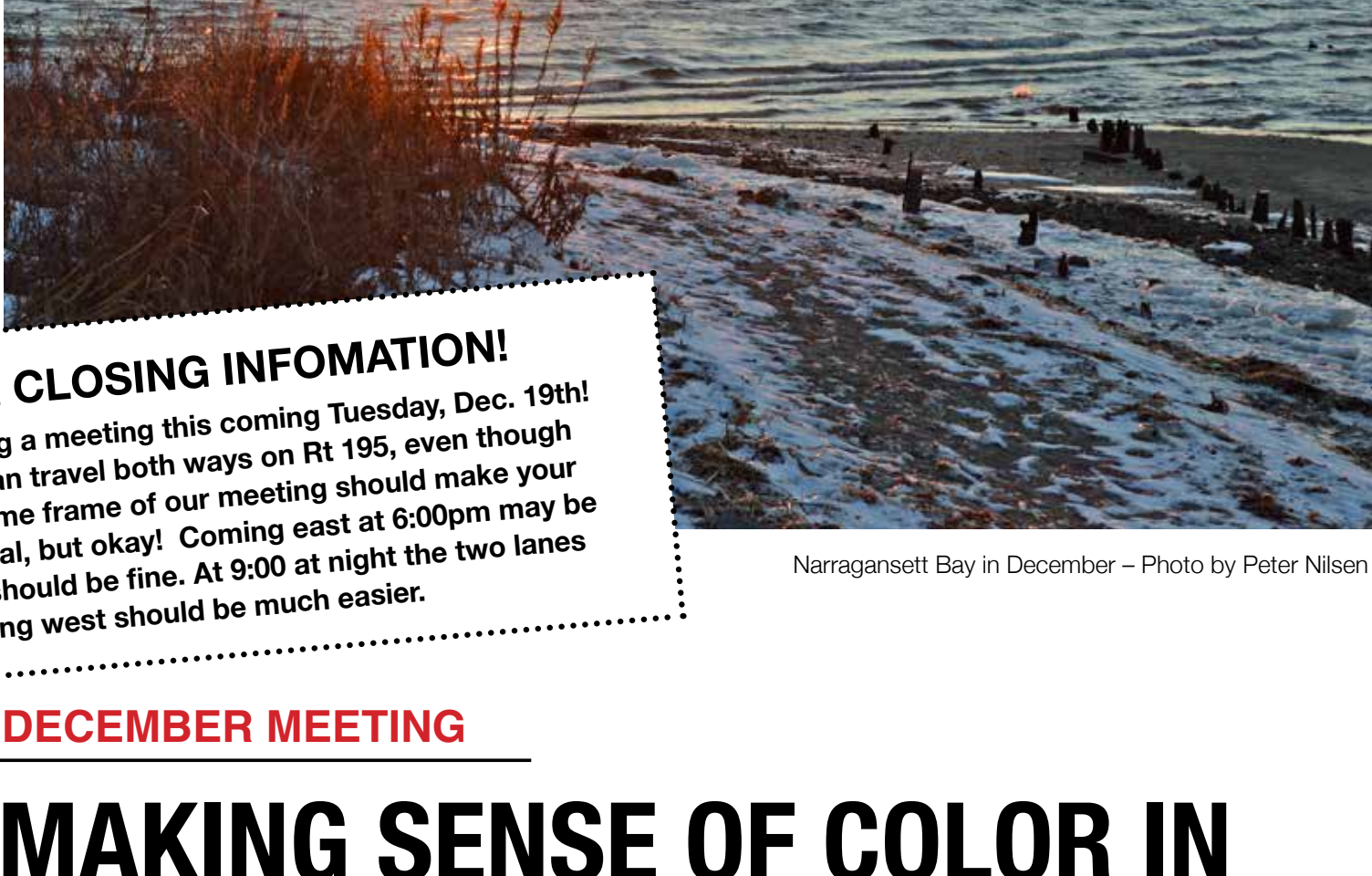


HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2023



Narragansett Bay in December – Photo by Peter Nilsen

BRIDGE CLOSING INFORMATION!

