



Free State Fly Fishers Newsletter

Davidsonville, Maryland



Spring 2014

The Newsletter is published quarterly
Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall

OFFICERS and DIRECTORS 2013 – 2014

President: George Vincent k3gv@verizon.net
First Vice-President: Denis LaCroix delacroix1@verizon.net
Second Vice-President: Rich Batiuk rbatiuk@aol.com
Secretary:
Treasurer: Tom Gooding goodingthomas@comcast.net
Directors: Bob Smith rsmithiii@verizon.net
Gordon Mitchell gsmitch@aol.com
Committee Chairs:
Clubhouse Coordinator: Glenn Davis gadtrout@hotmail.com
DFRC Representative: Jim Flannery jpflannery40@gmail.com
Librarian: George Vincent k3gv@verizon.net
MAC-FFF Delegate: Bruce Morse blm21403@gmail.com
Membership: Frank Bowne fsbowne@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor: George Vincent k3gv@verizon.net
Outings Coordinators:
John Donnelly johnamy89@verizon.net
Jeff Bahr barjt@hotmail.com
Publicity: Bruce Morse blmorse@verizon.net
Raffles: Bob Ruck ruck1252@verizon.net
Speakers Program: Denis LaCroix Delacroix@verizon.net



A Message from the President

Spring is prime fishing season and brings fresh opportunities for Maryland anglers and members of Free State Fly Fishers.

I was a little worried when Rich Baituk who has been our outings coordinator for the past couple of years decided to step aside. I didn't have to worry

long for fortunately not one but two members stepped up to take his place. John Donnelly and Jeff Bahr have volunteered to share the job.

Spring weather may not be ideal, it is generally better than the preceding months. The temperature is mild from the Atlantic Ocean off Ocean City to the mountains in the Garrett County, neither too cold nor too hot and unless it is raining, you can fish from dawn to dark.

For those who like to go trout fishing the water levels are typically better in May than anytime of the year. Heavy rains can make wading in streams dangerous, but the water level drops to ideal fishing depth in one or two days.

Annually shad fishing in Deer Creek starts in mid April. If you have never gone shad fishing in Deer Creek, you are missing a great time.

So do yourself a favor, and a go fishing often. Go with a friend or join club members on one of our scheduled outings and you'll have twice as much fund.

Another year of interesting meetings is on hand as Denis LaCroix continues to bring interesting speakers to enlighten and inform us.

You can read more about these programs and outings in this issue of the newsletter.

Your participation in our meetings, outings and events will provide many opportunities for you to share in our fly fishing sport.

So spread the word and enjoy your membership in FSFF. 🍷

Monthly meetings are held in the FSFF Clubhouse

The **Free State Fly Fishers** meet the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM except December, June, July and August. The meeting site is located in Davidsonville, MD at the Davidsonville Family Recreation Center (DFRC) in the Clubhouse behind Ford Hall, on Queen Anne Bridge Road off of MD Route 214.

DIRECTIONS TO THE DAVIDSONVILLE FAMILY RECREATION CENTER

From Rt 50/301: Take Davidsonville Rd (Rt 424) south 3.2 miles to Rt 214. Go right 0.7 miles to 3727 Queen Anne Bridge Rd. Turn left and go 1.2 miles to the DFRC.

From Rt 2: Take Rt 214 west 3.7 miles to 3727 Queen Anne Bridge Rd. Turn left and go 1.2 miles to the DFRC.

2014 Membership Renewals

It is time to renew your membership for 2014. Membership fees are \$15 or \$10 for members over 65. To renew your membership, please print the membership form in the newsletter and send it along with a check payable to the Free State Fly Fishers to:

Frank Bowne
3523 Tallyho Ct.
Davidsonville, MD 21035-2436

Each month you will receive and email notification when a new on-line newsletter is available on the FSFF Listserve and you will receive an email reminding you of the monthly meeting.

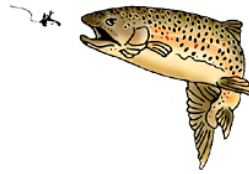
If you address, phone number or email address have changed, please be sure to highlight that on the form.

A membership application appears at the end of this newsletter. 🌸

Monthly Programs - Denis LaCroix

Spring promises to be enlightening for once again Denis has lined up an interesting list of speakers to provide informative and interesting programs for our monthly meetings that include R. Geety Browning from St. Croix Rod Co. in March to present "Latest Development in Fly Fishing Rods," Trent Jones a fishing guide and sales representative from Orvis presenting the "Newest Trends in Fly Fishing" in April and Rob Snowwhite a Potomac fly fishing guide in Washington, D.C. discussing "Fly Fishing the Potomac River in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia." 🌸

Be sure to mark your calendars and check your email to watch for monthly meeting reminders.



Club Outings - John Donnelly and Jeff Bahr

...**someone** just needs to tell the weather to warm up so we can go fishing! Well, to get ready for the warmer weather, we have a great schedule of outings planned to date, spanning right now from March through September, and from trout in the Upper Delaware in New York to Pennsylvania limestone trout to Shenandoah smallmouth bass.

