



Newsletter March 2024

President's Message

Well, it is official, Spring is here, even though the temperature doesn't show it. Trout stocking has begun and in past years I would have been out. But I don't have my neoprene's, etc. Reality is that this old bod doesn't like the cold anymore--it needs at least 60, well maybe mid 50's.

As I was day dreaming, which happens a lot these days, about fishing saltwater. Wondering how the coming season will be. When will the stripers show up (when do you think they will make their appearance), what regulations, flies to tie, etc. I found some information that you might be interested in.

Speaking of warm places to fish, this month's speaker will be taking us down to one of the warm places. Ross Kessler will be taking about DIY Bonefish trips: the ins and outs from all the necessary prep to time of the water.

To those that were not able to make it to our 30th Anniversary party, you missed an excellent time. From the food to the camaraderie, from old to new members, and guests. One very happy member, Will Hart, the winner of the Van Staal reel. I want to thank those that helped behind the scenes, with a shout out to Steve Dewar for his slideshow trip down memory lane.

ALSO → Check out our New 30 Year Pin!! [above]-- → It will be available at the March Meeting!

Please do not forget our Freshwater Fly Drive for some great causes. I need at least a dozen or two of freshwater flies from each member (I know we all have tied lots of them). Bring them to the meeting or contact me at rosenbloom@gmail.com and we can figure out how I can get them.

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

Ed

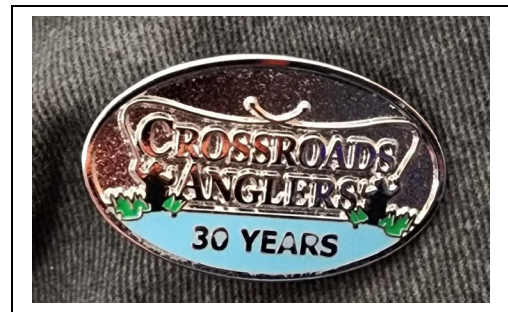
ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS

NEXT MEETING:

Tuesday March 26, 2024

**South Foxboro Community Center
382 South St. Foxboro, MA 02035**

Time: 6:30pm to 9:00pm



Calendar

March 26th **Speaker: Ross Kessler**
Presenting a review on Bone Fishing
Gear SWAP / Fly Tying Night also

April 23rd **The Clash of the Vices**
Stay tuned for more details!

May 28th **Annual BBQ**

Trips Trips Trips Trips Trips

One day outings are being planned. There will be some on a set weekday, some for nights or weekends.

Primarily we will be fishing in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Trips are also being considered for Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Maine.

Any suggestions are welcome: let myself or a board member know.

Don't Miss our March Presentation

Ross Kessler presenting DIY Bonefishing



You've all seen me in my position at Marine Fisheries. Some of you may recognize me from my role at Thomas & Thomas Fly Rods. Like many of you, when I'm not in either of those roles I'm fishing, planning a trip to go fishing, or tying flies.

One of my passions in life is Bonefishing, on my own. I'm going on 20 years of DIY bonefish trips. In that time I've figured out a few things by making a lot of mistakes. I'd like to share the processes I use to organize a DIY trip from time of year, to tides, to packing, and budgeting.

Striped Bass Managers Approve Conservative Management Options for 2024

Managers decide to maintain slot limits for private and for-hire anglers.



The [Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board](#) approved conservative management options for striped bass at their winter meeting in Arlington, Virginia. The options were part of Draft Addendum II, and the decision considered [public input collected at public hearings in recent weeks](#).

