TVFF Club News

November 2026

Annual Banquet and Auction
Friday November 6th 5:30 PM
Faith Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall



Early shopping starts at 5:30 PM, registration is at 6:00, and dinner at 6:30. The auction to follow dinner. The cost is $15.00 for adults, no charge for children under 12. Friends and family are welcome. If you would like to attend and haven't already RSVP'd, please let Larry Hice (256-508-2344) know as soon as possible.

The recipient of the Johnny Chamness award for service to the club will also be announced. The dinner menu is catered by Ted's BBQ. You can bring a dessert to share if you'd like.

Please bring any unwanted fishing items for our auction. This is the club's largest source of income.

The banquet replaces our program for November. There will not be a meeting on the third Thursday this month. More information can be found on Page 8.

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Welcome New Members:

Bob LaPierre
Jerry Fish
Todd Steigerwald
John Coupland

This Month

- November 5 – Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
- November 6 – TVFF Banquet, 5:30 PM
- November 12 – 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 this 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.

November 12th, 7PM
Hotty Totty – Ted Crona
Cost: $3

A top water fly designed specifically for bass. The fly makes use of modern materials, especially high density craft foam.



Materials:
Hook
Body: Foam
Legs: Rubber silli legs
Wings: Craft fur

Note: Please bring 6/0 yellow, olive or white thread

November 26

No tying. Happy Thanksgiving!



Falconsledge.com

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

Right, TVFF members Connor Baker and Jacob Franklin did a local Tennessee float and found these nice bass! Both of these took streamers and were a lot of fun!





Below, TVFF member Casey Jonas was out west in Utah for work and had the chance to do some fishing. He caught these nice trout!











Left, TVFF member Allan Douglas caught these two and several other nice Rainbows in North Georgia! Nice fish Allan, I bet they put a nice bend in your rod!



TVFF Pelican Trip

Several TVFF members took a trip down to the Gulf Coast to target Redfish. For this trip, our members stayed on the Chandeleur Pelican, a barge roughly 40 miles south of the Mississippi Coast. Here they were given the keys to their own flats boat and were able to experience a unique fishery in the Chandeleur Islands. Although wind and poor conditions after Hurricane Isaias made fishing hard, fish were still caught and good times were had by all! If looking for a good experience and a good place to get away from it all with a close group of friends, hit up Richard Schmidt, owner of the Pelican!



Steve practicing poling



The Pelican and its boats



Sunset from the Pelican



Connor's Redfish



Late afternoon fishing on the Gulf



Greg's Bull Red



Connor's Trout



Andy's Redfish

Fly to Leader Knots

The first fishing knot I learned to tie was a clinch knot, soon followed by the improved clinch. It is still the knot that I tend to tie first but I have been trying to learn a few new ones. The ones below all have some advantage over what you may be using now. Try them out. There are a lot of good resources on the web. I deliberately picked 3 different sources so you can pick a favorite. I didn't use one of their videos but the guys at Salt Strong have a library of knot tying videos and they test the strength of the knots. Knot strength is one measure but don't get hung up on using the absolute strongest knot. You also need to be able to tie a knot easily and repeatably too.

Davy Knot

Use: Tying fly, lure or hook to leader

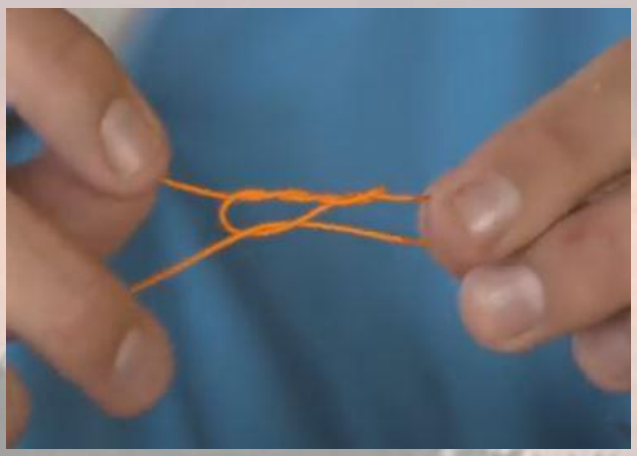
Named after Davy Wotton, a noted fly tyer, caster and fisherman, this has got to be the simplest knot to tie and it has excellent strength. Click the picture to link to a Tightline video that also has a bonus tip for tying this knot.