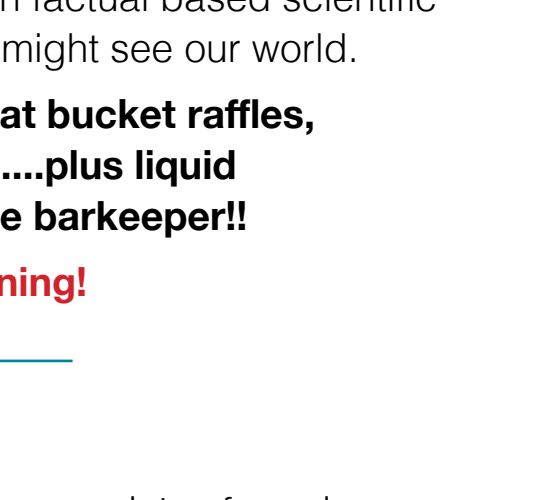
Yes, we are having a meeting this coming Tuesday, Dec. 19th! Now that you can travel both ways on Rt 195, even though not fully – the time frame of our meeting should make your traveling, not ideal, but okay! Coming east at 6:00pm may be a bit slow, but should be fine. At 9:00 at night the two lanes going west should be much easier.

DECEMBER MEETING

MAKING SENSE OF COLOR IN YOUR FLY TYING & FLY FISHING! W/ CAPT. RAY STACHELEK

Tuesday, December 19th – starting at 6:30pm

- What colors do fish see?
- What colors will attract fish to my flies?
- Come and find out what fish see, and how you can be more successful in your fishing by using the right color flies at the right time of day!



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.

So, please join us on Dec 20th! There will be some great bucket raffles, and we will have some Hot Coffee & Christmas cookies...plus liquid refreshments are always available from Jim, our capable barkeeper!!

Come join us for what should be a very informative evening!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tis the season for giving, the reason for the tying season. There were lots of good positive vibes at the last meeting. Your fly tying efforts will help servicemen cope with major disabilities adapt to a more meaningful life. "Project Healing Waters" is such a worthy cause that brings out the best in each and every one of us. We have stepped up in a big way to support one of our favorite charities. It touches all our hearts as it does them, the service people.

Our 60th Anniversary Banquet plans continue to move along. It's getting closer, only a month away. Please remember to forward your dinner questionnaire in as soon as possible. We need a running count of how many going to attend this special event. Donations needed by everyone. We plan on having bucket raffle tables and a silent auction. We need donations of any kind to fill each table. It doesn't need to be fishing related, any gift works.

Bucket Raffle Donations

Small value donations, new fly tying materials you may not need, flies, bags, books, humorous coffee cups, re-gift items, knives, tools, lights, gift certificates, hats, food items, drinks, etc.

Silent Auction Donations

Larger value items over \$50.00, rods, reels, gear, fly lines, etc.

You set a realistic price of the item, any monies over your amount goes to the club. If there is no minimum bid, the item goes back home to the owner.

Raffle Directors

We are fortunate to have Susan Estabrook and Peter Nilsen serve as our chairpersons for the Banquet Raffle Committee. This is a major undertaking and all proceeds will help our club stay fiscally sound. All donated items should be forwarded to them at the December Meeting. Remember, all Silent Auction Items must be catalog and need additional paper work. There will be no late registrations the day of the event.

Timeframe

All higher price items to sell must be brought to the December Meeting. Small value bucket gift items can be brought to the December meeting and the day of the event. We need everyone's help to donate. Look around the house and tying center. Obviously the more items we have the more interesting and fun the event will be.

We should well be in the Christmas Spirit by the next meeting on December 19th. Some snacks will be available at the meeting. If you like you can add to the mix. Some holiday bake good or cookies would be fine.

At this month's meeting I'll be giving a presentation titled; "Making Sense of Color" about color in fly choices and what fish see as to color at different times during your fishing.

There should be lots of holiday cheer to go around, plus it's going to be a busy time.

So your urgent help is needed! to help us make this Banquet/ Reunion a success!

