



Editor's Eddy

As was referenced in the last *Single Haul*, Bob Kuehnbaum is recuperating from back surgery, In a fit of weakness, I volunteered to put the *Single Haul* together for a couple of issues until Bob gets back on his feet. What was I thinking!?

One of the "advantages" with being a guest editor is I get to write the editorial comment. Fortunately, by the time my comments come back to bite me, it will be Bob's problem again.

As of my writing this, the inland trout season is closed and, no, I didn't get out on the last day either! This working for a living is a true nuisance... Nonetheless, I promise myself I will do better next year (sure!).

I went to north central Pennsylvania to fish this past June (Pine Creek for those of you who know the area). A great trip, notable for the number of bears and not fish though. Still, we caught our share and always had fun. Yet I don't like bears in the campsite. Especially a sow bear, with 2 cubs that everyone thinks are so adorable, and where is my camera, and do you think I can get closer? Certainly, madam, I love to watch bears eviscerating ignorant tourists!

My next issue is whether I will go fishing for Steelhead this year. I haven't been serious about Steelhead in several years. It's not the weather. It's the bait slingers, the ones that take any female fish and open it up for the roe and discard the carcass really irk me! Not only is it illegal (to cause the waste of a game fish) but it's just so wrong on every level. No wonder the "antis" are getting so much attention. Practice like this is revolting to everyone, or it should be! I will add my voice to the slow build up of people who want to see an end to natural roe as bait. The fake stuff works nearly as well and you don't have to waste the fish if you don't want to. It's more durable and doesn't rot in your fishing vest when you find it again in April!

Enough with the soapbox! OK, maybe a little more... Get out to some club meetings this year. We're having an election for president, vice-president and treasurer, and we need your input. Make your voice heard on October 21st.

Sheldon Seale, October, 2003

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Correspondence to the Editor may be sent via fax (905-276-2401), phone (905-276-6684) or e-mail at (r.kuehnbaum@sympatico.ca), or to the address on the last page.

Quotable / Notable Quotes

Here's a good Scottish toast for good measure –

"May neither your landing net or your throat ever be dry!"

Anonymous



Single Haul: It's a Material World

This is yet another reminder that if you have interesting tales of travels and destinations, fly patterns, angling tips, miscellaneous musings and ramblings, or artwork and photos, please forward them to the Editor by email (box on page 1) or mail (page 8). Or you can phone and discuss an idea.

Upcoming 2003 Conservation Events

This is a reminder of the remaining IWFFC and TUC workday on the Credit River. For updated and more detailed information, check the IWFFC website. Alternatively, contact Bob Kuehnbaum at 905-276-6684 or Dave Beaton at Credit Valley Conservation at 905-670-1615.

October 25th Joint IWFFC-TUC soil erosion control - bioengineering project downstream from Grange Sideroad. Meeting place TBA. 9 am – 1 pm. Waders required.

November 9th CVC-sponsored trout spawning survey. Meet at Beechgrove Sideroad and Credit River, south of Alton. 10 am – 1 pm.

November 12th - Trout Unlimited Canada Toronto Banquet & Auction

Le Meridien King Edward Hotel

Ticket Price: \$200 each

For complete information please contact Len Yust at 905-634-2593 or lyust@tucanada.org

Notice: Credit River, New Regulations to Be Implemented 2004-5

As the culmination of a process that began well over a year ago, including a stakeholders meeting convened by Mark Heaton of the OMNR last November, new Credit River angling regulations were posted on the last weekend of September.

Importantly for resident trout anglers, the entire upper Credit River and its tributaries within the Town of Caledon and upstream from Old Baseline Road (south of Inglewood) to Hwy.9 have been designated as catch-and-release waters, with only artificial lures and single-point hooks allowed. In addition, the entire area will be a sanctuary (i.e. no fishing permitted therein) in the trout off-season, so there can be no more "Aw, shucks, I was fish'n for suckers." This includes the main stem, the West Branch, the "Little East Credit" and Shaw's Creek, as well as any other smaller tributaries.

Note that these regulations will be phased in on January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2005. The sanctuary regulations (prohibiting any off-season angling) involve the federal Fisheries Act and must be approved by the federal government, so they will not take effect until the beginning of 2005.

