

January 2008

Contraband

Fly Casters

Tom Nixon Chapter

January Meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 2008 in Room 200 of Kirkman Hall on the McNeese campus, Lake Charles, LA. Fly tying 6:00 pm, Regular Meeting 7:00 pm. Election of 2008 officers and scheduling of events are main topics of meeting

Vice President's Message

Welcome to 2008, and I wish everyone a happy and prosperous new year. That prosperous part may be hard to do, if your resistance is low to all the new catalogs showing up in the mail box: Netcraft, Cabelas, Orvis, etc. I keep seeing things that I'd like to have, but really don't need. But it looks like I'm going to have to bite the bullet this year and order a couple more fly reels (now which ones do I want?) I'll look for quite a bit longer before I make up my mind.

At our upcoming meeting on January 15th, the big topic will be election of officers for the Contraband Fly Casters. You may want to show up, just to make sure you don't end up getting elected!! (That has happened in the past.) At the December meeting we decided what we would like to do in 2008, but at this meeting we will try to nail down some specific dates to do some special events.

There is a little bit of good news for those who procrastinated past the December 31st deadline to take advantage of the \$15 dollar offer for the first year of membership in the Federation of Fly Fishers (normally \$35), the offer has been extended to April 15, 2008 (a familiar date for some strange reason...). You can take advantage of this offer by printing the form found at <http://cbfc0.tripod.com/ffmem.pdf>, writing a check for \$15 and sending in to the FFF at the address provided on the form.

We also completed our first in-club fly swap, themed on "Winter Holiday Colors." Later in the newsletter, you'll see these flies instead of our normal fly patterns.

January 15 seems to be the first busy day of 2008 for me. I may be a little late making it to the fly tying session this month, since I have another meeting at 5:30 pm. But I won't be far away: I'll be in Kirkman 227, just to the east

of Kirkman 200

Mark Delaney

Conclave Time

The winter months seem to be the time for boat shows and fly fishing conclaves.

The Lake Charles Boat show is February 8-10, the Baton Rouge Boat Show is February 21-24 and the New Orleans Boat Show is March 6-9.

Kicking off the various conclaves this year is the Texas Fly Tying Festival hosted by the Texas Fly Fishers of Houston on February 2nd from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at Bethany Christian Church, 3223 Westheimer, Blvd., Houston, TX. The featured tier is Ken Iwamasa. Next is the Acadiana Fly Rodders Conclave on February 9th from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm at Grace Presbyterian Church, 518 Woodlawn blvd., Lafayette, LA (well worth attending). The next weekend on February 15th and 16th is the Little Mo Fly Fest in Merfreesboro, AR. For those to care to make the trip, Bass Pro shops Spring Classic in Katy, TX will be held on from February 29th through March 2nd and will feature seminars, demos, etc. (For more details go to <http://basspro.com> and click on the Katy, TX store location). The Louisiana Sportsmen's Show will be held March 6th through 9th at the Lamar-Dixon Center in Gonzales, LA.. On March 8th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Red Stick Day will be held by the Red Stick Fly Fishers of Baton Rouge at Waddill Outdoors Center, 4142 N. Flannery Rd., Baton Rouge LA (always well worth going to, one of the best conclaves in Louisiana). This year Red Stick Day will feature Nick Curcione (author of "Tug of War - A Fly fishers Game" and The Orvis Guide to Saltwater Fly fishing"), Terry and Roxanne Wilson (authors of "Bluegill fly fishing

and Flies” and “Largemouth Bass Fly Fishing - Beyond the Basics”), and Pete Cooper, Jr. (author of “Fly Fishing the Louisiana coast” and “Redfish: How, When, Where” soon to be released). That more than enough to keep you busy for a bit.

Time to Renew Your Contraband Fly Casters Membership

Please remember to renew your Contraband Fly Casters membership. You can use the form below, or download the sema form from <http://cbfc0.tripod.com/index2.htm> .



Contraband Fly Casters

2008 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/TRIPLETAIL/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.

Winter Holiday Colors Fly Swap

Our first club fly swap was themed around winter holiday colors (your choice of holiday). The participants were Fred Hannie, David Stewart and Mark Delaney. The flies and basic patterns for the flies will be displayed here.

Fred chose a “Silver and Gold” theme tying conehead Woolly Buggers with silver tinsel chenille body , gray marabou tail and silver conehead palmered with black hackle for one fly and gold tinsel chenille body, yellow hackle fibers ad gold conehead, palmered with black hackle for the other fly.

Fred Hannie: Conehead Woolly Buggers



David Stewart: Calcasieu Pigboat



David's holiday Calcasieu pigboat featured a red chenille body palmered with brown hackle, white rubber hackle (maybe not 56 strands like Tom intended) and a red thread head.

