



THE TIPPET



NEWSLETTER OF THE GARY BORGER CHAPTER
OF TROUT UNLIMITED

November, 2004

Volume 11, Issue 3

COMING EVENTS!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11th

Dinner meeting at the Timbers Char House, 295 Skokie Valley Rd Highland Park, IL. Guest speaker is Jim Chapralis, "Coldwater Conservation."

The Gary Borger Chapter of Trout Unlimited will meet at the Timbers Char House. Cocktails at 6pm ; Dinner at 7 pm. \$25 for dinner and raffle. Contact Jim Panagakis at 847-705-8044 (home); 847-687-5801 (work); 847-991-7266 (FAX) or email j440850@comcast.net for advance reservation.

THE TIMBERS CHARHOUSE is in Highland Park, approximately 1/4 mile north of Lake Cook Road on Skokie Highway on the east side of the street.

DECEMBER 2004

Christmas get-together. Date and place to be announced.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13th

Dinner meeting at the Timbers Char House. Speaker is Dustan Harley, "Effective Streamer Fishing for any Water".

SATURDAY, FEB 5TH

AND

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 6TH, 2005

THE FLYFISHING SHOW

Saturday 9 AM to 6 PM Sunday 9 AM to 5 PM at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, 18501 S. Harlem Ave Tinley Park, IL 60477. Link to the show: <http://www.flyfishingshow.com/chicago.html>

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10th

Dinner meeting at the Timbers Char House. Speaker is Kevin Searock "The Village Troutsmith" on "An American Flyfisher in England."

THURSDAY, MARCH 10th

Dinner meeting at the Timbers Char House. Speaker to be announced

THURSDAY, APRIL 14th

Dinner meeting at the Timbers Char House. Speaker to be announced

THURSDAY, MAY 12th

Dinner meeting at the Timbers Char House. Speaker to be announced

GARY BORGER CHAPTER
WEBSITE IS www.garyborgertu.org

GUEST SPEAKER . . .

. **Jim C. Chapralis.** Jim pioneered the international fishing travel business. In 1961/62 he set up the Fishing Division for Safari Outfitters, Inc. In 1975, he and others founded PanAngling Travel Service. Jim edited



The PanAngler, (a monthly newsletter devoted to international fishing) for 25 years.

Jim was the first outdoor travel agent to set up

fishing trips in Belize, Costa Rica, Colombia, Argentina and other countries. Since the early 1960s, he and his staff had booked more than 40,000 international fishing trips for anglers and have assisted in the exploration, development and marketing of numerous fishing areas around the globe. Chapralis has fished in about 40 countries.

In 1998 he sold PanAngling Ltd.

Jim has written dozens of articles for major fishing and outdoor magazines and wrote World Guide to Fly Fishing (a 450-page hardcover book) in 1987, and co-authored, Fishing Escapes in 1998.

His FISHING PASSION: a lifelong love affair with angling is his newest book (2002).

Jim was elected to the original Fishing Hall of Fame and is a recipient of the Dolphin Award for his contributions to international fishing.

He won the International Distance Fly Casting Championship (Paris, France, 1955) and the All-Round Casting Championship (Stuttgart, Germany, 1956).

Although he had not participated in a national tournament for 45 years, Jim competed in the ACA National Casting Championships held in Lexington, Kentucky, August, 2001 and won the Gold Medal (first place) for the Senior Distance Single-Handed Fly Casting Championship with a long cast of 163 feet.

Prior to his international fishing travel career, Jim's varied background includes guiding in Ontario at Camp Manitou, manufacturing and importing fishing tackle (Sportackle International), editing two regional outdoor publications and serving as a fishing consultant to an encyclopedia.

Jim is also a Representative of the prestigious International Game Fish Association.

Now it is November and Orion and the Pleiades are back. It is not wisdom to say there will be no dull dark days; the best shooting days are not sunny and frost-sweet. The bitter tang is here, the cold winds and the snow clouds.

Mark well. It is Autumn telling you there is no time to waste.

