



The Take



January—February
2008
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carolinaflyfishingclub.org



**“From The Mountains
To The Sea”**



SECOND ANNUAL DEEP CREEK CLUB OUTING APRIL 4 - 5 - 6, 2008

Time is drawing short for sign up for the second annual trip to the lodge on Deep Creek. April 4, 5 and 6th are the dates you need to set aside and make sure you join us. Those of you who came last year know what a good time was had by all but for you new folks, here are some examples of how we enjoyed the trip.

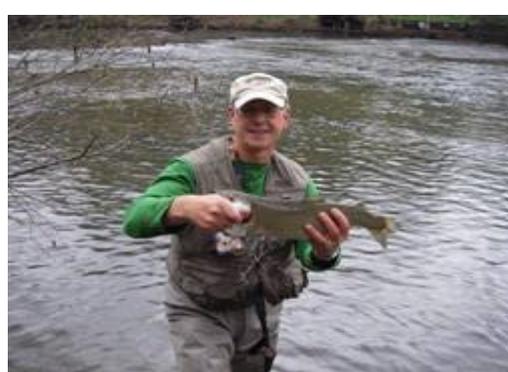
The Lodge will sleep 16 folks and beds will be on a first come first serve basis so you need to get signed up. The cost for Friday and Saturday night is \$40.00 per night. This year we will be able to set up a few tents and camper outside for those who like to rough it. You can fish Deep Creek, go to the Tuck, the Nanty, or one of the many small streams in the area. (Continued on page 2)

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Club Officers

- President: Bob Thomas
- 1st Vice-President: John Thomas
- 2nd Vice-President: Kirk Drowne
- Treasurer: Jim Fletemier
- Secretary: Cheryl Drowne
- Membership Director: Kim Sronce
- 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



(Deep Creek continued from 1)
The food will be great,



Tying flies and telling lies in the evening. More information and sign up sheet is on our forum under club outings. carolinaflyfishingclub.org/forum/index.php

The Blowfly Chronicles

By John Thomas

Women do strange things...last night I was dead-bone tired and trying to go to bed. Carol screeches, "There's a blowfly in here!" I say that I will kill it tomorrow. But, hell, no!! This fly has to go NOW! She thinks it will attack her during the night. I start chasing this big s.o.b. around the house, swatting and hacking at it until I am out of breath. Never did kill it. I decide to quit the attack and go to bed. I'll be darned if I didn't

get to the bedroom and Carol is asleep. Does anybody wonder why I am crazy?

Can women drive you crazy? A couple of months ago I pulled out of the end of our street and exploded the rear end in my 4x4. I got on the cell phone and called Carol to get my other Blazer and bring it to the end of the street so I can swap vehicles while waiting on a tow truck. I am naturally upset at this point, as I am also towing my stump grinder. She asks for directions to where I am!! I am at the end of our blasted street! Anyway, she gets there and I get the vehicles swapped and the second one hooked to my machine. I get in the Blazer to leave. Look in the left mirror and can't see squat. Look in the right-hand mirror and can't see squat. Look in the rear-view mirror and it ain't there. Rear-view mirror is lying in the passenger seat. I am berserk now!!! Carol says it broke off the window when she tried to adjust it. I have just ripped a freaking \$1,200 rear end out of a 4x4 and she tears the dadgum mirror off the *other* truck, trying to adjust it so she can drive 247 yards!! Does anyone have any idea why I drink so much?

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

March 2008

Regular Meeting 3/11/2008 at Gander Mountain, Mooresville starting at 6:30 PM. Will feature Capt. Eric Thomas from Bayport, Florida. Capt Thomas is one of the guides in that area that specializes in Tarpon fishing...fly fishing for big "Poons." This tarpon fishery is in a unique area on the Gulf Coast of Florida, due west of Orlando, between Homosassa Springs and Tampa. For potential Tarpon anglers, it's only about a 10 hour drive. Capt. Thomas has some good info to pass along and perhaps with a slightly different angle on fly fishing for these big boys.

AEG film tour 3/13/2008 at **McGlohon Theatre** 345 N. College Street Charlotte, NC 28202 Phone: (971) 238-0554 Doors Open: 6:30 PM Show Starts: 7:00 PM For more information go to: www.flyfishingfilmtour.com CFFC / FFF will have a booth and be introducing the film. Worth seeing from what I've heard.

