

THE LOOP



Dustin New, Editor



Wednesday,
February 15 at
Juday Creek Golf
Course Event
Center

SJRVFF WELCOMES CAPTAIN JON RAY

Captain Jon Ray has been fly fishing for the past 23 years and has guided fly anglers in Michigan with Hawkins Outfitters for the past 12 years. Jon's first love is chasing trout, steelhead, small-mouth bass and muskie with streamers. Jon guides anglers with single or two-handed rods with a variety of techniques. He is an expert angler, employing his skills of observation to fly fishing and thinking "out of the box", creating new, innovative methods to catch fish. The [Upper & Lower Manistee](#), [Pere Marquette](#),

and many unknown and unspoken locations in northern Michigan are among Jon Ray's favorite spots.

Jon Ray brings all this experience to your fishing day with an enthusiasm that is contagious. Jon is totally focused on helping his clients land that trophy chrome steelhead or large wary brown trout of their dreams. His love for photography can be viewed at [Mangled Fly](#), as he tries to capture the many memories that the river provides. Follow [Mangled Fly's blog](#) for additional video's and



photo's. Jon Ray is a nationally published photographer and also co-authored the DVD, [Big Appetite Smallmouth](#).



Wow! What a great time to be a member of the St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers. Look for some very ambitious activities coming this year, along with all the traditional ones you've enjoyed and kept you coming back all these years.

First, we have a day with **Jeff Currier** that will allow you to spend a day with one of the most active, knowledgeable and globe hopping angler in the world. Don't believe me – just check out his website <https://www.jeffcurrier.com/>.

Second, we have a weekend with the **D Loop Outfitters** gang that includes cabins, classes, eating, fishing and storytelling and it may or may not include drinking and exaggerations. You know, the kinds of things many might spend thousands of dollars on and travel halfway across the country to do. We will be offering the same experience two hours north of here for less than some may spend on a dinner date.

Another project the club will be working on is partnering with the University of Notre Dame's Fishing Club to possibly start a local chapter of **Project Healing**

Waters. There is still a lot of work to do but this is a very exciting opportunity to give back to our local wounded heroes and really make a difference. See related story in the following pages.

A third project we will be working on this summer to have ready for this fall is partnering with Trout Unlimited, Fly Girls and others to hopefully host a "**Women In Waders**" type class with an enrollment goal of 50 ladies. We are envisioning a local venue that will have the ladies in groups going from program to program teaching all phases of fly fishing, casting, entomology, conservation, etc. It will be a full day event.

Of course, we will also have the traditional Opening day outing, Auction, smallmouth outing, Wednesday night fishing, salmon outing, fly tying programs, world class speakers and more conservation projects this year with the one at Dodd park coming this spring.

As you can see, with this much going on we may be asking for some help with some things but honestly, I can't think of a more rewarding use of anyone's time then spending it outside, on a river teaching or being taught how to fly fish. Lets' do it for the fish sake!

Fish On,

John T. Law
SJRFFF president



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, 2016 is automatically covered for the year 2017.

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.**

BEGINNING FLY TYING CLASSES

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 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. For more information or to sign up please contact Jeff Stanifer at janar3@sbcglobal.net or Dustin New at dustinnew@sbcglobal.net.



Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing Inc.™ is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and disabled veterans through fly fishing and associated activities including education and outings. <http://www.projecthealingwaters.org>.

Stephen Schmit and Thomas Dorn of the fishing Club of Notre Dame are two very passionate and determined young men and have a dream to start a local PHWFF chapter here in South Bend (Location of the VA hospital). They have approached the SJRVFF board and ask if we would like to partner, along with others, to start the ball rolling on this very worthy cause. If you are passionate about, or would like to help do your part to help these wounded heroes through what might be the toughest challenge of their life, please let a board member know or send us an e-mail and we will get your name on the list of interested people. Not sure what we will need right now but as we progress I'm sure there will be need for some things. Thank you so much in advance for your support and dedication.



