



The Evening

Hatch

The newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

January 2011

Take me to the Bahamas!

They're close, convenient and can be inexpensive

Founding member and saltwater fishing aficionado John Pinto took Michigan Fly Fishing Club members on an impromptu tour of the Bahamas on December 1. It was appropriate as metro Detroit had its first taste of winter temperatures only days before.

Members who know Pinto (virtually everyone, right?) could not have been surprised by a set of remarks liberally laced with stories of past club members' adventures and observations as they plied the salt pursuing tarpon, permit and especially bonefish. One example: "You're right. They don't use (a) size 14 Adams down here."

While the bulk of his comments were reserved for bonefish -- the "ghosts of the flats" -- Pinto offered his opinions concerning the other "Saltwater Slam" fish -- tarpon and permit.

Tarpon: "You've all seen big tarpon on TV. Big fish. Big jumps. Fishing with 12-weights. I've done the big tarpon thing. I don't like it. It got boring," Pinto said. The boredom wasn't from catching the big boys; it was from hunting them. The angler spends hours looking with only a limited number of chances to cast. He said some fly anglers are beginning to look at smaller tarpon -- 15- to 30-pounders. Fish that you can use a 10-weight on. Cuba and Nicaragua offer opportunities for this fishery, he said.

Permit: "The people who fish for permit are a sick and twisted lot. They look like they're the bluegill of the ocean. I know one angler who's fished for them for years and has landed two. I don't fish for them and I've landed one."

Pinto's unreserved passion is for bonefish and one of the top destinations for fly anglers who share that fever for bones. "Bonefish are the teenage girls of the fish world. They've got an attitude that you won't believe," Pinto said. That and the fact that once hooked a bonefish will take you into your backing in the blink of an eye.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 5
Speaker Meeting
Speaker: Mike Batcke
Topic: Using boats
for fly fishing**

Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**January 12
Board Meeting**
Clarenceville Middle School
Rm. 107, Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**January 13-16
Youth Fly Tying
Ultimate Fishing Show**
Rock Financial Showplace
Novi

Volunteers needed to help
kids tie their first fly
Contact: Rick Gokenbach

**January 19
Activity Meeting**
Clarenceville Middle School
Livonia, 7:30 p.m.

**February 19
Members' School**
Northville High School
Northville, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.



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2010 – 2011 Officers

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Mike Duchin
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Todd Schotts
313-348-9101



Start sorting your pix; 1st Photo Showcase to debut at '11 Expo

By Scott Freeburg

As was announced in the last edition of *The Hatch*, the MFFC will hold its first annual "Photo Showcase" in conjunction with the 2011 Midwest Fly Fishing Expo.

So start pawing through your files and fire up your photo printers. All fly fishing-related photographs are eligible.

GUIDELINES:

- Only fly fishing-related photos should be submitted as **8 x 10** prints.
- Entrants must be a member of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club.
- Please write your name and contact information (address & phone #) on the back of each photo submitted.
- Photo entries will be displayed at this year's upcoming Midwest Fly Fishing Expo, March 12 & 13.
- Photo entries will be judged by those attending this year's Expo. Expo attendees will be asked to select their first, second and third favorite photos.
- Prizes will be awarded to those photographers' pictures receiving the highest number of votes.

Submit your **8 x 10** print photos to Scott Freeburg or any Board member at any upcoming club meeting.

Or send your 8 x 10 prints to:
Scott Freeburg, 2856 Pinto Dr.,
Commerce Township, MI 48382
Home: 248-366-6783
Cell: 248-505-3563

Picture entries may be submitted up to the last meeting before the Expo -- March 9, 2011. Please feel free to call my home or cell phone number if you have any questions. Or, you can see me at any of the upcoming club meetings.

