



# *the indicator*

*The newsletter of the Firelands Fly Fishers Inc.*

[www.firelandsflyfishers.org](http://www.firelandsflyfishers.org)

P.O. Box 244, Avon Ohio 44011

Volume 4 Issue 2

April 2007

## *President's Corner*

Spring is trying its best to appear in Northern Ohio even if only for a day at a time and then the wind shift from the North brings the cold lake temperatures back across the north shore. It's a surprise how much the temperature goes up by going a few miles south. The air temperature increases quite a bit and is more tolerable and makes fishing not as cold. This means the Cedar Point area of Rocky River is very comfortable compared to the boat dock area near the mouth of the river. Stream conditions are finally back down to normal after all the weeks of rain and high water. NOW is the time to catch or try to catch Lake Erie Steelhead. The fishing will not get any better than this.

Many flies have been tied at the Wednesday sessions at Gander Mountain. We still have rod building, fly tying and casting classes scheduled in the coming months. The club is providing instruction in all areas of fly fishing to help you improve your skills. Take advantage of this opportunity to become a better fly fisher.

Modern technology can be such a pain at times. The March meeting was a good example. After many frustrating minutes trying to get the projector to work then the computer wouldn't work properly and kept advancing the slides at random. At least everyone kept a positive attitude about the situation and made the best of what could have been a frustrating situation.

Skipping ahead to the May meeting, we will have a casting class at Northgate Park on route 611 in Avon. We will have 3 different sessions this year; Beginning Fly Casting, Advanced Casting including the Double Haul and the Distance Casting. You don't have to sign up for these sessions but I just wanted to let the members know about the session so you can plan ahead to attend this very informative meeting. The exact location will be in next month's newsletter.

The club elections will be at the June picnic. Please consider serving the club as an officer or in a Board position. New people with new ideas are always needed. Being an officer does not mean you are devoting your life to the club. It only requires a few hours per month. Nominations will be taken at the May meeting.

Good Fishing,

Bill Grake  
President, Firelands Fly Fishers

## ***Editor's Notes***

Thanks to **Kevin Compton** for his presentation at our March 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting. 32 members attended. Also thank you to those members that updated their information and/or paid their 2007 club dues.

**We received three new memberships at the March meeting. Please welcome: Steve Bell** of Amherst, **Brian DePalma** of Vermilion and **Matt Livingston** of Wellington.

### **Membership Updates and Name Tags**

At the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be signing people in upon arrival. This will just help to make sure we have everyone's e-mail, address and phone number correct. We will also verify your membership status at this point. You can pay or sign up at the meetings – check or cash. At this time, we will distribute the name tags too, which will help me keep them in order and get an attendance. Thanks ahead for your understanding and assistance!

### **New Section – Web Links**

I have added a new section (as of January) below with web links and will try and include useful links each month, please let me know if you have any favorites that other members should know about.

*If you would like to submit a fishing story, classified, a favorite fly, web link or information for fellow members, please contact me at [t\\_timefff@yahoo.com](mailto:t_timefff@yahoo.com) Deadline for entries is the fourth Wednesday of each month.*

Tim Schulz  
Director of Communications, Firelands Fly Fishers

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## ***Future Events***

*Firelands Fly Fishers meets at 6:30 PM on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August). Unless noted, meetings are held at French Creek Nature Center, 4530 Colorado Ave. (Rt. 611) in Sheffield.*

**April 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting – Glenn Weisner** of the Glenn River Fly Company in Toledo will be our presenter. Members attending the March 14<sup>th</sup> meeting voted to hear his presentation on fly fishing the historic South Central Pennsylvania region. Glenn has a slide show prepared and will be tying flies and selling his kits at the Fly-Show special price. For more on Glenn River, go to [www.glenriver.com](http://www.glenriver.com)

**May 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting – AT NORTH GATE PARK IN AVON:** Casting instruction and demonstration night. More information will be provided in May's copy of *the indicator*, but this is definitely a meeting worth attending. Mark your calendars now.

**June 13<sup>th</sup> is our club summer picnic – location to be announced.**

### **Rod Building Classes, Tuesday nights in April**

Rod building continues on Tuesdays at Gander Mountain this month. Though it is too late to begin the building process, interested on lookers are welcome, as our experienced hands.

### **Fly Tying at Gander Mountain on Wednesday Nights**

Gander Mountain is our home for "Tie one on Nights". Please join us to learn or share a new pattern, or just load your box up for the spring while partaking in friendly conversation. Fly tying continues in the Lodge Room on **Wednesdays from 6 PM until 9 PM**. Gander Mountain is located in Cobblestone Square in Sheffield on Rt. 301 (Abbe) south of Rt. 254 (Detroit). All are welcomed!!

In May and June, sessions will be held at Sandy Ridge Reservation in North Ridgeville. The evening will begin with casting instruction outside and then move indoors for fly tying!

