

# The Conservationist



PPTU.org

## Potomac-Patuxent Chapter Trout Unlimited

Jan 2016 • Published monthly except June, July, August and December

## New Year Fly Tying Extravaganza! Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 2016

**H**appy New Year! Once again several of the fly tyers in our chapter will perform feats of amazing skill and handcraft as they combine fur, feather and steel and turn them into magical creations right in front of your eyes. Be entertained, amazed, and add a little sparkle to your fly box this year.

Enjoy an evening of fly tying magic as our group of hook & hackle prestidigitateurs conjure up some fly patterns guaranteed to catch the most finicky trout you may come across this year. Mark these patterns down as a must have and if you're game, try fly tying for yourself this year and revel in the magic of making something appear out of thin air.

Come check out Chuck Dinkel's "*Ant*", Gene Cyprich's "*Rainbow Warrior*", Jay Sheppard and his amazing, fish magnet, the "*Patuxent Special*". Watch Walt Sheppard conjure up a "*Shad*" and see Mike Abramowitz's "*Hornberg*". Charlie Gelso will wow us with some slight of hand with his "*Caddis*" family. See Carl Smolka's "*Walt's Worm, Sexy Walt and Son of Walt*". Bob O'Donnell will attempt to pull a "*Soft Hackle Streamer*" out of his hat while Bob Dietz tricks out his "*Dark Watcher*". Finally Marc Hutzell rounds out the show with the tried and true "*Bead Head Brassie*". The night is filled with magic.

See you there!

— Alan Burrows



### Monthly Chapter Meetings

Time and Day: 7:00 PM, Third Wednesday except June, July, August and December  
Place: Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901

#### DIRECTIONS TO THE SENIOR CENTER

From Capitol Beltway: North on Georgia Avenue (Rte. 97). First Right on Forest Glen Road, then go past Holy Cross Hospital and across Sligo Creek Parkway. The Center is on the right.

Visit our website: [www.pptu.org](http://www.pptu.org)

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## Presidents' Column - Bob O'Donnell

**H**appy New Year! By the time you see this issue, the holidays will be over or near enough over, and a new year kicking in. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves over the holidays and took the opportunity to sit back and relax a spell with friends and family and perhaps even snuck in a little fishing.

So, what did you wish for in the New Year? Me, I wished for calmness to be restored to the somewhat hectic surroundings that 2015 wrapped me in like a cocoon. I also wished for a fishing reel, but knowing my significant other, that wish will wash away with the spring rains. Not a problem. I'll be more than thankful for an uneventful year. I'm looking forward to wading into new waters, catching some fat trout, and enjoying the camaraderie of friends both new and old. I see 2016 as a clean slate and I plan on scribing "HAPPY NEW YEAR" and "Tight Lines" in big bold letters, then sit back and let the Zen flow.

Our new year is like a new open fly box just waiting to be filled. What shall we fill it with? 2016 holds a lot of exciting events for our TU family. We're in the process of planning new trips and adventures to share, offering a new fly tying class, chances to win great prizes, plus enjoy topics from several exciting speakers plus fun filled events like our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family BBQ being planned for this summer. We may need a bigger fly box!

As a TU family member, you, your family, and all of your friends are invited to share in the fun during the year. We hope to see many new and current smiling faces at our meetings, events, and outings throughout this year. Come relax with friends, tell some tall tales, learn a few new tricks to put in your fishing bag, and most importantly, enjoy yourself. Feel free to bring the kids along, drag a neighbor away from yardwork, or entice a coworker into joining in. The more the merrier for the new year.

I see a year filled with fun. There is plenty of new gear to check out, along with new water, and loads of fishing to get in. I would also mention to enjoy your

time tying flies and preping your gear by the fire while the snow falls, but mother nature says otherwise. Our winter time chilly nights were replaced with mid-summer night dreams. My wife and I joked about turning the East Coast thermostat up with our children who flew in from California for the holidays. They're probably one of the few groups of folks back here that actually really miss the snow. To be honest, I'm kind of missing it too. There is nothing like sitting with a warm drink and perusing a fishing catalog (page of new reels) while snow softly falls past the window. I think I'll turn a page corner down. My wife does that with jewelry catalogs hoping I get the hint and open the page to what she likes. Perhaps it works in reverse? I might see that new reel yet!

The weather is warm and so are my wishes to our TU family members. May your New Year be filled with joy, happiness, warmth, and cheer; and may you pass on these to those around you too.


Until next month, tight lines!

Bob O'Donnell  
President, PPTU

## PPTU Mentor Program Beginners & Beyond

Ken Bowyer provides one-on-one streamside fly fishing instruction to PPTU members. Participants must show commitment by having waders or hip boots, a rod and reel outfit, and leader. Discussions will include equipment, knots, casting, flies, dry fly and nymphing techniques, entomology, reading water, conservation, etc. at nearby streams. Instruction will be tailored to individual needs. Members who have not made an **Annual Supporting Contribution (ASC)** will be asked to contribute \$20.



