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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

May, 2016

President's Message

It appears that some warmer weather is finally heading our way after a cool and wet beginning to the spring. Garrison Keillor has said, "Spring is a dishonest season in the Midwest" and each spring in Michigan seems to bear that out. I hope that those of you who have already gotten to the stream or lake had a successful outing and enjoyed comfortable weather.

Your board has been very busy the last few weeks getting things in place for our banquet, scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at Eagle Eye Clubhouse, 15500 Chandler Rd. in Bath. The banquet will be held in the

Log Cabin room with cocktails (cash bar) at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. We have had to give a final count for dinner already but we may be able to fit a few more in if we get word soon. Please think about joining us and reserve your tickets by emailing to presrcff@yahoo.com.

I know that some of you have been out seeking donations from local establishments and I thank you for your hard work. So far we have gotten a massage coupon, some tavern gift certificates and some jewelry donations. If you have gotten some donations, please let your board know what you have by emailing to presrcff@yahoo.com. I



know that not every business can provide a donation but the ones who have deserve a big thank you and your support. I enjoyed contacting an ex-student of mine, Alex Lafkas, who is a guide and is teaching classes for Gates Lodge. He has donated some fly lines, flies and a fly box. Thanks Alex, hope to see you this summer.

continued on next page....



1981 McKenzie Cup Winners

The Red Cedar Fly Fishers is a Charter Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

It's purpose is to promote fly-fishing through Education, Restoration and Conservation

**RED CEDAR FLY
FISHERS**

president's message continued.....

I would like to thank Dr. William Taylor and Molly Good for presenting information about the MSU Flygals at our April meeting. Congratulations again to Molly for being awarded our annual fellowship as seen in the above photo. And thanks to Tomena and Janet of the Flygals for joining our last fly tying night at Piazzano's. We enjoyed their company and hope they had a good time. I know that some pictures were posted on the MSU Flygals Facebook page. There may be a fly tying class presented by the Red Cedar Fly Fishers for the Flygals next fall.

The fish farm issue continues to be a concern for all anglers. The latest edition of "The Riverwatch" put out by the Anglers of the Au Sable contains many articles and information about to future of the Au Sable if this commercial enterprise is allowed to expand. Please check out the "Riverwatch" and keep current on this issue. Red Cedar member Don Sawyer has an article on smallmouth fishing with flies in this issue also, worth reading.

Finally, I want to remind you of our May outing on the weekend of May 20, 21 and 22 at Mark Johnson's. If you are planning on joining us that weekend but have not let me know, email me at presrcff@yahoo.com as soon as possible.

Support your local fly shop, keep your stick on the ice and get involved.

Banquet Update

Our annual fundraising banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2016. It will again be held in the Log Cabin Room at Eagle Eye in East Lansing. Tickets for the event will be \$30.00 and will be available at the door if you call now to let us know you're coming. You can also reserve tickets and pay at the door by contacting us by email at presrcff@yahoo.com. The meal will be a chef's choice buffet like the last years and there will be a cash bar available.

We will have a 50/50 raffle as well as a general raffle, bucket raffle, silent auction and live auction. We have many donations coming in but always welcome more. We are encouraging members to solicit donations from local merchants and establishments to add to our raffles.

Members who bring a new or gently used item to contribute to the general raffle will receive 5 free raffle tickets. We also have a great door prize again this year donated by the Wrought Iron Grill in Owosso.

Since this is our only fundraiser, we depend on you and your guests to make this a successful event. You can help by getting local donations, buying tickets and encouraging family and friends to attend. If you have any questions about this year's banquet, email us.

From the Long Island Flyrodders

For Your Nymphormation By Lee Weil Fly Tyer's Disease

There's a chill in the air and the leaves are turning. At this time of year a fly tyer's thoughts turn to new patterns and the feel of good hackle. Can't relate, you say? Well, given ample opportunity the fly tying bug will bite you as it has so many of us, who have graduated from the state of mere anglers to engineers of the lure. How do you know when you've achieved this level of evolution? I've comprised a list of signs of the symptoms that indicate you, too may have fallen victim to !Fly Tyer's Disease.

