



The Flyline

The Newsletter of the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association

September, 2018



**“The Little Brown Trout in the Vale”
Third Place 2018 HFFA Photo Contest by Pete Lilja**

**Save the Dates
February 15-17, 2019
HFFA 45th Annual Fly Fishing Show
Little Amana - Williamsburg, Iowa**



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The Presidents Hatch

My message for this President's Hatch is **READ**. I've made a real effort to catch up on my reading over the last two years. And, for the most part, I read the magazines and newspapers from cover to cover. The ones that give me the most information are: Trout magazine, Audubon magazine, Pheasants Forever magazine, and the Wisconsin TU newspaper. It's amazing to see what people in other parts of the country are doing for the environment and habitat. Besides being informative, it is also motivating.

The message that they all have in common is: Habitat. That's the most important thing to do to keep fishing, hunting, bird watching, or just being out there. The 2018 Federal Farm Bill comes up in almost all publications, from needing more CRP land for habitat, needing to help maintain our clean water (or clean it up). Of course we are all pessimistic about the level of funding that may be provided, but I keep hoping that it will be there in the end.



John Carl Miller

Another common goal is to increase the number of young people that participate in the activity. You have all heard that we should "Take a kid out fishing," but that applies to all aspects of the outdoors. A recent study showed that video gaming, or even texting, can lead to an increase in the number of ADHD cases. Iowa's DNR is funded by hunting and fishing licenses. If no one buys the licenses, there will be no Iowa DNR. We are already seeing cuts or non-filled vacancies at the hatcheries. With our busy sched-

les, it's hard to "Take a kid out fishing," but its worth the effort. If you do, take a lead from the Boy Scouts and have at least two chaperones with person you take out at all times.

Finally, get fired up about the HFFA Show in Little Amana in February. Plan to be there. Donate to the HFFA for the raffles, or auctions. Take a friend and introduce them to fly fishing. Mike Jacobs and his committee are putting in a ton of work to make the show a success. Lets all do our part.

John

Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association Membership Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Address Information
Check Membership Category:		Conservation Contribution:
<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 (Class)	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Youth Member (18 and under)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (Graphite)	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior Member (65 or older)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30 (Boron)	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 Family Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> \$_____ (Cane, over \$50)	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$300 Life Member		
NAME: _____		
ADDRESS: _____		
CITY: _____	STATE: _____	ZIP: _____
TELEPHONE: _____	EMAIL: _____	
Make checks payable to & mail to: Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association P.O. Box 8145 Cedar Rapids, IA 52408		

The Flyline is the official publication of the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association. It is published in March, June, September, and December. The HFFA is a chapter of the Fly Fishers International.

Articles may be submitted as MS Word or as a text file. Typed, printed or clearly handwritten documents are also accepted. Photos can be submitted digitally. Send original jpeg. Deadline is one month before publication.

Send all materials to:
Don Otto, The Flyline Editor
Hawkeyeflyfisher@gmail.com
Or call 641-230-1468

Contacts & Meetings

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HFFA Webpage

<http://www.hawkeyeflyfishing.com>

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing

Meets 1st & 3rd Tuesday of Month
American Legion, 2211 E. 42nd
Des Moines, IA
Contact: Dale Sanders
iaflyfisher@q.com

Quad Cities Chapter

Meets 1st & 3rd Sunday 6:00 PM
October to May
Meets 1st Sunday 6:00 PM June to
September
Riverdale Fire Station, 110 Manor
Drive, Riverdale, IA
Contact: Larry Thompson
larthompson@earthlink.net

Dubuque Fly Fishers

Meets 2nd & 4th Monday 7:00 PM
October to May
Swiss Valley Nature Center
13606 Swiss Valley Rd., Dubuque,
IA
Contact: Mike Stallsmith
president@dubuqueflyfishers.org

Central Iowa Fly Fishers

Meets 3rd Saturday 9:00 AM Sep-
tember to May
Our Lady's Immaculate Heart
Church
510 East 1st St., Ankeny, IA
Contact: Larry Murphy
lmurphy498@gmail.com

Iowa City Chapter

Contact: Ryan Maas
maas_ryan@yahoo.com

Cedar Rapids Fly Fishers

Contact: Lance Zook
l.a.zook@mchsi.com

TROUT UNLIMITED NORTH BEAR CHAPTER

Meetings held second Thursday
of month
September – May, Starting at
6:30 pm.

