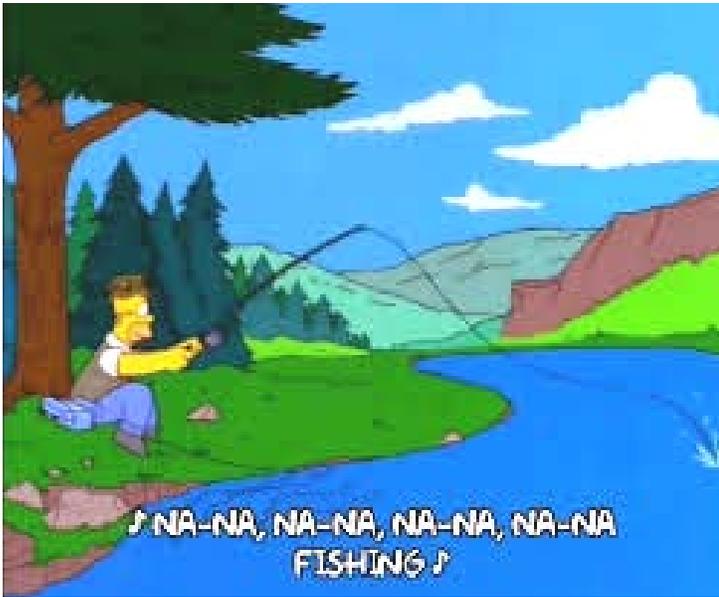




Newsletter February 2019

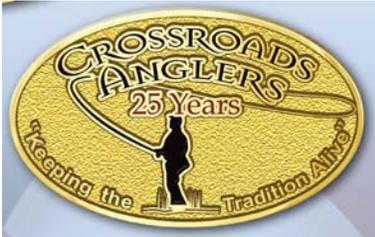


NEXT MEETING
Tuesday February 26, 2019
South Foxboro Community Center
382 South St. Foxboro, MA 02035
Time: 630pm to 9pm

25th Anniversary Spectacular!
CATERED DINNER
Italian Entrees

Soda, Coffee, Dessert
High Hook Wines

Special Guests & Slide Show
25th Crossroads Logo Apparel
X-Roads Photo Book Available



2018 Crossroads Anglers Officers
[Ed Rosenbloom](#).....President
[Steve Dewar](#).....Vice President
[Izzy Bettencourt](#).....Membership Chair
[Sumner Levine](#).....Treasurer
[Steve Dewar](#).....Webmaster
[Dan Deneault](#).....Newsletter Editor
[Armand Courchaine](#)...Advising Board Member
[Joel Kessler](#).....Advising Board Member
[Rob Dewar](#).....RaffleMaster

Happy 25th Anniversary to all of our past and present members!!

President's Message

It all began one snowy night in January 1994, seventeen guys got together with Armand to tie some flies and bs about fishing. A fly fishing and tying club was born.

Through some good times and hard times, great and poor fishing years, through new fishing rules and regulations, advances in materials and techniques, the club persists today. The club has gained new members, but has also lost some members and friends. As a newbie to fly fishing, wishing I was still a young'un, I want to thank those who have supported this organization from the past presidents, board members, and especially those who volunteered for various duties. Through the short time that I have been involved, I have really enjoyed the camaraderie, while learning tips and tricks (techniques). My hope for this club is that it continues for another 25 plus years!

At January's meeting on the 22nd, Peter Jenkins, owner of the Saltwater Edge in Middletown, RI presented a talk on 'Tactics for fishing the Flats for Stripers or Bonefish'. Peter shared with us techniques that we can use on some of our own flats, e.g. Brewster Flats, to catch those wary Stripers. Along with strategies for those who are lucky to pursue the Bones.

We are starting to sell tickets for the Captain Ray Stachelek raffle. More information on the Captain can be found at www.castaflycharters.com. Tickets for this raffle go quickly so don't wait to get yours! See our info box later in this newsletter!!

A very important reminder: this year is the Club's 25th Anniversary. We are planning a special meeting on Feb. 26th to celebrate this milestone. We are having a dinner for paid-up members, a few memorable moments and two special prize raffles.

If you know of any old members, who haven't been involved in a while, let them know.

All of you have some great thoughts and ideas, so I am asking you for some of those thoughts or ideas on what can we do to better to communicate with each other, e.g. use of the message board or phone calls. So, instead of thoughts and prayers, we just want your thoughts and ideas! send them to me or any of the board members.

