



November President's Message

Hello everybody! Here's hoping that everyone has been able to get some end of the season fishing in before ice starts forming on your favorite pond or stream.

Our next chapter meeting will be held on Thursday November 16th at Village Pizza. For those of you who have procured donations for the Christmas fundraiser please bring them with you so we can start to an inventory the items. Our guest speaker this month will be Dave Barron who will be giving us a presentation on winter fishing in the Driftless area. This should be a great presentation for those that like to venture out in January and February.

Our annual Christmas fundraiser will be held this year at McGraw Wildlife Foundation's Pond Cottage on December 2nd. McGraw has been one of our fantastic sponsors of our Fishin' So Fly program so it was great to have the opportunity to come back for our Christmas gala. This is a beautiful venue which fits in well with our conservation message. Yves Charron will be sending out an Evite soon.

See you at the meeting next week. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

Thanks,
Bob

Have a great Day,
Bob

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 yvesjcharron@aol.com (847-596-0231) by Tuesday September 13th so we know how many pizzas to preorder.

Our November Speaker - Dave Barron

Dave will be giving a presentation on winter fly fishing in the Driftless



Dave is an Orvis endorsed guide, Federation of Fly Fishers master certified casting instructor and Trout Unlimited member.

Dave is the owner of Jacquish Hollow Angler & Anglers' Inn, in Richfield Center, WI--a full-time guide service specializing in fly fishing for spring creek trout on the waters of Southwest Wisconsin, and warm water species on the waters of both Southwest and Northwest Wisconsin.

Dave has been guiding for the past 20 years, and in the 1999 through 2003 he guided for Iliaska Lodge in Alaska. In the year 2004 Dave guided in Alaska for Alaska West. From 2005 - 2007, Dave guided for Alaska's Rainbow River Lodge (July-September). During the 2008 season, Dave began guiding FULL time in Wisconsin from Early Spring through the Fall season.

David Barron began fly-fishing in 1960 on the spring creeks of the Missouri and began tying flies a few years later. He began teaching fly-fishing in 1985 and has conducted classes, schools and seminars throughout the US. In 1993 he became one of the first Federations of Fly Fishers certified casting instructors and became a Master certified casting instructor in 1998. Dave has been teaching fly casting clinics for many years and has helped to introduce many people to the joy of fishing with the fly rod, through his workshops and seminars.



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Our annual Christmas Party is only a few weeks away! Mark your calendars for Saturday December 2nd at McGraw Wildlife Foundation's Pond Cottage starting at 6PM. Social hour (BYOB) and item viewing will be from 6-7PM. A buffet style dinner that will include a choice of pork loin or honey glazed salmon will begin around 7PM. Cost of

dinner is \$45 per person. Please note: this is a BYOB event. Look for further information including payment details in an upcoming Evite. Max McGraw Wildlife Foundation is at 14 N 322 Rt 25 Dundee, IL 60118. A map can be found at...

http://www.mcgrawwildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/12/McGraw_Map.pdf

Conservation Update – Jerry Sapp

I went on the TUDARE bus tour highlighting restoration projects in Minnesota on October 17. The weather perfect day was a combination of conservation ideas and finished projects. We toured some beautiful streams that made me want to return next year to fish Minnesota. The state has a fund derived from taxes that is dedicated to restoration projects. I saw the use of root wads that take the place of lunger structures. These are trees trunks with their roots still intact buried in the bank with their roots sticking into the stream. Steep banks were tapered to allow the flood water to spread out over a floodplain and slow its energy to stop erosion. One old railroad embankment was protected with concrete squares that had layers of old trucks filled with rocks in their cabs on top of the concrete. This must have been in place for 80 years by the age of the trucks. It had worked great. Many of the streams we looked at that day were recent restorations will they hold up for that long?

My concerns are related to climate change caused events like increased flooding and average temperature increases. I believe that trees should be planted along the stream banks to keep the water cold and mitigate coming climate change. I have been promoting the planting of sycamores which are tolerant of a more southern climate and are a riparian species. We must consider what trees will survive in the future and plant accordingly.

