



2008 TEAM MEMBERS

Name	City, State	Country
Anthony Giaquinto, Jr.	Lyndhurst, NJ	USA
Martin Bauden	Matthews, NC	USA, S.Africa
Leslie Wrixon	Wellsley, MA	USA
Roy Christie	Harrow, London	United Kingdom
Ted Patlen	Lodi, NJ	USA
Jack Schlotter	Medford, OR	USA
Greg Heffner	Bath, NY	USA
Dan Caruso	Utica, NY	USA
Mike Schmidt	Dublin, OH	USA
Leif Ehnstrom	Bergshamra	Sweden
Dewart Yocum	Los Lunas, NM	USA
Glenn & Andrea Van Benschoten	Wharton, NJ	USA
Peggy Brenner	Milford, NH	USA
Bill Newcomb	Hillsdale, NY	USA
Rich Bogardus	Schenectady, NY	USA
Tim Ivey	Gainesville, GA	USA
Mike Stewart	North Granby, CT	USA
Jim Froio	Syracuse, NY	USA
William Chandler	Colchester, VT	USA
George Cherundolo	Beekman, NY	USA
Jason Akl	Ashland, WI	USA
Levern "Vern-O" Burm	Waterloo, NY	USA

Team Member Profiles



Anthony Giaquinto, Jr.

Lyndhurst, NJ, USA
Team Captain

I am a professional and commercial tyer from Lyndhurst, NJ and owner of R&R Custom Fly Tying. I've been in the fly tying industry for more than 30 years tying all types of patterns for trout, salmon, panfish and bass for fly shops throughout the Tri-State area. I travel to fly tying shows around the USA and am very active in doing demonstrations for fly fishing clubs and fly shops. I've been a long-time member of Trout Unlimited and an Instructor for the East Jersey Trout Unlimited for 25 years.

1-201-438-7282, RNRCustom@aol.com



Martin Bauden

Matthews, NC, USA

Martin is an enthusiastic fly tyer and fisherman who has lived in the United Kingdom, South Africa, Zimbabwe and the USA, and is fortunate to have and fished some of the best waters found in those countries.

He is the owner of Flymen Fishing Company and the designer of the exciting, new Nymph-Head tungsten fly tying bead. Martin is a big fan of tying fishable, realistic flies and enjoys combining traditional, natural fly tying materials (and techniques) with the newer, synthetic materials (and techniques) to get best results.

He recognizes and respects the vital role that fly tiers play in the wonderful sport of fly-fishing and is a firm believer in the combined strength of community. The creation of the Nymph-Head Pro Team is one of the ways that he feels that the unique needs and talents of the professional fly tying community can be supported and developed.

1-704-846-2634 dealers@flymenfishingcompany.com



Leslie Wrixon

Wellsley, MA, USA

I was born and raised in New England. As a youngster, I fished for striped bass and blue fish on the shores of Connecticut and Long Island Sound. I also spent vacations in the Catskill Mountains of New York where I watched my grandfather fly fish. I recall marveling at the flies, equipment and techniques of fly fishing. It was this time spent in the Catskills and on the Connecticut shores that left an early, yet enduring impression on me.

Years later I purchased a fly tying kit to satisfy my long-dormant fascination with tying flies and fly fishing. Largely, I taught myself how to tie flies and have evolved into an active member of the fly tying and angling community. I have had the good fortune to travel throughout the United States and abroad to both fish and tie flies.

I was selected as the official fly tyer of Fly Fishing Team USA which competed at the 2006 Fly Fishing World Championships in Portugal

1-508 733 8535, lesliewrixon@yahoo.com, www.ityeflies.com

Roy Christie

Harrow, London, United Kingdom

I grew up by a tributary of the river Bush near the north coast of Ulster, Ireland; started fly-fishing while I was at primary school and am self taught in casting and fly dressing. When the river was dredged for two miles alongside my house I rebuilt the river as a series of small pools. Thereafter the fish average weight improved by fifty percent. My easiest day's fishing here produced fifty six trout averaging ten ounces in two and a half hours. The river is still mainly self-cleaning forty years on.



