

SINCE  
1963

# Rhody FLY RODDERS

FEBRUARY 2020

America's Oldest Saltwater Fly Fishing Club

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well, we are certainly lucking out as far as the weather is concerned. Has anyone ventured out to wet a line during this January thaw? I'm sure there some bass holding over in the Narrow River or the Thames River in Connecticut. Hey, some of those brook trout in the Wood River might be actively feeding. And I think the rules are that you can fish to those brookies until March 1st.

Well, the two big Fly Fishing shows, in Marlborough and Edison, NJ are finished. I did attend both of these and they were pretty good this year, The attendance might have been down at both this year, but it made walking through the aisles a but easier. A few new items that attracted my eyes were the smaller packages of the UV light and liquid. A couple of nice new rods to look at were the Douglas 5 wt fly rod, and the Orvis Recon, both good buys. And Hardy has some nice, new, lightweight salt reels. There is some great new tying material out there too, and of course there were plenty of destination places trying to get you to come stay with them. Save your 'pennies' because the prices are high!

Also it was great to meet up with old friends, and some of the local fly tyers that are there year after year. Some of them you know well if you have visited the Fly Shows over the years. This pic is of 'The Two Joes,' Joe Calcavecchia (L) and Joe Cordeirio (R). Both terrific tyers of beautiful saltwater flies. Fun Guys!



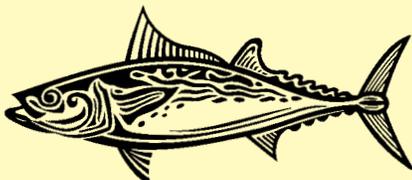
Please don't miss this next meeting as we have invited back a good friend and very entertaining speaker, Dan Spedding. Dan adds great humour to his presentations and it's always been a great time. This time he's talking about Euro or Czech style Nymphing....with a twist, I'm sure! And he'll tell us a bit about spending his summer vacation working in a 'fly shop' in Montana! I'm sure there will be some laughs with this story!

Please join us and bring a friend and introduce them to some great people here at Rhody Fly Rodders! Come early and tie some flies

See you there!

*P. Nilsen*

Peter Nilsen



## FEBRUARY MEETING

# THROW AWAY YOUR STRIKE INDICATORS, IT'S CZECH NYMPHING!

Tuesday, February 18th at 6:30pm.



**Dan Spedding, the fly fishing vagabond is back with another one of his presentations, this time showing us everything you need to know about EURO or CZECH STYLE nymphing! ....plus he'll tell us how he spent his Summer vacation working in a fly shop in Montana!**

Our speaker for this month is an old friend of 'Rhody' that has blessed us with quite a few of his zany presentations over the years. This time he will tackle 'European Nymphing, or Euro or Czech Nymphing.

This technique is using long rods with specialized leaders, no added weight, no strike indicators and using small nymphs to catch trout. It's a newer form of nymphing to US fly fishermen using European techniques that they have done for years.

Dan will explain all this in his own unique way with, I'm sure, some funny stories thrown in for good measure. He also will share his experiences he had spending his summer vacation working in a fly shop in Montana. I'm sure there are some more unusual stories here, too.

This should be informative, funny and entertaining!

**We'll have some nice bucket raffles, club hats and flies for Charity for Sale, along with good conversations with great people!**

**All are welcome. Bring a friend.**



## CASTING ABOUT

### January Meeting

Thank you to Capt. Ray for another very interesting presentation – We had a good crowd on hand that I think appreciated this great look at the Napatree point and beach area, a place not many have fished, especially me! I know I have to fish this beautiful area this year. As you can see below, they came out of the ‘woodwork’ to see Capt Ray.



Yes, they are still around! We do lock the door, but someone always lets them in!



The Capt. at the ‘helm’ of the show!

### Newsletter Help

Again I ask, we’re looking for your input with fishing stories, and pictures, fishing things you enjoy, or if there are questions you need answers to, we will try to help. I want to make this your newsletter. We need this to be about you! Send what you find interesting to me at pdfish@fullchannel.net

### RISAA Show Volunteers Needed

The RISAA show will be on March 27, 28, 29, and we will have a booth this year, and are looking for members to help man the booth to interact with attendees, promote our club, sell the flies we have for sale for our charity, and maybe tie some flies if you like. This is three long days, so we need at least 2 members in the booth at all times. We’d like members to commit to 2 hour shifts. We’ll have fillout forms at the Feb. or March meetings. Thanks!

