



The Evening

Hatch

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

May 2017

The MFFC Youth School Preps The Next Generation

By Mary Dixon

On Saturday, May 6, 2017, 36 folks gathered at MSU Tollgate for the 2017 MFFC Youth School. There were five returning students and eight new students eager to learn on this windy, but sunny day. Seventeen MFFC members volunteered their time that day to instruct, mentor, and encourage the youth.

The day began with Len Dixon's overview of fly fishing, including developing a respect for the land and bodies of water on which one fishes, and sharing some ideas of books and resources that would make good gift ideas. This introduction was followed by Entomology Expert Spencer Vanderhoof, who had the rapt attention of all the youth as he gathered them around his table to share his knowledge of "all things bugs" - what fish eat.

Next up, Terry Herron shared his wealth of knowledge about fly tying. Again, the youth gathered around, as they learned fly tying techniques "from hook to fly." What a treat for them to watch Master Fly Tyer Herron tie both a Woolly Buzzer and a Soft Hackle. The youth then moved back to their seats next to their mentors and, with

mentor assistance, tied the same two flies.

The fishing equipment portion of the program, featured MFFC's very own The Mike and Mike Show. Mike Harrington and Mike Miller educated and entertained the youth (and mentors) as they bantered back and forth describing all the necessary equipment to be a true fly fisherman, all while totally dressing Mike Miller in said gear.

The youth moved on, with mentor assistance and instruction by Mike Harrington, to learn several knots necessary for successful fishing. They learned the double surgeon's knot, clinch knot, and how to use a loop-to-loop connection.

The safety portion of the program was covered by Len Dixon. Then Mike Miller led the rod and reel assembly part of the day.

For the culmination of this fly fishing day, everyone headed outdoors into the wind to learn casting techniques. There was much excitement as these young, now full of knowledge, new fly fishing youth actually headed to the pond to catch fish. At the end of the day, there were already fishing stories being told.

Continued on Page 2

MFFC Calendar



June 14, 2017

Speaker Meeting

Speaker: Nicole Watson

Topic: Lake Erie DNR Biologist

Costic Center

Farmington Hills, 7:30 p.m.

July 12, 2017

Speaker Meeting

Speaker: TBD

Costic Center

Farmington Hills, 7:30 p.m.

August 23, 2017

Speaker Meeting

Speaker: James Frances

Topic: The Lake Erie Watershed

Costic Center

Farmington Hills, 7:30 p.m.

September, 2017

Meeting Meeting Dates TBD

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.



Go. Fish. Share. Learn. ->



Spence's Aquatic Bug Class

Boy Scout Merit Badge



Continued from Page 1

The youth headed home, full of excitement, ready to hit the water, and in possession of a gift from Steve Gudich (three flies tied for each of them and a nice piece of elk hair to start their own fly tying).

This day would not have been possible without the help of: Pete Cesaro, Len Dixon, Charlie Gray, Steve Gudich, Mike Harrington, Terry Herron, Jim Holly, Steve Isgrigg, Dave Kies, John Klobuchar, Mike Miller, Phil Morse, Randy Park, Joe Sattler,

Want to free your boys from their iPhones or video games? Send them to Spence's Aquatic Bug section at the Boy Scouts fly fishing Merit Badge day.

Mike Harrington, (Mister Scooper) this year, and Spence engaged the young scouts with Aquatic entomology and they actually loved it. I nudged a couple of the mothers, who were absolutely stunned at this scene, that yes, though it's hard to believe, Mike and I too were ten year old boys once.

We gave the boys small turkey basters. Mike dug up a pile of lake bottom muck, and we told them to nab anything that moved. They were engrossed and very competitive as to which hour had produced the most insecta. We had crayfish. Dragon and damselfly nymphs. A leech. A couple mayflies and a large grub that may have been a crane fly larva.

During the last section it had warmed up a bit and we were visited by a couple water snakes. Cool! Once these boys were engaged, and I was right down there with them, they became inquisitive and I was bombarded with questions. Learning was taking place outside in nature...Who would of thought it possible?!

Thank you Mr Howard Geller!



Sami and her sister Lauren are getting special attention from their late grandma's friend, our own Steve Gudich.

This is their third youth School. They have their own rods, and their casting gets better each year.

Steve Gudich tied three flies for all our attendees and all of Sami's fish were caught on his fly! We all need to get his recipe. The Bluegill love it!

- Submitted by Spencer Vanderhoof

Speaker Meeting: Nicole Watson - June 14, 2017

Coming In Summer

Woman's Outing

Linda Bocks is organizing the first annual women's outing. It goes from June 29 to July 2, 2017 in Grayling, Michigan. The accommodations are a nice cabin on Big Creek between Grayling and Lovells. The cabin sleeps eight and is located directly across from the North Branch of the AuSable river and close to the mainstream and South branch. Three nights four days, with a guided float trip included for one of the days, is \$200 per person. To sign-up, contact Linda Bocks at: loopster4@yahoo.com.

