, Charlotte's Harbor, Everglades and down to visit my favorite sister in Key West.

That's a lot of water. We know some of it, but not as well as we should. Successful fishing no matter where you are relies on one single most factor - knowing the habitat, knowing where the fish like to be. That's true of Blue River, Otter Creek, Cumberland River and saltwater. Knowing what they like to eat helps too!

The reason we hire guides is because they know their home waters and their fish habits. Their local knowledge helps us catch more fish. Now John and I are not saltwater guide quality yet but after years of dabbling and wetting lines along the Gulf Coast and Florida Keys we have finally selected our home waters.



Gasparilla Island of Boca Grande Pass is our choice. Here's why: the fishing can be incredible, the fishing is easy and accessible, and boating is as safe as the boat captain, fishable waters are easily accessible with kayak, flats boat or bay boat. Mangrove backcountry and flats kayak fishing commonly has a success rate that exceeds fishing from boats, even the skinny flats boats.

We stay at a hotel called the InnLet On The Waterfront, Boca Grande on Gasparilla Island. Efficiencies have two queen beds, a two burner kitchen stove with a small refrigerator and a bathroom with a roomy shower. Cost is about \$200 per night (\$100 per person). A boat slip is available for another \$35 per day and is located immediately out the room's back door. Really, ten steps and I am loaded into the boat and ready to go. The cost may seem pricey but once you consider the convenience and savings of not commuting with a boat and trailer, driving your vehicle and cooking your own meals it becomes more affordable. We take a camp stove and do all of our fish cooking outside the room on a picnic table. If the fish catching is really good we sometimes feed what seems like the entire guest list of the hotel. Other hotel anglers pitch in their catch also. It is kind of like a tropical trout camp food experience; on a good day nobody steps away from the table hungry.



We purchase, pack and transport most of our groceries for the stay before entering the island, including our refreshments. If you do forget key ingredients, run out of beer or want a great steak to grill a ¼ mile walk will bring you to the doorstep of the island's Hudson's Grocery.

I do catch fish with a fly rod; John spin fishes and catches supper. The species list includes sea trout, snapper, sheepshead, grouper, snook, Spanish mackerel, cobia and more.

Some flies, fishing lures and tackle are available at the local hardware store and one outfitter shop. But you are much better off if you come with your own supply of flies, lures and accessories. Fly shops these days are mostly clothing and sandal outlets. The best live baits for Gasparilla (Florida) fishing are of course live shrimp and pin fish. Bait is available at the local marina. We do not limit ourselves to just fly fishing. We do it all. A shrimp floating beneath a clacker is fun too!

Gasparilla is a gated community island. Cost for a truck and boat on a trailer to enter the Island is about \$11.00. There is a State Park with a historic lighthouse located at the south end of the island with a public beach and good shore fishing.



Florida fishing guides do operate out of the InnLet ramp. It is not a secret fishing destination it is just a good time fishing place.

I will gladly share any information or trip knowledge with any club member that is interested.

## **Pictures From The Members**

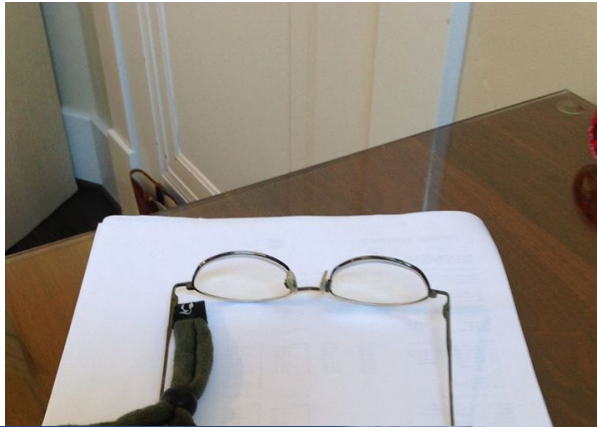


Our Spring Club Trip to Waymesville, North Carolina is coming April 6. Great for new members and old. Members only! But that costs only \$20.00.



Jon Lee says he came to the Cumberland to catch Stripers! Did not expect this! Asia carp I believe. Thanks to Roger Daily for the photo.

did anyone at Otter Creek lose this pictured pair of glasses? i just received an email thru our club website that a fellow fisher found these in the stream and thought that they may belong to a DCFF member that might have been there this past weekend. if they are yours, or if anyone knows whom they might belong to, please



advise me or email me. note that they have a Reel Recovery strap on them. i am guessing there is a pretty good chance they belong to someone in our club.



Past President, Mark Vincent, a fine angler and very nice guy with a nice bonefish near Andros Island in the Bahamas!

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Dan Jackman was so nice as to offer this article written about a trip to Arkansas recently.

## **A WEEK ON THE RIVER**

### **The Making of New Friends**

By: Dan Jackman

As Co-founder of the Kentuckiana Fly Tyers, I felt it was necessary to reach out to other fly fishers, and to the other fly fishing organizations in our community, those being Trout Unlimited and the Derby City Fly Fishers, to keep sort of a liaison between us all. Being a member of both organizations, but having spent little time in their respective functions, or activities, I was anxious to start the year out differently.

Last summer, while volunteering at a Casting for Recovery Retreat, I heard about, and was invited to go on a winter fly fishing trip among a group of friends to the River Ridge Inn, located in Arkansas, a kind of fishing lodge on the North Fork River, or as the locals have renamed it, the Norfork. A name that has been permanently etched for evermore in all references to it.