G.B Evans, *An Affair With Grouse*, 1982

THE DRAG FREE DRIFT

Greeting Members: I hope all is well since the last meeting and that many of you will be able to attend the November meeting. We will be hosting **Jim Chapralis** for our meeting and will be entertained by his presentation on Coldwater Conservation and his book Angling Matters. Last month, we had our very own member Ed Stein who presented Sailfish on the Fly and showed us the many colorful and powerful fish that you can hook into down south. Thanks Ed for your time and presenting to our group. I have made many calls and emails for upcoming speakers and I believe that you will be quite happy with our selections. The final list will be on the website and our upcoming newsletter. As always, please contact me at presgbtu@msn.com if you have any ideas or suggestions.

Each monthly meeting we have, I will bring you up to date on upcoming events, TU concerns, fishing conditions, etc. I have also implemented a suggestion box that will be brought to every meeting. Should you have any ideas, questions, concerns, requests, anonymous tips, etc, please feel free to fill out a card and place it in the box. I will also have at every meeting, the pictures and reports from previous streamwork and conservation projects. We will also include any sign-up sheets for events that will be upcoming...including: Stream Shocking, Brush Clearing, Lunker Structure Building, Stream Clean-Up Days, etc.

I had the opportunity to fish the last few days and attempted to hook into some fresh Tributary fish. The waters have been unfortunately low and the fish that were there were tucked in hords in the deeper pools. But, alas, there were still some fresh Browns, Cohos, and Steelhead. Most of the biters tended to be crusty Kings on their last leg. The crowds were large as usual and the DNR was scarce as usual. We still have a chance at seeing some fresh fish as they are still stacked in the harbors. Come on Rain!!

We are still finalizing the plans for our Holiday Get-Together and will announce it in our Tippet and website as soon as we can. The Board Members hope that you will be able to join us and celebrate the holidays with our families. Best wishes to all and please continue to do your part to protect and restore our wild trout populations.

Respectfully,

Frank Nardomarino

President, Gary Borger Chapter of TU
847-366-8035

presgbtu@msn.com

<http://www.garyborgertu.org>

WIND KNOTS

By the editor

Attendance at the October meeting was disappointing. **C'mon guys and gals, let's turn out for Jim Chapralis on Thursday!**

This will be **the last Tippet until January**. The date and time of the Christmas get-together have not been confirmed as this edition goes to press. Check the website and look for a postcard and an email as soon as the information is available. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

Check out the calendar! The officers and board have lined up **Jim Chapralis, Dustan Harley and Kevin Searock for November, January and February**. All will be great I garownteeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeee!

The Tippet left for Michigan right after the October meeting for three weeks. Bird hunting was the primary objective and I truly "missed the boat" after I got there and saw how good the fishing was in Lake Michigan and Crystal Lake. Details and photos pages .

The ruffed grouse hunting was pretty dismal, but with the assistance of **Stilmeadow Lady B'elana**, several were reduced to possession and handfuls of saddle and neck hackles were stuffed in a plastic bag for those GBC members who need them to tie soft hackles. Let me know if you are one and I'll bring 'em down Thursday evening. See "**Vise Squad**" for more on soft hackles.

Don't miss the wine tasting and international guide presentations at Trout and Grouse Tuesday night. It's free, but you must RSVP the shop.

Ray Schmidt of Schmidt Outfitters in Wellston, Michigan reports the following: **Fall Trout! King Salmon run is all but over! Fall Steelhead in the Manistee! An all day great rain 10/23/04 and 10/28 has brought the river up and fish in! This week should be on fire!**

The annual run of King Salmon winding down in all streams. Some Coho Salmon will continue until mid November. Fall Steelhead are in the Manistee in fare numbers. Our guides are reporting 2-5 fish per boat per day. WE HAVE SOME VERY LARGE FISH THIS SEASON. Best flies have been, Hex nymphs, Flash Back Pheasant Tail nymphs, Caddis Larva, Steelhead Buggers, Antron Bugs and egg patterns.

Please release all wild fish!

Big Manistee The river is fishing very good right now. The river is up and fish are on the move...big time! Some great fishing to be had below Tippy Dam now. Brown Trout are starting to come to the streamer again as Salmon numbers begin to fall off. Fall Steelhead have made their

appearance, some nice fish being taken. Please limit your take of sport fish; the fish you release today may be the fish you catch tomorrow. Most all King Salmon are spawning and the run is on the down swing.

