



The Evening

Hatch

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

November 2015

Fishing Saint Mary's River, Ontario

By Sybil Hunter

"The Garden River is eighteen miles of paradise," said Don Mathews, licensed Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York guide, at the November MFFC speaker meeting. "When I first fished the Garden River, the native guide said the fishing was terrible," relayed Mathews. "It was the most most fish I had ever seen in one place. We caught fish until our arms hurt!"

The Garden River is in Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario, Canada. It is fed by the Saint Marys River, which in turn is fed by Lake Huron. A native guide is required as it is located on Indian land. "The beauty of the Garden River is it is all private. There are not a lot of fishers there," said Mathews.

Ben Belleau is Mathews' native guide. "He has a section of the river that is all his. It's a nicer fishing location than any of there other guides'. There is beautiful foliage... nice scenery... and big fish."

"We are there the whole month of September," said Mathews. "There are rainbows and brookies. The only thing we don't get is browns. However, once the salmon show up, the trout take cover. There are Pink salmon, which unlike Kings, are more likely to feed



while spawning. Kings are tough customers. There are seven to ten Pinks for each King salmon. The Coho move really fast. We have a couple of good days of Coho fishing, then they are gone. Atlantic salmon are new up there. They are really a spectacular fish."

The Pink salmon, or humpies, are a an every other year, two year cycle, fish. "They don't have the forage in the lakes as in the past, so they are not as large. They are smaller, but there are more of them!"

"There are also Pinook salmon," said Mathews, "They are a hybrid..."

MFFC Calendar



December 2, 2015

Speaker Meeting

Speaker: Drew Rosema

Topic: Muskegon River

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

December 16, 2015

Activities Meeting &

Garage Sale

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

January 6, 2016

Speaker Meeting

Speaker: Tom Baird

Topic: Au Sable River Update

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.



Don Mathews



Fish Fish Everywhere Fish Fishing Ontario

the Pink salmon are spawning at the same time as the Kings. They are sterile - being sterile they are just following the other fish up the river for the party. They are super aggressive fish!"

Mathews suggests small flies, wooly buggers, egg patterns and matching the hatch.

Due to the low numbers of fish in the Great Lakes, egg incubators are used. Fish cannot swim out of them until they are two inches long. They then have a fighting chance of survival. Mathews provided visuals of the round incubators, as well as Eagle eaten salmon carcasses. He then moved onto photos of their Native Roman Candle (a naturally hollow cedar, stuffed full of burning material and set ablaze).

"It's just beautiful scenery. Bald eagles are everywhere. We saw 11 bald eagles sitting in a tree one year when we arrived. We get to see wolves and bears," said Mathews. "We see a lot of

bear." He then flashed a picture of a very large brown bear that showed up to camp one morning. Shortly thereafter, the problem was solved. "With a dog in camp, it works wonders."

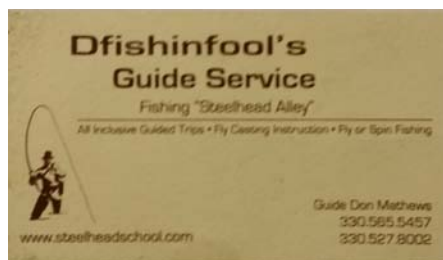
There is an 18 mile long road out to camp. Bring a truck or SUV. All meals are provided. At 9:00 the locals will come down to camp. Breakfast is at 9:00, dinner at 7:00. They cook for you. "The way lunch works is that coolers are set out - it's self serve," says Mathews. "You come up, you're gonna eat good."

There are 10x20 tents with four oversized cots in each. Generators and heaters are provided, there is power all night long. There are two brand new hot water showers and lights in the latrines. For four nights and five full days of fishing the price is \$1350 an angler, all meals included.

A fishing license is not needed, as all fishing is on Indian land. Fishers desiring to take fish home with them, will need to purchase a one day Ontario fishing license. Fish are cleaned and put in a deep freeze for you within hours.

Camp runs from September 9th to October 1st. There are five legs of five fishing days each. Bring your own gear. "There is no problem at all with crowding! There are only 16 fishers in camp at a time," said Mathews. "To target Pink salmon, come for the first leg. To target Atlantic salmon and Steelhead, come for the later legs."