Madhouse Brewing Company
501 Scott Ave, Des Moines, IA
Website: tu-northbear.org
Jim Kelehan-President
president@tu-northbear.org

TROUT UNLIMITED DRIFTLESS CHAPTER

Meets the first Thursday of the
month October through May @
7 pm in the basement of
T-Bocks Sports Bar and Grill,
206 Water St. Decorah
www.iadriftless.org

Iowa Women Fly Fishers

Beginner or Skilled
Meet other Women Fly Fishers
Des Moines or North Liberty
katelodge25@gmail.com
willacamp@gmail.com

Trout Unlimited Spring Creeks Chapter

Ryan Maas – President
Check Their Web Site
www.tu-springcreeks.org

**Iowa's Coldwater
Conservancy
Tom Murray
jandtmurray@gmail.com**

Event Calendar

<p><u>September 2018</u></p> <p>September 8 Driftless TU Meet & Greet 11am - 2pm Potluck Dinner Bring Rods & Stories Driftless Education & Visitors Center Lansing, IA therea.shay@dnr.iow.gov</p> <p>September 8 4th Annual Brule River Spey Day Lake Superior Steelhead Assn. Brule River @ Mc Neil's House Brule, WI Www.steelheaders.org</p> <p>September 29 - 30 HFFA Fall Trout Outing Upper Iowa Resort & Campground Dorchester, Iowa Jef Moore 319-310-3285</p> <p><u>October 2018</u></p> <p>October 5 - 6 2018 Southern Council Fly Fishing Fair Comfort Inn Conference Area 1031 Highland Circle Mountain Home, AR 72653 Pat Smith ifffsoc@yelcot.net ffsoc.org</p> <p>October 13 2018 Driftless Flyathon Decorah, Iowa 52101 flyathon@driftlessonthefly.com</p>	<p>October 16 TUDARE Fall Restoration Tour 10 AM Sparta, WI Check Their Face Book for Details</p> <p>October 19-21 2018 Casting For Recovery IA Camp Ewalu's Stone Retreat Center Strawberry Point, IA 52076 norrisk@ihaonline.org</p> <p>October 19 - 21 BOW Becoming an Outdoors Woman Paint Creek Lodge Great River Road, Harpers ferry, IA Iowa Hunter Education Instructor Assn Rachel Ladd 515-729-6037 rachel.ladd@dnr.iowa.gov</p> <p>Driftless TU Fall Cleanup Day Exact date Later Steve Perry 641-583-1604</p> <p><u>November 2018</u></p> <p>November 17 HFFA Board Meeting 11:00 AM Franklin Hotel, Strawberry Point</p> <p><u>December 2018</u> <u>January 2019</u></p>	<p><u>February 2019</u> February 15-17 HFFA Annual Fly Fishing Show Little Amana Ramada Hotel 2211 U Ave Williamsburg, IA 52361 Mike Jacobs hawkeyeflytyer@yahoo.com</p> <p><u>March 2019</u> March 15 - 17 Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo Hamline University St. Paul, MN info@greatwatersflyexpo.com</p> <p>Driftless TU Spring Cleanup Day Exact Date Later Steve Perry 641-583-1604</p> <p><u>April 2019</u></p> <p>Driftless TU Annual Fundraiser Details at a Later Date Gary Arner iadrifttufr@gmail.com</p> <p><u>May 2019</u></p> <p>May 17 - 19 HFFA Bluegill Outing Lake Wapello, Drakesville, IA Dan Peterson 309-764-8401</p> <p><u>June 2019</u> <u>July 2019</u> <u>August 2019</u></p>
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HFFA 45TH ANNUAL MEETING/FLY FISHING SHOW Save the Dates

The 2019 Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association Annual Meeting and Fly Fishing Show will be held on the weekend of February 15-17. The show hotel is the Little Amana Ramada Hotel, 2211 U Avenue Williamsburg, Iowa 52361. This is located at exit 225 (Amana Colonies exit) along interstate 80 about 20 miles west of Iowa City.

You can make your hotel room reservations at our discounted price any time, now through January 15. HFFA has secured a special room price of \$89/night for double queen room or a single king. After January 15 room prices revert back to regular price of \$99/night. If you would like access to the Wasserbahn Water park the cost will be \$20/night extra (for four passes). When making your room reservations please ask to be included in the block of rooms set aside for the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association. The hotel does NOT have an elevator for access to second floor rooms. If you REQUIRE A ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR just make sure to request this when making your reservation. For reservations please call (319)-668-1175 or you can email sales@ramadawasserbahn.com

For the 2019 show we have an awesome lineup of speakers: Blane Chocklett will address fly fishing for muskies and big smallies, George Daniel will cover nymph and streamer strategies for large trout, and Tim Landwehr will address techniques and tactics for big smallies. This is a show you don't want to miss so make your reservations as soon as possible. We hope to see you there!

Thank you.
The 2019 HFFA show committee

HFFA Business Report

Minutes of HFFA Board of Directors Meeting August 18, 2018 Big Spring Trout Hatchery, Elkader, Iowa

Called to order by President John Miller at 10:00 AM

Attendees: John Miller, Dave Oliver, Ron Stahlberg, CJ Klenske, Kyle Anderson, Dave Jones, Tom Murray, John Beard, Ryan Maas.

Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and approved by the board to accept the minutes of the March 3, 2018 board meeting.

Financial Report

General discussions were had regarding the financial results from October 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018, including a year-to-date transaction listing. The year-to-date club revenue was reported to be \$20,070, expenses \$23,127 and loss of \$3,057. Year-to-date revenue reported did not include deer tag proceeds estimated to be \$7,426. Cash balance as of July 31, 2018 was \$41,263. Motion made and approved by the board to accept the year-to-date financial report.

