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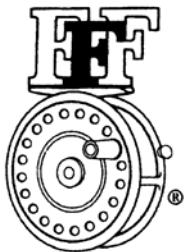
President's Message

Mike Swederska

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: **Mar 12**
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This month I would like to talk about getting involved with your club. Our club is doing so much for the members and the community that everyone should be proud to be a part of Ozark Fly Fishers. We are on the front lines when it comes to anything that might destroy, disrupt or just plain hurt the fishing environment in Missouri. Warm water or cold, Ozark Fly Fishers will be there to help resolve the issues. Our voice is very loud when it comes to standing up for the rights of the environment.

The club has spread fly-fishing through County Parks and Recreations, MDC and retail stores such as Bass Pro for years. Many people that would not have become involved with fly-fishing have attended classes taught by Ozark Fly Fishers to learn about tying flies, casting, knot tying and so on and are now enjoying the sport. This could even be you, as the club has gained membership through these programs. Education is the key to enjoying this sport. Every time you go on the water you will have learned something new. Even if you thought you knew everything about fly fishing you still come away thinking about something new.

We need members to get involved in the grass roots of our club. A good starting point would be a committee. We are starting to form committees in every branch of our club. The committee is a group of members getting together and brainstorming ideas to improve on what that branch already does for the club. The director runs the committee and reports to the board, committee people will not have to attend any board meetings. If you have an idea that you would love to see implemented by this club this would be your way of seeing it happen. Committees don't take a lot of time - just a commitment to better this club. Instead of coming to a meeting hoping that your interest will be talked about

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so you can join in with your thoughts or maybe an argument is not the way to get it heard, but being apart of a committee is. Committees are forming, from communications to conservation and any thing else you would want to get involved in. Now is your chance to do whatever it is you have wanted to do, going to Jeff City and speaking out as part of our Conservation Committee, or sharing what you know about how to cast a certain cast or tie that certain fly by joining the Education Committee. It is always easy to sell something that you really believe in. Like this club, how about joining the Membership Committee and help recruit other fly fishers or crossover bait fishers to the wonderful world of fly-fishing.

If you want to get involved please contact me via email, phone or just coming up to me at a meeting or outing. We can talk and I can connect you with the right people. Everyone in this club has something that they can contribute. Don't hold back - be a part of the future of this club!

Conservation: Bohigian Conservation Area

*Excerpted from Columbia Tribune -
Spencer Turne*

In December, the Missouri Conservation Commission approved establishing the *Bohigian Conservation Area* on Mill Creek. This new 437-acre area includes more than a mile of Blue Ribbon trout stream and connects two other segments of Mill Creek owned by the U.S. Forest Service. This conservation area opens the upper end of Mill Creek from Wilkins Spring downstream approximately six miles, and makes 5 miles public wild trout water from Yelton Spring to almost the confluence with the Little Piney River of Mill Creek.

Mill Creek is located southwest of Rolla and just south of Newburg. It was one of four original streams with wild rainbow trout populations designated as Blue Ribbon trout streams in 1982. The other streams designated for wild trout management included Spring Creek, Blue Spring Creek and Crane Creek. Wild trout management, or what is now

called Blue Ribbon management, means that the streams contain self-sustaining wild rainbow trout populations. Anglers can harvest only one trout of at least 18 inches each day using artificial lures. All other trout must be released unharmed.

The purchase/donation of this new trout area was leveraged with help from the Mid-Missouri chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Missouri Council of Trout Unlimited, the Missouri Cold Water Conservation Fund and individual donations from trout anglers.

A brief history: In 1880, the U.S. Fish Commission sent eggs collected from rainbow trout spawning at the McCloud River egg-taking station, located north of Redmond, Calif., to the St. Joseph hatchery. Rainbow trout eggs from this collection station were sent around the world, establishing many of the great rainbow trout fisheries we enjoy today. Missouri received some of the first rainbow eggs.

