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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

March 2, 2016

President's Message

After hearing last month's presentation on Reeling and Healing Midwest, I got the urge to tie and use some soft hackle wet flies. I needed to do some research on soft hackle as I have not tried to tie any before. My research brought to light something that became very evident as I began tying flies a number of years ago. It is something that occurs in almost every aspect of life and sometimes can be very frustrating as well as very freeing.

And that is that there is usually no "right" way to do something and everyone has their own opinion about how it should be done. It even was apparent in bourbon tasting as I learned last spring while learning about bourbon. Often quoted is Booker Noe, the master distiller at Beam a number of years ago. When asked how one should drink their bourbon, neat, on the rocks or with coke,

he responded "Any damn way you want".

What has this got to do with fly fishing? Nothing really but accepting this idea has made tying and fishing less intense for me. I am able to relax more and enjoy the total experience instead of worrying about someone watching me or judging my casting or choice of fly.

Now on to a little bit of club information. First and foremost, I am on a hunt for a missing post office box key. When I joined the board four years ago, we had to keys for the club's P.O. box. As treasurer I got one key but I don't know who had the other. As we have had some board member changes in the four years, I have no idea where the second key ended up. If you have any knowledge of where the second key might be, please contact me at a meeting or email me at

presrcff@yahoo.com.



The board is awarding this year's scholarship to Molly Good, a PhD candidate who is researching the role of law enforcement in managing our fisheries resources.

We are busy getting reading for our May fundraising banquet and are looking to expand our list of donors to more local businesses. If you have contacts that will help with this please talk to a board member with contact information.

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RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS
Okemos, Michigan

www.redcedarflyfishers.org

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 By: Bob Bawden

Bear Andrews will be presenting his program about fly fishing for carp in northern Michigan at our March meeting. At the April meeting, Dr. William Taylor of Michigan State University's fisheries and wild-life department will be sharing information about the formation and activities of the MSU flygals.

We are also working on a club fishing outing in May in lieu of a work outing. Currently we are having trouble getting a work outing planned as our previous government

contact has retired. We will keep working to make contact with someone who needs our help with a project.

Remember, we have fly tying at Piazzano's of the 6th and 20th of March. Dick Augustine has requested flies for his TU youth school and we will be asking for donations of flies for our May banquet.

I hope you all have had a safe winter (yes, it is slowly coming to an end) and are looking forward to a early spring. Stop in and see Brian's new digs on Grand River Ave.

next to the Coral Gables. Support your local fly shop, keep your stick on the ice and get involved.

Website Reviews

www.globalflyfisher.com – Just as the name implies this is a website dedicated to fly fishing the world with articles, reviews, fly tying, videos, etc. to keep one busy for quite a while. One of the nice features of this site is the patterns link at the top of the page. When you click on this up will come some fly pics that you can view, but scroll down the page and there's a very large list of patterns in alphabetical order from around the world with step by step pics of how to tie each. Included with the steps are some trimming and fishing tips with several of these patterns. One idea I picked up is to trim the conventionally tied dry fly hackles even with the hook point to allow it to ride low on the water surface which is typical of how some flies float.

By: Terry Greiner

www.michigandryflies.net - I met the gentleman who started this site at one of the Midwest Fly Fishing shows a few years back and watched him tie a pattern or two at his table. I recognized his name from another site he frequently submitted a fly pattern for and decided to visit his. If you've ever wondered where about the origin of some of the flies we use around this state, then this will supply you with some great information. The two main links on the site are the Fly Patterns and Feature Articles. The first lists the patterns with tying tips and a bit of history, the second is broken into general and fly tying articles. Before Tom passed away, he donated a box of flies to the GLC Expo auctions for a few years.

Check them out!



Trumpe University Flyfishing Careers for Profit By: Bob Kren

Welcome to Trumpe University. I am The Donald, but you must call me Professor The, the almighty all-knowing all-bragging. You've paid your \$35,999.99, and you'd better be ready to learn, because if you don't, you're fired, you're a Loser, it's not my fault. Remember: it's NEVER MY FAULT!

I like to do this in a q&a format, using goofy questions from real losers. So let's start with a basic question: I had the extreme privilege of watching you flyfish the other day, and I was wondering how I might learn to cast a fly into a tree with such grace and *élan* as you. Also, how did you get such a varied vocabulary to address the issue? Anxiously, anonymous, Holt, Michigan. p.s.: I am only nine, and your biggest biggest supporter, Professor The.

Well, Terry, oops!, I mean "anonymous," I wish I had lots more young students like you. One more, even, would double the count, so get out there and recruit, and remember that you get a \$1.98 discount for every ten recruits you recruit. But, to get on with answering your question, there are certain steps to be followed in successfully hanging a fly in a tree. This is the ONLY TIME that being a "loser" is the whole point of your enrollment in Trumpe U.

First, you must make sure that you have an ample supply of different flies, preferably flies borrowed, or "borrowed" if you know what I mean, from adults or acquaintances. In short, fling only flies that belonged to somebody else, either somebody you can run faster than, or somebody whose friendship isn't worth all that much to you – friends can be a burden, so fire them all.

