



P.O. Box 27141
Houston, Texas 77227-7141

Editor: Ken Jacoby
Graphics: Lance Brown, Dave Hayward
Writers: Mitch Whitney, John Hannah, Eliot Tucker, Norm Crook

May Meeting

DATE: May 29, 1984
PLACE: The Lakes on Post Oak (between Richmond and Alabama)
TIME: 6:30
PROGRAM: The annual casting clinic. Bring your rods or just kibbitz.

April Meeting

With Jim Darby presiding and 40 people in attendance, the April meeting featured a slide show by Dave Hayward on the Orvis Rod Company. Dave did his usual excellent job.

In the business portion of the meeting, our club voted to donate \$1,000 to the Gulf Coast Conservation Association for their redfish project at the John Wilson Fish Hatchery in Flour Bluff. Also discussed and established were election procedures. 🐟


As indicated above, there will be no meeting at the church in May. The casting clinic lets us provide or receive instruction, and offers the chance to try a wide variety of rods, including Charlie Thanheiser's six-piece Hardy Smuggler. 🐟

Gary Borger, an international star of fly fishing, will be at the Orvis store from 10:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 19th. A reception for club members and spouses will be held starting at 7:30 that evening at the home of Jim Davis and Dave Hayward at 9546 High-meadow. All members are welcome, and this will be a great chance to meet and visit with Gary at close range. Refreshments - hard and soft-will be served. On Sunday, May 20th, Gary will hold a seminar for club members beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Westchase room of the Adam's Mark Hotel. The cost is \$10.00. Those who have seen Gary on film or who have read his books can attest to the fact that he is one of the very best. Don't miss these opportunities to see him in action. 🐟


Election Of Officers

The annual election of club officers will be held at the June 26th meeting. The nominating committee, made up of John Scarborough, chairman, Norm Crook, Gary Shepherd, Charlie Thanheiser and Ken Jacoby, has developed the following slate:

President.....John Scarborough
Vice President.....Mitch Whitney
Treasurer.....Charles Weems
Secretary.....John Fulton

Nominations will also be taken from the floor. 

Second Annual Austin "Perch-Off"

For those who like their fishing on the off-beat side, we have been asked to mention this event, sponsored by our friends at The Austin Angler. The "Perch-Off" is held on Town Lake, starting at midnight Saturday, May 19th. Bring your top five perch to the shop before 9:00 pm on Sunday. What constitutes a perch? The final decision on that (based largely on what he has caught) will be made by Robert McCurdy. For more information, call The Austin Angler. 


The Six Types Of Flats Boats

By: Eliot Tucker

I recently wrote that you do not need a big or fast boat to enjoy the superb flats fishing available in Texas. While that is true, it is also true that a big, fast boat is a definite advantage. In a series of articles, I will compare the six types of boats used on the Texas coast by flats fishermen. Each has advantages and disadvantages.

The first two types are aluminum boats, either flat-bottom or V-bottom, driven by outboards. Their principal advantage is that they are inexpensive, easy to maintain, and can be driven by low-powered and therefore inexpensive outboards. They also have the capability of running in shallow water and are reasonably impervious to close encounters with oyster reefs.

I used a 14-foot flat-bottom john boat (extra-wide and therefore very stable) with a 25 h. p. outboard for many years to great advantage. The principle disadvantage of small aluminum boats is that they are not suitable for crossing big bays or use in rough water. They also tend to be slow.

Flat-bottom john boats cannot be poled into the wind, although they work fine poled with the wind if you drag a small, window weight anchor or small sea anchor. V-bottom boats draw a little more water, but take rough seas better than john boats. Some pole well. Some are very unstable. (Next month: jet boats and scooters.) 

Book ReviewsBy: John Hannah

The Undiscovered Zane Grey Fishing Stories, edited by George Reiger. Winchester Press. Published in association with the Izaak Walton League of America.

A favorable book review can let a prospective reader know about the availability of a good book. An unfavorable review can perform a service too: it might save the prospective reader money and time. This is one of the latter.

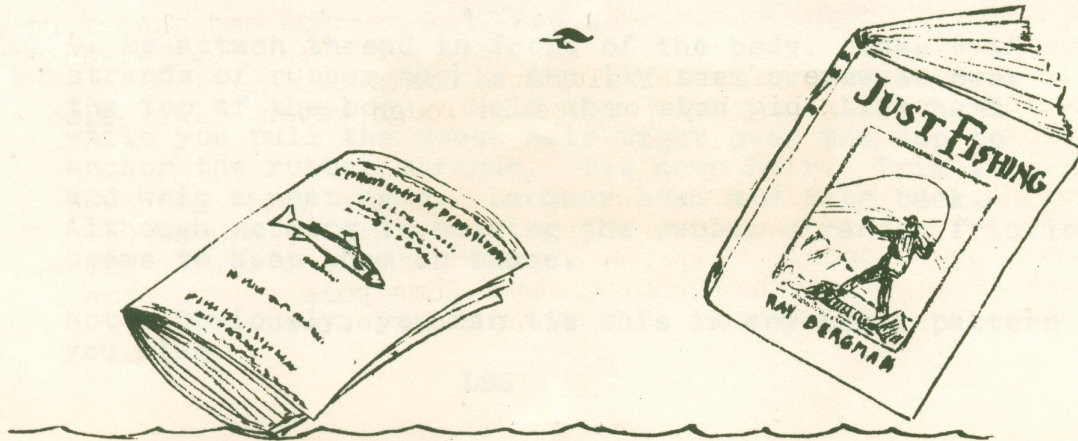
When I sprung \$16.95 for The Undiscovered Zane Grey Fishing Stories it was my plan to plug the book in Wind Knots so that TFF members would buy it and so that the Izaak Walton League could use the profits for its conservation efforts. I encourage you to forget about the book and just send a donation.

