



# **THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER**



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Volume 2, Issue 9 Piper Turner, editor [pturner@sunsetsettings.com](mailto:pturner@sunsetsettings.com)

September 2005

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## **Learn to Make & Fish the Gilly Minnow!**



Steve Gillenwater will speak on his famous "Gilly Minnow" at our September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. See Courier Journal article on the following page for recipe.

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday – board meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday - monthly meeting

4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday - fly tying meeting

All indoor meetings are held at the Louisville Nature Center. All outdoor meetings are held at Long Run Park.

All club outings are open to all paid DCFF members.

We welcome visitors to all our meetings.

For more information about Derby City Fly Fishers, visit [www.derbycityflyfishers.com](http://www.derbycityflyfishers.com).

## **DCFF Member Steve Gillenwater kicks off our fall indoor meetings**

**September 21st**



"Making a Gilly Minnow isn't complicated. The actual work takes Steve Gillenwater about 20 minutes, though "you spend a lot of time waiting for stuff to dry." Photos by Gary Garth, Special to The Courier-Journal

## **Upcoming Outing**

We will have a wading outing to fish Helm's Landing and Crocus Creek on the Cumberland River Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 6 a.m. in the Meiers parking lot just north of I-65 on Preston in Louisville and carpool to the Cumberland River. We will sign up for this trip at our monthly meeting. See our website [www.derbycityflyfishers.com](http://www.derbycityflyfishers.com) for directions.

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## DCFF President's Corner - A Small Success by Larry Drake

On the 19th of August 2005 the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission passed two new regulations for the Cumberland River. In 2007 when these regulations take effect, it will be illegal to chum or cull trout. These regulations did not just happen. This small success was the result of a lot of hard work by several people under the direction of our conservation director, Pat Carroll. These people gave a lot of their time to make this happen, but without an organization like Derby City Fly Fishers, Inc. that's supports regulations to improve fishing in Kentucky these regulations would never have passed.

We appreciate Tim Guilfoile of the Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers, speaking before the Commission in support of our proposed regulations. Also thanks are owed to Allen Gailor, vice chairman Fish and Wildlife Commission, without his help the regulations would not have passed. We welcome the help and support of any individual or organization that believes as we do that we must protect our streams and fish.

A few years ago it was said that only seven percent of the fishermen on the Cumberland River were fly fishermen and they should not have very much influence in the regulation because of their small percentage. I am sure that the percentage is higher now, but this is why we need to increase the number of fly fishers. The more fly fishers, the louder our voice will be in Frankfort, KY and the surrounding states. The only way to accomplish this is through an organization that promotes fly-fishing. Derby City Fly Fishers, Inc. has a director for conservation, education, trip, program and membership. All of these positions are very important; they must work together and communicate with the editor and webmaster if we are to build the type of organization to accomplish the tasks before us.

## **DCFF will host the Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show January 28, 2006.**

Contact Clinton Gray, Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show Chairman (502-425-4825), to volunteer. Check our website [www.derbycityflyfishers.com](http://www.derbycityflyfishers.com) for details.



Barry Chafin, our trips director, grills burgers and brats. Good food + good weather + great friends = great meeting!



To pontoon or not to pontoon that is the question.

## **Special Requests at Fly Tying**

If you have a fly that you would like to learn to tie, let Jim Green or Gerry McDaniel know. If you have a favorite fly that you would like to teach, tell Jim or Gerry. We are very fortunate to have many talented fly tyers in our club.

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## Elkhorn Outing – by David Spanyer

Neither low water nor 90-degree heat would thwart the DCFF August fishing trip. The originally planned float trip on the Blue River, turned into a wading trip on the Elkhorn Creek. Eight excited and optimistic fly fishers met outside of Georgetown on August 20 to take on the challenges of low water levels and a heat index that reached 110 by afternoon. Because of the number of anglers, we entered the Elkhorn at three different access points. We found the water level low but the creek still supported a nice water flow. The water clarity was moderate due to a rain shower a couple of days before. However, the wading was easy and the water was refreshingly cool. The fishing was good with everyone catching fish. The “smallies” were caught on crayfish patterns, Clouser minnows, and Chicago flies. It is evident why the Elkhorn holds an excellent reputation. Even with the draught and the typical August heat, Elkhorn Creek had ample water flow with a shady tree canopy allowing for a productive and comfortable fishing experience. I believe a fishing trip to the Elkhorn just became an annual event for the club.



