



# TVFF Club News

March 2020



## March 19<sup>th</sup> Program

Chris and Cole Coultas are the managers of Madison County Lake, a Public Fishing Lake managed by the Alabama Wildlife and Fisheries Division. It is a 105 acre lake stocked with largemouth bass, bream, redear sunfish, crappie and channel catfish. Trout are stocked in the winter months. It is located 11 miles east of Huntsville in Gurley, Alabama. From Huntsville, take U.S. Highway 72 east for 5 miles, then left on Ryland Pike Road for 6-1/2 miles (through Maysville) to County Lake Road, right 1 mile to Madison County Lake. Boats are allowed and also available for rental. Come find about this nearby fishing destination.

**Next TVFF Board Meeting is April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM  
in Room 201 of the church**

All members are welcome to attend.

## Updated Fishing Reports

[Great Smoky Mountains National Park](#) – Little River Outfitters (Daily)  
[White and Norfolk Rivers](#) – Cotter Trout Lodge (Weekly)

## In this issue

- [TVFF Fly Tying Group](#)
- [Catch of the month](#)
- [Casting for Recovery / Anything Goes](#)
- [Note from Membership Director](#)
- [Fly Fishing Film Tour](#)
- [Scottsboro Lions Club](#)
- [Earth Day/Free Classes at Orvis](#)
- [March Browns/ How To...](#)
- [Sow Bug/ Fill-A-Box](#)
- [Job Jar](#)
- [March Holidays](#)
- [Our Sponsors](#)

\* The keyboard's HOME key returns you to this page

**Welcome New Members**  
**John Mathieu**  
**Cody Jansto**

## This Month's Activities

- Mar 12 Fly Tying - 7pm Room 201
- Mar 19 Meeting - 7 pm Rm 201
- Mar 26 Fly Tying - 7pm Room 201



## BOD Minutes

BOD minutes are now available for review at the monthly meetings.

Members can read the minutes by simply asking the Club Secretary, David Hatfield.



## TVFF Fly Tying Group

### Bass Popper Series:

The Bass Popper Series will consist of 4 sessions. Two sessions in March and two sessions in May. Just in time for spring bass.

### 12 March: Demos and Joe's Frog

Wayne Causey and Joe Tremblay will demonstrate how to make your own popper heads. You'll marvel on how just how easy it is as you try your hand at shaping popper heads. Of course at some point, the artist in you will emerge as you apply the finishing touches to your popper heads.

We're feeling foggy this month. Joe will be first to jump in by tying a Joe's Frog using legs he cast with the same material used to cast plastic worms. These legs provide realistic movement and are sure to attract bass.



Popper heads and frog legs will be provided. You will assemble the popper and apply the finishing touches. Painting poppers is not as difficult as you might think. We'll learn a few tricks that makes the process easy.

### 26 March: Bug-Eyed Frog Popper

Wayne be tying the Bug-Eyed Frog Popper as we follow along. This popper is featured in Steven Schweitzer's book "Designing Poppers, Sliders and Divers".

We will also be discussing various types of weed guards between steps while waiting for paint to dry. With more than half a dozen types of weed guards and some personal favorites, we can look forward to a lively discussion.



Join us, Its not as difficult as you might think. You'll learn a few techniques that will make your poppers irresistible to bass and envied by fellow fisherman.

**There will be a \$2 charge per session for materials.**

***All are welcomed!***

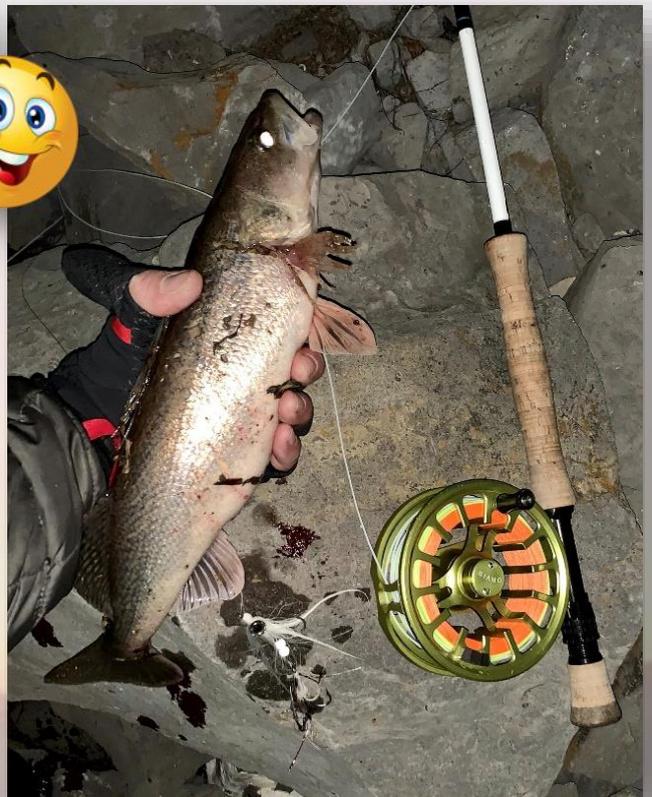
***Fly tying equipment is available for new tyers. Come and discover the joy of catching fish on a fly you tied or better yet, of your own designed.***

