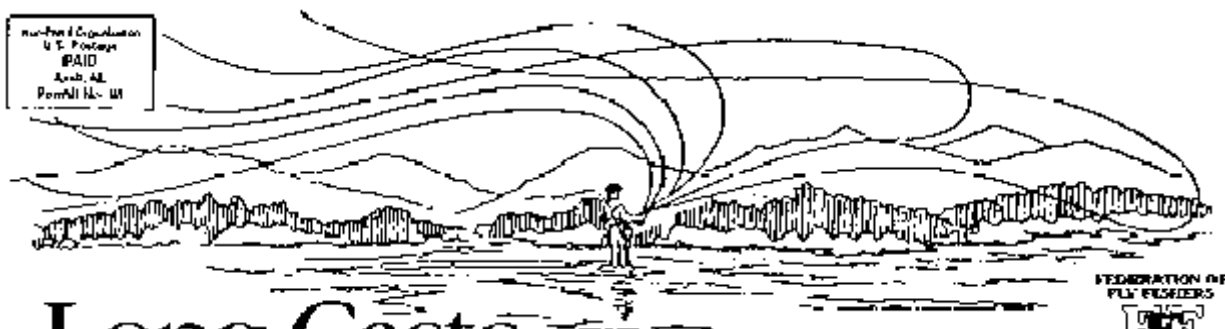


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# Long Casts

*Southern Council Federation of Fly Fishers*



SEPTEMBER 2003

## Prez Sez

The summer heat is now upon us along with the preparations for our trip to Idaho Falls in August. Returning recently from marsh harbor, Abaco in the Bahamas stalking bonefish, the reality of the real life once again has set in.

The Bahamas fishing was predictably great with the exception of two hair raising escapes from very severe storms at full tilt through a 2 foot chop. Now that will test your heart valves! I have photos of a water spout, no less, in one of the thunder heads. Our second four day trip to Abaco once again tested Tracie and my casting abilities as these storms produced 15-20 MPH winds most of the time. The flat light hampering sight fishing to the point most targets were in our shadow before we could cast. Along with fishing buddy David Hudson and wife Debbie, we boated about 40 fish on the trip and lost, blew the cast or broke off another 40. The Guides could see their tips dwindling as our amateurish efforts fell short of the mark.

## FFF Guide Certification Program

Mel Krieger is spearheading a much needed effort to standardize the credentials of FFF members who are professional guides. In the "committee" stage, the FFF intends to polish up and detail this for adoption by the august conclave. In our home waters we fully appreciate the need for some certification beyond the ability to write a check and crank up an outboard! Interestingly, while waiting out a storm in the cab of his pick up, our Abaco guide happily outlined the Bahamas dept. of Tourism guide certification efforts ongoing for two years. Also a project of Mel's.

## Hooked On a Cure

The Saint Jude Inaugural Charitable event on the White River was a heralded success raising almost \$35,000! Among the many celebrities were flip Pallot, Dave and Emily Whitlock, Dwayne Hadda, Mel

Krieger, Laurie Ann Murphy and Jack Dennis. A host of local guides provided their services to float 17 boats on the "fishing" day ending three days of dawn to dusk parties, clinics and elbow rubbing. The Midsouth Flyfishers provided the escort services for all the participants and hosted a streamside wine and cheese party as well which every boat detoured to enjoy (some for an hour or more!) thanks to Mike Stark, Mac Caradine and Monte stark for their efforts. Plans for 2004 are underway.

This also thrusts the concept of "competitive" events upon the FFF which until now has been struggling with taking a position on this here-to-fore avoided subject. The SOC is not alone in its support of this concept. Would you believe a California council is also sponsoring a similar event? Usually out on the point, the SOC has tended to break ground on controversial issues and simply made them work. A testament to our past leadership.

### **Ambassadors Program**

Water McClendon our VP of membership has this totally in place now for your clubs benefit. The FFF has taken notice of Walters' abilities and has been highly complementary of his efforts. Please don't pass up the opportunity to use our program givers and offer your club the benefit of the quality programs offered by our ambassadors.

### **100% membership plan**

The FFF has agreed to formally study the SOC plan to bring every club member into the Federation. This a significant departure from the current way new members are sought, dues paid and services rendered as well as the distribution of funds back to the councils. This plan has been a work in progress for five years by this writer and it appears that it will now be addressed . For any details contact Walter or myself.

Are you getting excited about conclave yet? It's going to be a sellout!

Roger Maler

## **CONCLAVE - 2003 - MTN. HOME, ARKANSAS**

### **Joe Butler - Conclave Chairman**

After more than 10 months preparing for and anticipating this year's Conclave, I'm still not sure I'm ready. One thing for sure, it will happen very soon. By the time you read this article, there will only be a couple of weeks before Oct. 3-4, the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Southern Council Concave. I hope you have made plans to attend and support the planned activities. You probably hear this every year, but this year we really do have a great line up of program presenters, casting events, fly tiers, and entertainment. If you have never found yourself in Mtn. Home the first weekend in October on any given year for great fall fly fishing and the annual conclave, then you are missing out.

Gary and Jason Borger will attend as our featured speakers, Jason on Friday evening, and Gary for the Saturday night banquet. In addition they will each present a number of fly casting and fly tying programs. What a great father and son combination, I can't wait to see Gary tie and Jason cast. There are many more qualified presenters, making for a full day of activities on Friday and Saturday. You will see lots of familiar faces, as well as some new ones.

A special effort has been made this year to increase participation and involvement from the forty-six (46) fly fishing clubs that make up the Southern Council. Steve Jensen has asked each club for representation at the tying tables. Great fly tiers are not born, but with encouragement, training, and exposure to events such as our conclave, some tiers become great. One may not feel like he is qualified to tie at the conclave but everyone has to start somewhere. Let's give them our support.

Jim Murphy and Randy Hopkins have donated and challenged all clubs to match a day fishing trip to be sold at the live auction. Besides raising more money, we are hoping to strengthen the SOC as member clubs get better acquainted and share information on local fishing spots and fly fishing for different species. The SOC territory is quite large geographically, within its boundary you will find world class trout fishing, salt water fishing for a number of species, and some of the best warm water fly fishing in the country. What a great opportunity to share what we know and learn from our fellow fly fishers. Slim Mitchell has been collecting 3 dozen flies from each SOC club. The plan is to put the flies from each club in a fly box, put them in a single group, sell raffle tickets, and draw for the lucky winner. If all clubs were to donate 36 flies, someone will win enough flies to last a lifetime.

Harvey Ragsdale has done a great job with commercial vendors. Actually, checking out new rods, reels, materials, new guides, fishing trips, and other interesting products, is one of my favorite parts of the conclave. I really appreciate the vendors who take part every year, allowing a hands on experience for all those interested. Be sure and let these guys know you appreciate their attendance, it takes a lot of work for most of them to set up and break down. Don't take them for granted.

There is also more for the ladies this year than any year I can remember. Sheryl Knight has done a great job organizing all events and programs as Chair Person of the Ladies Outreach. This is not a conclave for just fly fisher*men*, but a conclave for everyone, women included. If you are a lady fly fisher, I will tell you this is the best conclave of all the councils and you can learn more here in one weekend than you could in one year on the bank of some trout stream, or from your significant other. Don't forget about those young people who will someday be grown ups, running this event and others. If you have a young people who need to attend this conclave, bring them.

There is a special program for kids between ages 10 and 15 called the **Youth Conclave**. This is an all day affair on Saturday and normally includes fly tying and fly fishing on Dry Run Creek. Joe Curry of Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers is this year's chair and will do a great job. Joe has a specialty of working with kids and was more than happy to serve as chair when asked. Good luck Joe.

We have added some new things to this conclave and changed some of the normal activities in an effort to improve some of the events. This is being done for your benefit and enjoyment. All of the conclave chair persons are dedicated to making your stay in Mtn. Home the best fly fishing experience possible. We are hoping to attract more people than ever before and think there is something there for everyone, no matter where you might be in your fly fishing efforts. *Positive attitudes and support* are the key to making things

happen and this conclave is no exception. We need your support and have designed the activities and programs with you in mind. Come to Mountain Home on October 3 and 4 and enjoy the fishing, beautiful country, and fellowship with old friends and acquaintances. Make a few new friends while you're there. Let's celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary together. See you in Mountain Home.

## **Auction Raffle**

The items coming in for this year's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conclave auction and raffle are looking real good. There is going to be something for everybody. We have already received several rods, reels, fly lines, wading equipment, and boxes full of tying materials and equipment. Several guided fishing trips are being received including, a Day with Davy Wotton, a Day with Fox Statler, and a two day trip of flats fishing in the Florida Keys with Bryan Yates.

The Club Fishing Trip Challenge is shaping up very well. Several clubs have gotten involved and have committed to donate fishing trips to their local hot spot, with several clubs putting together a couple of trips. These trips will be auctioned off Friday and Saturday nights.

The Fly Challenge is becoming a big hit. Numerous clubs are putting together two or more boxes of flies. It is great to see so many clubs going beyond the original challenge of a fly box with 36 flies. This massive collection of flies will be raffled off with only one thousand tickets being available. The winner will be announced during the Saturday night festivities.