Don't Forget! We need your Meal Forms returned plus your gifts for the raffle. See you there for our holiday meeting.

Capt. Ray Stachelek, President



MEMBER NEWS

ANNUAL CLUB DUES ARE DUE THIS MONTH

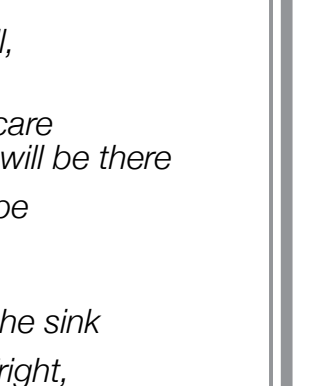
Well, it's that time of the year again! Our annual dues are now due for 2024. Please try and pay them at this month's meeting. The amount is \$30.00. You can pay John Pope our Treasurer, at the meeting. For you out-of-towners who can't come to the meetings, please send a check for \$30.00, made out to Rhody Fly Rodders, and send to: **John Pope, 6 Canonchet Drive, Portsmouth, RI 02871** These monies help pay our monthly rent, food expenses, and for guest speakers fees. Thank you!

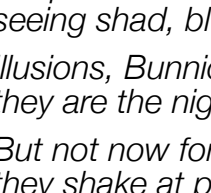
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

According to our club by-laws, November is the month we ask for nominations, and at the December meeting we generally call for another round of nominations...then vote on the slate of officers. But because we didn't do that in November, and December's meeting is questionable as to the Providence bridge conditions...

LAST MINUTE CHANGE!

We will change the parameters of this years election of officers. Because we didn't nominate in November, and December's meetings, at this juncture with the bridge travel restrictions, plus January's meeting being our banquet, we will move nominations and elections to our February meeting!



Fishing Shows Schedules 2023 THE FLY FISHING SHOW Royal Plaza, Marlborough, MA January 5, 6, 7, 2024 THE FLY FISHING SHOW New Jersey Convention & Expo Center, Edison, NJ January 28, 29, 30, 2024 RISAA NEW ENGLAND SALTWATER FISHING SHOW FI Convention Center, Providence, RI March 10, 11, 12, 2024	
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NEW TO RHODY?
Come join us and experience our friendship and knowledge of saltwater fly fishing. Hopefully we'll see you at a meeting, or on the water during our summer get-togethers. Please get involved, this is your club. Thank you!

Peter Nilsen,
Newsletter Editor

The Fishing Grinch Story

We're continuing with our tradition of publishing this Christmas poem, written by Ron Montecalvo. It will be published every year in our December newsletter. I hope this will remind us of our dearly departed friend. Merry Christmas, Ron!



The Fishing Grinch

*Tis the end of the season and the river is still,
to go fishing now means only a chill
The waders are hung in the basement with care
hoping that next season the bass and shad will be there
The reel is in it's pouch, and the rod in its tube
all settled in for a postseason snooze
I in my flannels and mom in her mink,
satisfied now when I clean fish, I won't use the sink
It is postseason now and my dreams are a fright,
seeing shad, blues and bass all through the night
Illusions, Bunniculars and all sorts of streamers,
they are the nightmare of all fish dreamers
But not now for me, they come instead, they taunt and
they shake at poor me while I cling to my bed
Seasons will come and seasons will go, and cabin fever
will get me as I go mad and cast in the snow
Through my discontent the river moves on still, and I know
that with patience I will fish it again without a chill
So all of you finny creatures who live within,
know that I'll be back, so get ready to give in.*

- Ron Montecalvo

RFR MEMBERS • UPCLOSE

In this feature of our newsletter we want to feature a Rhody Fly Rodders member with a profile of them and post it here every month!

We would like to let our whole membership get to know one another. What better way to do this than to feature a member profile each month. We want to get you to know each other, creating new and closer friendships.

INTRODUCING..... WES WYATT

CITY OR TOWN? Chepachet, Rhode Island

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER? 10 years!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN FLY FISHING / TYING FLIES?
I've been fly fishing and tying flies for 55 years.