The PM Salmon run is winding down. Some Steelhead.

Bear Creek The King Salmon run is winding down.

November is a great month for Steelhead in the Bear.

Pine Closed. . Re-opens last Saturday of April 2005.

Little Manistee The weir is closed for the annual Salmon harvest and the river is closed to fishing below the weir.

Check with the DNR for all rules. Steelhead are being

passed above the weir when they appear. The Little Manistee is a good November/December Steelhead/ Coho fishery.

Contact Ray at www.schmidtoutfitters.com or 1-888-221-9056 for the latest fishing reports, guides or lodging.

Candi Rosel, proprietress of the **Riverside Resort** at **Croton Dam** reports that there are **TONS of steelhead** in the **Muskegon** and that the guides are doing very well! Several guides, including **Dustan Harley** and **Matt Supinski** put their anglers up at the **Riverside Resort**. **For an up to the minute fishing report or guide recommendation call Candi at 231) 652-1292.**

Micki Moran raises some interesting issues about **Trout Unlimited and youth education** in this month's "**Women and Children First**". While we have traditionally directed our conservation efforts to supporting TU stream enhancement projects in **Wisconsin** like **LUNKER** building or brush removal, perhaps it's time to think about redirecting some effort and resources to youth education. **Micki** has volunteered to chair an education committee; she needs your support.

The question of the extra postage for the breast cancer research stamp that I use to mail the hard copies of the Tippet came up a couple of times this fall. For the record, the **Gary Borger Chapter** only pays the regular first class \$.37 postage; I pay the rest. This has always been the case and can be confirmed in the Treasurers' records for all the years I've done the Tippet.

Send those things you wish to see in the Tippet directly to the Tippet. Text works best for me if it is in Microsoft Word or an Adobe pdf; photos work best if jpeg'ed and sent as individual files. Space limitations and the journalistic standards of the **Tippet** dictate that text be edited and photos reduced and/or cropped. The **Tippet** can be reached at **847-705-8044 (home); 847-687-5801 (work); 847-991-7266 (FAX) or email j440850@comcast.net**

----- *Carpe carp*

WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIRST!

By Micki Moran

Trout Unlimited and Youth Education

One of the priorities for **Trout Unlimited** nationally is the education of young people regarding conservation and their introduction to the sport of fly-fishing. Several chapters in other states are sponsoring some interesting events to encourage participation by both boys and girls in the sport. Some examples are the **The Youth River Conservation and Fishing Camp For Future Conservation and Trout Bums**. Hosted by the **Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited** the event was held on July 11-15, 2004. The four day camp combined an educational component with plenty of hands on experience on the Au Sable and Manistee Rivers. The camp was targeted at 12-16 year olds boys and girls. Another session is planned for this year.

The opportunities and technical support by National T.U. for youth education are numerous. **TU's First Cast Manual** is designed to give an overview of how to start (or expand) a successful youth education program. The **First Cast Fly Fishing Education Curriculum** provides a curriculum as well as step by step guide for implementing a program written by Phil Genova, which divides fly-fishing into specific teachable lessons. TU's First Cast Program can be adapted to a number of groups (not only youth) depending on the goals of the chapter. Implementation of an educational committee and program would be a great service project for our chapter as well as an opportunity for our own members to hone their teaching and fly-fishing skills. TU offers low cost equipment to Chapters implementing a First Cast program. **I would be happy to co-chair an education committee if any other Gary Borger members would be interested in working on a youth education project. Contact Micki Moran at mickim@lawforchild.com. or call (847) 559-0101.**

Girl Scouts

Fly Girls of Michigan will teach 24 Girl Scouts , ages 13-17 , from all over the country, a week long course in fly fishing beginning May 24-31, 2005. The course will be held at The Timbers Girl Scout Camp, Traverse City, Michigan. The cost of the event is \$810. Interested participants should contact Abby Wattenberg, Project Director at 800-482-6734.

Resources for Kids

The TU website has a newsletter titled Fish Tales for TU Student Members. It can be downloaded from the TU site and has some interesting articles for kids as well as a Fly of the Month column for young fly tiers.