The Missouri Fish Commission loaded the fry and fingerlings in milk cans along with ice and transported them by train to be stocked in streams between St. Louis, Springfield and Joplin. The train stopped at river crossings and the crew emptied a milk can of fry to the river below.

Missouri Fish Commission reports document trout stockings in Meramec River, Spring River and Crane Creek. In 1882, Missouri rainbows were reported spawning for the first time in Crane Creek and Spring River.

This information comes from U.S. Fish Commission and Missouri Fish Commission reports and the archives of the Neosho Federal Fish Hatchery built in 1889.

Lilly and Clarence Hudgen's family homesteaded the Mill Creek Valley in the 1800s. The Hudgen farm is part of the Bohigian Conservation Area. Clarence remembered catching spotted fish with his mother in Mill Creek in the late 1800s. I suspect these were rainbow trout from that early 1880 stocking. Both Lilly and Clarence are long since dead, yet their legacy lives on in the Bohigian Conservation Area.

Dr. George Bohigian - an ophthalmologist from St. Louis - purchased the Hudgen farm, including their 140 year old log home, from Lilly's estate to add to his original purchase along Mill Creek. As a conservationist, he realized the value of this unique wild trout population and the need to protect this cold-water stream for future generations. The part of the stream on the Bohigian tract is some of the best wild trout habitat on Mill Creek.

The Bohigian family wanted to preserve this remaining piece of private property with continued stewardship of conservation. Dr. Bohigian stated that "this transaction will leave the stewardship of this pristine creek to the Missouri Conservation Department for citizens of Missouri to enjoy into the future". The Bohigians made arrangements so that the high quality trout habitat of Mill Creek will be preserved intact, forever and free of encroachment. Over the years Dr. Bohigian has worked with the MCD and Forest Service on research studies on Mill Creek, including the springs and fens.



The Scottish Poacher's Daughter *Terry Finger*

During one of our recent snow and ice storms I spent part of an afternoon in the attic over my garage, sorting through a stash of pecan lumber. Having completed the spiral staircase leading up to my dream fly-tying loft, I was ready to move on to the next construction project for the room, making built-in bookcases. I had measured and designed

carefully to squeeze in every bit of available shelf space for my ever-expanding angling library. My current situation is quite different from my early fly tying years in the 1960's, when I owned only two angling books: *The Family Circle Guide to Trout Flies* and George Leonard Herter's *Professional Fly Tying, Spinning, and Tackle Making Manual and Manufacturer's Guide*.

My sparse collection was fairly typical for the period. Classic books by Atherton, Jennings, Marinaro, Leisenring, and others were not widely known or distributed until they were reprinted in the 1970's, and there were no national magazines devoted to fly fishing. *Field and Stream*, *Outdoor Life*, and *Sports Afield*, with writers like A. J. McClane, Ed Zern, and Ray Bergman, were considerably more literate than they are today and provided an adequate amount of fly fishing coverage, but the amount of material was laughably small when compared to today's press.

I learned most tying techniques and fly patterns firsthand from local Catskill tiers, but I also enjoyed paging through my two books, looking for new patterns with components that matched my meager supply of tying materials. The under-rated *Family Circle Guide* (later reprinted and renamed the more macho *Noll Guide*), by Jim Deren of New York City's famous Angler's Roost fly shop, contained material listings and excellent fly illustrations by Don Ray. Herter's *Manual* contained a mixture of opinion and "fact," most of which was utter nonsense. But Herter scattered little gems among the wild superlatives for his own techniques, completely impractical fly designs that were probably never tied, and mixed-up historical accounts of famous fly tiers like Art Flicker (*sic*).

