As I mentioned in the June issue of Windnots, there is plenty to look forward to at the upcoming monthly meetings and, you don’t want to hear from other members “you had to be to be there”. And, here’s why…

This month’s meeting, the Texas FlyFishers are honored to have Meredith McCord as our featured speaker. Meredith primarily resides in Houston, where she runs a successful chain of paint-your-own-pottery studios, “The Mad Potter” (est. 1998). Thanks to the incredible staff at “The Mad Potter”, Meredith also has the opportunity and availability to work/travel part-time for Tailwaters Fly Fishing Travel, as a lodge scout, ambassador and trip hostess. She has parlayed her passion for fishing and travel into doing some fun TV and film work with a fly rod in hand, stalking fish on flats, rivers and lakes around the globe and in her home state.

In April of this year, the IGFA (International Game Fish Assoc.) named Meredith the Top Female Angler of 2015, as well as awarded her Most “Catch and Release” Records, Top Female on Freshwater Fly and Heaviest Saltwater Record on Fly in 2015.

Attention Lady FlyFishers: Prior to the July Monthly Meeting, Meredith McCord and Stacy Lynn will host a Meet and Greet for the Lady FlyFishers, only. The Meet and Greet will begin around 5:30 pm, in in the Reading Room at the Bayland Complex (This is the room across the hall from the meeting room). Meredith and Stacy will be on hand to answer your questions or, just talk fly fishing. Refreshments will be available. The regular monthly meeting will commence immediately afterward.
“You Had To Be There!” (1) Continued

While we haven’t received definite presentation, judging by Meredith’s face book entries, you can be sure it will be interesting, with recent trips to such exotic places like Belize for tarpon, the Seychelles for Giant Trevally and Guatemala for pacific sailfish, all on the fly. Also, Meredith will be updating the club about her quest to catch 100 line class records as well as her latest travels and the techniques she to accomplish her milestone.

And, when Meredith is on break from chasing records, she’s enjoys spending time family and friends, leading mission trips to work with orphans in 3rd world countries, bird hunting or, just cooking at home. And, if that’s not enough, to keep in fishing shape, Meredith has spends her time training for and competing in triathlons throughout the Houston and Austin area.

She is passionate about many things in this earth, but her biggest love is for the Creator of it all.

So, be sure and make plans to be at the July Texas FlyFishers monthly meeting because, you don’t want to hear “you had to be there”.

Editor’s note (1): The above title is also the name of Jimmy Buffet’s first live album, “You Had To Be There” recorded at the Fox Theater in Atlanta, Georgia over two nights in August 1978. If you don’t have a copy, I suggest you add one to your collection. Great album to listen to when you’re stuck in traffic on a Friday afternoon, heading to the coast.

And, don’t forget, coming up in August

August is time for the Texas FlyFishers Annual Mini Expo, held in place of the regular monthly meeting. The Expo is scheduled for Saturday, August 27th at the Terrance United Methodist Church located at 1203 Wirt Road in Houston, Texas 77055. The Mini Expo is when the club show cases its members, demonstrating fly tying, rod building, knot tying and leader construction and casting instruction. And our traveling members will regale us with their experiences and provide contact information for those interested in taking similar trips. We also plan on having some local guides available to help you plan that upcoming trip. The Expo doors will be open from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Refreshments will be available and, there will be drawings for some excellent prizes.
And don’t forget…Continued

We are currently looking for an event lead and volunteers for set up (Friday evening) and take down (immediately following the Expo), casting instruction, fly tying demonstrations and other activities. Check with Marcos Enriquez or John Purcell if you are interested.

The following day, Sunday, August 28th, 2016, our Club celebrates its 40th birthday. Marcos will fill us in with the details at the July monthly meeting.

2016 Club Election Results:
At the June monthly meeting, the Club held its annual election of officers. Running unopposed, Marcos Enriquez – President, John Purcell – Vice President, Raymond Lindeen – Treasurer and Jim Richards – Secretary were all re-elected to lead the Club for the next year. Congratulations to all of the candidates.