Orvis Knot

Use: Tying fly, lure or hook to leader

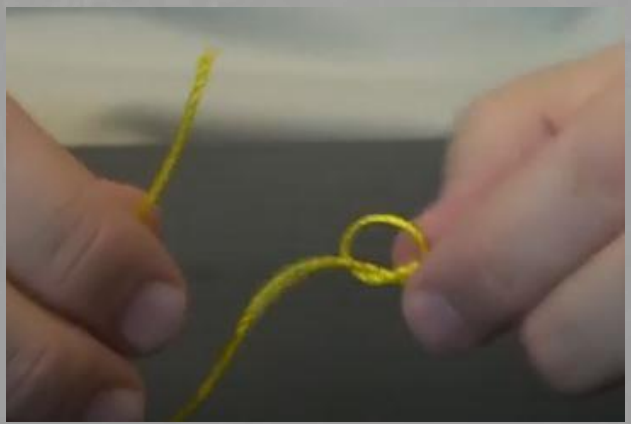
This one comes from Orvis. It is only a little more complicated than the Davy knot but still offers a small, extremely strong knot. This knot develops almost 100 % knot strength in a compact package. Click the picture to link to an Orvis instructional video.



Non-Slip Loop Knot

Use: Tying fly, lure or hook to leader

Use this knot to give some added life to your fly. Instead of snugging the knot against the eye this knot leaves a loop of line through the eye. This lets the fly swim and move more than when the hook eye is snug to the tippet. This video comes from the folks at Fly Fish Food.



Trout Handling 101

The following is a summary of an article in Fly Lords Magazine. The entire article can be found here. It is dated September 14th, 2026 and authored by Francesca Krempa. Most of us love trout fishing and a lot of us practice catch and release. Below are some tips to keep your fishery healthy and protect the fish that live in it. This article is specific to trout, but these practices can work for most fish.

Before you go: Know the conditions before you go. The ideal water temperature to catch trout is between 45 and 65 degrees. Above that and trout can become lethargic and you can fatally over stress the trout. Some fisheries have local "Hoot Owl" restrictions.

Landing a trout: Try not to overtire the fish out. Use rubber nets and avoid using nets that are made of rope. Trout have protective slime that keeps them from getting infected.

Unhooking a trout: Keep the trout wet as long as possible. Use barbless hooks so it is easier to get the hook out of the trout's mouth. Wet your hands before handling the fish as not to rub off any of that protective slime.

Holding a trout: Take your picture quick 10 seconds is the maximum the trout should be out of the water.

Releasing a trout: Be gentle during this process. Help revive them by gently moving them back and forth to get water into their lungs. Watch them swim away healthily!





Hatch Outfitters - The Annual Oyster Roast & Casting Competition

From https://www.thehatchoutfitters.com/events:

Friday November 13th 6pm – 9pm

Hands down our favorite event of the year! Raffles, beer, free oysters, a food truck and a fun casting competition to close out the night… what's not to like? This year, we'll be raffling off a killer Orvis Superfine & Battenkill reel combo. Not to mention, some cool prizes for our casting competition winners!

For the uninitiated, an oyster roast is a fall/winter staple in the low country of South Carolina (Seth's home state) and every year we bring the coastal affair to the Scenic City! The gist: We steam up a few bushels of oysters (200-300) and toss them on the tables for folks to shuck. From there, toss 'em on a cracker, douse 'em with hot sauce or just straight down the pipe! Cold weather, colder beer, and hot oysters!

