

Great Lakes Council Development

Every gift regardless of amount is greatly appreciated and will be used to support projects and events within the Great Lakes Council. This is not limited to the three categories listed on the Donation Form, but rather is a place to start for conserving, restoring and educating within the sport of fly fishing. To qualify for a tax deduction in any given year, contributions must be made by December 31st of that year, and will give the Council a push for the year ahead. Donors will be listed on the Honor Roll published in the “GLC Flyline.”

Conservation: Terry Lyons, VP Conservation (telyons@usol.com) The GLC strives to be the conservation voice of organized fly fishers in Michigan and Indiana. In addition to spearheading the MHRC, we are represented on several river specific restoration committees including the Blue Ribbon Trout Stream Committee, the Michigan Oil and Gas Committee, the Lake Michigan Fisheries Advisory Committee, and the MDNR Fisheries Cold Water Regulations Committee. The GLC provides financial support for specific council club conservation projects as requested on a regular basis depending on amount available for distribution.

Fly Fishing School & Conclave: Jim Schramm, President GLC (jdschramm@oceana.net) The GLC Fly Fishing School & Conclave is held in June each year at the Ralph MacMullen Conference Center on North Higgins Lake near Roscommon, Michigan. Education programs, classes, and workshops for the beginner, intermediate and advanced fly anglers are held on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. Donations to this fund will help defray costs of putting on this educational event.

Flyline: Colleen Jenkins, Editor (crowjenkins@comcast.net) , and Bob Kren, VP Communications (rmkren@umflint.edu) The “GLC Flyline” has changed its look over the last few issues, and we shall continue to work toward making this important newsletter even more relevant and useful for our membership. Producing and distributing the “Flyline” takes well over a quarter of the GLC’s budget, and costs keep escalating – just remember: newspapers are cutting back in favor of electronic subscriptions because of their cost increases. Despite generous support from our advertisers, simple inflationary pressures may make it necessary to ask people who want a paper copy to pay for home delivery. If you want to see what the newsletter looks like in color, check out <http://www.fffglc.org/flyline.html> . We can envision a single-sheet “teaser” newsletter, with links to our website, for distribution at Welcome Centers, and through flyshops and guide services. Let’s hope the whole newsletter doesn’t have to become a single sheet.

Fly Tying Expo: Mark Johnson, Chairman Expo Committee (dataplex@acd.net) The GLC Fly Tying Expo is a gathering of more than 80 tyers demonstrating their fly tying skills in one location. Held the first Saturday in December, the Expo has exhibiting vendors as well as raffles and a live auction and is the Councils largest single fundraising activity. A donation designated to the Expo will help defray cost of putting on this exciting event.

Legal Fund: Jim Schramm, President GLC (jdschramm@oceana.net) Contributions to the legal fund will be used to support the involvement of the GLC and/or its Clubs in situations requiring legal action. Examples of past and on-going legal activities include the Michigan Tribal litigation, Kolke Creek case and Mason Tract oil and gas drilling case. Funds are used for legal fees for attorneys, expert testimony, and court costs.

Membership: Terry Greiner, VP Membership (tlgreiner@comcast.net) The Great Lakes Council current membership is currently over a thousand strong. Contributions to this fund will allow us to work with FFF National to increase our base by offering special membership incentives to clubs. In addition, the Fly Tying Expo, fly fishing shows, GLC Conclave and School, and Fall Salmon/Steelhead Outing offer additional opportunities to invite potential new members to federate and learn more about our goals and volunteer opportunities. Another goal is to increase our youth membership and donations will assist in setting up outings, casting and tying programs for the next generation. The GLC provided funds to bring the FFF Education Coordinator to the Conclave and School in 2008 to offer education workshops. The plan is to do this again in 2009 to offer a demonstration youth fly fishing workshop for clubs to start youth programs in their own localities.

Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition: Jim Schramm, President GLC (jdschramm@oceana.net) The Michigan Hydro Relicensing Coalition (MHRC) is a coalition of four statewide, nonprofit conservation groups. Represented are Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), Michigan Council Trout Unlimited (MCTU), Great Lakes Council, Inc., Federation of Fly Fishers, Inc. (FFF), and Anglers of the Au Sable (AA). Formed in 1991, the coalition's mission is to ensure that conservation, environmental and recreational concerns are adequately addressed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and given the fullest possible consideration throughout the licensing process of hydroelectric dams in Michigan. The MHRC is governed by an Oversight Committee of the four groups and operates with three consultants who work closely with the Resource Agencies and hydro project owners in addressing the issues. Contributions to this fund will help support ongoing activities of the MHRC.

Scholarship: Kevin Lounds, VP Education (Yoopnnancy@aol.com) The annual Great Lakes Council Memorial scholarship is awarded annually to a candidate selected from a list of applicants. In order to be eligible for the award, the candidate must be currently enrolled within a school that is within the boundaries of the Great Lakes Council. Areas of academia that are required need to be affiliated with Natural Resource management, Fisheries and Wildlife management or Education with an emphasis on the sciences and a desire to promote conservation in the classroom. Applications are available through the GLC website, and in order to be considered for the following year, need to be returned to Kevin Lounds Prior to April 1, 2009. The scholarship is a one time payment of \$1,000, and is available to both undergraduate and graduate students. For further information, please contact Kevin Lounds at the e-dress above.

Unrestricted: Don Sawyer, VP Development (dsesi@aol.com) A most urgent category is for unrestricted donations which will allow the GLC to direct funding of strategic areas of critical need. Contributions can be designated as unrestricted but any not designated for specific programs will be placed in this category. These include benefactor donations as well as those obtained from fund raising efforts at GLC sponsored events.

Web site: Bob Kren, VP Communications (rmkren@umflint.edu) Contributions to support the GLC website will go toward payment of provider's fees, and enhancements: forms that can be filled out and submitted online, online payments of dues and other fees, and possibly a whole new look to the site. This would also help avoid the necessity of having pop-up advertising on the site. The number of individuals visiting the site has increased 72% during just the last few months in 2008.