

Main Line Fly-Tyers

2007-2008

mainlineflytyers.net

Volume 3 Issue 8

April 2008

Next Meeting
Thursday April 17th, 2008

Picture This !



Come out and join us for the April meeting for the Main Line Fly Tyers on Thursday April 17th. This month's guests speakers will be Barry and Cathy Beck who will be sharing their program entitled "The Digital Road to Better Fly Fishing and Outdoor Photography." Photographers, writers, and fly fishing instructors, Barry and Cathy have written several fly fishing books, and their photos and articles regularly appear in many publications. This is a special chance to meet and hear from two of the truly great people who've contributed so much to fly fishing over the years. We will be charging a 10.00 guest fee this month. As always, the meeting is free to MLFT members.

Upcoming Events



- April 17th: Main Line Fly-Tyers Monthly Meeting
Guest Speakers- Barry & Cathy Beck
Program: "The Digital Road to Better Fly Fishing and Outdoor Photography"
- April 19th Stick Day on the Broadhead
- May 15th Main Line Fly-Tyers Monthly Meeting
Guest Speaker: TBD
Program: TBD
- May 16th-18th: Trip to Penns Creek
(Currently Full)
- May 30th-Jun 1st Camping Trip to Upper Delaware River
(sign-up and details available at meeting)
- June 19th Main Line Fly-Tyers Monthly Meeting
Guest Speaker: Bob Ballantyne
Program: "The Fish and The Fisherman In Yellowstone."
- Sept. 5th-7th : Trip to Upper Delaware River Staying at West Branch Angler
- Sept. 18th-22nd Missoula Montana Trip
(Sign up at meeting or contact Mike Mancke)
- October 4th: Lake Fishing Day (date tentative)
- November 6th: Cast and Blast Outing (date tentative)

Quick Blurbs

The Annual Fly Fishing Day at Resica Falls was held on April 8th and was a huge success. Seventy people turned out and took part in the clinic and seminars. Pictures and further details will be coming in the May newsletter.

The club's annual opening day on the Broadhead was well attended and about 15 club members gathered for the traditional lunch and bragging session at the park streamside. It was reported that many fish were caught and it was a fine day to be on the water.

Don't forget the club's first annual "Stick Day" is Saturday April 19th and will be held on the Broadhead. Billed as a special "Bamboo Day", members are encouraged to come out and show off their "snooty" tackle and skills. Even if you don't own a bamboo rod, come out for a fun day of fishing and to see and hear what all the "hub bub" is all about surrounding these masterpieces. Details and directions will be available at the monthly meeting.

Fishing reports are needed for the newsletter. Please email or call Frank Howard and let the club know how the fishing is going on your favorite stream(s). It doesn't have to be a lengthy report. A sentence or two would be just fine. Pictures are an added plus but are not needed. The reports will be compiled into new section of the newsletter beginning in May. Please help by reporting in. Thanks !

SAD NEWS



Main Line Fly Tyer member Florrie Usatch passed away at home in Penn Valley on March 15, 2008 after a 27 year battle with cancer. She was 68 years old. Along with her husband Jerry, Florrie joined MLFT in 2006. Florrie worked countless hours helping women diagnosed with Breast Cancer by manning the Helpline of L.B.B.C (Living Beyond Breast Cancer). She was also very active with Casting for Recovery, an organization devoted to helping Breast Cancer sufferers cope with, and grow from, the disease through the magic of fly-fishing. A survivor herself and a certified Fly Fishing Guide, Florrie participated in retreats for the organization, taking pride in teaching individuals who would never otherwise have the opportunity learn the sport, to appreciate nature and each other, with the realization that bonds formed and life lessons learned on the stream carry over into everyday life.

