

Derby City Fly Fishers

January 2024 Newsletter

The latest DCFF Board of Directors meeting was conducted on:
Wednesday, January 3rd, 2024
The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for:
Wednesday, February 7th, 2024



President's Letter:



New Years Resolutions -- NOT!!! Let's Have Fun in 2024

If you are into making New Year's resolutions, there's about a 50% chance you have resolved to improve your fitness. Plainly speaking, that means you have resolved to lose weight. Shedding those unwanted pounds has been one of my favorite resolutions over the years and I've resolved to meet that goal on multiple New Years Eves.

Statistics tell us that the average resolution lasts only 3-4 months with many falling far short of living a Spartan existence even that long. Maybe you can relate to this dilemma? I have heard that January 17th is unofficially commemorated as "Ditch New Year's Resolutions Day" and some celebrate the second Friday in January as "Quitter's Day."

In my experience, going to the gym and finding a spot on a treadmill in April is a whole lot easier than going the first two weeks of January. When you go to the gym in April -- you can even park close to the door. My experience tells me there must be some truth in the statistics surrounding New Year's resolution fitness goal failures.

So, let's make some fun New Year's resolutions and beat the averages. We're a Fly Fishing Club, and that's definitely a fun thing. Have you ever thought about setting goals for your fly fishing, such as things you might want to improve on or new techniques to master? What about perfecting the roll-cast, the double haul, or

learning to tie dry flies? You might resolve to travel and try new waters -- or maybe fish from a kayak.

There are endless things to learn and techniques to master in the fly fishing world, and Derby City Fly Fishers (DCFF) is a great place to get help on meeting those goals. Setting fun goals like those listed above will help you beat the averages on keeping New's Year's resolutions -- and you'll have fun along the way.

There are many powerful opportunities to learn and grow your fly fishing skills with DCFF over the coming year. We have a great trip schedule for 2024. We have trips scheduled for the West in Montana and Wyoming; the North in Canada; and the south in North Carolina and Tennessee. We'll be in Indiana in May and have multiple trips scheduled for the Cumberland River. With the local access we have to Floyds Fork and Otter Creek, there are endless opportunities. Our full trip schedule will be posted to the website soon.

Along with all the DCFF trips, our regular monthly club meetings will be informative and helpful in teaching and mastering basic fly fishing skills. We'll have Fly Fishing 101 in our February meeting and follow up in March with an informative session on fishing local waters. We'll give you "the skinny" on fishing places close to home. You will not want to miss these meetings. Also, don't forget that DCFF has fly tying on the 4th Wednesday and following Thursday of each month. We provide all the equipment and materials needed. Just show up and learn.

Given all there is to choose from with DCFF, you probably can't do it all -- but you can be intentional about what you choose to do. Now is the time to start planning. Think about the fly fishing skills you want to improve and make a plan. Make some New Year's resolutions that are fun -- and then stick to them.

Here is a resolution I am making this year, and I want you to join me. Let's resolve to share our knowledge and skills with someone new to fly fishing, or someone that has never tried it before. That's what we're all about at DCFF. Let's have fun in 2024.

Fish on!

Ralph Swallows
DCFF President

Upcoming Events:

DCFF Eat & Talk Shop
Wednesday January 10th / 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Rooster's
10430 Shelbyville Road -- Louisville, KY
[Google Map Link to Roosters](#)

We meet to Eat & Talk Shop the 2nd Wednesday of every month in Rooster's private event room that is comfortable, quiet enough for conversation, and has good lighting for fly tying. This is a great opportunity to get to know some of your DCFF club mates a little better, swap some fish stories, and enjoy some good food and drink. Come when you want, eat and drink if you want, tie a fly or two -- but mostly just share some camaraderie. We are, after all, best known as an eating and drinking club with a fly fishing problem!

DCFF General Membership Meeting
Wednesday January 17th / 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Bass Pro Shops
951 E Lewis and Clark Pkwy -- Clarksville, IN
[Google Map Link to Bass Pro Shops](#)

PLEASE NOTE: Earlier than normal start time to accommodate Bass Pro Shops winter hours of operation for JAN, FEB & MAR meetings!

