FLY OF THE MONTH

Bead Head
olly Bugger

January 1999

Jerry McBride - Ron Pantzar

Wow! It's 1999, our last chance to get it right in this century/millenium. Getting it right means fishing more. While we may not reach the number of fishing trips as our hero, Clay Findlay, we can all benefit by trying. This month's fly was very successful at 4th of July before ice-up. Jerry McBride's buddy, Ron Tantzar, took 70 rainbows one day with it and Jerry wasn't far behind. Boyd Matson and I used it a day or so later and had great success. All of us fished it with an indicator and enough leader (10 ft. or more) to get it right on the bottom. A dead slow retrieve and ripple action enticed the strikes. The float keeps the fly at proper depth for as long as needed and also allows the dead slow retrieve so effective in cold water. It's not just chironomids and worms that work using this technique. Many of our favorite wet patterns work very well this way. Incidentally, the Bead Head Woolly Bugger works well fished in the conventional ways both in streams and still water.

Hook: Tiempco 3457 "scud" 8-10 or 3399 size 6

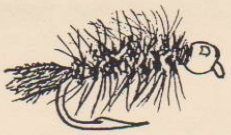
Thread: Black

Head: Brass bead

Tail: Short black maribou

Body: Black "cactus" chenille, peacock glimmer chenille, or new age black pearl chenille with lead wire optional

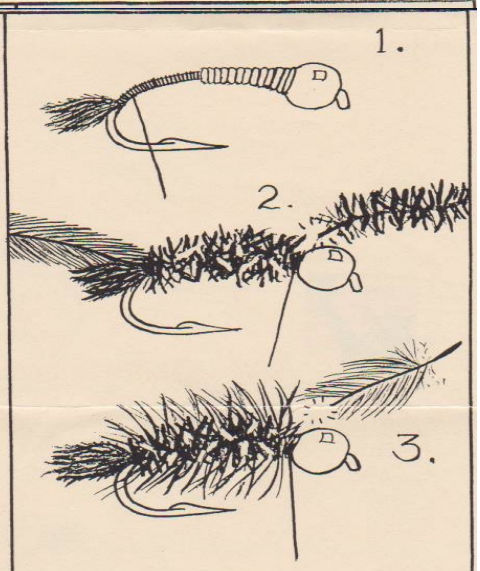
Hackle: Black palmered



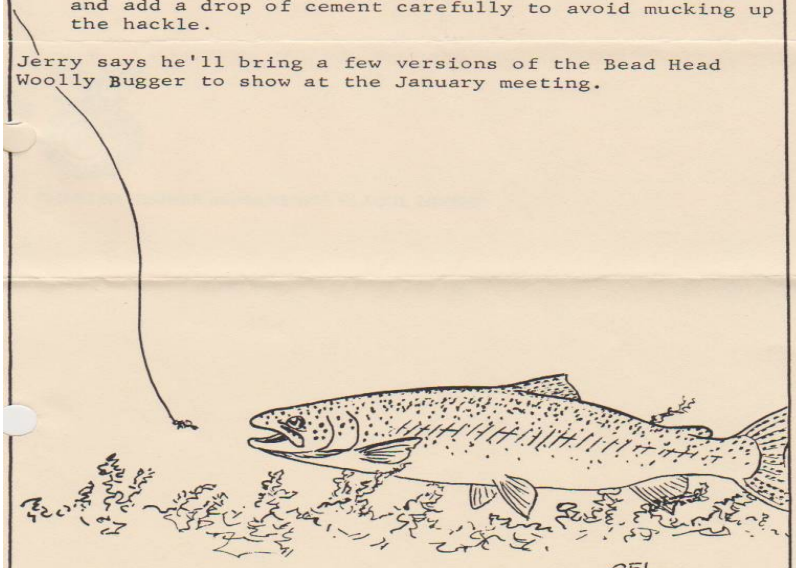
1. Slip the brass bead over the hook point and slide it up to the eye (after, of course, pinching the barb) Line the hook shank with tying thread to midway down the bend of the hook. If you wish a weighted version, add your lead wire in your favorite fashion. One way is to wrap it just behind the eye as shown. This helps keep the eye in place and concentrates the weight so the fly will ride point up. Jerry likes to add his lead in strips along the hook shank, secured by tying thread. The result is the same. Now tie in a short, thick bunch of black maribou for the tail.

2. Tie in the black hackle by the tip and leave it dangling. Attach the chenille and wind a thick body up to the brass bead, secure, and trim the excess.

3. Palmer the hackle through the body, tie off behind the bead, and trim. Do your whip finish behind the bead and add a drop of cement carefully to avoid mucking up the hackle.



