



April 2018

Inside This Issue

Chairman's Cast

Next Workshop Material List

Tying instructions for the Damselfly

Herald Marketing Drive

FOSAF info

Check out point

DIY Corner

Important Dates

Contact details

from the Vice



Trout on the cards? Looks like the DEA now has this fish firmly in its sights. Some interesting reading from Ed Herbst which can be found on <http://www.fosaf.org.za/news-archives.php>. Should the DEA prevail then plenty of high end kit will be up for grabs, so watch the 2nd hand columns. Let's pray however that sanity is the victor. My annual trip to Rhodes had both highs and lows but in the end some good fish were taken. The highlight of the trip though was when Devan caught his first wild river rainbow on a dry fly. But more about the trip in next month's newsletter with some pictures. Now for some feedback:

1. A big thanks to all those members who aided and helped with the Herald marketing drive. Despite the low response a good day was had.
2. Our banner is now complete and I think that it portrays very well what we are about.
3. To those who ordered the Guild shirts, the quality and function meets the requirements. A big thanks to Devan for arranging the shirts.
4. Brett from Trophy Tackle Den has now received his tying materials, so pop in and see what he has.
5. Due to the poor pixel quality of the photos for the fly of the month, the committee has decided to scrap Jannie's suggestion of a Guild book carrying our flies tied. These flies appear in the monthly newsletters and should a member miss a workshop the SBS tying instructions can still be easily obtained in the previous newsletter.

Lastly Pat will be facilitating on the 21st April with the theme back to basics. He will be demonstrating a PTN variation and also demonstrating a pattern called "Devils back door".

Sounds interesting. See you all on 17th March

Yours amongst the feathers,
Gary

GUILD WORKSHOP FLY TO BE TIED ON 21/04/2018

NAME OF FLY - Pheasant Tailed Nymph

FACILITATOR: Pat Lynch

Hook size: #12 or 14
Thread: Black or Brown
Tail: CDC fibres
Abdomen: Pheasant tail fibres.. long.
Rib: Rib Copper or coloured wire
Thorax: Thorax Peacock herl
Wing case: Pheasant tail fibres.. long

The second fly will be an example of what can be used as a point fly on a NZ rig together with the PTN. The fly is called the Devil's Doorman and works well in both streams and still water. It will be tied as a demo only to share with the guys and no material is required.

TYING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE "DAMSEFLY" TIED ON 17/03/2018

FACILITATOR: Bradley Mardon

- Stage 1: Dress the hook, leaving about a millimetre from the eye. (This is "no man's land")
- Stage 2: Bring the thread forward and tie in eyes about two millimetres from the eye.
- Stage 3: Select three of four marabou fibres and tie in to form the tail (tail to be the length of the hook shank).
- Stage 4: Tie a single strand of crystal flash on either side of the tail. (Crystal flash to be shorter than the tail)
- Stage 5: Tie in a length of flashabou and hook out the way behind the fly (this will be used as ribbing later).
- Stage 6: Use the rest of the marabou to dress the body of the fly, try form a carrot shape. Stop at the thorax, about two thirds of the length of the hook shank. Tie in and trim excess.
- Stage 7: Take the flashabou and rib up the shank to where the thorax starts. Rib in a opposite direction of the marabou. Tie in. Send tag back behind the fly again.
- Stage 8: Dub some marabou (3 or 4 barbs should do it) on your thread and build up a thorax. Keep adding till you have a nice buggy looking fly.
- Stage 9: Now bring the soft hackle forward and tie in. Bring the flashabou forward directly above the quill of the hackle and tie off. Trim both tags. Using your fingers, align the barbs to look like legs.



Stage 10: Dub more marabou but this time very sparsely on the thread and Dub around the eyes to form a head.

Stage 11: Whip finish and seal with head cement. Glue. Sally or whatever you choose to use.



HERALD MARKETING DRIVE – 24TH MARCH 2018 Article by Gary

After much preparations the morning of the 24th arrived and yes as we know the PE wind came along too. With much excitement the stall was erected and the members huddled around the tying table like sardines in a tin, all ready to teach whoever ventured near, a crash course 101 if you like the art of tying flies.