MFFC Business



Get your fill ->

Minutes

Michigan Fly Fishing Club Board Meeting
April 19, 2017 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Board minutes are not published on line.

They are available in the Hatch hard copy
available at club meetings.



2017 – 2018 Officers

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MFFC Photo Gallery

Opening Day 2017



A moment of honored silence, led by Al Haxton at the MFFC Opening Day Memorial Breakfast.



Do you know how hard that deer had to hit the wall to bust in like that...?!



Found in the Board Room



↶ (*))))))<



Who let these hooligans in?

Enjoyment For All



Smiles & Camaraderie



Um..What kind of coffee is that Eric?



Michigan Fly Fishing Club

From The MFFC Archives

A Historical Perspective

Submitted by Mike Doyle

Bold Type indicates current members

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club Origins:

After the 2nd meeting of the organization (yet to be named) in January of 1970, the following people stepped forward to "get this group off the ground".....

Wil Foreman

Carl Glotzhofer

Dick Enger

John Pinto

Joyce & Warren LeClair

Mary & Joseph Spanberger

This group set up the first meeting programs. Elections soon followed with the following people being elected these positions.....

Wil Foreman President

Carl Glotzhofer Vice President

Dick Enger Secretary

John Pinto Treasurer

These were the only elected positions. The LeClairs and the Spanbergers were "in the loop" helping plan events, meetings, etc.

Will, Foreman, Carl Glotzhofer, Dick Enger, and John Pinto traded club positions several times over the next four to five years.

John Pinto nominated the club's name and designed the club patch/logo. The First Constitution was written by Carl Glotzhofer, Dick Enger and John Pinto in the basement of **John Pinto's** home.

In the spring of 1972 the club, with 65 members and a treasury of \$600, started the Huron River Project. They paid over \$400 for the initial planting of trout. (This activity was taken over by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and is now celebrated by Michigan Fly Fishing Club members each year as the Trout Tune-Up).

This project was written up in the Detroit News by James A.O. Crowe and by May 1972 the club soon had 150 members and a treasury of over \$1500. The MFFC continued to grow by double digits each year for the next ten years.

Speaker Meeting: TBD - July 12, 2017

MFFC Members

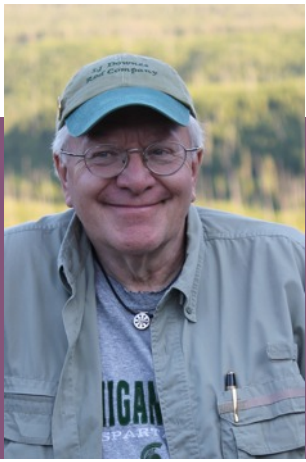
Around The State



Scott Freeburg feels the pain of the one that got away...



Trout Team Six Prepares to do battle with North Branch Trout!



Meanderings of a Fly Fishing Sage

Al The Hackleman

Get Out & Get Fishing

My calendar tells me it's about 350 days until opening day 2018.

That sounds like a long time, but it will go fast if you spend your summer and fall doing what we all love - fly fishing. The wonderful thing is that all the trout streams in the State of Michigan are now open for fishing, and it won't be long until the streams that offer Smallmouth Bass will be open too. So it's time to make some plans and get out and fish.

Our club offers some wonderful chances to share time with others, fish some great spots, and learn more about our shared sport. Between the Dick Schott New Members outing and the Smallmouth Bass outing there are lots of opportunities to learn new techniques, find new flies, meet new fishing buddies and maybe share some special information with new folks. Sometimes the best experiences are those we share with folks just getting into our sport.

Now is the time to plan some fishing trips for this year. Don't limit yourself to some of the same streams you have fished before. Sometimes the best fishing is on new streams with new possibilities and new areas to explore. Rusty Gates loved to comment that some of the best fishing is to be found by looking at a map and following the blue lines. The smaller the better. So get out a map and look at all those small blue lines. Do some exploring; ask around a bit. I often feel the best streams are those that don't get all the pressure of the famous streams. Streams that are smaller than twenty feet

wide are perfect for small fly rods and I can promise you that the fish that live there don't see many flies floating over their heads. They are very friendly and will love your poorly presented fly much more than the picky fish of the famous streams. Fishing smaller streams can also teach us some new casting techniques as there are normally some close hanging tree limbs to watch for. Again, learning new things is always beneficial, and pays big dividends on other streams. So find those small blue lines and explore some new streams this summer.

Of course there are still lots of fun fishing times to be had on the more well known streams. So look into some new access points, ask other club members to show you some spots they enjoy, and again, look at the small blue lines on a map. All of our larger streams have numerous smaller feeder streams and those often hold some surprisingly nice fish. These smaller feeder streams frequently have cooler water temps than the large streams which means happy healthy fish to catch. And again, less fishing pressure means fish that are much more friendly to our poorly cast flies. With an entire season of hatching bugs before us there are plenty of opportunities to find and enjoy new fishing spots for us all.

