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The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

**MARCH 2014** 

**Updating Environmental Issues In Michigan** 

Tom Baird, VP of the Angler's of the Au Sable, addressed environmental water concerns in Michigan at March's speaker meeting. He reported the Angler's of the Au Sable's habitat restoration group is focusing on tracking where the big fish are to learn better stream restoration skills. The group has also lobbied the DNR to plant Atlantic Salmon in the waters of Michigan. "The first went in last year at the mouth of the Au Sable by the restaurant," reported Baird. "The first Atlantic Salmon returned a couple of days ago....18 inch salmon."

He is involved with The Michigan Hydro Relicensing Operation which recently witnessed a big settlement with Consumer's Power, putting in place new environmental rules. Angler's of the Au Sable are also involved in the Pigeon River fight, "resulting in the removal of all upstream dams in the Pigeon River. This movement was started by a FFF board member. The lowest most dam, in Traverse City, will be left in the river. Licensing comes up every 20 years."

Other Angler's of the Au Sable projects include the River Watch, Fall Clean-up, and presence at MFFC's Midwest Expo. Baird also mentioned the on-going movement for Camp Grayling to assimilate an additional 41,000 acres of land on which to practice military exercises. This would greatly reduce access to the waters in the Grayling area. The group is also involved in the current catch and release debate, along with the oil and gas fight on which he spent a large amount of focus based on membership inquiries as frakking sights are present at the headwaters of the Au Sable and Manistee.

"We realize oil is here to stay, in the headwaters of the Au Sable," said Baird,



citing legal cases regarding pipeline regulation. "In light of this, we created our own oil and gas committee." Angler's of the Au Sable have joined efforts with Dave Heinman, hydrogeologist and university department head, installing stream flow monitors in the areas where frakking occurs. In the areas of frakking, the water flow decreased remarkably. Information was also gleaned from the UofM Graduate Institute study on the effects of frakking in the Manistee area.

Encana, a Canadian company, "They are the biggest frakking company of the north," said Baird. "They bought out Shell's licensing rights, including the liabilities of leaking old sites. In 2010, they used a lot of water. The old frakking used 10,000 to 20,000 gallons of water. The new frakking uses 35 million gallons of water per well in one month."

(continued on page 2)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



April 2, 2014 Speaker Meeting: Speaker: Dennis Kline Topic: Mystic Fly Rods Clarenceville Middle School Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

April 23, 2014
Activities Meeting
Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

May 7, 2014
Speaker Meeting:
Speaker: TBD
Topic: TBD
Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

## Hatch

#### Michigan Fly Fishing Club P.O. Box 530861 Livonia, MI 48153

2013 - 2014 Officers

President: Christopher Hunter mffc.president@gmail.com 734-207-0575

Vice President: Dan Finstad MFFCClub@gmail.com 248-650-0172

Corresponding Secretary: Spencer Vanderhoof svanderhoof@mi.rr.com 248-974-4235

Recording Secretary: Mike Scott MFFCClub@gmail.com 248-338-9379

Treasurer: Scott Freeburg mffc.treasurer@gmail.com 248-366-6783

Membership: A.L. Bulszewicz mffc.membership@gmail.com 734-954-9994

Immediate Past President: Bruce Kramer MFFCClub@gmail.com 248-672-9056

At-Large Directors: Todd Schotts MFFCClub@gmail.com 248-410-4164

Ken Thelan MFFCClub@gmail.com 313-822-3029

Steve Bocks MFFCClub@gmail.com 734-444-6722

Hatch Editor: Sybil Hunter evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com 734-207-0575

Webmaster: Harry Briggs habriggs@gmail.com 586-725-7818 (continued from page 1)

Permanent removal of this water from the ecosystem, "dried up a sight on the Manistee. They (frakkers) ran out of water and bought water from Kalkaska. It (frakking) dried up drinking wells. There is no resale value to this land. There is a current site near Black Creek, another tributary to the Manistee, this will dry up Black Creek. I think we have a problem."

"We don't know enough about ground water and surface water to say 'go ahead' to these frakking projects," noted Baird. "We do not say ban frakking, as it is not a convincing argument right now. But I can tell you, the wrongest place is the headwaters of the Au Sable, and that's where they are doing it."

"The Holy Waters are called The Holy Waters for a reason," said Baird. If seeking further information on this topic, a thorough article on the Holy Wars was recently published in The American Angler magazine.

