



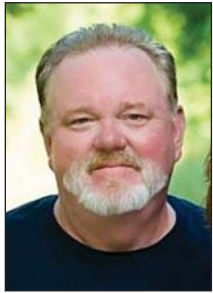
long casts

Federation of Fly Fishers — Southern Council

Volume 28 Number 4

2009 -2010 Winter Issue

CONCLAVE 2010



by Terry Beeson
2010 Conclave Chair

I am PUMPED about the 2010 Conclave! I am simply unable to be otherwise. I hope that all of you will be pumped as well as we begin to unveil what is

going to take place at this year's gathering. As I told Michael Ames, my unofficial title for this conclave is **"This ain't yo' daddy's Conclave."**

This conclave will begin to transform the event into something more appealing to the younger angler while maintaining a lot of the look and feel of conclaves past. One of the more exciting parts of this is the collaboration of the good folks at Fly Max Films. Many of you got an introduction to **April Vokey** who was in the Mountain River Fly Shop booth this year. Well, April has been kind enough to agree to be one of the headliners for Conclave '10. April is a young, attractive fly angler from Canada who has the Web site flygal.com and is featured



on the television show *Fly Nation* which airs on the World Fishing Network in the US and Canada. April has been a frequent visitor to the White River of late and is well known for here dedication and determination to all things fly fishing.

Along with April, I am hoping to have **Nick Pujic** of the Canadian Fly Fishing magazine and Fly Max Films, which produces Fly Nation and other great fishing videos. Nick will bring a new dimension to the conclave as well with some very cool fly fishing videos that you will be very sorry you missed if

you are not there. Nick fishes for just about anything that swims and has the video to prove it.

Other things are in the works for this next conclave. There are some new classes, new events, and new people that will be a part the weekend. I am not going to spring it all on you right now, but just be aware that this conclave will be the **MUST ATTEND** event in the fly fishing world next year!

CONCLAVE 2010 – DON'T MISS IT!

CALL FOR PAPERS!!!

If you have ever wanted to present at the Conclave, now is your chance! We are looking for some new and exciting presentations and classes to offer at the 2010 Southern Council Conclave. We not only want to educate the seasoned fly fisherman, but offer educational avenues for beginners and non-fly fishing attendees as well.

- Unique fishing techniques
- Fly tying
- Casting
- Entomology or other aquatic studies
- Target species and fishing destinations
- Special interest related to fly fishing: Photography, Art, Cooking, Woodwork, and Other

All ideas will be considered, so use your imagination!

If you have a special presentation you would like to share with fellow anglers, please submit the following information:

- Your name
- Your location
- Your FFF club
- Contact information – Phone, email, address.
- Name of the presentation
- Brief description
- Brief outline
- Length of presentation
- Equipment needed
- Supplies needed – supplied by us or by the attendee (specify)
- Class limitations
- Costs associated with any supplies

If your class/presentation is not included in the 2010 Conclave, it will be saved for consideration for future conclaves.

Please send the above information to tbeeson@hotmail.com by 3/1/2010.



President's Notes

by Michael Ames,
President
Southern Council FFF



I wanted to share some of the feedback received from 2009 Casting for Recovery participants:



Jennifer Balsarotti wrote:

Dear Mr. Ames,

My name is Jennifer Balsarotti. I attended the Casting For Recovery retreat at Wind Rush Farms Mo. a few weeks ago. I wanted to Thank You so very much for your donation to our retreat. I had a great time learning to fly fish. I was probably the worst caster of the bunch but I was determined to get the technique down and catch some fish. I really enjoyed learning how to tie flies. I actually caught my first trout on the fly I tied!! I ended up catching two rainbow trout with the help of my guide, numerous leaves and a few branches along the way. It was a beautiful day to be outdoors and enjoying a new experience.

We had a wonderful retreat! I have to say this was the best retreat I have ever been to. The care and support by all the volunteers, contributors and staff members was overwhelming.

Thank you again for your donation. It was greatly appreciated by all.

Take care,
JB

Martha Schulz wrote:

Dear Michael,

I was one of the lucky participants of the retreat at Wind Rush Farms in October. I want to thank your support of CFR. My husband is an avid fly fisherman, and has been trying to get me to fish for years. After going to the retreat I think I am ready to finally get in the stream and try my luck at fly fishing. Thank you for your donations to CFR which make this retreat possible for Breast Cancer survivors like myself.

Sincerely,
MS.

Mary Griser wrote:

Dear Michael Ames,

Please extend my thank you to your wonderful organization and all they do to help make this weekend possible. Their incredible generosity is greatly appreciated. Wow, what a great experience! I first heard about Casting for Recovery, by women who had previously attended. They highly recommended that I put my name in the hat and see if I could be lucky enough to be picked, to join a wonderful group of women for fishing. What an understatement! Yet, as I spoke to other survivors over the last week or so, I found that I wasn't able to describe the experience any better. There are so many incredible aspects to the weekend that it is truly difficult to tell someone else just how awesome it really is. I told one of my survivor friends that, for me, it's one of those experiences that will be a part of my memories for the rest of my life. So to you, who made that possible, a simple thank you seems so inadequate! I know I have been blessed and you were an important part of that blessing, so thank you and my prayer back, is that God rewards you tenfold!

I have been showing everyone the picture of the fish I caught. Yes, mainly because no one believes that, not only did I catch a fish, but that I am looking into buying a rod/reel and taking a casting class. I found several Web sites including Ozark Fly Fishers and have been doing a bit of research. Already I have one cousin who insists that I go with her to catch Bass and another friend who is talking about a trip to Rend Lake? Wow what fun!

Again, thank you so much for making this weekend, an incredible part of my journey.

Best regards,
MG

About Long Casts

Long Casts is published four times per year by the Southern Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers.

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To view PDF versions of the *Long Casts*, go to the Southern Council's Web page, <http://www.southernCouncilfff.org> and to reach the National FFF Web page, <http://www.fedflyfishers.org>. Acrobat Reader is required to view PDFs.

Distribution

Paper copies of all 4 quarterly *Long Casts* issues are mailed only to those who are members of the Southern Council. The *Long Casts* issue that is published prior to the Conclave each year will be mailed to all members of local clubs who are affiliated with the Southern Council, in addition to the members of the Southern Council.

Copy Submission Deadlines

Copy, graphics and photographs to be included in an issue are due by the following deadlines:

SPRING ISSUE is February 15th,
CONCLAVE ISSUE is May 15th,
FALL ISSUE is August 15th, and
WINTER ISSUE is November 15th.

Public posting for downloading will be on Web site by:

SPRING ISSUE is March 1st,
CONCLAVE ISSUE is June 1st,
FALL ISSUE is September 1st, and
WINTER ISSUE is December 1st.

Advertising

Advertising in the *Long Casts* is available only to members of the Federation. We accept only camera-ready material, paper or digital. Camera-ready ad, your choice of ad size and number of issue runs, and a check for the correct amount of ad(s) are required before any ad will be printed. For commercial advertising, see the Southern Council Web site for ad rates. Send these items by the deadline to the Southern Council's Managing Director.

Reel Recovery Retreat

by Ken Richards,
Just Fishin' Guides



After a successful first Reel Recovery retreat in Arkansas, we are getting ready to have our second and possibly third retreat in 2010. The fundraiser in 2009 was a couple of floats down the Buffalo and King's Rivers. We did these floats as a float-a-thon with people pledging per mile or just a lump sum. This year we have upped the ante from rowing about 200 miles to a row of just over 400 miles. The first part will be an **"Arkansas across Arkansas"**, floating the Arkansas River from the state line at Fort Smith to the Mississippi River. The second part will be a journey from Tulsa, OK down to Fort Smith. I just haven't decided whether to start at the Port of Catoosa or in the city of Tulsa at Riverside Park.

