

CFFCM's Castabout

Volume 6 Issue 2

February 2010

Catskill Fly Fishing
Center & Museum
845-439-4810
flyfish@catskill.net



New Members

Thomas J. Gemski
Douglas Mershimer
James Shaeffer

February Membership Winner Mike Canonico

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!

Fly Fest and IceCapades will be held on Saturday, February 13. 9 AM – 4 PM. Have you had enough football? Run out of new flies to tie? Just want to get outside and see others? Well, you can do all three on February 13. The third annual Fly Fest will once again bring in over 40 tyers to the Center. We may even break last years record of 52 participants. The Fly Fest team of JB Martin, Jack Ganz and 'Catskill John' Bonasera said to get ready as the fur will fly! Outside on the pond our first IceCapades (ice fishing derby) will get underway. Guy Carlson (our grounds maintenance man) will bring his gas auger to drill some holes. For those who prefer to 'drill their own, a hand auger will be available. Mike Canazon has been monitoring the ice level regularly. We think Mike is really practicing to become as skilled an ice fisherman as he is a fly fisherman. He will not be competing, but helping everyone that participates. We are expecting some pros from Mid Hudson TU to do some ice fly fishing in hopes of beating the traditionalist. There will be an accuracy contest to put the fly in the hole and of course some prizes will be available. A suggested \$5 per participant will help fund our spring pond stocking of panfish for youth education, on pond demonstrations, kids fishing derbies, and for those physically challenged. (Of course, high school and under aged students are free and welcome to join in the fun.) Jan Weido and Skip Alford are the originators of this event and will be the on-ice volunteer coordinators.

You can keep watch on the progress of this event on our website, on our Facebook Fan Page and at sponsoring websites: www.catskillflies.com, www.classictrout.com We thank everyone for their support.

Museum is in immediate need of major repairs. The box of band-aids is empty and our geo-thermal heating and air conditioning system is beyond repair. When installed 16 years ago it was the state of the art in energy efficient service. Unfortunately, today the manufacturer is no longer in business and there are no replacement parts available. Our upstairs unit is running at 1% efficiency and our downstairs unit at 20%. Our temporary heat is in place and is accommodating our needs. The entire system has to be replaced.

In addition to the heat, the museum roof and ceiling must be completely replaced. We are lucky to have professional architectural and technical advisors Phil Horowitz (Boston) and Fung Chin (Chicago) at our service and at no charge. Phil has been overseeing the interviews with energy efficient heating and air conditioning contractors by providing them with our requirements. Since last fall, both Phil and Fung have been working on our roof situation and have developed a plan to replace our roof and ceiling and make necessary structure improvements. Their plan will allow us to keep the museum open during construction by doing a section at a time.

Our emergency fund established by the late Jim Gray will only cover about 20% of the costs required. Funds are immediately needed, the heat will be first and roof to follow in good weather. We cannot wait any longer. At this time, we are exploring grants and financial assistance available, however, ultimately it is our responsibility. It should be noted that the CFFCM does not have a mortgage or any debts. If you can assist us in meeting this major financial requirement, please contact any trustee or Jim Krul at your earliest convenience.



Streamside Notes

First off, the last mistake I made in 2009 was not the Justin Spencer episode. It was the 2010 dates for our events and activities. Included in the January Castabout was the draft calendar, which was inserted by mistake. I am happy to report that so far this year I have not made a mistake, at least one that I will fess up to.

I am sure you were surprised to see how much we could jam into this envelope. We were going to mail out your membership packets alone and send out this Castabout the following week, but decided to do a two for one mailing. Included in this mailing should be an acknowledgement letter, button, membership card, decal, revised events and activities calendar and this issue of the Castabout. (For those of you not receiving the membership packet, we have not received your renewal.)

