



# January Newsletter

*- Meetings on third Thursday of the Month -*

## Christmas Party - a complete success!

**December's Meeting** was, again, a fitting closure for 2009 and a brief preview of what's ahead in 2010. We always look forward to our annual Christmas Party and this year's party



*Sam Vigoritta in the process of auctioning items that members provided*

was no disappointment. Highlighted by the long looked forward to auction and presented by , Sam Vigoritta, 84 items were placed up for the friendly bidding wars. The auction grossed over \$1500 of which nearly \$900 went to the club treasury and will be slated to support club activities throughout the year. Thanks to all of those who participated.

### Request to all Members:

The club will be manning a booth at the Oaks Sportsman Show in Oaks, PA on February 25-28. We are asking members to tie and donate some flies that we will offer to sell at the show. Try to select some of your best as this is a reflection of our skill and expertise. Remember that the sale will help defer some of the expense of booth rental fees. This is a great chance to promote MLFT in Southeastern PA. 🦋



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#### **Special points of interest:**

- *The Fly Fishing show at Somerset, NJ Jan. 22—24*
- *Have any good game recipes? Post them in the SOURCE (see page 6)*
- *Next meeting January 21 th*
- *"Thanks" goes to the Delaware River Club for providing raffle prizes for our monthly meetings*
- *"Thanks" to French Creek Outfitters for providing raffle prizes, as well*

## Bill Skilton to present foam fly program at January Meeting...

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### ***Bill Skilton at the tying bench***

#### ***Foam materials are utilized in many of his flies***

fly tying techniques, especially those involving synthetic materials. In addition to the Orvis Co., his customers have included Umpqua Feather Merchants, as well as international accounts in England, Japan, Scotland, Spain, and Germany. Bill continues to tie commercially as well as develop fly patterns for the Orvis Company, many of which have appeared in their catalog for the past 20 years. His flies have also appeared in several national fly fishing magazines as well as many fly-tying books.

In 2002 Bill put to paper a project that occupied the recesses of his mind for the past decade...MY FLY PATTERNS, MATERIALS AND TECHNIQUES has been well received within the fly tying community. His book's success has inspired him to continue experimenting and developing new techniques, adapting and customizing fly tying materials and patterns.

In his spare time Bill is consumed by maintaining a flock of genetically raised Dry Fly birds and fly-fishing Southcentral Pennsylvania's Limestone streams. ✦

### **Bill Skilton:**

Bill will demonstrate tying fly patterns that he has developed over the years, talk about his unique materials, and discuss fly fishing the streams of Central PA...the Yellow Breeches, Letort and the much underappreciated Susquehanna River. He will have available for sale the CD format of his book and Hellgrammite Kits. You can visit his website at [www.billskilton.com](http://www.billskilton.com) and check ebay for his on-line auction sales.

Bill started tying flies and fly-fishing at the age of 5 (over forty-seven years ago) under the direction of my older brother, Tony... former director of the Orvis Fly Fishing Schools. When he was in high school he started tying commercially for Ed Koch at Ed Koch's Yellow Breeches Fly Shop in Pennsylvania and for Barry Beck at the Leonard Rod Company in New York. During and after high school Bill worked at the Yellow Breeches Fly Shop and later became the store manager. In addition, he managed Letort, Ltd., a Fly fishing/tying mail order firm that was the nation wide distributor for Partridge Hooks and Metz Necks.

Bill has operated a mail order fly and fly tying material business since 1990, specializing in developing innovative materials and flies and time-saving

## Tying Tips : this old trick is one that saves time...

I don't remember exactly where I picked up on this technique but I think that it's worth passing it along. There are many people that use this method but some of the beginners may not be aware of this simple but effective practice.

All that it amounts to is that you carry your tying scissors in your hand during the entire tying process. This allows you to not only avoid looking for them when you're ready to cut the thread but to use the scissors as an auxiliary tying implement during the fly's construction.

Personally, I like to use a pair of curved iris scissors which are longer than the standard short tying scissors, that are usually for sale at the local fly shops. The curved points are helpful in closely locating a half-hitch knot or for picking out a misplaced knot that is about to tie down your beautiful top-grade dry-fly hackle job.

Once you get used to carrying your scissors you'll feel naked without them. By placing the scissor loop on your third finger you can let them lie in the palm of your hand and not interfere with any of your tying chores. Because of the long shanks of the iris scissors the tip of the scissors are readily available at any time during the fly-tying process.

