



# Flies and Lies

March, 2026

## President's Corner

February reared its ugly head with not much fishing to do. It should be relabeled "Go even further South".

In the news we are still pushing for club members to join Fly Fishers International. They have not only great casting info but also fly-tying techniques and fly patterns. The information on the FFI Gulf Coast Classic, which will run May 2-3, is now available. Web signup and info is at <https://ffigulfcoastclassic.com/>.

If you weren't at our February Saturday Clinic, you missed out! Great fly-tying turn out, I gave a few casting lessons and Dave's brisket was great!

This month is shaping to be great as well, another very useful fly is coming, some chatter about a friendly "tournament" to be discussed at the business meeting, and I'll try to come with a casting program. We also should get the skinny on the PHW's fishing trip.

See EVERYONE next month.

**Richard Montgomery**  
President

## Fly Fishing 101

The annual Fly Fishing 101 class starts in March. More information on the class and a PayPal link for registration is at the FFNWF website.

## Gulf Coast Classic

The Gulf Coast Council (GCC) of Fly Fishers International (FFI) is presenting the 3rd annual Gulf Coast Classic fly-fishing festival, to be held Friday-Saturday, May 1-2, 2026, at the Learning Campus of Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Registration is open. See the homepage, <https://ffigulfcoastclassic.com/> and our website for more information.

## Casting and Tying at the Club

### Club Meeting

**Tuesday, Mar 3, 6:30**

In addition to the business meeting, George Norton will give a presentation on his trip with to Belize last November with Bob Korose.

### Fly Tying

**Thursday, Mar 12, 6:30**

The Fly of the Month is the Dowski Minnow. Leading us this month will be Bob Korose.



## Clinic

**Saturday, Mar 21, 9:00 AM**

Join us for casting practice and another at the Fly of the Month. Rex and Gary will treat us to a Mexican lunch.

# Upcoming Events

## March 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Fly Fishing 101 6pm	3 BOD Mtg 5 pm Business Mtg 6:30 pm	4 Healing Waters 9:30 am	5	6	7
8	9 Fly Fishing 101 6pm	10	11 Healing Waters 9:30 am	12 Bull Session 6:30 pm	13	14
15	16 Fly Fishing 101 6pm	17	18	19 Community Fly Supply Fly Tying Night 6:30 pm	20	21 Clinc 9:00 am
22	23 Fly Fishing 101 6pm	24	25 Healing Waters 9:30 am	26	27	28
29	30 Fly Fishing 101 6pm	31	1	2	3	4
5	6 Fly Fishing 101 6pm	Notes				

## FFNWF

[www.ffnwf.org](http://www.ffnwf.org)

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[Richard Montgomery](#)

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[Bob Korose](#)

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Pensacola, FL 32503

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## Business Meeting

The February business meeting was cancelled. Repairs have been made to the building that will make it much more comfortable in the months to come.

## Membership Dues for 2025

The dues are coming due! Dues are \$35 to renew this year. There are three ways to pay,

1. **Pay Larry** in person at a club meeting,
2. **Mail a Check** to:  
Larry Sisney 3610 Baisden Rd, Pensacola, FL 32503
3. **Pay online** through <https://ffnwf.org/membership>. A two-dollar fee is added for the online payment.

## Project Healing Waters

By Mick Milo



### South Holston River

PHW sent 10 of our crew up to Bristol TN, to fish the famous South Holston River. This is our third trip there and it did **not** disappoint!!

The weather was a bit dodgy -- raining the first day and blowing hard the second -- **but** many fish were caught with many/most of our anglers catching 20+ fish per day!! **Marcus Henry**, one of our newest members, caught his first fish on the fly! Congrats, Marcus!

Many thanks to the South Holston River Lodge. As always, the lodging and service were fantastic, the food delicious, and the guides **amazing!**

Can't wait until next year!!! (photo credits: Mick)





The chapter prepared for the South Holston trip by tying some appropriate flies. Gary led us through the Icky Egg and a jig head fly in the weeks leading up to the group's departure.

