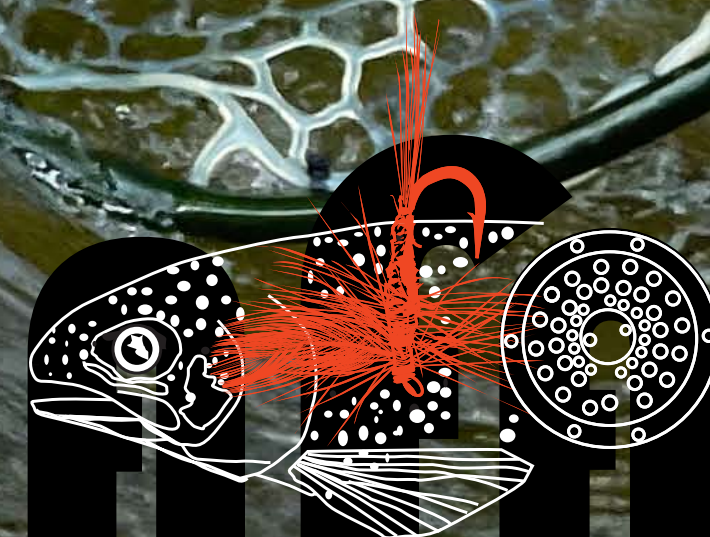


May 2021 Newsletter

# The Tight Loop



[www.flyfishersinternational.org](http://www.flyfishersinternational.org)



ANTIETAM FLY ANGLERS

<https://www.afa-md.org/>

a charter club of the Fly Fishers International

photo credit: David Hellane





photo credit: David Hellane



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photo credit: *Nate From Feathered Hook*

## **Antietam Fly Anglers Calendar:**

**May 20 meeting— Acting Sgt. Laura Albrecht and Officer Bradly Mills will be doing a presentation of Maryland Fishing Laws and Regulations. The program will be on Thursday, May 20th, at 7 p.m., outside at the Mt. Aetna Retreat Center pavilion. The pavilion is at the corner of Mt. Aetna Road and Crystal Falls Drive. Don't go into the entrance of the retreat center. The officers will be complying with the current CDC guidelines.**

**June 17—Fishing at Mt. Aetna pond**

**no meetings over the summer and that the next meeting will be September 16th**



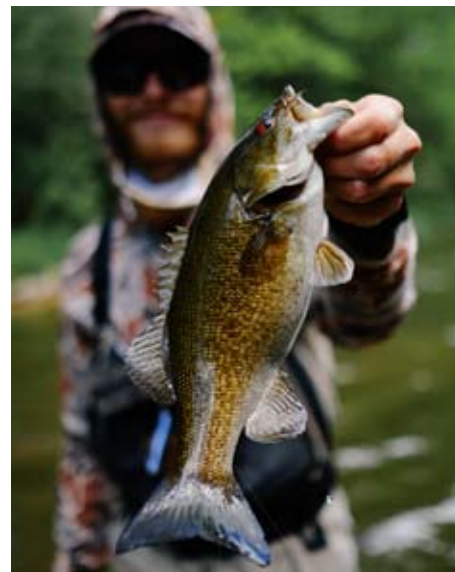


*"...the tyrannical fascination which angling holds for all those who have once been initiated into its mysteries. The riddles it presents are endless; as fast as one is resolved, or appears to be resolved, by the pertinacious and thoughtful, another confronts him challengingly and engages his efforts. Sometimes the solution of one riddle is in itself the creation of another. And so, this endless tyranny goes on. Only those become weary of angling who bring nothing to it by the idea of catching fish."*

*—Rafael Sabatini (1875-1950), as quoted below the frontispiece in Vincent C. Marinaro's In The Ring Of The Rise (1976)*



*photo credit: Nate From Feathered Hook*



*photo credit: Nate From Feathered Hook*





Mike Saylor got this gal in Waynesboro, PA.





## Our Fly Fishing Heritage #6

Let us go back in time to 1973. Let's talk about the Dorato Hare's Ear that was featured in Fly Fisherman magazine. You never heard of it? I know that. It never got traction, never developed a following, and never became famous. If Joe Brooks had raved about it in one of his books it might now be in everyone's fly box. Life is like that. Some movie stars will quickly speak about the big break that made them a household name while more talented actors never get beyond summer stock. They never get the big break.

Every one of us wants a confidence fly. We want a magic fly that is the first one to be tied to the tippet and never fails to bring trout to the net. Youtube.com is my personal addiction. The tying lessons found there surpass any book on the subject. Men like Tim Flagler tie perfect flies and never make a miss step. Kelly Galloup ties streamers and other types of flies. The YouTube landscape is littered with lesser known tiers who tie very well but are late to the game. The big questions are which flies to tie, which ones to put in your box.

Are you a naturalist or an impressionist? Do you use a Frenchie or a Prince Nymph? If you do, you are at ease using an attractor fly and are not a purist. Most of us will tie on anything that we think will catch a trout. It may be a squirmy wormy, a mop fly, a glo bug, a perdigon, a San Juan worm, or a brassie. No one can argue about the effectiveness of these flies, especially in the early season when we catch trout that were recently delivered to the stream by a truck. But, dear reader, does the game not change in May when the water becomes lower and "gin clear"? Have the trout not found natural food sources and begun to snub our fake offerings? May is the month some of us live for; the month of the dry fly. How accurately must we duplicate the winged creatures flitting about on the water's surface? This question is a wonderful way to start a heated argument. There is no science in the answer, just opinions.



Tim Flagler says that if he could only have one dry fly it would be an Adams. I can't tie a proper Adams because I have tremors and placing those tiny wings on the shank is simply impossible. I do catch fish with a wingless Adams. Perhaps Vince Marinaro was wrong about the importance of wings.

Here is a picture of variations of the Dorato Hare's Ear. The materials are time-tested. Hare's ear dubbing, wood duck flank feather wings, and ginger/grizzly hackles. The tail is short and also made by combing ginger and grizzly barbules. It is a bushy, unkempt fly designed to mimic a caddis which it does very well. Most caddis fly imitations are tied with deer hair which is a difficult substance to master. Perhaps it might become your confidence dry fly. Oh, you can use over size hackles but trim off the bottom at the level of the point. This gives the fly a flat place to land. Tie it, fish it. You won't be sorry.

Pat Brezler





# AFA information:

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**Just a reminder.**

**Don't forget to support your local  
fly shops:**

Beaver Creek Fly Shop 301-393-9090

Hunting Creek Outfitters 301-668-4333

White Fly Outfitters 304-876-8030

The Feathered Hook Fly Shop 814-349-8757

AFA is on facebook



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