Skunk River Low Head Dam Progress

Skunk River Dam modification project has been funded and contracts have been awarded. HFFA has supported this project with a \$1,000 check. A workday will be scheduled for spring of 2019.

Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy Update

Dave Jones reported that NEI RC&D has been engaged to assist with marketing, branding and media development. Thus far, the organizational logo has been developed while website development continues.

Newsletter Update

Don Otto reports that the next newsletter is expected to be published September 1, and is 80% completed.

Membership

A discussion was held regarding the opportunity to reevaluate the current membership process. Currently, the treasurer is responsible for receiving checks and maintaining the membership roster. Ron Stahlberg, Ryan Maas and Kyle Anderson have agreed to study the feasibility of an alternative process, including using the HFFA website to receive membership fees.

Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy Funding

Dave Jones reviewed a list of organizational accomplishments for Iowa's Coldwater Conservancy (ICC), since their formation in May 2017. Year one financial results included fund-raising of \$12,300, expenses of \$3,285 and a current fund balance of \$9,015. ICC provided \$2,500 of financial support to assist Winneshiek County with the Casey Springs Trout stream land acquisition. A discussion was held regarding efforts by the project committee to work with DNR to identify potential cold water trout streams for restoration. Dave highlighted the Trout Unlimited DARE award from Natural Resources Conservation Service that will provide \$750,000 for stream restoration projects in Iowa. Dave reminded the board that ICC will need to match the NRCS award, with approximately \$250,000 of fund-raising in order to cover the property owner's share of stream restoration project cost.

After considerable discussion, the board approved the motion to match the combined contributions of Iowa's three Trout Unlimited chapters at an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Furthermore, the board committed to provide an additional \$5,000 if a specific stream restoration project is identified.

Board and Officer Elections

John Miller reviewed the officer and board member terms that will be completed at the end of this year. After some discussion, it was agreed that the board will consider recommendations for open officer and board member positions to be approved by the club membership at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Clayton County Trout Maps

Clayton County Conservation Board has committed to spend \$10,000 to print additional trout maps for Clayton County and is seeking funding support of \$2,000. After discussion, a motion was made and the board approved financial support of \$2,000 to fund the printing of additional trout maps.

Continued on Next Page

HFFA Business Report - continued

North Bear Creek Project

Mike Seipker, Fisheries Biologist with Iowa DNR, reviewed the North Bear Creek project, discussing in particular the plan to stabilize 295 feet of eroded stream bank along North Bear Creek, using a new technique that utilizes woody debris to stabilize the toe of the bank. Mike reviewed the proposed project budget of \$52,000. Dave Jones has applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from the Fly Fishers International Southern Council to support the project cost. The board requested that Dave Jones apply for a \$1,500 grant from Fly Fishers International to further support the North Bear Creek Project.

Upcoming Events

Heritage Classic Youth Day, Dubuque, September 8, 2018
Flyathon, Yellow River Forest, October 13, 2018
2019 HFFA Show, Little Amana, February 15-17, 2019

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, at the Franklin Hotel in Strawberry Point, Iowa. The ICC meeting will follow from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Adjourn

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 12:00 PM.

Submitted by Dave Jones, August 18, 2018.

Trout Unlimited Driftless Chapter

Welcome all to a Meet and Greet.

Saturday, September 8 from 11-2

Driftless Area Education and Visitor Center
1944 Columbus Road, Lansing

Please bring a dish to eat and a dish to pass. Also bring your own tableware and drinks.

Optional: Bring your gear, tying materials, questions and most of all your stories.

For more information, please contact:

Theresa Shay at 563.379.6103 or tashay1966@gmail.com

FFI Certified Casting Instructor Program

But the fish don't see the cast? That was my first impression with the Certified Casting Instructor (CCI) program offered through Fly Fishers International (FFI). I always caught fish and cast well enough...or at least I thought. In the summer of 2015, I started my guiding business, Driftless Fishers LLC, to do what I could to promote fly fishing and casting in beautiful northeast Iowa. I wanted to teach clients proper casting techniques so in 2016 I began investigating the CCI program. Wow, did it seem daunting!

I started practicing some of the first casting tasks, like creating narrow loops and changing casting planes and speed. I thought I was making steady progress until I videotaped myself casting. To my own disbelief, it was ugly. I soon realized I couldn't complete the journey on my own. In 2017, I signed up for the CCI Prep Workshop that was offered through the FFI Upper Midwest Council. That was the game changer. While at the program, I was quizzed on a rigorous whirlwind of technical terminology, attended casting practice with the experts, and had to teach fly casting. It was an amazing experience and it was there that I learned how little I actually knew about casting technique. From then on, I worked with two coaches who tirelessly mentored me along the way. It was all worth it when I passed the final examination this past June! The final exam includes a written test along with a field test covering several aspects of proper casting technique and teaching. The teaching component is critical because that is where we must focus our energies to help others into the sport of fly fishing and casting.