What’s Happening This Month:
July TFF Monthly Meeting – Tuesday, July 26, 2016 at 6:30 pm – You will want to be on hand for this meeting. The July speaker will be world record angler Meredith McCord. I’m not sure a month has gone by without a write up, complete with photos on Meredith and her attempt to catch 100 world records. Casting begins around 5:30 pm. Location: Community Center Building in Bayland Park, 6400 Bissonnet St., Houston TX 77074.

Outings:
With Puck getting temporarily reassigned to Colorado and Michael Quigley stepping down as Saltwater Outing Chairman, we find ourselves without any outing leaders. If you are up to the task and would like to take on the challenge of being either the Freshwater or Saltwater outings Chair, please contact Marcos Enriquez or John Purcell. Also, if you would like to lead an outing, get in touch with Marcos.

July / August Saltwater Outing – Mike Graham is working on a Saltwater Outing for this month or August in the Port O’Connor area. There should be an update at the July Monthly Meeting or, check the website for an announcement.

The July Freshwater Outing – Currently, there is no outing scheduled for July. However, if you are interested in leading an outing to your secret spot, please contact Marcos.

Mark Your Calendar:
51st annual International Federation of Fly Fishers National Fly Fishing Fair, August 2-6, 2016 Park High School Livingston, Montana Show Event Wednesday - Saturday, August 4-6, from 9am to 5pm. Saturday is FREE entry! http://fedflyfishers.org/Home
Mark Your Calendar: - Continued:

12th Contraband Fly Fishing Expo, Saturday, August 20, 2016 8:30am - 4:00pm at the Moss Bluff United Methodist Church, Moss Bluff, LA. ADMISSION IS FREE. Sponsored by the Contraband Fly Casters / Tom Nixon Chapter Fly Tying, Casting Demos, Lure Exhibits, Auctions / Raffles, Food and Refreshments, Equipment Displays and more! Public invited. For more details, contact Warren Landry at (337) 853-7755 or, (337) 853-7755 or Ron Foreman at (337) 842-1439 or (337) 842-1439, e-mail: lredflytyer@bellsouth.net or www.contrabandflycasters.net.

August Monthly Meeting: Saturday, August 27, 2016 at 9:00 am – 4:00 pm – Texas FlyFishers Annual Mini Expo, held in place of the regular monthly meeting. The Expo is scheduled for Saturday, August 27th at the Terrance United Methodist Church located at 1203 Wirt Road in Houston, Texas 77055. We are looking for an event lead and volunteers for set up and take down, casting, fly tying demonstrations and other activities. Check with Marcos Enriquez or John Purcell if you are interested.


Texas Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers Annual Texas Fly Fishing Expo: September 8 through 10, 2016 at the Grapevine Convention Center, Grapevine, Texas. For additional information and list of presentations and classes, see the Expo website at http://txflyfishexpo.com/

September’s monthly meeting will open some new territory for the club and, its members. The scheduled speaker is Filippo Invernizzi, owner of Avalon Cuban Fishing Centers and he will be educating us traveling to and fishing the waters of our neighbor 90 miles to the south of Key West. This should be a great opportunity to get some firsthand information for that trip of a lifetime.

Know You Fellow Fly Fishers – Mike “Golden” Graham – Communications Chair:

From the time when I was around five years old my parents used to take me and my older brother up to Lake McQueeney outside New Braunfels, Texas to fish for bass and bream. After that exposure to fishing, on any day when I wasn’t in school you might find me playing or fishing on the banks of Olmos Creek that ran through my neighborhood in San Antonio. Loving fishing as I did, we saved up our green stamps (remember those?) and I eventually bought a new Pflueger spinning rod and reel set that I used for years. I had been watching Jim Thomas (The Lone Star Sportsman) catching big saltwater fish on TV one day so I got up the nerve and asked my Mom if we could go to Corpus Christi to let me try! We eventually did and I caught a 12 lb. gaff top catfish and several big whiting from the Bob Hall Pier. So now I was all about watching the American Sportsman, Gad-about Gaddis, and the other TV fisherman to learn everything I could about this sport of fishing.
Know You Fellow Fly Fishers – Continued:

I guess I kind of got away from the outdoor sports during my high school and college years, seems like other things were a little more interesting and important. But after the age of 30 I returned to fishing the weekends whenever my family life would allow. My older brother now lived in Wimberley Texas and by chance up against his rented house was this cool aluminum canoe left there by the previous renter. I asked if I could use it to check out the Blanco River which was near-by his place. There I discovered hidden beauty like I had never seen before, clear pristine water just full of fish. This river is lined down both banks with huge 100 year old cypress trees with exposed root systems reaching down into the water. For years I would take my friends over to the river using a newer 17’ old town canoe and we would catch large and smallmouth bass, channel cats, carp and drum, and every type of bream you can imagine.

