



Newsletter May 2025

## President's Message

Well, it seems the weather pattern has not changed as I keep saying it's a roller coaster. One minute it was in the 70's now it is back to the 40's and eventually, it'll be back in the 70's. The fishing seems to be the same. I heard the stripers were showing up and then they weren't or picky while playing hide and seek. I went out the other day in the cold, overcast gray and windy, and tried a couple of spots. It finally happened on the drop I'm on the board with some schoolies.

In case you missed last month's presentation by **Capt. Brian Kelly** on "Albies and Stripers Tips, Techniques and Flies" you missed an excellent talk and fly tying by Brian. Everyone that I talked with, heard some new ideas and approaches and were very glad that they attended.

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.

Well, the time has come for me to officially say adieu as your President. I am looking forward to my new role as Advisor, supporting Steve Dewar as the new President.

Tight lines,  
Ed

### Future Events:

Watch your email for "Impromptu Fishing meetups" ( emails with contacts, meeting places and times to meet up)

### ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS

**NEXT MEETING:**  
Tuesday May 27, 2025

### ANNUAL BBQ

**Time: 6pm**  
**(Or earlier to Fish)**  
**Lake Massapoag, Sharon MA**

**SEE ADDRESS DETAILS ON PAGE 2**

### DEERFIELD TRIP

The Annual Spring Deerfield Outing with the Harrison Brothers was successful even through foul weather, high and fast waters. A big shout out to Doug Carver for pulling this event together. Here are a few pictures to show what you missed and more on the Crossroads Anglers web site.



# Annual Crossroads Anglers BBQ

**Place: 31 Beach St, Sharon, MA  
(look below for more info)**

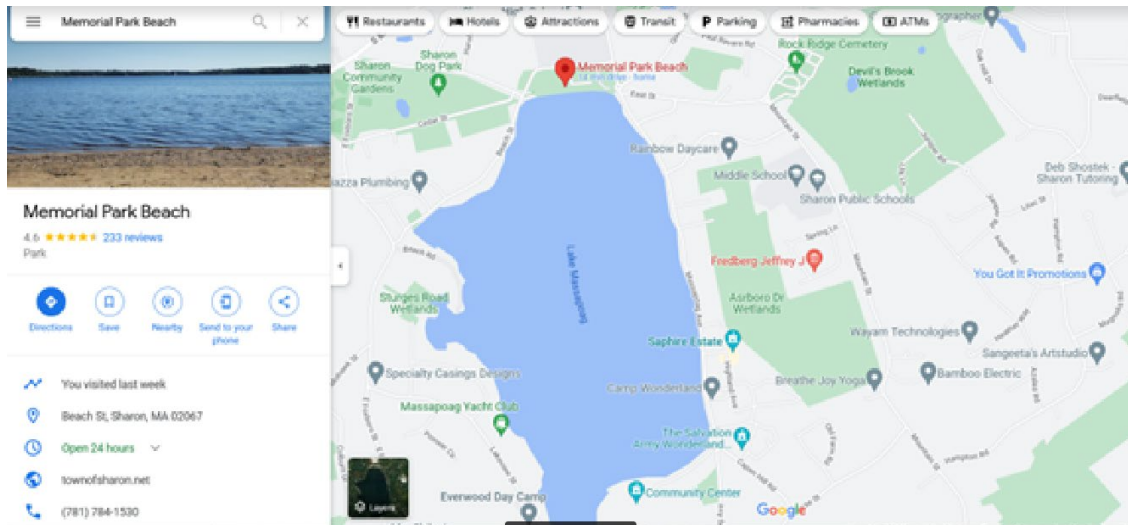
**Time: 6pm “ish” (or earlier to fish)**

All members can bring a guest (spouse, relative, friend, ....)

Besides The Great Food and Camaraderie, there will be fun raffles along with our Guided Charter Trip Raffle. A winning ticket will be drawn.

If you haven't gotten yours—you can still purchase at the BBQ (\$20 for one, \$30 for two).

**Memorial Park Beach, 31 Beach St, Sharon, MA 02067**



**Entrance to Memorial Park beach – after entering stay to the left.**



# **Guided Charter Trip Raffle with Captain Ray Stachelek or Captain Brian Kelly**

**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 or Captain Brian Kelly**

Tickets for the Guided Trip Raffle are Available. Ask any board member. They are \$20.00 a ticket. Or 2 tickets for \$30.00.

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 2025 BBQ MEETING!!**

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

# The Wife And The Mistress

## A lesson on accuracy and line speed in saltwater fly fishing via infidelity.

Note: The following is a bit of “local wisdom” from a Belizean guide. It is intended for educational purposes only. It’s premise is largely chauvinistic, misogynistic, and generally in bad taste. But it works!

