

Newsletter January 2023

President's Message

Well, do you believe that it's January 2023? A Happy, Healthy, and lots of tight lines New year to you and yours. I am hoping that this coming year brings lots of fish to the net and my body keeps on moving along. We are starting the year off with an exciting and excellent presentation that I have been trying to have before Covid:

Tim Flagler, widely considered among the top fly-tying instructors in the world!!

For those that missed our last meeting, you missed a highly enjoyable Holiday party. There was some excellent food and beverages, camaraderie, and good raffle prizes.

We have been working very hard in lining up speakers that should stimulate your interest and provide you, old guys included, with some previous unknown knowledge and perspectives. We always look to get the best speakers possible and we try to have their presentations be variously, stimulating, fun & entertaining, and technical or educational.

Also--don't forget about buying Capt. Ray's raffle tickets. It's a great deal and a great time.

Another important note: start thinking about becoming a club officer or board member. Elections will be held at our February meeting instead of the usual January meeting.

We are always looking for ideas and new members. Invite someone you know or don't know, who might be interested in fly fishing to a meeting.

**ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS
NEXT MEETING
SPECIAL DAY AND DATE:**

Wednesday January 18, 2023

**South Foxboro Community Center
382 South St. Foxboro, MA 02035
Time: 630pm to 9pm**

At the meetings voice your opinions, we need your input. This is your club. Even if you can't make the meetings, we are very interested in hearing your thoughts and ideas as well.

Tight lines looking forward to seeing you and meeting new members.

Ed

Calendar

Jan 18th A special date and night. To get your juices flowing in the cold days and nights of January! We are having **Tim Flagler**, widely considered among the top fly-tying instructors in the world, presenting "What trout eat and what flies to feed them". **NOTE: Free for members, a nominal fee for non-members.** Please pass the word on to anyone you know or don't know that would be interested in attending **Tim's Presentation**.

January 17-19 *The Fly-Fishing Show*, Marlborough MA. We are having a table as we did last year. We did very well in selling raffle tickets and recruiting new members. Please volunteer to help work the booth and promote the club.

Feb 28th **Joe Calcavecchia** from Saltwater Custom flies with tips and techniques on tying saltwater and predator flies.

March 28th **Crossroads Anglers** fly tying night with some Special Tyers



Founded 1994 by Armand Courchaine

Website: www.crossroadsanglers.com

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday January 18, 2023 6:30-9:00pm

6:00-6:30pm set-up (tables, coffee, snacks, banner)

6:30-7:00pm Meeting Start and sign-in

7:00-7:30pm President / Officer updates and raffle ticket sales

7:30-8:30pm Tim Flagler Presentation

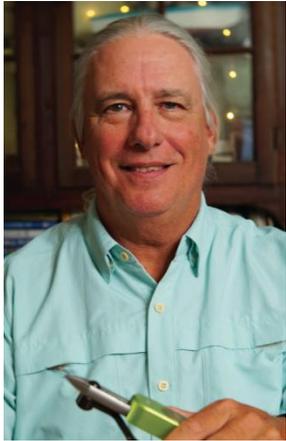
8:30pm Raffle Draw

8:45-9:00pm take-down/clean-up

Notes: We will be assigning a rotating group of three members for set-up and three members for take down for each meeting.

Fly Tyer of the Year 2022 Winner

by David Klausmeyer



Tim Flagler

Article Courtesy of *Fly Tyer Magazine*

www.flytyer.com

Over the past few of years, when communicating with this magazine's readers and contributing authors, one name kept popping up in conversations: Tim Flagler. Everyone admires his work.

Tim has taken the fly-tying and fishing world by storm, and he seems to be everywhere: demonstrating fly tying at shows across the United States, teaching fly-tying classes, giving educational fly-fishing presentations, and leading groups of anglers to some of the very best fishing around the world.

Last year, for example, he spent a couple of weeks knocking around Patagonia with groups of fellow fly fishers, and also led anglers to some of Northwest Montana's best rivers, the Kootenai and Yaak. (The man racks up a lot of frequent flyer miles!) If all that isn't enough, Tim guides year-round on his favorite home waters in Central New Jersey—at least when he actually is home.

When Tim finally settles down in his combination fly-tying room/photo studio/office, he finds time to peck out great articles for this magazine. And, of course, he creates truly outstanding instructional videos.

Oh, those videos! Tim has produced dozens of great fly-tying and fly-fishing educational videos. In fact, he has turned his variety of videography into a bit of a science using multiple cameras and other original ideas. Best of all, he makes this content available to us for free. (If you want to see how a master works, check out Tim's video *My Tying Bench* on his YouTube channel, practicalpatterns.com. It will blow your mind!)

To my way of thinking, the Fly Tyer of the Year is more than just a great tier. They must also willingly share what they know with fellow tiers by writing books or magazine articles, creating excellent videos, teaching classes, and offering demonstrations at fly-fishing shows and clubs. The Fly Tyer of the Year should inspire and make us eager to return to our own tying benches.

