



TVFF Club News

November 2016



This Month Program

TVFF Holiday Banquet and Auction 11 November @ 6PM

Join us for our annual Holiday Celebration and Auction.



Enjoy a traditional turkey dinner complete with all the trimmings with friends and family, then stay for the auction and raffle.

Many valuable auction/raffle items are coming in with more expected daily. If you have equipment or interesting stuff you're not using, you can help the club by donating it to the auction.

Some lucky member will win the Orvis rod and reel combo valued at \$1200 merely for participating in club activities.

There will be no Club meeting in November. Regular Club meetings resume on 15 December with the TVFF Christmas Social.

This Month's Activities

- 7 Nov -  TVFF BOD Meeting, 7pm room 201
- 10 Nov - Fly Tying, 7pm room 201
- 11 Nov -  TVFF Banquet and Auction



Denotes a of qualifying event

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Will be awarded at the Holiday Banquet on the 11th!



** Must be a TVFF member to be eligible



Fly of the Month

The Fly of the Month will resume after the holidays on the 12th of January with a special Fly Tying Basics Session designed to get you started tying your own fish catching flies.

All are welcome . There is absolutely no experience needed and fly tying equipment is available for new tyers .

Come and discover the joy of catching fish on a fly you tied or even designed.



Join us for 2 hour sessions held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7 PM.

Catch of the Month

Sam Darnell landed this beautiful 20" rainbow while fishing Dry Run Creek near Mountain Home Arkansas. As nice as this fish is, Sam's dad told me that I should have seen the one that got way. A 28" +/- brown that are knows to go up Dry Run Creek every fall to spawn.

Congratulations Sam, GREAT fish!



Send your fishy photos to TVFF.website@Gmail.com

2016 WNC Fly Fishing Expo December 2 & 3

Southeast's largest fly-fishing event returns to Ag Center

The 8th Annual WNC Fly Fishing Expo returns Dec. 2nd and 3rd at the WNC Agricultural Center. This two-day fly-fishing extravaganza provides anglers a forum to sharpen their skills and learn about the latest innovations in their sport. It's become the Southeast's largest event for fly-fishers, averaging more than 1,000 visitors over the course of the weekend.

The expo will feature over 70 booths of local fly shops, angling organizations and fly-fishing art, while companies such as Simms, Orvis, Scientific Anglers, Flymen Fishing, and Sage will showcase the latest gear.

This year's featured speakers are renown fly fishing experts addressing the distinctive tactics for fly fishing throughout the Southeast. With such diversified fly fishing opportunities our speakers will present tactics for everything from trout fishing, to Bass and Musky and Saltwater fly fishing opportunities.

Hours for the 8th Annual WNC Fly Fishing Expo will be Friday, Dec. 2 from 12 to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$15 at the door for adults and free for children 16 years of age and younger.





The TVFF Fly Tying Group

Fly tying is fun and easier than it looks.

The Fly Tying Group meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7PM in room 201.

The successful Deer Hair Series and the Foam Fly Series introduced this year are the forerunners of other series to be developed for the upcoming year.

Series consist of several sessions of 1 or 2 flies per session, depending on the complexity of the fly. Some series may require 2-3 sessions while others may require 6 or more sessions.

Candidate series included: Fly Tying Basics, Cold Water, Saltwater and Warm Water Fly series.

Join our ever growing Fly Tying Group and learn how to tie your own flies or expand your fly tying skills.

There is a nominal fee (usually \$2) to cover the cost of materials and all are welcome.



Return to Donovan Lakes – by Joe Tremblay

After long absence Bill and I were finally able to return to our favorite bass destination for a few days of long awaited and overdue bass fishing .

I was expecting to find aggressive bass feeding heavily in preparation for the upcoming winter. Instead, we were greeted with beautiful fall days, water levels 3 to 5 feet below normal (depending on which lake you fished), 70 degree water and lethargic fish.

By unofficial count, we boated 2 dozen fish. The largest being about 3 pounds with all but a few taking a lazy swipe at the fly. Most top water catches occurred before 9 AM and after 5PM. Bill believes that the biggest fish never made it to the boat due to my slow reflexes.

