



## April 2015 President's Message

Hello everyone and welcome to April! I hope everyone enjoyed a Happy Easter!

I'm sure many of you have been fishing already. I attended the Driftless One Fly Contest festivities in Viroqua on March 28, and it was a wonderful event. Chris's team worked hard that day as fishing was challenging. Pete at the Driftless Angler did a great job organizing everything. Geri, Mat's wife held a very nice women's open house at the shop that Friday evening. She has done an amazing job of researching and obtaining a wide variety of women's fly fishing apparel and gear. So ladies think about checking the place out whenever you might be in the area! Geri is an expert at fitting women for waders and boots. The shop looks great and they are ready for the season!

I also had the privilege of going steelhead fishing for my first time on the Milwaukee River with Jerry Sapp and Bob Becker. Jerry caught a couple of beautiful specimens and I was impressed when I saw my first steelhead on this trip! Magnificent! Ask Jerry when you all see him about his center pin reel and rod. Pretty slick gear!

Our speaker this month will be Mike Miller from the Wisconsin DNR. Mike has prepared a great program for us. Also I have asked him to bring some of his books. Mike and his associates have written "Field Guide to Wisconsin Streams". It is a terrific book that covers plants, fish, invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles. He will have the book available and/ or provide information to order it at the meeting. So come prepared to get your copy.

One other tip for any women out there who might be considering the idea of learning fly fishing-- The S.W. Wisconsin Chapter of T.U. has a phenomenal program available to women called the Wisconsin T.U. Women's Fly Fishing Clinics, held every June. There are both beginning and intermediate clinics, and this is by far one of the finest and most comprehensive programs available. Tina Murray and her team of women instructors,

mentors, and river buddies will guide you through every step, and the experience is memorable and fun ! For further information please talk to me. Also, here's the link for their web site: [http://www.swtu.org/wffc\\_womens\\_clinics.html](http://www.swtu.org/wffc_womens_clinics.html).

For everyone's information, our chapter was proud to donate funds to the Women's Clinics this year. They will be using the monies to provide a scholarship to a woman who is highly interested in the program but is unable to afford the fee. I will be at the clinic this year as a "river buddy". This will be my 3<sup>rd</sup> summer serving as a river buddy. I have already completed the beginner and intermediate classes and this is a way for us to "pay it forward" to those just coming in to the sport. River buddies take these beginners out one on one or two on one for their first on the water experience . Like our youth program, this is also by far one of the most enjoyable and rewarding experiences I have been involved with. The clinics are looking for more river buddies to volunteer this year, so my fellow women anglers, talk to me about helping out.

Also, this May we are going to be having our first annual TU picnic since I've been involved with the chapter. It will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015 at the Del Webb Pavilion in Huntley, IL from 2-6 p.m. Please take a look at the newsletter and e-blasts we will be sending out for details. I encourage everyone to bring their families. This picnic will be in lieu of our monthly meeting. We wanted to offer this so everyone can enjoy some time with their colleagues as well as families. Also this will free up the rest of the month so folks can enjoy fishing and also the May outing . RSVP's will be required so we can plan enough food and drink. Pete Koenig will be working his grilling magic, preparing brats, burgers, hot dogs or whatever delicious fare he finds.

Jerry Sapp has received the approval from McHenry county for us to install stream monitoring devices for Fox Bluff here in our own state of IL. We will be monitoring this area to determine if these waters will support trout. We are highly encouraged by this and hope for great things. If anyone has a passion for or interest in getting involved with our conservation committee please see or contact Jerry. Also keep your eyes open for more work day announcements. Take a look at his conservation report in this month's newsletter.

Here's to a great fishing season! Be sure to sign up for the outings this year. Please be aware that we will be collecting a non refundable amount for the WaWa Sum and Salmon Outing trips due to previous problems we have had with last minute cancellations. Some good news too! Scott Roane has made it even easier to pay for the outings as well as sign up for our picnic by setting up a square account online for us. Nice work Scott! That link is- <https://squareup.com/market/lee-wulff-chapter-of-trout-unlimited> .

Tight lines, everyone! See you on the stream!

