

# The Salmon Run



Visit our website at [www.sacosalmon.org](http://www.sacosalmon.org)

A Publication of the Saco River Salmon Club, P.O. Box 115, Saco, Maine 04072, 207.282.6985

## From the President's Corner By Jack Parker

Crunch time! April's here - our busiest month of the year. Our incubator trays are now filled with wriggling masses of tiny creatures called alevin (or sac fry), with attached egg sacs that make them appear insect-like. All 700,000+ hatched out during late March, filling the hatchery with clouds of meringue-like albumen foam. Deprived of mammalian nursing comforts, fry nourish from egg sacs, gradually absorbing them until they learn to feed naturally in a month or two. Some never learn!

Our egg pickers become baby tenders and work increases about six-fold. An incubator tray that took minutes to pick and clean now takes half an hour. Organic debris and warming water temperatures create an ideal culture for fungus growth. Water quality control becomes critical while need for clean water grows as we put feeder troughs on line and transfer fry into them. In turn, feeding creates more waste to tax our water treatment system. By the end of the month, our volunteers will begin to see the reward they have earned - troughs full of healthy feeding fry ready to stock in May.

Other events fill our calendar. Saturday, April 3, the Maine Council of the Atlantic Salmon Federation will meet at and tour the hatchery prior to their annual banquet in South Portland that evening. On Friday, April 30, we will hold our own banquet at the Dunstan Schoolhouse in Scarborough. The next morning, May 1, we'll invite the public to tour the hatchery at our annual open house. In the meantime, we'll try to get up to Matapedia, Quebec for a few days of spring fishing.

Depending on Saco River water conditions, we may begin fry stocking as early as May 8. By that time, we'll also have learned whether we will be permitted to hold some back to raise to smolts for future stocking. If you want to help us stock, you will be able to find the exact dates on our website [www.sacosalmon.org](http://www.sacosalmon.org) as the time approaches.

Please take part in some of these activities. Plan to come to our banquet on April 30. This is our major social event of the year and we need you to support us by being there. It's only 20 bucks or \$35 per couple and you can eat everything on the menu and the menu too, if you wish. Please let us know you are coming, like now, so we can tell the chef. If you can bring something worthwhile to auction or put on our raffle table, please do.

If you have not paid your dues yet this year, now is the time. Member dues and hatchery donations are our major source of funds. You, family, and friends are welcome to help or visit the hatchery any time there's a car out front, from now until we finish stocking. We're proud of our operation and you should be too. We hope to see you soon!

## SRSC Annual Banquet By Larry Orme

Plans for our annual banquet are coming together nicely. Reservations are returning at a good rate and more are expected, as the date grows closer. The table raffle and auction should be excellent as we have had a number of fly rods, vests, and other fishing gear donated as well as an offshore striper trip for two rods, a trip to the Shy Beaver Fishing Club's private trout pond, and the Grant's Kennebago Camps raffle. L.L. Bean will donate two fly rods to the auction. The first rod is a 9 foot, 8-9 weight rod for saltwater fishing. The second rod is will an 8-1/2 foot, 6-7 weight freshwater fly rod. Sage has donated two certificates that will allow the bearer to purchase any rod and/or reel they make at wholesale price. The rod will have the purchaser's name engraved.

SRSC member, Lee Brown, has donated boxes of fishing gear and fly tying products to our last year's banquet and Lee has generously donated more fly tying products for this year's banquet. If any member is willing to donate his time and boat for another trip, please let me (967-5346), Dan Bonville (625-7693), or Nick Sibilica (294-6311) know the details so we can set it up for the auction also. Likewise, we three will arrange collection of any donated items.

Keep sending in your reservations (with names) to the SRSC at P.O. Box 115, Saco, ME 04072. Again, the inclusive fee is \$20.00 per person or \$35.00 per couple. Don't forget-- FRIDAY, APRIL 30th---happy hour starts at 5:00 p.m.

## Thank You Kittery Trading Post By Mark Woodruff

Kittery Trading Post has recently made a second three-year commitment to our salmon restoration program. In a letter from the Donations Coordinator, Julie Munyon, Kittery Trading Post has donated \$500 this year and will continue to do so for the next two years! Kittery Trading Post's long-term commitment is much appreciated. Thank you.

## Thank you for your help! *By Tom DeBruin*

Since I have taken over being treasurer of the Salmon Club from John Cadwallader I am the guy that gets to pay the bills and make the deposits that keep the Club running and provide the fiscal power that makes stocking the Saco River watershed possible. As I make the deposits from week to week, I get to endorse the back of all those checks. I see the names of all of you that help us out. It is wonderful to see all the Hatchery donations. I truly wish I had the time to write all of our members and friends a thank you letter for all the donations and dues that we receive that make it possible for the Club to do what we do. So please consider this a huge Thank You to all of you for all your monetary contributions. Without you, we could not afford the electric, phone, and all the day-to-day things we need to operate. **Thanks to all of you!**

## FERC Sets Standard for Bar Mills Project *By Mark Woodruff*

On February 24, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) notified Florida Power Light and Energy (FPLE) that it must submit additional information to assist in their review of the Bar Mills license application. FERC accepted the application, but required the supplement to assist in the environmental and engineering review of the application.

