

## **Derby City Fly Fishers**

### **April 2024 Newsletter**

The latest DCFF Board of Directors meeting was conducted on:  
Wednesday, April 3rd, 2024

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for:  
Wednesday, May 1st, 2024

*April showers bring ...*

*May flowers, and soggy April Fishing !!!*

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### **DCFF Tip of the Month:**

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You would rather be lucky than good -- but the more skilled you are, the luckier you will be !!!

Do you need some help positively identifying that fish you just caught (with luck or skill, or a little of both) ??? Look [HERE](#) for a variety of links to several useful fish identification resources.

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### **President's Letter:**

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# Spring !!!

## (My Father's Voice)



My favorite season of every year is Spring, no doubt about it. Don't get me wrong -- I enjoy all four seasons. Summer is a close second. Fall is a close third, and even Winter comes in a close fourth. I appreciate and enjoy the variety each season brings. There is no season, however, that brings as much joy and anticipation as Spring.

Life begins anew each Spring. The warming temperatures start the thaw of Winter's icy cold grip. Nature begins the process of waking from a Winter slumber. Grass gets greener and trees start to leaf out. Flowers bloom and color the landscape. It's a fascinating time -- a season always filled with hope for me. I wonder anew about the gift we call "nature" and how it all works -- just how it ever came to be. Spring also brings back memories of a very special fishing trip from my youth.

If there is a unique "fishing gene" -- I believe I have it, in spades! No one ever had to ask me if I wanted to go fishing. My earliest memories almost always involve fishing. If you have read my previous letters, you already understand my deep love of fishing -- but I have a particular fishing story that might help explain why Spring is such a special season for me.

Spring was always the start of a new fishing season during my childhood years. I could hardly wait for the Spring thaw to begin. When the water warmed enough, my father would take me to the local creek. Our fishing trips usually started in late March and were in full swing by the second week of April. Today I can almost feel the same warm Spring breeze, smell the fresh April air, and hear the distinct sounds of the first riffle at 14 Mile Creek that I experienced as a 12-year old boy.

My childhood fishing equipment evolved quickly from a cane pole and bobber to more sophisticated equipment. By 12-years of age, my outfit was a Shakespear fiberglass rod with a Pfluger level wide reel spooled with 20lb braided line. At the time I possessed only three lures, all inline spinners. This was considered "state of the art" equipment in that era. My father, however, had no use for anything



other than a cane pole. He looked askance upon any investment in more modern fishing gear, and he made sure I knew it. I had used hard earned paper-route money to buy my equipment, so I was bound and determined to make it worth the investment.

On one particular Spring fishing trip to the creek, sunshine was just beginning to peak through the leaves on the east bank. The water was perfect in color and flowing just right. I was standing on a steep bank at the lower end of a riffle about 3-feet from the water. The sun was just beginning to shine on a big brush pile on the opposite bank with a nice eddy on the upstream side.

My goal that day was to cast to the eddy and retrieve a spinner -- fast at first, but then let it fall a little deeper in the faster current. My full arsenal of lures only held 3 bullets -- a white, a yellow and a black spinner. White was my best color and I lost it after a couple of casts. Next best was yellow, and it only survived for about five casts before being sacrificed to the brush gods. As I was tying on my only remaining black spinner, I happened to glance up and see my father sitting on the bank looking over the top of his glasses at me. His smirk told me all I needed to know. Without speaking he was saying, "I told you so"!

The pressure was on. If I lost this last spinner, I would never hear the end of it. Suddenly, the 20-foot cast needed to reach the target looked a lot longer than it was before. After a deep breath, I made a cast and successful retrieval. After the third successful cast I looked over my shoulder at my father. Dad had placed our Maxwell House coffee can of red worms in front of him and our small tackle box with hooks, sinkers and bobbers was beside it. I got the message. Dad was certain I would be using red worms very soon.

My fourth cast was on target but, after beginning the retrieve, I was sure I had hung up in the brush pile again. If I lost my last bullet, my arsenal would be fully depleted and I would be forced to fish the remainder of the day with worms from the coffee can. For a few seconds, the wind came completely out of my sails. I jerked the rod again and felt a heavy pull as my line shot off into the downstream current. Fish on and now the fight was on!