Contact Ken at 301-627-7154 or by E-mail:  
[kenbowyer@verizon.net](mailto:kenbowyer@verizon.net) 

## Tackle and Tactic Tips - Jay Sheppard

Waders are an important component of our addiction. Failure, especially in cold weather, can totally ruin a day on the water—because you are literally IN the water with a leaky wader! Checking for leaks before a trip, or better yet right after a damp awakening, can make the next trip that much more enjoyable. I regularly fill one leg of my chest waders with water about half way and find where the water is exiting. I use a crayon or a china marker to put some tick marks to the side and above the spot. Filling and moving the water around inside the waders also tends to remove some of the grime and sweat that has accumulated as well. As a side note, the new breathable waders and rain jackets are machine washable: just use powdered detergent on a cold setting and drip dry.

After finding all the leaks in both legs I check the seat. Then I dry them out and do some patching. I use almost exclusively the new UV activated wader repair material. On a sunny day it takes about 3 seconds



of solar exposure to solidify the patch; even on a lightly cloudy day it usually takes less than 10 or 15 seconds. Seams often are the major points of leakage, especially if the legs are rubbing each other as you walk. One can also use a flashlight in a darkened room to find leaks. Just pass the light inside the waders and run it around the suspected area of concern. Water finds every leak. Flashlights are good only for finding a specific leak you know to be in that general area.

Using waders to stay dry is supposed to be their purpose. I have been slipping and falling into the rivers of my life since I got my first pair of hipsters at age 11. Getting wet on every fishing trip is what I expect—just never when or where. Chest waders are about all I use any more. If they are properly adjusted, I do not get nearly as damp now as I used to do. First, the belt is tight around the waist. Just as importantly, I make sure the draw cord around the



top is cinched tight. Now when I fall in, the top does not act like a giant scoop that quickly fills with water that then slowly trickles down my legs.



If I have a rain jacket on, then I am far more likely to just get only my hands and head wet when I take a real dunking. A zipped-up jacket over the top of my chest waders seals them tight. I have taken some lovely dives into some cold, deep and fast waters with little more than the hands and head getting really soaked after a 10–30 seconds of immersion.

Winter is here. Time to check your gear. Waders must be a major part of that annual inspection. Staying dry in cold weather is important for our own health. Have a great winter, stay dry, and we will meet on the stream early next spring—if not sooner!



## Fly Fishing During a Winter Midge Hatch - Video

Keep your gear in shape so you stay warm and dry as mentioned. You never know what awaits you. It would be a shame to have to leave action like this.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jZ76l7xTUik>

## Patuxent Report - Jay Sheppard

Stocking plans will be announced in early February or so. If you are not on my list of potential volunteers who can help stock, drop me an email: [jaymsheppard95@gmail.com](mailto:jaymsheppard95@gmail.com). You must be available during the week, have chest waders, and be comfortable walking up or down the middle of a stream for mile or more. (If you are an ‘old timer,’ note my new email address.)

We will be stocking below Brighton Dam this coming spring. The WSSC still does not have their plans settled as to when they will start work on Brighton Dam. Right now, that work will not start before early next summer. Until the dam is repaired, we will be stocking only rainbows into the tailwater. Any brown trout will be stocked into the upper C&R section above the reservoir.



## 2016 Reminder

If you spot poaching please place a call to the

**Catch a Poacher Hotline**

**At**

**1-800-635-6124**

*Add this number to your cell phone contact list!*



*Blacknose Dace Streamer*

## Conservation Comment – Chuck Dinkel

I think we need to hold our elected officials accountable when they screw up as in this situation. TU and other environmental groups should hold these agencies' feet to the fire. The EPA ignored the advice provided them that opening up the mine would lead to a disaster yet they went ahead and did it anyway.

*Article on the Animas River spill from the abandoned Gold King mine in southwest Colorado*

The government's review of the government accident that contaminated the Animas River fails to identify who in the government failed—and why they failed. “If you read between the lines of the [Bureau of Reclamation] Report, the BOR concluded that the EPA made a mistake in conducting the operations that it performed on August 5, 2015, because it failed to consider the necessary engineering factors involved in the opening of the Gold King mine and therefore was negligent by attempting to begin work before the BOR had the opportunity to advise the EPA how to do the job properly. In the past the federal government has criminally prosecuted private parties for conduct that was, at most, negligent, in quite similar circumstances. [...]

“The BOR Evaluation Team Report, however, falls far short of what is necessary to determine who is responsible for the Animas River spill. There are far too many people left unidentified, and perhaps far too many not yet interviewed, to know that the BOR Report accurately represents all of the facts. The report itself—an eight-page report that ballooned into ten times that many pages by the inclusion of apparently irrelevant photographs and discussions—does not get to the bottom of this incident, let alone identify who was responsible. Finally, the BOR Report also quite clearly refrained from assigning blame for the spill.

“We also know this: After the spill occurred, EPA regional director Shaun McGrath held a public comment session in a local high school auditorium at which he said that the EPA will ‘hold [itself] to the same standards that [it] would anyone that would have created this situation.’ So far, the executive

branch has not displayed a serious effort to treat government officials in the same manner as it would have treated private parties responsible for the same conduct. The Hanousek case substantiates that point. Someone should ask the EPA and the Justice Department why the federal government discriminates in favor of government employees and against private parties.” [Internal citations omitted.]