Fishing Music.

I came across a fun and musically diverse CD in my travels by the title Fishing Music. It is a mix of blues, jazz, folk and bluegrass. The CD can be ordered at www.fishingmusic.com . The band members are from Idaho and Bozeman Montana.



TREASURER'S REPORT

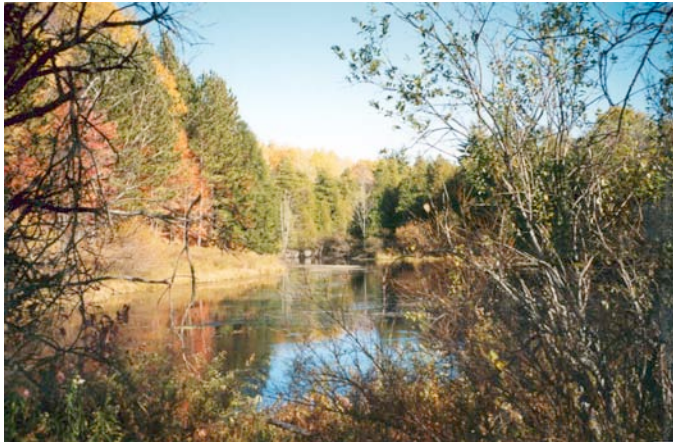
By Mark Melliker

From the October meeting, we added to the bank account by taking in \$250 for dinner and dues, paid \$165 to Timbers for dinner, netting \$85 for the months meeting.

Current balances:

Checking =	\$1,096.40
Savings =	\$5,931.93
Total =	\$7,028.33

**Gary Borger and Lee Wulff members
at the Pere Marquette Salmon outing**



**A beautiful trout pond in Michigan's
Sleeping Bear country.**



**Soaking spawn bags off the beach at
Crystal Lake.**



**Steelhead fishing on Crystal Lake off the
public beach and launch in Beulah.**

Mark Mellicker and a nice PM King!

SHOP TALK!

TROUT AND GROUSE
300 S. HAPP ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS
847-501-3111
www.grandslamshops.com

Beginning Fly Tying:

October 28, November 4-11 and 18. Thursdays 7-9 PM

Expert Techniques:

Saturday, 9-1 PM on Dec 5

Beginning Fly Tying:

Jan 27, Feb 3-20-27 Thursdays 7-9 PM

Dry Flies for Midwestern Trout:

March 10-17-14 and 31. 7-9 PM

Hexagenia Imitations:

Saturday, April 10: 9-1 PM

**All classes take place at Trout and Grouse
and will be taught by Paul Melchior.**

**Open House Featuring Three International Fisheries
and Wine Tasting from Knightsbridge Wine Shoppe**

Join Trout & Grouse and Northbrook's Knightsbridge Wine Shop for an evening of informative discussion about trout fishing in New Zealand, Argentina-Chile and our American West and the fine wines emanating from these regions. Representatives of T&G and Angling Escapes with specific knowledge of each destination will be on hand to share the experience and expertise regarding the best facilities in each location so you can book your fly fishing trip of a lifetime with confidence. While contemplating your adventure, the experts from Knightsbridge will offer a regional sampling of fine wines, and humbly convey their keen knowledge as they do so well in their shop. These wines provide a deeper connection to the culture, people and traditions found in the places we love to fly fish. We are proud to extend this most unique invitation to you.

**November 9, 2004 7:00 to 9:00 at T&G
RSVP at 847-501-3111**

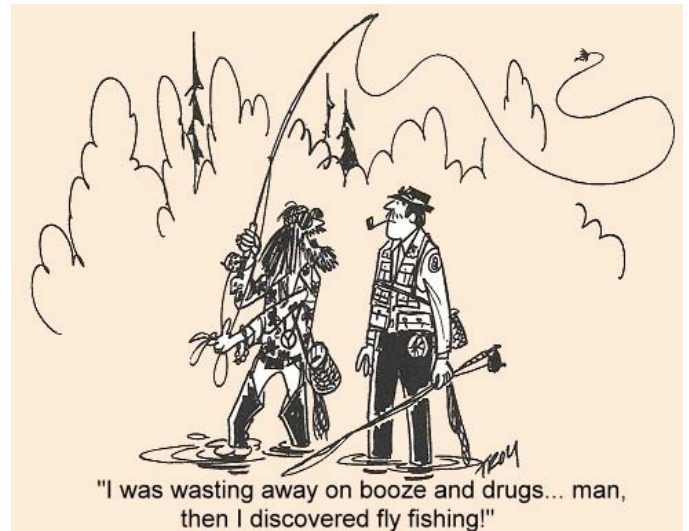
Escorted Trips:

Bahamas bonefish with Paul Melchior:

Exuma is an ideal spot for the angler who likes plenty of bonefish. Schools of 2 to 4 pound bones are plentiful, plus shots at larger 6 to 8 pound plus fish. Hard packed flats are ideal for wading as well as fishing from

the camp's shallow draft skiffs. The Bonefish Lodge boasts an excellent crew of experienced guides and the lodge features air conditioned, nicely appointed double occupancy rooms, along with well prepared meals. The small size of the lodge and the large staff insures plenty of personal attention and flexibility. 5 nights, 4 days of fishing is \$1295.00 per angler, including all meals, accommodations and guided fishing, based on 2 sharing room and boat. Airfare to Georgetown, Exuma is additional.

Join **Curt Schlesinger** for a few days of prime-time river smallmouth fishing in Wisconsin. Having fly fished all over the world, river smallmouth in Wisconsin still ranks high as one of the favorites. We have figured out the lodging, food & non-alcoholic drinks, drift boats, quality guides, on a top fishery. There are two (2) two-day three night packages available: July 24 - 26, 2004 and July 27 - 29, 2004. Cost is \$675.00 per angler. **Call Curt for more information.**



ON THE FLY!

The purpose of this column is to present a forum for the members to share experiences, recommend destinations and guides, identify points of interest, advertise fishing items for sale, post helpful hints, find a fishing partner, review a book, complain about the Tippet, etc.

WINTER FISHING TRIPS WITH ED STEIN

Ed has two great fly-fishing trips coming up this winter and each trip has one opening left to fill. February 4 – 13, Peacock Bass on the Rio Araca tributary of the Amazon River in Brazil. March 12 – 20 at Crocodile Bay in Costa Rica for Sailfish, Roosterfish and more; Lefty Kreh will be there. Many T.U. members who have visited Crocodile Bay with Ed have said that the adventure was the best fishing experience they ever had -- the trip-of-a-lifetime! For more information, contact Ed: rollcast@comcast.net

TIPPET EDITOR MISSES THE BOAT!

His drift boat. that is. You see, even though the Tippet was to be in Michigan's beautiful Sleeping Bear country with its abundance of Lake Michigan tributaries and beaches for three weeks, he planned only to hunt, so he left the drift boat at home. First morning in town he goes to his favorite café in Beulah, orders a cup of joe and sits down at a table by the window. From the window he can see the beach and boat launch on Crystal Lake and bygollywhatareallthoseboats doin' out there, two hundred yards off the public beach? So he grabs his coffee and walks down there and looks at the pack of boats and there's always one or two fighting, losing, or landing, a very healthy steelhead in the 6 to 15 pound class. If he had his drift boat, he could launch it at the public access, row out two hundred yards, zing a 300 grain shooting head armed with a big smelt fly and mop up on the steelhead. But he didn't have his drift boat so all he could do was watch the passel of boats catch steelhead after steelhead while he sipped coffee from a table by the window in the café where he stopped every morning.

Crystal Lake, in Beulah, Michigan is a jewel of a lake that teems with rainbow, brown and lake trout, as well as warm water species like bass and pike, and smelt which keep 'em all fat and healthy. A "mini-Lake

Michigan", Crystal is stocked regularly with the same trout smolts that go into the big lake. Although the north shore of Crystal Lake is only a stone's throw from Lake Michigan, they are not connected.

Any kind of small boat would work here. So would an open top kayak or a drift boat or even a float tube. (ed. Note. A canoe would be a bad idea for this application.) Any kind of fly casting rig capable of putting out 60 feet of a line that would sink a 5 or 6 inch smelt imitation to a depth of 5 to 15 feet would put it right on the steelhead's beaks. I opt for the same 10 weight and 350 grain shooting head rig I use in Baja, but an intermediate sink tip 8 weight or better would also work for those who don't have salt water gear.

