



Newsletter April 2009



Bill Hagar with the first fish caught on opening day

April Meeting on the 16th

The April meeting will be Thursday, April 16th at 7:30 P.M. The highlight will be a presentation and a film on the Atlantic Salmon restoration program. Our guest speaker will be Alan "Chubba" Kane the president of the board of the Down East

Salmon Federation. This promises to be a very interesting evening with a special historical connection to the Needham Sportsman's Club. Don't miss it!

Clean-up Day

We had a great turn out for the clean-up day on March 28th. About 15 members came out and did a great job. Many bags of trash were picked up. A lot of brush was cleared. The rental of a chipper was a huge help – no trekking to the dump with truckloads of brush! The work started around 7:30 AM and continued until 3:00

PM. You can really see the difference that this effort has made. Special thanks to Danny Socci for bringing the brush hog, Jon Cave for getting the chipper and Richard Marshlian for the inspirational message about the day in last month's newsletter.



Dave Matthes and Dennis Martin cooking breakfast on opening day wearing their NSC shirts

Opening Day

Spring opening day on Saturday, April 4th was very well attended. The pond was stocked with rainbows and brookies from the Gilbert hatchery on March 31st. The breakfast crew led by Dennis Martin and Dave Matthes were at work early in the morning. Their efforts were delicious, just what we needed to get an early start on the day.

Thus fortified we sallied forth to conquer the fish in the early morning mist. Bill Hagar caught the first fish, a nice brook

trout. Fishing was a little slow but many members caught fish. The cloudy water from the recent rain was blamed for the subdued action. It turned into a beautiful day.

I saw Jon Cave giving a young man some casting instruction and soon he had a fish on. Was it beginner's luck or great instruction?

Many members were sporting their new NSC club shirts.

May Meeting

On May 21st we'll have a presentation by Jennifer Stritzel Thomson, an aquatic biologist with the Commonwealth's Division of Marine Fisheries. Jenni works on the Striped Bass Angler Survey Program, which gathers information and

scale samples from anglers and uses the information to analyze the striped bass population. This is important work on a world-class fishery right here in Massachusetts. This should be very interesting presentation.

Mono Master

Jon Cave has arranged for the club to obtain some Mono Master tools for an extra low price. The Mono Master is a device to tame those scraps of monofilament that we all generate by changing leaders and flies. It makes it easy to keep the scraps under control on the water so that we can bring them home and dispose of them properly. This will

help keep our pond and the rivers or oceans that we fish in cleaner. The special price is \$10.00, which includes the Mono Master and a high quality retractor. This is quite a deal because Cabelas sells the Mono Master alone for \$11.95. To learn more about this great tool see www.grasshopperproducts.com.

Fishing Report

Fishing has been a little slow since opening day, but fish are being caught. There is little surface activity. The water is murky and the best flies have been large, visible streamers and woolly

buggers. This will change as soon as the water clears and warms a little and the insect activity picks up. At that point, the small nymphs and dry flies will become more effective.

2009 Membership Renewals

It's not too late to renew! The dues for 2009 will remain \$125 per year for adults and \$50 per year for juniors. You can mail it to the address on this newsletter or pay on the web page.

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