



Newsletter November 2006



November Meeting on the 16th

The November meeting will be held on Thursday, November 16th at 8:00 PM.

Come and recap the season with your fellow members. We will have pizza and a raffle. Members are invited to donate fishing items for the raffle (like that

antique bamboo rod that you are dying to get rid of). Ed Novak, columnist for the *The Fisherman* magazine, will give a presentation on fishing the surf. This should be very interesting. Ed has a lot of experience and knowledge.

Clean up Day Postponed

The cleanup day planned for Saturday, November 18th has been postponed. There are some issues with the town

conservation commission and we need to get a permit for the work.

October Meeting

We had a good meeting on October 16th. A copy of *The Fisherman* magazine with a great mention of the club and our opening day in Ed Novak's column was passed around. The highlight of the meeting was Bill Hagar's presentation on caddis flies.

Bill was involved in research that used the chemical analysis of caddis cases to understand the effects of farm and development runoff on water chemistry and on the creatures that live in the streams. Thanks, Bill!

Welcome

Inspired by the mention of the club in *The Fisherman*, and with an assist from Rollie Johnson, we have a new member this month. His name is Ed Callahan and he lives in Foxboro. He is a relative newcomer to fly fishing, and mostly fishes in salt water. He fishes along The Cape

and Islands. He's planning a trip to the Florida Keys in March. When he's not doing important stuff like chasing his 10 grand children or fishing, Ed is the treasurer of a real estate company. Welcome, Ed!

Pond Overflow

The heavy rain on October 28th caused some issues in the pond. The outflow grate was clogged by leaves and the water was flowing over the inner dam wall. The town DPW was called in and they

removed the boards and the grate. It is unknown how many fish may have escaped downstream during the time when the grate was out of place.

Fishing Report

The fishing has been steady and members are catching fish. There has not been much midge activity. Small nymphs (14 – 16) have been working. Bill Hagar had

the pond water tested last month to check the Ph (acidity). The result was 6.1, which is normal and healthy for a pond.

Favorite Flies, 2006

As the season draws to a close, I evaluated the flies that I used. Many were old favorites, but I used a few new patterns this year that are joining the old standbys in my fly boxes. Here are some of the patterns that worked well for me this season. Perhaps this will give you some ideas for new flies to tie over the winter. The patterns aren't original to me and I've tried to credit the sources of the flies correctly.

If other members would like to share their experience and favorite patterns, send them to me and I'll publish them in the next newsletters.

For the club pond, I found a couple of new flies that worked well for me. The first is an alternative to the woolly bugger, called Skip's Furry Dragon. It's a dragon fly nymph developed by Skip Morris.

The pattern is as follows:

Hook: Mustad 9671 #10

Abdomen: 3 or 4 bunches of dark olive rabbit fur from a zonker strip or hide tied up the top of fly. On top of each olive bunch tie a smaller black bunch. (Note: I tie a piece of weighting wire on each side of the shank first to make the fly look wider.)

Eyes: Black vernille bound crossways and trimmed.

Legs: Grizzly dyed olive hen hackle, clipped top and bottom.

Thorax and head: dubbed olive rabbit fur.
Crisscross the dubbing around the eyes.

(from *Fly Fishing and Tying Journal*, Summer 2006, p. 55)

On the opposite end of the size scale, I started using a midge pattern called the Hermaphrodite. It's designed to hang in the surface film like an emerging midge. One reason I like this pattern is that it's more visible than many midge patterns because the post sticks up above the water. The dressing for the Hermaphrodite is:

Hook: Tiemco 100, #18-22
Post/wing: White or tan CDC, tied over the eye (parallel to the shank)
Body: Pearl flashabou or Krystal flash
Hackle: Grizzly, wound around the shank just below the post.

(from *American Angler*, Jan/Feb 2006, p. 45)

On rivers and streams, I started using the parachute ant fly. I have used various ant patterns over the years, foam ones and fur ones, but this parachute pattern has better visibility and a more realistic silhouette. You might notice a trend here - visibility. As I get older visible flies are becoming more important to me - in a few years I'll be touting the virtues of size 2 chartreuse

ants (they may not catch many trout, but you can see 'em!).

The parachute ant pattern that I've been using is:

Hook: Mustad 94833, #14 -18
Wing: White or yellow polypropylene yarn post style in the middle of the shank, between the lumps of dubbing
Body: Two lumps of Black dubbing, rounded
Hackle: Black or dark dun parachute style around the post.

For saltwater I have used Jack Gartside's Soft Hackle Streamer for a long time with good results. Usually I fish it in chartreuse or white. This year I tied a variation of this pattern that did very well for me (but I'm not throwing away the chartreuse version). My latest modification goes like this:

Hook: Mustad 34007 #1/0
Bead (optional): 5/32" silver bead
Tail: Silver flashabou, 10 -12 strands tied above the bend and cut to shank length
Body/Hackle: 2 white marabou feathers wound one after the other up the shank. The ends of the marabou should go to almost the end of the tail.
Collar: Olive marabou, 2-3 turns wound in front of the white.

For more on Jack Gartside's patterns see his web site: <http://www.jackgartside.com>

Visit the Website (www.troutpond.com)

The website has public and members-only pages. You can register for the members-

only forums and keep up with everyone between meetings.

Keep Us in the Loop

When you move or change email addresses please update the club list so that we can get information to you.

Send updates to editor@troutpond.com or NSC, PO Box 191, Needham MA 02492

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