



# Hatch

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

OCTOBER 2014

## Fly Fish Algoma Country

By Sybil Hunter

Algoma Country covers some 25,000 square miles of Canada. "My favorite is when you can walk to fish!" Said Bill Spicer, FFF Master Certified Casting Instructor, and host of The New Fly Fisher. Canada offers many pristine waters, huge fish, breath-taking landscapes, and walk out the door fishing venues.

For example there is the Saint Mary's Rapids. Tilly Lake. Make sure to visit the Misty Mountain Fly Shop for professional guides and supplies. "The average small mouth is five pounds," said Spicer. "There are waterfalls, beaches and fishing areas. Lodge 88 is five star fly-in accommodations. Esnagami Lake Lodge is great too."

"Much like with the coast, there is wildlife, clean water and trees," said Spicer. "When birds start diving, move to the area. It is rare that you get that, but when you do it is really fun!"

Fish Saulte Sainte Marie in early June into July for steelhead. "There is nothing but action," said Spicer. "Water temperature is constant there; it's a perfect nursery. There are runs, open water, pocket waters, riffles..." Spicer assures there is something for everyone.

The University of Michigan stocks Atlantic Salmon up there. Check out the UofM website camera, particularly in August. "In August, the water turns upside down," says Spicer. "The cold goes up and the warm goes down. Use nymph techniques with indicators."

"Anyone that nymphs should stack the mend," advised Spicer, "It is all about control. I get the indicator out in

front, take the first mend, and just continue to stack in front of me."

There are pink salmon, coho, chinook and steelhead. "Spot steelhead. It's easiest to spot the tail because it constantly moves. Use polarize glasses. For this area you need a wading staff and studs on your boots. The water is very deceiving. It may only look a couple feet deep, but you'll be in over your waist," said Spicer. "I suggest a guide, if only for the first day."

Use 9 -11 foot rods, and 7-8 weight line. "Salmon come into the river and stop feeding; that doesn't mean they stop biting," Spicer reminds everyone. "Use 8 wt. line in fall; it is not overkill. It is better to catch salmon and is still fun landing smaller fish without wearing them out."

Trout Techniques: "Do not use a dead drift dry fly," said Spicer. "Be aggressive, slash anything. Their instinct is to bite at it. Anything goes by them, they're gonna bite!"

Flies: Spicer suggests egg flies (chartreuse, pink and orange); micro eggs to fish; hares ear nymphs; and a good selection of larger pattern flies (dark blue, dark purple, and chartreuse).

"There are small mouth in Hamlin Bay, part of Tilly Lake. Get a guide. It's not that expensive. It is one hour from Sault Sainte Marie and eight hours from Toronto. Visit McCauley's. Get a Scotty's McFly from [flymart.ca](http://flymart.ca). The last Saturday in June is the season for bass," advised Spicer. "Some areas

*Continued on page 2*



**November, 5 2014**

**Speaker Meeting**

**Speaker:** Jerry Regan

**Topic:** Classic Au Sable Flies

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**November 19, 2014**

**Activities Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

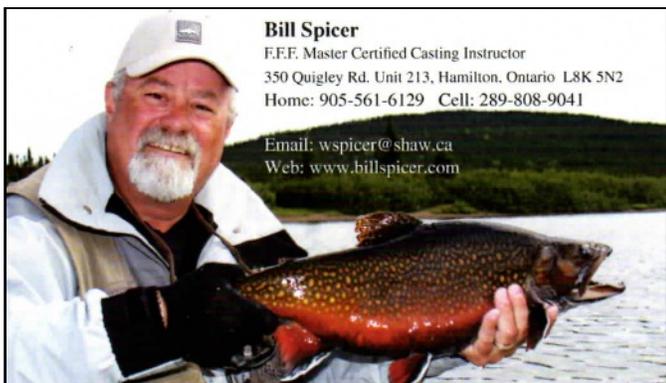
**December 3, 2014**

**Club Garage Sale**

Clarenceville Middle School

Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

# “Attacks are explosive!”



**Bill Spicer**  
F.F.F. Master Certified Casting Instructor  
350 Quigley Rd. Unit 213, Hamilton, Ontario L8K 5N2  
Home: 905-561-6129 Cell: 289-808-9041  
Email: [wspicer@shaw.ca](mailto:wspicer@shaw.ca)  
Web: [www.billspicer.com](http://www.billspicer.com)

## Continued From Page 1

in Ontario, you can always fish bass.” Misty Mountain Fly Shop has a hatch calendar on-line.

If you want pike, to go Kasagame. There are 47 inch fish. They are six to eight feet deep. According to Spicer, “The attacks are savage, explosive and merciless! Pike take more ducks than hunter’s do. Use large black flies, basically a square of foam with a hook on it.”

