



AUSTIN FLY FISHERS

January 2018
Volume 20, Issue I

Club Meeting
Thursday, January 18
Northwest Recreation Center
6:00 Fly Tying and Social Hour
7:00 Peter Breeden will make a presentation about the
Lower Mountain Fork tailwater fishery in southeastern
Oklahoma and cover everything from matching the hatch
to fishing techniques

Jim Robinson with redfish caught
in Dulac, Louisiana



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club

President's Message **Shawn Riggs**

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To contact officers:

Info@AustinFlyFishers.com

As the incoming President of the Austin Fly Fishers, I thought that good way to start my term would be to introduce myself to club members. In addition, I will describe some of the benefits of club membership and two programs that the club sponsors for the benefit of others.

I grew up in Victoria, Texas and my father and brother introduced me to fishing the back bays and shores of Seadrift and Port O'Connor when I was young. I fondly remember those early fishing trips and learning how to target redfish and speckled trout with artificial lures.

It wasn't until I moved to the Hill Country to attend college and that found myself far from the saltwater that I cherished in my youth. During that time away from home, I got to know freshwater, different fish species, and a new method of catching fish. I bought my first fly rod from Gruene Outfitters in New Braunfels, an 8 WT 4 piece rod.

After much reading up on the art of fly casting and spending endless hours of practice on a grassy lawn, I was ready to try this thing called fly fishing. It took me a few fruitless trips and the sharp barb of my fly finding its way into my backside a time or two, that I finally landed my first fish on a pheasant tail nymph in the tailwater of the Guadalupe River below Canyon Lake Dam. It was a real leviathan... okay, it was a six inch rainbow trout that had been stocked. It was probably stocked a couple days before and so hungry that it would have struck anything that came near it. Nonetheless, the magnitude of the exhilaration and sense of accomplishment that I felt in that moment you would have thought that I had landed a marlin. Right then, I was hooked on the sport.

I joined the Austin Fly Fishers almost nine years ago, looking for a club to learn more about the mechanics of fly casting, improve my fly tying, and find some local waters to try out my newly acquired skillset. I can attest that I found all I was looking for and so much more.

The club is a terrific place to learn more about improving your casting, finding the local honey holes, and learning how to tie any fly that tickles your fancy. AFF has a slew of members from beginners to seasoned pros. The extensive knowledge base of the members of this club is unbelievable. We are lucky enough to have master fly casters and accomplished fly tyers among our ranks. They are more than willing to share tips and stories with anyone willing to listen.

When you attend a club outing to local waters you receive nothing but support and encouragement from this great group of fellow anglers. They say the best way to learn a language is to immerse yourself in the culture and I can say that it is very similar with fishing. Before you know it you will be reading the water, landing more fish, and soon speaking the language of the sport.

As a member of the club you can learn a lot about fly fishing, but we are so much more than that. The club is heavily involved in conservation, from river clean ups to water monitoring to planting cover in local waters. We also support two charities throughout the year. The SKIFF program, which stands for Soldier's Kids Involved in Fishing Fun, is a

President's Message cont.

charity that was started by a late member of the club, Ron Cruse, and a fishing guide out of the Fort Hood area, Bob Maindelle. Last year in 2017, the program took 53 children of current men and women serving in our military fishing completely free of charge to their family, and those kids landed 1,365 fish on these memorable trips. Since its inception in May 2009 AFF has raised funds for the SKIFF program to send 399 kids on guided trips and they have caught and released a whopping 9,747 fish!!

The Austin Fly Fishers has also been a big supporter of the local chapter of Casting for Recovery. This amazing charity takes women diagnosed with cancer in various stages on fishing retreats at no cost to them. The club raises funds throughout the year to sponsor women for this annual retreat along with raising awareness of the program among its members. There have been over twenty women whose lives we have impacted by sponsoring them and supporting the noble efforts of CFR.

In closing, I look forward to the opportunities that await us in 2018. I am excited to step into the role of President and to lead the club as it continues to grow and flourish in this community. A famous Babylonian proverb that was a favorite of President Hoover states "The gods do not deduct from man's allotted span the hours spent in fishing." So with that in mind, get out on the water more and chase those fins because it doesn't count against you and I can think of no better way to spend the new year. Thank you.



Financial Report

by Shawn Riggs

11/1/2017 - 11/30/2017

12/1/2017 - 12/31/2017

Begin Bal. Checking \$10,379.78

Begin Bal. Checking \$13,173.33

Income:

Auction	\$375.00
Donation	\$1,000.00
Merchandise	\$158.62
Dues AFF FFI	<u>\$237.21</u>
Total Income	\$2,770.83

Income:

Dinner Tickets	\$1,116.15
Raffle Tickets	\$802.12
Silent Auction	\$300.00
Dues AFF FFI	<u>\$140.61</u>
Total Income	\$2,358.88

Disbursements:

Refreshments	<u>\$13.28</u>
Total Disbursements	\$13.28

Disbursements:

Casa Chapala Dep	\$150.00
Casa Chapala	<u>\$690.04</u>
Total Disbursements	\$840.04

Net \$2,757.55

Net \$1,518.84

Unencumbered:

