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The newsletter of the Firelands Fly Fishers Inc.

www.firelandsflyfishers.org

P.O. Box 244, Avon Ohio 44011

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May 2008

President's Corner

The month of May not only is the start of all the good Mayfly hatches, but also when a young man's fancy turns to thoughts of the upcoming election of officers to be held in June. Don't resist that urge to run for office - throw your hat in the ring! Seriously though, the Club can always need new blood with a new point of view. Nomination of officers will be taken through the second Wednesday of June.

The club still has two openings for the **Tim Rajeff** Casting class on June 23. There is one opening in both groups. If interested in advancing your fly casting skills please contact **Joe Sloboda** to make a reservation. The sessions take place at Sunnybrook Trout Club.

The Oil Creek trip is about a month away, June 2-4. There is not only a campground on the stream, but a few motels near Titusville. There is a Comfort Inn in Titusville and train cabooses turned into rooms by the OTC railroad. If you are going on the trip, e-mail me (bgrake@msn.com) so I can get an idea of the number of people going and if you want to camp or stay in a motel. We will carpool to save on the ridiculous price of gasoline.

The Presque Isle trip will be on Sunday, May 18 (weather permitting). Please note the change from the previously promoted May 17. Rain date will be the following weekend. Current plans are to meet at the North Ridgeville School Board Offices on Center Ridge Rd at 6:30 AM and carpool from there. Some members are interested in doing this as a day trip and some are interested in staying overnight. Again, e-mail me with your preferences. A good supply of Clouser minnows, Crayfish and Woolly Buggers are needed. "IF" we are lucky the Largemouth Bass will actively spawning. I will relay to all interested any fishing reports that I receive.

The Ohio Council (OHC) quarterly meeting was held Sunday, (May 4) in Mansfield. It looks like the FFF National will move to Colorado. Closer to home, the OHC has been hard at work on programs that will promote various educational classes and provide funding for equipment. More info on this will be available later but there will be more opportunities for our club to give more classes. In order to make this a success we also need more volunteers. The same few people can't always be the only volunteers.

Good Fishing!!

Bill Grake, President, Firelands Fly Fishers

Fly of the Month, May *Bead Head Brassie*

Hook: Size 10 to 22 Caddis or Scud hook.
This fly is tied on a Mustad #81001BR size16
Thread: 6/0 Olive, red, black, or brown. Use 8/0 for finer size hooks.
Body: Fine to medium wire. Brass, copper or tinted color wire.
Bead: Cyclops Bead. Diameter 3/32, Brass or copper color.



Photo # 1 Slide a bead on the hook to behind the eye. Tie in the thread. Wind it to the halfway point of the bend and then bring it back to the bead.



Photo # 2 Tuck the end of the wire under the head of the bead. Tie in the wire along the hook shank to halfway point of the bend. Bring your thread back to 1/8" from the bead.



Photo # 3 Make tight spiral wraps, edge to edge, of the brass wire to 1/8" from the bead. Tie off the wire with the thread. Trim off the excess wire.



Photo # 4 Tie in two or three Peacock Herls at the brass wire. Spiral wrap the peacock herl to form a collar. Tie off, and trim the excess peacock herl. Whip finish the thread at the tie off point at the collar behind the bead. Add head cement to the thread to make it secure.

This nymph resembles a Chironomid larva, midge or a case building Caddis larva. It fishes deep due to it's weight. Try fishing it as a dropper on a larger fly or under an indicator.

For Fly of the Month recipes and patterns, please visit our web site at www.firelandsflyfishers.org

Tom Zmina,
Director of Fly Tying, Firelands Fly Fishers

Editor's Notes

April Meeting

Jared Bartley, Rocky River Watershed Coordinator, was our presenter for April's meeting. **Blaine Downing**, Div. of Watercraft officer also gave a short presentation on boater safety. 29 men attended.

Rocky River Cleanups

Two cleanups will take place soon on the Rocky River. Come out and help take care of one our most important resources and a great fishery. There will be an upper river cleanup on Saturday, May 17, 9 AM – Noon. Meet at the Coe Lake Gazebo behind Berea City Hall. On Saturday, June 7, 9 AM – Noon, meet at the Scenic Park Picnic Area (near marina/boat launch) for a lower river cleanup. Trash bags are provided and work boots, long pants and gloves are recommended.

Volunteers Needed for Rocky River Schools Fishing Day – May 22nd

Middle school students in Rocky River are heading to Bradstreets Landing at Lake Erie for an educational day of fishing. Hands on experience at casting and knot tying are offered at this program and your help is needed. Thursday, May 22, 9 AM – 2 PM. Anyone able to assist in casting, knot tying or fly tying, please contact me, Tim Schulz, at my e-mail t_timefff@yahoo.com

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

May 14th Casting Clinic and Demonstration Night;

June 11th Annual Summer Picnic & Raffle

We will hold both of our last two spring meetings at the same location. We have not held previous events in this location before, but it is just south of our usual meeting location.

