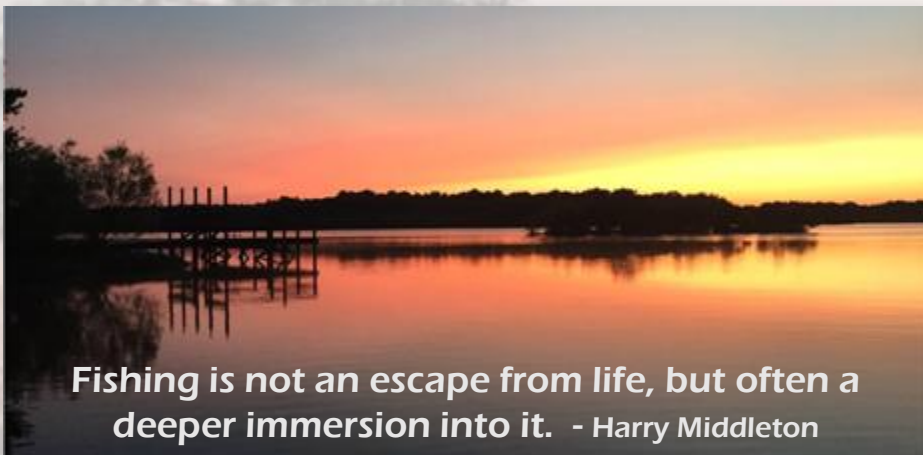




# TVFF Club News

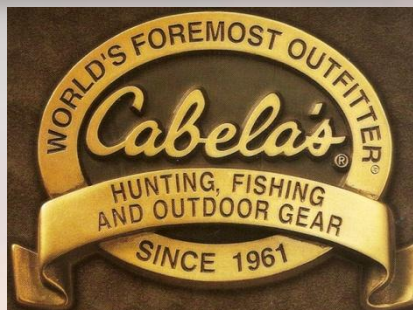
June 2016



Fishing is not an escape from life, but often a deeper immersion into it. - Harry Middleton

## This Month Program

Cabela's associate will showcase the new Huntsville store.




## NEWS FLASH!!!

- Sign-Up for April 2017 Club trip to Donavan begins at the 16 June Club Meeting
- Space is limited, first come first served
- Can't make the meeting, Have someone place deposit for you

Click for details

## This Month's Activities

- 9 June - Fly tying session, 7pm room 201
- 16 June -  TVFF Club meeting, 7pm room 201
- 23 June - Fly of the Month, 7pm room 201



Denotes a of qualifying event

## In this issue

- [Details of 2017 Club Donovan Trip](#)
- [Fly of the Month – Rubber Legged Dragon](#)
- [Catch of the Month](#)
- [IFFF Fly Fisher](#)
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- [Day on the Elk](#)
- [Trip report: Sharp Donovan Trip](#)
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\* The keyboard's HOME key returns you to this page

## Participation Award

You could be the lucky WINNER!  
Get your free ticket at any qualifying event



\*\* Must be a TVFF member to be eligible



## 2017 Donovan Lakes Club Trip

Opened to all club members. Trip includes: 4 nights of accommodations at [Donavan Inn](http://donavanlakes.org/) and 5 days of fishing at one of Alabama's best bass destinations (2 half days plus 3 full days). <http://donavanlakes.org/> All for \$~ 320 including meals. Never fished for bass, no problem. Experienced members are happy to coach you.

New to  
bass  
fishing



Personal  
best



Personal  
best



Donavan 2016

### Make your plans now! Space is limited!

- 🐟 Monday 17 April till noon Friday 21 April
- 🐟 Accommodations for 6 (8 with one on sofa bed)
  - 🐟 2 john boats are available with Inn rental
  - 🐟 1 additional boat needed (8 need 2<sup>nd</sup> boat)
  - 🐟 Trolling motor only
- 🐟 Per person cost ~ \$320 - (8 ~ \$280)
  - 🐟 Includes fishing meals and lodging
  - 🐟 Comparable bass lakes charge \$250/day just for fishing
- 🐟 Sign-up begin at June meeting
- 🐟 First come first served
  - 🐟 Nonrefundable \$257 deposit required at sign-up
  - 🐟 Draw for spots if overbooked at June meeting
  - 🐟 2<sup>nd</sup> trip possible if enough members sign-up
- 🐟 Cancellations filled from standby list
  - 🐟 Replacement reimburses deposit