If you not so concerned with speed it still makes sense to carry your scissors in you hand to simplify your methodology and have them



*Here the scissor-tip is used to control the location of a simple half-hitch knot*

available for assisting in tying some of your knots. It's hard to see in the above photo but the scissors are fully engaged in the tying process and are being used to guide the half-hitch into it's preferred location by keeping tension on the tying tread all the way into it's final position.

Another good feature comes from the mechanical advantage that comes from the long handles of the scissors. Except for some extra thick pieces of hide, these scissors will cut through nearly all of your favorite tying materials. If you want to use your scissors in this manner you should look for the type that have an extra heavy blade on the stationary blade side. With the extra leverage of the log handles a normal blade thickness would be damaged when cutting thick materials.

It's not hard to find these scissors online, just Google-search for "iris scissors". The prices are all over the map so you should look around to find the price-range that you like. The pair that I use have been in my tying kit for more than 30 years. I bought them from Orvis and they have served me well. Orvis still sells a variation on their original but they don't have the curved points, like mine. I think that the curved version is a better design.

Another feature that you gain with the curved blades is the improvement that you get when you try to trim spun deer hair bodied. The curved blades makes for an easier to shape a tapered body.

Another plus comes from using



*A typical pair of Iris scissors*

your scissors to cut some of the nymph wing cases. Wing burners are often used but if you prefer to hand cut your wing cases the curved scissors will help you get a more natural shape. ✂



## MAIN LINE FLY-TYERS

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

Club Officers:  
President: Frank Howard  
Vice Pres.: Mike Ebner  
Treasurer: Jim Costello  
Newsletter: Dwaine Glidden  
Secretary: Al Kotake  
Librarian: Ed Sclarow  
Website: Mike Ebner

submit newsletter items and suggestions to:  
dglidden43@verizon.net

**We're on the Web**  
[www.mainlineflytyers.net](http://www.mainlineflytyers.net)

## 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.

## Looking Ahead—what's in store for 2010? ...

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In the January issues of the past couple of years I've spent some time giving a summary of things that we've done in the preceding year. It's been well-received but it's more important to build on the past so we can better plan for the future.

Before I get ahead of myself, I'd just like to thank those who have worked hard and those who have sent me timely information—without which this newsletter would not be possible. There's nothing magic about getting out a publication that fills the needs of the club membership; it's more a matter of recognizing exactly what those needs are and then capturing the specifics and

details that surround the subject in question.

Also, of great value to our members is the relationship and camaraderie that we share with our supporters and sponsors. Anyone can get online and order any of the latest products available to today's fly fisher. Whatever you buy will be at your door in quick order and might even be a few bucks cheaper. What you *won't* get is the latest fishing info, or directions on using new products, or what items to stay away from. Products that may have been top-of-the-line in 2009 may have been cheapened or problem-prone, as we speak.

The winter season not only serves us to sit down and replenish our fly boxes with some freshly tied "creations" but it's a busy time for the club's board to assemble an interesting and informative 2010-season (reference page 8). A vital part of the process is to get feedback from the membership. It's important that the members let us know what's working and what's not.

The best way to get your feelings to be known is to email your requests to the newsletter editor, drop us a note, or just flag us down at the monthly meeting. - Editor 🍄

# THE SOURCE

THESE PAGES ARE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE MEMBERS AND SPONSORS WITH A LOCATION ONTO WHICH THEY CAN POST ITEMS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST TO CLUB MEMBERS.

IT WILL BE PROVIDED AS A COURTESY AND DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN ENDORSEMENT OF THE ITEMS SHOWN. IT WILL BE A BULLETIN BOARD FORMAT AND SHOULD INCLUDE ITEMS FOR SALE, EVENTS OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS, PHONE NUMBERS OF AGENCIES, AND WILL BE OFFERED FREE OF CHARGE TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS.

CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECTS AND OPINIONS ARE BETTER ADDRESSED IN THE WEBSITE "FORUM".

THE EDITOR REQUESTS THAT ADVERTISEMENTS BE SUPPLIED IN THEIR FINAL CONFIGURATION AND EMAILED AS AN ATTACHMENT SO THEY CAN BE DOWNLOADED AND DIRECTLY INSERTED, AS RECEIVED.

THIS IS BEING DONE ON A TRIAL BASIS AND WILL BE MAINTAINED IF INTEREST JUSTIFIES ITS CONTINUATION

Dish: \_\_\_\_\_ **Recipe** Serves: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Call for wild game recipes:**

If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with our members, send it in and we'll post it in one of the future newsletters-along with a credit for the one who provided their "secret recipe" to share with the world.

