



TVFF Club News

August 2025



TVFF Annual Swap Meet Thursday, August 21st 6:00 PM



A wise club member once answered to the question, "How many fly rods and reels are too many?" He said, "N plus 1." So true. This month's meeting is our annual swap meet, open to members and non-members. If you have any unneeded fly fishing gear, bring it to sell or trade. If you need gear, this is a perfect opportunity to find a good deal. Rods, reels, fly line, vests, waders, boots, nets, wading staffs, hooks, fur, feathers, and books. It's a perfect chance to get to know each other and socialize! Faith Presbyterian Church, corner of Airport and Whitesburg, room 201.

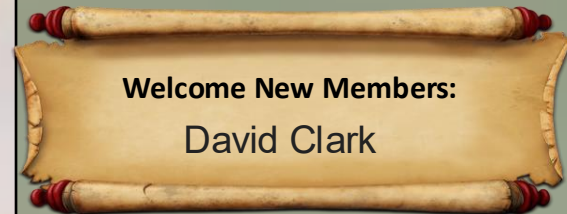
Please note, this event starts at **6:00PM**, an hour earlier than normal.



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This Month

- August 7 – BOD Meeting, 7PM
- August 14 – Fly Tying, 7PM
- August 21– Swap Meet, 6 PM
- August 28– 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
August 7th 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.

August 14th, 7 PM

Zach's Pimple Popper, Tyer – Jon Reinecke

Cost: \$3

Great foam top water fly, bass can't resist! See the video [here](#).

Materials:

Hook: Stinger hook

Thread: Yellow 140 denier

Body: Foam

Tail: Craft fur

Flash: Crystal flash

Legs: Crazy legs

Eyes: Oval pupil eyes



August 28, 7 PM

Carter's Rubber Leg Dragonfly, Tyer – Brian Moore

Cost: \$3

The Carters Rubber Leg Dragonfly is an exceptional warm water fly, versatile enough for panfish, bass, carp, and catfish, and can be fished as a streamer or bounced along the bottom. This effective fly is also simple and inexpensive to tie, making it a great option for any angler. See the video [here](#).

Materials:

Hook: Size 12

Thread: 6/0 light olive

Eyes: Bead chain eyes

Tail: Rabbit strip

Legs: Centipede legs

Body: Chenille

Collar: Soft hackle patch



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 – Dennis' Back Yard BBQ

I am taking a left turn this month and I am not reviewing a fly tying or fly fishing channel on YouTube . This month I will feature Dennis Backyard BBQ, a channel on YouTube that features outdoor cooking. I am sure that most TVFF members do some type of outdoor cooking so I think that you can relate to this channel and will find it informative and entertaining.

Dennis, the host of the channel is a no frills, down to earth, folksy man from South Carolina. You can sense his joy and love for cooking in each of his 500+ videos that have been posted since 2020. Dennis cooks on a well-used Weber kettle grill and a Big Green Egg that has also seen lots of use. No fancy outdoor kitchen for this man. He does not use fancy rubs or marinades instead purchasing his from Kroger, Wal Mart or Costco.

If you scroll through Dennis Backyard BBQ history you will see that he has cooked every type of meat, vegetable, fish and even biscuits on his grills located on his patio.

The Dennis Backyard BBQ videos are short, usually less than 10 minutes and just fun to watch. Take some time to review Dennis's videos, I think you will get some great ideas for cooking on your Weber or BGE in your backyard.

His YouTube channel can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/@Dennisbackyardbbq>



Youtube.com

Looking for new TVFF board members

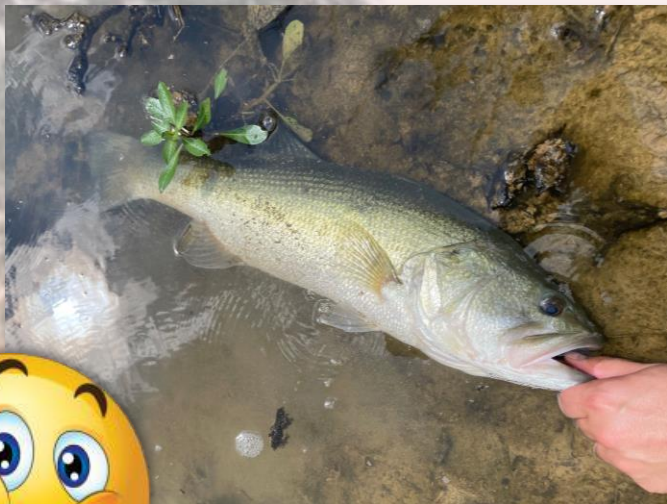
Several board positions are opening this upcoming year. For secretary and vice president we are looking for members to fill those positions. Each term is two years and this one goes from January 2026 to December 2027. If interested please reach out to President David Bailey. Your help would be greatly appreciated!