There will be a couple of small changes to the format of both the live and silent auctions. The silent auction items will each have a four hour time limit, so that bidders will know when bidding closes on each item. For the Friday and Saturday night auctions, bidder sheets will be available showing what items are being auctioned each night as well as the order the items will be in. A supplemental sheet will be made for each night on items received after 5pm, Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Also on Friday night, a Special Item will be Dutch Auctioned.

This year's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conclave auctions and raffles look to be the grandest. Any business, club, or individual with an item to be donated to the Conclave can send it directly to me, and I will see that you get the recognition for your donated item. In addition, anyone interested in helping with the auctions and raffles let me know.

Thank you everyone for your time and support of this year's conclave, I hope to see you there.

Jim Murphy  
2003 Conclave Auction and Raffle Chair  
824 S Pershing  
Willard, MO 65781-8150  
(417) 742-5102  
Apriljimmurphy@aol.com

## CONCLAVE PRESENTERS & PROGRAMS

**G**ary Borger is one of the world's foremost fly fishing educators. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is Professor Emeritus at the University of Wisconsin Campus in Wausau. His achievements have been recognized in The Millennium Edition of Strathmore's Who's Who," "Who's Who in the Midwest," "Who's Who in Science and Engineering," "Men of Achievement," the "Dictionary of International Biography," a multiple year honoree in "Who's Who Among America's Teacher's," "Outstanding People of the 20th Century," and "Outstanding People of the Millennium." He has been a fly fisher since 1955, and since 1972 has taught classes and lectured internationally on all aspects of fly fishing for trout and salmon. A free-lance writer and photographer and an active member of the Outdoor Writer's Association of America, Gary is also Midwest Field Editor for Fly Fisherman magazine, Editor at Large for the Virtual Fly Shop, and Fly Fishing Columnist for North American Fisherman. He has written five best-selling books on fly fishing: "Nymphing," "Naturals," "The Borger Color System," "Designing Trout Flies," and "Presentation." Gary pioneered fly fishing video instruction with his release of "Nymphing" in 1982. Since then he has appeared in four videos for the 3M Company; and in cooperation with the Federation of Fly Fishers, produced the environmental video "Where The Trout Are." His video production company has produced an additional 17, internationally acclaimed videos in the "Skills of Fly Fishing Series." This production work has earned him a listing in "Who's Who in Entertainment." Gary was also a consultant on Robert Redford's movie "A River Runs Through It." With his award-winning CD/cassette tape, "My Madison," he pioneered fly fishing, nature-music audios. In addition, Gary is the designer of the Weinbrenner Ultimate Wading Shoe, the Gary Borger Fly Vest, the Gary Borger Signature Fly Lines, and many other innovative angling products and unique fly designs. He currently works as a consultant to Scientific Anglers/3M. He is a founding board member of the River Alliance of Wisconsin, a founding member of the Board of Governors of the Federation of Fly Fisher's fly casting instructor certification program, a member of The Order of the Jungle Cock, Trout Unlimited, United Fly Tyers, the Federation of Fly Fishers, the American Museum of Fly Fishing, the Catskill Fly Fishing Center, and other conservation organizations. He is a recipient of the Ross Allen Merigold Complete Angler Memorial Award, the Charles K. Fox Rising Trout Award, the Joan and Lee Wulff Conservation award, and is internationally recognized for his conservation efforts; in recognition of this work he received the first Lew Jewett Memorial Life Membership in the Federation of Fly Fishers in 1979.



Gary Borger

**Friday - 10:00 - 12:00 AM - Fly Tying Clinic - "Designing with Fur Dubbing" - Gary Borger.** Fly tyers are well aware of fur dubbing, but there are many tactics for using this material that are not so well known. In this hands-on class, the participants will learn not only traditional tactics but highly innovative new tactics that lend themselves to a host of creative ways to design flies. - *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Friday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Casting Clinic - “Matching the Hatch with Cast/Reach” - Gary Borger.** This clinic will focus on the ability of the fly fisher to dead drift emergers and dries to selectively feeding fish. This is the most critical skill in matching the hatch, and the one most often overlooked. The practical information learned in the class will immediately improve the student's ability to take selectively feeding fish. - Intermediate level casting clinic. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 8:00 - 10:00 AM - Tying Clinic - “Designing with Feather Dubbing” - Gary Borger.** Very few tyers use feather dubbing in their designs. In this class, the students will not only learn how to make feather dubbing, but will have a hand's on opportunity to build a series of unique designs from this unique tying material. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 10:00 - 12:00 AM - “Matching the Hatch” - Gary & Jason Borger** - An informative session with both lecture and demonstration.

**Saturday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Casting Clinic - “The Cast/Reach Secrets of the Nymph Fisher” - Gary Borger.** The single hardest thing to do in fly fishing is to dead-drift a nymph in three dimensions, and yet with the simple skills learned in this class, it becomes an easy task that even the first-time angler can employ. - *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 3:00 - 4:00 PM - “Conversation with the Borgers - Gary & Jason Borger** - A informal question and answer session with the masters. This will be your change to ask those questions that you've been tying to ask.

**J**ason Borger began fly fishing at age two. When Jason was 10, he began production fly tying. His first nationally-published article on fly tying appeared when he was 13 (in *Fly Tyer* magazine). When Jason was 15, he began writing and illustrating a weekly nature column for his city's newspaper. In 1986, at age 16, Jason began working with his father, Gary, on the *Skills of Fly Fishing* video series (now encompassing over 20 videos). Also in his teens, Jason began teaching fly fishing professionally in his father's schools. In 1990, Jason illustrated his father's book *Designing Trout Flies*, which was honored with Book of the Year recognition from the United Fly Tyers. Also in 1990, Jason won the Colliander Cup, awarded to the top-scoring caster in competition at the Federation of Fly Fishers' international conclave. Jason graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1991, with a B.A. in Communication Arts (focus on film and television production and theory). In 1991-1992, Jason worked on Robert Redford's film, *A River Runs Through It*. Jason performed the "Shadow Cast," as well as doubling for three different actors in the casting and fishing scenes. An image of Jason shadow casting was ultimately used for the film's poster. Jason lived in Hollywood from 1991 to 1996, working in the film and TV industries on both sides of the camera. His work during that time included production, script evaluation, writing and acting. In 1993, at age 23, Jason began his own fly-fishing schools, as well as continuing to teach schools in conjunction with his father. In 1995, Jason illustrated and contributed to his father's award-winning book, *Presentation*. A year later, Jason finished his first feature-length screenplay. In 1998, Jason was elected to the Board of Governors for the Federation of Fly Fishers' (FFF) Fly Casting Instructor Certification Program. In 2000, Jason and his father completed their



Jason Borger

first fly-fishing TV pilot (*The Nature of Fly Fishing*). In 2001, Jason published his first book (*Jason Borger's Nature of Fly Casting—a modular approach*). In 2002, Jason completed work on a second TV pilot (*Modern Outdoors* with Doug Callan). Jason is the Techniques Editor for *Fly Fish America*, Contributing Editor for *Fly Rod & Reel*, Foreign Field Editor for *The Complete Fly Fisher*, and Contributing Editor for *Fly Fisherman On-line*. Jason's by-line appears regularly in sporting magazines and books throughout the world.

**Friday - 10:00 - 12:00 AM - Casting Clinic - “Foundations of the Cast/Reach Secret of Fly Fishing” - Jason Borger.** Fly fishing is more than casting the right fly to the right place at the right time, it's also getting the fish to take the fly. And that means making the fly look like something good to eat. And that means mending. In fishing, mending is usually more important than casting. In this hands-on program with one of fly fishing's best casting instructors, the student will have the opportunity to learn the relationship between casting and mending and develop the practical skills that lead to more fish caught. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Friday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Fly Tying Clinic - “Designing with Hair Hackles” - Jason Borger.** Hair hackles are a little know but powerful tool for the fly designer. They are used on dries, nymphs, wets, streamers, steelhead, saltwater, and warm water flies. In this class, tyers will practice a series of eye-opening design tactics using hair hackles made from soft furs, guard hairs, deer hair, craft fur, and other materials. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 8:00 - 10:00 AM - Casting Clinic - “Tricks and Trips to Develop Great Casting and Mending” - Jason Borger.** In this demonstration, the Shadow Caster will detail a series of casting and mending nuances aimed at improving the fishing skills of the audience. Based on extensive world-wide fishing experiences, these tips and tricks are aimed at making casting and mending easier and at detailing when to use specific casts and mends. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 10:00 - 12:00 AM - “Matching the Hatch” - Gary & Jason Borger** - An informative session with both lecture and demonstration.

**Saturday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Tying Clinic - “Designing with Feather Hackles” - Jason Borger.** Most tyers know about dry fly hackles and soft hackles, but there are many other ways to use this basic fly tying component. In this design class, the student will have an opportunity to create imitations with "X" hackles, slant hackles, reverse hackles, half hackles, diffusion hackles, and many other little-known hackle design concepts. - *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 3:00 - 4:00 PM - “Conversation with the Borgers - Gary & Jason Borger** - A informal question and answer session with the masters. This will be your change to ask those questions that you've been tying to ask.

**Maggie Merriman** is one of the premier fly fishing instructors in America. She is known nationally and internationally as a pioneer in the sport. She is, also, recognized as one of the strong advocates for introducing and encouraging women into the sport of fly fishing.