### New Rhody Members

Here is a list of some of our new members that have joined Rhody Fly Rodders in the last few months. Welcome aboard!

- Jon Avery • Mark Clancy • Jim D’ambra • Steven Garoflo
- Jenne Hirst • Peter Lazouras • Michael Wallace

We welcome you all, and thank you for joining RFR! We look forward to seeing you at our remaining winter meetings, and attending some of our fishing meetings that we have all summer and fall.

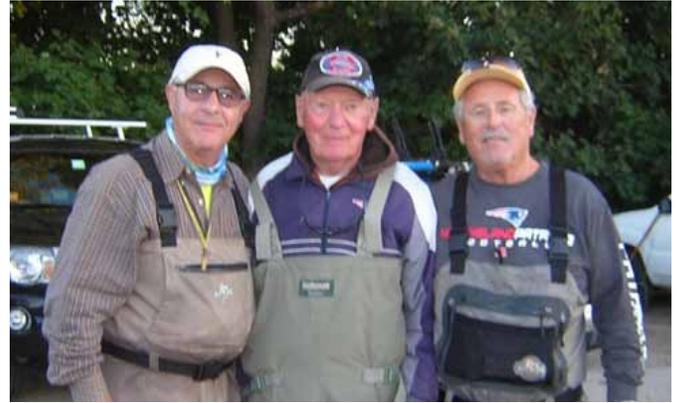
### Summer Fishing Meetings

At the last meeting we all had a great discussion on how we could make our summer fishing meetings better and how we should structure them to make us all happy! We decided we will have two meetings each month, all held on a Tuesday to make it simpler. We’ll spread it around the state to give everyone a chance to maybe be introduced to some new water to fish. Dates and places to be published in the March or April newsletter and on our Facebook page & web site.



This is that famous painting, called “The Scream.” This is what you do when someone discovers your favorite fishing spot!

## Rhody Member Photos



If anyone has any information on these characters please report their whereabouts. We think the names of the ones above are Larry, Mo, and Curly Joe!

And, we think the name of the one on the left is Wes Hemingway, of the “Old Man and the Sea.”

The photo to the right is Armand, accepting a special belated Christmas gift of the talking ‘Billy Bass,’ that Santa left at my house. You see, Armand loves to fly fish for Largemouth Bass, so now he has someone to talk to while fishing in his canoe!



### Fishing Shows Schedules 2020

#### THE BEAR'S DEN FLY FISHING EXPO

Bear's Den Store, Taunton, MA  
Sat., February 22, 2020 11am – 6pm

#### RISAA NEW ENGLAND SALTWATER FISHING SHOW

RI Convention Center, Providence, RI  
Fri., Sat., Sun., March 27, 28, 29, 2020



NO BOB, IT'S FLY ANGLER OR ... FLYFISHER OR ... FLY FISHER PERSON, I DON'T THINK IT'S FLY BABE.

## CONSERVATION REPORT

### CONSERVATION EQUIVALENCY PROPOSALS ARE COMING OUT

by admin in ASMFC, Saltwater Guides, Striped Bass on January 16, 2020

**“As we fight for the recovery of striped bass, some states are using conservation equivalency to continue unsustainable harvest while others try to do the right thing.”**

Tony Friedrich VP/Policy Director ASGA



Let me warn you ahead of time, this is a long article. But, you care about striped bass so read the whole thing. **(See ASGA website)**

Conservation equivalency (CE) allows states/jurisdictions (hereafter states) flexibility to develop alternative regulations that address specific state or regional differences while still achieving the goals and objectives of Interstate Fishery Management Plans (FMPs).

The concept itself isn't terrible. When you compare the striped bass fishery across the migratory path, there are vast differences in the size and distribution of the species. The guidance document for CE is also not terrible on the surface. It covers background, guidance policy, proposal standards, and a review process.

CE represents the “flexibility” and state management that many tout as the way forward for fisheries management. ASGA has advocated against flexibility and state management since our inception. **As state leadership changes, wild swings in policy can be expected.**

This is why **ASGA believes that CE is not an ideal option** for over-fished, migratory stocks. Saltwater migratory fish, like striped bass, visit many states and we feel that consistent management is the only way to create a sustainable fishery. We all would like to be able to plan out 3 to 5 years. Currently, we can't depend on anything year after year.

