



## April, 2021 Newsletter

The Board of Directors met via ZOOM on **Wednesday, April 7th**. This newsletter will update you on the results of that meeting as it relates to upcoming club events.

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### President's Letter

#### Blasphemy, and other activities

Jessy took Eli fishing for the first time (without me?!? What the heck?!?) this week. My brother saw the post on Facebook, and commented that he wasn't using a flyrod. This was an exceedingly true statement. Judging by his attempts to cast a Paw Patrol rod, a fly would have no chance. He practiced for an hour at the edge of the driveway. Still couldn't hit the water most tries.



Plans are for him to go fishing again Friday. There will probably be a Facebook post that notes his success or failure.

Saturday, Eli and I will be taking the pastor's kids fishing. He has 4 sons. They want to fish. He doesn't fish. I'm not going to try to get them fly fishing. I doubt I'll take a fly rod.

I have a stack of Zebco rod/reel combos with fresh line. We are going fishing with bait and bobbers. Blasphemy. At least to some. The goal is to get some kids interested in fishing, fishing. Not to stand in a field and try to get them to understand a fly cast, keeping a rod in the plane, loading a rod, follow through to hit your target. We will be the ones happily flinging a bobber haphazardly off a dock.

DCFF exists to promote fly-fishing. I love fly fishing. I consider spin fishing to be the gateway drug to that end.

This will be a spin fishing trip. The kids are going to get to keep the rods. One day, hopefully, I'll be able to get Eli fly fishing. One day, hopefully, I'll take the pastor's kids fly fishing. In the mean time, we will be drowning worms (or corn, crickets, power bait, whatever it takes) to get them hooked (who didn't see that pun coming?).

Dad works in a fly shop. Some seriously snooty fly fishers there. Dad will tell them, the only thing he likes more than fly fishing, is fishing. Chucking hot dog pieces for catfish, crickets for bluegill and crappie, doesn't matter. He'd rather be fishing.

If you get the opportunity to take someone fly fishing, do it. If you have a chance to take a kid fishing...I'm thinking the \$10 Zebco is a safer investment. If I tie on a mop fly, it still counts, right?

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## **Plans for the Foreseeable Future**

### ***Derby City Fly Fishers Eat and Talk***

**Wednesday April 14th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**

**Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint**

**3408 Indian Lake Drive, Louisville, KY  
(off of Westport Rd near Gene Snyder)**

**[Google Map Link](#)**

We will be having our first in person gathering this coming Wednesday at Martin's BBQ Joint. There is plenty of room to observe appropriate social distancing, good lighting (would be great for fly tying) and good food. This is a great opportunity to get to know some of your DCFF club mates a little better, swap



some fish stories, all while enjoying some good BBQ and drink. You can come when you want, eat and drink if you want, tie a fly or two if you want but mostly just share some camaraderie. (State restrictions/requirements will be observed.)

***Derby City Fly Fishers***  
***General Membership Meeting***  
**Wednesday April 21 6:30 to 8:30 pm.**  
**Bass Pro Shops, Clarksville, IN**  
[Google Map Link](#)

At this time, there is no speaker scheduled. This is an opportunity for us to share what we've been up to since our last in person meeting such a long *long* time ago. We DO however have a great lineup of speakers for upcoming meetings in 2021 so stay tuned for information on that!

**Fly Tying Classes - [will not take place](#) this month.**

## **Trips**

**LAKE BARKLEY** May 1-2  
**GREEN RIVER** May 19-21  
**CUMBERLAND RIVER** May 21-23  
**OBEY RIVER / CUMBERLAND RIVER** June 9-13  
**CUMBERLAND RIVER** July 9-11  
**CUMBERLAND RIVER** August 13-15  
**CODY, WY** Aug 22 - 28, 2021  
**CUMBERLAND RIVER** September 17-19  
**NORTH CAROLINA** November 11-1

**Note: All listed trips are now available for sign ups. Please be sure to visit the web site for links to these trips.**

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## **LAKE BARKLEY BLUEGILL TRIP REMINDER !**

**Submitted by John Froelich**

**LAKE BARKLEY BLUEGILL TRIP ~  
MAY 1-2**

Great trip for beginners. Bluegill and shellcrackers should be very active. Primitive

camping at Cravens Point campgrounds, easy access to launch for motor boats. No advance deposit required, \$9.00 per night camping fee. Bring food and drinks, no restaurants nearby. Kayaks or motor boat, forget bank fishing. Several are arriving on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>, additional information provided after registration on website Signup Genius. Feel free to call John at 270-314-0362.



## BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA TRIP REMINDER !



**BOUNDARY WATERS UPDATE:** For those of you who believe drifting down the Cumberland, cruising the banks at Barkley or wading the Norfolk is like “dying and going to heaven”, I have one word for you.....**WRONG!** Until you have waded the Shoshone River above the

bridge at Buffalo Bill Scout Camp in Cody, or canoed the crystal-clear Boundary Waters within sight of the Canadian border chasing monster smallmouth and walleye, **ONLY THEN** have you “died and gone to heaven”. Sorry folks, Cody is sold out. Maybe next year. How about Boundary Waters!

