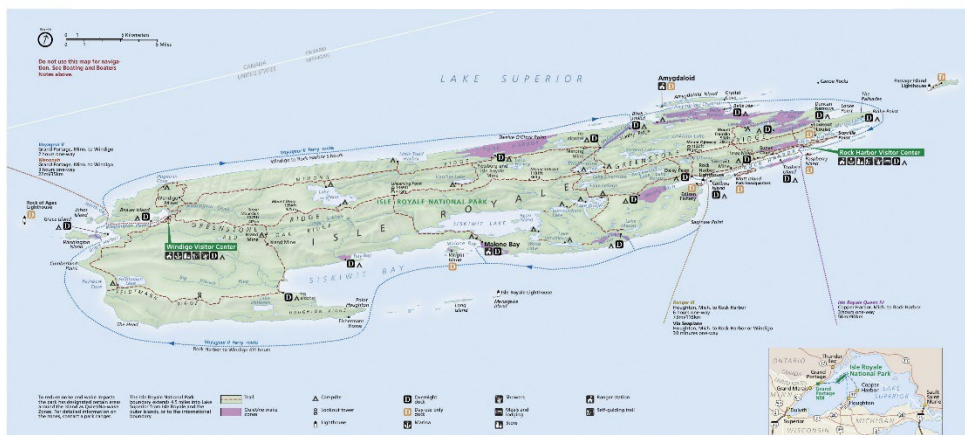


The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

December 2025 Edition

Isle Royal: Michigan's only National Park

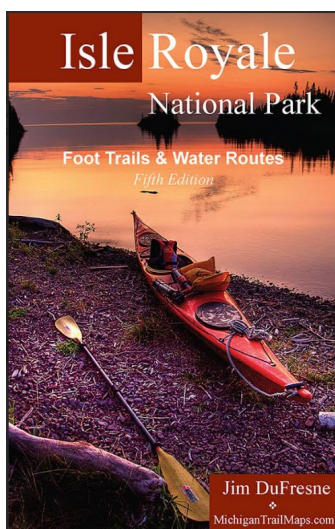


Author and MFFC member Jim DuFresne will give a presentation about Isle Royale National Park at the speaker meeting on January 8th at Clarenceville Middle School.

Jim is the author of more than 20 books, including 12 Classic Trout Streams in Michigan but is best known for his guidebook to Michigan's only national park. In his presentation, he explores the intriguing history of the 210-square-mile park and the most popular ways people experience the backcountry of this roadless wilderness in Lake Superior.

Isle Royale National Park: Foot Trails & Water Routes was first released in 1983 as the only guidebook devoted to hiking/paddling an area in Michigan. Often referred to as the Backpacker's Bible at the park, the guidebook celebrated its 40th year of continuous publication last summer.

Jim is also the long-time author of Lonely Planets' Alaska travel guidebook, and its Hiking In Alaska guide and last year spoke about Katmai National Park. He served as the Production Editor for Evening Hatch from 2020 to 2024 and a frequent contributor to its pages.



Upcoming Club Events

- 12/04/24: Speaker Meeting
- 12/11/24: Board Meeting
- 12/18/24: Garage Sale Event
- 01/08/25: Speaker Meeting
- 01/09/25: Ultimate Fishing Show
- 01/15/25: Board Meeting
- 01/22/25: Activity Meeting
- 02/05/25: Speaker Meeting
- 02/12/25: Board Meeting
- 02/19/25: Activity Meeting
- 02/20/25: Outdoorama
- 02/22/25: White River Trip #1
- 03/05/25: Activity Meeting
- 03/08/25: Midwest Flyfishing Expo
- 03/09/25: Midwest Flyfishing Expo
- 03/12/25: Board Meeting
- 03/15/25: White River Trip #2
- 03/19/25: Speaker Meeting
- 04/02/25: Speaker Meeting
- 04/09/25: Board Meeting
- 04/16/25: Activity Meeting
- 05/07/25: Activity Meeting
- 05/12/25: Board Meeting
- 05/14/25: MFFC Banquet

For the most current listing of events, check our club's website: mffc.org

Michigan Fly Fishing Club Board of Directors Meeting November 13th, 2024

Roll Call:

