



## Newsletter June 2008

### June Meeting on the 22nd

#### Cookout on Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM!

We'll have a special Sunday meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is in place of the Thursday meeting. The meeting will feature a cookout for members and their guests. Members families are invited.

We'll have some delicious hot dogs and hamburgers cooked on our new grill (at least its new to us, thanks to Richard Marashlian). This will also mark the kick-

off of the summer fishing rules (see the revised rules below).

Soft drinks will be provided, and members can bring their own adult beverages. This will be great way to enjoy a relaxing Sunday afternoon with friends and family.

Thanks to Richard Marashlian for organizing this event.

### Property Improvements

The siding project is done and it looks great. The front porch of the clubhouse was also repaired. A new steel railing has been added to the porch steps. Watch out for it on your back casts! Danny Socci spread the gravel into the potholes in the driveway and it's a big improvement.

There's a clean-up day scheduled for the morning of June 14<sup>th</sup>. We'll try to spruce up the place up before the cookout the following weekend.

### Summer Fishing Rules

Based on discussion at the May meeting the summer fishing rules are:

1. Children 12 years old and under may fish by methods other than fly fishing.
2. The only bait allowed is worms or night crawlers. No live fish (shiners, etc...) or power bait allowed.
3. Fishing with anything other than flies (bait) is allowed only within 10 feet of the shore.
4. Children must be accompanied by a member. These rules are not a public invitation to fish in the pond. It is still members only.
5. Trout caught must be released immediately.
6. Sunfish caught must be released into the brook below the driveway bridge (bring a bucket).
7. These rules are in effect from the fourth Sunday in June through August 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Fishing Report

Fishing in the club pond has slowed down. The miniature sunfish bite is on (if that's your thing). There have been reports of some trout (including some

large ones) being caught on sink tip lines using wooly buggers. The trout are there, but they seem to be lurking in the deeper, cooler water.

## Club History Part III, continued

By Ray Capobianco

The 1953 season was the last for the club fishing at Sharp's Pond. Sometime during that year a search team turned up a private body of water known as McIntosh Pond. (Some old town maps called it Ice House Pond or Trout Pond).

From the 1800s till just after the turn of the century it was a major source of ice for town residents as was Blacksmith Pond located down stream, between Great Plain Ave. and Nehoiden Street. These, plus Rosemary Pond were all part of the Rosemary Brook watershed that flowed from above Marked Tree Road through Needham to Wellesley below Central Ave. Over the years Blacksmith Pond was filled in for a housing development with a cement encasement for the brook to pass through to Rosemary Pond. This is all documented in town history with photos of the ice houses.

Unfortunately there is little documentation of how the club acquired the present pond and surrounding property. No club members have been located that participated or are familiar with how the transaction took place. We do know, up till 1953 the pond and approximately 2+ acres surrounding the pond was in the hands of four members of the McIntosh family. (Strangely, none were members; however a close relative, Alan McIntosh, was one of the club's founding fathers.

Most importantly, a deed was found in the club archives and a little research at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds revealed some interesting information. In 1952 the town took, by easement (eminent domain), a sewer right of way from Marked Tree Road, down the middle of McIntosh Pond (the club pond) to the location of the present sewer substation. Three months later they took, by eminent domain, the land for the pumping station, from a party by the name of Hanscom (club member, Larry Socoby's father in-law).

In October 1953 John P. Kenny, a town building contractor and also an abutter to the McIntosh property, acquired four parcels of land from members of the McIntosh family. In January 1954 Mr. Kenny in turn transferred the pond and surrounding land (combined 4 parcels) to the Needham Sportsman's Club. The mystery is why was the land handled in that manner? Mr. Kenny was not a member of the club, why did he do this? No fee is mentioned, what did he pay for the property and more interestingly, why did he sell it to the club for just \$1,000? Nothing is mentioned in the club archives other than "We owe John P. Kenny..... a sincere thank you for his gentlemanly attitude....He showed real sportsmanship....to clear up final details."

It is interesting to read the club newsletters during the months after acquisition. The area around the pond was

heavily wooded except for the roadway and a small cleared area where the old ice house stood 60-70 years before. Work crews put in many hours each weekend preparing the grounds for opening day. The north shore (roadway) was the only area offering a backcast and that was limited. Brush and trees made the west side near impossible to fish, and there was

no available parking. The back end of the pond was a swamp and the east side was heavily forested. It sounded like a disaster but as the newsletter stated "For the first time in its 26 years history the Club has some property of its own".

## Saltwater Fishing Registration

There is a new plan to create a Federal Registry for recreational saltwater fisherman. It is called the "National Saltwater Angler Registration Program." This would require that many saltwater anglers register with the Federal government. This would include shore and boat anglers. The registration would apply to fishermen in Federal waters (three miles out) and those fishing anywhere for anadromous species. This includes striped bass. Registration would be required and legally enforceable. It looks a lot like a fishing license.

The registry will be managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service. The goal of the program is to create a registry of saltwater fisherman and to collect data about their activities. The registry would provide a "phonebook" which the government would use to survey anglers on their activities. Many states already require a state saltwater fishing license, and these states would be exempt from the Federal requirement if they can provide certain required information about anglers to NOAA.

According to NOAA, the goal of the program is to collect better information about fishing and fish populations. The registry is required by amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Act recently

passed by Congress. The Registry regulation is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2009. Registration fees cannot be collected until 2011 (after 2010, NOAA has the option of charging for angler registration).

For more information on this see [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocs/mafac/meetings/2007\\_12/docs/faq\\_registry\\_new.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocs/mafac/meetings/2007_12/docs/faq_registry_new.pdf), <http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/mrip/>, [http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/06/12/ocean\\_fishing\\_for\\_sport\\_faces\\_fee/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2008/06/12/ocean_fishing_for_sport_faces_fee/)

Editorial comment (editor's view, this is not the club's position):

I support the idea of better fisheries management through better information. But, I am skeptical that this program will really benefit the average angler. It seems like one more burden placed on citizens. The well meaning, law-abiding fisherman will register, (the ones who observe the size and bag limits), but the ones who do a lot of damage to the fishery by not following the current laws will not comply and so the data collected will be skewed to the people who follow the rules. In summary, I question whether the benefits are worth the costs: initially the inconvenience of registering and eventually the fees assessed to register.

## Needham Sportsman's Club

President: Jon Cave  
president@troutpond.com,  
Vice President: Richard Marashlian  
vicepresident@troutpond.com,  
Treasurer: Douglas Donaldson  
treasurer@troutpond.com,  
Secretary: Bob Lynch  
secretary@troutpond.com

Board of Directors : Roland Johnson,  
Roy Swartz, Ed van Sickle, Danny Socci,  
Dave Matthes  
Web master: Jon Cave  
Newsletter editor: Bob Lynch

Send comments on the newsletter or articles for the newsletter to [editor@troutpond.com](mailto:editor@troutpond.com)  
If you received this by regular mail but can receive it by email, please send your email  
address to [editor@troutpond.com](mailto:editor@troutpond.com).

Needham Sportsman's Club  
PO Box 191  
Needham MA 02492