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The newsletter of the Firelands Fly Fishers Inc.

www.firelandsflyfishers.org

P.O. Box 244, Avon Ohio 44011

Volume 6 Issue 5

June 2009

President's Corner

It's the end of another club year already. We, as a club, have a decision to make about liability insurance. Liability issues are never a problem until something happens and the lawsuits commence. The FFF National is recommending that clubs purchase liability insurance for the club and their officers. This covers the club, the officers and medical payments. The cost is around \$500 annually. We will discuss this further at the next meeting/picnic on June 10. I will email the info to any member that is interested in reading about the matter. We must act on this matter and get insurance for the club and its officers.

Election of officers will happen at the picnic. If any member is interested in running for office, please contact or speak with Jim Mertz.

The club has been pursuing a Project Healing Waters group with the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky. Nothing has been finalized but we are proposing having 1 or 2 meetings a month at the Sandusky facility and teaching fly tying, fly fishing and casting and then having an outing. This would be from April to November. We have 11 members involved in the program. The schedule would be so that no one has to attend every meeting. We do need a member to serve as the Director of Project Healing Waters. Contact me if you are interested in the position.

The annual Clam Bake has been scheduled for Friday, September 25 at the Beaver Creek Boat Club. Reserve the date so you do not miss out on another great club eating event. Also, don't forget our annual picnic and pot luck on June 10.

The Federation of Fly Fishers National is sponsoring a raffle for a 4 day trip for 2 to Five Rivers Lodge in Dillon, MT. There are numerous other prizes. The tickets are \$20 each or 6 for \$100. The proceeds are to benefit the clubs, councils and FFF National. Tickets are due by June 15. I will have them at the picnic if any member wants to buy any tickets. The Club has purchased 6 tickets for \$100 and if we win, we will raffle off the prizes to the club members.

Bill Grake
President, Firelands Fly Fishers

Future Events

Last Meeting: May 13th – Casting Night

Our annual casting night was held at Walker Road Park in Avon Lake. Our bi-annual rain arrived too, but disappeared quickly. 31 members and guests came out for some casting instruction and pointers from many of our veteran members. A few men made good use of the nearby pond as well. Unfortunately, strong winds during and heavy rains before the meeting shut down some of our demonstration casting.

2009 Firelands Event Schedule

June 1st – 3rd – Youghiogheny River Fishing Trip

June 10th – Annual Summer Picnic and Raffle

June 13th – Presque Isle, Flats style bass fly fishing

July and August – Firelands Fly Fishers does not meet these months

September 9th – Resume meeting at French Creek for 2009-2010

September 25th – 4th Annual Clam Bake, Beaver Creek Boat Club



Fly Tying

The last Fly Tying session until fall took place this past Wednesday at Vermilion Fish & Game. The tying nights at this club went very well, with some people (men, woman and children) coming out to learn from the veteran tiers in our club. Thanks to Vermilion Fish & Game for the invitation and hospitality!

A special thank you goes out to Tom Zmina for all his time and dedication to scheduling the sessions, hauling fly tying gear, teaching many new “students” and for providing us with the Fly of the Month. Make sure to give Tom a big pat on the back at the picnic!

Firelands Fly Fishers Annual Summer Raffle

Drawing to be held at the picnic on Wednesday, June 10

Each member of Firelands is asked to sell/buy at least two tickets at \$10 each and return ticket with money by the night of the drawing. Funds from the raffle go towards next year’s meetings, including bringing in guest speakers, buying needed supplies, A/V equipment, etc...Only 200 tickets will be sold!

If you would like more tickets or need to turn in your money and sold tickets before June 10, please contact Joe Sloboda at archwoodangler@yahoo.com

2009 Raffle Prizes

Grand Prize - TFO Teton Combo Rod and Reel, 9ft. - 5wt.

2nd Prize - Guided Fishing Trip with Indigo Guide Service, for 2 people on Michigan’s Pere Marquette

3rd Prize - Second Chance 8’6” – 6wt. South Bend Bamboo

4th Prize - Fishing at Sunnybrook Trout Club with lunch for 2

5th Prize - Tom Zmina’s Lake Erie fishing adventure

6th Prize - Assorted collection of flies

June 10 Annual Summer Picnic

The summer picnic will be at the French Creek Pine Tree Picnic Area #1 – same pavilion as last year’s picnic. The entrance is on the north side of French Creek Road, just west of the railroad tracks, between Rt. 301 and E. River Road. The driveway to the picnic area follows a long tree-canopied road. Please note, this is not the same as the Nature Center.

We will be setting up at 5:30 and will probably eat around 6:15 PM. The Club will provide plates, napkins, burgers, hot dogs, water and pop. Members are asked to bring a dish to share. The membership has been divided into three groups below to even out the buffet.

Each member is asked to bring an item to share:
Last name initial A-H = salad dish or appetizer;
J – R = vegetable or fruit; S – Z = dessert

Besides your dish of food, members may also bring a guest, including a child or spouse.

Please RSVP your attendance to Carl Kocian at flyguy@centurytel.net or call at 440-967-4661 (home, leave a voice mail). RSVP by Monday evening, June 8th. Remember to let us know if you are bringing a guest.

Election of officers and the raffle will take place after dinner.



News and Notes

A FEW GOOD MEN

As we near the end of the Firelands Fly Fishers calendar year, your Board of Directors is also preparing for the 2009-2010 club season. We are club based on volunteer efforts and run with your membership dollars. Each year we hold a "formal election" of officers at our June picnic for the upcoming year. The officers include President (Bill Grake), Vice President (Steve Smith), Treasurer (Bill Graw) and Secretary (Joe Sloboda). The remaining members of the board are directors and are appointed by the officers at a board meeting.