My rod immediately bent over almost double and I began to shout repeatedly, "Dad I've got a big one" awhile reeling for all I was worth. A fish that big had never been on the end of my line and I had no real idea how to effectively land it -- but I was actually gaining ground on the fish. Then something happened that is seared into my memory.

My father put his arms around me placing his hands on my wrists and with a calm and reassuring voice said simply, "Son, I've got you". His embrace was warm, comforting and so approving. His voice had a

very distinct tone I had never experienced before. I can't really describe how it sounded other than being magical, spiritual, and almost God-like. That special moment could never have happened anywhere but on that creek bank on that Spring morning. Father and Son shared a moment that connected us like never before.

Dad slowed my retrieve as we reeled the fish close to the bank. We then had to lift the fish about 3-feet out of the water to get it onto the bank. I could see the hook barely in the top of the fish's mouth and I was sure we would lose it when we hoisted it up the bank. With a swift swing of the rod, we brought the fish out of the water and onto the grassy bank. It was a beautiful Largemouth Bass around five pounds. With no scale to weigh or tape to measure, my father laid the fish on his arm. It stretched from his fingertips to the crease of his elbow. It was by far the biggest fish I had ever caught. Other anglers gathered around to admire my catch. I was beaming and my father had a proud grin of approval.

This childhood experience is one of the main reasons I love Spring so much. It is easy to recall that particular Spring day and the emotions that come with it. That April morning was a special life-giving moment when all of God's creation was on full display and a son felt his father's love like never before. I also got a clear glimpse of my Father's love wrapped within the loving embrace from my Dad and the soothing sound of His voice on that April morning.

Fish on!

Ralph Swallows  
DCFF President

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## Upcoming Events:

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**DCFF Eat & Talk Shop**  
**Wednesday April 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!

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## **DCFF General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday April 17th / 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

### **Bass Pro Shops**

951 E Lewis and Clark Pkwy -- Clarksville, IN

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

**PLEASE NOTE:** We are returning to the normal 6:30pm start time with Bass Pro Shops shifting back to summer hours of operation!

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.

The GMM content focus this month is on fishing nymph patterns. One of the DCFF Founding Members, **John Naiser**, will be giving an in-depth presentation that everyone, of all skill levels, should find useful.

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## **DCFF Fly Tying**

**Wednesday April 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 April 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.

Zoom link instructions will be published and distributed in a weekly email update so club members can also take part from home or on the road using their own tools and materials. Contact [\*Michael Broome\*](#), DCFF Vice-President, if you have any questions or



concerns about using Zoom to connect to the Fly Tying demonstration live, or to provide valuable feedback after the event.

DCFF Development and Donations Director, **Mike Parker** is our instructor this month. He will be tying a **Soft Hackle Fly**. Suggested fishing techniques will also be discussed. Those Zoom participants tying from home or on the road can use the materials list below:



Hook: TMC 206BL, Firehole 320, or Umpqua in sizes #10-16  
Thread: 6/0, 8/0 , 10/0 or 70 denier in tan, brown, olive, or black  
Body:

- Floss: orange, tan, or olive
- Thorax: Hare's ear dubbing, Ice dub (pheasant tail), Peacock
- Wing: Hungarian Partridge, Grizzly Hackle, Brahma Hen hackle, Starling

Dubbing wax is helpful, but optional.

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**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](mailto:kentuckianaflytyers@gmail.com)

#### **Orvis:**

Orvis offers Fly Tying 101 classes monthly on most Saturday mornings at their Louisville retail location ( [Link Here](#) ) in the Paddock Shops. These are free classes designed for beginners. All tools and materials are provided on location at no cost. Access the current schedule ( [Calendar Here](#) ) and register for any listed classes. Orvis also offers a more advanced Fly Tying 201 class for those who complete a Fly Tying 101 class.

#### **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.

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## DCFF 2024 Rod Building Class

Most Thursday's  
May 30th - July 11th, 2024  
6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cabela's  
5100 Norton Healthcare Blvd -- Louisville, KY  
[Google Map Link to Cabela's](#)

**PLEASE NOTE:** The class will be limited to six DCFF Members on a first come, first served sign-up basis. Registration will close whenever all six slots are taken but not later than May 20th. Detailed information about the class, rod options, costs, and a link to sign-up for one of the six student slots can be accessed [HERE](#).

