

CFFCM's Castabout

Catskill Fly Fishing
Center & Museum

Volume 5 Issue 3

March 2009

Let the Games Begin



New Members

Stephanie Ewen
Peter Kaplan
Don Kennedy
Joe Ciotti

February Membership Winner Ted Rosenkrantz, MD

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 winner could be you!

Season Opener, Saturday, April 4, 2009, 7:30AM, Junction Pool It all starts again. Ed and Judy Van Put will be ready, Maurice Hinchey will be ready, Agnes Van Put and her soups will be ready, Ted Patlen will never be ready and the museum will be ready, come heck or high water. Come up, down or over, but be here to officially usher in another trout season at Junction Pool. We'll all gather there around 7 or so to mingle and kabbitz while Ed and Judy gear up with Congressman Maurice Hinchey. They will deliver the ceremonial first cast and officially open another new season. We are sure that there will be some other guests around for the ceremony to launch not only the Season Opener, but Sullivan County and the Town of Rockland's Bicentennial. 2009 will be a big year in the area with many celebrations.

Before dispersing to favorite fishing holes, watering holes, Mary Dette's, Catskill Flies, the Beaverkill Angler, Frank Kuttner's, Buffalo Zacks or Live Bait, JB Martin has a special treat. He will lead a party of those interested to 'Pop' Robbins Gravesite and toast one of the forgotten early local legends in flyfishing. (If you do not have a clue who Pop Robbins was, take a look through Mac's Catskill Rivers before you come.). By the time you are done at Pop's grave and have made the necessary stops in Roscoe, most likely Ted Patlen will be ready at the Museum to show off some of his fly tying skills wearing a new shirt. Roscoe artist, Jack Yelle, will once again have a limited edition of his Season Opener 2009 prints available. This will be the third in Jack's *Season Opener series*. He will be signing from 9-noon. From 10AM-noon at the Livingston Manor High School Gym, Mike Canazon and the Cane Crew will once again host a bamboo rod casting clinic. If you have never casted a bamboo fly rod, this is a perfect time to flick a few and discover the life and mystique of bamboo. So, stop in at the museum, and see the new exhibits, visit with some old friends and chat up some new ones before warming up to a cup of Agnes Van Put's famous soups. The more the merrier. We look forward to seeing you. Staying that night? Roscoe's Annual "Two Headed Trout" Dinner will once again be held at the Rockland House, call 607-498-5765 for details.

Get your book order in on March 11. Enclosed, please find the 2009 Members Only Book Sale List. If you send an email or fax, it must be dated March 11. If you send in an order via snail mail, it has to arrive by March 10. We will open the mailed orders first, fulfill faxed orders next, and honor emails last; all in order of appearance. Following these, phone orders will be accepted after 9AM and filled in order of receipt. Like always, there are some great titles. Please note that prices are offered at special discounts for members. This is a great way to fill in some vacant slots in your library and help the Center at the same time. All books not sold by end of March will be re-priced at higher prices and available in our Gift Shop.

Last Casts - Martin J. Keane

It is with great sadness to inform you of the peaceful passing of our friend and member Martin J. Keane, in his home on Friday, January 30. He was born on March 6, 1937.

Marty was inducted into the Fly Fishing Hall of Fame at the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum in 2007. He was recognized as one of the nation's leading authorities on fly fishing collectibles and hand crafted bamboo rods. His 1976 book, "Classic Rods and Rod Makers", stimulated the appreciation of rod makers and the history of the craft. Marty truly enjoyed every element of the gentle art of fly fishing and the community.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Lillian, and daughter Kathryn 'Kate', brothers Richard and John, and sister Sarah, and several nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life was held at the home of Mrs. Keane in Ashley Falls, MA on Saturday, February 7.

Donations may be made to the following two organizations very close to Mr. Keane, the New Milford Community Culinary School or The Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum. A plaque will hang in the Rodmaker's Workshop in Marty's memory from his friends.

Streamside Notes

Well, I suppose you have been wondering. Yes, the heat is back on in the museum and we have a bad bill to prove it. Have you ever had a 'good one'? It was just in time for the February Fly Fest Frenzy. What a great event to have during the middle of the winter. There were 54 fly tyers and about 150 visitors who came between 10 and 4. JB Martin and (OM) Jack Ganz did all the work, we were simply the host and venue. The outstanding group of tyers even donated \$300 to our winter heating fund. I would like to thank the tyers, sponsor, Catskill Flies, and of course Jack and JB for providing a day of excitement and entertainment for all; it was simply too much fun. Flies tied at this years event went to Reel Recovery. Cookies, cakes, and muffins were made by Ellen Skarka and Agnes (who could not attend due to a virus). They were enjoyed by all.