—Paul J. Larkin, Jr., and John-Michael Seibler, “Agencies Not Coming Clean About the EPA’s Responsibility for Poisoning the Animas River,” The Heritage Foundation, December 8.



## Fly Tying Materials At January Meeting – Bob Kaiser

Our January 20th meeting focuses on flying tying demonstrations, and in conjunction with this theme we are happy to offer a selection of discounted fly tying materials for sale to our members. These materials were generously donated to PPTU and we are happy to offer them to you! Materials include:

- Hair patches - deer, fox, mink, seal, otter, elk, beaver and much more!
- Buck tails many colors
- Rabbit hair
- Hares Ear masks
- Turkey Feathers
- Dubbing
- Chenille
- Maraboo Packs
- Yarns



Have some fun at our meeting and get some materials at a great price!



## Keys to Catching Winter Trout – Trout Wrangler

There are two keys to winter fishing: picking the right days and slowing everything down. In general, unless you're fishing a tailwater or a spring creek, you don't want to be on the water when it's bitter cold out. It's no fun for you, and the fish can be extremely sluggish. Ideally, you want a day that's part of a warming trend, so if you see the temps heading upward—say, from the twenties to the low or mid-thirties—plan a day to fish.

Winter fishing is almost exclusively a nymphing game, with a light leader under an indicator. Don't worry about matching specific patterns, choose instead to go with generalist nymphs, such as a Hare's Ear Nymph, Copper John, Scud, or Pheasant Tail Nymph. And because fish aren't willing to move very far to eat your offering, fish a two-fly tandem rig. Two patterns in the water means a better chance of bumping a fish in the nose with one of them. Winter trout usually hold in slower water—deep pools, long runs, and at the base of waterfalls—so you'll want to focus on these areas. Work slowly and methodically, making a lot of drifts through each piece of water. It's amazing that you can drift through a spot twenty times without the slightest bump, only to have the indicator dive on the twenty-first pass. *A Few More tips*.... A great article from Kirk Deeter, editor of Trout magazine:

<http://www.fieldandstream.com/articles/fishing/trout-fishing/where-fish-trout/2012/12/flyfishing-tips-catching-winter-trout>

**PLUS, an added bonus**.... From our own master fly tyer - Jim Greco's winter stonefly info and pattern sheet. *Image courtesy of Carl Smolka.*



Winter stonefly; #20 real bug & #18 imitation.

<http://www.pptu.org/Fly-Tying/WinterStoneflies.pdf>

## Intermediate Fly Tying Class - 2016 – Bob Dietz

The PPTU fly tying class is being planned to be held on Tuesday Evenings, Feb 2 – March 8 near Landover, MD.

(This will be an intermediate class – students are expected to have their own tools and a basic knowledge of fly tying.)

Draft Syllabus for PPTU 2016 Fly Tying Class -

**Week 1:** Hackling techniques. Patterns will be the Mosquito (with variants) and a parachute sulfur.

**Week 2:** Caddis flies. Patterns will be the Henryville Special and the Elk Hair Caddis.

**Week 3:** Emergers. Patterns will be Klinkhammer and the traditional version of the Mole fly.

**Week 4.** Using CDC. Patterns will be the F-Fly, the Elk & CDC Caddis, and the modern version of the Mole fly (These will be the easiest flies of the course!)

**Week 5.** Terrestrials. Patterns will be the parachute ant and some sort of cricket (either a Letort Cricket or a foam one.)

**Week 6.** If no classes were canceled, we can either do attractors (e.g. the Patriot, Mr. Rapidan) or midges, depending on class interest.

Anyone interested in signing up for the class should email Bob O'Donnell. Costs for the class is \$50 for current members and \$70 if you're ASC is due. Additional details and directions will be provided to students. Class size is limited so sign up soon. Email: [TroutWrangler@Yahoo.com](mailto:TroutWrangler@Yahoo.com)





