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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

September 8, 2015

President's Message

Greetings and welcome back to our new year of meetings and fly fishing related adventures. I hope you have all had a great summer of fishing and fun. It has been a busy summer for me with less fishing than I had planned but many new adventures and family activities. The highlight of my summer was being able to spend 2 weekends at Wa Wa Sum. As most of you know, the Lansing TU chapter has an outing every summer at the end of June and while there, we found out that there was a cancellation for weekend of July 31 through August 2. After a number of phone calls, we were able to book that weekend for the Red Cedar Fly Fishers. Seven of us headed to Grayling for that weekend and enjoyed good weather, good

company and good beverages. The fishing was slow but a good time was still had by all. As part of our rental agreement, we had Josh Greenberg of Gates Lodge and Joe Hemming, the vice president of the Anglers of the Au Sable talk with us about the Grayling "fish farm" that is now operating at the old hatchery site. For more information, please see Bob Ceru's summary later in this newsletter. We are hoping that the Wa Wa Sum Weekend will become an annual outing for our club.



I am looking forward to serving as your president this coming year and I believe that it will be an active and interesting year. By the time you read this the board will have met twice to continue planning for upcoming programs and annual events. We have several programs lined up and hopefully will have all the programs for the year booked. If you have any questions about future plans, please email me at presrcff@yahoo.com

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RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS
Oshtemo, Michigan

www.redcedarflyfishers.org

The logo for the Red Cedar Fly Fishers club. It features a green outline of the state of Michigan with a red star in the lower peninsula. To the left is the IFF logo, which consists of the letters 'IFF' in a stylized font above a circular emblem containing a globe. Below the Michigan map, the text 'RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS' is written in large, bold, red capital letters. Underneath that, 'Oshtemo, Michigan' is written in a smaller, red, italicized font. At the bottom of the logo block, the website address 'www.redcedarflyfishers.org' is displayed in a green, sans-serif font.

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

President's Message Continued.

Our first meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 in room 223 of the Natural Resources Building on the Michigan State University campus. Federating will start at 6:30 and our meeting will start at 7:00 with a short business meeting. This year I would encourage members who have fishing stories or tales to write short articles for the newsletter and submit them to Mark Johnson, our newslet-

ter editor extraordinaire. Our first program will be presented by member Don Sawyer who will be sharing his experiences about small-mouth fishing. I am very much looking forward to what he has prepared. Don't forget the Au Sable river cleanup on Saturday, September 12. Bob Kren is again coordinating things for us and Dick Augustine has procured Wa Wa Sum for us for that weekend. If you

are interested in staying a night or two at this rustic lodge, let Dick know. Support your local fly shop, keep your stick on the ice and get involved this year.

Upcoming GLC Events

By: Mark Johnson

There are 2 GLC events coming up this fall I want to make everyone aware of. First on October, 23, 24, 25 is the Great Lakes Council Fall outing at Wa Wa Sum in Grayling Michigan. Lodging and food are provided for this weekend and more details including cost can be found on the GLC website at www.ffglc.org

the 16th Annual Invitational Fly Tying Expo at the Causeway Bay Hotel in Lansing, Michigan on November 7, 2015 from 9am to 4pm. Again more information on this event can be found on the GLC website.

The next event 2 weeks later is

Time to Pay Membership Dues Again

By: Mark Johnson

It's that time again, the beginning of a new year when we need to pay our membership dues to the club again. The Red Cedar Fly Fishers is a 100% club, meaning everyone that is considered a member has paid their national FFF dues as well as the local club dues.

If you cannot attend the September or October meetings and would like to continue to be a member of the Red Cedar Fly Fishers, please send your \$10.00 dues payment in a check made out to Red Cedar Fly Fishers to P.O. Box 129, Okemos, MI 48805.



Thanks from Fishin' Michigan

By: Bob Bawden

I recently received a letter from John Hesse, the Youth Education Chairperson of Fishin' Michigan, formerly the Mid-Michigan Steelheaders. John wanted to thank the Red Cedar Fly Fishers for their generous contributions to the Bill Earl Youth Fishing Program. In John's words the Youth Fishing Program is "an investment in our youth and in the stewardship of our natural resources that has a huge lasting return." I am proud that the Red Cedars have supported this program as long as

I have been on the board. A total of 181 young people participated in the 2015 program. This was a record number of kids since the program started in 2011. Each child received their own tackle, including a rod and reel, tackle box with basic tackle and a bag of goodies that included extra lures, bobbers (strike indicators to us fly fishers) and educational material. One parent wrote this comment: "This was a fantastic

event that empowered my son how to fish and spend more time outdoors! The event was extremely well organized and well received! I am telling everyone I know what a valuable program this is!" John ended his letter with this handwritten note: "The Fly Fishers have been great partners! Thanks for your continued support."

