



Penobscot Fly Fishers NEWSLETTER

February 2008

February 6 Dinner Meeting

The regularly scheduled dinner meeting on Wednesday, February 6 will be held at the Coach House Restaurant. Ray "Bucky" Owens will give a power point presentation concerning the Penobscot River Restoration. Bucky has been Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Director of the University of Maine Wildlife Department, and a member of LURC. He is also an accomplished canoeist, hunter, and fisherman.

March 5 Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, March 5 is the date of our next dinner meeting at the Coach House Restaurant. The evening's speaker, Dr. Alex Kovanko, presents a talk about wilderness first aid.

Thank You

Jim Snow has donated two copies of the out of print classic Atlantic Salmon Flies by Dick Stewart and Farrow Allen. Thank you, Jimmy Snow for your generous gift.

Canoe Raffle

A 16' green Old Town Guide canoe is the prize in Penobscot Fly Fisher's winter fund raising raffle. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Tickets are available at Van Raymond Outfitters, Merrill Merchants Bank in Orrington and club meetings.

Cabin Fever Reliever Update, February 23 and 24

You can see a complete list of all 25 exhibitors on the Penobscot Fly Fishers Home Pool web page. If you can help with setup please contact Ernie MacDonald at the meeting. Also, if anyone knows of someone interested in advertising in the show book, contact Mike Curtis.

Knot of the month, the Turtle Knot

The turtle knot does not come loose, according to Joe Bertolaccini. Joe has successfully used this knot for 40 years. He, or a substitute, will be tying this fly to leader knot before the meal at the February meeting.

Rumors, etc.

Tiffany Lawlor received a pair of waders for Christmas, had to try them out by fishing in the Kennebec River. Great attitude!

A note from the Secretary

John would like anyone with a changed or new e-mail account to send him the address at pbunyan@verizon.net. This reduces our newsletter costs and aids communication. Thank you for your help. This will allow a direct e-mail of the newsletter and an e-mail reminder of the meeting.

Reviews

Rotary Fly Tying Techniques by Mike Holt, proprietor of Fly Fishing Only in Fairfield made the review list this month. Mike's DVD demonstrates several rotary tying techniques and how they can apply by tying a variety of patterns. This is a good DVD I own and have watched several times. It is also in the club library. While I had been tying with a rotary vise for several years, the DVD had ideas I have found useful. If you have a rotary vise this is a good DVD to view. It also shows why you might want to own a true rotary vise.

Fishing Small Flies by Ed Engle depicts the mentality, techniques, equipment, and common hatches of small flies in Colorado. However, all the hatches or an equivalent insect such as midges, micro caddis and blue wing olives occur here. The book contains several drawings which aid the written explanation. As I write this, I am planning to rig a rod as shown in the text and try winter fishing for the first time. This book is in the club library at Dr. Ed Bruno's office.

Not inexpensive fly reels: I only have experience with two fly reels in this category; Scientific Anglers System Two and the Cortland large arbor Endurance. The Scientific Anglers has been my saltwater reel for nearly twenty years, but sad to say has not been into that brawling striper yet. I wash the rod, reel and line in fresh water before leaving the fishing area. The reel has performed well with no problems in all those years. I have only been fishing with the Cortland Endurance for two years. It has performed well with my floating six weight shooting rig and the seven weight forward line. It is silent when you reel in line, something new I like. Even more, I like its sturdy, but light feel. I like both these reels, no buyers regret. I bought the Endurance at Van Raymond outfitters, can not recall where the System II was purchased, but I know at one time they were available at L.L. Bean. From advertising, I believe Maine Guide Fly Shop in Greenville will have the Scientific Anglers reel.

Sunday at 12:00. See Don and ask if you can lend a hand to this fine demonstration.

