May 2026 | Official Newsletter of St. Joe River Valley Fly Fishers

THE LOOP

Tom Rondo, Editor



May 20 Meeting at ECC. (See Below)

Opening Day Pictures. Do you know these people??

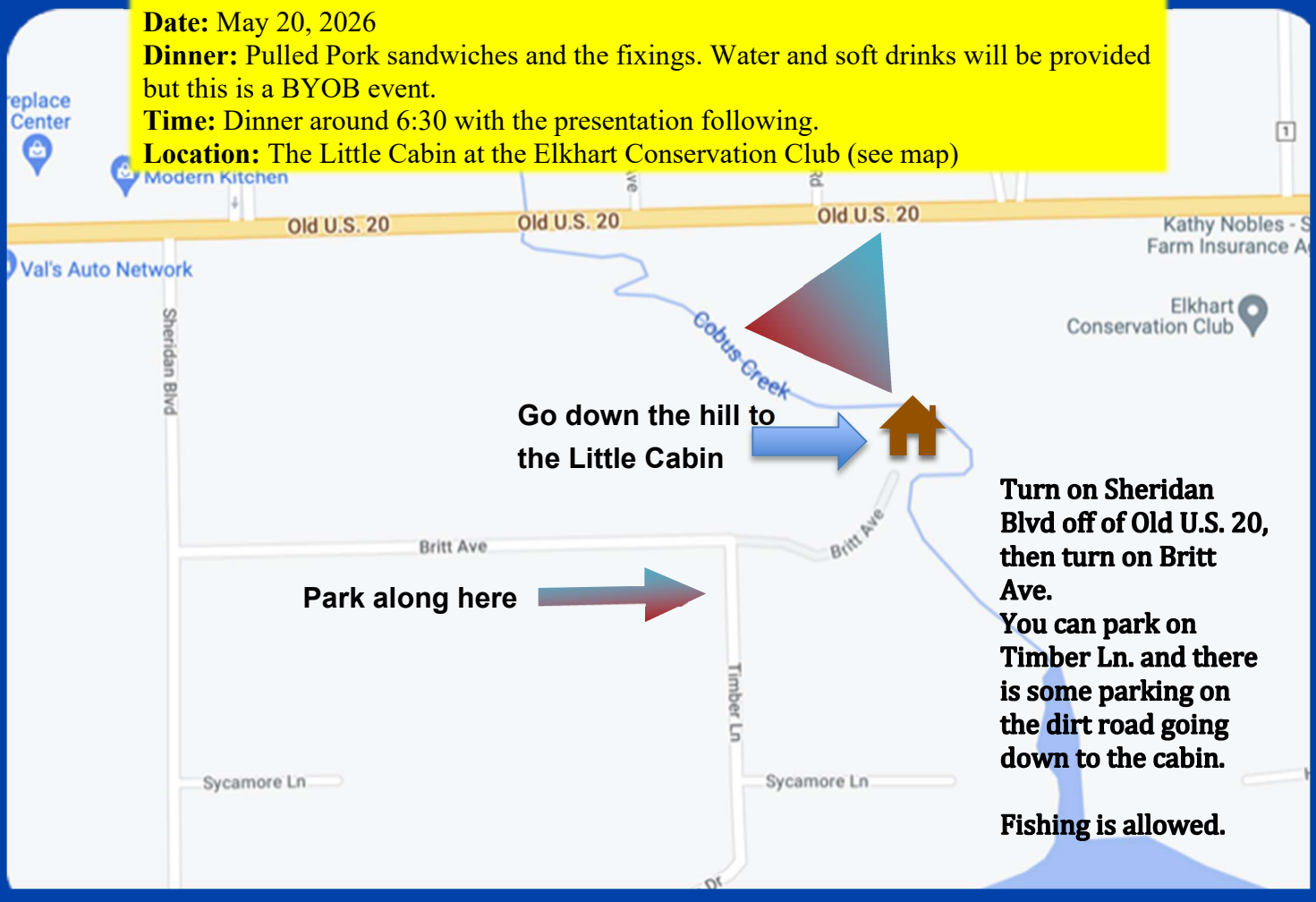






Our speaker for May will be Daragh Deegan. He is Director of Environmental Quality for the City of Elkhart. For about 17 years, Daragh was Elkhart's Aquatic Biologist, responsible for sampling fish and other aquatic animals in the rivers of and streams of Elkhart and St. Joe County. Daragh continues to lead Elkhart's Aquatic Biology efforts in addition to other environmental programs for the City of Elkhart. His presentation will be in introduction to their Aquatic Biology Program and a the Elkhart Family Fish Fest, an event that SJRVFF has sponsored for numerous years. The presentation will include an electro shocking demonstration on the club property. You are going to find out how big the trout can get there!!

MEETING DETAILS:
Date: May 20, 2026
Dinner: Pulled Pork sandwiches and the fixings. Water and soft drinks will be provided but this is a BYOB event.
Time: Dinner around 6:30 with the presentation following.
Location: The Little Cabin at the Elkhart Conservation Club (see map)



Letter from the President of SJRVFF

Fellow club members,

Spring has Sprung and we are finally seeing the beginning of another summer. For the SJRVFF club, that means we get to take a little break from the newsletter and meetings. It doesn't mean however that we take a complete break, it just means we get to participate in more fishing related activities. Keep an eye on your email and the SJRVFF web site for news on the upcoming events.

As I discussed in last month's newsletter, we have several very important positions to fill within the organization by the end of the year; Secretary, 2 three-year directors and 1 two -year director. And although the commitment for these positions does not begin until 2027, we need to begin the search now. Along with those board positions we have several Committee positions to currently fill as well. These include a Nominating committee chairperson, Gillie, Webmaster, Grant committee, Education committee chairperson and Social Media Communication chairperson. Committees are a great way to get involved and show your support for the club. None of these positions require previous experience – just a desire to commit time and energy to the organization. Please contact me at donreber@gmail.com or text/call on 574-286-0157.

The opening day outing was a huge success!! Thanks again to Terry Wittorp for the deep-fried turkey and Keith Frainier for the pulled pork and all the fixings. What an outstanding lunch! Congrats to John Mangona, the winner of the Winston Binney Custom made bamboo rod. Also, a big thank you to Steve Keim for donating the rod to the club. I would also like to give a special THANK YOU to Bobbie Labar for being such a great hostess and allowing us to use her farm for the day.

Hope to see you Wednesday May 20th at the cabin on at the Elkhart Conservation Club on the banks of Cobus Creek. Our speaker for May will be a streamside presentation by Daragh Deegan, the Director of Environmental Quality for the City of Elkhart. It should be a good one!!

Thanks, and have a great summer!

Don

Got Your Membership?

Membership renewal dues can still be paid by mail to:

SJRVFF
P.O. Box 933
South Bend, IN 46624

- Or you can still pay your dues by credit card through the website. 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 $30.00 for individuals and $45.00 for a family membership.

News Alert from Mark Bardusk.

Do you like to Spey fish???
Don’t miss out on this opportunity.

