



*The Evening*

# Hatch

**The News Letter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club**

**Summer Edition 2014**

## Upgrading The Evening Hatch

As you probably know, we had some challenges with the publishing of The Evening Hatch. For this we apologize. The process of contacting potential contributors to submit material, writing up summaries of club events, proof reading, gathering photographs, preparing the draft copies of each article, merging all these things with the new publishing software and then publishing, printing hard copies, and preparing the hardcopies to be mailed is a heavy burden for one person. To improve our efficiency we added another person, Harry Briggs, to handle the publishing of The Evening Hatch. We have also decided to include

some enhancements to The Evening Hatch which we hope will make the newsletter more interesting and improve the club membership experience.

Features included are listed below, however continued inclusion of printed content will largely depend on the membership submitting stories, photographs, fly tying articles, fly tying patterns, and any other materials of interest to the club membership. To help us with this new rollout, please submit all photographs and written material to Sybil Hunter, editor, at [evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com](mailto:evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com). Please put "Hatch Submission" in the subject line.



New features include:

- Terry Drinkwine's "Two Cents Worth" (a monthly column)
- Meet Michigan Fly Fishing Club Members (photos and bios)
- Where Was This Photo Taken? (no prizes - just fun guesses)
- Fly Fishing Web Links (Please read the disclaimer at the bottom.)

Returning features include:

- Photo Gallery of the Month
- Fly of the Month

## UPCOMING EVENTS



**September 6, 2014**  
**MFCC Picnic**

Held at Multi Lakes Conservation Association

**September 10, 2014**  
**Speaker Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School  
Livonia, 7:30 PM

**September 24, 2014**  
**Activities Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School  
Livonia, 7:30 PM

**October 8, 2014**  
**Speaker Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School  
Livonia, 7:30 PM

**October 29, 2014**  
**Activities Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School  
Livonia, 7:30 PM

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

**2014 - 2015**  
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*“You do it in the Dark”. That was the opening slide for our July MFFC Summer speaker’s presentation.*

*Written by Dan Finsad*

“You do it in the Dark.” That was the title of the opening slide for Phil Croff, owner of Croff Craft Enterprises said at the July MFFC Summer speaker’s presentation. Phil, also owner of [CC Guide Service](#), a custom drift boat designer and builder, is an avid fly fisherman and seasoned guide. Phil grew up in northern Michigan, fishing the small rivers, streams, and lakes in this pristinely beautiful area. As a young adult, he began mastering the art of fine carpentry. Working as a craftsman for many years, he perfected his craft, with the help of many mentors along the way. Fly fishing was always his favorite pass time, and tying flies became an obsession in the form of field research.

Feeling frustrated at limitations of wading the local rivers, he set out to build a small drift boat that could successfully navigate the small rivers of northern Michigan. The first drifter was a twelve foot, two seater, and is now represented by Orvis. Guiding was a natural choice for Phil. He began taking clients in his hand crafted boats, and instructing them in the art of fly fishing, with great success.

Phil has a particular affinity for hunting trophy brown trout at night, which requires tenacious ability, and a sensitivity to their culinary tastes. Big fish need to eat big and often. Phil’s presentation explained the intricacies of throwing big “splat” making streamers, for big brown trout, in pitch black nighttime conditions. A good headlamp, and powerful bug spray are essential equipment elements when searching for these monster browns. Phil has optimized the rod, reel and line combinations to give his clients the best chance at hooking a trophy particularly in tight casting conditions.

While Phil’s talk centered around the pursuit of brown trout, Phil is a three season Michigan guide that offers trip in pursuit of: brook, rainbow trout, steel head, and salmon. His fourth season is spent building the beautiful hand crafted custom drift boats that bear his name. He has also begun offering small mouth guide trips in the northern reaches of our state. If you are interested in fly fishing off the beaten path in northern Michigan, on lesser known waterways, Phil Croff will be your guide.

