FFF ClubWire
Welcome to the June 2010 issue of the ClubWire e-mail news service for clubs.

- FFF Member e-newsletter –
If your not getting our monthly FFF Member e-newsletter and would like to, It’s easy to sign up. Go to http://visitor.constantcontact.com/manage/optin/ca?v=001oqwWjY62mfmliHsoPjzZRg%3D%3D and just enter the e-mail address you would like it to be sent to.

- National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave – Education, Inspiration, Celebration –
The 2010 National Fly Fishing Fair & Conclave – EDUCATION, INSPIRATION, CELEBRATION - West Yellowstone Montana here we come! Planning is on track and you can expect to get the best Fly Fishing Fair the FFF and West Yellowstone has offered yet. Some special activities going on will include a 1 ½ day women’s program on August 26 & 27 with some outstanding instructors at the spectacular Bar-N-Ranch and we have a one day youth camp scheduled for Saturday August 28.

Fly Fishing Fair Registration is open now. Check the website for information on workshops available. See our website for all other activity information and be sure to check back often for the most up to date information.

Don’t forget to plan to attend the live auction on Friday August 27. We will have a preview from 6:00-7:30 with great appetizers, a cash bar along with a raffle drawing and some silent auction items. To attend the preview, purchase your ticket for $15.00 when you register or get your ticket on-site at the show on the 24 or 25. There is no fee to attend the live auction so just show up at 7:30 sharp to bid on great fly fishing trips, beautiful fly plates, flies, and exceptional art to the finest gear we are sure to have items for everyone who pursues a fly fishing lifestyle.

The 2010 Fly Fishing Fair will be a great opportunity for fun, fishing, and learning together come celebrate with us - don’t miss it!

- Exhibit Of Interest – Lee Wulff –
The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University is putting up an exhibit this summer from the Lee Wulff Papers here in Beinecke Library, detailing aspects of Lee’s life, his efforts at promoting salmon conservation, and his many inventions and innovations. Primarily drawn from the papers here in Beinecke, we have also borrowed a few objects from both Joan Wulff and the Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum. Following are two links to information about the exhibit. The exhibit opens to the public on June 25th.

http://www.library.yale.edu/beinecke/brblevents/brblexhibits.html
http://calendar.yale.edu/cal/beinecke

- Tying Video Of The Month –
Reel Action Media and The Weekly Fly have been filming tying videos at the FFF library in Livingston. The first four videos were filmed in December and many more are scheduled. View the monthly video here. To learn more about the Weekly Fly click here.
Book & DVD Reviews
Reviewed by Bruce E Harang

Fly-Fishing for Alaska's Arctic Grayling (Sailfish of the North) by Cecilia "Pudge" Kleinkauf
Frank Amato Publications, Inc., Portland, OR, 2009
183 pages, softbound, illustrated, Color, suggested price $19.95

Grayling known in many circles as Ladies of the Stream and specifically Arctic grayling are the subject of this lovely book. The writing is extremely well done, and the photographs are truly stunning. The author has previously won awards for her books and you can clearly see why in this volume. The book is comprised of five parts. The first part is a short introduction to the Arctic grayling and its life cycle. The second is directed to how to find and fish for this lovely quarry. The third part of the book is the longest and details where in Alaska the fly fisherman can find Arctic grayling and some information on where they will not be found. Next there is a short section on grayling found around the world in addition to Alaska. Finally, the book concludes with a collection of proven fly patterns for catching Arctic grayling. These include dry flies, emergers, nymphs, and streamers. For those looking for a jump start on a grayling adventure in Alaska this is the book. The editing and production are top notch and the photographs of the Arctic grayling and the Alaska countryside, flora, and fauna are spectacular.