APRIL 2008

(Continued on page 3)

CFFC Library on our web page — We have a number of interesting books, tapes and CD's on Fly Fishing & Tying How To's & Where To's thanks to the generosity of CFFC Members. For instructions on how to access the list on the web page go the forum under "Members Private Section"

**Cleaning and Treating
Your Fly line**

By Richard Griggs

Despite all the new technology in today's fly lines, they still need a little maintenance. This is important to maintain top performance, whether it's floating a little better, picking up a little easier, or shooting thru the guides a little faster.

Simply wiping a wet fly line through a clean cloth when you finish fishing is a big help to keep it clean. That's a simple, inexpensive method to reduce dirt and scum buildup on your line.

If you haven't developed that habit, you may want to wash your line in the sink at home. Simply run some water, add a little mild soap (not detergent), and strip the amount of line typically used into the water. Let it soak for a few minutes; scrub if needed; rinse and then wipe dry.

The treated line cleaning pads, sold by manufacturers, work really well. Fold the pads and pull the line thru a few times. You'll see the dirt come off on the pad. Then wipe the line thoroughly using a clean cloth or paper towel to remove the line cleaning agent. If excess cleaning agent is left on the line, it may pickup even more dirt. Other liquid products should be used the same way.

Remember, the days of "dressing" a fly line to make it float went away with braided silk lines. It is important however, to clean the lines to achieve the maximum benefits from the modern technology.

Line cleaning by yourself is made easier using one of the line winder tools on the market, or a second fly reel, mounted on a board or bench. Either way will help keep the line off the floor or carpet, and avoid collecting even more dust and dirt.

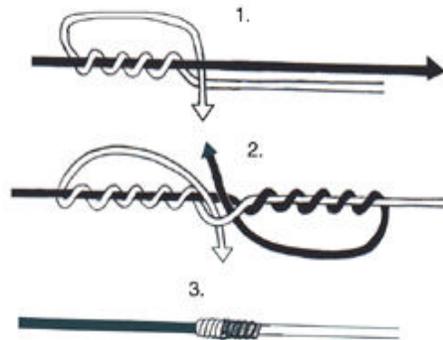
There are also some mildly abrasive pads and cloths made by Scientific Angler and Rio. These can be beneficial on a really dirty line. But, since they are abrasive, consider using them carefully and sparingly.

On the water, or in the boat, line cleaning may be necessary but it's also more difficult. One product, Special Delivery, works really well if you notice your lines are become sticky or just not shooting as well. Special Delivery is in a small spray can that's easily carried in a fly vest or waist pack. Simply spray it on the line while on the reel. Let it soak or seep in for a few seconds, then shake off the excess and start fishing again. The results can be dramatic.

Choose whichever method, or combination of methods you like. All of them will benefit your line and you will find that line performance and casting will be improved.

KNOT CENTRAL

Blood Knot



Step 1. Lay both sections of monofilament across one another. Wrap one section 5-6 times around the other bringing the end back down through the loop formed by both. (See illustration 1)

Step 2. Wrap the other line 5-6 times around the remaining portion of the first line and pass it's free end up through the formed loop. (See illustration 2)

Step 3. Moisten the knot with your mouth, and while holding the long ends pull the knot tight. Clip the short ends close and the knot is complete

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

(Continued from page 2)

April 2008

Deep Creek Trip April 4th to 6th, 2008. Lot's of fun and fishing for only \$40.00 per night. Sign up on the CFCC forum.

Regular Meeting April 8, 2008 at Gander Mountain, Mooresville starting at 6:30 PM.

Fly shop owner and guide Roger Lowe will be talking about fishing and tying flies for the Smoky Mountains.

SEFFF Dad's and Kid's fishing trip. April 25,26 and 27, 2008 at Helton Creek Campground. CFCC members are invited to attend, Sign up and information are found on the SEFFF forum.

<http://www.southeastflyfishingforum.com/forum/kids-dads-2008-sign-up-t22912.html>

It's early, but we want to be sure you have your calendars marked for the

18th Annual SEC-FFF

Conclave

&

Fly Fishing Show

May 29-31, 2008

Callaway Gardens

Georgia

<http://www.fffsec.org/index.shtm>

Barramundi By Robert Fulton (AKA Rivergeezer)

“Barramundi.” The fish’s name sounds exotic, and it is, unless you live in Australia. Since the RiverGeezer has neither the funds nor the time to fly to Melbourne, Australia, I drove to Melbourne, Florida to do my exotic fishing.

