



*The Evening*

# Hatch

THE NEWSLETTER of the MICHIGAN FLY FISHING CLUB

May 2007

## 2007 Banquet features Barry & Cathy Beck

The Becks are coming, the Becks are coming.

No we're not talking about Brit soccer superstar David Beckham and his Spice Girl spouse. We're talking about Barry and Cathy Beck, arguably fly fishing's reigning "first family." They've traveled the world over, captured remarkable photographs on and off the water and organized trips to tantalizing destinations about which many of us will only dream.

And now they're coming to the MFFC, headlining the Club's 2007 Banquet on May 16 at Vladimir's. The Becks aren't the only draw, though. There will be prizes aplenty, including the bamboo fly rod created by the self-proclaimed Bamboo Bums at the 2007 Midwest Fly Fishing Expo in March, and other special entertainment.

Tickets are \$40 and are available from Rick Gokenbach. Rick can be contacted via email at [richard.gokenbach@chi.frb.org](mailto:richard.gokenbach@chi.frb.org) or by phone at 313-343-0026 (home); 313-510-4915 (cell); or 313-578-4188.

Dinner choices are Prime Rib, Chicken Siciliano or Orange Roughy.

Barry and Cathy are internationally renowned photographers, authors, and instructors. Check out their web site – [www.barryandcathybeck.com](http://www.barryandcathybeck.com) – to



*Barry and Cathy Beck are internationally acclaimed fly fishers, known for their stunning photographs and prose.*

get a better idea of their work and accomplishments.

In keeping with tradition, the Becks will present a flytying and casting clinic at Vladimir's from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is a \$20 fee to participate as a tier in the clinic. Club members are welcome to observe free of charge. A pizza lunch will be provided. The tying clinic is limited to 20 participants. To reserve a spot in the clinic email either Pat Brazzil at [patbrazzil@comcast.net](mailto:patbrazzil@comcast.net) or Doyle Letson at [doylemich@hotmail.com](mailto:doylemich@hotmail.com).

Vladimir's is located at 28125 Grand River in Farmington Hills.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

**May 2**

### **Activity Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School  
7:30 p.m.

**May 5**

### **MFFC Youth School**

Tollgate Center, Novi  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**May 9**

### **Board Meeting**

Clarenceville Middle School  
7:30 p.m.

**May 9-12**

### **Dick Schott New Member Outing**

WaWaSum Lodge, Grayling  
Contact: Jeff Parker

**May 16: Annual Banquet**

*(See story to left)*

### **Pre-Banquet Tying Clinic with Barry & Cathy Beck**

Vladimir's, Farmington Hills  
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

### **Banquet featuring Barry & Cathy Beck**

Doors open 6:30 p.m.  
Vladimir's, Farmington Hills

**June 1-3**

### **Smallmouth Outing**

Contact: Todd Schotts



**Published monthly**

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## Entomology the Brazzil way: Unlocking the mysteries of Michigan's many mayflies

The official title of April's pre-Trout-Opener presentation was "Unlocking the mysteries of Michigan's mayfly hatches." Sure, it sounds like a promo for an Animal Planet special report. All that might have been missing was an Indiana Jones-style fedora and a bull whip (and some might argue that there was plenty of bull, but we digress).

"Today, I change your lives forever," MFFC Vice President Pat Brazzil began. "You might leave thinking, 'Now I'm looking to see how many tails this nymph or mayfly has; I used to just be able to fish.' Bottom-line, you will catch more fish. I guarantee it."

Nothing like an audacious claim to catch your attention, eh? Brazzil followed it up with a series of questions: Is it a clinger, a crawler, a burrower or a swimmer? Are there two tails or three? Are the wings plain or mottled?

With those questions, references to two illustrative handouts and the allure of Trout-Opener Survival Kits as prizes, Brazzil sent a roomful of troutbums and near-troutbums on a tour of the four basic types of mayfly nymphs and a baker's dozen of Michigan mayfly hatches. The tour, of course, was interspersed with colorful asides of club members and tips gleaned from several decades of fishing Michigan waters.

Among those tips:

- Mahoganies will begin hatching once the water temperature hits 50 degrees, and it doesn't matter if the temperatures go up or down. Once they've started, they go.
- The Hendrickson hatch is the first hatch where the emerger is in play. On waters where you can fish two flies, fish a dry and an emerger.
- Speaking of Hendricksons, sometimes trout will get very

selective about color. Males and females are different. For the female try the Lady Beaverkill pattern and a Red Quill for the male.

- Sulphurs are the first spinner fall that's "worth your while." Spinners can come down anytime from dusk until 11 p.m.
- As for the famed Hex hatch, "Don't be afraid to fish a hex at 2 in the afternoon. Fish are likely to be in their feeding lanes looking for these tasty mouthfuls."