This is a rare opportunity to fly cast for steelhead on conventional fly tackle in a conventional way, unlike the "chuck and duck" of what passes for flyfishing in the tributary streams,

And if you are not a fly fisherman (and nearly all who fish here are not), you can drive right to the edge of the beach, rig a spinning rod with a slip sinker and a spawn bag, pitch it out as far as you can, set the rod in a holder on a sand spike and jump back in your vehicle a wait for a bite. There are piers to cast spoons from too.

You can also soak spawn or cast spoons in Lake Michigan from the beaches at Frankfort, Platte Bay, or Elberta or the break walls and piers at the mouth of the Betsie in Frankfort and Elberta; you won't be able to sit in your car and wait for a bite however. All are within 20 minutes of Beulah and Benzonia as is the 58 miles of Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore.

Crystal Lake is a 300 mile drive from Chicago right up the west coast of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The boat launch is public and free and situated in downtown Beulah. All the creature comforts are within walking distance. There are very few "secrets" in the Great Lakes steelhead fishery, but here's one that's been overlooked by many (including me) for years.

*Deep down I've always
known, fly fishing is to the rest of
fishing what high seduction is to
rape.*

- Robert Traver , Trout Magic,
1974

THE VISE SQUAD BLOTTER

Craig Matthews and John Juricek in their wonderful book, Fly Patterns of Yellowstone explain why the soft hackle has not been popular in this country and then set out to "make it right" by designing hatch and insect-specific patterns for a place to which nearly all fly fishers someday make a pilgrimage.



The soft hackle is not a fly pattern *per se*, but rather a class of patterns all based on similar tying principles. They are simple flies, typically nothing more than a thread body occasionally dubbed with fur, and a wrap or two of "soft.. hackle at the head. Soft hackles can be tied to imitate specific insects or to suggest a genre of insects, such as caddis pupa or mayfly emergers.

It is surprising to us that soft hackles have not had more of an impact in the Yellowstone area, but it is also understandable, considering several stereotypes unnecessarily draped upon them. First is the misconception that because of their ancient Scottish ancestry they are simply outdated or that they aren't applicable to American waters. While it's true that many existing patterns aren't reasonable imitations of our trout stream insects, this is no reason for the progressive fisherman to forsake their use. In fact, this is probably the crux of the issue: there has been almost no effort to correlate American hatches with appropriate soft hackle patterns. As for being outdated, one need only fish these simple patterns to find out how inaccurate that criticism is.

Second, it is commonly thought that soft hackles must be fished down and across stream on a taut line. It is unfortunate that so many fishermen are under this impression, because down and across is just one option. The soft hackle is often deadliest when fished upstream, drag-free, to individual feeding fish. It is a more difficult

technique because of the problems of avoiding drag and sensing the take (there is rarely the solid pull of the kind the down and across cast yields), but fishing them this way opens up many more possibilities for the use of these flies. Flies unable to swim or swim well (many mayfly nymphs and emergers for instance) can be imitated and fished, as well as more active flies like caddis pupae.

Soft hackles are uncomplicated flies, but properly tying these simple, sparse patterns requires some thought. Attach the Pearsall's tying thread directly behind the eye of the hook, and tie on the hackle first, facing out over the hook eye. Smoothly wrap the thread halfway to two-thirds down the hook shank and back up to just behind the hackle. Leave no gaps and create no lumps in the body. Now, very sparsely dub the tying thread—just enough for a wrap or two. Note the photograph. Wind the dubbing on and advance thread in front of the hackle. Take one, or at the very most two, wraps of hackle and tie off. Tying on the hackle first and winding it last contributes greatly to maintaining a slim, spartan fly.

Cement the head; Pearsall's silk is unwaxed so the head should be sealed.

Three Yellowstone Favorites:

Ephemerella Nymph

HOOK: Mustad 3906 or 94840 (for dry or semi-dry version) or equivalents, #14-#20.
THREAD: Pearsall's brown silk.
BODY: Pearsall's brown silk.
THORAX: Brown hare's ear dubbing.
HACKLE: Brown partridge, one turn.

