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Fly Fishing School Fly Tying Classes Trade Up Program The Rollcast Inside the Tying Issue

The Hammerhead Jerk Bait
The Yard Sale
The Carp Worm
The Whitebait



Plus:

Abel Reels LHP Rod Review Musk-E Adventures Ten Bass Fishing Tips

# THIS SHOULD BE YOU...

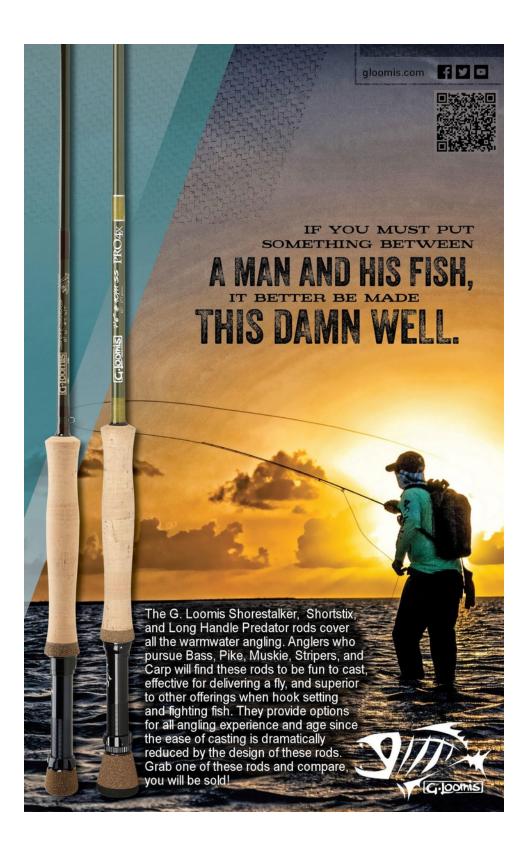
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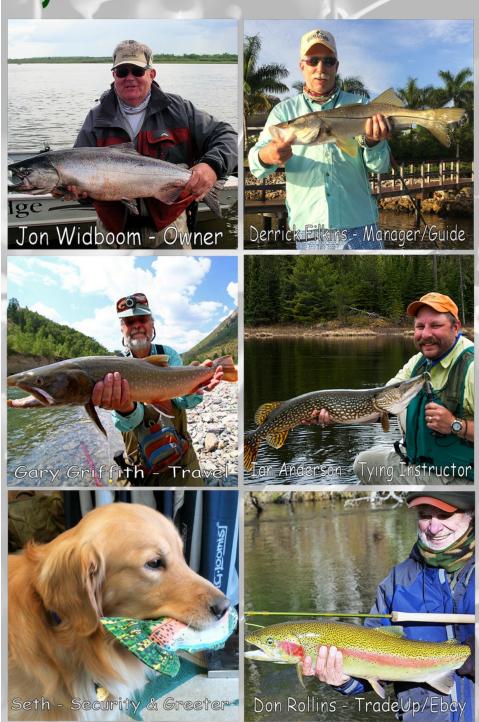
FlyMasters of Indianapolis 8232 Allisonville Road Indianapolis, IN 46250 317-570-9811 WWW.FLYMASTERS.COM Monday – Saturday 10:00am – 6:00pm Sunday 12:00pm – 5:00pm



View our magazine online



# FlyMasters Excellent Staff



#### FlyMasters Fly Fishing School



#### **Beginning Fly Fishing School**

We have folks come into the shop all the time asking "where do you fly fish in Indiana?". Believe it or not vou can catch many different species of fish within 1 to 3 hours of Indianapolis. Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, White Bass, Hybrid Bass, Striped Bass, Steelhead, Salmon, Trout (Browns and Rainbows), Muskie, Northern Pike, Carp, and sunfish can all be caught on a fly rod! With just a little instruction you can begin to enjoy fly fishing for any of these species in no time at all. Our fly fishing school is a cut above the rest because we work around your busy schedule and make it convenient for you to learn.

Our school offers an introduction to fly fishing, basic equipment, casting techniques, playing and landing fish. The school is divided into three convenient phases to allow you to gain the most out of each session.

Phase One: Introduction to Equipment and Knots (in store phase we

schedule at 7:00 p.m.)

**Phase Two:** Basic fly casting and still water fly fishing (by appointment

Monday through Saturday Morning)

**Phase Three:** Moving water and stream techniques (by appointment

Monday through Saturday Morning)

#### Check our website for the latest dates for Phase I

Phase one of our school is in the shop so we can start people on their way to learning how to fly fish early in the season. Phases two and three are usually on an individual basis, arranged around your schedule. Sessions will very in length from one to three hours. It is best to have your own equipment, but equipment is available for use. The cost for the entire school is \$100.00 per person. Upon completion of the school you will have the basic skills to enjoy the sport of fly fishing.

Fly Fishing Schools make a great gift for Christmas and Birthdays. Just purchase a gift certificate and beginners book and you have a gift that will keep on giving for years to come!



Steelhead - Muskie - Trout - Bass

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## **Fly Fishing Clinics**

For additional skills training with fly fishing FlyMasters offers a variety of clinics. Including but limited to,





**Orvis Fly Fishing 101** If you want to learn fly fishing and get out on the water as soon as possible then our Fly Fishing 101 class is for you. In this you will learn the basics of fly casting, equipment and techniques. The Fly Fishing 101 sessions are all free and are held through out the summer months. Call the shop or check the web site

be hosting a Fly Fishing 101 session. Reservations are required. You do not need any equipment just an eagerness to learn about fly fishing. All participants receive a savings card for shop merchandise.

shop or check the web site for the next date that we will session. Reservations are equipment just an eagerness participants receive a savings

**Orvis Fly Fishing 201** This class is a one day event focusing on teaching more of the basics of fly casting as well as fly tying. The event is open to anyone who has taken the 101 class or already knows a little about fly fishing and wants to learn more. It is an all day event where you will learn more about fly fishing and you will learn to tie your own flies. As a bonus you receive a free Rod, Reel and Line combo, flies and lunch for the day. We frequently hold this class in Brown County.

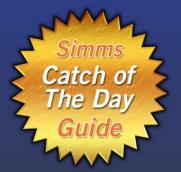


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#### FlyMasters Fly Tying Classes



Whether you are a beginner or have been tying for years, we have classes that will help you learn more about fly tying and keep this aspect of fly fishing fresh. There is nothing quite like catching a fish on a fly you have tied yourself. It is extremely satisfying to take a little bit of fur and feather and arrange it on a hook and then spend a whole evening catching fish on what you created. We have two types of tying classes at FlyMasters to cover all levels of fly tying.

Beginning Fly Tying Class where you will learn everything from

setting your hook in your vise to tying your first fly.

Intermediate and Skills
Development Fly Tying Class

Check our Website for dates for the Beginning Fly Tying Classes.

is designed to pick up where the beginning class ends and continue to learn new techniques as well as new fly patterns.