Maggie has been a professional fly fishing instructor for over 25 years. She has her own fly fishing schools and instruction in the Western States and is based in West Yellowstone, Montana in the summer.

In the late 70's, she pioneered women's fly fishing schools in the Western States. In the early 80's, she designed and manufactured the first women's fly fishing vest.

For the last 25 years she has been giving casting demos, slide shows, and lectures to fishing clubs, regional and national conclaves and sport shows. She has been seen numerous times on national T.V., on such shows as, "Fishing the West" with Larry Schoenborn and "The Back Roads of Montana" with William Marcus. Maggie served 3 years as a product development consultant for Lammiglass Rod Co. and 1 year on the "Pro Staff" of Fisher Rod Co. For 3 years she wrote a product review column for "Heritage Fly

Fishing" Magazine. Past director of FFF and TU. One of the first women to receive a FFF President's Pin and the Lew Jewett award.

In 1995, she received the FFF "Woman of the Year" award. Also, in 1995, she started the FFF National Women's Educational Fly Fishing Program and is the National Coordinator for this program. She currently is writing a column for the "Angler's Journal" magazine and is editing the flyfishing section of the new Outdoor Women Magazine that will be debuting soon on Outdoors OnLine.

**Friday 9:00 - 10:00 AM - "Read Trout Streams" - Maggie Merriman** - Maggie will go through the process of how to read trout streams to tell where the fish are with a few tips on how to catch them thrown in.

**Friday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Casting Clinic - Maggie Merriman** - Casting instruction for a beginner. Gets you started on the road correctly. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 8:00 - 10:00 AM - Casting Clinic - Maggie Merriman** - Intermediate Level or Above. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*



Maggie Merriman

**K**en Barnes' program is on information on where, when and how to catch Steelhead in Michigan's lower peninsula. He will cover equipment needed, timing of the runs, weather, lodging and fishing techniques used in the northwest corner of Michigan's lower peninsula. You can apply these same principles on any of Michigan's numerous streams. This program will also include information on catching large Brown Trout and Salmon.

**Friday - 3:00 - 4:00 PM - Ken Barnes - (See above)**

**J**ohn Berry is an Arkansas fly-fishing guide with over twelve years experience. He is noted for the quality of his fly-fishing schools and his easygoing yet professional manner on the stream. He has taught fly-fishing classes at community colleges and universities in the area. He is a popular speaker and has presented programs at sport shows, fishing clubs, and the Federation of Fly Fishers National Conclave and Southern Conclave. In his spare time John writes articles for regional sporting publications, club newsletters, and wrote two chapters for the popular Home Waters. He is a life member of the Federation of Fly Fishers, the Mid South Fly Fishers where he served as President and the North Arkansas Fly Fishers.

**Saturday - 1:00 - 2:00 PM - "Home Waters" - John Berry** - This program is a photographic review of the popular fishing guide published by the Mid South Fly Fishers. Learn why this book is a must buy for anyone considering a trip to any of the home waters. Included in the presentation are specific suggestions as to where and how to fish our beloved Ozark waters.

**Diane Blair**, Dallas, Texas - To support her fly fishing and tying habit, Diane works as a complex commercial litigation paralegal at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP in Dallas, Texas. She has been tying flies for 4 years and owes her start and all of her training to the Roadkill Roundtable which meets every Saturday in Dallas, Texas. Diane ties all types of flies, but most enjoys working with deer hair and razor blades. This is her fourth year to tie at the Southern Conclave. She has been a demonstration tyer at the Houston Fly Tying Festival for four years, and has been invited to tie at the FFF International Fly Fishing Show in Livingston, Montana and the Southeastern Conclave in Gulfshores, Alabama. Diane enjoys introducing other women to the sport of fly fishing and the art of fly tying and has dragged many a friend to the brink of financial ruin. Her 15-year-old son, Tyler, says "she's obsessed," but he also loves to tie flies, although few of them ever touch the water.

**Friday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Fly Tying Clinic - Diane Blair, Cheryl Farrell, Sister Carol Anne Corley and Sherry Steele** - A fly tying clinic for all levels. Part of the materials fee covers a packet that you will be able to take with you to continue practicing what you have learned. This will be about as close to individual instruction as you can get. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Mike Clark** and his wife Faye live in Harrison, Arkansas. Harrison is ideally located for both cold and warm water fly fishing. Just 40 miles from Taneycomo and the White River yet only 15 miles from the Buffalo River and Crooked Creek. Mike has been fly fishing for twenty years and fly tying for 10 years. He also enjoys photography and has had a camera in his hands for 43 years. Recently Mike combined the two and conducts seminars on Digital Cameras For Fly Fishing and Tying. He has tied at three Sowbugs and conclaves and this May will attend his first out of state conclave at Gulf Shores, Alabama. Mike is the manager of a Photo Center and Wireless Communications Center for Wal-Mart and enjoys the challenge of the fast pace of the digital imaging. He has been with Wal-Mart for eight years and provides digital training for photo lab managers.

**Friday - 10:30 - 12:00 AM - "Digital Photography" - Mike Clark** - Digital Cameras for the Flyfisher. Mike will cover selection and use of digital cameras while fly fishing and fly tying.

**Sister Carol Anne Corley, RSM**, Hot Springs, AR, is a Religious Sister of Mercy of the St. Louis Region. She is currently acting as the Educational Director and Program Developer for the United States Youth Flyfishing Association. In that capacity, she has developed and implemented the "Streets to Streams" and "Tyme Flies" youth educational programs. She is a volunteer teacher at St. John's Catholic Elementary School where she teaches fly tying in the Art curriculum, Water Conservation and Aquatic Ecology in the Science curriculum and coordinates the St. John's Stream Team and Classroom Aquarium projects. She has taught fly tying and fly casting for the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the Garland County Community College, and various other groups, as well as private individuals. Sister has spoken on flyfishing, fly tying and/or developing youth programs at local, state, regional, and international flyfishing club and organization meetings. She is a contributing author in "The No Nonsense Guide to Women's Favorite Fly-fishing Destinations." Sister has been featured in many newspaper and magazine articles and has appeared on the David Letterman Show. She has been teaching fly tying for 10 years and has demonstrated at numerous national, regional and local shows and conclaves. She enjoys teaching a range of skill levels from basic techniques for beginners to tying tips and tricks for experienced tiers. Designing and teaching foam

fly patterns is one of her specialties.

**Friday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Fly Tying Clinic - Diane Blair, Cheryl Farrell, Sister Carol Anne Corley and Sherry Steele -**

A fly tying clinic for all levels. Part of the materials fee covers a packet that you will be able to take with you to continue practicing what you have learned. This will be about as close to individual instruction as you can get. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**A** **l Crise**, Glen Rose, TX, was born in Michigan, moved to the Florida Keys and lived there for almost 20 years, fished offshore and guided the backcountry. His first fly fishing instructor was his dad then he graduated to Joe Brooks. In 1970 he started building rods and really got the bug when he met "Lefty" Kreh the same year. In 1979 he moved to Texas and has worked for TXU since 1982. Allen has fished from Canada to the Bahamas, New England to the Rockies. He is an FFF Certified Fly Casting Instructor, Fly Fishing Instructor for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., FFF Youth Camp Casting Instructor '99-'03, and is the Education Chairman of the Ft. Worth Fly Fishers. Allen is the owner of Hawk Ridge Tackle & Fly Casting School in Glen Rose, TX. He and his lovely wife Nola have 3 daughters, 7 grand kids and 5 great-grand kids.

**11:00 - 12:00 AM - "Preparation for FFF's Casting Certification" - Al Crise and Bob Tabbert -** This course is designed to introduce candidates preparing for casting certification to some teaching and casting techniques that will help them better prepare for certification. The short course is divided into Introduction and goals, Teaching aids, Casting equipment and exercises, Terminology, Q & A, Lawn casting. The goal of this course is to introduce candidates to tools and resources that will improve their casting and teaching skills.

**C** **huck Easterling** in his non-fishing life is a Chief Deputy Prosecutor in the Second Judicial District of Arkansas. Chuck has been fly fishing for almost thirty years, is the Senior Vice President for the Southern Council of the FFF, a life member of FFF and a Master Certified Casting Instructor as well as a new member of the FFF Casting Board of Governors.

**Friday - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - "Essentials and Beyond (Casting)" - Chuck Easterling, Bill Gammel and Art Mazzier -** The Essentials and Beyond - This workshop covers in depth the five essentials of good casting and provides a systematic approach on how to analyze casting errors and correct them. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Friday - 1:00 - 2:30 PM - "Take Me to Your Leader" - Chuck Easterling and Art Mazzier -** Practical Knot Know How- This program is designed to cover rigging and knots commonly used in freshwater flyfishing. This is a "hands on program" with the participants tying the demonstrated knots. All of the knots will first be tied using enlarged material (either colored rope or flyline) for ease of viewing and then be tied using the appropriate material either Dacron backing or monofilament. This workshop will cover terminal knots used to tie flies to tippets, leader construction and repair, attaching the leader to the flyline and attaching the flyline to backing. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance*

**S** **teve Fritz** - A journalist and photographer, Steve was the editor of Long Casts, the newsletter of the Southern Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers 1995 to 2002. Steve grew up in and around Dallas, TX, then spent 17 years in Tulsa, OK, and finally moved to Missouri, where he first managed an Eddie Bauer Sports Shop in Kansas City, and is now managing Bass Pro Shop's White River Fly Shop, in Springfield.