1. You love the smell of mothballs in the morning.
2. Your dog / cat's name is !Dubbing".
3. You have learned (the hard way) to NEVER hold burning monofilament in your fingers.
4. Midge is no longer Barbie's best friend.
5. You won't let your spouse vacuum when your birds are molting.
6. Your idea of a great gift is part of something that used to be alive.
7. Your dog/cat had to get a vet's prescription for Rogaine.
8. When asked if you had any vices, you answered !Yes, a Renzetti, a Thompson, a Dynaking and a Nor".
9. Your spouse thinks there are woodpeckers in the house after hearing your hair stacker tapping at 5:30 a.m.
10. You find yourself cutting out suede mouse ears till 1:00 a.m. and you DON'T work at Disney World!

If you have any of the above mentioned symptoms you are definitely a fly tying addict. There is no known cure, but don't despair. You can always join a tying group and thus be supported by others who share your affliction. The good news : You will always have enough flies and your spouse will be happy to find out there are no woodpeckers in the house!

June Picnic

Our annual June picnic will be on Tuesday, June 14 at Hawk Island Park. We have reserved the Kestrel Shelter again for 6:00 p.m. We are going to try to do the food a little bit differently this year. The club will again provide burgers and hot dogs, buns and condiments but we are asking members to sign up for different food items this year.

In the past, we asked all members to bring a dessert, which resulted in a whole lot of dessert being left when the picnic ended. This year, we would like to have members sign up at the banquet or via email for different food. We will have categories and only a certain number of sign up slots. Please decide which food you would like to bring and sign up for that one. Hopefully this will eliminate an overabundance of any one item.

Categories will include fruit salad, vegetable salad, baked beans, potato salad, dessert, chips and the ever popular other, for those have a specialty they would like to share with us.

The election of board members for the 2016 - 2017 year will be held during the picnic. All board positions are open. Please think about running for a board position and help make the Red Cedars an active, vibrant club.

Don't forget that there will likely be an entrance fee at the park.

Interlochen Public Radio - April 11 2016 podcast

Sara Adlerstein-Gonzalez is a fisheries scientist at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment. "Time to forget salmon, go for native species."

The lake trout used to be *the* fish to catch in the Great Lakes. But by the 1950s, severe overfishing and an infestation of an eel-like, blood-sucking parasite called the sea lamprey had drastically reduced the number of lake trout and other fish. Salmon fishing has been incredibly popular in the Great Lakes ever since, but the Great Lakes ecosystem continues to change. The alewife has almost disappeared in Lake Huron. Salmon fishing collapsed there, prompting charter boat captains to move over to Lake Michigan.

Now it appears Lakes Michigan and Ontario are headed in the same direction as Lake Huron. Salmon is still popular, but the DNR stopped stocking them because their food source is dwindling. The invasive zebra and quagga mussels are having an impact on the Great Lakes as well.

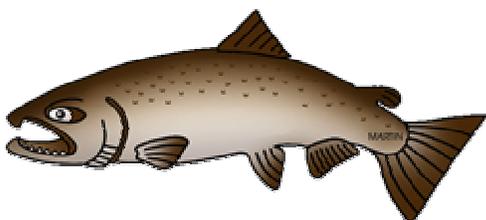
Adlerstein-Gonzalez thinks that what we're seeing is actually the ultimate success of Tanner's plan. The alewife population collapsed as intended, and now the salmon don't really have a role to play. She says the lakes are returning to a "more oligotrophic stage, which is more natural, and native species are starting to come back." She says that lake trout and walleye are both making a comeback. Another native species, the whitefish, never actually experienced a dip in population, according to Adlerstein-Gonzalez. "They even adapted to feed on the zebra mussels, which is pretty amazing," she says. "They seem to be more resilient."

Adlerstein-Gonzalez co-authored a study, published in the journal *Ecosystems*, that suggests that wildlife managers should focus their efforts on the restoration of native fish. Salmon may be popular, but Adlerstein-Gonzalez says that popularity may need to take a back seat to sustainability. "The sustainability of a system depends on the function, and the native food web was a sustainable food web. So why would we need to be intervening in these ecosystems all the time to make it what we want for a certain sector of the population?" she asks.

