

# Flatland Fly Fishers

Wichita, Kansas

[www.flatlandflyfishers.org](http://www.flatlandflyfishers.org)

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Presidents Line

March, 2008

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**March meeting**  
**Sportmans Warehouse**  
**Calendar**  
**Women's Clinic**  
**Join the Federation**  
Page 2

**Single Fly Winners**  
Page 3

**President's Day**  
Page 4

**Valentine Day**  
Page 5

**New Look**  
**for Web Page**  
Page 6

**Seep Stream Update**  
Page 7

**Salida Trip**  
**Stocking date**  
**Club news**  
Page 8

Anyone who would like to share pictures or articles for the Newsletter should contact the editors at:  
[07editor@flatlandflyfishers.org](mailto:07editor@flatlandflyfishers.org)

Is the future of fly fishing doomed? I have had this on my mind for quite some time now. For the last several years I have noticed a lack of young people attending our meetings and functions and in fact there have only been a hand full over this time, and none consistently. This is not only happening in our own club but is happening in outdoor recreation world wide. A recent topic on MSNBC about the lack of participation of young children wanting to go outdoors and participate in activities like fishing, camping, and hiking has dramatically declined. In fact, it has declined throughout all ages, but the concern is with the young. This lack of participation is directly related to the fact that young adults, children and families are spending more time indoors playing video games and scanning the internet instead of going outdoors. The term for these individuals is called videophiles. There has even been a significant drop in attendance of our National and State Parks over the last twenty years. Statistics show that there has been a 25% decrease in park visitation and that it would take an additional 80 million visitors to attend our parks this year to make equal the same numbers from 1987. The scary part here is their lack of interest in the outdoors will affect all environmental issues in the future. Think about these consequences, our young children and young adults will be the policy makers. Will they have the same desires to preserve our wild lands as we currently do, or will they only see resources for energy and development?

What do we need to do? In my opinion we as a club should support any activity that promotes fly fishing or outdoor activities for children and young adults. In April we are asked to support a day with the Boy Scouts, and I think that we need a good showing at this event. Additionally we may need to plan other events like the Kids Fishing Days that we have sponsored in years past. What's more, it is important that each of you donate what time you can on these events. It is so crucial to future generations. Bring your ideas to the next meeting.

See you soon.  
Stuart

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**Next Meeting March 6, 7:00 P.M.**



## March Meeting

## 2008 Activities Calendar

At this month's meeting we will take a close look at gear used for catching different species, including rods, reels, lines, leaders and flies. We will also get into the tactics used, and seasonal patterns and habits of different species of fish, giving us an idea of how and when to go after our species of choice. There will be set up for Trout, Sunfish, Bass, Striped Bass/ Wiper, Carp, (covering Buffalo and Drum), Gar and Pike. The objective of this meeting is to get everyone familiar with the vast opportunities, readily available to us, to catch many different species in the waters all around us. Too often I hear people saying that they haven't been fishing in so many days, weeks, or even months, and I can't understand why they haven't taken advantage of the many places and species of fish to get after. I have found that if I go more than a week without wetting a line, I began to slip away from reality, so I make it a point to get out and chase at least one of our available species to ease level me out. I hope that this month's meeting will spark some interest in all of you to try a new method, or maybe modify the ones that you use to go after your species of preference.

Tight lines

Until we meet again!!

### Sportmans Warehouse Casting

March 29<sup>th</sup> will be the date for the Casting Clinic the club will be holding in conjunction with Sportsman's Warehouse. We will be performing tying demonstrations throughout the day as well as casting clinics and fly fishing 101. Doug Meyer will be front and center for the classroom/clinic portion of the program, but he will need plenty of support to make this endeavor successful. We will need several club members willing to help outside at the casting clinic; plus a couple more in the classroom area. Volunteers who would be willing to take on one or two hour shifts, slaving over a hot vise tying flies, would also be greatly appreciated. We will have sign up sheets at the next meeting. Please let me know of any questions or concerns.

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### **March 1 & 2, 2008**

Neal Hall rod building

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### **March 6, 2008**

Flatland Fly Fishers Club meeting 7 p.m.  
Program is looking at fishing gear

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### **March 13, 2008**

Board Meeting 7 p.m.  
Ark River Anglers

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### **March 14 & 15, 2008**

Women's Clinic (See flier in this issue)

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### **March 29, 2008**

Sportman's Warehouse Castin Clinic (see article this page)

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### **April 4, 2008**

Flatland Fly Fishers Club meeting 7 p.m.  
Program Pending

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### **April 11, 2008**

Board Meeing 7 p.m.  
Ark River Anglers

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### **April 29 - 30, 2008**

Salida trip (see article on page 8)

## ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Included with this newsletter is a flier for our annual March Women's Fly Fishing Clinic. If you know anyone you think may be interested please give them the flier. Cut off date on the flier is March 3rd, however we will accept sign-ups until we reach a maximum of 20 participants. We will be giving all the participants a fly box and I would like to include some good Slough Creek flies in each box. Donations of flies would be appreciated.

