**October 2016** | Official Newsletter of St. Joe River Valley Fly Fishers



# **SJRVFF WELCOMES ANN MILLER**

Ann Miller is an outdoor writer and fly fishing fanatic. While teaching beginning and intermediate fly fishing schools through the years, she became frustrated with the lack of comprehensive Midwest information on insect hatches, taxonomy, behavior, and flies to match them. Armed with her background in aquatic biology, she decided to tackle the world of bugs head on, and the result is the

THE

Hatch Guide for Upper Midwest Streams. Her field guide was published in January, 2012 (Frank Amato Publications).

In addition to writing, Ann is a founder and current president of Flygirls, an organization whose purpose is to help women become involved in fly fishing. The club was founded in 1996 and continues in its purpose to teach women to fly fish as well as provide fly fishing and fly tying



**Dustin New, Editor** 

outings in Michigan and beyond. More information on Flygirls can be found at <u>http://flygirls.ws</u>.

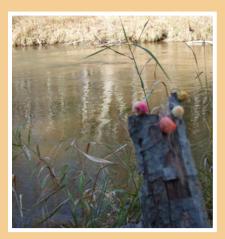
Ann will have books available for sale at the meeting; the cost is \$30 (cash appreciated!).

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN by Don Reber



#### Get involved!

As it's been said, the strength of any organization is determined by the involvement of its members. This certainly pertains to us. As an organization we attempt to provide you, the members, with educational and enjoyable programs that help you become a better Fly Fisherman and Sportsman. Accomplishing this takes a tremendous amount of work. As with a lot of volunteer organizations, many times the burden of this falls on the shoulders of a few hard working and dedicated members. However; we need MORE help and that's where more membership involvement is needed.



Our organization it set up with a board of Directors and committees. Ideally each Committee has a Committee Chair and 1-2 Committee members. This is where we are falling short and your help is needed. Without the involvement of Committee members the Committee Chairman tends to take on all the work and eventually burns themselves out. If the Committee Chairman has decided they've had enough, there's no progression order for another member to take over. As a result, the Committee becomes dysfunctional and eventually falls apart-we need to prevent this from happening! If you're one of the select few who have been involved; thank you!! If not, I asked you to jump from the sidelines and get involved.

At the November membership meeting the board is required to put forth nominations for open positions. Currently we need to replace the President, Vice-President, Treasure and two board positions. Descriptions for the responsibilities for each position can be found on our web site.



Currently our Nomination Committee Chairperson, Thomas Rondo, is seeking nominations for each open position. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact Thomas at <u>Thomas.Rondo@gmail.com</u>

Thank you for continued support.

# PAGE 3 MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING STUFF

# **IT'S THAT 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.



NOTE LOCATION CHANGE!!!

# **MEETING DETAILS :**

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

Location: Elkhart Conservation Club 55515 Riviera Dr Elkhart, IN 46514

### Parking is free.

Meal cost \$16.00/person

## MENU

Polish Style Dinner Provided by the Skillet

RSVP by 9:00 pm Friday at terryflyfish@hotmail.com or call and leave a message at 269-424-5138.

### **OCTOBER RAFFLE**

For the October meeting Craig has lined us up with a Scott A4 9' 4wt, an Orris Guide Sling, some Simms Nippers and other exciting goodies.

# SALMON/STEELHEAD OUTING - OCTOBER 15

The always popular Salmon/Steelhead Outing will be October 15, 2016. We'll be meeting at the Thorn Apple Landing on the Muskegon River. We'll be sending out a reminder as we get a little closer and look for opportunities to share a ride. As always Todd will be providing some of his awesome chili. If you haven't done any salmon fishing this is a great opportunity to get into some fish and have someone with some experience help you out. Don't worry if you're light on equipment - there will be some there for you to tryout as well. And if you've experienced the pull of a salmon before, come on up and spend the day hanging out, trading stories and maybe helping someone experience the thrill for the first time.





## **DIRECTIONS TO THORNAPPLE LANDING**

Take 131 north from Grand Rapids, MI. to M82 (about 30 mi). Take M82 west to Thornapple Ave. Go north on Thornapple Ave. to Thornapple landing. The group is usually in the Northwest part of lot closest to the river but you can look for the canopy and someone will be nearby.

# LOST PART OF A ROD?

On Friday, Oct. 7 I was fishing in Berrien Springs. It was raining and the other mature fisherman there was wearing a wide brimmed hat and an orange poncho. He said he lives in South Bend, and I suspect that he is also a member of this club.

A little while after he left, he came back to tell me that he had lost the tip of his (4 piece) fly rod. I looked for it immediately, but did not find it then. Today I have it in my car, but don't know how to find the owner.

Thanks, John Clements 574-286-2821 walloon1730@earthlink.net

## 🔔 THE FISH ACT

by Jim Lothary

Twenty minutes after hanging up with his largest donor the Senator passed his notes to his assistant and told her to prepare a bill to deal with the donor's concerns. The donor had spent almost the whole call complaining about his fishing trip the day before. The Senator's notes included "not nearly as many trout here as out west; stuck a fly in the guide's ear; tripped over a log; stupid guide", etc.



