



As always, we want to make the Annual April Auction a special event. The proceeds from the auction pay for our speakers, conservation project, and general club expenses. Below is a listing of some of the items you will find available. There will be much more stuff as well. Join us for a night of good fun, good deals and all for a great cause.

Terry Wittorp

This years auction includes:

- -Guided trips with:
 - Kory Boozer Guide Service
 - Anglin Outdoors Guide Service
 - Amish Trout- Andy Kitson & Mike Beachy
 - On Point Guide Service

- Sh*tshow Island Express with Terry Wittorp, Blake Morse, Kevin Thomason, and Dean Williams
- Custom rainbow trout carving by Jim Lothary
- A custom made rod by Mike Beachy
- Loaded fly boxes by SJRVFF Members
- Wood project Don Squires
- Flies by Blane Chocklett Fishing
- Numerous fly rods

Raffles, \$1 buckets, deck of cards, live and silent auction. This is our main fundraiser for the year. The cost of speakers has increased, events provided by the club, donations to nonprofit organizations and the overall cost of everything has increased. We are hoping to have a good turnout, participation and lots of fun.



I can't believe it is mid-April already. Steelhead are doing their thing, birds are nesting, flower blooming and the auction and opening day are also just around the corner. All these events are what make spring such a great time of year but it is the latter two anthropogenic rituals that a lot of us look forward to the most and are what make this club such a great resource to the area and to you as a fly fisher.

Terry and Todd have been working very hard all year to put these two activities together for all of us and this year I think they have assembled an auction that will be amazing. They have been working on this since last year and the items they have lined up, I think will surprise everyone. This IS the major fundraiser for the club so please - to coin an overused phrase show up, bid and bid often. Also, if you see Terry or Todd don't forget to thank them for all their hard work.

The opening day outing is also this month and is again being held at Bobbi LaBarr's property in on the Dowagiac Creek. If you have never attended an opening day picnic or been to Bobbi's please do yourself a favor and plan on coming. The stream running through her property is as beautiful as any in the state of Michigan and is loaded with fish. The food is always top shelf, lies are colorful and excessive and having someone share their secret honey hole isn't out of the question and is always a bonus.

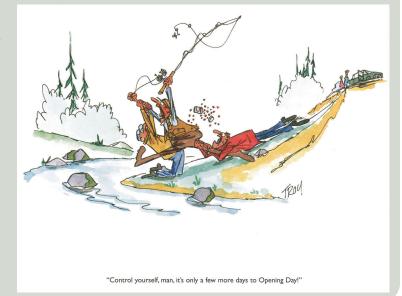
See the related article in this newsletter for more information. And finally, a big thank you to everyone reading this. First you trudged through my rambling, stuck with it and made it

this far, so you might as well just go ahead and finish it. More importantly, however it is all of you that make this club what it is, a pleasure to be part of and just plain fun. So, again a sincere thank you for your time, participation and future generosity (wink).

See you on Wednesday and at Bobbi's Farm.

Fish on.

John



MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING STUFF

TIME'S UP!

Membership renewal dues can still 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. Membership cards will be distributed at the auction and club rosters will be available upon request.
- Anyone who joined the club after September 1st, 2016 is automatically covered for the year 2017.

Click here to Email RSVP

mail.com

MEETING DETAILS:

Doors open at 5:30 Meal at 6:30 Auction starts about 7:00

Location:

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

Parking is free.

Meal cost \$16.00/ person

MENU

Buffet Cash Bar

UPCOMING EVENTS	APRIL 19	APRIL 22	APRIL 29	MAY 17
	Annual April Auction		Michigan Opening Day Outing	Club Meeting
	Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center	Elkhart Conservation Club	Bobbie Labar's Farm (se page 6)	Elkhart Conservation Club



\$40 FLY FISHING EXPERIENCE! Sunday

April 30, 2017

10:00am - 2:00pm

Arthur Dodd Memorial Park (61437 Creek Road, Niles, Michigan 49120)

RSVP BY APRIL 25TH!