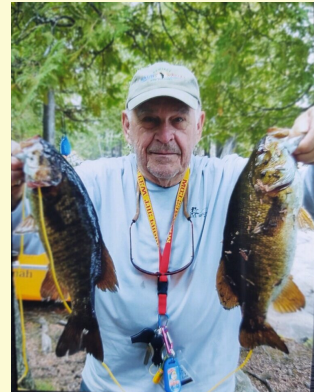
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## Volunteer Opportunities:

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Contact DCFF Education Director, **John Froehlich**, for more information or to support any of the volunteer opportunities listed below.

**John Froehlich**  
DCFF Education Director  
(270) 314-0362  
[education@derbycityflyfishers.com](mailto:education@derbycityflyfishers.com)



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**Annual Earth Day Festival**  
Friday April 19th, 5:00 - 9:00 pm

**Ogle Foundation Woodland Pavilion**  
Parklands of Floyds Fork  
[Google Map Link to Ogle Pavilion](#)

We need 2-3 club members to set-up a table and 4-6 club members to demonstrate fly tying, casting, and discuss our conservation projects. Set-up will be available at 3:00 pm.

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**Fly Tying Marathon**  
**Supporting Project Healing Waters**

**Saturday April 20th, 9:00 am**

**Active Heroes**

1022 Ridgeview Dr, Shepherdsville, KY 40165

[Google Map Link to Active Heroes](#)

**James Bashaw** is an Eagle Scout candidate. His service project is to have at least 500 flies tied and donated to Project Healing Waters. He has asked for help tying from DCFF, Kentuckiana Fly Tyers and Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers. Many flies have already been tied by members of these groups and James plans to complete the effort in a grand finale event on April 20th.

The event will start at 9:00 am and conclude when the goal has been reached. Limited tools and materials will be available for those willing to tie that do not have tools or materials. Bringing your own tools and/or material will be much appreciated. Any fly is acceptable, but the Wooly Bugger is the most popular.

Food and drink will be provided. To help James plan for the event click on this [Facebook Event](#) link then click on the "Going" button at the top of the page to let him know you will be there.

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**J Graham Brown High School  
Fly Fishing Club**

**Saturday April 27th, 9:00 am to Noon**

**Floyds Fork**

High Bridge at Walnut Grove

This is the "Graduation" Outing for the Club for their Spring Semester. We expect as many as 6 to 8 students plus family members to participate. We need **fishing buddies** to pair up with each student to work with them on the water. We also need some waders and boots for them to borrow. If you can't be a fishing buddy, maybe you could loan us your extra wading gear. There will be a Hot Dog picnic to close the event.

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**Kentucky Backcountry Hunters & Anglers**

**Thursday May 2nd, 6:00 pm**

**3rd Turn Oldham Gardens**

6300 Old Lagrange Rd, Crestwood, KY 40014

[Google Map Link to 3rd Turn](#)



DCFF has been invited to attend their membership meeting to demonstrate fly fishing and discuss possible overlapping club interests in conservation.

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## **Floyd Knobs Sportsmen Club**

**Saturday June 15th**

Time & Location: TBD

DCFF has been invited to present a Fly Fishing 101 class. Two individuals needed to help. Expecting about 20 participants.

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## **Fly Fishing 101 Outing**

**Saturday June 22nd, 9:30am - 3:30pm**

**PNC Achievement Center**

Parklands of Floyds Fork

[\*\*Google Map Link to PNC Pavilion\*\*](#)

This event is offered by the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife in partnership with Derby City Fly Fishers and The Parklands of Floyds Fork. The program will teach the basics of fly fishing to include rod and reel setups, casting, fly types, basic gear, and knot tying.

The morning session, 9:30am to noon, will be in the classroom, followed by a bring your own “brown bag” lunch. From 1:00-3:30pm will be casting and fishing in Floyds Fork. We need “fishing buddies” and any extra waders.

You can sign up to be a **fishing buddy** by clicking [\*\*HERE\*\*](#).

If you want to participate as a **student** click [\*\*HERE\*\*](#) to get more information and register for the class.