The book contains eight Zane Grey pieces. The largest is a short novel, The Fisherman, which is sort of a Tom Sawyer without humor and which is more about boys having fist fights than it is about fishing. Of the other seven, four don't mention fishing at all. It's not that Zane Grey wasn't an accomplished fisherman. He fished all over the world and wrote about it. He pioneered fly fishing for steelhead. He called fly fishing for Atlantic salmon "the highest art of angling." You just won't discover much about his fishing in The Undiscovered Zane Grey Fishing Stories.

Still Zane Grey made an important contribution to American entertainment--if not to American literature--early in the century. His books and articles were immensely popular and many of his stories became screen plays for big Hollywood stars. James A. Michener says in his forward that The Fisherman is an authentic period piece. And the reader is impressed by how great an improvement there has been in fiction writing style since that period.

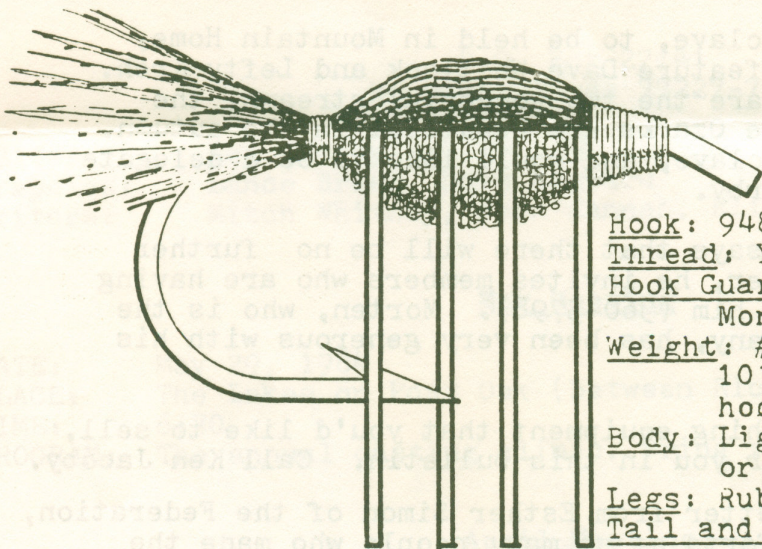
The best feature of the book is probably the biographical preface by George Reiger. Being an ardent conservationist and an authority on Grey, he was a logical choice to edit this work.

In one of the infrequent references to fly fishing, Reiger observes that "probably fewer than one hundred anglers have ever taken a permit on a fly." Are any of our TFF salt-water fishermen in that exclusive club?



GILL-GETTER

This pattern comes from the latest (August '82) Fly Tyer magazine. John Gantner writes a warm-water fly column, and while his prose sometimes requires a shovel to get through, his flies are top-notch. I tied up this pattern (with a few modifications) and took it down to the club where it caught some real nice bream. Chris Phillips got several from me, too, and plans extensive feild testing. This is a fly that gets down to the bigger 'gills.



Hook: 94840 8,10,12
Thread: Yellow
Hook Guard: (optional) 10 lb. Mono Loop
Weight: #2 Fuse Wire, about 10 turns on a #10 hook
Body: Light Green Chenille or Sparkle Yarn
Legs: Rubber Hackle, white
Tail and Back: Dark Moose Mane, or Moose Body Hair

1. Wrap hook shank with thread. Wrap lead over mid shank in tight turns. Wrap lead with thread and lacquer. Return thread to a point in front of lead.
2. Tie in chenille or yarn and move thread to behind lead. Wrap a fat body from front to back and tie off. Clip off yarn.
3. Take a small clump of hair or mane and even tips in a tamper. Tie in so that tips form a tail about 1/3 the length of the hook shank. Whip finish and cut thread.
4. Re-attach thread in front of the body. Take 4-1" strands of rubber hackle and lay them crosswise over the top of the body. Hold them with your left hand while you pull the moose hair tight over the top to anchor the rubber strands. Tie down hair. Trim it and whip a neat head. Lacquer head and hair back. Although nothing is holding the rubber strands, friction seems to keep them in place.

Note: Obviously, you can tie this in any color pattern you like.

(6)

Loose Hooks

There will be some major changes in the operation of the Danbury Fishin' Hole for this coming year. The big lake and several ponds will be available on an annual membership basis only. A catch-and-release membership, with guest privileges, will cost \$400.00. If you have questions, see Brooks. Our passes will be honored until May 12, 1984.

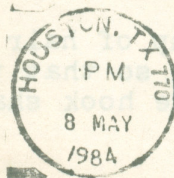
Outings chairman Roger Rowe indicates that there will likely be a club outing to Port O'Connor in June. He will keep us posted.

The Southern Council Conclave, to be held in Mountain Home, Arkansas, on October 5-7 will feature Dave Whitlock and Lefty Kreh. The real stars of this event are the two wonderful streams, the White and the North Fork. The Ozarks are beautiful in the autumn. If you plan to go to this conclave, and would like to be a delegate from our club, contact Jim Darby.

Chairman Morten Lovstad says that there will be no further rod-building meetings. However, he invites members who are having rod-building problems to call him (360-5798). Morten, who is the owner of the Lovstad Rod Company, has been very generous with his time in assisting others.

If you have any used fishing equipment that you'd like to sell, we will be glad to list it for you in this bulletin. Call Ken Jacoby.

Brooks has received a letter from Esther Simon of the Federation, thanking our club for the efforts of so many people who made the conclave contribution to the Federation possible. She feels that our club has made a real statement about the viability of warm-water and salt-water fly fishing.



RIZZOLO, ED, M.D.
7620 BELLFORT
HOUSTON, TX 77061