Photo By Claudio D'Angelo

I have fished in rivers and lakes across the UK, Ireland, Europe and the US with my partner and mentor, Julia, who is an accomplished fly dresser, besides being a healer and psychic. My ego has been massaged by publication of my articles in Fly dresser, the magazine of the Fly Dressers Guild, in Trout and Salmon magazine, The Grayling Society, Trout Fisherman magazine, Fish and Fly magazine in the US and my reversed parachute emerger is featured in Schollmeyer and Leeson's Tying Emergers. My story of putting back the rocks in the wee river was published by Yale Anglers' Journal; I am honored.

I have demonstrated my work at British Fly Fair International, Spring Fly Fair UK, Flugfiskemassen in Sweden, Loughs Agency in Ireland, Clearwater Junction in Roscoe US, CLA Game Fair UK, Countryside Alliance UK, Umbria Fly Fishing Festival in Italy, Uppsala in Sweden and at the UK's North East Fly Fair. I have a frame of flies on the wall at the Fly fishers' Club in London, which I consider a great privilege; besides having dressed the flies for the 200th anniversary of the death of Lord Horatio Nelson for the Salmon and Trout Association, on behalf of the restoration of London's river Wandle.

Favorite flies: a very skinny nymph made from black copper wire and Hare's fur 16 or 18 - also Mr Skues' Little Red Sedge, the CDC and Elk, my own creations and buggy wet flies and nymphs.

Favorite fishes: the tricky trout and the gorgeous grayling.

Ambitions: to work out the triggers in flies which attract the fish.

reversedparachutes@yahoo.co.uk



Ted Patlen

Lodi, NJ, USA

My dad taught me to tie flies and fish when I was seven years old. Even now, almost 50 years later I practice those lessons with the same youthful enthusiasm.

I've won seven international fly tying championships and have demonstrated those skills from high in the Rocky Mountains to the rolling hills of Great Britain; from the foggy fiords of Scandinavia to a 12th century villa in sunny Italy. Oh yeah...on a dirt parking lot in Roscoe, New York too.

1-973-772-1312, tedpat090@yahoo.com



Jack Schlotter

Medford, OR, USA

I have been tying seriously for the past twenty years and have been a Signature Fly Designer for Umpqua Feather merchants since 1997. Some of my better known patterns are the Rogue Foam Stone, Foam Flying Ant, Glimmer Stone, Submarine Soft Hackle and the Black Larry. I also teach fly tying classes every winter in my home town of Medford, Oregon. I have participated regularly in the Federation of Fly Fishers annual Fly tying Expo in Eugene and Albany, Oregon. I retired in 1994 after 35 years with the US Forest Service, and I am now enjoying life as a full time fly fisher and fly tier.

1-541-779-2259, JSchlot333@aol.com



Greg Heffner

Bath, NY, USA

Greg Heffner is an avid fly tyer and fly fisherman from Bath, New York. He is President of the Conhocton Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, and a member of the Catskill Fly Tyers Guild, Federation of Fly Fishers, Theodore Gordon Fly Fishers, Izaak Walton Fly Fishing Club of Canada, and the Atlantic Salmon Federation. He is a demonstration fly tyer at numerous fly fishing shows, and has had articles about his flies and fly tying in the [Mid-Atlantic Fly Fishing Guide](#), the [United Fly Tyers Roundtable](#), [Fly Fishing New England](#), and the Federation of Fly Fisher's [Patterns of the Masters, Vol. 6](#), and has published a book, [Some Old, Some New, Some Borrowed: A Fly Tyer's Notebook of Favorite Patterns to Tie and Fish](#). His special fly tying interest is in traditional flies and techniques, including classic salmon flies,

Catskill patterns, and New England streamers. He hosts a website www.conhoctonriverflyshop.com offering flies and fly tying materials and information about fishing the Conhocton River, and is a licensed New York fishing guide. When not fishing or tying, Greg is Planning Director for Steuben County, New York.

1-607-776-4968, GregFlies@verizon.net, www.conhoctonriverflyshop.com



Dan Caruso

Utica, NY, USA

Growing up and living in Central New York's Mohawk Valley Region, conveniently situates me in the heart of some of the best fishing in the country. With the famed Catskill Rivers to the south and the tranquility and elegance of the Adirondacks to the north, are all within reach. Fishing for me is not a hobby, it's a lifestyle!

I enjoy all aspects of fishing, trout and warm water but what I enjoy more is tying flies that catch fish. I am not a pattern-book tyer, I am constantly trying to incorporate new materials to develop new flies or add some fresh blood to innovate existing and time proven patterns. With my background in biology and being an analytical chemist by profession, paying attention to detail is my job. Attention to detail is a quality that I incorporate into my flies.