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## **Club Trips:**

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DCFF has a solid lineup of great fly fishing trips planned for 2024. All of our current year trips are now active on the [\*\*2024 Trips\*\*](#) page of the DCFF Web Site. Several trips are already full, but additional trips are

being considered -- so stay tuned! This schedule is always subject to change, but it should give you a good planning guide as posted today.

**ALERT:** We had a cancelation for the **Shakamak State Park Trip** (May 8 - 12) so there is now one slot open. Grab it quick, before it is gone! Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers will be at Shakamak the same dates, and they currently have 6 open slots. Contact Josh Lillard via the [NKFF](#) website, if you are interested in attending with their club.

As trip details are finalized, the links for those specific trips will be activated and updated online. Once active, you will be able to get all the information about each individual trip and sign up for them:

<a href="#">Spring North Carolina</a> (Full) .....	(10-13 Apr)
<a href="#">Shakamak State Park Indiana</a> .....	(8-12 May)
<a href="#">Green River</a> (Full) .....	(15-19 May)
<a href="#">June Cumberland River</a> .....	(7-9 Jun)
<a href="#">Waterfalls Lodge Canada</a> (Full) .....	(8-15 Jun)
<a href="#">Boundary Waters Minnesota</a> .....	(9-15 Jun)
<a href="#">Fly Fishing 101 - Louisville</a> .....	(22 Jun)
<a href="#">Obey River Tennessee</a> .....	(10-12 Jul)
<a href="#">July Cumberland River</a> .....	(12-14 Jul)
<a href="#">August Cumberland River</a> .....	(16-18 Aug)
<a href="#">Camp Buffalo Bill Wyoming</a> .....	(25-31 Aug)
<a href="#">Missoula Montana</a> (Full) .....	(9-14 Sep)
<a href="#">White River Indiana</a> .....	(12-15 Sep)
<a href="#">September Cumberland River</a> .....	(13-15 Sep)
<a href="#">Fall North Carolina</a> .....	(8-11 Oct)
<a href="#">Otter Creek Instructional Outing</a> .....	(2 Nov)

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## Feature Articles:

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### Fishing Nymph Patterns

DCFF Founding Member, **John Naiser**, will be discussing a topic at this month's GMM that has been the subject of, literally, hundreds of books and thousands of articles and You Tube videos. There is good reason for all the coverage, because Nymph fishing is very productive all year. To help you prepare for John's presentation, I have re-printed excerpts from two great articles that do a good job of summarizing a complex topic. Enjoy!

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***Fly Fishing Nymphs:  
Everything You Need to Know***



Nymphs are aquatic insects in their immature stage and form the primary food source for many fish species. Nymph fishing involves using a fly that imitates the nymph to lure the fish to bite. It's a technique that requires patience, skill, and knowledge.

Here, we'll walk you through the basics of fly fishing using nymphs. We've covered everything from what a nymph is and how to choose the proper one to the best fishing tactics and venues.

... (snip) ...

## **What Is a Nymph?**

Nymphs are aquatic insects that belong to the order Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera. These immature insects live in freshwater rivers, streams, and lakes. They are also called the "nymphal stage" or "naiads."

## **Characteristics Of a Nymph**

The extended body form of nymphs makes them more adept at moving fast through the water. They frequently have dark colors to blend in with their environment and lengthy legs to creep along the river floor.

Depending on the species, they cannot fly like adults and remain underwater for up to two years. They eat various foods, including algae, small aquatic plants, and other invertebrates.

## **Types of Nymphs**

There are several nymphs, each with its look and habits. Some of the most common nymphs used in fly fishing include:

- Mayfly nymphs are flat and have three tails. They are one of the most often used nymphs in fly fishing.
- Stonefly nymphs are characterized by their hard exoskeletons and are often used in nymphing in fast-flowing rivers and streams.
- Caddisfly nymphs are known for their silk webs that they use to make their protective cases. Fly fishermen often use these cases to imitate the caddisfly nymph.

## **What Is Nymph Fishing?**

Nymph fishing, also known as "nymphing," is a fly fishing technique

used to imitate the natural behavior of aquatic nymphs. It involves using a nymph fly, an artificial fly that imitates the nymphs found in the river or stream.

