



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



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/166505544798>

## From the President *by Ann Miller*

## Inside this issue:

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Flygirls is a 100% Fly Fishers International club

With Thanksgiving behind us and the end of the year looming, it was comforting that Flygirls was able to resume some normalcy regarding our gatherings in 2022. While we did have to cancel a couple of outings in our early calendar (Covid and/or weather), we did manage to hold several events. We have been requesting that members test themselves for Covid before attending an outing so that we can all relax, especially at events that are held primarily indoors. Let's hope that we have continued success in the future.

I am looking forward to fly tying virtually with many of you again. We will start up mid-January and end in early April. As long as you have some basic tying skills, you will be able to manage this class. Many patterns are quite basic with a few that are more challenging. We discuss when and how to fish the specific pattern also. There is a little socializing at the beginning and end of each class. All in all, a good time on wintry Saturday mornings.

Show season is approaching in 2023 and as always Flygirls will host a booth at the Midwest Fly Fishing Show in Warren, MI. This is a great show with free seminars, casting ponds, and plenty of new products that will be on display and for sale. I hope to see you there.

Our winter retreat is also coming up in February and will be held at Barothy's in Walhalla on the scenic Pere Marquette River. Fly tying instruction will be featured throughout the weekend as well as plenty of socializing. Many people enjoy skiing, hiking, or snowshoeing over the weekend as well. Always a fun time, especially when Joy Lind is in charge.

Flygirls is successful because of the dedication of its board members. The board is a working board—no figureheads allowed! Each board member has some sort of responsibility such as assisting with or taking charge of an event. Some members work behind the scenes, helping with social media, newsletter, website, ordering merchandise, and bookkeeping. Many hands make light work as the saying goes, and we are in need of more board members to help spread our workload. If you think that you would like to volunteer in some way, please reach out to any board member or send me an email ([info@flygirls.ws](mailto:info@flygirls.ws)). Currently, we meet by zoom 3-4 times a year for about an hour, in addition to whatever duty you take on. Getting involved is a great way to meet and befriend other women who love fly fishing, so give it a thought!

Have a wonderful holiday with family and friends. I hope to see you on the river in 2023.

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Event	Location	Cost	Date	Contact
Winter Retreat	Barothy Lodge Walhalla, MI	\$215	February 10-12	Joy Lind joy@spectero.net
Midwest Fly Fishing Expo	Warren, MI	Volunteers Needed	March 11-12	Lisa Paisley lmpaisley@yahoo.com
Spring Steelhead with Feenstra Guide Service	Gerber Guest House Fremont, MI	\$425	April 14-16	Susan Sears sstefano.54@gmail.com
Southeast Tie-a-Thon	TBD	Volunteers Needed	TBD	Lou Rogala mrogala07@gmail.com
Fullers Hendrickson Trout Outing	Fullers NBOC Lovells, MI	TBD	May 19-21	Mindy Vesoulis Sweetmindylee@gmail.com
Wa Wa Sum	Wa Wa Sum Grayling Twp, MI	TBD	June 8-11	Colleen Jenkins crowjenkins@comcast.net
Camping Trip	Northern Exposure Campground Mesick, MI	TBD	June 10-12	Karen Kleinheksel K2edits@gmail.com
DNR Fisheries Day	DNR Adventure Center Detroit, MI	Volunteers Needed	June 24	Lou Rogala mrogala07@gmail.com
Grayling Panfish and Au Sable Trout	Old Au Sable Fly Shop Grayling, MI	TBD	TBD	Lisa Paisley lmpaisley@yahoo.com
Casting for Recovery	Barothy Lodge Walhalla, MI	Volunteers Needed	August 27 8am-3pm	Ann Miller Info@flygirls.ws
Au Sable River Clean-up	Gates Au Sable Lodge Grayling, MI	Volunteers Needed	Sept 9	Mindy Barricklow-Vesoulis sweetmindylee@gmail.com
Fall Fishing Event	TBD	TBD	TBD	Michelle Yelovina kcyel@msn.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.**

## Annual Fall Meeting Re-cap by Michelle Yelovina

This year the annual fundraiser was held at the beautiful Barothy's Lodge in Walhalla, Michigan. For those of you who have never been, it is a stunning property that has almost 7 miles of the wild and scenic Pere Marquette River running through it.



