

## *President's Message*

by Mark Borserine

### **Membership**

It's that time of the year to renew your membership in the HOAFF. While our meetings are open to anyone, it's the membership dollars that allow us to continue to offer great programs and outings to make this wonderful sport of fly fishing more enjoyable.

I am always proud that out of all the clubs in the Southern Council it seems that we consistently turn out a higher percentage of our members than our peers. There are clubs much larger than the HOAFF in membership, but we still lead in percentages. This is witness to the quality of what we offer. Please renew your membership so that we can continue to offer this quality. There is an old

saying in business: "No Profit, No Mission!" While the HOAFF is a not-for-profit, the same saying can be applied in this way: "No Funding, No Mission!"

As you renew your HOAFF membership, also renew your FFF Membership for the very same reasons expanded to a National Scale. If you are not an FFF Member, please consider becoming one. The FFF provides the same quality at the National Level that the HOAFF provides to its local membership. "No Funding, No Mission!" applies to the FFF as well. If you care about the excellence and furtherance of our sport, you will enroll as a member of the FFF as well. At HOAFF we can provide you with the forms or you can enroll via

## *HOAFF Meeting*

*Monday, February 19 - 7:00pm*

### **Fly Tying Social Night**

**Bring your fly tying gear and learn some new patterns**

the FFF website: [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org).

Your membership in both organizations will assure that you get the best possible information. Since there is a cost to newsletters and magazines, only paid members get information from the respective organizations; information that is vital to your enjoyment of this great sport!

## *Special Membership Meeting in March*

by Bill Brant

A special meeting of voting members will be held at the club meeting March 19<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on club directors and to conduct any other club business that is of interest to the members.

The organization of the club is governed by bylaws that were adopted in 2005, and then amended at later dates. The bylaws define the rights and responsibilities of those involved in the club. Following are some of the highlights:

- Members of the club have the right to elect

Directors and also have the right to remove Directors.

- The Directors elect the Club Officers and watch over the affairs of the club.

- The Officers run the day-to-day affairs of the club, the Officers include the positions you would recognize, such as the President, the Treasurer, and the numerous chairs.

Current Directors are John Bell, Tom James, and Bill Brant. David Andrews and Hod McIntosh recently retired from being Directors after several years of much appreciated service. The

slate of new Directors includes Jim Jorgensen and Cliff Cain. Jim and Cliff were selected due to their contributions to the club over many years along with a respect for their judgment. Nominations from the floor for Directors will also be accepted.

Once the new Directors are elected, they plan to vote to elect this year's officers. The proposed slate of officers is listed at the end of this article.

When you look over the list of Officers, you will notice 4 new names this year:

Travis Knight, Ron Carruthers, Darrin Watson, and Kevin Carril. Be sure and thank them at the next meeting for helping out. You will also notice that there are a few empty positions. If you are interested, we would be glad to have your help.

If you want to provide any input on the running of the club, feel free to contact any of the Directors before the March meeting or attend the March meeting and speak your mind.

Slate of Officers for 2007 on page 7.

## 2007 Officers

### President

Mark Borserine  
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### Past President

David Andrews  
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### Secretary

Jim Jorgenson  
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### Treasurer

Paul Bennetts  
913-338-3837 [pbennetts1@comcast.net](mailto:pbennetts1@comcast.net)

### Newsletter

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### Programs

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Cliff Cain  
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### Education/Recognition

Bill Lindley  
913-888-3177  
Norm Crisp  
913-645-1994 [streamsideff@yahoo.com](mailto:streamsideff@yahoo.com)

### Outings

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### Membership

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### Conservation Team - Arkansas:

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### Library

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### Web Master

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### Raffle/Auction

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### Spring Programs

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Don Grundy  
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### Historian

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### Liaison SC

Hod McIntosh  
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### Supernumerary

Ray Zook  
816-941-2862 [rzook@kc.rr.com](mailto:rzook@kc.rr.com)

## Sowbug Roundup

by John Berry

The North Arkansas Fly Fishers will host the tenth annual Sowbug Roundup at the Redeemer Lutheran Church Family Life Center located at 307 W. North Street, Mountain Home, Arkansas on March 15, 16 and 17. This is a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The hours are 9:00AM to 4:00 PM.

