

# Grayling Gazette



May 2001

E-MAIL: [msfsc@ptialaska.net](mailto:msfsc@ptialaska.net)

## OFFICERS

**President:** Henry Garbowski  
457-1734

**VP:** Jim Johnston  
455-8556

**Treasurer:** Kemberly Adler  
456-2371

### Board Members:

Bob Dickerson 458-9532

Tom Early 457-3577

Liana Garbowski 457-1734

Tom Norton 452-2388

Logan Ricketts 388-4193

Tim Shannon 457-4335

### Newsletter:

Kemberly Adler 456-2371

### Meetings:

Held the second Thursday of each month, October thru May at the Rivers Edge Restaurant (Chena's), 4200 Boat Street, Fairbanks, AK., 99709

### Newsletter:

Deadline is the 25th of each month. Send submissions, articles, etc... to:  
MSFC Newsletter, PO BOX 81031, Fairbanks, AK., 99708-1031 or [msfsc@ptialaska.net](mailto:msfsc@ptialaska.net).

### Yearly Membership:

\$25/yr Family/Individual  
Application can be found on the back of the newsletter.



## President's Corner



Greetings,

At last the Rivers have opened up and the time to fish has come, no matter that we're having a SNOW STORM ON MAY 5TH. Well summer has to come sooner or later, but I'm not going to wait. I'm off to the upper Chena today to try my luck. We still need volunteers for fishing is fun day on May 19th. from 10:30 to 4:00, if you can help even for just a short time it would help out. I'm looking forward to the picnic May 18th. at the Chena campground 6:00P.M. hope to see everyone at the last club get together for the season. Next October we plan to hold club meetings on Friday nights and I need ideas for the type of food everyone would like to have and speakers and subjects that you would like to see. So it you can drop me a short note or give me a quick call it will help . Well enough of this, I'm of to the River. Don't forget to bring a kid and a fly to the picnic. Good fishing to all.

Henry G.

## MAY PICNIC

Will be at the CHENA RIVER CAMPGROUND, located on University Avenue between Airport Rd. and Geist/Johansen Expressway. . MSFC will provide the hamburgers, hotdogs and soda, please bring a side dish. The fun starts at 6:00PM. See you there!!



**Midnight Sun  
Flycasters Club  
Kid's Camp  
2001**

**Come and join  
the fun!**

June 1-3, 2001  
Twin Bears Camp  
Mile 30 Chena Hot Springs  
Road

**Classes Offered:**

- Fly Casting
- Fly Tying
- Knot Tying
- Entomology
- Releasing a Fish

- Camp runs from noon on Friday, June 1 through noon on Sunday, June 3, 2001
- Meals include supper on Friday through breakfast on Sunday
- Each registered camper receives a camp t-shirt
- For kids 10-16 years old
- Kids 10 - 12 years old must have a parent spend the night
- All parents are encouraged to stay
- \$50 per camper and parents are free!



**Things to Bring:**

- A good attitude
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Pajamas
- Spare changes of clothing
- Shoes and puddle boots
- Sunglasses
- Rain coat and pants
- Flashlight
- Toiletry items and towel
- Warm jacket for the evening
- Toothbrush and paste
- Medications

**Optional:**

- Parents (kids ages 13-16)
- A good book
- Bug juice, if you prefer your own

**For More Information &  
To Sign Up, Contact:  
Sharon or Mike Everette  
at (907) 479-4604**

**Or stop by Alaska Fly  
Shop (456-3010)  
or J+L Sports (451-7210)**

**kids camp sign up forms**

Name / Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List any special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

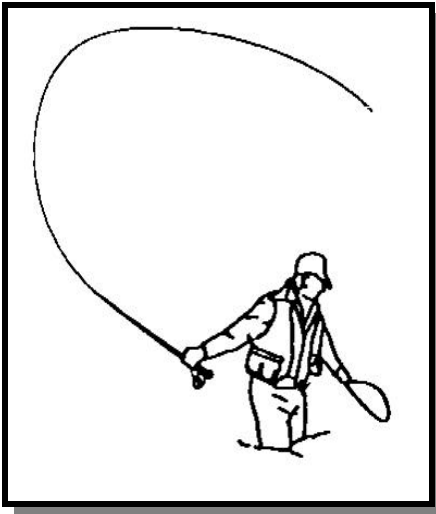
Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name / Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