Beginning Fly Tying The beginning fly tying class is designed for absolute beginners. We will take you through all the steps of setting up our vise and tools to tying 8 different flies. This is a four part class that meets once a week for two hours. There is a class that is held during the week on Tuesday nights from 7:00 — 9:00pm. and on Saturday mornings from 10:00am — 12:00am. They are the same class in the series just on different days to



provide greater flexibility. There is formal instruction on tools, hooks, materials, thread as well as how to tie flies. The cost of the class is **\$50.00**. This include all instructions, all tools and all materials. This class is open to children seven years or older and adults of all age. Fly tying is a great activity for everyone and a wonderful way to spend an afternoon (especially a snowy one).





#### fishing seasons as well as flies We will also requested by tiers.

throughout the year be focusing on

learning to spin deer hair, learning

about various dubbing techniques or

new tying techniques.

Intermediate and Skills **Development Fly Tying** 

The goal of this class is to provide instruction concerning various tying skills, use of tools and materials, and fly patterns. This class meets for three hours on Saturdays from 2:00pm - 5:00pm (usually). Many tiers want to learn new interesting fly patterns. Some are more interested in other techniques and skills in fly tying. The flies we tie are usually focused on upcoming

> Check our Website for dates for the Beginning Fly Tying Classes.

learning to work with certain materials, we will have special classes that are focused on advancing your tying skills. The cost of this class is normally \$15.00 and all materials are provided. Students do need to bring their own equipment and can check out our web site for each of the classes to see if any special tools or equipment are required for the class. Usually, we will have the flies posted a week ahead of the class on our web site so you can see what we will be tying.

Whether





These classes are focused on what our customers are interested in learning and in tying. If you have a particular fly you would like to particular learn tying or a technique you would like to master, send us an email or call us with your request and we will get a class scheduled for you!

If there is a class you are eager to attend, registering in advance is the only way to guarantee a seat. Lastly, always check our web site or call us to make certain the class that is scheduled is still taking place. It is very rare but occasionally we do have to postpone or cancel a class unexpectedly.



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#### **FlyMasters Destinations & Events**

At FlyMasters we are constantly investigating new and different places to fish, both near and far. You can count on FlyMasters to research and evaluate waters to fish, guides to hire and lodges for rest. Warmwater, Coldwater and Saltwater are all destinations we fish and help our customers fish every year. We also recognize you might be interested but not know about places to fish. As well you may simply need some exposure to techniques, waters, guides and lodges. That is why we often schedule special "Events" that help keep you connected to fishing when you can not be actually fishing. Some of these events are a few hours in duration and some last all day. All are fun and informative.



# Shop Online at FlyMasters.com



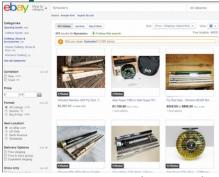
The best shopping experience you can have is to come into our shop in Indy spend some time with However, we understand that is not always possible. Especially, if it is late at night and you are tying some flies and run out of something and want to order it at the moment. It also isn't convenient for all of our out of town customers that always stop by when they are in the neighborhood.

Because of this we have developed our online presence to include shopping. We have many products online currently and are getting more and more each day. You can also elect to have your entire purchase picked up at our shop. Saving you any additional shipping fees. Remember that the next time you are coming to Indy; make your purchase at FlyMasters.com



and simply drive in and pick it up. But don't forget to at least say "Hello".

## FlyMasters TradeUp Program



there Apparently, are а lot fisherman and women that have old unused gear collecting dust that they want to put to good use. That is exactly what we do with our Trade-Up program. You bring (or send) in your old rod, reel, tying vise, etc... and we will clean it up and sell it for you on eBay. This is not limited to just fly All bait casting and gear either.

spinning gear is welcome. The great thing is you don't have to do anything. We do all the work of cleaning it, photographing it, listing it and handling the sale. You get 100% of the selling price (minus eBay fees) as a FlyMasters gift certificate. You can then shop in the store or online and use it to upgrade to newer and better equipment. Bring all that old dusty gear from the basement or garage and let us turn it into



some green stuff for you. You can then fill that space back up with new and shinv thinas. Head over flymasters.com/tradeup.asp for details on Trading Up your old gear.



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## FlyMasters Rollcast

The best way to keep up with Angling Events at FlyMasters is The Rollcast, our bi-weekly newsletter about all things happening at FlyMasters and



around the Midwest. At FlyMasters we understand all too well just how busy life can get. Work, families, homes, friends and relatives all take up a slice of our precious days. That is where the Rollcast comes in. When you can't spare the time to graze our website, The Rollcast will keep you up to date.

Here is what you will find in the Rollcast.

- A generalize fishing report for the Midwest. What opportunities exist for fishing and who to contact for more info.
- 2. Upcoming Fly Tying Classes at FlyMasters, both Beginning and Intermediate Classes!
- 3. Notices for Fly Fishing School or special Fly Fishing clinics.
- 4. Announcements about quest speakers at FlyMasters or 4. Midwest Clubs.
- 5. New products that have arrived in the shop.
- 6. Upcoming Trips to a variety of destinations
- 7. Links shop at FlyMasters, eBay or Orvis that take you directly to Fly Fishing products.
- 8. News about new items in our Trade-Up Program.
- 9. Plus, fun videos and links to other quality Fly Fishing resources on the World Wide Web.

Signing up for the Rollcast is easy. Simply click on the link in the upper left of our website. You can scan the QR code below of this page and you'll be taken to the page to sign up. It is also very easy to unsubscribe if you ever choose too. But who would want to do that? Look for our new Mobile Version of the Rollcast for 2016!





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Polymer Handle
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Quick Release

# Classic





Model 3/4 - \$119.95 Model 5/6 - \$129.95 Model 7/8 - \$139.95



Let me start on giving you a little about the back ground of this fly. The HJB started evolving about two years ago. I wanted a fly that would act similar to a soft plastic Jerk bait, which is a very successful lure used by spin fishermen. Any fly used for Snook has to be designed so an accurate caster can skip under the mangroves, without getting hung in the branches or on the oysters. For years I fished my favorite deer hair pattern, the RZ Mangrove Slider, which has accounted for many beautiful



Snook. It worked very well in our environment, but I wanted a little more. The next step was working with sheet foam to develop a fly that would resist becoming waterlogged and wiggle just a little more when stripped. Foam heads proved to be an improvement over spun deer hair heads. The new head gave several advantages to the new fly.

If stripped at moderate speed, it would make a wake across the surface, or if stripped hard it would dive down and suspend and then slowly rise to the top. The only down side to the first generation was that the foam could become damaged and waterlogged after the first couple of fish or errant

casts into the roots. This prompted me to add a thin coat of epoxy and to expand the head a little. The more durable surface allowed the addition of eyes and the current version of the HJB was born. This fly is now available in 6 colors for all types of Snook like mangrove edges where they can ambush prey... water. Honestly if I had to pick one color, it would be difficult. My clients and I have caught nice fish on all the colors. I took it to the lakes in Highlands County last spring and in one day fishing it through heavy cover caught and released over 70 Largemouth bass ranging in size from a pound to a 9-pounder that ate it under some Lilly pads in a cypress stand on Lake Istockpoga.

