

# TVFF Club News

August 2020



## August Program – Casting Clinic



Since the onset of the pandemic, we have been holding our meetings online. Although a good alternative, we've missed out on the camaraderie that only face to face contact can provide.

The August meeting will be different from any other program in the Club's history. We will be holding our meeting outdoors at Jones Park with a special program that is only possible in an outdoor setting. We will be holding a Roll cast casting clinic. So bring your fly rod with a floating line and join in.

Meeting will start at 7pm at the Jones Pond Pavilion located on Four Mile Post Road. ([Zoom in on Map](#)) Unfortunately there are no bathroom facilities at the park so come prepared. There will be several rods equipped with different fly lines available for you to evaluate.

You will need to bring your face mask as required by Madison County ordinance. Hand sanitizer and alcohol wipes will be available. Social distancing will be observed.

Recommended items; Fly rod with floating line, a chair (limited seating), latex gloves.

## 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](#)
- [Catch of the month](#)
- [10,000 Lakes](#)
- [Casting for Recovery](#)
- [Life Cycle of a Tied Fly](#)
- [Deadly Duo](#)
- [Dog Days Cicada](#)
- [Zoom Tips](#)
- [Outlook Junk](#) or [Gmail Spam](#)
- [Membership, CfR, Fill-A Box](#)
- [Job Jar](#)
- [August Funny Holidays](#)
- [Our Sponsors](#)

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

## Welcome New Members

No new members this month

## This Month's Activities

- **Aug 6 Board Meeting 7:00 PM**
- Aug 13 Fly Tying – Virtual 7:00 PM
- Aug 20 Meeting – Virtual 7:00 PM
- Aug 27 Fly Tying – Virtual 7:00 PM



## 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

Fly tying sessions will be conducted online via Zoom video conferencing software until further notice.

**13 August 7PM via Zoom**

**Damselfly Nymph and Dry - Featured Tyer, Joe Tremblay (Kit Pickup Wednesday Aug 12)**

If you have ever watched [Damsel in Distress](#), you probably have a damselfly fly or two in your fly box. If not, here's your chance to add a couple patterns that are bound to catch a variety of fish, from trout to bass and everything in between.

**Snowwhite Damsel:** This nymph pattern created by Rob Snowwhite is easy to tie but is a great fish getter when the top water bite ends.

**Dry Damsel:** The original Matt Grobert pattern used bucktail for the tail and a dry fly hook but I replaced bucktail with foam to improve the floatability and opted for a caddis hook. We originally tied this fly a few years ago. It soon became a Kent G. go to fly on Aldridge Creek.



**27 August 7PM via Zoom**

**Los Alamos Ant and Disco Ant – Featured Tyer: Fred Kaufmann (Kit Pickup Wednesday Aug 26)**

Fred will tie 2 patterns from a book by Harrison Steeves III called "Tying Flies with Foam, Fur and Feathers". Steeves was an early proponent of foam as a tying material and a big proponent of fishing hopper patterns from early spring until late fall. This book is available as an ebook for about \$14.

The disco ant (top) uses circles cut from 2mm black foam for the head and tail plus a smaller disk of a brighter color. The body is peacock herl, chenille or ice dub. The legs are black Krystal Flash or rubber legs or hair. Tie on a 2X longhook in size 12 or 14.

The Los Alamos Ant (bottom) uses two colors of 2 mm foam cut into a long triangle shape, rubber legs and peacock herl or chenille for the body. Tie on a size 12 or 14 hook.



**Kits will be available for pick up at the south door of Faith Presbyterian Church on the Wednesday prior to the tying session from 6:30 to 7:30 PM. (You can send a \$2.00 donation to TVFF, P.O. Box 12841, Huntsville, AL 35815, if desired)**



**Health Notice: For your protection, all kit items have been disinfected in alcohol and packed using surgical gloves. By picking up a kit, you accept any and all health risks that may be associated with use of these kits.**



## Catch of the Month

Congratulations to Jarrod Schneider who caught this largemouth bass while on vacation last month. See the accompanying article elsewhere in this newsletter.

You can e-mail your picture to [editor@tvff.club](mailto:editor@tvff.club) or [Steve Kerkhof](mailto:Steve Kerkhof). Please include the fisherman's name, body of water, approximate date and any other interesting details.

### TVFF Board Meeting August 6

This will be a Zoom Meeting. Members are welcome to attend. If you would like to attend then please send an email to [editor@TVFF.club](mailto:editor@TVFF.club) requesting a Zoom invitation by Wednesday August 5<sup>th</sup>.



Jarrod Schneider's 3 lb. Minnesota largemouth

**Finally found out why the fish weren't biting ...**



## 10,000 Lakes – by Jarrod Schneider

It was a warmer than normal morning for July in Minnesota as the sun was rising through the lifting fog over the lake and the haunting call of the Loon echoes in the distance as I tied the Clouser Minnow onto my tippet with a no slip loop knot. I told my son, “This is going to catch me a big a\*\* bass”. It was my third cast and as the line settled on the water and I began the first strip of the line it felt like the fly had stuck into a log. My



Contrary to popular opinion, the Minnesota State Bird is the Loon and not the Mosquito (Photo by: Natalie Little).

first thought was, “Oh no not a snag”, but then I felt the tug of the fish and my heart began to race. I raised my rod tip to set the hook. Fish on! I anxiously told my son to grab the net. The fish pulled and dove down into the weeds looking for a way to escape the inevitable. I continued to apply pressure and after what seemed to be an hour the fish came to the surface behind the boat where my son netted the 3 lb. bass and the fishing highlight of the trip.



Sunrise on Green Lake in Spicer, Minnesota (Photo by: Jarrod Schneider)

Each year my family converges on the small town of Spicer, Minnesota to stay at the cottage on Green Lake. We go to be with family and enjoy the festivities of the Independence Day celebration. Although this year was quite a bit different due to COVID-19 as many of the activities, including the parade, were cancelled. This year was focused on fishing with beautiful weather, the ultimate in social distancing.

