



*The Evening*

# Hatch

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

November 2016

## Fishing On The White River

*By Sybil Hunter*

“Tonight I’m going to show you some of the access points along the White River,” said Todd Schotts, MFFC member and November’s speaker. The river is 23 miles long, houses 253 miles of streams, covers three counties (Newaygo, Oceana and Muskegon), is 95% swamps and bogs, then eventually discharges into Lake Michigan. “It is stocked with browns from White Cloud to Hesperia. The head waters are hard to access as there is much private property, along with the bogs and swamps,” said Schotts.

Bears reside up around 6 Mile Road, the first access point Schotts suggests. “South of Six Mile Road to VanBuren...is at least a 12 hour wade,” said Schotts. “The time to fish this is at the beginning of spring. There are trout hotels in there.”

At VanBuren Street, there is a lot of private property. “They will kick you out, and there are no longer any access points at Jackson. You must go to Three Mile Road,” said Schotts.

From 3 Mile Road, “You can wade to Monroe street; there is very thick cover.”

Monroe Street (Old M-20) offers wading. “It is actually very good fishing down to Two Mile Road, most of it is gravel. It’s all high sticking, no casting,” said Schotts.

At 2 Mile Road, “This is where I see a lot of the bears. Coyotes. You can hear them,” Schotts added, “There are some weird sounds I have never heard before in that area after dark.” Farther down that trek,



“The bridge is gone. It was washed out and was never built again. There are Browns and Brook Trout in there.” This stretch sports tons of overhanging branches, root systems, and cover providing river structure and debris for hiding.

Lake White Cloud (Mill Pond), “Fish at the spillway,” said Schotts. “There are Brookies in the park. Fish below the railroad bridge...but do NOT get underneath that bridge when a train comes through, you can’t hear for two days...it really rumbles around in there!”

Around 37, “We caught little Rainbows there,” said Schotts, “down below the bridge.”

As an aside, Schotts advises taking time to visit The Flowing Well. “The board tells  
*Continued on Page 2*

## MFFC Calendar



**December 7, 2016**

**Speaker Meeting**

**Speaker: Matt Supinski**

**Topic: Trout Selectivity**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**December 14, 2016**

**Garage Sale Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**January 11, 2017**

**Speaker Meeting**

**Speaker: Mark Hendricks**

**Topic: Casting Seminar**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**January 25, 2016**

**Activities Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**February 1, 2016**

**Speaker Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.



Keep on fishing ->



*Continued from Page 1*

the history of how they wanted to build a hotel there, put dynamite into the rock, and water has flowed ever since.”

Another point of access is North Country Trail, a mountain bike trail. Then at Rattlesnake Creek - “There are some great fish back there but you get into some nasty crap,” said Schotts.

Baldwin Avenue, “When it rains, it comes up fast here, south of 20. You do alot of walking. I do alot of dry fly fishing back in this area.”

M20 Roadside Park, “This has some nice Brook Trout and nice Browns in there too. We actually ran into a bear back there too,” said Schotts.

Luce Avenue to Warner Avenue section, “This is my favorite spot,” Schotts said enthusiastically. Todd’s uncle used to own much of the river access, so he is extremely familiar with this section. “To access the White at Luce Avenue, go across the bridge and park on Two Mile Road, just off Luce.” He advises, “From Warner, you need a four wheel drive. Watch out for the dog by the road too. It is a seasonal road; they do not take care of this road.”

It is a very bendy passage once in the river. “Stay next to the bank. It’s really deep. There are usually fish in there.” This is the stretch of river where everything is always “around the next bend.”

“Black Wing Caddis and Blue Wing Olives are big players in that area.” This section is a five hour wade, 12 if you have

Speaker Meeting: Matt Supinski - Dec 7, 2016

someone new with you. “It is all private on both sides so you can’t get out of the river.”

Next, Schotts showed where to find the big runs, deep pools and good riffles.

At Warner Avenue, there are no access points until Grossback or Green Roads.

At Green Road, the river widens then narrows again.

Schotts provided a list of items so as to come prepared, “For gear I suggest a three or four weight rod, 6x or 7x tippet, and definitely a wading staff.” Streamers? Anything Woolly Bugger. Flies? Borchers’, Adam’s Post, Caddis’, Mr. Perfect..... Nymphs? Pheasant Tail, Zug Bugs, Compton’s BWO Jig, Prince Nymphs....