We are always looking for new 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 and looking forward to seeing you, hearing from you, and meeting new members.

Ed (erosenbloom@gmail.com)

The Bulletin Board

REMINDER: TO ALL MEMBERS—STILL TIME!!

This is the Club's 25th Year!!

It would be great to have any old info: handouts, articles, pictures that could be included in a future special publication

CLUB DUES ARE NOW DUE!!!

ANY MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT PAID FOR THIS YEAR, PALEEZE BRING YOUR \$\$\$ TO THE NEXT MEETING!!

MEMBERS MUST BE PAID-UP ON DUES TO DIG IN TO FEBRUARY'S SCRUMPTIOUS FEAST!!!

Anniversary Apparel & Photo Album

HOODIES and / or VESTS

With Crossroads's Logo

And

PHOTO ALBUM
With pics over-the years

Will be available for purchase at

February's Meeting

VISIT THE CLUB'S WEBSITE

WWW.CROSSROADSANGLERS.COM

We're looking for your opinions on what works and what doesn't work!

What changes and improvements would you like to see. Please see Steve Dewar or any Board Member.

BUT, IN ANY CASE, VISIT THE WEBSITE—THERE'S A LOT OF CLUB INFO AND MANY OTHER SUBJECTS, CHARTS, AND PICTURES TO REVIEW!

Crossroads Speaker & Event Series

February 26th

Crossroads 25th Anniversary Celebration—No Speaker

March 26th

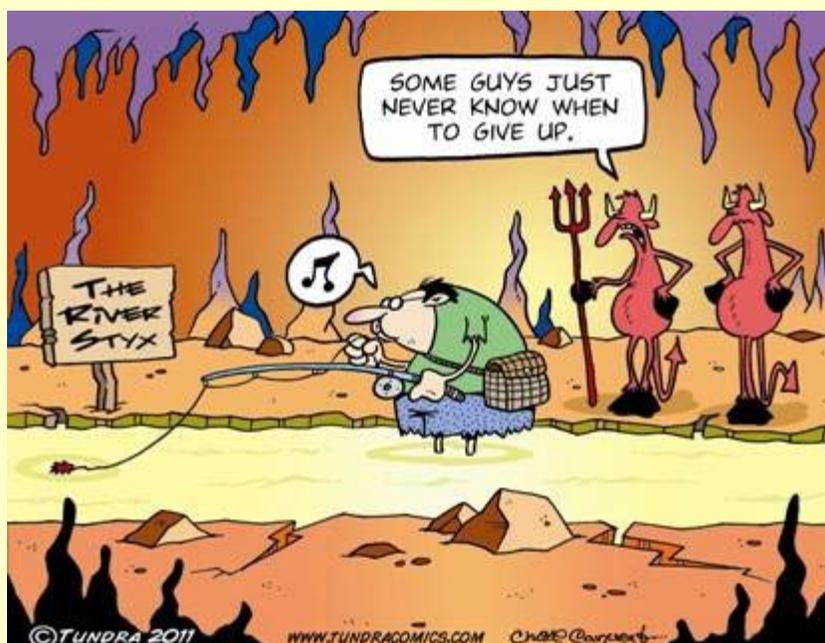
TBD---→Any member suggestions would be much appreciated!

April 23rd

TBD---→ Same applies for this date!!