Green Lake is part of the Willmar Lakes Area and is 5,561 acres and a maximum depth of 110 feet. Anglers can expect to catch a variety of fish including Black Bullhead, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Channel Catfish, Green Sunfish, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Yellow Bullhead, Yellow Perch, and Pumpkinseed. Green Lake used to be a good walleye lake but due to the invasive zebra mussels (discovered six years ago in Green Lake) that eat up phytoplankton, which is the base of the lake’s food chain and the improved water clarity favoring the sight feeding fish such as the smallmouth and largemouth bass, the walleye numbers have been on the decline. |1>



One of the sunfish caught on a Rubber Legged Dragon (Photo by: Adam Schneider)

|1> <http://www.northlandoutdoors.com/2019/07/23/green-lake-walleys-continue-decline/>

## 10,000 Lakes (continued)



On this trip I fished with both conventional and fly fishing gear. Since this is a fly fishing club I will focus on the fly gear I used and the fish I caught on the fly. The fly rod I used is a Cabela's Bighorn 6 weight, 9 foot rod and reel combo (my only fly rod) with a floating line and a 3X 9 foot leader. On the fly, I caught 2 sunfish and a 3 pound largemouth bass (my personal best). The most gratifying fact is that I caught these fish on flies that I tied during the Tennessee Valley Fly Fishing Clubs Fly Tying 101 Course I attended last year. I caught the sunfish on a Carter Nelson's Rubber Legged Dragon in Olive and I caught the largemouth bass on a Clouser Minnow in white buck tail.

- Jarrod Schneider

**3 lb. Largemouth Bass caught on a Clouser Minnow (Photo by: Adam Schneider)**

## Casting for Recovery 2020 Retreat Season Update

As of June 1, 2020, Casting for Recovery has had to postpone the 2020 retreat season due to the Covid-19 pandemic. As you can imagine these participants are among some of the most vulnerable ladies in their communities. Additionally, there is concern about the safety of staff and volunteers. No announcement has been made regarding the 2021 retreat season, but stay tuned. As soon as programs can be adjusted or it becomes safe to hold traditional retreats there will be an announcement. In fact, if you know of a lady being treated or recovering from breast cancer that would like to be included in a future retreat, applications are expected to open in the fall of 2020. TVFF continues to support this very worthy cause and loves to provide fly boxes for women at these retreats. So to all TVFF fly tyers, please continue to tie flies for the fly boxes. Remember, 14 of the same fly, as many sets of 14 as you like. The more of a variety the better. Tie flies that you would use in our local waters. Debbie Hill is collecting your donations and will be ordering fly boxes soon so that we can once again Fill the Fly Boxes.

[castingforrecovery.org](http://castingforrecovery.org)

The new [FFI Online](#) service provides a variety of weekly programs on fly fishing, casting, and tying experts for entertaining and instructive live online discussions and fly fishing talk.



## The Life Cycle of a "Tied" Fly – by Debbie Hill

Wanting to join in and take advantage of the regular fly tying meetings TVFF is now holding online, I swung by Faith Presbyterian Church at the designated time and picked up a tying kit on a Wednesday before the Thursday tying meeting.

Steve Kerkhof was scheduled to teach the *Red Butt Fuzzy Stuff Wet Fly* that Ted Crona had developed and reported on in FFI's, *Tying Times*, newsletter where he had highlighted a new tying material, Fuzzy Stuff.

Thursday evening arrived and 11 TVFF tiers joined in the meeting. It was so nice to see familiar faces. Social distancing doesn't have to mean a lack of socialization. The same banter that takes place in person at meetings seems to take place at an online meeting as well.

Getting down to business and tying the *Red Butt Fuzzy Stuff Wet Fly* soon started. Steve was well versed in tying this fly which made for success on everyone's part. Steve made a couple of adjustments according to what materials he had on hand while using the new material. Fuzzy Stuff has a bit of sparkle, was simple to use and looked deadly on the hook. The fly was a quick tie. Then after a "show and tell" session of each tyer's resulting accomplishment and a little more banter we thanked Steve and signed off.

I could not wait to fish this fly and was in Aldridge Creek less than 10 hours after the head cement dried! And what could be better than standing in a cool creek at sunrise on a hot summer day?

I was actually early enough to begin fishing with the tried and true, "White Gurgler", and had plenty of small-medium sized bream and a single small bass. About 45 minutes later I switched to the above mentioned wet fly and before I could count one-Mississippi, two-Mississippi, the "Red Butt" caught a nice bream.....then another.....and then another! Probably 10 or 11 in less than an hour. And all nice sized bream for Aldridge Creek. We had tied the "Red Butt" on a #8 hook and perhaps this kept some of the usual really small fish from being caught. Casting to the best looking shoreline or open pool seemed to produce plenty of action. Most fish seemed to take the fly immediately, often with very subtle takes. This would be a great time to utilize an indicator-I probably missed fish because I was not using one. (Continued on next page)



Aldridge Creek, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Zoom in to see the fly.



The only problem was keeping the fast sinking fly from snagging the rocks. Again, an indicator might help but the water is pretty shallow in spots and retrieving in some areas got me hooked on rocks anyway. So I found it best to keep short, quick strips going.

Well, I couldn't stand it...a couple of days later I was back in Aldridge Creek with the "Red Butt" watching the sun come up. Wondered if this little fly still had some life left in it. Again, started off with the top water, "White Gurgler", and had success, but switched to the now tried and true, "Red Butt". Turns out, with just as much success the second time around. This time not only did I catch the better than average sized bream as before, but two decent bass, as well. Again, casting to the shore or to open, deep pools. Quick strips to stay out of the rocks as much as possible and the fish usually took the "Red Butt" immediately.

But alas, every fly has a life cycle. And this "Red Butt" is no different. On this second day of his short "life" he perished! In the end "Red Butt" was hung up and lost in the dreaded rocky graveyard of the creek bottom.

I had a barrel of fun with that fly! And I was surprised as I reflected on all that it brought to me:

Camaraderie with TVFF members

Learning about new fly tying materials and techniques

The anticipation of fishing a fly that I had tied

Honing casting and retrieving skills

Sharing that information with others

Certainly catching fish

And just standing in the rushing water without a care in the world.....

