



"WFI On The Fly"

**"WFI ON THE FLY"**

November 13, 2015

**The Week Before Thanksgiving at Whiting Farms!**

"Twas the week before Thanksgiving and all through the farm, all roosters were crowing, all hens were warm. Some feathers were waiting, Dennis Wilson had his share, for he is a master at feathering dinosaurs with care. Dette Trout Flies is nestled snug in New York State, read on and find this family business is simply great! When in the office there arose such a clatter, Colette had flown the coop, leaving it in tatters. Away to the window I flew like a flash, tore open the shutters and threw open the sash--when what to my wondering eyes did I see but Adam and a businessman going fly fishing. Faster than migrating salmon his Pro Team they came, his Ambassadors too, and he called them by name! As leaves that before a wild hurricane fly, Martin Westbeek saw no obstacle when he rose to tie.

Then followed Phil Trimm with Guinea flies too. Guinea's so versatile, see what you can do. And then in a twinkling, our challenge winner said "poof" Here's a winning fly, now give me my loot! Time to stuff the turkey with coupons galore, no better time to buy it and then they'll want more! Tom sprang up from his chair, to his crew gave a whistle, and to check on the birds they ran fast like a missile, but I heard him exclaim as he ran out into the night —

"Happy Thanksgiving to all and may your lines be tight!"

The Whiting Farms Team,  
including Dr. Tom Whiting

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## CHICKENS ARE RELATED TO DINOSAURS? BY DENNIS WILSON—INTRO BY DR. TOM WHITING

One of the especially interesting things about building and running a business are the folks you encounter in the whole process. Some are utterly unexpected, and these can be the most special.

I remember getting a call from a fellow sometime in the late 1990s who said he needed some feathers to cover dinosaurs. This was when the notion of feathered dinosaurs was just getting some traction in the PBS science programs I religiously watch. So I kind of knew what he was after. The fellow was Dennis Wilson, and he had a company called "Pangaea Designs". I think we sent him an assortment of pelts to see if they would work for him. Apparently, these were not exactly what he was after, so I invited Dennis to visit to rummage through all our feathers so he could look for himself for what he needed. I remember we had a batch of American rooster capes, which had been miss dyed a sickly olive color. Dennis loved it and bought them all if I remember correctly. In this first "shopping trip" I recognized a truly unique person, who also found feathers and the natural world fascinating, and I thoroughly enjoyed the whole idea of Dennis' endeavor. He even gave me a company key chain that cracked me up. It read "Pangaea Designs: 60 million years in the making".

Dennis has gone on to become a leader in creating museum quality representations of feathered dinosaurs. And has even traveled to Mongolia and China to participate in the fossil excavations and share how he creates these representations. We thought that the reader-

ship of the Whiting Farms newsletter might also appreciate this glimpse into a truly unique application of feathers, and the equally unique fellow that makes it happen.

Sincerely,  
Tom Whiting

### Dennis Wilson, Pangaea Designs

I am a paleo-artist who has found a way to fuse two passions—art and nature—and been fortunate enough to build a business around them. People assume I've always loved dinosaurs, but when I was young I never thought I'd be doing anything like this for a living. I've always been interested in art and fulfilled one of my dreams by receiving a Bachelors of Fine Art from Rhode Island School of Design in 1988. I then moved to Seattle where I started my career as a studio assistant for artists Dale Chihuly and Buster Simpson. During this time, I started collecting roadkill to use in a "found object" piece. The piece was accepted into a couple of juried art shows and I was on my path to becoming a professional artist. After a few years, I left and headed to New York, without a job or even the prospect of work. Fortunately, I spotted an advertisement for a position at the American Museum of Natural History. I applied and was hired as a museum preparator, cultivating my interest in paleontology.

