

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

December 2017

#### Artful Fly Fishing: Neckbeard, but get to witness the Midge Apocalypse, rooster tail fishing, and the

: By Sybil Hunter

International Fly Fishing Film Festival (IF4) showcases the work of professional film makers from all over the world. The MFFC hosted a showing of this year's award winning shorts. With the first selection, the presentation started with the idea of time,"We don't get a choice when the clock starts or when it ends, but we do get a choice of what to do while it is ticking." Surface, : was an artistic juxtaposition of past and present. Filmed in the Caribou Region of British Columbia, CA, it heralded the triumphs, and losses, that accumulate to the joy that is fly fishing.

Pure New Zealand, film two, provided a helicopter's view of the island's pristine waters, crystal clear rivers and beautiful fish.

In Dorado, April Volke follows the steps of John Hill, from his 1923 book The Dorado and eventually...success! touring the jungle of Bolivia. April, who does: : not speak Spanish any more than her spear fishing guide spoke English, fly fishes Bolivian waters in a hollowed out canoe.

Merideth McCord, competitive triathlete and successful entrepreneur, holds a plethora of IGFA World records. Pescadoara, featured McCord adeptly Permit fishing from: the front of her guide's boat.

Next, in The Legend Of Neckbeard, Nathan Dunford the narrator takes the audience on a trip through Ashton, Idaho -"the center of the fly fishing universe" - in search of Neckbeard, a local fisherman. "Salmon flies. It's what's for breakfast," said Dunford as he articulated the flavor nuances between male and female salmon flies. During his adventure, viewers not only meet caching of river booty along the way.

Kendjam, which means "standing still," followed fishermen granted exclusive passage into the isolated indigenous territory of the Amazon. After being ritually painted for the hunt, the film follows their travels sight fishing through the crystal clear Amazon waters where there is tremendous "species diversity...all in the same fishing spot."

Laplanders light-heartedly followed skilled fly fisherman salmon fishing through the wilds of North Sweden.

In The Jungle's Edge, Alex Beck documents himself earning Costa Rica's first Grand Slam. For the record, a Grand Slam is catching a Tarpin, Permit and Bonefish all in the same day. The film follows Beck through the realistic trials and tribulations of saltwater fishing...breaching Taprin, bloody fingers, reel burn, broken line, near misses, the fight,

The last film, *The Hidden*, follows fishermen driving through the waters of Iceland seeking Brown Trout, as "Brown Trout are something everyone can relate to..." Iceland is home to the largest Trout in the world; the Ice Age Trout are Brown Trout that were historically sea run fish who, after the ice age, were landlocked feeding primarily on Arctic Char. Footage of their agonizing misses, painful falls and broken line, while in search of amazing fish, made watchers actively wince and groan.

A special thanks goes out to Dennis of Red Fox Outfitters in Fenton for all colors of embroidered, velcro strap TFO fishing hats given out to members, and to Scot Freeburg for working the deal that procured this : breathtaking film footage experience.

#### MFFC Calendar



January 10, 2018 **Speaker Meeting** Speaker: Denny Nelson **Topic: Nymphing the Au Sable** Clarenceville Middle School Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

January 24, 2018 **Activities Meeting** Clarenceville Middle School Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**February 7, 2018 Speaker Meeting** Speaker: John Pinto **Topic: Saltwater Committee** Clarenceville Middle School Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**February 28, 2018 Activities Meeting** Clarenceville Middle School Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

March 3, 2018 Activity Mtg March 10 & 11, 2018 MFFC Expo March 21, 2018 Speaker Mtg



## MFFC Sponsors Au Sable River Exhibit

#### GoVisit!

By Sybil Hunter

On September 30th of this year, the Michigan History Museum opened their newest exhibit neatly tucked just inside the main entrance to the right, past the living tree. The exhibit houses a reproduction of the Wanigas Rod Shop, a TU Au Sable river boat, and history of the Holy Waters. President Scott Freeburg, representing MFFC - a proud sponsor of the exhibit - attended the opening gala. Chris and I tagged along.

The event went something like this.... Text to Chris: Where are you? We don't want to be late.

Chris: Ridiculous traffic

Eventually Chris arrived. We raced around like ninnies. The dogs watched with *much* interest. We leashed the dogs up to "go out." Each dog walked to the end of his leash (each in a different direction), and stood. Giving up, we reeled the dogs in, fed them treats and left.