When the DNR announced a few years ago it was looking at reducing the number of salmon being introduced to the Great Lakes, some wondered why they didn't just add more alewives to the system. But in Adlerstein-Gonzalez's eyes, that's more of a Band-Aid than an actual solution. For now, Adlerstein-Gonzalez tells us that fisherman might just need to let go of the salmon and get used to fishing for native species.

"Maybe they feel happier if they know that lake trout is a good fish to have around, and maybe they will not insist on having what doesn't belong to the Great Lakes in the first place."

Note: You can go to interlochenpublicradio.org and listen to a podcast on her interview with Ryan Grimes on her view of the salmon fishery in the Great Lakes.



Officer Positions for 2016-2017 Year

Want to win friends and influence people, have fun leading groups, meeting new people by phone, email and text?

Well if the answer is yes then let any current officer know which one you prefer.

Nominations are in May with the officer selection in June at the picnic. It's a great way to share the club load and give some of your time to help.



Website Reviews - Terry Greiner

www.theweeklyfly.com -

This site looks to be a collection of youtube tying videos set up by a specific tier or fly type. They provide a new fly on a regular basis or one can search on the right side of the page for the two categories listed earlier.

They also offer the

viewer the opportunity to purchase HD versions on their site in full resolution. These are not expensive at \$2.49 each.

I clicked on the video store heading and then the forum heading and nothing came up for me. I haven't registered on the site but that may be what's required

to link into this section. Not like other sites that have forums.

If you have the time just scroll down through the videos listed on each page and see if there's one that catches your eye and give it a try or bookmark the site and check back "weekly".

Website Reviews - Terry Greiner

www.speypages.com - As the link indicates this is all about spey casting, tying, techniques, etc. Here's where you should register to get onto the forum section if you really want to get the full benefit out of this site.

Since I got into the two handed game a couple of years ago this site is probably the best one on the internet. All of the forum members are very helpful

whether you're a novice or a seasoned angler. There's a way to private message anyone who posts a comment and I've found that when I've done this they all respond to my question(s) in a short order with helpful advice.

You can ask a question about a destination and several will advise where to go and when. There's also a classified section further down the page that you should review if you're looking for rods, reels, lines, and a host of other items.

All in all this is a great site to follow if you're looking to get into this part of the sport.

Summertime and the Fishing is Easy

Well, almost? So the hatch is over, it's dark, and you're not quite ready to head back to the car. What do you do when the river settles down and it's very quiet out? You know when that squirrel you saw on the bank when it was light now becomes the brown bear stalking you from the shadows. Well put on a mouse of course, cut that leader back to 10 lb or more and start casting to likely looking spots such as downed trees, logjams, deep holes near the bank.

Let that critter swing downstream or lightly twitch it back across the water, just not upstream as this is not Michael Phelps trying desperately to get out of the water. But what's the best rod to use for this type of fly? A strong 5 weight will work but better yet is a 6 or 7 weight rod to really push that guy out there easily and to get the trout in quickly. This isn't dainty blue wing olive fishing as you're trying to "push" water to give the fish something to key on. Drag free isn't the objective here tonight. Don't stand in one spot and cast over and over. Move downstream while casting as the big fish come out from their hiding spots at night and are looking for food.

There's a ton (I counted) mouse patterns on the web if you ask Google to locate them. Deer hair, foam, rabbit fur, etc. are all used in making these flies as some have legs and are even articulated. One tier only adds back legs as he took a side picture of a mouse swimming and basically saw that the only part out of the water was its head. I found a pattern on Field and Stream that's easy to tie in any size and just as easy to cast. Here's the link with a couple of materials to use to make this in any size.

<http://www.fieldandstream.com/tying-the-master-splinter-mouse-fly>

This would be a good time to plan that RCFF club trip with the TU club at Wa Wa Sum in early July to test this pattern. More details to come.

Be the First One to Get One

Found out that Bob K. and Herb D. got together to market a new tattoo that one can use to measure their catch.

