

# THE LOOP



Dustin New, Editor

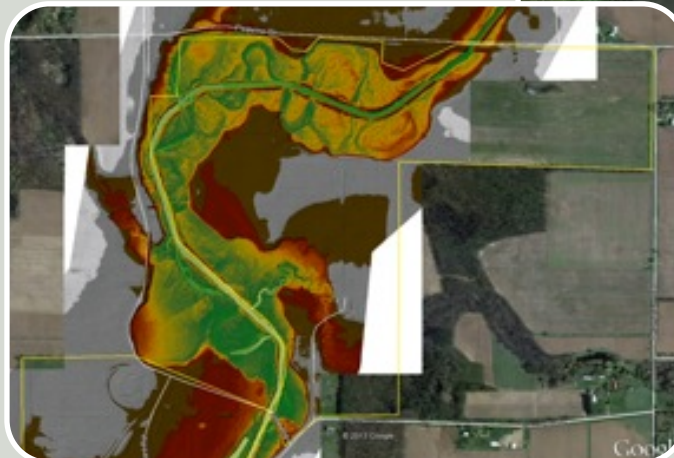


Wednesday,  
December 18th  
at  
Juday Creek Golf  
Course Event  
Center

## SJRVFF WELCOMES GRANT POOLE

Grant is the Water Quality Specialist for the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi Indians. He is based out of Dowagiac, Michigan. Grant will be presenting a quick layout of the Pokagon Band of Department of Natural Resources with emphasis on the Conservation and Environmental Divisions. These two division act as the US Fish & Wildlife Service and EPA within the tribal government to preserve, protect and enhance the natural resources of the tribe. Grant will provide us with

an update on the tribe's proposal to re-meander a three mile stretch of the Dowagiac River to improve habitat and support a natural sustainable fishery.





Several years ago I did a little presentation at the December meeting about some fishing I did down in Costa Rica. I caught a really nice sailfish and couple of rooster fish during the trip. While the fishing was awesome, the wildlife, the weather and being in a totally different environment were what made the trip for me. A couple things have happened in the last couple days to bring those memories to the forefront of my thoughts. Obviously the cold got me thinking about the warm weather. But it was the food that's been making me think about that trip over and over.

While fishing for "bait" on the first day out on the ocean, we caught two nice size tuna. We thought about and even talked about eating part of one right there on the boat but decided to wait it out until we got back to the house. If you've ever had sushi and liked it, you might appreciate how good it is when it's a couple hours out of the ocean. My mouth is starting to

salivate a bit right now writing this.

Throughout the week we ate fresh fruits and vegetables at each meal and for snacks throughout the day. And by fresh I mean plucked out of the trees a few hours earlier. I read a book recently that identified people from a part of Costa Rica as some of the longest living people in the world. Eating good, fresh fruit and vegetables has to be part of what makes that possible. The final evening a group of us went to the finest restaurant in the little town. With a community of about 2,500 people in a developing country you can guess that the "finest" is a relative adjective. My expectation weren't very high. Since I couldn't read much of the menu, I started by pointing at a bottle of wine. I'm not a big wine drinker but that bottle was unexpectedly very good to my taste.

We each pointed at various things on the menu to order and ordered more wine while snacking on some homemade bread made

sometime earlier that day. We could see the chef's busily stirring, chopping and preparing something that really smelled great. We got distracted from the kitchen entertainment by the other patrons. Between their table of four and our table of eight we pretty much filled the seating area of the restaurant. More wine and fishing stories filled the gap until our plates started coming out.

The next hour was spent trying to get through the largest plate of food I've ever been served. Ever! And we just kept trying to eat as much as we could because it was so good. I'm not talking about food I really liked. I am talking about one of the top two or three meals I've ever had.

What does this have to do with fishing? Well, its just to point out that sometimes our fishing trips, even to exotic places, can provide some other pretty great memories and experiences.

Fish on ladies and gentlemen. And happy holidays.

- Dusty



### IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!

Membership renewal dues can be paid at the club meetings or by mail to:

SJRVFF  
P.O. Box 933  
South Bend, IN 46624

- You can pay your dues by credit card through the web site. Click on the "Join SJRVFF" tab and down toward the bottom you will see where you can pay via PayPal.
- The dues are still just \$20.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for a family membership.



