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

North Arkansas Fly Fishers

May 9, 2017

Tale Waters

The Voice of the North Arkansas Fly Fishers

Picnic in May

This year’s Spring Picnic will be held on Saturday, May 20th at the Bull Shoals lower White River State Park pavilion no. 1 (same place as usual). Picnic will be from 11am until 2pm. NAFF supplies the great burgers, brats, chips, soda, water and all the fix-ins for the burgers and brats. Members are asked to bring a side dish, salad or dessert of your choice.

Food will be served between 11:45 and noon. Come early and swap fish stories. Feel free to bring a new or favorite rod to show off, or a special fly that has been working for you.

NOTE: The picnic will serve as our May general meeting. Hope to see you there. If you would be available to help, or if you have any questions, please call Vern Berry, activities director at 421-0720.

“Tailwater Tenkara” at Sowbug 2018

Sowbug Roundup 2017, the 20th Annual, has been completed and put to bed. We are now planning for Sowbug Roundup 2018. We are going to try something new for next year. Most of you have probably heard about Tenkara, a Japanese technique for fly fishing, but don’t know much about it. Next year will be your opportunity to learn.

Usually Thursday is a slow day at Sowbug. Next year we will have “Tenkara Thursday” or otherwise a day of “Tailwater Tenkara”. I have been in contact with a number of Tenkara “experts” who are happy to join us at Sowbug and tell us about their passion. Our own Misako Ishimura is one of these! We expect to have Morgan

Cont. next page
May President’s Message

Election of Club officers (president, vice president, treasurer and secretary) is fast approaching. Club by-laws dictate that the board appoint a nominating committee consisting of five members, three of whom do not currently hold elective office, to nominate candidates for elective offices. If you are interested in participating in the selection of officers for the Club, please contact me ASAP. Several current officers have expressed an interest in continuing to serve as officers for the Club.

Landon Mayer will be our guest speaker in October. Landon is a guide on the South Platte on Colorado, writer and author. He recently fished the Norfork and White Rivers. He will be presenting on Saturday and Sunday October 28th and 29th. Should be a great event with further details to follow.

Be safe and great fishing

Ken Sickels – President
I am pleased to introduce the first group of our newest members to the North Arkansas Fly Fishers, joining at this year’s Sowbug.

The 2nd group will be introduced in next month’s column.

Devin and Laren Abbe of Mountain Home, AR
Bill Ackerman of Fayetteville, AR
Bill Barrow of Midway, AR
Larry Barto of Flippin, AR
Morgan J Bearden of Rolla, MO
Mike and Cookie Beckers of Baton Rouge, LA
Richard Blankenship of St. Peters, MO
George Born of Heber Springs, AR
Valley Branscum of Sapulpa, OK
Dave and Sharon Brunell of Hindsville, AR
Tom Bullock of Shreveport, LA
Ron and Lina Burk of Mountain Home, AR
Robert and Susan Chamberlain of Gamaliel, AR
Daniel and Barbara Cooper of Mountain Home, AR
Richard Ford of Park Hill, OK
Ted Geier of Yellville, AR
Frank and Cheryl Gerritson of Mountain Home, AR
Rick Goudelock of Little Rock, AR
Henry Griswold of Bryant, AR
Gary and Patty Higginbotham of Crossett, AR
Chris Holman of Leawood, KS
Paul Ashton — Membership

Fly of the Month
Olive Stimulator Dry Fly

HOOK - Tiemco 2312 or other favorite dry fly hook – sizes 14 & 16
TREAD - UTC 70 Orange
RIBBING - x-small Copper wire
TAIL - Deer Hair
BODY - Olive Dubbing
BODY HACKLE - Whiting Brown, undersize slightly
WING - Deer Hair
HEAD - Yellow Dubbing
HEAD HACKLE - Grizzly, slightly bigger than body hackle.

Tie in tail, which is very short.
Tie in Copper wire and leave to rear.
Dub Olive Dubbing forward three quarters of the hook shank or just slightly more.
At that point, tie in the body hackle and wrap rearward to the tail.
Secure the body hackle with the wire and wrap forward and tie off at the most forward end of the body dubbing.

PHOTO AND FLY BY Vern Berry

Photo and Fly by Vern Berry
It has been a tough time the last few weeks. The river has been up and flooding and is now back down but still has muddy clarity. Hoping the river will clear soon and everything will get back to normal on the Spring River. Still trying to figure out the damage done by the flooding to the national and state hatcheries on the river. Keep an eye on my blog on my website for daily updates.

Tight lines, and good luck,
Mark Crawford
870-955-8300
springriverfliesandguides.com
As I write this fishing report the heavy rains of the last weekend of April have passed. The lakes have filled up. The Beaver, Table Rock, and Norfork have flood gates open. Everyone is wondering what is going to happen at Bull Shoals Dam. It’s unfortunate that property gets damaged when this happens. On the bright side, the White River has fished extremely well with flood gates open in 2008 and 2011. When areas not normally covered with water (even with 8 units on) are then flooded, the worms that live in that ground are flushed out. The brown trout move into these areas and feed on the worms. Normally those areas are grassy and generally on the inside bends of the river. In 2011, one could wade fish the parking lot at White Hole and sight fish to the tons of rainbows that were hanging out there. The same with the Wildcat Shoals access.

If the flood gates are opened at Bull Shoals Dam, the drifts one does move very fast. Not many folks like to get on water that big. I would highly recommend using a knowledgeable fly guide who has had experience with this type of water. The catching of brown trout does not get any better than this. Look at my photo gallery on flyfisharkansas.com and click on the photo gallery for the years 2008 and 2011. We didn’t catch many rainbows.

Even if the floodgates do not open, some areas have not seen 8 full units in quite a while. Those areas should fish well for a few days.

Jim Traylor
North Arkansas Fly Fishers

PO Box 1213
Mountain Home, AR 72653

May
Monday 1st Trout Unlimited 6:00-8:00 El Chico
Tuesday 2nd NAFF Board Meeting 1:00-3:00 First Security Bank
Saturday 6th Trout Fest 8:30-4:00 Cotter Spring Creek Park
Tuesday 9th Sowbug Committee Meeting 1:00-3:00 Baxter County Library
Saturday 20th NAFF Club Picnic 11:00-1:00 Lower Pavilion # 1 White River State Park

June
Monday 5th Trout Unlimited 6:00-8:00 El Chico
Tuesday 6th NAFF Board Meeting 1:00-4:00 First Security Bank
Saturday 10th Kids Fishing Derby 8:00-2:00 Quarry Park
Tuesday 13th Sowbug Committee Meeting 1:00-3:00 Baxter County Library
Saturday 17th Trout Days 8:00-1:00 White River State Park
Tuesday 20th NAFF Club Meeting 7:00-9:00 Van Matre Senior Center

July
Monday 3rd Trout Unlimited 6:00-8:00 El Chico
Wednesday 5th NAFF Board Meeting 1:00-3:00 First Security Bank
Tuesday 11th Sowbug Committee Meeting 1:00-3:00 Baxter County Library