

# TBFFC Food and Fly Recipes

This page on our website is in memory of Layne “Smitty” Smith who passed away in late January 2024. Smitty was a kind soul, avid fisherman, and an innovative and artistic fly tier. He willingly shared his knowledge and love of fly tying and passed that along to all who knew him. We featured his “golden eye” shrimp in January after Robert Fischer caught a big bonefish on it. He tied at many venues, to include club meetings and fly fishing shows. Somewhat of a “foodie” he often shared tasty recipes for our newsletter. In his memory, we dedicate this fly and food section on our club website. Here you will find both food and fly instructions. I hope you will enjoy it as you take time to remember him and his beautiful flies and kindred spirit.

//Walt Durkin Feb 24



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# Smitty's Date & Nut Pinwheel Cookies

## Ingredients:

### Dough:

½ cup brown sugar

¾ cup white sugar

2 cups flour

½ tsp salt

½ tsp baking powder

1 tsp vanilla

1 egg

½ cup butter

Blend butter, sugars, egg and vanilla. Mix in flour, baking soda and salt. Chill dough for 1 hour.

### Filling:

1 lb dates

6 tbsp orange juice

¼ cup sugar

⅛ tsp of salt

1 lb walnuts (chopped)

Chop dates and add to the next three ingredients. Cook slowly and stir constantly. Add walnuts last and cool.

## Directions:

Roll out dough on wax paper. Spread filling evenly over the dough and roll up like a jelly roll. Chill overnight.

Slice thin and bake at 375 degrees for 15-20 minutes.

Dough will keep for 1 month in the refrigerator before baking.



## Smitty's White Widow

Smitty writes: Walt ... Here's a fly that I tied for Robert Fischer to test for me a while back ... he took one look at it and his mouth said "O.K. I'll give it a try" but his *'eyes' said* "Smitty, this fly won't catch diddly". I got a call from him from on the water. "Smitty, I'll never doubt you again. I wasn't having much luck today, so I decided , what the heck, let me try Smitty's fly. I WILL NEVER DOUBT YOU AGAIN. My first three casts I caught three *HUGE* trout each one larger than the last".

*This is a proven fly on Tampa Bay for Trout, Snook, and Ladyfish, as well as Tarpon and Redfish (for Redfish use a sink tip or full sinking line to get the fly down; it is very buoyant).*

### Materials:

Hook: Mustad 3407 size 1 - 1/0 (or your favorite saltwater hook)

Thread: Chartreuse flat waxed nylon

Tail: White Rabbit zonker strip (Magnum)\*

Flash: Micro Flashabou

Body: White Body Fur\*\*

Eyes: 8mm (5/32") molded eyes

Coating: Softex

Weedguard: Optional (your favorite style)



### Tying Sequence:

**Step 1:** Tie in thread above hook point and wrap back to bend. Tie in a zonker strip and post with about 10 wraps of thread to stand tail up slightly. (This will help to keep from fouling.)

**Step 2:** Tie in pearl Flashabou. (About 2 strands doubled and splayed back on either side of the zonker.)

**Step 3:** Tie in the leading edge of body fur and palmer as you would a hackle feather. Stroke material back after each wrap so you don't matt it down. Tie off and cut excess body fur away.

**Step 4:** Back-wrap over the leading edge of body fur to make it lay back. Taper head and whip finish.

**Step 5:** Glue on molded eyes with FletchTite Gel. Apply color with markers to show gills and other markings if you like.

**Step 6:** Apply thin coat of Softex to the top of the fly between eyes to create a diving head (similar to Dahlberg Diver). Too heavy of a coat will deform the head of the fly when it dries.

# Salmon Patty Recipe

By Patty Anderson

This is a good way to use up leftover cooked salmon or use canned red salmon.

Makes 4 servings

16 oz cooked salmon

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup bread crumbs

2 tbs chopped parsley

1 tbs chopped chives

$\frac{1}{2}$  tbs grated lemon zest

1 tbs lemon juice

1 egg lightly beaten

2 tbs milk

1 tbs djon mustard

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup fine dried bread crumbs

$\frac{1}{4}$  cup vegetable oil

## Sauce

In a medium bowl, stir together bread crumbs, parsley, chives, lemon zest and juice, Egg, milk, mustard until well combined. Shape mixture into 8 round cakes. Put the Dried bread crumbs on a plate and coat each cake thoroughly.

In a non-stick skillet, heat 2 tbs of oil over medium heat. Add half the salmon cakes and cook for about 5 minutes on each side until golden brown. Transfer to an ovenproof pan and keep warm in the oven while you prepare the other 4 cakes. Place 2 cakes on each plate and serve with tarter, remoulade or lemon dill sauce.



# Smitty's Monkey's Milk Grub

Fish it in your favorite jig fishing style. Although this was designed for crappie , it works great on any panfish in the smaller size. The larger size I'd use for crappie and even largemouth bass ... also think snook for saltwater!

## Materials:

Hook: Jenko Slasher crappie jig hooks, size 1/16 oz to ½ oz, white

Thread: Danville's Flatwaxed Nylon, white or minnow blue Tail: Two-toned rabbit zonker, blue and white

Under-body: Minnow Blue Cactus Chenille, medium or micro \* NOTE

Over-body: UV White Badger Squishenille, medium or micro \* NOTE

Finish: Solarez UV Resin

\* NOTE: Use medium size for 1/16 oz. jigs and micro for ½ oz. jigs.

## Tying Sequence:

1. Place hook in vise and clip off bait retainer. Wrap hook shank with closed wraps from jig head to just past hook point (i.e. tie-in point).
2. Measure tail to two hook lengths, cut and strip away hair from jig head to just in front of tie in point. Lash down zonker forward with open wraps to jig head and then back-wrap in tight closed wraps to tie -in point to secure.
3. Strip off Cactus Chenille, enough to expose thread core to get a secure tie down from tie-in point to jig head, (return thread to tie-in point). Repeat the process with the Squishenille, returning thread to tie-in point.
4. Pull both chenilles away from hook shank and making sure not to trap any of the rabbit fur in with them, start to twist the two chenilles together to make a nice chenille rope,
5. Start palmering rope forward (be sure first wrap cover base of tail) all the while stroking rubber chenille back so as not to overwrap previous turn. Wrap to jig head and tie off with a few tight wraps and then whip finish and trim excess thread.
6. Apply a drop of UV Resin and cure



