



the indicator

The newsletter of the Firelands Fly Fishers Inc.

www.firelandsflyfishers.org

P.O. Box 244, Avon Ohio 44011

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March 2007

President's Corner

Spring is near, prime Steelhead time is here, Trout fishing will soon be in full swing and Firelands Fly Fishers activities are geared to making you a better fly fisherman. Enough of this winter weather already.

The club still has fly tying classes weekly that will teach you how to tie all the patterns you need to fly fish. **Tom Zmina**, Dir. of Fly Tying, has developed a very good program for not only the beginner fly tyer but also for the experienced tyer. It is enjoyable just to stop in and engage in all the conversations and stories that fly around the room.

Steve Smith, Vice President, is having another rod building session and you still have time to make a rod to use on Oil Creek in June. More info on Rod Building class follows in Future Events below.

The club now has a lending library. Mike Janasko is the person to contact if you want to borrow any of the club material. Details of the procedure to borrow materials are in this newsletter.

An upcoming casting class by world renowned fly caster, **Tim Rajeff**, is tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 22nd at Sunnybrook Trout Club. There will be 2 sessions; a fundamentals class in the morning and an advance class in the afternoon (*note: the advanced class is now full*).

Cost should be about \$125 per person. In the evening, Tim will give a free presentation to our club members. **Joe Sloboda** is the contact for this event. We will also have a lunch at Sunnybrook which should cost about \$12; and if non-Sunnybrook members want to stay and fish there is a guest fee.

Good Fishing!!

Bill Grake
President, Firelands Fly Fishers

Editor's Notes

February Meeting

33 men attended February's Steelhead Forum. We probably could have talked all night about the various ways to rig rods, what the ODOW is doing (or not doing), where to go, what fly or indicators to use (or not use)...So, I suggest we continue the process when we meet up on March 16th on the Rocky River and actually put some of that to practice. More information on club fishing outings is below.

New fishing licenses for 2008 are required as of March 1st.

To purchase your 2008 license online follow this link:

<https://www.greatlodge.com/oh/license/welcome?ol=undefined>

For information on regulations, prices and vendors, please visit:

<http://www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife/dow/regulations/vendor.aspx>

Reel & Heal Fly Fishing Retreats

Retreats designed for women that have or had breast cancer are conducted by Reeling and Healing, Inc., a non-profit organization. Retreats will be held May 4-6 and Sept 12-23 at Rockwell Springs; May 18-20 at Mohican; July 6-8 and 20-22 in Wellston, MI. For more information go to www.reelandheal.com or e-mail **Judy Walle** (wife of Dick Walle) at judy.walle@reelandheal.com

Women in the Outdoors: Fly Fishing School

North Coast Fly Fishers, along with Women in the Outdoors and Lake Metroparks will be hosting a fly fishing workshop at the Lake Metroparks Outdoor Skills Center in Leroy Twp. The sessions are on May 3rd and advance registration is required. Cost is \$50 pp. Lunch, snacks, equipment and materials are included. For more info and to register, go to www.lakemetroparks.com or call Lindsey Pyle at 440-358-7275.

John Nagy's Steelhead Guide, 4th Edition

John Nagy's 4th Edition of his popular (for good reason) book is available. Steve Vorkapich has 12 copies of the soft bound cover for sale for \$33 and 6 copies of the black leather hard bound book for \$43. All copies are signed by John Nagy, and you can probably get Steve to sign them too! Steve is the owner/creator of Float Master Products that appear in the book. You can get in touch with Steve at info@floatmaster.net or 440-669-9928.

Steve Vorkapich, Matt Supinski and Greg Senyo speaking at Steelhead Seminar

Saturday, March 15th at Presque Isle Quality Inn in Fairview, PA. Cost is \$20 and includes lunch – limited to 50 people. For more info go to <http://www.follysend.com/senyo.html>

Original Articles

I am looking for some guest writers to submit stories, ideas, advice, and poetry...for all upcoming newsletters. About 1 page is perfect and I can help with ideas, technology and editing.

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

All General Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the French Creek Nature Center, 4530 Colorado Ave. Sheffield Village. Meetings begin socially at 6:30 PM.

March 12th General Meeting

We are privileged to have **Jerry Darkes** speak to us this month. Jerry is a guide, author and fly fishing manufacturer's rep. His presentation will be on warm water fly fishing – just in time to help take away those winter blues!

Upcoming General Meetings Scheduled for 2008

March 12th – **Jerry Darkes**, Warm water fly fishing

April 9th – **Jared Bartley**, Rocky River Watershed Coordinator

May 14th – Outdoor Casting Clinic, Avon

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

Sept. 10th – **Glen Blackwood**

Rod Building Class is back!

