

THE LOOP



Andy Kitson, Editor



Wednesday,
April 18, at The Sixth
Floor of the Ramada,
Downtown South
Bend.

It's April... So, Here's April

THE SJRVFF ANNUAL AUCTION

Get New Stuff, Get Rid of Stuff... All for a Good Cause!

The St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers is having its Annual Fundraiser on April 18th at 6:00 PM on the 6th floor of the Chase Bank Building in downtown South Bend. The event includes a grab bag raffle, silent auctions, a chance to win a new Sage fly rod and a general auction run by auctioneer Dave Goodrich. The Cellar Door Restaurant will serve dinner at 6:30 PM. The cost of dinner is \$14 per person.

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Photo: A. Kitson

Hey All,

As the day light hours get longer and the weather gets nicer, our first thoughts are to get out and fish. For some of us, it is not as big of a deal because we have not taken a winter break. For others, it has been a long time coming and we are chomping at the bit and that is just the way it is. Fair enough. However, I would also like to point out that as the daylight hours get longer and the weather gets nicer, we as a club start doing more outside... a lot more! With outings, conservation projects, educational demos, etc. - SJRVFF is a very active club and the next couple of months will be very busy. Late April through May alone have us occupied with two club outings (SJRVFF April 28th and LECTU May 5th) and three educational demo programs (April 21st in Buchanan, May 12th in Buchanan, and May 19th in South Bend). Numerous conservation projects are also in the works with dates and times to be announced. Again I say, SJRVFF is a very active club. In order to accomplish these things we need help. . . which brings me to my point. Volunteer support in our club is something that SJRVFF can pride itself on. We always seem to have the volunteer help when we need it and thats what allows SJRVFF to be so active. To the older members who are already involved I say THANK YOU!!! and keep up the good work. To the newer members that are not sure how to get involved, there are a lot of opportunities. Both the Conservation and Events Committees would love to have new faces with new ideas. If you do not wish to get that involved right now, then how about helping out with a work day project, demo program, or club outing. Any and all contributions no matter how large or small are greatly appreciated by all.

Upcoming dates to keep in mind:

April 21, 2012

Farm Days in Buchanan MI.-SJRVFF will doing casting and tying demos along with answering general question

May 12th, 2012

Buchanan MI.-SJRVFF will doing casting and tying demos along with answering general question

May 5th, 2012

Little Elkhart Chapter TU- Opening Day Outing in Middlebury, IN.

May 19th, 2012

Get Out and Stay Out at St. Patricks County Park- SJRVFF will doing casting and tying demos along with answering general question

Thanks,
Todd

OPENING DAY OUTING!!

The SJRVFF Opening Day Outing will take place on Saturday, April 28th at Bobbie Labar's farm on the Dowagiac Creek. This is an all day event. There will be coffee and donuts for the early birds at 8:00 am and lunch will be served at noon. Lunch will be provided by the club along with water and soda. The club will not be providing beer or wine...you'll have to bring your own. The Opening Day Raffle for the Winston BIIIx 8' 4wt and Hardy Angel Reel w/SA line will be drawn following lunch (1:00 -1:30).

The Dowagiac Creek runs through Bobbie's property so there will be fishing on-site. However, there are also several other possibilities within a few minutes drive of Bobbie's farm. If you are not sure where to go, stop by Bobbie's first and someone will be available to help with any questions.

To get to the Labar farm from South Bend, take either m-60 or m-62 to Cassopolis, MI. Then take O'Keefe Rd north out of town to Engle St. (approx. 3.5 miles). Turn left on Engle St. Labar's farm is about a 1/2 mile west of O'Keefe Rd. The address is 23683 Engle St. Cassopolis, MI. for those with GPS

OPENING DAY ROD RAFFLE

This years SJRVFF Opening Day Rod Raffle is a Winston BIIIx 8' 4wt, Hardy Angel reel, SA wf #4 textured line and backing.

Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00 and will be available up to the drawing which will be held at the SJRVFF Opening Day Outing on April 28th at 1:00 pm.

Billy Vail is in charge of raffle ticket sales so be sure to look him up at the Club Auction or at the Opening Day Outing to get your tickets. This is a great package with a retail of \$1,324.00 so remember to buy your tickets early and often.



MEETING INFO:

Wednesday March 21, 2012

Doors open at 6:30 PM meal at 7:00, Meeting starts about 7:30.

Location: Sixth floor of the Ramada in the Chase Building Downtown South Bend, 213 W. Washington Ave.

NO BYOB!!! The Cellar Door has retained their liquor license... The we will no longer be able to bring our own alcohol. A fantastic wet bar will be offered for those who wish to share a pint or two. As always, please drink responsibly.

Menu

Fried Chicken

Garlic Roasted Red Potatoes

Buttered Corn

Assorted Cakes

WATCH THESE...

4 new Fly Tying videos from the Hooked on Fly Tying Series.