Get in touch with Schotts for a full list of fly shops and food establishments. Schotts

mentioned Hesperia Sport Shop, Muskegon River Fly Shop in Newaygo, and Great Lakes Fly Shop. For the latter, he spoke highly of Daniel’s Restaurant and very enthusiastically said, “The BP station in Hespira has some of the best broasted chicken ever!”

His parting advice was to point out that due to the conditions, there is no canoe traffic in the stream area, and very little on the lake...but “Watch out for bobcats, coyotes, bears, and up in the headwaters - cougars.”

### Meeting Minutes Michigan Fly Fishing Club Board Meeting September 21, 2016 at 7:30 pm

#### Roll Call

Present: Freeburg, Vanderhoof, Oehring, Nowicki, Bada, Telinda, Strachan, Selinger, Finstad  
Absent: Bocks  
Guests: Todd Schotts, Linda Bocks, Jim Weakland

#### Approval of Minutes - Approved

#### Approval of Agenda - Approved

#### Officer’s Reports:

##### President - Freeburg

Mike Matuszewski will chair Audit Committee  
Eric Center will chair Conservation Committee  
Jim Aiken will chair Banquet Committee; new contact at the club and needs the \$750 deposit for 2017 Banquet;  
Jim Telinda will handle the deposit.  
Jim Weakland chair “resurfaced” Rod Building Team

GLC FFL Leadership Development Council at Wawa  
Sun Nov 5<sup>th</sup>

#### Vice President - Vanderhoof

##### Treasurer - Oehring

July 2016 (Year End): loss of \$481, exceed budget on income & expense; getting ready for tax filing for Tax Year this would include a W9 for anyone having income of \$600 or more; Spence to follow-up with any missing ones (ie banquet speaker fee)

August 2016: new year with \$ coming in membership  
To recruit a new treasurer for 2017-2018 club fiscal year  
Club check signature to be only President & Treasurer

##### Corresponding Secretary - Bocks

Speaker’s Update: lined up thru March 2017; email to Clarenceville for Jan 11 gym availability for Mark  
**Hatch - Sybil Hunter:** meeting dates this year are confirmed to be published; Sept Hatch issue needs to print budget; new board members will be published.

**Website - Harry Briggs:** Updates were down last week;  
Telinda suggests “favorite icon” to appear on all pages

##### Membership - Nowicki

Current: 453 active members; 201 members have not paid their 2016-2017 membership dues  
Stats: over 517 members who joined the club from 2000-2015 are no longer active members

\$50 was donated to the club in memory of John Beach  
**Events and Outings:**

*Mike Doyle’s chart* – documents annual/repeat event dates w/ Chairman’s name and contact info ( Steve to take on); Peter has a chart to use for monthly meetings

*Garage Sale Date:* Dec 14<sup>th</sup> at the Activity Meeting  
*Outdoor Rama:* needs new chairman

#### New Business:

*Chris Hunter:* Name Tag Holders for Expo – by Vedavoo with a smaller logo; and estimated cost for smaller patch size; Board likes price, wants sample  
Board voted unanimously to order 100 tag holders with an extra 100 small patches (for new members) on 09/28.  
*Peter Albertson:* Club hats, shirt, and vest – logo to be full color hats: 8 panel extended brim with deep hat: yellow dot logo; shirts: with club logo; guide style; vest: fleece by either Simms or local shop logo embroidered

#### Club Calendar Update

*GLC FFF Expo* (now called West Michigan Flyfishing Show) – tying expo in East Kentwood (Jan 14<sup>th</sup>); board’s direction is get a booth for the event; chairperson/volunteer required; flyers to be provided  
*MUCC Track’s (Kids) Magazine:* appropriate \$500 education fund; placed under Art Ditmar’s name

#### Old Business:

##### Visitor(s) Comments:

*Muskegon River Outing summary*

##### Adjournment



# MFFFC Business

*Al The Hackleman Fishing Guru imparts wisdom on page 6 ->*

## Meeting Minutes Michigan Fly Fishing Club Board Meeting October 26, 2016 at 7:30 pm

### Roll Call:

Present: Freeburg; Vanderhoof; Oehring; Bocks; Nowicki; Bada; Telinda; Strachan; Selinger  
Absent: Finstad  
Guests: Linda Bocks; Peter Albertson; Mike Matuszewski; Mike Doyle

### Approval of Minutes - Approved

### Approval of Agenda - Approved

### Officer's Reports:

#### President - Freeburg

2016-17 Event Calendar: quick review of the event's name, dates and chairperson; typos edited and fall 2017 event added; calendar approved for publication

