



TVFF Club News

May 2025



TVFF Club Meeting
John Lohr, Alabama Fly Tyer
Thursday, May 15th 7:00 PM



John has been fly tying for 30 years. He started in the mountains of north Idaho as a youth and grew up pursuing the region's wild trout.

After serving in the Marines, He moved to north Alabama and has been chasing the areas smallmouth and other warm water species. His passion is designing flies to pursue these fish.

John is a signature fly tyer for Umpqua Feather merchants. A product consultant for Upavon fly fishing, and on the Ahrex hooks pro team.

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This Month

- May 8 – Fly Tying, 7 PM
- May 14 – BOD Meeting, 7PM
- May 15 – TVFF Meeting, 7 PM
- May 22 – 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 this month **May 14, 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.



May 8th, 7 PM

BMW Fly, Tyer – Brian Moore

Cost: \$3

Brian's Marabou Wiggler, designed by Brian Chan. A great Stillwater pattern. Designed to look like a small leech. Good colors include black, maroon and olive.

Materials:

Hook: Daiichi 1760 #12-#14

Thread: MFC 8/0 or UTC 70, Color to Compliment Body

Tail: Marabou

Rib: UTC Ultra Wire, Gold or Silver

Body: Marabou

Bead: Tungsten, 3/32" (2.4 MM) Silver or Gold



May 22, 7 PM

Burlap Streamer, Tyer – David Bailey

Cost: \$3

A fly designed by Taff Price. A popular steelhead pattern in the Pacific Northwest. Also works well for smaller bass and bream.

Materials:

Hook: 4-10 streamer or steelhead

Weight: 0.015-0.020"

Thread: Black

Tail: Bucktail

Body: Burlap (jute twine)

Hackle: Grizzly hen



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 – Andy’s Flies

One of the more interesting fly-tying channels on YouTube is Andy’s Flies hosted by Christian “Andy” Andrews. Andy has over 1000 subscribers to his channel with the number increasing weekly.

What makes Andy’s channel interesting is the flies he selects to feature and tie on the channel. While the flies he ties are not difficult they are sourced from historical flies such as those found in Favorite Flies and their Histories published in 1982 by Mary Orvis Marbury (daughter of the founder of Orvis). Andy also ties flies featured in Ray Bergmans Trout, The Trout Fisherman’s Bible 1938 and those tied by Bob Story founder of Feather Craft.

In many situations Andy is forced to rely strictly on pictures of flies and has no recipe for the flies he ties. The challenge is to determine what materials were used originally and how to substitute materials for those no longer available such as seal fur. Andy’s fly tying method is meticulous and exact with each step thoroughly explained to the viewer. While I have not tied many of Andy’s flies I feel that my knowledge of fly tying has improved because of Andy’s resourcefulness and execution of fly-tying procedures.

You will enjoy Andy’s laid back and easy-going manner and the knowledge gained from his videos. I recommend that you pull up Andy’s YouTube site and follow along with him as he ties some very interesting and historical patterns.

Andy’s Flies Channel can be found here:

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@AndysFlies>

Email: flies@lumpofclay.net





Fish of the Month

Below, TVFF member Alan Douglas floated the Toccoa River in Blueridge, Georgia. The fishing did not disappoint. Alan caught several nice Browns and nice Rainbows. Below are some of the photos! Nice fish Alan! Looks like a great time.



Right, TVFF member Greg Bayuga caught this musky! Known as the fish of 10,000 casts, Greg landed this one in middle Tennessee. Nice fish Greg, I hope your shoulder has healed from casting a big rod and catching a big fish! Congratulations.



5 Hatches to Fish Before You Die

In the world of fly fishing, not much beats catching a fish on a dry fly. Streamers and nymphs can be productive, but they just don't have that excitement factor that dry flies do. Paying attention to what aquatic insects are hatching can help increase your fish productivity. Below, Flylords Magazine outlined a list of every hatch you should fish in your lifetime. This article was published April 2nd. Below is a summary of the article, the entire article can be found [here](#).

