



Penobscot Fly Fishers NEWSLETTER

Wind Knots
April 2006

Don Corey
President



Opening Day is right around the corner. This winter has been nearly void of snow so it will be interesting to see what the spring "run off" is like. Many of the area lakes have had spots this winter with open water. It remains to be seen how much effect that will have on premature ice outs.

Spring trolling, a New England tradition, is often very productive for landlocked salmon and brook trout fishing following ice out. Before venturing out on your favorite water check your boat and personal floatation devices to ensure that everything is in good working condition.

The water is extremely cold this time of year. Typical ice out water temperatures are between 32.5 – 40 degrees. Exhaustion or unconsciousness usually occurs within 30 minutes after entering the water (www.mayoclinic.com). Please be CAREFUL!

I would like to thank all the club members for their continued support during the past few months. We have had a very busy first quarter of 2006. Starting with our annual beginners fly tying course, then the Cabin Fever Reliever show, and last but not least, the Penobscot County Conservation Association Sportsmen Show. Each of these events is successful because of the generous club members giving both their time and talent. Thank you all very much for your continued support!

Rod Maintenance

Last month we talked about line/reel maintenance this month we are going to talk about getting your some of your other equipment ready. Let's start with rods. Hopefully they haven't been stored in rod bags and closed tubes all winter. Let's get them out and

inspected. Rods should always be wiped dry before storing for extended periods of time. Rod socks/tubes are great protection when transporting but rods should not be stored in them all winter. Failure to keep them dry can lead to time consuming and/or costly repairs. Water/moisture is your rods worst enemy. Moisture will cause your grip to mold. Water that works its way under guide wraps will turn them cloudy and will require removals and replacement of the guide.

Inspect each guide for breaks or cracks in the frame, rough spots on the inside of the guide or cracks in the thread wraps covering the guide feet. A few minutes in the garage checking equipment will help make your fishing season a more enjoyable experience.

While you are inspecting your gear, it is a good time to prepare a small rod repair kit to keep in your boat, vest or tackle box in case of a rod emergency. Some items to include in your kit:

1. 3 or 5 minute epoxy (small tube or foil packets)
2. butane lighter (removing tip tops/starting fires)
3. spare tip tops (2 or 3 sizes)
4. guides (2 or 3 different sizes)
5. small spool of rod thread

With these items you may be able to make a streamside repair to a broken rod tip or guide that can possibly save your fishing trip. Lifetime rod warranties are great but Fedex and UPS don't make too many pickup and deliveries on the water.

April Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

The speaker for the April 5th dinner meeting will be **Woody Higgins** of the **Penobscot County Conservation Association**. Woody will be bringing us up to date on the progress being made at Greenland Point and the Maine Conservation Camp. The PFF has been very involved with the Conservation Camp in the past including assisting with the purchase of the Francis Montville dock

system at the camp. Folks start gathering at the Coach House restaurant in Brewer around 6 pm.

May Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 3, 2006

The speaker for the May 3, 2006 dinner meeting will be Pat Keliher, Executive Director of the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission. Pat will talk about the MASC and the status of Atlantic Salmon in Maine. Pat will also be able to answer questions about the possibility of a season this year on the Penobscot River. Folks start gathering at the Coach House restaurant in Brewer around 6 pm. For more information about the MASC visit www.maine.gov/asc/index.shtml.

Advanced Fly Tying Class with Dan Legere

www.penobscotflyfishers.com/flytying.html

We have been talking about it for months and the plans are finally confirmed. Maine Guide Fly Shop owner and Master Guide Dan Legere will be teaching a one day intermediate/advanced fly tying class on Sunday, April 30, 2006 at the Wagner Middle School in Winterport. The class will be for Penobscot Fly Fishers club members and will be limited to the first 20 students. This class is not a beginners' class. Students should at least be proficient in the basic fly tying skills. Please email Don Corey to enroll in the class at don@annikarodandfly.com or call him at 843-5634. Checks should be made payable to Penobscot Fly Fishers and should be mailed to:

Penobscot Fly Fishers
C/O Donald Corey
36 Kingsbury Rd.
Holden, ME 04429

If payments have not been received by April 15, available spots in the class will be offered to the general public.

Dan will be providing all the materials and hooks for the day. Students should plan to bring their own vise and tools. You may also want to bring a light and cord. Cost for the class including materials is \$15, a real bargain!

The plan for the day is as follows:

Arrive between 8 and 8:15 am

Morning session 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Brown bag lunch 12:30 pm – 1 pm (sandwiches can be ordered)

Afternoon session 1 pm – 5 pm

The list of flies that Dan is planning on tying are: Grey Ghost, Thunder Creek, Stone Fly, Bead Head Prince Nymph, Muddler Minnow, White Wulff, Lefty's Deceiver, Whistler, Sand Eel and a slider fly.

Calendar

- Apr 5 Wednesday, monthly dinner meeting
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm
Speaker: Woody Higgins, Maine Conservation Camp
- Apr 19 Wednesday, monthly Directors meeting
Brewer Lake or
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm
- Apr 30 Advanced Fly Tying
Wagner Middle School, Winterport
8:30 – 5 pm
- May 3 Wednesday, monthly dinner meeting
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm
Speaker: Pat Keliher, Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission
- May 17 Wednesday, monthly Directors meeting
Penobscot River/Phillips Lake or
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm

New members

Please welcome these new additions to our club. Thank you for supporting our organization with your recent membership!

Malcolm Coulter Jr., Holden
Alexander Kovanko, Orono
James McNamara, Brewer
John Weinmann, Orrington
Richard Patch, Bangor
Michael Coburn, Greenville Jct.
Chester Collamore, Knox
Neal Halloran, Glenburn
Ron McKusick, Corinna
Brian O'Connor, Concord, MA
Bob Vadas, Orono

Reflections from the fly tying class

Seems like we just started the class yesterday but the class has been going on for weeks (time flies when you are having fun!!). Every fly has been tied by one of the Penobscot Fly Tying club members and all the little intricate details of that particular fly were patiently explained. A recipe was given out with each fly for the students to take home. We quickly found out each instructor tied flies just a little differently, but all came out with the same result.

The person doing the demo usually explained how the fly is fished and how the fly reacts in the water. Many tips were shared on how to cast, where to cast, etc. All of the instructors were very willing to share their secrets on how to produce the best fly. I think all of the students were tying flies with much more ease as the weeks went by.

I have fished with flies for years and now appreciate the process and effort it takes to make a presentable fly. The mystery is gone and the new skills only need to be practiced (it is suggested that a person tie 10 – 12 flies to get their skill level up to par) I recommend this class to anyone interested in fly tying; this includes the novice (that's me), intermediate and even the expert. Our instructors are forever seeking better and more efficient ways to improve their tying skills and they certainly shared this information.

Thanks for a great time.

Malcolm Coulter, Jr.

P.S. I forget the humor, and best of all the cookies.

GPS Class

Randy McEwen from Central Maine Navigation has agreed to conduct a one day map/compass/GPS class for Penobscot Fly Fishers members at a reduced fee of \$50 per person. This day long course is normally \$100.

The class will be held on Sunday, May 7, 2006 in the Bangor area and will be limited to 10 – 12 students. Depending on the interest, a second class may be held. To reserve a spot in the class please email Don Corey at don@annikarodandfly.com or call him at 843-5634. This is a first come first serve event. Please make your \$50 check out to Randy McEwen. Checks should be mailed to:

Donald Corey
36 Kingsbury Rd.
Holden, ME 04429