# **STRADIC**

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Once or twice a month I take a busman's holiday and fish with a great friend out of Chokoloskee in the Glades, George Varnadoe. George and I

trade off handling the boat and fishing. He knows the water and the fish as well or better than anyone I know. We fish an area that we keep to ourselves. It is an area I have fished with my family my whole life. It is a hidden place where I go to unwind. I had told George that Troy at FLYH20 requested a couple of pics of fish with the HJB fly for his marketing



plan. George in his grumbling way half heartedly agreed to help me. Taking pictures can be kind of distracting and time consuming especially when you are into a hot bite. Another problem was that at the time, the fish had been feeding on small stuff. Snook were being caught on flies about an inch long and he really didn't think the fly was going to turn them on. I had never actually fished the HJB with him before, so he hadn't seen it in action. We started out looking for some redfish on the outside but the conditions weren't right for them. He said he knew of a pocket in a bay that had a lot of Snook in the 5 to 10 pound range feeding on Gambusia.



When I tied on the HJB, he started grumbling," that was too big". Of course after the first cast and a nice 7-pounder almost jumped completely out of the water to get to it, I think he started to change his mind. At least he said he wanted to see this fly up-close. I was reluctant, as he has been known to

snip them off and lose them in a pocket for later observation. I said, "Okay your turn!" He said, "No way! Let's see what that thing will do. Was that just a fluke?" I proceeded to skip it into the bank and pulled one Snook after another out, all the time asking about taking a picture or two which again met with more grumbling. I said, "The next fish is it. We are taking a picture and you are going to fish!" He agreed and said, "This



- The Real Deal) is the ideal soft bait profile for the 'Ned Rig' style of finesse fishing.
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next little cove usually has a Tarpon or two laid up in it. Let's see if that fly works on them like it works on Snook?" I agreed and stopped casting the shore line turned my attention to the open water and scanned for the silver of a tarpon in the mud. About 60 feet away I saw a fish that looked like a nice 40 or 50 pound Tarpon with its side to us and I took the shot. I twitched the fly once and wiggled it past her. She rose up and sucked it in. We both saw the fish and let out an, "Oh My God, it's a Snook." The hook did not sink home and came out on the strike. Now of course we are both about to crap our pants and even though the fish didn't go

anywhere, Ι new, Τ probably blew the one and only real shot I had. A fish of this size rarely makes the same mistake twice.

Finally after what seemed like an eternity I spotted her again this time about 20 foot off the bow. I flipped a cast head. To our to her

the

surprise

mouth opened and we heard the concussion and the

fly was gone and we were off to the races. George did a masterful job turning the boat and getting us into a larger part of the bay where the fish would have a tougher time getting to cover. I put as much pressure as I could on a new rod. I was fishing a new TFO Axiom 8-weight for the first time. It performed beautifully I might add. After a couple of tense minutes I had her boat side, slipped a Boga Grip into her mouth and landed her. Well of course, neither George nor I could breathe real well but he seemed a lot more agreeable about taking pictures of this fish. Snap, snap a couple of measurements and back into the water for a good long reviving and off she went. We took a break for a few minutes, drank a couple of bottles of cold water, and I said well that will be enough fishing for me today, you have the front from now on. He agreed. We finished up the day a short time later after he caught his fill of Snook, but nothing like the nearly 45-incher I was fortunate enough to fool with my new favorite fly the Hammerhead fly. Oh, I had to leave a couple with George. I think he was going to tie up a few for his next adventure.

#### Tying the Hammerhead Jerk Bait

Hook:	FlyMasters FM600, Size 2 and 1/0
Thread	UTC Ultra Thread 210 Denier, Fire Tiger Orange
Anti Foul Loop:	40lb Mono
Tail:	Tiger Barred Magnum Rabbit Zonker
Flash:	Polar Flash
Collar:	Palmer Chenille & Fl. Chartreuse Rabbit Cross-cut
Body:	2mm Fl. Chartreuse Foam
Eyes:	WTP 1/4 inch 3D Eyes
Weed Guard:	30lb Mono
Top Coat:	Ероху



1) Place the hook in the vise. Attach the thread and wrap back to the end of the shank. Tie in a short section of 30lb Hard Mason for a anti-fol guard for the tail. It should extend about ½ the shank length past the bend of the hook.



2) Next tie in a piece of Tiger Barred Magnum rabbit Zonker. It should extend almost two hook lengths beyond the tie in point at the end of the shank. Next, tie in four or five pieces of Polar Fiber on each side of the hook. Length should be as long as the tail.

"The chartreuse is tied in size 2 for Peacock Bass, Creek Snook and Tarpon. The white is normally a 1/0 size and this is the all around size I fish." - Roan zumFelde









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3) Tie in the Fl. Chartreuse Cross-Cut Zonker with the skin side up and hair pointing away from you. Then tie in the Palmer Chenille so that the fiber point in the same direction as the rabbit hair. This will insure the hair and Palmer Chenille fibers are pointing towards the back of the hook when you "flip" them over to wrap them in. You will

wrap the Palmer Chenille married to Rabbit Cross-cut. In other words, both get wrapped together at the same time. For a size 2 hook wrap 2 1/2 wraps and for a size 1/0 wrap 3 wraps. You should be tying off the Palmer Chenille and Rabbit just in front of the hook point along the hook shank

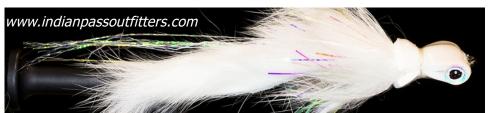


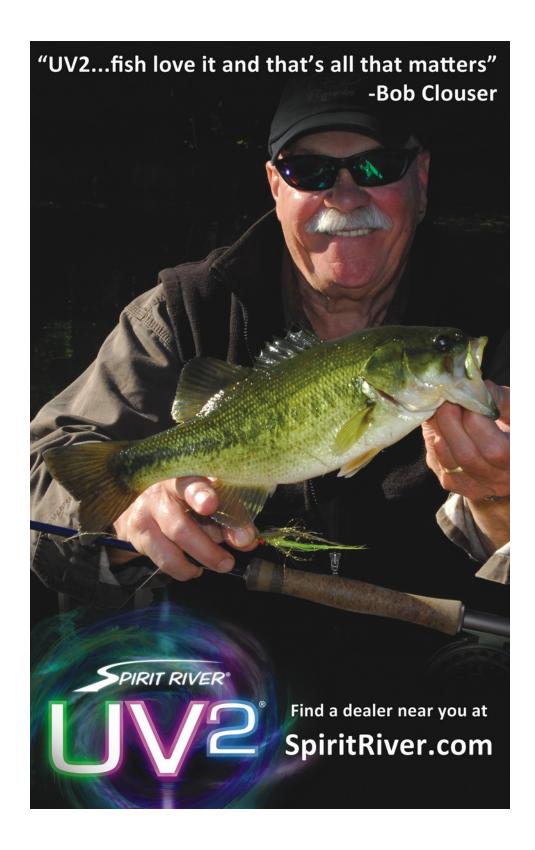
4) Wrap the thread to the eye of the hook and back to where you secured the Rabbit Cross-Cut. Cut a piece of 2mm Chartreuse foam about an inch long and 1/2 inch wide. Make a small hole in middle of the foam for the hook eye. Place the foam over the eye of the hook and fold over the fly so it is just behind the eye of the hook and makes a

collar over the rabbit. Whip finish and remove the thread. Add some glue under the foam to secure to the hook.