[Click here for Phil’s Slides](#)





## June Speaker - Jason Davis

Great Fishing Is Right Down The Road



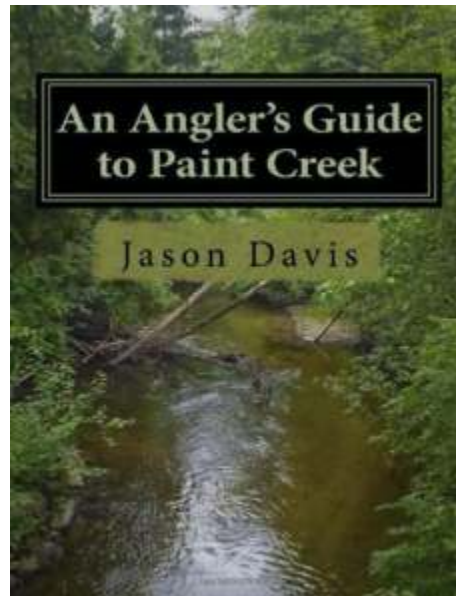
“There is trout in an urban watershed!” Jason Davis, board member of the Clinton Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited said of Paint Creek, which runs from Lake Orion through the City Of Rochester. “It is close to home. You can fish sulphurs, BWOs and caddis flies.” It is a good place to take local friends and the kids. It is newly restored, and has great terrestrial fishing. “I don’t ever go out there without an ant pattern,” Davis continued, “The best sulfur hatch I’ve ever seen was in Paint Creek. It was so thick you don’t want to open your mouth!”

Starting out, Davis, the author of *An Angler’s Guide to Paint Creek* said, “I grew up up north fishing. That’s where I learned to trout fish,” said Davis. “Working with the water council with the DNR, I’ve seen 25 inch trout in Paint Creek. Above Tienken, we did a 266 fish sampling survey. Last year they were greater than 18 inches.” He fished that spot, and in his excitement posted a picture on FaceBook. “What kills a hot fishing spot more than FaceBook?” Asked Davis, NOTHING.”

In his guide book, he includes an angler access map created through the cooperative work of MFFC, TU, Clinton Watershed Council, and the Oakland County Planning & Development

Council. It addresses habitat, history, geology, population, the Paint Creek Trail, flies, and catch & release guidelines.

Geologically, a glacier build Paint Creek, it dredged out a corridor from Rochester to Lake Orion. “In the 15 miles of river, there were dams everywhere,” said Davis. They have come out over time. Historically, the first dam came out due to the storm of 1946. A huge storm hit the Rudd’s Mill area, flowed into Chapman’s Pond and the dams blew.” The most recent dam to come out was the



north dam in 2010.

Paint Creek is a stocked river. Different strains of trout were stocked, the Gillcrest Creek strain seemed to do the best. “We stock in three locations,” said Davis. “The dam is gone, so the trout travel.” There are even steelhead according to Davis! “There are only naturally reproducing steelhead in Paint Creek. I’m shocked to see them come over Yates dam and look for the cold water!”

Within Paint Creek there are sculpin, dace, bluegill, and bass too. “If you fish north of Tienken, there is one really big goldfish. I can’t catch it. I landed a northern pike, 30 inches, with four trout

in his belly. He was enjoying Paint Creek!”

Along the corridor that is Paint Creek Trail, there is private property, however there is also added angler access with parking. MFFC funded and rehabilitated one of the access points.

“The substrait doesn’t change, but Paint Creek changes every 48 hours,” said Davis. “The first ever accurate hatch schedule for Paint Creek was completed. There is a five week window.” Davis points out, “The hatches last longer than up north.”

His guide book lists 21 of Paint Creek’s most successful flies, and promotes catch and release skills. “We have natural reproduction, and supplemental stocking in a watershed within 1.4M people!”

Much restoration has been done on Paint Creek. In 2004, a \$3M-\$4M grant was used to pull a four foot dam. “The fish could head down, but not up,” said Davis. “15 miles of stream were newly connected. Three days after the machines were gone, two 18 inch fish were found in that stretch. They adapted well.”

One stretch of the creek had concrete walls. When they redid the Rochester bridge, the funding was used to redo most of the concrete. Due to the walls, “There was a tall column of fast water when the water rises, now it goes out wide and slows down,” explained Davis. “We now have trout hotels up and down the creek. The City of Rochester did a phenomenal job with this project. There are step pools going down, all three have trout in them. Rainbow are in there. The City of Rochester has another grant to go behind the library...to continue the project to the mouth of the Clinton River.”

Davis advised that gear regulations are, “artificial only. You are allowed two fish a day with a 14 inch size limit.” He also reminded people, “Paint Creek is not a navigable river by law, but we can walk all the way down the creek. The Village

*Continued next page*



of Lake Orion public ordinance states you cannot wade within the limits of the village. Rochester Park has a great non-wading access point." Take your nine year old and an ant pattern said Davis.

During the first two weeks of fishing season, Paint Creek tends to be busy. After May 15th there are very few fishers. In late summer, the water temps change

- hot in the day, cool at night. "There was a thermal regime study on the creek, ending in 2009. We collected one and a half years of data of temps," Davis said. "At 8 a.m. there was a cold spot, then about two to three in the afternoon, a hot spot. It's all based on OU's research." (Oakland University) "The USGS flow gauge shows Paint Creek is a "flashy,

flashy watershed. Fish are good up to 100 cfs."

