



# Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

August, 2022

## FFNWF

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Business Meeting  
1ST Tuesday, 7 PM

Bull Session - Tying  
2ND Thursday, 6 PM

Clinic -Casting, Tying,  
Lunch - 3RD Saturday  
9 AM

## *The Auction...* Lives On!

### Monthly Club Meeting Raffle!!

#### **August Raffle - L.L. Bean Model 867, 8'6", 2-Piece, 6/7 Weight**

This rod is in immaculate condition and looks like it has never been used (can't find a scratch or nick anywhere on it). Comes with a sock and hard travel tube. This model was the core of the L.L. Bean line but has been replaced by the L.L. Bean "Double L" series of rods. The "New" price for this model would have been in the \$150.00 - \$200.00 range. A "Used" price for a rod in this condition is estimated to be in the \$100.00 Range.

**Come take a chance! It only takes \$5.00 to win.**

### **Club Meeting: Tuesday, August 2 at 7:00**

The program will be: "A Road Trip through the Keys, Fishing from Shore Along the Way" by Wolfgang Szutie

### **Fly Tying: Thursday, August 11 at 6:30**

The Ft. Pickens Special, presented by Larry Grossman, a new area guide. ([panhandleflyfishingcharters@gmail.com](mailto:panhandleflyfishingcharters@gmail.com))

### **The Clinic: Saturday, August 20 at 9:00 am**

The lunch will be **Polish Stew** prepared by none other than our resident in house Polish chef, Mr. Jay Brykczynski. **Pyszne!!!**

## ***The Prez Sez***

As many of you are aware, I have been absent from some of the club events over the past 1-2 months. But.....thankfully that will change very soon. At this writing, I have only 2 more radiation treatments to endure. My last "ZAP" will be Tuesday 26 July. My voice is currently gone and have a severe sore throat but it should start to reverse itself in 2-3 weeks. I am really looking forward to getting back in the groove and especially getting back on the water. I want to thank those of you who have reached out with your good wishes and for those who have pitched in to keep the club events running smoothly. See you all soon!

**Mick**

## Fishing with Capt. Baz

July was way tougher than I had planned. Most of the problem was the wind and rain which kept me out of the Gulf and caused some cancellations. If the weather wasn't nasty the heat index was between 105 and 110. Plus, the darn fish were hard to find.

We never landed a decent Spanish mackerel all month. Terry McCormick, Capt Dan, and Tom Finkle all caught Spanish... I've even managed to blank on bluefish and ladyfish. I mean, seriously, where are all the ladyfish? Of course if they were here I'd be tired of them. Oh yes, what about the summer false albacore?? Add them to the AWOL list.

Things are looking up though. I finally saw a school of jack crevalle yesterday. Of course we weren't ready for them, but at least my clients got to see what big jacks look like. These were serious 25-30 pounders, too. Awesome fish. You can bet the jacks will start showing up in big numbers right about the time the dog flies arrive... August and September for sure.

My best success in July was sight-fishing for redfish. They haven't been in the usual spots, and I've had to travel farther to the east, west, and north. Plus, we're getting in the water a lot more. The fish have been refusing my regular flies, and I've had to move to heavier dressed versions. Best success has been with a larger EP finger mullet. All six of my July fly clients hooked at least one redfish, and three got the photos to prove it. Unfortunately, I can only post this one...Riley Cummings with his first-ever redfish on fly.

I'm planning to have a much more robust report next month. If not then, maybe September?



**Capt Baz**

**Fishing Report** – This was the program presentation by Steve and Ellen Hofmann at the July 5 meeting. Their trip started in Redding, California and ended in Oregon near the Idaho border. In California we fished the Sacramento River, Fall River and Hat Creek in drift boats using two wet flies under an indicator. We averaged 8-10 fish a day. Steve has one photo holding a big a rainbow from the Fall River. Streamers on sinking lines were primarily used on the Fall River.

FALL RIVER CA



In Oregon we fished five rivers. Each river required a different approach. The Upper Rogue was famous for big “half-pounders”. However, the half pounders weren’t biting, so we went golfing and wine tasting. The Metolius River did not fish well, but on the last day Steve caught a beautiful “redside” on a midge pattern right in front of our cabin. Next day we fished the Mackenzie River. The Mackenzie was a big river with a



lot of whitewater. A few fish were caught, but the trip was mostly a whitewater float trip. On the Deschutes River we floated in drift boats and waded with dry flies, primarily the X-Caddis. Steve lost a fat twenty inch plus rainbow. The last river was the Owyhee River. The Owyhee is a tailwater river near the Idaho border where it is easy to wade fish. We sight fished for big browns with small nymphs like zebra midges under a “hopper” pattern. It was a great trip!

Thanks Steve and Ellen for the great presentation. Notes by George Norton.

## Fly of the Month: The Fort Pickens Special by Larry Grossman

This has been a VERY effective pattern for me out at the pass at Fort Pickens this summer. There are plenty of fish in big schools, smaller groups as well as singles working the shoreline for food. This fly is meant to be fished right on the bottom and should be cast 15-20 feet in front of feeding fish which gives it a chance to sink to the bottom Gulfside where I have had my best luck with it. I fish a 10wt rod with an intermediate sink tip line which has a intermediate to fast sinking Sonar 7 foot leader, attached to 16-20lb Flourocarbon tippet.



This has been a deadly combination! The sparkle minnow body looks amazing once it becomes wet and has fantastic action. I tie this fly in several color combinations for some variety and I always tie off the first color of Sparkle body behind the eyes, I tie in the second color behind the eyes where I finished the first color and then do my figure eight with a second color moving forward and finish the fly the same way. The color combos are endless.