The General Membership Meeting (GMM) is scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday of every month. We meet indoors at Bass Pro Shops during the winter, in the upstairs auditorium. Our GMM is an opportunity to share club news and event updates, so all members are encouraged to attend to stay up to speed on all club activities.

This month we have a special presentation from [Results by Design](#). Important club business for the January GMM will include:

- Voting on the proposed Bylaws changes
- Updates to the 2024 DCFF trip schedule
- Final Status report for the 2024 Fly Fishing Show

Review the proposed Bylaws changes [HERE](#). A quorum of members in good standing (26 or more) will be required at the meeting to conduct a binding vote.

DCFF 2024 Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show
Saturday January 20th / 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Paroquet Springs Conference Center
395 Paroquet Springs Dr -- Shepherdsville, KY

The Derby City Fly Fishers big annual event is almost here! The Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show is the subject of this newsletter's feature article, so keep reading below for all the details.

DCFF Fly Tying

Wednesday January 24th , 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Cabela's

5100 Norton Healthcare Blvd -- Louisville, KY

[Google Map Link to Cabela's](#)

... and then again on ...

Thursday January 25th , 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Bass Pro Shops

951 E Lewis and Clark Pkwy -- Clarksville, IN

[Google Map Link to Bass Pro Shops](#)

DCFF Fly Tying is scheduled for the 4th Wednesday of every month (in Louisville at Cabela's) and then again on the following Thursday (in Clarksville at Bass Pro Shops). Tools and materials are provided at no cost, but feel free to bring your own. Beginners are welcome, and experienced tyers will be available for individual instruction.

New for 2024, all Fly Tying presentations will be recorded so members can participate remotely using Zoom -- how neat is that! An updated list of materials will be published for each fly and distributed in a pending weekly email update so Zoom participants can also take part from home or on the road using their own tools and materials.

Jack Miller is our instructor this month. He will be demonstrating the **Carrot**. Jack will be tying the orange & purple variations seen in the photo. For those participating via Zoom, these are the basic materials:

Size-6, 3X Long Streamer Hook
140 to 210 denier thread (black will work)
Small white dumbbell eyes
Chartreuse Wing-N-Flash (by Hedron)
Blue Flashabou (or similar mylar material)
Pearl Chenille (orange and/or purple)



NOTE - For those interested in additional Fly Tying options:

Kentuckiana Fly Tyers:

KFT conducts a monthly session on the 1st Tuesday of every Month at 3rd Turn Brewing, 10408 Watterson Trail in Jeffersontown, KY (the old Moose Lodge). 3rd Turn Brewing ([Link Here](#)) is canine friendly, but they do not serve food. You are welcome to bring food or a snack and wash it all down with one of their fine craft beers. Experienced and new fly tyers are all welcome. KFT will provide the equipment, materials, and instruction -- but experienced fly tyers are also encouraged to bring their own tools and materials. Send an email to KFT if you want to be added to their monthly email reminder list, or to RSVP for an upcoming session at:

kentuckianaflytyers@gmail.com

Quest Outdoors:

Quest conducts fly tying classes the 3rd Saturday of every month at their retail store ([Link Here](#)) located in Louisville at 4600 Shelbyville Road. Tools and materials are provided at no cost, but you are also welcome to bring your own.

Club Trips:

The new year is here and DCFF has a solid lineup of great fly fishing trips planned for 2024. The trips and dates are posted on the DCFF Web Site at the [2024 Trips](#) page. This schedule is always subject to change, but it should give you a good planning guide. As trip details are finalized, the links for those specific trips will be activated online. Once active, you will be able to get all the information about each individual trip and sign up for them.

These trips are currently active on the DCFF web site and available for sign-ups now:

[Spring North Carolina](#) (10-13 Apr)
[Shakamak State Park Indiana](#) (8-12 May)
[Obey River Tennessee](#) (10-12 Jul)
[Camp Buffalo Bill Wyoming](#) (25-31 Aug)
[White River Indiana](#) (12-15 Sep)
[Fall North Carolina](#) (8-11 Oct)
[Otter Creek Kentucky Instructional Outing](#) (2 Nov)

Feature Articles:

DCFF 2024 Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show

Saturday January 20th / 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Paroquet Springs Conference Center

395 Paroquet Springs Dr -- Shepherdsville, KY

[Google Map Link to Fly Show](#)

The Derby City Fly Fishers will host our annual Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show on **Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Paroquet Springs Conference Center located at 395 Paroquet Springs Drive, Shepherdsville, Kentucky**. Admission is \$10. Active military and children 17 and under are free -- what a deal!