"Early season and late season I'll always fish streamers," said Davis in closing. The spawn is late October, early November. "Late June sulphurs hatch best in the municipal park. You can use midges 18 to 20. A Griffith's Gnat. Go out to Paint Creek and skate it, the fish



**2015** 1978 \*\* 37 Years \*\* 2015

# Midwest Fly Fishing Expo

**Presented by the Michigan Fly Fishing Club**

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**Featuring**

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**FOR CLUB INFO: [www.mffc.org](http://www.mffc.org) FOR EXPO INFO [www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com](http://www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com)**



# August Speaker - Ron Barch

## Bamboo Is The Best

Written by Sybil Hunter

“If you’re a serious angler, you really



should have at least one bamboo rod,” said Ron Barch of Alder Creek Enterprises, Inc., speaker at the August summer MFFC meeting at the Costic Center. “Nobody needs a vintage heirloom cane rod, but it just isn’t as much fun without one!”

“It really doesn’t matter if you take an heirloom, fiberglass, split bamboo rod, as long as it serves your purpose.” Barch says a successful fisherman chooses a rod based on the type of fishing, the type of fish targeted, the action of the rod, the distance, if fishing from a boat, and many other pertinent criteria.

In the history of fishing, “They didn’t have to worry about casting a fly rod,” Barch said. “They would use whippy rods. There were so many fish, it didn’t matter! Then things changed when people started to understand dry flies.”

“Bamboo rods are made out of six tapered strips,” Change is the key. “The more it (the slope of the rod) changes, the quicker it changes, the faster the rod. As the slope of the graph increases,

that’s a faster rod. As the slope remains the same, that’s a slower the rod.” Barch credits major adhesive, varnishes and equipment changes of the 1970’s as the base of today’s rod technology.

Now, “Bamboo allows you to catch and hook better, and I can prove that with math and science,” said Barch. “It flexes and it comes back to itself. It holds it’s shape. Catch large fish on smaller tippets. Bamboo is a phenomenal material to land a fish.”

“A rod must do two things, dampen and track,” said Barch. Dampening is tested by wiggling the rod. It should only wiggle one or two times. Tracking is “When you throw a line, it *has* to go straight. Wiggle it and it must wiggle straight.”

Barch talked about different rods from his arsenal - which he brought with him. Paul Young rods, New England rods, and Dickersons. “Paul Young rods have parabolic action. Like a snake swallowing a toad. The slope action drops fairly quick, but the center is fat and slow sloped. It has a skinny butt and



a skinny tip.” After briefly showing a New England rod, he moved to a progressive Dickerson. “You either like Dickerson rods or you don’t,” said Barch. Progressive rods have a constant rate of change as the rod butt tapers down to the tip.

“The other reason I like bamboo fly rods, is they are a lot easier on my elbow

and shoulder. The bamboo is good because it flexes more naturally,” said Barch. “And some of the best rod makers come from Michigan.”

“If you catch a trout in Michigan, then you can catch a trout in any place in our country,” affirmed Barch. Michigan is a challenge because it has clean water, multiple insect hatches, and a variety of habitats. “This is the grad school of angling, right here in Michigan!”

“Prior to 1970, it (rod building) was all secret,” Barch said. Then people found out, “When you apply heat to bamboo, it cures and makes it steely.” The natural occurring lignan, becomes like plastic in the bamboo when heated to 350 to 400 degrees. So if you have an old bent rod found in a barn at a garage sale, “Heat the rod and gently straighten it and it’s good for another day.”

Next Barch talked about the old wives tales of bamboo rod fishing:

Bamboo Rods Are Too Slow. Barch said now bamboo rods can be designed to be slow, moderate, fast or extra fast.

“A seven foot one German poker with 5-6 wt. line is not fun but it catches fish, big and fast. Fish in the north and east need slow rods. They need a rod where it goes down delicately.” Different materials and adhesives, like two part epoxy, make all the difference. Projecting forward Barch said, “In the next 20 years, we are going to start to determine rod action by the adhesives used.”

Fielding a question about epoxy, Barch indicated it is all in how the ingredients are mixed, “or take a month to dry if you mix it wrong.” He suggested one part powder to four parts

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resin, but "...if it's below 70 degrees, it's never gonna set."

