

# GLC FLYLINE



Summer Issue

[www.fffglc.org](http://www.fffglc.org)

September 2002

**Publication of the Great Lakes Council / Federation of Fly Fishers**

## President's Column.

While attendance was lower this year, our summer Fly Fishing School held this past June at the Ralph MacMullen Conference Center near Roscommon, Michigan was a great success. Our school format continues to introduce new people to the sport and also provide a means for the experienced to improve their skills. The fishing was excellent, the federating was great and we made money for education and conservation. Many thanks to all the volunteers, exhibitors, donors and instructors whose hard work and generosity made it possible. Plans are already underway for next year and you should start making your plans now. The dates for next year's conclave are June 13-16 at the MacMullen Center.

Our annual fall steelhead outing at Barothy's Lodge on the Pere Marquette River is scheduled for the first weekend in November. See the article in this newsletter for details. This is a great event and we hope you plan to be there.

Also check out the information for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Fly Tying Expo scheduled for December 7 in Mason, Michigan, just southeast of Lansing. The move to the larger Exhibit Hall at the Ingham County Fairgrounds was a good one. In addition to showcasing outstanding tyers, this event continues to be our major fundraiser. We are looking for help in putting on this event. In particular we need someone to help Ann Miller with the publicity this year and take over that task for next year. If you can help at the show please let Dennis Potter, Terry Lyons or me know.

If you looked at the list of the GLC Board of Directors you will see some new names and officers. We welcome Victor Edwards, Ron Weaver, Jr. and Lane Kuypers to the Board. Victor was a past director on the board and has rejoined us. Patrick Korth has taken on the VP of Communications job and we look forward to his support in this area. The VP Membership position is open as Greg Voss has resigned due to work conflicts. The Board is always looking for new members so if you are interested, give me a call.

The Board has approved the GLC joining the Michigan Resource Conservation Coalition (MR FCC) which will be joining in the lawsuit regarding tribal inland fishing rights. This is a major commitment on the GLC in both time and money. To support our efforts we are establishing a GLC Tribal Litigation Fund and asking for support from our clubs and members. The Red Cedar Fly Fishers has pledged \$1000 a year to the GLC for this effort and the Anglers of the Au Sable are considering a similar pledge. Please contact me if you and/or your club is interested in contributing to the GLC tribal litigation fund. This is an issue that will impact all of us for years to come and we need your support.

*Jim Schramm*

The GLC FLYLINE is an official publication of the Great Lakes Council (GLC) of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF), and is solely responsible for its content. Subscription is by membership in the FFF, the GLC FLYLINE is published four times yearly in February, April, September and November. Deadlines for submissions are six weeks prior to the first day of the publication month. We are interested in articles regarding your local club activities, conservation project, educational event, etc., as well as fictional articles. Articles should be sent to the Editor via E-mail, or sent on diskettes through the mail. Send all articles in MS Word, Word Perfect or Text formats, and all pictures in JPEG, TIFF, or PDF formats only. Do not send BMP files, photographs or typed sheets. Send to the Editor, Joe Valencic, at the roster address listed on page 11.

## LEGISLATION UPDATE

Most of you know by now that the Michigan Legislature approved legislation extending the current 100 mile restriction on quality regulation to 212 miles. Of that, 12 miles is designated for Northville's Johnson Creek. Before any new water gets quality regulations, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources must develop criteria and seek public input. The GLC as a member of the MDNR's Cold Water Regulation Committee, expects to help develop the criteria.

The legislature approved the law after rejecting an attempt to tie it to a bill that would allow children 12 and under to use live bait and other non-restrictive tackle to harvest fish in special regulation water. A compromise bill was passed that allows kids to keep one trout daily in no-kill waters but they must still comply with all tackle restrictions. To protect the no-kill fishery, the MDNR is allowed to set the size limit and biologists say a 10 inch or 8 inch maximum size limit is likely.

I want to thank the efforts of all who sent letters and e-mails and called their representatives and senators. We worked closely with the Michigan Council of TU and our affiliated clubs in this drive. Especially noteworthy were the Anglers of the Au Sable, Pere Marquette Watershed Council, Red Cedar Fly Fishers and the West Michigan Hacklers. We owe a special thanks to Rich Bowman, Executive Director of the Michigan Council of TU, for his tireless efforts leading the coalition in reaching the compromise bill. A compromise was necessary as it was proving to be extremely difficult to just kill the "worm bill".