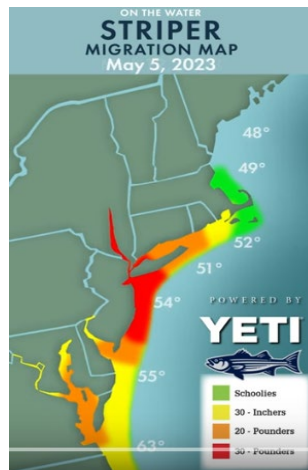
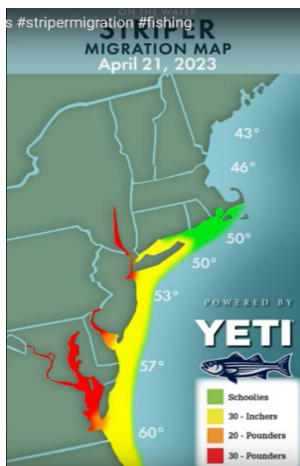
For the ocean (non-Chesapeake Bay) fishery, the striped bass slot limit of **1 fish at 28 to 31 inches** remains in place for *all* recreational anglers, whether fishing from shore, a private boat, or a charter (for-hire) vessel. After a vote to consider a mode split that would allow a larger slot for for-hire vessels failed 7-9, the measure (Option B) was approved 14 to 2, with only New York and New Jersey voting against. Both states' representatives spoke in favor of an option that would allow a larger slot for for-hire vessels.

For the Chesapeake Bay fishery, managers approved the striped bass slot limit of **1 fish at 19 to 24 inches** for *all* anglers. The measure (Option B2) was approved 14 to 2, with Maryland and New Jersey voting against. The Maryland representative spoke in favor of options that would allow a 2-fish bag for anglers fishing on for-hire vessels.

The Board also voted to **reduce the commercial striped bass quota by 7%**. This was a compromise reached after a 14% reduction was proposed as a number equal to the estimated reduction to the recreational fishery.

The Board initiated [Draft Addendum II](#) in May 2023 in response to the low probability of meeting the 2029 stock rebuilding deadline if the unexpectedly high 2022 fishing mortality rate continues. The Draft Addendum built upon the [2023 emergency action](#) by considering management measures intended to reduce fishing mortality to the target level in 2024. For the recreational fishery, the Draft Addendum proposed recreational bag and size limit options for the ocean and Chesapeake Bay regions, including options with different limits for the for-hire modes.

The 2023 Striper Migration --When did the stripers come back last year? What's your guess for 2024?



In the Northeast fishing community, no event is as highly anticipated as the spring striped bass migration. Fishermen who bid farewell to the stripers in the late fall or early winter eagerly await their return to our coast.

Recent History: The Spring Striper Migration

2020: The COVID-19 pandemic began just as the first wave of migratory bass in the 20-pound range stormed the sand beaches of New Jersey. In the weeks that followed, schoolies invaded the mid-Atlantic coast while vast, dense schools of bunker attracted trophy bass to the south shore of Long Island and southern New England throughout the summer months.

2021: Big schools of bunker returned to the Northeast in the late spring, but a lack of big bass with them left anglers worried about the future status of striped bass numbers. A noticeable shift in the presence of trophy stripers around popular summering grounds like Block Island and Montauk left anglers questioning what the 2022 spring migration would bring.

2022: Schoolie and slot-size stripers made a strong showing from Delaware Bay to eastern Long Island in the early spring. The large schools of bunker that had congregated around Long Island and southern New England in years past were concentrated around Boston and the south shore of Massachusetts, and trophy stripers gorged on them throughout the summer.

The 2023 Striper Migration April – May

April 14

Forty-inch stripers showed up in great numbers on the beaches of New Jersey as water temperatures climbed into the 50s in Chesapeake Bay tributaries. Spawning stripers reached upper portions of the Delaware River while big bass moved into the lower Hudson, and schoolies continued along western Connecticut beaches and Long Island's north shore. Simultaneously, the first migratory bass of the year hit Rhode Island and southern Massachusetts in the surf of Martha's Vineyard.

April 21

Stripers continued to spawn in Chesapeake tributaries while Delaware River stripers prepare to spawn. Beachfront bass fishing continued to improve in New Jersey, stripers to 20 pounds hit Long Island's east end, and fresh migratory schoolies progressed into Buzzards Bay, Vineyard Sound, and Nantucket Sound.

