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# Tippets, Tapers & Tales

April 2, 2024

## President's Message

This month's meeting will be in person again at Coral Gables in East Lansing in the front Sun Room. Our speaker will be joining us in person also. See details inside this newsletter on the April meeting.

Looking ahead, we are planning a swap meet for our May meeting. Bring your unused fishing gear to the meeting to sell/swap with other club members. We will have a speaker that night as well. Also in May will be our Online Fundraising Auction. Watch your email for the auction link. More details inside.

With the weather getting warmer hopefully many of you are getting out and doing some fishing now. Remember to take pictures on your outings and email them to me and I will put some photos in the newsletters and on the website.

See you on the 9th!

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

## April's Presentation

**By: Mark Johnson**

April's meeting will be in person at Coral Gables in East Lansing and we will also have in person there that night, Anthony Rendi from Communications of DNR Law Enforcement . A few of the topics Anthony plans on discussing are below and of course will be open to questions. See you on the 9th at 6:30pm.

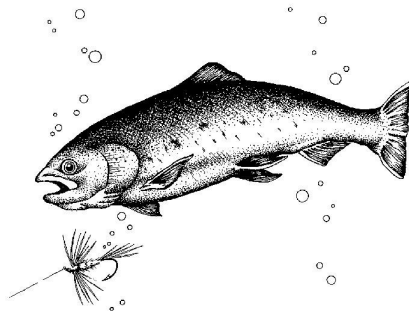
1. The two major changes for 2024 (steelhead limit and guide licensing).
2. Information and maps available for anglers through our websites.
3. Enforcement of regulations, how the state takes reports, and some analysis of common issues.

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## RCFF Online Auction

**By: Mark Johnson**

I am finishing up the last few details on the 2024 RCFF auction site and then will do a Zoom review of the site with the RCFF Board. Once that is done look for the auction to go live on May 5th at 6:00pm Eastern time and run until May 12th at 6:00pm Eastern time.. You will be emailed the auction link and it will also be posted on the RCFF Website and Facebook page as well as other online sites.



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## RCFF June 1st Event

**By: Bob Ceru**

Save the Date, June 1, 2024 from 11 am to 3 pm. We will need volunteers to participate in a community wide event at Potter Park Lansing with the Michigan Waterways Stewards. The RCFF's will be conducting fly casting instructions, fly tying demonstrations and beginning fly tying lessons to young adults and adults attending the event. More information will be coming out soon.

## GLC Fly Fishing Weekend

By: Mark Johnson

The Great Lakes Council is hosting a fly fishing weekend this June 7, 8, 9 up in Grayling. See the graphic below for information on the weekend. On Saturday, the GLC will have the Fly Casting Skills Development Course set up at the Grayling Fish Hatchery for anglers to test their skills on. There will be Introductory Fly Casting Instruction and some Introductory Fly Tying Instruction available also. Refreshments and snacks provided. More information to come by GLC email and GLC Facebook page as it gets closer.



The graphic is a vertical poster for the Great Lakes Council Fly Fishing Weekend. At the top left is the logo for Fly Fishers International, Great Lakes Council, featuring a globe. At the top right is the logo for Grayling Fish Hatchery, featuring a fish on a fly. The main title is 'GREAT LAKES COUNCIL FLY FISHING WEEKEND' in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is the date 'JUNE 7-9, 2024'. The event details are organized by day: June 7 (3:00 meet at Gates Au Sable Lodge Fly Shop), June 8 (12-4 FFI Fly Casting Skills Development Course at Grayling Fish Hatchery), and June 9 (10:00 in-person GLC General Meeting at Gates Au Sable Lodge Board Room). The graphic includes decorative illustrations of reeds and water. At the bottom, there is a paragraph about the Grayling Fish Hatchery's mission.

**FLY FISHERS INTERNATIONAL**  
Great Lakes Council

**GRAYLING FISH HATCHERY**  
GRAYLING, MI 49738

**GREAT LAKES COUNCIL  
FLY FISHING WEEKEND**

**JUNE 7-9, 2024**

**JUNE 7**  
3:00 MEET AT GATES AU SABLE LODGE FLY SHOP FOR FISHING/HATCH REPORT  
EVENING IS OPEN TO FISH

**JUNE 8**  
MORNING OPEN TO FISH  
12-4 FFI FLY CASTING SKILLS DEVELOPMENT COURSE WILL BE SET UP AT THE GRAYLING FISH HATCHERY,  
4890 W NORTH DOWN RIVER RD  
FLY CASTING AND FLY TYING INSTRUCTION ALSO AVAILABLE