Bamboo Rods Are Too Soft. "Now that we understand setting, we can make them as hard as you want," said Barch. "This thing will do anything a graphite will do," he said waving a cane rod. "If you want to land a *big* fish - use a smaller rod." All the components weight the same," Barch said of bamboo and graphite, then cited the old adage, "If your rod is too heavy, put your watch on your other hand." He continued, "A longer rod is best when wading deep, fishing a canoe, or if you have to hold the line over a lot...not good to catch big fish. The shorter the lever, the larger the purchase you have - the bigger the fish."

Paul Young rods move fish in tight quarters. "It's parabolic, so it will do whatever I want," said Barch. The tip is the tipitt, the midsection is the transition of power flow, and "The butt is power, it is what kicks the line out there. If I want to throw 60 or 70 feet of line, I just flex this son of a gun and the butt goes like this. BAM!"

All Bamboo Rods Are The Same. He mentioned the Garrison Design, and Medock which comes from Japan. "The Japanese make absolute heirloom quality fishing rods," said Barch. He told the history of how westerners taught how to make them after the war, and they took it to an art form.

All that has to be done, is to change the material to get a lighter rod. "In an oak tree, the center of the trunk is the strongest," said Barch, "but the center of a bamboo is worthless. The strength is on the outside. Bamboo is made in 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 sides rods." At one point in time these rods were impregnated with BakeLite.

Bamboo Rods Are Too Fragile. "Fish don't break fly rods. Dummies like me break fly rods," said Barch. "You can repair bamboo fly rods. Wack a graphite on a boat and it'll break later when catching a fish. Nick a bamboo and it has

a nick. Fill it with varnish and now one knows!"

Bamboo Rods Are Too Expensive. Barch says, "Buy a graphite and it will lose half it's value walking out the door. Bamboo cost \$80 in the '50's and now you can sell it (the vintage rod) for \$5000 today." Match the cane to the kind of action you seek, and that effects the price. So can sealant, "It doesn't matter what you seal the rod with...as long as it isn't too thick, too stiff and it keeps the bamboo waterproof." Other things effect he price as well, "You can buy a blank cane rod for \$400 to \$500, and pay a rod maker \$30 plus an hour. The Italians are consummate fly fisherman. Their rods are wrapped in silk with fine tippit. Pretty costs money!"

However, "You can get really good fly rods for less than the cost of graphite," said Barch. "If the rod dampens, tracts ,and you like the action - then it's a good rod."

In parting, Barch said the goal is to enjoy fly fishing. Fish spring, summer and fall. Restore your rods over the winter. Locally, he suggested Leon Hanson, living in Plymouth, Michigan, who makes phenomenal rods. Another way? "I do rod making classes out of my home," said Barch. Students learn the skills, take the rod home to finish, then come back to learn the next skill. Or, "One way is to take a working vacation...there are stocked trout ponds and you learn to make a rod." There are well known classes in the Cleveland/Castilia, Ohio and Catskills areas. "Does anyone *really* need an heirloom split bamboo fly rod? No. But it sure makes life *a lot* nicer."



Ron's Web Site:  
<http://www.aldercreekrods.com/>





# A Report From the Montana Fly Fishing Trip



## Week 1

*Submitted by Jim Weakland*

We arrived on Saturday to a nice day at the Slash E. There were guys who arrived before we did who were fishing on the Ruby, and did quite well. Spence and Dave Begley fished the Big Horn and never caught so many fish. As for us, the rain started on Sunday and continued almost all day every day we were there, although we all did manage to catch some fish. I tried some Czech nymphing and caught a brown trout that way. We went to a little river I like in a pretty, little valley and caught some grayling and cutthroat. The last day there, we went down to the Madison between Hebdon Lake and Quake Lake and caught the rainbow trout pictured with me. We even had some snow! Fishing on the whole was pretty good. We did some fly tying at night, teaching some people how to weave. Everyone had a lot of fun. I am already looking forward to next summer!



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## Week 2

*Submitted by Chris Hunter*

Fortunately, the week one people took the weather with them. Only in Montana would warm, sunny weather be considered a "horrible day." Despite the weather the fishing was still good, although we concede not as good as week one. However, the food and camaraderie more than made up for the lack of fish. There is no comparison to the homemade Mexican Fiesta complete with Piñata. The Ruby was warm and the fish were reluctant, but rising. The Madison fished well - especially for Cory Tehran. By my count, the best fishing of the trip was actually in the Park where Kevin Lipp took home the gold with an accidental fly selection. Who knew "PMD" sounded so much like "BWO?" I would say someone (Kevin) should have his hearing checked, but this mis-hearing resulted in some of the best fishing of the trip. If you need some secret spots, a few beers will get you good tips from Phil and Mark who seemed to have it together this week. If you need good eating, Joyce and Al take home the trophy for restaurant selection. If you want to avoid being hooked in the arm (but oh, what a hook set) stay away from the Immediate Past President. (Sorry dad, I still feel horrible...)