April 28

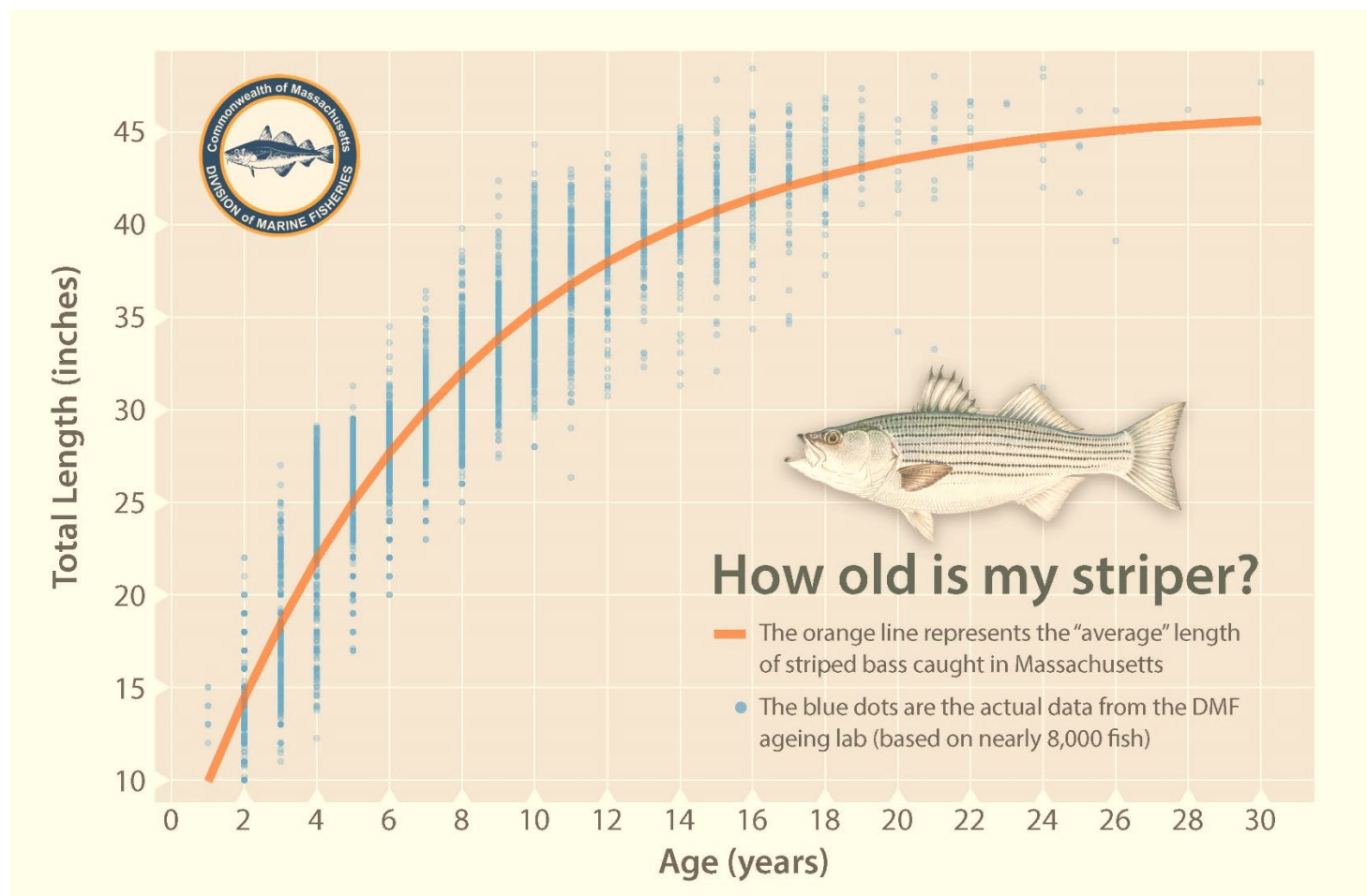
Post-spawn stripers began their exodus from Chesapeake Bay while the Raritan Bay run remained red hot. Big bass pressed north toward spawning grounds in the Hudson River and 30-inch-class stripers feasted on river herring in Rhode Island at the same time that schoolies arrived on the south shore of Massachusetts.

