



TVFF Club News

September 2026



Bob Clouser, Inventor of Clouser Minnow Thursday, September 17th, 7:00 PM



One of fly fishing's biggest names, Bob Clouser has invented numerous easy and effective flies, his most popular being the Clouser Minnow. Growing up in Pennsylvania and having started fishing at the age of 14, Bob has a ton of knowledge when it comes to fly fishing. Invented in 1987, the Clouser Minnow was originally designed to catch Smallmouth Bass. However, it has proven effective in almost every fishery, whether warm, cold, or salt water. Lefty Kreh famously caught 86 different species on a Clouser. As we have seen in TVFF fly tying meetings, there are several variations of the Clouser Minnow, i.e. Fur-Strip Clouser, Rattle Clouser, et al. All very effective!

Bob Clouser will join us this month via Zoom to provide a quick presentation, followed by a short Q&A. TVFF looks forward to seeing you all there!

In this issue

- [TVFF Fly Tying Group](#)
- [Fish of the Month](#)
- [Note from TVFF President](#)
- [Why do trout eat purple flies?](#)
- [Improve your fly casting](#)
- [5 Confidence Flies](#)
- [Appalachian Fly Tying Gathering](#)
- [TVFF News](#)
- [September Holidays](#)

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

Welcome New Members:

Invite a friend to TVFF!

This Month

- September 10 – Fly Tying, 7 PM
- September 17 – Swap Meet, 6:00 PM
- September 24 – Fly Tying, 7 PM

Officers and Directors

President: Dave Bailey
Vice President: Andy King
Secretary: David Heim
Treasurer: Vacant
Membership: Debbie Hill
Activities: Larry Hice
Education: Brian Moore
Conservation: Jacob Franklin
Communications: Connor Baker

Board of Directors Meeting

The next BOD meeting is Thursday November 5th 2026, 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.

September 10th, 7PM

Bluegill Bully Spider – Brian Moore

Cost: \$3

Who doesn't love to go to a pond after work and fish for Bluegill? You can catch bluegill anywhere and this is the perfect fly to do just that. A video of this easy to tie fly can be found [here](#).

Materials:

Hook: Standard wet-fly hook, sizes 10 and 12.

Thread: 8/0 or 70 Denier, black.

Weight: .015 lead-free wire.

Body: Ultra Chenille, caddis green.

Legs: Round rubber legs, small, black.

Note: Experiment with different colors for the body and legs.



Orvis.com

September 24th, 7 PM

TBA

Cost: \$3

No tyer yet for this second session, if interested in volunteering for this second session, please reach out to editor@tvff.club.

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.

Fish of the Month

While on a family vacation up in Michigan, TVFF member Brian Moore had a chance to do some fishing! Below left, is a Yellow Perch Brian caught on a fly rod. Right, are two Rock Bass that Brian and his wife Debbie doubled up on! Looks like a fun trip Brian!



This month, Greg Bayuga caught some nice Bull Reds on the Gulf. Those are good sized fish Greg, looks like a lot of fun!





Note from TVFF President, David Bailey

Fellow TVFF members, the September and October meetings will be the most important meetings of the year. At the September meeting Bob Clouser (of the famous Clouser Minnow fly) will be speaking to the club via Zoom. I anticipate his presentation to be informative and a lot of fun.

Do not forget that the annual Aldridge Creek cleanup will take place on Saturday October 3 at 9am. Plan to attend, pick up a couple of bags of trash from the creek and join us for lunch. There will be prizes for the most unusual item pulled from the creek and the most trash pulled from the creek.

Remaining events in 2026 below:

- **September:** Bob Clouser via Zoom (do not miss this one)
- **October 3rd:** Aldridge Creek Cleanup
- **October:** Annual Membership meeting, attendance by all members greatly appreciated
- **November:** Annual TVFF Banquet and auction
- **December:** Holiday Fly tying and Party

David Bailey
TVFF President



Why do trout eat purple flies?

If you have ever fished in Wyoming, you know that purple is a very popular color for trout flies. There are purple hoppers, nymphs, et al. that are popular out there. However, this is not unique to Wyoming, and flies like the Purple Haze can be found in almost every fly shop nationwide. Why is purple so popular? Fly Lords Magazine digs into this. Below is a summary of an article authored by Max Inchausti. The entire article can be found [here](#).

Unlike humans who have three color receptors in their eyes, trout have four. This means they pick up wavelengths differently. Because of this, purple is a color they see very well, it is an attractive color to them. Below are some examples of the best time to fish a purple fly:

Dry Fly Fishing

If there is a hatch going on, try and match that as best as possible and do not use a purple fly. However, if there is no active hatch, tie on a purple hopper and see if it can draw in a strike.