## Fishing Gear Flea Market at the January Meeting – Joe Robinson

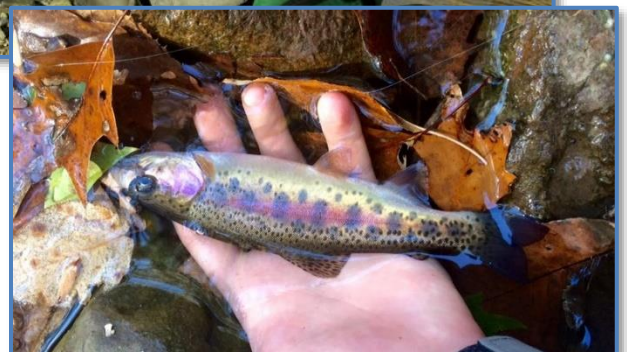
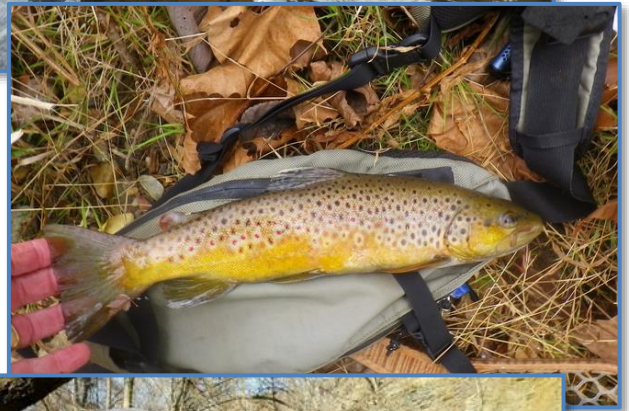
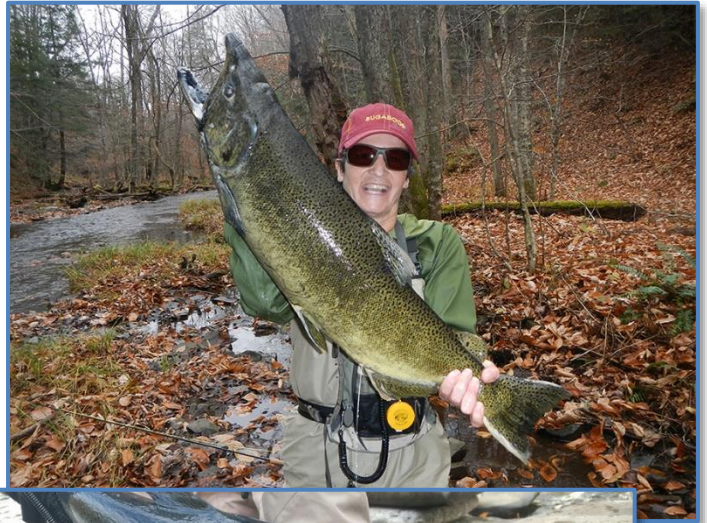
Along with all of the excellent fly tying demonstrations, once again we'll be hosting the ever popular Fishing Gear Flea Market. This is a great opportunity for all PPTU members to "thin the herd" or perhaps utter that wonderful phrase "Hey honey, look what I just got!"

Here's how it works...bring in any fishing or fishing related equipment or gear that you'd like to sell and price it however you like. We'll have table space to show off your stuff. All transactions and negotiations will be solely between the buyer and seller. All we ask is for a donation to the club of 10% of the final sale price from the seller.

## Members Adventures - Bob O'Donnell

You have been busy fishing! Take a look at the beautiful fish our members have scored over the past couple of months. Great stuff guys!

For those of you that want to enjoy even more details and pics of from the adventures, please sign up on our member **list server** and follow the action each month, ask questions, get answers, find fishing partners, etc. For more information check our website or stop by the welcome table at our next meeting.





## World Record Musky on a Fly - Jay Sheppard

You need to see this one!

[http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/outdoor/s/muskie-magic-bozeman-native-lands-world-record-muskie-on-minnesota/article\\_6eb2dc55-6fb4-5bf7-8f61-9d053793ddf3.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=email&utm\\_campaign=user-share](http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/outdoor/s/muskie-magic-bozeman-native-lands-world-record-muskie-on-minnesota/article_6eb2dc55-6fb4-5bf7-8f61-9d053793ddf3.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

## Free Membership in Trout Unlimited! - PPTU Board

Tell your family and friends, shout the word in the streets and let everyone you meet know that for this year all new PPTU members will receive a “FREE” membership in Trout Unlimited. Your initial membership fee to join National TU will be covered by us at no cost to you when you sign up with us. Join now! How can you lose?

Become a member today and you'll immediately join a community of over 150,000 anglers dedicated to protecting, reconnecting and restoring North America's trout and salmon fisheries. Your membership benefits include:

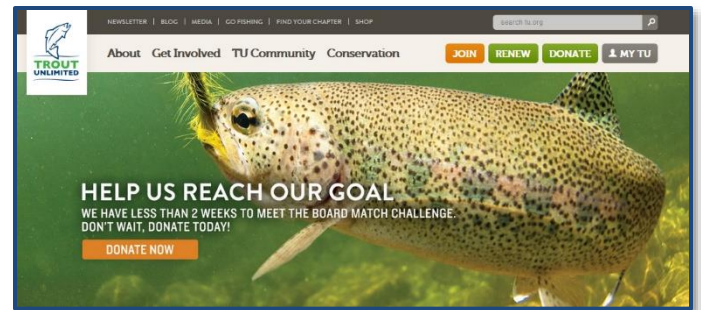
- Trout Magazine (four issues)
- PPTU Chapter Membership
- 16-Month TU calendar
- TU Member Card, Decal & Sticker
- Discounts on Hotels, Rental Cars, Fly Fishing Gear & More
- Member-Only Giveaways and Sweepstakes
- Access to PPTU's lists server community bulletin board
- Monthly digital copy of the chapter newsletter, *The Conservationist*
- Loads of new friends!

