



Flies and Lies

Newsletter of the Fly Fishers of Northwest Florida

January, 2022

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NEWSLETTER

Paul Wargo
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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

HAPPY NEW YEAR

A new year for our club with, at long last, our fly fishing class and auction. We hope. Meanwhile – one thing for sure:

Dues are Due



Send a check - **\$30.00** –

payable **FFNWF**

to **Larry Sisney**
3610 Baisden Rd.
Pensacola, FI 32503

A new feature for the New Year – you can pay your dues by credit card via our website: www.ffenwf.org (\$2 extra)

Let's get the New Year off to a great start!!

Club Meeting: Tuesday, January 7:00 pm at the club.

Our new Veep, Brad Heun, will present a program on Bamboo Rods and the PHW trip to Bamboo Bend

Fly Tying: Thursday, January 13 6:30 pm at the club.

We will be tying the **SLINKY ANCHOVY** (not to be confused with the stinky anchovy on your pizza)



Clinic: Saturday, January 15 9:00 am at the club.

Lunch will be Joe's number one modified better chili . A chili never produced any where before on earth consisting of meat, spices, beans and other stuff.

Christmas Party 2021



Outstanding Prizes



Even Santa was busy



Outstanding Food



Santas everywhere



Many raffle prizes brought many smiles





The Smiles



Project Healing Waters Veterans and Volunteers



Angler of the Year 2020
Paul Wargo was awarded for keeping the club together through the newsletter during the difficult time we were unable to get together in person.
(there was no Christmas party last year)



Angler of the Year 2021
Jim White was awarded for his excellent leadership in planning and directing club activities during the pandemic, including this year's Christmas Party



Cyndi Myers was the Energizer Bunny 2021 for her work on our website

Fishing with Capt. Baz

December has been quite a month. I worked in shorts and flip flops today for the first time ever on December 29. Hot...cold...hot...cold...the fish must be wandering what the heck's going on! The good news is the sight-fishing has held up nicely. As usual we saw plenty of shallow-water redfish today, and a couple of them even ate the fly. Did we land any? Nooooo. It's been that way all month.



We're getting the takes, but my doggone anglers can't seal the deal. Today it was "trout setting". Other days it was that plus allowing slack to get in the line so the barbless hook falls out. Man oh man, what's a guide to do?! I must say that my good client Bob Jenkins who has two Emerald Coast Grand Slams in the books was one of those in December who had multiple takes and hook ups without landing a fish. But Jenkins had a major stroke last January and has been in recovery since. He gets a pass! The others just screwed it up.



Well not everybody. Club member and Gererac specialist Mike Broughton saved the month by actually *landing* four redfish on December 6. There was no magic, just "meat and potatoes" good fishing. Mike is an excellent caster and knows what to do with the fly when it hits the water. It sure makes it enjoyable for the guide which by-the-way is what it's all about...right? Thanks Mike. Much appreciated.



Other than redfish sight-fishing there are plenty of trout in the Santa Rosa Sound canals. Villa Venyce, Lafitte Cove, and the Santa Shores Canals are all good prospects; however, all the Gulf Breeze bayous are pretty darn slow...

So there you have it. Happy New Year to everybody. Sorry I missed the Christmas party. I've been avoiding any "gatherings" for obvious reasons. Here's to a better 2022.

Capt Baz

Save the Date

PHW will meet at Mondays January 10 - 17 - 24 at 10:00
We're back at the clubhouse!



This past September our Pensacola program of Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc. (PHW) celebrated their tenth birthday. Key to the success of our mission is our sponsoring fly fishing club, Fly Fishers of NW Florida (FFNWF). The support and mentorship provided by FFNWF these past ten years enabled the growth of our program from three disabled veterans to twenty and volunteers from just a few to eleven. We could not have survived these many years without FFNWF's efforts and on behalf of our PHW program I'd like to thank FFNWF for their service to this cause.

