



## September President's Message

Hello chapter members and welcome back! You're going to see something different and exciting this year. You will see other board members writing the president's message for some of our chapter meetings this year. They are going to be assisting with choosing speakers and/or working as teams to design their own presentations this year. I think it's going to be a wonderful change to see what our board members have in store.

I believe at the beginning of this chapter meeting Gordon is going to play the spoons and sing for us. Maybe not, Gordon, but thanks for the offer! That wasn't quite the talent I was referring to.. LOL.

So I'm going to turn the reigns over to Charlie Schmidt, as he will be presenting our president's message for this month. His team is going to host another one of our award-winning Hands-On clinics, back by popular demand. Take it away, Charlie!!! "

## September 2016 – Highlights and Thoughts from a Board Member

**MEETING SEASON STARTS SEPT 15 – DON'T MISS THIS ONE** -- Welcome back for another get together season. The fishing isn't over yet, but the meetings\* are starting September 15 (and most 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays until May) (This first meeting is only 15 days into September, but it IS the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. ) Jerry Sapp and his crew have a great lineup of displays and presentations:

) Pink Squirrel and its dubbing

- ) Grasshoppers, how to make them, where and how to fish them in the late season
- ) Steelhead fishing on the Milwaukee River
- ) How to dress for the cold, watch out for hypothermia

Many great speakers and presentation are in the works for our Chapter meetings. Watch for more details.

\*For the time and place see “Where We Meet” in this newsletter”.

## **FISHING ISN'T OVER**

### **OUTINGS YET TO COME THIS YEAR –**

- ) Salmon Outing – Sept 20-23, 2016, in Michigan, see Matt Gregory
  - ) Viroqua outing – Oct 8-9, 2016, End of Season Outing, see Gordon Rudd
  - ) Workday – Oct 15, 2016, on the Bad Axe, Wisconsin, see Jerry Sapp
- 2016 season closes in Viroqua and Fennimore area October 15, 2016  
 2017 season opens in Viroqua and Fennimore area January 2, 2017  
 See Wisconsin DNR website for details, there is a closed period in early May

## **WOW, I DIDN'T REALIZE THIS UNTIL RECENTLY**

I have been a member of Lee Wulff Chapter of Trout Unlimited (LWTU) for several years. I have always been impressed by the skills of our fly fishers and fly tiers and their willingness to share information and ideas. But it took me a while to realize what an impressive group of activities and people who lead these activities we have in our Chapter. To become part of LWTU you don't have to participate in these outreach activities, but you might be interested and you may also be impressed, as I have been, by the activities and graciousness of our members.

### **LEE WULFF TU CHAPTER ACTIVITIES AND INVOLVEMENT**

- ) Trout in the Classroom – Middle school children and teachers, from eggs to fingerlings, from fish tank to trout waters
- ) Youth Fly Fishing Program Special Needs Youth – A supervised program with great kids who are challenged. This is a multi-week program; they learn about trout fishing, streams, bugs, and that someone care about them. This is an on-water activity.
- ) Fly Tying Classes – About 10 weeks of class with excellent instructors and all material and equipment supplied or you can bring your own. An extremely sociable group with many joining LWTU meetings and outings. Sponsored by Cabela's, Hoffman Estates.
- ) Stream Improvement Work Days – Working with other TU groups, generally in WI, to help build “lunker structures”, clean out streams, and cut down

invasive species, etc.. Half day of work, lunch, and then fishing on your own or with a friend you meet or bring. (There are some positive vibes that we may be adding an IL stream next year.)

- ) Organized Fly Fishing Trips –LWTU organizes 5-7 outings in WI, IA, or MI for fishing for trout or steelhead from Spring to Fall.
- ) Buddy System Assistance – At least one spring outing offers a half day Buddy system for newcomers to get acquainted with trout fishing and/or the streams in WI.
- ) Fall/Winter/Spring Meetings -- Presentations by fly fishing experts and chapter members. A great way to meet others with the same interests and get new ideas from experts. A fun and sociable time.
- ) Newsletter – Keeps members informed, but also knowledgeable (fly tying) and entertained (Grumpy's Page)
- ) Web Site Management – Keeps members informed when you can't find your newsletter or when you like the immediate availability of the web. More information may be available.
- ) Facebook Management – Keeps members informed, with much more information and with user input for a more interactive experience.
- ) Other Volunteers – Meeting assistance, Christmas party, outings, picnic, ....
- ) Officers, Committee Chairs, and Board Members -- And let's not forget their tireless efforts.
- ) Others that I have not mentioned -- Your help, sharing, kindness, stream suggestions, fly tying comments, ... are recognized and appreciated by so many, because of people like you we have a friendly, sociable, and welcoming Chapter. Keep up the good work.