On the other hand, I swear those were bream takes except for the one that wrapped me on a submerged log before ridding himself of my stealth bomber. I have to admit , It acted like a bigger fish.

However, one thing we both agree on is that fishing, no matter how challenging, is always enjoyable when shared with good a friend.



Night Fishing on Missouri's Taney Como River – By Dick Curtis

During our TVFF Fall trip to Arkansas I had the opportunity to go night fishing with TVFF member, Corey Petigo. Corey had set up this guided trip and was nice enough to ask me to go along. Neither Corey nor I had ever been night fishing so it was to be a new experience for both of us.

We travelled to Branson, Mo (~2 hour drive) to meet our guide for the evening. We arrived around 8 pm, acquired our Missouri fishing licenses then headed to our meeting point to hook up with our guide. We met in sight of the Table Rock dam, geared up and were ready to go by 9 pm.

We crossed the about 100 yards from the launch point and immediately got out of the boat and began wading into the slow flow of the river. We were using 5 and 6 wt rods with floating lines and were fishing very simplistic, small streamers. We were instructed to cast as far into the river as possible and then wait 15-20 seconds for the fly to sink and swim down the river. Then to sloooooowly, strip the fly back to us slower the strip the better !! I immediately caught a few rainbows with my first few casts as did Corey. Some were of nice size and football in shape very healthy trout.

We continued to fish like this for the next few hours casting, striping and then moving down river a few steps and repeating. Casting was a little difficult for me at first due to being unable to see my fly line, but as the evening progressed things got better as did the fish catching.

After a few hours our guide decided to move us up closer to the dam to another fishing spot. We arrived there around 11:30 pm and began the same process again. Within a few casts both Corey and I hooked into some 20+ inch browns. Corey believes he had a much larger one later on in the evening but it came off during the fight. We stayed along this portion of the river until ~1:00 pm and then called in a night.

I must admit it was an experience I'll not soon forget. Pitch black night, wading in unfamiliar water, can't see where you are casting and using headlamps sparingly so as to not spook the fish made for an interesting evening. Pictures of a few of fish we caught follow:



Dick

Corey

An Outstanding Fishing Adventure – By dick Curtis

I was recently invited by a fellow TVFF member to join him and some of his friends in North Carolina for 3 days of trout fishing. The location was near Franklin, NC and would be at the residence of Mr. Paul Eusner with whom I've fished with in previous trips. Paul is a wonderful host and always does it up right and this was no exception !! After a 4 hour drive from Huntsville, Everett and I arrived and Paul's place.

I was expecting a small cabin and a little roughing it for the next 3 days and was sorely mistaken. Paul has created a magnificent place along a short stretch of a trout stream called Buck Creek. His facilities would outshine any noted lodge you would pay hundreds per night to visit. His main residence here is a lodge style home with multiple bedrooms, large living room, outstanding kitchen and master suite. The list goes on and on. The décor is beyond compare as some of the following pictures will depict.

Across Buck Creek are two additional buildings. One is a stable with 6 stalls for Paul's horses when he brings them down from his Kentucky main residence. A second building has a ground level floor like a four car garage but is outfitted as a game/social room with pool table, ping pong, picnic table, two TV's and a stocked bar. Above this area is a guest suite for two which is where Everett and I stayed during the trip. To cross Buck Creek from this area to the main residence, Paul has built a swinging bridge which is quite a feat of engineering.

Paul has also worked his section of Buck Creek to create habitats conducive to trout with numerous riffles, runs, pools and feeders. The fish are large and plentiful. Numerous trout of 20+ were taken during our stay. Additionally, there were salmon in this creek as their spawning run was underway. North Carolina introduced some salmon in years past to see if they would take and it seems they have. Soon a steelhead migration is to start and so fishing is quite variable on this stream.



