SJRVFF • KVCTU • FLYGIRLS • DUNELAND FLYFISHERS • LECTU

TIE-A-THON

2016

TENTH ANNIVERSARY

BENEFITTING CASTING FOR RECOVERY - MICHIGAN
Our annual GLC Fly Tying Expo held at the Causeway Bay Hotel in Lansing was a success though attendance was down. If you get a chance, take the opportunity to thank those who made this event the success it is from the chairs to the tiers, vendor clubs and volunteers. The Expo would not be possible without their support. Plans are underway for next year’s event. We are exploring dates and locations, if you have any ideas please contact me.

Jim Bos, Don & Judy Sawyer, and Jim & Dorothy Schramm have renewed their memberships in the Century Club for 2016. I encourage others to join or renew their Century Club memberships. The support provided by the Century Club has a big impact on the efforts of the GLC. Many thanks for your support.

2016 will be another exciting year for the GLC. Plans are being completed for our Summer Fly Fishing School & Fair at the MDNR RAM Center in Roscommon, June 17-19. See the article in this newsletter and visit our website at mid-March for complete details and registration material. This is a great event to attend even if you just come and federate.

On Saturday afternoon, June 18, at the Fly Fishing School we will again hold our Annual Membership Meeting. Our Annual Board of Directors meeting takes place Sunday morning on June 19 at 8:30 am at the RAM Center. All members are invited to attend the meetings. We are always looking for directors and if you are interested in serving as a director of the GLC, please contact me or one of the directors on the Executive Board of the GLC which also serves as our nominating committee.

The Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition (MHRC) continues to be busy with hydro dam issues in Michigan. In 2012 the Brownbridge Dam on the Boardman River was removed. Plans are in progress to remove the Boardman and Sabin Dams by 2017. The MHRC is currently involved in succession planning for current personnel, gathering and organizing corporate memory, including files, website and a work plan for the next 20 years. The goal is to be ready when the hydro projects in Michigan come up for relicensing in 2035. We are looking for individuals to get involved in the Oversight Committee of the MHRC to facilitate this process and if you are interested or can recommend someone, please contact me. I also want to take this opportunity to thank Flygirls for their ongoing financial support of MHRC. Flygirls again gave a $1,000 grant to the MHRC this year. I encourage all clubs to consider supporting the important work of the MHRC with a grant. Grants of any amount are welcome.

I also encourage you to attend the many events being hosted by our affiliate clubs. These are great opportunities to get information, federate and hone your fly fishing skills. This information is posted to our website (if provided by the club). If your club has not provided this information to the GLC and would like to do so, contact Colleen Jenkins, VP Communications at crowjenkins@comcast.net.
Gift card drawings throughout the day sponsored by Grand River Fly Tyers Club is a Charter Club of the Great Lakes Council of The International Federation Of Fly Fishers

Presentations by some of the best Tyers in the Great Lakes region

Jeff “Bear” Andrews, Jim Reed, Kevin Feenstra, Matt Zudweg, Brian Kozminski, Matt Erny, Jerry Drake, great special guest youth tyers and many more!

Close UP tying theater with 2 32 inch monitors and new presentations

Expert guest tyers welcome adults and youth to learn how to tie flies and answer your questions. See how it is done!

Fly Tying Materials and other items available from local vendors. Hand crafted art demonstrations.

$10 for adults • $5 12 years to 17 • 11 and under free

Lunch and snacks will be available with plenty of seating

For more information please contact Christopher Soule soulefly@yahoo.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL
5830 Clyde Park Ave SW, Wyoming, MI 49509
SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 27, 2016
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Follow us on Facebook at Grand River Fly Tyers
TIE-A-THON
REACHES ITS
10 ANNIVERSARY
CASTING FOR RECOVERY
MICHIGAN IS
2016 BENEFACTOR

SOUTH BEND, Ind. - Members of the St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers, a South Bend, Ind.-based Federation of Fly Fishers associate club, and the Kalamazoo, Mich. Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited are celebrating 10 years of donating hand-tied flies to various causes where fly fishing is used for educational or therapeutic purposes. Over the past decade, volunteers from these fly-fishing groups, along with other fly clubs and supporters from around the country, have donated just over 85,500 flies through their annual ‘Tie-A-Thon’ to various causes. It’s estimated that the flies tied during the events have a value exceeding more than $250,000.

This coming April 16, members of the South Bend, Kalamazoo and other Indiana and Michigan-based fly fishing clubs will come together for the 10th Annual Tie-A-Thon to tie flies, this year benefitting Casting for Recovery Michigan. The event is being held at the Elkhart, Ind. Conservation Club, which has donated their use of their facility again.

