

Reeling & Healing Midwest and Pere Marquette River Lodge

To Host Annual One-Day Float Trip for Cancer Survivors

BRANCH, MI - Reeling & Healing Midwest and The Pere Marquette River Lodge have teamed up to host their Third Annual One-Day Float and Fly Fishing Retreat on the Pere Marquette River Saturday, July 21, 2007, for cancer survivors.

Last year, eighteen river guides generously donated their boats, time and expertise, to a day on the river for over forty cancer survivors. "The guides came from all over the State of Michigan to help out," shared Frank Willetts, owner of The Pere Marquette River Lodge. "This is a great opportunity to give back and share our love for the river and fish with a wonderful group of heroic survivors battling and living through cancer. This year we anticipate a much larger event."

The day will begin with breakfast at the lodge. Cancer survivors participating will have the opportunity to enjoy a full-day float trip or a half-day trip and wade fishing with a guide.

Boxed lunches will be provided for all participants and guides. Following the day of fishing, dinner will be hosted at the lodge. Prizes will be given for various categories to award guides and participants who experienced a noteworthy day on the river.

"I can't wait to attend the retreat! I enjoyed it so much last year. I learned quite a bit from the guides, had a great time with the other cancer survivors and caught four nice sized brown trout" exclaimed Brooke Madden

from the St. Joseph, Michigan area. Brooke is a past participant and current volunteer for Reeling & Healing Midwest. "After my first retreat with the organization four years ago, I fill my calendar with the dates for each year's retreats and outings. Attending the outings has been a true gift to me and my recovery from cancer. The healing power of fishing in the river gives me hope and its fun too."

"My mom was extremely proud to have me participate in this retreat and help women surviving cancer," shared Ty Webb of Feenstra Guide

again this year."

"Over the past six years our retreat programs have helped over 400 women deal with their battle against cancer and through their cancer survivorship. The retreats have also enhanced the lives of the many volunteers and sponsors," explained Cathy Sero, president of Reeling & Healing Midwest. "This retreat honors all of them. And this year we're encouraging past participants to bring their caregiver along to share the experience on the river with them."

Pre-registration is required to attend the retreat. Equipment is provided and no fly-fishing experience is needed.

For more information regarding participating, volunteering, sponsoring or supporting this retreat or other Reeling & Healing Midwest

events, phone 866-237-5725 or visit their website at www.ReelingandHealingMidwest.org or www.IFishOn.org.

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.



Services. Having recently lost his aunt to breast cancer, he understands the heartache of what cancer does to an individual and their family. "There's no place like a river to feel better about life. And just like Cathy Sero says, the retreat is much more than catching the fish to the women and men who participate at this retreat. It's an opportunity to learn, grow, share and renew your spirit. I had a blast and am excited to help out