In addition to working on the book sale and the Season Opener, things are progressing well for this year's Annual Dinner and Auction on Saturday May 23. To tie in with our *Made in Japan* Exhibit, our CFFCM

coordinator and liaison, Misako Ishimura, has invited Japan's foremost traditional Tenkara fisherman and historian, Dr. Hisao Ishigaki to attend. Dr. Ishigaki has agreed to have a PowerPoint presentation in the museum on the culture and tradition of Tenkara Fishing before going to the river for a live demonstration. Fly fishing historian and author, Andrew Herd, recognizes Dr. Ishigaki as the authority in the traditional art of Tenkara Fishing in his book *The Fly* which is a world history of fly fishing. Some fly fishermen on the West Coast got wind of this and will be coming in for the program and staying for dinner. It should be noted that Dr. Ishigaki is a leading specialist in the field of "Visual Training", which is used regularly by different groups of individuals, including professional athletes. Born in Shizuoka, Japan, Dr Hisao Ishigaki is a professor of the Faculty of Management and Information Sciences at the Aichi Institute of Technology. This will be an historical event here and should be video taped, any volunteers?

Just a few of this year's auction items include a bamboo rod made by Europe's premier rodmaker and author of *Split Cane Rods*, Rolf Baginski, a day fishing on Pootatuck club water with Keith Fulsher, some specimen flies from Catskill John Bonasera, another wonderful guest fly tyer plate, and other unique items you might want including a Tenkara fishing set up from Tenkara USA. More Annual Day details will follow in the April Castabout.

The long over due and late *January Thaw* warmed up our streams and got some of the ice moving. From what I can see, no major ice jams to worry about, just nature's stream management. The warm weather was a false start for spring, but took the edge off for a week. February came and went before you knew it. Only a month now before the game really begins. Plan on coming up this year and seeing your museum. Your staff and I would love to see you.

Reporting from the hub of the fly fishing community.
It's all about fly fishing.
Jim Krul

On April 25, the Long Island Flyrodders Annual Willowemoc Stream Clean Up will be held. Join this great bunch of guys and girls for a morning of cleaning up the stream banks of the Willowemoc, Junction Pool and the grounds around the Center. If you have a chain saw, or want to buy one and test it out, bring it and help us drop the dead trees around our bunkhouses. With many hands, this work will go fast and the LI Flyrodders will provide lunch for all. This is just their extension of celebrating Earth Day and with any luck, you might get the tail end of Gordons and some emerging Hendricksons that afternoon around 2:30 or so.

Harold Demarest Rodmakers' Challenge Update: The 2009 spec's for the Harold Demarest Rodmakers Challenge is to build a bamboo fly rod weighing 4 ¾ or less ounces with the ability to cast the longest distance with accuracy using a Cortland Precision Platinum Dyna Tip 8W Floating fly line. Those rodmakers accepting this challenge and returning a challenge advance registration form will receive a competition fly line at no charge from sponsor Cortland Line Company. The 14th Annual Catskill Rodmakers Gathering is September 11-13, 2009.

Golf Tournament, Sunday August 16, 2009. That's right, a Golf Tournament. Who says we don't know how to have fun? For the past couple of years a few duffers and a couple of ringers have met at Twin Village Golf Course for an outing. This year will be The 3rd Annual Ralph Graves Classic. No, Ralph does not play or get involved, but one of the characters involved dubbed it that. We even have an Annual Trophy appropriately called 'the Ralphie', which now resides in the museum, hidden away so as not to offend anyone. Last years outing was very competitive with Steve Starantino, Ted Patlen, Dave Brandt, Mike Canazon, Jeff Phelan, Bob Mead and Jim Krul playing. It was fun and now Ted Patlen wants to take it to another level as a fundraiser as an annual CFFCM Golf Tournament. Ted will chair the event but needs some assistance from anyone who has really organized and run a golf tournament. We will have all the usual bells and whistles; however, there will be a qualifying casting challenge on the practice green before teeing off. If you would like to participate in this event or help, please give Ted a call at 973-772-1312 or email him at tedpat090@yahoo.com (please copy us at flyfish@catskill.net for our planning and follow up).

Recent Acquisitions: From **Catskill John**, the first *Swedish Fish Flies*, individually mounted in shadow boxes. Tied by Niklas Dahlin, these are Catskill Patterns of a Red Quill and Variant mounted on an Flick photo and a Quill Gordon mounted on a Gordon photo; even in Sweden they are strongly influenced by our heritage. More new books to enhance our library from **Nick Lyons**. (Although we don't see Nick that often, he lets us know he's still out there by sending notes and books in regularly).

Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum 2009 Featured Exhibits and Displays The CFFCM is proud to enhance our museum collection with the following special exhibits for 2009. These temporary exhibits will join our permanent exhibits: The Dette's, Darbee's, Lee Wulff, Poul Jorgensen, Art Flick, Fly Fishing Hall of Fame, Rod Makers Gallery, Jorgensen Golden Hook Award Gallery, Making Bamboo Fly Rods, and others to provide a full day of exploration to visitors of every interest level.

Cleve Speer-a consummate fly fisher. Over the past two hundred years there have been only a handful of fly fishermen that have 'done it all'. That being making their own rod, reel, and flies, environmentally managed angling water, developed fishing techniques, invented fishing accessories and successfully caught fish on their own equipment repeatedly. Thaddeus Norris and Edward Hewitt are two to be most recognized and Cleve Speer is a close third.

