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Message From the President

While it's November, the board is busy planning year-end activities.

Holiday Party

Our annual holiday party is on Tuesday, December 2, at the Levitt Pavilion Party Room in Arlington (same place as last year). We are creating a special presentation to mark our club's 40th anniversary, featuring photos submitted by our members.

If you have photos from outings or club events over the past years, please send them to Russell (RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net) by November 20 at the latest. We're also accepting any photos from your 2025 fishing adventures. Is there a memorable trip or fish you want to share with the club? Please send.

I'd also like to hear from all of you past presidents. Please email me at president@fortworthflyfishers.org with the years you served.

We will have a gift exchange for those who want to participate. Bring a gift worth \$25 and exchange it for another! No gag gifts—something you'd like to receive is what to give.

Membership

It's time to renew your club membership for 2026. You can do so on the website. Please note, there is an option to auto-renew your membership so you don't have to think about it in the future. Club dues will remain the same.

Programs

Please let George Prochaska or me know if you have ideas for speakers in 2026. Perhaps you've been to an area and fished with a guide service that you think other club members would like to know about? Is there a fly-fishing author or YouTube personality that we can learn from? Are there other related topics of interest, such as photography or conservation? Let us know!

We have a strong club, and we always want to hear from our members how we can continue providing the services you want and appreciate.

Thank you!

Kay Jackson, [President](#)



GUEST SPEAKER

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

November Meeting – You Don't Want to Miss This One!

November is going to be a super fun meeting! We're excited to host Nick Streight from Taos Fly Fishers. If you get a chance, check out their website and read about Nick and his family — he comes from a long line of talented fly fishers. Nick's presentation will focus on Argentina, and I've seen some of the photos — they're incredible. Even if you never plan to fish there, you'll enjoy the stories and jaw-dropping fishing scenes he'll share.

December – Club Christmas Party

December brings our annual Christmas party, held this year at the Levitt Pavilion in Arlington. This is a great opportunity to bring a guest — they don't have to be a fly fisher! It's a perfect chance to enjoy some fellowship, get into the holiday spirit, and introduce your partners or friends to the club. We'll have a gift exchange for anyone who wants to participate! Bring a gift valued at around \$25 and trade it for another. No gag gifts, please—bring something you'd be happy to receive yourself!

January – Fish Camp Kickoff & Buddy Matching

January's meeting will feature our Club Panel and Fishing Buddy Matching Session, which also kicks off Fish Camp for the year. (See the Fish Camp article for details.) This meeting will help set the tone for the entire year, so don't miss it!

Looking Ahead – Spring Speakers

We already have a great lineup for the spring, including Doc Thompson, Aaron Gordon, and Jackson Hall. If you know of someone who would make a great speaker or could bring value to the club, please let me know.

Thanks, George

FWFF CLUB ACTIVITIES

DATE	ACTIVITY / CONTACT INFORMATION
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
Friday, November 21-23	Bill Ward's Outing / Dan Tatum / tatum.daniel@yahoo.com or 682-201-6113
Saturday, November 9	Casting Clinic / Russell Husted / RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net or 682-261-1702
Tuesday, December 2	Christmas Party / Kay Jackson / President@FortWorthFlyFishers.org or 817-658-3004
Tuesday, January 6	Club Meeting
Tuesday, February 3	Club Meeting

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.

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

Brazos River Cleanup, 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. Sign up at

[Volunteer for Brazos Clean Up Project](#)

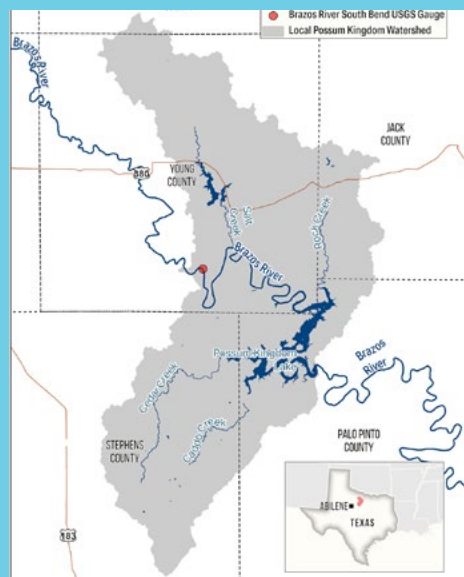
Public Event • Anyone on or off Facebook.

Brazos River Cleanup Below Possum Kingdom Dam

Hwy 16 Bridge / Brazos River

Saturday, November 15 | 12:00 – 4:00 pm

Paul Lund, Conservation Director | 770-294-1940 | lupol63@yahoo.com



Bill Ward's, November 21-23

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

Casting Clinic, November 29

The Fort Worth Fly Fishers will continue our increasingly popular casting clinics on November 29th, starting at 10 am at High Oak Park. The club members who have been participating in the program have benefited from the expert assistance provided by many FFI Casting Instructors. Not only have they become better casters, but also better anglers, which is the basis of the program.