At the ASFMC meeting in late October, Capt John McMurray made a motion to not allow CE for striped bass as long as the stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring. The motion got a second from Commissioner Abbott in New Hampshire but failed to gain momentum.

**We will never have a true slot limit for striped bass as long as CE is an option.** If you believe slots would work for striped bass, CE is not your friend. We have a current max size recommended through ASMFC. With CE in place, you can bet your last dollar some states will propose regulations without a max size. So, it isn't a slot if 50" fish can still be harvested in certain states.

**Three states have come forward with a reasonable application for CE. CT, NY, and RI are considering moving forward as a block.**

All three states fish around Block Island. If they don't agree on matching regulations, things will get very confusing. Option A, all modes 30-40, was the overwhelming winner at the meeting in Rhode Island early this week. We are against sector separation and feel the entire recreational community should be treated equally. This proposal will take the pressure off the few giant striped bass left that frequent areas surrounding Block Island. We applaud these states for considering this alternative.

For more on this go to [americansaltwaterguidesassociation.com](http://americansaltwaterguidesassociation.com) and go to their 'Blog' to read the rest of this article.

## TIPS FROM THE PROS

### PRACTICING YOUR CASTING BEFORE THE SEASON STARTS

*Lots of folk - usually those who are good at it - will tell you that fly fishing is an art. I am not so sure about that. I have always believed it is a craft and a sport, both of which can be learned with practice. So get out and practice. String up the rod, tie a bit of mono on the fly line, tie a small bit of wool on the mono and hit the back yard, the local soccer field or the nearest park. WEAR GLASSES! Never start to cast a fly line without wearing some form of eye protection. REMEMBER the biggest error folk make when casting a fly rod is to let the tip travel too far behind them on the back cast. When this happens, the line is driven down toward the ground. TRY STOPPING THE ROD A SECOND BEFORE you think you should. This will keep the rod tip “high” and prevent you from dropping the fly into the grass behind you. The added bonus to dropping the rod tip on your back cast is that when you bring the rod forward, the flies and line will whack the rod. Not a good thing!*

*The second biggest error folk make will also have the flies whacking the rod is if you hang the back cast out for a millisecond longer than you think you should, the line will tangle on the rod on the way forward. So, if your flies and line are getting tangled up with the rod, you now have two methods of rectifying the problem.*

### FLY OF THE MONTH



### ARMAND COURCHAIINE'S GO-TO-FLY

**HOOK:** Daiichi 2645, Size #3-2/0

**THREAD:** Kevlar white or yellow

**TAIL:** White bucktail, w/ longer flash blend white bucktail over top

**BODY:** White chenille or fuzzy yarn

**TOP:** 10 different lengths of peacock herl over olive marabou

**FLANKS:** Mallard over white marabou feathers on each side

**THROAT:** Small tuft of red marabou

**EYES:** 3/16" - 3D eyes

## OFFICERS & BOARD

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### MEETINGS:

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

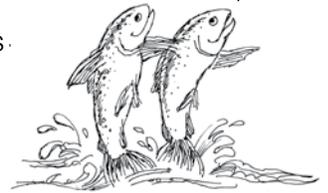
### DIRECTIONS:

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".*

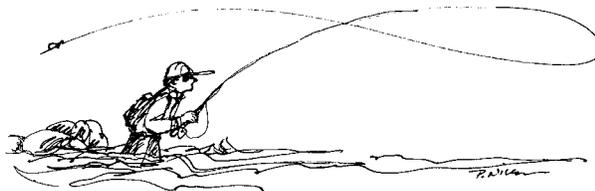


Oh, no,  
not Czech  
Nymphing!



## NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH - 6:30 PM

Come join us on **Feb.,18th.** for an presentation by good friend **Dan Spedding** about **Euro or Czech Nymphing.** Dan will give his zany twist with solid knowledge on this growing technique of fly fishing. Come early and tie some flies. We'll have some great **Bucket Raffles & Good Conversation with great Friends!** **All are welcome. Bring a friend. Bring two!**



Spring is around the corner and time to start checking on your fishing gear and start planning your fishing trips.

As you do, please think of your local fly fishing shops and charter fishing guides. Their livelihood depends on you.

They supply knowledge, information and technical support, besides quality products & service.



*America's Oldest Saltwater Fly Fishing Club*

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