'Two times a year, the state auctions off the mineral rights. The designations are 'surface use' which are oil and frakking rigs, and 'leases.'" For example, "North Down River Road and M-92 have a blockage of surface use, but leasing is still allowed." When this issue first came up, Anglers of the Au Sable contacted MFFC, and other groups like MUCC and TU instituting an email campaign. Baird pointed out, "I was called up and asked what was going on. They were receiving an email about the issue every four minutes! That's where groups like you, MUCC and TU really make a difference." The surface use was stopped. Now Sierra Club is calling for a moratorium on

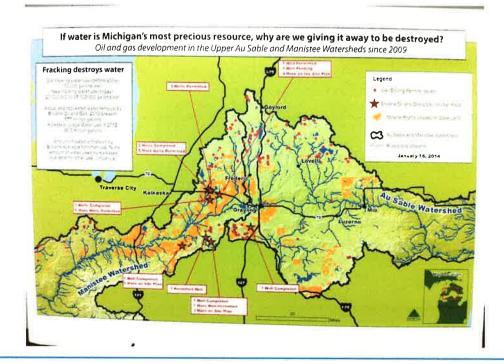
frakking until better regulations are in place.

"All of this happened quietly," warned Baird. "Jackie Rose, Michigan's own Erin Brockovich, works with Paul Brady who slogs through swamps and wetlands to find these sites."

"World records of water are used to break up the shale in Michigan," said Baird, "These wells are turning out marginal at best." LinkTV provides similar information, like Baird mentioned, that the shale in Michigan is particularly dense. Marcellus Shale, when mined could potentially provide the U.S. natural gas for 14 years. Along with permanent water removal from the eco system, includes the concern of radium laced waste products pumped back into the ground water system. These companies are two years into a 30 year oil drilling plan. Baird continued. "Again. each well uses 35 million gallons of water a piece."

"What are they charged for water?" inquired an MFFC club member. Baird responded, "Nothing. Water is given out free." "They charges us for water," said the club member. "Where does the water go?" asked another club member. "It goes away," stated Baird. "It is pumped full of sand and chemicals. All this gets in there and the water is destroyed. It is toxic waste. That toxic waste stays in the ground in tanks or is shipped off in tanks to be buried. Forever."

"The real issue," said Baird, "Is for the first time ever, the frakkers out bid the ranchers for water. It is the agriculture of food (and water) versus oil."



MFFC does not take an official position on the issues involved in this month's article. For further information on the topics discussed by Jim Baird, see the links below:

Camp Grayling background: <a href="http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1988-03-30/news/8803040928">http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1988-03-30/news/8803040928</a> 1 camp-grayling-guard-spokesmen-ohio-national-guard

Camp Grayling timeline environmental impact: <a href="http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3417">http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3417</a>

Pigeon River information: <a href="http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1">http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=1</a>

Gas well history: <a href="http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3419">http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3419</a>

Current oil & gas well activities: <a href="http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3564">http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3564</a>

Actual water usage numbers: http://www.ausableanglers.org/files/WaterUse January28 2014 portrait.pdf

Further information regarding the Holy Water frakking project: <a href="http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?">http://www.ausableanglers.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?</a>
<a href="page: 4565">page: 4565</a>

Criminal charges agains Encana: <a href="http://www.ausableanglers.org/files/03">http://www.ausableanglers.org/files/03</a> 05 14%2BSchuette%2BFiles%2BCriminal %2BCharges%2BAgainst%2BChesapeake%2Band%2BEncana%2BCorporations.pdf

Anglers Of The Au Sable Environment Report: <a href="http://michiganradio.org/post/anglers-au-sable-issues-report-oil-gas-pipelines">http://michiganradio.org/post/anglers-au-sable-issues-report-oil-gas-pipelines</a>

#### 2014 Michigan Fly Fishing Club Annual Banquet

The annual Michigan Fly Fishing Club Banquet will be held on Wednesday May 21, 2014 at the Italian American Hall on Five Mile Road (by I-275) in Livonia. The banquet speaker will be Pat Dorsey. Many fine door prizes and special members only prizes will be awarded.

The cost is \$40 per person with a cash bar available. Meal selections are: 8 oz. New York Strip, Chicken Piccata or Salmon Siciliano. Tickets will be available at club meetings beginning March 19.

Also, in the early afternoon preceding the banquet, a special fly tying session will be conducted by Pat Dorsey. A separate fee and sign-up sheet will be available at club meetings for this additional event.