MFFC's 2011 Public School now accepting enrollments

by Peter Albertson

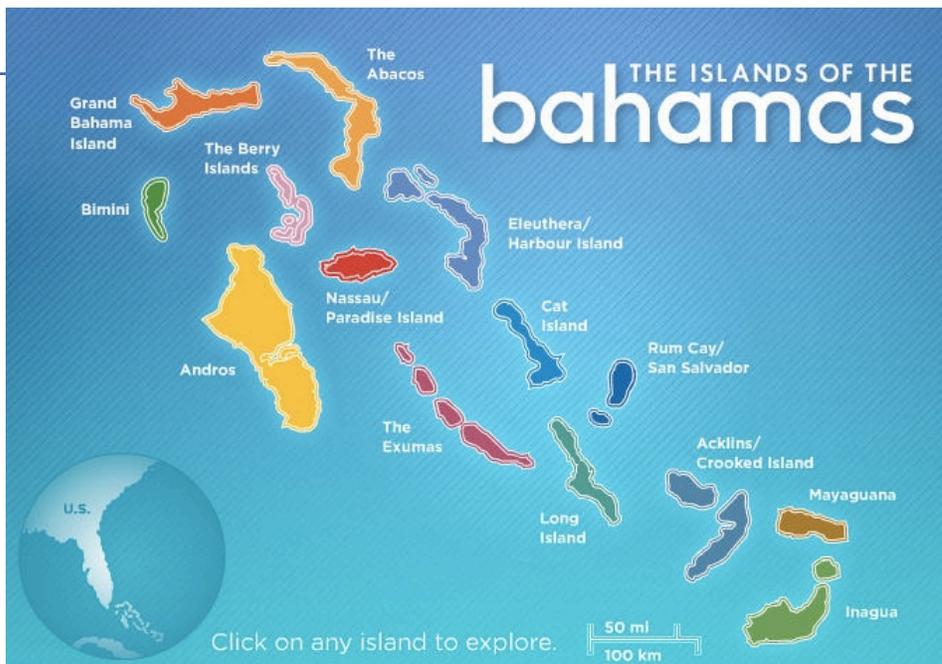
Students are needed to make the April 16 Public School a success! We will be offering **three class segments** over a full day of instruction at a location in the greater metropolitan area yet to be determined.

The first segment will be Equipment, Knots and Stuff where we: overview basic equipment you will need to spend a day in the stream and how it is put together; knots for connecting system components (backing, line, leader, tippet, fly); general accessories or "stuff" to complement your streamside activities. Segment two will address Michigan Entomology or "bugs," basic fly tying equipment, material and learning to tie a few flies. Casting is the third segment where we cover the grip, stance, form and posture, rod plane and loop development; basic components of a standard pick-up-and-lay-down cast, false cast, roll cast, wiggle cast, and off-shoulder cast. Also we will review practice techniques and talk some about troubleshooting some common casting problems.

MFFC provides all equipment and materials and food. Students, you just need to sign up and plan on spending the day with our experienced fly fishers, each instructing in their areas of interest. Cost is \$50 for adults and \$15 for those under 18 with a paid adult.

For information or to sign up, e-mail palbertsontsp@yahoo.com or call Peter Albertson at 248-921-9103. Your return on the time spent will be fantastic!





Courtesy of the Bahamas Tourist Authority

Pinto's decree: Take me to the Bahamas!

Continued from front page

He took members on a whirlwind tour of both the Bahamas and the history of fly anglers' pursuit of these spooky, speedy fish. The tour started with the northern Bahamas -- Bimini, Grand Bahama and Abaco, the three Bahamian islands where fly anglers first flocked to target bonefish -- and ended with the southern-most "out islands" that he favors.

He offered a bit of advice about the northern islands. "A cold front that hits Florida is going to hit the northern islands. That's going to put fishing off" for several days.

The focus on the central Bahamas fell on Andros, the biggest island of the archipelago. "It's billed as the Bonefish Capital of the World." Apparently with good reason as Pinto recounted a time when he and a fellow club member, Joe Stefani, hooked 18 bones, landing 16, in 3 1/2 hours. Andros was also home and home base to guide Charlie Smith, the reputed originator of the Crazy Charlie fly pattern, now a staple in every bonefish angler's fly box.

The other central islands include Little San Salvador and, the Exumas. "Great Exuma took off in the 1970s," Pinto said, recounting the tale of noted Exuman guide Tracy Ganes, who reportedly died on his 93rd birthday while poling a flats boat with a client.

From there it was on to the southern Bahamas -- Acklins Island, Crooked Island and Mayaguana.

Mayaguana, of course, is Pinto's personal favorite, as he has conveyed groups of MFFC members to the island for a number of the 11 years that he's made it his favorite destination.

His plan is to do it again in the new year. "We're looking at sometime in the October-November time frame" he said. Why? "The wind doesn't blow," he said.

Casting accurately into range of hyper-spooky bonefish in the midst of perpetual winds doesn't always make for a rewarding experience. That's why Mayaguana at that time of year is the best place to learn to bonefish.

MFFC Board Meeting Minutes October 13, 2010

Call to Order: B. Kramer called meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: C. Hunter, R. Gokenbach, B. Kramer, J. Telinda, T. Schotts, D. Finstad, M. Duchin

Review September 15, 2010 Minutes: Corrected numerous spelling errors as directed by board. Motion to accept as corrected by J. Telinda and seconded by T. Schotts, **Motion Passed.**

Approval of Agenda: Additions and changes to the agenda were made. Motion to accept the agenda as amended, M. Duchin and Seconded by T. Schotts, **Motion Passed.**

Officer Reports:

President – B. Kramer, Had several conversations with Sue Taber trying to synch a date on the calendar. Sue mentioned an upcoming event the last Saturday in January at the Ram Center, Bruce will be doing a small fly tying session after dinner to introduce the group to MFFC and would like a few volunteers to join him. Sue also has a canoe and kayak event at the Proud Lake Recreation area the same weekend as MUCC Trout Tune Up. Bruce is discussing a possible connection with Scott Freeburg during the Trout Tune Up.

