



May 2023 Newsletter

President's Letter



Derby City Luck!

The 149th running of the Kentucky Derby was a smashing success with record attendance and beautiful weather. There were surely many lucky people at the

track last week and a few unlucky folks too. A good friend of mine had a \$30 win and place ticket that was on the money and paid big \$\$\$\$ for him. I don't know about you but picking horses is not my thing. I lost \$4 in a Derby betting pool Saturday and think that's the most I've ever won on the Derby. Hopefully you did better than me and your horse came in. But while betting horses is not something I'm lucky at, fishing seems to hold a few more lucky moments for me. I've been there at the right time, had the right fly and been at the right spot and luck was in my favor. The thing about luck is that it's unpredictable, you never know when it's going to come your way. Luck is just luck, that's it. You may have a lucky fishing spot, a lucky fly, a lucky rod, a lucky fishing partner or a lucky hat. Some days you just know luck is with you and it's going to be a good day. Well, luck was with me on a recent fishing trip and my horse came in, so to speak, and I won big. Here's the story.

The spring white bass run is a big thing for me. Catching white bass is a blast and when the run is on there's nothing quite like it. When the water is right and the fish are on, everyone is lucky. You can catch one on almost every cast and catch dozens in no time at all. The white bass strike aggressively and fight as hard as any fish that swims. A good day on the water when the run is hot will wear you out. You come off the water with a good kind of tired and know that you've been fishing. It's just one of the magical times of the year. The water is warming, the trees are starting to leaf out, and the flowers bloom. It's just the right time to get out there.

Nolin River has become my favorite spot for the white bass run. There's plenty of water to fish and plenty of good size white bass that make that run. The Nolin River is a beautiful area and the water is clean and moves with swift current. It's just hard to beat this river on water quality and fish numbers.

My rig for white bass fishing is a 9.5 Ft 5wt with a 280 grain sinking line. You need a sinking line to get your fly down in the swift current of the river. The fly I use is a size 6 clouser. The color of the fly I use the most is orange. But I've caught fish on every color I've tried. I guess you could say orange is my lucky color. And speaking of luck, here's where luck came my way.

On a recent trip I had snagged my fly several times and lost a lot of flies. I was beginning to run low on flies and snagged my line. In an effort to salvage my fly I positioned the boat where I could reel down to the fly with my rod tip and try to get the fly unsnagged. This had worked several times for me and there was no reason to think it wouldn't work this time. So I positioned the boat and reeled down to the fly and began to make an effort to free it. Apparently I pulled too hard and my line broke. When I pulled my rod out of the water the tip was gone along with the fly. At first I thought I had broken the tip off the rod, but upon further inspection I realized the whole top section to the rod was completely gone. What a snag that was! We were in about 6 feet of water and the water was moving very swiftly. There was no way I could retrieve the rod section and my rod was useless. It was my favorite rod and it was rendered useless trying to save an inexpensive fly. Luck was not on my side that day. However, I improvised and used a backup rod to finish the day without too many other snags.

Since the run was on we decided to fish the next day and I returned to Nolin River the next day. I had told the story of losing the rod tip along with news of the white bass run to several members of the Derby City Fly Club. Wes

Krupiczewicz and Lew Komos were on the river that day and began fishing in the same general area of the river we were in. We were soon separated by a good distance and lost sight of each other. It was another day of good fishing as the white bass run continued to produce. The day passed quickly and toward the end of the day we met up with Wes and Lew again. Their fishing had been good too. Wes had a big grin on his face and talked of all the fish he and Lew had caught. Then Wes made the statement, "you'll never believe what I caught". I was sure it was some kind of large fish or something really unusual. Then he held up my rod tip! Luck had surely showed up and was on my side. Think of it, what are the odds that a member of Derby City Fly Fishers, would be in the same section of water, would snag my rod tip, and that I would be on the water the same day. There are several miles of swift water and there's no telling how far the rod tip had moved. The odds are pretty phenomenal that all that would come together. That's what I call Derby City Luck!

Ralph,

PS: Becoming a member of Derby City Fly Fishers is one my luckiest breaks!



Wes Krupiczewicz presenting my snagged rod section.

Plans for the Foreseeable Future

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

Wednesday May10th , 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Rooster's

10430 Shelbyville Rd Louisville, KY
(at Moser Road, west of Blankenbaker)

[Google Map Link to Roosters](#)

With plenty of room to get comfortable, good lighting (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.

