

From The New *Backcast* Editor:

Mike Rudman

This is the second time I’ve been charged with editing a Fly Fishing newsletter. The first was in 1980 for the famous (infamous?) Peninsula Fly Fishers of San Carlos, California where I lived at the time. As I look back, I feel a little bit like Forest Gump – casting with the late Mel Krieger, tying flies with the late Andre Puyans (AP Nymphs) and fishing with the late William Conrad (*Frank Cannon* on TV) – all members of our club. The fact that *all* these people are dead is not lost on me and is a trend I hope not to duplicate with SE Mass TU!

I also hope to meet the high standards already set by George Costello and will rely heavily upon him, and you, to make this newsletter informative, timely, useful and interesting. Thank you George for your help in the transition – you’re not yet off the hook! To the rest of our members: if you don’t send me stuff, you’ll be stuck with my offerings!

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Massachusetts Online Licensing

NEW ELECTRONIC LICENSING WEBSITE DEBUTS FOR 2011 (reprinted from *MassWildlife News*, January 2011, www.mass.gov/masswildlife)

A new electronic licensing system, *MassFishHunt*, has debuted online offering 2011 hunting, freshwater fishing, and trapping licenses from the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW), as well as non-commercial lobster permits and the new saltwater fishing permit from the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF). Both resident and non-resident license and permit buyers will find information and links to the *MassFishHunt* system at: www.mass.gov/MassFishHunt.

Benefits of the new *MassFishHunt* system to license holders include the ability to purchase and print their licenses and permits at their home computer. Lost a license in the wash or out in the field? *MassFishHunt* also provides online license holders the ability to print duplicate licenses free of charge.

The new licensing system is managed by a private vendor, Active Outdoors, of Nashville, Tennessee. Of the 81 million hunting and fishing licenses issued annually in the U.S., Active Outdoors processes 58% through its systems. Customer service inquiries regarding purchases of electronic licenses and permits from *MassFishHunt* should be directed to ActiveOutdoors by calling toll-free (888) 773-8450 or emailing: mahfwebmaster@als-xtn.com. After setting up electronic license sales at DFW and DMF offices, Active Outdoors will begin to make electronic license sales available at retail stores, sporting goods stores, bait and tackle shops, and city and town halls. License buyers will still be able to purchase the traditional paper hunting, trapping, and freshwater fishing paper licenses and stamps at license vendors throughout the state until the switch is made to an entirely electronic system. A list of current hunting, trapping, and freshwater fishing license vendors can be found at www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/recreation/licensing/vendors/license_vendors.htm.

“The switch from paper license sales to an entirely electronic system will vastly improve the accounting, record keeping, and efficiency of our licensing system,” said DFW Director Wayne MacCallum. “The system will also enable anglers, hunters, and trappers buying a license online to print and use their license, immediately.”

Electronic registration for boats, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles *is not available* through *MassFishHunt*, but will continue to be available through the Office of Environmental Law Enforcement website at www.mass.gov/dfwele/dle/elereg.htm as well as at their registration offices in Boston, Fall River, Hyannis, Springfield, and Worcester.

DID YOU KNOW?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reports studies that 35% of the nations lakes including the Great Lakes, contain fish that are unsafe to eat because of mercury pollution.

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Please send in an article on a fishable spot that you know – Fresh or Salt –

Michael Rudman: mrudman850@aol.com

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2011 Fishing Trips Tentative Dates

Sunday, May 15th	Morris Island, Chatham
Wednesday, May 18th	Harding’s Beach, Chatham
Saturday, May 28th	Robbins Pond, Halifax
Saturday, July 9th	Scorton Creek, Sandwich

Trips to the Swift River, Farmington River, and the Catskills are possible if we get enough response and people will make a commitment as some of the trips would require overnight stays. If interested talk to me at a meeting. – Tom Magee

Newsletter Update

Larry Cook

Would you like to receive the Chapter newsletter each month by email instead of by regular mail? If so, send me an email at: Larry@southeastmasstu.com

Each month when the Editor sends me the current newsletter to upload to our website I will forward it to anyone that has requested an email version. This will be a “.pdf ” Version.

