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# Tippets, Tapers & Tales

January 4, 2012

## President's Message

*Greetings from the President:*

Happy New Year! I hope all of you had a joyous Holiday Season. May all of you experience a happy and healthy 2012, filled with many opportunities to spend time wetting your lines and recharging your batteries on Michigan's blue ribbon trout streams.

I have many great memories associated with the RCFF from past year 2011: Working with the board on planning club activities, fund raisers, our banquet and picnic, and the presentations for our general meetings. The challenge of selecting a RCFF Scholarship winner from a great group of MSU Fisheries Program graduate students. Experiencing the camaraderie amongst the RCFF members and other volunteers who participated in the early-season stream restoration project on

Held Creek, and the end-of-season river clean-up on the Au Sable. Hosting the 12th Annual FFF-Great Lakes Council Fly Tying Expo. Tying flies and telling lies at our Sunday night tying sessions. Best of all - chasing trout, steelhead, and salmon with other club members on Michigan's scenic rivers!

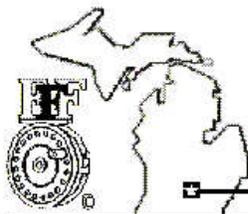
Thanks to all of you who volunteered to help in some capacity with our many activities throughout the past year. Your efforts make this club one of the best in the state. Special thanks to Jim Farhat, owner of Piaz-zano's Restaurant. Jim allows our club to use his banquet room free-of-charge for both our board meetings and our fly tying sessions. Keep that in mind the next time you are trying to think of a good Italian restaurant to go to, and be sure to return the favor. Special thanks to Okemos Public Schools as well. They continue



to allow us to use their facilities for our general meetings free-of-charge, even though today's economic conditions force them to charge almost every other organization. Being able to use both of these great facilities at no cost means that more of the funding that we raise can be put into our conservation, education, and scholarship efforts.

Looking ahead, there are three upcoming events in the first half of 2012 that you will want to put on your shiny new calendars:

*Continued on Page 2.*



## RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS

*Okemos, Michigan*

**1981 McKenzie Cup Winners**

**The Red Cedar Fly Fishers is a Charter Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers.  
It's purpose is to promote fly-fishing through Education, Restoration and Conservation**

## President's Message Continued

The 34th annual "Midwest Fly Fishing Expo" will be held on March 10-11, 2012 at the Macomb County Community College Sports and Expo Center in Warren. Believe it or not, this is the oldest fly fishing show in the entire country (and one of the largest). The Expo features a wide variety of fly fishing equipment manufacturers, dealers, rod builders, river guides, fly tyers, artists, authors, and conservation organizations - all specializing in various aspects of our favorite sport. The Expo also features dozens of free seminars which cover technique, fly tying, equipment, and fly fishing destinations. This is always a great show to get you in the mood for opening day of trout season.

The RCFF "35th Anniversary Banquet" will be held on Thursday May 17, 2012 at the Brookshire Inn in Williamston. As additional details are finalized, they will be announced in future newsletters and during upcoming general meetings. Show your support for our organization by planning on attending this milestone anni-

versary celebration. I encourage you to bring your spouses and friends as well.

The FFF- Great Lakes Council "Fly Fishing School and Conclave" will be held on June 15-17, 2012 at the Ralph MacMullen Conference Center near Roscommon. This event is geared towards fly anglers of all ability levels - aspiring, beginner, intermediate, and advanced. Educational programs, classes, and workshops will be offered during the day, with opportunities to fish the Au Sable and Manistee Rivers in the evenings. There will also be an on-stream school for beginners, on-stream workshops for more advanced anglers, and fly tying workshops. Even if you are an experienced fly fisher, plan on attending in order to sharpen your casting and tying skills.

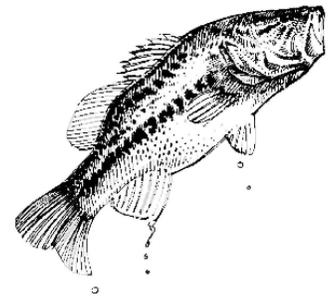
By the way, beginning with our January 10th general meeting, we will now be starting one-half hour earlier than our previous start time. That is, we will be starting the federating at 6:30 p.m. and the formal presentation at 7:00 p.m.

**By: Mark Noel**

Hope to see all of you at Tuesday's meeting.

*Support Your Local Fly Shop!*

Mark



## January's Presentation

January's presentation will be by Erin McDonough, Executive Director of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC). The MUCC is a grassroots, member-driven organization that has been advancing conservation in Michigan for 75 years. Their mission is uniting citizens to conserve, protect, and enhance our natural resources and outdoor heritage.

Erin's presentation will cover the education, communications, and policy initiatives that MUCC works on in order to advance their mission and achieve their goals. She will also cover some of the most pressing conservation issues of the day, including Asian Carp and other invasive species. Erin will also inform us about a new tool that is being developed, which will provide us with answers to the pressing question of "How are my license dollars

being spent?". She will also be available to answer any questions that arise after her presentation.