May 5

Spawned-out stripers began to pour out of Delaware Bay and the Raritan Bay bass bite slowed as stripers spawned in the Hudson River. Surf fishing continued to improve on Long Island while fish as large as 30 pounds were caught throughout southern New England and in the Cape Cod Canal. Meanwhile, Boston and the north shore of Massachusetts experienced an influx of [migratory schoolies](#).

May 12

[A wave of big post-spawn stripers from Chesapeake and Delaware bays hit New Jersey beaches](#) as early Hudson spawners hooked a left out of New York Harbor. Bass from 30 inches to 30 pounds keyed in on Narragansett Bay bunker schools, and big bass blitzed in Cape Cod Bay and the Canal as migratory bass reached New Hampshire and Maine.



Guided Charter Trip Raffle Captain Ray Stachelek or Captain Brian Kelly

**Tickets NOW Available. Ask any board member: \$15.00 a ticket or 2 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 Spring BBQ MEETING!!

Trip includes 8 hours of fly or spin fishing with Captain Ray Stachelek in RI or Captain Brian Kelly in the Plymouth MA / South Shore region



SOMEWHERE IN A PARALLEL UNIVERSE

Crossroads Anglers Classic Club Tying

Flies that catch Stripers

Tutti Frutti - Howie Debeck



Hook: 1/0 Eagle Claw 254SS
Thread: White Danville A unwaxed
Bucktail: White, Pink, Chartreuse
Flash: Ice Blue Flashabou
Eyes: Stu Dickens #3 Krystal
5 Minute Epoxy

Dick Empie's Mongoose Sand Eel Imitation



EYES: #3 or #4 Stu Dickens Krystal Eyes (Pearl) or Real Eyes 5132 with silver prism eye inserts

HOOK: #34007 Mustard or # 254 Eagle Claw Size #1 - 1/0

THREAD: Danville "A" White (Body) and Danville "A" Chartreuse (Head)

TAIL/BODY: Nylon Synthetic Material (Supreme Hair, Ultra Hair, or Super Hair) Colors: White, Polar Bear, Pink, Lt. Blue, and Olive

Tail/Wing tying sequence from the bottom up (using white thread). Start trimming ends of nylon in front of Krystal Eyes. 2-3 turns of thread, run over top of the eyes, sparsely wrap body to bend of hook 4-5 wraps. Then wrap forward to and under eyes 5-6 wraps ending between Krystal Eyes and hook eye. Repeat for each layer of the wing/tail. Stacking them neatly one on top of the other. Applying slight up pressure when holding wing

material, followed by sparse wraps of thread, keeps all layers neatly on top of each other in layers. Tied from the bottom up, in sparse amounts, 6"- 10" long.

1. 18 - 20 Strands of White Nylon
2. 6 - 8 Fibers of Ice Blue Pearl Flashabou
3. 4 Light Blue Nylon Strands
4. 16 - 18 Fibers of Polar Bear Nylon
5. 2-4 Strands of Holographic Silver Flashabou (1/64 Diameter)
6. 4 - 6 Strands of Rainbow Krystal Flash
7. 4 - 6 fiber Pink Nylon (really sparse)
8. 6 - 8 Fibers of Flashabou Olive/Pearl
9. 18 - 20 Strands of Olive Nylon
10. 6- 8 Fibers of Flashabou Black/Pearl

Whip finish head and coat body with a thin coat of 5 mm. epoxy. Allow 10 - 15 minutes to set. I do 4 - 5 flies at a time to save epoxy and time.

Throat: Invert hook in vise. Start chartreuse thread, 4-5 wraps. Tie in sparse amounts of chartreuse calf tail with butt ends trimmed, tips should extend 1/4" - 3/8" past the bend of the hook.