## Fly of the Month – Carter's Rubber-Legged Dragon



Featured Tyer: Reid Benton  
7pm, 9 June 2016 \*  
Faith Presbyterian Church  
5003 Whitesburg  
Drive, Huntsville AL  
Room 201

**Summer is prime bream fishing and the Rubber Legged Dragon is a must in every fly box**

The Rubber Legged Dragon is the fly of choice for guides on Galloway Garden's lakes and ponds. It is the first fly guides recommend to their clients for taking the slab-sized bluegills that are found there. Complete tying instructions can be found on the TVFF website under the Fly of the Month tab

\* Moved to 9 June due to travel



Tying directions available on  
TVFF website under Fly Tying Tab

## Catch of the Month

This 4lb 6oz bass was caught on a stealth bomber by Wayne Causey at Donovan Lakes near Marion, Alabama. This is Wayne's personal best.

Congratulations Wayne!



Send your fishy photos to [TVFF.website@Gmail.com](mailto:TVFF.website@Gmail.com)

## IFFF Flyfisher Now Online!

New edition of the Flyfisher magazine now online. Read all about the Green Drake, found out what's happening in the Home Waters and read the latest on the Native Fish Conservation Areas. [Click here to read more>>](#)

## June 18<sup>th</sup> is Go Fishing Day

**The origin of Go Fishing Day:** Our research did not find the origin of this day. We were hot on the trail of the creator. We discovered his address. We travelled to his home. As we came up to his door to ask about his creation of this day, we saw a sign on the door. It read "Gone Fishing!"

One reader informed us that: "The first American fly-casting tournament was held in Utica, NY. on this day in 1861" Perhaps this was the beginning of Go Fishing Day!? [holidayinsights.com](http://holidayinsights.com)



## A day on the Elk by Chuck Gibb

It was threatening to rain but we said "what the hell" and set out anyway to float the Elk. It sprinkled on us a little as we left the meeting place in Fayetteville. On the way to the river I learned that David Darnell had grown up here right in this beautiful country of central Tennessee. Having traveled pretty much everywhere in America, I remain convinced there is not a more beautiful area in our country.

We arrived at the Elk just as one canoe was putting in. The river was low, maybe 80 CFS. By then the weather had cleared. It was a spectacular clear, bright spring day on this wonderful little river. I have fished it since the early 60s but not often and mostly waded at the dam and bridge.

I told David of a time when my hair was brown and my eyesight perfect when I fished with my old fishing buddy Dick Schock (some of you oldtimers may remember Dick). I had laid down on a log crossing the river to rest and I heard a commotion on the hill side. As I watched a buck with a huge rack came down the hill side and into the river. He stood there, as the morning mist swirled around him then looked down the river where I lay, lowered his head to drink. It was a scene I will never forget. He looked again in my direction and ambled back up the hillside. That is what fishing, being out there, is all about.

David set up several rods for streamer and nymph fishing. We took one at the first bend and it was a beautiful little brown. Fishing just got better and I took about 20 fish. One hole we just quit because every cast we seemed to catch one. Nymphing was not as productive but more fun. We spent more time BSing than fishing but then that's half the fun.

As we arrived to Ferris Creek we both expressed concern over the impact of the water cress farms and the massive discharges from their fields. Somehow I can't believe it is good for our river. At one point yellow muck colored the river for a long way. I hope the authorities are paying attention. But below the muck the water cleared and we caught fish again. David is a perfect guide, accomplished outdoors-man and a lot of fun. It was a great day of fishing...and catching.

**Editors Note:** Chuck was the high bidder on David's Elk River float trip the last club auction. David and Chuck spent the day canoeing from Tims Ford Dam to Ferris Creek bridge.







## Sharp trip to Donovan Lakes – 2-6 May

Long before I joined the club, Everett Sharp, a long time member, has been organizing a spring bass trip to Donovan Lakes in Marion Alabama. My first trip in May of 2011 left such a deep impression that I made myself promised to return as often as possible. I kept that promise by returning at least once a year since.