We extend appreciation to Mark Heaton, District Biologist, and OMNR for moving this along and, in the case of Mark, for encouraging those

involved to agree to such bold, forward-looking changes. For Ontario, this step could be precedent-setting.

For the many of you who fish the lower river, note that the open season for rainbow and brown trout up to Hwy. 403 now includes tributaries, and that the sanctuary has moved from just upstream of the Reid Mill Dam to the Britannia Road bridge. In the middle part of the river (Britannia Road to Old Baseline Road), there will be no fishing from Jan.1 until the late April trout season opener.

When available, check the fishing regulations for details.

Ken Forse's Little BWO Emerger

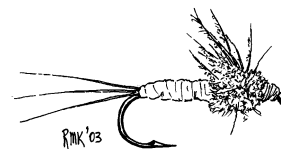
(Editor's Note: This is extracted from Don Moore's series of emailed 'Fly of the Week' articles.)

Although Ken lives in Montreal, his business affairs frequently bring him to Toronto where, when the occasion presents itself, he will seize the opportunity and attend Izaak Walton Flyfishing Club meetings.

I nabbed Ken at this year's Forum where he graciously gave me some of his BWO emerger patterns.

It's a simple fly, as you will see in the attachment, tied on tiny hooks: little #20 -#26s. The body is tied from either yellow tying thread or yellow floss. The thorax is made from hare's ear. It is hackled with a single CDC feather, the tip of which is not clipped off but left slanted backwards (Glanros style) over the fly's body and is intended to represent the insects emerging wing.

One could reflect on the use of a yellow body when imitating a BWO yet, according to Ken, this is a most effective fly when olives are on the water and I now find myself musing about England's James Wright and his 1854 creation called Greenwell's Glory. It too was tied to represent olives and it too had a body tied with yellow silk.



Kiwi Caper: New Zealand on the Fly

Eli Robillard

Fishing was sparse this summer: once to Pennsylvania for a few days; then just once to the Credit, and on a slow day between hatches at that. When my wife got the call to speak in August at conferences in Australia and New Zealand, there was no way I could let an opportunity to go there for some fishing slip by, so we cobbled together a plan to get me to New Zealand on points and cheap flights.

The itinerary put me in New Zealand two days ahead of Marcie. Two days to fish. I put a call out to friends on the Internet via the FF@ mailing list and the Right Honourable (but not "Lord") Conrad Black leapt forward to oblige me for a couple days of fishing. Conrad is a native Winnipegger transplanted to New Zealand some 30-odd years ago. And what odd years they've been!

And so, at 2:00 am, Sunday, August 10th I drove out of Toronto and arrived at 5:30 am Tuesday the 12th in Auckland – I would travel over 34,000 kilometres in the next 16 days – and was greeted by New Zealand Customs. Because of a healthy paranoia about foreign soil and vegetation, Conrad had warned me not to bring waders, boots or used flies – New Zealand Customs has a giant collection of golf shoes, too – but I forgot to think about tying materials.

Here's the story: Everything must be commercially prepared; no roadkill. Anything obviously dyed (including capes) or off the skin is fine; anything either naturally or artificially black, brown, or white is not, since they can't tell the difference between natural and artificial colours. Fur on tanned hides is fine. Anything that might contain flesh – like tails or rabbit feet – is quarantined. For \$5.00NZ they stored everything they wouldn't let in until my return flight. But it took them forever to find my stuff on the way out, and I was glad I set aside an extra half hour.

A few pounds lighter, I was released to meet a bleary-eyed Conrad on the other side. The Canuck-at-heart he is, he drove overnight to be there for my pre-dawn arrival. We promptly got lost on the way out of Auckland, found the highway again, and drove the four-plus hours to the south side of Lake Taupo.

The fishing plan was this: Being winter and with the regular season closed, we would be steelheading the Taupo drainages, mainly the Tongariro and Waikato. Winter air temperatures are consistently 20°C during the day and 15°C during the night, unless there is weather moving through. No significant rain for roughly three months

previously meant that rivers were low and fishing was tough – real tough. The payoff, should we hook up, is that the mode weight is over five pounds. As I had to be in Auckland, and Conrad further north the next evening, we would have just two half-days to fish.

