



# The Take



**“From The Mountains**

**To The Sea”**



CFCC - Meeting second Tuesday each month at Gander Mountain, Mooresville Exit 36

November—December 2008  
Volume 2 Issue 5



## MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR 2008

### Twas the Week Before Christmas

Twas the week before Christmas and down on the Haw  
Not a fishey was rising, the weather was raw.  
The water was frigid, and brisk was the air,  
Too windy for fishing, but I didn't care.

The largemouth's were nestled down deep in their pools  
While bluegill and sunfish were nobody's fools.  
And I in my waders and old fishing cap,  
As usual just couldn't cast worth a crap.

When further upstream there arose such a crash  
I started, and slipped, and sat down with a splash.  
My glasses went one way, my rod went another.  
Cold water went everywhere. I wanted my mother.

The gleam of the sun on the river around,  
Was lovely, but heck, I was going to drown!!  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear?  
But a funky old kayak. (The end must be near).

With a little old paddler, too fat for the boat  
Who was trying his best just to keep it afloat.  
Through the rapids he teetered, bounced off every big rock.  
Old Nick's in big trouble, I thought with a shock.

But as he approached my favorite=2 0hole  
He snapped it in place with a neat barrel roll  
And glided in softly, as smooth as can be.  
No fish would be spooked, except maybe me.

And then in a twinkling he popped out of his craft  
Like a cork from a bottle, I shouldn't have laughed.  
He reached back inside and he slowly withdrew  
A lovely old 4wt of shiny bamboo.  
He was dressed all in Gore-Tex and looked straight from the pages  
Of catalogs like Orvis', Chota's and Sage's.  
A vest full of goodies encircled his frame  
With gadgets and zingers, too many to name.

He spoke not a word but went straight to his fun,  
Throwing laser-like casts, seeming straight from a gun.  
His roll casts were graceful, his loops were so tight.  
Presentation was flawless, his drift was just right.

He threw Clousers and Zonkers, and woollies and strymphs,  
Caddis and Adams and Cahill's and nymphs.  
He had all the mysteries of fishing debunked.  
But darned if old Santa Claus didn't get skunked.

I felt sort of bad for the jolly old elf  
But why fish the Haw, I was asking myself.  
He could have fished Battenkill, Madison, Snake  
Seems that the Haw was a great big mistake.

I needn't have worried, I had nothing to dread  
For he gave me a wink and here's what he said.  
"We all should remember" and here's what he's wishing,  
"It's not about fish, but it's all about fishing".

He sprang to his boat, to the rocks gave a push.  
And shot down the stream with a splash and a whoosh.  
But I heard him exclaim as he drifted from sight.  
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all keep lines tight"

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### Club Officers

President: Bob Thomas  
1st Vice-President: John Thomas  
2nd Vice-President: Kirk Drowne  
Treasurer: Jim Fletemier  
Secretary: Cheryl Drowne  
Membership Director: Kim Scronce  
Programs Director: Wilke Tebbens  
Newsletter Director: Gary Jones  
Conservation Director: Tim Wilhelm  
Librarian Director: Jim Glock  
Fly Tying Director: Josh Almond  
Website Director: Daniel Grose  
Past President: Jack Cummings

## Notes from Da Prez

It is hard to believe that 2008 is almost over, but here we are with Christmas just right around the corner.

December's meeting will be the last meeting I preside over as your club president before the reigns are handed over to some new blood. So first, I want to thank you, the members, for allowing me to serve as your president. We have accomplished many good things this year. I look back now at our second full year as an organization and realize this was the year we really got our act together.

From the success of our Project Healing Waters program, to the quality newsletter we now receive, the great learning programs and trips that were offered, to finally having the membership rolls (almost) straightened out. I must be honest, none of it was my doing. We are very fortunate as a club to have some excellent individuals whose tireless volunteer efforts insure we all have a strong vibrant club.

Join me in congratulating Wilke Tebbens, Jack Cummings, Jim Fletemier, Gary Jones, Dan Grose, Jim Glock, Kim Scronce and Tim Wilhelm on the excellent job they have done as leaders of the club this year. Their efforts have put the club on solid footing for many years to come. Thank you guys! You did a great job, and I am proud to call each one of you my friend

In closing, as my last directive as club president, I would like to challenge all club members with the same challenge I placed upon myself when we formed the CFFC two and a half years ago. Sometime in the coming year, take the time to introduce a new person to the sport of fly fishing. Take them out, show them the ropes, and help them to catch a fish on the fly rod. What better gift can we give to ourselves and to our children and grandchildren, than helping another individual learn to enjoy the sport of fly fishing? One more passionate fly fisherman will help insure that these places we love will be here for generations to come. You might even just gain a friend in the process.