As usual, Donovan did not disappoint. The facilities were great as always, the weather was near perfect and the bass were hungry. Donovan is a magical place where anglers often catch their personal best. Bass under 3 pounds are considered small, 4 to 5 pound bass are common and many of past attendees have netted bass over 8 pounds. At Donovan, all bass 3 pounds and over must be released and 3 of the 8 lakes are catch and release only. To my knowledge, no fish have ever been kept during these trips. Fish are photographed, weighed and released unharmed for other anglers to enjoy.

Everyone caught fish in excess of 4 pounds this year, with Roger and Wayne catching their biggest bass ever. There was no shortage of “fish tales”, especially tales of “the one that got away”, to be told on the breezeway during the midday break or around the dinner table. It’s absolutely amassing how much a fish grows from the time it takes the fly till the time it gets away.

You have to be up to it though, the routine is grueling. Up at 4:30 am for a quick breakfast, fish till ~10 am, eat lunch at noon, rest and/or relate embellished accounts of the morning’s (or past) conquest till ~3, then back on the water till dark, eat a light dinner accompanied with the usual stories, finally bed ~ 10 pm for 5 to 6 hours of sleep before doing it all over the next day. It’s a tough, demanding routine but someone has to do it.



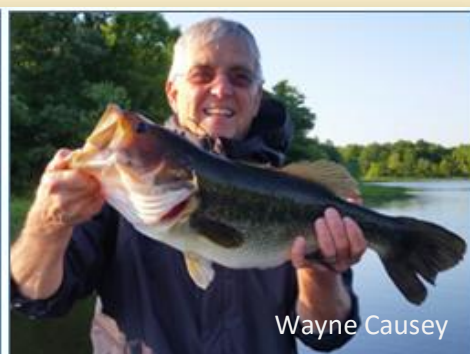
**If you don’t have a picture..... It didn’t happen! – Bill Pittenger**



Debbie Hill



Dick Curtis



Wayne Causey



Joe Tremblay



Roger Bower



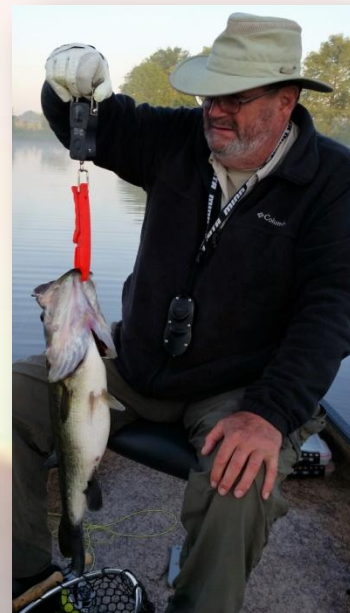
Everett Sharp



## Bucketmouth Quest – May by Joe Tremblay

Prime bass season had finally arrived! The weather looked promising; the bass are off their beds and feeding. Bill and I only were able to take advantage of the great conditions Friday afternoon and Saturday morning before Mother's Day demanded our return. Bill landed several nice fish Friday evening before a really big bass, well schooled in the art of avoiding capture, swam directly towards the boat preventing a good hook set. This was not the first time that bass were reported to have employed this tactic. Many of the members who attended the April Club trip and the May Sharp trip reported similar occurrences. Looks like some of the bass may be getting wise to fly fishers.

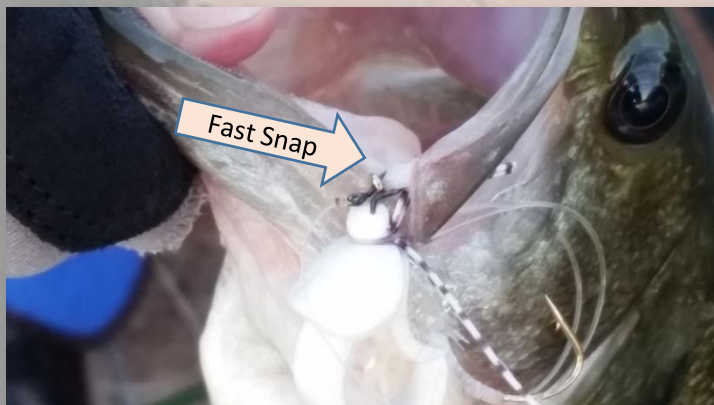
Schooled or not, bass sometimes either forget or get careless. Such was the case on Saturday morning. A bucketmouth had the misfortune of finding the business end of my chartreuse stealth bomber. This fish also charged the boat, but only after the hook was firmly set, bending my rod to the breaking point as it passed under the boat before changing course. Dick Curtis, my bass mentor, told me of times when bass not only go under the boat but leap clear of the water on the opposite side. This bass, however, returned before clearing the water with a fantastic jump to the delight of both Bill and I. As I often do, I misjudge its size of the fish when it cleared the water, believing it to be 6lbs +/-, but after several more trips under and around the boat, the digital scale put it at 7lbs 6oz.