FAVORITE SPECIES? Striped Bass and Trout.

BOAT / SHORE FISHING? From Shore and in a boat.

ANY NOTABLE PERSONAL CATCHES? A 35 inch Stripper on a fly

FAVORITE FLY? *Narrow River Silverside.*

FAVORITE WAYS TO FLY FISH? Estuaries, bays, and the surf!

FAVORITE FISHING BUDDIES? Bill Henrich, Geno Rapa, Ed Lombardo.



•••••

UNITED FLY TYERS of RHODE ISLAND

Fly Tying demonstration with JOE CORDEIRO.

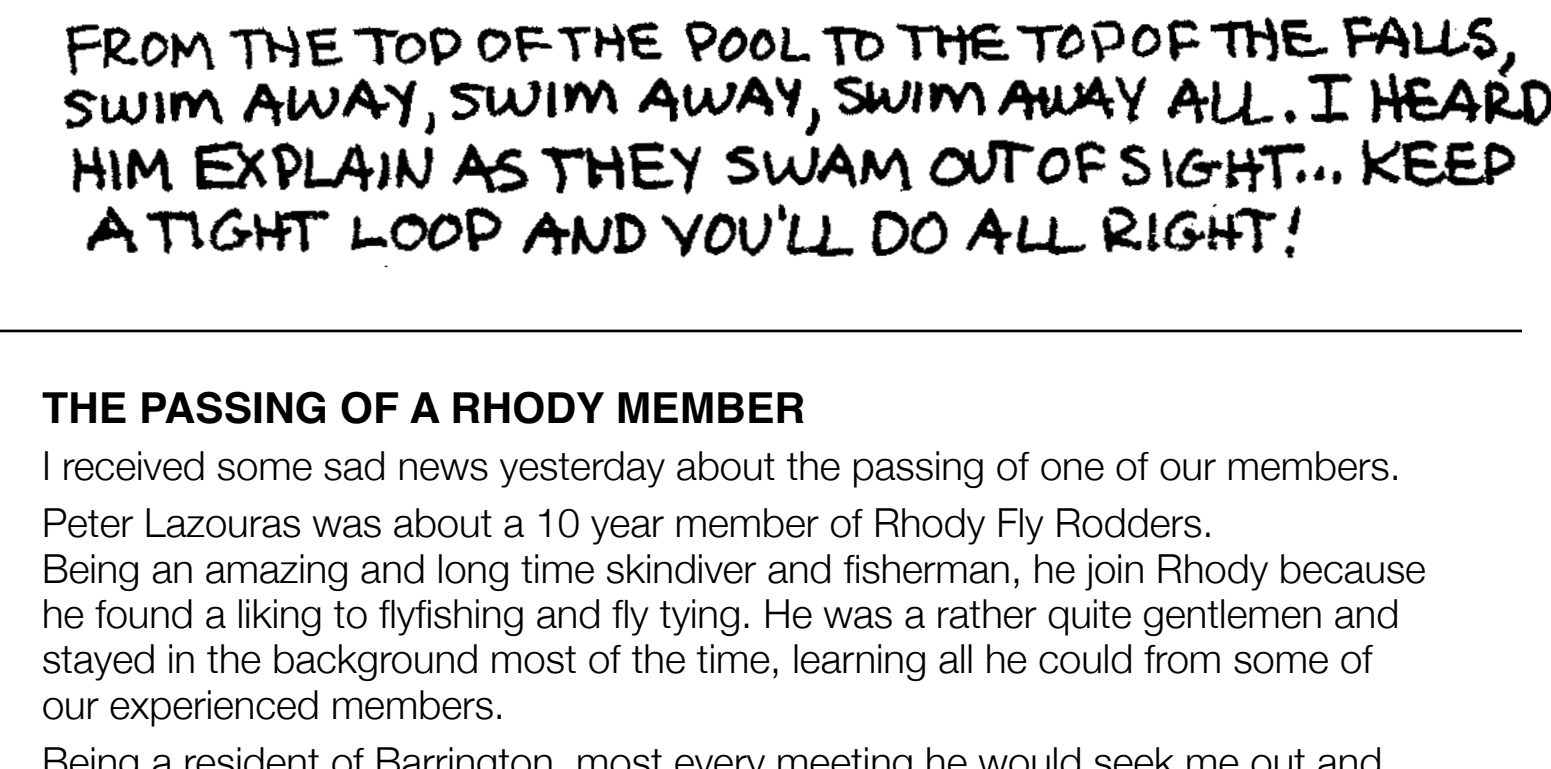
• **WHEN :** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 from 6:30pm – 9:00pm