5) If you are not putting in a weedguard you can attach the eyes and coat the foam with Epoxy and the fly is complete. If you are putting in a weedguard you will restart the thread in front of foam and behind the eye of the hook. Tie in mono 'v' weedguard and glue it to the hook. Add eyes and then epoxy over foam and eyes.





# One Page fly Todd': Wiggle Minnow

Hook: Tiemco 8089, Size: 2

Thread: UTC 140 to match body color

Tail: 30lb Mono, Pearl Flash Accent, Orange and Chartreuse Craft Fur

Wapsi 3/8" Yellow foam Cylinder **Body: Eyes:** 5mm Chartreuse Eyes (with stem)



loop.



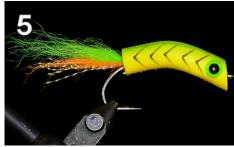
1) Attach Thread and tie in Mono 2) Tie in Flash Accent and Craft Fur, about a shank length long.



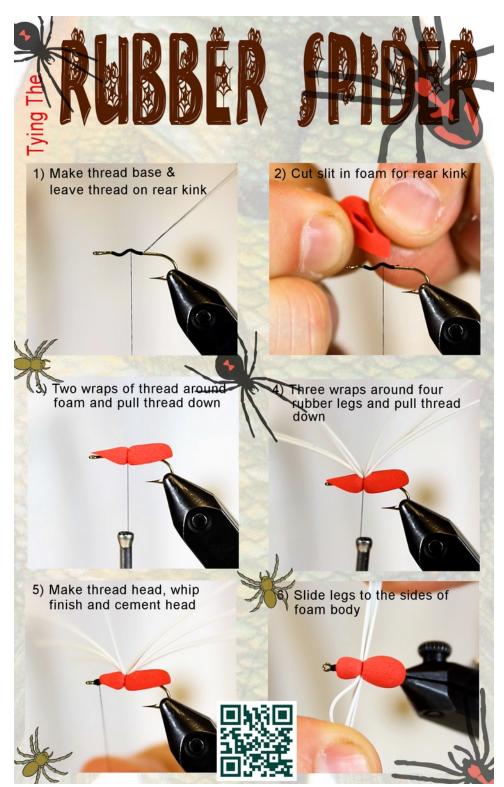
3) Use a single edge razor to cut one end of the foam at about a 30 degree angle. Make a slit in the cylinder half way through the middle and about 1/8" behind lower lip of foam. Do not cut through the face of the foam.



4) Run your bodkin along the slit 5) Glue Foam to the hook, decorate until it comes out the center of the as desired and glue on eyes. face.









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Big toothy critters have become very popular as a fly fishing target in the last ten years. Be it big Northern Pike or Muskellunge, casting big flies to big fish with lots of teeth and hard strike is what many fisherman and women are after. But you are not casting small size 14 dry flies to these fish. These flies are so big usually there is about half a chicken worth of feathers or half a Deer tail involved. We're talking anywhere from 10 to 15 inch flies with a big wide profile to look like big fish for a hearty meal.

Matt Grajewski has been chasing toothy critters all over Western Michigan for the last 18 years and has come up with a very effective pattern. The Yard Sale is an articulated pattern that has lots of flash and even more action that seems to consistently bring 'em in. Matt has shared his thoughts on this patterns and instructions on how to tie it up.

"The Yard Sale quickly became one of my favorite muskie flies. It encompasses everything that I look for in a muskie fly. It holds a big profile with minimal materials, is easy to cast, and easy to manipulate in the water. It is also very effective for other fish in a variety of sizes." - Matt Grajewski

**Rear Hook:** FM 2300, 5/0

**Tail:** 4 large hackle or schlappen feathers, and plastic rattle

**Rear Body:** Flash n Slinky (or other like fiber), and flashabou

Rear Wing: Craft fur, and flashabou

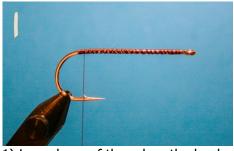
**Connection:** 60# coated wire, and 8mm beads

**Front Hook:** FM2300, 5/0

Front Body: Flash n Slinky, and flashabou

Front Wing: Craft fur, and flashabou

**Head:** Laser Dub



1) Lay a base of thread on the hook.



2) Tie in a clump of bucktail.



3) Tie in a plastic rattle.



4) Tie in two schlappen feathers, on each side, with the natural curve facing out.





7) Then cut in front of the thread. This will prevent waste.



8) Repeat on the top side of the hook.



9 -12) Repeat about every 3/8-1/4" up the hook shank until you near the eye.









13) Tie in flashabou on both sides.



14 - 15) Reverse tie in a clump of craft fur.





16) Tie in flashabou over the wing.

"The Yard Sale quickly became one of my favorite muskie flies." -Matt Grajewski



17) Attach the rear hook to the front hook using the coated wire and beads.



18 – 20) Repeat the same steps as the rear hook, but leave a little more space before the eye for the head.







21) Tie in clumps of laser dub on the top and bottom of the hook.



22) Pull the laser dub back and wrap in front of the hook to hold it in place.



23) Repeat to build the head to the desired size.



24) Make the head and tie off the fly.



25) Color the head (optional).



WWW.FLYMASTERS.COM





Matt Grajewski is a custom fly tier and fisher who resides in West Michigan where he has spent the last 18 years fishing the local rivers and lakes. Born and raised in a boat, Matt grew up fishing many different methods. He has applied the knowledge he learned from these methods to his favorite way to catch any species of fish...by making it chase a streamer. While he enjoys chasing many different species of fish, muskies are what keeps him up at night. You can learn more about Matt at FlyObsession.com, or follow the Fly Obsession page on Facebook to place a custom fly order.





It seems in the last ten years or so that more an more people are targeting warmwater species with a fly rod. The common carp seems to be getting all sorts of coverage in recent years and is the hot challenge in the summer. Still looked down on by many fisherman, the common Carp can be quite the challenge to any fisherman. They are not the 'trash' fish that most people think. Very selective, highly cautious, and very opportunistic the common carp offers just as much excitement to a fly rodder as any other species. In some cases more so.

Most flies for carp are not that complicated. Usually, the simple flies that can be presented to mimic many different foods are the best. The Carp Worm is one of these patterns. There is not much to the fly yet it presents very well and has just enough action to get a carps attention and not spoke them away. Tie these up in natural earth colors for a variety on your next carp outing.

