

Newsletter November 2019

President's Message

Ok I said it before, as I'm getting older the cold weather and I don't get along any more. I am eating a bowl of chicken soup while trying to take the chill off. The warmth of the soup had me thinking of warm places where I would like to be fishing. But then I began thinking of a place that is renowned for its Bonefish and Tarpon fishing, the Bahamas. The Bahamas' fishing industry, i.e. the lodges, the guides and their boats were hard hit by Hurricane Dorian. What could we do as a club? I did some research and talked it over with the Board. As a club we are making a donation to the Bonefish and Tarpon Trust, where 100% of the donation will be go directly to getting the guides back on the flats. We are asking the members to join us in making donations for this cause at our upcoming meetings. If you cannot make the meetings contact myself or one of the board members to coordinate getting your donation. Thank you for helping support this.

Also, we all have stuff, lots of stuff from feathers to tools, from rods to reels and a lot of other "necessary, gotta have it". We are now adding a "barter, swap, sell or donate your stuff" to the beginning of our meetings. At last year's similar events, there had been a large number of happy members. The club is in need of stuff for our raffles, that's the donation portion.

Make sure you mark down on your calendar to attend this month's meeting, November 26th. Rick Little of Shadcreek Flies will be presenting "Fly Fishing in Maine is Wicked Fun". This is a don't miss event. It should be a very stimulating, fun, entertaining, and an educational presentation, even for some of the old timers.

Any great fishing photos or stories this summer? Share them with us, we all love them tall tails and tales, send them to Steve Dewar so he can post them on the web site.

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. Tight lines looking forward to seeing you and meeting new members.

Ed



"It's a letter from the fish. Apparently, the water was too cold for them, so they went to Florida for the Winter. Dang, we came all this way for nothing."

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday November 26, 2019
South Foxboro Community Center
382 South St. Foxboro, MA 02035
Time: 630pm to 9pm

2019-2020 SEASON

NOVEMBER MEETING

GUEST SPEAKER

RICK LITTLE
From Shadcreek Flies

Presenting:

"FlyFishing in Maine is Wicked Fun"

The Bulletin Board

Crossroads Speaker & Events Series

November 26th: Speaker: Rick Little from Shad Creek Flies, whose presentations are informative, fun and great for a wide range of audiences. Comments from past presentations “just a lot of good common sense and information”, “moved along well with a great mix of stories and information” and “real friendly, comfortable presenter who really knows his stuff.” (See Page 3 for More Info)

December 17th: Holiday Party Meeting

January 22nd: Speaker: Scott Travers from the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife Education Office will be presenting on Fly Fishing in Rhode Island. More details to follow.

February 25th: TBD—working on securing a Speaker

March 26th: Joe Cordeiro will be back presenting Flies for Estuaries

April 23rd: Ken Elmer, Fly Tier and Guide, will be presenting on Central/Western MA rivers and will do a fly-tying demo beforehand (tentative at this time)

May 26th: BBQ Time!!

To All Members: On arrival at meetings, please check-in with IZZY at Membership Table to register for Door Prize!!

Shadcreek Flies Programs and Presentations By Rick Little



Rick Little is a self taught fly fisherman who has had the opportunity to learn from some very knowledgeable outdoorsmen and fishermen. Much of what he has learned came from observing nature and skillful fishermen on the water, and conversations about fish, flies, fishing and life, around Coleman lanterns and campfires on many rivers. Rick has been active in conservation organizations for years – including serving as president of Trout Unlimited Chapters in Manchester, NH and Bangor, ME.

Rick grew up in Marblehead, Mass. and spent a great deal of time on the ocean- drop line fishing for flounder and cod, setting lobster traps and exploring the coastal beaches. When he went to college at the University of Maine, he became hooked on freshwater fishing and fly fishing. It was during the winter of 1968 that he took a fly tying class and embarked on a life long hobby that has sparked his imagination and desire to learn more about flies, and trout and salmon rivers. Rick lives in southern New Hampshire, with his wife, Ellen, and started Shadcreek Flies as a way to share his interest in fishing with a wider audience.

While the majority of Rick’s fishing has been in New England, he has also fished in Atlantic Canada, Quebec, Up State New York and out West. His programs focus on a practical approach to fishing, an appreciation for the entire fishing experience and the beautiful environments in which trout and salmon live.

