



November 2015 President's Message

Hello chapter members!

I was brainstorming about what I wanted to say this month. The holidays are upon us. For me this is time to reflect on important things in life- family, friends, fly fishing friends, fly tying friends, and other ways my life has been influenced this year. So it was very easy for me to decide what I wanted to share with you all first and foremost.

I realized in the two years I have been president, I have been gifted with a huge new circle of friends because of my involvement with T.U. You all have changed my world and my life. So I want to stop and take a moment to thank each of you who have been a part of this chapter and our growth. I wish each and every one of you the happiest Merry Christmas and a Happy, prosperous and healthy, New Year!!!

Speaking of the New Year! Many of you all may already know that this year's WI Driftless fishing season has changed. Opening day is now January 2 through October 15th. Wow! Snowshoe fishing everybody! Well maybe not for everybody. With my record of falling and tripping, I better stay away from those. But I know a few people who will be out there!

So the off season is quite short this year. Many of our members are still fishing in other states for trout and steelhead as we speak. I just received word the other day Pete from the Driftless Angler is already starting to plan the next One Fly Contest. It should be amazing! This season will be loaded with many opportunities to stretch out fishing opportunities in big ways!

Speaking of the holidays- the Christmas party is just around the corner! Take a look at the announcement in this edition of the newsletter. We have given members a number of options to obtain tickets. We now have an online "store" where folks can purchase tickets using their credit cards. For those who prefer a more traditional approach, they can email or even call Yves Charron, our new treasurer.

The announcement states tickets should be purchased by November 25th. The reason at that point we can no longer accept reservations is that the Millrose requires a 1 week advanced notice of our final number of guests.

Also people have probably noticed our policy this year on nonrefundable tickets. This is important in that for us to prepare ahead of time for the party, we need an accurate head count, guaranteeing the right number of guests. Just like a wedding reception, gala or any formal occasion. Our Christmas party requires an amazing amount of behind the scenes careful and detailed planning months ahead. All dinners ordered will be our responsibility to cover. I trust everyone can understand the importance of this.

If anyone has a concern or question, please know they can always contact me 630-668-5573 to discuss individual circumstances.

But I don't think anyone will want to miss this year's festivities. We have a terrific room this year with its own private entrance. So please be aware to park in the lot near that private entrance so you don't have to walk through the entire restaurant to get to our room. An elevator leading up to the room will be available this year as well.

We are going to have a wonderful variety of raffle items, including a marvelous handmade fiberglass rod. Shawn Gordon, one of our members, is a rod builder. He has made an awesome rod for what will probably be our grand prize. We have included a sneak peek at this beautiful work of art in this newsletter.

We have items for guys and gals, so bring your spouses and families! It will be a grand evening folks!

The newsletter is packed with great information everyone! Read on!

See you at the Christmas Party!

Meg

November Speaker – Paul Melchior



Paul Melchior is the owner of Angling Escapes and has been in the fishing travel industry since 1976. He presently headquarters out of Chicago Fly Fishing Outfitters, where he teaches their Intro to Fly Fishing Schools, fly tying and fly casting as well as being part of their travel and retail staff. He is a past present of both the Elliot Donnelley chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Northern Illinois Fly Tyers.

Paul will do a presentation on fly fishing tips

Paul Melchior's Angling Escapes
info@anglingescapes.com www.anglingescapes.com
(847) 272 3195
1211 Michigan # 1
Evanston, IL 60202

Where We Meet

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

Social Hour: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. with all you can eat 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 Yves Charron at treasurer@leewulfftu.org by Tuesday November 17th so we know how many pizzas to preorder.

THE RESULTS OF OUR OCTOBER CHAPTER ELECTIONS!!

President: Meg Gallagher

Vice President: Bob Becker- Bob will continue to chair the Youth Program and Trout in the Classroom programs.

Treasurer: Yves Charron

Secretary: Matt Gregory

SAD NEWS:

Julie Gates, the wonderful wife of Rusty Gates (Gates Lodge, Grayling, Michigan), passed away October 31st, 2015. Here's a link to the Lodge announcement and her obituary

<https://www.facebook.com/197426973623798/photos/a.252841984748963.70428.197426973623798/1056899914343162/?type=3>

<http://www.sorensonlockwood.com/obituaries/Julie-Gates/#!/Obituary>

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Now is the time to mark your calendars for Saturday December 5th and to reserve your place at the Annual Lee Wulff Christmas Party!!

