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Message From the President

We just held our annual fundraising event at the Elks Club in Fort Worth. It was a great and successful night. After expenses, we netted \$23,860! This is more than we did last year! Yay us!

These funds help us carry out our mission of education, outreach, and conservation while supporting the operations of this 350-member-strong club. It allows us to bring well-known fly-fishing speakers/authors/influencers from around the country. In turn, many of those speakers donate guided trips with them for us to auction off.

Major kudos to everyone involved for making it happen. Folks, this event is a year in the making. It takes many people to help organize and make it a success. We had a wonderful team of “hunter/gatherers” for some memorable trips for lucky bidders. Thanks to any of our members who personally donated a guided trip or gear.

I greatly appreciate the work of Barry Clark, Liz Davis, Laura Durden, Frank Hunycutt, Russell and Vicki Husted, Don Irwin, Les Jackson, Greg Kohn, Maureen Lambert, Paul Locklear, Paul Lund, Jerri and Alvin Meaux, Zane Moore, Brett Morehead, Jim Smith, and Dan Tatum. And a very special thanks to our outgoing auction chair, Bill Hodges, who has served in this role for three years. I hope I didn’t miss anyone—but if I did, thank you too!

Volunteers are the lifeblood of any organization. Without volunteers, a club can’t exist because they are the glue that keeps us together and the fuel that keeps things running. Then there’s the subject of that pesky money. Yes, we must have funds to keep things running smoothly for our club and to support our mission for our members, community, and the sport.

I encourage everyone to volunteer for something this year and in the years to come. It’s an excellent way to get to know other members on a deeper level beyond fishing. Speaking from personal experience, many of my good friends are members of this club, and I cherish that.

Tight Lines,

Kay Jackson
[President](#)



ANNUAL AUCTION



GUEST SPEAKERS

October, Nancy Willette



October brings another Okie, Nancy Willette. She is a guide out of Broken Bow, Oklahoma, and has guided in Montana as well. Besides being a great authority on catching trout on the fly, she is a real-world character who has stories on her world in Finance, raising kids, and selecting the “right” area to retire to if near year-round fishing is your goal. When not speaking, consulting or

working Nancy enjoys spending time fly fishing, hunting, and horseback riding in Minnesota, Alaska, Texas, Broken Bow-Oklahoma, Iowa and Montana. Many club members have fished with her, and everyone has rave reviews. [Learn more.](#)

November, Nick Streit



Nick Streit was born into somewhat of a fly-fishing dynasty. His father, Taylor, started guiding anglers in Northern New Mexico in the late 70s and has literally written the book on fly fishing New Mexico. His Uncle Jackson, likewise, owns and operates The Mountain Angler in Breckenridge, CO, and has authored the book Fly Fishing Colorado.

Getting into the family business at an early age, Nick was guiding fishermen before he was old enough to drive them to the river, and by the age of 17, Nick was a member of the U.S. fly fishing team that took second place in the World Championships in Wales. After college, Nick followed in his father’s footsteps to such fly-fishing destinations as the Bahamas and Argentina. He also ventured out on his own for a brief stint guiding in Alaska. But the call of his home-waters could not be denied, and in 2004 Nick, along with his wife Chrissy, re-opened the Taos Fly Shop (in the exact location his father had the store in the 80’s). The shop has grown from its humble beginnings and is now Northern NM’s premier fly shop. In 2012, Nick- along with longtime friend and fellow guide Ivan Valdez- purchased The Reel Life, a fly shop and guide service in Santa Fe.

Nick now spends the majority of his time running his two businesses, guiding and instructing classes. In the winter, he hosts group trips to Argentina, Cuba, and beyond. Nick also enjoys photography, and his work has been featured in publications such as Southwest Fly Fishing and New Mexico Magazine.

Nick is also a passionate conservationist, volunteering his efforts over the years to organizations like Trout Unlimited. He is also the Director of the Friends of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, an organization focused on conservation and community outreach.

If not at work, Nick is usually camping, hunting, or fishing in the woods somewhere with his wife Chrissy and their two children, Taylor and Christian.

