



Fly Lines and By-Lines

Lee Wulff Chapter of Trout Unlimited - A local chapter of America's leading nonprofit organization committed to the conservation, protection, and restoration of North American coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

See us at: <http://www.leewulfftu.org>

October 2014 President's Message

Fall is definitely in the air! We have been experiencing some dramatically chilly temps the past few days, but are quickly seeing a return to nice temps for a little longer. I just came back from our fall outing in Viroqua and must say the fishing was tough, but rewarding. I spent some time with a few of our members and a good friend of mine, who is an excellent woman guide by the way. I learned a lot of new techniques and casting forms and caught a pretty sizable fat brown trout as a result. I had to include a photo of course!! Has anyone ever heard of a steeple cast? Pretty cool technique in tight spaces!

As the temps cool and October is upon us, don't forget there are a multitude of fishing opportunities to be had. Iowa, I've heard is a great fishery right now. It's open year round too, so you can fish till your toes freeze! I was told that the fish aren't under nearly as much pressure as the WI Driftless trout have been. I have also found out there is good salmon fishing up and around the Milwaukee area, and a couple of our members have already been up there. I'm sure there are many other relatively local places that our members know about, so don't hesitate to ask!

Our October meeting agenda has changed in that we are going to have the annual business meeting this month. We were trying to procure a speaker this month, but things didn't quite turn out as expected. The business portion of the meeting will be brief, so we can allow time for open discussion. We hope to look forward to having a speaker in November, then the Christmas Party in December.

I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Meg



October Meeting Info

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 other spirits are available for purchase.

We will be having our Annual Meeting this month. Our President will discuss the state of the Chapter, our Treasurer will present the annual financial report and other chairs will report on Conservation and our Youth Program. Following the annual meeting there will be a general discussion asking what you like about the Chapter, what you would like to see changed and general thoughts and suggestions. This is your chance to make yourself heard.

Please RSVP to Scott Roane at royalwulff01@yahoo.com by Tuesday the 14th so we know how many pizzas to preorder.



Our annual Christmas Party is only a few weeks away!

Lee Wulff Xmas Party!!

Saturday, December 6th

The Tap Room at

The Millrose Restaurant

45 S Barrington Rd, Barrington, IL

6 pm for cocktails

7pm dinner with the raffle drawings after.

We will have lots of great items in the raffle!

It is still a great deal at \$35.00/person.

Please make your reservations early!!! Let Scott Roane know at royalwulff01@yahoo.com no later than Monday December 1st.

Dotterel Dun

A few years back, I bought a book written by Mike Harding entitled: “*A Guide to North Country Flies.*” Several days ago, I started glancing through this book and noticed several of the old North Country flies that I hadn’t tied for quite awhile, including a dressing called the “*Dotterel Dun.*”

In his book, Mike Harding states: “*This fly was so highly praised by fly dressers in Victorian times that the dotterel was blasted almost to extinction on the moors of northern England by hunters after its feathers. The bird can now be found only in Scotland.*”

Using some dyed starling hackles that I obtained years ago from Ellis Slater in the UK that are used as a substitute for the protected Dotterel species, I tied a few of Mike Harding’s Dotterel Dun, as follows:

Pictured Dressing:

Hook: - Daiichi #1550 wet fly hook (sizes 14 & 16)

Thread & Body: - Waxed Pearsall Gossamer Silk – 6A (Gold)

Hackle: - Dotterel Sub (Peach / Orange dyed starling under wing coverts)



Mike Harding's Dressing:

Thread – Pearsall Gold 6A

Hook – Down-Eyed Wet 14-18

Body – Tying Thread

Hackle – Dotterel underwing covert

Similar fly dressings are also shown in the two “Bibles” of North Country flies, as follows:

Original Dressing from T.E. Pritt's book: “North Country Flies”

No. 35. DOTTEREL.

Hook 1.

WINGS. Hackled with a feather from the outside of a male Dotterel's wing.

BODY. Straw-colored silk; some anglers prefer Orange silk.