Treasurer – J. Telinda, Income and expenses are on track and doing well. Jim is also expecting Expo registration fees to be coming in soon. Motion to accept by Gokenbach / Duchin. **Motion Passed.**

MFFC 2009/2010 Financial Review-Michael Matuszewski reporting, other examiners were Bill Shannon and Terry Drinkwine, The Examiners found no areas of significant concern and identified a few improvement opportunities. The Financial Examination Committee commended past treasurer Scott Freeburg on his many improvements and refinements.

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MFFC Board Meeting Minutes October 13, 2010

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B. Kramer made a motion to develop procedures to address the improvement opportunities presented by the Financial Examination Committee, M. Duchin seconded and the **Motion Passed.**

The MFFC Board wanted to thank Michael Matuszewski, Bill Shannon and Terry Drinkwine for a great job.

There was no motion to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Corresponding Secretary – D. Finstad, Constant contacts working well but still needs some work.

Hatch – All is well.

Speakers – Nov. 10 speaker is A.O.A. Pete Albertson will be talking on Alaska. Dec. 1 will be Salt Water Night with the trials, tribulations and antics of the legendary John Pinto and friends.

Website – Is now up to date. Eric is looking into a program that would make it easier to place miscellaneous data before and after meetings.

Membership – R. Gokenbach, Membership is at 255 paid as of today.

Events and Outings

Public School – Peter Albertson – Pete is working on date for the school with Todd Schotts.

Anglers of the AuSable – Peter Albertson – Would like to let the board know there is matching funding. Pete will send information to Terry Drinkwine.

New Business:

Jim Schrot – Thank You! Jim would like to bring back the family picnic or outing as a thank you event from the MFFC board to the membership. Tabled till next meeting.

Coffee – Bill Shannon, Bill wanted to comment that the coffee at the last meeting was the best he has had in ten years.

Old Business:

License Plates- B. Kramer, Joe Satler will be handling them through the library.

Calendar- T. Schotts, The (FFF-GLC) Fly Tying Expo is on December 4, 2010. The balance of the year is filling up and will post the first of November.

Adjournment: The motion to adjourn by M. Duchin, seconded by T. Schotts and carried at 8:56.

MFFC Board Meeting Minutes November 17, 2010

Call to Order

Roll Call -Present: Kramer, Hunter, Gokenbach, Telinda, Drinkwine, Bulszewicz, Duchin

Review of Minutes – Motion to correct minutes to include October treasurer's report by Duchin / Kramer. **Motion approved.**

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Kramer / Gokenbach. **Motion approved.**

Officer Reports

President – Kramer: Chairperson is needed for the Member's School.

Treasurer – Telinda:

- Reported checking account is in good shape.
- Asks committee chairs to stay within budget. Informed that rod bags cost the club \$16 and suggested they be sold for \$20. Motion by Drinkwine / Telinda. **Motion approved.**
- Reports that tax returns will be ready by next month's board meeting.

Membership – Gokenbach

- Reported 287 paid members. Will send reminders to delinquent members.

Recording Secretary – Drinkwine

- Announced formation of Conservation Committee and 2011 grant applications are ready and posted on club website.
- Asked if board wanted to have another hat sale. **Tabled.**

Events and Outings

Picnic -

- Mike Doyle named chairperson.
- August date suggested at Multi-Lakes Sportsman's Club. Date to be announced.

Eastside Meeting – Gokenbach

- February 23, 2011 to be held at the Kolping Center (same location as past two years) John Valk, speaker.

New Business

- Manual to standardize Club policies and procedures. Discussion – Al Bulszewicz to create a manual for committee chairs. Motion by Kramer / Duchin to table. **Motion approved.**
- Al Haxton suggested Club purchase fly fishing primer to give to new members. Motion to table by Gokenbach / Telinda. **Motion approved.**
- Al Haxton requested MFFC donate funds to Anglers of the Au Sable for their "matching funds" drive. Anglers have been offered up to \$20,000.00 in matching funds. Motion to table by Kramer / Bulszewicz. **Motion approved.**
- Discussion regarding the purchase of Mustad hooks from John Pinto. Recommendation to inform committee chairs of offer.

Old Business – None

Visitor Comments

- Charley Gregory: Suggested more Club information be added to the bottom of the Expo cards.
- Jim Schrot reported Big Water Anglers appreciate MFFC participation in river clean-up. Stated more Angler members will join MFFC.
- Mike Doyle thanked Board for its actions.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Gokenbach / Duchin at 9:17 p.m.

