



October 2023 Newsletter

President's Letter



Why Do I Have So Many Flies?

On a recent fishing trip river, conditions were a little different than anticipated. We were fishing a river we had fished several times before and the water was lower than we had ever experienced. This called for some changes to our fly rod set ups. On previous trips we used heavy sink tips and leaders. With the lower waters and less current we needed to change our set up to match the conditions. This resulted in a call for a serious meeting of the minds. Our group gathered on the river bank and discussed and strategized the best approach and presentation. What resulted from this grand summit of fly-fishing knowledge was a display of tackle that would be the envy of any serious fly fisher. There was enough fly-fishing tackle among the five of us to open a small Fly Shop. Flies, leaders, tippet, fly lines, reels and extra rods were shown and discussed. I have to say it was an impressive event. The result was that we adjusted to conditions and had success on the trip. Since that trip I've thought about the amount of fly fishing gear I have and why. Here are a few of my thoughts on the matter.

Fishing is an activity driven by emotion. You might question that statement but think about it. Why do you have so many flies? Take a look at the amount of gear you have and ask yourself why you have so much. Could you ever use all that gear in a lifetime? How many flies, lines, rods, reels, waders, nets wading staffs and pliers do you have? We fly fishers never seem to have enough. We keep accumulating more and more gear over the years knowing we'll probably never have enough time to use it. There's not much logic in this and that's the point. It's the emotional picture we paint in our mind of catching that trophy fish and it takes just the right gear and you just have to have it. You're standing in the fly shop looking at rods. You need the perfect rod and, of course, the perfect reel. Then you need the perfect line to go with that rod and reel. You'll also need the perfect leader and tippet so you can make the perfect presentation. It doesn't stop with just one rod, you need a streamer rod, a nymphing rod, a dry fly rod for fish on the rise, and so it goes on and on. There's

not much logic that comes with this massive accumulation of gear and you just can't get enough. You've already hooked that trophy fish in your mind and can't imagine losing the fish of a lifetime because you weren't using the perfect tackle.

What fly do I use? Wow, what a panacea this is. Flies deserve to be singled out. How many do you have? Hundreds? Thousands? How many fly boxes? Let's see, we need a box of dries, nymphs, midges and poppers and a sling bag or vest we can get it all into. Not to mention that we need flies for trout, bass, panfish and so on.

If you've been around awhile you've probably started tying your own flies. You may have been under the illusion that tying your own flies is cheaper. Disillusionment comes quickly. It doesn't take long to accumulate fly tying materials and it only adds to the massive collection of gear you already have. You tie flies because with the perfect rod, reel, line and tippet, you have to have the perfect fly. It's only right that we catch that trophy fish on a fly tied by our own hand.

There's not much logic to having so many flies, so much gear and so much fun! Truth is, it's the "sweet emotion" of fly fishing that drives us to it.....I need to get to the fly shop!

Fish on!

Ralph

Derby City Calendar of Upcoming Events

Derby City Fly Fishers Eat and Talk

Wednesday October 11 , 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Rooster's

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

[Google Map Link to Roosters](#)

We have the private event room so it should be quiet enough for conversation, 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 food and drink. You can come when you want, eat and drink if you want, tie a fly or two, but mostly just share some camaraderie.

Derby City Fly Fishers General Membership Meeting

Wednesday October 18, 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Bass Pro Shops, Clarksville, IN

[Google Map Link](#)

Our meeting will open with "tackle time", followed by a brief discussion related to general club business and activities.

Our October guest speaker will be Dr. Raymond Poff

Raymond Poff is a Professor in the WKU Recreation, Park, and Nonprofit Administration degree program <https://www.wku.edu/recreation/> and is in his 22nd year with WKU. He earned a Ph.D. in Leisure Behavior from Indiana University (IU), M.S. in Recreation (IU), and B.S. in Recreation Management and Youth Leadership from Brigham Young University (BYU).