If you have any questions, feel free to speak with any of the chapter officers. Additional info can be found on our chapter's website:

<http://pptu.org/NewUser.shtml>

Trout Unlimited is America's leading coldwater conservation organization. Our hope is that clean, cold, fishable water exists for generations to come.

<http://www.tu.org/>



## Volunteers Still Needed - Dennis Covert

We are still seeking volunteers for several positions within the chapter.

- Vice President - Currently Vacant
- Outings Coordinator – Dennis Covert
- Youth Program - Currently Vacant

As with any volunteer organization we are only as vibrant as our membership. Yes, there is some work involved, but the rewards of working with a great bunch of people while serving the community where you live by far outweighs the work.

In the past I've heard folks say, "I don't volunteer because I don't really know how to do any of these things". Cast all of your reservations aside, we will help you!

We have roughly 450 members in the Potomac Patuxent Chapter of TU and about 30 of the same very dedicated people year after year put the show on the road. We need more support.

Take a look at the list above. If you have an interest you can contact me at a meeting or at home, or any one of the board members (Officers) listed on the chapter web page.

<http://www.pptu.org/>



## **PPTU Outings - Dennis Covert**

**Reminder, we've gone green!** We now use an on line Liability Release Form for all our sponsored outings. To sign up for a specific outing, simply complete the form. When you click on the Submit button, the Outings Chair is notified of your intent to attend that outing and you will receive a copy of your completed PPTU Liability Release via email. No paperwork is required. You can complete this form from any device that has internet access including smart phones and tablets. The liability release form link can be found on our website, Copy, save, and bookmark the link below for future use.

<http://www.pptu.org/outings/Release/release.shtml>

Our first outing of the New Year will take us once again to Big Spring, PA. We're planning on hitting Big Spring on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. With some luck, we'll have company from a few members of a local PA chapter that were interested in fishing the area.

We plan on arranging another "joint" outing or two this year as time and opportunity allow. We thought it would be fun to swap water and stories with fellow TU chapters.



Keep an eye out on the PPTU website and list server posts for upcoming outings being planned by the chapter. Our fishing outings are open to all members, regardless of their experience. Hope to see you on stream in 2016!



## **Fly Tying Patterns - Steve Fletcher**

If you're looking for some handy fly tying patterns then look no further than our own web site! For several years now, information on fly tying has been published on the chapter website. The information consists of numerous articles on fly tying techniques and patterns--all generated by members and friends of the Potomac-Patuxant Chapter of Trout Unlimited. I encourage you to check it out. All the patterns being tied at our January meeting will soon be posted to the web site for your convenience. Check them out.

## **From The Web - Bob O'Donnell**

One of the toughest things to explain to a new fly caster is how important the hard stop at the end of each stroke is. In this new video from Trout Unlimited, Kirk Deeter offers a tip taught to him by the late, great Charlie Meyers: When you are casting, imagine that you are hitting a wall with a mallet at the end of the forward and back casts. That hard stop releases the maximum energy stored in the bent fly rod, and it will help you achieve tighter loops and more accurate casts.

<http://www.orvis.com/news/fly-fishing/video-tuesday-tip-the-hammer-method-of-fly-casting/>

With all the warm weather, get yourself out there and practice a little. You'll be surprised at what a few minutes a week makes in your casting skills.



Contributions should be sent to the Editor as plain text in an email or as an MS Word.doc attachment. The deadline for submissions is the twelfth (12th) day of the month prior to the month of publication.

**Editor: Trout Wrangler**  
Phone: 410-733-0638  
Email: [TroutWrangler@Yahoo.com](mailto:TroutWrangler@Yahoo.com)

**Special enclosure for this issue.**

If you are a regular subscribing member to this chapter's publication, then you will find an extra bonus in this issue.

***Mayfly Patterns Simplified*** is an old handout that still has some merit for the fly tyers in our group. Enjoy!



Return Address:  
Potomac-Patuxent Chapter TU  
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# MAYFLY PATTERNS SIMPLIFIED, II<sup>1</sup>

Jay M. Sheppard

Fly fishing need not become overly technical in many of its aspects. A fly fisher need not be able to identify each mayfly to its Latin name to have a pattern that will work much of the time. While it is true that some trout seem to have advanced degrees in fly identification and are very difficult to catch on heavily pounded streams, most of the trout the average fisher sees are not THAT sophisticated! Trout are not using Latin either...only taking the prey items that are commonly available at that spot at that time without wasting energy.

If one had to have a dry fly for each of the 30-50 common mayfly species, each in two or more sizes and in emergers, duns, and spinners, then he would have to carry a very large box of labeled flies, especially on trips where the unexpected is to be expected. The fisher would still be worried about identification errors and the pattern selected not a match (confidence in a fly is very important!): Cahills or pale sulphurs might not work as Pale Morning Duns, etc. For the traveling angler, the identification of unfamiliar mayflies may pose a serious problem.