Our annual Christmas Party is only a few weeks away and still a great deal at \$35.00/person. We will have lots of great items in the raffle. Including Norwegian hand painted jewelry, Amish hand woven baskets, ½ day and full day guided fishing trips, golf outings, fly tying bench, free nights at the Vernon Inn, Fenimore Motel, Fullers B&B in Grayling and more, more, more great stuff!! Please Note: If you come across something special such as a restaurant coupon or a fine fly rod they can still be added to the roster. Contact Pete Koenig at pkoenig1942@hotmail.com or 815-455-0091

At the Millrose Inn, 45 Barrington Rd, Barrington, IL, 6pm for cocktails, 7pm dinner with the raffle after. Please make your reservations early!!! Let Yves Charron know you're coming by email (treasurer@leewulfftu.org) no later than Wednesday, November 25th.

Note: Tickets will need to be pre purchased and are non-refundable. Payment can be to our Squareup account with a credit card.

That link is- <https://squareup.com/market/lee-wulff-chapter-of-trout-unlimited> or at a meeting to our treasurer as cash, check or credit card. Walk-ins are not guaranteed a seat and/or dinner

Possible Grand Prize?

Custom Built By Our Own Shawn Gordon – A 7'6" 4/5wt.



REMIX | LW 2070

Back in the 70's, Lee Wulff had a line of fiberglass rods, and the prototype for the series of rods was the inspiration for this build for our Lee Wulff Chapter of TU. The Lee Wulff 2070 was a 6' one-piece power house of a fly rod. This Remix|LW 2070 project is built on an Epic 476 blank that is known to "fight above its weight"(see sample review below from the Epic website), and I think it will be an excellent "all-rounder" for the Driftless streams we frequent.

One of the most famous quotes from Lee Wulff follows: *"The finest gift you can give to any fisherman, is to put a good fish back, and who knows if the fish that you caught isn't someone else's gift to you?"* This build includes silk wraps, custom turned all cork handle/reel seat with ebony checks, reel seat hardware from Lemke Concepts, Snake ECO coated guides, a custom rod sock, and an aluminum storage tube. With a nod to the quote above, the "fighting butt cap" of is tagged "C & R".

Epic 476 Blank Review(from the Epic website(<http://swiftflyfishing.com/collections/fly-rod-blanks>):

"Andrew Ellis said: Put a smile on your face - buy one!"

In 40 years of fly fishing I've never felt compelled to write to a rod designer thanking them for their product, but having fished this rod for a few weeks I did write to Carl McNeil. I have owned an Epic 580 and 480 for about a year, both wonderful rods; but for me this little 476 is truly a marvel. Seriously, I can hardly put into words just how good this little stick is. Whether landing a dry fly like a feather or chucking tungsten bugs, casting short or long, it's so easy, it's like it's part of you. Paired with a Barrio Small Stream #4 line (a match made in heaven) this rod just sings. I do fish rivers but have limited access due to my geographical location here in the UK so am predominantly fishing still waters. As a small stream rod this excels but most people would say that a 7'6" #4 is hardly the obvious choice when tackling up to fish a lake. However, consider that most fish are caught within 60 feet, many much much closer than that, and maybe I'm not quite as mad as some might think? With the Barrio line it handles wind with aplomb and achieves distance that will surprise you, I mean seriously surprise you! Yet stalking rising fish in a flat calm it will land your fly delicately whether at 6 or 60+ feet and with tremendous accuracy. Hook ups are excellent, no sloppy striking with this rod. It will protect a fine tippet, has a huge amount of 'feel' with a fish on, and yet it has real backbone too. You're always in control so long as you play with soft hands and aren't afraid to let it bend! I wonder how many have noticed how much faster you can subdue a fish with glass?

CONSERVATION REPORT – Jerry Sapp

Pete Koenig and I removed the temperature sensors from the Fox Bluff ponds and spring streams on October 29. We also took water samples that are being analyzed by Matt Gregory and should be ready by the time of the meeting date.

The great news is that the ponds and the stream maintained trout friendly temperatures all summer. We only recorded two 70 degree spikes on the lowest of the three ponds that were short.