I will be rowing my Hyde drift boat down the river beginning on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at noon. I have planned 3 weeks for the trip averaging 20 miles per day. The distances will not be a problem where the river is flowing, but may be tough in the pools at Ozark and Dardanelle. I just hope we don't have any storms coming out of the east or southeast when I am on the lakes.

I plan on taking all of my supplies with me in the boat and hopefully not having to re-supply along the way. Maybe I won't have raccoon problems like on the Buffalo! At least I know how to avoid that now. The things I will need on the float are internet connections and a way to keep the computer, GPS and cell phone charged. I am hoping to get a solar panel donated for the cause to cover that. I am planning to stop at all of the cities along the way to meet friends and supporters, get a little media coverage and some donations for Reel Recovery. I had planned on stopping in at least Van Buren, Ozark, Russellville, Conway, Little Rock, and Pine Bluff.

I will be updating my blog, www.justfishin-guides.wordpress.com, as we get closer to

the start date of March 27th. Keep watching for news and updates.

You can contact me at 479-531-5741 or justfishinguides1@cox.net.

You can also go to www.reelrecovery.org to donate, volunteer, participate or just find out about Reel Recovery.

Ken Richards
Just Fishin' Guides
www.justfishinguides.com
479-531-5741

www.justfishinguides.wordpress.com
"Life's too short not to row a boat!"



FISHING THE SHAD KILL

by John Berry

The highlight of the winter fishing season is the shad kill. This is a natural phenomenon that generally occurs every winter. As the surface temperatures on the lakes in the White River System drop, threadfin shad move down through the various lake layers or thermo clines in an effort to find more comfortable water temperatures. When the water surface temperatures reach forty two degrees or lower, the shad end up near the bottom of the lakes. Once they are there, they are vulnerable to being drawn through the turbines, when there is generation. The heavier the generation the greater the flow of water on the bottom of the lake and the greater likely hood of shad being drawn through the turbines. There needs to be a nexus of prolonged low temperatures and high levels of generation. This is not to say that the shad kill cannot happen at other times. I have seen a shad kill occur in August. Our most frequent and most prolific shad kills occur in deep winter.

What makes the shad kill such a spectacular fishing event? Well it is mid winter and bitterly cold. In addition there is a lot of generation. These conditions tend to turn off a lot of anglers. What makes this a big deal is that it takes place below Bull Shoals Dam where the big browns have been spawning. Brown

trout do not eat during the spawn. So you have large hungry fish that are ready to feed aggressively. Couple that with the fact that most of these fish are located in the Catch and Release section below Bull Shoals Dam which has been closed for three months. These fish haven't seen a fly during that time. Then we get cold temperatures and high levels of generation which creates the shad kill and all of a sudden huge amounts of food are blown through the generators creating a feeding frenzy.

The shad kill is at best difficult, if not impossible, to predict. To identify it, we have to constantly observe the outflow from the dams. The trick is to look for gull activity. If they are not present the shad are not coming through. If they are sitting around the outflows from the power house, it means that the shad have come through recently but are not coming through at that time. However if you observe the gulls actively feeding in the outflow area, then the shad are coming through.

The only way you can fish this is from a boat, because the action is going to be centered in the main channel and you just cannot wade out there. The technique is to motor up to the dam and fish as you drift downstream. The shad kill draws quite a bit of interest and this section of the river can get a little congested. It is therefore imperative that boating etiquette be practiced. The proper way to set up a drift is to motor your way up stream and start drifting up stream of any boats already drifting. Pulling your boating below a drifting boat is referred to as low boating and is considered to be extreme bad etiquette. Remember that the boat below you has the right of way and of course any boat that is actively fighting a good fish has the right of way. As you are moving back upstream, after a drift, be careful as you pass other boats and do not push a wake over them.

In the past, I have observed some anglers who were eager to join in on the action and showed up in their bass boats. The problem here is that these boaters tended to put the hammer down when they motored back upstream. I mean, why have a two hundred and fifty horsepower motor, if you are not going to run it less than sixty miles an hour. The resulting wake definitely angered more than one angler fishing from a White River jon boat. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission enforcement officers are usually there to hand out citations for any unsafe boating

situations or for straying into the restricted area near the dam.

Fly selection is fairly easy, anything big and white. You will get the most action dead drifting flies on the bottom. I have had the most luck with white marabou jigs tied on 1/32 ounce jig heads. I now tie white woolly buggers with pearlescent flash on the same jig heads. I generally add a bit of red flash to simulate an injury. You will also need some sort floating fly because some of the shad will be on the top. You do not want to pass up a chance of taking a big brown on a floating fly. I tie a simple unweighted white woolly bopper with a strip of white foam on the back. It is easy to tie and quite effective.

Sometimes the shad flow through in large numbers for a fairly long period of time and sometimes they trickle through a few at a time. The trickling through a few at a time is more desirable. When large numbers of shad come through, the trout gorge on them until they are completely full and cannot consume any more. When this happens, you just move down stream and target fish that are not yet gorged. I have seen the shad kill extend all the way down to Rim Shoals (twenty four miles downstream from the dam).

While the action is usually the best below Bull Shoals Dam, we can also get good action on the Norfolk. The best way to catch this phenomenon is to fish regularly and be aware of your surroundings. Do not be afraid to try a shad pattern. You might be surprised.

ASK JOHN

Warren M. asks: What is the website or phone number that you use to get the flow rates and the projected generation with flow rates?

Warren here is a column that I wrote on the subject. I hope this helps.

DETERMINING WATER CONDITIONS

by John Berry

I guide or fish on my own almost every day. Before I go out, I check water conditions. To accomplish this I have a morning ritual. I get up early and go into my sunroom/office in the back of my house. I turn on the weather channel and boot up my computer. I go to the kitchen and grind fresh Colombian coffee beans and make a large pot of coffee in a French press. Once I have my cup of java, I return to the sun room and settle down at the computer to check on water conditions. The first website I visit is South West Power Administration's generation prediction web-

site, <http://www.swpa.gov/generationschedules.aspx>. This tells what the generation will be for a given day. I choose the day of the week I want to study. The information for the next day is posted every afternoon around 5:00 PM. On Friday, the prediction for Saturday, Sunday and the next Monday is posted. There are nineteen tail waters posted but I key in on Bull Shoals and Norfolk. The prediction is in columnar form and is listed as megawatts generated by hour. On the White, it takes about forty eight megawatts to equal one full generator and on the Norfolk it is about forty six megawatts. If the prediction per hour is ninety megawatts, that would be about two full generators. I find this site to be accurate about six days out of seven.

Next I go to the Corps of Engineers current flow website, <http://www.swl-wc.usace.army.mil/reservoirs-o.htm>. There are twelve tail waters listed. Once again, I key in on the White River below Bull Shoals and the Norfolk. The information is listed in columnar form. The first thing I check is the turbine release given in cubic feet per second (cfs) by hour. One full generator on the White is 3,300 cfs and 3,600 cfs on the Norfolk. When we hear that they are running one or more generators we don't know how much is actually coming through as the can run the generators at full capacity or something much less. I also study this information after I return from fishing to see what flow rates I actually encountered. Over time, I have developed a feel for the actual flows.