Fish of the Month

TVFF member Casey Jonas caught this nice bass on a local Huntsville Pond! It was caught on the fly to the right. Great catch Casey!



Below, TVFF members Jonathan Craft and Connor Baker did a quick float on local waters and caught a few bass.



Right, TVFF member Greg Bayuga did some Gulf fishing near Dauphin Island. He caught a very nice Crevalle Jack that took out some line! In addition, he caught some nice Triple Tail. Well done Greg, looks like a terrific time! Thank you for sharing.



July TVFF Club Meetings – Chandeleur Islands Pelican and Rod Building

Richard "Rico" Schmidt – Chandeleur Pelican

Our guest speaker for the month of July was Richard Schmidt, a renowned guide of the Mississippi/Louisiana Gulf. He specializes in Redfish, guiding clients in the flats out of his Hell's Bay Skiff. In addition to his guiding service, which can be found [here](#), Richard also is owner of the [Pelican](#), the Chandeleur Islands premier fly fishing lodge. A few of our members have fished with Richard and were not disappointed! Big fish were caught! Reach out to Richard for an unforgettable experience!



Rod Building Class – Andy King and Dave Schlidt

This month, we did things a little bit different. For our second fly tying session, we had a rod building class to introduce members into what it takes to build a fly rod. This was a fun change of pace and enjoyed by all. This course touched all the basics, from how to wrap guides, tools needed, how to turn cork, et al. Thank you to Dave and Andy for making this happen and bringing in your tools and materials. Hopefully this interests more TVFF members into the fun craft of rod building.



Fly Fishing for Carp

When most people think fly fishing, Carp are not the first fish that usually come to mind. However, Carp are increasingly becoming very popular on the fly. They are elusive like spooky native trout and they fight like Bonefish! Even better, they can be found everywhere. Below are Flylords tips for targeting Carp. The entire article authored by Jared Zissu can be found [here](#).

- **Equipment** – Essential gear includes a 7-8 weight fly rod with a large arbor reel and ample backing, a floating line for delicate presentations, and a 0x-1x (13-15 lb) leader. Don't forget polarized sunglasses, a long-handled net, and a bag or vest for your accessories to maximize your fishing experience.
- **Finding the spots** – Widespread in freshwater systems, making them accessible to anglers. When scouting, look for "dust clouds" in the water, which indicate either fleeing schools of carp or actively feeding fish. If you spot a feeding carp, cast your fly 2-3 feet in front of its nose for the best chance of a bite.
- **Carp body language** - Crucial for successful fly fishing. Avoid fast-cruising carp as they're unlikely to feed. Slow-moving carp, often sunbathing, might take a gently presented fly 2-3 feet in front of their nose. Your best bet is the feeding carp, identified by their head-down, tail-up posture in the shallows. Remember to prioritize stealth as they spook easily.
- **Flies** – When targeting carp, the most effective flies typically imitate crawfish or small buggy patterns, often tied on size 8 to 14 hooks, including specialized carp hooks for better hook-sets. Popular and effective patterns include John Montana's Hybrid Carp Fly, the Backstabber, Common Craw, Barr's Spork Carp Fly, McTage's Trousers Worm, and smaller Woolly Buggers. Remember, carp can be selective, so if one fly isn't working, don't hesitate to switch to another.
- **Elevated platform** – Elevated casting platforms, like a platform on a boat, significantly improve visibility by reducing glare, helping anglers spot carp before being detected and leading to increased catches.