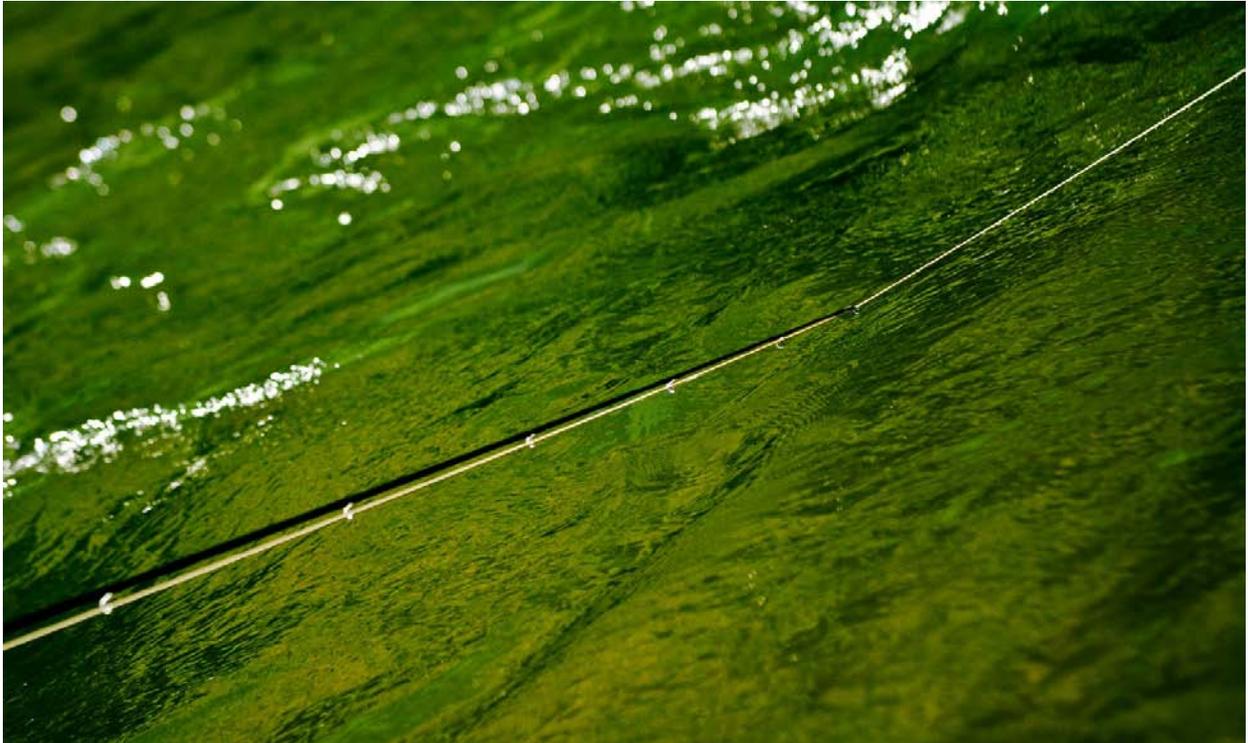
May 28th

Annual Barbecue (Weather -permitting date)



Sunday Classic / 3 Tips for Swinging Flies for Trout & Other Species

Courtesy of [Louis Cahill](#), ginkandgasoline.com



3 Tips for Swinging Flies for Trout & Other Species.

Photo Louis Cahill

Some time back I read a great fly fishing article on MidCurrent titled, [Beyond the Swing](#) by John Likakis. It was a fly fishing techniques piece packed with tons of information about the how-tos of swinging flies. It's a great read for any angler wanting to become more competent and effective at swinging flies for trout and other species. If you happened to miss reading this one, please check it out after today's post. After I read John's article, it inspired me to share three swinging fly tips of my own. Each tip is meant to help the anglers out there who've just recently started swinging flies on the water.

Tip 1: Don't Hold Your Rod Tip Too High Off The Water When Swinging Flies

One technique flaw that I see a lot of my clients' make on the water when they're swinging flies is they hold the rod tip too high off the water. In many cases, when you do this during the swing, it will create a belly of slack between the rod tip and the fly line on the water. Slack makes it more difficult to detect subtle strikes during the swing. To fix this problem, I tell my clients to always keep the tip of the fly rod on or very close to the surface of the water during the swing. Doing so, it keeps slack to minimum and they find it much easier to feel bites during the swing. The only times, in my opinion, that you want to raise your rod tip off the water during the swing, is when you're performing a Leisenring lift or you need to raise the fly up in the water column so it doesn't snag the stream bottom. Before all you veteran swinger junkies start bashing me with comments, understand this tip is for anglers that are newbies to swinging flies.

Tip 2: Don't Set the Hook Too Hard When Swinging Flies

One of the hardest things for me to learn when I first started swinging flies was adjusting my hook set. When you swing flies correctly you don't have near as much slack in your fly line during the drift as you do when your presenting a fly on a dead-drift. Since you don't have all that slack to eliminated during the hook set, you don't need as big or hard of a hook set to successfully hook fish. I've found a smooth, conservative sweeping hook set works best when swinging flies. Especially when you're fishing tiny nymphs or wet flies. Only if you're streamer fishing and you're worried about a big hook penetrating to you want to give it extra power during the hook set. Furthermore, since you're hooking most of your fish directly downstream of you, it can be really easy for fish to give you a few head shakes after the hook set and spit the hook. After you've felt tension, and gotten a successful hook up on the swing, take your time during the early stages of the fight, so you don't pull the hook free. Once the fish stops shaking its head, you can then raise your rod tip and begin increasing your fighting pressure.

