

RCFF Board

President  
Vacant

Past President  
Mark Johnson

Vice President  
Dennis O'Brien

Secretary  
Bob Bawden

Treasurer  
Mike Grinwis

Newsletter Editor  
Mark Johnson

Member at Large  
Dave Hovis

Member at Large  
Mark M. Johnston, DDS

# Tippets, Tapers & Tales

June 4, 2024

## President's Message

It's hard to believe we are winding down another year of club meetings. Looking back, I think we have had a lot of great presentations over the year and we can Thank Dr. J for setting those up for us. He already has a start on next falls meeting programs. If you have an idea or suggestion for future meetings, don't hesitate to let a board member know.

Don't forget our picnic coming up on the 11th. Details inside this newsletter. Bring the whole family as it is always a fun time.

I hope everyone can get out and get a lot of fishing in this summer. Don't forget to take pictures of your fishing trips and send them to me for publication in a future newsletter.

See you at the picnic!

Mark

### Inside this issue:

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| June Picnic             | 2 |
| GLC Toledo              | 2 |
| Spring Auction Results  | 2 |
| GLC Fly Fishing Weekend | 3 |
| Split Shot Made Easy    | 4 |
| Fly Fishing Kayak       | 5 |
| Joke of the Month       | 6 |
| Board Elections         | 6 |
| Fly Fishing CLass       | 6 |
| As Moderated....        | 7 |
| Reminders               | 8 |



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

## **June Picnic**

**By: Mark Johnson**

Our last meeting of the year is our club Picnic and is scheduled for June 11th at 6:00pm at Valhalla Park in Holt, MI. The club will provide burgers, brats, buns, beans, condiments, chips, pop and water, and table service. We are asking members to bring a salad or dessert. The whole family is invited to attend. We will have some bucket raffles, silent auctions, etc. We will be selling squares on our Spey Rod raffle and will be drawing the winners of that on this evening also. Put it on your calendar so you don't miss this always fun event. We will have the FCSD Casting Course set up for those that wish to try it out.

---

## **Great Lakes-Ohio Council Event in Toledo on June 15 By: Mark Johnson**

The Great Lakes Council and the Ohio Council will host a joint Facilitator Training Workshop on June 15 from 9am to 3 pm at the Merickel-Farley Trout Club at 2319 S. Berkey Southern Road, Swanton, Ohio. This is just west of the Toledo Airport.

The morning from 9-11am will be a Facilitator Training Program of the Fly Casting Skills Development Program. Two FFI individuals will be coming in from the west coast to teach this program. This is for people wanting to be able to instruct the FCSD Program for their own clubs. There will be lunch from 11-12 noon then from 12-3pm the people that were trained in the morning will be working the FCSD program to put people through the courses. There is no charge for the morning or afternoon events. Watch your email and the GLC Facebook page for more information. You can RSVP to the morning event by emailing: [info@ffiglc.org](mailto:info@ffiglc.org)

---

## **Spring Online Fundraising Auction By: Mark Johnson**

Just an update on our Spring Online Auction. The auction had gross proceeds of \$2,475.00. It was the largest amount we have raised in the 4 years now that we have done an online auction. I want to thank all the members and other supporters that bid on items as well as those that donated items for the auction. The net proceeds will help fund our Terry Greiner Memorial Fisheries Grant at Michigan State University.

## 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.



The poster features logos for Fly Fishers International (Great Lakes Council) and Grayling Fish Hatchery. The central text reads: GREAT LAKES COUNCIL FLY FISHING WEEKEND JUNE 7-9, 2024. It details activities for each 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 poster also includes a note about the Grayling Fish Hatchery's mission and a zoom link for the June 9 meeting.