**Hook:** FlyMasters FM600, Size: 2

Thread: UTC 140 to match body color

**Tail:** Mohair Yarn - Furled (olive, brown, rust, black, tan, orange)

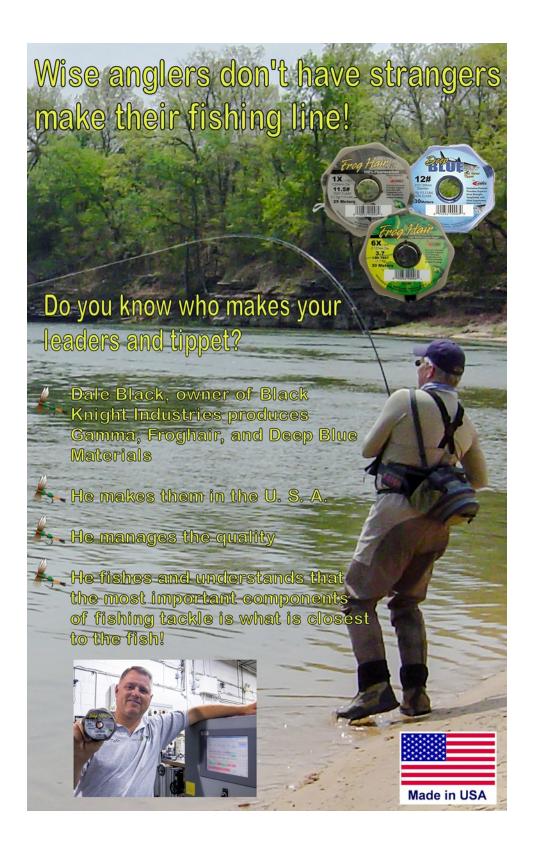
**Body:** Wapsi Crawdub to match tail color



1) Place hook in vise.



2) Tie in a 4-6 inch length of mohair yarn (tie both ends to the hook shank leaving a loop extending off the rear of the hook).





3) Inset dubbing loop twister and 4) Use a dubbing brush to brush twist the two strands of yarn into the twisted mohair (the fuzzier the one strand.



better).



itself leaving approximately 1 1/2" a similar color to the tail. extending beyond the hook bend and tie off on the hook shank. Trim tag end of the the mohair.



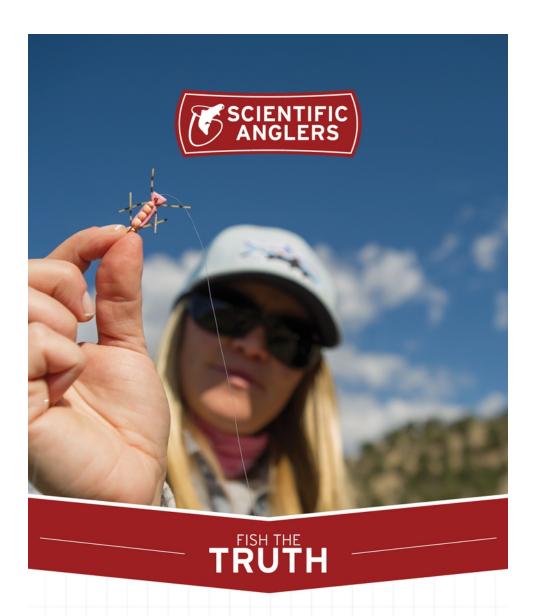
5) Allow the mohair to furl back on 6) Dub a loose body of Crawdub in



finish and trim off thread.



7) Completed dubbed body. Whip 8) Use a dubbing brush to brush the dubbing. Make it fuzzy so it blends into the tail.



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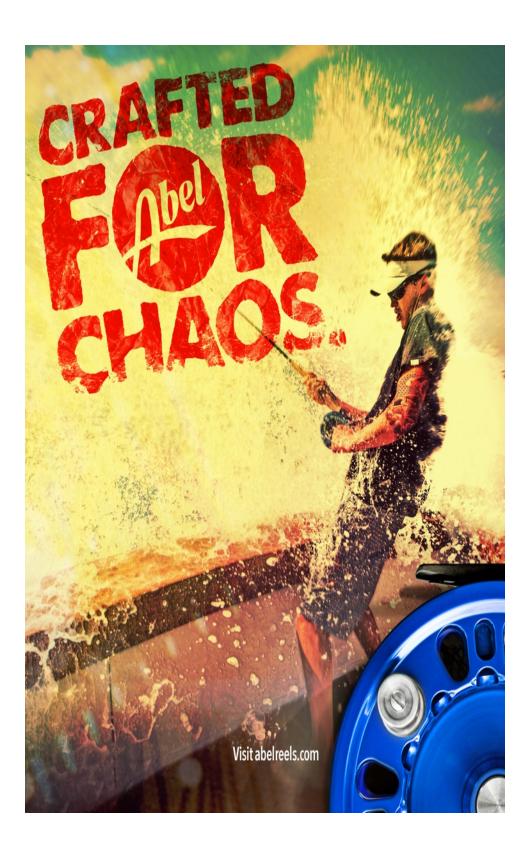


9) The Finished Carp Worm



Brad Befus has been fly fishing and fly tying for more than 35 years. He has spent his life in the fly fishing industry as a fly shop employee/owner, destination host, fly tyer, author, most recently as a manufacturer's sales director for the past 18 years. He is an accomplished freshwater and saltwater angler who holds several I.G.F.A. flyrod world

records and has fished many destinations worldwide. Brad is an innovative fly tier with many of his patterns being produced and sold by Umpqua Feather Merchants through their "Fly Designer Program". His flies have appeared in books and articles, as well as the University of Idaho Prichards Art Gallery and the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. Brad is the co-author of "Carp on the Fly" a flyrodders guide to carp and "Basic Techniques for Successful Fly Tying". He contributes articles and photography to many of the fly fishing periodicals. Brad currently resides in Midland, Michigan with his wife Lisa and their four children where he is the Director of Wholesale for Scientific Anglers.







In 1988 Steve Abel started Abel Reels in Camarillo, California. After many years in business making the finest reels in the world, Abel was purchased by Doug Dragoo of Mayfly Outdoors. This parent company also owns Ross Reels and Charlton Reels. Jeff Patterson is Executive Vice President of Abel Reels and has been with the company since 1992. Chief Designer, Glen Krapff, has been with Abel for 25 years. FlyMasters has been selling Abel Reels since 1992. It

continues to be a winning relationship for both companies.

Each reel starts with a piece 6061-T6 cold rolled The aluminum. 6061-T6 aluminum is commonly used in aircraft, but Abel takes a step further into materials by the cold rolled usina aluminum. Cold rolled is a more dense aluminum which allows the designer machine the reel to thinner dimensions without



sacrificing strength. The standard machining tolerance at Abel is 1/3 the thickness of a piece of notebook paper! At FlyMasters this strength has been observed every time we add backing to an Abel Reel. When we are winding



the backing on super tight Abel reels do not wobble back and forth like other reels. And next time you are in FlyMasters take a look at our parking lot reels. They have been dropped so many times that the anodizing is completely gone. Yet their original tolerances are still intact.



When you buy a cheap tool you buy it twice is a saying you may hear at FlyMasters. I still use my first Big Game #2, Big Game #3, and a Big Game #3 with porting and larger arbor. Abel reels are simple and have few parts. And all of those parts are made at Abel. Screws. springs, nuts. etc. all designed and manufactured

in the Camarillo factory that employs about 30 full time employees.

The finish on an Abel reel is one of the first things that a customer notices when they pick up a reel. Abel does all of their anodization in house after they hand polish every reel. This is very time consuming, but their commitment to making the best in the world requires doing every step in the best possible way. Abel employs 6



full time artists that do the custom anodizing and painting of their reels and other products.