Note: my largest fish of each fresh water species all came from the Blanco River. I will tell you this each were big and fat worthy of wall hanging! My younger brother, Scott was so impressed after a trip with me down the river that he bought a house in Wimberley too. He brought his fly rod along and had a blast with big bass that wouldn’t leave his deer-hair poppers alone. While we were fishing, he asked me if I liked saltwater fishing? I said yeah, but it had been years. That prompted a quick trip to Port O’Connor where he was making a living guiding fly fishers? WHATS THAT? Within four hours we were headed to the coast pulling his Maverick HPX.

My first catch was totally awesome. Scott was poling the skiff down this long sand bar, I was standing on the raised bow platform looking for fish when he said, Mike at twelve o’clock, 100 feet, moving right to left two big redfish. I looked back at him and said “you must be kidding me 100 feet?” He said “yes, and cast now!” I turned around and loaded up my 6’ lightweight spinning rod with a ¼ ounce Johnson gold spoon on it with everything I had and gave it a chunk. The spoon splashed down and Scott said, “strip… strip, err what? I mean reel reel!” I made several quick cranks and he said “lay the rod tip down easy easy…FISH ON!” I cranked back on the rod with everything I had and the line went tight. BOOM - LIFE CHANGER! I caught several more reds and a few trout that day and all the way back to Wimberley that night we talked about fishing the Texas coast.
Know You Fellow Fly Fishers – Continued:

Getting to his house around dark-thirty he went into the house and brought out a rod tube and reel case and while handing them to me he said this, “learn how to use these and you and I will have a blast!” So with a new Scott 7wt. and Orvis Battenkill in hand you’d find me at the local ponds here in Houston learning how to cast my fly rod. I’ll always have Scott to thank for that experience!

On one trip to POC, Scott introduced me to Marcos Enriquez, Dave Heyward, and Anthony Griess. These guys schooled me quick and I knew then that I really knew nothing about fly fishing. I learned about the club from Marcos and started to attend meetings. Hey this is pretty cool. I entered the Redfish Rodeo back in 2003 or 2004 and caught the big fish of the outing, a thirty-two and ¼” speckled trout! I was so thrilled. Since that time I figured this club was where I needed to be. I soon became the Saltwater Outings Chairman for four years meeting a ton of cool guys who loved fishing the salt as much as I.

Together we have had so many enjoyable adventures that I have the club to thank for. I now head up our promotional efforts every year at the George R. Brown Fishing Show. Here I get to discuss with mostly convention equipment fishermen the various aspects of the sport and amazing spirit that fly fishing can bring to you. I literally have spoken to thousands of folks who like me a few years ago didn’t really know that spirit. It feels great when I see these folks show up to our meetings and become a member of the Texas Fly Fishers!

I need to thank the One who really counts when it comes to my life’s adventure and that of course is our Lord. The spirit that fills my soul each time I fish is not man made. The creeks, rivers, lakes, oceans, seas, and bays are just part of his house and we all better keep it clean and alive so that our kids and their kids will be able to take granddads gear one day out onto that clear pristine saltwater flat or that beautiful rubble filled stream and enjoy their fly fishing adventure for years to come. Mike Graham

Outing Reports:

June Saltwater Outing: Anahuac / Trinity Bay, Saturday, June 25th, 2016 Submitted by Michael Quigley

Five or six brave souls hit Trinity Lake....err Bay. The water was extremely fresh and somewhat muddy. I personally didn't even see an alligator, let alone a redfish, but there were reports of a few sheepshead sightings. No fish were reported caught by the group, but it was still nice to get outside on the water!
Outing Reports - Continued:

June Freshwater Outing: South Llano River, Junction, Texas

The Annual South Llano River Trip was postponed when “Puck” was relocated to Pueblo Colorado. However, if you are interested in making the trip out west, there was talk that TFF would join up with the Paddling Anglers Canoe and Kayak members and fill in on their South Llano trip in mid-September. For more information and details, check with Jim Richards.