Leaving Monday June 21 and returning Monday June 28, we will spend 6 days fishing in “God’s country”, Boundary Waters Canoe Area. After meeting the outfitter at Crane Lake, Mn., it is about a 2-hour powerboat ride, along the Canadian border, to a drop point outside the “no motor area”. Then a 45-to-60-minute canoe paddle gets us to our primitive camp site. Except for personal clothing and fishing gear, all equipment (including food) will be provided by the outfitter. I have done this trip numerous times and **IT IS ADDICTIVE!** I emphasize, **PRIMITIVE CAMPING!**

Basis fly fishing skill is sufficient and some canoe experience is helpful but not required. Approximate cost, including motel and travel expenses will come in around a \$1,000.00. The trip is open to all members and 4 of the 8 slots are filled. Participation requires a \$200.00 non-refundable deposit.



Sign-up Genie is not being used for this trip.  
If you are interested contact John at 270-314-0362  
or [johnfroehlich9014@gmail.com](mailto:johnfroehlich9014@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.

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## THE WHITE BASS RUN IS ON!

Several of your fellow members have already hit the Salt River for a taste of the White Bass action. And conventional wisdom tells us "it ain't over yet! This is a great opportunity to shake the cobwebs off your gear and out of your head and get ready for the 2021 season!



Ralph Swallows with a nice stringer caught late March.



Mike Parker was into them recently as well. Notice the white fly? That's usually the ticket! (But don't be afraid to experiment. We would all be interested in hearing about other successes.)

Here's a photo of an 18" rainbow caught recently by Jim Miller on a fishing trip with his son on the South Holston River in TN. Jim reported "It was 22 degrees that morning, which of course meant the ferrules periodically froze up, and the rod had to be dipped in the 46 degree water to thaw it. Great fun and a great trip".



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**\*\*\*\* KENTUCKY FISHING LICENSE RENEWALS \*\*\*\***

**Don't forget your fishing license expired February 28!!**

All Kentucky hunting and fishing licenses and permits can be purchased through the secured [Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Online License Sales site](#). Replacement licenses can be [printed online for free](#).

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**FLY OF THE MONTH**

**Bead Head Squirmey**

**By Steve Cullen**



There are several, possibly dozens of videos on You Tube showing variants of the Squirmey Wormey. I've tied a lot of these flies and this particular tie has become my "go to" method. This fly is fished under an indicator and a fly that gets down to your intended target depth quickly is almost always preferred. This fly tied in the manner described here accomplishes that

better than any I've found. It's also a very durable fly. I typically lose them well before they're too torn up to fish.

A word of caution here: These should be stored separately from your other flies, especially if they have synthetics. The silicone used in the manufacture of this material is extremely susceptible to reaction with other materials and may disintegrate if in contact for any length of time. I use a round plastic leader box. They don't seem to mind being stored together in my experience, so there's no



need for neatly fixing them in a fly box. Additionally, they don't like a lot of heat. Keep your storage container out of the sun.

More than anything, I believe it's the action of the material that's hard for a fish to resist. Bead color for instance just doesn't seem to matter. I've used them all.

Drift this fly, occasionally jigging it a bit. And anticipate a possible strike at the end of the drift or on retrieval. I've had a lot of success before pickup, largely I think because of the extra imparted action.

Good luck!

For tying instructions, click the following link:

<https://derbycityflyfishers.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Bead-Head-Squirmey-Wormey-Fly-Instructions.pdf>

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## Board Members

Matthew Clements, President  
Ralph Swallows, Vice President  
Jessy Clements, Secretary  
Mark Rougeux, Treasurer  
Joe Gahlinger, Membership Director  
John Froelich, Program Director  
Mike Norris, Trips Director  
Matt Clements, Education Director  
Roy Been, Marketing Director  
Mike Parker, Raffles  
Jeff Daiber, Conservation Director  
Steve Cullen, Newsletter Editor  
Jim Bearden, Fly Show Director  
Webmaster, Jim Wilmoth  
Brian Kaluzny, History

These Board Members can be reached by email by going to the [Derby City Fly Fishers website](#), clicking on **About** in the header menu, then **Board of Directors**. There you will find the list of Board Members, job descriptions, and email addresses. Don't hesitate to contact a Board Member with a question or suggestion - we'd love to hear from you.

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**Webmaster** - Jim Wilmoth continues to update and upgrade our website. He would very much like to incorporate more pictures from members on the site. You can submit pictures to him at [webmaster@derbycityflyfishers.com](mailto:webmaster@derbycityflyfishers.com). He would also welcome any suggestions for improving the site.

## Membership

Just a heads up that membership dues for 2021 are now due. If you haven't done so already, **please renew now, online (preferred) or in person at a club meeting (it may be a while before we have one.)** Annual dues are \$20 for individual or \$25 for family. Also available are a Lifetime Individual Membership for \$350 and a Lifetime Family Membership for \$500 (details at the web link below.) You can easily join or renew online by clicking on the link below.

Click [here](#) to Join or Renew your DCFF Membership

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Thanks for taking a look at the newsletter!

I hope you found it to be an enjoyable read.

We appreciate the help We've received with content. Feedback has been very positive. Keep it coming! We're looking for more "Fly of the Month" submittals. If you have one you would like to see published, let me know and I'll be happy to assist

you with getting it done.

If you fish, send me some pictures. Even better, take a couple of minutes to write a short paragraph or two to tell your friends at DCFF about it. I enjoy hearing about your experiences as do others. I look forward to hearing from you!

And if you have any suggestions for making the newsletter better, please tell me about them.

Thanks in advance!

Steve Cullen

Derby City Fly Fishers

You can reach me at: [newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com](mailto:newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com)