



TALE WATERS THE VOICE OF THE NORTH ARKANSAS FLY FISHERS

July 4, 2017

NORTH ARKANSAS FLY FISHERS

Tale Waters

North Arkansas Fly Fishers meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held at the Van Matre Senior Center located at 1101 Spring St Mountain Home, AR 72653. Membership meeting starts at 7:00 pm. All members and guests are welcome and encouraged to attend.

NAFF Board of Director's meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm 1st Security Bank on 9th St. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Visit North Arkansas Fly Fishers
Online at

www.northarkansasflyfisher.org

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Spring River - The Secret of the Ozarks



Mark Crawford, guide, Sowbug tyer, and contributor to this newsletter, will talk about the Spring River, its history, fish species, food sources, and techniques for fly fishing on the river. The program will include lots of history and fish catching information. Mark's program is particularly apropos because of the high water on the local rivers.

Mark Crawford is the owner/operator of Spring River Flies and Guides, a fly shop and guide service on the Spring River. He has been guiding on the Spring River for 14 years.

Sowbug Roundup Chairs and Vendors



A VENDOR

The Sowbug Roundup Team continues to meet every second Tuesday (except July, 2017) at the Baxter County Library, at 1:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend and participate.

Several members of our team are leaving to pursue "other opportunities". Mike Richardson has done a great job as the Vendors' chair and Terry Briggs as the Kids' program chair but they are retiring from these positions. They will be available to assist the new chairpersons get started. If you have an interest in getting more involved in the Sowbug Roundup, please contact me at 870-404-8845.

In the past the rule of thumb for vendors was "if you were a vendor last year you get a first shot at being a vendor this year". We are going through an evaluation of last year's vendors to decide who to

Tale Waters is published 2nd Tuesday of each month. Article deadline is 1st Tuesday of the month.

Staff: Mike Tipton & Rita Billbe

Contact:

sowbug@northarkansasflyfisher.org

Sowbug – from page 1

invite next year. The sort of things that we are looking at (in no particular order) are:

Is the vendor popular with the show attendees? Why invite a vendor that few are interested in?

Does the vendor booth add to the ambiance of the show?

Is the vendor local? We very much support local vendors.

How much does the vendor support the Sowbug? Do they provide a nice donation for the auctions and raffles?

Is the vendor dependable? We have had vendors fail to show up without notifying us or notifying us at the last minute. We have a waiting list for vendors. We find empty tables to be very offensive!

One of the features of Sowbug is our nice selection of vendors. While attending Sowbug may not be about the vendors, perusing the vendors is an important pastime for the show attendees.



Weather Cancellation Policy

NAFF Activities or Meeting will be cancelled or postponed when the Mountain Home Public Schools Cancel Classes.

Check KTLO radio website for school closing info.



NORFORK DAM AT THE "CRACK OF DAWN"

July President's Message

Landon Mayer will be our guest speaker in October. Landon is a guide on the South Platte in Colorado, writer and author. He will be presenting on Saturday and Sunday October 28th and 29th. This should be a great event with further details to follow. I encourage you to visit his website to learn more about Landon.


Some wade opportunities have been existent on the Norfolk in recent weeks.

Generation has started between eight and nine o'clock on a regular basis. This gives a wade fisherman about three plus hours of fishing. Have seen a few mayflies.



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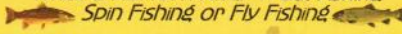
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Fly of the Month Small Woolly Bugger Jig



Hook - #14 jig hook

Bead - Slotted tungsten bead to suit

Body - Standard woolly bugger stuff. Color to suit

Recently, a bit after the “crack of dawn” I was fishing the outflow of Dry Run Creek at Norfolk Dam. I was not having any success. Another angler asked if he could “sneak in” across from me. “Sure!” I said. He started catching fish right away. I continued fishing but soon became pretty frustrated by both my lack of success and his obvious success.

As I was collapsing my Tenkara rod, he called out to me, “Hey, let me show you what I’m using!” He showed me small woolly buggers tied on jig hooks so they could be fished on the bottom without hanging up. He gave me one. I started catching fish. Not as many as him but enough to improve my attitude—a few trout and a couple of bream.