Meeting called to order at 7:34pm

Present: K. Lipp; S. Hunter; J. Bada;
J. Auke; J. Aitken; J. Haxton, T.
DeFauw

Absent: N. Tabaka

Approval of the Minutes: minutes from 10/09/24 revised; K. Oehring will be primary lead for club banquet and J. Haxton will assist

Approval of the Agenda: agenda from 09/18/24 approved

Officer's Report

President: K. Lipp

- Reported that Vern suggested that we look getting Expo Shirts and Vern White could bring samples to the next meeting. Goal is purchase price of \$40 and sell price TBD.

Vice President: J. Bada – nothing new to report

Treasurer: J. Aitken

- We have had some expenses with not much income, looking forward additional income from membership dues shortly.

Corresponding Secretary: S. Hunter (interim)

- December will be Glenn Weisner on Midges; January will be Jim DuFresne on Isle Royale; February will be Carl Heuter will on Fly Fishing Labrador; March is open; April will be Mark Hendricks (CI) with a casting presentation in the gym; May's banquet speaker will be Tim Flagler.

Membership: J. Eriksson

- 422 member surveys sent out to current members; 203 members paid through 11/7-24. Thirty paid through PayPal. One hundred twenty surveys returned

Events and Outings:

- HFF Rod Building (12/06)
- Ultimate Fishing Show (01/09)
- Outdoorama (02/20)
- Arkansas White River Trips (02/23 – full) and (03/16)
- Midwest Fly Fishing Expo (03/08)
- MFFC Banquet (05/14)
- FFI Expo (09/25)

New Business:

- Tax returns are prepared, they need review prior to filing; one month ahead of schedule
- Fish stickers with our logo for handouts at shows are set for check to be cut

Old Business:

- New Member Guide is now part of regular operating procedures
- WawaSum dates need to set
- Club shirts (long sleeve) are desired

Visitors:

- The Audit Committee (S. Freeburg, Chair) found 4 minor issues; however, they did not violate any directives. We need to review "self funded" category. Summa- tion: Continuing the practices of recent years, the files were meticulously organized and easy to navigate. In addition, the committee notes that virtually all critical documents: bank statements, treasurer's reports and W9 forms, have been retained in electronic or digital format as a backup to paper files. The Audit Committee finds the club's financial records true and accurate and recommends this report to be accepted by the board of directors. The Audit Committee commends the Treasurer of record, Barry Green for clarity and accuracy. The Chair also recognizes Bill MaGee and Tom Mogford for their participation in the club's audit.
- Fred Field made note of continuing need for eyeglass collection as MFFC has supported the Lion's Club efforts in this regard

2024-2025 Club Officers

President:

Kevin Lipp
president@mffc.org

Vice President:

Jon Bada
vicepresident@mffc.org

Treasurer:

Jim Aitken
treasurer@mffc.org

Membership:

John Eriksson
membership@mffc.org

Recording Secretary:

John Auke
recordingsecretary@mffc.org

Corresponding Secretary:

Vacant
correspondence@mffc.org

Director At-Large:

Norm Tabaka
ntabaka@gmail.com

Director At-Large:

Joyce Haxton
rainbow10trout@gmail.com

Director At-Large:

Terry DeFauw
tdefauw59@aol.com

Immediate Past President:

Sybil Hunter
Sybil.MFFC@gmail.com

Club Editors & Publishers

Hatch Editor - Production:

Jon Bada
vicepresident@mffc.org

Club Webmaster:

Sybil Hunter
admin@mffc.org

Club Facebook Administrator:

Joyce Haxton
rainbow10trout@gmail.com

Board of Director's Message

Facebook: our club's Social Media Page

[Click Here to go to MFFC's Facebook Page](#)

Or enter this link onto your favorite browser:

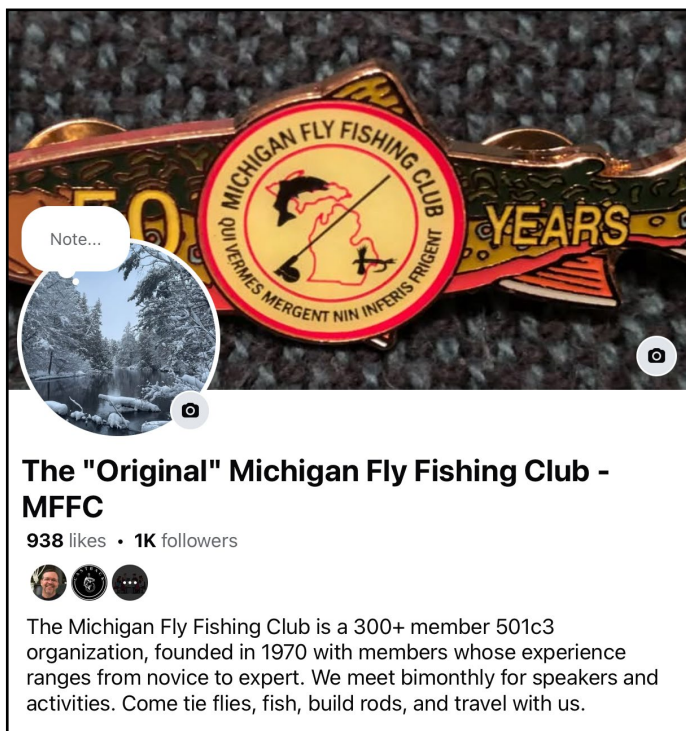
<https://www.facebook.com/theoriginalmichiganflyfishingclub/>

A message from Joyce Haxton:

MFFC members, if your on Facebook, find us. This is what our page looks like (see photo below). Our activity on our Facebook page and getting the word out involves you liking, sharing our page and inviting your friends. Please note this is a public page, so it is not limited to just club members. We share many club updates with easy links when appropriate and keep you updated on many items affecting our rivers. Any club member that would like to share a photo, fishing or something important to our rivers, please **email to the socialmedia@mffc.org** if you want to add some club-related content)

All Speaker and Activity meeting are created as events and have the most up to date information available.

Hope to see you online...(look for the 50 Year pin to ensure that it's thee "Original" Michigan Fly Fishing Club



Don't forget to bookmark this link (if you don't know how to bookmark this link, please ask your kids or your grandchildren for their lovely assistance)

Glenn Weisner – presentation from Dec. 4th Meeting
Small Flies / Midges and Glenn River Fly Co "Fly -Kit"

About Glenn, owner of Glenn River Fly Co: mentored by Chris Helm (who is regarded by most to be the finest deer hair fly-tier); grew up in the limestone creeks of PA; his "Give Back" attributes to his teaching (classroom or riverbank) skills to beginners and children

Glenn spoke about these topics on Small Flies and Midges:



- Midges: two basic types: diptera (2 winded flies like the house fly, horse fly, mosquito) and chironomids (midges are small slender body with antennae, prominent part of the trout diet and has multi-breeding periods during the year)
- Resources on midges include: Ed Engle, Pat Dorsey, Craig Matthews (to name a few speakers from our past Expos)
- Life Cycle:
 - metamorphosis – larva (long strands / worm like); pupa (short & squatty, with a thorax, has gas bubble floats to the top, can be found in low/high/dirty water; adult (shucks on the water and hovers above the water)
 - colors: black/brown/cream/red
 - segmentation: curved back (movement below surface); suspending flies with soft hackles
- Trout Tendencies: sizes #16 - #20; rise form / air bubbles / bulges / sipping / opportunistic vs selective
- Fly Fishing Techniques: hand twist / [Leistering Lift](#) / float fishing / dredging
- Gear / Tools: grease leader / dry dropper (15" tag) / 2 dry flies / slinky (curly) tippet / flouro-carbon 5X – 6.5X



About their "Fly-Kit" is a pattern specific fly-tying kit that we started making and selling about 20 years ago. Back then, it seemed like everyone wanted to know what flies we were using and where to find the materials to tie them? A few years of being asked these questions at fly-fishing shows and on the stream-lead us to create the "Fly-Kit". These kits help fly-tiers, of ALL LEVELS, have a more enjoyable tying experience by providing them with high quality materials and instructions.