List any special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



# ALASKA FLY SHOP

1875 University Avenue  
 Fairbanks, AK. 99709  
 (907) 456-3010

## SAGE Fly Fishing School and Casting Clinic

Course Title	Instructor	Dates	Course Fee
Fly Casting Clinic	Howie Van Ness & George Cook	June 14th - Thursday Evening	\$40.00

**Enrollment is limited to ten (10) students per session.  
 For more information contact The Alaska Fly Shop  
 at 456-3010.**

### Fly Fishing Tips

1. Lip Balm will work as a fly floatant for dry flies in a pinch. Line dressing will also work.
2. If you want your leader to sink, rub some toothpaste on it. A small tube in your tackle box doesn't take up much room. To make it float, use fly line dressing (or lip balm.)
3. Fluorocarbon leaders are heavier than mono leaders, and will always sink. Therefore, it's good to use a full fluorocarbon leader when fishing a sinking fly, but use only a short length of fluorocarbon tippet or else all mono when fishing poppers and dry flies.

4. Most insect repellants will dissolve plastics, including fly line.
5. Always carry a safety pin, needle or a bodkin in your fishing stuff. It's useful for removing paint from hook eyes, tying nail knots, untying wind knots, and for removing a hook imbedded in flesh or clothing. Bodkins work best, but safety pins are easier to carry safely.

(from the Central Florida Flyrodders of Orlando)  
 (FFF ClubWire, March 2001))



# Kids Korner

By  
Hannah Ferree

## Greetings!

Last summer, my family and I went on more fishing trips than I have fingers to count. The second week in August of 2000 found us floating the Goodnews River. (My family includes my Mom, Dad, brother Eric, Aunt Sharon, Uncle Mike and me.) It was a seven-day and seven-night float and fishing trip that we had chartered through the Goodnews River Lodge.

We made a late arrival at the Goodnews Airport, due to "Smokey" (described in last month's Kids Korner article). After we were taken by jet boat up the Goodnews River to the lodge, we were given a tour of the lodge, fed a delicious dinner and then taken about 50 miles up the river by two other jet boats to our first night's camp that the guides, Norm and Gary, had already assembled for us. Normally, the guided float trips require two inflatable AVON rafts, but based on our previous experience, we convinced them to let us take a third raft. This raft was known as the "row your own boat," because that's what we did.

We did a little fishing (and caught nothing) that first night before going to bed. One of our guides, Gary, told me that I had to cast my line to the farthest bank of the river before he would feed me supper, as a joke. I am happy to tell you that I went to bed on a full stomach that night!

During the prior week, a large storm had come through the Goodnews area and the river was high. Camping spots were few and far between, and we wondered how good the fishing would actually be.

I am proud to say that I caught the first fish of the trip, and probably the most! It wasn't exactly small either. From then on, most days consisted of basically the same process. We would wake up in the morning, eat a delicious breakfast prepared by our guides, and do a little fishing before cleaning up camp and loading the rafts. We would float and fish,

sometimes putting the anchor down and other times stopping to fish. Sometimes one of the jet boats from the lodge would deliver fresh cookies or pie, or deliver hot chocolate when we ran out.

The fishing on the Goodnews was wonderful. Almost every cast brought you some kind of action. I managed to catch every species of salmon, Dolly Varden, Arctic Char, Arctic Grayling, and Rainbow Trout. During one particular day, Dad and I were in the "row your own boat". Dad was rowing and I was fishing (naturally). That day, as I caught fish, I counted. By the end of the day, I caught at least 50 fish of all different species!