# How Flies Get Their Names

Written by John Pinto

How do flies get their names? Mostly the tyer at the wise will dub his new creation *Jack's Arapaho Streaker*, *The Kitchen Sink*, *Long Island Lucy*, or the *Purple Mattress Thrasher* for various personal reasons. The names coincide with times in the tyer's life, events that left profound memories, or to honor another person or place. Sometimes flies are named after sons or daughters, such as *Wendy's Wonder Bug*. I have a pal who once spent money on a bonefish trip, rather than his wife's continuing musical career, and named a fly *Lisa's Piano*...and they say men aren't sensitive!



One evening, at a gathering at the beach bar at the Coral Sands Hotel on Harbour Island, Bahamas, I was talking bonefishing with Alan, my New York pal who visits Harbour Island each year for the same week as I do. It was a star-filled night, the drinks were flowing, the music drifting out across the beach, and there was a good crowd of people. Then *SHE* appeared.

A newly-arrived couple came down to the beach bar, sat down at the table next to ours and ordered some rum punch. They were from Texas. He was somewhat older than her, and by their looks his lady friend was either a new wife, or new girlfriend. Regardless, she was wearing a clingy, yellow, terry-cloth dress that showed off every curve. She had curves in places where most women don't have places. Every man at the bar took notice. She was suddenly the sexiest woman in the world! Then she got up to dance to the sweet beats of some Soca music and I waited for a riot to break out. She danced for several songs, every man within a half-mile radius was hypnotized. I believe that night in the soft Bahamian breeze, I could actually hear lust. Even Alan, who cannot stop thinking about bonefishing for more than three minutes, took notice.

Alan and I were fairly new to bonefishing back then and we had fly boxes full of the *hot* patterns of that time - the old stuff - including every imaginable Crazy Charlie pattern in three sizes and twelve colors. One popular pattern of the day was called the *Horror*, which was probably the simplest pattern to tie. It consisted of a yellow chenille body, fox squirrel tail wing and brown thread. Simple, yet effective, and I always carried a few of them in varying sizes.



I was scheduled to fish with Bonefish Joe the next morning, to which Alan was whining because if I was fishing with Joe, that meant that he wasn't. His only option was to go to Girl's Bank which is the "wading" flat adjacent to Harbour Island, near the power plant, and down the hill from Gusty's Bar. When there are other fishermen on Har-

bour Island, and Joe is booked, those not fishing with Joe end up at Girl's Bank. If there are several fishermen, Girl's Bank becomes overcrowded real quick. It is probably the most pounded flat in the Bahamas, the bonefish are very spooky and very difficult to hook. This is where one adds two-feet of 8-lb tippet and rummages through the fly box looking for a sparsely-dressed #8 fly with no eyes. The kind of fly one seldom uses.

To save my good friend Alan from having to join the crowd at Girl's Bank - and not listen to him whine anymore - I invited him to fish with us. We met Joe at the PLP dock at the arranged time and headed over to Nurse Creek Flat. Joe started polling and I was first up. I tied on a #4 Horror, the tide was ebbing as the water was getting skinny. After casting to a few large singles, a school of fish began working across the flat. The tails were up, Joe quietly put the boat in position for a cast.

I led the school as they moved left to right, let the fly lay for a few seconds, then slowly began to strip. The four leading fish charged the fly and I hooked up. After a short battle with a spirited three-pounder I released the fish and let Alan have the bow.

As he was stripping out line he turned to me and asked, "What'd you catch that fish on?" Without missing a beat I answered, "A Texas Yellow!" Alan just smiled.







# Two Cents Worth

By Terry Drinkwine

“She Who Must Be Obeyed” got hold of a recipe that called for frozen rhubarb and buttermilk, amongst other things. She bought the buttermilk but couldn’t find frozen rhubarb so she abandoned the recipe and said I could drink the buttermilk. I haven’t had buttermilk in years and after the first sip, I remembered how much I used to like it.

Things happen like that: In this age of instant communication, direct access to other people’s ideas and a direct channel to our pocketbooks, it’s easy to forget what we liked yesterday and get caught up in the “new.” The upside is we discover new ways of doing new things in new ways with new “stuff.” The downside is we forget how well something worked and how much fun we had making or using it.