Joy Lind and Jennifer Engstrom who won the rod Joy embellished.

We had three of the property's lodges almost filled with a wonderful mix of new and seasoned gals, who came together to fish for the ever elusive steelhead, or anything that may take interest in the fly we were trying to present to them. At the end of the day: steelhead/trout-1,

Flygirls-0, but laughing and learning about friends old and new, was really the best catch of the day. Our weather was gorgeous and the food, catered by Deb and her wonderful team at Pere Marquette Bistro of Reed City, was fantastic.



Jennifer Engstrom with the "prize" rooster.

Joy did a phenomenal job procuring donations that included items such as two rods by Moonlite, a night at the North Branch Outing Club and a float trip, just to name a few. MC, Ann Miller, made a few gals happy by picking their ticket for some of those coveted items. But our hot item ticket was the beautiful rod embellished by our amazing Joy Lind and won by Jennifer Engstrom.

All said and done, by the end of the night, we had raised over \$2000.00. Sunday was another glorious day and after a breakfast and a parting of the ways, a few die-hard fisherwomen wet a line to see if they could tie the score and get some tight lines and bended rods. 'Til next year, you crafty steelhead...



Ann Miller trying to tie the score!

### Flygirls is now on Venmo!

We are excited to announce that Flygirls of Michigan is now on Venmo. You may continue to register for events by contacting the event host and submitting any payment by a check written to Flygirls of Michigan. For those who prefer to use Venmo:

1. Contact the event host to ensure that there is a spot available. The event host will hold your spot for 24 hours.
2. Go to Venmo.com and pay "Flygirls of Michigan, Inc." @ FlygirlsMichigan
3. You will receive an email confirmation of the payment.
4. Forward that email to the event host within 24 hours. The event host will reply to your email confirming that you are registered.

Please keep in mind that Flygirls pays a fee to Venmo for all transactions and any refunds will be less this fee.



## Virtual Fly Tying with Tim Scott and Ann Miller

It's that time of year! Virtual fly tying will begin Saturday, January 14 at 9:30 am. Last year we charged a fee for materials, and we will do so again this year. You are also welcome to participate for free and supply your own materials each week.

Once again, Tim Scott and I will provide teaching demos and discussion of when and why to fish a particular pattern. If you would like to see a pattern or technique demonstrated, feel free to make a request. We are still in the process of putting together the list of flies for the class.

Each week we will tie one pattern and then provide a few basic variations. You will have approximately enough materials in each packet to tie 5-6 flies. During the class, you will have time to tie 2-3 flies and then be able to tie additional flies on your own time.

Each week I will provide the recipe for the Saturday pattern either by email or Facebook post. Classes will be recorded and stored for a couple of weeks. Links will be provided on the Facebook club page.

The class is designed for anyone that has basic tying skills. Our first class will be a 'warm-up' on techniques and materials while tying an essential fly pattern so that we can get cobwebs out - after that, we will be forging ahead! We will present 9-10 classes total and each session will last 60-90 minutes. It is a relaxed environment and questions are encouraged.

If you wish to participate, please reply to **Ann** [info@flygirls.ws](mailto:info@flygirls.ws) with your name and mailing address. Send me a check for \$35 and I will send you a packet of materials (if you prefer to Venmo me, indicate that in your email). Please reply no later than December 15th as it takes a while to order hooks and materials as well as to put packets together and mail them.

Ann Miller  
140 Higman Park HL  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

There are 2 dates that we will **NOT** meet due to fly fishing show commitments: February 11th, and March 12th. The final session will wrap up April 1st.