A Water Temperature Guide for Trout

Although all seasons have their pros and cons, Summer is often most trout fishermen's favorite time of year. The days are long and the trout are hungry! They are hitting those top water flies, especially hoppers. However, remember to be mindful of water temperature when fishing for trout. If the water temperature is too warm, catching trout can exhaust and hurt them when they are released back into the water. Many streams within our public lands have strict regulations of times of day you are allowed to fish. "Hoot owl" restrictions for example mandate only fishing in the morning to the early afternoon, before things head up too much. For streams that don't have these rules, it is important for you to when to stop fishing if it is too hot. Always bring a thermometer with you and check if it is safe to fish. Below is a temperature guide for trout. It was published 2021 and written by Evan Garda. The entire article can be found [here](#).

To the right, you can see that water temperature being below 65 degrees Fahrenheit is ideal for fishing. Once it gets higher than that, start to be cognizant of the fish and try to land the fish quicker and minimize their time out of the water. Below are some steps minimizing risk for trout when the day starts to heat up.

1. **Use a thermometer** – Many brands make thermometers. Fishpond has a good one. Use it to ensure that the water is below 67 degrees.
2. **Land the fish quickly** – This is especially important when the water is heating up. Do whatever you can to land the fish quicker, move up in tippet size and use a net. Do not strain the fish.
3. **Fish early** – Consider waking up early, catching fish and leaving before the day gets too hot.
4. **Find cold waters** – Maybe your normal trout stream is too hot. Well, then look for waters that are cooler. Consider moving up in elevation or finding a tail water that is always pulling cold water.
5. **Find new fish** – Maybe it is best in the heat of the day or Summer to look for fish other than trout. Carp and bass can handle warmer water and they are always biting in the summer.

WATER TEMP & TROUT

WHEN TO FISH & WHEN NOT TO

67° F & UP

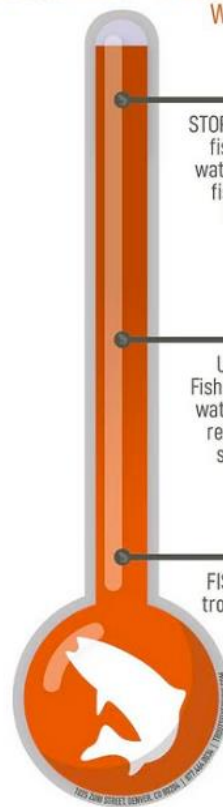
STOP FISHING! Temps are too high and fish are too stressed. Find colder water, fish the high country, tie flies, fish for carp & other warmwater species, or have a cookout at your house – just don't fish.

65° F - 66° F

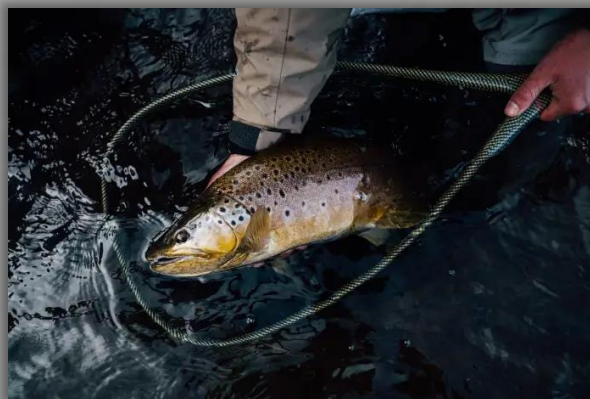
Use heavier tippet or "rope up". Fish early in the day to avoid climbing water temps. Make sure to fight and release fish quickly. At 67°F, trout significantly decrease feeding.

BELOW 65° F

FISH! Temps below 65°F are when trout are happily feeding and all of their favorite hatches are coming off.



Instagram: @troutflyfishing





Fly Tying Thread Comparison Chart: Choosing Fly Tying Thread

Choosing the correct fly tying thread is fundamental to crafting durable and effective flies. This guide, based on insights from J. Stockard Fly Fishing, explores the common thread materials and key considerations for fly tyers.

Thread Materials

- **Nylon:** Introduced in the 1930s, nylon offers approximately 25% stretch, making it forgiving for novice tyers. It excels in vibrant colors but can add slight bulk to your flies.
- **Polyester:** With less stretch (around 15%), polyester provides more predictable handling and good durability. Its colors are typically more muted than nylon.
- **GSP (Gel-Spun Polyethylene):** This advanced material is incredibly strong for its diameter, featuring only 3% stretch. GSP is water-resistant, floats, and has excellent UV resistance, though its slippery nature often requires a ceramic bobbin tip.