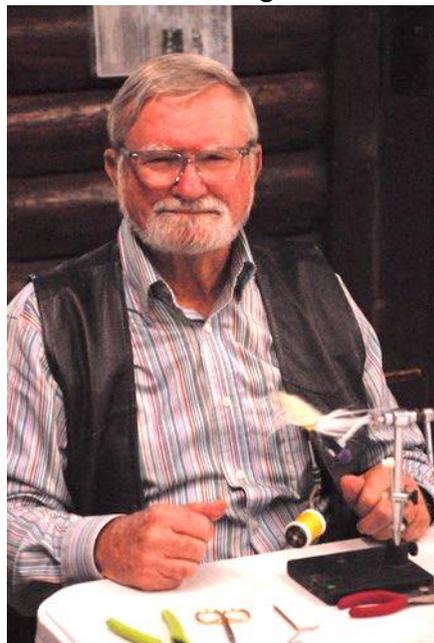


# Fly Tying and Clinic

We had a good crowd at the Bull Session to tie the Gravity Minnow. **Thanks to Yusef al-Ansari for introducing us to this. Don't miss the [Fly Tying Night](#) at Community Fly Supply. This is always on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. (photo credits: Richard and Jay)**



Saturday showed up with some weather that was nice enough to be able to have casting as well as another chance to tie the Gravity Minnow. Thanks again to Yusuf for his instruction.



He had to choose between the exhibition by Blane Chocklett at the Community Fly Supply and tying with us. I'm sure that was an amazing afternoon, too. I'm glad he chose to come visit us again.

Richard was able to get a couple of us back on the right track after a long layoff. Or at least headed in the right direction...



Finally, the dinner bell rang and we enjoyed some brisket and sides. Between the South Holston trip and the program at Community Fly Supply, we still had a dozen members at the Clinic. I hope we can double the turnout next month.



# Fishing Report

By Captain Richard Montgomery

February again proved to be another tough month for fly fishing. Serious cold weather and extreme low tides drove our usual go-to specks out of their usual winter hiding holes to even deeper water.

As I am writing this another cold front is pushing through which probably means it will be mid-March before the Bay waters warm. Last year we were making the same wishes but had them dashed by a cold March. Everyone needs to keep fingers crossed.

Now that all the negative talk is over with, you guessed it, Capt. Baz, Capt. Dan, and I have

found that the sight casting can be good, right tide, right fly, and bang-on casting will get fish or two. If I keep sharing the fly of choice Baz will unfriend me, but oh well – it's the EP minnow patterns.

Sam at Community Fly Supply ventured over toward Navarre Beach and found the same thing: very tough but catchable reds in the shallows. Sam and Yusif (if you attended the tying sessions you met Yusif) found big redfish and black drum in the Gulf of MEXICO off Gulf Shores, AL, in early February.

Here a few pics from Baz.



# Fly of the Month: The Dowski Minnow

By Bob Korose

I traveled to Grand Rapids Michigan for the 2025 FFI annual meeting and while there, I hired a guide, Christian Gradowski, to take me fishing on the Grand River. My nephew and I had a wonderful day catching small mouth



bass on 7 wt. fly rods using a fly that the guide had created.

It has great action and flash in the water and the bass really responded (see the 18 1/2 inch smally I landed). He showed me how and with what materials to tie the fly. He said he has not used it for any other species than



bass. I am quite sure that it will work great for many of our local favorites too. A size 4 should work great under dock lights at night for specks.

## Materials:

**Hook:** Gamakatsu B10 Sizes 6-1/0

**Thread:** 140 or 210 Denier White

**Eyes:** Bead Chain (4 beads) Stainless or painted black or red

**Tail:** White Bucktail or Congo Hair Glow white

**Body:** Estaz or Pearl Chenille size medium/ color pearl

**Legs:** Rubber (colors white and olive )

**Collar:** Senyo Chromatic Brush, 3" size, color Live Bait

		
1. Put on a thread base from front to back then tie on a tail that is two times the hook length.	2. Add 2 legs (one of each color) on each side going back	3. Tie on the chenille and wrap it 1/2 way to the hook eye. Move the thread forward slightly and tie on the 4 eyes (2 on each side).
		
4. Behind the eyes tie on 2 clumps of tail material (each 1/2 the diameter of the tail) one on the top and the other on the bot-tom, both going back toward the tail.	5. Tie on the brush and wrap three times going forward, then wrap through the eyes and finish with 2-3 more forward wraps. Then tie off. <b>As you wrap, stroke the fibers rearward making sure there are no trapped fibers.</b> Tie off.	6. Comb out the fibers, tie a nice head and whip finish. Head cement or UV it and your fly is ready for action.