

THE LOOP



Dustin New, Editor



Wednesday,
February 17 at
Juday Creek Golf
Course Event
Center

SJRVFF WELCOMES MARCY COLCLOUGH

Marcy serves on the St. Joseph River Watershed Council and is a board member for the Partnership for MEANDRS (Meeting the Ecological and Agricultural Needs of the Dowagiac River System).

She also established the Two Rivers Coalition and continues to advise this successful watershed organization to improve and protect the Paw Paw and Black River Watersheds. She is the co-chair of the Southwest Michigan Water

Resources Council and serves on Michigan's Water Cabinet for the development of the new State Water Strategy, "Sustaining Michigan Water Heritage, A Strategy for the Next Generation."

She holds a Bachelor's degree in Biology and Environmental Studies from Ohio Northern University and a Master of Environmental Science Degree from Miami University, Ohio.



Marcy is going to talk about the Dowagiac River dam removal and the MEANDRS project.



I consider the next few weeks to be the *dead time of the year*; College Football and the NFL have named their Champions and March Madness has yet to begin. This is the perfect time to fine tune your fly fishing skills and the SFRVFF club is here to help you do just that.

Dustin New and Jeff Stanifer started the intermediate Fly Tying classes last Thursday and “yours truly” is one of the students. I’ve taken several beginning classes and decided to notch it up a level. If you have some basic experience it’s not too late to join. Jeff and Dustin do an outstanding

job – thanks to both of you for your commitment to the sport.

Todd Ezzell has organized a more experienced class featuring the nationally respected Charlie Craven. If you were present at the January membership meeting you heard strong testament from Ray Schmidt on Charley’s highly respected skills as both a teacher and tier. The two, 1-day classes are being held March 5th & 6th at the Elkhart Conservation Club. The cost is \$100.00, we realize this is more than what’s been charged in the past, but we’re trying to break even and feel this class will be worth it. Both classes will cover the same content so

there is no need to attend both days unless of course you want to! The cost of the class includes all the materials needed, lunch, and beverages – all you need to do is bring your equipment.

A special thank you to both Jeff Downing for completing the Club audit and Treasurer,

Lee Troyer for the outstanding job he does keeping our finances in order. The audit was completed in January and no exceptions were found. Financially we’re in great shape!

As we make our way to the Spring, there are several fly fishing/ tying showings coming up. The Three Rivers Fly fishing / tying show sponsored by the Three Rivers Fly Fishers Club is being held on April 2nd, the three day Great American Fly Fishing Expo is being held in Indianapolis on February 20 and 21st at the Indiana State Fairground in Indianapolis and of course the ever popular Midwest Fly Fishing Expo is being held March 12th and 13th in Warren, Michigan.

Lastly don’t forget about the annual club auction coming up in April. If you have items to donate, please get them to Terry Wittorp or Todd Ezzel as soon as possible.

Thanks and hope to see you next Wednesday.



MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING STUFF

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

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. We would like to get all the renewals processed before the end of February so membership cards and club rosters can be distributed in March.
- Anyone who joined the club after September 1st, 2015 is automatically covered for the year 2016.

MEETING DETAILS:

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

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

Parking is free.

Meal cost \$16.00/
person

MENU
Buffet



Just click the
link to quickly
send an email to
Terry

We need a good head count for dinner planning for our group. They charge us if we tell them too few so get your name in or you might go hungry! RSVP by emailing Terry at terryflyfish@hotmail.com or call and leave a message at 269-424-5138.

**Please respond by
9:00 pm on Friday.**

INTERMEDIATE FLY TYING CLASSES

You can still get in!

The SJRVFF teaches 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 Thursday of February**. The cost for non-members of the 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. You are welcome to bring your own vise and tools if you have them. For more information or to sign up please contact Jeff Stanifer at janar3@sbcglobal.net or Dustin New at dustinnew@sbcglobal.net.

FLY TYING SEMINAR WITH CHARLIE CRAVEN

Date: March 5th & 6th, 2016

Location: The Elkhart Conservation Club

Cost: \$100.00 per tier

The seminar will be limited to 30 tiers total and will be broken down into two one day classes (15 tiers on Saturday, March 5th, 2016 and 15 tiers on Sunday, March 6th, 2016). Both classes will cover the same content so there is no need to attend both days unless that is what you want to do. The cost for the seminar is \$100.00 per tier (\$200.00 if you for some reason you want to attend both Saturday and Sunday classes). And will include materials needed for the class, lunch, and beverages. Each tier attending the class will need to bring their own tying equipment (vise, tools, lamp, thread, etc.).

Please note that this is not a beginner level seminar and each tier will need to know basic fly tying techniques prior to the class.

The seminar will cover patterns and techniques that Charlie has developed thru many years of commercial tying and guiding.

If you would like additional information or would like to reserve a seat please contact me at 574-202-0255 or m3plus2@hotmail.com

Thanks, Todd Ezzell



TYER

CHARLIE CRAVEN

I have tied flies since I was eight years old. I began tying commercially for local shops at the age of twelve and to this day I still can't get through a day without tying at least a few flies. Fly tying is a consuming endeavor to me, and I enjoy every minute of it.

