

Main Line Fly-Tyers

2007-2008

mainlineflytyers.net

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Meeting Thursday January 17, 2008

Happy New Year !!!

We are kicking off the New Year with a video presentation by Ozzie Ozefovich on the life cycle of the Atlantic Salmon. Ozzie will also be sharing his knowledge on fishing for the salmon. A favorite of MLFT, Ozzie has presented numerous shows in the past which have always been very unique and well done.

Born in eastern Pennsylvania, Wendell (Ozzie) grew up fishing the streams of the coal mining region. His passion for trout and their world began at age six, when a brook trout fell prey to a garden worm. That passion continues unabated for the salmon and trout he now pursues with fly rod and camera.



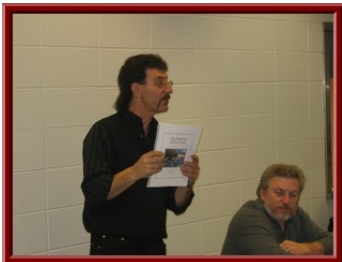
Urgent! Volunteers Needed!!

Don't miss The 2008 Reading Sport Travel & Outdoor Show at the Reading Expo Center (January 17th thru 20th). As in past years the Main-Line Fly Tyers will be manning a booth at the show. Our location will be located near the casting pool in the center of the exhibition area. We are looking for members to volunteer to man the booth and provide show visitors with details about the club, basic fly tying demos, and/or casting demos. We are also looking for help setting up on Wednesday as well as assistance breaking down Sunday after the show. Daily show schedule is Thursday and Friday Noon till 8pm, Saturday 10am till 8pm, and Sunday 10am to 5pm. Please contact Frank Howard as soon as possible if you are interested in helping out.

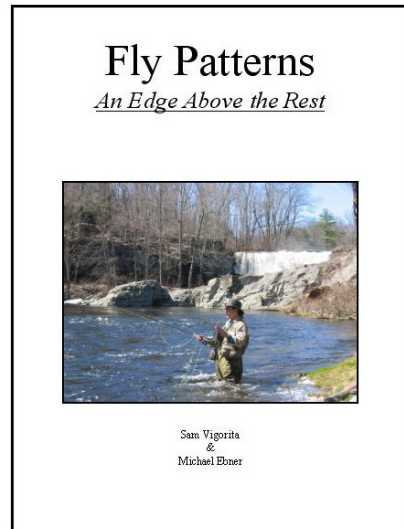


2007 Club Christmas Party and Auction **A Huge Success !!!!**

Over 40 members turned out for the annual fund raising event. Bidding was fast and furious on many items which ranged from tying materials, clothing, rods, reels, hats, flies, casting lessons, and many other treasures generously donated by club members. The hottest action of the night was when the bidding war opened up on an advanced copy of Sam and Mike's new book. The bidding dwindled down to two individuals who were hell bent on securing the first copy. In the end, Sam and Mike agreed to offer up to the losing bidder another copy of the book at the winning price. Overall, it was the best auction so far for the club which took in over 1,400.00. Many thanks to everyone who participated.



Years In The Making



Congratulations !

Sam Vigorita along with Mike Ebner unveiled their new book to the club during the annual auction. They went so far as to donate two advanced copies for bidding with the proceeds going to the club's treasury. The book draws on Sam's many years as an accomplished fly tyer and fisherman. Mike provided the design and edited the material for the project. Together they have put forth a volume of knowledge that many of us have been waiting on anxiously.

Contained inside are the recipes and tying instructions for 24 patterns of flies, hints for fishing them and two articles to increase your fishing skills. Follow the step by step instructions and your fly box will be filled with flies to provide you an edge to catch more fish than using the traditional and standard fly patterns.

According to Sam, several advance copies will be available for sale at the January meeting. At the time of this article a price was not available. To show his appreciation for all the work done by Mike on the book, Sam tied and presented Mike with a beautiful Green Highlander Fly impressively encased in a window box.



Other News

Fishing Report From Sam Vigorita

He reports the winter Steelhead fishing is the best he's ever seen and that anyone thinking about going should get a move on it. He went up to Pulaski NY and fished the Salmon River with a few other guys from the club over the holiday. According to Sam everyone, including the rookies hooked fish. Those caught, ran in the 8 to 15 pound range. Sam advises that the fish stay in the river all winter till about April with January and February being productive months as long as the weather holds out.

Sign Up For May Fishing Trip To Central PA

Don't miss out ! There are still several openings available for the Coburn trip scheduled for May 16th-18th. Over a dozen members from MLFT did this trip last year and reported having a good time. We have booked a half dozen rooms at the Feathered Hook B&B. This location is literally within walking distance to famed Penns, Pine, and Elk creeks. Its only a short drive from Spring Creek as well as other famous PA fly fishing streams. A sign up sheet will be available at the monthly meeting, or you can reserve a spot by contacting Steve Larson.

Club Reps. to Meet with Dr. Austin

The PA Fish and Boating Commissioner will talk to the SEPAC (Southeast Pennsylvania Anglers Coalition) which consists of 12 fishing clubs in the greater Delaware Valley. MLFTs is registered as a charter member and will have 3 representatives in attendance. The discussion will focus on the education and promotion of fishing for children. The representatives will report to the club pertinent information at the February meeting.

