



The Take



“From The Mountains

To The Sea”



CFFC - Meeting second Tuesday each month at Gander Mountain, Mooresville Exit 36

August-Sept.-October 2008

Volume 2 Issue 4

Tying Flies For A Good Cause Project Healing Waters Casting For Recovery

Our November meeting is going to be what we refer to as a mini “Lyin and Tyin” which is based on a gathering of folks that get together in conjunction with the Fly Fishing Show in Charlotte. Folks from all over the area attend, set up tables and tie flies. Some of the top fly tiers in the area will be there and they all are willing to share their knowledge and help anyone who needs help or wants to learn to tie.

What we are going to do is invite all of our member to attend the November meeting and bring your fly tying stuff and we will have a very relaxed time telling lies and tying flies. For those who don't tie, we will have some extra vises and material so everyone can try their hand at tying flies. If you want to know how to tie any pattern there will be folks there that will be glad to help you in any way they can.

What we want to do is take all of the flies that we tie at this meeting and use them to give to the folks at Project Healing Waters and Casting For Recovery as gifts. Our goal is to have every member or guest that attends this meeting to tie flies to add to the pot. All of the flies will be put in a common pot so if you tie a really ugly fly you can blame it on someone else, but we think that the soldiers and the ladies recovering from cancer will appreciate them even if they aren't perfect.

Our Club President, Bob Thomas, came up with an idea that will take this one step further, he posted on some of the other fly fishing forums that a lot of us follow and asked for folks to tie up at least a dozen flies and send them to the club to help us out, and in just two days we have already had 20 dozen files donated to the cause. So we are asking all of our members to help out and when you are tying some flies tie an extra bunch of flies that will be used for a good cause. So if you are wondering what to do on some of the winter nights, pull out your vise and put together some flies for this good cause.

If you want to get together with all of the folks at the real Lyin and Tyin at the end of January we will be posting more information on the exact dates and locations.

Inside this issue:

<i>Tying Flies For A Good Cause - PHW and CFR</i>	1
<i>2008 Club Picnic and Casting Games</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Meetings and Events</i>	3
<i>Fly Tying All That Glitters</i>	4
<i>What's Been Happening</i>	5
<i>Care Of Your Flyrod</i>	6

Club Officers

President: Bob Thomas
 1st Vice-President: John Thomas
 2nd Vice-President: Kirk Drowne
 Treasurer: Jim Fletemier
 Secretary: Cheryl Drowne
 Membership Director: Kim Scronce
 Programs Director: Wilke Tebbens
 Newsletter Director: Gary Jones
 Conservation Director: Tim Wilhelm
 Librarian Director: Jim Glock
 Fly Tying Director: Josh Almond
 Website Director: Daniel Grose
 Past President: Jack Cummings

2008 CLUB PICNIC

Thanks to our club members Bob and Donna Simpson who volunteered their home on Lake Norman for the second annual club picnic in October. We will say that the weather was much better, since we waited a little later in the year rather than having everyone roasted, like at the picnic last year. We had an excellent turnout and the food was great. Thanks to those who brought the side dishes and deserts, they were all delicious.



After cooking and eating came the time for relaxation and enjoying the view.

Of course a bunch of folks got the club rods and went up the casting contest and started practicing. There is a rumor floating around that Jim F. won the contest but has not been confirmed.

We hope that everyone had a good time and we will look forward to next year.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

November 2008

Regular meeting:

November the 11th at Gander Mountain starting at 6:30 PM. This will be our Mini Lyin and Tyin for Charity. All of the members are encouraged to bring their fly tying stuff and tie some flies to be given to PHW and CFR. Lessons and equipment will be supplied to all that haven't started tying.

Nantahala Trip and Board Retreat:

November 7th, 8th, and 9th will be our trip to the new lodge just outside of Bryson City, NC. This is the same area as our Deep Creek trips but just a better location. There are over 20 members that will be fishing and having fun this weekend and we are sure that there will lots of photos and stories about the fishing on the Tuck, the Nanty and Deep Creek.

Project Healing Waters:

Wilke Tebbens will be at the PHW session the later part of November. The exact date is not set but watch the web site or the forum for more information. We still need some volunteers' to help on this project so we hope to see more people there this month.

December 2008

Regular meeting:

December the 9th will be our regular meeting at Gander Mountain starting at 6:30 PM. We have a couple of good options for this meeting but do not have them finalized. Will be notifying you prior to the meeting.

Project Healing Waters:
Date and time to be announced.