Join in the activity. Have fun with fellow fly fishers and help out your fellow man and yourself. Just ask an officer or board member for more information.

Charlie Schmit

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](mailto:treasurer@leewulfftu.org) by Tuesday September 13<sup>th</sup> so we know how many pizzas to preorder.

### **To All Chapter Members**

Linda Webb, wife of long time Lee Wulff member Bob Webb, passed away August 16<sup>th</sup>. A celebration of Linda's life will be held at 11:30 am, Saturday September 10 at Davenport Family Funeral Home, 149 W. Main St. (Lake Cook Road), Barrington. The family will visit with guests from 9:30 am until the time of the service. Burial will be held privately.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.

Visit [www.davenportfamily.com](http://www.davenportfamily.com) to send condolences.

## **Conservation Update**

I am happy to announce that a tentative approval has been given to place brook trout in Fox Bluff. I am only waiting on permission to import brook trout eggs into Illinois. I have the source in Utah and when I get papers that certify these eggs as disease free we can raise them in Dundee Middle School for release in the spring.

This means that we will be doing some work in the Spring prior to their release. Fox Bluff has a fall hunting season and we cannot go there this fall. Gabe Powers is my contact at McHenry County. I am sure we will have several meetings with him over winter and I hope to involve as many of you as possible in planning work and work days. I look forward to your input.

## **Conservation Work Day**

We have a Lee Wulff work day on October 15. We are going to build two stiles on a new easement along the North Fork of the Bad Ax. The site is off Upper Newton Road and near the Duck Egg county park. If you have never been there it is in a deep valley and should be in peak fall color so prepare for some spectacular scenery. This project is our own and not with another chapter. I am hoping for a good turn out to show what Lee Wulff chapter can do. Coulee TU will be there making lunch. We will be starting about 9am. and should easily finish by noon leaving the afternoon for fishing this new stretch on the final day of fishing for the year. There are rooms reserved at the Vernon Inn for Oct 14, just mention Lee Wulff Chapter. We will leave from the motel together at 8:15 am. Saturday so do not worry about finding the location.

As a final note there is a dinner planed at the Driftless Cafe in Viroqua to celebrate the end of the season for all the friends of the Driftless area. Dinner is a fixed price meal at \$50. This is a fund raiser for the TU Dare program. If interested please call Duke Welter soon at 715-579-7538. For more information call Jerry Sapp at 847-284-4824 or Bob Becker at 847-997-4009

## **This from Chris Wood, President and CEO of Trout Unlimited on the recent closing of the Yellowstone River**

August 26, 2016

Everyone:

As you have likely heard, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks recently closed 183 miles of the Yellowstone River due to an outbreak of Proliferative Kidney Disease (PKD). PKD is a parasite that can infect and kill fish. PKD has only been found twice in MT. This time it has killed an estimated 30,000 mountain whitefish.

We know that Yellowstone River is flowing at near historic lows, due to poor snowpack and a dry summer, and that until water temperatures drop consistently below about 55 degrees Fahrenheit, the parasite will likely continue to infect fish. Water temperatures dropped below 55 degrees early Thursday morning for the first time.

Montana staff have taken a very measured and science-based approach in dealing with this outbreak. The rumor of this being the end of the Yellowstone fishery is overblown and not true. The fact is, prior to the PKD outbreak, the Yellowstone was (and still is) one of the healthiest rivers in the country. Even healthy rivers face setbacks.

While there has certainly been a toll, both to fish populations and the local economy, the fishery will undoubtedly bounce back. What is important right now is to focus on collecting data and making decisions based on the best available science and while employing the precautionary principle to do no additional harm. To date, there appears to be very little impact to wild trout. The impact to mountain whitefish populations is less clear at this point, but it renews the call for more monitoring of this species.