Banquet Agenda

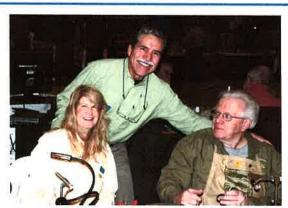
5:30 to 6:30 PM Arrival & social hr 6:15 to 7:15 PM Door Prize Drawing 50/50 Ultimate Drawing entries 7:15 PM Dinner begins Continue 50/50 Drawing Entries Continue Door Prize Drawing 8:00 PM Introductions and Remarks 50/50 Drawing Award 8:10 PM Guest Speaker: Pat Dorsey

A native of Colorado, Pat has been guiding for over 20 years. He spends around two hundred days a year on the water, enjoying a unique quality of life both personally and professionally. In addition, Pat is Guide Director and partner in the Blue Quill Angler fly shop. He oversees and trains more than two dozen guides and helps to set the standard for integrity and

professionalism in the Blue Quill Angler guide operation. Pat, also, writes the central Rocky Mountain stream report that monitors stream flows and conditions on the Blue, Colorado, South Platte (Cheesman, Deckers, Spinney Mountain Ranch, and Elevenmile Canyon), North Fork of the South Platte, and Williams Fork rivers.

Pat is proud to be a **Simms Guide Ambassador** and a member of the **Sage Fly Rods Advisory Team.**Pat is the *Southwest Field Editor* for **Fly Fisherman Magazine**.

Authored Books include: A Fly
Fishing Guide to the South Platte
River; Fly Fishing Tailwaters; and
Tying and Fishing Tailwater Flies
8:45 PM Special Members Only Door
Prize Drawing



#### **Photo Caption Contest**

Al says what? Submissions are currently being accepted at <u>evening hatch mffc@gmail.com</u> for official captions to accompany the picture to the left. All submissions will be considered. A winning submission will published in an upcoming issue of The Evening Hatch.

#### **Photo Submissions**



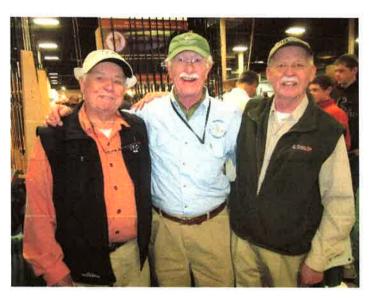
Oscar Feliu, Rick Kustich Eric Stroup, Prescott Smith, Joe Humphreys at the MFFC Expo



It is officially spring!



Midwest Fly Fishing Expo Set-up Crew



Joe Humphreys, Peter Albertson, & Bob Jacklin



The Holt Show



Dan Finstad rubbing elbows with the hardware fly guys.

## Michigan Fly Fishing Club Minutes January 2014

Call to order: 7.28 pm

Roll Call Hunter Freeburg Scott Schotts Vanderhoff Finstad Bocks Thelen Bulszewicz

Review and Approval Of Minutes - Approved as amended. moved Schotts Second Freeburg

Approval of Agenda - Moved Schotts - Second Bock

#### Officer Reports

President Report Hunter Report from Begley that the price of Rayburn has been raised. Possibly looking for new Rod Show Chair next year. Inventory of rods and reel complete.

Vice President - Finstad: Expo update given and we are still in discussion over Banquet speaker

Treasurers Report - Freeburg: Report handed out. Reviewed. Approved. Moved Scott - Second Finstad

Corresponding Secretary - Vanderhoof: Rich Merlino to speak at June meeting. April meeting open at this time. Hatch OK with Harry Briggs absent due to wife's illness.

Further announcement will be made to members about browsers needing to be cleaned out to get to website.

Membership - Bulszewicz: Membership count corrected to read 356 members; all MUCC info sent out.

Events & Outings: Trout Opener April 24-27th at the Bear Creek Lodge, Further looking into Riverview Lodge for further events.

New Business: Mike Doyle gave date of New Member School of Feb. 15th. Also asked to present petition to membership about the use of professional and sound scientific management of wildlife. Petition is in response to outside pressure over the wolf hunt.

Smallmouth Outing changes given by Todd Schotts. (1) No friday night dinner (2) Request Monies paid by April 3rd. Further Todd was approached by Grand River Fly Tiers to join in with MFFC to participate in outing. Proposal tabled.

Peter Albertson talked about Alaska Legends Lodge outing.

Election Committee made up of Kevin Lipp Steve Bocks and Ken Thelen.

Old Business: Peter Albertson presented prototype of membership card and new brochure. Board authorized to move on both items.

Adjourned 9:27pm - Moved Vanderhoof - Second Freeburg

### 2014 Banquet

Wednesday May 21, 2013

Tickets available now

Still Only \$40

Doors Open @ 5:30 PM Dinner Served @ 7:00 PM

See Jim Telinda at

Meetings

or e-mail him at

itelinda@aol.com

# Speaker this year: Pat Dorsey

Food Choices:

8 oz. New York Strip; Salmon Siciliano;
Chicken Piccata

#### **Door Prizes Galore**

Rods, Reels, Populated Fly Boxes, & Fly Fishing Stuff you can't imagine

50/50 Ultimate Drawing
52 Card Deck sale for custom
Bamboo Rod