

The Tyer's Wise

"All the news that's fit to be tied"



UNITED FLY TYERS OF RHODE ISLAND
MONTHLY MAGAZINE

February 2006

Vol. 11 No. 6



Steve Weitoff ties the PH Mayfly

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February's Fly Tying Tables
Mix or Match?

OUR NEXT MEETING IS

Wednesday night, February 1st at 6:30
E. GREENWICH, RI

SOLOMON'S MASON HALL
AGENDA: TYING

UNITED FLY TYERS OF RHODE ISLAND
P. O. Box 8986
Cranston, RI 02920

OUR NEXT MEETING

Wednesday February 1st at 6:30
AT THE EAST GREENWICH MASONIC HALL

FIRST CLASS MAIL



2006 Minnesota Trout Stamp

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norbert Morin



Spring is just around the corner – can't you feel it? With the sounds of Christmas music finally fading off into the sunset and with a whole slew of fishing shows in the schedule, fishing can't be too far off.

Of course there is always someone like Gary Soares who has just recently returned from a fishing trip in a warmer climate to remark – “the fishing was great, you should have been there.” Thanks Gary; maybe this will be my year to take one of those warm climate trips in the dead of winter.

In the meantime it's the perfect opportunity to not only tie up some flies but also take care of that equipment that you stuck in the closet or drawer. Reels need to be cleaned and lubricated, lines should be wiped down and a new coat of silicone added. Let's not forget to clean out that fishing vest which your wife has now hung out in the garage for obvious reasons (your friends have noticed it as well in case you haven't). Rods need to be cleaned and a little lubricant on the reel seat wouldn't hurt either. This is especially true for you saltwater fishermen.

By the time you receive this newsletter I'm hoping that one of our members who left for the warm desert air of Arizona has returned. That is Bobby Greco – welcome back. We told you there were no trout in the desert but you insisted that it was the best place to use a “dry” fly without the need of a floatant. In case you hadn't noticed Bobby, it's because there isn't any water in the desert.

Here's hoping that Bobby will return to be one of our fly tying instructors – He is a master fly tyer and a wonderful instructor with the patience of Job. I'm sure you all will enjoy spending time with him at one of our future meetings.

Special note, if you haven't paid your dues and are one of those delinquent individuals let's ante up before your membership gets cancelled.

See you all at the next meeting and remember “if you can't keep a tight line at least tie a nice fly”.
Norbert

Board of Directors

President Norbert Morin Vice President	401-828-7684	ghpcjax@aol.com
Secretary Diane Machado Treasurer	401-828-4103	dieman4@cox.net
Dave Boisvert	401-943-1145	DavidBoisvert@gtech.com
Directors of Education		
Dick Pearce	508-285-3456	rpearce@wheatonma.edu
Mike Maddalena	401-823-3311	mtm1550@aol.com
Directors		
Bill Beebe	401-467-3375	dougbreault@yahoo.com
Doug Breault (web editor)		peterburgess@prodigy.net
Peter Burgess		louis8102@aol.com
Lou Mazza	401 294 1594	flyrod@cox.net
Angelo Mangili	401-739-5994	hamintzu@earthlink.net
Joel Hamilton		jack@met-sol.com
John O'Meara	401-524-2524	RIFlyFish@cox.net
Brian Westervelt	401-465-0189	

MEETING INFORMATION

Each monthly meeting of UFTRI (generally the first Wednesday of the month) will begin with “doors opening” at the Meeting Hall, at 6:00 P.M. A short “discussion of business” begins at 6:30 P.M. Tying follows. The function room is set with tying tables and chairs. You might bring a small lamp. We will supply extension cords. At each table there will be a tying instructor who has volunteered to provide specific tying instructions on either a fresh or salt water fly. Files to be tied each meeting will be outlined in this newsletter which is sent to all members. Each will include a description and, where possible, a picture. Each month there will be instruction for **Beginner** and **Intermediate** tyers with **Advanced** tying classes occasionally. For all **Beginner** tyers, tying tools and materials will be provided by UFTRI. **Intermediate** and **Advanced** tyers should plan to bring their own tools. The club and/or its instructors will provide materials. On nights where there is a speaker fly tying instruction will typically end at approximately 8:00 P.M., followed by our guest speaker. Each monthly meeting of UFTRI is open to members only; non-member guests can attend two meetings. Many meetings will have a door raffle and several “bucket raffles.”
Annual Memberships- \$25. Children age 15 and under are always admitted free