During my tenure at the AMNH I was fortunate to work on a recently discovered specimen from Mongolia, *Mononykus*



Dennis in Mongolian Yurt

*olecranus*. As I uncovered the bones, aware that I was the first person to ever see this creature, I saw my opportunity to make this skeleton into a fleshed-out animal. I spent many hours working with a paleo-ornithologist Luis Chiappe and paleontologist Mark Norell on the specifics of the bones. Since this animal had never been sculpted before, it was up to me to complete the missing parts and transform them into a believable, fleshed-out dinosaur. Comparing isolated sections of the skeleton to extant animals, I used a combination of parts from reptiles, birds, moles, and anteaters for my reconstruction. It was theorized from a fossilized halo of keratinous fibers that *Mononykus* was covered with primitive, insulating feathers, which I duly included, using a process I developed with time and practice.

Now, after 23 years of doing paleo-art, I am known as one of the foremost paleontological reconstruction artists in the world. In order to make these dinosaurs look as life-like as possible, I discovered the necessity of using real feathers. My search for the highest quality feathers led me to build a lasting relationship with Dr. Tom Whiting, who produces the best feathers in the business. I've found Tom to be a well-informed scientist, knowledgeable on the subjects of organismal and feather evolution. Tom's experience and wisdom have impacted me greatly. He has shown me selectively bred roosters that never develop feathers. This struck a cord with me; the

natural reaction to seeing a bird without feathers is to think, "that's not right." I hope the day will come when people look at outdated dinosaur reconstructions and think the same thing.

My process of dinosaur reconstruction starts with studying the skeleton and the most recent scientific data. I factor in what's known about the paleoecology and speculate how this animal lived and what niche it filled. Then I build a forensic reconstruction over the bones, taking into account what the fossil can tell me about the shape of the living animal. Next, I design a feather pattern and cover the dinosaur, beginning with the tail and finishing at the head, selecting and laying each feather one at a time like roof shingles. The finishing touches involve painting any exposed skin areas and claws, and adding life-like glass eyes. This process can take up to 6 months for a relatively small dinosaur. My first feathered reconstruction was made in 1995. Since then I have reconstructed many feathered dinosaurs, especially in the past 7 years, including *Archaeopteryx*, *Velociraptor*, *Sinosauropteryx*, and *Confuciusornis*. It seems that the public is finally coming around to the idea that dinosaurs were feathered.



*Mononykus olecranus*



*Archaeopteryx— Front view*



*Archaeopteryx— Back view*



*Confuciusornis*



*Oviraptor on Nest*



*Microraptor*



*e Pseudo*



*Caudipteryx*



*Sinosauropteryx*



## FEATURED DEALER DETTE TROUT FLIES



*Inside Dette Trout Flies*

Nestled in the Southwestern part of Catskill Mountain Park, is Roscoe, NY, a town steeped in fly fishing heritage. Situated near the waters of the Beaverkill River, Willowemoc Creek, and Upper Delaware, Roscoe is the home of Dette Trout Flies, a family run business since 1928 that specializes in fine fishing flies, most noted for our Catskill style dry flies. Founded by Walt and Winnie Dette, the business began to take form during the golden age of American dry fly fishing. Before commercial hackle was available for purchase, Walt raised his own hackle to keep up with orders. The quality of feathers has always been a priority for the Dette's and it shows in our flies. For over 80 years, the goal of the shop remains the same: to provide anglers with fishing

knowledge and Catskill style flies for local rivers. This endeavor has been successful as Mary Dette Clark and her grandson Joe Fox have worked to maintain the integrity, quality and hospitality that has become synonymous with the Dette name. Today, the shop continues the standard that my Great-Grandparents built their customer base on: friendly and precise advice.

Whether visiting the shop in person or placing an internet order, Dette Trout Flies specializes in quality fly tying materials, American made flies and fishing gear for the novice to advanced angler. The traditional patterns, such as Hendricksons, Quill Gordons, Delaware Adams are a familiar item in many angler's boxes and continue to be a mainstay for fishing the Catskills, can be found in the shop along with numerous contemporary patterns.

Today, the shop has expanded to include new materials that interest the well as the classic angler. Efficient customer service and help with questions on selecting flies, materials or other gear is what we are about. We commercial fly tiers to provide them with the best supplies. Attentive to our patrons, we aim to stock a variety of hackle not only for popular fly but also specialty feathers for the discriminate tier. Having a robust inventory supports the craft of fly tying and keeps our loyal customers who frequent the shop intrigued and invested in their hobby. Keeping an eye on new tying as well as an eye to the past heritage of traditional materials keeps fresh and current. Our sales reflect our familial passion in tying, one that is passed on to those that walk through our shop door.



