



Dear CFR alumnae, volunteers and supporters,

On April 15-17th, the 9th Texas Casting for Recovery retreat was held at Joshua Creek Ranch in Boerne. Fourteen breast cancer survivors, ranging in age from 37 to 68, joined 11 volunteer staff members for a weekend of fly fishing, laughter and the opportunity to share experiences. The participants came primarily from Central Texas (Austin, Round Rock, Georgetown, Leander, San Antonio, New Braunfels) with the exception of one woman who drove all the way from Lubbock. :) We had beautiful Texas spring weather, cool mornings and warm afternoons.

On Sunday morning, nine river helpers from the fly fishing community joined the group to fish one-on-one with the participants. The women fished all morning and plenty of beautiful rainbow trout and sunfish were caught. Karen Gebhardt, a CFR staffer helped guide as well as some veteran river helpers: Steve Flanagan, Lloyd Mathews and Chris Baumbach. We'd also like to thank our newest river helpers: Rod Viator, Greg Welander, Mike Howard, Ken Kahanek (all from the San Gabriel Fly Fishers) and Gene Smith (Fredericksburg Fly Fishers). They all did a wonderful job of sharing their joy of fly-fishing with the women.

This group named themselves the "Knotty Nines." Thanks to everyone for making this retreat possible and allowing 14 more women to experience the Casting for Recovery program. "To Fish is to Hope!"

Thanks,

[Susan Gaetz](#)

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