## Smitty's Sloppy Joe

1 tbsp vegetable oil  
1 large onion, diced  
 $\frac{2}{3}$  cup diced red & orange pepper  
2 lb lean ground beef  
1 cup Heinz Tomato Ketchup  
3 tbsp tomato paste  
2 tbsp Heinz Worcestershire Sauce  
2 tbsp brown sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp salt  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  tsp pepper  
a splash of apple cider vinegar  
8 sandwich buns

### Directions:

1. Heat oil in a large frying pan set over medium-high heat. Sauté onions, red & orange pepper for 5 minutes.
2. Add beef to the pan. Cook, stirring until browned, about 5 to 10 minutes. Drain off fat.
3. Stir in ketchup, tomato paste, Worcestershire sauce, sugar, salt and pepper. Simmer over medium-low heat, stirring occasionally, for 10 minutes or until slightly thickened. Serve on sandwich buns
4. Serve with baked potato wedges or tater tots and/or onion rings and coleslaw



## Smitty's Redfish Crab Fly

Smitty calls this his Redfish Crab and he's right -- redfish love it -- but you're just as likely to catch snook fly fishing the mangroves with this fly. Fish this one at the Emerson Point Preserve if you're fishing the mangrove shorelines.

Materials: Hook: Gamakatsu SC15 #1/0  
Thread: Danville's Flatwaxed Nylon, brown  
Weight: Medium lead eyes  
Claws: Four grizzly hackles, splayed  
Eyes: EZ Crab/Shrimp eyes or mono eyes (optional)  
Tail: Brown barred magnum rabbit strip, & brown marabou to cover rear wraps  
Legs: Pumpkin/Green Sili Legs  
Body: Medium root Beer or copper palmering chenille  
Weedguard: 40-pound Mason hard mono



Tying Sequence: Step 1: Tie in lead eyes securely one eye length behind hook eye. Step 2: Tie in and splay two grizzly hackles on each side, making sure feathers curve outwards. Step 3: Tie Bunny strip with hide facing upwards – fly will ride hook point up. Tie in a pair of rubber legs on each side of bunny strip. Step 4: Palmer marabou to hide rear wraps for a neat fly. Step 5: Tie in palmering chenille and wrap forward, stopping behind the eye. Step 6: Tie in a second pair of legs on each side just behind lead eyes. Step 7: Add a 40-pound hard mono weed guard by folding in half and tying in from the bottom of the fly. Make sure to separate weed guards and cross wrap to secure. Apply a coating of Solarez UV Resin and cure



# Smitty's Kielbasa Sandwiches with Kimchi and Swiss Cheese

**Quick Kimchi** Makes About 2 Cups

## Ingredients:

1 small head napa cabbage (about 1 pound)

⅓ cup kosher salt

⅓ cup unseasoned rice vinegar

1 tbsp sugar

1 tsp sweet or hot paprika

¼ tsp cayenne pepper

½ medium red bell pepper

3 medium scallions

One 3" piece of fresh ginger (grated)

1 garlic clove

Directions:

1. Trim off the core end of the cabbage. Split each leaf lengthwise and cut it crosswise into 1½" ribbons (about 4 cups). Combine the cabbage and salt in a nonreactive bowl and set aside at room temperature for 2 hours.
2. Bring the vinegar, sugar, paprika, and cayenne to a boil over high heat in a small saucepan.
3. Meanwhile, finely chop the bell pepper (about ½ cup) and transfer it to a medium bowl. Trim and thinly slice the scallions (a heaping ⅓ cup) and peel and microplane the ginger (about 1 tablespoon); transfer each to the bowl with the bell pepper as it is prepared. Using a garlic press add the garlic (about 1 tsp) into the bowl.
4. Drain, rinse, and thoroughly dry the cabbage; add it to the bell pepper mixture along with the vinegar mixture and stir until thoroughly combined. Pack the kimchi into a nonreactive bowl or jar, cover, refrigerate until you are ready to use it. Kimchi will keep in the refrigerator for about 1 week. Serves 4.



**Smitty and Leigh tying at our February meeting.** Leigh's Green and Gold bendback is a winner. Tie with a gold body, fine brown bucktail, gold flash and generous topping of Peacock hurl. This is a good, weed-less minnow pattern that fishes well over grass.



## Spider Fly Bodies from Flipflops

by Ted Rich

Are you punching foam spider bodies using a hand held straight walled cartridge case? There might be an easier way to cut bodies for spiders or poppers by modifying the case. Drilling out the FIRED primer and installing a small bolt with lock nut allows it to be placed in a drill or drill press. A 1 1/4"x 1/8" round-head stove bolt and a 6-32 x 1/8" nylon lock nut were used with 9mm and .45 cases.





# Smitty's Fried Grouper Sandwich

## Ingredients

- 8 (6 oz) grouper fillets
- 2 large eggs
- ½ tsp salt, ¼ tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 cup all-purpose flour, seasoned with salt and pepper to taste
- cornmeal for dredging the fish
- vegetable oil for deep-frying the fish
- 1 red onion, sliced very thin
- leafy butter lettuce
- 2 tomatoes, sliced thin
- 8 soft sandwich rolls, split



Beat together eggs, salt and cayenne in a shallow dish. Place flour mixture and cornmeal in separate shallow dishes. Dredge each fillet in flour mixture and dip in egg wash. Dredge fillets in cornmeal last. In a deep fry pan, heat 1" of the oil to 375° F. Fry the fillets in batches for 2 to 4 minutes on each side, or until browned and cooked through. Transfer fillets to paper towels to drain.

Layer the red onion, lettuce, tomatoes, and fillets on the sandwich rolls, accompany with thick cut or waffle fries.



## Jim's Pork Tenderloin Recipe

This is probably enough for 2 tenderloins.

1/4 cup brown sugar

2 tablespoons kosher salt

1 - 2 tablespoons ground black pepper.

1 tablespoon smoked paprika

1 tablespoon chili powder

1 teaspoon chipotle seasoning

1 teaspoon garlic powder

1 teaspoon dried thyme

1 teaspoon dried sage

1 teaspoon oregano

1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

2 - 4 tablespoons maple syrup (real syrup, not Aunt Jemima for goodness sake) (this is optional but a killer if you've got it.)