*A Conover Fly*

modern as  
eral ques-  
work with  
the needs of  
patterns,  
ventory  
quent the  
trends in fly  
the shop

Dette Trout Flies is a part of the local community and we work to instill our interest for fishing, tying and conservation in our consumer base. Sharing our knowledge of the sport and river access is what makes customers appreciate our business and mission. A daily fishing report assists anglers with the local hatch and water conditions. Our shop hours extend outside sales as we focus on engaging anglers through various events held throughout the year. We host local events that showcase the art of fly tying and allow for beginners to hone their skills, and advanced tiers to share tricks of the trade. In off season, the shop holds instructional lessons for all levels of tiers interested. These small events show gratitude to our customers and are inviting to new ones. If you ever find yourself in the Catskill region, be sure to stop by and see what's happening!



*Fly Bin at Dette Trout Flies*

Dette Trout Flies  
68 Cottage St.  
Roscoe, NY 12776  
(607) 498-4991  
joe@dettetroutflies.com  
or look them up on the web at:  
www.detteflies.com

## "COLETTE'S COOP"

### I FLEW THE COOP!

Every now and again you just have to fly away for a few days. So I flew the coop! Yep, I drained the bank account, used all my not so frequent flyer miles and traveled south. Wow was it nice; tropical weather, salt water fly fishing, great drinks and excellent food. What more could a girl ask for? I know, another week would have been great! Well, I guess I should have thought of that sooner because I'm back to juggling eggs and feeling a bit cracked up.

I can see you all have your hackle raised in wonder over what eggs we might be juggling here at Whiting so sit and brood for a spell while I fill in the blank spots for you.

Customers of ours should have all received the 2015/2016 season pricing and color offering (order forms) by now. It went out in the middle of September via email. If you haven't seen yours, check your Inbox or even your Junk mail folder since it had attachments. If you need another copy, all you need to do is ask. My email address is [accounting@whitingfarms.com](mailto:accounting@whitingfarms.com). If you're on the ball, you have already completed and re-

turned page seven (7) of the T & C form which went out in the same email. This is very helpful to us because we can review your information with what we have on file and in the computer, as well as the website if you are a Dealer or Distributor. Thank you to all of those that returned this form so promptly. You're not on my manure list if you haven't sent it in yet, but your cooperation would be greatly appreciated so that we can keep our records updated annually.

Did you see the new hats on the order form? "Sweet Sassy Molassey" as Phil Trimm has been known to say, they are moving like hot cakes. We are about ready to put in another order if they keep flying out the door at this rate.

If you are a Whiting Farms Dealer and would like to be featured in our newsletter we

are always interested in hearing from you. Don't be shy. Contact Amber at [receptionist@whitingfarms.com](mailto:receptionist@whitingfarms.com). Also, Dealers, if you follow us on instagram we will follow you back. Let's build a fly fishing, fly tying, hackle raising empire! @whitingfarms #flyfishing #flytying #hacklefliesrock

Splat! Darn, I was so busy thinking of hash tags that I dropped one of the non-fertilized eggs I was juggling. Probably best I close the coop doors for now and get back to the tasks of the day. Until next time, thank you for your continued support.

*Colette*



## PRO TEAM "SCOOP" BY ADAM KRONEBERGER TEE TIME?

Lunch on the calendar, afternoon meetings, conference calls, and tee times are all synonymous with western culture formalities when planning business powwows. But have you noticed who has been taking work to the water lately? I have encountered more than my fair share of run ins this year with businessmen and women chalking up plans to talk shop on the water with fly rods in hand. I spoke with founder and CEO Julian Flores of the hot new tech start up GetOutfitted.com who stated, "Fly fishing is the new business golf outing. It seems like today people

would rather be in pristine nature, not on artificially pristine greens that cost a fortune. Being on the water is a great way to have a shared experience while developing business deals instead of being confined to the arcane rules and old-school traditions of an oftentimes slow round of golf."