Using several sources (see below) and my own experiences over the past 15+ years, I have compiled a simplified list of patterns in various sizes to have at all times. Also, several simplified styles of tying mayfly imitations are described that are very durable and effective. All are very realistic and designed to land upright every time, not twist the tippet and survive lots of fish. These patterns should cover 80-90% of the hatches the average fisherman should encounter in the U.S.; the large drakes and tiny Tricos and Caenis are excluded from the table (last page) since special patterns are more often needed for these. The important thing is that IDENTIFICATION of the mayfly is NOT REQUIRED. However, the capture of a few specimens will greatly help in fly selection. In "matching," one uses only the stage (emerger or stillborn, dun, spinner), the length of the body, color of UNDERSIDE (trout have a hard time seeing the top of a floating insect) OR overall color for emerging nymph, and color of wings (sometimes legs and tails). The table uses those features to categorize most of the mayflies we find on our streams. As examples, the Light Cahill and Pale Morning and Evening duns fall in the second row and the various Blue-winged Olives fall in rows 4-9 of the table. If a particular hatch is regularly fished, these patterns might be modified, but these should work just as well. If there is a problem with a particular trout, it is more likely that presentation, stage, or size are in need of alteration.

Space does not allow for descriptions of the various life stages and the techniques used to present these various patterns. Basic references should be consulted. The patterns in the table are grouped by coloration (left column) and size (remaining columns); the latter has both hook size number and actual body length (millimeters). The most useful patterns are indicated by ' + '; the less frequent but possible in many areas are o. I would suggest about 3-5 flies of each size/pattern combination--depending upon how well you keep them on your tippets! Please note that many species of mayflies are represented in the table only in the one stage when they are most often available to the trout (e.g., March Browns are mostly taken as spinners). One point needs repeating when fishing the hatch, particularly in the evening: there may be more than one species and stage present. What looks to be the dominant species and stage in one section of the stream may mask a smaller species or different stage that is more abundant or vulnerable to the trout. The head of the pool may offer a quite different selection than the middle or tail sections. Fish may be selecting different prey only a few meters apart. Try one fly on several trout with one good (within inches and timed well) drift...if no interest (and fish continues to feed), change flies or trout...do not waste time! Carry a small insect net to scoop material from the surface.

For each pattern of the table, the components remain the same. The wing and body colors are the most important along with size. There are only 5-6 basic wing colors needed: white, pale gray, medium gray, dark gray, cream, and pale sulphur. The other components are similarly simplified. Many dubbing shades can be easily found in some premixed shade or blended as needed. For wings, I prefer either straight calf tail or fine, Texas deer body hair that has been dyed the proper shade using Rite or similar dyes in the home. High quality hackle really helps the pattern, too. Micro-fibbets, good hackle, or durable guard hair (mink, fox, woodchuck, etc.) make great tails. Tied properly, these will land upright 99% of all casts and should not twist the tippet: important considerations.

<sup>1</sup>Special insert for February 1994 CONSERVATIONIST (Potomac-Patuxent Chapter TROUT UNLIMITED); this is a revised edition of an earlier 1986 article in the CONSERVATIONIST. Copyright 1994. Not to be reproduced without permission of Potomac-Patuxent Trout Unlimited.

## Tying Instructions

The tails and bodies are all tied in the same general style. The stillborn emerger has a tiny ball of dubbing as the “wing” and some dubbing streaming out the rear as the nymphal skin; this is the PARAmurger, which can be very effective on cold days or early in the hatch period. The duns are tied in either of two styles: COMPARAdun or PARAdun; the former uses no hackle (except tailing). The latter and paramerger are hackled parachute style. I think both are nearly equal in durability and effectiveness. Most of my own duns are paraduns. Spinners are the easiest to construct and often the most effective.

**HOOK:** Mustad #94833 (3XF) in sizes 18-12, #94831 (2XL, 2XF) in sizes 14-8. For #20 or smaller, I suggest a ring-eyed hook like #94859. If larger fish are expected, use the #94840 (1XF), but check shanks--these may be slightly shorter than the #94833. The latter is good so long as you don't horse the larger fish and take care to hold the hook by the bend and not the point when in the vise. To substitute a shorter hook for the 94833 in the table, the former slips to the left and BETWEEN the corresponding sizes indicated. The #94831 is a great spinner or drake hook: light, with little wire in the bend to be supported by the tail, etc.

**THREAD:** same color tone as body (e.g., gray, cream, olive), 6/0.

**WINGS:** about 1/3 to 1/4 back from the eye, tie in the thread (except 1/2 for spinner; all dries in these styles start here).

Paramergers--(imitates the stillborn emerging mayfly; tied in parachute style) Twist a tiny amount of dubbing that matches the dun's wing color into a short, thick mass around the thread. Take one full turn to lock the near end of the dubbing against the hook shank and then tightly twist the dubbing around the thread to the point where it is smooth and tight. Hold dubbing between left thumb and forefinger (assuming right-handed in all these instructions); pull the thread down on back side of shank and hold dubbing above shank, tightening until an oval mass of dubbing has formed between thumb and forefinger (DO NOT RELEASE grip to view this process). Lock with several turns of thread; an oval loop (or donut with no visible hole) in the same plane as the hook and rising above it should result (you may look now), Tie in hackle, dull side down and tip pointed away from you in plane of shank, immediately in front of wing ball; size should be about 1 X length of body (not hook gap).