The one fish I caught that I will always remember was a 13-pound silver that earned the name "Torpedo". I was in a raft with my Mom and Gary, and we were sitting in a deep hole with our anchor down. Sharon and Mike were not far from us in the "row your own boat." Immediately after I hooked the "Torpedo", it tore off towards the "row your own boat," jumping completely out of the water all the way. When I managed to reel it in, the "Torpedo" promptly took off for the other raft, repeating the same jumps. Gary was standing on the bench part of the rowing frame. He was pointing at the "Torpedo" and laughing so hard I thought he was going to bust a gut!

Since we were fishing in August (spawning season), we used flies to imitate eggs and pieces of salmon flesh. Our favorite and most frequently used fly was a Tundra Comet, which looked like a sparkly, neon worm with huge bug-eyes. Later, back at the lodge, my brother and I figured out the fly pattern for the Tundra Comet, so we have quite a few of them swimming around our house.

Based on our research, we had tried to prepare ourselves for whatever Mother Nature planned to dump on us for the Goodnews trip.

(Kids Korner continued on page 5)

(Kids Korner continued from page 4 )

As it turned out, we didn't need most of clothes we brought.

During an average day on the river, we found ourselves in our neoprene waders and a fuzzy (our language for any article of clothing made of polar fleece). Occasionally, in camp, we would find ourselves in just our long johns due to the roasting sun! We were extremely fortunate because weather in Southwest Alaska can be miserable.

The last day of our float trip brought us to the Goodnews River Lodge. The first thing we did was unload the rafts. The six of us then made a bee-line for the showers, and believe me, no one got in our way! We were then served a delicious supper in the lodge. There was a lot of story telling during supper. The six of us really stood out from the rest of the anglers. We all had the rosy-red-sun-burned face look. I guess I really enjoyed the story telling part because I beat just about every other guy's stories about catching slivers. They were complaining about reeling in hefty silvers on their 10 and 12 weight rods. All that complaining came to a dead stop when I promptly told all those guys that I had been catching my 10 to 13 pound slivers on my SAGE 5 weight rod!

To top the whole adventure off, we ended up getting weathered in at the lodge for two more days. Everyone but us was practically frantic because everyone else was from the lower 48 states, and had plane reservations to contend with. We, on the other hand, were in heaven, tying flies, talking, and enjoying the homemade cookies. The six of us were very sad when the sky finally cleared and the plane landed at the Goodnews Airport, waiting to take us back to Anchorage.

Between the guides, the fishing, the hot chocolate and Tang, the homemade cookies, and the weather, I would have to say that was the most fun I ever had on a fishing trip! I would take another fishing trip through the Goodnews River Lodge the second it was offered. Whether I would stay in the lodge or float the river, it is a guarantee that I would have a blast!

Happy Fishing,  
Hannah

## FISH WITH DEGREES

Water temperature is important to fish, and it should be equally important to serious fishermen. Here are the brief, bare minimums to get you started.

FACT: Fish are cold-blooded creatures whose body temperature is the same as that of the water in which they swim.

FACT: Fish have distinct temperature preferences that differ according to species.

FACT: Fish can detect temperature changes as minute as one-tenth (0.1) degree F.

FACT: Forced to abide temperatures that are too far above or below their optimums, fish become sullen, inactive, and refuse to eat. If the temperature spreads become extreme, they die!

( FISH WITH DEGREES CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 )

# A SPECIAL THANKS

The success of our 12<sup>th</sup> annual banquet wouldn't have been possible without lots of help. We'd like to recognize some of it here.