The Southeast's Best Fly Fishing by James Buice
Headwater Books, New Cumberland, PA 2009
239 pages, softbound, illustrated, Color, suggested price $29.95

This is a well written, easy to read, beautifully illustrated guide book to the best trout fishing in the Southern Appalachians. The most popular and accessible trout fly fishing to be found in the mountain trout waters in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky is described. With lots of photographs and overview maps along with concise textual information, anyone wishing to fly fish for trout in the Southeast will find this book a gold mine of useful information. From tailrace rivers as large as many rivers of the west to headwater streams you can hop across and everything in between the Southeast has fine possibilities for the fly fisherman willing to give it a go. In addition, trout fly fishing is a year around proposition here as the winters are very mild. And as an added bonus these streams run through countryside steeped in American history and residing in a truly beautiful landscape. If you find yourself in the Southeast by plan or chance, make sure you have your fly rod and this book and enjoy some fantastic trout fishing.

I Want You To Go Fishing!
Submitted by David Nelson

I would like your help with an FFF project, the North American Stonefly Project (NASP), which is at http://www.Stonefly.US. Briefly, it is one of several related projects on the site. The goal of the NASP part of the site is to gather data about stonefly emergence and occurrence in the US and Canada, to help professional stonefly researchers document water quality and to serve as a basis for future stream preservation. The work is being done in conjunction with Ed DeWalt, PhD, who is with the Illinois Natural History Survey and the University of Illinois http://www.inhs.uiuc.edu/staff/index.php?action=list&user_name=dewalt. He has his PhD in stoneflies and serves as the head of the Plecoptera Society of North America. His research has centered around documenting stream degredation by comparing current stonefly assemblages with historic records of stoneflies. He needs the help of the fishing community.

Professional entomologists get to collect only a few weeks per year. We get to go out on the river a lot more than they do (poor devils!). And that is how we can help.
I would ask that each of you GO FISHING with a vial of alcohol in your vest pocket!

More specifically, I am asking that you (1) volunteer to collect at least one stonefly; (2) I would ask that you forward this information to several of your fishing buddies, ask them to participate as well as to forward this to a few of their friends. We need to collect some stoneflies yet this season, and the season is rapidly passing. The golden stones (Perlidae) are the last major emergence of 2010.

To collect a specimen, please look at [http://www.stonefly.us/Instructions_for_Collectors.htm](http://www.stonefly.us/Instructions_for_Collectors.htm) for more information, and specifically, you need to collect the specimens and data according to [http://www.stonefly.us/Database_Entry_Sheet.htm](http://www.stonefly.us/Database_Entry_Sheet.htm).

If you are willing to collect a few samples, please email me and let me know what stream you are thinking of visiting. Thank you for your assistance, and don't forget to forward this to a few fishing friends.

Contact David Nelson at nelsondl@pacbell.net

**Casting tip for TBFFC: 7**

By Pat Damico – Taken from the Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

Your leader should transfer energy smoothly from the tip of your fly line to the fly. A good general rule for leader construction is 40% butt section, 20% middle or taper section, and 20% tippet, where the fly is tied. To select the proper material for the butt, start with a monofilament whose diameter is 2/3 the diameter of your fly line’s tip. Hold the fly line tip next to the butt selection and bend them together in a “U;” they should flex similarly. Use the same brand of monofilament for each section. For saltwater I use Ande. Put a two turn surgeon’s loop at the butt section to connect to your fly line tip. A three turn surgeon’s knot will connect each section of the leader.

When practicing casting on grass, you can make a grass leader by not trimming the tag ends where sections are tied together. This is especially useful when doing a roll cast because the tag ends will grasp the grass and offer resistance similar to the water. The longer the grass, the more length is needed for the ends. Practice makes perfect only when it is perfect practice.

**Club Presidents Letter**

Submitted by Mike Adamson – President of the Backcountry Fly Fishing Association - Orlando

“I just cost that kid a perfect game”. (Jim Joyce, MLB umpire)

“Nobody’s perfect”. (Armando Gallaraga, pitcher Detroit Tigers)

Last night I learned a lesson from a kid half my age as one of the most intriguing baseball stories of the year unfolded. You probably saw it too. A chance for a perfect game. Two outs in the bottom of the ninth. A ground ball to the first baseman with the pitcher covering the bag. Clearly the final out, but the ump calls him safe. It may go down as the worst call in the history of baseball.

