



The Evening

Hatch

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club NOVEMBER 2012

MUCC On The Cusp of Critical Environmental Issues In Michigan

“Uniting citizens to conserve, protect and enhance Michigan’s natural resources and outdoor heritage,” is the motto of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) to which MFFC belongs. Erin McDonough, executive director of MUCC, spoke to the membership Wednesday November 7, 2012 to talk about environmental topics pertinent to Michigan outdoorsmanship.

The three focuses of MUCC are to communicate, educate and advocate on behalf of the conservation groups of Michigan. MUCC’s communication channels are through the printed and web versions of Michigan Outdoors; the Conservation Insider; the regular five minute segment on “Michigan Out Of Doors TV;” their FaceBook page; and their website mucc.org. The educational component takes the form of the Michigan Outdoors Youth Camp - which is located in Chelsea and focuses on conservation, along with outdoors awareness; and Gourmet Gone Wild which showcases local gourmet chefs who promote wild game food exposure. The third focus is to advocate, incorporating lobbying, on behalf of the concerns of the conservation clubs of Michigan. Kent Wood is the legislative affairs personal with which MUCC works. Amy Trotter is their DNR connection who helps write resolutions and policy verbiage.

Gourmet Gone Wild is one of MUCC’s premiere events. It showcases Michigan wild game through recruitment of young



Chris Hunter, Erin McDonough of MUCC, & Mike Doyle at the November Meeting.

professional organizations. Chris Hunter, current president of MFFC, along with leaders from the many other MUCC organizations, served as celebrity bar tenders at the Gourmet Gone Wild event in Lansing as part of the MUCC Anniversary celebration this past spring. Regardless of location, the program sports delicious foods, a bar, and helps promote awareness to support the habitat and species indigenous to Michigan. All fish and game for this event is wild caught. The Lansing event offered goose, venison, elk, steelhead, and salmon - among other choices. All beer and wine served at these events is made in Michigan. From this comes, the Gourmet Gone Wild spin-off program, Gourmet Gone Wilder, which teaches tracking skills and other workshops. Both programs promote conservation, stewardship and awareness - for all people, whether they directly use hunting and fishing resources or not.

See “Why is MUCC important to us?”
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UPCOMING EVENTS



December 5, 2012
Speaker: Michael Mauri
Topic: Casting
Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

December 12, 2012
Board meeting
Clarenceville Middle School
Room 106, Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

December 19, 2012
Activity meeting
Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

January 9, 2012
Speaker: Chris Helm
Topic: Tying Deer Hair
Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.



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Michigan Fly Fishing Club
P.O. Box 530861
Livonia, MI 48153
2012 - 2013 Officers

President:
Christopher Hunter
president@mffc.org
734-207-0575

Vice President:
Dan Finstad
vp@mffc.org
248-650-0172

Corresponding Secretary:
Mike Doyle
248-363-5018

Recording Secretary:
Mike Schotts
248-338-9379

Treasurer:
Scott Freeburg
treasurer@mffc.org
248-366-6783

Membership:
Dave Nowicki
dn44213@gmail.com
membership@mffc.org
734-981-3396

Immediate Past President:
Bruce Kramer
248-672-9056
At-Large Directors:

Todd Schotts
313-348-9101

Eric Center
248-363-3861

Hatch Editor: Sybil Hunter
editor@mffc.org

"Why is MUCC important to us?"
Continued from page 1.

Why is MUCC important to us? "The entire state of Michigan cares about the Great Lakes," says McDonough. "Everyone knows about the effects," and "It is a very frustrating situation we have here in Michigan," said McDonough about the Asian Carp concern brought up by a club member. MUCC is taking the issue to be heard in court. John Allen is now in charge of the Invasive Species concerns. Currently the Army Corp of Engineers is sitting on the issue, even after a private source funded the necessary research for decision making. The Great Lakes Commission, funded by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, took over the invasive species study from the Army Corp of Engineers and completed it within a year. The available options for eco separation are blocking the waterways at either the Mississippi entrance, in Chicago, or at the Soo Locks. The study included the price of the monetary and environmental impacts. McDonough noted, our decisions must be "cost effective."

