

CFFCM's Castabout

Catskill Fly Fishing

Volume 4 Issue 10

October 2008



Fly Tyers 1 - 4 PM

October Tyers

Oct 4 Dave Brandt

Oct 25 Stan Jakubaszek

New Members

Ted Barnhart
Mark Biondo
Philip Crangi
Derrick Diffenderfer
Larry Downey
Dave Endicott
Owen McKane
Michael Morris
William Palmer
Mark Rothenberg
Zbigniew Ryc
Stephen Veefkind
Lynn West
John Zimny

Septembers

Membership Winner

James Ristano

Each month we award a prize in our monthly CFFCM membership drawing. All members in good standing are eligible. So if your dues are paid and up-to-date, the next

Pond Sampled September 5 Thanks to the NYS/DEC and their biologists Ryan Coulter and Linda Nash, our pond was surveyed and sampled. It is now 20' at its deepest point. When we took possession of the property, it was 50' deep according to Doc Fried. This change occurred during floods when the Willowemoc breaches the banks, it flows through our pond before returning to the river, depositing heavy gravel and silt. This is nature. A year ago, we reinforced the banks along our side to minimize erosion during flow throughs. Since the remediation, flows have been managed to the optimum for the health of both the river and our pond. A complete survey with an underwater topographical map will soon be delivered to the Center.

As for fish population, they are there. The center console boat, equipped with two electro shocking spiders covered some key areas of the pond. At one location it was determined to be the sucker hole, having a dense population of suckers over 12" long. During this sampling there were no small mouth bass discovered, however, it did produce a football shaped large mouth bass just under 5 pounds: I guess that is why he was so big. The pond was loaded with many small sunfish and pumpkin seeds, in addition to chubs and shiners. They did attempt to net several large American eels. Due to net size, they had to pick up those in the 15-18" range, also an 18" pickerel, some large bullheads, and many good-sized perch. The pond is healthy for warm water species, however not sustainable for trout. The sampling took place from 1-3PM that Friday afternoon. Ryan and Linda said that if we took the survey closer to dusk, most likely we would have realized a different mix of fish, due to fish moving around before nightfall. Before they took the boat out, one of our large resident beavers surfaced and made himself known.

We plan, with the advice and direction from NYS/DEC, to determine what fish can be regularly stocked in large quantities in our pond. We hope to find a species that will prosper in the pond and be receptive and responsive to dry flies for our educational programs. As you know, if someone catches a fish on a fly they are hooked forever. Of course, the pond will be an ideal location for CFFCM members to try and test new fly patterns in a controlled environment (barbless hooks and recycling fish). The pond is a great spot to introduce other potential fly fishers to the sport. This will be a wonderful winter project for analysis.

The Rodmakers are Gone, The Rodmakers are Gone. I don't think any of the 125 attendees realized it rained all day the Saturday they were here. As planned, all programs and clinics on the art and craft of bamboo rodmaking went off without a hitch, rain or no rain.

This year's group took on an international flavor with programs by Rolf Baginski, Europe's premier rodmaker and author, and Yukihiro Yoshida, one of Japan's most celebrated rodmakers. Both sessions were standing room only and the question and answer period extended long after the program ended. It should be noted that after realizing that we were a self sustaining organization, rodmaker Rolf Baginski donated one of his elegant rattan handled, 7'6", 4 weight, 2/2 fly rods to us. He understands how hard it is to raise funds and keep museums like ours afloat and we are to use it as a fundraiser. It will be an auction item at the Roast and Toast of Hoagy B. Carmichael on December 2. We will have photos and descriptions up with other auction items on our website soon and information on how to make an absentee bid. It is a unique and wonderful rod.



Streamside Notes

I just don't know where the time goes. The pond survey was great to watch, the opening of the Rodmakers Workshop, the rod casting competition, the Rodmakers Gathering, mounting the final flies of Fly Tyer Magazine's World's Biggest Fly Tying Contest, finalizing details for Hall of Fame, working on The November Arts of the Angler Show, and knocking out this Castabout made September a blur.

