



JANUARY 2018

SINCE
1963

Rhody FLY RODDERS

America's Oldest Saltwater Fly Fishing Club



DECEMBER MEETING

If it's January, it's... PRESENTATION TIME WITH CAPTAIN RAY STACHELEK!



Come join us on Tuesday, January 16th at 6:30pm. for a presentation with Capt. Ray Stachelek about 'Making Sense of Color' in Your Fishing.

Per usual, our guest speaker and presenter in January will be our own, Captain, Ray Stachelek, with an informative presentation on 'Making Sense of Color.'

Capt. Ray says..."Let's clear the air (or should we say water) about color in liquid media? What do fish actually see in their environment that's quite different than ours? How are true colors and imaging affected by motion and light refraction? How do fish behave with constant changes of the color spectrum? What do they see with objects/images under motion? Much of the information we receive is antidotal in nature based on our observation and experiences. Could there be a more factual scientific explanation available to help the angler? We'll try to dispel some of these common myths with factual based scientific evidence to help the angler understand more fully how fish might see our world, and we see theirs."

Capt. Ray Stachelek has been winding thread for over 55 years. A contract pro tier for the Umpqua Feather Merchants, his nationally known series of 'Angel Hair' Flies introduced this material to the saltwater scene some fifteen years ago. Many of his patterns are listed in fishing catalogs and shops throughout the nation. He guides in Rhode Island waters where he grew up along the shores of Narragansett Bay.

He is also active in local affiliates as Rhody Fly Rodders and United Fly Tyers, having served on both boards. His 'Cast a Fly Charters' is endorsed by many of the major trade names in the fly fishing industry.

So come Jan. 16th and be informed. We'll have some bucket raffles, good company – and the coffee pot w/cookies will be on.

All are welcome. Bring a friend.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wishing all of you, our dedicated 'Rhody' members, and friends of this wonderful club, a very Happy New Year, and may you and your families be blessed with good health, happiness and success this coming year!

Now that I've said that – I'm going to express my disappointment I had with last month's meeting – where were all the fly tiers??? As you know, Rhody puts aside the normal 'presentation style' meeting in December, to engage in our five year tradition where we meet and tie flies, so we may sell and donate that money to a few wonderful charities.

Well, last month's meeting was very disappointing!!! Where we generally have 25-35 members come and have a good time tying, and enjoying good holiday cheer, this year only 12-14 tyers showed up along with a few others that were there to observe and learn from the 'pros.' Well, the pros didn't show up! Absent were the 'hard core' tyers, that are generally responsible for most of the flies needed to meet our goal of 200-250 flies!

My thanks to the members that did show and tied, and donated their flies.

So, we are now left with only about 100 flies that luckily will generate \$200. – if we sell them all! Last year we tied 200 flies and we generated \$500. for 'Project Healing Waters'.

NOW, here's my request...for those tyers that couldn't attend because of the holidays, or from illness, also those who run away from the cold to head South....WE NEED SALTWATER FLIES!

We have shows in February and March where we sell these – so we need them now! Any flies you can donate is appreciated!

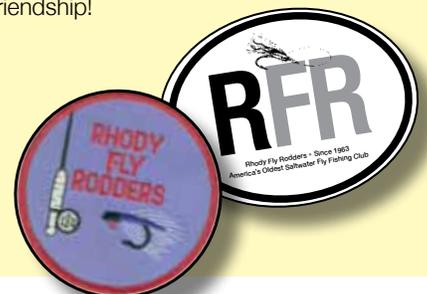
I thank you – the Veterans thank you!

I do hope the New Year will bring us good times, good health, good fishing and great friendship!

Best to you,

P. Nilsen

Peter Nilsen



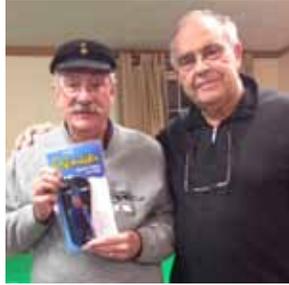
CASTING ABOUT



November Meeting

Well, disappointing as it was at the turnout for our tying for charity, (12-15 members), we did have a good time, munching popcorn, cookies & hot coffee. Thanks so much to those who attended and tied some flies – we did manage to fill the bucket with a few flies.

We also had a great door prize of a pair of Gamakatou fishing pliers with a nice case – with John Mello as the lucky winner. So in spite of the small turnout, we all had a fairly good time. Thanks again to all who came.



