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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

December 1, 2015

President's Message

Another rifle deer season is in the books with the same results as the last few years for me (please don't ask). It's now time to start working on my fly tying, trying to improve on almost all of my techniques and turning out some useful flies for the coming season. A great place to practice and learn new skills and patterns as well as get some helpful hints from more experienced tiers will be at our Sunday tying nights starting in January. Please see the refrigerator reminders for the first few dates.

Our December 8th meeting will again be held at the Blue Gill Grill in Haslett. Social time will start at 6:00 p.m. This will be time for you to purchase drinks and food before a presentation

of some new gear by Brian Bielecki, owner of Nomad Anglers. New this month will be a 50/50 raffle instead of our usual raffle of fishing gear. Tickets will be the same price as the regular monthly raffle but only one winner will be drawn. The winner will get half of the total ticket sales. Hopefully, everyone will be generous with ticket purchases. The tickets will be \$1.00 per ticket, 6 tickets for \$5.00 and 13 tickets for \$10.00. Please remember, all significant others, family members and friends are welcome to attend and hopefully we will all bring at least one other guest.

Speaking of Brian, his store



will be switching locations, from Okemos to East Lansing. The new shop will open sometime after the holidays. It is located at: 2850 Grand River Ave., East Lansing, next to Coral Gables. In the meantime, there are some good sales going on at the Okemos location.

Continued on Page 2.

The logo for Red Cedar Fly Fishers. On the left is a detailed illustration of a fishing reel. To its right is a green silhouette of the state of Michigan with a small white star on the lower peninsula. Further right, the text "RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS" is written in a large, bold, red serif font. Below this, "Okemos, Michigan" is written in a smaller, red, italicized serif font. At the bottom of the logo area, the website address "www.redcedarflyfishers.org" is displayed in a green, lowercase, 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

I'd like to thank all the members of the Red Cedars who helped out at the GLC Fly Tying Expo. A few members helped with set up Friday evening and others manned the Red Cedar Fly Fishers table on Saturday. We talked to quite a few people who seemed interested in our organization. Hopefully we will get some new members from these contacts.

Our board voted to once again donate 100 flies to the GLC to be put in boxes and presented to new members. If just 8 or 10 of you would tie a dozen of your favorite fly, we will reach our goal. Hopefully we can get 100 flies by the end of February. Please consider joining us at Sun-

day fly tying nights to tie for this good cause. You can also tie on your own and give them to a board member at one of our meetings.

Thanks again to Phil Steven for reminding us of the importance of sun protection while we pursue our favorite sport. I know that many of the guys I fish with are finally thinking of covering up when outside and hope it isn't too late. As someone said at the meeting, when we were younger, we just didn't think much about it.

On a final note, I would like to encourage you to support our club through contributions to our newsletter. I know many of you are very good with words and have had experiences

that we would enjoy reading about. I would also like to solicit photos you have taken of your own outings or club outings that we can use as we update our Facebook and web pages and begin to create some type of media presentation to promote our club. Photos can be sent to me at presrcff@yahoo.com and newsletter submissions can be sent to Mark at data-plex@acd.net.

I hope you all had a great and relaxing Thanksgiving and are gearing up for a truly peaceful, happy holiday season.

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



Sunday Tying Nights

As Bob mentioned in his President's Message, we will be starting our Sunday Tying nights in January. The first 2 are already scheduled, January 3rd., and January 17th. Both from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the basement banquet room at Piazzano's Restaurant at 1825 N. Grand River Ave. in Lansing. These are always a fun time and you can come to tie or just watch others tie. If you are a beginner, this is a great place to

come and see what it is all about and try your hand at tying a fly. There is always members there that can show you how. We will also be collecting some flies there over the winter that guys tie so that we can donate 100 flies to the GLC to fill there fly boxes they give out to new members. The club will get a GLC Print in return that we can use at our May Banquet to auction off.

By: Mark Johnson



For Sale

Two like new guns for sale. A CZ Ringneck 20 gauge Side-by-side with interchangeable chokes. Asking \$800. and a Stoeger Arms Condor Trap Gun 12 gauge with adjustable cheek stock, ported bar-

rels with interchangeable chokes. Asking \$500. Both are like new with less than 200 rounds fired through them. Call or E-mail Jim Buscetta at 517-899-5608 or r.buscetta@comcast.net

By: Mark Johnson

Ask Mister FlyFisherPerson Guy By: Bob Kren

By Bob Kren, RCFF member, and flyfisherperson guy

“Reading the Water” is a skill every flyfisherperson should have, since water is essential to our sport. I’m hopeful the following will prove useful: we shall assume that you are pursuing trout, in a stream.

First, make sure that you’re not fishing in streams that have significant populations of the *michiganensis alligatoris*, the infamous Michigan crocodile. Any of these beasties longer than two inches can be deadly, and since they move quickly and in packs, it’s best to wear Kevlar waders, or at least a Kevlar athletic supporter, even in your sleep. They’re everywhere, like candidates for public office.

Now, may I ask why you are reading about reading the water? If you want to fish, go fishing, and don’t worry about whether there are any fish where you’re fishing. We’re in it for the sport, not the catching! At least that’s what I tell my wife.