• **WHERE :** Knights of Columbus 475 Sandy Lane, Warwick, RI

• **Please RSVP to UFTRI President Greg Houde via email:**
ghoude47@yahoo.com by December 29.

• Please put UFTRI in the subject line of your email. Joe Cordeiro puts on a very entertaining and educational show, where you can make it. The Knights of Columbus has a bar where you will be able to purchase a beverage of your choice.

•••••



FROM THE TOP OF THE POOL TO THE TOP OF THE FALLS, SWIM AWAY, SWIM AWAY, SWIM AWAY ALL. I HEARD HIM EXPLAIN AS THEY SWAM OUT OF SIGHT... KEEP A TIGHT LOOP AND YOU'LL DO ALL RIGHT!

THE PASSING OF A RHODY MEMBER

I received some sad news yesterday about the passing of one of our members. Peter Lazouras was about a 10 year member of Rhody Fly Rodders. Being an amazing and long time skindiver and fisherman, he join Rhody because he found a liking to flyfishing and fly tying. He was a rather quite gentlemen and stayed in the background most of the time, learning all he could from some of our experienced members.

Being a resident of Barrington, most every member would seek me out and we would talk at length about where the fish were in our local waters of Barrington and telling me where I should fish.

Peter had a stroke a few years ago and was slowly getting back to good health, and his love of fishing and fly tying. If you remember, last month he was right there, (with his own chair from home) as he still had trouble sitting, but tying away and donating his flies for our charity.

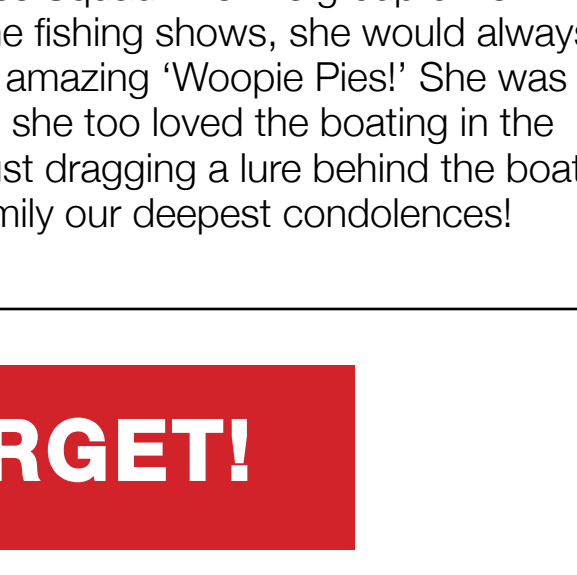
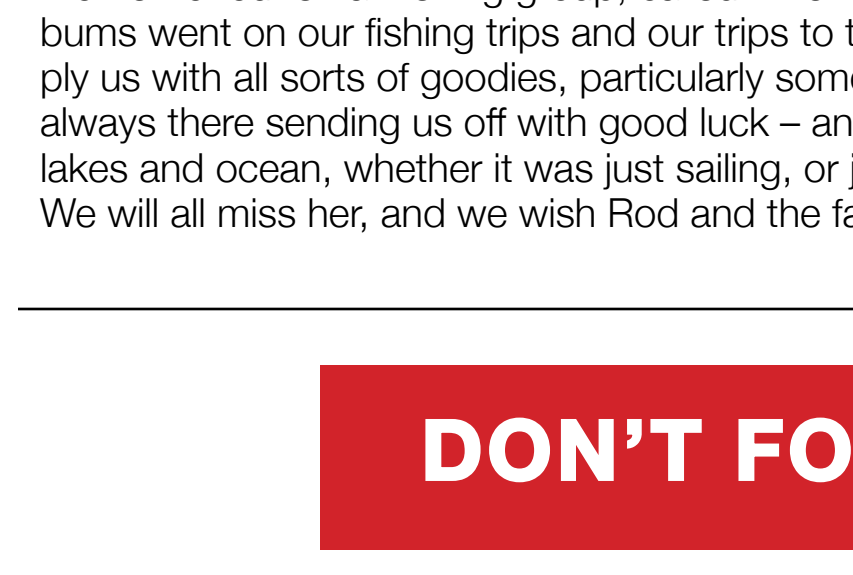
He was a very nice guy and it was a pleasure to have know him. I will miss our chats before the meetings.

