



Arkansas Flyline

www.affonline.com

Volume 28, Issue 103

Monthly Newsletter of the Arkansas Fly Fisher

April 2008

April 21st Meeting

By Chris Morris

The program for April 21st will be presented by Pat Neuner of Wapsi Fly, Inc.



Pat Neuner came to Wapsi Fly, Inc. in November 2003 following a long career in the fly fishing industry. Prior to Wapsi, he worked for Orvis and held the positions of Fly Fishing Product Developer/Buyer, Customer Service Manager, Travel Department Manager, Inventory Control Manager, Retail Buyer/Merchandiser, Technical Advisor, and fishing school instructor.

Pat started fly fishing at 11 years of age; by the time he turned 14, his obsession with fly tying was unstoppable.

At that time Pat purchased all the fly tying materials and flies for the Orvis catalog as well as Orvis retail stores.

Fly of the Month

By Chris Morris



April's fly of the month is the Ant!

If you are new to fly tying and would like to learn, bring your equipment!

AFF has many accomplished tiers more than willing to help.

Congratulations to Gary White, Clyde Dent, and Readus Tatum for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place in March's Fly of the Month!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

April 21st Meeting, Pat Neuner of Wapsi!	1
Fly of the Month	1
President's Page	2
AFF Fly Fish 101	3
AFF Needs Your Help!	3
AFF One Fly Tournament	4
Upcoming Events	5
Thank You AFF (Jan Hill-Carl DeVaney)	5
He's Every Where (Bob Cheatham)	6
AFF Board Meeting Minutes	7
Troubled Trout Waters (Gregg Patterson)	9
A Guided Tour of the Little Red – Part 9	10
A Guided Tour of the Little Red – Part 10	10
A Guided Tour of the Little Red – Part 11	11
A Guided Tour of the Little Red – Part 12	11
Little Red Fly Shop Fishing Report	12
John Berry Fishing Report	13

Flies of the Month for 2008

April	<i>Ant</i>
May	<i>Zebra Midge</i>
June	<i>Egg</i>
July	<i>Red Fox Squirrel Nymph</i>
August	<i>Bead Head Midge</i>
September	<i>Leech</i>
October	<i>San Juan Worm</i>
November	<i>Scud</i>
December	<i>Blue Wing Olive</i>



President's Page

By Gary White

Hello flyfishers –

Thanks to all the officers and volunteers who worked so hard to make Skip Morris welcome in March. A special thanks to Tom Hawthorne and The Ozark Angler, our co-host. Skip's visit was a great success for our club, and I am told he and his wife enjoyed themselves very much. A lot of good ideas and expertise were shared, and everyone who wanted was able to get their books signed.

Take a moment to congratulate Bob Cheatham on his recent retirement from Arkansas Legislative Audit. We certainly extend hearty thanks for your public service and wish the best for Bob and Sue.

Coming up in April:

On **April 19**, 1:30 PM at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church, AFF is offering a free Fly Fishing Seminar (Fly Fishing 101) to all the beginners on what it will take to start fly fishing. Experts in several primary areas of interest will boil down the overwhelming fly fishing information available into useful, practical seminars you can use to actually start fishing. We had about 35 participants in the seminar last fall, and each and every one had a great time and learned enough to begin fly fishing. Fly fishing doesn't require you to mortgage your house or pledge your first born to acquire necessary equipment, either. Attend this seminar or attend one of our monthly meetings before you buy. Simple casting techniques our experts will teach you will have you confidently fishing right away. We have also scheduled a fishing outing on the river for the next weekend, April 26th, so you may come out and practice your new skills in the water with help from club members. Last fall we had newbies catching fish. Watch the river reports and check out the website for the latest on the river fishing.

On **April 21**, 6 PM at Whole Hog Café, we hold our regular monthly meeting. This promises to be a good one with Pat Nuener of WAPSI making our presentation. He is a fly fisher, and he offers a great amount experience in product development with both WAPSI and Orvis. So if you ever wondered how they develop fishing lines or other products and get them to

market, he may be able to help you with that. It is going to be a great evening, so plan to attend. Bring a friend.

Coming up in May:

On **May 3**, 7:30 AM at Big Ridge Ranch is the annual 1 Fly Contest. Don't let "contest" scare you. This is a big social event that also has fishing for bream and bass on private property. Yes, there is a bit of a contest involved, but this is really a great time. Food is provided by our own Bob "the genie" Cheatham's family we affectionately call "The Bream Killers" (his mom, aunt and sister) that is always outstanding. Desserts to die for!! Fishing and eating on a spring Saturday morning. Does it get any better than this? This event is for members and their guests only. But you may join right there for \$25 single, \$30 couples.