#### Vice President - Vanderhoof

Bill Shannon to accompany VP to the West Michigan Fly Fishing Show Jan 14

#### Treasurer - Oehring

About \$15k added last month based on membership dues and expo booth rental fees received  
\$500 check made to MUCC Tracks Magazine (in Art Ditmar's name)

All existing W9 Tax Filing's information filled out  
Signature card revised for club checks to be only current President & Treasurer

#### Corresponding Secretary - Bocks

Speaker's Update: lined up thru March 2017; April 2017 speaker not booked

Constant Contact (CC) database/broadcast glitch. Root cause: CC investigating, preliminary feedback could be Constant Contact upgrade caused certain email accounts' firewall restriction to malfunction, CC is looking into other causes. Situation: about 20 members notified Steve regarding not getting latest message blast. Follow up action: membership to be notified via next monthly meeting to see if more are effected.

#### Membership - Nowicki

Current: 459 active members; 115 members have not paid their 2016-17 membership dues  
Second reminder notices sent out

### Events and Outings:

*Members' School:* looking into new location for Feb 18<sup>th</sup> event date, presented by Mike Doyle  
Previous location's lease at Northville HS will not be renewed (due to 50% membership residency requirement). Looking into other local possibilities to

allow us classrooms, casting sessions and small café/ chili cookoff location; a rental budget around \$500.  
Royal Oak HS venue being investigated, due to MFFC partnership with ROHS Flyfishing Club. Mike to give ROHS' feedback to the Board once received.  
*Ultimate Fishing Show and Outdoor Rama:* needs new chairperson(s); oversight of event and passion to be at the event is highly recommended; if no chairperson steps, there is a possibility that the latter will be supported by the club

### New Business:

*Mike Matuszewski:* MFFC 2015-16 Financial Review Report. Overall summary: exemplary work being done by the club and treasurer; report recommends use of existing processes, records as well as corresponding receipts, were well in order. Several recommendations given to the board on better record/receipt keeping, cash advances and internal transfers were discussed. The Board wanted to thank the Review Committee (Mike Matuszewski, Peter Albertson and Bill Shannon) for their efforts; additional gratitude to the current Treasurer.

*Peter Albertson:* Club hats, shirt, and vest – embroidered logo with no background color hats: 6 panel brimmed hat: 3 colors to be ordered (qty of 20 each); motion to approve purchase of 60 hats for \$900; shirts: guide style with expo logo; from Simms, approx. \$40 each; vest: fleece by Simms with club logo; approx. \$45 each.

*Peter Albertson:* Citizens' Climate Lobby pamphlets passed out to Board members; Peter requesting the club to allow him to have an open discussion on carbon fees on fossil fuels (clean power) initiative at future club meetings; no club endorsement or funding requested at this meeting

### Old Business:

*GLC FFL Leadership Development Council* at Wawa  
Sum Nov 5: weekend activities were canceled but workshop will meet for Saturday only

### Visitor(s) Comments

### Adjournment



### 2015 – 2016 Officers

#### President:

Scott Freeburg  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

#### Vice President:

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# November Fly Of The Month

A Solid Fast Water Fly

## Humpy Variations

By Todd A. Schotts

While pondering which fly I should bring out this month, a friend of mine down in Tennessee called asking if I had any Humpy Flies in stock. It then dawned on me...of course! Why not make November Humpy Fly month?!

The history for this fly is as tangled as those nasty wind knots that occur in your tippets, leaders, and fly lines. For many historians (yes there is historians for the history of flies), they believe the fly was hatched during the early 1940's by California Fly Tyer, Jack Horner. The original name was Horner's Deer Hair Fly. Now this is where it gets twisted and even more knotted; a similar fly was also hatched at the same time in Canada called Tom Thumb. Once these patterns made their way to the Rocky Mountain region, it was referred to as the Goofus Bug. In the late 1940's the term "Humpy" was attached to the fly within the regions of Jackson Hole, Wyoming where the name branded the fly and stuck. The final name was thought to be brought about by Boots Allen, the owner of a small fly shop in Jackson Hole. This fly was actually popularized by Jack Dennis in his Western Trout Fly Tying Manual.

