

# MID MISSOURI chapter **Trout Unlimited**



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March 1986

## FLY TYING CRAZE

The basic tools for getting started.

If your just getting started fly tying, be prepared - it's a craze! - an enjoyable one, though. As you progress, you will probably sink more money here than in the I.R.A. of your dreams. To get started, however, I have listed some of the basic tools of the trade that will make the learning experience more enjoyable. One thing to always keep in mind is, no matter what stage of tying talent you're at, is to be patient and control your temper. The mark of a good tier is one who never gets frustrated.

### The Basic Tools

Vise. There is a wide variety here, with a wide range of prices. Choose one that suits your personal needs and can accomodate a variety of hook sizes. Make sure the jaws are hardened steel so they don't lose their shape or grip, and make sure the lever/cam is away from the jaws so that it doesn't interfere with your tying. Pedestal and C-clamp models are available - ensure the C-clamp is wide enough to accomodate a variety of table thicknesses.

Scissors. Sink a little more money in these than you first might anticipate. You'll appreciate it later. Have a larger, rugged pair on hand for trimming tinsel and lead wire.

Hackle Pliers. Make sure they are easily workable, but have a secure grip. Inspect the jaws for sharp edges that may cut your hackles. Rubber jawed models are good for beginners.

Bobbin. I prefer the standard spring steel models rather than the more cumbersome screw-tension models. Check the tube for rough edges.

Bodkin. Very handy.

NEXT MEETING - 7 p.m.  
Tuesday, MARCH 4th, 1986

Be There!!!

7th Floor Class-  
room - Ellis  
Fischel State  
Cancer Hospital.  
Business Loop-70  
West, Columbia, Mo.

WELCOME - To our first newsletter. We will try to be entertaining as well as informative, but I'm sure we won't be able to compete with Ed Story of Feathercraft....but, then who can?!! At any rate, this first newsletter will try to tie together some of what has happened with our chapter so far, as well as some of our plans for the near future.

## AGENDA - MARCH 4th MEETING

1. Administrative Business - Ed Sullivan.
2. Request for VOLUNTEERS to serve on an ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE to formulate ideas for, and help administrate local chapter activities and programs.
3. RAFFLE. We will raffle off the following items to those in attendance:
  - 5 - Hand-made BOBBIN THREADERS.
  - 1 - Perrine FLY BOX filled with exquisitely tied flies of local importance. The box includes, but not exclusively: ZONKERS, HARE'S EAR NYMPHS, ADAMS, CAHILLS, ELK HAIR CADDIS, CRAYFISH, STONEFLY NYMPHS and many others.

Raffle tickets will sell for \$1.00 each, and the revenue generated will go into the local chapter's activity fund. BRING A COUPLE OF BUCKS AND TAKE A CHANCE AT SOME NICE PRIZES TO START THE SEASON WITH!!

4. FLY-TYING SESSION: Bring your vise and some materials, if you have them, to tie a few flies. We will have some extra vises and materials on hand for those of you who don't have any equipment, but have the desire to experiment and learn. This will be a casual learning experience for all. We will try to spread out the more experienced tiers at several tables, allowing everyone to share in the knowledge and techniques of others. Experienced tiers should bring materials for one or two of your favorite patterns, so we can all learn some of the

### OFFICERS:

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more intricate tricks of the trade. Don't be shy! - Bring your stuff and let's get to know one another and learn some deadly early season patterns.

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UPCOMING - EVENTS

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Due to the lack of an official Activities Committee, the Board of Directors has established a tentative list of activities and monthly meeting agenda. The following list takes us through the spring months:

MARCH

MARCH 4th - Monthly meeting. Raffle and fly-tying session.

MARCH 15th - Pointe Royale petitions due at the State. Send to Gregg Messell, 4969 Oleatha, Saint Louis, Missouri 63139 prior to MARCH 10, 1986.

APRIL

APRIL 1st - Monthly meeting. Discussion of stream biology/entomology with Conservation/U.M.C. personnel.

APRIL 13th - (Sunday) DAY WITH WILDLIFE. 12 - 5 P.M. at the American Legion Field, off Route W W, in Columbia. A T.U. information booth will be set up recruiting new members and demonstrating fly-tying. Contact Nancy Gore, our Vice-President, to see how you can help Phone #-442-0896. Be in attendance anyway, it can prove to be an informative outing.

