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Tippets, Tapers & Tales

January 30, 2023

President's Message

February will be a busy month for the club. We have a great Zoom presentation lined up for our monthly club meeting. (Remember**-The club meeting has been moved up one week this month to the 7th because of Valentines Day.) Details on the Zoom presentation inside this newsletter. The club is also teaching a Beginning Fly Tying Class at the Grand Ledge Public Library on the evenings of the 6th and 13th. Thanks to those members that signed up to help with this. By the way, The library has informed me that both sessions of this class are full! We are working on another possible fly tying class at another public library later in the month. More details on that if we get it lined up. We also have our two Sunday club fly tying nights scheduled for the 5th and 19th. More details on that inside this newsletter.

Also remember coming up in early March on the 11th and 12th is the Midwest Fly Fishing Expo in Macomb. This is always a great time. The Great Lakes Council will again have a booth at the show. More information can be found at www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com

See you on the 7th!

Mark



1981 McKenzie Cup Winners

The Red Cedar Fly Fishers is a Charter Club of Fly Fishers International.

It's purpose is to promote fly-fishing through Education, Restoration and Conservation

February's Presentation

By: Mark Johnson

We have another Zoom presentation lined up for everyone this month. Captain Ethan Winchester will do a presentation titled "Fly Fishing Michigan's Tip of the Mitt". Ethan is Director of Operations at Boyne Outfitters in Boyne Falls, Michigan.

This should be a great presentation. Zoom link was sent out with this newsletter and is also on the Red Cedar Fly Fishers Facebook Page.



Terry Greiner**By: Mark Johnson**

Some of you know and others may not yet, but before Terry passed away last August he requested that his fly fishing gear be donated to the Red Cedar Fly Fishers and the Great Lakes Council to be divided up between the two and used for fundraising purposes. So last fall after collecting all his gear a group of us Red Cedar Fly Fishers members went through the process of recording and dividing up his rods, reels, flies, gear, supplies, fly tying materials, etc., and we will start at this month's meeting to have some of his gear that the RCFF has at the meeting for the purpose of raising money for the club. This was Terry's wish. Not sure exactly how this will play out over the next few monthly meetings but we will start in February at the club meeting with some items that will be there either listed with prices, listed as silent auctions or just items for the members to go through and select and leave a donation to the club for them. We will do some more items at the March meeting. We are also planning on another online auction, probably in April with some of Terry's rods and reels and other items at that time. Please bring cash or check to the meeting as the club at the moment does not have a way to process credit cards.



**Ten Flyfishing Plagues Visited Upon Us Poor Sinners by Noel* Skum*,
as relayed through the Right Reverend Bob Kren, RCFFer and Mr. Flyfishersonguy**

The World's Richest person who, if there's any justice to be had, will go nameless, or at least misspelled*, hath thundered from On High, *via* Twitter, that there shall be a whole bunch of plagues visited upon us poor sinners that revere The Sport of Flyfishing more than we care about him. Thus spaketh the Noel.*

I. The rivers wherein ye fish shall turn to blood. Not mud -- blood. Real blood. That's going to be hard on your waders, and boots, especially boots. But you've ignored Me at your own risk, so there! Just try reading the water when you can't see into it. When you flop down in blood, try not to get any in your ears!

II. Following the crimson water which, face it, will eventually clear out, there shall be a plethora of frogs. These are not the "Frogs" that are a derogatory reference to Frenchmen and their fancy nymphing style, these are real frogs, in every size and color. The fish shall go nuts, not having to worry about chasing small stuff. But, with so many juicy naturals on the water, it's senseless for us flyfishers to cast. It's better that we use our nets to grab frogs to eat, ourselves. The little ones we toss back, and the puce ones and the poison-arrow kinds, and here we are, back to the French and froglegs. A mixed blessing. But delicious. Don't forget *le moutard*.

III. Thy Lord the Noel shall giveth you a choice:-- lice, or gnats, or flies. Lice on the waters are rare, unless you're picking them out of your beard or wherever, and gnats come in size 38 and smaller, so what choice do we have? The Noel hath a sense of humor, which He only rarely shows, so unattractive flies that we snag on ourselves or our clothing or gear or indigenous trees are what we'll get. Let no cast go unpunished!