The casting night and summer picnic will be at the French Creek Pine Tree Picnic Area. Enter off of French Creek

Road, between East River Rd. and Abbe Rd. On May 14th casting will begin at 6:30 PM. Please bring a fly rod or two to practice casting with, and certainly bring a friend you would like to introduce to fly fishing or someone that maybe interested in improving their cast.



Raffle tickets and details for the summer picnic will be available soon.

Upcoming Events Scheduled for 2008

May 14th – **Outdoor Casting Clinic**, French Creek Pine Tree Picnic Area

May 18th – **Presque Isle Bass Fishing Trip, Erie, PA**

June 2nd-4th – **Oil Creek Trout Fishing Trip, Titusville, PA**

June 11th – **Annual Summer Picnic and Raffle**, French Creek Pine Tree Picnic Area

June 23rd – **Tim Rajeff**, casting clinic (registration required), evening program TBA, Sunnybrook TC

Sept. 10th – **Glen Blackwood**

Sept. 26th – **3rd Annual Clam Bake**

Fly Tying Classes – Cancelled!!

Fly Tying Class was to continue at Sandy Ridge Reservation, but we just received word today that the class has been cancelled by the Lorain County Metro Parks. More information about this and future fly tying may follow in e-mails. Nothing is scheduled as of right now.

Firelands Fly Fishers Weekend Outings

Presque Isle trip moved to Sunday, May 18. This bass fishing trip in the shallows of the bay and Lake Erie is planned as a day trip; feel free to make your own arrangements though. A group car pooling will meet at the North Ridgeville School Board building on Center Ridge Road at 6:30 AM. Please let Bill Grake know if you are going, bgrake@msn.com For a little more on this unique peninsula go to: <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/presqueisle.aspx>

Oil Creek trip – June 2-4 in Titusville, Pennsylvania. This is our annual PA trout trip; join us as we explore this tailwater with excellent hatches. Some will be camping and motels are available as well. I will include some links below for some information. Also, RSVP to Bill Grake to let him know if you are going and whether you wish to camp or will be staying inside.

<http://www.oilcreekoutfitters.com>

<http://www.octrr.org/caboosemotel.htm> (Titusville, PA)

<http://www.comfortinn.com> (Titusville, PA)

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/oilcreek.aspx>

Great Lakes Council FFF Fly Fishing School and Conclave

Roscommon, MI June 20-22, 2008 <http://www.fffglc.org/reports.html>

Fly Fishing Articles from Bill Grake

In the current issue of Fly Fisherman magazine, July 2008, there are 2 great articles:

#1 - Little Juniata River; 20 miles SW of State College. This tells about one of the best Trout streams in the East.

#2 – Sulphurs - This articles talks about one of the best hatches in the East. Just happens to show photos of The Little J - see number 1 above. Provides some good patterns that will also work on Oil Creek.

After reading the above articles you should be salivating profusely; if not then maybe you should take up golf!

Firelands Fly Fishers Library: Update - 3 new items

Librarian, Mike Janosko

Below is a list of items available for loan through our club library. If there are items you wish to borrow, please e-mail me and I will bring it to you at the next general meeting. Each borrower will be asked to fill out a short form and leave a \$5 deposit. Return the item at the next meeting and get your deposit back.

Mike Janosko, mjanosko@aol.com

New Items for May

Jerry Darkes donated his DVD: *Guide Patterns for Smallmouth Bass*. We also added, *The Art of Fly Tying*, an interactive CD-ROM from Fly Fisherman Magazine. Member **Lee Czerniawski** donated a PA Road Map with details and key on 280 cabin rentals in the state.

DVDs

Furled Leaders by Kathy Scotts
Steelhead: Best of the Bear
Steelhead II: Best of the Bear
Tying Traditions: Best of the Bear
Anatomy of a Trout Stream (Scientific Angler)
Fly Fishing Made Easy (Scientific Angler)
Basic Fly Casting (Scientific Angler)
Strategies for Selective Trout (Scientific Angler)

VHS Tapes

Fly Fishing for the Beginner
Fly Fishing
How to Catch Trout
Costa Rica: Rio Colorado Lodge
Tropical Kingdom of Belize

Books

Lake Fly Fishing Strategies by Bob Sheedy
Stillwater Fly Patterns by Bob Sheedy

**"The only reason I ever played golf in the first place
was so that I could afford to hunt and fish."
- Sam Snead**

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: **Joe Sloboda**

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: **Carl Kocian**

Director of Raffle: **Brian DePalma**

Director of Web Site: **Rob Mastnardo**

Librarian: **Mike Janosko**

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