Mark **Saturday, January 14** at **9:30 am** on your calendar. Bring your coffee and join in!

### NEW BEES



If you sign up for an event and have questions or concerns about gear, techniques, flies or fishing with someone, just request a Flygirl buddy from the event chair. You will be connected to a Flygirl who will be available to help you before and during the event. We all have been beginner new and want you to comfortable.

## Winter Retreat February 10-12

Flygirls Winter Retreat is scheduled for February 10-12, 2023. Check in is Friday at 4pm and check out is Sunday at 11am.



We are headed back to the wonderful Turkey cabin at Barrothy Lodge in Walhalla. There are trails you can hike and/or snowshoe right on the lodge grounds. Fishing the Pere Marquette River is another option. In the past gals have caught fish right from the banks. Turkey has a hot tub on the lower level for us to enjoy. So, pack your swimsuit and towel.

We have room for 10 Flygirls to attend. The cost is \$215.00. Now you can pay your registration fee to attend an event through Venmo. (See article at the bottom of page 3 on how to pay with Venmo.)

I have asked Jacob McMillon to be our guest tying instructor. He will provide us with kits to make articulated flies. Ruth Coates will also be instructing other flies of your choice. Yes, your choice! Do you have a fly you would like to learn to tie? Let me know and we will put together kits and give them a try together.



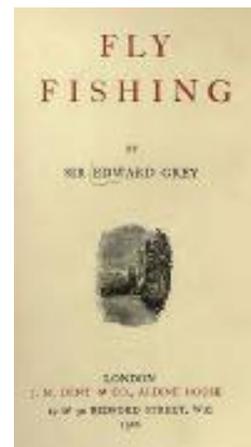
It has worked out good in the past to spread the load of meals and work. Ruth and I will provide Friday dinner of two soups choices and corn bread and a dessert. Three gals will create Saturday brunch, three gals will provide Saturday dinner and two gals will provide for Sunday breakfast. We all are there to give a helping hand.

A Zoom meeting will be scheduled two weeks before the event to 'meet and greet' each other virtually and go over last minute details and questions you may have.

Joy Lind  
Event Coordinator

There is only one theory about angling in which I have perfect confidence, and this is that the two words, least appropriate to any statement, are the words "always" and "never".

Lord Grey of Fallodon  
Fly-Fishing (1899)



## Spring Steelhead February 14-16

Our 2023 steelhead trip is planned for April 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. We are planning to meet at the beautiful Gerber Guest House in Fremont on Friday, fish with Kevin Feenstra Guide Service on Saturday on the Muskegon River, and depart on Sunday after breakfast.



The historic 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. The town of Fremont has many areas to walk to, and shopping is available.

We plan to enjoy an evening of fellowship beginning 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 Saturday's dinner is not included. Please let me know of any food allergies so we can plan accordingly.



The cost of the trip is \$425.00. If you're interested please email Susan Sears [sstefano.54@gmail.com](mailto:sstefano.54@gmail.com) and include your name and contact information. A deposit of \$225.00 will hold your spot. The remaining \$200.00 will be due March 14<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to another amazing steelhead adventure! Make your check payable to Flygirls and mail to Susan Sears or you can pay by Venmo. (See article at the bottom of page 3 on how to pay with Venmo.) Deposits are non-refundable unless we can find someone to take your spot. We are obligated to pay for all rooms and guiding in advance.

A Zoom meeting will be scheduled two weeks before the event to 'meet and greet' each other virtually and go over last minute details and questions you may have.

### \*\*\*\*\*FLYGIRLS BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP!\*\*\*\*\*

The Board of Directors for Flygirls is a working group of members who help to organize and run events, as well as helping to decide which organizations Flygirls supports monetarily. Over the past few years, we've had some members move on (schedule changes, retirements, etc.) and we would really like to add a few new members to our board. If you would like to help shape the future of Flygirls are willing to help with one of our events please reach out to one of our existing board members and let them know! They say many hands make light work so if you'd like to help out, we welcome you!