I felt bad for the pitcher and the injustice of the situation. It’s almost impossible to be perfect, but he was. And yet the chance to make history was stolen from him by someone else’s imperfection. But I felt almost as bad for the ump who made the call. By the time he knew he was wrong he couldn’t make it right. Both men probably had a sleepless night.

What I remember most this morning is not the game. What I remember is the study in integrity that followed as both pitcher and ump commented on the game. First the ump acknowledged his imperfection and owned up to it. Without trying to whitewash or make excuses he showed genuine remorse for something he couldn’t change. There wasn’t an ounce of “yes--but” in his answers. He just “manned up” and I was impressed. His response will define him as much as the bad call.

The kid’s response was even more impressive. While bearing the brunt of a decision that had to hurt deeply he offered a gracious, forgiving answer. “We’re all human”. “He feels worse than I do”. “Nobody’s perfect”. “We all make mistakes”. In the midst of what had to be deep disappointment at a wrong done to him by another person, he offered a chance to save face. Without overlooking the mistake he set the tone for the rest of the nation to respond with grace,
understanding and forgiveness. That’s a kid with a great head on his shoulders. That’s a man who has the capacity to take the long view. He may be 25 years younger than me but he sure set an example for me last night.

So what does all this have to do with fly fishing. Our whole sport is a combination of the quest for perfection AND the reality of experiencing imperfection more often than not. Lots of things draw me to my flyrod and one of them is the difficulty in making the “perfect” cast. Yet, more times than I’d like to admit I’ve pushed the final forecast too hard in the heat of the moment or the last backcast slips through my fingers and the fly lands 180 degrees from where I intended. On one hand we keep honing the mechanics and shooting for the sky. On the other we learn to live, and to forgive, in the midst of lots of things going wrong.

The combination of pursuing perfection and being comfortable with and forgiving imperfection is flyfishing in a nutshell. And at least for me it’s a great metaphor for life. Shoot for the sky. Own the mistakes. Go easy on yourself and on others. Make adjustments and keep shooting for the sky. Move on to the next fish, the next cast, and the next scenario.

So as I head out tomorrow morning with fly rod in hand I’ll practice what was modeled for me last night in a baseball game. Pursue perfection unabashedly. And when my mistakes or more importantly, when someone else’s mistakes cost me the opportunity for perfection…let reality and grace coexist.

**Three Guys and Three Flies**

By John Berry

Last week I guided three guys from Texas. They flew in on a private plane fished for a half day and flew off. They had been bow fishing for rough fish (carp, gar and catfish) at night at another location and wanted a change of pace. Steve and Ken were brothers and were experienced anglers. Will was a family friend and was fairly new to the sport. I picked them up at Baxter Regional Airport, loaded their gear and drove them over to Rim Shoals. I had my river boat with me. When we arrived we noted that the river was low and dropping, we had extremely heavy winds (twenty to thirty miles per hour) and sunny skies. The water was absolutely gin clear.

There was wadable water but Will did not have his waders. We decided to fish from the boat. Now, to say that fishing three people from a White River Jon Boat is tricky is a bit of an understatement. My boat is large. I have a forty eight inch wide Shawnee with walk through live wells that is twenty and one half feet long. It is still a bit crowded with three fly fishers casting nine foot rods. The prospect of doing this, while lake wind advisories were posted, was disconcerting. I put Steve in the front and had him side arm over the bow of the boat. Will was in the rear and side armed over the transom (I wanted the least experienced angler next to me, so that I could assist him when necessary). Ken sat in the middle and cast straight up. This kept the tangles to a minimum but did not totally eliminate them.

