



Newsletter November 2011

November Meeting on the 17th

The November meeting will be **Thursday, November 17th** at 7:30. We'll start with a cold cut platter for sandwiches. Then, will come the business meeting, followed by the annual holiday turkey raffle. Here's your chance to get

the bird for thanksgiving, courtesy of the Sportsman's Club. Donations of raffle items are welcome. This is always a fun night - don't miss it!

Tuesday Night Fly Tying December 6th

The Tuesday night fly tying will be on December 6th. Come down to the club house around 6:30 and join in. Bring your vice, tools and materials and see what you can learn and share. The biggest fly tying turnout so far was on November 1st. Roy

Swartz taught the group how to tie a couple of good patterns. Eric Rockwood mentioned to me later that he caught a fish on the bead head midge fly he tied that night.

Dues for 2012

The board of directors has decided to increase the yearly dues from \$125 per year to \$150 per year, effective for the 2012 membership year. The junior membership will remain \$50, the initiation fees will also remain the same at \$50. The reason for this increase is that we need to take action to prevent further deterioration of the club pond. The additional revenue realized will be dedicated to maintaining and improving the condition of the pond, which should improve the quality of the fishery.

The report on water quality described in last month's newsletter paints a negative picture of the state of the pond. We are

not going to get another pond, so we need to take care of the one we have. With some additional investment, the board and the new pond committee feel that we can make improvements in the water quality. Among the actions being considered is the installation of an aerator to raise the oxygen levels during the summer months, which ought to improve the summer fishing and the holdover rate into the fall. The pond committee and the board will report the actions taken and funds expended on a regular basis.

The board realizes that the current economic conditions may not be the best time to raise the dues, but we feel that we

need to invest in pond improvement. Letting the pond deteriorate more would have a negative impact on the long-term health of the club. This effort to improve the condition of the pond will require

significant new expenses for the club, so the board feels the current dues increase is justified. Dues were last increased in 2006, from \$100 to \$125 per year.

Pond Committee

The president has appointed a committee to improve the condition of the club pond. The committee is composed of Rollie Johnson, Bill Hagar, Danny Soggi, Richard Howell, Rollie Stewart, Raymond Copobianco. These members have a lot of personal experience and some have academic training appropriate for the task. We have high hopes for what they can achieve with the help and support of the membership. Here is a statement on the pond committee by Richard Howell:

Why a trout pond committee?

You will be aware that the recent report on Trout pond showed that there are some serious issues with the pond with both water quality and its biology. The pond suffers a number of challenges in that its catchment, particularly from storm drains, which impact the water quality with increased sedimentation and pollution, chemical, waste material and possibly thermal. This is on top of the natural influx of nutrients come Fall.

Like many bodies of water the pond stratifies in summer; with warm water over-lying cooler water with a temperature change point called the thermocline. These begin to act almost as independent bodies of water. Unfortunately for our trout they are faced with a choice of staying in the surface water where the temperature is around 72F, which is close

to their long-term lethal temperature of around 75F. Should they opt for the depths and a refreshing cold bath, then they will find that the oxygen content is well below the lethal level. The thermocline seems to be around the 3 foot mark in late June and the temperatures in this narrow range are almost ideal, but the amount of dissolved oxygen is still low. However, we don't know if the amount of dissolved oxygen drops during the night.

One of the first areas the committee will examine is trying to improve the living conditions for the trout. We will be looking at using the natural seeps / well water available to us and also at introducing aeration during the summer; these should help increase the amount of available oxygen in the cooler water. There should be direct benefits to the fishing; it will extend the fishing into the summer – with a refuge in the cooler water the fish should be able to tolerate the warmer surface waters better. If we create areas in the pond where there is plenty of dissolved oxygen and relatively cooler (closer to the optimum for Rainbows of around 66F) then they will be more likely to be “fightn’ fit” and a bit more interested in our flies.

Happy trout make happy anglers!

Trees

You may have noticed that the large tree that fell in the pond last spring has disappeared. Thanks to Rollie Johnson for getting his done. Another good sized

tree fell next the clubhouse in the October snow storm. Paul McKechnie gets credit for disposing of that one. Thanks, Paul.

Website Help Wanted

The club website (www.troutpond.com) needs a new web master. If any members have the skill to take this over, (or if not the skill at least the interest), we would appreciate it. The current web master did

a great job setting it up, but we need someone new to take over and keep it going. Contact Bob Lynch, boblnc1@yahoo.com if you are interested.

Fishing Report

Fishing has picked up in the last few weeks. It's not fast and furious for most people, but fish are being caught. A wide variety of flies are working. Some people are using small midge patterns (#16 – 18). Others are getting fish on larger wet flies, #10 with yellow wings. Some fish have

also been taken on streamers and woolly buggers. So get out there, and give it try soon; the snow and ice are coming!

Reminder to members: please display your membership card when fishing.

Needham Sportsman's Club

President: Richard Marashlian

president@troutpond.com,

Vice President: Paul McKechnie

vicepresident@troutpond.com,

Treasurer: Douglas Donaldson

treasurer@troutpond.com,

Secretary: Bob Lynch

boblnc1@yahoo.com

Board of Directors : Roland Johnson,

Roy Swartz, Bob Timmerman, Shane

Yellin, Mike Herman

Web master: Jon Cave

Newsletter editor: Bob Lynch

Send comments on the newsletter or articles for the newsletter to boblnc1@yahoo.com

If you received this by regular mail but can receive it by email, please send your email

address to boblnc1@yahoo.com.

Needham Sportsman's Club

PO Box 920191

Needham MA 02492