So thank you to all fish and humans that contributed to this full circle of enjoyment. - *Debbie Hill*

### Red Butt Fuzzy Stuff Fly

The fly Debbie wrote about is pictured at right. It was featured in the April TVFF newsletter in an article by Ted Crona. The body is a cross stitch/needlepoint thread called Fuzzy Stuff in color FZ32 Leaf Green. A fly tier would call it chenille but it is like a micro-chenille. The tail is red wool.

Materials - Thread: Black 6/0 ; Hook: #8 Wet Fly; Tail: Clump of red wool; Body: Olive Fuzzy Stuff, Hackle: Gray hen shown, grizzly or brown are also good choices

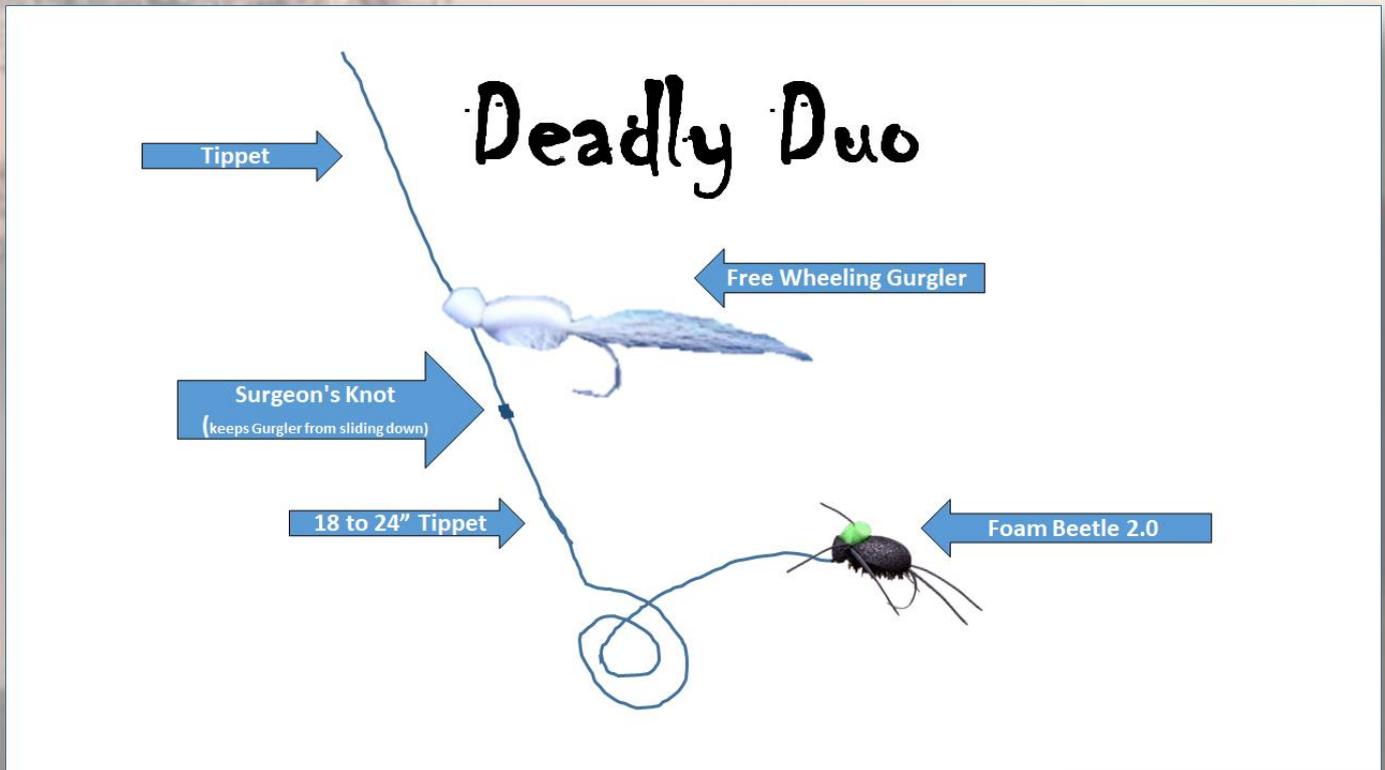


## The Deadly Duo by Joe Tremblay

The Foam Beetle 2.0 was featured at the June 25<sup>th</sup> Zoom fly tying session. Little did I know at the time, just how productive that fly was. I could tell it was fishy so I tied 8 or 10 before heading down to Aldridge creek with Debbie.

I decided to tie one on as a trailing fly behind my go to fly for that creek, a white gurgler. I immediately started to catch fish after fish on the beetle. I also caught some on the gurgler but overall, I caught 10 on the beetle for every 1 on the gurgler.

After a while my beetle had significant damage so I decided to take off the gurgler and just tie on the beetle. You guessed it, nada. So I re-rigged with the gurgler and beetle and bingo, back in business. I assume the gurgler got their attention and the beetle was irresistible.



So, how did I rig the **Deadly Duo**? I first slid my gurgler on my tippet by inserting the tippet from the topline of the gurgler, if you insert it from the bottom, the fly will ride upside down.

Next I tied a triple surgeon's knot to keep the gurgler from sliding past the knot.

Finally, 18 to 24' below the knot, I tied on the beetle.

The gurgler is free to spin around the line reducing the possibility of tangles and also acts as an indicator for the black beetle.

The Deadly Duo accounted for dozens of fish including a double for Debbie who landed a bass on the gurgler and a red breasted sunfish on the beetle. Unfortunately, the camera man (me) was too slow to get it on film.



*Sometimes it pays to go fishing. Unfortunately, I couldn't find the rest of the school.*

## Dog Days Cicada

Maybe you have heard the droning chirp coming from the trees this summer. That is the mating call of the cicada. This insect is famous for 13 year and 17 year hatches where millions of these insect appear at the same time. I know that I have cicadas at my house every year, so I did a little research. The cicadas that I see every summer are referred to as “annual” cicadas, but this is a misnomer because they actually take two to five years to mature. Because some of them emerge every year we don’t have the long gaps between hatches that are seen in some places so they appear to be annual.