Dave Campbell discusses the advantages of fly fishing from a pontoon boat.



Members at our August outdoor meeting.



Larry Drake tries out a kayak.



Keith Haungs from Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers admires one of the most practical boats he has seen.

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## “Gilly Minnow Recipe”

As reported by Gary Garth, Courier Journal

Sunday, February 13, 2005

### Tools required

Balsa wood; epoxy glue; Flashabou or similar product for tail; fly-tying or rod-wrapping thread (any color); decal dots for eyes; razor blade or hobby knife; sharp-point red marker; emery board; tweezers; hacksaw blade; toothpicks; Q-tips; long-shank hooks.

### How to do it

Wrap hook shank with the thread. This provides better glue contact with the wood.

Cut balsa block the length of the hook shank. Use hacksaw blade to groove the length of the block.

Roughly mold the fly body with the knife or razor blade.

Mix small amount of epoxy and glue the hook shank into the groove.

Use rough side of emery board to shape minnow body, leaving the hook-point end of the lure 1/8 to 1/16 inch thick. Taper to eyelet. Sand with finishing side of emery board.

Paint the body with acrylic primer and allow to harden. Lightly sand until smooth.

Paint primed body with silver acrylic and allow to harden. Use moistened Q-tip to paint belly and back, allowing to dry.

Apply coat of vinyl clear coat and let dry.

Apply decal eyes with tweezers. Use red marker to draw gills. Apply two or three coats of vinyl clear coat and let dry.

Attach tail. (Gillenwater prefers Sparkleflash or Flashabou).

Let cure two days before using.



Get your DCFF logo patch for \$5 at the next meeting.

Beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, you can join Derby City Fly Fishers for the rest of 2005 for \$10 for an individual membership or \$12.50 for a family membership. See John Naiser for details.

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DCFF members enjoy watching other members try out boats and fish.



## Dix River Outing Saturday, October 1

Meet at Southeast Christian Church parking lot adjacent to Blankenbaker just North of exit 17 from I-64 at 5:45 a.m. We will travel to Burgin, Ky (Northeast of Harrodsburg) and cross the Ky. Utilities E.W. Brown power plant property to access Dix River. We will be fishing about 3/4 mile stretch between the dam and the spillway. There is some wading available but the river is best fished from some kind of craft. Bring pontoons, belly boats, canoes, or kayaks. We will fish until dark or until everyone wants to leave. We must all leave at the same time. Due to the liabilities of being on power plant property and the limited space, this trip will be limited to the first 7 persons to commit and limited to 4 vehicles so we must carpool. Register by calling David Campbell 502-939-9717 or [n2mybacking@bellsouth.net](mailto:n2mybacking@bellsouth.net). However, if you have a boat, you can put in the KY river at High Bridge ramp and motor (about 2 miles) up the Dix. In this case, you are on your own.

Optional: If everyone would like, we can meet at 7:30 at Shakertown for breakfast and then go to the river



Long Run Park's lake bluegill did not stand a chance.

## SAVE THESE DATES:

SEPTEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> - 7 p.m. – MONTHLY MEETING  
STEVE GILLENWATER “GILLY MINNOW”

SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHING  
SHOW PLANNING MEETING WITH BUFF SHOW  
PLANNERS

SEPTEMBER 24<sup>th</sup> – 6 a.m. DCFF CUMBERLAND  
RIVER OUTING

SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup> - 6 p.m. – TROUT UNLIMITED  
BANQUET

SEPTEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m. – FLY TYING – GERRY  
MCDANIEL – STONEFLY NYMPH

OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup> – 5:45 a.m. DCFF DIX RIVER  
OUTING

OCTOBER 5<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m. – DCFF BOARD MEETING  
@ CORNER CAFÉ. ALL MEMBERS ARE  
WELCOME.

OCTOBER 19<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m. – MONTHLY MEETING

OCTOBER 26<sup>th</sup> - 7 p.m. – FLY TYING – LARRY  
DRAKE – D T