I have been traveling the last 30+ days, but I was able to keep abreast of the weather issues surrounding Arkansas by satellite TV, and fishing conditions and club happenings by email. Seems we are facing some challenges for fishing on the White, Norfolk and Little Red Rivers for the next several weeks. I understand it snowed in Little Rock the day after I left and pretty much rained and stormed the whole time I was gone. In fact, my plane landed between Thursday night's storms that inflicted all the damage south and north of Little Rock. I heard our own Bill McDonald had trees in his yard knocked down, but no damage to his house. Good news. Our prayers go out to those suffering injuries, flooding and other property damage. Returning home was nice, and what a pleasure to see the dogwoods blooming and the azaleas just getting started. My wife and I traveled to Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Macau, China, via San Francisco. We took over 3000 pictures. Don't worry, I won't be showing them at our next meeting. Ever been kissed on the mouth by an elephant? Ask me.

See you at the meetings,

Gary White



AFF Fly Fish 101

By Chris Morris



Even the most experienced Fly Fisher remembers being a novice and the challenge of learning the basics and deciding what equipment to purchase.

The vast amount of information on the internet, magazine articles, and books regarding equipment, casting, knots, flies, and presentation can be overwhelming and confusing.

The Arkansas Fly Fishers (AFF) would like to invite all beginners to our **FREE** Fly Fishing 101 Event on **April 19th from 1:30-3:30pm** at Westover Hills Presbyterian Church! Qualified AFF Members with years of experience will be your instructors and guide you through the fundamentals of Fly Fishing.

As the term “101” suggests, learn about:

- *Equipment-Fly Rods, Reels, Line, Backing, Waders,*
- *Skills – Casting, Presentation,*
- *Guides – How to hire a guide.*
- *Women on Fly Fishing – AFF Women’s perspective on fly fishing*
- *Fly Tying – Learn how to tie flies.*

So, please join us for a good time, fellowship, and chance to learn more about this fantastic sport.

Location:

Westover Hills Presbyterian Church
6400 RICHARD B. HARDIE DRIVE (KAVANAUGH)
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72207-4100 [Map It](#).

AFF Needs Your Help!

By Marcey Berry

We need a few more people to help out with our ***Fly Fishing 101 seminar on Saturday, April 19, 1:30-3:30pm, Westover Hills Presbyterian Church in Little Rock.***

We’d like to have at least two people each at the tables for gear, knots, flies, and where to fish. We also need a couple more casting instructors, and at least one more person at the welcome table.

Please come and share your love of fly fishing and your wealth of experience.

To volunteer contact Marcey Berry at marcey.berry@pca-ar.org, or call 221-1843 weekdays or 666-2849 evenings.

Here’s who we have signed up so far -

Casting Instruction: **Bob Cheatham, Chris Morris**

Flies:

Where to Fish: **Gary White**

Knots:

Gear: **Bill McDonald**

Club/Events: **Marcey Berry**

Welcome Table: **Marcey Berry**



AFF Annual One Fly–May 3rd, 2008

By Chris Morris

It is a Saturday; you have tied for weeks, and your fly boxes are bursting. Constant rain and generation has you beat. Frustrated? Don't be! *Take a break from old Salmo Trutta and check out Micropterus Salmoides!*

Attend the **Annual Arkansas Fly Fishers (AFF) One Fly Tournament May 3rd, 2008** at the privately owned, stocked lake of Big Ridge Ranch, outside of W. Little Rock, AR (Even close to home!). AFF will have four awards consisting of Gift Certificates to Ozark Angler:

Largest String of Bream - \$50.00; also wins Annual Traveling Trophy (Bragging Rights!)

Biggest Bream - \$40.00

Biggest Bass - \$40.00

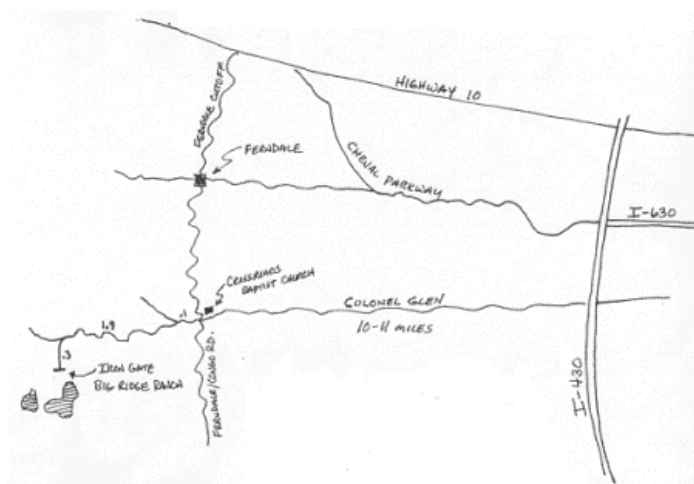
Largest Poor Man's Bonefish (Carp) - \$25.00

The tournament starts at 7:30 am with weigh in at 11:30am. *An entry fee of \$15.00 is required. You must be a member of AFF, but members are allowed to bring a guest.* Wow, sounds serious! It isn't, unless your spouse needs to think so, then it is the single largest tournament of the year; just cannot be missed, period!

