



AUSTIN FLY FISHERS

September 2019
Volume 21, Issue 9



Club Meeting
Thursday, September 19
Northwest Recreation Center
6:00 pm Fly Tying and Social Hour
6:00 pm Casting Practice
7:00 pm

Joe Andrezik with golden dorado
caught on the lower Parana River
that runs through northeastern
Argentina



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INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club

President's Message by Shawn Riggs

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September 1st is considered a holiday for many bird hunters across our great state. It's when dove season officially opens in North and Central Texas. When it falls during the week many a hunter comes down with an unknown malady or questionable ailment. Luckily for employers everywhere this year it fell on a weekend.

Last Sunday my brother and I loaded up the truck with our shotguns, cases of shells and my trusty bird dog Roosevelt and headed down to a public hunting lease in Comal County, just outside New Braunfels, with high hopes. I can assure you that even though the opening of hunting season usually correlates with cooler Fall weather that it got hot fairly quickly as the sun began to rise over the fields as we waited in anticipation for flocks of dove to appear before us. Well just like with fishing you don't always find the game and would you believe that after a few hours of sitting around we only saw a couple of birds flying and they were well out of range of a 12 gauge.

But we weren't going to let the lack of birds ruin a good trip and due to good foresight on our part we had brought along our freshwater fly fishing gear, because you just never know, so we decided to head down to the Guadalupe River near Cypress Bend Park and try our luck.

The cold waters of the mighty Guad felt unbelievable as we waded out towards the middle of the river and Roosevelt really seemed to enjoy cooling off too as he dog paddled close by. After a few casts we had each caught our first bluegill and that quickly erased getting skunked by the dove earlier that morning. I read once where sunfish fight better than any other fish, inch-for-inch. I truly believe it. Those feisty fish put quite the bend in Shane's three weight rod. On occasion they would hammer the flies almost as soon as they hit the surface. We even tried to entice a couple of small carp we saw cruising along

the bottom but we couldn't get the flies positioned in front of them just right before they moved on.

We had an enjoyable time wading the river and walking the bank catching up on each other's lives while catching more sunfish. We fished for a couple of hours before we decided to grab a bite to eat and head back home. We will surely have better luck with the dove next time we hunt but thanks to the mighty sunfish we found in the refreshing waters of the Guadalupe, the trip turned out to be a fun and eventful outing after all.



Financial Report

by Jim Robinson

8/1/2019 to 8/31/2019

Begin Bal. Checking \$16,170.03

Income:

Total Income \$00.00

Disbursements:

Speaker \$150.00

Net (\$150.00)

Unencumbered: \$7,594.68

Encumbered Funds:

Casting for Recovery \$1,047.52

SKIFF \$7,377.83

Ending Bal-Checking \$16,020.03

Golden Dorado by Joe Andrezik

I had heard wonderful stories about fishing for Golden Dorado but never thought I would make a trip to South America to fish for them. As it turns out, a few friends of mine were going to fish on the Golden Dorado River Cruiser and invited me to come along. How could one refuse? The River Cruiser is a mothership houseboat that houses eight guests and staff. Each morning and afternoon the guests leave the mothership and fish from three person skiffs. The fishing is in the lower Parana River that runs through northeastern Argentina. The headwaters are in Bolivia and Uruguay. Golden Dorado (from my experience) are hard fighters like striped bass and love to go airborne in attempts to throw the hook. This is similar to fighting tarpon. Overall, a great gamefish.

On our trip, there had been a lot of rain in Uruguay and northern Argentina just prior to our arrival. This raised the water level in the river 5-6 feet. The surrounding flatlands were flooded and allowed the fish to disperse along the vegetated banks. Fishing was much more difficult than usual we were told, but we caught fish daily.

We caught golden dorado, piranha, paku and a vampire fish. Piranha are quite good eating and the guides always kept the for ceviche in the evening. The guests had planned 5-Star meals by the onboard chef but we tasted the guides local communal table-fare. Quite tasty!