Three days later the assistant handed him a bill and the Senator introduced the bill titled the Fairness In



Stream Habitat Act or FISH Act. Quickly dozens of other senators agreed to co-sponsor the bill. None of them bothered to read it as none of them wanted to appear anti-fishing back in their home states.

The bill directed the Department of Interior to do a study of the trout densities per mile of stream and river across the US. Once this was completed the Department of Interior would cooperate with the Army Corp of Engineers to relocate trout from high density streams like the Big Horn River in Montana to low density streams like the Suwanee River in Florida. If it was determined that specific species of trout and char were more abundant in some states they would be relocated as well to promote greater diversity. Hence grayling could be transferred from Alaska to Mississippi.

Another section of the bill dealt with safety. It commanded OSHA to study the risks to guides from errant hooks, river obstructions like logs and boulders and excessive flow rates in rivers. Once completed the OSHA was to cooperate with the Army Corp of Engineers to remove all hazards from streams and rivers and reduce the speed of the current to safe levels. OSHA was also to issue regulations on the design of drift boats to reduce injuries and to ban sharp hooks being used in the construction of flies and other lures.



Don't laugh, it could happen.





# **ELECTION TIME IS COMING**

Election time is right around the corner and this is your opportunity to be part of the leadership of the SJRVFF. We have several positions available on the slate this year and need your help.

#### How it works

The Board will identify and present a slate to the membership at the November meeting. Additional nominations for the available positions can also be made at that time from the floor by a member in good standing. All members in good standing can then vote on the nominees and set our leadership for 2017. That's a bit of a simplification but we will deal with the details per the by-laws at the meeting as necessary. If you are interested in giving a bit of your time and talents, please talk with Tom Rondo.

### **Positions Available**

Each year two of the six directors rotate off of the board and are replaced. Additionally, president, vice-president and treasurer positions are available.

Come join us and become an active part of the organization that has provided you with many hours of entertainment and invaluable information over the years. There's nothing more satisfying than giving back.

# **2017 FLY TYING SEMIMARS**

Each January, February and March we invite an accomplished fly tier to spend a Saturday afternoon teaching us how to tie their favorite patterns or teaching us their secret techniques. We are currently putting together a list of tiers to contact and looking for suggestions. We've got a few ideas but would welcome your thoughts. For instance - Are you more interested in some basic techniques and instruction or more advanced? Please talk with a board member about your suggestions at the upcoming meeting. You are also welcome to contact Todd Ezzell <u>m3plus2@hotmail.com</u>.

# **2017 FLY TYING CLASSES**

Next year being an odd numbered year, we will be doing the Beginner Fly Tying Class. This will be a seven week class learning the basic techniques, materials and tricks you need to begin your journey as a fly tier. You will tie proven fly patterns for the local area and beyond. Classes will be once a week for seven weeks starting the first Tuesday of February. The cost for nonmembers of SJRVFF is \$30.00 and \$5.00 for members with a limited of 30 people. SJRVFF will supply all the vises, tools and materials to tie during the class or you are welcome to bring your own vise and tools. For more information please contact Jeff Stanifer at janar3@sbcglobal.net or Dustin New at dustinnew@sbcglobal.net.

#### DIRECTORS

President: Don Reber Vice-President: Terry Witorp Treasurer: Lee Troyer Secretary: Jim Lothary 1 Year Director: Jeff Downing 1 Year Director: Tom Rondo 2 Year Director: Tom Rondo 2 Year Director: Craig Myers 2 Year Director: John Law 3 Year Director: John Barnhart 3 Year Director: Bob Hagin

COMMITTEE CHAIRS Conservation: John Law Event Coordinator: Todd Ezzell Librarian: Blake Morris Raffle Director: Craig Myers Newsletter: Dustin New Webmaster: Brandon Rasler



<u>The Loop</u> 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 <u>dustinnew@sbcglobal.net</u> SJRVFF PO Box 933 South Bend, IN 46624-0933

sjrvff@yahoo.com



UPCOMING EVENTS	OCT 15	OCT 19	NOV 16	NOVE 24
	Salmon/Steelhead Outing Thorn Apple Landing on the Muskegon River	<b>Club Meeting</b> 6:30pm - Elkhart Conservation Club	<b>Club Meeting</b> 6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center	THANKSGIVING

## NOTE: THE OCTOBER MEETING WILL BE AT THE ELKHART CONSERVATION CLUB.

There was a conflict with Juday Creek this month so were moving for a month. We still need a good head count for dinner planning for our group. Please be sure to RSVP by emailing at <u>terryflyfish@hotmail.com</u> or call and leave a message at 269-424-5138. **Please respond by 9:00 pm on the Friday.** 

The club awards are given annually at the December meeting. We are looking for nominations for the following:

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

There are several ways to make a nomination. Email any of the board members with your nomination, make a nomination to any of the board members in person at the October or November meetings, or go to the SJRVFF website under the awards section and make a nomination there.

### **CLUB AWARDS AT DECEMBER MEETING!**

NEXT ISSUE: NOVEMBER 9, 2016

### **SJRVFF**

PO Box 933 South Bend, IN 46624-0933