Conservation:

For additional information or, if you would like to volunteer, contact our Club Conservation Chair, Mike Frankoff.
Texas Council of the IFFF:

For additional information and times, visit the Expo website at [http://txflyfishexpo.com/](http://txflyfishexpo.com/)
Fly of the Month:

Orange-Barred Macko Fly
By Dr. Reynaldo Ramirez, Jr.

Hook: Mustad 34007 or 3407 DT Size #4
Thread: 210 Denier Ultra Thread
Legs: Orange barred rubber legs
Eyes: Medium Black Bead Chain Eyes
Tail: Orange Barred Marabou
Body: Root Beer Colored Estaz
Throat: Orange Barred Rubber Legs, Orange Barred Marabou, and Orange Kip Tail

Step 1

Secure a saltwater hook (Mustad 34007 or similar, Size #4) in the vise. Secure the thread and wrap down the hook shank beginning an eye length behind the eye, down to the hook bend (eyeball the barb) and then forward to hook point.
Fly of the Month: Continued

Step 2

Take a strand of rubber legs and bend it in half then snip. Place the legs on top of hook, fold back, and wrap until all four strands are well secured.

Step 3

Move the thread back to the hook barb and place about a hook length and a half of the marabou on top of the hook. Wrap the whole length of the shaft from the hook bend to just behind the eye. Even out the thread and return to the hook bend.
Fly of the Month: \textit{Continued}

Step 4

Tie in the Estaz at the hook bend ahead of the marabou.

Step 5

Apply head cement or super glue over the wraps and wrap the Estaz forward to the end of the maribou. Clip the Estaz.
Fly of the Month: Continued

Step 6

Secure the eye with figure eight and saddle wraps and rotate the hook point up.

Step 7

Prepare the rubber legs as before and, place two strands on one side and the other two strands on the other side of the hook point. Wrap the legs so that they extend toward the tail.
Fly of the Month: Continued

Step 8

Add another short clump of marabou above the wraps behind the eye.

Step 9

Wrap a small clump of orange kip tail in front of the eyes. The kip tail supports the marabou and acts like a weed guard.
Fly of the Month: Continued

Step 10

Add a monofilament weed guard (optional), Form a head, whip finish and coat with head cement.

Note: Other colors – Root beer, Chartreuse, Olive, Tan

Fly Tied by Chris Sumers

Dr. Reynaldo Ramirez, Jr. with a fine Lower Laguna Madre redfish.

Until Next Month, Tight Loops!
The Texas FlyFishers Executive Committee

Marcos Enriquez  John Purcell  Bob Brill
President  Vice President / Programs  Secretary / Membership

Raymond Lindeen  Jim Richards  Dave Lemke
Treasurer  Secretary / Programs  Webmaster

Mike Graham  Mike Frankhoff  Frank Schlicht
Communications  Conservation Chair  Education Chair

To Be Announced  To Be Announced  Alex Blacque
Saltwater Outings Chair  Freshwater Outings Chair  Door Prizes

Chris Sumers  Skip Donovan  Mary Kay Donovan
Dr. Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival  Auction Chair  Auction Chair

For more information, go to the club’s website at www.texasflyfishers.org

Texas Flyfishers Membership Application

Please check one:  ☐ New Application  ☐ Renewal

To join Texas Flyfishers or renew your membership, please complete this form and mail it with your check to the address below, or bring it with you to one of our monthly meetings. All memberships expire June 30th of each year, and renewals are due July 1st. Please pro-rate your payment for the number of months between now and the end of June, inclusive, if you are joining for the first time. Our monthly meetings are at the Harris County District 3 Bayland Park Community Center, located at 6400 Bissounez Street, Houston, Texas 77074, on the last Tuesday of every month (except December), beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Dues are for (check one):  ☐ Individual at $24 a year  ☐ Family at $32 a year  ☐ Student at $16 a year

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

Home phone: __________________________ Work phone: __________________________

Email: ____________________________________________

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