

THE LOOP



Dustin New, Editor



Wednesday,
February 20 at
Juday Creek Golf
Course Event
Center

SJRVFF WELCOMES DEBBIE HANSON

Debbie Hanson is an award-winning outdoor writer, women's sport fishing advocate, IGFA world record holder, and freshwater guide living in Estero, Florida. Her passion for the outdoors was ignited at a young age due in large part to her experiences fishing on the glacial lakes of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with her grandfather.

Hanson's written work has appeared in publications such as Florida Game & Fish Magazine, BoatUS Magazine, and USA Today Hunt & Fish. She is also a weekly contract blogger for TakeMeFishing.org.

Debbie has had numerous speaking engagements and co-hosts on ReelTalk Radio 99.3 ESPN in Southwest Florida with

Rob Modys. She also holds quarterly fishing clinics for women with a focus on freshwater finesse fishing, fly fishing, and conservation.

When she's not guiding clients on the lakes and canals of Southwest Florida, Debbie can be found lending angling support and encouragement to women of all ages. She has traveled to Australia, New Zealand, and Africa to further her quest for knowledge while connecting with anglers from across the world.

To learn more about Debbie, visit www.shefishes2.com or visit her Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/shefishes2>.



Debbie's talk is entitled "Fly Fishing for the Florida Largemouth Bass." Her presentation will cover the unique qualities of the Florida-strain subspecies, flies and gear to use, where to go.



How I misspent my youth – the spin cast years!

I caught my first fish at the ripe old age of 12 months – my Grandfather was a fishing guide on Lake Hamilton near Hot Springs, Arkansas. He snatched me from the car when my parents arrived at the lake home for my first visit. He put a straw hat on my head (I still have it) and sat on his dock holding me with a cane pole, and we caught Bream! It was the first of many summer visits.

When I was older, we would fish every day for the three weeks we visited (unless it was raining). With Gramp, fishing was serious business, the day looked like this: up at 4AM, coffee, a couple of oatmeal cookies and walk to the dock. We were typically on the water by 4:30AM. Dad was usually along as well. We'd fish for Bass until about 11AM and head for the house and lunch. Any fish we caught would be

put in a live box at the dock to be dealt with later (not much catch and release at the Woodruff household back then).

After lunch we'd head out about 1:30PM for Bluebill or Crappie fishing and return for dinner, which was at 5:30PM. Gramp would usually clean the days catch before dinner. As a guide, he had cleaned thousands of fish; to watch him filet was like watching a Samurai! One slice, one filet, second slice, second filet. Toss the skeleton off the cleaning station into the lake – the turtles were waiting. He would then remove the skin in one pass and while it was gently floating down to the water, the second filet would be separated from its skin. (We always had fish to take home!)

After dinner, we would leave the house again at 7PM for an evening of Bass fishing and return between 10 and 10:30PM. Going to sleep was

easy! This ritual was repeated nearly every day for the duration of the visit.

The only variable was that some afternoons, I'd take the boat I was allowed to use over to the general store to buy fireworks, and then spend the afternoon blowing stuff up or seeing how high I could launch a 1LB coffee can (the record was two stories)! I did learn how to use lady fingers to filet Bluegill, but they proved to be inedible.

I'll continue this saga next month – Eric

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.
- Anyone who joined the club after September 1st, 2018 is automatically covered for the year 2019.

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

Delicious Buffet



Just click the
link to quickly
send an email to
Don



We need a good head
count for dinner planning
for our group.
RSVP by emailing Don at
donreber@gmail.com.

**You must respond by
5:00 pm on Friday.**



2019 ANNUAL TIE-A-THON APRIL 13TH

On **April 13th** fly tyers from various Fly Fishers International and Trout Unlimited Clubs from around the Great Lakes region will come together for the 12th annual Tie-a-thon to tie and donate flies benefitting The Mayfly Project and Camp Kita. This year tyers will surpass a total of 113,600 flies donated by individual tyers over the past 13 years.



About the Recipient

The Mayfly Project

The Mayfly Project's mission is to build relationships with children in foster care through fly fishing and introduce them to their local water ecosystems, with a hope that connecting them to a rewarding hobby will provide an opportunity for them to have fun, feel supported, and develop a meaningful connection with the outdoors. The Mayfly Project's standard program is to mentor a foster child through five sessions or "stages", just like the life cycle of a Mayfly. At the end of the five stages the child is given his or her very own fly rod, and equipment. The hope is for the child to continue to pursue fly fishing and to have a tool to access the outdoors. www.themayflyproject.com. Please check this [video](#) for more information.

Camp Kita

Camp Kita provides a safe, nurturing environment where child survivors can connect with one another while learning constructive ways to deal with the often unspeakable and fierce emotion of losing a parent to suicide. The campers' shared loss and experience grants them the opportunity to form deep, knowing bonds with others and thereby forging supportive connections that last a lifetime. The camp focus will be to provide and explore constructive forms of self-expression. Most importantly, campers will utilize the tools and resources we provided so that they may draw upon them throughout their lives.

www.campkita.com.

[Check this out.](#)

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

Fly	Hook Size
Adams	14 - 18
Ant	18 - 20
Beetles	14 - 18
Blue Wing Olive	18 - 22
Clouser's Minnow	4 - 8
Elk Hair Caddis	14 - 16
Griffith Gnat	20 - 22
Hare's Ear	12 - 14
Hopper / Madam X	10 - 14
Meat gazer / Jimmy Rubber legs	10 - 12
Mickey Finn	4 - 8
Pheasant Tail	14 - 16
Trico	20 - 22
Soft Hackle	14 - 16
Woolly Bugger	6 - 10
Sow Bug	14 - 18
Squirmy Worm	10 - 14

Any questions, contact:

Tim Scott

timelscott@gmail.com

574-538-1936

or

Terry Wittorp

terryflyfish@hotmail.com

269-424-5138



DIRECTORS

President: Eric Graham
Vice-President: Ann Miller
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Raffle Director: Craig Myers
Newsletter: Dustin New
Webmaster: Micheal Kendzicky

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



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EDITOR'S COSTA RICA FISHING PICTURES

My dad and I had a couple of great days out on the ocean. Tuna in the 25# range will wear you out and there's nothing like it on a fly rod. Somehow landed and released a barracuda also. It wasn't easy coming back home. And not just because it was 110 degrees warmer down there.



UPCOMING EVENTS	FEB 14	FEB 20	MAR 20	MAR 17
	Valentine's Day	Club Meeting 6:30pm - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center	Club Auction 5:30 - Juday Creek Golf Course Event Center	St. Patrick's Day Go catch green fish!



SJRVFF IS NOW ON INSTAGRAM

Newly elected board member R.J. Pales is now in charge of our Instagram account. He will be making frequent posts that not only highlight club activities, but also those of individual club members. We encourage all members using Instagram to follow SJRVFF. If you do, please send him a message via email that you are a member, and we will in turn follow you. He will occasionally repost member content. If you do not use Instagram but would like him to share photos of your angling experiences, please contact him at rjpalesii@gmail.com. We look forward to broadening our reach within the fly fishing community to attract new members and foster new relationships with industry professionals.



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