MAY

MAY 6th - Monthly meeting. Tackle and fly-tying materials will be the topic of discussion. A local retailer, or another knowledgeable person, will discuss and display various tackle items and fly-tying materials, as well as other tools of interest to the flyfisherperson. How to choose a rod and reel combo and the selection of quality hackles and materials are an example of just two of the topics that will be covered.

MAY 18th - (Sunday) Local chapter B.B.Q. and CASTING CONTEST at BETHEL PARK off Bethel Road in southwestern Columbia. The B.B.Q. will commence at 2 P.M. Fly casting lessons and a competition will also be held. More details on this event in the future.

JUNE

JUNE 3rd - Monthly meeting. Instructions on rod-building and repair will be on the agenda. Also, how to choose rod components and ~~where~~ to find the best prices.

JUNE (Date not yet established) - Chapter fishing trip at one of the State Parks. More on this later.

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MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

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FINANCES

As of February 18, 1986, our chapter has \$90.00 in the local kitty. These funds include \$50.00 "seed" money from the National Chapter, as well as 5 local memberships.

Local Chapter dues were established:

\$8.00/year - Regular membership.

\$5.00/year - Junior membership; 18 years and under.

Local dues are primarily directed at covering our administrative costs, such as publication and postage of this newsletter, however they will help fund some of



our activities as well. Please pay your local dues to our Treasurer, GEORGE DONOVAN, who will be located at the registration/sign-in table at the monthly meetings.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Jeff Barnes, our secretary, has been nominated as our Local Chapter Representative to the State T.U. Affiliate. The primary purpose of the reps. is to be a liason between the Local, State and National Chapters, staying abreast of activities, etc... The reps. will meet at various locations throughout the state four (4) times per year (quarterly).

The "Missouri Chapter" covers all of Missouri and Southern Iowa.

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SWOPPER'S COLUMN

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Do you have an old rod or reel that you no longer use, or use infrequently? Do you have an abundance of deer hair, but need some Wood duck or Mallard flanks? Do you have a Pigeon Grade Over & Under you'd like to trade for a few finely tied Glow Bugs? If so, submit your "For Barter" or "For Sale" items in the Newsletter's Monthly Swopper's Column.

The first "Swopper's Column" will appear in the April Newsletter. If you have an item for sale or trade, or are in need of something "outdoor" related, submit the following information to:

Editor  
Mid-Mo. T.U. Newsletter  
"Swopper's Column"  
108 Loch Lane  
Columbia, Missouri 65203

The following information will be needed to adequately run your ad:

1. A BRIEF description of the item(s) for sale, trade, or that are needed, and a description of the item(s) wanted in return.
2. The NAME of the contact person and a PHONE NUMBER/ADDRESS where the person can be reached.

NOTE: ITEMS WILL RUN FOR ONE(1) MONTH ONLY; UNLESS OTHERWISE DIRECTED!

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TIP OF THE MONTH

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The "TIP OF THE MONTH" column will be a regularly run idea exchange column. Some of the topics covered will include: Fly patterns, recipes, tackle care and repair and various fishing strategies. Your ideas and tips are welcome.

Please send your tips to:

Editor  
Mid-Mo. T.U. Newsletter  
"Tip of the Month"  
108 Loch Lane  
Columbia, Missouri 65203

TIPS AND IDEAS WILL BE KEPT IN AN IDEA FILE, AND RUN AT THE EDITOR'S DISCRETION.

MARCH - TIP OF THE MONTH

What better way to start off our first T.U. Newsletter and early season than with an effective early season pattern developed by one of the Co-founders of Trout Unlimited. GRIFFITH'S GNAT is an easily tied, impressionistic pattern