If you were not able to join us for the fall class, here is your chance to build that fly rod you have been dreaming about. **Steve Smith**, club VP, is organizing another rod building class at Gander Mountain on Tuesday nights in April (1, 8, 15, 22, 29). Fellow “experts” from Firelands will be on hand to assist with the process.

The class will be limited to 6 participants and we will start signing up at the March 12th meeting at French Creek. If you are going to participate, it is time to look at ordering your rod blank or rod building kit. Most members order from Hook & Hackle www.hookhack.com or Cabelas. Hook and Hackle has a lot to choose from and usually has a special or sale going on. Remember, Firelands Fly Fishers recently purchased some new drying racks and a thread wrapping machine that many of can't wait to see in use.

Fly Tying at Gander Mountain moves to Wednesdays, 6 PM – 9 PM

Fly Tying continues in Gander Mountain's Lodge Room. Director of Fly Tying, **Tom Zmina**, has put together a schedule of fly tying nights for anyone wishing to attend. Please come out and bring a friend. Gander Mountain is located in Cobblestone Square in Sheffield Village, near Rt. 301/Rt. 254 and I-90.

Lodge Room at Gander Mountain: Wednesdays in March 5, 19, 26

Carriage Barn at Mill Hollow, Vermilion: Weds. in April 16, 23, 30

Nature Center at Sandy Ridge Reservation: Weds. in May 7, 21, 28

Please note that the Second Wednesday of each month is skipped to allow for the Firelands Fly Fishers Meeting.

Firelands Fly Fishers Weekend Outings

The board has proposed a series of fishing days for Firelands Fly Fishers members. Come on out and spend a day fishing with fellow club members – make a friend and learn some of their tricks or find a new spot to fish – and have someone there to hold the camera for that monster buck steely!

Our first outing will be on the **Rocky River, Sunday, March 16th**. We will meet at 7 AM at the Little Cedar Point Picnic Area. This parking lot is off of Cedar Point Rd. adjacent to the Frostville Museum. It is situated just west of Valley Parkway and the river, next to the bridge where the East and West Branches converge, and down the hill from Columbia Rd.

On **April 13th** we will meet at Bacon Woods, in the north end of the lot, on the **Vermilion River**.
May (tentatively Sat. May 17) will likely take us to **Presque Isle, Erie, PA** for some flats style bass fishing.

Firelands Fly Fishers Library

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. We will discuss this process further at next week's meeting. **Mike Janosko**, mjanosko@aol.com

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

Steelhead by the numbers

Here are some of the numbers **Tim Schulz** shared on stocking at the February meeting.

Ohio stocked 402,800 steelhead in May 2005	Pennsylvania stocked 1,205,203 steelhead in 2006
Ohio stocked 491,943 steelhead in May 2006	Pennsylvania stocked 277,590 in Elk Creek in 2006
Ohio stocked 453,297 steelhead in May 2007	Pennsylvania stocked 226,792 in Walnut Creek in 2006
New York stocked 275,000 steelhead in 2006	Over 2 million steelhead were stocked in Lake Erie in 2006

Numbers are courtesy the Lake Erie Coldwater Task Group Report, April 2007

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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Fly of the Month, March Gold-Ribbed Hare's Ear Nymph

Hook: Standard Nymph Hook - size 12 to 16
Thread: Black 6/0 or 8/0
Weight: 10 turns of lead wire
Tail: Hare's mask guard hair
Rib: Oval Gold Tinsel
Abdomen: Tan Hare's mask fur
Shell: Mottled Turkey feather
Thorax: Dark hare's mask fur with guard hairs



Photo # 1 Wrap the hook shank with ten turns of lead wire for weight. Start your thread and wrap in extra thickness on each end of the lead wire to hold it in place. Finish with the thread by the bend of the hook.



Photo # 2 Tie in a small amount of hare's mask guard hair fur from the cheek as a tail. Extend out only about one half of the hook shank length. Tie in a few inches of gold tinsel and let it extend out of the back for later use.



Photo # 3 Clip lighter color fur from the hare's mask and remove most of the guard hairs. Dub in the under-fur hair, wrapping to the half way point of the hook shank. Wrap the gold tinsel in loose wraps to the half way point and tie it off.



Photo # 4 Tie in a section of mottled turkey feather with the mottled side facing down so it will show when flipped over the top later.



Photo # 5 Dub in a mixture of darker coarse guard hair and longer under fur to create a thorax. Allow the guard hair to stick out to represent the legs of the insect.

Photo # 6 Flip the turkey feather over the top and tie it off at the eye. Clip off the excess feather and whip finish a head. Dab in head cement to seal the head.

For Previous 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