I also key in on the elevation. This is the height of the lake in feet above mean sea level. For the White, the top of power pool is 654 feet and 552 for the Norfolk. I use this to closely monitor changes in lake level by day or hour. There is a column titled tail water. This is the height of the river below the dam in feet above mean sea level. I do not use this information.

Finally there is a column titled generation which is given in megawatts generated per hour. This is the place to compare actual generation to the prediction.

This site is very reliable. It is computer generated and constantly updated. There is a two hour delay between actual and posted information.

The next sites I visit are <http://www.swl-wc.usace.army.mil/WCDS/plots/WEB/bul.htm> for the White river and <http://www.swl-wc.usace.army.mil/WCDS/plots/WEB/nor.htm> for the Norfolk. These provide a wealth of information in graphic format for the past seven days. The first graph is precipitation.

This lets me know how much rain we received and gives me a quick reference for the effect on lake levels.

The next graph is of lake elevation in feet above mean sea level. By referring to this graph I can quickly determine how much and how fast the lake levels are rising or falling. Below this is tailwater which gives the river level in feet above mean sea level. Once again I do not use this information.

The next two graphs are generation expressed in megawatts per hour and flow in cubic feet per second. These graphs look almost identical. From them I can quickly identify patterns in flow rates. Are they turning it off every night and turning it back on at noon? Once again this site is computer generated and very reliable and there is about a two hour lag between actual and reported data.

The next step is to call the Bull Shoals Powerhouse, (870) 431-5311 which controls generation on The White and Norfolk Rivers. They will tell you the lake levels, how many generators are on and when they started. They will also tell you when previous generation ceased. The problem is that the number of generators on does not really tell you how much water is coming through the turbines. The amount of generation can vary widely during the day and the report will be the same. While this information can be timely, there is a reliability problem. I have had many personal instances where I called the powerhouse and the recording had not been updated. As a result I have come to rely more on the websites listed above.

All of these sources still do not tell you everything you need to know. You also need direct observation. I will often go the four blocks from my house in Cotter to look at the White River to determine water conditions. There are things that affect the rivers that are not that monitored. The river level could rise significantly due to runoff from rainfall. That same runoff could severely stain the river. Ecological disasters like the debacle at Norfolk Overlook Estates could affect water clarity. Frequently after a period of low water, trash can be washed down stream with rising water. Looking at the water can tell you a lot.

Take all of these tools and you can enhance your understanding of water conditions. This can help you predict the best place and time to go fishing.

John Berry
(870) 435-2169
berrbrothers@infodash.com
www.berrbrothersguides.com

2009 Inductees — Legends of the Southern Council



Al Crise

The Fort Worth Fly Fishers has proudly nominated Al Crise for the FFF Southern Council's Legends Award for his countless contributions to the education of countless men, women, teens and children to the art and sport of fly fishing.

If there was ever a legendary fly fishing educator, it is Al Crise. It is said that those who teach have a passion and a calling to help and educate others. Al shares this same calling with regards to educating people about fly fishing. He was recognized for his educational talents by the National FFF when he received the Don Harger Lifetime Achievement award; and by the FFF Southern Council with the distinguished Man of the Year award.

He achieved the status of Certified Casting Instructor (CCI) and then became Master CCI...and a very active Master CCI at that! Over the years, he has counseled, trained and prepared many on the journey to become Certified Casting Instructors. Al has donated countless hours to teach casting, rod building, fly tying to not only our club, but for clubs around Texas, the FFF Southern Council, Texas Women's Fly Fishers and National FFF. Whenever there is a need to demonstrate or teach fly casting, Al hops in the truck and drives all over the state (and out-of-state) to help!

While Al loves teaching fly fishing to any one at any age, he has a special soft spot in his heart for teens and kids. Every year, Al has either led or been a key player in SOC Youth

Conclave and National FFF's Youth Conclave. He is a perennial volunteer at the Texas Parks and Wildlife's Fly Fish Texas event in Athens, where he teaches kids to cast. He has also helped hundreds of Boy Scouts earn their fly fishing merit badges. And, he volunteers at Camp Sanguinity, a special camp for children battling cancer where he, along with other members of the Fort Worth Fly Fishers, help the kids catch their first fish on a fly rod on a fly they have learned to tie.

We cannot think of anyone that is more deserving of this Legends award.

*Respectfully submitted,
Fort Worth Fly Fishers, Inc.*



Johnny Chamness

The SOC has many friends, donors and patrons but few that have given as much or as consistently as Johnny Chamness. For 26 years Johnny has artfully separated fly fishers from their money and made it possible for us to support conservation, education and enabled us to provide a wider variety of programs and activities for our members.

Everyone has a favorite Johnny story; few of us can forget the only time he was rendered speechless - thanks to Sister Carol Ann. He has charmed the ladies of Outreach and encouraged a level of competitive bidding that would do Southeby's proud. He has told bad jokes, he's overpaid for cheesecake (that he never tasted), and cajoled his audience into take up collections to make it possible for children to bid hundreds of dollar (that neither they or their parents had) for rods,

vests, and paraphernalia that would help launch them into our sport.

For those of us that have volunteered over the years one of the things you regularly hear is the question "...is Johnny here?" He is more than a member, he is more than a volunteer, he is more than an auctioneer...he is an institution at the SOC.

We thank him for his dedication for his enthusiasm and the laughter and love that he has brought to our sport, to our Council and to each life he has touch.

It is for all these reasons that I nominate Johnny Chamness to be inducted as Legend of the SOC.

*Sheryl Knight
Past President, SOC.*

Prior Inductees as Legends of the Southern Council

Joe Butler
Doug Christian
Jerry Clark
Tom Nixon
Don Oblander
Michael Verduin
Jack Wadlin

Guidelines

Legends of the Southern Council's nominations should be submitted directly to the appointed Legends' Committee. Nominations must be accompanied by set fee of \$100 to cover expenses of adding name to Legends' banner. Any funds which are over and above this cost shall go to the Legends' Scholarship Fund.

The nominee must be or have been a 8-year FFF member (minimum); living or deceased; and contributed a substantial amount of extraordinary achievements, new frontiers.

Approval must be granted by the Legends Committee first, then approval voted by a majority of the Executive Committee.

To nominate a qualifying Southern Council member for Legends of the Southern Council, contact Howard Malpass, Dennis Slane or Pat Smith. Members of this appointed committee may change without prior notice. Remember to provide them with the required fee for adding a name to the Legends of the Southern Council banner.

Conservation Concerns

By Paul Goodwin, SOCVP of Conservation

SOC Endorses LMFR Foundation Funding Request

FFF Southern Council has endorsed FFF national conservation funding of a request from the Lower Mountain Fork River Foundation. LMFR Foundation submitted a plan to restore functioning to the low-flow discharge pipes in the re-regulation dam eight miles below Broken Bow Reservoir in Beaver's Bend State Park. Beaver's Bend State Park is located in extreme south eastern Oklahoma. The re-regulation dam was built to mitigate damage from high river flows caused by power generation. The low-flow pipes are supposed to allow a gradual release of water behind the re-regulation dam, but these pipes have become clogged by debris. As a result, higher temperature water is retained behind the dam and flows over the dam spillway. This limits trout-friendly habitat below the dam. The project will utilize funding from a variety of sources, including matching funds from the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Fund and the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Once completed, the project hopes to create viable year-round trout habitat, stabilize river flow and decrease average water temperature below the re-regulation dam. This in turn, should help to relieve ever-increasing fishing pressure on the upstream areas of the Lower Mountain Fork River. FFF SOC will also consider funding this project at the January 2010 SOC board meeting (*rescheduled due to winter weather*).