Before I launched the boat, I rigged all of the fly rods. I attached a seven and one half foot 4X leader with a loop to loop connection and the tied on an eighteen inch 5X tippet. I tied on a nymph and pinched on a number 4 split shot. I then looped on a thingamabobber strike indicator and set the depth at about five feet. On each rod I had put on a different fly. This is conventional wisdom when fishing with several anglers. The idea is to see which fly is working and then switch all of them over to the hot fly. I put a green copper john on Steve's line, a prince nymph on Ken's line and a caddis pupa on Will's line.

We had only drifted a few feet when Ken hit a good trout. Will hooked up soon after. Steve was the last to hook up and lost the fish as it came to the boat. Will and Ken were catching fish at an impressive rate but Steve was struggling. I switched him over to a prince nymph and he began catching fish. Will was hooking up but was losing fish during the fight. I worked with him and showed him how to keep constant pressure on the trout and he was soon holding his own, matching the others fish for fish.

About this time, we noted that the caddis hatch was starting to fire up. This is why the prince nymphs (a caddis nymph pattern) and the caddis pupa were working. The trout were beginning to key in on the hatching adults. Steve fishes in Colorado quite a bit and wanted to get in on the top water action. I stripped off his strike indicator, split shot and prince nymph. I normally tie on a longer tippet but I thought that it would be easier to cast with a shorter tippet in the high wind conditions we were experiencing. I tied on a size fourteen elkhair caddis and doused it liberally in fly floatant. Steve cast the fly and hit a good trout almost immediately. He caught fish after fish and was having the time of his life.
Naturally he wanted more. He is a big fan of fishing double flies and thought that he could increase his hook ups by fishing two flies. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission changed the regulations effective January 1, 2010 and the use of multiple flies in Catch and Release areas is now legal. I took his rod and tied a two foot section of 5X tippet to the bend of the hook on the elk hair caddis with an improved clinch knot and tied another elk hair caddis to the tippet. I dressed the fly and handed the rig back to Steve. He cast out and hooked a trout immediately. He had several fish on both flies but never had a double hook up. Will and Ken were perfectly happy with their nymphs and did not want to change over to a dry fly.

The guys were having the time of their lives. We lost count early in the process but we knew we were catching a lot of fish. The action was pretty much non stop. The caddis hatch continued unabated for several hours and we were taking fish on caddis dries and caddis nymphs.

I looked out toward the bank and noted that the water was beginning to rise. The water came up slowly at first and had little effect on the fishing. As the water began rising faster, the river began to get stained and there was a lot of trash in it. If that were not enough the wind picked up and was absolutely howling. The trout just turned off and quit biting. I tried several different spots but we could not get it going. I noticed other boats going into the ramp. My guys were ready to pull the plug. We headed into the ramp and loaded the boat on the trailer and headed back to the airport.

On the drive back, I thought about the fact that I had three guys fishing three different flies and all of them caught fish. No one seemed to catch more than the others. It showed me that you could catch as many fish with nymphs during a hatch as you could on dries.

Through A Kids Eves
By Clay Gill – Taken from the Alamo Fly Fishers Newsletter

He said Pappy--I wanna catch a fish! He was holding his hands like a prayer. How can you deny a kid who really-really wants to go fishing. That is a natural born fisherman. Girls like it too. All my babies want to go fishing. He said I want to catch it-cook it and eat it!!--Now! -How do you dampen enthusiasm. You would hope your kids want to fish. But all my Grand kids are crazy about it. It runs in the blood!

Probably the best way to get started is the way we all did. With worms and a cork. Small hooks and a red and white bobber. You fish by a bush or wall, tree or some place fishy and the perch come a-runnin, -as my Daddy would say. Dough balls, corn, or bread. It all works, and you get that magic tug. It is the tug, that does the trick. Once a kid feels that tug and pull on the line it is all over. They become hooked on fishing forever. There is no antidote or remedy. It is incurable.

If kids like to tinker a lot, they get interested in fly fishing. The ones who take things apart as soon as they can fidget usually become fly fisherpersons. They have the curiosity and propensity to wade through all the complications of the game. The others,--they say--oh--I don’t do that! They just want to cast out, and reel back in. That’s ok too. If all the pluggers were fly fishing, we would be elbow to elbow.

