



THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER

Volume 2, Issue 5 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

May 2005

New Name for the Derby City Fly Fishers' Newsletter

Your board has changed the name of our newsletter to reflect our growing membership from the states of Kentucky and Indiana.

Our mission!

The mission of Derby City Fly Fishers is to promote conservation and preserve, protect and restore our natural resources; to educate and stimulate interest in fly fishing for all species of fish, on all waters; and to reach out to our youth and encourage their interest and participation in this sport. In this spirit, DCFF will promote the exchange of information, techniques, and ideas beneficial to other fly fishers, conservation organizations and departments of wildlife while improving our skills and enjoying the fellowship of other anglers.

1st Wednesday – board meeting

3rd Wednesday - monthly meeting

4th Wednesday - fly tying

All indoor meetings are held at the Louisville Nature Center.

We welcome visitors to all our meetings.

For more information about Derby City Fly Fishers, visit www.derbycityflyfishers.com.

Education



DCFF Gerry McDaniel teaches our first rod building class.

Rod Building



Learning new skills is an important benefit of membership.

THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER

Volume 2, Issue 5 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

May 2005

DCFF President's Corner - Celebration

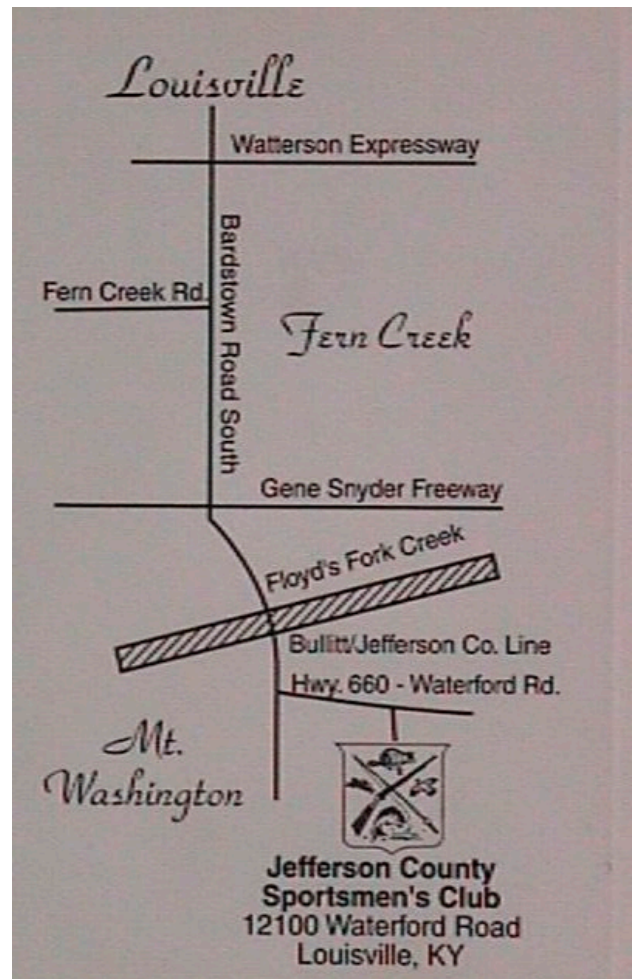
By Larry Drake

On this May 18th, we will be celebrating our 1st year as an organization. Looking back over the year, we have come a long way. But we have just started and great things are yet to come. I hope everyone will come out and join us for a good time in our celebration.

Derby City Fly Fishers has a lot of new members, their skills in casting range from none to expert. We want to bring all our members up to a skill level that will allow them to enjoy fishing with the fly rod. The casting clinic on the 18th of May should be able to help everyone.

Starting in June we will be having our meetings at the Jefferson County Sportsmen Club. It will give our new members a chance to try out some of their new casting skills. You will be able to find out what kind of cooks we have in the club. We are asking for a donation of \$5.00 for the meal to cover our cost and that each person register on our web site or by calling (502) 228-5735 (if no answer, leave message). There will also be a signup sheet at our May meeting, so we know how much food to buy.

As president of Derby City Fly Fishers, I would like to invite everyone to join us at our meetings. You do not have to be a member to enjoy our meetings. If you have any interest in fly fishing, the outdoors or fellowship with the ones that do, please join us at outdoor meetings.



Directions to June, July & August meetings

From Louisville take Gene Snyder Freeway (I-265) to Bardstown Road Exit (Exit 17)– turn south at end of ramp onto Hwy 31E.-go approx 5 miles to the Bullitt County Line-turn left on Waterford Road (Hwy 660)-go approx 7/10 of a mile -club is on the right.

THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER

Volume 2, Issue 5 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

May 2005

The Clinch River Outing by Bernie Rauen

On April 8th, Pat Carroll, Tom Otten, and Bernie and Carla Rauen headed to Tennessee to fish the Clinch River. We met Phil Kirkland in Clinton, Tennessee. He was in the area on business and had arranged to join us. We made Clinton our home base. It's just off I75, exit 122, on Hwy. 61. TVA was running two generators that prevented any fishing that evening so we visited the General Store for our license and boosted the local economy with a quick stop at the one and only fly shop, C.R. Outfitters. The owner, Cal Ralston, gave us directions to several areas that afforded good access to the water, peddled some flies (recommended sizes 18 – 22) and 6X tippet. I'm new at this sport, but size 18-22 hooks and 6X tippet says "small fish" to me. I was thinking more in the area of 1X.

We spent the evening checking out the area: Miller's Island, Peach Orchard, and Hwy 61 bridge and made plans for the following morning. We ended the day with some good home cooking at the Golden Girls Restaurant on Hwy 61 in Clinton. I highly recommend it.

The next morning Pat and Phil put in at Miller's Island and floated to the Hwy 61 Bridge where the rest of us were fishing. Float time was estimated at 4 hours, but it took 6. The water was so low Pat said they spent most of their time portaging the canoe, but did manage to catch some fish. Fishing was slow for the rest of us early in the day, but when they started generating and the current picked up the fish started to bite. We all managed to catch some rainbows, the biggest in the 10-12" range. We topped off the evening with another visit to the Golden Girls Restaurant. Even Tom was willing to forego McDonald's for Golden Girls so you know it had to be good.

The following day we started at Millers Island and I managed to quickly catch a few rainbows. Fishing was spotty and the shore was soon lined with local bait fishermen so we decided to try another spot.

Just a few miles south on River Road a bridge crosses the Clinch and about 100 ft. north of the bridge the rapids flowed into a large, deep pool. It looked like a good spot so we descended the vertical mud bank, slipping, sliding, and holding on to saplings and anything else we could grab. Once we were all safely at the water, Pat and Tom took up residency in the rapids and started fishing the pool. And that's when the cry, "They're biting now boys!" echoed up and down the Clinch as Pat started hooking up with one rainbow after another as well as Tom. We all caught our share; nothing huge to write home about, but we had fun and caught some fish in the process. And, by-the-way, we also discovered that there was a gravel trail from the bridge to the water; otherwise, we would still be there trying to climb up that bank.

Everyone had to head back to Louisville, but Carla and I didn't have any commitments so we decided to spend the evening in Pigeon Forge and fish the Holston River the next morning. Unfortunately they were running several generators so we opted to fish the Little Pigeon River just outside Pigeon Forge. We stopped at the first pullover, donned our gear, and fished for about 2 hours. We managed to catch a dozen rainbows, most in the 10" range on Zebra Midges.

I must admit I wasn't interested in catching small fish, in a narrow stream surrounded by trees and brush that grabbed at each back cast. I would have preferred bigger water and bigger fish, but I would do it again. The beautiful stream and scenery (rosebuds and dogwoods were in full bloom) and an ample supply of cooperative fish made this side trip an enjoyable one that we hope to repeat.

THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER

Volume 2, Issue 5 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

May 2005

What should you expect from a Fishing Guide? by David Campbell

I guess most of us would answer this question with something like, "Lots of big fish!" But to choose a highly motivated fishing guide with a great attitude takes some time and consideration. I had a discussion with Gerry McDaniel, guide and owner of Cumberland River Outfitters, and asked what a fisherperson should consider when choosing a guide. Here is sum of our conversation:

Q. Gerry, what is the first thing you should consider when choosing a guide?

A. Before interviewing a guide, I think you should ask yourself some questions and be honest with yourself. Also tell the guide before booking so that he will know a little about your fishing expertise. This will help you, and the guide to a more enjoyable day on the water.

Q. What kind of questions should you ask yourself?

A. First ask yourself what kind of angler am I? Are you a beginner, novice, average, or experienced fisherman. I will offer and give instruction if you are willing to learn. How accurate is your casting ability? Most important is how far can you cast? Often I can point out fish or a likely spot but being able to put a decent cast in the range of the fish will make your life more enjoyable on the water. Tell me if you're not a good caster, then I can then put the boat in the position that you are more comfortable with to make a better cast.

Also, let me know what kind of lines you are experienced with. Floating, Sink Tip, or Sinking. This can make a difference on where we fish and the techniques we will use.

Ask yourself if conditions or slow for the target species, are you interested in other species? The Cumberland River has a lot to offer in several species of trophy fish.

Are you interested more in learning about fishing and becoming a better fisherman or just catching fish? For what you pay for guide, you should get personal instruction and learn techniques for fishing the river.

Q. Speaking of price, what should be included in the guide's fee? Should a guide provide tackle, flies, food, drinks, etc.?

A. You should always ask your guide what to bring. Not only does he or she have the experience and know what to expect but may offer some suggestions that you have not thought of. If you have a favorite rod, bring it. I will supply tackle but lots of people want to use their own equipment. I will also supply all flies. But again, if you want to catch fish on flies you tied, then by all means bring them.