Return to Crane Creek

SOC provided conservation funds to Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers in 2008 to remediate erosion by planting 36 three-gallon trees along Crane Creek. Since that time, there have been three major floods whose waters rose above the trees, their support posts and protective fencing. The most recent flood scoured soil from around the root balls and severely bent many of the sapling trees. SMFF members added six-foot T posts to support the trees, replaced scoured out soil and re-mulched. This serves as a good example of the kind of on-going monitoring that is often necessary in order to ensure a positive return on the initial investment of labor and funding for a particular conservation project.



Talk about high water! This shed was carried 300 yards from Crane City Park and then deposited on a debris pile along with two picnic tables.



This tree demonstrates the damaging power of flood waters on Crane Creek. SMFF planted it here to help reduce erosion of the creek bank seen behind it.

Issues of national concern

FFF is monitoring two important pieces of federal conservation legislation. HR 2565 is called the National Fish Habitat Conservation Act. The National Fish Habitat Conservation Act was introduced to conserve the United States fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve the quality of life for the people of the United States, and for other purposes. The 2009 House version, mirrors the 2008 version of the bill that was introduced by Congressman Kind and co-sponsored by now-retired Congressman Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD-1st). Find out more at this link <http://fishhabitat.org/>.

HR 2055 is called the Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act. The North American Salmon Stronghold Partnership complements salmon recovery activities by supporting proactive, collaborative conservation projects, and focusing resources on a network of our most abundant, productive and diverse salmon river ecosystems--America's wild salmon strongholds. Find out more at this link http://www.wildsalmoncenter.org/programs/north_america/strongholds.php.

Casting Questions

by Gordy Hill (from an e-mail message)
masterstudygroup@comcast.net

Michael & Group....

After seeing your responses to the question of what you would like to see on the casting portion of the FFF Website I suddenly realized that I was asking it of you who are all instructors. Your responses were appropriate, but I think I asked the wrong question.

Since Denise & her Website Committee needs a wish list for FFF members who are not instructors, I should have asked it this way :

What would you like to see on the fly casting section of the Website for your students and all members of the FFF ?

Gordy

~~~~~  
From Ralph Tomaccio :

I would love to see high quality instructional videos of how to perform all the casts required for both CCI and MCI certification.  
Ralph Tomaccio

~~~~~  
Ralph...

Several of you requested the same thing. My own take is that since these video's are specific to the Casting Instructor Program, that they would belong in that section of the Website. Material for instructors and especially MCCI candidates.

Non test related casting videos, however, would be valuable on the casting site .. These would be more appropriate for FFF members in general.

Gordy

~~~~~  
From Dan Storaska :

Gordy,

You probably already know about this, but MCI Frank LoPresti, CI Matt Evans, and CI Matthew Handy have done a wonderful job on this site: <http://virtuallyflycasting.com/>

The videos for the MCI exam are ere:

<http://virtuallyflycasting.com/masterexam.htm>

The CI videos are here:

<http://virtuallyflycasting.com/certexam.htm>

There is also a wealth of information about terms and definitions. I found this site extremely helpful when preparing for my CCI performance test.

Dan

Dan....

They are good .... as far as they go.  
 Problem is, that they don't emphasize the EXPECTATIONS of performance nor cite the specific reasons for failure of each task.  
 An even bigger problem is that they do not show tasks which are being added or modified for the latest exams. One example being the tailing loop demonstration on the Master exam. They show the previously required tail on the back cast. Now the requirement has changed completely to include tailing loops made on the forward cast using three distinctly different methods.

The new videos which will be made by the MCCI Committee are expected to show much more.

Best,  
 Gordy

~~~~~  
 From Guy Manning :

QUESTION: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AS PART OF THE CASTING PORTION OF THE WEB SITE. IF YOU HAD A WISH LIST,WHAT WOULD BE ON IT ?

But you already know this... An examiners testing handbook. How to test, what to look for, what is and isn't acceptable. It would be a living document subject to change.]

Guy Manning

~~~~~  
 Guy .... Agree 100%!

I think this, however, should be placed on the website as information targeted to examiners among Masters and CBOG's.

Gordy

~~~~~  
 From Lewis Hinks :

Hi Gordy,

What would be the purpose of the casting section of the FFF website? Is it geared towards instructors only or is it for everyone ?

That will have a bearing on what people might want.

I like the idea of a demonstration of the casts required on the instructor certification exams, but I am also interested in video on casting faults and corrections, looking at slow motion of force application, demos of specialty casts, practical applications of some of the casts (ie real fishing situations), saltwater speed casts, demos of the many different spey casts, my list goes on and on...

Lewis

Lewis....

That is the point, as I see it. I'm quite sure that Denise needs input on casting material for FFF members in general; not specifically for instructors and examiners.

Gordy

~~~~~  
 From Jerry Puckett -

A list of temporary definitions until officially approved by the B.O.G.

Jerry

~~~~~  
 Jerry....

Some on the Board prefer not to do that since it might meet with controversy and/or confusion once the "official" ones are finally approved. This especially in view of the fact that we have been communicating with others around the World as we try to get some refined commonality of opinion before "going back to the drawing board".

I did float my own "working definitions" at the CE Course in Marlborough, but they are no in any way official and so may not belong on the Website as they are subject to change.

Gordy

~~~~~  
 From Rene Hesse :

Hello Gordy,

I'm working on a series of video's that are short (3min), good quality and cast specific. We still have a long way to go but

I feel there are a lot of people getting in to casting that want to know what a roll cast, wind cast, distance cast or even basic overhead cast are all about. Most people don't want to watch a full length video (or buy one for that matter). Three and a half

Min. is the average a person will sit and watch a video on the web I've been told.

So guess what my vote for the web site would be....short, to the point video of specific casts that I can recomend

to a student as a reference before we get together, a refresher for the student after a class or a recommendation to someone that is wanting a reason 'why' they should join the FFF.

Ps we have had cold and rain up here in Atlanta, however I found a puddle out in a field that was about 100'x100' and a great time just roll, spey, switch, curve and target casting. Who needs fish!

Rene

Rene....

Great project ! These might well be broken down into multiple short videos or perhaps edited so the user can pick what he/she wish to view.

Gordy

~~~~~  
 From Damon Newpher :

Good Morning Gordy,

I hope all is well in Florida. I'm just adding my two cents for the web-site. I would also like to see video of the different casts as well as some of the explanations too. A lot of great things happening at Somerset this weekend. Thank you.

Damon

~~~~~  
 Damon... You are reflecting the opinions of many. G.

~~~~~  
 From Jim Bass :

Gordy I would like to see a way for people interested in learning could find a local club who would offer help on how to cast.

We have the list of MCCI's and CCI's but I am not sure that is not hard to find, a new comer to the sport has no idea what a MCCI or CCI is. Thus no reason to look under those two titles.

I would like to see what progress is being with the two programs MCCI and CCI. What about other subjects like continuing education? You keep us informed but not all people have the opportunity to be on your study group.