Abel has added several accessories over the years. Still have my original pair of #2 Abel Pliers. The jaws have been replaced a couple of times. Their nippers, lanyards, knives, and hemostats continue to set the standard in the fly fishing industry. Their sealed drag reel has now been made in three sizes with the latest being the 6/7.

When a reel is finished and ready for sale at FlyMasters, every single part of that reel has been made start to finish by Abel employees, in Camarillo, California, by a company that has more world records than almost **all the other reel manufacturers combined**. This is what you are buying when you get an Abel!

# What is Our TradeUp Program

by Don Rollins



Soon the FlyMasters TradeUp Program will begin its 6th year. Never did we dream that so many people would have used, and sometimes very lightly used, outdoor equipment that they wanted to convert to a FlyMasters TradeUp Certificate that they could use to buy new equipment.

FlyMasters TradeUp Certificates can be used to buy anything in the shop, any item that we

can order for you from the many name brands that we carry (including Orvis),

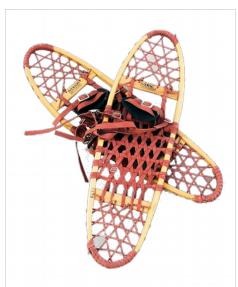
and any item that is listed for sale in our FlyMasters Web Store.

As we finish our fifth year of the FlyMasters TradeUp Program and our eBay Store, we have found new FlyMasters customers in all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. In addition, our FlyMasters TradeUp business has grown dramatically outside the U.S. We have shipped our products to all of



the U.S. We have shipped our products to all of the Canadian Provinces and Territories and 62 countries all over the world.

If you are unable to make it into our Indianapolis, Indiana shop to bring us your



TradeUp items, feel free to send them to us for evaluation in our FlyMasters TradeUp Program. If you don't approve of our strategy for selling your items, we will send them back to you at our cost. Our FlyMasters TradeUp Program is an easy, no-hassle way for you easily afford the newest and the best of equipment.

If you can make it into the shop, bring us those items you are no longer using. We can convert them to store credit that you can use to buy anything that we sell (except other FlyMasters TradeUp items). Call us 1-317-570-9811 or email us at info@FlyMasters.com to get any questions that you might have answered quickly.



PRO 4x Long Handle Predator Field Trial: **Two Thumbs Up!** 

I've recently had a chance to fish the new G. Loomis LHP series of fly rods. My kit included the 9 foot #9/10 model as I headed north to Alaska's Alagnak River during August in search of silver salmon. I fished the rod paired with a classic Abel Big Game #3.

The "long handle predator" rod is aptly named. This rod is built for beasts from the ground up. Other rods have a fighting butt for large fish. This rod has added a new twist—a cork handle that's similar to a double handed spey rod, with cork extending about a foot above the reel seat. In my field trial this allowed me to satisfy the urge I've had to suppress—to get my second hand on the rod! It was great to have no fear of breaking the rod. This allowed me to get my upper body and back into the game rather than relying





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solely on forearm/wrist strength. This pulling power combined with a responsive blank dampened the explosive runs and jumps of a coho in full freak made playing these fish a dream. I had a confident control of the fish, but without the burden of an overly heavy rod or overpowered blank.

Another benefit of the long handle is in two handed casting. Not spey casting, but traditional casts with both hands applied as well as aggressive roll casts added by shooting head line. I paired the rod with the Wulff Ambush line in 350 grain shooting head line and a 10 foot sink tip from the Rio MOW medium line. I cast a mix of large to very large streamer patterns with non-trivial weight and air resistance such as the Squidro in the pic below. I used a Rio 9' Steelhead nylon leader tapered to #16. Stripping the line in to the shooting head and casting with both hands allowed both more power and distance. I was able to chuck 60-80 foot casts this way without the fatigue one would expect from casting such heavy kit.

Bottom line: if you're targeting heavy fish with big fighting ability on the fly, and want to even the odds, the affordably priced G. Loomis LHP is a good arrow for your quiver.

### Ray Henderson





The Whitebait is part of the Predator Series of flies. The predator series of flies was influenced by a client in Montana. I was working with Chocklett's new Body braid and Predator Wrap and wanted to make a baitfish pattern that was not as heavy as a Gamechanger but pushed a lot of water and kept its profile. For me I was much more into working with natural materials than synthetics. It takes me back to my yesteryear's of fly tying when I did not have every color and every type of material a phone call away. When I started tying flies back in the late 70's the choice of materials was limited. The progress with synthetics has advanced to offer great alternatives to natural products. I started this Predator Series in purple for fishing deep in the dark everglades water were I needed a fly that would quickly shed water, was easy to cast, and pushed water in an authentic shape. I had used deer hair in the past but the synthetics are easier to trim into shape. Plus it just looks great in the water! Then I needed it in a white color to imitate a white bait that we can fish around the docks and rip rap in Naples. The series grew as I encounter different situations, conditions and baitfish species that I needed to replicate with different colors. As for the name Predator, it just sounds good! Buy some or tie some and you will learn what you need to get bit in your part of the angling world.

**Hook:** FlyMasters FM600, 1/0

**Thread:** UTC Ultra Thread 210 Denier, White

Tail: Orange Flurofiber

**Underwing:** White Extra Select Craft Fur

**Rear Collar:** White UV Puglisi Foxy Brush 3"

Mid Collar: Baitfish Emulator Flash Pearl

Front Collar: Chocklett's Body Wrap

**Back:** Shimmer Fringe, Pearl Dark UV Blue Black

**Eyes:** 7mm Hologram Minnow Eye Yellow Pearl



1) Place the hook in the vise. Start your thread and wrap back to the bend of the hook. Tie in Orange Flurofiber, about 1 hook length long. Then directly on top tie in White craft fur, about two hook lengths Long.



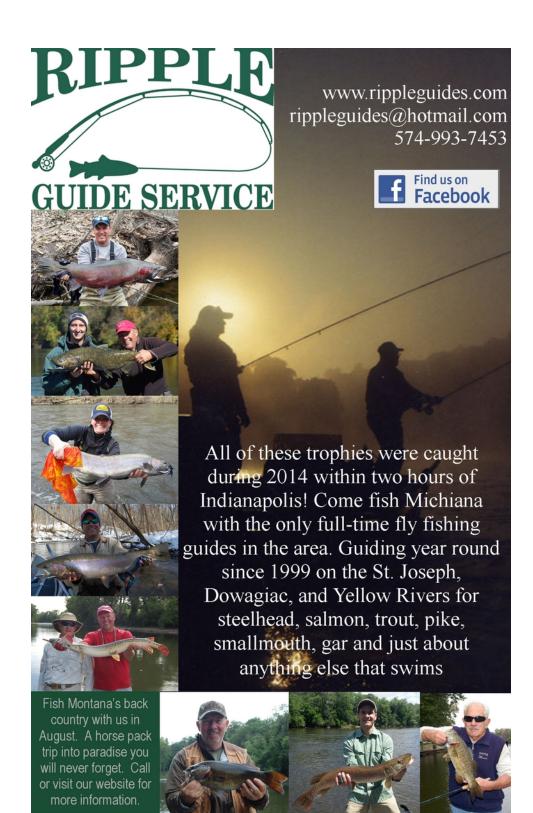
2) Tie in the White UV Puglisi 3" Foxy Brush in front of the White craft fur. Then apply four wraps of the White UV Puglisi 3" Foxy Brush. Make certain each wrap is right in front of the previous wrap.