**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

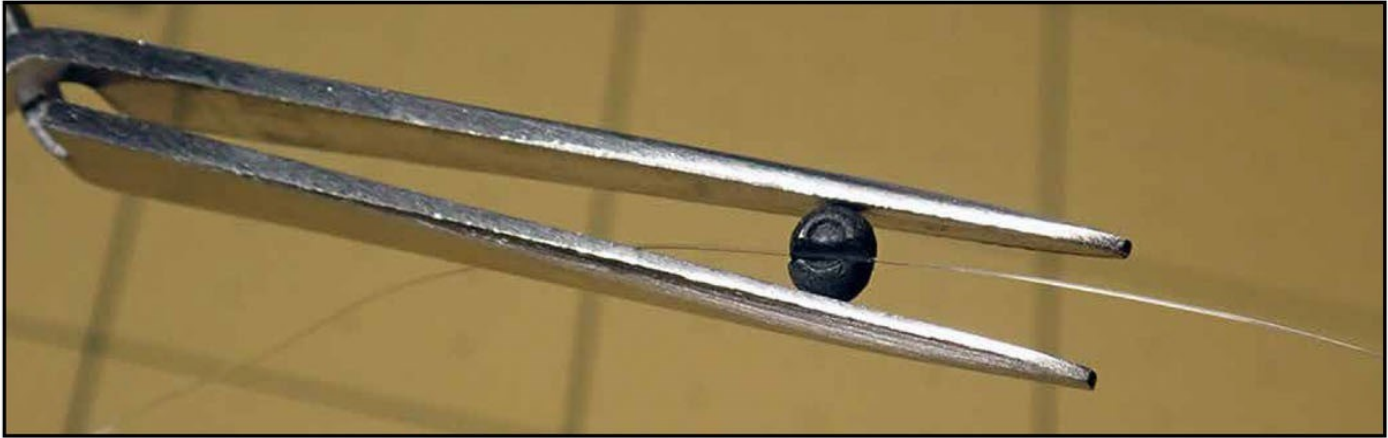
**JUNE 9**  
10:00 IN-PERSON GREAT LAKES COUNCIL GENERAL MEETING FOLLOWED BY GLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AT GATES AU SABLE LODGE BOARD ROOM  
EVERYONE INVITED TO ATTEND  
ZOOM LINK AVAILABLE

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.

## SPLIT SHOT MADE EASY

by Larry Gallegos



I try to avoid using split shot. Instead, I'll fish dry flies whenever the opportunity arises. If dries aren't working, I'll use a brass or tungsten beadhead fly to get my fly down into the feeding zone.

But sometimes the water is too fast, or deep, or both, and a beadhead (or two) won't do the trick. Or maybe the fish aren't eating beadheads, they'll only eat small RS2s or other unweighted flies. In those cases, a split shot is required.

Attaching split shot to your line is a pain. Small split shot is hard to orient groove-sideup in your fingers and, if you manage to do that, it is hard to compress closed. Trying to hold the split shot and line in one hand while using your clamps to crimp it shut is nearly impossible. I probably lose two split shots for every one I succeed in attaching. There has to be a better way.

The other day I was tying some beadhead flies and using my Terra brand "Beadzers" to pick up and slide tiny beads onto the hook. (For you non-fly tyers out there, "Beadzers" are pre-sprung, reverse-hinged bead tweezers.) Anyway, it occurred to me that maybe I could use Beadzers to hold split shot in the correct groove-side-up orientation. They'd be like having a third hand. That way I could take my time, and use both hands, laying my line into the groove. And best of all, I could use the rigid metal sides of the Beadzers

to squeeze the split shot closed.

Being cheap, I didn't want to use my \$9 Terra brand Beadzers on the water. A little searching on Amazon led me to an amazing bargain: a set of three "Minatee Reverse Tweezers" for only \$5.99! Such a deal and, to top it off, it includes free shipping (if you have Prime). The side prongs of the Minatee are narrower (pointier) than the Terras, but that's a good thing. That way, your fingers have access to tiny #6 split shot so that you can orient the groove where you want it. But don't worry, the side prongs are still wide enough to provide a solid surface for crimping the bead onto the line.

Okay, I'll admit that the first two times I used Beadzers like this I lost the split shot. But the third time worked like a charm. And on my next outing I didn't lose any split shot. Not one. Just think of all the money I'm saving.


Questions/Comments?

Catch Larry D. Gallegos at: [relaw@msn.com](mailto:relaw@msn.com)

No matter how much you push the envelope,  
it'll still be stationery.



The above article courtesy of Bob McKeon and the Desert Fly Casters



Recreational kayaking has been growing steadily for the past twenty years, and it's exploding right now. Even the big box stores are selling kayaks.

They have been on my radar as a fishing craft for quite awhile, and they are increasingly evident on roof racks everywhere. You can purchase a lightweight durable kayak for a modest price, but will it do what you want it to do? I had been looking for one as a fly fishing platform. Paddling a kayak while fly fishing is kind of like texting and driving, you are probably not doing either one very well. Hobie came up with the pedal kayak in 1997, and I have been waiting on them to come down in price ever since, *still waiting*.