About the Recipient
Casting for Recovery (CfR) Michigan serves breast cancer survivors throughout the state, and has a retreat planned this year. Any woman who resides in Michigan and has received a breast cancer diagnosis will be eligible to apply.

CfR breast cancer retreats take women out of a clinical setting and into nature, where they can relax, share their experiences with other survivors, and learn the therapeutic sport of fly-fishing. The retreats also include counseling and medical education and are provided at no cost to the participants.

Sandy Thomley is the new Program Coordinator for the CfR Michigan Program. She and a local volunteer team are busy planning, fund-raising, recruiting volunteers and conducting outreach for their 2016 retreat.

For more information, please check out: http://castingforrecovery.org/breast-cancer-retreats/Michigan/

What is the Tie-A-Thon?
The premise of the Tie-A-Thon is like an old fashioned barn raisin’ where several tyers tie as many flies as they do during the Saturday, April 16 event. Along with members of the St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers and Kalamazoo Valley TU chapter, other groups are joining forces again this year to tie flies including The Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock, Reel Women - Reel Men of Indianapolis, Grand Rapids Fly Tyers, Flygirls of Michigan, Anglers of the Au Sable, Little Elkhart Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Duneland Fly Fishers and many more individuals from all over the country.

The tiers will come together to tie 100 flies each on April 16 starting at 8 am, and at the end of the day – tying ends at 5 pm, will try their very best to surpass the previous all-time high of 13,300 flies raised at a previous Tie-A-Thon.

If interested in participating, pick just one pattern to tie, buy a box of 100 hooks and needed materials and get tying! At the April 16 gathering in Elkhart, Ind., Terry Wittorp, Tie-A-Thon ‘head chef’ “will have a spectacular lunch for all the tyers - which is worth at least 200 flies, but we will give you a break. Everyone is welcome, but please let us know so we can plan having plenty for everyone,” said Tie-A-Thon organizer Tim Scott. “Also, to keep the excitement level up while tying, we will have a guest tyer every other hour to show off special patterns. A video system set up will make it easy to see from your tying station.”
If you are not a fast tyer and don’t think you can complete your 100 flies during the allotted time, it’s OK to get a jump on your tying prior to April 16. Plus the organizers will certainly take more than 100 from anyone if they are ambitious and want to tie flies in advance. You don’t have to be an expert tyer to donate flies. Many first time fly tyers have participated, with the Tie-A-Thon giving them a chance to become very good tying at least one fly. For those who need some assistance on learning a pattern to tie, contact Tim Scott via email at timelscott@gmail.com.

The more than 85,500 flies from previous Tie-A-Thons have been donated for use at youth camps conducted by the Kalamazoo Valley TU chapter and the Brotherhood of the Junglecock, plus fly-fishing event organized by Reel and Heal of Toledo, Ohio, Casting for Recovery of Indiana, Project Healing Waters, Reel Recovery, National Fishing Program, Warriors and Quiet Waters of Montana, and Flyin’ Heroes of Muskegon, Mich.

Pick a pattern, tie it up and donate to the Tie-A-Thon!

These are the flies the organizers ask to be tied - tie 100 flies of one pattern -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fly</th>
<th>Size</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adams</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ant</td>
<td>18 - 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beetles</td>
<td>18 - 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue Wing Olive Emerger</td>
<td>18 - 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caddis Nymph</td>
<td>16 - 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clouser’s Minnow</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cone-Head white rabbit leaches</td>
<td>4-6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elk Hair Caddis</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Griffith Gnat</td>
<td>20 - 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hare’s Ear</td>
<td>12 - 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mickey Finn</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nuke Eggs</td>
<td>10 - 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pheasant Tail</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft Hackle</td>
<td>14 - 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woolly Bugger</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information and questions, contact Tim Scott at 574.538.1936 or at timelscott@gmail.com

Terry Wittrop at 269.424.5138 or terryflyfish@hotmail.com

or visit the club web sites at www.sjrvaff.com and www.kvctu.org.

For directions to the Elkhart Conservation Club, visit http://www.elkhartconservationclub.org/location/.
Come Join Us For...
Evening of Dinner, Drinks & Fellowship!

Enjoy an evening with old acquaintances and meet new friends who love the Fishing Sport as much as You do!

Door Prizes given away hourly with a chance of winning a Guided Trip on the Muskegon River provide by Capt. Don Graham. Anyone who attends will be entered in the drawing (need not be present to win grand prize).