Nick Streit, Executive Director

[Friends of Rio Grande del Norte](#)

[Taos Fly Shop](#)

575-751-1312

Accepting Nominations for Open Board Positions for 2026-2027

If you would like to help shape the future of the Fort Worth Fly Fishers club, please consider serving on the board. Board members are expected to attend monthly board meetings, monthly club meetings, fulfill their specific roles, and volunteer to assist with the annual auction.

Please submit your interest no later than Tuesday, October 14, 2025 to President@FortWorthFlyFishers.org

If you have any questions about any of the roles, email or ask questions at our next club meeting on October 7.

FWFF CLUB ACTIVITIES

DATE	ACTIVITY / CONTACT INFORMATION
Saturday, October 11	Pappy Elkins Park Lake Outing / Dan Tatum / tatum.daniel@yahoo.com or 682-201-6113
Friday, October 24-26	Bill Ward's Outing / Dan Tatum / tatum.daniel@yahoo.com or 682-201-6113
Friday, November 7-9	Coastal Trip / Dan Tatum / tatum.daniel@yahoo.com or 682-201-6113
Saturday, November 15	Brazos Clean Up / Paul Lund / lupol63@yahoo.com or 770-294-1940
Saturday, November 22	Fort Worth Nature Center / Dan Tatum / tatum.daniel@yahoo.com or 682-201-6113
Tuesday, December 2	Christmas Party / Bill Hodges / bcolhodges@aol.com or 817-528-1157

Pappy Elkins Park Lake

On October 11th, we will have a local outing to Pappy Elkins Park Lake. It is located directly behind the Dalworthington Gardens City Hall. There is easy parking and access to the lake with plenty of bank fishing, and you can use a non-motorized boat. It's not a huge lake, so paddling your kayak around will be easy. This is a great place to try out new rods or work on your casting. This is an excellent outing to bring your fishing buddy, so don't hesitate to reach out to them.

They stocked the lake with over 1000 Lone Star bass this year. There are largemouth bass over 3 lbs. in the lake. The lake is home to perch, catfish, and carp, among other species. Bring your carp flies, and maybe you can carpe carp (seize the fish).

The park opens at 7:00 am, so you can arrive and begin fishing then. FWFF members will be available to assist as needed. This is a come-and-go event, so there's no official start or end time. No need to let us know you're coming. Just fish for a bit, and hopefully the weather will be nice.

What to bring:

- 5wt – 6wt rods
- Drinking water
- Sun block
- Folding chair for break times
- Flies: topwater poppers, carp flies, streamers

If you are using your phone's guidance, I suggest entering the [Dalworthington Garden City Hall](#). If you search for the park, it may direct you to a back road that is currently closed.

Dan Tatum, Outings Director
682-201-6113 | Tatum.daniel@yahoo.com

Bill Ward's, October 24-26

The Bill Ward ranch near Mexia is one of the best outings of the year. The fishing is always outstanding. There are several lakes on Bill's property as well as Kent's place across the street. You can fish from the bank, but it isn't easy. Kayaks or small boats are the best to use. The bass are mostly 1 to 2 pounds, but they do reach up to 8 – 10 pounds. Recommended rods are 5-weight or 6-weight. Bass may be hitting topwater, which is terrific when they explode from the surface. They are usually hitting in the water column and a variety of flies such as woolly buggers and crawfish patterns. But this is a great place to try out what you've got.

There is space for RVs but no hookups. You can also camp on the property if you'd like. The city of Mexia is about 5 miles away, where there are hotels.

On Friday evening, a group usually goes to eat in town. Saturday will be spent fishing, and then we will have a fish fry at Bill Ward's place Saturday evening. You will be treated to freshly caught fish fried to perfection and world-famous Dr. Pepper onion rings. Bring a chair. Bring your own bottle and plan to hang out for good food and good conversation.

Sunday is spent packing out and heading back. You may hang around and fish on Sunday before you go home. Be sure to pick up your area so you leave Bill's place better than you found it. We want to show appreciation to Bill Ward, our host, at all times.

Please reach out to Dan Tatum for any questions or the map link.

Dan Tatum, Outings Director
682-201-6113 | Tatum.daniel@yahoo.com

Coastal Outing, November 7-8

We are heading to Port Aransas. We will be based at Ocean's Edge Hotel on Mustang Island. This location provides us with quick access to some excellent fishing areas, including Lighthouse Lakes, East Flats, Brown and Root Flats. There are numerous excellent restaurants in the area for those who want to dine out.