I have always considered one of the best things of our club to be that we all have the chance to share information, experiences, and stories with new members. I remember fondly having more senior members sort of mentoring me when I first joined our club. Between ideas for tying flies that caught fish, small access points on some of the streams, and just plain fishing techniques and information, I learned a lot during my first years in our club. I know I am not alone in this fact, and I know that it's important to 'pay it forward' with new members. This 'pay it forward' is also an opportunity to learn from the new folks. I have shared spots with some new members, and have learned

from them about looking outside the box of what I knew and enjoyed. Fishing with new folks is a learning path both ways and that's a wonderful thing. So get out and fish, with some new folks too.

How about trying some new techniques that don't require wading in a stream. Float tubes are a fun way to explore some of the smaller lakes around our state. Smaller lakes often have restrictions on motor sizes for bigger boats, and for me that means less chance of problems with those boats...and far less noise too. Again, look at those maps and find some off the beaten path small lakes. . . . Once again, with less pressure these lakes are often a real bonus of fishing possibilities. Not much pressure, no big noisy motors, and lots of space to explore to catch fish. This sounds like a good summer prospect to me. I have found several small lakes that I have enjoyed time and again with fellow MFFC members. The fishing can be awesome, the friendships and shared fun memorable, and the just plain quiet times - very rewarding. So add the float tube to your summer plans and maybe catch the fish of a lifetime on some small lake.

With so many new opportunities ahead, the summer season will rush by so very fast. New friends, new streams and new lakes will make for a wonderful summer fishing season. Make some plans, make some new friends, learn some new places and techniques, and get out there and fish. The summer is flying by already. Get going. Go fishing. And enjoy.

This will be my last commentary for a while. I am taking the summer off to follow my own suggestions. New streams, some new friends, and maybe a new lake or three will take my time away from the keyboard. I am looking forward to hearing stories of new adventures from some of you, and looking forward to my own new adventures too. I shall return, with some adventures to share, in September of this year.

Have a wonderful summer fishing season. Make it great.

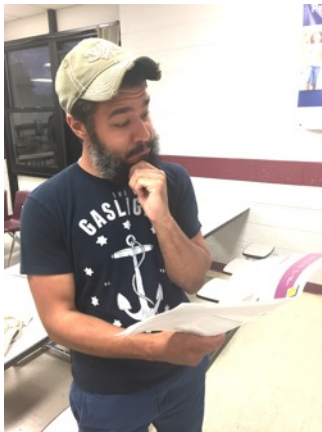


Michigan Fly Fishing Club

Club Events

Caught

Reading The Hatch



A Note Of

Special Recognition

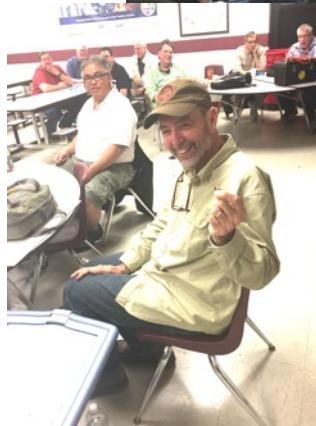
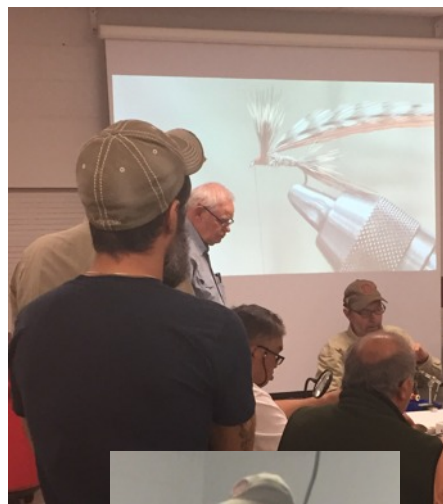


A great big thank you goes out to the officially unofficial Evening Hatch Photographer, Spencer Vanderhoof, who has saved the day countless times with his entertaining wit and love of photography! Thank you Spence!

Speaker Meeting - James Frances - August 23, 2017

Spencer Vanderhoof As

Featured Tier



Welcome

New Members

Welcome! We look forward to seeing you at club events!

A warm MFFC welcome to Michael Samborn of Ann Arbor, Ethan Hutton of Rochester Hills, Shaun Kosnick of Rochester Hills, Kelly Neuman of Fairview, Brandon Nichols of Romulus and Michael Jarosz of Clinton Township.

Upcoming

June & July Outings

* Small Mouth Outing - May 10-13, 2017, contact Todd Schotts at dragonieflyz05@yahoo.com.

* Montana Outing - three weeks from July 29 to August 19, 2017. This event is currently filled. Contact Al Haxton at infoman984@sbcglobal.net.

* Club Picnic - August 19, 2017 at MultiLakes Conservation Club, contact at johneriksson5@aol.com.