I received an email from Maine Members, Don and Nancy Taylor. They are nice people. Anyway, they

asked if we would let them bring down some Vets from their Maine Healing Waters Program and stay in our bunkhouses this spring. Of course, I agreed and now I am making plans. They are arriving on Monday, April 12 and staying here until Wednesday. They are planning to fish and explore the area streams. They did not ask for help, but I did on our Facebook Page. CFFCM Members Richard Ross and Ron Ronbo Frost stepped up to guide and assist these wonderful servicemen. I could use a couple of others to help Don and Nancy make this visit a success. If you would like to join this group, please drop me a note or give me a call. We don't want to smother them, but be available. This will be the first of hopefully many visits in the future.

There is a lot planned here for 2010, a few of which are still under wraps (like above). We want to continue to succeed in being the home of the fly fishing community and keep it fresh, healthy and alive.

Unfortunately, we have some

serious repairs at hand that require some funds we just don't have. For the past couple of years we have seen the museum roof and ceiling deteriorate each winter. It is now time to correct it before the winter of 2010/2011. Right now our heat is being supplemented with electric heat, but that too needs immediate attention. With your help I am confident we will get it done. You are the owners of this property and we need to work together to get it back in line. Over the past few months I have asked everyone to replace themselves and get someone to join. Now is the time. If we do this and take advantage of our emergency funds, we will be able to cover the cost of these repairs. I hope you actively enlist one or more new member to the CFFCM. There is strength in numbers.

It is all about fly fishing.

Jim Krul

Congratulations CFFCM Trustee Dave Brandt. On January 11, 2010 The Upper Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited was renamed *The Dave Brandt Chapter of Trout Unlimited*. This name change was in honor and recognition of Dave's continuing contributions to clean water stream management, as a pre-eminent Catskill fly tyer, as an instructor providing youth and adult education in fly fishing and fly casting, and his dedication to the fly fishing community. Dave was one of the founding members of the Upper Susquehanna Chapter, which formed 40 years ago. We are proud to have Dave as a CFFCM Trustee and for his continuing service to us all.

Scientific Anglers is the Official CFFCM fly fishing education sponsor. We are pleased to announce that Scientific Anglers/ 3M has joined our organization as a supporting member. We will be upgrading our fly fishing education tackle and equipment with new rods, reels, and lines. SciAnglers will also be providing competition fly lines to the Harold Demarest Bamboo Rod Casting Challenge in addition to providing other equipment for our needs. Join us in thanking them for the support.

Fishing in the locale this upcoming season? In some instances, cell phone service may be non-existent or unreliable in the general area. This problem often causes a lack of communication with fellow fishermen or friends. Think about it...you tell some of your friends that you will meet them at the CFFCM parking lot at 8 AM. You get there and they aren't there, due to traffic, late start, etc. You decide not to waste any fishing time and you are going to the Beaverkill, but you have no cell phone service. What do you do? Well here is a solution. When making plans, have everyone agree that if plans change on the road and you cannot contact one another, simply leave a message on the white board or bulletin board on the CFFCM gift shop porch. This will eliminate precious fishing time and provide everyone with a message center when in the area. If you want to keep other fishermen out of where you will be fishing, simply write "incredible fishing at Barnhart's, bring more BWO's".

March Madness Approaches. The Annual Members Only Book Sale. Complete details will be in the March Castabout. Each year members donate books for our library with the understanding that duplicates are then used in our Annual Members Only Book Sale. Those collected over the past year are now being cataloged, prepared and readied for our sale. In your next Castabout you will get a list of those available to members only. These books have been priced at least 20% lower than current used similar titles and books available. Those not sold are then priced and put on our used bookshelves in the gift shop.

