

Main Line Fly-Tyers

2008-2009

mainlineflytyers.net

Volume 4 Issue 01

September 2008

Next Meeting
Thursday September 18th, 2008

Gearing up for Steelhead !



We welcome you to join us on Thursday September 18th for the kick off to our 2008/2009 meeting schedule. Fall is just around the corner which means its Steelhead time. Our guest speaker, Rick Kustich, will be presenting a program on Great Lakes Steelhead fishing.

Rick began fly fishing over thirty years ago on the lakes and streams of upstate New York. He has since traveled extensively to experience the finest fly fishing throughout North America but continues to find that some of the best fishing often exists in your own backyard. He is the author of four fly fishing books including the acclaimed Fly Fishing for Great Lakes Steelhead and recently introduced his first DVD.

Rick has also authored numerous articles with accompanying photography for national fly fishing magazines such as Fish & Fly, Fly Fisherman, and Eastern Fly Fishing, and is a regular contributor to two regional publications. Rick provides seminars and schools throughout the year on the Great Lakes steelhead fishery and other fly fishing topics. He fly fishes nearly 80 days each year and is involved in conservation efforts aiming to improve and protect fisheries. Rick is owner and operator of West River Publishing and lives in Grand Island, NY on the banks of the Niagara River.

Our meetings start at 7pm and are held at the Greater Plymouth Community Center in Plymouth Meeting PA (address and directions on last page of newsletter). As always we will have refreshments and raffle prizes.



Upcoming Club Events

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| Sept. 18th | Main Line Fly-Tyers Monthly Meeting
Guest: Rick Kustich
Program: Great Lakes Steelhead Fishing |
| Sept. 18th-22nd | Missoula Montana Trip |
| Sept. 25th | Fly Tying Class begins at Upper Moreland High School
Classes will run for 6 Thursdays (omit 10/09) ** |
| Oct 7th | Fly Fishing Tactics Class begins at Upper Moreland High School
Classes will run for 5 Tuesdays (omit 10/21 & 11/04) ** |

**Class fee is 42.00 registration form can be downloaded from the Main Line Fly Tyers website (<http://www.mainlineflytyers.net/MLFT-classes.htm>) or you can contact:

**Upper Moreland Township
Parks & Recreation Dept.
215-659-3100 x. 1038**

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| October 4th: | Lake Fishing Day (date tentative) |
| October 16th | Main Line Fly-Tyers Monthly Meeting
Guest: Don Douple
Program: TBD |
| November 6th: | Cast and Blast Outing (date tentative) |

Dues are Due !

A reminder to all club members that dues for the 2008/2009 season are due. Club dues remain at 50.00 for the year (Sept thru June). They will be collected next week at our September meeting. Payment can be made by cash or check. If you are unable to make the meeting you may send a check to the treasurer at the following address:

Frank Howard
7033 Ridge Ave unit 2B
Philadelphia PA 19128

Fifty dollars remains a bargain considering the quality of speakers and programs put forth by the club throughout the year. Its important to remember that members can attend the fly fishing clinic in April free of charge (we charge non-members 40.00 for the day). Also, keep in mind that refreshments are provided at each meeting at no additional charge.

First time members who sign up will receive a club patch along with a car decal.



New Club Hats Are In !

New versions of the club hats will be available for purchase at the September meeting. The cost is 18.00.

Children's Fly Fishing Clinic Hosted By The Sporting Gentleman

The clinic will be held Sunday September 21, 2008 at Smedley Park from 9am till noon. The Sporting Gentleman will provide leaders, flies, fly box, handouts, and snacks. Participants will need to bring rod (7'9" to 8'6" is best), reel, and fly line. There is a *limited* supply of rod & reel outfits available at no charge for use by students who do not own a fly outfit. These are available on a "first-come first-serve" basis.

It is *required* that *each* student be accompanied by an adult 18 yrs of age or older for the *entirety* of the class. The fee is \$39.95 per child and maximum enrollment is limited to 10 students. *For more details or to register, please call or e-mail the store:*

The Sporting Gentleman
300 West State Street Ste. 100
Media, PA 19063
(610) 565-6140
sprtngent@aol.com

Mike Ebner will have a lot of fly tying materials for sale at the Sep meeting. The material is from the estate of Richard Savage who was a member of the club and passed away last spring.

Fly of the Month



Copper Candy

This pattern is out of the book “Fly Patterns An Edge Above the Rest”. Which was written by Sam Vigorita with help of Mike Ebner.