Take flies; remember when a dry fly consisted of dull sparse hackle and dubbing - usually from rabbit, muskrat or beaver? A wet fly was made from a hare’s mask with guard hairs plucked out for legs and a duck quill segment for a wing. Beauty being in the eye of the beholder, these creations were beautiful, especially if you tied them yourself and enticed a trout to take one. And if you didn’t hunt, road kill was a common method of obtaining material.

If you check today’s fly shops, you can still find the traditional dry patterns, but the wet patterns aren’t as readily available. Instead there are big, multi-colored creations with man-made material named after their tiers (usually guides) who produce pictures of big trout they claim succumbed to their inventions. So we buy in and buy them.

Of course, some of those claims are true; after all, if you use one fly enough times you’re going to catch a fish. But just like remembering how good buttermilk tastes, when standing in a river, inching my way toward a riffle or sweeper, floating a traditional wet fly downstream and hooking a fish in its element, well...buttermilk!

TD



**Additional stories and writings by Terry can be found on his web site:**

<http://www.terrydrinkwineoutdoors.com/>



# Meet Michigan Fly Fishing Club Members

*This page will introduce you to New club members and after we have introduced the new members, we will re-introduce Current members that you may see at the meetings and cannot connect a name to the face.*



Chuck Youmans is 56 years old, married and has two sons - both of whom love to fish. His family loves bass fishing both up north in Michigan and in Tennessee. He worked for General Motors for 36 1/2 years at Romulus Engine. He is pretty new to fly fishing and enjoys it. He also enjoys the MFFC meetings with the different speakers and topics.

Ryan Youmans is 17 years old and a junior in high school, a varsity swimmer, and a boy scout. What hooked him on fly fishing was the fly fishing merit badge taught at Cole Canoe Base by one of the members of our club. Since then, he upgraded his equipment and joined the MFFC, which he enjoys. Now he works at the camp where he was taught fly fishing, and teaches kids and adults how to fly fish.

# Photo Gallery of the Month



## Opening Day Weekend 2014



Riverview Lodge



Those were some busy beavers!



Chris Hunter, Ray Geitka & Al Haxton share a drink with Opening Day attendees at Gates Au Sable Lodge.



Reel women fish.



Bill & Mark



Peter Albertson



Bubba & Skeeter (Knock it off guys!)



Scotty & Alan enjoying the morning camaraderie.



Joe, John, Randy & Charlie celebrating Opening Day Weekend imbibing in the decadent cuisine of the day - Cheez-it's and Guinness



Jim & Randy



Joyce & Al Haxton enjoying the day.



Skeeter (aka Jim Holly)



Randy Parks & Bill



Bubba (aka Charlie Gray)