Passing the final exam meant a lot to me. I now have a family of fly fishers who are as crazy as me about casting a fly. I also have the opportunity to mentor others who are interested in improving their casting based on a set of international standards. Finally, passing the CCI examination is not the end...improved casting requires continuously learning and revisiting your cast to keep emerging bad habits in check.

Fish don't see the cast but they absolutely see the presentation on the water. The presentation is a product of the cast, so cast and cast well. Even if you aren't interested in the certification process, I'd encourage everyone to at least record your casting so you can watch yourself. Today's technology makes it easy to quickly record your cast and play it back in the field to look for bad habits.

Tips and pointers for those interested in pursuing the CCI journey:

1. Visit FFI's website and check out the information about pursuing the CCI program.
2. Get a copy of the examination and study it. You will need to know the expectations for each task.
3. Practice every day. Casting is about muscle memory.
4. Begin teaching about fly casting early on. Many people are accomplished casters but find it difficult to teach others how to develop proper casting techniques!
5. Find a mentor or two. Sometimes this can be tricky so you have to be willing to travel or communicate electronically with videos, chats, and practice sessions.
6. Commit to the end goal. It is easy to get frustrated and it can be a long journey but seeing the improvement in your own casting and presentation on the water is worth it!

If you have specific questions about the certification process, you can contact me at 417-204-2400 or at driftlessfishers@gmail.com.

Tight lines and loops to all!

Liz Siepker



Liz at 2018 HFFA Show
Photos by
James Wilson

Congratulations Liz
Don



To Catch A Tiger

by Mike Jacobs

Third Place 2018 HFFA Show Essay Contest

I am at the stage in my fishing life where I hope to add to my "bucket list" and broaden my horizons. Due to my work schedule, my horizons are limited to how far 10 days travel by car can take me. Much of the Rocky Mountain West lies within my travel range and this suits me perfectly. I love the mountains along with the spectacular scenery and fishing.

Over the past 10 years I have been able to cross several species of trout off my wish list, but 4 years ago Tiger Trout appeared at the top of the list. Tiger Trout are the result of eggs from a female Brown trout being fertilized by the milt from a male Brook trout. Iowa streams do naturally produce a few Tigers and several streams in Southwest Wisconsin have populations of Tigers, but in the wild, they are very rare. However, fisheries biologists in several western states have found that Tigers, who are primarily fish eaters, can play a significant role in controlling unwanted or overpopulated fish in lakes. They have initiated aggressive Tiger trout stocking programs that have not only had the desired result of controlling unwanted fish, but these programs have also stirred angler interest in a new species of trout that is not only beautiful, it can also quickly grow to exceptional size.

It is the beauty of these fish that first attracted me to Tigers. Internet images of these handsome fish spurred my interest, which in turn led to researching where and how they can be caught. My fascination with these fish led me on a four year journey in an attempt to catch a Tiger.

In 2013 a friend and I attempted to locate Laramie lake in Colorado. Laramie is situated in an area of Colorado that I'm pretty familiar with. West of Fort Collins, and east of the Cameron Pass, Laramie lake is hidden in the forest, NE of Chambers lake. Carrying 60 pounds of gear including inflated kick boats, waders, wading boots, kick fins, rod, reel, net, lunch, etc. we attempted to weave our way through lodge pole pine, through swampy bogs, while following narrow Moose trails. In two attempts we discovered that Laramie lake is so well hidden we could not even find it. The highlight of the two aborted attempts to find the lake was the time I was charged by a Grizzly rabbit.

Again in 2014 we made an attempt to catch a Tiger, this time on the Grand Mesa in western Colorado. Sheep Lake was our targeted lake on the Mesa. I learned that we could drive to one end of Deep Ward lake, then carry our kick boats a short distance down to Deep Slough reservoir. From there we could kick our boats a quarter mile along the shore of Deep Slough and then portage about 200 feet over to Sheep lake. This proved to be easier said than done because of the strong wind which was always blowing from the direction we wanted to go. In two attempts to catch a Tiger on Sheep lake we struck out again. One nice Colorado Cutt I caught was all we had to show for our efforts on two days.

In 2015 I found a small lake in Eastern Idaho that had been stocked with Tigers to control a runaway population of small Perch. Jim Moore pond, near Roberts, Idaho looked to be the ideal spot to catch a Tiger. First stocked with Tigers in 2011, fish were being caught up to 16". In two separate stockings, over 8,000 Tigers had been released to work on the Perch population. With this number of target fish in a 45 acre pond I anticipated easy fishing. Plus, you could drive right to the pond and launch your kick boat at the convenient boat launch.

My optimism about this spot proved unfounded once again. On the day we fished, sustained winds around 30 mph made maneuvering around the pond on our kick boats very difficult. Though the water was crystal clear, we saw no signs of Tiger trout. We tried fishing every fly in our arsenals, to no avail, and finally gave up. However we did manage to catch several small Perch. They were in no way, a reward for our efforts.