Chris to his phone: "Find directions to Michigan History Museum in Lansing."

The directions loaded. Off we sped. Phone to Chris: "There is traffic ahead, do you want to reroute?"

Chris: "Yes."

10 min later: "There is traffic ahead, do you want to reroute?"

Chris: "Yes."

"There is traffic ahead, do you want to reroute?"

We saw the most scenic rustic parts of the state south of I-96. Finally, the GPS directed us to enter the highway. We took off at the break-neck speed of 25 mph.

Text to Scott: "Are you there?"
Scott: "Yes. Where are you?"
Text to to Scott: "Stuck in bad traffic."

Scott: "This VR thing is great!"
Text to Scott: "VR thing?"

Scott: "I just got to take a float down the Au Sable!"

A later text to Scott: "We are still stuck in traffic. The GPS says 25 min."

Scott: "The exhibit is fantastic!"
Stop. Go. Stop Go. Chris finally exited, driving like a madman into Lansing proper.

Scott: "Presentation about to start."

Text to Scott: "Parking!"

We walked in mere minutes before the recognition ceremony started. MFFC was recognized as a major contributor, Scott smiled and waved to the crowd.

From where I stood around the corner by the door, a large wooden boat was visible. Most impressive in its length, I could not wait to get inside the exhibit.

Everyone was impressed with the amount of history pressed into the exhibit space. Upon entering, one cannot miss the 24-foot beautiful, glossy wooden Au Sable boat previously owned by George Griffith, the founder of Trout Unlimited and author of "For The Love of Trout." Just inside the door was a case, housing Art Neumann's hand written records and accounts for the Wanigas Rod Shop. Inside to the right, was a detailed re-creation of the Wanigas Rod Shop. An entire wall of Wanigas history was artfully arranged next to the shop, which sported a life sized Art Neumann cut-out waiting at the counter. Attendees can climb into a kayak (or sit on a stool) and experience a 360 degree 3-D guided fishing trip down the Au Sable. (Can you name that stretch of the river?) What appears to be metal milk cans line the back wall along with glass beakers, accompanying another wall of history documenting how tiny Arctic Grayling from the Grayling fish hatchery were distributed along railway stations to be used for stocking the Au Sable. A middle wall provided history about how the Anishinaabe (indigenous peoples) used the

river throughout the changing seasons. The other side of the middle wall showed a map, to scale, of the entire Au Sable watershed. Scott identified multiple members' homes along the river map. (I suggested an MFFC labeled green dot identifying the MFFC sponsored porta-john.) Another wall segment was dedicated to the Trout Unlimited sponsored river events and clean-ups. A number of past and present Club members were in the panoramic picture accompanying the text. There were also flies (tied) and flies (real) preserved under a microscope for viewing, along a large tying bench for children to watch video information footage and tie a practice fly to take home.

Scott was right; the VR ride was fantastic. I was so engrossed in looking all around and leaning over the (virtual) boat, that Chris had to tap me on the shoulder to tell me two younger attendees were patiently waiting their turn. We took pictures in the Wanigas Rod Shop, and next to the Au Sable river boat before it became too late and museum staff shuffled us all off towards the parking lot.

The Michigan History Museum is a nationally accredited museum located in the east wing of the Michigan Library and Historical Center, on the north side of Kalamazoo Street, two blocks east of M.L. King Jr. Boulevard. It is open year around, seven days a week. The Michigan History Center is part of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. For more information, call 517-373-3559 or visit www.michigan.gov/michiganhistory.

The exhibit only runs through this upcoming summer, so schedule the time to make a trip to Lansing during your travels. Admission to the exhibit is included with regular paid admission - \$6 for adults, \$2 for youth 17 and under. If you have a Recreation Passport, bring in your registration for admission discounts.

Otherwise, admission and parking are free on Sundays

When you make it there, take a picture and send it to me!



