



AUSTIN FLY FISHERS

March 2018
Volume 20, Issue 3

Brandon Rabke with
redfish caught in south
Louisiana

Club Meeting
Thursday, March 15
Northwest Recreation Center
6:00 Fly Tying and Social Hour
7:00 Chris Johnson will present
information on reading the water
on rivers and streams



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club

President's Message Shawn Riggs

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To contact officers:

Info@AustinFlyFishers.com



Ed Parsons was a great man and a true friend to many. Although he towered over most of us he was always approachable with his big smile and infectious laughter. I cannot stress to you enough how much of an integral part of the Austin Fly Fishers that he truly was. He personified the ideal member every club looks for among its ranks.

Ed participated in numerous club outings throughout the years and often took on the responsibility of hosting these gatherings. He spearheaded the club's website redesign and brought us into the 21st century. Our web presence went from a static page out of the Nineties to a visually appealing and more interactive page. He worked on updating our logo into a more readable and cleaner design. He expanded our merchandise selection by ordering new AFF branded caps, t-shirts and decals for our members to purchase. He worked diligently to

form a partnership with local fly shop Sportsman's Finest to have them carry our club merchandise for sale to the public. He was instrumental in the club's conservation efforts. For example he requested that we order water monitoring kits to test the local waters that we fish and share the information with agencies entrusted with their oversight. He felt that since we were on the water anyway while fishing that we should do our part to ensure our rivers and lakes remained clean and safe. He was always striving to make the club better and more attractive to current and prospective members. Ed really did the work of ten men. His enthusiasm and energy were unparalleled.

One of the first outings that I attended as a new member of the Austin Fly Fishers almost ten years ago was at The Narrows, which was basically in

President's Message cont.

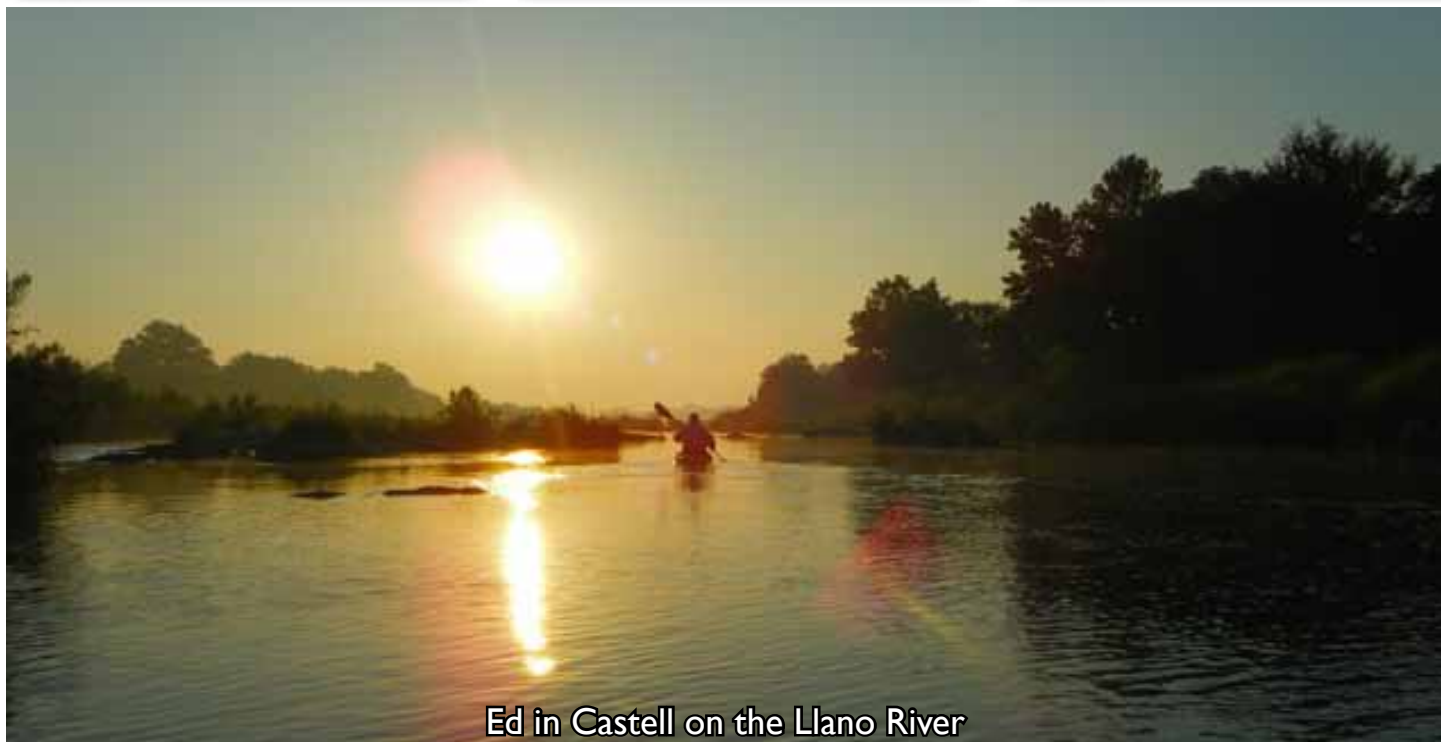
Ed's backyard. He was present on that trip and helped me tremendously with my casting. I'll just say that he was a very patient instructor that morning. He even took the time to point out where I would have the greatest luck and what flies would work best in my pursuit of our finned adversaries. That was just the kind of person Ed was. He was always willing to share pointers or tips with his fellow anglers. Helping others seemed to bring him great happiness.