**Derby City Fly Fishers
General Membership Meeting**

!!! This is our first outdoor meeting of the season !!!

May 17th. 6:30 pm

Location: The Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP Pavillion at the Egg Lawn at the Parklands [Google Map Link](#).

Our first outdoor gathering is traditionally an instructional meeting. This is an opportunity for those new to Fly Fishing, or those wanting to dip their toes in the water to learn some new skills, or for others who would like to hone theirs, an opportunity to get a tip or two. The Parklands offers an opportunity to get a little time on the water if you desire.

Fly rods will be available for instruction, and food, soft drinks and water will be provided. Cost for the meal is \$5.00.

Derby City Fly Fishers' Fly Tying

Wednesday May 24th 6:30 pm

Cabela's, Louisville

and

Thursday May 25th 6:30 pm

Bass Pro, Clarksville

This month, John Froelich will be leading the classes. John will be tying the "PTO Popper"

As always, beginners are welcome. There will be experienced tyers available for individual instruction.

Remember, tools and materials



are provided at no cost. But if you have your own tools, feel free to bring them.

A big thanks to John and all those willing to share their time and talents leading these classes.

Kentuckiana Fly Tyers

KFT conducts their monthly meeting the **First Tuesday of each Month** at the **3rd Turn, 10408 Watterson Trail in Jeffersontown** (the old Moose Lodge). [Google Map Link](#) If you haven't tied before, and would like to learn, they will provide you with the equipment, materials, and instruction to start you out. If you already tie, come out and bring whatever you would like to tie, and socialize.

Please **RSVP** to kentuckianaflytyers@gmail.com stating you plan to attend so they can make sure they have enough materials.

Remember that 3rd Turn does not serve food, so bring any snack you want, and you can even bring your dog for a night out.

Quest Outdoors FLY TYING

May 20th, 10:30 to 12:00

Quest Outdoors

4600 Shelbyville Road

[Google Map Link](#)

Quest Outdoors conducts fly tying classes the 3rd Saturday of each month. And like DCFF classes, tools and materials are provided at no cost. But if you have your own tools, feel free to bring them.

2023 CLUB TRIPS

Below are the planned trips for 2023. Details for the majority of these trips have been finalized and are ready for signups. You can find information by clicking the links below or details can

also be found on our [web site](#).

***** Please note*****

***For insurance purposes, participants in club trips must be members of Derby City Fly Fishers and have a signed Liability Waiver on file.

** All costs are based on the best information available at the time of publication of the trip. Any subsequent price increases will be communicated as soon as the Club is aware of them. Participants will be responsible for any price increases. Trip coordinators will determine the best method for handling payment of the increase

*** All DCFE club trips are subject to cancellation. If a trip is cancelled any deposit made will be refunded.

MAY:

[10th – 14th Green-Sullivan State Forest & Shakamak State Park, IN](#)

[17th – 20th Green River \(Greensburg, KY\)](#)

JUNE:

[2nd – 4th Elkhorn River](#)

[8th – 9th Obey River \(Dale Hollow Tail Waters, Celina, TN\)](#)

[9th – 11th Cumberland River \(Helm's Landing\)](#)

JULY:

[14th – 16th Cumberland River \(Helm's Landing\)](#)

AUGUST:

[18th – 20th Cumberland River \(Helm's Landing\)](#)

[27th – Sep 2nd Camp Buffalo Bill \(Cody, WY\)](#)

SEPTEMBER:

[8th – 10th White River \(Ft Wayne, IN\)](#)

[15th – 17th Cumberland River \(Helm's Landing\)](#)

NOVEMBER:

[4th Otter Creek \(Beginners Outing\)](#)

8th -12th North Carolina (Waynesville, NC)

WOLF CREEK OXYGEN DIFFUSER PROJECT UPDATE

Here's the latest update on the Wolf Creek Dam oxygen diffuser project, put out in a press release in February. This information and link to the project was provided by:

Anthony Rodino III, P.E.

Chief, Water Management Section

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

You should find this to be interesting, and we will continue to provide additional information as it becomes available, so stay tuned.

