



Fly in my Email Dennis Stead



The Hammer Head

4/21/2020

I was talking to Pappy about my brother-in-law fishing for crappie. Pappy gave me a few 1/8 and 1/16 Hammer Head Jig for him to try. Many years ago, Pappy Ray developed, for himself, the Hammer Head jig for fishing crappie.



The jig is pretty unique. **It swims.** It doesn't get hung up as much as the normal jig because of the head. If the Hammer Head jig hits a branch on the top of its head, the hook is pushed down and does not get caught up on the branch.



If the Hammer Head jig hits a branch on the bottom of the head, the hook is pushed up and does not get caught up on the branch.



My brother-in-law, Jimmy, likes to fish with 1/32 oz jigs. The last time I saw Pappy, I asked if he had a smaller size and found the mold for a 1/32 oz. He had the mold set up for a size 4 hook but I was able to use a size 6.



Some of you know that I talk about the gray area, or no-man's land between the Bait Caster and the Fly Caster, a topic for another email.

But if it be in smaller sizes, maybe this is something that the Fly Fisherman or Fly Fisherwoman could use. So, down the rabbit hole I go.



I was able to use a size 8 hook in the mold for 1/32 oz and found that if I cut off the lead that holds the plastic, the weight size drops to about 1/64 oz. and is set up perfect for fly tying.



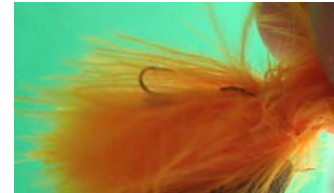
But, I have to tie up some flies for Jimmy, and get them in them mail before I get carries away. Notice the Bed Spread Fly.



Then I thought I would have a little fun. Jimmy does not like to lose a fish even if they are bitty lightly by grabbing the tail. This happens when the water is colder. So I tied up one of my 1/64 oz double eye hook.



Then added a treble hook size 18 to the second eye. The treble hook is hiding in the tail.



Still, better give him a few more.

Some people have said to me that I am spending too much time on jig hooks. That might be so, all I know that I might have a limited time to learn from one of the masters in this field, Raymond Duncan, Pappy Ray.

He is not a healthy man. But he has a great heart and allowed this fly fisherman in his shop. He hates small hooks, size 10, 12, 14, etc.

He is making me a spin cast mold for my 1/64 oz double eye hook. I am sure that under his breath he might be cussing those dam small little hooks. But when it is finished, there will be nothing like it. Jerry Jester is learning to make fly plates from a master; Steve Jensen who we all know has a terminal illness. Is there someone out there that you could spend some time with to learn their techniques, so they will not be lost? Give it some thought.

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