Other active issues addressed by McDonough include: the Fisheries Plan for the state by the DNR; the sport shooting range issue; the new Grassroots Advocacy position opening up at MUCC, the EHD breakout; and the Huron Manistee National Forest Issue.

"If we put our money where our mouth is, we want to have a say. We do not want to micromanage, but to have a place at that table" to give input, said McDonough regarding their participation in the current DNR state Fisheries Plan.

Another heated topic according to McDonough, is the current unpublished court ruling that states any shooting

range that charges for any service, be it kids programs or ammo, loses legal protection under the Sport Shooting Act. This was recently brought back to the supreme court to be readdressed. "It's a severe overreach," McDonough stated.

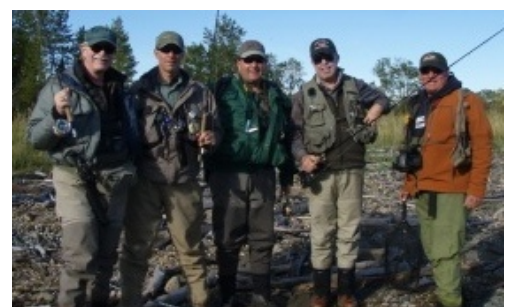
"MUCC is looking to hire a full time grass roots person to help them (MUCC) engage in all the activities they do." According to McDonough, people don't always understand that if you engage in an outdoor activity once, that doesn't mean you understand the conservation involved. McDonough says the new position is designed "to help find voices to help the legislation understand the economic value of our resources."

"There is no midge birth control," McDonough noted. "All they (DNR) can do is manage the population for recovery." Emergency regulation changes were slated to go into effect November 8, 2012. Dead deer bodies were being reported to the DNR across the state. The EHD breakout was an effect of the hot summer weather, which vastly increased the midge population - the carriers of EHD.

As for the Huron Manistee National Forest issue, there is an attempted ban on hunting and snow mobiles within the national forest. "It's one guy who's property abuts on the forest," explained McDonough. "Dykema legal firm is to cover the legal proceedings pro bono," McDonough said.

McDonough then fielded questions about topics ranging from Asian carp to the brook trout bag limit, and the veterans discount offered on Michigan licenses. Before she left, she thanked the club for their support and interest. "We are here for our members," she said.

Dreams of Alaska - Pictures courtesy of Peter Albertson



Alaska On Your Mind? It Should Be In 2013!

-Submitted by Peter Albertson

It is time to plan your adventures for the 2013 fishing season! The place to put foremost in your mind is Alaska.

Over the past few seasons, many MFFC members have chosen to spend a week at Naknek River Lodge with the Johnson Family as hosts.

Located on the Naknek River, about fifteen miles up stream from King Salmon, AL, the camp offers wade and boat fishing with fly-out trips available at additional cost. Species and rigging will vary throughout the early June to late September season. So, before you go, do some research and gear up for the type of fishing that will be available during your week long stay.

The Johnson's have offered Club members very reasonable rates for an early June adventure. Dates are available throughout the season. Rates will vary.

So please see me at one of the meetings, call me at 248.921.9103, or even e-mail me at palbertsontsp@me.com. Or you can contact Jim Johnson directly at naknekrivercamp@gmail.com to address any questions.

We would like to get the group solidified by the end of January. Dollars spent will be forgotten over time. The memories and the BIG fish pictures will not fade. Do yourself a favor and just go! You will *not* be disappointed.



Westward Ho! Yellowstone 2013

-Submitted by Al Haxton

Its almost time for sign up for the Michigan Fly Fishing Club annual trip to Yellowstone Park for 2013.

Next year, for the first time, we have the Slash E Ranch reserved for TWO WEEKS. Yes, TWO WEEKS for 2013. We have the weeks of Saturday August 3 to August 10, and again Saturday August 10 to August 17th.