Subsurface Fly Fishing

Streamers or nymphs in purple is a great subsurface fly. It is seen to trout as an attractor pattern. Purple is best fished in deep pools with low light. In those deep pools, purple is one of the few colors that trout can easily pick up on.

Below are some popular purple flies:

Dry Flies

- Purple Haze
- Naked Chubby – Purple
- Bionic Hopper – Purple
- Galactic Ant – Purple
- GT Triple Double – Purple
- J's Purple Nurple Dry Fly

Nymphs

- Olsen's Purple Blowtorch
- Darth Baetis – Purple
- Perdichingons – UV Purple
- Zebra Jig Thin – Purple
- Higa's SOS Purple

Streamers

- Bloom's Zirdle – Purple
- Galloup's Barred Micro Dungeon – Black/Purple
- Galloup's Menage a Dungeon – Purple/Black
- Balanced Leather Leech Nano – Purple
- Baby Complex Twist Gray & Purple



Flyfishfood.com

Improve Your Fly Casting

By Todd Tanner

Hatch Magazine, December 29, 2022

We can all improve our fly casting abilities. The following excerpt is from a Hatch Mag article (can be found [here](#)) and it lays out some tips for improving your cast. Some of us are content with mediocre casting, but learning how to cast well can really improve your fishing experience.

- **Know good casting from bad casting** – A lot of folks can't tell good casting from bad casting. It is very hard to be a good caster if you don't know what a bad (or good) cast looks like. Go online and look at a good fly cast. Notice the tight loops of the line, the arm movement, etc.
- **Practice** – Spend time in your backyard practicing your cast. Film yourself and see how you cast and make adjustments as you go. Practice a little bit every week to really hone in the skill.
- **Avoid bad advice** – Anyone can upload a video to YouTube and claim they know how to cast well. Do not follow someone's advice unless they actually have a good cast. If their cast isn't good, do not take their casting advice.
- **Observe what the experts do** – It is good to learn from friends and other fishermen, but really focus on how a fly casting expert casts. They know how to describe things and can provide solid advice that is tested and true.

Casting is a fun part of fly fishing that truly makes it unique to conventional fishing. You don't need to be an expert caster to successfully fly fish, but it does make the experience much better!



Photo: Todd Tanner, HatchMag.com

Tim Cammisa's 5 Confidence Flies

What are five trout flies you should always have in your box? Flies that are easy to tie and work time after time. Below are Tim Cammisa's top trout flies. Visit his website [here](#).

TIM CAMMISA'S 5 CONFIDENCE FLIES

Simple. Proven. Repeatable.



1. X-Caddis

Profile: Emerging caddis imitation with natural silhouette

When: Caddis hatches, riffles, broken water, dry-dropper setups

Why it works: Rides low in the film—exactly where trout expect vulnerable insects

Sizes: 14-18

Go-to when fish are eating just under the surface.



2. France Fly

Profile: Quick-sink, slim mayfly imitation

When: Cold water, pressured fish, deep slow runs

Why it works: Thin body = fast sink rate. Subtle hotspot seals the deal.

Sizes: 14-18

Less material. More fish.



3. Pheasant Tail

Profile: Slim, natural mayfly imitation

When: Clear water, pressured fish, technical drifts

Why it works: Looks like everything and nothing at the same time—natural + just enough flash

Sizes: 14-18

If you could only carry one...



4. Squirmy Wormy

Profile: Worm imitation with high movement

When: After rain, off-color water, rising flows

Why it works: Movement + visibility = easy meal signal

Sizes: 10-16

When conditions get tough, this gets eaten.



5. Black Jig Bugger

Profile: Streamer/nymph hybrid with jig action

When: Searching water, aggressive fish, deeper runs

Why it works: Suggestive profile + movement triggers reaction strikes

Sizes: 8-12

Big eats come from bold flies.

Appalachian Fly Tying Gathering

Come experience Maggie Valley when the fall colors are at their peak and the fly fishing is at its best! Tie some flies, take in the beautiful mountain scenery, catch a trout, and enjoy a full day with the fly-fishing and fly-tying community.

Saturday, October 17, 2026

9:00 AM–9:00 PM

Maggie Valley Town Hall Pavilion



APPALACHIAN FLY TYING GATHERING



— In Honor of Bob Nanny's Lifelong Legacy of Fly Tying —

TIE FOR A CAUSE SATURDAY



INDOOR FLY TYING HALL

Comfortable indoor tying space for up to 150 fly tyers



**FLY TYING
VENDORS**



**FOOD
TRUCKS**



**AMAZING
RAFFLES**



WIN: A full-day guided float trip for two
+ a full-day guided wade fishing trip for two



— TIE FOR A CAUSE —

Bring donated flies. Every fly will be passed along to organizations that use fly fishing and fly tying to make a difference.



