



Flygirls of Michigan, Inc. is dedicated to providing women with educational, recreational, and stewardship opportunities in the sport of fly fishing.

Find us on Facebook



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From the President by Ann Miller

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Flygirls is a 100% Fly Fishers International club

After a year of lockdown, we are cautiously beginning to plan our year. I hope you will be able to join Flygirls this year for one of our fishing outings. Fishing is a good way to be socially distant anyways, however we will still use caution during our social gatherings. I've seen through social media that many friends have gotten their vaccinations, so I'm excited to see you all and interact with you this year.

This newsletter contains information on signing up for five different events, but also mark your calendars now for our upcoming celebration of 25 years as a club. We will gather at the Rockwell Lake Lodge in Luther on the weekend of September 17-19. We are planning a fun party with door prizes, raffles, and an auction, as well as good food and maybe even some live music. You won't want to miss this soiree!

Some of us have been getting together via Zoom on Saturday mornings to tie flies with Tim Scott as our virtual instructor. Feel free to join us as we will continue tying through winter. Besides tying some new patterns, Tim has helped the group with various techniques which have helped us all to improve. It has been nice to 'see' each other as well and chat a bit... almost like old times.

Speaking of fly boxes, make sure you are prepped and ready for the fly fishing opener. Now is a good time to go through your vest or pack and get prepped for 2021. Out with the really old leaders and tippetts, rusty hooks, and mostly crushed granola bars. Change out your flashlight batteries. Update your spring fly box and make sure you have all your flies ready for the opener: Blue Wing Olive, Hendrickson, Little Mahogany, Short-Horned Sedge, Black Caddis, and Early Brown Stonefly. Use a little Dawn dish soap and soft cloth in a tub to wash the algae and grime off your fly lines from last fall. Purchase your fishing license and trout stamp. Look inside your reels and clean out any sand or dirt that may have accumulated. It sounds like work, but it's a good way to dream of what's ahead.

If you would like to become more involved with Flygirls, we eagerly welcome your efforts. Feel free to contact any of the board members to find out how you can help. You can join the board or help with one of our events or outings. It's fun and a great way to meet new fishing friends. I truly hope to see you on the river this year.





Event	Location	Cost	Date	Contact
Winter Retreat	Barothy Walhalla, MI	\$210	CANCELLED	Sheila Bergdoll sbergdoll@msn.com
Midwest Fly Fishing Expo	Warren, MI	Volunteers Needed	CANCELLED	Lisa Paisley lmpaisley@yahoo.com
Spring Steelhead with Feenstra Guide Service	Gerber Guest House Fremont, MI	\$415 for 2 nights & guided fishing	April 9 th -11 th	Susan Sears sstefano.54@gmail.com
Southeast Tie-a-Thon	Remote This Year Fer	Volunteers Needed	Through May 22nd	Mary Lou Rogala mrogala07@gmail.com
Intro to Fly Fishing Classes	TBD	TBD	TBD	Nancy Lounds yoopnancy@aol.com
Fullers Hendrickson Trout Outing	Fullers NBOC Lovells, MI	\$210	May 14 th -16 th	Joy Lind Joy@spectero.net
Au Sable River Trout Outing	Wa Wa Sum Grayling Twp, MI	\$50 deposit-\$170 total	May 30 th - June 2 nd	Colleen Jenkins crowjenkins@comcast.net
Flygirls Camping Trip	White Cloud County Park White Cloud, MI	\$30	June 11 th – 13 th	Karen Kleinheksel K2edits@gmail.com
DNR Fisheries Day	DNR Adventure Center Detroit, MI	Volunteers Needed	June 26 th	Mary Lou Rogala mrogala07@gmail.com
Grayling Panfish (KP Lake) opt: Wakeley	Old Au Sable Fly Shop Grayling, MI	\$90	July 16 th -18 th	Lisa Paisley lmpaisley@yahoo.com
Casting for Recovery	Barothy Lodge Walhalla, MI	Volunteers Needed	August 29 th 8am-3pm	Ann Miller AnnRMiller@aol.com
Au Sable River Clean-up	Gates Au Sable Lodge Grayling, MI	Volunteers Needed	Sept. 11 th	Gayle Yerge-Cole glycole@aol.com
Flygirls 25 th Anniversary	Rockwell Lodge Luther, MI	TBD	Sept 17 th -19 th	Colleen Jenkins crowjenkins@comcast.net
Fall Steelhead Outing	Pere Marquette River Lodge Baldwin, MI	TBD	November 5 th -7 th	Lindy Ihrman lindy.ihrman@gmail.com

BY PROVIDING A DEPOSIT YOU ARE COMMITTING TO AN EVENT. IF YOU CANCEL, YOUR DEPOSIT MAY BE FORFEITED IF YOU OR FLYGIRLS CANNOT FIND ANOTHER PARTICIPANT FOR THE EVENT.

