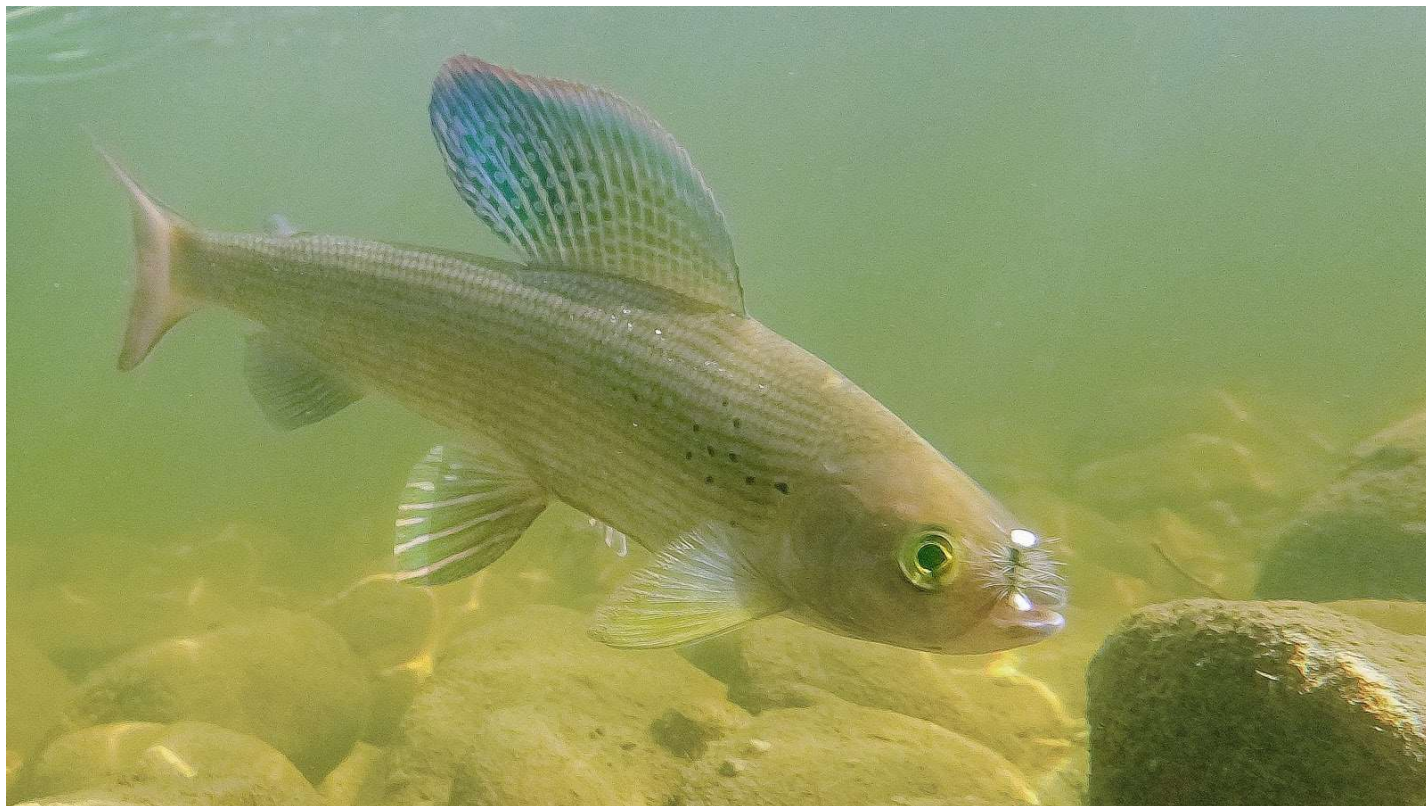


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Trout Unlimited Canada



Northern Lights Fly Fishers



**Welcome to Northern Lights**

**Fly Fishers Newsletter**

**December 2023 News & Upcoming Events!**

*Upcoming Events*

## Bamboo Rod Raffle!

Click the picture to purchase tickets.