Ocean's Edge is about 5 minutes from the ferry landing. Breakfast is available at 6:30 a.m. Everyone is responsible for making their own reservations. When you call Ocean's Edge (361-749-6427), ask for Amanda, tell her you are with the Fort Worth Fly Fishers, and you want a room on the first floor. There are no elevators. She will try to keep us fairly close together. The cost should be about \$40 per night per person based on double occupancy.

Bring a kayak. If you don't have one, try to borrow one from someone. There are a few places that rent kayaks, but historically, these have not been of very high quality and therefore not very comfortable. If you are not going to use a kayak, you can fish the Port Aransas Jetties or the surf. Unless you have experience fishing the surf, I would not recommend it.

Suggested flies include baitfish patterns (such as clousers, sea duckers, and game changers), shrimp and crab patterns, and spoon flies. You can always see Stephen at the Orvis store for additional advice. I would recommend an 8wt rod with a floating line. You may want to bring a sink tip or an intermediate sink line for deeper places. Fluorocarbon leaders in the 20# to 25# range and fluorocarbon tippet in the 15# to 20# range are also recommended. The fish on the flats are unlikely to be 20-pound fish, but you need something strong enough to withstand the environment.

If you are interested in hiring a guide, here are some recommendations. My go-to over the years has been FlyFish Rockport. They have several boats, but they are already booked for the 7th and 8th. At this time, they do have one boat available for the 6th. You can check to see if they have had any cancellations. Other guide recommendations are Ken Jones, Chase Ferguson, Dylan Mendoza, and Diego Solis. I have fished with Ken Jones and Chase Ferguson. Both were excellent. Chase primarily fishes the Laguna Madre area from Baffin Bay to Land Cut. Another option would be to check with the Orvis store in Rockport. Just a heads up, be prepared for sticker shock. Guides are now charging \$750 to \$850 for a full day.

If you're planning to go, please let me, Brian Loria (817-692-1908), or Dan (682-201-6113) know. We will need a head count for the Saturday night shrimp boil. If you are new to coast fishing, I will meet with you either Thursday or Friday night, and we will have a redfish 101 class. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to call me with any questions you may have.



Nature Center, November 22

We plan to go to the Nature Center in Fort Worth for a local fishing outing. If you haven't been there, you should go. It's a fantastic place.

You can bring kayaks. This will be a morning trip. It is late November, so keep an eye on the weather. If it's too cold (or too hot), this trip might be cancelled.

For now, we plan to go and have a good time. We will provide more details closer to the time.

Dan Tatum, Outings Director
682-201-6113 | Tatum.daniel@yahoo.com

[Lake Worth Water Level](#)

Oklahoma trip

We had a fantastic outing to the Lower Illinois River in Oklahoma. This trip was the first of its kind for the club because everyone fished from boats with a guide. Donovan Clary treated us to a cookout at his place on Friday night. We had a great time and enjoyed fellowship around the campfire. The following two days were spent floating and fishing the river. Many fish were caught, including personal best smallmouth and the elusive full-blood Neosho smallmouth.

Donovan and his guides know the river well, so they were able to take us to specific spots. They would point out that there's usually a large female hanging out by this rock or say things like, 'Usually, fish are caught along this ledge.'

Saturday evening, we had a great meal at Linney Breaux's Cajun Restaurant. The food and staff were terrific! Sunday was spent fishing, and then we drove home with great memories of the entire weekend.



Colorado Trip, July 11-18, 2026 NEW LOCATION!!!!