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

## Catch of the Month

Jonathan Craft caught this Sauger below Guntersville Dam on Jan 17<sup>th</sup>. He was fishing on the US431 side of the river with his 8 wt. fly rod and a Schmidt's Maraceiver fly. It is his personal best sauger on a fly rod and his personal best for any style of fishing.

He says "I was about to hang it up, as it was cold, windy, and dark...perfect sauger weather...and bam! I set the hook, scrambled across the rocks, and then landed this fish."



The Maraceiver fly is the creation of Mike Schmidt, a famous fly tier and streamer fisherman. This is an articulated, 2 hook fly featuring marabou for the body and tail with buck tail for the head. As you can see, this one was tied in gray and white.

You can e-mail your picture to [editor@tvff.info](mailto:editor@tvff.info) or [Steve Kerkhof](mailto:Steve Kerkhof). Please include the fisherman's name, body of water, approximate date and any other interesting details (the same information that you like to see when you read Catch of the Month).





## Casting for Recovery Fly Boxes

The picture shows one of the 14 fly boxes that TVFF donated to Casting for Recovery last year. We would like to do it again. If you are interested then just tie 14 copies of any fly that you'd like to tie. Bring your flies to any club activity and we will get them to Debbie Hill, our Membership Director and a Casting for Recovery volunteer. TVFF will provide the boxes if you provide the flies. **Debbie is accepting cash donations to purchase fly boxes for 2020.** You can find out more about Casting for Recovery here <https://castingforrecovery.org/>. There will be further details about when the flies are needed in a future newsletter.



## Note from TVFF Membership Director

Members have been receiving or will receive an email notice from me as their membership comes up for renewal and I just wanted to remind TVFF members of the following.

TVFF is now collecting the prorated amounts plus the annual membership dues for the coming year of TVFF/FFI. These membership dues are for your renewal through May 1, 2021. One of the reasons for early reminders is FFI will then not need to generate paper and email notices to you and cause confusion to TVFF members. Remember, dues must be paid through TVFF to be considered a TVFF member and then automatically an FFI member.

Meetings are the perfect place to pay your membership renewal. I am usually at regular meetings and most tying sessions and am happy to look up your current dues. After this year most of you will be on a May 1st renewal and dues will revert to the simple regular amounts. Please bear with us as we finish this transition to that date. Also, feel free to contact me directly with questions. As always, notify me of any updates/changes to your address, phone or other membership information.

Thank you for your patience,  
Debbie

David Darnell sends this notice about an unusual fishing tournament in Chattanooga Tennessee.



The Anything Goes Classic is a new fly fishing tournament based in the heart of The Scenic City (Chattanooga, Tennessee). Hosted by The Hatch Outfitters, the Anything Goes is a one-day, multi-species tournament that promises to deliver a good time in a semi-classy setting. From the Tennessee tarpon to the elusive musky, all species are fair game! Choose your team, choose your water\*, and compete for top prizes.

Click for info  
<https://spark.adobe.com/page/4XCi7jHwz13xK/>



# 2020 Fly Fishing Film Tour

March 12, 2020 at 7:30 PM  
Marathon Music Works  
1402 Clinton St, Nashville, TN 37203

Tickets available at Fly South Fly Shop in Nashville. Find out more at the [Fly South website](#) or on social media @flyfishingfilm tour



The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Fly Fishing Film Tour is hitting the road and will be in Nashville on March 12<sup>th</sup> with a fresh batch of new films. The largest fly fishing film event of its kind, come for the action and stay for the giveaways and camaraderie. Tickets available at Fly South.



*From Right to Left: Debbie Hill, Lions President Phil Kimmel and TVFF and Lions Club member Ted Crona*

## **Tennessee Valley Fly Fishers address Scottsboro's Lions Club**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of February, Debbie Hill, who serves as the Tennessee Valley Fly Fishers' (TVFF) Membership Director and a volunteer 'Casting for Recovery' (CfR) Fishing Instructor, spoke to the Scottsboro Lions Club about her experiences at CfR retreats for women with breast cancer and how TVFF got involved with, and supports this excellent organization.

CfR provides the opportunity for women with breast cancer to discover the healing properties of nature, to connecting with others providing a sense of community, and to experience the exhilaration of fly fishing.