**Bamboo Rod Raffle**

Tickets are 1 for \$10  
or 3 for \$20  
[Purchase Tickets Now!](#)

UNLIKE SANTA YOU MAY NOT FLY FISH IN WINTER. BUT YOU CAN GIVE THE FLY FISHERS IN YOUR LIFE THE CHANCE TO WIN A PERFECT FLY ROD FOR FISHING IN ALBERTA.

BUY 15 OR MORE TICKETS (\$100+) AND RECEIVE 6 FLIES FOR ALBERTA TIED BY INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS AWARD WINNER, TAK SHIMIZU

This limited-edition 6 strip 7'9" 5 weight 3 piece rod was hand crafted by internationally famed Alberta rod-maker Don Andersen and comes with an aluminum rod tube and cloth bag.

Must be 18+ for purchase only in Alberta  
AGLC Licence #656997  
Draw: April 20th, 2024

All proceeds will be used to continue the volunteer recreational fishery conservation and education work that Northern Lights Fly Fishers has conducted for many years in Alberta

Trout Unlimited Canada Northern Lights Fly Fishers

Don Andersen says the "rod is a 7'9" 5 weight 3 piece scalloped hollowed rod c/w aluminum rod tube and cloth bag. The rod is a 6-strip rod hand-crafted by me in my Rocky Mountain House, Alberta shop. This rod is the latest in about 300 rods built over the past 40+ years... Over those years nearly 10% of the rods crafted have been donated to Trout Unlimited Canada to aid in the conservation of Trout and their habitats.

The rod features include a downlocking reel seat, premium cork handle, ceramic stripper guides, and Hopkins and Holloway snake and tip-top guides. The ferrules are Classic Sporting Enterprises Super Z.



## Annual General Meeting January 24, 2024



We will hold our 2023 AGM on January 24. This will include reports from the Executive on what we have been doing for the last year, financial reports, and the election of a new Executive. Several people on the Executive have served for many years and we would appreciate some new perspectives.

The responsibilities of each person on the Executive are posted on our Forum

A proxy for the meetings is also posted here. Please note you will have to be registered on the Forum to open the attachments.

If you wish to join our executive please contact Michael Dell. If you are interested but not ready to commit to a position then you can sit in on our Executive meetings in a mentorship program.

The meeting will be held in person at Queen Mary Park Hall ([10844 117 St, Edmonton](#)) and online at ZOOM. Instructions for joining our ZOOM can be found here

# Get Involved!

Upcoming Programs

We will meet in person at Queen Mary Park Community League Hall ([10844-117 Street](#)), as well as continue to stream our meetings on ZOOM when possible. We will be meeting on the second and 4th Wednesday of the month. The meetings start at 7:30 pm.

On alternate Wednesdays, we will have a Zoom-only meeting for a Tie and Talk session. This is an informal meeting where you can see what others are tying and show off your flies.

Our ZOOM meeting ID is 668 142 7482, and the meeting password is 306090. More information about joining ZOOM is available on our webpage.

### **Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00**

Pizza and fly swap. We get together at Queen Mary Park Hall to have pizza, exchange stories, and hold a fly swap. To participate in the fly swap bring a dozen flies, see which flies you get, and then trade with others to get a variety of patterns.

### **Wednesday, January 10 2024 at 7:30**

Dennis Southwick will tie some old and new patterns for us.

#### **Doc Spratley**

Hook: 3X long hook of your choice  
Thread: Black 6/0  
Tail: grizzly fibers  
Rib: silver tinsel  
Body: black wool  
Beard: grizzly fibers  
Wing: pheasant tail fibers  
Head: several peacock hurls

#### **Royal Wulff (parachute)**

Hook: #8-20 dry fly hook of your choice  
Thread: red 8/0  
Tail: moose hair  
Body: peacock hurl  
Segment: red single-strand floss,  
Wing: white calf tail or poly  
Hackle: either grizzly brown or grizzly

#### **Film Critic (Haystack) Bob Quigley Pattern**

Hook: 18-8 Ahrex super dry or any dry fly curved hook  
Thread: 18/0 or 12/0 Nano thread color of your choice  
Tail: coq-de Leon fibers  
Rib: extra fine copper wire,  
Body: super fine dub color of choice  
Wing: white poly or Antron yarn,  
Thorax: super fine dub same as body or slightly darker,  
Hackle: dry fly color of your choice.