Sponsored By: OINT
GUIDE SERVICE

FUN, FOOD & GAMES FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

FMI: Ben McDonald @ 574-302-7474

A ONE-DAY MICHIGAN FISHING LICENSE IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE

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-athon 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

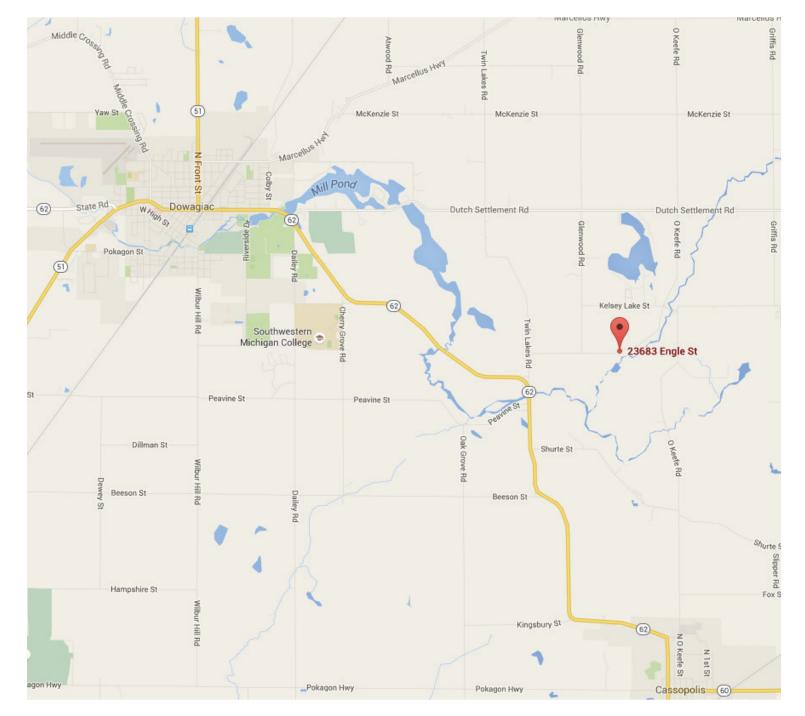
Trout Unlimited National Teen Summit – Every summer TU Teen leaders from across the country gather together to exchange ideas, learn about conservation and leadership, and shape the continually evolving TU Teens program. This year, the 6th annual Teen Summit will return to the birthplace of TU on the 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.sjrvff.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.sjrvff.com Terry Wittorp terryflyfish@hotmail.com 269-424-5138 www.kvctu.org



OPENING DAY OUTING

The Annual SJRVFF Opening Day Outing may not be the official start of Spring, but it sure feels like it.

Nothing seems to let you know its time to start fishing like getting together with a bunch of guys and gals and telling fish stories. Many of the SJRVFF members have been getting together on the Trout Season Opening Day for decades. Many more have joined them over the years. Everyone is welcome. If you're not familiar with trout fishing, this is a great time and place to get started. There is always someone available to offer assistance, answer questions and show you some great places to fish.

The SJRVFF Opening Day Outing will be at Bobbie Labar's farm in Cassopolis, Michigan. Coffee and donuts will be available starting at 8:00 am and lunch will be ready at noon. There is no fee for the outing and drinks will be available followed by the Opening Day raffle at 1:00.

To get to the Labar farm, take either M-60 or M-62 to Cassopolis, MI. Then take Okeefe Rd north out of town to Engle St. (approx. 3.5 miles). Turn left on Engle St. Labar's farm is about 1/2 mile west of Okeefe Rd. The address is 23683 Engle St. Cassopolis, MI.

OPENING DAY ROD RAFFLE



We are very lucky to be able to offer a rod for this year's Opening Day Rod Raffle. Sounds vague? Well it is, but in a very good way. The winning ticket will have the opportunity for a rod of your choice. That's not just A rod but THE rod you've always wanted.

Craig Myers will be selling tickets at the upcoming meetings and on Opening Day. The drawing will be held at 1:00 pm at the Opening Day Outing, Saturday, April 29.

If you've thought about another fly rod, this is your opportunity to get exactly what you want.

You know you want to be like this guy. Buy a ticket and add to your collection.

DIRECTORS

President: John Law

Vice-President: Terry Wittorp

Treasurer: Don Reber Secretary: Jim Lothary

1 Year Director: Jeff Downing1 Year Director: Tom Rondo2 Year Director: John Barnhart2 Year Director: Bob Hagin

3 Year Director: Micheal Kendzicky

3 Year Director: open

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation: John Law

Event Coordinator: Todd Ezzell

Librarian: Blake Morris
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 a story, article idea, photo, artwork, or need to get something off your chest, contact me at: 574-286-6508 or dustinnew@sbcglobal.net

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If you're going to attend the club meeting April 20th please email Terry at terryflyfish@hotmail.com or call and leave a message at 260 424 5138. We need to give the

message at 269-424-5138. We need to give the folks at the Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center a number for people coming.

Please respond by 9:00 pm on the Friday.