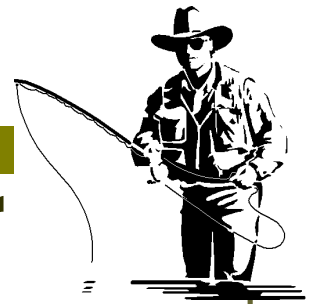


October 1, 2008
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The Backcountry Flyfisher

BackCountry Flyfishing Association
<http://www.backcountryflyfishingorlando.com>



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A MEMBER CLUB OF THE FEDERATION OF FLYFISHERS

President's Message

With my final President's letter, I would like to thank the board and members for entrusting me to serve for the Orlando BFA. It was truly an honor and I am glad I could contribute to a great organization. I would also like to thank all the board members for their time and dedication making my job a very easy and enjoyable one. I still plan on being actively involved as outings coordinator and welcome any input on places you would like to fish or events you would like to attend. As always, please let us know if you are interested in becoming a board member for the upcoming year. It doesn't require much commitment and can be very rewarding.

While reflecting on the past year as President of the Orlando BFA, the most prominent thing that comes to mind is how little fishing I managed to do in that time period. Yes I was busy with both family and work obligations but the truth is there were many missed opportunities due to pure laziness. My rationalization was that the fish are not going anywhere and I have plenty of time to catch them. Recently, I attended a funeral for a close friend who lost his mother. For me, a funeral is probably the most uncomfortable situation you could put me in, but as is often the case with difficult situations, something positive usually comes from them. In this case, it was the eulogy that reminded me of the things that matter most during our stay on earth and the fact that our stay may not be as long as we planned.

(continued next page)

President's Message Continued

I have heard that when some people look back on their life, they regret the things they didn't do more than the things they did. As the years pass faster and faster, I am trying to avoid becoming one of those people. In doing so, I plan on spending more time with my family and a fly rod in my hand and less time staring at a computer monitor or TV screen. See ya on the water,

Jay Wright

For Sale

11' Ocean Kayak, sit-on-top style, 1 person, 2 rod holders-- \$300; with paddle, \$335.

11' Clear Blue Hawaii kayak, sit inside, 1 or 2 people, 2 cushions; NEW--\$850

Tibor, Pacific QC, 12 wt fly reel, black, large arbor, with line, backing; NEW--\$730

G. Loomis Pro-1 Series flyrod, Cross Current, 12 wt, 1-piece, 9'; NEW--\$370

Contact Tim Alexander @ talexander326@gmail.com or call 321.228.5458 for all of the above items.

50 Saltwater flies for \$50. Pick from a selection of new flies. Total of 200 total flies available. Yes, \$1 each. Contact Cas Summers at cas@casanddebbie.com or call 407-758-1020. Choose your selection at our next meeting.

Biscayne saltwater fly rod, 9 ft, 6 wt, 4-piece, w/ sock. Almost new. Fun for fresh water fishing (bass & shad) also good for trout & reds. \$50. (Cas Summers)

Reddington Crosswater 9 ft, 8 wt, 4-piece with sock Never cast or fished. \$50. (Cas Summers)

BFA visors with club logo. Tan w/ club logo. 7 available. \$10 each.

BFA logo baseball hat. Olive with club logo. 1 available @ \$12.

October Speaker

Captain Brian Clancy is coming October 8th meeting. He guides the Mosquito Lagoon and also operates Mosquito Lagoon Fish Camp located near the River Breeze Launch ramp in the northern Mosquito Lagoon. www.mosquitolagoonfishcamp.com

Captain Brian guides for both Fly and spin fishing anglers. He will share his area expertise with us for catching Redfish and Seatrout. Remember to invite a friend. Someone you know wants to learn or become a better fly fisherman.

Community Events

BFA is committed to assisting local community and conservation events. This year our club will participate again in the Fish **Orlando FAB Five Family Fishing Day**. It's a great morning spent giving kids a chance to experience the tug on the end of the line...many for the first time. We're looking for 5-7 members who can take a few hours to make the morning memorable by baiting hooks, offering tips and just being a friend to kids who don't get a chance to fish. Sign up at this month's club meeting or contact Brian Eastman at beastman@bellsouth.net.

