



The Fly

A Charter Club of the



Federation of Fly Fishers

GRFT Newsletter

March 2005

President's Quill

In this first edition of the "The Fly Dresser's Gazette" we should talk about how our club was born. It was during the annual Tying Expo in Mason that 2 FFF members wondered why there was no flytying club in the second largest city in the state. Let's face it, Grand Rapids is within an easy driving distance of some of the best Trout and Salmon waters anywhere. This area harbours several excellent flyshops and is home to some of the great names in the flytying business. What was missing however, was a club where flytyers and flyfishers could get together and have a good time. Four enthusiastic FFF members got together and the club was born - the Grand River Flytyers. The membership is growing fast and some of the big names in the flyfishing and flytying society have joined. The boundless commitment of its members to flyfishing, flytying and the fisheries should ensure the great success of the Grand River Flytyers as a FFF club.

The Grand River Flytyers at the Annual FFF Tying Expo in Mason, Michigan

The GLC of the FFF held it's annual Tying Expo in Mason, Michigan in December of 2004. This was the first event introducing the Grand River Flytyers to the public. The club showed up with it's number one teaching tool: Our camera and TV monitor. Now the tyers were able to follow the instructor from 20 - 30 feet away and still see every detail of the tying process. Our members wore green tying aprons with their respective names and the club logo on it while tying a number of flies which ended up in the flyboxes of the various spectators. The entry of your club into the public was an astounding success. Thanks to all our volunteers, five new members joined the club.



Grand River Flytyers Attend the Northcoast Fly Fishers

Northern Ohio Fly Tying Expo

On January 14, 2005, Mike and Sue Sorenson, Christopher Soule, Wolf and Inge Schrey went to Cleveland representing the Grand River Flytyers at the Ohio Expo. They were met in Dundee at Cabelas by Kris Nichols and Kathy Grantz. After leaving a substantial sum of money each at the Cabelas Flyshop the group was heading toward Cleveland. Next morning it was off to the Expo. The North Coast Fly Fishers, a FFF club put on a super show, organized by subcouncil president Don van Buren and VP Joe Valencic and their many dedicated volunteers. The GRFT were represented by Christopher Soule, secretary, Mike Sorenson, treasurer and Inge Schrey, VP education as tyers. The presence of your club was noted by everyone thanks to the innovative patterns tied by Christopher Soule. Jeff "Bear" Andrews, of national tying fame and father of the "Livingston Tyathon" joined our club as a new member. The Expo turned out to be a great success for the NCFE as well as for our club thanks to their superb organization. We all enjoyed being part of this event.



Shown are club members (l-r) Christopher Soule, Inge Schrey and Mike Sorenson tying flies while at the Northcoast Fly Tying Expo.



Chris and Mike tying flies at the GRFT tying bench while at the Northcoast Fly Tying Expo.

Board Members

1. Wolf M. Schrey, President, 2141 Deer Hollow S.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49508, 616 246-5457
e-mail: wmschrey@hotmail.com
<<mailto:wmschrey@hotmail.com>>
2. Brad Turner, VP - info. not available at this time.
3. Christopher Soule, Secretary, 429 Crescent, N.E. # 2, Grand Rapids, MI 49508, 616 550-9380
e-mail: cjsoule@yahoo.com
<<mailto:cjsoule@yahoo.com>>
4. Michael Sorenson, Treasurer, 10856 woodbushe, Lowell, MI 49331, 616 897-9502
e-mail: tuesday0656@cs.com
<<mailto:tuesday0656@cs.com>>

Tying with the "River God"

On March 26, 2005, our member, Dennis Potter, also known as the "River God" will graciously open his home to approx. 20 - 25 tyers. Everybody can tie whatever their heart desires. Help is offered as needed. Refreshments will be served. Bring a friend, your vise, tools and materials. Directions to the residence will follow.

Michigan Fly Fishing Club's - Midwest Fly Fishing Expo -

On March 12 and 13, 2005 the Grand River Flytyers will participate as a tying club in the Midwest Fly Fishing Expo, the oldest and biggest Flyshow in the US. It will be a big step for us. Christopher Soule, Bill Sikkenga, Wolf and Inge Schrey will represent the GRFT. For details, please call Wolf Schrey at: 616-246-5457 or e-mail: wmschrey@hotmail.com.

New Member Listing

Kirt Dibkey
Donna Smith
Linda Schuhardt
Karen Harrison
Andy Busch
Ray Schmidt
Julie Nielsen
Pat Ramon

*Congratulations and a warm welcome aboard
to all new members!*