

from the Vice



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from the Vice

Chairman's Cast

It is hard to believe that we are now into the second half of the year. Winter is here and Yr.No has predicted snow in 3 areas across the land come this weekend. So those venturing out remember to pack in the "beanie."

Now for some feedback:

1. Our 23rd June workshop was a blast. All who attended walked away with a better understanding of feathers. Blood and all. A special thanks to Vaughn who helped prepare the quails for the workshop. We were also able to identify a chef – so for those away trips the kitchen is sorted. Hello Leigh – Anne!!!!



FINGER LICKING GOOD!!



ALL WAITING FOR OUR FREE CDC!!



LAWRENCE MOUNTING HIS BIRD, WITH TELKOM POLES AND HIS 4 POUND HAMMER



BRADLEY AND HIS CHICK



LAWRENCE HARVESTING CDC

2. We have 4 new Guild Members and in no particular order – Leigh – Anne , Andre, Ian and Ken. Welcome and may your stay and involvement be a long and enjoyable one.



NEW MEMBERS ... DEVAN LOOKING STAR STRUCK

3. Ex Guild Member Kevin has relocated to Cape Town and says if we need any tying materials then just contact him and he will bring it down for you. Cell number 0824455128
4. Pat is currently in Lesotho and says that the rivers are frozen over and therefore not able to be fished. He has had to resort to a couple of Maluti's (beer) instead. Life is really hard for Pat.



A beautiful view from Lesotho (clearly taken before the Malutis met ys (eish))

5. As most of the Guild Members are EPFFC Members the EPFFC is having an outing to Gubu Dam on 21-22 July. This is a stunning venue and if the conditions are right then the fishing can get pretty good.
6. The 2nd planned outing of the EPFFC is to Baviaanskloof come September/ October. This outing is highly recommended. It is wild and the fishing is very good. Maybe we should look and plan an outing.
7. Louise, Bradley and Vaughn were up at Mountain Dam earlier this month and some good trout were taken. The trout are growing out nicely. Well done to Alan on a good stocking policy.
8. On the saltwater front plenty of small Garrick are still been taken in the lower Swartkops River. To those Members who do not know the Guild writes a monthly Saltwater article for FOSAF National. Just follow the links under FOSAF news .
9. The Guild's face book page is up and running but I will let the youngsters elaborate more about this later in the newsletter.
10. Lastly our 21st July workshop will focus on freshwater and the pattern chosen is a caddis pupa. Several new tying techniques will be looked at. A material list will appear later in the newsletter. Kits will also be available @ R10.00 each to those still putting their materials together. Please make note of the materials and equipment needed for the next workshop taking place on 21st July 2018.
See you all on 21st July.

Yours amongst the feathers,
Gary

GUILD WORKSHOP FLY TO BE TIED ON 21/07/2018

NAME OF FLY - "Caddis pupa" (weighted version)

FACILITATOR: Gary

Hook size: #10 , #12 caddis or shrimp hook

Thread: Black, brown, yellow and or chartreuse

Tail: N/A

Body: Yellow, chartreuse or tan dubbing or spectra dubbing

Ribbing: 5 – 6 lbs nylon

Thorax: As Body

Shellback: Body braid, swiss straw or scud back (any will do)

Wing case: As per Shellback

Bead: N/A Lead wire .16mm or .28mm

Legs: Quail feather or preferred mallard feather

Feelers: Ring neck pheasant tail or mallard

Extras: Bic lighter, black permanent marker, 30/50 lbs mono about 10cm will be enough and sharp scissors.

Remember your lighting. Should members not have the above materials kits will be made available at a cost of R10 per kit.

FEATHERS GLORIOUS FEATHERS

Well they all come from some sort of bird or the other. The secret, however, is to harvest them properly. Thanks to Lawrence who gave an excellent practical demonstration on the correct skinning procedure, we are now a little more wise and well "fed. Some more than others."

Of interest was the harvesting of the cdc feathers and the talk that followed on the preen gland. Also of interest is the lovely biots found on the flight feathers in the wing.

Below several important points to remember to ensure a good result:

1. A slightly frozen carcass works easier than fresh and take time so not to cut or tear the skin.
2. The most important aspect is the defleshing.
3. Wash newly skinned cape with sunlight soap to remove excess oils (several repeats may be necessary).
4. Use cardboard under the skin when nailing down as this helps you lift the fresh skin off the base board thus creating a good air flow.
5. Don't stretch the skin too taught as this will prevent the skin tearing when drying.
6. A good dosing of coarse salt repeated several times in the drying process.

Somerset Blast

Friday 29th June saw Bradley, Louise, Kim and myself breezing into Somerset East, with dark brown clouds, as well as various degrees of thunder and lightning following us along the way (extreme weather conditions were experienced both indoors as well as out) *see weather report at end of right up.

We got into Somerset East late evening, after stopping for the traditional opening of the Gravel beverage, this is where the first signs of the lighting reared its flashes of brilliance, followed by the deep rumbling of the Thunder. The tone for the weekend ahead, was set.