Steve has been a member of Green Country Fly Fishers, Tulsa Flyfishers, Heart of America Fly Fishers,

and is currently a member of both Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers, and the Missouri Trout Fishers Association - Springfield Chapter, all FFF clubs, and was state president of Oklahoma Trout Unlimited from 1991-93. He was named Southern Council Tall Tale Teller in 1993, SC Federator of the Year in 1997, and SC Man of the Year in 1999.

**Saturday - 9:00 - 10:00 AM - "Backpacking for Trout" - Steve Fritz** - The program will concentrate on the "how to" part of high mountain backpacking for fly fishing. Most backpackers, when at high altitude, don't carry much fly gear, if any, since it takes up room and is heavy. The program will offer examples of what to pack for camping and fly fishing, so that it can all be carried up the mountain, and so that the hiker is prepared for the great fishing that awaits up there.

**Dennis Galyardt**, Tecumseh MO, has been a fly fisherman and fly tier for the past 45 years. About 10 years ago he started collecting vintage fishing tackle, which includes lures, fly rods, reels, magazines, fly boxes, creels, catalogs, and other miscellaneous gear. Dennis and his wife, Amy, travel the US looking for tackle to add to the collection. He believes that the history of the lure is as important as the value.

**Friday - 2:30 - 4:00 PM - "Fly Fishing Antique Roadshow" - Dennis Galyardt** - has been an ardent fly fisherman for the past 45 years and a collector of vintage tackle for the past 10 years. This means that some of the fishing equipment that he used as a youngster is now collectible. Dennis will evaluate any fishing tackle brought to the "**Fishing Collectibles Roadshow**" seminar. If you have any of Dad's or Granddad's gear stored away in the attic or garage, be sure to bring it to the show...you might just find that you have a treasure. Dennis has given many presentations on the history of fly fishing tackle in America, so he will be able to give you background and dates about your item as well as an approximate value.

**Bill Gammel**, from Highland, Texas, is a graduate of Texas A&M with a graduate degree in Fisheries Management and has a Master's degree from Southwest Texas State University in Aquatic Biology. Bill won the Colliander Cup, the FFF's award for best all around caster in 1991 and 1992, and with his father, Jay Gammel, authored the FFF's pamphlet The Essentials of Fly Casting. This pamphlet is recognized as one of the best distillations of casting instruction in Print. Bill is on the FFF's Casting Certification Board of Governors and has been teaching flycasting professionally for the past fifteen years.

**Friday - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - "Essentials and Beyond (Casting)" - Chuck Easterling, Bill Gammel and Art Mazzier** - The Essentials and Beyond - This workshop covers in depth the five essentials of good casting and provides a systematic approach on how to analyze casting errors and correct them. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Friday - 1:00 - 2:30 PM - "Teaching Advanced Casting" - Bill Gammel** - This workshop will cover how to prepare and implement an effective lesson plan for intermediate and advanced casting students. This workshop will include recognizing difficult and subtle casting faults, recognizing and addressing what the student wants to gain from your instruction, how to effectively communicate, visual aides and how to prepare effective practice exercises. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

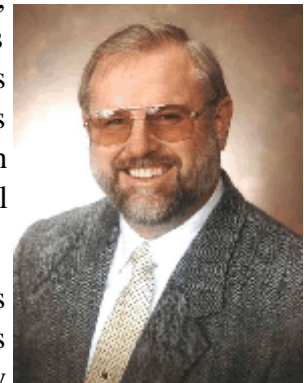
**Duane Hada**, Yellville, AR, is a very talented artist as well as a fly tyer. He has qualified for the Master Angler Program using a fly rod with smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, brown trout, cutthroat trout, bluegill, and shortnose gar. Duane and his wife Marlene operate a guide service from Yellville and an art gallery in Cotter.

**Friday- 10:00 - 11:00 AM - “Ontario’s Algonquin Wilderness Experience” - Duane Hada** - Duane spent a 9 day painting and fishing excursion in Algonquin Provincial Park. A true wilderness canoe pack-in trip that offers the ultimate in solitude, wildlife and fabulous fishing opportunities for wild brookies, lake trout and smallmouth bass.

**D**avid E. Hendrix, Hatchery Manager, Neosho National Fish Hatchery is an employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and has worked with the Service for 26 years, all over the Midwest and out east. Has a Minor in Medical Technology and a Major in Fishery Biology. Work Stations have included the New London National Fish Hatchery in New London (Minnesota), Central States Fishery Management Station in Princeton (Indiana), Genoa National Fish Hatchery in Genoa (Wisconsin), Genoa Fish Disease Lab in Genoa (Wisconsin), Jordan River National Fish Hatchery in Elmira (Michigan), Hatchery Manager's Long Course Training in Leetown (West Virginia), Pendills Creek/Hiawatha Forest National Fish Hatchery Complex in Brimley (Michigan), Mid-Level Training with the House and Senate in Washington D.C., and presently serving as Hatchery Manager at the Neosho National Fish Hatchery in Neosho (Missouri).

**Saturday - 2:00 - 3:00 PM - “Activities Report - Neosho National Fish Hatchery - David Hendrix** - “Spotlight of the Neosho National Fish Hatchery” (including the history, service that is provided to the public and production programs). David E. Hendrix, Hatchery Manager will give a PowerPoint presentation covering the history of the Hatchery, services that the Neosho NFH provides to the public as well as focus on important production programs being produced at the Hatchery. Neosho National Fish Hatchery was established in 1888 and is the oldest operating federal fish hatchery in the nation. The Hatchery has produced over 130 different species and is capable of producing cool, cold, and warmwater fish.

**M**ichael Lack, MD, MPH - Dr. Lack received his undergraduate education at Arkansas State University, State University Arkansas graduating with honors and as a Student of Distinction with a BS 1971. His graduate education was received at Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, MA 1973; University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock, Arkansas MD 1978; Medical College of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Wisconsin MPH May 2003. His internship was done at the AHEC Jefferson Hospital, Pine Bluff, Arkansas Internship 1, 1979. He currently practices with the Occupational Health Partners in Jonesboro, Arkansas. Michael is a member of the Member of American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and is a Certified Medical Review Officer.



Dr. Michael Lack

All of this on top of being a fly fisherman is really keeps Michael busy. He and his family spend as much time as possible on the rivers and streams in north Arkansas looking for that elusive big one. He is a member of the Northeastern Arkansas Fly Fishers and has been a fixture at the grill for the past several years for the Thursday evening Welcoming Party.

**Saturday - 9:00 - 10:30 AM - “Hey, it only hurts when I do this!” Fly Fishing First Aid - Dr. Michael Lack** - Program: “Hey, it only hurts when I do this” - Fly Fishing First Aid. Dr. Lack will show you how to avoid the pitfalls of the aches and pains that are associated with fly fishing such as how to avoid “casting elbow” and other ailments that one comes up with after a day spent wading and casting to fish in their favorite stream.

**J**udy Lehmborg has been tying flies and fly fishing for about twenty years. She specializes in Atlantic salmon flies but also enjoys tying spring creek flies for trout she fishes for in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. She teaches biology at Lee College in Baytown, Texas and spends her summers in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming. Judy has held several offices in the Federation of Fly Fishers™, including secretary and vice president for education. She has received several FFF awards including Woman of the Year and the Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award.

**Saturday - 9:00 - 10:00 AM - “Atlantic Salmon Flies” - Judy Lehmborg** - Did you know that some of the early bass flies that were tied in the 1860's have their roots in Salmon fly patterns? Judy will share her knowledge about salmon fly tying, techniques and patterns.

**R**oger Maler has been a flyfisher since age 12. He has chased trout of every species from New York to Alaska as well as salt water on the East and West coast of Florida. An avid tyer and collector of equipment, Roger, however, claims no credentials as your “classic fly caster”. He has been involved extensively with the Mid-South Fly Fishers since 1991 serving as a board member and as president of this great giant club. Roger has devoted much time to fly fishing instruction with new members and anyone else who would listen! Having developed a modified approach to sink tip presentations, he can usually be found on the White River trying to convince his lovely wife Tracie to abandon her strike indicator and really start catching fish!

Roger is the current President of the Southern Council and resides in Memphis, TN and Mountain Home, AR.

**Friday - 10:30 - 12:00 AM - “Sink Trip Symposium” - Roger Maler** - A 4-5 hour on stream instructional demonstration on Shoe String shoal of dead drifting a sink tip line with monitored participation of the attendees. Full gear is required and it would be beneficial if they already had a sink tip line but not required. Because of the usual class size, the clinic is targeted to intermediate and advanced flyfishers. Beginners will be challenged but accepted in this class. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Saturday - 10:30 - 12:00 AM - “Stream Strategies” - Roger Maler** - A 4-5 hour on stream clinic on Shoestring shoal providing a detailed explanation of prospecting for trout holding water. Wading gear and polarized glasses are mandatory. Fishing gear is optional but suggested if the attendee wishes to enjoy this great piece of water. All levels of experience would benefit particularly beginners. Techniques of fly fishing will be discussed and demonstrated, however, this is not a casting class.

