



TVFF Club News

November 2017



This Month Program

TVFF Holiday Banquet and Auction 10 November @ 6PM

Join us for our annual Holiday Celebration and Auction.

Enjoy a traditional turkey dinner complete with all the trimmings with friends and family, then stay for the auction and raffle.

Many valuable auction/raffle items are coming in with more expected daily. If you have equipment or interesting stuff you're not using, you can help the club by donating it to the auction.

There will be no Club meeting in November. Regular Club meeting resume on 21 December with the TVFF Christmas Social.

Updated Fishing Reports

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

In this issue

- [BOD Votes to Change FFI Affiliation](#)
- [TVFF Fly Tying Group](#)
- [2017 TVFF BOD Elections](#)
- [Catch of the Month Pgs 2,3&4](#)
- [Annual Banquet and Auction](#)
- [First Club Trip to Arkansas's White River by Steve Kerkohf](#)
- [Fly Fishing for Fall Largemouths](#)
- [RIO Tip - Cleaning a Fly Line](#)
- [November Holidays](#)
- [Our Donors](#)

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This Month's Activities

- 9 Nov - Fly Tying, 7pm room 201
- 10Nov - TVFF Holiday Banquet, 7pm Faith Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall





TVFF BOD Vote to Change FFI Affiliation – 30 Oct BOD meeting

The TVFF Board of Directors (BOD) voted to place changing TVFF's status with Fly Fishers International (FFI) from Affiliate to Charter Club on referendum at the February 2018 meeting.

Changing our status will greatly simplify the day to day operation; ensure we are in compliance with current and future government regulations, make your donations as well as corporate donations tax deductible while providing immediate benefits to both the club and its members.

On the individual level:

1. FFI membership
2. AJG Affinity Program benefits
3. Flyfisher Magazine
4. The Loop - The Journal of Fly Casting Professionals
5. Tying Times Newsletter
6. Membership card
7. Patch
8. Decals
9. Knowledge that YOU are making a difference for the sport's future

On the organization level:

1. TVFF will become a Non-Profit organization, greatly enhancing our ability to obtain corporate donations
2. TVFF will be entitled to legal advice from FFI attorney
3. FFI will file group tax returns
4. TVFF will no longer be required to pay Affiliate Club dues

However, this solution comes at a price. In order to become a Charter Club all of our members must be FFI members.

Not wishing to burden our members, the BOD developed a plan that mitigates the cost increase. Under the proposed change the TVFF annual dues will be utilized to enroll our members in the FFI. As we transition, and every year thereafter, FFI will provide an invoice reflecting the cost of enrolling our members, TVFF will pay the invoice with TVFF dues collected.

To further ease the transition, FFI offers an incentive program for clubs that eases the transition for new FFI members by phasing in the cost increase. Please note, this discount is not extended to the club's current FFI members or to new members who join after the club reaches Charter club status.

Although it appears complicated, it boils down to this. TVFF members who are not FFI members before the club reaches Charter club status will receive a discount.

1. The 1st year dues for all membership categories will be \$20.
2. The 2nd year dues will vary according to membership categories, \$30 for general membership (includes family members) and \$25 for seniors and veterans while youth membership will remain at \$20.
3. Finally, the 3rd year, general membership will increase to \$35 while seniors, veterans and youth remain at \$25 and \$20 respectively.





Dues for TVFF members who are currently FFI members and those who join TVFF or pay their club dues after the club reaches Charter club status will be according to the following:

1. General Membership - \$35 (General memberships include you, spouse or co-habiting partner and children under 18 years of age)
2. Seniors - \$25 (over 65)
3. Veterans - \$25 (with proof of honorable military service)
4. Youth/Student - \$20 (22 years and younger)

To sum it up, becoming a Charter Club will simplify club operations, greatly enhance our ability to obtain corporate donations, provide members with all FFI benefits for a moderate increase in our dues spread over the next 3 years.

You will be hearing more about the transition to a FFI Charter Club in the January's Club News and the transition and its implications will be discussed at the January meeting where we will do our upmost to answer all your questions.