Meg

## **Our April Meeting Speaker - Mike Miller**



Mike Miller is a stream ecologist with the WI Department of Natural Resources in Madison. He teaches stream ecology at UW Madison, and recently co-authored a “Field Guide to Wisconsin Streams” available through the University of Wisconsin Press.

Mike will be speaking on: **"Increasing Trout Angler Opportunities and Success"** He will give a broad overview of trout and stream ecology and offer a travelogue of popular and lesser-known WI trout streams.

### **Where We Meet**

**Village Pizza and Pub  
145 N. Kennedy Drive  
Carpentersville, IL**

**Social Hour: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. with pizza and pop served for \$15.00 per person**

**Main program: 7:30 p.m.**

**Other menu choices, cocktails and spirits are available for purchase.**

**Please RSVP to Scott Roane at [royalwulff01@yahoo.com](mailto:royalwulff01@yahoo.com) by Tuesday April 14th so we know how many pizzas to preorder.**

## **May Meeting: May 2, 2015**

Our May meeting will be a Family Picnic May 2, 2015 from 2 - 6pm at the Dell Webb Pavilion in Huntley. The Pavilion is located on Del Webb Blvd next to the Prairie Lodge. The main entrance is on 47 just north of I-90. Mark your calendars for food, soft drinks, games, friendly competitions, and fun activities for the kids. Charge for this picnic is \$10.00/person, kids under 12 free. Pete Koenig will be grill-master grilling burgers, brats, hot dogs, road kill - who knows what he's got on that grill! There will be sides, chips and soft drinks. Del Webb forbids any use of alcohol on their property without special arrangements. After 6pm anyone interested can fish with us at a private lake about ¾ mile from picnic area.

**RSVP by April 20th** to Scott Roane at: [royalwulff01@yahoo.com](mailto:royalwulff01@yahoo.com) (need to know for food count) or on line at <https://squareup.com/market/lee-wulff-chapter-of-trout-unlimited>

### **NOTICE! NEW STUFF!**

Lee Wulff TU now has a square-up account where you can pay for the May picnic, the Wa-Wa-Wa Sum trip or the Fall salmon outing online. No more mailing checks if you don't want to!! Just go to <https://squareup.com/market/lee-wulff-chapter-of-trout-unlimited>

## **The Driftless One Fly Event Results by Chris Young**

Cozad's Driftless 1 Fly Contest is now in the books. Saturday March 28th, ten teams of four anglers left the Driftless Angler Fly shop at 8 am in pursuit of trout, bragging rights, and most importantly, raising money for TU Youth Fishing. This inaugural event was greeted with temps in the teens, blinding sun, and the lowest, clearest water anyone had seen. The Lee Wulff Team consisted of Gordon Rudd, Bill Kica, Jim Romberg and myself. Under brutal conditions we managed almost thirty fish, which placed us middle of the pack, perhaps a bit better. More than one in this unique group of 40 leading anglers, ( myself excluded ), was skunked. What was especially fun to see was Jacob, coming in 2nd overall, having caught 22 fish, all on the same streamer. Many of the streamer guys got snagged off early, and were out of the competition. One photo shows some of the team's fly entries, our Lee Wulff patterns on the lower left. The winning team will return to defend their title, all other teams will be new, so hopefully, our group will field an entry. For myself, I'm hoping to have my name pulled out of the raffle list, and get to participate again

The morning of the contest



The flies each team used...Lee Wulff in the bottom left corner



This guy took 2nd place with 22 fish!!



## **STEELHEAD! STEELHEAD ! STEELHEAD**

This from Michigan guide Dustan Harley. "Spring is finally here and so are the steelhead. It took a while for the break to happen, but it sure feels nice. The fish have been eating eggs, small stones, and hexes pretty well on most days. They have been much easier to hook than to land because they are very fresh right now. We have seen some great fish landed so far this year including my longest fish ever. On March 27, Steve from Chicago, landed a 37" beast from the St. Joe! The most amazing thing isn't that he landed it on the 27th, but that he landed it again on the 28th! Not to be outdone, Tom from Richmond landed the same fish on the 30th! To make things even more unbelievable, it was Tom's first ever steelhead...That is the way March ended for me and what a great month it was.

April is looking to be good so far too. We have fresh fish coming in daily, the water is perfect, and the weather has been great for spring steel heading. If you sneak out to the water I wish you tight lines and bent rods."