Tight lines and Happy Holidays

Bob

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### **January 2009**

#### **Regular Meeting**

#### **January 13, 2009**

Yearly business meeting, election and installation of officers. Our speaker will be Susan Harris, from the Wildlife Federation, on how our local WF chapter is helping Fly Fisherman.

#### **January 30th and 31st, 2009**

#### **Fly fishing Show**

At the Charlotte Merchandise Mart  
[http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Charlotte\\_NC.html](http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Charlotte_NC.html)

We are asking for volunteers to help man the club booth at the show, and we will be selling raffle tickets for another custom bamboo fly rod. Check the club forum for the sign up sheet to help with the show.

#### **Lyin and Tyin**

In conjunction with the show there will be the fly tying gathering at Courtyard by Marriott University Research Park on Harris Blvd. There is no charge for this gathering and if you desire rooms, they are available at a special price. For more information and the sign up sheet go to the SEFFF forum. <http://www.southeastflyfishingforum.com/forum/lyin-tyin-jan-2009-signup-and-info-t27399.html>

### **FEBRUARY 2009**

#### **Regular Meeting**

#### **February 10, 2009**

#### **Fishing the Big West :**

Fly fishing Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. Jack Cummings will present a slide show, and a movie on fishing trips. Also information on a trip that is being planned for next fall to that area.

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**We have a bunch of great programs and activities planned for this year. Check the web site and forum for details**

## National Anglers' Legacy Pledge Drive

### - FFF Enters National Anglers' Legacy Partnership -

FFF has entered an exciting national partnership with the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) – launching a national Anglers' Legacy pledge drive. Anglers' Legacy encourages avid anglers to share their passion for both fishing and our cherished aquatic resources, by taking the Anglers' Legacy "Pledge" and becoming Anglers' Legacy ambassadors.

***Becoming an Anglers' Legacy ambassador is very easy*** – it is free, and takes *less* than a minute. In "taking the pledge" – and becoming an Anglers' Legacy ambassador -- we promise to introduce at least one new person to the sport of fishing each year:

<http://www.takemefishing.org/community/anglers-legacy/take-the-pledge/promo/FEDFLY08>

In this simple commitment to pass on and mentor someone new to fishing, we can do much for our sport, our home waters and conservation efforts as well as for FFF and our local clubs. We should all take time to pass on the legacy...after all, someone did that for us during our lives...***It's time for us to share our sport with another person.***

FFF has set a goal of having 8,000 members and fellow anglers "take the pledge" to introduce someone new to fly fishing. **To achieve this, we need local fly fishing clubs to step up and help with this campaign to pass along our beloved sport to the next generation of anglers.**

Please consider taking time to communicate this campaign -- and our Angler Legacy discount (\$15) membership incentive -- to your club members, and encourage them to "take the Pledge." The attached news story (below) can be readily used by fly-fishing clubs in their member communications -- and it outlines, in detail, the FFF membership incentive that can help those clubs earn additional free fly rods.

If you need any additional information or materials, please feel free to contact Josset Gauley at the FFF office [josset@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:josset@fedflyfishers.org) , or Jeff Sedor at RBFF [jsedor@rbff.org](mailto:jsedor@rbff.org) .

Many thanks for your support.

## Federation of Fly Fishers Launches National Anglers' Legacy Pledge Drive

### *FFF Sets Goal of 8,000 Members to Take Pledge; Member and Club Incentives Included In the Pledge Drive*

The Federation of Fly Fishers has teamed with the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) in a national campaign to introduce newcomers to fly fishing. Anglers' Legacy encourages avid anglers to share their passion for fishing and "Take the Pledge" -- a promise to take at least one new person fishing during the coming year. FFF has set a goal of having 8,000 members and fellow anglers take the Anglers' Legacy Pledge between now and March 2009, and has developed an incentive program to reward members and the newcomers they introduce to fly fishing.

"The Anglers' Legacy Pledge aligns perfectly with FFF's mission of education through the sport of fly fishing," said FFF President and CEO R.P. "Pete" VanGytenbeek. "It's fitting that we're the first national fly fishing organization to participate in this important endeavor that promotes fishing, specifically fly fishing, to future generations.

