



TVFF Club News

April 2025



TVFF Club Meeting

Herb Ladenhiem, Master Rod Builder
Thursday, April 17th 7:00 PM



Speaker for April is Herb Ladenhiem, master rod builder, specializing in building saltwater fly rods. He is a saltwater fly fisherman, who loves to fish for striped bass and other saltwater fish. Herb has been building fly rods for generations. He has been interviewed on the Mastering Rod Building pod cast, episode 57. He is a dedicated rod builder for professional fly fisher Chico Fernandez. Herb is also the CTS rep/distributor for the USA. He has been building rods for over 50 years and will be informing us on how he builds graphite/fiberglass fly poles.

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This Month

- April 10 – Fly Tying, 7 PM
- April 17 – TVFF Meeting, 7 PM
- April 24 – Fly Tying, 7 PM

Officers and Directors

President: Dave Bailey
Vice President: Andy King
Secretary: Rodney Durrett
Treasurer: Aaron Serafinowicz
Membership: Debbie Hill
Activities: Larry Hice
Education: Brian Moore
Conservation: Bob Lowery
Communications: Connor Baker

Board of Directors Meeting

The next BOD meeting is May 1, 2025, at 7 p.m. in Room 201 at the church. Members are welcome.

TVFF Fly Tying Group

Fly tying sessions will be conducted at Faith Presbyterian Church, Room 201, at 7 p.m.



April 10th, 7 PM

Black Ghost, Tyer – Jon Reinecke

Cost: \$3

An easy to tie classic streamer pattern. Invented by Herb Welch, this fly works on salmon, steelhead and trout.

Materials:

Hook: 6x Streamer

Thread: Black thread

Body: Black floss and silver tinsel

Tail: Yellow hackle

Wing: White bucktail or marabou



April 24, 7 PM

Psycho Prince Nymph, Tyer – Andy King

Cost: \$3

A flashier version of the classic Prince Nymph! Tie this on to attract fish!

Materials:

Hook: Size #12 – 16

Thread: Size 8/0

Body: Ice dubbing

Wing: White turkey biot

Other: Copper wire



All are welcome! Fly tying equipment is available for new tyers. Come and discover the joy of catching fish on a fly you tied or, better yet, one of your own design. The sessions are the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7 p.m.

TVFF President David Bailey - Kevin Rapkoch Fishing

One of the most fun and entertaining fly fishing channels on YouTube is Kevin Rapkoch Fishing. Kevin's channel has 5000 subscribers with the number increasing weekly.

Kevin lives in the Phoenix, Arizona area and his videos are uniquely focused on fishing the various canals that flow through the Phoenix area that are part of the Salt River Project (I lived in the Phoenix area for four years and traveled there frequently for 15 and never knew there were fish in those canals). Kevin also takes fishing trips to Northern Arizona, Montana and Alaska for fishing vacations. Kevin fishes for bass, tilapia and carp in the canals and trout in the other locations.

Kevin's channel is one of my favorites due to his absolute enthusiasm that he has when catching fish. Every fish Kevin catches is as if it is the first fish he has ever caught. His videos are 8 to 10 minutes of pure joy and fun and are not like any other fishing video on YouTube. Kevin's approach is simple, using basic tackle and flies while catching a whole lot of fish.

I encourage you to take a look at Kevin Rapkoch Fishing and experience with him FUN in catching fish.

Kevin's Social Media can be found here:

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@KevinRapkochFishing

Instagram: @kevin_rapkoch_fishing



Fish of the Month

TVFF members, Elijah and Victor Luna took a father son fishing trip to North Georgia. They fished with On the Fly Guide Service out of Blue Ridge. Wading, they caught some nice fish! Notable fish include Victor's nice Brookie and Elijah's massive Brown! Fun trip, thank you for sharing your photos.



Fish of the Month cont.

TVFF members Jonathan Craft and Connor Baker did some Tennessee Valley smallmouth fishing last month. The weather is starting to warm up and they were able to catch some decent fish. The wildlife was especially fun that day, as several Bald Eagles were spotted!





March Guest Speaker – Tim Flagler

Last week we had a special guest speaker, world renown fly fishing instructor and fly tyer, Tim Flagler. His presentation was on trout and what they eat and it was very well done. We learned about all the different types of aquatic wildlife that make up a trout stream ecosystem. It is amazing how many different foods trout eat. Thank you Tim and Joan Flagler for taking the time to speak with us. Below is a note they wrote to our club:

It was a pleasure presenting to you and your club members tonight. Tim really enjoyed it and we hope everyone learned a little something about what trout like to eat!