## Conservation Committee News

The temperature sensors have been ordered for Fox Bluff area in Mc Henry county. We are monitoring the ponds and streams on this hillside to check for the possibility of placing trout in three ponds and or the springs that come from a hillside above the Fox river in this Mc Henry county park.

### **HERE IS WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING.. FOR A CHANCE TO HELP!**

The Southern Wisconsin Chapter of TU had their first workday of the year on Saturday, March 14 on Pleasant Valley Branch along Dane County Rd H, about 1 1/2 miles south of County Rd. A. They are finishing the stretch of the stream where we last left off. A map for this location can be found by clicking on this link: <http://binged.it/1C9hu26>

**When: Saturday, April 25, Saturday, May 9..**from 9 a.m. to Noon

**What:** Willow and invasive brush removal to benefit trout stream habitat. Also friendly camaraderie, donuts, coffee, hot cocoa and a chance to give back to the resource!

**Where:** Pleasant Valley Branch Creek - Take Hwy 151 west out of Madison, on the west side of Mt. Horeb take Hwy 78 south 6.5 miles to Dane County Road H, turn left (south) on Cty Rd.H, Cty Rd. H will join Cty Rd A in 2 miles, turn left and in 1/2 mile H turns right. Our work site is about 1 1/2 miles south of Cyt Rd A on Cty Rd. H. You could also take Hwy 69 south out of Verona to Cty Rd A (8.5 miles), turn right (west) and follow Cty Rd A all the way to Cty Rd H (14.8 miles), and turn left (south) and go 1 1/2 miles. See the map link above.

**Bring:** Work gloves, loppers, and hand saws if you have them; otherwise the chapter has equipment you can use. Waders and rubber boots are suggested as we will be working on both sides of the stream. If you don't have any, you can work on the road side of the stream.

**Parking:** Park on the east side of the road.

**If you have questions or think you can help, please contact Jim Hess (608-288-8662, [jim.hess@tds.net](mailto:jim.hess@tds.net)) so we can get a volunteer count also so Jim can let you know if the WHERE changes.**

Thank you. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **Another Opportunity To Get Out Of The House And Help Out!!**

Lee Wulff Chapter work day on the upper West Fork of the Kickapoo with Blackhawk chapter . We will be clearing brush and removing beaver dams **on Sat. April 11**. A previous note on Face book indicated a week earlier but the date was changed. Blackhawk chapter will provide food. The only equipment necessary are boots and gloves. Hopefully a backhoe will be available to take out the dams but just in case a pole with a hook or grip at one end would be helpful to bring along. I will have room for 3 in my van going up on Friday the 10th. Interested give me a call at 847 284 4824. Jerry Sapp

## **Upcoming Outings**

### **Early Spring Outing/April 24th-26th 2015/Viroqua, WI**

This the first outing of the year. It takes place in one of the finest trout fishing areas of the Country, known as the Driftless Area. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Vernon Inn in Viroqua (Toll free: 800-501-0664). Let them know you're with the Lee Wulff group when you make your reservation.

Some will be camping at the West Fork Sportsmans Club in Avalanche, WI. You must be a member to camp and the cost for membership is currently \$10 per year. The campground does not take reservations unless you are going to rent one of the two cabins they have.

This area includes the famed West Fork of the Kickapoo, Timber Coulee and Camp Creek to only mention a few. The early WI season is open only to catch and release fishing. We offer, to current Lee Wulff members, an opportunity to spend some time with an experienced member. So, if you're new to the area, new to fly fishing or would like to hook up with, and spend some time with, an experienced member this is the trip for you. You must RSVP to Gordon Rudd at 815/245-2425 or [mchenryflyfisher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mchenryflyfisher@sbcglobal.net) no later than April 16th for the Buddy System. If there is a work project scheduled the Buddy System will be rescheduled. The Buddy System takes place Saturday morning until noon.

A group dinner is scheduled at the Old Towne Inn, located northwest of Viroqua on Route 14 in Westby, WI. Dinner reservations are at 7:30 PM for Friday and Saturday and individuals are responsible for their own meals and libations.