Join us for Spring Steelhead April 9th-11th

Our 2021 steelhead trip is planned for April 9th through the 11th. There are only a few spots left as many rolled over their deposits from last year's canceled trip. Those of you that are registered have received an email.

About our trip... we are planning to meet at the beautiful Gerber Guest House in Fremont on Friday, fish with Kevin Feenstra's guide service on Saturday on the Muskegon, and depart on Sunday after breakfast.



The Gerber Guest House was originally two homes during World War II. One of the homes was where the first Gerber food jars were made and cooked in its beautiful kitchen. In 1937, a breezeway was added to connect the two houses and in 1955 the Gerber family moved to a different house. In the 1970s, renovations were made. A bathroom was added to every bedroom. So yes, each of you will have your own bedroom and bathroom. Also, there are two fully equipped kitchens, two large living rooms, and many smaller day spaces.

There is a lot of history in this home. The town of Fremont has many areas to walk to, and shopping is available.

We plan to enjoy an evening of fellowship with pizza and salad on Friday evening. Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday will be a continental type of breakfast. The home provides milk, eggs, yogurt, cereal, oatmeal, toast, bagels, English muffins, fresh fruit, etc. They do not cook; we can eat or cook what we want. Saturday lunch is with your guide. The Saturday dinner will be out to dinner somewhere if we can, or we can have food delivered to the house - depending on what we decide to do - the cost of the dinner is not included.



So if you're interested please email me at [sstefano.54@gmail.com](mailto:ssstefano.54@gmail.com) and send your deposit \$215.00 to hold your spot and the remaining \$200.00 April 1st...there are only a few spots left so act quick!!! Looking forward to another amazing steelhead adventure! Make your check payable to Flygirls. Mail your check to Susan Sears. She will provide her address when you contact her. Deposits are non-refundable unless we can find someone to take your spot.

Fuller's Hendrickson Outing May 14th-16th

We are so blessed to relax, fish and enjoy ourselves once again at the historical Fuller North Branch Outing Club in Lovells, Michigan for the 9th year in a row. We have reserved seven rooms with two shared bathrooms for fourteen Flygirls to attend.



Arrival starts Friday afternoon around 3 p.m. You can just relax or head out to fish right next to the lodge.

We will offer a **'Refresh your Cast'** class on Friday evening on the lawn.

Around 6:30 we will have dinner consisting of ham sliders, tossed salad and coleslaw. As we relax in the great room and enjoy dessert of cheesecake, we can work on tying a few different knots. This should get you ready for the next day fishing.

Fly tying vises and supplies make their appearance on the old wooden table for some evening of sipping and tying. Everyone is welcome to join. One of the Flygirls may even provide materials and give instructions on tying a specific fly.

Saturday morning Judy provides us with a great breakfast to start out our fishing day. Lunch is on your own. After returning from your day of fishing, Judy brings out the white linen tablecloth and a wonderful dinner with dessert.



If you would like to book a guide, you can pair up with another Flygirl and book it through Fullers fly shop by calling 989-348-7951 or let me (Joy) know if I can be any help. In addition, you can book a half day float with Rebecca Sunshine by calling 989-217-1716. There is also great wadeable fishing in the area that some of the girls will tackle as well as form into small groups to fish.

Sunday morning Judy will provide another wonderful breakfast. Afterwards, either head home or fish again!

Be sure to bring 3-5 weight rods, reels, line, leaders, tippet 3-5x, wading staff, waders, boots and weather appropriate clothing. Remember that there is a fly shop in the building if you need anything. We always like to support our local shops. If you have the book called Hatch Guide for Upper Midwest Streams by our own Ann Miller, pack that too. Towels and bedding are provided.

This May event always fills up fast. The cost is \$210.00 To reserve your spot, mail a non-refundable deposit of \$150.00 made out to **Flygirls of Michigan** and mail to Joy Lind, 8659 Johnson Rd., Kaleva, MI 49465.