Once again, I have to thank the many volunteers and my dedicated staff for their never-ending work in order to get everything accomplished. The Gathering was a success having over

120 participants, each who volunteered by either carrying chairs to emptying garbage. Doc Cohen, the Gathering Chairman, put together an exceptional program. Mike Canazon, who is earshot from the Museum, my confidant and consul on many CFFCM projects, is also the Rodmakers Gathering Coordinator. We are only the hosts. Of course, Doc and Mary Fried are always on call, and to all of those who help with donations and program execution, on behalf of the CFFCM, thank you. They made it happen.

Thank you for buying raffle tickets for the Hall of Fame drawing. I wish you all could win one of the great

prizes. The extra funds from this raffle will help us in months to come and develop some special prizes we can all appreciate.

I did get to squeak in some fishing on The Housatonic River and Candlewood Lake (home waters) for small mouths, plus a pleasant and much rewarding day on the Tobyhannah at the Dream Mile Club. I am sure I left something out.

2008 continues to be a strong year for us and it is only $\frac{3}{4}$ done.

It remains *all about fly fishing*.

Jim Krul

On Sunday, we officially opened the **Rodmakers Workshop**, which is located under the museum. The entrance is on the Paul Dahlie Education building side under the deck. This addition to our facility was funded by the Catskill Rodmakers Gathering over the past several years. It is now equipped with the historical Pinky Gillum Milling Machine which was built by George Halstead in 1947. When Pinky died, it then went to the Miney Hull who used it until his death and then went to Donald Wittekind in Columbus, OH. It was recently purchased by James (Jed) Dempsey and donated to us. It now resides in the rodmakers workshop which is currently being equipped by donations including: A heat treating oven with controls and a binder by long time rodmaker supporter, Ted Barnhart, The Smithwick Binder from Tom Smithwick, along with items from Richard Westerfield, Walt Carpenter and others. This living workshop will be open to the Catskill Rodmakers to construct, repair, and refinish bamboo rods. Mike Canazon will be the CFFCM local coordinator and supervisor of this facility. Included in the Rodmakers Workshop is a large screen TV that has been installed in the Museum. This monitor will allow visitors and rodmaking students to view workshop activities when professional equipment is in use and when clinics are in progress. Tours of the workshop can be arranged with the staff. This workshop is a welcome extension to the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum. We are proud to have the Catskill Rodmakers take ownership and management of this component of our true fly fishing center.

Chris Bogart, Chairman of the Rodmakers Gallery, recognized Ron Barch and Wayne Cattanach as two individuals who have made major contributions to the art and craft of cane rodmaking. Their photos and bios are now hanging in the museum in the Harold Demarest Rodmaking Gallery. We extend Congratulations to both masters of the craft.

The Second Annual Harold Demarest Rodmakers Challenge and Casting Championship were held in conjunction with The Catskill Rodmakers Gathering. Some amazing competitive rods were entered into the Rodmakers Challenge. Tim Abbott who made the best performing 6W bamboo rod with the weight limit of 3.65 ounces won the Rodmakers Challenge. In the Demarest Casting Challenge, Rick Miller held on to the title he won last year by out casting his closest competitor by 4 feet. Rick's comments were "they are getting closer, but not close enough".

We would like to thank the 'Rodmakers' for their continued support and cooperation along with Cortland Line Company for providing competitive lines and awards.