Tip 3: Don't Forget About Adjusting Angler Position

They're are times when even the best cast and presentation you've got won't allow you to swing your flies into the kitchen. Sometimes the only way for you to get the fly in front of the fish, and get an eat, is to adjust your position in the water between you and your target (take a few steps out, downstream or upstream). A prime example of when you'd want to do this is when you're trying to swing your flies against the far bank. Often in this situation the drag from different current speeds you're fishing across will speed up your flies too fast and suck them out of the strike zone before you can get your flies to the fish. A lot of the time if you just reposition yourself, you'll find it makes all the difference in getting that perfect drift.

For more info: <https://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-tips-technique/sunday-classic-3-tips-for-swinging-flies-for-trout-other-species/>

[Do fish dream?](#) Courtesy of [Louis Cahill](#), ginkandgasoline.com



AH, THERE'S THE RUB, FOR WHAT DREAMS MAY COME IN THAT SLEEP OF FISH?

Have you ever been sight fishing to a nice fish and not gotten so much as a look at your fly? The fish just sat quietly finning as your fly drifted inches from its nose, like it was asleep. It may have been.

Do fish sleep? Undoubtedly. That's a scientific fact that is well documented. They don't sleep like we do and, in fact, different species of fish have very different ways of sleeping. Some sleep at night, some during the day and some are nappers. Some swim while asleep and some sleep so soundly that you can hold them in your hand without waking them.

Tuna, for example, rest motionless at night, suspended in the water. Bass and perch will sleep under or on top of logs. Reef fish seek refuge in crevices. Parrotfish build a cocoon of mucus in which to sleep. That sounds nasty, but maybe that's the point. I wouldn't eat something wrapped in mucus. Would you?

Although different fishes have different sleep habits they have a lot in common. Fish don't have eye lids so they don't exactly get shut eye. Their muscles relax, their breathing and heart rate slow, they become to some degree immobile and less sensitive to external stimuli. They also, to some extent, lose consciousness.

Fish do not live in as safe a world as we do and sleeping can be a risky proposition. For that reason most fish are never completely unconscious. Their brains sleep in shifts, resting different systems at different times. Shutting down nonessential bodily functions for periods of time. I imagine it's much like day dreaming. Like when your brain is back on the beach in the Bahamas while your body seems to be looking over spread sheets at your desk. You're not fully aware of your surroundings but alert enough to figure out that the sound you hear is your boss clearing his throat.

But what about those dreams? I'm not aware of any scientific studies about fish dreams. I do, however, have a case for their likely existence.

Bear with me, this requires a huge and very unscientific leap. Let's assume, for the minute, that a fish's brain has some similar wiring to our own.

What is going on when we dream?

Dreaming is our brain's way of filing information. Let's use the clumsy but common metaphor of the computer. Our short term memory is like the RAM. After a full day of sensory input, the RAM is full. We know where we put our car keys and what we had for breakfast and maybe a few of the things our spouse asked us to do but it's all just raw data. In order to put this input into deeper context it must be filed with like experiences. Then our brain can draw the comparisons that are crucial to learning. "I keep thinking about the Bahamas while I should be working and I keep getting fired, hummmm?"

The process of dreaming sorts all of that complex data, stores it, prioritizes it and clears the buffer for the next day's experience. Without our dreams our brains cannot make sense of our experience and we cannot learn. It has been proven that sleep deprivation is the fastest rout to psychosis. We must dream.

It will not be difficult to make the case to fly fisherman that fish learn. Sometimes faster than we do. An experiment at the Univercity of Oviedo in Spain proved that angelfish learn. For three weeks food was delivered to one corner of the tank in the morning and the opposite corner in the evening. With no outside stimuli like sun or tide the fish soon congregated in the appropriate corner just before the appropriate feeding time. Apparently fish not only learn but they can tell time.

Experiments at the Manomet Center of Conservation Science which involved training haddock to swim through nets indicated that fish learn from watching older, more experienced fish. That's pretty advanced learning skills. Certainly there is some data processing going on there. How is all of that data being managed if not with dreams? I have always been told that I have crazy dreams. They range from short to epic, detailed to impressionistic, blissful to horrific. Many of them involve fish.

When I am stressed I have indicator dreams where I watch a strike indicator drift through the same run again and again without a strike. They can go on for hours. When times are better I go on wild fishing adventures and sometimes I am the fish. After a particularly nasty bit of dentistry I dreamed that I was a steelhead with a big hook in my jaw. The guy who hooked me had not crushed the barb and he kept wrenching and wrenching at the hook but it wouldn't come free.