# FLY FISHING KAYAK



by  
Vince  
Deadmond

The Fly Fishing Hardware Guy can be reached at:  
Best Hardware True Value  
237 N Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ  
vince@ajbest.com  
and at 480 982 7461.



In the last ten years more manufactures have entered the fishing pedal kayak market. The pedal drive models are particularly attractive for someone looking to fish. One, it takes the paddle out of your hands and allows you to fish. They are sleek enough to glide through the water with minimal effort. They are stable enough to stand up and make a cast. The new manufacturers of pedal drive kayaks are coming up with new innovations, making them lighter, and more user friendly, while cutting the cost of the fishing kayak.

I purchased my pedal drive Perception Pescador Pilot 12 about a year ago. It is very stable, and the pedaling is about the same effort as walking. The boat and drive weigh 85 pounds so you do need to determine how to carry a 12 foot boat, and store it when not in use. I have fished from inflatable pontoon boats for quite a while. They are generally lighter, store easier, but are slower from point A to point B, a plus for the pedal kayak. Another issue if you fish Puerto Penasco, Mexico is the deep sand between you and the water. Sometimes you can drive right up to the water to unload your boat, but on many beaches you need to shuttle your boat from the parking lot to the water. I'll have to admit that I tried to do it on the cheap, and had several failed attempts. I would like to recommend the Boon Dox Wheel Kit with the oversized sand tires. It's not cheap, but it will help get your kayak across lots of soft sand.

Most fishing kayaks are the sit on top models, these are easy to enter and exit, and they have storage hatches built into the body. The problem is that even with a lid securely in place the storage areas are not totally water proof. Water proof dry bags would be the solution to keep your electronics and other items that you don't want to get wet. Other accessories may include fishing rod holders, cameras and mounts for cameras, personal flotation device and I like to put a PDF cushion on my seat. You will probably want to take the kayak out a few times before you start to customize where you want to mount accessories. Mounting usually involves putting holes in your new kayak with stainless steel screws and silicone sealant. You will need a paddle even if you have a pedal kayak. Storage bags for food, drink, gear, fish, the accessories list is almost endless. Comfortable, quick dry clothing that protects you from the sun is another good idea. Footwear I usually wear a diving bootie or sport sandals, something that can get wet. After all of that you are looking for that really good fish that will take you for a sleigh ride. I hope this story gets you excited about getting on the water.

## **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.

I had a dream last night I was a muffler and woke up exhausted.

A truckload of human hair overturned on the interstate.....Police are combing the area.

I don't want to brag, but I finished the jigsaw puzzle in a week.....and it said 2-4 years on the box.

---

## **June Board Elections**

**By: Mark Johnson**

The June Picnic is where we vote on board members again for the next year. We are looking for volunteers to run for board positions. We have been without a President for a year now so we could use someone to step forward for that position as well as another At-Large Board Position. If you would consider one of these openings, please volunteer at the June Picnic.

---

## **Grand Ledge Fly Fishing Class**

**By: Mark Johnson**

We will once again be holding our introductory Fly Fishing Class for the Grand Ledge Library this June 25th from 6-8pm at the park in Grand Ledge where we held it last year. We need some volunteers again to help with this event. If you can help out with this again this year, email Mark at the email address you got this newsletter from and we will get you on the list. More details will be sent out to you as this event gets closer.

As moderated by Bob Kren, RCFFer and Mr. Flyfisherpersonguy

BoKr: Hey, there, fellow RedCedaroids, and welcome to the very first meeting of our new! improved! fly-fishing group therapy session. You all know me, your Stalwart Moderator and Very Professional Psychologist (SMVPP)\*. We all have some problems with flyfishing, and we all can use some group help in overcoming them. Let's open up, get some issues out, and move toward better mental and flyfishing health. Anyone? Anyone?

MiGr: Hi, everybody, I'm Mike. My problem is with this "catch-and-relief" thing. If I get to pee only when I catch a fish, well, golly, I'll be crossing my legs most of the day.

Crowd: It's "catch and RELEASE!" doofus. RELEASE!

MiGr: What a relief! Which way to the men's room? I really gotta go!

BoKr: Good start! We're on a roll. Let's get more of these flubs, fantasies, and phobias out in the light.