**Gander Mountain Schedule: April 4, 18, 25**

**Sandy Ridge Schedule: May 2, 16, 23, 30; June 6, 20, 27**

### **Boy Scout Merit Badge Day at Lorain County JVS, May 5 – Volunteers Needed**

10 – 12 members are needed to volunteer at this annual Boy Scout event at the Lorain Joint Vocational School in Oberlin. Starting at about 8:00 a.m. and finishing up at 3:00 p.m. scouts have in the past spent 1/2 day in the building tying flies and 1/2 day at the pond fishing. We have always had a great turn out from the club members both with casting instructors and fly tying instructors. This year we will limit the numbers to 10 total, 5 on the pond 5 inside tying flies switching after lunch....Thanks to all the members who have helped in the past. Remember, if you have tied one or 2 flies, cast once or twice and caught a fish on a fly rod, you are the "expert" capable of helping a scout begin to learn about fly fishing. You can make a difference in a scout's life forever with your help at the JVS. Having 1:1 helpers to scouts is the ideal formula (that would mean 5-6 tyers and 5-6 casters). Anyone who will be helping this year, please contact Jim Piper prior to May 5 at: [jpiper@leeca.org](mailto:jpiper@leeca.org), [jpiper@lcjvs.net](mailto:jpiper@lcjvs.net), or 440-774-1051, Ext. 272.

### **Lorain County Metroparks Outdoor Weekend**

This annual event will be at Sandy Ridge Reservation in North Ridgeville on June 2 and 3. Firelands Fly Fishers will have a table at the event and will take part in teaching people to enjoy the great outdoors. Volunteers are needed to promote the club and the sport of fly fishing. We will be signing people up at the general meetings.

### **Federation of Fly Fishers National Conclave**

The Federations' signature annual event takes place July 31<sup>st</sup> – August 4<sup>th</sup> in Livingston, MT.

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## ***Web Links***

<http://globalflyfisher.com/fishbetter/czech/> a great follow up to Kevin Compton's March presentation. This is a very comprehensive article about Czech Nymphing – including the fly patterns, some history and fishing techniques. Also, check out the rest of this site for multitudes of fly fishing information.

<http://www.totalflyfishing.com> The site is a catalog of fishing sites and information on the internet. The people that put this site together have done many of us a great favor. If you like to read about fly fishing or do a little research before you travel, this is very beneficial.



**Czech Nymphs**

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## *Fly of the Month, April - Muddler Minnow*

This is a streamer pattern used for Bass as a bait fish or for Trout as a sculpin imitation. I have tied this with lead on the hook shank but it can be weighted with a cone head.

**Hook type** - 4x long streamer. Sizes from 2 to 12. most common is 6 or 8.

**Thread** - 6/0 black.

**Tail** - Mottled turkey quill segments.

**Body** - Flat gold tinsel.

**Wing** - Grey squirrel tail covered by mottled turkey wing segments.

**Head** - Spun and trimmed natural deer body hair.

Completed Fly, photo #8



photo #2



photo #3



photo #4

**Photo # 2** I have formed the round lead wire to a flattened state by ironing it out along a hard surface. This will allow a symmetrical pattern along the hook shank when wrapped edge to edge. I have tied in two equal length turkey quill sections vertically to form the tail and continued to tie in the balance to the 3/4 mark of the hook shank.

**Photo # 3** I have tied in the flat gold tinsel and wrapped it back to the tail and then over-wrapped it back to the tie in point at the 3/4 mark.

**Photo # 4** I have stacked the tips even and tied in a small segment of Squirrel tail fur even with the middle of the tail.

**Photo # 5** I have tied in two equal length turkey wing sections along the top of the hook.

**Photo # 6** I have stacked a large bundle of deer body hair and tied it into the hook shank just in front of the turkey feather. I have spun the hair around the hook shank to stand it up on end. Weave the thread through the hair to a point just in front of the bundle. Groom the hair back away from the eye and secure in the bundle with head cement.

**Photo # 7** Tie in another bundle of deer body hair to fill the empty section of hook near the eye. Spin this hair around the shank just as you did on the previous bundle. Whip finish and add head cement.

**Photo # 8** Trim the head into a shape of a cone with a double edge razor and scissors.



photo #5



photo #6



photo #7

For previous Fly of the Month recipes, please visit our web site at <http://www.firelandsflyfishers.org>

Tom Zmina  
Director of Fly Tying, Firelands Fly Fishers

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**“I used to love to come to the ballpark. Now I hate it.  
Every day becomes a little tougher because of all this.  
Writers, tape recorders, microphones, cameras, questions  
and more questions. Roger Maris lost his hair the season  
he hit sixty-one. I still have all my hair, but when it's over,  
I'm going home to Mobile and fish for a long time.”**

--Hank Aaron as he closed in on Babe Ruth's career home run record

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## ***Federation of Fly Fishers Mission***

The mission of the Federation of Fly Fishers is to lead activities that enhance and support the fly fishing experience for all anglers who fish with the artificial fly. As part of our efforts to educate through fly fishing, we believe that ethical behavior is a key component of the angling experience. While the need to preserve for all anglers the natural beauty and quality of fisheries for future generations is paramount, consideration for fellow anglers cannot be overlooked.

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## ***Firelands Fly Fishers Board of Directors***

*Board meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM.*

President: **Bill Grake**

Vice President: **Steve Smith**

Secretary: **Dave Tolhurst**

Treasurer: **Bill Graw**

Director of Annual Funding: **Ted Zalenski**

Director of Communications: **Tim Schulz**

Director of Fly Tying: **Tom Zmina**

Director of Membership: **Brent Feorene**

Director of Outings: **John Sabo**

Director of Raffle: **Joe Sloboda**

Director of Web Site: **Rob Mastnardo**

Historian & Librarian: **Jim Walend**

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