## MFFC Expo

### Volunteers Needed! MFFC Expo – March 11th and 12th



Come and see new gear and your friends at the Midwest Fly Fishing Expo in Warren, Michigan. Pretty much everyone that fly fishes in the Midwest will be there along with vendors, fly tiers and many top-notch seminars. 61,000 Square Feet, an indoor casting pond, and over 130 exhibitors. Last year was the first year back after a two-year break.

Flygirls hosts a booth every year. It is where we meet many of our new members. This booth can only happen with the help of volunteers like yourself. So come on down and help! The Flygirls booth is in the middle of the action, and it's nice to see your friends again after the winter break. We will need people both Saturday and Sunday. The show is held at the Warren campus of Macomb Community College.

Shifts are:

Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>: 9-12 or 12-3 or 3-6

Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>: 10-1 or 1-4

You can sign up at <https://volunteersignup.org/J9RYE> You may need to copy and paste this as text into your browser. Our newsletter software adds some extra information that can break the link.

If you're flexible - let me know. Otherwise sign up for a shift that works for you. While we have a limited number of passes, we recommend that volunteers purchase admission to support the show. It's not expensive, and as a 501(c)3 organization, MFFC funds some causes that are near and dear to all of us. If admission cost is deterring you from signing up, let me know privately. It's a GREAT fly-fishing show. Don't miss it!

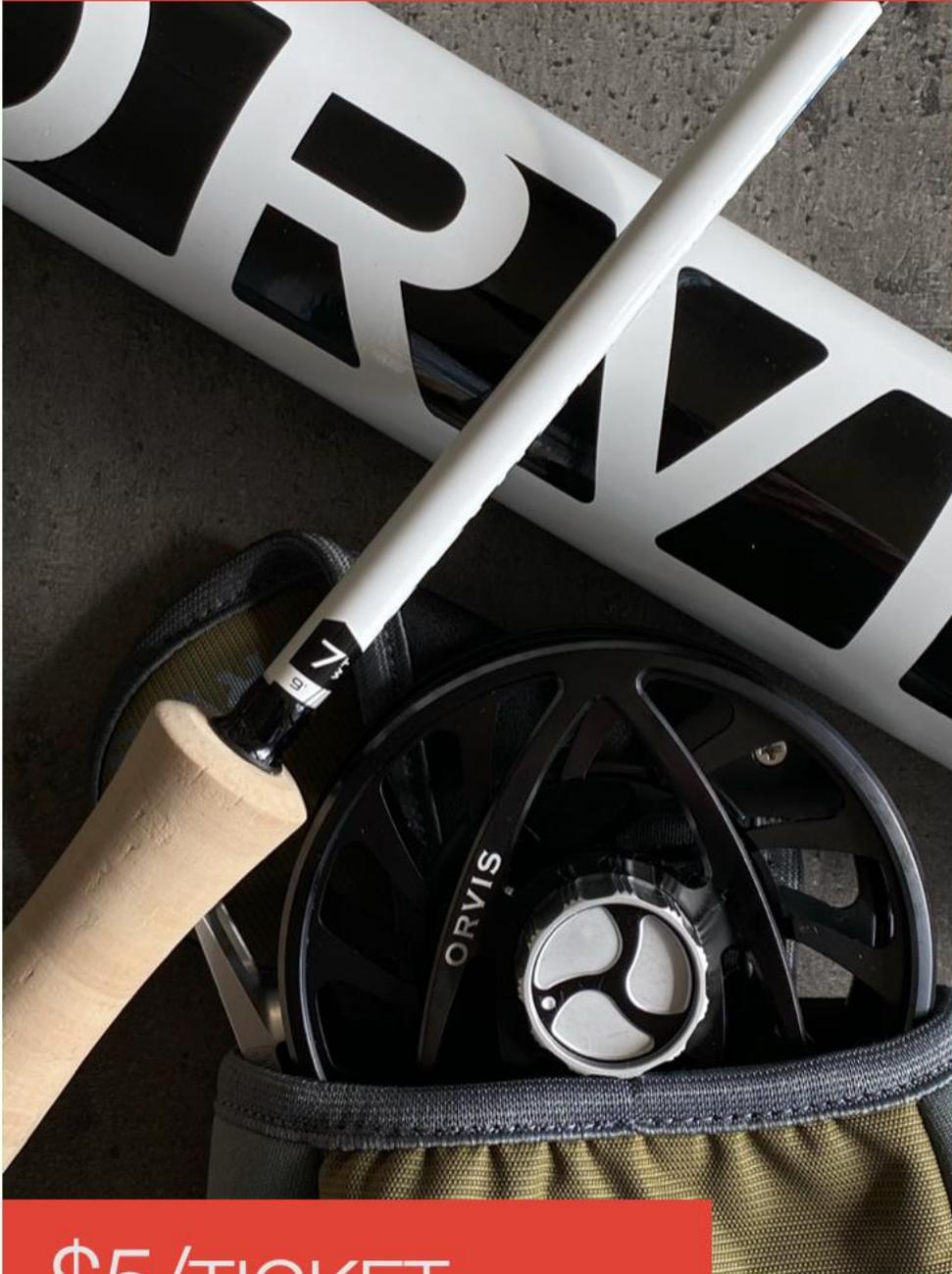
Please contact Lisa Paisley at [Impaisley@yahoo.com](mailto:Impaisley@yahoo.com) with any questions. Thanks!

