



AUSTIN FLY FISHERS

January 2020
Volume 22, Issue 1



Club Meeting
Thursday, January 16
[Northwest Recreation Center](#)
2913 Northland Dr, Austin, TX 78757
6:00 pm Social Hour
7:00 pm Bob Pool will be presenting fly fishing
for big bass

Dave Bush, AFF's new president



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club

President's Message by David Bush

Officers:

President

Dave Bush

Vice President

Scott Kerrigan

Treasurer

Jim Robinson

Interm Secretary

Nils Pearson

Past President

Shawn Riggs

Conservation

Education

Austin Orr

Merchandise

Scott Kerrigan

Membership

Shawn Riggs

Newsletter

Nils Pearson

Outings

Juan Shepperd

SKIFF

Dave Hill

Manuel Pena

Project Healing Water

Dave Hill

Webmaster

Brandon Rabke

Directors at Large

Doug Kierklewski

Jeff Hoelter

To contact officers:

Info@AustinFlyFishers.com

Welcome to 2020, Austin Fly Fishers! I'm excited to serve as your new president and hope that together we can make the club even better.

Thank you to Shawn Riggs and David Gaines for serving as our president and vice president, respectively, for the past two years. I know for a fact that I won't be able to match Shawn's creativity when it comes to writing this message each month, and we'll have a tall order to schedule great speakers for our meetings like David has done. Thanks again, gents!

Fishing has been in my blood for as long as I can remember. I grew up on a South Dakota family farm that was close to many productive glacial lakes, and frequently my dad promised to take me fishing if we could finish our chores early. That was all the motivation I needed, so we rarely missed out on those trips to our local lakes. Fishing from a rented aluminum Lund powered by our trusty 5HP Evinrude, we regularly caught plenty of pike, walleye, and yellow perch, but my favorites were the fat bluegills that slurped my top water popper. I didn't own a fly rod, but improvised with a spinning outfit and a clear casting bobber to get that little balsa popper in front of those feisty bluegills. I didn't realize it at the time, but at that point I was hooked on fly fishing.

Brutally frigid winters and short summers are not my thing, so I earned my engineering degree and moved to Texas as fast as I could. After two

years in Purgatory (aka Dallas), I eagerly moved to Austin 40 years ago last month. I was attracted to the gorgeous Hill Country rivers for the fish they held and the thrill of running them in a canoe, especially when the water was high and technically challenging. Along the way I discovered a better way to deliver poppers to bluegills in the way of a fly rod, and now I enjoy fly fishing from the local creeks to the Gulf Coast and everything in between.

Financial Report

by Jim Robinson

12/1/2019 to 1/31/2019

Begin Bal. Checking \$14,248.08

Income:

Merchandise Sportsmans \$895.00

Auction*** \$725.00

Dinner** \$75.00

Square 12/20/19* \$29.12

Square 12/23/19* \$573.96

Paypal 12/30/19* \$3,080.94

Total Income \$5,397.02

Disbursements:

Check #1324 \$1,205.00

Net \$4,174.02

Unencumbered: \$7,456.73

*Classification ND \$3,684.02

Encumbered Funds:

Casting for Recovery \$1,775.52

SKIFF \$5,505.83

Ending Bal-Checking \$18,442.10

**Funds to unencumbered

***Funds to Casting for Recovery

January Speaker – Bob Pool

Our January presenter is Bob Pool and the following is a description of his presentation.

I've been fly fishing for 57 years and through those years I have settled in to fishing for the bigger bass as the most rewarding for me. They are an entirely different fish than the smaller of the species and require specializing your equipment and techniques to catch them with any regularity. This presentation is showing what has worked for me with my hope it will work for others that may be inclined to concentrate more on catching bigger bass. –Bob Pool



Project Healing Waters at Camp Mabry by Dave Hill

After many months, I have completed all of the paperwork and received all of the necessary approvals to begin the Project Healing Waters Camp Mabry chapter. I will serve as the team leader along with volunteers to assist disabled military veterans in learning fly fishing skills. I will be asking the club and its members to help with financial assistance and volunteers to assist me in this project dave.hill@projecthealingwaters.org. Sam Godfrey stepped up to be my first volunteer on this project. I will give some background information about Camp Mabry and the Project Healing Waters mission.

