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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

May 4, 2012

President's Message

Greetings from the President:

This month we celebrate a very special event for the RCFF - our 35th anniversary! Not only have we been around for over three decades, but we have maintained a reputation as one of the best fly fishing clubs in Michigan over that entire length of time. We have raised tens of thousands of dollars over the years in support of our conservation, restoration, and education efforts. Our members have volunteered countless hours participating in stream conservation and restoration projects, conducting fly fishing and fly tying instructional sessions, assisting with the drafting of Michigan fishing legislation, and promoting ethical angling practices to the general public. Many of our members have gone on to hold key positions within the leadership of the FFF-Great Lakes Council and the Anglers of the Au Sable organi-

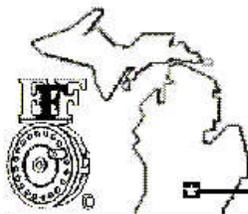
zations as well.

Our fundraising efforts have allowed us to provide a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduate-level student in the Fisheries and Wildlife Program at Michigan State University on an annual basis for many years. I'm happy to report that the Board has recently selected Abigail Lynch as the recipient of this year's scholarship. Abigail is a doctoral student specializing in fisheries ecology and management. She has a truly outstanding resume, and her research, publications, and presentations have already won numerous national awards and honors. If that is not impressive enough - she is also a passionate fly fisher and coordinator of the MSU Fly Gals program! Abigail is looking forward to meeting all of us and doing a presentation on her studies at one of our upcoming general meetings.

The Board has been busy finalizing details for our upcoming 35th Anniversary Banquet, which will be held on Thursday May 17th at the Brookshire Inn. We have collected a nice assortment of donated items from various vendors for use in our fundraising raffles and auctions. Special thanks to all RCFF members who have also donated something for use in our fundraising efforts. I encourage all club members to donate an item, so that we can add to the total number of our raffle and auction items. An extra fly box, a rod or reel that is no longer being used, an item that you previously won and have no use for - all would make nice donations.



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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

As a means of expressing thanks, all attendees who donate a raffle or auction item will be entered into a special drawing for a nice prize. Since our banquet is by far our largest fundraiser of the year, I strongly encourage all RCFF members to attend this very special anniversary celebration. Bring along a spouse or friend as well!

Ticket sales continue to be very strong for our main fundraising raffle (\$500 gift certificate from Nomad Anglers, Brodin trout net, and Wheatley fly box). Jim Buscetta is by far the champ when it comes to the number of tickets sold - no other Board member even comes close. Great job on the ticket sales Jim! (Boy, is he going to be mad at me when he realizes that I was just kidding when I told him that Terry Greiner was going to donate a "Greiner's Special" fly to the Board member who sells the most tickets. He must really want one of Terry's magical flies quite desperately!).



Our nominating committee has been busy contacting club members and finding out who may be interested in serving on the Board for the next year. I would like to encourage all of you to give it serious consideration. We are looking for volunteers to fill the soon-to-be-vacant positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and President-Elect. If any of you are interested in volunteering to serve in any of these positions, please contact either Neil Gross or Terry Greiner as soon as possible. Elections will be performed by the general membership at our upcoming May meeting. Our past volunteers have helped to build the great reputation that our club presently enjoys. Let's ensure that the tradition continues!

There are a few other upcoming events to keep in mind: We are planning on holding our spring work outing on Saturday May 12th, on the

By: Mark Noel

South Branch of the White River. RCFF volunteers will once again be partnering with our good friends from the U.S. Forest Service. Additional details are provided in this newsletter. Also, the FFF-Great Lakes Council "Fly Fishing School and Fair" will be held on June 15th-17th at the Ralph MacMullen Conference Center near Roscommon. This is always a great fly fishing extravaganza, and fun for all who attend. See the Great Lakes Council website for additional details (www.fffglc.org).

With Michigan's trout season now officially underway, as well as the early "catch-and-immediate-release" bass season, hopefully many of you have been getting out and wetting your lines. I look forward to hearing the fishing reports at our upcoming general meeting.

