



## **December Meeting:**

Notes by Dick Dragiewicz and Greg Schick

The club Garage Sale and discussion of future club events brought more than 30 members to the December meeting. It looked like the first thing everyone did was check out the goodies that were being offered for sale and at what prices. Everyone was looking for bargains and some folks got them. Congratulations to the buyers and sellers.

The discussion of future club events produced a limited amount of comments. Not that those in attendance were unhappy with the events, mind you, but rather the consensus seemed to be that the mix of topics was a good one.

One of the ideas was to offer club members, especially new members that might be new to fly fishing, a Fly Fishing 101 course. We are looking into how to handle this and what information can effectively be given to the students. A couple of members have volunteered to participate, and we'll solicit more volunteers as we get the idea more focused.

For those who are a bit beyond the basic level but still want to learn something different about our sport, Dave P. volunteered to be part of a Spey casting and fishing program. You don't necessarily have to have a two-handed, fourteen foot Spey rod either. Dave says he can show you how to make Spey casts with a one-handed rod!

There was also an interest in having some saltwater fishing topics covered at future meetings. For example, sailfishing in Guatemala and tarpon/bonefishing in the Caribbean. There was also interest in having a presentations on western fly fishing and stream reading and entomology.

If you know of someone that can give us a good presentation on any of those topics, or any other fishing related topic, send Dick Dragiewicz an email note ([obiobiobi@ameritech.net](mailto:obiobiobi@ameritech.net)) or give him a call (847-498-3260) with the person's name and phone number so he can follow up and make the necessary arrangements.

As far as locations for our outings, we had some "votes" for sites in the northeast quadrant of the state, as well as suggestions of a hatchery tour.

The streams suggested included: the Tomorrow River, South Branch of the Oconto, Prairie River, Wolf River, and the Mecan River area.

For outings of a longer or overnight nature, suggestions included the Menominee River (along the WI / MI border), fishing in northeast Iowa, and fishing in southeast Minnesota.

If you forgot to send in a survey, or just thought of something else or something new, send an email note to Greg Schick ([gaschick@wi.rr.com](mailto:gaschick@wi.rr.com)) and we'll include it in the mix of things to consider for 2007.

## December Event:

## Photos from the Christmas Brunch



*Pewaukee Lake viewed from the Seven Seas Restaurant*



## Rod Building Classes:

Frank Stetzer will be hosting a rod making class at his home. The dates are Feb 6, 20 & 27 ( all Tuesdays).

- The first class is learn what's involved & what materials to get.
- Second class is assembling the grip & reel seat and guide placement.
- Third class is guide wrapping & finishing

Frank will have an introductory sheet that he'll distribute at the January meeting. There will be room for a maximum of about four or five people, so you'll need people to register if you want to attend.

For more information you can call Frank at 414-481-8935.

## **Catching Steelhead ...top ten secrets to success...**

**...if you asked the masters, this is what they would tell you.**

### **1. Be where the fish are**

Steelhead runs are very cyclic. One year a river might be loaded with fish and the next year it might be marginal. Run timing within a specific year will also vary with weather, water and ocean conditions. Use the internet and telephone to find up-to-date information. Develop a circle of friends, experts & tackle industry people to call for information.

### **2. Choosing the right guide.**

A good steelhead guide is more than a fish-finder. Take some time to interview your prospective guide. There are a lot of different personalities out there. There are also a lot of different experience levels too. Take time to get acquainted with your guide before you book a trip.

### **3. Keep your fly in the water.**

Practice casting and presentation continually while you are fishing. Every cast counts. Learn to be efficient. Your fly will only catch fish when it is in the water. It also has the best chance of connecting with a fish when presented at the right speed & depth.

### **4. Check for wind knots & abrasions in your leader.**

This is a constant process. Keep track of your terminal tackle. Many fish have been lost to wind knots and abraded leaders. An over-hand knot in your leader can reduce the strength of your tippet by more than half. Remember that you are playing in the fast lane. Anything that can break *will* break.

### **5. Keep your hook sharp.**

Carry a file. Any time your hook touches the bottom of the river, check the point. Use your file. Many strikes have been missed because the hook was dull.

### **6. Stay on the move.**

The more water you cover - the more fish you cover - the more biters you cover - the more fish you put on the beach...simple as that.

### **7. Be alert.**

The more fish you see the more fish you catch.

### **8. Be prepared.**

Do your research. The amount of gear you carry for a boat trip will be much different than that carried for a hiking trip. Check **all** your gear before you start your trip. Be organized.

### **9. Be comfortable.**

Have the right clothing for the conditions you might encounter. Nothing ruins a trip quicker than leaky waders or forgetting your raincoat, etc.

### **10. Be relentless**

Be relentless - Be relentless - Be relentless - Be relentless - Be relentless - Be relentless - Be relentless -

## **It's Fishing Show Season!**

There are still things to do in the winter months, and high on your list should be visiting the fly and “regular” fishing shows!