### MFFC Business

#### Michigan Fly Fishing Club 2018 Events & Outings Calendar

OUTING	DATE	CHAIR	CONTACT
FFF-GLC Fly Tying Expo	January 13-14, 2018	Bill Shannon	wbshannon@sbcglobal.net
Ultimate Fishing Show	January 11-14, 2018	Jim Telinda	jtelinda@aol.com
White River Trip	Jan 31 - Feb 4, 2018	Scott Freeburg	sfree357@aol.com
Members School	February 17, 2018	Chris Hunter	chunter@bauerhunter.com
Outdoorama	March 1-4, 2018	Bruce Stachan	bruceds0402@gmail.com
Midwest Fly Fishing Expo	March 11-12,2018	Jim Telinda	jtelinda@aol.com
Spring Steelhead	March 22-25, 2018	Jon Bada	jonbada@hotmail.com
Trout Tune-Up	April 7, 2018	Michael Doyle	miketheflyguy@gmail.com
Public School	April 14, 2018	Chris Hunter	chunter@bauerhunter.com
Boy Scout School	April 21, 2018	Bob Niemi	rniemi1@yahoo.com
Opening Weekend	April 26-30, 2018	Scott Freeburg	sfree357@aol.com
Trout Opener	April 28, 2018	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Youth School	May 5, 2018	Len Dixon	lendixon@comcast.net
Dick Shott New Members Outing	May 09 -12, 2018	Steve Selinger	sselinger@twmi.rr.com
MFFC Banquet	May 16, 2018	Kathy Oehring	oehrk@icloud.com
Smallmouth Outing	May 17- 20 2018	Renee Gall	reneeschatzleygall@gmail.com
Womens Outing	May 31- June 3, 2018	Linda Bocks	Loopster4@yahoo.com
Club Picnic	July 21, 2018	John Erikson	johneriksson5@aol.com
Montana (1)	July 28th - Aug 4th 2018	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Montana (2)	August 4th - 11 ,2018	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Montana (3)	August 11 - 18 2018	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Ausable River CleanUp @ Gates	September 8, 2018	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Manistee River Clean Up	September 22, 2018	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Muskegon River Outing	Sept 20- 23, 2018	Todd Schotts	grizzlyflies@yahoo.com



2017 - 2018 Officers

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#### Michigan Fly Fishing Club

**Todd Schotts** 

## Fly of the Month

For this month's fly pattern we are going part way around the world for a unique nymph pattern from the country of Bulgaria. While looking at flies on the internet, I came across this fly pattern, and other fly patterns from this tier known as the "Shark." The pattern we will be looking at is called "Shark's Caddis Larva" by Radoslav Kiskinov.

This young master and realistic tier from Bulgaria, did not start in this crazy world of fly tying and fly fishing until 2000. When you look at his patterns that are out on the internet, you would think he has been tying a lot longer than he has. Some of this tier's other amazing patterns are: Shark's Wasp, Domestic Fly, and The Simplest Fly, just to name a few. Radoslav is the webmaster of the www.akulata.com, which is the biggest Bulgarian fly fishing website. He mentioned his sole purpose is to make fly fishing more popular in Bulgaria. Aside from being webmaster, his typical day consists of tying flies, fishing, writing about his fishing adventures, and selling fly fishing products. That would be a dream job for pretty much all of us. He mentioned he likes to fish dries, wet flies, nymphs, and streamers throughout

Ultimate Fishing Show

**Volunteers** 

Fly tying volunteers are needed for the Ultimate Fishing Show, January 11-14 at the Suburban Showplace, Novi. Contact Jim Telinda, jtelinda@aol.com.

the whole year. The waters he enjoys are basically any place you can cast a fly - a river, a lake, or even a reservoir. Anything his fly will take, is his favorite fish.

This month's fly is a very easy fly to tie, but when the fly gets wet, the appearance is so realistic it is really extraordinary. The fly was created back in 2005 when he was trying to get the exact resemblance of a real insect. Once it was tied, he had a hunch that it was going to be a huge hit with the inhabitants in the waters below. After trying it in a glass of water, he headed for the big waters — it was fish approved instantly. This fly's is the body of twisted Antron Yarn with Hare's Hair makes a very realistic imitation. One good thing is it is an easy fly to tie, also it doesn't take more than a couple of minutes to tie it. Radoslav mentioned you can tie brown Antron yarn for the thorax instead of using peacock herl. This he does because of the insects in some of the waterways in Bulgaria sport brownish colors in the thorax area.