After a quick stop around noon in Turangi to pick up a license, rent waders and grab flies, we hit the water. Wow, the water! It's like everything you've seen in pictures – only better: bluer, rockier, faster. It smells good out there.

And so began my baptism – and I don't mean figuratively. Conrad asked if I was a good wader. By North American standards I do fine – I wet wade most rivers with sandals and save the studs for fast, slick water – but this is a different planet. There, wading boots are rubber-soled; wouldn't want to spook the fish. Water is fast, deep, and packed with slick boulders. Forget any hope for gravel or silt in between. I rolled up my sleeves so I could keep at least three limbs on the shifting ground as I made my way down and across.

I don't remember when I first Kreutzered, but it wasn't long before that cold, wet feeling spilled over me. Conrad, at a little over 5 ft in height, with years of experience, is built for this place. My 6'2" frame and size 13 feet are not. While Conrad bounded off to test the waters ahead I slowed to test every footplant twice before trusting it not to snap my ankle when the current bowled me over. When navigating a route you don't think 'get a position for that pool;' rather, 'if you lose your footing remember to get an arm around that rock before the rapids.' It wasn't all like that, just the best spots.

We climbed across mossy rock walls that plunged another twenty feet (visibly) below the surface. Conrad would often have comforting words like: "That island has moved twenty feet since last month," or "Used to be you could cross here." If I wasn't having such a great time this might have bothered me.

But wow, the water! And the fish! Sure, the fishing was tough. Fish were few, far between and deep. But they were there.

The rig we used consisted of a weighted nymph and a lighter pattern like an egg or Shipman's Buzzer (not Improved) trailing 8" behind. Canadian steelhead patterns work too; many of ours were in fact adapted from New Zealand patterns. I carried at least two weights of nymph; most fishing was one to three feet down but for specific moments you may need to drift four to seven feet down and split shot is not allowed. An 8 wt rod with floating WF or DT line is recommended. I took a medium action 9 wt. (thanks, Dan!) since

my own 9 wt is a broomstick better suited to saltwater distances. Leaders are level (no taper necessary), 12 to 15 ft and 6 to 10 lb. test. New Zealand steelheading does not require special gear. But bring the backing. A large arbour reel with a good drag system is a very good idea.

In two days I hooked up thrice and landed once. The first was an epic ten-minute battle followed by a long distance release. I wasn't sure I remembered everything about setting the hook on steelhead: Was I missing hits? Upstream or down? Strike hard or give pause? Then it happened, and without a thought the drift was right and the fish took. 'Twas a silvery beaut'; it jumped and showed me so. No great size, but a strong fish in deep, turbulent water.

Oh, well, scratch that. My first fish in New Zealand, and my favourite of the year, grinned at me and winked as it broke the surface, rolling slightly as if to show off its piercing, placed to provide maximum pleasure to the hen while on the redd. On the reel in a moment and the fight was on. I pumped, it ran. I gained, it leapt. And then, while working my way down to turn it again, I forgot my rod tip for a moment. It was off.

Upstream, meanwhile, Conrad landed a 6-pounder.

The place where we stayed was ideal. The "Brew Haus" has small basic rooms, a large kitchen fully stocked with pots and pans, fish cleaning shack, and a tavern that dispenses three shades of home brew and has a large stone fireplace ideal for meeting weary travellers from around the world. Conrad carries a smoker in his truck and, though he claimed it wasn't his best, that fish was delicious. After we stuffed ourselves, other kitchen dwellers helped us polish it off. After that, the gin flowed with the tales, and before long it was time to grab a few winks before dawn.

The next day, the scenery was at least as beautiful, and the fishing just as hard and rewarding. We saw some very big fish but, like all fish that get to be very big fish, they were beyond casting distance or hanging under impossible drifts. Conrad played ghillie through most of the day and I did land a nice one. And – boom! – it was time to head back up to Auckland. We only got lost once more; so much for shortcuts.