This is a lot to consider, but the BOD truly believes that these changes are vital to the interest of our club and ask for your support on the referendum to transition to a FFI Charter Club on February 15th.



TVFF Fly Tying Group

Novembers fly tying sessions have been cancelled due to the TVFF Holiday Banquet and Thanksgiving Day.

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 even designed. Join us for 2 hour sessions held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7 PM.



Elections to the TVFF BOD to be held at the November meeting

The following members have placed their names in nomination for the following:

Vice President: Brian Bouma

Secretary: J.J. Yount

Education Director: Donald Dhem

Conservation Director: Corey Pedigo

The success of our club depends greatly on the participation of its members and their willingness to serve. This is a great opportunity for you to serve our club and community.

Think about the impact you could have on the club, fellow fishermen, and local fisheries! It doesn't take years of experience. All it takes is a little time and a willingness to serve.





Catch(s) of the Month - TVFF Fall trip to White River



Shannon McCurley 21" Brown



Corey Pedigo 19" Brown



Rebecca Pedigo 18" Brown



Dick Curtis 22" Brown

Catch of the Month - David Darnell in British Columbia



28" female Bull Trout
Kootenay River on a Dali Lama



Dali Lama Streamer



"Techniques like no other" Fishing caddis nymph in big fast swirling water (36,800 CFS) up to 65 feet deep on the Columbia River





TVFF Annual Banquet/Auction for 2017

Mark Your Calendar

Our annual banquet/auction will be held on Friday, November 10th with registration beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Faith Presbyterian Church. Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m.

For our new members, the annual banquet is a special time to get as many of our family and friends together to share an evening of good food and fellowship. After the meal we hold an auction to raise money for the club.

Our Annual Fund Raiser

This auction is a primary source of funds for the club. Without the generous support of you, the members, we would not be able to have the quality programs and activities that we enjoy throughout the year. Expenses include FFI annual fees, club insurance, website hosting, speaker fees, outing expenses, donations, banquet costs and other project expenses.

Two ways you can help

First, we need donated items to be in the raffle and auction. Many individuals purchase items and donate them. These include fishing tackle, gear bags, lines, reels, rods, and fly tying material. Other members make items to be sold, including items of interest to family members.

Tying benches, flies, crafts, and wall hangings have all been donated.

Thanks to donations from club members and business listed below we will have an impressive selection of items for your bidding pleasure.

Second, we need you to bid and buy the items. It is all done in fun while helping the club. And you can obtain some nice items in the exchange.

The following businesses/organization provided items for the auctioned and/or raffle. Let's give them our support.

Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher: <https://theozarkflyfisher.com/>

Fly Fishers International: <http://fedflyfishers.org/>

Fly South: <http://flysouth.net/>

The Golden Rule Fly Shop: <http://www.goldenruleflyshop.com/>

Riverside Fly Shop: www.riversideflyshop.com

Wapsi Fly, Inc: <http://www.wapsify.net/>

Wishes and Fishes: <http://www.theflyfishing-store.com/>

Additional donations pending





Banquet/Auction Location

The banquet will be at Faith Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, Friday night, November 10th at 6:00 pm. This is the site of our current meeting place. We will enjoy a catered holiday meal of all for the modest fee of \$8 per member and their guest and, as always, there is no charge for children under 12. (Nonmembers and their guest \$12 per adult and \$6 per child under 12)

Banquet/Auction Overview

Upon arrival you will check-in at the registration table at the entrance, pay for the banquet and obtain your bidding paddle for the auction.

Raffle tickets will also be available here for select items that will be raffled off during the auction.

Then find yourself a table/seating for the banquet and mingle. Banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m. followed by the auction.

At the conclusion of the auction, all auction acquisitions will be totaled per paddle number and each member will pay for and collect his/her purchases, (checks or cash, please).

Desserts

Please bring a dessert! We have many bakers and chefs with remarkable talent. Having so many wonderful desserts to sample really makes our banquet special.

This is our club. Let's support this fun event to ensure our continued success.

NOTE : To assist in room set-up and clean-up before & after the Banquet/Auction some volunteers will be required.