Club, it is NOT TOO early to start making your plans for the annual summer Colorado trip, July 11-18 in South Fork, Colorado. After unfavorable lodging circumstances we have had the last few years, WE ARE NOW STAYING AT A NEW LOCATION!!! Rooms have been reserved for us, so we kindly request that you start booking for next year. If we DO NOT fill up the allotment of rooms, a charge will be made for the rooms that were not reserved, and we DO NOT want that. Trust me on this. We have been going to South Fork and lodging there for quite a few years now. This is not a club-sponsored event, but we always have a wonderful time. As your host, I will provide assistance with lodging, address your trip needs, and offer information on the best fishing locations for you and your group. We will be staying at the [LOGE](#), which is located just across from our favorite place, Rachel's Food Truck. The place to be in South Fork. LOL. There, you can reserve a lodge room or bring your RV. It's best to travel and lodge as a group. It's not a bad idea to start arranging your travel now by sharing a ride. It's a long day if you choose to drive it in one go, or you can split it up with stops in Amarillo, Dumas, or Raton, N.M. This is a come-and-go trip. You can pretty much make your schedule. This year, there was a below-average amount of snowfall, and river flows were low; temperatures did exceed a trout-friendly range. Hoping for much better conditions, and an end to the drought in 2026!!

South Fork is not the only area we fish. Creede, to the north, and Pagosa Springs to the southwest across the scenic Wolf Creek Pass, are great options as well. Within reach are the San Juan and Arkansas rivers, which are great destinations as well. The Rio Grande is one of the favorite spots, but there are so many small creeks around, with small trout waiting for your tiny dry flies! There are many other things to do besides fishing if you wish. I suggest checking the Chamber of Commerce for any questions you may have. There are also several professional guides serving the area. Let me know if you'd like to attend. Please RSVP to me if you haven't already and are making plans to do so.

Russell Husted, Education Director

682-261-1702 | RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net

Casting Clinic

OH What a Night!!!

Late September in Twenty – Twenty Five

Many GREAT Casters

And that ain't no jive

Oh, Oh, Oh What a Night!!!

Special THANKS goes out to Jeffrey Graham for his assistance with our casting journey. Joining him at this session was another great instructor, Bill Campbell. The level of instruction and patience they have shared with us is very much appreciated. And here are the wins from this clinic.

The club held another successful casting clinic on Tuesday, September 23. We began hosting these clinics in late 2024 and have continued to utilize the FFI Fly Casting Skills Development Program as a tool to enhance our members' casting abilities and angling skills. Building on the annual Casting Clinic, which was held in August, we are excited to share that there are now two members who have completed the Gold Level in the skills program: Jim Smith & Russell Husted.

Congratulations to Stephen Setian for completing the GOLD Level on his first exposure to the program. Stephen is a well-known fly fisherman, and it was no surprise that, given his level of experience, he would excel. And he did. Great job, Stephen!!

The depth of our casting program grows even more, as four more members completed the Silver Level. Congratulations go out to the following club members, who completed the next step in their casting journey: Paul Lund, Adam Cochran, Keith McCorkle, Dale Hayward & Mark Abelson.

It's always great to see new members attend our casting clinics and perform well. Congratulations to these members on the start of their casting journey, completing the Foundation level, and already working through the Bronze Level: Willie Hunt, Debbie Abelson, Scott Mack & Tony Farro.

The club will continue to hold casting clinics, with new dates to be scheduled soon. Stay tuned!!

Interested in getting involved?

Russell Husted, Education Director

682-261-1702 | RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net

CONGRATULATIONS

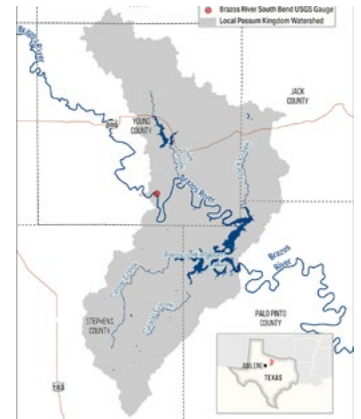


CONSERVATION UPDATE

Brazos River Cleanup | Below Possum Kingdom Dam | November 15

Many members fish this section of the river, so mark your calendars for this 6th annual cleanup event at the Hwy 16 bridge. We'll have more information coming out soon, so stay tuned! Hope to see you there.