Caddis emerger (Brachycentrus sp.)

HOOK: Mustad 3906 or 94840 or equivalents, #14-#16.
THREAD: Green Pearsall's silk.
BODY: Green Pearsall's silk, very lightly dubbed with gray antron, allowing the silk color to show through.
THORAX: Same as body.
HACKLE: Woodcock, one turn.

Pale Morning Dun emerger

HOOK: Mustad 94840 or equivalent, #16-#18.
THREAD: Yellow Pearsall's silk.
BODY: Yellow Pearsall's silk, lightly dubbed with chocolate fur, allowing silk color to show through.
THORAX: Chocolate dubbing
HACKLE: Woodcock or partridge, one turn.

PASSAGES



Marta's Special Bread Recipe

From Fishing Passion by Jim Chapralis

Don Dobbins, a PanAngling founder and one of my mentors, loved to investigate new, exotic fishing places. One year, after studying large scale maps, he and his wife, Ruth, decided to explore Rio Blanco, a river in Guatemala near the Mexican border. Don felt that there could be some big tarpon and snook in this river.

They found an outfitter in Guatemala who could provide the necessary tents, dugouts, staff and cook and made all necessary reservations. Although Ruth and Don enjoyed the experience-the lush flora and fleeting glimpses of fauna-the fishing quality didn't match their reasonable expectations.

At the outset, they were concerned with the quality of meals, because Marta, the cook, had so few ingredients to work with due to lack of refrigeration and sufficient ice, but after a few days, they considered the meals among the highlights of the trip. Marta's dinners included several species of small fish that were freshly caught from the nearby river and creatively prepared.

Miguel, the outfitter, who took charge of the fishing and explorations, provided a suitable camp, quite comfortable when one considered the jungle location. In addition to food staples, Miguel thoughtfully had bought some live chickens from a nearby village which, from time to time, were transformed into delicious dinners. The breakfasts were ample and nourishing: eggs, juice,

coffee, bread and jam. The bread was particularly delicious; in fact, it was so tasty that the Dobbins usually had several additional slices with each meal.

"This is probably the best bread I've ever tasted," proclaimed Don practically every day. Ruth agreed.

"Do you think you could get the recipe?" he asked.

"Well, first of all, there is a language problem, and secondly, Marta is very shy, although she nods if spoken to. And she bakes the bread very early in the morning," Ruth explained.

"Yeah, but you could go early in the morning, pretend you are on a walk, give her a '*Buenos Dias*' and observe how she makes the bread. Hey, this bread is the very best I've ever tasted. She probably has some unique baking methods or secret ingredients, I'm sure."

After much persuasion, Ruth agreed to find out. She was curious herself.

Ruth approached the outdoor cooking "shack" and noticed that Marta was busy preparing breakfast. The coffee was brewing over an open fire, the eggs were neatly set, ready for the pan, and Marta was busy kneading the dough to make the daily bread. There were several ingredients on the table, in various shakers, and perhaps they contained the secret to Marta's delicious bread.

Ruth's strategy was to saunter slowly in the area and after saying good morning and a few Spanish phrases she would casually look at the ingredients. She would "play it cool." After all, many cooks don't like to give out their recipes, and if they do, they often change the ingredients or quantities. "This probably applies even in Guatemalan jungles," Ruth had concluded.

One of the live chickens running helter-skelter kept pestering Marta, and when she tried to shoo it away, the chicken jumped on a chair and finally on the other side of the kitchen table, leaving frantic little imprints in the flour dust.

Marta was very upset with the chicken, and tried to chase it off the table. The chicken responded by pooping right on the table. This infuriated Marta!

Before Ruth could announce her presence with a "hello," Marta said something very nasty to the chicken in Spanish, but the chicken was oblivious to her threats

and seemed to taunt her even more, so Marta, in a fit of anger, reached across the table, grabbed the chicken's "poo-poo" on the table and threw it at the chicken along with some dough. The chicken, now sensing Marta's anger, quickly jumped off the table. Marta brushed off the rest of the poo-poo from the kitchen table with her hands. Now satisfied that the pesty chicken would not bother her again, she sunk her hands into the dough and continued kneading.