According to Sam, this is a deadly pattern that works well on steelhead, salmon, and brown trout..

Hook: 9672 10's and 12's
Thread: Black
Lead: .015
Body: Bronze colored Pheasant tail fibers
Hackle: Partridge
Rib: Silver or Copper wire for protection
Thorax: Nice bunch of bronze peacock hurl wrapped around hook
Tail: Bronze Mallard – in split tail style

We could really use some help with the Fly of the Month section for future newsletters. I'm calling on ALL club members to step up and share a fly or two with the rest of us. All that needs to be done is for you to tie a fly or two. Bring it (or email a picture) to me, Frank Howard along with the recipe. Any additional comments (see above as an example) would be an added bonus. If its not your recipe you can always give credit along with your submission, though you will receive the credit for tying the fly and submitting it to the newsletter. If everyone pitches in this would become a very interactive and informative area of our newsletter. Thanks !

Book Review

Submitted by Dwain Glidden

There aren't many books on the subject of trout carving, so it's hard to weigh a book's value by comparing one book to another. However, it is possible to evaluate a publication by looking at its value to the reader and how it fulfills his need to attain knowledge or acquire skills. As fly tyers we all know that a book can only serve as a guide, and provide fundamental methods and techniques, which simply lay the groundwork from which to start. Only by setting up a vise and adding some materials can we create a functional artificial trout fly – the same can be said about carving. Fly tying exists at many skill levels and can be enjoyed by novice and expert alike. Carving should be approached in the same manner – acquire some fundamental skills, work with good materials, and take it to whatever level you like. Bob Barry's book, simply called Fish Carving, provides a great place to start. Available in paperback from Stackpole for \$19.95, the beginner can get more than enough information to get off to a great start and be proud the first few attempts at carving a presentable trout.

The book starts getting into the carving details in chapter 3, using a rainbow trout carving as an example. By getting the body shape roughed-out in pencil, he shows how details and a life-like shape make the carving to appear realistic. His use of power tools and expensive bits shouldn't scare off beginners as my favorite carving tool is a draw-knife that I bought at an antique shop in Lancaster, PA for \$12. I should add, however, that access to a band-saw is desired from a timesaving perspective, while a good sharp jackknife will never be passé.

When it comes to finishing and painting, I think he goes a little too far in chapter 9 – at least for the average guy. I like to paint with cheap craft paints (about \$1 for a plastic jar) and then mix colors and try them out on the side of my “cleanroom” cardboard box. A cheap aerosol airbrush can be bought for around \$20. Mr. Barry does make it a point to always change your style each time you carve – this keeps the art “fresh” and new and allows you to add realism to what would otherwise be just a carving of a fish.

The book fails to say much about safety but every carver should have two gloves close by for every carving session – one of woven Kevlar, for general carving, and one of leather to use with rotary power tools. Because of my carving hobby I enjoy looking at every trout I catch with a new interest – hoping that, somehow, I can only try to capture such beauty the next time I carve! We have all been awestruck by the coloring of even a 5” brook trout that at first disappoints us, but later amazes us as we catch and release it and smile quietly as it scurries back to the stream from where it came.

Dwain currently maintains a website showcasing his work at www.degjeh01.etsy.com. He would be glad to answer questions about carving at dglidden43@verison.net or at the monthly meetings.

General Information

Website: mainlineflytyers.net



Meeting Location:

Greater Plymouth Community Center
2910 Jolly Rd
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Driving Directions:

From Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-276)

Take Exit 333 (Norristown - old exit 25). At the end of the ramp, turn left onto Plymouth Road. At the light, turn right onto Germantown Pike West. Continue approximately one (1) mile, through four (4) traffic lights (not counting the left hand turn light at Sandy Hill Road). At the fifth light, turn right onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

From Blue Route (I-476)

Take exit for Germantown Pike West (Exit 20). Continue on Germantown Pike west for approximately one (1) mile, through five (5) traffic lights (not counting the left hand turn light at Sandy Hill Road). At the fifth light, turn right onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

From Route 202

Follow Route 202 to Germantown Pike. Travel EAST on Germantown Pike, through five (5) traffic lights. At the next traffic light, approximately half a mile, turn left onto Jolly Road. The Community Center is on the right at 2910 Jolly Road.

Club Officers:

President: Steve Birkenmaier

Vice Pres.: Gil Learn

Treasurer: Frank Howard

Secretary (Newsletter): Frank Howard

Secretary (Recording): Al Kotake

Librarian: Jim Costello