When fishing this pattern you can fish it like a normal nymph pattern with a cast and drift down into the zone, but he mentions a tuck cast to get the fly down into the zone faster. Another way to effectively use this fly is on a Czech nymph rig. Presented single or with a rig, it should be a big hit below the surface with the water's residents.

Until next month, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Tight Lines and Snazzy Flies.

#### Member's School Attendees Need to Sign Up

Attendees needed for the MFFC Member's School, February 17 at Clarenceville High School, Livonia. Contact Chris Hunter, chunter@bauerhunter.com.

#### Shark's Caddis Larvae



2 tied flies with the real insect

**HOOK:** Curved Scud Hook, Sizes 10 to 16

THREAD: Black 70 Denier or 7/0

**HEAD:** Gold Bead to match the hook size

**BODY:** Antron yellow and Hare's under fur dubbing hair

**THORAX:** 2 peacock herls (or dark brown Antron)

**OPTIONAL:** Other Colors for Antron

in body - Lt. Green or Tan.

#### **Outdoorama Volunteers**

Fly tying volunteers are needed for the Outdoorama, March 1-4 at the Suburban Showplace, Novi. Contact Bruce Strachan, bruceds0402@gmail.com.



#### Michigan Fly Fishing Club

Tyer Of The Month

#### Ray Geitka

By Ray Geitka

Ray began fishing at an early age (see picture). He advanced from bait, level wind reels, spinning reels, to experiment with fly fishing, with a very cheap rod, as a teenager. He became serious about fly fishing after having success using flies Steelhead fishing. Of course, he took up fly tying to "save money tying flies!" Ha! He studied fly tying under Hollis Halliday. He has taught fly tying classes at Royal Oak and Birmingham Adult Education.

A long time member of MFFC, he joining the Club in 1980 after attending the second annual MFFC "Bamboo Rod Revival" Expo. He previously served as a Director of MFFC, run Steelhead Outings, served on the MFFC Conservation Grants Committee, assisted with other Club schools, and most recently put on the Club Banquet.

A Life Member of Trout Unlimited, Ray previously served as President of the Paul H. Young Chapter of TU, as well as an Instructor with the Michigan Council TU Fly Fishing School at Ranch Rudolf near Traverse City. He is also a member of IFF, Anglers of the Au Sable, NRA, and NPCA.

He is the proud owner of a complete MFFC Expo Show and Worker Pin collection, *and* a complete autographed Robert Traver book collection, first edition, dust jacketed.

He has accumulated a frighteningly large amount of fly tying vices, tools, hooks, feathers, furs, etc.

## Slumpbuster





The Featured Fly for Activities Night will be John Barr's Slumpbuster.

Hook: Tiemco 5263, Sizes. 4-12, Mustad 9672, 9674, or equivalent Streamer hook.

Thread: Olive Head: Gold Cone

**Ribbing:** Gold or Silver Wire

Body: Peacock or Olive Sparkle Braid

Tail, Wing, Collar: Olive Rabbit Strip for larger hooks; Pine Squirrel Strip for

smaller hooks

Flash: A few strands of Krystal Flash tied in on both sides

Options: Thread, body, and rabbit/Pine Squirrel colors can be mixed or matched

to suit the tyer.

#### **Tying Instructions:**

- **Step 1:** Smash down hook barb and slide on cone head.
- **Step 2:** Tie wire and braid on shank from slightly back of cone to bend of hook.
- Step 3: Lay rabbit strip over hook allowing a tail of one shank length.
- **Step 4:** Separate fur with bodkin at hook bend\*, tie down with several turns.
- **Step 5:** Move thread forward to short of cone. Tie body braid forward and tie off.
- **Step 6:** Use wire to palmer and secure rabbit strip to body. Tie securely at cone.
- **Step 7:** With care to sweep fur back, take one turn of rabbit strip around body at cone. Secure.
- **Step 8:** Cut off remaining strip, tuck end into cone and secure again.
- **Step 9:** A drop of cement to inside of cone will help anchor materials.

\*Use saliva or water to separate rabbit fur. No, use water!

\*\*After all this, you can do Step 5 following Step 2!



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Al Haxton

#### Getting Ready For A Long Winter's Nap

It's December. For me that means it's time to prepare all my stuff for the long winter's nap. Now what does that mean? For me it means checking and cleaning all my fly rods and preparing them for storage. It means doing the same for fly reels, fly lines and maybe building some new leaders for next season. It means removing everything from my packs and lanyards, and improving them too. It means making things like new for next fishing season.