January 2009

Rod Building Class:

Tim Wilhelm and Gary Jones will be putting on a rod building class starting January 6th. The class will be limited to 10 people and there may be one cancellation that will make a place available. As a part of the class we will be finishing a pink blank with a matching reel as a class project that will be given to Casting For Recovery.

Charlotte Fly Fishing Show:

The fly fishing show will be held January 30th and 31st this year. CFFC will have a combination booth this year to promote both the FFF and our club. We will be looking for volunteers to man the booth again this year so we hope to see everyone there. Watch the forum for updates and signup.

Lyin and Tyin:

This gathering of fly tiers has been held in conjunctions with the fly fishing show in January for several years. This group makes arrangements for a conference room at one of the local hotels and everyone that wants ties flies, gives help and advice to the new tiers and in general just have a good time. This gathering is open to all of the CFFC members and always proves to be a great way to spend the evening after the show. Some of the top fly tiers in the country will be in attendance and you can learn a lot by being there. We will post on the forum when we get the exact location.

Election of Officers and Directors

We will be holding elections for our new Officers and Directors at our January Meeting. If you are interested in helping in the leadership of the club please contact:
Jack Cummings
“Peddler”
Wilke Tebbens
“Wrenchfly”
Gary Jones

Fly Tying: "All That Glitters"

Anyone who has ever seen my tying area knows that it constantly looks like the street after the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade. Bits of sparkly, shiny stuff cling to every surface. I have one of those double-decker spinning towers that hold 32 hanks of flash material. It's full, and I still have a plastic shoebox full of the overflow. Excessive? Of course not. Obsessive? Probably.

I tie more streamers than anything else, and one of the things I've learned over the last 20 years is that, just like selecting the right hackle, so it is with selecting the correct flash material to do a specific job. When tying Clouser Minnows, for example, I don't want a lot of motion from the flash material in the mid-body. I want a little flex, the right color, and a light-catcher. That's why I use Krystal Flash in my Clousers. I love the way it helps to maintain the integrity of the baitfish shape and still adds that candy store appeal. In other words, it's the right flash for the job. I see many new tiers add shiny stuff to their flies just because it's shiny. My son, Colin, started out tying like that. His first streamers looked like a Gay Pride Parade at Mardi Gras. But he's learned that Flashabou makes a Flashdancer dance, and that Krystal Flash just lays there like an ex-wife during sex.

There is a myriad selection of flash materials on the racks of your local fly shop and on the pages of your favorite virtual fly shop. How do you pick the one that will make your baitfish patterns better? The best way to answer that question is to examine what the different materials actually DO in the water. Take few strands of a variety of sparkly stuff, and experiment with them in the test tank.

That's a bathtub at my house. While the water is running, hold a small pinch of Flash Brand X in the current created by the running water. Does it have a sexy wiggle? Does it clump together and reflect a lot of light? Does it pulse and breathe like bucktail when you pull it through the water and stop it abruptly? Do the colors get darker and lose some of the shine? Whatever you see in the tests is more than likely the same effect that takes place when tied onto a hook.

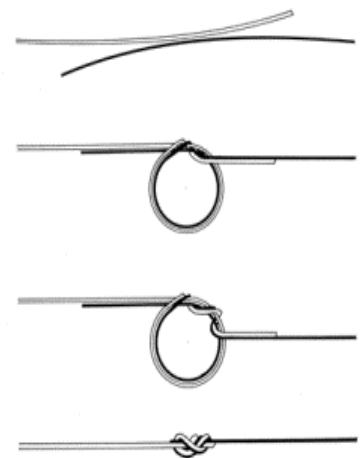
Another facet of the flash selection question is, "How much do I use?". As a general rule, less is more. That is, a little bit of flash is likely to be all you need. The exceptions would be in flies where the flash is THE feature that makes a fly effective. The Flashdancer is one. The Copperhead would be another, as well as Chuck Kraft's Kreelex. Those flies are LOADED with movement. But flash is usually a component that enhances a pattern rather than being the prime element of the fly. For instance, Scott Sanchez's Double Bunny is a big, beefy fly, often running to 5 or 6 inches long. But Scott suggests that 2 to 4 strands of Krystal Flash is enough. On that fly, the bunny fur is what makes it work. The flash simply make it work better by adding a little light catching feature.

