October 2018 Volume 20, Issue 10

AUSTIN FLY FISHERS

Club Meeting Thursday, October 18 Northwest Recreation Center 6:00 Fly Tying and Social Hour 7:00 Ryan Schaper will be discussing a wide variety of topics that cover fishing the Texas hill country Dave Hill and Matthew Carrillo, son of U.S. Army Captain Alfredo Carrillo, pose with our largest white bass of the SKIFF tripfishing trip Photo by Bob Maindell





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**SKIFF** Dave Hill\_ Manuel Pena

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To contact officers: Info@AustinFlyFishers.com

## President's Message Shawn Riggs

A few weeks ago, Scott Kerrigan, the club's merchandise officer, and I visited Sportsman's Finest in Bee Cave. They have been so gracious to sell some of our club's merchandise in their fly shop, to help the club raise funds, without asking for anything in return. We dropped off some new items for their inventory and I picked up over nine hundred dollars from the sale of Austin Fly Fishers branded caps, t-shirts and window stickers. It would take the club several years hawking merchandise at our monthly meetings to raise that kind of money.

While I was waiting to speak with their Fly Fishing Manager Greg Welander, as he was finishing up with a couple of customers, I walked around the shop and was impressed with their selection of not only fly fishing gear but apparel and other outdoor goods. I overheard what appeared to be seasoned anglers conversing with the staff about an upcoming exotic trip and inquiring about the best line and flies to target their chosen prey. I also witnessed a young man asking about some of the rods and he received some sage advice on which worked best depending on where and what he was fishing for.

As members of the club and the fly fishing community in general, please support our local fly shops whenever you can. They do so much for the sport of angling not only by supplying us with the necessary tools to perform our beloved pastime but also by promoting fly fishing to new individuals and encouraging the sport through their conservation efforts of local waters, holding fly tying nights, and their continued encouragement of local fly fishing clubs.

Duck into Sportsman's Finest next time you are in the area and in the market for a new 8-wt. saltwater rod. If you happen to be headed down south to try your hand at landing a rainbow trout in the beautiful Guadalupe River near New Braunfels, stop by and visit owner Tiffany Yeates's store Gruene Outfitters to pick up some nymph flies or even some new waders. If you find yourself going to Round Rock to target sunfish in Brushy Creek then visit Living Waters Fly Fishing shop run by Chris and Emily Johnson to grab some extra tippet or a backup reel.

Fly shops are chock full of the newest medium-fast action graphite rods, sinking freshwater fly lines and a large assortment of tantalizing flies that would interest any hungry finned adversary lurking just below the water's surface but the greatest asset in their inventory is a bevy of knowledge from dedicated individuals with years of angling experience just waiting to share it with novice and experienced anglers alike. Shop local and keep these fishing gems thriving for all to enjoy for years to come.

#### Financial Report by Jim Robinson 9/1/2018 - 9/30/2018

Begin Bal. Checking \$13,067.53 Income:

Merchandise SKIFF Dues AFF FFI Total Income	\$945.00 \$1,000.00 <u>\$534.00</u> \$2,479.00
Disbursements: Sportsman's (flies for auc Earthlink website Austin Orr Total Disbursements	tion) \$55.00 \$148.17 <u>\$150.00</u> \$353.17
Net	\$2,125.83
Unencumbered:	\$7,243.64
Encumbered Funds: Casting for Recovery SKIFF Ending Bal-Checking	\$00.00 \$7,949.72 \$15,193.36

# **October Presentation by Ryan Schaper**



Ryan Schaper and is the Owner and lead guide for Go Outside Expedition Company. He has been fly fishing the Texas Hill Country for over 7 years now. He learned to fly fish from his kayak on the San Marcos River and the Upper Guadalupe river. Ryan's uncle owned property on the upper Guadalupe for almost 20 years so he has been a river rat for a long time! When he is not with clients his favorite species to target are hands down Common Carp in freshwater (He loves redfish too but hey who doesn't!) . Something about sight casting a tailing fish in skinny water, watching the fish eat, setting the hook and just watching line disappear off the reel drag screaming just gets him going!

At this month's Austin Fly Fishers meeting he will be discussing a wide variety of topics based on fishing the Texas hill country. He will be covering several bodies of water including: San Marcos river, San Gabriel river, Pedernales River, lower Colorado, Guadalupe. He will also be discussing different target species including: common carp, gar, Guadalupe bass, Rio grande cichlids and many more. He will talk tactics, flies and everything else in between on how to catch a variety of species that live in the hill country!

Ryan Schaper Guide/ Lead Kayak Guide Go Outside Expedition Co Cell: 936 443 0337

# SKIFF Program by Bob Maindelle

#### Dear AFF and Friends of SKIFF,

BACK TO BASICS: S.K.I.F.F. stands for Soldiers' Kids Involved in Fishing Fun. This program began in May of 2009. It is funded by the donations and fundraising efforts of the AFF. S.K.I.F.F. provides the children of military personnel separated from their families due to duty commitments with the opportunity to go fishing. Full-time, professional fishing guide Bob Maindelle coordinates and conducts these 3.5 to 4 hour adventures on Belton Lake and Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir, just outside the gates of Fort Hood in Bell County, TX.

As of this October 2018 newsletter, SKIFF has placed 427 kids on the water. Those children have landed 10,565 fish, an average of over 24 fish per child.

FRIENDS OF S.K.I.F.F.: Thanks primarily to the work of AFF members Dave Hill and Manuel Pena, other organizations have lent their support to the S.K.I.F.F. program, namely, the Sun City Rod & Gun Club, the Sun City Women Helping Others (WHO) organization, and the McBride Foundation (part of the Austin Woods & Waters Club). This month, on October 2nd, S.K.I.F.F. received a \$1,000.00 donation from the Sun City Rod & Gun Club.