By requesting an email version, you will:

- Get it sooner (the same time that the printer gets it)
- Be able to share it with others by forwarding the email
- Get less paper mail in your home.
- Allow the Chapter to save on printing & mailing costs

(i.e. If just 20 opt for receiving the newsletter by email the Chapter will save about \$100. per year and that savings can be spent on other projects.)

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FLY BOX: *Silver Tip Bucktail*

Tom Magee

- Hook:** Mustad 9674 size 6 to 8
- Thread:** Black
- Tail:** Strand of bright red wool cut off at the bend of the hook
- Body:** Gold Body Braid
- Wing:** A small bunch of gray squirrel tail dyed yellow extending just beyond the tail
- Cheeks:** Jungle Cock very small and short (optional)
- Collar:** Sparse yellow hackle (optional)

This fly was originated in 1955 by Keith C. Fulsher of Eastchester, New York. Originally, it was tied with silver tip grizzly bear hair, the fly is a good producer in the east and the west and is tied on wet salmon hooks that’s were the optional cheeks and collar are used.

Editor’s note: Please feel free to send me one of your favorite recipes for this column. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Stop by and tie a fly with Tom Magee. He is one of the instructors at the annual fly tying classes. He’ll show you some easy steps to tying flies that work!

“Soon after I embraced the sport of angling I became convinced that I should never be able to enjoy it if I had to rely on the cooperation of the fish.” *Sparse Grey Hackle*

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Book Review (from FLY FISHING in SALTWATER MAGAZINE)

Fly Casting a Systematic Approach (Lulu Press (2009)

www.lulu.com or www.cast90.com SC 246 Pages with Black - and - white photos: \$24.95

Here’s a good book to help you with your fly- casting. Sheila Hassan, a Federation of Fly Fishers Master Casting instructor and chief instructor and program director at the Wulff School Of Fly Fishing, chronicles the basic concepts essential to solid casting.

The book is formatted in two parts, the first centering on the development of solid fundamentals, as well as intermediate casting techniques and distance casting. The second part of the book delves deep into the concepts of practice, including anything and everything related to becoming a better fly-caster off the water. Hassan, a pro staffer for RL Winston and Ross Reels who teaches throughout

New England, has traveled the world extensively and caught everything from bluegills to blue marlin on fly. She holds IFGA women’s fly-rod world records for both bonefish and bluefish.

;;;;;; **Upcoming Monthly Events** ;;;;;;

Red Brook work day is on the first Saturday of every month, rain or shine. We meet in the Lyman Reserve parking lot. Stream readings usually start at 9:00 A.M. Arrive early and wet a line. Check the railroad bridge tide chart too. The dates are:

Feb 6	Low 2:27 AM	High 9:19 AM
Mar 5	Low 1:32 AM	High 8:16 AM
Apr 2	Low 1:26 AM	High 8:11 AM

Please Note: Call Warren Winders for more news and directions.

In order to relieve angling pressure on the salters in Red Brook during their fall spawning season, we request that you give them a break starting in mid October throughout the winter. Thank you for your cooperation.

MASSACHUSETTS JUNIOR CONSERVATION CAMP

JULY 31 THRU AUGUST 12, 2011

This two week overnight summer camp for girls and boys 13-17 years of age offers a program of conservation education and instruction in outdoor recreation skills. It introduces youth to the ethical concepts and knowledge essential to a lifetime of properly enjoying our natural resources and the leisure activities that depend on their careful stewardship.

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Chapter Shirts, T-Shirts and Hats Available

We have button down shirts with our embroidered logo, t-shirts with Jay Mulcahy's sketch of a brook trout and hats for sale in various sizes. Prices are as follows:

- Hats \$20.00
- Shirts up to XL \$30.00
- Shirts over XL..... \$35.00

See Nancy Dube at the General Meeting.

Thanks go out to Printing Unlimited in Holbrook for the fine job they do on our newsletter. Thank you.

Thanks to the following businesses for distributing the Backcast to the general public.

- Red Top Sporting Goods**, Buzzards Bay 508-759-3371
- Rod Builders Workshop**, Kingston 781-582-1015
- Bear's Den Fly Fishing Company**, Taunton 508-977-0700
- Fisherman's Outfitter** on Union St., Plymouth 508-