<https://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/Media/News-Releases/Article/3294258/nr-23-03-wolf-creek-dam-oxygen-diffuser-project-underway/>

**** Request for raffle items ****

Inventory of items raffled off at our General Membership Meetings each month is getting low ! If you have any fly fishing items you haven't used in a while, or if you are looking for a way to kill some cold winter hours, maybe you could tie up some of your favorite flies and please consider donating them to the club. You can contact our Raffles Director at mparker@derbycityflyfishers.com if you have any questions or suggestions, or just bring your donated items to our next General Meeting at Bass Pro. Thanks in advance!

Gerry McDaniel's Fly-Fishing Hotline

Gerry McDaniel, a world record holder, a licensed and professional guide and a founding father of Derby City Fly Fishers, will answer your phone calls to discuss any of your fly fishing questions. With over 60 years of fly-fishing expertise for bluegill, bass and trout, and countless hours on the Cumberland River, Gerry can help beginners to experts with any subject, whether it be equipment, rod setup, fly selection, techniques, fly tying, rod building or anything that has to do with the Cumberland River. Gerry has graciously offered to take your call and help the club promote its mission to introduce and educate the sporting public to fly fishing. Give Gerry a call at 502-432-2995.

A Guide to the Lower Cumberland River, by Gerald E. McDaniel, consisting of a series of USGS topographic maps from Wolf Creek Dam to the Tennessee border. It includes points of interest and public access points. It will be available for purchase at our general membership meetings the third Wednesday of each month.

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

All Kentucky hunting and fishing licenses and permits can be purchased at [Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Online License Sales site](#).

[Renew your IN Fishing License Here](#) (Annual License must be renewed April 1st)

MEMBER CLASSIFIED ADS

DCFF Classified ad section - a location for club members to advertise fishing equipment for sale or purchase used gear from other club members. Classifieds are live with some items listed for sale already.

There is NO cost to advertise; however a sellers must be a club member who is current on their dues and is registered on the website. Anyone can see the items for sale, only sellers must be registered to sell.

[Derby City Fly Fishers Classifieds – Derby City Fly Fishers](#)

Member registration on website. DCFF club members can register on the DCFF website for membership This will allow club members to sell items on the classified ad section, and provide access to members only website content (coming soon).

[Website Membership Registration – Derby City Fly Fishers](#)

MEMBERSHIP

**Don't forget, 2022 memberships expired December 31st!
But you can renew NOW!**

Annual dues are \$25 for individuals, and \$30 for family memberships. Life-time memberships can be purchased for \$350 for individual or \$500 for a family membership (immediate household family.) You can get more information on membership benefits, types of membership, as well as pay online by clicking [here](#).

Membership Stats through February:

Lifetime Members:	12
New Members as of 10-31-22:	68
2023 Members (Total):	216
2022 Members	197

New Members for March 2023:

Nick Link

Jim Anderson

Jim & Sandy Iacocca

Bill Rice

Dario Rubio

- **Note:** If your contact information has changed, especially your email address, let our Membership Director, Michael Ragan, (membership@derbycityflyfishers.com) know ASAP so you won't miss any club emails.

Board Members through 2023

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.**

President - Ralph Swallows

Vice President - John Froelich

Secretary - David Campbell

Treasurer - Roger Charbonneau

Membership Director - Michael Ragan

Program Director - John Froelich

Trips Director - Mike Norris

Education Director - Matthew Clements

Marketing Director - Steve Kuric

Raffles - Mike Parker

Conservation Director - Jeff Daiber

Newsletter Editor - Steve Cullen

Webmaster - Joe Gahlinger

Brian Kaluzny - Historian

Webmaster - Joe Gahlinger serves in the role of Webmaster. You can continue to send pictures to for inclusion on our website at webmaster@derbycityflyfishers.com. Joe would welcome any suggestions or content.

Thanks for taking a look at the newsletter!

I hope you found it to be an enjoyable read.

Fishing opportunities have opened up with the change of seasons! Hopefully you are



getting out there. if you have something to share, PLEASE DO!

Also, please consider the possibility of helping me out with the newsletter in a more direct manner. I'm looking for someone to back me up and assist with content generation, editing and anything else you have to offer to make the newsletter better. Trust me, this doesn't require a high level of technical skill or expertise. If it did, you wouldn't be reading this. :-)

Thanks in advance!

Steve Cullen

You can reach me at: newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com

Derby City Fly Fishers | PO Box 6344, Louisville, KY 40206

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