Finally, in September 2016, we were able to end the Tiger trout drought. In May I started making phone calls to State of Colorado fisheries biologists, attempting to find lakes that held Tigers, but did not appear on the Colorado Parks & Wildlife Sportsman Atlas. Via information I received from fisheries personnel, I located a few lakes near Winter Park that had been stocked with Tigers. Though the reservoirs were hundreds of acres large, I still felt we could find Tigers by working near stream inlets. In mid-September, Brook trout should be getting ready to spawn in these inlets and I guessed the Tigers would not be far away.

But, two weeks before we were set to leave, I received a call from a fisheries biologist that opened a new window of opportunity. He suggested St. Mary's lake, a lake that was just over an hours drive away from Winter Park, where we were staying. It is a small lake, just over 8 acres which meant we had no need to haul in kick boats. Just hike in and give fishing a try. He indicated the fish would not be large, the first Tigers stocked were in 2014 and they would be 10-12". Tigers were again stocked in early 2016 and they would only be 6-8". Along with Tigers the lake held Brook trout that were becoming overpopulated. The lake was at the end of a short (mile long), steep (1,000 foot elevation gain) hike. We would also come to find out that the "trail" is actually a re-purposed avalanche chute. At least, that is what it seemed like to me.

On the first day, as we drove to the trailhead for the lake, I was filled with anticipation. How difficult is the trail? Would we find fish? Could we catch a Tiger? These and many other questions were answered shortly.

We readied our gear and began the ascent up to St. Mary's lake. I quickly discovered the trail was much steeper than the fisheries biologist had described. Or maybe, his description of the trail was from the perspective of a 30 year old, and my perspective was from that of an old fly fisher geezer. Either way, the trail is steep and difficult for someone coming to the high altitude Colorado from the flatlands of Iowa.

Continued on the next page

We arrived at the lake after no fewer than 6, catch your breath, rest stops. With your first view of this magnificent lake you are able to take in all of the majesty that the Rocky Mountain West holds. It's a beautiful, small lake, surrounded by towering mountains. An ice field at the northeast corner of the lake feeds pure snowmelt into the emerald depths. Dimples on the surface of the water gave away the presence of the fish we so desperately wanted to catch.

As we approached the edge of the lake we could see trout cruising, but were they Brookies or Tigers? Only time would tell.

Seeing the surface feeding activity, we both decided to tie on small dry flies. Fish were rising all around us but in no particular pattern. All we could do was cast toward the nearest rise, let the fly sit, and hope for the best. It wasn't long before my friend hooked a fish, played and netted it. Then I was asked to identify it. My first view of this trout told me it was something different. Though it was a small fish, it had beautiful markings unlike any fish I had seen before. Distinct, Tiger like barring told me this was no Brook trout, this was the first Tiger trout either of us had ever seen. Dang it!!! After pictures had been taken the pressure was now on me to catch my very first Tiger trout.

I watched intently as my small fly bobbed on the lake surface. Then, from out of the depths, a fish cruised up for a look and confidently took my dry. I set the hook and a short battle ensued. As I guided the fish closer to me I could see the distinct markings of a nice Tiger trout! Because I was so excited, I had a hard time as I fumbled around trying to release the French clip holding my landing net to the back of my vest. Finally, with net in hand, I led my Tiger back into the shallow water in front of me, then into the confines of the net.

I admired this beautiful, 11" Tiger trout as we took a few pictures to commemorate the occasion. The unsuccessful pursuit of Tiger trout over the previous three years was now just a distant memory, and all the self-imposed pressure had been lifted. For the rest of the day we both fished with renewed enthusiasm as we enjoyed our beautiful surroundings and the magnificent Brookies and Tigers we caught.

Now that the pressure of catching a Tiger trout has been lifted the question becomes, What is next on the bucket list? Stay tuned. I'm sure that will be the subject of another story in the future.

Mike



Fly Tying Competition at 2018 Iowa State Fair

The fly tying competition was held at the 2018 Iowa State Fair. This competition has been developed and sponsored by the Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association (HFFA) with support of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). There were 14 entrants with 48 flies entered into the competition from across the state. There were 2 in the junior division, 7 in the adult division, and 5 in the expert division. There are four categories; dry flies, wet/nymph flies, streamer flies, and open. There are 3 divisions (Expert, Adult and Junior).

This year's judges were Dave Rosset (Des Moines), Larry Young (Des Moines) and Larry Murphy (Ankeny). The judges awarded three places for each category. The judging took place at the State Fair on Wednesday, August 8th. The flies were on display in the DNR building on the fairgrounds during the entire fair. The results of the 2018 Fly Tying Competition are the following:

Junior Division

Dry Fly Category

1st Place	Cullen Riskedahl	Grasshopper	Ankeny
2nd Place	Keelan Van Heiden	Hendrickson	Holland

Wet Fly/Nymph Category

1st Place	Cullen Riskedahl	Jiggy John	Ankeny
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Open Category

1st Place	Cullen Riskedahl	Copper John	Ankeny
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Streamer Category

1st Place	Cullen Riskedahl	Pink Bunny	Ankeny
2nd Place	Keelan Van Heiden	Pike Rabbit Zonker	Holland