Tournament Entry is not required, casual fishing is permitted. This is a great opportunity to hook up trophy largemouth or bream on the fly! BRING YOUR CAMERAS!

After 11:30, those in the tournament can pull out their fly boxes and throw new patterns tied during the monsoon season. We must leave the ranch at 5:00pm. For more information, please contact Patty Lueken via: www.affonline.com under the "Contact" link.

Are you hooked? If so, see map below or go to www.affonline.com!



Tip Bring that float tube, pontoon raft, canoe, or get those eyes rolling with your kid's inflatable pool boat. A float tube and flippers might give you that competitive edge! After all, somebody has to beat Maestro (How many times have you won this tournament, Bob? Give a dog a bone! :-))*

AFF Upcoming Events

By Chris Morris

- April 2008** April 19th, AFF Fly Fishing 101, Westover Hills Presbyterian Church
 April 21th, AFF Monthly Meeting with Wapsi, Inc. @ Whole Hog Café
- May 2008** May 2 -3rd, 7th Annual Smallmouth Rendezvous. <http://oksmallmouthbass.com>
 May 3rd, AFF Annual One Fly Tournament! @ Big Ridge
 May 19th, AFF Monthly Meeting on Fly Fishing Chile. @ Whole Hog Café
- June 2008** June 5 - June 13, 2008, Boundary Waters Trip, contact Patty Lueken
 (plueken@luekenlaw.com)
 June 16th, AFF Monthly Meeting with Jeff Williams from AGFC @ Whole Hog Café
- July 2008** July 21st, AFF Monthly Meeting on Fly Fishing Boundary Waters. @ Whole Hog Café
- August 2008** August 18th, AFF Monthly Meeting with Tom Hawthorne @ Whole Hog Café

Jan Hill (Daughter of Carl DeVaney) Thank You

By Jan Hill

During a time
 Like this
 We realize how much
 Our family and friends
 Really mean to us...
 Your expression of sympathy will always
 be remembered

To all members of the Fly Fishers Club,

Your Club meant a great deal to our father. He enjoyed the meetings, helping out whenever and however he could. You all made him feel special and very loved.

The award you gave him had a place of honor in his home as well as the decorations from his cake.

We want to thank you, not only for the donation to the Cathedral in his memory, but also for the phone calls to him from many of you, and to Bill for picking him up so he could attend the meetings.

Happy Fishing and Fly Tying to all of you.

Sincerely,

Jan Hill
 (daughter of Carl DeVaney)



He's Every Where

By Bob Cheatham

One evening a group of fishermen were having a fireside chat when someone mentioned that I move about a lot when I'm on the water. Another person chimed in with the fact that one minute I'll be at the top of a shoal and the next minute I'll be at the lower end or in other words I'm all over the place. I came up with the idea that my roaming around could produce an interesting article for the newsletter. I was off during the holidays and brought my laptop home to write the article, but before I ever started I received the February addition of the Fly Fisherman and in the back of the magazine was an article about the very thing I had intended to write about. The article is by Nick Lyons and I recommend that you get a copy and read it. Since Mr. Lyons has stated some of my ideas much better than I could I will limit mine to the following:

I have two basic reasons for moving around; first and foremost is I love to be out on the stream and enjoying nature. A successful fishing trip for me would be standing in the middle of the stream and look up and see a flock of geese flying over, look down stream and see a deer splashing across, look at the far bank and spy two minks playing, look back to the other side and see a beaver heading upstream, and hearing an old turkey gobbling in the distance. Of course, if you throw in a 17" brown trout then I just spent a day in heaven. I'm lucky there are deep pools between the shoals on the Little Red or else, when I go fishing with someone and we started out below the dam they would probably have to pick me up at the swinging bridge. Back a couple of years ago when I was in Jr. & Sr. high school I went squirrel hunting a lot. I would always come out of the woods two or three miles from where my truck was parked because I could never stop and sit down to hunt. I had to see what was behind the next tree. If I had lived in Daniel Boone's time I would have fit in perfectly.