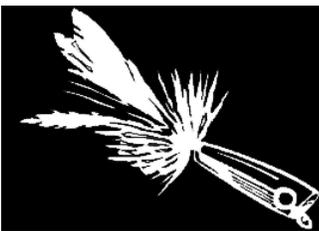
Support Your Local Fly Shop!

Mark

May's Presentation

The presentation for this month is titled "*The Basics of Stream Ecology: The First Step in Becoming a Better Angler.*" It will be presented by Frank Dillon, who joined our club just a few short months ago.

Frank's presentation will provide a basic introduction to the ecology of freshwater streams. It will cover basic stream hydrology, energy cycling, and stream invertebrate ecology, with emphasis on important stream insects.



The main goal of the presentation is to enhance catch rate success by providing anglers with a better understanding of the structure and function of a stream ecosystem and a better ability to read water conditions.

Frank has a Master of Science degree in Biology, and he has been working in the field of aquatic biology and aquatic toxicology for 28 years. He began his career as a research scientist studying aspects of

By: Mark Noel

the ecology of large rivers. Frank is currently Principal Technologist in the Environmental Services Business Group of CH2M-Hill, and he currently researches the effects of chemicals on the ecology of aquatic environments.

Since trout season is just getting underway, there couldn't be a better time for this highly-informative presentation!

Annual Banquet and Fundraiser

By: Mark Johnson

As Mark mentioned in his presidents message our Annual Banquet and Fundraiser is fast approaching. If you have not gotten your tickets yet, please come to the May meeting and buy them or call me, 517-351-7594 to arrange picking them up or perhaps I can deliver them to you. We have to give the Brookshire Inn a weeks notice for the number of diners so cut off for ticket sales will be May 10th. It is also customary that members bring a small item for the general raffle that night. Anyone bring-

ing an item in at the door will be entered into a special raffle drawing that night. Also be sure to bring any of the sold ticket stubs and money for the Red Cedar Special raffle for the Gift Certificate, net and fly box you may have outstanding yet. You can also bring these to the meeting on May 8th. Also bring back any unsold tickets you may still have in your possession. We have a nice assortment of raffle and auction items for this years banquet and it should be a fun evening as usual.



Spring Work Project

By: Mark Johnson

Our annual spring work outing is planned for Saturday, May 12th. We will be doing some maintenance work on the South Branch of the White River. The plan is to meet at Sally's Restaurant in White Cloud at 8:00am on the 12th. We will have breakfast and head out for the work outing at 9:00am. There will be a signup sheet at the May meeting for anyone interested in going on this work project. Please sign up on this or let John Ross

know your intention on participating. We need to know who is coming so we can let others know and people can carpool if needed. Also we need to be able to contact you if the outing is cancelled at the last minute because of weather. After the work is done we will have a cookout in the park at White Cloud. Burgers, hotdogs, chips, pop will be provided by the club, so again sign up on the list so we know how much food to bring. For these work

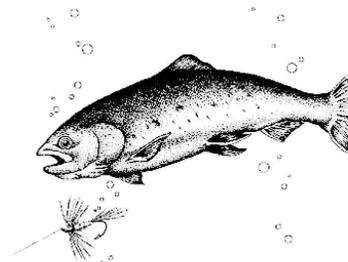
outings it is a good idea to bring an old pair of waders, gloves, sunscreen, bug spray, hat, sunglasses, etc. The Forest Service will provide all other tools etc.

Quote of the Month

By: Mark Noel

"If I'm not going to catch anything, then I'd rather not catch anything on flies."

-- Bob Lawless



RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS

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www.redcedarflyfishers.org

Refrigerator Reminders

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 May's Meeting

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

June

12th: RCFF Monthly Meeting. 6:30pm, Social, 7:00pm Business. Large Group Room, Chippewa Middle School

15th-17th: Great Lakes Council Fly Fishing School, Roscommon. See the GLC website at www.ffglc.org for more information and reservation forms

