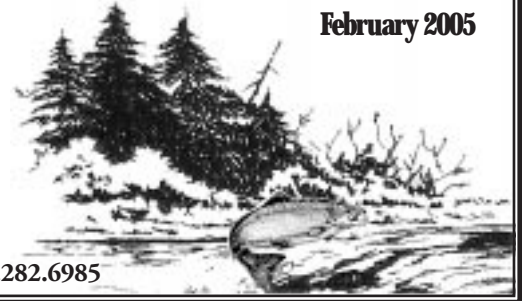


The Salmon Run



Visit our website at 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

Now in late January, Fred Trasko and his crew at USDA's Green Lake Hatchery in Ellsworth are rousing more than a million salmon eggs from their long winter's sleep to view their surroundings for the very first time through their brand new eyes. Thus they're called eyed-out eggs. By mid-February the eggs will have found new quarters in incubators in our hatchery and elementary science classes throughout the state. By the time you read this most of the eggs will be in our hatchery but with some still to come. We will email members with the exact dates so you may help get our Biddeford hatchery up and running for its ninth season. We will hatch over million eggs this year and need all the extra hands we can get. We hope you decide to take part.

Meanwhile as we raise a new fry class in Biddeford, at the Sanford hatchery of our partner, Bob Marsh, we will be readying our first ever smolt class ever to stock in the Saco in May. This will be the first time a US hatchery, entirely funded, built, and operated by volunteers will stock ocean preconditioned (i.e. SuperSmolted) Atlantic salmon smolt in the United States. This three-year trial program, approved by the Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission and the Maine Technical Advisory Committee, may hold unmatched potential to aid our wild salmon restoration mission. You can join our effort by volunteering at the hatchery or by filling out the membership coupon in this newsletter. Please visit us at www.sacosalmon.org for more information. Finally, for more than two decades our club enjoyed the support of the USFW Maine hatcheries. Two senior managers, Jerry Marancik and Tom King, retired last year from long laudable careers. We wish Jerry and Tom health and happiness in their coming years.

By-Law Changes Discussed at Next Meeting By Larry Orme

Dan Bonville will present the following bylaw revisions for any further discussion and vote at the next social meeting, Wed., February 16. Doors open at the church at 6:00 p.m., and dinner is served at 6:30. These revisions are presented as factual alterations rather than a "word-by-word" exact rendition to facilitate the ease and timeliness of the presentation to, and vote by, the general membership. If approved, the revisions will be carefully transcribed to the bylaws to convey the exact intended meaning. Once rewritten, a copy of the bylaws will be furnished to any member so requesting one.

- A. Elimination of typographical, spelling and grammatical errors.
- B. Elimination of gender specific language.
- C. Change the annual dues notification and payment due dates to January of each year. New members joining after June 30th of any year are to receive a 1/2 reduction in that calendar year's dues.
- D. Allow dues changes to be voted on at any social meeting after recommendation by the directors.
- E. All officers, president, vice-president, and secretary, and directors are to be elected annually for one year terms with no term limits. The current language specifies annual elections for a maximum of two consecutive two-year terms.
- F. Omit that there are specifically three directors, so that there can be any number.
- G. Remove the exact date/day specifications for director and social meetings, but retain the requirement for one directors' meeting each month.
- H. Change the wording concerning what is now called "the annual business meeting" in April to reflect that it is instead our annual banquet meeting to present awards, install new officers and directors, and to conduct various fund raising activities such as an auction or raffle.
- I. Add that the directors can authorize a member to withdraw funds for club use. Currently two officers are required to authorize each individual expenditure.
- J. Alter all required notification processes to include e-mail and the use of the newsletter as adequate. Currently, literally a mailing is required, which would be very expensive.
- K. Add that all meetings are to be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Dan and RJ Are Packing It In At February Meeting By RJ Mere

Our next membership meeting, February 16, will start with a wonderful meal prepared by Lynne Jackson of On the Corner Cafe in Biddeford. Doors open at 6:00 PM, at the Episcopal Trinity Church on Route One, Saco. As already covered in Larry's article (above) we have some business to take care of as well as a few announcements. Following the short business part of the meeting, Dan Bonville and RJ Mere will put on a program about how to pack for extended fishing trips. Dan will talk about and display how to pack the fishing gear for a Florida trip and RJ will demonstrate how he packs for an Alaskan trip.

Hatchery Receives Donation from L.L. Bean

By Mark R. Woodruff

The Saco River Salmon Club Hatchery recently received a generous donation of \$5,000 from L.L. Bean, Inc. On behalf of the membership, I want to publicly thank the company for its long-time and varied support of our salmon restoration program.

L.L. Bean has made financial donations to the Hatchery since 1992. During that time they have assisted us in a variety of other ways: including donations of fishing equipment to our fundraising auction, publicity in their fishing catalogue, a banner on their conservation webpage, invitation to their sportsman's show, and always genuine interest in our accomplishments.

As you can see, our restoration effort is vibrant thanks to the support of L.L. Bean.