Rub tenderloins with mustard and syrup. Combine and rub dry ingredients over tenderloin. It's a rub, not a marinade so you don't need to let it sit or anything. It's a wet rub b/c of the mustard and syr

If in the oven:

Heat oven to 350d. Brown tenderloin in olive oil in a large skillet over medium high heat until crusty, about 4 - 6 minutes. Brown on all sides. Place tenderloin in oven. If the skillet is oven proof, use that. Otherwise, transfer to a roasting pan and roast for 20 minutes. Check temperature after 20 minutes. You're shooting for 155d internal. Keep cooking until it gets there. Once at 155, remove from the oven and cover in foil. You can simply cover the skillet or roasting pan. Let it rest for 15 minutes or so. Temp will continue to rise until it reaches 160d.



If on the grill, set up grill for a hot spot and a cool spot. Put the tenderloin over the hot spot and let it cook, turning often. The tenderloin needs to be turned so the sugars in the rub don't burn but browning occurs. After 5 - 10 minutes of turning, move the tenderloin to the cool spot for indirect cooking. Close grill cover and continue to cook for 20 minutes or so. Grilling requires constant diligence once the cooking start so don't walk away. Lagniappe: beer helps the cook maintain diligence.

With grilling, shoot for the same internal temp as with roasting - 155d. Then, like roasting, remove from the heat and wrap the tenderloin in foil and let it rest for 15 minutes or so.

With either method of cooking, after resting, slice the tenderloin in serving sizes. Any juices that collect can be served with the meat. I like fruit on the side such as fruit salsa or chutney.

NB: Most recipes have a few core ingredients and then you improvise based on the theme. Play any live Allman Brothers or John Coltrane recording while cooking and you'll get the idea. Feel free to improvise. If you really like chili powder, bump it up. If you don't, tone it down or eliminate it. If you like a little heat, add a pinch of cayenne. If you like Asian flavors, add some 5-spice powder. Make it work for your tastes.

**Potato Recipe: 2 - 3 medium red potatoes per person.**

Butter, 3 garlic cloves, 2 - 4 tsp dry thyme, 1 tsp bleu cheese per potato, salt and pepper

Place potatoes in a large pot and cover with water. Add 1 tablespoon of kosher salt to the water. Boil for 20 minutes or so until the potatoes are fork tender. This is the time that the tenderloin should be resting after roasting. After the tenderloin is out of the oven, raise the oven temp to 425d. Remove the potatoes from heat and drain. Place the spuds on a greased roasting sheet and gently smash them down with a potato masher or large fork. They are now a blank canvas and ready for the flavorings.

While the potatoes are boiling, melt a stick of butter over low heat and place the garlic cloves in the butter. Be careful the garlic doesn't burn. You're looking for a garlicky flavored butter, not fried garlic.

Once the potatoes are on the roasting sheet and smashed, brush with the garlic butter, sprinkle with the thyme (or any other favorite potato flavor), and salt and pepper to taste. Place the bleu cheese on top of the potatoes and place in the 425d oven for 15 minutes, or until the cheese is crusty and bubbly.

If your timing is good, the potatoes should be ready about the same time as the tenderloin has finished resting and ready for slicing.

## Smitty's Christmas Recipe Mom's Cherry Delight

### Ingredients:

- 14 to 16 whole graham crackers
- 4 packages French Vanilla instant pudding -- (6 ounce size)
- 4 cups whole milk
- 1 (8oz.) tub extra creamy Cool Whip topping
- 2 or 3 (21 ounces) cans cherry pie filling

### Directions:

In a large bowl combine pudding (4 packages) and milk and whisk until almost set (about 2 to 3 minutes). Set aside to complete setting process. Gently fold in thawed extra creamy Cool Whip until it is totally incorporated. Layer the bottom of a large serving bowl with graham crackers. Cover with about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the pudding. Add another layer of graham crackers and top with a layer of cherries (approx. 1 to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cans). Repeat process with remaining pudding, layer of graham crackers and remaining cherries. Cover with lid or Saran Wrap and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Servings: A LOT!!!! (...or just a few if they come back for seconds or thirds or etc, etc.)

P.S. This recipe can also be done with strawberries, blueberries, bananas or a combination of all three. When I use bananas in recipe I mix the bananas in with pudding and I change the graham crackers to Nilla Wafers for the layers and use the strawberries and blueberries in alternate layers finishing with a top layer of strawberries



## Seeking the Perfect Redfish Fly

I like to tie and am always looking for a new, more effective fly; or, that mystical magic fly that the fish love and hit almost every time. While that is fun and keeps me busy, experience has shown I likely will never identify the “magic” fly.

Along those lines, my fishing buddy Ted showed me a new variation of a fly while we were walking off the Cypress flat one morning. The fly was a Seaducer pattern developed many years ago to imitate a shrimp or minnow. Tied with splayed tail feathers and a palmered head, it has held up well over the years. Ted simply replaced feathers with a craft fur tail and added black markings. This produced a very light fly with great motion in the water. Tied with a mono weed guard, you can easily fish it shallow over grass; and, like the Seaducer, tied in various colors it resembles a shrimp or minnow.

I tied one in brown and one in tan and tried one the first week of January at the MacDill flat. The weather, tides and fish cooperated and over three days I caught 9 reds on the brown color of the new fly. Could this be the magic pattern for reds? While I caught 9 reds, I probably had 90 good shots and showed the fly to happy fish. Thus, only one in ten reds jumped on the fly. I was happy it worked, but refusals and no takes far outnumbered the strikes. Nonetheless, I will keep this neat fly in my box and fish it again.

The fish on the MacDill flat were tailing and bottom oriented as they often are in winter. Additionally, we often see big, single reds moving slowly along the sandy bottom at Cypress. These fish are staring at the bottom and will tail every few minutes when they find something. I have no idea what they are feeding on as you certainly can’t see anything edible. Perhaps a small worm or crab, I don’t know. If you patiently show these fish a well-presented small crab or shrimp you will get the one-in-ten fish to eat. Not great odds, but not hopeless either. If you see enough fish you can score two or three for a good day.

Reds are easier to catch under these conditions: Look for a school of fish that are ideally coming right at you. These fish may be tailing or mostly just moving slowly. Get your fly out in front, on the bottom and bump it a little as the fish approach. Maybe they feel safer in a school and a little more competitive, but you often get more strikes in this situation. Also, reds will sometimes key on and look for bait when it is around the same as jacks do. These are the easiest fish to target and will often hit a minnow pattern the same size as the bait. One morning at Cypress two years ago, I found jacks chasing and scattering bait all over the flat. Reds soon showed up and joined the action. A small bend-back minnow was all you needed and every red hit the fly when I was able to show it to them.