I said earlier that I tie a lot of streamers. But that doesn't mean that's all I tie. I've recently become more intrigued by wingless wets, soft hackles, spiders.....whatever the name is these days. I've started adding some sparkle to these patterns by wrapping a strand or two as the abdomen on them, and some of my efforts are really kick-ass on the trout and bluegills. I do these bodies in two forms. One, I wrap them on the shank in single strands using flat materials like Mylar's. I usually wrap

two layers of it, starting at the 2/3 mark on the hook shank, back to, or a bit into the bend, then back up to the start point. Two layers seems to enhance the depth of color in the body. Two, I will take 2 or three strands of a material like Krystal Flash or Sparkle Hair (Orvis), and twist them into a rope, then wrap them in a single layer from the bend to the 2/3 mark. This makes for a nice ribbed effect, adds a subtle range of colors and just a little of the actual flash effect. Caddis soft hackles are a great example of this style, and a Serendipity tied like this is an awesome fly. Plus, those synthetics are super durable. Once you become aware of what each type of glam-flash will do and start experimenting a little, your flies will become more effective and fun to tie. And you'll likely find yourself sitting amidst a small storm of shine and sparkle.

Jule McDowell / Streamer

SURGEONS KNOT
For Tippet to Leader Connection



“What’s Been Happening”

August 2008

Regular Meeting:

Our August meeting was an informal round robin discussion that covered every thing from tying flies, knots, casting tips and rod care. After the meeting we all went out to the parking lot and gave some hands on lessons for casting.

Smallie Show:

Hot summer days but still some fishing going on. There was a group that went up to the New River for the Smallie Show the first of August and as usual there were a lot of our members that joined in.



different types of cast and also other issues they might have with their casting. Several of the club members assisted Jack with helping the groups and we think that everyone came away from the meeting a better caster.

Fall Show:

The first weekend in October was the fall show on the South Holston river in TN. We set up camp right on the river at It was so nice to be able to wake up and just walk into the water and catch fish.

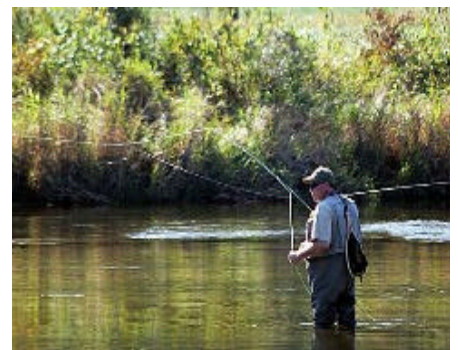
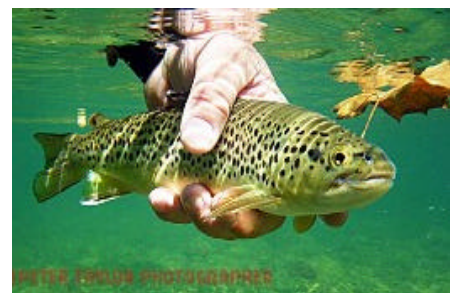
September 2008

Regular Meeting:

Dr. Mike Smith from Greasy Creek Outfitters in Floyd VA, was our guest speaker. His presentation on fly fishing in warm water on the upper New River was very informative. They go after trophy smallies, stripers, walleye and musky on the New River and Claytor Lake. Plus they have access to a section of private trout water where some really big ones live.



Our own Peter Taylor got some great shots of fish he caught and also Bob making a good looking cast.



The weather didn't cooperate but there were still fish caught and everyone had a good time.

October 2008

Regular meeting:

Our own certified FFF Jack Cummings put on an excellent casting class for our October meeting. Starting with an explanation of proper casting principals, he then went into how to use different casts in a fishing situation. We then divided up into groups of people that wanted to work on



Articles from our Members: "Care Of Your Flyrod"

Keeping a fly rod clean and nice-looking is not a difficult task, nor does it take a lot of time. Yet, it is a job that most anglers tend to avoid, if they do it at all. They clean their fly lines and reels and other items of equipment fairly regularly, but for some reason they often seem to neglect their rods. With the cost of good fly rods skyrocketing, it only makes good sense to keep them clean and in top condition. A good practice is to wash your rod and reel with a mild soap such as Ivory and rinse after each use.

Cleaning the Cork Grip

The cork grip on a fly rod generally needs the most attention, because it can really become dirty over time. Just the natural body oil from our hands can cause a grip to become soiled rather quickly. And add to that, fish slime, floatants, sunscreen, and numerous other items that often come in contact with our hands while fishing, which can build up layers of dirt and grime. I have tried several different types of soaps and mild chemicals to clean cork grips, including dish detergent, tooth paste, alcohol, hand soap, household bleach, spray cleaners, and several other things. Most of these work pretty well, but the one I like the best is liquid household cleanser. One such product is "Soft Scrub Cleanser with Bleach." It not only cleans a soiled grip quickly and effectively, but it helps to bleach-out any dark blemishes in the cork, as well as lighten the cork back to its original color. Here's how it's done: Have something to protect your clothing from any splashes of the bleach containing cleanser. Any drops that get onto your clothing will have a permanent bleaching effect that will end up as a white spot.