**NEW  
MEETING  
LOCATION !!**

### MEETING DETAILS:

Doors open at 6:30  
PM  
Meal at 7:00  
Meeting starts about  
7:30

#### Location:

Juday Creek Golf  
Course Event Center  
14770 Lindy Drive  
Granger, IN 46530

**Parking is free.**

Meal cost \$15.00/  
person

### MENU

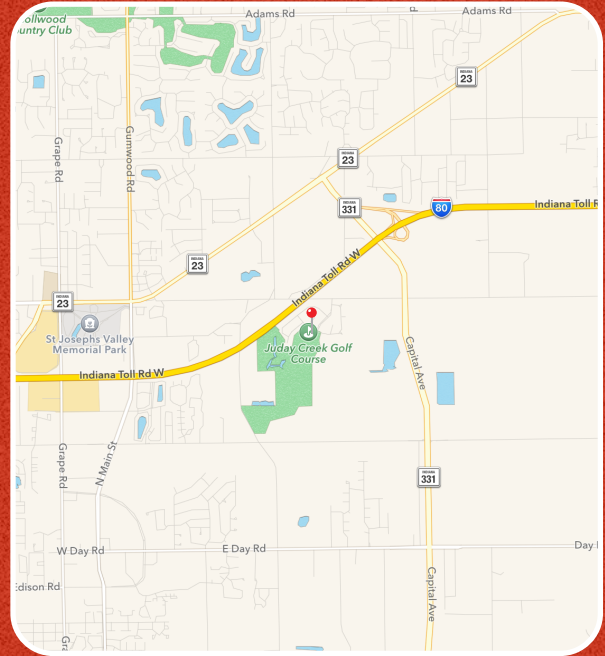
roast beef  
mashed potatoes  
seasonal vegetables,  
homemade rolls  
salad

**DIRECTORS**

President: Eric Wroblewski  
 Vice-President:  
 Treasurer: Lee Troyer  
 Secretary: Jim Gibson  
 1 Year Director: Larry Schmitt  
 1 Year Director: Erik Gilbert  
 2 Year Director: Billy Vail  
 2 Year Director: Mary Hellen Znavor  
 3 Year Director: Doug Moore  
 3 Year Director: Tim Pote

**COMMITTEE HEADS**

Conservation: John Law  
 Event Coordinator:  
 Librarian: Blake Morris  
 Ghillie & Auction Director: Craig Myers  
 Newsletter: Dustin New  
 Webmaster: Brandon Rasler



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The Loop is published the 2nd Wednesday of the month, September through May. If you have story, article ideas, photo, artwork, or need to get something off you chest, contact me at: 574-286-6508 or [dustinnew@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dustinnew@sbcglobal.net)



UPCOMING EVENTS	DEC 18	DEC 25	JAN 1	JAN 15
	<p><b>Club Meeting</b>                      6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center                      (see map above)</p>	<p><b>Christmas Day</b></p>	<p><b>New Year's Day!</b>                      Start the year out right by getting out and fishing. Even for a few minutes.</p>	<p><b>Club Meeting</b>                      6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center                      (see map above)</p>

## INTERMEDIATE FLY TYING CLASS

I titled this as "Advanced Fly Patterns" last month. While it is more advanced than the beginner class, it is more accurate to say it is a continuation of the beginning class. This will be a seven week class on tying proven fly patterns for the local area and beyond. Classes are once a week for seven weeks starting the **first Tuesday of February at the Howard Park Senior Center**. The cost for non-members of SJRVFF is \$30.00. For members the class cost is \$5.00. The class is limited to 30 people. SJRVFF will supply all the vises, tools and materials to tie during the class. If you have your own vise and tools, please feel free to use them. For more information please contact Jeff Stanifer or Dustin New.

## MORE FLY STUFF

Raffle manager Craig Myers is looking for fly donations from the club tiers for raffle prizes. Tie up something you've been wanting to learn, something you've been successful with, or something you think your buddies should be fishing.

## ELECTION TIME IS HERE!!

Election time is here and this is your opportunity to be part of the leadership of the SJRVFF. We have a rather large slate to fill this year and need your help.

Elections will be held at the January meeting at the Juday Creek Golf Course and Event Facilities located at 14770 Lindy Drive, Granger, Indiana, 46530. Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm and the proposed slate will be presented immediately after dinner.

Additional nominations can also be made at that time from the floor by any member in good standing. All members in good standing can then vote on the nominees and we will have our leadership for 2014 set. If you are interested in giving a bit of your time and talents, please talk with the election committee - Tim Pote, Mary Helen Znavor and Lee Troyer.

### Positions Available

Each year two of the six directors rotate off of the board and are replaced. Additionally, Eric and Mark, current president and vice-president, respectively, will not be returning for a second term. The positions available are:

- President
- Vice-President
- 2-Year Director
- 3-Year Director (2)



## DECEMBER RAFFLE

For the December meeting Craig has lined us up with a Norvise and an Oasis base.



# EIGHTH ANNUAL TIE-A-THON



On **April 12th** members of SJRVFF, members of Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited and many others, will come together to tie flies for the following three worthy causes:

**The National Fishing in Schools Program (NFSP)** is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit designed to promote fly fishing and traditional tackle fishing among school kids within Michigan, Indiana and beyond. The "Fishing in Schools" program accommodates students irrespective of gender, physical ability or natural aptitude. The program's objective is to teach students in grades 6-12 'how to fish' in school gymnasiums. A core two-week foundation curriculum unit for Physical Education teachers is the norm. It addresses four National Academic Standards (PE, science, language arts & technology.) The complete curriculum meets six. **For more information, check out [www.flyfishinginschools.org](http://www.flyfishinginschools.org)**

