



**Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 27, 2012 • 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

Join us for dinner at 5:30! We can send out for pizza and get an early start on tying.

## From the President

March is here and boy am I glad! Very soon the stripers will appear and the state will be stocking ponds and rivers.

What a great February meeting we had – starting with pizza at 5:30 p.m. and tying. Members who could not come early soon joined us. Ken Simmons, from the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries, gave a very interesting presentation. People have told me that they often doze off during some presentations, but “The Bug Man” kept them wide awake!

This month welcomes Sheila Hassan, an excellent speaker, who most of us know. She will be speaking about fishing for bone fish. Don't miss this one – you will not be disappointed!

There's a lot of planning for the next few months, I'm sure everyone will be very happy with the direction the Club is heading. Trips are being planned for both salt and fresh water.



Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for fishing for a day with Cory Pietraszek. There are only 56 tickets. Once they are gone we will have our drawing.

I've heard that some people are already out fishing for holdover stripers and trout. If you do get any fish let the Club members know by posting on the web site. 🐟

Joel Kessler

Fly-Fishing Speakers: Bill and Sheila Hassan  
Federation of Fly Fishers Master Casting Instructors



Bill and Sheila Hassan

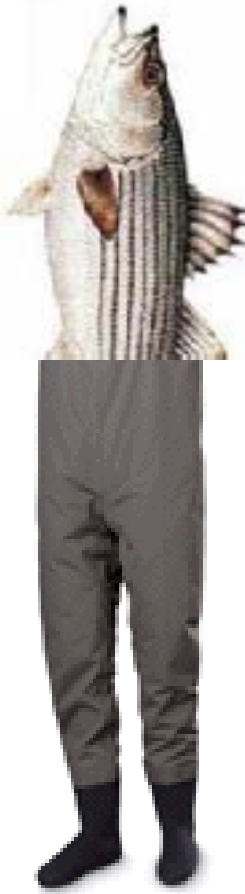
## Bonefishing: Equipment, Casting, and Strategies for Success

Sheila and Bill Hassan are Federation of Fly Fishers Master certified casting instructors. They are among a handful of couples who both hold this rating. They have traveled extensively for fishing, both freshwater and saltwater. They serve on the R.L. Winston Rod Company and Ross Reels Pro Staff. Bill and Sheila teach casting seminars and private lessons throughout New England. Sheila is the director at the Wulff School of Fly Fishing, and is an IGFA world record holder for bonefish and bluefish. She has recently published her first book, *Fly Casting: A Systematic Approach*. 🐟

## *You're Supposed to Clean Your Waders?!*

We hear that question a lot at the shop when we ask people if they clean their waders and Bob usually replies, "Well do you clean your underwear?" Cleaning your waders is an overlooked, yet very important part of fly fishing. As you put more wear-and-tear on the waders, cleaning them becomes even more important. Not only will your waders look better after you clean them, the fabric will be more breathable and you will be helping the local ecosystem. When moving from river-to-river, your waders might bring along an invasive species from one particular river to another one, which could ravage that river's ecosystem and significantly hurt the fishing.

You can clean your waders one of two ways: either in a tub or in a washing machine. At The Fly Rod Shop, we clean our waders in a tub using warm water and powder soap. 🐟



## **FLY LINES**

### **A fly line will last many years with a little care**

Clean your fly line at least once a year – more often if it's in regular use. Pull all the line off the reel and attach the end to something solid such as a tree. Fold a detergent soaked pad around the line and pull it the length of the line. Then repeat with a pad soaked in clear water. Finish up by polishing the line with one of the automotive vinyl conditioners such as Armor All.

Before you reel it back on to the spool, check that the line-to-backing knot is secure. After winding the line back onto the reel, check the leader-to-line connection. Almost all connections "hinge" at this point when casting, causing the fly line coating to crack. If this has happened, cut the damaged portion off the line and re-do the connection.

A line winder is a very useful investment for changing lines, removing them for storage, or for cleaning. For example, when salt water fishing, wind the line into a coil, tie it in a couple of places with plastic ties, swish it under tap water and then rewind it back onto the reel. 🐟

## **FLY FISHERMAN'S WINTER**

by Ron Alexander

November winds are blowing with ice and sleet and snow. It marks the end of fishing, no doubt all of you know.

