

MARCH 2016

SINCE 1963

Rhody FLY RODDERS

America's Oldest Saltwater Fly Fishing Club



MARCH MEETING

Fishing The Wash!

Join us on March 15th for a presentation by Capt. Eric Thomas, on how to fish for stripers in the crashing waves.

Our guest speaker for our **March 15th meeting** will be Newport area fishing guide **Capt. Eric Thomas** from **Teezer77 Guiding Services.**



Eric will explain how to fish for stripers in the crashing waves, and how to maneuver your boat and present your fly or lure to have the best chance to catch a striper, while staying safe.

Capt. Eric has been fishing the waters in and around Newport all his adult life. He's been guiding clients from shore and boat for the past 15 years.

He says, "Education is a passion in my life, whether I'm in front of a class or on the boat with clients, I am always teaching something." Along with catching tons of fish, one of the goals of his guided charters is to teach the client something that he or she might be able to use where they fish. The lesson might be a new knot, a fly tying technique, or an in-depth discussion on why he positions the boat for a particular drift. He says, the number one goal of course, is to have fun.

So, please join us with what should be a very informative evening with Capt. Eric Thomas. **Armand's coffee & cookies** will be there, more **great raffles**, plus a bit of **good conversation and friendship.**

Come Tie Some Flies! Bring a Friend!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It won't be long now! It's time to check your fishing gear and get ready because it...the fishing season...will be here early. the Herring are already 'staggering' in the lower bay and will be heading for the local river and estuaries very soon. That means the big bass are on their way!

Well, the fishing shows are behind us and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who came and helped out at the different shows we attended and manned our 'Rhody' booth. A special thanks to Ray Bondroew for coming and tying at the RISAA show for two days and keeping me company. We had quite a few laughs! Ray is such a 'draw' at these shows and everyone says, "I have your book, great book". And they all wanted a Ray's fly - -he couldn't tie them fast enough. He sure generated interest in the club and our charity. Thanks Ray.

I must say, we did very well in the sales of all the flies you members tied over the last few months. - thank you so much! We sold almost all of the tied and donated flies, and we only have a handful left. Plus we raised over \$400. so far, and we should add to that over the last two meeting and through our summer meetings. Thank you so much to those who took the time and made the effort to tie the flies for this wonderful charity, "Reel Recovery.

This is the most money we've raised in the few years we've been doing this. I'm really proud of what we do for these selective charities over the past few years. We have raised a total of over \$1500. that has gone to some worthy charities.

This month we continue with another informative presentation on our saltwater fly fishing opportunities, with guest speaker, Capt. Eric Thomas and his Teezer 77 Guide Service. Eric was with us a couple of years ago and wowed us with a great presentation . So, don't miss this one!

Please pass on the good word about this wonderful club called Rhody Fly Rodders.

P. Nilson
Tight lines...



CONSERVATION NEWS

– From The Commission on Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management

The Future of Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management

America's sportsmen and women are the backbone of aquatic resource conservation. For the past several decades, anglers have played a leading role in helping rebuild marine fish stocks and prevent overfishing. This is a success story of which we should all be proud.

Through federal excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat fuel, fishing license fees and direct donations, anglers contribute nearly \$1.5 billion annually to fund fisheries conservation and habitat restoration. Our community invests in aquatic resource conservation because we know that the future of recreational fishing directly depends on the health of fish populations and their habitat.

In the last half century, saltwater recreational fishing in the U.S. has experienced tremendous advances in the overall number of anglers, angling ethics, technology used and overall economic impact to the nation.

The National Marine Fisheries Service¹ estimates that approximately 11 million Americans participated in saltwater fishing in 2011, spending \$27 billion on fishing tackle, equipment, and trip-related goods and services. Spending by saltwater anglers generated more than \$70 billion in economic output, supporting more than 450,000 jobs.

However, in the midst of our success in rebuilding marine fisheries and the growth in saltwater recreational fishing, the federal fisheries management system has not adapted to meet the needs of this economic and conservation powerhouse.

Recognizing that we now have an opportunity to establish a saltwater fisheries management system that incorporates the unique goals and needs of anglers, we invited a group of leaders and experts in the fisheries community to initiate a landmark process to develop a vision for saltwater recreational fishing. Throughout 2013, the Commission on Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management met to deliberate and debate strategies to improve saltwater recreational fisheries management.

The Future of Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management

The commission envisions a marine fisheries management system that conserves fishery resources, provides consistency in regulations, and produces the full range of saltwater recreational fishing's economic, social and conservation benefits for the nation.