The main entrees for the dorado were big 3/0 dark baitfish patterns. Poppers worked occasionally but were much less effective due to the high water. Tackle was 9 foot 9wt. rods with tropical sinking lines. We were told that the further north on travelled, the larger the Dorado. Two fishermen who were with us toward the end of the week corroborated this tale.

Fishing for Golden Dorado was a fun experience. Personally, I prefer to sight cast to fish. But I would do this trip again when the opportunity arises.



John Nole with golden dorado



Piranha

September Presentation by Kevin Hutchison



Kevin Hutchison, owner of [Hill Country Fly Fishers](#) and Orvis endorsed guide who has been guiding the rivers of the Texas Hill Country for 20+ years. He is also a Federation of Fly Fishers International Certified Casting Instructor and is the author of a book titled: Fly Fishing the Texas Hill Country which is considered by many to be the bible of regional fly fishing lore, lies and locations. He will be presenting to the our club this Thursday.



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SKIFF Program by Bob Maindelle

The month of August was quite a busy one as families tried to get in just a little more time in the outdoors before our local school districts went back in session beginning on August 26th for the communities surrounding Fort Hood. Over the course of the month S.K.I.F.F. aided another 19 children from 13 military families in enjoying the outdoors on 10 separate fishing excursions on either Lake Belton or Stillhouse Hollow Reservoir. These kids landed a total of 653 fish, thus an average of just over 34 fish per child.

Three of the children we provided trips to this month lost their father while on active duty. Five of the children we provided trips to this month earned a TPWD "First Fish Award" by landing the first fish of their lives.

Trip #10 – I fished with 8-year-old brothers Jonah and Jayden Talivaa, accompanied by their mom, Joelle Talivaa, a U.S. Army veteran who served one enlistment as a truck driver. The boys' father, U.S. Army Specialist Johnathan Talivaa, has served a total of 18 years on both active duty and in the Reserves. SPC Talivaa is currently deployed to Kuwait where he works in a military supply unit. 100 fish caught and released on 02 August.

Trip #11 – I fished with Lana (11), Shane (8), and Wyatt (6), the children of Sergeant First Class Joshua Pavey and his wife, Angel. On this trip, Angel left the kids in my care, as she also has a 3-year-old to tend to. SFC Pavey had just returned from a rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California, and, just days later, left home again to participate in a situational training exercise (STX). SFC Pavey has been in the Army for 15 years and serves as an electronic warfare specialist. All three kids earned a TPWD First Fish Award during this trip. 80 fish caught and released on 06 August.

Trip #12 – I fished with Mrs. Lindsey Schellin and her sons, Logan (age 8) and Jayden (age 6). Lindsey's husband, U.S. Army Specialist Gage Schellin, died while on active duty in 2014. SPC Schellin had served for 2 years in his first enlistment as a Firefinder Radar Operator in one of the



Talivaa family



Pavey kids



Schellin family

SKIFF cont.

Fort Hood field artillery units. 30 fish caught and released on 09 August.

Trip #13 – I fished with two mother/daughter pairs. 6-year-old Julie Battenfield was accompanied by her mom, Nikki Battenfield. Nikki's husband, U.S. Air Force Tech Sergeant Lonny Battenfield, is a plumber with a combined 19 years of active and reserve service. He is currently deployed. 8-year-old Ava Hagen was accompanied by her mom, Ilka Hagen. Ilka's husband, U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Volker Hagen, is a truck driver with 15 years of active duty service. He is currently on a rotation to South Korea. Julie earned a TPWD First Fish Award during this trip. 75 fish caught and released on 12 August.

Trip #14 - I fished with 8-year-old Isaac Martinez of Fort Hood. His dad, U.S. Army Sergeant (E-5) Gerardo Martinez, is a generator mechanic currently on a rotation to South Korea in support of the field artillery unit he is assigned to SGT Martinez has been in the Army for 10 years. Isaac earned a TPWD First Fish Award during this trip. 28 fish caught and released on August 16.