Work at the kitchen sink with a small stream of warm running water. Wet the grip under the tap, apply a quarter-size blob of cleanser to your dampened sponge or wash cloth (be sure to shake the bottle of cleanser well before using), and scrub-down the cork grip. I have also found that the blue Scotch Brite No Scratch pads work well. Scrub the cork thoroughly, starting at one end of the grip and working towards the other end. As you work, avoid rubbing the metal hardware and wood spacer on the reel seat, as well as the finish on the blank. Scrubbing those shiny surfaces can cause light permanent scratches, so

keep the cleanser off those parts as you work.

After the grip has been thoroughly cleaned, wash it off under the stream of running water, rubbing it well with your fingers to remove all traces of the cleanser. Then dry the grip and with a soft clean terry cloth towel and set it aside to dry thoroughly before putting it back into its case. When dry, the grip will be clean and look almost new again.

Another product that I use is Scott's Liquid Gold Cleaner and Preservative. While it will not bring the cork back to its original color, like the Soft Scrub, it will clean and also helps to preserve the cork. You can apply to the grip with a clean rag or a No Scratch pad and while scrubbing the grip thoroughly. Then use a clean cloth to dry and remove any excess. If I use other cleaners, I will follow up with a coat of Liquid Gold for protection.

Cleaning the Rod Blank

One way I have found for cleaning the rod blank is by using another common household product called "Pledge Furniture Polish" in the aerosol spray can. Other brands will likely work equally as well. This product removes dirt, grime, dried-on bits of algae, water spots, greasy smudges, etc., from the rod quickly and easily, and it leaves the rod looking clean and polished. Here's how to use it: First, shake the can well before using, as directed on the label. Spray on a clean cloth and rub down section of rod, making sure to keep the rag moist with the cleaner. Next, use a clean, dry cloth to wipe-down and polish the entire section until all the spray residue has been wiped off and a clean shine appears on the rod. Work a small corner of the towel under and around the guides until you can see that every part of the surface has been cleaned. If you have difficulty getting under the guides, use a clean Q-Tip to do those parts.

For extremely bad finish on rods from lack of cleaning I use Meguiar's Show Car Glaze polish to clean the blank then follow up with the Meguiar's High Tech Yellow Wax. Using this wax seems to protect longer than the Pledge.

Cleaning the Reel Seat and Hardware

The same method used for cleaning the blank (described above) is also used to clean wooden or metal reel seat spacers and the associated nickel-silver hardware. When cleaning these smaller surfaces, it usually works best to spray a small

amount of the polish onto a soft, clean cloth, or use a soft toothbrush, and then rub the surfaces to be cleaned. I have found that using a toothbrush and the Meguiar's glaze on nickel silver hardware that has tarnished will bring back the original finish while cleaning the recessed areas. On wood reel seats I put a coat of Liquid Gold to help protect the wood. Finish the job by polishing with a clean cloth until the surfaces are dry and shiny.

Cleaning and Lubricating Glass and Graphite Ferrules

Take time after every two or three fishing excursions to clean and lubricate the ferrules of your rods. This will help the sections seat together more smoothly and precisely and -- more importantly -- it will prevent the sections from sticking together. Many an angler has finished his day of fishing, only to find that he can't get his rod sections apart. A regular practice of cleaning and lubricating the ferrules will prevent this annoying problem from occurring.

To clean the female portion of the ferrule (the one with the open end), use a Q-Tip saturated with plain rubbing alcohol. Rub the inside surface thoroughly, around the entire inside circumference, and then use a clean swab to wipe off any dirt or old wax residue.

Clean the male portion of the ferrule with a soft cloth moistened with rubbing alcohol. Rub the male slide well to remove any dirt or old wax from the surface. Finish by drying the ferrule with a clean, soft cloth. After the alcohol has dried, apply a light coating of white candle wax, paraffin or commercial ferrule wax to the entire surface of the male ferrule. If your ferrules do stick together keep a couple of sheets of the rubber shelf liner in your bag. Using this to give you grip on the rod will usually allow you to get your rod apart.

Gary Jones
Bamboo10