**A**rt Mazzier is a retired oral surgeon and prior to his retirement was an instructor of head and neck anatomy for graduate students at the University of Illinois. Art is a life member of FFF and a Certified Master Casting Instructor. Art has long been an avid outdoorsman with extensive experience in duck hunting as well as flyfishing.

**Friday - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - “Essentials and Beyond (Casting)” - Chuck Easterling, Bill Gammel and Art Mazzier** - The Essentials and Beyond - This workshop covers in depth the five essentials of good casting and provides a systematic approach on how to analyze casting errors and correct them. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Friday - 1:00 - 2:30 PM - “Take Me to Your Leader” - Chuck Easterling and Art Mazzier** - Practical Knot Know How- This program is designed to cover rigging and knots commonly used in freshwater flyfishing. This is a "hands on program" with the participants tying the demonstrated knots. All of the knots will first be tied using enlarged material (either colored rope or flyline) for ease of viewing and then be tied using the appropriate material either Dacron backing

or monofilament. This workshop will cover terminal knots used to tie flies to tippets, leader construction and repair, attaching the leader to the flyline and attaching the flyline to backing. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance*

**Slim Mitchell** is the past President of Dallas Fly Fishers, charter member of the Roadkill Round Table Group. He is the originator of the BE Hopper and has tied at the Sowbug Roundup, Southern Council Conclave, National Conclave, Great Outdoors Festival (Memphis), Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center, and numerous other shows, demonstrations and other functions during the last 7 years. Slim has fished for Bluegill and Bass on flies for more than 40 years and Trout on the North Fork and White Rivers since 1962. Slim was the 2002 Southern Council "Fly Tyer of the Year."

**Friday - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - "Basic Fly Plate Construction" - Michael Verduin and Slim Mitchell** - Mike Verduin and Slim Mitchell will teach a class on the basics of mounting flies for display. The purpose of this class is to teach the basics of fly plate layout and mounting. Each class attendee should bring a fly with them. It should be tied on a size 8, 10, or 12 hook. If you don't have a fly you can ask one of the Tyer's and they will glad to help you out. The cost of the class \$ 25.00 includes a 5 x 7 frame and all material to mount your fly.

Discussion will also include various methods and materials for mounting the fly, Different ways to dress up your display in a shadow box, Displays methods other than a single sided shadow box will be included, Where to find your material "CHEAP," and Other sources of material and how you can use them. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**J.D. Parker** - Co-owner of Wolf River Trading Company in Germantown, TN. We were Orvis' "Dealer of the Year" for 2003. I have been fly fishing since the age of 16 and in the outdoor retail business since the age of 17. I have fished numerous places around the US and the Bahamas. I do fly fishing TV segments for our local CBS affiliate and write for a number of publications. I enjoy fishing with my number one fishing partner, my wife Lori who is an accomplished fly fisher herself.

**Saturday - 2:30 - 3:30 PM - "Fly Fishing for Bones" - J.D. Parker** - Program: Comprehensive look at bonefishing and S/W flyfishing in general but main emphasize is bones. It includes about the fish themselves, habitat, equipment, techniques, and about destination travel.

**Mike Reuck** was Director of Facilities Management and Fly Fishing for William Jewell College in Liberty, MO for 26 years before retiring in May 2001. Mike is a graduate of civil engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla. He was the instructor of the fly fishing and fly tying course at William Jewell for more than 20 years. This was an accredited class in both the day and evening programs.

Mike has over 40 years of fly fishing experience in the High Sierras of California, Nevada and the Rock Mountains of Colorado. He also helped teach a 3 day seminar for Sand Spring Resort at Bennett Spring State Park for more than 10 years. Mike was named "Teacher of the Year" by the Southern Council of the FFF in 1998. He is the current VP of Education for the Southern Council.

**Saturday - 11:00 - 12:00 AM - "How to Organize a Fly Fishing Clinic" - Mike Reuck & Jim Rogers** - Mike Reuck and Jim Rogers will share their experience in teaching fly fishing clinics and fly fishing schools for colleges and universities. Items covered are: fly casting, knot tying, equipment, videos, books, Fly-O-Rods, where to fish, classroom syllabus and fly tying.

**J**im Rogers is the Bennett Springs Park (at Lebanon, MO) Concessionaire and director of the “Jim Rogers Fly Fishing School.” Jim began fly fishing when he was 10 - 48 years ago. Since then, he has filmed several fly fishing programs and was recently featured in the PBS special “The World of Virgil Ward.”

For the past 28 years Jim has taught fly fishing and currently holds a Master’s Certification with the Federation of Fly Fishers®. In 2001 he became the only authorized Cortland Fly Fishing School. His classes include basic casting lessons, advanced fly casting and FFF fly casting instructor certification, fly tying and rod making classes, basic fly fishing classes and The Trout School. Jim has attended all of Joan Wulff’s instructor schools, advanced casting school and fly fishing schools.

**Saturday - 11:00 - 12:00 AM - “How to Organize a Fly Fishing Clinic” - Mike Reuck & Jim Rogers** - Mike Reuck and Jim Rogers will share their experience in teaching fly fishing clinics and fly fishing schools for colleges and universities. Items covered are: fly casting, knot tying, equipment, videos, books, Fly-O-Rods, where to fish, classroom syllabus and fly tying.

**E**ric & Joe Schmuecker of Wapsi, Inc. Mountain Home, are always in on the latest things in the fly tying world.

**10:30 - 11:30 AM - “New Fly Tying Materials” - Eric & Joe Schmuecker** - A look at what's new in the fly tying world. There may even be some samples to take a look at.

**M**ark Shelton is a sales rep in the flyfishing industry covering the states of NE, KS, MO, AR, OK, TX, LA, and MS. Some of the lines he represents are; Winston Rods, Redington, Lamson/Waterworks, Bauer Reels, Fishpond, William Joseph, Dr, Slick, Chums, and Rio Products (flyline maker). Mark lives in the Kansas City area.

**Saturday - 10:00 - 11:00 AM - “Everything You Wanted to Know About Fly Lines” - Mark Shelton** - Mark will cover the basics of design, tapers, materials used to make them, care of them, and (in his opinion) what lines work best on what rods.

**F**ox Statler has been a fly fisherman for forty-eight years, a fly tier for twenty-nine years, an outdoor writer for sixteen years, and a guide on the Ozark mountain rivers and streams for twenty-three years. His techniques and patterns have produced trophy trout for countless fly fishermen. His love of fishing for Smallmouth Bass has lead to the publication of his first book in the series, "Fishin' What They See, Anatomically Correct Minnow Patterns For All Anglers". This is an eleven year old dream that is finally a reality. Spirit River Inc. of Roseburg, Oregon recently contracted Fox to design a series of minnows using their materials. He designed the six major minnows that inhabit the United States for the Eastern slope of the Rockies to the Atlantic Coast in two sizes, attractor patterns for Saltwater and Al-Can fishing in two sizes, three variation of his Sowbugs in four sizes, and four variations of his Gimp-Feather Crawfish in four sizes. This series of minnows are available to all the shops that Spirit River services both nationally and internationally. For the 2004, Spirit River is considering producing his Banded Sculpin and his Ozark Sculpin patterns, at least two colors of the new Fox's Mudbugs, and producing six of the New Concept Minnows. With the introduction of all his new patterns, Fox is out to change fly fishing once again. Visit Fox

on the internet at [www.fishinwhattheysee.com](http://www.fishinwhattheysee.com)

**Friday - 1:00 - 2:30 PM - "Fishin' What They See, Minnows of the Mississippi Drainage" - Fox Statler** - Fox's presentation is a discussion of the numerous minnows that inhabit the Mississippi Drainage System from Montana to Pennsylvania and south to Alabama and Texas. The program will cover the three geographical groups of minnows: upland, fall line, and lowland. It will also cover the three groups of minnows in each geographical group: top minnows, mid-water minnows, and bottom minnows. We will discuss the best methods of fishing, imitating, and tying each group of minnows. We will explain which types to fish in various water environments, and tips that will improve the fishing with minnows. His newest minnow imitations, materials, and tying techniques will be presented and discussed. How man has affected fish fauna and water quality will also be touched upon, as well as what is in the future for our lakes, streams and rivers, and how taking preventative steps today can change this outcome.

**Sherry Steele**, Byhalia, MS, has been tying flies since 1994, after being inspired by her brother Slim Mitchell. She tied flies for a couple of years then Slim took her fly fishing in Mountain Home, AR, and she has enjoyed fly fishing ever since. Sherry says, "I hooked the trout, but the trout hooked me on fly fishing." She is an active member of the Mid-South Fly Fishers where she has won several awards. She has tied at many events, including Ducks Unlimited Outdoor Festival, Sow Bug Roundup, Southeast and Southern Conclaves. She enjoys tying with all kinds of materials and sharing information with other tiers. Sherry enjoys fishing for trout as well as warm water species.

**Friday - 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Fly Tying Clinic - Diane Blair, Cheryl Farrell, Sister Carol Anne Corley and Sherry Steele** - A fly tying clinic for all levels. Part of the materials fee covers a packet that you will be able to take with you to continue practicing what you have learned. This will be about as close to individual instruction as you can get. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**Bob Tabbert** is a retired exploration geologist, he summers in northern Wisconsin fishing native brook trout and winters in south Louisiana where he is an active member of the Acadiana Flyrodders, teaching casting. Bob is currently VP Conservation for the Southern Council. He is pursuing his Master' casting certification.