It is a time to ponder recalling victories of the past, in fishing streams and rivers, working the slow water and the fast.

You're thinking of a singing stream, the fresh cool outdoor air, of wading deep in icy water, casting here and over there.

You latch on to a scrappy brown, eight inches plus two make ten. It's not a very big fish, but he makes you a happy man.

You lead the trout beside you. You need not use your net, You net your small prize anyway, but out of sheer respect.

Your dreams go on more lazily and soon you'll fall asleep. April's a long time coming so dream, fly fisherman, dream.





## HACKLES AND YARNS by Bob Cavanagh

*...have you ever wondered about the many chances we have, while actually fishing, to get an extra bonus or two in pleasure and sportsmanship?*

It seems to me that during the winter months many of us spend a lot of time at our tying tables preparing streamers, wets, dries, nymphs, bugs, lures, checking the windings on our rods, looking over our lines for cracks in the finish or frays, giving the leak test to our waders and boots, tying up a new batch of leaders, and thinking about the wonderful times we've had on the streams and lakes, the big events to come when the season begins.

Now all this is well and good, as cannot help but glean a little more pleasure out of our all too few moments afield. But have you ever wondered about the many chances we have, while actually fishing, to get an extra bonus or two in pleasure and sportsmanship? Take for instance the following example...

The month is June, the place was one of the finest streams in Maine, the water was just right, the day was perfect, and the salmon were rising. There were only a few fisherman on the stream and nobody was being crowded. There were two fisherman on one of the best pools and one of them was taking and releasing a lot of fish. The other man wasn't catching a thing. He finally yelled over to the first man, "What are you taking them on?" To which the first replied, "Gold ribbed hares ear." There then followed an inspection of the fly book, a selection, and the resuming of fishing.

A little while later, and still without a hit, he again yelled, "What size are you using?" "Size 16" came the reply. "Well, that stops me. I haven't got any small flies," was the dismal answer. But the first fisherman called over, "I'll cast over to you. Take the fly off of my tippet." This he did, and in a few moments our unlucky angler was fast to a leaping salmon and then air was shattered with lusty sounds as the fish would leap.

Now, we know that both of these men were taking fish, but, whom do you think had the most fun??? Or, consider one more short story that took place not too long ago. On this particular day, trout were rising well at the mouth of a brook on a local pond that gets lots of fishing pressure. At daybreak, a fisherman had done very well indeed on these trout by using a wet March Brown fished shallow. Later in the morning, the entire area was crowded with fisherman who were tossing out everything in the tackle box with very little success.

A young boy of about ten years was trying hard to toss out a spinning lure but wasn't doing too well because the adults wouldn't give him a break.

When he would get off a good cast, it was to no avail, as the trout simply were feeding on nymphs. After surveying his problem, our fly fisherman asked him if he had any small dark flies. After a brief search of his tackle box, he came up with a solitary Cowdung. With the help of the fly fisherman, the wet fly was fastened to the terminal of the spinning outfit and a cast was made. Well, that fly didn't move too far before the youngster was fast to a scrappy brown trout which he proceeded to land. And when the entire scene was reenacted a few casts later, you could easily spot one very happy boy.

Again, whom do you think had the most fun, the young boy or the fly fisherman who took the few moments to give him a hand?

Call it sportsmanship, courtesy, thoughtfulness or what you will brethren, we should all have a good supply of it handy at all times. It's guaranteed to pay you heap big personal dividends at the end of the season, but then, to the true sportsman, the season never ends. 🐟