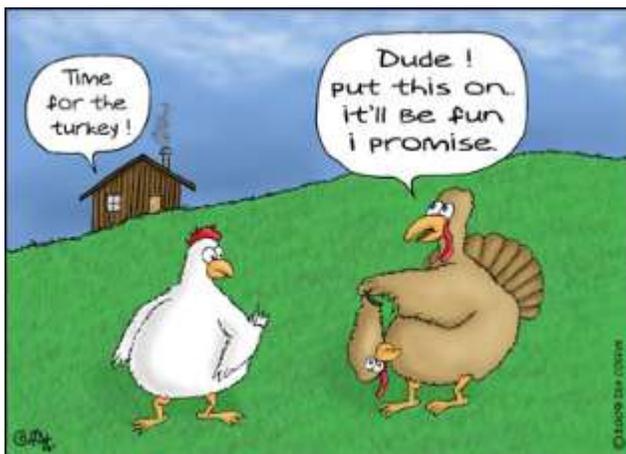
The physical exercise of the sport is a huge draw to get out from under the desk and get the blood flowing. Burgers for lunch may not be on the menu but no one is complaining about a healthy cold cut sandwich. Tuning into an afternoon conference call can really be more like tuning out. Fly fish-

ing has these business minds unwinding a bit but the brain is fired up trying to figure out bug hatches, trout feeding patterns, and getting that perfect drift.

Were there any high fives at the last lunch in? The energy, camaraderie, and excitement that is shared over the netting of a fish is a uniting experience. I think we can all agree that creating enjoyable experiences on the water for business is good for business.

Adam Kronberger  
adam@whitingfarms.com  
Pro Team, Ambassador, and Social Media Manager

## FISH 'N CHICKS HUMOR



Q: Why did the turkey cross the road?

A: To prove he wasn't chicken!

Q: Why did the chicken go to KFC?

A: He wanted to see a chicken strip.

Q: Why did the t-rex cross the road?

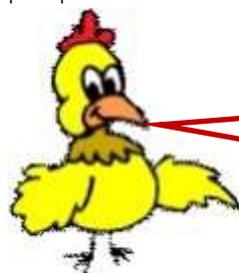
A: Because the chicken hadn't evolved yet

Q: Why don't chickens like people?

A: They beat eggs!

Q: What do chickens serve at birthday parties?

A: Coop-cakes!



*Peeples—send us some chicken yokes & fishin' tales to: receptionist@whitingfarms.com*

***"SCOOP"***

*WELCOME OUR 2015/2016 SEASON PRO TEAM AND AMBASSADORS*

*WHITING FARMS PRO TEAM!*

*From the USA:*

**Arkansas**

Fred DuPre'

**California**

Ben Byng

Matt Callies

Steve Potter

**Colorado**

Pat Dorsey

Tim Jacobs

Merne Judson

Al Ritt

Rich Takahashi

**Florida**

Tom Logan

**Georgia**

Tim Ivey

**Idaho**

Chris Williams

**Montana**

Lars Olsson

**New Hampshire**

Peggy Brenner

**New Jersey**

Michael McAuliffe

**New York**

Bob Lindquist

**Oregon**

Norman Domagala

Phillip E. Fischer

**Texas**

Ken "Bo" Bohannon

**Utah**

Grant Bench

Curtis Fry

Clark (Cheech) Pierce

*Internationally:*

**Sweden**

Jan Edman

Johan Klingberg

**The Netherlands**

Martin Westbeek

**United Kingdom**

Christopher Reeves

*WHITING FARMS AMBASSADOR!*

*From the USA:*

**California**

Wayne Luallen

**Florida**

Mel Simpson

**Michigan**

Jon Ray

**Nebraska**

Sue Armstrong

**New Jersey**

Chris Del Plato

**New York**

Levern "Vern-O" Burm

**Oregon**

Marc Williamson

**Pennsylvania**

Kieran Frye

**Tennessee**

G.S. "Stack" Scoville, Jr.

