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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

President's Message

It never fails to amaze me that I can look out at the green grass and blue skies and forget that it's January! Michigan and Mother Nature can seem to have a weird collective sense of humor when you're a fly fisher.

So to appeal to your comfort senses, we're starting the new year in more comfortable surrounds at room 273 Giltner Hall, just a short distance north and slightly east of the Natural Resources building (north of the Auditorium - more detailed directions inside). We're hoping you'll like the "new digs" as we ring in the new year.

Congratulations to our winners and everyone who submitted an entry to the photo contest! There were some really nice pics (not to mention some REALLY nice fish(!)) that were submitted, and I'm sure that several of you contributors are going to be, if haven't been already, badgered about giving up the choice locations of those beauties! Talk about getting a new challenge for the new year! I'm looking forward to hearing the stories those pics. We're always looking for presenters, and judging by the pics submitted, several of you have some pretty good stories you could tell.....

Oh yes -- we're still in need of one more volunteer to help man our booth at the Western Michigan Fly Show on

January 2017



the afternoon of the 14th in Grand Rapids. We would like to have a solid presence for the first of what we hope will be a GREAT first show of the new season. Call me or anyone on the board for more info or to sign up. Stay safe and warm, and see you at the next meeting.

Tight Lines!
Mike Grinwis



1981 McKenzie Cup Winners

The Red Cedar Fly Fishers is a Charter Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

It's purpose is to promote fly-fishing through Education, Restoration and Conservation

RED CEDAR FLY
FISHERS



Steven with a great Muskegon steelhead



Why worry about a few zebra mussels or mud snails when you can have one of these in your river. From Fox8 in Cleveland a couple of fishermen found a frozen 16' constrictor in the Chagrin river. A Metroparks biologist said someone decides to get a snake as a pet and when it gets too big, they release it into the wild. He recommends taking it to an animal shelter instead.

Can You Guess the Red Cedar Member?



Trail cams set up to document mountain lions in a Gardner, Kan., park captured plenty of wild scenes, but no large cats.

The [Associated Press reports](#) that images collected by motion-activated cameras are of people disguised as animals, monsters, and Santa.

According to [The Kansas City Star](#), on Monday police released images from the 83-acre park. Though no real cougars made an appearance, (the crowd with the costumes may have something to do with that) skunks and coyotes graced the lens when the pranksters weren't hogging it.

“Thank you to the citizens who noticed the cameras,” the Gardner Police Department posted on its [Facebook page](#). “Your effort and sense of humor are greatly appreciated.”

The trail cams were set up in November after mountain lion sightings were reported in the area, and the prank pictures happened in a series of shots over several nights.

.....from *Field & Stream*

Patagonia's '100% For The Planet' Blows Away Expectations

Patagonia hoped to raise \$2 million for charity on Black Friday. It made \$10 million!

Patagonia pledged to donate every dollar from Black Friday sales to environmental charities. It hoped to raise \$2 million for grassroots organizations to protect air, water & soil.

Customers began calling it a “fundraiser for the earth”, the brand noted. Apparently, a lot of people love their mother.

The campaign raised \$10 million on Black Friday. The brand says every dollar will support some 1300 groups. The Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, and the Wilderness Society are among likely recipients.

The wildly successful campaign humbled the apparel giant.

“Many of these environmental groups are underfunded and under the radar, and they are overwhelmed with your commitment. On behalf of these activists and every Patagonia employee, we extend a heartfelt thank you to our customers, friends and community worldwide who showed up to #loveourplanet.”

It's wonderful to see so many consumers steer dollars toward environmental action. The world is a beautiful place. Fortunately, some brands will sacrifice profits to help keep it that way.

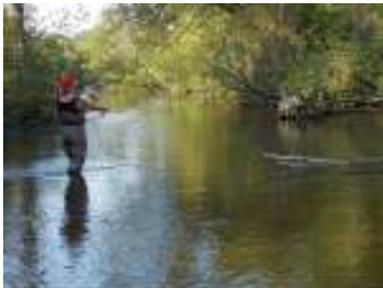


Fly Rod Statistics

Companies	89
Rods	2,520
Most Rods:	G.Loomis - 194
Shortest Rod	Beaver Meadow - 5'.0"
Longest Rod	Fluvius DH - 18'
Lightest Rod	Lefty Kreh Finesse - 1.199 ounces
Heaviest Rod	DTX Classic - 14.674 ounces

Photo Contest Winners

Thanks to all who submitted pics for the newsletter. Here are the top winners for the contest that ended in December. We'll start another one next September but please continue to send in your photos for publication.