Fishing guide, Capt. Randy Dumars and I have fished together on the Indian River near Sebastian Inlet, Florida. Randy asked me if I wanted to fish for something “different.” When we agreed on a date, I asked Nightcrawler Patterson if he wanted to drive down to Florida with me and catch some real fish. Maybe some snook.

And herein lies the coincidence: our snook is a related species to the Australian barramundi. Randy mentioned that a friend of his, Byron Hennecey, had some private lakes stocked with barramundi. And Byron’s lakes are the only place in the US to catch this exciting game fish. The clincher was when Randy said, “And his place is only a half-hour drive west to Holo-paw.

Imagine 4 stocked lakes with 10 thousand fish that average 6-15 pounds, and you have an idea what the action was like. Byron harvests the fish for food and sells to high-end restaurants around the country. He also allows fishermen, for a fee of course, to catch his fish. But this is catch-and-release, only. **And if you can conjure up a bass on steroids, you have a good idea of what hooking a barramundi is like.**

When Randy, ‘Crawler, and I approached the first lake, things looked pretty normal: quiet water disturbed only by the twin water aerators at the far end of the lake. I didn’t see any surface activity, so I was surprised when Randy suggested I tie on a red-and-white popping bug to the leader of my fly line. And for the fly fishermen amongst us, I used no tippet, but tied

directly to the 10-pound test leader. And a 40-pound test bite tip from the leader to the popper. The barramundi have sharp gill plates like snook. You can lip both species—if you can hold on—but you don’t grab these fish by the gills.

I made 2 casts, stripping in the line and constantly moving the lure. Nothing. The third cast was up against some water plants growing along the edge. On the first pull of the line the surface exploded where my popper had been. I pulled back on my 9 wt. TFO rod and tugged down on the fly line in my left hand. Big mistake! The line ripped out of my fingers so fast that they actually burned. “Whoa...this ain’t no 1 pound trout or 2 pound bass!” For a couple of minutes I listened to the *zipp* of the drag as line spun off my reel. When I finally stopped the fish’s first run, it jumped. I knew it would be a while before this fish was worn out enough to unhook and release it.

And so the afternoon went. I fished less than 2 hours and caught 8 barramundi. And I was tired after the fishing. These fish fight hard and grow big. There are some over 20 pounds in the lakes, though my biggest was 12. And 12 pounds was plenty for me on a fly rod.

Even ‘Crawler caught them. And he met Dr. Marty Arogusti and fished with him. Marty, who holds 200 IGFA records (The first man to ever do so) is a low key guy and handed me a couple of his hand-tied poppers when the first few barramundi destroyed mine.

There’s always been reasons why anglers go to Florida to fish, and now there’s another one—barramundi fishing. And about a half-hour from Disney world in Orlando. So, next time the kids want to go to Disney world, say, “Sure, as long as I can visit Byron Hennecey’s lakes to fish for barramundi.”

If you’re going:

Capt. Randy Dumars:

www.fl-fish-guides.com

cell: 407 908 8498

e-mail: randy@fl-fish-guides.com

Capt. Byron Hennecey:

www.OsceolaOutback.com

407 892 6266

e-mail: Byron@OsceolaOutback.com



Geezer and a small one



Is this all Nightcrawler caught?

“What’s Been Happening”

January and February Meetings

Our January meeting was our yearly officer and director elections, plus we had an excellent program by Dick Pickard from Madison River Outfitters on nymph fishing.

The February meeting was a seminar on knot tying. Several of our members gave demonstrations on how to tie some of the commonly used knots.

February was also the Fly Fishing Show in Charlotte and the club had two booths at the show. There was the Federation of Fly Fishers booth.



And a couple of rows over we had the CFFC booth.



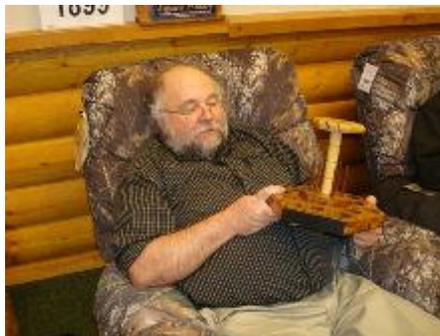
There was a good turnout at the show and we were able to sign up twenty five new members plus we had many more that came by the booth and then came to the meeting after the show. We sold raffle tickets for the 6 ft. 4 wt. bamboo fly rod with a hex wood case that was donated by Gary Jones and were able to raise over \$1000.00 for the club. A special thanks to every one who

purchased tickets and to all of those who went over and above the call of duty to help man two booths rather than the one that we had originally planned for.