Not sure what the price point will be at this stage but they're in negotiations with a couple of large outdoor box stores and an internet retailer to carry this in their product line.

Knowing both of them very well this looks perfectly legit to me. Contact them directly if you want to field test one of these on your next outing.



Useful tattoo!

Taken from: **Phil Monahan Fly-Fishing Trivia Challenge – Orvis News**

1. The Griffith's Gnat is named after?

Andy Griffith	George Griffith
Arnold Griffith	Gary Griffith

2. What famous trout river flows out of Tippy Dam?

The American River	The Delaware River
The Manistee River	The White River

3. Which is the technical name for a fishes nostril?

Vent	Nare
Sinus	Schnozz

4. In what state might you find a northern snakehead?

Montana	Virginia
Tennessee	Maine

5. Which word describes organisms living on the bottom of a body of water?

Benthic	Littoral
Euphotic	Limnetic

6. The Mickey Finn is what kind of fly?

Dry	Nymph
Emerger	Streamer

7. The golden trout is a subspecies of?

Brown	Rainbow
Cutthroat	Brook

8. Finish this quote: "Neal, in Montana there's three things we're never late for: church, _____, and fishing." From the film "A River Runs Through It"

Dinner	Work
School	Hunting

9. Which of these countries does NOT have native trout?

New Zealand	Japan
Belgium	Mexico

10. Which of these is not a kind of hook bend?

Limerick bend	Sproat bend
Crystal bend	Toledo bend

11. What country was "The Father of American Fly Fishing," Theodore Gordon, originally from?

Canada	1	USA
Scotland		England

12. What's a kype?

The part of a hook including the bend and the point
A hooked jaw on a male trout or salmon
A small, male Atlantic salmon
A stone found in a fish's stomach

**RED CEDAR FLY
FISHERS**

Continued from page 7

13. The Partridge and Orange is what kind of fly?
Dry
Wet fly X
Nymph
Streamer
14. What's milt?
A mixture of fish eggs and sand
The scent produced by female fish to attract mates
The slime coating on a fish
Fish sperm X
15. How many states have banned felt-soled waders and boots as a way to stop the spread of aquatic nuisance species?
4
6
8
10
16. Izaak Walton was a bait fisherman.
True
False
17. What do you call the fin between the dorsal fin and the tail on a trout's back?
Adipose fin
Caudal fin
Pectoral fin
Tail fin
18. The average life span of a mountain brook trout is?
1 year
3 years
5 years
10 years
19. Taxonomically, brown and rainbow trout belong to the same
Family
Genus
Species
Subspecies
20. Which of these celebrities is NOT well known for being a fly fisherman?
Craig Sheffer
Huey Lewis
David Letterman
Michael Keaton

Answers on page 10.

How Does the IFFF, Great Lakes Council, and your local Club help you in this Sport:

- Only organization dedicated to fly fishing.
- A larger organization than a single club or Council has much better political leverage when conservation issues depend on agency and legislative decisions.
- World recognized fly casting instructor program.
- Conservation Committee addresses major issues in conservation of marine and fresh water fish species and their habitats.
- Education and outreach by supporting fly fishing programs such as Project Healing Waters, Casting for Recovery, Veterans First Fly Fishing, school fishing clubs, and youth clubs.
- Has an international directory of IFFF guides, lodges, retailers and certified casting instructors.

Learn and Enhance Your Skills

- Best way to learn about fly fishing.
- IFFF Fly Tying Group to help you increase your tying skills.
- IFFF magazine, *Flyfisher*, with sections dedicate to IFFF clubs, members, personal fly fishing experiences and interests.
- IFFF offers the opportunity of becoming recognized for developing our skills in casting, tying, education and participation in conservation issues.
- Social media activities on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Instagram.
- IFFF has an annual Fly Fishing Fair with excellent programs.