I went home and tied some on the jig hooks and the slotted tungsten beads that my wife gave me for Christmas. On the fly in the picture (the very fly) I have caught trout at Norfolk, trout and bream

at the Spring River, and many bream at a farm pond near Buffalo, Missouri. The small size makes it very castable with a Tenkara rod.

Fly tied by Mike Tipton



Membership Report

Please join me in welcoming our newest members to the North Arkansas Fly Fishers, joining in May and June.

Jim Lee of Norfolk, AR

Richard Baruch of Mountain Home, AR

Kate Vosseller of Mountain Home, AR

Total membership is 526 members with 373 memberships;

Everyone should have received the draft version of the club roster (by email). If you have any changes to make to the roster listing, please let us know. If you did not receive the draft roster, also let us know. Please contact me at naffmember-ship@gmail.com.

Paul Ashton -NAFF Membership Director

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Fly Fishing Fair In October



The Fly Fishers International (formerly Federation of Fly Fishers) Fly Fishing Fair (the show “formerly known as Conclave”) will be held October 6 and 7 at the Vada Sheid Community Development Center. The Fly Fishing Fair will include fly tyers, vendors, seminars, raffles and auctions, the awards dinner, and IF4 Fly Fishing Film Festival. Since it’s held at the Sheid we can guarantee clean, modern, fully operational restrooms!

The cost to attend the Fly Fishing Fair for both days is \$10.00. Bring a kid 12 or under and the cost is \$0.00. We really need volunteers. Volunteers get free admission, a Fly Fishing Fair Pin, and admittance to a special volunteer lounge with free “hot and cold running sodas and snacks”. More information can be found on the FFi Southern Council web site www.ifffsoc.org.

The “opportunities” for volunteers include:

1. Front door registration
2. Operating the silent auctions/ raffles
3. Selling raffle **Cont. next page**

tickets and assigning auction numbers

4. Operating the "Volunteer Hospitality" room
5. Running the casting games
6. Running the fly tying contest
7. Assist with fly tying class
8. Standby gopher
9. Assisting with film festival

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Mike Tipton (870-404-8845) or Pat Smith ((870) 404-



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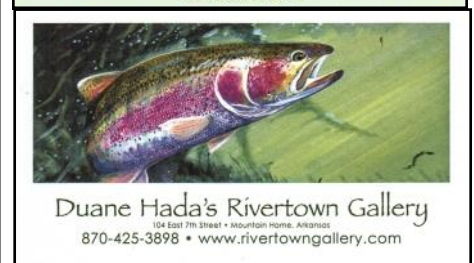
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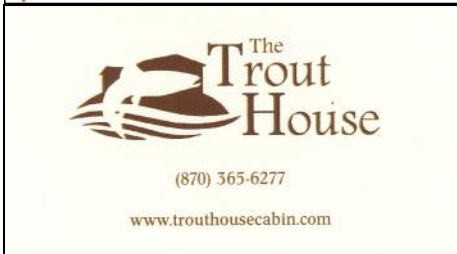
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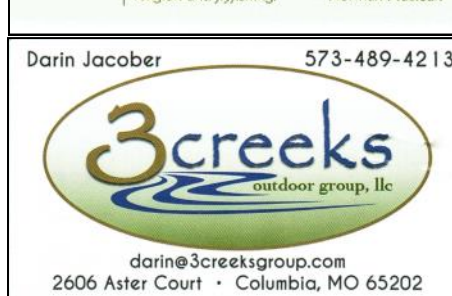
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OUR BEAUTIFULL BUFFALO RIVER



Algae Bloom - 2016

Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee (BBRAC) &

Buffalo River Watershed Management Plan (BRWMP):

The third of four scheduled BRWMP meetings was held in Marshall, Thursday, June 8. The BRWMP is part of the overall action plan established by Governor Hutchinson's Beautiful Buffalo River Action Committee (BBRAC) in 2016 after an outcry concerning a massive algal bloom in the middle Buffalo River during the late summer of 2016, reports of outbreaks of waterborne illness among recreational users of the Buffalo waters during that period, and the public outcry over the C&H hog CAFO located near Mt. Judea in the Middle Big Creek watershed near the Buffalo River.