Please contact Larry Hice (lhice@plasticfusion.com).

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Sample of the items to be auctioned



Exquisite fly boxes



Fly fishing equipment

Remember the Banquet/Auction replaces our normal 3rd Thursday meeting for November. Also, the December meeting will be a social event only (no program) with drinks and snacks supplied. All you need to bring is yourself and the normal boastful stories from the past year to share with those who are interested.



My First Club Trip to Arkansas's White River by Steve Kerkohf

I made my first trip to the White River a couple of weeks ago for the annual TVFF fall trip where I caught my first trout on a fly rod and enjoyed the most restful relaxing week that I've had in a long time.

It is 430 miles from SE Huntsville to the cabins at Riley's Outfitters in Buffalo City, population 36. It takes between 7 and 8 hours depending on your driving style and number of stops.

The club rented two houses/cabins for eight nights. The cabins are on the banks of the White River, on the opposite shore from where the Buffalo River meets the White. The cabins sit on a high bank overlooking the river which makes for a splendid view from the large back porch.

We had 11 people on the trip and lodging was \$240 per person for the trip. You get your own bed and share a bathroom with 1 or 2 others. The club has evolved a great system for sharing responsibilities and costs. Some things are decided by random drawing. Bed choice is one and responsibility for a dinner or dessert is another. Corey cooked breakfast every morning, then we take turns preparing dinner for the group. You fix your own lunch, either a sandwich or maybe some leftovers from dinner the night before.

Larry Hice will give you a detailed list of "camp supply" items that you buy and take to the cabins. Those are things like paper towels, mustard, ketchup, chips, soft drinks, and dishwasher detergent. You place your receipts for the things you buy for the group into the designated cup at the cabin. At the end of the week all the receipts are added and the total divided by the number of people on the trip. You may owe a few dollars or you might get a few dollars back but everyone pays the same amount.

The first fishing happened on Sunday morning. After breakfast and some checking on the water release schedule, everyone formulated their plan for the day. One thing I learned is that predicting the water level from the conflicting data that is available requires a crystal ball and a strong sense of humor. Larry and Roger took first timers Kent Gilliland and me to Rim Shoals to try our luck wading. The water was a little too high and we didn't have any luck but I got to try out my new waders and an olive wooly booger that I had just bought at the Rim Shoals fly shop. That ended up being my go to fly the rest of the week.

We went back to the cabin for lunch then Larry suggested we rent a boat from the Riley's and ferry over to the far side of Smith Island and try our luck. That is where I caught my first rainbow trout on a fly rod. It wasn't a monster by any means, but it is a fish I'll always remember. I caught a couple of rainbows, a bream and two small largemouth bass before I had to stop fishing because it was my turn to cook dinner.

Thanks to Roger, Shannon and Corey who all helped me get dinner on the table. And it was that way every night. The cook always got whatever help was needed and the volunteers stepped forward when it was time to clean up.



Early morning commute



On Monday we got ferried from Rim Shoals to some islands in the river. We had enough folks for 2 trips in the boat. Kent and I were in the second group. We passed the first group standing on a proper island and the boat driver, I think he went by Tooter, said he'd take us to the second island a little farther downstream. He pulled up to a spine of rocks in the middle of river and told us we could get out. Kent and I traded a surprised look but we climbed out and started fishing. I caught a fish almost right away and a couple of more after that.



Trying my luck on the Spring River

On Tuesday Kent and I decided to venture out and try the Spring River. Kent had found about it while preparing for the trip. It is about an hour and a half drive northeast from the cabin but it was an easy drive. The Spring River is fed from Mammoth Spring in north Arkansas near the Missouri State line. Mammoth Spring is the world's 7th largest natural spring. It flows about 8 million gallons an hour of 58 degree water year round. We tried a couple of places and had better luck at the second. We told the others about it at dinner that night and several more folks tried it with success during the week. Thanks to Kent for finding another good option when the White is running high. Tuesday was also a good day for Corey and Rebecca who took a guided trip on the White and caught browns and rainbows.

