

CROSSROADS ANGLERS

FLY FISHING CLUB

Founded 1994 by Armand Courchaine
<http://www.crossroadsanglers.com>

Meeting Date: December 23rd, 2008, 7 PM

From the President

The weather has turned, and we have entered the winter season. Most but not all of us will be putting away our fishing equipment til spring. Now is the time to inspect your gear, clean your rod and reel, lubricate the gears and bearings. See if that fly line needs to be replaced. Inspect your fly box, and figure out what worked, what didn't work, and what you need to tie over the winter months. I think that one of the great things about fly fishing is that when the weather turns, you can always spend several enjoyable hours in front of your vise. Fly fishing is a sport that can be enjoyed both in and out of doors.

Please try and support the local stores, run by our friends and neighbors. They have supported the club and community over the years.

May we all have the time and opportunity to enjoy friends and family in this holiday season. Best wishes to all-- David Ferretti



New Members

Welcome Ralph Miller and Gennaro Ciatto.

Tips & Tricks

Rob Lurie

December is "Check Your Fishing Tackle Month." Well it isn't "officially," but it is a great time to review your wants and needs for the holidays. There are the big box stores in our area, plus our friends Scott and Sarah at the Bear's Den. This is a great time to drop a few hints for a new line, rods, reels, a vest, net, or tying materials. How about a fly tying kit for a friend that wants to tie but is a bit reluctant. Get them a kit and offer a free "beginners" lesson to get them started. Bring them to a meeting and they can sit in at our beginner's table. Maybe buy a friend or family member a membership to Crossroads? What about an introductory lesson in fly casting? This is also a good time to tune up your reels. Maybe replace that old backing.

Anyone interested in a rod building or repairing class being added to our monthly meetings? Bring it up to our newly elected board and see what can be done. This is your club. Let's make it bigger and better for 2009.

Lastly, but not least, have a safe, happy, and healthy Holiday Season.

Rob

A Time for Everything

Armand J. Courchaine

A few weeks ago I was at Seaside, New Jersey, for the Fall Classic, sponsored by Atlantic Salt Water Fly Rodders. It was 23 degrees with a wind of 35 miles per hour. My nose was running, tears were in my eyes, I couldn't feel my finger tips. How does one say enough. All my life I enjoyed the changing seasons of New England. I'm 64, and in the last three years it seems that the winter has gotten the best of me.

I keep two fly rods in my van in case I'm hijacked to the Bahamas. I hope Al Gore is right about global warming. The only place a person should see ice is in a drink.

I am blessed to have the hobby of fly tying--it will keep my sanity through the winter.

Tonight the temperature will drop down to the twenties with a strong wind. I think back to the time I met an old timer on the Palmer River in Rehoboth, MA. I startled the man, "how's the fishing." "It's slow," he answered. At that moment he set the hook. I watched the fight. He landed a nice 3 ½ pound rainbow bleeding. The fish took the fly too deep.

The guy became my friend and mentor, Howard Laws. The fly was the Gimp, size 12. There is an article about it in the Winter 2008 issue of *Fly Tyer*. I will be tying the Gimp at the December meeting. You are welcome to join me at the tying table. If you have Amherst pheasant tippets, please bring them with you.



GIMP

Hook: Mustad #9671 size 12, 14

Thread: Black denier 170 or 12/0

Tail: Fibers from Blue Dun Hackle

Body: Muskrat fur dubbing

Wing: two small feathers found at the base of Amherst Pheasant Tippet, tied flat.

Hackle: Few turns of blue dun hackle

Now that you have tied them – add water.

**Newsletter Articles welcome.
300–500 words.**

Super Glue

In the December issue of *Fly Fisherman*, Bob Quigley tells us about the many uses of Super Glue (Krazy Glue, Zap-a-Gap) in fly tying.

“Super Glue is great stuff, but it's also funny and can be tricky to work with.” Don't dispense the glue directly onto your fly. Apply the glue to your bodkin, and then dab it on the fly. [Masahito Sato puts a few drops on a Post-It; it won't dry until it's between two surfaces.] of The precision tube that comes with Zap-A-Gap also works well.

“For an indestructible biot, pheasant tail, turkey quill, or other quilltype body, apply an even layer of Super Glue to the underbody, wrap the body material, rib the body with wire, and apply a second coat of Super Glue over the body and let it dry before finishing the fly.

“For indestructible nymph wingcases, apply a drop or two of Super Glue, allow it to dry, and then add a coat of Sally Hansen Hard As Nails.

“For dumbbell eyes, add a drop of Super Glue before you figure-eight wrap your thread, and another after you finish your wraps. After the glue dries, add a coat of Hard As Nails.

“For the heads of steelhead and saltwater flies, apply a drop of Super Glue and two coats of

Hard As Nails. This makes a glossy, bulletproof head without mixing epoxy and using a turning wheel.

“Use a small amount of Super Glue on the clipped butts of streamer wings before tying them into place. A drop on the last wrap over the rib at the rear of Woolly Buggers makes them nearly indestructible.

“When finishing beadhead or conehead flies, put a drop of Super Glue over the thread wraps securing the final material, make the final wraps in the groove between the material and the cone or bead, then clip the thread off. No whip finish is required.”

Special Savings for Crossroads Members

Discounts will be offered to members of the Crossroads Anglers who show membership cards by the following businesses:

Captain Vern (Rob) Robinson & Son, Rock-N-Reel, 85 Seymour St., Berkley, MA 02779, 508/822-6756. He fishes out of Buzzards Bat and Vineyard Sound.

Captain Gary Swanson, *Striper-Charters*, 13 Harbour Hill Run, S. Yarmouth, MA 02664, 508/353-4009, CaptSwanson@Striper-Charters.com

Joel Kessler Strikes Again



“Darn! Is that another steelhead.”

Watch for fly tying videos in Monthly Announcements on the [Home Page](#)

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