

the indicator

The newsletter of the Firelands Fly Fishers Inc.

www.firelandsflyfishers.org

P.O. Box 244, Avon Ohio 44011

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from the Florida Keys! The weather has been very warm, the fishing has been great, but the catching of fish hasn't been too good, but why complain when the temperatures have been in the 80's.

Reports from the Northern Ohio Fly Tying Expo were very encouraging, **Tom Zmina** reported many new possible members were introduced to the club at the Expo and the fly tyers were outstanding. Thanks to all who gave their time and energy at the Expo.

Steve Smith assumed the office of **Vice President** at the January Board meeting. Steve will prove to be an outstanding asset to the club as Vice President. Thanks to Steve for giving his time and energy to the club.

The club is always open to members' suggestions about speakers, projects, classes, etc-anything to help the club in its goal of educating the public on an aspect of fly fishing. Please relay any ideas you have to any of the board members, this will aid the club in meeting your needs.

If and when the weather cooperates we should have another good year of Steelhead fishing. Between the warm weather, rain, then cold and snow; Northern Ohio weather is anything but normal. While you are waiting for good fishing conditions, don't forget the fly-tying classes are still going on at Gander Mountain. You don't have to contact **Tom Zmina** about the classes-just show up and learn to tie flies.

Good Fishing,

Bill Grake
President, Firelands Fly Fishers

EDITOR'S NOTES

Thanks to **Mike Durkalec** for his presentation "Characteristics of Regional Warmwater Fisheries" at our January 10th meeting. 33 members were in attendance.

Ohio DNR/DOW News

The Ohio Division of Wildlife has announced a fly fishing clinic, intended for beginners, to be held at the Castalia State Fish Hatchery this spring. Also, a youth only fly fishing clinic will be held on June 8, 2007. There are 15 spots available by lottery. More information is available at <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/Fishing/castaliafishclinic.htm> or <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/Fishing/castaliafishclinyouth.htm>

New fishing licenses for 2007 are required beginning March 1st.

All prices remain the same as 2006. For information on regulations, prices and vendors, please visit: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/regs/fishregs/licensefees.htm>

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 Deadline for entries is the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Tim Schulz
Director of Communications, Firelands Fly Fishers

FUTURE EVENTS

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

February 14th Meeting – I hope you can get away for a few hours to join us on Valentine's Day – don't forget to ask first! We have a few things in store for the evening. First, **Lawrence Elswick**, a local Alpaca farmer, will be sharing some ideas and stories from his trade. Steelhead guide, **Monte Casey** will be our main presenter sharing his expertise from two decades of Great Lakes Steelheading. This is an opportunity to review or learn about flies, techniques and tackle before the spring run. Also, we will be voting on the April presentation that **Glenn Weisner** is providing. Voting will be between programs on "Terrestrials" or "South Central Pennsylvania."

March 14th Meeting – We are privileged to announce that **Kevin Compton**, guide, commercial fly-tyer, fly tying instructor and member of Team USA Fly Fishing is our guest speaker. Kevin was tying his Czech Nymph pattern at a table adjacent to ours at the Northern Ohio Fly Tying Expo last month.

April 11th Meeting – **Glenn Weisner** of the Glenn River Fly Company in Toledo will be our presenter. www.glennriver.com We will be voting at the February 14th meeting on which presentation Glenn will share with us (see above).

Upcoming Meeting Dates will be May 9 and June 13 is our summer picnic and raffle

"Tie one on Nights" - Thursdays

Fly Tying Classes in the Lodge at Gander Mountain

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 **Thursdays 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!! Please note, sessions will move to Wednesdays in March. **Upcoming Schedule: February 8, 15, 22; March 7, 21, 28**

Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show

This show, sponsored by Buckeye United Fly Fishers, will be Saturday, February 10th in Fairfield, OH. For more information on this show, visit <http://buckeyeflyfishers.com>

Midwest Fly Fishing Expo

This large show is held in Warren, MI (west of Detroit) on March 10 and 11. <http://www.mffc.org>

WEB LINKS

<http://www.flytyingworld.com/> A large collection of patterns from various tyers around the world. Great place to look for new patterns and recipes. Includes a classroom section with tips, techniques and lessons.

<http://steelheadquarters.com/welcome.htm> A thorough resource for Ohio Steelhead fisherman.

<http://www.fishusa.com/fisherie/> Before you head to Erie, head here for maps, weather, reports and more.