The format for the day was on a rotational basis thereby giving the members an opportunity to participate as time allowed. There was also a casting pad outside with 3 official time slots whereby the public could try their hand at casting. “ Oh Jannie by the way you still owe me a fly”. One chirp that was overheard from a member as we all stood adorned with our caps and shirts was that we looked like a political party from the past. Hell maybe we scared the public away. Who knows!! (maybe pink and frills next time won't seem so threatening.) Louise any ideas? A huge thanks to all who helped make the day a success but especially to Pat and Bradley for making the day a reality.

In closing they say a picture says a thousand words. So enjoy the pics with the captions.



The Stall and some of the crew



Some actual tying in progress



Vivian hard at work



Lastly our own "James Dean" check daai bene

Fly fishing is a recreational pursuit. Recreation is defined as a refreshment of the mind and body after work, especially by engaging in enjoyable activities. I see too many anglers that act like fly fishing is some type of competition, and too many anglers that approach fly fishing like their ability to cast a full fly line or catch more or bigger fish than other anglers will push them up the angling ladder. My question is, "Where is the ladder going?" Let us resolve to remember that fly fishing is a form of self-gratification and the rewards are mostly personal. Any competition should properly be between the angler and the fish. – Neil Travis

Fly fishing is a learned activity and to become proficient requires time and practice. If you only spend a few days each year fly fishing you should not expect to be able to step into the water and begin laying out flawless casts. If your angling experience consists of watching some fly fishing videos and reading some books or fly fishing blogs it is unreasonable to believe that you can vicariously transfer that information into practical application without actually do it. The most proficient anglers that I know have spent hours perfecting their skills, and it's in the act of doing that both proficiency and enjoyment are to be found. – Neil Travis

Imagine ... no trout in Thrift Dam



Trout fishing in South Africa is UNDER THREAT. We need your support to help us fight for its survival. Do your bit. Join FOSAF. Only R300 for a year's FOSAF membership.

www.fosaf.org.za Sign up at www.fosaf.org.za

For those that have not yet registered on the on the ISSUU site that was posted in our last newsletter, now would be the time to do so.

One of the publications is Africa's Original Fly-fishing Magazine and the April/May edition has 60 pages of interesting information.

Amongst this information you will find Devan featured on page 25 as per this insert.

Well done Devan, good catch and nice prize.

A special message from
FLYFISHING Magazine

BIG FISH

CATCH & RELEASE COMPETITION



Congratulations, Devan!
 You are the winner of the Xplorer Big Fish competition in the next issue of FLYFISHING Magazine (April/May 2018).
 Keep a lookout for the latest issue and we hope to see more of your fantastic catches in the future.

The Flyfishing Team



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Available online from the end of March 2018.
 Find us on issuu.com

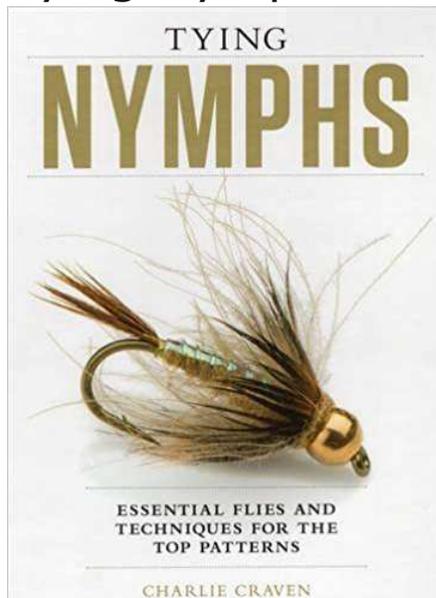


A fisherman returned to shore with a giant marlin that was bigger and heavier than he. On the way to the cleaning shed, he ran into a second fisherman who had a stringer with a dozen baby minnows. The second fisherman looked at the marlin, turned to the first fisherman and said, "Only caught one, eh?"