The Sowbug Roundup is a celebration of fly fishing. There will be demonstrations by over 100 expert fly tyers. There will be several seminars presented by local professional guides.

There is free tying and casting instruction presented by renowned instructors and there will be drawings and auctions throughout all three days of the event. Admission for adults is only \$5.00 for all three days. Children under 16 years of age will be admitted free when accompanied by their parents. Anyone desiring more information can call (870) 491-5520, email at [sowbug@northarkansasflyfisher.org](mailto:sowbug@northarkansasflyfisher.org) or go to the North Arkansas Fly Fisher's website, [www.northarkansasflyfishers.org](http://www.northarkansasflyfishers.org).

## Blue River Cleanup

by Bill Brant and Kevin Carril

Our club's annual Blue River clean-up will be on Saturday March 31st, at 8:00 AM (or later if you sleep in a little).

As many of you know our club has adopted part of the Blue River through the Missouri Stream Team program. The Stream Team program is run by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

The program consists of over 3000 different volunteer groups who look after streams and rivers across the state of Missouri. That is an amazing number of folks interested in clean water.

If you are interested you can get more information on the program at the Stream Team website: [mostreamteam.org](http://mostreamteam.org)

As in years past, we will coordinate our clean-up with the Lakeside Nature Center. Their effort is run by Gervis's daughter, Vicki Richmond.

Lakeside will provide a continental breakfast and then lunch at the Nature

Center in Swope Park. We generally skip the breakfast, but many club members have attended the lunch. It's fun.

The Nature Center will also provide supplies and haul away the trash we pick-up. In addition to cleaning up the river, we will be considering cutting down shrub honeysuckle.

Honeysuckle is an invasive plant species imported from Asia. It is taking over many of the natural areas in the metro area. Consider it as the plant equivalent of the zebra mussel or consider it as the plant equivalent of the bug that causes whirling disease in trout.

Go to [www.kcwildlands.org](http://www.kcwildlands.org) for more local information. We will be using loppers and saws to cut down the honeysuckle and then use a reasonably safe herbicide to kill the remaining honeysuckle stumps. Mark your calendars (and set your alarm clock) for this event, March 31st.

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# *The Few and The Frozen*

by Mark Borsierine

The Marines have a saying "The Few and The Proud"; the HOAFF has "The Few and The Frozen". About a dozen brave, fearless members of the club actually made it all the way to Sand Spring Resort for the second attempt at a Winter Outing and Annual Banquet. Those who made it down earlier on Friday actually had some good fishing. The Trout were "midging" and anglers did well on Griffith's gnats and small midge pupa patterns. Friday night the rain started in earnest and turned to ice; about 3:30 in the morning the power went out at Sand Spring and by about 6am not only were the rooms getting cold, we realized we had only 'one flush left' since the resort is on a well and electric pump. At that point some very brave men began to disappear and head for home. At 8am, Nancy Hall called me and said their restaurant was without power, so there went the Annual Banquet! She called about an hour later to say that the Applebee's in Lebanon had raw sewage coming up through the drains since the storm sewers had clogged with ice.

The only thing in the entire area of the Spring we could find with power were the restrooms on the South Side of the stream in front of the Nature Center: they flushed, they were warm and lighted! A few of us decided to stay and do a little fishing and leave around noon or, when the ice started to fall again as predicted. John Bell shot some photos of the area accompanying this article. The ice storm produced a strange and wildly fantastic beauty. The stream had risen quite a bit during the deluge of the night and fishing was only so so. Gary Bader had to duck out of the way of a falling limb while wading. The strangely beautiful silence was broken by the crashing of trees all around us!

Exactly at Noon the sleet started again and the few brave men left put their 'tails between their legs' and headed for home! Thus ended the Winter Outing that never was!