MaJo: I'm all confused about "trailing loops." Will they keep me from snagging trees or bushes or small animals on my backcasts? They must be of some use, otherwise we flyfishers wouldn't mention them so often.

Crowd: Don't forget all those windyknots from them trailing loops! (laughter)

HaBa: Math. I've always had trouble with math. Like how much line to have out on a roll cast, or what size tippet to use with a size 42 midge larva. Stuff like that.

BoKr: This is one of those times you can't just sue somebody, right? It's all intuitive, and you need practice. And a cheatsheet helps immensely. Fortunately, I have all necessary information tattooed on various parts of my anatomy, for quick reference. Unfortunately, a lot of it is either buried under layers of clothing and waders, or is in places I can't see without a mirror-on-a-stick, and then it's backwards.

MaNo: Reading the water gives me trouble. I own a lot of flyfishing books, and spend more time looking at them than I do actually fishing. Ditto too many magazines and podcasts and videos. Going from print to the reality of the stream sounds easy, but reality sucks. Am I missing something? Will AI solve my dilemmas?

MaCr: Borrrrrring! My cellphone has replaced cameras for documenting my catches in Pagatania, or somewhere else that's hard to spell. Waterproofness isn't an option for cellphones, and allegedly waterproof clear baggies really aren't. Before I go broke buying rice, or new 'phones, what's the alternative?

BoKr: Keep out of exotic places, young man -- if you weren't spending so much cash on travel, you could afford to buy a ton of burner 'phones, that are as disposable as Ricky Nelson eight-tracks.

EdGo: Long time, no see! Next meeting, maybe a zen retreat, where we all can "om" our troubles away, up on the banks of the auSable at, maybe, Wa Wa Sum? Just like in the Sixties, but now burnables are legal! Exactly how useful is this interweb thing? Anybody for a steaming pile of AI?

Crowd (growing restless): How can anybody get along without these? Are you technophobic? Technology is the new drug of choice, addictive but legal, intimate yet intrusive, attractive yet repulsive.

DeO'b: Suppose you've struggled most of the morning, through brush and swamp and barbed wire, to reach a specific stretch of water that is legendary among a small group of fellow raconteurs, only to find that some drunken boor of a bozo has staked it out. Is it best to poison him, drown him, or garrote him with your flyline, in a sporting manner, of course, and in compliance with the regulations for that stream?

Crowd (expressing violent feelings): Shoot him! Or her, whichever! Use a knife! Or your net! Or nippers. Death by nippers! Death by Nippers! Death by nippers!

BoKr: OK, let's back away, and meditate a while! After all, this IS "the quiet sport."

MiKn: Is it OK to go out in public wearing my fishing stuff? Or should I only on rainy days?

BoKr: Only if you're modeling dorkiness. Hip boots, possibly, but never that ratty hat of yours, or all that mismatched plaid. Then again, on a rainy day, who's going to be around to notice your lack of fashion sense?

StAr: I've got some phobias -- bigbushophobia, drownophobia, xenophobia, merinthophobia, and lots more -- that sometimes make me lacking in performance. How can I ignore them?

Crowd: What'd he say? We weren't paying attention. Who IS this guy, anyway?

BoKr: I'm concerned that what I write doesn't make sense to anybody but me. Should I keep it up?

Crowd: (looks of amazement) You WRITE? Since when? Haven't noticed, don't care, get a life. (various half-eaten food items fly toward BoKr, who retreats, gracefully.)

\* 1963 PhD Graduate of the Hank Paterson School of Gynopodiatry and Zymurgy, Inc., a.k.a. The Fighting Boogers

**RED CEDAR FLY  
FISHERS**

P.O. Box 129  
Okemos, MI 48805

[www.redcedarflyfishers.com](http://www.redcedarflyfishers.com)

**HAPPINESS IS**

**A BIG FISH**  
REDCEDARFLYFISHERS.COM  
**(AND A WITNESS).**

A couple recent catches by Bob Ceru. 14" Crappie on a black Micro Leech and a 20" plus Smallmouth on a Feenstra Mini Craw.



## Refrigerator Reminders

### June

**7-8-9:** GLC Grayling Fly Fishing Weekend. Details inside this newsletter

**11th:** RCFF June Picnic, 6:00 P.M. at Valhalla Park in Holt. More details in this newsletter.

**15th:** GLC Ohio Council Joint Facilitator Training Program. Details inside