**Friday - 11:00 - 12:00 AM - "Preparation for FFF's Casting Certification" - Al Crise and Bob Tabbert** - This course is designed to introduce candidates preparing for casting certification to some teaching and casting techniques that will help them better prepare for certification. The short course is divided into Introduction and goals, Teaching aids, Casting equipment and exercises, Terminology, Q & A, Lawn casting. The goal of this course is to introduce candidates to tools and resources that will improve their casting and teaching skills.

**Michael Verduin** is a member of the Dallas and Pineywoods Fly Fishers. He was introduced to fly fishing at Missouri's Roaring River Park on a family vacation over 40 years ago. Bream fishing is his passion. Michael has tied flies for over twenty years, concentrating on warm water patterns. He was the FFF Perry Award winner for 1995 as New Fly Tyer of the Year, and the Southern Council FFF Fly Tyer of the Year in 1997. Michael specializes in flies for warm water species. Creative fly tying best describes his unique patterns.

**Friday - 9:00 - 11:00 AM - "Basic Fly Plate Construction" - Michael Verduin and Slim Mitchell** - Mike Verduin and Slim Mitchell will teach a class on the basics of mounting flies for display. The purpose of this class is to teach the basics of fly plate layout and mounting. Each class attendee should bring a fly with them. It should be tied on a size 8, 10, or

12 hook. If you don't have a fly you can ask one of the Tyer's and they will glad to help you out. The cost of the class \$ 25.00 includes a 5 x 7 frame and all material to mount your fly.

Discussion will also include various methods and materials for mounting the fly, Different ways to dress up your display in a shadow box, Displays methods other than a single sided shadow box will be included, Where to find your material "CHEAP," and Other sources of material and how you can use them. *Registration Required - Limited Attendance - Fee*

**A l and Ouida Wilkie** - Al's first glimpse of the Dutch Oven was when he was a child while camping with his family on the Llano River in Mason County, Texas. His father used one of the pots to prepare the food for the family. After Al joined the Dallas Flyfishers in the late 70's, his interest in cooking with the pots was rekindled by one of the fellows on an outing. After the first meal, he was hooked on the concept of cooking with the pots.

For the next 25 years, he cooked with the pots whenever he could get the chance. Ouida joined in after they married and whenever they go on a camping trip or just want to have a good old fashioned meal, they get the pots out of the cupboard.

They have cooked for many groups over the years. Recently they did the Dutch Oven demo for the Fly Fish 2003 in Athens, Texas, an Aliner Rally in Belton, Texas, several Fly Fish Rendezvous, and many family outings and camping trips. They are working on a Dutch Oven Cook Book and it should be ready this Fall.

Al and Ouida will do a demonstration type program with complete instructions from beginning to end on how to prepare Dutch Oven meals. One top of the demonstration you get to eat!!

**Friday - 1:00 - 4:00 PM - Dutch Oven Cooking Al and Ouida Wilkie** - Not only will you get expert instruction on how to prepare Dutch Oven meals by careful preparation instead of "dumping" you will get to eat the results. There is a fee attached to this class to cover the cost of the ingredients necessary to prepare the food. *Registration Required - Fee*

**Terry and Roxanne Wilson** have presented practical fly-fishing methods for bass, bluegill, crappie, gar, and channel catfish in nearly a hundred magazine articles published in Fly Fishing and Tying Journal, Warmwater Fly Fishing, Fly Fishing Quarterly, Bassmaster, Midwest Fly Fishing, Ontario Out of Doors, The Fishing and Hunting Journal, Popular Flyfishing, The Flyfisher, Outdoor Guide, and many others. Terry's original flies for bluegills, largemouths, and smallmouth bass have been featured in *Fly Fish America* and *Fly Fishing and Tying Journal*. Their first book, *Bluegill Fly Fishing and Flies*, was published by Frank Amato Publications, Inc. in April, 1999. Their second book, *Largemouth Bass Fly Fishing: Beyond the Basics* was released by the same publisher in July 2001.

**Friday - 11:00 - 12:00 AM - "Fly Fishing Ponds" - Terry and Roxanne Wilson** - "Fly Fishing Ponds" provides a practical system for catching more big largemouth bass and bluegills in these abundant fisheries. The Wilsons discuss how to visually evaluate a pond's potential, match the right gear to your personal pond philosophy, select which structure to target, as well as where and how to manipulate the flies they use for each species. Bank stalking, wading, float tubing, and small boat tactics are included in the show.

**D**avy Wotton was born in Wales in the British Isles, the home of fly fishing history and tradition. He was fortunate to be able to spend most of his early life out of doors in a land full of rivers, streams and lakes. The first time he hooked into a trout was in the early 1950's. It was not a big fish but certainly one that from that time set him on a path in his life which has taken him fishing in many distant parts of the world. Hunting and fishing were his passions and by the 1960's he had begun a career as a semi-professional fly tyer and commercial hunter. His innovative patterns quickly earned him a reputation and soon he was filling requests for articles from various fly fishing magazines and book publishers all over the world.



Davy Wotton

Davy has been a professional in the sport of fly fishing now for some 30 years and has been in the forefront of educating the in the fine art of fly tying and fishing. He has developed many new and interesting techniques in tying and fishing. He has created a range of fish catching patterns and continues to do so. Many of his fly patterns are commercially produced by the worlds major producers of fishing flies.

**Saturday - 1:00 - 2:30 PM - "What Do I Know?" - Davy Wotton** - Solutions to Fly Fishing. How to deal with difficult situations, the best way to figure it out and how to catch fish at that time. There will also be questions and answers from the floor on any given aspect of fly fishing.

## ACTIVITIES - FRIDAY - OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>

| WHEN            | WHAT  | WHERE                     |
|-----------------|---|---------------------------|
| 8:00AM - 5:00PM | <b>Registration</b>   | Education Building Lobby  |
| 9:00AM - 4:00PM | <b>Fly Tying Demonstrations</b>   | Education Building        |
|                 | <b>Commercial Displays</b>  | Education Building        |
|                 | <b>Silent Auction</b>   | Education Building        |
|                 | <b>Casting Coach - by appointment</b>   | Education Building Lobby  |
|                 | <b>Tying Coach - by appointment</b>   | Education Building Lobby  |
| 9:00 - 11:00AM  | <b>“Basics of Fly Plate Construction” – Michael Verduin and Slim Mitchell</b> - Registration required – Limit 5 - Materials Fee                               | Bldg. C-1                 |
| 9:00-10:00AM    | <b>“Reading Trout Streams” - Maggie Merriman</b>  | Seminar Room              |
| 9:00 - 11:00AM  | <b>“Essentials and Beyond” (Casting) - Bill Gammel, Chuck Easterling and Art Mazzier</b> - Registration Required - Fee - Limit 8 - Equipment Require          | Bldg. C-4 / ASU Campus    |
| 10:00 - 12:00AM | <b>Casting Clinic - “Foundations of the Cast/Reach Secret of Fly Fishing” - Jason Borger</b> - Limit 10 - Fee - Equip. required -                             | ASU Campus                |
|                 | <b>Tying Clinic - “Designing with Fur Dubbing” - Gary Borger</b> - Limit 10 - Fee   | Bldg. C-3                 |
| 10:00 - 11:00AM | <b>“Ontario's Algonquin Wilderness Experience” - Duane Hada</b>   | Seminar Room              |
| 10:30-12:00AM   | <b>“Digital Photography” - Mike Clark</b>   | Bldg. C-4                 |
|                 | <b>“Sink-tip Symposium” – Roger Maler</b> – Registration Required - Fee - Limit 15  | Maler Cabin - White River |
| 11:00 - 12:00AM | <b>Certified Casting “Get Ready” Class - Al Crise and Bob Tabbert</b> - Equipment required - Recommend Rod Using for Certification.                           | Bldg. C-1 / ASU Campus    |
| 11:00 - 12:00AM | <b>“Fly Fishing Ponds” - Terry and Roxanne Wilson</b>   | Seminar Room              |
| 1:00 - Finish   | <b>Casting Games - Ozark Fly Fishers</b>  | Casting Pool              |
| 1:00 - 2:30PM   | <b>“Fishin’ What They See, Minnows of the Mississippi Drainage” - Fox Statler</b>   | Seminar Room              |
|                 | <b>“Take Me to Your Leader” - Chuck Easterling and Art Mazzier</b> - Registration Required - Limit 8  | Bldg. C-1                 |
|                 | <b>“Teaching Advanced Casting” - Bill Gammel</b> - Registration Required - Fee - Limit 8 - Equipment Required   | ASU Campus                |
| 1:00 - 3:00PM   | <b>Casting Clinic - Maggie Merriman</b> - Beginning Level - Registration Required - Fee - Limit 10 - Equipment Required                                       | ASU Campus                |
|                 | <b>Casting Clinic - “Matching the Hatch with Cast/Reach” - Gary Borger</b> - Intermediate Level - Registration Required - Fee - Limit 10 - Equipment Required | ASU Campus                |
|                 | <b>Tying Clinic - “Designing with Hair Hackles” - Jason Borger</b> - Limit 10 - Fee   | Bldg. C-3                 |
|                 | <b>“Fly Tying” - Diane Fozdar-Blair, Cheryl Farrell, Sister Carol Ann Corley &amp; Sherry Steele</b> (Fee includes materials)                                 | Bldg. C-4                 |
| 1:00 - 4:00PM   | <b>“Dutch Oven Cooking” - Al &amp; Ouida Wilkie</b> (Fee)   | Barn                      |
| 2:30-4:00PM     | <b>“Fly Fishing Antique Roadshow” - Dennis Galyardt</b>   | Seminar Room              |
| 3:00 - 4:00PM   | <b>“Fishing for Steelhead in Michigan” - Ken Barnes</b>   | Bldg. C-3                 |
| 4:00 PM         | <b>Silent Auction Closes</b>  | Exhibition Building       |
| 4:00-5:00PM     | <b>Outreach Meeting</b>   | Bldg C-4                  |
| 5:00 - 6:30 PM  | <b>Social Hours - hosted by MAKO Fly Fishers</b>  | Pool Area - Ramada Inn    |
| 7:00 - 7:30PM   | <b>Evening Program - “Making of a River Runs Through It” - Jason Borger</b>   | Convention Room - Ramada  |
| 7:30PM - Finish | <b>Live Auction - Part I</b>  | Convention Room - Ramada  |
| 7:30PM - Finish | <b>Social Hour Resumes</b>  | Indoor Pool Area          |