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# Expectations

by Steve Jenkins

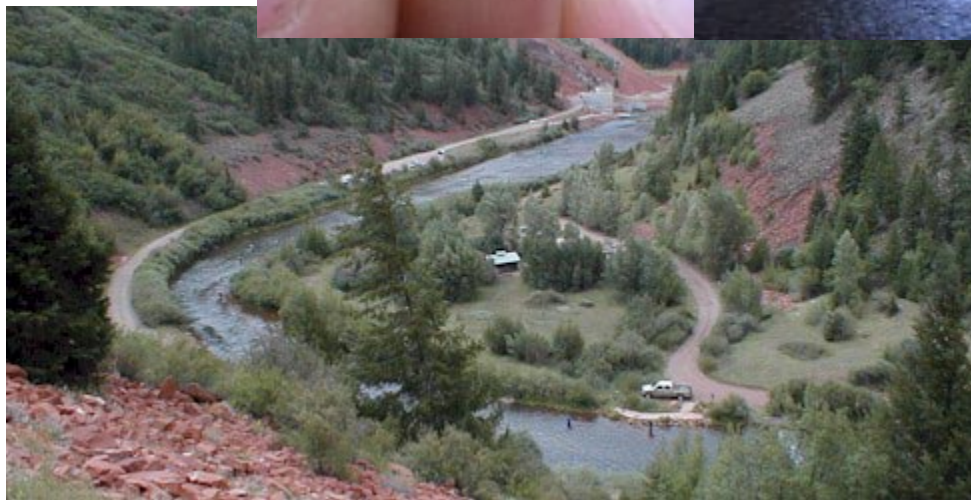
The year had been a fishing "bust" for me. Early in the season, we had too much rain. Later, it was too dry. And, a fishing guy shouldn't admit it, but work got in the way, too. I had one overnight to the Ozarks early in the season. The streams were unusually low and the fishing was mighty slow. On a family trip to Michigan, I tested the Rogue River, but it was late in the season, however the fabled "white fly" still wasn't hatching.

For about a dozen years, I've managed to hook up with Doug, my old fishing mentor from New York, for a few days on the Frying Pan River in Colorado. He lives now in Phoenix and manages to escape in their RV for the summer. In late August, they are heading back home and the 'Pan is generally their last stop. Last year he was ill and they hurried home. But, last year, the 'Pan was good to me with four 20-fish days. That was enough to salve my acute fishing fever for most of the summer. Last year wasn't too bad. But, this year it has been a different

story. I made one trip to NY arriving in the midst of floods, so my gear had just gone along for the ride. So, the trip to the Frying Pan more and more became the center of my thoughts.

Other than caddis and the omnipresent midges, the Frying Pan really

has only three mayfly hatches with enough gusto to get the fish excited. Blue winged olives (Baetis) are frequent with major hatches in the early and late seasons, particularly on cloudy days. Late in the season, it takes mighty small stuff to fool those very educated fish feeding



on the "grey curse." Beginning in July, you will begin to see Pale Morning Duns, aka "PMDs". But, for some reason, they don't hatch until the afternoon! Maybe this is to just confuse any fly fisherman that wants things

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rigorous. The big fly on the 'Pan, however, is the Western Green Drake. In late July, August and September, it isn't unusual to find all three of these mayflies on the creek at the same time. And in that case, the fish can really mess with your mind.

The Frying Pan is mostly pocket water. It is a tailwater below Ruedi Dam and the flow is controlled. Some years in late August they release extra water to facilitate spawning of the endangered squawfish downstream in the Colorado River. Wading can be real tricky – even dangerous. The stream level reports showed it unlikely there would be a big dump this year. So the conditions were good and expectations grew.

Doug and I both like fishing pocket water like the 'Pan. It is a strong reminder of the West Branch of the Ausable River in NY – water he had fished since his early teens and water we together fished regularly when we both lived in the area. But, the 'Pan is different because of the heavy insect life. While the Ausable has minnows. But, not the 'Pan – it is much more an insect stream. So, the timing of the Green Drake hatch fits perfectly with Doug's

travel plans and we try to connect in the last week of August. By then, the drakes are on the decline, but not totally gone. The Baetis are becoming maddeningly prolific and there are still PMDs.