Election of Officers

Because of my stupid blunder last meeting of placing my notebook on the top of my car and driving off, only to have it get smashed to bits by cars on the Wampanoag Trail, and me losing my notes and agenda for the evening, I forgot to hold the election of officers for 2018. We will do this and make it official at the January meeting. It's not too late to have some members step up and join our team in trying to help manage this great club. – Please think about it.

Club Dues

Again, the 2018 club dues are due. John Pope won't be at the January meeting, but I will take any money for dues if you so want to pay this month, and John will follow through with new membership cards, etc, when he comes back from 'sunning' himself in warm Florida!



Bucket Raffle Winners

I wanted to get a photo of the November bucket raffle winner, Gary Menard in his winning LL Bean fly shirt, but I wasn't present at the meeting, but here he is now! Another great item from 'Rhody Bucket Raffles.' Nice shirt, Gary!!!



Continuing with the clothing theme... Here's December bucket raffle winner, Wes Wyatt, who won this really nice vest with very nice fish & fishing embroidering. Wes, you know this vest does not go too well with that 'camo' shirt!

Fishing Shows Schedules 2018

THE FLY FISHING SHOW

Royal Plaza, Marlborough, MA
January 19, 20, 21, 2018

THE FLY FISHING SHOW

New! New Jersey Convention & Expo Center, Edison, NJ
January 26, 27, 28, 2018

THE BEAR'S DEN FLY FISHING EXPO

Bear's Den Store, Taunton, MA
February 17, 2018 11am – 6pm

RISAA NEW ENGLAND SALTWATER FISHING SHOW

RI Convention Center, Providence, RI
March 9, 10, 11, 2018



SPECIAL FEATURE

Here is an Article by Ray Bondroew that he gave to me a while back, but until now I never had the room to run this in the newsletter, but now I've found the space –so here it is Ray. I did edit out some of your 'bullshit' to make it fit – sorry! :)

NINE IS NEVER ENOUGH – by Ray Bondroew

Each year during the first week of March, I undergo a metamorphosis. Transforming from an argumentative, irritable cabin fevered maniac to the likes of a happy excited child who anxiously awaits Christmas Day. Opening Day of trout season is coming on the second Saturday in April and resembles Christmas in many ways. Both have a Santa, presents and sometimes even snow. My Santa will be dressed in green with a D.E.M. patch on his jacket. His sleigh will be oxygen generating tank truck overflowing with Brook, Brown and Rainbow Trout, presents fresh from the North Pole hatchery. To receive these presents being really good just won't do, I must be prepared! Many preparations are in order if I'm to have my creel stuffed with these presents.

I begin by checking the calendar for when Easter Sunday occurs. Hopefully it occurs before Opening Day. This year it doesn't, what a bummer. Just knowing that I cannot fish from sunrise until nightfall on the second day of trout season begins to stress me out. Now I'll be on edge on the second day and be obligated to arrive home around noon or hopefully just as my family pulls out of the driveway en-route to Easter dinner at my mother's house after they've given me up for lost. Next, I examine my rods for worn and frayed windings and grooved guides. Those in need of repair are meticulously rewound with super glue and matching Mylar tape.

The reels are next, after dismantling them I lubricate their innards and polish the drags for silky smooth operation. Then I check the first five hundred yards of backing on each spool for rot, a hatchery breeder shouldn't take me out beyond that. Each extra spool, all twenty of them are closely examined. They hold every type and color of fly line imaginable. They include a Ninja Turtle Green sinking line, a Neon Smurf Blue floating line that suspends itself one micron above the water's surface, and a bottom dredging Brown Bullhead taper. Next I remove the tangled mass of tippet spools from my Kevlar designer vest that I saw on the TV fly fishing program "Say Yes to the Vest." At first I'm unsure of what I have as it resembles several miles of tangled Japanese monofilament drift net. After carefully rewinding each spool I once again take an oath that this will never happen again.

I then remove each fly box from my vest and scrutinize their contents a closely as Scrooge counting his shillings. Each pattern is examined as I think of where and when it will be used, and question if I have enough of them. The sixty year old Perrine wet fly boxes, whose contents are about the same age, are normally in order. Boxes with Case Caddis, some made with bird gravel and glue and others with bits of tree bark, leaves, and twigs cemented to the hook always seem to be in ample supply. If only Super Glue was around sixty years ago I could have made a million of these collectors' items.

Boxes containing classic Catskill dries, extended tail and standard dry flies, nymphs, streamers, and midges both wet and dry are all accounted for. One box intimidates me. It looks empty but close examination with fifty power reading glasses reveals one dozen #28 twenty-eight black gnats on gold-plated hooks. They're surely enough to last the season. Hopefully I won't have to tie one of them on, or worst tie one up. During the inventory any shortcomings are noted and written down so as not to forget. After all, the one fly I forget to tie will be the only fly the trout will want on Opening Day. The list of flies to be tied is then placed in the jaws of my fly tying vise for safe keeping, at least here it will not get covered over by the piles of tying materials on my desk.