1st Place: North Branch - Bob Bawden



2nd Place tie: Mark Johnston - Atlantic salmon



3rd Place tie: Dennis O'Brien - Montana landscape

Another World Record Shattered, on a Flyrod, yet

Bob Kren, RCFFer and Intrepid Reporter

You'll doubtless remember that a world's record brown trout was recently caught right here in Michigan. Maybe you've noted that the rainbow trout record was re-set, with a 48-pounder pulled from Saskatchewan's Lake Diefenbaker. An equally spectacular record, a prize zucchini* on a fly rod, has come home to the little town of Dorf, Tennessee, whither this intrepid reporter intrepidly trekked to interview the proud catcherperson, Randall Frundk.

BK: Well, Randall, that certainly is a fantastic, um, specimen you've got there.

RF: Mumph, ferble gak,neek barbbg, Nob.

BK: Here, let me help you get that huge fly out of your lip. There, now isn't that better?

RF: YEOW! dang!, that hurt! Whoa, boy, that does feel gooder, though!

Thanks, I guess. Y'all ain't from around here, are you?

BK: Happily, no. Is that Ned Beatty running through the trees over there?

RF: Never heard of him. You here to listen to banjo music or talk about this world record? 'Cuz Rosie O'Donnell wants to interview me, too, and fame is a fleeting thing.

BK: I'll never know. How'd you catch this beauty, Randall?

RF: Call me Mr. Frundk, sonny. Anyways, I was all set to go after smaller game, cucumbers or maybe artichokes, when I seen this monster lurking in the weeds. Being pretty averse to monsters, personally, I turned around to skedaddle and there she was, right in front of me.

BK: The zucchini?

RF: Nope, my wife, Zuma, madder'n a hatful of hornets.



Skeered that monster clean out of the holler with all that yelling, she did. Upset something fierce about my being obsessicated about flyfishing for fruit and vegetables, taking up all manner of time in my mad pursuit.

BK: Everybody needs a hobby. I did notice your beautiful bamboo pole, though, looks like about a fifteen- or twentysevensome-thingweight. That pretty

RF: Yup. That, and a weedwhacker string leader, and a fly tied on a 18/0 hook. A ten gauge double barrel loaded with 000 split buck comes in handy, too, if you forgot yer net.

BK: A zucchini this size Must be pretty tough to deceive, requiring lots of stealth and patience.

RF: Nope, they're pretty much dumb as a sackful of Lady Gaga cd's. You can walk right up to 'em and put the hook right where their lips oughta be, haul back, and hold on for the fight of your lifetime. All two seconds of it. Then, ain't nothin' but fame and glory. You get in touch with ZU headquarters, and Boone and Crockett, and Faux News Network, you know, the usual suspects.

BK: Speaking of suspects, do you have to have a fishing – I mean zucchiniing – license to pursue the elusive squash?

RF: You with the DNR? Just lemme get my trusty old ten-gauge net substitute here, and

.....

BK: Puff, puff. Whew! Now that I'm out of range, I'll be signing off from colorful Dorf, home of the new zucchini on a flyrod record. Back to you, Oprah.

*No zucchini were harmed in producing this article.

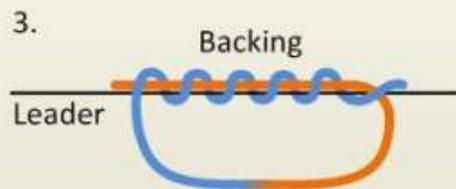
Backing Barrel



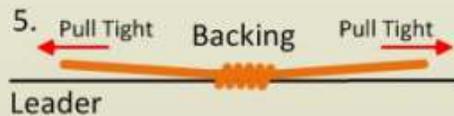
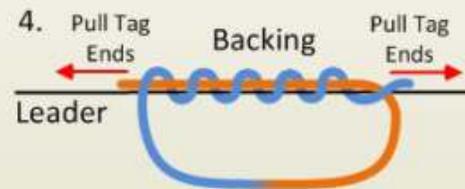
Start with a 6" piece of 20# Dacron backing. Line up the leader and backing together.