In sight fishing for bonefish there is no more important component than accuracy. When the guide calls out a shot, you better be able to hit it, and quickly. “9 o’clock, 60 feet” — hit it. If you don’t, there is a good chance he will jump off the platform, run up to the bow and slap you silly. Saltwater shots are far too precious to blow. His tip and your fish of a lifetime depend on you being accurate and timely with presentations.

Before my most recent trip to Belize my accuracy was fairly poor. I’ve fished salt in the Keys a few times, and I’ve fished Beaver Island for carp quite a bit. I’ve learned that my best shots on Beaver were to laid up fish not the big cruising 30 pound monsters that hang out in deeper water and require 80’ casts, right on the button, from the deck of a moving boat. Those weren’t my fish, and I was okay with that. But in Belize after we wore out the schooled up smaller bones we went super skinny to chase the bigger fish and sight fished for them in gin clear water. To hook up, I needed accuracy, and I needed it quick.

I was fishing out of a great lodge and the fishing director at the time was an experienced local guide and fantastic teacher. Everyday at 3pm he hung out on the dock and gave casting instruction. As soon as he saw my first cast to a target from the dock, he said

**“You want accuracy? Think about your wife and your girlfriend.”**

Now understand I was at the lodge celebrating my 15th wedding anniversary. So I smiled and said,

“Cool, what do you mean by that?”

He went on to explain that the rod hand is the girlfriend and the hauling hand is the wife. He said,

“Be extra firm with the wife, the hauling hand, and be gentle with the rod hand, the girlfriend.”

I was doing the opposite. I was being rough with the rod hand and gentle with the hauling hand — not hauling enough.

He went on to explain that a wife, you want to be firm with and make sure she keeps everything in line at home. She’s your partner for life. You can’t really be too hard on her, she’s not going anywhere. But the girlfriend you have to be gentle with.

So I started really hauling hard with my line hand, really hard, much harder than anything you’ve seen in any of the casting lesson videos or demos you see at shows by the experts. Really honking on the haul. That adds line speed, and as a result accuracy and tight loops. I started just letting the rod hand guide the line where it needs to go, all gentle like. The left hand (the wife) was doing all the work and the rod hand (the girlfriend) was just there freeloading and hanging out.

My casts started hitting the target bang on, every time even into the 25 knot headwind. Bang, instant accuracy brought to you by a horrible analogy.

By the time we were casting on the dock all the guests had consumed a few Belikins by the pool and friend from the lodge walked out to cast a little with us. I turned around to him and said,

**“Hey, tell him about the wife and the girlfriend!” I didn’t notice that my wife was standing right behind the guy.**

She sauntered up to me on the dock and smugly, said, “Um, what?” I explained... albeit terribly, and just kept digging myself deeper.

I landed more fish the rest of the week though, all because of a horribly sexist and politically incorrect analogy. C’est la vie.

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## Watching Your Fly Line Tells You If You’re Fishing

**When fly-fishing in saltwater, if your fly isn’t moving, you’re not fishing.**

This is one of those ideas that’s dead simple in principal and damned complicated in practice. For a fish to see your fly as food, it must have the right action, but there are factors at work that the angler may not perceive. Have you ever wondered why many saltwater fly lines are so brightly colored? It’s not a fashion statement, it’s a tool and often the key to catching fish.

Too many anglers making the transition from freshwater to salt think of the ocean like a big pond. In truth, it has more in common with a river. The water in the ocean is always moving and it’s often not readily apparent in which direction or how quickly. If you are fishing from a boat, the boat may also be in motion and not necessarily with the flow of the water. On top of all that the wind can influence the motion of the water, the boat and the fly line. It’s a lot to keep up with, but if you don’t you’ll pay the price in missed opportunities.

**I’ve seen a lot of good casts fail to produce fish because the angler was not aware that their fly was dead in the water.**

Picture for a moment that you are on the bow of a flats boat. Your guide is poling against the current when he calls out a fish at 11 o’clock. You make a nice cast but because the boat was moving toward 12 o’clock you failed to notice that the current is coming toward you. If you strip as though you were in still water, you’ll never come tight to the fly. You will only take up the slack as the fly sits dead on the bottom and the fish will swim on by.

The opposite can be just as deadly. Suppose your guide stops the boat for a fish at 11 o’clock, but this time the current is carrying your fly away. A normal retrieve may be too fast, lifting the fly to the surface in an unnatural manner. Again, your fly is not behaving like food and it will likely be ignored.

A strong current moving from either side can carry your fly into, or out of, a fish’s feeding zone. In this case the direction of water movement will affect where you play your fly, as well as how you retrieve.

