

# CROSSROADS ANGLERS

FLY FISHING CLUB

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

Meeting Date: September 22, 2009, 7 PM

## From the President

The weather is starting to change, and Fall is approaching. As the temperature drops it will trigger the Fall migration of the striped bass. The next two months will be the best fishing of the year. Gone will be the doldrums of summer, as fish start feeding in shallow water on their way down the coast. Work the beaches and estuaries, for this is the time of year when we all will have the chance to land that fish we dream about.

If you would rather fish with a dry fly and chase after trout or salmon, the Fall also triggers a period of activity, as both landlock salmon and trout enter the spawning cycle.

Maine and New Hampshire both offer great opportunities within a day's drive. Go out with a friend and enjoy the best fishing of the year, be it in salt or fresh water.

I spent the summer in Canada and had the opportunity to spend time fishing for native brook trout. One day I was working a small pool with a 4 weight rod, when I saw a very large fish chase after the fly I was using. I drifted the nymph through the pool again, and the fish took the fly. I was lucky enough to land a 24 inch steelhead ocean-run trout. This made my summer.

I would like to welcome everyone back to the September meeting, which will be a fly tying and get acquainted meeting.

David Ferretti

### Agenda

7 PM: Fly Tying  
8 PM: Announcements and Raffle

## Summer Fishing Journal

July 7th, **Armand:** Put in at noon. Heading out in my 12 ft. canoe, I threw my perch-colored Jitterbug with spin gear. A crazy pickerel with bad attitude hit the lure along side the canoe, bit the line, and stole the plug. I thought I could hear him laughing at me. I didn't want to put on another lure, since the sky was getting dark and there was noise in the distance. I saw a wake of a fish about 150 feet away and paddled to get closer. Picked up my Orvis light salmon bamboo rod with an orange and yellow bug on the leader. Made the cast, Fish sucked the bug. I decided fight with the line rather than go to the reel. Fish had taken the bug and swallowed it. Just under five pounds on boga grip. Fish released, saw flashes of lightning.



July 19th, **Chuck McGovern:** Yup, my first striper of the season, taped out at 17 inches, from Scorton's Creek on an olive/white clouser.





That's what a home addition, a boat restoration, and a tireless 4-year-old will do to your fishing season.

July 11-19, 2009, **Mike Mathias** and **Howie**: Visited friends and fished in Maine. From Sunday through Wednesday we spent our time at Howie's camp on Hopkins Pond in Mariaville. On Tuesday we were able to fish the Penobscot River for smallmouths.



On Thursday we took the 4 wheelers out to one of the beaver dams. The dam has created a small flooded swale with downfalls and a beaver lodge just upstream. The beavers had been trapped out of this location, but the dam remains. **Mike** put on his waders and tied a size 16 olive caddis dry fly on his 3 weight 6' rod. I slowly waded into the swale just upstream from the dam. The bottom had about 10" of mud with a semi-solid bottom below. The water was glass calm as I made my first cast with the caddis. A slow retrieve evoked tiny nibbles from the small chubs in the pool, then with no warning the water erupted as a brook trout about 6" long dragged the fly and line thru the pool and across some of the blow downs. The feisty little trout finally came to hand and was released unharmed. The same scenario took place for about the next hour, and seven or eight fish later—all about 6" to 7" long. These trout are tiny but very powerful, especially on a light rod.

We then proceeded to the other beaver dam to check it out. This was a larger pool with a stream entering the opposite end of the dam outflow. Again the beaver had left because they depleted the food source in the area. One look at this pool made my imagination run wild with the prospect of catching a large native brook trout. Well, I had to face reality, as after an hour of wading I came up empty handed. I then decided to fish the stream below the beaver dam and did manage to pick up a real nice native

about 10" long in a stretch of riffled water. A beautiful fish that made several jumps before being released to fight another day. A nice day deep in the Maine woods fishing for native brookies.



August 22, 2009: Howie just got back from Maine, so we decide to fish Buds for the 10 PM high thru the night to the 4 AM low. A pick up at my house puts us at BBB at 11 PM, just as the tide has turned to the outgoing. Lots of bait in the water, but I can't tell what it was. My 07 fishing log shows that we did quite well this time of the month fishing at night, so here we are. My 08 fishing log shows no fishing here until September, but we did very well then.

While Howie readies his new Axiom 9' 10 weight, I head down to the water where the tide is exceptionally high and the water flow is very slow. In several minutes Howie joins me, and for the next hour or so we cast into the darkness. We are both using black clousers, as in the past, in hopes of hooking up. At last just as the flow starts to pick up, I manage to land a fish in the 18" range.

For the next half hour or so we seem to have hit a brick wall, so I decide to change flies. I tie on a silversides pattern I have had luck with in the past, but not tonight. Another look at the fly wallet, and the rootbeer Aztec shrimp fly catches my eye. Several casts later, another linesider in the 24" range comes to my hand. Now my fishing partner is calling me names, but suddenly his new rod bends to the 20" fish that he lands. Now he is happy again.

We switch spots, and once again I get a nice fish on but lose it. I am fortunate to take two more 22" to 25" fish and have another lost fish during this hour and a half or so. As Howie casts his eyes in disgust at me, I finally hook a nice striper at near or just over keeper size. I put this guy on the reel as it took line, and I was thinking it was bigger than it was. Finally it came to hand, and, with its broad shoulders and heavy body, I can see why I thought it was larger.



See the message board for more great stories of Mike, Howie, and Armand.

Like lots of people other than those above, “fishing really has been poor” for **Joel Kessler** this summer. “The best I did was up in Maine on the Moussam with a 27ish fish and no photos.”

For **Dick Pearce** and others who regularly fish the beautiful Wood River, “fishing has been tough due to all the high water and hot temperatures, even during the hex hatch, which didn’t last more that 15 minutes—though I did catch four nice fish one night.

“On the other hand, in August I did get a heart-stopper at my daughter’s camp on Little North Pond, near Waterville, Maine. For five days no one caught a fish. But on the last morning, I cast one of Dick Empie’s Crayfish to 6 inches from a fallen tree. A huge smallmouth took the fly and ran with it. I tried to keep it from getting tangled in the branches, but my kayak drifted almost to the shore. With the fish bending the rod behind me, I tried paddling with one hand. Then, holding the rod between my knees and

worrying I would lose it, I managed to back paddle. Fortunately, it was caught in the branches, and I had an 8-pound tippet. For I was able to get to a position where I could reel him in. As I lifted him from the water I could feel the weight of the largest freshwater bass I ever saw, even though it measured only 20 inches in length. No pictures, but it’s still in my muscle memory.”

## Online Newsletter

The pictures in this newsletter look better in color. See them in the online edition from our website. Save paper and club money by giving up your paper copy. See Ben White about taking you off the newsletter mail list and adding you to the list of people to receive notice as soon as the newsletter is on the website.

## Special Savings

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

Captain David Porecca, **River & Riptide Anglers--Fly & Light Tackle Charter and Guide Service**, Fly fish the Wood & Farmington River or chase Striped Bass, Bluefish, & False Albacore. 10% discount for Crossroads Members 401/392-1919, <http://www.riverandriptide.com>

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

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

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