And the winner of the Series VI, 2006 Gathering Rod is: Dr. Yaswinski

The Gathering Rods are important to our Center as we sell only 400 tickets at \$20 each making the rod valued at \$8,000. The raffle package is enhanced with an equally unique reel and rod case. Every year at the Gathering a rod design and taper is determined by the Gathering Chairman and his committee. The rod is constructed by a group of designated rodmakers. Each maker does one of the elements required to construct the rod. The 2006 rod was an E.C. Powell B9 taper, two piece/two tip 7'6" milled by Chris Bogart, finished by John Zimny with a custom case by Tom Whittle, and a Bill Ballan Catskill Reel. The proceeds go to the Center. The 2007 Gathering Rod was the Lee Wulff Giant Killer, which is currently in refinishing. This year, the 2008 Gathering Rod is a George Barnes taper designed for Don Taylor, dubbed Don's Rod. It is a 6' two piece/two tip for a 3-4 weight line made by Ron Barch, Dave Van Burgel, Dennis Higham, Wayne Caron, Tom Smithwick and finished by Bill Harms. It comes with a custom bamboo rod tube and sock made by Don and Nancy Taylor with a vintage STH Airweight Reel made in Argentina from Cortland Line Company.

It is a truly magnificent piece and if GW Barnes was alive to see it, he would surely approve. It will be the next rod, the series VII to be raffled off and is now on display in our Gift Shop. The reason this rod will take precedent over the Wulff Rod is that it is complete and was presented at this last Gathering. Under the direction of Gathering Chairman, Steve 'Doc' Cohen, it was done in reverse. They showed the finished product at the Gathering and then went through each step in construction. Amazing! This is a very handsome rod and a treasure because of the finest craftsmen involved in its construction and the travel it took to grace each member's bench. Thank you rodmakers. You can expect the Giant Killer to be up for raffle next, as soon as we sell off the 400 tickets which are on sale now for the Barnes rod.

Hall of Fame Is Up Next and Rapidly Approaching. October 18 is the date and reservations are coming in at a steady pace. Induction ceremonies will be at 3:00PM in the museum with David Brandt officiating. At this time, we expect inductees: Ed Van Put, Francis Betters, and Art Neumann to be present to personally accept their awards; Dave Whitlock will not be present due to a previous commitment, but is expected to be sending a special greeting.

Our dinner slate is quite full with guest speakers, the Poul Jorgensen Golden Hook and The Lee Wulff Conservation awards, Fly Tyer Magazine Fly Tying Contest Winners, and some special silent and live auction items all related to Hall of Fame members. Included will be: a special one of a kind fly mount of Hall of Fame members flies (past and present), a one of a kind Lee Wulff Fly Mount, a Hall of Fame member library, some early Lee Wulff Holiday Greeting Cards, and other special items. Please visit our website after October 1 to see the list for absentee bidding. We will also be drawing the Hall of Fame raffle prizes; you have to be in it to win it.

HOF Member Sponsors: We are pleased to report that we have received Fly Fishing Hall of Fame Sponsorships from: Trout Unlimited for both George Griffith and Art Neumann, Bob and Alison Wood for William Chandler, and Walt Carpenter for Jim Payne. Their bronze plaques will be mounted under their respective member's plaques on the exterior of the museum.

Arts of the Angler Show, Danbury CT, November 15 & 16. This show has all the features of a large show with seminars, classes, fly tyers, vendors, and a live auction all in an intimate and comfortable setting. This second annual event will be held at The Danbury Plaza Hotel (Formerly the Sheraton) at Exit 2 in Danbury, CT, on Old Ridgebury Road, off Route I-84.

For you shoppers, you will find a select group of vendors with the finest in fly fishing tackle and accessories, hand crafted reels, high quality and hard to find fly tying materials, antique, used, and contemporary bamboo fly rods, collectible fly fishing tackle, accessories, art, and books, local guides and destinations. ORCA (Old Reel Collectors Association) will provide a unique display of collectible reels and provide identification and information on your unknown reels. Jerry Girard, collectible specialist, will provide identification and insurance appraisals for your antique fly fishing items. There will be seminars and programs on: fishing The Salmon River and Catskill Streams, selecting and refinishing bamboo rods, and beginning in the salt. A large group of the most recognized names in American fly tying has been assembled to provide non-stop tying demonstrations from show start to finish. If you tie flies and would like a tune up, bring your tools on Sunday from 10 AM until Noon to our first fly tying garage. Our technicians will diagnose your problems and offer the solutions and repairs at no charge. Special classes will be held by Dave Brandt on dry flies and Baitfish patterns for fresh and saltwater by Mike Martinek, Making the Mead Lady Bug and others will be available. In addition, on Saturday night there will be a live consignment auction at 7 PM. Turn your unwanted fly fishing equipment, accessories, and collectibles into cash, give us a call and tell us what you have to get rid of. Several Trout Unlimited chapters will be present along with Casting for Recovery. Make a day of it and support the Center. It's all about fly fishing. All details are on the website with updates as they happen.