Maine ASF Funds Smolt Project

By Mark Woodruff

I am pleased to announce that the Maine Council of the Atlantic Salmon Federation fully funded the Club's grant application for our SuperSmolt® project. The \$2,000 will enable the Club with assistance from the Pine Tree Hatchery in Sanford to raise up to 50,000 eggs to the smolt stage. Prior to their release in the lower portion of the Saco River, juveniles will be treated with MariCal's SuperSmolt® process. Based on the company's tests, Atlantic salmon smolt should migrate downstream more rapidly and acclimate readily to salinity changes in the estuary. This has the potential to increase the number of adults returning to spawn naturally.

Thank you Maine Council of ASF for your continuing support.

Banquet Update

By Larry Orme

The Saco River Salmon Club annual banquet is set for Friday, April 29 at St. Martha's Church Hall in Kennebunk. The facility is located off Rt.1 across the road and slightly south of the MacDonald's on the north side of town. This year dinner will be catered and we will be managing our own cash bar. Lynne Jackson and her staff from On the Corner Cafe, well established in the catering business, have graciously consented to prepare the meal.

More information about the cost and culinary delights next month. In the meantime please save the date and join us for our highlight social evening of the year. Good food, good company, a celebration of our mission, and a chance to bid on some excellent artwork, fishing equipment, and guided trips---come join us for a great evening!!

Bar Mills Re-licensing: Update

By Mark Woodruff

One year ago, I reported on the progress to re-license the Bar Mills hydro project. During the intervening time, much has taken place. FPL, owner of the project, submitted its application to renew the license to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

(FERC). In response, state and federal fishery agencies, the Saco River Salmon Club, and the Maine Council of ASF requested additional information relating to fishery management issues in the project area. FERC reviewed this information and compiled a list of questions to which FPL has recently responded.

In March, Jack Parker and I began attending meetings of the Saco River Coordinating Committee. The group is comprised of state and federal fishery agencies, FPL, the Saco River Salmon Club, and the Maine Council of ASF. Although the purpose of the meetings is to reach consensus on fisheries management issues, its outcome has a direct bearing on re-licensing Bar Mills. The committee identified key issues earlier in the year and is now in the process of obtaining relevant information to negotiate an agreement that all groups can agree to.

The History of Carrie Stevens

By Chuck Clark

As we get into tying flies for the coming season, it is interesting to look at the life of the person who originated the Grey Ghost streamer fly. Carrie Stevens was born Carrie Gertrude Wills in Vienna, Maine in February 22, 1882. She married Wallace Clinton Stevens on May 1, 1905. They arrived at Upper Dam on Richardson Lake, in the Rangeley region, in 1919. Wally became a guide and Carrie fashioned her first fly, called the Rangeley Favorite.

In 1924, Carrie caught a six pound thirteen ounce brook trout in the Upper Dam Pool. It was twenty four and three quarter inches long and had a fifteen inch girth. The brook trout was caught on a Thomas rod, a Hardy reel, and an Ideal fly line with a Shang's Go Getter fly. It won second place in a national competition losing to the first place winner by only two ounces.

No fly-tyer of this period was as creative or tied better quality, more lifelike streamers. Through her tying skill, Carrie took functional fishing flies to an art form. She created 100 to 150 patterns of streamers. She never used a vise. She once said that she never saw anyone tie flies and that no one ever saw her tie flies! The Steven's house still stands at Upper Dam.

Smelt Fishing is a Hot Way to Spend a Cold Night

By Cal Robinson

(Editors note: This is an excerpt from the March 2004 issue of the Kennebunk Fish and Game Gazette. Thanks, Cal.)

Smelt fishing is hot right now and will be until the shacks are pulled. Don't delay, because a couple of big rains will end it for the year. I have attached a list of the various smelt camps.

Bowdoinham

- Jim's Smelt Camps.....207-666-3049
- Week's Smelt Camps.....207-666-3939
- Riverbend207-666-5945
- Edgar Temple207-666-5907
- Rideout's.....207-666-5900
- Burt Tome207-666-5501
- Little Fish207-666-5568

Dresden

James Eddy207-737-2596
 Leo Purrington.....207-737-2146
 Leighton's207-737-2646
 Smith's.....207-737-4772

Pittston

Baker's207-582-4257
 Morris Quintal207-582-3386

Randolph

Worthington's.....207-582-3199



Adam DeBruin with large bone fish in Key Largo

(Detach here) -----

2005 DUES NOTICE

RENEWAL _____ NEW MEMBER _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

ZIP _____ +4 _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Dues: Individual _____ \$20. Family _____ \$30.

Student _____ \$10. Senior _____ \$10. Life _____ \$300

Dues _____ Hatchery Donation _____

Total Due _____

Please Mail to:

SACO RIVER SALMON CLUB,
PO Box 115, Saco, ME 04072

Thank you for your support!

Submit your short article for "The Salmon Run."

General interest stories, recipes for fly tying or foods, comments and suggestions are welcomed. The editors reserve the right to edit all materials. Send to RJ Mere, 9 York St., Kennebunk, ME, 04043 or email to rjmere@gwi.net

Editors: Dan Bonville and RJ Mere

Visit our website at:

www.sacosalmon.org

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