1. Terrestrials, The Other Hatch with Glen Weisner & Wayne Sampson

"The Other Hatch" is compilation of their most productive Terrestrial patterns that are durable enough to withstand a 50 bluegill afternoon in your favorite farm pond and creative enough to be presented on virtually any trout water setting.

2. Working with Hair- Stacking & Spinning with Chris Helm & Wayne Sampson

Two dear hair experts provide detailed instruction on stacking a bass bug. The Rattlesnake, as well as spinning "mixed" hair for The Rubber Tailed Popper.

3. Working with Hair – Tips & Techniques for dry flies with Chris Helm & Glen Weisner

Chris Helm & Glen Weisner tie an assortment of very popular flies using a wide range of different hair, including calf body hair, calf tail, moose body hair, elk hair, whitetail body hair, bull elk, cow elk and elk mane. Gel spun thread and material selection are highlighted along with using the correct side of a peacock stick and tying off the parachute hackle on the wing post.

4 Spring Creek Flies – Proven Patterns with Glen Weisner & Wayne Sampson

Glen & Wayne give you a sneak peak into their fly boxes and reinforce that a well-stocked fly box is a necessity for successful spring creek fly fishing.

IT'S HERE!!

by Jim Lothary

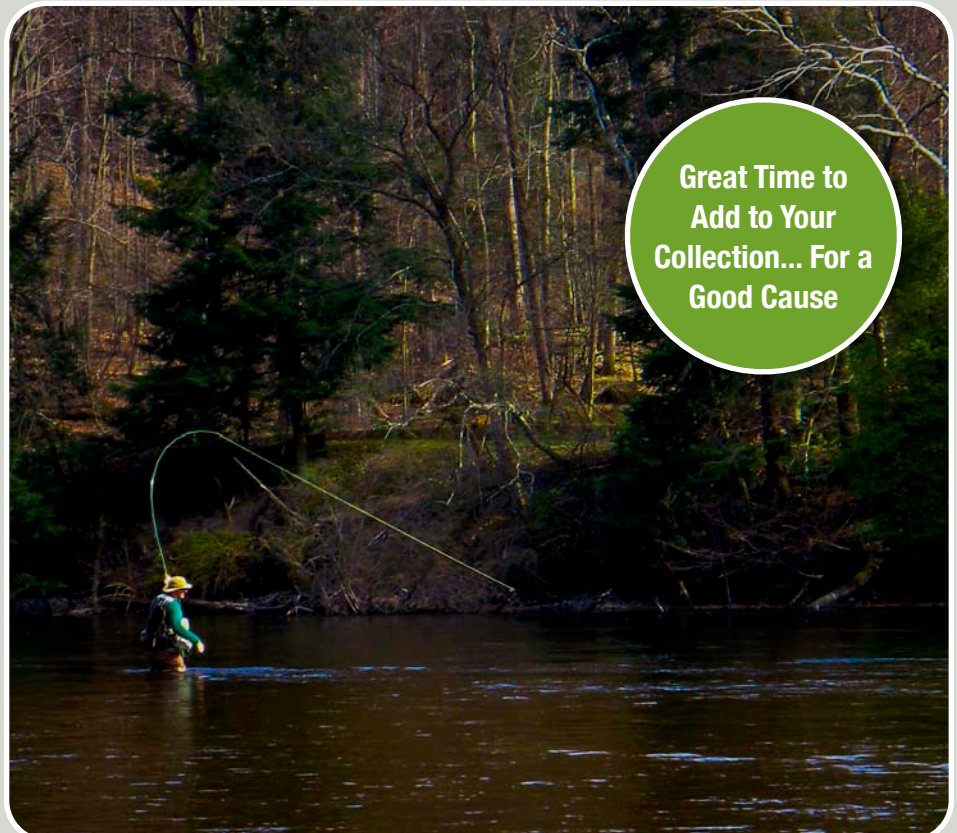
Our April Fundraiser...

You might have wondered where the money to bring in speakers like Brian Pitsner, Tommy Lynch or Kelly Galloup comes from. Or where the Club gets funds for the conservation work or assistance to the Elkhart Conservation Club's trout rearing project? Well it wasn't all your dues or the monthly raffles. Most of our annual funding for the Club's expenses comes from the annual Fundraiser. And this year's Fundraiser is on April 18th at Chase Bank building on the 6th floor. This event is a great chance for you to acquire unique items like a great fly rod or a dozen flies tied and donated by one of the renowned tiers in our club. Dave Goodrich has again offered his services as auctioneer.

You never know what will show up for bid. Some members offer to take you on a fishing trip on local waters. Some of the items are new stuff or discount certificates

to buy items donated by companies like Winston or St. Croix. We will have an auction and a giant raffle with books and bags of fly tying materials donated to the club by the family of Dave Fuller. Some are hand crafted items, artwork or flies. Some are goofy things and some are pretty useful. Every year I take home something that I've been meaning to buy and usually something that my wife looks at and just shakes her head.