Adult Division

Dry Fly Category

1st Place	Tom Donnelly	Sulphur Mayfly	Ankeny
2nd Place	Bradley Peterson	Royal Wulff	Ely
3rd Place	Rick Zieger	Paraloop Purple Haze	Lamoni

Wet Fly/Nymph Category

1st Place	Ray Corry	Brown Stone Fly	North Liberty
2nd Place	Tom Donnelly	Caddis Pupa	Des Moines
3rd Place	Bradley Peterson	Copper John	Ely

Open Category

1st Place	Ray Corry	Black Foam Stimulator	North Liberty
2nd Place	Rick Zieger	Dr. Mike	Lamoni
3rd Place	Tom Donnelly	Grasshopper	Des Moines

Streamer Category

1st Place	Ray Corry	Whitlocks Near-Nuff Crayfish	North Liberty
2nd Place	Tom Donnelly	Royal Coachman Bucktail	Des Moines
3rd Place	Bradley Peterson	Baby PT Cray	Ely

Expert Division

Dry Fly Category

1st Place	CJ Klenske	JuJu 2 Emerger	Dubuque
2nd Place	Jeff Moore	Caddis Pupa	Marion
3rd Place	Michael Jacobs	Hippie Stomper	Monticello

Wet Fly/Nymph Category

1st Place	Larry Niday	Abbey	Knoxville
2nd Place	CJ Klenske	Tungsten Bead Prince	Dubuque
3rd Place	Kevin Slater	Sparrow Variant	Ankeny

Open Category

1st Place	Jeff Moore	Baby Bluegill	Marion
2nd Place	CJ Klenske	Duracell Jig Fly	Dubuque
3rd Place	Michael Jacobs	Strawboss	Monticello

Streamer Category

1st Place	Michael Jacobs	White Trash	Monticello
2nd Place	Jeff Moore	Sculpin	Marion
3rd Place	CJ Klenske	Tie-Dyed Bunny	Dubuque

2018 Iowa State Fair Fly Tying Competition continues

The flies were on display in the DNR building on the fairgrounds during the entire fair. On the first and second Saturday of the fair, HFFA provided a demonstration on the basics of fly fishing in Iowa. There were nearly full attendance in the DNR Courtyard stage area for these demonstrations.



Photos from left to right: Dave Rosset and Larry Murphy; Dave Rosset and Larry Young; Fairgoers enjoying the flies.



Presenters left to right Steve Veysey, Paul Domoto, Dave Rosset and Mike Brodell
Photos and contest results provided by Larry Murphy

Tales From The Vise by Scott Nordby



Elk Hair Caddis

- Hook = standard dry fly size 14 (20-10)
- Thread = 6/0 Tan or Dark Brown
 - (I prefer 6/0 when working with deer or elk hair)
- Rib = Fine gold wire
- Body = fine dry fly dubbing (Green/Olive or Tan)
- Hackle = Brown or Ginger Dry fly Hackle
 - (* the new long saddle hackles are perfect for this fly)
 - (Note: Al Troth method is to wrap the hackle from the front to the back than secure it in with the gold wire and rib it forward to secure it in.)
- Wing = Bleached Elk Hair

Sometimes it's hard to come up with new ideas. The brain wants to be in chaos mode after a hard day at work. When the ideas won't flow, it's time to let the mind have a rest and tie up what it already knows.

There has been talk and articles on the "One Fly" and such, but one fly I am never without is the Elk Hair Caddis. This fly has fooled many fish over my years of fly fishing. Whether on still waters for panfish or cold spring creeks for trout, fish know a good meal when they see it. I prefer to tie this in the traditional Al Troth style that I was taught by Bob Mitchell. While you can tie this in a variety of sizes from 20 to 10, I prefer size 14. I think this covers three ranges of sizes (16 to 12) and it seems to work for me in almost every instance I use it. I also prefer the Bleached Elk hair and I like to find a patch with very distinct dark tips. My short coming on this fly is I generally don't use as much elk hair as I should. It still works well for me but I need some help from "Frog Fanny" floatant. I think this really makes it float nice compared to a paste or liquid floatant.

Let's talk a little bit about tying this fly. It is a fly that needs some good proportion control for the length of the wing. Also the hackle should really be proportioned correctly, if anything it should be undersized not oversized. I'm not sure that body color is that important but Green/Olive or Tan are my preferred colors. A couple tips for tying this; I like to cut the hackle on top of the hook to help the wing lay correctly. For the head, some people like to take wraps thru the hair at the head to help secure it in. You need to be careful that you don't put in too many wraps and collapse it down. I just prefer to wedge it up with a nice tapered head and then use some head cement to lock it all in. As much as trout like this fly, if you have never used it for top water sunfish, you are missing out!
Step by step at www.flychucker.blogspot.com



HFFA

Member Profile

Larry Murphy

Getting to know your fellow HFFA member:

How long have you been a HFFA member? I have been a member for about 29 years

Family? I am married to my wife Pat and we have three daughters and eight grandchildren. Two of our daughters and their families live in the Twin Cities of Minnesota. One daughter and her family live in Denver Colorado.

