

The Jack Sparks Central Texas Flyrodders Club

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Next Meeting:

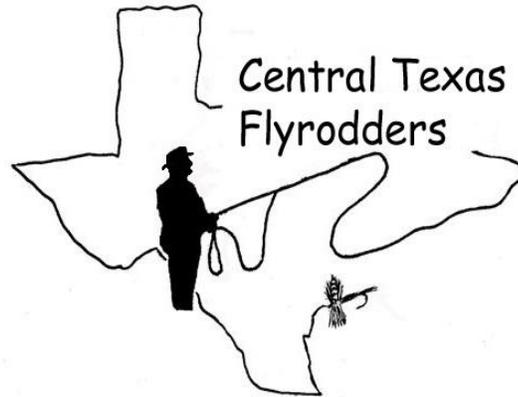
Tuesday, April 9, 2013

Location:

Highview Lake

Program:

Catching Fish



APRIL PROGRAM – LETS GO FISHING

Once again Rod Squires, Bob Bond and Dr. Tom Lundeen have allowed our club to have an outing on their private water, Highview Lake. You can start fishing as early as 3:00 pm. This is a well managed operation and there are some big Bass in the lake. You can fish from the bank or the floating dock, but it is probably better to bring a kick boat, kayak or similar water craft.

We will open the gate about 3:00 pm. The club will provide cookout fodder like hot dogs, hot links, chips and basic trimmings. Bring your own favorite liquid refreshment.

In the past we have had some nice outings at Highview. The cookout porch provides quite a view of the lake, the countryside and the sunset, a perfect setting to tell the tale of that monster Bass you just caught. This is an outing you do not want to miss.

For directions, see the map on the next page.

MARCH PROGRAM – WHITE BASS CONCLAVE

After Pat Vanek outlined the basics of rigging for White Bass and the chasing of White Bass, Johnny Elkins stepped up and told us about his refinements. Johnny likes to over line his five or six weight rod with seven weight line. This helps turn over those Clousers, but more importantly aids in roll casting, an important technique in White Bass fishing because you often do not have room for a standard cast.

Years ago I received a private tutorial from Johnny when I ran into him, actually paddled into him, on the Middle Bosque. After giving me a fly in the hot pattern, Johnny encouraged me to keep the tip of my fly rod in the water while stripping the fly in. I didn't ask why, I just did it and I think it helped me catch more fish. Since then I have noticed that when I strip a fly in with the rod tip out of the water, the tip jumps back and forth – up and down, basically all around. When the rod tip is held in the water it

WACO FLY FISHING 101

Pat Vanek, Bill Whitehead and I completed the first Waco Fly Fishing 101 class before the March meeting with about a dozen “students.” I think we made our basic point that there is nothing magic about casting a fly rod, which will hopefully encourage the newcomers to give it a try. Yes, we did warn them that it can become addictive. The feedback I got was positive.

Holding a basic fly fishing class before our monthly meetings is an excellent way of introducing newcomers to the sport with a low degree of difficulty for us and for the newcomers for that matter. We are going to have another class before the start of the May meeting. If you know anybody who might be interested let me know. Keep in mind that we have to limit the classes to approximately twelve students.

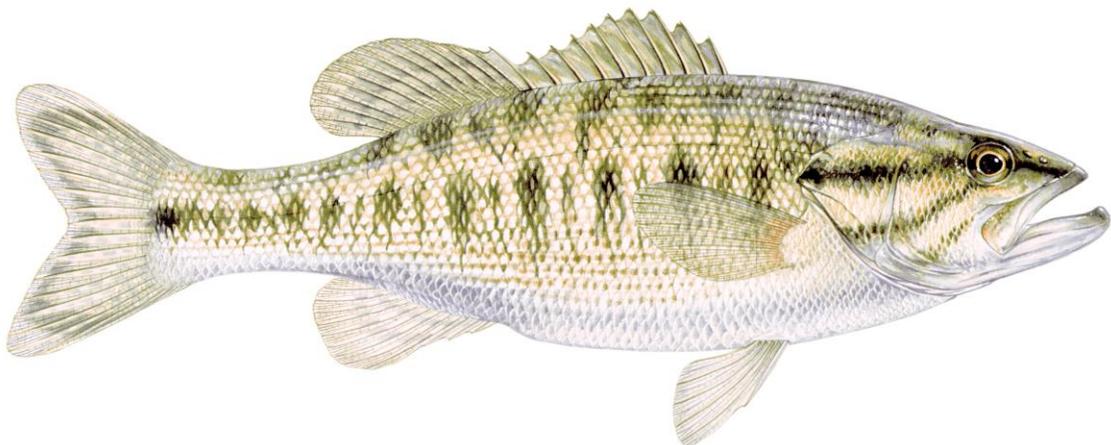
Bob Hanley

GET OUTDOORS! SPORTS SHOW AND SAFETY FAIR

After John Maddux got things started, several hardy club members braved the elements to man the fly fishing booth at the GET OUTDOORS! event. Although the weather was an issue, things were pleasant enough Saturday afternoon for a bit of a crowd to gather. As with our Waco Fly Fishing 101 class I think we were able to make our point that fly casting is not all that difficult, at least for purposes of getting a fly out to our usually Perch, bless them.

Weather issues aside, this was a good event. Thanks to Liz Anderson for giving us the opportunity to participate.

Bob Hanley



HAS JOHN GIERACH BEEN FISHING WITH JOHNNY ELKINS ?

John Gierach is my favorite author. Maybe it's because he writes about my favorite subject. Maybe it's because he writes well. Probably it is both.

I recently began re-reading Standing in a River Waving a Stick and one passage made me wonder if Gierach has fished for White Bass with Johnny Elkins. In the book Gierach wonders about what it is that makes a good fly fisher. Of course we all know that Johnny qualifies. But, get this:

*“You know the drill: Your partner is just hammering the fish. He generously gives you the secret fly pattern, he tells you what size tippet he's using and what kind of drift he's trying for, maybe he even trades spots with you. He continues to hammer fish. You still can't buy a strike ***”*

That certainly sounds like Johnny. Maybe Gierach is going to be a guest on White Bass Dynasty. He already has the beard. Stay tuned.

TEXAS COUNCIL IFFF

It is official; there is now a Texas Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. Previously Texas was split between the Southern Council and the Gulf Coast Council.

The President of the Texas Council is Russell Husted who is also Vice President of the Fort Worth Fly Fishers. Russell traveled to Waco to help man our booth at the GET OUTDOORS! Event and filled us in on plans for the Texas Council. One idea is to offer coordination of events and programs between the Texas fly fishing clubs. It is going to be interesting to see how the Texas Council grows and matures.

The Texas Council website is under construction, but should be ready in the near future.

SPEAKING OF WEBSITES

Our new club website should be open soon.

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013

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| • President & FFF Liaison - | John Maddux 666-9009 |
| • Vice President & Newsletter | Bob Hanley 776-5444,
www.nevilleandhanley@yahoo.com |
| • Treasurer/Membership | David Beyer |
| • Education Chairman - | Bill “Coach” Menefee 772-1785 |
| • Webmaster - | Dale Connally 710-4004 |
| • At Large | Billy Whitehead |

