

RCFF Board

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# Tippets, Tapers & Tales

April 3, 2012

## President's Message

### Greetings from the President:

April is finally here! "The Opener!" (and I'm not talkin' Tiger baseball). This has got to be the most exciting month of the year for the majority of Michigan's troutbums, with the possible exception of June and its hex hatch. Time to wake up your dry flies from their long winter hibernation and get them ready to do their jobs once again. Hopefully, some of you were able to take advantage of the recent 85 degree weather and get out on the streams early to warm-up for the official opening day of trout season (Saturday April 28th).

Terry Greiner, John Ross, Mark "Dr. J" Johnston, and I booked a Steelhead trip a few months ago with a couple of Pere Marquette River guides. We figured that the last weekend in March would be a great weekend to

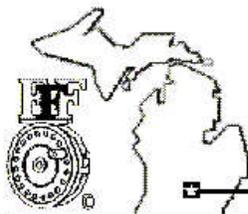
go, since March is known for "coming in like a lion and going out like a lamb." Wouldn't you know it, March came in like a lion this year. We missed the balmy 85 degree weather and ended up fishing in snowy and sleety 29 degree weather. That's Michigan! But to me, it just wouldn't be Steelhead fishing if I wasn't wearing my polypropylene long johns and a heavy polar fleece layer under my waders. Congratulations to Dr. J on catching his very first Steelhead - a nice bright chrome hen (see photos on page 4).

Since we are now entering the prime months of the 2012 fishing season, our Sunday night fly tying sessions at Piazzano's will be coming to an end until October. Our final session will be held on Sunday April 15th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. As a way of making this session something special, I will be providing free



pizza to all attendees. The IRS has also decided to help us out this year by extending their tax filing deadline to April 17th. That way, if any of you are last-minute filers, you can still attend our grand finale session without having to worry about rushing home to complete your tax returns. That was mighty nice of them.

**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

Preparation for our upcoming 35th Anniversary Banquet continues to go very well. The Board has now collected a wide-variety of donated items for the fundraising auctions and raffles from many different vendors. Special thanks to Bear Andrews and to Dick Augustine for their extremely generous donations. Bear has once again donated one of his full-day guided float trips (retail value \$400) and Dick has donated a beautiful "Nets that Honor the Fish" trout net that was custom-crafted by Sam Lacina of Grand Rapids (retail value \$225). If the Brodin is considered the Cadillac of trout nets, this one is the Rolls-Royce. Thanks again guys - your generosity is only exceeded by your good looks!

Election time for next season's RCFF officers is fast approaching. Since the new officers will officially begin their terms on July 1st, our nominating committee is already at work on searching for potential candidates for the soon-to-be-vacant positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and President-Elect. Cur-

rent President-Elect Jim Buscetta will become our next President and I will remain on the Board in the position of Past-President. If any of you are interested in serving in any of the open positions, please contact Neil Gross or Terry Greiner. Elections will be performed by the general membership during our May meeting.

Serving on the Board is a great way to give back to the sport of fly fishing, and to help promote the goals and objectives of the RCFF and the FFF. In addition to my current position of President, I have previously served in the positions of Secretary and President-Elect. I have found each position to be rewarding in its own way, and I have enjoyed working alongside my fellow Board members each year. Don't feel that you have to be a highly-seasoned member of our club to serve on the board. A willingness to serve for a full season and to take part in the planning and carrying out of our various activities is all that is required. And if any of you former Board mem-

## By: Mark Noel

bers are open to serving again, our club would certainly benefit from your past experience and expertise. I strongly encourage each and every RCFF member to give serious consideration to taking a turn at serving on the Board. A sincere *Thank You* in advance to any of you who decide to step up and help out.

By the way, your 2011 Michigan Fishing License just expired on March 31st. So be sure to get your new 2012 license before hitting your next stream. Twenty-eight bucks for the "All Species" version - same price as last year. Nice to see that inflation hasn't quite affected the price of everything.