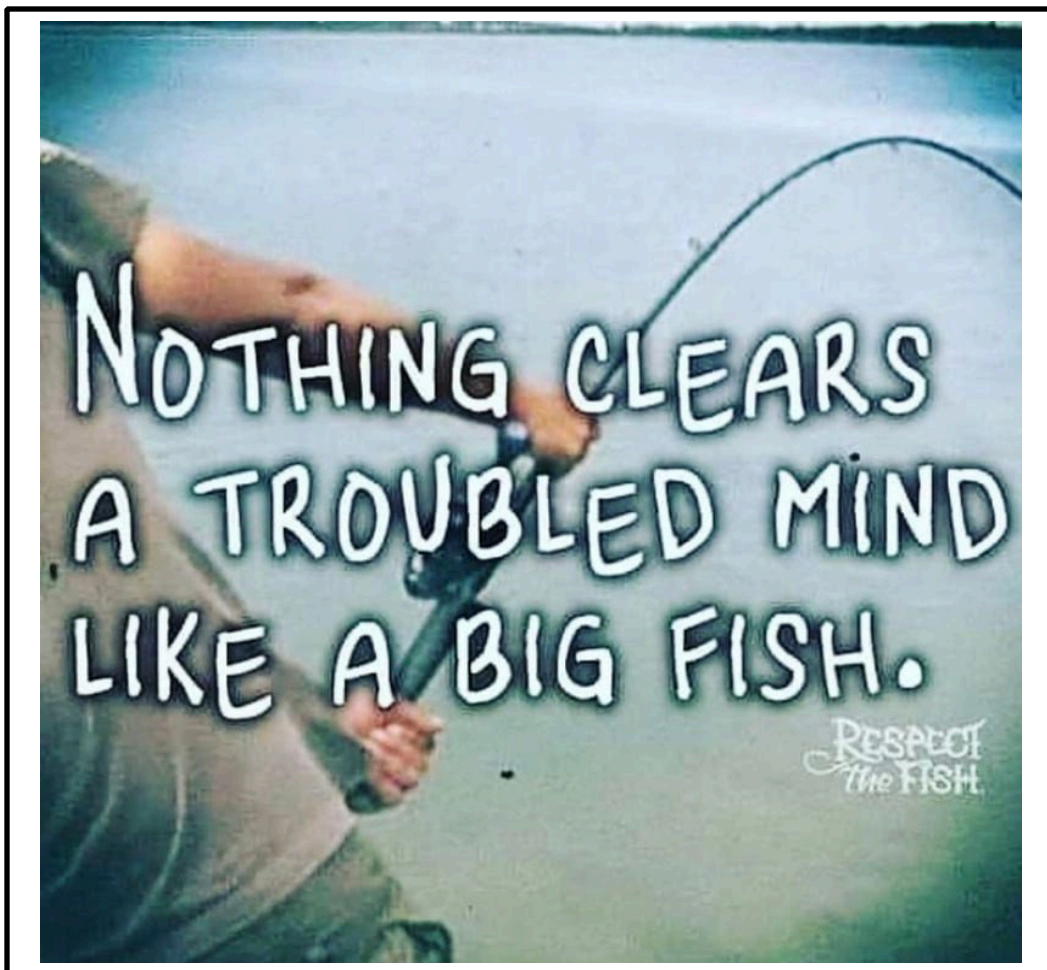
**In most cases, all you need to do is watch your fly line to know what your fly is doing.**

A fly line which is not under tension will naturally take on a relaxed attitude with gentle S-curves between you and the fly. A line under tension will naturally straighten. If you are stripping line and those S-curves are not disappearing and your line straightening, the water is carrying your fly toward you faster than you are taking up line. You will need to use a longer strip to take up the slack. If your line is straight as a laser, even between strips, the water is likely pulling your fly away and you should use shorter strips.

By watching your fly line it's also easy to know where your fly is in relation to the fish. This allows you to read his body language and know if he is on your fly. If the current is bringing the fly toward the boat, you may not feel the eat and a sudden straightening of the line or rush and stop from the fish could be your only clue that it's time to set the hook.

Make a habit of watching the attitude of your fly line as soon as it hits the water. There is plenty of valuable information to gather about how your fly is behaving. The sooner you understand the attitude of the line, and fly, the more effectively you will fish.

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# 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 marine resources. RISAA has accepted a leadership role in order to provide a unified voice to preserve and protect the rights, traditions and future recreational angling. In order to achieve these goals, it is important for organizations who have the same goals to join together, uniting their voice 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  
 Izzy Bettencourt ..... Membership Co-Chair  
 Doug Carver..... Membership Co-Chair  
 Sumner Levine..... Treasurer  
 Russell Glen..... Advising Board Member  
 Gary Johnson..... Advising Board Member  
 Dan Deneault ..... Newsletter  
 Bob Dewar. .... RaffleMaster

Please visit our website:

[www.crossroadsanglers.com](http://www.crossroadsanglers.com)

For contact info on any Club Officer

This is our monthly newsletter for the 2024-2025 season.  
 Best Wishes to All to Continue to Stay Safe and Stay Well!  
 See you Soon!!