Just a couple of thoughts. Your Friend Jim

Jim Bass

~~~~~  
 Jim....

Denise and her Website Committee members welcome suggestions such as yours as they strive to make Website navigation more friendly for the average FFF member.

You are right that info. on continued education should be available on the website. Our CE program, however, is designed to keep instructors informed and up to date.

Gordy

# Fly Tying 101

by Dennis 'Bear' Reed

Lots of time I am asked what fly do you teach someone to tie first in a beginning class. My first thought always comes to a San Juan worm (aka Sister Carol Anne's style). I try to think of two things on selecting a fly for a beginner to tie:

## 1. Is it easy to tie? and 2. Will it catch fish?

If a fly doesn't do both of these, then I don't start off with it. I feel that a San Juan worm says "YES" to both of these questions. A beginning fly tyer wants something that is going to be easy to tie, and of course they want something that they can go out and catch fish with it.

### Ingredients:

Favorite hook (I like a scud hook in a size 12)

Thread of your choice of denier and in a color to match the ultra chenille (I like Wapsi G.S.P. in a 50 denier)

Standard Ultra chenille or vernille in your choice of color (I like bright colors, but earth tones are very good especially after a rain.

### Tying Instructions:



1. Debarb the hook and lay a thread base over the entire hook.



2. Tie in a piece of ultra chenille that is approximately 3 inches long right above where

the barb of the hook should be. (I try to divide the chenille into thirds: tail, body, and head). Make several wraps of thread around the ultra chenille until it is secure. Make each wrap over the previous wrap.



3. Advance the thread to the eye of the hook. Pull the ultra chenille over the top of the hook and tie off at the eye. Whip finish the thread. Now many people will singe the tail and head to get a nice tapered look to the fly. Be careful when doing this. A little heat goes a long way. You don't want to burn your fly up. Also, if a youngster is tying the fly the tapering of the head and tail is best left to an adult to do for them.



There are many variations to the San Juan worm. Sister Carol Anne Corley likes to tie a loop in her worm (below), while my friend Fox "Mr. Sow Bug" Statler doesn't tie a front section over the eye of the hook on his Oligochate Worm. That is the fun of fly tying – letting your creative juices flow.

## Big Horn River Youth Adventure

Dear FFF Council President,

First of all let me thank you for your involvement with and service to the FFF. Our organization needs people like you.

Thank you.

I only offer this little bit of personal information in order to establish a little credibility with you. I first joined FFF in 1972 and have appreciated that membership throughout the years. I have been a member of two clubs

that received the McKenzie Cup and was flattered to receive the Buz Buszek Memorial Fly Tying Award more years ago than I care to admit.

I'm communicating with you to ask for a small amount of help with a project I am involved with. As a full time professional fly fishing guide and FFF member for many years I've recognized the fact that we do not have enough young people involved in our activity. To help in a small way to solve that problem and bring more youngsters to serious fly fishing I have, along with our local fly fishing organization the Big Horn River Alliance, established an educational and adventure activity that we call the "Big Horn River Youth Adventure. Our first Youth Adventure was in June 2009 and we are doing it again in June of this year.

HERE IS WHERE YOU COME IN. I ask only for your help in finding young people to take part in this FREE, once-in-a-lifetime activity. I would ask that you review our web site: [www.bighornriveralliance.org](http://www.bighornriveralliance.org) and if you like the idea I would appreciate it if you would give a heads-up to the clubs and youth group leaders in your council who might have some young people who would like to apply.

On the web site click on the NEWS tab and the PHOTOS tab and you will see articles about the 2009 program with comments from the kids and their parents and photos of the kids in action.

The 2009 Adventure far exceeded our expectations. The kids got it....They went home with a newfound appreciation of fly fishing and they now know they need to spread the word. They learned a lot about fly fishing, fly tying and how important to the future of fly fishing involvement with organizations like ours really is.

In a nutshell the Youth Adventure is four days of guided fly fishing with full time professional fly fishing guides on one of America's finest trout streams. fly tying sessions every day with professional tiers, and evening activities that include casting games and instruction, fly tying games and contests, a 'you-row-it carp fishing tourney on Big Horn Lake' and others. We accommodate twelve youngsters. Boys and girls both are encouraged to apply.

ALL OF THIS IS FREE TO THE KIDS !! In 2009 the Fort Smith, Montana angling community donated over \$17,000.00 worth of lodging, meals, guiding, transportation, and other goods and services as well. The only

You are invited to attend the



## Thirteenth Annual Celebration Banquet March 6, 2010 at 6:00 PM

Arkansas Tech University  
Chambers Cafeteria  
Russellville, Arkansas

**Membership Drawing**  
**Silent Auction**  
**Door Prizes**

**Numerous Raffle Items**

Items from: Ross, Albright, Cortland, Orvis, Creek Company  
Rods, Reels, Fly Tying equipment, Fly-fishing accessories, Club-fly boxes,  
One Club made **Sassafras Wood** Fly Tying Box, Books and Gift Certificates

**For Tickets Call:**

479-964-2385 Jerry McKaughan or  
479-970-6427 Bryan Ayers  
Adults \$ 20.00 — Children (12 and under) \$ 10.00

## Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers Expo — Missouri's Largest Fly Fishing Show

by Terry Wilson

The Tri-Lakes Fly Fishers of Bolivar, Missouri will host their 10th annual Fly Fishing Expo on Saturday, April 17th at the Highway Assembly of God Church in Brighton, Missouri from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is free to the public and all demonstrations and programs are free as well.

Over 30 of the most creative and outstanding fly tiers from seven states will exhibit their skills throughout the day. The expo also offers programs on basic fly casting and with instructors providing free instruction,

Commercial exhibitors will display and sell their wares while the church's youth group will serve meals, snacks, and desserts throughout the day.

The club will offer door prizes, bucket raffles, silent auctions, and a live auction. The Expo is the Tri-Lakes club's only fundraiser, with the proceeds used to support their public service projects that include Bolivar High School's Outdoor Education Class, Casting for Recovery, Project Healing Waters, and community outdoor education events.

The Expo location is 9 miles south of Bolivar and 14 miles north of Springfield beside the northbound lane of Highway 13 less than half a mile north of the Highway 215 junction.

If additional information is needed, please contact Terry Wilson at (417) 777-2467 or at [terrywil@windstream.net](mailto:terrywil@windstream.net).

expense to the kids, their parents or clubs is to get to Billings, Montana and home again. All else is taken care of by us. Even the fishing licenses are very kindly donated by the State of Montana.

Please simply forward this information to those persons in your council who can get the information to the kids and encourage them to apply. WE'VE GOT THE PROGRAM. NOW WE NEED THE KIDS. THANK YOU.

I've attached two documents of information - they are also found on our web site.

Frank Johnson  
11 Spring Creek Lane  
Sheridan, Wyoming 82801  
phone: 307-672-5164  
[email: bghrnhkl@wavecom.net](mailto:bghrnhkl@wavecom.net)



## Fly Fishing is Not as Difficult as it May Seem

by Lori Sloas

There are a few reasons that women excel at fly fishing. First, fly fishing is not a power sport rather it is a finesse sport. Secondly, women don't try to cast too much fly line which means women have



better line control. Thirdly, since most fly fishing is catch and release, nothing has to die or you don't have to handle bait. My last point which may be the most important is that fly fishing it is peaceful, serene and occurs in a beautiful environment. Personally I like being far away from the stressors of life and being alone with nature.

Some women do not want to attempt to learn how to fly fish because they think it is too difficult. We may say things to ourselves similar to this: I could never do that, I would look like an idiot, my husband or significant other will laugh at me, I could never learn how to cast, I can't see those little "bait things" or tie knots and other thoughts like this. You can best learn how to fly fish by working with someone other than your spouse or family member. Taking lessons from an "outsider" may save you from a possible argument with your significant other. I encourage women to take a fly fishing class designed for women.