DIRECTIONS TO MEETING: MASONIC LODGE

Directions from Providence: Go South on 95. Watch for the big fork left to route 4 south which is exit 9. Get off route 4 at Exit 8A East Green- which which takes you on to 401 East/Division St. In 1.3 miles there is a fork. Bear left to stay on Division Street. Another 0.7 miles is the Lodge on the left.

Directions from South County: Route 4 North to Exit 8A. This is 401/ Division Street East. Continue East for 1.3 miles where you fork left to stay on Division Street. Another 0.7 miles is the Lodge on the left.

EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dick Pearce, Mike Maddalena

Another popular attractor is a foam backed fly, like a beetle or foam ant, modified to deliver a surface imprint. It is known that small foam ants work well, for some reason, during a midge slurping period. Try attracting difficult fish to the top with a fly that floats high but presents body, feet and maybe tails in a surface piercing way.

Here is a picture of a Foam Backed "Royal Humpy" that just may fit the bill. Or you can experiment yourself along these lines. Mix it up and see what happens.

Foam Backed Royal Humpy

Hook : 14 -22.

Thread : Olive or brown 6/0.

Tail : Black moose, elk or deer hair.

Body : Red silk thread.

Back : Brown foam (white covered with brown/green permanent marker).

Hackle : Red cock hackle.

Post : White foam.



Winter is upon us. Some of us head out on vacations, others endure the bitter cold, snow and sleet, plus whatever else nature brews. We all try our best to avoid the dreaded illness, "cabin fever."

Locally, there are sportsman shows happening throughout the northeast. For the diehards, trips to upstate New York & Canada can be very successful. You can get information from Pro-shops, shows, or the Internet. If you have the time and have put away a little stash, this may just be the right cure for you. When you get back tell us about your trip or excursion, we would love to hear about it.

Those of us unable to journey out anywhere, there are many well written articles to read in books & magazines. If you have found an interesting article/story, our club newsletter welcomes your view, thoughts, or opinion of it. Contact our editor.

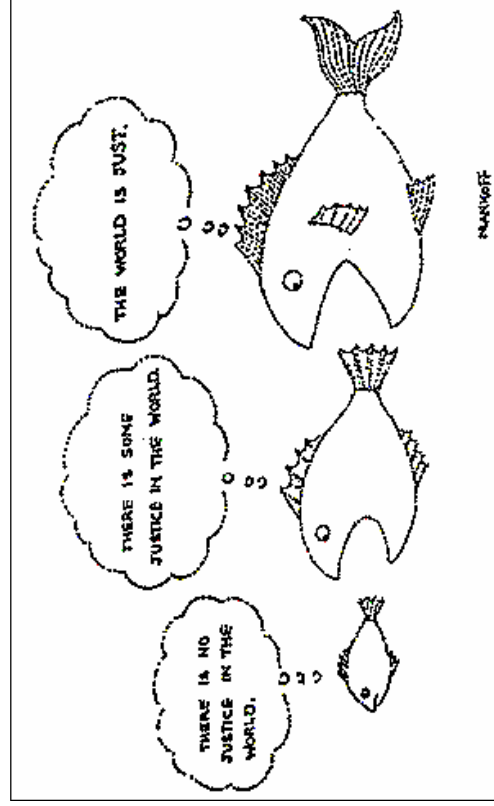
Finally, one of the best medicines to avoid the fever is the desire, art and love of fly-tying. This month we will have eight tables of different patterns being presented by our talented instructors, plus a ninth table hosted by John O'Meara demonstrating knot techniques and other starting & finishing steps. Hope to see you all there.

