

October Featured Tyer *by Todd A. Schotts*

With our October featured tyer, we are stepping back to a classic fly from yesteryear, brought to us by, Dave Begley. (Who is also a classic from yesteryear.)

Dave uses this fly around Pigeon River Country, and other various rivers in Northern lower Michigan. Dave was about to tell me what river he fishes this on, but suffered sudden random memory loss. Although, he did remember this fly works especially well for native Brook Trout.

Let's step back in time for a bit of history on this unique fly. In the early 1900's, in Island Park, Idaho, Carter Harrison created the "Trude" as a joke for his friend and fishing host A.S. Trude. The first fly consisted of reddish yarn from a rug and reddish flank hair from a spaniel, resulting in a tail-less fly. Since then it evolved from joke to Titan in the fly-fishing world, with different materials and almost infinite modernized variations. It is probably one of the most popular flies in America, along with the Adams. (I guess the joke was on Carter Harrison.) Along with this fly came Harrison's second most memorable contribution to the future of western fly tying - a fly made with the "Down Wing" or "Trude" style hair wing slanted back across the body. This new fly was a Trude style derivation of the "Royal Coachman," which was designed in the 1870's on the east coast to catch native brook trout in the chilly waters of Cape Cod.

While this fly does not really imitate anything particular, the thought is that to trout it could imitate various insects. It is very effective pattern and is considered one of the best attractor fly's in the world. Fish it on pocket water, in the riffles, or dead drift along an undercut bank - it's all good.

So on October 22nd, bring your vise, tools, and note taking materials to tie along with Dave. You'll feel like you are back in the early 1900's. Tight lines and snazzy flies, Todd.

Hook: Std. Dry Fly Hook size #12-16

Thread: 8/0 Black

Tail: Golden Pheasant Tippet

Body: Peacock Herl, Red Floss, Peacock Herl

Wing: White Calf Tail

Hackle: Brown Dry Fly