Recent Acquisitions: At the recent Rodmakers Gathering, the following members donated items including: blocks of burls for reel seat inserts, apparel from other Gatherings, turned stone pens and wine stoppers, bench vises, and other rodmaking accessories for fundraising purposes. With their financial help, they have made the rodmakers workshop a reality. Thank you: Tim Abbot, Chris Andrus, Ted Barnhart John Bonasera, James Bond, Gary Dabrowski, James Bond, Jorge Carcao, Eileen Demarest, Jack Follweiler, Ron Frost, Bill Harms, Barry Mayer, Alan & Carole Medved, Henry Mitchell, Wally Murray, John O'Meara, Willis Ried, Zbigniew John Ryc, Leonard Tobler, David Van Burgel, and Robert Williams. **From Mr. Bob Goode:** A unique handcrafted table vise, made from a jewelers vise, circa late 1800's owned by a Mr. Thomas Underwood, an engineer for Phillips Petroleum Company. It was given to Mr. Goode in the 1950's by Mr. Underwood's widow, his landlord at the time. It will be added to our permanent display on *Tools of the Trade*. **From Ed Weber:** a large collection of books for our library and fund raising needs. **From Henry Mitchell:** a large collection of books for our library and future fund raising efforts. **Foot of the rail plaques have been received for:** Al Himmel the convicted dry fly purist from Lynne Seawright and for deceased member: Tony Jansic from Evelyn Baeyens.

Catskill Fly Fishing
Center & Museum
845-439-4810

P.O. Box 1295
1031 Old Route 17
Livingston Manor, NY 12758

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We're on the Web!
www.cffcm.net

Dated Material:
October 2008

CFFCM Emergence Chart

2008 Calendar of Events

October

18: Semi Annual Meeting

18: Hall of Fame Induction and Dinner

Illustrations provided by member Jack Pangburn.

Please Note Effective October 1st

Although we will still go into winter hours on November 1, we will close on Mondays during the months of October until May 2009.

November

15-16: CFFCM Art of the Angler Show, Danbury, CT

December

2: A Special Night in NY-Winter Fund Raising Dinner-A Roast and Toast to Hoagy B. Carmichael

6: Holiday Open House

NOTE: Beamoc TU meets the first Thursday of each month April-December at 6:30 pm in the Paul Dahlie Education Building

This publication is made possible with the support of these fine sponsors of the CFFCM. Should you be in the area, please stop in and say "hello and thanks" as a fellow member. Interested in being a Business Sponsor? Call us.

Buffalo Zach's, Roscoe NY, members receive a free cup of coffee with eat in or take out lunch or dinner; **Lanza's Country Inn, Livingston Manor, NY** members receive 10% discount on fine accommodations or dinner; **Peck's Market, Livingston Manor, NY** for all of your grocery needs; **Creekside Cabins, Roscoe, NY**, accommodations on the Willowemoc, conveniently between Roscoe and Livingston Manor with kitchen facilities—receive a free gift with your stay, **Ramsey Outdoor**, 3 locations **Ramsey, Paramus, & Ledgewood NJ** providing all of your fishing and outdoor needs; **Live Bait, Roscoe, NY** a casual restaurant and pub open for breakfast, lunch and dinner; **Pepacton Cabin Rentals** Catskill Mt. style-fully equipped cabin rentals—on the banks of the East Branch Delaware River www.pepactoncabin.com, **Roscoe Wine & Liquor—Roscoe, NY**— 10% discount on purchases, not to be combined with any other offers and **Stone Realty in Roscoe, NY** www.trouttownusa.com
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