### Flygirls Raffle 2023 at MFFC Expo

Flygirls has an exciting raffle to entice you in 2023. This year's prize is an exceptional rod & reel package: an Orvis Helios 3D 9 foot, 7 weight fly rod paired with the Mirage LT-IV large arbor reel. The value of this package is \$1,479.00 and you can have the opportunity to own it with the purchase of a \$5.00 ticket. This rod and reel would be perfect for freshwater steelhead, large bass, and pike or for saltwater species such as bonefish.

Casting this rod is a dream, so you might find yourself wanting more than one ticket. You can purchase tickets at the MFFC Expo March 11-12, 2023 at our Flygirls show booth. You can also reach out to Lisa Paisley [Impaisley@yahoo.com](mailto:Impaisley@yahoo.com) if you are interested in tickets but won't be at the show. Proceeds of the raffle will help our club with general operations as well as education and conservation efforts.

# ORVIS MIRAGE LT-IV REEL HELIOS 3D 9 FT, 7 WGT FLY ROD



**\$5/TICKET**  
(VALUE \$1,479)

Winning  
raffle ticket  
will be drawn  
Sunday  
**3/12/23**  
**3:30 pm**  
MFFC Expo  
Center

Need not be  
present to win

Proceeds benefit  
**Flygirls of  
Michigan**

For information on  
purchasing tickets  
contact Lisa Paisley  
[lpaisley@yahoo.com](mailto:lpaisley@yahoo.com)

## Flygirls Camping Trip June 2-4

The Flygirls Camping Trip will be June 2-4, 2023 at Northern Exposure Campground in Mesick, MI.

The campground is located on the Hodenpyle Pond (Manistee River). It's a beautiful campground, with large sites and lots of trees. The sites are close to the water - perfect for kayaks. There is also a boat launch if you are bringing a boat. Species include bluegill, walleye, bass, pike, catfish and sunfish.



For wade fishing, it is a very short drive to fish for trout on the Manistee, at the swing bridge.

Friday night we will have the famous shrimp boil and Saturday night will be choice of hamburgers or salmon burgers, with sides. Lunch will be on your own and we will sign up to bring breakfast provisions. I will figure out cost of meals later - dividing cost for Friday and Saturday dinners.

The cost for the campsites is \$48 per night. Each site will accommodate two camping units, i.e., one trailer and a tent, or two tents (but not two trailers). You can split that cost if there is a camper and a tent (or car camper). Each site comes with one vehicle pass, and additional vehicle passes are \$5. All sites have electricity and water, and there is a dump station. For more information and the campground map refer to [www.northernexposureinc.com](http://www.northernexposureinc.com).