Paul's home



Front entrance



Swinging bridge and Bucks Creek

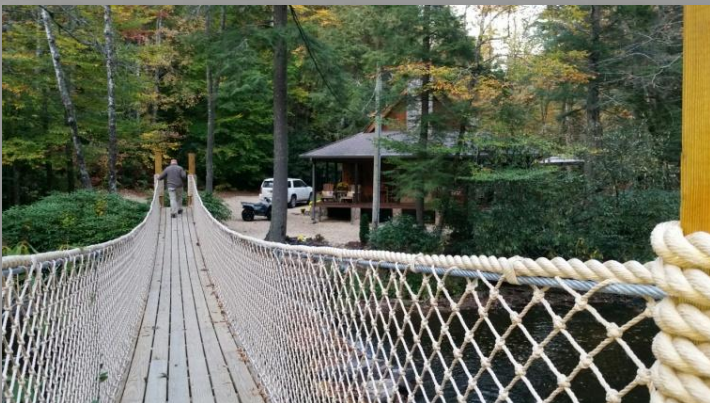
Interior of Paul's home and decor



Stable and Game/Social buildings



Swinging Bridge / Picnic table area & Bucks Creek





The afternoon of our first day we spent fishing around the lodge. On day 2 we had guides and spent most of the day fishing further downstream where Buck Creek enters the Nantahala River. Fishing was a little slow but still some nice fish were brought to net.

On our final full day Paul had arranged for us to fish a private section of the Soque River in north Georgia. Four of us participated in this excursion including Everett and me. After a 1 ½ hour drive we arrived at the Soque River with our guides in hand. Everett and I fished the upper portion of this private river section and had a ball catching numerous trout and some with great size, 20 inches + and all on dry flies.

We met back at our cars for a quick trip to lunch at a local burger place and the meals were delicious. For the afternoon we swapped sections of the river and Everett and I fished the lower section. Again we had success with many fish and some with size and girth. We also missed a few that I would consider monsters but “you can’t catch them all” !!

On the trip back to Paul’s place we discussed our day and came to the conclusion we had netted at least 150 fish between the four of us. Everett and I fished dries all day and the other two fished nymphs Success either way. A few fish pictures follow :



Paul



Everett



Dick



The one that got away



THE NEXT GENERATION

With fly fishing, as with anything in life, people develop habits and preferences.

There's the dry fly enthusiast. This person is the true purist. If you're not enticing a fish to eat on the surface you're not even really fly fishing. Conversations about shuck materials and wing placement can go on for hours. It's "dry or die" and bamboo all the way.

There's the Euro-nymph. This person is out to put a hole in the lip of every fish in the stream. They regard the FIPS-Mouche competition rules as the bible and tungsten beads as their savior. They don kneepads and use nets with huge hoops.

And then there are those who stay up till the wee hours of the morning drinking and attaching more feathers, hair, and flash to a size 4 hook or bigger than you can shake a 10 foot 3 weight at.

The visual experience of watching a big fish chase down and crush a big fly is what keeps the blood pumping through their veins.

These are the streamer junkies.

Are you a streamer junkie?

If any of the following 5 signs apply to you... you might be a streamer junkie.

**1. If you sacrifice numbers for size...
...you might be a streamer junkie.**

This is perhaps the most notable characteristic of a streamer junkie.

It's no secret big fish prey on big food, so why go out and catch a bunch of dinkers feeding on bugs when you could entice a larger, more carnivorous specimen to eat a big meaty fly?

Streamer junkies consider picking off fish with nymphs a waste of time; they're targeting the fish at the top of the food chain.

5 signs you might be a streamer junkie

Written by *Ryan Kaufman*

Reprint from Flymen Blog. A click on Flyman logo will take you to their website.



Photo by Jon Lake.

Photo and flies by Gunnar Brammer of [Brammer's Custom Flies](#)



See Brian Wise's post, [Fly tying and beer: 4 essential streamer pairings to maximize your mojo](#)



Photo by [Peter Taylor](#)



**2. If you fish big flies even in small streams...
...you might be a streamer junkie.**

This symptom coincides with the first sign that you may be a streamer junkie.

Here's the scenario: you're fishing a small creek with a buddy. He's picking off one fish after another with a dry/dropper. You're fishing a fly that is approximately the same size as the fish he is catching.

At the end of the day he may have outfished you 30 to 1 but that 1 fish you caught is the only one either of you remember.

**3. If you really, really like smallmouth.
...you might be a streamer junkie.**

The allure of fishing streamers is really about watching that fish crush a big fly.

Most streamer junkies will expand their addiction beyond the realm of trout fishing. Smallmouth bass provide an easy fix for someone in need of watching a fish absolutely crush a fly with impunity.