The morning silence was shattered, by a rumbling down the mountain en route to see Alan, and plan our weekends fishing.

We made it to Mountain Dam by midday, we thought the weather was clearing, or we hoped, prayed even, with tears in our eyes (*refer to weather report again).....



BEAUTIFUL MOUNTAIN DAM



LOUISE, BRADLEY AND VAUGHN

The water temperature was low, however. it began to rise once a certain member of this motley crew attempted a not so graceful swan dive, said member whom shall remain nameless (It was Louise shhhhh, you didn't hear it from me) was also responsible for the strange weather phenomena experienced throughout the weekend (sorry Alan).

Mountain Dam is looking very healthy, with the inlet flowing slow but steady, the water clarity exceptional.

After a couple successful hours both on and under the water (Louise), a number of beautiful, healthy Karoo trout were landed.

The fish in Mountain Dam have grown substantially, are strong fighting, and overall giving a good account of themselves.



A STUNNING MOUNTAIN DAM TROUT

After the last cast, usually comes another last cast, followed by another and another. Our last cast was standing together sipping a cold one, watching the sun set over the Karoo mountains.

That evening was spent enjoying a warm fire under clear skies, and a good single malt with much laughter and many a tale told. (Louise passed out on couch)

Sunday morning saw us change our tactics as we targeted a sluggish winter bass.

After a mere 5 casts, Kimmy using a smaller nail than those favoured by Lawrence, NAILED a monster bass, thus ended our weekend on another high note.

***Weather report / definitions:**

Blast: Louise practising her graceful swan dive

Breezing: Louise actually deciding to go through with it

Dark brown clouds: Louise disappears

Thunder and Lightning: Louise reappears not so gracefully

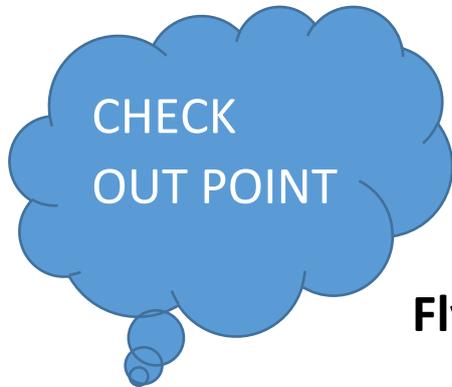
Shattered/Rumbling: you guessed it again.... Louise speaking in swan language. "Spanish I think!!"

Tears in our eyes: As result of Louise's not so dry look

Rise in water temperature: Louise's knowledge of Spanish

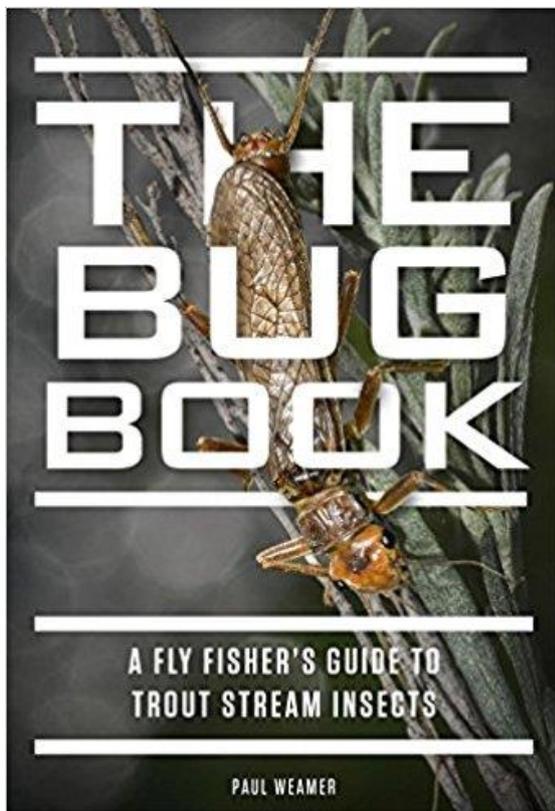
Strange weather phenomena: see above.....

Submitted by: Vaughn and Bradley (Louise denies everything of course and not a camera on hand.



Fly-tying Books submitted by Zerilda

The Bug Book: A Fly Fisher's Guide to Trout Stream Insects



Author:	Paul Weamer
Hardcover:	118 pages
Publisher:	Headwater Books (September 1, 2016)
Language:	English
ISBN-10:	1934753424
ISBN-13:	978-1934753422

Complete guide to aquatic entomology for fly fishers, covering all the important insects and their imitations for the entire United States. Hatch charts, fly pattern recommendations, and important fishing strategies from Paul Weamer. This is the ideal reference for those just starting out or for those that want to have a more comprehensive view of the important insects.