The good news is -what fishing lends to the teachers. It is a time. Kids listen to you-completely on fishing trips. You can sneak in valuable lessons about good, the bad, drugs, morals, life, and Aggies versus Longhorns. Wide eyed and curious you tell them (as you thread bait on the hook). Captivated, they hear you and may not even know it. It’s funny how this happens. And then they tell you --about it.

Remember a time when you could not get enough of fishing. I remember all the tales spun on the weekend trips. It was always a story with a ending moral. For me it was in one ear and out the other. All I wanted to do was fill a rope stringer,-completely full. Get out of my way. We have fishing to do. Give me some more bait. We got fish to catch and fry. Now I realize I was a captive audience. Those stories were cleverly crafted to impart a message. I was indoctrinated. And also so lucky-indeed, to be the recipient or those tall tales they spun. My instructor was smart!

Anybody can accomplish this feat. Grandma’s can take kids fishing. They took me. I caught fish and she cooked them too. The cornmeal was crunchy and Cole slaw was just the best. Afterwards the kids got chocolate cake and then we
I remember learning to play poker with Pinto Beans as money the way Dad did on the WW-II troop ships. Dad would tell me, “always bail out on card five with a bad hand,- or, looking good, keep them all busy, as you make them buy the last two cards with a bad hand, (playing seven card stud”). “And then you skin-em alive”. Right or wrong you can impart a message on fishing trips they will hear. Trips should encompass adventure, intrigue, and excitement. Kids never ever forget that. I still remember all the fun we had. Kids grow up way too quickly to miss this.

Something else kids fall for is fishing in the dark. Running catfish lines or jug lines is high adventure for a young person. They all want to hold the light. As the main line zips back and forth the anticipation builds. A big Cat on the staging line is like a monster coming up. I remember three foot Blues and Channels that looked ten feet long when they surfaced. You are hanging over the edge of the flat bottom boat when the flashlight illuminates a big shiny head and beady eyes. You never forget the first one! Tons of Speckled Trout in coastal pier lights can be a sensory overload for kids! Once they are old enough to go, it is a whole new game at night!

Young and old, everybody likes to fish. But the best time to hook them for sure is early in life. The old Zebco and a cardboard worm box from the ice house is amazing stuff. As children grow accustomed to fishing, they might lean toward fly fishing. But, many are pushed too quickly. They often shy from complication.

Little guys get interested once they see things happen. They can’t live without it. You know it is graduation day when one says--“I want to do that”! At that point, they also listen to all the things they need to hear. And you can be the guardian angel who passes it forward! Let’s make it happen for someone soon!

The Prez Sez – The Oil Spill
By Tom Gadacz – Taken from the Suncoast Fly Fishers Newsletter

The explosion of oilrig Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico created an environment disaster. The cause and response to this disaster has caught the attention of everyone and has resulted in high emotions and some irrational reactions. The cause of the disaster is the result of greed, ignoring established safety standards and lack of enforcement of current governmental regulations. There is plenty of blame to go around.

The current status is a massive petroleum and natural gas leak that will destroy significant areas of our environment. The economic impact is enormous. There is plenty of experience from the Valdez disaster on how to contend with the oil and its impact on our wildlife, fishing industry and recreational beaches. Some of the lessons learned from the Valdez disaster include training personnel on the management of the spill and the disposal of the toxic waste (BP prefers to call this toxic waste a “product”). What was not anticipated and a lesson we need to learn is that the clean up may be a several month process but the environmental impact is many years, probably 10 or more. We must hold BP and its associated partners responsible for the clean up and environmental impact for a long time. This cannot and should not be a short-term buy-out for anyone.

We must hold our elected officials responsible for not exercising proper oversight and must keep political pressure on all of them to insure that there is adequate funding from those companies responsible for the disaster. There is no doubt that there are lobbying efforts to influence or impede legislation to minimize the economic impact to those companies responsible for the disaster. These lobbying efforts will be intensive!