Without washing her hands.

Ruth, horrified at the lack of sanitary conditions, returned to her tent. "Did you find the secret

ingredients?" Don asked.

"Yeah, it's very special," she lied, "but we can't get it at home. I'll tell you another time." The subject was temporarily put to rest when Jose, a guide with a wonderful Pepsodent smile, summoned them to breakfast.

"You know, Ruth, this bread is even better today than what we had the other mornings," Don said as they ate.

Ruth said something about her diet and reached instead for a stale saltine cracker.

KNOTS ABOUT YOU!

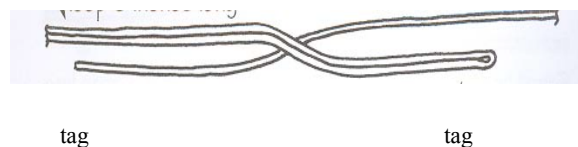
IMPROVED BLOOD KNOT

Stu Apte recommended this knot because of its ability to connect lines of grossly unequal diameters. This knot is great for connecting Super Braid line to monofilament or braided lines.

Form an X

**small diameter line
or Super Braid, form a
loop 6" long**

heavier line



Make three or four wraps with the heavier line around smaller lines or Super Braid. Pass the tag end through the X.



Make five or six wraps with the smaller lines or Super braid around the heavier line. Pass the tag end through the small loop formed by the X.



Lubricate all the wraps and draw the knot tight. Trim tag ends

WHAT'S COOKING?

Salmon Cakes

4 ounces fresh salmon, cut into 1/4-inch dice	1/4teaspoon chopped garlic
2 ounces very finely chopped fresh salmon	1 teaspoon mayonnaise
2 ounces fresh, uncooked shrimp, cut into 1/4-inch dice	1/2 teaspoon finely chopped rosemary (or 1/4 teaspoon dried)
1 egg white, beaten	1 teaspoon rinsed and drained capers
1 tablespoon finely diced celery	Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
2 tablespoons finely diced red or yellow pepper (or a combination)	1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons Panko or other dry breadcrumbs for dredging
1 tablespoon chopped scallions	Vegetable oil for sautéing
2 teaspoons grated lemon zest	
1/4 teaspoon seeded and minced jalepeno chile pepper	

In a medium bowl, combine all the ingredients for the salmon mixture. Divide the mixture and pat to form into 8 cakes no thicker than 1 inch. (The salmon cakes may be prepared in advance to this point. Store loosely covered in the refrigerator for up to 4 hours.)

Dredge the salmon cakes in breadcrumbs that you've seasoned with salt and pepper. In a large saute pan pour in oil to a depth of 1/5 inch. Heat the oil and saute the cakes until golden brown, about 3 minutes per side.

BRING IN A NEW MEMBER WIN A FLY ROD!

Last year Trout Unlimited National cancelled the rebate program for members renewing their national memberships through their local chapters and replaced it shortly thereafter with a program the pays the local chapter one half of the first year's dues if a new member joins TU national through a local chapter. Gary Borger Chapter members who sign up a new member to TU national will go into a special raffle of a fly rod at the May 2005 meeting. Members from last year who paid their national dues through GBC while the original rebate program was in effect will also be placed in that drawing. Check with Mark Mellicker to be sure you get the paperwork done correctly in order to qualify for the drawing!

MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENTS ARE DUE!!!

The Gary Borger Chapter of Trout Unlimited needs your monetary support. The assessments are used to fund this newsletter, pay for speakers, and fund our conservation projects. Trout Unlimited National requires that 3 times a year we send meeting notification to the entire 350+ northern Illinois membership. The national office provides no funds help with mailings or anything else. To be a viable and vital chapter we need your contributions. Donations of \$25 individual, \$30 family, or \$100 sponsor go a long way! 2005 assessments are due by January 1, 2005. Send you checks to:

GARY BORGER CHAPTER of TROUT UNLIMITED
c/o Mark Melliker
8802 McKinley Dr
Barrington Illinois
60010



THE TIPPET
c/o J. Panagakis
1365 E. Norman Dr.
Palatine, IL 60074