

MLFT

Newsletter

March 20, 2014 Meeting

7:00 PM

Fishing Quote of the Month

The oft-repeated quotation "Spare the rod and spoil the child" has been misconstrued for many a long day. There is no doubt today in my mind that this "rod" meant a *fishing rod*.

Thomas Steele

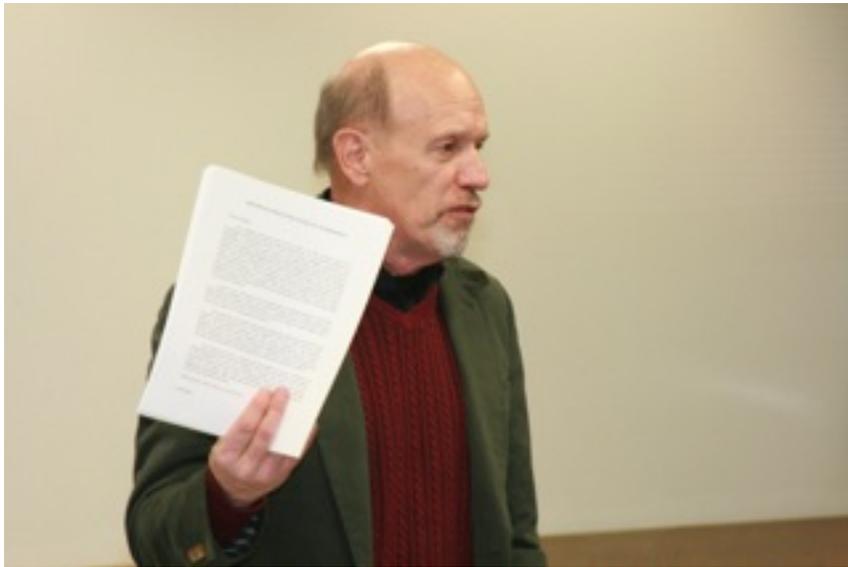
Presentation: "Roots" Fly tying Night. Tying with Bustard Feathers

Tonight we have a special program that returns the club to its early fly tying "roots". George Kawchuk (40+ year club member) has been working with the **Kori Bustard program** and has secured a supply of Bustard feathers. (Bustards are all fairly large with the two main species, the Kori Bustard (*Ardeotis kori*) and the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*), being frequently cited as the world's heaviest flying birds. In both the largest species, large males exceed a weight 20 kg (44 lb), weigh around 13.5 kg (30 lb) on average and can attaining a total length of 150 cm (59 in).) George will give a brief talk about the bird, its importance for fly tiers, and the ongoing conservation efforts to save it. Fly tiers can do their part to help control the poaching and black market in exotic feathers by not buying or selling these feathers.

We will follow George with demonstrations of tying several different patterns with bustard feathers. Tiers will be demonstrating several different nymphs, wet flies, a muddler and/or hopper, how to do married wings, dry flies etc. Sam Vigorita will display some of his Black Quill dry fly patterns

using Kori as well. There will be free feathers available for the members to take, but we ask for a small donation to the Bustard program in return (**John McLain** of www.feathersmc.com). In addition, we also ask that next month members bring back a fly or two that they tie to donate to the program.

Last month's meeting



Dan Baylor spoke about the role that Pocono hatches and streams played in the history of American fly-fishing. The Poconos and especially the Brodhead is where American fly-fishing had its first origins. Dan will speak about these early days and their lasting influence on American fly-fishing.

Don also spoke about the new section that will be opening on the Brodhead at the old golf course near Alominik. He described it as beautiful water that should contain wild trout. It will not be stocked and will be catch and release. Unfortunately, currently there is very little parking available along the stream. We hope that that problem will be corrected this year.

Early season fishing.

It is now mid March, after a long and cold winter. In spite of the fact that snow is still around we can start thinking about fishing. While the regular season is still several weeks away, we are fortunate to have many catch-and-release and delayed harvest sections of streams in our area. These streams were stocked and are already open to fishing. With the water high and cold the natural thought is for using heavily weighted woolly buggers and nymphs. However, March contains two not very well known hatches that can make for exciting fishing.

First, through-out February and March there is the hatch of the little black/brown stonefly. They are thin and about one cm long. They don't hatch in the sense that mayflies hatch, but instead crawl out of the water. They become active in the warmer middle of the day and migrate to the shallows. Because few insects are active this early in the season, trout can be very interested in feeding on them. The little black stone fly is like most stone flies in that they need cool oxygenated water to survive. Nevertheless, they are plentiful in many local streams. Even those streams that warm up in the summer have these stoneflies. They accomplish this by borrowing underground during the warmer months and emerge again in the fall. I was amazed to learn that these insects are literally not in the stream during the summer but are under it. A good imitation of the Little Black stonefly is a black flymph, which can very effective at imitating these stoneflies.

The other March hatch is the BWO (Baetis). This is mostly on the limestone streams such as the Little Lehigh and Monocacy. This hatch usually starts in early March but I expect it will be late this year with the cold and snow we have had. They tend to hatch in late morning or early afternoon and seem to prefer cloudy days. My experience is that this hatch is usually over by the time April arrives. This year, however, it has been very cold and the hatch may continue well into April.

Opening season events

Up coming events.

Spring is around the corner! The club as several major activities coming up in April. Plan your weekends to be able to attend them.

April 5th Saturday Learn to fish Day Resica Falls

April 12th Saturday Opening day on the Brodhead

April 19th Saturday Stick Day on the Brodhead.

Camping trip May 31st. to June 2nd. (Members are welcome to bring guests but there will be a 20 dollar charge for the club diner on Saturday night)

Coburn trip June 6th to 8th Steve Larson

Steve Larson was able to lock in reservations for the club at the Feather hook for June 6th to 8th. To make room reservation please call The Feathered hook direct at 814-349 8757. The web address is : <http://www.thefeatheredhook.com/> . All questions can be directed to Steve at: steve@mainlineflytyers.net or phone (H) 215-822-1511 (C) 610-662-9041. If they let me know they have made the reservation, I will send updates on the trip as I get them. Note that the number of rooms/reservations is limited.

**Directions to Club Meeting Site:
Greater Plymouth Community Center
2910 Jolly Rd, Plymouth Meeting PA 19462 610-277-4312**

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 Nack President@mainlineflytyers.net
Vice President :Chris McGeehan VP@mainlineflytyers.net
Treasurer :Jim Costello Treasurer@mainlineflytyers.net
Secretary : Donald Bowers Secretary@mainlineflytyers.net

Coordinators

Librarian : Web Guy : Newsletter : Refreshments :
Raffle: Unsung Hero's:
Ed Sclarow Mike Ebner, Jerry Usatch Kathleen McKenzie Ed Emery
Elsa Zumstein Steve Ellis Al Katoke

Newsletter@mailineflytyers.net Feel free to contact us at any time

Board Members

Steve Nack Dave Shillington Sam Vigorita Jim Costello Chris McGeehan
Ed Emery Rick Say Kurt Griffin Mike Ebner. Don Bowers