

2014 Spring Banquet with Jeff Wilkins



Jeff developed a passion for fishing through outings with his father. More than 26 years ago he expanded his fishing passion to include fly fishing. Jeff is blessed with the loving support of his wife Kathy, and they have raised two boys who also love the outdoors. With his family's encouragement and support, Jeff went out on his own after a local retail fly shop where he worked closed. I guess you can say that is when he officially became a professional "Trout Bum"!

Jeff has traveled both locally and to different areas of the country fly fishing, guiding, tying flies, and teaching fly fishing and fly tying. He is a Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Fly Casting Instructor, and teaches the

fly fishing and fly tying curriculums at both the University of North Carolina Greensboro and Guilford Technical Community College.

Fly tying is also his passion as well; Jeff believes that sometimes the fly is what makes the difference. Frequently Jeff ties commercially for sale or hire, and also does lots of special orders. His specialty is flies for tough, selective trout, especially emergers and nymphs. Some of his favorite patterns are published, most recently in Trout Flies of the East by Ted Leeson and Jim Schollmeyer. Jeff also tied the flies for the commemorative print of Charles Kuralt, painted by Bob Timberlake, entitled "Kuralt at White's Creek".

Jeff has appeared on FOX 8 WGHP with Roy Ackland of the popular feature "Roy's Folks", and more recently appeared with Shannon Smith. He has also appeared on WFMY 2 and WXII Newschannel 12 doing various fly fishing and fly tying segments. In 2007 and 2008 Jeff got to know Newschannel 12 Meteorologist Austin Caviness and they did a couple of segments together for his popular feature "Austin Outdoors."

When it comes to fishing locally, Jeff likes fly fishing wherever there's water-Trout, bass, panfish, any fish that will take a fly and give a good account of itself. Jeff has fished and guided the Southeastern and Rocky Mountain areas of the west and has extensive experience in fishing and tying flies for each. As a part of his work, he is also an artist, and enjoys doing pen and ink renditions of his favorite flies.