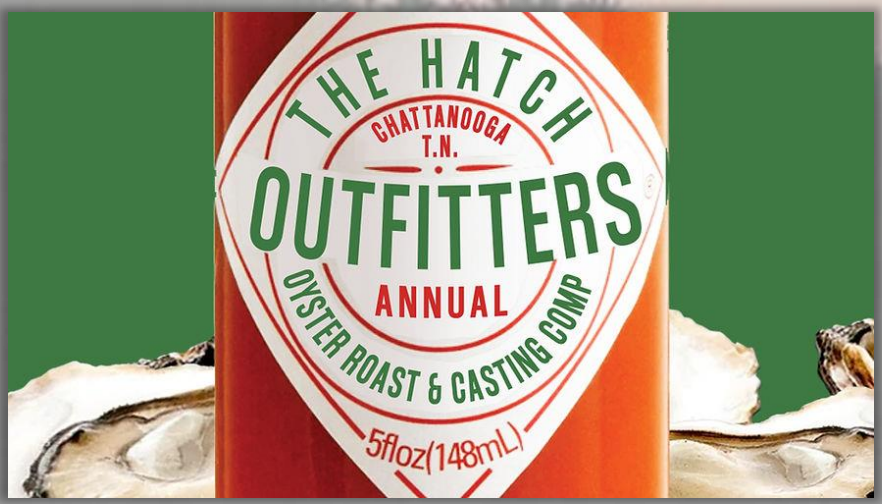
Orvis & Scientific Anglers will have a booth setup to let you check out and cast new rods and lines. We will also have a food truck on site (Doggy Style Korean Corndogs) for the shellfish-shy folks out there.

Location & Time
The Hatch Outfitters
3227 Brainerd Rd. Chattanooga, TN 37411

Shop & Sale Hours - 10AM - 7PM
Oyster Roast - 6 - 9:00PM

Parking available curbside, across the street behind the Gannon Art Center, and in the L Squared Construction parking lot just down the street.

In-Shop Sales (ALL DAY from 10AM - 7PM):
10% OFF ALL FLY RODS
15% OFF CLOTHING
20% OFF FLIES
FREE FLY LINE* WITH ROD/REEL PURCHASE
LOTS OF CLEARANCE ITEMS



TVFF Annual Banquet/Auction 2026



Mark Your Calendar

Our annual banquet/auction will be held on Friday, November 6th with early shopping starting at 5:30 PM. Registration will begin at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served immediately following. The auctioneer will be Mr. Victor Luna who has called the last several TVFF auctions.

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.

The Auction



We need donated items to be in the raffle and auction. Many of our members purchase items and donate them, others make items to be sold, others donate items of value that they have either outgrown, replaced or no longer have a use for and still others donate cash.

No matter the type or size, your donations are greatly appreciated and qualify as a tax exempt charitable donation.

To donate, contact Larry Hice lhice@plasticfusion.com or bring your items to the auction.

In the past we have had corporate donations from FFI, Wapsi, Dally's Fly Shop, Wishes & Fishes Fly Shop and 20/20 Eye Care and others.

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.

Banquet/Auction Location

The banquet will be at Faith Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, ***Friday*** night, **November 6th at 5:30 pm**. We will have a catered meal, with members paying $15 per adult while the club pays for the kids under 12.

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.

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: debhill522@gmail.com

TVFF 2026 Aldridge Creek Cleanup



Last month we participated in our annual Aldridge Creek Cleanup. This is one of our annual conservation efforts and we have a lot of fun each year! Thank you to all our members that turned out for it!

Faith Presbyterian Church – Food Item of the Month



Thank you to all that brought canned foods 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 November is **any canned beans**. If you are able to donate a box or two please bring those to the upcoming TVFF meetings (either fly tying or banquet). We will collect your donations and get those to the Food Pantry.

America Recycles Day
November 15th



This holiday was created in 1997 by the National Recycling Coalition. A few years back, there was a change to the recycling program for Huntsville, Madison and Madison County. The three have joined together to form RANA, Recycling Alliance of North Alabama. The recycle bins are now a large blue trash can and the pickup has changed from weekly to once per month.

The list of acceptable materials has also changed. For more information and to order your cart go to https://recycling-alliance.com/.

National Statistics Day
November 31st



Statistics in the modern sense began with the posthumous publication of the work of the Swiss mathematician Jacob Bernoulli in 1713. He asked himself a question about polling. How many people would you need to poll to make an accurate prediction about the results of an upcoming election? While people still wrestle with that question there is no shortage of statistical information in the news and in sports. The disciplines of Analytics and Data Science attempt to turn data into statistics that can be used to guide decisions.

For many years baseball was the king of sports statistics but it has spread to golf, football and many other sports.

My mother-in-law used to say that figures don't lie but liars figure. One wag stated that 98% of statistics are made up.

My statistics say that the probability of this being read is less than 5% with a confidence of 90%.

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