Jerry Sapp
Conservation chairman

Bob Olach's Fly of the Month

Hare's Ear Blend & Partridge Soft Hackles

Recently, I received a few phone calls from a couple guys that I know who live in the Bozeman, MT area who have been having good fishing using several of my North Country Spiders and Soft Hackles.

They texted me a picture of one of the soft hackles (a Hare's Ear & Partridge) that worked well the day before the phone call to me and asked if I could / would tie a few more for them.

Decided to spruce up the "standard" Hare's Ear & Partridge Soft Hackle (some people call it an American March Brown Soft Hackle) by using a couple of the dubbing mixtures that I use in tying variations of John Bethke's Pink Squirrel nymph.

Instead of using gray squirrel fur as used in the Pink Squirrel dubbing, I substituted Hareline's Natural Hare's Ear dubbing and also Hareline's Dark Hare's Ear dubbing mixed with the other materials used in the Pink Squirrel dubbing mixture.

Normally, I tie this dressing using a Danville thread in an orange color but since my friends' pic had red thread, I tied these with Danville' 6/0 red -c colored thread.

I've used these soft hackles before and "Up North" and will have to tie up a few more before the 2018 season opens.

Here's the dressing for the flies pictured:



Hook – Daiichi 1550 or Mustad 3906 wet fly hook (sizes 10 – 16)

Thread – 6/0 Red Danville or Uni – Thread

Body – Pink Squirrel dubbing mixture (substituting Natural color or Dark Hare’s Ear for the Gray Squirrel fur)

Thorax – Peacock Herl

Ribbing – Uni – Medium gold colored wire

Hackle – Gray or Brown Partridge Hackle



Grumpy’s Page by Kurt Haberl

“This is not going to go well,” Ghost Mary said, and if someone as steady and positive as Mary was worried, the rest of us should have been warned. She was reacting to Schnoz’s insistence that we all come to the campsite for our last outing with any gear we were willing to swap - on the Ides of October, I must add - the month opposite the Ides of March when Mercury was in retrograde, Mars was drifting dangerously close to Venus, and the end of the trout season sent everyone into a little panic with the onset of winter.

“It’ll be great fun,” Schnoz said, which worried me even more than Ghost Mary’s warning. “I’ll start with a free give-away, nothing anybody needs to swap.” He waved a fist full of crinkled, torn, and probably useless papers. “Every coupon an outdoors person could use,” he said proudly, “and you can have them free.”

He was greeted with silence. We didn’t know if we should groan, laugh, or be impressed.

“First up,” Schnoz said, “and very valuable is a pair of coupons for free towing of two miles good for a full year from Herbie’s Towing Service, and let me tell you, Herbie is as dependable as they come.”

“You’ve been towed so many times that a guy gives you coupons?” Wet Curtis said. “Who does that?”

"I've been with him five or six of those times," I said. "Schnoz keeps Herbie in business. Schnoz has him on speed dial, and Herbie put one of those GPS Tracer tiles on Schnoz's car so Herbie can find us on the maps App on his phone."

"I think you should keep those for your own use," Ghost Mary said.

"Schnoz has already qualified for the Frequent User discount," I said. "For two glazed doughnuts, Herbie will pull him out of any ditch. Schnoz, maybe you should give those coupons to me for the times I drive us into the mud. I don't know if the two doughnut discount counts if you're not the one driving."

"Okay," Schnoz said, handing the coupons to me. "Next up is something really valuable. This is a coupon for a free home inspection including crawlspaces and attics from the local fire department."

"The fire department gave you a coupon?" Wet Curtis said. Even The General, his wise black Lab, barked in disbelief.

"Well, I used last year's coupon, and after the inspection, which went very well, they installed a call button next to my garage door opener."

"You have your own call button?" Ghost Mary said.

"Well, they said my house didn't have any obvious fire hazards, but I seemed to have some kind of bad luck when it came to smoke, wires shorting for no apparent reason, and Acts of God."

"I think the call button was installed to protect his neighbors," I said. "I heard they even paid for it. I mean, after the incident with the fog machine--"

"That's a vicious rumor," Schnoz said. "My neighbors invite me to every party they have."