Date: October 18, 2008

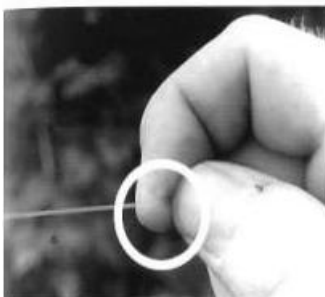
Time: 10:00am-12:00 pm

Place: Starke Lake, Ocoee



Jay Wright and Joe Mulson at last year's event

47 CHECKING FOR NICKS



LEFTY'S TIP

Monofilament has very low shear strength. A nick in monofilament vastly weakens the material. There is a simple way to check for nicks that may be hard to detect with the eye. Place the monofilament between the thumb and first finger. Be sure to push the thumbnail firmly against the mono, so it depresses into the first finger. Now draw the mono through your thumbnail and finger and you will detect even the slightest nick.

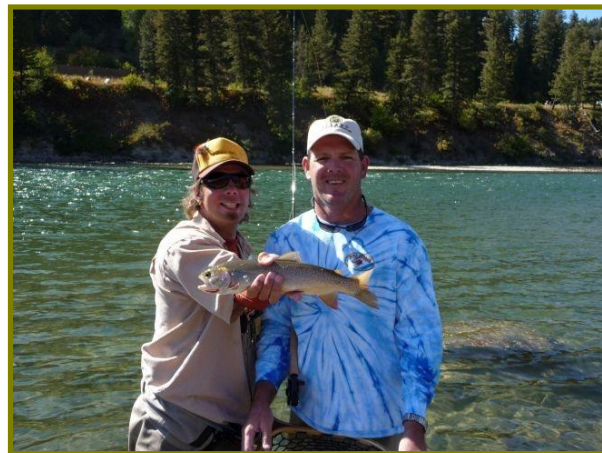
Lefty's 101 Fly Fishing Tips are reprinted from Mangrove Coast Flyfishers website

Fly Fishing the Snake

By Cas Summers

I just completed a fantastic week in Jackson Hole Wyoming. I was able to fish for a couple of the days with one of the local guides on the Snake River. I was very excited to fish and thought that the biggest difference in saltwater fishing and freshwater stream fishing was the size of the flies and fish. I brought a handful of flies and a BFA hat to share with our guide Jason. Was I surprised when I handed Jason the “big” saltwater flies from home and then noticed the size of the freshwater streamers that he tied on my line. They were not what I expected: huge, fluffy and many rubber legs all over the place.

Jason and many of the guides on the Snake River use tandem rigs. This means fishing two flies at a time. The top pattern is usually the larger of the patterns and actually works as a strike indicator and fly; while the dropper fly is a nymph or emerger pattern. This is where Jason rigged the large ant and grasshopper patterns that initially surprised me. This has probably caused many anglers to become cross eyed while trying to track both flies at the same time. Trout will and can strike either fly. I know. It led to many screams from Jason to “set the hook” as a trout struck the opposite fly that I was looking at.



A nice cutthroat

There is also a word that is rarely used here in Florida that Jason frequently asked me to learn, and the word is “mend.” I know it well now. Mending as I know it now is to keep your fly lines drift in the current from affecting the drift of your fly. Should be easy?? “Set the hook” and “mend the line” were the phrases of the day. Both techniques are fly fishing skills that are rarely practiced in the salt. They are vitally important in world of stream fishing.



Cas' brother Gene lands the biggest fish. He's planning on hearing about it for a long time.

I caught between six and ten Cutthroat trout each trip. I have to admit to missing many more fish. Many. The strip strike method of hooking fish that is so important here in Florida salt does not fly in the stream. I had to laugh many times as Jason yelled “strike” and I instinctively pulled with my left arm as if setting the hook here.

Mending the line is partially accomplished by keeping the rod hand & line high as it lands on the water by rolling the line behind the floating flies. You probably recognize that

doing this is very different from salty applications where the goal is to make a long and accurate cast that lands softly and then quickly gain contact with the line by placing the rod tip in the water and retrieve the fly.

Most likely you have probably heard Florida guides explain that they wish that “trout guys” from out West could cast farther when here on vacation. Well they do. You now know what the Western Trout guides say about “saltwater guys” from Florida. This I know, freshwater anglers have mad skills that take a lot of practice and that fishermen all over believe that “big flies catch big fish.”