- 1. The Salmon Fly Hatch** – Montana's famed Salmonfly hatch is an unmissable event for fly anglers. These large insects emerge from their nymph stage, culminating in a significant hatch, especially on the Madison River from late June to early July. This prolific hatch draws anglers from across the country, eager to cast big flies to hungry Brown Trout.
- 2. The Green Drake Hatch** - East Coast fly fishers eagerly anticipate the Green Drake hatch, a potentially challenging but highly rewarding event that often brings the largest trout to the surface. This significant mayfly, notably large with distinct green hues, is most abundant in Pennsylvania from June into early July. Anglers can effectively target rising fish with large, visible dry flies, often paired with a smaller nymph dropper for irresistible presentations, particularly during the typical pre-dusk emergence or sporadic cool afternoon hatches.
- 3. The Cicada Hatch** - For many East Coast anglers, the Cicada hatch, occurring every 17 years, provides a unique opportunity to fish large flies for aggressively feeding fish, reminiscent of prime West Coast experiences. These insects live most of their lives underground, emerging when the soil warms to around 64 degrees, after which they mate and fall into the water. Once the fish key into this abundance, the fishing action becomes exceptionally exciting.
- 4. The Hexagenia Hatch** – The Hex hatch is a renowned mayfly emergence, particularly famous in the Midwest, that allows anglers to fish large flies for eager fish under the cover of darkness. These sizable mayflies are most prolific on Michigan's Ausable River, drawing dedicated anglers who often make annual pilgrimages to experience it. While the hatch starts in early June, it typically reaches its peak in late June and early July.
- 5. The Mother's Day Caddis Hatch** – The Mother's Day Caddis hatch signals springtime in the Rockies, often being the first reliable dry fly fishing before spring runoff. Starting around mid-April and progressing upriver for weeks, this hatch is so enticing that anglers will go to great lengths to fish it. Whether nymphing or skating caddis on the surface, it offers exciting action.



How to Catch Trophy Trout

Catching trophy trout is most every fly anglers top goal. We have a lot of members in our club that have caught plenty of trophy trout. Below are Flylord Magazine's top tips for trophy trout. Below is a summary, the entire article can be found [here](#).

1. **Be prepared to catch nothing** – Getting skunked is never fun, but when chasing trophy fish, that will likely happen. You may be tempted to take off your streamer and put on a size 22 pheasant tail to avoid the skunk. Try not to do that, keep working for that trophy fish.
2. **Research, research and more research** – Learn as much as you can. Know the fishery you are targeting large trout. What do they eat here, where are they normally, what time of day is best to catch them?
3. **Target Lakes** – There are more lakes than rivers that have large trophy sized trout. Think Pyramid Lake as a lake that has trophy sized fish.
4. **Fish big flies** – Big fly usually means bigger fish. Larger fish are territorial and a large fly in their territory can usually trigger a strike. They can sense the vibration that a larger streamer gives off. Think a pattern by Kelly Galloup.
5. **Fish at night** – A lot of larger fish are completely nocturnal. If you want to catch a 30 inch brown, nighttime with a mouse pattern is probably the only way this is going to happen.





Orvis Huntsville Event – May 28th 4-7PM

The author of "Fly Fishing For Redeye Bass: An Adventure Across Southern Waters" has written a NEW book "Alabama's Best Fly Fishing: Complete Guide to the State's Best Fly Fishing"! Thanks to Dr. Matthew Lewis' new book fly fishers in Alabama now have a guide to Alabama waters, native fishes, and local flies. Orvis Huntsville will host Dr. Lewis on May 28th from 4-7 PM. Additionally, John Lohr (featured in Dr. Lewis' book) will be there with his custom flies & artwork. A cash-raffle will be held for an Orvis Pro Waterproof Sling Pack (MSRP \$298) to benefit The Mayfly Project, to help foster children connect with nature. Other event details to come. Visit Orvis Huntsville on May 28th between 4-7 PM, and help us celebrate!



May Weird Holidays

National Train Day

May 13th

A holiday observed on the Saturday closest to May 10th. It was started by Amtrak in 2008 to spread word on the advantages of traveling by railroad. Emphasizing the history and societal impacts of the railroad.

May 10th is the anniversary of pounding the golden spike in Promontory, Utah. Amtrak has distanced itself from promoting the holiday due to budget cuts, but fans of the railroad continue to celebrate it. The largest celebrations take place in Washington DC, Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles.



World Turtle Day

May 23rd

Started in 2000 by the American Tortoise Rescue. It was created to raise awareness on turtles and tortoises and their disappearing habitats. Some folks promote it by dressing up as a turtle.

As fisherman, we have often run ins with turtles. Sometimes they can be a nuisance when fishing, stealing our flies and accidently getting hooked into one. But next time you see one, appreciate them and enjoy them!





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