When I first got into fly fishing a few years ago, I was told that putting things away properly is as important as taking care of things during the fishing season. I got into a habit of doing some things to each piece of equipment I owed and doing it each end of the year. That way things are ready for the opening day fun and the great fishing season to follow. Now I must admit the process took a lot less time back then, fewer rods, fewer reels, fewer lines, fewer just about everything involved in fly fishing. So let's go through the process and see how it goes.

First off I take care of fly rods. Each rod is taken out of the tube and sock, then reviewed. This process is fun because it always brings memories back of fish caught or beautiful rivers I fished. I look at the cork grip first. I have had times when I cleaned my grips each time. I must say I don't normally do that now. If a grip is really dirty, like I dropped the rod into a muck bank or something, then I do clean it. I have used a product called "Bar Keepers Friend" for years and find it does a superb job. In most cases I don't clean the grip now. I don't clean it because the small marks and ground in dirt bring back fond memories of fishing and sort of show me that this rod is appreciated and fished a lot. I next just look at the rod pieces and look for wear and tear on things. I wipe the rod from end to end to clean the blank and make it look nice. After the review, I place the rod back into the sock and then back into the tube. I sort of check that rod off the list and start the process for the next rod. During this entire process the memories are fast and furious, that makes it a

true joy to accomplish all this effort. That and the knowledge that any rod I take out for opening day will be pristine and ready to honor the fish of the day.

Next, the reels are taken out and reviewed. I look at the reel itself and all the parts involved. I have found that often the handle screw could use some tightening. And often the reel foot needs some work too. I take the spool off and inspect the guts of the reel. Now most of my reels are single action and don't have many moving parts, but more modern reels can have many moving parts so adding a bit of reel lube, or cleaning off the built up debris of the season, can make a huge improvement in the working of the reel. Again, I clean things up a bit, add some grease on parts that need it, and generally make the reel clean and bright again and ready for next season. Once in a while some mark or scratch on the reel will bring back a nice memory too...or maybe a not so nice a memory, but it's all good.

Fly lines are a very important factor of our sport. After all, they are the thing that takes the fly out to our quarry and delivers it when and where we need it. So fly lines are cleaned next, I used to take each line off of the reel and clean it and polish it and leave it wrapped around a large plastic wheel. Now with a few more reels and lines, I no longer remove the lines totally, but I do unwrap them from the reel and try to straighten them a bit. I then clean them with line cleaner and wipe them from end to end to clean the last bit of fishing debris from them. Over the years I have used different line cleaners. I have used Glide by Umpqua Feather Merchants, Scientific Anglers Fly Line Dressing, and others. Now I mostly use either some patches by RIO (These work for about three flylines before drying out, so have lines ready before you open the package.) that work fine or Teimco Cleaner that works great too. I check the end condition of each line and, if needed. I remove the old leader connection. I then install a new leader connection with a perfection loop to attach the leaders. I like to mark each of my fly lines with a

black magic marker to identify its weight. One ring for a 1 wt line, 4 rings for a 4 weight line, a thick line and one ring for a 6 weight line, etc. Sometimes those rings fade a little during the fishing season, so I use this time for re-ringing each line. Finally I wrap the line back onto the reel, but a bit looser than normal. This makes the line memory a bit less next season.

Next on the agenda — leaders for next season. I tie my own leaders, and have for years. John Long did a presentation to the club at a summer meeting years ago, where he explained he tied his own leaders and talked about the leader formula he liked. After that presentation, I tried tying my own leaders and liked what I could control and accomplish. I now tie leaders for different purposes, whether that be dry fly, nymph or streamer fishing. I tie them in numerous lengths and have actually found a couple of different tapers I like. I tie all my leaders with Maxima in different diameters. I use perfection loops at each end and mostly use double surgeons knots for the internal knot requirements. Then as the last step in the process, I coat each knot with super glue. As John told us, "A knot that slips is a knot that will break." We know that a knot that breaks will always break when we have a big fish on the line. So super glue is used. On ALL the knots. I carry a leader wallet which has all the envelopes noted with what the leader is for and what the length is of that leader. I normally carry a few of each type and each length. I do that in case one breaks or I lend a leader to a fishing buddy or new friend I meet on the stream. So the wallet is checked, the quantity and lengths are noted and I tie some more leaders.