Mike Maddalena & Dick Pearce

P.S. We still need tyers for the Saltwater Edge Fly Tying Fair (February 11th) and the New England Saltwater Fishing Show (March 31, April 1, April 2). Please see or call Dick Pearce or Mike Maddalena. We don't tie at the Wilmington Fly Fishing Expo at the Shriners Auditorium, March 10, 11, 12. But it's a nice small show with some good tyers.

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Editor: Burt Strom
Please send submissions to: Burt Strom 418 Pond Street Wakefield, RI 02879
flyfish@mcmfg.com



Last Month's Meeting

Photos courtesy of Gus Pagel.



Gus didn't identify what Diane tied, but it looks like a 6/0 Corvette.



Mix or Match?

There are pools on the Wood River where stocked fish take up classical lies and munch, with minimal effort, on food that drifts down. These browns have had millions of years of evolution. Their Mchatchery fare has not led to them forgetting their programmed eating methods.

These fish look upstream and move ever so slightly as they pucker up for their goodies. Catching them is not easy.

There is a guy with a spinning rod that frequents the "near the parking lot" pools. He sets up with his seven pack by his side (six beers and a can of worms.) Occasionally he is awakened by a take.

Despite his lack of taste, his occasional dumb luck tells us something: A difficult brown trout can suffer a thoughtless lapse in its text book behavior. This is something to bear in mind. If you are changing flies and presentation faster than a busy hooker then maybe you should think attractor fly!



The most famous attractor fly is the Royal Wulff. The Elk hair caddis is considered by many to be a broad purpose attractor. But the best attractors may be wet/dry flies that can float but also be fished wet as well. And they are considered pretty fair imitations of naturals when tied in the proper colors. Classic soft hackle wet flies float if the body is buoyant when dry. Dub a body that will float, wind a rib if desired. Wind a soft hackle like a grouse or Hungarian Partridge feather and you have one of the most popular and effective of all flies: The Soft Hackled 'Wet'. This may oversimplify the tying business, but claims have been made that you cannot have a more successful season than fishing soft hackle wets exclusively!

The Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed

Have you wandered through the upper reaches of the Wood Pawcatuck watershed? Have you looked at the upper Falls River, Kelley Brook and other waters above the upper reaches of Arcadia Park?

A lot of this water is on private property but seems fairly protected from careless development within large homeowner lots. There is virtually no industry in the upper watershed. The streams run clean, meandering and coalescing into what becomes the Wood River just north of Route 165.

The watershed (for now) is clean and fertile with wildlife down to and past its lower reaches south of the park and through Shannock Village where the Pawcatuck marches to its ocean outlet in Westerly.

Many creatures depend on the watershed and the protected land around it. And some of them, from the tiny aquatic insects, to the wood turtle, to the wild native brook trout need to migrate along the streams and the adjacent land. The smaller creatures are all but forgotten except to the researchers and the groups that seek to preserve them from becoming more gravely threatened or even extinct.

UFTRI club members have likely held a wild native brook trout or come face to face with a mink or one of the exotic moths or plants that inhabit the watershed.

Want to participate in preserving that kind of experience for your grandchildren?

Think about joining and contributing to the Narragansett Chapter of Trout Unlimited or to the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association.

www.tu225.org
wpwa.org

FEBRUARY TYING

We don't know why Hallmark decided to promote Valentine's Day in February. It might be that they were as desperate for winter sales as some of our members are for fishing. We are thankful that, so far at least, none of our instructors is pushing ice fishing flies. All the tying this month is geared toward spring and beyond, when the drinking stops, the tying slows, and the fishing finally begins. But don't forget to get a gift for your winter soul mate.

Rodney Balme is a veteran Maine streamer fisherman and loves to tie classic streamer flies. He will be doing the **Magog Smelt** at his **Intermediate Table (Fresh or Salt)**. "The Magog is a Lake at the border of Quebec Province and Vermont. Edward A. Materne, of East Providence, Rhode Island, obtained a sample of this streamer and dressed duplicates on No. 1 hooks for striped bass. It is particularly successful for smallmouth bass, landlocked salmon, and striped bass, as well as for several other varieties of freshwater and saltwater fish. Harold N. Gibbs, of Barrington, Rhode Island, and Materne, both famous saltwater fly fishermen, gave the fly its original popularity in the United States."