Jerry says he'll bring a few versions of the Bead Head Woolly Bugger to show at the January meeting.



FLY OF THE MONTH

.D HEAD CHIRONOMIDS February 1999 Boyd Matson and George Potter

This month we feature a technique that can add effectiveness to any of your favorite chironomid patterns. It is a way of handling the white gills found at the head of these favorite trout morsels. Chironomid guru, Brian Chan, noted that the gills of the rising midges seem to point toward the surface. George Potter, Boyd Matson, and other Club members have been tying bead head chironomids in a manner that depicts this phenomenon. Here is their technique. It can be applied to any of your favorite midge patterns but I have included one of George and Boyd's favorite ties which has proven very effective recently in our still waters.

Hook: #12 or 14 scud hook

Thread: #6 unithread

Head: 1/8" bead - black, silver, or brass

Gills: White poly yarn

Body: Burgundy super floss

Rib: Fine silver wire

Thorax: Peacock herl

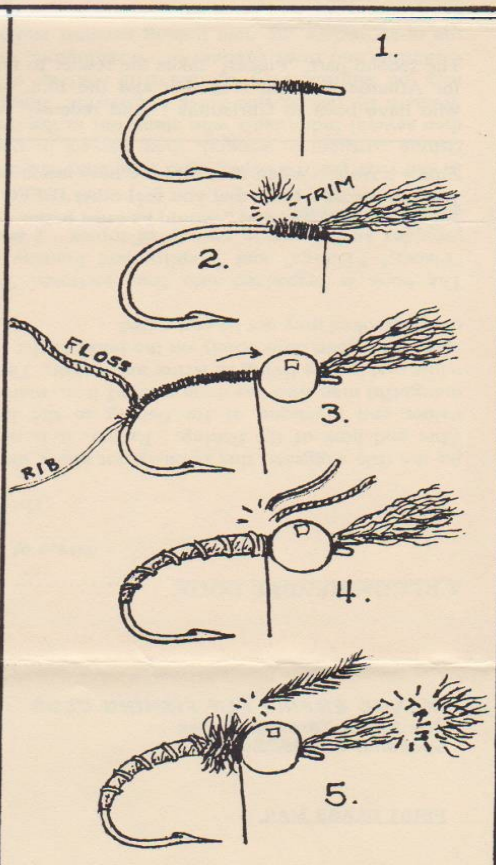
1. Attach the tying thread just behind the eye of the hook and build up a cushion of thread as shown.

2. Tie in a small bunch of poly yarn with the long portion facing forward. Whip finish in front of the yarn and trim the thread. Trim the back portion of the poly yarn if necessary.

3. Slip the bead onto the hook with the larger opening toward the front of the hook. Slide it over the poly yarn gills up to the hook's eye. The gills should emerge from the front of the bead, pass over the eye of the hook and point slightly upward. Re-attach the tying thread behind the bead and line the hook shank back to the middle of the bend. Tie in the ribbing and body material there, then wind the thread back to the bead.

4. Wrap the body, tapering it smoothly larger toward the front, and secure. Counter wind the rib a few turns, secure, and trim the excess materials.

5. Attach the herl just behind the bead and give it a few twists around the tying thread. Wrap several turns of herl to form a small thorax, secure, and trim. Do a tight whip finish just behind the bead and trim the thread. Trim the gills to size.



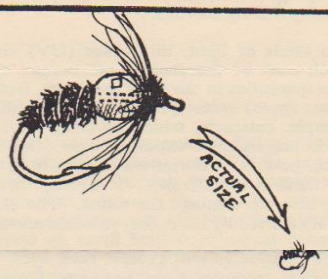
FLY OF THE MONTH

SS BEAD EMERGER — March 1999 — Julie Ray - Bob Bates

Here is a pattern that Bob demonstrated during the January meeting. It is supposed to be a winter midge fly, but Bob has used it at different times of the year with success. Bob found the pattern on the Internet, of all places. I guess High Tech ain't all bad! Anyway, the pattern really looks good. Our last three patterns have featured beads. If we keep this up we'll have our own rosary. Maybe prayer helps . . .

Bob presented this pattern in very small sizes but the same pattern would probably work up to a couple of sizes bigger. A glass bead in the middle of some of our other favorite patterns might be worth a try.