SPRING OUTING

The spring outing will be held at D Loop Outfitters in Welston Mi, on May 5,6,and 7. Meals will include Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast, Saturday dinner, and Sunday breakfast. You are on your own for lunch Saturday. This is a great place for our outing with nice rooms set in the woods. All rooms have refrigerators, kitchen sink and microwave along with a full bathroom and couch and chairs. The property includes a great casting pond, fire pits, a large great room area and a really nice fly shop. They have a great guide staff. If your interested in hiring a guide call as soon as possible to line one up. The cost is \$175.00 for the lodging and food. 12 to 14 spots available, money in full saves you a spot. Money due by April 6. If you cancel, price of food will be refunded, but lodging will only be refunded if we can fill your spot. This will be a great time and a great chance to get to know some of the club members. Send checks to SJRVFF PO box 933 South Bend ,In 46624

ELEVENTH ANNUAL TIE-A-THON

APRIL 22ND

On **April 22nd** fly tyers from various Federation of Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited Clubs from around the Great Lakes region will come together for the 11th annual Tie-a-thon to tie and donate flies benefitting three Trout Unlimited Youth Camps. The camps include Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited Youth and Fly Fishing Camp, Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited Youth Camp and the Trout Unlimited National Teen Summit which will be held in Michigan. The event is being held at the Elkhart, Ind. Conservation Club, which has donated their use of their facility again.



About the Recipients

The Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited - The annual Conservation and Fly Fishing Camp is held on the banks of the famous Au Sable River in Michigan from July 23 to July 28. Campers learn more about conservation and fly fishing in a week at camp than most of us learn in a lifetime. The camp accepts young men and women ages 13 through 18. Instruction is provided by Trout Unlimited volunteers, faculty from Midwestern Universities, and local professionals.

For more information on the Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited you can check out the Oak Brook Chapter web site: obtu.org/

The Kalamazoo Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited is hosting the Michigan Youth Trout Camp Tuesday June 25-June 29th 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 our 12-16 year old boys and girls about the importance of protecting our cold-water resources. Students will discover what trout need to survive, where they hide, and, with help from some of Michigan's leading conservationists and anglers, how to catch them. No previous fly fishing experience is necessary!

For more information on the Kalamazoo Valley TU Youth Camp, check out their website, kvctu.org

Trout Unlimited National Teen Summit – Every summer TU Teen leaders from across the country gather together to exchange ideas, learn about conservation and leadership, and shape the continually evolving TU Teens program. This year, the 6th annual Teen Summit will return to the birthplace of TU on the banks of the Au Sable June 21 – 25 at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center in Northern Michigan.

For more information on the TU Teen Summit and to watch a video about last year's Summit in Montana, check out the website www.tu.org/teens

If you are interested, pick one pattern to tie, buy a box of 100 hooks, the materials and get tying! If you are not a fast tyer and can't complete your 100 flies in one day, 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.

Which patterns and sizes to tie? More information is available at www.sjrfff.com or visit Tie-a-Thon on Facebook. There are some excellent new tying videos on the Tie-A-Thon page in particular. Any specific questions, contact:

Tim Scott
timelscott@gmail.com
574-538-1936
www.sjrfff.com

Terry Wittorp
terryflyfish@hotmail.com
269-424-5138
www.kvctu.org

DIRECTORS

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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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



SJRFFF

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South Bend, IN 46624-0933

sjrfff@yahoo.com

A DAY WITH JEFF CURRIER

Save the date August 12. Jeff will be doing two of his power point programs AND a Fly Casting 101 workshop AND an advanced casting class in the wind and the double haul. Through out the day we will be having groups for beginners, intermediates, and advanced classes with club members. Jeff will go around and give pointers to all people in the classes. We will also have a group giving knot tying classes. This day will be limited to 40 people. Cost will be between \$40 and \$50, includes lunch and drinks. This is like getting to spend the day with Tiger Woods, Larry Bird, Peyton Manning or Lindsey Vonn. Should be a lot of fun. This is going to sent out to Kalamazoo TU, Little Elkhart TU, FlyGirls, Duneland Flyfishers and others. To reserve your spot, send an email to terryflyfish@hotmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS	FEB 14	FEB 15	FEB 29	MAR 15
	Valentine's Day Bank some points now to get a new rod later.	Club Meeting 6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center	National Holiday. 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.



SJRVFF

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