

(Recipient of the 2009 PATU Samuel Slaymaker Newsletter Award)

The Newsletter of Penn's Woods West Trout Unlimited #042

# Hatches & Rises



January/February 2011

www.pwwtu.org

Volume 15 Number 1



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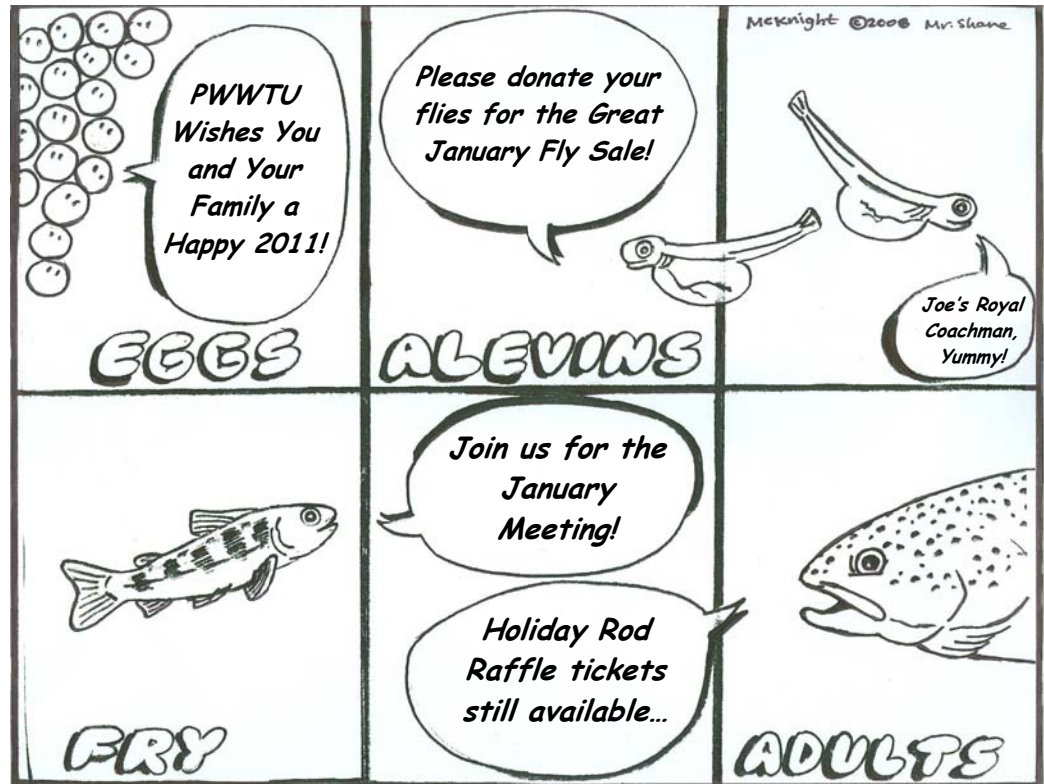
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## Happy New Year from PWWTU!



(This Trout Cartoon Comic Strip was drawn by Christian Shane as a learning tool with his students during the *Trout in the Classroom* project. It depicts the stages of the Trout Life Cycle: eggs, alevins (sac-fry), fry & fingerlings. Currently, their class has over 300 swimming fry in their 55 gallon aquarium!)

## PWWTU Upcoming Events...

\*January 10th & February 14th - PWWTU Meetings/Speakers (see page 7)

\*February 13th - Casting For Recovery Event (see page 4)

\*March 6th - Cabin Fever - Four Points Sheraton North (8 am - 4 pm)

\*March 19th - PWWTU Fly Fishing Seminar @ St. Bede's Activities Center

\*May 21st - PWWTU Annual Bus Trip (New Location: Little Juniata)

**"LAST CHANCE" Holiday Rod Raffle ticket coupons (see page 3)**

## 2010/2011 Holiday Rod Raffle *By Joe Kline*

We're again coming to the end of that wonderful time of the year. Sleigh bells have stopped ringing. The brightly wrapped presents under the tree have been gathered up. Yet one seasonal celebration remains – *PWWTU's annual Holiday Rod Raffle!*

This year, the prize is a beautifully matched Redington combo rod and reel plus a Triangle Taper line to complete the outfit. All of it generously donated by **Jim Hoey**, proprietor of *Hoey's Fly Fishing Shop* in the North Hills. Jim said, "For so many years, PWWTU members have been loyal and steady customers and this is my way of saying thank you."