While we continue to look for the holy grail of redfish flies, what should we have in our box? I try to get by with about six patterns I have faith in and tie them in two or three colors and weights. They will represent shrimp, crabs or minnows. Also, remember that while a good fly is important, presentation is even more important. In the winter, use a good leader of 12 feet down to 12 pound test fluoro. Practice casting for an accurate presentation from 20 to 50 feet. Long casts are not usually required for sight fishing on the flat.

Club member Leigh West designed a Green and Gold bend-back years ago that is very good as a light minnow pattern. This fly also has the advantage of being weedless, thus effective over grass. This fly is a winner and you can fish it all year, but perhaps most effective in the spring and fall when baitfish are present.



The traditional Seaducer is also a good light minnow pattern. Tied with a mono weed guard you can fish it effectively over grass. Tie it in red/yellow, all brown or all grizzly. Also tie Ted's variation with the banded craft fur tail. This gives the fly a different look and action tied in green, brown or tan for best results.



You should also have a couple of Gurglers in your box. Reds are usually bottom oriented, but will hit a top water fly and the Gurgler is my go-to top water fly. Tie it in white and black with a lively marabou tail and a little flash.



Finally, find two or three small shrimp and crab patterns you like. Have some with bead chain eyes (light) and some with lead eyes to get down a little quicker. These should be your go to flies in winter while sight fishing . Some examples below include the micro flexo crab, Kwan fly and rat fly. The rat fly is a good generic bug tied with a Puglisi brush head, lead eyes, an orange hot spot and two small zonker stripes on each side.



Please keep in mind these suggestions are for difficult to catch Tampa Bay redfish. I read an article recently of guys fishing for reds in Texas and they caught lots of reds and switched flies after each fish. Additionally, those big reds in Louisiana readily take many different flies from what I read. I did not mention the Clouser minnow, which is a very useful fly in the saltwater. Small versions can be fished in winter with good results. Finally, carrying a few spoon flies is a good idea and can be effective at times. While I have focused on redfish, all the flies mentioned will work just fine on snook, trout and other game fish.

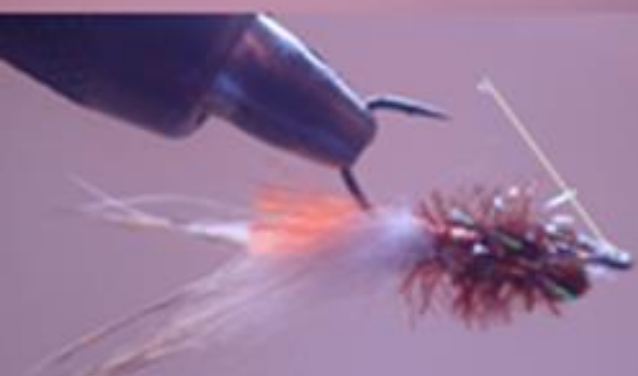
I hope these suggestions help and are based on my experience over the last ten years and countless trips. However, each trip is a new adventure and a chance to watch, learn and experiment. Look for good sight fishing opportunities in the winter and watch how the fish react to your fly. Try new patterns and see how they work. If you find that magic fly let me know. Meanwhile, get out there and take advantage of our beautiful local waters. //Walt Durkin Jan 2022

# Rat Fly

I started fishing this small crab/shrimp fly in December 2017. On four trips the first week I caught 13 fish: 4 reds, 4 trout, 4 snook and 1 sheepshead. I really tied it with sheepshead in mind and that was the first fish I caught as it tailed first thing in the morning,

Hook: Gamakatsu B10S Stinger, size 6 or Mustad Tarpon 2XH/2XS, size 4. Use bead chain eyes on the stinger hook for a light fly and small lead eyes on the Mustad hook for a little heavier fly.

I have been tying mostly with clear monothread. On the light hook, tie in the bead chain and add 3/8 inch lead wire behind and over the eyes to form a keel. Tie in a bit of orange rabbit for a small hot spot to represent an egg sack at the bend. Next, cut two small pieces of thin zoner strips and tie one on each side of the hot spot in the back; angle them up a little. Use crystal flash to complete the body. I also add one strand of hard Mason (20 lb) for a weed guard. Tie the fly in tan or brown to fish over sand and black or green to fish over grass. You can also use Puglici tarantula brush for the body. However, the Crystal flash works fine and is a little brighter. This simple fly is a winner as it hops along the bottom with lively legs. Great for sight fishing in the winter for all game fish. You can also strip it slowly in deeper water to imitate a shrimp. //Walt Durkin



## **Fly of the Month**

### **Mop Fly**

**Mike Perez**

The Mop Fly is the newest sensation in trout fishing. Using a piece of material from mops and gloves that are now on the market, trout anglers have been taking a surprising number of fish on something that seems to be totally unlike anything that a trout might normally see. Will it catch other fish? Try it and find out.



### **Materials**

Hook - Tiemco TMC100 #10

Body - Mop fiber (car washing glove from Discount Auto Parts or mop from the grocery store).

Eye - Feathercraft 1/8" fly tying bead

Dubbing

Thread - Danville 6/0 - same color as mop fiber.

### **Tying Sequence**

Put bead on hook.

Tie mop fiber on top of hook, using loose wraps back to hook bend.

Advance thread back to hook eye then wax thread with dubbing wax.

Apply a small amount of dubbing and wrap around hook behind bead.

Whip finish and fish.



## Layne Smith's Ghost Rat Tarpon Fly

Hook: Gamakatsu SL12s 1/0  
Thread: Flat waxed nylon (white)  
Tail: White craft fur or Polar Fibre  
Flash: Pearl Ice Dub  
Wing: White marabou or blood feather  
Eyes: Medium black bead chain  
Collar: EP Minnow Head Brush  
Coating: Solarez UV resin  
Marker: Grey prismacolor



1. Place hook in vise and tie in base wrap for tail starting at hook point and wrap back to barb and then half hitch.
  2. Cut and preen a piece of white craft fur or Polar Fibre (about 2 – 2 1/2 times hook length), getting rid of most of the underfur; tie in at hook point and post it (wrap around the fur and not the hook) with 2 or 3 wraps of thread to help with anti-fouling. Then add stripes with the marking pen.
  3. Take a small clump of tapered Pearl Ice Dub and tie in front of the tail, on top of the hook, allowing it to spread around the sides of the tail (this should be about half the length of the tail).
  4. Stroke the marabou and tie in on top of the hook as a wing (this should extend back 1/3 of the length of the tail) then trim away the excess feather. Wrap down the butt ends tightly, smoothly tapering thread wraps to the 1/3 point from the hook eye.
  5. Tie in bead chain eyes with figure 8 wraps to set eyes in place.
  6. Tie on EP Minnow Head Brush just in front of marabou wing and palmer forward to just behind eyes, stroking material back as you go so you don't overwrap any fibers. Tie off and remove any excess fibers.
  7. Tie a few wraps of thread at the front of the brush to keep it angled back.
- Some alternative color patterns are to use a red brush head or a chartreuse tail with pink EP Head Brush for the “electric chicken” effect.