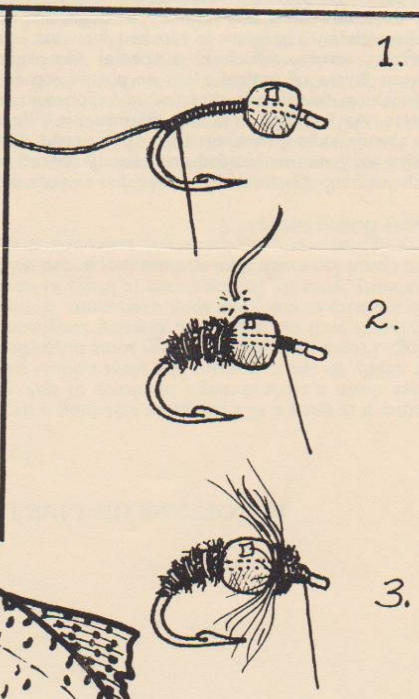
Hook: Tiemco TMC 2457 size 18 & TMC 2487 size 20
Bead: Clear glass, midge size #20 & small #18
Thread: Rusty Dun 8/0
Rib: Fine gold wire
Body: Black dubbing
Hackle: Dark grizzly hen
Head: Black dubbing

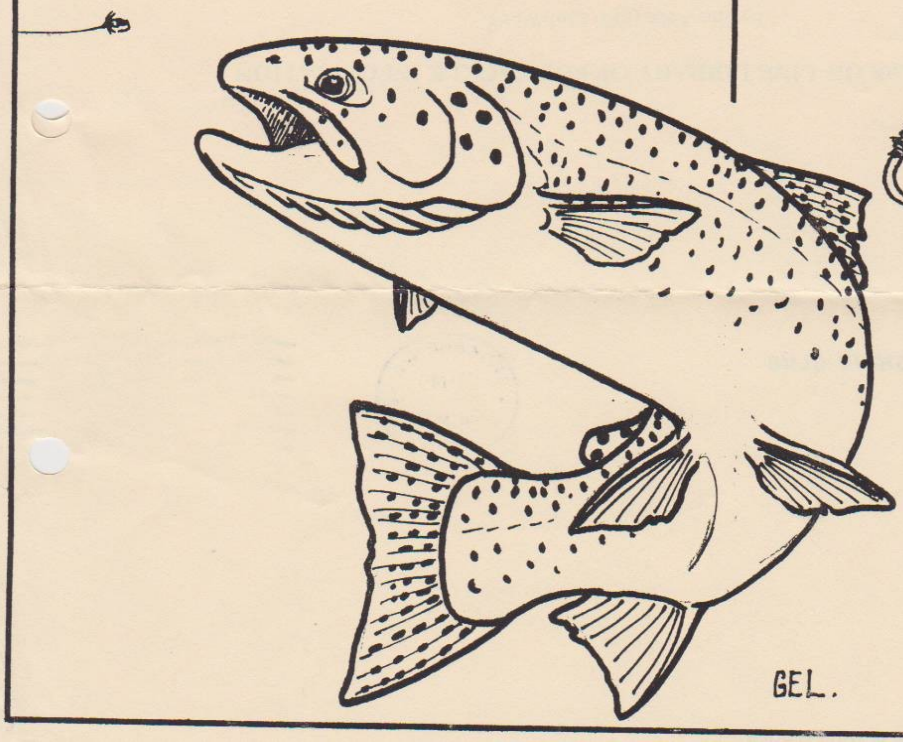


1. Pinch the barb and slip the glass bead on the hook shank and slide it forward. Then wrap the rear part of the hook shank with tying thread. Attach the wire as shown.

2. Using your favorite dubbing technique, form the body over the rear portion of the hook and secure. Make three or so turns of wire rib, secure, and trim the excess. Slide the bead back against the body. Bring the tying thread over the bead and make several turns in front of the bead.

3. Attach a small hen hackle in front of the bead and give it a few turns. Secure and trim. Put a tiny amount of dubbing on the thread and wrap a small head. Whip finish and cement.





FLY OF THE MONTH

AN'S GREEN NYMPH — April 1999 — Stan Hurd - Ed Stimson

Stan Hurd passed away a few years ago but he certainly lives on in fond memories for those of us who knew and fished with him. Ed Stimson shares a favorite pattern of Stan's with us as April's Fly of the Month. Ed had great luck with it a number of years ago, especially at Diamond Lake. The size, shape, and color make it a fine dragonfly imitation, which is what Stan designed it for. Tie up a few and use them this spring. Fish with a bit of history -- you won't be disappointed.