The nymph fly is tied to the fishing line's end and cast upstream into the current. The fly drifts along with the current, imitating the natural movement of a nymph in the water. The goal is to make the fly appear as realistic as possible, so the fish will be tricked into taking the fly.

## **When to Fish with Nymphs**

Regarding fly fishing, nymphs can be incredibly effective in catching trout and other fish species. But how do you know when to fish with nymphs? Now, we will explore the factors that can influence the use of nymphs and provide tips on when to use them for optimal results.

### Early Spring and Fall

Early spring and late fall are the greatest periods to fish with nymphs. During these seasons, water temperatures are cooler, and fish are more active. As a result, they are more likely to feed on nymphs drifting along the river or stream bottom.

### Cloudy or Overcast Days

An excellent opportunity to fish with nymphs is on cloudy or gloomy days. Fish are more prone to seek shelter and become less active on sunny, bright days. Fish, however, are more likely to be out and actively eating on cloudy or overcast days.

### Low Water Conditions

Nymph fishing can also be effective in low-water conditions. Fish are more likely to be concentrated in deeper pools and runs when water levels are low. Nymphs fished close to the bottom can be particularly effective in these conditions.

### Hatches And Emergences

Paying attention to hatches and emergences can help determine when to fish with nymphs. Fish may focus more on surface flies during a hatch, but using a nymph that matches the hatch can be effective.

Additionally, when fish actively feed on emergent insects, nymph fishing can be a great way to target fish feeding just below the surface.

... (snip) ...

## **How Do You Pick the Right Nymphs?**

Picking the proper nymph can be the difference between a successful



day on the water and coming home empty-handed. With so many different nymph patterns available, it can be overwhelming for beginners and even experienced anglers.

### Size

In general, the nymph should be the same size as the actual insects in the water. If you notice small insects in the water, use a smaller one; if you notice larger insects, use a larger nymph. A good rule of thumb is to use a nymph one size smaller than the natural insects in the water.

### Color

The color of the nymph is another crucial factor to consider. In general, the color of the nymph should match the color of the insects in the water.

Use a dark-colored nymph if you observe dark-colored insects; a light-colored nymph if you see light-colored insects. Some anglers also like to use brightly colored nymphs to attract fish in murky water or low-light conditions.

### Weight

You want to use a nymph that is heavy enough to get down to the depth where the fish are feeding. If fishing in deep water or fast-moving currents, you may need a heavier nymph to get down to the fish.

### Pattern

Some nymph patterns are designed to imitate specific insects or prey, while others are more general and imitate various insects. It's a good idea to keep several nymph patterns in your fly box so you can switch them out depending on the conditions.

### Water Conditions

If you're fishing in clear water, use a more natural-looking nymph; if you're fishing in muddy water, use a brighter or bigger nymph. If you're fishing in a stream or river with a rocky or sandy bottom, try a nymph design that looks like a stonefly or crawfish.

... (snip) ...

## **The Best Tips & Tricks for Nymphing Techniques**

Nymph fishing can be a very effective way to catch fish, but it can also be challenging. Here are some tips and tricks to help you improve your nymphing technique and catch more fish:

### Match the Hatch

Just like with dry flies, it's essential to match the nymphs you're using

to the active insects in the water. Take a close look at the insects you see on and around the water, and choose nymphs that closely match their size, shape, and color.

### Use Light Tippet

Using light tippets can make a big difference in your nymphing success. A lighter tippet allows your nymphs to move more naturally in the water, increasing your chances of getting a bite.

However, it's important to balance light tippet with the size of the fish you're targeting. If you're fishing for larger fish, you may need to use a slightly heavier tippet to avoid breaking off.

### Use a Reach Cast

A reach cast is a casting technique that can help you get a drag-free drift. To do a reach cast, cast upstream as usual, but when your line is about to hit the water, reach your arm upstream and guide your line to land first so that the nymph can drift without any tension. This technique can be especially useful when fishing in faster currents.

### Fish the Edges

Fish are often found along the edges of the water, where the current is slower, and food is more abundant. When fishing with nymphs, focus your casts along the edges of the water, including under overhanging trees and around rocks.

### Watch Your Fly Line

Watching your fly line can be a good way to detect when a fish has taken your nymph. Seeing your fly line suddenly stop or move in an unusual way could be a sign that a fish has taken your nymph. Set the hook quickly to ensure a good hookset.