I notice the list is short and has only nine patterns on it, some of only one size. How can this be? I must have overlooked something. For a good many years the list has remained the same length and years of trout fishing has dictated what I really need. The remaining flies fill boxes that stuff my vest and make me look good. They also serve as a safety device. Should I fall in and need to be rescued, I can be easily plucked from the water and brought ashore with an electromagnet. My bulging vest, with the outline of each box clearly distinguishable, identifies me as a real trout fisherman.

As I begin tying the flies on the list I must remember the "Bondorew Law of Fly Tying". The law states, if you tie any fly, always tie three of them. The first one will probably be lost in a tree, the second lost to a trout leaving you with just one of the right fly. To me, having just one of the right fly will change the way you fish. The fear of losing it will make you more cautious, tighten your casting style, and cause you to fish in places that are easy to fish and probably don't hold any. With this in mind, always remember to tie at least six of any pattern. This will leave you with three extras to fish with. If your lifelong fishing companion should want one of the right fly, point him to the tree that has his in it. Should you stick your one and only killer in a tree, remember to never pull straight down on the leader and line to free it. Just loop some extra fly line around the culprit branch with your rod tip and pull on the looped line. This should break the branch and rescue your prize. If the fly line should break, you probably needed a new one anyway. I always carry a ten inch mini chain saw in my fly vest to expedite such rescue attempts.

Most of the flies on the list are not new. They are variations of standard patterns tied with either different types of materials or slightly different colors.

While tying each pattern I pause to release the trout it has just caught. I've never tied a fly that did not catch at least one lunker while it was in my vise. I'm confident with this selection as they have done well by me over the years, and will continue to ensure that I'll catch more trout than the average bear in the woods. These nine patterns are my cure all's, but I must remember that the trout I seek can become very selective, and sometimes will only dine on such gourmet items as; Corn, Velveeta cheese, party marshmallows and cigarette butts. At such times even my 'Killers' won't work. If you tie these flies, fish them with confidence and leave them on for a while. A fly fished without confidence is unlikely to catch many fish for one simple reason. It will not be in the water long enough before a different pattern is tied on. Always remember.... 'It's not the fly but the driver.'

The last item I check is my waders, but this I save for Opening Day. Thirty degree water temperatures have a way of telling you things no other leak test can. You probably won't delay repairing them if they need it, and what wife would say "No" to buying a new pair while visiting you in the pneumonia ward. Finally I check that Lava soap and toothpaste are in my vest. Lava soap can be used to remove the sheen from your leader and help it to sink. It will also remove the fishy odor on your hands from the all the trout you have released. Toothpaste can also be used for a leader sink, and to brighten your smile when you return home at the end of a hard day of fishing. You will need a bright smile when you tell your wife, "Let's not go out tonight, I have a lot of flies to tie for tomorrow." Never let your wife or girlfriend see the list presented here, for she too will know, you really only need nine.

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The sacred patterns included on my list are as follows:



Black Ghost Marabou
(dressed by Joe Adamonis)



The Black Marabou



Cardinelle
(dressed by Alec Stansell)



Nearenuf



Gray Nymph



Hare's Ear Nymph



Zug Bug
(dressed by Joe Adamonis)



Black Woolly Buzzer
(I've omitted the photo because if you don't know what one looks like, you shouldn't be reading this.)



Black Gnat Midge

See Ray's Blog for the recipes for these flies at...
raysfly.wordpress.com

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MEETINGS:

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

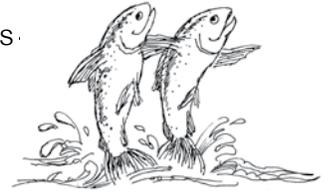
DIRECTIONS:

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.

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



Happy
New Year



NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, JANUARY 16TH - 6:30 PM

Come join us on **Dec., 19th.** for an informative presentation with **Capt. Ray Stachelek**, about **'Making Sense of Color'** in your Fly Fishing. We'll have some nice **Bucket Raffles** and **good conversation** with knowledgeable fly fishermen. Come early and tie some flies. **The coffee pot will be on!**

All are welcome. Bring a friend. Bring two!



America's Oldest Saltwater Fly Fishing Club

Peter Nilsen
75 Massasoit Ave.
Barrington, RI 02806

Happy New Year to All
Rhody Fly Rodder Members
and to our Good Friends.