**JUNE 9**  
10:00 IN-PERSON GREAT LAKES COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING FOLLOWED BY GLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
AT GATES AU SABLE LODGE BOARD ROOM  
EVERYONE INVITED TO ATTEND  
ZOOM LINK AVAILABLE

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW AS EVENT GETS CLOSER

THE GRAYLING FISH HATCHERY IS A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL FACILITY WHERE VISITORS LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORIC SITE, THE TROUT COMMON IN MICHIGAN STREAMS, THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS IN OUR AREA, AND THE VALUE OF MICHIGAN'S STREAM TROUT FISHERIES. THE HATCHERY'S MISSION IS TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND ENHANCE THE AU SABLE RIVER BY EDUCATING OUR GUESTS ABOUT THE HISTORY, ECOLOGY, AND IMPORTANCE OF THIS GREAT RIVER.

## Critics, Criticism, and Flyrods\*\*

By Bob Kren, RCFFER and Mr. FlyFisherPersonGuy

There are wine tastings, restaurant reviews, hog judgments, awards and other events where various variations of a common theme are set against one another, to be mulled or chomped or prodded until, after a set of overlong and loquacious pomposities, a single best version of something is decided upon. Let's attend such a happening, where a horde (Clatch? Coven?) of professional reviewers/judges/gourmands decide on the best flyrod. The cast – pun intended – includes critics from a variety of arenas of fleeting interest. And me, your devoted moderator, BK.

BK: Welcome, everyone, to the ultimate test of a flyrod, that . . .

M. Jean-Claude Bourdeaux (J-CBou) My English is not-so-good. What is zis “flyrod,” how old is it, and what vineyard is it from?

Mme Ayn Nard (ANar) I am valuable. I must be paid for this as yet nebulous exercise. Nothing is free.

Rodger Hebert, pronounced “Rojer A-bare” (RHeb) How long will this movie be? Will there be popcorn?

Guy Fiery (GFie) I can hardly wait to eat! Never had catfish sushi before! Or carp! Or any other kind of sushi!

Carl Tuckerson (CTuc) Only I know the truth! Only I have all the facts that matter to me, and to some of you!

Nathan Lame (NLan) Sure hope the music matches the lyrics, this is just so off-off-off-off-Broadway!

BK: Well, as we now know, we have quite a panel of experts, none of whom knows (bad word) about flyfishing, much less about the equipment used. But that should make for some interesting, if uninformed and naïve. . .

CTuc: Who you calling a knave, bozo? You must be a member of one of those elitist collectives of billionaires advocating a liberal kakistocracy bent on . . .

BK: Nope, nope, and nope. I'm just an average flyfisher who wants to have a particular flyrod looked over by people who have expertise in some area, but no experience with the sport, who will bring fresh eyes to . . .

GFie: Fresh eyes! Nothing like fresh eyes fried southern style, with a side of grits and . . .

J-CBou: Would you serve them with a '57 Montrashit, Guy (he pronounces it “gee,” with a hard “g”), or orange juice? (sneers) You Americans have no (here, he trails off into some French blither nobody understands).

BK: Everybody, this long staff I'm holding is a flyrod. Flyrod! It! Is! Used! In! Flyfishing! OK? Flyfishing!

ANar: All fishing is a sport. Sport is useless unless it is used to make money. Does flyfishing make money?

BK: (Choking back a laugh) Not for me! This little beauty would set you back a sweet barrelsworth of cash. I have an idea! Why doesn't each of you tell me what you see in this inanimate object? Ladies first.

ANar: “Lady” isn't the best word, in my case. I don't know its price. Its value lies in its price! The material is “carbon fibers,” and diamonds are carbon, too, so this must be nearly priceless. Clumsy, as a ring, though.

CTuc: My billions of followers must include some who flyfish, so let's poll them and find out what they want to hear, and then tell them that. To me, flyfishing seems to hold people's attention because of its simplicity and, if this wand is any indication of the complexity of the sport, well, anybody seems capable of it.

J-CBou: Ze beauty of ze object is in ze eye of ze beholder, or in ze mouth of ze taster, but zis object delights neither. Is there some esthetic zat I'm missing? Some boldness, some aroma, some hidden delights? Is it bespoke, or can anybody acquire one?

RHeb: If any of you wants to know absolutely everything there is to know about flyfishing, may I reluctantly recommend the motion picture “A River Runs Around It?” It's both elegantly insightful and insightfully elegant. Young Brad Pitt looks godlike, in a rustic way. It's a surfeit of manliness, in a Montana-ish style.

NLan: But the score was forgettable, though the sound of a rushing river is oddly arousing. Or is that Brad? Oh, “Flyfishing, the Musical” just rings in my ears. Get back!, “The Sound of Music,” here come the singing trout!

