



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER
December 2017 Volume XXII: No. 12
www.wacoflyfishingclub.org

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, December 12, 2017

LOCATION:
Valley Mills Vineyard Winery

DECEMBER PROGRAM: **CHRISTMAS CHEER AND
WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT
EXCHANGE**

CHRISTMAS PARTY - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017

Our Christmas Party is next Tuesday, December 12, 2015 at the Valley Mills Vineyard Winery. We will start the festivities about 6:00 pm. The winery is located at 8532 N. State Hwy. 6. As you are driving out of Waco towards the town of Valley Mills on Hwy. 6 the VMV Winery is on your right, about a quarter of a mile past the intersection of Hwy. 6 and Hwy 185. That is the intersection where there is a relatively new Stripes and an old CEFCO also on your right.

If you want to check out the VMV wines before the day of the Christmas Party, they are open Thursday & Friday 2:00-8:00pm, Saturday 12:00-11:00pm, and Sunday 12:00-5:00pm. If you do a tasting, or make a purchase remember to mention you are part of our club.



Our Christmas Party dinner will be catered by Waco Fly Fishing Club Executive Chef, John Maddux, who never disappoints when it comes to cooking. Iced tea will be provided. If you wish to drink wine, licensing requires that you purchase it from the winery. Special arrangements have been made if you wish to have an adult beverage other than wine, contact me for the details. Bob Hanley - 254-776-5444 or nevilleandhanley@yahoo.com

Remember that we do a White Elephant Gift Exchange at our Christmas Party. To participate in the gift exchange, bring a fly fishing oriented gift with a value of about \$30.00. The gift exchange is that rare opportunity to receive a gift picked by another fly fisher. If you tie, feel free to "salt" your gift with a few favorite patterns. Be sure and wrap your gift so that it cannot be identified prior to its first selection. Secrecy is important in a White Elephant Gift Exchange. The only exception is if your gift is related to fly tying. If it is put a note or something on the gift bag or box noting that the gift relates to fly tying. Not everybody in the club ties.

Of course, what would our Christmas party be without the raffle? Tickets are \$5.00 each and five for \$20.00. We'll have some great prizes starting with a four piece, five weight fly rod, custom built by Bill Whitehead, complete with reel and line. Other prizes include a second four piece Cabela's fly rod, a club fly box, a tooled leather fly wallet and more.

PLEASE RSVP SO WE CAN HAVE ENOUGH FOOD FOR EVERYBODY

**FIRST PROGRAM OF 2018 -
PAT DORSEY**

PAY ATTENTION - We are starting the year with the kind of program you normally have to travel to some nasty big city to see, but we have to adjust our usual meeting night, the second Tuesday of February, to Monday, February 5, 2018. The location is still to be determined.

The speaker is Pat Dorsey, a Denver, Colorado based fly fishing guide that has been pursuing selective, Rocky Mountain trout for over thirty-five years. His vast knowledge and expertise makes him a true authority in the fly fishing industry.



PAT DORSEY

Pat is a co-owner of the Blue Quill Angler, a full-service fly shop and guide service, serving customers since 1988 from the same location in Evergreen, Colorado. Pat Dorsey has worked at the Blue Quill Angler since 1992. Throughout his journey, his unique niche has been teaching people how to fly fish. In his spare time, Pat has authored several highly regarded books on fly fishing.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM - FLY FISHING FOR REDFISH ON THE TEXAS COAST

Patience. Pat explained that you are not likely to see Redfish tails waving around above the water so you have to look for other signs when you are hunting Redfish on the flats. Look for wakes and even the exposed backs of Reds. It takes patience. Pat just stops and observes for five minutes or more when he enters a new area.

If you are lucky enough to see tails there is a good chance you are encountering lowly mullets and not noble Reds. If you can see the tails clearly enough you can distinguish the owners. Mullet have pointy tails that look like they are vibrating. Red tails tend to flop from side to side and look somewhat like monarch butterflies fluttering around on the surface.

Your odds of seeing evidence of Reds are increased if you stay in relatively shallow water. If the water is over eighteen inches deep it's hard to see signs that there are fish nearby.