Imagine, being right in the center of the Yellowstone area fly fishing. Within a couple hours of our lodge are more than 2000 miles of trout streams. There are also hundreds of lakes and ponds that are open to fishing too. And don't even think about the vast number of species that are available -not only Brook, but Rainbow, Brown and Cutthroat trout, and also the wonderful Grayling.

There are streams that are a few steps from you car, streams that are a mile hike from the car, and areas that are best accessed by a horse back ride. And all this within a short drive from our lodge! The names of the rivers available reads like a travel-log of

where-to-fish in every fly fishers top ten list. Not only the numerous rivers inside Yellowstone Park itself, but hundreds of streams outside the park will beckon you to try them. This trip truly is one of those trips that will make you upset to have to choose from so very many opportunities.

This will be our 10th year and while I have been on every trip, I have only scratched the surface of the opportunities on places to fish. From dry flies to nymphs, streams to soft hackles, this trip offers places for just about every kind of fishing, for every kind of trout that is imaginable.

The budget this year is about \$450 a person. That fee includes room and board for the entire week of our stay. Each day both breakfast and dinner are provided for all participants. The Slash E Ranch has four cabins that sleep various amounts of people. Each room is double occupancy. Flights out to Bozeman Montana run about \$550 a person and rental cars for you and a partner will add another \$500 for the week. Total for the entire week will run about \$1200 or so.

Sign up this year will be the *first meeting of December*. No deposit is needed at that time. So come on over and see Al Haxton at the first December meeting and get on the list.



Joyce showing off her catch on a prior Yellowstone trip.

You can choose either week, or both weeks. As always, its first come first served and this trip fills up very fast. This year with two weeks available we have twice the room but don't wait, there are lots of folks already talking about the trip.

See you in December!

Michigan Fly Fishing Club Board Meeting Minutes

10/10/2012

Present: Pres. Chris Hunter, V.P. Dan Finstad, Dave Nowicki, Mike Doyle, Todd Schotts, Scott Freeburg, Eric Center

Visitors: Peter Albertson, John Long, Jim Telinda

Minutes: Taken by Eric Center – Call to order 7:30 Motion to approve Agenda Hunter, seconded by Schotts

Finstad read the minutes since not everyone received a copy - motion to approve by Freeburg seconded by Nowicki – approved

Officer Reports: Presidents-

- Terry Drinkwine has been appointed the Chair of the Conservation Committee
- Still searching for some chairs for some events and outings

Vice President –

- Nothing to report

Treasurer-

- Report given – no questions motion to approve by Doyle, seconded by Hunter
- Re- issue check to Peter Albertson #36547 (\$46.06) due to being lost
- Need to have John Kuderink (clubs accountant) do audit of the clubs finances and then have committee of three look over the books by December meeting.
- Paid Michigan Non Profit Corporation Update fee of \$20.00 on 9/21/2012
- Discussed Shellbyville rod disbursements to the committees to determine their costs:
Raffle - 9 rods; Expo - 5 rods; Banquet - 2 rods; Members School - 2 rods; Public Education – 4 rods

Corresponding Secretary-

- Speakers are covered through the end of the year – November speaker is Erin McDonough from MUCC-
December speaker is Mike Mauri
- Sybil Hunter is the new editor for the “Hatch” – kudos to Mike Matuszewski for all of the years of putting his time, efforts and love into the clubs magazine.
- Tabled the discussion on ‘Want Ads’ in the Hatch.

Membership-

- 310 paid members – sent out 117 second requests
- Roster will be distributed at 10/24 meeting

Events and Outings-

- Schedule of events and outings is being worked on/updated by Schotts – chair people are needed along with dates and locations for certain events.
- Motion to use the Plymouth Cultural Center for the Public School was stated by Hunter and seconded by Finstad - approved
- Opening Weekend @ Rayburn renewed dates of April 26, 27, & 28

New Business-

- At Large board member tabled – need to find a candidate
- Discussed –Off-site storage of clubs electronic data in form of CD or Jump Drive. The form or device to be determined by the treasurer and membership chair

Old Business

- Colton Bay – MFFC only customer appreciation sale – Schotts brought up the need for a guideline for trout shops member appreciation sales – Discussion tabled until verbiage can be written for club policy regarding such sales.

