

Tying Bench – Alan's *White Lightning* Tube Fly **Tied by Myron Hansen and Tom Jones**

If it swims under a dock light, this is your fly. That's the truth. On the other hand, the story below may not be completely accurate, but "it's my story and I'll tell it the way I want to." Myron Hansen



Years back our board meetings were held at Alan Sewell's house. If we were lucky, after the meeting, we could go out into his garage where he kept his fishing tackle and look at "the collection." "Wow! I honestly believe what he kept there was actually the beginning of what we now know as Bass Pro Shops."

Well, one meeting was especially memorable because Alan had recently traveled to the Carolinas and had brought back some "white lightning." After the meeting and his "tackle shop tour," we went out into his backyard and took turns sipping "moonshine" from a Mason jar.

The conversation eventually turned to dock light fishing and Alan said he had just the fly for me. With a little "shine" under our belt, he taught me how to tie his infamous white tube fly. I've caught many a fish from this fly that I now call "*Alan's White Lightning*."

Intended Species: Any sport fish that swims under a dock light.

Materials:

Hook: size 2

Body: E-Z Body, medium, pearl or white

Thread: flat waxed nylon - white

Tail: white maribou or Finnish raccoon - white

Flash: pearl crystal flash

Eyes:: 3D holographic eyes

Adhesive: clear nail polish and Softex for covering head and eyes

Tying Sequence

1. Wrap the hook shank and coat with clear nail polish. Add a piece of Finnish raccoon to the hook shank, wrap, with thread, and coat with polish. Add several pieces of crystal flash (not shown) to the tail, wrap with thread, "whip finish," and coat with clear polish.

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2. Cut a section of E-Z Body about twice the length of the hook shaft. Slide one end over the hook eye about half way down the hook shank. Wrap the end over the hook shank tightly with thread, "whip finish" and coat the thread with polish.



3. Slide the unwrapped end of the tube back toward the bend of the hook until it touches the bend. Trim the tube end near the eye if necessary. Wrap the open end near the eye tightly, "whip finish," and coat with polish.



4. Glue eyes into position.
5. (Not shown and optional) Coat head over the eyes and finished thread wrap to the hook eye with Softex.

Myron Hansen

Tom Jones