I have to say that one of my favorite memories of Ed was hearing him recall how he hooked a

tarpon on a South Padre Island outing that the club had held. I wasn't able to make that trip but I saw some video that fellow angler Dave Bush shot of the experience and was fortunate to hear Ed tell the story of his fight with the silver king at one of our club's monthly meetings. Even though the elusive fish got off and Ed didn't land it, you would have never known based on the huge grin on his face and the excitement in his voice as he retold the tale. I felt like I was there with him on the bow of that boat as he fought that mighty tarpon and could hear every inch of line that the beast peeled off the

reel. Ernest Hemingway himself couldn't have outdone Ed's retelling of that memorable angling experience.

The members of the Austin Fly Fishers are lucky to have known him not only because of his tireless efforts promoting and improving our club but because he was a one of a kind guy who was always fun to be around. Ed Parsons leaves behind a lasting legacy of commitment, hard work, selflessness and passion, not only for this sport we all love but for life in general. We are going to miss our dear friend and fishing companion.



Ed in Castell on the Llano River

If you would like to express condolences to Ed Parsons' family, offer sympathy, or share a memory, here are some ways to send your thoughts:

1. Write a note to his family and send it to Dorothy Taylor, 101 Hill Loop, Spicewood, TX 78669
2. Send a contribution to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in memory of Ed Parsons
3. Send a contribution to the Austin Fly Fishers in memory of Ed.

March Speaker – Chris Johnson



Our speaker this month will be Chris Johnson. Chris is the owner and founder of Living Waters Fly Fishing, a fly shop and guide service based out of Round Rock, Texas. He has guided the Texas Hill Country for over a decade, and has fly fished the heart of the state for 20 years. Chris has been a licensed guide in Texas, Oklahoma, and Alaska. Chris is an IFFF Certified Casting Instructor, Umpqua Signature Fly Designer, Tenkara USA Guide, and TPWD Angler Educator. He is also a pro team member for Whiting Farms, Scott Fly Rods, and Scientific Anglers. Chris is dedicated to sharing his passion for the sport and investing in the next generation of fly anglers. He often is a featured presenter/fly tier at fly fishing, outdoor, and community events throughout the state.

Chris and his shop have also been featured in several outdoor publications including Trout magazine, Garden and Gun, and Tenkara Magazine. He was also awarded the 2014 Man of the Year from the IFFF Texas Council and in the same year, Living Waters was the recipient of the IFFF's prestigious Lee Wulff Award.

In addition to fly fishing, Chris is passionate about film and photography. He co-produced the short film "Unspoken," in an effort to raise awareness for Rio Grande Cutthroat trout conservation. As a result, Living Waters is working with Trout Unlimited as a Gold Level endorsed TU Business to restore Rio Grande Cutthroat throughout their native range.

Chris is happily married to his wife Emily and together they enjoy running the fly shop, fly fishing the world, and raising their daughter Lydia in the sport.

South Louisiana by Nils Pearson

Brandon Rabke and I began our fishing trip to South Louisiana with a flight into New Orleans on Fat Tuesday, 2018. We found our Southwest flight half full, probably because most of the travelers to this destination had already made their way to New Orleans to celebrate Mardi Gras days earlier. After renting a car, we drove south along the canals and marshlands of Louisiana, and by evening time we met up with **Capt. Baron Boyette**. Our energetic young host had arranged beautiful accommodations and after a night's sleep, we were out on the water the next morning.

On our first day, we faced wind in the teens, overcast skies, and murky water from the previous day's rain. Nonetheless, Capt. Baron took us to the dead end of a canal where we cast heavy flies on 8 wt rods. As we dragged the flies along the bottom, we got numerous hits and eventually landed 4, 20+ lb redfish. With these big fish, the first run is a reel-spinning journey into your backing. Once the run ends, comes the tricky part of retrieving line on a 20+ lb fish violently shaking its head and taking repeated short runs that challenge every bit of your skill to avoid breaking your 20lb tippet. Each fish we landed probably took in the neighborhood of 15 minutes to get to the boat. Capt. Baron hefted the chunky boys out of the water and into our hands for the mandatory pics.

After this morning workout, we went in search of clear water. After crisscrossing the marshes, we did come upon some bits of clear water but more often than not these areas weren't holding reds. The areas that did have reds usually had dirty water that made spotting fish impossible. And inevitably, the reds announced their presence with swirling water and puffs of mud as they took off.

We started out our second day in the same place as we fished on the first and dragged flies across the bottom. It took a couple of changes of flies before Capt. Baron found a flashy purple fly that enticed a couple of 20+lb reds to strike. However, very soon after we landed these big reds, the wind picked up and rain clouds moved in. A front had arrived and we quickly left this spot to get out of the rain.