#### **50/50 Streamer (my 50/50, there are others out there)**

Hook: any streamer hook 3 or 4X of your choice #12 or bigger,  
Thread: 6/0  
Materials: can be Kreinex, Krystal Flash, or Flashabou colors your choice,  
Eyes: lead dumbbell color & size your choice.

### **Wednesday, January 17 2024 at 7:30**

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM

### **Wednesday, January 24 2024 at 7:30**

We will hold our Annual General meeting with reports from the officers and the election of a new Executive. This will be in person at Queen Mary Park Hall and also on ZOOM.

### **Wednesday, January 31 2024 at 7:30**

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM



**Wednesday, February 1 2024 at 7:30**  
Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM

**Wednesday, February 14 2024 at 7:30**

If you are not busy on Valentine's Day maybe you want to attend our Fly tying for beginners session. This will be a casual session where Michael Dell will introduce people to fly-tying basics. Vises, tools, and materials will be available for use at Queen Mary Park Hall, or you can bring your own. We will also ZOOM this session

**Wednesday, February 21 2024 at 7:30**

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM

**Wednesday, February 28 2024 at 7:30**

Dr.Greg Goss of the University of Alberta will talk about the Effects of Fracking on water quality,

**Wednesday, March 6 2024 at 7:30**

Tie and Talk meeting on ZOOM

We are always looking for ideas for our programs. Send your ideas and requests to [program@nlft.org](mailto:program@nlft.org) for our Fall programs.

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## You Asked, We Heard

### Fly tying Buddies

We have heard that people want more fly-tying instruction. At our in-person meetings, we will have at least one experienced tyer set up in the back of the room to offer some instruction quietly while the meeting is going on. This is on a drop-in basis.

Also if you have any questions or problems related to fly tying you can send them to Michael Dell at communications @ [nlft.org](http://nlft.org), and we will answer them via our Forum, our ZOOM Tie and Talk sessions, or in person at a meeting, whichever way works for you.

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## Post Event Updates

### St. Albert Junior Forest Wardens



On November 21 volunteers from Northern Lights presented programs for the Junior Forest Wardens in St. Albert. Ken Monk presented a slideshow on fly fishing, while Dick Slobodian, Bill Evans, and Michael Dell helped them tie a woolly bugger. About 25 Junior Forest Wardens ranging in age from 6 to 16 cycled through the programs. Thanks are due to the parents who helped with the cleanup of all the loose feathers and debris.

We will be doing more of these sessions to educate youth on the skills of fly tying and fishing in the upcoming year.



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# Sharing is Caring

## Fly Fishing Through The Ice

Fly casting may be just about over for another season but there's no reason to stop fly fishing. Many of those fly patterns that served you well throughout spring, summer, and fall can be equally as effective in winter. The nymphs, scuds, minnows, and bloodworms that were food for fish all through the summer are still there in the winter and the fish still need to eat.

For some tips on winter fly-fishing there's an article that you might find interesting - [Ice Fishing with Flies](#)

It focuses on BC's interior lakes but most of the information is equally relevant to Alberta's lakes and stocked ponds. You won't need waders or a flyrod but those flies you used in June may be just as effective in January! And there's much to be learned from looking down the hole you've drilled through the ice and watching how those fish approach and take or refuse what you're offering at the end of your line.

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# Fly Of The Month



**Pumpkinhead**

This is a very effective version of a woolly bugger invented by John Kent. The orange bead-head, green tail and body, and orange hackle are the only constants in this fly that can be tied with a variety of materials and additions.

The Standard tie is:

Hook: streamer hook 6-14

Thread: 6/0 colour of your choice

Bead: orange glass bead

Tail: green or olive marabou  
Body: green or olive chenille or dubbing  
Hackle: burnt orange

Here are some variations incorporating a curved hook, double beads, a steelhead-type wing, and a clear bead.



Stay tuned and visit [TUCanada.org](https://TUCanada.org)



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