Terry Drinkwine & Crew



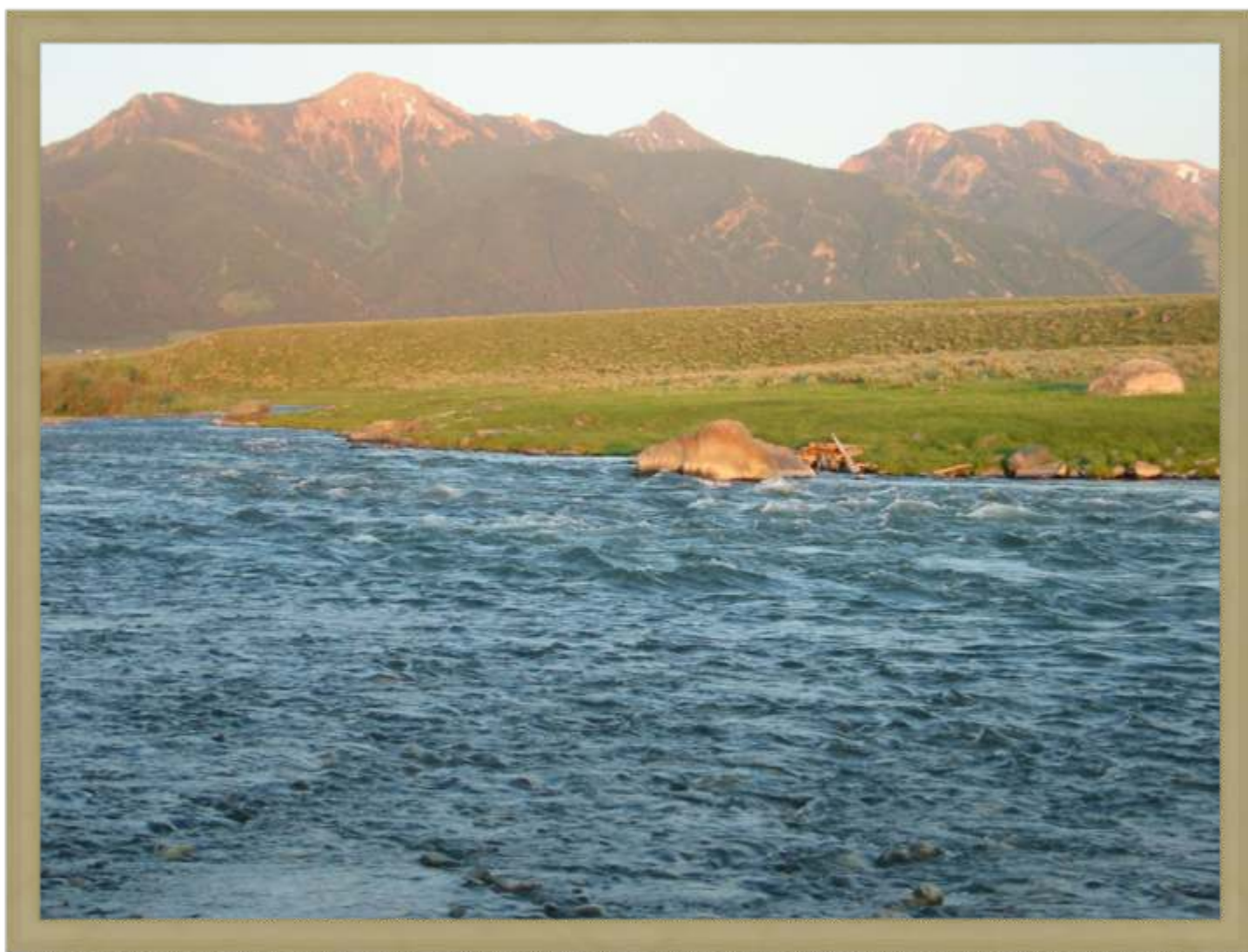
The Pattees



## ***Where was this photo taken?***

**Answer in the Hatch Next Month**

*Not a contest, just fun to guess*



***MFFC club members: Please submit photos for the “Where was this Photo Taken” page to [briggsha@gmail.com](mailto:briggsha@gmail.com).***

***The photos you submit should be of places that you know several other club members have fished .***



# Fly Fishing Web Links

Organization	Information/Goals	Web address
Trout Unlimited	To conserve, protect, and restore North America's cold water fisheries and their watersheds	<a href="http://www.tu.org/">http://www.tu.org/</a>
Federation of Fly Fishers	An international non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the sport of fly fishing.	<a href="http://www.fedflyfishers.org/">http://www.fedflyfishers.org/</a>
Clinton River Watershed Council	...to protect, enhance, and celebrate the Clinton River, its watershed, and Lake St. Clair.	<a href="http://www.crowc.org/">http://www.crowc.org/</a>
Michigan Department of Natural Resources	Michigan DNR site and Fishing License information	<a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10364---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10364---,00.html</a>
AuSable River Association	....to preserve the wild, scenic, and recreational resources of the AuSable Watershed.	<a href="http://www.ausableriver.org/">http://www.ausableriver.org/</a>
Fly Anglers On Line	1000's flies to tie	<a href="http://www.flyanglersonline.com/">http://www.flyanglersonline.com/</a>
Stream Flow Data	United States	<a href="http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt">http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt</a>
Stream Flow Data	Michigan Streams	<a href="http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/rt">http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/rt</a>
AuSable River	South Branch Flow	<a href="http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/uv?site_no=04135700">http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/uv?site_no=04135700</a>
AuSable River	Mio Flow Data	<a href="http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/uv?site_no=04136500">http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/uv?site_no=04136500</a>
AuSable River	Near McKinley Flow	<a href="http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/uv?site_no=04136900">http://waterdata.usgs.gov/mi/nwis/uv?site_no=04136900</a>

*The links on this page have been selected to provide a place where you can quickly find information, as opposed to fly fishing equipment, that may be important to you in your fishing adventures. Any suggestions for additional links should be submitted to the Board for approval.*



## Summer Fly of the Month

By Todd A. Schotts

With summer time coming to an end soon, the famed Ephron time is upon us in our Great State of Michigan. One thing you don't want to do, is get these mayflies confused with the tiny white mayflies which also hatch this time of year. It is easy to tell the difference between the two. The Ephrons are usually in sizes 10, 12, and very rarely 14, whereas the tiny white mayfly is in sizes 26 and up. So you shouldn't have an issue telling these white aerial dancers apart.