Occupation? I worked for the Iowa Supreme Court for 30 years as the Chief Information Officer for their technology division. After retiring, I went to work part-time for the National Center for State Courts as an Information Technology consultant. I fully retired in 2015.

Hometown? I grew up on a farm near Fonda, Iowa in Pocahontas County.

When did you begin to fly fish? A friend in college introduced me to fly fishing in 1968 while going to college. I purchased a Berkley 5-6 wt rod with an automatic reel. I still have the rod and reel.

When did you join HFFA? I joined HFFA about 1989 after moving to central Iowa. I started attending the Central Iowa Fly Fishers and was encouraged to join HFFA.

Why did you join HFFA? Joining HFFA was an opportunity to meet fellow anglers and learn how to better improve my skills of fly fishing. I was keenly interested in fly tying. HFFA has provided me many opportunities to learn many of the finer points of fly fishing. There are a great number of very skilled fly fishers within HFFA. I owe everything I know about fly tying to the members of HFFA, who spent time teaching me the art of fly tying. They were very open to sharing their knowledge of fly tying with me.

What is your home water? For trout fishing, I consider Waterloo Creek my home water. In 1991 I purchased a travel trailer in the campground just west of Dorchester Iowa, right along the banks of Waterloo Creek. My family and I spent many weekends and vacation time there. I could walk about 20 steps to the banks of Waterloo Creek.

For steelhead fishing, I love the Brule River in Northern Wisconsin. Lee Schulteis and I have been going to the Brule steelhead fishing for about ten years. There is nothing like the tug on your fly rod like when a steelhead takes your fly. I enjoy the hookup of the fish, sometimes the catch and the beauty of the river in the fall. The Brule is a special place.

What is your favorite species to fly fish for? Trout and Steelhead. I enjoy fishing for trout in NE Iowa. A lot of great memories of fishing the various streams and catching trout.

What is your most memorable fly fishing experience? The first steelhead I caught on the Brule River. The exhilaration hooking up that fish and the power of the steelhead hooked into me like nothing I had ever experienced before. When I landed the fish, I was so excited and exhausted all at the same time. What an experience.

What are your other hobbies? My other hobbies include fly tying, watercolor painting, wood carving, gardening and photography.

What fishing magazines do you subscribe to? Fly Tyer Magazine, and American Angler.

What's your favorite fly? For dry fly a Parachute Adams, for nymph fly a Pink Squirrel, for a wet fly a Leadwing Coachman, and for streamer a Black Nose Dace. For steelhead fishing the Jumbo John in orange, and the egg sucking leech.

What's your favorite fly fishing book? "Flies That Catch Trout" by Ross Mueller; "Charlie's Fly Box" by Charlie Craven; "The Soft Hackle Fly" by Sylvester Nemes; "Trout" by Ray Bergman; "Spring Creek Strategies" by Mike Heck.

What do you like about HFFA? I like the fellowship and friendships developed with HFFA members. I have learned a number of skills from various members and I appreciate all time and knowledge they have shared with me over the years. I most certainly, cherish and value the friendships developed through HFFA.

I have enjoyed the outreach programs HFFA provides to Iowans. The education programs of teaching fly fishing to adults and youth have been very special to me. To see the impact fly fishing gives to individuals beginning to enjoy the outdoors and learning to care for their environment.

I most certainly enjoy the State Fair Fly Tying Competition. Seeing the joy of a youth participate receives when they earn a ribbon at the fair, make the effort worthwhile. I usually spend some time watching people observe the fly display at the fair. Many times this is the first opportunity for youth and adults to see what flies and fly fishing is all about. Many comments are "look at the artfulness of those flies".

Larry

A Look At The Upper Salmon River

by Mike Jacobs

After spending seven hours on the road driving to and from the South Fork of the Boise River on our first fishing day, Doug and I decided to do some fishing closer to our lodge over the next two days. The main fork of the Salmon River was less than a half hour's drive from the lodge so that is where we concentrated our efforts the next two mornings and early afternoons.

The main fork of the Salmon River begins as a small trickle tumbling down from the heights of Galena Summit. It comes into view along Highway 75 less than a mile upstream from the Smiley Creek Lodge where we were staying. By the time it reaches the Gold Creek Sportsman's access, 11 miles downstream from the lodge, the river has picked up over a dozen tributary streams and has made the transformation from a tiny mountain stream into a nice sized western river. By the time the river reaches Stanley, another 9 miles downstream it has become a large, swiftly flowing western river.

The Upper Salmon River is primarily a Rainbow trout fishery but there is also a good population of Mountain Whitefish. Bull Trout are fairly common in this stretch too, but Westslope Cutthroat Trout are rare in these waters. Doug and I were not fussy, we just wanted to catch fish.

We concentrated most of our efforts on some USFS property near the mouth of Fisher Creek and we also fished about a mile of the river upstream and downstream from the Gold Creek sportsman's access. The river near the mouth of Fisher Creek was braided and mostly consisted of shallow runs. There were a couple small pools and that is where we were able to pick up some fish.