Should you look for cars in parking lots, pullouts, and at the end of muddy two-tracks, the idea being, the more the cars, the better the spot? Wrong! The more cars, the more people, the greater the pressure to perform, and it’s all the more likely you’ll make a mistake and wind up on YoobTube like I have. Best to avoid crowds, which only “pressure” the quarry. And pressure you. Walk a ways, trespass just a bit, get chased by a big dog, and you’ll find yourself where nobody else wants to fish. That’s a place where there could possibly be trout, maybe.

You can be sure that there are no trout in muddy water, and if there are, then they aren’t trout.

Trout in streams live in the stream’s current. As you can tell from diagram A, below, there are various current types possible and, if there aren’t any, then you’re in what’s called a “lake.” The fastest current, from A to L, is productive sometimes, like when the water temperature’s in the

middle, between freezing and simmering. The “substrate” (stuff on the bottom), can be all rocks, or some rocks, big or small, slick or sticky, or sand or the dreaded “muck.” All can be productive, with the right presentation and the right fly. That’s another story.

Streams can be “rich” or “poor,” depending not so much on the ‘hood but on their mineral content. Streams of Perrier are rich, full of vitamins and ground diamonds; streams coming directly off the tops of glaciers are poor, with nothing but neither nutrients nor bugs. You’ll be fishing in waters somewhere between these two extrema (you can tell that three years of high school Latin wasn’t wasted on moi), so you decide on what the nature of the stream is: after all, I won’t be there to help you.

Which naturally brings us to the subject of the big T, temperature. First, if you have a fever, (continued on page 19)

Stepping into Oldmandom

I just finished reading an article in The Riverwatch, the quarterly newsletter Of The Anglers of the Au Sable by Humbird Humbird, a member. In the article he mentions that he is stepping past the Geezer Threshold while still remaining partly in his youth. I was reminded of my passage over the Geezer Threshold into what I call Oldmandom when Phil Stevens reminded us about sun protection.

I realized I had taken the first step toward Oldmandom about six years ago as I was getting ready to head for my annual hockey guys smallmouth outing. I had decided to buy a new hat for fishing and wanted to get a wide brimmed hat so I wouldn't have to smear spf 50 all over my neck, ears and face as I was starting to think about sun protection.

I went to the local Dick's to check out the hats and found myself in the fishing apparel department looking at a variety of hats. Most were the popular baseball cap style but I did find a few with wide brims. I picked one out, tried it on and decided I didn't look too good in it. So I tried on another and again wasn't pleased with the way I looked. I grabbed one more, put it on and stepped to the mirror to check it out. After a few seconds of gazing at my reflection, I decided that I didn't look so good but what the heck. I really didn't care so much how it looked on me, this one had the widest brim and would therefore be the best choice. It also wasn't all that expensive.

As I headed to check out with my carefully

chosen topper, it dawned on me that I made this purchase based more on function and price instead of style and chicness. It hit me then that I was entering a new phase in my life, Oldmandom. I have noticed that most of the boys attending the smallmouth outing these days (including me) are wearing the long billed hats that have a long flap attached that covers the neck and ears, much like the French Foreign Legion hats. I guess they have all reached Oldmandom with me.

Please don't get me wrong, I am not unhappy about this. There are many rewards for entering this phase, grandfathering, retiring, reduced price food, cheaper movie tickets as well as others I have yet to discover.

By: Bob Bawden

Website Reviews

www.thefeatherbender.com

- This site hails from the country of Norway and as the title suggests it pertains to fly tying as have some of the previous ones in the newsletter. As listed in the [about](#) section "Born in England, Barry Ord Clarke is an internationally acclaimed and much published hotographer and writer. His work as a fly fishing photographer has taken him to over 40 countries and 4 continents." There's not a ton of information on each page but the key here is to scroll down to the bottom and click on the archives tab

to choose a previous month and see what comes up. The step-by-steps are shown in a very close up format and have some unique flies that may be more display oriented vs fishing them. Either way you can pick up some ideas and techniques to help improve ones tying.

www.thelimpcobra.com -

This site comes from France and is a bit more of the eclectic side of fly tying, casting, equipment, etc. There's a lot of variety in the site and some of it looks ok as I scroll on by to

By: Terry Greiner

get to an area I want to check in more detail. A nice feature to the site are the headings at the top of the main page. When you click on one it opens up a lot of active links to areas that pertain to the header. I'd recommend going to each header and scroll through the topics to find a few to read. Two that I found useful are under Equipment - "how to dry a fly using a rubber band", and Tying - "how to apply dubbing".

**RED CEDAR FLY
FISHERS**

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www.redcedarflyfishers.org

RCFF Club Library

By: Mark Johnson

Just a reminder to all club members especially the newer members, that the club has a library of Fly Fishing related books and videos. It has gotten large enough over the years that it is difficult to bring to the meetings but Phil Stevens is the club Librarian and he can arrange to get you a book or video to borrow. Let me know or a board member and we can put you in touch with Phil. Attached to the email with this newsletter is a pdf listing of the items that are currently in the library.



Refrigerator Reminders

December

8th: RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:00pm, Blue Gill Grill in Haslett. Bring your spouse and/or friends

January

3rd: Sunday Fly Tying Night at Piazzano's on N. Grand River in Lansing. 6-8PM
Details inside this newsletter

12th: RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. Room 223, Natural Resources Building at MSU

17th: Sunday Fly Tying Night at Piazzano's on N. Grand River in Lansing. 6-8PM
Details inside this newsletter