Expectations were rewarded and finally the appointed day came. Doug wasn't expected for a couple of days, so I had some warm-up time. I wasn't able to get on the stream Monday afternoon until about 2 PM. By that time, I figured the drakes would be fewer and fewer, since they start to hatch about 11 AM and peak around 1 PM. I picked

a spot a bit farther downstream than might have been wise – in late August the drakes are concentrated in the first few miles below the dam, as the hatch has migrated steadily upstream from its beginning in mid July. This spot is marked by a fast riffle above, a swift run and taylor into a slower pool. This spot has produced some good fish in the past, both in the run and in the pool. I rigged for the drakes, but after about



15 minutes of casting a local drake imitation, I saw none. Now, there were fish rising, indeed there were many fish rising, but it was clear they weren't taking drakes. Most of the rising fish were in the margins of the pool area and experience told me what they were eating – Baetis. Rerigging for these tiny flies, I changed about 20 flies over the next hour and half and didn't even get a look. I tried dries, nymphs, emergers, different shades of grey, different sizes, droppers, added lead – nothing! That is the way it is on the Frying Pan when these maddening bugs are working. Sometimes, if you hit it right, with the right pattern, you can really score. But, it wasn't to be for me this time.

Finally, in desperation – it was getting close to quitting time – I removed the gossamer tippet and loaded an Ausable Wulff. On the third cast, bingo, a 15 1/2



continued on p.6

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# Expectations

inch male brown. After another strike, it got quiet. Later I landed one more brown – about half the size of the first – and then headed home. This was definitely not what I had hankered for months for, and not what I braved high gasoline prices and the elevated Colorado fishing license fees for, either. Did last year spoil me?

The next day changed all that. Often I've wondered about the PMDs. On the 'Pan, the duns sport a curious pinkish abdomen color. Several local patterns have been produced, but none has really worked for me.

But, this year, I started off with a nymph pattern that produced quite nicely with the first



continued from p.5

fish a 15-inch male brown. But, soon it just seemed like it was "drakes time." Off came the nymph and on went the dry drake patterns. After some years of fishing these big flies, I've settled in on a Wulff pattern coupled to a haystack pattern

on the dropper. Both flies are in size 12 and the Wulff has prominent grey wings, a light grayish olive body, mixed grizzly and medium dun hackle and ground hog body hair for the tail. The haystack uses the same dubbed body material and western mule deer wing and tail.

For the next three hours, this rig produced 16 brown trout, between 10 and

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16 inches. Late in the afternoon, things slowed down and I traded the haystack for a size 12 Ausable Wulff and picked up two more nice browns.

The next day I used the big dries exclusively. It was a strong day as I landed 25 trout, including four rainbows with the largest 17 inches that must have weighed over three pounds. Four of these came to the Ausable Wulff, again, later in the afternoon. And, on that day, I lost four more fish that broke off and ran away with four flies as I tried foolishly to land these with without the net. That evening, I felt pretty smug!

Doug came in that evening and we arranged the time and spot for the next day. Doug likes a particularly rocky stretch that has some very interesting pockets. Earlier, I stayed out of this water – although it is about 3/4 mile long. So I gave Doug the choice of the water. I moved upstream and in about two hours,

caught one fish. We met for lunch, as, as expected, he had great success. I was grumpy!

In the afternoon, I replewed the water Doug had fished earlier but managed only five more fish. I didn't need to be reminded and have often said, don't follow Doug up the stream. He caught 22. We had scheduled a nice dinner together with our wives that evening – I didn't say much.

The next day was to be my last and it turned out better. I landed two rainbows over 16 inches, several browns almost as large, and showed Doug some new water. Clearly, the drake imitations were the winners. And the transfer of the Adirondack patterns – the Ausable Wulff and the haystack – has been a great success.

Still, expectations alone can do you few favors – we take our fishing days as the come.

**Slate of Officers, 2007**

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## Upcoming Events & Programs

- February 19, 2007 Members Social Night – Fly Tying
- March 19, 2007 Cliff Cain & John Bell with Montana Guide
- April 16, 2007 Brent Frazee
- May 21, 2007 Norm Crisp: Traveling & Trout Fishing



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