Wrap backing tag end around the leader and backing and bring the tag through the loop created



Repeat Step 2 five more times



Leader

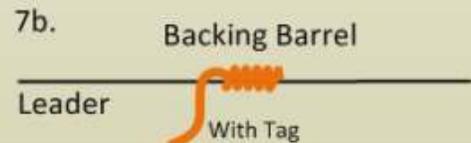


Leader

Trim Ends
(Unless a Tag is Left)



Leader



Leader

The backing barrel has two purposes: improving visibility, and as a slide-able stopper. “Using the barrel with one tag intact. Not only can I locate my actual sighter sooner after the cast, but it dramatically improves the visual sensitivity of my sighter by twitching and shaking at times when the straight sighter indicates nothing.”

“Use the backing barrel as a knot that I can move. When tied tight, the barrel holds snug on nylon or fluorocarbon material and only moves if you purposely slide it. I often mount a backing barrel on a portion of my tippet while dry-dropper fishing, then add a dropper loop of mono around the standing line, above the barrel. When I want to adjust the rig for depth, I simply slide the barrel and tag up or down, creating a slide-able dry-dropper system.”

For more info go to www.troutbitten.com and you'll find several more tips/techniques along with stories & links

10 Favorite Flies

It was recently suggested that we have members write about their 10 favorite flies and publish one list in each newsletter. I was asked to be the first contributor to what we hope will be a regular feature in our newsletter. I would like to think that I was asked because of my extensive knowledge and experience in fly-fishing but I know it was only because I happened to be sitting across from our esteemed newsletter editor when the idea was brought up.

I have often researched what the top 10 flies are for Michigan fly-fishing and which ones I should carry in my fly box. I have tried to put together a box of those flies and learn to tie them. Every time I research the top 10, I get 2 or 3 more that I don't have in my box. As a result, I have boxes crammed with 20 to 30 different flies that I purchased or tied. The bottom line is, as I wrote in one past newsletter, everyone has their own opinion and no one list is agreed upon.

With this in mind, I humbly offer this list of flies that are my favorites to fish and/or tie, knowing that many of you will think this list is missing a fly or two or contains a fly or two that just does not belong.

- 1) Parachute Adams
- 2) Elk Hair Caddis
- 3) Patriot
- 4) Au Sable Skunk
- 5) Partridge Soft Hackle (Orange or Olive)
- 6) Trico
- 7) Woolly Bugger (black, white, olive)
- 8) Gold Ribbed Hare's Ear
- 9) Royal Wulff
- 10) Pheasant Tail

So there is my list. Ask me in two months which flies are on my list and it would probably be different depending on what flies I have been tying. Ask me next July and it would be different depending on what Josh is recommending at the lodge or which fly has produced a nice fish or two. Agree or disagree, this is a good time for thinking and discussing others' lists.

Bob Bawden

Editor's note: We plan on adding a member's list each month. If you'd like to add yours to a newsletter, please send it to the editor.

The Onion's 2016 **FISH OF THE YEAR**



Sometimes our honoree is chosen based on its prominence in that year's news cycle. Other times, a Fish of the Year is selected because of its ability to inspire or to bring about meaningful change. This year, *The Onion's* editors began their deliberations by asking one simple question: Which fish, among all others, embodied the tone and spirit of 2016 as no other fish could? The answer was unequivocal.

While at 6 inches and 12 ounces this axillary bream might seem at first an unassuming choice, it's this fish's quiet dignity and resilience in the face of aquatic turbidity that secured its spot as this year's most influential. Indeed, on matters of filter feeding, scale luster, and avoiding predation, this freshwater fish clearly stood above all others.

However, our selection committee is confident in its choice. After evaluating individuals from over 30,000 fish species on categories ranging from swimming speed, to extent of spawning territory, to ability to survive in varying currents and water temperatures, it is our newspaper's position that there was no other viable option. For many Americans, when they think of 2016, they think of this fish.