Understanding aquatic insect hatches is like being able to cast an entire fly line. Do you need to cast that far to catch fish? Of course not. But will being able to cast a long distance inhibit your ability to catch fish? Never. Knowing where, and how, insects live and emerge gives anglers yet another piece of the puzzle. I've never heard a fly fisherman exclaim, "I probably would have caught those rising fish if I just didn't know so much about trout stream insects."

You still need to cast. You still need to present flies in such a manner that fish will accept them. But though no one has ever failed to catch a trout because they knew too much about aquatic insects,

plenty of anglers have not caught as big a fish, or as many fish as they could have caught, because they failed to understand the importance of matching a hatch. This is particularly true when fishing for large, wild, selective trout—the ones we all really want to catch.

In this book, I try to relieve some of the reticence about trout stream insects that makes many anglers feel inadequate and uneasy. Many excellent books provide very detailed information about specific hatches. But that's not this book's goal. This book is written for new anglers who want a basic understanding of aquatic insects or more seasoned fly fishers who want to take their skills to the next level; those who want to know not only if their flies will work but why they'll work as well. I remember when I was first learning to fly fish, and I read about complicated Latin names or confusing stages of aquatic insect development. I was lost. It was as if the whole fly fishing world was born knowing about these things, and I was left out. This book's aim is to provide basic aquatic insect knowledge that will not only help you to understand more about trout stream insects, but it will also help you catch more trout on your next fishing trip. It will help you to understand why you should tie one fly to your leader rather than another to imitate the hatches you encounter.

About the Author: Paul Weamer is a Fly Fisherman magazine contributing editor and the author or co-author of several fly fishing books. He is an accomplished photographer, specializing in aquatic insect macro photography, and has contributed photos to Fly Fisherman, The Catskill Regional Guide, and The Drake, as well as his own and several other writer's books. Paul is a former licensed guide, working the Upper Delaware and Beaverkill Rivers for trout and smallmouth bass, and Cattaraugus, Elk, and Walnut Creeks for steelhead. He has owned or managed three highly regarded fly shops in New York and Pennsylvania and has been a production tier for numerous guides and shops, including the legendary Dette fly shop in Roscoe, New York. Paul is a contract fly designer for the Montana Fly Company and the inventor of the Weamer's Truform, Comparachute, Alewife, Bucktail Body, and the Weamer Streamer series of flies

Port Elizabeth Fly Tying Guild – Facebook Page Submitted by Vaughn



The PEFTG has gone digital!!

We are pleased to announce the creation of the Port Elizabeth Fly Tying Guild's very own Facebook Group.

We encourage all members to join and take part in making it the online face of the Guild and its members.

You are welcome to post pictures of your flies, crit each other, post any relevant and interesting fly tying news and or videos and tips, have fun and encourage active participation, get people interested in what, why and how we do things, let's have fun!!

You can find the Guilds group by searching: Port Elizabeth Fly Tying Guild

Request to join the group, and one of us will add you.

So get online and start Facebooking it!!!



Last month ended by removing the skin from where we had it nailed to the board and then brushed off the salt.

Place the skin in a zip-lok bag in the freezer for a week. This will take care of any unwanted bugs that may be in the fur or feathers. Once removed from the freezer leave it in a warm place in the bag for a few days. This will give any surviving eggs a chance to hatch. Replace in the freezer for another week or two to kill the new hatchlings.

You should then have a dry skin and for small animals like dassies and rabbits these will not require further treatment until dyeing or tanning the skins.

Water birds will need a bit more attention. Since ducks and geese spend much of their time on the water they have a layer of fat in their skin. Even if you remove all the fat and bits of flesh from the skin when skinning the bird, the dry skin to the feel will still have fat in it. Place the skin in the sun with the feathers down and you will find that it gets fatty as it heats up. Take a blunt wood chisel or some other scraper and scrape the skin. This breaks the hard layer which the salt has caused and a lot of fat can be scrapped off. Care must be taken to evenly scrape and stop just before you start exposing the feathers.

Once this process has been completed pin the skin onto a piece of cardboard, skin down with feathers facing out. Place this against one of your north facing windows for a few days. The sun through the window will heat up the skin and the cardboard will soak up any fat left behind, works better in summer. (It is at this point that you may be testing the boundaries of a smooth relationship or get some odd looks from the neighbours).

Once you have soaked out all the fat that you can, take the skin to the sink and dishwashing liquid. Rub a fair amount of liquid onto the skin side to remove any fat left behind. Work it in with your thumbs and then rinse under the tap taking care to try and keep it to the skin only and not let it get to the feathers. Feathers not exposed to dishwashing liquid seem to retain the dye better than those that have been exposed. Don't know why that even after a thorough rinsing the feathers just do not want to take the dye.

COMMITTEE CONTACT DETAILS

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These contact details and info may only be used within the parameters of the Port Elizabeth Fly Tying Guild.



21st July - Freshwater workshop – Freshwater – Caddis Pupa

18th August – Freshwater workshop – Open day tying - TBA

15th September - TBA