Labeling Line

By Tom Herrington

Have you ever forgotten what fly line is on which fly reel? Do you want an even more secure connection for the ends of your fly lines? There are many reasons that you want to label your fly line after it comes off the retail packaged spool:

- You have a fly line that is your best line for casting but you have forgotten exactly what kind it is. Is it S/A Saltwater? S/A Saltwater Redfish? Cortland 555? Or Wulff Bermuda Blue Triangle Taper?
- You have stored a fly line in a container, and now you cannot remember which type line it is or what weight.
- You cannot remember a weight of a line on a reel.
- You travel to a great destination and when you get there you realize that you have three reels with three different lines. Which one is which weight?
- You have changed lines and have stored the line that you have taken off onto another spool but have forgotten to label the line and now, months later you want to use it?

There are many, many more reasons for wanting your lines labeled and I am sure you can think of at least as many. My personal reasons encompass all of the above reasons especially the confusion when traveling.

For a while Cortland labeled some of their lines, actually opting to laser print along the line itself. What a great idea, but for some reason it did not catch on with other line manufacturers probably because of the added expense to the line manufacturer.

With the advent of preparation for my annual sabbatical to Key West, I was determined to do something about it. Sure I had marked my lines with little lines for weight—at least all the light colored lines—you know, three little marks for the three weight line, a wider mark representing a 5 weight, a wider mark and three small marks representing an 8 wt., and so on. But, I had no clue which lines were which and forget about the black sinking lines and heads.

At one time my favorite line was a baby blue Cortland 444. My reason was that when the fish looked up he could not see the line against the blue sky. Now nearly all if not all manufacturers have baby blue or sky blue lines so how can you tell the difference on the fly reel. Heaven forbid if you ever take the fly line off the reel. I needed and wanted some way to mark my lines where I would not only know the weight of the line but the type and brand. An internet search revealed the answer.

I am now labeling my lines with heat shrink tubes. Most of the tubes shrink to 1/2 the diameter so if you wish to label the line at say the loop which serves also as added security, you would want to use an 1/8" diameter tube that will shrink to fit the fly line and over the nail knots snugly. *Try your local hardware store for heat shrink tubes or check out <http://cableorganizer.com/>*

I bought the DYMO RhinoPro 3000 printer with 1/4" shrink tube cartridge, a Black and Decker heat shrink gun, and an extra pack of assorted shrink tubes (TT74900) as it contains different colors and sizes including clear shrink tubes.

I use the latter 1/4" clear tube for labeling black or clear lines and although those tubes can't be labeled using the labeler, I label them with a Sharpie; then shrink them. Works like a champ.

If you use it on both ends of the line, where you have already formed loops for connections, it works really well, but even using the tubes on the front end over the nail knot connection makes for what I think to be an even more secure connection. Well worth trying.

For minimal investment (if you still aren't convinced) buy just the assorted shrink tubes, label with a Sharpie, and use a hair dryer to shrink the tube. Match the tube color with the fly line color. You can also taper the ends of the tube by trimming with a razor or Exacto knife at an angle before shrinking. I wonder how I can use these shrink tubes in fly tying Hmmmmmmm.

Taken from the Historic Ocean Springs Flyfishing Club Newsletter

Backcountry Flyfishing Calendar

The gods do not deduct from man's allotted span the hours spent in fishing. ~Babylonian Proverb

- October 8 BFA Monthly Meeting @ O'Boys Bar-B-Q, 6:30 pm
- October 18 Orlando Fab Five Family Fishing Day
Spend a morning helping kids experience fishing for the first time
- October 25 **OUTING:** Chasing the Mullet Run
We're headed to Sebastian Inlet / River and Beaches to take our shots among the bait pods. Contact Phil Triano to sign up and to be paired up.
- November 5 Flies and Lies @ Orlando Outfitters
- November 12 BFA Monthly Meeting @ O'Boys Bar-B-Q, 6:30 pm
- November 15 **OUTING:** TBD
- December 5-6 Renzetti Rod Building Fair

Pic of the Month

BFA is happy to help fill the flybox of the club member who sends in the best picture every month.

Take a minute to send a couple of your best or most recent flyfishing photos to mike.adamson@ccci.org



The Grand Tetons form the backdrop for a memorable September trout fishing