One other thing you should always ask the guide is, "Do I have to pay for flies or is that included in the price?" I have seen guides at the end of the day start adding to their fee the price of flies. Always ask what is included and what is not.

How many people are in your party? Generally, I take a couple people, but the addition of another person can lower the cost per person. Also ask how long would you will be out on the water? Half day, three quarter day or full day.

THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER

Volume 2, Issue 5 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

May 2005

Q. Should a client tip their guide?

A. A guide is like any other service provider. You should tip according to the service you get just as you would in a waiter in a restaurant. I charge my fee and at the end of the day, I get my fee and the client goes away with a pleasant experience and hopefully with a lot of good memories. We both leave happy. I don't expect anything more. You should never feel pressured to tip. However, if you have had a great experience and want to tip, then do so. The way I see it is you will never catch enough fish to justify a guide's fee but the instruction you receive and experience you will remember forever is priceless.

Q. What are some of the other things you should bring or expect the guide to supply?

A. Once again, you should ask a guide what is included in his fee. I will ask what kind of soft drinks you prefer and will furnish drinking water. I do not supply alcohol. For one, in KY it is illegal to drink on the water. Alcohol and boating is a recipe for disaster. If clients want to bring alcohol, they may. I just ask them to be discrete.

Always bring polarized sunglasses, sun screen, hat, jacket or warm clothes. It can be 90° on the river bank but on the 55° water, especially as the sun starts to set or if it gets cloudy, the air just a few feet above the surface can get cool. It is always better to have too much and not need it as to have too little and be uncomfortable. I have a large boat with plenty of storage so we can store unneeded items away and out of the way. That way we have lots of room to move around without stepping over or on items.

Also always ask will lunch be provided? What are the license requirements and where can I get them? Where will we meet? What time?

Q. Do you always fish out of a boat or can a client also wade?

A. You can wade if you want to. Actually bring you waders as they are the best form of rain gear. However, I think that fishing from a boat does not spook the fish like wading can. From a boat, I can drift an area several times without spooking the fish. You cannot do that wading.

Q. Any other thoughts or comments?

A. First of all, a guide should never fish with a client. A guide should be a teacher and capable of teaching.

Always ask a guide about his experience and ask for references. As you ask these questions, you will get an idea of what the guide is all about.

Just remember, it is better to have a pleasant, instructional, and knowledge gaining trip with no fish, than to catch a lot of fish but have a miserable experience and walk away no better angler than when the day started.

THE KENTUCKIANA FLY FISHER

Volume 2, Issue 5 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

May 2005

Dinner & Fishing

Plans are progressing for outdoor summer meetings at the Jefferson County Sportsmen Club. JCSC has 97 acres with a 27 acre lake stocked with bass, bluegill, catfish, and crappie. Picnic tables and BBQ pits are available. Call David Spanyer 502-454-5764 to join the outdoor planning committee.

Conservation

Edward Mouser, 1st Vice President of the League of Kentucky Sportsmen and President of Jefferson County Sportsmen's Club, gave a presentation on "League of Kentucky Sportsmen" at our April 20th meeting.

SAVE THESE DATES:

MAY 4th - 7 p.m. - DCFF BOARD MEETING @ CORNER CAFÉ

MAY 14-15th - BLUEGILL OUTING

MAY 18th - 7 p.m. - CASTING CLINIC

MAY 25th - 7 p.m. - FLY TYING - GERRY MCDANIEL JAPANESE BEETLE

JUNE 1st - 7 p.m. - DCFF BOARD MEETING @ CORNER CAFÉ

JUNE 3-5th - CRANBERRY RIVER BICYCLE & FISHING OUTING

JUNE 15th - 7 p.m. - DINNER & FISHING MEETING @ JEFFERSON COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

JUNE 17-19th - CUMBERLAND RIVER ENTOMOLOGY WORKSHOP

JUNE 22nd - 7 p.m. - FLY TYING - JIM GREEN FOAM GRASSHOPPER

Great show on KET2!



Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.

The Tying Bench series, designed for all levels of fly-fishing enthusiasts, shows the tools, techniques, and etiquette involved in tying and fishing with flies. In each program Mark ties two flies and provides tips on where and when to cast, how to determine what flies to use, reasons to keep a journal, and much more. Upcoming shows: 5/17/05 Mark demonstrates the thread-body midge and the Martinez nymph and ties clinch knots. 5/24/05 The peacock soft hackle, the Thunder Creek minnow, and a look at fishing vests. 5/31/05 The partridge and orange soft hackle, the black stone fly nymph, and the surgeon's knot. 6/7/05 Mark demonstrates some new material ideas while tying the marabou leech and bead-head shell-back scud. Mark's Tippet: matching the hatch.

Tune up your cast May 18th at our second annual Casting Clinic. Bring your gear and learn from several great instructors.