Hooks: 10, 8, 6--2 or 3X long

Thread: Black

Tail: Short pheasant tail fibers

Body: Medium sized olive chenille (over lead wire - optional)

Rib: Fine gold wire

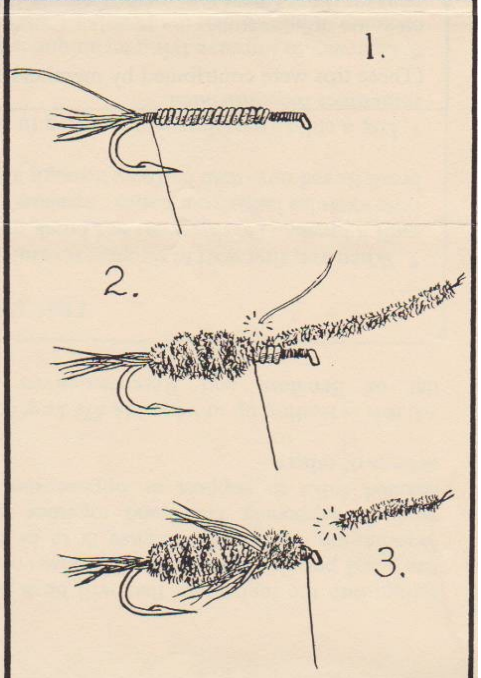
Hackle: A few wisps of pheasant tail fibers

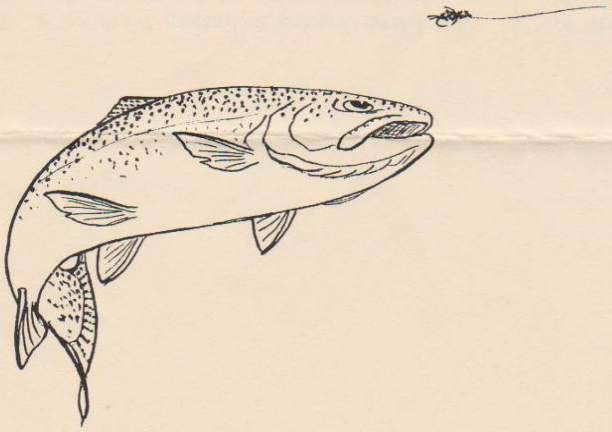
Thorax: Same chenille as body

1. Pinch that barb and line the hook shank with tying thread. Tie in a small bunch of pheasant tail fibers for the tail. Secure the gold wire rib and let it dangle. Wrap the hook shank with lead wire if a weighted fly is wanted.

2. Tie in the chenille at the back of the hook shank and bring the tying thread forward about 2/3 or a bit more toward the head of the hook. Now form a fat rear body, winding the chenille forward, backward, and forward again to achieve the shape as shown. Leave the chenille dangling forward. Counter wrap a few turns of gold wire for the rib, secure, and trim the excess wire.

3. Tie in several pheasant tail fibers for the hackle-legs in front of the body. Then use the remaining chenille to form a fat thorax up to the eye of the hook. Whip finish a small head of tying thread, trim the excess, and cement.





GELORENSON

FLY OF THE MONTH

.G FLY — May 1999 — Al Cunningham

For anyone who fishes a chironomid under an indicator, here is a way to expand your opportunities. Jerry McBride, Boyd Matson, and George Potter, among others, used woolly-bugger type flies under an indicator with surprising success last year. Realizing this was unnatural, as the woolly-bugger would ride vertically, I thought a horizontal presentation would be more life like. It occurred to me that a jig hook would do the job. All your favorite underwater patterns, Six Pac, Halloween, Woolly-Buggers, Pheasant Tail, etc., can be tied on a jig hook. A bead at the right angle bend will add weight. If fishing in deeper water, place several wraps of lead behind the bead. A critical part of this technique is the knot. If a cinch knot is used, it could slip off center and the fly would not ride horizontally. A nonslip mono loop knot works better. To fish the fly, dangle it for 10-20 seconds, then slowly move it a few inches and wait again 10-20 seconds. A fly fished in this manner can be moved very slowly and remain at the chosen depth throughout the entire retrieve.

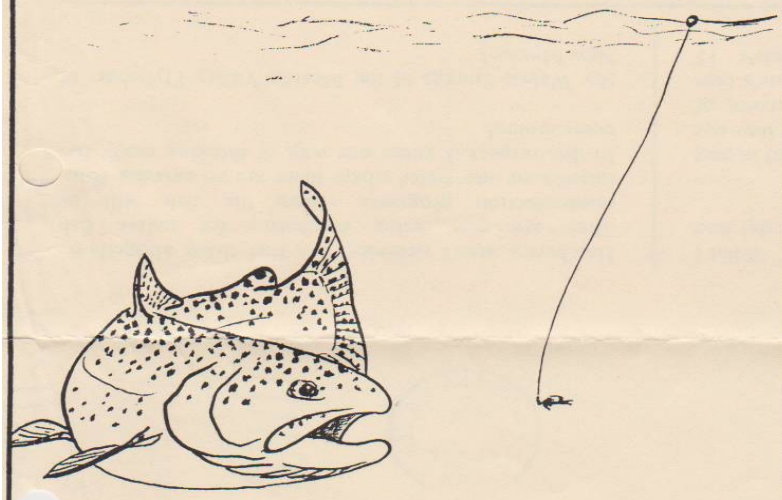
Jig hooks of various sizes are available at local tackle shops. The other materials are whatever you use in your chosen fly patterns.