Camp Mabry is a military installation in Austin, Texas located at 2200 W 35th St, Austin, TX 78703. It houses the headquarters of the Texas Military Department, Texas Military Forces and Texas Military Forces Museum. It was established in 1892 and is the third-oldest active military installation in Texas, behind Fort Sam Houston and Fort Bliss. A pretty cool place for a new Project Healing Waters Chapter.

For those unfamiliar with Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. it is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings. The following information is from the national organization:

VISION

As the Nation's premier nonprofit organization, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. envisions a community where all participants can heal.



CORE VALUES

We hold the following core values as central to our success

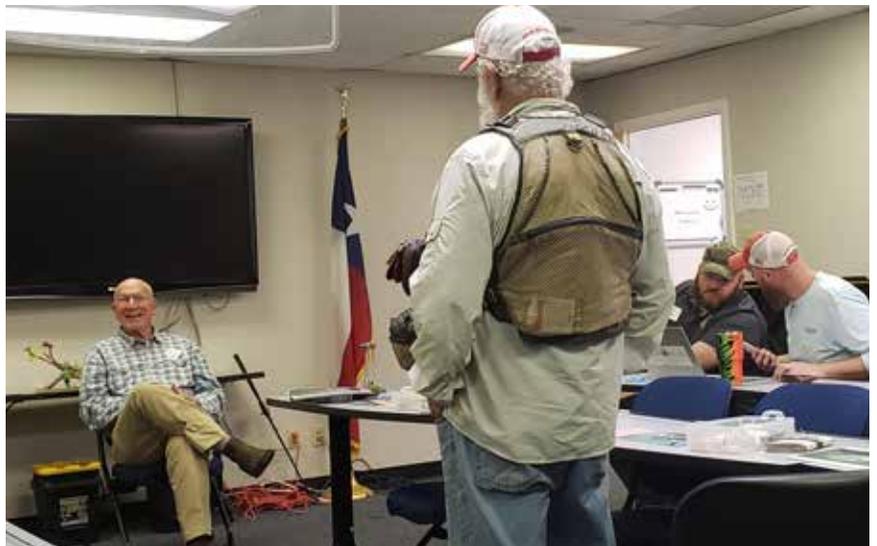
Compassion – Our organization enables the physical and emotional recovery of our participants as it restores the bond of trust that they built while serving this great Nation.

Accountability – Our organization remains accountable to our participants, to our volunteers, to our sponsors, and to our donors.

Excellence – Our organization reliably provides high-quality programs for all volunteers and participants based-upon well-understood standards of excellence.

Community – Our organization creates a sense of family by mentoring and supporting one another with dignity, passion, respect, and humility.

I look forward to receiving support from the Austin Fly Fishers in establishing this new project.



SKIFF Program by Bob Maindelle

We rang in the New Year this year by rising early on a cool, damp, cloudy morning and heading over to Lake Belton preparing to welcome aboard 14-year-old Emani Frazier for the 2020 season's first SKIFF trip on 01/01/2020.

Emani is an 8th grader at Union Grove Middle School in Harker Heights, TX, where she enjoys playing volleyball. She'll head to Harker Heights High School for her freshman year next year.

Emani's mom, Melissa Frazier, is a bond fide disabled U.S. Army veteran and single parent to her 5 daughters, of which Emani is the youngest. Melissa left Queens, NY, in her early 20's to join the military and was honorably discharged as a sergeant after multiple enlistments. She is active with the Central Texas Wounded Warrior Project and, through their Facebook page, learned of the S.K.I.F.F. program.

Both Melissa and Emani had a little prior fishing experience, albeit with bait, before this trip with me, so, I assessed what they already had a good grip on, and then built on that.

Both were good listeners and fast learners and, in no time, had the "easing" tactic which is so effective this time of year, down pat. We used light spinning gear with the very reliable 3/8 oz. Hazy Eye Slabs which I make myself, with stinger hooks attached, and wound up catching white bass, largemouth bass, and hybrid striped bass.

The morning's weather was just an average "between fronts" kind of day, and the fish activity reflected that. The fish were not shut down, but they weren't fired up, either. Each time we found fish using sonar, we caught a few (perhaps 5-10) and then had to move on as the remaining fish there quickly lost interest, and as we failed to draw other fish in with the commotion our hooked fish caused.