Reid Benson took Kent and I out on the White River in a boat we rented from Rileys. It was more adventure than fishing but I had a great time. I tried driving the boat on Wednesday afternoon to give Reid a chance to fish but I need more practice to get a good drift in the boat. Ideally you'd motor upstream just fast enough so that the boat is drifting at the same speed as the current in the river. It is tougher than it sounds.

No week would be complete without a tour of the fly shops. I made my first visits to Norfolk, Dally's and Jimmy T's (Wishes and Fishes). I got a few things at each stop but was saving my real shopping spree for the FFI. The club schedules the fall trip to coincide with Fly Fishers International Expo. I emptied my wallet there at the Golden Rule booth. Larry told me there would be good deals and he was right.

There were several fly tiers doing demonstrations and I sat down with a couple of them and heard about their techniques. There are also presentations and classes but I wasn't smart enough to take advantage of those. Now that I know a little more about the Expo I'll explore the educational opportunities next time.

To sum up it was a great week and not just because of the fishing. I made some new friends and got to know better some of the ones I see at fly tying. Meal time conversation and sitting on the porch after dinner, watching the moon rise over the hill and reflect off the river, and trading stories while you enjoy a nightcap are just as much fun as the fishing. I'll definitely go again.

On The Water

THE ANGLER'S GUIDE

Fly-Fishing for Fall Largemouths

BY [TOM SCHLICHTER](#) | SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

Reprint from ON THE WATER website. For this and other great articles go to <http://www.onthewater.com/>

Surface bugs tempt big bass when the leaves change color.

The small bass bug left barely a ripple on the surface as I gave it a light twitch, a slight pause and then another twitch. Filled with anticipation, I tried to outwait what I hoped would be a lunker bigmouth sizing up my offering.

Slowly I counted, “three alligators, four alligators, five,” and twitched the bug again. Instantly, the surface erupted as a bass inhaled the imitation and rolled toward open water. I delayed my strike just long enough to let the husky fish turn and then set the hook with a sharp tug of the fly line. The battle that ensued included a head-shaking jump followed by a cartwheel. It was fall bass fishing at its finest and I was thrilled to be using a fly rod.

The simple mention of fly-fishing can be a conversation stopper in some serious bass fishing circles. For many who target largemouths with powerful conventional rods, 30-pound-test braided line, a tournament mentality and baitcasting reels favored for their ability to winch hawgs out of the nasties, the thought of gently presenting a neatly dressed deer-hair frog or rubber-legged cork popper can seem a little too refined. Turns out, however, that today's fly gear has muscle enough to accomplish the task with ease. In some situations, such as fishing in the gin-clear waters of mid-October, it might even have an edge on more traditional bassin' techniques.

Although it is true that fly-rod bass fishing calls for gentle presentations at times, it's a far cry from dapping trout on tiny creeks you jump across or targeting stockies in the local mill pond. It's also a lot easier to get started than you might think. You'll only need a few basic patterns and simple gear to get in on the fun.

Consider also that most bass fans already have a pretty good sense of where to find their quarry and you may already be halfway to besting your first bigmouth with feathers and fur. Once you do, you'll be hooked forever on the early fall season because the bucketmouths are refreshed by dropping water temperatures, competition from other anglers is light, and most of the action takes place on the surface.



Pictured above: The author shows off a chunky early fall bigmouth that smacked a cork popper on an eastern Long Island pond.



In addition to frogs, mice and poppers, large grasshopper patterns can be deadly on bass that are feeding around floating weed mats.



It's no secret that largemouth bass will take a frog, mice and various cork popper patterns throughout the summer months. The problem is that warm water means beating the brush, fishing in tight quarters, and tempting blowdowns, heavy structure and thick weed mats with every cast.

Come the fall, however, retreating weeds create more open pockets, predators push out from the shore and, for a brief period in late September and early October, anything on the surface becomes fair game for bucketmouths of all sizes. That can lead to some awesome days like the one I had in the third week of October two years ago. Working cork poppers on that midday trip, I caught and released more than 30 bigmouths ranging from 8 to 19 inches in the span of just three hours. Last year, during the first week of October, I used a deer-hair frog to drill over a dozen bass up to 4 pounds and then tied on a small cork popper to top off the day with seven monster bluegills and a 15-inch crappie!

