

WACO FLY FISHING CLUB

October, 2014 www.wacoflyfishingclub.org Volume XX: No. 10

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

Location:

Waco Wetlands Center

Program:

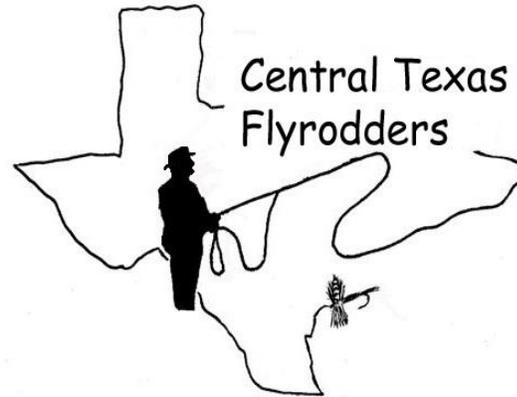
Jim Gray

**Accessing and Fishing the
Colorado River**

About 7:00 pm

Fly Tying and Tall Tales

About 6:00 pm

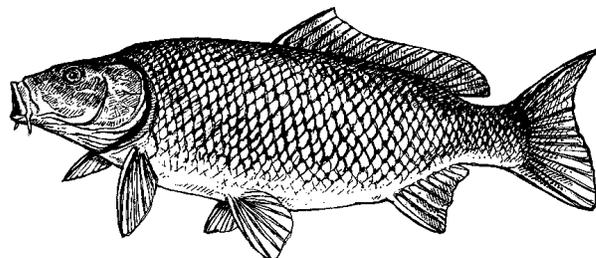


OCTOBER PROGRAM - JIM GRAY

Jim Gray has made several presentations to our club over the years. Each presentation has been packed full of the kind of information that can put you on some outstanding fishing. A couple of years ago I followed Jim's lead to Long's Camp on the Llano and have had several memorable trips to a special river that I might have missed altogether without Jim's advice.

At our October meeting Jim is going to tell us about fishing the Colorado River, home of the current state record Guadalupe Bass. The Colorado is becoming more accessible as the result of an effective access program being directed by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Jim is working with the Texas Council of the IFFF to partner with TPWD on this program.

Jim Gray was named the Conservationist of the Year - 2014 by the Texas Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. Jim has been a dedicated fly fisherman, fly tyer and rod builder for over 30 years, the last fourteen or so here in Central Texas. He was a founding member of the Austin Fly Fishers, and an original member of Austin's Wednesday night fly tying group. Jim's day job involves considerable travel, so he gets a chance to fish a lot of interesting places in the US and abroad, including England, Japan and India. Jim averages 100 days on the water each year. Most weekends (and some week days), you will find Jim fishing the Llano or San Gabriel River.



SEPTEMBER PROGRAM - FISHING AT LATHAM SPRINGS



It probably wasn't the best day we have had at Latham Springs, but many fish were caught. As the sun was setting, Pat Vanek reported fifty to hand as he caught another and then a few more. I was Perching with a size 14 Llano Bug. It was fun catching Perch on top and even more fun to catch a few Bass including one of the larger Bass I have caught at Latham Springs. I was very surprised he took that little bug. I remain a fan of the Llano Bug.