Over the past two weeks, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks has been working very hard to gather data to help determine when the river and its tributaries can be re-opened.

So, what can we do about it?

First, keep at it. Our mission is to make rivers resilient and healthy. By securing instream flow leases and engaging in habitat protection and restoration, TU has

been instrumental to improving the Yellowstone for decades. The reason that our work to protect, reconnect, and restore rivers is so vital is that a healthy and resilient river will recover from a hit like this. And as the climate continues to change, these hits will keep coming.

Second, preach the gospel of Inspect, Clean and Dry. While Aquatic Invasive Species, PKD included, can be introduced into rivers in a number of ways, be they by bird or by boot, we need to do our part to limit their spread.

Finally, the annual meeting is in Bozeman, and many members will want to fish there at the end of September. While portions of the Yellowstone closure may remain in effect, there are many other top-notch angling opportunities nearby, including the Gallatin Canyon, Madison River, East Gallatin, and many more within an hour's drive.

Below you will find more detailed information on the outbreak. Information will continue to be posted to [tu.org](http://tu.org) as we learn more. If there are further questions, please feel free to contact me, Bruce Farling ([bruce@montanatu.org](mailto:bruce@montanatu.org)) or Pat Byorth ([pbyorth@tu.org](mailto:pbyorth@tu.org)).

Thanks and have a great weekend.

Chris

# **We've had a cancellation – there is room for 2 people on the 2016 Fall Salmon Outing**

**Tuesday September 20th to Friday September 23rd**



***Big Bruiser Salmon***



***Fish on the redds***

This will be an above exceptional outing this year; held in the largest and newest lodge (“Whitetail”) at Barothy’s, situated on over two miles of private access banks of the Pere Marquette River, MI. Hot tub, Pool table, and sauna (!) are included along with full kitchen, 4 bathrooms with showers, washer/ dryer, and grills. The price for this outing has been increased to \$340.00/ person due to the lodge upgrade that includes 3 nights lodging, hot breakfasts, salmon dinner, potential pasta dinner, and grilled meal prepared by attendees with pack lunches for on the water. Everyone helps out somewhere so everyone can partake and enjoy. Outstanding opportunities wait to tangle with monster salmon and steelhead (with trout looking for eggs and rising near banks). Canoes are available, but you are on your own to rent. Current space has been expanded - of the 9 rooms, 4 have queen beds, and other 5 rooms have 2 twins with also loft bed.

**We had a cancellation there is room for 2 interested persons.**

**If interested contact Matt Gregory ([MGreg53862@aol.com](mailto:MGreg53862@aol.com)) immediately**

See also [www.Barothylodge.com](http://www.Barothylodge.com) for more lodge information with pictures and [www.fishbaldwin.com](http://www.fishbaldwin.com) for river and fishing information- guide services also available with drift boats (on own for guide costs). For canoes, see [www.baldwincanoe.com](http://www.baldwincanoe.com) or [www.ivanscanoe.com](http://www.ivanscanoe.com). Other rivers are also close by for a day trip.

Meals and food are covered in the cost along with bottled water and soda, but you are on your own for any adult beverages of your choice.



## End of the Season Outing Oct 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The last WI outing will be an informal get-together on Oct 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>. We will once again be in the Viroqua/Westby area and several will be camping at the West Fork Sportsmans Club in Avalanche along the West Fork of the Kickapoo River. You must be a member to camp and the cost for membership is currently \$10 per year plus \$10 per night without electric and \$20 per night with electric to camp. The campground does not take reservations unless you are going to rent one of the two cabins they have.

A block of 5 rooms has 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. Members are responsible for finding their own roommate, if they want one, and making their own reservations.

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 Saturday and individuals are responsible for their own meals and libations. Please keep in mind we will sit down as soon as our table is ready so if you're running late you may be on your own.

If you have any questions or would like to RSVP for dinner contact Gordon Rudd at [mchenryflyfisher@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mchenryflyfisher@sbcglobal.net) or 815/245-2425.

**Please note:** There will be a work project Saturday, Oct 15<sup>th</sup> in the same area. More information above on page 5.

## Bob Olach's Fly of the Month

### Luke Bannister's Black Spider (Variation)

This will be one of the easiest articles that I've ever done since most of the words aren't mine but those that I've taken from an exchange of e-mails with a rod builder, fly tier (tier) and fly fisherman from the UK.