You can support the Fundraiser by coming out and bidding, and then bidding some more. You can donate that extra rod you never use any more. Or maybe tie a dozen flies of your favorite pattern. Whatever good usable item you can donate will be appreciated. Just bring it in that night. When in doubt call me or one of the other board members. Remember the better the auction the better we can be as a club. Thanks for your help.





HEALTHY RIVERS LECTURE SERIES

The Healthy River Lecture Series is presented by the Valparaiso University Biology Club and the Duneland Fly Fishers

April 17, 2012 @ 7:00 pm
Dick Pobst

All presentations will be held at the Neils Science Center; Building 10; Rm. 234 on the Valparaiso University campus
For more information see the Valparaiso University Biology Club's blog site:
<http://blogs.valpo.edu/vubioclub/>

DIRECTORS

- President:** Todd Ezzell – 574-522-0735 ([Email](#))
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COMMITTEE HEADS

- Conservation:** John Law – 574-266-4354 ([Email](#))
- Food:** Cathy Fortin – 574-825-3623 ([Email](#))
- Event Coordinator:** Todd Ezzell – 574-522-0735 ([Email](#))
- Librarian:** Deborah Mowery – 574-220-0763 ([Email](#))
- Ghillie & Auction Director:** Jim Lothary – 574-272-2101 ([Email](#))
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- Webmaster:** Brandon Rasler – 574-903-4126 ([Email](#))

RAFFLE ROD



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SJRVFF Opening Day Rod Raffle is a Winston BIIIx 8' 4wt, Hardy Angel reel, SA wf #4 textured line and backing. Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00. See Billy Vail.

A QUICK FIX

By A. Kitson

A Post Taken From The Amish Trout Blog

Finding time to fish can sometime require a "Troutaholic" to get creative with time.

April 4, 2012: It was suppose to storm yesterday... So, I made plans to meet up with Johnny Hondo, look over some art he's having done for his business, and share a few PBR's.

It didn't storm... In fact, the weather was beautiful. Almost 80, slight breeze, a regular chamber of commerce day. And I was at work, with visions of caddis dancing on the water. I had a feeling the bite was on... Finally, I could no longer take it. I left work a little early (sorry Chris, just a lil early... Hope you're having fun in FLA), ran home, grabbed my gear and some clothes for dinner and headed for the river... It was 5:18.

I jumped out of the trout wagon, grabbed my pre-rigged rod, and headed to my first stop... It was 5:26. I had a simple plan to hit 5 different spots that I know hold fish... Ten to twenty casts in each, fish for an hour, change clothes and still make it to the bar by 7:00.

Third cast... BOOM... Thirteen inch brown pounded my fly. The bite was on!! I drug my flies through the run and moved to the next stop quickly, ten casts, no luck... Reeled in and moved on. Next spot, a deep fast run... I tied on a new fly I had tied the night before and cast...BOOM...a nice health 10" brown.

Three cast later, another... I glanced at my watch... It was 6:02.

I moved to the top of the run and drifted my fly inches I front of the log jam. The water was as clear has I've ever seen it. It looked like August, and felt like it too! I was sweating profusely and my glassed where getting completely fogged over. I was so impressed with my beautiful drift that when a fish darted out from under the log and grabbed my fly, I was taken by surprise and I missed it... The trout would have easily been the fish of the day.

The sun went behind the clouds of a front moving in, and the bite shut off. The next two spots produced no fish. I knew I was getting short on time and became distracted, casting from tree to bush to snag and back into the tree. I looked at my watch... 6:42!! Time to head in.

I quickly threw my gear into my ride, stripped down and took a quick "Amish bath" (deodorant and cologne), put on some jeans, t-shirt and flip flops and I was off! It was 6:50.

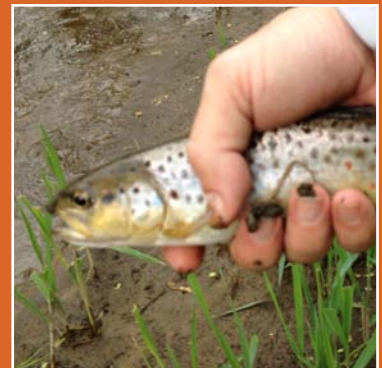
Needless to say, I was fashionably late... But Johnny Hondo was at the bar holding court, so he didn't seem to notice. The ice cold PBR'S couldn't have tasted better.

-AK



Local Waters are at Late May Levels

EARLY SPRING TROUT



The Amish Trout Blog

Be sure to check out my new blog: <http://theamishtrout.blogspot.com>. Or, follow me on twitter @AmishTrout.



THE **LOOP**

NEXT ISSUE: MAY, 2012

There's More Than Corn in Indiana!

SJRFFF

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