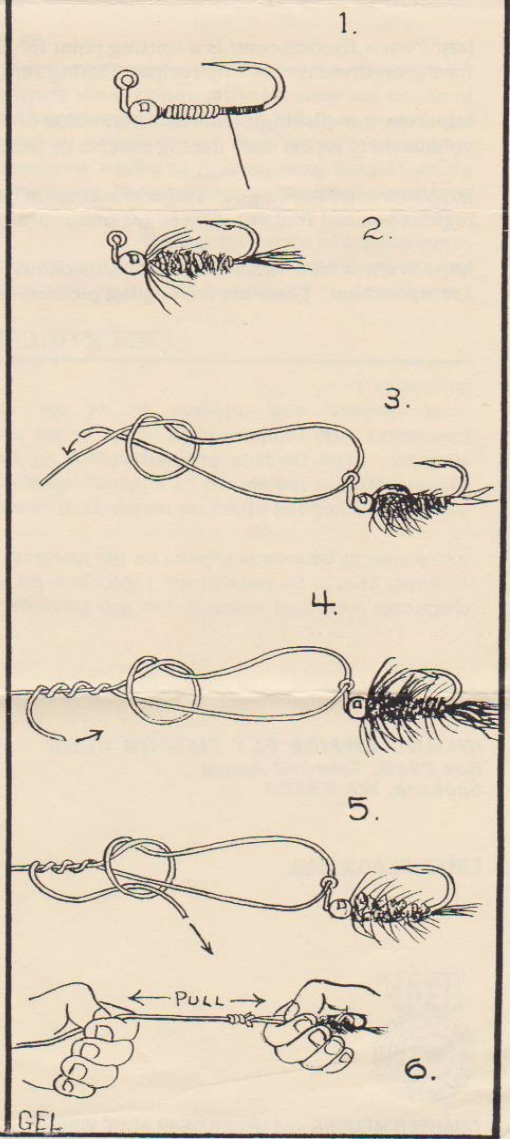
1. Slip a bead head over the hook up to the right angle bend and secure in place with wraps of tying thread. If you want a heavier fly for deeper water, add some turns of lead wire.

2. Tie whatever pattern you want on the hook.

3. These steps show the tying of the non-slip mono
- loop knot. When you cinch the knot at the end,
6. try to get a small loop.

Al Cunningham





GEL

FLY OF THE MONTH

Doug's Little Foam Ant **September 1999** **Doug Brossoit**

On a recent trip on the Lochsa, Doug Brossoit and I found the fishing a bit tougher than usual for this blue ribbon stream. The cutthroats were concentrated in the deeper, heavier pools and there was no real hatch to bring them up. We fished a variety of flies, both dry and wet, and managed to catch a few fish on most of them. The best dry flies proved to be a couple of foam ant patterns. Hearing that I had taken several nice cutts on a number 12 black foam ant with rubber legs, Doug put on an ant of his own and promptly took three nice fish before breaking off the fly on the fourth. I wondered what kind of ant had produced such a flurry of action and soon found out. I was fishing a black bead headed woolly bugger and caught three good fish of my own. The second had Doug's little #16 ant firmly embedded in its jaw. This month's featured fly is that pattern.

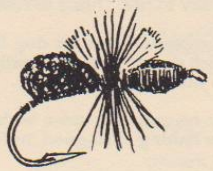
Hook: 14 - 18 dry fly

Thread: Fine black

Body: Rear section, black foam; front section, tying thread or black dubbing

Wing: Fluorescent orange poly yarn

Hackle: Short, black or dark brown dry fly quality neck or saddle

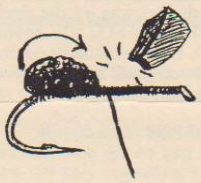


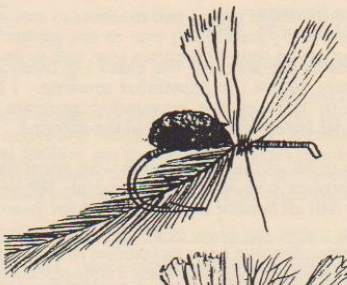
1. Pinch the barb and line the hook with tying thread. Attach a small piece of black foam at the bend of the hook, bring it forward and tie it off in the middle of the hook shank. Trim the excess.