Luke Bannister is a cane rod builder from North Cornwall, England who, not only builds cane rods but also has many YouTube videos (I've downloaded ALL of them) that have some of the prettiest fly-fishing scenes I've seen. The color and video settings are superb!

In one of his recent videos (Fly fishing spiders with a 10ft 4wt carbon rod), Luke fished a Black North Country Spider with a 10 ft, 4wgt carbon rod (heaven forbid!). This black North Country Spider caught my attention, so I sent Luke an e-mail requesting some information, to which Luke responded:

*"They are a bit of a mix of styles but basically they are winged spiders. They started as spiders and then went through a few "developments" but to me they are spiders, a traditionalist might have a different opinion.*

*Generally I tie with a sparse body, I've been using embroidery thread for a little while and it gives a lovely body without the need to dub. Wings are usually Grouse or Woodcock and a sparse hackle of the same.*

*The tail is very much optional, and I tend to tie in a tail more in the summer, spring/autumn I'll leave it off. (for no particular reason) The flies look a little bulky in the pictures but when they are wet they present a very slim profile.*

*I use red/claret thread on a lot of my flies which is purely from the tying of the Iron Blue Dun, which is a very effective pattern over here. The flies are a little "chewed" and were definitely tied for fishing so please don't judge the tying too much. The hooks are Kamasan B402 size 16."*



Because the wet fly wings that I tie aren't the best, (I hope that Luke will forgive me) but I've taken the liberty not to use any wet fly wings but to add an extra turn of grouse hackle instead.

Additionally, although Luke uses embroidery thread, I've substituted black Pearsall silk floss for the bodies.

Here's the dressing for the flies shown (I'd show the pics that Luke sent me of his flies but then my flies would look really lousy!):

### **Luke Bannister's Black Spider (Variation)**

**Hook** – Daiichi 1550 wet fly hook (sizes 14 – 16 – I used #14 for the above flies)

**Thread** – Pearsall Claret Gossamer silk

**Body** – Pearsall Black Floss silk

**Tail** – 8 – 10 pieces of Dark Brown dry fly hackle

**Hackle** – English Grouse (or Woodcock)

Here's links to Luke Bannister's web site and also to the YouTube video with the Black North Country Spider.

[www.splitcane.co.uk](http://www.splitcane.co.uk) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyfqxQvHMkM>



## Grumpy's Page by Kurt Haberl

Schnoz has a problem with waders. It's a continuing saga. For a few years I thought it was destruction-by-butt or maybe punctures caused by barbed wire and thorns as a result of his nasal prominence that resulted in a restricted field of vision, but I've come to believe that it is a case of cosmic string theory where old, abused waders pass along destructive energy to new waders fresh out of the box.

"Fat Butt hates us," the old waders say. "Get him wet."

"Okay," say the new waders.

On our last outing, as we sat around the picnic table eating leftover bacon sandwiches, chips and pickles for lunch, I noticed Schnoz's pants leg was wet from the knee down.

"If you aim better, you won't pee on yourself," I said.

"Waders," he answered. "They hate me."

"Well, let's have a look," said the ever-helpful Wet Curtis. "I know about wet waders." He took Schnoz's off the line between two trees and turned them inside out. "Here's your problem," he said, "you have a seam that pulled apart a little."

"Can we fix it?" Schnoz said.

"Maybe," Curtis said at the same time I said, "No," while Roy the Plumber said, "Of course," and Dewey said, "Why? It's only a small leak. As long as you're dry from the knees up, just think of it as communing intimately with nature."

"Dewey has a point," I said. "Water in your booties warms to body temperature pretty quickly, and a little squish in your soles is sort of like a cushion. I mean, how much do those gel insole things cost?"

"See?" Dewey said. "You can fix your waders or you can fix your attitude. My waders have leaked for years and I don't complain."

"Dewey," I said. "Your waders leak; your tent leaks; your rain jacket leaks, and probably the roof of your pickup leaks. You're just aquatic."

"Well," Dewey said. "We're all 98% water anyway."

Wet Curtis found a permanent marker in his car and circled the suspected seam. "We can do this together," he said.