Where: Tony Sacco’s Pizza at Eastwood Town Center
2328 Showtime Dr, Lansing, MI 48912
When: Saturday, February 27th, 2016 from 4pm-8:30pm

*A portion of all sales will go to the BOJCMI program*
Visit tonysaccos.com to check out their fabulous menu!
For more information on BOJCMI, visit www.bojcmi.org

GLC FUND RAISING EFFORTS

Contributions to GLC Development were $1800 with $1300 at the Century Club Level and $500 to Lake Michigan. The individual benefactors listed below are essential to GLC fund raising efforts and their contributions are greatly appreciated. Donations from members and clubs play an important role in helping fund conservation and education activities. Thanks to everyone.

Benefactors:
Lake Michigan
   James Bos, N. Muskegon

Century Club:
   Terry Greiner, Holt, MI
   Grainger 3:1 Matching Charitable Gift for Terry Greiner
   Jen Klabunde, Grawn, MI
   Hank Milius, Yorktown, IN
   Dave Peterson, Pentwater, MI
   Larry Poole, Roseville, MI
   Don Sawyer, Okemos, MI
   Jim and Dorothy Schramm, Pentwater, MI
   Wolf & Inge Schrey, Grand Rapids, MI
   Terry Tatarchuk, Cadillac, MI
   John Van Dalen, Midland, MI
As reported in the previous issue of Fly Line, the fish farming industry wants to establish cage pen fish farms in Lake Michigan similar to those used in Canada, Europe and South America. The Great Lakes Council passed a resolution opposing the establishment of these cage pen farms in the Great Lakes as well as opposing flow through fish farms like the one proposed for the Au Sable River. The Council submitted the following written testimony to the Michigan quality of life agencies (e.g. DNR, DEQ) as part of a public comment process they began in November.

“We are presenting these comments on behalf of the Great Lakes Council of the International Federation of Fly Fishers. The Great Lakes Council represents the interests fly fishing anglers in Michigan, Indiana and Northwest Ohio. The Board of Directors of the GLC is unequivocally opposed to the establishment of cage pen fish farms in the Great Lakes as well the establishment of flow through fish growing operations like the one proposed for the Au Sable River. Simply put, the risks to our cold water resources are too great to turn our Great Lakes and pristine trout streams into experimental sites for aquaculture.

The risks have been well articulated in much of the testimony presented at the November 19 meeting in Gaylord. These risks include: 1) escapement of farmed fish and subsequent degradation of wild fish genetics; 2) excessive amounts of fish waste and accompanying nutrients polluting our Great Lakes and stream habitats; and 3) the risk of disease spreading from farmed fish to wild stocks which has occurred in other fish farming operations.

Michigan is blessed with the world’s greatest supply of fresh water through our Great Lakes and is home to some of the world’s iconic trout streams. We cannot comprehend why our state leaders would experiment with unproven fish farming technologies that hold the potential to damage these irreplaceable natural resources and place our sport fishery and tourism industry at risk. While aquaculture may have a future in Michigan it should pursue that future using proven closed loop recirculating systems that are based on land.

Invasive species and other environmental threats already challenge our lakes and streams. We should not allow another threat to our greatest resource. The State of Michigan needs to take immediate and decisive action to stop the threat of cage pen Aquaculture in the Great Lakes and fish farms in our rivers.”

The DNR and DEQ have now released the report summarizing the comments they received but have not taken a formal position on the issue.

GLC is collaborating with the Anglers of the Au Sable, the Michigan Environmental Coalition (MEC), TU and other groups opposing cage pen culture. The Anglers of the Au Sable are focused on stopping flow through fish farms on rivers, particularly the Au Sable, and see opposition to Aquaculture in general as important avenue to pursue their issue.

Senator Jones has introduced a bill (SB 9) banning aquaculture in Michigan and the MEC is coordinating efforts to support this bill. On the House side, Representative Jon Bumstead has introduced a similar bill (HB 5255) banning aquaculture in the Great Lakes. Unfortunately, Senator Darwin Booher (SB 681-683) has introduced bills that would give the aquaculture industry carte blanche to use our waters for fish farming.

Last week, Dave Peterson, Great Lakes Council VP for Conservation testified before the House Natural Resources Committee in support of Representative Bumstead’s bill. The vast majority of testimony presented was in favor of banning aquaculture.

Please contact your legislators and tell them you support the bills introduced by Senator Jones and Rep. Bumstead and oppose the bills introduced by Sen. Booher.

We will keep you informed as this crucial battle moves forward.

Dave Peterson
GREAT LAKES COUNCIL.
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS
FLY FISHING SCHOOL & CONCLAVE
June 17-19, 2016

JOIN US TO LEARN, HAVE FUN AND FEDERATE

The GLC FLY FISHING SCHOOL & CONCLAVE is held at the R.A. MacMullen Conference Center located on the north side of Higgins Lake near Roscommon and Grayling, Michigan. Adjacent to the Center is one of Michigan’s most popular parks, N. Higgins Lake State Park.