The Commission on Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Management

Additionally, a wide range of experts and other stakeholders were invited to meet with the commission to provide information and advice on a variety of fisheries management issues. These included economists, researchers, federal and state agency administrators, environmentalists, charter captains and individual recreational anglers.

After extensive discussion and deliberation, the commission established a vision for saltwater recreational fishing and identified steps to set the foundation for a management system that addresses the needs of anglers and industry and produces

the full range of economic, social and conservation benefits provided by recreational fishing.

The recommendations in this report primarily focus on the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in six key areas:

- Establishing a national policy for recreational fishing
- Adopting a revised plan for saltwater recreational fisheries management
- Allocating marine fisheries for the greatest benefit to the nation
- Creating reasonable latitude in stock rebuilding timelines
- Codifying a process for cooperative management
- Managing for the forage base

Each time Americans go fishing and boating, they make a positive contribution to our fish, our waters and the fabric of American society. We should be committed to working together to ensure the conservation of our saltwater resources so their recreational benefits are available for future generations to enjoy.

CASTING ABOUT

Our February Meeting

Our February meeting was a huge success with 'Striper's Forever' Co-Chair, Dean Clark informing us of their ongoing fight in MA, for adopting Striped Bass as a gamefish. We had over 40 members and friends learn the plight and fight of our beloved Striped Bass. Dean talked about the 'commercial' vs. the 'recreational' struggles, where it's going and where it might end. He reported a few bright spots on the horizon and the bottom line is that we have to continue the fight, for the survival of the Striper. Follow Dean and 'Striper's Forever' on their website – stripersforever.org for up to date comings and goings. See their annual Angler Survey results and join their 'Release a Breeder Club'. Thanks Dean, great presentation – keep up the fight!



The Hats are coming – I Promise!

The new order of hats are coming. Honest! The company that made them used the wrong color thread in the picture of the striper and they looked horrible, so I had to reject them. I'm picking them up this week. Out of staters, email me or send a check (\$20.) if you want me to mail one to you.



Mug Shots From The Last Meeting



Mo, Larry & Curley, I think!



John, doing what he does!



Here's Wild Bill tying down a fly!
Grab his little legs, Bill.



I think Armand ties flies in his sleep!
He uses the feathers in his pillow!

Tying and Working the Fishing Shows



Thanks to all the members who helped out at the Bear's Den Show and The RISAA Saltwater Show. Dave Loren did diligent duty at the Bear's Den, tying with me all day. Thanks to Ray Bondorew for sharing two afternoons with me, and to Ed Tatro, Armand Corchaine, Bob D'Alo Jr., Mike Kelley, and Fred Sterner for promoting Rhody Fly Rodders and to help sell our flies for 'Reel Recovery'. A great success!

“High-Time for Fly Tying at Longfellow’s Wayside Inn”

The Wayside Inn will host its Ninth Annual Fly Tying Demonstration and Bamboo Rod Building on Sunday, March 20th from 10 am to 4 pm. The event features amateur and professional fly tyers from MA, NH and ME.

Mr. Fred Kretchman from Kittery, ME is a professional bamboo rod builder and sole appraiser for Lang Auction, for bamboo rods. He will demonstrate the art of building bamboo rods.

Bob McMenemy, “the Bug Man” who did the live aquatic insects for eight years has moved to Arizona. Bob has passed his equipment to Tom Foley and Joe Simone to continue the live exhibit, a big hit for kids and families.

The exhibition is free and open to the public. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Families are encouraged to see this live art of fly tying being demonstrated.

Hand-made Flies by exhibitors will be available for purchase, with all the proceeds benefitting the spring restocking of the pond. Historic Longfellow’s Wayside Inn is located at 72 Wayside Inn Road, Sudbury, MA. The event is free. For more information contact Armand Courchaine at (508)-982-1931 or email him at ajflyfish@yahoo.com.

Support Your Local Guides

When wondering where to fish this year, and where to go if you want to catch some big fish, consider hiring some of RI’s local guides and guiding services. Here is a list of some of the Captains that are experts in guiding fly fishing trips for Stripers, Blues, Albies & Bonito, in local waters. Plus, a few do guide in fresh waters for trout and other species. Some are Rhody members, **all are friends!**

Cast-a-Fly Charters – with Capt. Ray Stachelek
401-884-3794 – www.castaflycharters.com

Fly-Fish RI – with Capt. Bob Hines
401-949-5021 – www.flyfishri.com

Little Rhody Charters – with Capt. Bill Murphy
401-368-7830 – www.littlerhodycharters.com

On-The-Rocks Charters – with Capt. Rene Letourneau
401-359-3625 – www.ontherockcharters.com

Skinny Water Charters – with Capt Jim Barr
401-465-8751 – www.skinnywaterchartersri.com

Teezer77 Guide Service – with Capt. Eric Thomas
401-524-7239 – www.eezer77.com

(listed in alphabetical order - don’t want any trouble here)

Summer Fishing Meetings

We are working on selecting our Summer Fishing Meeting locations for this season, and will have printed lists for you at the next meeting (April). If you have any suggestions for a new place or a favorite of yours, please email me at my email address on the back of the newsletter or call me. Don’t forget that each site has to have room for at least 10 cars and able to support our cooking (charcoal, gas) and have room for 10 or more guys to spread out. Thanks.