Program Description – “Fly Fishing in Maine is Wicked Fun”

The West Branch of the Penobscot, Rapid River, Roach River, East Outlet (headwaters of the Kennebec River), and Grand Lake Stream are all waters that Rick discusses in this program highlighting some of the wonderful rivers that Maine has to offer. Rick has spent hundreds of days and un-counted hours fishing these waters and will talk about the rivers, his style of fishing, and the flies and techniques that have been successful. The program is filled with photos of these great rivers and the flies that he uses. For those people who have fished these waters, the program will spark many great memories. For those who have not fished these rivers yet, but want to give them a try, this program will provide information that will give them a head start when they venture out onto the water.

Join Rick for a discussion about some beautiful country and fascinating fishing opportunities.

Striped Bass - status from Fissues.org

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission met in Portsmouth, NH at the end of October. Going into the meeting there was an air of cautious optimism from striped bass anglers in the mid-Atlantic and New England.

That optimism was somewhat justified early in the meeting when the commission voted to address the [overfished/overfishing](#) situation with an 18 percent reduction for both commercial and recreational fishing.

But that optimism was dashed on the rocks of reality when state politics overwhelmed good sense in the meeting. What played out is pretty complicated, and the American Saltwater Guides Association has an excellent blow-by-blow explanation in its article, [At ASMFC - More Uncertainty with Striped Bass.](#) (<https://saltwaterguidesassociation.com/at-asmfc-more-uncertainty-with-striped-bass/>)

In a nutshell, the commission opted for a slot limit of one fish between 28" to 35" as opposed to the one fish at 35" (aka 1@35) that a majority of recreational anglers favored. The slot limit is untested, and time will tell if it has the ability to achieve the intended 18 percent harvest reduction.

But the real turd in the punchbowl was the question of "conservation equivalency." Conservation equivalency is a concept that, in this case, would allow states to develop their own regulations to achieve the intended 18 percent harvest reduction. Remember, the goal is to get to 18 percent harvest reduction coast wide (Maine to North Carolina), and because each state catches different amounts of stripers, some of the states that catch a lot of fish would have to reduce that catch rate more in order to accomplish the coastwide 18 percent harvest reduction.

Apparently that did not sit well with the New Jersey delegation. They successfully had the commission apply the 18 percent reduction to each state rather than coast wide. However, when you do the math the chance that will add up to an 18 percent reduction coast wide is highly unlikely.

Why? The slot limit adopted by the ASMFC would have caused some states, like New Jersey, which accounts for more stripers than any other coastal state, to reduce their overall striped bass landings more than 18 percent. If they did not achieve such higher reduction, two things could happen: the other states would have to take up the slack or the striped bass fishing mortality would exceed the desired target level. Want to bet which way that will go?

For a more complete explanation of conservation equivalency and why it could mean bad news for stripers, read Charles Witek's article, [The ASMFC Adopts Flawed Striped Bass Addendum VI.](#) (<https://oneanglersvoyage.blogspot.com/2019/10/the-asmfc-adopts-flawed-striped-bass.html>) At this point the frustration level with ASMFC is very high, and the next meeting in February should be a doozy.

[Bonefish & Tarpon Trust](#)

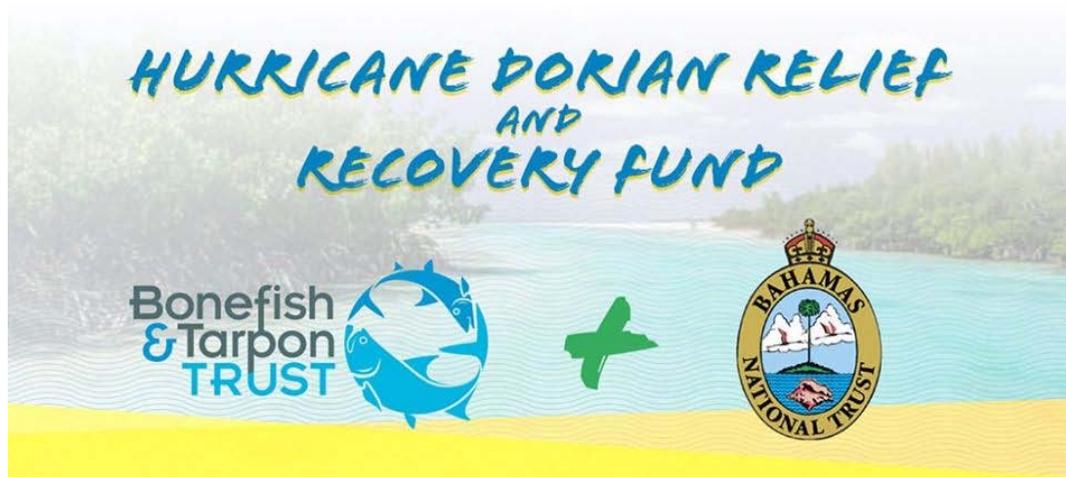
Bonefish & Tarpon Trust and the [Bahamas National Trust](#) have established the Hurricane Dorian Relief and Recovery Fund to benefit fishing guides, lodge staff and others in the Bahamas' fishing industry who have been impacted by Hurricane Dorian, the worst natural disaster in the nation's history.