*Jim Schramm*

## *Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!*

The Great Lakes Council would like to acknowledge and thank the following manufacturers, shops, and individuals who contributed auction and raffle items for our June 2002 Fly Fishing School in Roscommon, MI. Please thank any and all of the names on this list personally if you have the opportunity to visit their shops, use their products, or meet them on the streams.

The funds derived from the School go into the conservation, restoration, and education programs of the Great Lakes Council. Thanks also to all who took part in the auctions and raffles and made this an outstanding weekend for the GLC.

Fly Rite, Inc.	Robart Company	Tony Petrella
Krieger Enterprises	Fly Tech	Pelican Products
Anglers	SpringBrook	John Lincoln
Bear Andrews	Dennis Potter	F.W. Dunwiddie
Gates AuSable Lodge	Wyoming Wear	Noggins Tops
Kaz	Clear Creek	Sierra Stream
B.P. Products	Jack Haas	Mag Eyes
Belvoirdale	Leatherman	Bill Boote
Jerry Drake	Indigo Guide Service	Danville Chenille
W.L.. Gore Company	Umpqua Feather Merchants	Mustad
B W Sports		

**Raffle Committee:** Terry Greiner, Kevin Lounds, Jack Haas

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## Third Annual Fly Tying Expo

The Great Lakes Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers will host the 3rd Annual Fly Tying Exposition at the Ingham County fairgrounds in Mason Michigan on Saturday, December 7, 2002. The expo will be open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Over 100 tiers will be on hand this year to demonstrate their fly tying skills. Returning talents include Jeff "Bear" Andrews, Chris Helm, Rusty Gates, Dennis Potter, Ray Schmidt, Dick Walle, and Matthew Supinski. Dennis Potter will have his digital high resolution camcorder so that viewers at His booth will be able to scrutinize his work with startling clarity over a video monitor.

A number of events will be featured throughout the day including door prizes, silent auctions, bucket raffle, and a live auction during the lunch hour. There will also be an instruction table for individuals to tie their first fly.

Fly tiers will be tying a vast selection of patterns including trout flies, bass bugs, saltwater flies, streamers, emergers, dries, wets, and others. Once again, tiers will have the opportunity to sell their flies, artwork, books, or related products from their booths.

*Ann Miller*

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### **FALL STEELHEAD OUTING AND GLC BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**

October 31 - November 3, 2002

The Annual Fall Steelhead Outing will take place October 31 -November 3, 2002 at Barothy's Lodge on the Pere Marquette River. This event is open to all FFF members and those interested in joining FFF. The facilities are excellent, the food is great, and there is plenty of time for fishing, fly tying, and federating. The Board of Directors meeting will be held Friday at 8:00 p.m.

Cost for attendees will be \$165.00 for the four day/three night stay (Thursday thru Sunday) and \$130.00 for the three day/two night stay (Friday thru Sunday). The cost includes meals for Thursday night, three meals on Friday and Saturday, and a continental breakfast Sunday morning.

Attendees are also requested to bring a raffle prize for our raffle on Saturday night. Because of the active participation of the attendees, the raffle has been an outstanding success with great prizes and there will be at least one graphite flyrod as a prize. The raffle prize should be worth a minimum of \$10.00. Profits from the raffle will go to the GLC.

Full payment must be made by October 10, 2001 in order to insure a space. Deposits are fully refundable thereafter only if the space is filled. If the space is not filled, the cost of the lodging paid to Barothy Lodge will be deducted and the remainder refunded. To make reservations, send your deposit to Jim Schramm, P.O. Box 828, Pentwater, Michigan 49449. Indicate your night of arrival (Thursday or Friday) and whether you are with a group. For more information, contact Jim Schramm (231)869-5487, e-mail <jdschramm@oceana.net.

