



Founded 1994 by Armand Courchaine

Website: www.crossroadsanglers.com

Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 22, 2011: (Mtg. Start Time: 6:30pm & Ends at 9:30pm)

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It is true; twenty percent of the fishermen catch eighty percent of the fish. How do you become a better fly fisher? You need to start thinking like a fish. Striped bass are interested in three things, eating, not being eaten and making more striped bass. Water temperature is very important early in the season so look for areas that warm up early, shallow bays and estuaries. Current and moving water key fish into feeding; if you are five feet outside of a seam you will not catch fish. Look for areas that hold bait and what type of bait does it hold. What are the fish feeding on; bait changes as the season's change? A beach may look barren but explore it at low tide look for depressions, channels, rock formations and current seams. Older smarter fish have learned how to get the most calories with expending the least amount of energy. Fish will hold in boulder fields and in areas just out of the currents looking for bait being carried to them by the current. Large bass will hold below actively feeding schools of smaller fish and pick up what drifts to the bottom. If you want to catch large fish ignore the feeding blitz, let your fly sink to the bottom and twitch it like a dying fish. I am a firm believer in using large flies, large fish will be triggered into going after a large fly. Sunlight means that fish can be seen so if you want to catch more fish get out of bed. I have found that the most productive times for me are ninety minutes before and ninety minutes after sunrise. Bass will come into very shallow water and I have seen people throwing flies out into deep water when the fish are feeding behind them close in to shore. Above all put in the time not every outing will be successful but every outing will be a learning experience, fly fishing is a thinking man's sport.

David Ferretti

AGENDA

- 6:30pm Club business and a small celebration including (*coffee and cake*) marking the 17th anniversary of the founding of the club by Armand Courchaine.
- 7pm Ed Lombardo will give a presentation on trout fishing...and there will be a rod and reel raffle too!

***PLEASE NOTE, THAT CLUB DUES ARE DUE FOR THE 2011 YEAR, EFFECTIVE AT THE JANUARY CLUB MEETING. DUES FOR 2011 ARE \$30.00 . THANK YOU.**

-Thank you Bob Rifchin for your recent worm hatch presentation at our January mtg. We appreciate your time and insights on this interesting opportunity to target stripers.

Who is Ed Lombardo this month's guest speaker?

Ed has more than 35 years experience in fly fishing. 20 years ago Ed Lombardo founded the New England Fly School of Fly Fishing at the W. Alton Jones Campus of URI. He is also Chief Fly Fishing Instructor at Addieville East Farm and Deer Creek Farm, both shooting and fly fishing preserves.

Ed is a veteran fly fisher, guide, instructor, and expert fly tier. With over thirty-five years experience, he has fished for such diverse species as trout, steelhead, Atlantic salmon, black bass, striped bass, bluefish, and false albacore. He has 22 years experience fly fishing the fabulous Big Horn River, the Yellowstone National Park area, and Spring Creeks of Montana. He has also fished the Florida Keys for Tarpon and Bonefish.

He is a professional lecturer, fly fishing writer, amateur entomologist on fly fishing, and writes for both national as well as local print and TV media. He is also a member of the Narragansett Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Honorary Life Member of United Fly Tiers of RI, and Honorary Member of the Smithfield Sportsman's Club. And he established and coordinated a Fly Fishing course at the University of Rhode Island's Bay Campus and works as lead fly fishing instructor for RI/DEM'S Dept. of Fish and Wildlife's Aquatic Education Program.

WE HAVE GONE DIGITAL WITH THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER:

Please note, that the Crossroads Anglers monthly newsletter can be found on the website and that we will only mail out a copy of the newsletter if it is requested! Therefore, if you wish to receive a print copy of the newsletter mailed to your residence simply let one of the Crossroad Anglers Board members know your preference and we will be happy to accommodate you. *In addition, we will send an e-mail reminder of the monthly meeting a week prior to the meeting so, please be sure to provide us with a current e-mail address.* Beginning in January 2011, we will send the newsletter in the body of the e-mail rather than directing members to the message board.

Volunteers Wanted:

For the [Bear's Den 13th Annual Fly Fishing Expo](#) on Saturday, February 19th to tie flies at the Crossroads Anglers booth and chat with potential new members about the possibility of joining the club. The event begins at 11am and concludes at 7pm at the

Holiday Inn, Taunton, MA. Check out the Bear's Den website for more information about this upcoming show.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS:

Please bring along a friend to the next monthly club meeting. Remember, there is no closed season on tying flies for the fishing season and beginners are always welcome.

Available for 2011...

Crossroads Anglers club hats priced at \$20.00 a piece and club stickers for your car with the club logo are priced at \$2.00 a piece are now available for sale. Support your fishing club!

Subject: Striper Population Downer!!!