# Wild Game Recipes

## Recipe for trout on the grill:

This is a very simple and easy recipe for any good-sized trout that found its way into your freezer. The club fully endorses catch-and-release fishing practice, especially if your fishing for native fish and you want to keep your catch's DNA in the gene pool. Sometimes a badly hooked fish should be kept or a trout or two from a heavily stocked *delayed harvest* area won't hurt the fishery, at all. Try to turn back any "holdover" trout that you catch in the delayed harvest areas—you'll know them by their fully developed fins and unmarked features.

1. Use some sea salt and fresh ground pepper on the inside and outside of the trout's flesh.
2. Place lots of capers and some fresh sliced lemon in the open cavity.
3. Wrap the trout with flavored grape leaves (they come in a 8 oz. jar). Secure the leaves with toothpicks or string for this purpose.
4. Cook in a closed grill over a medium-hot coal bed. Start your grill using kindling and not liquid lighter, if possible. Use some flavor wood chunks (apple wood is good, if available).

Provided by Dwaine Glidden

Ps. Consider a side of fresh asparagus cooked on the grill in foil

# Notice

## 2009-2010 - Fly Tying & Tactics and Strategies Classes

The MLFT club offers two classes for beginning through advanced fly tyers.. Classes are held twice a year. There is a fall session in October and the winter session starts in January. The tying class has multiple instructors available and ready to teach and coach beginners, novice, intermediate and advanced tyers. The Tactics and Strategy class includes particular tips for fishing the Upper Delaware River.

### FLY-TYING



If you're interested in fly-fishing and fly-tying, this is the course you've been waiting for. Don't wait; be ready for opening day. Learn how to create wet flies, dry flies, nymphs, streamers, and bass bugs. Suggestions for tools and materials will be given at the first class. Advanced instruction will also be available for experienced tyers wishing to advance their fly-tying skills.

#### Upper Moreland classes:

The class meets on Thursdays and includes 6 class sessions at the Upper Moreland High School, Room 608.

Winter Class (2010): Jan. 28, Feb. 4, Feb 11, Feb 17 (Wed), Feb. 25 and Mar. 4 - at HS Rm. 608 7:00-9:00

Instructors: Sam Vigorita & Dave Shillington, Main Line Fly Tyers Club

#### Lower Providence class:

The class meets on Tuesdays at Lower Providence Township Administration building starting on March 9. The class runs for six weeks.

Details will be posted on [http://www.lowerprovidence.org/parks\\_recreation.htm](http://www.lowerprovidence.org/parks_recreation.htm)

Instructors: Mike Ebner & Ed Emery

### FLY-FISHING TACTICS/STRATEGIES

Improve your skills and catch more fish! Learn how to "read" the waters of a trout stream. Find out where fish live, how to approach them, and how to catch them. Know what they feed on and learn the types of flies to use at different times of the year. Become a better fisherman and reduce your chances of coming up empty. The instructor is one of the area's most successful trout anglers and has logged literally thousands of hours fishing and instructing on East Coast trout and salmon waters.

The class meets on Tuesdays and includes 5 class sessions at the Upper Moreland High School, Room 608

Winter Class (2010): Feb. 2, Feb. 9, Feb 16, Feb 23, and Mar. - 2 in Rm. 608 from 7:00-9:00pm

Instructor: Sam Vigorita, Main Line Fly Tyers Club

#### Registration

The cost for each class is \$47. To register call the Upper Moreland Parks and Recreation Dept. at 215-659-3100 x1039 or 267-607-1038



# Upcoming Events

**The Fly Fishing Show – Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> 2010**

**Southeast PA Opening day - April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010 at 8:00 AM**

**Not a scheduled Club Event**

**Learn to fish Day – April 10<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 9:00 AM**

- ✦ Resica Falls Scout Camp
- ✦ Coffee in the AM
- ✦ Lunch Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soda

**Optional: For Cabin information call Scout Headquarters at 610-688-6900**

**Northeast PA Opening day - April 17<sup>th</sup> 2010 at 8:00 AM**

- ✦ Brodhead Creek, Stroudsburg, PA
  - ✦ Meet for lunch at the Park right under the Rt 191 bridge
- Lunch Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soda**

