



# Penobscot Fly Fishers NEWSLETTER



## Wind Knots August 2005 by Ed Bruno, President

**LOBSTER FEED!!!** Please join us for our monthly meeting, Sunday, August 14, 2005, at the Brooklin home of Cheryl and Mike Roy. This annual family get together is always a day filled with good friends, good weather, a day at the ocean and fun. Club members and guests are cordially invited to attend. For those who do not enjoy lobster, a deep fried turkey will be available. Please contact John Lent, Jr. - 945-3809 for reservations and directions. Bring chairs, beverage of your choice, and either an appetizer, salad or dessert for the pot luck table. Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 7, 2005, 6:00 P.M., at The Coach House Restaurant for a resumption of our regular meetings. Our September speaker is Denise Buckley, Assistant Manager at the Craig Brook Salmon Hatchery. She will discuss the latest news regarding Atlantic salmon, and possible angling opportunities. Our Wednesday, October 5, 2005, meeting at The Coach House Restaurant will begin at 6:00 P.M., and the speaker is Clayton Hardy. Clayton will be doing a slide presentation on fishing in Alaska. Clayton has also generously donated books and magazines to the Club, which began our Club library. Since Clayton's initial donation, Club members have also donated books, magazines, VCR tapes and DVDs. In a future newsletter a list of our acquisitions will be included. The library will be kept at my Bangor office (277 State Street, Suite 1B). Please call 942-3988 to check our office hours. Speaking of donations, William Bullock, Jr. recently donated to the Club some used fishing equipment (waders, shoes, reels, rod tubes, etc.). Some of those items are being utilized by the Club, some have been sold. If you are looking for used equipment, please contact me at the office, and arrangements can be made to view these items.

We had several fly tying vise bases go AWOL. I am looking for 3 of the black bases, and 4 of the bronze Regal bases. Please contact me if you have them.

Recently the Big Eddy Campground asked Penobscot Fly Fishers to schedule "Fly Fishing 101" at the

campground. In return for donating our expertise, instructors were provided with lunch and the opportunity for a free night's campsite at my favorite place. The call went out, and Hank Metcalf, Dave Ferris, Paul Uttermark, Bob Blatz, Marcus Hale, John Lent, Jr., Ernie MacDonald, Dan Hodgins, and I, taught 15 students how to tie a maple syrup and a wooly bugger. Casting instruction, along with discussions about equipment, safety and conservation were all a portion of the program. Class will again convene Saturday, August 20, 2005, and I am again seeking volunteer instructors and potential "happy campers". Please let me know if you would like to participate.

At the Board of Director's meeting on July 20, 2005, a recommendation was made that the Club acquire a television, and also a VCR / DVD player for use at functions. Secretary, John Lent, Jr. was volunteered to shop, and he will advise the Club at the September 7, 2005, meeting of options and prices. Acquisitions will require approval of the membership.

This fall, Ron Landry has been asked by Bangor Adult Education to teach a fly tying course. There is apparently a lot of interest in a fall fly tying course, and we are hoping to have enough volunteer instructors to open this to 24 students. The fee for the course, payable to Bangor Adult Education, will be returned in full to our Club's treasury. If you are interested in working with Ron, and the students, please contact Ron at 825-3098, or call me here at the office 942-3988.

In follow up to a successful program in Florida, and from suggestions by Dave Ferris, a "Fishing Buddies" program has begun. Please check out the appropriate link on our website [www.penobscotflyfishers.com](http://www.penobscotflyfishers.com).

As the end of my second term as president of this organization draws to an end, allow me to express my gratitude to all of the Club members for their friendship, and assistance in all of the endeavors this Club, with a small membership, but a gigantic heart, have accomplished. Having been a member of many organizations, and an officer of several in the past, I have never been so rewarded as I have been with our Club. I am truly grateful for the honor to have been your president. Thank you.

