



# TVFF Club News

January 2024



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

## Welcome New Members:

Happy New Year!!!  
2024!

## This Month

- January 11 – Fly Tying, 7 PM
- January 18 – TVFF Club Meeting, 7 PM
- January 25 – Fly Tying, 7 PM
- February 1 – BOD meeting, 7PM

## Officers and Directors

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

## Board of Directors Meeting

The next BOD meeting is February 1, 2024, at 7 p.m. in Room 201.

**Allie Cunningham, Science on the Fly**  
**Thursday January 18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**  
**Faith Presbyterian Church, Room 201**



Our guest speaker this month will be Allie Cunningham, Director of Science on the Fly. Science on the Fly was founded by the Woodwell Climate Research Center (formerly Woods Hole Research Center) and Fishpond. Science on the Fly are leaders in climate change science and fly fishing gear design. Together, along with a growing list of partners, they strive for cold water, clean rivers, healthy watersheds, abundant fish, and a bright future.

Presentation will be conducted using Zoom. With the option to join from home or from Faith Presbyterian Room 201.

## TVFF Fly Tying Group

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



**January 11<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM**

**Woven Bodies – Ted Crona**

**Cost: \$3.00**

Woven bodies are a necessary skill for tying the popular Bitch Creek fly as well as other flies and a creative skill for the tier. The two most popular weaving techniques will be demonstrated: (1) the parallel crisscross and (2) the slotted, aka spotted strip. Learning these techniques is easy and surprisingly simple once mastered. Hooks, micro ultra chenille and (hackle/dubbing) will be provided.



**January 25<sup>th</sup>, 7PM**

**SHWAPF (Swept Hackle Wingless All-Purpose Fly) – Brian Moore**

**Cost: \$3.00**

This fly can be fished as a dry, wet, or nymph. Simple pattern with many options for customizing with your favorite materials. If you're looking for a fly that totally catches fish, is completely customizable, and, best of all, is easy to tie, look no further than Al Campbell's Swept Hackle Wingless All-Purpose Fly — "SHWAPF" for short. Check out the Youtube instructions [here](#).



### Materials:

**Hook:** Nymph size 12-16

**Thread:** 6/0 dark.

**Body:** 2 Peacock Herls or your favorite dubbing or flash

**Case & Wing:** Pheasant Tail Fibers

***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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 7 p.m.***

## Fish of the Month

Several TVFF members spent part of their December fishing Madison County Lake for trout. Below TVFF member Connor Baker and his wife Mey Mey caught their limit of Rainbow Trout. Connor took these fish to his in-laws and they fried them up that evening.



Below, TVFF member Andy King spent two weekends at Madison County Lake. He caught his limit both times. What a great haul! Some of these fish were also caught by TVFF member Gregy Bayuga. Andy smoked some of these fish for our December TVFF Club meeting. They were delicious.



The fish to the right was caught by TVFF member Greg Bayuga in Tim's Ford Lake. Who says you can't catch bass in December! This monster wins fish of the month!





## Fly Fishing New Year Resolutions

I thought I'd write something up about New Year Resolutions. There are plenty of things we can do as fly fishermen for our New Year Resolutions. Whether it be to get up early to be the first person at our favorite spot, or learn how to tie your favorite fly. Below is a list to inspire you this 2024:

1. **Fish more:** Sometimes having motivation to fish is hard. Whether it be cold or rainy, you just need to get out there and try to catch fish. The more you go fishing the more likely you are to catch fish. Don't be lazy, make a point to go out there and throw your favorite fly around.
2. **Target new species:** We can get complacent only targeting the fish we are comfortable catching. If you are trout fisherman, make sure to hit your local pond for bass when the weather is warm. If you are a bass fisherman, maybe try and target carp. Catching different fish can be a lot of fun and expand your repertoire.
3. **Learn to tie your own flies:** Fly tying is one of the neat aspects of fly fishing. If you fish but don't tie your own flies. Try a few simple patterns and work your way up to tying your favorite flies. There is something satisfying about catching a fish on your own tied fly.
4. **Find a new spot to fish:** The fun part about fishing is exploring new water. You probably drive over/near a body of water on a daily basis. Instead of driving by it, get out your fly rod and see what you can catch.
5. **Fish at different times of day:** Sometimes I like to sleep in and I get on the water late. Get up early this year, beat the crowd and see if the fish bite better at this time of morning. If you do get up early, maybe hit the same spot but later in the day, see what happens, maybe this spot is productive at a time you aren't used to fishing.
6. **Try different flies:** If you only fish with nymphs, try streamers. I recently did that with trout. I ended up catching larger fish, it was a lot of fun.
7. **Plan a fun fishing trip:** Nothing beats fishing your local water and getting that spot dialed in. However, you should venture out and go on a fun trip. Start saving now and plan an overnight trip to a different state.
8. **Organize your gear:** Fly fishermen accumulate gear over time. Take a look at your fly tying bench and your fly boxes. Put everything in good order so you can save time and spend more time on the water.
9. **Practice the fundamentals:** Look at what you struggle with. Does your cast need work? Are your knot tying abilities not up to par? Evaluate your deficiencies and work on improving them.
10. **Take someone else fishing:** I like to go fishing, but it isn't as fun alone. Recently I introduced my dad to fly fishing and we have a lot of fun going on adventures together.