Thanks Ken McCloskey

**Members tie some Slough Creek flies for Ken.**

## Join the Federation of Fly Fishers

Want to be a member of the Federation? For a short time the membership fee is \$15. At the meeting fill out the application and have Stuart sign it.



## Darrell's Slough Creek Special w/UV Pearl Dubbing

(Tungsten Bead Head Marabou Damsel)



Recipe:

Hook: Sizes 8-18

Bead: Tungsten sized to fit hook

Thread: Black 6/0 or color to match body

Tail: Olive Green Marabou. Add one or two strands of crystal flash if desired

Throat: UV Pearl Dubbing

Rib: Gold, silver, or copper wire

Body: Olive Green Marabou

Start your thread and wrap the length of the shank of the hook ending at the hook bend. Cut tag. Measure the tail to be a shank length. Cut before you tie it in. Tie in the tail with about six firm wraps. Tie in your wire; make sure you tie in enough along the shank so when you go to wind it forward it doesn't slip out from applying too much pressure. I like to start about mid way up the shank and wrap back to and over the tail tie down. For the body you select several marabou fibers and cut the ends before tying in. Lay the ends over the tail wrap and tie in the body fibers from the front of the tail wrap to the rear of the wrap. Lift the body fibers up and twist the fibers several times to make a marabou rope. Palmer the marabou rope from the front and tie off behind the tungsten bead. The barbs of the marabou will stick out from the body section. Wrap the wire forward over the length of the body. When you wrap your wire forward, make sure you go the opposite direction then the way you went with the hackle. This will prevent the marabou rope from breaking and unraveling from the fly after a few hook-ups. Go slow as you advance the wire up the body. Moving the wire back and forth as you wind forward helps from catching so many of the marabou barbs. Tie the wire down. Use a small pinch of UV Pearl dubbing and tie it in just behind the bead and whip-finish. Use a drop of Zap-A-Gap or head cement to secure the knot and take the fly to the water.

**How to fish:** I've read that Damsel nymphs don't swim very fast. When fishing without an indicator I use a slow retrieve: strip of about 6 to 12 inches then pause a second or two then strip again. When fishing with an indicator let the fly drop naturally and then use a slow retrieve to add motion to the fly. Remember think smooooooth, no wakes from the indicator.

### Stephen Nance 'Single Fly'

Hares Ear Variant:

Hook Standard size 16

Body: Brown or Rusty Brown Squirrel Dubbing, Gold wire

Thorax: Same as Body with Thin Skin and two strips of pearl flash; Hard Head

Tail: Grizzily Hackle fibers

Thread: Brown



I fish this fly at the slough and Roaring River religiously. It is my go to Nymph at Sedgwick County Park. Fishing this fly is very simple. I usually put it under an indicator so that the fly is about 1-2 feet above the bottom of the hole I am fishing (Usually this is 3-4 feet). Since I do not tie this fly with a bead head, I add a small split shot about 4 inches above the fly.

When I fish it, I usually do very slow strips about 6 inches long, then stopping the fly for a good ten seconds. If you are causing a wake with your indicator, you are stripping the fly to fast! The fish usually hit it when it is stopped.

This fly also works very well as the head fly of a dropper rig. I usually put this fly first with about 9-12 inches of tippet to a size 18-20 pink zebra midge.



February 18 is probably too early and too cold to fish for anything other than trout, but that did not stop Stuart, Rory, and I from heading down to Oklahoma in search of the elusive temperate bass trio; White Bass, Striped Bass, and the White/Striper hybrid commonly called a Wiper. Our plan was to hit Sooner Lake first and then stop at the tail water below Kaw Reservoir on the way home. Sooner Lake is a power plant water source lake a few miles south of Ponca City. I'm not exactly sure how the water is used but I do know cold water goes in one side and comes out the other side considerably warmer. The warm outlet water attracts bait fish and in turn brings in the bigger predator species like the previously mentioned threesome. Surrounded by chain link and barbed wire and accessed only after a one plus mile hike the Sooner outlet is usually fished only by the slightly deranged. After the muddy stroll in we diligently flogged the water for two or three hours and had only one small White to show for our efforts. To make matters worse we had to watch someone on the outlet's other side (utility employees are allowed to drive in and fish a few steps from their vehicles) drag a yard long striper around in the dirt for a while.

