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Fit To Be Tied: Norm (Lack O' Hackle) Crook

August Meeting

DATE: August 28, 1984
PLACE: St. John's Episcopal Church
Room 010, Education Building
River Oaks and Westheimer
TIME: 7:30.....Fit To Be Tied
8:00.....Main Program

July Meeting

If you didn't attend the July meeting, you missed something special. Joe Robinson, of the Austin Angler, entertained, instructed, and delighted a standing-room crowd with his program on sub-surface fly fishing for bass. This club has never had a better presentation. If you get the chance to hear Joe, don't miss it.

Club Dues


Our soft-hearted treasurer, Charlie Weems, sends the following message:

**THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE
IF DUES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID.**


We sense that Charlie, in his round-about way, is trying to tell us something. Do you get that feeling? Send your \$20.00.

While we are on the subject, don't forget The Federation of Fly Fishers. FFF is important to all of us. Send \$20.00 for FFF dues.

Southern Council Conclave

If you haven't done so, send a dozen flies, right now, to Steve Jensen, 4514 Coach Drive, Brookline, Mo. 65619 for the conclave raffle. Then, do yourself a real favor and make plans to attend this conclave in Mountain Home, Arkansas, on October 5th through 7th. You will catch lots of rainbow trout in the world famous White and North Fork Rivers, the Ozarks are beautiful in the autumn, and Kreh and Whitlock will be on stage. Don't miss it. 

Want Ads

Miss Classified reports that Morten Lovstad has a Fisher graphite rod for sale. It's 9 foot for a 9/10 line, two piece, strong with a fast, progressive action. It casts a 10-weight line with ease, and is like new. The cost is \$75.00. Call Morten at 350-5798 (h), or 556-3517 (o). Morten also reminds us that he gives a 10% discount to all club members on all LOVSTAD rods. 

Book Reviews

By: John Hannah

FISHING YELLOWSTONE WATERS, By Charles E. Brooks, photographs by Dan Callaghan. Nick Lyons Books/Winchester Press

Charles Brooks is highly qualified to write this guide to the waters that he has been fishing for the past forty years. During the last twenty of these he has made his home in West Yellowstone, Montana. His book covers most of the moving water in the area. (He must not consider that Hebgen or Yellowstone Lakes are Yellowstone waters.) Brooks's previous books have shown a partiality toward wet fly angling, but this is not apparent in the present work.

The book includes a fine assortment of black-and-white photos by Callaghan. In his notes, the photographer points out that he has been inspired by a 1938 publication The Waters of Yellowstone with Rod and Fly by Howard Back, who was a professor at, of all places, the then-new University of Houston. If anyone who reads this has a copy of that book, I'd like to see it.


Anglers who, like me, haven't been able to catch a decent fish in the Firehole lately will be interested in Brooks's explanation in his chapter about that famed stream as to why that is.

The shortcomings of this book lie not in anything it tells us, as far as I know, but rather in what it omits.

For example, an angler intending to visit the Yellowstone area might read the book and then make these plans: to fish the Gallatin in late June and then go over to the Yellowstone River in the Park for the weekend of the Fourth. If he were to follow this plan he would be disappointed over Brooks's failure to mention that the Gallatin is rarely in condition for fishing during June and that the Yellowstone in the Park is presently closed until July 15. Brooks should have given information about when to fish certain streams.

Further, Brooks doesn't mention that the Yellowstone River upstream from the falls is entirely a cutthroat fishery. Some anglers don't care to fish for cutthroat because they tend to put up a fight more along the lines of a sheepshead than of a mountain trout. Another species, the Rocky Mountain whitefish, is mentioned only once in this volume, although whitefish proliferate in sections of the rivers that Brooks describes. And this really is an inferior sport fish.

Curiously, although the author gives excellent information about fifty miles of the Madison River outside of the Park, his discussion of the Yellowstone River stops at the Park boundary.

This is one fishing book that does not contain any contribution by Ernest Schwiebert. Instead, his picture is on the cover. 

Fishing News

Ed Rizzolo journeyed to Washington to fish the beautiful Kalama and Stillaguamish Rivers with former TFFer Norm Thompson. They caught some nice rainbows but no steelheads. Norm has moved into a new house and would like to fish with any TFFers heading that way. We'll print his new address next month.


Gary Shepherd and Charlie Thanheiser enjoyed some excellent dry fly fishing in the Rio Grande River near Creede, Colorado in July, despite having to battle some high water.

Jack Sisson headed east in July, and caught bluefish in Chesapeake Bay, smallmouths in the Potomac River, and brown trout in the Pennsylvania chalk streams.

Richard Hakemack caught some fine trout in Colorado, fishing the Blue and St. Vrain Rivers. He used a #14 Dark Cahill. Richard then fished a Colorado lake and had his rod broken by a five pound carp.

Another rod was broken when Brooks Bouldin snapped his graphite while horsing a big redbfish near Rockport. Never one to panic, our club guru played the fish by holding the rod tip, and landed the seven-pounder.

Brooks and his sons, Brian and Brad, were fishing with guide Howard Brown, whom Brooks highly recommends. They spooked a school of 75 redbfish on the flats. Brooks caught another red that would go six pounds, Brian landed a three-pounder, and Brad scored a four pound sheepshead, all on yellow popping bugs of some obscure origin.

Chris Phillips reports the sighting of several tarpon in Galveston Bay. If anyone knows a tarpon when he sees one, it is Chris. 