BK: It's hard to imagine “Trout Fishing in America” with an orchestra and a chorus line.

RHeb: The stick looks supple, less like a steeple and more like a buggywhip. It might share the spotlight with Brad Pitt, in what I'd probably call a “shaggy, fitfully brilliant romp, replete with timely timelessness.”

ANar: I'd give a movie like that four stars, out of twenty-seven. I accept all credit cards, just for being here.

CTuc: A quick glance at the seven hundred websites I rely on for truth shows me that at least everybody in the Universe believes that flyfishing is a commie plot to sap the brains of every American. Don't you see that?

NLan: All I can see is a vision of a choreographed river, with dancing rocks and waving waves. Can't you?

ALL: No! (They start squabbling and, in some cases, crying.)

BK: Hold it, hold it! This whole critics thing was a dumb idea. All of you are sullen, and either belligerent and misinformed, or irrelevant and irreverent – joyless, to a person. Stick with you know, and don't go pretending that you know about more than you do. Thanks, and good-bye.

\*\* Just remember, everybody has an opinion, whether it's relevant or not. Bob K

The Hesse-Earl Youth Fishing Program is still in need of volunteers for their spring youth fishing programs. Details are below on the dates, and what is required to become a volunteer. Please consider helping out on one of the below weekends.

Hi Everyone,

The annual Hesse-Earl Youth Fishing Program is occurring again in 2024 with three workshops scheduled for May. You have either served as a volunteer in one or more of the previous 12 years of the program or have indicated a willingness to possibly help this year. The attached Guidance Document describes the program and the critical role that volunteers provide. I particularly hope that you'll take the time to read the attached feedback we received from parents/grandparents of youth who participated in one of our recent years. The comments clearly show the value of volunteers and how much they are appreciated. Over the years, we have averaged an incredible 50 volunteers for each workshop, the primary reason we continue to have such a successful program.

Now that we are approximately 8 weeks from our first fishing workshop for 2024, I am writing to ask if you will be able to help this year for one or more of the first three Saturday mornings in May.

**Please check your calendars and let me know at which of the following three workshops you may be able to assist:**

**May 4th** -- at Lake Lansing Park, South, Haslett

**May 11<sup>th</sup>** -- at Hawk Island in Lansing off of Cavanaugh

**May 18<sup>th</sup>** -- at Motz Park near St. Johns

Because we are now partnering with the Ingham County 4-H Program, it is now required that background checks be conducted on all participating volunteers. You may have already received a message from our 4-H Program Coordinator (Rachel Ochylski) asking you to submit a fairly brief application, which will allow a check on your criminal history and the sex offender registry. There is no charge to you as a volunteer for these background checks. To apply to volunteer during the Youth Fishing Program, please click here: <https://msu.samaritan.com/custom/502> and provide the following information in the appropriate fields. This will ensure your application is routed correctly. If you have already been certified as about 40 of you have, you do not need to apply again.

Please provide the following information in the appropriate fields. This will ensure your application is routed correctly.

Volunteer type: Silver (\*This is important, the application for Gold level is much more complicated)

Program applying to: 4-H Youth Development

Primary county: Select Your Home County

Specific event: Hesse-Earl Youth Fishing Program

Have you spoken to MSU Extension staff? Optional

Note: At the time of application, please be sure to sign the waiver that allows us to conduct your background check. and please sign the MSU Extension Code of Conduct statement.

Please contact Rachel Sheff at (517) 676-7300 or by email at [ochylski@msu.edu](mailto:ochylski@msu.edu) if you have any questions.

Within a week of each workshop, I will send out assignments for each volunteer and directions for locating the venue. Check-in for youth participants and their parent or guardians begins at 8:30am and the program goes until noon. Volunteers are asked to arrive no later than 8:00am unless instructed otherwise. Group leaders come earlier.

I am looking forward to hearing from each of you and for another successful program. **Remember, please send me an email letting me know if you'll be able to help and which date (s) may work out best for you. If your plans change as the time approaches, we'll make adjustments as necessary.**

**If you have never previously served as a volunteer, I'd like to have a phone number to facilitate communication with you if needed leading up to the workshops.** If you prefer not to provide this additional contact information, your email address will suffice, but having your phone number would really help me particularly if I need to announce any changes at the last minute.