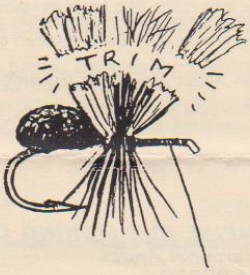
2. Tie in the hackle in the middle of the hook and let it dangle. Now take a piece of poly yarn and attach it right in the middle of the yarn as shown. It should be fastened at the same place as the hackle and stick straight up in two parts.

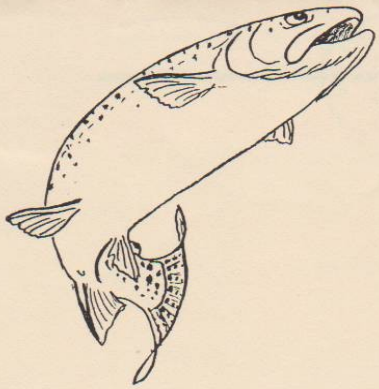
3. Wind the hackle between the two parts of the poly yarn and tie off. Now trim the poly yarn and the top part of the hackle.

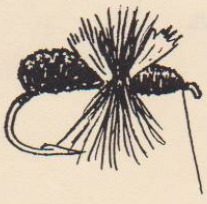
4. Using the tying thread or a bit of black dubbing, form a large head in front of the forward poly wing. Whip finish and cement.











FLY OF THE MONTH

Chernobyl Foam "Awful Bug" **October 1999** **George Potter**

George Potter came up with the "Awful Bug" as a variation of the Chernobyl Ant pattern. He has tried it in the various colors available in two-color foam, black and orange, brown and light green, and tan and yellow. It floats like a cork and with a bit of bright foam or even fluorescent yarn attached to the top it is highly visible. The pattern has worked very well for him this summer and fall. The black and orange version knocked 'em dead on the St. Joe. For smaller sizes, trim the foam to a comfortable size. For larger bugs, use the foam full size.

Hook: Tiemco 52112, 14 - 6

Thread: #6 color to match underbody of foam

Body: Chernobyl foam fly body in colors listed above

Legs: Black, brown or white rubber

Indicator: Bright colored or fluorescent foam or poly yarn

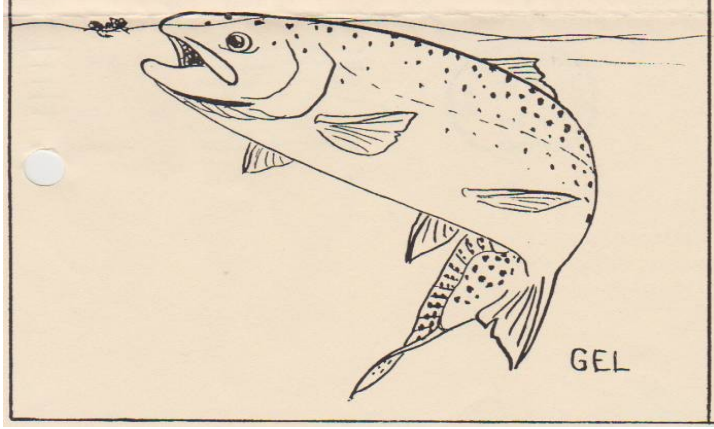
Hackle(rudder): Dark brown dry fly quality neck or saddle

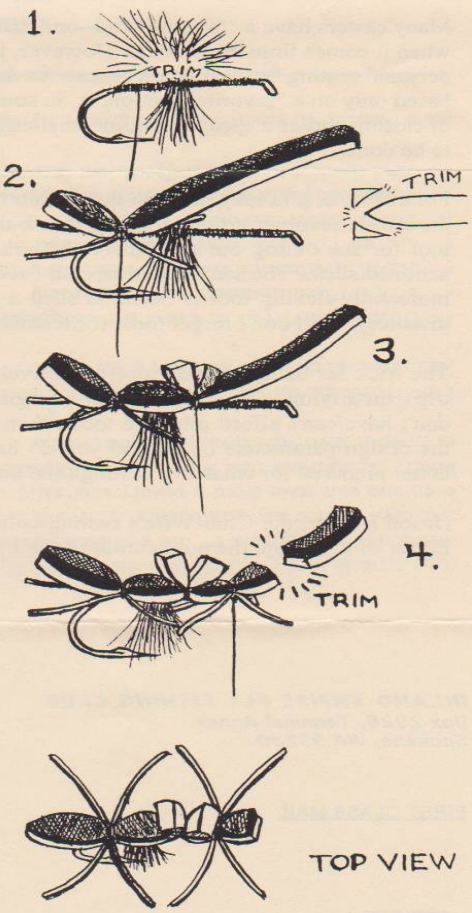
1. Pinch the barb and line the hook with tying thread. Wind on the hackle "rudder" in the center of the hook and trim on the top and sides.

