

The Kentuckiana Fly Fisher



Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show Just Around The Corner!

Derby City Fly Fishers is pleased to host its annual Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show on January 26th, marking the third installment of this highly successful and rapidly growing exhibition. This year's show boasts the most exciting lineup yet of presenters, booth exhibitors and fly tiers, and promises to continue the impressive growth in attendance observed at past years' shows. Headlining this year's show are nationally-acclaimed fly fishing teachers, authors, artists and tiers Dave and Emily Whitlock, joining returning presenters Macauley Lord, head instructor of the L.L. Bean Fly Fishing Schools and Robert DeAngelis of the Wulff School and the Scott Rods Pro Staff. Exhibitors will include fly fishing retailers, manufacturers representatives, guides and outfitters from regional waters, and many other groups whose products or services are of direct interest to experienced and aspiring fly fishers alike.

As was the case last year, this year's show will be held at the Holiday Inn Airport South, located at 2715 Fern Valley Road. Admission to this one day event is a modest \$6.00, with free admission for active military personnel and to children 12 and under when accompanied by an adult. Whether seeking an introduction to the sport, or a fly fishing "fix" in the midst of an otherwise slow season, you owe it to yourself to capitalize on this terrific opportunity. Maps and other details can be obtained via the Derby City Fly Fishers web site at www.derbycityflyfishers.com.

Upcoming Events:

Regular Club Meeting	
Louisville Nature Ctr.	Jan. 16
Fly Tying Meeting	
Bass Pro Shops	Jan. 23
Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show	
Holiday Inn South	Jan. 26
Board Meeting	
Corner Café	Feb. 6

Derby City Fly Fishers

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2008 KENTUCKIANA Fly Fishing Show

Presented by the
Derby City Fly Fishers, Inc.
Louisville, Kentucky



Saturday, January 26, 2008
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Holiday Inn Airport South
2715 Fern Valley Rd. (I-65 to exit 128)
Louisville, Kentucky 40213

Featuring:

- Dave & Emily Whitlock
- Macauley Lord
- Fly Tying & Casting Demonstrations
- Exhibits and Presentations
- Guides and Outfitters
- Fish & Wildlife Agencies
- Kid's Corner, and more

Admission: \$6
kids 12 & under, free



www.derbycityflyfishers.com

“2008 – Better Than Ever”

As Derby City Fly Fishers enters our fourth year we will reflect briefly on 2007 and discuss what is in store for our members in 2008.

Last year we added a bit more structure to our monthly meetings beginning with a period of instruction: “Tackle Time”. Each month we discussed various elements of fly fishing equipment and technique. Our featured programs were very diverse and highlighted by such personalities as local sports broadcasting legend, Van Vance, relating his fly fishing experiences.

DCFF members participated in a number of entertaining and educational club outings to the Blue River, Cumberland River, North Carolina rivers, and other local ponds and streams. We were impressed with the skills of Jack Miller and Del Streigel catching large trout on tiny nymphs, Buddy Sattich catching his first trout, Larry Drake standing in one spot and catching and releasing 30 trout, Kim and Mark Rougeux honing their casting skills, and Ike Sherlock appreciating the value of purchasing a fly rod with a “lifetime warranty”!

The club finished 2007 with about 190 individual and family members. We are pleased that we saw increasing participation by our young members and their parents.

Your officers and directors are excited about our club agenda for 2008. We will continue our monthly meeting schedules with some improvements. An important part of our mission is to enhance instruction on basic fly casting and fly tying.

This year, Education Director, Robert DeAngelis, will lead a series of fly casting lessons which will be held at local waterway venues. Our members will host monthly fly tying sessions at Bass Pro to include not only the specifics of tying the featured fly but other related tying techniques.

Kenneth Kloeppel, Trips Director, is assembling a series of outings that should appeal to all members. Trips to North Carolina, Michigan, Florida, local ponds and streams including Elkhorn Creek and, of course, the premier Cumberland River are planned.