"Our success as an organization has been shaped in large part by our experience over the years in Abaco and Grand Bahama," said BTT President and CEO Jim McDuffie. "We simply wouldn't be the organization we are today without the Bahamas. This fund acknowledges the importance of our collaboration and friendship with guides, lodge staff, and others who have always been such great stewards of the Bahamas' natural resources. We will do all that we can in partnership with BNT to aid the recovery efforts."

The Hurricane Dorian Relief and Recovery Fund will be multi-faceted, providing immediate support to relief efforts, followed by support of long-range recovery, including promoting the recreational fishing industry as guides and lodge staff return to work. Additionally, BTT and BNT will collaborate further on future efforts aimed at also addressing the needs of impacted natural areas.

"Fishing guides epitomize key natural resource users of areas impacted by Dorian, including in National Parks," said Eric Carey, BNT Executive Director. "This effort is aimed at helping to get them back on the flats—with paying clients—and rebuilding their local economies, as soon as possible."

Please make your most generous contribution today.
All contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law



ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

ARMAND COURCHAINÉ

Let me start by giving a fishing report: I fished a week on the Margaree River in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, Canada. This is a river I enjoy fishing for Atlantic Salmon. If I miss fishing in October, I get depressed for



the whole winter season. I wish I could tell you I caught ten salmon ... but, I caught none. I did see salmon in the pools that I fished but I couldn't get them to take my flies. The conditions were tough with hurricane force winds and heavy rain. See photo (left) with my friend with one salmon and me none.



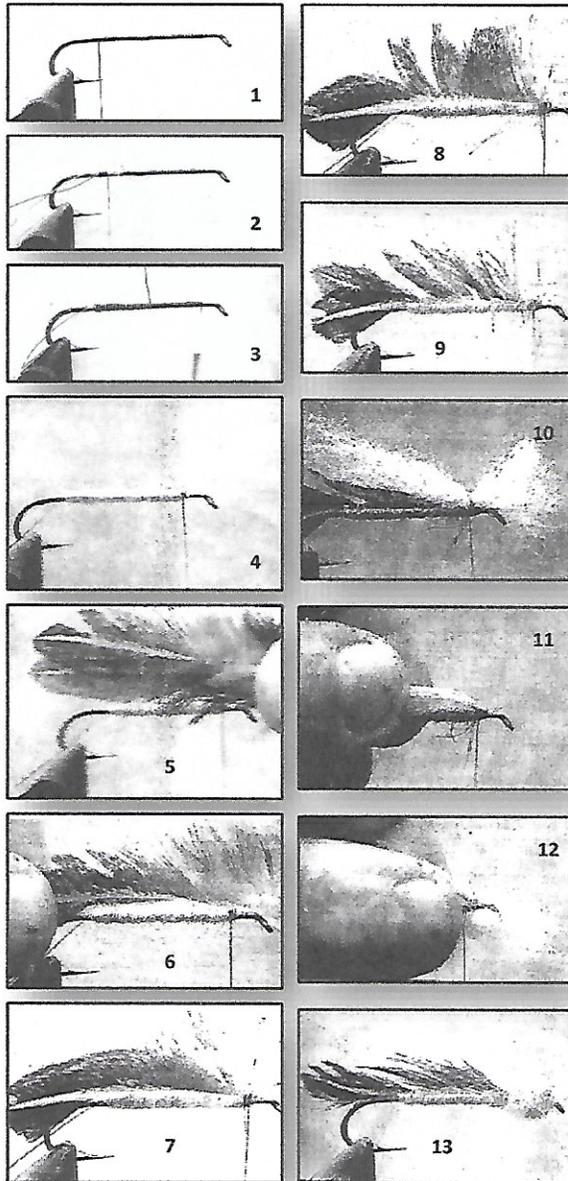
For our class, we will tie some streamers for fishing in the winter. I have used these flies for Hickory Shad, Striped Bass and Bluefish in the cooling canals at New England Power Plant (now closed) in Somerset, for sea run brook trout (salters) in Coles River, sea run rainbow trout in Segregansett River. This was in my younger days. The description of the fly is from an article I did for New England Fisherman in 2000. Now the cold weather bothers me, but I plan to fish this pattern in the Swift River (user friendly for old people). Note we will use different materials to tie (catching up to modern times). Looking forward in tying with you. Plan to start around 6:40 pm