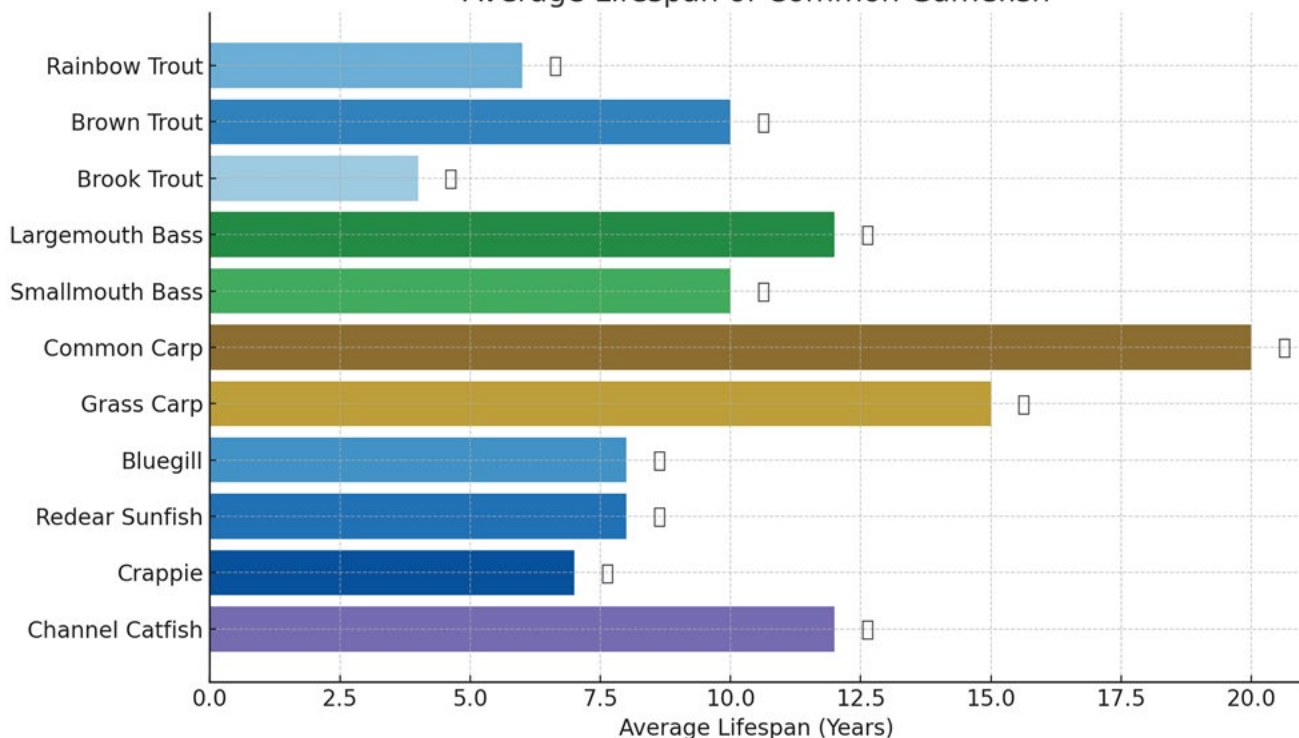
Public Event · Anyone on or off Facebook.
 Brazos River Cleanup Below Possum Kingdom Dam
 Hwy 16 Bridge / Brazos River
 Saturday, November 15
 12:00 – 4:00 pm
[Learn more](#)



Conservation Tips / Facts

- Monofilament fishing line can take from 300-600 years to break down in the environment.
- Fluorocarbon line is even worse – it can last 500-1000 years in streams and soil.
- Both materials pose long-term risk to fish, birds, and other wildlife that can get tangled or ingest them.
- BEST PRACTICE: Carry a small zip bag or line container and pack EVERY clipping out. Many tackle shops and boat ramps also have recycling bins for used line.
- We do not want future generations of fish to be swimming in a pool of fishing line. Thank you to those who find and pickup line along the river and dispose.

Average Lifespan of Common Gamefish



CLEAN UP EFFORTS

What a great day at Marine Creek Lake Trail! We focused efforts on our adopt a trail section plus more. Total trash removed was 24 bags, a tire, buoy, float, sofa cushion, hub cap, 5' pvc pipe, 1/2 metal post, plastic pot, and an oil drain pan. Thanks to all of our great club volunteers: Dale Hayward, Jim Smith, Zane Moore, Andy Walter on water and Michael Mooney and Paul Lund on land.

Thank you [Tarrant Regional Water District](#) (TRWD) for having a great Adopt a Trail / Stream program and for providing supplies.