Recently I did a makeover on one of the most legendary flies of all time, which evolved into the "Hatch Gordons" series of dry flies. The "Hatch Gordons" were featured in Fly Fishing New England (2006 vol.1), and Fly Tyer (summer 2007) magazines. I am also a member of The Catskill Fly Tyers Guild and have tied at various fly fishing shows and other fly fishing/outdoor functions.

dannycbass@yahoo.com



Mike Schmidt

Dublin, OH, USA

Mike Schmidt is known by all his friends as a fish junky. Every spare moment he has not on water is occupied by some aspect of fly-fishing. He is always thinking about new techniques, fly patterns/applications, or fishing locations whether in his car, at work, in the gym, or lying in bed. He grew up in Detroit and was lucky enough to have a father that was an avid outdoorsman. From the time he could walk he was always being taken out on Lake St Clair, Lake Huron, or up Michigan's west coast rivers and in to the Upper Peninsula. He did not fly fish at the time but did target anything with fins...which is something he still does to this day. From that young age he was taught to respect the catch and, though we did not call it as such, conservation was always at the forefront of our time spent outside.

Mike started tying flies in college and converted with near exclusivity to fly-fishing at that time. He has now been tying commercially for his company located in Columbus Ohio, Anglers Choice Flies (www.anglerschoiceflies.com), for over a decade. He does not focus on one particular style of fly but rather is a bit of a jack of all trades, tying whatever the situation may call for. Mike ties a large catalogue of standard patterns as well as employing his knowledge of the sport and creativity to come up with new and innovative patterns to fool even the most wary fish. He spends the winter months traveling to tie at shows around the country. Doing so allows him the opportunity to meet many people involved in this wonderful sport and to teach fly tying to a very diverse audience. If you send him an email and don't hear back in a few hours be patient...he is likely out chasing fish!

1-614-638-6727 contact@anglerschoiceflies.com, www.anglerschoiceflies.com



Leif Ehnstrom

Bergshamra, SWEDEN

I am a Swedish fly tier and fly fisherman since 1977 and I'm still learning. My background is on the other hand that I'm a teacher and IT Educator, but now retired and have all the time I need to play with my hobbies. I live in the eastern part of the country on the countryside, near the Baltic sea and its archipelago. My kids have moved out and now there's just me and my wife – Ingrid left with two cats in our house. I tie a wide range of standard fly patterns, but I also create lots of patterns myself. Mostly I tie flies for trout, grayling and our immigrant the Rainbow, but I also make some very effective salmon and sea trout patterns

In the picture, here I am with a nice Arctic Char from the northern part of Sweden – Lapland. It took a Bead head brownish Hares Ear, as did most of the red bellied beauties I got that summer.

+46-176261510, flugfiske@ehnstrom.se, www.fishingflies.eu or <http://flugfiske.ehnstrom.se>



Dewart Yocum

Los Lunas, NM, USA

My name is Dewart Yocum and I live in Los Lunas, New Mexico and I've been fly fishing for over 15 years and fly tying professionally for about 4 years.

I made my first appearance when a good friend Bob Mead ask me to tie for The Fly Fishing Show for Chuck Furimsky, and from that point on I've been tying and teaching fly fishing around the USA. I'm on the Pro Staff for Whittings Farms, Hatchmasters, Los Pinos Fly Shop and others. I'm also a member of TU and New Mexico Trout where I held the position of Chair person For the New Mexico Fly Tying Symposium.

As a Hatchmasters Fly Tying partner with Dale Beamish I had the chance to help Dale develop and design super and fishable realistic fly tying patterns, CDs and Tools. Many of my fly tying patterns have been published in magazines, books and web sites. So the next time you are at your local fly fishing show look me up or visit my website.

www.iflytie.net
dryocum@hotmail.com



Glenn and Andrea Van Benschoten

NJ, USA

Glenn and Andrea Van Benschoten began "Reel Simple Fly Fishing" eight years ago with the goal of making fly fishing easy and accessible to new anglers. Married and living in northern New Jersey, the couple travels the northeast giving lectures and tying demonstrations, as well as writing articles and columns for several fishing magazines. Glenn is also a certified NJ educator and has instructed many people in the art of fly fishing. Andrea is a casting instructor with Casting for Recovery.