Of course, that doesn't mean this fish is without fault—in fact, there is much about it to criticize. Nor does naming it Fish of the Year mean that we support everything this fish stands for. Take, for example, its refusal to swim below a depth of 30 feet, which our editorial board disagrees with sharply. But ever since we began choosing a Fish of the Year with our selection of a flathead grey mullet in 1926, our vow has been to “choose that fish which has most defined the events and character of that year, regardless of its moral standing.”

It is our opinion that this year's fish honors and upholds this grand tradition. And indeed, in these trying and uncertain times, this exemplary bream stands as a noble example of the type of fish we can all admire, if not aspire to ourselves.

From... the Onion Dec. 12, 2016

Spartans On The Move - alumni.msu.edu



MUSEUM OF FLY FISHING TO HONOR WRITER TOM MCGUANE

The American Museum of Fly Fishing is planning this spring to honor influential author and alumnus **Thomas McGuane** with its 2017 Heritage Award.

"Thomas McGuane has built an impressive literary career, from humble beginnings as the 'Humor Editor' at his high school newspaper, *The Crane*, to becoming one of the most accomplished and diversely talented authors of our generation. He gained acclaim by deftly exploring the depths of human relationships and bringing a decidedly local feel to all of his writing. Whether the context is set in Michigan, the Florida Keys, or the plains of Montana, he deeply understands the environs in which his characters live," a museum announcement said.

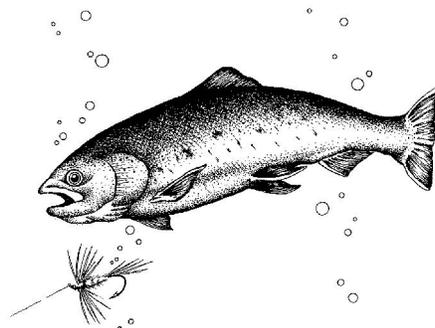
Karen Kaplan, president of the museum's board of trustees, said: "Thomas McGuane elevated the field of writing about fishing to new heights with the publication of *The Longest Silence* in 1999. We are delighted to recognize not only his immense contributions to literature, but also to recognize him as a world class angler and conservationist."

McGuane infuses his works with a rich appreciation of the natural world.

He's authored more than 12 novels, screen plays, and short stories. His book *The Bushwhacked Piano* won the Rosenthal Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1971 and his novel *Ninety-Two in the Shade* was nominated for a National Book Award in 1974.

He received the 2009 Wallace Stegner Award, courtesy of the Center of the American West and is a member of the American Academy of Arts & Letters. An avid outdoorsman, he's won *Fly Rod & Reel Magazine's* 2010 Angler of the Year and been inducted into the Cutting Horse Hall of Fame in 2005.

McGuane graduated in 1962 from the College of Arts and Letters. Paste this into your browser: <http://www.amff.org/>



So you like to float rivers in a drift boat or a pontoon boat and are tired of paying a fee to spot the car (or shuttle the car as they say on the Big Horn in Montana), then look no further. Now you have the opportunity to drive your trailer down to the takeout spot and skate your way back to the launch site. Just toss it in the boat and you're off.

Don't worry about the price of the board or the hours you'll need learning to balance as you traverse up & down dirt roads missing: potholes, mud puddles, & deer. Wear your waders and reflective vest if you wish and you'll be the envy of all your fellow floaters.

Holy Roller! 22 MPH - Electric Longboard



[Boosted Boards](#) have high-power electric motors and can roll for miles between charge-ups. Built with top-end materials and parts, they don't come cheap, at \$999 and up.

The 2,000-watt Dual+ model, can go from zero to 22mph in seconds. Its range is around 6 miles between plug-ins to refill the battery. In testing, at top speed I regularly passed bikers on a commuter trail. The boards even have brakes. The remote, which has a trigger and an acceleration wheel, gives control to speed up and slow down.

Also, the board is not waterproof — leave it at home when there's rain or you can damage the electronics and battery. Or bring along a waterproof bag to store it in on the trip.

