

January 2007

# Contraband

## Fly Casters

Tom Nixon Chapter

**January meeting: Tuesday January 16, 2007 Room Kirkman Hall on the McNeese campus, Lake Charles, LA 6:00 pm Flytying, 7:00 pm meeting**

### President's Message

Welcome to a new year!! The big subject for this month's meeting will be election of officers. The only thing I can say about our elections is that it is a good idea to show up for the election meeting...last year Ron Begnaud missed the meeting and ended up as Vice President. The other thing to take note of is that we may not actually be meeting in Room 202 of Kirkman Hall. Next Tuesday is the first day of classes at McNeese, and classes often get moved around...don't worry we'll definitely find a room to meet in, I just can't guarantee that it will be Room 202. Gayle Hall will reopen. The news is better than had been previously announced. They are hoping to reoccupy Gayle Hall by March 15. That means we may be able to start meeting there by summer (never take any government derived schedule too seriously...) For those of you who don't know why the auditorium was a favorite meeting place, it's because it has much more table space for tying demos, etc.

I hope the holidays were good to you. My big gift was a 8 ft. 5 wt St. Croix Premier fly rod (it was part of a Cabela's clearout, and since I've cast the rod before, I knew it suited me). For a change I don't need a reel or line..I've already got both for the rod. Right after Christmas the catalogs started to appear: Jann's Netcraft, Mudhole Tackle, Cabela's Fly Fishing, and Cabela's Saltwater, with many more to come I'm sure. If you are wondering, the St. Croix Premier series of rods

has been replaced by the Triumph series. I've had fun looking at the catalogs, but any purchases will have to wait a while...got some bills to pay from December.

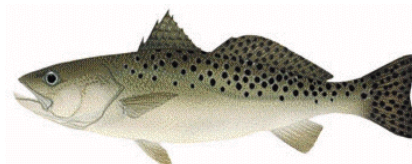
I'd like to remind everyone that it is also time to renew your membership in the Contraband Fly Casters. You'll find a membership form later in the newsletter.

See everyone next Tuesday at the meeting!

Mark Delaney

### First Gulf Coast Council of FFF newsletter, "Sea to Stream" Available

The first issue of "Sea to Stream," the newsletter of the Gulf Coast Council is available at [http://www.gulfcoastfff.org/subm/GCC\\_STS\\_07Jan.pdf](http://www.gulfcoastfff.org/subm/GCC_STS_07Jan.pdf). The newsletter will be distributed electronically, with FFF members receiving a postcard announcing it's publication, most likely later this month. Any articles, fly patterns, recipes, etc. should be sent to Mark Delaney at [chemprof2001@yahoo.com](mailto:chemprof2001@yahoo.com). The plans are to publish the newsletter quarterly, so look for the next issue in April.





# Contraband Fly Casters 2007 Membership Registration



NAME/FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE/HOME \_\_\_\_\_ WORK \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF FISHING YOU ARE INTERESTED IN (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> COLDWATER (TROUT/SALMON)       | <input type="checkbox"/> INSHORE SALTWATER (REDFISH/SPECK/FLOUNDER) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WARMWATER (BASS/PANFISH)       | <input type="checkbox"/> OFFSHORE (LING/TRIPLET AIL/DOLPHIN, ETC.)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FLATS (BONEFISH/TARPON/PERMIT) | <input type="checkbox"/> BIG GAME (BILLFISH/TUNA)                   |

DO YOU OWN A BOAT?  YES  NO DO YOU OWN A CANOE/KAYAK?  YES  NO

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE FEDERATIONS OF FLY FISHERS?  YES  NO

PLEASE RETURN WITH \$25 TO 2018 PLANTATION DR., LAKE CHARLES 70605. CHECKS PAYABLE TO CONTRABAND FLY CASTERS. MEETINGS ARE THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7 PM IN ROOM 202, KIRKMAN HALL ON THE McNEESE CAMPUS IN LAKE CHARLES. PRECEDING EVERY MEETING AT 6 PM THERE IS A FLY TYING SESSION.

### Upcoming Events

It's that time of year, with many of the meetings and conclaves approaching fast:

On February 3 the Texas Fly Fishers 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Fly Tying Festival will be held at the Bethany Christian Church gymnasium, Westheimer between Eastside St. & Bammel Ln., in Houston TX. The featured tier will be C. Boyd Pfeiffer.

On February 10 and 11 the Arlington (TX) Flyfishing Show will be held at the Arlington Convention Center, Arlington, TX.

On February 24 the Acadiana Fly Rodders' Conclave will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church, 415 Roselawn Blvd., Lafayette, LA.

On March 3 the Red Stick Fly Fishers' Redstick Day will be held at the Waddill Outdoors Education Center, 4142 N. Flannery Rd., Baton Rouge LA.

On March 8 through 11 the Louisiana Sportsman's Show will be held at the Lamar-Dixon Expo Center in Gonzales, LA.

On March 15 through 17 Sowbug Roundup, will be held Redeemer Lutheran Church Family Life Center, 307 W. North St., Mountain Home, AR.

On March 17 Paddlepalooza I will be held in Leeville, LA.

On April 13-15 the Ouachita River Fly Fishers Expowill be held at Lake D'Arbonne State Park, near Monroe, LA.

On May 4 and 5 the Smallmouth Rendezvous will be held at the Talequah Community Bldg., Talequah, OK.

On May 5 the Red Stick Fly Fishers' will hold their "Fly Fishing 101" program at the Waddill Outdoors Education Center, 4142 N. Flannery Rd., Baton Rouge, LA.

