



Single Haul

The Newsletter of The Izaak Walton Flyfishing Club

February 2010

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Editor's Eddy

A New Fishing Year

The Ghost of Christmas 2009 has slipped the surly bonds of earth and we look forward to a fishing season of promise for the 2010 year. Some of the fortunate among us will have already racked up first successes either with winter steelhead or some saltwater game species during trips south. Others are, no doubt, busy at the vice re-stocking fly boxes ready for the trout and bass openers or experimenting with new patterns and ideas to try later in the year.

What was of particular interest to me in the 'off season' was Ian Martin's presentation of Atlantic Salmon Fishing opportunities in Quebec. Too often we think that good atlantic salmon fishing as only available to the privileged few who have the resources to buy the best beats and guides. Ian's talk made it clear that throughout the Gaspé Bay's 60 Atlantic Salmon rivers there are very affordable opportunities within reach of serfdom like myself. I followed up Ian's talk by contacting "Saumon Quebec" who sent me a superb

information package complete with river maps. For anyone interested log on to www.saumonquebec.com and request the package. Perhaps you'll be inspired to make a trip in 2010.



Presently, the news media is reminding us that the Spring Fishing Show is about to put the first bug in our ears that local line wetting is just around the corner and IWFFC, will of course be promoting the sport and ourselves there, again this year. Providing a couple of hours manning the club booth at our forum or participating for a short time at any of the venues listed below would be a good way to offer your unique knowledge and skills to interest a youngster or wannabe new flyfisher.

Ed

IWFFC

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(416) 221 6215

Activity Calendar 2010

Definite

March 17 - 21
Sportsman Show
Kids fly tying
Bill Christmas 905 765 2720 Cell 905 765 2720
billxmas@hotmail.com

Definite

April 10 - 11
Fly Fishing Forum
Many
John Fox (905) 830-4963 jfox@rogers.com

Definite

April 17
Tree Planting at Orangeville
Everyone
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Definite

April 18
TU Cleanup at Sligo
Everyone
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

May 22
Children's Water Festival at Heart Lake
Kids fly tying. Need 3 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Definite

June 4 - 5
Bread and Honey Festival
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people/shift
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Definite

June 12
Family fun Day at Lowville
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Maybe

June 18 - 20
Mississauga Waterfront Festival
Kids fly tying. Need 4 people/shift
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

This is the big one. We will participate only if enough people sign up to help.

Tentative

July 3
Cheltenham Day
Kids fly tying
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

July 10
Family Fishing Day at Lake Aquitaine
Kids fly tying
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

August 7
Stream Rehab at Upper Credit Cons. Area
Everyone
Donna Cridland (416) 232-1470
donna.cridland@sympatico.ca

Tentative

August 14
Hillsberg Family Fun Day
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

Sept. 3 - 5
Orangeville Fair
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

Sept. 18 - 20
Brampton Fair
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

Oct. 2
Salamander Festival at Belfountain
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

Oct. 8 - 11
Erin Fall Fair
Kids fly tying. Need 2 people
Pat Kelly 905 277 2505 patckelly@look.ca

Tentative

Oct. 23
Spawning Survey
Everyone
Register at creditvalleycons.ca

Tentative

Oct. 31
Spawning Survey
Everyone
Register at creditvalleycons.ca

*Please seriously consider participating in one or more of these events. Apart from the generous donation of your time, you will enrich your own knowledge and experience. **Ed***

Watercraft

Ron Koshoshek

Fly-fishers have many ways to transport themselves and their gear on the lakes and rivers they want to fish. Pontoon boats (PBs), sit-on-top kayaks and belly boats (float tubes) are among those choices. Each type of watercraft works much better than another in different circumstances, although each can be used in a pinch almost anywhere. I own and use all three types of watercraft and will suggest some tips in the next three issues for the inexperienced who may be thinking of getting one. I am not associated with any company commercially nor do I test for any of the brandname manufacturers. I will note the features to look for in each.

Pontoon boats (PBs). PBs are best suited for drift fishing on rivers. They excel when the water is fast and especially when shallow enough to wade-fish flats, at bends, or in the eddies in and below rapids. They come in one and two-person models. Except for their superior portability compared to boats and rafts, I have found two-person pontoons to be clumsy, less secure for holding gear, and difficult to move through rocky stretches and anywhere in low water.

With a single person PB, you normally adopt a drift, stop, and wade procedure. You cannot effectively both row and fish at the same time on a river. If you snag when drifting in heavy current, be prepared to break your line to save your rod. In waist deep water, it is quite easy to hop off and on the PB in an instant and with a rope tied across the front of the two pontoons preventing the craft from floating away, cast to rising fish. You can also fish, of course, without leaving the seat on the PB in unwardable sections of rivers, provided that you have an anchor of sufficient weight to hold in the current. I am 6'3" 250 lbs and a 12 lb pyramid anchor does the job nicely. A pyramid anchor is best for rocky bottoms; a pronged anchor is fine for sandy bottoms.

Make sure your PB has a good winch that will lower and raise the anchor with ease when operated from the seated position.

PB's come in various "sizes" or degrees of "ruggedness." They should be "rated" based on the class of "rapids" you can safely navigate and load capacity. My PB is an Outcast PAC 900, purchased in the early 1980's. This is a serious watercraft. It will safely handle Class III rapids with a neophyte using the oars. I have gone through 5 ft. standing waves at the bottom of long rough rapids on the Yellowstone River and, with a well timed vicious pull of the oars, "leaped" from a 4 foot high irrigation dam below the canyon stretch of the Big Hole River to land safely on the water below. I was a lot younger in those days. Most retail outlets carry only the lighter models. Obviously, a "lighter" PB can be used on lakes and on rivers with class I or II rapids. When it comes to buying a PB, you will be happier by investing in one rated a class higher than you can really afford, provided what you pay is a secret that can be safely kept. Get heavy PVC material and you will not need to fear punctures by beaver sticks and the like. Most models pack into a custom bag and can be carried on your back by the more physically capable among us.