Grace Lake is also within the Algoma watershed. “It’s called the Gator Factory,” said Spicer. “200, 40 inch pike were caught there in one summer. Use cradle nets. Males are the smaller ones. Anything greater than 40 inches is female. There are cabins there.”

“Use a large perch pattern, large chartreuse streamers, and red and white bunny leeches. Take 10 weight rods. It’s easier on you, and easier on the fish. Catch and release pikes. That’s why they are so big. These are hard fighting fish.”

The Esnagami Lodge is fly-in. Spicer said, “There are brook trout up to five pounds, but you have to go earlier in the year - May or June. Bring your waders. Ice Out is normally in early May; it is also the best fishing!

“Walleye you can take to eat. They are very prolific. If you don’t eat them, they will take over the lake,” said Spicer. Also keep in mind, “The skeetos lick off the bug spray, then bite you!”

“If you are fishing brook trout, you do not have to spend big bucks to get a good experience. Go to Sutton River, almost Hudson Bay. Hurst Air Service is a complete do it yourself three day to eight day trip. Fly into basic camp. Fishing is right outside of the camp sight. You can get native guides real cheap.”

In parting, Spicer tossed out a few additional pointers in response to member questions. Brad Bohlen is the best Wisconsin muskie guide; Sault Sainte Marie is fishable all year long; and there is a host of pink salmon from B.C, in Thunder Bay. “Thunder Bay ran out of money and dumped them into Lake Superior. All the trout there are wild too.”



Bill Spicer  
Host

[wspicer@cogeco.ca](mailto:wspicer@cogeco.ca)  
T. 613.836.8295  
F. 613.836.9420

1510 Stittsville Main St., P.O. Box 59  
Ottawa, ON. K2S 1A2  
Canada

[www.thenewflyfisher.com](http://www.thenewflyfisher.com)



Michigan Fly Fishing Club  
P.O. Box 530861  
Livonia, MI 48153

2014 – 2015 Officers

**President: Dan Finstad**  
[finsmich@yahoo.com](mailto:finsmich@yahoo.com)

**Vice President: Scott Freeburg**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**Corresponding Secretary: Spencer Vanderhoof**  
[svanderhoof@mi.rr.com](mailto:svanderhoof@mi.rr.com)

**Recording Secretary: Mike Doyle**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**Treasurer: Jim Telinda**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**Membership: Dave Nowicki**  
[mffc.membership@gmail.com](mailto:mffc.membership@gmail.com)

**Immediate Past President: Chris Hunter**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**At-Large Directors: Steve Bocks**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**Terry Drinkwine**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**Ken Thelan**  
[MFFCClub@gmail.com](mailto:MFFCClub@gmail.com)

**Hatch Editor: Sybil Hunter**  
[evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com](mailto:evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com)

**Webmaster: Harry Briggs**  
[habriggs@gmail.com](mailto:habriggs@gmail.com)

**Corrections:** None at this time. Alleluia!

Photos are needed!  
Please submit any photos for the Photo Gallery to me.  
- Sybil Hunter, Editor of *The Evening Hatch*.

# PM Caddis

## September's Fly of the Month!

By Todd A. Schotts

It is that time of year once again for Michigan's Steelhead (aka Steelies or Chromer's) to make their migratory trek from the Great Lakes to our beloved rivers. With the start of autumn, most of the hatches are wrapping up. You may find a few Blue Wing Olives, Midges, or the last straggler of a Caddis on the river depending on the water & air temperatures, these are tough fishing for the target of our subject. So what do you use for these migratory steelies? Simple: streamers, eggs (glue or yarn), nymphs, or attractor flies.

With all of those possibilities, I focused this month's fly one of the most effective, and classic, patterns around. This fly produces fish year in and year out. Behold, the PM Caddis. The PM Caddis has many variations, but each variation has one thing in common - it imitates the Rhyacophila Caddis Larvae. This caddis is better known as the Green Rock Worm, or the common net-spinning Caddisfly larvae.

When the Steelhead start dislodging the gravel when they are spawning these tiny morsels are kicked up from the bottom, becoming a feast for the fish, not



**Hook:** Dai Riki 135, TMC 2457, Daiichi 1120 or Mustad 37160 - Sizes 6 thru 14

**Thread:** Tan 6/0 or 140 Denier

**Body:** Chartreuse Larva Lace or Vinyl Rib

**Hackle:** Tan or Brown, 3-4 Turns

**Head:** Hares Ear (Rabbit Dub) or Tan Ostrich Herl

**Optional:** Bead for Head

**Optional:** Alternate body style, "Olive Ultra Chenille w/fine wire ribbing.

## FEATURED FLY IN PREPARATION FOR THE THE COLD WEATHER SEASON



just in the area, but downstream as well. This fly also works well with weary Trout (but in a smaller size, like a 14) and are also a great fly for spawning salmon for the same reason.