So what can and should we do? Organizations such as ours, Suncoast Fly Fishers and a Charter Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers, are dedicated to conserve and preserve our environment. The water is the lifeblood of our organization! Your Board of Directors discussed the oil disaster at the June 7th meeting. There was unanimous support for us to be involved. Volunteer to help clean up the beaches of debris so if the oil reaches our shores the oil clean up will be easier. We are planning to co-ordinate volunteer activity with Tampa Bay Watch or an official organization. Stay tuned and informed. There may not be a direct role for us in the actual oil clean up. Those involved in the oil clean up and disposal will be trained, authorized, and paid personnel wearing Tyvek suits and respirators. Funding for the clean up is the responsibility of BP and its partners. We can volunteer to be trained to participate in the clean up of affected wild life. We do not see a need for monetary contributions from SFF.
What else should we do? Perhaps the most important thing we can do is to call, write, and e-mail our elected officials and express our concern, our disappointment of their lack of enforcement of environment regulations, and the expectation that they will insure retribution for the damage from the responsible parties. This is going to be a problem with a significant environmental impact for at least 10 years and a short term settlement from the responsible parties is not acceptable. Lack of action by our elected officials is not an option and decisions based on influential lobbying ($$$) by the oil companies is unacceptable.

Call, write, or e-mail your state and federal officials including President Barack Obama and Governor Charlie Crist. We plan to provide a suggested letter that you may use. To identify your local officials and their contact number / e-mail go to www.usa.gov click on each category and type in your zip code and the 4-digit suffix. Get involved!!!

The Officers and Board of Directors of SFF have endorsed support for action to address the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. I would like to share this with you and hope to engender support from other clubs. The background for this action in given in my president's column in our newsletter which is also attached. Thanks and hope that others will take similar action.

Dear Member,

Below is a letter with suggested wording to support action from our elected officials to address the oil spill. For a brief background to its contents please read my Presidential message in the June issue of our newsletter, “On the Fly” (suncoastflyfishers.com). Identify your elected official and type in his / her name and at the bottom of the letter your name, address, phone number, and e-mail address. Mail, e-mail, or call your elected officials and let them know of your concern and what you expect them to do! Your may change, delete or add as you wish, but please act and send a message to all your elected officials on the state and federal level and include Governor Charlie Crist and President Barack Obama.

Dear Name of elected official,

I wish to express my concern about the oil spill and am requesting your support to hold BP and its partners financially responsible for the clean up and the environmental impact that will occur over the next decade. I am a member of the Suncoast Fly Fishers and our organization is dedicated to preserve and conserve our marine and natural resources. BP and its subsidiaries have violated basic safety precautions and environmental standards. Elected representatives have not effectively enforced the already existent environmental regulations which would have prevented this environment disaster. I am now asking you to do your duty as my elected official and insure that BP and its subsidiaries pay for the clean up and the environmental impact. I realize that you and other elected members will be heavily lobbied by BP and that there will be plenty of excuses that will exempt full responsibility but I expect you to represent my and the public’s best interests. It is not appropriate for either the states or the federal government to pay for the damages and I am opposed to any increase in our taxes to fix this problem. No more federal or state bail outs. Please take the responsibility and ensure that BP and its subsidiaries pay for not only the clean up but also the long term environment impact. I appreciate your support as my elected official.

Your name, address, phone number, E-mail address

Keep Informed and Spread The Word

We need more clubs to join the ranks to help in the conservation and education efforts of the FFF. If you would like to start a club or know of a club that might be interested in affiliating with the FFF please direct them to the Club Information pages below:

Please send an e-mail to fffoffice@fedflyfishers.org should your club have a fishing / tying event / banquet. We would like to add these events to our web site calendar of events. Provide the date, location, name of your club and a website address that I can link to direct our members for more information. The events calendar is on the following web page http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4513