3) Wrap a small 1/8 inch section of Emulator flash directly on top of fly in front of the White UV Puglisi 3" Foxy Brush. These wraps makes for a lateral line type finish in the fly.



4) Tie in the Chocklett Body Wrap in front of the Emulator Flash you just tied in. Then make three turns for a collar. Whip finish the tread.





5) Use scissors to shape body wrap and the head. You are wanting more of a vertical profile so the sides are narrower.



This is what a finished fly looks like when looking at the front and down the entire length of the fly. Notice the narrow vertical sides. This is what typical baitfish looks like. When trimming the fly in step 5 you want to make certain you work towards this shape in your fly.



6) Reattach the thread and tie in a slim section of Shimmer Fringe over the top of the fly the entire length of the fly. Tie off or add V weed guard depending on where you are going to fish the fly.

Use Zap-A-Gap Gel, E6000, Goop or some other thick glue for attaching the 3D eyes. This makes about a 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch baitfish pattern. I also tie the Whitebait in a smaller 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch version just down size everything.

This fly pushes a lot of water because of the width of the head.. I like it in the late fall when the passes and the Rip Rap and the docks are holding large numbers of Snook. The water tends to be off colored and this fly pushes a lot of water when stripped. Everything will eat this fly.



Roan has been fly tying since the age of 12. He received a tying kit from Orvis and Dan Baileys. He was tutored by some real artists and great fisherman like Don Ingram, Jack Montague, Jack Allen, and Jim Grace in Naples. This was when Jim had his first Fly Shop down town at Naples Sporting Goods. Other influences came from Lefty Kreh and his Deceivers, and Dave Whitlock and his deer hair and baitfish patterns. All of these artists and/or anglers have influenced Roan over the years. After finishing work in a banking Career he move back to Naples and started working and tying for Tom at Mangrove Outfitters. He met Tom through his Uncle and started tying flies for him before he actually moved back to Naples. It gave him something to do while he was wrapping up his business in Orlando and Tallahassee. This collaboration between Tom the artist and Roan the experienced saltwater angler produced many patterns that were sold by Umpqua and Fly H20. Since working with Tom, Roan started guiding again and recently opened his own shop called Indian Pass Outfitters in Naples.





About 50 years ago a long time fisherman decided to slip beneath the waters and see first hand the home of the fish. After 1700 hours in the underwater world Bob Underwood wrote the best book ever written on bass fishing. With the hours above the surface doing experiments and research, Underwood put together his book "Lunker". There is no book I have ever read that is better researched that this book published in 1975. The following ten facts are just a short list of what is available in the book.

- 1. Action of a lure was more important than color.
- 2. The metabolism of a bass is governed by a single factor, water temperature.
- 3. When a bass is hurt badly enough to cause a break in the skin or bleed, it will give off a scent that alarms other fish in the area.
- 4. Eighty five percent of the time a bass would eat a worm from behind. It would swallow the entire worm. More often then not, fishermen set the hook when the bass spit the worm out. Unaware that it had ever been engulfed.
- 5. Barometric pressure of itself has no noticeable effect on feeding periods of bass.
- 6. A bass has the ability to regulate the amount of light that enters the pupil. At night it has the equivalence of night vision goggles.
- 7. The lateral line of the bass is not a hearing device, it is a receptor for current and wave pressure stimuli that is sent to the brain.
- 8. A stroke of a single paddle is more alarming than a trolling motor.
- 9. Concentration of bass is governed by three factors, cover, presence of food, and closeness to deep water.

10. The points of timber that extend into a stream or lake are utilized by Bass since they can move to either side as the sun moves resting or finding shade.

I hope your interest is peaked by these facts from the book " Lunker". Get a copy, start reading and learn how to think about bass fishing.

Derrick Filkins



Musk-E Fly Fishing Adventures is a guide service specializing in fly fishing on Lake St. Clair. I spent much of my youth spin fishing on Lake St. Clair and



rivers throughout the upper and lower peninsulas of Michigan. As I got older my passion for fly fishing grew and streamer fishing was a huge part of that. After graduating from college I moved back to the lake I grew up loving. Combining my love for fly fishing and Lake St. Clair seemed like the perfect fit and it

#### WAS!

Lake St. Clair is located between SE Michigan and Ontario. This largest delta of the great lakes is roughly 430 square miles. At an average depth of 11 feet and max of 23 feet, it offers some of the best fresh water fly fishing in all of the US.

Smallmouth bass, white bass, pike, and musky are all available to catch on a fly along with a very unique opportunity to catch a great lakes sturgeon on traditional gear.

Smallmouth bass and pike are open to catch and release year around. This allows for great fishing in April through June. Prespawn fishing can offer some



giant smallmouth with opportunities of catching multiple fish over 20 inches!

White bass can be caught in the Detroit River and parts of Lake St. Clair usually from late April through early June. They come into the Detroit River to spawn in late spring and offer non-stop action.

Sturgeon can be caught on traditional gear when the season opens in mid-

317-570-9811

59

July through the end of November. This is a very unique opportunity to catch a prehistoric fish that can grow over 6 feet long and over 100 pounds. If you ever wanted to catch a fresh water fish that can compete with the fight of a salt water fish this is it.



Fly fishing for musky is what I love to do. The season on St. Clair starts the first Saturday in June and stays open through Dec. 15th and there is good fishing throughout the season. There is nothing like having a musky come right to the boat and most

times not even care if you or the boat are there. Having a chance at catching a fish on a figure 8 maneuver is like no other. At times these fish follow before you get them to commit and other times they come out of nowhere

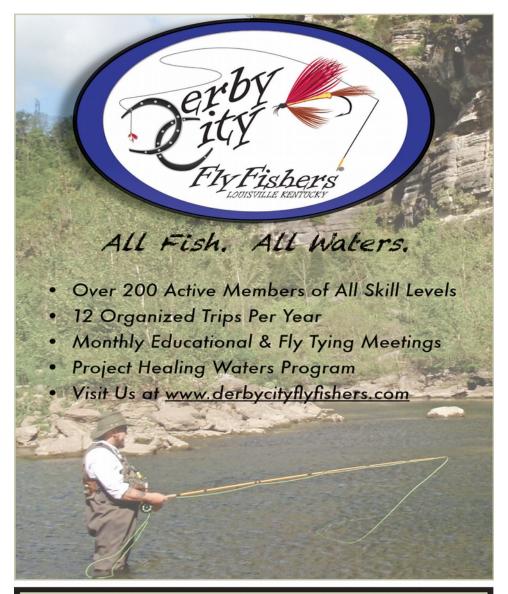
and absolutely destroy your large streamer!

The main objective for most on any guided trip is to catch fish and with my knowledge of



Lake St. Clair I will always be in the correct areas to give a client that chance, but it is also an opportunity to gain knowledge of streamer fishing , techniques on how to catch these fish, and most importantly how to properly handle and care for them so they can be caught for years to come.