## JIM SWANN'S GRASS SHRIMP

### Materials

Hook - #8 Aberdeen

Head - Red plastic bead

Body - Chartreuse chenille

Legs - Chartreuse Sililegs

Collar - Chartreuse neck hackle

Thread - Chartreuse flat waxed nylon

### Tying Instructions

Put bead on hook and tie in thread to keep bead in place.

Tie in Sililegs near hook eye and stretch them as you tie them on top of the hook. Cut the legs about 1/2 inch past the bend of the hook.

Tie body with chenille, starting at the bend of the hook and going back to the front and tie off.

Palmer the hackle around the front of the fly and tie off.



## PAT DAMICO'S BACKWATER MUDDLER

### Materials

Hook - Mustad Signature C70S D  
Tail - White marabou  
Legs - Yellow Sili-legs  
Body - EP shrimp dub brush (tan)  
Eyes - Bead chain or lead  
Thread - Flat waxed nylon



### Tying Instructions

Tie one marabou feather at the rear of the hook, creating 1 1/2 - 2 inch tail.  
Tie one leg on either side of the tail ahead of the tail.  
Tie in eyes about 1/8 inch back from the hook eye.  
Palmer the shrimp dub brush from the front of the area where the tail is tied in to behind the eyes.  
Use a brush to comb it toward the tail. Add a weed guard as needed.  
Use for snook and baby tarpon.

## CRAIG SMOTHERS EP DECEIVER

### Materials

Hook - VMC 7106

Body - EP 3D White and 3D Chartreuse

Gills - Red Silky fibers or calf tail

Flash - Opal EP Blaze

Thread - Gel spun poly 12/0

### **Tying Sequence:**

Tie thread back to just past hook point.

Cut about a 4 inch piece of the white EP and tie it at the midpoint. Fold it back and tie it in over the first half.

Tie in a small amount of flash over the white.

Turn the hook over and tie a short length of the red directly under the white as a gill, projecting just past the bend of the hook.

Tie in another bundle of white underneath, using the same half and half technique.

Tie in another small bunch of the flash.

Turn the hook upright and advance the thread to the middle of the hook.

Tie in a bundle of the chartreuse on top of the hook, using the half and half technique.

Turn the hook over and tie in a bundle of white directly under the chartreuse.

Turn the hook over, advance the thread toward the eye of the hook and repeat the last two steps.

Add eyes and a weed guard.

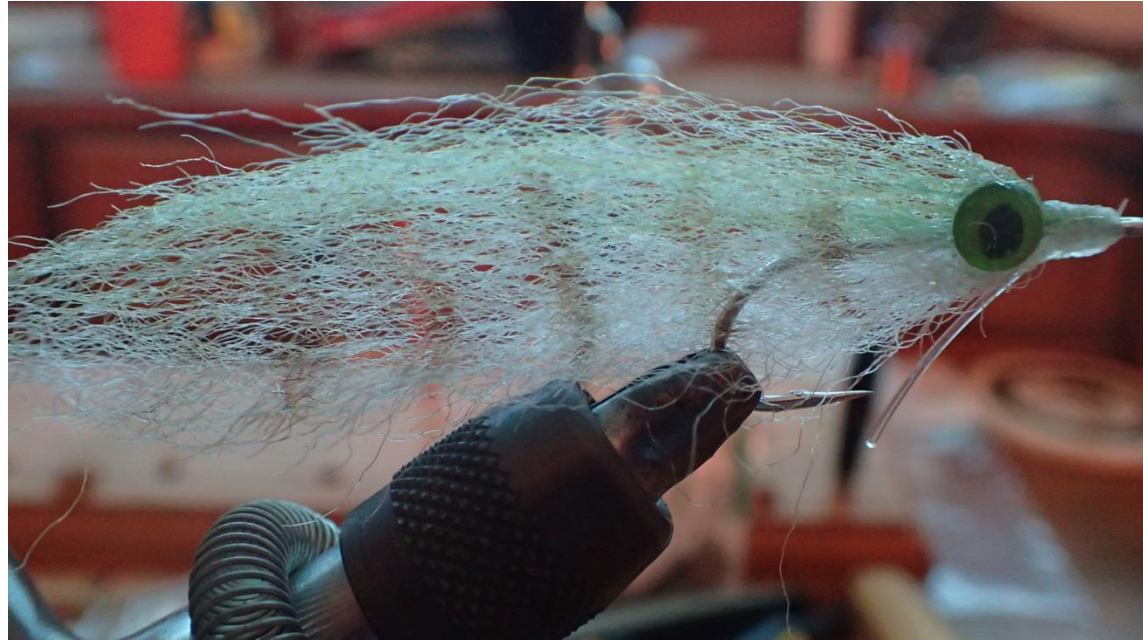




## Conga Minnow

### Materials

Hook:	Size 2 or 4, 2X long
Thread :	clear mono
Body:	conga hair
Flash:	minimal or none
Eyes:	3-d
Head:	tapered mono
Marker:	brown or black Sharpie



### **Tying Sequence:**

1. Put the hook in the vise and attach thread at the hook point and wrap back to the eye.
2. Tie in a two-inch piece of lead wire and wrap around the hook about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch behind the eye. Tie in optional flash about half way down the hook. Use only one or two strands as it will really stand out. Dark flash can represent a lateral line.
3. Cut a two pieces of conga hair (one light, one darker) about the size of a pencil and divide them into four equal, sparse bundles. Use less than you think you need. They should be twice as long as the length of your fly or about six inches.
4. Turn your fly point up and tie a white bundle about halfway down the shank so that it goes down each side evenly. Turn the hook over and tie a dark bundle on top at the same place and fold back over the top. Repeat this process six more times with the remaining bundles, working to the eye of the hook with the last bundle.
5. Add a Mason (20 lb.) weed guard. Flatten the end of the mono with pliers, bend to 45 degrees , tie in and trim.
5. Comb out with an old tooth brush to straighten out your fibers; trim to a minnow shape.
6. Add eyes with a good glue; Goop or Fletch
7. Place the eye in the vise, pull on the end of the fibers and bar the body with the marker.
8. Finished fly should have a body you can see through; sparse is best.