The show had a good turnout and if you didn't have a chance to attend this year make sure to get there next year.



And the winner of the bamboo rod raffle was: Martin Bawden, who lives here in Charlotte and was working at the show in the tying booth. He joined our club at this meeting and was the lucky winner. Second prize of a tool caddy went to Tim Wilhelm.



Every night after the show many went to the SEFFF gathering at a local hotel called “Lyn and Tyin” A conference room with some of the best fly tiers in the area.



Casting lessons at the concrete pond.



Our own Wilhelm giving demo's of his Frankenfurler leader maker



"Stories From The FFF"

Wading Tips 101

By Trevor Kugler – Taken from the Connecticut Fly Fishers Association Newsletter

For anyone who spends any time wading in and across rivers and streams in search of fish, wading tips are never a bad idea. Tips always help, if for no other reason than a quick refresher. What we're all trying to avoid is taking that wet and wild ride down a river, because of a stupid wading mistake. I've had this happen, and few things ruin a fishing trip like soaking yourself to the bone.

Springtime is upon us and in many parts of the country this means that rivers and streams are running much higher than they normally would. And when the water is running higher and faster than normal, this is the time mistakes are made.

The first tip to remember is if the water looks too high and fast to cross, don't try it. Listen to your instincts. If you feel crossing the river will be a stretch, just sit it out. Better safe than sorry. I'm sure you've heard that piece of advice before. Another great tip in high and fast water (if you feel you must cross) is to use a wading pole. You can buy a wading pole and carry it with you while fishing or you can do what I do and find a nice stick along the bank when I need a wading pole. As long as the stick is sturdy and comes up to your chest, you'll be in good shape. Having a pole to put weight on in high and fast water can literally save you from falling.

Another great wading tip is to always keep your feet in contact with the bottom. This may sound obvious, but it's none the less true. You always want to make a conscious effort to keep your feet in contact with the bottom, especially in high, fast water. The best way to accomplish this is to "slide", rather than step. By sliding your feet, they are always in contact with the bottom. The big problems arise when flowing water gets under your feet. This is obviously when waders get swept off of their

feet, and when waders get swept off of their feet and that's when they get wet.

The final wading tip that I have for this article is to keep your eyes on where you want to go, rather than the water. You should be taking your time enough to be able to feel the bottom with your feet, rather than having to look. Keeping your eyes on the place you want to end up eliminates the distortion that a flowing river can cause to persons' eyes. These tips should help you avoid taking that wet and wild ride alluded to earlier. The most important tip is to trust your instincts when it comes to wading across high fast water. If it doesn't feel right, don't try it.

Words of Wisdom Gathered by Ron Newman

Taken from the Kaweah Flyfishers Newsletter

Here are some words of wisdom regarding fly fishing that I found in the net.

Life is more than a can of worms but is less than a Royal Coachman.

Like hatches, most things in life occur in cycles. If you know the cycles will be successful.

Even beautiful things sometimes have a barbed hook.

Trout have shown me that you can get into trouble by opening your mouth.

Flies do not make very good earrings, particularly if you have never had your ears pierced.

De-barb your fly before trying it on as an earring or catching a fish you intend to release.

Never criticize anything prepared by the camp cook unless you are willing and able to take over his job.

Don't plan your evening meal around fish that you haven't yet caught.

If you consider the landing of a fish as a 'bonus', then you will always enjoy

fishing.

If what you are trying isn't working, then try something else.

If you will need something while fly fishing, then don't keep it in your fishing vest.

Removing the barb doesn't decrease your effectiveness.

If you are observant it will improve your success as well as your enjoyment of the sport.

It takes more than expensive equipment to be proficient at what you are doing.

The joy of fly fishing is lost when you have a beer can in one hand and your rod in the other.

Fly fishers will share their knowledge, flies and gear but never their secret fishing lake.

One good vise is enough for any fly tier.

If you rock the boat or make waves, expect the skittish fish to scatter.

Don't wade into chest deep waters if you are only wearing hip waders.

A bad day of fly fishing is better than a good day at work.

Unless you enjoy fishing in a crowd don't advertise when the fishing is good.

A wind knot is a casting knot made when there were no witnesses.

The heavy-handed fisherman and his fish are soon parted.

Our trout have marvelous growth rates. They double in size each time story of their catch is retold.

About 20% of the fishermen catch about 80% of the fish.

What causes stress is different for fish than it is for people but the reactions are often the same.

Large fish establish and protect a territory leaving the smaller fish to school and compete with each other.