



Newsletter May 2017

## *President's Letter*

May and the flowers and trees are in full bloom. To me, the fish trout and stripers are around and being caught. Just last week I caught my first stripes of the season. One of them was about 23 inches so the bigger ones are soon to arrive.

The club is having fishing outings. We had one just last week that got rained out and more are planned. Look for the email notices and the web site will have them on the message board.

As everyone knows, this month's meeting is our annual BBQ. As in the past it will be at Whiting's Pond in Attleboro. Make sure if you are coming to bring a rod as the pond is stocked by the state with trout. Maybe you may just get lucky. We are also having the raffle for the trip with Capt. Ray so if you have not purchased a ticket plan on it at the BBQ.

The next trip planned is a trip to Cotuit Narrows on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May. Keep a look out for that trip. We are also planning a worm hatch trip to Ninegrit in Rhode Island.

Hope everyone has a great summer and catching loads of fish-remember to post your photos on the website/internet. Show off what you catch!

At the meetings voice your opinions: this is your club.

Tight lines hope to see you,

Joel



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Tuesday May 23, 2017**  
**Location: Whiting's Pond, 641 Broadway,**  
**North Attleboro MA 02760**  
**Be There No Later than 5PM!!!**

**ANNUAL**

**BARBEQUE**

**WITH OUR ILLUSTRIOUS COOKS**

**BEN WHITE  
&  
KEVIN BROUSSEAU**

**(Rain Date if it is pouring is  
Wednesday May 24<sup>th</sup>)**

**BRING A GUEST & CHAIR**

**BRING YOUR GEAR & FISH TOO!**

## FLY TYING CORNER

### Armand's Archives

## Spring Fishing

### Cinder Worm Hatch at Ninigret Pond Charlestown, RI



Every year serious striped bass fisherman pay attention to the calendar. They target time in May and June. Fly fishers from all of New England will fish Ninigret Pond and other shallow salt ponds in Rhode Island.

What attracts the fishers is an event called the Cinder Worm Hatch. It's a time when worms come out of the mud to mate driving bass crazy. Usually it's schoolies—bass from a few pounds to ten pounds. Some thirty pound bass have been taken on six weight rods. My friend Paul Pezza took a 45 inch bass on his eight weight! He was knee deep and just made his cast and the bass took his size 2 fly.

Ninigret Pond is located in Charlestown, Rhode Island. It can be hit or miss depending on water temperature. It's a popular spot for kayakers, skiffs, canoes, anglers wading, etc. Some people use six weights. Sometimes the wind can be strong and a 7 or 8 weight would then be best.

Here are two successful choices for the Hatch:

#### GENE'S WORM FLY

Hook: Mustad 36890 salmon hook size 6 or 4  
Thread: Black 6/0  
Body: Flame glo bug orange yarn  
Wing: Olive bucktail over yellow  
Head: Black Ostrich herl

#### HINE'S FOAM TAIL WORM

Hook: Mustad Stainless size 4 or 6  
Thread: Fine Mono  
Body: Closed cellular foam overwrapped with crystal chenille  
Head: Black Ostrich herl

NOTE: More variations of Capt. Hine's Cinder-Worm Flies are detailed on the CrossroadsAnglers Website!!!

# “Three Things I Wish I Knew When I Started Fly Fishing”

by **Steven Brutger**



There is always more to learn.

In my prime I devoured information, anywhere I could get it, like a hungry great white. I would talk sink tips or nymphing techniques from [insert your favorite European nation here] late into the night. But lately I've been lazy, or maybe just disengaged.

I'm a mediocre to slightly above average angler who's typically more interested in the places I'm in and the people I share them with than the fish count. Shooting photos often takes priority. In short, I have become less concerned with my fishing. Though I can still I can rely on a solid background to pick up fish, my learning curve hasn't been as steep lately as it once was.