# Fishin' with Cap'n John

By  
Don Corey

Fellow club member Hank Metcalf and I met Captain John Rogers of Backcountry Guide Service at the landing at 8 am sharp to begin our guided smallmouth trip on the Penobscot. I was the high bidder on the trip that John had donated to the club following the Cabin Fever Reliever show last January.

By the time we had trekked to the launch, John had already launched his Lund boat and was ready to go, and go we did. He fired up the 90 hp Honda 4 stroke and up the river we went. His boat is very wide and stable. It wasn't until later in the day that I realized why he was able to navigate the river so well without hitting any rocks. His outboard is a jet drive (plus the fact that he is on a first name basis with all the rocks in the river).

John stopped the motor, dropped the 24 volt bow-mounted trolling motor and we were fishing. John's Lund had plenty of room to cast both in the bow and in the stern. I started fishing with my recently built 9' 7 wt rod with an 8 wt WF floating line and 9' leader with 1x tippet. Hank had a small equipment malfunction but Cap'n John came to the rescue with a nearly new Redington 7 wt 4 piece that was aching to land it's first smallie. Hank also used a 7 wt floating line.

Hank started with a streamer and I started with my Penobscot favorite, a Sneaky Pete. It didn't take

long for ol' Mr. Pete to ring the dinner bell to a dozing smallmouth. A big splash signaled the take and we were off to the races. My new rod got limbered up before John landed our first fish of the day, a fine 12" smallie with an attitude.

Throughout the day, John pointed out fish in the water. They were invisible to Hank and I. At one point John pointed out 2 fish cruising the bank. My first cast was a little short and went unnoticed by the fish. My lengthened out second cast landed upstream of them, but 4' to the side. One made a 90 degree turn towards my fly but didn't hit it. He just hung in the current, staring at it. I twitched it once and the rubber legs tempted him but still no hit. He couldn't resist a second twitch and he slammed the fly and went for a run. It was amazing to see the whole adventure unfold. Hank swapped his streamer for a Sneaky Pete and the new Redington got it's first bass.

We went to shore around noon for a fantastic shore lunch. Cap'n John pulled out a stove and heated up some corn chowder and biscuits. Mmm, Mmm good!

Back to the boat we went for another session of "work". Cap'n John is practically on a first name basis with many of these fish. On numerous occasions he would direct

us to cast in front of this rock or put your fly right next to shore. We didn't strike out on many of his suggestions. Throughout the day we talked about many things; our lives, jobs, fishing and shared many tales. John talked about his guiding both in Maine and in Florida.

If you haven't had the opportunity to fish with a guide, give it a try, you won't be sorry. You can get on so many more fish in the run of a day. Hank and I can't wait to do it again. If you haven't fished the Penobscot for smallies you are missing the boat (no pun intended). All you need is a 5 to 8 wt fly rod with a floating line, and a few surface poppers. You don't need to cast 90' either. Most of the time we were casting 30 to 50 feet. Captain John did a great job keeping us in range.

The day finally came to an end and we were back at the landing. We thanked John for a wonderful day of smallmouth fishing and for his generous donation to the club. He promptly said that he would be happy to donate another trip next year (2006). I know 2 fellows that won't miss that auction!

To see pictures of the trip visit my website [www.annikarodandfly.com](http://www.annikarodandfly.com) and click on the picture of John and I. To contact John visit his website at [www.backcountrymaine.com](http://www.backcountrymaine.com)

## Calendar

Aug 14 Sunday, Lobster Bake Roy estate in Brooklin  
Call John Lent for details, 945-3809

Aug 17 Directors meeting, Coach House, 6 pm

Sep 7 Wednesday, monthly dinner meeting  
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm  
Speaker: Denise Buckley, Asst. Mgr  
Craig Brook Fish Hatchery

Sep 21 Wednesday, directors meeting  
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm

Oct 5 Wednesday, monthly dinner meeting  
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm  
Speaker: Clayton Hardy  
"Fishing in Alaska"

Oct 19 Wednesday, directors meeting  
Coach House Restaurant, 6 pm