Before you buy any gear, I recommend taking a class to see if you like it. If you take a class on land and think, "I think that I can do this", buy your gear. Your gear should include breathable waders, wading boots, wading staff, and a list of other items. Your coach will provide a list of necessary items to get you started. You don't have to spend a lot of money. You can spend mega bucks if you would like but it won't land you more fish. Go for quality gear and a rod with a warranty. I believe in comfort and safety. Fly shops can also assist you with your rod and gear needs. Always cast a rod before you purchase one. I have made the mistake of not casting a rod before I bought it and later sold it.

I teach women to take it slow in order to build confidence. I teach a simplistic approach to fly fishing that is

non-threatening. We fly-fish because we love the outdoors and want to relax. We don't want someone yelling at us or making fun of us. If you make a mistake, so what, we all do make mistakes including myself. I still can do goofy things out on the river. I ask students, what are their goals for wanting to learn the sport? Most women say they would like to catch a fish but just like being outdoors and looking at the beautiful scenery. There are fly-fishing techniques that are tight line techniques that allow you to enjoy looking at birds and still "feel" a tug on your line. When you feel the tug you lift the rod tip and land the fish.

I suggest either taking private lessons or take a class to check out fly-fishing. Many areas have fly fishing clubs that will be happy to teach an eager student. I would recommend taking lessons from someone who keeps it simple and will be a good coach. If you don't feel comfortable with the instructor, find another instructor but don't give up. There are men and women who will be a good mentor and understand how anxious they were when they first got started. In other words look for an empathetic person to help you and feel comfortable asking whatever questions that you may have. There are no stupid questions.

There are typically classes taught in the spring and fall by guide services and fly fishing clubs. If you have been contemplating this sport, try it this year. Remember you can do it!!

Lori Sloas is a teaching guide with Berry Brothers Guide Service in Cotter, AR. You can contact her at (870) 435-2169 or visit the Web site: [www.berrybrothersguides.com](http://www.berrybrothersguides.com).

## The Power of Fishing

by Michael Kyle,  
Treasurer

Have you ever had those days when the water in your own backyard is no longer intriguing enough for you to fish? The waters you are used to produce the same activity and you can only indulge yourself and proclaim self



happiness by taking a road trip. The next thing you know you find yourself 14 hours away, fishing the only open section of water in white out conditions.

As we made our way across the plains of Kansas one my partners in crime, that was along for the trip, and I were having a very deep conversation about the power of fishing and what it can make a normally sane person do. We decided that all you have to do is walk into a fly shop and say these 4 words "let's go to Colorado". Three hours later we are loaded for bear and headed to Rocky Mountain National Park, with no itinerary except to fish some new water.

As we entered what most fly fisherman will call "God's Country" the sun was coming up behind us and just beginning to hit the white caps that Mother Nature had just created at about 8000 feet. As we entered the Big Thompson Canyon just outside of Loveland, Co. we could start to feel the urge of what we were doing is a trip of a lifetime for some and just a way of life for others.

My wife, Kristina, Randy Hanner, Duane Doty and I made the trip. Some were tired and some were well rested but as we entered the Holy Grail our bodies would only show the enthusiasm of a youngster on Christmas morning. As we rigged our rods and talked about how it looked pretty dry and how there was hardly any snow here in Estes Park the elk that had been working their way down the hillside finally made their way within about 15 feet of us, with one big bull following them.

As we worked the mile and a half of open water below Olympus Dam the snow line kept creeping down the mountain until it had hit us, and it hit us like a ton of bricks. If you have never had the opportunity to go to Rocky Mountain National Park you should make the trip. Not only is the scenery impressive but so is the fishing. This is really one of the only places where you have the opportunity to catch a fish that will be above the 10,000 foot line plus be on the endangered species list. Today was not one of these days because most of the roads that lead you the trail heads you need to be on were closed do to snow.

One might think that the fishing is very difficult and very different than we are used to in the Ozarks. Yes, sometimes it is, however instead of having a 50 fish day and saying that it was successful you have a 10 fish day and say it was awesome, especially during the

dead of winter. We were using a midge and a dropper under an indicator sight fishing to fish. Believe it or not we were using flies that will work right here in our backyard, it all just has do with the presentation of the fly.

Primrose and Pearl (yes, you read that right, Primrose and Pearl) was our number one fly using a deep nymph, heavy split shot and one large indicator. First the heavy split shot to get the fly down fast and keep it in the strike zone and the dropper for the fish that

might be deeper or sitting right on the bottom. You will have to use a very large yarn or foam indicator to work the set up correctly. When fishing this setup you will want to cast upstream mend your line and get your flies to come downstream first and just wait for the indicator to barely move. This technique can be used around here also, on Taney Como or on the White River in Arkansas.

One thing that I learned from this trip was that no matter how far you go from your

local waters you might just actually be standing in them even if you are 1200 miles away. Just don't give up on your local waters and use them as a learning tool, don't be afraid to try new things. Some say practice makes perfect, I say perfect practice makes perfect and what is more perfect than spending time "practicing" fishing, in your local waters, or 1200 miles away?

Tight Lines

## Tiffany Johnson Fundraiser

by John Berry

Once again the fly fishing community is closing ranks to take care of one of its own. Tiffany Johnson, the wife of local fly fishing guide Chad Johnson, was diagnosed with invasive Meningioma tumors. One of them was on her spinal cord and several are on her brain. She has been in intensive care or acute therapy since the Monday before Christmas. She underwent surgery to remove the tumor from her spinal cord. Tiffany spent almost 9 hours on the operating table to remove the six inch tumor from her spine. Several sections of vertebrae were removed to allow the neurosurgeons access, which were then able to remove the tumor; of which, three inches was entwined in her spinal column. Needless to say, after this type of surgery, it has taken some time for Tiffany to recover. She is paralyzed from the waist down and has limited movement and feeling on her left side. This surgery is so rare that we are told less than 100 have been performed worldwide. She will be hospitalized for quite a while. Tiffany will then face a further six months to eight of painful physical therapy in order to regain the ability to walk with the aid of a walker and twelve to fourteen months of therapy before she can walk unassisted. She also has to endure further surgery to remove the brain tumors. Luckily all tumors are benign. She will require home care for some time and Chad has recently moved to a new home that is wheelchair accessible to prepare for Tiffany's return from the hospital. The family is encountering a mountain of medical bills and has no health insurance.

In order to help these folks, Mountain River Fly Shop and the Swallow's Nest Fly Tyers (a local fly tying group) has banded together to put on a fund raiser to benefit Tiffany and Chad. On January 23, 2010 they hosted a Charity Tye A Thon with all of the proceeds

going to the Tiffany Johnson Benefit Fund. The event ran from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM at Mountain River Fly Shop at 1200 Main St #7 (US Highway 62) in Cotter, Arkansas.

You may ask, what is a Tye A Thon? It is a fundraiser based on fly tying. They had solicited flies from a host of noted tyers to include Dave Whitlock, Charles Jardine, Kelly Galloup, Bob Clouser, Hans Weilman, April Vokey, Charlie Craven, Ken Burkholder, Cary Marcus, Mike Kinney, Dave Cornue, Ben Levin and Duane Hada. In addition, local tyers such as Davy Wotton, Theresa Van Winkle (T-Bird), and me were on hand tying our better known patterns during the event. Each tier has been requested to tie three identical flies that are put into a prize pool. Many of the tyers (including myself) will tie multiple sets. Some of these flies are suitable for framing and others beg to be fished. All are highly desirable. There was a raffle. The grand prize was to be two flies from each of the sets donated. The second and third prizes divided