HEAD. Straw-colored or orange silk.

Original Dressing from Edmonds' & Lee's's book: “Brook & River Troutling”

No. 17

Dotterel

Ephemeridae

Hook. 1

Wings. Hackled with a light-tipped fawnish feather from the marginal coverts or lesser coverts of a Dotterel wing.

Body. Orange silk, No. 6., or Primrose yellow silk, No.3.

Head. Orange silk.

Editor's Note: The **Eurasian dotterel** , or in Europe just **dotterel**, is a small wader in the plover family of birds. It breeds in the Arctic tundra of northern Eurasia, from Norway to eastern Siberia, and on suitable mountain plateaus such as the Scottish highlands and the Alps. It nests in a bare ground scrape and lays two to four eggs



Grumpy's Page by Kurt Haberl

Except for the one lapse in her life, Schnoz's wife Huldy has always been one of the smartest women I know. She heartily approved of our latest end-of-season outing, and even promised to contribute beer money, maps, a fine lunch of meat loaf sandwiches, pasta salad and brownies, but on one condition: the week before the trip, both of us had to get a Vascular Screening done on the \$129.00 special that would usually cost \$1500.00. She was always the bargain hunter, whether she really wanted the thing in question or not.

"Huldy tells me you're both fly fishermen," the young whippersnapper of a doctor said to us as we dutifully appeared for our photo session.

"I'm a flyfisherman," Schnoz said. "Grumpy here just tags along."

"Tags along?" I objected.

"Primarily for instruction," Schnoz added.

As one who always avoided doctors, I ignored Schnoz and asked, "What is this vascular screening all about?"

"Well," said the teen-age doctor, "First we're going to look for a few obvious things, kind of like reading the water when you get to a stream. Then we'll see if anything is hatching."

He poked and prodded, wrapped our arms, checked Schnoz to see if he still had a pulse, and then took some pictures with an ultrasound machine.

"I can assure you, doctor, that I'm not pregnant," Schnoz said.

"It's not that kind of ultrasound. Tell me, Mr. Schnoz, how long have you had high blood pressure? "

"All my life. I was a high-strung kid and just kept going from there, sort of like life in the fast lane."

"You like to fish the fast water, is that it?" our adolescent doctor said.

"Yep, fish fast water, chase fast women, drive fast cars-"

"And eat fast food," I added. "Lots of fast food."

"Well, Mr. Schnoz, it looks like it has caught up with you." He put a stethoscope up against Schnoz's neck to check for brain activity.

"What are you doing?" Schnoz protested.

"I'm about to save your life," the medical prodigy told us. "You just failed the test for your carotid artery. I don't care so much about the plaque on your teeth, but I care a lot about the plaque in your carotid arteries, and with your blood pressure... let's say I'm concerned about the water flow. If little trout were inside your body, they would not be happy. Tell me, have you ever done stream work on your favorite run?"

"Yes," Schnoz said, warily.

"Well, you need some stream work. Supposing a pair of beavers built a dam on your favorite deep run, or worse yet, suppose a stream bank collapsed and hundreds of gallons of water per second emptied into a farmer's field instead of running downstream in the channel. I'm concerned that you have the former in your carotid arteries and the latter in something called an abdominal aortic aneurism. It's a bulge, a matter of only a few centimeters, and if it pops..."

"No more fishing?" Schnoz said.

"No more anything. We're talking about a 5% survival rate if it goes, and that's if it pops while you're in a hospital on a gurney next to the emergency room."

"Schnoz, can I have your 4 weight rod," I said, "the one Huldy gave you for Christmas?"

Schnoz was not amused. "What about Grumpy? Why don't you torture him for a while? Doesn't he have a couple of aneurisms or beaver dams or plumbing leaks? There ought to be some kind of surgery to fix him."

"All I've got is acid reflux from years of your bad camp cooking."

"Well," said the young Wizard of Odds, "there's a pill Grumpy can take for that."