Au Sable River Trout Outing May 30th- June 2nd

Flygirls return once again to Camp Wa Wa Sum on May 30th – June 2nd on the banks of the “Holy Waters” on the Au Sable River in Grayling, Michigan.



The outing will focus on the Au Sable River system in the Grayling and Lovells areas, covering river history, fly patterns and fishing accesses to the main, south & north branches of the Au Sable River. There will be plenty of time to fish the spring hatches, tie a few flies or just kick back in one of the rocking chairs on the screened in porch overlooking the “Holy Waters” with a good book.

Sleeping arrangements are dorm style, so bring your own bedding or sleeping bag and towels. We will have the use of refrigeration if needed, and you are welcome to bring adult beverages. I will be sending out a packing list and maps after registration is closed.

Camp Wa Wa Sum is a Michigan State University conference center, a research conference center, and a research facility used by the departments of Fisheries and Wildlife and Forestry department of Fisheries and Wildlife and Forestry. It is located on the Au Sable River, 6 miles east of Grayling. The rustic surroundings of Camp Wa Wa Sum, and beautiful Au Sable River provide a pleasant setting for this outing.



If you would like to book a float trip, I can help you get together with others that would like to share a float. The float trips are not included in the cost of event.

These are highly recommended guides in the area:
 Fuller’s North Branch Outing Club at www.fullersnboc.com
 Gates Au Sable Lodge at www.gateslodge.com
 Old Au Sable Fly Shop at www.oldausable.com

WaWaSum Event, May 30th – June 2nd; cost is \$170 per person which includes:
 3 Nights Lodging: Sunday, Monday and Tuesday
 Breakfast each day
 Dinner: Sunday, Monday and Tuesday
Lunches are not provided

Name _____
 E-mail _____
 Address _____
 City _____ St. _____ Zip _____
 Phone # _____
 Emergency contact _____

Make checks payable to: Flygirls
 Total enclosed \$ _____

Deposit of \$50.00 due April 20, 2021 (call if past deadline) and the balance of \$120 is due May 20, 2021. Deposits are non-refundable unless we can find someone to fill your spot. Mail to: Colleen Jenkins 718 Whitney Brighton MI 48116

If you have any concerns or questions feel free to contact me.
 Colleen Jenkins, 810-923-7311 or crowjenkins@comcast.net

Fishing on the White River and Camping Outing June 5th - June 13th

The 2021 Flygirls Camping Trip will be at the White Cloud County Park, on the White River, June 11-13. White Cloud is 15 minutes north of Newaygo.



Visit, <http://www.countyofnewaygo.com/ParksAndRecreation.aspx>

Click on White Cloud Park in the list on the right for Park information. I have reserved the Group Camping Site. (It's the small "G" on the far left of the park map.) There are flush toilets and showers, but no electricity at the Group Site.

We can wade fish in the White River, and it is good for kayaking, with a 3-mile paddle from the campground to Flowing Waters park. There is a good hiking trail that connects to the North Country Trail. If anyone wants to book a guide trip on the Muskegon River, there are many guides in the area, and we will be 15 minutes north of Newaygo. Another fun stop is the sporting goods store, 37 North, in Newaygo.



The cost is \$30 per person, which will include the



group campsite and Friday and Saturday dinners. We will do Saturday and Sunday breakfasts together, and will figure out who brings what later. Lunches are on your own. If you would like to reserve an individual campsite on your own, that will be in addition to the event fee. You can pay at the event, by cash or check made out to Flygirls.

Each vehicle must purchase a Newaygo County Park sticker (available at the campground). The cost is \$15 for 3 days, or \$30 for an annual pass

<https://northcountrytrail.org/our-work/trail-towns/white-cloud/>

email or call Karen Kleinheksel to sign up and if you have questions.

kkleinheksel@yahoo.com

616-822-8778

Grayling Pan Fish and Au Sable Trout July 16th - July 18th

We'll be in Grayling to fish KP Lake for bass and bluegills (Saturday) the weekend of July 16th - 18th. Expect to fish the Au Sable for browns on Friday and Saturday nights. You can also fish Wakeley with us on Sunday.



We are switching it up a bit and heading to KP Lake on Saturday. We can park our cars and unload our gear right next to the access point! KP Lake is easier to put in than Wakeley, as you move directly from parking lot to a gravelly lake bed at the access point. KP Lake is a small, long, thin lake, located near Jones Lake campground and Fullers.