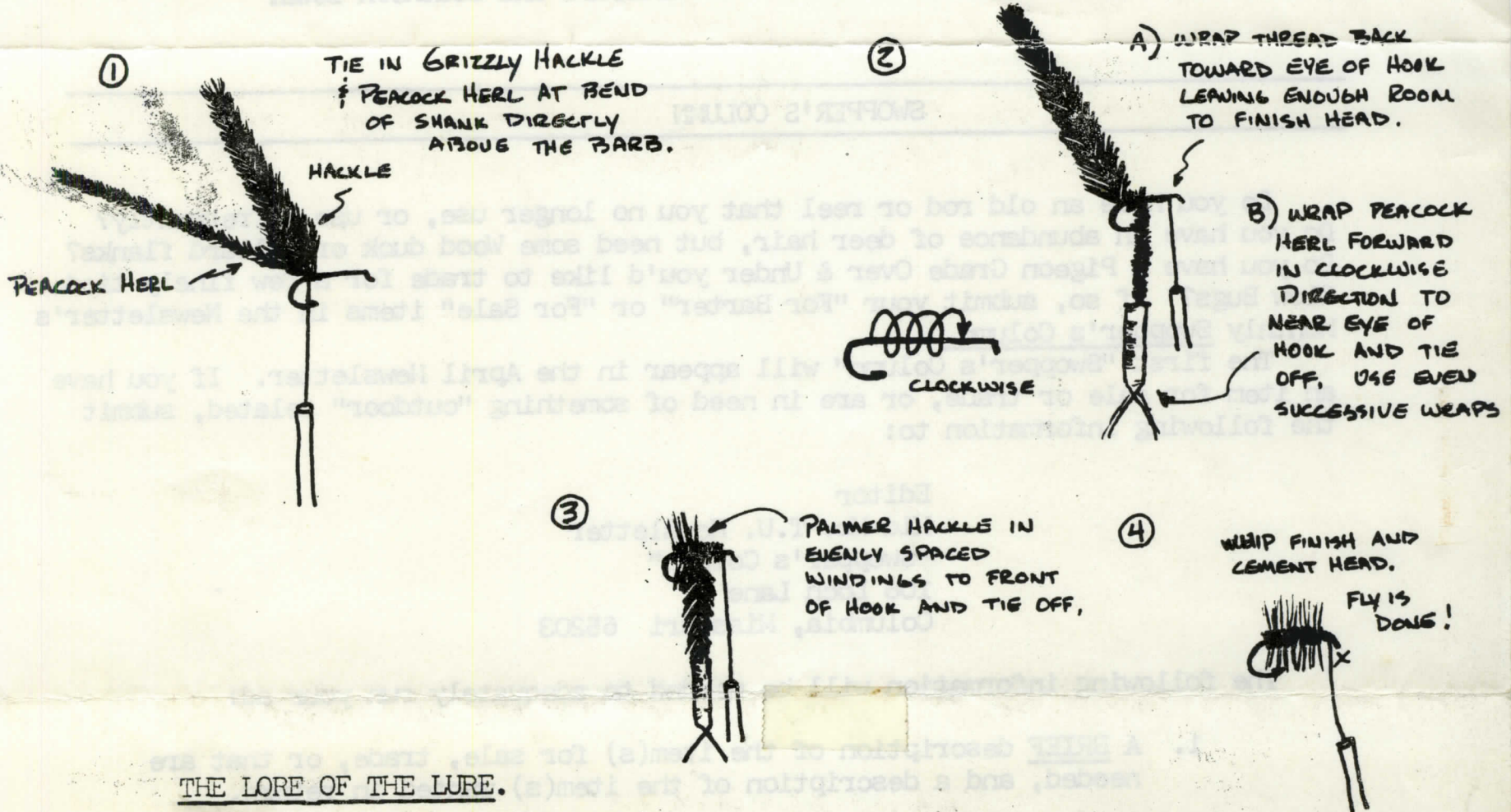


which is very effective during early season Midge hatches.

Here's the recipe:

- Hook: Sizes 14 - 18, Mustad 94833 or 94840  
 Sizes 20 - 24, Mustad 94842
- Thread: Prewaxed, black - 6/0 or smaller.
- Body: Peacock herl.
- Hackle: Grizzly, palmered.

Other body colors in place of herl can be used. Gray, black, brown, blue dun, yellow and olive work well. You may also substitute dun or brown hackle. Try trimming the bottom hackle for a flatter float, and fish dead drift, or with a slight twitch.



THE LORE OF THE LURE.

The tale has it that this fly was developed by George Griffith, who, along with Art Neumann, were two early pioneers in the movement that ultimately evolved into Trout Unlimited.

Supposedly, these flys imitate pupating Chironomus - who knows for sure..... THEY DO WORK! Next time you notice some mid-afternoon midge activity, tie one on and watch closely....

So long til next month...

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