Secondly, I wonder up and down the stream for a reason other than the enjoyment of it and that is to learn all I can about the area I'm fishing. The more I learn about a shoal the better I'll be able to fish it the next time. Our trout and smallmouth bass streams are

always subject to structural changes due to generation and the Arkansas weather. You may go to a stream and find the place you caught a three pounder is not there any more or you might skip over an area that hadn't held any fish before but now contains a sunken log. Therefore, it is better to have some alternative places that fish could be holding instead going to the same old hole. Then, when I think I know all there is to know about reading a stream I catch a fish while wadding to another destination and letting my line drift as I go. I then have to stop and figure out just why that fish was holding there. To me, learning a stream is a never ending process.

About Bob Cheatham

Bob Cheatham is a FFF Certified Fly Casting Instructor and long time board member of the Arkansas Fly Fishers (AFF).



AFF January 28, 2008 Board Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

By Marcey Berry

Arkansas Fly Fishers Board Meeting

March 24, 2008 / 6pm

Legislative Audit, Bob Cheatham's office, second floor

Members Present: Bob Cheatham, Patty Lueken, Chris Morris, Annette Hurley, Tommy Lassiter, Charlotte Day, Marcey Berry, Ashley Berry, Drew Kelso, Bill McDonald

Absent: Robert Bays, Jan Ellis, Gary White, Charlotte Day

Patty called the meeting to order at 6:05pm and minutes from the last meeting were approved as previously emailed to the board.

Board Member Reports

Treasurer – Tommy reported the balance of the checking account as \$13, 500.00.

Membership – Bill reported that we received 12 new/renewing memberships at the March speaker event and 2 more renewals in the mail.

Programs – Gary is in charge of the April regular meeting with the speaker from Wapsi. Bob agreed to demonstrate tying the zebra midge which is the fly of the month for the May contest.

Conservation – Tommy is looking into the net replacement project he suggested at last month's meeting.

Website – Chris has changed the photo gallery. At the board's suggestion he will add speaker information to the regular meeting calendar listings.

Newsletter Editor – Deadline for April Flyline is April 3rd.

Committee Reports

March Rod Building Class – Thanks to Drew for the use of his workshop and to Clyde Dent for teaching the class. It took approximately 14 hours apiece for the 4 participants to complete their rods. We'll check on dates in the fall for the next rod building session and take into consideration suggestions from the participants in this first class.

March Little Red Outing – Cancelled due to high water and generation.

April 19th FF101 Seminar – Marcey will send emails to members who volunteered at the first FF101 asking for their participation, then ask for volunteers from the membership at large to fill in available spots. Annette is working on publicity. The board approved a motion to spend up to \$100 for brochures from FFF: "Intro to Fly Fishing" and "Intro to Aquatic Insects." We will obtain brochures from AGFC as well.

April Little Red Outing – Since we've had to cancel/re-arrange river outings recently due to high water/generation, we discussed alternative activities. As we anticipate continued high water/generation in April, we will hold a casting clinic at Murray Park instead. Instructor will be Bob Cheatham.

May 3rd One Fly Tournament – The contest will run from 7am-11:30am, followed by lunch provided by "The Bream Killers." A motion was approved to buy a digital scale at a reasonable price for the club, to be used for this event and others. Various board members will research the possibilities and report to Bob.

June Boundary Waters Trip – There area reports of record snows in the area. The participants will have an organizational meeting before the trip.

Please see *AFF Board Meeting Minutes* on page 8



AFF Board Meeting Minutes from page 7

September Fish Fry – Drew has ordered a pontoon boat to be used as the grand prize. Annette is working on the catering.

October FF101 Seminar – The board decided on October 18 for the next FF101. Marcey will book the event Westover Hills Presbyterian Church. We will select an event chair at a later date.

2009 Annual Banquet – Drew is planning the event at Juanita's on our regular January meeting night. He will begin soliciting auction/raffle items in May.

Old Business

Tying Demos at Ozark Angler – Patty talked to Tom Hawthorne, who is amenable to letting us use his shop.

New Meeting Location for Board – Tommy offered a meeting room in the Metropolitan Bank Tower on the 14th floor. There is plenty of parking on the street after 5pm and a Subway Sandwich Shop is located on the ground floor for those of us who might like to eat during the meeting.

2008 Budget – Tabled until Gary's return.

TU Little Red Cleanup 3/28/08– We expect this to be postponed due to high water/generation, but will monitor the situation.

