



APRIL 2014

SINCE
1963

Rhody FLY RODDERS

America's Oldest Saltwater Fly Fishing Club



APRIL MEETING

WHERE THE HECK ARE ALL THE STRIPED BASS!



Come join us and maybe you'll find out from Capt. Jim White, at the April meeting of Rhody Fly Rodders, Tuesday, April 15th, at 6:30pm.

With this being our last meeting for the winter schedule, we thought it might be a good idea to find out what we should expect from this coming fishing season, and what the future looks like, as far as our beloved striped bass is concerned.

This month, **Capt. Jim White** has graciously accepted our invitation to talk to us about an organization in which he is deeply involved, called Stripers Forever. He will tell us about striped bass fishing past and present, the current status of the stock, the future outlook and what current regulations are being considered.

Capt. Jim has been a licensed captain for 24 years and led the first effort to save striped bass, by helping to write the first moratorium bill through Congresswomen Claudine Schineder's office. He has testified before congress and the US Senate, and has written over 250 articles regarding striped bass conservation. Jim is an author, founding member of Stripers Forever and also nominated for a national Jefferson Award for his efforts regarding striped bass.

We are honored to have Capt. Jim as our guest speaker and anxious to learn more about the plight of our beloved striped bass.

I know you all share his concern about the decline of the striper stocks and what we can all do to help this magnificent fish rebound and hopefully attain 'gamefish status'.

Please join us for what should be a very informative evening. We will have **4 Great Bucket Raffles**, with enough 'good stuff' to carry you through the summer.

The coffee pot is always on along with Armand's famous cookies. Bar refreshments are available.

Bring a friend! Bring Two!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I sit here thinking about what to write for my message to you, my mind is flashing back to some great memories and good times we had at these past winter meetings and events.

It started in October with our 'Kick-Off Cookout' which is always fun. Then came the news of the passing of Rhody founder, Al Brewster. Thanks, Al! Then in November we had a re-visit of 'Meet-the-Experts' with some of our experienced members telling of their favorite fishing venues. In December we had a very successful 'fly-tying' night where we tied over 100 flies for 'Project Healing Waters'. Unfortunately our January meeting was cancelled because of a snow storm and Capt. Ray had to move his presentation to February, which was enjoy by a sparse group due to another snow storm. Damn this winter! Again in Feb. we had a strong presence at the Bear's Den Show, where we added a few new members, and then at our March meeting we were treated to a great presentation by member Ed Lombardo, we also raffled off 3 of Dave Loren's custom fly rods. Then, last weekend, we had a huge presence at the RISAA Saltwater show where we made many new friends and potential new members.

With these reflections I look forward to a great presentation this month by Capt. Jim White on the past and present Striped Bass status. I'm also anxious, along with everyone else, to get this winter behind us and start this fishing season.

It's been a very long and dreadful winter and we all welcome Spring with open arms. I, like most of us, will start the season by wetting a line on opening day of trout season. It may not be the 'big tug' of a striper, but to catch a little native brookie on opening day, makes me smile. I'm also thinking and fantasizing of the fish I will catch this year, on my many trips to the Delaware River and my many walks on the beaches and rocks of Rhode Island in pursuit of my favorite striped bass. Aaah, the dreams!

This time of year is also for reflecting and anticipation of fishing with good friends...with the laughs, the bragging, and the fun we have sharing our love of fishing with others – doesn't get any better than that!

Don't forget our summer fishing meetings – we do have fun, please join us!

Best, Peter Nilsen



CASTING ABOUT

February Meeting

A big thank you to Ed Lombardo for his very informative presentation on 'Fly Fishing Out West', at our last meeting. Ed told about his 30 year experience of traveling to Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming fishing for amazing trout in a beautiful part of this country. He explained how to get there, where to fish, how to fish, what flies to use and what equipment to have to catch those wonderful fish. Thanks again Ed, great job!



Fishing Shows

I'd like to thank the many members who volunteered to help at the our booth of the two fishing show we attended. Helping man the booth and selling our flies for 'Project Healing Waters' were...Capt. Ray Stachleck, Mike Kelly, Bob Teeden, Armand Corchaine, Ron Montecalvo, Martin Custodio, Ray Bondorew, Ed Tatro, and Art Dugas. Thank you again guys. Also thanks to Geno for 'keeping a seat warm' and tying a few flies.

A kid at the RISSA show put his hand in the fly box and pulled out one of Geno's flies. He said to me, "Mister, what is *this*, and will it catch a fish?" After fumbling for my thoughts, I said, "Son, that's an 'Illusion', and I don't know what it represents, but it does catch a lot of fish!" He then put his dollar bills in the box and took the fly home with him. Another convert to...the "Illusion"!



It's sure lonely out there on the front lines. Ray Bondorew & Bob Teeden wait for someone to talk to, or bring them food and water, maybe even a bathroom break.

THIS MONTH'S "DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?"



Continuing the 'guess who' person of the month feature -
This forward thinking fly fisherman was a long time Rhody member. His innovative style of fly tying and fishing influenced many past & present members. (answer on these pages)

Summer Fishing Meeting Schedule

After a meeting of the minds to find the best days, locations and tides, we've come up with these locations for our 2014 Summer Fishing meetings. We will meet at the following locations around 3:00 or 4:00pm (sooner or later if you like) and fish till dark. This is open to all members and non-members alike. We will have a few small grills, (if you have one, bring it) and bring along some 'dogs' and 'burgers' and we'll cook 'em up. Also, bring a chair for yourself. Chips and water will be available. Let's make this some fun evenings. Hope to see you there. We will also be joining a couple of other clubs at their summer meetings, when I find out these days, I'll send out an email.