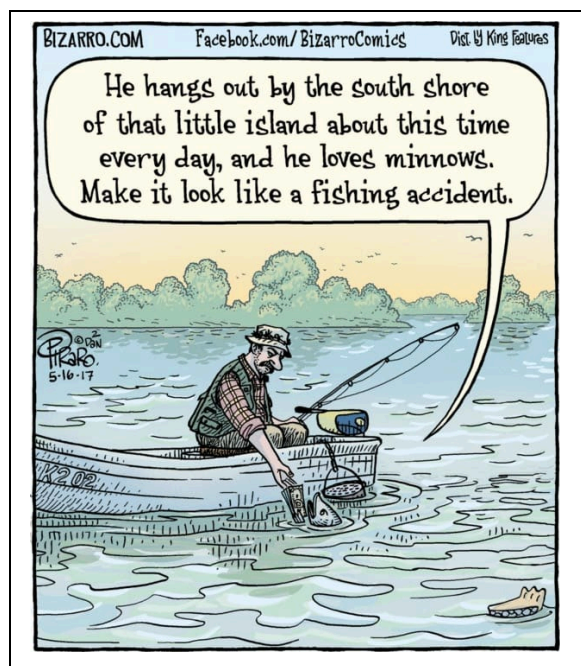
Head: Build head, whip finish, and coat top of eyes from body forward and head with epoxy.

* Durable—will last 100-150 fish per fly, unless lost.

* An excellent fly all year for striped bass, blue fish, false albacore, and bonito!

Fish it high, fish it low, fish it everywhere you go. It takes fish! They don't just nip this fly, they eat it! 95% of the takes are swallowed!!!

Tight Lines Richard A. Empire



Freshwater Fly Drive



We all have flies. Flies everywhere. We all have flies. Big ones, small ones and itsy-bitsy ones. Flies we tied way too many of. Flies that look great but we might never use, etc, etc, etc ...

So now there is something that you can do with them

We are starting a

“Freshwater Fly Drive”

for some great causes

For Example:

Casting for Recovery & Project Healing Waters

I would like to get at least a dozen or more freshwater flies from each of you
(members/non-members)

With or without fly boxes

Bring them to a meeting or send them to me:

Ed Rosenbloom / 62 Cabral Cir. / Stoughton, MA 02072



RISAA WELCOMES CROSSROADS ANGLERS AS LATEST AFFILIATE CLUB



Our newest affiliate club is Crossroads Anglers. Crossroads Anglers is a flyfishing club that meets every fourth Tuesday from September to May at 6:30 PM at the South Foxboro Community Center, Foxboro MA for fly tying and good fishing conversation.

The purpose of the club is to promote fly tying and fly fishing for fresh or saltwater gamefish. members share techniques and approaches to tying, selecting fly materials, gear selection along with where and how to apply this knowledge.

Several times a year the club has a guest presenter. Some notable presenters have included Lefty Kreh, Bob Clouser, Bob Popovics, Paul Jacobs, Dave Porreca, Ed Lombardo, Paul Pezza, Dr. David Ross and Ray Stachelek.

Welcome, Crossroads Anglers!



AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

The Rhode Island Saltwater Angler's Association (RISAA) believes in the sensible management of fisheries and the conservation and restoration of all marine resources. RISAA has accepted a leadership role in order to provide a unified voice to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and future of recreational angling. In order to achieve these goals, it is important for organizations who have the same goals to join together, uniting their voices and votes for the good of present and future generations of anglers. Therefore, RISAA is proud to be **AFFILIATED** with these respected organizations:



2023 Crossroads Anglers Officers

Ed Rosenbloom President
 Steve Dewar Vice President / Webmaster
 Sumner Levine Treasurer
 Tris Carpenter Membership Chair
 Izzy Bettencourt Advising Board Member
 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 2023-2024 season. Best Wishes to All to Continue to Stay Safe and Stay Well!
 See you Soon!!