## ACTIVITIES - SATURDAY - OCTOBER 4<sup>th</sup>

| WHEN             | WHAT  | WHERE                      |
|------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 8:00AM - 4:00PM  | <b>Registration</b>   | Education Building Lobby   |
| 8:00 - 10:00 AM  | <b>Tying Clinic - "Designing with Feather Dubbing" - Gary Borger</b> - Limit 10 - Registration Required - Fee                                 | Bldg. C-3                  |
|                  | <b>Casting Clinic with Maggie Merriman</b> - Intermediate or Above - Limit 10 - Registration Required - Fee                                   | ASU Campus                 |
|                  | <b>Casting Clinic - "Tricks and Tips to Develop Great Casting and Mending" - Jason Borger</b> - Limit 10 - Registration Required - Fee        | ASU Campus                 |
| 9:00AM-4:00PM    | <b>Youth Conclave</b>   | Meet in Lobby              |
|                  | <b>Silent Auction</b>   | Education Building         |
|                  | <b>Fly Tying Demonstrations</b>   | Education Building         |
|                  | <b>Commercial Displays</b>  | Education Building         |
| 9:00 - 10:00 AM  | <b>"Atlantic Salmon Flies" - Judy Lehmborg</b>  | Seminar Room               |
|                  | <b>"Backpacking for Trout" - Steve Fritz</b>  | Bldg. C-1                  |
| 9:00 - 10:30AM   | <b>"Hey, it only hurts when I do this" Fly Fishing First Aid" - Dr. Michael Lack</b>  | Bldg. C-4                  |
| 10:00 - 11:00 AM | <b>"Everything You Wanted to Know About Fly Lines" - Mark Shelton</b>   | Bldg. C-1                  |
| 10:00 - 12:00AM  | <b>"Matching the Hatch" - Gary &amp; Jason Borger</b>   | Seminar Room/Casting Pool  |
| 10:30 - 11:30AM  | <b>"New Fly Tying Materials" - Eric &amp; Joe Schmuecker</b>  | Bldg. C-4                  |
| 11:00 - 12:00AM  | <b>"How to Organize Fly Fishing Clinics" - Mike Reuck and Jim Rogers</b>  | Bldg. C-1                  |
| 10:30 - 12:00AM  | <b>"Stream Strategies" - Roger Maler</b> - Registration Required - Fee - Limit 15   | Maler Cabin - White River  |
| 11:30AM-2:300PM  | <b>Outreach Luncheon</b> - hosted by Mid-South Fly Fishers' <b>"Reel Divas"</b>   | Van Matre Senior Ctr.      |
| 1:00-2:00PM      | <b>"Home Waters" - John Berry</b>   | Bldg. C-4                  |
| 1:00 - 2:30PM    | <b>"What Do I Know?" - Davy Wotten</b>  | Seminar Room               |
| 1:00-3:00PM      | <b>Casting Clinic - "The Cast/Reach Secrets of the Nymph Fisher" - Gary Borger</b> - Limit 10 - Registration Required - Fee - Equip. Required | ASU Campus                 |
|                  | <b>Tying Clinic - "Designing with Feather Hackles" - Jason Borger</b> - Fee - Limit 10  | Bldg. C-3                  |
| 2:00 - 3:00 PM   | <b>"Activities Report / Endangered Species" - David Hendrix</b> - Hatchery Manager - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service                           | Bldg. C-4                  |
| 2:30 - 3:30 PM   | <b>"Fly Fishing for Bones" - Jud Parker</b>   | Bldg. C-1                  |
| 3:00 - 4:00PM    | <b>"Conversation with the Borgers" - Gary &amp; Jason Borger</b>  | Seminar Room               |
| 4:00PM           | <b>Silent Auction Closes</b>  | Exhibition Building        |
| 4:30 - 6:00 PM   | <b>Social Hour</b> - hosted by MAKO Fly Fishers   | Ramada Inn - Pool Area     |
| 6:00 - 7:30 PM   | <b>Awards Banquet &amp; Presentation</b>  | Convention Center - Ramada |
| 7:30 - 8:15 PM   | <b>Keynote Program - "Where the Trout Are" - Gary Borger</b>  | Convention Center - Ramada |
| 8:15 - Finish    | <b>Live Auction - Part 2</b>  | Convention Center - Ramada |
| 8:15 - Finish    | <b>Social Hour Resumes</b>  | Ramada Inn - Pool Area     |

## ACTIVITIES - SUNDAY - OCTOBER 7<sup>th</sup>

| WHEN             | WHAT   | WHERE                      |
|------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 8:00AM - 8:30 AM | <b>Federation of Fly Fishers<sup>®</sup>, Southern Council, General Business Meeting</b> - All Members are welcome and encouraged to attend. | Convention Center - Ramada |
| 8:30 AM - Finish | <b>Board of Directors Meeting (All Council Officers &amp; Club Presidents must attend.)</b>  | Meeting Room - Ramada Inn  |

## Conservation Observations

by Bob Tabbert VP C SC

Greetings from northern Wisconsin, summer is half over, the mayfly hatches are winding down, grasshoppers, ants, beetles are becoming prime trout food. The mosquitoes, deer flies and ticks are out in full vicious force, making life miserable.

Spawning Trout: I recently canoed down the Brule River with a friend, tempting trout with mayflies, streamers and nymphs. The better fishing areas are inside the preserved Conservancy stretches, the 'holy trout waters' of the Brule. There are strict DNR regulations: single barbless hook, artificials only, catch and release encouraged, severe size requirements: Rainbow 26", Brown 14". Brook trout 10". Trophy trout are lurking around, reproducing and thriving under these restrictions. The Brule River is closed to trout fishing during the spawning season. Why can't we do this for our tail waters? It would be a positive step for our fisheries if the Southern Council could educate the public on the importance of allowing the trout to spawn, unmolested by giggering or fishing. The location of the 'redds', are well known, they only take up small portion of the rivers. These areas should be closed during the short spawning season. The days of catching/giggering trophy trout over their 'redds' should be over. Perhaps the proposed Arkansas Trout Management plan that Darrell Bowman, AGFC trout biologist has developed will address this problem.

We need to allow our larger trout to reproduce over their 'redds', unhindered by fishermen trying to gig/catch a trophy trout. The future of our tailwater fishery depends on allowing the larger trout to pass their 'big genes' on to the next generation.

Fly Fishing Tournaments: The FFF is in the process of developing a policy statement that will explain FFF's position on fly-fishing tournaments. I am interested in your viewpoint on fly-fishing tournaments. There are over 4000 fly fisherpersons in the Southern Council. We have a cross section of dedicated fly fisherpersons. E mail or write me your opinion, a yes /no or a longer discussion on your position on fly-fishing tournaments. My position as VP Conservation, Southern Council has been in opposition to any participation by the FFF in fly-fishing tournaments. You can e mail me your opinions to [rta@msn.com](mailto:rta@msn.com) or write 211 Ursuline St, Lafayette, LA 70506

FFF Meeting, Idaho Fall: If you are going to the FFF annual meeting in Idaho Falls, in early August, look for me at the Conservation meeting on Wednesday afternoon. If you are flying hand carry your fly rod. My Brule friend flew AA from Minn to Houston, checking a large plastic rod tube containing 3 cased rods. When he got to Houston his 5 wt Sage was missing. Someone had good taste!

Southern Council's Conclave: Make your plans to come to Mtn. Home, AK in early October. This is a great opportunity to renew old fishing acquaintance, learn new fly-fishing techniques and catch trout out of the White or Northfork.

Southern Council's 2004 Conservation grants: I have received no requests for conservation funding, from the 44 clubs in the Southern Council. None from the 7 state fishery agencies, none from the Nature Conservancy. If your club needs monies for your conservation project please consider requesting funding. Conservation Requests forms can be downloaded off the FFF web site. Have the President of your club sign the proposal, send it in to me and I will do my best to obtain Conservation funds. The deadline for 2004 submittals is the week of our October Conclave. Please contact me at the Conclave. I look forward to meeting and discussion conservation issues with you. It would be a good time to discuss the details of your conservation projects and start the wheels rolling to obtain the monies. You can contact me at [rta@msn.com](mailto:rta@msn.com) or 211 Ursuline, Lafayette, LA 70506. Have a great summer. Take care of our fisheries. See you at Idaho Falls or Mtn. Home.