Fly of the Month tied by Bob Mahoney

# Young of the Year Sand Eel

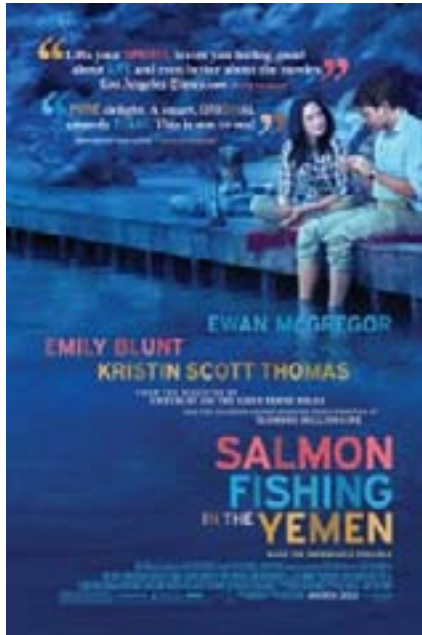


Hook: Regular saltwater hook, such as the Mustad 34007, sizes 2 to 1/0.  
Thread: White 3/0 (280 denier).  
Wing: Yellow and white bucktail, and pearl Krystal Flash.  
Topping: Peacock herl.  
Head: Epoxy.  
Eyes: Yellow adhesive eyes.



In theaters  
March 9!

# Salmon Fishing in the Yemen



A fisheries expert is approached by a consultant to help realize a sheik's vision of bringing the sport of fly-fishing to the desert and embarks on an upstream journey of faith and fish to prove the impossible possible. 🐟

# CACALENDAR

## Crossroads Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 6, 2012

## The Bear's Den

Thursday, March 15, 2012

The Club Tie-In

## Crossroads Meeting

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

At each regular Club meeting we will be offering a **free door prize**.



## MARCH RAFFLE PRIZE!



Don't lollygag! Buy your ticket(s) now for this fabulous fly tying station.

## FEBRUARY RAFFLE WINNERS

# Cabela's

WORLD'S FOREMOST OUTLETTER

Cabelas 5 wt, 4-piece, 9' Flyrod Outfit

JOHN RAMIREZ

Door Prize

DAVE FERRETTI

**Remember: Dues due! The goal is to have everyone paid up by this month's meeting.**

## Marine Fisheries/NMFS Collaboration

The Division of Marine Fisheries (Marine Fisheries) is collaborating with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to collect information on the Commonwealth's recreational saltwater fishery to measure its economic value. In addition to providing important information about the socio-economic value of saltwater fishing in Massachusetts, this federally funded study will help to validate frequently used economic evaluation methods by applying an innovative direct approach in which some saltwater permit holders are presented with a cash offer in exchange for giving up their permit and thus the right to fish in marine waters for the remainder of 2012. Other permit holders will receive a survey asking for either their willingness to sell their 2012 permit for a particular price or their willingness to have paid a different amount for their 2012 permit.

Marine Fisheries is issuing this Advisory to attest to the legitimacy of this angler permit survey, including the cash offers that some individuals will receive, and to assure its permit holders that in no way will the information from the survey be used to modify fees for Massachusetts' recreational saltwater fishing permits.

Participation in the survey is voluntary; however, Marine Fisheries highly encourages your response based on the important information that will be gathered. Past studies on the contribution of recreational fishing to the Commonwealth's economy have considered the number of jobs and the amount of sales and incomes that are supported by the expenditures of saltwater recreational fishermen, but have not included the value that anglers place on being able to go saltwater fishing. This type of information holds great worth; for example, it would be necessary for a comprehensive estimate of economic losses to the recreational fishery if for some reason Massachusetts' waters had to be closed to fishing.

Marine Fisheries is maintaining a list of Commonly Asked Questions about the 2012 Massachusetts Saltwater Angler Permit Survey under the recreational permit page of its website: [www.mass.gov/marine-fisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marine-fisheries). General questions about Marine Fisheries involvement can be directed to Nichola Meserve ([nichola.meserve@state.ma.us](mailto:nichola.meserve@state.ma.us)). Technical questions regarding the study should be directed to Quantech, Inc., the statistical analysis and survey research firm contracted by NMFS to conduct the survey. Please contact Daemian Schreiber at 800-229-5220 ext 7831, or [mavs@quantech.com](mailto:mavs@quantech.com).

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Division of Marine Fisheries  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 400  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114  
Phone: 617-626-1520 Fax: 617-626-1509

### Crossroads Anglers 2012 Officers

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*Advisor*

## CAGALLERY



The usual suspects at the Bear's Den Show.



Mike Brucato with the first entry into the 2012 derby!