Recent successes in the program include our most recent GOLD Member recipient, Paul Lund. Paul completed the last step of the program at the Aggieldand Round Up Casting event on the 18th of October. This is the club's third GOLD medal participant, with many more in striking distance of doing the same. It has been really great to see the members' progress on their casting journeys.

The club will continue the casting clinics this year and into 2026. There is still time to join the fun and expand your casting journey!!! No better way to start than to review the entire program when visiting the FFI's website. Learn about the program. See videos on ALL of the programs' casting techniques, and more!!

[Fly Fishers International Casting Education](#)

Russell Husted, Education Director

682-261-1702 | RussellHusted@sbcglobal.net

Colorado Fall Fishing Adventure Embracing the Colors and Challenges of Autumn

This October, a group of avid anglers, Mark Abelson and I, set out to experience the crisp air and vibrant foliage of Colorado's high country. What began as a hopeful fishing trip quickly turned into a memorable journey filled with unexpected twists, delicious food, and the kind of camaraderie that only the outdoors can inspire.

Arrival & Hog Fest Surprise

The adventure kicked off with a spontaneous detour to Southfork's Hog Fest. The scent of smoky barbecue filled the air as Mark Abelson and I enjoyed live music around a roaring bonfire. Cold drinks and warm smiles set the perfect tone for the days ahead.

Day One: High Hopes, Low Water Luck

Despite the anticipation, the first day brought challenges. The fall colors had faded faster than expected, and a dam release had blown out the creek, making fishing tough. A broken Tenkara rod added to the frustration, but our spirit remained unbroken. A quick trip to Del Norte for some amazing pizza and local craft beers ended the day on a positive note.

Day Two: Redemption at Park Creek

The second day brought a turnaround. After some trial and error with midges, dry flies proved to be the winning choice. Fueled by a spicy burrito from Rachel's Food Truck, we found success in tiny feeder creeks, landing over 100 brilliantly colored Brook Trout. The vibrant hues of the fish mirrored the autumn landscape, creating a perfect harmony of nature's beauty.

Final Day: Ice & Brown Trout Glory

The last day tested our endurance with icy conditions at Upper Beaver Creek. Though the cold kept the trout inactive there, a return to Park Creek rewarded us with stunning Brown Trout, providing a triumphant close to the trip.

Fellowship & Scenery

Beyond the fishing, the trip was a celebration of friendship, great food, and breathtaking scenery. The shared stories we revisited while enjoying the time together, along with the peaceful moments by the water, made this October outing unforgettable.

Looking Ahead

With memories made and stories to tell, we are already looking forward to the next Colorado adventure in 2026. Until then, the spirit of the fall fishing trip will live on in our hearts.

Pappy Elkins Park Lake

On October 11, we went to Pappy Elkins Park Lake in Dalworthington Gardens. It is not a huge lake, so paddling our kayaks around was easy. There were 8 FWFF members in attendance, including two who had never been to an outing. Bill Hodges and Zane Moore tried out their belly boats.

There were lots of fish in the lake that we missed. On the day we went, the fish were not hungry at all. But that's why we call it fishing, not catching.

It was a fun time anyway. We got to check out a fishing spot right in the middle of the metroplex. When the fish are biting, it's a fantastic place to be.



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

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

FISH CAMP

Hi everyone,

George P. here from the Fish Camp Program.

Just a quick reminder — Fish Camp is designed to help newer members quickly feel part of the club community while building confidence in their fly angling skills.

We've just wrapped up our pilot year, and it's been a great success! Over the past year, we matched new members with fishing buddies, hosted six skill-building clinics, and held nearly a half dozen hands-on casting seminars. The feedback has been very positive — and we're ready to take it up a notch.

As of now, we have 93 members who qualify as “Fish Campers.”

Looking ahead to next year, we'll kick things off at the January meeting with a panel discussion featuring former club board members to share insights about our club's culture and history. With a little luck, Cody Weaver will also debut a short film showcasing our outings and events.

After the panel, we'll break into geographic groups, each with a facilitator to help pair new members (“Fish Campers”) with fishing buddies from their area. This is a great way to get to know people nearby — and let's be honest, half the fun of outings is the trip there and back!