Beyond these, traditional and specialty materials like silk, cotton, wool, Kevlar, and rayon are used for specific applications.

Leading Thread Manufacturers

J. Stockard Fly Fishing stocks threads from reputable manufacturers such as Danville, UNI, Semperfli, VEEVUS, Wapsi, and Gordon Griffiths, each offering distinct advantages in their thread lines.

Key Selection Factors

Thread selection is critical and should be based on several factors:

- **Fly Size:** Finer threads (e.g., 14/0 or 70 denier) are perfect for delicate dry flies, while stronger threads (e.g., 210 denier) are more suitable for larger patterns like streamers.
- **Materials Used:** The bulk and texture of your chosen fly materials will influence the ideal thread choice.
- **Tying Technique:** Your personal tying style and the complexity of the pattern can also dictate thread needs.
- **Fishing Conditions:** Environmental factors can also play a role in thread durability and performance.

Understanding Thread Sizing

Two primary sizing systems are used for fly tying threads:

- **Denier:** This is a precise measurement where a lower denier number indicates a finer thread.
- **Aught (0) System:** An older system where more zeros (e.g., 8/0, 10/0) signify a finer thread.

For more detailed specifications and to make informed decisions for optimal fly performance, a downloadable comparison chart is available on the J. Stockard Fly Fishing [website](#).

Joe Tremblay Aldridge Creek Cleanup

Our annual Aldridge Creek clean up is September 20th, Saturday morning. Official time to be determined, but we will be meet sometime in the morning at Southside Park in South Huntsville. Aldridge Creek is a popular spot for TVFF members. This event is a lot of fun, the club will pay for breakfast afterwards.



Share Your Favorite Fly Fishing Guides!

Many of us love to travel and experience new waters, often with the help of a great fly fishing guide. We're starting an exciting new initiative to build a comprehensive list of recommended guides from around the country, with the goal of making it available on our website!

Imagine planning your next fly fishing adventure to Colorado or Louisiana and being able to find a trusted guide recommendation right from a fellow club member. Your input will not only help your fellow anglers but also give some well-deserved recognition to the hardworking guides who make our trips so memorable.

If you've had a fantastic experience with a fly fishing guide, we want to hear about it!

When you submit your guide, please include as much detail as possible:

- State
- Body of Water
- Name of Outfitter (if applicable)
- Guide's Name
- Website
- Phone Number
- Email
- Any other helpful notes or personal recommendations!

Please send your submissions to Mr. Rodney Durrett at radurrett@gmail.com or directly to info@tvff.club. Thanks for helping us create this valuable resource for the club!

August Holidays

National Sneak Some Zucchini Onto Your Neighbor's Porch Night

Date When Observed: August 8th.

On August 8th, green thumbs everywhere celebrate National Sneak Some Zucchini Onto Your Neighbor's Porch Night. This wonderfully whimsical holiday is a lighthearted tradition for gardeners who find themselves blessed, or perhaps overwhelmed, with an abundance of zucchini. If your counter is overflowing with freshly picked squash, this is your chance to "share" the bounty in a stealthy and humorous way. The goal is to discreetly deposit your extra zucchini on a neighbor's porch, leaving them to discover their surprise vegetable delivery. It's all in good fun, a playful nod to the prolific nature of zucchini plants, and a way to add a bit of unexpected amusement to someone's evening.



International Strange Music Day

Date When Celebrated : August 24th

Get ready to broaden your auditory horizons for International Strange Music Day. This holiday is a fantastic excuse to dive headfirst into the weird, wonderful, and unusual corners of the music world. Forget your usual playlists for a day and challenge yourself to explore genres, artists, or even instruments you've never encountered before. Whether it's avant-garde experimental sounds, obscure folk traditions from distant lands, or just something that truly defies categorization, the goal is to expand your musical palate and embrace the unconventional. It's an invitation to celebrate the vast diversity of human creativity and perhaps even discover a new favorite sound that's delightfully out of the ordinary.





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