<http://www.npr.org/2011/01/25/133183300/atlantic-weather-may-be-key-culprit-in-fish-decline?ft=1&f=1001>- *This link discusses what may be the likely source of the recent decline of the striper population. Be sure to check read all about it.*

http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2011-02-01/sports/bs-sp-rockfish-poaching-20110201_1_gill-nets-illegal-fishing-stripped-bass

Unreal; This news could impact us all this year...

MORE BAD NEWS AS IT RELATES TO STRIPERS:

February 01, 2011|By Candus Thomson, The Baltimore Sun

Officials seize net holding three tons of rockfish; Poaching sting is largest in 25 years fish worth about \$15,000.

Natural Resources Police seized an illegal fishing net filled with nearly three tons of striped bass Tuesday morning off Bloody Point at the tip of Kent Island.

It is believed to be the largest single illegal netting of striped bass in a quarter of a century. The haul, with a market value of about \$15,000, was so large that the 25-foot patrol boat had to radio the 73-foot buoy tender M/V J.C. Widener for help.

"My gosh, I did not expect this many fish," said Cpl. Roy Rafter, who spearheaded the operation that began Monday afternoon and continued overnight. "It's overwhelming."

Total of 10 tons of illegally caught striped bass found over three days

Natural Resources Police discovers two more large loads of rockfish late Tuesday and Wednesday

February 02, 2011|By: Candus Thomson, The Baltimore Sun

For the second consecutive day, Natural Resources Police officers pulled illegal nets from the Chesapeake Bay Wednesday filled to the brim with striped bass. In total, they have seized 10 tons of illegally caught fish, the largest haul of its type since the end of the rockfish moratorium more than two decades ago. After detecting poachers' nets Monday night, patrol boats with grappling hooks snagged nets near Bloody Point at the southern tip of Kent Island Tuesday morning, Tuesday night and again Wednesday afternoon. They pulled up 2.8 tons, 3.5 tons and 3.5 tons.

On the Water website:

**Be sure to check out the MA & Rhode Island fishing reports for up to date fresh & salt-water fishing opportunities and other fishing related happenings each and every week by visiting their free on-line fishing report at www.onthewater.com*

POTENTIAL CLUB FISHING TRIPS FOR SPRING/SUMMER 2011 (pending discussion) :

Learn a new spot to fish and enjoy some good company in the event the fish don't cooperate.

Freshwater Destinations:

- ✓ Westfield River in MA
- ✓ Swift River in MA
- ✓ Willimantic River in CT
- ✓ Salmon River in CT
- ✓ Farmington River in CT

Saltwater Destinations

- Chatham, MA
- Cape Cod Canal area
- Cotuit and Sandwich, MA

PLEASE NOTE, THAT IN 2011 YOU WILL NEED A MA STATE SALT-WATER FISHING LICENSE WHICH WILL THEN ENTITLE YOU TO RECIPROCITY WITH RHODE ISLAND, CONNECTICUT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE.

CROSSROADS ANGLERS a reflection

By Armand J. Courchaine

After surviving a storm in my journey in life. I moved to Mansfield with new beginnings. One of my favorite stores to visit was the Mansfield News on Main Street. I would go in to see the latest fly fishing magazines. I noticed other people looking at the same magazines. I made the statement if you keep reading these types of magazine you won't get into trouble. I introduced myself and quickly made friends with Norris Johns and Jim Manning. I was surprised they didn't know about Rhody Fly Rodders, United Fly Tyers and Trout Unlimited. Yet they loved fly fishing.

In 1993, I was convinced that there were enough fishermen to start a local club. In December I sent news releases to all newspapers that had outdoor writers in Mass and RI, telling them about a new fly fishing club. The name was Crossroads Anglers it had a dual meaning. It was my faith that brought me through the toughest times of my life – my reminder was the cross. Also Mansfield was the crossroads – you can go north fish for tout and salmon in Maine, go west for trout and bass, go east and south for striped bass and bluefish.

January 1994 was the first meeting and we had a terrible snowstorm that night. I told Celeste I will be back in twenty minutes I'm going to South Foxboro Community Center in case any people showed up. I could not believe seventeen people showed up. The parking area was not plowed. I got home at 11:30 that night. That was the beginning. It continues today and the spirit lives on. I am so grateful to all the people throughout the years, especially the officers, people who put the newsletter together with their wife's support. How does one say thank you. **CROSSROADS ANGLERS – THANK YOU**

CROSSROADS ANGLERS – HAPPY BIRTHDAY – seventeen years young.

Special Savings for Crossroads Members

Discounts will be offered to members of the Crossroads Anglers who show their club membership cards to the following businesses when they reserve their date out on the water:

1. 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 Anglers Members 401/392-1919,
<http://www.riverandriptide.com>

2. Capt. Tom W.
Private Charters for both Fresh & Saltwater guide service
Conventional & Fly-fishing
15% discount for Crossroads Anglers members
Phone ##: 1-781-408-1215

3. Captain Vern (Rob) Robinson & Son, Rock-NReel,
85 Seymour St., Berkley, MA 02779,
508/822-6756.

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

Crossroads Anglers Officers

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