VP PROGRAMS

Fish Camp

We have several new members, so let me start by saying that Fish Camp is designed to help you become part of the club fabric much faster than if we just let things happen by themselves. Our goal is to have you as a member for life, and Fish Camp will help make that happen. We achieve this by pairing newer members with those who have been around for a while. We begin our second year with this program and are in the process of transferring leadership. We plan to survey to gather feedback on how to improve the program. One of the ideas under consideration is a mixer that would feature a panel of experienced club members, followed by a breakout icebreaker session divided by geography, allowing you to have a nearby fishing buddy to drive to events with. More to come.

Program

Hi all, we have some great programs lined up for you in October from the Broken Bow area, featuring Nancy Willette. She has a great human-interest story re her life, and she has a storied fly-fishing background, including in the Montana area. Many of our members have fished with her, and she is a pure delight. She will meet you where you are and put you on the fish. Nancy searched the USA to decide where to retire so that she could fish for most of the year, and her research led her to Broken Bow. This should be a great program to learn about some waters that are conveniently located near the metroplex and offer year-round fishing opportunities.

In November, we will have Nick Streight from the Taos area. This will be an excellent opportunity to hear from someone familiar with fishing in the lower Colorado River area of New Mexico. The timing for his talk is perfect. Discover the area and plan your 2026 fishing trip to enjoy this unique location.

In December, we will host our annual club Christmas party at the Levitt Pavilion in Arlington. This was a blast last year, and an excellent opportunity to bring your partner so they can meet the fishing legends you've talked about all year. Plan to attend. Watch for details in the Newsletter.

George Prochaska, VP Programs

682-230-7818, georgeprochaska@gmail.com

Christmas Party Slide Show

Club members, we are planning for the Christmas Party and could use your help. I know it's 100 degrees, and tough to think about Christmas, right now!! But good planning is always a good thing. We had a slide show up during the Birthday party, and it was nice to see some photos, both recent and from our past in the slide show. We want to do that again, during the Christmas party. To enhance that even more, we need photo's. These slide shows take time to put together, hence another reason to start on this now!!

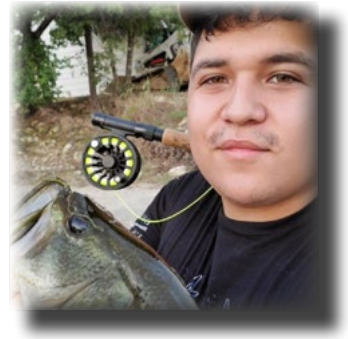
What kind of photos are we looking for? We would like to remember members that are no longer with us, that are part of our great history. Group photo's. We love this. Funny photo's are always a big hit, so send those our way. We will also pay tribute to our Past Presidents, in some way. So start going through your pics, wherever they may be stored, and send to us. Thanks for helping us here.

Russell Husted, Education Director

682-261-1702 | russellhusted@sbcglobal.net

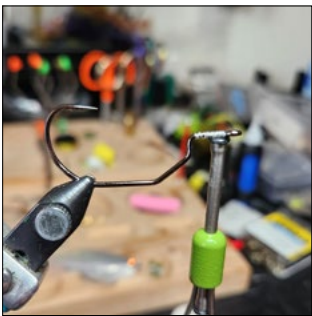
Fly of the Month: Laser Deceiver

Written and photographed by: Michael Rios
Tying Director

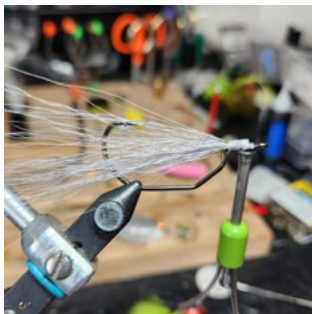


Materials:

- Hook: Ahrex PR378 size 2
- Silver holoflash
- Bucktail in white and Grey
- Laser dub in white and Grey
- 6/0 white thread
- 6mm eye



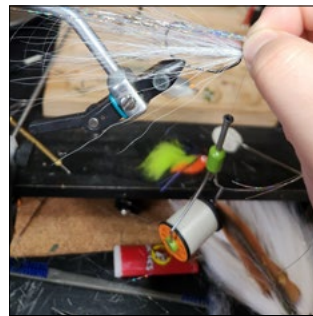
1. Secure your hook in the vise and start your thread behind the hook eye.