Redington, founded in 1992, has a well earned reputation for outstanding innovation and performance in all of its product lines. The **RS4 Rod**, that Jim has donated, is a prime example of Redington's constant pursuit of excellence. It's a 4-piece, medium action, 8' 6" designed for a 4-weight line that Jim describes as being very adaptable and versatile. It has a stiff spine to reach out effortlessly for distance casting yet with a tip that is soft enough to make gentle presentations in close shallow water or a combination of both. Its moss green blank is made with high-end, 51-million modulus graphite. Alignment dots with length and line designations are labeled



on each section above the ferrules for easy, correct assembly. Not to be overlooked is its lifetime warranty.

The reel is a **Redington Rise 3/4**. This little gem is fully machined from 6061 T6 aluminum. Its mid-arbor construction features a cork on Teflon center drag, a one-way clutch and ceramic coated bearings for smoothness and durability. Its diameter is a mere 3" and is designed for a 4-weight line. Oh yes, it's also moss green to match the color of the rod. Completing the outfit is a **Lee Wulff Triangle Taper 4-weight line** made with a continuous taper from butt to tip which allows for delicate and accurate presentations because heavier line is constantly turning over lighter line.

If you want more information about the outfit, **call Jim at 412-364-2850** or visit his shop at 970 Perry Highway.

*And Jim, thank you again for being so thoughtful and generous. You have made our 2010 Holiday Raffle another joyous holiday event.*

## Membership Mend *By Rob Walters*

**2010 Penn's Woods West Membership Summary:** It was an honor and privilege to serve as the Membership Chairman in 2010, my first year. Please take a few minutes to review the 2010 membership summary listed below. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns - **Rob Walters (412) 855-1132** or [rob@ventureoutdoors.org](mailto:rob@ventureoutdoors.org)

**2010 Current Membership Base – 1,042\* (As of 12/17/10)**

(New Members - 160 / Renewing Members - 641 (401 members need to renew in the next 3 months))

### Membership Level Breakdown

2 - Coldwater Conservation Fund (\$1000+)  
 3 - Family Life(\$1,100)  
 116 - Lifetime members (\$1000)  
 25 - Sponsor (\$100)  
 71 - Family /Contributor (\$50)  
 721 - Regular (\$35)  
 68 - Senior (\$20)  
 4- Youth (\$12)

**\*Interesting note:** We have 20 Penn's Woods West Members who live outside of Pennsylvania. Here is a list of the states they live in. We have friends and supports all across the country!

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, & Ohio (none live in Cleveland).



## President's Beat *by Walter Reineman*

As I write this in mid December, we are in the first deep freeze of winter. If you were to go steelheading today, you would be fighting three foot snow drifts, not to mention having to clear your frozen line guides every few casts. Fishing locally is just a dream for all but the most foolhardy. So that can only mean one thing: it is time to plan for **Cabin Fever 2011!** (*See the back cover page for more details*)

We have the date, as always the **first Sunday in March (March 6th)**. Once again we will be at the **Sheraton Four Points in Cranberry**. Last year, Doug Sherman did an outstanding job, and this year we are building on his work and the legacy of all who have made this event such a great success. Family Tyes will be returning with their tying and casting seminars for the younger anglers. We will have the Flea Market along with all that "stuff" – rods, reels, trips – that make up the raffle and door prizes. Most importantly we will have under one roof the many vendors and speakers, old and new, that make Cabin Fever the best fishing show in the Pittsburgh area. If you have any questions (or even better, want to volunteer) give me a call at **412-999-8292**. Mark your calendar and we will see you there.



# 2010/2011 Holiday Rod Raffle Tickets

Entry tickets for PWWTU's 2010 Holiday Raffle are \$3 each or 6 for \$10. There are 6 entry tickets printed on this page, but if you want more, your closest Xerox copier can print as many as you need or pick up extras at a general meeting. Send them along with a check (*made payable to P.W.W.T.U.*) to our Treasurer:

**Stew Stringer, 5409 Aylesboro Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217** or drop them off to him at a general meeting.

As a favor to Stew, please cut the entry tickets apart. The drawing will take place at the chapter's **January 10, 2011** meeting. The winner need not be present.