To recognize keep milestones in the life of a local PHW program, longevity lapel pins and certificates are awarded. At the Christmas party longevity pins were presented to the following individuals (if you weren't at the party, I have your pin and certificate ready for the next time I see you at one of our PHW meetings) -

Ten Year Pins - Oleta Webb, Kent Reagan, Kevin Gorby, Russ Shields, Terry McCormick, Bob Korose, Cliff Newton, Joe Higgins, Jay Brykczynski and Tom Finkle

Five Year Pins - Larry Sisney, Gary Pheabus, Dave Handley and Brad Heun

Two year Pins - Don Smith, Jerry Giles, Bob Myers, Tony Moore, Aaron Davis, Lou Orrie, Jordan Perry, Brian Freeman, Roger Hammond and Jerry Heimowitz

Congratulations and thank you for your continued service to our PHW program. **Jim White**



Quick Tip: Getting Loopy

By Club Member Capt. Chip Smith

Loop knots are my most frequently tied knot for attaching a fly to the leader. I use them for most types of flies top water poppers to deep dredging streamers. Loops tend to be stronger stronger than clinch knots as the pressure is on the actual strength of tippet(5x/6x/12#/80# etc.).

The fly will have more action to it allowing for a more enticing presentation and hopefully an eat. Lefty Kreh developed a simple to tie loop that I use for lighter tippets #20 and below. It's basically a clinch knot tied into an overhand. The Homer Rhodes loop is my goto for heavier bite tippets and bigger fish. It's construction consists of a figure 8 knot and an overhand knot. Super simple and very effective. Both knots are available online in plethora locations, pick your favorite YouTuber and practice away. **See ya out there!**

(We plan to have more tips from Chip's website in future newsletters)

Fly of the Month - *Slinky Anchovy* by Matt Wegener and Cliff Newton

(Tarpon Bob asked Cliff Newton to do the fly of the month and they planned for Cliff to do the *Slinky Anchovy*. However, the materials Cliff needs to do the pictures were delayed in the holiday mail so we are using the pictures and instruction Matt used to make this fly in 2019)



What sets this pattern apart is that it requires very little tying material, it's extremely durable, and it excels when the bite is tough because of the natural translucent body provided by the Clear Goo. This is a go-to fly for me when chasing summertime Albies in the Gulf. They will often turn down bulky imitations, so it's important to tie this fly very sparse. However, look at the large patterns in the cover photo for ideas on how to use this pattern for other species, like speckled trout and redfish. We are using the "thin" Clear Goo product in this demonstration, but the "thick" should be used for larger fly patterns.

Hook: Mustad 34007, #6 **Thread:** Fine mono **Body:** Steve Ferrar Slinky Flash Blend, White
Lateral line: Flashabou, Silver **Eyes:** Holographic, 3mm or 1/8" **Glue:** Clear Goo (thin formula)

Tying Instructions



1. Use a jam knot to attach mono thread and tie in a small bunch (10 fibers) of white slinky fiber between the midpoint and eye of the hook, on top of the shank. It's important to wrap the thread towards the bend of the hook to avoid adding bulk when tying in the material.

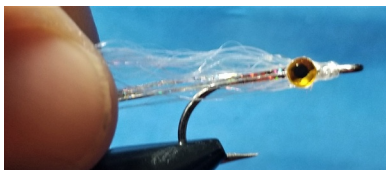


2. Fold over the other section of slinky fiber and tie down



3. + 4. Rotate the fly over and repeat steps 1 and 2 on the bottom of the hook shank.

5. + 6. Remove 2 strands of flashbou and tie in at the midpoint so that it extends down the side of the hook shank. Tie down the other side of the lateral line on the opposite side of the hook shank.



7. Whip finish and trim thread. Add the eyes and then pull the fibers back to add the first layer of Clear Goo.

8. The first layer of Clear Goo should be applied over the whip finish and the eyes to concrete everything in position. Continue pulling on the tail fibers while brushing on the glue to keep a streamlined body. Use a light to cure the Clear Goo before moving to the 2nd coat.



9. Add the 2nd coat to form the body of the anchovy. Depending on the amount added on the second coat, you may need to add 1 or 2 more coats to complete the fly. After the desired body shape is reached, trim the tail fibers.