I feel that temperatures in all three ponds could support trout as well as the spring stream on the property that is not dammed. Hopefully the water analysis will prove to be equally trout friendly. Our next step is to take this information in a report to McHenry County Conservation District for their consideration.

Jerry Sapp
Conservation Chair

Long Cold Winter coming? Here are a few upcoming Shows to keep you busy this winter:

Chicago Muskie Expo

January 8th-10th, 2016

Sears Centre Arena

333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates, IL 5 60192

<http://www.muskieexpo.com/chicago/>

The All Canada Show

January 14th-17th, 2016

Pheasant Run Mega Center, St. Charles, IL

<http://www.allcanada.com/all-canada-show/chicago/>

Ice Breaker – 33rd Annual - Southern Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

January 16th, 2016

American Family Insurance, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1051113731589312/>

<http://www.swtu.org>

The Chicago Outdoor Sports Show

January 20th-24th, 2016

Rosemont Convention Center

<http://www.chicagosportsmenshow.com/>

Cabin Fever Day – Fox Valley Trout Unlimited

January 23, 2016

Location: The Grand Meridian, Appleton, WI

Sponsor: Fox Valley Trout Unlimited

<http://www.foxvalleytu.org/cabin-fever-day-2016-2>

Chicagoland Fishing, Travel & Outdoor Expo

Schaumburg Convention Center, Schaumburg, IL

January 28th-31st, 2016

<http://www.sportshows.com/chicago/>

The Tinley Park Fishing Show

6111 175th Street, Tinley Park, IL 60477

February 13th and 14th, 2016

<http://www.tinleyparkfishingshow.com/>

Spring Opener – Badger Fly Fishers

Date: February 13, 2016

Location: American Family Insurance Training Center, 6000 American Parkway,
Madison, WI

Speaker is Gary Borger

<http://badgerflyfishers.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/2016-Poster-2a-pdf.pdf>

The Rockford Boat, Vacation & Fishing Show

February 19th-21st, 2016

Indoor Sports Center

8800 E. Riverside Blvd.

Loves Park, IL 61111

<http://www.landroproductions.com/boat-vacation-fishing/>

TroutFest '16 Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

Date: February 27, 2016

Location: Fin 'N Feather, Winneconne, WI

Sponsor: Central Wisconsin Trout Unlimited

www.cwtu.org

Madison Fishing Expo

Date: February 26 – 28, 2016

Location: Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI

Sponsor: Wisconsin Fishing Expo

Speakers: TBA Big outdoors/fishing show with limited fly fishing vendors/programs.

<http://www.madfishexpo.com>

NOW YOU CAN FREEZE YOUR BUTT OFF FISHING FOR SPOTTED DACE IN WISCONSIN THIS WINTER!!

Wisconsin Expanded Early Season

MADISON, Wis. - An expanded early trout season that opens Jan. 2 will give Wisconsin anglers one more reason to love winter.

While ice fishing will still rule the day on most inland waters, rivers and streams with strong groundwater flows should be open and ready to greet anglers interested in catching and releasing trout. The expanded early catch and release trout season runs from 5 a.m. on Jan. 2 until Friday May 6, 2016 on waters where the early season currently exists. The regular trout season opens Saturday, May 7, 2016.

Joanna Griffin, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources trout specialist, said the expanded early season was developed in response to feedback from anglers and the resulting rule received extensive public review.

"We appreciate the angler interest in our world class trout waters and we believe the early catch and release season will provide exciting opportunities while protecting the resource," Griffin said. "We hope that by providing more opportunities we will recruit more people to trout fishing and the extended seasons will have a positive impact on the local economies."

Since 2011, the department has held more than 30 public meetings, conducted three surveys and convened additional task force meetings to develop the trout regulations.

Following the early season, anglers will see simplified regulations during the regular season. The regulations were developed to create more uniformity for anglers who fish on different trout streams and within small geographic areas. Under the new system, maps online and in the regulation pamphlet will indicate which regulation is in place:

- J Green means go fish, with no length limit, a bag limit of five fish and no bait restrictions;
- J Yellow means caution, with an 8 inch length limit, a bag limit of three fish and no bait restrictions; and
- J Red means special regulations are in place. Anglers are advised to stop and understand the regulations before fishing.