# Happy New Year!!

## 10 Tips for DIY Fly Fishing Trip

Segueing from the previous page, 2024 is the perfect year for planning a fly fishing trip! Here are Fly Lord's top 10 tips for planning your own fly fishing trip. The original article was authored by Cliff Watson and published December 8<sup>th</sup> 2023, it can be found [here](#).

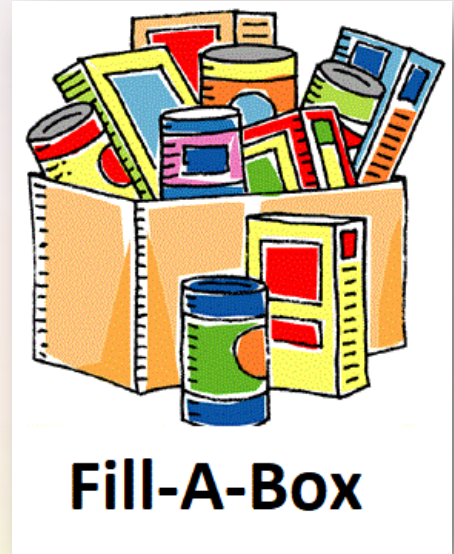
1. **Ask Questions** – If you are fishing new water, ask someone who has fished there before what to use. Whether an angler friend or fly shop, ask what they did to successfully to catch fish there.
2. **Do your research** – Don't hit the road and start fishing without researching. Check some books out of the library or Google the water you plan to fish. Know what you need to do to be successful.
3. **Be resilient and enjoy the ride** – Fishing unfamiliar water might lead to unforeseen problems. Your plans likely won't go exactly the way you drew them up. Know that this will happen and just enjoy the experience. If something does happen, regroup and continue the journey.
4. **Plan your trip, but only to a certain extent** – Similar to number three. Plan things out, but know that your plans will likely change. Save room in your plan to make adjustments.
5. **Don't be afraid to use techniques that don't work on your home water** – All fish are different. Even the same species of fish often eat different food in different bodies of water. If your normal fishing techniques don't work, mix it up and try something new.
6. **Learn about local conservation issues** – Know the conservation issues around the place you are visiting. Be sure to heed local rules. For instance, in some bodies of water, felt shoes are not allowed.
7. **Lose the stigma that some fly anglers hold about conventional fishing** – Conventional fly fishermen are often more knowledgeable than fly anglers on what to do. Listen to what they have to say.
8. **Find accommodation that works for your trip** – Sometimes it is fun to camp on the waterfront, but sometimes that isn't a viable option. Be sure to find a place you can sleep for your trip.
9. **Use digital maps to find spots** – Google maps is a great tool when fishing. Research your spots on Maps or another app.
10. **Practice leave no trace** – You are a guest on your trip. Be sure to leave your campsite or fishing spot cleaner than when you got there.





### **Food Drive Box**

Faith Presbyterian Church has a community food drive box outside of the church, in their parking lot. This box receives and distributes food staple items to members of the community in need. If you would like to help, please bring non-perishable items to place in the box. Faith Presbyterian Church has generously let us use Room 201 for years. The least we can do is provide food to members of their church community in need.



### **FFI Fly Tying Group**

FFI has an online Fly Tying Group that meets the the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month thru April at 7:00 PM CT. For more information please view their website [here](#). They have some neat flies they tie. This is a good place for a beginner to tie from the comfort of their own home.



### **Atlanta Fly Fishing Show**

The Fly Fishing Show is coming back to Atlanta. This is a fun event every year. There are plenty of casting demonstrations, famous tyers and lots of swag. This year's event is February 2, 3, and 4. Kids and military get a discount. For more information, check out their [website](#).

FFI Southeastern Council will have a booth there. If you'd like to sign up as a volunteer, please see their form [here](#).



## January Holidays

### National Spaghetti Day

January 4

The origins of spaghetti are debatable. Italians made it popular, but the theory is that Marco Polo brought back the idea of noodles from his trip to China. Either way, today is a great day to have spaghetti for dinner. Find your favorite local Italian joint and order the biggest plate you can. You can work it off the next day fishing. Spaghetti/pasta is what marathon runners use to carb load the day before a race. You can use it to carb load for a fishing marathon.



Inspiredtaste.net

### Compliment Day

January 24<sup>th</sup>

A good way to start off 2024 is to make a resolution to give out more compliments. This is especially true on January 24<sup>th</sup>. As fishermen, we are known to give compliments such as “nice fish”, “beautiful cast”, “solid knot tying”. Compliment your fishing partner this day, go out of your way to say something nice. It makes that person feel special and you will feel good about it as well!





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