You can buy conga hair at the [www.flytyersdungeon.com](http://www.flytyersdungeon.com). It's a great value at \$2.00 a package with multiple colors. Also, Smitty gave me this site for eyes: <http://lisaandedseyes.ipage.com/>. One hundred eyes for about \$2.50.

# Fly of the Month

## By Chris Tripoli

### Materials

Hook - Gamakatsu SC15 #2

Eye - X small dumbbell

Tail - Tan zonker strip

Legs - Sililegs Barred Florida Fire Orange

Flash - Black Krystal Flash

Body - Palmer chenille, medium root beer

Body - EP .50 inch Tarantula Hairy Legs

Loon UV Clear Fly Finish Thin



### Tying Sequence

Tie eyes on top of hook.

Tie in small loop of mono on top of hook to keep zonker from wrapping.

Tie zonker with fur in same direction as hook bend about 1/4 inch past hook bend.

Double one or two pieces of Krystal Flash over the thread and tie in just in front of the zonker, cutting it about a quarter inch longer than the zonker.

Tie in 2 legs on top of hook just in front of zonker, cut them slightly longer than the zonker.

Tie in about 7 wraps of Palmer chenille in front of legs, angling back over the zonker.

Palmer Tarantula Brush from chenille to back of eyes.

Use Loon Outdoors UV Clear Fly Finish between lead eyes and hook eye to fill in gap and make fly more weedless.

## Capt. Steve Parker's Carnival Clouser

### Materials

Hook - Tiemco 800s #4

Body Wrapping - Cajun line 30lb

Flash - Polarflash Mirage Opal, gold

Flashabou and chartreuse Krystal flash

Body - White and chartreuse premium  
(select) craft fur

Lateral line – black flash

Gill - Ultra chenille, fine red

Eye - 5/32 oz. eyes by Spirit River

Thread - Flat waxed nylon



### **Tying Sequence:**

Tie Cajun line around hook from  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch behind the eye to the beginning of the bend, using a nail knot.

Wrap on eyes between red line and hook eye.

Tie polar flash bundle on top of hook, both in front and behind eye.

Tie bundle of white craft fur over flash.

Turn fly over and tie a small bundle of gold Flashabou in front of the eyes, doubling it and making it about twice the length of the hook.

Tie in a few strands of black crystal flash for a lateral line.

Tie a small bundle of chartreuse craft fur over the Flashabou.

Tie small bundle of Krystal flash over that.





## Smoked Fish on the Grill

This is simple way to smoke fish on your grill. You need an old baking pan and a smaller aluminum pan with holes in the bottom. Place wet smoking chips in the big pan and spread them out. Season your fish as you like it. I use a Cajun spice mixed in olive oil that I brush on. **Zatarain's Creole Seasoning** is great. If your fish has skin on, place it skin side down in the small



pan and set this pan in the big pan as shown. Cover the aluminum pan with foil and place both pans on a hot grill. It should soon start smoking. I smoke a mullet about an hour as I like it a little dry. Salmon will be done in 20-30 minutes depending on thickness. This combines baking and smoking and your fish will have a smoky flavor. I chill the mullet and eat it cold with crackers. It makes a great dinner or appetizer.



## Smitty's Tarpon White Tiger

### Materials

Hook:	Owner Aki 1/0
Thread :	hot orange waxed nylon
Tail:	cream craft fur
Under-wing:	hot orange ostrich herl
Over-wing:	cream craft fur
Legs:	two hot orange sillilegs
Flash:	rootbeer Krystal Flash
Collar:	hot orange Polar Dub
Head:	tapered thread
Marker:	orange Sharpie



### **Tying Sequence:**

1. Put the hook in the vise and attach thread at the hook point and wrap back to the bend.
2. Cut a healthy pinch of craft fur, preen out all the long and short pieces, tie in at the hook point and wrap back to the barb.
3. Tie in the ostrich herl at the hook point to match the length of the fur.
4. Repeat Step 2 at the same tie in point. Do 6 post wraps (wraps around the fur and herl where they attach to the hook) to keep the tail from fouling.

# Pompano en Papillote

**See our fishing report on the good pompano bite and go catch one!**

1 whole pompano, dressed, about 1 pound; 3 tablespoons olive oil  
Salt and fresh black pepper; ½ pound crab meat; 1 tablespoon chopped garlic  
2 tablespoons chopped parsley; ½ cup fresh lemon juice; ¼ cup chopped shallots  
½ pound cubed butter; Sprigs of parsley; 1 piece of parchment

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Season fish with 1 tablespoon olive oil, salt and pepper. In a sauté pan, heat the remaining olive oil and sauté the fish 2 minutes on each side. Remove the fish from the pan. In a mixing bowl, toss the crab meat with the garlic and season with salt and pepper. Spread the crab meat mixture over the fish. Fold the parchment in half length wise and place fish on one half. Fold the remaining half over the fish and fold the edges tightly forming the shape of the fish. Place on a baking sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes. In a sauce pan combine parsley, lemon juice and shallots. Bring liquid to a simmer and reduce by half, about 3 minutes. Whisk in the cold butter and season with salt and pepper. To assemble, cut the top of the bag to expose the fish. Spoon the sauce over the fish and garnish with the parsley.

## Dale Garcia's Double Secret Probation

### Materials

Body - Hareline Dubbin Dyed Pearl

Diamond Braid - Root Beer color

Hook - Mustad 34007 - #6

Legs - Sililegs Perfectly Barred - Brown

Eyes - Gold bead chain, small



### **Tying Sequence:**

Attach eyes about 1/4 from the hook eye.

Double over 4 legs and tie them in behind the eyes, wrapping the thread to a point just before the hook bend.

Attach the braid where you stopped tying the legs and wrap it forward to the hook eye, "X"ing it over the eyes.

Take it out and catch bonefish.