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## **GLC AWARDS**

### **PRESENTED AT THE 2002 SUMMER CONCLAVE**

#### **THE GLC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD SPONSORED BY THE HARRIS REEL COMPANY**

Presented to John Wylie for his outstanding contributions to the goals of the Federation of Fly Fishers - Conserving, Restoring, Educating Through Fly Fishing. John's contributions have truly been exceptional for over 20 years and are underlined by his desire to do what is needed for the Federation and the Great Lakes Council. John is a past Treasurer of the GLC, a position he held for many years. John continues his efforts in this area supporting the current treasurer in his activities.

#### **THE CONTRIBUTING ARTISANS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Awarded to Julie Neilsen for her unselfish sharing with others her knowledge and skills as a flyfisher and flytyer. Julie has contributed countless hours of her time and talent to the Great Lakes Council and the Federation of Fly Fishers for many years. Her talent as a fly tyer is exceptional and her teaching skills and enthusiasm bring great credit to any effort she undertakes.

#### **GREAT LAKES COUNCIL CONSERVATION AWARD**

Awarded to Robert Seppala in recognition of his outstanding contributions towards improving and preserving our fly fishing resources. John is a fish biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service and was involved in hydro relicensing process in the State of Michigan. His efforts have played a major role in the implementation of several key settlements with hydro owners in Michigan. Bob's leadership and guidance has been inspirational and reflects great dedication and concern for our natural resources.

#### **GREAT LAKES COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S AWARDS**

Awarded to Gaye Sorensen and Jack Haas for their untiring efforts on behalf of the Great Lakes Council and the Federation of Fly Fishers. Both have put forth an extraordinary commitment of time and energy for a volunteer. Their support of the GLC reflects great dedication and is truly appreciated by members of the GLC.



Rachel Fitchett receives the first GLC Scholarship Award from GLC President Jim Schramm.

## G.L.C. Scholarship Award

The first G.L.C. Scholarship award was presented to Rachel Lynn Fitchett at the past G.L.C. Fly Fishing School (Conclave) held at the MacMullen Center, Roscommon, on 15 June 2002. Ms Fitchett, of Sault Ste Marie, and a student at Lake Superior State University, was adjudged the winner of the \$1,000 scholarship given to a student in their second or later year of college who is pursuing a course of study consistent with the purposes of The Federation of Fly Fishers and who resides within the geographical boundaries of the Great Lakes Council. In addition she was also given a membership in the F.F.F. Ms. Fitchett's application was considered by the Education Committee as the best to fulfill all the requirements of the Scholarship award.

She is in the Fisheries and Wildlife Management program at Lake Superior State, with a 3.6 GPA and will enter her senior year.

She has worked for The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Aquatics Resources Laboratory, Dept. of Natural Resources - Her work with these organizations has given her contact with gill netting of Atlantic and Chinook Salmon, milking and egging the fish; raising Sturgeon; lampricide applications on Great Lakes Tributaries; water chemistries; electro-shocking; and public relations.. In addition she has found time for volunteer work.

The Great Lakes Council is proud to have Ms. Fitchett as our first scholarship winner and it is felt that she represents a model for future recipients of our scholarship program.

## Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge

The Boy Scout Fly Fishing Merit Badge is now available, as is the Merit Badge Book. Consider teaching the badge in your local Boy Scout Troop. If your club has not been contacted by the Scouts, use the Boy Scout website at [www.bsa.scouting.org](http://www.bsa.scouting.org) to locate the troop nearest to you or your club.

The Badge Book follows the AFFTA booklet "Fly Fishing Tactics" and the FFF booklets are available on the FFF website or by contacting Susan Halblom at [davidhalblom-bugtyer@att.net](mailto:davidhalblom-bugtyer@att.net)

## Quote:

Now that trout are in my field of study, I much regret that I started life as an idiot"

by Christopher Camuto  
(from *TROUT* magazine)

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## Labrador: Adventures of a “Flygirl”

By: Wolf & Inge Schrey

On July 21, 2002 we left Grand Rapids in the “Ingebug.” My Flygirl took me along as the chauffeur and baggage handler, and the first day we made it to Toronto.