HOOK Mustad 3665A, #4
THREAD Danville 6/0, black
TAG Oval Silver Tinsel
TAIL Teal
BODY Flat Silver Tinsel
RIB Oval Silver Tinsel
THROAT Red Hackle Barbules
WING White, Yellow, and
Lavender Bucktail
TOPPING Peacock Herl
CHEEKS Teal Flank
HEAD Black Thread



Note: Rod had the flu last month and postponed this table to February 1st.

Ed Tatro will be tying an **Intermediate Salt Water** pattern, **Bob's Banger**. "Ed was inspired several years ago, by none other than Bob Popovics for this pattern. He sat down and tied along with the Fly-Pro. It has proven to be superb pattern for striped bass & blue fish. He likes to use it in the bay's white water areas, the surf, rivers, breach ways and jettys. These places have lots of changing currents and rips, quick levels of fluctuation and turbulence are attractive to striped bass. When the bluefish are in during the summer, just throw it at them and watch the surface explode on the top." ---Mike M.

Bob's Banger
Hook: Eagle Claw 2/0 66SS
Thread: "D" Rod wrapping thread, any color
Head/Body: Livebody cylinder sizes 1/2" to 3/4", covered with bright prism tape
Gills: Purple Estaz
Wing: Chartreuse marabou
Eyes: Prismatic



Basic Techniques

Beginners or even Intermediate tyers are invited to sit down at **John O'Meara's** table for technique instruction. Although John has plans to cover certain specific procedures, such as whip finishing a fly, students are invited to bring their questions and requests.

Captain Ray Stachelek (www.castflycharters.com) will be hosting an **Intermediate Salt Water** table. His **Angel Deerest** series of flies are his favorite streamers. He will show you how to them and why he uses them. "Fly designs should duplicate the forage and movement of the quarry. When I do want to produce a fly that best simulates the motion and hues of naturals, Angel Hair comes to mind. Angel Hair captures the brilliance and iridescence of the underwater world. Mixtures of material and light set off by motion make these flies truly ignite. In the past, most of my work has been done on smaller size profiles. I had on occasion tied larger varieties, but longer than four inches or so and the material lost its profiled shape while sinking."

Angel Deerest (Green With Envy)

Hook: Varivas 990S, 3/0 – 4/0 or 2X equiv.

Thread: Uni-Thread 6/0 white

Tail: White bucktail, Blue Opal Mirage Flashabout

Upper Wing: Angel Hair: (Pearl Green, Silver, Pink, Chartreuse, Turquoise, Baitfish), chartreuse, and olive bucktails

Lower Wing: Angel Hair: (Pearl Green, Red), yellow bucktail

Eyes: Chartreuse or silver 3-D, 3/16 dia.

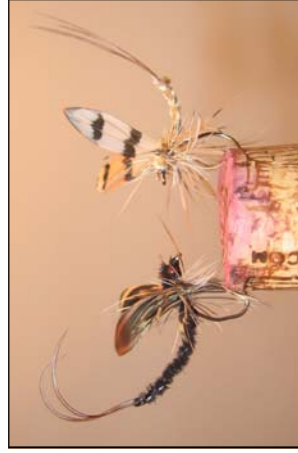


Peter Burgess will be tying an **Intermediate Salt Water** pattern, **The Floating Calamari**. "This fly is shown in the Jan/ Feb issue of Fly Fishing in Salt Waters. It is designed by Bruce Marino. As the name states this fly floats. The pattern is best fished in the spring time, when squid are in abundance. The fly has a rattle and as we know sound travels extremely well in the water. I haven't fished this fly but I think it could be a winner."