# Pat's Rubber Legs by Ted Hagaman

## **Materials**

Hook - Mustad 9672 #8

Body - Variegated chenille, coffee and black or variegated

Legs - Hareline Dubbin Life Flex, black

Lead wire - .015 on #10 or .022 on #8



## **Tying Sequence**

Wrap on 15 turns of lead wire so it starts about 1/8 inch behind the hook eye.

Wrap a thread dam between the eye and the lead.

Wrap thread over the lead, finishing just behind the lead and going back to the hook eye.

Double over a length of leg material so there is about a half inch of loop ahead of the eye and about a half inch past the hook bend.

Tie in a length of chenille at the beginning of the hook bend.

Tie three one inch sections of leg material spaced out over the lead, x-ing them in.

Use a hackle plier to wrap the chenille around the hook up to the eye, wrapping around the legs.

Cut the front loop of leg material in half to make the antenna and cut the back legs to about the same length.





Club member Rich Gorden sent this in:  
When you have a bunch of 💰 worth of fly  
tying stuff, and it's your wife's birthday, you  
make stuff.

# Wooly Bugger by Denise Bruner

## Materials

Body - cactus chenille medium  
pearl and one webby feather

Hook - Gamakatsu SP11-3L3H  
#4

Eyes - Lead XS

Tail - Root beer marabou



## Tying Sequence

Lay a base wrap on the whole length of the hook to the beginning of the hook bend and advance the thread to about 1/8th behind the hook eye and tie in the eyes on top of the hook. Go back to the hook and tie a bunch of marabou as a tail about one hook length long.

Tie in the base of the feather in front of the tail then the chenille. Palmer the chenille around the hook, up to the eyes, where it is tied off.

Palmer the feather around the body up to the hook eye and tie it off. Whip finish and use head cement to finish the wraps at the head.

# Fly of the Month

## By Chris Tripoli

### Materials

Hook - Gamakatsu SC15 #2

Eye - X small dumbbell

Tail - Tan zonker strip

Legs - Sililegs Barred Florida Fire Orange

Flash - Black Krystal Flash

Body - Palmer chenille, medium root beer

Body - EP .50 inch Tarantula Hairy Legs

Loon UV Clear Fly Finish Thin



### Tying Sequence

Tie eyes on top of hook.

Tie in small loop of mono on top of hook to keep zonker from wrapping.

Tie zonker with fur in same direction as hook bend about 1/4 inch past hook bend.

Double one or two pieces of Krystal Flash over the thread and tie in just in front of the zonker, cutting it about a quarter inch longer than the zonker.

Tie in 2 legs on top of hook just in front of zonker, cut them slightly longer than the zonker.

Tie in about 7 wraps of Palmer chenille in front of legs, angling back over the zonker.

Palmer Tarantula Brush from chenille to back of eyes.

Use Loon Outdoors UV Clear Fly Finish between lead eyes and hook eye to fill in gap and make fly more weedless.

# TED HAGAMAN'S MUD MINNOW

## Materials

- Hair - Puglisi Back Country 3-D fibers
- Puglisi EP Tan fibers
- Hook - Mustard C68SNP-DT Size 1
- Eyes - Fish Skull (Red



## Tying Sequence

This fly is tied in the standard Puglisi style in multiple bundles with the fibers tied onto the top or bottom of the hook shank in the middle of the bundle, then folding the fibers back over the top and tying them in. Ted recommends using sparse bundles (10 – 12 fibers each) because it is very easy to make the fly too bulky. For this fly, he uses four bundles on the top and four on the bottom. Each bundle should be half the length of the full fibers in the package.

Start by tying the belly color, the Tan, on top, at the beginning of the hook bend, tying first in the center, then folding it back and tying it again. Then tie a second bundle of Tan on the bottom, slightly forward of the first bundle.



**BRYCE ETTER**  
**Classic Keys Tarpon Fly**

Custom Fly Tying  
oakcreekflyco@gmail.com

Materials

Hook - Gamakatsu SL12S short 2/0  
Thread - Danville 210 tan  
Tail - Whiting Saddle hackles, grizzly.  
Flash - Krystal Flash root beer  
Dark barred ginger hackles.  
Body - Barred Marabou blood quill  
tan/brown.  
Legs - Brown schlappen.  
Eyes - Bead chain

Tying Sequence

Wrap thread from hook eye to about 1/8 inch past barb.  
Tie in four tan saddle hackles, splayed, at the hook bend. Put one wrap under the hackles.  
Tie in one piece of flash, doubled, between the hackles.  
Add one drop of the Loon UV at the tie in point.  
Tie in one dark barred ginger hackle on either side of the hackles for emphasis.  
Palmer one marabou quill in front of the hackles, pulling it back at each turn. Stop at the hook point and then tie back with the thread.  
Tie in the schlappen in front of the quill and palmer it around, stopping about 1/4 inch from the hook eye.  
Tie in bead chain eyes in front of the schlappen.  
Lock down the wraps with Loon UV.



# Jeff Janecek's Twin Tail Popper

## Materials

Bodies and Hooks – Wapsi Perfect Poppers, Size 6

Body Paint – Chartreuse jig head paint (available at Bass Pro) or model paint

Legs – Montana Fly Co. Centipede Legs, Speckled White, Size Medium

Ice Chenille – Chartreuse, size medium

Feather – One neck feather, dark

Adhesive – Fletch-tite cement



## **Tying Instructions:**

Paint bodies.

Glue body to hook with Fletch-tite.

Drill two 1/32<sup>nd</sup> inch holes crosswise in body in an “X” pattern for legs to be pulled through.

Tie one leg, doubled around the thread at the back of the body, with tying stopped just before the hook bend.

Keep the legs spread apart by tying thread around each leg to pull it slightly to the side.

Cut the legs to about 1 ¼ inches.

Tie in the chenille at the point where the legs “V” and tie forward to the body and tie off.

Palmer the neck feather between the chenille and the body and tie off.

Whip finish the thread at this point and cut it.

Use Fletch-tite to cement the thread.

# Smitty's Pan-grilled Red Snapper Recipe

## Ingredients:

4 (6 oz) Florida red snapper fillets  
1 ripe Florida avocado, diced  
2 cups Florida strawberries finely chopped  
jalapeño pepper, seeded and finely chopped  
¼ cup red onion, finely chopped

2 tbsp cilantro, finely chopped

1 tsp fresh lime juice

1½ tbsp fresh lime zest

¼ tsp sugar

1 tbsp olive oil

Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste

## Preparation

Stir jalapeño, avocado, strawberries, onion, cilantro, lime juice, sugar and sea salt in a bowl. Cover and set aside.