More information is available at www.steelheadschooll.com.



In Memorium Oscar Feliu



In mourning ... The Midwest Fly Fishing Expo mourns the passing of Oscar Feliu, one fly fishing's foremost ambassadors. Featured at the Expo several times, Feliu passed away this week several days before his 67th birthday. A creative, accomplished fly tier and musician, his love affair with fly fishing took root in Michigan after immigrating from his native Chile. He truly was one of our sport's good guys and he'll be greatly missed.

- MFFC FB

A true amaassador for the sport, and selfless individual. He will be missed by all.

- Joe Sprys

Oscar had a profound impact on our sport and was a wonderful presence within our club. He was always smiling and happy. He provided enjoyment to our club not only through his education, speaking and stories, but also through his music. He made everyone feel at ease and welcomed them into his world. Oscar will be deeply missed.

- Chris Hunter



Club Schedule

Seeking Featured Columnists

OUTING	DATE	CHAIR	CONTACT
FFF-GLC Fly Tying Expo	Nov 7, 2015	Bill Shannon	wbshannon@sbcglobal.net
Ultimate Fishing Show	Jan 7-10, 2016	Jim Telinda	jt Linda@aol.com
Members School	Feb 13, 2016	Chris Hunter	chunter@bauerhunter.com
Outdoorama	Feb 25-28, 2016	Jim Telinda	jt Linda@aol.com
Midwest Fly Fishing Expo	Mar 12-14, 2016	Joe Sprys	flyfishmichigan@aol.com
Spring Steelhead	Apr 9, 2016 *tentative*	Michael Doyle	miketheflyguy@gmail.com
Trout Tune-Up	Apr 2, 2016	Scott Freeburg	sfree357@aol.com
Boy Scout School	Apr 23, 2016	Bob Niemi	neimi1@yahoo.com
Youth School	May 14, 2016	Len Dixon	lendixon@comcast.net
Public School	Apr 9, 2016	Chris Hunter	chunter@bauerhunter.com
Opening Weekend	Apr 28-May 1, 2016	Scott Freeburg	sfree357@aol.com
Trout Opener	Apr 30, 2016	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Dick Shott New Members Outing	May 4-7, 2016 *tentative*	Michael Doyle	miketheflyguy@gmail.com
MFFC Banquet	May 18, 2016	TBD	TBD
Smallmouth Outing	May 20, 2016	Todd Schotts	dragoneyeflyz05@yahoo.com
Club Picnic	Jul 30, 2016	John Erikson	248.408.1820
Montana 1	Jul 30-Aug 5, 2016	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Montana 2	Aug 6-12, 2016	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Montana 3	Aug 13-19, 2016	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
AuSable River Clean-up	Sept 10, 2016	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Manistee River Clean-up	Sept 17, 2016	Al Haxton	infoman984@sbcglobal.net



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November Fly Of The Month

Featured Fly

Useful in many variations

Woolly Bugger

By Todd A. Schotts

For this month's featured fly I decided to cast out a fly that is a flyby staple, available in many colors and versions, useful for panfish, bass, trout, or even steelhead. No other fly has been used far and wide in as many continents as this month's fly - the famed Woolly Bugger.

The history of its origin can be traced back to the Old English pattern the Woolly Worm, which is a descendant of the Old English pattern, the Soldier Palmer. The credit for this fly goes to Russell Blessing. He created the Woolly Bugger in Pennsylvania in the late 60's. As most patterns with origins as this, the real history became a nasty wind knot. It was said the Woolly Bugger is a variation of the Black Martinez, which was popularized in the west. Then there is the claim it was originally a bass imitation developed in the late 1800's in Missouri. For all the twist and curves of its history, the success and popularity of this fly cannot be denied. One thing is for sure, the family tree for the Woolly Bugger is very prestigious, proliferated with Old English ancestors like the "Soldier Palmer" and the "Woolly Worm."

Activities Meeting & Garage Sale, Dec 16., 2015

What does this fly resemble? It depends on material and how you tie it; it could resemble leeches, crawfish, large nymphs, shrimp, baitfish, crabs, or even large terrestrials such as hoppers, crickets or caterpillars. If fishing it in freshwater for trout or other warm water species, use olive, brown and black. If fishing for Steelhead, Salmon or saltwater fish you can add brighter colors to entice these amazing species. Along with colors, adding beads, flash, lead or bead eyes, cones, or weight can change how this fly is fished and how it is to deceive the inhabitants of the watershed in which you fish.