Steve Weilitoff will be instructing at an **Advanced Intermediate Fresh Water** Table. His **PH Mayfly** is the cover fly for this month. “This is my version of a **Paul Whillock** pattern showcased in the realistic section of *Fly Tyer* magazine, Spring 2005. The **PH** in **PH Mayfly** stands for “partridge hackle,” which really sets this fly off—its one of those patterns that will have people doing a double-take. While **Whillock** uses a commercially available winging material, I’ve substituted “lacquered” feathers to form wings, added a thin piece of wire to help shape the tail, and sometimes add eyes for a more “realistic” appearance. While no individual step in the tying process is particularly difficult, the fly as a whole can be challenging to the neophyte. Just like learning to tie an Adams opens up a whole category of dry flies, the **PH Mayfly** opens up the whole category of semi-realistic mayflies, dragonflies, etc. By substituting different feathers (or other winging), different color combinations, or body materials there are dozens of unique flies to make—yet at its core, the same basic tying principles still apply. The tyer is limited only by his/her imagination and creativity—which might be a good thing, as **Francolins** are not indigenous to the U.S., they can be hard to come by.”

PH Mayfly (Variation)

Hook: Size 12 dry fly, bent to shape (sub: scud/emergent hook)
Thread: Brown
Tail: Pheasant tail, beige chenille (optional: thin copper wire)
Wings: Black Francolin (female) feathers, “lacquered” & mounted upright
Abdomen: Beige chenille
Thorax: Black Francolin (sub: partridge) & ginger hackle
Thorax cover: Beige chenille (sub: raffine)
Eyes (optional): monofilament



The Floating Calamari

Hook: Gamakatsu 555015 5/0 spinner bait hook
Thread: White flat waxed
Eyes: 3D stick on eyes
Tentacles: Paired hackles
Mantle: Plastic open cell packaging foam, Pearl E-Z Body
Wings: White closed cell foam



Dave Porreca is conducting an **Intermediate Salt Water** table and his own **Dave’s Cinder Worm** fly. “This fly is best used with a floating line. I like a 9ft tapered leader down to 12lb test. I usually tie off another 2ft section of 10lb fluorocarbon tippet material and grease it up. Its ok to grease the body of the fly and I encourage it. However, do not grease the marabou. You don’t want to matt the marabou and take away from its undulating properties. Do I claim to be an advocate of the Cinder worm? Well, some day maybe. How do I know when its best to fish the worm hatch? When I see a gray jeep with **TROUT 3** on the license plate for three consecutive nights in **Ninigret Wildlife Refuge**. I start fishing.... **Tight Lines.**”

Dave’s Cinder Worm
Hook: Standard Salt Water #2 Hook
Thread: Red 6/O Thread
Tail: Red Marabou
Body: Red Heavy Floss
Ribbing: Red 6/O Thread
Worm Back & Head: Olive / Brown Peacock Herl
Marabou, Thread, and Floss should match in color.



Paul Pezza, who either has it all down to a very productive science or who, with fair consistency, has incredible luck, is teaching a **Beginner/Advanced Beginner Saltwater** table. He will tie two flies: **The Black Witch** and **A Simple Shrimp**.



Black Witch
Hook: Mustad 34007 #1, #2
Thread: Black
Tail: Black Saddle Hackle
Collar: Black Bucktail



Simple Shrimp
Hook: Mustad 34007 #2, #4
Thread: Brown
Body: Rootbeer Estaz
Hackle: Brown Saddle palmered
Tail/Shell: Dyed (root beer color) bucktail.

UNPAID DUES

Members whose dues have not been paid have had their subscription to the Tyer's Vise newsletter turned off. They may pay the Treasurer at the February 1 meeting or call or email Dave Boisvert (see Board roster on page 15) for instructions on mailing in dues if they wish to continue their membership.

Glen Northup will be teaching an **Advanced Beginner Fresh Water** table. His **Hex Bomber** is designed for the famous "hex hatch." *"The Hex Bomber is an adaptation of the Ausable Bomber, a Francis Betters design featured in Fly Tyer Magazine (Spring 05). Like the natural the Hex Bomber has a lot of enticing movement. It's a durable and easy to tie fly that will take many fish before it needs changing. We'll discuss how to keep these large flies floating and methods of fishing them."*



Hex Bomber
Hook: TMC 5212 sz 6
Thread: Lt. Tan - 6/0
Tail: Tan or White/Calf tail or Bucktail
Body: Creamy yellow, White, Lt. Tan/Rabbit fur
Hackle: Grizzly, Cree, Ginger, Barred Cream, etc.
Wing: White Calf tail