The Kentuckiana Fly Show is focused on fly fishing and the tools to allow anyone to pursue the sport from beginner to accomplished, and everywhere in between. We will have over 30 vendors and exhibitors from surrounding states to sell products, provide services, and answer questions.

Casting demonstrations and seminars on fly fishing will be presented throughout the day. We will have representatives from several regional fly fishing clubs and the Kentuckiana Fly Tyers demonstrating the art and craft of fly tying as well as a "Kids Corner" where children of all ages are welcome to tie a fly that they can keep to use on their next fishing trip. All tools and materials will be furnished free of charge, and the **FREE** entry age has been extended to those age 17 and under, as well as all active duty military. Thank you for your service!

Representatives from the Kentucky and Indiana Departments of Fish and Wildlife will be available to answer any questions concerning state fishing regulations and opportunities. Casting instruction will also be conducted throughout the day for anyone interested in learning to cast a fly rod or gain some helpful tips to improve their casting.

Please visit the [2024 Fly Show](#) page on the DCFF web site for the latest updates and additional details pertaining to the show. There you can find local hotel information, a current list of vendors, a current Fly Show floor plan, as well as the seminar topics and schedule.

This event requires a lot of effort, before and on the day of the show. Derby City Fly Fishers exists and grows because members just like you help make it happen. You can still volunteer for specific duties and compatible time slots online at the [2024 Fly Show Volunteer](#) page.

DCFF will be hosting a Hospitality Room (of sorts) on Friday evening at the Sleep Inn & Suites breakfast room from 6:00-10:00 pm. All show participants and setup volunteers are welcome. DCFF will

provide pizza, chips, and non-alcoholic beverages. Attendees are welcome to bring their own beverage of choice, and club members generally bring enough adult beverage selections to share with our show participants.

The DCFF Marketing Director, [Steve Kuric](#), has done a fantastic job putting this year's show together for the club. Contact him if you have any specific feedback, concerns or questions. Well done Steve!!!

Cold Weather Trout Tips

Winter fly fishing tactics don't revolve around snow so much as they do around the cold, ... cold water, that is. Successful anglers adapt themselves to the feeding and holding patterns of lethargic fish. Here are a few tips that will put you ahead of the game.

Think Slow - Trout generally favor the slow water found near deep holes and lazy runs in winter. They don't have the energy to buck heavy current or hold in a riffle while waiting for food.

Work It - Trout usually won't move far to take a fly. Methodically cover likely habitat with casts that put you're offering in every inch of every feeding lane.

Live For Lunchtime - There's no need to hit the water early. The best winter fishing consistently occurs during the warmest period of the day, from late morning to mid afternoon.

Master Miniature - Midges are a staple winter food source for trout on most streams. Small midge imitations are the "go-to" flies for guides and an excellent starting point on most waters.

Blue Moon Dry Flies - Nymphing is the bread and butter of cold water fly fishing, but you can experience some dry fly fishing in the dead of winter, usually with size 18 to 22 blue winged olive or midge patterns.

Dress Smart - Wear layers of clothing over a thermal base layer to keep your core warm, protect your toes with disposable warming packets in your waders, and keep circulation in your fingers with hand warmers and good gloves, especially after dunking your digits to release a big fish.

Editor's Note: The article above was submitted by DCFF member, George Tipker (author unknown). Next month's Newsletter will expand on this timely topic, with more cold weather fishing tips and hints from some well known fly fishing content providers. If you have a topic that

would be appropriate for future DCFF Newsletter feature articles, please send your recommendations to:

newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com

Membership:

Good news -- DCFF is growing. We closed out 2023 with **256** members (up from 197 at the close of 2022). That is a year-over-year growth rate of just under 30%. We added 2 (two) new and 3 (three) Lifetime members in December. Welcome to our newest members, **Spalding Hurst & Matt Gettlefinger**.