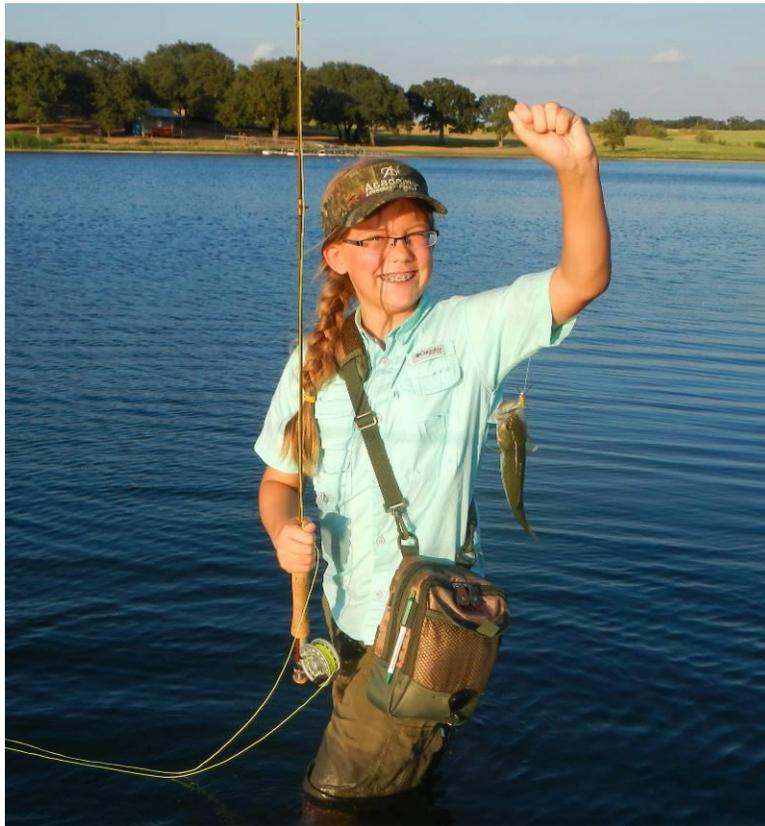
The fishing really was better than good and the company better than that. But, the highlight of the outing was a first. Cheryl Ann caught her first fish on a fly - a feisty little bass.

After a little instruction and a casting demonstration or two from Billy Whitehead, Cheryl Ann got off to a strong start. She was a good student and listened to instruction. You know, a coachable kid. You could tell that she quickly began focusing on the line, realizing that was the key to fly casting. Billy quickly and wisely let her take it from there and in short order Cheryl Ann was getting her fly out



where the fish were.

When a Bass took her fly, she set the hook and brought her first fish on the fly to hand.



As a club, we need to figure out a way of helping more kids, and adults for that matter, take up fly fishing. We all know how special fly fishing is and should share it. And while nothing can match the joy of that first fish on the fly, the joy of making it happen comes in a close second, just ask Billy.

Bob Hanley

CLUB BUSINESS

Let's get 2015 off to a big start for our club. Late winter and spring are always good seasons for fly fishing. Trout are available in the Guad and, of course, White Bass are going to run if there is enough water. Then come the Perch and Bass followed by favorable conditions at the coast.

The time to start planning for 2015 is now and your ideas are needed. Really, please take a minute or two and think about what we can do to make our club better. Then take another minute or two and let the rest of us know what you have come up with. Contact information for the current club officers is at the end of this newsletter.

One idea is to have a "raffle" for paying dues on time. The details can be refined, but if you pay your dues at or before the March 2015 meeting you will get one chance at a nice prize like a fly rod with lesser prizes available for the second, third and possibly more names drawn. You can

get additional chances for each new member you recruit. We have done this before; it gets the dues paid and has resulted in a few new members. We need new members.

Lets teach some more people to fly fish. We held Waco Fly Fishing 101 classes in 2012 and helped a couple dozen people get comfortable with the long rod. Maybe a more in depth session at a place like Latham Springs would be a good idea. What better way to learn fly fishing than by catching a few fish? Just ask Cheryl Ann.

Other topics to consider are taking better advantage of our website, possibly moving our meetings closer to Waco, improving our logo and having merchandise like fly boxes available. We are always looking for program and outing ideas.

Please give it some thought and let me know what you come up with.

Bob Hanley

SOME HAVE "LAID ASIDE BUSINESS AND GONE A'FISHING"

We have all told our fish stories to non fly fishers and been met with glazed eyes, at best. Well, your fellow fly fishers really do give a rip about your fishing stories if for no other reason than to learn from your success. Let's get more reports in the newsletter. Yes Rod we do want to know. Congratulations on that huge Red.

PORT O'CONNOR

I caught this 37 lb red at the jetties at Port O'Connor on a fly with a 10 wt sink tip line. During the first week of August the blue crabs are leaving the bay for the gulf to reproduce. Some days you will find these bull reds crashing the crabs on the surface and can fish with a floating line. Very few on the surface when I was there but a did catch this one and a 27 lb red stripping the fly with the sink tip with Tom Horbey as my guide. Thought the club might want to know.

Rod Squires



MONTANA

Remember that we were all invited to Dale Connally's Montana Retreat? Should have gone. Montana is pretty easy on the eyes.



And the Trout aren't bad either