SATURDAY • OCTOBER 17, 2026



9:00 AM–9:00 PM



MAGGIE VALLEY, NC TOWN HALL PAVILION



RSVP: Bill Jewett
theflytyingsanta24@gmail.com



Joe Tremblay Aldridge Creek Cleanup

Our annual Aldridge Creek clean up is October 3rd, 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.



Chamness Award Nominations

Know someone deserving of recognition at TVFF? Nominations are being accepted for the 2026 Chamness Award. It's named after Johnny Chamness, one of our founding members whose dedication and service were instrumental to the club's success. Although Johnny never held office, his service to the club continued unabated until the years and health issues forced him to limit his activities. Johnny's countless contributions were officially recognized in 1998 with the creation of the Johnny Chamness Award for excellence in service.

In keeping with the spirit of service to the club, the Chamness Award is presented to members who have provided invaluable service to the club through their contributions of time, energies, and support of club functions, activities, events and goals. Nominations are easy. Simply submit the candidate's name along with the reason you feel he or she is deserving of the award to [Tom Wallace](#), our most recent recipient. Please keep your nomination confidential so the recipient can be surprised. You can also mail your nomination to TVFF, PO Box 12841, Huntsville, AL 35815. Please submit your nominations by the October meeting on October 15th.



TVFF News

TVFF is Collecting Empty Thread Spools

If you have empty thread, wire, floss, or tinsel spools, please bring to a future TVFF meeting (fly tying or monthly meeting). Debbie Hill will be collecting these. Instead of throwing them away, they will be repurposed. If you have any questions please contact Debbie: debhil522@gmail.com



TVFF Classified Ads

TVFF has a classified section will for members to offer for sale used or unwanted fly fishing related items:

- Send a brief description and picture of the item(s) you wish to sell and include an asking price to the TVFF Communications Director at editor@tvff.club
- Provide your name, email and/or cell number
- All transactions are to be conducted between the buyer and seller. TVFF will not become involved
- Ads will not roll over each month, you must resubmit your request each month if needed
- This service is for current TVFF members and must include fly fishing related items only

Faith Presbyterian Church – Food Item of the Month

Thank you to all that brought mixed vegetables and carrots to last month's TVFF meetings for donation to the ongoing food pantry drive at Faith Presbyterian Church. This helps FPC in their efforts to provide extra food to seniors that need a little extra help each month. The item for the month of June is **peanut butter and jelly**. If you are able to donate a box or two please bring those to the upcoming TVFF meetings (either fly tying or swap). We will collect your donations and get those to the Food Pantry.



Interesting September Holidays

Hobbit Day

September 21st

The Hobbit (There and Back Again) by J.R.R. Tolkien was published on Sept 21, 1937. In his book Tolkien wrote about Middle Earth, a world inhabited by Dwarves, Elves, Wizards, Hobbits and Men at a time when Dragons still existed. Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit, was the unlikely hero of the story.

Hobbits love to eat and they ate several meals a day. The idea that I like is "second breakfast". That is the meal between breakfast and the midday meal. So you can celebrate Hobbit Day by fixing yourself a second breakfast. Maybe a hobbit will drop by.



Ask a Stupid Question Day

September 28th

Originating with teachers trying to get students to speak up, this holiday is now an excuse for everyone to ask all the ridiculous questions they've ever had. It's a day to embrace curiosity without fear of judgment. Ever wondered if a fish gets thirsty? Or why a round pizza comes in a square box? This is your day to ask away and enjoy the hilarious answers you might get.





Our Sponsors

"Click on ad for link"



Andy Mahurin Fly Fishing
Middle Tennessee

andymahurinflyfishing@gmail.com | (931) 252-8709
www.andymahurinflyfishing.com



JEFF PREDDY THE **Fly** Hair Co.
THEFLYHAIRCO.COM



THEFLYHAIRCO@HOTMAIL.COM 982-743-2992




Riverside
Fly Shop

Alabama's Only Year-Round Trout Fishery
Brandon, MC & Randy Jackson

•Guided Trips •Kayak Rentals •Fly Fishing/ Tying Classes

(256) 287-9582
riverside@riversideflyshop.com
riversideflyshop.com

17027 Hwy 69 North
Jasper, AL 35504




Tim's Flies & Lies Outfitters
384 Flowertown Road
Normandy, TN 37360
951-607-3645
951-759-5058
rhondapage@cafe.com
Follow us on Facebook!

Tim Page
Rhonda Page

Specializing on Fly Fishing
on Elk and Duck Rivers



compliments of
Faith Presbyterian Church
ENGAGE • NURTURE • BLESS

5003 Whitesburg Drive
Huntsville, AL 35802

256.881.4811
www.presby.org

Worship with us each Sunday
8:30 am Faith in the Morning &
10:30 am Traditional



Presbyterian Church USA

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