As with any other kind of fishing, choosing your battles is a good idea. I like to target bigmouths with the long wand under relatively calm conditions. An especially good time to give it a shot is after the wind has blown hard from the south or west for two or three consecutive days. That brings slightly warmer temperatures and piles various terrestrials like dragonflies, moths, crickets and any remaining grasshoppers along the windward shore. When the breezes drop off, the action ignites. As long as water temperatures remain relatively mild, the bass will figure out that these tasty critters are pretty much helpless and begin to slurp them from the surface. Look for your most impressive scores to come against a small shoreline point, deep inside shallow coves, or parallel to significant straight-edged weedlines where soggy bugs try to gain some traction.

Adding to the natural fall chum slick, frogs are generally active through mid-October. They swim slower and more deliberately at this point, however, making them especially vulnerable to big bass looking for a substantial calorie boost. Keep this slowness in mind as you try to imitate them and be sure to thoroughly work any stretches that lie between a swampy bank and remaining lily patches or small, isolated islands of weed mats.

Three Basic Patterns

While early mornings can produce well through the first half of September, I find that evenings are better late in the month and through mid-October. Through this entire stretch, I prefer fishing under overcast skies. By mid-October, however, I usually shift to the midday beat, with noon to 3:30 p.m. my favored time slot. As the waters grow increasingly chilly with the approach of November, a bright sun can warm up bankside shallows, expansive flats, and the surface area over deep water, encouraging predators in such areas to become more active. While bass often grow shy as underwater visibility improves, the gentle "splat" of a small frog pattern or cork popper tends to call them in for a look rather than repel them, as the heavier entry of a larger lure might under such conditions. The takeaway from this scenario is to approach quietly, slowly and with a low profile whenever possible. Fall is the one time of the year when I really pay attention to wearing clothing that blends in with my surroundings as I target



Plenty of open water, aggressive fish and relatively short casts make fall fishing for largemouths a blast with the long wand.



The big three: frog, cork popper and mouse patterns. The author favors green or yellow for both the frogs and corks, but brown is the standard color for mouse imitations.

bigmouths—that holds whether I approach them by kayak, wading or boat.

While there are dozens of patterns to choose from when it comes to fly-fishing for bass, all you really need to get started with these fall fish are three time-honored standbys. First and most versatile is the cork popper. This can be the rubber-leg variety that looks like a large panfish popper, or something with a concave face and feathered tail. Green, yellow, red and white are all suitable colors. Next in importance is a basic green or yellow frog pattern, followed by a simple brown or black deer-hair mouse. Although weedless versions of the larger patterns are not absolutely necessary, they may provide an edge on shallow lakes and ponds where thick weeds sometimes take most of the fall to fully retreat.

With these three basic patterns, it is possible to cover any surface fishing activity and begin to have some fun. Streamers and various crayfish patterns will also work, especially in waters where smallmouth bass are a bycatch, but they require a little more skill to use effectively. If you get hooked on using the long wand for bass, you'll eventually add these patterns to your arsenal but there's no need to carry them when first getting your feet wet.

Hooked For Life

In terms of gear, keep it simple. A 5- or 6-weight rod is powerful enough to get the job done and floating fly line works best with a slow-paced surface approach. As for the leader, keep it short and simple. I use a 5-foot length of 8-pound-test pink Ande monofilament connected to the fly line by a uni-knot. I like the Ande mono because of its superior abrasion resistance and, since the length of the leader is so short while bass bugs are relatively large, I have no problem with unfurling the fly at the end of each cast. Be sure to carry along a pair of long-nosed pliers, and crush the barbs on your poppers, frogs and mice to help make unhooking your catch less of a chore. The faster and easier you get your quarry back in the water, the better its chance of survival.