Larry Hice and I returned the 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> for another go. Conditions had changed, a cold front moved through Friday and constant wind made fishing challenging except for the early morning hours. But even so, Larry hooked and landed a nice 6lbs 7oz bucketmouth along with several other nice fish. Most of my fish were small by comparison, but one in particular deserves a mention, a 15" bass that tipped the scale at just under 3lbs. It resembled a football and fought like 5 pounder. I can only imagine the fun of catching this fish in a few years.

I recently started using Fast Snaps instead of tying my fly on. Fast Snaps make changing flies fast and easy, and you don't shorten your tippet every time you change flies. Fast Snaps offer yet another advantage. Check out the Fast Snap in the corner of the fish's mouth. The hook was never in play, only the Fast Snap. Who would have believed you could catch a bass on such a small "hook"?

May was a great month to be on Donavan Lakes.





## Federation of Fly Fishers Code of Angling Ethics

- Fly anglers understand and obey laws and regulations associated with the fishery.
- Fly anglers believe fly fishing is a privilege and a responsibility. Fly anglers conserve fisheries by limiting their catch.
- Fly anglers do not judge fellow anglers and treat them as they would expect to be treated.
- Fly anglers respect the waters occupied by other anglers so that fish are not disturbed.
- When fishing from a watercraft, fly anglers do not crowd other anglers or craft or unnecessarily disturb the water.
- Fly anglers respect other angling methods and promote this Code of Angling Ethics to all anglers.



## Short Notes

### TVFF Calendar

Got a good fishy picture? Send it to [TVFF.website@Gmail.com](mailto:TVFF.website@Gmail.com) to be included in the 2017 TVFF CALENDAR.

Pictures of you or your family member holding fish caught from 1 October 2015 to 1 October 2016 qualify.

We're looking for pictures of big fish, small fish, warm water fish, cold water fish and saltwater fish – in short, any old fish that you or one of yours caught. As many pictures will be incorporated as possible.

So send them in and don't forget to smile.

A FREE copy of the Calendar will be given to all members who submitted pictures whether or not those photos appear in the calendar.



### TVFF Classified

Have something you want to sell or buy? Now you can submit classified ads to be included in the Club News. Ads must be submitted not later than 5 days prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> and will not carry over to the next month unless requested via email by the originator.

Go to the Members Only tab, download and submit the Classified Ad form and your ad will be posted in the next Club News. It's quick and easy and free.

### TVFF Mentor Program

The TVFF Mentor Program is now on line and available to our members through the TVFF website. The Mentor Program provides a method by which members can share their knowledge, experience and expertise in specific areas of fly fishing with others in the club. Check out the program by clicking on the Mentor Program tab on the TVFF website.





## Our Sponsors:

- Cabela's: <http://www.cabelas.com/>
- Dally's Ozark Fly Fisher: <https://theozarkflyfisher.com/>
- Feather Craft Fly Fishing: <http://www.feather-craft.com>
- Fly South: <http://flysouth.net/>
- Golden Rule Fly Shop: <http://www.goldenruleflyshop.com/>
- Hookers Fly Shop: <http://hookersflyshop.com>
- Hunter Banks Co: <http://www.hunterbanks.com>
- International Federation of Fly Fishers: <http://fedflyfishers.org/>
- Orvis Co. Inc: [www.orvis.com](http://www.orvis.com)
- Riverside Fly Shop: <http://www.riversideflyshop.com/>
- Rivertown Gallery, Duane Hada: <http://www.rivertowngallery.com/index.html>
- Tim's Flies & Lies: (931) 759-5058
- Wapsi Fly, Inc: <http://www.wapsify.net/>
- Wishes and Fishes: <http://www.theflyfishing-store.com/>