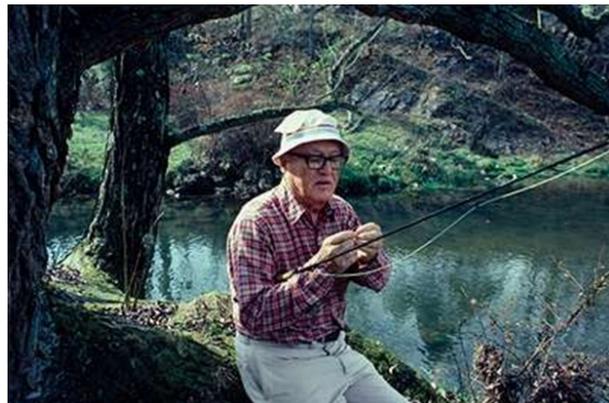
Contributions in her memory may be made to LBBC 354 W. Lancaster Ave., Haverford Pa.19041

or

CFR, c/o The Orvis Co., P.O.Box 798, Manchester VT. 05254 (Contributions made to CFR are being matched by The Orvis Company and will be used to have Retreats in her memory)

MORE SAD NEWS

On March 24th the fly-fishing community lost a legend as George Harvey passed away. George was an innovator to the sport of fly fishing designing many fly patterns and techniques. He started the first non-credit then credited fly fishing course at Penn State University. These were the first in the nation. George retired from Penn State University in 1972, after which he went on to write many articles and a some books on fly fishing. He also travelled giving many talks on the sport of fly fishing. For all his efforts George became known as the “Dean of Fly Fishing” and is also recognized in the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame.



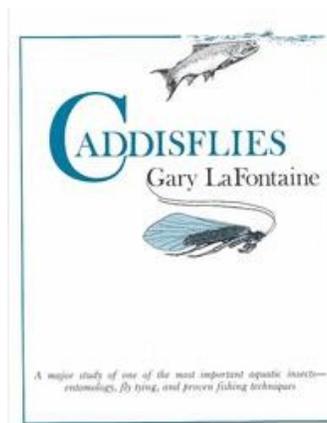
Book Review



Submitted by: Steve Nack

Caddisflies

by Gary LaFontaine



There are a multitude of books on fly-fishing available to the modern day angler. Some tell you where to fish, some tell you how to fish and some tell you how to tie the flies that we use to catch fish. One category of books is the category I like to call the “Biological Compendia.” This category includes books that, in extensive detail, examine the nature of a particular insect or other fish food. We have all seen them and probably skimmed through them. Familiar works include the likes of Caucci and Nastasi’s *Hatches* and *Hatches II*; Richards, Swisher and Arbona’s *Stoneflies*; and Schwiebert’s *Nymphs*.

One of the most important works, in this regard, is Gary Lafontaine’s *Caddisflies*. This book, first published in 1981, continues to be published and is an important addition to the library of any serious fly fisher. Gary was quick to point out that mayflies have always been thought to be the most important source of food for trout. Caddisflies, in actuality, are a greater percentage of a trout’s diet.

The book is a good read. It is broken down into two main sections. The first section, about half of the book, is an excellent guide to tying and fishing the various reproductions of larval, pupal and adult caddis. Many of these are time tested classic flies, which we all should have in our fly box. The material lists and tying instructions go into great detail...it is hard to get it wrong. There are nice black and white photos, as well as excellent glossy color plates of the insects and their reproductions. The chapters on fishing techniques are also very complete. He goes into great detail on rigging up, casting, line control and tactics for each specific phase of the life cycle. The second part of the book is a description of the biology of caddis. He goes into the habitat, food sources and an exhaustive description of the species. This is well written and very interesting. Finally, the book ends with a listing of all the caddis of North America and their relative importance to fly fishermen.

Unfortunately, Gary died prematurely from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig’s disease). I never knew or met Gary but his passion for the biology of these insects, and his creativity in designing and tying the reproductions of them, comes alive in these pages. If you have not read this book you should do so!

General Information

Website: mainlineflytyers.net



Meeting Location:

Greater Plymouth Community Center
2910 Jolly Rd
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Driving Directions:

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 Birkenmaier

Vice Pres.: Gil Learn

Treasurer: Frank Howard

Secretary (Newsletter): Frank Howard

Secretary (Recording): Shaun Dougherty

Librarian: Jim Costello