Open Discussion

- Bill reported that the Skip Morris event brought in \$215 for the raffle and \$70 for non-member attendance. Annette reported that the fishing slots brought in \$1,100. She will make arrangements to pay any outstanding expenses for the event, and write thank-you notes.
- Annette suggested someone in to do a one-day seminar for our membership. Several names were suggested, including AFF members. Tommy suggested doing a series of intermediate classes. Board members were urged to bring suggestions to the next meeting.
- Tommy is following up on an idea for AFF to contribute to a fly fishing spread in the *Arkansas Wildlife* Magazine. Deadline for articles is April 14th. Email items to Tommy.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcey Berry, Secretary



Troubled Trout Waters

Climate change clouds future

By Gregg Patterson from "The Patterson Report"

"America's Environmental Conscience"

Copyright 2007, First N. American Rights Only

Memphis is hot again today. It's another record high. That makes three out of the last four days. Christmas is two weeks away.

Global warming?

Same thing happened in 1952 – fifty-five years ago.

Global warming? I don't think the term existed then.

The all-time high for this day was 77 degrees F in 1918.

Global warming then? The Industrial Age and burning fossil fuels – that supposedly started this whole global warming mess - was just getting started, so I don't think so.

The all-time low for the same day is 8 degrees F - the year before in 1917.

The Ice Age couldn't have ended that quickly.

All of the temperature information above is scientific facts. But in the big picture of whether global warming is real or not, they tell us absolutely nothing, nada, zip.

Yet global warming is real. But you have to look at the scientific facts for more than just a few isolated days.

That's what Trout Unlimited has done, and the coldwater conservation organization has some sobering news.

The group says trout and salmon populations are likely to decline 50 percent or more in regions around the country that will be most effected by global warming. Some trout species – like the bull trout in the high mountain west and the eastern brook trout of the Appalachians – could suffer 90 percent population

losses.

The science is convincing.

There is more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere than any time in the last 400,000 years, including a 30 percent increase since the late 1800s.

The build-up of this major greenhouse gas is at its fastest rate in history.

Global temperatures are up more than 1 degree F during the last century.

That temperature, according to some scientists, will increase 2 to 10 degrees F more in the next 100 years.

Glaciers are disappearing quicker than ever before along with the Arctic's permafrost and the oceans are rising and warming.

It's not a pretty picture, but Trout Unlimited says now is the time to protect the best trout and salmon habitats available in preparation for future climate change. Native trout and salmon in pristine, well-managed places will be in the best possible shape to deal with climate change issues. The idea is to eliminate or greatly control anything that stresses native trout and salmon populations.

Below are TU's "Ten Steps to Protecting Trout and Salmon From Climate Change."

1. Protect the diversity of remaining native trout and salmon populations.
2. Restore the natural range of life history strategies in trout populations, including migratory and lake-dwelling forms.
3. Protect springs, headwaters and other sources of cold water.
4. Restore riparian habitats—the native trees and vegetation along streams and rivers—to provide shade.
5. Restore large woody debris and boulders in stream channels to create deeper pools.
6. Remove instream barriers to fish movement,

Please see *Troubled Trout Waters* on page 14



A Guided Tour of the Little Red River – Part 9

By Jed Hollan



In December of 2007, President George W. Bush signed an omnibus spending bill that included \$935,000.00

for "minimum flow" for all five of the White River system tail waters.

Minimum flows were mandated by Congress years ago for the Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals, Norfolk, and Greens Ferry impoundments but were not funded until now. Minimum flow entails the continuous release of water through the dam without generating hydroelectric power.

For the Little Red, this means an additional 60-200 cubic feet of water per second instead of the standard 20 CFS presently being released. This should translate to a foot or so of water above the present day "dead low" water level. With minimum flow, the entire river will be boatable, new places to wade fish will be created, the water will remain colder through the hot summer months and oxygen levels will be enhanced. No time table as yet exists for this to happen.

The Little Red River is a world class cold water fishery. With the advent of the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission trout management program, a Trout Unlimited chapter and the group known as Friends of the Little Red, there are plenty of "river huggers" to insure this river's status will not change.

A Guided Tour of the Little Red River – Part 10

By Jed Hollan

Note: Mileage is calculated from the dam site.
GPS = global positioning system

GREERS FERRY DAM - 0.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 31'18" N - 91 degrees 51'57" W

For current information about the river, stop at the William Carl Garner Visitors Center on AR Hwy. 25

on the west side of the river. At the dam on the east side of the river, JFK Memorial Overlook offers a unique view. Current water release information can be obtained by calling #501-362-5150.