There is a great fly shop in Viroqua called the [Driftless Angler](#) owned by Mat Wagner and Geri Meyer. Guide service is available by calling 608/637-8779

Other local contacts are: □

Bob Blumreich-Silver Doctor Fly Fishing - at [silverdoctor.net](http://silverdoctor.net) or by calling 608/637-3417

Rich Osthoff -\*\*\*Signature Flies\*\*\*- at [richosthoff.com](http://richosthoff.com) or by calling 608/847-5192 □

Viroqua is located approximately 2 hours northwest of Madison, WI on Route 14.



## **May 15-17 2015 - Fennimore, WI**

The second outing takes place in the Southwest part of Wisconsin, again in the Driftless Area. A block of rooms have been reserved at The Fenway House Hotel (608-822-3782). Room rates: \$74-\$84/night. If we can guarantee 10 rooms we all will receive the group discount of 10% . Cancellation policy: 24 hours

Rooms vary in size and # of beds. There are 6 double bed rooms. A couple of the other rooms have jacuzzi's available (\$84/night). There is one room available with 2 rooms, including a living space and kitchen for \$99.00/night. **To guarantee your room, the hotel recommends booking by April 15. After April 15 the hotel will be opened to the public for any remaining rooms.**

**Call 1-608-822-3782 or email [reservations@thesilentwoman.com](mailto:reservations@thesilentwoman.com)**

**Members are responsible for finding their own roommate, if they want one, and making their own reservations. Make sure to let them know that you are with the Lee Wulff Chapter of TU.**

Camping is not readily available however there is a campground, Klondyke Secluded Acres located at 6656 Pine Know Rd., Lancaster, WI (608-723-2844 ). This is approximately 10 miles southwest of Fennimore. They have improved sites as well as tent sites with pay showers.

There are many great trout streams, with easy access, in this part of the state. Some to mention include The Big Green, Castle Rock, Doc Smith, Crooked Creek the Blue and Big Spring. These streams have sizeable trout populations and sizeable fish.

Fennimore is located approximately 1 1/2 hours west of Madison.

A group dinner is scheduled at The Silent Woman restaurant, located in the hotel. Dinner reservations are for 7:30 PM and individuals are responsible for their own meals and libations. No group dinner is planned for Friday evening.

## **June 3-7 2015 - Wa Wa Sum Outing - Grayling, MI**

This is an excellent outing to the historic rustic lodge owned by Michigan State University and situated on the banks of the “Holy Waters” of the famed Au Sable River. This location is a short walk upstream from the very spot upon which Trout Unlimited was founded. The outing includes four nights lodging and fabulous fishing *opportunities* on the Au Sable and Manistee Rivers. Wa Wa Sum lodge is located just east of Grayling and it takes approximately 7 hours to drive there from the Chicago area. ***New this year-We will be doing our own meals this year in an attempt to reduce the costs. Everyone is being asked to sign up for kitchen help; cooking or cleaning.***

The cost for this outing is \$225. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required to reserve your spot and the balance is due by May 15th. You can mail a check or you can now pay for this trip at <https://squareup.com/market/lee-wulff-chapter-of-trout-unlimited> As stated, this is a rustic lodge, and you need to bring your own bed linens (sleeping bag & pillow) along with towel and washcloth.

Guided float trips are very popular, but hard to get this time of year. So, if you think this is something you'd like to do make your reservations early. Some fly shops to consider;

Gates Au Sable Lodge, [www.gateslodge.com](http://www.gateslodge.com) 989/348-8462

Old Au Sable Fly Shop, [www.oldausable.com](http://www.oldausable.com) 989/343-3330

Fuller's North Branch Outing Club [www.fullersnboc.com](http://www.fullersnboc.com) 989/348-7951

To RSVP or for more information on any of these outings, contact Gordon Rudd at 815/245-2425 or [mchenryflyfisher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mchenryflyfisher@sbcglobal.net)

## **June 26-28 2015 - Viroqua, WI - Late Spring Outing**

This the fourth outing of the year. It takes place in one of the finest trout fishing areas of the Country known as the Driftless Area. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Vernon Inn in Viroqua (**Toll free:** 800-501-0664). Let them know you're with the Lee Wulff group when you make your reservation.

Some will be camping at the West Fork Sportsmans Club in Avalanche, WI. You must be a member to camp and the cost for membership is currently \$10 per year. The campground does not take reservations unless you are going to rent one of the two cabins they have.