Hook – Gamakatsu SL12S in 1/0 or similar

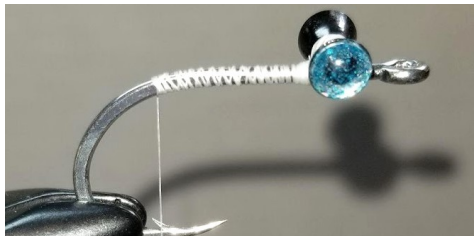
Thread – Uni Thread 36D 6/0 White

Eyes – Dumbbells medium/MFC Sparkle Eyes/Black Nickel with Holographic Blue

Tail – Craft Fur/Color Sand

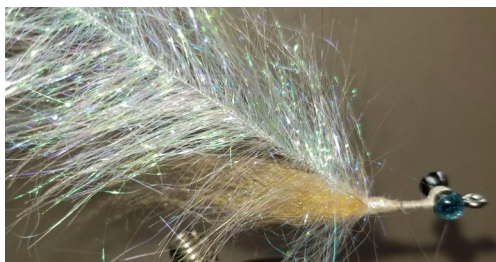
Body – MFC (Montana Fly Company) Sparkle Minnow Body Brush/UV Pearl

### Instructions



Tie in the dumbbell eye about 1/4th of the length of the hook shank back from the hook eye

Tie in three small clumps of the craft fur, a little longer than 2x the hook shank length. I like to tie in small clumps as it gives me a little better control of the look and taper of the tail.



Secure the Sparkle Minnow Body Brush at the point where your tail is tied in

Palmer the Sparkle Minnow Body Brush forward keeping your wraps fairly tight and fibers pushed backwards until you reach the eyes, then figure eight the eyes with the same piece of brush Tie off and whip finish and the fly is near complete. I like to stripe my craft fur tail with a Chartpak Olive Marker once the fly is complete.







## July Fly Tying The Blue Claw



## July Clinic







## Hats

are available at the club for \$25 while they last. When they are gone they are gone. See Cyndi Myers for more information

**PHW Corner** - For August our PHW group will meet Monday mornings beginning at 0930 on the 1st (an innovative freshwater scud pattern by Russ), the 8th (a saltwater pattern) and the 22nd (a fly fishing education presentation). Hope to see our PHW folks at the meetings.

## Gold Star Tribute

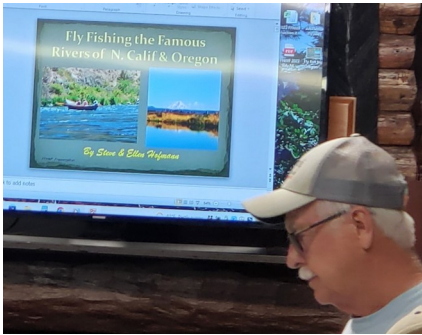
We would like to invite everyone to come out and view the Tribute wall. Come out and enjoy being a part of what makes us become better Americans. Let's all take a little time out of your busy lives to show our respect to our Fallen Heroes and their families. I am looking for a little help!! Friday September 9th the Gold Stars Tribute Wall is coming to Pensacola! This is a stunning memorial traveling around the country in honor of our fallen Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Sailors....our HEROES that have made the ultimate sacrifice since 9/11. I want to put together a motorcade escort from the Florida/Alabama line (Meeting at [Odom's Bar](#) in Century) and bringing the wall for a brief stop at [CottonMouth Custom Cycles](#) and then on to [Moonshine Saloon FL](#), where it will be on display through the weekend! I am calling on ALL OF YOU who can help! We will probably meet at 8AM. 2 Wheels to 18 Wheels are welcome, but 2 Wheelers will be in the front. It is an honor for me to be a part of this...I hope Y'all feel the same way! **Tina Nelson**  
(Tina organized Project Healing Waters projects for our club when PHW started)

## Club Meeting July 5 Minutes

Vice President Brad Heun called the meeting to order at 1900 with the Pledge of Allegiance. Last Month's Minutes were approved.

**Treasurers Report:** We picked up one new member in June. Expenditures included raffle sales, fly tying materials, name tags, wall plaques honoring past Presidents, Vice Presidents, and deceased members. Thanks to Russ for his craftsmanship making the plaques. Our checking account has a healthy balance. Report was approved; motion by Bob, second by Russ.





### **Program by Steve Hofmann Program “Fly Fishing Northern California and Oregon.”**

Steve gave us quite a slide show tour of a trip with his wife, Ellen four years ago. Their trip started in Redding, California and ended in Oregon near the Idaho border. See the article in this issue. It was a great trip! Thanks Steve and Ellen.

**Old Business:** At the recent BOD meeting, it was decided to not hold a second auction later this year. There simply was not enough inventory to justify a second auction. Unsold Items will be held for a future auction and or for the Christmas Party.

**New Business:** The secretary updated the club on Fly Fishers International, FFI’s upcoming events. First a big conclave for the Gulf Coast Region from Lake Charles to Destin is planned for May 5-6, 2023 at Gulf Shores State Park. This is a much more convenient location than last year’s conclave in Mississippi. The conclave will feature fly tiers, fly fishing seminars, a fishing tournament, and a film festival. There is a large lake that has both freshwater and saltwater species and is ideal for kayak and bank fishermen. Overnight accommodations are available in a new bunkhouse, cabins, and a hotel. There is a 200 seat auditorium, and two classrooms along with an on-site restaurant. You do not have to be a FFI member to attend. There will be modest admission fee to enter. Further details will be advised later.

Status of the FFI McKenzie Award. FFI said “a decision will be forthcoming in late July.” Our club is competing nationwide for the outstanding club award. We were the winner in the Gulf Coast region. A plea for nominees was also made at the general meeting for many different awards for individual achievement like for education.

All the particulars are on web site link . <https://gulfcoastcouncilffi.org/classic/>  
Meeting was adjourned at 1950.