Trip #15– I fished with 3 kids from two families: 8-year-old Luke Eggert of Killeen, 8-year-old Riley Gibson of Harker Heights, and Riley's 10-year-old brother, Vince Gibson. Luke's dad, U.S. Army Sergeant First Class (E-7) Lucas Eggert, has served for 20 years on active duty and is currently assigned as the Military Science 3 Instructor at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. The Gibson's father, U.S. Army Staff Sergeant (E-6) Alan Gibson, has served for 12 years and is currently serving as a scout in a Ft. Hood cavalry unit. SSG Gibson recently received orders sending him to Afghanistan. 45 fish caught and released on 17 August.

Trip #16 – I fished with 3 kids from two families: 17-year-old Dasani Vaughters and her younger brother, 9-year-old AJ Vaughters. The siblings' mom, U.S. Army Master Sergeant Yolanda Vaughters is currently assigned to Fort Lee, Virginia, where she works in transportation. MSG Vaughters will be retiring soon, after 21 years of service, and will join her family back in the Fort Hood area.



Battenfield family



Gibson, Eggert kids



Reynolds, Vaughters kids

SKIFF cont.

Also joining us was 17-year-old Edward Reynolds III (nicknamed Tre). According to the account provided by the Military Times, SSG Edward C. Reynolds Jr., age 27, of Groves, Texas was assigned to 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas during Operation Iraqi Freedom. SSG Reynolds died on Sept. 26, 2006, of injuries sustained when his M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle rolled over while maneuvering in Baghdad. 102 fish caught and released on 20 August.

Trip #17 – I fished with Mr. Kossivi Aglee, his 5-year-old daughter, Haniel, and Haniel's little 11-month-old sister, Nancy, came along for the ride, as well. Haniel's mom, U.S. Army Specialist (E4) Abra Alokpa is currently on a rotation to South Korea where she serves in a supply unit. These rotations typically last about 9 months. Kossivi and Abra are originally from Togo, Africa. Abra became a U.S. citizen back in 2015 and enlisted in the military. Kossivi is a student, studying welding at Central Texas College in Killeen. He will take his citizenship exam in March 2020. 40 fish caught and released on 21 August.

Trip #18 - I fished with 12-year-old Drake Adams of Killeen, TX. Drake was accompanied by his mom, Tina Rodriguez, who is a veteran. Drake's dad, U.S. Army Sergeant First Class (E-7) Richard Rodriguez is currently assigned to South Korea. He is an Apache helicopter mechanic with 18 years in the military. 73 fish caught and released on 22 August.

Trip #19 – I fished with Elizabeth Fisher of Killeen. Elizabeth is involved with a scouting organization called American Heritage Girls. Her parents approached me about helping her fulfill the requirements for her merit badge in fishing, and I agreed. Elizabeth's father, Dale, is a disabled veteran who served 6 years in the U.S. Army's Field Artillery branch working on 155-millimeter howitzers and 8-inch guns. Elizabeth is home-schooled by her mom, Becky Fisher, and is 12 years old. 80 fish caught and released on 23 August.



Aglee family



Adams-Rodriguez family



Elizabeth Fisher

AFF Outings by David Bush

September 22-28, South Padre Island

Our annual trek to South Texas is once again coming up in September. South Padre offers a wide variety of fishing options from wading for redfish to fishing wrecks offshore. South Padre has a lot of rental options available at reasonable rates since it's the low season. Camping is also an option. Like the Corpus Christi trip, South Padre is also a very good destination for non-fishing significant others. While this outing is scheduled for an entire week, you're welcome to attend for as long as you like. Those planning to participate should email Nils Pearson at npearson@austin.rr.com. Details for gatherings, group fishing, and guide fishing opportunities will be shared with participants as the outing approaches.