Keep in mind that cooling water temperatures will slow the metabolism of the bass at this time of the year. That means as the fall progresses you'll need to slow your retrieves considerably to continue provoking surface strikes. In a warm fall, I've had surface action lasting nearly to Thanksgiving. Most years, however, the splashes stretch into late October. That's plenty of time to become hooked for life on using the long wand for late season bass.

RIO Tip - Cleaning a Fly Line

Fly line not performing well? Having trouble casting or mending? A dirty fly line may very well be the culprit.

Although line manufactures recommend periodic cleaning, fishing in the South for bass and bream make it an absolute necessity!

A good cleaning will remove insect repellent, sunscreen, floatant residue, as well as prolong the life of your line.

Cleaning your fly line will also reduce guide friction, tangles, improve floatation and most important, improve your cast.

Check out Rio's 3 stage method for cleaning a fly line.





November Holidays

National Men Make Dinner Day

Date When Celebrated : First Thursday in November

National Men Make Dinner Day was created for two reasons.

First, it is to give the ladies a break from the cooking chores.

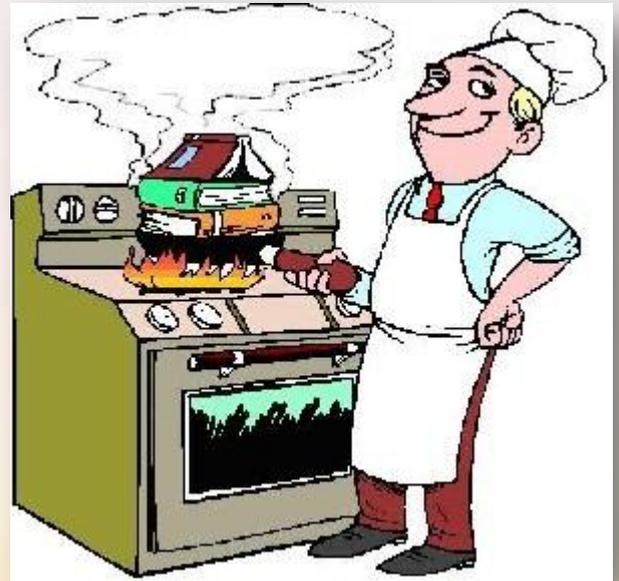
Secondly, it seeks to encourage men who do not cook, to learn to cook, beginning by making a meal on this day.

Of course, even men who do cook, should celebrate this day by making a meal. For the experienced male cook, we encourage you to make something challenging.

It is also called *Make Your Wife Dinner Day*.

Okay guys, be a sport. Give the ladies in your life a break.

Set them in their favorite chair in the living room, put a glass of wine in their hands, and tune the TV to their favorite "Chick Flick". Then, grab a beer, find a recipe and make dinner all by yourself!



Here are a few Do's and Don'ts for making the meal:

The Golden Rule: Women can not assist in the meal. Rookie male cooks need to do it all by themselves, to gain a sense of accomplishment.

No take out or prepared foods are allowed

No grilling. After all, you've been telling yourself for years, that grilling is Man's turf.

If you've never cooked before, make it simple. If you like to cook, do something challenging.

Prepare something that the ladies will like.

The meal must include a dessert. May we suggest easy to make Jello? Add a dollop of whipped cream and a cherry.

You must clean up all the pots pans and mixing bowls used in preparing the meal.

Why Should Men Cook Today?

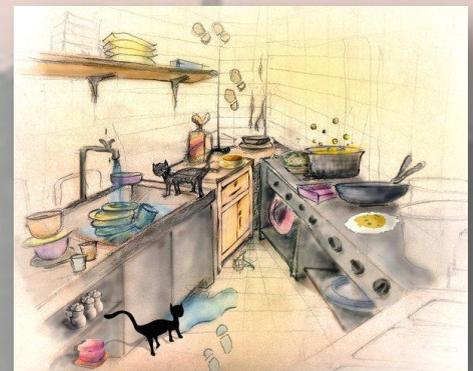
Because you love your wife or partner.

To broaden your horizon and skill set.

To score points!

Origin of Men Make Dinner Day:

The creators of this day is not known. Nor, is the date when it originated. Our research suggest that this special day may have originated fairly recently.



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