This area includes the famed West Fork of the Kickapoo, Timber Coulee and Camp Creek to only mention a few. The early WI season is open only to catch and release fishing. A group dinner is scheduled at the Old Towne Inn, located northwest of Viroqua on Route 14 in Westby, WI. Dinner reservations are at 7:30 PM for Friday and Saturday and individuals are responsible for their own meals and libations. There is a great fly

shop in Viroqua called the [Driftless Angler](#) owned by Mat Wagner and Geri Meyer. Guide service is available by calling 608/637-8779

Other local contacts are:

Bob Blumreich-Silver Doctor Fly Fishing - at [silverdoctor.net](http://silverdoctor.net) or by calling 608/637-3417

Rich Osthoff -\*\*\*Signature Flies\*\*\*- at [richosthoff.com](http://richosthoff.com) or by calling 608/847-5192

Viroqua is located approximately 2 hours northwest of Madison, WI on Route 14.

## **Salmon Outing - September 15th to 18th. 2015 - Walhalla, MI**

**Fish During The Week, Less Crowded, More Fish!  
Arrive Tuesday, September 15 and exit Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> (3 nights)**

This is an exceptional outing (again)! It will be held in one of the superbly equipped cabins ("Steelhead") on the exclusive estate of the Barothy Lodge situated on over two miles of private access banks of the Pere Marquette River, MI. Hot tub and Pool table included. The price for this outing is only \$310.00. It includes three nights lodging, hot breakfasts and a salmon dinner, pasta dinner, and grilled meal prepared at the cabin by attendees. Absolutely outstanding opportunities wait to tangle with monster salmon and steelhead (and trout looking for eggs and rising near the banks). There will also be canoes available for float trips, but you are on your own to rent. Current space limited to 10 (or twelve with 2 couples due to sleeping facilities). Please respond to Matt Gregory, 6N306 Andrene Lane, Itasca, IL 60143, (630) 209-4878 , [MGreg53862@aol.com](mailto:MGreg53862@aol.com). **We have to pre-pay the lodge for this trip so your check for \$310.00 must be received by Matt no later than June 15th to hold you spot or you can go to.....**  
**<https://squareup.com/market/lee-wulff-chapter-of-trout-unlimited>** to pay for the trip.

## **Bob Olach's Fly Of The Month**

### **Hare's Ear Flymphs**

Was watching a YouTube video today about tying "*Flymphs*", a term supposed coined by Vernon (Pete) Hidy on the fly dressings developed by James Leisenring for trout fishing in the waters of Eastern Pennsylvania.

Subsequently, Pete Hidy writing a small book, named "*The Art of Tying the Wet Fly & Fishing the Flymph*", giving credit to himself and James Leisenring for the information and dressings they both fished.

In the past, I've tied several variations of Hare's Ear Flymphs using different colored silks and hen hackles. In "*The Art of Tying the Wet Fly & Fishing the Flymph*", Pete Hidy recommends using different hackles depending on the waters being fished – soft, hen hackles for slow moving waters; cockerel (young rooster) hackles and dry fly / rooster hackles for faster moving waters.

In tying these flymphs, I first waxed the silk; wrapped the silk towards the hook bend in tight turns tying in the gold wire approx. half way down the hook shank; tied in a bunch of feathers for the tail; dubbed the silk with Hare's Ear and wound the dubbing up to the thorax area; wound the gold wire rib up to and over the Hare's Ear thorax; tied in the hen hackle near the hook eye; wound the silk back down the shank over the Hare's Ear thorax; did 2 hackle turns at the hook eye and 3 turns behind the first 2 hackle turns; wrapped the silk over the 5<sup>th</sup> hackle turn over the thorax area; did 3 silk turns through the 5 hackle turns; did a whip finish and then trimmed the hackle stem and thread.