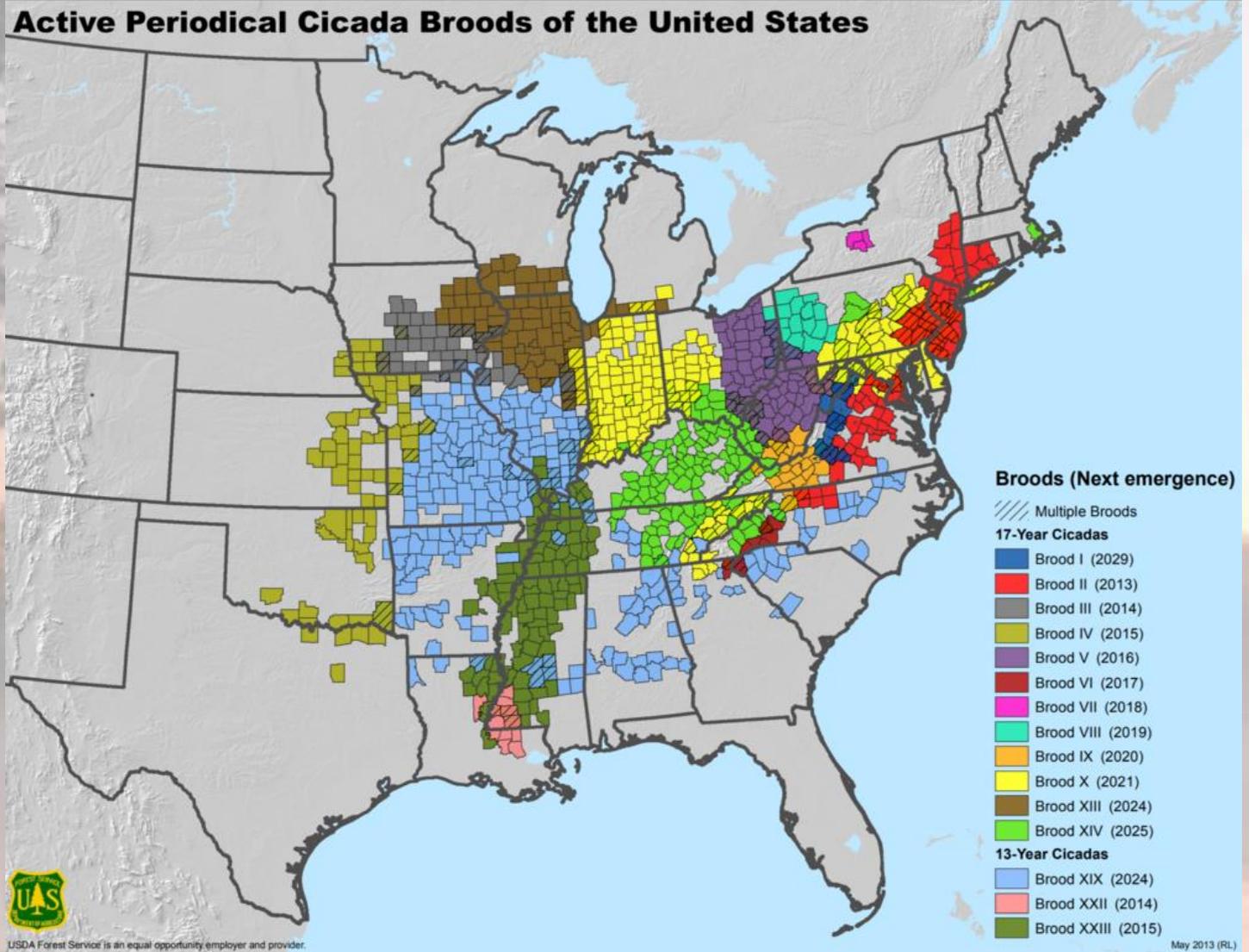


The females lay eggs on twigs in the trees. When they hatch the larva fall to the ground where they burrow into the soil. The larva feed on sap from tree roots. When they emerge from the ground they have matured into the beetle looking form on the left. They will climb up on a tree or house, the shell splits down the back and the cicada on the right emerges. The beetle-like form is referred to as a nymph, just like the aquatic insects.

There are about twenty species of Cicada in Alabama. There is a population of 13 year periodical cicadas, Brood XIX, in Alabama that are expected to return in 2024 (see map on next page). For 2020 the big hatch is Brood IX in West Virginia, southern Virginia and western North Carolina.