On 7-22 we were in Bay St. Paul where we met our friends Tom Gill and Tony Powell from Muskegon, who had driven up in their camper pickup truck.. Since the road out of Montreal runs along the St. Lawrence River, and whales were migrating, whale watchers were everywhere. We saw “our whale” the next day in Sept Iles which was our jump-off point. While there we met Tom’s brother Robert who had flown in from England with his friend Frank Quintana from Scottsdale, Arizona. Since we had never fished together, we spent the next two days in Sept Iles getting acquainted and filling our “snake-bite kits” with adult beverages for the trip.

We boarded the “Scheffeville Rapide” to Menihek Station on 7-25. The train runs north every Thursday and returns every Friday. It manages the 330 mile run in the incredible time of 10-12 hours, depending on how many stops have to be made. The traveler is treated to spectacular scenery along salmon streams, waterfalls and the 95 mile long Menihek Lake. When we were dropped off, Bernhard Rosignol, our guide, picked us up and took us to his camp.

Inge and I had a comfortable cabin with 3 beds and a toilet. The boys were lodged in a brand new 6 bed cabin with both shower and toilet. After a late dinner and several “welcome drinks,” we got our gear together for the next day.

The camp is located about one mile downstream from a power plant which regulates the river level on Lake Menihek. At the campsite the river is about 1/2 mile wide, and the six of us had exclusive use of about 300 sq. km of water to fish in. Anticipation ran high, and after a hardy breakfast on the morning of 7-26 we set out in three 20 foot freight canoes.

Since Inge and I only fish with flies, we drew Tom Brake, accomplished fly fisherman and guide, as our guide. Our four friends were basically spin casters, but Tom, Bob & Frank were willing to try fly casting at our urgings. As it turned out, they all did very well with Frank fishing the entire 7 days ONLY with his fly rod. Bravo! Wolf’s two largest fish were a beautiful 4 pound Brook Trout and a 7 pound Lake Trout.

The next day we caught Atlantic Salmon up to 4 pounds and quite a few Lake Trout, but no Brookies. The largest fish caught were a 10# and 11-1/2# Lake trout. Wolf fished with Tony that day. They had two doubles and just before lunch Tony caught a small Atlantic Salmon. As he played the fish it seemed much heavier than it appeared when it jumped. It turned out that a Northern Pike had the salmon in his mouth, and would only release it when it got close to the boat. What a sight!! Needless to say the salmon did not survive the ordeal, and it therefore became our lunch.

On the 28th we took a long boat ride to a wonderful fast running wild river full of Brook Trout. Wading in these rivers with boulders of all sizes all around you, is quite an undertaking, yet we managed to catch Brookies up to 3 pounds. Inge landed a nice 5 pound Lake Trout at the mouth of the river, and shore lunch was a real treat. It cannot get any better than this! Through the driving rain on the way back, we spotted a black bear with her two yearling cubs.

The following day Inge’s biggest fish was a 6 pound Atlantic Salmon. We had a nice double with Wolf having a Brookie and Inge with a Northern. On the 30th a front moved through and the fish took a “sabbatical” from our tempting flies, and no big were caught.

Continued on Page 7

## Adventures of a “Flygirl”

(cont. from page 7)

After the weather cleared up on the 31st. the mosquitoes stage an all-out war. Despite the bugs Wolf caught his biggest Brookie of the trip, tipping the scale at 4-3/4 pounds. Especially exciting was when Wolf landed a 3-1/2 pound whitefish on his 2 weight rod. Several more whitefish volunteered to be hooked using Julie Nielsen’s “Parachute #16” as the enticer. Thanks, Julie!

August 1st. Was out last day fishing, and Wolf managed to subdue a 3-1/2 pound Salmon on his tiny 2 weight rod. The fish was unable to shake the hook, and it was very exciting to watch the fish jump several times as the 2 pound tippet strained against the #16 Parachute.

THE LAST CAST: We had spotted a big Brook Trout feeding on the surface in front of some rifles. We didn’t know what he was feeding on since there were three simultaneous hatches happening; Mayflies, Stoneflies and Caddis. Inge made a beautiful cast and placed the Parachute right in front of the fish. A big splash and the fly was gone! Now the battle was on, and after about five minutes Inge was able to land her most memorable catch - a five pound Brookie. What a wonderful specimen.