Six months later, I contacted George Tipker, an organizer of this winter adventure, who also presently serves as the president of Derby City Fly Fishers, about possibly Roy Weeks, my partner and other co-founder of Kentuckiana Fly Tyers, and myself going on the trip. George invited us, and kept us informed all of January and February of what we would need as to clothing for the UNPREDICTABLE February weather, and what we could expect when we arrived in Arkansas. George even went as far as to invite the others who were going on the outing to come to our February fly tying meeting at Orvis to finalize the trip with the arranging of carpooling and the time of departure.

Roy and I left on Sunday morning around seven and having been to Mountain Home on several occasions in the past for the Sow Bug Festival and the Southern Conclave, both of which we have fly tied at, knew how long of a trip it was going to be, so we had plenty of time for discussion about what we were about to venture into. We were uncertain of what to expect as far as how we would be received by the others, none of whom we knew much of, and we both felt we could possibly be in for a long week of alone time.

Upon arrival, we were met by George, who welcomed us with genuine sincerity and a handshake to make us feel really wanted. He informed us that the others were already out on the river, and he was going to meet them and invited us to join them after we checked in and unpacked. Roy and I decided to go to the dam on the Norfolk, and try our luck there, since the generation was off, and the water was wadable, which hasn't been the case on our past trips there. We fished till dark, but really didn't have any luck, and were feeling tired from the drive, and decided to go back and meet the other members of our group.

Back at the inn, George introduced us to the others, Joe Gahlinger, Brian Kaluzny, Mark Rougeux, Ralph Swallows, and Don Temple. They had dinner started, Roy and myself stayed out of the way. I must admit, that the meals were well planned for the week. Everyone took turns cooking, but Roy and me, but we cleaned up and did the dishes. After dinner we sat around and talked about the day's fishing, and what was in store for tomorrow. Much discussion was on the time that all were going to get on the water and where they would put their kayaks in.

This seemed to be the main topic each evening after dinner.



Each morning, Ralph had the coffee going, and the others got up early and were out of the inn before Roy and I got up. They went their way and we fished ours. Each night we talked about the day's catch, what they were caught on, and how big they were. No one ever mentioned about us not fishing with the others, and that made it more relaxing for us. We tied flies in the evening and showed others certain patterns that seem effective.

This is the way it was all week. No one seemed out of place, and all were very cordial. Brian and Mark had to leave on Friday, and the rest of us were sorry to see them leave. We did more fishing on the weekend and headed home Sunday morning.





The people that Roy and I met on this trip made the week more enjoyable than you can imagine. No one cared that we didn't fish as much as the others, or that we were from a different organization, kind of outsiders if you will. We had meetings that we had to attend for the upcoming sow bug festival. We went to different fishing locations than the others, but none of that mattered. I can say that we made some new friends and comrades to fish with in the future.

If you were ever thinking of going on a fly fishing outing but were hesitant about if you would fit in... don't fret about it. Brian, Joe, Mark, Ralph, Don, and of course George will make you feel like you're just one of the guys. And I think most fly fishers will make you feel the same way. I can speak for Roy on this when we say thank you all for making our week on the river, a place where we made some new friends.

I hope that in the future, all fly fishers, and all the fly fishing organizations, will be this open with members from other groups. I can say that Derby City has put the welcome mat out for all.

*And thank you, Dan Jackman for an excellent addition to this newsletter. Doug Stull*

Find us on 

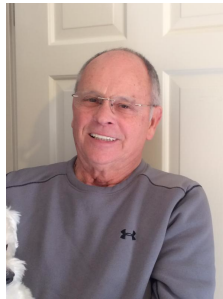
You can now find our club on [Facebook](#) .

Many of our members and friends of the club are on the Derby City Fly Fishers Facebook page. It's a closed group so only admitted members can post or comment on posts. It's a great way to share pictures, stories and fishing reports... Just click the JOIN button and we will admit you to the group. The address is simply Derby City Fly Fishers.

## *Project Healing Waters, helping our military!*

The Healing Waters organization is a large national charity that works with clubs like ours to support and improve the lives of current military personnel and veterans. Healing Waters goal is to do that by helping those people learn fly fishing in all of its aspects.

Our representatives give time for that twice each month at the Louisville Veterans Hospital, teaching and practicing fly casting, fly fishing, fly tying, rod building and all aspects of our sport.



If you would like to participate, give Jim Bearden a call. Jim is the Director of our Project Healing Waters. His phone is 502 439 6804. He will be glad to suggest to you how you might participate in this meaningful activity.

### **Editor's Comments**

Derby City Fly Fishers is dedicated to helping people learn and enjoy fly fishing, fly casting and knots and all other aspects of our sport. We also work to provide support to several charities. And we strive to have lots of fun as well. All for \$20.00 per year per member or \$25.00 including the family. Our web site is [derbycityflyfishers.com](http://derbycityflyfishers.com).

Your comments, good or bad, about the newsletter are encouraged. A report from you or pictures from one of your outings would be of interest to other club members. Send whatever to [dougstull@twc.com](mailto:dougstull@twc.com). I will write it up for you. Try to have it to me by the end of the third week of the month. Thanks!

Doug

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