Educational programs will be offered for aspiring fly anglers as well as those experienced in the sport. Simultaneous programs and workshops for beginners, intermediate and advanced anglers will be offered Friday starting at 1:00 p.m. and all-day Saturday. A complete beginning fly fishing course to include on-stream instruction will be offered this year. Fly tying workshops will be offered Friday afternoon, Saturday morning and Saturday afternoon. You are encouraged to bring your fly tying equipment (materials will be provided) or you can just come and watch. Programs and workshops on casting (including Spey Casting), warmwater fly fishing, and fly fishing for trout will also be on the schedule. IFFF Casting Certification will be available on Saturday.

Fishing opportunities in the area include not only the famous Au Sable and Manistee River and their tributaries but also float tubing on nearby Wakely Lake, a catch and release lake with outstanding fishing for Bass, Bluegill, and even Northern Pike.

Federating along with the raffle & auction display will be ongoing in the Education Building on Friday and Saturday. Free hospitality will take place Friday and Saturday afternoon starting at 4 pm. If you just want to fish and federate you are still invited to attend.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN TO ANYONE

 LODGING accommodations are available at the R.A. MacMullen Conference Center and camping. Adjacent to the MacMullen Center is the North Higgins Lake State Park and other lodging and private campgrounds are also available.

 Registration costs for Federation members is $35 for individuals and $45 for families. Add $10 to these costs for nonmembers. Special package rates are available ($210 double occupancy and $260 single occupancy) which include registration, two nights lodging, Friday lunch and dinner, breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday and breakfast Sunday. The beginning fly fishing class cost is $170 and the Spey Casting Workshop, Fly Casting Instructors Workshop and On Stream Workshop for Nymph Fishing Tactics will cost $60.00. Meals are available for those attending that are not using the lodging. The remaining programs and workshops are free with registration.

More details and registration material will be available in March, 2016 on the GLC website at www.fffglc.org or contact Jim Schramm (231) 869-5487, e-mail jdschramm@oceana.net
2016 MIDWEST FLY FISHING EXPO
March 12th & 13th
Hosted by the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

100 + FLY FISHING VENDORS IN ONE LOCATION

Macomb Community College Sports & Expo Center
14500 E. 12 Mile Rd. Warren Michigan

FREE PARKING

Expo Hours: Sat: 9 am – 6 pm • Sun: 10 am – 4 pm
Admission: Adults: $10 • Adult 2 Day Pass $15
Kids 16 and under are FREE

FREE SEMINARS, CASTING & TYING DEMOS
Expert Fly Tyers, Tackle Dealers, Expanded Kids Korner, 100’ Casting Pond
Test a Fly Rod, Steelhead & bass shows, Guides and more!

FEATURING

JOE HUMPHREYS   JEFF CURRIER   ED ENGLE   SKIP MORRIS   JASON RANDELL

CLUB INFO: www.mffc.org
EXPO INFO www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com
American Rivers protects wild rivers, restores damaged rivers, and conserves clean water for people and nature. Since 1973, American Rivers has protected and restored more than 150,000 miles of rivers through advocacy efforts, on-the-ground projects, and an annual America’s Most Endangered Rivers® campaign.

Headquartered in Washington, DC, American Rivers has offices across the country and more than 200,000 members, supporters, and volunteers.

Through our river conservation work we are ensuring clean drinking water supplies, revitalizing fish and wildlife, improving recreation, and leaving a legacy of healthy rivers for future generations.

To learn more about American River visit
www.americanrivers.org

For over 20 years the FFF Steelhead Committee has brought a voice to wild steelhead throughout the Pacific Northwest. We advocate for the conservation of existing wild steelhead and salmon stocks and the restoration of degraded habitats and depressed runs. Through our publication The Osprey, we are able to provide a unique source of timely news and commentary regarding the management, science, and recovery of steelhead and salmon. We acknowledge the challenges that lay ahead for wild salmon and steelhead including the impacts of climate change, population growth, ill-advised dams and misguided hatchery production. However we are hopeful that with dedicated work on their behalf, salmon can recover and thrive in perpetuity.

To recover wild steelhead and salmon populations, it is crucial that wild fish advocates maintain a loud, and unified voice. We hope you will enjoy and learn from The Osprey’s content and that it will help catalyze the growing chorus of passionate anglers and advocates working for a future with healthy populations of wild steelhead and salmon throughout their native range.

www.ospreysteelhead.org