- Details on each scheduled outing will be presented by the outing coordinator at the Free State Fly Fishers meeting prior to the outing.
- A one page description of outing logistics, including when, where, meeting location/time, target species, recommended equipment, recommended flies, license(s) needed, and any other instructions, will be emailed out to all club members several weeks prior to each outing.
- The club's seasonal newsletters will also include the updated outings schedule, information on the upcoming outings, and reports on outings already conducted.
- Got an idea for an outing? Please contact John Donnelly or Jeff Bahr, FSFF Outing Coordinators. You can reach John at 410-570-1493 or john.w.d60@gmail.com. You can reach Jeff by phone at Home: 301-805-6985, or Work: 410-854-0771, bahrjt@hotmail.com or jeffrey.t.bahr2@usace.army.mil.

We have 7 tentative trips scheduled for the 2014 year. These trips are highlighted in gray shade in the attachment. We lack outing coordinators for Deer Creek, the Patapsco, Monocacy, Muddy Creek, Potomac, and others. These are outings we pursued in 2013, and it would be great to return. I know Deer Creek and Muddy Creek were done in by too much rain, but that was last year...

It's easy to become an outing leader, just let the coordinator know which outing you will lead, write up a one page flyer for the outing, show up at the meeting place the day of the outing, and then catch more fish than your fellow members! It's just that easy. 🌸





2014 Fly Tying Update - George Vincent

Fly tyers have been gathering each month on the first Saturday from 10AM til Noon to tie a variety of patterns that coincide with the particular season.

Since January tyers have been meeting each Saturday to tie a variety of patterns for both freshwater and saltwater fish. The weekly meetings will continue through March this year and end with an outing to a local fishing hole to try out their fly patterns and enjoy a cookout to celebrate.

Enrollment in the tying sessions has more than tripled since we first began these sessions more than 10 years ago as continue to increase interest in this addition to our sport of fly fishing.

Thanks to the efforts of Wayne Blake-Hedges we will continue to encourage the use of a variety of materials and be innovative in their application.

So please consider joining us on Saturday mornings throughout the year at the clubhouse where tyers of all levels can tie new patterns, improve techniques and hone their skills. 🌸



Spring 2014 Treasurer's Report - Tom Gooding

The balance in the club treasury is \$4500, after expenditures to the Federation of Fly Fishers for membership dues, for insurance, for the Post Office Box and income from dues.

FSFF coffee mugs and patches are available at the monthly meetings for \$3.00 each and hats are available for \$15.00 each. 🌸

FSFF Listserve Online

The FSFF Listserve is gathering place for the members of Free State Fly Fishers. Our membership is drawn mostly from Annapolis, Bowie, Davidsonville, Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties, Maryland.

As an added benefit of membership in the Free State Fly Fishers (FSFF), this Listserve is set up to help members stay in touch with each other. It is also a means of distributing meeting Information to members. 🌸

Members must subscribe to the club Listserve (Mailing List) by sending an email to:

fs-ff-subscribe@yahoo.com

For more information check out:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/fs-ff/info>



Help To Stop Poachers

Reminder - If you spot poaching please place a call to **Catch a Poacher Hotline at 1-800-635-6124**

A cash reward is available for information leading to an arrest and conviction of a violator.

REPORT POACHERS!!



Death of a Free State Fly Fisher Member

It is with much sadness that I inform you of the death of our member and Secretary Ray Cline who after a short battle with cancer passed away, Wednesday February 19th, 2014. 🌸

Fly FISHING Shows



Conservation Corner - Rich Baituk

Conservation is one of the founding principles of the Federation of Fly Fishers. Contributing over 40 years of conservation work, the Federation of Fly Fishers is proud to continue protecting our fisheries and angling opportunities for the future.

The grassroots activities done by the work of our many Clubs and Councils are the heart of our conservation efforts. River trash pick-up, stream habitat restoration or letter drives to local government officials are all examples of conservation work. 🌱

The Fly Tyers Bench - De-barbing Hooks

The simplest and best solution to the problem of debarbing hooks is to avoid it altogether—that is, to use hooks manufactured without barbs. Such hooks have the strongest points, since the structural soundness of the wire is not compromised by the barb cut. Barbless hooks, however, are available in only a limited selection of styles and sizes and tend to be expensive—a fact that perplexes many tyers. In most hook making, the barb itself actually simplifies certain manufacturing operations, most notably forming the hook bend. Thus barbless hooks require alternate production techniques, which can make them more costly. Hence most tyers prefer to remove the barbs themselves. 🌱

FSFF Is Now On Facebook

Club member Luis Santiago has created a club Facebook page to share pictures and outing information. Feel free to join, comment and post. If you do not have a Facebook page or choose not to participate but have a photo you want share please feel free to email me directly lsantiag@arinc.com Also page feedback is welcomed. Thank you, Luis.