In addition to the early spring season, the fall harvest season will extend from the current Sept. 30 to Oct. 15 in 2016. To learn more about the regulations, visit DNR.wi.gov and search "[trout review](#)." Early season anglers must have a valid fishing license and a trout stamp; licenses are valid from the start of the license year in early March through March 31 the following year. Access DNR's online licensing system by searching for "licenses, permits and registrations

Bob Olach's Fly Of The Month

HATCHING DUN MARCH BROWN SOFT HACKLE

Several years ago, an e-mail was sent to me from a fly-fishing shop somewhere out in the Western USA. In the e-mail was a picture of a soft hackle dressing for a March Brown variation that I hadn't noticed before.

Since I really like to tie various March Brown soft hackles, this dressing caught my attention due to the reddish colored thorax area. (I used J. Fair's Red Seal Sub Dubbing for these but red-colored STS Trilobal or SLF dubbings also look good in this dressing).

In addition, in Sylvester Nemes' book *"Two Centuries of Soft Hackled Flies"*, a similar dressing from William H. Lawrie's book *"The Book Of The Rough Stream Nymph"* (1947) is shown. Both dressings are shown below.



Hatching Dun March Brown Soft Hackle

Hook – Daiichi #1550 wet fly hook (sizes 12 - 14)

Thread – Uni-Thread 6/0 – Orange

Tails – 3 Pheasant Tail fibers

Body – Light colored Hare's Ear Dubbing ribbed with gold wire

Rib – Small gold wire

Thorax – Red colored Dubbing

Hackle – Partridge (the gray-barred feather from a Hungarian Partridge)

Head – Uni-Thread 6/0 Orange

Hatching Dun March Brown (Lawrie's #10)

Hook – Hook No. 12.

Wing Hackle – Dark Partridge.

Leg Hackle – Dark Red Cock.

Body – Medium hare's ear face spun on orange tying thread, ribbed with fine gold wire.

Thorax – Reddish dubbing.

Whisks – Three fibers cock pheasant tail



Grumpy's Page by Kurt Haberl

When my phone rang and I answered it, instead of saying "Hello, Grumpy," which is the usual, civilized thing to say, Schnoz on the other end said, "Huldy just left to have lunch with her sister," which is code for *come over here right away so I can show you something great before Huldy gets home*. In truth, Huldy is probably the best fisher I know because she reels him in almost daily and has prevented everything from house fires to bankruptcy, which would have happened multiple times if Schnoz would be left to his own recognizance. When I got there, his front door was open, which is code for *come in right away because this is so great*.

I felt a little naked, having left my hazmat gear and first aid kit at home. Schnoz was at the back of his house in a room he calls his "den," and Huldy calls "the swamp" or worse. Purgatory comes to mind. He was bent over a large box, pulling out bags of foam, surgical gloves, beads, rubber legs, fur and feathers, and finally an artist's set of Prismacolor marking pens, which he held up proudly.

"Here they are," he said. "Look, I now have indelible inks with fourteen shades of green from moss to gangrene, twelve shades of brown from mud to baby poo, five shades of black, ten shades of gray, and even three shades of pink and yellow for highlights."

"But Schnoz, you can't draw."

"Draw? Grumpy, now that the season is over, it's time to review the season and do something different, sort of like going over the game film, study my notes--"

"You took notes? I never saw you take notes."

He tapped his forehead and said, "Mental notes. It's all up here."

"Ah," I said. "It's all in there with the spaghetti. So what did you learn?"

"One word. I've reduced the lessons of an entire season to one word."

"Futility," I suggested.

He ignored me and said, "Reality. My focus this winter will be on reality, the ultimate fish attractor."

"I don't understand."

"I'm going to tie flies so realistic that no fish, not even an entomologist would be able to tell my creations are not real bugs."

"Except for the hook."

"Well, yes, except for the hook, but I'm experimenting with coloring hooks with white, silver and green Prismacolor pens to make the hooks disappear in water."

"Ah," I said. "I vaguely remember you tried this virtual reality thing once before. When you tested them on Huldy, I believe she called the Orkin pest control people, and then a string of unfortunate events took place and you ended up at my place for a week."

"This time is different. I'm going to do it right." He moved over to a long folding table that held a mountainous ridge of boxes covered by one of Huldy's Christmas tablecloths. He ripped off the tablecloth with a flourish and said "Ta-da."