This new exhibit details the life of Cleve Speer and his creations from his early pleasures as a young fly fisher, the time with Jim Payne in his workshop, his years as a professional engineer, innovator, inventor, and his return to the early pleasures of fly fishing. Passionately he shared his knowledge and enjoyment of fly fishing to everyone he met paving a solid path for the healthy future of the sport

Trout Unlimited, The 50th Anniversary The CFFCM takes great pride in recognizing Trout Unlimited for 50 years of service to the preservation of our fisheries and waters. Started in 1959 in Michigan by a small group of fly fishers led by George Griffith and Art Neumann, it is now nationwide and boasts a membership of over 100,000. This exhibit pinpoints the many chapters in the USA, some campaigns and their logos sent in for display.

OLD REELS from the Old Reel Collectors Association (ORCA)

This is the first exhibit from a new partnership between the CFFCM and ORCA. ORCA is the international organization to the preservation and history of fishing reels. This dedicated group of collectors and tackle professionals have agreed to provide some exciting reel exhibits each year to be on display in the CFFCM. 2009 being the first year and featuring some eclectic side mount reels, early American fly reels, and those of special interest. Each a work of art.

Paul Theising Jr., His first art Exhibit Last year, Paul Theising Sr, took center stage as the CFFCM featured artist of the year. His magnificent carvings, sculptures, paintings and drawings have enthralled visitors through out 2008. But all that will remain in 2009 will be his 6'x4' Brown Trout oil and his 9' high rising trout sculpture, Big Mo'. However, filling up his vacated display space will be the first works of his 16-year-old son Paul Jr.

At last years Paul Sr. art opening, Paul Jr. just happened to have one of his pencil sketches of a Mayfly. Recognizing the outstanding work, CFFCM member Sandy Stone, commissioned a full size version on the spot. Since that time, Paul Jr. completed the commission and prepared a select group of his art to display during 2009, his first exhibit.

Made in Japan is the CFFCM's fourth international fly exhibit. Preceding Japan was Poland, New Zealand, and the British Isles. Each year tyers from a specially selected country are encouraged to send in their personal favorite flies over the course of a full year. Upon receipt, the CFFCM exhibit staff then prepares a display that form remains on display for the following year. *Made in Japan* is 2009 and is unique, as submissions have included a not only flies, but also lures, pins, other fly fishing related materials and magnificent special branded trio of rod, reel and net. These three items were made just for this exhibit by Japan's most recognized craftsmen: Rodmaker Yukihiro Yoshida, Net and wood craftsman Shinich Tsuchiya, and Reelmaker Misuru Ishii. This exciting exhibit will give visitors the opportunity to take a full view of the passion of the Japanese fly fisher. This exhibit was coordinated by Misako Ishimura and with assistance from Hiroshi Kono from MC Fly Fishing.

Swedish Fish Flies Watch this next international grow over the year 2009 before being assembled for the 2010 CFFCM season. Fly tyers of every level will be providing their favorite patterns to be on display. Like all International exhibits, this will take center stage next year in completed state. It is not true that you have to use gummy worms to catch Swedish Fish, just check out these flies.

Women in Fly Fishing are refreshed The highly popular Women in Fly Fishing exhibit, designed and prepared by Sara Low and Karen Kaplan, and funded by the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance has not been put away as planned. It has been relocated on the left hand side of the museum and will remain as a permanent exhibit dedicated to the women in our sport. On display will be pictures and vignettes of some of the women who have made major contributions to fly fishing and some of those who simply enjoy it. Do you have a favorite photo of a woman or women fly fishing? If you would like to share it, bring in a copy and add it to our woman's snapshot board.

Catskill Fly Fishing
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We're on the Web!
www.cffcm.net

Dated Material:
March 2009

CFFCM Emergence Chart

2009 Calendar of Events

March

Stories due for 'Double Haul'

April

4: Opening Day of Trout Season at Junction Pool

May

23: Annual Banquet and Meeting

June

19/24: Cane Rodmaking School

Illustrations provided by member Jack Pangburn.

July

11/12: Environmental Education Program

18/19: Environmental Education Program

25/26: Environmental Education Program

August

9: Super Sunday Anglers Fest / Jubilee Day
Sullivan County Bicentennial

September

11/13: 14th Annual Rodmakers Gathering

October

17: Semi-Annual Meeting and Hall of Fame

November

14/15: Art of the Angler Show, Danbury CT

December

1: A Night in NYC-Winter Fundraiser

5: Holiday Open House

Note The CFFCM Winter Hours are now in effect. Open Saturdays 10-4, Tuesday thru Friday 10-1 and closed Sunday & Monday

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; **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 10% discount with CFFCM membership card; **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 **Annie's Place, "Main Street" Roscoe, NY** contemporary and antique gifts for the home; **The Reynold's House Inn and Motel** in the center of Roscoe, walking distance to restaurants and shops, www.reynoldhouse.com