*Internationally:*

**United Kingdom**

Matthew Pate



***Thank you all for representing and promoting Whiting Farms products!***

## Pro Tip - Mart's Peccary Paraloop Emerger BY MARTIN WESTBEEK

**This emerger is great for smaller, slower streams and has proven a very successful pattern for the author. It's tied the paraloop way with no hackle under the hook.**



*Emerger at Step 14*

The Paraloop hackling technique has been described in great detail in Moutter's book 'Tying Flies the Paraloop Way' (2001). Moutter notes that the technique is not new: before he came up with the technique and name, other

tiers such as Ned Long and Bob Quigley used the same technique. There were two other names for this method: the Hackle Stacker and the Pullover.

One of the advantages of Paraloop flies is that there is no hackle below the hook shank, which is ideal for hookups. The other great benefit of the technique is the profile of the fly: because of the absence of hackle below the hook shank Paraloop flies sit low in or on the water. And that is a big plus, especially for emergers. The Paraloop technique is very versatile: you can use it on any that you wish low-riding fly.

My favorite the Peccary Emerger. I smaller, slow-



*Finished Emerger*

hacked fly to turn into a emerger is Paraloop use it on er sections of

I use Whiting saddle hackle because this hackle has a thin and flexible, yet strong stem, which is a must-have for hackling around a small diameter parachute post used on paraloop hackles. The new Daiichi 1160 Klinkhammer hooks are a great choice for this emerger. They are light ( a heavy hook turns a low-riding fly into a diver), have the right shape for emergers and are wicked sharp!



*Emerger at Step 13*

*Photos provided by Martin Westbeek*

**Pattern type:** Emerger 0000

**Originator:** Martin Westbeek

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Materials:**

**Hook**—Daiichi Klinkhamer 1160, sizes 14-18

**Thread**—Veevus 16/0, grey

**Abdomen**—One peccary hair

**Post**—10-12 strands of white poly yarn

**Thorax**—Peacock herl

**Hackle**—Whiting (Hebert-Miner) speckled badger rooster hackle

**Instructions:**

1. Set up the thread to well into the bend.
  2. Tie in one Peccary hair (soak well before tying in).
  3. Wrap a neat body, tie off and cut.
  4. Tie in parachute post - only 10 or so strands of poly will do. Fat posts are horrible to tie down later on.
  5. Tie in three peacock herls.
  6. Tie in your hackle - this is a Hebert-Miner Speckled Badger saddle hackle. Speckled hackle is great for emergers because it suggests movement. Natural or dyed Grizzle hackle will also work of course.
  7. Twist the peacock and make one wrap behind and in front of the post. It's best to do it now because you won't be able to reach that area when the hackle is in place later on.
  8. Wrap a dense hackle up around the post and back down again. Tie hackle off around the hook or the post and cut.
  9. With the nail of your left hand (assuming right-handed tiers), push into the hackle to divide the barbs left and right.
  10. With your right hand thumb and index finger, pull the barbs back to clear the area in front of the post for the peacock.
  11. Twist the peacock and wrap a thorax with three of four wraps. Don't crowd the eye. Make a few thread wraps just behind the eye as a thread base on which to tie down the post.
  12. Pull the parachute over the thorax. If you pull the post tightly forward, the fly will sit higher on the water than when you leave a small space between the hackle and thorax.
  13. Tie the post down behind the hook eye. Avoid trapping any hackle barbs: use the post as a guide to slide your thread wraps in place. If you do so, the thread pressure alone will push back any stray hackle barbs.
  14. Whip finish.
- Dense, speckled hackle that to me suggests motion (Emerger). Done! Just add water. Any trout or grayling stream will do just fine.



## SOMETHING IS FOWL AT WHITING FARMS BY PHIL TRIMM

The domesticated guinea fowl we find today originated from a wild species of bird native to Africa and Madagascar. These birds are related to other game birds like pheasant, turkey, and partridge. The Europeans domesticated guinea in the 1500's for meat but it is said the Romans domesticated them as early as 72 A.D.

Amongst the many uses of this bird is fly tying. It's hard to pinpoint when guinea feathers were first used for fly tying but today there are hundreds of fly patterns available using guinea. A majority of these patterns are classic salmon and steel head flies, however, there is a strong presence of guinea in trout patterns too.

Parachute posts and wings for dry flies, wing cases, nymph legs, tails on nymphs, and collars on streamers make guinea fowl one of the most versatile feathers for fly tying.