## Active Periodical Cicada Broods of the United States



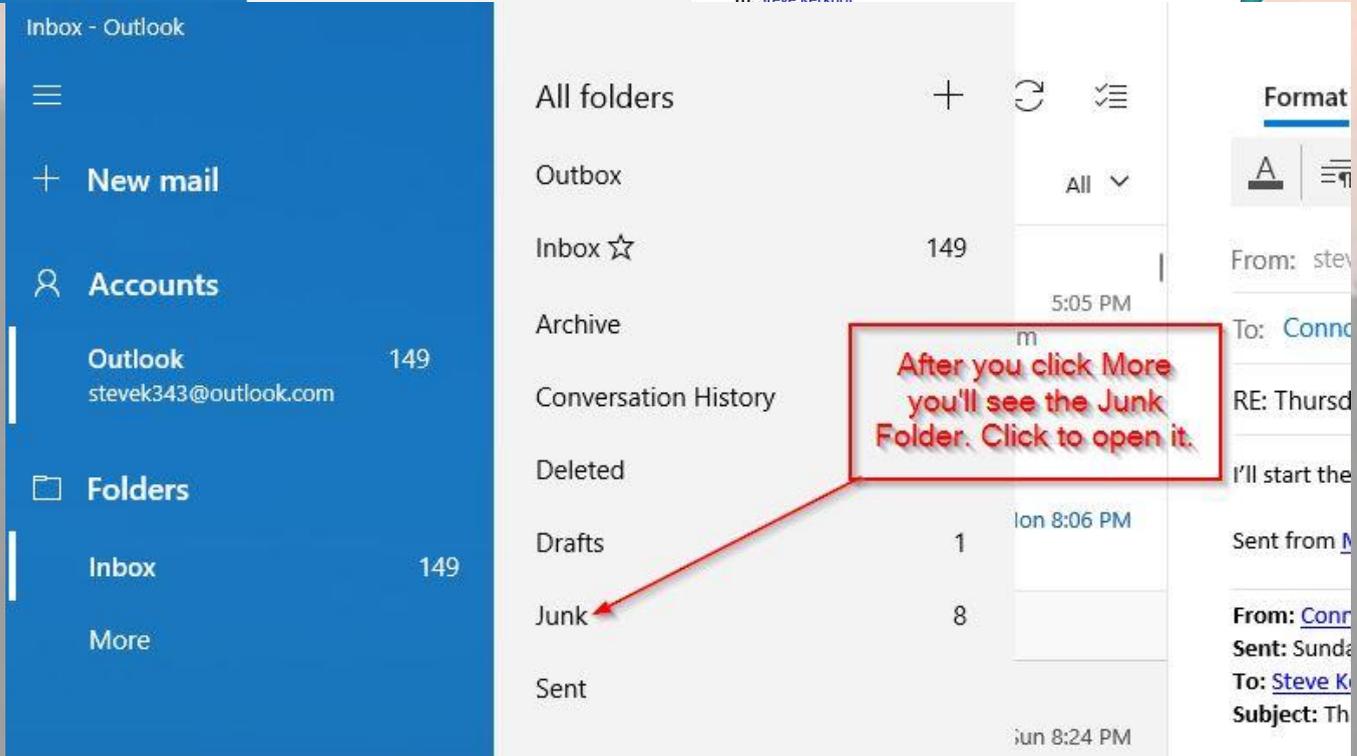
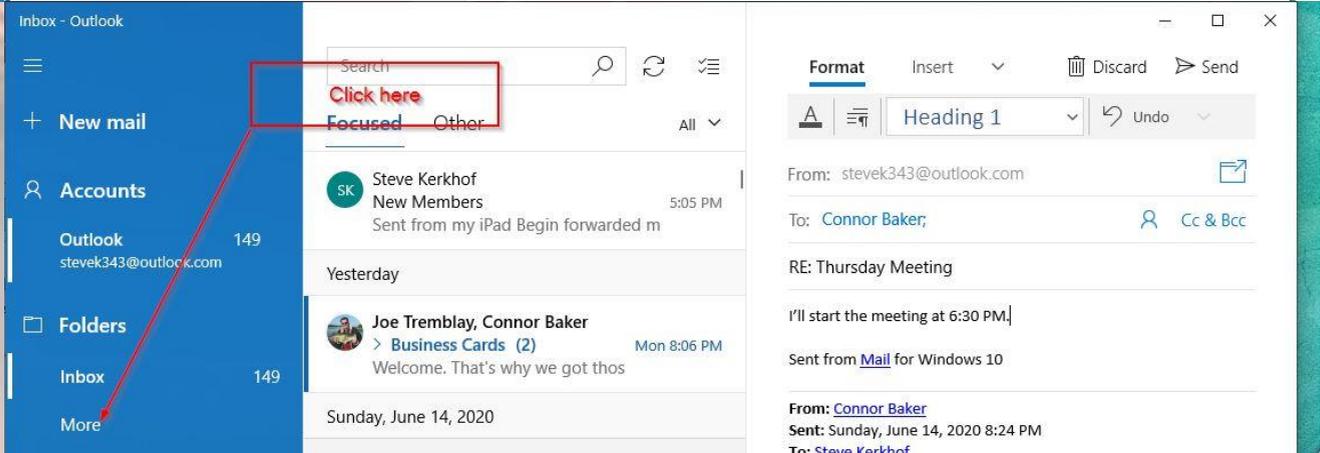
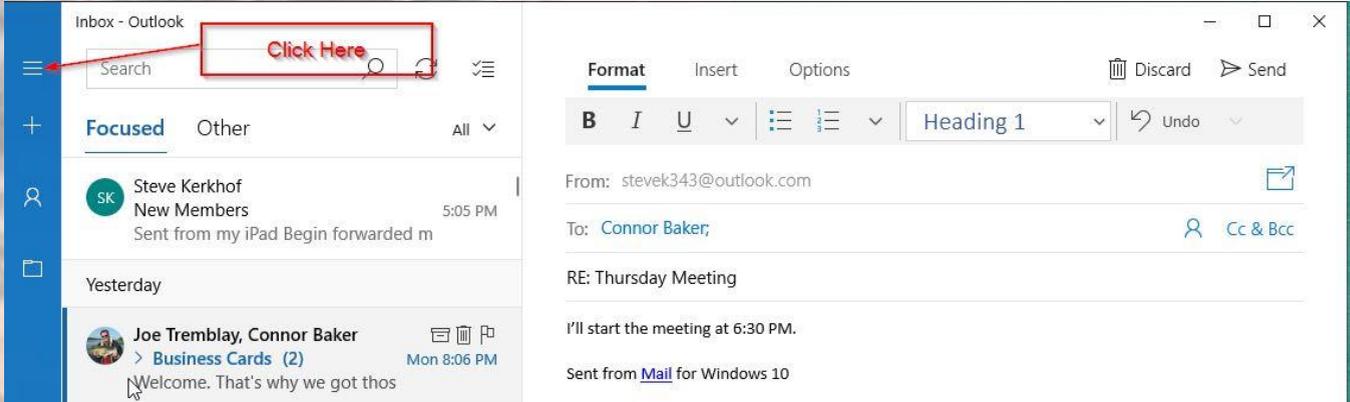
## Zoom Meeting Instructions