What is it like there? The little differences stand out. Driving on the left is easy; you'd be surprised at how much driving actually consists of following the car in front of you. We did hit some rally-style trails too, and I was glad to have a few days to get a feel for the driving on the wrong side before Marcie and I hit the thin back roads towards the black sand beaches made famous on film. So

driving was mostly fine; it's when you're on foot that you forget which way to look before crossing.

Moss grows on the south side; the sunny side is to the north. The moon is upside down. They raise deer commercially. Want to see a herd of deer grazing inside an 8-ft fence? Go to New Zealand. Aside from the imported flying rats (a.k.a. pigeons), the birds look like they escaped from the pet shop: small and pretty. They have biting gnats but no blood-sucking insects like mosquitoes. Fly shops stock the same stuff as here; no local pukeko (basically purple chicken) or budgie on the walls. Prices are similar, and cheaper than you would expect for an island nation.

The landscapes take your breath away: snow-peaked volcanoes, rolling green hills, young mountains, eager rivers, soaring trees, lush ferns right through winter, crashing waves on black sand beaches, a lemon tree in every yard, and sheep on the hillside. It's something to see.

Of course, the day after I returned to Auckland the rains started – and I presume the fishing turned on. The normal catch is three to six fish per day. Once again, I should've been there tomorrow. Well, I might not make it back tomorrow, but certainly some day after it.

When Should I Hit It? Part 2

Tim Rajeff

In part one of my "When Should I Hit It" tip (*in the last issue – Ed.*), we discovered that the stiffness of the rod will be one of the factors which determine when a caster should "hit" the cast. This casting tip will involve the parts of your body and arm that are used to "hit" the cast. Please remember that in every cast there is an optimum stroke length and stroke aggressiveness to match the caster's equipment and physique.

In the next few paragraphs I would like to review the form used by great casters, many which use different strokes. Hopefully you can "relate" to one of the casting styles described below and pick out something that will help you. Keep in mind that it is best to examine your body type and your favorite casting motion to know if you are an explosive caster or a long stoke / smooth caster. Mr. Harvey Pennic, a famous golf instructor, used to tell his students, "If you are going to try to copy the swing of someone make sure they have the same 'build' as you." I recommend the same thing for casting a fly rod.

The aggressive caster, one who likes to use an explosive burst of acceleration, will generally do better using little or no wrist in their cast. Remember in the first tip we discussed how the explosive caster would be the person who likes a stiffer rod. There is considerably more leverage against a person's hand and arm when they use a stiffer rod. The concept of a fly rod being a lever is one of the "engineering techno geek" things we instructors talk about and isn't important for everyone to understand. Just remember that a stiffer rod is harder to accelerate than a softer rod. Imagine trying to swing a hammer that has a handle that is twice as long as a normal handle. It would be difficult to swing the hammer and would require more strength wouldn't it? To swing a long hammer you might be better off using no wrist, or locking the wrist. So in essence a stiffer rod acts like a longer lever, which will require more strength and a more aggressive stroke to get the speed needed to cast a line.

To effectively cast a stiff rod, a caster must work harder making a shorter stroke. This is the short twitch muscle person. They are able to reach their target using a short stroke. Since the wrist is the weakest link in the casting stroke of most people, it should be used sparingly when using a stiff rod.

The opposite of the aggressive caster is the smooth longer stroke caster. When they cast, their rod travels farther back and farther forward during the cast. They prefer rods that bend more and act like a shorter lever. The softer rod is easier to accelerate so many people who use softer rods can take advantage of their wrist speed. The wrist snap is most people's fastest twitch muscle movement. Every major league pitcher relies on the wrist snap at the end of their motion to add the final speed to their throws. Like a pitcher, a fly caster can add their final speed or acceleration using the wrist. If the rod is too stiff, your wrist will not be strong enough to add speed and may cause casting problems and bad loops. If the rod is softer, it will not be too hard to snap the wrist at the end of the casting stroke.

So try making some casts using mostly wrist, and try making some casts using almost no wrist. Repeat the experiment with a stiff rod and a soft rod to help identify which "style" best suites your body type.