Visitor Comments

- Jim Telinda – May 21, 2014 date for banquet @ Italian American Club – suggested that Banquet Chairperson should make reservation for location over a year in advance to guarantee dates.
- John Long – Waiting to hear back from the person regarding cost/design of the brochure, will report when information is received.
- Peter Albertson – Left over shirts from last year’s Expo going to this year’s Expo since it is the same shirt. Also Peter offered to organize a trip to the Naknek River Lodge in Alaska; finally membership card is being worked on and will be brought to the board when finished.

My First Time Tying

Submitted by Todd A. Schotts

Sitting at my desk, filling in my calendar for the upcoming fly tying shows this winter season, I thought back to my very first fly tying show in November 2005. This first show had all the uncertainties and tribulations of tying for the first time in public.

My first invite to tie was at this show, the fears of even demonstrating my fly tying techniques in public had me all nerved up. I could tie with no problem as long as I was at my tying desk at home, but now I was going to tie in public. It made me almost as jittery as drinking "Recon Coffee" in the Marine Corps boot camp!

I trained at home; tying in front of family members, but that doesn't even come close to having an actual audience throwing questions at you about how and why. My biggest fear was cutting the thread, or even somehow gluing myself to my fly (which actually happened years later on at one of the bigger shows).

To start my day out, I headed to an area I wasn't familiar with, made the wrong turn, and I think I got to see the whole Portage Lake area at least twice. Once I found the show, I noticed I had five minutes to setup and be ready to tie. With this in mind, I hurried in. They saved me a table right in the corner, with a nice bushy fake tree behind me.

First I noticed most of the tyers had their own comfortable chairs. I had to sit on a plastic patio chair, which as everyone knows are very, very wobbly.

Once I got setup and started tying my "Red Headed Prince," my nerves calmed. With bobbin in hand, all was well in fly tying land. I thought, "If this is all I have to do today...sit here, talk, and tie...I can do this all day!" Then came a nasty curveball. The organizers informed me I was to tie my fly on the stage with a camera projecting my fly on the big screen TV. I looked like a deer in headlights. My fears and jitters now ran full steam ahead once again.

When my most feared time came, I got behind the table, setup my vise, and that is when I noticed how many empty

chairs were in front of me. I still had about five minutes before my big adventure, and as the seconds, and minutes little by little ticked away, the unfilled chairs were filling up fast. I noticed a few fellow club members, but many faces I didn't recognize. My hands were shaking; I was informed to look down at my vise and then look up (from a well known tyer). Those words of wisdom, it helped greatly. Once I started tying and talking to the audience, questions were coming at me fast and furious. To the best of my ability, I answered as I tied. To my surprise, the audience applauded.

With the day drawing to a close, I was over my fear of tying in public. Suddenly I couldn't wait until my next public appearance. To this day, I remember that wobbly plastic chair, for a few of us were talking at my table, as I leaned back, those unsupported plastic legs gave out. I ended up in the fake bush with my feet up in the air. We all laughed. What a way to end a day of my first tying experience.



Jacquelin Earns Her Place At A New Table

Submitted by John Pinto

On the grand scale of newsworthy events in today's world, this bit of news would not even cause a blip on the radar screen. But every now and again something does happen that affects one's life in a positive way and gives the rest of us that rare, uplifting good feeling like watching the end of an old Andy Griffith show.

Delia, the general manager, hired Jacquelin Del Carmen in March so when I arrived again in April, Jacquelin had already been working for us for a few weeks before I met her. She was hired as a hook sneller, the position where all new employees start. It is tedious work, the turnover rate is high, but those who stay and show initiative can work their way up to fly tier - the top rung of the ladder. The hook snellers (or anzualo chicas) sit at separate tables and longingly watch the tyers at the fly tying tables. They are looking at the "cool girls," the ones that have the talent,

seniority, respect, and work the best jobs. The cool girls get to make pretty creations with feathers, hair and thread. They also make many more dineros. The envy in the room is so thick you can cut it with a knife. Every anzualo chica wants to move up to the fly tying tables.