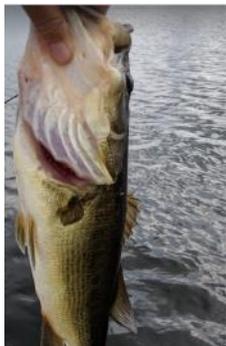
We have two nights lodging at the Old Au Sable Fly Shop. The cost is \$90 for two nights lodging, two breakfasts, and Saturday lunch. Plan for pocket money for Friday and Saturday dinners out as they are not included. If you prefer to camp - Keystone and Hartwick Pines are popular places. If you're not staying with us, and would like to join us for KP Lake, let me know by Wednesday July 14th and I'll have lunch for you (\$5).



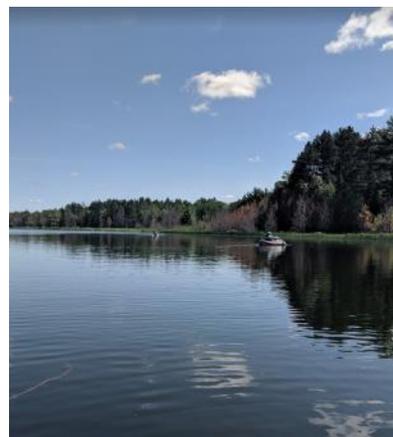
We can carpool from Old Au Sable to KP lake. KP Lake requires a Michigan Recreational passport—available when renewing your driver's license, or at the DNR. I recommend it as local lakes and access areas for the Au Sable river require it.

If anyone needs to borrow gear, let me know - I have extra float tubes, flippers and life vests. I'll bring them upon request - don't be shy. I have several. Fishing from a float tube is easy. As a beginner I enjoyed catching fish, and not having to mend! If you've never fished from a float tube, ask questions and see my article on page

10 of our Spring 2017 newsletter <http://flygirls.ws/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/flygirlsissue1-2017.pdf>



Nearby Kneff Lake/Twin Lake also provide awesome pan fishing (and you can keep what you catch there). Of course, the Au Sable river is very close by.



is to

We typically split up on Sunday morning - either checking out Grayling or fishing a favorite spot before departing. I plan to head to Wakeley Lake on Sunday, and all are welcome to join me there.

Hope you can join us at the Old Au Sable Lodge! Contact Lisa Paisley at lpaisley@yahoo.com to secure your spot with a \$45 deposit.

Fly Fishing Clothing and Gear List

Clothing – no cotton!! and drab colors that match the landscape

- Waders – chest waders with wading belt preferred
- Wading Boots – neoprene wader feet to fit inside
- Raincoat – water and wind resistant
- Warm socks
- Hat with a brim (not white)
- Layers – long underwear, wick-away clothing, fleece, sunpro shirts
- Gloves – full finger or fingertip less
- Buff – neck protection from cold and/or sun
- Polarized sunglasses
- Reading glasses (possibly stronger than you read with)

Fishing Gear

- Rod – 9 ft 5 weight
- Reel – to match the rod weight
- Fly Line – weight forward to match the rod weight
- Vest, Sling Pack, Back Pack, or Waist Pack
- Fly Boxes with flies – put your name and phone number on the box!
- Retractors to hang tools from vest or pack:
- Nippers
- Hemostat / Forceps
- Fly Floatant
- Strike Indicators: Thingamabobbers or Yarn for nymphing or other
- Weights for nymphing (non-toxic/lead type)
- Dry Shake to dry off dry flies when wet
- Extra leader – monofilament recommended, 7 ½ foot or 9 foot, 3X, 4X or 5X
- Tippet spool – fluorocarbon recommended, 3X, 4X, 5X, 6X
- Wading staff
- Landing net – can hook to your vest or pack, rubber ghost net (not mesh)
- Safety pin or needle – helps to clear the eye of the hook or to untangle knots
- Stream thermometer
- Net for seining bugs

Carry With You

- Yearly Michigan Fishing License (do not fish without it!!)
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray / Insect Repellent
- Lip Balm
- Hand Lotion – your hands get dried out in the sun and water
- Whistle – if you need help
- Snacks / Lunch
- Water
- Waterproof Pouch to carry phone, camera
- Hand / Toe warmers
- Small flashlight
- Tissues (you know why!)
- Hand sanitizer (you know why!)

Know Where You are Going

- Maps
- Weather
- Stream flows
- Consult with local fly shops on water condition/flow, flies to use, hot spots, weather
- State fishing regulations

The 15th annual Tie-a-thon focuses on nationwide Trout Unlimited Youth Camps

On May 22nd, 2021, many avid fly tyers will come together to tie as many flies as they can for the all Trout Unlimited Youth Camps held across the United States.