Whiting Farms has taken the guinea fowl to a whole new level, bringing the highest quality guinea feathers to the fly tiers of the world. Due to the fact that some fly tiers don't want or need an entire Guinea full skin, Whiting Farms is now offering specific Guinea skin sections. Choose between wings, capes, saddle, breast, thigh, tail, or full skin to meet your fly tying needs.



*Guinea Wing Caddis:  
The wing is from a  
Guinea saddle feather  
—tied by Phil Trimm*



*Guinea Buzzer: This fly  
used a guinea breast feath-  
er for the collar to give the  
fly a mottled look when  
wet. —tied by Phil Trimm*



*Guinea Muddler  
Fly: This fly used a  
guinea breast  
feather under the  
deer hair for mott-  
ling—tied by Phil  
Trimm*



*Baetis Guinea  
Fly: This fly  
has cape guinea  
feathers for the  
parachute  
and saddle  
feathers for  
the tail —tied  
by Phil Trimm*

**FLY TIER CHALLENGE:** Whiting Farms has available Guinea Fowl hackle and we are challenging YOU to see who can come up with the most unique use of Guinea Fowl hackle. Submit your patterns and photos to [orders@whitingfarms.com](mailto:orders@whitingfarms.com) by February 1, 2016 and you could win a set of Guinea Fowl hackle and a Whiting Farms 25th Anniversary cap! The winner will be featured in the upcoming newsletter.

Good Luck Tiers!



October 1<sup>st</sup> came and went. It was a day like any other day, except I was fly fishing in Mexico! Can't beat that, right? Yes, I actually do take a vacation from Whiting Farms once in a blood red moon. I returned to work only to learn that no one, not one single person, has stepped up to the Hi Vis Fly Tier's Challenge that was in our July 2015 newsletter. This is a first for Whiting. We always have people who step up to our challenges. Shucks, they get free hackle, their article and flies in the newsletter so you figure at least one person out there will get a little excited by that. Not this time.

"That's alright", I said to myself. I work at Whiting Farms. Surely I can tie a fly so we won't have an empty page in the November newsletter, right? Since I work here I won't be eligible for the free goodies but at least we will have a Hi Vis Challenge Winner. Well, that was what I thought anyway. Despite the fact that I have worked at Whiting Farms for around 7 years or so now, I really don't tie flies. I do fly fish, but tying just has never been my

## HI-VIS CHALLENGE WINNER...LOSER!!!

game. I love hackle and have learned a tremendous amount working here, but I'm not certain that I have the patience for fly tying. So for me to sit down and tie a fly for this challenge took a lot of effort! Sitting down was actually the hardest part. Once I got started, it came together rather well (I think).

I call it the *Queen of Denial*. I chose this name for multiple reasons which I think are very apropos. First and foremost, it reminds me of some of the fabulous hats that are worn in the presence of the queen. They are always brightly colored (Hi Vis) and beautiful, which I believe this fly to be. Secondly, I don't think any fish would dare

deny this fly. It shall not be refused!

The superb Whiting dry fly hackle will help it float, if I fish it appropriately; however, if I choose to do so, I can also fish it as a



*Queen of Denial full size*

streamer in the mid water column. When I wiggle it, I can tell that the lengthy Hi Vis Green Chartreus, Orange and Pink "tail" will have great underwater action which will entice any fish. I can't give away all my secrets, but the body is this olive colored sort of flashy fuzzy stuff. I think you can find that at your local fly shop. I'm not sure what size hook it is but I picked a bigger one because I hate tying on those teeny tiny flies.

Ok! That's it for me and my awesome Hi Vis Challenge *Queen of Denial* Fly. Now if you all will just tell Tom that I need another vacation so I can go catch a big trout on this fabulous fly I'll be all set. I actually do have a fly rod here at work!



*Queen of Denial Close up*

*Colette*

"WFI On The Fly"



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Track us on the Web:  
[www.whitingfarms.com](http://www.whitingfarms.com)



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**Whiting Farms Mission Statement:**

*To produce the highest quality,  
value and selection of feathers  
for the fly tiers of the world.*