You should also consider its load capacity, depending on what you want to bring along and the duration of your possible trips. Besides carrying my large self, my PB can carry enough food, camping and fishing gear for a 4 day overnight trip down the inaccessible Smith River in Montana. Fully loaded it carries about 500 lbs of weight while drawing about 5-7 inches of water, despite weighing only 60lbs itself. Lighter models typically carry about 350 lbs. or less but choosing an aluminum frame over steel will maximise your gross load capacity

PBs typically come with 16" or 18" diameter pontoons depending on load capacity. Pontoons can be made of a single tube or twin

8" tubes joined together.. A 9 ft. length is the best for single person use. Twin tubes carry less load (about 350 max.), but draft much better in low water (3"-5") and are considerably more expensive. Be sure you have two 7 ft. oars and, equally important, a device to tether each to the frame on your PB. Your PB can be used as a "kickboat" on lakes but not on a river of any serious magnitude. A decent platform behind the seat will provide for storage together with additional units that can be optionally attached at each side of the seat. An anchor, of sufficient weight to secure your PB when fully loaded and of a shape (pyramid or pronged) suitable for the river bottom over which you will float coupled with a high capacity 2-way pump which will inflate the pontoons with little effort, is paramount. My PB keeps its full 'lung' capacity for a 4 day trip however do not over-inflate in hot weather under a bright sun.

Fixed or swivel seats are options while newer models are equipped with a 'lean on' frame and standing platform which permits increased visibility when sight fishing on stillwater. For lake fishing, fins rather than oars can be used and a motor mount is available for most models as an accessory. When storing your pontoons, be sure they are inaccessible to mice who seem to find that eating a hole in the PVC provides access to a nice winter home once some bedding is added.

Sportsman Show 2010

Bill Christmas

Hello folks!as we all are well aware, our continued membership growth depends on attracting new people into fly fishing, both young and old, male and female. In the past, with IWFFC particularly, we had a healthy, renewing membership as a result of the many public shows we did. At present, the only real face we have is the venerable Pat Kelly of IWFFC. Pat can't do it all on his own. Here is an opportunity to reach out to new people, but to do so while enjoying the BIG show..FREE!

We have been approached by the very generous and helpful Walter Oster to give the personal touch to the enlarged Fly Fishing segment of the Canadian National Sportsmen's Show. It runs from March 17th through 21st 2010 at the Toronto Convention Center in downtown Toronto.

Here's the deal: Free entry to the show, plus a meal voucher for all fly tying volunteers who will demonstrate/teach how to tie a fly for a two hour session in the featured location near the main entrance. We are arranging to collect equipment and supplies for this demo station, so you need only to bring your modest skills to the table. Even near beginners can easily tie wooly buggers, etc. well enough to dazzle the general public. Even Sheldon Seale started this way, and look at him now; a world class tyer who delights in sharing his considerable skills by teaching others to tie flies! Any club or group wishing space to promote their group will pay only \$100 for this event. This will be a great way to promote our respective organizations and events (eg: The Forum in April) and attract new members as well. I would be happy to act as coordinator of volunteers for this event. Contact me at billxmas@hotmail.com or by phone: 905 520 0047 (cell) Sounds like an offer you cannot refuse, doesn't it? Especially since proceeds of this show are committed to charities (over \$31M to date)



Bill Xmas

Club Finance

Ray Desilets

Below are some financial statements for 2009

Forum 2009

Revenues

Forum Exhibitors Revenue	\$5,671.43	
Forum Admission and Seminars	\$23,949.91	
Forum Banquet	\$5,185.71	
Forum Silent Auction	\$5,809.32	
Forum Raffles, Sales, & Donations	\$3,834.30	
Total Revenue		\$44,450.87

Expenses

Facilities	\$11,089.78	
Seminar Presenters	\$5,771.43	
Printing	\$7,409.98	
Advertising	\$3,983.14	
Rentals	\$2,265.65	
Other	\$3,086.94	
Total Expenses		\$33,606.92

Net Forum Income \$10,843.95

Balance 2009

Assets

Petty Cash	\$207.08	
Cash	\$26,654.56	
Investments	\$34,484.13	
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00	
Total Assets		\$61,345.77

Liabilities

Account Payable	\$0.00	
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Equity

Retained Earnings	\$61,345.77	
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Total Liabilities and Equity \$61,345.77

Income - Expenses 2009

Revenues

Meetings	\$1,856.98	
Raffles	\$942.00	
Misc	\$271.24	
Memberships	\$3,340.00	
Net Forum Income	\$10,843.95	
Grants	\$1,500.00	
Misc	\$195.00	
Total Revenues		\$19,149.17

Expenses

Meetings	\$2,403.96	
Raffles	\$655.19	
Misc	\$585.35	
Admin	\$4,792.57	
Conservation	\$11,972.00	
Banking	\$10.09	
Merchandise	\$918.00	
Total Expenses		\$21,337.36

Net Loss \$2,188.19

Club Library

Bill Jeni

Hello All members

This a current list of our books and if there are any books of interest to you please email me at Bill@foodshare.net with the title and author and I will be able to get them for you.

The regular borrow period is for one month but we can work something out if you need more time.

There is also a \$10.00 deposit on all books. If you have any other questions about the books please let me know and I will try to find out for you.

Thanks
Bill Jeni

The following list is page 1 of our book Library. I will print the remaining pages in future issues of Single Haul. Ed