"For entertainment purposes and video replay," I added. "And I think you should keep the coupon and have an inspection done every six months."

"Okay," Schnoz said, "Well, here's one anyone can use and it's so valuable I probably should ask you to bid for it. I'm not that kind of guy, so I'm just going to give it away. It's from the hospital and gives the bearer one free emergency room visit including bandaging, tourniquets if necessary, a free tetanus shot, and immediate removal of splinters, hooks, nails, drill bits and any other tool parts, tennis balls--"

"That one was hilarious," I said. "I still can't believe you got a tennis ball in your mouth."

"Tennis balls," Schnoz continued, "thorns, burns from Wild Parsnip, poison ivy, oak, sumac and dragon's nettle. I know from experience that they will treat you for all four at once."

"Can I have that one?" Dewey said. "I've been fishing some places where there aren't any paths."

“Here you go, my friend,” Schnoz said magnanimously. “And finally, I have 12 coupons, each good for one month beginning in November for free consultations in cognitive behavioral therapy.”

We all looked at each other, no one willing to admit he was crazy enough to see a therapist who would give Schnoz coupons.

“Anyone?” Schnoz said. “Going once...”

“Well, could I take them for The General?” Wet Curtis said. “I mean, he’s a smart dog, but he get’s hyper sometimes.”

“Of course,” Schnoz said. “The last time I was in the office, a guy was there with his bird, saying something like ‘Pookie here is the problem, not me.’ Let me tell you, Pookie was not the problem, but they dealt with it anyway. And now for the real swap.” Schnoz opened a garbage bag in front of him and lifted out a twisted bundle of fabric. “Who’s willing to trade for my slightly used waders?”

“Your waders leak,” I said. “I was with you when you sat on barbed wire.”

“They only leak a little. They’re fine if you don’t go in up to your butt.”

“Schnoz,” Wet Curtis said, “waders that only leak a little are useless. It’s like some guy announcing he just has a touch of leprosy.”

“Or some girl announcing she’s just a little pregnant,” Dewey said.

“Hey, don’t compare pregnancy to leprosy,” Ghost Mary said.

“It’s like admitting you’re just a little stupid,” I said. “I mean, stupid is stupid.”

“No, it isn’t,” Schnoz said. “There’s being stupid because of an honest mistake and then there’s stupid like - uh...”

“Like trying to trade your friends waders that leak,” I said.

That did it. Everybody started shouting about waders, coupons, broken rods, scratched sunglasses, knotted leaders, and flies that had never caught a fish. Even The General joined in the loud mayhem. After a few minutes, The General barked at us all so vehemently that we shut up, and just sat there, embarrassed, upset, and stewing like someone had just taken the last doughnut and dropped it. Even the fire seemed to fume and sent swirling gusts of smoke at us so we all got an eyeful no matter where we sat.

After at least five minutes of stony silence, Mary said, “Hey, when is the first campout in the spring?”

“Last week of April,” I said. “It might snow again though.”

“Can’t wait,” Mary said. “Snow, schmow. We can always drift midges down deep.”

“I can’t wait either,” said Dewey, “and I’m sorry about the pregnant women.”

“It’s okay,” Mary said.

Wet Curtis said, “I didn’t hear all of that. When is the first campout in the spring?”

“Last week of April,” I said. “But it might snow.”

“Can’t wait,” he said. “The General is already excited.”

His tail really was wagging. The General is one of us. When we’re excited, he gets excited.

“Yeah,” Schnoz said. “The last week of April. I wish it were next week. “When does the season actually open?”

“Um, seventy-four days, eight hours, and about twenty-four minutes from now,” said Wet Curtis.

“Listen,” Schnoz said. “I’m thinking it would be good to begin at Sterrit’s Run. There’s deep holes there, places where fish probably winter up.”

“You’re right,” said Ghost Mary. “Then’s there’s Miller’s Branch, the Mill Pool-“

“I want to see your old man ghost,” Dewey said, “and the big trout.” After that, we all were so excited that all we did was interrupt each other. It was a great end to the season, fish or no fish, leaky waders or no leaky waders.

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