I will try to reserve sites in the 200+ area, which are pull through sites. I will be reserving (and paying) for the campsites on January 15. You can pay me at the event.

Please let me know by January 5 if you would like a campsite, ESPECIALLY if you have a camper/trailer, so I get the right number of sites, and we can all be together.

**There is a cancellation fee of \$10.**



A Zoom meeting will be scheduled two weeks before the event to 'meet and greet' each other virtually and go over last minute details and questions you may have.

Karen Kleinheksel  
616-822-8778  
[Kkleinheksel@yahoo.com](mailto:Kkleinheksel@yahoo.com)

## Tie-A-Thon 2023

It is officially time to start tying flies for Tie-A-Thon 2023! This year, Tie-A-Thon flies will be distributed to three non-profit organizations: The Brotherhood of Jungle Cock - New York chapter, Reeling in Recovery in Atlanta, and The Mayfly Project. Two of these organizations works with youth and one works with adults recovering from addiction. You can read more about Tie-a-Thon on our brand new website: <https://www.tieathon.org/>.

Every year, many Flygirls donate flies to Tie-a-thon and these efforts are greatly appreciated by all of the volunteers involved with the non-profit groups as well as the recipients. Each of the recipient non-profits hosts multiple workshops in a year and use hundreds, if not thousands of flies over the course of a year.

The basic premise of the TAT is to pick a pattern from the list, tie 100 flies, and donate them. If you start now, you can tie a few flies every evening and before you know it, you will have 100. Everyone that submits flies will receive a t-shirt with this year's artwork.

The requested patterns are listed below. The list has been tweaked to fit the specific needs of this year's recipients. Flies can be mailed to Tim Scott, 711 Forest Ave., South Bend, IN 46616 no later than April 22, 2023. The celebratory luncheon will be April 15, 2023 at the Elkhart Conservation Club, 55515 Riviera Dr., Elkhart, IN.



Pick a pattern, tie 100 and donate

Fly Patterns	Hook Size
Adams	18 - 14
Beetles	18 - 14
Blue Winged Olives	22 - 18
Clouser Minnows	8 - 4
Copper John	18 - 12
Chironomid	20 - 14
Elk Hair Caddis	18 - 14
Foam Spiders	18 - 12
Griffith Gnats	22 - 20
Hare's Ear Nymph	16 - 12
Hoppers / Chubby Chernobyl	14 - 10
Beadhead Eggs (trout)	14 - 12
Pat's Rubber Legs	12 - 6
Pheasant Tail	18 - 14
Poppers (Blue Gill & Bass)	14 - 6
Soft Hackles	16 - 14
Sow Bugs	18 - 14
Squirmy Worms	14 - 10
Wooly Buggers	12 - 8

**A special thank you for donating to the Bucket Raffle!**

St. Croix  
Jerry Regan  
Moonlit Fly Fishing  
Ron Damage  
Cabela's  
Dorothy Schramm  
Tim Scott  
Alder Creek Enterprise Inc.  
North Branch Outing Club  
Dr.Slick  
Ruth Coates  
Joy Lind  
Batcke's Manistee River Lodge  
Paul Blanch

Julie Hynes  
Michelle Yelovina  
Mary Lou Rogala  
AuSable on the Fly  
Dr. George Poy  
Big Fly Co.  
Ron Blanch  
Ann Miller  
Colleen Jenkins  
Belinda Friis  
Tina Straw  
Yvette Yelovina  
Judy Verhoeks

**Thank you everyone for a successful annual fundraiser!**





Pamela Mir

Kathy Herman Brummel

Julie Haynes

### 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).

Michigan Trout Unlimited: <https://www.michigantu.org/> Select the Michigan Chapters tab to find a chapter near you.

#### 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](http://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.