the other flies tied. Tickets for the Raffle were on sale in the shop for five dollars each or three for ten dollars. They were expecting first prize to be worth several hundred dollars at retail value. Although the fly raffle has ended you can still send donations by check with your name and address made out to the Tiffany Johnson Benefit Fund. Please include a note that these are for her continued medical care and recovery. Send the checks to: Tiffany Johnson, in care of Mountain River Fly Shop 1200 West Main No 7 Cotter, AR 72626.

### ASK JOHN

#### David Mc asks: Is there a rule of thumb for jig size (weight) vs. rod weight ?

David, I do not know of any rule of thumb. I generally fish jigs tied on 1/32 ounce jig heads and I cast them with a five or a six weight.

John Berry,  
(870) 435-2169  
[berrybrothers@infodash.com](mailto:berrybrothers@infodash.com)  
[www.berrybrothersguides.com](http://www.berrybrothersguides.com)



Mike Clark, Steven Dally, Barry Lambert, Tiffany Theriot Johnson, Steve L Stinnett, Teresa VanWinkle, Theresa Montgomery Tyrrell, Chuck Tyrrell, Toby Vaughan, Chad Johnson, Mark Jonathan Romero, Gregory Dodds, Patty Lueken and many others not named. (Photo courtesy of Tiffany Johnson Benefit Fund Facebook photos.)

## TFO Partners with the AFFI — To Develop Greater Access To Fly Fishing For the Disabled

**El Paso, Texas.** It is with great pleasure and pride in our industry that today I can announce that Temple Fork Outfitters of Dallas, Texas, has joined forces with the Adaptive Fly Fishing Institute in our work to increase access to therapeutic and adaptive fly fishing and fly tying programs for disabled children and adults around the world. The unique work of AFFI requires the institute's certified instructors to have access to a wide range of fishing equipment; sometimes on short notice, often in single units, and occasionally in significant quantities. And this sort of demand dynamic simply cannot be met through convention retail channels, nor is it cost-feasible for the vast majority of professional fly fishing instructors. Therefore, we set out to explain our requirements to some of the manufacturers in the fly fishing and adaptive equipment industries and some of them have responded positively to the challenge, including Rick Pope of TFO.

When we told Mr. Pope what we needed, he responded affirmatively without hesitation. TFO has long been a leader in the industry in support of therapeutic and adaptive fly fishing organizations. So it came as no surprise when he agreed to help us by providing our certified instructors with equipment as a part of TFO's longstanding commitment to reach people with special needs through the restorative and therapeutic sport of fly fishing in keeping with their corporate priority on investing in the development of previously overlooked market sectors to help grow new interest in the sport of fly fishing. And for us, it's a perfect partnership.

Temple Fork Outfitters is one of the premier manufacturers of high quality, affordable fly rods and reels, as well as a new line of excellent convention fishing rods, fishing accessories, rod cases, fly boxes, and more. For more on TFO, you can visit their Web site at [www.templeforkflyrods.com](http://www.templeforkflyrods.com).

The Adaptive Fly Fishing Institute is dedicated to the education and certification of fly fishing instructors, guides, medical professionals, educators, and other service providers in order to ensure the highest possible quality of service to the special needs community and provides instruction, certification testing, program development and management consultation, technical support, event management, product and process research and development, and direct services through out network of certified instructors and facilitators to individuals, groups, small businesses, and institutions. To learn more about the Adaptive Fly Fishing Institute, visit [www.adaptiveflyfishing.com](http://www.adaptiveflyfishing.com).

Ken Morrow, AFFI  
President  
Adaptive Fly Fishing Institute  
415 South Mesa Hills Drive, Suite 1169  
El Paso, Texas 79912

## The Distinguished Fly Rod Award

Howard Malpass presented The Distinguished Fly Rod Award to Dr. Stuart Leon, Ph.D, U.S. Fish and Wildlife for his outstanding assistance and contribution to the art/sport of fly fishing throughout the entire Southern Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Dr. Leon was unable to attend the banquet so Teresa 'TBird' VanWinkle accepted on his behalf.



Howard Malpass presents 2009 Outstanding Innovators Award to Davy Wotton., for his outstanding assistance and contribution in the design, development and implementation of new and exciting fly fishing material, tools and accoutrements that have improved the art/sport of fly fishing.



Howard Malpass, VP Development presents Regional Director of Development Award of Merit to Mark Borserine, Missouri River Valley Region, Teresa Van Winkle, Mountain Home Region and Gregory Dobbs, Oklahoma Region. Not present were Gregory Weiler, Dallas/Fort Worth Region and Mike Hawkins, Ark-La-Tex Region.

## “Catch the Vision” National Trout Nature Center Announced

Internationally known fly fisher and artist Dave Whitlock is to be inducted into the National Trout Hall of Fame. It is associated with the Trout Education Center housed in the Vada Sheid Community Development Center at Arkansas State University (ASU) Mountain Home. Dave Whitlock’s honor, as the first inductee, will take place at the Redeemer Lutheran Fellowship Hall, 312 West North Street in Mountain Home, AR. Tickets for the dinner are available at \$100 after March 1, 2010. Registration site for “Catch the Vision”.

Funding is being raised from various government agencies, industry and individuals for financial support. Grassroots efforts are planning to meet this challenge. If you are interested in making a contribution and/or a sponsorship, contact Pat Smith at (870) 404-0747 or email: [cpsmh@southshore.com](mailto:cpsmh@southshore.com).

## Jerry Clark Casting Games Results

| Category                | Accuracy          | Distance        |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Men’s Division</b>   |                   |                 |
| 1st Place               | Brian Flinchpaugh | Russ Wall       |
| 2nd Place               | Bannings Collins  | Chris Allen     |
| <b>Women’s Division</b> |                   |                 |
| 1st Place               | Cathrine Smith    | Kerri Russell   |
| 2nd Place               | Joyce Miller      | Vicki Swedouska |
| <b>Youth - Girls</b>    |                   |                 |
| 1st Place               | Audrey Jackson    | Audrey Jackson  |
| <b>Youth - Boys</b>     |                   |                 |
| 1st Place               | Zach Kerfoot      | Liam Moppert    |
| 2nd Place               | Liam Moppert      | Zach Kerfoot    |



## National FFF Info

by Jessica Atherton  
Conclave Coordinator

Here is the official poster. Once they are printed we will be sending them out for distribution to all councils, our committee members, and the local areas as well. Thank you all for anything you can do to help us promote the Fly Fishing Fair.

You will notice that the poster has the dates that the show hall is open. We must advertise the exhibit hall dates because if people show up on the 24 & 25 there is nothing for them to do but take workshops. People get upset if they drive a distance on Tuesday or Wednesday and the exhibit hall, demos, and programs aren't open until Thursday. In the workshop paragraph I list the dates we offer workshops along with the Web site link.

We will still have the same basic schedule of events:

### Tuesday August 24

- Meetings (BOD, CBOG, TBOG)
- Workshops
- Welcome reception

### Wednesday August 25

- Registration desk open
- Workshops
- Meetings (Education, Conservation, Council Pres, Executive Comm, FFF Foundation, Investment Comm)
- Master certification testing
- CI test day one-workshop & written
- Presidents banquet

### Thursday August 26

- Registration desk open
- Workshops
- Casting competitions
- CI test day two-performance
- Membership meeting
- Exhibit hall, programs, demos etc.
- Two handed casting test

### Friday August 27

- Registration desk open
- Workshops
- Casting competitions & games
- Exhibit hall, programs, demos etc.
- Auction

### Saturday August 28

- Registration desk open
- Workshops
- Casting competitions & games
- Exhibit hall, programs, demos etc.
- Barbeque

**The National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave 2010**

Presented by the  
  
 FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS

**Education  
Inspiration  
Celebration**

**Fair hours:**  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 26-28

**Activities include:**  
fly tying demonstrations, fly casting demonstrations, hour-long seminars, exhibit hall, raffles and much more!