Glenn and Andrea published their first book in late 2007. Focusing on the fundamentals of fly tying, *Ten Flies, Simple Ties*, has had national success. You can find out more about team Van Benschoten, as well as purchase their book, on their website: www.reelsimpleflyfishing.com.

Peggy Brenner

Milford, NH, USA

I've been tying for a decade and half now and my specialty is flies that fish well in New England and the Florida Keyes. Having been fortunate to be a member of United Fly Tyers, I started with instruction from some of the finest tyers in the industry. Several years ago, I began teaching and demonstrating tying to the public at the shows with the UFT booth, and have also been Editor of the Roundtable, a past President and currently an adviser to the club.



I have a small group of guides in New England I tie for, as well as conduct instruction, presentations and demonstrations around the country as a member of several pro teams.

1-603-320-3056, PeggyB@pbandj.us



Bill Newcomb

Hillsdale, NY, USA

My name is Bill Newcomb and I tie flies. I've been doing this for over 20 years. You may have seen me at one of the Fly Fishing Shows on the East or West coasts.

Currently I hold the position of "River Keeper" on 7 miles of the (Roc Liff Gansen Creek), in Eastern New York state. This and the surrounding waters were fished by George La Branche, Ray Bergman and Babe Ruth. Now those are some big waders to fill!

1-518-325-5932, reelcowboybn@yahoo.com



Rich Bogardus

Schenectady, NY, USA

Hello my name is Rich Bogardus. I was born in N.Y. in 1968 and currently reside in the Capital District area of N.Y. I learned to tie in the basement of Goldstock's Sporting goods in 1999 from friend Dick Hermida. In 2000, I joined T.U. where my tying education continued, and currently hold the position of education director for the Clearwater T.U. chapter. After a few years of tying and some experimentation at the vise I tied my first realistic in 2002. (a spider)

With lots of help from friends Bob Mead and Paul Whillock, I began and continue to develop my own style and methods. Having a chance to tie at some of the biggest east coast shows has been a great experience. In the future I hope to get some articles published, and have some book titles to my credit

1-518-377-1022 , Richaril@yahoo.com,



Tim Ivey

Gainesville, GA, USA

Tim has been tying flies for the past 25 years and tying commercially for the past 5 years. He is a member of Trout Unlimited, the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), as well as a member of the Whiting Farms and Daiichi Hooks Pro teams. Tim specializes in tying trout and warm water flies. He has fished all over the United States and is lucky enough to fish approximately 100 days a year.

1-770-536-2101, charlesivey2@charter.net

Mike Stewart

North Granby, CT, USA

I started fishing in Vermont about 49 years ago. Currently, I am a freshwater and saltwater fly tyer and fisherman who has had the fortunate opportunity to fish in many of the most beautiful places in and outside the US. I have been tying for over 26



years. I taught myself to tie. Through the opportunities made available by my home club, Connecticut Fly Fishermen's Association (CFFA), I further refined my techniques such that I was confident to be a demonstration tyer, sell my flies, and ultimately teach fly tying. My bit to pass on the art to the next generation.

In addition to being an active member of the CFFA, I am very active with the Federation of Fly Fishermen (FFF) at the Council and International level. Currently, I am a member of the board and Treasurer of the FFF. Other memberships include the Catskill Fly Tyers Guild, and Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum. I have been a demonstration tyer at the FFF Conclaves, CFFA Expos, Fly Tyers' Rendezvous, Theodore Gordon's Clearwater Junction, and at the CFTG booth at various fly fishing shows. While I tie all types of flies, I especially enjoy classic wet flies. Not only are they a joy to behold, they harken back to our mutual fly fishing heritage, and, "Boy!" do they catch fish.

1-860-654-4288 (O) 860-653-4203 (H) michael.stewart@hs.utc.com



Jim Froio

Syracuse, NY

I've been an outdoor nut most of my life. I began fly fishing in the late eighties, but it was not till 2000 that the bug really hit me. I was reintroduced to fly fishing and tying by JW Trout and Dave Schrader, who worked with me. JW then introduced me to Frank Audino and my fly tying took off. I was so amazed by all the different types of flies that I just did not want to be one type of fly tyer. The classic Catskill, realistic, saltwater, and innovation with styles and materials drove me to tie daily.