Paraduns--(imitates dun; tied in parachute style) wing material: small bunch of elk or fine deer body hair or calf tail just to give the impression of the wing silhouette. Even tips and trim butts before tying in. Tips of wing material should extend to just about even with the bend of the hook; that is, wing length = 1.0 X total body length; butts should occupy only half of the space up to the eye. Use only a SMALL amount of hair. Do not let go of the wing until the butts are firmly lashed down on top of the hook. Raise wing and figure-8 wind between base and the butts to hold in vertical, upright position to act as a post for the hackle. Attach hackle as in paramerger; size should be 1 X body/shank length; avoid hackle with webbing at base (this pattern uses larger hackles than the standard Catskill dry flies).

Comparadun--(imitates dun, but wing acts as both legs and wing; no hackle) same as paradun wing, except this needs about 3 X as much fine deer hair as the paradun. It is best tied with butts to rear, but not absolutely required. Do not lash the hair with figure-8 winds, but all the hair must flare to a near vertical at or above the plane of the hook shank. NO HACKLE is used (except for tail). This is a very simple tie and very durable, realistic, and effective! Calf tail does not work in this style.

NOTE: all wings should now be in as near a vertical position as possible. The body hair from local whitetails is too heavy and coarse for these flies; fine deer hair from central-west Texas is my favorite, particularly the white that can be dyed various shades for wings. Dyed calf tail that is fairly straight also works very well for the paradun.

Spinners--Tie hackle about 1/3 to 1/2 or more back on the shank from eye, dull side forward and pointing away from you at right angle to the hook shank.

**TAIL:** move thread rapidly back to rear of hook shank. For the paramerger, you may like to tie in a wisp of pale or white dubbing or similar material as a nymphal shuck that trails directly behind the body; it should be no longer than the body and not be evenly trimmed. Take the tiniest amount of dubbing and form a very tiny ball around shank at this point. I roll a FEW fibers of dubbing into a small loose ball before twisting around the thread and then make about 2 turns around the hook to form a tiny ball. Tail material must be STIFF and about 1-1.5 X body length. NEVER use deer or elk hair for tails--too fragile! For sizes 12-14, I use 3 fibers per side; 16-18 use 2/side; < 18 only 1/side. Tie onto hook shank just in front of ball and on each side. The angle between opposite sides should be about 75-90°. Cut fibers from SAME spot on hackle and make butts even to ensure tips are also even; do not let any webbing extend beyond thread.

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**BODY:** Starting from tail, apply a tiny amount of dubbing to thread. I lock dubbing to hook with one turn of the thread before firmly winding dubbing around thread. Keep abdomen of body (everything behind the wing) as THIN as possible. These are not grasshoppers! Wind dubbing tightly behind the hair wing (paradun & comparadun) to give added support to brace it in the vertical position; make 1.5 figure-8 winds in front and then back of wing passing the dubbing under the shank each time (spinner: continue past hackle to eye) to cover wraps; finish dubbing to eye (still keeping as thin as possible).

**HACKLE:** For paraduns and emergers, wind hackle in a counter-clockwise direction (view from above) with each turn going UNDERNEATH the PRECEDING turn at the base of the wing. Emergers need about 3-4 turns, paraduns 4-5. Final hackle turn should proceed up and over the dubbed body to the eye and then tied off (be careful not to tie down any fibers of the wing) behind the eye. The comparadun wing is flared to form a fan of nearly 180° above the plane of the body. For this and the paradun, apply a tiny drop of thin flexible or vinyl cement at the wing base to further help hold its shape. Quickly spread the hair tips of the paradun both forward and backward over the shank; from the front, the wing should look thin in cross section; from the side, wide. For spinner, carefully palmer the hackle up through the body dubbing to the eye: probably 7-9 turns. Trim ALL hackle fibers that have TIPS that extend BELOW the plane of the body and about 1/2 to 2/3 of those fibers directly above the body; trim butts of fibers as close as possible.

References:

Arbona, Fred L., Jr. 1980. Mayflies, the angler, and the trout. Winchester Press, Tulsa. 188 pp.

Caucci, Al, and Bob Nastasi. Hatches II. 1986. Lyons and Burford, N.Y. 335 pp.