Fly Tier of the Month

Joe Bertolaccini, or substitute, will be tying Joe's favorite crayfish pattern, which is our fly of the month. Crayfish can be found in still waters and running waters. They do not like sunlight, therefore fishing with them is best beginning at sunset to before sunrise, but sometimes they move during the day. Joe suggests using a sinking line retrieved with quick, short spurts – suggestive of a crayfish escaping prey.

Fly of the Month: Joe's Favorite Crayfish

THREAD: Brown

HOOK: Size 8 4xl

PINCERS: A bunch of red squirrel tail tude on each side of the rear of the hook, just forward of the bend.

EYES: Melted 30lb monofilament beads tied in front of the pincers.

LEGS: Brown Hackle wrapped full in front of the eyes.

BODY: Wrap brown or olive wool, chenille or mohair forward to just behind the hook eye.

BACK: Brown turkey or goose quill or swiss straw pulled forward over legs and body.

TAIL: Bring the back over the eye of the hook ¼ to 3/8 “.

1. Tie on pincers.
2. Tie in mono eyes.
3. Tie in back, leaving over bend of hook.
4. Tie in hackle and wrap on hook.
5. Tie in the body and wrap forward towards eye.
6. Pull the back forward over legs and body, tie off leaving ¼” in front of hook eye.
7. Add a minimum of two applications of lacquer to the back to prevent splitting and fraying.

Fly Tying Classes for Beginners

Beginner fly tying kicked off in style January 3 with 16 students, Diane Corey's locally famous cookies - chocolate chip and coffee.

As usual, Don Corey led the talented crew of helpers in teaching several basic techniques. The patterns taught in week one were the maple syrup and wooly worm.

January 10 saw a menu of peanut butter cookies, Dark Edson Tiger and Black Ghost marabou.

Those still wishing to enroll in the class for a brush up can still contact Don, Don@annikarodandfly.com. The course fee is \$30.00.

PCCA Sportsman's Show

Bob Blatz has volunteered to be lead tier at the kid's fly tying table in the Memorial Gym during the Sportsman's Show which runs Friday, March 14 from 5:00 to 9:00; Saturday March 15, from 9:00am to 8:00 pm and Sunday, March 16 from 10:00 to 4:00. Bob needs help teaching the youngsters. See him at the meeting to sign up to help in this popular feature of the Sportsman's Show.

Additionally, Don Corey is coordinating the fly fishing demonstration in the pool on Saturday at 2:00 and

Penobscot Fly Fishers Fly Fishing Tournament

The tournament is scheduled for Father's Day; Sunday, June 15. A morning of bass fishing classes featuring casting, tying bass flies, and special bass knowledge will be held on June 14. More details will be printed as plans are finalized.

Fishing Trips

There are a few trips already planned for 2008. For details on these e-mail Marcus with your interest to marcusflyfisher@peoplepc.com.

Best wishes to Jimmy Snow

As those who were at the January dinner meeting, Jimmy Snow resigned from the board of directors. He is moving to California. Jimmy has helped the Penobscot Fly Fishers at summer camp, fly tying, fly fishing day and several other events over the years. He has been instrumental in obtaining help from Van Raymond Outfitters.

Jimmy, we will miss you. Best wishes and good luck in California!

Changes on the Board of Directors

Tiffany Lawlor replaces Jim Snow. Ron Landry became an officer, John Weineman fills Ron's vacancy on the board. Marcus resigned as treasurer due to health. Ernie MacDonald is the new treasurer.

Anyone interested in filling the position of assistant treasurer should contact Alan.

Summer Camp Coordinator

Alan would like to talk with anyone interested in coordinating the volunteers at summer camp.

Fly Swap - nymphs

John Lent is arranging a nymph fly swap for all interested in participating. Sign up at the February meeting or e-mail John. All flies are due at the March supper meeting. John will sort them and have them to hand out to all participants at the April meeting.

Newsletter Distribution

The newsletter needs someone to process and mail about 30 copies of the newsletter to the membership, immediately. Anyone interested contact Alan.