Season Opener, Saturday April 10. Please note that in the January 2010 Castabout our events and activity calendar had April 11 as the Season Opener. April Fool! It is really on Saturday, April 10. Things are coming together nicely and our special guests will be Assemblywoman Aileen Gunther and Sally Jesse Raphael and her husband Karl Soderlund. If you remember back to 2000, Sally joined Poul Jorgensen for the celebration. Once again Mike Canazon and the 'bamboo boys' will host another casting clinic and introduction to bamboo rod casting at the Livingston Manor High School Gym immediately after the ceremonies at Junction Pool. Ted Patlen will be our Season Opener Guest tyer in the museum. Agnes is busy making gallons of soup and the Roscoe Chamber of Commerce will be holding the Annual Two Headed Trout dinner at Rockland House that evening. It will be another great day in the Catskills and the only way to open a season.

Recent Acquisitions: From another of Japan's premier rodmakers: **Teruo Chiba** sent us one of his unique creations. A two strip (from tip to reel seat) quad rod. It is appointed with custom crafted distressed brass fittings and spigot ferrules. The reel seat is made from a white birch branch section (translated from canoe branch). It is a fascinating little stick.

(It arrived too late for our *Made in Japan* exhibit, but is a great base for our new [exhibit 'International Fly Fishing Crafts'](#).)

From John Roetman: a large quantity of books for our library, some gifts for our gift shop, and some fishing gadgets and tackle accessories for our fundraising purposes.

Register Now and avoid the rush. Interested in making a bamboo rod? David Van Burgel, Kathy Scott, and Art Port will be back again from June 25-July 1 to instruct our long time running and successful **bamboo rod making school**. This class takes the student from start to finish (selecting the cane to final varnish) in bamboo rod construction. Techniques, history, tapers and equipment are discussed during work. Students are welcome to stay in bunkhouses and breakfast and lunch are provided on site. After dinner, most take a break and go fishing while others work on extra tips or fine tuning the daytime progress. It is a proven formula as many return to show us the other rods they created over the year. Cost is \$1,200 for members and \$1,400 for non members.

Youth Environmental Weekends will be July 10/11, 17/18, and 24/25. These exciting weekends are the perfect programs to introduce students to the environmental conditions that affect our fly fishing, fly fishing basics, tying flies, and the ability to fish. Students are dropped off on Saturday mornings and picked up on Sunday afternoon. For both boys and girls ages 8-16; different weekends are assigned based on age. This is an overnigher in the bunkhouses, all meals provided and programs are run by our long time and highly qualified instructors, Pete and Karen Jacques. There is no tv, no cell phone texting, or computers. It is experiencing the pleasures of the outdoors. Student cost is \$90. If you do not have a child to send consider sponsoring an interested student financially unable to attend or contribute to our scholarship fund. Trout Unlimited and other organizations are encouraged to participate.

Other new programs under consideration. What do you think? We are currently exploring a full day saltwater fly fishing clinic and fly tying with one of America's top saltwater authors. Another possibility is a class for *Women Only*. We have been contacted by a well know woman graphite rod maker and instructor. She has proposed we have a graphite rod building class for a Spring weekend. Based on your response, we are looking at May 15/16. Please give us a call if you are interested. Costs and program are now in planning stages. Groups are welcome.

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

Dated Material:
February 2010

CFFCM Emergence Chart

2010 Calendar of Events

February

13: Fly Fest and Ice Capedes

March

Members Only Book Sale

April

10: Season Opener at Junction Pool

24: Long Island Fly Rodders Stream clean-up

May

29: Annual Banquet and Meeting

June

Cane Rod Making School

July

Environmental Education Weekends for youth

August

7 & 8: Anglers Market, Fly Fishers Summerfest and Jubilee Weekend

15: Annual Ralph Graves Memorial Golf Tournament

September

10-12: Rodmakers Gathering

October

9: Semi-Annual Meeting and Hall of Fame

November

6 & 7: Arts of the Angler Show, Danbury CT

30: A Night in NYC-Winter Fundraiser

December

4: Holiday Open House

Illustrations provided by member Jack Pangburn

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.reynoldhouseinn.com, **Catskill Flies, Roscoe, NY** for all your fly fishing needs and guiding services, check local water conditions at www.catskillflies.com, and **Redwood Creek Wines**