Click their website or visit them at our Midwest Flyfishing Expo:
[Glenn River Fly Co Fly-Kits](#)

Michigan Fly Fishing Club Yellowstone Trips for 2025

Submitted by Al Haxton

Its almost time for sign up for the Michigan Fly Fishing Club annual trip to Yellowstone Park for 2025.

For 2025 we again will be staying at Driftwaters Resort, located in a Madison valley just downstream from the \$3 Dollar Bridge. We have stayed there many times before and I feel it's a truly wonderful place. We have 3 weeks again starting Saturday July 26 to August 2, then August 2 to August 9 and finally August 9 to August 16, 2025.

Imagine, being right in the center of the Yellowstone area fly fishing. Within a couple hours of our lodge are more than 2000 miles of trout streams. There are also hundreds of lakes and ponds that are open to fishing too. And don't even think about the vast number of species that are available. Not only Brook, but Rainbow, Brown and Cutthroat trout, and also the wonderful Grayling. There are streams that are a few steps from your car, streams that are a mile hike from the car and areas that best accessed by a horse back ride. And all this within a short drive from our lodge. The names of the rivers available reads like a travel-log of where to fish in every fly fishers top ten list. Not only the numerous rivers inside Yellowstone Park itself, but hundreds of streams outside the park will beckon you to try them. This trip truly is one of those trips that will make you upset to have to choose from so very many opportunities.



This will be our 23rd year and in truth while I have been on every trip I have only scratched the surface of the opportunities on places to fish. From dry flies to nymphs, streamers to soft hackles, this trip offers places for just about every kind of fishing, for every kind of trout that is imaginable.

The budget this year is not set yet. That budget, when set, includes room and board for the entire week of our stay. The budget will include 6 dinners each week, Saturday to Tuesday and then Thursday and Friday. No dinner is provided on Wednesday night because our tradition is to drive over to Cooke City to fish the Lamar River, Soda Butte and Slough Creek. Hotel reservations are set for the night in Cooke City but are not included in the budget. You do not have to visit Cooke City but.

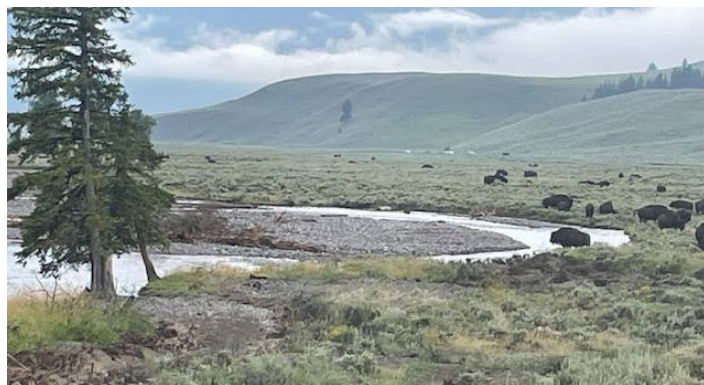
no dinner is provided. As before breakfast and lunch items will be in your cabin when you arrive on Saturday. I send out a shopping list to each person on the trip and use that to provide items that you want for those meals. Each cabin also will have a cooler for your use and bear spray for each person in the cabin



Folks normally fly into Bozeman airport, BZN, rent a car and drive to Driftwaters. I suggest if you plan to attend that you rent a car early because rates go up the closer to summer it gets. In fact our car is already set for next year. Try to arrive at BZN about 11 AM so your drive to Driftwaters goes well with time in case of delays.

Sign up this year will be the day of the first meeting of December. No deposit is needed at that time. So send me an email if you are interested. As always, its first come first served and this trip fills up very fast. This year with three weeks available we have three times the room but don't wait, there are lots of folks already talking about the trip.

Hope to hear from you in early December. You can contact Al: infoman984@sbcglobal.net



Alaska Trip Summary*Submitted by Tom Hector*

As a freshwater fly fisherman or woman searching for locations to fish, Alaska is almost always on the list.

I have been fortunate the last three years (2025 will be my fourth) to walk-watershed the Situk River on the island of Yakutat, Alaska located northwest of Juneau, southeast of Anchorage and reachable only by plane or boat.