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# “What’s Been Happening”

## November 2008

### Regular Meeting:

Our November meeting was a fly tying session to promote our “Tying Flies for a Cause” The flies that we tied and committed to tie will be donated to the Project Healing Waters and Casting for Recovery programs. They will be given to the folks that participate in these programs as a gift from the CFFC.

Bob Thomas took it one step further and asked for contributions of flies from others on some of the fly fishing forums that many of us follow and we now have over 50 dozen flies that have been committed to by members and friends of the club.

If you have committed to give some flies just a reminder that Jan. 15 is the deadline date. And a special thanks to all that participated.

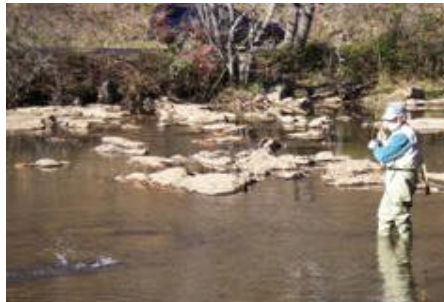
### Nantahala Trip:

For all of those who were able to attend the Nanty trip this fall, they were not disappointed with the cabins, the food, the company or the fishing. One of the cabins.

A special thanks to all of the folks who cooked and helped with the fantastic meals, and to those who helped clean up and even to Jack for making a pot of coffee.



Thanks to Josh for being our resident fishing guide and helping us get on some fish.



And best of all the company.



We will be planning another trip to the area in April of 2009, so be sure and make plans to join us for the next trip.

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View from the cabin.



**“What’s Been Happening”  
(Continued from page 4)**

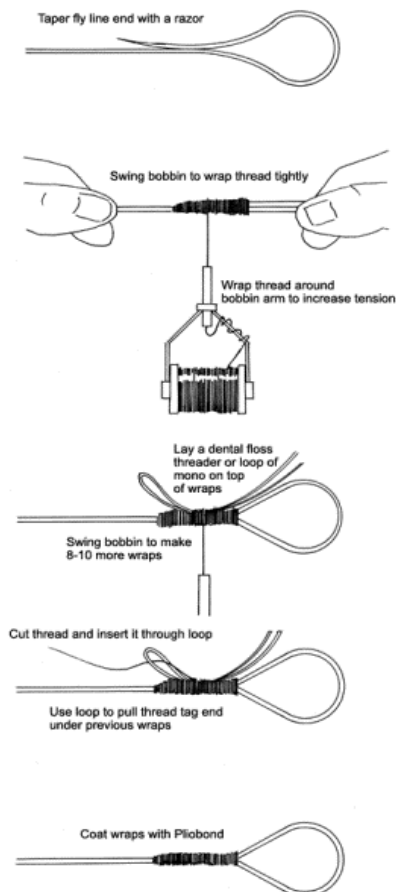
**December 2008**

**Regular Meeting:**

Doug Besler with the NCWRC came to our December meeting and gave an excellent presentation on native brook trout restoration. He gave us a lot of good information on what the NCWRC is doing to help restore the brookie's to their native habitat and some of the issues that they face in accomplishing this.

Doug has a very good article on the NCWRC web site that you might want to look at. [http://www.ncwildlife.org/pg09\\_NCWildStore/sample\\_April07.pdf](http://www.ncwildlife.org/pg09_NCWildStore/sample_April07.pdf)

**Whipped Loop Knot for Fly line**



**Articles from the FFF**

**Santa’s Big Helper**

By Clay Gill – Taken from the Alamo Fly Fishers Newsletter

There is just something about your first fly rod. If you get bitten badly you never forget how cool it was fishing with a fly rod the first time! If you caught Perch like I did and they were big-and steady, it was big adventure. For a young person to master this type of fishing and get a huge sense of accomplishment - it is hard to match. You always go back from time to time to those simple pleasures derived from the fly rod and slinging flies around fishy Perch water. It is really fun!

It can all start with a simple kit rod which contains all you need to jerk some perch and the important other half of the amazing gift is the time to show the recipient where and how to use it. Inexpensive sets like Scientific Angler’s provides are a decent starter that is actually is not bad for quarry up to redfish. We still use them in rough places like drift trips and rough and tumble canoe trips. Break one and no big deal. Break a Sage and then you understand! The kit price is very modest.

Even for adults this starter kit is a good way to begin when you are not sure if this new fangled way to fish is right for you. There is plenty of time to go get a good outfit from reputable places like Bruce at the Tackle Box where service is paramount, and quality is guaranteed. But there is nothing wrong with a humble start.

