

THE BACKCAST



THE BACKCOUNTRY FLY- FISHING ASSOCIATION
OF BREVARD—www.bffa-brevard.net



Volume XXXIV Number XII

2024 September

**September 3rd 6:30 Meeting
Italian-American Club
1471 Cypress Ave
Melbourne, Fl.**

Reel Designer Paul Conover is our guest speaker



Paul Conover, the founder of Old Mariner reels is our speaker this September. Old Mariner is a relatively new fly products manufacturer. However, its founder is a very old fly reel manufacturer and designer. Paul Conover has been making fly reels since the early 60's in his grandfather's machine shop in Miami where they manufactured the famous Fin-Nor wedding cake fly reels designed by Garr Wood. After 23 years at Eastern Airlines as an aircraft machinist, Paul designed and manufactured weapon systems for the police and military. Fin-Nor, now stuck in the old manufacturing ways, contacted Paul to resurrect their manufacturing facility. Paul designed and manufactured the Fin-Nor FR series and the Ahab fly reels. In 1996, When the company was being sold, Paul left Fin-Nor and founded Old Florida Fly Reels. The idea of the company was to bring new fly fisherman into the saltwater flyfishing world by offering a machined aluminum fly reel at an affordable price made in the USA.

Paul designed and manufactured an entire line of reels including the first Nautilus reels which encompassed the first sealed drag on a draw bar type fly reel, plus an easily removable spool which was never seen before on a saltwater fly reel.

Born from the idea of monster Tarpon caught in Miami and getting them to the boat safely and quickly, the new reels are designed to be the strongest in the industry, nothing else is even close. These serialized tools are designed like trolling reels, they have a double frame that supports the spool and bearings. Even with this unparalleled strength they are still lighter than most saltwater fly reels while standing up to the harshness of salt water big fish reality.



Tight Lines

BFFA Officers and Directors
Board Chairman—TBA

President—Frank Catino
321 223 7700
fcatinol@me.com

VP/Programs—Alec Buchness
alecbuchness@gmail.com
Facebook Manager

Secretary/Treasurer—Ron Winn
321 723 3141
ron@winnaccounting.com

Conservation Director—Bill DeLuccia
321 729 8818
deluccias@hotmail.com

Fly Tying—Jeff Ward
321 242 2815
cojeward@gmail.com

Outings Director—Steve Stewart Sr.
Capt.IndianRiverSteve@yahoo.com

Auction Chairman—Chip Turknett
William.Turknett@gmail.com

This is the month when club dues are due. Another year has passed by, and our club now heads into its' 35th year. How did it all start? A few of us met at Ron Winn's house to swap ideas on how to get this club started. We got the word out by putting flyers in the local fly shops, a newspaper article, and putting flyers on car windshields as well. Our first club meeting was in September of 1989 at the Red Lobster in Melbourne (where West Marine is today) where we introduced some of the director's thoughts and viewed a video on tarpon fishing on the fly that had been recently released. The first night there were over 25 members that joined, of which many are still members. Some of the ideas that were used by our club were to center the club around our monthly meeting and try to have education as the central ingredient and we have certainly had some great educational meetings.

We are always looking for new people to join the board so if you are interested let one of the Board members know.

We have an outing scheduled for September 21st at BonSteel park in Melbourne Beach. The annual mullet run should have started (hopefully) by then. Get there at daybreak to fish and then lunch will be served afterwards at the South Beach Community Pavilion. Steve Stewart will have more information at the next club meeting.

At this month's club meeting we will be having a special silent auction where the prize will be a package of lures as seen below. The starting bid will be \$25.00 and successive bids will be in increments of \$5. Just in time for the mullet run coming soon to a beach near you.



Jeff's Corner

Recipe:

Hook: FTD MS100 #2/0

Thread: 210 Black

Tail: SF Blend

Body: 3"-5" Brush

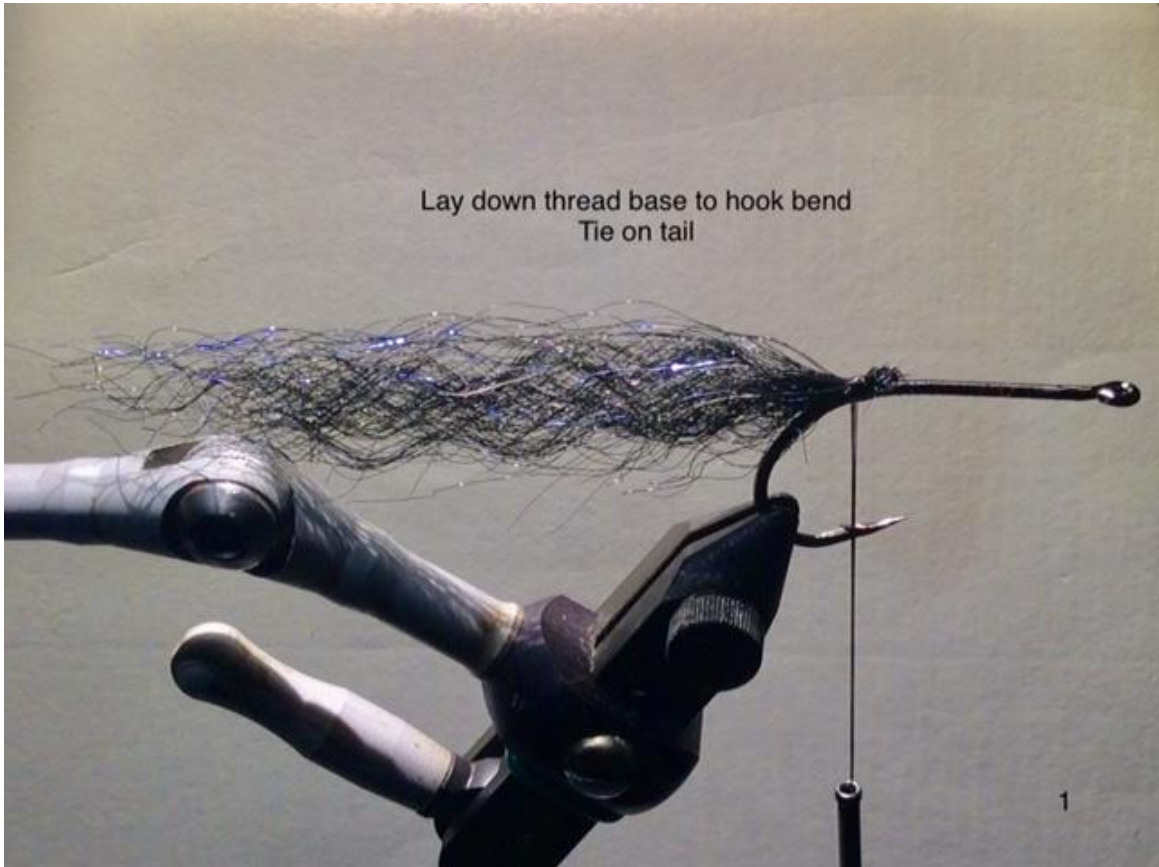
Eyes: 8mm Silver

x

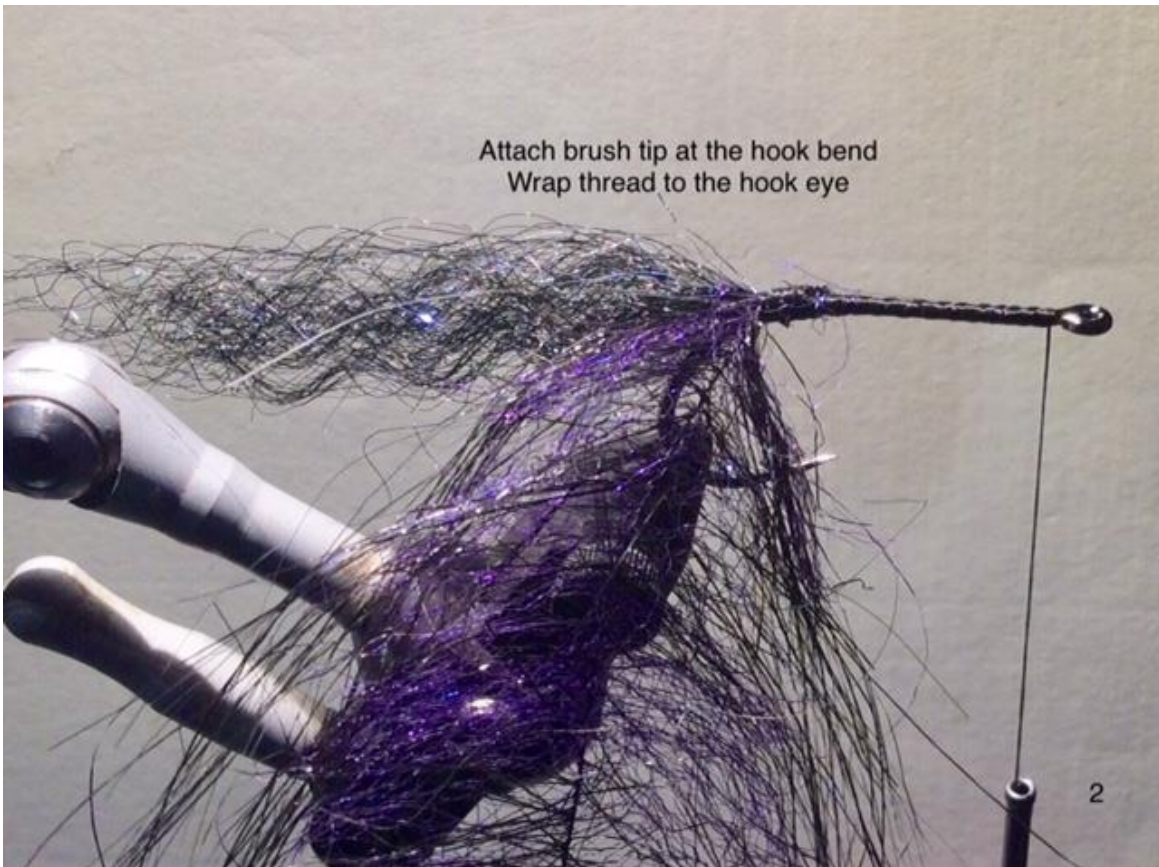
Brush BaitFish



Lay down thread base to hook bend
Tie on tail



Attach brush tip at the hook bend
Wrap thread to the hook eye



Palmer brush to the hook eye
Tie down and build head and cement



Add eyes and finish



BFFA September 2024 Events

Monthly Dinner Meeting:

Meeting starts at 6:30 pm.

This month's meeting is September 3rd
at the Italian-American Club

1471 Cypress Ave
Melbourne

Fly Tying:

Melbourne Library-September 16th

6:15 pm

Next Day Event:

**Fishing the mullet
run at Bonsteel Park
Melbourne Beach
September 21**

Board Meeting:

September 10th --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



Backcountry Fly Fishing Assoc. of Brevard

P.O. Box 524

Melbourne, FL. 32902-0524