JFK PARK - 0.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 30' 58" N - 91 degrees 59' 46" W
Access off AR Hwy. 25 east of the dam. There are numerous walk-in points. Hatchery outflows provide nutrient-rich trout habitat. Boulder-strewn runs directly below the boat ramp always hold trout. Midges usually work the best.

POWERLINE POOL - 1.5 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 30' 33" N - 91 degrees 59' 10" W
Accessible by boat. Identified by the power lines spanning the river.

BEECH ISLAND - 2.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 30' 41" N - 91 degrees 58' 10" W
Accessible by boat. Spawning browns on the upper shoal in the winter months. Some of the deepest water in the river is below the island.

COW SHOALS - 5.5 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 30' 48" N - 91 degrees 55' 46" W
Public Access on AR Hwy. 210. Lengthy stretch of shoals with a small island upstream. Canoe Creek enters from river left at the lower end of the shoal. Brown trout spawn here October through December. Avoid wading through the redds (a redd is a "nest" created by the hen fish. She cleans an area of the stream bed of all debris into which she will lay her eggs. Redd is a Scottish word that means "to neaten up"). Cow Shoal is a special regulations area requiring immediate catch and release, barbless hooks and only one hooking point per angler.

JON'S POCKET - 7.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 29' 57" N - 91 degrees 56' 17" W
Access by boat to this backwater pool at a sharp bend in the river. Adjacent land is privately owned.



A Guided Tour of the Little Red River – Part 11

By Jed Hollan

Notes: mileage is calculated from the dam site. GPS means global positioning system

RITCHIE SHOAL - 8.2 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 30' 18" N - 91 degrees 56' 40" W
Access by boat. Adjacent land is privately owned. Cannot motor through at low water. In Oct. thru Dec., avoid wading in the brown trout redds.

BARNETT ACCESS - 10.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 29' 23" N - 91 degrees 58' 18" W
This area is properly known as Winkley Shoal but it is also known as "Swinging Bridge" for the old bridge that once spanned the river here. There is a public access boat ramp on river left at the Winkley Bridge. There is also access provided by the Swinging Bridge RV Resort on river right near the Little Red Fly Shop. Sugarloaf Mountain can be seen downstream from the Winkley Bridge. The shoal begins at the bridge and continues downstream for 1/2 mile.

SULPHUR CREEK - 11.5 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 28' 57" N - 91 degrees 59' 11" W
Access by boat. The houses on the left bank are in the "Cooter Neck" community. The creek enters from river right. Just upstream is Charlie's Island, with Redbanks pool below the island. The foam line from Sulphur Creek floats through Round Hole just downstream.

SCHRONCHER SHOAL - 12.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 28' 49" N - 91 degrees 59' 01" W
Access by boat. Long, shallow shoal with pools below.

MOSS DAM SHOAL - 14.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 49" N - 91 degrees 57' 34" W
Access by boat. Fish usually found on river left in the boat channel.

LIBBY SHOAL - 15 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 23" N - 91 degrees 56' 57" W
Public walk-in access with parking on AR Hwy. 337. Stairs lead down from a high bank to the river.

A Guided Tour of the Little Red River – Part 12

By Jed Hollan

Notes: mileage is calculated from the dam site. GPS means global positioning system.

LOBO LANDING - 17.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 28" N - 91 degrees 55' 32" W
AGFC public access boat ramp and parking off AR Hwy. 337.

DUNHAM SHOAL - 18.2 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 17" N - 91 degrees 53' 23" W
Boat access only. Deep pool at the upper end. Classic shoal is small but wadeable in low water.

MOSSY SHOAL - 20.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 27" N - 91 degrees 52' 57" W
A special regulations area requiring barbless hooks. Not a catch & release section of the river. Power Eggs, night crawlers, etc. are illegal. Deep pool above the shoal usually holds large trout. Sharp drop-off with strong current below the shoal.

RAINBOW ISLAND - 21.5 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 07" N - 91 degrees 52' 06" W
Access by boat. Main channel has a good pool. Some wadeable shallow areas. There is a deep channel below the island. Boat channel around the island is on river right.

DRIPPING SPRINGS - 22.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 26' 09" N - 91 degrees 51' 30" W
Public access boat ramp off AR Hwy. 16 at the end of Second Street. Wading here is limited.

PANGBURN BRIDGE - 24.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 26' 15" N - 91 degrees 50' 41" W
Public access at AR Hwy. 110. Parking on both banks of the river on the downstream side of the bridge. Some bait fishermen cast from the low bridge to the river below.

Please see *A Guided Tour of the Little Red – Part 12* on page 14



Little Red River Fly Shop Fishing Report

By Jed Hollan April 08, '08



The Greers Ferry Power House is limiting water releases due to the flooding along the lower White River.

