

Subject: : Fly Tying

Topic: : Dark Hendrickson

Re: Dark Hendrickson

Author: : wbranch

Date: : 2013/3/27 8:51:49

URL:

Osprey,

"Wasn't the tail in the original also woodduck like the wings and the Darby hackle floated better? I'll bet it was the greatest thing to be able to sit and watch those 2 tie and tell stories.....I'M JEALOUS!!!!"

Well I can't answer the comment about whether the tails were woodduck. I do know that Harry was a strong proponent of spade hackles for the tails of dry flies. Heck, I didn't even know what a spade hackle was back then! He opened a little yellowed cellophane envelope and handed me about four dark dun spade hackles. And said to me "now you only use these for tailing". It was pretty cool. I used them for tails on Art Flick's Dun Variant.

Yes, it was very cool to see Harry "hold court" with everyone who came into the store. Let's face it he was a legend, an icon, and guys would just wait, with bated breath, on every utterance he made. He even gave me six flies that he tied which much to my dismay somehow disappeared out of my VW van before I even got home that weekend. To this day I think someone in the store saw Harry give me those flies and then stole them right out of the vehicle while I was fishing.

Oh, you said "...I'M JEALOUS!!!!" Well while it was great to have experienced those times back in the early 1960's when FF was just starting to take off - but then you'd be an old dog like I am who can't hardly wade at all anymore. Pretty soon I'll probably have to hook up with some young whippersnapper to help me get the Hyde off, and back onto, the trailer at the end of the day. Ya think I could find a younger guy who'd float with me and row?