Motion approved.

MFFC 2011 Activities & Events Schedule

2011's first Featured Tier: Todd Schotts

by Todd A. Schotts

Welcome 2011! I'll be kicking off the New Year as "Featured Tier."

I grew up on the west side of the state ... the Fremont area on a private lake with an excellent fishery. I was close to the White River, minutes from the Muskegon River, and a little ways off were the Pere Marquette and Grand Rivers.

I moved over to the Detroit area about 23 years ago and now reside in Lansing. I joined the club about 10 years ago when I got into fly tying. I started fly tying before fly fishing. My first adventure for fly fishing was on a lake, using a glass fly rod and foam spiders for panfish. The only fly fishing I ever saw was with Glen Blackwood on TV.

I went to Ferris State and served in the Marine Corps as an Assault Gunner and Forward Observer; plus working in EOD (Explosive Ordinance Division).

With my enthusiasm for fly tying I have helped with various events tying with kids, our schools, and traveling around the Midwest and even down South, tying at various shows.

I will be demonstrating the "Mr. Fabulous" Bead Head Nymph mentioned back in *The Evening Hatch* in November 2010. It was the fly I used on the 2010 Trout Opener. The "Shake & Bake" Hex Emerger is also a newer pattern. I have had great luck using this fly during the Huron River's famed Hex hatch and while steelheading this past spring.

So bring your vise, your tools, and we'll have some fun tying these two patterns.

For the recipes, see the back page.

OUTING	CHAIR	DATE(S)	EMAIL
Ultimate Fishing Show	Rick Gokenbach	January 13-16	richard.gokenbach@chi.frb.org
Members' School	Mike Doyle Bill Shannon	February 19	dmaka1@aol.com wbshannon@sbcglobal.net
Eastside Meeting	John Pinto Rick Gokenbach	February 23	bn1fsh2@wowway.com richard.gokenbach@chi.frb.org
Outdoorama	Rick Gokenbach	February 24-27	richard.gokenbach@chi.frb.org
Midwest Fly Fishing Expo	Joe Sprys	March 12-13	jsprys@boumaconstruction.com
Spring Steelhead	Al Bullock	March 26-27 or April 2-3rd	Tyeflyer826@hotmail.com
Trout Tune-up	Scott Freeburg	April 2	sfree357@aol.com
Public School	Peter Albertson	April 16	publicschool@mffc.org
Boy Scout School	Bruce Kramer	April 23	brucekramer@hotmail.com
Opening Weekend	Scott Freeburg	April 29-31	sfree357@aol.com
Trout Opener	Al Haxton	April 30	infoman984@sbcglobal.net
Dick Schott New Members Outing	Paul DeJohn	May 11-15	paul.dejohn@hotmail.com
Youth School	A.L. Bulszewicz	May 14	flyfish1706@hotmail.com
MFFC Banquet	Bill Johnson & Dave Begley	May 18	banquet@mffc.org
Rayburn Lodge	Bill Johnson	May 19-22	billjohnson711@att.net
Smallmouth Outing	Todd Schotts	May 20-22	dragoneyeflyz05@yahoo.com
Family/Couples Outing	John Parks	TBD	jan@johnparksinsurance.com
Club Picnic	Mike Doyle	August 6	dmaka1@aol.com
Montana Outing	Al Haxton	August 13-20	infoman984@sbcglobal.net



“Mr Fabulous” Bead Head Nymph

Hook: TMC 200R, Dai Riki 270, or 1270 Daiichi, Size 14 & 12

Thread: 6/0 or 140 denier tan or brown

Weight: .25 or .35 tied on 1 side as with the Drunken Sailor fly

Tail: Pearl Flash (hook gap length)

Rib: Red Wire (medium size)

Body: Hareline Ice Dub Hares Ear

Collar: Angora goat dubbing – hot orange or fire orange

Hackle: Soft Hackle Hungarian Partridge (optional)

(shown with optional hackle collar)

Head: Gold bead head – regular, tungsten, or glass



“Shake & Bake” Hex Emerger

Hook: Size 8 or 10 Natural Curved Hook
(TMC 200R, Dai Riki 270)

Thread: 6/0 or 140 Denier Lt. Yellow

Tail: 3 Emu herl tips – Natural (pulled up for shell back)

Rib: Yellow fine

Abdomen: Pale yellow dubbing

Shell Back: Emu herl

Wing Case: 1 mm or 2 mm white closed-cell foam

Thorax: Golden Stone Angora Goat dubbing

Legs: Silicone legs (pumpkin color)

Eyes: Medium black mono (optional)