2. Tie in your Grey bucktail on top of the hookshank. You want your bucktail to be 2.5 hook-lengths.



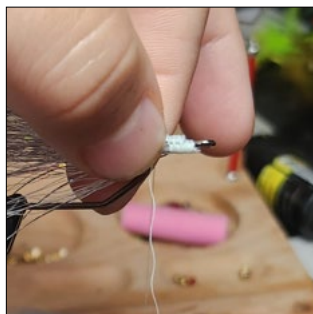
3. Rotate your hook upside down and secure tie down your white bucktail.



4. Cut about 8 strands of holoflash and measure the length of the flash to match the length of the bucktail. DO NOT CUT. You will use the whole length of the flash so let the rest of the flash hang off the front end of the fly for the next step.



5. Tie the flash down with 2 light wraps so that you can manipulate the flash around the shank of the hook.



6. Pull back the excess flash hanging off the front, rearward, and tie down.

Fly of the Month: Laser Deceiver - continued



7. Pull 2 sparse clumps of laser dub, one in white, one in Grey.



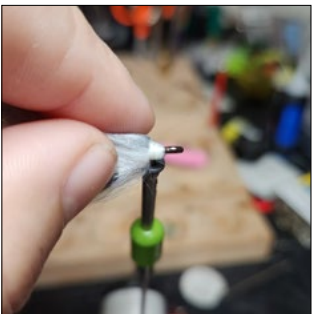
10. Whip finish your fly.



8. Tie the Grey clump on top of the hook to match the Grey bucktail, do the same with the white.



11. Glue on your 6mm eyes on either side of the hook, allow to dry or secure with UV resin



9. Pull back the forward facing end of the laser dub back over itself and tie down with multiple close wraps. I like to brush out the dubbing after I get it secured.



12. Your fly is complete.

Fly of the Month

Do you know someone who you think should be featured in the Fly of the Month?

If so, feel free to refer them.

For questions contact Michael at coolimanjaro217@gmail.com.



Fly Tying Groups Around Town

One of the best ways to improve and learn new tying skills as well as make new friends is to attend one of the tying events held in our area on a weekly basis. If you are a seasoned and experienced tyer, many of us would be glad to learn a new pattern or technique from you. If you are new to the whole mystifying ordeal of putting thread and feathers on a hook, do not be intimidated. Come and watch, enjoy a cold one, and catch up on recent fishing reports.

Grapevine

Hop & Stink Brewery
906 Jean Street, Grapvine, TX 76051

The second Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. Michael Tulowitski leads a fly tying class for all levels. All materials will be supplied.

Arlington

Arlington Vise Squad, Mixed Up Burgers
510 East Avenue K, Grand Prairie
972-606-6700

Thursday nights, with dinner and drinks starting at about 5:30 p.m. and tying about 6:30 p.m. This event is usually led by a rotating cast of FWFF members who provide materials, but participants should bring their own vise and tools. It meets in a semi-private room.

Fort Worth Fly Fishers Board Members

Position	Name	Term
President	Kay Jackson	2024-25
VP Programs	George Prochaska	2025-26
Vice President	Brett Morehead	2024-25
Auctions/Raffles	Bill Hodges	2024-25
At-Large	Don Irwin	2024-25
Communications	Laura Durden	2024-25
Conservation	Paul Lund	2025-26
Education	Russell Husted	2024-25
Fly Tying	Michael Rios	2024-25
Legal	Mike Nelson	2023-24
Membership	Barry Clark	2024-25
Outings	Daniel Tatum	2024-25
Secretary	Jerri Meaux	2025-26
Social media	Cody Weaver	2024-25
Treasurer	Liz Davis	2024-25

Welcome our newest members!

Brian Hecht & Jan Davis

Marshall Motley

Katy Scotch

Henry Tieding



FWFF
P.O. Box 1133
Forth Worth, TX 76101
www.fortworthflyfishers.org

Our Purpose

“The purpose of our local club is to provide a forum for the meeting and exchange of ideas among members concerning the art of fly fishing.” Federation of Fly Fishers, Southern Council 2002 and 2003 Club of the Year, Texas Council 2014 Club of the Year