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## **Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show**

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The first HPU appeared in Saltwater Flyfishing October 2012. That magazine is now a part of the Florida Sportsman. The current link to this article is http://www.saltwatersportsman.com/techniques/fly-recipies/weedless-

baitfish-fly. Tying flies on offset hooks was first done by Fox Statler back in 2006. He publish several of his patterns in 2007. Some have been copied and even won awards yet the tiers pretended original design. I introduced tying on a piece of mono and then attaching it to a hook. The fly doubled as bait and a weedguard.



In mangrove fishing, as in fishing Midwest rivers that frequently flood, the fish hide in cover to ambush prey. If you cast an exposed hook into a mangrove or laydown, it frequently does not return. The HPU pattern works well because it hides the hook point and allows the angler to let the fly drop down into the cover. In his book "Lunker" Bob Underwood observed that 85% of the time a bass ate its prey from the rear. Bob spent 1700 hours underwater observing and filming bass so his credibility is unsurpassed. The offset hook works extremely well when eaten from the rear. It is less effective when a bass, snook, etc strike it from the side. When you use the HPU remember that it is made for cover and not open water.



I like the gold plated Mustad hook 37162 in 2/0 or 1/0. I like the Gold because it is very bright in the green colored water of bass. However, the gold plating makes the hook diameter larger which then requires more force to penetrate the hook. If you are use

to setting a dry fly hook then you may want to use the bronze plated Mustad hook 37140 since it is the smallest diameter of all the platings. The last thing I will mention before the instructions is strike detection. I always use a strike indicator when fishing streams and lakes for bass. I will see something from that indicator that will tell me I have a bite long before I feel anything. Underwood observed that his friends missed more bites than they detected. When they did detect some vibration it was from a fish spitting out the lure which they had already eaten and held in their mouth for a few seconds. Anglers typically think they got short bit. I use a two inch piece of double

sided picture mounting tape. I cut the 3/4" width in half. Here is the fly, call me with any questions.



1. Take a long piece of Mason 50lb. hard mono and stretch it out to relieve the memory. Cut a short piece of 1 1/2" and place the piece in your vise. Make a thread base of your desired color and and brush on some Wapsi Fly Tyers Z-ment. This is very important! When you remove the fly to tie it to the hook you

will cut the portion of the mono that was in the jaws of the vise. If you nick the thread the fly will not unravel if you have Z-mented the thread.



**2.** Tie in marabou tail, olive in this case, on all sides of the mono and add your favorite flash. In warmwater fishing I prefer Holographic Gold flash since it turns to a bright green underwater. Flash can be applied down the sides or you can use holographic gold hackle



**3**. In our local streams I like Fl. Yellow or Fl. Chartreuse crystal chenille combined with the olive tail. Tie this in and wrap forward. You can add hackle if want your fly to drop slower.

**4.** Stop your Crystal Chenille about 1/4" from the end of the mono and make a

couple of wraps and/or a half hitch. After you tie a couple of these for a certain hook you will have a better idea of the length needed for proper fit.

**5.** Remove the mono from the vise and take a pair of nippers and clip off the





that was sticking in the thread you about nicking the precise with a pair

was sticking in the vise. If you Z-mented the thread you will not have to worry about nicking the thread. Easier to be precise with a pair of Abel Nippers!



**6**. After cutting off the mono that was inserted in the vise, take your Abel pliers and flattened the mono that you are going to tie to the hook. Orient the fly so the flattened portion is perpendicular to the side of your fly if that is important. If you ran some flash down the side of the body and/or tail

you might prefer the flash to be on the side of the fly after it is tied on the hook.



**7**. The hook used on this fly is a Mustad 37162 size 2/0. It is a gold plated hook which provides some added flash to the fly. It has a short platform for which to tie the mono on. So if you cover a portion of the hook eye that is alright.

Just make sure you leave enough room in the hook eye to allow tippet to pass through. Make a dozen wraps of thread and check the back of the fly to make sure that it does not touch any portion of the hook point.

You want the tail of marabou to pass freely up and down without hanging up on the hook point. The fly should be parallel on a line passing from the hook point to the hook eye.



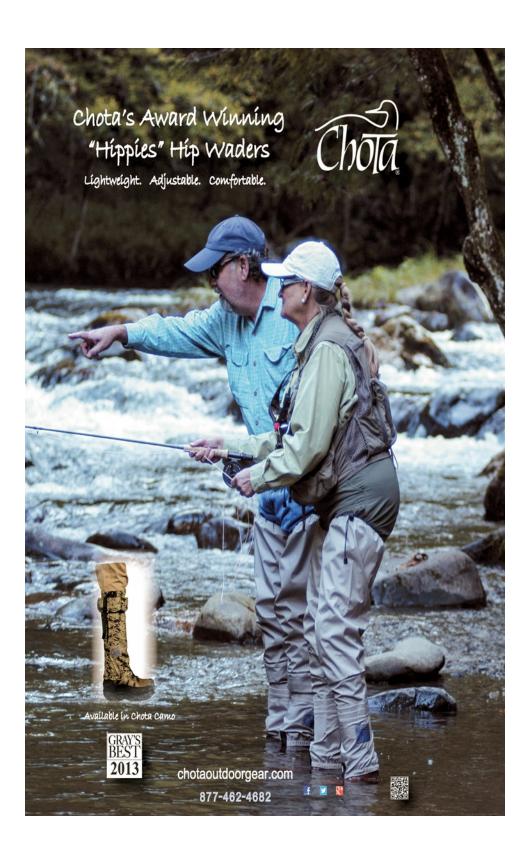
**8**. After you have determined that the fly does not bind on the hook point apply Z-ment to the 12 or so wraps to help adhere the mono to the hook. Over the top of the Z-ment continue with more wraps and build a head for your fly. REMEMBER that several wraps of a thin thread will hold much better than a few wraps of a heavier

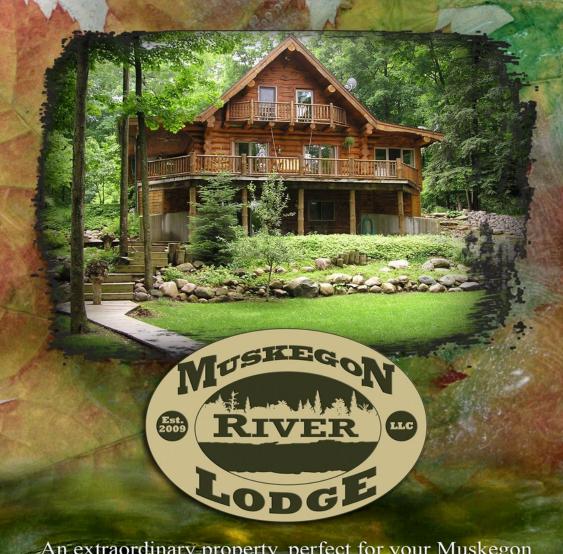
thread. Heavier thread tends to leave gaps which eventually allow the fly thread to loosen up. Do not use thread that is more that 140 Denier. The fly is now done. Woolly Buggers are not the only thing you can

tie HPU, see what else you come up with and send us a picture at FlyMasters of Indianapolis. Cast this fly into some cover this summer and pull out a nice smallie!

Derrick Filkins FlyMasters of Indianapolis







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