With the usual fly fishermen's optimism or is it blindness we decided to face the hike out and head to Kaw. The Arkansas River is dammed just east of Ponca City to create Kaw Reservoir. The tail water below the dam is fairly big water rumored to hold big Stripers and Hybrids. Unfortunately two days of cold rain upstream had pushed the lake level up and prompted the Army Corp of Engineers to release a little water. Flows in the 2500 cubic feet per second range and water temps around forty degrees made for sore casting arms, dicey wading, and no results. Several hundred Seagulls' wheeled above us though and choked down the stunned Shad that were being flushed through the dam from the lake above. We kept hoping to see some silver noses pushing up through the turbulence to match the death from above but none appeared. Stuart and Rory kept the faith longer than I did but ultimately they had to face the skunk too. The late afternoon light did give me a fishing opportunity though. Trading my fly rod for a digital camera I was able to catch a couple of determined anglers reluctant to give up the chase.





## A Valentine Day Adventure

Linda Welty

Valentines Day to most couples brings the illusion of romance, flowers, candy, jewelry and expensive dinners. But, when you and your spouse enjoy the sport of fly fishing those illusions quickly turn to rods, flies and float trips. That is exactly what occurred for Valentines Day 2008 for Dwan and I. I agreed to a float trip adventure and Dwan made the arrangements.

The float trip was with Chartered Waters in Hollister, Missouri, the guide was Brett. The day of our float trip the sun was shining and temperature was a balmy 39 degrees. After donning at least two pairs of socks, two pairs of pants, two sweatshirts, two coats, one windbreaker, gloves, hat and hand warmers, provided by Brett I was ready. With Brett in



the boat and Dwan at my side I rolled into the boat seat and with Brett driving we headed towards the dam. The wind was cold so I tucked my head into my coat and enjoyed the boat ride. I attended the Fall Banquet and once we stopped I recognized several areas that were discussed, the boat ramp and the KOA. The water was crystal clear. We only saw one wade fisherman so we had Lake Taneycomo to ourselves.

The water was not running so we started at the boat ramp. Brett allowed the boat to drift while he prepared us to fish. Brett got Dwan fishing first then turned his attention to me. Whatever rod Brett handed me I used, but I did like the 4 wt. 8-6 rod the best.

Brett was a great guide and teacher. He offered helpful points on casting and explained exactly what to look for when using a strike indicator. I found this information very helpful as I have been told any change in the indicator means you have a bite. Well, just the natural movement of the water changes the indicator. So, having specifics as what to look for, like ripples, was great. I also know that listening to a guide giving you instructions is better than listening to your husband. I finally was able to catch fish without them having "breakfast, lunch and dinner" before I recognized the bite. Yea!!!

Brett was very patient with the novice who kept tangling the line but I only lost one fly. I quickly learned that you either catch fish or you enjoy the scenery. I did take a few minutes to enjoy the surroundings; we did get a photo of an eagle.

Dwan caught the first fish of the day and I caught the last. My total catch for the day was 10 and the longest was 15 inches. I am sure Dwan caught more but he cheated, he caught several by the tail.



Valentines Day was not one of wine and roses but the trout were beautiful. Would I do it again? Absolutely!!





# New Look for Web Page

Kevin Boddy

For the past few months Songbin Chon and Kevin Boddy have been working on designing a new look to the Flatland Fly Fishers web site. The new site will feature an easy to use drop down navigation thru out the site. News and Up Coming Events will be on the main page allowing for club information to be found quickly. The Photo Gallery is getting up dated with all new club photos and members are encouraged to send their favorite photos of fishing trips or of themselves with their fish. Large photo files are ok. Send photos to [kevin@wichitawebworks.com](mailto:kevin@wichitawebworks.com) Launch of new site is scheduled for sometime in March.

**Flatland Fly Fishers**  
Wichita, Kansas

Home Events Education Conservation Resources Join Us Newsletter

The Flatland Fly Fishers (formerly Flatland Fly Fishing) established in 1985, is based in Wichita, Kansas and has the support of over 150 members. Incorporated as a non-profit organization in 2000, we are open to anyone interested in the sport of Fly Fishing. Our mission is to promote and further fly fishing through: conservation, education, networking, and participation.

The club objectives are:

- To encourage conservation and wise use of recreational resources.
- To provide education and improve fly fishing awareness in the community.
- To fish and share outdoor experiences and to promote our fly fishing heritage for future generations.

Club meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Great Plains Nature Center, located on the Northwest corner of Woodlawn and 29th Street North.

Get directions with

**Up Coming Events!**

Women's Fly Fishing Program: Flatland Fly Fishers is inviting women of all ages to fly fishing class.