Growing up in Colorado, I have had the chance to work and fish with some of the most innovative tiers and fisherman in the world. Guys like John Barr, Ross Bartholomay, Dennis Collier and a host of others have influenced my tying and designs. While I owe a lot of my success to people like these I have also learned that I am always my own worst critic and find that I'm forever looking for a better way of doing things. So many "new" patterns these days are beautiful to look at but haven't been water tested. A truly great pattern has to catch fish, be reasonably durable, and solve a problem. That is, achieve through the tying design or process, a result that was previously unavailable.



TENTH ANNUAL TIE-A-THON APRIL 16TH

On **April 16th** members of SJRVFF, members of Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited and many others, will come together to tie flies for Casting for Recovery - Michigan. In nine years, fly tyers have donated over 65,000 flies to various good causes such as Casting for Recovery - Michigan who use fly fishing for education or therapy.

About the Recipient

Casting for Recovery - Michigan is a program that utilizes the sport of fly fishing to promote therapeutic growth and rehabilitation of women with cancer veterans. The goal of Casting for Recovery - Michigan is to create memorable fly fishing experiences that unlock the healing power of the water and foster lasting relationships.

If you are interested, pick just one pattern to tie, buy a box of 100 hooks, the materials and get tying! To get you there, Chef Terry Wittorp will have a spectacular lunch for all the tyers - which is worth at least 200 flies, but we will give you a break. Everyone is welcome, but please let us know so we can plan for lunch.

We will have a guest tyer every other hour show off his or her special pattern. The Tie-a-thon will last from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

If you are not a fast tyer and can't complete your 100 flies in that time, this is a good time to get a jump on your flies. We would certainly take more than 100 from anyone if they are ambitious and want to tie flies in advance. You don't have to be an expert tyer to donate flies.



These are the flies we ask you to tie: (tie 100 flies of one pattern)

<i>Fly</i>	<i>Size</i>
Adams	14
Ant	18 - 20
Beetles	18 - 14
Blue Wing Olive Emerger	18 - 22
Caddis Nymph	16 - 18
Clouser's Minnow	8
Cone-Head white rabbit leaches	4-6
Elk Hair Caddis	14 - 16
Griffith Gnat	20 - 22
Hare's Ear	12 - 14
Mickey Finn	8
Nuke Eggs	10 - 4
Pheasant Tail	14 - 16
Soft Hackle	14 - 16
Woolly Bugger	10

A lot of large trout live in big rivers and I've read the articles on fishing rivers that tell you to break the river down into a set of smaller targets. To think of the river as a series of streams. To not try to fish the river all at once. The articles have great illustrations that show large boulders here, tree stumps there and shallow runs and deep pools. Which is great if the water is clear or you happen to have Superman's vision, which I don't. My usual method of discovering deep pools is to step into them. My crooked toes are testament to my method of locating underwater boulders.

Some authors suggest using a wading staff to decrease the risk of falling and to probe the river bottom. Unfortunately, that means you walk to the edge of deep pools or clank your staff on boulders. Neither is conducive to a stealthy approach on wary trout.

Fortunately, the scientists at Lothary Labs have developed the new, must have item for all who fish, the Lothary Underwater Drone! Unlike ordinary drones that buzz around in the air and help you spy on the divorcee in the next block, the Lothary Underwater Drone (LUD) swims just under the surface of the water at your command. It relays real time video of not just structure and bottom but it also shows you where the trout are holding. That way you don't waste time casting over empty water. But wait, there's more! The LUD is designed to resemble a sexy looking female trout to lure cagey trout away from those difficult to cast to undercut banks. The LUD even has a bag of grasshopper jerky under one fin and a bottle of Bugweiser under another.

The LUD comes complete with a video monitor and controller that attach to your vest. Some assembly required. Buy now before I kick off my marketing campaign with commercials on cable television hosted by a guy with an Australian accent. The commercial will even have someone looking at the LUD and saying "She's hot!!"



DIRECTORS

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 Raffle Director: Craig Myers
 Newsletter: Dustin New
 Webmaster: Brandon Rasler

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



SJRFF

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FEBRUARY RAFFLE

For the February meeting Craig has lined us up with a Redington Torrent 9 foot 4 weight four piece rod, an Umpqua waist pack, simms nippers and some other nice goodies.



UPCOMING EVENTS	FEB 14	FEB 17	FEB 29	MAR 16
	Valentine's Day Bank some points now to get a new rod later.	Club Meeting 6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center	DO NOT take the day off.	Club Meeting 6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center



Yes, it's only February but, if you're like me, something like the April auction can sneak up on you if you don't spend a little time preparing. Your preparations might include building a nice little two weight rod that I've been wanting. Or picking up an extra bobbin at the fly shop to donate for the auction. Or hitting up your favorite guide or lodge for a donation to the club. Maybe it's starting to squirrel away a few bucks so you'll have plenty of cash available on the big night. Whatever your preparations are, its time to start.

Our Auction Team is well on its way to making this year's auction as good as ever. Get in touch with Terry Wittorp or Todd Ezzell if you plan to donate something or can help them out.



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