There were four glass boxes on the table, each a kind of diorama in an aquarium.

"Step one," he said, "tie imitations from real life."

That's when I saw his dioramas were teeming with living creatures, the glass tops labeled Scuds, Caddis, Stoneflies, and Mayflies (Assorted). When I looked closely, I saw that he would soon be spending another week at my house.

"Schnoz, this aquarium labeled Assorted Mayflies? Um, I had to do a science project in seventh grade, and I got really tired of monitoring my specimens because I had to look at them so closely for the report. If I'm right, these little larva are going to become houseflies in about a day."

Schnoz looked like I had just stepped on his favorite rod. I hoped to ease his pain by moving on to the next box, but it was no help.

"Um, this box marked Scuds, um, they're dark and not at all transparent. I'm afraid you're breeding baby leeches."

Schnoz took the glass top off the aquarium, scooped up one of the little wormy guys, and watched in abject disappointment as it fastened itself to his finger."

"It's not really so bad," I said. "Leeches make good bait. Trout probably eat them." I tried to smile at him, but I know it came out crooked. There was nothing to do but go on.



"Now this box is going to be a real problem."

"You don't like stoneflies?"

"Schnoz, when I was in college, I lived in a dorm. It was the worst dorm in the history of dormitories. What you are breeding here isn't a family of stoneflies. These are cockroaches."



Schnoz drew in a short breath and mumbled something unrepeatable, the same phrase I've heard when a big trout breaks his tippet, which happens almost every time a trout over 16 inches hooks itself by mistake on his fly.

"Schnoz, does Huldy know about your aquariums?"

His silence was a definite answer.

"I suppose you're going to tell her?" he said.

"No," I said. "But I would be careful to never let it slip if we go down to The Klatch and you buy me a large coffee and three donuts."

"A small coffee and one donut."

Just then his doorbell rang and he checked his watch.

"Huldy can't be home yet," he said. "They couldn't possibly be finished talking about husbands."

"Why would Huldy come home and ring her own doorbell? The door's open," I said.

"Sometimes she rings it to warn me to put things away that she might not want to see. It's a kind of truce. Come on, help me."

I made sure each aquarium had its lid on tight while he fumbled with his Prismacolor pens from gangrene green to baby poo. Then we put the Christmas tablecloth over his glass boxes and went to the front door. We were greeted by three uniformed officers.

"Hello, Jake. Hi, Marla, Tommy," Schnoz said, nodding to each of them.

"Hello, Schnoz," Marla said. "Judge Wasser sent us over to check on you."

"I didn't do it," Schnoz said.

"That's the problem," Jake said. "You haven't been arrested or called in to court for over a year. The judge is getting worried."

"Well, it's not really that," Tommy said because he was always the nice cop. "Everybody's getting bored as hell because there's nothing in court but domestic issues and driving violations."

"Yeah," Jake said. "Everybody still talks about your flame thrower incident and time you put up a toll booth on the sidewalk."

"Not to mention running a political campaign with signs and petitions to get people to vote for you for an office that doesn't exist."

"Well, there ought to be a mayor's supervisor job," Schnoz said.

The three officers just looked at each other; none was willing to take the bait.

"Schnoz has been working on something that might interest you," I said. "It deals with small pests."

"He's breeding raccoons?" Marla said.

"Smaller," I said.

"Squirrels?"

"Smaller."

"Mice? He's breeding lab mice?" Tommy said. "I'm not sure what the law is on that, but he'd probably have to have a permit of some kind and there would be inspectors."

Schnoz finally gave in and held up three fingers and pantomimed the size of coffee he would buy me.

"Well," I said. "From what I can tell, it's just in the planning stages, but if he actually does anything, I'll let you know."

"You don't have to worry," Schnoz said to us. "Huldy has Marla's number on speed dial."

Disappointed, the three officers went back to their squad car. Schnoz closed the door behind him and locked it. My car was in the driveway, so I drove. Three times before we got there, I said, "Are you sure you put the glass top on that box of cockroaches?" The first time, he said, "Of course." The second time, he said, "I thought you did," and the third time, he just looked at me. I won't say it was the best large coffee and three donuts I've ever had, but I pretended I pretended they were. What are friends for?

Chapter Officers

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