### Change Your Nymphs Often

Fish can be picky, and sometimes changing your nymphs can make a big difference in your success. If you're not getting any bites, try changing your nymphs to something closely matching the insects you see in the water.

... (snip) ...

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**EDITOR'S NOTE** ... the excerpts above are a very small portion of the entire Blog. For the entire Blog contents, and to research other topic on the Honest Fishers website, click the link in the title section. You can also click the Tackle Village link in the title section below to read the entire article and surf other content on their website.

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# ***How to Nymph Fish: A Complete Beginner's Guide***

By: Rick Wallace

On: [TackleVillage.com](http://TackleVillage.com)

... (snip) ...

## **Nymphing vs Dry Fly Fishing**

I am going to be honest and say I'd much rather fish dry flies than spend time fishing nymphs, but the trout sometimes have other ideas and refuse to rise!

I think on balance an angler can catch more fish nymph fishing than fishing dry flies, except on big hatch days and during the evening rise when fish are looking up.

But for me personally, it involves sacrificing a bit of enjoyment as I love sight fishing to rising trout as I see it as the pinnacle of our sport.

But I hate getting skunked (failing to catch a fish) on a given day, so I will nymph fish like any angler to get an eat!

## **My Top Nymph Fishing Tips**

- TIP 1: Make sure the nymph is getting down to the bottom, preferably bumping along it
- TIP 2: Strike by gently raising the rod tip whenever the nymph or indicator stops; lower the rod to keep fishing the run if it isn't a fish
- TIP 3: Set the hook quickly – don't wait as fish are quick to spit the nymph out

BONUS PRO TIP: Sometimes in sight fishing scenarios you can watch for the 'flash' of white as the trout's mouth opens and then closes to work out when it has taken the fly and you can set the hook.

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**EDITOR'S NOTE** ... **George Daniel** has a number of very informative You Tube videos on the topic of Nymph fishing (in general) and Euro Nymphing (in particular). George is an excellent speaker, and he has also authored a number of great books on the subject of Nymphing. Anything by Mr Daniel is solid material, well worth your time.

If you have a topic that would be appropriate for future DCFF Newsletter feature articles, please send your recommendations to:

[newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com](mailto:newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com)

# Membership:

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We added **8** new members in March. DCFF currently has a total of **21** Lifetime members and **209** annual members. Do you have a friend or family member interested in joining DCFF? It is quick and easy from the [Membership](#) page of the DCFF web site.

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## Downstream Casts:

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### **DCFF Fly Show 2025:**

Save the date to your calendar! The 2025 DCFF Fly Show is scheduled for Saturday, January 18th, 2025. Be there, or be square.

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### **Request for GMM Fund Raising Items:**

Inventory of donated items supporting DCFF fund raising projects 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 Membership Meeting.

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### **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.

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### **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](#)

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### **DCFF Programs:**

Your DCFF Programs Director, [Michael Ragan](#), is looking for anyone interested in helping with GMM meeting materials and coordinating guest speakers. Meetings move outside for May-August, so Michael is seeking material and speakers now to fill the September, October, and November meetings when we will move back indoor.

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### **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](mailto:webmaster@derbycityflyfishers.com)

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

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### **Fishing License Renewals:**

**NOTE:** Kentucky 2023 annual fishing licenses expired the last day of February. Indiana 2023 annual fishing licenses expired the last day of March. Don't forget to renew your 2024 annual license !!!

Kentucky hunting & fishing licenses/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](#)

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## **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.



If you had not already noticed -- Spring is here. The White Bass spawning run may be in full swing on the Salt River by the time you read this. Club trips are stacked up like dominos ready to topple one at a time. Are you signed-up for a few?

I apologize for the length of this newsletter, but it is the nature of leaving the "on deck" circle for the batter's box in the annual seasonal fishing opportunity progression. I would like your feedback -- good, bad, or ugly. This is your newsletter -- so let me know what you want to see (or want to eliminate). Happy Spring!

Tight lines,

Jeff Moore  
Derby City Fly Fishers Newsletter Director  
[newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com](mailto:newsletter@derbycityflyfishers.com)



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