

August 14, 2007

Dear Catskill Rodmakers,

I hope all is well and you have been toning up your casting arms.

Enclosed please find the latest draft to our agenda for the 2007 Catskill Rodmakers Gathering to be held on September 8 & 9, 2007. Given the added Rodmakers Challenges, *one fly* fishing contest on the pond, and rodmakers forum this year's event will once again prove interesting, educational, informative and entertaining. To date, we have received confirmations from a dozen members who will bring a Challenge Rod, thirteen have committed to participate in the Casting portion, and we have 11 entries for the *one fly in the pond* (hint, if you are going to fish the pond, add some weight to your nymph).

I am pleased to report that Ted Simroe will be Saturday's keynote speaker and share a look back on his Leonard years. At this time, tentatively scheduled for Sunday morning is Gloria Jordan. Gloria will put on a slide presentation of her late husband, Wes Jordan before George W. Barnes provides us with some interesting facts, fancies, fantasies, and techniques he picked up along the way in the many years as a rodmaker. Both programs are a once in a lifetime experience. It will be a great weekend.

Mike Canazon has taken on the responsibility as the Technical Committee Chairman for the Rodmaker Challenges. In reviewing casting qualifiers held here at the Center in May, it has been determined that the casting portion, in its current form, consumes more time than necessary. Please note that there will be some modifications to the casting challenge rules in quantity of rods and casts per rod. We will all find this more manageable and exciting to watch...

Once again, John O'Meara, our master leather craftsman, has scheduled a special moccasin-making workshop for Saturday afternoon and limited to a maximum of 10 participants. This program will begin after lunch and members and wives are welcome to join. Space is limited, first come, first serve. Enclosed please find registration form in this mailing. Please call or email immediately as John will need to gather materials. This is a great program. All-inclusive \$20.

Of course, our evening sessions outside of the Roscoe Motel will be filled with good friendship, stories, and fun. Should you arrive early on Friday, stop in at the Center and pick up some pointers on spey and two handed casting in Philip Krista's casting clinic.

A special thanks to those responding to our request for donations to be used for the auction and raffles, those volunteering for committees and event assistance/participation, and those who will be bringing adult beverages and snacks. There is always room for more and it is not too late to get involved. Please note that Maine Maker, Wayne Caron has made an elegant and unique rod and case for our auction. I could provide you with details, but would rather have you see this one and investigate the techniques for yourselves. This is a true first for Wayne; surely the shape of things to come.

I look forward to seeing you all come September 8 and hope to have another great and memorable Catskill Gathering. The CFFCM is all about fly fishing, however this weekend *it's all about Rodmaking*.

Regards,

Jim Krul
Executive Director