I take your suggestions very seriously when selecting *Fly Tyer* magazine's Fly Tyer of the Year. You, in fact, are key to the process. Your valuable input tells me who is making their mark on our craft and leading us into the future. Judging from your emails and letters, I see we are in complete agreement: Tim Flagler is our 2022 Fly Tyer of the Year.

Featured Fly Tyer: Tim Flagler

from Flylordsmag

By [Greg Stohrer](#)



Article Courtesy of *Flylords Magazine*

www.flylordsmag.com

Tim Flagler is a legendary fly tyer, [YouTube](#) content creator, presenter, guide, and instructor. His work on the [Tightline Video YouTube channel](#) is how many of us have found his company, [Tightline Productions](#), but his influence in the industry goes far beyond the digital world. Tim is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to techniques and tips and it was a pleasure getting the chance to pick his brain about just what gets his creative juices flowing.

Flylords: Let's start off with a little bit about yourself, who is Tim Flagler?



Tim: My wife Joan & I are the owners of a video production company called Tightline Productions. In the past, we have done a wide variety of video work, but in recent years have focused more and more on fly tying and the fly fishing industry as a whole. I started fly fishing and tying flies while in college in the early 80s.

Flylords: Is there a favorite fly that comes to your mind?



Tim: Yes, it's a pattern I developed about six years ago, called the Evil Olive that's based on Spencer Higa's SOS, with a few key variations. The reason I really like it is that it has worked for me pretty much throughout the year and just about wherever I go. I may have caught more fish on it than any other single pattern.

Flylords: What gets your creative juices flowing? How are new flies born? Where do you start? How do you choose materials? Etc...?



Tim: That's a great question. For me, inspiration comes from two very different things. The first is that I do regular stream sampling and shoot close-up videos of the naturals in a series of fish tanks. This allows me to see details and behaviors that I feel are very important in fly design. The other source of inspiration is a number of fly tying materials that have been around for centuries: Hungarian Partridge, Wood Duck, Brahma Hen, Peacock Herl, Pine Squirrel, and Hackle, to name a few. These can be mixed and matched in so many different ways and I like experimenting with unique combinations of some or all of them.

Flylords: In terms of all the gear out there involved in the fly tying process, what's one piece of equipment you could never live without?



Tim: A quality vise. I tie with a lot of thread tension and, to me, there's nothing worse or more dangerous than a vise that doesn't totally secure a hook. I've been a [Regal](#) guy for years.

Flylords: Which part do you enjoy more: Fishing the flies, or tying them?



Tim: Honestly, it depends on the day. There are times when I'm extremely excited and motivated to tie, and others when I simply have to get on the water, no matter what.

Flylords: Why did you start tying on YouTube? Has that impacted your passion for tying as a whole?



Tim: Tying on YouTube was kind of a happy accident but over time I came to realize just how effective video was for teaching people how to tie flies. I learned to tie from books and magazines, which are ok, but fly tying is a very dynamic thing and, when done correctly, video can capture nearly every detail and nuance. My true passion has now kind of drifted from tying flies for myself to teaching others how to tie. **Check out Tim's YouTube Channel**
<https://www.youtube.com/@tightlinevideo> !

Flylords: What is the process of creating a fly and then selling it? When do you know that it's ready for production?



Tim: I'm constantly tweaking patterns, shooting videos of how they look and behave underwater in the environment where they'll be fished, making sure they're durable and of course, that they catch fish. I'll also strip anything that isn't absolutely essential off a pattern. I don't like extras if they don't have something significant to contribute to the pattern. I know a fly's ready for production when I've gone at least a few months of fishing it effectively without wanting to make any changes to it. I feel very fortunate that Fulling Mill carries some of my favorites.

Flylords: Do you have any advice for anyone looking to get started fly tying? Tips or tricks?



Tim: I'm obviously biased here, but YouTube has a wealth of tying videos. Pick a video tier that ties patterns that you're interested in and plan to use, and follow them. Do watch videos of the same pattern but from different video tiers to find the techniques that work well for you, the tier. I'm liable to catch some flak here, but I really believe that there is no right or wrong way to tie a fly. Again, it's what works best for you. Probably the biggest actual tying tip I can give anybody is to be able to see your work well. This requires good, quality light and, for many of us, some type of magnification.

Flylords: How valuable do you think a resource like YouTube is for teaching people how to tie/fly fish? Have you found any downsides?



Tim: The only downside that I see to YouTube videos is that just because you've watched the video doesn't mean you can actually tie the fly. You really need to sit down and crank out a few on your own.

Flylords: How do you keep finding ways to be creative on the vise?



Tim: Instagram is really good for this. There are some exceptional tiers out there tying pretty wild and inventive stuff. Many of them also happen to be excellent photographers. It's a great place to pick up new ideas.

Flylords: What is next for Tim Flagler?



Tim: The next big thing for Tim Flagler and Tightline Productions is a series on fly fishing tips and techniques, not just fly tying. It's just a whole slew of things that I've picked up from others over the years or developed myself.

Thank you to Tim and his wife Joan for making the time in his busy schedule to answer these questions! It was a genuine pleasure being able to converse with such down-to-Earth, passionate people. Be sure to check out Tim's work on [YouTube](#) and his [website](#)!