Here's the dressing for the flies shown:

***Hare's Ear Flymphs***

Hook – Daiichi #1550 wet fly hook (sizes 12 - 16)

Thread – Pearsall 6a Gold Gossamer Silk (waxed with clear beeswax)

Under Thorax – Hare's Ear

Body – Pearsall 6a Gossamer silk dubbed with Hare's Ear and ribbed with gold wire

Rib – Small gold wire

Hackle – Ginger colored hen (2 tight wraps near hook eye and 3 additional turns towards body)

Tail – approx. 10 -12 pieces of hackle taken from the same hen skin as the front hackle



## Grumpy's Page by Kurt Haberl

It was a frosty, early-season morning as we sat around a pathetic campfire someone had re-lit, drinking coffee and daring each other to be the first to wake up and put on cold waders to go fishing.

“Hey, Mary,” Schnoz mumbled to Mary Compson, the one among us who at least looked like she was awake, “would you consider fishing with Grumpy and me this morning? I want to do an experiment, and to make it scientific, I need a control group to measure the results. I’d use Grumpy, but he only catches fish by luck or mistake.”

“What kind of experiment?” Mary said, a question which proved she was awake.

“Well, you see, we’ve all spent a lot of time learning about hatch charts, insect identification, reading streams, tippet size, kinds of casts, kinds of drifts, emerger patterns, colors, and all that stuff. Now that I know all that, my experiment is to do everything exactly wrong and compare it against someone like yourself who knows what she’s doing and see if expertise actually makes a difference.”

“Your experiment is to do everything exactly wrong?” I said. “How is that any different from what you usually do?”

“Do you see why I need a control group besides Grumpy?” Schnoz said. “Anyway, we were thinking of fishing Spring Creek from the bridge to the big pine. There are a lot of good runs there.”

“Well,” Mary said, “if you two go upstream, I’ll go downstream. I can run a woolly bugger through the deeper pools and fish a sinking nymph on the way back. I can’t imagine there would be much of a hatch this early, maybe little black caddis or some blue winged olives, but not likely unless it warms up a lot. My brother tells me that midges are as good as anything in the early season.”

“That’s what experience says you should do,” Schnoz said, “so I’m going to start with a big dry fly and a short tippet, and then switch to a grasshopper and then maybe anything else I can find in my box that would be wrong.”

I said, “So the experiment is to see if trout are really just like Schnoz – contrary, unpredictable curmudgeons with a stubborn streak and an insatiable appetite for stuff that isn’t really food.”

“We already know that,” Wet Curtis said and everyone nodded. It took us a few moments to catch up to ourselves, realize Wet Curtis was right, and then laugh.

“I have three walkie-talkies,” I said, “so we can check in with each other.”

“Can I have one?” Wet Curtis said. “I’d like to watch and listen to this disaster unfold.”

“No,” Schnoz said. “I don’t want someone splashing around and spoiling my experiment. I’m doing a kind of public service here.”

“Well, it’s a public service if you and Grumpy fish somewhere far from the Middle Branch where I’m going,” Uncle Roy said. “You two scare fish away. I think they smell you coming.”

“I already have one advantage,” Mary said. “Schnoz, if you wear that new floppy white hat you’ve got on now, the fish will see you before you leave camp.”

“The experiment is to do everything exactly wrong,” Schnoz said, “and this is a great hat. If I had something pink or red, I’d wear it.”

Eventually the sun came over a hill, warmed us enough to stir, and we drove out to Spring Creek so Schnoz could do his experiment. We got our gear on, tested the walkie-talkies, and followed a short path to the stream.

“Let me know how you’re doing,” Schnoz said to Mary, who smiled at the beautiful morning, wished us luck, and walked along the bank downstream. I watched Schnoz tie on something that looked like a molting sparrow on a short, ten-pound tippet, and fling it upstream into a pretty run sure to hold trout. He waded into the current, stomped around on some gravel, slapped his net on the surface a couple of times, and waited for the stupidest fish in North America to take his road-kill sparrow. The stupidest fish in North America must have been in the next run, so Schnoz sloshed up to the next run and tried to do other things wrong. I made a few casts into the first pool with a weighted midge, but the fish were hiding. I decided to help out by pulling a softball-sized rock from the bottom and tossing it into the pool in front of Schnoz.

“What the heck are you doing?” he complained.

“I’m helping you do everything wrong,” I said.

“I don’t need any help,” he said. It was so true and so obvious that I didn’t comment.

Our walkie-talkies crackled for a second and Mary said, “Fish. Pretty small, maybe eight inches. It’s a brown.”