"Damn," Schnoz said. "This isn't fair."

"I'm sending you over to a friend of mine for a CT scan at the hospital. If they find what I think they'll find, you will have two options, sort of like fishing upstream or downstream. There is a rather invasive open surgery to repair it, or something called an endovascular repair - a relatively new procedure of inserting a stent at the weak spot. It's like shoring up a mud bank on a stream by putting in a layer of rip rap. It works beautifully."

"I'd choose upstream, if I were you," I said, "and rip rap is good. I like rip rap on a stream bank."

"How long will I be out of commission?"

"About a week. No driving, no exertion, no lifting fish over ten pounds-"

I snickered, ha, no lifting a fish over ten pounds.

Then the physician turned his chair to look directly at Schnoz. He was right in his face like a drill sergeant, and said very slowly, "You are a very lucky man, Schnoz. Be thankful. You'll be fishing after a week."

"Why can't Grumpy be this lucky? I mean, trout season is ending in two weeks."

The doctor smiled, shook both of our hands, and got on the phone to talk to his friends and save Schnoz's nearly worthless butt.

The rest was a whirlwind, a confirmation CT scan showing a 5.4 centimeter abdominal aneurism, immediate admission into the hospital, and then some rip rap inserted into Schnoz's abdominal stream to shore up its banks. I went along and had a very nice time talking to Huldy, who was worried, but wouldn't let Schnoz see it. Schnoz came out of the procedure complaining about everything, the discomfort, the ugly doctors, the cold hands of the nurses, the hard bed, the noise, various itches, and the fact that he'd have to spend a night in the hospital. In other words, he was back to normal. I didn't get the nice 4 weight rod Huldy had given him for Christmas. To tell you the truth, I was okay with that. In a week, Schnoz was okay with everything too, except for the fact that I outfished him on the last day of the season. He said it was because the fish were sensitive to his new stent, and until they got used to it, they feared him.

(Special thanks to Gordon Rudd, who passed along the most pertinent information, and in his wisdom knows full well the age and general aspect of most of our Lee Wulff chapter members. I highly encourage you all, especially those who have had hypertension for a while, to get checked for a silent killer, the abdominal aneurysm, often nicknamed by EMT's

as AAA. You may not need the aneurysm scan, but your doctor could tell after an examination.

I would add that my own father-in-law, who had gone in for a lung scan because of a persistent cough, was saved when lung scan caught a 90% blockage in three of his heart arteries just before I was to take him deep into Missouri woods for a flyfishing trip. The emergency triple bypass after the scan gave him more than 25 more years of active life, and when he finally passed, it was because of cancer, not a heart attack. The point we all need to remember is that it's not much fun fishing entirely alone.)

Dreading the Winter doldrums, the snow, the cold, the long weekends with no fishing?? Here's a few upcoming fishing shows the winter to put on your calendar. We'll add more as we find them.

All Canada Show - Pheasant Run Mega Center, St. Charles, IL. Jan 8-11
<http://www.allcanada.com/>

Chicago Musky Expo - Sears Center Arena, Hoffman Estates, IL. Jan. 9-11
<http://muskieexpo.com/chicago>

Chicago Outdoor Sports Show - Rosemont Convention Center, Rosemont, IL. Jan. 21-25
<http://www.chicagosportsmenshow.com/>

Illinois Fish & Feather Expo - Interstate Center, Bloomington, IL Jan. 24-26
<http://www.illinoisfishandfeather.com/>

Chicagoland Fishing Travel & Outdoor Expo - Schaumburg Convention Center, Schaumburg, IL. Jan 29-Feb. 1, 2015
<http://www.sportshows.com/chicago/>

Rockford Boat, Vacation and Fishing Show - Indoor Sports Center, Loves Park, IL. Feb. 20-22
<http://www.landroproductions.com/boat-vacation-fishing/>

Midwest Fly Fishing Show - Macomb Community College Expo Center, Warren, MI. March 14 -15
<http://midwestflyfishingexpo.com/>

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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.

