

Press Release

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REELING & HEALING MIDWEST ANNOUNCES CURRENT 2007 MICHIGAN FLY-FISHING RETREAT SCHEDULE FOR WOMEN BATTLING & SURVIVING CANCER

BRANCH, MI, FEBRUARY 26, 2007: Reeling & Healing Midwest is proud to announce their 2007 Michigan Fly-Fishing Retreat Schedule for women battling and surviving cancer. "I can't wait for the opportunity to catch a trout again!" exclaimed Debra Beyer from the Muskegon area. Debra is a past participant and current volunteer. "I am forever grateful to have participated at a retreat. I was undergoing chemotherapy at the time and the support I received from the other women, plus the healing power of fishing in the river, well, it just gave me a new perspective on life. It renewed my hope. Moreover, I caught my first fish! I'll never forget it!"

Reeling & Healing Midwest offers different fly-fishing retreat opportunities. Their *New Participant Retreat* is open to any woman, 18 years or older, who is battling or surviving any cancer. No fly-fishing experience is required. Equipment and lodging are provided by Reeling & Healing Midwest.

As the positive aspects of the retreat programs continue to spread, and the numerous requests to offer retreats for women battling and surviving all types of cancers increases as well, Reeling & Healing Midwest is determined to add retreats by increasing fundraising efforts and opportunities to fish together.

Last summer, Reeling & Healing Midwest responded to requests for a retreat for women surviving all cancers by hosting the first type of

retreat in Michigan. It was so well received; they added another before the end of the summer. These retreats, as well as those focused on women surviving breast cancer were a tremendous success! And now there are even more women learning to fly fish on Michigan's rivers and streams.

"Having Reeling & Healing Midwest offer the opportunity of the retreat program to the many different types of cancer that women are surviving is a blessing," says Penny Newland, a Traverse City-area social worker specializing in assisting cancer patients. "There are many women suffering the turmoil of cancer - ovarian, brain, leukemia - you name it. The addition of a support program such as the fly-fishing retreats is much needed within the survivor community," says Carol Meyer.

Over the years, many survivors have participated in the retreat programs. Many of those individuals have requested additional opportunities to get together and fly-fishing again. Reeling & Healing Midwest continues to fulfill their requests with *Reunion Retreats*, which were first offered in 2005. *Reunion Retreats* are open to any women who has participated in a New Participant program with Reeling & Healing Midwest or any similar organization. Equipment is available for use at these retreats.

In addition to the women's retreat programs, Reeling & Healing Midwest has been instrumental in assisting and organizing a retreat program for men by co-partnering with an organization called Reel Recovery.

The 2007 schedule of fly-fishing retreats at this time is:

2007 New Participant Retreat

July 9-11 - Men's Retreat

July 15-17 - Women's All Cancer Retreat

July 29-31 - Women's Breast Cancer

August 6-8 - Women's Breast Cancer

August 12-14 - Women's All Cancer Retreat

The location for the Men's Retreat and New Participant Retreats is Gates Au Sable Lodge in Grayling, MI.

2007 Reunion Retreats

May Weekend (Date pending) Private Lodge on the North Branch of
the Au Sable in Lovells, MI

July 21st Annual One Day Float & Fishing Retreat on the Pere
Marquette with the Pere Marquette River Lodge &
Sweetwater Creek Homestead

September Weekend (Date pending) Muskegon River, Newaygo, MI

October Weekend (Date pending) Pere Marquette River, Baldwin, MI

Reeling & Healing Midwest is a Michigan-based 501(c)(3)tax-exempt non-profit organization that is 100% donor-sponsored and 100% volunteer-supported. All contributions are applied directly to the sponsorship of participants and retreat costs and are tax deductible as permitted by law.

For more information regarding participating, volunteering, sponsoring a participant or supporting Reeling & Healing Midwest, visit their website at www.reelingandhealingmidwest.org or www.IFishOn.org or phone 866-237-5725.

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