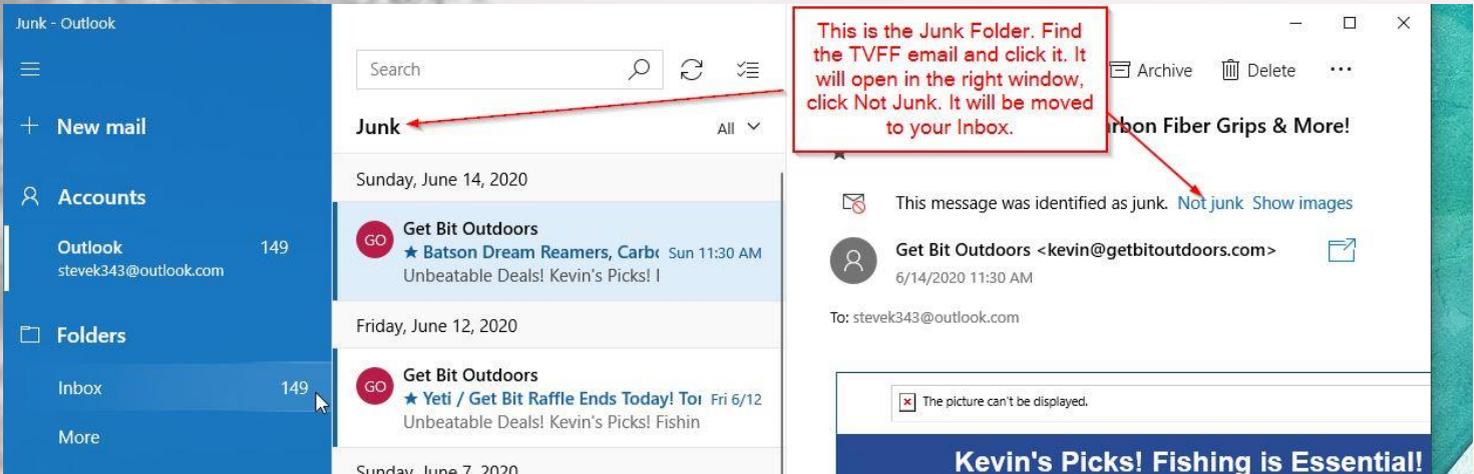
You will receive a Zoom meeting invitation in the TVFF reminder email that is sent on Sunday evening before a scheduled fly tying night or club meeting. There are 3 ways to join the meeting. You can copy/paste the link in the invitation into your browser OR go to <https://zoom.us> and click "Join A Meeting" in the upper right of the screen OR if you have installed the Zoom app then you can open the app and enter the meeting number and password from the invitation. If prompted you should click yes to allow Zoom to use the camera and microphone on your computer, then we can see you and hear you in the meeting. You may be placed in a Zoom "waiting room" when you first join. Be patient and you will be admitted to the meeting by a host or cohost. This is another layer of security for our online meetings.



# Find Your Junk Folder (Outlook, Outlook live, Hotmail users)

There are at least two long time members who stopped receiving the newsletter and other TVFF emails. Both had Outlook email addresses. The problem was the TVFF emails were being sent to the Junk folder. The pictures show how to find the Junk Folder in the Windows 10 Mail App and describes what to do. This is a temporary fix, the permanent fix is on the next page..