In the late 1960's I discovered one such gem, a brief but surprisingly accurate description of the Greig's Quill dry fly. The fly was developed by Elizabeth Greig in 1938 on New Brunswick's Miramichi River to imitate an insect being taken by sea trout. It was also used on inland waters and is constructed like most Catskill-style dry flies. The hackle and tail are dark, smoky badger, the body is stripped peacock quill, and the wings are wood duck flank. The fly resembles a Gordon Quill, but the badger

hackle gives Greig's Quill a more mottled, broken-up look than Gordon's fly. I had never seen Greig's fly used on the Esopus, but I had some badger hackle, so after reading about the fly in Herter's book I eagerly tied a few. This routine event became memorable when I happened to catch a fish on my very first cast with the Greig's Quill.

The fly's originator, Elizabeth Greig, is mostly forgotten now, but in the 1930's and 1940's she was well-known and was called the "First Lady of U. S. fly tying" by historian John McDonald in a 1946 article in *Fortune* magazine. This was quite an accomplishment in an article that also featured the likes of Elsie Darbee and Winnie Dette. Elizabeth was also the first woman elected to the International Fishing and Hunting Hall of Fame. Her reputation developed when she was living in New York City and became associated with Catskill fly tiers and anglers. In addition to her work with trout flies, she was considered one of the best in the United States at constructing full-dressed salmon flies.

The daughter of a poacher, Elizabeth began tying flies at age seven and spent six years as an apprentice in a fly tying operation in Scotland before she started tying on her own. She tied without a vise; her only tool was a pair of scissors. She immigrated to New York City in the late 1930's and, by most accounts, co-founded the Angler's Roost tackle shop with Jim Deren. When Deren was drafted during World War Two, Elizabeth and Walt Dette ran the shop and did most of the tying. Deren could be difficult to work with, and Elizabeth and Walt eventually left the Angler's Roost and continued their own fly tying businesses independently. Elizabeth remained close to Walt and Winnie Dette and at times they assisted each other in their tying operations.

Sometime in the 1950's, Elizabeth and her husband Robert moved to Florida. She was soon hired to supervise fly tying operations for the Eger Bait Company. The company was primarily a manufacturer of bait casting lures, but the owner, Bill Eger, wanted to pioneer the production of flies for bonefish, redfish, tarpon, and other saltwater species. Bill Gresh, a prominent Florida angler, designed a series of about 20 flies and Elizabeth tied the

prototypes. I have not been able to find any information on whether the flies were a financial success or the role they played in the evolution of modern saltwater patterns.

I have also been unable to discover many other details about the life of Elizabeth Greig. I believe the Greig's Quill is the only fly that bears her name. She died quietly in a Florida retirement home in 1996 at age 93. The peak of her career occurred during a very special time in America fly fishing, the 1930's and 1940's in the New York/Catskill region, when so many talented fly tiers, anglers, and writers lived in the area. With her passing one more link to that wonderful era was lost. But her story remains part of the heritage of fly fishing, and anglers familiar with that heritage know that achievements by female fly tiers and anglers are not just a recent development and that anglers have been casting flies in salt water for more than 50 years. We are richer for that knowledge and for the contributions of people like Elizabeth Greig.

Ozark Banquet a Success!

Ted Calcaterra

If you missed the annual banquet this past January, then you missed out on some great conversation, auction items, and fellowship. This was the first time that I can remember having a live auction as part of the annual banquet and I think many would agree that it was very successful. Johnny Chamness from the *FFF* Southern Council volunteered to be our live auctioneer and he did an excellent job. Not only did he help the club raise much needed funds but also provided us a memorable evening entertaining the crowd with his witty humor.

This is one of the clubs marquee events. It is a time to reflect on the past year, visit with old friends while meeting new ones, generate operating funds, and most importantly discuss the one thing we all love to talk about; flyfishing. It's a great time to spend a cold winter evening reminiscing with friends and loved ones while getting a chance to buy some cool gear or that all important next outing. This

year's auction items included numerous guided trips, a neon flyfishing Budweiser sign made especially for Ozark, gorgeous fly plates, a handcrafted Sage rod, and many more items too numerous to list. Next year promises to be even better by building on our live auction and soliciting items much earlier than in years past. I encourage all that have not attended the banquet this past year to make plans to attend in January of 2008. You will not be disappointed.