IV. You shall suffer from uncontrollable farting, as will especially those who are ill-fated enough as to be nearby your volcanic emissions. Ye shall be further tormented by being in your breathable waders during episodes -- you just can't keep a good fart down. The Noel's scholarly studies have shown that this fourth among tortures is intensified by the gagging laughter of those around you. Even the fish can nose you out.

V. There shall be a great pestilence on livestock, which will open up pastures for trespassing, but deprive us all of tying materials. Hey! The Noel giveth, The Noel taketh away! There'll be avian covid that'll reduce the number of avians producing capes, herls, tails, plumes, marabouts, swords, quills, and biots, Especially hard hit will be the nylon birds that give us our daily thread, and leaders, and flosses (fleece? Whatever) and also the chenilles that give us, well . . . chenille. Not to mention hair and fur, so we won't.

VI. Ye shall all be plagued by boils, followed closely by chafing and embarrassing rashes in unspeakable places. "You got a rash WHERE?" your ex-friends will giggle, until you ask them about their own personal hygiene, which pipes 'em down, and sends 'em into a sulk.

VII. Snarls and tangles shall torment thee. Thy time shalt be taken up in creative cursing, followed by foot-kicking tantrums. (tantra? Whatever) All your days shall be consumed in trying to resuscitate a leader that you could cut off and replace in a couple of minutes, at most. Your flyline becomes an enemy. You shall tie knots in your tippets, knots that defy description, and you shall discover knots in your flyline and even in your backing!

VIII. Every Starbuck's shall be closed, and ye shall have to rely on day-old 7-11 1.5 coffee at some truck stop. The truckers will laugh at how you're dressed, but you'll get back at 'em (see IV., above). The price of gasoline at all these roadside muggings will increase by a dollar even as you pump. Bring lots of credit cards.

VIII. There shall come violent thunderstorms of hail and fire, all due global warming, but actually the mysterious workings of The Noel. Be prepared to sweat, then freeze, then swelter, then shiver, all within one hour. Weather forecasters will have tailing loops in their casts, and be no more reliable than they are now. Stream temperatures will vary wildly, bringing on hatches, then dearths of bugs. The firstborn of every hatch shall die, unless you paint your hat with the blood of a lamb. Blood from I. just won't work, here.

IX. There shall be great darkneses upon the land, and these shall be called "night." Nothing to see here, just trying to make the Almighty Noel seem responsible for things he has nothing to do with.

XI. Your ability to lie shall be gravely tested. All the cable channels and call-in AM radio pundits will hound you about the size, species, and gender of every fish you misrepresent, even if you're occasionally truthful. Thou shalt be accused of hiding your top secret flies in garages and closets, in boxes labeled "Top Secret, No Kidding." Every aspect of your trips, purchases, habits, gear, books, materials, buddies and buddesses, shall be scrutinized, publicized, criticized, and you shall eventually be ostracized.

Such shall be the wrath of the Noel.

Tie-A-Thon 2023

By: Mark Johnson

If you can help out this year with the Tie-A-Thon by tying 100 flies and donating them see below for more information on this worthwhile project.

It is officially time to start tying flies for Tie-A-Thon 2023! This year, Tie-A-Thon flies will be distributed to three non-profit organizations: The Brotherhood of Jungle Cock - New York chapter, Reeling in Recovery in Atlanta, and The Mayfly Project. Two of these organizations works with youth and one works with adults recovering from addiction. You can read more about Tie-a-Thon on our brand new website: <https://www.tieathon.org/>.

Every year, many volunteers donate flies to Tie-a-thon and these efforts are greatly appreciated by all of the volunteers involved with the non-profit groups as well as the recipients. Each of the recipient non-profits hosts multiple workshops in a year and use hundreds, if not thousands of flies over the course of a year.

The basic premise of the TAT is to pick a pattern from the list, tie 100 flies, and donate them. If you start now, you can tie a few flies every evening and before you know it, you will have 100. Everyone that submits flies will receive a t-shirt with this year's artwork.