Wa Wa Sum

By: Bob Bawden

I first heard about Wa Wa Sum about 5 years ago when Dick Augustine was recruiting members of the Red Cedar Fly Fishers to join the local chapter of TU in a late June weekend work and fishing outing. I knew nothing about the lodge so did a little research on it and found out it was owned by MSU and rented out for meetings and educational gatherings. It was built by the wealthy Stranahan and Bell families and was donated to MSU. It is a wonderfully rustic log lodge high on a bluff overlooking a stretch of the Holy Waters of the Au Sable River with a stairway to the river. Although rustic, it has electricity and running water and a small kitchen attached to a large dining room. My favorite room was the long screened in porch with its dozen or so rocking chairs that have a great view of the river. It is located within easy driving of many access point on the main stream as well as the North Branch and South Branch. I got my first chance to stay at Wa Wa Sum last summer with the TU group and a few Red Cedars. I didn't know what to expect but was looking forward

to the weekend. It turned out that everything was better than I expected. The project involved building shelters on the upper Au Sable and the weather was good for working on the shelters. The food at the lodge was good (organized by Dick Augustine) and the company and beverages were even better. I made plans to attend this summer's TU outing and even though the work project was cancelled, it was again a great time. I got a chance to fish Wakeley Lake and Bright Lake from a float tube for the first time. I'd like to say I took to float tubing right away but it took a while to figure out how to move efficiently using fins. Actually, I don't believe I ever was very efficient, especially where turning was involved. While at the TU outing, we learned that there was a cancellation for the first weekend in August and after phone calls, emails and discussion, I booked that weekend for the Red Cedar Fly Fishers, hoping that it might become a permanent spot for us. MSU couldn't guarantee that we would be able to rent it again, but our foot is in the door. Seven Red

Cedars made it for the weekend and all had a good time. We again have a chance to gather at Wa Wa Sum for a weekend on the 11th and 12th of September while working on the Anglers of the Au Sable annual river clean up. If you are planning on working on the clean up, think about staying one or two nights with us at the lodge. Let Dick Augustine know if you would like to stay. Again, I had a great time at Wa Wa Sum and am looking forward to spending time there as often as I can. I hope that all the Red Cedars take advantage of an outing there. I believe you too will enjoy it.