For those that did attend, we had over 120 in attendance and generated necessary funds for our club. While this is certainly the best turnout and results that I've seen since joining the club, I think that we can do even better next year. I think that most would agree that the food was excellent and the change in ballrooms was a welcomed surprise. We had more than enough room to display our auction items as well as providing guests with ample elbowroom.

Finally, as the new elected outings chair, I would like to solicit ideas from membership on how to improve our banquet. I would encourage people to send me an email stating what they liked, disliked, or ideas they have on improving our premier event. My goal is to significantly increase both attendance and revenue all while having a grand time. To do so, we have already started planning for next year, and I am going to challenge membership to solicit auction items that would appeal to both our fellow flyfishers along with their guests. If you would like to drop me an email, you can do so at tcasca@hotmail.com.

Thanks and see you on the stream.

Random Thoughts

Ty Livingstone

Do you ever find yourself tiring of the rat race? Here is a thought to ponder (albeit a random thought!) – if you win the rat race, you are still a rat. Congratulations! Many of us got into fly fishing to relax and enjoy ourselves in those rare and valuable moments when we carve out time to recreate. I know I did. So, my point this

month is to encourage all of you to chill out...relax...slow down...or to quote that great rock band of days gone by, The Eagles, "take it easy". By the way, did you see that the Eagles are reuniting and recording an album (oops, I meant CD, or digital download, or...am I showing my era)? What goes around comes around...the more things change, the more they stay the same.

If you are worried that the world is passing you by, go ahead and let it. If you will wait one revolution, you will have caught up. Sometimes the insanity of the pace of life can exhaust you.

What have you really given up by letting go and setting your own tempo? Not much. Have you given up a television with a flatter screen, a bigger screen, a higher definition, or a better surround sound system? You can have it. Have you given up a bigger house, with a bigger yard, more maintenance, higher property tax bills, and increased insurance payments? You can have that too. Have you given up a high performance vehicle with on board computers, electronic everything, and dealer maintenance fees that feel more like bondage than service? You can even have that. The more stuff you have the more complicated your life gets. In fact, you never own your stuff, your stuff owns you.

So, what can we do about it? You can remember that life is an open road...it is the greatest story never told. It is your journey to define. You can be who you want and you can do what you want. If you don't like where you are at and who you are, you can redefine yourself. There is no-one to blame but yourself. Take a stand and be who you want to be. That is the beauty of our lives. Each and every day is a new day. You are given a day to take stock and count your blessings. You have a day to make your own list of things to do and then attack them. Or, do nothing at all. Your choice...you decide. Go Zen and take on some good karma.

Last month I talked about some New Year's resolutions. This month I am making one more resolution...that I will never make another resolution again. So, as I write this column, I am drinking a beer and smoking a cigar in the middle of a Saturday afternoon. Do I have

other things to do? Yes. Paint a room, caulk a shower, clean a garage, organize the basement, pay some bills, and on and on and on. But, I am not doing any of them. And, when I get finished with this column and I take that last swig of beer and the final puff on my cigar, I am going to sit down at the tying bench a tie a few flies as I mentally plot my next fishing trip. Yes...the important things in life are what I will be doing.

It is all about your priorities and I am redoing mine as I enter into a new year. Won't you join me? You think about that.

Board of Directors Appointment

Dave Haas

You may remember that the Nominating Committee presented its slate of nominees for Officers and Directors at the General Membership Meeting on December 14. Since they presented only one nominee for each position, and there were no additional nominations from the floor, no formal election was required and the nominees were declared elected by acclamation.

Unfortunately, since that time, one of the nominees, Tim Biesendorfer, has decided that he will not have the time necessary to devote to the position for which he was selected. Tim was slated to fill the Directorship for '07-'08 and assume the Chairmanship of the Ways & Means Committee. With Tim's resignation, this position became vacant. When a vacancy occurs in a Directorship the By-Laws provide that the President appoint a Director to serve until the next election when a Director shall be elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. Accordingly, Joe Aimonette has been appointed to fill this position for 2007, and the position will be filled by election for 2008.