## Fishing Around The Conclave

By Shawn Taylor

The annual Southern Council Conclave is a wonderful opportunity to gather with like minded followers of the flyfishing fellowship. Where else can you share so many stories and swap so many ideas without leaving the “farm”? The Conclave Chair and his team hope that is just what you will want to do, spend time and money at the fairgrounds!

All that conversation will inevitably lead to the urge to act out and create new stories or try that awesome fly you just mooched from one of the flytiers. The following list of fishing spots will help the new Conclave attendee take the edge off before returning to enjoy more elbow rubbing.

**Norfolk River.** There are three primary access points for fishing the Norfolk. The State Park is located directly below the dam and can provide a variety of water types. If you don't mind wading a bit deep, try the flat water just above where Dry Run Creek enters the river. There are times when some nice fish take refuge from the pressure near the opposite shore. As you work downstream there are a couple of gravel bars that give you the chance to fish on either side, depending on the crowds. Eventually, you will reach a long pool that has several trout docks in it. Set your indicator to suspend a sowbug within six inches of the bottom and wait for it to disappear. If that doesn't work, pull the indicator off and try stripping a wooly bugger.

Half way down the river is McClellan's farm. You have to cross the bridge at the town of Norfolk and make a U turn back up the river to the driveway. At McClellan's you will have to pay a trespass fee and then park in the pasture. There is plenty of flat water in the pool where you park but I prefer the water around the islands. This area has plenty of current and dropoffs and fishes more like a natural stream. It is important to note that this is the beginning of the Trophy section and requires a single barbless fly to be used.

The third area is the handicap access on River Road. You passed the sign just prior to crossing the bridge on the way to McClellan's. As you enter the river you will want to head upstream toward the islands in the Trophy section. One of my favorite styles of fishing here is to “spot and stalk” the large solitary trout that hang out in the shallows looking for sowbugs to eat. This is not for the faint of heart and can give you a real lesson in presentation. These are some of the toughest fish to deceive, especially with a high sky. If you are looking to catch a bunch of easy stockers, look somewhere else!

**White River.** The White has many more than three access points but to maintain continuity, let's keep it to that. The Trophy section directly below the dam is loaded with plenty of very large, educated trout. Try stripping a wooly bugger in the power pool or in the flat water below the island. Sowbugs or scuds are good bets in the riffles above the island and on either side of it. This area also fishes well with one generator on, in fact, the big fish tend to move around and feed on the rising water. Be prepared to move quickly if they blow the siren, you don't want to be too far from shore when they turn more water on!

Roundhouse shoals is directly downstream of the town of Cotter and can be reached by following the river road to the obvious pullouts. This area is characterized by the rims of rock on the near side of the island. Fish below each rim and concentrate on the any section that is slightly deeper. The back side of the island is a great spot to try stalking large trout if no one has been wading through it. There is a great dropoff at the bottom of the island where the two channels meet, try a small beadhead nymph here.

Arguably, the most well known spot on the White River is Rim Shoals and it is also the site of another Trophy Area, so be sure to pinch the barbs on your flies. The flat water above the access holds many good fish but covers a huge area. This is where I caught my largest Brown trout. The most obvious water is below the parking lot on the near side of the island, sowbugs, scuds, and small nymphs would be best.

The hardest part of fishing the tailwaters is learning the “water game”. Knowing where you can fish and for how long based on when generation began. It is best to leave this to the experts and you can find them at one of the local fly shops. Blue Ribbon is located in Mountain Home, Two Rivers is at the confluence of the Norfolk and White rivers, and Cane Island is on the River Road downstream of Bull Shoals State Park. All of these folks can guide you on safe wading and provide you with the most effective flies.

This article is just the tip of the ice berg! The Twin Lakes area provides much more than can be written in this issue, besides you’ll want to spend most of your time at the Conclave! See you on the river in October.

## **Draft Trout Management Plan for Comments**

**(This is IMPORTANT)**

*by Judy Boston, MSFF Conservation Director*

Do you want to see the trout fisheries in Arkansas improved? What can one individual do to help? When is the best time for you to do it? Where would you send your input? And why should you? The answers are as follows:

Go ASAP to [www.agfc.com](http://www.agfc.com), click on “Fishing” and then click on “Draft Trout Management Plan.” You’ll notice that there is also a link to send your comments by email. It has been made as easy as possible for you to comment.

Darrell Bowman, Arkansas Trout Biologist, presented this draft Trout Management Plan to the AGFC Commissioners June 26, 2003. A 90-day public comment period (ending September 30) will allow the proposal to be fine-tuned before it is presented to the Commissioners for a final vote this fall. **Darrell needs YOUR input.** I plead with each of you to send Darrell your response. Responses from each of us are vital to achieve the type of trout fisheries in Arkansas that we desire, and for which the potential is so great. Please don’t let me down.

**The draft Trout Management Plan (TMP) is, in my opinion, the most important document for anglers to voice an opinion on since the mid-90’s** when catch and release areas were established. We have had a Trout Program trying to manage the trout fisheries for years, but no real management plan. That is to say that with no clear goals in mind, the current regulations and stocking for trout have been event-driven, sometimes politically charged, and often created conflict among user-groups. Crappie, bass, and other species have a management plan in place. It is time to have a plan for trout.

Many members heard Dave Whitlock at our July club meeting state that of all the rivers of the world he has fished (and that’s a lot, folks), the White River system (while good now) has the potential to be the very best trout fishery – if managed well. The TMP, if adopted, and implemented, could, over time, achieve just that: a trophy trout fishery that surpasses any other in the world.

The goals-driven TMP would put data from angler preferences, biologic information, and habitat information, all scientifically gathered, as the *raison d’etre* for fishing regulations. Meanwhile, the *status quo* would be maintained as far as fishing regulations go, until the data gathered indicates a need for change. Also, the regs will be written more clearly. Most importantly, the current (and sometimes antagonistic or political) method of establishing fishing regulations would be history (a refreshing thought).

In my opinion, the most pressing problems facing Arkansas’ trout fisheries are:

1. Inadequate dissolved oxygen (remember last fall's terrible fishing on the Norfolk? The culprit was not enough DO and the trout were highly stressed.)
2. Siltation from road and structural development (when was the last time you saw an adequate silt screen in Arkansas?)
3. Streambed and riparian habitat degradation (caused by everything from beavers to humans clearing their banks of all bank-holding vegetation)

The TMP addresses all three of these problems, and much more. And the advantage is that the TMP is actually plural. It calls for multiple Plans, one for each trout water. The TMP reflects correctly that each trout water would be managed individually, as each has its own needs and characteristics for which the current one-size-fits-all approach is inappropriate.

The draft TMP states goals with which no one interested in a quality trout fishery could argue. Then, objectives with strategies to achieve each goal are outlined, leaving room for additional strategies as they may occur. Then, if the TMP is adopted, implementation plans will be developed using the strategies intended to attain the objectives of the stated goals, followed by actual implementation, and then monitoring and evaluation would occur. The TMP is a well thought out, forward-thinking, sensible, and ambitious plan that can only mean good things for the Arkansas trout fisheries, if adopted.

We do not know what implementations may be required until the stakeholder data and scientific data called for in the proposed TMP are gathered. Another asset of the TMP is that it nowhere states that there should be a C&R area, a slot-limit area, or a put & take area in any specific place. The real beauty is that it is a PLAN. Darrell writes, "The overall goal is to produce a plan that addresses the wise management of trout resources while taking into consideration all stakeholders in partnership."

Darrell also explains that the TMP "is built on the premise of stakeholder participation and feedback. Input from stakeholders MUST (emphasis, mine) be considered as part of the information needed to develop specific management plans in the Implementation Plan phase for any given trout water."

If the Trout Management Plan is adopted, my job as MSFF Conservation Director will be to educate others about how to ask for what we want in our Arkansas trout fisheries. Rather than ask for more Catch and Release areas or slot-limit areas, we need to express our goal – what do we want the outcome to be? Trophy trout? Wild trout? Then let the biologists and the Commissioners do their jobs.

**I urge everyone interested in the trout fisheries in Arkansas to read the draft TMP for themselves.** A bonus for your effort is learning the history of the current program, including stocking data, and an explanation of various management techniques used in Arkansas: Put-and Take, Put-and Grow, and Wild Trout (self-sustaining). **I also urge each one of you to send in your support of a Trout Management Plan and any comments on the draft.** (My comments will include minor copy-editing and wording-for-clarity suggestions and to request that angler information be gathered more frequently than the stated five years – which Darrell may have already accounted for using ongoing on-water angler surveys.)

**Please, please, please send an email supporting the Trout Management Plan to Darrell Bowman (dwbowman@agfc.state.ar.us and put "Trout Management Plan" in the subject line) or send a note to him at 201 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Mountain Home, AR 72653. If you so desire, you may send a copy to the AGFC Commissioners at #2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.**

I thank you and you may someday thank yourselves for the future trout fisheries if the Trout Management Plan gets approved.