The Don is Back !

That's right, our very own Don Douple has been sited here in PA. Actually he's moved back north and has settled in Belleville PA. I recently spoke with him and he sounded like he was doing great. He asked me to pass along his regards to the club and indicated he hoped to be able to get down to the meetings from time to time. Don said that if anyone from the club is out in the Belleville area be sure to give him a shout and he'll be happy to show them around the local fishing holes. His new contact info has been added to our contact list and website.

Fly of the Month



Submitted by Steve Larson

This month we are asking you to tie the Usual fly. No not the Delaware Flymph, We're talking about the fly called "The Usual". The "Usual" is a utility fly whose origin is credited to Francis Betters presently of Wilmington NY. He is also credited with developing the AuSable Wulff, Haystack series, and the Mini Muddler series. The Usual does not imitate any one natural but has successfully been used as a go to fly, maybe imitating a caddis or Mayflies. What is truly unique about this fly is the materials used to create it and it's floating properties. Only one material is needed to tie this fly, fur from a snow shoe rabbit foot is used. Because snowshoe fur is used the fly is said to float like a cork. The following instructions should help in tying this fly:

Hook: Mustad 94840 or equivalent size 12-20

Thread: Red or Orange 8/0

Tail/Body/Wing: Snowshoe rabbit fur



1. Cover hook by wrapping thread from behind eye to a point above the barb.

2. Tie in snowshoe long fur as tail section

3. Using a dubbing loop dub the body, stopping 3/4th the way up the hook

4. Tie in snowshoe long fur as a wing section

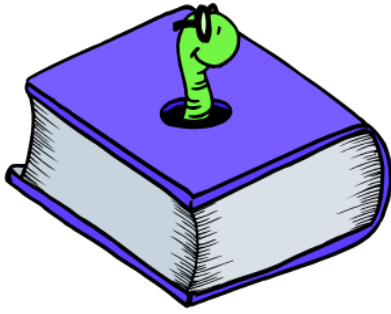
Continue dubbing snowshoe fur leaving room for whip finish

1 Note:

1. The foot hair is a bit difficult to work with. Hair from between the toes is too coarse and twisted to use. Use the hair from the heel area

2. Try floating the fly in a glass and trim sides if necessary to cause the fly to float up-right.

Do not use floatant on this fly. Two false casts should revive the fly.



Book Review

A new feature of the Main Line Fly Tyers newsletter is a book review. With many new members asking about books its time for the experienced fishers to share what's on their bookshelves. Each month a book will be reviewed, be it a classic volume or something new that sets a standard.

This review submitted by Ed Emery:

Art Flick's new Streamside Guide to naturals and their imitations

What fly is that? What is the imitation? These are the questions that most trout fishermen ask themselves when they are on the stream and a hatch is coming off. This is what Art Flick's New Streamside Guide is designed to answer. Originally published in 1947, Art Flick's Streamside Guide was the first truly pocket-sized guide to stream entomology and is an acknowledged practical classic. Updated in 1969, this paperback sized book is a tutorial on aquatic insects and fly tying and is still an essential reference for the serious dry fly fisherman. The guide identifies the principal mayflies, nymphs, and their distinguishing traits; all listed chronologically according to their normal hatch dates. Flick also provides his Catskill style dressings for tying the flies.



In the latest edition new species are identified and examined, the section on nymphs has been expanded substantially. There is also a chapter on Stonefiles, bucktails and a new chapter on summer and autumn angling with terrestrials. At only about 170 pages the book doesn't take a long time to read but it also contains an identification chart, information on caring for dry flies and obtaining materials.

This is not just a book of flies and patterns as Flick tells great stories about fishing with friends and the successes they have had through the years. I think I have even heard some of them at Bennigans. Buy a copy and keep it in your car. It makes for great reading when you're stuck somewhere.



Upcoming Events

Main Line Fly-Tyers Monthly Meeting on Thursday January 17th at 7pm
Greater Plymouth Community Center, Plymouth Meeting PA

The 2008 Reading Sport Travel & Outdoor Show January 17th thru 20th
Reading Expo Center, Reading PA

Fly Fishing Show East January 25th thru 27th
Garden State Exhibit Center , Somerset NJ

Winter 2008 Fly Tying Classes begin January 24th (runs for 6 weeks)
Thursday nights 7pm-9pm at Upper Moreland High School
<http://www.uppermoreland.org/parks/> or call 215-659-3100 x1039 to sign up

Winter 2008 Fly Fishing Tactics Classes begin Jan 29th (runs for 5 weeks)
Tuesday nights 7pm-9pm at Upper Moreland Middle School
<http://www.uppermoreland.org/parks/> or call 215-659-3100 x1039 to sign up

Learn to Fly Fish Day at Resica Falls April 5th

Club Officers:

President: Steve Birkenmaier

Vice Pres.: Gil Learn

Treasurer: Frank Howard

Secretary (Newsletter): Randy Mears

Secretary (Recording): Shaun Dougherty

Librarian: Jim Costello