Jim Mertz, Firelands member and acting Nominating Chair, has offered to accept nominations from members to run for officer of Firelands Fly Fishers. Please contact Jim (jamleor@oh.rr.com) if you would like to run for office or to nominate a fellow member to office. We also will have vacancies next year for Director of Raffle and the new role of Director of Project Healing Waters. If you would like to participate in this capacity, or any other volunteer role, please contact Jim Mertz or Bill Grake with your intentions.

Leonard Oliveri teaches a popular lesson at Rocky River's Kensington School Fishing Day

The students and staff at Kensington Intermediate School in Rocky River wish to thank Leonard Oliveri for returning for a second year to their annual fishing day. He was a big hit again this year as he taught 188 Fourth Graders about fly tying as part of their fishing education day at Bradstreet's Landing. He also gave each child a hand tied fly! Thanks Len for your time and for promoting our sport and hobby so diligently!!

Reel & Heal Fly Fishing Retreats

Joe Sloboda and Tim Schulz volunteered at the Reel & Heal retreat on May 17-19 and had a splendid time with some wonderful people. Each of the woman participating caught a trout and for many, they had also casted a fly rod for the first time.

Toledo Blade Outdoor Sports writer, Steve Pollick, was there and wrote this article on the experience:

<http://www.toledoblade.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090524/COLUMNIST22/905240377>



Many thanks to the men in Firelands Fly Fishers who generously donated 180 flies to this excellent program! The board and retreat directors from Reel & Heal want to extend their thanks as well.

Space is available for women cancer survivors at two more retreats this summer, June 12-14 and July 5-7 in Wellston, MI. The September retreat at Rockwell Springs is full. For more information on Reel & Heal go to www.reelandheal.com or e-mail **Judy Walle** at judy.walle@reelandheal.com



Rocky River Watershed Clean-up

The Cleveland Metroparks and the Rocky River Watershed Council have one river clean up remaining – June 6, from 9 AM until 12 Noon. This clean up is for the lower river and participants should meet at the Scenic Park Picnic Area (just south of boat launch). Hot Dogs, drinks and snacks are available for volunteers afterwards. Gloves and long pants are recommended. For more info, please contact Jared Bartley, RR Watershed Coordinator, at jbartley@cuyahogawcd.org

Library Reminder – return items

Mike Janosko, Firelands Club Librarian, reminds everyone to please return items you have checked out by the June meeting. Mike hopes to update and create a new inventory/catalog over the summer for our use in the fall. Also, donations of videos, books, etc. are accepted so that others may enjoy or learn from them.

Firelands Fly Fishers Board of Directors

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

President: **Bill Grake**

bahiapark@yahoo.com

Vice President: **Steve Smith**

pnpinc@alltel.net

Secretary: **Joe Sloboda**

archwoodangler@yahoo.com

Treasurer: **Bill Graw**

william_j_graw@keybank.com

Director of Annual Funding: **Ted Zalenski**

zmant@att.net

Director of Communications: **Tim Schulz**

t_timeFFF@yahoo.com

Director of Fly Tying: **Tom Zmina**

zminat@yahoo.com

Director of Membership: **Brent Feorene**

brentfeorene@att.net

Director of Outings: **Carl Kocian**

flyguy@centurytel.net

Director of Web Site: **Rob Mastnardo**

r.mastnardo@firelandsflyfishers.org

Librarian: **Mike Janosko**

mjanosko@aol.com

***Remember – Firelands Fly Fishers
does not meet in July and August***

Fly of the Month, May - Jointed Green Drake Nymph

List of Materials - Tail Section:

Hook - Mustad 084F Size 8.

Thread - 8/0 Light Cahill color.

Tail - Three barbs from a Pheasant tail feather.

Body - Dubbing - blend of cream yellow and mint green colors.

Wire - Fine Brass Wire, spiral wrapped to segment the body.

List of Materials - Body Section:

Hook - Mustad L042G Size 8.

Thread - 8/0 Light Cahill color.

Tail - Attach the tail section by tying in a loop of 10lb mono along the top of the hook shank.

Body - Dubbing - The same blend of cream yellow and mint green and a tuft of Chartreuse ice dubbing for the gills.

Wing case - Swiss Straw - olive color.

Legs - Mallard flank - wood duck gold color feathers.

Photo # 1 Tie in a base of thread and then securely tie in the fine gold wire. Tie in the three barbs of the Pheasant tail spread evenly.

Photo # 2 Dub in a body of the greenish yellow dubbing material. Spiral wrap the wire over the dubbed body and tie off the wire at the hook eye. Trim off the excess wire with side cutters. Whip finish the thread and trim off the excess. Use velcro or a bodkin needle to pick out the sides of the dubbing toward the hook eye to form side gills. Remove the hook from the vise and cut off the hook bend at the tail with side cutters.

Photo # 3 Mount the "body section hook" into the vise and start a thread base. Loop the mono through the "tail section hook" eye and then tie in the mono on the top of the bend of the body hook.

Photo # 4 Tie in the Swiss Straw wing case on the top of the back of the body section hook. Tie in a tuft of the Chartreuse ice dubbing to fill in the area around the joint. Dub in the body of the front hook with the greenish yellow dubbing.

Photo # 5 Tie in the Mallard flank feathers in along the sides of the front section. Flop the Swiss Straw over the top of the dubbed body to form the wing casing shell. Tie off at the eye and trim of the excess. Whip finish and add head cement. Completed fly.

*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