The ingredients that make this fly one of the most successful attractor flies is the deer/elk hair, creating its large appearance and its amazing floatability. But with all of its success, the fear a lot of fly tyers have is that this fly is one of the hardest flies to tie. There are a so many variations which makee the family of Humpy's well branched. The most

popular version is probably the Yellow Humpy, then you have Royal Humpy, Adam's Humpy, Elk Hair Humpy, the Black Humpy, and the unique Double Humpy. The Double Humpy was actually a mistake at the vise by Joe Allen, son of Boots Allen in 1981. But the mistake ended up working out great, so it became yet another version of the original pattern. And we cannot forget about the crazy family member, the "Foam Humpy."

However you tie this unique, albeit difficult pattern, it will be glorious. The replacement of the deer hair by elk hair for the wing and hump was made popular by Jack Dennis back in the early 1960's. Whatever hair you decide to use, make sure you pick hair that doesn't flair to much. Look for early season or early summer patches of hair. Back when they tied the original pattern, the same patch of hair was used for the hump and the wing. Tying it that way, your wings would have been short or oversize, fly not staying upright, and it just caused a lot of issues amongst tyers. Many tyers now do this with two patches of hair, one for the hump and one for the wing.

The main thing that made these flies so popular is that they work well in big fast waters. You can fish this fly alone, or use it as top fly tying a dropper on to it. However you fish or tie this fly, if you are in fast waters in Michigan, out West, or down in the Mountains of Tennessee, this fly will bring you many tight lines. Until next month Tight Lines and Snazzy Flies.



*The Humpy*



**HOOK:** *Dry Fly TMC 100, Daiichi 1100 sizes 8 to 18*

**THREAD:** *8/0 or 70 denier color to match body (yellow or chartreuse are the most successful ones)*

**TAIL:** *Deer, Elk, or Moose*

**UNDERBODY:** *Thread*

**SHELL/HUMP:** *Deer, Elk, or Foam*

**WING:** *Deer or Elk*

**HACKLE:** *Grizzly and Grizzly dyed Coachman Brown*





# November Tyer Of The Month

For The Love Of Fishing

## Steve Bocks

By Todd A.Schotts

For our November Spotlight/Featured Tyer I will be bringing someone new to our front table camera. If you fish, especially in Montana or Colorado, the flies that will be demonstrated will cause the following symptoms: "Joy, Excitement, and Many Tight Lines." That tyer will be none other than Steve Bocks!

Here is the fishing report on our Spotlight/Featured Tyer: Steve Bocks is our Corresponding Secretary for the Michigan Fly Fishing Club and has served on the Board in other positions. He has been fishing his whole life and fly fishing for over 35 years. He considers one of his greatest blessings in life to be growing up in a family that enjoyed spending time outdoors in the woods and on the water. He will confess he is a diehard dry fly fisherman, although he has been known to tie on a nymph or two at times. Steve considers Bob Smock and Rusty Gates his mentors in fly tying and the knowledge he gained from their friendship an inspiration in developing his original patterns. Steve mentions he is blessed to have a family (Linda & Alek and his brother Bill) that also enjoy his passion for the sport. Having a brother in Colorado also allows him to travel west to explore some of the best

### *SB Flashback Midge*



**HOOK:** *Daiichi 1130 Scud Hook*

**BEAD:** *5/64 Tungsten Nickel Black*

**THREAD:** *Black 140 Denier or 6/0 Thread*

**WIRE:** *Fine Silver*

**THORAX:** *Peacock Herl*

**WING CASING:** *Pearl Flash Tinsel*

rivers on the planet, although he will admit the AuSable is his home water.

The two flies he will be bringing us, are patterns that he developed for the Bighorn River in Montana. Both patterns are bead head nymphs and can be fished on a two-fly nymph rig or a dropper off a dry fly.

So if you want to tie two amazing fly patterns, bring your vises, tools, note taking material and get your bobbins ready to sling along with Steve Bocks!

### *Bighorn Iced Quill Body*



**HOOK:** *Daiichi 1130 Scud Hook*

**BEAD:** *5/64 Tungsten Nickel Black*

**THREAD:** *Black 140 Denier or 6/0*

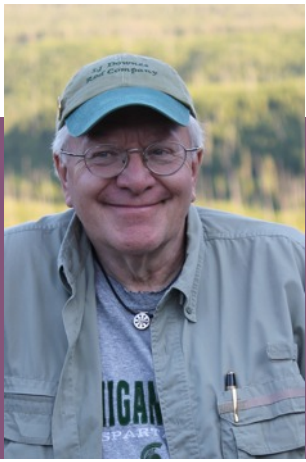
**BODY:** *Goose Quill dyed Dark Hendrickson*

**THORAX:** *UV Ice Dub Orange*

**TAIL:** *Sparkle Flash*

**WING CASING:** *Pearl Flash Tinsel*





# Meanderings of a Fly Fishing Guru

Al The Hackleman

## Let's Go Fishing

Happy Thanksgiving to all MFFC members and their loved ones.