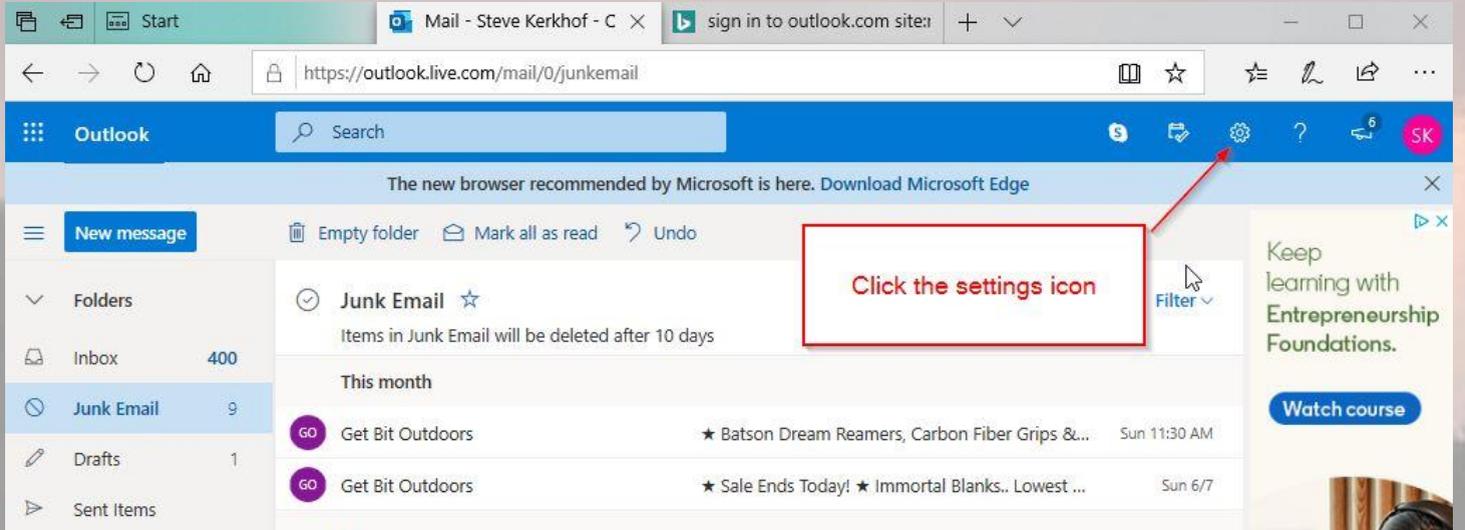


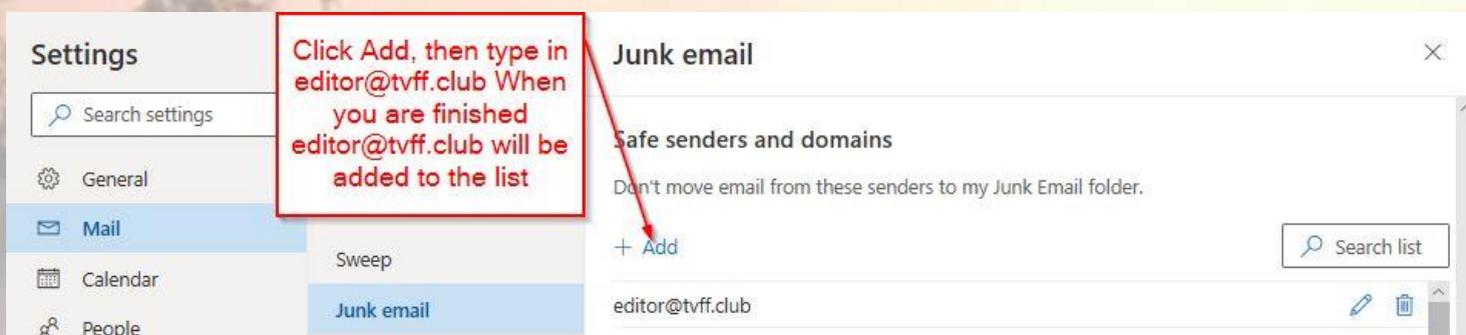
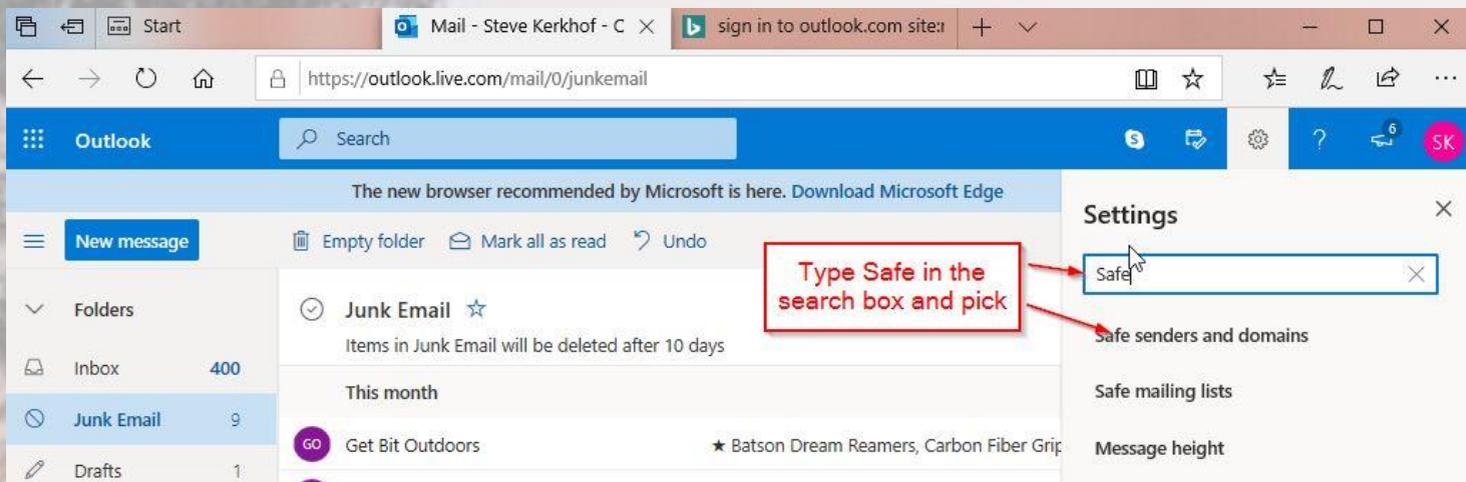
## Permanent Fix - Add editor@TVFF.club to your safe senders list

You must do this step by logging into your Outlook account from your browser. Enter this search phrase into your favorite search engine: **sign in to outlook.com site:microsoft.com**

Or click this link for instructions:

<https://www.bing.com/search?q=sign%20in%20to%20outlook.com%20site:microsoft.com&form=B00032&ocid=SettingsHAQ-BingIA&mkt=en-US>





Whew! That's it, you're done. Please share this with any member you know who is not receiving their TVFF e-mails. The newsletter is always available at the [TVFF website](#).

## GMAIL Users

For Gmail users your TVFF emails might be ending up in your Spam folder. If you stop receiving your TVFF emails then please check your Spam folder. There might be other mail there that you have been missing too. At least one member has reported that their TVFF e-mails have started going to the Spam Folder. Gmail calls the fix "whitelisting".

This YouTube video tells you how to be sure your TVFF emails go to your Inbox and not the SPAM folder.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VAX9sDxbjP8>



Or you can search YouTube for "GMAIL Spam Filters and Whitelisting". Maybe you will find a better video or better instructions. Please send an email to [editor@tvff.club](mailto:editor@tvff.club) if you find a simpler solution or a better how-to video.

## Note from TVFF Membership Director

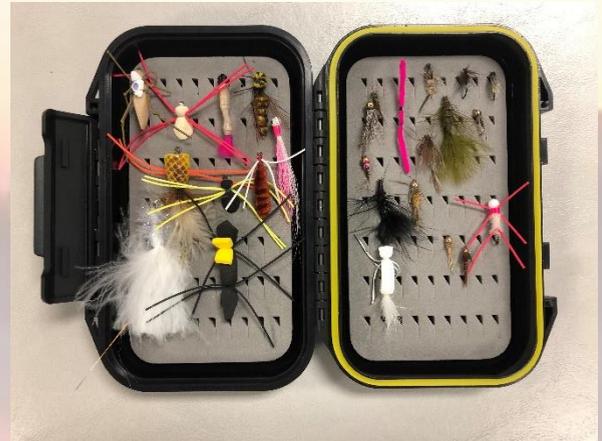
It is time to renew your TVFF/FFI membership. We run on a May 1 renewal schedule for dues. If you need to renew make a check payable to Tennessee Valley Fly Fishers (TVFF) and mail to:  
P.O. Box 12841,  
Huntsville, AL 35815.

Please contact Debbie Hill at [debhill522@gmail.com](mailto:debhill522@gmail.com) with any questions about amount due or when it is due. Remember, dues must be paid through TVFF to be considered a TVFF member and then automatically an FFI member. Debbie checks the PO Box about once a week and will notify you by email when she has received your dues.