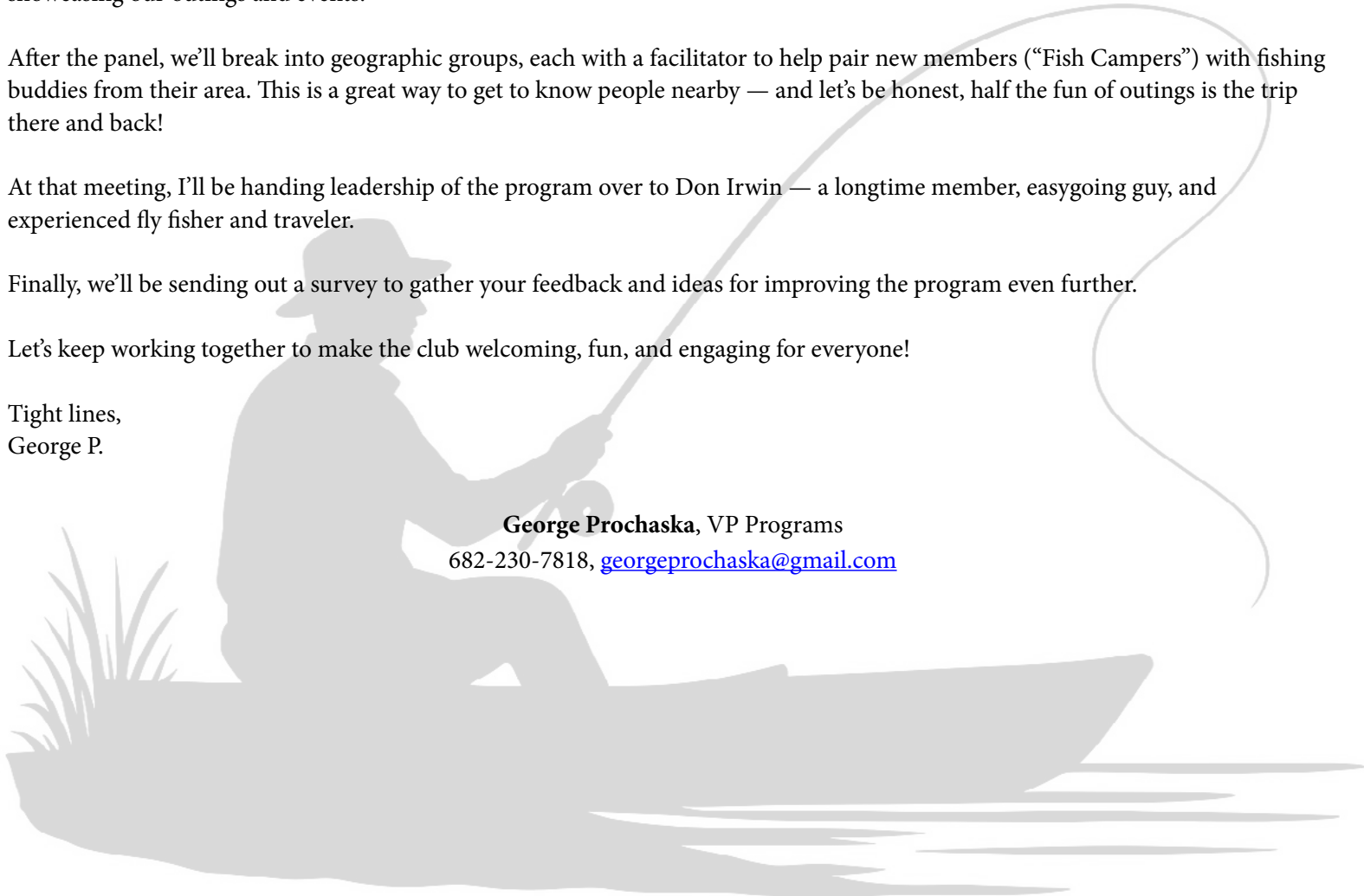
At that meeting, I'll be handing leadership of the program over to Don Irwin — a longtime member, easygoing guy, and experienced fly fisher and traveler.

Finally, we'll be sending out a survey to gather your feedback and ideas for improving the program even further.

Let's keep working together to make the club welcoming, fun, and engaging for everyone!

Tight lines,
George P.

George Prochaska, VP Programs
682-230-7818, georgeprochaska@gmail.com



Fly of the Month: Rabbit Getter

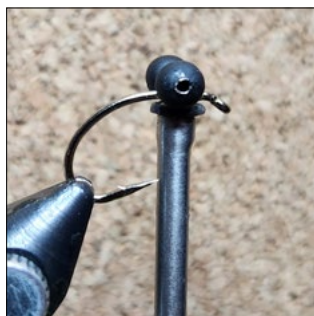
Written and photographed by: Michael Rios

Like the Rio Getter, this fly uses Rabbit fur for extra movement and a smooth vinyl body that reduces drag, making the fly dive faster, without adding too much weight.