Charter Club Benefits

- Club becomes a 501 C 3 under the umbrella of the IFFF.
- IFFF provides assistance to clubs with reasonably priced liability insurance.
- IFFF has a rod incentive program for club memberships (12 new members = TFO Professional rod).
- IFFF provides legal assistance for club documents for incorporation and tax filings.
Clubs can apply for grants up to \$1,500 for specific conservation projects. Matching grants are required

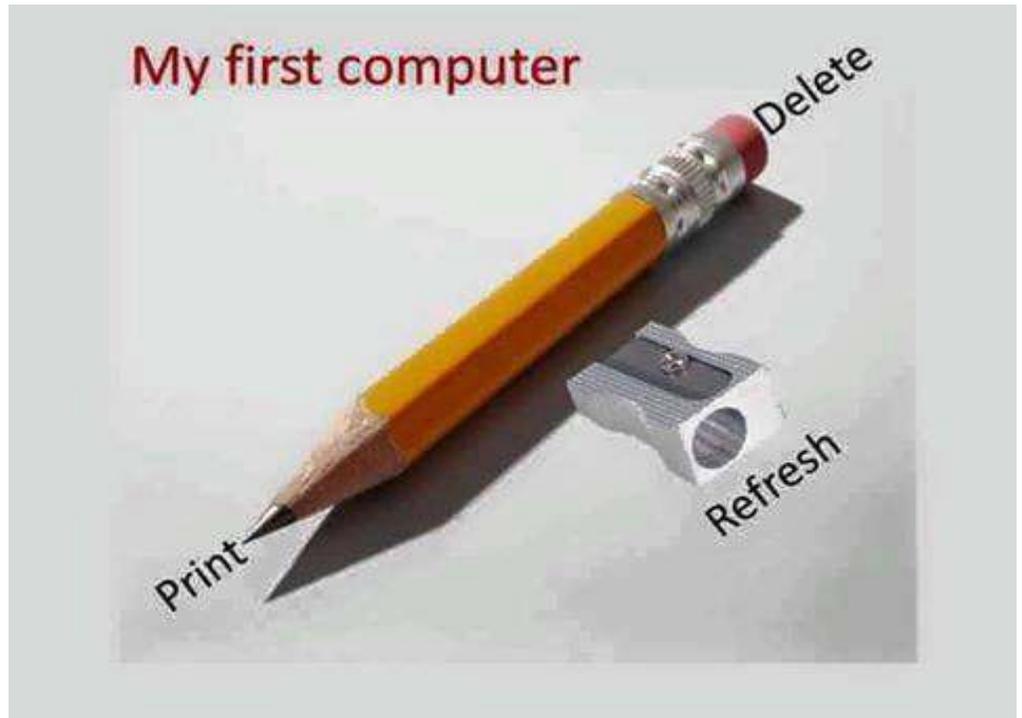
Red Cedar Fly Fishers

- Monthly club meetings with presentations, tying, fellowship
- Winter fly tying nights
- Spring work and fishing outings
- Banquet & fundraiser
- June picnic
- Joint fly fishing weekend with Lansing TU chapter

May Fishing Outing

Since the club has been unable to arrange a spring work outing, the Board has decided to hold a Spring Fishing Outing instead. We've decided on the weekend of May 20, 21, 22 and we are planning on going to the Lake City, Michigan area. Mark Johnson has offered the use of his cottage for that weekend. It sleeps 6-8 people, but there's also a small Motel in Lake City as well as 2 State Forest Campgrounds, Goose Lake State Campground, and Long Lake State Campground just north of town a mile or so. There are several small streams in the area to fish as well as Lake Missaukee and the small lakes in the State Forest Campgrounds themselves. The Manistee River is also north of Lake City a little ways and offers many options to fish there. If you are interested in participating in this weekend or just coming up for the day, Let Bob Bawden know at presrcff@yahoo.com. Hopefully a few of the members who have boats might attend as well as those who have pontoon boats, canoes, or kayaks. Food arrangements can be made ahead of time but we're looking for a tentative count to get the plan to move forward.

So we're cleaning out the excess stuff that has been piling up all these past years and guess what we found under a couple of boxes. This is what the first club newsletter was written on in 1977!



Ever fish the St. Mary's river system in the Sault Ste. Marie Michigan or Canada region? If so it's probably been in the rapids area just below the bridge that links this state to Ontario. Here's a link to construction modifications to the Sugar Island causeway to restore flow at the Little Rapids in the St. Mary's river. <http://eup-planning.org/past-projects/little-rapids-noaa-project> Check it.