# ON THE WATER WITH THE CARRILLO FAMILY:

The Killeen Independent School District, to which a majority of Fort Hood's children go for their education, had Columbus Day off on Monday, October 8th.

Mrs. Amy Carrillo contacted S.K.I.F.F. about a month in advance, interested in her two boys, Matthew and Sammy, going on a S.K.I.F.F. fishing trip on that day.

The boys' father, U.S. Army Captain Alfredo Carrillo, is currently deployed to Iraq for his second tour there. He is a commissioned officer in the Army's engineer branch.

Mrs. Carrillo joined us for this trip, as did AFF member Dave Hill who, after the trip, presented the boys each with their



own closed-face spinning outfit and a S.K.I.F.F. logo ball cap.

We fished the first hour of the trip in the rain with an ambient air temperature at 82F. Sammy, age 4, needed some coaching, so I worked with him one-onone showing him how to tempt and land sunfish using a bream pole (much like a Tenkara outfit). At age 14, Matthew simply observed what I was showing Sammy, and was very successful working independently on the opposite side of the boat.

We fished for about 90 minutes in a quiet cove, landing 36 fish including redear, longear, green, and bluegill sunfish.

We devoted the last half of the trip to chasing "big game" (as compared to the diminutive sunfish) in the form of white bass. Although our window to successfully chase these fish with downriggers in the deep, clear waters of Stillhouse Hollow was limited by incoming weather, we landed 19 of them as one storm passed and before another arrived.

This included 2 sets of triples (3 fish landed on one rod at the same time using an umbrella rig) for Matthew, and 2 sets of doubles for Sammy. We ended the trip with 55 fish landed.

Thank you for your donations to S.K.I.F.F.!

If you would like to help support this wonderful program, please send a check payable to Austin Fly Fishers at the following address.

Austin Fly Fishers SKIFF Program P.O. Box 10504 Austin, TX 78766

# **Bait Migration along PINS**

by NIIs Pearson

Padre Island National Seashore can be very productive in the late summer and early fall when the dusky anchovies begin migrating south. However, this year the weather hasn't cooperated. For most of the late summer, the coast seems to have been plagued with unending rainstorm and small zones of red tide. Fortunately, Brandon was keeping a keen eye on the weather forecast for the coast and found a window between rainstorms that looked good. On Saturday, Sept. 22 Brandon, Doug, and I all drove to the coast in hoping to take advantage of this opportunity. We were rewarded with a beautiful Sunday on the Gulf Coast.

As you may know, just past the Visitors Center at the park the asphalt road disappears and the sandy beach becomes the highway all the way to the Mansfield Jetty about 65 miles south. On this day, we were in luck. The sand was hard, the winds low, the water was clear, no red tide, and we had sunshine. As we drove south, we didn't see much of anything happening in the surf. Then, we spotted birds working the first gut at around the 30-mile marker. That was our cue. I stopped the car and jumped out, rigged up, and started casting into the melee. Because of an unusually high tide, the anchovies were hugging the shore in just inches of water. This meant that only small predatory fish and birds were attacking these schools -little jacks, small ladyfish, and whiting. When the schools are out past the first gut in the deeper water, Spanish mackerel, jacks, and large ladyfish will attack the schools. On this trip, we

#### **PINS cont.**

had to be satisfied with hooking up the smaller prey with one exception. Brandon started casting into deeper water with a large fly and came landed a 30-inch speckled sea trout.

If you have never ventured down the sand on PINS, you are missing one of the great experiences on the Texas coast. If possible, I recommend taking the trip during the week after the kids are back in school. That way, you don't have nearly as many people on the beach. If you have a 4x4 and travel past the 25-mile marker, you can truly experience a stretch of sand virtually untouched by humans.

Brandon with his speck

Brandon and Doug in the Surf

### **Doug Kierklewski** learns to construct bamboo fly rods and Joan Wulff drops by for a visit

Chief.

KNDTS

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ATTEL LINE BOURLE TAFER HOLET FERMANE FLY LINES

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The following individuals who made presentations to our club in 2017/2018. Please follow the links to get more information on the services they provide. You won't be disappointed.

Marcus Rodriquez – http://livingwatersflyfishing.com/ Central Texas Guide Capt. Billy Trimble – http://trimbleflyfishing.com/ Fly Fishing Rockport/Texas Coastal Bend Chris Johnson – http://livingwatersflyfishing.com/ Living Waters Fly Shop and Central Texas Guide Pat Dorsey – http://www.bluequillangler.com/ Fly Fishing Colorado Capt. Scott Hamilton – http://www.flyfishingextremes.com/ Fly Fishing Florida's Atlantic Coast Capt. Eric Glass – http://www.captainericglass.com/ Fly Fishing South Padre Island Kevin Stubbs – http://www.expedition-outfitters.net/ Fly Fishing the Devils River Kevin Hutchison – http://hillcountryflyfishers.com/ Fly Fishing the Hill Country Capt. Steve Soulé – http://www.theshallowist.com/index.asp Fly Fishing Galveston Jeff Davis – http://allwaterguides.com/jeff-davis/ Fly Fishing the lower Colorado River Jud Cole – http://centraltexasflyfishing.com/ Central Texas and Colorado

Capt. Billy Trimble Shallow Water Flats Fishing Texas Coastal Bend

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#### ALASKA PENINSULA FISHING ADVENTURES

ORVIS

CAUTION: Visiting the website below may cause a sudden desire to migrate North.



512.656.2736 www.epicaaa.com