Peacock Body Soft Hackle



For this fly David used a gold tinsel tip at the bend of the hook, a tail of red hackle fibers, a body of very green peacock herl and a wet fly collar of brown hackle. Even though these colors are spell "Christmas" this should be a very productive panfish fly.

Mark Delaney: Holiday Fry



Holiday Fry

Hook: #6 24007

Thread: to match body color

Tail: colored bucktail over white bucktail

Eyes: Yellow 3-D molded plastic eyes

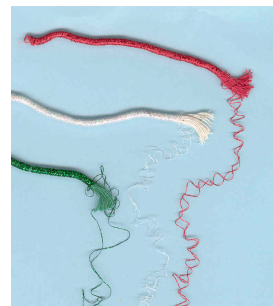
Body: built up from mylar fiber from Christmas gift ribbon

This pattern is partly the result of my leaving my reading glasses at home when taking a quick trip to the craft store. (Like many of us growing older, my arms are no longer long enough to read the newspaper in the morning without

my reading glasses.) I was participating in a small local fly swap among members of the Contraband Fly Casters. There were only two rules: the flies had to incorporate holiday colors of the winter holiday of your choice, and the fly had to be useful, not fanciful. At the craft store I found a roll of what seemed to me to be mylar piping formed around a cotton/wire core (shown in the photo below)



My original plans had been to tie up something similar to Don Puckett's Shad Fry (see <http://chemprof.tripod.com/shadfry.htm>), but this material was not a woven piping material, but instead consisted of nearly continuous mylar fibers simply wrapped around the cotton wire core. I could still make my flies but things would be constructed a little bit differently. I found that a five inch piece (of one color) would yield enough mylar fiber (two fibers were wound around the cotton/wire core) to build up the bodies of two flies.



Tying instructions: The tying thread is attached just behind the eye of the hook. White bucktail as tied to the hook shank just behind the eye, and topped with desired color bucktail, forming the tail and underbody. The thread is wound over the bucktail tying it down fairly tightly to near the bend of the hook. Two mylar fibers from a piece of cut ribbon are tied in at this point. The thread is returned to the eye of the hook. The body is formed by winding the mylar fibers back and forth as many times as needed to form the desired body shape and size. When the desired body shape and size are achieved bring the mylar fibers to the eye of the hook and tie off, finishing the fly with a neat thread head and whip finish. Add head cement to the wrapping if desired. For the white mylar, I used a chartreuse Sharpie to draw along the back, to match the chartreuse bucktail I had topped the white bucktail with. The last step was to glue on plastic molded 3-D eyes onto the flies using gel superglue. Even though I didn't actually buy what I thought I had, it turned out to be a relatively simple tie. These flies are designed to imitate fry soon after hatching, which is the reason they were tied on size 6 hooks. There is no reason that the flies could not be scaled up to a larger size.

Calendar

Jan 14 RSFF Mtg., 7 pm, Wildlife and Fisheries Bldg., Quail Dr.,
Baton Rouge, LA
Jan 15 NLFF Mtg., 7 pm, Camp Forbing, LA
Jan 15 Contraband Fly Casters Meeting 6 pm fly tying, 7 pm
meeting Room 200, Kirkman Hall, McNeese campus,
Lake Charles LA
Jan 17 NOFF Fly Tying 1, 7 pm, Whitney Bank Bldg, 1441
Metairie Road, Metairie LA
Jan 24 NOFF Fly Tying 2, 7 pm, Whitney Bank Bldg, 1441
Metairie Road, Metairie LA
Jan 28 ORFF Mtg., 226 Lakeside Dr., Monroe, LA
Jan 31 NOFF Mtg., 7 pm, Whitney Bank Bldg, 1441 Metairie
Road, Metairie LA
Feb 2 Texas Fly Tying Festival, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, 3223
Westheimer Blvd., Houston, TX
Feb 9 AFR Conclave, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm, 518 Roselawn Blvd.,
Lafayette, LA
Feb 11 RSFF Mtg., 7 pm, Wildlife and Fisheries Bldg., Quail Dr.,
Baton Rouge, LA
Feb 15-16 Little Mo Fly Fest, Murfreesboro Community Center,
Murfreesboro, AR
Feb 19 NLFF Mtg., 7 pm, Camp Forbing, LA
Feb 19 Contraband Fly Casters Meeting 6 pm fly tying, 7 pm
meeting Room 200, Kirkman Hall, McNeese campus,
Lake Charles LA

Officers

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Alternate website: <http://cbfc0.tripod.com/index2.htm>