Fit To Be Tied

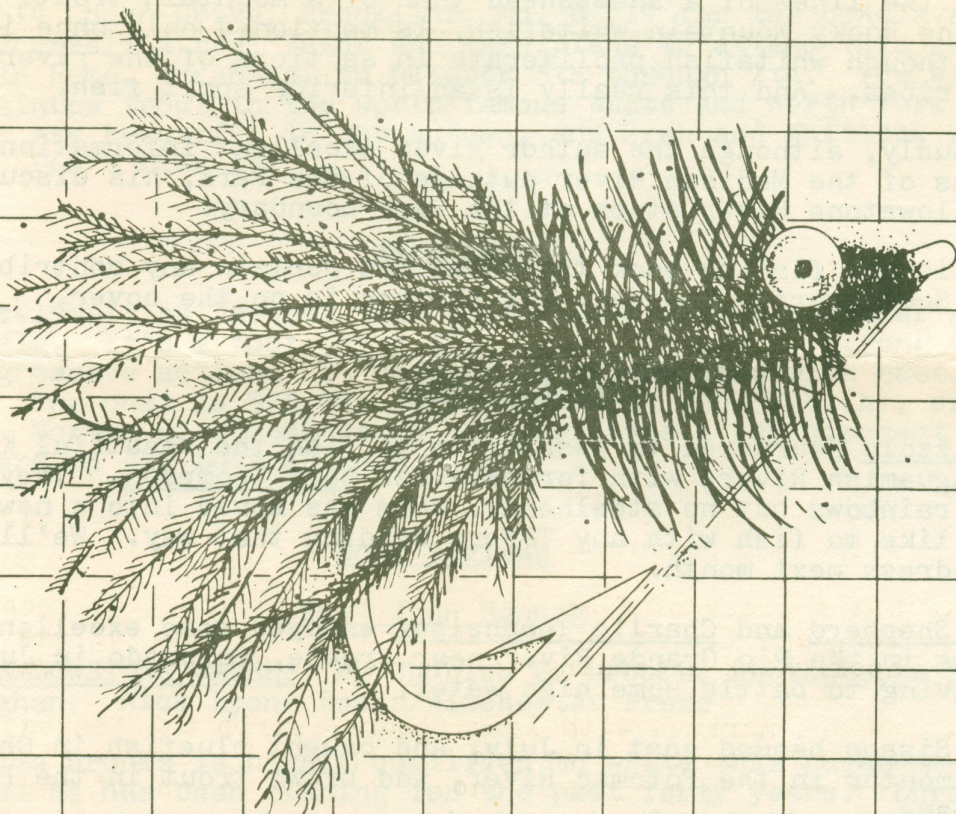
Since Lack O' Hackle is off to the conclave in West Yellowstone, our Fly of the Month is a rerun, presented by Brooks Bouldin, with Lance Brown artwork.

F L Y · O F · T H E · M O N T H

				<p>THE BUGEYED WOOLYBOOGER</p> <p>Thread: Red Flat Nylon (CSE)</p> <p>Hook: Stinger</p> <p>Tail: Black Maribou</p> <p>Body: Black Yarn</p> <p>Hackle: Black, Palmered</p> <p>Eyes: Bead Chain</p>																							

1. Wrap the hook shank with 20 wraps of lead wire about the same size as the hook diameter. Coat lead wire with head cement or Buglaze.
2. Cut a piece of flat nylon weed guard about 3½ inches long and tie it on top of, and at the rear of the hook shank extending to the rear. Cement the wraps.
3. Select maribou with long fibers, strip the longest fibers from the stem and tie on the hook just above the weed guard. Tail should be the length of the hook shank and very full.
4. Select a soft, webby natural black hackle and tie in, tip first, at tail. Tie in black yarn, preferably mohlon, and wind thread forward to front of lead wire, and back again to make a smooth underbody for yarn.
5. Tie in two connected bead chain eyes about ¼ inch behind eye of hook using figure eight wraps. Cement.
6. Wrap yarn forward to a point just behind eyes and tie off, but don't cut. Palmer hackle forward and tie off behind eyes. Trim hackle butt. Wrap yarn forward, figure eight style through eyes and make one or two turns around shank in front of eyes. Tie off, and trim yarn.
7. Bring weed guard down around bend and through eye of hook. Fold nylon back and tie down. Whip finish and cement head.

F L Y · O F · T H E · M O N T H



GEORGE BODMER, who once owned a classy trout shop in Colorado Springs taught me to tie this pattern. I suppose in size 6 or 8 it is a fine leech pattern for those trout streams where leeches work well, but in sizes 2 and 4, it is great for bass. Except for the tail, it resembles Whitlock's Eelworm Streamer, both having an alluring swimming motion due to the extra weight of the eyes at the head of the fly.

Tied in brighter colors with an acrylic fiber tail (for durability) on stainless hooks it does well on Specks, Blues, Flounder and the like.

For bass it should be fished slowly on the bottom and near structure. This is a good time of year to try it in both fresh and salt water. THANKS, GEORGE.

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Loose Hooks

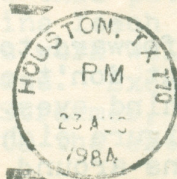
It was great to see Dave Perkins of the Orvis home office at our July meeting. It would be difficult to express what Orvis and the Orvis people have meant to our club.

Eliot Tucker is on vacation this month. His salt-water column will resume next month.

If you haven't been watching Joe Humphreys' "Fly Fishing Journal" at 10:30 am on Sundays over ESPN, you ought to do so. You will love it.

As we have reported earlier in this bulletin, Brooks Bouldin, in his capacity as Saltwater Vice President of the FFF, is planning a saltwater conclave for November of 1985. If you would like to help on this project, there will be an organizational meeting on September 4th, at 7:00 pm, at Brooks's house. The address is 7702 Meadowvale. His number is 782-5376 if you want to talk to him about it. Otherwise, just come to the meeting.

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