Captain Ray's Guided Charter Trip Raffle

Are you still dreaming of catching that fish of a lifetime?

Now is your chance!

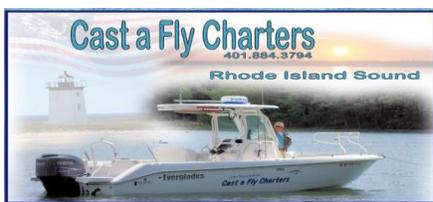
You could be the winner of a trip with Captain Ray Stachelek



Tickets for Capt Ray's guided trip Raffle are Available. Ask any board member. They are \$15.00 a ticket. Or 2 tickets for \$25.00.

Drawing will be for 1 raffle winner with 1 or 2 guests. Don't forget to ask your fishing buddies if they'd like to purchase tickets too!

THE DRAWING WILL BE HELD AT THE MAY 2023 BBQ MEETING!!



The trip includes 8 hours of fly or spin fishing with Captain Ray Stachelek in Rhode Island.

For more info on the Captain go to: www.castaflycharters.com

Ray Stachelek has been fishing the waters from Watch Hill, RI to Cape Cod MA for sixty years. He is a presenter at the National Fishing Shows along the East Coast. He contributes articles to various national magazines. Writes fish reports for online and newspaper publications. **Ray holds a Coast Guard certified Captain's license.**

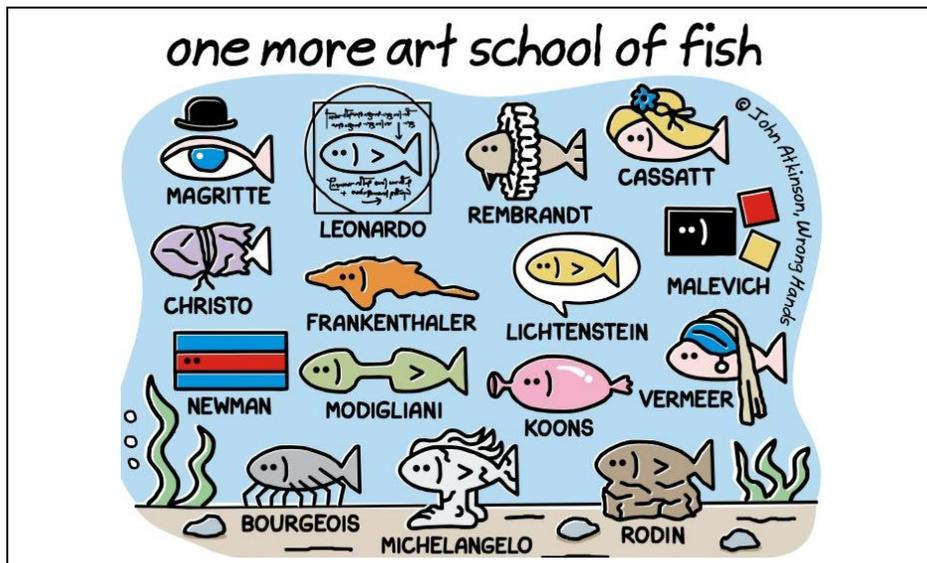
Captain Ray's Fly fishing activities

- Designs and innovates a variety of saltwater flies. He is the originator of the [Angel Hair Fly](#)
- Ties at National Fly Shows
- Serves on the Board of Directors for several area fly fishing clubs
- Delivers slide show presentations on saltwater game fish
- Capt. Ray's extensive knowledge of saltwater fly fishing and fly tying have been documented by leading authors in the industry
- Posts fishing reports for daily newspapers and web sites
- Capt. Ray's flies are sold in fly shops throughout the USA
- Expert instruction on fly tying and casting techniques Call for details and rates

A retired teacher by trade, Ray shares his knowledge readily and can help new anglers in the areas of fly selection, fly presentation, and casting. He has an innate sense of where the fish hold and can help all anglers of all skill levels "read" the water better.

Experienced fly fishers will benefit from Ray's ability to match skill level with varying degrees of angling challenge. Whether you're looking for your first striper or your first [slam](#), Ray is up to the task.

"Every charter is different," says Ray. "Solving the puzzle with a different set of unknowns each day is a challenge I welcome. That and meeting new people have made chartering very rewarding. I enjoy watching fly fishers catch fish; sharing in their experience is awesome."



2022 Crossroads Anglers Officers

Ed Rosenbloom President
Steve Dewar Vice President/Webmaster
Izzy Bettencourt Membership Chair
Sumner Levine..... Treasurer
Howie deBeck Advising Board Member
Joel Kessler..... Advising Board Member
Russell Glen..... Advising Board Member
Gary Johnson..... Advising Board Member
Dan Deneault Newsletter
Bob Dewar. RaffleMaster

Please visit our website:
www.crossroadsanglers.com
For contact info on any Club Officer

This is our monthly newsletter for the 2022-2023 season. Best Wishes to All to Continue to Stay Safe and Stay Well!
See you Soon!!