Fish this pattern as a dead drift through the deep holes and "Redds," or strip it in slowly. If you are using the "Chuck & Duck" method make sure you use a "Slinky" for a weight instead of "Bell Sinkers" or "Split Shot." (This will eliminate the noise when the weight bounces or drags across the gravel bottom.) You may have the best looking fly in the river, but if you "scream" it across the bottom, you won't have very many hook ups.

The great thing about the PM Caddis is the pure simplicity of the pattern. For beginners, stick to the basic pattern and you will do fine. However for the brave of heart, "Czech" or "European Nymphing" and realistic purists, this pattern can look from from simplistic to downright artistic. Either way, both varieties of patterns are just as effective. (It's up to you, spend a few minutes to master the basic pattern or hours on a realistic one - the fish won't care - and you can brag to your friends how long it took you to tie the pattern. Either way, my suggested recipe (a nice middle ground in terms of difficulty) is from one of our own: Jeff "Bear" Andrews - "Bear's PM Caddis."

I hope you enjoy this pattern, and if you do venture out in the unpredictable fall weather or snowy cold winter for steelhead, make sure this fly is in your box. Until next month, tight lines and snazzy flies, Todd.

# ROYAL COACHMAN TRUDE

## Featured Fly Tyer

By Todd A. Schotts

With our October featured tyer, we are stepping back to a classic fly from yesteryear, brought to us by, Dave Begley. (Who is also a classic from yesteryear.) It's the Royal Coachman Trude.

Dave uses this fly around Pigeon River Country, and other various rivers in Northern lower Michigan. Dave was about to tell me what river he fishes this on, but suffered sudden random memory loss. Although, he did remember this fly works especially well for native Brook Trout.

Let's step back in time for a bit of history on this unique fly. In the early 1900's, in Island Park, Idaho, Carter Harrison created the "Trude" as a joke for his friend and fishing host A.S. Trude. The first fly consisted of reddish yarn from a rug and reddish flank hair from a spaniel, resulting in a tail-less fly. Since then it evolved from joke to Titan in the fly-fishing world, with different materials an almost infinite modernized variations. It is probably one of the most popular flies in America, along with the Adams. (I guess the joke was on Carter Harrison.) Along with this fly came Harrison's second most memorable contribution to the future of western fly tying - a fly made with the "Down Wing" or "Trude" style hair wing slanted back across the body. This new fly was a Trude style derivation of the "Royal Coachman," which was designed in the 1870's on the east coast to catch native brook trout in the chilly waters of Cape Cod.

While this fly does not really imitate anything particular, the thought is that to trout it could imitate various insects. It is very effective pattern and is considered one of the best attractor fly's in the world. Fish it on pocket water, in the riffles, or dead drift along an undercut bank - it's all good.

So on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, bring your vise, tools, and note taking materials to tie along with Dave. You'll feel like you are back in the early 1900's. Tight lines and snazzy flies, Todd.

## TIE WITH DAVE BEGLEY



**Hook:** Std. Dry Fly Hook size #12-16

**Thread:** 8/0 Black

**Tail:** Golden Pheasant Tippet

**Body:** Peacock Herl, Red Floss, Peacock Herl

**Wing:** White Calf Tail

**Hackle:** Brown Dry Fly

To all club members;

Somewhere a mother can sew a shirt for her family because she can now see to do it. A man can go to work and earn a living for his family because he can read instructions on the job. A child can go to school; and see the board in front of the room. You helped make this happen.

Because of your continues support of the "used eyeglass program" of the MFFC. These people now have a chance at a better life.

To date; you have given over 1200 pairs of prescription eyeglasses. We send them into third world countries to improve the vision of the people there. What we together are really doing is improving people's lives.

Please keep the glasses coming. We especially need children's glasses as we get so few of them. All prescription glasses help.

We also can take used cell phones and hearing aids.

**Special thanks from Plymouth Lions Club, and MFFC members Fred Field and Paul DeJohn.**

Please bring your donations to them in a bag. Fred Field or Paul DeJohn will take the glasses.



# Two Cents Worth

## Old Men

By Terry Drinkwine

At the next MFFC meeting you attend, look around and make note of the average age of those present - I'm told the average age of the membership is 62 ½. Personally I can't get too excited about that, mainly because I'm on the high side of that number, meaning I'm Old...though not as old as guys named Charley, Jim or Ray.

When I was a kid, being in the company of "old men" was an honor, especially if it had to do with hunting or fishing. Those acquaintances meant learning, being taught what they knew about how to hunt or fish. It meant more than having the newest and latest gadget or gizmo, it meant learning what it took to catch fish, tie a fly or finding and shooting grouse - "pat" as they were called when "side-by's" were sold in hardware stores and Carhartt was the Orvis of upland wear.