With the exception of a few fish we kept for lunch, all the other fish were released in the proper way. Mostly Whitefish, Northern Pike and Lake trout were kept. It was interesting to see how fragile the Brookies really are in comparison to the Lake Trout, and watching our guide Tom Brake taking all the necessary steps in order to maximize the survival of all the released fish. This was “Catch & Proper Release” at its best.

We watched for the better part of 45 minutes as Tom tried to revive a 3-1/2 pound Brookie that Wolf had caught. When finally release it appeared to be fine, but the strong current turned it belly-up and carried it away. For the next half hour we followed the fish and made several attempts to re-net it as it appeared 2-3 feet below the surface...first on the port and then on the starboard side it appeared in the swift water. Inge was finally in a position to lean out the farthest in the canoe and re-net it, almost joining the fish in the water, but she was not strong enough to heave the net into the boat. Wolf came to the rescue and got the fish in the canoe.

In the ensuing melee the prop had eaten Wolf’s fly, leader and first 15 feet of fly line. We felt great that we did not waste such a wonderful fish, yet we would have much preferred being successful in preserving the Brookie in order to fight another day.

Equipment used: 2, 5, 6 and 7 weight rods

Flies: Various types of Muddlers (size 6-10)  
Various types of streamers such as Mickey Finns (size 6-8)  
Parachutes (size 16)  
Hanks (size 14)

It was gratifying converting Tom, Bob & Frank to fly fishing, and more importantly from “Catch & Kill” to “Catch & Release.” Wading in these boulder strewn waters is very difficult and treacherous, and felt soles with cleats is highly recommended, as is a wading staff. We fished by casting from canoes, wading and trolling.

This was our third trip to this camp, and we’ll be going back in 2003. We’re putting our group together now, and there is a max of 6 rods at any one time in the camp. If you are interested in going, we can be contacted as follows:

Wolf & Inge Schrey  
(616) 246-5457  
E-Mail: wmschrey@hotmail.com

Pictures on Page 8 —

## Pictures from: *“Adventures of a Flygirl”*



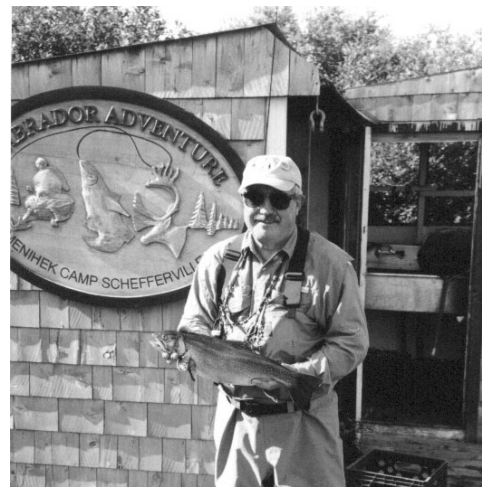
Inge's 6# Atlantic Salmon



Stream Buddies



Bernard & Wolf with a fine Brookie



3-1/2# Brookie



A "Big" Brookie prior to release



Tom releasing a fine Brookie

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## AMERICA'S MOST ENDANGERED FISHERIES ANNOUNCED

LIVINGSTON, MONTANA - Some of America's finest fisheries are also among its most endangered, according to the Federation of Fly Fishers which today announced its annual list of the nation's most threatened fish habitats.

"A large share of our freshwater and marine fish species are at serious risk of damage and possible extinction," said spokesman Bob Molzahn, FFF's Endangered Fisheries Coordinator. "These ecosystems not only provide us with recreation, they also sustain our economy. More than that, a fishery is an indicator of how well we manage our water resources for drinking water supply, irrigation, land use and industrial development. Water that can't sustain a fishery is not suitable to drink, irrigate crops, or manufacture products. There is no substitute."

This year, three fisheries stand out among the hundreds of rivers and lakes devastated by human neglect and abuse.

1. Yellowstone Lake, Wyoming
2. Klamath River, Oregon and California
3. Gulf of Mexico

### YELLOWSTONE LAKE

Home to the largest inland population of cutthroat trout in the world, Yellowstone Lake is at dire risk of losing a native species that is responsible for sustaining many creatures, from grizzly bears to bald eagles.