I remember the ancient old fiberglass rod and simple reel which was purchased from the Sears Romana Plaza downtown for me. It was a Ted Williams and was I excited. The time was about 1960. As I grew fond of fly fishing I would buy my flies from a place called Texas Liquor Stores where you could purchase flies individually. They were not the best but poppers were poppers. Even then these little painted cork poppers with rubber legs caught big ole Perch by the buckets.

My first memory of success was tall reeds and super clear water in San Marcos on the river where the college is now and just down from Spring Lake also known as Aquarena Springs. I remember the tug of large Sunfish and Rio Grandes. Quickly I developed a technique to allow the poppers to swim against current in eddy’s along the edges of the swift river flow. The Perch always cooperated and you never could get enough! You can still do that in San Marcos today! Nothing changed.

One of the benefits of the initial assembly is the familiarization of the necessary skills to conquer the somewhat difficult leader connection and knots to create a tapered system. The kits usually have it all depicted on the back of the package and it contains everything you need. It even has the ammo you need to snag some Bass and Perch included. Perch poppers and foam bugs are cheap and easy. And do they work tied with a loop knot on the tippet to enhance action!

Should you have or know a deserving young person who might be inclined to like the outdoors and fishing, you could really make someone smile this Christmas! It stuck with me and everyone I know that started this way is incurably addicted to the romance of fly fishing. Some go on to tie flies and others find and make every excuse to fish on vacations or travel near water somewhere. There are fine places to go fish.

But always remember the kit will fail if you do not transport it and the lucky individual to a place where adventure awaits. Water everywhere has Perch. But make the time to add the most important ingredient to the equation. It is the personal time and effort you invest that makes this gift a complete package.

As the population grows and grows, Santa needs some help getting it right! Step up to the plate and hit a homer! Create big smiles and start someone down the canal to great escapes! You won’t be sorry! This gift will break the lights on the score board! Watch and see! From the first day it was (and is) my best definition of a home run!

Top of the day to you all!--and Happy Holidays!

**(Continued From Page 3)**

## **FFF Enters National Anglers' Legacy Partnership**

According to a 2008 survey of Ambassadors, most take more than four people a year fishing and also purchase 3.2 fishing licenses. To date, the Anglers' Legacy program has signed on more than 75,000 Ambassadors nationwide.

### **Special Incentive Program Rewards Ambassadors and Newcomers**

To help boost the pledge drive, FFF is offering an incentive that is beneficial to current and potential members, newcomers and local clubs. Once FFF members pledge to become an ambassador, they can offer a \$15 discounted FFF membership to those friends and family they introduce to the sport. FFF will also extend the \$15 discount membership to all new Ambassadors (who are not currently FFF members) and the newcomers they take fishing.

"Becoming an Ambassador can also help increase membership in our local fly fishing clubs because FFF-member Ambassadors can use the opportunity to recruit their newcomers to join their local clubs" said VanGytenbeek. "This also increases their club's ability to earn additional free fly rods through the existing incentive program to have more FFF members represented in local fly clubs.

In order track FFF's progress towards the 8,000 ambassador goal:

- Members are encouraged to access the Anglers' Legacy Pledge site directly through the FFF Web site. Visit [www.fedflyfishers.org](http://www.fedflyfishers.org) and click on the Anglers' Legacy logo -- located on the home page -- which takes you directly to the Anglers' Legacy Web site.

To obtain the half-price membership, members must do the following:

- Once you take the Pledge, print the "thank you" message (which appears onscreen after the pledge has been submitted online) and retain it so your newcomer can receive the \$15 membership. Then visit <http://www.fedflyfishers.org/Default.aspx?tabid=4971> and print out the membership form & attach the printed "thank-you" page to the newcomer's FFF membership form and a \$15 check and mail it to FFF.
- ***If a newcomer decides to join your local club, be sure to record your club's name on the membership form in order to receive credit towards free fly rods.***

Remember – when taking the Pledge directly from the AnglersLegacy.org Web site, one must enter this promo code: **FEDFLY08**. This way, FFF gets "credit" toward its goal.

"Becoming an Ambassador is very easy, and at the same time, can do so much for our sport, our home waters and conservation efforts as well as for FFF and our local clubs," said Van Gytenbeek. "We should all take the Pledge to pass on the legacy...after all, someone did that for us during our lives. It's time for us share our sport with another person."