Kim Smith, Programs Director, will arrange interesting monthly programs beginning January with a presentation on the history, development, and fly casting of bamboo rods.

Most of you are aware that DCFF is hosting the 3rd Annual Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show to be held in Louisville on January 26, 2008. We will have distinguished presenters such as Emily and Dave Whitlock, Macauley Lord, and a variety of tackle vendors, outfitters, and fly tyers. David Campbell, Show Chairman, would appreciate your volunteering your assistance for a few hours. The show is a lot of fun and we hope that all members will attend and bring a friend or two.

If you have not checked out www.derbycityflyfishers.com, please do so. David Campbell and Kenneth Kloeppel have redesigned the site to be more instructive and user friendly. Also, welcome your Newsletter Editor, John Naiser, composing his first newsletter this month. Our website and newsletter are the best facilities to stay current with club and fly fishing info – check them often.

Finally, as we go forward this new year, please consider ourselves as responsible stewards of our wildlife and natural resources. Let us set an example to others as how to best represent our sport in a professional and safe manner.

Happy fishing and good luck,

Phil Kirkland

Making the First Cast Count

Robert DeAngelis was the featured speaker at the December meeting, delivering an instructional presentation entitled "Making the First Cast Count". Based on the widely-accepted premise that the chances of fooling any given fish diminish greatly with each succeeding drift over it, Robert's instruction focused on utilizing sound casting mechanics to deliver the best possible cast on the first attempt.

Members watched intently as he utilized various props to vividly illustrate hand positions and motions through the different phases of the casting stroke, pausing



Robert DeAngelis utilizes a color-keyed rope to illustrate proper rod and hand positions at various stages of a typical fly cast.

to offer detailed answers to the numerous questions posed by the group.

DCFF is truly fortunate to have Robert as a member and as the Director of Education this year. As one of the few FFF certified casting instructors in the region and an instructor at the Wulff School in New York and other venues, he brings a level of expertise that can benefit all members. Look for additional presentations from Robert in the near future!

Numerous changes to Louisville-area fly shops

The Louisville fly shop market, small as it already is, is in the midst of a number of changes that will affect local fly fishing consumers. Long-time retailer Bullfrog Creek closed its doors for good in early December, after a months-long "Retirement Sale" that left many a member lighter in their wallet and richer in equipment to justify to their significant other.

On a happier note, Dick Haas and Mark Southard, in conjunction with Terri Cardwell of Parallel 38, have announced the opening of a new, dedicated fly fishing shop to be located in St. Matthews. Parallel 38 had been offering fly fishing equipment from a small

portion of their store, but this department will be closed to make way for the new store that will be devoted exclusively to fly fishing, fly tying and outfitting services. The new store will be called Forward Cast and will be located at 129B St. Matthews Avenue. Veteran local fly fisher and warm water guru Haas will oversee the new store along with Southard, and promises a number of major improvements, including new vendors and a dedicated fly tying section.

Forward Cast joins Bass Pro Shops in southern Indiana as the only major retailers of fly

fishing equipment in the Louisville area. Be sure to patronize our local shops whenever possible in order to ensure that we have storefronts to utilize (rather than having to rely on mail order venues) for browsing and purchasing our fly fishing and tying equipment.



Forward Cast's new location in St. Matthews.

January meeting to feature Bamboo Rods, Knot Instruction

The January 16th meeting promises to be another very informative and interesting one. This month's Tackle Time segment will offer frequently-requested knot instruction, focusing for this meeting on leader knots. Gerald McDaniel will

demonstrate the Perfection Loop, the Surgeon's Loop and the Surgeon's Knot, with the opportunity for hands-on practice of each.

This month's featured speaker is Randall Fridlund of Amabilis Rods. Randall will demonstrate and discuss the

history, development, construction and fishing of bamboo rods.