As I prepare this report, the White is out of it's banks at many locations including at Georgetown, AR below Augusta. This area is being monitored by the Little Rock district of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Presently, the depth/height gauge at Georgetown reads 27 feet but 21 feet is preferred. When the White River recedes to the lower reading, White River system lake levels will be drawn down by releasing water through all the system's generators. There are five impoundments that make up the White River System. Beaver Lake has 32,000 acres of surface area and is 9 feet over preferred maximum. Table Rock Lake has 43,000 acres and is 13 feet too high. Bull Shoals Lake has 71,000 acres and is 34 feet too high. Norfolk Lake has 30,000 acres and is 27 feet too high. Greers Ferry Lake has 40,000 acres and is 19 feet too high (but 7 feet below flood). The task the corps of engineers is facing is to reduce these lake levels as quickly as possible without contributing to the flooding along the White River. If you add up all the acres in the five lakes and calculate an average depth, it would be like having to drain a 216,000 acre lake averaging 20 feet in depth with all of that water having to go down one river - the White!

All the rain events over the previous two months constitute a cyclical weather pattern called "La Nina". Heavy rains occur when cold air from the northwest collides with warm moist air over our state. If the lakes should rise to "top flood pool", the corps of engineers will open all gates and turbines and we will have what is called an "open river". This does not bode well for people living or farming near the White River. I wish there was some way to send it all to Georgia's water-starved Lake Lanier. What we have here is a poor distribution of our water assets.

Want some more dam information? There are 14 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dams designed to control

flooding on Arkansas Lakes. Five of the largest facilities are described above. There are also dams at Ouachita, DeGray and Greeson Lakes that control flows into the Ouachita River. There are dams at DeQueen, Dierks, Gillham and Millwood lakes that determine the flow into the Little River. The dam at Blue Mountain Lake controls the flow into the Petit Jean River and the dam at Nimrod Lake controls the flow into the Fourche LaFave River.

Fishing on the Little Red right now is incredible! We have a couple of customers who, frankly, rarely catch many fish. One gentleman, who fits precisely in that category, came in the shop the other day and announced that he had landed 60 trout that morning (on a wooly bugger). Another customer came in from two hours of fishing at JFK Park. Using a small midge pattern, he landed a lot of fish including 24 trout in 25 casts. Fishing is crazy good! Until the White River drops to 21 feet on the gauge at Georgetown, the fantastic fishing should continue unabated. The water in the river is somewhat murky in spots due to the last two rain events, but the fish are striking at everything including: dry flies that mimic the tiny midge (#22 or smaller in cream or black), American march brown (#14), elk hair caddis (#14-#16 tan or black) or adams (#18-#20). Sub-surface flies that are working well include the sowbug (#14-#16 uv tan, uv peacock or light gray), zebra midge (#16-#22 red, black or chartreuse), san juan worm (#16-#18 pink or red), pheasant tail (#16), red @ss (#14-#16), green @ss (#14-#16) or wooly bugger (#8-#12 olive, brown, or black).

The Little Red Fly Shop is discounting virtually everything in the shop through the month of April. A 20% discount applies to clothing, waders, boots, TFO fly rods, reels, packs, nets, etc. The exempt items are guide trips, flies, art work and Sage fly rods.

If you have questions about anything in this report, direct them to me at the Little Red Fly Shop of Heber Springs, AR. My numbers are #888-442-4022 toll free or #501-887-9988. You can send an e-mail to me at shop@littleredflyshop.com. I'm Jed Hollan, mgr.



John Berry Fishing Report

By John Berry April 03, '08



<http://www.berrybrothersguides.com/>

We have had two major rain events and the reservoirs on the White River system continue to rise. The lake level at Bull Shoals Dam rose nine and eight tenths feet to rest at twenty eight and two tenths feet above power pool of 654.00 feet and continues to rise. This is twelve and eight tenths feet below the top of flood pool and it continues to rise. Up stream, Table Rock Lake remained steady at twelve and five tenths of a foot above power pool or three and five tenths feet below the top of flood pool. Beaver Lake rose five tenths of a foot to settle at nine and two tenths feet above pool or four tenths of a foot below the top of flood pool. At the time of this writing the flood gates are open at Beaver. Beaver and Table Rock Lakes have been generating heavily. The water has been collected in Bull Shoals Lake which still has excess carrying capacity. Norfolk Lake has risen three and eight tenths feet to rest at twenty five and three tenths of a foot above power pool of 552.00 feet or two and seven tenths feet below the top of flood pool. Norfolk Lake is nearing capacity and the Corps of Engineers will begin drawing it down first, running at max capacity of around 7,000 cubic feet per second until it is at power pool. There is a possibility that they will open the flood gates and run even more water. As flooding clears down stream, the Corps of Engineers will begin drawing down the Dams on the White River. The weather has been cool and very wet. There have been several days with lake wind advisories. There have been no wading opportunities on the Norfolk River and precious few on the White. Boating conditions have been excellent. The Buffalo River and Crooked Creek are still high and off colored. The White River below these streams is stained and not fishing well.