Club Meeting Minutes December 8, 2021 by G. Norton

1900 Acting President Mick Milo called the meeting to order. Several guests and new members introduced themselves.

Treasurer's Report: Robust ticket sales for the party (59 Tickets) with minimal expenses left the club with a healthy surplus in checking.

Minutes from last meeting were approved

Presentation: "Bream Fishing is a Dangerous but Rewarding Sport" by Jerry Giles

Jerry grew up in central Florida on a large swampy lake full of fish and water moccasins. Jerry and his best friend experienced some dangerous encounters with snakes during their fishing expeditions. They waded in the swampy water with cane pools and a can of worms. One day the friend couldn't speak. Jerry asked, "what's the matter?" The friend could only point in terror as a moccasin munched on a bream from his stringer a scant two feet from his leg.

One-night Jerry cleaned a stringer of bream on top of an overturned boat. He heard a crunching sound behind him. When he turned on his flashlight, three moccasins were eating the discarded entrails just a few feet from his legs.

At age ten his mother gave him the best Christmas present imaginable. It was an Eagle Claw fly rod with an automatic reel. An abandoned truck tire floated Jerry and he sold his stringers of bream to the workers at a local orange grove. What a way to pick up pocket money for a kid!

A little while later Jerry almost met his maker. He and a buddy, along with an older man, were fishing on a railroad trestle. A freight train came around the corner and blew its horn. The three had no escape. Jerry said, "lie down as flat as you can next to the track." The train passed within inches of them. It took the train a half mile to stop. A nurse or doctor ran back to see if they were still alive!

After Jerry's parent's divorced, his older step-brother borrowed his fly rod and broke it which entailed thoughts of murder. When his Dad remarried, Jerry was sent to Nebraska for High School to live with his mom. She had remarried a farmer and Nebraska was a very happy time. With his southern accent, no one at the school believed he was smart. He overcame perceptions that he wasn't too bright, even though he had skipped a grade in Florida. He passed the Nebraska test with flying colors and graduated a year ahead.

Jerry loves to play golf and fly fish in the course's ponds. He recommended the Round Denny popper from Acardo. Don't strip it. Just let it lie or barely twitch it. The popper will turn over on its own and that's when they hit it. Other favorites are the woolly buggie with a Zug bug dropper, the girdle bug and the north country spider. All work well for largemouth and trout except the Acardo popper.

His Christmas wishes are to treasure our happy memories of fly fishing with old friends and our favorite fly rods and sunsets of yesterday. Thank you Jerry.

Old Business: Bob Myers graciously thanked the club for our support and prayers during Covid and for keeping the club strong during his illness. Angler of the Year will be announced at the Christmas Party. Mick reminded the club to bring door prizes such as flies, tools and books.

New Business: January 4th is our next in person meeting.

FF 101 starts March 14th at 6 PM. The class is full. The first night features Baz's presentation on

where and when to fish in our area and what to use.

PHW is back January 10th in the clubhouse at 10 AM. Fly tying and rod building will resume with Jim White.

A reminder: February 4-5th is the Atlanta fly fishing show in Duluth, Georgia just north of Atlanta. The Embassy Suites is the headquarters for the show and walking distance to the exhibition hall. A good contingent of club members plans to attend. The show features you tube fly tying classes, travel destinations, fly fishing artists and a variety of extras. Google the show for further details.

Dues for next year are \$30 for returning members paid by cash or checks, \$32 for on- line payments and \$37 for new members. Mail your checks to the Treasurer or Cindi will take on line payments. The new Fly Tying Chairman is Bob Korose who takes over from Pat Murphy. Bob needs volunteers to fill in for fly of the month when he is traveling Cliff will tie his bonito fly in January and Terry ties the tan and olive clouser in February. Pat thank you for all your teaching and your patience over the years.

Fishing Reports: A good report from a club member on his trip to the Big Bend Area for redfish. "Tides and redfish density are higher." It is a 3.5-hour drive from Pensacola. Another member went to the Davidson River headwaters in North Carolina. I found a heavy concentration of birds sitting on the water and baitfish in the Pass, but no boats caught any bull reds.

1830 the Meeting Adjourned