Bragging may not bring happiness, but no man having caught a large fish goes home through an alley. (Anon.)

Education Committee

Al Bourisaw

The Education Committee is composed of Al Bourisaw, the Education Director; Gavin Poppin, the Fly Tying Chair; Brian Ellis, the Casting Chair; and, volunteer members of the club. Since the committee has yet to meet (just forming), specific activities have not been identified. However, some general areas of interest for the committee are:

Reviewing the educational classes taught to the general public with an eye for expanding the classes and increasing public involvement.

- Reviewing/Reinventing ways that the educational programs can be of value to members.
- Reviewing ways that the committee can support the Membership Committee.
- Recommending video titles to the Video Library chair.
- Reviewing and recommending offerings of the Membership School.
- Recommending and developing educational materials for the web site.
- Writing educational articles for the newsletter.
- Developing a cadre of instructors that will enhance the educational offerings.
- Developing a data base of the talents and skills of members as can be applied to educational instruction.
- Other areas of interest as determined by the committee that would involve club members – i.e. fly swaps.

If interested, contact me at 314.487.2120 or troutal@msn.com. The first meeting will be during March at Powder Valley Nature Reserve. Date and time of the meeting will be determined at a later date.

Membership – Kevin Miquelon

OFF Apparel

Stay tuned...this spring we will be offering *OFF* Apparel again. Be looking for information at the March meeting.

Banquet Slide Show

If you are interested in getting a CD with the slide show from the *OFF* Banquet, you can get your hands on one by contacting Al Bourisaw and making a donation to *Casting for Recovery* for \$10.

Memberships

It is not too late for renewals and for new members. Early in the year is the time to join and take advantage of the many benefits of *OFF* membership. It is too late to make the membership directory but we encourage you to join Ozark Fly Fishers. Membership does have its privileges!

Ways & Means – Bill Hale

WHEW!!!! Made it through yet another *OFF* Banquet without getting lynched for lack of a good time.

And what a great time we had with our *FFF* Auctioneer Johnny Chamness. I think he was even more entertaining than at a *SOC* Conclave! Definitely on his game, Johnny helped raise more funds than a silent auction would have raised!

And to our donors, what can I say but *THANK YOU!*

The Sage SLT 690 4WT, 4piece rod built by Steve Antonic with materials donated by Ted Lammert was one of the highlights of the auction – wonderful! Steve also made a very nice knife that was given to Johnny as a thank you.

North Fork Anglers gave a Wyoming 2fer guided trip package that included lodging. Eleven Point, Lilley's Landing, Spring Creek Outfitters and Bill Hoagland all donated guided trips in their home waters. Bills' trip even included free legal advice if needed on water! To Tim Wade, Brian Sloss, Phil Lilley, Steve

Stinnett and Bill Hoagland, you folks are greatly appreciated for your generosity. Please support these guys and give them a try!

Pat Diemert of Anheuser- Busch gave three cool items for the live auction. A Bud Light mirror, Bare Knuckle Stout sign and in particular an original neon Budweiser Fly Fishing Light. All great items.

Ted Calcaterra was very instrumental in getting many of these donations. We even had some class with Fox Theater tickets to "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" and back stage passes. Don't you wish you would have come to the banquet now?

I'm going to reel off some names: Jerry Jarosik, Tom Ziegler, Dave Haas, Mike Lawson, Mel Krieger, Chuck Tryon, Earl Schenberg, Mike and Louise Krueger, Larry and Donna Carli, Jerry Phelan, Al Bourisaw, Marlan Graham, Russ Hill, Patti Hummert, Rich Pelletier, Carl Quicksall and Steve White all made generous contributions. Our "chick" items were donated by Wallis Warren, Suzanne Sessions and Scott Darrough. All were very nice donations.