I don't know what fish dream about. Maybe they dream of the Mothers-day hatch or of shad kills. Perhaps they dream of herons or bears. Maybe they dream that they are birds soaring in the clouds. I like to think that once in a while they dream of me.

"I was just there, in that big slow run, you know the one. I was eating caddis flies and all of a sudden I was just yanked up out of the water. It was like I was swimming but I wasn't going anywhere. Nobody would help me and I just kept getting hauled up out of the water and then, from nowhere, there was this big guy, like huge with a beard. He picked me up with both hands and he kissed me. There was a bright flash of light and I was back in the water. I think he was God. What do you think it means?"

Captain Ray's Guided Charter Trip Raffle

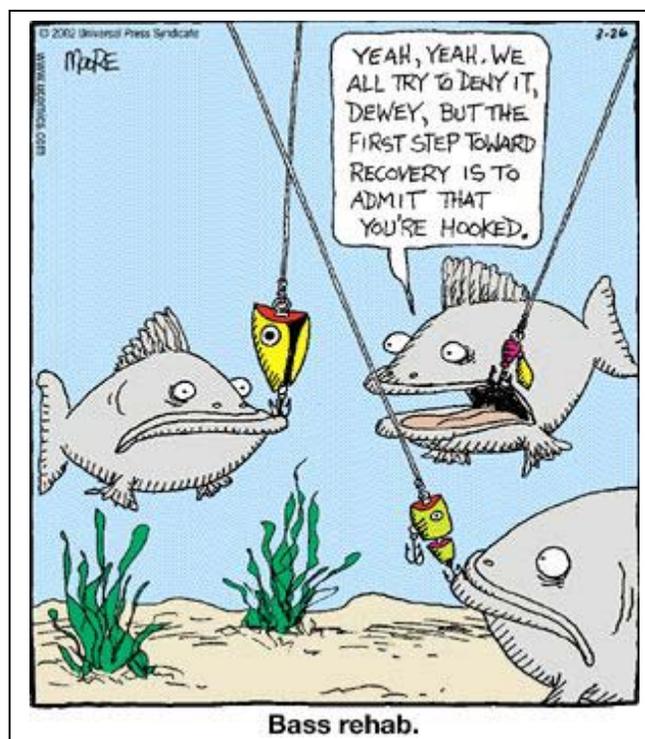
Tickets for Capt Ray's guided trip Raffle are NOW Available. Ask any board member. They are \$15.00 a ticket. Drawing will be for 2-3 raffle winners (depending on ticket sales.) Don't forget to ask your fishing buddies if they'd like to purchase tickets too!

The trip includes 8 hours of fly or spin fishing with Captain Ray Stachelek in Rhode Island.

This is the best investment you can make to have a guided saltwater trip. So Pa-Leeze buy your tickets early.

For more info on the Captain go to:

www.castaflycharters.com



Michael "Mike" Martinek

Tribute and photos by Armand Courchaine



**United Fly Tyer; died
January 12, 2019**

I first met Mike at a meeting at United Fly Tyers in Boston. It was 1960 at the Mechanic's Hall above Barsanti Restaurant across the street from the Record American. He was a young student learning the technique of tying Carrie Steven's



streamer pattern

ns under the guidance of Austin Hogan. Austin Hogan knew Stevens from the 1930's. In 1967, Mike met Austin at his apartment. They deconstructed four of Carrie Steven's patterns, Mike took careful notes for accuracy. Mike Martinek became the true expert on how these flies were created. Mike was responsible for teaching many fly tyers to become knowledgeable and skillful for tying true Carrie Streamers.



Martinek tied for UFT in many

Tying at a UFT meeting.

shows in New England, Netherlands, and England. He was a celebrity tyer at The Fly Fishing Show and his flies were featured in many classical

salmon and trout books.

We fished for striped bass

and American Shad, and he was a great friend. He knew how to have a good time; many hours while tying, we listened to blues. He will be sadly missed but never forgotten and thank you for legacy.



Mike (with UFT patch) tying at the Sportsman Show in 1967.



Mike (right) with Armand Courchaine (left) and Mike Hintlian (center).

This is our monthly newsletter for the 2018-2019 season. Hope Everyone's surviving The Great Winter! Time now to gather together and discuss what we like to do best: Flyfish! See you at the Monthly Meetings. *Editor*