2. Trim one end of the foam as shown. Attach the foam just ahead of the bend of the hook with a couple of firm turns of thread. Tie in a pair of rubber legs on each side of the body at the same place. Wind the thread forward past the hackle.

3. Bring the body foam forward over the hackle rudder and secure firmly. At this point, tie in the bright piece of foam for the indicator.

4. Wind the thread forward to a short way behind the eye of the hook. Secure the body foam at this point and attach another pair of legs on each side. Make a small head under the foam and whip finish. Trim the body foam to form a head that protrudes forward of the hook eye.





FLY OF THE MONTH

One Feather Damsel **November 1999** **Al Cunningham**

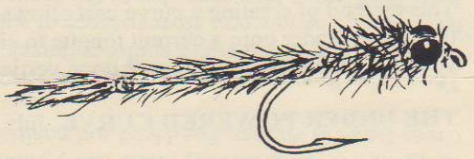
November's choice is a simple but very effective damsel pattern from Al Cunningham. The little eyes and a bit of marabou feather are the only materials needed besides hook and thread. A short shank hook allows the extended marabou body to get maximum wiggle without tangling around the hook bend. The overhead knot keeps the body slim and produces the tail effect of the real damsel. In our search for the ultimate damsel nymph pattern, here is another to add to our arsenal.

Hook: Tiemco short-shank scud hook or equivalent, #12 or 14

Thread: Fine, color to match marabou

Eyes: Artificial plastic eyes or make your own by melting 25# test mono

Body, Tail and Thorax: Marabou: olive, green or brown



1. Pinch the barb and line the hook shank with tying thread. Attach the eyes using cross wraps to secure tightly.

2. Select a small bunch of fibers from a marabou feather. Carefully tie an overhand knot, keeping the knot close to the tips of the fibers. This is a bit tricky but with practice it can be done. Wetting the fibers helps keep them together and facilitates the procedure. Then attach the knotted fibers to the hook shank as shown to form the extended body-tail.

3. Wrap the remaining part of the fibers around the hook shank up to the eyes to form the thorax. Trim the excess. Whip finish in front of the eyes. When you glue the whip finish, also put a tiny drop of cement on the overhand knot to prevent it from unraveling.

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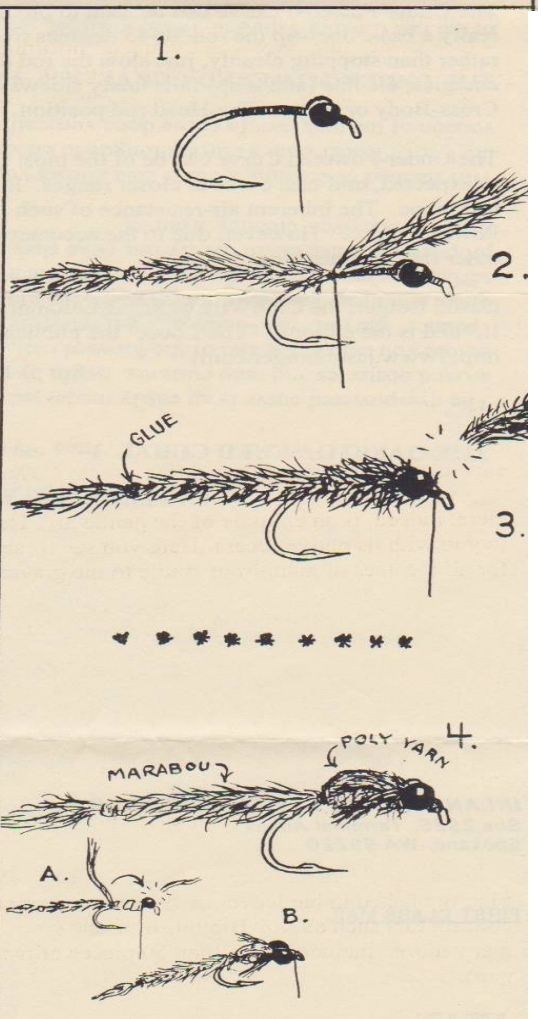
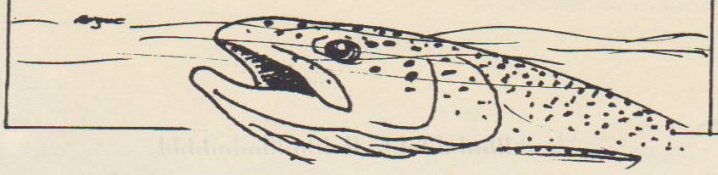
4. An alternative tie uses poly yarn for the thorax area. The poly can be treated with floatant to help keep the fly working right in the surface film when you want to fish it there. tie the eye and extended body the same. Then trim the excess.