THURS., MAY 22nd — GODDARD PARK (boat ramp)
(out-going) – High tide @ approx 3:15pm

TUES., JUNE 17th — BRISTOL NARROWS (boat ramp)
(out-going) – High tide @ approx 12:15pm

THURS., JULY 17th — NARROW RIVER (Sprague)
(out-going) – High tide (in river) @ approx 3:00pm

THURS., AUG. 14th – QUONOCHONTAUG (boat ramp)
(out-going) – High tide (in area) @ approx 3:00pm

THURS., SEPT. 11th — NARROW RIVER (Sprague)
(out-going) – High tide (in river) @ approx 12:30pm



OPENING DAY AND CHARLIE GOT SKUNKED AGAIN!
BUT ONLY THIS TIME, THE DARNED THING FOLLOWED HIM HOME!

ODDS 'N ENDS

Rod Raffles

Congratulations to the three winners from our raffle last month of Dave Loren's, custom built fly rods. Bob Swift, Bob Teeden and Bill Henrich each won one of Dave's Rods. We hope you all enjoy Dave's rods. Our thanks to Dave Loren for his generosity. Here Bob Swift (*on right*) was a double winner, also winning the door prize created and generously donated by Gene Matteson (*on left*).



Update On Donations for Project Healing Waters

So far, the amount of money raised from the selling of the flies YOU tied, at the December meeting, is \$330.00. That is amazing! A special thanks to the guys that pushed the sales at the fishing shows. The remainder of the flies will be on sale at the April meeting, in case you want to grab a few for the fishing season.



Here Anne Alberino finds a new place to tie some flies!
"Bar-keep, I'll have a Gin & Tonic and a Rhody Flatwing, please!"



"Oops! They're all falling asleep. I can't wait to get my new gavel, so I can pound on the table and wake them up!"

TIPS FROM THE PROS

Fly Line Mending

In fly fishing, line mending is a repositioning of the fly line on the water so that its new position extends the fly's drift. Mends are upstream (upwind) or downstream rod flips, which reposition the line belly while it is adrift.

Mending is essential to many fly presentations; both dry and wet fly methods call for line mending. A simple flip of the wrist mends the line. Upstream flips tend to slow down the fly's drift; downstream flips hasten the fly's drift.

A stream's diverse current speed causes the need for mending and determines the direction of the mend. For example, when the fly is in faster current than its line, a downstream mend extends the fly's drift. On the other hand, when the fly is in a slower current than its line, an upstream mend extends the fly's drift. Since streams seldom have a uniform current, the fly fisherman is constantly confronted with mixed current speeds. Common sense determines the direction the line is mended.

An upstream mend repositions the line belly to float at the same position as the fly; so mending lengthens the fly's drift by preventing drag.

As you fish out a cast, constantly watch the fly and line position. As the fish's relationship to the line changes, correct the line by mending it in the appropriate direction. Optimally, the mending goal is to keep the line, leader and fly in a straight line. Mending retains this straight alignment.

FLY OF THE MONTH



KENNEY ABRAMES' RAZZLE-DAZZLE

HOOK: 254NA 1x short, 2/0-5/0

TAIL: Two strands of very long blue mylar, over one olive saddle, over two strands of very long, light green mylar, over one white saddle hackle, over two strands of very long silver mylar, over a silver doctor blue saddle hackle, over two very long, strands of red mylar, over one yellow saddle hackle, over two strands of gold mylar, over three long white saddle hackles, over a small amount of white bucktail

BODY: Silver mylar piping

THROAT: Long white bucktail, bottom and both sides

WING: Short silver doctor blue saddle hackle, tied flat over a olive saddle hackle

EYES: Jungle cock

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MEETINGS:

Riverside Sportsmen's Association
19 Mohawk Dr., East Providence, RI 02915
3rd Tuesday of the month, Oct. – April

DIRECTIONS:

From Providence take Rt.195 to Exit 7.
Bear right on the ramp & follow Rt. 114 South
(Wamanoag Trail) for 2 miles. Look for WPRO Studios
on left, then take first U-turn back to Rt.114 North.
Continue North and look for the Riverside
Sportsmen's Club sign on right side.



(Quiz answer -
Kenney Abrames)



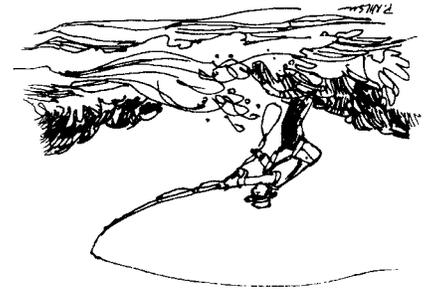
“Pass on to all, who ask what you learn here”.

NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH - 6:30 PM

Our guest speaker this month will be **Capt. Jim White**. Capt. Jim has been a licensed captain for 24 years, guiding the waters in and around Narragansett Bay. He is a book author and has written over 250 articles regarding striped bass conservation, and is a founding member of **‘Stripers Forever’**. He will tell us about striped bass fishing, past and present, the current status of the stock, the future outlook and what current regulations are being considered. Please join us for an outstanding presentation on **Striped Bass conservation**. We will have **4 Bucket Raffles**, and the **Sale of Rhody-Tied Flies** for **‘Project Healing Waters’**.

The coffee pot is always on. Bar refreshments available. Open to the public.

Hope to see you there...bring a friend...bring two!



Peter Nilsen
75 Massasoit Ave.
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A detailed illustration of a fly fishing lure, showing the head, thorax, and tail with various feathers and materials.