The Woolly Bugger was the first fly we most likely tied when we took our first organized tying class. The techniques in tying the Woolly Bugger are the same steps that we use on other flies we tie. One thing I like to do is counter wrap the hackle and rib (if you use rib). This helps reinforce the material on the fly; it also keeps the rib visible, instead of burying into the body material of the fly. As mentioned above, there are so many other options that can be added to the base recipe of this fly. Another example is adding a cone or bead head, lead or bead eyes, and flash. If you want the fly to sink more, aside from using beads or cones, you can also add lead weight to the fly.

If you don't have the Woolly Bugger in your box in variable colors or sizes, you really should. If you are planning on tying with the kids with the Michigan Fly Fishing Club at the Ultimate Fishing Show in January or Outdoorama in February, then here is your pattern.

Until next month, tight lines, Todd.

Fly Variations



HOOK: Streamer, Nymph, or Dry, size's 2 to 14

THREAD: 6/0 or 140 Denier (to match body)

TAIL: Marabou (black, brown, olive, green, or even bright colors)

HACKLE: Rooster Hackle (either match or contrast with body material/tail)

BODY: Chenille or Dubbing (match tail or mix up colors)

OPTIONS: Rib, Cone Head, Bead Head, Lead Eyes, Bead Eyes, and Flash



November Members Corner

Featured Members

Featured Member Tyer

Terry Herron

By Todd A. Schotts

For our Spotlight Featured Tyer this month, we have none other than master tyer, Terry Herron. The fly he will be demonstrating to us is a just amazing pattern. I am talking about "Ben's Stone," by Jeff "Bear" Andrews.

If you are unfamiliar with Terry, here is a brief river report on him: He is a Royal Oak resident, a retired school teacher, works with Royal Oak High School Fly Fishing Club, lends a hand with Project Warriors tying flies, and is very active in Michigan Fly Fishing Club with the Midwest Expo tying with kids, or passing his knowledge on at our various schools. Along with all of that, Terry also has the distinction of being honored with the "Howard Geller - MFFC Volunteer of the Year Award."

In the past you have seen Terry grace the Spotlight Featured Tyer nights by tying BWO Spinners, BWO Emerger's, Spey Flies, and Jack Gartside's Sparrow. This year, he is going to wrap up the Spotlight Featured Tyer night for the fall with Jeff "Bear" Andrews' famed "Ben's Stone" pattern. Rumor has it, that his fly was designed and named when Jeff got the wire for this fly from the now defunct "Ben Franklin Stores." If you don't remember these amazing stores, they carried about anything and everything in



their on their shelves. I know from fishing this fly for Steelhead and Trout it is a great producer of tight lines.

If you want to learn more and tie it, bring your vise, tools, and note taking materials, to sling bobbins with master fly tyer Terry.

HOOK: 2x long nymph size 6-10

TAIL: Black pheasant tail

ABDOMEN: 28ga. Black wire

WINGCASE: Treated turkey tail

THORAX: Peacock herl

HACKLE: Black hen

EYES: Black mono or bead chain

Directions

1. Attach thread and tie in tail
2. Tie in the wire on the side then double it over and tie in on the near side, then wrap the abdomen. Go on to the thorax.
3. Tie in the wing case
4. Tie in 3-4 peacock herls and wrap the thorax. Leave room for the eyes.
5. Tie in the eyes.
6. Tie in the hackle behind the eyes, then 2-3 wraps
7. Fold over the wing case and tie off
8. Whip finish

Members On The Fly

Around The State



June 11, 1992 Au Sable. A walking billboard for the Anglers. They should have been paying me a stipend! :) Back when there were teenagers throughout the Au Sable. Well...my records say 12 and a half inches...a pre-teen. :)



Mike Matuszewski receives an award from the Great Lakes Council of IFFF.



Michigan Fly Fishing Club

Club Events

Bring on the Bass!