Timing is also a factor here. In the hot summer months when the water is low and clear, it may be difficult to entice a trout to chase a big streamer.

**4. If you get excited about it raining all day on your next day off...
...you might be a streamer junkie.**

It takes someone with a serious affliction to get excited about the prospect of spending hours outside in the rain.

If you notice that the forecast is calling for heavy rain on your next day off and you can't wait to get out on the river in it, you may have a problem. The streamer junkie doesn't let a minor .

inconvenience, such as a major soaking, get in the way of getting their fix. Fishing streamers is best when the water is high and getting out in the rain is just a small price to pay.



Check out the recent post by my coworker Chris Franzen, [5 reasons you should remain a fair-weather angler](#)



5. If you have some impressive calluses on your line control fingers...

...you might be a streamer junkie.

Fishing streamers all day can really take a toll on the body.

One physical symptom of a hardened streamer junkie is a hardening of the skin on the fingers that cradle the line as it's being stripped.

These calluses don't form without some bleeding taking place. A non-junkie might regard this painful sensation as a sign that it's time to hang it up for the day. Maybe even take a few days off to let those cuts heal.

The junkie will ignore the painful sensation and continue to search for that explosive eat that will ease their mind. Eventually those cuts will turn into calluses and the problem is solved.

Are you a streamer junkie?

If any of these symptoms ring true, there's a high likelihood you're a developing or full-blown streamer junkie.

Fear not – you have a growing number of cohorts to share your affliction with. People get addicted to this stuff for good reason.

Tying and fishing big streamers for big fish is awesome.



About Ryan Kaufman:

Ryan is head fly fishing guide at [Headwaters Outfitters](#) in Western North Carolina.

From stalking wild brookies to chasing smallmouth and musky, Ryan enjoys a variety of opportunities presented by living and fishing in the Southeast.

He's currently making preparations to instruct his most important future "client," his six-month-old son, Sawyer.

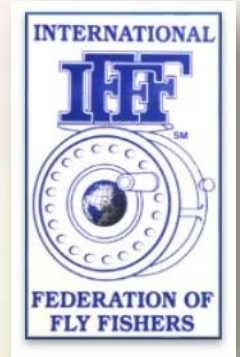


2017 Donovan Lakes Club Trip

The Club trip to Donovan lakes scheduled for April 2017 is full. Wanted to go? Don't despair, April is a long ways off and lots of water will flow under the bridge between now and then. Contact Larry Hice and get your name on the stand-by list. Replacements will be called in the order they signed up. lhice@plasticfusion.com

Federation of Fly Fishers Code of Angling Ethics

- Fly anglers understand and obey laws and regulations associated with the fishery.
- Fly anglers believe fly fishing is a privilege and a responsibility. Fly anglers conserve fisheries by limiting their catch.
- Fly anglers do not judge fellow anglers and treat them as they would expect to be treated.
- Fly anglers respect the waters occupied by other anglers so that fish are not disturbed.
- When fishing from a watercraft, fly anglers do not crowd other anglers or craft or unnecessarily disturb the water.
- Fly anglers respect other angling methods and promote this Code of Angling Ethics to all anglers.



November Holidays

There is no shortage of celebrated days in November including; Thanksgiving, Veterans Day, Black Friday and Halloween.

But there are also some lesser known and often forgotten days worth remembering. These include: **(Click on the link to view origin of each holiday)**

[Men Make Dinner Day](#) is celebrated on the 1st Thursday of the month and sure to please your wife. Especially if you also clean up after dinner.

[Sadie Hawkins Day](#) falls on the 13th and maybe the reason Friday the 13th is considered unlucky.

[National Tie One On Day](#) occurs the day before Thanksgiving and has nothing to do with alcohol or fly fishing, though I chose to celebrate it on the water.

[Buy Nothing Day](#) shares it's day with Black Friday. I'm sure Black Friday or Buy Nothing Day is celebrated by almost everyone, making the day before Thanksgiving the most celebrated day in the country!

For more on Holiday Insights- tradition, fun, facts visit <http://www.holidayinsights.com/>





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- Fly South: <http://flysouth.net/>
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- Orvis Co. Inc: www.orvis.com
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