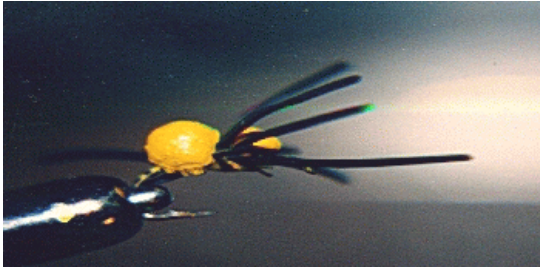
On May 18 through 20 the First GCC FFF Conclave & Expowill be held at the Lake Charles Civic Center, Lake Charles, LA.

Of course, the big event for us is that last meeting. For those of you who tie flies, we'll need various fly collections for the auctions. Your donations will definitely be appreciated. Be prepared to help with other things as it becomes clearer what our duties as host club become clearer.



## Freshwater Fly of the Month

### Floating Spider



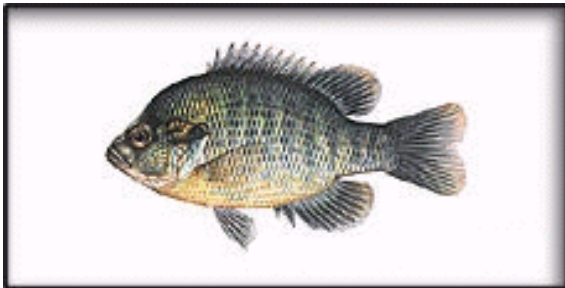
**Hook:** #10 short shank hook

**Body:** styrofoam beads (like spawn bag floaters, or broken off from cheap bead type styrofoam chest) wrapped in old nylon stocking, painted with Testor's or acrylic model paint

**Legs:** Two rubber hackle per side to make to make eight legs

**Thread:** To match body color

**Instructions:** Most floating spider recipes either use pre-made foam bodies or craft foam (EVA or ethylene-vinylacetate foam). For an even higher floating spider recipe you can try this one. Take one larger styrofoam bead and one slightly smaller styrofoam bead and wrap them in a small piece of old nylon stocking, twisting the nylon closed in between the beads. Tie the beads on the center of the hook using the thread. Using the thread tie the beads forming the body down lightly to the hook. Now paint the body the desired color using either Testor's model paint or an acrylic enamel. A word of warning here. Styrofoam is not compatible with many fingernail polishes and you should avoid using cyanoacrylate (unless you are fond of smiking stinking messes on your hook...). The final step is to tie on the rubber hackle legs. Yes, it takes a bit longer to make this type of spider but it has a few advantages...first it will float high forever...second, since it is painted, the available colors are infinite. I've used tis pattern with great success on bream and bass.



## Saltwater Fly of the Month

### Blonde



**Hook:** Standard saltwater

**Body:** Silver tinsel or pearlized flashabou

**Wing & Tail:** White calftail or white fishhair

**Thread:** White

**Instructions:** This is the classic Joe Brooks pattern, and is actually a quite easy tie. Attach the thread and wind it to the bend of the hook. Tie in the tail, and then attach the tinsel for the body. Advance the thread to near the eye of the hook. Wrap the tinsel to form the body, tie off and trim the excess tinsel. Tie in the wing, and then make a neat thread head and whip finish. Add head cement if desired. There is a whole series of "Blondes" with different combinations of colors of tails and wings. The example here was tied by Robb Nicewonger.

### Free Tide Program

My younger daughter Briana found a very interesting tide program, Wxtide32. The program will print out weekly and monthly tide tables, will tell you what the tide is at the moment, print tide curves. The program is also supposed to be able adjust if you know the coordinates (latitude & longitude) from a known station (eg. Prien Lake instead of Calcasieu Pass). I haven't tried out that feature yet, but the Calcasieu Pass predictions appear to be correct. The color schemes of the displays can also be changed to your personal taste. For a free program it does a lot. The program is available at <http://www.wxtide32.com/>



## Calendar

Jan 16 NLFF Meeting, 7 pm, Camp Forbing, LA  
Jan 16 Contraband Fly Casters Meeting 6 pm tying,  
7 pm meeting Room 202, Kirkman Hall,  
McNeese campus, Lake Charles, LA  
Jan 22 Red Stick Fly Fishers Fly Tying, 7 pm Wildlife  
and Fisheries Bldg., Quail Dr., Baton Rouge,  
LA  
Jan 25 NOFF Mtg., 7:30 pm Whitney Bank Bldg, 1441  
Metairie Road, Metairie LA  
Jan 29 ORFFMtg., 7 pm 226 Lakeside Dr., Monroe,  
LA  
Feb 3 TFF Flytying Festival, Bethany Christian  
Church, Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX  
Feb 6 AFR mtg., 7 pm, Grace Presbyterian Church,  
415 Roselawn Blvd., Lafayette, LA  
Feb 10-11 Arlington (TX) Flyfishing Show, Arlington  
Convention Center, Arlington, TX.  
Feb 12 RSFF Mtg., 7 pm, LA Wildlife & Fisheries  
Bldg., 2000 Quail Dr., Baton Rouge, LA  
Feb 20 NLFF Meeting, 7 pm, Camp Forbing, LA  
Feb 20 Contraband Fly Casters Meeting 6 pm  
tying, 7 pm meeting Room 202, Kirkman  
Hall, McNeese campus, Lake Charles, LA  
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1441 Metairie Road, Metairie LA  
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LA  
Feb 26 RSFF Fly Tying., 7 pm, LA Wildlife &  
Fisheries Bldg., 2000 Quail Dr., Baton  
Rouge, LA  
Mar 3 RSFF Redstick Day, Waddill Outdoors  
Education Center, 4142 N. Flannery Rd.,  
Baton Rouge, LA

## Officers

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