“Good for you,” I called back. “Schnoz is really great at doing everything exactly wrong. His experiment is working beautifully.” I saw a half dozen frightened fish scurry past us downstream, so I decided to let Schnoz ruin everything upstream, and I’d go back to the first run, let things settle, and actually fish instead of experiment.

“Fish,” Mary called again. “A little better.”

I sat on the bank and listened to a red winged blackbird warn me that I was in her turf. It was a glorious morning with buds just beginning to appear on trees, and tufts of green appear everywhere the sun could touch. I could hear Schnoz somewhere upstream, only this time his shuttlecock-sized sparrow must have settled in a tree because the sounds he made were more like expletives. A minute later, a broken branch the size of a kite floated past me, so I thought Schnoz might have saved his dessicated sparrow.

“Fish,” Mary said again, but I could tell she was already getting embarrassed by Schnoz’s experiment, so there was no report on size or species.

After fifteen more minutes of grunts and splashes upstream and eight or more reports of fish from Mary downstream, I ran my midge through the peaceful run and brought up my first fish of the year, a hungry, eight-inch brookie. It was a wonderful fish because I hadn’t caught a brookie on that stretch of water for several years.

“Brookie,” I called proudly into my radio.

“Fish,” Mary answered. “A brown.”

I heard more rantings upstream and decided to follow the path downstream and see what Mary was using. When I came around a bend, I saw her unhook a fish, stretch, and then wade over to a sunny bank, and lounge. She pulled out some kind of energy bar and drank from her bottle.

“Fish,” she called over her walkie-talkie. I heard nothing upstream.

A minute later, she called “Fish,” again. That’s when I laughed, and she heard me. In response, she said, “Fish,” again into her walkie-talkie and smiled at me. I followed the trail down to her and watched her say, “Fish,” again. By then I was snorting with laughter.



“How many did you actually catch?” I said.

“I don’t know,” she said. “It’s been a very good morning, maybe a dozen. I don’t count fish. I was sitting on this beautiful bank, and it occurred to me that Schnoz had set himself up for some great fun, and I wondered if I would just start calling out ‘fish’ if it was my brother doing this crazy experiment instead of guiding a client, and I realized I would. I like my brother a lot. Did you really catch a fish?” she asked.

“Yes, in the first run on a midge.”

“Midges are good today. Fish!” Mary called again into her walkie-talkie and took a sip from her bottle.

“Fish,” I called into my walkie-talkie. That’s when we heard a crashing in the underbrush upstream headed our way. Mary waded back into the pool and cast her midge upstream. Her line went tight and she was on to another trout just as Schnoz appeared at the head of the pool.

“Mary’s got another one,” I called into the walkie-talkie, pretending I hadn’t seen Schnoz.

Mary landed the trout, a fine, fat brown and called to Schnoz, ”How’s your experiment?”

“Over,” Schnoz said. “It was a great success, exactly what I set out to prove. What are you using?”

Mary thought for a moment and then said, “Well, mostly this big ugly thing that looks like a bird, but I switched to a midge a few minutes ago.”

“What’s wrong with you,” Schnoz said to me.

“I have to pee,” I said, and headed off upstream to find a big tree, but actually to avoid ruining everything.

“Fish,” Mary called again a minute later over her walkie-talkie, and so went a memorable morning. I couldn’t wait for the gathering around the campfire that night. It would be almost as good as the fishing.

## Chapter Officers

- President**            **Meg Gallagher**  
2264 Westminister St.  
Wheaton, IL 60189  
prez@leewulfftu.org
- Vice-President**    **Jerry Sapp**  
375 S. Batemen Cir.  
Barrington, IL  
viceprez@leewulfftu.org
- Secretary**            **Matt Gregory**  
6N306 Andrene lane  
Itasca, IL 60143  
(630) 209-4878  
MGreg53862@aol.com
- Treasurer**            **Scott Roane**  
13391 Canary Lane  
Huntley, Il 60142  
royalwulff01@yahoo.com
- Newsletter Editor**   **Dennis Higham**  
33W112 Shagbark Lane  
Wayne, IL 60184  
dennishigham@sbcglobal.net

PS: Any grammatical errors spotted in this newsletter were purposefully put there to keep you on you're toes.

PPS: You Are Welcome.