Having a variety of flies allows you to "match the tree," much in the way that you'd be matching the hatch, if your fly ever actually reached the water.

Carefully choose the sacrificial fly, but in the opposite way you'd choose a fly that might get near a fish. Big, bushy flies are for dangling from low, thick branches, whereas lightweight flies are much easier to lodge way up in tall trees. Big majestic vegetation, little fly; short mean vegetation, big fly. It's that easy! Write that down, be a winner as a loser!

Don't forget to tie the proper knot! A ramshackle knot could break off easily, but a huge knot, like "The Rosey O'Donnell," gives you the added opportunity to risk breaking a rod tip as you try vainly to "retrieve" that out-of-reach gob of hackle and hair. And, a stubborn knot allows you to turn your rod around and try to pull a branch down by slipping your reel over it and tugging hard, enabling you to leave the bottom half of your rod stuck in a tree right alongside the fly, in what is called "The Hat Trick," or the "Bad Hair Day," which I NEVER HAVE! By the way, did I mention that it's best to borrow the rod and reel, too? A great business move!

Envision that we are on-stream, rod in hand, fly ready, even if it is trembling slightly. Make sure you're in the proper "run," which is defined as a place enclosed on both right banks, or all sides if you're really clever, by the properly-sized leafy flytraps. It is very important that you feed out only enough line to cast all the way to the opposite side, tripled. Keep your eyes forward, and focused only on the rod tip as you very quickly lash the rod

from nine a.m. o'clock to 4 p.m., and pause. A couple of seconds, at least. Listen to the birds laughing, the water babbling, your heart racing, and then lunge the rod forward in eager anticipation of . . . Yes! The firm tug, the screeching reel drag, the pulse of balsam or sapling struggling against your 12X tippet, the applause of an appreciative crowd of losers. Now, wasn't it worth it?

It won't be easy, but as they say, "How do you get to Carnegie Hall from here? Practice, practice, practice." And then, practice some more.

Now, about those words. DO NOT go to www.cussing.com, a shamelessly commercial website, especially because they'll want you to have your mother's Visa ready and trust me, the juicy phrases aren't cheap, I know. And learning things from the kids at school, especially the eighth-graders, is no good either. What's best is to make up your own vocabulary, like "skorty mada braca fraters," or "geegee ody pallagoomers." Then, as you seethe with pride over your arboreal accomplishments, you can bellow shamelessly at the applauding onlookers, and they, unwashed worthless losers and chumps that they are, will blush in the presence of greatness.

Yours in Learning, Professor
The (with a little help from Bob K)

Board Meeting Minutes By Dennis O'Brien

Bob Bawden called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. At Piazzano's. Treasures report was read, moved and seconded. Old business: the board went over the scholarship application for this year. We have decided on one person as our winner. They will be awarded at one of our upcoming meetings. We received a request for a donation to the Bill Earl youth fishing program. We

will be sending a check for \$250 in the next few days. New Business: As of the next issue of our news letter Terry Greiner will be the editor. He will be taking over from Mark Johnson. At the next meeting Bear Andrews will be presenting on carp fishing in Michigan.

April Meeting: Dr. Taylor and Molly Good will be there. Started talking about the

banquet in May. Dates and time are all set. June will be the picnic. There will be a tying night on March 6th at Piazzano's. Next board meeting will be at Piazzano's at 4:30pm on March 20, Before the next tying night. Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

May Fishing Outing

By: Mark Johnson

As Bob mentioned in his President's Message, We have had difficulty in trying to get a Spring Work Project Planned and have decided to just try and plan a Spring Fishing Outing for any club members that are interested. We have somewhat decided on the weekend before Memorial Day as a good weekend to do this, but have not decided on a

location as of yet. If you are interested in participating in this or have a suggestion on where to go, let a board member know or come to the March meeting as I know we will be discussing this more at that time. We have kicked around a few options and we can all discuss this more at that time.



New Newsletter Editor

By: Mark Johnson

After 8 years of working on the club newsletter, this month's edition will be my last. In April, Terry Greiner will be taking over as newsletter editor. Terry has done this before in the distant past and recently offered to take it over if I wanted a break and now that he is retired has more time to do this. I accepted his offer and look forward

to a little break from this but will definitely stay involved with the club. For next month and on forward, if you have articles, pictures, etc. for the newsletter, email them to Terry at tlgreiner12@gmail.com

RED CEDAR FLY FISHERS

P.O. Box 129
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www.redcedarflyfishers.org

Refrigerator Reminders

March

5th: Quiet Water Symposium at the MSU Pavilion. Details at www.quietwatersymposium.org

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

8th: RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. Room 152, Natural Resources Building at MSU

12th-13th Midwest Fly Fishing Expo. See www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com for details.

20th: Sunday Fly Tying Night at Piazzano's on N. Grand River in Lansing. 6-8PM

April

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

12th: RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. Room 152, Natural Resources Building at MSU

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