It was also a time when language was tailored to an activity and the occasional "salty word" was accepted without trying to put someone in jail for using it. Phrases like, 'I'm gonna kill you' were daily expressions and kids used it on playgrounds. Today, it means expulsion, or worse, if someone overhears a kid make that comment. Times change.

What doesn't change is the need to pass on what we know about our sport and related activities. While we have a few youngsters in our group, we don't have enough. Unless we're all going to live to be 100 without needing to have cereal wiped from our chins, MFFC will become a sparse environment.

There are a core of members who spend a lot of volunteer hours putting on and helping out with programs designed to teach young people what we do: Tying flies, casting to trout, relating what's important to a trout's environment and conservation in general. But lately we've been falling short on participation and the people who do it almost every time, need our help.



## TEACHING FUTURE GENERATIONS

Some organizations like Sportsman's Clubs, require a certain amount of volunteer hours from every member in order for them to be in good-standing. The ones that don't give those hours, pay higher dues. They do it because most of those organizations have overhead in property maintenance, wages, utilities and all that goes with those things.

MFFC does not, to the credit of the founding members and their successors. But as with any organization, if it is to continue, it needs someone to pass the torch to, and that means bringing in youngsters, teaching them what we do, how we do it and showing them it's fun...even if they learn a "salty word" now and then.

Lately, the club had a few activities that were poorly attended, to include teaching youngsters how to tie flies at the Huron Point Sportsman's Association and a Project Healing Waters activity. A poor showing of volunteers sends a poor message.

We don't have financial problems. In fact, we're pretty solvent. Our overhead is in the continuing of the club. While we get a tremendous turnout at our meetings, we need more involvement in our outside activities.

If everyone adopted just one activity (not counting the Expo) to help out with, our problems would be nonexistent.

Think about it.  
TD



# Member Spotlight

## Harry Sieracki

"I've fished as long as I can remember!" said Harry Sieracki, long time member of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club. Harry served 30 years in the United States Marine Corp. "My brother, in the Navy, joined right after Pearl Harbor." When Harry came back from overseas, he said, "I got hooked on tying flies and building rods."

"I was a young man on the Au Sable," Harry recalled, "there I ran into Paul Young and his wife." Paul respectfully passed on stream etiquette, regarding fishing around others. "I have a lot of respect for him," said Harry, "You listen to people. That is how you learn." Real often I had a lot of friends up there; I have a lot of good memories from the North Branch."

Polish of decent, Harry's last name was only pronounced correctly once during his 30 years of military service. "I answered up and boarded the train. It threw me off, but it hit me in the gut."

Recently Harry moved to the Redford area (to be closer to MFFC meetings I'm sure...). He and his wife just celebrated their 80th wedding anniversary! "We renewed our vows in the yard, and had communion." A stellar 50 people were in attendance of the event! "I am 86 years old and the greatest gift I have is my friends," remarked Harry.

"I love you guys (MFFC) and that's a big compliment," said Harry, "...there are many vet groups and I am retired from the Marine Corps. All these vet organizations (of which he spoke very favorably), and nobody can compare to you guys (at MFFC). They (members) really make you feel human."

## "My Beat" 2014 AuSable River Clean-Up Continued

By Spencer Vanderhoof

Bill Cusumano and Randy Park on the South Branch the Sunday after the Club Picnic and Au Sable River Clean Up. If you look really close you can see just how clean that damn river is. :)

I was fishing/hiding in the woods with Patrick Pagano so they wouldn't discover my secret spot but they saw us.

Not really. We were sitting on a log eating some GORP.

They were breaking in Bill's modified PT Boat...Every "Trout Team Six" needs a PT Boat. It stands for "Pursuing Trout". I thought "Trout Pursuit" sounded more Trout Team Sixish, but TP has already been used in military parlance. :)

Any serious angler just has to love these two! The trout in Crawford County quake when these Boys cross the county line.

The craft looked sea worthy, but uncle Spence told them to be careful anyway.

I was happy to see that Randy was piloting the ship. Cusumano had to be at work later that night back in Detroit. We all know they would of never left the river had Bill been in charge...They would still be fishing down on Shep's Bend.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Dan Cronin



Greg Baughman



"I've never put a fly on a line," said David Mickus, new member who lives in Redford and works for Flastar Bank in Troy. "My uncle gave me his old gear...he sent me to the website, so I joined and here I am!"

The deadline for submissions to *The Evening Hatch*, written or photographed, is the fifteenth of each month. Issues are published monthly September through May. A summer issue prints in August. Please submit any print contributions to: [evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com](mailto:evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com).

Michigan Fly Fishing Club  
PO BOX 53086 Livonia,  
MI 48153