The list includes:

### **January 13 -14**

The Fly Fishing Show - Schaumburg, IL (Chicago suburb)  
[www.flyfishingshow.com](http://www.flyfishingshow.com)

### **February 10, 2007**

Badger Fly Fishers - Madison area  
<http://badgerflyfishers.org>

### **February 16 - 18 - Itasca, IL (Chicago suburb)**

Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo  
[www.greatwaters2007.com](http://www.greatwaters2007.com)

### **March 2-4**

Northeast Wisconsin Sport Fishin' Show - Green Bay  
<http://gbsportshows.com/newsemsched.htm>

### **March 9-18**

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Sports Show  
[www.jsonline.com/sportsshow/index.asp](http://www.jsonline.com/sportsshow/index.asp)

### **March 30 - 31, April 1**

Great Waters Fly Fishing Expo - Minneapolis  
[www.greatwaters2007.com](http://www.greatwaters2007.com)

There was a suggestion at the December meeting about organizing a caravan — or more — to go to a fly fishing show. If you're interested in something like that, start a thread, or add to it, on the club bulletin board. We'll see what can be done with regards to getting all those interested in going to a specific show hooked up with each other!

## **January Meeting:**

Do you want to learn how to pack for a fishing trip? Paul Melchior, owner of Angling Escapes ([www.anglingescapes.com](http://www.anglingescapes.com)), will tell us how to do it at the club's January meeting. Paul has been working in the fishing travel industry for more than 25 years. During this time he's booked clients on fishing trips to the western United States, Alaska, Canada, the Caribbean, South America, New Zealand and many other exciting destinations. Paul has personally traveled and fished at most of these locations, and based on all this travel experience he's learned how to properly pack for a trip.

At the club's January meeting he's going to share his method of planning and packing for fishing trips with us.

Join us on January 9th at Yester Years Pub & Grill at 7:00 pm!

The following article is reprinted from "2007 Kudo Awards" from Fly Rod & Reel Magazine, Jan/Feb 2007 issue. If you're looking for a new fly line for next season, Scientific Anglers has a great selection of floating lines. We hope this article will provide you with a selection of lines that are among the best in the sport.

# Scientific Anglers Mastery Series Floating Trout Lines

## Harmony and Versatility in a line of fly lines

Most *FR&R* readers are aware that all trout anglers are not created equal. Fishermen vary in preference as well as in performance. Scientific Anglers knows this, too, and they've kept the knowledge very much in mind as they've developed their fly lines. Specifically, by developing a couple of broadly applicable specialty tapers (OK, I agree, that's almost a contradiction, but read on), and two that are targeted for very specific applications, the company has provided anglers with a terrific quartet of tapers that arm us for virtually all trout-fishing situations. In other words, the SA Mastery Series trout lines -- the Trout, GPX, Expert Distance and XPS -- offer even the pickiest fly angler a line that will fit his or her requirements.

The Trout line will cover maybe 60 percent of the trout-fishing universe; it's the workhorse, the bread-and-butter, the go-to fly line for most trout anglers. The Trout is a standard weight line, has an adequately delicate front taper and is well suited to dry flies and moderate-length casts -- you know, trout fishing. If, heaven forbid, any angler were limited to only one line for all situations, the Trout would probably be that line. It's a best seller, with good reason.



The GPX is made with a similar taper to that of the Trout, though it's a half line-size heavier than a standard line and has a steeper front taper and heavier tip. It turns over better, but lands harder. For those who prefer to load a particular rod a bit more, or who work in wind, or use bigger flies, the GPX might be the preferred choice. You might think of the GPX as having a "Western" front taper, and the Trout as having an "Eastern" front taper.

The XPS is the spring creek specialist's delight. It has a light front taper and short head, because it's designed for delicate placement of tiny flies, say up to size 22-24, at short to medium distances. Think of midge-sipping fish in skinny mirror-smooth water, requiring heron-like stalks and presentations in conditions that would make a dandelion hitting the water look like a brick.



The XPS is not a distance line, and it's not a big line. But if you want every extra edge when chasing spring creek PhD-degreed trout, this is the line to have.



Finally, there's the Expert Distance line, which will perform at its peak in the hands of an above-average caster who needs or wants to aerialize a lot of line. But don't let this line intimidate you; it will also work just fine for the average angler.

Eastern, Western, delicacy, distance. Yep, that pretty much describes the trout universe. These four SA lines have proven to be a most harmonious quartet, perfectly in tune to our trout needs. And of course, all of them were designed by *FR&R* 2007 Angler of the Year Bruce Richards, a fanatical fisherman who has experienced pretty much every situation most anglers are likely to encounter, and who obsesses over fly lines, both at work and at play.