Below is a letter I received from his son that brought tears to my eyes. Thank you Andrew, what a great picture you painted of your dad! Our best to your family!
Peter Nilsen

HELLO PETER,

My name is Andrew Lazouras. My father Peter A. Lazouras was one of your members that often attended your meetings. He unfortunately passed away this past week unexpectedly and it is a tremendous loss for my mother and wife, and of course myself, as his only child and more importantly, his fishing buddy. My dad so enjoyed spending time with all of you and sharing in the joy that fly tying and fly fishing brought. Even after he had fallen ill seven years ago, he made fly fishing and fly tying one of his top priorities to help him heal. Besides just letting you know of his passing, I wanted to let you know something very special about what actually happened. The night that he passed away, he got up after decorating the Christmas tree with my mother and went to his workbench where he ties flies. He turned his work light on and must have been ready to either start a new fly or he was reading about one that he wanted to make. That is when he passed and left us. Sitting in a place that brought him so much joy and happiness to be able to still create something so beautiful. It's also the thing that bonded us so deeply. I was lucky enough to see him earlier that day and give him a big hug, but I just thought it was a powerful moment to say that he was able to have his last moments literally doing something that he loved. Thank you for all of your support of him and for just being a welcoming community. I have attached a photo in case you don't know who he was, but hopefully his memory will live on. Bless you and the entire fly fishing community.

With love, Andrew P Lazouras



DON'T FORGET!

PLEASE JOIN US AT OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

IT'S GOING TO BE A GREAT TIME WITH GREAT PEOPLE! COME JOIN US AND HELP CELEBRATE!

OFFICERS & BOARD

PRESIDENT
Capt. Ray Stachelek
1089 Frenchtown Rd.
East Greenwich, RI 02818
401-884-3794
castalflycharters@cox.net


NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Peter Nilsen
75 Massasoit Ave
Barrington, RI 02806
401-633-5329
peternilsen103@gmail.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER
John Pope
6 Canonchet Drive
Portsmouth, RI 02871
jpope@johnspopecpa.com

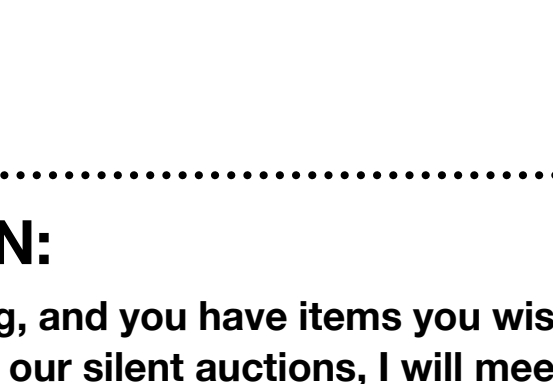
DIRECTORS
Barry Rideout John Edwards
Philip Halford Susan Estabrook

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 2B. Bear right on the ramp and follow Rt. 114 S (Wampanoag 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 (blue) sign on right side.



WHERE'S SANTA!



ATTENTION:
If you can't make it to the December Meeting, and you have items you wish to donate for our banquet ticket items and our silent auctions, I will meet you somewhere, and I will take these so we can catalog them. Call me! THANK YOU! Peter Nilsen