

OUTDOOR CALENDAR**ACTIVITIES****OAKLAND COUNTY**

SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION
The Oakland County Sportfishing Association meets at 7:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month at Santia Hall, 1985 Cass Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Call (248) 693-4389 or visit the club's web site at <http://www.go/ocsa> for more information.

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS
Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. membership meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at Knights of Columbus, St. Pius X, 6177 Chicago Road, in Warren. The public is welcome. More information can be obtained by calling Ed Wilczek at (810) 757-7365 or club president Ray Banbury at (810) 598-0310.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparote at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight Mile roads. Call (248) 476-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road, in Livonia. Call Jim Kudc at (734) 591-0843 for information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Road, Flint Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION
The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 678-2863 for more information.

SOLAR
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 598-6565 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll-free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3191; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

TRAVELS WITH A NATURALIST
Karen Bates, SOLAR Club member and outdoor enthusiast, traveled the mighty Colorado River by raft. Her photographic journey will take you through ancient rock layers revealing mysterious

American Indian photographs, fossils, canyon wildlife and spectacular natural beauty. This program is set for 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 9 at the Nature Center of Stony Creek Metropark near Rochester. For more information, call (810) 781-4621.

CREEK FESTIVAL
Come and take a peek at what's living in the creek. See how a river cuts a channel, learn your creek's address, watch live indoor demonstrations, and learn how the critters in the creek predict your future during this program scheduled for Sunday, March 11 from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. at the Nature Center of Kensington Metropark near Milford/Brighton. For more information, contact the Kensington Metropark Nature Center at 1-800-477-3176.

FOXES, WOLVES AND COYOTES
Discover interesting facts about all foxes, wolves and coyotes through pictures and discussion during this program scheduled for Saturday, March 17 at the Nature Center of Kensington Metropark. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 1-800-477-3176.

OAKLAND PARKS**COUNTRY PARK**

REQUIREMENTS
Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 626-5473 to register or for more information.

PERMITS
The 2001 Oakland County parks motor vehicle permits are now on sale at all county park offices and many parks and recreation and township offices. Cost is \$20 through April 30, 2001. After May 1, 2001, the permit cost will be \$25. All senior citizens (ages 62 and older) can purchase the permit for \$15 at all times. Call (248) 858-0906 or, TTY (248) 858-1684.

STATE PARKS**STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS**

Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area, and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (248) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6787. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2187. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7067.

WAYNE PARKS**COUNTRY PARK REQUIREMENTS**

Wayne County Parks offers nature interpretive programs throughout the year.

Advanced registration is requested. Call (734) 261-1950 to register and for more information.

To submit items for consideration in the Observer & Eccentric's Outdoor Calendar send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; fax information to: 248-644-1314.

Back to the Future. Do you remember the movie?

Now we can relate it to the record-setting performance reported here a couple of weeks ago (Feb. 8) at Canton's Mike Makowick's 87th at Cloverlawn.

Mike was using the new AMF Angle Evolution ball, which was given to him a few months ago by the AMF rep Bill Munce as he was passing through town.

He told Mike, "Try it, you'll like it."

Mike threw 33 out of a possible 36 strikes with games of 290-289. His David's Right Lane squad also won the Cloverlawn Battle of the Sexes competition in January with a 3,663 total.

This team consists of Makowick, Al Stroud (captain), Greg Daniels, Greg Lewis and Ralph Jennings.

Mike also bowls in the Friday night St. Linus Classic League at Garden Lanes in Garden City.

Did you get to watch the new

Fly fishing requires dedication

OUTDOOR INSIGHTS

BILL PARKER

Fly fishers are generally a pretty dedicated lot. The sport certainly lends itself to dedication.

For starters, it takes time and a concerted effort to master the art of casting a fly. Then you must learn about the different entomological species, we but also like to go down the Huron River and fly fish for smallmouth bass. Some members are really interested in stream restoration and may be members of Trout Unlimited, which focuses on trout stream habitat restoration. Others simply want to fly fish.

The club funds projects annually and has made donations to other organizations to assist with their habitat and fishery projects. One of the best known local projects is the Michigan Fly Fishing Club initiated in the early catch-and-release, flies-only trout season on the Huron River at Proud Lake. Each spring fly fishers get an extra three weeks of fly fishing thanks to the efforts of this group.

With such dedicated and motivated fly fishers, it's no surprise the Michigan Fly Fishing Club, based in Livonia, has endured for more than 30 years. The club, which holds bi-weekly meetings

at the Livonia Clarenceville Middle School on Middlebelt Road, was founded in 1970. Its goals are to promote and preserve the art of fly fishing, fly tying, and rod building, and to protect gamefish and their natural habitat.

"We're a non-profit group of guys and gals who like to fly fish," said MFFC board member Ron McNeal. "Most of our members are from the west side, but we have members from as far away as Toledo, Grand Blanc and Ann Arbor.

"We fish mostly for salmonid species, but we also like to go down the Huron River and fly fish for smallmouth bass. Some members are really interested in stream restoration and may be members of Trout Unlimited, which focuses on trout stream habitat restoration. Others simply want to fly fish.

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Michigan Fly Fishing Club holds is the annual Midwest Fly Fishing Exposition, which is scheduled this year for March 10-11 at the Southfield Civic Center Pavilion.

"This is the one show we have to raise money to fund grant requests we get from some of the other trout organizations," McNeal said.

Along with some 84 exhibitors, outfitters, and conservation displays, this year's show features a spectacular lineup of speakers.

Included in the lineup is Jason Borger, a nationally known fly fishing writer, author and teacher. He may be familiar to some as the poster fly fisherman for the 1991 film "A River Runs Through It." Borger performed the shadow cast in the movie, and doubled for three different actors during casting and fishing scenes.

In fact, the image of Borger's shadow cast was used on the poster to promote the film. His seminar at the Expo will cover reading the water and presentations.

Jerry Kustich, of Twin Bridges, Mont., is another of the noted speakers. Kustich is a writer, artist, conservationist, bamboo fly rod builder, and avid steelhead fisherman, and will speak on steelhead fishing and adventure fly fishing.

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