## Club mourns Carl Glotzhober, Dan Gasparotto

The MFFC lost two special individuals last month – one who was instrumental in the organization's early days and another who was critical to its recent efforts.

Carl Glotzhober, 85, was one of the club's Founding Members. He passed away April 6. Failing health had kept him away from the club over the past few years. He last spent time with us at the 2003 Banquet.

Dan Gasparotto, 57, had been a member of the MFFC for over 20 years. He was a constant fixture at Club outings and events over the years. Dan was most recently the Webmaster for the Club web site – a wonderfully successful effort on Dan's part that has met with praise from members and visitors alike. Along with the web site, Dan devoted a great deal of time to the marketing of the Club's annual Fly Fishing Expo. Over the years Dan's talents enhanced many aspects of the MFFC outings, training programs and club events.

## June, July & August: 1 meeting each month

The MFFC goes into "summer mode" next month. That means only one meeting each month. That meeting is on the second Wednesday of the month – June 13, July 11 and August 8. The meetings will be held at the Northville Community Center, 303 West Main, next to the Northville Public Library. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

## MFFC awards \$20,000 to nine conservation projects, organizations

The recipients of Michigan Fly Fishing Club's 2007 conservation grants have been announced. The \$20,000 budgeted for this year's granting program has been allocated to the following organizations and projects:

- Upper Manistee River Restoration Committee, \$2,900, to replace and service sand traps on the upper Manistee between Cameron Bridge and Mancelona Road.
- Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, \$3,200, for in-stream habitat structures on the main branch of the Au Sable.
- Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, \$500, to create liaisons between the organization and land owners along the Pigeon River.
- Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, \$3,700, to repair erosion on the Au Sable main stream between Mio and Cummins Flats.
- Huron Pines Resource Conservation and Development Area Council, \$1,600, City of Grayling stormwater project.
- Conservation Resource Alliance, \$2,400, to stabilize 200 feet of streambank along Bear Creek in the Manistee River watershed.
- Upper Black River Restoration Committee, \$3,500, for the placement of whole-tree structures at locations along the Black River, East Branch, Canada Creek and Milligan Creek.
- Bonefish & Tarpon Unlimited, \$100, to fund research.
- Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition, \$2,100, to represent angler interests in negotiating the conditions surrounding the relicensing or de-licensing of hydro power dams on the Boardman, Au Sable, Manistee,



*Brad Jensen of the Grayling-based Huron Pines RC&D addressed the club's Conservation Committee about a number of grant proposals.*

Muskegon, Thunder Bay, Menominee, Ontonagon, and the Dead Rivers.

Serving on the club's 2007 Conservation Committee were: Eric Center, chair; Terry Drinkwine, Scott Freeburg, Ray Geitka, Kevin Lipp, Don Oehring, Jeff Parker, Brian Rippon and Dale Ross.

This year, the club's Conservation Committee required that a representative of the requesting organization or the club member sponsoring the request to appear before the committee to describe the project and answer committee questions.

The following individuals made presentations to the committee:

- Brad Jensen, representing projects managed by the Huron Pines RC&D;
- Jeff Pierce, representing the Conservation Resource Alliance and the Bear Creek project;
- Jim Montagne, representing the Upper Manistee Restoration Committee;
- Stephen Isgrigg, presenting the Bonefish & Tarpon Unlimited research request on behalf of founding member John Pinto;
- Kevin Lipp, representing the Upper Black River Restoration Committee on behalf of fellow club member Mike Moreau; and
- Mike Matuszewski, representing the Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition.



*Jeff Pierce from the Conservation Resource Alliance came from Traverse City to talk about a project on Bear Creek.*

## Officers, Board members elected for 2007-08

Club members have selected their leaders for 2007-08. In an election conducted April 4, the following offices and positions were filled.

- President: Joe Sprys
- Vice President: Pat Brazzil
- Treasurer: Bill Shannon
- Recording Secretary: Cindy Center
- Corresponding Secretary: Todd Schotts
- Membership Chair: Eric Center
- At-Large Board Member: Paul DeJohn

Two at-large Board positions, occupied by Jeff Parker and Scott Freeburg, were not up for election.



### **'Boo Bums' rod at Banquet**

*The 7½-foot, 5-weight bamboo rod crafted at the 2007 Expo will be featured at the May 16 banquet. It's the handiwork of the Bamboo Bums: (l-r) Jimmy Chang, John Long, Rod Jenkins, Dave Jankowski, Dave Hellman and Rusty Kalmbach.*



***Trout Tune-Up 2007: Another year at the yurt***

*April 1 brought sunshine and a taste of spring. It also brought an opportunity for MFFC members to get back in the water. The annual Trout Tune-Up attracted dozens of members. The yurt at the Walled Lake Outdoor Education Center along the Huron River across from the Proud Lake Recreation Area was again the base for the festivities.*

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