



Jim Frazier II

Our 3rd honorary member for 1999 is Johnson Miller Frazier II better known to all of us as Jim Frazier of Hollywood, Florida. Jim now 83 years old and is our 43rd member inducted since the inception of the program initiated in 1984. The induction of Jim into our honorary membership program is very exciting to all because he is one of our own active NFLCC members and our 1st past president to receive this honor.

Jim's educational background and working career accomplishments are very impressive and too numerous to mention, but are all documented with his biography in our Honorary Membership Biography book. Here are some of his accomplishments in the world of both salt and fresh water tackle development and related history.

Jim being a fisherman and an ardent student of the sport all of his life did not totally satisfy his fishing appetite like many of us till middle age, which affords more time. In 1958 Jim designed and refined with field testing a lure since named "The Whiz Bang", a deadly feathered jig especially for catching striper Bass. It is documented in the fine book titled "Florida Lure Makers and Their Lures" as "Frazier's Fancy Whiz Bang". Jim did not patent this lure and had no commercial aspirations for it. In 1961 the John C. Kramer Company copied it, adding a smiling mouth in their "Smiling Bill" series, and offered it in (8) different weights. In 1968 credits were given to Jim for this lure's development in an outdoor writer's article in the Long Island Press newspaper.

Jim is a life member of the NFLCC and three time past president, 1982 thru 1985. He is also an active member of the Florida Antique Tackle Collectors

Club. He has written a popular book about Al Foss lures and its company history, which has since been donated to the NFLCC library along with its publishing rights. He has also written other articles, the most notable "Pork Rine and its History". Jim was nominated by Bill Stuart Jr. of Bartow, Florida who states that Jim Frazier is one man that is always there to volunteer. In 1996 in Bill's book "Florida Lure Makers and Their Lures", Volume II, Bill stated, "If and when they create a fishing tackle hall of fame we will be the first to nominate Jim Frazier of Hollywood, Florida". Well Bill your wish came true.

I would now like to call up Jim Frazier to come forth and except his honorary membership award from our president, Fred Kerr.

Honorary Member - 1999

Editor's Note: An extensive biography of Jim Frazier can be found in the book *Florida Lure Makers and Their Lures, Vol. II*, by Douglas Brace, Russell Riddle Jr., W.H. Bill Stuart Jr., published by the Museum of Fishing, Barstow, Florida.