



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 8

NOVEMBER 2001

FROM THE EDITOR

I Can See Clearly Now the "Grey" has Gone!

My fishing last month was curtailed somewhat by a cataract operation on my right eye. I had gradually lost clear vision in that eye over the last year until anything more than 6 inches away was triple imaged. This made for some interesting problems in tying small flies on a light tippet. Well, thanks to the miracles of modern medicine and my lady ophthalmologist Dr. McDonald, that's a thing of the past now. The new plastic lens gave back my clear sight, although I'll still need glasses for some things. Watch out fish, I can see you better now!

The most amazing thing is the difference in color vision between right and left (unaltered) eyes. My left eye lens is considerably yellowed. I wonder if fish have the same problem as they age. In fact, I wonder just how much color fish can really see. They sometimes seem to be very sensitive to color, but on other occasions color doesn't matter (witness the "royal" coachman and other strange attractor patterns). The topic of fish vision and what they see may be a good one for a future month's meeting (hint to the elves).

On that note, we have a small group of guys working on laying out the year's program. If you have any ideas or things to suggest, please let Brin Hepperle, Bob Guidos, Rocky or Dennis know. We really do appreciate your input. This is a member driven club.

Which brings to mind another important point. Like all clubs, we have a constitution and an elected executive, but we are an informal group. Getting involved is real easy. Just speak up and offer your help. Those on the executive are just guys who have volunteered their time or been dragooned into helping out. Elections come again in January, so if you've ever had a hankering to do more than watch each week, please let us know. We always welcome new people and ideas.

For those who are new to the club or thinking of joining, please don't be shy. The friendly banter at meetings can sometimes make it appear like we're a close knit group. While we are all good friends, that's only because we share a common love of the sport. So if you share the same feeling for fly fishing and tying or want to get closer those things, make yourself at home. Don't be afraid to come up and introduce yourself to another member. We'll try to do the same. So don't be surprised if you get accosted at a meeting by a complete stranger and invited to talk about yourself and your fishing experiences.

There's not much fishing time left this fall before it becomes a "hard" proposition to find good water. I know there's people going out to the local ponds and streams to stock up on winter memories. If you want to tag along, let somebody on the executive know, or just call up that fisher you met at the meeting last week and plan an outing.

Tight lines all!

Dave Robinson

CLUB MEETINGS

Regular Meetings and Tying Sessions:

Water's Edge - 10149 - Saskatchewan Drive

Equipment and Materials:

Coffee served, plus a weekly 50/50 draw

Every Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

Enter main door and go straight ahead

Bring your own or use the Club loaners

OTHER EVENTS

Trout Unlimited Meetings: November 19: Program TBA at Room 7-227 Grant MacEwan

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Club Website

<http://www.nlftc.org>

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

(780) 455-2280

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER 7

Brian's Novice Corner: Basic Pinch Wrap

Comments: *Learn the basic method of attaching materials to the hook. It's a simple but effective way to get those pesky small fibres to go exactly where you want.*

Topic: *Flies for Rockies*

Speaker: *Rocky and Bob Guidos*

Comments: A couple of the club's old reprobates will give some sage advice on which flies attract Rocky Mountain Whitefish. These patterns have been well tried by the dynamic duo on the Red Deer River and they will share their fishing techniques for that and other streams.

NOVEMBER 14

Tyer: *Brian Hepperle*

Pattern: *Muddler Minnow*

Hook: Mustad 79580 #12 to #10

Thread: Black 3/0

Tail: Brown Mottled Turkey Quill

Body: Gold tinsel or yellow floss

Ribbing: Medium or fine wire

Underwing: Red Squirrel

Overwing: Mottled Turkey Quill

Head: Deer Hair

Comments: *Brian's going to show us this old reliable minnow pattern. It can also be used as a grasshopper substitute. As usual, you can also expect expert advice on how to fish the fly under different conditions.*

NOVEMBER 21

Brian's Novice Corner: Methods of Dubbing

Comments: *Join maestro Brian Hepperle and learn the many different ways of getting that hairy, fuzzy and furry stuff to stick to the hook.*

Tyer: *Dennis Southwick*

Two Pattern Night

Pattern #1: Brook's Black Stone

Hook: Mustad 9672 (3x) 79580 (4x) sizes #8 to #10

Thread: Black 6/0 or 8/0

Weight: Lead Wire

Tail: Black or Brown Goose biots

Rib: Fine Copper Wire

Body: Black Fur Dubbing

Gills: White Ostrich Hearl

Comments: *Joe Brooks had some revolutionary ideas about tying and fishing nymphs in his day. The techniques and patterns must work because they've survived a long time.*

MEETINGS

NOVEMBER 21 CONTINUED

Pattern #2 : E Z Skwalla

Hook: Mustad 94840 or fine wire #12 and #14

Thread: Brown 6/0 or 8/0

Body: Brown Foam and dubbing

Legs: Brown Rubber or Stretch Floss

Wings: Elk Hair

Head: Elk Hair

Comments: *This sounds like another inventive foam pattern from Dennis to go along with his successful Chernobyl Ant.*

NOVEMBER 28

Tyer: *Ron Hagen*

Pattern: *Royal Leadwing Coachman*

Hook: Mustad 3906 #16 to #10

Thread: Black 6/0 or 8/0

Tail: Golden Pheasant fibres

Rib: Fine Gold Wire

Body: Peacock Hearl and Red Floss

Wing: Mallard Quill tied Wet

Hackle: Brown tied as a collar

Head: Black ostrich Hearl

Comments: *Another old standby. This can be thought of as either an attractor or all round searching pattern. With some expert instruction, quill wings ain't that hard either.*

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



Double Header on the Little Smoky

TRIPS?

Gord Boutette is still serious about planning a group outing for a Steelhead Trip to the Kitimat River in May.

Take advantage of the local guide by going along for one of those "trips of a lifetime". If you're interested, let Gord know so the planning can start.