Emani Frazer

By 11:20, we'd landed 43 fish and I could tell that Emani was getting cold, despite dressing well. I suggested we fish until 11:45 or until we'd landed 50 fish, whichever came first, mainly to give Emani a goal to shoot for and a known end time so she could anticipate warming up again. The ladies were both good with this challenge, and, by 11:40, we'd landed our 50th fish and were taking photos to commemorate the morning.

Thanks to the cloud cover, we found fish up shallow, and, thanks to the cooling water, we also found fish deep. We caught fish from 16 to 28 feet deep.

Thanks to the assistance of Mrs. Denise Igo, now located near Fort Drum,

NY, we've been able to get the word out about SKIFF, especially for kids 11 and older, being available through the winter months. Mrs. Igo's own children benefited from SKIFF when their family was stationed at Fort Hood several years ago. During that time, Mrs. Igo began a still-popular Facebook page named "Fort Hood Area Events" which advertises wholesome, family-oriented activities taking place in and around Fort Hood.

Mrs. Igo's efforts were also seen by the Warner family, whose teenaged son will be our next SKIFF trip recipient later this month. More about that trip in our February report!

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 Rodriguez – <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

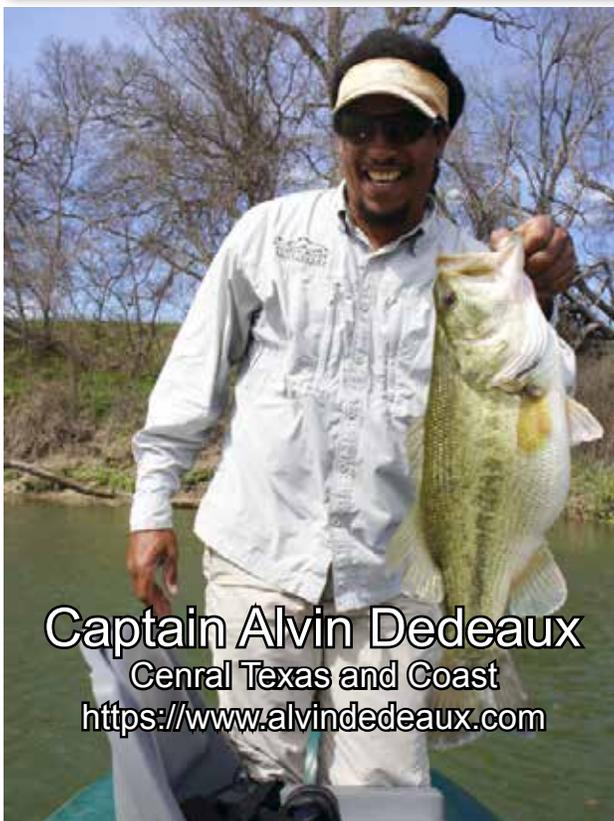
Nick Streit – <https://taosflyshop.com/flyguide/main> New Mexico and Southern Colorado