DCFF annual memberships renew on New Years Day, so join DCFF or renew your membership for 2024 today. It is quick and easy from the [Membership](#) page of the DCFF web site.

Our DCFF Lifetime Members are:

Matthew Huntgate	Jason Scannell	Greg Long
Mark Rougeux	Gerry McDaniel	Russell Smith III
Mike Scheid	Michael Fischer	Bob Sawtelle
Mark Vincent	George Tipker III	Wes Krupiczewicz
Walter Montgomery	Brent Wortham	Mike Conner

Downstream Casts:

Request for GMM Raffle Items:

Inventory of items raffled off at our General Membership Meetings each month is getting low! If you have any fly fishing related items or reference materials that someone else may find useful -- or if you are looking for a way to kill some cold winter hours, perhaps you could tie up some of your favorite flies and consider donating them to the club. Contact our Development and Donations Director, [Mike Parker](#), if you have any items to donate, questions or suggestions. You can also just bring your donated items to our next General Meeting.

Gerry McDaniel 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**.

Gerry's ***A Guide to the Lower Cumberland River*** contains a series of USGS topographic maps from Wolf Creek Dam to the Tennessee border. It includes points of interest and public access points and will be available for purchase at indoor general membership meetings.

DCFF Member Classified Ads:

DCFF Classified ad section is a convenient location for club members to advertise fishing related items for sale or to purchase used gear and equipment from other club members. There is **NO** cost to advertise, but a seller must be a club member who is in good standing and registered on the website. Anyone can see the items for sale, but only club members can list items to sell.

[Derby City Fly Fishers Classifieds](#)

DCFF Programs:

Your DCFF Programs Director, **[Michael Ragan](#)**, is looking for anyone interested in helping with GMM meeting materials and coordinating guest speakers.

DCFF Web Site:

Your DCFF Web Site is a combination of art, science, magic, sweat and (sometimes) tears compliments of your Webmasters, Joe Gahlinger and Gus Dattilo. They rely on inputs from the membership to keep the site current, functional, and useful -- so continue to send pictures, inputs, updates and suggestions to both at:

webmaster@derbycityflyfishers.com

When it works, it is a feature -- when it doesn't, it is a bug!

Fishing License Renewals:

Kentucky hunting & fishing licenses and permits can be purchased at:

[Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Online License Sales site](#)

Indiana fishing licenses can be purchased or renewed at:

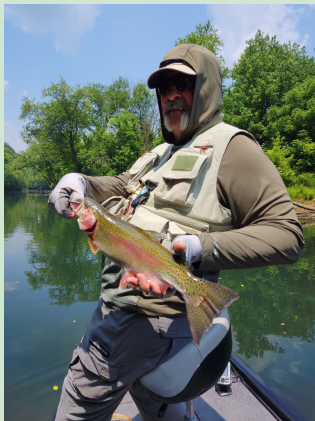
[Renew your IN Fishing License Here](#)

DCFF Board Members for 2024

President: Ralph Swallows
Vice President: Michael Broome
Secretary: David Campbell
Treasurer: Roger Charbonneau
Membership Director: Ted Richards
Education Director: John Froehlich
Development & Donations: Mike Parker
Trips Director: Mike Norris
Marketing Director: Steve Kuric
Programs Director: Michael Ragan
Newsletter Director: Jeff Moore
Conservation Director: Jeff Daiber
Webmaster: Joe Gahlinger
Assistant Webmaster: Gus Dattilo

The Board Members listed above can all be reached directly via email from the [Board of Directors](#) page on the club web. Don't hesitate to contact a Board Member with questions or recommendations - we'd love to hear from you.

Welcome to our new Board Members, and sincere thanks to our outgoing Board Members from 2023 and to those who continue to serve your club from the 2023 Board into the new year.



Thanks for taking a look at the newsletter! If you made it this far, maybe you have something to contribute for next month. This is your newsletter, so help me keep the content relevant and informative.

Many thanks to **Steve Cullen** for his excellent work putting out a quality publication for as long as I can remember receiving a DCFF Newsletter. I will do my best to maintain the quality of content Steve

has provided in the past, but I can only do that with your inputs and suggestions.

Thanks in advance!

Jeff Moore
Derby City Fly Fishers Newsletter Director
newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com

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