Thank you for your patience,  
Debbie

## Casting for Recovery Fly Boxes

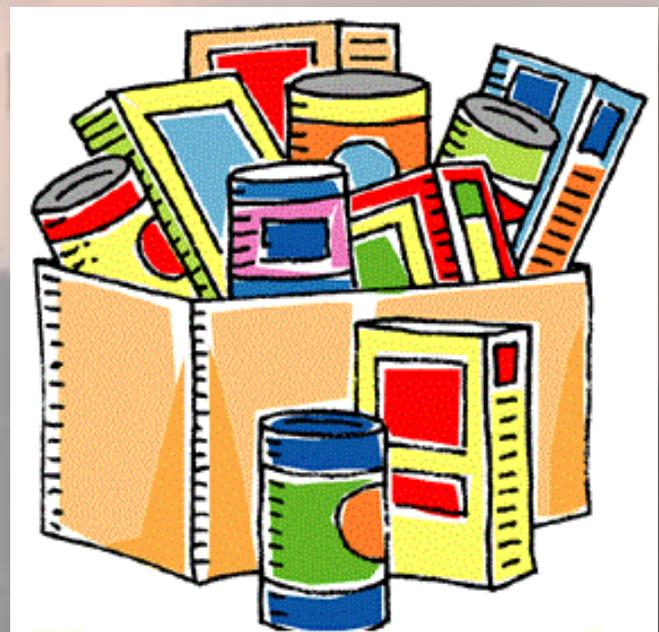
The picture shows one of the 14 fly boxes that TVFF donated to Casting for Recovery last year. We would like to do it again. If you are interested then just tie 14 copies of any fly that you'd like to tie. Bring your flies to any club activity and we will get them to Debbie Hill, our Membership Director 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.



## Fill-A-Box (When we meet at church)

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.

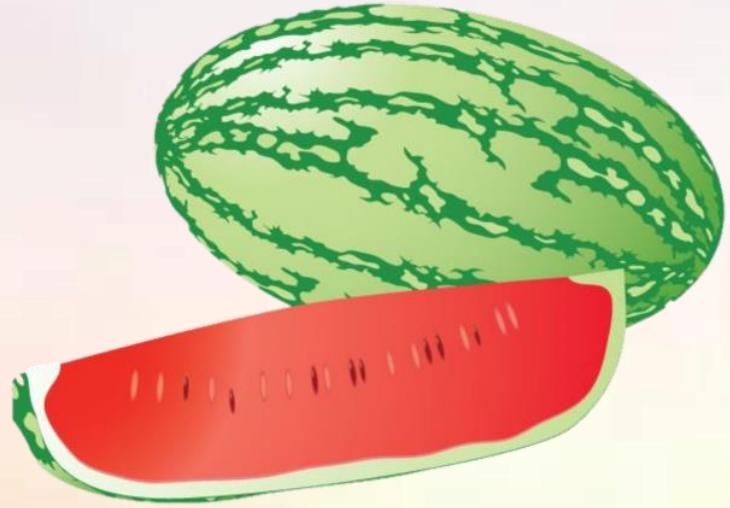
## August Funny Holidays

### National Watermelon Day August 3<sup>rd</sup>

Watermelon's have been cultivated for thousands of years, first in Africa then spreading to Asia. They made their way to Europe about 1000 years ago and came to North America with the earliest European settlers and African slaves.

There is something special about an ice cold watermelon on a hot summer day. I like to eat mine like I did as a boy – outside, holding a slice with the rind in my hand, letting the juice drip and spitting the seeds on the ground. My wife likes hers on a plate in bite size pieces and seedless.

What have we come to?



### National Tell a Joke Day August 16

Don't wait until August 16<sup>th</sup> to tell a joke. We can all use something to laugh about every day.

An old man told me a joke when I was a newlywed. I laughed politely but didn't think it was that funny. I think it is funnier now. It is set in a time when you shopped at the general store and even small towns had a train station.

A woman walks into the general store and notices a display of bananas and asks the man behind the counter "How much are the bananas?". She then looks outside and spies a pond then says "What a lovely pond. How deep is it?". Then the train whistle sounds and without taking a breath she says "Oh, the train, when does it run?" To which the man replies "In by eight, out by nine, up to your a\*\*, and three for a dime".



# Our Sponsors

“Click on ad for link”



**COMPASS 360**  
**Outerwear**  
**Rainwear**  
**Wade wear**  
[www.Compass360gear.com](http://www.Compass360gear.com)






**20/20**  
**Eye Care Centers**  
 PROVIDING A VISION OF HEALTH FOR YOUR EYES  
 Dr. Neena James

**The Golden Rule**  
**Fly Shop**  
 2131 EDSEL LANE NW, PMB 125  
 CORYDON, IN 47112



**Riverside**  
 Jasper, AL



**BREEZY HILL**  
**BAIT & TACKLE**  
 3846 East Bailey Rd.  
 Monticello, IN 47960  
 (219) 253-8323  
[www.breezyhill-bait-tackle.com](http://www.breezyhill-bait-tackle.com)  
[breezyhillbait\\_tackle@hotmail.com](mailto:breezyhillbait_tackle@hotmail.com)



Tim's Flies & Lies Outfitters  
 384 Flowertown Road  
 Normandy, TN 37360  
 951-607-5645  
 951-759-5058  
[rhonda@lapage.com](mailto:rhonda@lapage.com)  
 Follow us on Facebook!  
 Specializing on Fly Fishing  
 on Elk and Duck Rivers  
 Tim Page  
 Rhonda Page



**WAPSI**  
 QUALITY FLY TYING MATERIALS  
 SINCE 1945

**Wishes & Fishes**  
 Guide Service  Group Trips  
**FLY SHOP**  
[FlyFishArkansas.com](http://FlyFishArkansas.com) • 870-445-3848 • Bull Shoals, AR

To become a sponsor  
 Contact Larry Hice  
 (256) 508-2344,  
[lhice@plasticfusion.com](mailto:lhice@plasticfusion.com)