You are now probably asking yourself, "What time will the hatch take place?" Ephron flies hatch anywhere from early evening (7-8pm), to late night (10:30pm-12 midnight). Therefore, be ready to fish them from pre-dark into the darkness of the night. However, remember the weather and the water flow are major factors in determining hatch time.

Below is one of my flies used for fishing these nightly dancers. This fly is one of my creations called

"Wang Dang Doodle Ephron." It is named after a blues song made famous by the late great Koko Taylor and Howlin Wolf. It was written by Willie Dixon.

The trick to tying this fly, is either to trim the bottom in a "V" pattern so it rides high on the water, or to trim off all the hackle so it rides in the surface film. For the indicator, only use Cerise or Pink. If you use any other color it bleaches out in certain types of water. When you wrap the hackle, it is done like a Bi-Visible. Put a good coating of dubbing on the hook shank so the hackle doesn't slide or move. You could say it is sort of a mash up fly - part Caddis and part Ephron. I know from experience that it works great this time of year on the Huron River.

If you don't want to tie this fly, Bailiwicks in Dexter keeps them in stock. Tight lines and snazzy flies, Todd.



Hook: Dry Fly Hook sizes 10 and 12  
Thread: White 70 Denier or 8/0 thread  
Tail: 3 strands of Moose Mane  
Dubbing: White Ice Dub  
Hackle (1<sup>st</sup> 1/3<sup>rd</sup>): White Dry Fly Hackle  
Hackle (2/3<sup>rd</sup> Thorax): Golden or Silver Badger  
Wing: Deer Hair (size of a pencil)  
Indicator: McFly Foam – Cerise or Pink





## MICHIGAN FLY FISHING CLUB MINUTES

APRIL 2014

Call To Order 7:30 pm by VP Finstad

Roll Call: Hunter; Bocks; Thelen; Scott; Finstad; Freeburg ; Schotts; Vanderhoof

Approval Of Minutes Minutes approved - Motion Thelen - Second Freeburg

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved - Motion Scott - Second Schotts

Officer Reports President - Hunter

Election Results Reviewed - Consensus Vote of Membership

Vice president - Finstad

Expo Feedback Positive and Meet budget

Treasurer - Freeburg

Anticipated Revenue Discussed With Monies Reallocated  
To Fill Increases & Decreases in Expenses of Particular Programs  
Motion to Present Budget to Membership - Finstad Second

Vanderhoof

Corresponding Secretary - Vanderhoof

No Speaker for May and July Still Open With the June Meeting  
Rich Merlino with Be the Speaker. The Hatch Website Updates  
Looks Great and Expo Website Has Been Rebuilt

Membership - Bulszewicz

Report Filed With The Current Membership Of 410.

Reviewed the Report Further Which Expressed the  
Interest of New Members And Possible Changes Club Might Make

Events & Outings

Trout Tune-up & Public School Went Well with No Hitches  
14 People Attended The Pubic School.

Trout Opener Was Well Attended With the River Running  
Through It and Over It.

Small Mouth Outing Has 54 People Signed Up. Shirts Also Have  
Been Ordered And Are In.

Youth School Will Be Held On May 3rd.

Banquet Going Well Will Possible Need to Raise the Price  
Next Year

New Business

Joe Sattler Gave Presentation for MUCC Wanting Contribution From  
From Club. Motion Hunter Second Finstad - Motion Passed

Kathi Gross Memorial: Y2K Fly Pattern Will Be Tied By Al Haxton  
For Contributions.

Conservation Committee Report Given As To This Year's Donations  
Motion To Approve Finstad - second Hunter. Motion Passed

Old Business

Peter Albertson Gave Update on New Brochure & Business Cards

Visitor Comments

John Pinto Has Offered To Raffle A Fly For Club Fundraiser.  
Moved To May Meeting.

Adjournment

Motion Scott- Second Freeburg Motion Passed 9:50pm



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## Midwest Fly Fishing Expo

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*Includes: Free Parking, Guest Fly Tyers, Fly Shops, Kids Korner, Come Cast a New Fly Rod on One of 2 Ponds, Fly Fishing 101 Presentations, Seminars, Guides and More!*



**FOR CLUB INFO: [www.mffc.org](http://www.mffc.org) FOR EXPO INFO [www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com](http://www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com)**

Fold line

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING CLUB  
P.O. Box 530861  
Livonia, MI 48153