That sure does sound like the end of the year kind of thing. Joyce and I fished Monday November 7 for about an hour and a half. The day was lovely and sunny and about 66 degrees. We had to take advantage of that kind of day because we knew it was not going to last. And, it didn't last long. Today was in the mid-40s with clouds and rain. So we kept to our promise to fish every month this year. Now we are hoping for a nice day next month to fulfill the December requirement.

While thinking about fishing, I have to share with everyone that Joyce and I will be at the first MFFC meeting of December. My calendar tells me that's Wednesday December 7. We will be there to start sign up for the 2017 Yellowstone adventure. We are hosting another three weeks in the Yellowstone area again this year and we have already made reservations at the base camp, Driftwaters Resort. I think I can speak for all participants this year to say we all had a good time at Driftwaters and look forward to returning there next year.

In thinking about the Yellowstone trip, I must say I truly think one of the best reasons for being a member of The Michigan Fly Fishing Club is the trips that are offered, from the Opening Day trip right here in Grayling to the salt water trip to Mayaquana for Bonefish, there are lots of opportunities to find new places to fish and new species to

fish for. And all with a fly rod. I have noted many times in the past, we don't care what you fish for as long as you use a fly rod and flies. So do yourself a favor and look into the many different trip offerings. We have Bass trips, Salmon trips and all sorts of other trips with buddies and friends. So get involved and plan a fishing trip and find some new spots and buddies.

Back to Yellowstone now. The MFFC Yellowstone trip was started by Phil Heck about 15 years ago. We started with one week in the Yellowstone area, since then the trip has grown to two, and now three weeks in the Yellowstone Park area.

Currently we stay at Driftwaters Resort which is located in the Madison Valley just downstream from \$3 Bridge. We rent cabins there and do our own catering to keep costs down and reasonable. The current budget is about \$460 a person per week and we always suggest that folks partner up to keep car rental costs down and to have another person fishing with them all the time. We have had more couples share the trip with us in the past few years, so if you want to fish with your significant other please consider our trip for a week or more of fun and wonderful sightseeing.

For 2017 we have three weeks available again. Week #1 starts Saturday July 29 and runs to Saturday August 5. Week #2 is Saturday August 5 to Saturday August 12. Week #3 is Saturday August 12 to Saturday August 19. With about 2000 miles of Trout stream within a two hour drive, I can assure you that you will not get bored fishing the Yellowstone Park area. So come on over to the Detention Table and ask us some questions and let's see what we can offer for a nice fishing trip next year. No deposit is needed at this time so don't bring money. Please don't bring money.

Hoping to see you then.

Happy Thanksgiving.





# Michigan Fly Fishing Club

## Club Events

MFFC Royal Oak High School

### River Clean Up



Speaker Meeting: Mark Hendricks - January 11, 2016

Noted Special

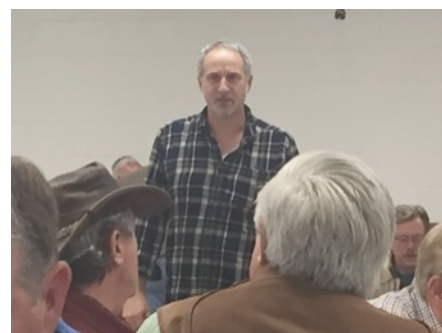
### Recognition

I want to thank all the club members that attended the Muskegon River Outing, the owners of the Old Dam Inn for letting us stay there, Charlie for opening up the Muskegon River Fly Shop for us, J. Dean Sausage Company for such a great samples of amazing sausages and cheese curds, and to the Michigan Fly Fishing Club's Board for letting me organize and chair this outing. A lot of memories were made, some we will never forget - like Mr. Fish Oil. Tight Lines and Snazzy Flies. Todd Schotts.



Welcome!

### Rod Emery



Rod, aptly named, joined us at the MFFC November Speaker Meeting. Fishing the Huron River, Rod met Jim Rivers (also aptly named).

As the story goes, "Jim asked, 'Do you belong to The Club?' No. I said, and he said I had to join." Rod was filling out membership paperwork when I left - welcome Rod!

Look I'm In

### Detention

