

THE BACKCAST



THE BACKCOUNTRY FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION OF
BREVARD

www.bffa-brevard.com

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**February 7th, 2023
BFFA Club Meeting
at the Italian American Club
1471 Cypress Ave
Melbourne**

**Capt. Tyler Treece
is our February Speaker on
West Yellowstone Fishing**

Captain Tyler, who lives in Vero Beach, has been a fishing fanatic since he was old enough to hold a rod. At age 8 his father and grandfather introduced him to the fly rod. The rest is history. Throughout college in Ohio, Captain Tyler guided for anything with fins. He has since graduated to being a full-time professional fishing guide, spending over 300 days a year on the water.

From October to May, Captain Tyler can be found putting clients on Tarpon, Snook, Redfish and Speckled Trout in the Indian River Lagoon and surrounding waters. The captain's summer months are spent in Yellowstone country, guiding the most famous trout streams in the mountain west; the Yellowstone, the Henry's Fork, the Madison, and the South Fork of the Snake.

An expert fly tyer and fly cast instructor, Captain Tyler is a consummate professional in the fly fishing world, but he also knows what it takes to catch fish. If light artificial lures, or even live bait is needed to get the job done, Captain Tyler will do whatever necessary to ensure you have a great day on the water.



Ramblings and other news

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Shad season is starting out with the typical where are they now situation. There have been recent reports of shad being caught near Hwy 46 and then other reports from as far south as SR 520. So you just need to get out there.

Recently looking online I came across this post -- <https://myfwc.com/.../publicat.../florida-wildlife-magazine/>, which leads you to a treasure trove of old Florida Wildlife magazines from the late 1940's to 1979. They are a great way to look in the past and what Florida was like back then for those who took advantage of the fishing and hunting at that time. I keep looking through these magazines to see if there were reports of shad being caught up the Ocklawaha River before the Army Corps of Engineers put in Rodman Dam in 1968 as part of the Cross Florida Barge Canal project. As you probably know the Barge Canal project was stopped before completion and there has been ongoing political movements to put the river back to a "partially restored" status. So, it does make one realize that if the dam wasn't there before 1968 then the shad had free reign to take a hard right during the spawning migration and travel down the Ocklawaha River or continue south on the St. Johns. Pre-Rodman Dam, that means that the shad migration would have also went southwest all the way down to Lake Harris. What a scenario that would have been, fishing for shad near Leesburg. If they ever do the "partial restoration" I have to admit that splitting off the migration of the shad and the potential of impacting the numbers of them to catch shad is not something I had on my wish list but even this old Florida Boy (yep, once you hit 70 that term works) realizes that it is more about the fish species being able to thrive and offering more of their original habitat than my puttering around on the St. Johns.

Also, our club is now on Facebook thanks to Alec Buchness. Check it out and follow --**Backcountry Flyfishing Assoc of Brevard (BFFA)**.

March Club Auction

Welcome to our 2023 annual BFFA-Brevard auction coming up at our March 7th meeting. This year's auction is adding in some new wrinkles and looks once again to be a fun filled evening. Just to give everyone an understanding of the purpose of our auction, this is our main fundraiser which the club uses to bring in monthly speakers, as well as the special occasion speakers we bring in for day long events. In the past, speakers for those day long events have included Andy Mills, Chico Fernandez, Lefty Kreh, etc. So, this fundraiser is pivotal to our continued success for future speakers and the continued support of our membership at this event is vital.

Remember, each member is required to bring in an item for the auction. This item for auction should be either new or in a gently used condition. We will also have items for auction not brought in by members, which have been donated by companies or other people. Some of the items this year will be guided fishing trips, framed prints, rod travel cases, a fly tying vices, flies, fly boxes, etc. Pictures of some of these items will be posted in the newsletter and on our website shortly.

This year we are trying a new format for the meal and auction. As well as donating a place for the event, which is being held on his property, the meal this year will as well be provided by Billy Kempfer. The set menu will be ribs, coleslaw, baked beans and bread. Ice Tea and soft drinks will also be available. The cost of the meal will be included in the \$100.00 fee that each attending member must pay. Each member is allowed to bring in a guest whose meal is will be covered in the original fee. Out of that \$100.00 price, the paying member will have a \$75.00 credit balance which must be spent at the auction. This credit can be used on either silent or live auction items, whichever you choose. This credit must be used at the event on auction items as there will not be any refunds of unused credits. The paying members guests will also be allowed to bid on any of the auction items as well but must pay by check or cash.

