



# Northern Lights Fly Tyer

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1  
WEBSITE : <http://www.planet.eon.net/~flyfish/Northern.htm>

SEPTEMBER, 1997  
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## THE NORTHERN LIGHTS FLY TYING CLUB

*Providing a friendly atmosphere for novice and experienced fly tyers and fly fishers to learn and share information*

### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Once again another fly tying season is fast approaching. The Board Of Directors and membership would like to invite all those interested in the art of fly tying to attend our first meeting of the 97/98 season. Fall is a special time of the year if you are an avid grayling angler and on or first meeting of the season which will be on **September 10**. We will be tying some special grayling patterns, so be sure, you are in attendance. Ian plans to demonstrate a few good flies on September 10th and 17th, that we can all use on our last field trip which is planned for the *Little Smoky on September 20th*. There will be lots of good tying tips, workshops and lots of patterns this year. Also in the works is "Tying On Line" we plan to have a computer on line so we can surf those great fly tying websites or use one of the tying chat lines. Regular weekly meetings and Tying secessions are held every Wednesday @7:00 p.m at St. Joseph Catholic High School, second floor cafeteria at 10830 - 109 Street. Everyone is welcome to attend. Don't forget to bring your flytying kits and materials.

### NEW BUSINESS

For the 97/98 season our pricing structure has changed, this was done to make membership to the FLY FISHERS GUILD, more affordable. This restructuring of the membership dues has created two membership options. The new pricing structure is as follows:

- **Basic Membership** ( Includes Family Membership - January thru December )  
- \$20:00
- **The Fly Dressers Guild** ( September thru August )  
- \$35:00

As explained in previous newsletters, membership to the FLY FISHERS GUILD will allow you to receive four Guild Publications each year . I find these publications very interesting. Each edition is filled with color fly plates, new materials, and flytying tips..etc. Please contact Ian Russel if you would like to browse a copy. Membership applications for the guild is included with this newsletter. For a financial club statement please see our treasurer Shelley Robertson. The Northern Lights will also be looking at implementing a program doing flytying demonstrations at various retail outlets. If you have any concerns about the *Northern Lights Flytying Club*, comments or suggestions please contact :

**Ian Russel** @ (403) 447 - 5973

**Roy Ramdeen** @ (403) 476 - 1184 or e-mail us at [flyfish@planet.eon.net](mailto:flyfish@planet.eon.net)

NewsLetter is also on the World Wide Web at - :  
<http://www.planet.eon.net/~flyfish/Northern.htm>

SEPTEMBER IS  
MEMBERSHIP  
MONTH

Please be advised that Memberships for the Fly Dressers Guild are due in September.

If your dues are not paid by September 10th. It will cost you more, due to currency exchange.

LITTLE SMOKEY  
FIELD TRIP  
SEPTEMBER 20

Travel north on Highway #43 to Fox Creek. Continue northwest past Fox Creek about 3 kilometers, turn left onto Amoco Bigstone road.

Travel on this road to second bridge. Park at second bridge. For more information please contact Ian or Dennis.



FLY TYING ON  
THE INTERNET

*Here are a few sights to surf on the Net.*

Denny's Fly Tying Specialties  
<http://www.telusplanet.net/public/flytying>

Fly Tying Tips  
<http://www.webspan.net/~dsikora/pasttip.html>

Fly Fisherman's Virtual Flyshop Tyers Bench  
<http://www.flyshop.com/Bench/index.html>

## DEMONSTRATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

September 10	September 17	September 24	October 01	Body Alternatives
<p>Tier : Ian Russel <i>For these flies please bring the following-:</i></p> <p><b>Grey Watchet</b> Hook : wetfly (sizes 16 - 14) Thread : Pale yellow Hackle : Grey partridge Thorax : Peacock herl</p> <p><b>Dove Bug</b> Hook : wet/nymph (sizes 10 - 12) Thread : Brown Body : Seals fur or substitute. Rear - Orange and pink Front - Orange and brown Rib - Copper or Gold</p>	<p>Tier : Ian Russel <i>For these flies please bring the following-:</i></p> <p><b>Killer Bug</b> Hook : wetfly (sizes 10 - 16) Underbody : Red wire Overbody : Beige darning wool</p> <p><b>Orange Partridge</b> Hook : wetfly (size 14) Thread : Orange or Fluorescent orange Body : Orange floss - Glo-brite Rib : Peacock herl Hackle : Brown partridge</p>	<p><i>This scheduled meeting is reserved as video night. Various fly tying videos are available for viewing or if you have video footage of this past season, and would like to show those "lunkers", please do bring them along.</i></p>	<p>Tier : Dennis Southwick <i>For these flies please bring the following-:</i></p> <p><b>Air Head</b> Hook : dryfly (sizes 8 - 16) Body : Mink fur (dubbed rough) Wing : Elk or deer hair Head : Translucent, closed-cell foam</p> <p><b>Natural Drift Stonefly Nymph</b> Hook : 2x-Heavy, 2x-long nymph (sizes 4-8) Weight : Lead wire (over the rear half of the hook shank) Tail : Two pheasant tail or turkey feathers fibers (split) Rib : Stripped brown hackle quill Abdomen : Dark brown fur Thorax : Black deer hair (spun) Hackle : Furnace rooster palmered snugly through the thorax hair</p>	<p><b>Body Alternatives</b> The first thing you can try is to simply change the color of the dubbing used for the body. Olive is excellent, and try tan, brown, or yellow ! Changing materials is another alternative! Try using turkey biots, the individual fibers from a turkey wing quill, to form bodies. They come out nicely segmented, and you can get them in many good colors. Turkey biots are also available impregnated with CDC oil. This helps a lot in the floatation department, but also makes the biot a bit more pliable and less likely to split or break when winding them on. Another good body material is Peacock Quill. Stripped peacock quill makes one of the prettiest, most life-like, bodies imaginable. It also makes one of the most fragile bodies as well! A P-Quill body can shred on the first fish, making the tying of them seem like an effort in futility! You can reinforce them by counter winding the quill with old tippet material. It is strong enough to use for ribbing, and will resist abrasion longer than bare quill. It also helps to lacquer the finished body well. To strip quill easily, all you need is a piece of paper and an eraser. Lay a flued quill ( flue is the fuzzy stuff on the peacock quill), and lay it on the paper. Holding it in place with one hand, take the eraser in the other and rub the flue off the quill. It's then ready to use. If you're in a bind, need some stripped quill, and haven't got an eraser, the flue will come off if you pinch it between the thumb and index finger nail, and pull the quill through against the grain.</p>

### Grizzly Bear Fly Pattern



**Hook:** 3x long - sizes 8-14 (Mustad 9672)  
**Thread:** black 8/0 or 6/0  
**Tag:** red floss, doubled and trimmed  
**Body:** peacock herl, several strands  
**Rib:** fine gold wire, wrapped counter to the hackle (optional)  
**Hackle:** Brown and grizzly saddle hackle

**Directions:** Lay a thread base from eye to bend, tie in floss tag, herl, brown hackle, and optional rib. Wind the herl as full as you can. Palmer the hackle forward about 2/3 of the way to the eye. Counterwind the rib, (if you have one). Tie in a grizzly hackle and wind in a collar style. Whip finish. Add a drop of head cement (optional).

**Notes:** The body should be fairly full, and the floss tag should be about 1/4 inch long. Take about 1 inch of floss and double it over before you tie it in at the hook bend. I then trim it so the ends are even. The counter-wrapped rib is optional and somewhat time-consuming, but fish tend to be rough on herl and hackle, this will improve the durability of the fly.

*This fly has probably been "invented" several times, so the tyer makes no claim of originality or uniqueness. The name derives from its resemblance to a woolly bear caterpillar with a grizzly collar.*

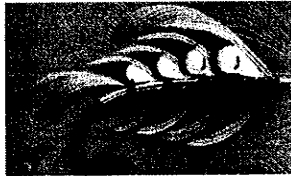
This fly can be fished in a variety of ways. It will float for a while because of all the hackle, and I cast it to likely habitat. Often a trout will take it immediately, but if not, leave it for about 30 seconds to a minute, and twitch it. If that is not productive, strip it in, first slowly, and then quickly. The take can be at any point. I have found this pattern to be extremely productive in farm ponds and pot holes in and around Alberta.

# THE FLY DRESSERS' GUILD

*founded 1967*

MEMBERSHIP NO:

**Subscription** Renewable 1st September each year



*Hon. Membership Secretary:*

*P. Kerley,  
8, Tidworth Road,  
Porton, Salisbury,  
Wllts, SP4 0NG*

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I am interested in the art of Fly Dressing and wish to apply for membership of the Fly Dressers' Guild. If my application is successful I shall abide by the Rules of the the Guild and decisions made by the elected Committee.

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Capital Letters)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (if under 16 or over 65) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is \*cash/cheque/P.O./Money Order for **\$35.00** to cover my subscription.  
(PAYABLE TO THE NORTHERN LIGHTS FLY TYING CLUB)

I am: a Professional/Amateur/Instructor/Fly Dresser/I have no knowledge of Fly Dressing\*

Please indicate if you wish to pay future subscriptions by Standing Order Yes  No

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ USUAL SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

\*Delete as necessary

**FOR GUILD/BRANCH USE**

MEMBERSHIP NO:

BRANCH

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