Our self-guided trip during the last few days of July and the first week of August targets Pink Salmon because they are plentiful and the river is much, much less crowded. Any streamer fly can be used as long as it is PINK! Rods in our group range from an 11' 4wt, to a 10' 6wt, to a 9' 7-8wt.

Weather is generally in the mid 50's to mid 60's and with opportunities for rain. In addition to shing the river opportunities exist for sight-seeing flights, hiking to a glacier-fed lake with icebergs and an ocean charter for Halibut, Sea Bass, Salmon, etc.



Wildlife include deer, moose, bald eagles, river otters and bears, both black, brown and grizzly although none have been encountered while fishing in the river. Typically, six anglers share a cabin with rooms also available at Leonard's Landing Lodge (www.LeonardsLanding.com). Meals are enjoyed at the cabin with individuals preparing their own breakfast, sandwiches, fruit and drinks on the river for lunch and rotated dinner preparation. Occasionally we go out for dinner. Kitchen cleanup is informally rotated as well. Food is purchased from either of two grocery stores on the island. Transportation to and from the river is by rental van.

For the past three years the total trip cost including air fare, lodging, food and transportation has been about \$3,000. This includes an overnight, usually in Seattle, going to and from Yakutat. Of course, this cost does not include an ocean charter shing, a sightseeing flight or up to 50 pounds of cleaned, frozen and shipped salmon.



MFCC members who have also made the trip include Cindy Center, Rick Rademaker and Jay Laban. If you have any questions regarding the trip please call me . 248-388-4800 or thector1621@gmail.com



Michigan Waterways Stewards

November 2024 Newsletter Summary submitted by Michael Stout

t's been an incredible two years!

Since our first event two years ago we have managed 166 stewardship projects across 12 Mid-Michigan communities. We have mobilized over 2,100 volunteers, retrieved nearly 135,000 pounds of litter, trash, and other debris from our waterways and adjoining greenways, and conducted several park beautification projects. We have given back to our communities, in the value of our volunteer services alone, an estimated \$420,000.

We love seeing the growing enthusiasm and offers of support. We are particularly pleased about the growing interest and support from our student populations, with recent volunteers coming from: Michigan State University, Western Michigan University, Okemos High School, and East Lansing High School.

Our Top 2024 Volunteer Organization was a student organization; MSU's Crew Club. They created impact on and along our Grand River, at Lansing's Cherry Hill Park and Kruger's Landing. It is an honor to announce our newest advisory council member, Maximilian (Max) Hornung. Max is a junior at MSU and member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. He is studying Political Science with a double minor in Law, Justice, and Public Policy and Business.

While we are excited about the remarkable gains made by all our awesome volunteers and great partners, we are even most excited about our plans for 2025. It will be a record setting year. A year where impact created will be noticed and benefit the greater community for years, if not decades, to come.

To learn more about the remarkable work of our volunteers and how you too can support, check out the attached November newsletter. We hope you find it of interest and pleasant to read.



Click Below for their latest newsletter:

[Michigan Waterways Stewards Nov 24 Newsletter](#)

Getting the Appetite for either 2025 White River Trips?

The first week is at capacity, but the newly reserved 2nd week has a few spots available: Contact Jon Bada (vicepresidet@mffc.org) if you are interested

- 2nd Week Dates: March 16th – 21st
- Cost: \$1500 includes 5 nights lodging and 4 days of guides, meals; not included is transport & lodging to/from Cotter, AR (approx. \$250) and tips for your guides
- More Trip Info: [2nd Week Trip - White River, Arkansas](#)



Great . Scott



An evening view from the White River Trout Lodge

Notes from our host Kelly Neuman (Michigan Streamside): I had a great time spending the past Winter in Northern Arkansas on White River for January, February and March – so looking forward to the Winter of 2025. I will be back to the White River Trout Lodge and we will be offering our package pricing for lodging, guided fishing trips and meals. Those looking for just guided fishing trip we sure will be offering those for the fly angler who wants to fish streamers, nymph or night time trips. We try to setup our method of fly fishing based on river conditions and what you want to do. I have been getting a lot of interest in night time trips for the 2025 and I sure love guiding anglers at night and hunt for Big Browns.