I'm an active member of Trout Unlimited, The Mayfly Club, and the Catskill Fly Tyers Guild. I most recently open a small business named Hook 'n Brook that sells custom blend dubbings and quills.

hooknbrook@twcnv.rr.com



William Chandler

Colchester, VT, USA

Bill started tying flies in 1978 after seeing a gentleman tying flies on T.V. He soon began tying basic trout, pike and bass flies. While serving in the US Coast Guard, he began tying saltwater flies to fish for stripers in New York City and various species of the Caribbean. He left the Coast Guard to attend college, and while in college, Bill Bought a copy of Poul Jorgensen's book tying Classic Salmon Flies, and he began tying classic and artistic salmon flies. Although he is best known for tying salmon flies and Rangeley styled streamers, Bill is always tying and experimenting with various styles of flies and materials.

Besides his love of fly tying, Bill really enjoys teaching others fly tying and fly fishing. He has given tying demonstrations and classes all over the Northeastern U.S. in his 30 years of fly tying. Although his flies have won many awards and been featured in books and magazines. He gets great pleasure from sharing his flies with others, often giving them to friend's flies to fish on their trips or as gifts to adorn their walls, as well as donating flies to many organizations for fund raising.

In 2003 Bill met the love of his life, best friend and angling partner, Lisa. They live and share their life together in Colchester, Vermont.

1-802-878-2571 Mastersalmotyer@aol.com , radicalflytyer@aol.com



George Cherundolo

Beekman , VT, USA

George lives in Beekman, New York with his wife and two daughters. Georges' main attention has been fly fishing for trout and tying creative trout patterns to fool selective fish. George explains "with the increase of fishing pressure and the practice of catch and release, our trout have become more difficult to fool. I believe in order to catch more fish: the angler must focus on patterns that imitate the natural behavior of specific insects. Attention to details can be crucial. Size, silhouette, color and of course presentation all play a key role".

In recent years, George has been conducting fly tying and fly fishing seminars for local fly shops, TU chapters and the Catskill Fly Fishing center and Museum. On June 6th and 7th, George was one of the featured tiers at the Theodore Gordon Flyfishers 4th Annual Fly Tying Show in Roscoe, New York. As a member of the "Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited", George is readily available to discuss patterns and techniques with his fellow anglers.

gcherundolo@comcast.net



Jason Akl

Ashland, WI, USA

Writer, photographer, commercial fly tyer and guide...if it has to do with fly fishing you can bet Jason Akl will be there. Over the last decade fly fishing/ tying has been more than just a weekend hobby for Jason. The sport has become the staple that most of his life revolves around.

Professionally, Jason has been a seasonal guide and commercial fly tier that teaches tying/ fishing classes to both adults and children. Jason shares his in-depth knowledge regularly through written pieces which have appeared in both Canadian and American publications, as well as numerous global websites.

Jason is a member of the pro-staffs for Monic fly lines, Gatti fly rods, Triple Fish Lines, and Daiichi hooks. Jason his wife Stacy and his two labs, currently reside on the shores of Lake Superior in Ashland, Wisconsin.

akljason@hotmail.com 1-715-292-3432



Levern "VERN-O" Burm

Waterloo, NY, USA

I'm VERN-O and I've lived in the Upstate, New York (USA) area all my life. I've been fishing since the time I could walk. I love to fish for anything with a fly rod, but my heart lies with steelhead and stream trout.

It wasn't until the early 1990's when my former employer Les Cordone introduced me to the world of fly-fishing. It wasn't long after that; my wife bought me a fly tying kit. My tying started quite slowly but eventually I found myself reading fly tying magazines and chatting online with fellow tyers and anglers. Then a new job brought me a new fly tying venture. I was soon tying 50-100 flies at a time for a new boss. This helped improve my skills and got me more efficient at tying. Eventually my online contacts lead me to Loren Williams (www.flyguysoutfitting.com). Loren has been and still is a huge influence on my tying ability.

I've always had a tremendous fascination with realistic tying, and enjoy finding patterns that are fishable and semi realistic. My true passion is in tying soft hackles both traditional and non. There is so much history and art to be revealed and discovered. I look forward to see what lies beyond the next river's bend in my tying

I owe a great deal of thanks to my family for their support and patience in allowing me to chase my passion. And no matter how often it seems that I disappear to the basement, family always comes first.

Custom Flies By VERN-O are available via the [Fly Market®](#)

	yburm@localnet.com 1-315-521-3447