Northern Day Hatch Trip to Salina: April 26 - 30 2008

Learn how to fly fish with a basic fly tying course

Meet our officers for 2008

**Flatland Fly Fishers News!**

**Featured Story:** Flatland Fly Fishers helps support the Karpisella Deep Stream Project... [Read more...](#)

**Slough Creek Stocking Volunteers Needed:** Three volunteers are needed to stock Slough Creek every other Thursday morning. Please contact Jessica Mounts, Fishery's Biologist at Kansas Wildlife and Parks (303-0803) to schedule your time.

**Fly Fishing Venture Crew 356**  
We are looking for young men and women that have completed 8th grade and are 14 to 22 years old to join our crew. [Learn more...](#)

Flatland Fly Fishers thanks those sponsors for their support. Click on logo to visit their web site.





# Seep Stream Update

Doug Meyer

## SO FAR SO GOOD!!

Just recently I remember reading in the Wichita Eagle that the Arkansas River access Program had not passed. It was not voted down, but the vote was delayed and put on hold. It was reported that most of the public groups that were represented were opposed to the plan. The normal reasons for not doing it were sited: Crime, Litter, and Vandalism. The basic fear of the owners was due to the possible increase of traffic on the river. A new twist was also brought up. How much will added traffic violate lease contracts currently in place on adjacent lands to the River? The Hunting Outfitters have enjoyed basic noncompetitive rights to it. I remember a written comment from one of the opposing voice; He said that judging from the attendance at meetings he's been to, there doesn't seem to be much interest in the plan among canoers and kayakers.



The old cry never changes. Stand up and be counted. Last Club meeting a signup sheet was available for Club members to announce their interest. We received over 30 names announcing, if conditions were right, they could do a work day. This was the best single project sign up response I've seen since becoming a member, GOOD JOB!!!!. For those who have not signed but still want to, LET US KNOW!! We can still use more workers.

At this writing still no dates set. We'll report them as soon as possible when received. Watch the newsletter and website. Meanwhile you can sharpen your shovels, find your gloves, gather your tools from the neighbors who borrowed them last fall and start networking to the other members about car pooling out there together when the time comes.

Neal Hall stated that the Federation of Flyfishers \$1000.00 check which was requested in partnership with the Freestaters and Flatlanders Flyfishing Clubs has been received. He is shopping the best deals on Short Prairie Grass and etc. to use for this project. Gary Tatro has scheduled a Flyfishing Clinic Day at Wichita's Sportsman Warehouse on March 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are just starting out in Flyfishing, the clinic and casting will be helpful in getting you on your way. Watch both ours and their websites for details and times. Being new ground for the club, results of this kind of fund raising is unpredictable. The plan is money raised from this event will go toward the stream project. It would be better to have too many students attending then not enough. Club members as well as general public will be able to attend this event.

Doug Meyer

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## 2008 Salida Trip

We will plan to leave early on Saturday, April 26th, fish that afternoon through Tuesday, and return on Wednesday the 30th. Arrangements for accommodations have been made with the Days Inn in Salida (719-539-6651) at the special Flatland Fly Fishers Club rate of \$50.00 per room/per night including tax. Contact Jerry Donnelly or Kendal Rush for more information.

## 2008 Club Officer

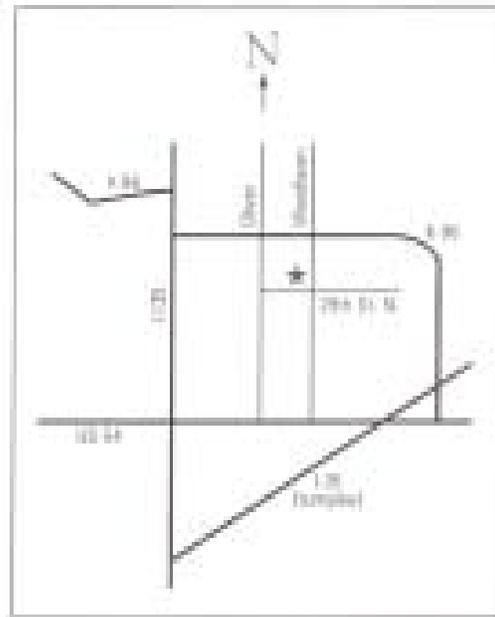
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	<i>Mike Carr, Bill White</i>

## Flatland Fly Fishers



P.O. Box 49164  
Wichita, KS  
67201

Flatland Flyfishers meet monthly at the Great Plains Nature Center, located at 6232 E. 29th St. N, Wichita, KS



**For Sale** 8 ft Pontoon Kick Boat  
White River Fly Shop, Blue  
Heron Eight with Double Action  
Pump, fins, and oars.  
\$225 or will consider best offer.  
Doug Meyer 721-2362



**Need volunteers for the following stocking dates for Slough Creek March 13 & 27.** If available to assist contact Jessica Mounts, Fishery's Biogolist, at 683-8069



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