Other than the previously established use of the \$75.00 credit, **checks and cash** are the only acceptable forms of payments for club members as well.

Let's make this auction a successful event and everyone try to participate.

Two of the items up for auction are shown below, a Peak Fly Tying Vise and an Orvis 4-piece fly rod case. More to come soon.



Fly Tying with Jeff Ward

This month's fly is a Gnarly Game Changer

Recipe:

Thread: White 210

Hook: FTD MS100 2/0

Eye: Silver 8mm

Tail Attach: Flex Wire & Clear Bead

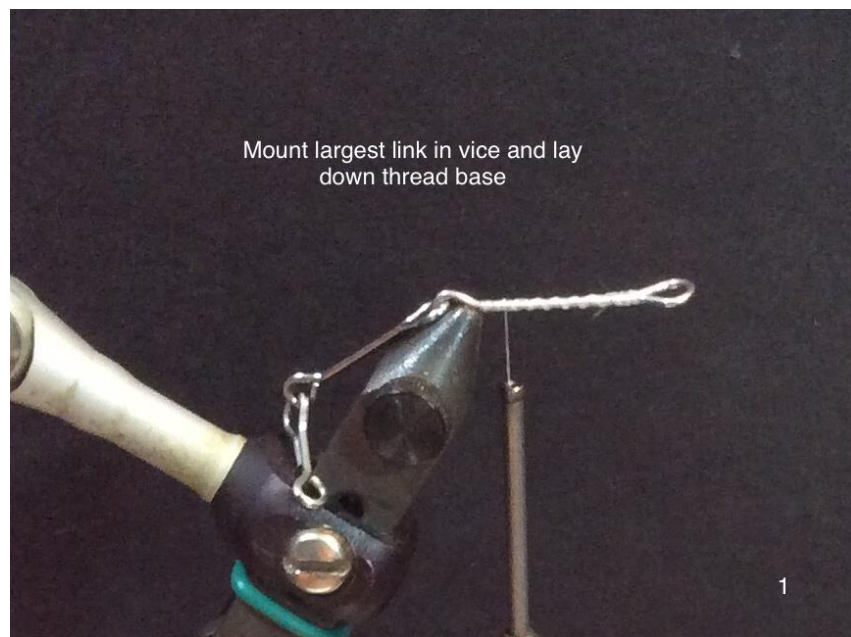
Links: 1/2 3/4 1"