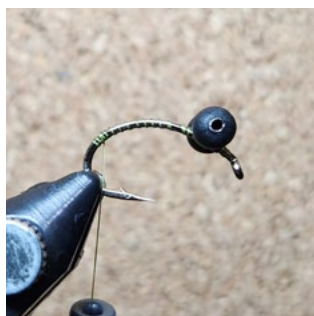


Materials:

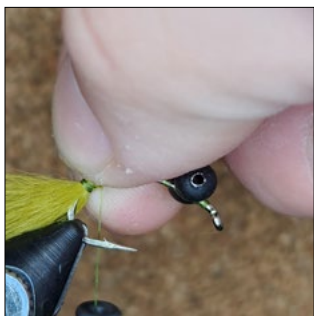
- size 8 Heavy Scud hook
- Chicone's stealth eyes, Large
- 6/0 olive thread
- rabbit zonker, Olive variant
- Vinyl D- Rib, Olive, Medium
- Olive sili legs
- olive nymph dubbing



1. Secure hook to the vise and begin your thread just behind the hook eye. Secure your bead chain eyes here.



2. Bring your thread rearward and about halfway up the bend of the hook.



3. Grab a small clump of rabbit zonker. I cut the hairs off about 3/8" worth of hide. Think about the tail of a Woolly bugger, with rabbit hair. The tail should be one hook length long, then tie it down.



4. After you tie the zonker, tie down the Vinyl D-rib with the round side DOWN, start just behind the eyes, and continue all the way down the bend of the hook, stopping just behind the tail.

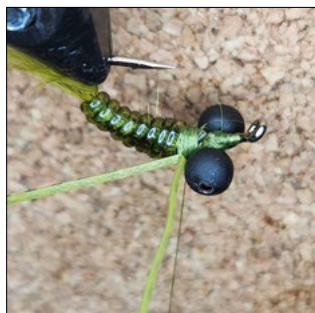


5. Just behind the eyes, make a dubbing noodle and make a tapered dubbing body that stops halfway between the tail and the eyes. This will give the body of a fly a natural tapered body. Leave your thread just behind the eyes.

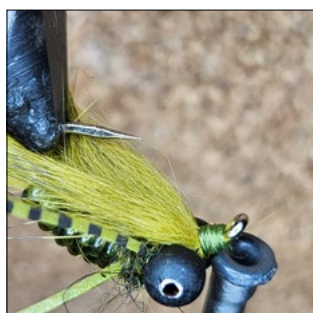


6. In touching wraps, wrap the vinyl rib up the hook shank, and tying down behind the eyes. Cut off any excess.

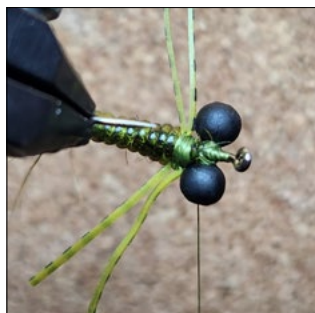
Fly of the Month: Rabbit Getter - continued



7. Directly behind the eye, tie in one sili leg.



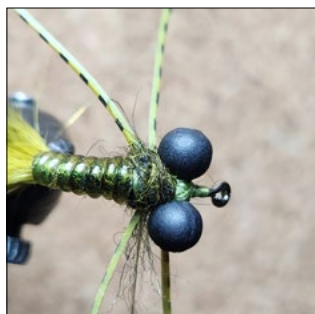
11. With a similar sized clump of rabbit fur described in Step 3, tie in the fur on top of the eyes, clouser style to make the Wing of the fly. You will make a cone shaped nose before whip finishing your fly.



8. On the opposite side of the fly, tie in the second sili leg.



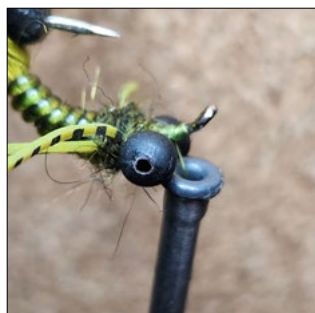
12. Using a dubbing brush, brush out the thorax for that extra buggy look.



9. Make a thin dubbing noodle and build the thorax of the fly. You will build a buggy scraggly thorax that will be the thickest part of the fly.



13. UV Cure, head cement or glue your threads to finish off the fly.



10. Bring your thread forward by jumping the eyes and stopping immediately in front of the eyes.



14. Your fly is finished.

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, Grapevine, 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!

Jeffrey Becker, Dean Crowder, Jeffrey Graham,
Scott Kemble, Martin Lehman, and Steve Villarreal.



New here? Stay connected! We're always excited to have our members—especially new ones—join our events and outings.

Here's what to keep in mind: safety is our top priority, and everyone plays a part in it.

As the event or outing gets closer, watch your email for last-minute updates (and don't forget to check your spam folder just in case). Follow us on social media for news and reminders, and be sure to know who the host is and how to reach them.



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