"Me first," said Roy the Plumber, coming back from his Suburban with a container. He took the waders, opened a small jar of gray stuff, and began to rub it into the seam. "Plumber's putty," he said. "I use it all the time. It will help seal small holes."

"I have some of that goop stuff," I said, and got it out of the trunk of my car. It had thickened to the consistency of jello, but I managed to smear some over the plumber's putty with a plastic spoon. It looked like a little mound of dog poo.

"My turn," Wet Curtis said. He cut a patch of wader material, applied some kind of industrial glue, and put it over my mound of poo.

"Duct tape," Dewey said. "If you're going to fix it, just use duct tape. He tore a strip about six inches long and put it over the patch Wet Curtis had applied.

"Just to be sure," Roy said, "let's do the same to the outside. If it doesn't leak from the outside, it can't leak from the inside." He turned the waders right-side out and we did our professional application of plumber's putty, goo, industrial glue patch, and duct tape to the outside.

"Good as new," Wet Curtis said. "Try them on, and let's go to the stream behind camp just for a test."

Schnoz grumbled as he struggled into his waders, and when he stood up, he looked like he had a golf ball sized tumor on his left leg. We trooped down to the water and watched as he stumbled in, turned around, kicked the water, high-stepped, and then stood still against the current.

"Well?" I said.

"I don't feel wet, but it hurts. It feels like someone taped a hammer to my leg and every time I turn, it bangs against my calf.

"That means it's working," Wet Curtis said. "That's what you want."

"I do?"

"Sure," said Dewey. "Don't be a wimp."

After lunch we all dispersed to nearby streams for a fine afternoon of fishing, which went very well. Because of our concern for Schnoz and our amazing abilities in hydraulic engineering, Schnoz stayed dry. He suffered two minor glitches, however. One was that he came back to camp limping, or at least favoring his sore left calf, and the other was a noticeably wet right leg. Apparently, in a cosmic string theory communication where each part of the universe is connected to all other parts, or at least the left leg of his waders spoke to the right, a new leak had appeared in the corresponding place on Schnoz's other leg.

"Look, we know what to do," Curtis said, "so let's get to it."

"Don't touch my waders," Schnoz said. "I'm driving into town. These are supposed to be guaranteed for life, and I'm still alive, so I'm getting new ones for free."

"Wouldn't it just be easier to put bread bags over your legs," I said. "Water doesn't run uphill, so if the leak is at your calf, just wear a bag up to your knees. I have rubber bands."

"Or you could use an old pair that leak in the opposite leg, and wear one pair inside the other," Wet Curtis said. "That way each leg would be covered by one dry-" but Schnoz would have none of it. He snatched his waders, grumbled more as he went to his car, and drove off to deal with the local fly shop.

He returned an hour later, sat down in our circle, drink in hand, and stared glumly at his feet.

"Well?" I said after five minutes of awkward silence.

Schnoz pulled out a paper from his jacket and read, "After extensive examination, we have determined that the guarantee has been deemed void because the waders have been unalterably ruined by amateur attempts to fix them, rendering them un-repairable and ineligible for trade."

"Amateur?" Wet Curtis said. "That's harsh."

"Yeah," Roy said. "I'm a plumber. I'm professional grade."

"Ineligible for trade?" Dewey said. "Couldn't you get a leader or a size 14 Adams for them? Nothing? Couldn't they at least be ground up for playground material? You know, when kids fall down?"

We suffered through five more minutes of awkward silence. Then Schnoz said. "I thought maybe they would take me on as a wader-tester because of my past history, but they said they had all the wader testers they needed, so I bought new ones. Different model. Instead of the Guaranteed-for-Life Battle Armor model, I bought the Woven Teflon Swamp Rat Heirloom model that I can pass on to my grandchildren. They cost more than my car."

"Ouch," I said.

"Well," Schnoz continued, "I think they will be okay for wading through wet grass, but I'm thinking I should probably stay out of the water."

"You're helping the economy by buying new waders," Dewey said. "You're a true patriot."

After five more minutes of awkward silence, Schnoz shouted, "Damn the economy! I'm going fishing, and I'm going in the water!"

We all stood and applauded. Courage is a wonderful thing.

## Chapter Officers

**President**            **Meg Gallagher**  
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## Newsletter Editor

**Dennis Higham**  
**dennishigham@sbcglobal.net**

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