**The Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited (KVCTU)** is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. KVCTU will use its flies for their educational fly fishing camp. The KVCTU is hosting the Michigan Youth Trout Camp July 6-July 10, 2014 at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center on Higgins Lake, in the heart of Northern Michigan trout country. The four-day Camp is designed to educate 12-16 year old boys and girls, who will become our next generation of conservation leaders, about the importance of protecting our cold-water resources. Campers will learn that how we choose to use our land can affect the health of our streams, our trout, and ourselves. **For more information, check out [www.kvctu.org](http://www.kvctu.org).**

**Warriors and Quiet Waters (WQW)** is an organization dear to both Tie-a-thon founders, Tim Scott and Terry Wittorp. WQW is also a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Its mission is to provide traumatically injured U.S. servicemen and women from Iraq and Afghanistan with a high quality restorative program, utilizing the therapeutic experience of fly fishing on Montana waters. WQW brings wounded warriors to Montana for a six day program of fly fishing and recreation. Most warriors who come are still in rehab in the military hospital system. Once there, they have the opportunity to relax and to learn to fly fish in the quiet and beautiful surroundings of Montana and neighboring Yellowstone Park. **For more, check out [www.warriorsandquietwaters.org](http://www.warriorsandquietwaters.org).**

This is a good time to get a jump on your flies. You don't have to be an expert tyer to donate flies and you can certainly donate more than 100. Many first time fly tyers have participated; this gives you a chance to become very good tying at least one fly. If you need help learning a pattern; contact Tim Scott, and he will be happy to give you a lesson.

As in the past, the Elkhart Conservation Club has graciously donated the use of their main building.

## These are the flies to tie: (tie 100 flies of one pattern)



# NFSP

NATIONAL FISHING IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM



<i>Fly</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Fly</i>	<i>Size</i>
Adams	14	Hoppers	10 - 4
Elk Hair Caddis	14 -16	Green Drakes	8
Dubbing / Hackle Ant	18-20	Stonefly Nymphs	8 - 4
Griffith Gnat	20-22	Copper Johns	18 - 12
Soft Hackle	14 -16	Lightning bugs	18 - 12
BWO RG Emerger	18-22	San Juan Worms	18 - 12
Caddis Nymph	16-18	Lime green trudes	16-8
Hare's Ear	12-14	Stimulators	10 - 4
Pheasant Tail	14-16	Beetles	18-14
Woolly Bugger	10	Mickey Finn	8
Clouser's Minnow	8		

## BLACK BASS TAG REWARD PROGRAM

*Sandy Clark-Kolaks, IDNR Southern Fisheries Research Biologist, recently provided the following update on the Black Bass Tag Reward Program. If you weren't aware, the SJRVFF is supporting this program by providing \$500 toward the rewards given for providing tag data for the program.*

160 black bass in the West Fork White River (Madison, Hamilton, and Marion counties) from near Perkinsville downstream to the West Raymond Street Bridge. Tagged black bass are spread over about 50 miles of river with the greatest concentrations of tagged fish in areas where numbers of fish were the greatest. Tagged fish range in size from 7.1 inches to 19.4 inches.

St. Joseph River (St. Joseph and Elkhart counties) with 156 black bass being tagged. Tagged fish are distributed from Bristol to the Indiana-Michigan border and range in size from 7.6 inches to 19.6 inches. "We collected some of the best smallmouth I've ever seen in a river," said biologist Neil Ledet who headed the project.

Manchester University concluded tagging on the Eel River (Wabash, Miami, and Cass counties) in August with 87 smallmouth bass tagged. Tagged black bass ranged in size from 7.5 inches to 13 inches. It is disappointing not to see bigger fish but there are definitely two strong year classes that will be moving up through the system which will hopefully lead to good fishing down the road. Tagged fish are spread over about 70 miles starting upstream of South Whitley downstream to Logansport.

I have had 9 tags returned and 3 tags reported but the individuals did not remove the tag (3 Eel, 1 St. Joe, and 8 West Fork). Working with Wildlife Federation has worked great for distributing the rewards and talking with anglers has been really fun. We have received great press from the project and check out this great article about the project.

[http://www.southbendtribune.com/sports/outdoors/article\\_ff6aeabc-4474-11e3-9475-0019bb30f31a.html](http://www.southbendtribune.com/sports/outdoors/article_ff6aeabc-4474-11e3-9475-0019bb30f31a.html)

## 2014 GLC FLY TYING EXPO

This year Fly Tying Expo was again held at the Holt High School in Holt, Michigan. The weather was cold, as usual, but held off with heavy snow or ice. That was a welcome relief from the last several years. Once again the SJRVFF manned the First Fly station, introducing youngsters the fine art of fly tying. We had a good number of little people stop by and whip up a wooly bugger or Mickey fin. Attendance at the Expo was great and it was a great opportunity to see some of the best tiers in our region. If you didn't attend this year, mark your calendar for the first Saturday in December next year.



## CLUB AWARDS AT DECEMBER MEETING!

The club awards are given annually at the December meeting. Come see who tied, who fished, who got it done and who had a funny adventure. Awards will be presented for:

- Okee Drifter
- Fly Fisher of the Year
- Fly Tier of the Year
- Harry Hustle

Additionally we will be presenting one very worthy member with a life time membership. Come join the celebration and laughs.



**SJRVFF**

PO Box 933

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