Body: Estaz Grande

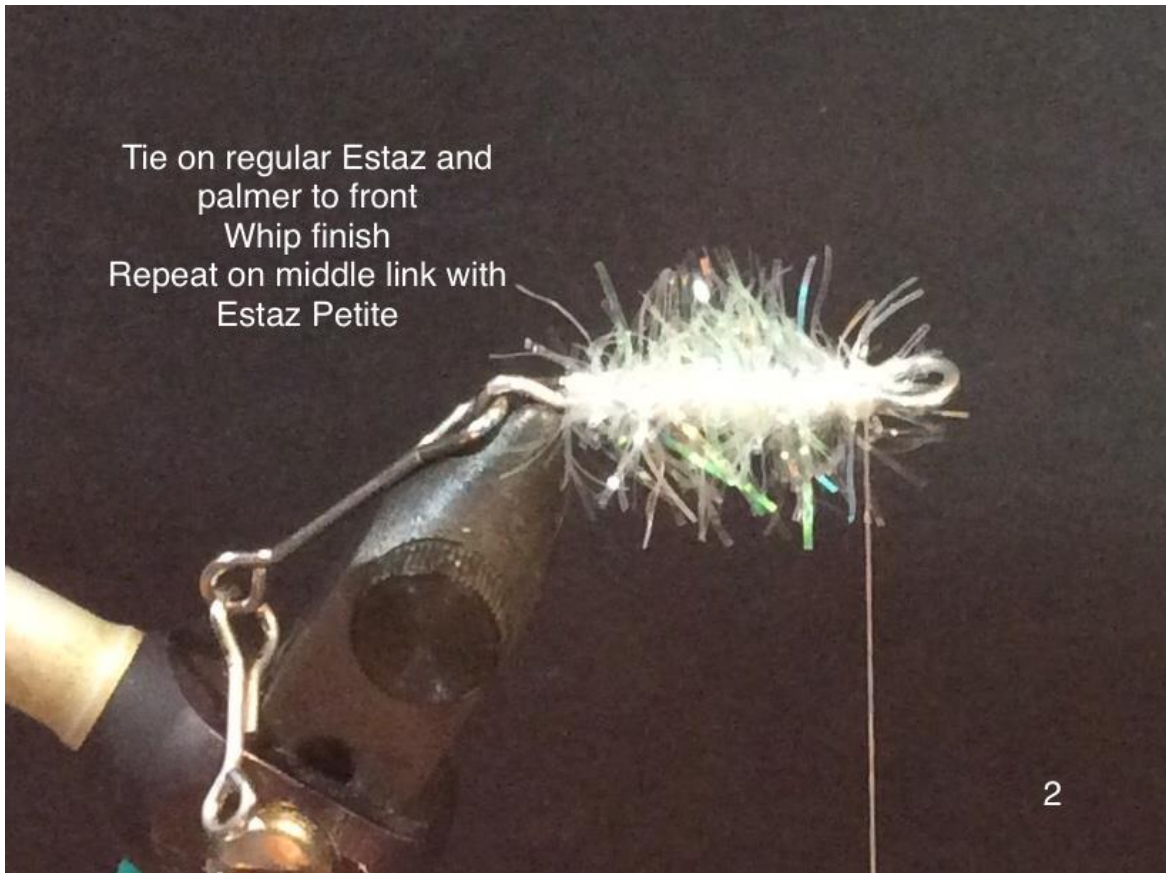
Estaz Regular

Estaz Petite

Tail: White Crystal Web

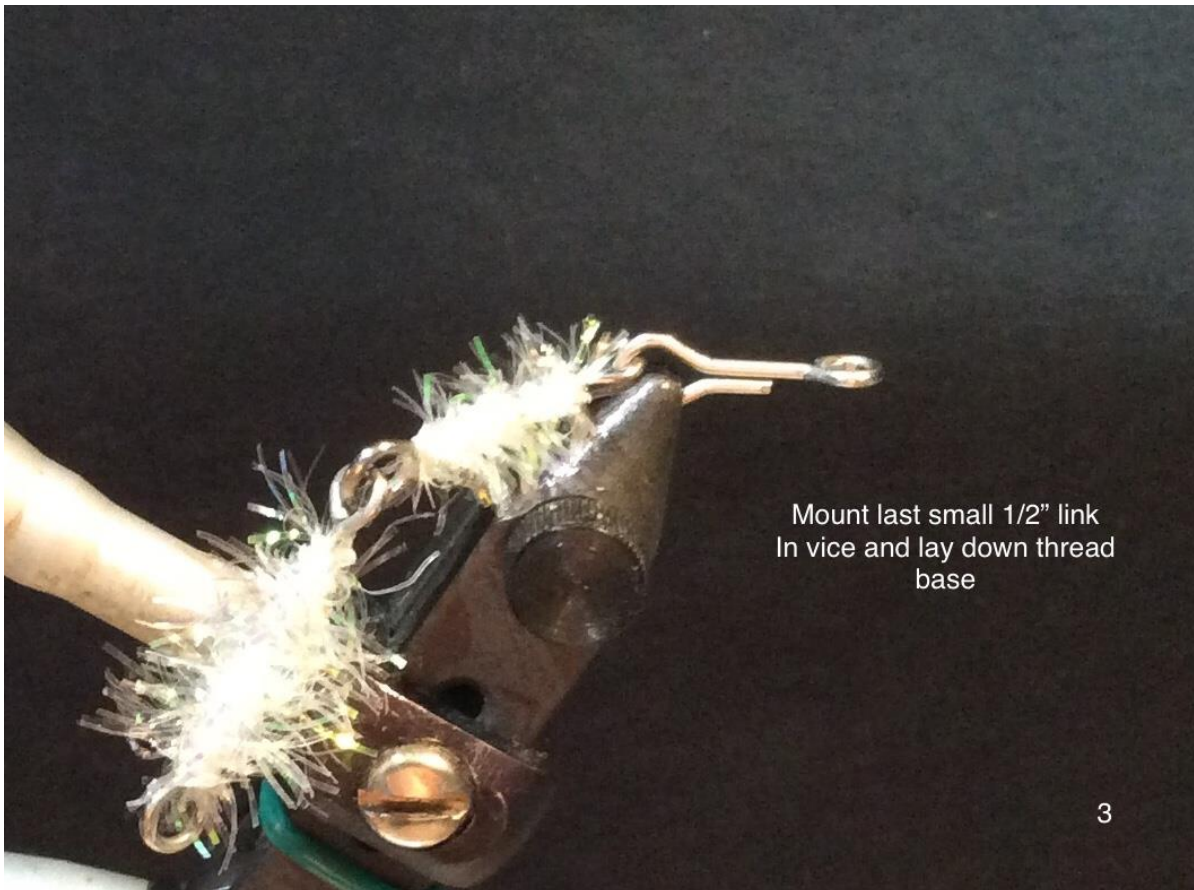


Tie on regular Estaz and
palmer to front
Whip finish
Repeat on middle link with
Estaz Petite