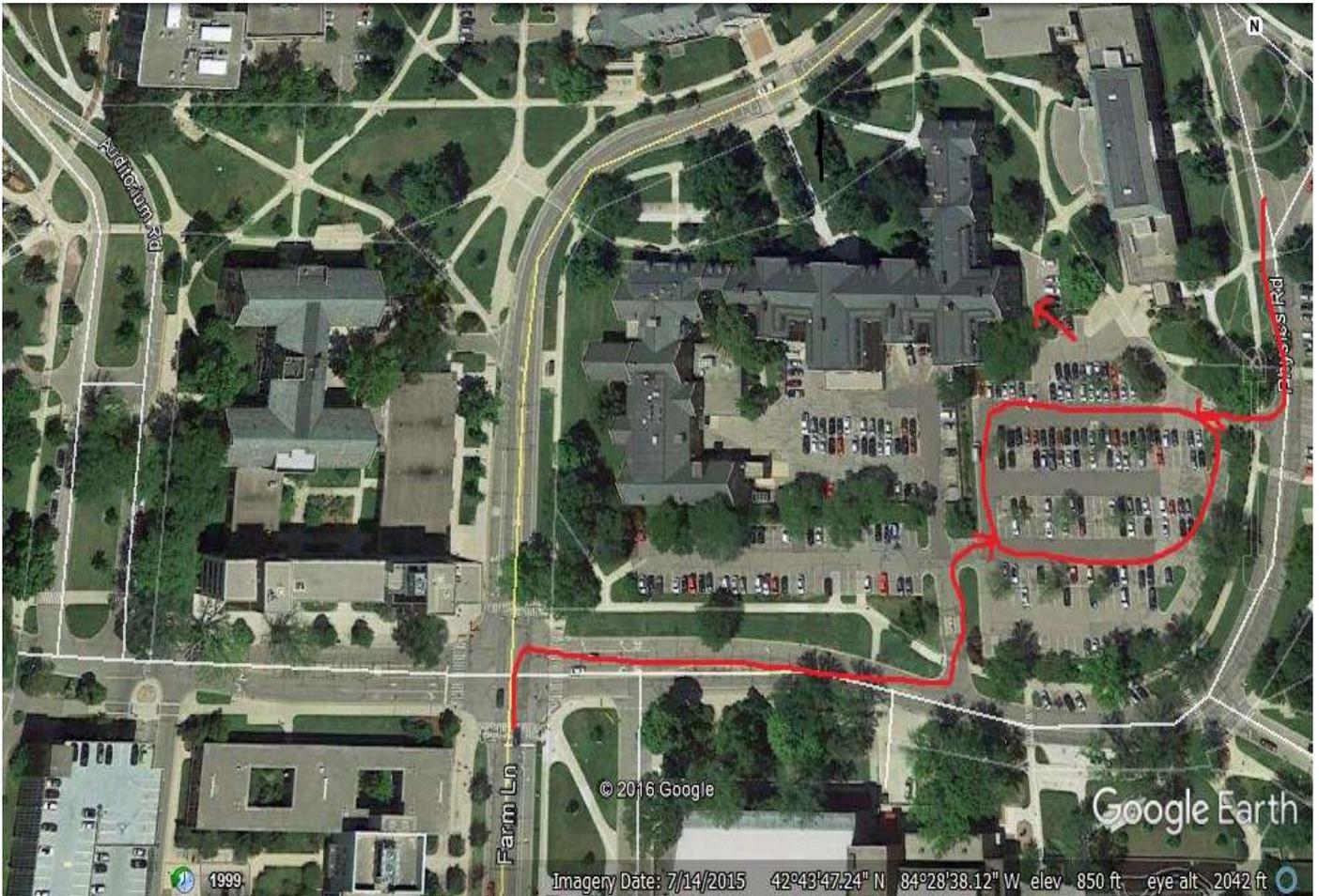
From Gearjunkie reviews....