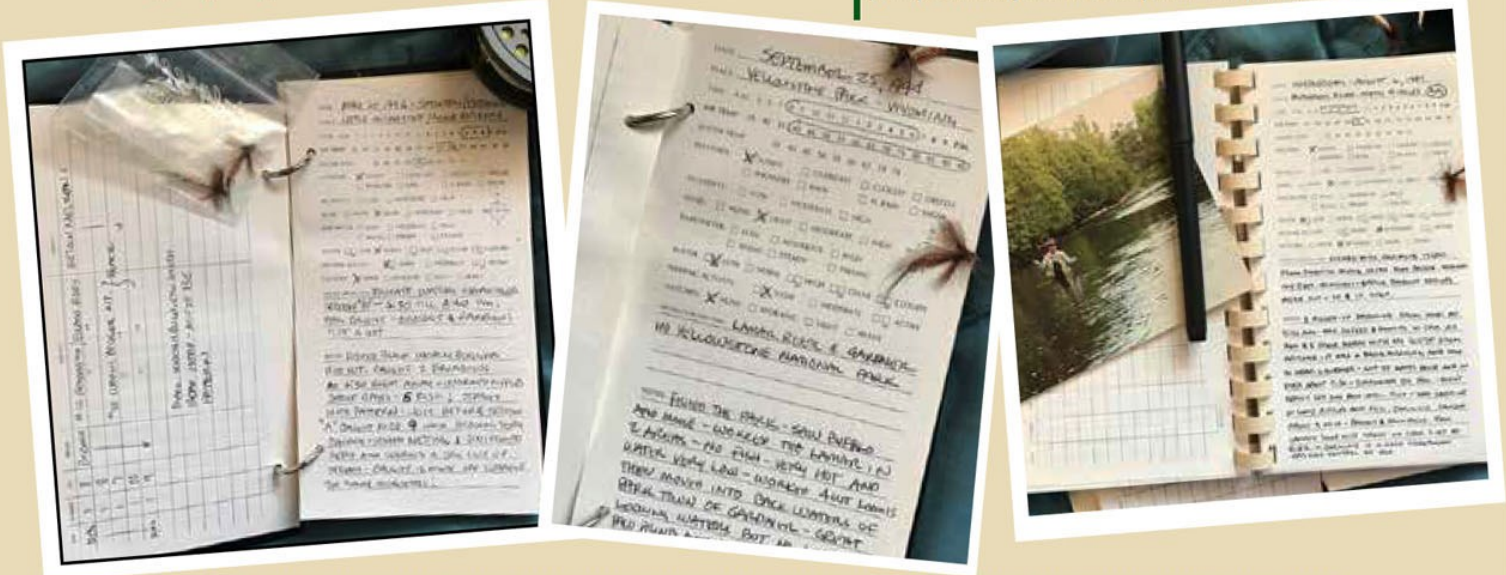
With warm regards,

John Hesse, Youth Fishing Program Chairperson  
Adjunct Faculty  
MSU Department of Fisheries and Wildlife  
517-626-6194  
Cell 517-290-7497

.... More Notes 'an Ramblings | Bob McKeon

# Looking back at my old fly fishing journals...

Looking back at some of the fishing I've done, I'm glad I kept journals of those fly fishing adventures. Forgotten moments frozen and written in time. As I thumbed through these journals, even today, I am aware of how fortunate I was to be able to capture my experience back then. There was no cell phone camera to hold a visual moment of my adventure on the stream. I wanted to share all of this with my fellow DFC Trout Bums and, perhaps some might want to keep their own journals too.



STRETCH						DATE: _____											
SPECIES						PLACE: _____											
SIZE						TIME: A.M. 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 P.M.											
NUMBER						AIR TEMP: 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95											
TOTAL						WATER TEMP: 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75											
						WEATHER: <input type="checkbox"/> SUNNY <input type="checkbox"/> OVERCAST <input type="checkbox"/> CLOUDY <input type="checkbox"/> DRIZZLE <input type="checkbox"/> SHOWERS <input type="checkbox"/> RAIN <input type="checkbox"/> H. RAIN <input type="checkbox"/> SNOW											
						HUMIDITY: <input type="checkbox"/> LOW <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH											
						WIND: <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> LIGHT <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH											
						BAROMETER: <input type="checkbox"/> LOW <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> RISING <input type="checkbox"/> STEADY <input type="checkbox"/> FALLING											
						WATER: <input type="checkbox"/> LOW <input type="checkbox"/> NORM. <input type="checkbox"/> HIGH <input type="checkbox"/> CLEAR <input type="checkbox"/> CLOUDY											
						FEEDING ACTIVITY: <input type="checkbox"/> SLOW <input type="checkbox"/> MODERATE <input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE											
						HATCHES: <input type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> SPORADIC <input type="checkbox"/> LIGHT <input type="checkbox"/> HEAVY											
						SPECIES / STRETCH / TIME											
						NOTES:											

back side

front side

Start your own fly fishing journal...cut out and save.