All of this crazy stuff takes a while, but there is no rush considering I do this during December each year. And again, the memories of streams fished, friends met, buddies I shared the streams with and maybe even some fish caught with, make the process so very relaxing and enjoyable. So maybe consider checking your gear this winter and cleaning things up for next season...and enjoy those memories.



### Michigan Fly Fishing Club

John Pinto

#### Sand In My Shoe

There I was...It was 1995 and I was in the midst of scouring every Bahamian island in search of the elusive bonefish. I was working my way in a southeastern direction to stay ahead of the crowds. I was actually in a friendly contest with Brian O'Keefe, expert angler and photographer from Oregon, to see who could get to a remote island first. He got to Rum Cay before me. I beat him to Crooked Island.

I landed at Acklins Island and got involved in the creation of a great bonefish lodge called Grey's Point Bonefish Inn. To get this up and running, I actually lived on Acklins for weeks at a time with a Bahamian family. We were the first landbased fishing lodge on Acklins and were the first to employ canoes in the pursuit of bonefish. I remember the day the canoes arrived on the mail boat from Nassau, as they were unloading them I heard one of the native women say to another, "Lordy. Look at dose funny little boats!"

Acklins Island had no electricity back then; everybody used generators. The electric company from Nassau was putting in the poles and lines while we were busy painting and getting the lodge ready to open.

Meanwhile up at the north end of Acklins in the small settlement of Chesters, a 73-year old Bahamian woman named Hazel Brown would walk down the main road at dusk carrying a lit kerosene lantern. She would climb 14-feet up a wooden scaffold and hang the lantern on a hook to serve as the light for the boats out at sea. For this, Hazel Brown was paid 65 dollars per month by the Commonwealth of the

: Bahamas. They had been paying her for the past 45 years for her service.

The day arrived when all the poles and lines were in place, the diesel power plant was ready to make electricity and Acklins Island would be electrified for the first time. Reigning Prime Minister of the Bahamas, Hubert Ingraham arrived at Spring Point, the Capitol of Acklins, to throw the switch getting the juice flowing.

In front of a large crowd he gave a typical Nassau politician's speech, shook everybody's hand, then threw the switch. Electric equipment immediately fired up, music began to play and he announced the entire island – from Chesters to Salina Point - had finally entered the twentieth century. Amidst all this political fanfare, a voice from the back of the crowd rained out, "What about Hazel?" The crowd grew silent and looked at each other in puzzlement.

What about Hazel?

For the next eight months the politicians on Acklins, and then Nassau argued back and forth about the future of Hazel, the lamplighter from Chesters.

"Her services were no longer required!"
One side argued.

"But she has been doing this for over forty years!" The other side countered.

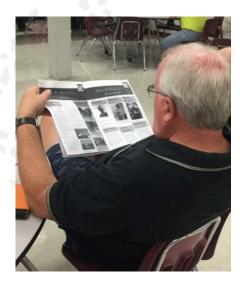
Round and round this issue went until finally reaching the floor of Parliament in Nassau. The newspapers in Nassau picked up on this. Everybody in Nassau was mulling over this issue. There were even Hazel Brown T-shirts circulating around Nassau.

Finally, the Bahamian Government, rather begrudgingly, declared Hazel could continue to light the lamp in Chesters and would be paid until her death.

Hazel Brown died five months later! The wooden scaffold still stands there in Chesters, and her lantern is permanently attached at the top.

Caught

## Reading The Hatch



Welcome

#### New Members

A big MFFC welcome goes out to our new members: Bill Harvey from Commerce Twp.; Andrew McKeon of Canton; Don Zelazny of Rochester Hills; John Mosesso of Saline; Jay Humphries of Farmington; Jim Francis of South Lyon; Wesley Richards of Livonia; Corey Haselhuhn of Ypsilanti; Mark Boedigheimer of Holly; Dorothy Schramm of Pentwater; Mick Musial of West Bloomfield; David Russell of Farmington Hills; Katie Ferner of Rochester Hills; Douglas Vernon of Wixom; Bob Gronevelt of Elk Rapids; and Ken Lootens of Sterling Heights

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