Unallocated Funds \$6,249.44

Unencumbered:

Unallocated Funds \$6,666.16

Encumbered Funds:

Casting for Recovery	\$628.17
SKIFF	\$6,259.72

Encumbered Funds:

Casting for Recovery	\$1,730.29
SKIFF	\$6,259.72

Ending Bal-Checking \$13,173.33

Ending Bal-Checking \$14,656.17

January Speaker – Peter Breeden

Our speaker this month will be Peter Breeden. If you are even thinking about fishing the Lower Mountain Fork in Oklahoma, then this is a presentation you won't want to miss! Peter currently guides for Beavers Bend Fly Shop in Oklahoma in the winter months. Once the weather warms, he heads to Lake City, Colorado where he guides for The Sportsman. He has fly fished Southwest Colorado for 20 years and is on the water close to 300 days a year! Peter is one of the finest trout guides anywhere, and is wealth of fly fishing information! Peter will be giving a presentation about the Lower Mountain Fork tailwater fishery in southeastern Oklahoma and cover everything from matching the hatch to fishing techniques."

Peter Breeden in his own words. I am the head guide for Beavers Bend Fly Shop. I have been guiding the Lower Mountain Fork river for 5 years, which includes the pre-flood, and post-flood river. In addition to guiding the Lower Mountain Fork river, I have been fly fishing Southwest Colorado for the past 20 years. I caught my first fish on the fly in Lake City, CO when I was 6 years

old! My home waters in the Lake City area include the Lake Fork of the Gunnison river, The Gunnison river, and the Rio Grande river. While in Lake City, I guide for the Sportsman Outdoors and Fly Shop. I am an avid fly tier and really enjoy watching my clients catch fish on flies I tied. I also love to volunteer for both Reel Recovery, a fly fishing group for men recovering from cancer, and Patriot Anglers, a fly fishing group for wounded Veterans. My perfect day on the water is casting to rising trout on a free stone Colorado stream!



Manuel Pena Accepts Donation from McBride Foundation

In their continuing efforts to raise funds for our Soldiers Kids Involved in Fun Fishing (SKIFF) program, Manuel Pena and Dave Hill contacted the McBride foundation for a donation. This year, we received a \$ 1,000 donation from the foundation. Here's a little more information about the foundation.

In 1984, the Austin Woods and Waters Club board of directors created the McBride Foundation. In 1988, it became a 501c(3) non-profit tax-exempt charitable organization.

The Foundation was established primarily to raise tax-deductible contributions to give something back to the outdoors community and to help "pass on the heritage" of the outdoors to upcoming generations.

The Foundation was named to honor the McBride family, who, through McBride's Guns, has made many significant contributions to hunting, fishing, conservation, and countless other outdoor activities for many years.

Club members contribute to the Foundation throughout the year, but the annual McBride Foundation Banquet held in the fall of each year, is the primary fundraiser for the Foundation. A large variety of prizes are offered including hunting and fishing expeditions, taxidermy gift certificates, outdoor gear, electronic gadgets used in the outdoors, gizmos and toys for big boys and girls as well as gear for the younger generation. Hundreds of donated items from area merchants are auctioned, raffled, or distributed as door prizes following a sit-down dinner. Over 400 people from the greater Austin area typically attend this annual event.



Fly Fishing Dulac, Louisiana

by Jim Robinson

This year 2017 was the 15th year of fishing out of Dulac, La with Lance Ledet Charters <http://www.fishabout.com/adventure/redfishing-louisiana-dulac-louisiana/>. Lance offers a complete package of lodging, food and fishing. I first started fishing with Lance with friends from the east coast on the first week of November. This is when the bull reds start showing up. Initially we fished close to the lodge but over time we began fishing further south (near the gulf) looking for bigger fish. This involves about a 45 minute boat ride. This year the weather was very mild but on previous years it has been a cold ride at 8am.

Lance was a young man working as a guide for his father who passed away several years ago and Lance took over the business. His wife Maggie takes care of the lodge and cooking. Both are natives of Louisiana and believe me, we do some serious cajun eating. They can accommodate 6 guests and stay booked most of the fishing season (Oct-Feb).

We fish for 5 days. This year upon arrival, the guides were sitting under the house (it is built on 8 foot polls) having refreshments and swapping stories. The prior two years fishing had been poor so we were anxiously waiting for a fishing report. Finally, one of the guides said "the fish are everywhere". I was suspect but fortunately their report proved it to be true. While there was a lack of big fish which I define over 20 lbs but there were numerous fish in the teens with a few over 20. Nevertheless, there was a lot of opportunities for fish 8-12 lbs. My partner and I landed 15 or so fish each day, lost our fair share and had plenty of opportunities with no or missed takes.

All of the fishing is site fishing. One fisherman stands on the deck of the skiff. The guide polls the boat along grass lines looking for cruising (feeding) fish or an occasional tailing fish. Early in the morning we encountered a few schools of fish feeding. One in particular was amazing to observe. There must have been at least 25 fish just tearing up everything in site, except our flies.