Not only do the durable and super-slick coatings on SA's trout lines incorporate the company's state-of-the-art AST (Advanced Shooting Taper) technology, which Richards helped invent, but the line designs he's given us are just about perfect, with the front and rear tapers and the diameters of the belly section and the other sections all working together exactly the way they should

– Buzz Bryson



"I'm no specialist in the sport, but I don't think you're supposed to actually roll when making that cast."

## ***Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers Officers and Committees***

### **Officers / Board of Directors**

**Greg Schick**, President  
262-635-0522  
gaschick@wi.rr.com

**Ken Zielinski**, Vice Pres.  
414-425-9077  
flyyeguy@wi.rr.com

**Frank Stetzer**, Secretary  
414-481-8935  
stetzer@csd.uwm.edu

**Jim Johnson**, Treasurer  
262-549-4868  
jjrdjohnson@yahoo.com

**Peter Alba**, Member at Large  
262-780-6259  
Palba@Amfam.com

**Mike Drout**, Member at Large  
mkd@bizwi.rr.com

**Joe Valkoun**, Member at Large  
414-481-9987  
Jcvalkoun@milwpc.com

**Ron Wojack**, Member at Large  
414-281-2947  
wojaxx@wi.rr.com

### **Committees:**

#### **Education:**

**Dick Dragiewicz**, 847-498-3260 obiobiobi@ameritech.net  
**Greg Schick**, 262-635-0522 gaschick@wi.rr.com  
**Ken Zielinski**, 414-425-9077 flyyeguy@wi.rr.com

#### **Programs:**

**Dick Dragiewicz**, 847-498-3260 obiobiobi@ameritech.net

#### **Fly Tying:**

**Greg Schick**, 262-635-0522 gaschick@wi.rr.com

#### **Food:**

**Beth Kyte**, 414-559-5983 beth@allegramilwaukee.com

#### **Hatch Editor:**

**Greg Schick**, 262-635-0522 gaschick@wi.rr.com

#### **Membership:**

**Joe Valkoun**, 414-481-9987 jcvalkoun@milwpc.com

#### **Raffle Merchandise:**

**Dave Gonzales**, 262-498-0629 flytying2414@yahoo.com

#### **Outings:**

**Ken Zielinski**, 414-425-9077 flyyeguy@wi.rr.com

#### **Web Master:**

**Frank Stetzer**, 414-481-8935 stetzer@csd.uwm.edu

## MILWAUKEE LAKE & STREAM FLY FISHING 2006 / 2007 CALENDAR

	January	February	March
Meeting	9th	13th	13th
Outing	New Year's Day Annual Trout Fest!	24th	24th
Fly Tying	10th and 24th	14th and 28th	14th and 28th
Event	Annual Wine, Cheese & Trout (we hope) Fest!		

	April	May	June
Meeting	10th	8th	12th
Outing	21st	19th	22nd
Fly Tying	11th and 25th	9th and 23rd	None! It's time to fish!
Event			

<b>Meeting:</b>	7 pm Yesteryears Pub & Grill 9427 W. Greenfield
<b>Outing:</b>	Meet at 6:30 am at Park & Rides lots. See Hatch for details.
<b>Fly Tying:</b>	Sportsmen's Warehouse (I-43 & Mooreland Rd.) from 6:00 - 8:30 pm.
<b>Event:</b>	*

**The Hatch** is the monthly newsletter of the Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers, an incorporated nonprofit organization affiliated with the Federation of Fly Fishers.

**Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> **Tuesday** of each month at 7 p.m. at **Yester-Years Pub & Grill, 9427 W. Greenfield Ave., West Allis, WI**

Meetings **May through August** are on the water. Read **The Hatch** for locations or go to our website

Send correspondence to:  
**Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers,**  
**P.O. Box 370668**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53237**

Submit contributions for **The Hatch** by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month to:

Greg Schick, Editor  
 at: **gaschick@wi.rr.com**

# It's that time of the year again!

Membership dues for 2007 are unchanged and can be sent to the club post office box listed below.

In order to keep our costs down we will again use email notification, for those of you who have it, for various informational notes and memos, and for the posting of the latest issue of "**The Hatch**".

Please ensure that you list your email address correctly, too!

**In order to make our record keeping easier — and to prevent your name from inadvertently being missed on the list — please fill out the form below and bring it and your check to...**

- 1) The Paradise Springs Outing on Jan. 1st...
- 2) The membership meeting on Jan. 9th...
- 3) Or mail it along with your check to the club post office box listed below

**Thanks for being a member! We're looking forward to another great year in 2007!**

**Make check payable to: Milwaukee Lake & Stream (Or MLSFF)**

If mailing, send to:

**MLSFF  
P.O.Box 370668  
Milwaukee, WI 53237**

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## Milwaukee Lake & Stream Fly Fishers 2007 New Member Application & Renewal Form:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

(This is very important! Please write your email address legibly!)

**Membership Type:** Single \_\_\_ \$25.00 Family \_\_\_ \$35.00

Please indicate whether New \_\_\_ or Renewal \_\_\_