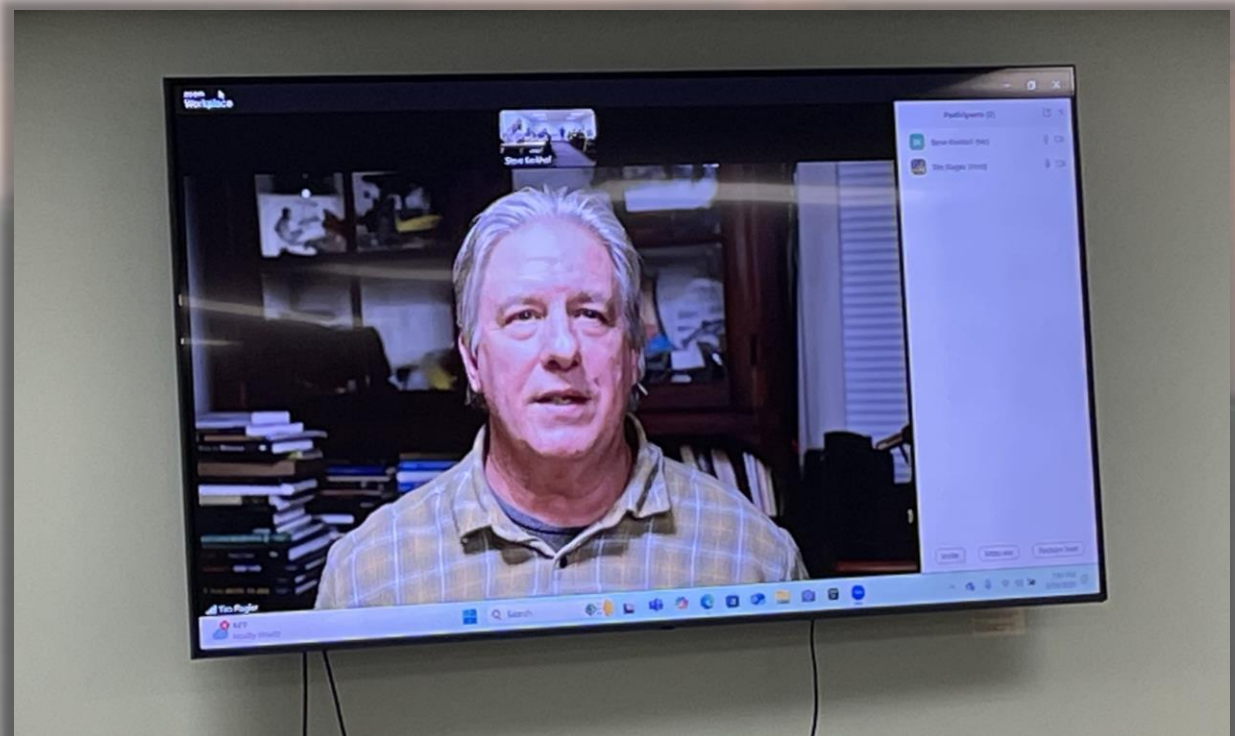
In case you'd like to share this with the club, all the flies that were included in the presentation are on Tim's YouTube channel, and there are playlists there which can help narrow patterns down by category: <https://www.youtube.com/user/tightlinevideo>

Also, I hope you don't mind but we've got several hosted trips throughout the year, if anyone is interested in joining us, they can visit our website: <https://www.tightlinevideo.com/hosted-trips>

Thanks again Andy, we appreciate your support!

Kind regards,

Joan



Trout Handling Best Practice

Catch and release is something our club really emphasizes. We all love to fish and want to protect our fisheries. When it comes to trout, they can be delicate. In order to not harm the fish, below are some rules to safely release fish to be caught another day. Although this article is centered around trout, these rules apply to all fish. Authored by Andrew Braker, the entire article can be found on Fly Lords [here](#). Next time you are on the water, remember these rules and try to use them.

1. **Wet your hands** – Fish have a protective slime on them. This coating helps them stay healthy. Not wetting your hands could risk wiping this slime off and hurting the fish.
2. **Use barbless hooks** – Barbless hooks are easier to move and significantly lower the risk of injuring the fish.
3. **Keep your hands out of the mouth and gills** – Gills are sensitive, keep your fingers clear.
4. **No squeezing** – Squeezing can break bones or injure internal organs.
5. **Keep them wet** – The longer fish are out of the water and not wet, the more of a chance there is to harm them.
6. **Don't overplay the fish** – Don't unnecessarily handle your fish.
7. **Use fish friendly nets** – Rope nets can hurt fish, try and use the rubber ones.
8. **Watch water temperatures** – For trout, don't fish if the water is too warm, above 68 degrees. Keep a thermometer on you.



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April Holidays

National Beer Day

Date When Celebrated : April 7

This day was established to not only honor the history of beer but also to celebrate the Cullen–Harrison Act – an act which allowed people to buy, sell and drink beer that had 4% alcohol by volume and was signed by FDR in 1933. The day in which it went into effect, over a million and a half barrels of beer were sold. Other countries which celebrate a National Beer Day include Iceland (March 1st) and the United Kingdom (June 15th).



In 1919, the Volstead Act became law and by 1920, the entire United States was subject to Prohibition. This meant that beer, wine and grain liquors had all become illegal. While Prohibition wouldn't become repealed until December 5th, 1933, U.S citizens received an early break 8 months earlier when Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Cullen-Harrison act on April 7th, 1933. After he signed the bill, FDR is reported to have said, "I think this would be a good time for a beer." And many Americans agreed with him because huge groups of people flooded breweries and taverns all over the country. In fact, by the end of that day, over 1.5 million gallons of beer ended up being sold. Beer has been enjoyed by Americans ever since.

NATIONAL Grilled Cheese Day

Date When Celebrated : April 12

National Grilled Cheese Day is an unofficial holiday which celebrates one of the most popular comfort foods on the planet: the grilled cheese. On this holiday, which just so happens to fall on April 12th, people all over the U.S and the world make themselves their favorite version of a grilled cheese sandwich. Which probably means this is one of the most delicious holidays on the calendar.

If you want to be technical about it, the pairing of bread and cheese together is something which has happened since ancient times. In fact, it was the ancient Romans who really made a point of serving bread and cheese together. However, the grilled cheese of today is really sort of a modern concoction. And it only came about because of two very important inventions: bread slicers and modern American cheese.





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