FLY OF THE MONTH, FEBRUARY



The Humpy (aka: Goofus Bug)

The Humpy originated as a western fly. It does not represent anything in particular but has the remarkable ability to attract trout, steelhead, and salmon. It is tied in a full range of sizes from 2 to 22. The smaller sizes have been successful for trout in the east. The example below is tied on a size 12 Mustad 7957B hook.

List of materials:

Hook: Mustad #94840 or #7957B, Sizes 2 to 22.

Thread: Black, red, orange, yellow, or green, prewaxed 3/0 or 6/0.

Tail: Dark moose body hair.

Wings: Tips of the natural or bleached cream deer body hair used for the body.

Body: Tying thread with natural or bleached cream deer body hair tied over as a shellback.

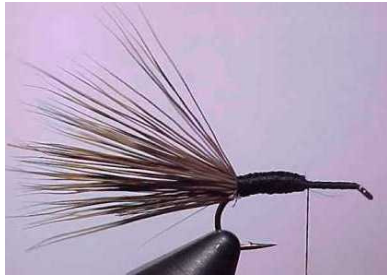
Hackle: Brown, or grizzly and brown mixed.

Head: Tying thread.



Step #1: Select 10 to 12 stiff moose body hairs. Tie in the tail so it is two hook gaps long with the butt ends reaching to exactly the middle of the shank. The length is important as it is used later for a measurement when the body is tied in. Bring the thread to the center of the shank.

← **Step # 2:** Cut a pinch of fine textured natural deer body hair from the hide. The hair should be 1-1/2" long. Comb out the short underfur. Stack the hair so the fine tips are aligned. Pinch and measure the hair with the tips equal to the tail ends and trim the hair base equal to the hook eye.



← **Step # 3:** Now that the bundle is trimmed to length, move the hairs to place the butt end even with the middle of the hook shank and tie it in with the tips facing toward the tail direction.

Step # 4: Separate the deer body hair from the moose tail hairs and fold the deer hair forward. Tie it down directly in front of the under body. Make sure all of the hair is pulled tight and tied down on top of the shank.



Step # 5: Hold the hair tips tight between your fingers on top of the shank. Wind the thread forward to the middle of the front half of the hook shank. Raise the hair tips up and divide them into two separate and equal portions. Apply some criss cross and figure eight windings to separate into two wings. After setting the wings securely with thread, apply some head cement to fasten them permanently.

← **Step # 6:** Tie in two hackle feathers at the forward end of the body behind the wings.

Step # 7: Take the first feather and wrap two turns behind the wings, then a third wrap close against the back of the wings. Cross over on the far side as you complete that turn and continue winding with the next turn close against the front of the wing. Continue with another two wraps in front of the wings and tie off the hackle with three or four windings of thread. Trim off the excess tip of the hackle material.

Step # 8: Wind the remaining second hackle in the same manner, moving through the first one with a side to side rocking motion to avoid winding the fibers of the first hackle down. Tie off the second hackle like the first one. Trim off the excess hackle material. Whip finish the head and cement.

For step by step photos, as well as previous Fly of the Month recipes, please visit our web site at <http://www.firelandsflyfishers.org> and click on Fly of the Month.

Tom Zmina
Director of Fly Tying, Firelands Fly Fishers

There is certainly something in angling that tends to produce a serenity of the mind.

~Washington Irving

RECIPES

Joe Sloboda received this recipe for Smoked Steelhead Spread from a fellow angler and is sharing it with us.

- 1 pound Smoked Steelhead
- 8 oz Philly Cream Cheese
- 1 cup Hellman's Mayo
- ½ cup "Sweet Fire" (from Gibbs on Rt. 252)
- 1-3 Tbs. chili-garlic paste (Chinese Grocery)

Mix and spread on your favorite crackers.

Below is a recipe called "Best Trout Ever." I have seen similar ones a few places, but here it is from an entry on FishErie.com. Good for a large trout or salmon fillet. It is not an exact recipe, so you can alter amounts to your tastes.

- 1 stick margarine or butter
- Garlic salt
- Old Bay Seasoning
- Seasoned Salt
- Lemon pepper
- Chopped Onions
- Chopped Green Pepper

Cover/coat fillet with above ingredients on both sides. Place fillet on a piece of aluminum foil, making sure foil is large enough to wrap around fillet. Place stick butter over fillet and wrap foil tightly so that butter will not escape during cooking. Cook in over for 30 – 40 minutes at 400 degrees.

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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