2

Mount last small 1/2" link
In vice and lay down thread
base



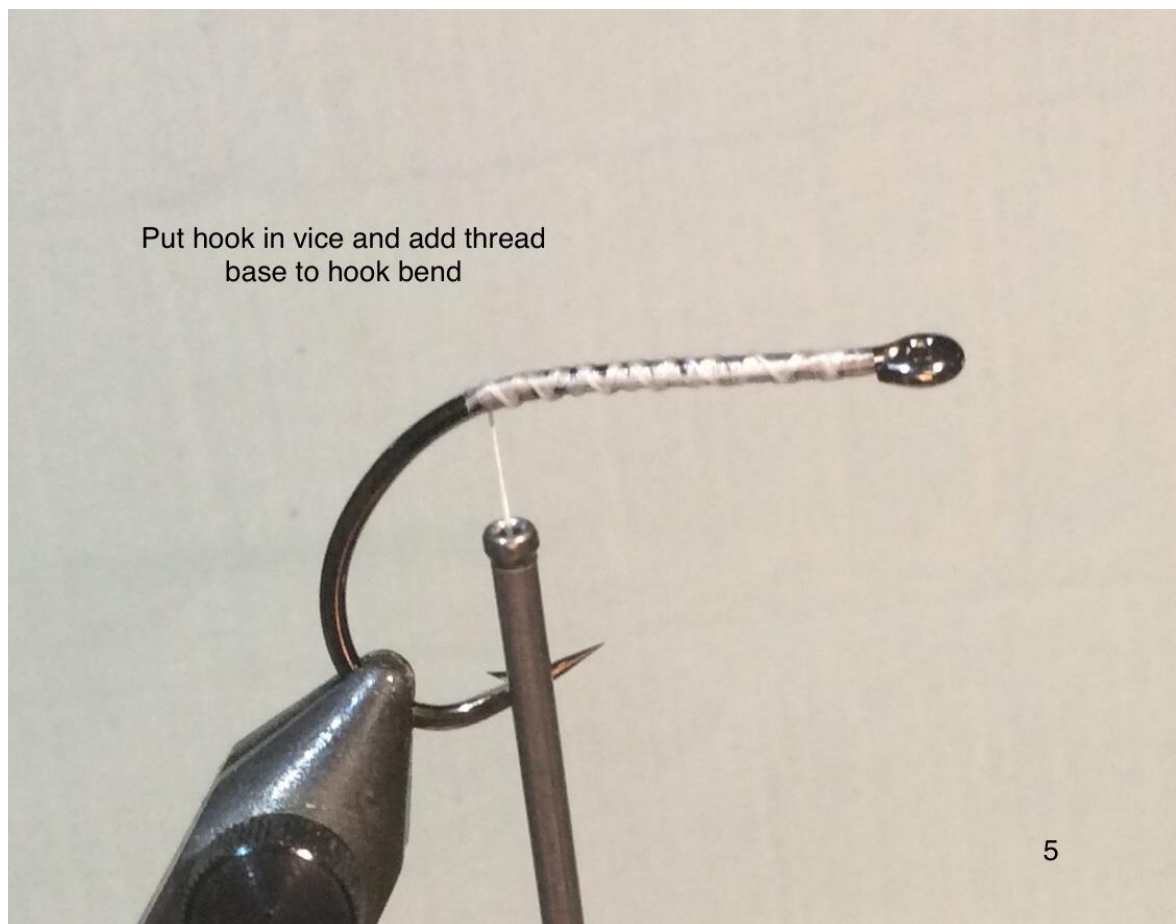
3

Tie on Crystal Web tail top and bottom of
link



4

Put hook in vice and add thread
base to hook bend



5

Tie wire to hook shank and add bead



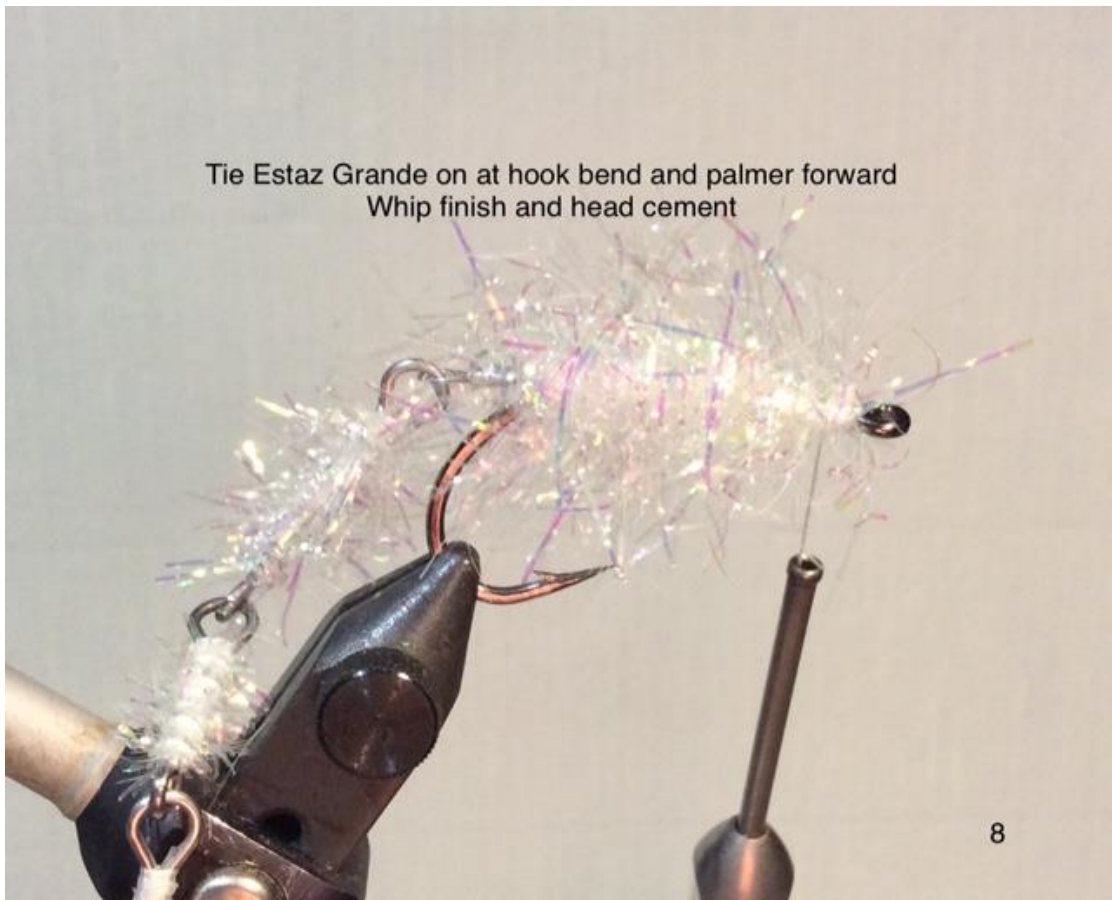
6

Put tail loop on wire. Loop wire back to hook shank and tie down