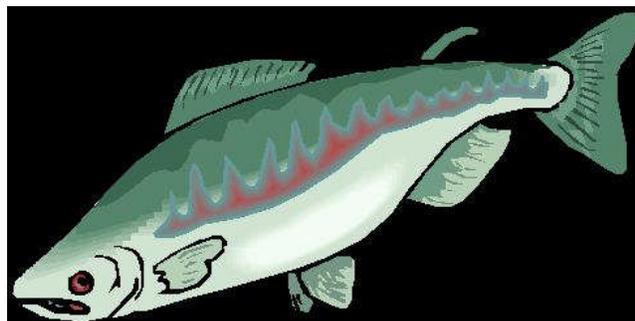


## Banquet and Raffle Information

By: Mark Johnson

As Mark mentioned in his President's Message, the RCFF 35th Anniversary Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, May 17th at the Brookshire Inn in Williamston. We will have tickets ready for purchase at February's meeting but be sure to mark it down now on your calendar. The Board is also working on a special raffle to be drawn the night of the banquet for 3 nice prizes. First prize a \$500.00 gift certificate to Nomad Anglers, second prize, a Broden Net, and third prize, a Wheatley fly box.

Tickets are \$5.00 each and will be sold in advance. We are just waiting on the raffle license from the State of Michigan and then will have tickets printed up and ready to sell. Hopefully by the February meeting.



## Sunday Fly Tying Nights

By: Mark Johnson

Our Sunday Fly Tying nights are scheduled for January 15th and January 29th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Plan on attending one or both of these as they are always a good time. Even if you don't tie, you can come and socialize for a while and maybe see someone tying a new pattern that you can try out on the waters this coming Spring.

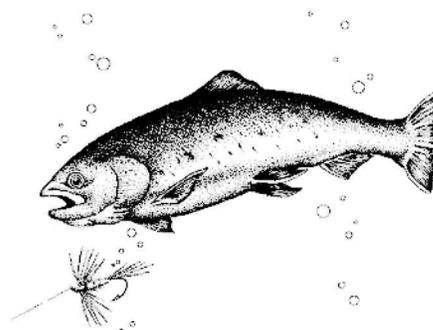
Just a reminder again, that we can always use articles and photos from our members to put in the newsletter. If you have something you can write up and send, even if it is only a paragraph or two, we would be more than happy to print it. Also, if you have some fishing related items you are looking to sell, we can post those in the newsletter as well.

## Quote of the Month

By: Mark Noel

"All the romance of trout fishing exists in the mind of the angler and is in no way shared by the fish"

-Harold Blaisdell, *The Philosophical Fisherman*, 1969



**RED CEDAR  
FLY FISHERS**

P.O. Box 129  
Okemos, MI 48805

[www.redcedarflyfishers.org](http://www.redcedarflyfishers.org)

**The Tips below taken from the FFF ClubWire Archives**

**Casting Tip for TBFFC: 20**

By Pat Damico - Taken from Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

We described different grips while casting, but did not address how tight or loose it should be. The tendency to grip harder as more power is needed seems normal, but is detrimental. A tight grip will become tiresome and will send unnecessary shock waves thru the rod. When you practice, use only your thumb and two fingers to hold the rod as you go thru the casting stroke. You will be surprised how effective and relaxed your casting will become.

**Casting Tip #21**

By Pat Damico - Taken from Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

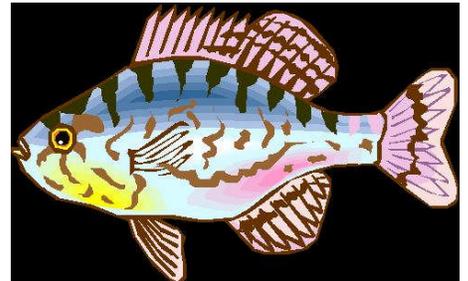
How many fish have you caught while false casting, moving the rod back and forth before delivering the fly to a target?

The more time a fly is in the water, where the fish are, certainly increases your opportunity for success. Have you ever noticed the best fly fishers/casters false cast very little? When fishing in situations where long casts are needed and a lot of water is covered, like drifting the flats, working a shoreline, sight casting to spooky fish, casting again when a fish is missed or the cast is off target do not strip line in almost to the leader. If most forward tapered lines have at least a 30 foot head, including a 10 foot leader means that the caster must carry sufficient line to load the rod properly. Retrieving less line before the next cast and starting the back cast without slack will allow you to shoot sufficient line to eliminate false casting and improve your catching success.

**Casting Tip #25**

By Pat Damico - Taken from Tampa Bay Fly Fishing Club Newsletter

Should I cast vertically or move my rod to a more horizontal position? At a recent casting clinic I asked if anyone experienced pain or discomfort while casting? The participant closest to me stepped forward and I had him stand and hold his rod where he usually begins a forward cast, which was almost vertical. Holding the rod from behind I asked him to start his cast. Against my resistance he experienced some pain. As he moved the rod more horizontally, I repeated the resistance and the pain dissipated. Clearly his best casting position was away from vertical. If experiencing pain while casting avoid the same casting position. When casting with a friend, try this simple exercise.



**Refrigerator Reminders**

**January**

10th: RCFF Monthly Meeting,  
6:30pm Social, 7:00pm Business. Large Group Room,  
Chippewa Middle School

15th: Sunday Tying Night,  
Piazanos Banquet Room in the  
basement. 6:30pm-8:30pm

29th: Sunday Tying Night,  
Piazannos Banquet Room in the  
basement. 6:30pm-8:30pm

**February**

14th: RCFF Monthly Meeting,  
6:30pm, Social, 7:00pm, Business. Large Group Room,  
Chippewa Middle School

Sunday Tying Nights to be announced in February's newsletter