<https://www.facebook.com/FSFFMD>

Upcoming Fly Fishing Shows this Spring

March 1st-2nd: **The Fly Fishing Show**, Lancaster Convention Center, Lancaster, PA. For further information, go to:

www.flyfishingshow.com/Lancaster.html

March 8th: **CCA Maryland's "Tie Fest"**, Prospect Bay Country Club, Grasonville, Maryland. For further information go to: www.ccamd.org

March 9th: **National Capital Angling and Conservation Show** conducted by the National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Hanley Field House, Georgetown Preparatory School, North Bethesda, Maryland. For further information, go to: <http://www.ncc-tu.org/>



SWAP MEET



The Free State Fly Fishers will hold a **SWAP MEET** in the FSFF clubhouse on Saturday March 29th from Noon to 2:00 PM following the morning fly tying session. This is an opportunity for members to buy, sell, or exchange fly fishing equipment.

Space will be provided on a first come first serve basis. For more information contact George Vincent: 301-249-6399 🌱



FREE STATE FLY FISHERS, INC.

2014 Membership Application

Name: _____
(First) (MI) (Last)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

If renewal → Is this a new address, phone number or email address?
 Yes or No

Type of Membership:

- Senior (55 or older) \$10.00
 Junior (16 or younger) \$10.00
 Regular \$15.00

Payment Method: Cash Check

Make checks payable to: FREE STATE FLY FISHERS, INC

Renewal or New Member

May we share your contact information with other club members? Yes No

Send Application and Payment to:
Frank Bowne
3523 Tallyho Ct.
Davidsonville, MD 21035-2436

Free State Fly Fishers Club Outings for 2014

Updated February 3, 2014

Date	Location	Target Species	Outing Coordinator(s)
April 1-May 15	Salmon River, New York	Steelhead	
April	Muddy Creek, Pennsylvania	Trout	
April TBD	Gunpowder, River, Maryland	Trout	George Vincent 301-249-6399 k3qv@verizon.net
April	Deer Creek, Maryland	Shad	
May	Clarks Creek, Pennsylvania	Trout	
May 10 (tentative)	Trap Pond, Delaware	Bluegills, Bass, Pickerel	John Donnelly 410-570-1493 John.w.d60@gmail.com
May	Patapsco River, Maryland	Smallmouth Bass, Sunfish	
June TBD	West Branch Delaware River, New York	Trout	John Donnelly 410-570-1493 John.w.d60@gmail.com
June TBD	Casselman River/Western Maryland Streams	Trout	
Early Summer – tentative	Lower Juanita River, PA	Trout	Rich Batiuk 410-268-5226 rbatiuk@aol.com
June	Monocacy River, Maryland	Smallmouth Bass	
June 21 - 25	Beaver Island, MI	Carp	Luis Santiago lsantiago05@yahoo.com
June – July TBD	South Fork Shenandoah River, VA (float trip)	Smallmouth Bass	Rich Batiuk 410-268-5226 rbatiuk@aol.com
July	Monocacy River, Maryland	Smallmouth Bass	
July	Potomac River, Maryland	Smallmouth Bass, Sunfish	
August	Rappahannock River, Virginia	Smallmouth Bass, Sunfish	
September-October TBD	West Branch Delaware River/Susquehanna River, New York	Trout/Walleye	John Donnelly 410-570-1493 John.w.d60@gmail.com
January	Bahamas	Bonefish	
February	Severn River, MD	Pickerel	
March	South Central PA	Trout	
May	Unicorn Pond, MD	Bluegills	
November	Lake Erie, PA	Steelhead	
October	Chesapeake Bay Bridge	Striped Bass	
December	Chesapeake Bay Tunnel	Striped Bass	
Other?			



Federation of Fly Fishers News and Items of Interest

**Federation of Fly Fishers –
PO Box 1688, Livingston MT 59047
406-222-9369**



Conservation...A Founding Principle

FFF Announcements

The Federation of Fly Fishers supports the rights of anglers to recreationally pursue fishing in the waters of the United States.

The U.S. Clean Water Act of 1972 establishes a policy of maintaining fishable waters. The Federation of Fly Fishers and its members wholeheartedly accept this provision and adopt the following pro-active policy in support of the Clean Water Act.

The Federation of Fly Fishers and its members shall...

- Support the Federal and State environmental agencies in their implementation and enforcement of water quality standards applicable to fish.
- Coordinate our volunteer activities and financial resources with other conservation and environmental organizations seeking to protect water quality;
- Participate in clean-up and restoration projects to build or improve fisheries;
- Encourage our members to monitor our favorite fishing streams and lakes by utilizing the appropriate tests from the FFF or other sources to measure temperatures, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and other state and federal water quality measures to assure compliance with established standards;
- Report pollution events (oil and chemical spills, suspected polluting outfalls, violations of water quality standards, etc.) to emergency and enforcement officials.
- In appreciation of the quality resources gifted us by our forbearers; we shall leave these resources no less diminished to our children.