

Ft. Worth Fly Fishers

February 2017 Fly of the Month

The Rollin' Stone

The February Fly of the Month comes to us from Lee Blanton. Lee runs and owns a Fly Tying business (<https://www.willscreekflyfishing.com/>). Lee is based out of Weatherford, TX which is just west of Fort Worth, and prides himself in tying some of the most durable yet artistic flies available. I think that you'll agree with me that the "Rollin' Stone" fits that description very well.

The Rollin' Stone



Materials

Hook: Daiichi 1720 size 6-16

Bead: Optional

Lead wire: the same diameter as the hook shank

Thread: Black UTC 70

Dubbing: Black or any color dubbing to match the stoneflies present (any dubbing other than dry fly dubbing)

Tail: Goose Biots (to match dubbing)

Wing case: Turkey Wing

Hackle: Furnace saddle

Tying instructions

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1. Add 4 wraps of lead wire towards the front 1/3 of the hook
2. Dub a small bump at the bend of the hook.
3. Tie in 2 goose biots one on each side of the hook shank, just in front of the dubbing bump.
4. Dub 2/3 of the hook shank tapering to the thorax.
5. Tie in turkey wing fibers the width of the hook gap.
6. Tie in 1 furnace hackle (butt section not from the tip).
7. Dub the rest of the hook shank to just behind the eye of the hook.
8. Palmer the hackle 8 times and tie it down.
9. Fold the Turkey wing fibers over to form a wing case.
10. Whip finish the head of the fly.

I designed this pattern due to the fact that I didn't really like some of the stonefly patterns that were available, and a lot of the patterns are too complex for my liking. This fly is one of the few that I have designed that has had very little tweaking to it, it is pretty much the same fly that came out of my vise the first time. It has produced some large trout as well as good sized sunfish and other species in the hill country waters.

I very rarely use strike indicators on any of my flies, I believe that especially with stoneflies, that "rolling" them along the bottom do create strikes and with proper mending of the line produce a life like movement. I drift this the exact same way I would any nymph pattern, the fly can be tied in wide range of colors to match golden stones and dark stones.

Barry Webster

Tying Director