Courtesy of FFF ClubWire newswire service

Net Minder

We've all heard that knotted landing nets are harder on fish than nets made with knotless mesh. But did you know that rubber mesh may make the safest of all nets? Well, according to an article in the journal *Fisheries Research*, as reported by A.J. Somerset in the October, 2003, issue of *Outdoor Canada*, it does – at least under certain conditions. Knotted mesh, knotless mesh and rubber accounted for post-release mortality rates of fourteen, six and four percent, respectively, in bluegills from Lake Opinicon, Ontario. No deaths were reported of fish landed by hand.

How these numbers relate to cold-water trout or migratory salmonids in rivers, or warm-water fish other than bluegills is unknown. But the numbers and common sense indicate that a fish to be released should be hand-landed or, better yet, released by removing the hook from the fish's mouth while the fish remains in the water. If you need a net to land a large fish, use a knotless or rubber mesh net. And try to keep the fish mostly submerged.

A Collection of Midge Larvae



Flies by Sheldon Seale

Backswimmer Technique

Sheldon Seale

I recently experienced good pond fishing using a Water Boatman pattern. However, the technique of fishing this and the Backswimmer made the difference. This is a relatively simple technique which anyone can master in a few minutes. All you need is any 4 weight or heavier rod of 8' or longer (in other words almost any rod).

No "true" leader is involved, really, just double the end of some 1X or 2X tippet material and tie a loop knot. You will need about 1' (30 cm) of this material. Loop it directly to the loop on your floating fly line.

To this, add 6' (about 2 metres) of 3X tippet.

Slip on a "corkie" type of indicator (I know, some of you won't do this) and peg it just below the knot up close to the fly line.

Tie on any Backswimmer or Water Boatman pattern, which should be heavily weighted. You may add a split shot at the eye if it isn't.

Cast out and let the pattern "suspend" under the indicator. Give the line 4-5 quick, short strips and let it settle again. The effect is to imitate the jerky, upward motion of the insect. Use heavy tippet or you will break a lot of fish off on the second strip! Watch the indicator carefully. If it "vibrates" on the surface, a fish is probably mouthing the fly. Either give it a couple of strips, or just set the hook.

Water Boatman Pattern

Hook	any wet fly, sizes 14 to 8
Thread	brown or black, 6/0
Outer shellback	any pearlescent material wide enough to cover the back
Inner shellback	any brown or black material (raffia, antron, etc.)
Body	yellow dubbing (I like seal's fur or a suitable substitute), weighted
Legs	Uni-Flexx, brown or black to match back

Tying notes

- Weight the hook with lead wire
- Secure the wire with thread and tie in the outer shellback
- Tie in the inner shellback
- Dub a body
- Tie in the Uni-Flexx legs at right angles to the hook shank
- Build up some thread to help form a noticeable head
- Pull the inner shellback forward and secure with some thread wraps
- Pull the outer shellback forward and secure (a little drop of superglue first doesn't hurt here)
- Trim the excess shellback materials
- Complete the head and lacquer.

May be tied as a bead head (use a black bead).

Try it whenever it looks like it's raining under a bright sky in spring or fall or if you see the fish feeding on swimming beetles.

Wolfy's Hopper

Bob Bates of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club of Spokane WA

July, August and September are months when we should be looking for opportunities to use a grasshopper pattern. Warm days with a strong wind blowing them into the water are best. When the hoppers are active watch to see where they are flying and falling into the water. Sometimes they hop from one place to another and miss the landing. This is why many casters work the shoreline, especially if there are overhanging grasses, etc. However, don't neglect areas away from the bank. Sometimes a hopper will attempt to fly across a larger stream only to run out of energy part way and drop.

One nice feature about hopper fishing is that you don't have to make a delicate cast. Let the fly hit with a splat. The hard landing attracts the attention of fish that are looking for a big meal. What happens after the landing is sometimes hard to imitate. Several years ago I watched grasshoppers crash in Montana's Missouri River. There were three post-splat actions: one drifting downstream quietly; another struggling as it drifted; and the third a regular frog-kicking toward shore. I don't know about you, but I can do a reasonable job imitating only the first.