All the flies tied from the Tie-A-Thon 15 will be distributed to Youth Camps across the country via the tional coordinator. A Summer Camp Created for Young People interested in Fishing

The summer camps are created for young people interested in fishing; which includes a comprehensive fly fishing curriculum and draw upon the expertise and commitment of professional fly tiers, fishing guides, and experienced TU volunteers. All levels of experience are welcome at TU's camps, and the goal is to have fun, learn a lot, and make friends with other young fly fishers.

For more information, check out <https://ww.tu.org/camps>

For more Tie-a-thon information, visit sivrff.com or Tie-a-thon on Facebook.

The premise of the Tie-a-thon is like an old fashion barn raisin', with several tyers tying as many flies as the can for the cause.

Joining forces again this year to tie flies are members of: St. Joseph River Valley Fly Fishers, The Little Elkhart Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Duneland Fly Fishers, DuPage Fly Tyers (DRIFT), Flygirls of Michigan, Kalamazoo Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, The Brotherhood of the Jungle Cock; Reel Women, Reel Men of Indianapolis, Grand River Fly Tyers, Anglers of the Au Sable, and many more individuals tyers.

A bunch of tyers come together to tie 100 flies per person on a Saturday and at the end of the day, we try our very best to surpass our previous all-time high of 20,300 flies.

If you are interested, pick just one pattern to tie, buy a box of 100 hooks, the materials and get tying! To get you through the day, Chef Terry Wittorp will have a spectacular lunch for all the tyers, worth at least 200 flies, but we will provide it to you for free!

Everyone is welcome, but please let us know so we can plan for lunch.

Also, so you're not too bored just tying, we will have a guest tier every other hour show off his or her special pattern. We will have a video system set up to view from your tying station. The Tie-a-thon will last from 9:00am to 5:00pm.

If you are not a fast tyer and can't complete your 100 flies in that time, this is a good time to get a jump on your flies. We would certainly take more than 100 from anyone if they are ambitious and want to tie flies in advance.



Fly Patterns

Pick a pattern, tie 100 and donate	
Pattern	Hook Size
Adams	18 - 14
Ants	20 - 16
Beetle	18 - 12
Blue Winged Olive Emerger	20 - 16
Clouser	6 - 4
Copper John	18 - 12
Elk Hair Caddis	18 - 16
Hare's Ear	14 - 12
Hopper	14 - 8
Mickey Finn	8 - 4
Pat's Rubber Legs	12 - 4
Pheasant Tail	18 - 14
Prince Nymph	18 - 12
Scud/Sow Bug	18 - 12
Soft Hackle	18 - 14
Squirmy Worm	14 - 10
Wooly Buggler	10 - 6

It's Time To Renew Your Michigan Fishing License!!

No need to wait in line—you can renew online!

Go to: <http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/> and select “Buy a License Online”



Fly Fishing Clubs in Your Area

Flygirls! There are many regional fly fishing clubs that meet monthly or bimonthly that you might want to check out. Many offer fly tying classes or even casting classes. Here are a few that you might want to consider. This is by NO MEANS a comprehensive list and we hope to grow it with subsequent newsletters (so send us your submissions if a club you frequent is not listed!).

Michigan Fly Fishing Club: <https://mffc.org/news> Offers speaker/presentations as well as activity nights. Meets in Livonia.

Red Cedar Fly Fishers: <http://redcedarflyfishers.org> Monthly meetings on the campus of Michigan State University.

West Michigan Hacklers: <https://www.facebook.com/westmichiganhacklers> Primarily a fly tying club, meets bimonthly at Crystal Valley Township Hall (Pentwater area).

Membership Info:

To become a Flygirl you must first be a member of Fly Fishers International. To join FFI, go to the website flyfishersinternational.org and click on the link at the top of their page to JOIN. You will be issued a card in the US Mail with your FFI# that is needed to join Flygirls. Sign on to the Flygirls website and provide your personal contact information there. There is no cost to join Flygirls after you have paid to be a member of FFI.

Flygirls Policy on Event Deposits:

When Flygirls runs an event it often has to commit to lodging and/or guides well in advance of the event and make down payments toward the final cost. We then ask for deposits when you sign up for an event. In the event you decide to cancel your attendance at an event, your deposit will only be returned to you if you or Flygirls is able to secure another participant for the event.