TIPS and FACTS

SIZE COUNTS! – FOR WORKING THE NORTHEAST SURF, TWO HANDS ARE BETTER THAN ONE. – BY JAY HORTON

Of all the things that make saltwater fly fishing such a great sport, none ranks as more important than the fact that many excellent game fish feed so close to our shorelines. This fact gives anglers the opportunity to catch nice fish on fly, without the need for a boat. Working the beach is about covering water, finding feeding fish and getting the fly to them as effectively as possible. In general, the more water you can cover, the more successful you’ll be. The logical way to cover more water? Cast farther. Yet even the best caster eventually reaches the limitations of a 9-foot rod. One of the easiest ways a fly angler can increase his casting distance, cover more water and throw giant flies, even in heavy wind and surf, is to get a bigger rod. How big? How about 14, 15 or even 16 feet! A number of rod companies now make fast-action, two-handed rods for overhead casting in lengths from 12 to 16 feet. Not to be confused with Spey rods, these new tapers are cast overhead with 8- to 11-weight weight-forward lines or shooting heads. The major difference in casting these longer rods is that the caster traps the line with the hand above the reel, and places the hauling hand on the handle under the reel. You also replace the traditional haul with a sharp backward tug of the rod butt on the forecast. The transition from one- to two-handed casting is easy, and with an hour of practice, most reasonably competent fly casters will feel comfortable enough to get out on the water.

WHEN TO USE A TWO-HANDER.

Many saltwater fly fishers traditionally cast 50 to 60 feet, while the better caster may average 80 feet. If an angler’s average cast reaches 60 feet, and fish are feeding 40 feet away, that leaves only a brief chance to get the fish’s attention on the retrieve. In situations like this, many anglers spend more time with their offerings in the air than in the strike zone. And what about all that water more than 80 feet from shore? Are there any of us who haven’t experienced the frustration of seeing feeding fish just out of casting range, or having to switch to smaller flies because the breeze always seems to blow toward shore? A long two-handed rod can drastically increase your casting distance and the amount of water you can cover from shore, usually by as much as 50 percent. Doubling an average cast ranks as a genuine possibility. With a fast-action 10- or 11-weight two-hander, an average angler can cast over 100 feet repeatedly with little effort, while better casters will find casting 150 feet of fly line plus a 10-foot leader an attainable goal. That kind of distance helps explain the recent interest in two-handed tapers among those fishing the beaches and jetties of southern New England for bonito and false albacore.

FLY OF THE MONTH



GLIMMER HERRING

HOOK: EAGLE CLAW 254SS, SIZE 2/0.

THREAD: WHITE FLAT WAXED NYLON.

TAIL: SILVER HOLOGRAPHIC FLASHABOU.

BELLY: SILVER BOZO HAIR.

WING: SILVER GLIMMER, PEARL GLIMMER, OLIVE BOZO HAIR, AND DARK GRAY BOZO HAIR. APPLY A THIN COAT OF SOFTEX OR SOFT BODY TO THE HEAD AREA.

EYES: MEDIUM GOLD DOME EYES.

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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.



*This is stuff
is too cool
for school!*



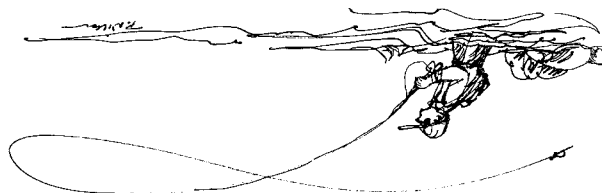
"Pass on to all, who ask what you learn here".

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

Come join us for **a presentation by Capt. Eric Thomas on "Fishing the Wash!"**
Eric will explain how to fish for stripers in the crashing waves, and how to maneuver your boat and/or present your fly or lure to have the best chance to catch a striper, while staying safe.

We'll have a few more of our great **Bucket Raffles**, plus we'll have **Armand's Coffee & Cookies**, along with good some conversation. Bar refreshments are available. It all starts at **6:30**, come early and tie some flies!

Open to the Public. Hope to see you there...bring a friend...bring two!



Peter Nilsen
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