*Support Your Local Fly Shop!*

*Mark*



## April's Presentation

Our April Presentation will be a fly tying demonstration by RCFF member and Nomad Anglers fly shop owner Brian Bielecki. Brian will be providing step-by-step instructions for tying various early-season dry fly patterns for many of Michigan's rivers, particularly the Au Sable and Manistee.

Having Brian demonstrate the tying of early-season patterns at our April meeting is starting to become a tradition of the

RCFF. He has put on some very informative sessions for us over the past few years. Not only will Brian be demonstrating the tying of flies for the early hatches, he will also be willing to answer any questions that you may have regarding different tying techniques or the tying of other types of patterns.

After watching Brian's presentation, you will be able to put what you learned into action by

## By: Mark Noel

trying to duplicate some of his patterns at our upcoming final fly tying session. Fill those empty slots in your fly boxes and get ready for the 2012 season!

## May Work Outing

Plans are underway for our May work outing again this year. John Ross has been coordinating this with the US Forest Service and this years event is planned for Saturday, May 12th with a backup rain date of May 19th. This years project will entail maintenance work on the South Branch of the White River. Plans are to meet at 8 am at the restaurant in Brohman, have breakfast and head out to the work project. John will have more information on this event and a signup sheet at this month's

meeting and May's also. Some people go up on Friday to camp and fish the night before and others just drive up for the day. With the sign up list we can coordinate carpooling for anyone that would like to ride with someone. We may have a cookout after the work outing again this year. We can discuss that at this months meeting. Plan on bringing your waders, maybe an older pair, gloves, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses and of course your fishing gear if you plan on staying in the area in the afternoon

after the work outing to do a little fishing..



## Annual Banquet and Fundraiser

By: Mark Johnson

As Mark mentioned in his President's Message, plans are underway for our Annual Banquet and Fundraiser. Already we have received some nice raffle and auction items. If you have not purchased your banquet tickets yet, please do so as soon as possible. We need to have a firm number of attendees for the restaurant a week before the event. Tickets are \$30.00 each and available at Club Meetings, from Nomad Anglers, and from me, Mark

Johnson. Dinner choices are Prime Rib, Whitefish, and Teriyaki Chicken. Also remember we have our Raffle project ongoing for a \$500.00 Gift Certificate to Nomad Anglers, a Brodin Net, and a Wheatly Fly Box with flies. We are asking members to each bring a few flies to this months meeting to help "Stuff" the fly box with flies. Tickets are available for \$5.00 each from any board member and many other club members as well that are sell-

ing them. The drawing will be held the night of our banquet.

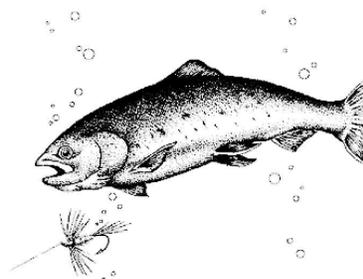


## Quote of the Month

By: Mark Noel

"Ninety percent of what a trout eats is brown and fuzzy and about five-eighths of an inch long."

-Allison Moir



**RED CEDAR FLY  
FISHERS**

P.O. Box 129  
Okemos, MI 48805

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



The Prez



"I'm ready for my closeup."



Terry Greiner and John Ross "Searching for Steel"



Dr. J's first Steelie

## Refrigerator Reminders

### April

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

15th: Sunday Tying Night at Piazzano's in the basement banquet room. 6:30pm to 8:30pm Free Pizza provided by Mark Noel

### May

8th: RCFF Monthly Meeting. 6:30pm, Social, 7:00pm Business. Large Group Room, Chippewa Middle School

12th: RCFF Spring Work Project. Details inside this newsletter and at April's Meeting

17th: RCFF Annual Banquet and Fundraiser, Brookshire Inn and Golf Club. 6:00pm Cocktails, 7:00pm Dinner. Details inside this newsletter