"Non-native lake trout, that were introduced to Yellowstone Lake many years earlier have been decimating this unique cutthroat fishery" said Molzahn. "Federal funds for a gill netting program aimed at controlling the lake trout population have been eliminated from the budget. The loss of these funds put the cutthroat trout population in Yellowstone Lake at serious risk of extinction. These funds need to be restored to preserve this unique fishery."

### KLAMATH RIVER

A vast and remarkable fish and wildlife habitat straddling Oregon and California, the Klamath River was once the third most productive salmon river system in the United States. But agricultural runoff, damming, water diversion and logging have reduced the once abundant salmon runs to less than 10% of their historic size. Prized species such as coho salmon are now listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

"For the minor economic benefit of sustaining a small and false desert economy, we are hammering a once multi-billion dollar a year fishing industry, threatening all recreational opportunities, and destroying one of nature's most magnificent buffers," said Molzahn.

### GULF OF MEXICO

As one of the world's most important fisheries, the Gulf suffers from over-harvesting, loss of critical habitats and destructive trawling techniques. That damage extends throughout the U.S. Gulf Coast, from Key West, Florida to Brownsville, Texas. It also encompasses all variety of habitats, from sandy beaches to open sea, from coral reef to coastal estuaries.

Pollution from America's heartland is spewing into the Gulf at an appalling rate, creating a "dead" zone that covers thousands of square miles along the Texas-Louisiana coast. The problem is a vast algae bloom fed by excessive nitrogen and other pollutants that enter the Gulf from the Mississippi River. When the algae dies, decomposition depletes the water of oxygen, killing all marine life in the region.

"Tighter control on non-point source pollution caused by runoff released into our watersheds is essential," said Molzahn. "This requires toughening federal clean water standards. But because the source of this problem extends even to the suburban lawn, significant efforts at public education are also needed to explain to each citizen the importance of using even common materials such as fertilizers with care and restraint."

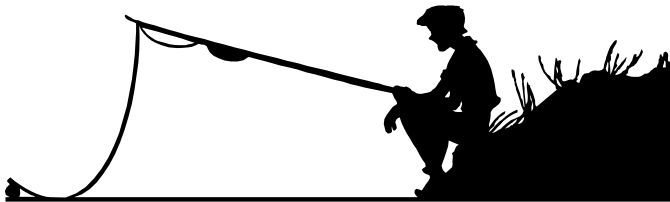
The Federation of Fly Fishers is the voice of the millions of people who fly fish throughout the world. The Federation is dedicated to supporting fisheries research and restoration, improved water quality and flows, the perpetuation of wild fishery stocks, catch-and-release angling regulations where appropriate, and the establishment of a more adequate voice for angling interests. Contact: 406-585-7592 or email: [fffoffice@fedflyfishers.org](mailto:fffoffice@fedflyfishers.org)

## THANKS TO THE FFF

River Network wants to pass along our sincere thanks to the members of the Federation of Fly Fishers for their generous support of the Three Dollar Bridge conservation project on Montana's Madison River. I'm very pleased to report that the project has been successfully completed -- this fantastic stretch of the Madison, with three miles of river front on outstanding fly water, is now under ownership of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, permanently protected and forever open to public access. Your membership should be deservedly proud of their efforts to help achieve this important conservation outcome.

Best regards,

Hugh Zackheim  
Northern Rockies Director, River Network



### Quotes;

"I have one DRY FLY that works so well, the government only allows me to tie a limited number per year; and they must be placed in military survival kits."

- D. Van Buren

## 2003 The First Annual Fly Fishing and Traditional Archers Show

Saturday, January 11, 2003 10 am - 7 pm  
Sunday, January 12, 2003 10 am - 4 pm

BIRCH RUN EXPO CENTER

Fly fishing equipment, fly tying and casting  
demo's

Traditional archery equipment and demo's

Casting pond and archery range  
Dozens of fly fishing and traditional archery  
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Presentations each day by:

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Adults \$7.00

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Free Parking

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Gary Wescott (810) 659-9285 or 869-4408  
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The Greater Flint Muddler Minnows  
Traditional Archers

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