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

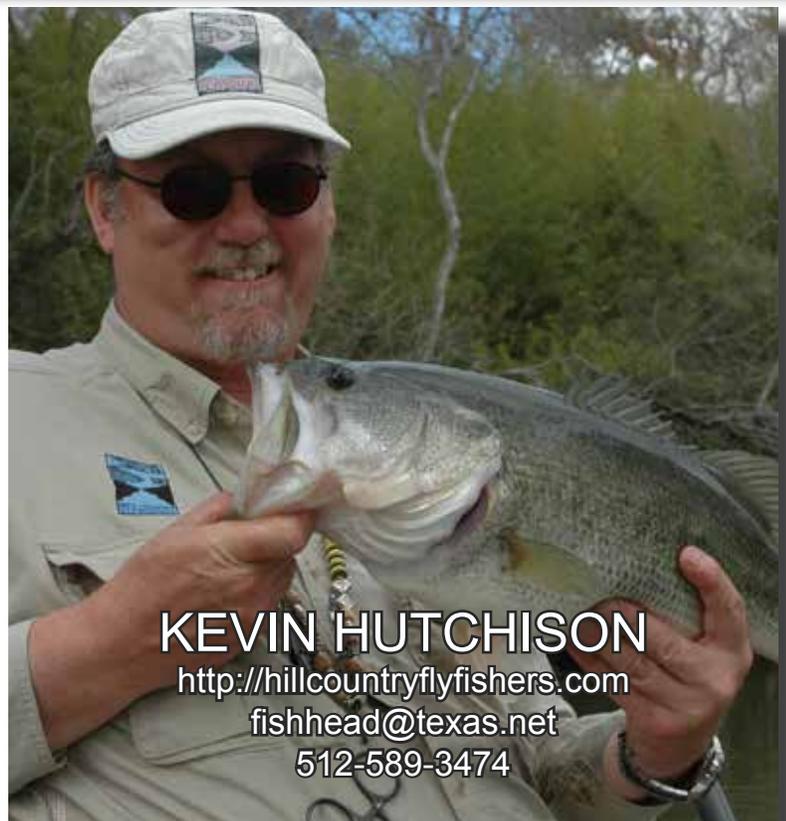
Lower Laguna Madre

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

Capt. Alvin Dedeaux – <https://www.alvindedeaux.com> Central Texas and Texas Coast



Captain Alvin Dedeaux
Central Texas and Coast
<https://www.alvindedeaux.com>



KEVIN HUTCHISON
<http://hillcountryflyfishers.com>
fishhead@texas.net
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LAGUNA MADRE

Capt Randy and Truette Cawfield
956-371-3036

Email: kingfisherinnarroyocity@gmail.com



Captain Eric Glass

South Padre Island, Texas
<http://www.captainericglass.com>



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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/>
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Nick Streit

New Mexico and Southern Colorado
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Capt. Fred Lynch

Fly Fish Corpus Christi

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



Kevin Stubbs

Expedition-Outfitters.net

Phone: 210-602-9284
email: kevinstu@msn.com



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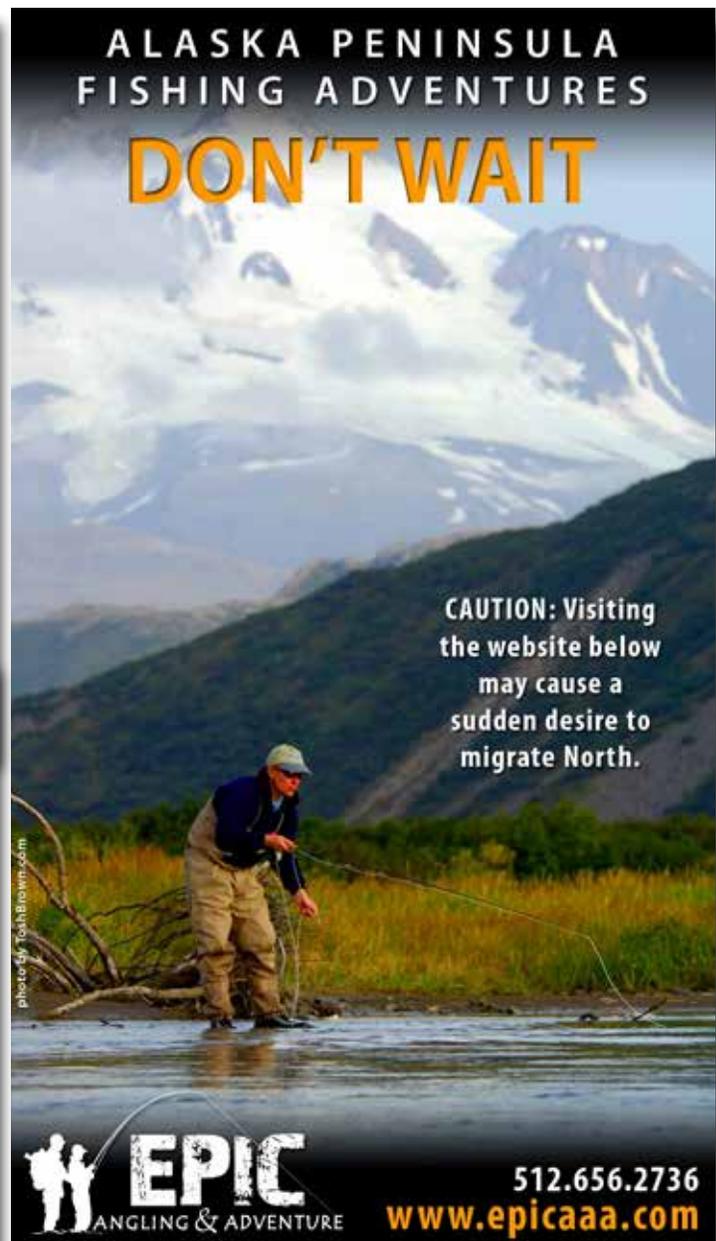
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