Then out of the blue I got an email asking me to share my thoughts on “Three things I wish I knew when I started fly fishing.” [John Lewis, in a Herculean effort, posed the question to 50 “experts” and compiled everyone’s answers.](#)

Considering Matt and I experts is generous, but we both took the time to respond. Our answers are simple, which makes sense given the question. But the more I think about it, keeping it simple is as relevant to a seasoned angler as a first timer. As I seek to improve in the coming year I plan to take Matt's advice to heart, along with some of the great advice shared by others.

But mostly I just hope to keep my fly in the water.

### **So here's are the "3 Things I Wish I knew When I Started Fly Fishing"**

**You can only catch a fish when your fly is in the water** – This was the first piece of advice I was given when I began fly fishing, but it took awhile to set in. Anglers can easily get way too caught up with casting and forget the goal...catching fish. Casting is simply a means to get your bug on the water. Cast less. Fish more.

**Keep moving to find fish** – It's easy to get caught up on cast, presentation, drift, but if fish are not there, you won't catch any. Spend time learning to read water and where to find fish. Don't be afraid to use your feet and cover ground, moving upstream or down after you've made a few casts in one spot.

**Expensive rods are not required** – Sure the high end rods are nice but today's low to mid range rods are really good as well. I own a number of high end rods, but have a sub \$100 dollar rod that has become my go to for winter trout. I break lots of rods and like fishing one that doesn't require its own mortgage, plus it happens to be very durable.

**It's not about the fly** – I recall being nearly paralyzed by the list of variables that I thought required attention when I started out. The biggest offender, by far, was (and in many ways still is) the infinite number of flies to choose from. How are you supposed to know which one's "right"? You can't, and at this stage it's less important than you might think. Limit yourself to a couple of dries (perhaps an elk hair caddis and a parachute adams), a couple of nymphs (maybe a pheasant tail and a hare's ear) and a utility bug, like a wooly bugger. Then you can take the attention and energy you would have spent on fly selection and direct it at broader categories such as... Are the fish eating on top or below the water? Are they eating big things or small things?

**It is about the fish** – It's really hard to catch fish where they aren't. The learning curve for fly-fishing is infinite. That's one big reason so many of us love it. It's also a real hurdle to most newcomers. Of all the lessons you have ahead of you, focus first on learning to read water and determine where the fish are likely to be. Being in the right stretch of water is much more than half of the battle.

**Ask dumb questions** – Newcomers to fly fishing face a real language barrier and an unfamiliar culture that can seem more insular and intimidating than it should. If you're respectful of people's time and space, you'll find that most are more than willing to share a little valuable info. Where are the fish biting? What bugs are hot right now down at the pond? Why do I keep getting these damn knots in my leader? Don't be afraid of revealing your ignorance. I've found that asking dumb questions remains the best way of dispelling it.

*First published on [Stalking the Seam](#), © Copyright 2017 all rights reserved.*

*Raised on a family-owned guest ranch in Montana, **Steven Brutger** is a Westerner who has been criticized for having terrible East coast geography. Steven also works for [Trout Unlimited](#), protecting the places we hunt and fish, and is a cofounder of [Stalking The Seam](#), a website dedicated to hunting, angling and family. See more of Steven's photography at [www.stevenbrutger.com](http://www.stevenbrutger.com).*

## **Captain Ray's Guided Trip Raffle**

**LAST CALL! LAST CALL!**

Tickets for Capt Ray's guided trip Raffle are Still Available. Ask any board member. They are \$15.00 a ticket. This is the best investment you can make to have a guided saltwater trip. So Pa-Leeze buy your tickets early.

If She Can Get Out There



Then So Can We!!!

### “Fine Lines”

*Current and quotable:*

**"Nothing grows faster than a fish from when it bites until it gets away." – Anonymous**

**"Many go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after."- Henry David Thoreau**

**"The gods do not deduct from man's allotted span the hours spent in fishing." – Herbert Hoover**

This is our last newsletter for the season. Everyone have a Great Spring & Summer doing what we like to do best: Flyfish! See you in the Fall. *Editor.*