BBRAC is comprised of the Ar-

kansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), Arkansas National Resources Commission (ANRC), Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Agriculture Department, and Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism. Additionally, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and Arkansas Geographic Information Office have joined as partners.

Directives from the Governor for the first year included establishing a forum of interested stakeholders and initiating the development of a Buffalo River Watershed Management Plan.

ANRC was authorized to oversee development of the BRWMP and hired FTN & Associates (FTN) to manage the process of involving the stakeholders and identifying causes for nutrient and other forms of pollution in the Buffalo sub-watersheds as well as the river itself.

The objective of the BRWMP is to identify and quantify non-point source (NPS) pollution in the Buffalo River sub-watersheds, suggest alternative land management methods and the associated funding sources and technical expertise to implement those actions.

The BRWMP has no regulatory impact and the WMP recommended solutions are strictly voluntary.

Examples of NPS pollution include nutrient runoff from fertiliz-

er, poultry litter, other animal excrement such as cattle and hog waste and sediment from gravel roads, fields, pastures and stream bank erosion.

Regulated point source pollution such as that associated with waste water treatment facilities, certain factories and other "permitted and regulated" (i.e. by ADEQ) entities, including C&H hog CAFO is NOT considered in the BRWMP.

The process calls for identifying and prioritizing sub-watersheds and FTN chose comparative information from a dataset that did not allow data from the most recent Middle Big Creek studies to be compared to the parameters and timeframes of other streams. Middle Big Creek is where the C&H hog CAFO is located

The most recent time frame used by FTN in the BRWMP was from 2004 to 2015.

Based on the parameters used for the BRWMP, FTN initially identified eight "priority sub-watersheds" out of thirty six in the Buffalo River watershed. The eight sub-watersheds initially identified by FTN as priority sub-watersheds included the following creeks: Whiteley, Mill, Davis, Tomahawk, Calf, Brush, Bear and Water.

However after further analysis FTN selected five as "priority" sub-watersheds. They are Mill, Calf, Tomahawk, Brush, and Lower Big Creek (see map).

Middle Big Creek is not considered a "priority sub-watershed" based on the comparative data set information selected by FTN for the BRWMP.

There is concern the omission of the Middle Big Creek in this management plan may imply there is no "problem" in this watershed.

In reality there are problems in Middle Big Creek and over time they will increase because of the continued spraying of liquid hog waste on the land and perhaps leakage from the C&H hog CAFO collection lagoons.

According to C&H's annual report to ADEQ, approximately 2.6 million gallons of liquid hog waste was sprayed on pastures in the Middle Big Creek watershed in 2016.

American Rivers, a national river preservation advocacy group now ranks the Buffalo River as one of America's ten most endangered rivers due to the threat from the hog farm pollution.

You can see the Mt. Judea area on Google Maps.

If you value the beautiful Buffalo River, you are invited and urged to review the information and attend the fourth and final meeting, scheduled for September in Jasper.

The final BRWMP report will be delivered to the ANRC June 2018 and BBRAC will then determine the next steps.

If you, friends, family or acquaintances plan to float or swim in the Buffalo River, we strongly recommend you look at the BRWMP maps and analysis showing the various pollutants entering the river from the eight tributaries.

Even though the water may look clear and clean, it unfortunately has some pollutants that can cause harm.

Steve Blumreich - President of the Friends of The North Fork and White Rivers.



Algae Bloom on the Buffalo River - 2016



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July

Monday 3rd Trout Unlimited 6:00-8:00 El Chico

Wednesday 5th NAFF Board Meeting 1:00-3:00 First Security Bank

Tuesday 18 th NAFF Club Meeting 7:00-9:00 Van Matre Senior Center

August

Tuesday 1 st NAFF Board Meeting 1:00-3:00 First Security Bank

Monday 7th Trout Unlimited 6:00-8:00 El Chico

Tuesday 8th Sowbug Committee Meeting 1:00-3:00 Baxter County Library

Tuesday 15th NAFF Club Meeting 7:00-9:00 Van Matre Senior Center