WINTER SCULPIN

- Hook: Bronze or stainless, 6X long; size 1 to 8
- Thread: 8/0; Black, olive, or tan
- Weight: Fine to medium lead wire (or substitute)
- Rib: Oval tinsel
- Body: Aunt Lydia's rug yarn; Tan, white, or gray
- Hackle: Hen pheasant or chicken; Tan, olive, or white
- Head: Ram's wool; Gray (with lighter shade on bottom)

ROUNDTABLE NEWSLETTER

1. Place your hook in vise and start about 1/8 inch behind the eye and wind thread over the cemented hook shank to the tip of the hook.
2. Tie in lead (or substitute) wire and one strand of Aunt Lydia's rug yarn. (The rug yarn has three strands. Just unravel and use one strand.)
3. Wind thread to starting point, then wind weight over cemented thread to secure.
4. Wind yarn over light dab of cement then secure.
5. Select two hackles and place back-to-back with shiny side facing out. Hold on top of hook to judge the tail length.
6. Grab the hackle at tail position with left thumb and index finger (opposite for lefties) then strip the underside of the hackle with your right thumb and index finger.
7. Place the hackle on top of the hook, grab the hackle and hook shank with your left thumb and index finger while tying and securing the wing to the hook. Trim excess hackle butts.
8. Stroke the hackle fibers up.
9. With your left thumb and index finger holding the tail at the hook shank, wind oval tinsel, with steady pressure, through the fibers standing at an angle to the hook shank.
10. Tie in a bunch of ram's wool with four turns of thread.
11. Grab the front section of wool then pull back. Wind four turns of thread in front and add two half hitches.
12. Use another bunch of lighter shade wool for the underside, then repeat steps 10 and 11 on bottom of head. (The wool does not spin like a deer hair body. Look at the fly from the front and if a side looks bare, just repeat steps 10 and 11 to fill in the bare spot.)
13. Trim the wool with scissors to a bullet shape. Add prism stick-on eyes. Coat eye and small area around the eye with clear finish.





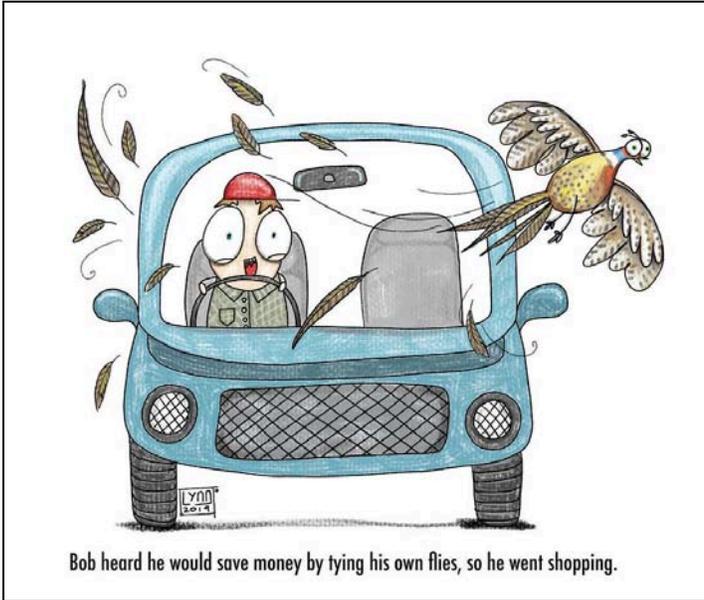
Gear Swap and maintenance:

Do you have fishing gear (rods, reels, and accessories, even tying equipment or tools) that you have too much of, never used, old, used in good shape, bring it with you to our November 26th meeting.

Sell, Barter or Trade for an item. You put a price on the item and whoever wants it can pay the price or negotiate the price or maybe trade for something else.

Or, if you're in a giving stuff-away-kind-of way, donate it to the Club so we can use for a future raffle!!

Any reels that you have that need some attention for the coming season, Howie DeBeck will be there to help in that department.



2019 Crossroads Anglers Officers

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Steve Dewar.....Vice President

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Armand Courchaine...Advising Board Member

Joel Kessler.....Advising Board Member

Bob Dewar.....RaffleMaster

This is our monthly newsletter for the 2019-2020 season. Hope Everyone had a Great Summer!
Time now to gather together and discuss what we like to do best: Flyfish! See you at the
Monthly Meetings. *Editor*