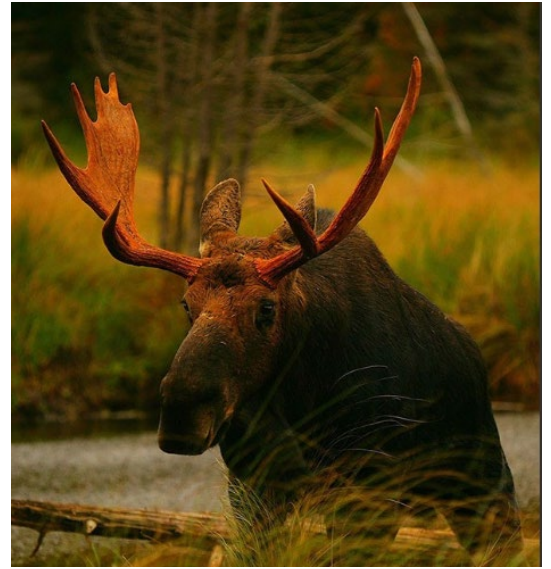
[Volunteer sign-up link](#)

Outing and Events	Dates	Where	Chairperson(s)
Rod Building Class	December 6 th – 8 th , ('24)	HFF Custom Rods (Taylor, MI)	Jon Bada / Steve Haywood
Ultimate Fishing Show	January 9 th – 12 th , ('25)	Suburban Showcase (Novi, MI) Volunteer Signup for Ultimate FS	Jim Aitken / Dave Nowicki
Outdoorama	February 20 th – 23 rd	Suburban Showcase (Novi, MI) Volunteer Signup for Outdoorama	Jim Aitken / Dave Nowicki
White River Trip #1	February 23 rd – 28 th	White River Trout Lodge (Cotter, AR)	Scott Freeburg
Midwest Fly Fishing Expo	March 8 th – 9 th	Macomb County Community College (Warren, MI) Volunteer Signup for the Expo	Kevin Lipp / Joe Sprys
White River Trip #2	March 16 th – 21 st	White River Trout Lodge (Cotter, AR)	Jon Bada
Trout Tune-Up	April 5 th	Walled Lake Outdoor Recreation Area (Walled Lake, MI)	TBD
Member's School	April 12 th	Church Hill Middle School (Royal Oak, MI)	Vince Caruso
Scout School	April 19 th	Wayne County Community College (Belleville, MI)	Dave Oakley / Norm Tabaka
Opening Day & Remembrance	April 26 th	Gates AuSable Lodge (Grayling, MI)	Al Haxton
Youth School	May 3 rd	MSU Tollgate (Novi, MI)	Len Dixon
WawaSum: Dick Schott New Member Outing	May 7 th – 11 th	WawaSum Lodge (Grayling, MI)	Glenn Easterbrook
MFFC Banquet	May 14 th	Italian American Banquet Center (Livonia, MI)	Kathy Oehring
Smallmouth Outing	May 15 th - 18 th	Blue Spruce Motel (Port Austin, MI)	Renee Gall
WawaSum: Bourbon & Browns	July 16 th – 20 th	WawaSum Lodge (Grayling, MI)	Tom Coleman
Club Picnic	July 19 th	Multi Lakes Conservation Club (Commerce Township, MI)	John Eriksson
Yellowstone, MT Trip #1	July 26 th – August 2 nd	Driftwaters Resort (Cameron, MT)	Al Haxton
Yellowstone, MT Trip #2	August 2 nd – 9 th	Driftwaters Resort (Cameron, MT)	Al Haxton
Yellowstone, MT Trip #3	August 9 th - 16 th	Driftwaters Resort (Cameron, MT)	Al Haxton
AuSable River Cleanup	September 6 th	Gates AuSable Lodge (Grayling, MI)	Anglers of the AuSable
Wisconsin Driftless Outing	September 21 st – 25 th	Nature Nooks Retreat (Viroqua, WI)	Jerry Deputat

[Volunteer sign-up link](#)



More pictures from Jim DuFresne



Michigan Fly Fishing Club
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Livonia, MI 48153