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Fit To Be Tied: Norm (Lack O' Hackle) Crook

#### March Meeting

Date: March 25, 1986  
Place: St. John's Episcopal Church  
Room 010, Education Bldg.  
River Oaks and Westheimer  
Time: 7:00...Fit To Be Tied...Bob's Baby Doll Muddler  
7:30...Main Program...Fly-fishing Large Lakes  
For Bass...Barkley Souders

#### February Meeting

The dinner meeting at Sonny Look's, attended by 95 people, was a great success. John Scarborough was in top form and the main speaker, Chris Child, did a good job of discussing the frontiers of fly fishing. In the only negative note, the forces of virtue received a setback when the top door prize - a delicate, three-weight, Kennedy Fisher rod - was won by the club rascal, Johnny (Level-wind) Ghrist. 

#### April Activities

Spouses of Texas Flyfishers might agree with T. S. Eliot, who wrote: "April is the cruellest month." Never in its history has this club had so many important activities in a single month. So spouses, if you can't beat em, join em. Here is the schedule for April:

April 10th. The first Intermediate Tying session. 7:00 at the church.  
No reservations needed. Teacher, Ed Rizzolo. Subject, Emergent Duns.

Intermediate classes will be held the second Thursday of each month. Ed says there will be time for tying, so be sure to bring the proper materials for the subject fly.

April 13th. Chico Fernandez, perhaps the world's foremost saltwater fly fisher, will conduct a seminar for club members and guests starting at 9:00 AM at the Adam's Mark Hotel. The cost will be \$15.00. If you want to learn all about catching specks and reds from a world-class tier and caster, come and hear Chico. You'll be glad you did. Chico will also appear at Orvis-Houston on Saturday, April 12th.

April 19th. The club auction will be held at Pappa Blakeley's, way out (west of Highway 6) Westheimer. Festivities begin at 11:00. The auction will start at 1:30. Lack O' Hackle will be the auctioneer again this year. This is our club's major fund raiser and also the place to meet other members, to have a great time, and to find some real bargains. Your donations, anything new or used of a fly-fishing nature, serious or comic, should be dropped-off soon to either Charlie Weems at Houston Camera Repair, 3001-C Fondren (call him first at 780-2607) or to Orvis. For a good time, for a good cause, you can't beat our club auction.

April 27th. Lefty Kreh in the morning and The Second Sunfish Spectacular in the afternoon. The place? The family-oriented Columbia Lakes. More about this twin-bill in the next newsletter, but mark your calendar now. This one will go down in history!

Yes, "April is the cruellest month.....stirring dull roots with spring rain." Come on, you dull roots, don't miss a single one of these April club functions. ↵

On The Salty Side

By: Eliot Tucker

THE HARD PART



The hardest part of all saltwater fly-fishing that I have experienced

is the casting. Casting to tarpon often requires long 90 to 100 foot casts. Casting to bonefish requires precise placement. Casting to any fish in saltwater requires casting in, into, across, up, down, under and through the wind.


The first time I went to the Florida Keys to fly fish for tarpon, I learned I did not know how to cast. I did not know how to handle the wind. I did not know how to double haul.

Learning that technique is absolutely essential for saltwater casting. Double hauling gives not only more distance but equally as important, more control in the wind.

Learning to double haul is essential but it is not enough. You must learn not to fear the wind. The wind intimidated me at first. I would not even try to cast directly into the wind. I think many would-be saltwater fly fishers never try because they are intimidated by the wind.


Only practice will teach you that you can whip it. After my first Florida experience, I spent many ten to fifteen minute practice sessions in the park or at the pond on Post Oak Drive. I cast into and across the wind at targets. After a lot of practice, I learned to sometimes hit the targets.

Wind makes fly casting a lot harder. But practice can teach you how to do the hard part.\*


\* A nine-weight or larger fly rod helps a lot, too. 

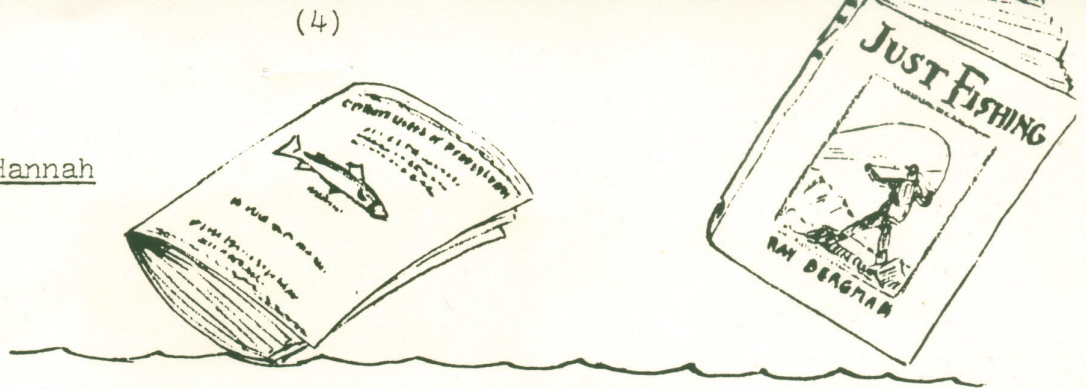
#### Outings

One of your editor's faults (a complete listing of which can be obtained from his wife) is that he sometimes fails to mention up-coming club outings in this newsletter. This is usually caused by the timing of the outing as related to the WIND KNOTS deadline.

We have an excellent Outings chairman, Doug Irby, and as anyone who has attended one knows, Doug runs a first-class outing. The next one will be The Second Sunfish Spectacular. Your club calendar tells you that The SSS is to be held on April 12th - but as indicated earlier, it has been changed to April 27th. Mark that change, please. 