In 1992, Eric Schubert, then President of the North Idaho Flycasters, was tying flies in Coeur d'Alene, ID. His Wolfy's Hopper was different enough to put in my fly box and tell others about. Eric said this about the fly's history: "I originally developed it for fishing large brown trout on the Green River in Pinedale, Wyoming. As with most hopper patterns that I was using at the time, I found that they did not float sufficiently in the fast moving water of the Green River. The Wolfy's Hopper solved my problem---and the brown trout love it."

When "hopper" fishing Eric works stream banks carefully. One of his tricks is to stand on one bank, cast across to the other bank and then hop his fly into the water. Fish think it is real and slam it. Eric uses his fly for more than a grasshopper pattern; it also serves him as a stonefly imitation.

Materials List:

Hook: Mustad 9672, Tiemco TMC 200R, etc. 8-10

Thread: Olive, Gudebrod 6/0

Body: Deer hair, dyed green, yellowish olive or yellow

Rib: Tying thread

Underwing: Olive marabou

Wing: Turkey wing quill

Bullet head and collar: Dyed deer hair: orange, olive, mottled yellow, brown

Tying Steps:

1. Smash barb if you wish, and wrap a thread base around the bend a little.
2. Select a pencil size bundle of deer hair, remove fuzz and tie it on at bend with butts pointing rearward. Let hair surround the hook. Pull deer hair forward tightly and spiral thread forward over the body for about 3/4ths shank length. Trim excess hair.
3. Select two or three dozen marabou fibers. Trim them to shank length and attach so they lay on top of body. Tips of marabou extend beyond the hook a little.
4. Pick a segment of turkey wing quill about 3/16- to 1/4-inch wide and round one end with your scissors. Apply spray lacquer or head cement to strengthen it and let it dry. Tie wing so it is a little shorter than the marabou.
5. Take another pencil size bunch of deer hair, stack it and cut it to about shank length. Tie hair just behind the eye with tips facing forward. Take two

wraps around the bundle, tighten thread, and when hair starts to flare, give the tying thread a solid pull to make the hair spin and flare completely. Make a few more tight thread warps and move thread backward to front of body. (Spinning deer hair with 6/0 Gudebrod works, but I had to use 3/0 with some other brands.)

6. Bring all the deer hair back, hold it along body and tightly wrap with thread. This makes a neat bullet head and a flared deer hair collar. Finish fly with a whip finish behind the head. Put head cement on whip finish or half hitches and work some into the head to make it more durable.

(courtesy of the FFF ClubWire Email Newswire)



Club Meeting Schedule for 2003/2004

October 21: *General Meeting:* Nominations and elections for club president, vice-president and treasurer. Bob Morris will review conservation activities on the upper Credit River. Sheldon Seale will reveal what is in his vest.

November 11: [Note: 2nd Tuesday, not 1st] *Fly Tying:* Guest tyers: Carl O'Connor and Jorge Carcao will demonstrate about 5 foam flies for trout, salmon and bass. Intermediate tyer TBA. Pierre Turgeon will instruct beginners.

November 18: *General Meeting:* Len Yust will make a presentation on river etiquette.

December 2: *Fly Tying:* Guest tyer: John Mangold from Winter Hatches will demonstrate tying original Juliana Berners flies by hand (i.e., no vise). Intermediate tyer TBA. Pierre Turgeon will instruct beginners. There will be a silent auction of several valuable pieces that didn't make it to the silent auction at the Forum.

December 16: *General Meeting:* Beginners' Night. Several seasoned club anglers will review the basics of fly fishing, including: selection of tackle, knots, fly selection, stream and pond basics and casting.

January 6: *Fly Tying:* TBA. Pierre Turgeon will instruct beginners.

January 20: *General Meeting:* Jim Wilson will do a presentation on the spring run of salmon on New Brunswick's Miramichi River.

Contacting IWFFC

Website: <http://www.iwffc.ca>

IWFFC information line: (905) 276-6345

Mail: Unit 6, Suite 283
2400 Dundas Street West
Mississauga, Ontario
L5K 2R8 Canada



**61 Front Street East
@ Church
Toronto, Ontario
M5E 1B3
416-869-3474
www.wilsonsorvis.com
wilsons@ca.inter.net**

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Fly tied by Sheldon Seale