Schedule

6:30 - Tackle Time

7:00 - Greetings, Pledge and Announcements

7:15 - Program

8:00 - Raffle and General discussion

8:30 - Adjournment

Technically Speaking...

Get A Grip

Casting Comments by Robert DeAngelis, FFF Certified Casting Instructor

Having a proper grip can make a good caster better by improving efficiency, effectiveness and repeatability. A good grip can facilitate acceleration and stopping, the key elements to a great cast.

While there are several accepted grips, one that all casters should be familiar with is the "thumb on top" grip shown in the two photos accompanying this article.

One easy way to set up this grip is to start with your hand outstretched (as if you were going to shake another person's hand). Then relax your wrist, letting your hand fall slightly, and place the rod butt in your hand so that it is parallel to your arm (see photo #1). The rod butt should cross your knuckles - it is closer to the tip of your index

fingers, and further back in your hand near your pinky finger - and the front portion of your thumb pad should be in contact with the rod butt. It may feel awkward at first, but give it a chance over the next few times you cast or fish.

This grip position helps you arrive at natural wrist/hand position "stopping points" in your basic cast. With the proper grip, the first stopping point in the basic cast is the "parallel rod butt" (photo #1) and the second stopping point is the "straight wrist" (photo #2). This second position, or the straight wrist position, is achieved by starting

in the first position and tightening the hand - a squeeze, or a clutch - to achieve a quick acceleration and a stop. To make a forward cast (and return to the rod butt to parallel), push your thumb, and pull with your two smallest fingers, until the rod butt is parallel (or touching) your forearm (photo #1).

Getting a good grip will make your casts more effective, efficient and repeatable, by facilitating acceleration and a stop within a limited range of motion - from parallel (photo #1) to straight (photo #2), back to parallel (photo #1), etc. I encourage you to experiment

with the thumb on top grip, and other grip variations that may work for you.



Photo 1 - Parallel Rod Butt



Photo 2 - Straight Wrist

DCFF Web Site Revamped, Now Better Than Ever!

The DCFF website has recently received a major facelift. One of our members, Kenneth Kloeppe, has graciously contributed his expertise in web site design and has created a new “look” for the current site, while also overseeing its migration to a new host. The site address remains the same: www.derbycityflyfishers.com.

The new site will feature various menu buttons with dropdowns for ease in finding what you’re looking for. In addition to all the information you currently enjoy, the new site will feature “Stream Reports” where you can get the latest water conditions and a blog where you can get and post the latest fishing reports or other valuable information such as that great bargain at a local fly shop.

The “Tackle Time” segment of our February meeting will feature a live demonstration of the new site. Be sure to attend and learn how to get the most out of the many new features!



2008 Club Dues are Due Now!

Membership dues are always renewable on a calendar year basis, meaning 2008 dues were payable on January 1 of this year. If you haven’t done so already, please renew your membership promptly, as dues remain a primary source of operating income for the club and the many services provided to its members. In a time where everything about the sport has gotten more expensive, it is remarkable that the club has been able to keep dues at the same low level since its inception: just \$20 for individual memberships and \$25 dollars for family memberships.

Fly Tying Workshops

DCFF hosts a fly tying workshop every month on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The workshops are open to all members and are tailored to fly tiers of all skill levels, from rank beginner to experienced veteran. All sessions are currently held in the second floor auditorium at Bass Pro Shops in Clarksville, getting underway at 7:00 PM. Materials are provided and loaner vises are available, but those with their own vises are encouraged to bring them. The auditorium is set up to facilitate group instruction, with rows of tables available for tying and all instruction projected onto a large screen for ease of viewing. Don’t miss this opportunity for newcomers to learn fly tying or for experienced tiers to learn new patterns or sharpen their skills on familiar ones.



January’s workshop will feature Jack Miller demonstrating Velcro flies and the 2EZ Ant (all pictured at right). Look for a complete schedule of patterns for 2008 in next month’s issue.