Another Fly Fishing Quiz - Phil Monahan Fly Fishing Challenge & the Orvis Company

- 1. Which cast helps you get a fly under an overhanging branch?**
1. Pile cast 2. Bow & Arrow Cast 3. Puddle Cast 4. Snap T Cast
- 2. Which of these women was not famous for fly fishing or fly tying?**
1. Carrie Stevens 2. Cornilia Crosby 3. Molly Pitcher 4. Joan Salvato
- 3. English riverkeeper Frank Sawyer is known for what trout pattern?**
1. Pheasant tail nymph 2. Royal Wulff 3. Spider 4. Jock Scott
- 4. Which of these is NOT a tributary of the Yellowstone?**
1. Boulder river 2. Stillwater river 3. Lewis river 4. Gardner river
- 5. What flyfisherman holds the record for the most permit caught on a fly?**
1. Del Brown 2. Jack Samson 3. Marty Arostegui 4. Flip Pallot
- 6. In which country could you catch a Huchen?**
1. Germany 2. Slovakia 3. Romania 4. All of the above
- 7. What does anodizing do?**
1. Creates texture on metal 2. Creates a protective coating on metal
3. Softens metal 4. Lubricates metal
- 8. What famous fly tier was also famously a cab driver?**
1. Dave Hughes 2. Bob Popovics 3. Doug Swisher 4. Jack Gartside
- 9. True or False: Hemingway's character Nick Adams is a bait fisherman?**
1. True 2. False
- 10. The first Orvis fly reel, introduced in 1874, sold for ____?**
1. \$2.50 2. \$5.00 3. \$7.50 4. \$10.00
- 11. Craig Matthews is known for what trout dry-fly pattern?**
1. Parachute Adams 2. X-Caddis 3. Stimulator 4. Humpy
- 12. Lefty Kreh is known for what saltwater pattern?**
1. Whistler 2. Seducer 3. Banger 4. Deceiver
- 13. Randall Kaufmann is known for what trout dry-fly pattern?**
1. Stimulator 2. Comparadun 3. Trude 4. Irresistible
- 14. Dave Whitlock is known for what streamer pattern?**
1. Zuddler 2. Woolly Bugger 3. Nearnuff Sculpin 4. Hellgrammite
- 15. Kelly Galloup is known for what streamer pattern?**
1. Triple Double 2. Zoo Cougar 3. Moto's Minnow 4. Double Bunny
- 16. Fran Betters is known for what trout dry-fly pattern?**
1. Hatstack 2. Adams 3. Fluttering Caddis 4. Bugmeister
- 17. Al Troth is known for what trout dry-fly pattern?**
1. Humpy 2. Elk Hair Caddis 3. Sofa Pillow 4. Madam X
- 18. Jack Gartside is known for what versatile topwater pattern?**
1. Diver 2. Pearly Popper 3. Banger 4. Gurgler

New meeting location - Giltner Hall - MSU campus.

There's a parking lot on the south side of the hall with two entrances. Giltner is the first building just north of the Auditorium (and on the east side of Farm Lane) From south campus head north on Farm lane and cross over the Red Cedar river. Turn right at the next intersection (note the **lousy red line** on map) and then left into the parking lot. Several parking spaces are available. Pick one closest to the back corner where the red arrow highlights the door to the building. One of us may be standing outside to help direct you to the door. Go up one flight of stairs, turn right and look for room **273**.



If you have a GPS the address is 293 Farm Lane but that may take you to the front entrance.

The Auditorium is right where the students paint the large boulder that you may have driven by on the east side of Farm lane

- “Twenty years from now
you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do
than by the ones you did.
So throw off the bowlines, Sail away from the safe harbor
Catch the trade winds in your sails.
Explore, Dream, Discover”
Mark Twain



Refrigerator Reminders

January

8th - Fly tying night - Ellison Brewery,
East Lansing 6:00 - 8:00

10th - Red Cedar club meeting - new
building on MSU campus: Giltner Hall
Room 273

14th - West Michigan Fly Show - East
Kentwood High School - 9:00 to 4:00

February

14th - Red Cedar club meeting -
Giltner Hall, room 273

14th - Valentine’s Day - don’t forget
your sweetie!

Quiz answers: 1 - Bow & Arrow, 2 - Molly Pitcher, 3 - Pheasant tail nymph, 4 - Lewis river, 5 - Del Brown, 6 - All of the above, 7 - Creates protective coating on metal, 8 - Jack Gartside, 9 - True, 10 - \$2.50, 11 - X Caddis, 12 - Deceiver, 13 - Stimulator, 14 - Nearnuff Sculpin, 15 - Zoo Cougar, 16 - Haystack, 17 - Elk Hair Caddis, 18 - Gurgler