Again, we crisscrossed the area looking for clear water. After little luck finding reds, Capt. Baron pushed on to a more distant area. As luck would have it, just after we arrived at our next spot



Nils Pearson with redfish caught while dragging flies across the bottom

South Louisiana cont.



the afternoon sky cleared, the wind dropped, and we came upon gin clear water. We began our search for reds in 3-foot deep water sighting the occasional large red (30+ lb) but failed to hook any. Capt. Baron then poled us into a series of large lakes with clear water and sandy bottoms. As soon as we entered this area, we started to see 8-10 lb reds.

For the rest of the afternoon, the games were on. I quickly lost count of how many reds we got to the boat but we probably got about 20% of the 200 redfish we saw. It was one of those situations where the repeated use of our equipment and ourselves took its toll –Knots came untied, hooks were bent and broken, and our casting accuracy degenerated. But what fun! If we were better fly fishermen, we could have landed 100 reds.



Captain Baron Boyette



Brandon Rabke with redfish



Nils Pearson with redfish caught while sight casting in shallow water



Financial Report

by Shawn Riggs

2/1/2018 - 2/28/2018

Begin Bal. Checking \$12,194.60

Income:

Merchandise	\$20.00
Dues AFF FFI	<u>\$135.55</u>
Total Income	\$155.55

Disbursements:

Refreshments	\$87.17
K. Barnes (speaker)	<u>\$150.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$237.17
Net	(\$81.62)
Accounting adj,	\$150.00
Adjusted Net	\$68.38

Unencumbered:

Unallocated Funds	\$5,953.26
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Encumbered Funds:

Casting for Recovery	\$0.00
SKIFF	\$6,309.72

Ending Bal-Checking \$12,262.98

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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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
Andros Island, Bahamas

<http://www.hermonsandrosbonefishing.com/>
242-471-6870
info@hermonsandrosbonefishing.com



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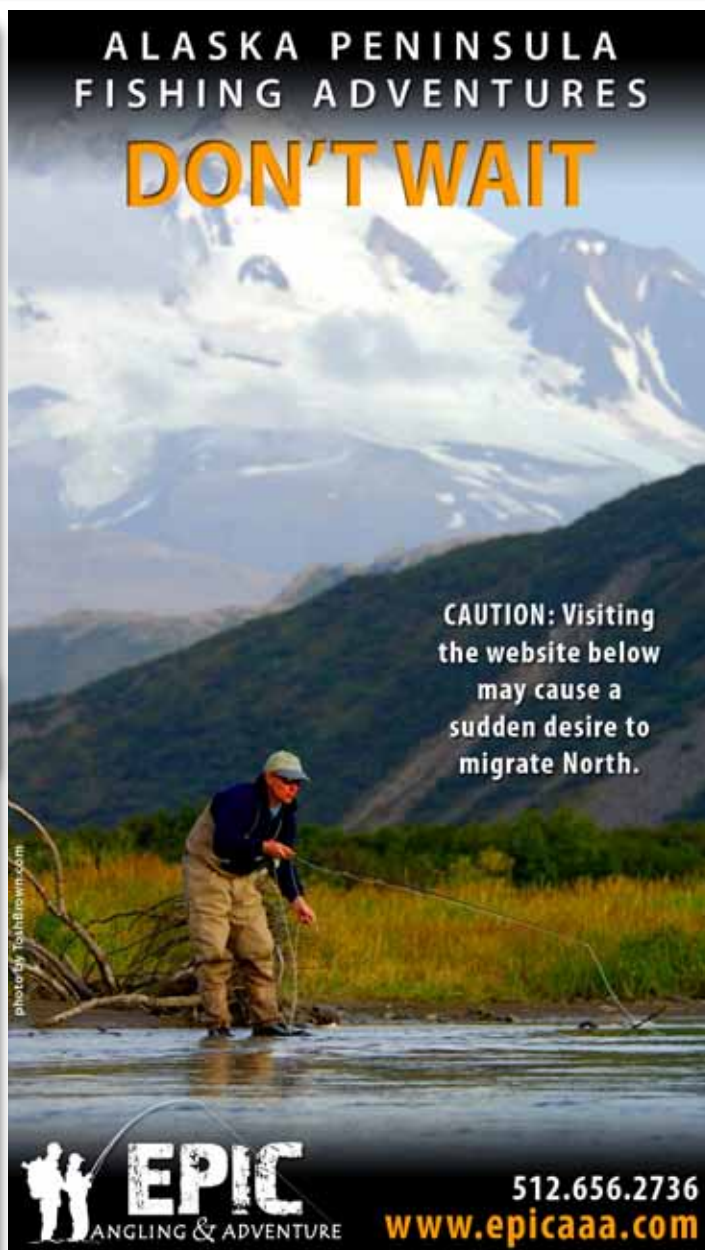
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10000 Research Boulevard
Austin, TX 78759
(512) 795 - 8004



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DON'T WAIT

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

photo by: TishBrewer.com

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