The Upper White River is fishing particularly well. We have had low level generation (one to two generators). During this period, the upper river from

the Bull Shoals Dam Catch and Release area to White Hole fished well. The productive flies were black zebra midges, olive scuds and San Juan worms. The Catch and Release section below Bull Shoals dam has been a real hot spot.

Another hot spot was Rim Shoals particularly the Jenkins creek area. The water was still lightly stained from the recent flooding but it did not affect the fishing. The hot flies were San Juan worms in bright colors (hot pink, fire orange, cerise and red). The water along the island and below it fished well with Y2Ks and olive woolly buggers.

On the Norfolk River, they have been running a couple of generators and it has been fishing well. High water tactics have been the secret to success here. Be sure and use long leaders, plenty of lead and large strike indicators. Brightly colored San Juan worms along the weed beds have produced some nice fish. The hot colors have been red, hot pink, pale pink, and cerise. Other effective flies have been Y2Ks, black zebra midges, and egg patterns.

Dry Run Creek is still producing trophy trout at a prodigious rate. It must have been spring break this week because there were a lot of kids fishing there this week particularly on the nice warm days. There were a few kids there on the wet cold days and they were rewarded with some true trophy trout. The hot flies have been sowbugs, San Juan worms (worm brown and red were the hot colors), olive woolly buggers, egg patterns and Y2Ks. Be sure and carry a big net and do not forget the camera. The fish in this creek are huge. The trout of a lifetime lives here and is waiting to have his picture taken.

About John Berry

John Berry is a fly fishing guide in Cotter and has fished the local streams for over twenty five years.

John Berry
(870) 435-2169

berrybrothers@infodash.com
www.berrybrothersguides.com

Troubled Trout Waters from page 9

- such as dams and poorly designed culverts.
7. Restore instream flows that have been reduced by diversions for irrigation and other purposes.
 8. Minimize existing sources of stress, such as pollution, overgrazing, and roads along streams.
 9. Limit introductions of non-native fishes and control existing populations.
 10. Monitor and evaluate habitats as they face climate change.

Global warming may be here, but there are many things we can do about it. It's time to act now.

About Gregg Patterson

Gregg Patterson was AFF president from 1985-91. His weekly column, "The Patterson Report" appears on ESPNOutdoors.com and he writes the "Native Fish" column for Trout Unlimited's "TROUT" magazine. You can contact him at gpatterson2@comcast.net.

Guided Tour of the Little Red-Part 12 from page 11

RAMSEY ACCESS - 29.0 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 27' 08" N - 91 degrees 46' 35" W

Public access off AR Hwy. 124. Look for sign to Ramsey Access. Wade downstream from the boat ramp to a small but good shoal.

HIGHWAY 305 BRIDGE- 31 MILES

GPS: 35 degrees 26' 16" N - 91 degrees 44' 47" W

The Dewey Bridge on AR Hwy. 305 marks the end of trout fishing regulations.

This installment concludes the virtual tour of our river. If you have questions about anything in this report, please direct them to me at the Little Red Fly Shop of Heber Springs, AR. My numbers are #888-442-4022 toll free or #501-887-9988. You can send an e-mail to me at shop@littleredflyshop.com. I'm Jed Hollan, mgr.



Arkansas Flyline
A Weight Forward Production

Editor:
Chris Morris
cmorris30@gmail.com

President:
Gary White
whitegj@hotmail.com

Vice President:
Patty Leuken
plueken@luekenlaw.com

Secretary:
Marcey Berry
marcey.berry@pca-ar.org

Treasurer:
Tommy Lasiter
tlasiter@doyle-rogers.com

Program:
Charlotte Day
cmday@swbell.net

Conservation Officer:
Annette Hurley
hurleybird@comcast.net

Education Officer:
Jan Ellis jandellis@conwaycorp.net

Web Site:
Bob Cheatham
Bcheatham@lapo.state.ar.us

Librarian/Archivist:
Fleming Stockton
Flemstock@yahoo.com

Past President:
Ashley Berry
ldrbrry@aol.com



<http://www.affonline.com/>

www.affonline.com