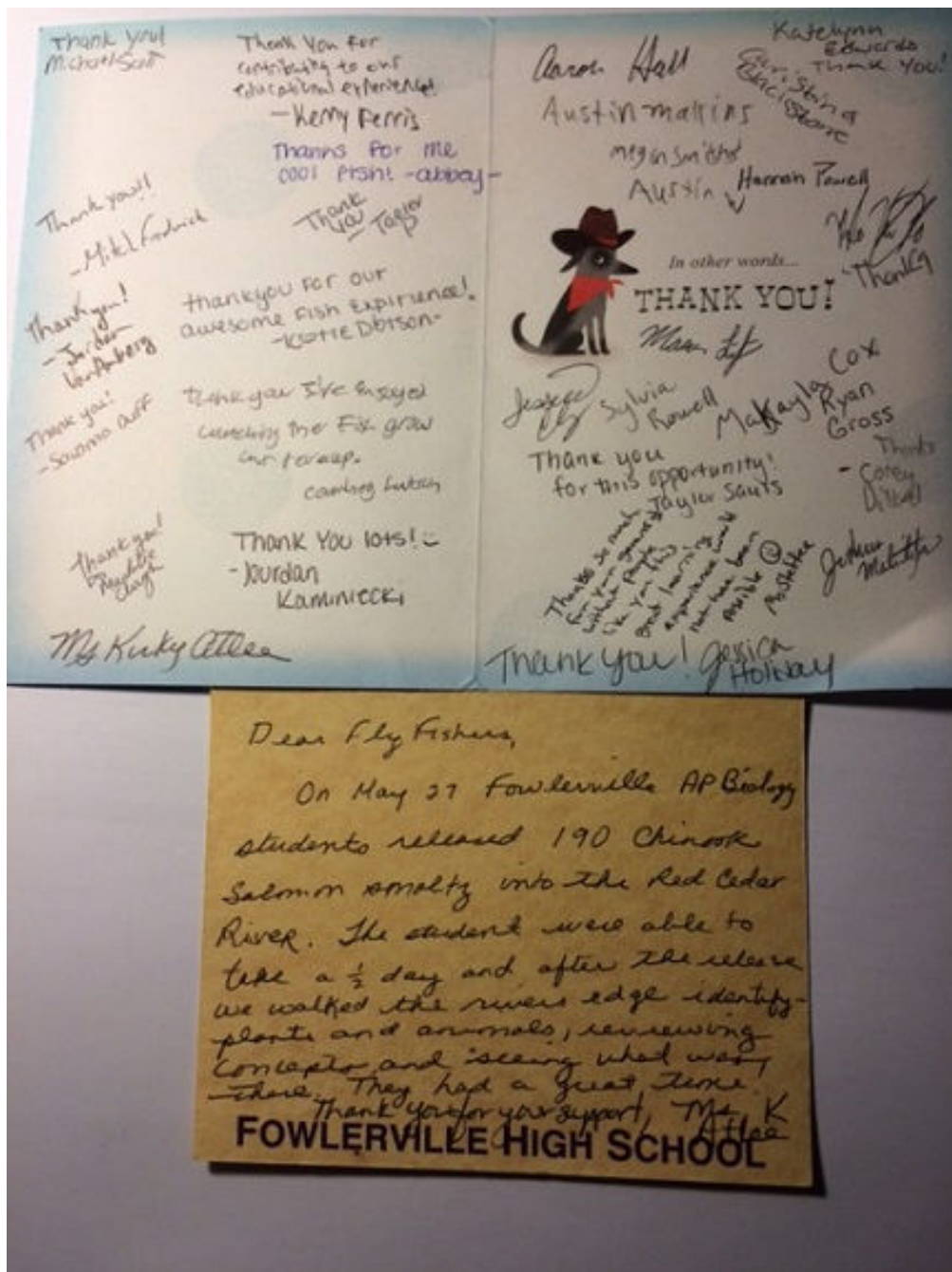


Salmon in the Classroom Follow Up By: Mark Johnson

After our last meeting in June we received in the mail a thank you card signed by all the students in Fowlerville High School Science class that we purchased equipment for their Salmon in the Classroom program as well as a nice thank

you note from the teacher Kirky Atlee. It says on May 27 they released 190 Chinook Salmon into the Red Cedar River. A photo of the 2 notes are below. Just thought I would pass this along as they were very appreciative of our

donation towards this project.



Notes from Joe Hemming

By: Bob Ceru

.Notes from Joe Hemming's Presentation to the RCFF at WaWa Sum on August 2, 2105 Regarding the Grayling Fish Hatchery Permit.

Dan Vogler of Harrietta Hills Trout Farm, plans to increase production of the Grayling Fish Hatchery, from 20,000 pounds of fish biomass a year to 300,000.

This is a State of Michigan Aquaculture Project and a flow through system

Commercial Fish Farm and not really a hatchery

Applied for and granted a permit via the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Objections from the Sierra Club and the Anglers of the Au Sable

Concerns include; type of fish food, fish feces, disease, self-monitoring by owner, flow of fecal matter directly into the river with no filtering or treatment, no monitoring for disease, buildup of excrement on the substrate of the river and no bonding for accidental releases or possible cleanups.

None of the provisions in the Platte River Hatchery discharge permit were included in the Harrietta Hills Trout Farm Permit

Developing Aquaculture in the State of Michigan is the main force behind the project and lack of controls

This project has to succeed and the MDA is really pushing this project

Fly fishing brings in more money into the area than this project

All of the normal safeguards in the State Plan for Aquaculture have been ignored for this project

The Anglers of the Au Sable are paying for the monitoring of algae, insects and dissolved oxygen

The Anglers of the Au Sable will bring this issue into court if necessary to protect the river

Although not part of Joe's presentation, the following web based information may be helpful:

<http://www.freep.com/story/sports/outdoors/2015/07/11/grayling-hatchery-au-sable-michigan-fishing/30015687/>

http://www.masongriffithtu.org/Hatchery_Article.html

<http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com/articles/2015/04/29/news/doc5540d592ae139182490291.txt>

[http://www.ausableanglers.org/files/NPDES_ANGERS_MEMORANDUM_FINAL%20\(3\)%205-12-14.pdf](http://www.ausableanglers.org/files/NPDES_ANGERS_MEMORANDUM_FINAL%20(3)%205-12-14.pdf)

<http://www.circleofblue.org/waternews/2014/world/michigan-aquaculture-infant-industry-attracts-powerful-opposition/>

<http://michiganradio.org/post/proposed-trout-farm-near-holy-waters-au-sable-river-would-be-michigan-s-biggest#stream/0>

<http://www.elkharttruth.com/news/michigan/2014/08/11/Group-challenges-Grayling-fish-hatchery-expansion.html>

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Website Reviews

By: Terry Greiner

www.badfish.tv - A new site I found off of one of my fly fishing blogs. This one is basically all videos from around the world and all types of fishing...fly, spin, and bait casting. When one clicks on the "Browse" link at the top of the page, it opens to types of fish in freshwater and saltwater. Trailers are also among the choices.

Be sure to check out the blog link as well with everything from recipes to art to planning trips and much more. And, if you register on the site you can submit your own video.

www.wetflyswing.com - As the title indicates it's: Connecting fly fisherman to tips, tools and resources for steelhead. There's a ton of info on the site and especially under the "About" link at the top of the page from fly tying to different techniques in swinging the fly with either a switch or spey rod. This is strictly a blog with the emphasis on steelhead but I can usually pick up something from all of my sites to help me improve my fly fishing outings.

Refrigerator Reminders

September

8th: RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. Room 223, Natural Resources Building at MSU

12th: Au Sable River Clean-up. See www.ausableanglers.org for more information

October

13th: RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. Room 223, Natural Resources Building at MSU

23rd-25th: GLC Fall Outing
See the GLC website at www.ffglc.org for more information