FLY TYING NIGHT - JANUARY 25, 2018

Nothing like a January night for tying flies. If you fish the Guad you will need to re-stock your nymph box and the White Bass run is right around the corner. Our first tying night of 2018 will be Thursday, January 25, 2018 at Uncle Dan's BBQ. We'll get started about 5:30 pm.

Remember, guests are welcome to join us.

DUES ARE DUE - INCENTIVES TO PAY AND RECRUIT

We are on a calendar year so dues will be due soon for 2018. As an incentive to get your dues paid, all paid members as of the March meeting will have one chance in a prize drawing. You will automatically be in the drawing if your dues are received at or before the March meeting.

We grew some in 2017, but some more new members would be nice. Please recruit somebody. The Pat Dorsey program in February should help - invite a guest. If I can pull it off and I think I can, another incentive to join the club is a planned outing to my duck lease to fish for Bass, probably in April (see Trip Report below).

If you recruit new members, you will receive another chance in the raffle for each recruit who is paid up by the time of the drawing. A new member is anyone who was not a paid member in 2017. It is the responsibility of the recruiter to confirm his or her new members with our Treasurer.

The lead prize is a TFO five weight rod. We'll also have several other prizes like club logo caps, flies, tying materials, etc. The way the drawing will work is that the first name drawn will have his/her pick of the available prizes. Second name will have a pick from what is left, and so on until all prizes are gone.

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

GUADALUPE RIVER FISHING

Look what Kenley Crowe caught on the Guadalupe before GRTU even stocked Trout this year.

Fresh Trout are now in the river, big Trout. For some reason the GRTU source for Trout has delivered more twenty inch plus Trout than normal.

A number of club members, including Kenley have joined GRTU. For less than a guided day of fishing you can become a member of the Guadalupe River Trout Unlimited Chapter's lease program with private access to twelve or more sections of the river. You also help to pay for those big Trout. Give it some thought.



HAVING SOME LUNCH \$ PAYS OFF

On a warm afternoon in late November I returned to my duck lease for about an hour of fishing. I started with a big yellow popper and only had two strikes in about ten minutes. Not bad, but I am spoiled by this lake. In addition to the "slow" action there had been no visible surface action so I thought I would try something subsurface. I then realized that I had finally found a place with Bass large enough to deploy Matt Bennett's Lunch \$ pattern. The result - a decent Bass on my first cast followed by many more. An even better result - the Bass in the photograph

After I released the big fish, I cast and hooked its twin. I know this because after it broke off, it jumped out of the water trying to shake the fly free. The lesson - when you catch a big fish re-tie. I'm also moving up to 12 pound test the next time I fish this lake.

There went my only Lunch \$, a fly raffle win at that meeting last year when Matt attended one of our meetings to heckle Jim Grey. I tried a zonker fly with no success and replaced it with Matt's Brunch \$, a smaller version of the Lunch \$. More than a few Bass ate Brunch, but I believe the bigger fly worked better.

I believe that presentation is more important than choice of fly, particularly on warm water fish, but those \$ patterns seem to be particularly appealing. I just ordered some Lunch to go from Matt at Fly Geek. They are not cheap (another reason to re-tie and go with heavier tippet), but they really work.



WHAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE

One of the reasons that Living Waters Fly fishing in Round Rock, Texas is so successful is the number of activities they host. There is something going on every week ranging from Wednesday night fly tying to weekend classes. For more information - livingwatersflyfishing.com.



The Texas Council website maintains a comprehensive list of fly fishing events in the State of Texas - texasCounciliff.com.



*Waco Fly Fishing Club
2018 Membership Application*

Dues: Individual \$ 24.00
 Family \$ 36.00
 Student \$ 16.00

Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address (Street or P.O. Box and City/Zip Code):

Telephone: Home _____

Cell _____

Work _____

E-mail address: _____

How do you prefer your club newsletter to be delivered? Mail Email Mail and Email

THE WACO FLY FISHING CLUB HAS MY PERMISSION TO SHARE MY CONTACT INFORMATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS.

Signature

Payments and this form can be turned in at regular club meetings or by mail to:

Bob Hanley
P.O. Box 8030
Waco, Texas 76714