To our places of addiction; Feather-Craft, Tom Hargrove, Jerry's and Outdoors, I am forever grateful for your continued support of our "little" club. Please thank these folks when you see them.

Last but not least, Bob Temper. What a display of craftsmanship. Outdoing himself with I think 24 different matted and framed inks, pictures and fly plates. Some of these had up to 5 different mat cuts! This takes a lot of time, thought and patience.

And to all that helped with unloading my boxes of "stuff," handled item pickup, took money and especially to the bidders and winners a very sincere thank you!

If I have missed anyone, please forgive me. Thanks again!

Chili Pot-Luck, Tie-In March 10

Mike Swederska

It is that time again for our annual Chili, Pot-Luck, Tie-In. It will be held at Marlan's subdivision clubhouse (*Countrylane Woods II, 851 Country Stone Drive, Manchester, 63021*) on the 11th of March. The flinging and rapping of feathers on hooks will start at 9:00 am and go thru lunch to 2:00 pm. Participating members are asked to bring a dish of some sort, a dessert or preferably your favorite chili. The club will provide the plates and eating utensils along with liquid beverages.

If you have not yet participated in this event, you must come to witness all the different members tying flies. If you are a tier or just starting out and wanting to learn more about the hobby, this is your chance to get a lot of knowledge quick. If you are not a tier, the kibitzing is just incredible. So bring your tying stuff, that new Christmas fly rod, tales of your latest fishing outing, your favorite chili or dessert and join in the fun!!

Please contact Ted Calcaterra, our Outings Chair with what your plan to bring to the tying fest or if you have any questions.
tcalca@hotmail.com (636) 305-1085 h

Fly Swap

The monthly fly swap continues. 1 ticket for each fly. Winner takes all. 'Nuff said.

Fly Tying Tips *Al Bourisaw*

Those dang stubborn stray hackle barbules, I hate them. I am talking about those hackle fibers that point every which way when I tie off the hackle of a dry fly – or any fly for that matter. Recently, however, A.K. Best came to my rescue with a technique I found in the magazine FLY ROD and REEL (March 2007). Try this technique the next time that you tie an Adams or a Crackle Back.

Prepare the hackle butt by snipping away enough barbs so that when you begin to wind it around the hook there is a little bare quill at the beginning of the first turn. Wind the hackle as you normally would for any fly. After the last turn of hackle, hold the tip of the hackle in your right hand parallel to the floor pointing at your stomach (chest for you well built tiers). Hold the hackle tips in this position while you reach around with your materials hand (left for those right hand tiers) and grasp the bobbin to come around and up behind the hackle tip. When the tying thread is level (parallel) with hackle tip, wind them both up towards the top of the hook at the same time. Stop the hackle tip when it's just past vertical and continue with the tying thread to complete one full turn of thread over the hackle tip. Pull the hackle tip back to the top as you continue to make two more complete turns of thread and clip off the hackle tip. [Winding both the hackle tip and the thread in this fashion will allow the tying thread to slide through the hackle fibers at a slight angle rather than over the top of them and trapping few if any hackle fibers over the hook eye.]

If done properly, you should have a clean hackle wrap. Check out the article, he also has a tip for tying the perfect parachute fly.

Programs *Mike Krueger*

March 29

Tim Wade has graciously agreed to be the guest speaker for the March meeting. The date is March 29. Please note this is the 5th Thursday of the month. Tim's program will be '*Fly Fishing the Other side of the Yellowstone*'. He will discuss the public waters that are readily available and not heavily fished. He will also be tying his, according to him, famous HORROR fly. Guaranteed to catch fish (haven't we all heard that before!)

Don't miss this program – please note this is the fifth Thursday in March.

April 26

Andrew Peterson from Cutthroat Anglers in Silverthorn, CO. Andrew is a 13 year guide who began his fishing career in Illinois. He decided as a junior in college he would rather fish than attend classes. The rest is history. Andrew will present the Blue, Williams Fork, S. Platte and his adventures in central Colorado.