Women of all ages and at any stage of treatment or recovery from breast cancer are eligible to apply to attend a retreat in their service area. To apply, complete an online application at [www.castingforrecovery.org](http://www.castingforrecovery.org).

**Note:** On behalf of TVFF, I wish to thank Debbie Hill, Ted Crona, Phil Kimmel and all the members of the Scottsboro Lions Club for providing TVFF this opportunity to familiarize others with CfR and the much needed support they offer to women in all stages of breast cancer. *Joe Tremblay, TVFF President.*



# Earth Day at Hayes Nature Preserve April 18<sup>th</sup>

Join TVFF as we “represent” at the Earth Day Celebration at Hays Nature Preserve on Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>. [Larry Hice](#), our activities Director, is looking for volunteers to meet and greet the public at this event. You can contact him to volunteer by clicking the link



Each year, the City of Huntsville’s Green Team hosts Keep America Beautiful’s Earth Day. Located at Hays Nature Preserve on the banks of the Flint River, Earth Day attracts more than 12,000 attendees. In 2020, Earth Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

This family-friendly event is a free festival aimed to provide activities and information that celebrates mother Earth and the many way communities around the globe work together for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

The global observation of Earth Day on April 18 is now in its 50th year of commemorating the day many historians recognize as the birth of the modern environmental movement. Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, helped organize a nationwide grassroots celebration on April 22, 1970, that eventually included more than 20 million people. Earth Day remains a watershed event in the environmental movement.

## Free Fly Tying Class and Fly Fishing Classes At Orvis in Huntsville

### FLY FISHING 101 & 201



#### Fly Fishing 101

Learn fly-fishing basics in one of our free Fly Fishing 101 classes. Perfect for beginners of all ages, the Fly Fishing 101 course includes free lessons on fly casting and outfit rigging.

#### Fly Fishing 201

If you’ve already completed Fly Fishing 101, you’re ready for the next step. Join us for a short outing on local water and a chance to catch your first fish! A nominal fee for the outing may apply.

A free Trout Unlimited Membership—a \$35 value—is included for all FF101 and FF201 graduates. Upon completion of the course, you will receive special in-store offers, valid for the purchase of Orvis products.

[VIEW THE CALENDAR](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### FLY-TYING 101



[VIEW THE CALENDAR](#)

Call us at 256-327-8760 for information on upcoming classes and seminars this season.

Click Either notice to see the Orvis Calendar or visit their website for contact information.

## March Browns, Tying Thread and much more

If you don't already know about it I want to introduce you to a wonderful website dedicated to fly fishing. The editor is Martin Joergensen from Copenhagen, Denmark. He traces the start of the website to [1994](#). If you clicked the link then you know that the site is [Global Flyfisher](#), also known as GFF. I don't visit the site often but I always find something interesting when I do.

This time I started reading the history of the [March Brown](#) fly. In the article Martin refers to a book by Dame Juliana Berners, "A Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle" from 1496 (that is not a typo). Her book refers to a March Dun fly that some consider the earliest reference to what is now commonly called a March Brown.

There are wonderful pictures to accompany the articles. Topics cover every aspect of fly fishing and fly tying, fishing stories, fly patterns, materials, techniques, equipment reviews, videos and instructional videos. There are do it yourself articles on things like tying your own leaders and making your own tying bench. Martin has the help of other contributors and editors to maintain the site.

I first read about the belly scratcher fly pattern from this site, even though the fly comes from Fly Fish Food in the U.S. I invite you to visit the Global Flyfisher site using the link above and see for yourself. On a parting note, here is one more link to the site with articles about fly [tying thread](#).



## How To.....

This video shows how to make a loop in the end of your fly line. This is for the end that connects to the backing on your reel. Most fly lines have the loop already, but some don't or your loop may be damaged.

If your missing loop is on the fishing end of your fly line then look at this <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QKXCstJw30>

**How to Whip a Loop in the End of Your Fly Line**

Producer: [Mad River Outfitters](#)



In this fly fishing tutorial by Mad River Outfitters, Brian Flechsig gives a brief walkthrough of how to tie a simple knot to whip a loop onto the end of your fly line. \*\*Note make sure to go around 7-8 times when wrapping.

## 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SOWBUG ROUNDUP

**March 26, 27, 28**  
**9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Mountain Home, AR  
Baxter County Fairgrounds

Admission \$10.00 for all three days  
Adults with kids 12 and under admitted free  
[www.sowbugroundup.org](http://www.sowbugroundup.org)  
[sowbugroundup@sowbugroundup.org](mailto:sowbugroundup@sowbugroundup.org)

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- . Free Fly Tying Classes
- . Free Prizes for Kids



## SOWBUG Roundup

The Sowbug Roundup is a three day fly tying and fly fishing show that is held in Mountain Home Arkansas. The next Sowbug Roundup will be held March 26th, 27th, and 28th, 2020. This is the 23rd year that the North Arkansas Fly Fishers (NAFF) have put on the Sowbug Roundup. The first Sowbug had 20 tyers and 150 attendees. The 2019 Sowbug had over 140 fly tiers and over 1000 attendees.