   A. Attach a slender piece of poly yarn by its middle at the hook bend. Wrap one end up to the eyes and trim.

   B. Bring the other end over the thorax and tie right behind the eyes. Divide the remaining yarn into two pieces and form short, sparse legs on either side of the thorax, Whip finish and cement.





GEL.

FLY OF THE MONTH

Bead Head SixPac **December 1999** **Al Cunningham**

As the last fly-of-the-month for the year-century-millennium, we feature Al Cunningham's most productive pattern for the past couple of years. It has the old (the basic six-pack dressing) and the new (the addition of the bead head and a red copper wire rib). The added weight and flash of the bead and reddish color of the wire rib makes a combination that really works. Al fishes it shallow and deep, fast and slow, to produce great results. Give it a try in the new millennium.

Hook: #8-10 2x long

Thread: Fine, olive

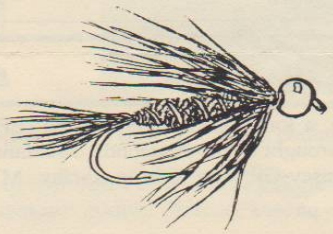
Head: Silver, black, or brass bead

Tail: Fibers from yellow dyed pheasant rump feather

Body: Pheasant tail fibers

Rib: Red copper wire

Hackle: One yellow-dyed pheasant rump feather

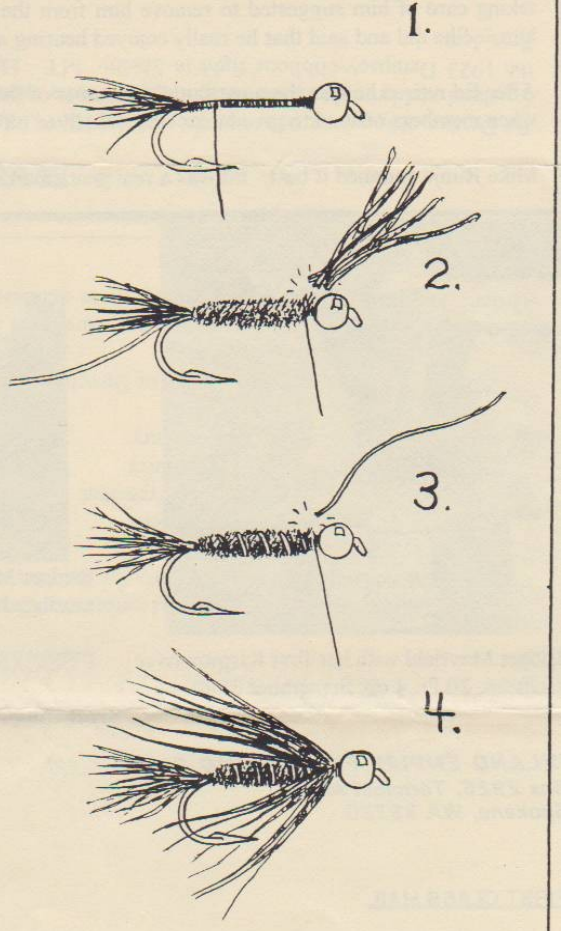


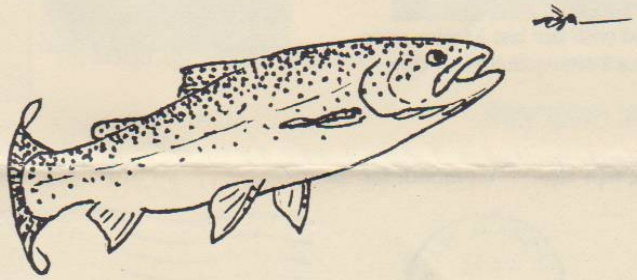
1. Pinch the barb and slide a bead up to the eye of the hook. Attach the tying thread and wrap a bunch of turns right behind the brass bead to keep it in place. Line the hook shank with thread and tie in the tail fibers.

2. Tie in the copper wire rib and let it dangle. Attach a bunch of pheasant tail fibers and wind them forward to make a nice tapered body. Trim the excess right behind the brass bead.

3. Counter wind the wire over the body and trim.

4. Tie in the pheasant rump feathers and carefully wind a collar-style hackle. Whip finish right behind the brass bead. Trim the thread and cement.





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