May 24

WOW do not miss this program! Tyler Befus from Montrose Colorado will give an entirely different viewpoint of fly fishing. Author, tyer, holder of 2 world records,

Tyler travels the world telling of his exploits and enticing all who hear him to go fishing. This program will be held at Powder Valley Conservation Area. More to come about Tyler in the next issue.

Streamside

Tim Wade - North Fork Anglers

Longer nights and shorter days forces most of us anglers to take up indoor hobbies when trout streams get too cold to fish good all day. The changing of the seasons encourages us to examine fly boxes to see where the empty slots are. For most of us, it is our favorite dry fly, nymph or streamer patterns that have the fewest numbers and sizes left.

The time when a 'near enough' fly left the vise and landed in fly boxes is almost over because fish are released more frequently. These fish demand flies that can fool a now wary quarry. Beginning fly tyers are the only ones that seem to get away with tying mistakes that will still catch a fish. Why that happens the way it does is a mystery. Murphy's Law is at work here, but one does need a certain amount of cooperation from trout, or other fish, to encourage us to become better at a fun, but labor intensive hobby.

Tying thread is the most critical component of a fly besides the hook. The thread is the binder keeping fur, wire, feathers, hair and now synthetic products like foam tightly bound

together. Choosing thread size when tying is important because one must cover the hook shank quickly, but without adding bulk to the fly, while making the fly look like a nymph, dry, or streamer.

Tying threads come in a different sizes. The larger the thread diameter, the larger the hook generally speaking. Threads generally were gauged as 3/0, 6/0 and 8/0. Three ought thread was good for big woolly buggers and grasshopper flies, while 6/0 and 8/0 were used on smaller hook sizes, say 12-24.

Tyers want a tight fly that will survive countless encounters with a fish's teeth. The only way we can do that is to choose the right thread. Today's choices of threads can be intimidating. I will try to make it simple.

Today, thread manufacturers recommend using a denier system to measure diameter and strength. The old "Ought" system is virtually extinct, except for nomenclature purposes only. Manufacturers say the only accurate way to compare sizes of thread is by Denier (Denier is the mass in grams of 9000 meters of thread).

Now, we ask for 116-180 Denier when we used to say we wanted a spool of 3/0. Instead of asking for 6/0, we now ask for 70 Denier (Danville 6/0) to 135 Denier (UniThread 6/0) and so on. Even floss and tying thread for great big salt water flies come in Deniers instead of the old button-hole twist or 'A' Nymo. It gets confusing, especially when one is familiar with the old vernacular. Simply put, the smaller the Denier number, the finer the diameter the thread. The higher numbers mean heavier thread, which also gives tyers an idea of strength and use at the tying table.

If you haven't purchased tying thread lately, make sure you pack along that empty spool with the manufacturer's label on it when you go to replace it. Otherwise you might get a surprise. Once you learn the new Denier system, however, you can trust your fly tying thread to do what it's always done and that is to tie a fly that lasts a season or two. A well tied fly does cut down on future tying workloads. Check your thread!

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WEBMASTER: *Brian Ellis*

NEWSLETTER: *Wallis W Warren*

OZARK FLY FISHERS EVENT CALENDAR

MAR 10	Chile Pot Luck, Tie-In: Marlan's subdivision clubhouse (see page 8) Countrylane Woods II, 851 Country Stone Drive, Manchester, 63021
MAR 15 – 18	OUTING: <i>Sow Bug Mountain Home, AR</i>
MAR 29	MONTHLY MEETING: Tim Wade/ North Fork Anglers Cody WY 7pm Queeny Rec Plex
APR 26	MONTHLY MEETING: Andrew Peterson/ Cutthroat Anglers, Silverthorn, Co 7pm Queeny Rec Plex
MAY 24	MONTHLY MEETING: Tyler Befus, Montrose CO 7pm POWDER VALLEY