A Brief Introduction to Political Correctness in Flyfishing, from Bob Kren

To my way of thinking, “political correctness” is the silly notion that overly-careful selection of words will change reality. The rules of pc-dom are applied by people who are not themselves affected by “offensive” speech, but who want to make sure that nobody, nor anything, else may possibly be “harmed” by what is said. Applied to something like flyfishing, things can get out of hand, really fast. The following is meant to be illustrative but by no means exhaustive.

What’s said	What’s meant	Why the difference?
Flyfisherperoffspring*	Fly Fisherman	“Man” is sexist, and “flyfisherperson” contains “son” also sexist. Imagine “Royal Coachman.”
Ethical pursuit	Catch-and-release	Fish suffer horribly and their psyches are damaged irreversibly when you catch them. Just kill them and be done with it you, monster!
A satisfactory outfit	Top of the line, budget-busting stuff	Someone less fortunate, but heavily armed, may be envious and try to kill you, justifiably!
Sturdy knot	Best damn knot, ever!	A fumble-fingered idiot may not be able to master a couple of loops and pester you to show him how to tie it again and again and again, right before he shoots you, justifiably of course.
Nice loop, young lady	How ‘da babe like you learn to cast like that?	Under some circumstances she’d be flattered, but you’re old and ugly.
No fish there, I’ve spooked them all	You’re in my water you staggering moron. Were you raised by hyenas?	Some poor victims of capitalism’s predations may not be fortunate enough to have your sense of etiquette. And most of them have guns.
A simple tie, but effective	About half an hour to tie, just to hang up in a tree.	One mustn’t actively discourage others from tying their own flies, even though it’ll wind up costing them a fortune, and ruin their eyesight.

**RED CEDAR FLY
FISHERS**

www.redcedarflyfishers.org

Find us on 

Field Notes:

- Copy and paste this link in your internet browser and don't let this happen to you when you're on that "secret" lake, or river this coming year. <http://www.moldychum.com/chicken-fried-steak/>
- Definition of fishing: "A jerk on one end of the line waiting for a jerk on the other"
- Google up the Japanese figure 8 knot for joining two lines together as in making leaders or adding tippetts.
- Or, Gink & Gasoline has a nice article/video on how to tie blood knots using a toothpick. It's in their April 15th posting so you may have to scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on a few recent postings to find it.
- Check out the new Muskegon River Fishery and Sport Alliance at: www.muskegonriverfsa.org and join this organization. It's free to all right now and their goals are pretty clear cut....signage, mono containers, etc. This lines up with the conservation, restoration, and education goals that the Federation promotes.
- "Ghost Carp" - Moldy Chum has a video on their site of Flip Pallot and Dave Whitlock fly fishing for carp off Traverse City

Refrigerator Reminders

May

10th RCFF banquet at Eagle Eye golf course banquet hall: Cocktails 6:00, Dinner 7:00

20th - 22nd Spring fishing outing at Mark Johnson's cottage in Lake City - contact Bob Bawden if interested at: presrcff@yahoo.com

21st - Dennis O'brien's looking for help with a Cub/Boy scout troop from 10:00-2:00 at Geek Park in Shiawasee County. They're asking for a casting demo. Let him know if you can help - 989-277-2068.

June

14th RCFF picnic at Hawk Island Park. Club will provide dogs, burgers, plates, silverware, drinks & condiments.

17th/18th Great Lakes Council fly fishing school at R A MacMullen Center on Higgins Lake in Roscommon, MI. See the GLC website for more details: www.fffglc.org

Answers: 1. George Griffith 2. Manistee 3. Vent 4. Virginia 5. Benthic 6. Streamer 7. Rainbow 8. Work 9. New Zealand 10. Toledo Bend 11. USA - Louisville, KY 12. Hooked jaw on male trout or salmon 13. Wet fly 14. Fish sperm 15. 8 16. True 17. Adipose 18. 3 years 19. Family 20. Craig Sheffer