Jacquelin is a rare employee. She is 22-years old, small in stature (only four feet, eleven inches tall), and very punctual. She arrives well before the set starting time, retrieves her box of equipment from the materials room, and works without saying more than a hushed "Buenas dias" to those around her. The fact that she is so quiet, is why I never really noticed her at first. She is an "old school" Nicaraguan señora, always wearing a dress to work and giving a full-day's work for her pay to support her two children. She stands apart from the "new look" girls who now bang on our door looking for work with their nose piercings, tattoos, and Gucci jeans sent down from a cousin in Miami, and of course, a cell phone. Jacquelin worked at the infamous Zona Franca clothing factories where Kathy Lee Gifford caught all the flack over her clothing

line several years ago. Jacquelin is glad to now be working with us. She even brought her sister, Hezill, to work for us. Hezill worked right up to the day she entered the hospital to have her second baby. She is just an old-fashioned, hard-working Latin American family trying to get by.

Jacquelin and I first connected at the tail end of my April trip. My bags were packed, my ride to the airport was waiting and I was saying my traditional good-bye to all the chicas. The girls form a line similar to the end of a Stanley Cup hockey series, I move down this line and say my personal goodbye to each and every girl. Some will hug me or kiss me on the cheek depending how long I have known them. Most say things like, "Have a good trip! Hurry back! God bless you!" As I approached Jacquelin she gave me a hug, pulled back, stuck her finger in my face and said very firmly, "Hasta pronto!" I had never heard that expression before and was speechless. I started to laugh; everyone else laughed with me. *Hasta pronto!* I loved it!

(Continued on last page.)

(Jacquelin - Continued from page 4.)

I went to Nicaragua again this past June and spent two weeks there. We were under the gun to get out a large snelled hook job. We even brought some of the fly tying girls in on this task. After ten days, we had enough product made that things calmed down and could re-assign the girls to other jobs. I sat down with Delia to work out "who's-on-what-job now." We quickly learned we were short one fly tier. This is always a bad situation as you cannot simply bring in a girl off the street and have her start tying flies. Developing fly tiers is a long process. We are thankful we are not in Kenya or Thailand where there are thousands of fly tiers pitting one factory against another. There, they quit one factory and move across the street to another factory for half-a-penny a fly more. We are the only fly tying/fishing tackle manufacturer in Nicaragua. We develop our fly tiers one girl at a time and have tiers that

have been with us for over eight years. If a Nicaraguan girl wants to be a fly tier she will come to work for us.

Delia mentioned Jacquelin was practicing fly tying during her lunch hour. Rather than sit at the table during lunch talking with the other mommicitas about their children, lousy husbands, the neighbor's dogs, or church, Jacquelin was taking scrap materials and imitating what she saw the fly tying girls doing. Some of the tiers helped her. It was decided that Jacquelin would start tying simple flies for the perch rigs that Mayra was making. I told Delia I wanted to be the one to tell Jacquelin about her new assignment.

I went into the materials room, grabbed a new Griffin 2A vise from the shelf, then walked across the room behind Jacquelin. As everyone watched, I leaned over her I set the vise on the table in front of her. In one of those moments that takes two seconds but

lasts a lifetime, she looked at the boxed vise, back at me, looked again at the vise, and then her mouth opened. "Mi vicio! Mi vicio!" (My vise! My vise!). The room erupted into a round of applause.

She will be tying simple flies for now, no clousers, deceivers or billfish flies for awhile. The other tiers all stop by her new work station at the tier's table to lend a hand. She is a baby, born of those lady tiers that have gone before her.

And while all the news these days concerns the-war against terrorism, missiles flying around Gaza, the U.S. economy, Kim Kardashian and Lindsay Lohan, there is some simple good news coming out of the sleepy, hilly, coffee-growing town of Diriamba in west central Nicaragua..... Jacquelin Del Carmen is a fly tier!

*Photo Credits: bear sign & Joyce - Al Haxton;
McDonough & Naknek photos - Peter Albertson*