## Joke of the Month

By: Mark Johnson

I just thought I would print a few more of Terry Greiner's jokes and one-liners he had written down over the years.

A day without sunshine is like night.

If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple payments!

How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges.

Marriage Counselor: "Your wife says you never buy her flowers. Is that true?"

Me: "To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers."

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## Trout Stocking

By: Mark Johnson

John Ross sent me this link about trout stocking in the Huron River and Spring Mill Pond. Thought others would like to read about it.

<https://www.mlive.com/news/2024/03/large-trout-stocked-in-2-michigan-rivers-inland-lake.html>

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## Interactive Fishing Map

By: Mark Johnson

Bob Ceru sent me this link to the 2024 interactive fishing map of the Mid-Michigan area done by Project Fish. Bo will have some hard copies also at our June 1 event in Potter Park.

<http://www.projectfish.org/interactivekidfishingmap2024.pdf>



# The Gasolina Prince

(Another Frankenfly Workshop Creation)

by Larry Gallegos



I recently reorganized my fly boxes, getting rid of flies that haven't produced and combining others that belong together. In doing so, I opened up space for some new bead head flies. As all of the standard bead heads were already there, I needed something different. What else could I include?

Calling upon my vast fishing knowledge was . . . a little disappointing. I drew a blank. So I did what any modern, well-educated, American male would do: I Googled best bead head flies." To my surprise, I found something useful: the "Mylar Prince Nymph."

A Mylar Prince is tied like a traditional Prince Nymph but, instead of an abdomen made up of Peacock Herl or Ice Dubbin, it has a tinsel-wrapped body. So basically it's just Rainbow Warrior but with goose biots for the tail and goose biot "wings." Mylar Prince Nymphs look pretty good and, as they are distinct from my other bead heads, deserve a place in my bead head box. I tied some up.

But then, as often happens when I'm tying, I got distracted. While thinking about Rainbow Warriors and other tinsel-bodied flies, it occurred to me that the hottest fly in the last couple years is the Perdigon. And the hottest Perdigon is the Gasolina. What if I tied a Gasolina Prince Nymph? That is, a Gasolina Perdigon with goose biots for the tail and wings?

In case you've been living under a rock, "Perdigon" is the Spanish word for "pellet." A Perdigon fly is pretty simple, with a sparse Coq de Leon tail, a slender tinsel-wrapped body, wire ribbing and a noticeably oversized bead (hence the name). The bead gets a black

"skull cap" and the body gets a thin coat of UV epoxy to finish it off. They are fast and easy to tie and, for me at least, have proven surprisingly effective.

A "Gasolina" is just a Perdigon that uses a special tinsel which reflects a rainbow-colored hue, like that made by gasoline when it floats on water.

I decided to go for it. Before you could say, "Ouch, that hook point is sharp," I tied one up and, voila, a new Frankenfly was born, *the Gasolina Prince*.

I tied the pictured Gasolina Prince nymph on a #16 scud hook. As scud hooks have short shanks, there isn't enough room for an oversized bead or lead wraps. In later versions I added the dubbed collar that Mylar Prince Nymphs usually have but the one in the picture just has a thread collar. Either way, I like the finished product. Let's hope the fish like it too.

*Here's what is involved:*

## Materials:

**Hook:** #16 Scud Hook (Tiemco 2457, 2487 or 2488)

**Bead:** 2mm (5/64") copper color tungsten

**Thread:** Light Olive

**Goose Biots:** Tan for the tail and White for the wings

**Tinsel:** Traditional Gasolinas use a special tinsel called "Hend's 233." Good luck finding that stuff. Close approximations can be made using Pearl Flashabou, green Holo Tinsel or root beer color Krystal Flash.

**Wire:** Copper color Ultra Wire, in small or extra small

**UV Epoxy:** Everybody likes Solarez, but use what you have

MAN IS A COMPLEX BEING: HE MAKES DESERTS BLOOM,  
GOLF COURSES GREEN- AND MAKES RIVERS DIE.



**RED CEDAR FLY  
FISHERS**

P.O. Box 129  
Okemos, MI 48805

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### Refrigerator Reminders

#### April

**9th:** RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. At Coral Gables in East Lansing.  
This month's meeting will take place in the Sun Room in the front of the restaurant.

**27th:** Traditional Trout Opener

#### May

**14th:** RCFF Monthly Meeting, 6:30 P.M. At Coral Gables in East Lansing.  
This month's meeting will take place in the Sun Room in the front of the restaurant.