The requested patterns are listed below. The list has been tweaked to fit the specific needs of this year's recipients. Flies can be mailed to Tim Scott, 711 Forest Ave., South Bend, IN 46616 no later than April 22, 2023. The celebratory luncheon will be April 15, 2023 at the Elkhart Conservation Club, 55515 Riviera Dr., Elkhart, IN.



Pick a pattern, tie 100 and donate	
Fly Patterns	Hook Size
Adams	18 - 14
Beetles	18 - 14
Blue Winged Olives	22 - 18
Clouser Minnows	8 - 4
Copper John	18 - 12
Chironomid	20 - 14
Elk Hair Caddis	18 - 14
Foam Spiders	18 - 12
Griffith Gnats	22 - 20
Hare's Ear Nymph	16 - 12
Hoppers / Chubby Chernobyl	14 - 10
Beadhead Eggs (trout)	14 - 12
Pat's Rubber Legs	12 - 6
Pheasant Tail	18 - 14
Poppers (Blue Gill & Bass)	14 - 6
Soft Hackles	16 - 14
Sow Bugs	18 - 14
Squirmy Worms	14 - 10
Wooly Buggers	12 - 8

Sunday Fly Tying Nights

By: Mark Johnson

Just a reminder that we have started our winter tying nights. We had good turn-outs for our January nights and for February we have set up Sunday, February 5th and the 19th from 6-8 pm each time at Blue Gill Grill in Haslett. Bring your tying tools and come out for a few hours and socialize and tie flies. You can also just stop by and not tie also or if you want to try tying and don't have the tools or know how, we will have extra tools and materials for you to give it a try.

Pictures for the Newsletter

By: Mark Johnson

Another reminder to send me any fishing pictures you get. I know it is winter now and not many people are getting out, but as we near spring and the weather cooperates enough to get out again, send me pictures of your outings and I will post them in the newsletter.

PFAS Article Link

By: Mark Johnson

A link below to an article we should all be concerned about.

PFAS can seep into the blood from fish

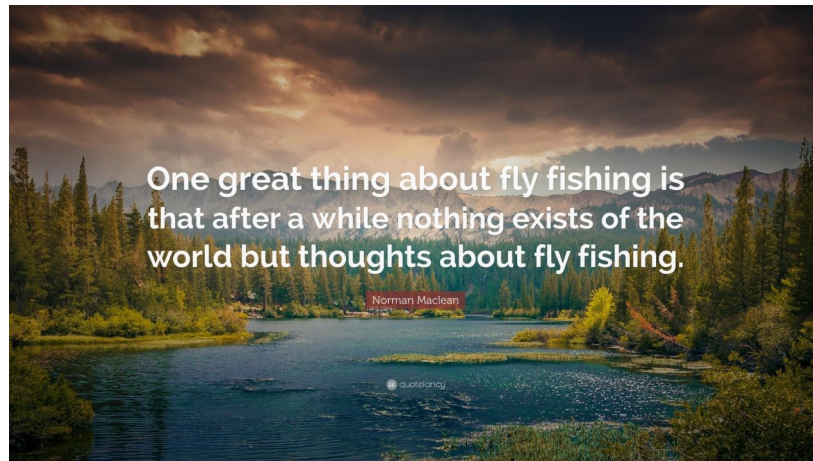
https://lansingjournal-mi.newsmemory.com/?publink=18a7f1480_134aa0a



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Refrigerator Reminders

February

5th: Sunday Fly Tying-Bluegill Grill, Haslett 6-8pm

6th: Fly Tying Class at Grand Ledge Public Library 6-8 pm

7th: RCFF Club Meeting at Coral Gables in East Lansing at 6:30pm

13th: Fly Tying Class at Grand Ledge Public Library 6-8 pm

19th: Sunday Fly Tying-Bluegill Grill, Haslett 6-8pm

March

11-12th: Midwest Fly Fishing Expo. See www.midwestflyfishingexpo.com for more information

14th: RCFF Club Meeting at Coral Gables in East Lansing at 6:30pm.

See the March newsletter for the Sunday Tying nights.