- As always, thanks to our co- sponsor, *the Midnight Sun Chapter of Trout Unlimited*.
- Once again, thanks to *The Alaska Fly Shop* for donating a Sage rod. Since this store opened years ago, they've consistently been generous and helpful with donations and guidance.
- To *Lou Careful* for donating that beautiful wood carving of a brown trout.  
Lou has given us a number of carvings over the years, but this one was the best.
- Past MSFC president, *Lou Staudt* (sp?), donated a Fly Logic rod. Thanks again Lou.
- Jim, over at *J&L Sports*, not only helped us get a great deal on Loomis rod but gave us a number of necks to give away.
- Through the efforts of *MSFC board member Tom Norton*, we received a number of donations.
- *Umpqua Feather Merchants* came through big time. The amount of things Umpqua donated is too large to list. It was thousands of dollars worth of stuff. So much so we couldn't give it all away at the banquet. Much of what Umpqua gave will be used at the Kids Camp and numerous fly tying classes we give at schools.
- *Minnesota Hackle Inc.* donated beautiful tying necks and also *Abenaki Publishers, Inc.* donated a years subscription to one of their magazines, American Angler, Fly Tyer or Saltwater Fly Fishing.
- Thank you, thank you, thank you. Your donations were very much appreciated!

## ( FISH WITH DEGREES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

FACT: Rapid changes in water temperature, up or down, mean bad fishing. (Pressure changes have the same effect.) When temperatures are stable, fishing falls into predictable patterns.

EFGO: Find the kind of water temperature your particular quarry prefers and you will usually find cooperative fish. If you don't, you won't!

### Ideal Temperatures for Some Game fish

78+ Catfish	76 White Bass
75 Bluegill	73 Largemouth Bass
72 Striped Bass	71 Crappie
70 Northern Pike	50 Lake Trout
68 Yellow Perch	67 Muskellunge
60 Brown Trout	55 Salmon, Rainbow & Cutthroat Trout
54 Brook Trout	

(by Will Ploegman of the Antietam Fly Anglers for the FFF ClubWire Email NewsWire)

**G - Loomis Pro Shop   Fly Logic   Lamiglas   Rio Lines   Scientific Angler   Cortland**



## **J&L Sports**

*Complete Fly and Tackle Shop  
Rod & Reel Repair  
Custom Rod Building*



**Jim Masterson**  
(907) 451-7210

910 College Rd.  
Fairbanks, AK 99701  
Email: [jlsports@ak.net](mailto:jlsports@ak.net)

***Fly Casting classes are scheduled as follows.***

***May 19th —Beginner Casting***

***For more information call Jim at J & L.***

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S  
ANNUAL  
WALK—A— THON**

**Long time MSFC member Bill Warren is the current president of the Fairbanks chapter of the American Cancer Society. He and his family, including his father Dub and brother Kelly, who are also long time MSFC members, have been involved in the Walk for Cancer event held the first week of June.**

**Anyone wishing to participate or help out in some way can call Bill at 457-1822**

**A word to the wise.....**

beleaguered angling tax payers. For years the Coast Guard did not seem to care about rafts, canoes, and such in terms of registration. The State has taken over the registration now and that policy is over. You are now required to obtain a Coast Guard ID number and register your raft or canoe if it's over 10 feet long. If you don't use a motor the 3 year registration is \$10. If you do use a motor it's \$24. While power boats are required to display the Coast Guard numbers, non-power boats only have to display the Coast Guard registration sticker.

More information can be found out from DMV.

Good Luck!

"There is no monopoly on courage. It is the quality of courage found in fish that leads men to fish for them. And it is something of the same quality in man himself that keeps him wading bravely through swift waters even when the hour is late and the shadows are closing in around him."

Steve Raymond (from FFF Club Wire)

MSFC monthly meetings will resume again on the second Thursday in October 2001.

Have a great summer and we'll see you again in October.  
Happy fishing and tight lines.

-MSFC Board of Directors-



**2001 MIDNIGHT SUN FLY CASTERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

MSFC is a non-profit group of fly fishers, whose chartered goals include promoting the sport of fly fishing, education, and youth involvement in outdoor activities. Each member will receive our monthly newsletter.

**Membership: Family/Individual \$25/yr.**

**New Member •**

**Renewal •**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND TO:**

MSFC

P.O. BOX 81031

FAIRBANKS, AK 99708

Midnight Sun Flycasters  
P.O. Box 81031  
Fairbanks, AK 99708

**BRING A FLY FOR THE FLY BOX AND A KID!**