#### New Members

Tony (Hook & Hackle) Woods announces four new members - Scott Ziegenfuss, Laurence Ligon, Susan Chadwick, and Steve Wright. A warm TFF welcome to you all. 

Book ReviewsBy: John T. Hannah

No one has complained yet, but I wouldn't blame you if you did. That is, in all of the columns I've done about angling books in this newsletter I have covered only a couple of books about salt water fly fishing and none at all that were exclusively about warm or still water fishing.

Considering that almost all of the fishing to be had near Houston is one or the other, this is a serious omission.

Well I want you to know that I don't enjoy being out of touch with what most of you are doing. I just haven't run across books on those subjects.

One problem seems to be that there is a large gap in the spectrum of angling literature. When I look over Arnold Gingrich's list of fifty recommended books, and Steve Raymond's list in the fall, 1983, Flyfisher, I see only a few that aren't mostly about trout fishing. I can't find my copy of Gingrich's The Fishing in Print but as I recall it contains the same preponderance of trout/salmon subjects. Angling literature is replete with the works of stream fishermen. Some quirk in their psychs must give them this compulsion to write books and book reviews when they should be doing something worthwhile, like fishing or tying flies.

I've been told that there is, or there is about to be, a book about flyfishing for bass. (By Whitlock, maybe?) But I haven't seen it yet.

If any of you knows of a good book about still water or warm river or flats fishing, I would be grateful if you would tell me about it. Or even better, you might lend it to me so I wouldn't have to buy it.

Fishing News

Charlie Thanheiser, Gary Shepherd, and Tony Woods took some nice rainbows at the Kanz lease on the Guadalupe in late February. They had all kinds of competition from various flotsam and jetsam.

Ed Rizzolo also fished the lease and entertained his friend Pete Jones with his midge fishing antics. Pete had intended to fish, but was having too much fun watching the good doctor, who had the last laugh by catching some trout, one of which, a 15-incher, looked exactly like a Yellowstone cutthroat.

We are coming up to the primo fishing season, so don't forget to call your fishing news to Ken Jacoby at 873-6210 (o) or 409-273-2991 (h).

# FIT TO BE TYED

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Not too long ago one of our less timorous fly fishing bretheren whose bent for creating inovative flies is exceeded only by his singular capacity for divining equally unique names, developed the subject of todays column. Some of his creations carry such names as the Truculent Succulent, Wanton Glance and Bob's Baby Doll Muddler. If you guessed we're talking about Robert McCurdy you are absolutely right. Since the bass season is now upon us we thought you might like to tie "Bob's Baby Doll." Rober refers to this as the only fly needed for taking bass. Try it, maybe you'll agree. Fish it as you would any muddler as long as you give it a swimming action like a bait fish.

Here's what you'll need Mustad Hook No. 3366 size 1/0 or 2 (a Mustad stinger hook of equivalent size is a good substitute), Black Monocord, 1/8" pearlescent mylar tubing, white blood marabou, black blood marabou, one red hackle, white deer body hair, 5/16" to 3/8" doll eyes and 15# hard nylon monofilament if you want a weedless bug.

Disbarb & sharpen hook. Insert in vise. Begin wrapping thread at bend of hook. Continue to a point about 1/3 of hook shank from eye. Reverse and wrap back to start.



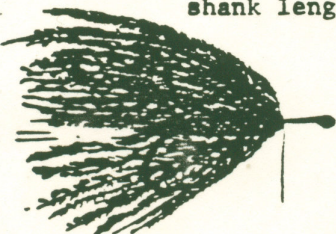
Slip mylar tubing over eye to extend ends to hook bend. Wrap thread around ends leaving about 1/4" extending. Whip and tie off. Stretch tubing forward and retie thread at point where under thread wraps end. Cover with head cement.



Tie in a clump of white maribou on the under side of the hook.



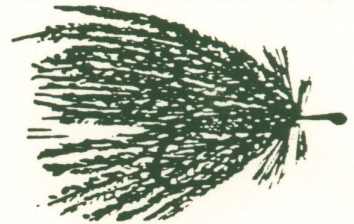
Tie in a clump of black marabou on top of the hook, the marabou should not be longer than 1 1/2 to 2 hook shank lengths. Cement feather ends.



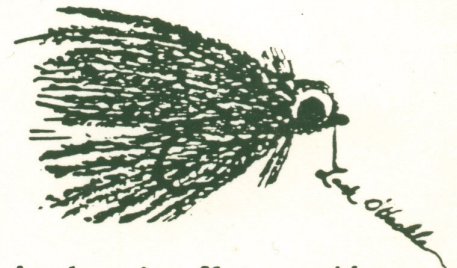
Tie in red hackle and take 2 turns, tie off.



Clip clump of white deer hair from hide. Clean, comb out under hair. Trim hair so tips will extend no further back than hook point with butts 1/2 as long as tips. Tie in and flair around hook shank.



Tie thru the butts, compact and apply cement. Tie two more clumps of hair and compress. Tie off & cement.



Trim head so its flat on sides. Attach doll eyes with shoe goo. Set aside to dry.



(6)

Loose Hooks

TFFer Joe Doggett of the Houston Chronicle has won the Texas Outdoor Writers Association's top award for the second year. Congratulations from all of us, Joe.

Thinking of buying a float tube or a small boat? Don't act until you check out one of the new Brooks Bouldin Kick Boats. Call Brooks at 782-2708 for details.

Don't let the April activities overshadow the March 25th club meeting. Barkley Souders will bring a fine, timely program. We'll also finally get to see the famous Bob's Baby Doll Muddler. And our president will be full of information about his beloved Sunfish Spectacular.