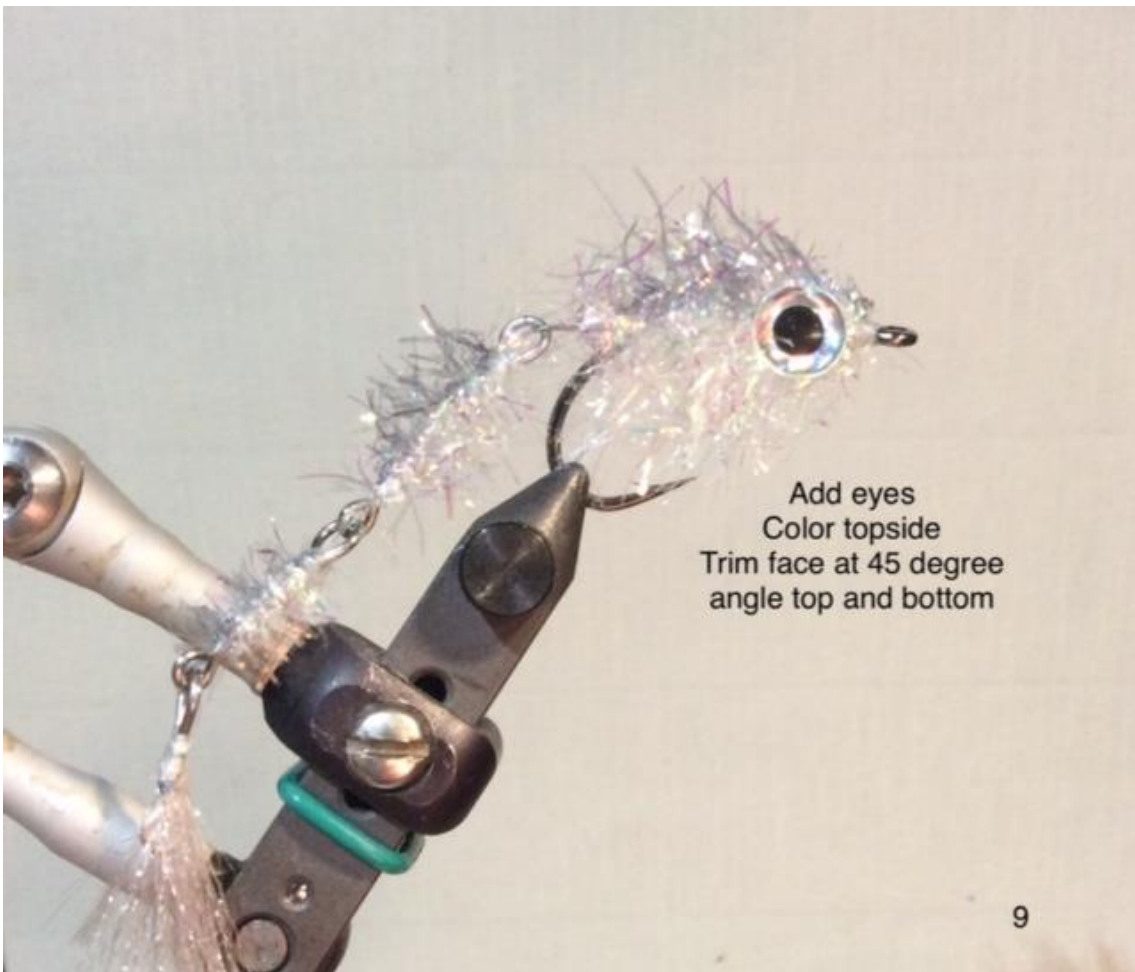


7

Tie Estaz Grande on at hook bend and palmer forward
Whip finish and head cement



Add eyes
Color topside
Trim face at 45 degree
angle top and bottom



BFFA February 2023 Events

Monthly Dinner Meeting:

February 7th at 6:30PM
Italian American Club—
1471 Cypress Ave. Melbourne

Fly Tying:

Melbourne Library
Feb. 20th at 6:00 pm

Outings:

Nothing scheduled so go
shad fishing.

Board Meeting:

February 14th 5:00 meet at Ron Winn's office
2103 Grant Place Melbourne
All members are welcome to join. We typically
eat at Megs first and then rejoin at Ron's office
around 6:00



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