**PENN'S WOODS 2010/2011 HOLIDAY RAFFLE**  
*Hoey's Fly Shop - 8 1/2 ft. Redington RS4 4 weight*  
(w/ Rise Series 3/4 Reel and Triangle Taper Fly Line)

**1 Ticket—\$3.00      6 Tickets—\$10.00**  
(Please print or use labels)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to **P.W.W.T.U.**  
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**Stew Stringer/5409 Aylesboro Ave/Pgh, PA 15217**

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## 2011 Fly Fishing Youth Camp Opportunity



The Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp is an educational facility sponsored by the PA Council of Trout Unlimited and hosted by the Cumberland Valley TU chapter. The camp is located at the Allenberry Resort Inn in Boiling Springs, PA and runs from **June 19-24, 2011**. **Applicants must have a date of birth between June 24, 1993 and June 19, 1997 (For boys and girls ages 14 to 17).**

Classes are based on college level coursework and include principles of ecology, hydrogeology, aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate sampling, trout behavior and trout stream entomology. The camp is a learning experience but is not all work. There are hands-on classes in fly tying, fly casting, wading safety, streamside botany and habitat restoration. Students also experience fishing on the world famous Yellow Breeches Creek.

To enter, each student must submit an application and a written essay about why he or she would like to attend the camp and the name of a school counselor and/or science teacher with an address and phone number. An application to the camp can be downloaded by logging onto [www.riverscamp.com](http://www.riverscamp.com). **Applications must be received by March 31, 2011.** The River Conservation selection committee will choose 32 students based on the essay's content, quality and desire to attend the camp. Tuition is \$375 and is all inclusive.

*PWWTU will sponsor two or three students that are interested in applying to the Rivers Camp.*

Please contact our President, Walter Reineman, or another Board Member if you know a boy or girl with serious interest in attending the Rivers Conservation and Fly Fishing Youth Camp.



### 3 R D A N N U A L WEARABLE ART FASHION SHOW SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2011

New Location!  
Plenty  
of Parking!

Luncheon, Fashion Show and Auction | 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Pittsburgh Marriott North | 100 Cranberry Woods Drive | Cranberry, PA 16066

Advanced Ticket Purchase Only | Tickets will not be sold at the door

Tickets \$40 | Table of 10 - \$400  
(portion of cost is a tax deductible donation)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US AT:  
[cfrwpa@comcast.net](mailto:cfrwpa@comcast.net)

Casting for Recovery Western PA | PO Box 111240 | Pittsburgh PA, 15238

[WWW.CASTINGFORRECOVERY.ORG](http://WWW.CASTINGFORRECOVERY.ORG)

Casting for Recovery is a national non-profit support and educational program for women who have or have had breast cancer. 501(c) 3



# TU Ties: The Wulff Style Royal Coachman *By Joe Kline*

In the last issue of *Hatches & Rises* (Nov/Dec 2010) I wrote a story about me and my dog Bo encountering a Royal Coachman hatch. To me, the beautiful Royal Coachman fly is a joy to tie, a fly that delights the eye and in the role of an attractor fly is unsurpassed.

There are several ways to tie the Royal Coachman. In his book *Lee Wulff On Flies*, the author writes about the concerns he had with traditional dry flies tied in the delicate Catskills tradition – sparse hackle collars, often soft tails and hackle point wings. “They just didn’t float right especially in fast water and stand up under repeated strikes” he explained. “I wanted a buggier-looking, heavier bodied fly with more floatation to keep it up. Eventually he settled on calf tail for wings and moose or elk body hair for tails.

The original Royal Coachman pattern called for wings of white duck quill sections and golden pheasant tippets for the tail, but Wulff found the white duck quill wings too fragile and the tails so soft they would not support the rear ends of the abdomen and allowed them to sink down into the water. Here’s the Wulff tying style for the Royal Coachman that he originated:



## **WULFF STYLE ROYAL COACHMAN RECIPE:**

**Hook:** *Dry Fly, #8-18*

**Thread:** *Black, 8-0*

**Wing:** *White calf tail upright and divided*

**Tail:** *Elk or moose body hair*

**Body:** *Royal body (peacock, red floss, peacock)*

**Rib:** *Small gold wire (optional), Hackle: Brown*

- 1) Prepare a bunch of calf tail hair. Stack and even the tips. Remove the short hairs. Wing length should be equal to the hook shank length - the distance from behind the hook eye to above the barb (not the hook point). Secure the wing on top of the shank at about the 70% mark.
- 2) Pull all the wing hairs back toward the bend. Wrap thread in front of the hair wings and continue wrapping until they are forced upright and perpendicular to the hook shank. Split the calf tail hairs into two like sized bunches.
- 3) Figure 8 the thread in an X between the wing halves. The figure 8 wraps are made on top of the hook shank. The wings are now divided. With the thread hanging down on the far side of the hook, bring the thread up and around the shank and down behind the wing butts on the far side of the hook. Make three turns of thread around the calf tail wing. The far wing is now bundled.
- 4) Bring the thread from the base of the far wing across of top of the shank and down behind the base of the near wing. Take three turns of thread around the base of the near wing then over the shank and down behind the base of the far wing. The near wing is now bundled. Take two wraps of thread around the hook shank to anchor the thread. Apply a drop of head cement between the two wings at their bases. Take a short break for a sip or two of aged Kentucky sour mash bourbon to steady your nerves. Then back to the vise.
- 5) Even up the elk or moose body hairs for the tail and tie them in at the 50% mark on the shank and secure them in place by wrapping the thread back to a point above the hook barb. The tail length should equal the length of the hook shank. Tie in a peacock herl above the hook barb and take 2 to 4 turns of it forward toward the hook eye to form the rear herl collar. (The number of turns will be dictated by the hook size). Do not cut the herl.
- 6) Then pull the herl forward along the hook shank to the point where the second herl collar will begin and bind the herl in place with wraps of thread. Return the thread to the front of the rear herl collar. Tie in a piece of red floss at the front of the rear herl collar. Wrap the red floss over the herl with enough turns so that the herl under it is completely covered. Tie off the red floss and cut it off. Wind the herl forward to complete the second herl collar and cut it off. This second herl collar should end slightly behind the wings.
- 7) Tie in the hackle feather at the base of the wings with the shiny side facing the hook eye. Wrap a full and very dense hackle collar behind and in front of the wings. Do not crowd the eye. Wrap a full and very dense hackle collar behind and in front of the wings. Finish with a neat and tapered thread head and apply a drop of head cement. Once again, treat yourself to another sip or two of that aged Kentucky sour mash bourbon - you’ve earned it.

# From the Tip of the Quill: The Hidden Benefits of Fishing

By Charles Cantella

"Pap! Pap!" I yelled, bursting through the screen door at my grandparents house. "Pap! Where are you?"

It was a stupid question to ask. It was a warm day in early May after a long cold, wet April. Pap was undoubtedly at his bench tying up the flies that he'd been putting off tying all winter. How is it that someone with nothing to do all day, can whittle away an entire winter without so much as a box of early season flies tied up to show for it? And they talk about the laziness of youth? Anyway, that's where I found him. Hunched over his vise, peering through his eyeglasses perched on the tip of his nose at his latest creation.

"Pap whatcha tying?"

"Nuthin." He huffed.

"Seriously. I know it's something. What is it?"

He looked up at me over the top of his glasses with disdain, obviously irritated at having been disturbed, "If you really must know, it's a caddis. Is there anything else I can help you with?"

Pap can be incredibly crabby sometimes, like if you bother him when he's trying to concentrate on something. He's not what you'd call a good multi-tasker. I mean, I love him and all. But truth be told, he's not that great at single tasking. If he was, at least he'd have a winters' worth of flies tied up.

"Well, um.. I was thinking... that... um... maybe... well....."

"Out with it boy, I don't have all day and this fly won't tie itself!"

"Remember when you said that when I was thirteen, you'd let me fish with the bamboo rod you made?"

He froze. Except for his hands, which kept wrapping the hook. I guess after 50 plus years of tying, your hands just work on autopilot.

"I remember," he hesitated. "But I also remember that you're only twelve."

"But I'll be thirteen in July and its really, REALLY important that I can use the rod this evening."

"This evening? Why this evening? What is so damned important that you must use that rod this very evening?!" He was really getting fired up now. The veins in his head were popping up. Sometimes Pap isn't the nicest person to be around. This was one of those times. I hesitated.

"ANSWER ME YOUNG MAN! What is so God-forsaken important that you need that particular rod on this particular evening!?"

"Well, there's a girl at school, and I, um, promised to take her fishing. I didn't know that she wanted to go fly-fishing until today. And, um, I really, REALLY like her and I wanted to impress her with the rod."



"So", he began, a wry smile crossing his face "you want to use my prize winning rod, to impress a girl? Is that what you're saying?" I nodded.

"Son, let me tell you something...a guy who uses a fancy rod to impress a girl, is like a guy who drives a sporty car to impress a girl. He's obviously trying to compensate for his other shortcomings. If a girl likes you... she's gonna like you whether you use a fancy rod or not. Understand?" and he winked at me.