The last few years I have been able to have my son and son in law share my 5 days of fishing so they get most of the time on the deck. Great fun! Great memories! Hopefully there will many more trips together.



Jeff Robinson



Frank Edwards

The Fly Tyer's Corner by Mike Morphew

Small Damsel Nymph

This pattern has proved to be very effective for bluegill, trout and bass.

Materials:

Hook any long shank barbless 12 – 8

Thread Vevus white 70

Tail grizzle olive mini marabou

Body light olive ice dub

Rib gold wire or tinsel

Legs olive dyed small partridge

Eyes small copper dumbbell

Thorax cover olive raffine

Thorax light olive ice dub

Picture 1: Place the hook in the vise and tie in the barbell eyes



Pictures 4: Dub the thread with the ice dub and wind a tapered body to 2/3 the hook eye



Picture 2: Take thread to hook bend and tie in the tail, about shank length



Picture 5: Rib with the wire and tie in a short length of olive raffine



Pictures 3: Tie in the ribbing wire



Picture 6: Tie in a very small partridge hackle by the tip concave side facing up as shown



Fly Tyer cont.

Pictures 7: Dub a thorax and bring the hackle over the top and tie off and trim. Dampen and stretch the raffine over and tie off



Picture 8: Bring the raffine in between the eyes and tie off with a whip finish



Club Sponsors

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 Fishig the lower Colorado River

Jud Cole – <http://centraltexasflyfishing.com/> Central Texas and Colorado

Capt. Rus Schwausch – <http://www.epicanglingadventure.com/> Fly Fishing Southwest Alaska

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Capt. Billy Trimble
Shallow Water Flats Fishing
Texas Coastal Bend

<http://trimbleflyfishing.com/>
361-205-1266



Capt. Scott Hamilton
Fly Fish Jupiter, Florida

[http://www.flyfishingextremes.com/
blueh20fly@aol.com](http://www.flyfishingextremes.com/blueh20fly@aol.com)



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Fly Fish Colorado

<http://www.bluequillangler.com/>
800-435-5353



Capt. Fred Lynch
Fly Fish Corpus Christi

<http://www.flyfishcorpus.com/>
(361) 533-4227



Hermon Bain

Fresh Creek | Bowen Sound | Joulters Cay
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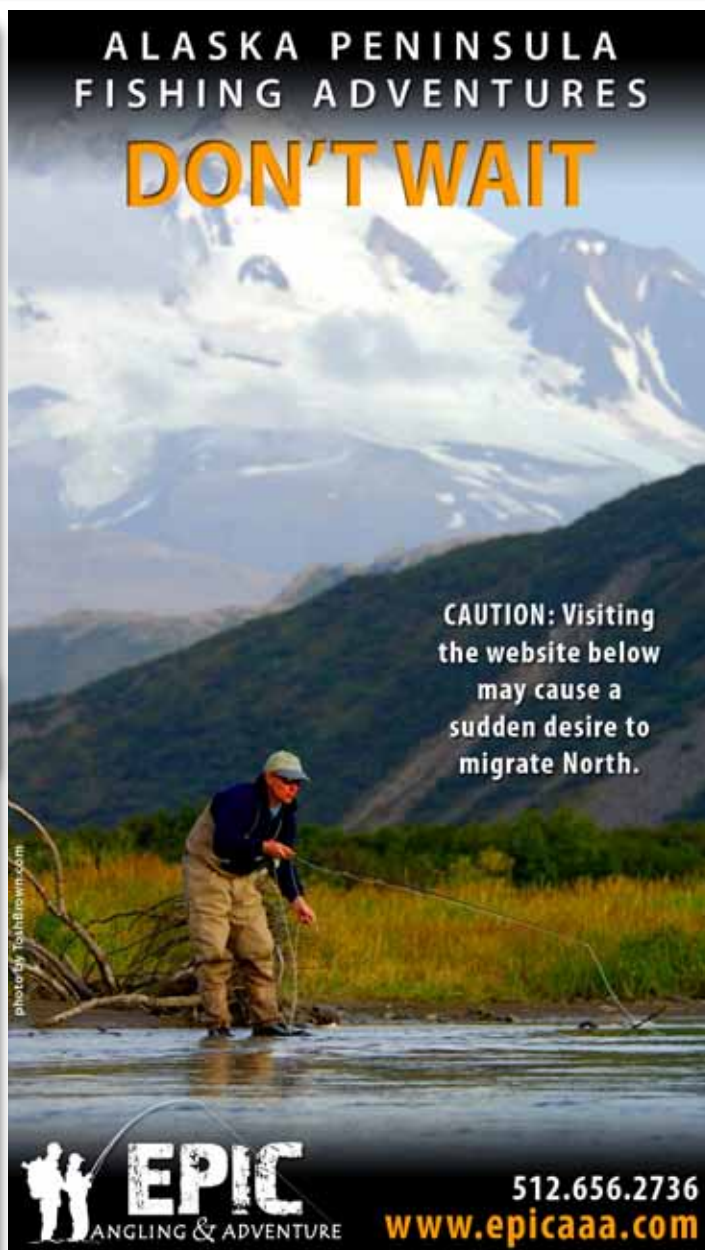
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