**Stick day – April 24<sup>th</sup> 2010**

- ✦ Brodhead Creek, Stroudsburg, PA
  - ✦ Meet for lunch at the Park right under the Rt 191 bridge
- Lunch Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips and Soda**

**Delaware River - June 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> 2010**

- ✦ Pleasant Valley camp ground - Linda, 570-224-4038, Equinunk PA
- ✦ Each tent must call up for a reservation with number camping
- ✦ Bring your own food
- ✦ Must arrange own tenting/Sleeping arrangements

**Will break up in groups to fish**

**Penns Creek - June 11, 12**

- ✦ Make reservations at The Feathered Hook, Colburn PA 1-814-349-8757
- ✦ Breakfast included
- ✦ Sleep two to a room and two rooms share a bath
- ✦ Local Restaurants for dinner, pay for what you order, or Grill at the Feathered Hook, every-one splits the cost

**Guides available, Contact Feathered Hook**



# From our friends at French Creek Outfitters:



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### Our store hours are:

**Monday** 10 am - 6 pm

**Tuesday - Friday** 10 am - 9 pm

**Saturday** 10 am - 6 pm

**Sunday** 10 am - 5 pm

## Contact

**French Creek Outfitters** is Open 7 Days a Week.  
Located just West of Phoenixville,  
in the Shoppes at Valley Forge, Next to Staples

270 Schuylkill Rd.  
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Phone: 610-933-7200  
Email: [info@frenchcreekoutfitters.com](mailto:info@frenchcreekoutfitters.com)

### Our store hours are:

Monday	10 am - 6 pm
Tuesday - Friday	10 am - 9 pm
Saturday	10 am - 6 pm
Sunday	10 am - 5 pm

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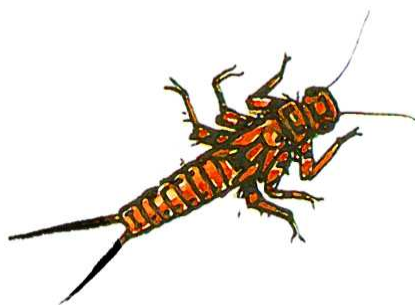


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**Happy New Year!**

**Barry & Christine**

**The Sporting Gentleman**

# Some Local Shops

<p>Clouser Fly Fishing 101 Ulrich Street Middletown, PA 17057 717-944-6541</p>	<p>Evening Hatch 5 Rt. 940 East Lake Harmony, PA 18624 570-443-0772</p>	<p><b>Little Lehigh Fly Shop</b> <b>RD 2 Fish Hatchery Road</b> <b>Allentown, PA 18103</b> <b>610-797-5599</b></p>
<p>Mainstream Outfitters 1121 N. Easton Rd Doylestown, PA 1890 215-766-1244</p>	<p>Slate Run Tackle Shop PO Box 1 Route 414 Slate Run, PA 17769 570-753-8551</p>	<p>TCO Fly Shop 895 Penn Avenue Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 610-527-3388</p>
<p>TCO Fly Shop 2229 Penn Ave. Reading, PA 19609 610-678-1899</p>	<p><b>The Feathered Hook</b> <b>516 Main Street</b> <b>Colburn, PA 16832</b> <b>814-349-8757</b></p>	<p>Wilderness Trekker, Inc. 22 Hughes Street RR3 Box 3 New Ringgold, PA 17960 570-943-3151</p>
<p>Yellow Breeches Outfitters 2 First Street, PO Box 200 Boiling Springs, PA 17007 717-258-6752</p>	<p>A.A. Outfitters HC Box 1030 Blakeslee, PA 18610 800-443-8119</p>	<p>Anglers Pro Shop 3361 Bethlehem Pike Soudertown, PA 18964 800-934-4862</p>
<p><b>French Creek Outfitters</b> <b>Rt. 23</b> <b>Phoenixville, PA</b> <b>610-933-7200</b></p>	<p><b>The Sporting Gentleman</b> <b>300 W. State Street</b> <b>Media, PA 19603</b> <b>610-565-6140</b></p>	<p><b>Franks Fly Fishing Shoppe</b> <b>7906 High School Road, 2nd floor</b> <b>Elkins Park, PA 19027</b> <b>267-475-6055</b></p>
<p><b>Classic Fly Fisherman</b> <b>222 S. Broad Street</b> <b>Lansdale, PA 19446</b> <b>(215)412-3667</b></p>	<p><b>The Delaware River Club</b> <b>1228 Winterdale Road</b> <b>Starlight, PA 18461</b> <b>570-635-5880</b></p>	