Prior to an academic career, Raymond worked with university student center outdoor recreation programs at BYU and IU. He is a former licensed whitewater rafting guide and former certified whitewater kayaking instructor.

He has traveled abroad in Canada, Mexico, Brazil, England, France, Australia, New Zealand (5 times), and the Bahamas. He led a 2016, 2018, and 2020 WKU faculty led study abroad course to New Zealand; the course focused on the recreation and tourism industry.

Raymond designed the WKU Fly Fishing Montana program <https://www.wku.edu/flyfishing/> in 2011 and led the program in 2012-2019; 2021-2023. In addition, he led a similar program for high school students in the summer of 2016 and 2017 with financial support from the Cabela's Outdoor Fund. Fly fishing and sharing fly fishing with others are among his favorite activities. Sharing Missoula, MT and the surrounding natural resources with others is also very important to him. He wrote his first fly-fishing trade publication article last year: <https://www.flyfusionmag.com/echolift/>

Our General Membership Meetings are an opportunity for us to share what we've been up to and we encourage all of our members to attend!

Derby City Fly Fishers' Fly Tying

Wednesday October 25, 6:30 pm

Cabela's, Louisville

and

Thursday October 26, 6:30 pm

Bass Pro, Clarksville

This month, David Campbell will be leading the classes. David will be showing us how to tie the "Red Fox Tail Nymph"!



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 David and all those willing to share their time and talents leading these classes.

Kentuckiana Fly Tyers

3rd Turn

10408 Watterson Trail

Jeffersontown, Ky (the old Moose Lodge).

[Google Map Link](#)

KFT conducts their monthly meeting the **First Tuesday of each Month** at the **3rd Turn, 10408 Watterson Trail in Jeffersontown** (the old Moose Lodge). 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

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.



DCFF WANTS YOU!

(to run for office)

Club elections are held each **November**. We need YOUR INVOLVEMENT to help maintain and yes, possibly even IMPROVE our club! Maybe you hold the spark that could ignite something special and don't even know it! There's no better way to find out, and give something back to this great resource that is **DCFF**, than to serve on our Board of Directors. ALL positions are open to those interested. If you would consider serving, please reach out to Ralph Swallows at ralph@derbycityflyfishers.com or talk to Ralph or one of our other board members at one of our meetings, but PLEASE do it SOON! Our November meeting will be here before you know it.

*** **SAVE THE DATE** ***

**Derby City Fly Fishers
Christmas Party**

Wednesday December 20, 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
(Location to be determined)

LOUISVILLE TROUT UNLIMITED_501©3_

SPECIAL SILENT AUCTION EVENT

**ONE FLY FISHERMAN'S TREASURE TROVE OF A LIFETIME OF ANGLING
OVER 90 ITEMS DONATED TO BID ON**

WHEN : OCTOBER 14, 2023 1:00 – 3:00 PM

WHERE : 1111 WELLINGTON PLACE , LOUISVILLE, KY. 40207

(COACH GATE CONDOMINIUMS CLUBHOUSE OFF HUBBARDS LANE)

WHAT : 14 RODS, 16 REELS, CELEBRITY FLIES, BOOKS,

**MOUNTED AND FRAMED HAND-TIED FLIES, FLY
DISPLAY BOXES, TYING MATERIALS, AND LOTS OF
COLLECTABLE MEMORABILIA. MANY ITEMS
HAND-CRAFTED BY THE DONOR, (INCLUDING
BAMBOO RODS, ETC.)**

A SELECT NUMBER OF BIN & GO ITEMS AVAILABLE

**PROCEEDS WILL GO TO BENEFIT TU'S EDUCATIONAL AND
CONSERVATION PROGRAMS IN OUR GEOGRAPHIC AREA.**

**EXACT CASH, CREDIT CARDS, AND CHECKS ACCEPTED ON DAY OF
THE EVENT.**

ALL BID ITEMS ARE READY TO TAKE WITH ON DAY OF EVENT.

**THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET SOME GREAT COLLECTABLE
ITEMS.**

SOME CAN MAKE GREAT GIFTS FOR THE COMING HOLIDAYS.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING TU'S CONSERVATION AGENDA.

2023 CLUB TRIPS

Below are the planned trips for 2023. . 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 DCFF club trips are subject to cancellation. If a trip is

cancelled any deposit made will be refunded.

OCTOBER:

[10th -13th North Carolina \(Waynesville, NC\)](#)

NOVEMBER:

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - URGENT!!!
John still needs additional help with this so
Please read on!

JCPS Fly Fishing Club
by John Froehlich

KDFWR is always telling us “Take a kid fishing!” and you're saying, “but I don't have any to take!” Got you covered friend. J Graham Brown High School has asked me to head up a Fly Fishing Club. I met last week with 9 high school boys who are interested in learning about our sport. As you are well aware, I can take care of the talking part.... No smart-ass remarks please!

The “Club” will meet 6 times at school over the next 3 months. They will be learning to cast at 2 meetings (October 20 and November 3, 9 am to 10 am.) I will need several members to make this activity effective. The tentative plan is to also schedule a “graduation” fishing trip to Floyds Fork, time and date to be determined. I will need the assistance of several members to make this work.

In order to participate, you must have a background check which JCPS pays for. Here is the ink: <https://apps.jefferson.kyschools.us/Volunteer/VolunteerInsert.aspx>

Frankly, the form is a bit confusing so call me if you have questions. School is “Brown”, activity is “Aquatics, fishing.” Let me know you have submitted the app and I will notify my JCPS partner (Mike Mooreland) who will watch for your name to appear on the approved list of volunteers. You will not receive notice, it goes to Mike.

If interested contact me.

Thanks, John. 270-314-0362
or wooleybugger9014@gmail.com

Do you have a legal background?

From time to time, *Derby City Fly Fishers* finds itself in want of legal guidance. If you have a legal background and would be willing and able to assist the Club on an informal basis, please let us know. You can contact **Ralph Swallows** at ralph@derbycityflyfishers.com or **Roger Charbonneau** at rcharb@derbycityflyfishers.com

Member submitted Photos

Larry Lehman was busy Small Mouth fishing this summer !

"I caught this smallmouth bass in Laughery Creek near Friendship, Indiana July 10, 2023"



"I caught this smallmouth bass in the Blue River near Salem August 27, 2023"



Gerry McDaniel's Fly-Fishing Hotline

For those out there new to the club or who might not know him, Gerry is a world record holder, a licensed and professional guide and a founding father of Derby City Fly Fishers. He will gladly 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.

*** KENTUCKY FISHING LICENSE RENEWALS ****

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

**** INDIANA FISHING LICENSE RENEWALS ****

[Renew your IN Fishing License Here](#) (Annual License is valid through March)

New Otter Creek Hours and Entrance Policy

Otter Creek is now open seven days a week from dawn to dusk. The entrance booth at the main gate is no longer open, you must buy daily or annual passes online before entering.

Click [here](#) for more information on Otter Creek and the links to buy passes online.

Kendall Ramp Update

As most of our members know, The ramp at Kendall Campground / Cumberland River has been closed for re-construction. The Us Army Corp of Engineers has recently announced the ramp's re-opening!

To read the full article, click [here](#).



Wolf Creek Dam Oxygen Diffuser Project

In other news that will be of interest to those of you who frequent the Cumberland, The USACE recently shared an update on the Diffuser Project. To see that update, click [here](#).

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

Our club membership is growing! I want to thank everyone for joining

and renewing their memberships. If you need to reach another member and don't have their contact information, please feel free to contact me at membership@derbycityflyfishers.com.

Michael Ragan

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 August:

2023 Members (Total): 239

2022 Members : 197

Lifetime Members: 12

New Members: 84

New Members for September:

James Rooney

Tom Shannon

Colin Shannon

Andrea Avigni

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
Fund Raising - 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, 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



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