



Broken Threads

A PUBLICATION OF

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS FLY TYERS

PROVIDING A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE FOR THE NOVICE AND EXPERT
TO LEARN AND SHARE THE FLY TYING AND FISHING EXPERIENCE

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 7

OCTOBER 2001

FROM THE EDITOR

A Great Fall Start!

September meetings of the Club got underway with a bang! We've been getting good attendance already averaging about 20 people. Last month, Dennis set folks up for the Little Smoky trip (more on the trip elsewhere), Brian gave a great talk on San Jaun worms and indicator fishing technique and I gave a presentation on New Zealand lake fishing. We have a similarly entertaining and informative program planned for October.

We're trying something new starting this month, aimed specifically at new members. We're going to have a **novice corner** twice a month, where new tyers can learn the basic skills with friendly coaching. These sessions will be in addition to the regular meeting topic and will be short, to the point and will address a range of basic techniques. Experienced members are encouraged to offer their help to the newbies or, if you're not inclined to be an instructor, to spend the time starting the winter long task of replacing all those flies you lost this summer.

If you have any other suggestions for topics the club can address, patterns you want to see or activities you'd like to do with us, please let Prez. Dennis Southwick, myself or Brian Hepperle (962-4582) know. The NLFTC is a member driven club, so your suggestions are not only important, but form the backbone of our program.

And remember we don't just tie flies here. We also try to cover a wide range of fishing topics and use them to try to catch fish. There's still lots of fishing to be done before freeze up, so if you're headed out somewhere and want some company or need someone to share a car and travel cost for a short trip, don't be afraid to give a fellow member a call and plan an outing.

We've got fine line-up for the next month with some interesting flies to learn and topics to discuss. We operate on a "drop in" basis, so if you find you have a Wednesday evening free, there'll be a friendly place to go. And door's always open for new members, so if you know someone who's been thinking of joining or would like to learn some fly tying and fishing lore, bring them along.

I must apologize for the late date for this edition of the newsletter. Between home renovations, the Little Smoky trip and a minor eye operation, I wasn't able to get it together for the end of September. However, I think I have an up to date e-mail list, so you should get it in time for at least the second meeting.

In the mean time:

Tight lines all!

Dave Robinson

CLUB MEETINGS

Regular Meetings and Tying Sessions: *Every Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.*
Water's Edge - 10149 - Saskatchewan Drive Enter main door and go straight ahead
Equipment and Materials: Bring your own or use the Club loaners
Coffee and cookies served, plus a weekly 50/50 draw

OTHER EVENTS

Trout Unlimited Meetings: Regular meetings resume in October and are normally on the third Monday of the month. I'll post them here as the TU program for the fall develops.

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Club Website

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MEMBERSHIP

Only \$20.00

January to December

Benefits Include:

- Regular meetings and tying sessions
- Monthly newsletter
- Club event discounts
- Selected retailer discounts (with card)
- Access to club library
- Fellowship of like-minded fishers
- Tying and fishing "secrets"

Membership Contact

Bob Guidos
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MEETINGS

OCTOBER 3

Topic: *Streamside Etiquette*
Speakers: *Various Club Members*

Comments: *Gotten any dirty looks when wading into a new pool recently? We're going to have a small discussion on what is appropriate behavior on the stream. Not that any of us are chumps, but knowing the unwritten rules may prevent an unfortunate confrontation.*

OCTOBER 10

Tyer: *Dave Phelps*
Pattern: *Foamy Backswimmer*

Hook: Mustad 94840 #10 dry
Thread: Black, green and bright red 6/0
Body: Preformed foam body
Legs: Green super floss
Back: Aqua Seal wader sealant
Tools: Sharp thin razor blade, very fine tipped waterproof felt markers

Comments: *Dave could call this a Dahlberg Diver. This is an innovative pattern intended to imitate the insect that drives fish wild in the fall. The perch in Star Lake better look out too!*

Novice Corner: *Bobbins and Tie On*

Comments: *Learn what makes a good bobbin, how to thread it (there's more than one way) and how to properly start the thread on the hook.*

OCTOBER 17

Tyer: *Dave Murray*
Pattern: *Bird*

Hook: Mustad 9672 sizes #8 to #10
Thread: Black 6/0
Body: Peacock Herl
Rib: Brown Larva Lace
Wing Case: Pheasant tail

Comments: *This is a pattern Dave swears will catch tons of fish on White Swan Lake in the spring.*

OCTOBER 24

Topic: *Knots and Rigging*
Speaker: *Gord Boutette*

Comments: *Gord will give his terrific talk (last done 2 years ago) on how to tie basic knots such as fly line to reel, leader to line, tippet to leader and fly to tippet as well as how to set lines up for shooting heads*

Novice Corner: *Basic Material Pinch*

Comments: *This quickie session will show the fundamental technique for attaching material to the hook and getting it to stay where you want it. Master this and even complex patterns become much easier.*

OCTOBER 31

Tyer: *Michael Dell*
Pattern: *No Brainer (invented by Wally Lutz)*

Hook: Long shank dry fly #10-14
Thread: 3/0 or 6/0 to match body colour
Tail: 20-30 pieces of long elk or deer hair, natural or dyed brown

Hackle: Brown or ginger, undersized, palmered
Body: Same elk or deer hair as tail

Comments: *Grayling love this fly. It can imitate a grasshopper, a stonefly, a caddis fly, or even be swung underwater as a minnow. This fly is an easy version of a thin Bomber Fly and also is related to the Tom Thumb.*

LITTLE SMOKY REPORT

Once again the Club trip to the Little Smoky was a roaring success! Somewhere between a dozen and 20 members (I didn't keep exact count) made the 3 hour + drive to our favorite fishing hole. Water levels were much better this year than last, making for terrific fishing. Better weather too!

Most of the fish were caught on nymphs, ranging from small mayflies to prince nymphs, with a few succumbing to a variety of dries like Dennis' Griffiths Gnat. Strike indicator fishing (most often with the indicator being a dry fly) was the order of the day with the lesson given in an earlier meeting by Brian Hepperle paying off for some of us.

While the majority of fish caught were Arctic Grayling, there were some whitefish landed with a couple of bull trout thrown in. The latter produced several hilarious moments as they would often grab onto a hooked grayling, giving the angler a heart stopping moment thinking he had hooked a monster. One time I had to poke one on the head to make him let go of my grayling.

Rocky won the "best belly laugh" award, twice! Once when he slipped and was seen floundering about in about 6 inches of water and once when he caught a grayling which was subsequently swallowed by a bull trout. He managed to actually land the bull, but only to hoots of laughter and accusations of fishing illegally with live bait.

Friday night around the campfire was a memorable evening of camaraderie with lots of stories told and laughs shared. As Dave Murray put it, "The sad part is that most of the stories were true." Of course beverages consumed should not be blamed for any of the mild exaggerations.

If you missed the trip this time around, be sure to add it to next year's agenda. It was a hoot!

Cant' Wait Till Next Year

Dave Robinson

TRIPS?

Is any one interested in a group outing for a Steelhead Trip to the Kitimat River with Gord Boutette in May?

Gord is organizing a mass outing to his favorite stream. If you're interested, let him know so the planning can start.