In the seven-page request, several items reflected previous recommendations made by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); Maine's Departments of Marine Resources (MDMR), Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and Environmental Protection; the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission; and the Saco River Salmon Club. Most significant was FERC's request for a conceptual design drawing and cost estimate of upstream passage for anadromous fish and American eels. To date, FPLE has maintained that such a request is not part of the license application. Instead, the need for upstream passage will be determined separately by the outcome of the 2000-2003 Fishery Assessment Process.

I think FERC's request puts needed pressure on the resource agencies and FPLE. The agencies must complete the Assessment Process that is nearly one year behind schedule (See the February 2004 issue of the Salmon Run) because FERC wants the report as it reviews the license application. Likewise, FPLE must recognize that FERC will not renew the license without comparing the benefits of hydroelectric production to the cost of upgrading and maintaining the facility for another 30 years.

Other items in the request for information make similar demands of the resource agencies and FPLE. A recreation plan detailing access and trail maintenance must be developed by FPLE in consultation with the resource agencies. Upon receiving FPLE's downstream fish passage report, the fishery agencies have 30 days to comment on the planned design, operating schedules, and costs. FPLE, in consultation with MDMR and FWS, must develop and implement a study to determine the need for upstream and downstream passage of American eel.

Certainly, FPLE has its work cut out for it. However, the timely response of the resource agencies is necessary for reports and studies to be completed. In short, FPLE, the resource agencies and to some extent the Saco River Salmon Club has been placed in the same boat by FERC. Let's keep it afloat.

## Saco River Salmon Club *2004 Dues Form*

Please send in your membership dues using this form. Dues are from January to December. Dues submitted after November will apply to membership for the following year. You can also order hats (two styles!) and donate to the hatchery for operating expenses.

Thank You!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State (Province): \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer for any of the following:

- Board of Directors     Newsletter     Stocking
- Hatchery Operations     Legislation     Membership
- Public Relations     Advertising     Hydropower Issues

Membership Categories:

Regular \$15

Family \$25

Student \$5

Senior \$5

Life \$300

Dues \_\_\_\_\_

Hatchery Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Hats - Regular bill \$14.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Long bill \$16.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping for hats \$2.50 \_\_\_\_\_

Total:..... \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail to:**

Saco River Salmon Club  
P.O. Box 115  
Saco, ME 04072

\* Win A Three day weekend for two at...

### **Grant's Kennebago Camps**

On Kennebago Lake • Drawing held at Spring Banquet

**Saco River Salmon Club • RAFFLE**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**\$1. each or 6 for \$5.**

\* Prize must be used within one year of drawing.

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## Annual SRSC Banquet

Yes, it's time to start your planning to attend one of our highlight activities of the year, the SRSC annual banquet. The venue for the dinner this year is the Dunstan School Restaurant in Scarborough on Rt. 1. SRSC will have use of the entire second floor group dining facility as well as an adjacent alcove where the auction items will be displayed. Inside the dining facility, an area of tables will be set up to display "table raffle" items

**Mark the Date-----APRIL 30**

Social hour will start at 5:00 p.m. with a complete buffet dinner available from about 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. Buffet entrees will include steamship round of beef, turkey, fish, pasta, shellfish, chicken, and of course, salmon. Separate serving tables will have vegetables, a salad bar, some Mexican concoctions, and a dessert area. During the social hour upstairs, appetizers will be served as well as alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. Beverages will be served throughout the evening by the wait staff. The buffet is located on the first floor, but there are two sets of stairways as well as an elevator to serve the second floor dining area.

The entire fee for this repast including tax, gratuity, and non-alcoholic beverages is \$20.00 per person or \$35.00 per couple.

The directors are diligently rounding up items for the table raffle, and the auction. All members are ardently encouraged to donate items to both of these important fundraisers. There will be a separate raffle for a fishing trip for two to Grant's Kennebago Camps again this year, and tickets for that will be available soon and throughout the banquet evening up to the raffle drawing.

Following the dinner President Bush and John Kerry will engage in an unrehearsed, unmonitored debate accepting all questions from the club members present-----uh, that's not quite true. But, we will have some very interesting speakers, well-deserved award presentations, and our best auction ever.

Please don't miss this highlight event and the opportunity to join with other club members for an entertaining evening. A reservation form with return address information is printed below for your convenience. Save your spot now!

**Friday, April 30 5:00 p.m. at The Dunstan School Restaurant**

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### Banquet Reservation

Number attending:\_\_\_ Singles X \$20.00/person = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Couples X \$35.00/couple = \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL = \_\_\_\_\_

Names of attendees\_\_\_\_\_

Mail checks with names of those attending to:

Saco River Salmon Club

P.O. Box 115

Saco, ME 04072