<b>TABLE OF SIMPLIFIED PATTERNS</b>										
<b>P A T T E R N</b>	<b>HOOK SIZES</b>									
	Mustad 94833					Mustad 94831				
	20	18	16	14	12	14	12	10	8	6
DUNS/EMERGERS <sup>1</sup> (body/wing/tail/hackle)										
Pale cream/white/pale cream/pale cream				o	o	+	+	o	+	+
Cream/gray-cream/lt. ginger/lt ginger		o	+	+	+	+	+	o		
Yellow/cream-yellow/lt. ginger/lt. ginger		o	+	+	+	+	+	o		
Lt. gray/lt. gray/lt. gray/lt. gray	+	+	+	+	+	+	o			
Yel.-olive/lt. gray/lt. gray/med. ginger	o	+	+	+	+	o				
Yel.-olive/lt. gray/lt. gray/brown	o	o	+	o	o					
Yel.-olive/dk. gray/dk. gray/med. ginger	o	+	+	o	o					
Med. olive/dk. gray/med. gray/brown	o	+	+	+	+	o	o	o		
Yel.-gray/med. gray/med. gray/brown <sup>2</sup>			o	o	+	+	+	o	o	
Red-brown/dk. gray/dk. gray/brown <sup>2</sup>		+	+	o	o	o	+			
SPINNERS (body/wing/tail)										
Cream/pale cream/cream		o	+	+	+	+	+	o		
Med. amber/lt. ginger/lt. ginger	o	o	+	+	+	+	o			
Med. amber/lt. ginger/med. gray		o	+	+	+	+				
Dk. olive/lt. gray/dk. gray		+	+	+	+	o				
Red-brown/lt. gray/med. gray	o	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Number of tail fibers/side	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	3 <sup>3</sup>	3 <sup>3</sup>
Body/shank length in millimeters	5.5	6.0	6.6	8.0	9.2	10.6	12.6	14.6	16.8	19.1

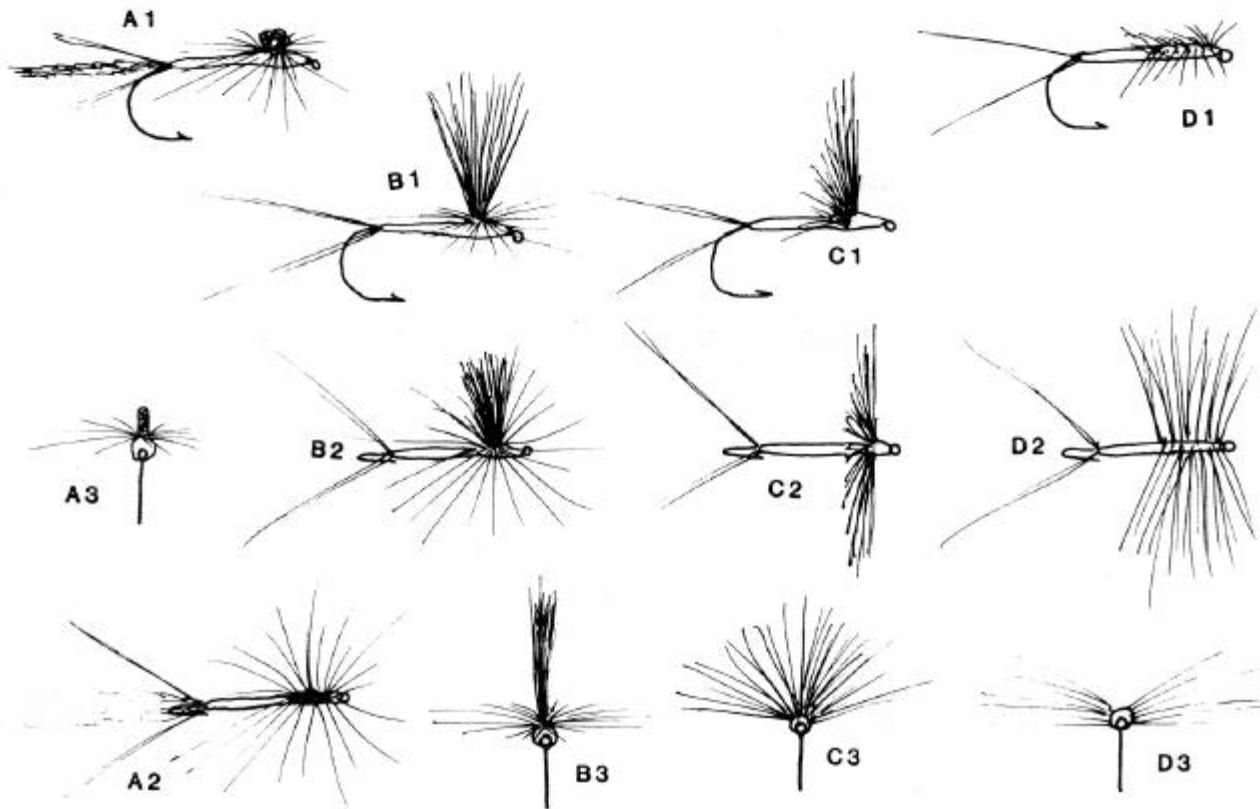
KEY: + (common, used often in many areas) and o (used in more limited situations).

FOOTNOTES: <sup>1</sup> shade for emerger's body should be darker than dun.

<sup>2</sup> dark ginger may be substituted for brown.

<sup>3</sup> mink or other mammal guard hair (NOT deer or elk!).

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ILLUSTRATIONS KEY: First character (letter)--A= PARAMerger, B = PARAdun, C = COMPARAdun, D = spinner; Second character (number)--1= side view, 2= top, 3= front.

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