Small Mouth Outing



Speaker Meeting -.Tom Baird January 6, 2016

Meeting Minutes Michigan Fly Fishing Club Board Meeting September 9, 2015 at 7:30 pm

Roll Call

Present: Bocks ,Oehring, Doyle, Finstad , Freeburg, Vanderhoof, Nowicki, Telinda
Absent: Hunter, Drinkwine
Visitor: Don Oehring

Approval of Minutes - Approved
Approval of Agenda - Approved

Officer Reports

President - Finstad

Royal Oak fishing club had no graduates in 2014. All members are returning. MFFC support is important for the growth of this club.

Acknowledgment of John Erickson for club picnic work. Todd Schotts won the new casting competition TFO fly rod. 6 expo speakers are under contract.

Vice President - Freeburg

Nothing to report

Treasurer - Oehring

Approval of treasurer's report. Discussion of July's treasurers report with amendment and CD funds.

Audit Committee appointment- President Finstad to appoint chairman.

Corresponding Secretary - Vanderhoof
Speaker schedule update.

Hatch - Sybil Hunter

Nothing to report

Website - Harry Briggs

Need final outing calendar submissions by Oct 14 to update site.

Membership - Nowicki

264 paid members 186 members have not paid for this current year. MFFC board would like to recognize the Membership for being very generous in contributing to the CRF and for paying dues in a timely fashion.

Events and Outings

Garage Sale is Dec 16.

Banquet Committee Chair is needed for 2016 banquet. An announcement will be made at the next meeting.

Expo succession - a plan is in place for expo chairman succession.

New Business

MUCC TRACKS magazine sponsorship approved.

Insurance Coverage.- Insurance Agent to be invited to a board meeting to discuss coverage.

CRF funding- Discussion regarding budget for 2015 year.

Old Business

Club / School fly rod purchase status
Web Links. Discussion Regarding adding a link to the MFFC website for a non-profit Reel Recovery. Board decided that the MFFC website does not offer links to other organizations at this time. MUCC sponsorship discussion and approval.

Visitor Comment-None



Michigan Fly Fishing Club

Club Events

Go West!

YNP Trip Planning

The Madison River. The Yellowstone River. The Gallatin River. Soda Butte. Slough Creek. The list goes on and on... Some of the most fabled trout streams of our nation are in and around the Yellowstone Park area. Each year, members of The Michigan Fly Fishing Club venture out to the Yellowstone Park area and share fishing, food and great camaraderie. Each year we visit the first National Park in the world, and not only enjoy the fishing opportunities, but have chances for some great wild life viewing and picture taking. With bison, elk, wolves and bears in and around the park area we all take more photographs than we believe, and always thank our lucky stars that we don't use film anymore.

In 2016 we have reserved Driftwaters Resort, just downstream from the famous Three Dollar Bridge area on the Madison River. We have THREE weeks reserved now, and start Saturday July 30th and run all the way to Saturday August 20th. The Driftwaters Resort is slightly smaller than where we have stayed in the past. We can house 10-12 folks for the first week, 7/30 to 8/6, and 14 to 18 folks the next two weeks, 8/6 to 8/13 and 8/13 to 8/20. This is caused by the fact that

Driftwaters has far more double, queen and king beds that our other home in the Yellowstone area. Obviously with full and queen beds we have far more room for couples than before, but singles are certainly welcome and are expected. The expected budget will be about \$450 a person per week. This includes lodging for the week in a new cabin and food for breakfast and dinner each day we are at base camp. Each week of our stay we also have reservations in Cooke City Montana for Thursday night stay and dinner in that fine town. We stay there one night each week to give our participants the opportunity to fish the eastern side of Yellowstone Park and try their skills on Soda Butte, Slough Creek and the Lamar River. The cost of that night is extra and not included in the main budget.

We always fish with partners during this trip so if you are alone on your reservation please consider a buddy for your partner.

As in years past, I will start taking reservations the day of the first Michigan Fly Fishing Club meeting in December 2015. According to my notes about club meetings, that will be Wednesday December 2, 2015. Deposits are not needed at that time, just your name and email. Joyce and I plan to be at the first meeting in December, and since this trip always sells out quickly, come and see us and get your name on the list for a wonderful experience of fishing and sight seeing in the Yellowstone Park area.

I promise you, it will be a trip you will enjoy, relive and want to repeat.

See you at the first meeting in December. -Al Haxton, the travel guy



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