**Exhibit hall admission:**  
adults \$5, kids 15 and under free  
**Saturday is FREE for all**

**Workshops:**  
Take one or more workshops on tying, casting, on the water, and non-angling. Fees for workshops vary. It is requested to sign up in advance, however numerous walk-up workshops will be offered on-site. Workshops are offered August 24-28. See the on-line schedule for more details.

Visit us at:  
**FederationConclave.org**

**Holiday Inn at West Yellowstone**  
Montana August 26-28, 2010

If anyone out there is planning to attend, please let us know if you want to volunteer in any capacity. If you are planning one of the meetings for Wednesday (Council Presidents, Executive Committee, Foundation, or Investment Committee) contact me to make arrangements for the time, space, and AV if needed. If a meeting needs to be added to the agenda please contact me.

## SWMFF Banquet

by Sharon Yoker

Southwest Missouri Fly Fishers will hold their annual banquet the evening of February 27, 2010 at Millwood Golf and Racquet Club, 2700 E Millwood Drive, Springfield MO. For more information, contact Paul Goodwin at [fishnfind@att.net](mailto:fishnfind@att.net).

## DRC Boardwalk Nearing Completion

By: Leon Alexander

Does anyone need pictures of a partially constructed Boardwalk covered in about a foot of snow? If so, I have many such pictures. Yes, construction has been slowed due to the excessive snow accumulations this year. But on to the good part.

Construction began in December 2009 with a bang. First there was the excavation and leveling of the Boardwalk pathway and then the layout and the elevations and finally the footings were staked and poured. It was about this time that you could begin to get an idea of how large a project we had undertaken. But the real realization came when the footings were in place and the Boardwalk framing was mostly in place that you could really tell we had a large project underway with a huge amount of construction ahead. The Boardwalk really began to take shape when the decking started being laid. And when the handrails were in place, the true character of the Boardwalk began to show itself.

It has been very exciting watching Touchstone Construction put together this giant Boardwalk puzzle like so many Lincoln Logs. To date, we have completed about one hundred feet of the Boardwalk starting at the existing platform and going to just beyond

the first set of stairs. This portion is complete with three Fishing Platforms, decking and handrails. We also have the upper Observation Platform near completion including the stairs down to the Boardwalk. We were also able to include a built-in seating area on the Observation Platform for our guests. The platform around the tree at the base of the stairs is framed and ready for decking and handrails.

Yet to be started, mainly due to the snow and some unexpected water seepage problems, is the final twenty feet of Boardwalk over to the Discharge Pipe and the Bridge over the water from the Discharge Pipe. There will also be a fourth Fishing Platform between the stairs and the Bridge. This will be a very interesting area with an abundance of excellent observation points of the creek and many wonderful photo spots to take pictures of all the trophy trout that call Dry Run Creek home.

If the weather breaks, this portion of the work could be complete in a couple of weeks. If all goes well, we could (I said could) open the Boardwalk to the public by early March. Since the Boardwalk has been constructed mainly to improve the access to the mobility impaired adults and the kids less than 16 years of age, we are planning on giving them the privilege to be the first

groups to use the Boardwalk. We are looking for youth groups and mobility impaired adults that would like to participate in the opening of the Boardwalk. If you know of any of these groups or individuals, please contact us as soon as possible. At this time we are planning on opening the Boardwalk with a brief ceremony on March 13 starting at 11:00 am. Unfortunately, it is a little too soon to set a firm date so please watch our Web site for an up to date schedule of the opening.

Even with the opening of the Boardwalk, we will still have a lot of work ahead of us before we can have the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. The AGFC still has the Instream habitat work to do, the trails have to be finished and the plantings are still ahead. At this time, we are planning on the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the entire Dry Run Creek Enhancement Project to be held on Saturday, April 10, 2010, following our General Meeting on Friday, April 9. We are anticipating having Dave Whitlock present for the ribbon cutting and look forward to his comments. We sincerely hope that all our FNNFH members will have an opportunity to join us for this long awaited celebration. Look forward to seeing you **"On the Boardwalk !!!"**



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## In Memory



**Allen Crise, MCCI**  
January 29, 1944 - February 17, 2010

Dedicated in honor of a friend and fellow fly fisher, Allen Crise who has made the perfect cast heaven-ward! No matter whether you knew him as 'Ol' Al', 'Flysoup', Allen or just 'Al', he was an extraordinary fly fisher, educator and gentleman. He leaves behind his mark on generations of fly fishers. His living memorial was observed on February 6th at "Al Crise Day" in Glen Rose, TX. His family and friends came together to spend time with and provide him an awesome living tribute. No greater gift could truly be given!

For those of you who would like to continue this tribute in his honor can make donations to Al's benefiting organizations:

### Reel Recovery

4505 El Campo Ave.  
Fort Worth, TX 76107

### Casting for Recovery

C/o Susan Gaetz  
5202 Periwinkle Path  
Austin, TX 78745

## 2010 Annual Awards

The Southern Council awards are presented at the annual awards banquet during the Saturday evening conclave banquet every October. These award recognized those who have unselfishly contributed their own time and effort to further the goals of the Southern Council.

### July 1, 2010 is the deadline for submitting your Southern Council Annual Award nominations.

**Man of the Year** - Presented annually to the man who has demonstrated unusual devotion to the Southern Council and, through his devotion, has benefited the Southern Council, the FFF and/or his club.

**Woman of the Year** - Presented annually to the woman who has demonstrated unusual devotion to the Southern Council and, through her devotion, has benefited the Southern Council, the FFF and/or her club.

**Federator of the Year** - Presented annually to that person who has supported the Southern Council and the FFF, and has actively recruited new members to each organization. Other reasons are also appropriate.

**Teacher of the Year** - Awarded annually to that individual who has passed along the art of fly fishing to others, whether in the form of fly tying, casting, or any of the other fly fishing arts and sciences.

**Club of the Year** - Presented annually to a club affiliated with the FFF Southern Council for outstanding projects and activities that have contributed most to the Council in some manner. Examples include, but are not limited to, conservation, education and membership project and activities.

**Fly Tyer of the Year** - Awarded annually to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the art of fly tying.

**Junior Fly Tyer of the Year** - Awarded annually to an individual 18 years of age or younger who has made a significant contribution to the art of fly tying.

**Conservation Award** - An award or awards made to individuals, groups or organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the conservation of our fisheries resources. Need not be given annually if no worthwhile recipients are available.

**Friend(s) of the Southern Council** - An award or awards given to an individual, individuals, group, or groups who have befriended and/or the Southern Council in

some way. Nominees must not be a member of the FFF SOC and need not be a member of the FFF. Need not be given annually if no worthwhile recipients are available.

**Tall Tale Teller Award** - Awarded annually to that individual who is the best, most vocal tall-tale teller in the Southern Council.

**Award of Merit, Award of Excellence and President's Award** are awarded at the discretion of the Southern Council president.

Set aside time in the next month or two to consider who meets or exceeds the qualifications as a Southern Council member to be nominated for any of these eleven (11) categories. Your nomination or multiple nominations start the process for 2010. Write a letter of recommendation to nominate an individual or club for a specific annual award. Then mail it to be received before July 1, 2010 to either:

Larry Murphy, VP Communications  
4921 Sharon Drive  
Jefferson City MO 65109-0154

or

Chris and Carol Jackson  
Managing Directors  
c/o Riverside Retreat  
205 River Valley Trail  
Norfolk AR 72568