As I approached one small pool I noticed a few rising fish close to the far bank. The pool was guarded by a few overhanging willow branches but there was just enough room to sneak a cast in beneath the branches. I noticed some small mayflies in the air but I could not tell what they were so I decided to tie on a size 16 Parachute Adams, a fly that is always a good searching pattern. This fly has a very visible, white wing post which would make the fly easier for me to see as it rode the riffled water downstream.

There was a slight breeze blowing downstream and on the first few casts I had trouble getting the fly into the right drift. The fly floated past the rising pod of fish un-noticed. After finally gauging the wind correctly I landed the fly exactly where I wanted it, under the willow branches and three feet upstream from a good fish. The Parachute Adams did its job and the spunky Rainbow took the fly confidently. Feeling the sting of the hook, the Rainbow immediately went airborne, clearing the water by two feet. I was impressed with this jump but I was even more impressed when the wild fish did the same thing four more times. As the fish began to tire I reached behind me to grab my landing net and held it out as I guided the fish toward me. With one final effort the fish freed itself from the barbless hook and sped away, back to the sanctuary of the small pool. Though the Rainbow was only a foot long he fought the battle as if he had some wild Steelhead in his genetic makeup.

We continued to fish this stretch of the Salmon River for a couple more hours but only raised a few small fish. As we were getting ready to leave the river I spotted a pair of Steelhead working their way up through a shallow riffle. If we had been back in the Midwest, fishing some Lake Michigan tributary stream, spotting this pair of Steelhead would have been exciting but no big deal because those fish rarely travel more than 30 miles upstream from the lake to the first dam. This pair of Steelhead had most likely travelled nearly 900 miles from the Pacific Ocean, through two major river systems, to reach their spawning grounds on the Salmon River.

The following morning we spent our time fishing at another spot along the Salmon River, upstream and downstream from the Gold Creek Sportsman's Access. We fished about a mile of the river in this area and we found some shallow riffles, swift runs, and some deep pools. With very few rises in evidence I decided to fish a black, heavily weighted, Conehead Leech. I employed the technique of casting across the stream and allowing the fly to sweep broadside across the deep runs and pools. Using this method Doug and I both netted several Rainbows in the 10-12" range and Doug even caught a 19" Whitefish. This big Whitefish provided a major test for the rod Doug was fishing that day. It was the same rod he had used in Wyoming the year before and someone had closed a car door on the ferrule and broken it. I don't want to draw too much attention to the person guilty of this infraction but I can tell you that they were along on both the 2009 and the 2010 trips and that they were much relieved that the rod seems to be as good as new. The fact that the rod seems as good as new is a great testament to Doug's ability as a rod builder. We spent about a half day fishing the Salmon River both of the days we fished there. Good numbers of Rainbows and Whitefish had fallen for our flies, but in the short amount of time we fished there we had sampled only a tiny portion of the fishing available on this amazing river. It will be an easy decision for me to go back to the Salmon River to do more exploring, some time in the near future.

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5. *Best, AK - Freshwater Streamers
6. *Best, AK - Terrestrials
7. *Big Horn River Trout - Fly fishing Video Magazine Vol 26
8. *Borger, G - Designing Flies with Hair Hackles
9. *Borger, G - Designing Flies with Stiff Hackles
10. *Borger, G - Designing flies with Soft Hackles
11. *Borger, G - Designing flies with Feather Dubbing
12. *Carp On The Flats - Fly Fishing Video Mag Vol 57
13. *Clemens, D - Building Your Own Rod
14. *Dahlberg, L - Fly Fishing for Pike
15. *Dahlberg, L - Panfish & Bass
16. *Dennis, J - Fly Tying Basics
17. *Dennis, J - Learning to Fly Fish
18. *Dennis, J - Western Trout flies
19. *Ellis, J - Trout Tactics for Panfish
20. *3M - fly Fishing Made Easy - Featuring Bass, Panfish & Trout
21. 3M - Fly Fishing for Pike
22. *3M - Fly fishing for Trout - G. Borger
23. *3M - Tying Trout Flies
24. *Fly Rodders Guide to Pike - Smith & Reynolds
25. *Gunnison River - Fly Fishing Mag Video Vol 31
26. *HFFA 1985 Workday & Meeting
27. Hafele, R - Anatomy of a Stream
28. *Helm, C - Hooked on Fly Tying - Spinning Deer Hair
29. *Helm, C - Hair Trout Flies
30. *Humphreys, J - Nymphing Strategies
31. *Jorgenson, J On Fly Tying Vol 1
32. *Jorgenson, J On Fly Tying Vol 2
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58. Teeny, J - Basic Nymphing
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60. *Whitlock, D - LL Bean Introduction to Fly Fishing
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62. *Whitlock, D - Originals Vol 1
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64. *Whitlock, D - Originals Vol 3
65. *Whitlock, D - Originals Vol 4
66. *KWVL - French Creek News

VHS Tapes

1. Borger, G - Big Horn
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