The Sowbug is basically a fly tying show. The tiers come from all over the USA and there are usually two or three from overseas. The show floor is set up to facilitate access to the fly tyers. Attendees are very much encouraged to sit and talk to the tyer as he ties a fly. The tiers love to talk about fly tying, fly fishing, and how to tie a fly. There is also a dinner and very big auction if you need extra motivation.

Several TVFF members are going to the Sowbug, leaving March 25<sup>th</sup> and returning on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact TVFF Activities Director [Larry Hice](#) for more information.

## Fill-A-Box

Faith Presbyterian Church sponsors this program to assist seniors in our community that are identified as food insecure. Please help TVFF support this worthwhile activity by bringing one item from the list below to the next meeting.

- 1 box of low-sugar, high fiber CEREAL
- 1-2 boxes of instant OATMEAL
- 1-2 boxes of BREAKFAST BARS
- 4-5 cans of TUNA, HAM, CHICKEN
- 6-8 cans of low-sugar FRUIT
- 6-8 cans of SOUP
- 6-8 cans of low-salt VEGTABLES
- 3-5 boxes of LOW-PREP MEALS (Hamburger Helper, Mac n Cheese)
- 2-3 bottles/jars of Condiments (mayo, ketchup, oil, etc.)
- 1 jar of PEANUT BUTTER
- 1-2 packs of SNACKS/DESSERT



## Fill-A-Box



# TVFF Job Jar YOU CAN HELP!

Click on a Job listed below and send an email to volunteer or to obtain additional information.

This is your opportunity to support TVFF without signing up for a long term commitment.

Your help is needed and greatly appreciated.

[Manage the TVFF Job Jar](#) - Update this page monthly and coordinate requests.

[Provide flies for the TVFF Casting for Recovery \(CfR\) Fly Box](#) – Tie or purchase 14 flies of the same pattern for the TVFF CfR Fly Box. Contact the [TVFF program manager](#) prior to selecting the pattern to avoid duplicates. Fly boxes will be donated annually.

CfR provides free healing retreats for women breast cancer survivors in various stages of treatment and recovery. CfR's retreats offer women opportunities to find inspiration, discover renewed energy for life, and experience healing connections with other women and nature.

[Club News Contributor](#) - Provide the Communication Director content of interest geared toward our members such as activities, articles, trip reports, etc.

[Official TVFF Photographer\(s\)](#) - Photograph TVFF events and email photos to the Communication Director.

[Safety Pin Flies](#) - Tie some safety pin flies to be given to visitors at TVFF outreach activities. This simple to tie pattern is very popular with younger visitors. Demand is always great and outstrips our supply; we never have enough.

[Manage TVFF Calendar](#) - Update TVFF Google Calendar with events provided by BOD.

## March Weird Holidays

### Pi Day

March 14<sup>th</sup>

You might have learned that  $\pi = 22/7$  or 3.14 or 3.14159. It turns out that  $355/113$  is another very good approximation for pi. There are urban legends of various state legislatures passing laws to set  $\pi = 3$ . I have heard Indiana and Alabama both mentioned in those stories.

You might have been told that pi r squared is the area of a circle but even little Johnny knows that pies are round.

What better day to celebrate the irrational number pie than on 3.14? The engineers I know think it is a great idea and should be celebrated with a slice of pi(e).



### Tater Day March 31<sup>st</sup>

Thanks to Wikipedia for the following:

**Tater Day** is a large festival in Benton, Kentucky.

It was started in 1843 as a celebration of spring, and a time when all of the townsfolk would get together and trade in sweet potato slips, used to grow the plants. It is also the oldest continuous trade day in the United States, in which goods such as guns, 'coon hounds, tobacco or livestock are swapped or sold.



Tater Day brings to town carnival rides, games, a market, a potato eating contest, mule pulls, and a "biggest potato" contest, which attracts large potatoes from across the county. The biggest part of the festival is the parade, which completes one circuit around the town. It includes political floats, Marshall County High School marching band, horses and buggies, clowns, vintage cars, horses, Miss Tater Day, and other things for which Marshall County is known. There is also Junior Miss Tater Day for little girls ages 5 to 12, and Little Mister, Tiny Miss, and Baby Miss Tater day pageants and floats for the younger kids. There is also an annual Tater day derby that is hosted at the dirt track at the Benton City Park.

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