



# Bill Takes On The Brookies

## Plus... Where are those hot weather Walleyes?

This past winter we met, for the first time, a guy who is very well known in the world of fly fishing...Bill Sherer. Bill and his wife Dawn live in Boulder Junction, Wisconsin and manage [www.wetieit.com](http://www.wetieit.com) and a retail business that features Bill's flies. They manage Bill's hectic guide service schedule from their Wisconsin location as well. You see, Bill's traveled to all the notable lakes and streams in search of trout, big muskies, toothy pike, and lake trout. Bill will be one of a group of guides - coaches for our [Fly Fishing Adventure](#) starting August 27 ... (yes, you can still enroll!)

During the third week of July...the heart of summer...he accepted our invitation to visit our Albany River [Miminiska Lodge](#) and apply his considerable skills with a fly rod in finding the world class Brook Trout in the area. He is the featured interview in our "Voices From The Wilderness" [computer radio show](#) this week, and we're printing here some excerpts from his most recent letter to us. The entire letter is available to be read at our [downloads](#) page at the website...look for "Letter from Bill Sherer."

*I'm sitting in the Bozeman, MT airport waiting for my flight back to Wisconsin, I have been here for 5 days and it's time to get back home. I was here for the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), International Conclave (Meeting). Along with teaching fly tying classes, I was also*



*able to demonstrate my fly tying skills in the "Gallery". 115 of the worlds best fly tyers are invited each year to Tie and Teach at this very special event - it is the pinnacle event of the fly tying world, I am honored to be asked and fortunate to be able to attend.*

*While fishing out here in some of the most famous trout streams in the world, my thoughts kept going back to Miminiska and the very special trout fishery that exists there. It is truly one of the best trophy Brook Trout fisheries on the planet! I enjoyed the fishing here very much and I caught a lot of fish and some very*

*handsome Cutthroats, but they pale in comparison to the beauty and strength of the fish I recently caught on the Keezhik and Albany Rivers. I want to continue to help you protect and preserve those fish, and still keep a viable fishery for anglers to enjoy, but not exploit.*

*Here's a list of fly fishing gear to bring to Miminiska - I thought this (along with the lists from the other instructors) would serve as a starting point for our "Students":*

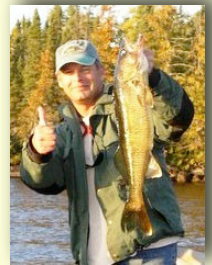
*Nine foot 9-wt and 7-wt fly rods - I would bring 2 nines and one 7 with perhaps an 8-wt as a back-up rod: Have a floating line and a 10' Type 6 sink tip line for your 7-wt. I actually had my 8-wt rigged with a floating line and my 7-wt rigged with the sink tip when I went down the Keezhik. I used the 7-wt most of the time, and I used the 8-wt for a shot at some of the monster Pike that ruled the slow areas of the pools below the Brook Trout.*

*Shooting heads and full sinking lines will also work well, they are just a lot more difficult to cast when using larger flies.*

### Finding Hot Weather Walleye?

Many anglers believe that Walleye are hard to locate and catch in the summer. And to some degree they are right.

So we turned to our Guru of Walleye Angling - Chris Clemmons - for some help.



Chris won't head out in the summer without a good locator in the boat. He says look for schools of fish AND schools of bait fish and go deep.

His three way system starts with a three way swivel tied to the main line.. A heavy lead or Lindy No Snag gets the line down, and the other two eyelets are hooked up to line 2 to 6 feet in length with anything from Rapala #7 to #11's to hooks with live bait.

Troll slowly feeling the bottom as you move from deep deep...to very shallow. His article "[Any Ole Mickey Mouse Rig Will Work](#)" is at the [download page](#) of the website or Chris tells you more in this week's [radio broadcast for the net](#).

If you have speakers hooked up to your computer or a head set you're ready to listen.

No files will be loaded on your computer and the process in 100% virus free.



**Leaders:** I hand tied my leaders for the Brook Trout because I wanted to get the fly down quickly to the bottom of the runs. My leader design was rather simple: Nine inches of .023 Stiff Mono, twelve inches of .017 Stiff Mono, and 24 inches of 3X (.008) Nylon Mono Tippet for a total length of about 4 feet (a shorter leader will keep your fly in the same depth range as your line, a long leader will allow the line to sink, but the fly will rise up toward the surface defeating the purpose of the sink tip line). I loop connected the tippet to the leader butt and loop connected the butt to the fly line. I used 2X Tippet on the same leader butt section for the Brook Trout fishing in the Albany. I recommend you ban all use of Fluorocarbon line especially for the trout.

There are all kinds of wires available for bite tippets for Pike, from tie-able to the ones you crimp, some are good. I like the new tie-able Titanium wire the best. It takes a little more work to get it prepared for a fly fishing leader, but, once you have it prepped, it is unsurpassed in its performance. I used 20 and 30 pound test while I was at Miminiska and found very little difference between the two, (the 20 pound was a bit easier to tie the fly to).

### **Flies:**

I am a very "traditional" fly angler when it comes to trout, so I used classic hair wing and feather wing streamers - Cary Stevens Style. The Hairwing Baby Brook Trout was by far my most effective on the Keezhik. I also used a Hairwing Royal Coachman and Featherwing Light Spruce and Gray Ghost streamers. I recommend sizes 6 and 4. I used an Olive/White weighted Double Bunny on the Albany in a size 4 as well. I will return with Cone Head Albino Muddlers and Albino Zonkers in size 4 along with an array of Olive, White, and Brown Cone Heads for the fall fishing - all in a size 4. I will bring along several dozen of my most popular sizes. I will bring several styles of Dry Flies as well, Blue Winged Olives, Midges and Caddis - will top my list. I saw rising trout taking a small Caddis (size 16), and wished I had brought some with me! I suspect most of the hatches will be over by the time we return, so I will concentrate on the streamers primarily.



My Pike flies are anything but "traditional", I mostly used a new pattern I designed exclusively for the fishing at Miminiska, the TS Crusher was a fantastic fly for both Pike and Walleyes. I used primarily two colors, White with Gold Flash and Orange with a Yellow head and Gold Flash, they were outstanding, and very durable. I think I caught somewhere around 200 or more Pike and about 100 Walleyes while I was there, I only used 3 flies the entire time! I expected the Pike fishing to be slow in July, so I did not try out a bunch of different patterns, but the fish told me everything I needed to know for my return trip. I can bring along some of these as well, same as above.

### **Other Stuff:**

A good, strong jaw spreader and heavy needle nose pliers are essential. I know all the fly fishing guys like to bring those fancy pliers that all the saltwater Guides use, but a good pair of needle nose will serve them better up there! A Mitten Clamp will do well for the trout, these are stronger than a hemostat and do a much better job of pinching down the barbs on the hooks - which should be required by all the Guides.

There is a non-adhesive tape that is used for finger protection - I'll bring along several rolls of it with me when I return, it is essential! I have used several types of finger protection and the tape works the best - especially if it is colder, the spandex types hold too much water and make your fingers very cold, and the gloves can get too wet and cold as well.

### **Bill Sherer**