October 18-20, Oktoberfisch, Junction

The annual Oktoberfisch gathering sponsored by the Fredericksburg Fly Fishers is once again being held on the South Llano River near Junction. This popular event draws fly fishers from across the state. Details are available at <https://www.fredericksburgflyfishers.com/about-oktoberfisch>. Stay tuned for details of the club's plans for participation.

Club Sponsors

The following individuals who made presentations to our club in 2017/2019. 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

Nick Streit – <https://taosflyshop.com/flyguide/main> New Mexico and Southern Colorado

Capt. Randy and Truette Cawfield – <http://www.lagunamadre.net/styled-33/index.html>

Lower Laguna Madre

Pat Vanek – BousqueValleyFlyFishing@gmail.com Rivers of Central TX

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Captain Eric Glass

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Capt. Scott Hamilton
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Capt. Fred Lynch
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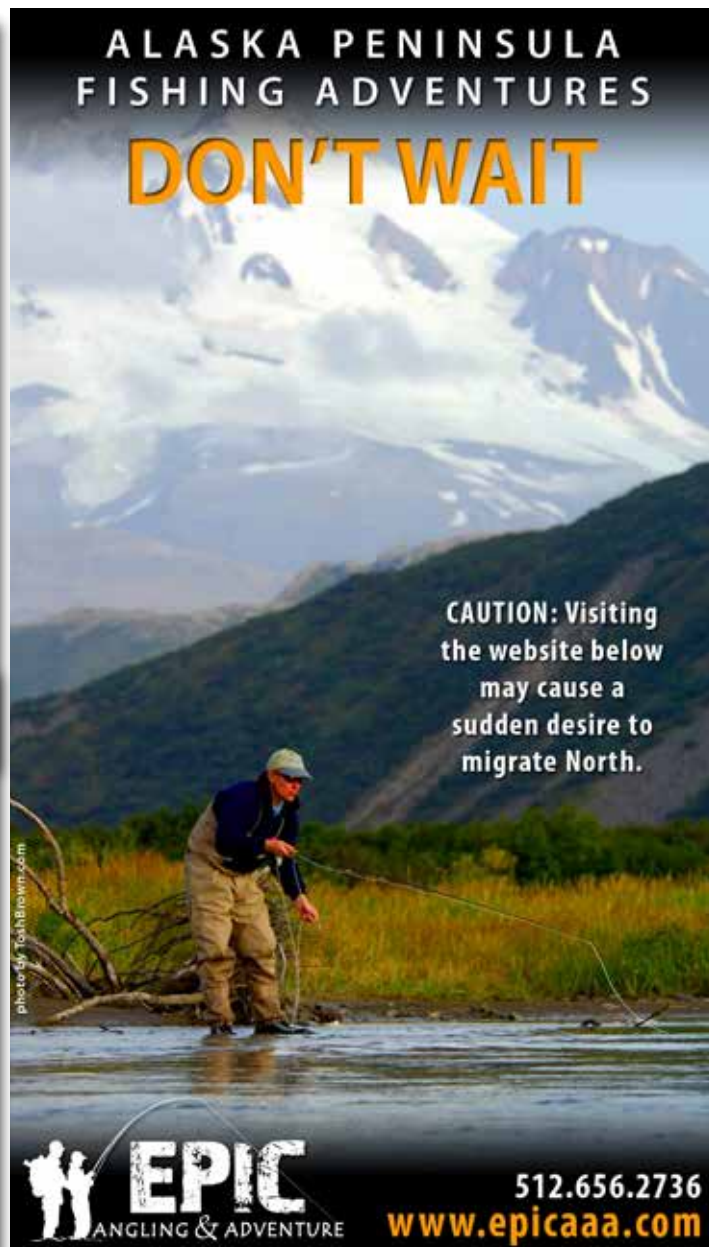
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