

**Free State Fly Fishers Monthly Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**May 3, 2023**

**25 participants**

**Welcome**

- New Members and Visitors
  - Dave King, joined at F3T in Annapolis. His son is a guide in MT

**Fishing Reports:**

- Western Maryland
  - Andy, Keith, Tom.
  - Casselman, downstream from the cliffs
  - Plenty of rising trout
- Walleye Pete
  - Don and Gary
  - 35+ Rocks
  - 5 ft waves and 37 mph wind
  - Hoopers Island and nuclear plant
- Casting Clinic: Melford pond
  - 5-6 people
  - Chapman caught a bluegill while practicing casting
- Bighorn, MT
  - Luis
  - Rafting 13 mi/day
  - 40-70F, Snow, Wind
  - Many fish, 23" Browns
  - Flies 16-20
- Everglades
  - Gary, Andy, Frank
  - A mullet jumped and hit Gary in the back

**Door Prize Tonight**

- Joe DeMeo – Fly boxes

**Raffle Tonight**

- Mike Mattia – 50/50

**Report on Previous Months Activities:**

- 4/8: Casting Clinic Bowie Pond (see above)
- 4/15: Trout School
  - Several members attended
  - Bill Smith – best FF day ever
- 4/16: Rods and Reels in Park: Patapsco
  - Andy, Rich, John
  - Challenging but rewarding – Mostly adaptive fishing

- Trout were stocked special for event but in an area the disabled couldn't access
- People still caught many fish, mostly shiners
- 1 person interested in tying
- 4/20: Western Maryland Trip (see above)
- 4/27: Fly Fishing Film Tour
  - Good. Sold out.
  - \$ to Project Healing Waters
  - Will be back next year
  - Picked up 5 new members at our table including Dave King

**Upcoming Club Activities:**

- May 6: Swap Meet, 9-Noon
- May 13: Fly Tie with Scott Hipple CANCELED
- May 20: Annual Picnic at Trap Pond: 8 AM to 4 PM
  - Still need people to bring a few picnic items
  - Family members welcomed
  - \$25 DE fishing license required
- Next Month's meeting, June 7 is a Casting Clinic and group Dinner
  - Members and public
- Next Speaker: Sept meeting is Shawn Kimbro
  - FF for pan fish

**Pickrel Contest: Mark Bange**

- 3 Participants
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place      Adam Bange
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place      John Rentch
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> place      Don Vance

**Bluegill Contest: Mark Bange**

- Now underway
- Luis – Need retiree and non-retiree categories

**Announcements:**

- Gary G - Need a camera that can take a photo of a 20"+ fish
- Luis S - will have one at the swap meet
- Luis S - Hold a pickrel upside down to calm him
- Mike M – Sat. 9am – noon Shred Day at SRHS

**Club Treasurer's Report: (Bill) Out of town**

**Tonight's Meeting Presentation: Andy Grosko – Upper Patapsco**