



Penobscot Fly Fishers NEWSLETTER

June 2008

President's Notes

As the calendar pages of May slip by like a fly line through our fingers we can look with wonder at the beauty that spring brings. The flowering crab trees, apple and lilacs bringing fragrance to the landscape. The once open spaces now fill in as leaves fill out branches and bushes and hide the woods that you could see so far into. The high water has receded and most rivers and streams have become accessible to receive a fly casters offerings. As of the morning of May 20, nine Atlantic Salmon had been caught in the Penobscot. Reports say only a few fishermen are plying the waters with only 91 licenses sold.

The Penobscot Fly Fishers work at educating our younger generation in hopes they will fill our wading stations in the near future. Bob Blatz demonstrated fly tying at the Penobscot Salmon Club on May 20 to several groups of high school students from the Dexter area.

The Penobscot River Keepers took the students out on the Penobscot in 24' canoes. There were education stations set up near the clubhouse telling of the history of the salmon fishing on the Penobscot and the people who did it. The students also went on a nature walk.

As we near summer we will be gathering volunteers to teach fly tying, casting and equipment use at the conservation camp at Greenland Point on Big Lake in Washington County. There are other opportunities available at Fields Pond (Audubon camps) we are looking into. You need not to be a pro to teach kids. Most of them have never been near a vice and are tickled pink when they have finished tying their first fly.

If you did not attend our May meeting you missed fisheries biologist Forrest Bonney's talk on the Brook Trout. He brought his book (published in Aug 2007) "Squaretails" with him and sold many copies to club members. The 165 page book is written for the layman and gives the history of the biology and management of Maine's Brook Trout. There is a section on the "The One That Didn't Get Away Club" from 1959 to 2000. Brook Trout of five pounds or more are listed and where they were caught. Forrest Bonney has been a fisheries biologist for 38 years with the longest portion of his work being in the Rangeley Region in western Maine.

Alan Gray, President

June 4 Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 4 is the date of our next dinner meeting at the Coach House Restaurant.

The speaker for the meeting will be Debra Schmidt, a wildlife photographer from Holden, ME.

3rd Annual fishing derby

Sunday, June 15 all day on the Penobscot. Eddington boat launch site. Last years event was well attended and a fun event. Several club members will bring boats. Fly fishing only. If anyone is interested in helping coordinate this event please contact Alan Gray. There will be more information available at the June 4th dinner meeting.

Dues Reminder

June is the month that Penobscot Fly Fisher Club memberships are due. \$30. single, \$35. family. Dues can be paid at the monthly dinner meeting or they can be mailed to:

Penobscot Fly Fishers
PO Box 651
Brewer, ME 04412

Wanted – Someone to “do” the newsletter

The club is in need of someone to “do” the newsletter each month. John Weinmann photocopies and mails the newsletter so we just need someone to “gather” the submissions (Board of Directors minutes, President's Notes, upcoming events/speakers, etc.) and cut and paste them into a Microsoft Word document. It requires approximately 1 hour per month. Currently the newsletter is composed in Microsoft Word, a pdf version is created for the web and then it is emailed to John for printing/mailing. If you are willing to help, please contact Don Corey or Alan Gray if you have any questions or if you are interested.