I didn't really understand, but Pap was now in a good mood, so I went along with it. But deep down, I knew the truth; Pap just didn't want me to use his precious rod! He didn't care that the girl was the prettiest girl who had ever talked to me, let alone want to do something with me. He didn't care that not only did she like fishing, she liked flyfishing. I could tell that he was just in one of his moods that grandma warns me about, and he was taking it out on me. Well, I'm not having any of it.

"Ok Pap, I understand. Can I just look at it? It is an awfully pretty rod. Where is it?"

"In the upstairs closet. I'll get it for you. I don't want you to break it." And as he went to stand up from the bench he was stopped cold. His beard had become snarled in the fly he was tying. His beard was wrapped in a big meaty knot, firmly anchoring him to the vise. With his scissors out of reach, he was like a dog on a leash.

Seizing the opportunity of a lifetime, I bolted upstairs and freed the bamboo rod from the closet, admiring the fine wrapping and the flawless varnish. But only for a minute before tearing out the door and down the street to Anna Margaret's house and then to the stream.

I can't remember how many fish we caught that evening, or if we caught any. I don't remember what flies we cast, I don't know if we fished dries or wets, or if it was cloudy or not. I don't remember much about that evening, except that it ended with an amazing kiss.

Despite being grounded for two weeks, I think that if I had to do it over again, I wouldn't change a thing!

Hatches & Rises is published 5 times yearly: Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, May/June, Sep/Oct, & Nov/Dec by Penn's Woods West Trout Unlimited to enhance communication among members & share information with the public. H&R is supported by tax-deductible underwriting, reader donations and the group's general fund. Views, opinions and advice contained herein do not necessarily reflect the position of PWWTU or its Board of Directors.



## Thanks to our H&R Sponsors



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## January/February Meetings By Peter Ten Eyck

### January 10th - The Great Fly Sale & Guest Speaker

**Need flies?** The Annual Great Fly Sale is your chance to stock up on all of the flies that you'll need for the fishing season ahead! The January Great Fly Sale is always one of our best-attended monthly meetings and one of our best fundraising activities, too. You can't beat the quality, selection and price of these flies! The winner of the **Holiday Rod Raffle** will be announced at the January meeting! This will be your last chance to buy entry tickets to win the fly rod, reel and line combo that was generously donated by Jim Hoey's Fly Shop (970 Perry Hwy, McCandless).

Before the Great Fly Sale, we will have a short presentation by **Dr. Brady Porter** (Associate Professor of Biology) and two of his students at Duquesne University. As part of their service learning requirement, advanced undergrads **Nate Reinhart** and **Tyler Lazer** have been studying the fish species within our Pine Creek, before and after the placement of structures by the PWWTU chapter. Are those structures working to improve the health of Pine Creek? You'll have to come to the January meeting to find out the results of this Duquesne University study!

### February 14th - Jeff Blood

We are happy to announce that steelhead expert **Jeff Blood** will be our featured speaker in February! Jeff grew up on the shores of Lake Erie and caught his first lake run rainbow at the age of seven. That was in 1961, and he has pursued them aggressively ever since. "It is a passion that penetrates deeply into my soul," says Jeff. "Most successful fly fisherman develop a strong sense of observation." Come hear Jeff talk about his home waters and his secrets for catching steelhead.

## PWWTU Meetings & Greetings

Penn's Woods West Trout Unlimited meets the **second Monday** of each month September through May at **Brentwood VFW Post 810**, 3801 Clairton Blvd., 3.5 miles south of the Liberty Tubes, on the corner of Rt. 51 and Marlea Street (near McGinnis Sisters). **Meetings begin at 7:00 pm.** All are welcome to attend.



**HATCHES & RISES**  
**Penn's Woods West**  
**Trout Unlimited**  
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**“Tie & Buy” - Bring your Fly donations to the January meeting!**

*Mark your calendars for...*

# **CABIN FEVER 2011**

*(Sponsored by Penn's Woods West Chapter of Trout Unlimited)*



**Sunday, March 6, 2011**

**(9 am to 4 pm)**

**Four Points Sheraton North**

**Volunteers are needed** in the preparation before and during our biggest event of the year. If you can help in any capacity, please contact

**Walter Reineman** at (412) 999-8292 or [walterr28@hotmail.com](mailto:walterr28@hotmail.com).

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