Salsa may be made several hours ahead and chilled. When making ahead, add the sugar, salt, and avocado when ready to serve.

Preheat stove-top grill pan over high heat. Pat fillets dry, then brush both sides with the oil; sprinkle with the lime zest, salt, and pepper.

Cook fillets on grill pan skin side down 4 to 5 minutes on each side, turning once, until cooked through.

Transfer fillets skin side up to individual serving plates. Carefully remove skin; top with avocado-strawberry salsa.





## Whiting Bugger Pack

I bought this material in Colorado and found it really works great for the hackle on your woolly buggers. The feathers are long and just the right width. Pictured is a light green bugger with a bead head and a peacock hurl body. The woolly bugger is simple, fun-to-tie, and works everywhere for trout. Fish it on the dead drift and then strip it in. I like it in brown, green or black and you can add a little flash also. //Walt





New club member, Bryan Koesler, also sent me this: "I took the idea for this fly from the woven Czech nymph fly sometimes used for trout, but made a shrimp pattern out of it. Allows for the fly to have two different colors on the top and bottom of the body section. This one is brown on the bottom and green on top. It worked the other day and I landed a nice red."

Bryan has been fishing the low tides at Cypress with success.



# Braised Fish and Mushrooms

2 cups cooked rice (either 3.5 ounce boil in bag or 8.5 ounce microwave pouch)  
I like whole grain brown and wild rice

4 slices thick applewood smoked bacon

1/2 cup chopped sweet yellow onion

1 TBSP dried thyme

8 ounces presliced mushrooms

16-24 ozs firm white fish, such as halibut, grouper, mahi mahi

1 cup white wine

2 TBSP chopped fresh parsley

Cook rice according to package directions.

Cook bacon in a large nonstick skillet until crisp - remove bacon and crumble.

Add onion, thyme, and mushrooms to drippings in pan, saute for 3 minutes and scoot mixture to outer edges of pan.

Sprinkle fish with salt/pepper and add to the center of the pan. Cook for 2-3 minutes each side until browned.

Stir in wine and mix mushrooms in with fish - cook until fish flakes easily.

Serve fish/mushrooms over rice and sprinkle with bacon and parsley.

Serves 4, but this recipe is easy to cut in half.

**Kelly Sobczak**



# Flies of the Month

## Kwan Fly and Fool's Gold Crab

I have caught reds on the Kwan fly in brown and green and on the Fool's Gold Crab. Both patterns are easy to tie and fun to fish. The tail on the Kwan is especially lively with craft fur. Ted Hagaman mentioned it one day and I tied some up; thanks Ted. This is a super pattern, which lands light and has a lot of movement. Good over grass with a weed-guard.

Brian Koesler mentioned the Fool's Gold crab when I met him on the Cypress flat one day and it's been a winner for redfish.

Directions for tying these flies are available on YouTube. Tie some up and come on out!



## Pan Grilled Red Snapper w/ Strawberry & Avocado Salsa

4 (6 oz) Florida red snapper fillets  
1 ripe Florida avocado, diced  
2 cups Florida strawberries, finely chopped  
jalapeño pepper, seeded and finely chopped  
¼ cup red onion, finely chopped  
2 tbsp cilantro, finely chopped  
1 tsp fresh lime juice  
1½ tbsp fresh lime zest  
¼ tsp sugar  
1 tbsp olive oil  
Sea salt and fresh ground pepper, to taste



Stir jalapeño, avocado, strawberries, onion, cilantro, lime juice, sugar and sea salt together in a bowl. Cover and set aside. Salsa may be made several hours ahead and chilled. When making ahead, add the sugar, salt, and avocado when ready to serve. Preheat the stovetop grill pan over high heat. Pat fillets dry, then brush both sides with the oil; sprinkle with the lime zest, salt, and pepper. Lay fillets on grill pan skin side down and cook 4 to 5 minutes on each side, turning once, until cooked through. Transfer fillets skin side up to individual serving plates. Carefully remove skin; top with avocado-strawberry salsa. **Layne 'Smitty' Smith**



## Fly of the Month

### Redfish Bug

Capt. Bryon Chamberlin

#### Materials

Hook - Gamakatsu L11S-3H #4

Thread - Flat waxed nylon

Legs - Sililegs barred orange

Hackle - Wooly Bugger Saddle Hackle, natural brown

Eyes – Brass, medium

Eyes - Easy Shrimp Eyes

Body - EP Foxy Brush, root beer; EP Tarantula

Hairy Legs Brush 0.5" Wide Sculpin; orange rug yarn.



#### Tying Sequence

Wrap hook to bend.

Tie on brass eyes 1/8 inch from hook eye, on top of the hook.

Tie 1/2 inch of orange rug yarn on top of the hook, starting at hook point, going back.

Tie on easy shrimp eyes so they terminate about 1/4 inch behind the bend of the hook.

Fold one piece of silly-legs, tie them and cut them so they extend 1 1/2 inches behind the hook bend.

Cut a small section of EP Foxy Brush from the wire and tie flat over the rug yarn, extending slightly past the shrimp eyes.

Palmer a hackle feather forward, starting at the rug yarn, going only to the hook point.

Tie two more silly-legs, doubled, just behind the hook eye.

Palmer the tarantula brush forward from the hackle feather, then pull back two of the legs and palmer over them.

## Ron Cavalier's Lazy Susan Tip for FLY Tying

The problem is that I make a lot of shrimp and crab patterns as well as minnow patterns and it's a pain to try to adjust eyes on flies without twisting the vise to see how I attached them. I finally came up with the idea that you will see in the attached photo. I bought this 10" lazy susan from Amazon for \$9.00. Someone asked me if the table moved while I tied and I said yes, it does, however unless you are a one armed fly tyer, most of us place our left hand on the vise to hold material in place or to tightly wrap the thread onto the material. The table worked better than I had hoped for. It's now a real pleasure tying the patterns I tie as a simple turn of the vise on the table toward me gives me a perfect view of the eyes on the hook and any adjustments I need are done before I secure the eyes with U.V. material. This one is a no brainer for any of the tyers who experience this same problem while tying.

**Member, Ron Cavalier, 813 260 300**

