

## Pick a Pattern

## Tie Them Up

## Donate Them

**SOUTH BEND, Ind. - For Immediate Release – 10/16/18** – On April 13th, fly tyers from various Fly Fishers International and Trout Unlimited Clubs from around the Great Lakes region will come together for the 13th annual Tie-a-thon to tie and donate flies benefiting The Mayfly Project and Camp Kita.

The event is being held at the Elkhart, Ind. Conservation Club, which has donated their use of their facility again.

"This year tyers will surpass a total of 113,600 flies donated by individual tyers two good causes using fly fishing", said Tie-a-thon co-founder, Terry Wittorp.

### About the Recipients

**The Mayfly Project's** mission is to build relationships with children in foster care through fly fishing and introduce them to their local water ecosystems, with a hope that connecting them to a rewarding hobby will provide an opportunity for foster children to have fun, feel supported, and develop a meaningful connection with the outdoors.

At the end of the program the child is given his or her very own fly rod, reel, pack, fly box, flies, tippet, indicators, etc. Our hope is for the child to continue to pursue fly fishing and to have a tool to access the outdoors. Each project is unique and may contain more or less stages, but the goal is to provide a well-rounded and safe fly fishing experience for children in foster care. [www.themayflyproject.com](http://www.themayflyproject.com).

**Camp Kita** provides a safe, nurturing environment where child survivors can connect with one another while learning constructive ways to deal with the often unspeakable and fierce emotion of losing a parent to suicide. By creating a space for child survivors, we effectively ease the stigma around what it means to have lost a parent to suicide. The campers' shared loss and experience grants them the opportunity to form deep, knowing bonds

with others and thereby forging supportive connections that we hope will last a lifetime.

As a community of survivors, our week-long focus will be to provide and explore constructive forms of self-expression. We will practice self-awareness as a way of identifying feelings and communicating them in a focused way. Our focus on grief—on shattering apart—will dovetail with an equally significant focus on hope—the power and purpose of piercing oneself together. Most importantly, we will empower campers to utilize the tools and resources we provide so that they may draw upon them throughout their lives. [www.campkita.com](http://www.campkita.com).

### What is the Tie-A-Thon?

The premise of the Tie-A-Thon is like an old fashion barn raisin' where several tyers tie as many flies as they can during the Saturday, April 13 event.

If interested in participating, pick just one pattern to tie, buy a box of 100 hooks and needed materials and get tying! At the April 13th gathering in Elkhart, Ind., Terry Wittorp, Tie-A-Thon head chef, will have a spectacular lunch for all the tyers - which is worth at least 200 flies, but we will give you a break. To keep the excitement level up while tying, we will have a guest tyer every other hour to show off special patterns. A video system set up will make it easy to see from your tying station.

You are welcome to tie 100 flies or more or you can send them to us if you cannot join us. If you are not a fast tyer and don't think you can complete your 100 flies during the allotted time, it's OK to get a jump on your tying prior to April 13. Plus, the organizers will certainly take more than 100 from anyone if they are ambitious and want to tie flies in advance. If you cannot make the April 13th event, you can always mail flies in to us; a mailing address is listed at the end with all

the contact information. You don't have to be an expert tyer to donate flies. Many first-time fly tyers have participated, with the Tie-A-Thon giving them a chance to become very good tying at least one fly. For those who need some assistance on learning a pattern to tie, contact Tim Scott via email at [timelscott@gmail.com](mailto:timelscott@gmail.com).

If you cannot make the event, you can always mail flies in!



Flies Patterns	Hook Size
Adams	14-18
Ants	20-18
Beetles	18-14
Blue Winged Olive	22-18
Clouser Minnow	4-8
Elk Hair Caddis	14-16
Griffith Gnat	22-20
Hare's Ear	12-14
Hoppers / Madam X	10-14
Meatzgazers / Jimmy's Rubber Legs	10-12
Mickey Finn	4-8
Pheasant Tail	14-16
Soft Hackles	14-16
Sow Bugs	14-18
Squirmy Worms	10-14
Trico	20-22
Woolly Buggers	6-10

For directions, search Elkhart Conservation Club, 55515 Riviera Dr, Elkhart, IN 46514

Any questions, contact

Tim Scott, [timelscott@gmail.com](mailto:timelscott@gmail.com),

574-538-1936 [www.sjruff.com](http://www.sjruff.com)

Terry Wittorp, [terryflyfish@hotmail.com](mailto:terryflyfish@hotmail.com),

269-424-5138 [www.kvctu.org](http://www.kvctu.org)

If you cannot make the Tie-a-thon, please mail flies to: Tim Scott - 711 Forest Ave. South Bend, IN 46616. Check us out on Facebook

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Fly Committed to Tie: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fly Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Return this slip to a Tie-a-thon official