CHECK OUT
POINT

Fly-tying Books submitted by Zerilda

Tying Nymphs: Essential Flies and Techniques for the Top Patterns



Author: Charlie Craven

Hardcover: 192 pages

Publisher: Stackpole / Headwater (January 1, 2016)

Price: \$20.36

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1934753351

ISBN-13: 978-1934753354

- The best subsurface flies for rivers and lakes around the world
- Over 50 essential nymph patterns
- Detailed tying instructions, insights into material preparation, and tricks of the trade from one of the country's best tiers

Editorial Reviews

Review

"Forget everything you thought you knew about tying nymphs, Charlie Craven always seems to find more efficient ways to produce sexier flies. Not only does he have a critical and a creative mind, he is the best communicator in fly tying today, with a neighbourly, engaging writing style and clear, detailed photography that will drag you kicking and screaming into the world of better fly tying." (Ross Purnell *Fly Fisherman magazine* 2015-09-01)

About the Author

Charlie Craven co-owns Charlie's Fly Box, a fly shop in Arvada, Colorado, and is a top-selling signature fly designer for Umpqua Feather Merchants. Craven is the Fly Tier's Bench columnist for *Fly Fisherman* and author of *Charlie Craven's Basic Fly Tying: Modern Techniques for Flies That Catch Fish* and *Charlie's Fly Box: Signature Flies for Fresh and Salt Water*. He is also featured in the recent *Fly Fisherman* magazine DVDs *Warmwater Fly Tying* and *Saltwater Fly Tying*. He lives in Palmer Lake, Colorado, with his wife, Lisa, two giant dogs, and a slew of children.



This month we will take a look at skinning animals and birds as I believe that there are some members that have a few specimens in cold storage.

As I grew up on a farm I have no trouble with blood and guts as I learnt to skin animals at a young age. The only problem was all the wasted opportunities as I was only introduced to fly fishing and tying late in life.

There is a difference between birds and animals. For animals there are two methods, Case skinning or open skinning and the only tool required is a sharp pointed knife, sharp being the key.

In case skinning you start by hanging the animal up by the hind legs. Cut the skin around the one foot, then split the skin on the inside of the leg to the anus, cut around it and then continue up the inside of the other leg. Cut around the front feet and neck. Then grip the skin that you have loosened around the back legs and pull the skin off as you would for example remove a jersey or sock. The skin comes off as a tube. I have only seen this done once and not tried it myself but believe it works well on small animals and looked easy when watching someone with experience doing it.

I was taught the open method which starts with lying the animal on its back on a flat surface. A cut is made from the anus to the upper neck or bottom lip. Depends if you want the mask or not. Next cut around all four feet or hooves and split the inside of the legs to the cut you have made up the middle. Grab the skin and begin to work your knuckles under the skin to separate it from the muscle and stomach membrane. On small animals not normally necessary to cut any more but on larger animals it will be tough and the knife will be required to separate some pieces. Care must be taken over the stomach membrane as puncturing this will cause some unpleasant smell and muck that will get all over the skin. Once the skin is opened the carcass is removed leaving behind the flat skin.

For birds you may need to add a strong kitchen scissors or pruning shears. Lay the bird on its back and again start at the anus and make a cut around it, turn the knife around and split the skin through the centre of the bird up to the underside of the beak. Next cut around the foot and with the knife turned around split the skin through to the centre cut you have made. Repeat for the other leg. Then take each side of the skin that has been split up the middle and separate from the muscle and stomach lining up to the wings using your knuckles to separate skin from carcass. This is where you will use the scissors to cut the wing off but keeping the underside of the skin to the wing intact (You can later remove some of the bone and meat on larger birds or else it will take a long time to cure). Remove the rest of the skin from the carcass. You should now have the skin with the wings intact.

Some hints: It is always easier to skin the bird or animal shortly after it has been killed when the carcass is still warm. After being frozen let it thaw out for some time and then loosen up the legs and wings before starting to skin it, this ensure easier access to all parts if one can fold back the wings and pull the legs aside easily to split the skin.

Curing and preserving follows and we will look at this in the next couple of newsletters.

"It is not a fish until it is on the bank." - Irish Proverb

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These contact details and info may only be used within the parameters of the Port Elizabeth Fly Tying Guild.

21st April – Freshwater workshop – PTN and Devil.s Doorstop

19th May - Freshwater workshop TBA

16th June - Freshwater workshop & Outing TBA